

The Hindu UPSC Notes

Comprehensive coverage of current affairs for UPSC preparation - 11 September 2025 edition with strategic insights, key terms, and potential exam traps to help aspirants navigate complex topics effectively.





Defence & Maritime Operations

India's naval diplomacy continues to strengthen through strategic partnerships and training exercises across the Indian Ocean region, demonstrating the country's commitment to maritime security and international cooperation.

Naval Exercises

PASSEX operations with
international partners

Training Missions

Cadet development
programmes overseas

Regional Security

EEZ surveillance and joint
patrols

INS Surat - Italy. PASSEX Exercise

Exercise Details

Indian destroyer INS Surat conducted a passage exercise with Italian destroyer ITS Caio Duilio on 7th September, featuring tactical manoeuvres, communication protocols, cross-deck helicopter operations, and ceremonial steampast formations.

Key Components

- Communication checks and protocols
- Tactical manoeuvring exercises
- Cross-deck helicopter operations
- Ceremonial steampast formation



i UPSC Trap: PASSEX refers to short drills during transit, not scheduled bilateral exercises.

PASSEX exercises demonstrate quick interoperability drills when navies meet at sea, showcasing seamless coordination between international maritime forces.



First Training Squadron Deployment

INS Tir Arrival

Reached **Réunion, France** with **ICGS Sarathi** for **training operations** and **diplomatic engagement**

1

Regional Impact

Strengthening ties across **Southwest Indian Ocean** through **naval diplomacy**

2

3

INS Shardul Mission

Arrived at **Port Louis, Mauritius** on **8th September** for **joint maritime activities**

The **First Training Squadron (1TS)** represents **India**'s commitment to developing **naval cadets** through **international exposure** whilst building **strategic partnerships** with regional allies in the **Indian Ocean**.

India-France Naval Cooperation



Joint Activities at Réunion

Indian ships received a warm welcome from French ship FS Nivose, facilitating comprehensive cooperation programmes including cross-training exercises, joint diving operations, and sports fixtures.

- Cross-training skill exchanges
- Joint diving operations
- Sports and cultural fixtures
- Maritime security discussions

⚠ **Key Distinction:** Réunion is a French territory in the Indian Ocean, not an independent nation. FS Nivose is a patrol vessel, not a submarine.

Mauritius EEZ

Operations



Joint Patrolling

INS Shardul conducted collaborative maritime patrols with Mauritius Coast Guard



EEZ Surveillance

Comprehensive monitoring of Exclusive Economic Zone waters up to 200 nautical miles



Regional Support

India's assistance to island nations in maritime security operations

The Exclusive Economic Zone extends 200 nautical miles from the coastline, distinct from the 12 nautical mile territorial waters limit. India frequently assists island nations in EEZ patrol operations, strengthening regional maritime security architecture.



MAHASAGAR Vision

Framework



MAHASAGA R

Navy's
operational
vision for
regional
collaboration

The Navy's concurrent port calls align with its MAHASAGAR vision, emphasising regional maritime collaboration and strategic partnerships across the Indian Ocean region.

⊗ UPSC Alert: Don't confuse MAHASAGAR (Navy's operational vision) with SAGAR (Government policy framework).



SAGAR Policy

Government's
Security And
Growth for All
in the Region





Polity & Judicial Affairs

Recent judicial developments highlight the intersection of law enforcement accountability, anti-terror legislation applications, and constitutional principles governing criminal justice procedures.

01

FIR Registration Orders

Supreme Court upholds Delhi High Court directive for criminal proceedings

02

Investigation Transfers

Jurisdictional shifts between law enforcement agencies

03

UAPA Bail Challenges

Constitutional questions regarding preventive detention laws

Supreme Court on Ex-CBI Officers

Case Background

The Supreme Court upheld Delhi High Court's order directing registration of FIRs against former CBI officers Vinod Kumar Pandey and Neeraj Kumar regarding irregularities dating back to 2000.

Legal Framework

- FIR under CrPC Section 154
- CBI operates under DSPE Act, 1946
- State consent requirements



Key Term: FIR (First Information Report) represents the initial step in criminal investigation procedures.

Investigation Transfer Dynamics

Original Assignment

Investigation initially assigned to Delhi Special Cell for preliminary inquiry

Judicial Intervention

Supreme Court orders transfer from Special Cell to regular Delhi Police

Leadership Structure

Investigation to be led by Assistant Commissioner of Police rank officer

The jurisdiction transfer demonstrates judicial oversight in ensuring appropriate investigation mechanisms, with ACP rank representing supervisory level in Delhi Police hierarchy, distinct from NIA operations.



Umar Khalid UAPA Case

Legal Challenge

Former JNU leader Umar Khalid approached the Supreme Court challenging Delhi High Court's denial of bail in the February 2020 riots case filed under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act.

UAPA Framework

The Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967, criminalises unlawful and terrorist activities with highly restrictive bail provisions under Section 43D, making pre-trial detention common in such cases.



⚠ **Critical Point:** UAPA bail restrictions under Section 43D make release extremely difficult during trial proceedings.

Bail Jurisprudence

Challenges

Mastermind Allegations

High Court dismissed bail pleas labelling accused as "masterminds" of 2020 riots, though this isn't a statutory legal term

Prolonged Trials

UAPA cases often experience extended trial periods due to stringent bail conditions and complex legal procedures

Constitutional Balance

Courts must balance national security concerns with individual liberty rights in terror-related cases

Bail jurisprudence encompasses legal principles governing the grant or refusal of bail, particularly complex in cases involving anti-terror legislation where preventive detention is emphasised.



Electoral Governance

Issues

Vote Theft Allegations

Congress Whip Manickam Tagore alleged irregularities in Vice President election results

Opposition Concerns

Claims of being 15 votes short with suspected cross-voting incidents

- ① Constitutional Fact: VP elections involve only MPs using Single Transferable Vote system. Party whips aren't enforceable due to secret ballot provisions.

Social Justice & Law Enforcement

Contemporary challenges in social justice implementation reveal persistent issues of caste discrimination, electoral violence, and educational standards across different states, requiring coordinated legal and administrative responses.

Caste Discrimination

Untouchability walls
blocking Dalit access in
Tamil Nadu



Electoral Violence

Pre-poll clashes in Bodoland
Territorial Council areas

Academic Standards

Judicial intervention in
university promotion
policies

Tamil Nadu Untouchability Wall Controversy



Discrimination Allegations

Dalits in Valangaiman, Tiruvarur district, allege that a 10-foot wall blocks their access to common areas, whilst police claim it's merely a property dispute rather than caste-based discrimination.

Legal Framework

- Article 17 prohibits untouchability
- SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act applicable
- Social exclusion constitutes denial of access

Untouchability walls represent physical manifestations of caste-based social exclusion, directly violating constitutional principles and statutory protections for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.



Bodoland Pre-Poll Violence



Party Conflict

UPPL and **BPF** supporters clashed in **Kokrajhar** ahead of **BTC** elections



Casualties Reported

Multiple injuries reported during **pre-poll violence** incidents



Constitutional Framework

BTC operates under **Sixth Schedule autonomous council** provisions

The **Bodoland Territorial Council** functions as an **autonomous council** in **Assam** under the **Sixth Schedule**, with **UPPL** and **BPF** representing **regional political parties** competing for **tribal area governance**.

Pune University

Academic Standards



Judicial Action

Bombay High
Court's suo
motu
cognisance



SPPU Circular

Promoting
students
despite
academic
failures

The Bombay High Court severely criticised Savitribai Phule Pune University's circular promoting students despite examination failures, taking suo motu cognisance under Article 226 powers.

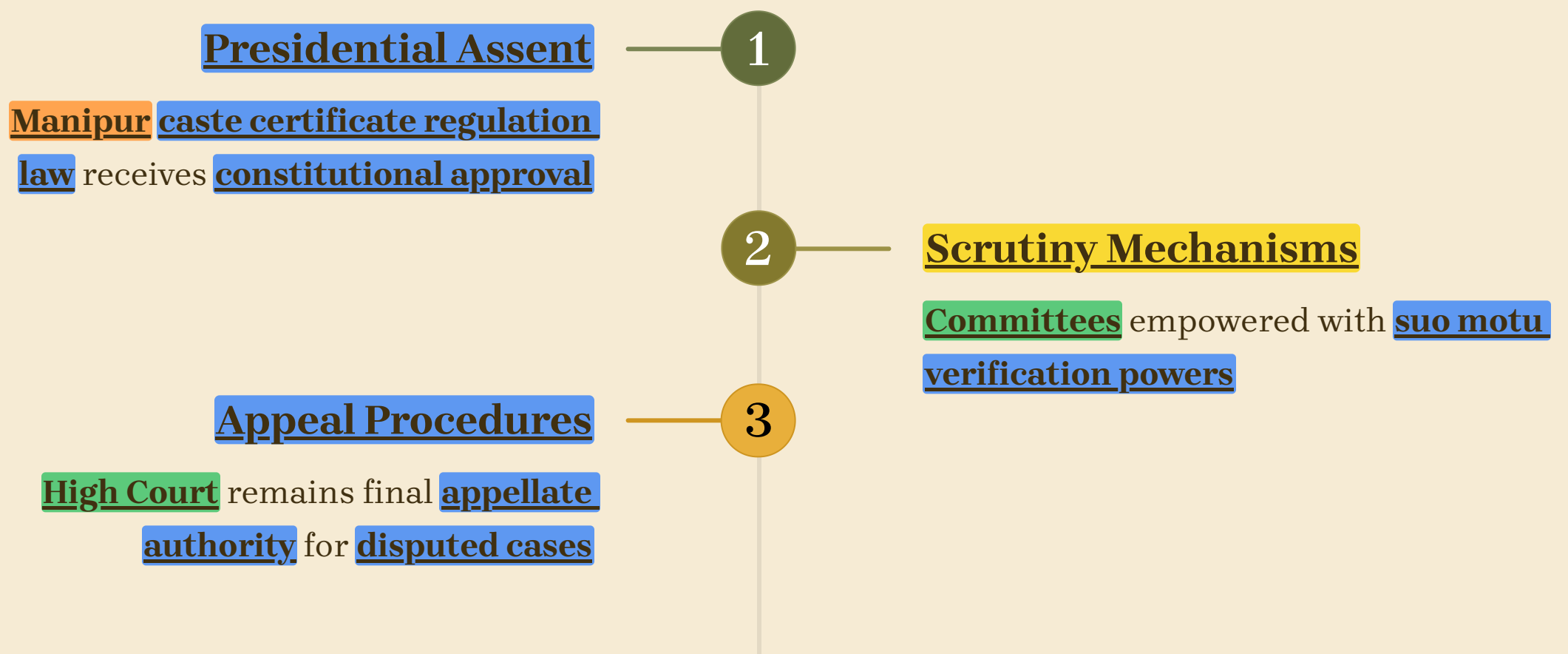
Education being a Concurrent List subject allows both central and state intervention, with courts maintaining oversight over academic standards and institutional integrity.





Social Policy & Certification

Recent developments in caste certification laws demonstrate evolving mechanisms for social justice implementation, with enhanced scrutiny procedures and administrative safeguards to prevent misuse whilst ensuring legitimate beneficiaries receive constitutional protections.



Manipur Caste Certificate Law

Legislative Process

The law regulating SC/OBC certificates in Manipur received Presidential assent after the Governor reserved the bill, demonstrating the constitutional process for sensitive social legislation.

Administrative Framework

- State-level caste certificate governance
- Governor's discretionary powers
- Presidential approval for reserved bills



Constitutional Process: Governors can reserve bills for Presidential consideration, particularly for socially sensitive legislation.



Enhanced Scrutiny Mechanisms

01

Suo Motu Powers

Scrutiny committees can initiate caste certificate verification independently without external complaints

02

Final Authority

Committee decisions carry binding force with limited appeal options

03

Judicial Review

High Court remains the sole appellate forum for disputed determinations

Similar scrutiny mechanisms exist in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, reflecting nationwide efforts to prevent fraudulent caste certificate claims whilst protecting genuine beneficiaries' rights.

Certificate Validity Framework

Presumptive Validity

Caste certificates remain valid throughout the verification process until the scrutiny committee reaches a final decision, preventing denial of benefits during investigation periods.

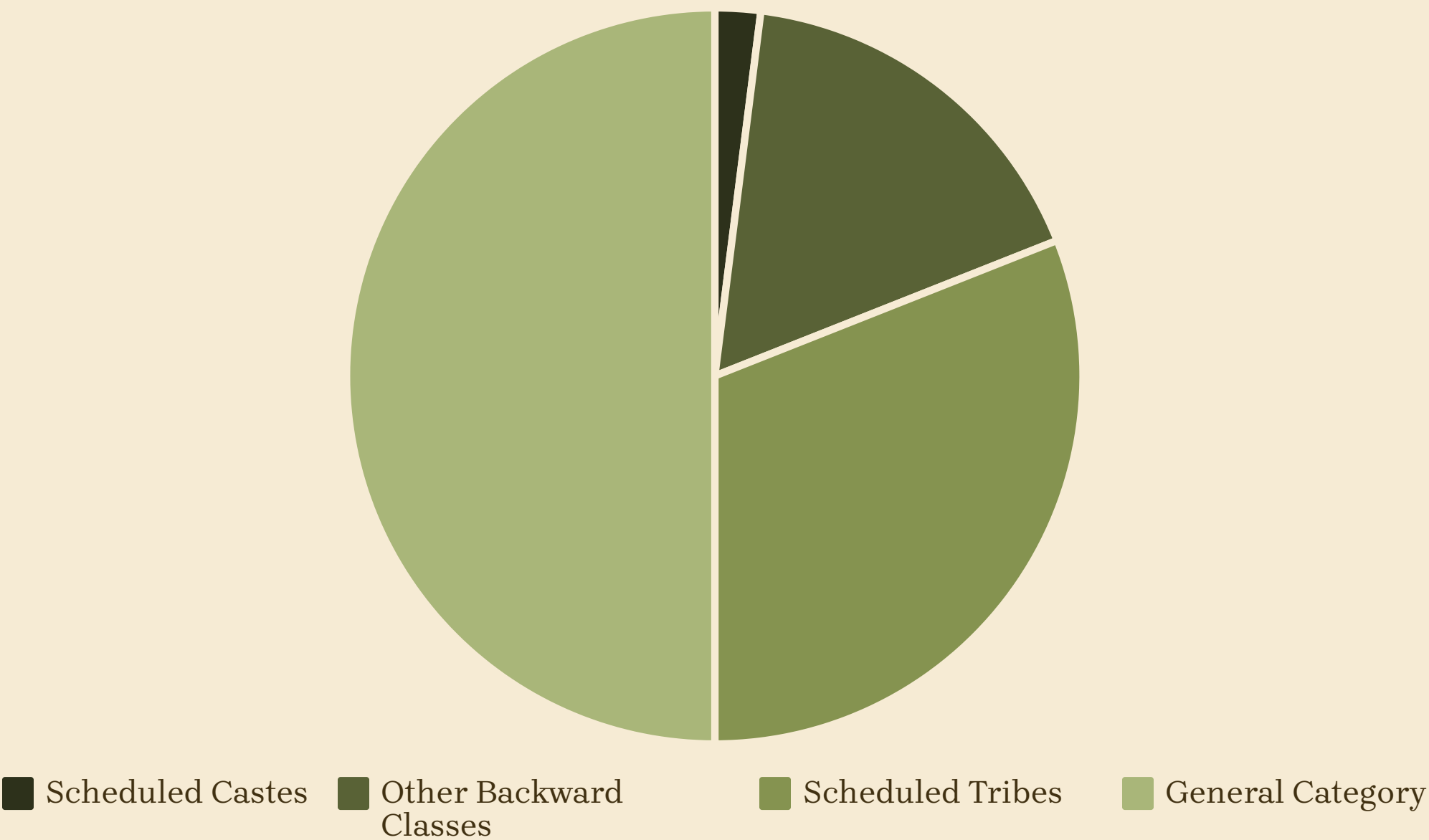
Beneficiary Protection

This provision ensures that legitimate beneficiaries continue receiving constitutional protections and reservations whilst verification procedures are ongoing, balancing administrative efficiency with individual rights.



- ❑ Administrative Wisdom: Interim validity prevents harassment of genuine beneficiaries during scrutiny processes.

Manipur Reservation Structure



Manipur's reservation structure allocates **31%** for Scheduled Tribes, **17%** for Other Backward Classes, and **2%** for Scheduled Castes in education and employment, reflecting the state's unique demographic composition and constitutional obligations.



Border Management & Migration

Recent developments in consular services and border management highlight **India's** proactive approach to citizen welfare and regional security, encompassing emergency evacuations, border surveillance, and deportation procedures across multiple international boundaries.



Emergency Flights

Special **Air India** and **IndiGo** operations to **Kathmandu**



Border Operations

SSB apprehends escaped prisoners at **UP-Nepal border**



Deportation Procedures

Pakistani national expelled via **Attari border crossing**

Nepal Emergency Operations

Coordinated Response

The Ministry of Civil Aviation coordinated special Air India and IndiGo flights to Kathmandu after protests shut down airport operations, demonstrating inter-ministerial cooperation in crisis management.

Operational Resumption

Tribhuvan International Airport, Nepal's only international hub, resumed normal operations following the resolution of protest-related disruptions.



Institutional Roles: MoCA handles flight operations whilst MEA issues travel advisories during emergencies.



Kerala Diaspora Welfare Initiative

₹13,400

₹13,400

Annual Premium

NoRKA-Care insurance
premium for comprehensive
coverage

₹5L

₹5L

Coverage Amount

Maximum insurance coverage
for Non-Resident Keralites

22 Sept

22 Sept

Launch Date

NoRKA-Care insurance
programme inauguration

Kerala's NoRKA Roots agency launches the NoRKA-Care insurance scheme specifically designed for Non-Resident Keralites, offering immediate coverage for pre-existing diseases—a unique feature distinguishing it from conventional insurance products.

- ✓ State Innovation: NoRKA operates as a state agency, not a central government initiative, showcasing Kerala's proactive diaspora engagement model.