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1. INDEX/REPORTS

SI No	Index/Reports	Agency	Related topics (if any)
1.	State Food Safety Index	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It measures the quantitative and qualitative performance of States/ UTs on the basis of 5 parameters. ➤ Tamil Nadu, Gujarat & Maharashtra are the top performers.
2.	Global Employment Trends for Youth	International Labour Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Indian youth employment deteriorated in 2021 compared to 2020. ➤ India has a very low youth female labor market participation
3.	Human Development Index	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The HDI released by the UNDP in its Human Development Report. ➤ India ranked 132nd among 191 countries and territories on the HDI 2021-2022.
4.	The Gender Snapshot	UN Women and UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It displayed that Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG-5), or achieving gender equality ➤ 286 years will be needed to achieve full gender equality at current rate of progress.
5.	World Energy Outlook	International Energy Agency (IEA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ WEO 2022 report believes global emissions will peak in 2025. ➤ Global clean energy investment to rise by more than 50% from today's levels by 2030.
6.	Global TB Report	WHO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An estimated 10.6 million people fell ill with tuberculosis (TB) in 2021. ➤ India's TB incidence for the year 2021 is 210 per 100,000 population.
7.	Adaptation Gap Report	UNEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It provides an annual science-based assessment of the global progress on

			adaptation planning, financing, and implementation
8.	State of Global Water Resources	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It assesses the effects of climate, environmental and societal change on the Earth's water resources. ➤ Major Indian River basins (the Brahmaputra, Ganges and Indus) exhibit a gradual decline in TWS over the period 2002-2021.
9.	Gross Domestic Climate Risk Report	Cross Dependency Initiative (XDI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The index calculated the physical climate risk. ➤ The index also assigned an Aggregated Damage Ratio (ADR) to each region.
10.	Global IP Index	US Chamber of Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India ranked 42nd out of 55 countries. ➤ The index aims to help nations navigate toward a brighter economic future.
11.	India Inequality Report: Digital Divide	Oxfam India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Digital technologies remains largely limited to male, urban, upper caste, and upper-class individuals. ➤ Women constitute only one third of internet users in India. ➤ Internet penetration highest in Maharashtra and lowest in Bihar.
12.	Human Capital Index	World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India Ranks 116th of 174 countries.
13.	Global Economic Prospects	World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Global growth is expected to decelerate sharply to 1.7 percent in 2023. ➤ Investment growth in emerging market and developing economies (EMDEs) is expected to remain below its average rate of the past two decades.
14.	World Development Report	World Bank (IBRD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The title of WDR 2023 is MIGRANTS, REFUGEES and SOCIETIES. ➤ It explores the tremendous potential of the

			changing data landscape to improve the lives of poor people
15.	Logistics Performance Index	World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India ranks 38 in 2023 out of 139 countries. ➤ Singapore and Finland Ranked first in LPI 2023. ➤ LPI 2023 measures the speed of trade with indicators derived from big datasets tracking shipments.
16.	Global Economic Outlook	IMF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It cut its forecast for India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in 2022 to 6.8%, from 7.4% (2022) ➤ India has been projected to grow at 6.1% for 2023.
17.	Global Financial Stability Report	IMF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a semi-annual report that assesses the stability of global financial markets and emerging-market financing. ➤ It is released twice every year, in April and October.
18.	Global Gender Gap Report	WEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Global Gender Gap Index 2022 ranks India at 135 out of 146 countries. ➤ India is worst performer in world in 'health and survival' sub-index. ➤ Iceland ranked first in the list. ➤ It will take 132 years to reach gender parity.
19.	Global Risk Report	WEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Part of WEF Global risks initiative ➤ It examines risks across five categories: economic, environmental, geopolitical, societal, and technological. ➤ Failure to Mitigate Climate Change and Failure of Climate Change Adaptation are the two most severe risks facing the world.

20.	Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report	WEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biennial report. ➤ India has moved up six places to rank 54th in 2021. (46th position in 2019) ➤ The top place has been grabbed by Japan.
21.	Global Innovation Index	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in partnership with the Portulans Institute (2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India ranked 40th among 132 countries. (2022) ➤ Switzerland is the most innovative economy in the world. ➤ India is the innovation leader in the lower middle-income group.
22.	World Cities Report	UN-Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Titled: Envisaging the Future of Cities (2022) ➤ Global urban population is forecast to grow from 56% in 2021 to 68% by 2050.
23.	Global Liveability Index	Economist Intelligence Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vienna in Austria has been ranked the best on liveability rankings. (2022) ➤ The Liveability Index examines 173 cities. ➤ The list included five Indian cities - Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Ahmedabad, and Bangalore.
24.	Economic Freedom Index	US based Heritage foundation in association with Wall Street Journal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India ranks 121 out of 184 economies.(2023) ➤ It measures degree of economic freedom in countries of the world. ➤ Singapore ranked first with the score of 83.9.
25.	Tropical Forest Update	ITTO (International Tropical Timber Organization)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India is a member of ITTO, It is published quarterly. ➤ ITTO works to put tropical forest in Global spotlight.

26.	World Oil Outlook	OPEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Global energy demand is set to increase by 23% to reach 351 mboe/d in 2045. ➤ Global oil demand is set to increase by close to 13 mb/d, rising to 110 mb/d in 2045. ➤ Internal combustion engines remain dominant for the foreseeable future
27.	Living Planet Report	WWF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Publishes every two years. ➤ There is an average decline of 69% in species populations since 1970. ➤ The report is based on the Living Planet Index published by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL).
28.	Report on Income Disparity	Oxfam, an international NGO for poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Global Inequality report is part of this report. ➤ The top 10% of the Indian population holds 77% of the total national wealth.
29.	World Energy Investment	International Energy Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is the energy world's most authoritative source of analysis and projections. ➤ The 2022 report includes world and regional investment data for supply and end-use.
30.	World Energy Outlook	International Energy Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provides critical analysis and insights on trends in energy demand and supply. ➤ WEO 2022 shows the global energy crisis can be a historic turning point.
31.	World Press freedom Index	Reporters without borders (RSF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India ranks a low of 161 out of 180 in 2023. ➤ India Ranked 150 out of 179 countries in 2022. ➤ Norway ranked first for the seventh year.
32.	Global Hunger Index	NGO's Welthungerhilfe and Concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India is ranked 107th out of 116 countries, with a level of hunger that is serious. ➤ India fares worse than all countries in South

		Worldwide	<p>Asia except Afghanistan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India scores 29.1 indicating it has a serious level of hunger. ➤ GHI rankings are based on 4 indicators undernourishment, child wasting (low weight for height); child stunting (low height for age) and child mortality
33.	Global Multidimensional Poverty Index	UNDP and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India has by far the largest number of poor people worldwide at 22.8 crore. ➤ 1.2 billion people are multidimensionally poor. ➤ Bihar, the poorest state in 2015-16, saw the fastest reduction in MPI value in absolute terms.
34.	World Happiness Report	UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN-SDSN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India has a poor ranking 126th of 137, (2023). ➤ Finland was named the world's happiest country for 6th time. ➤ The World Happiness Report was written by a group of independent experts acting in their personal capacities.
35.	Green House Gas Bulletin WMO -GAW	WMO Atmospheric Environment and Research Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It shows the average surface mole fractions for carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O). ➤ It provides change in radiative forcing by long-lived GHGs (LLGHGs) and the contribution of individual gases to this increase
36.	Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)	German watch, CAN international, New Climate Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Evaluates 57 countries and EU on indicators based on Climate Policy, Emissions, Renewable Energy, Energy use. ➤ India Ranks 8th out of 63 countries in the CCPI 2023 index. ➤ The report leaves the first 3 places empty.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Denmark ranked 4th.
37.	Hunger Hotspots Report	FAO & WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Acute food insecurity is likely to deteriorate further in 20 countries. ➤ The report is part of a series of analytical products produced under the Global Network against Food Crises.
38.	World Economic Situation and Prospects	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the five United Nations regional commissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The economic growth of the world is slowing down. It is to reach 1.9% in 2023 from 3% in 2022. ➤ Global Inflation is to remain at 6.5% in 2023 ➤ Countries will face recession as they enter 2024 ➤ India's economic growth rate as predicted by the report is 5.8% in 2023 and 6.7% in 2024
39.	Environmental Performance Index	World Economic Forum Yale university Columbia University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India ranks 180th in 2022. ➤ India scored 18.9 and has been ranked last. ➤ Denmark has been ranked 1st with EPI score of 77.90
40.	World Migration Report	International Organization for Migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It presents key data and information on migration. ➤ The 2022 report is the eleventh in the world migration report. ➤ It is produced in line with IOM's Environment Policy

41.	Emissions Gap Report	UNEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ International community is falling far short of the Paris goals.➤ The world must cut emissions by 45% to avoid global catastrophe.➤ India remains far below the world average at 2.4 tCO₂e
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2. DEFENCE EXERCISES

Sl. No.	EXERCISE	COUNTRIES	REMARKS
1.	EX SAMPRITI-X	India Bangladesh Joint Military Exercise	Hosted by Bangladesh
2.	Ex Khaan Quest 2022	Multinational Peacekeeping exercise by 16 countries	Hosted by Mongolia
3.	India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol	Indian Navy Units of Andaman & Nicobar Command (ANC) and Indonesian Navy	Conducted in Andaman Sea and Straits of Malacca
4.	RIMPAC-22 (Rim of the Pacific)	27 countries are participating in the current edition of the multi-dimensional exercise	Biennial multilateral Naval Exercises, led by the US Navy
5.	India -Japan Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX)	Indian Navy and Japan Maritime Self Defence Force	Aims towards safe and secure international shipping and trade in Indian Ocean Region.
6.	Exercise Pitch Black 2022	Hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force	Participation of 17 Air Forces
7.	Jimex 2022 (Japan India Maritime Exercise)	India & Japan	10th anniversary of JIMEX, which began in Japan in 2012.
8.	Al Najah-IV	India-Oman military exercise	Oman is the only country in the Gulf region with which all three services of the Indian armed forces conduct regular bilateral exercises.
9.	Exercise Al Najaf IV	India Oman Joint Military Exercise	
10.	Eastern Bridge	India-Oman Air Force exercise	
11.	Naseem Al Bahr	India-Oman Naval Exercise	30 years of IN-RNO bilateral exercises

12.	Udarashakti	Between Indian Air Force and Royal Malaysian Air Force	
13.	Vinbax 2022	Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise	It was the first time ever that the Vietnam People's Army (VPA) was undertaking a Field Training Exercise with any foreign Army.
14.	Vajra Prahar 2022	India - USA Joint Special Forces Exercise	13 th Edition.
15.	Yudh Abhyas	India and USA.	Focuses on employment of an integrated battle group under Chapter VII of the UN Mandate.
16.	Vostok- 2022	India, Russia and China Laos, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Syria	Multilateral strategic and command Exercise Participating contingents include observers from the Collective Security Treaty Organisation, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and other partner states.
17.	Naval Ex Kakadu	Hosted by the Royal Australian Navy and supported by the Royal Australian Air Force.	Biennial exercise Navies of 14 countries participated.
18.	Exercise Garuda	India and France	Bilateral military exercise between Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FAF).
19.	Simbex - 2022	India and Singapore	5-day bilateral naval exercise Earlier known as Exercise Lion King.

20.	Exercise IMT TRILAT	India, Mozambique and Tanzania	Maiden Trilateral Naval Exercise
21.	Exercise Sea Vigil-22	Indian Navy in coordination with the Indian Coast Guard (ICG)	Conceptualised in 2018 Build-up towards the major Theatre Level Readiness Operational Exercise (TROPEX), which is conducted by the Indian Navy every two years.
22.	Exercise Garuda Shakti	India and Indonesia	Bilateral military exercise between Special Forces of the Armies.
23.	Exercise Samanvay – 2022	Joint Forces of India Participation by representatives from the ASEAN countries.	Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise
24.	Exercise Agni Warrior	India and Singapore	Bilateral military exercise
25.	Bold Kurukshetra	India and Singapore	Bilateral exercise between Armies.
26.	Exercise Surya Kiran –XVI	India and Nepal	Bilateral military exercise
27.	Veer Guardian 2023	India and Japan	Maiden Bilateral Air exercise
28.	Exercise Cyclone – I	India and Egypt	Inaugural Edition Joint military exercise between the special forces
29.	Ops Alert Exercise	Indian border Security Force (BSF)	
30.	TROPEX	Indian Navy Operational level interaction of the Indian Army, Air Force, Navy and the Coast Guard	Biennial Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise (TROPEX) is an inter-service military exercise

			Mega exercise in Indian Ocean Region
31.	AMPHEX 2023	Tri-services Amphibious Exercise	Biennial
32.	Exercise TARKASH	India and US	National Security Guard (NSG) and US Special Operations Forces (SOF) Maiden drills on nuke, chemical, bio terror attacks prevention
33.	Dharma Guardian	India and Japan	Joint Military Exercise
34.	Exercise DUSTLIK	India and Uzbekistan Army	Joint Military Exercise
35.	Malabar naval exercise	India, United States, Japan and Australia	Marked 30 years of the exercise which began as a bilateral exercise between India and the U.S. in 1992.
36.	Exercise DESERT FLAG VIII	Participating Air Forces are from India, UAE, France, Kuwait, Australia, UK, Bahrain, Morocco, Spain, Republic of Korea, and USA.	Multilateral Air Exercise Hosted by UAE
37.	Exercise Cobra Warrior	Participating forces are from Finland, Sweden, South Africa, United States of America and Singapore alongside Royal Air Force and IAF.	Multilateral Air Exercise Hosted by UK
38.	Exercise Shinyuu Maitri	India and Japan	Bilateral military air exercise between Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japan Air Self Defence Force (JASDF).
39.	Exercise FRINJEX-23	India and France	maiden Joint Military Exercise
40.	Exercise La Perouse – 2023	Participation of navies of Australia, France, India, Japan, UK and USA	Biennial multilateral exercise Conducted by the French Navy

41.	Exercise Sea Dragon 23	Participating Navies are United States, Canada, India, Japan, and South Korea.	Multi-lateral Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise
42.	AFINDEX-23	Africa and India	Indian Army is hosting the second edition.



3. COMMITTEES

Committee	Purpose	Constituted by	Particulars (if any)
Kirit Parikh	Gas price review panel	Central Government	It recommended complete liberalisation of natural gas prices by January 1, 2027. It recommended a price band of \$4-6.50/unit for gas from old legacy fields.
National Crisis Management Committee	Effective coordination and implementation of relief measures	Central Government	It is headed by the Cabinet Secretary. Oversee the Command, Control and Coordination of the disaster response.
Sunil Mehta	Regarding tackling Non-Performing Assets	Ministry of Finance	5-pronged strategy to tackle NPA's. high- level committee on restructuring stressed assets and creating more value for public sector banks (PSBs)
P J Nayak	Governance in Bank Boards	Reserve Bank of India	Recommended that Bank Boards Bureau should be free of government interference
Kelkar Committee	Assessing PPP model	Ministry of Finance	
Rajeev Gauba	Mob Violence	Union Home Ministry	Submitted its report to Group of Ministers headed by Rajnath Singh

TK Viswanathan	Hate Speech on Internet	Union Home Ministry	Recommended appointing cybercrime coordinators in all states and establishing cybercrime cells in each district
Justice (retd) B.N. Srikrishna	Institutionalization of Arbitration Mechanism in India.		To make India an international hub of arbitration. Recommended creation of an APCI (Arbitration Promotion Council of India).
Justice (retd) B.N. Srikrishna	To study key Data Protection issues.	Constituted by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Suggested a draft Data Protection Bill too.	
Baswan Committee	Reforms in UPSC	DoPT	
Madhukar Gupta	Strengthen border security and address vulnerabilities in fencing along the India-Pakistan border.	Reports to Home Ministry.	Committee was constituted after the attack on Pathankot IAF Base in January 2016 by JeM (Jaish-e-Mohammed) terrorists.
N.K. Singh	Review the working of FRBM Act over the past 12 years and to suggest way forward.	Reports to Union Finance Minister.	Feasibility of having a 'fiscal deficit range' instead of existing fixed numbers (percentage of GDP) as fiscal deficit target.

Usha Thorat	Advises SEBI on matters related to regulation and development of mutual fund industry	SEBI	
Ratan Watal	Digital Payments	Reports to Finance Ministry.	Representatives from UIDAI, RBI, tax departments, Industry bodies of payment scale. Recommended for Independent regulator within RBI to grow digital economy.
Uday Kotak	Corporate Governance	Constituted by SEBI.	
Justice Madan B. Lokur	Stubble Burning	Supreme Court	
Meena Kumari Committee	Fisheries sector.	Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture.	Withdrawn after agitations by fishermen community.
Nachiket Mor	Measures to achieve Financial Inclusion.	RBI	Small banks and payment banks were constituted as a result.
PK Mohanty	to review extent ownership guidelines and corporate structure for Indian private sector banks	RBI	recommended giving banking licences to large corporates or industrial houses after necessary amendments to the Banking Regulation Act, 1949
Deepak Mohanty	Financial Inclusion	RBI	Recommendations Sukanya Shiksha Abhiyan, Aadhar linked credit account
Shekatkar	creating border infrastructure	Ministry of Defense.	

Shailesh Nayak	Issues relating to Coastal Regulation Zones	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.	Has approved building memorials in CRZ-VI like Sardar Patel Statue in Gujarat Allows land reclamation from seas (Mumbai) for ports, roads ,quays , harbours. Allows high rise buildings in CRZ II (within 500m) Reduce no development zones to 50m.
Bibek Debroy Committee	Railway restructuring	Ministry of Railways	
Rajiv Mehrishi Committee	COVID-19 impacts	Ministry of Finance	To measure the impact on the national economy and financial stability of waiving of interest and COVID-19 related moratorium
Injeti Srinivas	Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	Ministry of Corporate Affairs	Expenses towards CSR should be eligible for deduction in the computation of taxable income Aligning Schedule VII of the Companies Act with the SDG's.

4. UNESCO INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

Sl. No	UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage	Location	Features
1	Kumbh Mela	Haridwar, Prayag, Nashik-Trimbak and Ujjain	It is a mass Hindu pilgrimage of faith in which Hindus gather the bathe in a sacred or holy river.
2	Yoga		Spiritual, mental, physical practices. Ultimate goal of Yoga is Moksha. Samkhya and Yoga are allied systems. Yoga sutras have been compiled by sage Patanjali.
3	Navrouz/ Nowruz		Iranian New Year and also the day King Jamshid was crowned King of Persia. In India, the Parsi communities who follow Zoroastrianism celebrate Navrouz. It is the day of spring equinox (Mar 21).
4	Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil making among the Thatheras	Jandiala Guru, Punjab	Metals used (Copper, bronze and kansa) are recommended by Ayurveda. Trade is orally transmitted to new generations.
5	Sankirtana	Manipur	By the Vaishnavite Community Ritual singing, drumming and dancing
6	Buddhist chanting of Ladakh	Jammu and Kashmir	Recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the Trans-Himalayan Ladakh region.
7	Chhau dance	Odisha	Popular in Bengal, Bihar and Odisha. The dance has generic links with hunting steps and many movements are imitations of training imparted to traditional soldiers.

8	Kalbelia folk dance	Rajasthan	Sensuous dance performed by Kalbelia tribe who traditionally are snake catchers and trade snake venom. Movements of dance bear resemblance to that of serpents. Instruments used: Pungi.
9	Mudiyettu	Kerala	Folk dance, drama. Mythological tale of battle between Goddess Kali and demon Darika. Part of 'bhagvati'/'bhadrakali' cult and performed in 'BhagvatiKavus'. Performed by Marar, Kurup community. Depends on Guru- shishyaparampara.
10	Ramman	Garhwal Himalayas, Uttarakhand	Hindu festival unique to the Saloor-Dungra village. Based on Ramayana.
11	Koodiyattom	Kerala	One of the oldest theatre forms of Kerala based Sanskrit theatre traditions.
12	Tradition of Vedic chanting		Vast corpus of Sanskrit poetry, regarded by Hindus as the primary source of knowledge. Vedas include Rig Veda, Sama Veda, Yajur Veda and Atharva Veda.
13	Ramlila	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh	Traditional performance based on the life of Lord Rama as depicted in Ramayana or secondary literatures such as Ramcharitamanas.
14	Durga Puja	Kolkata	An annual festival celebrated in September or October, most notably in Kolkata, in West Bengal. The festival has also come to signify 'home-coming' or a seasonal return to one's roots

5. BIOSPHERE RESERVES

- The Government of India has established **18** Biosphere Reserves in India.
- Of these **12** have been included in the MAB (Man and Biosphere) Program of UNESCO.
- MAB Programme aims to promote sustainable development based on local community efforts and sound science. The programme of Biosphere Reserve was initiated by UNESCO in 1971.
- Biosphere Reserve may include one or more national Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- Protection is provided not only to the flora and fauna of the region but also to the human communities inhabiting the region.

Biosphere Reserves in MAB of UNESCO

Biosphere Reserve	Location	Major Species	Particulars
Nilgiri	Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka	Nilgiri Tahr, Lion tailed macaque, Sholas, Malabar giant squirrel, Tiger	Cholanaickans tribe. Falls within the Western Ghats system which portray the confluence of Afro-tropical and Indo-Malayan biotic zones.
Gulf of Mannar	Tamil Nadu	Endowed with three distinct Coastal ecosystems namely Coral reef, Seagrass bed and Mangroves. Dugong (Sea Cows)	Vaan Island – India's first artificial reef. Last refuge of an invertebrate, the unique 'living fossil' Balanoglossus that links vertebrates and invertebrates.
Sunderban	West Bengal	Sundari tree, Royal Bengal tiger, Gangetic dolphins	largest delta and mangrove forest in the world.

			The Indian Sunderban is bound on the west by river Muriganga and on the east by rivers Harinbhahga and Raimangal. Other major rivers are Saptamukhi, Thakuran, Matla and Goasaba.
Nanda Devi	Uttarakhand	Snow leopard, Himalayan tahr, Himalayan black bear	UNESCO World Heritage Site. Valley of Flowers here.
Nokrek	West Ghasi, Meghalaya	Asian elephants, Hoolocks	located in the northeast of India on the Tura Range, which forms part of the Meghalaya Plateau. Rivers-- Ganol, Dareng and Simsang
Pachmarhi	Satpura Range, Madhya Pradesh	Teak, Sal tree	Pachmarhi is called "Queen of the Satpuras". B/w Dudhi River and the Tawa plateau.
Simlipal	Odisha	Royal Bengal tigers, Indian bison, Sal tree	Approximately 73% of all inhabitants are Aborigines. Tribes include Erenga Kharias, Mankidias, Ho, Gonda and Munda.
Great Nicobar	Great Nicobar	Saltwater crocodile, crab-eating macaque, dugong	Nicobarese and Shompen people (Mongoloid tribes)
Agasthyamalai	Kerala, Tamil Nadu	Shola, Nilgiri tahr	Three wildlife sanctuaries, Shendurney, Peppara and Neyyar, are located in the site, as well as the Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger reserve.
Achanakmar-Amarkantak	Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh	Four horned antelope Asian white-backed vulture	Reserve is located at the junction of hill ranges, with topography ranging from high mountains, shallow valleys and plains. Moist deciduous forests constitute 63% of the area.
Khangchendzonga	Sikkim	Snow leopard, Red panda	Situated over the Himalayan trans-axial belt

			Valleys with numerous ravines, deep gorges and gullies, saddles, crests, knolls and river-terraces, At the high reaches alpine meadows seen
Panna	Madhya Pradesh	Tiger, chital, chinkara, and sloth bear	Panna Tiger Reserve Ken-Betwa interlinking project Panna is the most sacrosanct pilgrimage for the followers of the Pranami sect.

Other Biosphere Reserves in India

Biosphere Reserve	Location	Major Species	Particulars
Manas	Assam	Golden langur, red panda	
Dihang-Dibang	Arunachal Pradesh	Mishmi Takin, Musk Deer	Part of Siang and Dibang Valley in Arunachal Pradesh.
Great Rann of Kutch	Gujarat	Indian wild ass	Largest Biosphere reserve in India
Cold Desert	Himachal Pradesh	Snow leopard	
Dibru-Saikhowa	Assam	Golden langur	Smallest Biosphere Reserve in India
Seshachalam Hills	Andhra Pradesh	Slender Loris	



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Assistant Collector & SDM, Pardi
UPSC 2018 AIR 127



I have done my complete preparation in general studies papers as well as optional subject (Philosophy) at Enlite IAS. I have also attended the current affairs classes and the Interview program there. I owe my success largely to the guidance and support I received from team Enlite and especially Mahesh Sir. I'm glad that I made the right choice in choosing the best institute.

Arjun Mohan IAS
Additional District Magistrate (HQ)
– Central Islands & Minicoy
UPSC 2018 AIR 66



I cannot quantify in words the support provided by Team Enlite in helping me secure 66th rank in Civil Services Examination 2018. Personal care provided by the mentors - Abhilash sir, Mahesh Sir, Abu Sir helped me complete the syllabus in an efficient manner in less than seven months. True to their motto team Enlite enlightens anyone who associate with them and I owe my success completely to ENLITE IAS

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Subcollector, Thiruvananthapuram
UPSC 2019 AIR 40



My decision to join and learn with Enlite IAS Academy was the turning point in my life. Words can't explain, the amount of sincere concerted efforts Mahesh sir and Abhilash sir put into everyone of us, including me. The learner centric environment at Enlite gave me the strength and confidence which ensured my overall success, stands testimony to their incredible way of work. This success is synonymous with Enlite for me. ENLITE IS LIGHT!!!

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6. UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Cultural Sites				
Sl. No	UNESCO World Heritage Site	Location	Time/Major Dynasties involved	Particulars
1.	Ajanta Caves	Marathwada region of Maharashtra	Built in two different phases. First, under the Satvahana Dynasty (230BCE-220CE). Second, under Emperor Harishena of Vakataka Dynasty	Mostly Buddhist. Jataka tales, Padmapani Bodhisatva painting. Fresco-secco type wall paintings.
2.	Ellora Caves	Marathwada region of Maharashtra	Rashtrakuda	Apabrahmsha paintings. Kailasanatha temple is here which depicts Ravana shaking Kailasa.
3.	Elephanta Caves	Elephanta island of Maharashtra	Constructed about the mid-5th to 6th centuries AD	Also known as Gharapuri. Predominantly dedicated to Shiva. Trimurti Sadashiva (three faced Shiva), Nataraja, Yogishvara carvings.
4.	Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (earlier Victoria Terminus)	Maharashtra	British colonial times.	HQ of Central Railways. Victorian Italianate Gothic Revival Architecture.
5.	Jantar Mantar	Jaipur, Rajasthan	Rajput King Sawar Jai Singh II	World's largest stone sundial.
6.	Rani ki Vav (Queen's Step Well)	Gujarat, on the banks of river Saraswati	Built as memorial to 11th century AD king Bhimdev during Chalukya rule.	Step wells. Inverted temple and 500 principal structures. Central theme is Dashavatars, the ten incarnations of Vishnu.
7.	Group of monuments at Mahabalipuram	Mammalapuram Tamil Nadu	Pallavas	Mix of cave temples, rathas and structural temples. Descent of Ganga, Arjuna's Penance, Pandava Rathas. Shore temple, Kanchi Kailasanatha temple.

				Dravida style of architecture.
8.	Group of Monuments at Hampi	Karnataka, Banks of Tungabhadra river	14th century Vijayanagara Empire	Virupaksha temple, Lotus Temple, Hazararama temple, Mahanavamidibba, Elephant stables. Pillaged and looted after Battle of Talikotta. Abdul Razzaq, Nicola de Conti, Domingo Paes and Cesare Federici describe about Hampi.
9.	Bhimbetka	Madhya Pradesh	Paleolithic and Mesolithic age.	Cave paintings. Themes of dancing and hunting. Located in the Satpura Ranges. Auditorium Cave with King's Rock. Size of paintings decrease from Paleolithic to Mesolithic times.
10.	Nalanda Mahavihara	Bihar	Gupta, Harshavardhana	Xuangtsang studied at Nalanda. Nalanda was ransacked by Mameluk Sultans under Bhaktiyarkhilji.
11.	Khajuraho Group of Monuments	Madhya Pradesh	Rajput Chandelas	Hindu and Jain temples. Nagara architecture at its peak. Urushikaras present. Kandariya Mahadeva temple, Lakshmana temple, Vishvanatha temple. Mentioned by Al-Beruni and Ibn Batutah. This temple is located in the Vindhyan ranges
12.	Fatepur Sikri	Agra, Uttar Pradesh	Akbar built Fatehpur Sikri near Agra because Sufi saint Salim Chisti lived there.	Used red sandstone. Blend of Persian, Central Asian and various Indian styles. Buland Darwaza to commemorate victory over Gujarat. Juma Masjid, Panch Mahal, Salim Chisti's tomb, Diwan-i-khas, Diwan-i-aam, IbadatKhana present.

13.	Qutb Complex	Mehrauli, Delhi	Built by the first Muslim ruler of Delhi, Qutub- ud- din Aibak of the Mamluk Dynasty	Qutb Minar, Alai Darwaza, Alai Minar, Qubbat-ul-Islam Mosque, Tomb of Iltumish, and Iron Pillar.
14.	Agra Fort	Uttar Pradesh	Built in Mughal Era, during the time of Akbar	Fusion of Persian art of the Timurid and the Indian forms of architecture. Khas Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Muhamman Burie (an octagonal Tower), Diwan-e-Khas, Diwan-e- Am, Moti Masjid and Nagina Masjid.
15.	Taj Mahal	Agra UP	Commissioned by Shah Jahan to house the tomb of Mumtaz mahal	On the banks of Yamuna. By architect Ustad Ahmed Lahori. New 7 Wonders of the World. Pietradura, Jalis, calligraphy, chhatris present.
16.	Red Fort	Delhi	Built by emperor Shah Jahan when he shifted his capital from Agra to Delhi	Famous for Persian, Timuri and Indian Architectural Styles, Red Sandstone Architecture, Moti Masjid. Diwan-i-aam, the Diwan-i-khas
17.	Konark Sun Temple / Surya Devalaya / Black Pagoda	Odisha	Narasimhadeva I of Eastern Ganga dynasty	Dedicated to Surya God. Has appearance of huge chariot drawn by 7 horses which represent the 7 colours of the rainbow.
18.	Humayun's Tomb	Delhi	Built by Begum Bega, first wife of Humayun	Famous for Precursor to Taj Mahal, Mughal Architecture, A Tomb, Many Water Channels, A Pavilion and A Bath
19.	Great Living Chola temples	Tamil Nadu	The Brihadisvara temple - Rajaraja I Airavatesvara temple - Rajaraja II	Famous for Chola Architecture, Sculpture, Painting and Bronze Casting. The Brihadisvara Temple, the Temple at Gangaikonda Cholapuram and the Airavatesvara Temple are the most important of all of these temples.

20.	Chandigarh Capitol Complex	Chandigarh, capital of Haryana and Punjab	Colonial era.	Legislative Assembly, High Court, Secretariat, Open Hand Monument, Geometric Hill, Tower of Shadows.
21.	Mountain Railway of India	Darjeeling Nilgiri, Ooty Kalka, Shimla	Colonial era	The claim of the Matheran Hill Railway, the fourth mountain railway, is pending acceptance by the international body.
22.	Mahabodhi Temple complex	Gaya, Bihar	Emperor Ashoka built First Temple in the 3rd century BC (260 BC) around the Bodhi Tree. The temples seen now are built during Gupta period	Mahatma Buddha attained enlightenment here. Complex comprises of Mahabodhi Temple, the Vajrasana, sacred Bodhi Tree and other six sacred sites of Buddha's enlightenment, surrounded by numerous ancient Votive stupas.
23.	Group of monuments Pattadakal	Bagalkot District, Karnataka	Chalukya dynasty in the 6th to 8th century	Both Hindu and Jain series of temples. Temples represent a fusion of both Nagara and Dravida architecture.
24.	Buddhist monuments Sanchi	Madhya Pradesh	Built during Maurya Empire by Ashoka	Buddhist monuments. Monolithic pillars, palaces, temples and monasteries in different status of preservation
25.	Churches and Convents of Goa	Old Goa	By Portuguese between 16th and 18th century	Old Goa contains churches including the Se Cathedral, the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, the Basilica of Born Jesus.
26.	Hill Forts of Rajasthan	Chittorgarh Kumbhalgarh Ranthambhore Amber Jaisalmer Gagron	7th to 16th centuries	Rajput military hill architecture. These fort complexes include palaces, Hindu and Jain temples, urban centers and trading centers.
27.	Champaner - Pavagadh	Panch mahal district. Gujarat	8th to the 14th centuries.	Prehistoric (chalcolithic) sites, a hill fortress of an early Hindu capital, and remains of the 16th- century capital of the state of Gujarat. The site also includes fortifications, palaces, religious buildings, residential precincts, agricultural structures and water

				installations, from the 8th to the 14th centuries.
28.	Historic city of Ahmadabad.	Gujrat	Founded by Sultan Ahmad Shah in the 15th century	On the eastern bank of the Sabarmati River. Bhadra citadel, the walls and gates of the Fort city, numerous mosques and tombs, Hindu and Jain temple.
29.	Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai	Mumbai	19th and 20th century	Exhibit an important exchange of European and Indian human values over a span of time. First world heritage site that flaunts combination of 19th Century Victorian Gothic structures and 20th Century Art Deco buildings
30.	Jaipur City	Rajasthan	Founded in 1727 by Sawai Jai Singh II.	Walled city of Jaipur Streets feature continuous colonnaded businesses that intersect in the centre, creating large public squares called chaupars. The city's urban planning shows an exchange of ideas from ancient Hindu and early modern Mughal as well as Western cultures.
31.	Dholavira: a Harappan City	Gujarat	Occupied between 3000-1500 BCE, Southern centre of the Harappan Civilization, is sited on the arid island of Khadir in the State of Gujarat.	Comprises a fortified city and a cemetery. Technological advancements in water harnessing systems, water drainage systems Bead processing workshops and artifacts of various kinds such as copper, shell, stone, jewellery of semi-precious stones, terracotta, gold, ivory and other materials. Evidence for inter-regional trade with other Harappan cities, as well as with cities in the Mesopotamia region and the

				Oman peninsula.
32.	Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple	Telangana	Built during the Kakatiyan period (1123-1323 CE) under rulers Rudradeva and Recherla Rudra.	Building features decorated beams and pillars of carved granite and dolerite with a distinctive and pyramidal Vimana (horizontally stepped tower) made of lightweight porous bricks- 'floating bricks', which reduced the weight of the roof structures.

Natural sites

1.	Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks	Chamoli district, Uttarakhand	Home to rare and endangered animals, including the Asiatic black bear, snow leopard, brown bear and blue sheep.
2.	Kaziranga	Assam	In the flood plains of the Brahmaputra River's south bank. Home to the largest population of the great Indian one-horned rhinoceros
3.	Manas wild life sanctuary	Assam	In the plains of Manas river. Endangered species include tiger, pygmy hog, clouded leopard, sloth bear, Indian rhinoceros, wild buffaloes, Indian elephants, golden langur and Bengal florican.
4.	Sunderbans	WB	Biosphere Reserve, Largest Estuarine Mangrove Forest, Bengal Tiger and Salt-Water Crocodile, salt water crocodile. Shared with Bangladesh. Also a national park. Tiger reserve, biosphere reserve and WHS.


5.	Western Ghats	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu.	Includes Sahyadri Sub-Cluster, Kudremukh Sub-Cluster, Talakaveri Sub-Cluster, Nilgiri Sub-Cluster, Anamalai Sub-Cluster, Periyar Sub-Cluster and Agasthyamalai Sub-Cluster One of the world's ten "Hottest biodiversity hotspots"
6.	Keoladeo Ghana	Rajasthan	Man made wetland. Ramsar site too. Also known as Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary. Famous for migratory birds, floral species, reptiles, amphibians etc.
7.	The Great Himalayan National Park	Himachal Pradesh	Part of Himalayan Biodiversity hotspot. Nilgai, snow leopard, Himalayan brown bear, Himalayan Thar, musk deer, and flora include spruces, horse chestnuts and huge alpine meadows.



Mixed sites

1.	Khangchendzonga National Park	Sikkim	Third largest peak in the world. Species includes Musk deer, snow leopard, clouded leopard. Diversity of plains, valleys, lakes, glaciers. Known for Lepcha tribal settlements. Tholung Monastery. Shares boundary with Nepal.
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7. INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Sl No	Organization	Head-quarters	Important Members and Non-Members	Particulars (if any)
1.	Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)		Australia, India, Japan and the United States	Originally initiated in 2007 and later revived. For a free, open and inclusive Indo Pacific region
2.	UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)	New York	54 members elected by UNGA	One of the principal organs of UN India was elected to four UN ECOSOC bodies for the term 2022-24
3.	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Geneva, Switzerland		Member of the United Nations Development Group. Won two Nobel Peace prizes
4.	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	Hague, Netherlands	India is a member	Chemical Weapons Convention Nobel Peace Prize 2013 - Syria's weapons
5.	SAARC (South Asian Association Regional Cooperation)	Kathmandu, Nepal	Members: 8 countries (India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bangladesh) Non-Members: Myanmar, Thailand	Established in 1985
6.	SAWEN (South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network)	Paro, Bhutan	Members: 8 countries Same as SAARC.	For Wildlife law enforcement.

7.	SASEC (South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation)	Manila, Philippines	Members: 7 countries (India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Maldives) SAARC – (Pak & Afghan) + Myanmar	Project-based partnership that aims to promote regional prosperity Mostly funded by Asia Development Bank (ADB).
8.	BIMSTEC	Dhaka, Bangladesh	Members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand	Founding members: BIST + Myanmar 20th summit in 2017
9.	International Court of Justice (ICJ)	Hague, Netherlands	Principal judicial organ of the United Nations (UN).	Composed of 15 judges elected to nine-year terms of office by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council. ICJ was in news in connection with Kul Bhushan Jadhav issue.
10.	Asian Development Bank	Mandaluyong, Manila Philippines	Members: USA, Japan, India, China, Australia etc. Non-Members: Russia	Members of UNESCAP, Japan and USA major shareholders
11.	International Solar Alliance	Gurgaon, Haryana	Members: Also includes countries not falling within tropics	Both tropical and extra tropical members Launched in Paris summit by India and France
12.	IORA	Ebene City, Mauritius	Non-Members: Pakistan, Myanmar, China	Maritime Security, Trade and Investment facilitation, disaster risk reduction, cultural exchanges.
13.	OECD	Paris, France	Non-Members: India	Democracy and market economy

14.	New Development Bank (NDB)	Shanghai	Members: BRICS members	Equal distribution of voting shares
15.	Wetlands International	Hague, Netherlands		Conducts International Waterbird Census; Also Conducts Asian Waterbird Census for Asia and Australia In India, Asian Waterbird Census is conducted by WI and Bombay Natural History Society
16.	ASEAN	Secretariat at Jakarta, Indonesia	Members: Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Thailand, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippines	RCEP (ASEAN + 6) Australia, India, China, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea
17.	OPEC	Vienna, Austria Earlier HQ was Geneva, Switzerland	Members: Algeria, Angola, Congo, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Venezuela.	Earlier global oil prices were dictated by American dominated multinational companies
18.	OPEC Plus	Vienna, Austria	Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan and Sudan	The 10 non-OPEC countries which export crude oil are termed as OPEC Plus(+) countries.
19.	Non-Alignment Movement	Jakarta, Indonesia		Yugoslavia President Tito was the First President. Founding fathers from Yugoslavia, Indonesia, India, Egypt & Ghana
20.	ISA (International Seabed Authority)	Kingston, Jamaica		Observer in UN General Assembly Est. by Law of Seas Convention (UNCLOS)

21.	Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)	Beijing, China	Japan, US not members	
22.	Shanghai Cooperation Organization	Beijing, China	Members: China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan (Shangai 5) Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan Iran- proposed member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Varanasi:-SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital for 2022-2023. ✓ Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). ✓ India hosted the SCO 2023 summit- Samarkand declaration.
23.	International Criminal Court	Hague, Netherlands	Non-Members: India, Russia, Burundi	Established by Rome Statute Can try human rights cases and genocides
24.	European Union	Brussels	Members :27 members Non-Members: Britain, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Vatican City, Arab Emirates	Schengen area includes countries outside EU.
25.	BBIN		Members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal	Motor vehicle agreement - Bhutan withdrew.
26.	Gulf Cooperation Council	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	All Arab states of the Persian Gulf, except for Iraq. Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE	Intergovernmental political and economic union All current member states are monarchies
27.	G4		Members: Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan	bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council

28.	G7		Members: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. EU not a member but attends annual summits.	G8 became G7 after removal of Russia. Launched Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) scheme
29.	G77		Members: India, China etc.	collective economic interests and create an enhanced joint negotiating capacity in the UN
30.	Coffee Club (Uniting for consensus)		Founding members: Italy, Pakistan, Mexico and Egypt Other important members: South Korea, Spain, Argentina, Turkey and Canada	Against increasing permanent members of UN Security council, instead encouraging expansion of non-permanent seats
31.	EEU (Eurasian Economic Union)		Members: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia	break-up of the Soviet Union India EU FTA under consideration
32.	Mekong- Ganga Cooperation (MGC)	Established at Vientiane	Members: India, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam	Focus on tourism, culture, education, and transportation
33.	International Energy Association (IEA)	Paris	30 member countries. India is an IEA Association country, but not a full-time member.	Formed during 1973-74 oil crisis. World Energy Outlook is published by IEA
34.	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	Vienna, Austria	173 members including India. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), which joined the IAEA in 1974, withdrew its membership of the IAEA in 1994.	Formed through IAEA Statute. Promotes the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and to inhibit its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons. Reports to both the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council.

35.	World Economic Forum (WEF)	Cologny-Geneva, Switzerland		International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation. Engages the foremost political, business and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.
36.	BRICS	BRICS Tower Shanghai	Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa	BRICS 2021 virtual summit-India New Development Bank started by BRICS 1st BRIC summit Yekaterinburg, Russia 2009.
37.	G20	No Permanent Secretariat	India, China and USA are members. Pakistan is not a member. Theme of India's Presidency - "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth - One Family - One Future"	International forum for the governments and central bank governors from 19 countries and the European Union. Started in the aftermath of the Asian financial crisis in 1999. India holds the Presidency of the G20 from 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2023.
38.	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	Geneva Switzerland	172 member states	Established in 1951. leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners.
39.	World Wild Life Fund (WWF)	Gland, Switzerland	-	International non-government organisation for protection of wildlife. Living Planet Report published by WWF

40.	IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)	Gland, Switzerland	composed of both government and civil society organisations	Promotes Conservation of nature and sustainable use of resources. Publishes IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
41.	Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)		Proposed free trade agreement (FTA) between the ten member states of the ASEAN and its six FTA partners (Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand and Republic of Korea). INDIA opted out.	
42.	East Asia Summit (EAS)		ASEAN + Six FTA partners + US + RUSSIA	A regional forum held annually after the annual ASEAN leaders' meetings.
43.	UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC)		Made up of 47 member States who are elected by the UN General Assembly by a simple majority vote, through a secret ballot. India re-elected for sixth term (2022-24) Three-year terms with 1/3 rd of the members being renewed each year. No immediate re-election after two consecutive terms	Established in 2006 by UN General Assembly (UNGA) resolution Human Rights Council replaced the former United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Czech Republic replaced Russia (suspended)
44.	International Criminal Court (ICC)	Hague, Netherlands	India, China, US, Pak non members	Established by the Rome Statute in 1998
45.	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)		India signed & ratified the Convention	Created three new institutions 1. International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) 2. International Seabed Authority (ISA) 3. Commission on the Limits of

				the Continental Shelf (CLCS) United Nations High Seas Treaty proposed
46.	Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)	Hague, Netherlands	India is a member	established by the Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes, concluded at The Hague in 1899
47.	North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)	Brussels, Belgium	India not a member	intergovernmental military alliance between 29 North American and European countries-1949
48.	Financial Action Task Force (FATF)	Paris France	India is a member (not a founding member)	inter-governmental body established in 1989 on the initiative of the G7
49.	International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)	Lyon, France.	India is a member	intergovernmental organization that helps coordinate the police force of 195 member countries. Each of the member countries hosts an INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB). CBI is designated as the NCB of India.

8. LITERATURE FOR ART & CULTURE

SL NO	Work	Type	Time/Author	Particulars (if any)
1	Therigatha	Buddhist scripture	6th century BC	Verses of the Elder Nuns (Bikunis). Collection of short poems. Part of Sutta Pitaka.
2	Jataka stories	Buddhist literature	Around 4th century BCE	Stories about different lives of Buddha.
3	Sutta Pitaka	Buddhist literature		Deals with Buddhist teachings.
4	Vinayapitaka	Buddhist literature	Early centuries of the first millennium	Proposes rules and regulations for joining Dharma.
5	Abhidharmapitaka	Buddhist literature	around the third century BCE	Contains philosophical discussions.
6	Amaravati medallion	Buddhist monument		Shows Buddha taming Nalagiri, a mad elephant after his wicked cousin Devadatta sets it on him.
7	Sanchi stupa	Stupa	Asoka	In Madhya Pradesh. Has Torana which has inscriptions of Mara's temptation to Buddha by sending demons to terrify him and Sujata offering water to Buddha represented by a Bodhi tree.
8	Malavikagnimitram	Secular literature	By Kalidasa	Gives idea of war between Greek and Sunghas. Theme on love story between Malavika and Agnimitra, son of Pushyamitra.

9	Heliodorus pillar	Pillar	Erected by ambassador of Indo-Greek king	In Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh. Represents emergence of Vaishnavism in the subcontinent.
10	Mrichhakatika	A Sanskrit drama	Shudraka	Love between an impoverished Brahmin and courtesan's daughter
11	Pridarshik, Nagananda and Ratnavali	Sanskrit dramas	By Harsha (of Pushyabhuti dynasty)	
12	Caurupanchasika	Set of 50 verses with miniature paintings	written by a Kashmiri Pandit Bilhana in the 11th century.	Love between Bilhana and Princess. Caurapanchasika style influences Western Painting school
13	Rajatarangini		By Kalhana	In Sanskrit. History of Kashmir
14	Kavirajamarga	Poetics and grammar in the Kannada language.	By Rashtrakuta king Amoghavarsha	
16	Buddhacharitha		Early second century CE by Asvaghosa	Sanskrit mahakavya on Buddha's life
17	Milind Panho		Written between 100 BCE and 200 CE by Nagasena	Deals with Milinda's questions regarding Buddhist doctrines.
18	Gaha Sattasai		Hala (Satavahana King)	ancient collection of Indian poems in Prakrit language

19	Amuktamalyada		Krishnadevaraya of Vijayanagara Dynasty	Poem in Telugu. story of wedding of the Hindu Lord Vishnu and Andal (or Goda Devithe) the Tamil Alvar poet and daughter of Periyalvar
20	Jambavati Kalyanam, Usha Parinayam		Krishnadevaraya of Vijayanagara Dynasty	Written in Sanskrit
21	Mudra rakshasa		Vishakadatta	Deals with strategies adopted by Kautilya and Chandragupta to dethrone the Nandas
22	Harsha Charitha		Bana bhatta	About Harsha the king of Pushyabhuti dynasty
23	Maitreyayvarakarana	Buddhist manuscript	a manuscript of the Pala period (at the time of Gopaladeva, approx. 10th century A.D.)	
24	Shantinatha Charitra	A Jain text in Sanskrit written in Devanagari script.	composed and written in the late fourteenth century 1396 C.E.	It describes the life and times of Shantinatha, the sixteenth Jain Tirthankara. Contains 10 images of scenes from the life of Shantinatha in the style of Jain paintings from Gujrat. An example of the finest expression in the art of miniature paintings in manuscripts. The ink used in the manuscript is gum lampblack and white paint made from mineral silver.

9. SPECIES & CONSERVATION STATUS

Animal	IUCN Category	Location	Threat	Particulars
African Cheetah	Vulnerable	Africa and Southwest Asia	Habitat loss and fragmentation of populations.	They were reintroduced to India after being extinct in the country for 70 years.
Gaur / India Bison	Vulnerable	India, Southeast Asia, and the Malay Peninsula.	Poaching for trade, Opportunistic hunting.	Indian to export Indian Bisons to Sri Lanka. It has been extinct in the island since the end of the 17th century.
Pangolin	Endangered	Asia and Africa	Their scales have medicinal properties.	1,000 pangolins poached and trafficked in India in past five years. World's most trafficked non-human mammal.
Sarus Crane	Vulnerable	Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia, and Australia.	Habitat destruction or degradation, hunting, environmental pollution	State bird of Uttar Pradesh.
Gharial	Critically Endangered	tributaries of the Ganges river system	Dam, barrages, and water abstraction	National Chambal Gharial Sanctuary
Greater Adjutant Stork	Endangered	Assam and Bihar	destruction and degradation of the wetlands	Purnima Devi Burman formed the Hargila army of women to champion the cause of the bird in 2009
Hangul	Critically Endangered	Jammu & Kashmir	Habitat fragmentation, Predation and Very low fawn-	State animal of Jammu & Kashmir, is restricted to the Dachigam National Park Project Hangul

			female ratio	
Hoolock gibbon	Endangered	Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only ape found in India. Eastern and Western gibbons.
Great Indian Bustard (GIB)	Critically Endangered	Dry grasslands and scrublands on the Indian subcontinent	Hunting, disturbance, habitat loss and fragmentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Largest population-Thar Desert, Rajasthan
Sangai/Brow antlered deer/Eld's deer	Endangered	marshy wetland in Keibul Lamjao, Loktak, Manipur	Inundation and flooding of habitat Hunting	
Indian Vulture/ Gyps indicus/ Long-billed Vulture	Critically Endangered	India, Pakistan	Poisoning by antibiotic used in cattle - Diclofenac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asia's first vulture conservation breeding centre Pinjore, Haryana
White-rumped Vulture	Critically Endangered	South and Southeast Asia	Poisoning by antibiotic used in cattle - Diclofenac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coringa WLS in Andhra Pradesh.
Slender billed Vulture	Critically Endangered	Sub Himalayan and southeast Asia	Poisoning by antibiotic used in cattles - Diclofenac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meloxicam is the alternative drug that is used these days.
Namdapha Flying squirrel	Critically Endangered	Seen only in Namdapha National Park.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endemic to Arunachal Pradesh
Red Panda	Endangered	Eastern Himalayas and south western		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Omnivorous.

		China		Altitudinal migrant
Red headed vulture	Critically Endangered	range widely across the Indian subcontinent and South- central and south-eastern Asia	Poisoning by antibiotic used in cattles - Diclofenac	
Asiatic Lion	Endangered	Gujarat	Natural disaster, poaching and locals near the Gir National Park killing the lions	Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary is the only abode of the Asiatic lion
Dugong / Stellar Sea Cow	Vulnerable CITES- Appendix I Wildlife Protection Act- Schedule I	Seen in lagoons, sea grass belts and bays.	Hunting for oil, meat, decorations	Strictly Herbivorous. Feed on sea grass In Kutch , oil is used for wood preservation..
Barasingha/ Swamp deer	Vulnerable	India, Nepal		• "Bhoorsingh" mascot of Kanha National Park. State animal of Madhya Pradesh
Clouded Leopard	Vulnerable	Meghalaya. South East Asia, China.	Bones and meat for traditional medicines.	• State animal of Meghalaya. FIFA under 17 World Cup mascot "Kheleo".
Snow Leopard	Vulnerable	Alpine zones of Himalayas and trans-Himalayas.		• Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program
Olive Ridley Turtle	Vulnerable	warm waters of the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian oceans.	Unsustainable tourism Plastic pollution	• Mass nesting at Odisha's Rushikulya rookery and Devi river mouth.
Black Buck / Indian antelope	Least Concerned Wildlife Protection Act- Schedule I	Nepal, India, Pakistan. Blackbuck Sanctuary in Gujarat and	Habitat destruction	• The Uttar Pradesh State Cabinet has approved Blackbuck Conservation Reserve in trans- Yamuna

		Karnataka		belt near Allahabad. It will be first of its kind conservation.
Himalayan Vulture	Near Threatened	Asian continent	Poisoning by antibiotic used in cattle - Diclofenac	Meloxicam is the alternative drug that is used these days.
Tibetan antelope / 'Chiru	Near Threatened	mountainous regions of Mongolia and the Himalayas (J&K)	Poaching for commercial gains	Shahtoosh wool, from their soft, warm underfur.
Great Indian Hornbill bird	Vulnerable	Indian subcontinent and South East Asia. Nagaland.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeds on reptiles. Hornbill Festival in Nagaland. • Symbol of fertility. • Mate for life. • State bird of Kerala.
Indian Wild Ass/ "Khur"/ Indian onager	Near Threatened	Rann of Kutch, Rajasthan and Gujarat		Only found in arid grasslands and semi-deserts



10. FOREIGN SPACE PROGRAMMES

Artificial Satellite

- Man-made object launched into orbit using rockets.

Why eastern coastal equatorial regions are preferred as sites for launching stations?

- Oblate shape of earth – comparatively lesser influence of gravity
- Earth's rotation – fastest at equator – thrust for launch
- Eastern coastal regions – objects would fall in oceans on failure.

Types of Orbits

Two major types:

- Polar orbit – orbit over the poles
- Equatorial orbit – orbit over the equator

Polar orbits

- Pass over the Earth's Polar Regions from north to south.
- low altitudes of between 200 to 1000 km
- Used mostly for reconnaissance and Earth observation.

Sun synchronous orbits

- Synchronous with the Sun.
- Is a nearly polar orbit around Earth in which the satellite passes over any given point of the planet's surface at the same local mean solar time.
- For example, a satellite in Sun-synchronous orbit might ascend across the equator twelve times a day each time at approximately 15:00 mean local time.
- The surface illumination angle will be nearly the same every time that the satellite is overhead. It is a useful characteristic for satellites that image the Earth's surface in visible or infrared wavelengths and for other remote-sensing satellites

Geostationary orbit

- Circular equatorial orbit
- Angular velocity of satellite equal to angular velocity of earth – so it appears stationary.
- Also, period of revolution = period of rotation of earth

Geosynchronous orbit

- Satellite with period of revolution = period of rotation of earth, yet does not appear stationary from earth.
- Orbit is not equatorial, it is inclined.
- Appears oscillating from earth.

Super-synchronous orbit

- disposal orbit above GSO – also called graveyard orbit.

Sub synchronous orbit

- orbit close to but below GSO and is used for satellites undergoing station changes.

Halo orbit

- A halo orbit is a periodic, three-dimensional orbits near the L1, L2 or L3 Lagrange points in a three-body system. The peculiar characteristic of a Lagrange point is that it can be orbited.

Kessler syndrome

- The Kessler syndrome, also called the Kessler effect or collisional cascading, proposed by the NASA scientist Donald J. Kessler in 1978, is a scenario in which the density of objects in low earth orbit (LEO) is high enough that collisions between objects could cause a cascade where each collision generates space debris that increases the likelihood of further collisions.

Mission	Agencies	Purpose	Peculiarity
HAKUTO-R Moon Mission	Japan (ispace Inc)	It is aimed to search for water deposits before touching down in the Atlas Crater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Japan's first-ever lunar mission ➤ First of its kind by a private company
TEMPO Mission	NASA	Track air pollution over North America from space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tropospheric Emissions Monitoring of Pollution (TEMPO) ➤ The TEMPO instrument is a grating spectrometer.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is hosted on an Intelsat communications satellite in geostationary orbit.
Juice Mission	European Space Agency	The mission is set to reach Jupiter in 2031	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (JUICE) ➤ Detailed maps of the moons' surfaces ➤ Comprehensive picture of Jupiter
MAIA mission	NASA & Italian Space Agency	Investigate the health impacts of air pollution in the world's most populated cities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Multi-Angle Imager for Aerosols missions (MAIA) ➤ Consist of the PLATiNO-2 satellite, which will be provided by ASI. ➤ First mission whose primary goal is to benefit societal health.
Polar-Areas Stellar-Imaging in Polarisation High-Accuracy Experiment (PASIPHAE)	Institute of Astrophysics, Greece and others	International collaborative sky surveying project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ focus on capturing starlight polarisation of very faint stars that are so far away that polarisation signals from there have not been systematically studied
InSight Mission	NASA	first outer space robotic explorer to study in-depth the "inner space" of Mars: its crust, mantle, and core.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ landed successfully on Mars
JUNO	NASA	Space probe orbiting Jupiter for scientific investigation of planet. Measure Jupiter's composition, magnetic field, polar magnetosphere, rocky core presence, amount of water in atmosphere, mass distribution and deep winds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Launched as part of New Frontiers Program. ➤ Entered Polar orbit of Jupiter in 2016. ➤ Second spacecraft to orbit Jupiter after the nuclear powered Galileo. ➤ JUNO is powered by solar arrays. ➤ "Juno" comes from Greek and Roman mythology.
New Horizons	NASA	Perform a fly-by of Pluto as primary aim and study one or more other Kuiper belt objects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Part of New Frontiers Program ➤ First to explore Pluto

Dawn	NASA	Study of 2/3 protoplanets of the asteroid belt-Vesta and Ceres. Currently in orbit around Ceres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ First spacecraft to orbit two extra-terrestrial bodies. ➤ First exploratory mission to use ion propulsion. ➤ Not a part of New Frontiers Program.
OSIRIS -REx	NASA	To study Bennu, a carbonaceous, low albedo asteroid and return a sample to Earth by 2023. Will enable scientists to learn about formation and evolution of solar system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Part of New Frontiers program. ➤ First US spacecraft to return samples from an asteroid. ➤ OSIRIS Rex -Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security, Regolith Explorer
Parker Solar Probe	NASA	How energy and heat move through the solar Corona. Launched in 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Only mission to be named after a living person. ➤ uses Venus's gravity during seven flybys over nearly seven years to gradually bring its orbit closer to the Sun ➤
GOLD(Global Scale Observation of the Limb and Disc) and ICON(Ionospheric Connection Explorer) Mission	NASA	Study the ionosphere region and understand how upper atmosphere changes in response to hurricane and geo magnetic storm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ICON to be launched in Low Earth Orbit at 560km and GOLD in geostationary orbit at altitude of 36000 km. ➤ Can cooperate when they pass through each other's field of view.
TESS (Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite)	NASA	To search for exoplanets using transit technique around the brightest stars in the sky.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ launched in April 2018. ➤ Using SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket
DART (Double Asteroid Redirection Test)	NASA	First ever mission to demonstrate an asteroid deflection technique for planetary defence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DART would utilize the kinetic impactor technique- striking the asteroid to shift its orbit and thereby defend Earth against future asteroid impact.
Philae's Mission	European Space Agency	To orbit and land on a comet Churyumov- Gerasimenko/67P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Accompanied Rosetta spacecraft. ➤ First ever soft landing on a comet. ➤ Comets have tail. ➤ Tails point away from Sun Solar wind

			and radiation pushes dust and gas of comet into tails.
Hubble Telescope	NASA	Optical and UV wavelength for observations.	➤ Launched into Low Earth Orbit.
James Webb Telescope	European Space Agency (ESA), NASA, Canadian Space Agency	Infrared only for observation of universe.	➤ Launched in 2021, currently at its observing spot, Lagrange point 2 (L2), nearly 1 million miles (1.6 million km). It is the largest and most powerful space telescope ever launched ➤ Successor to Hubble.
Copernicus	European Space Agency and European Commission	➤ Largest Earth observation.	
Artemis	NASA	➤ Moon mission under which it will land the first woman and the next man on Moon by 2024	➤ Named after the Greek goddess of the Moon and the twin sister of Apollo, the inspiration behind NASA's first moon landing mission ➤ It is an uncrewed mission of NASA. ➤ Demonstrate Orion's systems in a spaceflight environment
OSIRIS-Rex (Origins Spectral Interpretation Resource Identification Security - Regolith Explorer)	NASA	➤ OSIRIS-REx traveled to near-Earth asteroid Bennu and is bringing a small sample back to Earth for study. ➤ The mission launched in 2016, ➤ The spacecraft reached Bennu in 2018 and will return a sample to Earth in 2023	➤ It will help scientists investigate how planets formed and how life began, and improve understanding of asteroids.

Hope Mission	UAE	➤ Arab world's first mission to Mars.	➤ It will orbit Mars to study the Martian atmosphere and its interaction with outer space and solar winds.
Lucy Mission	NASA	➤ It is the first space mission to study the Trojan asteroids.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Trojans orbit the Sun in two loose groups, with one group leading ahead of Jupiter in its path, the other trailing behind. ➤ It will help to gain new insights into the solar system's formation 4.5 billion years ago. ➤ Launched on Oct 16 2021. ➤ It will complete a 12-year journey to eight different asteroids, a Main Belt asteroid and seven Trojans. ➤ Lucy's complex path will take it to both clusters of Trojans and give us our first close-up view of all three major types of bodies in the swarms
ExoMars	European Space Agency	The primary aim of the mission is to check if there has ever been life on Mars and also understand the history of water on the planet.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The programme comprises two missions: the first – the Trace Gas Orbiter – launched in 2016 while the second, comprising a rover and surface platform, is awaiting confirmation for launch. ➤ The rover will drill to the sub-surface of Mars to collect samples from about 2 m of depth.

11. INDIAN SPACE PROGRAMMES

Mission	Agencies	Purpose	Peculiarity
PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM)	ISRO	To performs in-orbit scientific experiments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It launched three satellites from Singapore on the PSLV-C53. ➤ The fourth stage of PSLV PS4 stage would orbit the earth as a stabilized platform.
Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator (IAD)	ISRO	It aid cost-effective recovery of spent rocket stages and safely land payloads on other planets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was successfully test flown in Rohini-300 (RH300 Mk II) from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station. ➤ IAD serves to decelerate an object plunging down through the atmosphere.
Next-Gen Launch Vehicle (NGLV)	ISRO	To replace operational systems like the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It will be a cost-efficient, three-stage to orbit, reusable heavy-lift vehicle. ➤ It can carry a payload capability of ten tonnes to Geostationary Transfer Orbit (GTO). ➤ It will feature semi-cryogenic propulsion.
RISAT (Radar Imaging Satellite)-2	ISRO	India's first "eye in the sky"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It made an uncontrolled re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere at the predicted impact point. ➤ It keep surveillance on the country's borders as part of anti-infiltration and anti-terrorist operations.

Prarambh Mission	Skyroot Aerospace (Indian Private Agency)	It aimed at carrying three payloads into space which are developed by students from several countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India's first privately developed rocket Vikram-S ➤ Skyroot Aerospace is an Indian startup in the aerospace business
Aditya-L1 mission	ISRO	First Indian space mission to observe the Sun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It will be launched by June or July 2023 ➤ It will observe the Sun and the solar corona. ➤ It will be launched to the L1 orbit which is about 1.5 million km from the Earth.
Chandrayaan 3	ISRO	The primary objective is putting a lander and rover in the highlands near the south pole of the Moon in 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The lander/rover will be similar to the Vikram rover on Chandrayaan 2 ➤ It will also carry a communications relay satellite. ➤ The rover will carry a seismometer, heat flow experiment, and spectrometers. ➤ The mission is scheduled to launch in August 2022 on a GSLV Mark 3 heavy lift launch vehicle.
Gaganyaan	ISRO	ISRO is planning to launch the first uncrewed mission under Gaganyaan in 2022. It is followed by a second unmanned mission "Vyommitra" which will carry a robot and this will then be followed by the manned mission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Gaganyaan orbital module has two parts the Crew Module (CM) and the Service Module (SM) and weighs about 8000 kg. ➤ The Crew Module (CM) is a double walled system and a habitat of astronauts. ➤ The Orbital module (OM) will be launched by a human-rated GSLV MK-III vehicle and will orbit the Earth with a velocity of about 7,800 metre/second.

SSLV-D1 Micro SAT	ISRO	<p>It has been designed to meet "Launch on Demand" requirements.</p> <p>It aims to cater to the market for the launch of small satellites into Earth's low orbits that has emerged in recent years to cater to the need of developing countries, universities for small satellites, and private corporations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a three stage all solid vehicle with capability to launch up to 500 kg satellite mass into 500 km low earth orbit. ➤ It is the smallest vehicle at 110-ton mass at ISRO ➤ Reduced turnaround time (take only 72 hours to integrate, unlike the 70 days taken now). ➤ Multiple satellite mounting options for nano, micro and small satellites.
GSAT - 7B	ISRO	<p>The GSAT-7B is a communication satellite part of the GSAT-7 series, which was first launched in 2013.</p> <p>GSAT-7B will enhance operational preparedness of the Armed Forces and boost its communication capabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ GSAT 7B will be a state-of-the-art, multiband, military grade satellite for the Army. ➤ It will act as a force multiplier and fail-safe communication support to the force. ➤ GSAT-7B will be used by the Indian Army, which so far uses 30 per cent of GSAT-7A's transponder capacity.
PSLV C40	ISRO	<p>Launched 31 satellites in one go including Cartosat 2 series and nano satellites from various countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Launched from Sriharikota. ➤ Cartography meaning map making. ➤ 100th satellite by ISRO.
GAGAN (GPS-aided Geo Augmented Navigation)	ISRO	<p>System to improve the accuracy of GNSS (Global navigation Satellite Systems) receiver by providing reference signals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Will help pilots to navigate in the Indian airspace by an accuracy of 3m. ➤ GNSS- USA's GPS, Russia's GLONEX, China's BeiDou, EU's Galileo.

NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) /IRNSS (Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System)	ISRO	Provides Real time positioning and timely services. Covers India and 1500km around it. Was developed partly because foreign government controlled GNSS was not guaranteed in hostile situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Includes SPS (Standard Positioning System) for civilian uses and Restricted Service for military uses. ➤ 7 satellites- 3 in geostationary orbit(GEO) and 4 in geosynchronous orbit(GSO) inclined at 29 degrees to equator.
Chandrayaan I	ISRO	Scientific experiments and preparation of 3D atlas of near and far sides of Moon. Mineralogical and chemical mapping of lunar surface. Testing impact probe for future landings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Launched using PSLV- C11. ➤ India's first mission to Moon. ➤ Detected water in vapour form in trace amounts ➤ Confirmed Ocean Magma Hypothesis, detected X ray signals during weak solar flares thus indicating presence of magnesium, aluminum, silicon and calcium on lunar surface
Chandrayaan 2	ISRO		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India's second lunar exploration mission with orbiter, lander and rover. ➤ launched by Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle GSLV MkIII-M1.
Mangalyaan / MOM (Mars Orbiter Mission)	ISRO	Technology demonstrator for interplanetary missions. Explore surface of Mars by studying morphology, mineralogy and topology. Study constituents of Mars' atmosphere including methane and CO2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India's first interplanetary mission. ➤ First nation to orbit Mars in first attempt. ➤ Launched aboard PSLV C25 from Sriharikota. ➤ Least expensive Mars mission to-date. ➤ Space Pioneer Award of US

			<p>National Space Society was awarded for its success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Photo of MOM in new 2000 rupee note.
Earth Observati on Satellite (EOS-01)	ISRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Radar Imaging Satellite (RISAT) that will work together with RISAT-2B and RISAT-2BRI launched last year. ➤ It will operate in Low-earth orbit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PSLV-C49 successfully launched EOS-01 ➤ ISRO used a new variant of its PSLV rocket that has been flown only once before. ➤ This variant of PSLV does not become waste after depositing its satellite in the orbit
ASTROSAT	ISRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India's first dedicated multi wavelength space observatory. ➤ launched in a 650-km. near-equatorial orbit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It observes universe in optical, Ultraviolet, low and high energy X-ray regions of the electromagnetic spectrum.
AVATAR(Aerobic Vehicle for Transatmospheric Hypersonic Aerospace Transportation)	DRDO	Low-cost military and commercial satellite space launches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Robotic single stage reusable space plane capable of horizontal take-off and landing. ➤ First flight scheduled for 2025.
NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar)	ISRO and NASA	Remote sensing and understanding natural processes on Earth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ First radar imaging to use dual frequency.
Joint Lunar Polar Exploration (LPE) mission	JAXA & ISRO	Conceptualized in 2017 which aims to put a lander and a rover on the Moon's surface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Objectives of LPE mission is includes obtaining actual data regarding quantity of water of areas where water is anticipated to exist. To Understand distribution, conditions, other parameters of lunar water resources at the moon's South Pole.



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12.FAMOUS 50 JUDGEMENTS OF SUPREME COURT

Sl No.	Case	Content
1.	A K Gopalan case (1950)	Examined and interpreted key fundamental rights enlisted in the constitution including article 19 and 21.
2.	Shankari Prasad Case (1951)	Article 13 (2) did not affect amendments made under article 368.
3.	Berubari Union case (1960)	Parliament of India is not competent to make a law under article 3 for the implementation of the Nehru-Noon Agreement.
4.	Golaknath case (1967)	Supreme Court adopted a <i>doctrine of prospective overruling</i> under which the three constitutional amendments (1st, 4th and 7th) would continue to be valid. Amendment to the Constitution is a "law" for the purpose of article 13 (2).
5.	Kesvananda Bharati case (1973)	Introduced the concept of <i>Basic Structure</i> of the Indian Constitution
6.	Indira Gandhi v. Raj Narayan case (1975)	Disputes relating to elections involving the Prime Minister of India
7.	Menaka Gandhi case (1978)	Significant shift from ' <i>Procedure established by law</i> ' to ' <i>Due process of law</i> ' by the Judiciary.
8.	Minerva mills case (1980)	<i>Basic Structure</i> includes Limited amending power of Parliament and the power of Judicial Review.

9.	Waman Rao Case (1981)	Validity of 9th Schedule and demarcating the date of 24th April 1973 to reopen the validity of any amendment to the Constitution.
10.	S. R. Bommai case (1994)	Curbed blatant misuse of Article 356 of the Constitution of India. Held that Secularism is part of the Basic Structure.
11.	Vishakha & others v/s State of Rajasthan	SC issued guidelines to protect women from sexual harassment at their workplace
12.	Shayara Bano and others v. Union of India and others 2016	Supreme Court set aside the practice of talaq-e-bidat (instant Triple Talaq), on the basis that it violated the Constitution of India.
13.	Shah Bano Begum vs Mohd Ahmed Khan	Entitled all divorced Muslim wives to basic maintenance of 3 months from their ex-spouses, post which their care is handed over to their relatives or the WAKF board.
14.	R. C. Cooper case	SC struck down bank nationalisation act of 1969 for illusory compensation though it conceded parliament's right to nationalise banks in national interest.
15.	State of Madras vs. Champakam Dorairajan 1951	Caste based reservations was in violation of Article 16 (2) of the Indian Constitution.
16.	Sajjan singh vs state of rajasthan 1965	The validity of the Seventeenth Amendment was challenged in this case. Reiterated Shankari Prasad judgement.
17.	Chandra Kumar v. Union of India (1997)	All decisions of Tribunals created under Article 323 A & B will be subjected to scrutiny before a Division Bench of the High Court within whose jurisdiction the concerned Tribunal.

18.	Indra Sawhney Case 1992	Supreme Court upheld the Mandal Commission's 27 percent quota for backward classes and ruled that total reserved quota should not exceed 50 percent. Defined the "creamy layer" criteria.
19.	Justice K. S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) vs Union Of India (2017)	Right to Privacy is protected as a fundamental constitutional right under Articles 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution of India.
20.	National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India	Supreme Court declared transgender people to be a 'third gender'.
21.	Naz Foundation v. Govt. of NCT of Delhi (2009)	Treating consensual homosexual sex between adults as a crime is a violation of fundamental rights. Invalidated Section 377.
22.	Suresh Kumar Koushal v. Naz Foundation (2013)	Overturned the verdict in Naz Foundation v. Govt. of NCT of Delhi and reinstated Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code.
23.	I.R. Coelho case (2007)	All Amendments after April 24th 1973 to be tested on basic structure doctrine.
24.	People's union for civil liberties vs union of india 2013	Implementation of NOTA.
25.	Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillhu 1992	SC analyzed the constitutionality of amended provisions of Anti Defection law. Speakers decision can be questioned before a court of law.
26.	Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India 2018	Decriminalised all consensual sex among adults in private, including homosexual sex and invalidated certain provisions of Section 377.

27.	Joseph Shine vs Union Of India	SC struck down Section 497 (Adultery) of the Indian Penal Code as being violative of Articles 14, 15 & 21 of the Constitution.
28.	Indian young lawyers association v. state of Kerala	Allowed women of all ages to enter Sabarimala.
29.	First Judges Case or S.P. Gupta case 1981	Executive dominance over the Judiciary in judicial appointments for the next 12 years.
30.	Second Judges Case or SC Advocates on Record Association v/s Uoi 1993	Ascertained the prominence of Chief Justice of India over judicial appointments and transfers.
31.	Third Judges Case 1998	Chief Justice of India must check with a plurality of four senior-most Supreme Court judges to shape his opinion on judicial appointments and transfers.
32.	Lily Thomas case 2013	Any MLA, MLC, MP who was found guilty of a crime and given a minimum of two-year imprisonment, would lose membership of the House with an immediate effect. Nullified section 8(4) of RP act.
33.	Anuradha Bhasin v/s Union of India 2020	Supreme Court of India ruled that an undefined restriction of internet services would be illegal and that orders for internet shutdown must satisfy the tests of necessity and proportionality.
34.	Shreya Singhal v/s Union of India 2015	The controversial section 66A of the IT act was struck down as unconstitutional.
35.	Aruna Shanbhaug v. Uoi (2011)	SC issued guidelines and allowed passive euthanasia in the country

36.	T.M.A. Pai Foundation v. State of Karnataka 2002	Dealt with Rights of Minority Institutes and RTE.
37.	Madhav Jeewaji Rao Scindia v/s Uol 1970	Abolished all special titles, privy purse etc to erstwhile princely rulers.
38.	ADM Jabalpur v/s S shukla 1976	Right to move court for enforcement of FR stands suspended during emergency.
39.	MC Mehta v/s Uol	Interim compensation to Bhopal Gas Tragedy victims. Etended scope of Article 21 and 32.
40.	Olga Tellis v/s Bombay Municipal Corporation	Right to livelihood comes is Right to Life under Article 21.
41.	D. C. Wadhwa v. State of Bihar (1986)	SC held that it is unconstitutional to repromulgate ordinances, unless in exceptional circumstances.
42.	A. K. Roy v/s Union Of India (1982)	Ordinances issued by President and Governors are not immune rom judicial scrutiny.
43.	Samsher Singh v. State of punjab: 1974	Function of President/Governor with aid and advice of Council of Ministers (Discretionary powers)
44.	A.R. Antulay v. R.S.Nayak 1988	SC has inherent power to rectify its error
45.	D.K. Basu V. State West Bengal 1997	State vicariously liable of the acts of public servants. Custodial Violence- Article 21, 22 and compensation.

46.	Nandini Sundar v. State of Chattisgarh: 2011	Right of rehabilitation of tribals under Articles 21, 46, 300A.
47.	Vellore Citizens Welfare Forum v. Union of India 1996	Environment pollution assessed by Polluter Pays Principle
48.	M. Nagaraj v. Union of India (2006)	Regarding reservations for SC/ST in matter of promotions
49.	Prakash Singh v. Union of India	Guidelines for Police reforms
50.	Union of India vs. Association for Democratic Reforms, 2002	SC held that that every candidate, contesting an election to the Parliament, State Legislatures or Municipal Corporation, has to declare their criminal records, financial records and educational qualifications along with their nomination paper.

13.RAMSAR SITES

- ✓ India is one of the Contracting Parties to Ramsar Convention, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971. India signed it on 1st Feb 1982.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has maximum no. of Ramsar sites (14), followed by UP which has 10 Ramsar sites

SL No	Ramsar sites	State/UT	Brief Description
1.	Kolleru Lake	Andhra Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a natural eutrophic lake, situated between the two major river basins of the Godavari and the Krishna. ➤ It is the largest shallow freshwater lake in Asia. ➤ The lake was declared as a wildlife sanctuary in November 1999.
2.	Deepor Beel	Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The beel is a staging site on migratory flyways and some of the largest concentrations of aquatic birds in Assam- Spotbilled Pelican, Lesser and Greater Adjutant Stork ➤ It is a permanent freshwater lake, in a former channel of the Brahmaputra River. ➤ It is claimed that beel was an important dockyard of the Tai-Ahom as well as the Mughals.
3.	Kabartal Wetland/ Kanwar Jheel	Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In Indo-Gangetic plains. ➤ Five critically endangered species inhabit the site, including three vultures – the red-headed vulture, white-rumped vulture and Indian vulture- and two waterbirds, the <i>sociable lapwing</i> and <i>Baer's pochard</i>. ➤ Major threats to the Site include drainage, water abstraction, damming and canalization
4.	Nanda Lake	Goa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ comprises intermittent freshwater marshes that lie adjacent to one of the major tributaries of the Zuari River
5.	Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a natural freshwater lake (a relict sea) that is the largest natural wetland in the Thar Desert Biogeographic Province.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a lifeline for the endangered Indian Wild Ass. ➤ important stopover site within the Central Asia Flyway-critically endangered Sociable Lapwing and the vulnerable Marbled Teal
6.	Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was constructed as an irrigation tank in 1912. ➤ In 1988, it was declared as a wildlife sanctuary to protect the birdlife. ➤ It is in a semi-arid zone with dominance of dry deciduous vegetation. ➤ critically endangered white-rumped vulture, sociable lapwing and the vulnerable sarus crane
7.	Wadhvana Wetland	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This reservoir was created in 1910 by the former Baroda State.
8.	Khijadia Wildlife Sanctuary	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A freshwater wetland near the coast of the Gulf of Kutch ➤ It was formed following the creation of a bund (dike) in 1920 to protect farmland from saltwater ingress
9.	Sultanpur National Park	Haryana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This shallow lake at the core of the Sultanpur National Park. ➤ The lake features seasonal aquatic vegetation and is dotted with artificial islands. ➤ The area within five kilometres of the Park as an ecosensitive zone.
10.	Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary	Haryana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a human-made freshwater wetland, and is the largest wetland in Haryana State. ➤ The wetland was declared as a protected area in 1986 and was designated as an Ecosensitive zone. ➤ It was declared as a Ramsar site in 2021. ➤ Endangered Egyptian vulture, Nilgai
11.	Chandertal Wetland	Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a high-altitude lake on the upper Chandra valley flowing to the Chandra River. ➤ It supports CITES and IUCN Red listed Snow Leopard. ➤ It was declared as a nationally important wetland in 1994.

12.	Pong Dam Lake	Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a water storage reservoir created in 1975 on the Beas River. ➤ More than 220 bird species have been identified, with 54 species of waterfowl. ➤ It is also known as Maharana Pratap Sagar
13.	Renuka Wetland	Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a natural wetland with freshwater springs and <i>inland subterranean karst formations</i> fed by a small stream flowing from the lower Himalayan out to the <i>Giri river</i> ➤ The lake has high religious significance and is named after the <i>mother of Hindu sage Parshuram</i>.
14.	Wular Lake	Jammu & Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The largest freshwater lake in India. ➤ The lake basin was formed as a result of tectonic activity and is fed by the Jhelum River.
15.	Hokera Wetland	Jammu & Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A natural perennial wetland contiguous to the Jhelum basin. ➤ It is the only site with remaining reedbeds of Kashmir. ➤ It is a designated bird sanctuary.
16.	Surinsar-Mansar Lakes	Jammu & Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is the part of Surinsar Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary. ➤ Surinsar is rain-fed without permanent discharge, and Mansar is primarily fed by surface run-off. ➤ The lake supports CITES and IUCN Redlisted species.
17.	Hygam Wetland Conservation Reserve	Jammu & Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lies downstream of Wular Lake ➤ located within the Jhelum river basin
18.	Shallbugh Wetland Conservation Reserve	Jammu & Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lies west of Anchar Lake in the Sindh river delta ➤ Primarily fed by rainfall, snowmelt from the Kashmir Himalayas, and stream water flowing from the Sindh river and Anchar Lake. ➤ It lies close to Hokera Wetland ➤ Excessive siltation is the biggest problem

19.	Ashtamudi Wetland		Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is an extensive estuarine system. ➤ It possesses a unique wetland ecosystem and a large palm-shaped waterbody. ➤ The site supports a number of mangrove species.
20.	Sasthamkotta Lake		Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is the largest freshwater lake in Kerala. ➤ It is the source of drinking water for half a million people. ➤ The water contains no common salts or other minerals and <i>supports no water plants</i>. ➤ a larva called "<i>cavaborus</i>" abounds and eliminates bacteria in the water, thus contributing to its exceptional purity.
21.	Ranganathittu Sanctuary	Bird	Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Part of the Kaveri River on the Southern Deccan Plateau ➤ Mugger crocodile, smooth-coated otter, painted stork ➤ Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA).
22.	Vembanad Kol Wetland		Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is the largest brackish, humid tropical wetland ecosystem on the southwest coast of India. ➤ It is fed by 10 rivers and typical of large estuarine systems. ➤ Helps in flood protection for thickly-populated coastal areas of Kerala. ➤ Supports the third largest waterfowl population in India during the winter months
23.	Tsomoriri		Ladakh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A freshwater to brackish lake lying at 4,595m above sea level. ➤ Only breeding ground outside of China for the Black-necked crane and the only breeding ground for Bar headed geese in India. ➤ Korzok monastery- Lake considered sacred by local Buddhist communities and the water is not used by them.
24.	Tso Kar Wetland Complex		Ladakh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ High-altitude wetland 4,500 metres above sea level. ➤ The complex includes two connected lakes, the

			Startsapuk Tso and the Tso Kar.
25.	Sakhya Sagar	Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Human-made reservoir within the Madhav National Park. ➤ mugger crocodile
26.	Sirpur Wetland	Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Human-made wetland ➤ Egyptian vulture and Indian river tern
27.	Yashwant Sagar	Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ freshwater reservoir was built in the Gambhir river basin in the 1930s ➤ Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA)
28.	Bhoj Wetlands	Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is two contiguous human-made reservoirs. ➤ The "Upper Lake" was created in the 11th century by construction of an earthen dam across the Kolans River, and the lower was constructed nearly 200 years ago.
29.	Lonar Lake	Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This wetland is an endorheic or closed basin, almost circular in shape, formed by a meteorite impact onto the basalt bedrock. ➤ It is one of the four known, hyper-velocity, impact craters in basaltic rock.
30.	Thane Creek	Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ one of the largest creeks of Asia and hosts many birds migrating on the Central Asian Flyway ➤ Falls under the Marine Ecoregions of the World (MEOW) ➤ It has been declared as Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary.
31.	Nandur Madhameshwar	Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Site is a mosaic of lakes, marshes and riparian forest on the Deccan Plateau. ➤ It is a buffer against floodwaters and a biodiversity hotspot.
32.	Loktak Lake	Manipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is the largest natural freshwater lake in India. ➤ Thick, floating mats of weeds covered with soil (phumids) are a characteristic feature. ➤ Included on the Montreux Record in 1993 as a result of ecological problems.
33.	Pala Wetland	Mizoram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ largest natural wetland in Mizoram.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ revered by the local <i>Mara</i> people and has a deep connection with their history
34.	Tampara Lake	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>use of explosives during a battle</i> between the British East India Company and French colonists in 1766 created a large depression which later became Tampara Lake. ➤ connected to the Rushikulya river
35.	Hirakud Reservoir	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ One of the largest man-made reservoirs in India, built across the Mahanadi River
36.	Ansupa Lake	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Small freshwater oxbow lake formed by the Mahanadi River.
37.	Satkosia Gorge	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ a mosaic of rivers, marshes and evergreen forests at the <i>meeting point of two biogeographic regions</i>, the Deccan Peninsula and the Eastern Ghats
38.	Bhitarkanika Mangroves	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ One of the finest remaining patches of mangrove forests along the Indian coast. ➤ The site's Gahirmatha beach host the largest known Olive Ridley sea turtle nesting. ➤ In 1975, Bhitarkanika was declared Wildlife Sanctuary.
39.	Chilka Lake	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is the largest coastal lagoon in India and the largest brackish water lagoon in the world. ➤ Placed on the Montreux Record in 1993 due to problems caused by siltation and sedimentation. ➤ It has been listed as a tentative UNESCO World Heritage site. ➤ It is one of the oldest Ramsar sites in India (1981).
40.	Beas Conservation Reserve	Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It hosts the only known population in India of the endangered <i>Indus river dolphin</i>. ➤ In 2017, a programme was initiated to re-introduce the critically endangered gharial.
41.	Harike Lake	Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a shallow water reservoir with thirteen islands, at the confluence of two rivers. ➤ Dense floating vegetation covers 70% of the lake.

42.	Kanjli Lake	Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was created in 1870 by constructing the headworks across the perennial Bien River. ➤ Rich biodiversity of the wetland comprising aquatic, mesophytic and terrestrial flora and fauna. ➤ The invasive water hyacinth is present and must be removed from time to time.
43.	Keshopur-Miani Community Reserve	Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Site is an example of <i>wise use</i> of a community-managed wetland. ➤ The Reserve is a mosaic of natural marshes, aquaculture ponds and agricultural wetlands. ➤ It is privately-owned and has wintering of common cranes.
44.	Nangal Wildlife Sanctuary	Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is part of highly eco-sensitive Nangal Wildlife Sanctuary. ➤ It supports abundant flora and fauna including threatened species. ➤ The site is of historic importance as the Indian and Chinese Prime Ministers formalized the "Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence" there in 1954.
45.	Ropar Lake	Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A humanmade wetland of lake and river formed in 1952 by construction of a barrage. ➤ It is an important breeding place for the nationally protected Smooth Indian Otter, Hog Deer, Sambar etc.
46.	Keoladeo Ghana NP	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Keoladeo Ghana National Park is a man-made and man-managed wetland. ➤ It is a World Heritage Site; National Park and Bird Sanctuary. ➤ It is one of the oldest Ramsar sites in India (1981).
47.	Sambhar Lake	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is India's largest inland salt lake. It is fed by four streams. ➤ The site is important for a variety of wintering waterbirds, including large numbers of flamingos.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is surrounded by sand flats and dry thorn scrub and fed by seasonal rivers and streams.
48.	Karikili Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ comprises two rain-fed non-perennial irrigation tanks ➤ It has a history of people cooperating in protecting waterbirds, as their guano enables the supply of nutrient-enriched water to crop fields.
49.	Pallikaranai Marsh Reserve Forest	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ freshwater marsh and partly saline wetland serves as an aquatic buffer of the flood-prone Chennai
50.	Pichavaram Mangrove	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ One of the largest mangrove ecosystems in India, located between the prominent estuaries of the <i>Vellar and Coleroon</i> Rivers. ➤ critically endangered great white-bellied heron and spoon-billed sandpiper ➤ The mangroves are revered by the local communities due to the significant spiritual value associated with <i>Excoecaria agallocha</i>, a mangrove with toxic properties commonly known as "<i>Tillai</i>"
51.	Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ first Marine Biosphere Reserve in South and South-East Asia ➤ Gulf is where the southward extension of the Bay of Bengal meets the Indian Ocean.
52.	Vembannur Wetland Complex	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ human-made irrigation tank ➤ forms part of an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA)
53.	Vellode Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ human-made tank
54.	Udhayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ human-made irrigation tanks, interconnected by an ancient network of canals and fed by the Mettur dam
55.	Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA)
56.	Koonthankulam Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consists of irrigation tanks interconnected by a network of canals fed by the rivers originating from the Western Ghats Mountain range.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This wetland is the largest reserve for breeding resident and migratory waterbirds in South India. It is an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA)
57.	Chitrangudi Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ wetland has been a protected area since 1989 and is also classed as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA). ➤ It is also rich in medicinal plants such as holy basil and flame lily, the State flower of Tamil Nadu.
58.	Suchindram Theroor Wetland Complex	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ lies at the southern tip of the Central Asian Flyway. ➤ It is an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA)
59.	Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ composed of small man-made reservoirs interconnected by an ancient network of canals and fed by the Mettur reservoir
60.	Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ notable nesting site for several migratory heron species. ➤ It is dominated by sub-tropical forests of babul that provide habitat for endemic and migratory birds ➤ growth of invasive Prosopis trees has affected the growth of the indigenous babul populations,
61.	Point Calimere Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The sanctuary was created in 1967 for conservation of blackbuck antelope. ➤ The 7-square-kilometre core area of this sanctuary has been proposed as a National Park. ➤ Some 257 species of birds have been recorded, 119 of them waterbirds.
62.	Rudrasagar Lake	Tripura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a lowland sedimentation reservoir in the northeast hills, ➤ It is fed by three perennial streams discharging to the River Gomti. ➤ It is an ideal habitat for IUCN Redlisted Three-striped Roof Turtle <i>Kachuga dhongka</i>.

63.	Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a haven for birds, with 25,000 waterbirds regularly recorded and 220 resident and migratory species. ➤ In 2015 renamed to Shahid Chandra Shekhar Azad Bird Sanctuary
64.	Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A permanent freshwater environment consisting of two oxbow lakes. ➤ A refuge for some of India's threatened vulture species.
65.	Saman Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a seasonal oxbow lake on the Ganges floodplain. ➤ It provides refuge to over 50,000 waterbirds (187 bird species have been recorded) and is a wintering site for many migrants.
66.	Samaspur Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was established in the year 1987. ➤ It is a perennial lowland marsh typical of the Indo-Gangetic Plains. ➤ It has six connected lakes. ➤ It has over 250 resident and migrant bird species.
67.	Sandi Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was created in the year 1990 in order to protect the natural habitats and aquatic vegetation. ➤ Site provides a productive habitat for waterfowl with over 40,000 individuals. ➤ It dried out leading to a subsequent collapse in waterbird populations.
68.	Sarsai Nawar Jheel	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a bird sanctuary for conservation of water birds, notably the Sarus Crane. ➤ It is an example of co-habitation of humans and wildlife. ➤ The wetland is also a site of spiritual and religious significance.
69.	Sur Sarovar	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is also known as Keetham Lake. ➤ It is a human-made reservoir; originally created to supply water to the city of Agra.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Site is important for bird species which migrate on the Central Asian flyway.
70.	Upper Ganga River	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The river provides habitat for IUCN Red listed Ganges River Dolphin, Gharial, Crocodile, 6 species of turtles, otters, 82 species of fish. ➤ This river stretch has high Hindu religious importance.
71.	Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Largest natural floodplain wetland of eastern Uttar Pradesh ➤ It provides a wintering ground for over 25 species which migrate on the Central Asian Flyway, including endangered Egyptian vulture, vulnerable greater spotted eagle, near-threatened oriental darter etc.
72.	Haiderpur Wetland	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Human-made wetland. It was formed in 1984 by the construction of the Madhya Ganga Barrage on a floodplain of the River Ganga. ➤ It is located within the boundaries of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary. ➤ Diverse habitat supports the critically endangered gharial and the endangered hog deer, black-bellied tern, gold mahseer etc.
73.	Asan Conservation Reserve	Uttarakhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The reserve spread over an area of 444.4 ha. ➤ It was declared as a Conservation Reserve in 2005.
74.	East Kolkata Wetlands	West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is World-renowned model of a multiple use wetland. ➤ The wetland forms an urban facility for treating the city's waste water and utilizing the treated water for pisciculture and agriculture. ➤ The system is described as "one of the rare examples of environmental protection and development management.
75.	Sunderbans Wetland	West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is located within the largest mangrove forest in the world, the Sunderbans.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ It constitutes over 60% of the country's total mangrove forest area and includes 90% of Indian mangrove species.➤ The Sundarbans are the only mangrove habitat which supports a significant population of tigers.
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14.PLACES IN NEWS

<u>NATIONAL</u>		
Place	State/UT	Related topics (if any)
Bodh Gaya	Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Place where Buddha attained enlightenment ➤ India's largest reclining statue of Lord Buddha (Mahaparinirvana Mudra)
Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple	Telangana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Shiva temple ➤ built during the Kakatiyan period (1123–1323 CE) under rulers Rudradeva and Recherla Rudra. ➤ Sandstone as building material ➤ UNESCO World Heritage Site
Siachen glacier	Ladakh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Located in the Karakoram Range ➤ Strategic location for India - Salto Ridge of the Siachin glacier serves as a divide that prevents direct linking of PoK with China ➤ 'Operation Megahdoot' – India took control of it
Khadir Island	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is surrounded by the Great Rann of Kutch and the Little Rann of Kutch. ➤ Dholavira, a Harappan city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site is situated on the island of Khadir. ➤ It also hosts a fossil park. ➤ It is known for its superior quality of Bajra, a millet, goats and berries.
Khijadia Wildlife Sanctuary	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is included under the Ramsar list. ➤ Freshwater wetland near the coast of the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat. ➤ It was formed following the creation of a bund (dike) in 1920 to protect farmland from saltwater ingress.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Home for birds like endangered Pallas's fish-eagle and Indian skimmer, and the vulnerable common pochard.
Chisumle-Demchok road	Ladakh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Completed the world's highest motorable road at Umling La pass. ➤ Built under 'Project Himank' passes through the Umling La Top and connects Chisumle and Demchok villages. The road is close to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and will allow quick movement of troops and equipment.
Palli	Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Palli village in Jammu's Samba district has become the country's first panchayat to become carbon neutral, fully powered by solar energy.
Tulip garden, Srinagar	Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden (Model Floriculture Centre), formerly Siraj Bagh is the star attraction of the garden ➤ It is the largest tulip garden in Asia spread over an area of about 30 hectares. ➤ It is situated on the foothills of Zabarwan Range with an overview of Dal Lake.
Char Chinar Island	Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Char Chinar, also sometimes called Char Chinari, is an island in Dal Lake, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir. ➤ Dal Lake includes 3 islands, 2 of which are marked with beautiful Chinar trees.
Atal Tunnel	Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Atal Tunnel is certified by the World Book of Records, as the 'World's Longest Highway Tunnel' above 10,000 Feet. ➤ It provides all-weather connectivity from Manali to the Lahaul – Spiti Valley.
Somnath Temple	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Somnath, literally translated as the Lord of Moon (Soma) houses the first of the 12 Jyotirlingas

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is said the first version of the temple came into being even before the start of Christian era. The second version of the temple came into being under the initiative of the Vallabhi king around 408 AD-768 AD. ➤ Archaeological investigations point out that the temple of Somnath had been rebuilt nearly thrice before the raid of Muhammad Ghazni in the year 1026 (It is said that the temple was looted and destroyed as many as seventeen times). ➤ The latest rebuilding of Somnath temple was done in 1947 under the initiative of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the then deputy PM.
Raigad Fort	Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a hill fort situated about 25 km from Mahad in the Raigad district of Maharashtra at 2,851 feet above sea level. ➤ As per the British Gazette the fort was known to early Europeans as the 'Gibraltar of the East'. ➤ By 1664, the fort had emerged as the seat of Shivaji's government.
Rezang La	Ladakh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is the site of an epic battle where Indian troops bravely fought the Chinese soldiers in 1962 ➤ A war memorial was constructed here ➤ It is a mountain pass on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between Ladakh and the Chinese-administered Spanggur Lake basin that is claimed by India. ➤ The pass is located on the eastern watershed ridge of the Chushul Valley.
Zojila tunnel	Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Longest bi-directional single tube road tunnel in Asia ➤ Enables all weather connectivity between Srinagar and Leh

Pochampally	Telangana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pochampally village in Telangana has been selected as one of the 'Best Tourism Villages' by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO). ➤ It is often referred to as the Silk City of India for the exquisite sarees that are woven through a unique style called Ikat. ➤ This style, Pochampally Ikat, received a Geographical Indicator (GI Status) in 2004. ➤ It is also known as Bhoodan Pochampally to commemorate the Bhoodan movement that was launched by Acharya Vinobha bhawe from this village in 1951.
Daulat Beg Oldie	Ladakh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Northernmost corner of Ladakh ➤ It has the world's highest airstrip, originally built during the 1962 war now used by IAF as one of its many Advanced Landing Grounds (ALGs) along the LAC. ➤ DBO is less than 10 km west of the LAC at Aksai Chin.
Kamakhya temple	Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Annual Ambubachi mela cancelled for the first time in its five centuries old recorded history ➤ The festival marks the annual menstruation of the presiding Goddess in the Kamakhya Temple, Guwahati, Assam.
Srinagar	Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Srinagar has been added to UNESCO creative cities network (UCCN). ➤ Other Indian cities on UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) are Mumbai (FILM), Hyderabad (GASTRONOMY), Jaipur(Crafts and Folk Arts), Varanasi(Creative city of Music) and Chennai(Music).
Chandikhol	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Selected for the establishment of one of Strategic Petroleum Reserve

Chenab Bridge	Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ World's highest railway bridge - Arch bridge, 359m high ➤ Part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link project
Gurudongmar lake	Sikkim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ One of the highest lakes (5,425 m) in the world and in India ➤ It is considered sacred by Buddhists, Sikhs, and Hindus ➤ Named after Guru Padmasambhava—also known as Guru Rinpoche—founder of Tibetan Buddhism, who visited in the 8th century.
Char Dham		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A set of four pilgrimage sites - Badrinath, Dwarka, Puri and Rameswaram ➤
Chardham project	Uttarakhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Char Dham Mahamarg(Char Dham Highway) involves developing and widening nearly 900-km of national highways connecting the holy Hindu pilgrimage sites of; Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, and Yamunotri (Chota Char Dham)
		
Matua Island	Pacific Ocean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Uninhabited volcanic island near the center of the Kuril Islands chain in the Sea of Okhotsk ➤ It is administered by Russia and they are increasing military presence there ➤ Kuril Islands dispute - refers to a territorial dispute between Japan and Russia over the ownership of the four southernmost Kuril Islands
Abyei	Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A border town that is disputed between South Sudan and Sudan ➤ India deployed women peacekeepers here as part of UN Mission

Bagram	Afghanistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hosts a strategic airfield ➤ Now a Taliban military base, and formerly the largest US military base in Afghanistan
Natanz	Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Iran's nuclear enrichment plant located here
Vanuatu	Oceania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An island country located in the South Pacific Ocean ➤ A major voice in climate negotiations, calling on wealthier nations to pay for climate damages
Burkina Faso	West African nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A landlocked country in West Africa ➤ It has been suspended from the West African bloc ECOWAS due to a military coup ➤ Its capital and largest city is Ouagadougou
Mali	West African Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a landlocked country in West Africa ➤ Its capital and largest city is Bamako ➤ Military Junta in power ➤ France and EU nations to withdraw troops, fighting jihadist insurgency, from Mali over a breakdown in relations with the country's ruling junta. ➤ Niger river flows through it
Nagorno-Karabakh	Azerbaijan and Armenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Internationally recognised as part of Azerbaijan, but most of the region is controlled by Armenian separatists. ➤ Russia successfully brokered deal to bring peace
Solomon Islands	South Pacific Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ China signed a security pact with the Solomon Islands ➤ It is a sovereign country consisting of over 1000 islands in Oceania, to the east of Papua New Guinea and northwest of Vanuatu. ➤ Honiara is its capital

Tahiti	Pacific Ocean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tahiti is a large island in French Polynesia, an overseas collectivity and an overseas country of the French Republic. ➤ Scientists have discovered a pristine, 3-km long reef of giant rose-shaped corals off the coast of Tahiti, in waters thought to be deep enough to protect it from the bleaching effects of the warming ocean.
Mariupol	Ukraine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Russian advances in context to Russia-Ukraine war ➤ Mariupol sits on the coast of the Azov Sea between the Crimean Peninsula and the Donetsk republic.
Black Sea	South eastern extremity of Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is bordered by Ukraine to the north, Russia to the northeast, Georgia to the east, Turkey to the south, and Bulgaria and Romania to the west. ➤ It is connected to the Atlantic Ocean by the Bosphorus strait ➤ Kerch Strait links the Black Sea to the Sea of Azov.
Nusantara	Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New capital of Indonesia (shifted from Java) ➤ It is located in the Borneo Island
Nord Stream pipeline	Baltic Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The longest subsea pipeline, is an export gas pipeline which runs under the Baltic Sea carrying gas from Russia to Europe. ➤ The pipeline's significance comes from the fact that it bypasses transit countries (Poland, Belarus etc), making it highly reliable for European customers.
Suez Canal	Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An artificial sea-level waterway in Egypt, connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea through the Isthmus of Suez; and dividing Africa and Asia.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Around 10% of world trade flows through it.
Jaffna	Srilanka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a port in northern Srilanka. ➤ It is populated largely by Tamil-speaking people of South Indian origin.
Great Barrier reef	Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ World's largest coral reef system ➤ Located in Coral Sea ➤ It is experiencing a mass coral bleaching event ➤ UNESCO world heritage site
Chabahar port	Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A seaport in south-eastern Iran, on the Gulf of Oman ➤ Only oceanic port of Iran and consists of two separate ports named Shahid Beheshti and Shahid Kalantari ➤ Developed with the help of India ➤ Only 72 km away from the Gwadar port in Pakistan
KwaZulu-Natal	South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ KwaZulu-Natal, formerly Natal, is a province of South Africa, occupying the south-eastern portion of the country. ➤ It experienced one of the worst weather storms in its history, resulting in heavy flooding ➤ It is bounded to the north by Swaziland and Mozambique, to the east by the Indian Ocean, to the south by Eastern Cape province, to the west by Lesotho and Free State province, and to the northwest by Mpumalanga province.
Tigray	Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is the northernmost regional state in Ethiopia ➤ A Civil War between Tigray People's Liberation Front and the Ethiopian government.
Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam	Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A gravity dam on the Blue Nile River in Ethiopia ➤ Disputed by Egypt and Sudan

Somalia	African country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Somalia is the easternmost country of Africa ➤ Located on the Horn of Africa Peninsula with the equator passing through it ➤ Drought emergency in Somalia ➤ A joint statement by the U.N. FAO, OCHA, UNICEF and WFP stated that nearly six million people in Somalia – roughly 40% of its population – are now facing extreme levels of food insecurity with pockets of famine conditions in certain areas.
Yemen	Yemen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Southwestern country of the Arabian Peninsula ➤ Has coasts in Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (these waterbodies are connected by Bab-al-Mandab strait) ➤ Saudi-led coalition backing the country's official government is fighting a rebel group called the Houthis ➤ Drone attacks on Abu Dhabi by the Houthis in which Indians were killed
New Caledonia	Pacific Ocean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An overseas French territory located in the southwestern Pacific Ocean ➤ In a referendum, voters chose overwhelmingly to stay part of France
Lake Chad	Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Shrank by 90% in 60 years due to drought and climate change ➤ Boko Haram attack in the region
Caspian Sea	Central Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Largest lake in the world ➤ Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Russia, Iran and Kazakhstan share borders with it.
Sea of Galilee	Israel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Between the occupied Golan Heights and the Galilee region. ➤ Fed by underground springs but its major source is the Jordan River.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ lowest freshwater lake on Earth and the second-lowest lake in the world (after the Dead Sea, a saltwater lake).
West Bank and Gaza	Palestine-Israel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ West Bank is a landlocked territory near the Mediterranean coast of Western Asia, bordered by Jordan to the east and by the Green Line separating it and Israel on the south, west and north. ➤ Gaza is a densely populated strip of land that is mostly surrounded by Israel and peopled almost exclusively by Palestinians. Israel used to have a military presence, but withdrew unilaterally in 2005. Gaza is governed by the Islamist group Hamas, which formed in 1987 as a militant "resistance" group against Israel.
Al-Aqsa Mosque	Jerusalem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ For years, al-Aqsa, the third holiest place of worship in Islam after Mecca and Medina, has remained a flashpoint in the Israeli-Palestinian tensions. ➤ Muslims call the compound, which also houses the Dome of the Rock, the Dome of the Chain, four minarets and the Western Wall (Wailing Wall) Haram esh-Sharif, or the Noble Sanctuary. ➤ For Jews, it is the Temple Mount, the holiest place in Judaism where the Jewish temples once stood.
Salda lake	Turkey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Minerals and rock deposits at Salda lake are the nearest match on earth with the deposits collected from Mars by NASA.
Whakaari White Island	New Zealand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is an active andesite stratovolcano situated 48 km from the east coast of the North Island of New Zealand, in the Bay of Plenty.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The island is New Zealand's most active cone volcano, and has been built up by continuous volcanic activity over the past 150,000 years.
Lake Natron	Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It lies in the East African Rift Valley ➤ It is alkaline in nature - high levels of evaporation leaves behind natron (sodium carbonate decahydrate) and trona (sodium sesquicarbonate dihydrate) ➤ Crimson red colour of lake due to halophile microorganisms
Odesa	Ukraine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Added to the List of World Heritage in Danger by the UNESCO ➤ Russian military efforts focused on this warm water port
Bakhmut	Ukraine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Heavy destruction due to Russia-Ukraine conflict
NEOM	Saudi Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A smart city to be developed in Saudi Arabia ➤ It includes the project Line which is a 170-kilometre linear city that will house 9 million people ➤ It is bounded by the Red Sea to the south and the Gulf of Aqaba to the west

AID TO DECODE MAP BASED QUESTIONS

1. Equator passes through Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Sao Tome & Principe, Gabon, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Somalia, Maldives, Indonesia, and Kiribati.
2. Tropic of Cancer passes through Mexico, Western Sahara, Mauritania, Mali, Algeria, Niger, Libya, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Oman, India, Myanmar, Bangladesh, China, Taiwan, and Bahamas
3. Tropic of Capricorn passes through Chile, Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Mozambique, Madagascar, and Australia.
4. Countries surrounding Mediterranean Sea are Spain, France, Monaco, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia,

- Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Cyprus, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Libya, Malta, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco.
5. Black sea is bordered by Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, Turkey, Bulgaria, and Romania.
 6. Caspian Sea is bordered by Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Iran, Azerbaijan, and Russia.
 7. Equator and Tropic of Cancer passes through Brazil
 8. Malacca Strait - between Indonesia and Malaysia, joining Andaman Sea & South China Sea
 9. Palk Strait - between India and Sri Lanka, joining Palk Bay & Bay of Bengal
 10. Sunda Strait – Indonesia, joining Java Sea & Indian Ocean
 11. Bab-el-Mandeb Strait - between Yemen and Djibouti – joining Red Sea & Gulf of Aden
 12. North Channel – between Ireland and England – joining Irish Sea & Atlantic Ocean
 13. Bosphorous Strait – in Turkey - joining Black Sea and Marmara Sea
 14. Dardenleez Strait - in Turkey – joining Marmara Sea and Aegean Sea
 15. Dover strait - between England and France – joining English Channel & North Sea
 16. Hormuz Strait - between Oman and Iran – joining Gulf of Persia & Gulf of Oman
 17. Gibraltar Strait - between Spain and Morocco – joining Mediterranean Sea & Atlantic Ocean
 18. Magellan strait - in Chile – joining Pacific and South Atlantic Ocean
 19. World's longest river flows through Egypt's capital city Cairo
 20. Danube river flows through four cities of Europe – Belgrade (capital of Serbia), Bratislava (capital of Slovakia), Budapest (capital of Hungary) and Vienna (capital of Austria).
 21. Israel borders Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and the Palestinian territories of West Bank and the Gaza Strip; it shares maritime borders with Cyprus.
 22. **Country – Capital city – River**
 - Bangladesh - Dhaka - River Buriganga
 - Canada - Ottawa - River Ottawa
 - China - Beijing - The Yellow River
 - England - London - River Thames
 - France - Paris - River Seine
 - Germany - Berlin - River Spree and River Havel
 - Russian Federation - Moscow - River Moskva
 - Ukraine - Kiev - River Dnieper
 - United Kingdom - London - River Thames
 - Malaysia - Kuala Lumpur - River Klamp
 - Iraq - Baghdad - River Tigris

15.NATIONAL PARKS/WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES IN NEWS

SL No	National Parks/WLS	State	Brief Description
1.	Sitanadi Udanti Tiger Reserve	Chhattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It includes Sitanadi wildlife sanctuary and Udanti wildlife sanctuary Derives its name from Sitanadi river and Udanti river Known for the dwindling population of wild buffaloes
2.	Tal Chhapar Blackbuck Sanctuary	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located in the Thar desert region Home to black buck and raptors Known for "Mothiya" or pearl-a special type of grass
3.	Namdapha National Park	Arunachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evergreen rainforests It is a National Park and Tiger Reserve Namdapha and Noa-Dihing river flows through it Diversity of biomes - evergreen forests, moist deciduous forests, sub-tropical forests, temperate forests and alpine Medicinal plant Mishimi Teeta (Copti teeta) available here (included in schedule 5 of WLP Act 1972)
4.	Kaziranga National Park	Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO It was declared a Tiger Reserve in 2006. Recognized as an Important Bird Area by Birdlife International Brahmaputra lies on its North and Karbi Anglong hills on its South Houses largest population of one-horned rhinoceros
5.	Orang National Park	Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was established as a wild life sanctuary in 1985. It is also known as the mini Kaziranga National Park.
6.	Manas National Park	Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It witnessed a sharp rise in the population of rhinos and tigers. It was declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. It is a Project Tiger reserve, an elephant reserve, and a biosphere reserve.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It includes a range of forested hills, alluvial grasslands and tropical evergreen forests. • It is habitat for species like tiger, greater one-horned rhino, swamp deer, pygmy hog and Bengal florican. • It is famous for its population of the Wild water buffalo. • Manas-Beki system is the major river system flowing through it.
7.	Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary	Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is also known as 'Mini Kaziranga. • It is known for one horned rhinoceros and wild water buffalo
8.	Valmiki National Park	Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a Tiger Reserve. • It is the only national park in Bihar • Contiguous with Nepal's Chitwan National Park • Received accreditation of Global Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CA TS).
9.	Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary	Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India's first observatory for the Gangetic dolphins
10.	Indravati National Park	Chhattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is home to one of the last populations of rare wild buffalo • Name derives from the nearby Indravati river • It is also a tiger reserve
11.	Terai Elephant Reserve	Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It includes Dudhwa Tiger Reserve and Pilibhit Tiger Reserve • It is UP's second elephant reserve after Shivalik Elephant reserve
12.	Lemru Elephant Reserve	Chattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created to minimise human-animal conflict
13.	Gir National Park	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is also known as Sasan Gir. • It is a national park, and wildlife sanctuary. • Only place in the world where Asiatic lions are naturally found. • Barda Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat- Second home of Lions
14.	Great Himalayan National Park	Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is at the junction of world's two major biogeographic realms.
15.	Tirthan Wildlife Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has been ranked the best managed Protected Areas in the country- Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) report by MoEFCC. Part of the sanctuary also is a World Heritage Site.
16.	Dachigam National Park	Jammu Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Known for critically endangered Hangul/Kashmir Stag It is in the Zabarwan Range of the western Himalayas.
17.	Bandipur National Park	Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a tiger reserve under Project Tiger. It has second highest Tiger population in India. It is the part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
18.	Malai Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed to be a tiger reserve The sanctuary will be renamed as Malai Mahadeshwara Hill Tiger Reserve. It will be sixth Tiger Reserve of Karnataka.
19.	Silent Valley National Park	Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognised by UNESCO in 2007. It is located in the rich biodiversity of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. It is one of the last undisturbed tracts of South Western Ghats mountain rain forests.
20.	Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary	Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new species of butterfly was spotted here. There are a total of 262 species of butterflies in Aralam Sanctuary.
21.	Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary	Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rungia longifolia subsp. Keralensis a new plant subspecies was discovered.
22.	Van Vihar National Park	Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has the status of a national park, but is developed and managed as a modern zoological park. It categorises animals in two categories, captive and herbivores.
23.	Kuno National Park	Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site of Cheetah reintroduction Derives name from Kuno River, located on Vindhyan hills

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also chosen for Asiatic Lion translocation in 2013 by SC • Dry deciduous vegetation dominated by the "Kardhai", "Khair" and "Salai" trees,
24.	Ramgarh Visdhari Tiger Reserve	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation of both Vindhyan and Aaravalli elements • Continuation with the buffer area of Ranthambore tiger reserve in the North-eastern side and Mukundara Hills tiger reserve in the southern side • Mez, a tributary of Chambal river, passes through it • Dry deciduous - dominated by Dhok (<i>Anogeissus pendula</i>) trees.
25.	National Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located on the Chambal River near the tripoint of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh • Largest population of Gharial in wild • Habitat for red-crowned roof turtle, mugger crocodiles and Ganges river dolphin.
26.	Ranipur Wildlife Sanctuary	Uttarpradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bundelkhand region • Nearby Panna Tiger reserve, it is an important tiger corridor • Tropical dry deciduous forests • Fourth tiger reserve in UP, after Dudhwa, Pilibhit and Amangarh (buffer of Corbett Tiger Reserve)
27.	Keibul Lamjao National Park	Manipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the only floating park in the world • Located on the Loktak lake • It is characterized by floating decomposed plant material locally called <i>phumdi</i> • Home to Manipur brow-antlered deer, popularly known as the Sangai • Inhabited by the Meitei community
28.	Agasthiyamalai Biosphere reserve	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located in the Western Ghats, it has peaks reaching 1,868 m above sea level • It includes 3 wildlife sanctuaries - Shendurney, Peppara and Neyyar, as well as the Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger reserve • Home to Kani tribes

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tamil Nadu notifies Agasthiyamalai as an Elephant reserve as well
29.	Balphakram National Park	Meghalaya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has been listed in UNESCO World Heritage tentative list. It is home to wide species of plants and animals.
30.	Phawngpui National Park	Mizoram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was declared as a National Park in the year of 1992. Also known as Blue Mountain National Park.
31.	Thorangtlang Wildlife Sanctuary	Mizoram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Union Government launched the Green-Ag Project in Mizoram. It is to reduce emissions from agriculture and ensure sustainable agricultural practices.
32.	Simlipal National Park	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a national park, a tiger reserve, elephant reserve and biosphere reserve. It is part of the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves since 2009.
33.	Bhitarkanika National Park	Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It obtained the status of a Ramsar site on 19 August 2002. It hosts many mangrove species. It is the 2nd largest Mangrove ecosystems of India.
34.	Keoladeo National Park	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was formerly known as the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary. It is a human made wetland. It is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site Wintering site for many birds like Siberian Crane
35.	Ranthambore National Park	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was declared one of the Project Tiger reserves in 1973. It harbours dry deciduous forests and open grassy meadow. The historic Ranthambore Fort lies within the park.
36.	Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was identified under Project Lion in 2020. Sanctuary sprawls over the Aravali ranges and the Malwa plateau.
37.	Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was identified under Project Lion in 2020. It is Home to the longest wall in India.

38.	Desert National Park		Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critically Endangered Great Indian bustard is the major attraction. • Chinkara or Indian Gazelle
39.	Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park		Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a Biosphere Reserve • It is one of the biologically richest coastal regions in all of mainland of India • Coral deaths due to <i>Kappaphycus alvarezii</i>, a seaweed species deliberately introduced for commercial cultivation
40.	Mukurthi National Park		Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. • It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site 2012. • It was upgraded to a National Park in the year of 1990.
41.	Meghamalai Wildlife Sanctuary		Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Srivilliputhur meghamalai tiger reserve designated as 51st TR in india • Combined with Srivilliputhur Grizzled squirrel sanctuary
42.	Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary		Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haiderpur wetland is located within the Sanctuary. • The wetland is recognized as a potential Ramsar site.
43.	Turtle Wildlife Sanctuary		Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worst managed protected area in the survey conducted by MoEFCC
44.	Nanda Devi National Park		Uttarakhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was inscribed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1988. • It is a Biosphere Reserve. • It is situated around the peak of Nanda Devi.
45.	Gangotri National Park		Uttarakhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It harbours Western Himalayan subalpine conifer forests. • It is home to the snow leopard. • The Gaumukh glacier, the origin of river Ganges is located inside the park.
46.	Sundarbans National Park		West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a national park, tiger reserve, and biosphere reserve. • It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site inscribed in 1987.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been designated as a Ramsar site since 2019. • It is considered as a World Network of Biosphere Reserve (Man and Biosphere Reserve) from 1989. • Name derived from Sundari tree -a special kind of mangrove tree
47.	Singalila National Park	West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located in the Darjeeling district. • Habitat of Red Panda (also in Neora valley national park, West Bengal)
48.	Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park	Andaman Nicobar Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park was created in 1983. • The coral reefs in the park are fringing reefs. • There are 2 major island groups in the park: the Labyrinth Islands and the Twin Islands. • It is the part of Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve.
49.	Galathea National Park	Andaman Nicobar Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert committee of the environment ministry has recommended a near-negligible eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) around Galathea National Park (GNP) . • It is the part of Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve.
50.	Guru Ghasidas National Park (Sanjay National Park) and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary	Chhattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated as India's 53rd Tiger Reserve by the National Tiger Conservation Authority. • Guru Ghasidas National Park is located on the Chhotanagpur plateau and a portion of the Baghelkhand plateau, bordering Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand. • Guru Ghasidas National Park's Forest is moist deciduous and dominated by Sal. • Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary is in Chhattisgarh's Surajpur district, near the border with Uttar Pradesh. It is given the name after Tamor Hill & Pingla Nalla. The sanctuary is mostly covered in mixed deciduous forests. Throughout, there are sal and bamboo forests.
51.	Wadhvana wetland	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This reservoir was created in 1910 by the former Baroda State. • It is a Ramsar site

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is located in a semi-arid agricultural landscape and it is surrounded by wheat and paddy fields and villages. • It is internationally important for its birdlife as it provides wintering ground to migratory waterbirds. • Pallas's fish-eagle, the vulnerable common pochard, and the near-threatened Dalmatian pelican, grey-headed fish-eagle and ferruginous duck. 	
52.	Nagarjunasagar Tiger Reserve	Srisaïlam	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Largest tiger reserve in India • Located on Nallamalai hill (Eastern Ghats) • Krishna river flows through it





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I owe the largest share of my success to the tireless and constant support of the Enlite IAS academy team. Being part of such a committed group of Individuals has truly been an enriching and rewarding experience. I am deeply indebted to Mahesh sir and Abhilash sir, both of whom exemplify the true spirit of Enlite. They have been pillars of support throughout the entire process, helping me navigate and overcome every obstacle that this journey has thrown at me.

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I attended philosophy optional enrichment program @ ENLITE IAS. The unique insights I got during the course played a vital role in my success in the civil service examination. Also 90% of the questions in the exam directly appeared from the class room sessions. It helped in tuning my Interview preparation to an optimum level.

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