# UPSC Current Affairs

Thursday, 19 November 2026 · Sources: PIB and The Hindu · 12 items

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| GS3 | 2 | Japanese agency NEDO explores quantum research collaboration; U.S., Venezuela sign deal to re-establish military ties: Heg |

Every item links to its original source: tap a headline or the Source line to open the full article on thehindu.com or the press release on pib.gov.in. The Hindu text here is only the short RSS excerpt.

## GS Paper II: Polity, Governance, Social Justice & IR

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

### COP31 must not leave the next generation with a climate bill

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Environment & Ecology, Polity & Constitution, International Relations

• As the climate summit enters its final week in Antalya, developing countries are still fighting for the finance they were promised

**Why it matters for India and UPSC**

• **Environment:** India's NDCs (45% cut in emission intensity of GDP from 2005 levels by 2030, 50% non-fossil power capacity, net zero by 2070) and the principle of CBDR-RC.
• **International relations:** India speaks for the Global South on climate finance and technology transfer; carbon border taxes like the EU's CBAM affect Indian exports.

**Prelims pointers**

• Key terms: COP31, Antalya

**Static connect: UNFCCC & Paris Agreement**

• UNFCCC adopted at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit; the Conference of Parties (COP) meets yearly.
• Paris Agreement (COP21, 2015): keep warming well below 2°C, pursue 1.5°C; countries submit NDCs.
• India's targets include net zero by 2070.

*UPSC angle: Climate negotiations and India's commitments (GS3).*

**Source:** The Hindu, Environment, 18 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/cop31-must-not-leave-the-next-generation-with-a-cli

POLITY & CONSTITUTION

### Declare Parandur airport abandonment decision unconstitutional, insists a PIL plea before Madras High Court

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution

• Litigant claims the project had been abandoned without any technical data, expert committee report or comparative economic study in support of the decision

**Why it matters for India and UPSC**

• **Governance & polity:** Judicial review and the separation of powers; such rulings often clarify fundamental rights or federal relations and become Mains examples.
• **Society:** Access to justice and pendency (over 5 crore cases) affect citizens' trust in institutions.
• **Economy:** RBI's MPC targets 4% CPI inflation (±2%); rate decisions affect EMIs, credit growth, investment and the rupee.

**Prelims pointers**

• Key terms: Declare Parandur, PIL, Madras High Court, Litigant

**Source:** The Hindu, National, 18 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/declare-parandur-airport-abandonment-dec

REPORTS & INDICES

### India’s CSR spending leaves gaps in health, water security, innovation: Report

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Reports & Indices, Governance & Social Justice, Science & Technology

• Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), for instance, account for 60% of deaths in India, up from 45% in 2004-06.
• Yet, nearly 62% of identifiable NCD funding goes towards cancer, while cardiovascular diseases receive around 12%, despite accounting for over half of NCD deaths, says a study by a City-based global impact consulting firm

**Why it matters for India and UPSC**

• **Economy:** RBI's MPC targets 4% CPI inflation (±2%); rate decisions affect EMIs, credit growth, investment and the rupee.
• **Society:** Food inflation hits poor households the most; links to supply-side measures like buffer stocks and export curbs.

**Prelims pointers**

• Key terms: CSR, Report, Non-communicable, NCDs, Yet

**Source:** The Hindu, National, 18 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/indias-csr-spending-leaves-gaps-in-health

ALSO IN THE NEWS (LOWER PRIORITY)

• Panjab University improves its global standing in interdisciplinary scientific research (The Hindu, Science, 18 Nov 2026)
• Introduce age-appropriate awareness programmes for school students in academics over trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation: HC to government (The Hindu, National, 18 Nov 2026)
• Bombay HC sets aside ICICI Bank Board of Directors’ sanction order on Chanda Kochhar (The Hindu, National, 18 Nov 2026)
• COVID-19 lessons should inform response to air pollution (The Hindu, Environment, 18 Nov 2026)
• Plea in Supreme Court asks how many voters have refilled enumeration forms to get back on electoral rolls (The Hindu, National, 18 Nov 2026)
• Dual reporting structures built into the new police system in Bengaluru, raise concerns (The Hindu, National, 18 Nov 2026)
• Bangladesh deploys paramilitary as unrest grows over Hasina's return (The Hindu, International, 18 Nov 2026)

## GS Paper III: Economy, Environment, S&T, Security & DM

ALSO IN THE NEWS (LOWER PRIORITY)

• Japanese agency NEDO explores quantum research collaboration with SRM University-A.P. (The Hindu, National, 18 Nov 2026)
• U.S., Venezuela sign deal to re-establish military ties: Hegseth (The Hindu, International, 18 Nov 2026)