



Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

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MARCH 14, 2026



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

A/C CAMPUS

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1. Economic Stabilisation Fund & Supplementary Demands for Grants

A. Core Idea

The Government of India created an **Economic Stabilisation Fund** to manage sudden economic shocks such as rising oil prices and global supply disruptions.

B. Why in News

The **Lok Sabha** approved the **Second Supplementary Demand for Grants** for FY 2025-26, including funds for the Economic Stabilisation Fund.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Economic Stabilisation Fund allocation: **₹57,381 crore**

- Gross supplementary expenditure approved: **₹2.81 lakh crore**
- Net cash outgo: **₹2.01 lakh crore**
- Additional receipts: **₹80,000 crore**
- Oil price reference: **around \$100 per barrel**

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

Supplementary Demand for Grants

Extra money requested by the government from Parliament when the originally approved budget is insufficient.

Fiscal Deficit

Difference between the government's total expenditure and total revenue (excluding borrowings).

Fiscal Headroom

Extra financial capacity available in the budget for additional spending.

Net Cash Outgo

Actual additional money required from the **Consolidated Fund of India**.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Ministry of Finance**
- **Parliament of India (Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha)**
- **Consolidated Fund of India**

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **FRBM Act, 2003** – Ensures fiscal discipline and limits fiscal deficit.
- **Appropriation Act (Annual Budget process)** – Authorizes withdrawal of money from the Consolidated Fund of India.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **Article 115** deals with **Supplementary, Additional and Excess Grants**.
- **Article 114** relates to **Appropriation Bill**.
- No money can be withdrawn from the **Consolidated Fund of India** without **Parliamentary approval**.
- Supplementary grants are introduced during the **same financial year**.
- Fiscal deficit targets are set under the **FRBM Act, 2003**.
- Supplementary demands are commonly introduced during the **winter session or later budget sessions**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Statement-based question on **Supplementary vs Additional Grants**.



- Article-based question: **Article 114 vs Article 115.**
- Budget process question: **Appropriation Bill & Consolidated Fund of India.**

2. Maharashtra Freedom of Religion Bill, 2026

A. Core Idea

The Maharashtra government introduced a law to **prevent religious conversions through force, fraud, inducement, or marriage.**

B. Why in News

The **Maharashtra Freedom of Religion Bill, 2026** has been introduced in the state legislature.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Maximum punishment: **10 years imprisonment**
- Maximum fine: **₹7 lakh**
- Covers conversions by **force, fraud, coercion, inducement, or marriage**

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

Unlawful Conversion

Changing religion through **force, fraud, inducement, or coercion.**

Allurement / Inducement

Offering money, jobs, gifts, or benefits to persuade someone to convert.

Coercion

Using threats or force to make someone do something.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

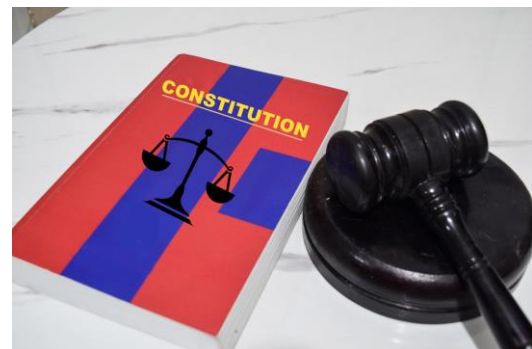
- **Maharashtra State Government**
- **State Legislature**
- **Police Department**
- **District Magistrate**

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Special Marriage Act, 1954** – Allows marriage between people of different religions without conversion.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **Article 25** – Freedom of conscience and religion.



- **Article 26** – Freedom to manage religious affairs.
- Supreme Court case **Rev. Stainislaus vs State of MP (1977)** held that **propagation does not include forced conversion**.
- **Public Order is a State Subject (State List)**.
- Several states such as **Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat** have similar anti-conversion laws.
- Marriages for unlawful conversion may be declared **null and void** by a court.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Article-based MCQ on **Articles 25–28 (Freedom of Religion)**.
- Question on **State List subjects in the Seventh Schedule**.
- Case law-based MCQ: **Rev. Stainislaus Case (1977)**.

3. SIDCER–FERCAP Evaluation of CEC-CCRAS

A. Core Idea

The **Central Ethics Committee of CCRAS** was evaluated by international bodies to ensure global standards in Ayurvedic medical research.

B. Why in News

It became the **first ethics committee in the Ayush sector to undergo evaluation by SIDCER-FERCAP in March 2026**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Evaluation conducted: **9–12 March 2026**
- Institutions in modern medicine previously evaluated: **17**
- Sector involved: **Ayush research (Ayurveda)**

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

CCRAS (Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences)
Top Indian organization responsible for **research and development in Ayurveda**.

Ethical Review Committee (ERC)

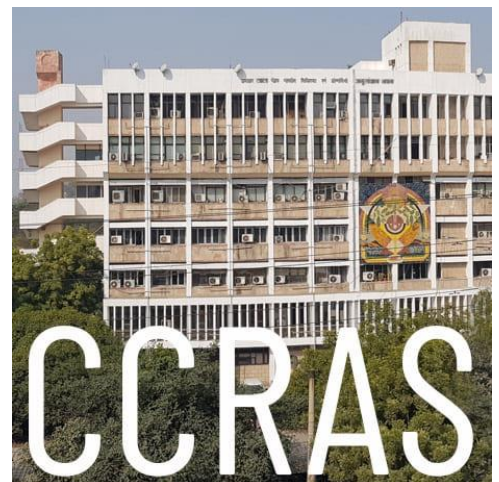
A group that checks whether **medical research on humans follows ethical standards**.

SIDCER–FERCAP

International organizations that **evaluate ethical standards in medical research**.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Ministry of Ayush**



- CCRAS
- SIDCER
- FERCAP
- ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research)

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940
- New Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules, 2019
- ICMR National Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical Research

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- CCRAS works under the Ministry of Ayush.
- It promotes scientific research in Ayurveda.
- Ethical review committees protect rights and safety of human participants in trials.
- SIDCER-FERCAP evaluates research ethics standards internationally.
- Article 47 (DPSP) directs the state to improve public health.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Institution-based MCQ: CCRAS works under which ministry?
- Question on Directive Principles related to health (Article 47).
- Matching question: ICMR – biomedical research guidelines.

4. Bharat-VISTAAR: Digital Platform for Agriculture

A. Core Idea

Bharat-VISTAAR is a government digital platform that provides **AI-based farming advice, weather data, and scheme information to farmers.**

B. Why in News

The platform was **launched in Phase-I on 17 February 2026 under the Union Budget 2026–27.**

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Budget allocation: **₹150 crore**
- Toll-free number: **155261**
- Languages initially available: **Hindi and English**
- Planned expansion: **9 additional languages**

- Integrates **10 government agricultural schemes**

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)

Government digital platforms used to provide services to people (examples: Aadhaar, UPI).

Voice-First AI

Technology where users interact mainly through **spoken commands instead of typing**.

IVRS (Interactive Voice Response System)

Automated phone system where users receive information using **voice or keypad input**.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**
- **ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research)**
- **MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and IT)**
- **CERT-In**



F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023** – Protects personal data of users.
- **Information Technology Act, 2000** – Legal framework for electronic governance.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **ICAR** is the top agricultural research body in India.
- Bharat-VISTAAR is an **AI-based digital advisory system for farmers**.
- Farmers can access it through **IVRS, mobile app, web portal, and toll-free number**.
- Integrates schemes like:
 - **PM-KISAN**
 - **PMFBY (Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana)**
 - **Kisan Credit Card**
 - **Soil Health Card**
 - **Agriculture Infrastructure Fund**
- Data protection under **DPDP Act, 2023**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Scheme-based MCQ: **Which schemes are integrated with Bharat-VISTAAR?**
- Institution question: **ICAR works under which ministry?**
- Technology question: **What is Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)?**

5. Status of Soil Health Indicators & Government Interventions

A. Core Idea

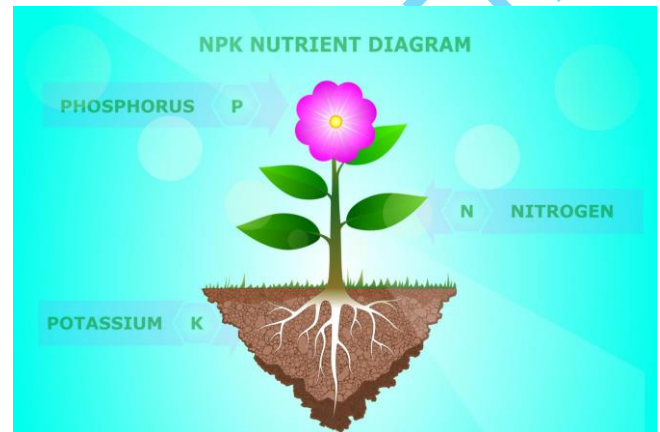
Soil health in India shows **nutrient imbalance and micronutrient deficiencies**, so the government promotes soil testing and balanced fertilizer use.

B. Why in News

Recent surveys by the **Soil and Land Use Survey of India** highlighted nutrient imbalance and micronutrient deficiencies in Indian soils.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Soil Health Cards issued: **25.89 crore**
- Demonstration programs conducted: **7.17 lakh**
- Trained **Krishi Sakhis**: **70,002**
- Ideal **N:P:K ratio** → **4 : 2 : 1**
- Zinc deficiency majorly reported in **Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha**



D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

Soil Health Card (SHC)

A report given to farmers showing soil nutrient status and fertilizer recommendations.

Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)

Use of **chemical fertilizers + organic manure + biofertilizers** to maintain soil fertility.

Biofertilizers

Microorganisms that increase the availability of nutrients in soil.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research)**
- **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**
- **Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)**
- **Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA)**



F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Soil Health Card Scheme – 2015** → Soil testing and fertilizer recommendation.
- **National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)** → Promote chemical-free farming.
- **Fertiliser Control Order (FCO), 1985** → Regulates quality and distribution of fertilizers.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Soil Health Card measures **12 soil parameters**.
- Major nutrients: **Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K)**.
- Micronutrients include **Zinc, Iron, Boron**.
- **ICAR** is the apex agricultural research body.
- Excess use of **Urea** causes **nutrient imbalance in soil**.
- Natural Farming promotes **on-farm inputs** like **Jivamrit** and **Bijamrit**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Scheme-based question on **Soil Health Card Scheme**.
- Match the following: **Macro vs Micronutrients**.
- Institution-based MCQ: **ICAR / KVK functions**.

6. Washington Consensus & Changing Global Economic Policy

A. Core Idea

The **Washington Consensus** was a set of economic reforms promoting free markets, privatization, and deregulation for developing countries.

B. Why in News

Global economic policies are moving away from strict free-market policies toward **state intervention and national economic security**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Term **Washington Consensus** coined by **John Williamson (1989)**.
- Promoted by **IMF and World Bank**.
- Major crises that questioned it:

◦ **Asian Financial Crisis (1997)**

◦ **Global Financial Crisis (2008)**

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

Washington Consensus

A set of economic policies promoting **liberalization, privatization, and deregulation**.

Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs)

Economic reforms required by the **IMF and World Bank** for loans.



Infant Industry Argument

Protecting new domestic industries from foreign competition until they become strong.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **IMF (International Monetary Fund)**
- **World Bank**
- **WTO (World Trade Organization)**

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **FEMA, 1999** → Governs foreign exchange management in India.
- **FRBM Act, 2003** → Maintains fiscal discipline.
- **Liberalization Reforms, 1991** → Opened Indian economy.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **IMF and World Bank are Bretton Woods Institutions (1944).**
- Washington Consensus promoted **free trade and privatization**.
- **Asian Financial Crisis (1997)** affected many East Asian economies.
- **Global Financial Crisis (2008)** exposed weaknesses of deregulated markets.
- Many countries today use **state support and industrial policies**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Institution-based MCQ: **IMF, World Bank origin (Bretton Woods).**
- Economic reforms question: **LPG reforms in India (1991).**
- Concept-based question: **Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs).**

7. India–Canada Relations (Recent Developments)

A. Core Idea

India and Canada are strengthening relations in **trade, nuclear energy cooperation, and critical minerals supply chains**.

B. Why in News

The **2026 visit of Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney** led to agreements on trade, uranium supply, and technology cooperation.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Proposed agreement: **CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement)**
- India's nuclear target: **100 GW nuclear power by 2047**

- Uranium supplier company: **Cameco (Canada)**

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement)

A trade agreement covering **trade in goods, services, and investment**.

Critical Minerals

Minerals essential for modern technology such as **lithium, cobalt, and rare earth elements**.

Uranium Ore Concentrate (Yellowcake)

Processed uranium used as fuel in nuclear reactors.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Department of Atomic Energy (India)**
- **Cameco Corporation (Canada)**
- **Government of India**
- **Government of Canada**



F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Atomic Energy Act, 1962** → Development and control of nuclear energy in India.
- **SHANTI Bill, 2025** → Proposed framework to expand nuclear energy.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Canada is among the **major uranium producers in the world**.
- Nuclear energy helps provide **base-load electricity**.
- Critical minerals are essential for **electric vehicles, batteries, and semiconductors**.
- India aims for **Net Zero emissions by 2070**.
- **Article 51** promotes international peace and cooperation.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Trade agreement question: **FTA vs CEPA vs CECA**.
- Location-based MCQ: **Major uranium producing countries**.
- Institution question: **Department of Atomic Energy role**.

8. Notice for Removal of the Chief Election Commissioner

A. Core Idea

A motion has been submitted in Parliament seeking the **removal of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)**.

B. Why in News

Opposition MPs submitted a notice to remove **CEC Gyanesh Kumar**, alleging misconduct in electoral processes.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- MPs required for notice:
 - 100 in Lok Sabha
 - 50 in Rajya Sabha
- Signatures submitted:
 - 130 (Lok Sabha)
 - 63 (Rajya Sabha)

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)

Head of the **Election Commission of India**, responsible for conducting elections.

Special Intensive Revision (SIR)

A process of updating voter lists by adding eligible voters and removing duplicates.

Motion of Removal

A formal proposal in Parliament to remove a constitutional authority for misconduct.

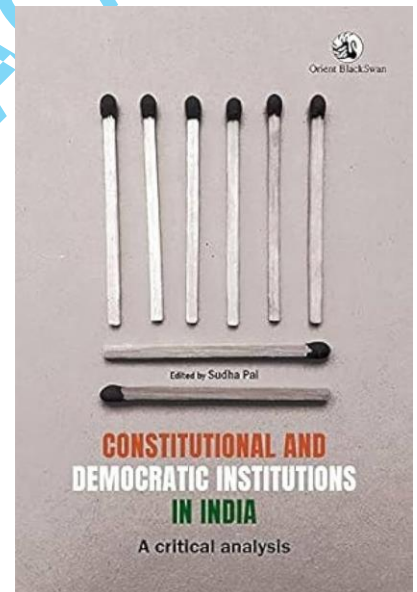
E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- Election Commission of India (ECI)
- Parliament of India
- Speaker of Lok Sabha
- Chairman of Rajya Sabha

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **CEC and Other ECs Act, 2023** – Appointment and service conditions of Election Commissioners.
- **Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968** – Procedure for investigating misconduct.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways



- **Article 324** establishes the Election Commission of India.
- **CEC removal process is similar to Supreme Court judges.**
- Requires **special majority in Parliament.**
- Other Election Commissioners can be removed **on recommendation of the CEC.**
- President issues the removal order after parliamentary approval.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Article-based MCQ: **Article 324 (Election Commission).**
- Comparison question: **Removal of CEC vs removal of Supreme Court judge.**
- Numerical question: **Minimum MPs required to initiate removal motion.**

9. Proposal for High-Level Committee on Urban Infrastructure

A. Core Idea

A Parliamentary Standing Committee suggested forming a **High-Level Expert Committee** to prepare a long-term plan for urban infrastructure in India.

B. Why in News

The **Standing Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs** recommended this committee to plan urban development for **Viksit Bharat 2047**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Previous major urban study: **High Powered Expert Committee (HPEC), 2011**
- HPEC projections covered urban needs **up to 2031**
- Estimated urban infrastructure investment needed: **about \$840 billion in 15 years**
- By **2030 around 75% of India's GDP may come from cities** (urban growth impact)

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

AMRUT 2.0

A scheme to ensure **100% water supply and sewerage services in urban areas.**

PMAY-U (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban)

Government scheme to provide **housing for all in urban areas.**

Viksit Bharat 2047

India's vision to become a **developed nation by the year 2047.**

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved



- **Parliamentary Standing Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs**
- **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**
- **NITI Aayog**
- **Urban Local Bodies (Municipalities)**

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** – Strengthened urban local governance.
- **Smart Cities Mission (2015)** – Development of technology-driven smart cities.
- **Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM-U)** – Urban sanitation and waste management.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **74th Constitutional Amendment created Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).**
- **Twelfth Schedule contains 18 subjects related to municipalities.**
- Urban planning and land-use regulation fall under **municipal functions.**
- **District Planning Committees (DPCs)** coordinate rural and urban planning.
- Urbanization is linked with **economic growth and employment.**

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Constitutional question on **74th Amendment Act.**
- Match-the-following: **AMRUT, PMAY-U, SBM-U** schemes.
- Question on **functions in the Twelfth Schedule.**

10. India and the “Group for Equity” in Pandemic Agreement Talks

A. Core Idea

India and other developing countries are demanding **fair access to vaccines, medicines, and technology** under the global Pandemic Agreement.

B. Why in News

India joined the **“Group for Equity” coalition** during negotiations related to the **WHO Pandemic Agreement.**

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Pandemic Agreement adopted by **World Health Assembly** – **20 May 2025**
- Proposal: **10% of pandemic products reserved for WHO donation**
- Focus on **Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing (PABS)** system



D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

PABS (Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing)

System where countries share pathogen samples and receive **vaccines, medicines, or benefits in return.**

Genetic Sequence Data (GSD)

Digital information of the genetic structure of a virus or pathogen.

Group for Equity

Coalition of developing countries advocating **fair benefit sharing in global health research.**

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **World Health Organization (WHO)**
- **World Health Assembly (WHA)**
- **Member countries of the Group for Equity**

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Biological Diversity Act, 2002** – Regulates access and benefit sharing of biological resources.
- **Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897** – Law to control the spread of dangerous diseases.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO.**
- WHO headquarters located in **Geneva, Switzerland.**
- Developing countries demand **technology transfer and affordable vaccines.**
- Access and Benefit Sharing concept also exists in the **Nagoya Protocol.**
- Pandemic Agreement aims to improve **global response to future pandemics.**

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Institution question: **WHO / World Health Assembly functions.**
- Concept question: **Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS).**
- International agreement question: **Nagoya Protocol vs Pandemic Agreement.**

11. Strait of Hormuz Crisis and Impact on Indian Shipping

A. Core Idea

Tensions near the **Strait of Hormuz** are affecting global oil transport and the movement of Indian merchant ships.

B. Why in News

An Indian LPG carrier “**Shivalik**” crossed the Strait during regional conflict while several Indian ships remained stranded in the Persian Gulf.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Cargo carried by the vessel: **54,000 tonnes of LPG**
- Indian ships stranded: **23**
- Around **20% of global oil trade** passes through the **Strait of Hormuz**

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

Strait of Hormuz

A narrow waterway connecting the **Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman**.

Automatic Identification System (AIS)

A tracking system used by ships to share location and identification data.

GPS Spoofing

Sending false GPS signals to mislead navigation systems.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **Shipping Corporation of India (SCI)**
- **Directorate General of Shipping (DGS)**
- **Indian Navy**
- **Ministry of External Affairs**

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Merchant Shipping Act, 1958** – Governs Indian shipping and seafarer safety.
- **UNCLOS, 1982** – International law governing seas and maritime navigation.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Strait of Hormuz lies between **Iran and Oman**.
- It connects the **Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea**.
- It is the **world's most important oil chokepoint**.
- India depends heavily on the **Persian Gulf for oil imports**.
- **Operation Sankalp** protects Indian merchant ships in the Gulf region.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Map-based question: **Location of Strait of Hormuz**.
- Institution question: **Shipping Corporation of India**.
- Concept question: **AIS and GPS spoofing**.



12. Iran's Outreach to BRICS for Security Support

A. Core Idea

Iran has requested **BRICS countries to support peace and stability** during the West Asia conflict.

B. Why in News

Iran asked **India, the BRICS Chair**, to raise the issue at the upcoming BRICS summit.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Original BRICS members: **Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa**
- New BRICS+ members include **Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, UAE**
- BRICS summit to be hosted by **India (2026)**

D. Important Terms (Exam-Friendly Definitions)

BRICS

An international grouping of emerging economies promoting **economic cooperation and development**.

Multilateralism

Cooperation between **three or more countries through international institutions**.

Strategic Autonomy

India's policy of **making independent foreign policy decisions based on national interest**.

E. Institutions / Organisations Involved

- **BRICS Group**
- **New Development Bank (NDB)**
- **Member governments**

F. Government Acts / Policies / Schemes

- **Article 51 (DPSP)** – Promotion of international peace and cooperation.
- **Article 73** – Executive power of the Union in international relations.

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- **BRICS was formed in 2009** (first summit in Russia).
- **New Development Bank headquarters – Shanghai, China.**
- BRICS promotes **South-South cooperation**.
- Expansion of BRICS is called **BRICS+**.



- India often follows a policy of **strategic autonomy in global conflicts**.

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Grouping-based MCQ: **Members of BRICS / BRICS+**.
- Institution question: **New Development Bank headquarters**.
- Concept question: **Meaning of multilateralism**.



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