



Dr. SURESH KUMAR GINDI SIR

Dr. GINDI'S IAS ACADEMY

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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

MARCH 17, 2026



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

A/C CAMPUS

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1. India–U.S. Trade Negotiations

A. Core Idea

India is delaying a trade deal with the USA to understand new U.S. tariff rules and ensure benefits for its exports.

B. Why in News

India adopted a “wait and watch” approach on a trade agreement with the USA in 2026.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- U.S. tariff under **Section 122**: ~10% on some imports
- U.S. Trade Act: **1974**
- Indian Constitution Article: **253**
- GSP = duty-free entry for thousands of products



D. Important Terms

- **Tariff**: Tax on imports/exports
- **Comparative Advantage**: Producing goods at lower cost than others
- **GSP (Generalized System of Preferences)**: Duty-free access to U.S. market for developing countries
- **Tariff Architecture**: Overall system of tariffs and trade rules

E. Institutions / Organisations

- Ministry of Commerce (India)
- U.S. Trade Authorities
- U.S. Supreme Court

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **Trade Act, 1974 (USA)** – Allows tariffs (Section 122)
- **Article 253 (India)** – Parliament can implement international agreements

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Section 122 allows temporary tariffs by U.S. President
- GSP gives duty-free access to developing countries
- U.S. Supreme Court struck down “reciprocal tariffs” (2026)
- India is seeking export advantage before signing deal
- Trade deals depend on tariff structure
- Article 253 deals with international agreements



H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Statement-based: Features of GSP
- Match: Section 122 – Trade Act 1974
- Fact-based: Article related to treaties
- Concept: Comparative advantage

2. Delhi Urban Flood Mitigation Program

A. Core Idea

Delhi plans a ₹21,068 crore project to control urban flooding and improve drainage.

B. Why in News

Delhi government proposed a major flood control program due to repeated monsoon flooding.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Total cost: **₹21,068 crore**
- Reservoir area: **2,500 acres**
- Groundwater recharge: **4,500 million litres/season**
- Flood hotspots: **1,440 locations**
- Drain upgrade cost: ₹1,418 crore
- Wazirabad Barrage upgrade: ₹400 crore



D. Important Terms

- **Urban Flooding:** Waterlogging due to poor drainage in cities
- **Off-Channel Reservoir:** Storage area away from main river
- **Runoff:** Water flowing over land surface
- **Sponge City:** City designed to absorb rainwater

E. Institutions / Organisations

- Public Works Department (PWD)
- Delhi Development Authority (DDA)
- Municipal Corporation

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **Disaster Management Act, 2005 (Section 33)** – Disaster prevention powers
- **Master Plan Delhi 2041** – Urban planning policy

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Urban flooding caused by concretization
- Yamuna floodplains used for reservoirs
- Major drains: Najafgarh, Shahdara, Barapullah
- Sponge city concept = water absorption

- Old drainage plan: 1976
- Flood hotspots identified using data

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Match: Drain names with city
- Concept: Urban flooding vs river flooding
- Statement-based: Sponge city features
- Fact: Disaster Management Act section

3. Keeladi Excavation & ASI Approval

A. Core Idea

ASI approved excavations at Keeladi and 7 other sites to study ancient Tamil civilization.

B. Why in News

Permission granted for **11th phase excavation at Keeladi (2026)**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Excavation law: **AMASR Act, 1958**
- Rules: **1959**
- Tamil-Brahmi: around **6th century BCE**
- Total sites: **8 locations**

D. Important Terms

- **Stratigraphy**: Study of soil layers to determine age
- **Tamil-Brahmi**: Early script of Tamil language



- **Excavation:** Digging to find historical remains

E. Institutions / Organisations

- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
- Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA)

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **AMASR Act, 1958** – Protection of monuments
- **Article 49** – Protection of heritage

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Keeladi located in **Tamil Nadu (Sivaganga)**
- Linked to **Vaigai river civilization**
- Evidence of early urbanization in South India
- Tamil-Brahmi script found
- Excavation needs ASI approval
- AMS carbon dating used

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Map-based: Location of Keeladi
- Match: Script – Region
- Statement: Features of AMASR Act
- Concept: Stratigraphy



4. Garo Hills Autonomous District Council (GHADC) Crisis

A. Core Idea

GHADC tenure extended due to violence and delay in elections in Meghalaya.

B. Why in News

Tenure extended by **6 months (2026)** after unrest in Garo Hills.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Extension period: **April–October 2026**
- Sixth Schedule areas: **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram**
- Council members: max **30**

- Term: **5 years**

D. Important Terms

- **Autonomous District Council (ADC):** Local self-government in tribal areas
- **CEM (Chief Executive Member):** Head of ADC
- **No-Confidence Motion:** Removal of leader by majority

E. Institutions / Organisations

- GHADC
- Meghalaya State Government
- Governor of Meghalaya

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **Sixth Schedule (Article 244)** – Tribal autonomy
- **Para 2(1)** – Composition and tenure of ADC

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Sixth Schedule applies to 4 NE states
- Governor has special powers in tribal areas
- ADCs have legislative + judicial powers
- Term of ADC = 5 years
- Non-tribal participation is a key issue
- State law prevails over ADC law (Para 12A)

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Match: Sixth Schedule states
- Statement: Powers of ADC
- Fact: Number of members in ADC
- Concept: Role of Governor in tribal areas



5. Distress Migration from Punjab

A. Core Idea

Large number of youth from Punjab are migrating abroad due to lack of jobs and slow economic growth.

B. Why in News

Punjab Economic Survey 2025–26 highlighted rising “distress migration”.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Skilled unemployed: **42%**
- Registered applicants: **1,22,842**
- Migration destinations: Canada, USA, UK
- Decline in **GFCF since 1980s**

D. Important Terms

- **Distress Migration:** Migration due to lack of livelihood
- **Employment Elasticity:** Job growth with economic growth
- **GFCF:** Investment in fixed assets
- **Brain Drain:** Loss of skilled people to other countries

E. Institutions / Organisations

- Punjab Economic Survey
- State Unemployment Bureau

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **Article 19(1)(g)** – Right to profession
- **Article 41** – Right to work (DPSP)

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Punjab facing brain drain problem
- Agriculture growth stagnating
- Migration mostly youth and skilled workers
- Remittances increase but no long-term growth
- Employment elasticity is low
- GFCF indicates investment level

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Concept: Brain drain vs migration
- Statement: Employment elasticity meaning
- Fact: Article related to profession
- Term-based: GFCF

6. Transgender Persons Amendment Bill, 2026

A. Core Idea

New bill proposes changes in transgender identity rules, leading to protests.

B. Why in News

Protests across India against Transgender Persons Amendment Bill, 2026.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Original Act: **2019**
- Landmark case: **NALSA vs Union of India (2014)**
- Online petition: **13,000+ signatures**

D. Important Terms

- **Self-Perceived Gender Identity:** Gender identified by oneself
- **Transgender Person:** Person whose gender differs from birth sex
- **Gender Identity:** Internal sense of gender

E. Institutions / Organisations

- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- Supreme Court of India

F. Government Acts / Policies

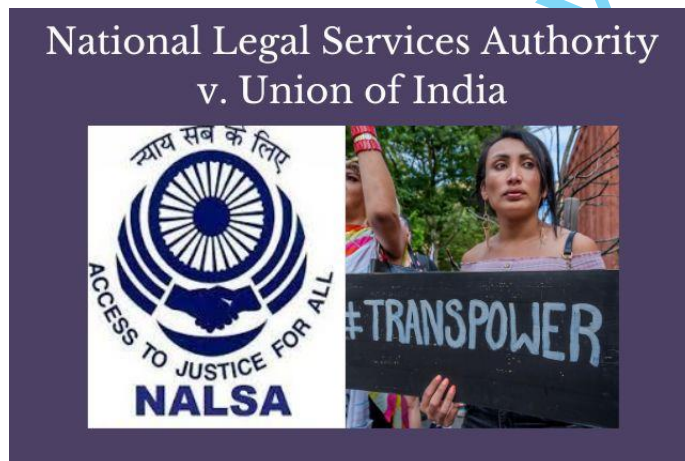
- **Transgender Persons Act, 2019** – Protection of rights
- **NALSA Judgment (2014)** – Recognized third gender

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- NALSA judgment gave right to self-identify gender
- Articles 14, 15, 21 apply to transgender rights
- 2019 Act provides legal recognition
- Amendment seen as restrictive
- Equality before law includes gender identity
- Gender identity linked to dignity

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Match: Case – Year (NALSA 2014)
- Statement: Articles related to equality
- Fact: Ministry handling transgender issues



- Concept: Self-identification

7. Gynandromorphy in *Vela carli* (Silent Valley)

A. Core Idea

Rare dual-sex condition found in a freshwater crab species in Kerala.

B. Why in News

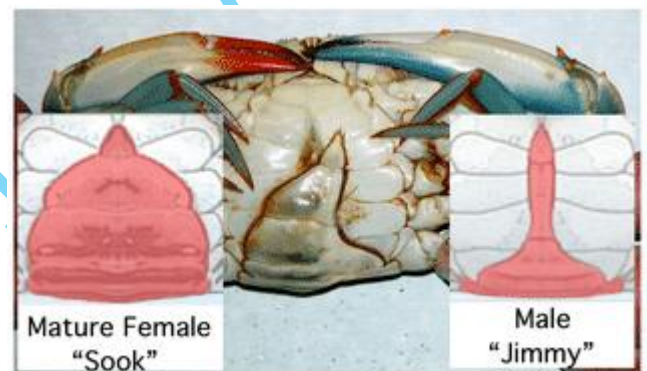
First report of **gynandromorphy** in *Vela carli* (2026).

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Location: Silent Valley National Park (Kerala)
- Species: ***Vela carli***
- Family: **Gecarcinucidae**
- Region: Western Ghats (UNESCO site)

D. Important Terms

- **Gynandromorphy**: Organism with both male and female features
- **Endemic**: Found only in one region
- **Phytotelmata**: Water-filled tree holes
- **Biodiversity Hotspot**: Area with high species diversity



E. Institutions / Organisations

- Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)
- MES Mampad College

F. Government Acts / Policies

- No specific act (related to biodiversity conservation)

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Silent Valley located in Kerala
- Part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
- *Vela carli* is endemic species
- Gynandromorphy $\neq$ hermaphrodite
- Western Ghats = biodiversity hotspot
- Tree holes act as micro-habitats

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Match: National Park – State
- Term: Gynandromorphy
- Statement: Features of endemic species
- Concept: Biodiversity hotspot

8. West Asia Conflict & Impact on South Asia

A. Core Idea

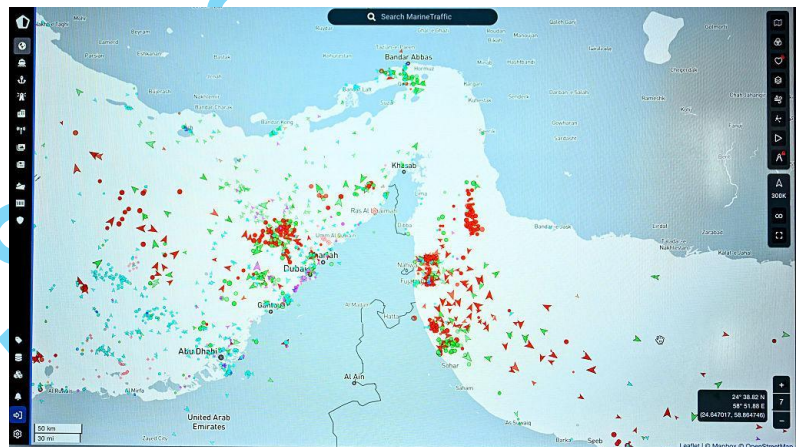
Conflict in West Asia is affecting India's economy, diaspora, and energy supply.

B. Why in News

Escalation of conflict in 2026 impacted South Asia and global trade.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Indian diaspora: **~10 million in West Asia**
- South Asian diaspora: **~25 million**
- Indians in seafaring: **15% globally**
- Key route: **Strait of Hormuz**



D. Important Terms

- **Diaspora:** People living outside their country
- **Net Security Provider:** Country providing regional security
- **Maritime Security:** Safety of sea routes
- **Strait of Hormuz:** Key oil transport route

E. Institutions / Organisations

- Indian Navy
- Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)
- Colombo Security Conclave
- Quad, BRICS

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **Article 51 (UN Charter)** – Self-defense
- **Article 253 (India)** – International agreements

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Strait of Hormuz crucial for oil trade
- India depends on West Asia for energy
- Diaspora contributes remittances
- India aims to be Net Security Provider
- Indian Ocean important for trade routes
- IFC-IOR monitors maritime activity

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Map-based: Strait of Hormuz
- Match: Organization – Function
- Statement: Role of diaspora
- Concept: Maritime security

9. Tropical Forest Forever Facility (TFFF)

A. Core Idea

A global fund to pay countries for protecting forests instead of cutting them.

B. Why in News

Discussed at **COP30 (Belém, Brazil, 2025)**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Total fund: **\$125 billion**
- Initial commitment: **\$5.5 billion**
- Norway pledge: **\$3 billion**

- IPLCs share: **20% funds**
- Land tenure pledge: **\$1.8 billion (2026–30)**

D. Important Terms

- **TFFF**: Fund for maintaining forests
- **Ecosystem Services**: Benefits from nature (water, carbon storage)
- **Carbon Sequestration**: Absorption of CO₂ by forests

E. Institutions / Organisations

- Brazil Government
- UNDP
- FAO
- Global Forest Coalition

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **Forest Rights Act, 2006 (India)** – Rights of forest dwellers
- Linked to global climate agreements (COP)

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- TFFF focuses on **standing forests**
- COP30 held in **Belém (Brazil)**
- Indigenous communities get **20% share**
- Norway is a major contributor
- Forests act as carbon sinks
- Climate finance supports conservation

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

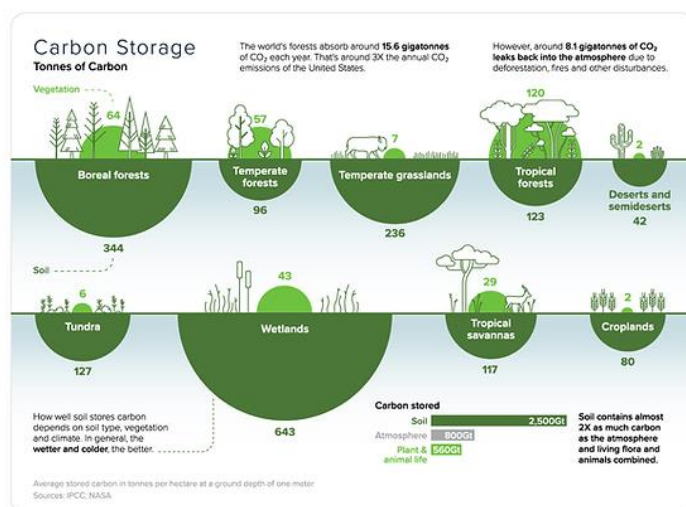
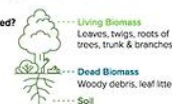
- Match: COP30 – Location
- Concept: Carbon sequestration
- Statement: Forest Rights Act features
- Fact: Role of indigenous communities

Carbon Storage in Earth's Ecosystems

Achieving net-zero by 2050 depends on the Earth's natural carbon sinks.

Forests play a critical role in regulating the global climate. They absorb carbon from the atmosphere and then store it, acting as natural carbon sinks.

Where is Carbon Stored?
There are various carbon pools in a forest ecosystem.



Carbon Streaming is protecting the Earth's natural carbon sinks with carbon credit streams across the following REDD+ projects:



Rimba Raya
Borneo, Indonesia
~47,000 hectares



Cerrado Biome
Brazil
~11,000 hectares



Magdalena Bay Blue Carbon
Baja California Sur, Mexico
~22,000 hectares



Learn more at
CARBONSTREAMING.COM

NEO: NETZ
OTCQB: OFSTF
FSE: M2Q



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10. Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE)

A. Core Idea

Education on sexuality, consent, and identity to improve student mental health.

B. Why in News

Debate due to rising **student suicides and mental health issues**.

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Linked with WHO mental health concerns
- Supreme Court guidelines issued in **2024–25**

D. Important Terms

- **CSE**: Education on physical, emotional, social aspects of sexuality
- **Heteronormative**: Assuming only heterosexual identity
- **Structural Competence**: Understanding social factors affecting health

E. Institutions / Organisations

- Supreme Court of India
- World Health Organization (WHO)

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **Article 21** – Right to life & dignity
- **Article 15** – No discrimination

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- CSE includes consent and identity education
- Mental health linked to social environment
- Article 21 includes privacy and dignity
- LGBTQ+ rights protected under equality
- Supreme Court supports inclusive education
- Discrimination includes gender identity

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Statement: Article 21 scope
- Concept: Equality vs discrimination
- Match: Article – Right
- Term: CSE meaning

MIND, MATTERS

Some students get frustrated if they do not achieve the desired results as per expectation. They cannot accept failure and take the extreme step. This can be stopped with proper counselling and guidance from experts. Hope this awareness programme will help students.

AKASH DAS NAYAK
Chairperson, Mo College

Teachers or parents should integrate students' skills with their UG or PG courses, so that students can show interest in studies. Students should reduce gadget addiction and focus on personality development. Stop overthinking and take expert advice if needed.

SURJEET SAHOO
Psychiatrist

According to the NCRB report, a total of 834 students (697 boys and 137 girls) died by suicide in Odisha in 2021

Odisha was placed 5th after Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka in death of students by suicide

In 2020, Odisha was second after Maharashtra for reporting maximum number of student suicides (1469 cases)

379 students had killed themselves in the state in 2019; 501 in 2018 and 361 in 2017

11. Child Malnutrition in Gujarat

A. Core Idea

High child malnutrition in Gujarat with conflicting data reports.

B. Why in News

Debate over NFHS vs Poshan Tracker data (2025–26).

C. Key Facts & Figures

- NFHS underweight: **39.7%**
- Poshan Tracker: **11.4%**
- Stunting: **32.7%**
- Wasting: **7.2%**
- Underweight: **18.4%**
- Tribal areas: up to **50%+**

D. Important Terms

- **Stunting:** Low height for age
- **Wasting:** Low weight for height
- **Underweight:** Low weight for age

E. Institutions / Organisations

- NFHS (National Family Health Survey)
- Anganwadi (ICDS)
- Ministry of Women & Child Development

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **NFSA, 2013** – Right to food
- **Mission Poshan 2.0** – Nutrition program
- **Article 47** – Nutrition duty of state

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- NFHS = survey-based data
- Poshan Tracker = real-time data
- Tribal areas most affected
- Gujarat shows “nutrition paradox”



- ICDS supports child nutrition
- Stunting indicates chronic malnutrition

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Match: Indicator – Meaning
- Statement: NFHS vs Poshan Tracker
- Fact: NFSA features
- Concept: Malnutrition types

12. Operation Sankalp (Indian Navy)

A. Core Idea

Indian Navy protects merchant ships in Gulf region to ensure energy supply.

B. Why in News

Escorted oil and LPG tankers safely during West Asia conflict (2026).

C. Key Facts & Figures

- Operation launched: **2019**
- LPG cargo: **92,172 tonnes**
- Crude oil: **80,000 tonnes**
- Global oil via Hormuz: **~20%**
- Stranded ships: **22**

D. Important Terms

- **Strait of Hormuz:** Key oil route
- **SLOCs:** Sea Lines of Communication
- **Net Security Provider:** Country ensuring regional security

E. Institutions / Organisations

- Indian Navy
- Ministry of External Affairs
- IFC-IOR (Gurugram)

F. Government Acts / Policies

- **Merchant Shipping Act, 1958**



- **UNCLOS** – Law of the Sea

G. Direct Exam Takeaways

- Operation Sankalp started in 2019
- Ensures safety of Indian ships
- Strait of Hormuz is strategic chokepoint
- Indian Navy escorts oil tankers
- India prefers independent naval action
- IFC-IOR tracks maritime activity

H. PYQ / Expected Question Angles

- Map: Strait of Hormuz
- Match: Operation – Purpose
- Statement: UNCLOS provisions
- Concept: Maritime security



Dr. •