Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

COVER ALL IMPORTANT CURRENT UPDATES
FROM TH, IE, PIB, MINT

MARCH 9, 2026

Dr.GINDI'S I.A.S. ACADEMY
Civils & Competitive Careers
TRANSFORMING ASPIRANTS INTO ACHIEVERS

A/C CAMPUS

Table of Contents

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 2
1. Phase–2 of Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme (VBYCP) 2
2. Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar & Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025 3
3. West Asia Conflict Impact on India's Marine Exports 4
4. RBI Shared Liability Framework for Digital Payment Fraud 6
5. Relaunch of Canada–India Strategic and Economic Partnership 7
6. India's Care Economy and Budget 2026-27 8
7. Customs Duty Exemption on Cancer Drugs (Budget 2026-27) 9
8. U.S. Supreme Court Ruling on Presidential Trade Powers 10
9. 14th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC14) 12
10. 16th Finance Commission and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) 13
11. West Asia Crisis and India's Wheat Export 14
12. AI-Generated Wildlife Content and Conservation Risks 15

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. Phase–2 of Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme (VBYCP)

A. Core Idea

Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme is a government initiative to engage youth in the vision of **Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047** through dialogues, volunteering, and digital platforms.

B. Why in News

Phase-2 of the programme was launched in Delhi by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

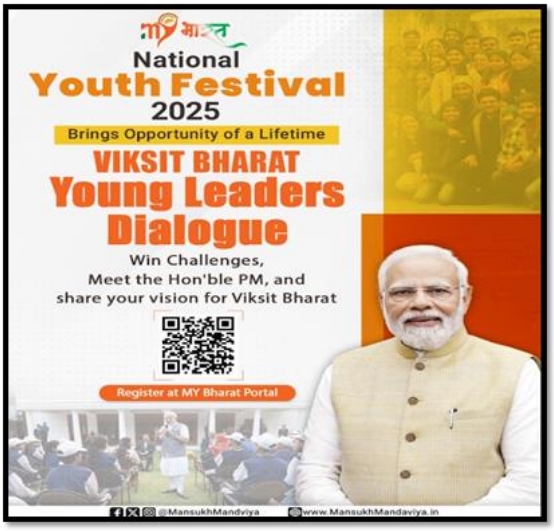
C. Key Facts & Figures

- Phase-2 outreach: **35+ colleges in Delhi**
- Target participation: **10,000+ students**
- Phase-1 coverage: **274 universities**
- States/UTs covered in Phase-1: **22**
- Vision timeline: **2047 (100 years of India's independence)**

D. Important Terms

- **Viksit Bharat@2047:** Government vision to make India a developed country by 2047.
- **MY Bharat (Mera Yuva Bharat):** Technology-based platform for youth participation and volunteering.
- **Amrit Peedhi:** Present generation of youth expected to lead India during **Amrit Kaal (2022–2047)**.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved



- **Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports**
- **MY Bharat (Mera Yuva Bharat) Platform**
- Universities and colleges
- Youth Parliament program

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **National Youth Policy – 2014:** Framework for youth development in India.
- **MY Bharat Initiative (2023):** Digital platform for youth engagement.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- MY Bharat is an **autonomous body approved by the Union Cabinet**.

Dr. GNDI's IAS ACADEMY

- The programme promotes **Jan Bhagidari (People's participation)**.
- Youth Parliament simulates **Parliamentary debate and law-making**.
- Focus on **Atmanirbhar Bharat and national development**.
- MY Bharat acts as a **single digital platform for youth volunteering**.
- Viksit Bharat target year: **2047**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Match the following:** Programme – Ministry.
- **Statement-based:** Features of MY Bharat platform.
- **Direct fact:** Target year of Viksit Bharat.
- **Institution question:** Which ministry runs VBYCP?

2. Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar & Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025

A. Core Idea

The **VB-G RAM G Act, 2025** is a rural employment law replacing **MGNREGA**, guaranteeing **125 days of unskilled work per household**.

B. Why in News

The **Ministry of Rural Development is finalizing the implementation rules** of the Act.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Employment guarantee: **125 days per household**
- Earlier under MGNREGA: **100 days**
- Centre–State fund sharing: **60:40**
- For NE/Himalayan states: **90:10**
- Annual **Agricultural Pause:** 60 days

D. Important Terms

- **Normative Allocation:** Budget allocation based on fixed criteria instead of demand.
- **Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan:** Development work plan prepared at village level.
- **DBT Sparsh:** Digital system for direct wage transfer to workers.

Dr. GNDI'S IAS ACADEMY

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Ministry of Rural Development**
- **Gram Panchayats**
- State Governments
- Digital platforms such as **Yuktdhara** for planning

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **VB-G RAM G Act – 2025:** Rural employment and infrastructure development.
- Replaces **MGNREGA – 2005**.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Employment guarantee increased from **100 → 125 days**.
- Work aligned with **four sectors:**
    1. Water security
    2. Rural infrastructure
    3. Livelihood assets
    4. Climate mitigation works
- **Agricultural Pause:** No public works during peak farming season.
- **AI-based fraud detection** introduced.
- **Penalty up to ₹10,000** for administrative lapses.
- Planning done at **Gram Panchayat level**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Comparison question:** MGNREGA vs VB-G RAM G Act.
- **Direct fact:** Days of guaranteed work.
- **Statement question:** Fund sharing ratio.
- **Match:** Digital platform – function.

3. West Asia Conflict Impact on India's Marine Exports

A. Core Idea

Geopolitical tensions in **West Asia** are affecting India's marine exports due to fears of shipping disruption and rising logistics costs.

B. Why in News

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

Shrimp farmers in **Andhra Pradesh** started **early harvesting** due to fears of export disruptions.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Andhra Pradesh share in India's seafood exports: **30–35%**
- Example price drop:
  - Normal price: **₹300/kg**
  - Panic sale: **₹220/kg**
- Key shipping bottlenecks:
  - **Red Sea**
  - **Strait of Hormuz**

D. Important Terms

- **Aquaculture:** Farming of aquatic organisms such as fish or shrimp.
- **Capture Fisheries:** Fishing from natural water bodies like seas or rivers.
- **DDP (Delivered Duty Paid):** Export price including shipping, insurance, and customs duties.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA)**
- **Ministry of Commerce & Industry**
- Fisheries departments of states

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **MPEDA Act, 1972:** Regulates and promotes marine product exports.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **Andhra Pradesh** is India's largest seafood exporting state.
- Key shrimp-producing districts: **Nellore, East Godavari, Krishna**.
- MPEDA headquarters: **Kochi (Kerala)**.
- Export markets include **USA, EU, China, Southeast Asia**.
- Geopolitical tensions increase **insurance and shipping costs**.
- Shrimp is a **major marine export product of India**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Location question:** Headquarters of MPEDA.
- **Direct fact:** Largest seafood exporting state.
- **Match:** Institution – Function.
- **Geography question:** Important shipping routes (Red Sea / Hormuz).

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACAD

4. RBI Shared Liability Framework for Digital Payment Fraud

A. Core Idea

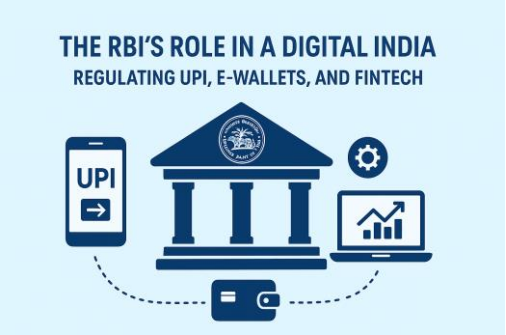
The RBI proposed a **Shared Liability Framework** to compensate victims of **small-value digital payment frauds**.

B. Why in News

RBI released a **draft framework for compensating victims of digital frauds up to ₹50,000**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Applicable transaction limit: **₹50,000**
- Compensation limit: **85% of loss**
- Maximum payout: **₹25,000**
- Reporting deadline: **within 5 days**
- Cyber Crime Helpline: **1930**



D. Important Terms

- **Social Engineering:** Trick used by fraudsters to obtain passwords or OTPs.
- **Shared Liability:** Loss is shared between regulator, banks, and customer.
- **Moral Hazard:** Risky behaviour when someone else bears the loss.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
- Commercial Banks
- **National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal**
- Ministry of Home Affairs (Cyber Crime Helpline)

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **RBI Act, 1934 – Section 45L:** RBI power to regulate financial institutions.
- **Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007:** Regulates payment systems.
- **Information Technology Act, 2000:** Cyber security and data protection.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Applies to **small digital frauds up to ₹50,000**.
- Maximum compensation: **₹25,000**.
- Claim allowed **once per customer lifetime**.

Dr. CINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

- Fraud must be reported within **5 days**.
- Compensation shared by **RBI and banks**.
- Aims to maintain trust in **UPI and digital payments**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Direct fact:** Cyber fraud helpline number.
- **Statement question:** Features of RBI compensation framework.
- **Match:** Act – purpose.
- **UPI/digital payment question in economy section.**

5. Relaunch of Canada–India Strategic and Economic Partnership

A. Core Idea

India and Canada are restarting their **strategic and economic partnership**, focusing on trade, energy supply, and technology cooperation.

B. Why in News

Canadian Prime Minister **Mark Carney visited India (Feb 27 – Mar 2, 2026)** and both countries agreed to resume CEPA negotiations.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Target bilateral trade: **$70 billion by 2030**
- Uranium supply deal: **$2.6 billion**
- Duration of uranium supply: **9 years**
- Canadian investment in India: **$100+ billion**

D. Important Terms

- **CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement):** Trade agreement covering goods, services, investment, and intellectual property.
- **Baseload Power:** Minimum electricity required continuously in a power system.
- **Critical Minerals:** Minerals like lithium, cobalt, graphite needed for EV batteries and green technologies.

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- Government of India
- Government of Canada
- **Cameco Corporation** (Canada's uranium company)
- Canadian investment funds (Brookfield, Fairfax)

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Nuclear Energy Act, 1962:** Legal framework for nuclear power development in India.
- CEPA (under negotiation).

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Canada is a major source of **uranium and critical minerals**.
- CEPA is broader than a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**.
- Canadian funds have invested heavily in **Indian infrastructure and renewable energy**.
- India imports **pulses and agricultural products** from Canada.
- Canada has strong **Artificial Intelligence research clusters**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Direct question:** What is CEPA?
- **Match the following:** Country – Resource supply.
- **Statement based:** Features of India-Canada economic cooperation.
- **International relations MCQ:** Bilateral trade targets.

6. India's Care Economy and Budget 2026-27

A. Core Idea

Union Budget **2026-27 plans to train 1.5 lakh caregivers** to strengthen India's care economy.

B. Why in News

The government announced a **national skilling program for caregivers** in the Union Budget 2026-27.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Caregivers to be trained: **1.5 lakh**
- Existing women "volunteer" workers: **about 5 million**
- Women spending unpaid care work: **140 minutes/day**
- Men spending unpaid care work: **74 minutes/day**

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

D. Important Terms

- **Care Economy:** Economic activities related to childcare, elderly care, and healthcare services.
- **NSQF:** National Skills Qualification Framework for skill certification.
- **Honorarium:** Payment given for services without a fixed salary.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship**
- **Ministry of Women & Child Development**
- **Anganwadi Centres**
- **ASHA Workers under National Health Mission**

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)**
- **Code on Social Security, 2020**
- **National Health Mission (NHM)**

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **ASHA workers** are part of the **National Health Mission**.
- **Anganwadi workers** operate under **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)**.
- Care work in India is largely **performed by women**.
- Honorarium payments vary by **state governments**.
- India faces a growing demand for **geriatric (elderly) care**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Match:** Worker type – Scheme.
- **Direct fact:** Number of caregivers proposed to be trained.
- **Statement-based:** Role of ASHA and Anganwadi workers.

7. Customs Duty Exemption on Cancer Drugs (Budget 2026-27)

A. Core Idea

The Union Budget **removed Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on 17 life-saving cancer drugs** to reduce treatment costs.

B. Why in News

Budget **2026-27 announced duty exemption on cancer medicines**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Number of drugs exempted: **17**
- Cancer incidence rise (1990-2023): **26.4%**
- Medicines share in treatment cost: **40–50%**

D. Important Terms

- **Basic Customs Duty (BCD):** Tax imposed on imported goods.
- **Cost Multiplier:** Comparison of disease treatment cost with average hospitalisation cost.
- **Catastrophic Health Expenditure:** Healthcare spending that pushes households into poverty.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Ministry of Finance**
- **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**
- Public hospitals
- Pharmaceutical companies

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Customs Act, 1962 (Section 25):** Allows duty exemptions in public interest.
- **Ayushman Bharat – PMJAY:** Health insurance scheme for poor households.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Cancer treatment costs are **about 3 times higher than average hospitalisation**.
- Drug costs form **major portion of cancer treatment expenses**.
- Duty exemption reduces **imported medicine prices**.
- Policy aims to reduce **out-of-pocket expenditure (OOP)**.
- Many advanced cancer drugs are **import-dependent**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Direct fact:** What is BCD?
- **Scheme question:** Ayushman Bharat objective.
- **Statement-based:** Reasons for high cancer treatment costs.

8. U.S. Supreme Court Ruling on Presidential Trade Powers

A. Core Idea

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

The **U.S. Supreme Court limited the President's power to impose tariffs under emergency laws**.

B. Why in News

On **20 February 2026**, the court ruled against the use of **IEEPA for imposing tariffs**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Case: **Trump v. United States (2026)**
- Verdict: **6–3**
- Tariff amount collected earlier: **$180 billion**
- Temporary tariff limit under Section 122: **150 days**

D. Important Terms

- **IEEPA (1977):** Law allowing the U.S. President to regulate economic transactions during national emergencies.
- **Tariff:** Tax on imported goods.
- **Reciprocal Tariff:** Equal tariff imposed in response to another country's tariff.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **U.S. Supreme Court**
- **U.S. Congress**
- U.S. Department of Commerce
- U.S. Court of International Trade

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **IEEPA – 1977**
- **Trade Act – 1974 (Section 122)**
- **Trade Expansion Act – 1962 (Section 232)**

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- U.S. Constitution gives tariff powers mainly to **Congress**.
- Section **232** allows tariffs for **national security reasons**.
- Section **301** deals with **unfair trade practices**.
- Section **122** allows **temporary tariffs for balance of payment issues**.
- Supreme Court ruling reinforces **legislative control over trade policy**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Direct fact:** Which body controls tariff powers in the U.S.?
- **Match:** Section 232 – National security imports.
- **Statement-based:** Functions of IEEPA.

Dr. GNDI's IAS Academy

9. 14th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC14)

A. Core Idea

The **WTO Ministerial Conference** is the highest decision-making body of the **World Trade Organization**, where member countries discuss global trade rules.

B. Why in News

The **14th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC14)** is scheduled in **Yaoundé, Cameroon (26–29 March 2026)**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- WTO members: **166 countries**
- Location of MC14: **Yaoundé, Cameroon**
- Ministerial Conference frequency: **At least once every 2 years**
- WTO established: **1995**
- Founding treaty: **Marrakesh Agreement (1994)**

D. Important Terms

- **Public Stockholding (PSH):** Government procurement and storage of food grains for food security.
- **E-commerce Moratorium:** WTO agreement not to impose customs duties on digital transmissions.
- **Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM):** Tool to increase tariffs to protect domestic farmers.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **World Trade Organization (WTO)**
- Member countries including India
- Groups like **Cairns Group** (agricultural exporting countries)

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Marrakesh Agreement, 1994** – Establishment of WTO.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- WTO headquarters: **Geneva, Switzerland**.
- Highest decision-making body: **Ministerial Conference**.
- Dispute settlement system includes **Appellate Body**.
- WTO deals with **global trade rules**.
- India supports **food security through public stockholding**.

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

- Special and Differential Treatment (**S&DT**) supports developing countries.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Direct question:** Headquarters of WTO.
- **Match:** WTO body – function.
- **Statement based:** Features of Ministerial Conference.

10. 16th Finance Commission and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)

A. Core Idea

The **16th Finance Commission** recommends how tax revenue should be shared between the **Centre, States, and Local Bodies**.

B. Why in News

The Commission proposed **₹3.56 lakh crore allocation to Urban Local Bodies for 2026–2031**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Total allocation: **₹3.56 lakh crore**
- Period: **2026–2031**
- Annual transfer: **~₹75,000 crore**
- Incentive fund for urban village integration: **₹10,000 crore**
- Share relative to GDP: **~0.13%**

D. Important Terms

- **Own Source Revenue (OSR):** Revenue generated by local bodies through taxes like property tax.
- **Tied Grants:** Funds that must be used for specific sectors.
- **Divisible Pool:** Portion of central taxes shared with states.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Finance Commission of India**
- Urban Local Bodies (Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils)
- Ministry of Finance

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Article 280:** Establishes the Finance Commission.
- **74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992:** Constitutional status to urban local bodies.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

Dr. CINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

- Finance Commission constituted **every 5 years**.
- Urban Local Bodies include **Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, Nagar Panchayats**.
- **Twelfth Schedule** contains **18 functions of municipalities**.
- Cities contribute about **67% of India's GDP**.
- Property tax is a major source of **municipal revenue**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Direct question:** Article related to Finance Commission.
- **Match:** Amendment – Local body type.
- **Statement-based:** Functions in Twelfth Schedule.

11. West Asia Crisis and India's Wheat Export

A. Core Idea

Geopolitical tensions in **West Asia** are affecting India's wheat export logistics due to high shipping and insurance costs.

B. Why in News

Despite **record wheat production**, exports face disruptions due to instability in West Asia.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Projected wheat production: **120 million tonnes**
- FAO cereal price increase: **1.8%**
- Major export markets: **Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka**

D. Important Terms

- **Rabi Crop:** Winter crop sown in Oct–Nov and harvested in March–April.
- **FAO Cereal Price Index:** Global indicator of cereal price trends.
- **Carrying Cost:** Cost of storing inventory including warehousing and insurance.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

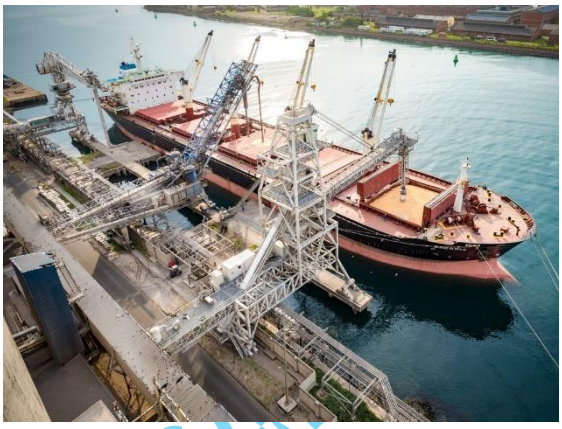
- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**
- **Food Corporation of India (FCI)**
- Ministry of Agriculture

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

- **Essential Commodities Act, 1955**
- **National Food Security Act, 2013**

G. Direct Exam Takeaways



- Wheat is a **major rabi crop of India**.
- Key wheat producing states: **Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh**.
- Export routes affected by **Red Sea and West Asia tensions**.
- MSP procurement handled mainly by **FCI**.
- Black Sea region is a major **global wheat export hub**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Direct fact:** Major rabi crops.
- **Match:** Crop – season.
- **Statement-based:** Causes of export disruptions.

12. AI-Generated Wildlife Content and Conservation Risks

A. Core Idea

AI-generated animal videos and images can spread misinformation about wildlife behaviour and harm conservation efforts.

B. Why in News

Experts warned that **AI-generated wildlife videos ("AI slop") are misleading people about real animal behaviour**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Key research report: **Conservation Biology (2025)**
- IT Rules amendment notified: **2026**

D. Important Terms

- **Anthropomorphism:** Giving human emotions or traits to animals.
- **Deepfake:** AI-generated fake images or videos.
- **AI Slop:** Low-quality AI-generated viral content.

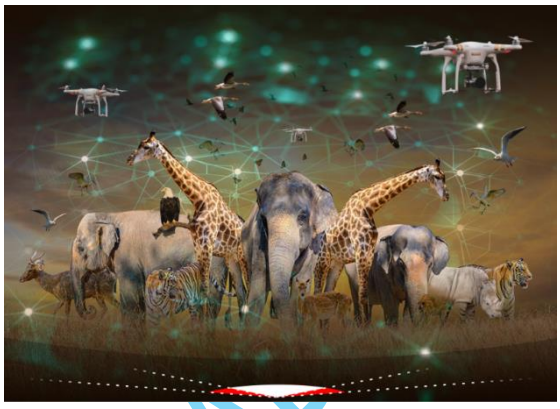
E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **WWF-India**

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACA

- Social media platforms (YouTube, TikTok, X, Meta)
- Ministry of Electronics & IT

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes



- **IT Act, 2000**
- **IT (Intermediary Guidelines) Amendment Rules, 2026**
- **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **Section 79 of IT Act:** Safe harbour protection for intermediaries.
- Platforms must remove **illegal AI content quickly**.
- Wildlife trafficking prohibited under **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**.
- AI is also used positively in **camera trap wildlife monitoring**.
- Citizens have a duty to protect wildlife under **Article 51A(g)**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- **Direct fact:** Fundamental duty related to environment.
- **Match:** Act – purpose.
- **Statement-based:** Uses and risks of AI in wildlife conservation.

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACA