

MORNING EDITION • 08:00 IST

ANTIM ASSURED 100+

"The Topper's Last Read. Every Morning."

Sunday, 06 September 2026

PART II • ENVIRONMENT TO DIRECT HIT TRACKER

Publisher: TheIAS Akademia — theiasakademia.com

1. §1 Environment
2. §2 Places in News
3. §3 Ethics & Integrity Cases
4. §4 Prelims MCQs
5. §5 Mains Questions
6. §6 Answer-Writing Value Addition
7. §7 AKADEMIA Direct Hit Tracker
8. §8 Proof of Precision

§1 • Environment

GS1/GS3

Himalayan Geomorphology • Disaster Science

Disaster 26 August 2026; science explainer current as of early September 2026 • Source: Down To Earth / USGS analysis / MoEFCC-linked scientific commentary

Not Every Himalayan Flash Flood Is a GLOF — What the Nepal-Tibet Glacier Collapse Actually Teaches

Why in News: As India's relief airlift to Nepal continues (see Part I), scientific analysis of the 26 August 2026 disaster has clarified an important distinction: initial reports suspected a classic Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), but USGS seismic analysis instead confirmed a glacier collapse — an ice-rock avalanche of 100-200 million cubic metres from 5,200-5,400 metres altitude — whose own impact generated the seismic signal, rather than a lake breach or a preceding earthquake triggering it.

Background: A classic GLOF occurs when a moraine or ice dam holding back a glacial lake fails, releasing the lake's stored water suddenly; a glacier-collapse flood, by contrast, involves a mass of glacial ice itself breaking away and crashing down, which can then dam a river temporarily before bursting through. Both hazard types are accelerating across the Himalaya as climate change drives glacier retreat and permafrost thaw, but they demand different monitoring and early-warning approaches — India's own 2023 South Lhonak Lake (Sikkim) disaster was a GLOF, giving both hazard types a live domestic precedent.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- Nepal-Tibet disaster (26 August 2026): a glacier-collapse ice-rock avalanche, NOT a classic GLOF, per USGS seismic analysis
- Collapsed mass: approximately 100-200 million cubic metres, originating from 5,200-5,400 metres altitude
- ICIMOD (International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development) monitors roughly 200 potentially dangerous glacial lakes across the Hindu Kush Himalaya region
- India's 2023 South Lhonak Lake disaster (Sikkim) was a classic GLOF — moraine-dam failure releasing stored lake water, distinct from a glacier collapse
- Permafrost thaw and glacier retreat, both climate-change-driven, are common destabilising factors behind both hazard types
- India's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Central Water Commission maintain glacial-lake monitoring protocols relevant to Himalayan border states such as Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand

🖼️ MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Precise hazard classification (GLOF versus glacier collapse) is not academic pedantry — it determines which early-warning sensors and evacuation protocols apply
- India's own Himalayan states share the same geomorphological vulnerability as Nepal, making cross-border scientific and monitoring cooperation a matter of self-interest, not just neighbourly goodwill

- Climate-change-driven cryosphere instability is increasingly a "slow-motion emergency" — ICIMOD's language — rather than a series of isolated, unpredictable events
- Tests the case for regional (South Asian/Hindu Kush Himalaya) shared early-warning infrastructure rather than purely national monitoring silos

🌸 LET'S REMEMBER THIS THROUGH A TRICK

"Lake breaks versus ice breaks" — a GLOF is a lake's dam failing; a glacier collapse is the ice itself falling. Nepal-Tibet, 26 August 2026, was the second kind, confirmed by seismology, not assumption.

📄 PYQ Linkage

GS1/GS3 (recurring theme): Himalayan glacial hazards and disaster management; the 2023 South Lhonak Lake GLOF is the standard comparative reference point.

GS1

GS3

GLOF

Glacier Collapse

ICIMOD

Himalayan Geomorphology

GS3

Newly Discovered Species · Soil Biodiversity

Static Topic — not tied to a single current event; described March 2026 · Source: Zootaxa / Zoological Survey of India-linked taxonomic description

Two New "Ancient" Earthworm Species Discovered in Kerala's Silent Valley National Park

Why in News: Taxonomists described two new moniligastrid earthworm species — *Moniligaster girishi* and *Drawida reynoldsi* — from Silent Valley National Park in the Western Ghats, Kerala, published in the journal Zootaxa in March 2026, taking the number of moniligastrid earthworm species known from the Western Ghats to 70 and from India to 95.

Background: Moniligastridae is regarded as an ancient, largely Asian family of earthworms whose taxonomy remains incompletely resolved, with the Western Ghats — one of the world's eight "hottest hotspots" of biodiversity and a UNESCO World Heritage Site — serving as a major centre of undocumented soil-invertebrate diversity. Silent Valley National Park, one of India's last remaining tracts of undisturbed tropical evergreen forest, has long been a focal site for such discoveries.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- *Moniligaster girishi*: found inside a decaying log in tropical wet evergreen forest; named for ZSI taxonomist P. Girish Kumar
- *Drawida reynoldsi*: found in high-altitude montane grassland; named for Canadian earthworm specialist John W. Reynolds
- Discovery raises the moniligastrid earthworm count to 70 species in the Western Ghats and 95 in India
- Published in Zootaxa, March 2026, using integrated (morphological plus molecular) taxonomy
- Earthworms are "ecosystem engineers" — their burrowing and casting activity drives soil aeration, nutrient cycling and organic-matter decomposition
- Silent Valley National Park (Kerala) sits within the Western Ghats UNESCO World Heritage Site and Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve landscape

📊 MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Soil biodiversity remains one of India's least-studied conservation frontiers compared with charismatic vertebrate megafauna
- "Ecosystem engineer" species like earthworms disproportionately influence soil health, agriculture and carbon cycling relative to their visibility in conservation discourse
- The Western Ghats' continued yield of new species over decades underscores why it retains "hottest hotspot" status even after extensive prior survey work

- Taxonomic naming conventions (honouring contributing scientists) are themselves a small but real mechanism of scientific recognition and institutional memory

🌸 LET'S REMEMBER THIS THROUGH A TRICK

"Log dweller, grassland dweller" — girishi in a decaying log in evergreen forest, reynoldsi in high montane grassland: same park, two different microhabitats, two new species.

📄 PYQ Linkage

GS3 (recurring theme): Biodiversity hotspots of India and new species discoveries; the Western Ghats' status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

GS3

Western Ghats

Silent Valley National Park

Soil Biodiversity

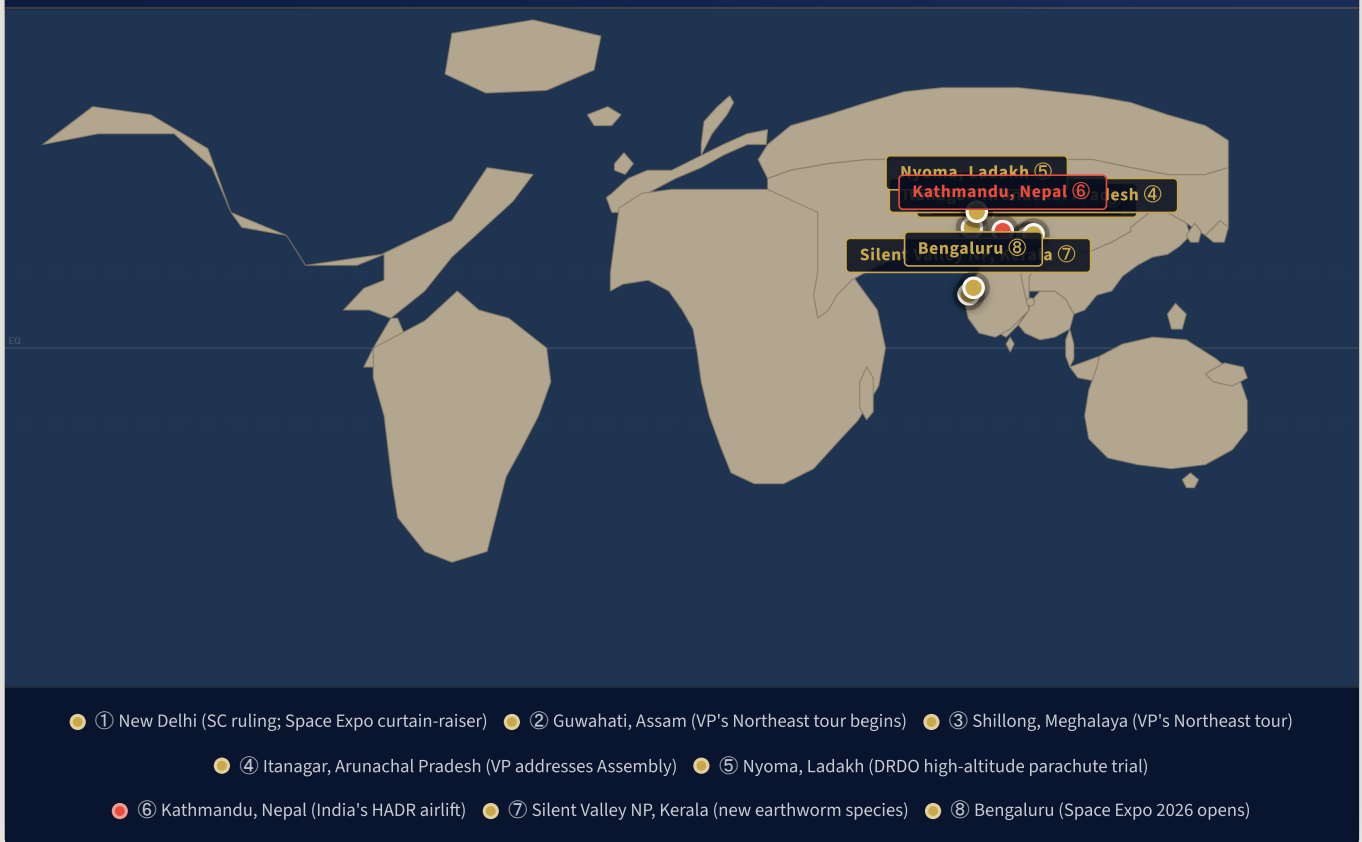
Moniligastridae

THEIAS AKADEMIA

A hazard-classification explainer and a soil-biodiversity discovery both reward precision over headline-reading — exactly the discipline **Philosophy Target 300+** students are trained to apply when a story looks simple on the surface but hinges on a specific technical distinction.

§2 · Places in News

📌 PLACES IN NEWS — 06 SEPTEMBER 2026 | ANTIM ASSURED 100+



① New Delhi

National capital on the Yamuna's west bank; venue of today's Supreme Court ruling and the institutional backdrop for the

② Guwahati, Assam

Gateway city to the Northeast on the Brahmaputra's south bank; first stop of the Vice-President's four-state tour, and a Sixth Schedule

Bengaluru Space Expo's national policy framing.

state.

③ Shillong, Meghalaya

Hill capital of Meghalaya on the Khasi Hills plateau; a Sixth Schedule state with three Autonomous District Councils (Khasi, Jaintia, Garo).

④ Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh

Capital of Arunachal Pradesh in the Eastern Himalaya foothills; governed under Article 371H rather than the Sixth Schedule, host to the VP's Assembly address.

⑤ Nyoma, Ladakh

High-altitude plateau (over 13,700 feet) near the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh; site of DRDO's Military Combat Parachute System trial from 22,000 feet.

⑥ Kathmandu, Nepal

Nepal's capital in the Kathmandu Valley; hub for India's IAF relief airlift following the 26 August glacier-collapse flood disaster on the Nepal-Tibet border.

⑦ Silent Valley National Park, Kerala

Undisturbed tropical evergreen forest tract in the Western Ghats' Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve landscape; site of the newly described moniligastrid earthworm species.

⑧ Bengaluru, Karnataka

Deccan Plateau tech and aerospace hub, home to ISRO, IN-SPACe-registered start-ups and NSIL; host of the Bengaluru Space Expo 2026 (7-9 September).

§3 · Ethics & Integrity Cases

Procedural Fairness vs the Floodgates Concern

Case 1 — Letting One More Voice Into the Room

As a tribunal member deciding whether a consumer-rights watchdog may join an ongoing dispute between a power distribution company and an industrial consumer, you recognise the watchdog could surface genuine public-interest facts — but admitting every interested third party risks turning a bilateral dispute into an unmanageable multi-party proceeding. Where do you draw the line between openness that serves justice and openness that defeats timely resolution?

Subsidiarity and Cooperative Federalism in Constitutional Outreach

Case 2 — One Tour, Four Different Rulebooks

As an aide organising a high constitutional office-holder's tour of four Northeast states, you realise two of the states operate under Sixth Schedule autonomous councils and two under separate Article 371 special provisions — meaning identical-sounding promises of "support for local governance" would mean structurally different things in each state. How do you ensure symbolic national outreach does not flatten genuine constitutional diversity into a one-size-fits-all message?

Compassion Within Institutional Constraints — Neighbourhood-First Ethics

Case 3 — How Much, How Long, and Who Decides

As an official coordinating your country's disaster-relief airlift to a neighbouring nation hit by a catastrophic glacier collapse, you must decide how long to sustain a costly, resource-intensive relief operation once initial rescue needs taper off but reconstruction needs remain immense. How do you balance genuine humanitarian obligation against finite resources and the risk that a well-intentioned mission drifts without a clear exit point?

Duty of Care in High-Risk Institutional Service

Case 4 — Ordering Someone Else Into the Cold

As the officer authorising a defence trial that requires personnel to jump from 22,000 feet in sub-zero temperatures to validate a new life-saving system, you carry responsibility for lives placed at genuine risk to build a capability meant to save other lives later. What ethical weight do you place on informed volunteer consent, redundant safety systems, and your own accountability if something goes wrong despite every precaution?

Distributive Justice in Opening a Regulated Frontier

Case 5 — Letting New Players Into an Old Sky

As a regulator authorising private companies to access a nation's space infrastructure for the first time, you must decide how to allocate scarce authorisations — spaceport slots, orbital opportunities, technology-transfer access — fairly among well-funded incumbents and promising but under-capitalised start-ups. How do you design a single-window authorisation process that is both fast enough to encourage genuine private investment and fair enough not to simply favour whoever arrived first?

Intellectual Credit and Intergenerational Stewardship of Biodiversity

Case 6 — Naming a Creature No One Had Noticed

As a young taxonomist who spends years painstakingly documenting a previously unknown earthworm species in a protected forest, you must decide how to credit the senior scientists, local field assistants and international collaborators who all contributed unevenly to the discovery. In a field where recognition (a species named after you) can shape a career, how do you ensure credit is distributed honestly rather than by seniority or convenience alone — and why does documenting something as unglamorous as soil biodiversity matter for generations who will never see it?

§4 · Prelims MCQs

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Supreme Court's ruling in Amalgam Steels & Power Ltd. v. Energy Watchdog (3 September 2026):

1. The Court finally decided the companies' liability for the disputed cross-subsidy surcharge.
2. The Court declined to interfere with a High Court order allowing Energy Watchdog to participate in the proceedings.
3. The dispute concerns dues claimed under the Electricity Act, 2003's cross-subsidy surcharge framework.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b). Statement 1 is false — the Court explicitly left the merits/liability question open for the High Court to decide.

Q2. Cross-subsidy surcharge, as levied under the Electricity Act, 2003, is primarily charged to which category of consumers?

- a. Only domestic household consumers
- b. Open-access and captive-power consumers who bypass the regulated distribution grid
- c. Only agricultural consumers
- d. Foreign power-trading companies exclusively

Answer: (b).

Q3. Consider the following statements about the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution:

1. It applies to Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
2. It applies to Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh as well.

3. It provides for Autonomous District and Regional Councils with legislative, judicial and financial powers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b). Statement 2 is false — Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh are governed via separate Article 371-series provisions, not the Sixth Schedule.

Q4. The Vice-President of India is the ex-officio Chairman of which body, under which Article of the Constitution?

- a. Lok Sabha, Article 93
- b. Rajya Sabha, Article 64
- c. NITI Aayog, Article 76
- d. Union Public Service Commission, Article 315

Answer: (b).

Q5. Consider the following statements about the 26 August 2026 Nepal-Tibet border disaster:

- 1. USGS analysis confirmed it was caused by a preceding tectonic earthquake that then triggered a glacial lake outburst flood.**
- 2. It involved a glacier collapse of roughly 100-200 million cubic metres from an altitude of 5,200-5,400 metres.**
- 3. India dispatched IAF C-130J and C-17 aircraft carrying relief material and rescue teams to Nepal.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b). Statement 1 is false — USGS found the seismic signal was generated by the glacier collapse itself, not a preceding earthquake, and it was a glacier collapse, not a classic GLOF.

Q6. A classic Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), as distinguished from a glacier-collapse flood, is primarily caused by:

- a. A moraine or ice dam holding back a glacial lake suddenly failing
- b. A volcanic eruption beneath a glacier
- c. Excessive monsoon rainfall alone, unrelated to glacial features
- d. Deliberate controlled release of water for hydropower generation

Answer: (a). India's 2023 South Lhonak Lake (Sikkim) disaster is the standard example of a classic GLOF.

Q7. ICIMOD, referenced in the context of Himalayan glacial-lake monitoring, stands for:

- a. International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
- b. Indian Council for Intergovernmental Mountain Disasters
- c. International Climate and Ice Monitoring Organisation for Development
- d. Indo-China Institute for Mountain and Ocean Data

Answer: (a).

Q8. Consider the following statements about DRDO's Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS) trial on 26 August 2026:

- 1. The trial was conducted at Nyoma-Mudh Drop Zone in Ladakh's Leh district.**
- 2. Test jumpers exited at 22,000 feet and landed at 13,700 feet.**
- 3. MCPS is developed jointly by ADRDE (Agra) and DEBEL (Bengaluru).**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d). All three statements are correct.

Q9. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was established following which event, under which legislation?

- a. The 1993 Mumbai blasts, under the TADA Act
- b. The 26/11 Mumbai attacks (2008), under the NIA Act, 2008
- c. The 2001 Parliament attack, under POTA
- d. The 2019 Pulwama attack, under UAPA amendments

Answer: (b).

Q10. Consider the following statements about the National Investigation Agency (NIA):

- 1. The 2019 amendment to the NIA Act gave it extraterritorial jurisdiction over certain offences against Indian citizens abroad.
- 2. NIA can investigate scheduled offences suo motu, without necessarily awaiting a state-government reference.
- 3. "Police" and "public order" are Union List subjects, which is why NIA's jurisdiction faces no federalism-related debate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a). Statement 3 is false — "police" and "public order" are State List subjects, which is precisely why NIA's federal mandate has faced federalism-based scrutiny.

Q11. Consider the following statements about the Bengaluru Space Expo 2026 and India's private space sector:

- 1. The Indian Space Policy, 2023 assigns IN-SPACe the role of single-window authorisation regulator for private space activity.
- 2. NSIL is responsible for ISRO's core research and development mandate.
- 3. India's space start-up ecosystem has grown to over 400 firms from a single enterprise in 2014.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b). Statement 2 is false — ISRO retains the core R&D mandate; NSIL is the commercial/technology-transfer arm.

Q12. Under India's liberalised FDI norms for the space sector, what is the automatic-route FDI limit for satellite manufacturing and operations?

- a. 26%
- b. 49%
- c. 74%
- d. 100%

Answer: (c). 49% applies to launch vehicles/spaceports; 100% applies to satellite/ground-segment components.

Q13. Consider the following statements about India's forex reserves (data released 4 September 2026):

- 1. Reserves hit a fresh all-time high of \$740.803 billion for the week ended 28 August 2026.
- 2. The rise was driven chiefly by the RBI's FCNR(B)/OFCB/ECB swap facility.

3. This was the ninth consecutive weekly rise in reserves.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d). All three statements are correct.

Q14. India's foreign exchange reserves conventionally comprise all of the following EXCEPT:

- a. Foreign currency assets
- b. Gold holdings
- c. India's IMF reserve tranche position
- d. Domestic government bond holdings

Answer: (d). Domestic government bonds are not a component of forex reserves.

Q15. Consider the following statements about UPI transactions in August 2026:

- 1. UPI processed a record 24.51 billion transactions worth ₹29.82 lakh crore.**
- 2. Transaction value grew faster than transaction volume on a month-on-month basis.**
- 3. UPI is operated by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b). Statement 2 is false — volume grew 3.6% month-on-month while value dipped 0.2%, so volume grew faster.

Q16. NPCI, which operates UPI, was set up as an initiative of which two entities?

- a. SEBI and the Ministry of Finance
- b. The Reserve Bank of India and the Indian Banks' Association
- c. NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Electronics and IT
- d. The World Bank and the Government of India

Answer: (b).

Q17. Consider the following statements about India's direct tax collections (provisional data as of 10 August 2026):

- 1. Net direct tax collections grew 23.09% year-on-year to ₹8.11 lakh crore.**
- 2. Gross direct tax collections grew at a faster rate than net collections.**
- 3. Corporate tax collections rose compared with the same period a year earlier.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b). Statement 2 is false — net collections (23.09%) grew faster than gross (19.75%), reflecting proportionately lower refunds.

Q18. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) administers taxes under which principal legislation?

- a. The Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017

- b. The Income-tax Act, 1961
- c. The Customs Act, 1962
- d. The Finance Act, 2026, exclusively

Answer: (b).

Q19. Consider the following statements about the newly discovered earthworm species from Silent Valley National Park:

1. *Moniligastr girishi* and *Drawida reynoldsi* both belong to the family Moniligastridae.
2. Their discovery takes the number of moniligastrid earthworm species known from India to 95.
3. Both species were discovered in the same microhabitat within the park.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a). Statement 3 is false — *M. girishi* was found in a decaying log in evergreen forest, while *D. reynoldsi* was found in high-altitude montane grassland.

Q20. Silent Valley National Park, where the new earthworm species were discovered, is located in which biodiversity landscape?

- a. The Eastern Ghats
- b. The Aravalli Range
- c. The Western Ghats (Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve landscape)
- d. The Vindhya Range

Answer: (c).

THEIAS AKADEMIA 12 of today's 20 MCQs are statement-based, comfortably above the minimum floor. **NEEB 300+ Live PYQ Writing** students should re-attempt Q1, Q5 and Q17 without checking the answer first — each hinges on precisely what a ruling, disaster analysis or dataset does and does not say.

§5 · Mains Questions

1. Discuss the significance of the Supreme Court's approach in *Amalgam Steels & Power Ltd. v. Energy Watchdog* for third-party participation in electricity-regulation disputes, without deciding the underlying merits. (150 words)

GS2/GS3 · Regulatory Law

2. "The Northeast's constitutional architecture is deliberately asymmetric, not uniform." Examine with reference to the Sixth Schedule and Article 371-series special provisions across Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. (250 words)

GS2 · Federalism & Special Provisions

3. Evaluate India's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) diplomacy in its immediate neighbourhood, with reference to the 2026 relief operation in Nepal following the Nepal-Tibet glacier-collapse disaster. (250 words)

GS2/GS3 · Neighbourhood Policy & Disaster Diplomacy

4. Distinguish between a Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) and a glacier-collapse flood, and discuss why precise hazard classification matters for Himalayan disaster early-warning systems. (150 words)

5. Discuss the strategic significance of high-altitude airborne insertion capability, such as DRDO's Military Combat Parachute System, for India's preparedness along the Line of Actual Control. (150 words)

GS3 · Defence Preparedness

6. "The National Investigation Agency represents a constitutionally-tested carve-out from the State List for national-security offences." Discuss, along with the concerns this raises for Centre-state relations. (250 words)

GS3 · Internal Security

7. Examine the institutional architecture (ISRO, NSIL, IN-SPACe) governing India's space sector, and assess how effectively it balances rapid private-sector authorisation with safety and security oversight. (250 words)

GS3 · Space Policy

8. "India's macroeconomic indicators this week present a picture of external-sector strength but require careful, non-simplistic reading." Analyse with reference to forex reserves, UPI transaction data and direct tax collections. (250 words)

GS3 · Indian Economy

9. As the officer authorising a high-risk defence trial requiring personnel to jump from extreme altitude to validate a new safety system, discuss the ethical considerations you would weigh regarding informed consent, institutional duty of care, and accountability if the trial results in harm despite all precautions. (250 words, case study)

GS4 · Ethics Case Study

§6 · Answer-Writing Value Addition

- **Regulatory law:** "More eyes, not more say" — the Supreme Court let Energy Watchdog participate in JBVNL's ₹285-crore cross-subsidy surcharge case against Amalgam Steels, without deciding the underlying liability.
- **Constitutional federalism:** Of the Vice-President's four Northeast tour stops (6-9 September 2026), only Assam and Meghalaya fall under the Sixth Schedule; Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh are governed via separate Article 371-series provisions.
- **Disaster diplomacy:** India flew at least five HADR sorties to Nepal by early September 2026 following the 26 August glacier-collapse flood (270+ dead) — a live example of "Neighbourhood First" in action.
- **Disaster science:** USGS confirmed the Nepal-Tibet disaster was a glacier collapse, not a classic GLOF like Sikkim's 2023 South Lhonak Lake event — the two hazards require different monitoring approaches.
- **Defence indigenisation:** DRDO's Military Combat Parachute System was tested from 22,000 feet at Nyoma-Mudh, Ladakh (26 August 2026) — the only Indian system rated for such extreme-altitude combat jumps.
- **Internal security:** The NIA, created after 26/11 via the NIA Act, 2008, and expanded by a 2019 amendment, gives India a federal counter-terror investigating agency with extraterritorial reach.
- **Space policy:** India's private space start-up ecosystem has grown from a single enterprise in 2014 to over 400 firms today, formalised under the Indian Space Policy, 2023's ISRO-NSIL-IN-SPACe architecture.
- **Economy:** Three simultaneous releases this week — forex reserves at a record \$740.8 billion, UPI at a record 24.51 billion transactions, and direct tax collections up 19.75% — together paint a picture of external and fiscal resilience.

§7 · AKADEmia Direct Hit Tracker

TOPIC	GS PAPER	ONE-LINE CAPSULE	PROBABILITY
SC: Amalgam Steels v. Energy Watchdog	GS2/GS3	Third-party participation upheld; 3 Sept 2026	★★★★☆
Cross-Subsidy Surcharge (Electricity Act 2003)	GS3	Static-concept anchor for the SC card	★★★★☆
VP's four-state Northeast tour	GS2	Assam-Meghalaya-Manipur-Arunachal, 6-9 Sept	★★★★☆
Sixth Schedule vs Article 371 (Northeast)	GS2	Static-concept anchor; asymmetric federalism	★★★★★
India's HADR airlift to Nepal	GS2/GS3	270+ dead; 5+ IAF sorties; ongoing Sept 2026	★★★★★
Glacier collapse vs classic GLOF	GS1/GS3	USGS-confirmed hazard science; Sikkim 2023 parallel	★★★★★
DRDO Military Combat Parachute System	GS3	22,000-ft trial, Nyoma-Mudh, Ladakh; 26 Aug 2026	★★★★☆
National Investigation Agency — mandate	GS3	Static; NIA Act 2008, 2019 amendment	★★★★☆
Bengaluru Space Expo 2026 / private space economy	GS3	IN-SPACe/NSIL architecture; 400+ firms	★★★★☆
India's forex reserves — \$740.8bn record	GS3	FCNR(B) swap facility; 9th straight weekly rise	★★★★★
UPI — 24.51bn transactions, August 2026	GS3	Record volume; DPI/India Stack anchor	★★★★☆
Direct tax collections — ₹9.54 lakh crore	GS3	+19.75% gross; CBDT provisional data	★★★★☆
Glacier-collapse flood — Silent Valley earthworms	GS3	Moniligaster girishi, Drawida reynoldsi; Mar 2026	★★★★☆
Western Ghats — UNESCO/Nilgiri Biosphere	GS3	Static-concept anchor for the earthworm card	★★★★☆
ICIMOD & Hindu Kush Himalaya glacial-lake monitoring	GS1/GS3	~200 high-risk lakes tracked regionally	★★★★☆
Indian Space Policy 2023 — ISRO/NSIL/IN-SPACe roles	GS3	Static-concept anchor for the Space Expo card	★★★★☆
Vice-President's constitutional role (Art. 64)	GS2	Static-concept anchor for the VP-tour card	★★★★☆
India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) model	GS3	Static-concept anchor for the UPI card	★★★★☆

THEIAS AKADEmia 18 tracked topics today, four rated a full 5-star — spanning constitutional federalism, live disaster diplomacy, hazard science and a record macro-data trio. Cross-check this tracker against your revision log before tonight's **Sahyog Mentorship** check-in.

★ THEIAS AKADEmia — PROOF OF PRECISION

UPSC CSE Prelims 2026 Results

In what critics called the most unpredictable Prelims paper in a decade —

48

QUESTIONS FROM
ANTIM ASSURED 100+

7

QUESTIONS FROM
A SINGLE DOCUMENT

6

QUESTIONS FROM
A SINGLE CLASS

Our students had seen 48 questions before the paper was opened.

This is not luck. This is TheIAS Akademia.

VERIFIED · PART II

Proof of Precision

Every item mapped. Every claim verified.

2

ENVIRONMENT CARDS

6

ETHICS CASES

20

MCQS

9

MAINS QUESTIONS

8

PLACES MAPPED

0

REPEATED TOPICS

Environment

Ethics

Polity

International Relations

Defence

Science & Tech

Economy

✓ All news sourced from PIB / Supreme Court judgments / RBI / NPCI / CBDT / Zootaxa / USGS-linked scientific reportage and primary government sources

✓ Every topic cross-checked against the last 7 editions' covered-topics log before inclusion

✓ News Freshness Rule applied — Places in News uses an inline-SVG fallback map with pins computed from real coordinates (no dated map image was found for today)

ANTIM ASSURED 100+ is a TheIAS Akademia daily flagship.

Programs: EMP · ANTIM 2027 · Sahyog Mentorship · LAKSHYAM AIR1 · NEEB 300+ · Philosophy Target 300+
theiasakademia.com

← Part I covers: Headlines · Polity & Governance · IR · Defence · S&T · Economy