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★ RELEVANT FOR UPSC PRELIMS & MAINS ★

SOURCES:



PIB
pib.gov.in



Ministry
Press Releases



PRS India
prsindia.org



ISRO
isro.gov.in

**UPSC SYLLABUS
RELEVANCE**
GS I | GS II | GS III
PRELIMS FACTS
& MAINS ANALYSIS

1

e-SAMUDRA DIGITAL MARITIME GOVERNANCE



**E-SAMUDRA – DIGITAL
TRANSFORMATION OF
MARITIME GOVERNANCE**

Why in News?

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways launched E-Samudra, a comprehensive digital platform integrating maritime services for seafarers, shipping companies, ports and other stakeholders.

Key Points

- Single digital window for maritime services.
- Online payments, real-time tracking and digital certificates.
- Complements e-NAVIK 24x7, Seafarer Tracking Dashboard and d-SEA.
- Promotes Digital First and Faceless Governance.
- India is the second-largest supplier of seafarers globally.

Prelims Facts

- Ministry: Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways
- Implementing agency: DGMA
- Linked with Maritime India Vision 2030 and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047.
- Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 recognises seafarers as Key Workers.

GS Mains Link

- GS III – Infrastructure
- Blue Economy
- Digital Governance
- Maritime Security & Shipping

2



**AI IN MEDTECH –
RESPONSIBLE AI ADOPTION
IN HEALTHCARE**

Why in News?

The Department of Pharmaceuticals released the knowledge paper "AI in MedTech: Revolutionizing Healthcare Through Artificial Intelligence" at India Medical Device 2026.

Key Points

- AI has major applications in diagnostics, clinical decision support and medical devices.
- India needs to move from successful AI pilots to large-scale adoption.
- Challenges: fragmented data, evolving regulation and limited reimbursement.
- AI-enabled diagnostics among first large-scale applications.
- India can leverage digital public infrastructure and MedTech manufacturing ecosystem.

Prelims Facts

- Released by: Department of Pharmaceuticals
- Ministry: Chemicals & Fertilizers
- Developed by Praxis Global Alliance in association with FICCI.
- Relevant platforms/policies: ABDM, IndiaAI Mission, National Medical Devices Policy, 2023.

GS Mains Link

- GS II – Health
- GS III – Science & Technology
- Artificial Intelligence
- Digital Public Infrastructure

3



**NUCFDC & "BANK IN A BOX"
FOR URBAN COOPERATIVE
BANKS**

Why in News?

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the new premises of NUCFDC and launched cybersecurity and core-banking services for Urban Cooperative Banks under the "Sahkar Nav-Kranti" programme in Mumbai.

Key Points

- NUCFDC is the Umbrella Organisation for Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs).
- Provides technology, cybersecurity, payment systems and compliance support.
- "Bank in a Box" offers core banking, digital payments, cloud and compliance services.
- Security Operations Centre for 24x7 cyber monitoring.
- MoU signed between NUCFDC and NFSU for cybersecurity and digital forensics.

Prelims Facts

- Around 1,400 Urban Cooperative Banks operate in India.
- About ₹6 lakh crore is deposited in these UCBs.
- NUCFDC has mobilised over ₹300 crore in capital.
- Maharashtra has the highest number of UCBs, with 449.

GS Mains Link

- GS III – Banking & Financial Sector
- Cooperative Sector
- Financial Inclusion
- Cybersecurity

4



**XI BRICS CULTURE
MINISTERS' MEETING –
BHOPAL DECLARATION**

Why in News?

The XI BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting concluded in Bhopal under India's BRICS Chairship with the adoption of the Bhopal Declaration.

Key Points

- Strengthens cultural cooperation among BRICS members and partner countries.
- Focus on cultural & creative industries and the creative economy.
- Promotes exchange of methodologies, best practices and support for creators.
- Digital tools to expand market access.
- Meeting involved 14 countries – 10 BRICS members and 4 partners.

Prelims Facts

- Venue: Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- India holds the BRICS Chairship in 2026.
- Theme: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability."
- Partner countries: Belarus, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Thailand.

GS Mains Link

- GS II – Indian Culture
- GS II – International Relations
- BRICS
- Cultural Diplomacy

5



**UPI TO REMAIN FREE
FOR USERS**

Why in News?

The Ministry of Finance clarified that UPI users will not face transaction charges, following discussion around amendments to the Payment and Settlement Systems Act.

Key Points

- No transaction charges for consumers.
- Person-to-Person (P2P) transactions will remain free.
- Any future MDR will apply only to a limited set of merchant transactions above a threshold.
- Framework aims at long-term sustainability, cybersecurity and technological resilience.
- UPI processed 2,366 crore transactions worth ₹29.9 lakh crore in July 2026.

Prelims Facts

- UPI launched in 2016.
- Operated by NPCI.
- Legal framework: Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- Proposed amendment relates to Section 10A.
- UPI is live in 11 foreign countries.

GS Mains Link

- GS III – Indian Economy
- Digital Payments
- Financial Inclusion
- Digital Public Infrastructure

PRELIMS RAPID REVISION



E-Samudra
Digital maritime
governance
platform



AI in MedTech
Responsible AI
adoption in
healthcare



NUCFDC
Umbrella organisation
for Urban
Cooperative Banks



Bhopal Declaration
XI BRICS Culture
Ministers'
Meeting



UPI
2,366 crore
transactions in
July 2026

