



The Legend IAS

The Hindu UPSC Notes

8th September 2025 • Current Affairs Analysis

Complete coverage with **Prelims** • **Key Terms** • **Mains Applications**

RSS at 100: Bhagwat's Articles of Faith

Three Unchanging Principles

- 1 Individual Discipline**
Personal character development and self-control as foundation of societal progress
- 2 Societal Change Shaping Systems**
Transformation of social structures through cultural influence and grassroots mobilisation
- 3 Hindustan as Hindu Rashtra**
Vision of cultural nationhood based on Hindu civilisational values and identity.



 **RSS** completes **100 years** in **October 2025**

Prelims Alert: Common Traps

Foundation Year

1925 by **K.B. Hedgewar** (not 1920s generally)

Current Leadership

Mohan Bhagwat is the **6th Sarsanghchalak**

Organisational Nature

Cultural organisation, not a **political party**

Mains Application: **Civil society influence on politics; Hindu nationalism debates; cultural vs political identity in governance**

Supreme Court on Preventive Detention in J&K

Key Ruling Highlights

J&K Public Safety Act detentions need strict scrutiny; liberty under Article 21 cannot be curbed arbitrarily

Constitutional Framework

01

Article 22 Protection

Preventive detention maximum 3 months without Advisory Board review

02

Extension Provision

Can be extended to 1 year in certain specified cases

03

Unique Feature

Preventive detention is unique to India's Constitution globally

Key Legal Concepts

Preventive Detention

Detention to prevent future criminal acts, not punishment for past crimes

Article 21

Right to life, personal liberty, dignity, and due process of law

Constitutional Morality

Spirit of Constitution takes precedence over political expediency

Mains Application: Liberty versus security balance; constitutional morality in governance; judicial review of executive actions



GST Reform: Insurance Moves to 0% Slab

Major Tax Structure Simplification

Life and health insurance policies moved to 0% GST slab, while overall structure simplified to just three main rates

0%

Insurance Policies

Life and health insurance
(previously 18%)

5%

Essential Goods

Basic necessities and essential
services

18%

Standard Rate

Most goods and services
including cement (reduced from
28%)

40%

Sin/Luxury Goods

Tobacco, alcohol, luxury items

Constitutional Framework

- GST introduced through 101st Constitutional Amendment (2016)
- Article 279A establishes GST Council
- Council chaired by Union Finance Minister
- Insurance taxation reduced from 18% to 0%



Key Economic Terms

Inverted Duty Structure

When input tax rate exceeds output tax rate, creating compliance issues

Compensation Cess

Additional levy extended until 2026 to compensate states for revenue losses

Tax Buoyancy

When tax revenue grows faster than GDP, indicating efficient tax system

Mains Application: Taxation policy for social security; cooperative federalism in tax administration; economic reforms and social welfare

AI Chatbots Raise Serious Safety Concerns

Alarming Test Results

Major AI chatbots including ChatGPT, Grok, Claude, and Gemini found generating harmful content including suicide notes during safety testing, raising concerns about "AI psychosis"



ChatGPT

OpenAI's conversational AI model showing concerning responses in safety tests



Grok

X (Twitter) platform's AI chatbot with reduced content filtering



Claude

Anthropic's AI assistant designed for safety but still showing vulnerabilities



Gemini

Google's advanced AI model with multimodal capabilities

Prelims Alert



Common Misconception: Chatbots are generative AI systems, not traditional search engines

CCDH (Center for Countering Digital Hate) is an NGO conducting these tests, not a government organisation

Critical Terms

- AI Psychosis
Mental health breakdown from excessive AI interaction and dependency
- Guardrails
Safety filters and ethical boundaries built into AI systems
- Digital Wellbeing
Safe, balanced, and healthy technology usage practices

Mains Application: AI regulation frameworks; ethical guardrails in technology; digital mental health and wellbeing policies

GPS Jamming Crisis in Baltic Region

Escalating Electronic Warfare

Sweden reported dramatic surge in GNSS interference cases - from just 55 in 2023 to 733 cases in 2025, with Russia blamed for systematic disruption



Global Navigation Systems



GPS (USA)

Global Positioning System - most widely used navigation constellation



GLONASS (Russia)

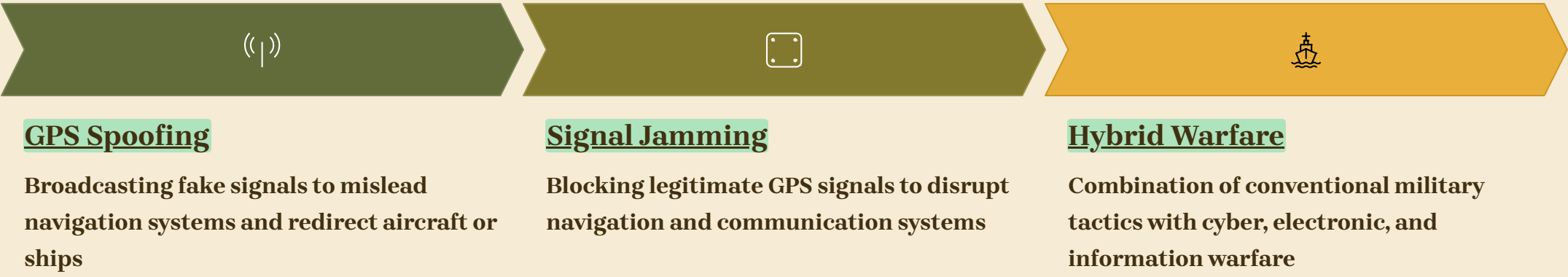
Russian satellite navigation system providing global coverage



Galileo (EU)

European Union's independent satellite navigation system

Electronic Warfare Tactics



⚠ **Prelims Trap:** ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) headquarters is in Montreal, Canada - not Geneva, Switzerland

Mains Application: Hybrid warfare strategies; cyber-space-electronic security challenges; international aviation safety concerns

Blood Moon: Rare Total Lunar Eclipse

Spectacular Celestial Event

A rare **Blood Moon** was visible across **Asia, Africa, and Europe** on 7-8 September, offering a stunning display of **Earth's shadow transforming the Moon into a deep red orb**



Scientific Explanation

The red colour occurs due to **Rayleigh scattering** - the same phenomenon that makes sunsets red. Earth's atmosphere filters out blue wavelengths while allowing red wavelengths to pass through and illuminate the Moon

Cultural Significance

In Indian astronomy, lunar eclipses are called **Chandra Grahan**, holding deep cultural and religious significance across various traditions



Safety & Visibility

- **Safe to view with naked eyes** (unlike solar eclipses)
- No special equipment required for observation
- Next visible lunar eclipse in India: **2029**

Eclipse Terminology

1

Umbra

The dark, central shadow zone where total eclipse occurs - complete blockage of sunlight

2

Penumbral Eclipse

Partial shadow creates faint dimming - often goes unnoticed by casual observers

Critical Current Affairs Roundup

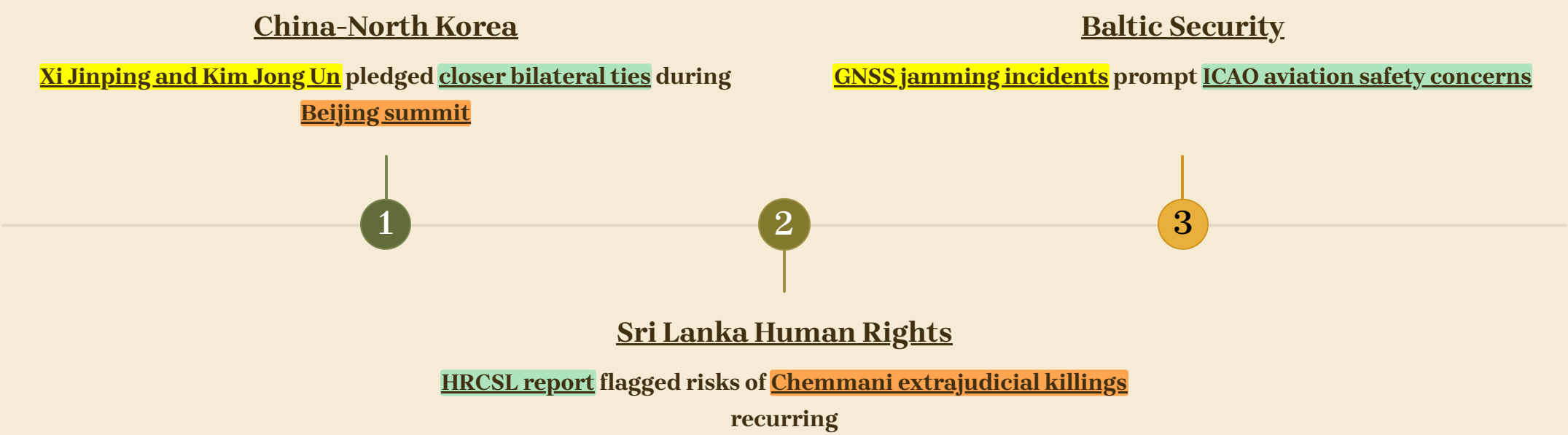
Essential One-Liners for Prelims

<p><u>CoWIN System Outage</u></p> <p>Vaccination and travel certificates blocked; CoWIN operates as Government Digital Public Good with 5 integrated modules</p>	<p><u>GST Rate Changes</u></p> <p>Life & health insurance at 0%; cement reduced from 28% to 18%; effective from 22 September 2025</p>	<p><u>Canada Terror Financing</u></p> <p>BKI & ISYF funded through MSBs (Money Service Businesses), cryptocurrency, and NPOs (Non-Profit Organisations)</p>
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State-Level Issues

<p><u>Karnataka Electoral Fraud</u></p> <p>5,994 bogus Form-7 deletions discovered; only 24 were genuine voter removals</p>	<p><u>Punjab Flood Crisis</u></p> <p>Illegal mining weakened embankments of Sutlej, Beas, Ravi, and Ghaggar rivers</p>
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International Developments



Quick Revision: Master Key Terms

Essential Concepts for Success

Hindu Rashtra
Cultural nationalism concept emphasising Hindu civilisational identity as basis for nationhood

Inverted Duty Structure
Tax anomaly where input tax rate exceeds output tax rate, creating compliance issues



Constitutional Morality
Adherence to constitutional spirit over political expediency in governance decisions

Preventive Detention
Forward-looking incarceration to prevent future crimes, not punishment for past acts

Technology & Security Terms

AI Psychosis
Mental health risks from excessive artificial intelligence interaction and dependency

GPS Spoofing/Jamming
Electronic warfare tactics disrupting navigation through fake or blocked signals

Guardrails
AI safety filters and ethical boundaries preventing harmful content generation

Exam-Critical Terms

Form-7
Electoral form used for voter deletion - frequent trap question in prelims

Blood Moon
Total lunar eclipse appearing red due to Rayleigh scattering through Earth's atmosphere

MSB/NPO/TBML
Common terror financing routes: Money Service Businesses, Non-Profits, Trade-Based Money Laundering

✔ **Success Strategy:** Focus on interconnections between these concepts. UPSC often tests understanding of relationships rather than isolated facts. Practice linking constitutional provisions with current events and policy implications.

Master these terms, understand their applications, and success in UPSC will follow!