



17 JULY 2026



RELEVANT FOR UPSC PRELIMS & MAINS



SOURCES:



PIB
pib.gov.in



Ministry
Press Releases



RBI
rbi.org.in



PRS
prsindia.org

UPSC SYLLABUS RELEVANCE

GS I | GS II | GS III
PRELIMS FACTS
& MAINS ANALYSIS

1



India Launches First Hydrogen-Powered Passenger Train

Why in News?

India launched its first hydrogen-powered passenger train on the Jind-Sonapat route in Haryana, marking a milestone in green rail transport.



Key Points

- Uses hydrogen fuel-cell technology.
- Produces only water vapour as emission.
- Supports National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- Reduces dependence on fossil fuels.



Prelims Facts

- Hydrogen is the lightest element.
- Fuel cells convert hydrogen into electricity.
- Green hydrogen is produced using renewable energy.



Mains Link

Energy Security • Green Transport • Climate Change • Sustainable Infrastructure

2



India's Forex Reserves Rise Above \$675 Billion

Why in News?

RBI data showed India's foreign exchange reserves increased to about US\$675.16 billion for the week ending 10 July 2026.



Key Points

- Strengthens external sector stability.
- Supports exchange-rate management.
- Enhances investor confidence.
- Acts as a buffer during global uncertainty.



Prelims Facts

- RBI manages India's forex reserves.
- Reserves include foreign currency assets, gold, SDRs and IMF reserve position.



Mains Link

Indian Economy • External Sector • RBI • Balance of Payments

3



India Rejects Allegations on Bullet Train Project Delay

Why in News?

India responded to remarks by a former Japanese minister regarding delays in the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Project, reiterating that cooperation continues.



Key Points

- Project uses Japanese Shinkansen technology.
- India's first high-speed rail corridor.
- Expected to improve regional connectivity.
- Symbol of India-Japan strategic partnership.



Prelims Facts

- Corridor connects Mumbai and Ahmedabad.
- Technology assistance from Japan.



Mains Link

India-Japan Relations • Infrastructure • Connectivity

4



Retail Inflation Remains Above RBI Target

Why in News?

Recent data indicate retail inflation remains above the RBI's 4% target, driven mainly by food and fuel prices.



Key Points

- Food inflation remains a major concern.
- Inflation influences RBI monetary policy.
- Crude oil prices affect imported inflation.
- Monsoon performance impacts food prices.



Prelims Facts

- CPI is released by NSO.
- RBI's inflation target: 4% ± 2%.



Mains Link

Monetary Policy • Inflation • Economic Growth

5



National Green Hydrogen Mission Gains Momentum

Why in News?

The hydrogen train initiative reflects ongoing implementation of the National Green Hydrogen Mission to promote clean energy.



Key Points

- Promotes domestic hydrogen production.
- Supports clean mobility.
- Reduces carbon emissions.
- Encourages innovation and investment.



Prelims Facts

- Green hydrogen is produced by electrolysis using renewable electricity.
- Hydrogen can be used in transport and industry.



Mains Link

Renewable Energy • Net Zero • Energy Transition

PRELIMS RAPID REVISION



Forex Reserves
~US\$675.16 billion
(as on 10 July 2026)



Hydrogen Train
Jind-Sonapat route
(Haryana)



RBI Inflation Target
4% ± 2%



Bullet Train
Mumbai-Ahmedabad
High-Speed Rail



Green Hydrogen
Produced using
renewable-energy-
powered electrolysis

