

# The Hindu **UPSC Notes** — 17 Sept 2025

Comprehensive coverage with Traps + Key Terms for **UPSC** preparation. Today's edition covers critical developments across **disaster management**, **internal security**, **agriculture**, **judiciary**, **industry**, **enforcement**, **world affairs**, and **public policy**.

## Key **UPSC Mains Concepts**

**Evidence-based Policymaking**: Integrating research and data into **policy formulation** for **effective governance outcomes**.

**Adaptive Governance**: Flexible and learning-oriented approach to **public administration**, crucial for navigating complex and **evolving challenges**.





# Uttarakhand Flash Floods, IMD Red Alert

**News:** At least 13 dead, massive damage around Dehradun; India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued red alert; 500+ people rescued/evacuated; PM announced financial aid earlier; CM on ground review.

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

IMD colour codes: Yellow (watch), Orange (be prepared), Red (take action).

Cloudburst thumb rule (often asked):  $\sim \geq 100$  mm in an hour (conceptual trap).

## Key Term

Flash Flood: Sudden flooding from intense rain; high runoff in steep terrain.

## UPSC Mains Keyword: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Frameworks

Comprehensive approach to minimize disaster impacts, encompassing prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Crucial for Himalayan states.

## UPSC Mains Keyword: Climate Resilience

The capacity of social, economic, and ecological systems to cope with a hazardous event or trend or disturbance, responding or reorganizing in ways that maintain their essential function.

## Official Definition: Disaster (DM Act, 2005)

As per the Disaster Management Act, 2005, "disaster" means a catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence in any area, arising from natural or man made causes, or by accident or negligence which results in substantial loss of life or human suffering or damage to, and destruction of, property, or damage to, or degradation of, environment, and is of such a nature or magnitude as to be beyond the coping capacity of the community of the affected area.

## Committee Recommendation: Madhav Gadgil Committee (WGEEP)

While primarily for Western Ghats, its principles on declaring ecologically sensitive areas (ESAs) and stringent regulations on activities like mining and hydropower projects are crucial for Himalayan states. Recommended a graded approach to developmental activities based on ecological sensitivity, emphasizing local community involvement in environmental governance.

## Govt. of India Scheme: National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC)

Launched in 2015, NAFCC aims to support concrete adaptation activities which are vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. It prioritizes projects in sectors like agriculture, water resources, coastal management, and forestry, directly aiding states like Uttarakhand in building climate resilience against events like flash floods.



# Drone-Driven Drug Smuggling Surge (Punjab Border)

**News:** Drone drug 'drops' rose from 3 (2021) » 179 (2024); heroin/opium common; NCB (Narcotics Control Bureau) flagged darknet/crypto cases too.

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

**Border Management:** Drones = cross-border TBML (trade-based money laundering) adjunct (trap: not only cash couriers).

**NCB** role: Apex drug-law enforcement; publishes annual trends.

### Key Term

**Darknet:** Overlay network enabling anonymous trading; often used for illicit narcotics.

### UPSC Mains Keywords

**Asymmetric Threats:** The use of low-cost, readily available drone technology by non-state actors challenging conventional state border security mechanisms.

**Weaponization of Emerging Technologies:** The repurposing of commercial drone capabilities for illicit activities, posing complex national security and regulatory challenges.

### Authoritative Definition: Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)

According to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, a 'drone' or 'Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)' means an aircraft that can operate autonomously or be piloted remotely without a human on board.  
(Source: The Drone Rules, 2021, Ministry of Civil Aviation)

### Committee Recommendation: Border Management

The Madhav Godbole Committee (2000) on Border Management emphasized the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to border security, including enhanced surveillance, technology adoption, and better coordination among security agencies to tackle cross-border challenges. Although not specific to drones, its recommendations for technological integration are highly relevant to addressing modern threats.  
(Source: Committee Report on Reorganization of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs)

### Government Scheme: Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS)

The Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS) is a technological solution initiated by the Ministry of Home Affairs to enhance border security. It integrates surveillance devices like thermal imagers, night vision devices, ground sensors, and radars with a command and control system, providing a multi-layered security cover. This scheme is crucial in detecting and countering threats like drone incursions and illegal cross-border activities.  
(Source: Ministry of Home Affairs)



# Foodgrain/Horticulture Output Up; Higher Target Set

**News:** Govt targets 362.5 MT **foodgrain** in 2025-26 (vs 341.55 MT target last year); 2024-25 output 353.96 MT (+6.5% y/y); focus on **pulses/oilseeds, climate resilience**.

### Prelims Pointers & Traps

**Rabi Campaign Conference:** Union–State coordination on seeds, fertiliser, crop planning.

**PMFBY (Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana):** Emphasis on timely payouts during flood damage.

### Key Term

**Integrated Farming Systems:** Diversified on-farm mix (crops–livestock–horticulture) to spread risk.

### UPSC Mains Keywords

**Sustainable Intensification:** A strategic approach to agricultural development balancing increased productivity with ecological preservation and resource efficiency.

**Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA):** An integrated approach to transform agricultural systems to effectively support food security and development in a changing climate, focusing on productivity, adaptation, and mitigation.

### Authoritative Definition

**Food Security (National Food Security Act, 2013):** "The provision of adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to lead a life with dignity."

### Committee Recommendation

**M.S. Swaminathan Committee (National Commission on Farmers):** Recommended that the **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** should be at least 50% more than the **weighted average cost of production (C2 cost + 50%)**.

### Government Scheme

**Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY):** Aims to expand cultivated area under assured irrigation, improve **water use efficiency ("Per Drop More Crop")**, and promote integrated water management.





# SC: "Who Decides if Conversion is 'Deceitful'?"

News: **Supreme Court (SC)** asked petitioner in anti-"**deceitful conversion**" plea who determines **fraud** in **inter-faith marriage/faith change**.

## UPSC Mains Perspective: Key Concepts

- Constitutional Morality:** The **Supreme Court's interpretative doctrine** to uphold the **fundamental principles of the Constitution**, often invoked in cases balancing **individual rights** (like **freedom of religion**) against **majoritarian views** or **state actions**. This concept is crucial for understanding the **judiciary's role** in protecting **secular values** and **personal liberty** in **conversion debates**.
- Judicial Review:** The **power of the Supreme Court** to examine the **constitutionality** and **legality** of **legislative and executive actions**, including **state 'Freedom of Religion' acts**. The current query by the **SC** highlights its active role in scrutinizing the **procedural and substantive aspects** of **anti-conversion laws** to ensure they align with **fundamental rights** and **due process**.

## Constitutional Framework

**Article 25:** **Freedom of conscience/religion** subject to **public order, morality, health** (trap: not absolute).

**State 'Freedom of Religion' Acts:** Vary by **State; procedures** & **burden of proof** differ.

**Key Term** - **Deceitful Conversion** (**allegation**): **Conversion** claimed via **fraud/allurement; justiciability** and **test** are **legal issues**.

## Authoritative Definition: Secularism

From the **Preamble to the Constitution of India:** "We, the **people of India**, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a **SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC** and to secure to all its **citizens: JUSTICE**, social, economic and political; **LIBERTY** of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship...". The term '**secular**' implies that there is no **state religion** and all **religions** are treated equally by the **state**.

## Relevant Committee Recommendation: Law Commission of India

The **Law Commission of India, 21st Report (2018) on 'Family Law Reforms'**, while discussing the **Uniform Civil Code**, highlighted the complexities of **personal laws** rooted in **religious practices**. Though not directly on '**deceitful conversion**', it recommended **codification of personal laws** and emphasized the need to balance **constitutional principles of equality** and **non-discrimination** with **religious freedom**, urging for **voluntary reforms** while respecting **diversity**, indirectly addressing the underlying tensions often associated with **inter-faith matters** and **legal interpretations**.

## Government of India Scheme: PMKVY - Skill Development

While no direct **scheme** exists for "**deceitful conversion**," the **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)**, under the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship**, aims to provide **skill training** to **youth**. This indirect relevance stems from the idea that **economic empowerment** and **vocational opportunities** can reduce **vulnerabilities** to various forms of **exploitation**, including alleged "**allurement**" in **conversion cases**, by fostering **independence** and **informed decision-making** among individuals.



# Govt Shortlists "100 Import-Heavy Items" to Localise

**News:** Centre finalising ~100 products India imports heavily but can make domestically—**import substitution push**.



**PLI vs Import Substitution**

**PLI** = **production incentives**; here focus is replacing specific import lines.

**Tariff vs Non-Tariff**

Substitution often paired with quality standards (**NTBs**).

**UPSC Mains Keywords**

**Industrial Policy:** Government strategies to promote specific industries for economic development, often involving protectionism, subsidies, and strategic investment to achieve national goals like self-reliance.

**Structural Transformation:** The fundamental shift in an economy's composition, moving from primary sectors to manufacturing and services, indicative of economic maturation and enhanced productivity.

**Key Term - Import Substitution:** Reducing imports by boosting domestic manufacture of targeted goods.

**Authoritative Definition: Atmanirbhar Bharat**

"**Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) Abhiyan** aims to make the country and its citizens independent and self-reliant in all senses. This vision encompasses **reducing dependence on imports** by **fostering domestic capabilities**, **promoting local production**, and **strengthening indigenous supply chains** across various sectors."

— Ministry of Finance, Government of India (derived from official pronouncements)

**Relevant Committee Recommendation: Abid Hussain Committee (1984)**

While generally advocating for **trade liberalization**, the **Abid Hussain Committee** acknowledged the need for a **strategic approach to domestic industry**. It recommended that "**import substitution** should not be pursued indiscriminately but selectively, focusing on areas where India has a **comparative advantage** or where **strategic needs** demand domestic production, ensuring efficiency and competitiveness."

— **Abid Hussain Committee Report on Trade Policy Reforms (1984)**

**Government of India Scheme: Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme**

"The **PLI scheme** aims to boost **domestic manufacturing** in various sectors by providing **incentives on incremental sales** (over base year) of goods manufactured in India and to attract **large investments** and **cutting-edge technology** into key sectors." It is a cornerstone of India's **import substitution** and '**Make in India**' strategy.

— Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry





# ED: Ex-CM's Son "Controlled Liquor Syndicate" (Chhattisgarh)

News: Enforcement Directorate (ED) alleges Chaitanya Baghel was "controller and ultimate authority" in organised liquor network.

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

ED's mandate: Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) investigations, attachment/prosecution.

State Excise vs PMLA: State regulates liquor; laundering probe can be federal (trap).



### Key Term

Proceeds of Crime: Any property derived from scheduled offence; attachable under PMLA.



### UPSC Mains Keywords

Criminal-Political Nexus: The symbiotic relationship between criminal elements and political actors, undermining governance and rule of law.

Federal Jurisdictional Overlap: Instances where powers and responsibilities of central and state governments intersect, often leading to challenges in enforcement and cooperation.

### Government Definition: Money Laundering

According to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA), "money laundering" is defined as directly or indirectly attempting to indulge or knowingly assisting or knowingly being a party to or actually involved in any process or activity connected with the proceeds of crime and projecting it as untainted property.

### Committee Recommendation: Vohra Committee

The Vohra Committee (1993) report highlighted the growing nexus between criminals, bureaucrats, and politicians. It recommended strengthening intelligence agencies and law enforcement bodies to effectively combat this nexus, along with greater transparency in political funding.

### Relevant Government of India Scheme: National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)

While not a direct scheme against liquor syndicates, the NFRA, established under the Companies Act, 2013, aims to improve financial reporting and auditing quality. Stronger financial oversight reduces avenues for illicit financial activities and money laundering, thus indirectly contributing to combating economic crimes like those involving liquor syndicates.




# SC Stays Parts of Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025

**News:** SC stayed Section 3C(2).proviso & (3),(4); flagged "prima facie arbitrariness"; status quo on Waqf properties till tribunal decision.

## Constitutional Concerns

Separation of Powers & Right to Property (Art. 300A) cited; executive officer deciding title = judicial domain (trap).



### UPSC Mains Focus: Advanced Concepts

- Judicial Review & Basic Structure Doctrine: The Supreme Court's inherent power to review legislative and executive actions for constitutionality, upholding the foundational principles of the Constitution.
- Delegation of Judicial Functions: The constitutional principle that restricts the legislature from delegating inherently judicial powers, such as adjudication of property rights, to executive or quasi-judicial bodies.

**Key Term** - Mutawalli: Manager/trustee of a Waqf property.

### Authoritative Definition: Waqf

As per the Waqf Act, 1995, "Waqf means the permanent dedication by a person professing Islam of any movable or immovable property for any purpose recognised by Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable." (Source: Ministry of Minority Affairs, The Waqf Act, 1995)

### Committee Recommendation: Sachar Committee Report (2006)

Recommended computerisation of Waqf records and appointment of Waqf Commissioners with quasi-judicial powers to streamline administration and ensure transparency in property management. (Source: Report on the Social, Economic and Educational Status of the Muslim Community of India)

### GOI Scheme: Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)

A flagship scheme of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, it aims to develop socio-economic infrastructure and basic amenities in minority concentration areas, which often include areas with Waqf properties. (Source: Ministry of Minority Affairs)





# Tejashwi Yadav's "Bihar Adhikar Yatra"

News: RJD leader launches 5-day yatra across 10 districts; jobs, corruption, governance pitch.

<div><div>i</div><div><u>Political Mobilization Strategies</u></div></div>	<p>Refers to the systematic efforts by <u>political actors</u> to rally <u>public support</u>, shape <u>public opinion</u>, and engage specific demographics through various means (e.g., <u>yatras</u>, <u>rallies</u>, <u>social campaigns</u>) to achieve <u>political objectives</u>.</p>
<div><div>i</div><div><u>Governance Accountability Frameworks</u></div></div>	<p>Encompasses the <u>mechanisms and institutions</u> designed to ensure that <u>governments</u> and <u>public officials</u> are held responsible for their <u>actions</u>, <u>decisions</u>, and the <u>delivery of public services</u> (e.g., <u>job creation</u>, <u>anti-corruption measures</u>), often highlighted by political campaigns addressing <u>governance deficits</u>.</p>

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<div><div><u>Model Code &amp; Yatras</u></div><div>Not <u>election period</u> yet—regular <u>law &amp; order permissions</u> apply.</div></div>	<div><div>Key Term</div><div><u>Yatra (Political): Mass-contact campaign to set agenda/mobilise cadre.</u></div></div>

<u>Official Definition</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>	<u>Govt. of India Scheme</u>
<div><div><div><div><div></div><div><u>Good Governance (Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances &amp; Pensions)</u></div></div><div><u>Good governance</u> is understood as a process of measuring how <u>public institutions</u> conduct <u>public affairs</u> and manage <u>public resources</u> and guarantee the realization of <u>human rights</u>.</div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div><div><div></div><div><u>Second ARC Report (Ethics in Governance)</u></div></div><div>Recommended strengthening of <u>anti-corruption bodies</u> like <u>Lokpal/Lokayuktas</u> and mandating a <u>Code of Ethics</u> for <u>public servants</u> to enhance <u>transparency</u> and <u>accountability</u> in administration.</div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div><div><div></div><div><u>Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)</u></div></div><div>A flagship scheme guaranteeing 100 days of <u>wage employment</u> in a financial year to adult members of <u>rural households</u> willing to do <u>unskilled manual work</u>, directly addressing <u>rural employment</u> and <u>poverty</u>.</div></div></div></div>



# Israel Launches Ground Offensive in Gaza City

News: **IDF ground push** into Gaza City; **mass displacement** complicates **ceasefire prospects**.

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

**IHL** (**International Humanitarian Law**): **Distinction & proportionality**.  
(trap: **UNGA/UNHRC resolutions** are mostly non-binding).

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Key Term

**Urban Warfare** Combat in dense civilian areas with high collateral risk.

**Responsibility to Protect (R2P)**

International norm affirming states' duty to protect populations from **mass atrocities**, and the international community's responsibility to **intervene** if states fail.

**Asymmetric Warfare**

Conflict between belligerents of vastly different military capabilities, often involving **non-state actors** using **unconventional tactics** against a **state military**.

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1. Authoritative Definition: **International Humanitarian Law**

According to the **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**, **International Humanitarian Law (IHL)** is a set of rules which seek, for humanitarian reasons, to limit the effects of **armed conflict**. It protects persons who are not or are no longer participating in **hostilities** and restricts the means and methods of **warfare**. **IHL** is also known as the **law of war** or the **law of armed conflict**.

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2. Relevant Recommendation: **UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change (2004)**

In the context of the **Responsibility to Protect (R2P)**, the **Panel** recommended that the **Security Council** adopt a resolution setting out the **principles for the use of force**, including **humanitarian intervention**. It stressed the importance of timely and decisive action by the **international community** when national authorities manifestly fail to protect their own populations from **genocide**, **war crimes**, **ethnic cleansing** and **crimes against humanity**.  
  
**Note:** While not an **Indian committee**, this recommendation from a prominent **UN panel** directly addresses **international responsibility** in conflicts, aligning with the **R2P concept** discussed.

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3. Government of India Initiative: **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Operations**

The **Government of India** actively participates in and contributes to global **humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts** through its various ministries, including the **Ministry of External Affairs** and **Ministry of Defence**. While not a "**scheme**" for internal governance, **India's HADR operations** demonstrate its commitment to **international humanitarian principles** by providing aid, medical assistance, and support during **crises** and **conflicts globally**, aligning with the broader **principles of IHL** and protecting populations.  
  
**Note:** Direct **Indian government schemes** or **domestic committee recommendations** specifically on **international military ground offensives** are not applicable. This **initiative** reflects **India's engagement** with **humanitarian aspects** of **global crises**.

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# Zelenskyy Seeks EU-Wide Air-Defence System

**News:** Ukraine pressed EU for continent-scale air defence after Russian strikes.

## Prelims Pointers & Traps

**NATO** **EU** Defence guarantees are NATO's core, not EU's CFSP (trap).

## Key Term

**Integrated Air Defence** Networked sensors, interceptors, C2.

## Mains Keywords

**Strategic Autonomy:** EU's capacity to act independently in defense and security, reducing reliance on external powers.

## Mains Keywords

**Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)** The overarching framework for EU's role in security, crisis management, and military cooperation.

## 📌 Authoritative Definition: **National Security** (Indian Context)

According to India's Ministry of Defence, **national security** is a comprehensive concept encompassing the preservation of territorial integrity, sovereignty, economic stability, and societal harmony against both conventional and non-conventional threats, including those from air and space domains.

## 📌 Relevant Committee Recommendation: **Shekatkar Committee (2016)**

The Lt. Gen. D.B. Shekatkar Committee on "Enhancing Combat Capability and Rebalancing Defence Expenditure" recommended measures for improving the Indian Army's operational readiness, including optimizing logistics and technical infrastructure, which indirectly supports strengthening air defence capabilities through better resource allocation and integration.

## ✅ Government of India Scheme: **Make in India in Defence**

The "**Make in India**" initiative in the defence sector aims to achieve self-reliance and promote indigenous design, development, and manufacturing of defence equipment, including advanced air defence systems like missile interceptors and radars, thereby reducing import dependency and boosting domestic defence industrial capabilities.



# Trump Calls PM Modi on 75th Birthday

**News:** U.S. President Donald Trump called PM; both affirmed taking the **Comprehensive and Global Strategic Partnership** to "new heights".

## India-U.S. Dynamic

**Bilateral Frame** (since 2020): Not to be confused with "Major non-NATO ally" status (trap).

**Key Term - Signalling:** Diplomatic messaging to reset tone/agenda.

### UPSC Mains Keyword: Strategic Convergence

The alignment of long-term national interests, particularly in security and economic policy, fostering deeper bilateral cooperation beyond transactional engagement.

### UPSC Mains Keyword: Elevated Diplomatic Praxis

A refined and intensified approach to international relations, characterized by high-level engagements and sustained strategic dialogues aimed at achieving synergistic outcomes.

### Official Definition: Strategic Partnership

As per the **Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India**, a "**Strategic Partnership**" typically signifies a long-term framework of cooperation between two countries, involving political, economic, security, and socio-cultural dimensions, aimed at addressing common challenges and promoting mutual interests on a global scale. It denotes a deeper level of engagement than standard bilateral relations.

### Committee Recommendation: Standing Committee on External Affairs

A recommendation from the **Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs** often emphasizes the need for India to diversify its strategic partnerships and leverage multilateral forums to enhance its global influence, while also suggesting regular high-level dialogues to address irritants and consolidate gains in bilateral relationships like with the U.S.

### Government of India Scheme: Make in India (Defense Sector)

The **Make in India initiative**, particularly within the defense sector, aims to reduce import dependence and boost indigenous manufacturing, often through strategic collaborations and technology transfers with global partners like the U.S. This contributes to the **Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership** by fostering joint development and production of advanced defense systems.





# Hidden Labour Behind AI & Markets Snapshot

## Hidden Labour Behind AI

**News:** Piece highlights **data-labelling/content-moderation workforce** underpinning **Large Language Models (LLMs)**.

**AI Supply Chain:** **Global South "ghost work"** often omitted in policy debates.

**Key Term - Data Annotation:** Tagging raw data to train AI/ML models.

### Sophisticated Keywords for UPSC Mains:

#### Digital Labour Exploitation

Refers to the extraction of value from workers in the digital economy, often characterized by **low wages, precarious employment, and lack of social protection**, particularly in the Global South, underpinning global AI development.

#### Algorithmic Accountability

The principle that **AI systems and their developers must be responsible for the ethical, social, and legal implications of their algorithms**, including addressing biases stemming from **data annotation practices** and ensuring transparency.

### Authoritative Definition (**NITI Aayog**):

The **National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence (NITI Aayog)** defines responsible AI development as encompassing **fair, accountable, and transparent practices**, acknowledging the critical role of **human intervention in data lifecycle management**, including **data annotation**.

### Committee Recommendation (**Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour**):

The **Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour** (2022 Report) recommended establishing clear **regulatory frameworks for gig and platform workers**, including those engaged in **data annotation**, to ensure **fair wages, social security, and grievance redressal mechanisms**.

### Government of India Scheme:

The **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)** includes **skill development programs for future-ready job roles**, which can be expanded to specifically cover **data annotation** and **AI-related 'ghost work' skills**, providing certified training and linking workers to **ethical employment opportunities**.

## Markets Snapshot

**News:** Market watch shows indices, USD, gold, **Brent**, sectoral moves.

**Brent vs WTI:** **Brent** commonly used **Indian pricing benchmark** (trap).

**Key Term - Commodity Benchmark:** Reference grade used for pricing contracts.

### Sophisticated Keywords for UPSC Mains:

#### Geopolitical Risk Premium

The **additional cost or price built into commodities, currencies, or other assets** due to **heightened political instability, conflicts, or diplomatic tensions** in key producing or trading regions, impacting global market dynamics.

#### Monetary Policy Transmission

The process through which **changes in central bank policy rates or liquidity measures influence broader financial conditions, asset prices (e.g., gold, indices), and economic activity**, affecting investor sentiment and market flows.

### Authoritative Definition (**Reserve Bank of India**):

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** defines a **commodity market** as a marketplace for buying, selling, and trading **raw materials or primary products such as oil, gold, or agricultural produce**, often through **standardized contracts**.

### Committee Recommendation (**Raghuram Rajan Committee**):

The **Raghuram Rajan Committee on Financial Sector Reforms** (2008) implicitly highlighted the need for **robust regulatory oversight in commodity derivatives markets** to prevent **speculative bubbles** and ensure **price stability**, crucial for national economic health.

### Government of India Scheme:

The **National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX)** operates under **SEBI regulation**, providing a platform for **commodity trading** which aligns with the government's objective of **efficient price discovery** and **risk management** for farmers and traders.





# Tiny Prelims One-Liners (High-yield)

96,930

Drug-law Cases

NCB Annual Stats for 2024

1.22L

Total Arrests

Including 660 foreigners

13,306

Quintals Seized

Total drug seizures in 2024

## Narco-terrorism Nexus

The intricate link between drug trafficking, organized crime, and terrorist financing, posing significant national security challenges and requiring coordinated multi-agency responses.

## Harm Reduction Strategies

Public health-focused approaches aiming to minimize the negative health, social, and economic consequences of drug use, rather than solely focusing on prohibition and punishment.

## NCB Seizures Mix

- Cannabis: ~41%
- Opiates (incl. heroin): ~39%

## NCB Performance

- Own cases: 417 in 2024
- Conviction rate: ~60.77%

### **Official Definition:** Narcotic Drug

"Narcotic drug means coca leaf, cannabis (hemp), opium, poppy straw and includes all manufactured drugs."

Source: The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, Section 2(xiv)

### **Key Recommendation:** National Action Plan

"Adopt a multi-pronged strategy focusing on awareness generation, identification, counselling, treatment, and rehabilitation of drug dependents, alongside strict enforcement against drug trafficking."

Source: National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR), 2018-2025, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

### **Govt. of India Scheme:** Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan

A flagship campaign launched in 2020 by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, focusing on 272 most vulnerable districts to address drug abuse through awareness generation, community outreach, and treatment facilities.