UPSC Current Affairs

Saturday, 28 November 2026 · Sources: PIB and The Hindu · 23 items

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GS Paper I: Heritage, Culture, History, Geography & Society

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Is stubble burning in Punjab affecting Sri Lanka’s air quality?

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Environment & Ecology, Geography, International Relations

• Pollution from northern India, including stubble burning emissions, travels across the Bay of Bengal to Sri Lanka during the northeast monsoon.
• Atmospheric transport mechanisms carry regional transboundary particulate matter impacting Sri Lanka's seasonal air quality.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Highlights that stubble burning and air pollution are not purely domestic urban issues but carry regional, transboundary ecological implications.
• **Geography & disasters:** Demonstrates the role of seasonal northeast monsoon wind vectors in driving long-range atmospheric pollutant transport over oceanic basins.
• **International relations:** Transboundary air pollution creates ecological interdependencies that require regional cooperative environmental mechanisms within South Asia.

Prelims pointers

• Northeast monsoon winds blow from the northeast to the southwest across the Indian subcontinent and the Bay of Bengal during October to December.
• Transboundary air pollution can transport fine particulate matter (PM2.5) over hundreds of kilometres via regional meteorological patterns.

Static connect: Northeast Monsoon

• Occurs predominantly from October to December, primarily bringing rainfall to Tamil Nadu, coastal Andhra Pradesh, and Sri Lanka.
• Involves prevailing winds blowing from continental landmasses towards the oceanic regions (northeast to southwest).
• Also known as the retreating monsoon period in peninsular India.
UPSC angle: Meteorology of monsoons and transboundary dispersion of atmospheric pollutants.

Mains angle

Analyzes the transboundary dimensions of environmental pollution and regional air quality governance in South Asia (GS Paper III).

Source: The Hindu, International, 27 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/is-stubble-burning-in-punjab-affecting-sri-lanka

GEOGRAPHY

U.S. disables ship trying to leave Iran, as Tehran vows to confront blockade

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Geography, International Relations, Internal Security

• US forces disabled a ship attempting to leave Iran amid escalating tensions and threats of a blockade.
• Iranian leadership issued warnings regarding maritime transit and potential confrontation over the Strait of Hormuz.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Any instability or blockade around the Strait of Hormuz directly threatens crude imports, shipping lanes, and economic stability in India.
• **International relations:** Complicates India's delicate diplomatic balancing act between Iran, the US, and the Gulf states.
• **Economy:** Risk of severe oil price shocks, freight inflation, and widening of India's current account deficit.
• **Geography & disasters:** Highlights strategic maritime chokepoints and sea lanes of communication (SLOCs) in West Asia.

Prelims pointers

• Strait of Hormuz connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea.
• It serves as one of the world's most critical maritime chokepoints for crude oil transit.

Static connect: Strait of Hormuz

• Separates Iran to the north from Oman and the United Arab Emirates to the south.
• Handles a substantial fraction of global seaborne petroleum exports.
UPSC angle: Critical maritime chokepoints, international navigation, and Indian energy security.

Mains angle

Analyzes the geopolitical vulnerability of critical energy chokepoints and its impact on India's energy security under GS Paper 2 and Paper 3.

Practice question

The Strait of Hormuz remains a critical chokepoint in global energy transit. Assess the strategic and economic vulnerabilities India faces in the event of disruptions in this region.

Source: The Hindu, International, 27 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/us-military-says-it-disabled-commercial-ship-t

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

GOVERNANCE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

COP31: India welcomes $50 million climate fund pledge, says adaptation needs far greater

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice, Environment & Ecology

• At COP31, India welcomed a $50 million pledge for climate funds but emphasized that global adaptation funding needs are far greater.
• India stressed enhanced financial support, transparency in delivery, and the fulfillment of commitments for vulnerable nations.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Climate finance remains the primary friction point in global climate negotiations, with India acting as a prominent voice for developing nations.
• **Environment:** Developing nations face acute adaptation deficits that cannot be resolved without predictable and concessional international financing.
• **International relations:** India reinforces its leadership of the Global South by demanding accountability and equity from developed nations under the UNFCCC framework.

Prelims pointers

• Climate finance mechanisms operate under the UNFCCC framework, emphasizing Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC).

Static connect: UNFCCC Climate Finance

• Developed countries committed in 2009 to jointly mobilize $100 billion per year by 2020 to address climate needs of developing nations.
• The financial mechanism of UNFCCC includes the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF).
• Adaptation funding focuses on assisting vulnerable developing countries in building resilience against climate impacts.
UPSC angle: Multilateral climate finance architecture and India's advocacy for the Global South.

Mains angle

Evaluates India's stance on climate justice, climate finance delivery, and adaptation support in multilateral environmental negotiations (GS Paper III).

Source: The Hindu, Environment, 27 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/cop31-india-welcomes-50-million-climate-fund-pledge

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Hasina has become a ‘thorn’ in Bangladesh-India ties: Minister Humaiun Kobir

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations

• Bangladesh's interim administration stated that the presence of former PM Sheikh Hasina in India has become a point of strain in bilateral ties.
• The statement indicates growing diplomatic friction between Dhaka and New Delhi over extradition and political asylum considerations.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Bangladesh is central to India's Act East policy and North-East security; diplomatic strains could affect border management and transit pacts.
• **International relations:** Risk of diplomatic alienation leading Dhaka to move closer to other regional powers such as China or Pakistan.
• **Internal security:** Instability on the eastern border raises risks of illegal migration, cross-border smuggling, and resurgence of insurgent safe havens.
• **Economy:** Jeopardizes trade connectivity, multimodal transport corridors, and energy transit linking India's North-East.

Prelims pointers

• India and Bangladesh signed an Extradition Treaty in 2013, amended in 2016 to facilitate easier extradition procedures.

Static connect: India-Bangladesh Relations

• India shares its longest land border (4,096 km) with Bangladesh, touching five Indian states.
• The Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) was operationalised via the 100th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2015.
UPSC angle: Bilateral treaties, border management, and India's Neighbourhood First policy under GS Paper 2.

Mains angle

Analyzes the geopolitical and security implications of political upheaval in Bangladesh on India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy under GS Paper 2.

Practice question

Recent political developments in Bangladesh pose a critical test for India's regional diplomacy. Discuss the key strategic, security, and diplomatic challenges India faces in recalibrating its ties with Bangladesh.

Source: The Hindu, International, 27 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/hasina-has-become-a-thorn-in-bangladesh-india-

Lifting off: on China’s launch of Pakistan’s first astronaut

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Mains · International Relations

• China has undertaken plans to launch Pakistan's first astronaut into space.
• The development highlights deepening Sino-Pak scientific and strategic cooperation, with commentary suggesting science-based diplomacy could also aid regional engagement.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Tracks the expansion of the China-Pakistan partnership into high-technology and space exploration sectors, impacting South Asian strategic equations.
• **International relations:** Reinforces the expanding strategic and technological axis between Beijing and Islamabad in India's immediate neighborhood.
• **Science & tech:** Signifies China's use of space diplomacy and access to its Tiangong space station to consolidate regional diplomatic ties.

Prelims pointers

• Tiangong is China's operational space station, functioning in low Earth orbit.

Static connect: China-Pakistan Strategic Relations

• China and Pakistan describe their relationship as an 'all-weather strategic cooperative partnership'.
• Bilateral initiatives include the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
• Pakistan's space agency is SUPARCO (Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission).
UPSC angle: India's neighbourhood relations and regional security dynamics involving China and Pakistan.

Mains angle

Assesses China-Pakistan space and technological cooperation and its geopolitical implications for India (GS Paper II).

Source: The Hindu, Editorial, 27 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/lifting-off-on-chinas-launch-of-pakistans-first

Arsenic in the water: Thailand presses Myanmar over mining pollution

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Prelims · International Relations, Economy, Environment & Ecology

• Thailand raised concerns with Myanmar over severe arsenic contamination in tap water supplies near their shared border.
• Water supplies in Mae Sai district were halted after arsenic levels reached nearly 30 times the permissible limit due to upstream mining pollution.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Exemplifies how upstream industrial and mining runoff across national frontiers causes acute downstream public health and environmental crises.
• **Environment:** Illustrates severe contamination risks posed by untreated mining effluents to transboundary freshwater systems and drinking water security.
• **International relations:** Underlines the necessity of bilateral environmental monitoring frameworks for transboundary river management.

Prelims pointers

• Arsenic is a heavy metal and designated carcinogen that naturally occurs in minerals or is released through mining and industrial effluent.
• The Mae Sai district lies along the Thailand-Myanmar border.

Static connect: Arsenic Toxicity

• Arsenic contamination in drinking water is linked to skin lesions, hyperkeratosis, and cancers of the skin, bladder, and lungs.
• The World Health Organization (WHO) provisional guideline value for arsenic in drinking water is 10 micrograms per litre (0.01 mg/L).
• Chronic exposure to arsenic-contaminated groundwater is a major public health hazard in river basins across South and Southeast Asia.
UPSC angle: Water pollutants, heavy metal poisoning, and related public health impacts.

Mains angle

Highlights transboundary river pollution, environmental regulation challenges, and resource diplomacy between neighbouring states (GS Paper III).

Source: The Hindu, International, 27 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/arsenic-in-the-water-thailand-presses-myanmar-

POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Centre proposes freeze on Lok Sabha seat proportions for States until 2051

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution

• The Centre has proposed a Constitutional Amendment Bill and a fresh Delimitation Bill to increase Lok Sabha seats in each State by 50%.
• The Bill freezes the proportion of Lok Sabha seats among States until 2051.
• It also operationalises the 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

The issue addresses deep-rooted federal anxieties between northern and southern states regarding legislative representation, demographic control, and democratic equity.
• **Governance & polity:** Altering Lok Sabha seat numbers while freezing state proportions directly impacts federal representation and electoral management.
• **Society:** Operationalising 33% reservation ensures substantial institutional representation for women in national legislative policymaking.

Prelims pointers

• Article 82 and Article 170 provide for the readjustment of Lok Sabha and Assembly seats after each Census.
• The 84th Constitutional Amendment Act (2001) previously froze the total number of seats in the Lok Sabha based on the 1971 Census until the first Census after 2026.

Static connect: Delimitation Commission

• Delimitation is the act of redrawing boundaries of Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies based on the recent Census.
• Delimitation Commissions are appointed by the President and work in collaboration with the Election Commission of India.
• Orders issued by the Delimitation Commission cannot be challenged in any court of law.
UPSC angle: Delimitation process, constitutional provisions (Articles 82 & 170), and federal issues.

Mains angle

Examines the federal balance between population-based representation and rewarding population control in the context of delimitation (GS Paper II).

Practice question

Discuss the federal and democratic challenges surrounding the delimitation of parliamentary constituencies in India. How does freezing interstate seat ratios impact the principle of equal representation?

Source: The Hindu, National, 27 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/centre-proposes-freeze-on-lok-sabha-seat-proportion

Lok Sabha seat freeze is no longer linked to population stabilisation

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution

• The 132nd Constitutional Amendment Bill removes the link between population stabilisation and Lok Sabha seat allocation share.
• Previously, seat distribution based on the 1971 Census was frozen to prevent penalising states that successfully managed population growth.
• The new proposal seeks to decouple seat proportion freezing from the explicit goal of population stabilisation.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Decoupling seat allocation from population control changes the constitutional rationale that guided Indian federal seat distribution for half a century.
• **Governance & polity:** Removes the historical incentive-penalty framework tied to national population control policies under the 1971 Census benchmark.
• **Society:** Highlights demographic disparities between northern states with higher fertility rates and southern states that achieved demographic stabilization.

Prelims pointers

• The 42nd Amendment (1976) originally froze the allocation of seats based on the 1971 Census to support family planning efforts.
• The 84th Amendment (2001) extended this freeze up to the year 2026.

Static connect: Constitutional Provisions on Seat Readjustment

• Article 81 mandates that the ratio between the number of seats allotted to each State and the population of the State should, as far as practicable, be the same for all States.
• The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976 froze the allocation of seats to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies as per the 1971 Census.
• The 87th Amendment Act, 2003 permitted the delimitation of constituencies within States based on the 2001 Census, without altering total seats allotted to each State.
UPSC angle: Evolution of delimitation freezes and their constitutional mechanisms under Articles 81 and 82.

Mains angle

Analyzes the shift in constitutional philosophy regarding demographic transition, federal incentives, and legislative representation (GS Paper II).

Practice question

The decoupling of parliamentary representation from population stabilisation marks a major shift in India's federal compact. Critically analyze.

Source: The Hindu, National, 27 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/lok-sabha-seat-freeze-is-no-longer-linked-to-popula

Fair play: on a hurried delimitation of Lok Sabha constituencies

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution

• Calls have intensified for building broad political consensus before undertaking the delimitation of Lok Sabha seats.
• Apprehensions exist over population-based delimitation penalising states that successfully implemented family planning and population control.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Delimitation directly affects parliamentary power dynamics between northern and southern states, touching core tenets of Indian federalism.
• **Governance & polity:** Threatens North-South political asymmetry if allocation strictly tracks population growth, disincentivizing population management.
• **Society:** Strains the federal social compact and unity if sub-national concerns regarding democratic disenfranchisement are ignored.

Prelims pointers

• Delimitation Commissions are constituted under Article 82 of the Constitution following each Census (via Delimitation Acts).
• The 84th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2001 froze the reallocation of seats to states until the first census after 2026.

Static connect: Delimitation Commission

• Appointed by the President of India and works in collaboration with the Election Commission.
• Orders of the Delimitation Commission have the force of law and cannot be called into question before any court.
UPSC angle: Articles 81, 82, 170, and constitutional provisions governing delimitation and federal representation.

Mains angle

Discusses federal tensions and representation equity arising from the impending delimitation of parliamentary constituencies under GS Paper 2.

Practice question

The proposed delimitation of parliamentary constituencies poses a significant challenge to Indian federalism. Critically examine the concerns of southern states and suggest equitable solutions to balance democratic representation with federal harmony.

Source: The Hindu, Editorial, 27 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/fair-play-on-a-hurried-delimitation-of-lok-sabh

Mamata-led Trinamool Congress questions legality of rebel MPs voting on delimitation bill amid pending defection case

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution

• Trinamool Congress raised legal questions over whether rebel MPs facing pending disqualification petitions under the anti-defection law can vote in Parliament.
• The issue arises in the context of voting on the proposed delimitation Bill before the Speaker decides on the petitions.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Pertains to constitutional ambiguities regarding the legislative participation of members facing pending anti-defection petitions during critical parliamentary votes.
• **Governance & polity:** Raises procedural questions regarding whether legislators under defection scrutiny should influence decisive constitutional amendment votes.

Prelims pointers

• The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the disqualification of members on grounds of defection.
• The Presiding Officer of the House decides disqualification matters under the Tenth Schedule, and pending petitions do not automatically suspend a member's voting rights.

Static connect: Tenth Schedule (Anti-Defection Law)

• Added to the Constitution by the 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985.
• Disqualification petitions are adjudicated by the Speaker or Chairman of the respective legislative House.
• In Kihoto Hollohan v. Zachillhu (1992), the Supreme Court ruled that the Speaker’s decision is subject to judicial review, but courts cannot intervene at an interlocutory stage.
UPSC angle: Anti-defection framework, powers of the Speaker, and judicial precedents regarding pending disqualifications.

Mains angle

Examines the legal status of legislators facing anti-defection proceedings and the authority of the Speaker under the Tenth Schedule (GS Paper II).

Source: The Hindu, National, 27 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/mamata-led-trinamool-congress-questions-legality-of

Bombay High Court puts road project on hold till State files report on mangrove loss, compensatory measures

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Prelims · Polity & Constitution, Environment & Ecology, Reports & Indices

• The Bombay High Court stayed a road project pending the State's report on mangrove loss and mitigation.
• The court directed documentation of tree cover, losses incurred, and five-year survival rates of compensatory plantations.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Underscores judicial scrutiny over compensatory afforestation and coastal ecosystem preservation versus rapid urban infrastructure expansion.
• **Environment:** Protects critical coastal buffer zones and mandates accountability for compensatory afforestation survival rates.
• **Governance & polity:** Exemplifies the role of the judiciary in enforcing the public trust doctrine and environmental compliance on state agencies.

Prelims pointers

• Mangroves are protected under the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notifications under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
• Sundarbans in West Bengal is the largest mangrove forest in the world, followed by areas in Gujarat and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Static connect: Mangrove Ecosystems in India

• Mangroves are salt-tolerant plant communities (halophytes) found in intertidal regions of tropical and subtropical coasts.
• They act as natural storm buffers, prevent coastal erosion, and sequester blue carbon.
UPSC angle: Coastal environmental management, CRZ rules, and judicial environmental activism.

Mains angle

Explores the balance between infrastructural development and coastal ecosystem conservation along with judicial environmental oversight under GS Paper 3.

Source: The Hindu, Environment, 27 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/mumbai/bombay-high-court-puts-road-project-on-hold-ti

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Prototype of Chandrayaan-5/LUPEX rover unveiled

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Science & Technology, Governance & Social Justice

• The prototype of the rover for Chandrayaan-5/LUPEX mission was unveiled by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).
• LUPEX (Lunar Polar Exploration) is a joint collaborative mission between ISRO (India) and JAXA (Japan) targeting the lunar polar region.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

LUPEX reflects expanding Indo-Pacific technology cooperation and highlights India's ongoing lunar exploration trajectory following Chandrayaan-3.
• **Science & tech:** Strengthens rover technology and deep-space instrumentation in partnership with Japan to prospect lunar polar volatiles.
• **International relations:** Bolsters India-Japan bilateral strategic and science diplomacy under the Quad framework.

Prelims pointers

• LUPEX is a joint lunar exploration mission by ISRO and JAXA.
• The mission is also designated as Chandrayaan-5 by ISRO to study lunar polar volatiles and water ice.

Static connect: ISRO's Lunar Exploration Programme

• Chandrayaan-1 (2008) confirmed the presence of lunar water molecules.
• Chandrayaan-3 successfully performed a soft landing on the lunar South Pole in August 2023.
UPSC angle: ISRO space missions and technological collaborations under GS Paper 3 (Science and Technology).

Mains angle

Examines international space collaborations and India's technological capabilities in deep space exploration under GS Paper 3.

Practice question

International space collaborations have emerged as a cornerstone of India's space diplomacy and technological advancement. In this context, discuss the objectives and significance of the ISRO-JAXA LUPEX mission.

Source: The Hindu, Science, 27 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/prototype-of-chandrayaan-5lupex-rover-unveiled/a

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ALSO IN THE NEWS (LOWER PRIORITY)

• Chinese medical delegation visits Jayadeva, St. Martha’s hospitals (The Hindu, National, 27 Nov 2026)
• Naidu appeals to opposition parties to support delimitation, women’s quota Bills (The Hindu, National, 27 Nov 2026)
• Hyderabad’s air pollution puts focus on hospitals; doctors call for city-level health database (The Hindu, Health, 27 Nov 2026)
• Congress reaches out to DMK, other Opposition parties to stall passage of delimitation Bill (The Hindu, National, 27 Nov 2026)
• Hamas says Israel tried to kill chief’s son in Gaza (The Hindu, International, 27 Nov 2026)
• MGM Healthcare Malar launches AI-powered MRI facility in Chennai (The Hindu, Health, 27 Nov 2026)

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

ECONOMY

RBI cuts daily CRR maintenance to 90%, to unlock over ■40,000 crore

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Economy

• The Reserve Bank of India reduced the minimum daily Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) maintenance requirement from 100% to 90%.
• The measure is aimed at unlocking over ■40,000 crore in liquidity, offering banks greater operational flexibility and supporting credit growth.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Alleviates structural liquidity strain in the banking system, reducing overnight interbank volatility and facilitating transmission of credit.
• **Economy:** Releases lendable funds into the banking system, mitigating short-term liquidity mismatches and preventing sharp spikes in call money rates.
• **Governance & polity:** Demonstrates counter-cyclical regulatory adjustments by the central bank to maintain financial system stability.

Prelims pointers

• CRR is the percentage of Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL) that commercial banks must park with the RBI in cash.
• Banks earn no interest on the funds maintained as CRR with the RBI under the RBI Act, 1934.

Static connect: Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)

• Governed by Section 42 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
• Unlike Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR), which can be held in government securities or gold, CRR must be maintained strictly in cash with the central bank.
UPSC angle: Monetary policy instruments, banking liquidity management, and RBI operations.

Mains angle

Examines RBI's monetary and liquidity management tools and their impact on bank credit and economic growth under GS Paper 3.

Practice question

Explain the role of the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) as a tool of monetary management. How does modifying the daily CRR maintenance requirement assist commercial banks during periods of liquidity tightness?

Source: The Hindu, Economy, 27 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/rbi-cuts-daily-crr-maintenance-to-90-to-unlock-o

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ALSO IN THE NEWS (LOWER PRIORITY)

• Former ISRO chief stresses environmental safety in technological advancement (The Hindu, National, 27 Nov 2026)
• Chinese Military tests new Taiwan landing tactics in coastal drills (The Hindu, International, 27 Nov 2026)
• NATO jets scrambled after drone enters Latvian airspace (The Hindu, International, 27 Nov 2026)

Prelims Facts: Reports, Indices, Awards

REPORTS & INDICES

India’s place in the emerging global energy order

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Reports & Indices

• India must strategically navigate the emerging global energy order by balancing rapidly growing domestic energy demand with energy security and climate goals.
• The transition requires managing fossil fuel dependencies alongside expanding renewable capacity, grid modernization, and critical mineral supply chains.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

Energy transition directly influences India's macroeconomic balance, climate commitments, geopolitical positioning, and industrial growth.
• **Economy:** High import dependence on fossil fuels exposes the economy to global commodity price swings; renewable integration lowers trade deficits.
• **Environment:** Decarbonizing power and industrial sectors is essential for meeting India's updated NDC targets and Net-Zero 2070 commitments.
• **International relations:** Positions India as a leader in Global South clean energy diplomacy through initiatives like the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

Prelims pointers

• India has committed to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2070 at COP26.
• India aims to establish 50% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030.

Static connect: India's Renewable Energy Targets and NDCs

• Target to reach 500 GW of non-fossil energy capacity by 2030.
• Updated NDC targets reduction in emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030 from 2005 levels.
UPSC angle: Energy mix, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and clean energy transition.

Mains angle

Assesses India's energy transition trilemma—balancing energy security, economic growth, and environmental sustainability—under GS Paper 3.

Practice question

India's path towards energy transition is governed by the 'energy trilemma' of security, affordability, and sustainability. Discuss the policy and infrastructural interventions needed to anchor India in the evolving global energy order.

Source: The Hindu, Lead (Op-Ed), 27 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/indias-place-in-the-emerging-global-energy-order/art