



30 PAGER NOTES

JANUARY 2026 DECODED FOR
PRELIMS — WHERE
GOVERNANCE, ECONOMY,
SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENT, AND
MAPS CONVERGE INTO EXAM-
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JAN., 2026

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PRELIMS 2026



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Polity

Acts and Bills



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Name of Act/Bill/Code	Easy Explanation (What it is)	Relevance / Example (Why it matters)
Finance Bill, 2026	The legislative vehicle used to give effect to the taxation proposals of the Union Budget.	It introduced a Green Taxonomy framework to classify sustainable investments and simplified the LTCG (Long Term Capital Gains) structure.
The Indian Ports Bill (Amendment)	A bill to modernize port management and integrate the "Sagar Mala" digital platform.	Aims to improve the Ease of Doing Business by creating a National Single Window System for maritime clearances.
Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) Model	A framework for agreements between two countries to protect investments made by investors of one country in another.	India is renegotiating BITs (like with the UK and UAE) to include " Exhaustion of Local Remedies " before moving to international arbitration.

Government Schemes

Name of Scheme	Easy Explanation (What it is)	Relevance / Example (Why it matters)
Vibrant Villages Programme (Phase II)	A scheme to develop infrastructure and provide livelihood opportunities in border villages.	Expanded to 1,954 villages with an outlay of ₹6,839 crore to prevent migration from strategic border areas.
Biopharma SHAKTI	A new mission to bolster India's manufacturing capabilities in biologics and advanced vaccines.	It focuses on creating 100+ new Bio-incubators and upgrading National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPERs).
Urban Challenge Fund	A competitive fund for states to transform cities into "Growth Hubs."	Cities must compete for a share of ₹1 lakh crore by demonstrating reforms in property tax collection and municipal bond readiness.

Constitutional Provisions





Provision / Article	Easy Explanation (What it is)	Relevance / Example (Why it matters)
Article 280 (Finance Commission)	The Article that mandates the President to constitute a Finance Commission every five years.	The 16th Finance Commission is currently setting the formula for tax distribution for the period starting April 2026.
Article 3 (Formation of New States)	Gives Parliament the power to alter boundaries, names, or areas of existing states.	Recently discussed in the context of creating Union Territories or administrative zones for better governance in high-growth corridors.
Article 279 (Calculation of "Net Proceeds")	Requires the CAG to certify the actual tax collected after deducting collection costs.	The new budget emphasizes transparency in Article 279 reporting to ensure states get their fair share of the "divisible pool."

Judgements/Doctrines

Case / Doctrine	Easy Explanation (What it is)	Relevance / Example (Why it matters)
Right to Menstrual Health (SC Ruling)	The Supreme Court recently categorized menstrual hygiene as a component of the Right to Health.	This falls under Article 21 (Right to Life) , making it mandatory for state governments to provide free sanitary products in government schools.
Doctrine of Proportionality (Privacy)	A principle stating that any government restriction on rights must be necessary and balanced.	Used by the courts to evaluate the Digital India Act provisions regarding the surveillance of encrypted financial data.
Fiscal Federalism Doctrine	The principle that the Center and States should work as partners in resource sharing.	Cited by the Finance Commission to justify the 41% vertical devolution to states despite increasing central expenditure on defense.





Economy

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Initiative/Concept	Easy Explanation (What it is)	Relevance / Example (Why it matters)
Green Taxonomy Framework	A classification system that defines which financial investments are "environmentally sustainable."	Introduced in the 2026 Budget to prevent "greenwashing" and help India tap into global ESG funds.
Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs)	Bonds issued by the government to specifically fund projects that have positive environmental benefits.	The government plans to raise ₹30,000 crore via these bonds to fund grid-scale solar storage and offshore wind projects.
Energy Transition Roadmap	A policy path to reduce carbon intensity and increase the share of non-fossil fuel energy.	India aims for 500 GW of non-fossil capacity by 2030 ; the current budget allocated funds specifically for the "Green Hydrogen Mission."

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Trend/Metric	Easy Explanation (What it is)	Relevance / Example (Why it matters)
Capex Multiplier Effect	The phenomenon where government spending on infrastructure leads to a more than proportionate increase in national income.	With a ₹12.2 lakh crore Capex , the government expects a multiplier of 2.5x , boosting the broader economy.
Fiscal Consolidation Path	The government's plan to reduce the fiscal deficit (borrowing) over a period of time.	The target is set at 4.5% for FY26 , down from 5.1%, to ensure long-term debt sustainability.
V-Shaped Recovery in Manufacturing	A trend showing a sharp rise in factory output following a period of stagnation or decline.	Driven by PLI 2.0 , electronics and pharmaceutical exports have seen a double-digit growth trend, signaling a robust rebound.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Development / Project	Easy Explanation (What it is)	Relevance / Example (Why it matters)
Growth Hubs (Urban Challenge Fund)	A plan to turn 30-40 cities into high-productivity economic centers through specialized funding.	Backed by a ₹1 lakh crore fund , it requires cities to implement reforms to attract global tech and manufacturing firms.
India-UK CETA (Trade Deal)	A comprehensive deal to lower trade barriers and duties between India and the United Kingdom.	It aims to double bilateral trade to \$100 billion by 2030 , specifically benefiting textiles, jewelry, and IT services.
Biopharma SHAKTI	A developmental mission to scale up India's biologics and high-end medical manufacturing.	Addresses the "Value Gap"; moving from cheap generics to developing high-value biosimilars and vaccines .
Pax Silica (Tech Supply Chain)	An international economic alliance to secure the supply of microchips and AI hardware.	India's participation ensures it becomes a "Trusted Geography" for semiconductor fabrication and technology.

Science Tech

Space Missions in News

Mission Name	Space Agency	Year Launched	Objectives	Special Feature
SPADEX (Space Docking Experiment)	ISRO	2025	To demonstrate in-orbit docking technology between two satellites.	Critical precursor for Gaganyaan , space station ambitions, and on-orbit servicing; India joins select nations mastering docking capability.
Aditya-L1 (<i>Scientific update context</i>)	ISRO	2023	To study the Sun's corona, solar wind, and	January discussions highlighted its relevance for solar



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			space weather from L1 point.	storm prediction and satellite safety.
Artemis Programme (Artemis II reference)	NASA	Artemis I (2022), Artemis II upcoming	To return humans to the Moon and establish sustained lunar presence.	January coverage focused on crew safety standards, lunar habitation planning, and long-term Moon missions.
China's Tiangong Space Station (Update Reference)	CNSA (China)	Operational since 2022	Long-term human presence in low Earth orbit.	Mentioned in context of global space competition and station-based research.
Private Satellite Constellation Expansion (Starlink-type systems reference)	SpaceX (contextual mention)	Ongoing	Global broadband via LEO satellite networks.	Raised concerns about space debris management and orbital congestion.

Diseases in News

Name	Symptoms	Causing Organism	Mode of Infection	Areas Spread	Genetic Material	Treatment	Vaccine
Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)	Persistent infections, treatment failure, prolonged fever, sepsis in severe cases	Drug-resistant bacteria (various species)	Secondary to bacterial infections; worsened by antibiotic misuse	High burden in India; global crisis	DNA (bacteria)	Combination therapy; last-resort antibiotics (colistin, carbapenems, etc.)	No
Hospital-Acquired Drug-Resistant Infections	Fever, wound infections, pneumonia,	Multidrug-resistant bacteria	Acquired in hospitals (cathete	Major Indian hospitals	DNA (bacteria)	Targeted antibiotic therapy based on culture sensitivity	No





	bloodstream infections		rs, surgery, ICU stay)				
Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (AME)	Severe headache, fever, vomiting, altered consciousness; often fatal	Free-living amoebae (<i>Naegleria fowleri</i> , <i>Acanthamoeba</i>)	Entry through nose (swimming, nasal irrigation) or skin wounds	Kerala (noted increase); environmental water bodies	DNA (protozoa)	Intensive antifungal/anti protozoal therapy; early diagnosis critical	No
Naegleria Infection (“Brain-Eating Amoeba”)	Rapid brain swelling; death within days (5–14 days incubation)	<i>Naegleria fowleri</i>	Contaminated warm freshwater entering nasal cavity	Rare but reported in Kerala	DNA (protozoa)	Aggressive combination therapy; very high mortality	No
Acanthamoeba Infection	Slower onset brain infection; also keratitis in immunocompromised patients	<i>Acanthamoeba</i> species	Contaminated water exposure; contact lenses; skin wounds	Environmental; cases detected in Kerala	DNA (protozoa)	Long-duration antimicrobial therapy	No
Rabies (context via vaccine batch issue)	Fever, hydrophobia, agitation, paralysis	Rabies virus	Animal bite (usually dogs)	Endemic in India	RNA virus	Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)	Yes (Rabies vaccine)





VACCINES in News

Name	Type of Vaccine	Used in India?	Effective Till
Rabies Vaccine (Batch Quality Issue)	Inactivated viral vaccine	Yes – widely used in India for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)	Full protection if complete schedule taken (as per WHO protocol); batch under question required investigation
mRNA Cancer Vaccine “Enteromix”	mRNA-based therapeutic cancer vaccine	No	Still in early-stage clinical trials; long-term effectiveness yet to be established

Discoveries and Inventions

Name	What It Does	Sector	Applications	Shortcomings
mRNA Cancer Vaccine “Enteromix”	Uses mRNA technology to train the immune system to target and shrink tumours.	Oncology / Immunotherapy	Potential treatment for colorectal cancer, and later skin & brain cancers.	Trial conducted on <50 volunteers; no peer-reviewed publication yet; large-scale validation pending.
Targeted Cancer Nanobots (Experimental Therapy)	Nanobot-based system designed to deliver drugs directly to tumour cells.	Nanotechnology / Precision Medicine	Reduces damage to healthy tissues; increases precision of chemotherapy.	Early-stage research; long-term safety and scalability unknown.
Unusual Genetic Code in Antarctic Microbes	Discovery of microbes using rare amino acids via altered genetic	Molecular Biology / Extremophile Research	Helps understand life in extreme environments;	Laboratory-based findings; ecological impact yet unclear.





	coding mechanisms.		astrobiology implications.	
New Solid-Liquid Hybrid State of Matter	Identification of a phase that behaves partly like a solid and partly like a liquid.	Condensed Matter Physics	Could influence future material science, energy storage, and semiconductor research.	Fundamental research stage; practical applications not yet defined.
Thorium-Based Nuclear Power Research Push	Advancing thorium fuel cycle for safer and long-term nuclear energy.	Nuclear Energy / Advanced Reactors	Supports India's 3-stage nuclear programme; energy security & reduced uranium dependence.	Requires major R&D; fuel reprocessing complexity; commercialisation timeline long.
Biomaterials Research (Medical Applications)	Engineered materials designed to interact safely with biological tissues.	Biomedical Engineering	Implants, prosthetics, tissue regeneration, drug delivery systems.	Long-term biocompatibility and rejection risks remain challenges.
"Talking Cars" (Vehicle-to-Vehicle Communication Systems)	Vehicles communicate in real-time to avoid collisions and improve road safety.	Automotive Technology / IoT	Could reduce India's high road accident deaths; supports smart transport systems.	Requires large-scale infrastructure upgrade and regulatory standardisation.

Defense Technology

Name / Project	Developed By	What It Is	Special Feature / Relevance
LR-AShM (Long-Range Anti-Ship Missile)	DRDO (India)	Long-range anti-ship cruise missile designed to target enemy naval vessels.	Successfully test-fired in January; strengthens India's maritime strike capability ;



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			supports Indo-Pacific naval deterrence.
Indigenous Hypersonic Missile Development (Context Update)	DRDO	Missile capable of travelling at speeds > Mach 5.	Focus on next-gen strategic deterrence; high manoeuvrability and reduced interception window.
Space Docking Capability (SPADEX – Dual-use relevance)	ISRO	Demonstration of in-orbit docking technology.	Though civilian, it has strategic defence implications for satellite servicing, space station modules, and military space operations.
Venezuelan “Discombobulator” System (Claimed Weapon)	Venezuela (claim)	Alleged electronic/energy-based disruption system.	Reported as capable of disrupting aircraft or communication systems; verification unclear; highlights emerging electronic warfare narratives.
Indian Navy Maritime Capability Expansion (Strategic Reference)	Indian Navy	Modernisation including missile systems, electronic warfare and surveillance.	Part of India’s broader maritime security posture amid Indo-Pacific tensions.

Green Technology

Name	What It Is	Sector	Purpose / Use
Thorium-Based Nuclear Energy Push	Advancement of thorium fuel cycle research under India’s 3-stage nuclear programme.	Clean Energy / Nuclear Technology	Enhances long-term energy security; reduces dependence on imported uranium; lower long-lived radioactive waste compared to conventional reactors.





Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V) “Talking Cars” Systems	Cars communicate with each other in real time to prevent collisions.	Smart Mobility / Sustainable Transport	Reduces accidents, traffic congestion, fuel wastage, and emissions through coordinated traffic movement.
AMR Mitigation via Rational Antibiotic Use (Policy-Tech Interface)	Surveillance systems and stewardship programs to reduce antibiotic misuse.	Public Health Sustainability	Prevents emergence of resistant pathogens, ensuring long-term effectiveness of existing drugs (sustainability of medical ecosystem).
Space Docking & Orbital Sustainability (SPADEX context)	Controlled docking and debris management capability in orbit.	Space Sustainability	Reduces uncontrolled debris, enables satellite servicing, and supports responsible space operations.
Advanced Biomaterials for Medical Implants	Bio-compatible engineered materials replacing traditional implants.	Sustainable Healthcare Tech	Longer implant lifespan reduces repeat surgeries and biomedical waste burden.

Environment

Environmental Laws/Governance

Why in News?	Key Points	Main Objective
Paris Agreement under scrutiny	Global climate politics reshaping mitigation commitments; debate over fairness, compliance, and ambition levels.	Limit global warming to well below 2°C, pursue 1.5°C pathway.
Impact of U.S. climate withdrawal	U.S. exit weakens climate finance flows and mitigation momentum; affects global adaptation funding.	Ensure continuity of international climate cooperation & climate finance.
India’s NDC progress review	Assessment of emission intensity reduction, renewable energy expansion, and net-zero 2070 trajectory.	Meet Nationally Determined Contributions and transition toward low-carbon economy.



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Western Ghats ESA policy debate (Gadgil vs Kasturirangan)	Ongoing dilution concerns; tension between ecological protection and developmental exemptions.	Identify and protect Ecologically Sensitive Areas while balancing local development.
Urban Waste Management & Circular Economy	Articles highlighted waste mismanagement and need for decentralised solutions.	Improve solid waste management and move toward resource recovery model.
Green Steel & Industrial Decarbonisation Policy	Hydrogen-based steel and low-carbon industrial pathways discussed.	Reduce emissions from hard-to-abate sectors (steel, cement, heavy industry).
Climate-Resilient Agriculture Framework	Focus on adaptive farming systems amid extreme weather patterns.	Strengthen agricultural resilience to climate variability.

Terminology

Term	Meaning	Where Relevant	UPSC Trap / Key Point
Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA)	Large ecologically fragile region requiring regulatory protection.	Western Ghats debate.	ESA ≠ Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ); ESA covers broader landscapes.
Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ)	Buffer zone around National Parks & Wildlife Sanctuaries with regulated activities.	Around protected areas.	ESZ is legally notified around parks; ESA may not always be park-centric.
Ecological Dilution	Weakening of environmental protection through policy redefinition or exemptions.	Western Ghats & Aravalli discussions.	Protection can be reduced without changing the law — via technical criteria.
Climate-Resilient Agriculture	Farming practices designed to withstand climate variability.	Extreme weather adaptation strategies.	Focuses on adaptation, not mitigation alone.
Methane Emissions (Paddy Cultivation)	CH ₄ released due to anaerobic decomposition in flooded rice fields.	Rice–climate linkage discussions.	Methane has higher warming potential than CO ₂ .





Global Warming Potential (GWP)	Measure of heat trapped by a gas relative to CO ₂ over a set period.	Comparing methane, CO ₂ , N ₂ O.	Methane ~28–34× CO ₂ over 100 years.
Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)	EU carbon tax on imports based on embedded emissions.	India–EU trade & climate discussions.	Links trade policy with climate compliance.
Green Steel	Steel produced using low-carbon processes (e.g., hydrogen-based reduction).	Industrial decarbonisation policy.	Targets “hard-to-abate” industrial emissions.
Hard-to-Abate Sectors	Industries difficult to decarbonise due to process emissions.	Steel, cement, fertilisers.	Require technological innovation, not just renewable energy.
Aerosol–Fog Interaction	Aerosols influence fog formation and persistence by altering radiation balance.	North India winter fog study.	Aerosols can both cool (reflect sunlight) and warm (absorb heat).
Parasitic Weed (Orobanche)	Root parasite plant lacking chlorophyll; derives nutrients from host.	Mustard crop infestation issue.	Parasitic plant ≠ invasive species.
Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD)	Irrigation technique reducing methane emissions in paddy fields.	Climate-smart agriculture.	Reduces CH ₄ while conserving water.

Important EVS Terms

Green Paradox (Urban Tree Cooling & Water Stress)

The “Green Paradox” in urban climate adaptation refers to the idea that tree planting does not automatically cool cities in all climatic contexts.

In humid regions, trees reduce urban heat through:

- Shade effect
- Evapotranspiration
- Reduced surface albedo heating



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However, in dry or semi-arid regions:

- Limited soil moisture restricts evapotranspiration
- Trees may compete for scarce groundwater
- Large-scale plantation can worsen water stress
- Wrong species selection may increase water demand

Important dimensions:

- Urban Heat Island (UHI) mitigation must be region-specific
- Native drought-resistant species are critical
- Urban forestry must integrate hydrological planning

This theme highlights the need for **climate-sensitive ecological planning rather than one-size-fits-all afforestation drives.**

Climate–Trade Linkage (Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism – CBAM)

The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is the EU’s mechanism to impose a carbon price on imported goods based on embedded emissions.

Core features:

- Applies initially to steel, aluminium, cement, fertilisers, electricity
- Importers must purchase carbon certificates
- Linked to EU Emissions Trading System (ETS)

Implications:

- Climate policy now directly influences international trade
- Developing countries face competitiveness pressure
- Encourages decarbonisation of heavy industries

Broader themes:

- “Green protectionism” debate
- Compatibility with WTO rules
- Pressure on carbon-intensive export sectors

It signals the transition from voluntary climate commitments to **market-based enforcement mechanisms.**

Rice–Water–Methane Nexus

Flooded rice cultivation creates anaerobic soil conditions, leading to methane production by methanogenic bacteria.

Key points:

- Methane (CH₄) has 28–34 times higher Global Warming Potential than CO₂ (100-year period)
- Paddy cultivation is a major source of agricultural methane emissions
- India is one of the largest rice producers





Water dimension:

- Rice is highly water-intensive
- Over-extraction of groundwater in Punjab, Haryana, etc.
- MSP-driven cropping patterns distort sustainability

Mitigation strategies:

- Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD)
- Direct Seeded Rice (DSR)
- Crop diversification
- Methane-capture technologies

This theme connects **food security, groundwater depletion, and climate mitigation.**

Aerosol–Fog Interaction

Aerosols are tiny solid or liquid particles suspended in the atmosphere. They influence both climate and local weather systems.

In North India:

- High particulate matter acts as condensation nuclei
- Reduces solar radiation reaching the surface
- Low wind speeds trap pollutants
- Leads to thicker, persistent winter fog

Radiative impacts:

- Sulphates → reflect sunlight (cooling effect)
- Black carbon → absorb heat (warming effect)

Scientific significance:

- Aerosols complicate climate modelling
- Short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs)
- Interaction between pollution control and regional climate

It highlights the link between **air quality management and atmospheric processes.**

Grasslands as Climate Assets

Grasslands are often misclassified as “wastelands” in India, leading to ecological neglect.

Ecological importance:

- Store significant soil carbon (especially below-ground biomass)
- Prevent desertification
- Support pollinators
- Maintain hydrological balance





Biodiversity role:

- Habitat for Great Indian Bustard, blackbuck, Indian wolf, floricans
- Semi-arid ecosystem specialists

Climate relevance:

- Grasslands can be resilient carbon sinks
- Conversion to plantations can reduce biodiversity

The discussion emphasises that **forests are not the only carbon sinks — ecosystem diversity matters in climate policy.**

Green Steel & Hard-to-Abate Sectors

Hard-to-abate sectors are industries where emissions arise from chemical processes, not just fuel combustion.

Steel production:

- Traditional blast furnaces use coking coal
- Release large amounts of CO₂

Green steel alternatives:

- Hydrogen-based Direct Reduced Iron (DRI)
- Electric arc furnaces powered by renewables
- Carbon capture and storage (CCS)

Challenges:

- High cost of green hydrogen
- Infrastructure constraints
- Technology scaling issues

Broader importance:

- Steel and cement account for a large share of global industrial emissions
- Industrial decarbonisation is essential for net-zero targets

This theme reflects the **shift from power-sector decarbonisation to heavy-industry transition.**

Climate Governance Fragmentation

Global climate governance is facing increasing geopolitical strain.

Current pressures:

- Major emitters revisiting commitments
- Climate finance gaps widening
- Developing countries demanding equity

Key principles involved:

- Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR)





- Loss and Damage funding
- Adaptation finance vs mitigation finance

Risks:

- Weakening of multilateral cooperation
- Increased unilateral trade measures (like CBAM)
- Slower global emissions reduction

The broader concern is that climate action is becoming entangled with **geopolitics and trade rivalries**, complicating collective action.

Organizations

Organisation	Formed (Why)	Members	Observers	Why in News (Jan 2026)	India's Role
UNFCCC	1992 – Global climate treaty to stabilise GHG levels	198 parties incl. India, USA, China, EU	NGOs, IPCC, research bodies	US withdrawal from climate architecture	Advocates climate justice & CBDR; active negotiator
IPCC	1988 – Provide scientific assessment on climate change	195 countries	UN bodies, research orgs	US exit weakens global climate science	Indian scientists contribute; supports equity stance
International Solar Alliance (ISA)	2015 – Promote solar energy in tropical countries	110+ countries (Global South focus)	Multilateral banks	US disengagement affects solar diplomacy	Co-founder; HQ in India; major climate diplomacy tool
IRENA	2009 – Promote renewable energy transition	160+ countries	Energy agencies	US withdrawal from renewable bodies	Works with IRENA on renewable expansion





IUCN	1948 – Nature conservation & biodiversity	1400+ members (states + NGOs)	Environmental networks	US exit impacts biodiversity cooperation	Uses Red List for conservation policy
UNEP	1972 – Coordinate global environmental action	UN member states	NGOs	US remains engaged (e.g., plastics treaty talks)	Active in plastics & pollution negotiations
IEA	1974 – Ensure energy security	31 members; India = Association country	Partner countries	US remains engaged; energy transition focus	Collaborates on clean energy modelling
WMO	1950 – Coordinate global weather & climate data	190+ countries	Research institutions	US stays due to satellite/data dependence	IMD works closely with WMO
IMO	1948 – Regulate shipping & maritime safety	175+ countries	Industry bodies	Talks on shipping emissions & net zero	Important due to India's maritime trade
WTO	1995 – Regulate global trade & disputes	164 countries	IMF, WB, UNCTAD	Appellate Body paralysis; weakening dispute system	Defends agriculture & food security policy space
UNESCO	1945 – Education, science & cultural cooperation	190+ countries	NGOs, academic bodies	US withdrawal from multilateral institutions	Numerous World Heritage Sites; cultural diplomacy
UNHRC	2006 – Promote global human rights	47 elected members	NGOs	US withdrawal trend highlighted	Participates in UPR; has served as member





Quad	2007 (revived 2017) – Indo-Pacific security cooperation	India, USA, Japan, Australia	No formal observers	Indo-Pacific strategic coordination	Core member; maritime security focus
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Maps

Arctic Region

The Arctic region lies north of **66°33'N latitude (Arctic Circle)**. It is centered on the **Arctic Ocean**.

Surrounding Countries (Arctic littoral states)

- Russia
- Canada
- United States (Alaska)
- Norway





- Denmark (via Greenland)

Major Marginal Seas of the Arctic Ocean

- Barents Sea
- Kara Sea
- Laptev Sea
- East Siberian Sea
- Chukchi Sea
- Beaufort Sea
- Greenland Sea

Important Strait

Bering Strait — connects Arctic Ocean with Pacific Ocean.



Greenland

Greenland is the **largest island in the world**.

Location

Between the **Arctic Ocean (north)** and **North Atlantic Ocean (south-east)**.

Water Bodies Around Greenland

- Greenland Sea (east)
- Baffin Bay (west)
- Davis Strait (south-west)
- Arctic Ocean (north)

Nearest Countries

Canada (across Nares Strait and Baffin Bay)

Iceland (south-east, across Denmark Strait)



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Physical Features

Greenland Ice Sheet
(covers ~80% of island)

Fjords along the western and eastern coasts



RED SEA REGION

The Red Sea lies between north-east Africa and the Arabian Peninsula.

Countries on the African Side

- Egypt
- Sudan
- Eritrea
- Djibouti

Countries on the Arabian Side

- Saudi Arabia
- Yemen

Northern Division

The Red Sea splits into:

- Gulf of Suez (west)
- Gulf of Aqaba (east)

Countries around Gulf of Aqaba:

- Egypt
- Israel





- Jordan
- Saudi Arabia

Southern Connection

Bab-el-Mandeb Strait connects:

Red Sea → Gulf of Aden → Arabian Sea → Indian Ocean

Bab-el-Mandeb lies between:

Djibouti/Eritrea (west)

Yemen (east)

