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★ RELEVANT FOR UPSC PRELIMS & MAINS ★

SOURCES:



PIB
pib.gov.in



**Ministry
Press Releases**



PRS
prsindia.org

UPSC SYLLABUS RELEVANCE

GS I | GS II
PRELIMS FACTS
& MAINS ANALYSIS

1



PM Inaugurates New Vande Bharat Express Routes

Why in News?

The Prime Minister inaugurated 3 new Vande Bharat Express routes connecting key cities to boost connectivity and economic growth.



Key Points

- New routes: Varanasi–Ranchi, Nanded–Pune and Agartala–Guwahati.
- Aimed at enhancing passenger experience and reducing travel time.
- Part of Indian Railways' plan to introduce 75 new Vande Bharat trains by 2027.



Prelims Facts

- Vande Bharat Express launched in 2019.
- Semi-high speed train with 160 kmph operational speed.
- Made under 'Make in India' initiative.



Mains Link

Infrastructure • Economic Growth • Connectivity • Make in India

2



SC Issues Guidelines Against Misuse of Preventive Detention

Why in News?

The Supreme Court laid down guidelines to ensure preventive detention laws are not misused and fundamental rights are protected.



Key Points

- Court emphasized that detention orders must be based on relevant and sufficient material.
- Subjective satisfaction must be just, fair and not mechanical.
- Periodic review of detention orders is essential.



Prelims Facts

- Preventive detention under Article 22.
- Key laws: NSA, 1980; PSA; COFEPOSA.
- Detention can be challenged in court.



Mains Link

Fundamental Rights • Rule of Law • Judicial Oversight • Civil Liberties

3



India and EU Resume FTA Negotiations

Why in News?

India and the European Union announced the resumption of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations to boost trade and strategic partnership.



Key Points

- Talks aim to enhance market access and reduce tariff barriers.
- Focus areas: goods, services, investments and sustainability.
- Next round of talks scheduled in September 2026 in Brussels.



Prelims Facts

- EU is India's largest trading partner in goods.
- FTA talks began in 2007.
- Resumed in 2022 after 8 years.



Mains Link

International Relations • Trade • Strategic Partnership • Global Economy

4



ISRO Successfully Tests Gaganyaan Emergency Escape System

Why in News?

ISRO conducted a successful test of the Crew Escape System for the Gaganyaan mission, marking a key milestone.



Key Points

- Test validates the abort mechanism in case of launch failure.
- Ensures safety of astronauts during critical phases.
- Gaganyaan mission targeted for 2027.



Prelims Facts

- Gaganyaan is India's first human spaceflight mission.
- Crew Escape System tested at high altitude.
- ISRO: Indian Space Research Organisation.



Mains Link

Science & Technology • Space Programme • Self-Reliance • Innovation

5



India Launches National Mangrove Conservation Mission

Why in News?

The Environment Ministry launched a national mission to conserve and expand mangrove ecosystems along the coastline.



Key Points

- Target to restore 5 lakh hectares of mangroves by 2030.
- Enhances climate resilience and protects coastal communities.
- To be implemented in collaboration with states and local bodies.



Prelims Facts

- Mangroves act as natural storm barriers.
- India has the world's 4th largest mangrove cover.
- Key species: Sundari, Avicennia, Rhizophora.



Mains Link

Environment • Climate Change • Biodiversity • Sustainable Development

PRELIMS RAPID REVISION



CPI Inflation (June 2026)
Retail inflation eased to 4.38% in June; lowest in 7 months. (NSO, MoSPI)



Monsoon 2026
Southwest Monsoon covers entire country 8 days ahead of normal. (IMD)



AI Governance
IndiaAI Mission approved compute fund to promote responsible AI innovation. (MeitY)



e-Courts Phase III
Cabinet approves expansion of e-Courts to all district courts. (DoJ)



Solar Capacity
India crosses 140 GW solar capacity milestone in July 2026. (MNRE)

