



“ Strive not to be a success,
but rather to be of value.
— Albert Einstein

★ RELEVANT FOR UPSC PRELIMS & MAINS ★

1 NATIONAL NEWS

E-SAMUDRA: Digital Transformation of Maritime Governance



E-SAMUDRA

- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways launched e-Samudra digital platform.
- Single digital window for maritime services to seafarers, shipping companies, ports & stakeholders.
- India is the 2nd largest supplier of seafarers globally.

NUCFDC & “Bank in a Box” for Urban Cooperative Banks



- HM Amit Shah inaugurated new NUCFDC premises in Mumbai.
- “Bank in a Box” provides core banking, cybersecurity, cloud & digital compliance.
- About 1,400 UCBs; ₹6 lakh crore deposited in these banks.

XI BRICS Culture Ministers’ Meeting – Bhopal Declaration



- XI BRICS Culture Ministers’ Meeting held in Bhopal, MP.
- Bhopal Declaration adopted.
- India’s BRICS Chairship in 2026.
- Theme: Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation & Sustainability.

UPI to Remain Free for Users



- Ministry of Finance confirms no transaction charges for UPI users.
- P2P transactions remain free.
- UPI processed 2,366 crore transactions worth ₹29.9 lakh crore in July 2026.
- Operated by NPCI; legal framework: PSS Act, 2007.

2 INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India–China Border Talks



- 36th meeting of Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination (WMCC) held in New Delhi.
- Focus: Peace, stability & border management along the LAC.

India–UAE CEPA Review & Trade Facilitation



- India & UAE are reviewing the implementation of CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement).
- CEPA came into force on 1 May 2022.
- Aim: Boost bilateral trade & investment.

Global Biodiversity Targets – SBI-7 Meeting



- 7th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI-7) under CBD held during 4–12 August 2026.
- Focus on monitoring global biodiversity targets & action plans.

BRICS Cooperation Strengthens

- BRICS Ministers reaffirm cultural, economic & people-to-people cooperation.

- 14 countries participated including 10 members & 4 partners.



3 ECONOMY

Model BIT Review by Government



- Govt reviewing Model Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT).
- Aims to make framework investor-friendly & attract greater FDI.
- Revised Model BIT adopted in 2016.

Digital Public Infrastructure Grows Stronger



- UPI continues to scale with record transactions in July 2026.
- Strengthens India’s DPI ecosystem promoting financial inclusion.

Cybersecurity for Financial Sector



- NUCFDC Security Operations Centre provides 24x7 cyber monitoring for UCBs.
- MoU with NFSU for cybersecurity & digital forensics.

Shipping Sector Boost



- E-Samudra initiative complements Maritime India Vision 2030.
- Supports ease of doing business in maritime sector.

UPSC SYLLABUS RELEVANCE

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

4. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

AI in Healthcare Revolution



- AI-enabled diagnostics set to transform healthcare accessibility.
- Need for robust data, regulation & reimbursement pathways.

Quantum Communication Advances



- India progressing in quantum communication research.
- Quantum secure networks pivotal for future data security.

Space & Research Updates



- India continues to strengthen space technology, satellite launch capability & applications for governance and development.

Digital Skilling & Innovation



- Focus on skilling youth in AI, robotics, coding & emerging technologies. Viksit Bharat @ 2047 goals.

5. ENVIRONMENT

Biodiversity Conservation Initiatives



- CBD SBI-7 reviews global biodiversity strategies.
- India’s commitments for conservation reaffirmed.
- Sustainable Development
- Blue Economy through maritime innovations.
- Green and sustainable technologies drive future growth.



6. APPOINTMENTS & REPORTS



- Knowledge Paper on AI in MedTech released by Department of Pharmaceuticals.



- Reports highlight the role of AI, digital infrastructure and sustainability in national growth.



- Focus on cooperative banking reforms and financial inclusion.

7. IMPORTANT FOR PRELIMS (Quick Facts)

- ✓ e-Samudra – Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways; Single window maritime digital platform.
- ✓ AI in MedTech – Released by Dept. of Pharmaceuticals.
- ✓ NUCFDC – Umbrella body for Urban Cooperative Banks.
- ✓ BRICS Chairship – India in 2026; Meeting in Bhopal.
- ✓ UPI – Operated by NPCI; launched in 2016; No transaction charge for users; 2,366 crore txns in July 2026.
- ✓ CBD SBI-7 – Under Convention on Biological Diversity.

PRELIMS QUICK FACTS

- E-Samudra – DGMA, Maritime India Vision 2030
- ABDM – Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission
- Model BIT – Revised in 2016
- CEPA (India–UAE) – Came into force: 1 May 2022
- CBD – Secretariat: Montreal, Canada
- UPI – PSS Act, 2007; Operated by NPCI

PRACTICE MCQ

Q. Which of the following was launched recently by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways?

- A) Maritime Setu B) e-Samudra
C) Sagar Shakti D) Ocean Gate

Answer: B) e-Samudra



QUOTE OF THE DAY

“ The best way to predict the future is to create it.”

— Peter Drucker



TODAY IN HISTORY

8 August 1942 – Quit India Movement was launched by Mahatma Gandhi at Bombay (now Mumbai).

