



The Hindu – UPSC Notes (2 September 2025)

Welcome to today's compilation of important news and editorial insights from The Hindu newspaper, specifically curated for UPSC aspirants. These notes cover key developments across Polity & Governance, Economy, International Relations, and Social Sector & Health, with special emphasis on examination-relevant points.

1

Bihar Electoral Roll – SC Extends Window

SC allowed voters excluded in Bihar's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) to file claims/objections beyond the deadline.

Political parties alleged mass deletions (65 lakh names).

Prelims Pointer:

- **RPA 1950** »→ ERO prepares rolls, must pass speaking orders.
- **Forms: 6 (inclusion), 7 (deletion), 8 (correction), 8A (transfer).**
- **Art. 326** »→ **Universal Adult Franchise.**

👉 **Mains use:** Electoral reforms; judicial role in protecting voting rights.

2

SC on Noise Pollution

SC observed noise pollution = violation of **Art. 21 Right to Life.**

Asked Centre & States to enforce existing CPCB standards, esp. near schools/hospitals.

Prelims Pointer:

- **Noise Pollution Rules 2000** »→ under **EPA 1986.**
- **CPCB monitors in 132 cities.**
- **WHO safe limit: 55 dB (day), 40 dB (night).**

👉 **Mains use:** Case for urban governance + health policy integration.

Economy

GDP Growth at **7.8%** (Q1 2025-26) – Data Concerns

Growth exceeded RBI's forecast (**6.5%**), but **nominal growth** only **8.8%**, implying unrealistic **1% inflation** »» raises doubts on credibility.

Exports subdued; domestic demand strong.

Prelims Pointer:

- **GDP base year = 2011–12.**
- **CSO under MoSPI publishes quarterly GDP.**

👉 **Mains use: Electoral reforms; judicial role in protecting voting rights.**



Carbon Border Taxes – Risks for India



UK & EU Implementation

UK & EU to enforce Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) by 2027.



Competitiveness Gap

India's carbon price (~\$8-10/t) vs UK's \$66
» competitiveness gap.



International Framework

Paris Agreement Art. 6 » carbon markets.
IMF's Carbon Price Floor » tiered carbon pricing idea.

👉 Mains use: Climate diplomacy + trade-environment nexus.

International Relations

India–U.S. Tariff Row

U.S. **doubled tariffs (50%)** on Indian exports (**~\$48–55 bn at risk**).

Sectors hit: gems, textiles, agri, leather.

IT services, pharma, defence trade remain unaffected.

Prelims Pointer:

- **WTO** principle »→ **Most Favoured Nation (MFN)**.
- Tariffs invoked under **Executive Order 14329**.

👉 **Mains use: Resilience of ties beyond trade; trust > tariffs.**

Social Sector & Health

80%

Population Coverage

PMJAY & State schemes cover 80% population

35%

Utilisation

Only 35% utilisation of health insurance schemes

1.3%

GDP on Health

India spends 1.3% of GDP on health vs world avg 6.1%

Health Insurance – Editorial Review

Issues: bias to private hospitals, corruption, poor reimbursements.

Prelims Pointer:

- PMJAY launched 2018 under Ayushman Bharat.
- Coverage: ₹5 lakh per family.

👉 **Mains use:** Case for strengthening public health infra over insurance-based model.



J&K Drug Abuse – Women Dimension



~ **62,000 women drug users** in J&K; stigma hides problem.

No gender-sensitive rehab, lack of female counsellors.

Prelims Pointer:

- **NDPS Act 1985** »→ India's main drug law.
- **Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan** »→ national de-addiction campaign.

👉 Mains use: **Social justice & security** »→ **narco crisis with gender lens**.

Editorial Summaries – Exam Use (Part 1)

"Questionable Cheer" – GDP Data

Core Idea: Growth numbers look impressive but statistical credibility weak; fiscal deficit pressure rising.

Exam Use: GS-III Economy » GDP measurement debates. Essay » "Growth without credibility is like numbers without meaning."

"Another Chance" – Bihar Voter Rolls

Core Idea: SC extending claim period restores trust; mass exclusions damage democracy.

Exam Use: GS-II Polity » Electoral reforms; GS-IV » institutional accountability. Essay » "Elections are the festival of democracy only if everyone is invited."

"The Rise and Risks of Health Insurance"

Core Idea: Insurance schemes not equal to Universal Health Care; shift resources to public health infra.

Exam Use: GS-II (Health policy), GS-III (Economy). Essay » "Health is a public good, not a private commodity."

"Noise Pollution is Rising, but Policy is Silent"

Core Idea: Urban noise exceeds limits; weak enforcement undermines rights & ecology.

Exam Use: GS-III Environment; GS-II Polity (Art. 21 expansion). Essay » "Silent rights in noisy cities."



Editorial Summaries – Exam Use (Part 2)

"Recognising Women Drug Users in J&K"

Core Idea: Women's drug abuse ignored due to stigma; need **gender-sensitive rehab.**

Exam Use: **GS-II Social Justice; GS-III Internal Security.** Essay: "**Addiction is not moral failure but a health crisis.**"

"Rethinking Carbon Pricing"

Core Idea: **CBAM** risks for India; need **unified national carbon tax + global coordination.**

Exam Use: **GS-III Environment/Economy; IR in climate negotiations.** Essay: "**Carbon justice must precede carbon pricing.**"

"India–U.S. Relationship: Trust > Tariffs"

Core Idea: **Tariffs** sting but **structural ties** (diaspora, IT, defence) endure.

Exam Use: **GS-II IR** » **resilient partnership.** Essay: "**Trust, not trade, defines lasting diplomacy.**"

Study Strategy for Today's News



Identify Prelims Facts

1

Focus on the Prelims Pointers in each section - especially the RPA 1950 provisions, Noise Pollution Rules, GDP base year, and PMJAY details.

Note Editorial Insights

3

The editorial summaries provide ready-made analysis for GS papers and potential essay topics that connect current affairs to conceptual frameworks.

4

Connect to Mains Topics

Link today's news to broader themes - electoral reforms, environmental rights, economic credibility, and gender-sensitive policy approaches.

Revise with Mind Maps

Create visual connections between today's topics, especially where they overlap (e.g., carbon pricing connects environment, economy and international relations).

Remember: The Hindu notes are most valuable when you connect facts to concepts and current events to historical context.