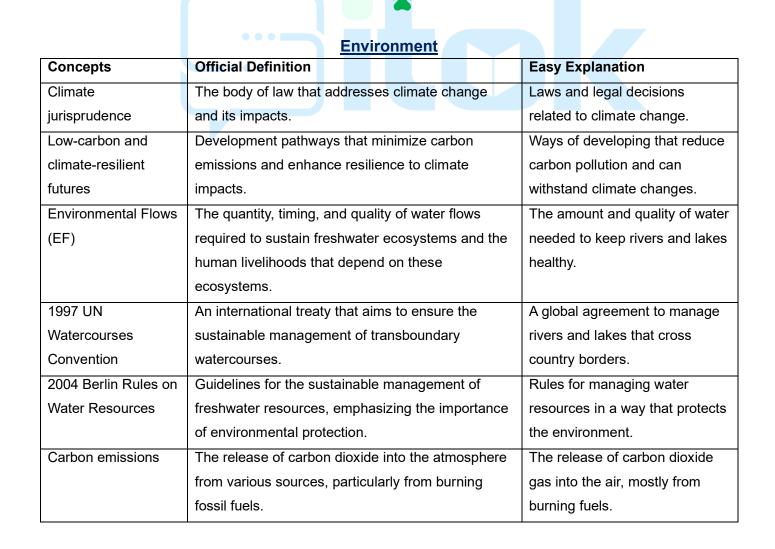
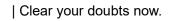


CONCEPTS IN NEWS

July 2024





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Polar jet stream	A fast-flowing, narrow air current found in the	A strong wind current high up in	
	atmosphere around the polar regions.	the atmosphere near the poles.	
Carbon emissions	The release of carbon dioxide and other	Carbon dioxide and other gases	
from wildfires	greenhouse gases during wildfires.	released into the air when	
		wildfires burn.	
Permafrost thawing	The process of permafrost melting, which can	When permanently frozen	
	release stored greenhouse gases.	ground starts to melt, releasing	
		trapped gases.	
Environmental harm	Strategies to reduce the negative impact of human	Ways to reduce damage to the	
minimization	activities on the environment.	environment caused by human	
		activities.	
Equitable and	A principle in international water law that promotes	A rule that encourages fair use	
reasonable use	fair and reasonable utilization of shared water	of shared water resources	
principle	resources.	among countries.	
	Insects that perform valuable services like	Insects that help plants grow	
Beneficial Insects	pollination and pest control in ecosystems and	and control pests naturally.	
	agriculture.		
Yellow Alert	A weather warning indicating the possibility of	A warning for possible bad	
	severe weather conditions that might disrupt daily	weather that could affect daily	
	activities.	life.	
Disaster Resilience	The ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover	How well a community or	
	from disasters.	system can handle and bounce	
		back from disasters.	
Climate Resilience	The ability to anticipate, prepare for, and respond	How well a system can handle	
	to hazardous climate events.	and recover from climate-	
		related challenges.	
Hydration and	Strategies to stay hydrated and prevent heat-	Tips and methods to keep	
Heatwave	related illnesses during heatwaves.	hydrated and avoid getting sick	
Management		during extreme heat.	
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Science and Technology

Concepts	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
Primary Amoebic	A rare and often fatal brain infection caused	A deadly brain infection caused
Meningoencephalitis (PAM)	by the amoeba Naegleria fowleri.	by a tiny amoeba.
Naegleria fowleri	A single-celled organism that can cause a	A tiny organism that can cause
	brain infection called Primary Amoebic	a severe brain infection.
	Meningoencephalitis (PAM).	



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Cerebrospinal fluid	A clear fluid found in the brain and spinal cord that cushions and protects these organs.	The fluid surrounding and protecting the brain and spinal cord.
Azithromycin	An antibiotic used to treat a variety of bacterial infections.	A medicine used to treat infections caused by bacteria.
Amphotericin B	An antifungal medication used to treat serious fungal infections.	A drug used to treat serious infections caused by fungi.
Miltefosine	A medication used to treat parasitic infections, including leishmaniasis and PAM.	A drug used to treat certain parasitic infections.
Controlled digital lending	A system where libraries lend digitized copies of physical books in a controlled manner.	Libraries lending digital versions of physical books in a regulated way.
Real-time data-sharing mechanisms	Systems that allow the instant exchange of data between different entities.	Technology that enables instant sharing of information between parties.
Low-carbon development commission	A body established to promote development strategies that reduce carbon emissions.	A group set up to encourage development methods that lower carbon emissions.
Neutrino Oscillation	A quantum mechanical phenomenon whereby a neutrino created with a specific lepton flavor changes its flavor as it propagates through space.	The process by which neutrinos switch between different types as they travel.
Kamioka Observatory	A neutrino and cosmic ray physics laboratory located in Japan.	A research center in Japan that studies neutrinos and cosmic rays.
Super-Kamiokande	A neutrino observatory located in Japan designed to detect neutrinos from various sources.	A large detector in Japan used to observe neutrinos from space.
ServareGMP	A technology or product related to Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) in pharmaceuticals.	A system ensuring that medicines are made safely and correctly.
Mapp Biopharmaceutical	A biotechnology company known for developing therapies for infectious diseases.	A company that makes medicines to treat infectious diseases.
Tropospheric Ozone and Insect Behavior	The study of how ozone in the lower atmosphere affects insect behavior.	Research on how the ozone layer near the Earth affects insects.
Super-Kamiokande Detector	A specific detector used in the Super- Kamiokande observatory to detect neutrinos.	A special device in the Super- Kamiokande lab used to find neutrinos.

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Psilocybin	A naturally occurring psychedelic compound	A chemical found in some	
	produced by certain types of mushrooms.	mushrooms that causes	
		hallucinations.	
Circadian Rhythm	The natural, internal process that regulates	The body's internal clock that	
	the sleep-wake cycle and repeats roughly	controls the sleep-wake cycle.	
	every 24 hours.		
Photoentrainment	The process by which light synchronizes the	How light helps set the body's	
	circadian rhythm to the 24-hour day.	internal clock to the daily cycle.	
Intrinsically Photosensitive	A type of retinal cell that is sensitive to light	Special cells in the eye that	
Retinal Ganglion Cells	and helps regulate circadian rhythms.	detect light and help control	
(ipRGC)		the body's internal clock.	
Melanopsin	A photopigment found in ipRGCs that is	A light-sensitive protein in the	
	sensitive to blue light and helps regulate	eye that helps regulate the	
	circadian rhythms.	body's internal clock.	
Falcon (Endpoint Detection	A cybersecurity solution by CrowdStrike for	Software that helps detect and	
and Response software)	detecting and responding to threats on	respond to cyber threats on	
	endpoints.	computers and devices.	
CrowdStrike	A cybersecurity technology company known	A company that provides	
	for its endpoint protection software.	cybersecurity solutions to	
		protect against online threats.	
Indian Computer	The national agency for responding to	The government agency in	
Emergency Response	cybersecurity incidents in India.	India that handles	
Team (CERT-In)		cybersecurity threats and	
<u> </u>		incidents.	
National Informatics Centre	An Indian government organization that	The government body that	
(NIC)	provides IT services and infrastructure to	provides IT support and	
	support government activities.	services to other government	
		departments in India.	
Waxy Maize Hybrid	A type of corn hybrid that is high in	A special type of corn used in	
	amylopectin, making it useful for certain	industry and food because of	
	industrial and food applications.	its high amylopectin content.	
Amylopectin	A component of starch that is highly branched	Part of the starch in plants that	
	and makes up most of the structure of plant	has a branched structure.	
	starch.		
Doubled Haploid (DH)	A plant breeding technique that produces	A method used in plant	
technology	plants that are genetically identical to the	breeding to create plants that	
	parent plant.	are exact genetic copies of	
		their parent.	
Digital Vaccination Registry	A digital platform to register and track	An online system to keep track	
	vessingtions to ensure universal immunization	of who has been vaccinated.	
(U-Win)	vaccinations to ensure universal immunization	or who has been vaccinated.	



Universal Immunisation	A program by the Government of India to	A government program in India
Programme (UIP)	provide free vaccines to all children across	that provides free vaccines to
	the country.	all children.
Green Revolution	A series of research, development, and	A period when new technology
	technology transfer initiatives that increased	and methods greatly increased
	agricultural production worldwide, especially	food production in many
	in developing countries.	countries.
Greatest Elongation	The maximum angle between the Sun and a	When a planet is farthest from
(Astronomy)	planet as viewed from Earth, making the	the Sun in the sky, making it
	planet most visible in the sky.	easier to see.
Ecliptic (Astronomy)	The apparent path of the Sun on the celestial	The path that the Sun appears
	sphere, along which eclipses occur.	to follow in the sky over the
		year.
Mercury and Venus	The times when Mercury and Venus are	When you can see the planets
Visibility	visible from Earth, typically near sunrise or	Mercury and Venus in the sky,
	sunset.	usually at dawn or dusk.
Rare Sensory Hearing Loss	Hearing loss due to rare conditions that affect	Hearing loss caused by
	the sensory organs or the nerves.	uncommon problems with the
		ears or nerves.

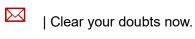


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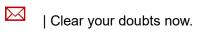
Economy

Concepts	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
Balance of Payments	A statement that summarizes a country's	A record of all the money a
(BoP)	economic transactions with the rest of the	country receives from and
	world over a specific period.	spends with other countries.
Current Account	A component of the Balance of Payments	Part of a country's financial
	that includes the trade balance, net primary	records that includes trade and
	income, and net secondary income.	income transactions with other
		countries.
Capital Account	A component of the Balance of Payments	Part of a country's financial
	that records all transactions made between	records that includes
	entities in one country with entities in the	investments and other
	rest of the world.	transactions with foreign entities.
Foreign Direct Investment	Investment made by a firm or individual in	When a company or person
(FDI)	one country into business interests located	invests money in businesses in
	in another country.	another country.

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Foreign Institutional	Investments in financial assets from foreign	Money invested in a country's
Investments (FII)	investors.	financial markets by foreign
		investors.
Trade deficit	The amount by which the cost of a country's	When a country buys more from
	imports exceeds the value of its exports.	other countries than it sells to
		them.
Gross National Product	The total value of goods and services	The total value of goods and
(GNP)	produced by a country's residents,	services produced by a country's
	regardless of the location of the production.	citizens, no matter where they
		are.
Seva Nidhi	A fund established for the benefit of soldiers	A savings fund for soldiers,
	as part of the Agnipath scheme.	provided to them after their
		service.
Ex gratia	A payment made by the government or an	Money given by the government
	organization voluntarily, not because of any	or an organization voluntarily, not
	legal obligation.	because they have to.
Public Distribution System	A government program in India aimed at	A government scheme to provide
(PDS)	providing food and non-food items to the	cheap food to poor people in
	disadvantaged at subsidized prices.	India.
Household Consumption	A survey conducted to gather data on the	A survey to find out how much
Expenditure Survey	spending patterns of households.	families spend on different
(HCES): 2022-23		things.
Special Category Status	A classification given to Indian states that	A status given to some Indian
(SCS)	face geographical and socio-economic	states that need extra help
	disadvantages.	because of their location and
	5	poverty.
Unincorporated Sector	Employment in businesses that are not	Jobs in businesses that are not
Employment	legally incorporated or registered as	officially registered as
	companies.	companies.
Gig Workers	Individuals who engage in short-term,	People who work temporary or
	flexible jobs or freelance work instead of	freelance jobs instead of regular
	traditional full-time employment.	full-time jobs.
Monthly Per Capita	The average monthly amount spent per	The average amount of money
Consumption Expenditure	person in a household.	each person in a family spends
(MPCE)		in a month.
India's Demographic	The study of the population changes in India	Understanding how India's
Dynamics	over time, including birth rates, death rates,	population changes over time in
	and migration patterns.	terms of births, deaths, and
		migration.
Sustainable Development	A collection of 17 global goals set by the	Global goals set by the UN to
Goals (SDGs)	United Nations to address issues like	tackle issues like poverty and
		climate change.



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poverty, inequality, and environmental				
	sustainability.			
Fiscal Responsibility and	An Act of the Indian Parliament aimed at	A law in India to help control		
Budget Management	ensuring fiscal discipline by reducing fiscal	government spending and		
(FRBM)	deficits.	reduce debt.		
Food Inflation	The rate at which the price of food	How quickly the prices of food		
	increases over time.	items go up.		
Ex-ante vs. Ex-post	An analytical framework where ex-ante	Comparing predictions made		
Framework	refers to forecasts or predictions before an	before an event to the analysis		
	event, and ex-post refers to analysis after	done after it happens.		
	the event has occurred.			
Household Sector Financial	The savings accumulated by households,	Money saved by families in		
Savings	including deposits, investments, and other	banks, investments, and other		
	forms of savings.	savings methods.		
KLEMS Data	A dataset that breaks down the	Data that shows how different		
	contributions to economic growth by capital	factors like labor and capital		
	(K), labor (L), energy (E), materials (M), and	contribute to economic growth.		
	services (S).			
ASUSE Survey (Annual	A survey conducted to collect data on the	A yearly survey to gather		
Survey of Unincorporated	performance of unincorporated non-	information on small businesses		
Sector Enterprises)	agricultural enterprises in India.	in India that are not registered as		
		companies.		
Finance Commission	A constitutional body in India that makes	A group in India that decides how		
	recommendations on the distribution of tax	tax money should be shared		
	revenues between the central and state	between the central and state		
	governments.	governments.		
Vertical Devolution	The distribution of tax revenues between	How tax money is divided		
	the central government and state	between the central and state		
	governments.	governments.		
Horizontal Devolution	The distribution of tax revenues among the	How tax money is shared among		
	states based on various criteria like	the states based on different		
	population, income, etc.	factors like population.		
Default Bail (Section 167,	A type of bail granted when the police fail to	Bail given to an accused person		
CrPC)	complete the investigation within a specified	if the police don't finish their		
,	period.	investigation on time.		
Current Account Surplus	A situation where a country's total exports of	When a country earns more from		
	goods, services, and transfers exceed its	exports and other sources than it		
	total imports.	spends on imports.		
Intergenerational Fiscal	The concept of ensuring that current fiscal	Making sure that today's financial		
Equity	policies do not unfairly burden future	decisions don't negatively impact		
	generations.	future generations.		
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Intragenerational Equity	The concept of ensuring fair distribution of	Ensuring fair sharing of	
	resources and opportunities within the	resources and opportunities	
	current generation.	among people living today.	
GVA (Gross Value Added)	The measure of the value of goods and	The total value of goods and	
	services produced in an area, industry, or	services produced in a specific	
	sector of an economy.	area, industry, or sector.	
IPO Allotment	The process of distributing shares of an	How shares from a company's	
	Initial Public Offering (IPO) to investors.	first public stock sale are given	
		out to investors.	
GDP Growth Rate	The annual percentage increase in the	How much the economy has	
	value of all goods and services produced in	grown in a year.	
	an economy.		
Inflation	The rate at which the general level of prices	How much prices for things like	
	for goods and services is rising, leading to a	food and clothes are increasing.	
	decrease in purchasing power.		
Fiscal Deficit	The difference when a government's total	When the government spends	
	expenditures exceed the revenue that it	more money than it earns.	
	generates, excluding money from		
	borrowings.		
Current Account Deficit	When a country's total imports of goods,	When a country buys more from	
	services, and transfers exceed its total	other countries than it sells to	
	exports.	them.	
Public Debt	The total amount of money that a	The money a government has	
	government owes to creditors.	borrowed and needs to repay.	
Economic Reforms	Changes implemented to improve economic	Changes made to make the	
	efficiency, productivity, and competitiveness.	economy work better and grow	
		faster.	
IPO Calendar	A schedule of upcoming Initial Public	A list of dates when companies	
	Offerings, where companies offer shares to	will start selling their shares to	
	the public for the first time.	the public.	
Stock Market Indices	Benchmarks that measure the performance	Measures that show how the	
(Sensex, Nifty)	of a group of stocks representing the market	stock market or a part of it is	
	or a sector.	performing.	
Options Trading Basics	The fundamentals of buying and selling	Basic knowledge about trading	
	options, which are contracts giving the right	contracts that allow you to buy or	
	to buy or sell assets at a future date.	sell assets later.	
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<u>Polity</u>

Concepts

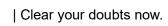
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Official Definition

Easy Explanation



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National Security	The executive arm of the National Security	The department that helps manage a
Council Secretariat	Council responsible for coordinating	country's national security strategies.
(NSCS)	national security and strategic policies.	
National Security	The senior official in the government	The top advisor to the government on
Advisor (NSA)	responsible for advising on national	matters of national security.
	security issues.	
Strategic Policy	A group that assists in formulating national	A team that helps create national security
Group	security policies in coordination with	policies by working with different groups.
	various stakeholders.	
Chief of Defence	The senior-most military officer in the	The highest-ranking military officer
Staff (CDS)	country, overseeing and coordinating the	responsible for managing the army, navy,
	three branches of the armed forces.	and air force.
Kishenganga and	Hydroelectric power projects on the	Power projects on rivers in India that are
Ratle hydroelectric	Kishenganga and Ratle rivers in India, part	part of the larger Indus River System.
projects	of the Indus River System.	
Neutral Expert	A dispute resolution mechanism under the	A way to resolve disputes under the Indus
proceedings	Indus Waters Treaty involving a neutral	Waters Treaty using an independent
	third-party expert.	expert.
Voice Vote	A voting method used in legislative	A way of voting in assemblies by
	assemblies where members vote orally.	speaking out loud rather than using
		ballots.
One Rank One Pay	A policy ensuring that military personnel of	A rule that makes sure military veterans
(OROP)	the same rank and length of service	get the same pension if they have the
	receive the same pension, regardless of	same rank and service duration, no
	their retirement date.	matter when they retired.
National Food	An Act to provide for food and nutritional	A law to make sure people in India have
Security Act	security by ensuring access to adequate	enough good-quality food at low prices.
(NFSA), 2013	quantities of quality food at affordable	
	prices.	
National Security	The executive arm of the National Security	The department that helps manage a
Council Secretariat	Council responsible for coordinating	country's national security strategies.
(NSCS)	national security and strategic policies.	
National Security	The senior official in the government	The top advisor to the government on
Advisor (NSA)	responsible for advising on national	matters of national security.
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Strategic Policy	A group that assists in formulating national	A team that helps create national security
Group	security policies in coordination with	policies by working with different groups.
	various stakeholders.	
Chief of Defence	The senior-most military officer in the	The highest-ranking military officer
Staff (CDS)	country, overseeing and coordinating the	responsible for managing the army, navy,
	three branches of the armed forces.	and air force.
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Indus Waters Treaty	A water-sharing agreement between India	A treaty between India and Pakistan to
(IWT)	and Pakistan, brokered by the World	share river water.
	Bank.	
Kishenganga and	Hydroelectric power projects on the	Power projects on rivers in India that are
Ratle hydroelectric	Kishenganga and Ratle rivers in India, part	part of the larger Indus River System.
projects	of the Indus River System.	
Neutral Expert	A dispute resolution mechanism under the	A way to resolve disputes under the Indus
proceedings	Indus Waters Treaty involving a neutral	Waters Treaty using an independent
	third-party expert.	expert.



International Relations

Concepts		Official Definition	Easy Explanation
Controlled digital lending		A system where libraries lend digitized	Libraries lending digital versions
		copies of physical books in a controlled	of physical books in a regulated
		manner.	way.
Strategic autonomy		The ability of a state to pursue its national	A country's ability to make its own
		interests and adopt its preferred foreign	decisions and policies without
		policy without being constrained by other	outside interference.
		states.	
G7 leaders meeting		An annual summit attended by the leaders of	A yearly meeting of leaders from
		seven major advanced economies to discuss	seven rich countries to talk about
		global issues.	important global matters.
Belt and Road Initiative	е	A global development strategy adopted by	China's plan to build infrastructure
(BRI)		China involving infrastructure development	and invest in many countries
		and investments in various countries.	around the world.
Pan-Asian railway		A proposed network of railways connecting	A planned railway system to link
network		various countries in Asia to enhance	Asian countries and improve trade
		connectivity and trade.	and travel.
Eastern Economic For	um	An international forum held in Russia to	A meeting in Russia to attract
		encourage foreign investment in the Russian	investment to the eastern part of
		Far East.	the country.
Indus Waters Treaty		A water-sharing agreement between India	A treaty between India and
(IWT)		and Pakistan, brokered by the World Bank.	Pakistan to share river water.
Mineral Security		An international partnership to secure and	A global agreement to ensure
Partnership		manage access to critical minerals.	countries can get important
			minerals safely and reliably.

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Coalition for Epidemic	A global partnership launched to develop	A group formed to create vaccines
Preparedness	vaccines to stop future epidemics.	and prevent future disease
Innovations (CEPI)		outbreaks.
Strategic autonomy	The ability of a state to pursue its national	A country's ability to make its own
	interests and adopt its preferred foreign	decisions and policies without
	policy without being constrained by other	outside interference.
	states.	
Eastern Economic Forum	An international forum held in Russia to	A meeting in Russia to attract
	encourage foreign investment in the Russian	investment to the eastern part of
	Far East.	the country.
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	global issues.	important global matters.
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Partnership	manage access to critical minerals.	countries can get important
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	Far East.	the country.
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	seven major advanced economies to discuss	seven rich countries to talk about
	global issues.	important global matters.
Belt and Road Initiative	A global development strategy adopted by	China's plan to build infrastructure
(BRI)	China involving infrastructure development	and invest in many countries
	and investments in various countries.	around the world.
Naval Refit	The process of repairing and upgrading	Fixing and improving naval ships.
	naval ships.	
Multi-role Frigate	A type of warship designed for multiple	A versatile warship that can
	purposes, such as anti-submarine warfare,	perform many different military
	air defense, and surface combat.	tasks.