



# The Hindu UPSC Notes (3 Sept 2025, with Traps)

The Legend IAS

Welcome to The Hindu UPSC Notes for September 3, 2025. This presentation covers key news items across Polity & Governance, Economy, International Relations, Environment & Science, and Disaster & Security, with important prelims pointers, potential exam traps, and mains application guidance.



# SC on Governor's Delay in Bills

## News

SC ruled Governors cannot indefinitely hold Bills; must act within 3 months.

## Prelims Pointers

- Art. 200: assent / withhold / return once / reserve for President.
- Trap: Governor can return Money Bill ✗ (Only Ordinary Bill can be returned).
- Art. 201: If reserved, President has no time limit to decide (trap Q).
- Trap: Governor bound by Council of Ministers advice? ✓ Yes (Art. 163, except discretionary matters).

## Mains Application

Strengthens federalism; limits on Governor's discretion.

# Women Judges Bill

## News

Parliament panel recommended **33%** reservation for women judges in **SC/HC**.

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

- First woman **SC** judge = **Justice Fathima Beevi (1989)**.
- Trap: First woman **HC** judge = **Justice Anna Chandy** (Kerala, **1959**).
- Current **SC** sanctioned strength = 34 (**CJI** + 33).
- Retirement age  $\rightarrow$  SC (65), HC (62).
- Trap: **NJAC Act** was struck down in **2015** in **Supreme Court**  
Advocates-on-Record Assn. v. Union of **India**.

## Mains Use

Gender justice + judiciary reform; **SDG 5**.



# GDP Growth Revision

6.5%

Revised Q1 Growth

Down from initial estimate of 7.8%

8.8%

Nominal Growth

Current prices growth rate

2011-12

Base Year

For GDP calculations

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

- Published by CSO (MoSPI), not RBI (trap).
- GDP deflator =  $\text{Nominal/Real GDP} \times 100$ .
- Trap: GNP  $\neq$  GDP; GDP counts within territory, GNP = GDP + net income from abroad.
- Trap: Real GDP is at constant prices, Nominal at current prices.

## Mains Use

Data credibility, fiscal challenges.



# GST Council Stalemate



## States' Demand

8 States demanded new cess on luxury/sin goods



## Centre's Position

Centre opposed the new cess



## Result

Deadlock in GST Council

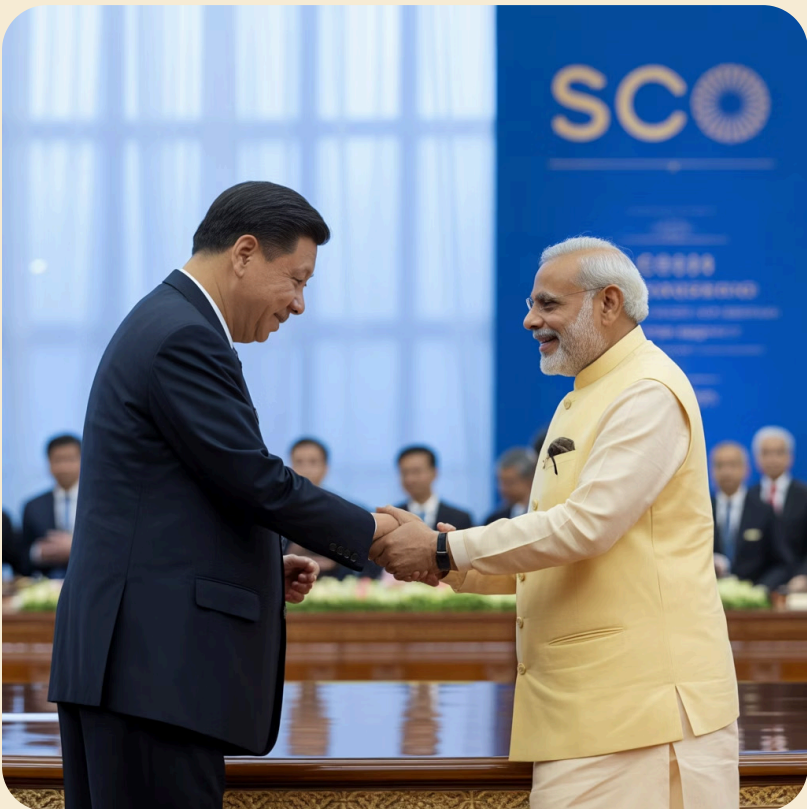
## Prelims Pointers & Traps

- Art. 279A »→ GST Council, chaired by Union FM.
- Voting »→ 75% weighted (Centre 33.3%, States 66.7%).
- Trap: GST introduced by 101st Amendment (not 102nd).
- Trap: Petroleum, electricity & alcohol not under GST.
- Compensation cess ended in 2022; continues only to service past loans till 2026.

## Mains Use

Fiscal federalism; Centre State revenue debates.

# SCO Summit (Modi–Xi Meet)



## News

First formal Modi–Xi meet since Galwan; agreed Asia's stability depends on ties.

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

- SCO HQ = Beijing; founded 2001 (Shanghai).
- Members: 9 (India, Pak, China, Russia, 4 Central Asian, Iran).
- Trap: SCO secretariat is in Moscow ✗ (It is in Beijing).
- Trap: SCO has observer states & dialogue partners, not NATO-style Article 5 obligations.

## Mains Use

Multi-alignment; India's continental strategy.

# Putin's Visit Confirmed

## News

Putin to attend **BRICS+** Energy Summit in Dec 2025 despite **ICC** warrant.

## ICC Details

- **ICC** HQ = The Hague, Netherlands (trap: Geneva **X**).
- India not party to Rome Statute (**1998**).

## BRICS Facts

- Founded **2009**, first summit in Yekaterinburg, Russia.
- Trap: **BRICS** Development Bank = New Development Bank HQ Shanghai.

## Mains Use

Strategic autonomy; energy security diplomacy.



# Gangotri Glacier Study

64%

Snowmelt

Contribution to river flow

21%

Glacial Melt

Contribution to river flow

July

Peak Flow

Shifting timeframe

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

- Bhagirathi = official headstream of Ganga.
- Alaknanda joins at Devprayag »→ then Ganga.
- Trap: Yamunotri glacier feeds Yamuna (not Bhagirathi).
- Cryosphere = frozen water part of Earth.
- Trap: Gangotri Glacier is in Uttarakhand (not Himachal).

## Mains Use

Climate change impact on Himalayan rivers.



# Kerala 100% Digital Literacy

## News

Kerala declared fully digitally literate; 21.8 lakh trained under Digi Kerala.

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

- First e-literate panchayat = Pullampara.
- Kerala leads NITI SDG Index.
- SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 9 (Innovation).
- Trap: Digital India launched in 2014, not 2015.
- Trap: Literacy rate of Kerala (2023) ~96% (highest in India).

## Mains Use

Governance innovation; bridging digital divide.



# J&K Floods

## Impact

- 125+ deaths
- Damaged orchards
- Srinagar–Jammu highway damaged
- Repeat of 2014 disaster

## Disaster Management

- NDMA Act 2005 → NDRF, SDRF
- IMD alert codes: Yellow (be aware), Orange (be prepared), Red (take action)

## Exam Traps

- Trap: NDRF established under MHA ❌ (Correct = under DM Act; MHA only provides admin)
- Trap: Jhelum river caused 2014 floods, not Chenab

## Mains Use

Climate resilience in fragile ecosystems.



# Maoist Arms Cache & Editorial Summaries

## Maoist Arms Cache (Chhattisgarh)

News: 300+ arms recovered from Abujhmad forests, Narayanpur.

### Prelims Pointers & Traps

- Greyhounds (AP), CoBRA (CRPF) » anti-Maoist units.
- Abujhmad = in Chhattisgarh (trap: Jharkhand ✗).
- "Red Corridor" » 10 States.
- Trap: Surrender & rehabilitation policy is a State subject, not Union List.

### Mains Use

Internal security case study; Left Wing Extremism.

## Editorial Summaries (Condensed)

- 130th Amendment – Arrest ≠ Conviction » due process (GS-II, Essay).
- Women in Judiciary – 33% Reservation » legitimacy (GS-II, Essay).
- Bihar SIR – Mass Deletions » democracy faith risk (GS-II, Ethics).
- GDP Revision – Slowing Engine » tariff + oil shocks (GS-III).
- Digital Kerala – Model » 100% literacy (GS-II, Essay).