



**PRELIMS'26**

# **SIMPLE Notes EVS+Concepts**



**June 2025**



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# ENVIRONMENT

## National Parks in News

Protected Area / Ecological Region	Location	Key Details	Relevance for UPSC & Other Exams	PYQ
Ranthambore National Park	Rajasthan	- Tiger-human conflict due to poor wildlife ethics. - NTCA guideline violation. - Shift from tiger numbers to ecological quality.	- Human-Wildlife Conflict example. - NTCA & carrying capacity.	<b>UPSC PRELIMS 2020: Among the following Tiger Reserves, which one has the largest area under "Critical Tiger Habitat"?</b> (a) Corbett (b) Ranthambore (c) Nagarjunsagar-Srisaillam (d) Sunderbans
Guru Ghasidas, Indravati, Udanti-Sitanadi TRs	Chhattisgarh	- Declining prey base due to habitat loss, hunting, mining.	- Importance of prey base in tiger conservation.	
Similipal, Satkosia TRs	Odisha	- Declining ungulate populations from habitat loss and poaching.	- Odisha's tiger conservation threats.	
Palamau TR	Jharkhand	- One of the first Tiger Reserves; now declining due to prey shortage.	- Example of ecosystem degradation.	
Western Ghats	Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, TN	- Targeted by Green India Mission. - Rich biodiversity and policy resistance (Gadgil report).	- Biodiversity Hotspot. - Climate restoration target area.	<b>UPSC PRELIMS 2017: From the ecological point of view, which one of the following assumes importance in being a good link between the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats?</b> (a) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (b) Nallamala Forest (c) Nagarhole National Park (d) Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve  <b>UPSC PRELIMS 2016: In which of the following regions of India are you most likely to come across the 'Great Indian Hornbill' in its natural habitat?</b> (a) Sand deserts of northwest India (b) Higher Himalayas of Jammu and Kashmir (c) Salt marshes of western





				<p>Gujarat (d) Western Ghats</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2016: 'Gadgil Committee Report' and 'Kasturirangan Committee Report', sometimes seen in the news, are related to</b></p> <p>(a) constitutional reforms (b) Ganga Action Plan (c) linking of rivers (d) protection of Western Ghats</p>
<b>Aravalli Hills</b>	Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi, Gujarat	- Green Wall initiative. - Illegal mining despite SC ban.	- Landscape restoration and governance.	
<b>Himalayas</b>	Northern India	- Green India Mission target for ecological restoration.	- Fragile mountain ecosystem.	<p><b>UPSC Prelims 2016: In which of the following regions of India are you most likely to come across the 'Great Indian Hornbill' in its natural habitat?</b></p> <p>(a) Sand deserts of northwest India (b) Higher Himalayas of Jammu and Kashmir (c) Salt marshes of western Gujarat (d) Western Ghats</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2016: Which of the following best describes/describes the aim of the 'Green India Mission' of the Government of India?</b></p> <p>1. Incorporating environmental benefits and costs into the Union and State Budgets thereby implementing the 'green accounting' 2. Launching the second green revolution to enhance agricultural output so as to ensure food security to one and all in the future 3. Restoring and enhancing forest cover and responding to climate change by a combination of adaptation and mitigation measures</p> <p><b>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</b></p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>





<b>Mangroves</b>	Coastal India	- Targeted for protection & restoration under GIM. - Cyclone buffer, biodiversity hub.	- Coastal ecology focus. - Blue carbon value.	<p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2017: If you want to see gharials in their natural habitat, which one of the following is the best place to visit?</b></p> <p>(a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves (b) Chambal River (c) Pulicat Lake (d) Deepor Bed</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2016: What is/are unique about 'Kharai camel' a breed found in India?</b></p> <p>1. It is capable of swimming up to three kilometers in seawater. 2. It survives by grazing on mangroves. 3. It lives in the wild and cannot be domesticated. Select the correct answer using the code given below. (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2015: Which one of the following regions of India has a combination of mangrove forest, evergreen forest and deciduous forest?</b></p> <p>(a) North Coastal Andhra Pradesh (b) South-West Bengal (c) Southern Saurashtra (d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands</p>
<b>Pachgaon Village (Community Forest)</b>	Maharashtra	- Community-managed bamboo forests under FRA. - Sacred grove preserved, no forest fires.	- Community-led conservation. - FRA in action.	<p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2023:</b></p> <p><b>Consider the following statements:</b></p> <p><b>Once the central government notifies an area as a 'Community Reserve'</b></p> <p>1. The chief wildlife Warden of the state becomes the governing authority of such forest. 2. Hunting is not allowed in such areas. 3. People of such areas are not allowed to collect non timber forest produce. 4. People of such area are allowed traditional agriculture practices</p> <p><b>How many of the above statements are correct?</b></p> <p>(a) Only one</p>





				(b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four
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## ANIMAL SPECIES JUNE 2025

Name	Why in News?	Important Information	PYQ
Tiger	Its health depends on availability of prey (ungulates).	Tiger is an umbrella species; decline in prey base impacts its population. Protected under <b>Schedule I</b> of WPA, 1972. Part of <b>Project Tiger</b> and <b>CAMPA</b> . Indicator of healthy ecosystem.	<p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2020: Among the following Tiger Reserves, which one has the largest area under “Critical Tiger Habitat”?</b></p> <p>(a) Corbett (b) Ranthambore (c) Nagarjunsagar-Srisaillam (d) Sunderbans</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2019: Which of the following are in Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve?</b></p> <p>(a) Neyyar, Peppara and Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (b) Mudumalai, Sathyamangalam and Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Silent Valley National Park (c) Kaundinya, Gundla Brahme-swaram and papikonda Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Mukurthi National park (d) Kawal and Sri Venkateswara Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Nagarjunasagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2019: Consider the following statements:</b></p> <p>1. As per law, the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority exists at both National and State levels. 2. People’s participation is mandatory in the compensatory afforestation programmes carried out under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act,</p>





			<p>2016. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? 1 only 2 only Both 1 and 2 Neither 1 nor 2</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2017: From the ecological point of view, which one of the following assumes importance in being a good link between the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats?</b> (a) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (b) Nallamala Forest (c) Nagarhole National Park (d) Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2017: The term 'M-STRIPES' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of</b> (a) Captive breeding of Wild Fauna (b) Maintenance of Tiger Reserves (c) Indigenous Satellite Navigation System (d) Security of National Highways</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2014: Consider the following pairs :</b> 1. Dampa Tiger Reserve : Mizoram 2. Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary : Sikkim 3. Saramati Peak : Nagaland Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched? (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p> <p><b>UPSC PRELIMS 2014: Consider the following statements :</b> 1. Animal Welfare Board of India is established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 2. National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body 3. National Ganga River Basin Authority is chaired by the Prime Minister Which if the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>
<b>Ungulates</b>	Studied in relation to tiger survival.	Includes deer, antelope, wild boar, etc. Form the primary prey base for large carnivores. Their population is critical for maintaining predator-prey balance in forest ecosystems.	
<b>King Cobra</b>	MP CM proposed breeding	World's longest venomous snake. Protected under <b>Schedule II</b> , WPA. Found	





	and counting king cobras.	mainly in Western Ghats and Northeast. Highly venomous but shy. IUCN Status: <b>Vulnerable</b> .	
<b>Invasive Alien Species</b>	Linked to trade barriers and ecosystem risks.	Disrupt native biodiversity, agriculture, and forestry. Examples in India: <b>Lantana, Parthenium, Prosopis juliflora</b> . Entry routes: global trade, horticulture. Managed under <b>One Biosecurity</b> approach.	
<b>Squid (Cephalopods)</b>	Fossil discoveries added 40 new species.	Important for understanding <b>marine biodiversity evolution</b> . Squid are fast-swimming invertebrates, important to marine food chains and fisheries. Potential link to climate change and ocean temperature studies.	



## CONCEPTS in NEWS



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## Environment

Keyword	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Transition Zone Chlorophyll Front (TZCF)</b>	A sharp boundary in the ocean where chlorophyll concentrations change rapidly, often associated with upwelling and high biological productivity.	A clear line in the ocean where there's a sudden big change in green plankton, showing a very fertile area.
<b>Anthropogenic Iron Input (Ocean Fertilization)</b>	The deliberate introduction of iron into the ocean by human activities, often proposed as a geoengineering technique to stimulate phytoplankton growth and absorb CO <sub>2</sub> .	Humans deliberately putting iron into the ocean, usually to make tiny plants grow more and soak up carbon dioxide.
<b>Ocean Deserts</b>	Vast areas of the open ocean with very low biological productivity, characterized by clear blue water and limited marine life.	Large parts of the open ocean that have very little marine life and are like watery deserts.
<b>Exposomics / Exposure-Wide Association Studies (EWAS)</b>	The study of the totality of human environmental exposures and their effects on health (Exposomics), often involving Exposure-Wide Association Studies (EWAS).	The study of all the environmental factors a person is exposed to throughout their life, and how they affect health.
<b>Untargeted Biomonitoring</b>	A method of biomonitoring that broadly screens for a wide range of chemicals and their metabolites in biological samples without pre-selecting specific targets.	Testing blood or urine for many different chemicals at once, without knowing exactly what you're looking for.
<b>Organs-on-a-Chip (Environmental Health)</b>	Microfluidic devices engineered to simulate the physiological functions of human organs, used for testing environmental toxins without animal testing.	Small lab devices that mimic human organs, used to test how chemicals affect us without using animals.
<b>Epigenetic Switch (Environmental impact)</b>	A reversible molecular change that turns genes on or off without altering the underlying DNA sequence, often influenced by environmental factors.	A way to turn genes on or off, like a light switch, often due to things in our environment, without changing the actual DNA.
<b>PM2.5 (Particulate Matter 2.5)</b>	Fine inhalable particles, with diameters that are generally 2.5 micrometers and smaller, produced from various sources including burning fuels.	Tiny air pollution particles, smaller than a human hair, that can get deep into your lungs.







<b>Urban Heat-Island Effect</b>	The phenomenon where urban areas are significantly warmer than surrounding rural areas due to human activities, built structures, and reduced vegetation.	Cities getting hotter than nearby rural areas because of buildings, roads, and less greenery.
<b>Net-zero emissions</b>	Achieving a balance between the amount of greenhouse gases emitted and the amount removed from the atmosphere.	Putting no more climate-changing gases into the air than what is taken out.
<b>Carbon Pricing</b>	A policy tool that puts a price on carbon emissions to encourage polluters to reduce their emissions.	Putting a cost on carbon pollution to make companies reduce how much they release.
<b>Green Compliance</b>	Adherence to environmental laws, regulations, and standards by businesses and organizations.	Following all the environmental rules and regulations set by the government.
<b>Monocultures (farming)</b>	The agricultural practice of growing a single crop or raising one type of livestock in a specific area, often leading to reduced biodiversity.	Growing only one type of crop over a large area, which can harm variety in nature.
<b>Biodiversity Hotspots (concept)</b>	Biogeographic regions that are both a significant reservoir of biodiversity and are under threat from humans.	Areas rich in different kinds of plants and animals, but are also highly threatened.
<b>UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)</b>	An international environmental treaty established in 1992 to combat dangerous human interference with the climate system.	An international treaty where countries agree to work together to stop harmful climate change.
<b>SB 62 (Bonn Climate Change Conference)</b>	The 62nd session of the Subsidiary Bodies (SBI and SBSTA) of the UNFCCC, often referring to a specific meeting in Bonn.	A specific meeting where countries discuss climate change issues under the UN framework.
<b>Global Goal on Adaptation</b>	A collective objective under the UNFCCC to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience, and reduce vulnerability to climate change.	An international aim to help countries better prepare for and cope with the effects of climate change.
<b>Loss-and-Damage Fund</b>	A fund established under the UNFCCC to provide financial assistance to developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.	Money set aside by rich countries to help poorer countries deal with unavoidable damage from climate change.
<b>Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI)</b>	A body under the UNFCCC that assists the Conference of the Parties (COP) in assessing and reviewing the implementation of the Convention.	A UN group that helps check if countries are actually doing what they promised on climate change.





<b>Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA)</b>	A body under the UNFCCC that provides scientific and technological information and advice to the Conference of the Parties (COP).	A UN group that gives scientific and technical advice to countries on climate change.
<b>Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA - Air Pollution link)</b>	A sleep disorder where breathing repeatedly stops and starts due to a blocked airway, with emerging links to air pollution exposure.	A sleep problem where breathing stops temporarily, now being linked to air pollution.
<b>Pre-industrial levels (temperature)</b>	Temperature conditions on Earth before large-scale industrialization began (typically pre-1750), used as a baseline for climate change targets.	The Earth's temperature before factories started polluting a lot, used as a starting point for climate goals.
<b>Bushmeat Hunting</b>	The hunting of wild animals for food, often illegally and unsustainably, contributing to biodiversity loss and disease transmission.	Hunting wild animals, often illegally, for food, which harms wildlife and can spread diseases.
<b>Human-Wildlife Conflict</b>	The negative interactions between humans and wild animals, resulting in adverse impacts on both sides.	Problems that happen when people and wild animals live too close and cause harm to each other.
<b>Carrying Capacity (wildlife)</b>	The maximum population size of a biological species that can be sustained indefinitely by a given environment.	The largest number of animals an area can support without running out of resources.
<b>Invasive Alien Species</b>	Species introduced outside their natural range that spread rapidly and cause significant harm to native ecosystems, economies, or human health.	Non-native plants or animals that spread aggressively and damage local environments or economies.
<b>Biocontrol (invasive species)</b>	A method of controlling pests and invasive species using other living organisms, often natural enemies.	Using natural enemies like other bugs or plants to control harmful invasive species.
<b>Ballast Water / Biofouling (Maritime Ecology)</b>	Water carried in ship tanks for stability (Ballast Water), which can transport marine organisms globally; the accumulation of organisms on ship hulls (Biofouling).	Water ships carry for balance (can spread sea creatures); marine life sticking to ship bottoms.
<b>One Biosecurity Approach</b>	A holistic approach to managing risks to human, animal, and plant health, as well as the environment, from pests and diseases across all sectors.	A big-picture way to protect people, animals, plants, and the environment from diseases and pests all together.
<b>Evaporative Demand / Thirstwave</b>	The atmospheric demand for water vapor from the surface (Evaporative Demand);	How much the air "wants" to dry out the land or plants, indicating how dry and hot it is.





	often referred to as 'thirstwave' in simplified terms during heatwaves.	
<b>Speleothems (Paleoclimatology)</b>	Mineral formations (like stalagmites and stalactites) found in caves, used as proxies to reconstruct past climate conditions.	Rock formations in caves that scientists study to learn about Earth's climate thousands of years ago.
<b>Green Arabia Hypothesis</b>	A scientific hypothesis suggesting that the Arabian Peninsula experienced periods of increased rainfall and vegetation during past interglacial periods, making it more habitable.	The idea that the Arabian desert was once green and wet, making it easier for early humans to live there.
<b>Marine Heatwaves</b>	Prolonged periods of unusually warm ocean temperatures in a particular region, causing significant impacts on marine ecosystems.	Long periods when parts of the ocean get unusually hot, harming sea life.
<b>Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)</b>	A methodology for assessing environmental impacts associated with all stages of a product's life from raw material extraction to disposal.	A study of how much environmental harm a product causes, from start to finish.
<b>Enhanced Rock Weathering (ERW)</b>	A carbon dioxide removal approach that accelerates natural rock weathering processes to absorb CO <sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere.	A method to take CO <sub>2</sub> out of the air by speeding up how rocks naturally break down.



### Science and Technology

Keyword	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Virtual Digital Assets (VDAs)</b>	Digital representations of value that can be digitally traded or transferred, and used for payment or investment purposes.	Digital things like cryptocurrencies that can be traded or invested in.
<b>Web3</b>	A proposed decentralized iteration of the internet based on blockchain technology.	The next internet, built on blockchain, where users have more control.
<b>Cold Plates/Immersion Cooling (Data Centers)</b>	Technologies used to remove heat from electronic components by direct contact with a cooled surface or by submerging components in a dielectric fluid.	Ways to keep supercomputers cool by touching them with cold surfaces or dunking them in special liquids.





<b>Long-Period Radio Transients</b>	Celestial objects that emit radio waves for a duration of months to years, which is unusually long compared to typical pulsars or magnetars.	Space objects that send out radio signals for a very long time, unlike usual radio stars.
<b>Magnetar</b>	A type of neutron star with an extremely powerful magnetic field.	A super-dense dead star with an incredibly strong magnetic field.
<b>Building-Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV)</b>	Photovoltaic materials that are used to replace conventional building materials in parts of the building envelope, such as the roof, skylights, or facades.	Solar panels that are part of a building's roof or walls, not just put on top.
<b>Kilowatt-peak (kWp)</b>	A unit of power for solar panels, representing their maximum power output under standard test conditions.	How much electricity a solar panel can make at its best.
<b>MIME types</b>	A standard that indicates the nature and format of a document, file, or assortment of bytes.	Codes that tell your computer what kind of file something is (like a picture, text, or video).
<b>Thermophilic Bacteria</b>	Bacteria that thrive in extremely hot environments, typically between 45°C and 80°C.	Bacteria that love and grow well in very hot places.
<b>16S rRNA analysis</b>	A common molecular method used to identify and classify bacteria by sequencing the 16S ribosomal RNA gene.	A lab test to figure out what kind of bacteria something is by checking its unique genetic code.
<b>Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)</b>	The ability of microorganisms (like bacteria, viruses, and fungi) to resist the effects of an antimicrobial drug to which they were previously sensitive.	When germs learn to ignore medicines meant to kill them, making infections hard to treat.
<b>mRNAMAY (mRNA technology)</b>	A specific or hypothetical mRNA-based technology, likely for vaccine development or therapeutics, referring to mRNA as a delivery system.	A new way of making medicines or vaccines using special genetic instructions called mRNA.
<b>Cryptobiosis / Anhydrobiosis</b>	A metabolic state of life entered by an organism in response to adverse environmental conditions, characterized by a suspension of metabolic activities (Cryptobiosis), specifically drying out (Anhydrobiosis).	A state where an organism temporarily stops all life processes to survive harsh conditions, often by drying itself out.
<b>CAHS proteins (Tardigrades)</b>	Cytoplasmic Abundant Heat Soluble proteins, found in tardigrades, which help protect their cells during desiccation.	Special proteins in "water bears" that let them survive being completely dried out.
<b>Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI)</b>	A proposed geoengineering technique involving the injection of aerosols into the	Spraying tiny particles high in the sky to bounce sunlight back into space and cool the planet.





	stratosphere to reflect sunlight and cool the Earth.	
<b>Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD)</b>	A set of technologies used to remove sulphur dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ) from exhaust flue gases of fossil fuel power plants.	A system in power plants that cleans harmful sulfur out of the smoke before it goes into the air.
<b>PM2.5 particles</b>	Fine inhalable particles, with diameters that are generally 2.5 micrometers and smaller, produced from various sources including burning fuels.	Tiny air pollution particles, smaller than a human hair, that can get deep into your lungs.
<b>FOXP4 gene (COVID-19)</b>	A gene identified in recent studies as potentially playing a role in COVID-19 severity or susceptibility.	A specific gene that some research links to how badly someone gets COVID-19.
<b>GenomeIndia</b>	A collaborative initiative to sequence 10,000 Indian human genomes to build a reference genome for the Indian population.	A big project to map the genetic code of many Indians to understand their health better.
<b>Crash-Survivable Memory Unit (Flight Recorders)</b>	A highly protected and durable component of a flight recorder designed to withstand extreme forces, heat, and water, preserving recorded data.	The super-tough part of a plane's black box that holds all the data even after a crash.
<b>AI and Biomanufacturing</b>	The application of artificial intelligence to optimize and automate processes in biomanufacturing, such as drug production or material creation.	Using smart computer programs to make biological products, like medicines or new materials, more efficiently.
<b>Digital Twins (in manufacturing)</b>	Virtual models of physical objects, processes, or systems that can be used for simulation, monitoring, and optimization.	A virtual copy of a factory machine or process that helps engineers test and improve things without touching the real one.
<b>Context Caching (AI)</b>	A technique used in large language models to store and reuse parts of the input context, improving efficiency for long conversations.	An AI trick to remember parts of a long conversation, making it faster and better at understanding what's being discussed.
<b>Mixture-of-Experts (MoE) architecture (AI)</b>	A neural network design where different "expert" sub-networks specialize in different types of data, with a "gate" network determining which expert to use.	An AI design where different parts of the AI are specialists, and another part decides which specialist should handle specific information.
<b>Sarcopenia</b>	Age-related loss of muscle mass, strength, and function.	The natural weakening and shrinking of muscles as people get older.
<b>Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)</b>	A secure communication method that uses principles of quantum mechanics to establish a cryptographic key.	A super-secure way to share secret codes using quantum physics, making them unhackable.





<b>STRs (short tandem repeats - DNA fingerprinting)</b>	Short nucleotide sequences that are repeated in a tandem fashion, widely used in forensic DNA profiling.	Tiny, repeated sections of DNA used like a unique barcode to identify people.
<b>eMARG platform (PMGSY)</b>	An online platform for electronic monitoring and management of rural roads constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).	An online system to track and manage the building of rural roads under a government scheme.
<b>GLP-1 drugs</b>	Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists, a class of medications primarily used to treat type 2 diabetes and obesity.	A type of medicine mainly for diabetes and weight loss that helps control blood sugar and appetite.
<b>Ploidy Plasticity (fungal)</b>	The ability of fungi to change their ploidy (number of sets of chromosomes), often in response to stress, affecting their traits like virulence.	Fungi's ability to change their number of chromosome sets, which can help them survive or become more harmful.
<b>CAR T-cell Therapy</b>	A type of immunotherapy that uses a patient's own genetically modified T cells to find and kill cancer cells.	A cancer treatment where a patient's immune cells are engineered to fight their own cancer.
<b>Lipid Nanoparticles (LNPs)</b>	Tiny fat-based particles used as delivery vehicles for nucleic acids (like mRNA) in vaccines and therapies.	Tiny fat bubbles that carry genetic material into cells, often used in new vaccines.
<b>Epigenetic Switch</b>	A reversible molecular change that turns genes on or off without altering the underlying DNA sequence.	A way to turn genes on or off, like a light switch, without changing the actual DNA code.
<b>Indrajaal (defence grid)</b>	An indigenous wide-area counter-drone system developed by India, capable of autonomously detecting, identifying, and neutralizing threats.	An Indian-made defense system that can automatically find and stop enemy drones over a large area.
<b>Critical Minerals / Rare Earth Elements (REEs)</b>	Minerals and elements that are essential for modern technologies and have a high risk of supply disruption due to geopolitical or geological factors.	Key minerals and elements needed for high-tech gadgets and green energy, often hard to get reliably.
<b>Oleo-gum resin (asafoetida)</b>	A gum resin obtained from the roots of plants of the Ferula genus, used as a spice and in traditional medicine.	A sticky, strong-smelling sap from a plant root, used as a spice (like asafoetida/hing).
<b>Evaporative Demand / Thirstwave</b>	The atmospheric demand for water vapor from the surface (Evaporative Demand); often referred to as 'thirstwave' in simplified terms during heatwaves.	How much the air "wants" to dry out the land or plants, indicating how dry and hot it is.







<b>Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs)</b>	A type of nuclear power reactor that uses heavy water (deuterium oxide) as its coolant and neutron moderator.	A specific type of nuclear power plant that uses heavy water to produce electricity.
<b>Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)</b>	Advanced nuclear reactors that are smaller than conventional reactors, can be built in factories, and have passive safety features.	Smaller, factory-built nuclear reactors that are easier to set up and safer.



## Economy

Keyword	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Capital Controls</b>	Government restrictions on the flow of capital (money) into and out of a country.	Rules a government sets on how much money can enter or leave the country.
<b>Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)</b>	A national agency responsible for receiving, analyzing, and disseminating financial information concerning suspicious financial transactions.	A government agency that checks for suspicious money activities like money laundering.
<b>Gross NPAs (Non-Performing Assets)</b>	The total value of loans that are in default or overdue, where the borrower has failed to make principal or interest payments for a specified period.	The total amount of bad loans where banks aren't getting their money back.
<b>Private Final Consumption Expenditure (PFCE)</b>	The portion of national income spent by households on final consumer goods and services.	How much money ordinary people spend on everyday goods and services.
<b>Viksit Bharat</b>	A vision or goal for India to become a developed nation by 2047, often involving specific economic and social targets.	The government's plan for India to become a fully developed country by 2047.
<b>Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)</b>	A theory that states that exchange rates between currencies are in equilibrium when their purchasing power is the same in each of the two countries.	How much you can buy in one country for the same amount of money you would spend in another.





<b>Gini and Theil Index</b>	Statistical measures used to assess income or wealth inequality within a population.	Ways to measure how unevenly wealth or income is spread among people in a country.
<b>Monetary Policy Transmission</b>	The process through which changes in the central bank's policy interest rate are passed on to market interest rates and ultimately to economic activity.	How changes in the central bank's interest rates affect the economy, like loan rates and spending.
<b>Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)</b>	A law in India that provides a framework for resolving insolvency and bankruptcy issues for companies and individuals in a time-bound manner.	A law in India that helps companies or individuals sort out their debts and financial collapse quickly.
<b>Pre-pack Schemes (IBC)</b>	A pre-negotiated insolvency resolution plan agreed upon by creditors and the company, which is then formally approved by the NCLT.	A faster way to solve a company's debt problems, where creditors and the company agree on a plan before going to court.
<b>Legal Safe Harbours (IBC)</b>	Provisions within the IBC that protect certain actions or transactions from being challenged or deemed invalid, promoting smoother resolution.	Legal protections within bankruptcy law that shield certain agreements from being overturned later.
<b>Concessional Imports</b>	Imports of goods or raw materials that are allowed into a country at reduced or zero customs duties.	Bringing goods into the country with lower or no import taxes.
<b>Domestic Value Addition (DVA)</b>	The increase in the value of a product or service attributable to domestic production processes, materials, and labor.	How much of a product's final value is added by making it inside the country.
<b>Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes</b>	Government schemes that provide financial incentives to manufacturers for increasing production in specific sectors, promoting local manufacturing.	Government payments to companies for making more things in India.
<b>Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs)</b>	Special railway lines designed exclusively for the faster movement of freight trains across long distances in India.	Special, faster train tracks just for moving goods across India.
<b>Logistics Performance Index</b>	An interactive benchmarking tool created by the World Bank to help countries identify the challenges and opportunities in their logistics performance.	A World Bank scorecard showing how good a country is at moving goods around.
<b>Basis Points (bps)</b>	A common unit of measure for interest rates and other percentages in finance, equal to one-hundredth of a percentage point (0.01%).	A tiny unit for measuring changes in interest rates or percentages, where 100 bps is 1%.







<b>Global Value Chains (GVCs)</b>	The full range of activities that firms and workers perform to bring a product from its conception to its end use and beyond, across different countries.	The whole process of making a product, with different steps done in different countries.
<b>Fiscal Discipline / Fiscal Populism</b>	Policies aimed at achieving a sustainable budget deficit and debt levels (Fiscal Discipline) versus policies that prioritize popular spending over long-term fiscal health (Fiscal Populism).	Being responsible with government spending (Discipline) versus spending a lot to be popular, even if it harms the budget (Populism).
<b>Concessional Financing/Lending</b>	Loans or financial assistance provided on more favorable terms (e.g., lower interest rates, longer repayment periods) than market rates.	Giving loans with easier terms, like lower interest or more time to pay back.
<b>Financial Stability Board (FSB)</b>	An international body that monitors and makes recommendations about the global financial system.	An international group that watches the world's money system and suggests ways to keep it stable.
<b>FATF (Financial Action Task Force)</b>	An intergovernmental organization established to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.	An international group that fights against money laundering and funding for terrorism.
<b>RoDTEP (Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products)</b>	A scheme in India that refunds embedded taxes and duties to exporters, making Indian exports more competitive.	A government scheme that gives back certain taxes to companies when they export goods.
<b>Supply-Chain Fragmentation</b>	The breaking up of global supply chains into smaller, more localized segments, often due to geopolitical or economic shifts.	When the global network that makes and moves goods breaks into smaller, separate parts.
<b>Regenerative Farming</b>	Agricultural practices that focus on soil health, biodiversity, and ecosystem services, aiming to reverse climate change through carbon sequestration.	Farming methods that improve soil, boost nature, and help trap carbon in the ground.
<b>Product Circularity / Circular Economy</b>	A model of production and consumption that involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing, and recycling existing materials and products for as long as possible.	A system where we try to use products and materials for as long as possible, reducing waste.
<b>Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)</b>	Long-term contracts between electricity generators and buyers (utilities or large consumers) for the sale and purchase of electricity.	Long-term deals where electricity companies agree to sell power to a buyer at a set price.
<b>Fiscal Impulse Reversal</b>	A situation where the government's fiscal policy shifts from stimulating the economy (through spending/tax cuts) to tightening it (through spending cuts/tax increases).	When the government changes from boosting the economy with spending to tightening its budget.





<b>Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF)</b>	A macroeconomic indicator that measures the total value of a country's net additions to fixed assets (e.g., buildings, machinery).	The total amount of money a country spends on adding new buildings, machines, and infrastructure.
<b>Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)</b>	Open-source, interoperable digital systems and platforms, often government-backed, designed to provide essential public services and foster innovation.	Digital systems built by the government (like UPI or Aadhaar) that are open for everyone to use and innovate on.
<b>Cesses and Surcharges (Finance Commission)</b>	Additional levies on taxes collected by the central government for specific purposes, which are generally not shared with states as part of the divisible pool.	Extra taxes the government collects for special reasons, which states don't automatically get a share of.
<b>Divisible Pool (taxes)</b>	The total collection of taxes that are subject to sharing between the central government and state governments as recommended by the Finance Commission.	The big pot of taxes that the central government shares with the states.
<b>Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)</b>	A measure of poverty that considers various deprivations faced by individuals in health, education, and living standards.	A way to measure poverty that looks at more than just income, like health, education, and living conditions.
<b>Debt Relief Mechanisms / Debt Swaps</b>	Processes or agreements to reduce or restructure a country's debt burden (Debt Relief), sometimes by exchanging debt for investment in projects (Debt Swaps).	Ways to lighten a country's loan burden, sometimes by trading debt for investments in green projects.
<b>Trade-to-GDP Ratio</b>	The sum of exports and imports divided by a country's Gross Domestic Product, indicating the openness of an economy to international trade.	How much a country trades internationally compared to the size of its economy.
<b>Regional Value Chains</b>	Supply chains where the production stages of a good or service are concentrated within a specific geographical region, fostering regional economic integration.	Supply chains where different parts of making a product are all done within the same region or group of countries.





## International Relations

Keyword	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Capital Controls (IR context)</b>	Government restrictions on the flow of capital (money) into and out of a country, used to manage balance of payments, exchange rates, or financial stability.	Rules a government sets on how much money can enter or leave the country, affecting international trade and investment.
<b>FATF (Financial Action Task Force)</b>	An intergovernmental organization established to combat money laundering and terrorist financing, issuing recommendations and monitoring compliance.	An international group that sets rules and checks if countries are fighting money laundering and funding for terrorism.
<b>Financial Stability Board (FSB)</b>	An international body that monitors and makes recommendations about the global financial system, aiming to promote financial stability.	An international group that watches the world's money system and suggests ways to keep it stable.
<b>Shangri-La Dialogue</b>	An annual inter-governmental security forum held in Singapore, attended by defense ministers, military chiefs, and security experts from the Asia-Pacific.	An important yearly meeting in Singapore where top defense officials from Asian countries discuss security issues.
<b>Strategic Autonomy (Europe/India)</b>	The capacity of a state or bloc to act independently in matters of foreign policy and defense, without being overly dependent on other major powers.	A country's or group of countries' ability to make its own decisions in foreign policy and defense without relying too much on others.
<b>Humanitarian Principles (Gaza context)</b>	Fundamental guidelines governing humanitarian action: humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence, applied in conflict zones like Gaza.	Basic rules for helping people in crises (like in Gaza): being kind, not taking sides, helping everyone equally, and acting independently.
<b>Geneva Convention (Article 54)</b>	A set of international treaties concerning the treatment of prisoners of war and civilians during wartime; Article 54 specifically prohibits attacking objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population.	International rules for warfare; Article 54 specifically bans attacking things people need to survive, like food or water.
<b>UNRWA (UN Relief and Works Agency for</b>	A United Nations agency that provides assistance and protection to Palestine refugees in the Near East.	A UN agency that helps Palestinian refugees in the





<b>Palestine Refugees in the Near East)</b>		Middle East with aid and support.
<b>International Court of Justice (ICJ) - specific rulings</b>	The principal judicial organ of the United Nations, which settles legal disputes between states and gives advisory opinions.	The main UN court that resolves disputes between countries and gives legal advice.
<b>Nuclear Umbrella</b>	A guarantee by a nuclear-armed state to defend a non-nuclear-armed ally, implicitly or explicitly, with nuclear weapons.	A promise by a nuclear power to protect a non-nuclear ally using its nuclear weapons if needed.
<b>Extended Deterrence (Nuclear)</b>	The commitment by a nuclear-armed state to deter an attack on its allies by threatening nuclear retaliation against the aggressor.	A nuclear power's promise to use its nuclear weapons to stop an attack on its allies.
<b>Rome Statute</b>	The treaty that established the International Criminal Court (ICC), outlining its jurisdiction, crimes, and procedures.	The international treaty that created the International Criminal Court.
<b>Trials in Absentia (Bangladesh ICT)</b>	Legal proceedings conducted in the absence of the accused, often if the accused has fled or is not amenable to legal process, as seen in Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal.	Court trials held even when the accused person is not present, often because they have run away.
<b>Caretaker Government (Bangladesh)</b>	A temporary government formed in Bangladesh (historically) to oversee parliamentary elections, intended to ensure fairness and neutrality.	A temporary government in Bangladesh (used in the past) set up just to hold fair elections.
<b>Comprehensive Strategic Partnership</b>	A high level of bilateral relationship between countries, implying deep cooperation across political, economic, security, and cultural spheres.	A very close and wide-ranging relationship between two countries, involving strong cooperation in many areas.
<b>2+2 Ministerial Dialogue</b>	A format of diplomatic meeting where the foreign and defense ministers of two countries meet to discuss strategic and security issues.	A meeting where the foreign ministers and defense ministers from two countries talk about important strategic issues.
<b>Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA)</b>	A defense pact that allows allied militaries to use each other's bases for logistics support, such as refueling and repairs.	A military agreement allowing countries to use each other's bases for supplies, fuel, and repairs.
<b>IMEEC (India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor)</b>	A proposed multi-modal economic corridor connecting India, the Middle East, and Europe through sea and rail networks.	A planned trade route connecting India to Europe via the Middle East, using ships and trains.
<b>Concessional Financing (International Aid)</b>	Loans or financial assistance provided by international organizations or governments on more favorable terms (e.g., lower interest	Giving loans or aid to developing countries with easier terms, like





	rates, longer repayment periods) to developing countries.	lower interest rates or more time to pay.
<b>Digital Silk Road</b>	China's initiative to build digital infrastructure (e.g., fiber optic cables, 5G networks) and expand its digital influence globally, often linked to the Belt and Road Initiative.	China's plan to spread its digital technology and infrastructure, like internet cables and 5G, globally.
<b>Trans-Himalayan Artery</b>	A proposed or existing transportation and communication network (roads, railways) connecting regions across the Himalayas, often referring to connectivity between China and Nepal/South Asia.	A planned or existing route for transport and communication that crosses the Himalayan mountains.
<b>Soft-Power Corridor</b>	A concept describing a geographical region or initiative through which a country exerts influence through cultural appeal, values, and institutions, rather than coercion.	A region or project where a country uses its culture, values, and ideas to gain influence, not force.
<b>Uranium Enrichment (Iran Nuclear)</b>	The process of increasing the concentration of uranium-235, the fissile isotope, used for nuclear power and, at higher levels, for nuclear weapons.	Increasing the amount of a special type of uranium (U-235) needed for nuclear power or bombs.
<b>International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)</b>	An international organization that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to inhibit its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons.	The global agency that promotes safe nuclear energy and tries to stop its use for weapons.
<b>Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)</b>	An international agreement on the Iranian nuclear program, reached in 2015 between Iran and the P5+1 countries.	The 2015 international agreement about Iran's nuclear program.
<b>Strait of Hormuz</b>	A narrow, strategically important strait connecting the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea, through which a significant portion of the world's oil supply passes.	A very narrow and important sea passage where much of the world's oil is shipped.
<b>Operation Sindhu (Evacuation)</b>	A hypothetical or past military operation for evacuation, likely referring to a complex overseas rescue mission.	A special military operation, often to rescue people from a dangerous situation abroad.
<b>Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)</b>	A Eurasian political, economic, and security organization comprising several Central Asian countries, China, India, Pakistan, and Russia.	A group of countries from Asia and Europe focused on political, economic, and security cooperation.
<b>Global South</b>	A term for developing nations of Africa, Latin America, and Asia, often characterized by shared experiences of colonialism and economic challenges.	Poorer, developing countries, mostly in the southern hemisphere, often with shared historical challenges.





<b>BRICS Summit</b>	An annual meeting of the heads of state or government of the BRICS member countries: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.	The yearly meeting of leaders from Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
<b>Proxy Groups (Hezbollah, Houthis)</b>	Non-state armed groups that are supported and used by a state to advance its interests indirectly in a conflict.	Armed groups that fight on behalf of a country, even if they're not officially part of its army.
<b>GBU-57 Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP)</b>	A very large, precision-guided, air-delivered munition designed to destroy hardened and deeply buried targets, often called a "bunker buster."	A huge, super-accurate bomb dropped from a plane, designed to destroy deeply buried, reinforced targets.
<b>Trans-shipment Privilege</b>	The right to move goods from one ship or vehicle to another, typically for onward journey, without being subject to customs duties or full import procedures.	The right to transfer goods from one ship or transport to another without paying full import taxes immediately.
<b>BIMSTEC Maritime Transport Cooperation Agreement</b>	An agreement among BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) countries to enhance cooperation in maritime transport.	A deal between countries around the Bay of Bengal to work together on shipping and sea transport.
<b>Geopolitical Signalling</b>	Actions or statements by a state intended to convey intentions, capabilities, or warnings to other states in the international arena.	When a country does or says something to send a message or warning to other countries.
<b>Trump Card (US visa)</b>	A colloquial term referring to the perceived exceptional value or unique advantage associated with obtaining a particular US visa or immigration status.	A casual term for having a special, powerful advantage, often referring to a coveted US visa.
<b>Golden-Visa / EB-5 Investor Visa</b>	Immigration programs that grant residency or citizenship to wealthy foreign investors in exchange for significant investment in the host country's economy.	A program where rich foreigners can get residency or citizenship by investing a lot of money in a country.
<b>Transatlantic Relations</b>	The political, economic, and cultural relationships between North America (especially the US and Canada) and Europe.	The relationships between the United States (and Canada) and European countries.
<b>Eurasian Geopolitics</b>	The study of the strategic importance of the Eurasian landmass, involving power dynamics, rivalries, and cooperation between countries in Europe and Asia.	The study of power struggles and relationships between countries in the vast region of Europe and Asia.
<b>Cyrus Accords</b>	A proposed or hypothetical framework for regional cooperation or peace in the Middle East, potentially involving Israel and Arab states.	A potential peace or cooperation deal for the Middle East, possibly involving Israel and Arab nations.







<b>Neo-Ottomanism (Erdogan)</b>	A political ideology in Turkey under President Erdogan that promotes greater Turkish influence in former Ottoman territories and a more assertive foreign policy.	A political idea in Turkey under Erdogan to expand its influence in areas that were once part of the Ottoman Empire.
<b>Nuclearization Dilemma</b>	The strategic challenge faced by a country when deciding whether to develop nuclear weapons, weighing security benefits against risks of proliferation and retaliation.	The difficult choice a country faces about whether to build nuclear weapons, balancing safety against new dangers.
<b>AI Diffusion Framework (US Policy)</b>	A policy framework being developed by the US to manage the global spread of advanced AI models and technologies, especially those with national security implications.	A US plan to control how advanced AI technology spreads globally, especially if it could affect national security.
<b>Compute-based Restrictions (AI)</b>	Policy measures that aim to control the development and deployment of powerful AI models by regulating access to the massive computational resources (compute) required.	Rules that try to limit powerful AI by controlling who can access the huge amount of computer power needed to build it.
<b>"China Plus One" strategy</b>	A business strategy where companies diversify their supply chains by moving some production out of China to other countries.	Companies moving some of their manufacturing out of China to other countries to reduce risk.



## Polity

Keyword	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Academic Autonomy (Universities)</b>	The freedom of universities and academics to make decisions regarding curriculum, research, and admissions without undue external interference.	The right of colleges and professors to decide what they teach, research, and how they operate, without outside control.
<b>Virtual Asset Service Providers (VASPs)</b>	Entities that conduct certain activities for or on behalf of customers, such as exchange, transfer, or safekeeping of virtual assets.	Companies that handle digital currencies for customers, like exchanges or crypto wallets.
<b>Vigilantism</b>	The act of enforcing laws and punishing criminals without legal authority.	When ordinary citizens take the law into their own hands and punish people they think are criminals.
<b>S. R. Bommai Ruling (1994)</b>	A landmark Supreme Court judgment that significantly curtailed the arbitrary use of	A Supreme Court decision that made it much harder for the





	Article 356 (President's Rule) by establishing judicial review over its imposition.	government to impose President's Rule unfairly.
<b>Consensus-driven Governance (AI regulation)</b>	A regulatory approach for AI that emphasizes broad agreement among stakeholders (governments, industry, civil society) rather than top-down mandates.	A way to make rules for AI where everyone involved (government, companies, public) largely agrees on them.
<b>Analytical Essays (CSE)</b>	Essays in the Civil Services Examination that require in-depth analysis, critical thinking, and a nuanced understanding of socio-economic and political issues.	Long essays in the UPSC exam that need deep thought and a balanced view on complex topics.
<b>Competency Categories (UPSC Interview)</b>	The specific attributes or skills (e.g., leadership, integrity, communication) that interview panels assess in candidates for civil services.	The specific qualities or skills that UPSC interviewers look for in candidates, like leadership or honesty.
<b>Domicile Status (Ladakh)</b>	The legal status determining a person's permanent home or residence in Ladakh, often crucial for local employment and benefits.	The official proof that someone permanently lives in Ladakh, important for local jobs and benefits.
<b>Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (LAHDC)</b>	Autonomous administrative bodies in Ladakh established to ensure local self-governance and development, particularly for tribal populations.	Local self-governing bodies in Ladakh created to manage development and local issues, especially for tribal communities.
<b>Civil Liability for Nuclear Damages Act (CLNDA) 2010</b>	An Indian law that establishes the liability of nuclear power plant operators for nuclear damage and provides for a right to recourse from suppliers.	An Indian law that holds nuclear plant operators responsible for any damage and allows them to seek money from equipment suppliers.
<b>Strict-and-No-Fault Liability (Nuclear)</b>	A legal principle where liability is imposed regardless of fault, meaning the nuclear operator is held responsible even if they took all precautions.	A legal rule saying that even if you're very careful, you're still fully responsible for harm caused by dangerous activities like nuclear operations.
<b>Justiciable (Free Speech context)</b>	Capable of being decided by a court of law; referring to rights or issues that can be enforced or challenged in the judiciary.	Something that can be argued or decided in a court of law; a right that you can fight for legally.
<b>Doctrine of Proportionality (Free Speech)</b>	A legal principle used by courts to assess whether a restriction on fundamental rights (like free speech) is legitimate and not excessive.	A legal test used by courts to check if restrictions on rights, like free speech, are fair and not too harsh.
<b>Anuradha Bhasin v. U.O.I. (2020)</b>	A Supreme Court judgment that declared indefinite internet shutdowns	A Supreme Court case that ruled indefinite internet bans are illegal







	unconstitutional and affirmed that freedom of speech and trade over the internet are constitutionally protected.	and that internet freedom is a basic right.
<b>Private Universities as State Actors</b>	A legal concept where a private entity, typically a university, can be considered as acting on behalf of the state, making it subject to fundamental rights obligations.	When a private university acts so much like the government that it also has to follow the rules protecting basic rights.
<b>Dissent vs. Activism (Legal context)</b>	The legal distinction between expressing disagreement (dissent) and engaging in organized efforts to bring about political or social change (activism), which may have different legal implications.	The legal difference between just disagreeing with something and actively working to change it, which can have different legal consequences.
<b>Judicial Accountability / Independence (specific context beyond general meaning)</b>	The balance between ensuring judges are answerable for their conduct (Accountability) while protecting them from undue influence (Independence).	How judges can be held responsible for their actions while still being free from political pressure.
<b>Veeraswami judgment (1991)</b>	A Supreme Court judgment that held that a High Court or Supreme Court judge cannot have an FIR registered against them without the consent of the Chief Justice of India.	A Supreme Court ruling that states a judge cannot be investigated by police without the Chief Justice's permission.
<b>Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (2023)</b>	The proposed new criminal code in India, intended to replace the Indian Penal Code (IPC).	India's new proposed law for criminal offenses, replacing the old one.
<b>Delimitation (Elections)</b>	The process of redrawing boundaries of electoral constituencies to ensure that each constituency has roughly the same population.	The process of redrawing election district maps so each district has about the same number of voters.
<b>Special Intensive Revision (SIR - Electoral Rolls)</b>	A specific and focused exercise undertaken by the Election Commission to update and revise electoral rolls, often involving door-to-door verification.	A special effort by the Election Commission to update voter lists by checking names house-to-house.
<b>Disenfranchise</b>	To deprive a person or group of the right to vote.	To take away someone's right to vote.
<b>PM-JANMAN (PVTGs)</b>	Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan, a scheme aimed at the holistic development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.	A big government scheme for the overall improvement of the most vulnerable tribal groups.
<b>PVTGs (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups)</b>	Sub-categories within Scheduled Tribes that are identified by the government as requiring more focused development due to their extreme backwardness.	The most vulnerable and backward tribal groups in India, who need special government attention.





<b>Forest Rights Act (FRA) titles</b>	Legal titles granted to forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers over forest land, recognizing their customary rights.	Official documents giving forest-dwelling tribes and others legal rights to live on and use forest land.
<b>MISA (Maintenance of Internal Security Act - Emergency)</b>	A controversial preventive detention law enacted in 1971, widely used during the 1975 Emergency to detain political opponents without trial.	A strict law used during the Emergency to arrest people without trial, especially political opponents.
<b>COFEPOSA (Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act - Emergency)</b>	A preventive detention law specifically aimed at preventing smuggling and foreign exchange violations, also used during the Emergency.	A law used to detain people to prevent smuggling and illegal foreign money deals, also used during the Emergency.
<b>Pre-censorship (Emergency)</b>	The practice of reviewing and approving or rejecting content (e.g., news, books) by government authorities before its publication or broadcast.	When the government checks and approves all news or publications before they can be released.
<b>42nd Amendment (1976)</b>	A comprehensive amendment to the Indian Constitution, enacted during the Emergency, that introduced many changes, including the words "socialist," "secular," and "integrity" in the Preamble.	A major change to the Constitution during the Emergency, which added words like "socialist" and "secular" to the Preamble.
<b>Shah Commission (1977-78)</b>	A commission of inquiry appointed by the Janata Party government to investigate the excesses committed during the 1975-77 Emergency.	A government committee set up to investigate the abuses and wrongdoings that happened during the 1975 Emergency.
<b>Armed Rebellion (Emergency cause)</b>	An internal armed uprising against the government, which replaced "internal disturbance" as a ground for declaring a national emergency under Article 352.	A violent uprising against the government that became the official reason for declaring a national emergency.
<b>UAPA (Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act)</b>	An Indian law that gives the government broad powers to deal with terrorist activities and unlawful associations.	A strong Indian law that gives the government wide powers to tackle terrorism and illegal groups.
<b>Attorney-Client Privilege</b>	A legal concept that protects confidential communications between a client and their attorney, preventing disclosure in court.	A legal rule that keeps conversations between a lawyer and their client secret and private.
<b>Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), 2023</b>	The proposed new law of evidence in India, intended to replace the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.	India's new proposed law that will govern what counts as evidence in court.



