



**VAJIRAM & RAVI**  
Institute for IAS Examination

# The Analyst

**CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout**

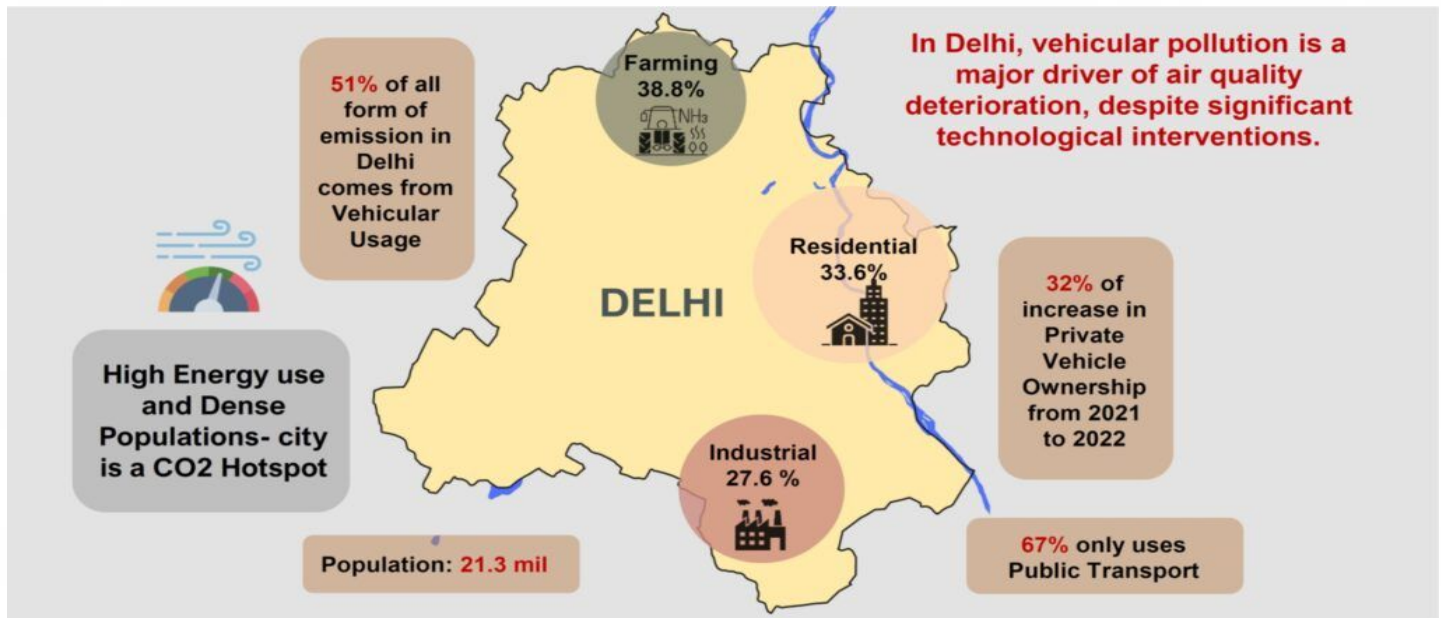
**30th June 2026**



# Why Delhi is going EV?



**CONTEXT:** The Delhi government has announced its **EV Policy 2.0**, mandating that all new two- and three-wheelers registered in the city be electric from April 2028



News On AIR

Delhi Cabinet approves EV Policy to transition to zero-emission transport by 2030

## Delhi EV Policy 2.0 (2026–2030)

- July 1, 2026 - March 31, 2030
- Budget: ₹15,000 crore**
  - ₹7,000cr = direct purchase
  - ₹8,000cr = charging infra + tax

Sector	Winter		Summer	
	Contribution (%)	Range	Contribution (%)	Range
<b>Transport</b>	23	19-24	19	18-21
<b>Industry</b> (including TPPs)	9	8-10	14	9-15
<b>Dust (Road+C&amp;D)</b>	15	10-18	27	25-31
<b>Biomass Burning</b> (includes crop residue burning)	20	17-23	12	11-14
<b>Secondary Particulate</b> (from gaseous emissions from Transport, Industries, Biomass burning, etc.)	27	24-28	17	16-19
<b>Others</b>	6	-	11	-

\*Percentage contribution to PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations

**Average Concentration (2021-2025): Summer: 73 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and Winter: 178 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**



**CONTEXT:** The Delhi government has announced its **EV Policy 2.0**, mandating that all new two- and three-wheelers registered in the city be electric from April 2028

## Inside Delhi's New Policy

### The Purchase Incentive Taper — A Deliberately Declining Curve

Vehicle Category	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Two-wheelers	₹30,000	₹20,000	₹10,000
Three-wheelers	₹50,000	₹40,000	₹30,000
N1 commercial trucks	₹1,00,000 (Year 1 only)	—	—

*Why does the subsidy shrink every year?*

**"Early adopters face the highest risk"**

1. Uncertain resale value
2. Immature charging infra
3. Unfamiliar tech

### The Scrapping Incentives — Paying People to Retire Polluting Vehicles

Vehicle Being Scrapped	Scrapping Incentive
Two-wheelers (BS-IV)	₹10,000
Three-wheelers (BS-IV)	₹25,000
N1 trucks (BS-IV)	₹50,000
Gramin Seva Units	₹15,000
Four-wheelers (BS-IV or below)	₹1,00,000

**Dual structure =**  
Purchase incentive + scrapping incentive

### The Mandates — Where Persuasion Becomes Law

Category	Deadline	What Happens
Three-wheelers & N1 trucks	January 1, 2027	Only EV registrations permitted
Two-wheelers	April 1, 2028	Only EV registrations permitted
School buses	Within 2 years of notification	At least 10% of fleet must convert to EV

### The One Explicit Exclusion — Hybrids Get Nothing

"No subsidy will be provided for hybrid vehicles."

### The Infrastructure Commitment

The government plans to install **32,000 charging points** within the next four years — funded jointly by the central PM e-Drive scheme and the Delhi government budget.

### PHASE-OUT OF PETROL & CNG VEHICLES

<b>1st January 2027</b>	Only Electric Auto Rickshaws will be eligible for new registration.	
<b>1st April 2028</b>	Registration of new Petrol & CNG Two-Wheelers will be discontinued. Only Electric Two-Wheelers will be allowed.	

**i** Existing ICE vehicles can continue to operate. Future registrations will progressively shift to electric mobility.

### 100% ROAD TAX & REGISTRATION FEE EXEMPTION



100% Road Tax Exemption



100% Registration Fee Exemption

- For electric cars priced up to ₹30 lakh
- Valid till 31st March 2030

### Other Benefits



Strong Hybrid Vehicles  
50% Exemption



Electric Cars above  
₹30 lakh – No Exemption



# Why Delhi is going EV?



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## Zooming Out – Delhi's Policy Is "One" in a National Race

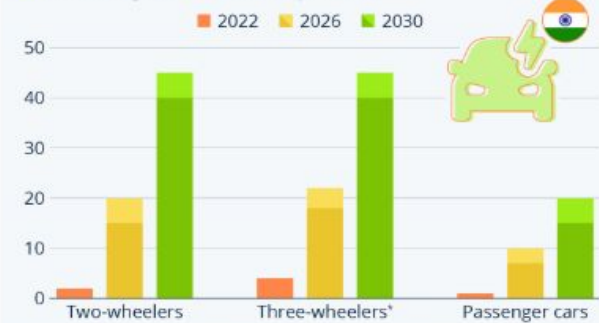
**NITI Aayog** has set a **goal of 30% EV penetration** across all vehicle modes – 2-wheelers, 3-wheelers, passenger cars, commercial vehicles, and buses – **by 2030**.

Vehicle Category	2030 Target
Private cars	30%
Commercial vehicles	70%
Buses	40%
Two- and three-wheelers	80%

~80 million EVs on Indian roads – requiring approximately **1 crore EV sales annually** by 2030.

### India's EV Growth Expected to Focus on 2W and 3W Markets

Projected BEV penetration rates for passenger vehicles in India, by vehicle class (in percent)



\* excludes smaller rickshaws (L3), includes larger cargo three-wheelers (L5)  
Source: Bain & Company



statista

## Zooming Out – Delhi's Policy Is "One" in a National Race

### Status Quo of India's EV Strategy

- State-level subsidy competition (2026) + PM E-DRIVE incentive

State	Headline Incentive
Delhi	₹30,000 max for 2W, ₹1.5 lakh for 4W, plus ₹6,000 home charger subsidy
Maharashtra	₹5,000/kWh across all categories; ₹535 crore total outlay
Gujarat	₹20,000 for 2W, 100% electricity duty exemption, road tax just 1%
Jharkhand	₹437 crore total outlay
Tamil Nadu	₹225 crore outlay; 25-50% capital subsidies for manufacturing

- Geopolitical Urgency
  - Strait of Hormuz
  - Semiconductors

- Manufacturing Supply Chain

- Battery Problem
  - ACC PLI Scheme

- June 2026 IEEFA/JMK Research report
  - Localisation

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## BATTERY MANUFACTURING CAPACITY BY COUNTRY

Global lithium-ion battery production capacity is **projected to increase eightfold by 2027.**

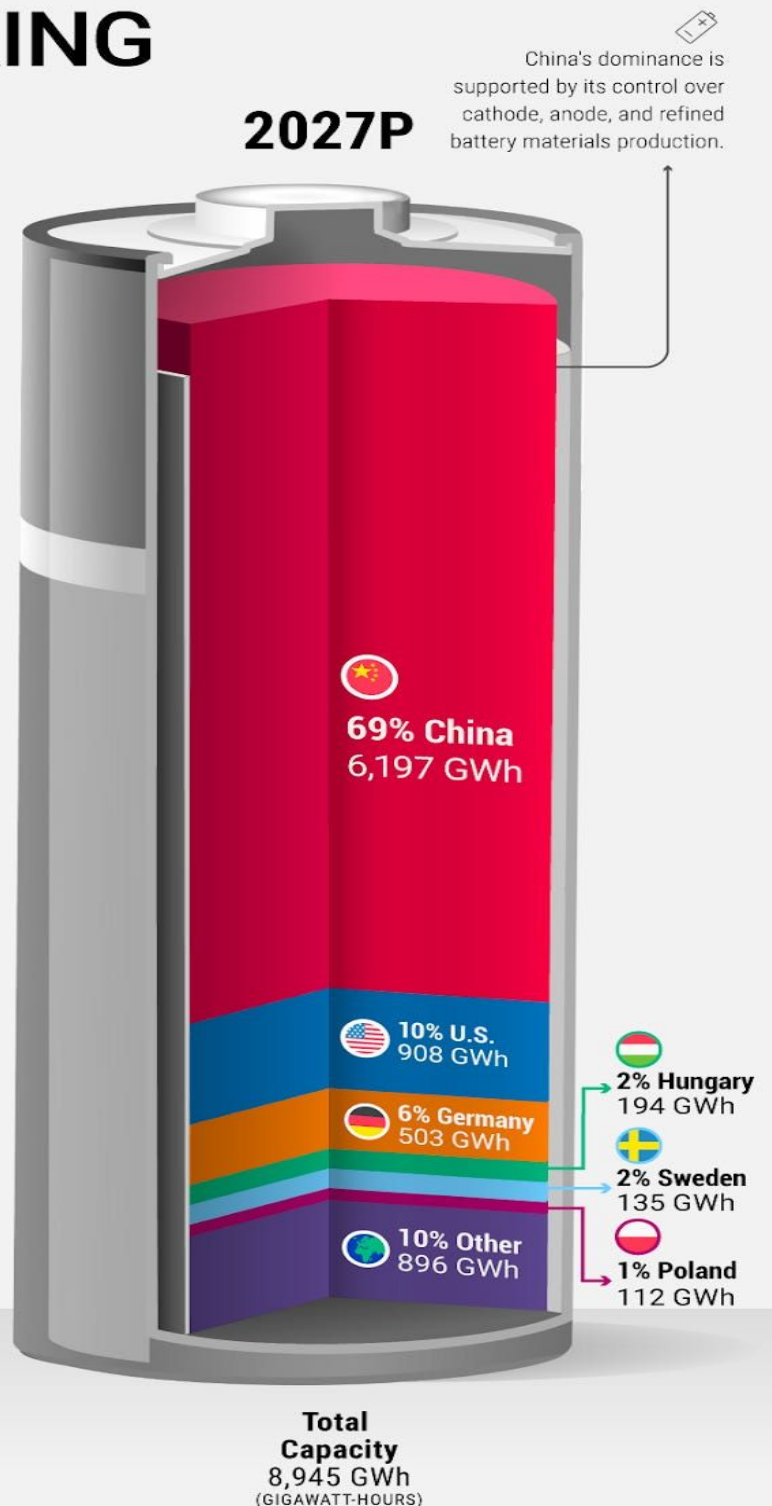
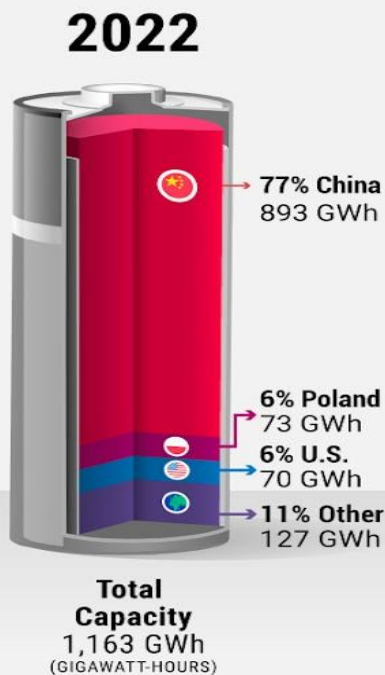
Here's a look at the top countries for battery manufacturing in 2022 and 2027, based on BloombergNEF's lithium-ion supply chain rankings.



Six of the top 10 battery manufacturing companies are headquartered in China.



U.S. battery production capacity is projected to grow over 10x by 2027.



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## Rare Earth Magnet Crisis – China's Quiet Leverage

### China's Rare Earth Dominance

With 44 million tons, China holds nearly half of the world's rare earths reserves

Rare earths reserves ('000 metric tons of Rare Earth Oxide)



Note: Data as of 2024 | Source: US Geological Survey  
Graphic: Piyush Aggarwal, Sarfaraz



Cabinet clears ₹7,280 crore scheme to make India a global hub for Rare Earth Permanent Magnets

#### Scheme

India's first scheme to set up integrated facilities for producing sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnets, from oxides to finished magnets

**Total outlay: ₹7,280 crore**  
**Project duration: 7 years**



#### Benefits

- Reduces import dependence and boosts self-reliance
- Secures supply chains for EVs, renewables, electronics, defence
- Supports rising magnet demand (expected to double by 2030)
- Generates jobs and strengthens manufacturing competitiveness
- Aligns with Atmanirbhar Bharat & Net Zero 2070 goals



## Model to follow for other states

**FAME-II's 9x COMMERCIAL lesson:**  
**State governments, not the Centre**



**Public bus electrification effort:**  
**Plan = 800,000 diesel buses**

**Battery Leasing + "Battery Aadhaar"**  
**"40% of the capital cost"**

**Recycling Opportunity:**  
**92,000 tonnes of end-of-life lithium-ion battery waste by 2030**  
**Battery recycling market = \$10 billion by 2030**

**Consumer demand**



# Why Delhi is going EV?



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## Mains Practise Question

**India's EV transition in 2026 is, quite literally, a story moving at three different speeds simultaneously. Comment.**

(15 Marks, 250 words)

Delhi's Transport Commissioner Niharika laid out the data behind the policy's design:

*"33% of pollution is caused by commercial goods carrying vehicles and 46% is caused by two wheelers and three wheelers. The policy focuses on these vehicles specifically. We are trying to convert the entire fleet of these vehicles into EV."*



# What are Reforms 2.0 for Bharat?



**CONTEXT:** An IAS officer proposes a bold idea: make AI tokens free the way India made mobile data free.

## From "Hindu Rate" to "Bharat Rate"

**THE PROBLEM:**  
**THREE DECADES OF STAGNATION**  
(1950s-1980s)

**A GROWTH RATE OF JUST 3.5-4%**

For 30 years, India's annual GDP growth was stuck at this low rate.



**MAIN CAUSE: THE "LICENSE-PERMIT-QUOTA RAJ"**

A restrictive system of state control stifled private enterprise and foreign investment.

**LAGGING BEHIND THE "EAST ASIAN MIRACLE"**



**EAST ASIAN MIRACLE: 7-10%**  
(e.g., South Korea, Taiwan)

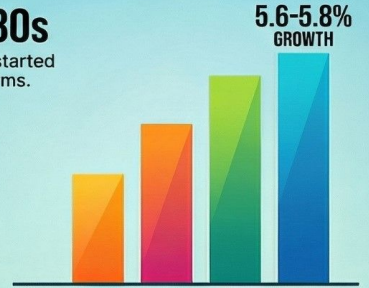
**THE SOLUTION:**  
**THE TURNAROUND**

**THE BREAKOUT BEGAN IN THE 1980s**

The shift away from low growth started before the well-known 1991 reforms.

**GROWTH ACCELERATED TO NEARLY 6%**

Pro-business reforms and gradual deregulation pushed the growth rate to 5.6-5.8%.



Tokens	Characters
40	204

Specifically, tokens are the segments of text that are fed into and generated by the machine learning model. These can be individual characters, whole words, parts of words, or even larger chunks of text.

TEXT    TOKEN IDS



# What are Reforms 2.0 for Bharat?



**CONTEXT:** An IAS officer proposes a bold idea: make AI tokens free the way India made mobile data free.

## The author's central bet:

**AI can be 2026's liberalisation moment** — pushing India from its historical growth band toward a sustained **"Bharat rate of growth"** — **8%+ for a decade.**

## The Numbers That Anchor the Argument

	DATA	Why It Matters
<b>India's R&amp;D spend</b>	0.65% of GDP	Far below China (2.4%), US (3.5%), South Korea (4.9%), Israel (5.4%)
<b>Cost to give free AI tokens to top 100 universities + 5,000 schools</b>	<b>\$2 billion/year</b> (~0.06% of GDP)	A genuinely small number
<b>India's annual food subsidy</b>	~\$49 billion	The \$2bn ask is <b>1/14th</b> of this
<b>India's fertiliser subsidy</b>	Compounding at 11% CAGR	The \$2bn ask is <b>1/10th</b> of this

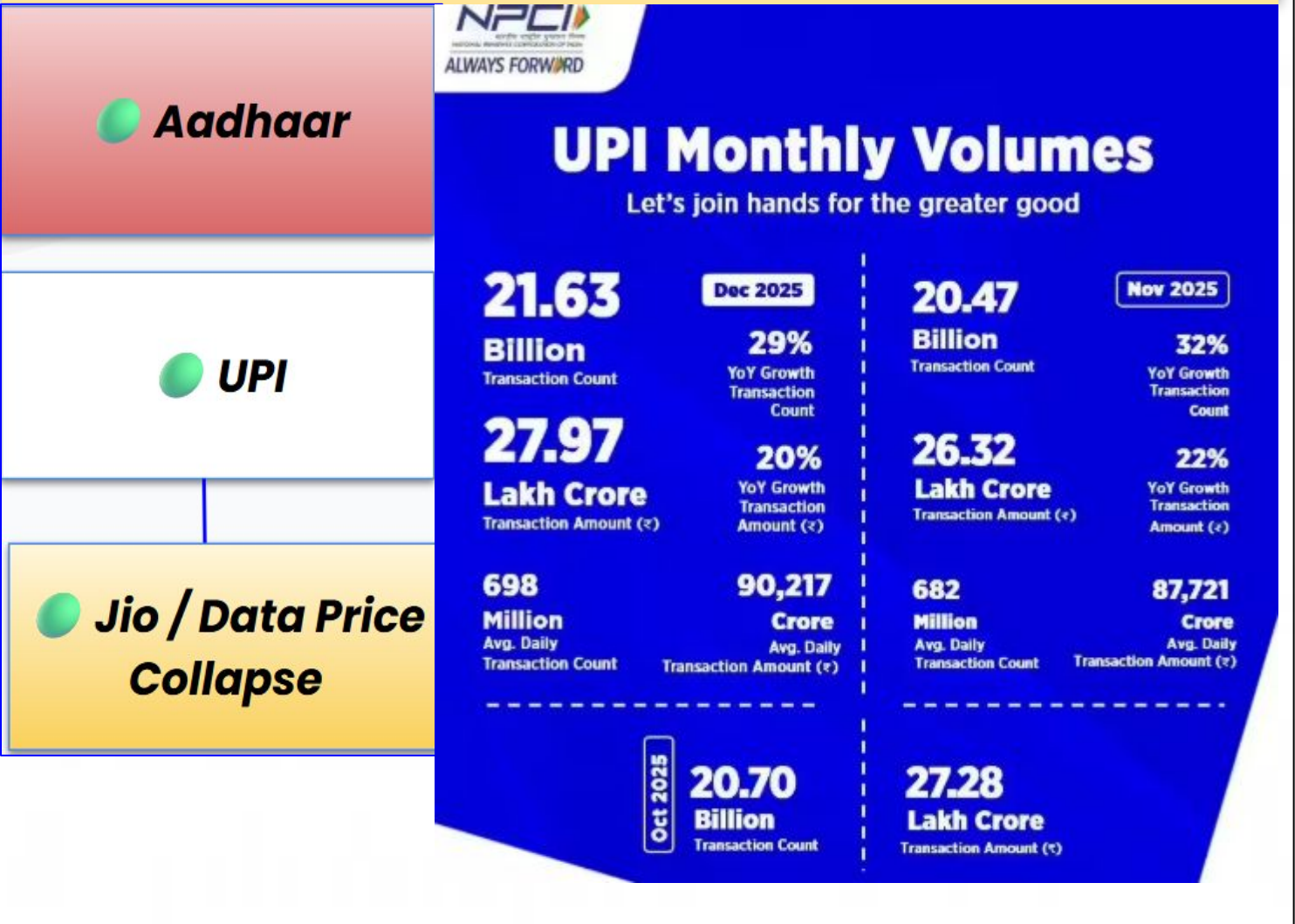


# What are Reforms 2.0 for Bharat?



**CONTEXT:** An IAS officer proposes a bold idea: make AI tokens free the way India made mobile data free.

## The Precedent Cases — Did India Really "Leapfrog" Before?



# What are Reforms 2.0 for Bharat?



**CONTEXT:** An IAS officer proposes a bold idea: make AI tokens free the way India made mobile data free.

## IndiaAI Mission

Cabinet approves comprehensive national-level IndiaAI mission

- ❖ Budget outlay of Rs.10,371.92 crore.
- ❖ Mission aims to establish a comprehensive ecosystem catalyzing AI innovation through strategic programs and partnerships across public and private sectors
- ❖ To be implemented by 'IndiaAI' Independent Business Division (IBD) under Digital India Corporation

### Mission components

01. IndiaAI Compute Capacity - to build a high-end scalable AI computing ecosystem
02. IndiaAI Innovation Centre - to undertake development and deployment of indigenous Large Multimodal Models



1/2

## IndiaAI Mission

Cabinet approves comprehensive national-level IndiaAI mission

03. IndiaAI Datasets Platform - to streamline access to quality non-personal datasets for AI Innovation
04. IndiaAI Application Development Initiative - to promote AI applications in critical sectors for problem statements sourced from Central Ministries, State Departments, and other institutions
05. IndiaAI FutureSkills - to mitigate barriers to entry into AI programs and will increase AI courses in undergraduate, masters-level, and Ph.D. programs
06. IndiaAI Startup Financing - to support and accelerate deep-tech AI startups
07. Safe & Trusted AI - to enable implementation of Responsible AI projects including development of indigenous tools and frameworks, self-assessment checklists for innovators, and other guidelines and governance frameworks



2/2

## Reality Check — How Much of This Is Already Happening?

### Compute Pillar — Scaling Faster Than the Article Assumes

**Early in Mission**  
(per Minister)

18,693 GPUs — 9x DeepSeek's training capacity, 2/3 of ChatGPT's

March 2026

34,000 GPUs

**Target, end of 2026**

**100,000 GPUs**

**February 2026 Summit announcement**

+20,000 additional Blackwell GPUs via NVIDIA partnership

*Subsidised access is already live: ₹115-150 per GPU-hour, roughly 42% below market rates, with eligible **national-priority projects receiving up to a further 40% discount.***



# What are Reforms 2.0 for Bharat?



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## Reality Check – How Much of This Is Already Happening?



**Sarvam 30B** (32B parameters, Mixture-of-Experts) and **Sarvam 105B** (106B parameters) – both trained with no foreign model weights

### State Governments Are Already Racing Ahead Too

- **Tamil Nadu**
  - Sovereign AI Research Park
  - ₹10,000 crore
- **Odisha**
  - \$2.3 billion MoU

Reimagining growth: Odisha's shift to a technology-led economy

### IndiaAI Compute Pillar

₹65 per hour to researchers and developers

### AIKosh (Dataset Platform)

### IndiaAI Startup Financing

### YUVA AI for All / YuvAi

### Digital Government Mission / Bhashini + CoE

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology | Digital India | Power to Empower | **INDIAai**

**aiकोष**  
Powering India's AI Vision

**Discover new range of Agriculture Datasets of India**

- Kodagu Crop Survey (Kharif 2020-21)
- Agriculture Capital Formation (Yearly)
- ICAR Technology Repository
- Kisan Call Centre Queries
- Daily Market Prices - Variety-wise

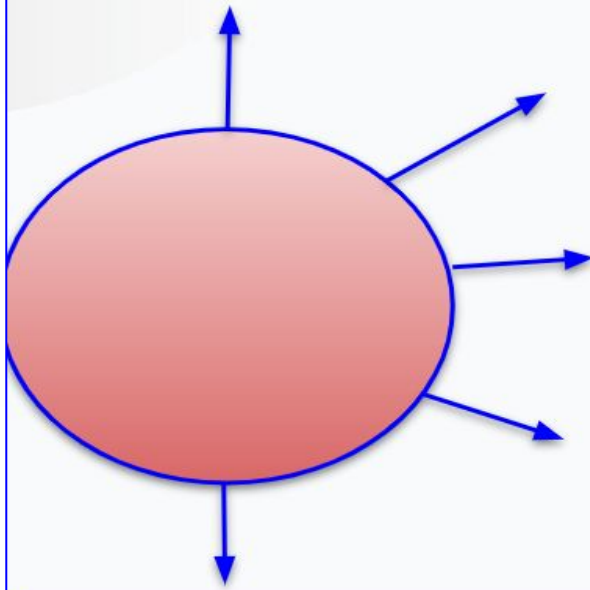


# What are Reforms 2.0 for Bharat?



**CONTEXT:** An IAS officer proposes a bold idea: make AI tokens free the way India made mobile data free.

**10,000+ H100-equivalent GPUs:  
Sarvam's Frontier Compute Gap**



**The Data Quality Problem**

**"India is building sovereign AI faster than it is building the institutions to audit"**

**40:30:30 hardware mix:  
AWS Trainium/AMD : Google TPU : NVIDIA**

**DECENTRALISED AI Dev**

## Mains Practise Question

**The open question for AI – is whether it can build the institutions of trust around that infrastructure just as fast? Discuss the implications.**

(15 Marks, 250 words)



**MAINS VALUE ADDITION**



Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini, and Rajasthan CM Bhajanlal Sharma (left) in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

**Haryana, Rajasthan ink pact to implement Yamuna water accord**

**Newspaper** The Hindu

**Page Number** 1

**GS Paper 1**

- Rajasthan's arid districts  
(Churu, Sikar, Jhunjhunu)

**GS Paper 2**

- Resource-sharing agreements
- Cooperative Federalism **MODEL**

**GS Paper 3**

- **Underground water pipeline** from the Hathini Kund barrage
- **Climate-Resilient** Water Security

**Govt. launches platform to track maternal, child health**

**Bindu Shajan Perappadan**  
NEW DELHI

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah recently launched the PM Family Care Tracker (PM-FCT), a digital platform aimed at strengthening maternal and child health, nutrition, and family welfare through real-time monitoring of beneficiaries.

**मंत्रालय - ईभिली कर ट्रैकर (PM-FCT)**  
**देशभर में पायलट प्रोजेक्ट को शुभारंभ**



Union Home Minister Amit Shah launching the pilot project of 'PM Family Care Tracker' in Gandhinagar. PTI

**Newspaper** The Hindu

**Page Number** 14

**PM Family Care Tracker**

- **"Digital Health Passports"**
- **"Family-centric"** digital governance model
- Real-time tracking
- Reduce **Maternal** and **Infant Mortality Rates**
- **Lifecycle Approach to Health**

**Cross-referencing data**

- *Anganwadis*
- *Schools*
- *Birth/death registries*



# Mains Value Addition

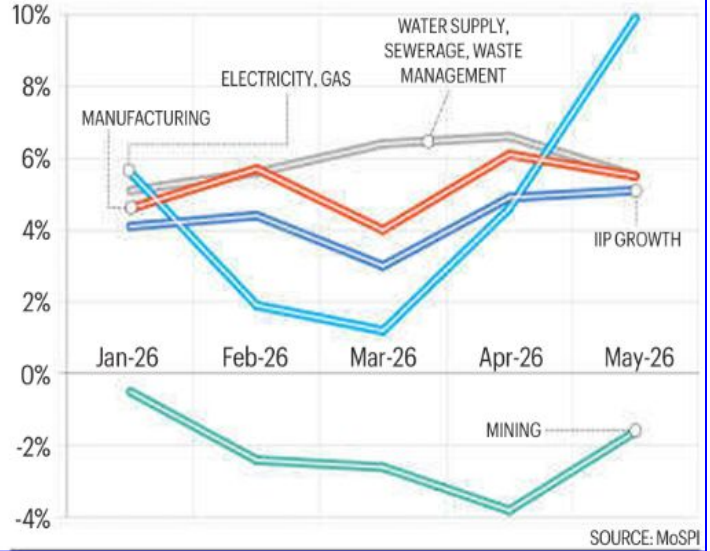


## MAINS VALUE ADDITION

### Industrial output growth hits 5-month high of 5.1%

Strong show by manufacturing, electricity, capital, and consumer goods sectors drives growth; mining and quarrying sector contracts for fifth straight month as govt. further tweaks IIP series

### Electricity production pulls up May IIP growth



Newspaper

The Hindu

Page Number

1

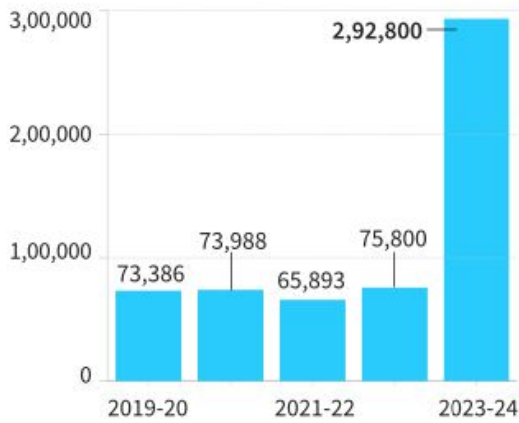


# What are RBI scam compensation rules?

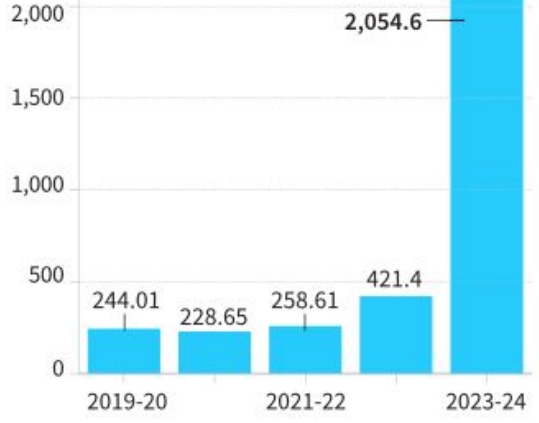
**SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Financial Inclusion**  
**Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 10**

## The "Digital Arrest" menace

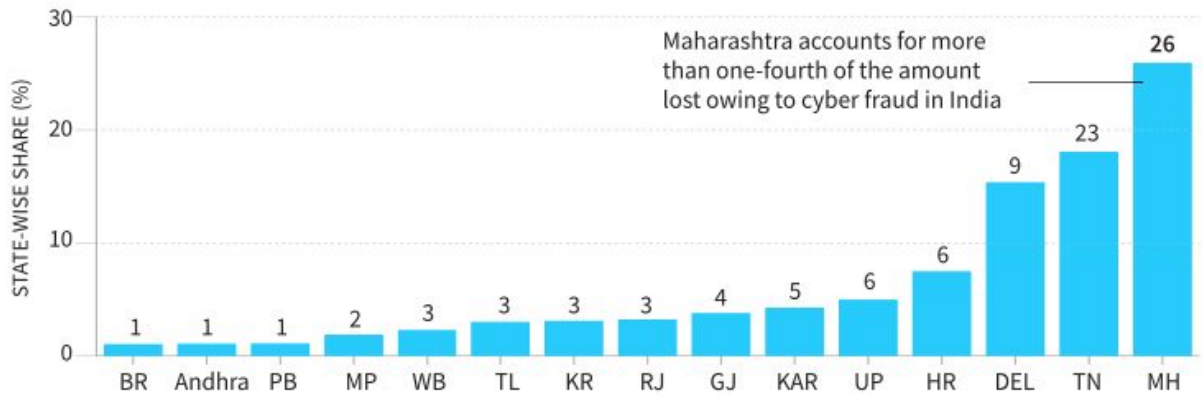
**Chart 1(a):** The number of cases of cyber fraud across the years in banking transactions



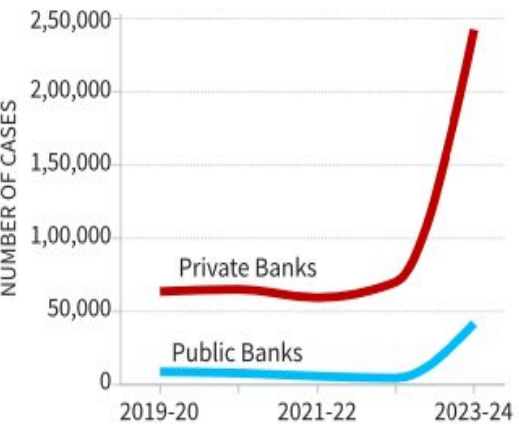
**Chart 1(b):** The amount of loss incurred from cyber fraud in ₹ crore



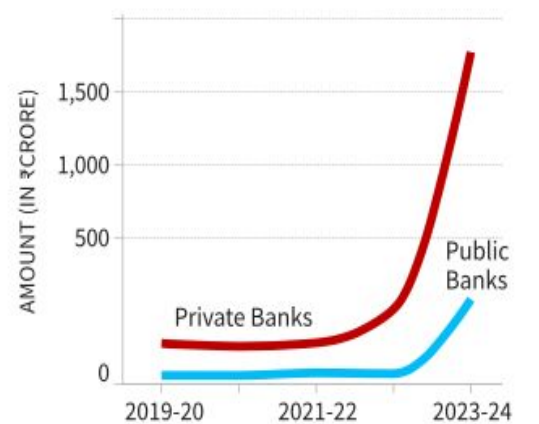
**Chart 2:** The State-wise share of total cases of cyber fraud in 2022-23. Figures are in %



**Chart 3(a):** The chart shows the number of cases of cyber fraud in public sector and private sector banks



**Chart 3(b):** The chart shows the values of cyber frauds in public sector and private sector banks



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS: Financial Inclusion**  
**Newspaper: The Hindu Page Number: 10**

## The "Digital Arrest" menace

**RTI data:** ₹3,207 crore was lost because of 5,82,000 cases of cyber fraud between FY2020-24.



**NCRB, 2022** - ₹1.25 trillion

**Target vulnerable individuals**

## How Much Do You Get Back? 🎲

### Compensation Math

- **Eligibility Cap:** <₹50,000
- **Payout Percentage:** 85%
- **Lifetime Limit:** ₹25,000
- Who foots the bill?
  - **RBI:** 75%
  - **Victim's bank + scammers' bank**

### Other details for Prelims

- **Victim of deception and sheer negligence**
  - **"This might be a scam,"**
  - **"Customer Negligence"**
  - **"Outdated Contact Info"**
- **5-Day Window (1930)**
- **Bank Settlement Deadline**
  - **Domestic**
  - **International**
- **Zero Liability Rule**



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS:** Heatwaves, ENSO, El Niño  
**Newspaper:** The Indian Express **Page Number:** 20



## Why Is Europe Suddenly So Hot?

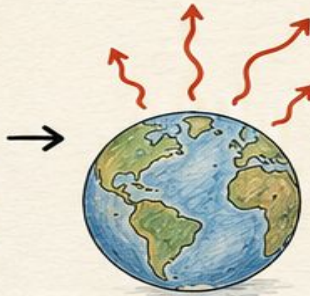


### 1 THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

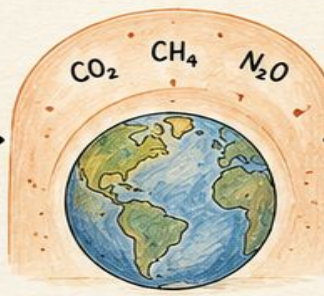
1 Sunlight enters Earth



2 Earth releases heat back outward



3 Greenhouse gases trap part of that heat



4 More greenhouse gases = more warming

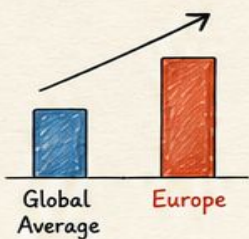


(Like a blanket around Earth)

More gases trap more heat

### 2 WHY EUROPE IS WARMING QUICKLY

Europe is warming faster than the global average.



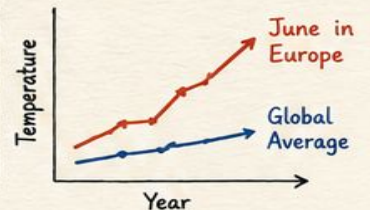
Summers are becoming hotter.



Heatwaves are arriving earlier in the year.



June itself is becoming warmer much faster than before.

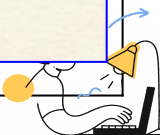


### 3 WHAT IS A HEATWAVE?

A heatwave is several consecutive days of **unusually high temperatures** for a location and time of year.



It's not just one hot day, it's the **persistence** that makes it dangerous.



# Why Europe is reeling under heat?



**SYLLABUS : PRELIMS :** Heatwaves, ENSO, El Niño  
**Newspaper :** The Indian Express **Page Number : 20**

## Why Are Heatwaves Rising By 10°C?

### EUROPE'S HISTORIC HEAT STRESS

Data shows 45% of 854 cities analysed between June 18 and 30 have broken — or are forecast to break — historic heat stress records.

- Record-breaking
- Not record-breaking

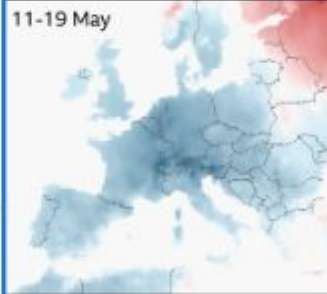


SOURCE: WORLD WEATHER ATTRIBUTION

In just two weeks during May 2026, Europe went from cooler-than-average to heatwave. Quick transition leaves little time for human body to adjust.

Change from average temperature: -8C to +8C

11-19 May



Average surface air temperature was **cooler** than the average for 1991-2020

21-30 May



Average surface air temperature suddenly became **hotter** than average for 1991-2020

Source: ERA5/C3S/ECMWF



**Wrong Month!**

**3rd intense heatwave in 5 years**

**2022 - 2023:  
~1,00,000 excess deaths.**



# Why Europe is reeling under heat?

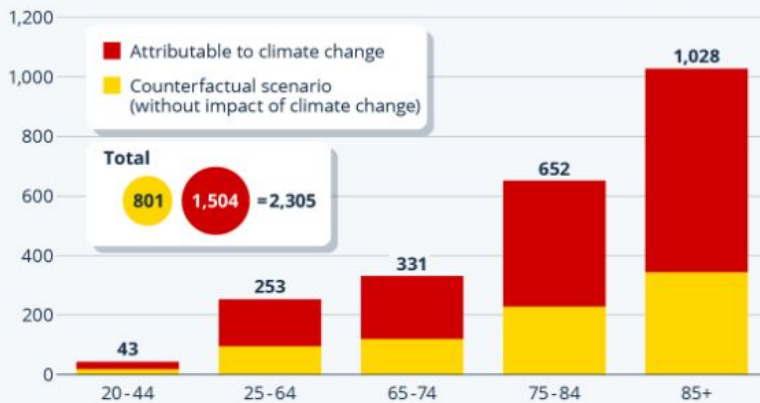


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## "Impossible Without Climate Change"?

### Climate Change Tripled Heat Deaths in European Heatwave

Estimated number of heat-related excess deaths in 12 European cities in Jun./Jul. 2025 heatwave, by age group\*



\* Jun. 23-Jul. 2, 2025; London, Paris, Frankfurt, Budapest, Zagreb, Athens, Rome, Milan, Sassari, Barcelona, Madrid, Lisbon  
 Source: Clarke, B. et al. Grantham Institute, Imperial College London

### World Weather Attribution study

- **Climate Attribution Science**

"Would this exact heatwave have happened in a world without human-caused warming?"

(World A vs B)

- **What About El Niño?**

- **"Long-term warming"**

## Why Are Night Temperatures Important?

Time	Normal Temperature
Day	25°C
Night	14°C

### During a heatwave

Day	<b>40°C</b>
Night	<b>30°C</b>

- Heat stress accumulates.
- **Elderly** suffer more.
- Mortality rises sharply.

### Why Is Europe Particularly Vulnerable?

- **Historically a cool continent**
- **Home design**
- **Fewer air conditioners,**
- **Ageing populations**
- **Urban heat islands**



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS:** Infrastructure, Investment Models  
**Newspaper:** The Hindu **Page Number:** 15

## NIIF: India's Infrastructure Investment Engine



### 1 What is NIIF?



- NIIF stands for National Investment and Infrastructure Fund
- It was created in 2015
- It is India's sovereign-anchored investment fund
- Think of it as a large investment platform for infrastructure projects



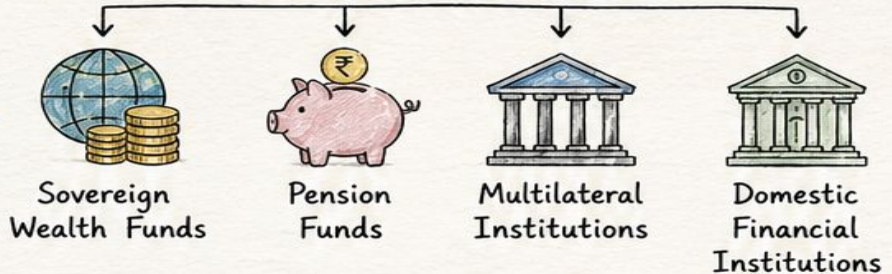
Sovereign Anchor Investor

### 2 Who owns it?

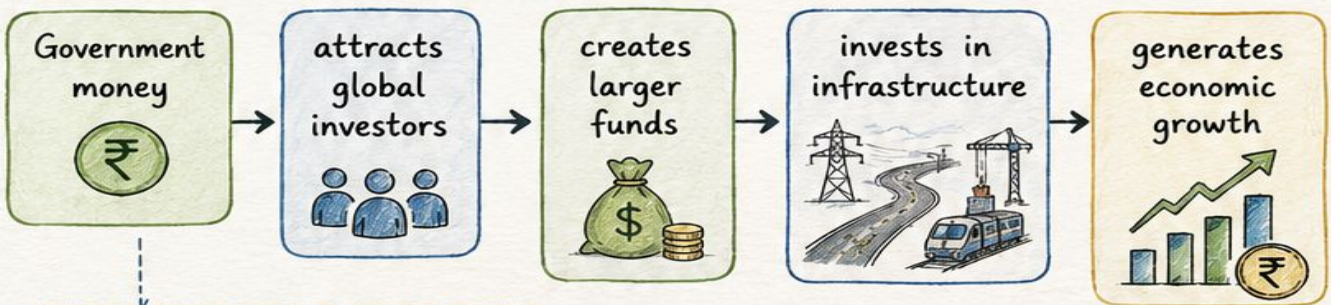
Government of India  
49% shareholder



Remaining capital comes from:



### 3 How does NIIF work?



NIIF currently manages around ₹40,000 crore of commitments and is designed to catalyse much larger private investment flows into infrastructure.



# Why additional funds for NIIF?

**SYLLABUS : PRELIMS :** Infrastructure, Investment Models  
**Newspaper :** The Hindu **Page Number : 15**

## Understanding NIIF Basics

<b>India's Sovereign-Anchored Fund</b>	₹40,000 crore	<b>Where Will the New ₹30,000 Crore Be Deployed?</b>  <b>A. <u>NIIF Infrastructure Fund II</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Successor Fund</b></li><li>• <b>Target Corpus: ₹30,000 crore.</b></li></ul>
<b>Government Stake</b>	Attract <b>domestic and international equity</b>	

### 4 Why NIIF exists

<p>Infrastructure projects require huge amounts of long-term capital</p>	<p>Banks alone cannot finance everything</p>	<p>NIIF helps bring global money into Indian infrastructure</p>
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**SYLLABUS : PRELIMS :** Infrastructure, Investment Models  
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## Where Will the New ₹30,000 Crore Be Deployed?

### B. Sectoral Focus Areas

The fund will aggressively target capital-heavy sectors vital to India's growth:

- Transportation networks
- Energy and power generation
- Digital infrastructure
- **Emerging Sectors:** Urban infrastructure and E-mobility.

### C. Supporting Global & Strategic Funds

- Beyond the flagship fund, the allocation will also act as **seed capital** to support NIIF's upcoming **bilateral and strategic funds**

### The World's Largest Sovereign Wealth Funds

Assets under management of the world's largest sovereign wealth funds\*



A sovereign wealth fund is a state-owned investment fund that invests globally in assets such as stocks, bonds, real estate or in alternative investments such as private equity fund or hedge funds.

\* Latest period U.S. dollar figure if available, estimation otherwise; as of Aug. 2023  
 Source: Global SWF



statista

## 3 WHY THIS MATTERS

The additional allocation will help NIIF to:

Raise larger funds



More capital to invest at scale

Attract more global investors



Builds confidence and credibility

Create bigger investment platforms



Stronger, diversified and long-term platforms

Finance long-term infrastructure projects

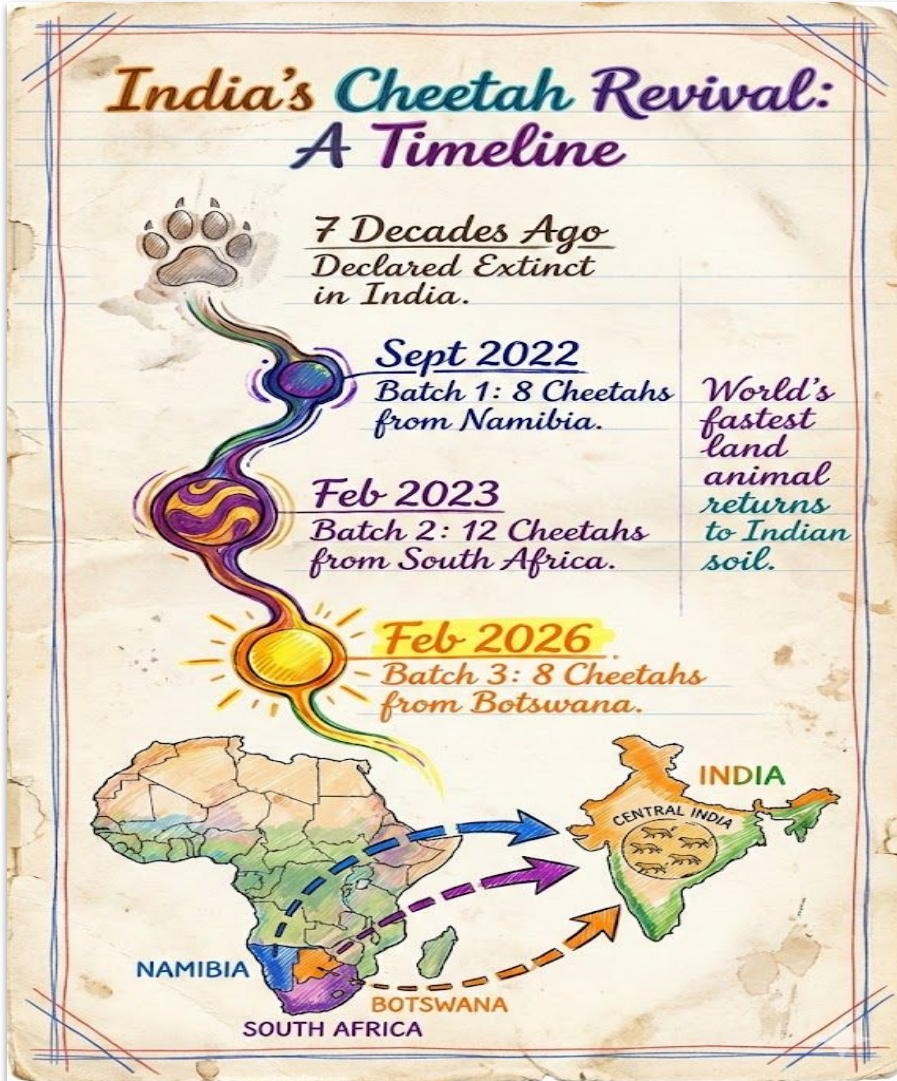


High-impact projects for India's growth



**SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Flora and fauna**  
**Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 15**

## Project Cheetah



**African Cheetah:**  
Vulnerable  
**Asiatic Cheetah:**  
Critically  
Endangered

**Nodal Agency:**  
NTCA

**Schedule I;**  
WPA, 1972



**SYLLABUS:** PRELIMS : *Flora and fauna*  
**Newspaper:** The Hindu **Page Number:** 15

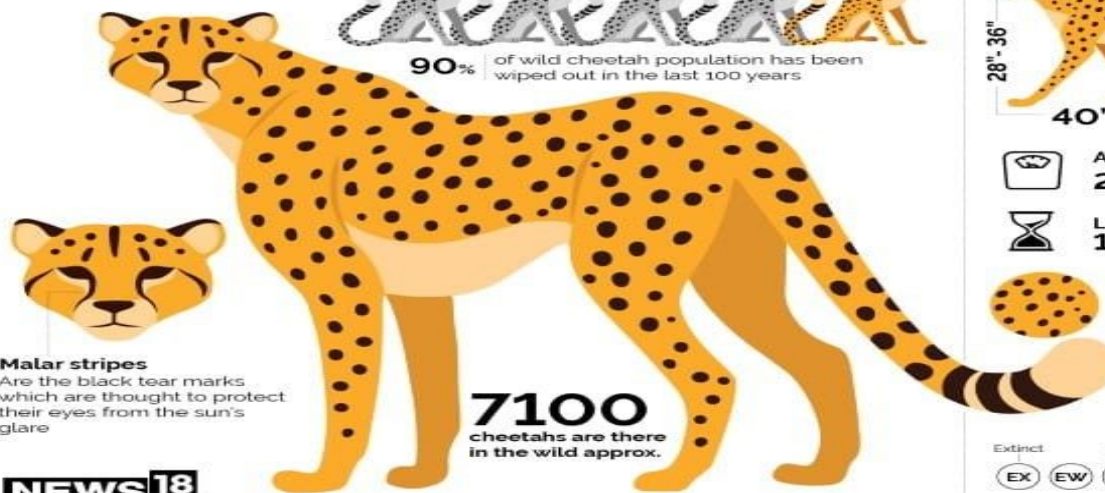
# THE RETURN OF CHEETAHS

India will be home to the world's fastest land animal again after the feline was declared extinct in the country in 1952. Five female and three male cheetahs are all set to reach Kuno-Palpur National Park on 17 September as part of the reintroduction programme

Shrinking habitat



90% of wild cheetah population has been wiped out in the last 100 years



**Malar stripes**  
 Are the black tear marks which are thought to protect their eyes from the sun's glare

**7100** cheetahs are there in the wild approx.

**NEWS18** creative

Source: www.cheetah.org/ News Reports

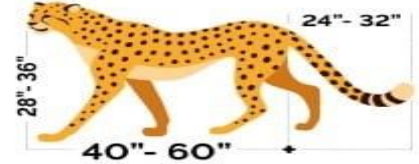
Fastest land animal  
**80 - 128** KM/H  
 Fastest recorded speed  
**93 & 98** KM/H



**Stride**

When cheetahs are running full speed, their stride (length between steps) is **21 ft** approx.

**Average length**



Adults weigh in avg.  
**21-72** KG



Lifespan in the wild  
**10 - 12** yrs



**Skin**

The cheetah's fur is covered in solid black spots, and so is their skin!

**Conservation status**



**Founder Population**

**20 Cheetahs**

**Current Total (2025)**

**53 big cats**

**Secondary Location**

**3 @ Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary**

**What are the Cheetahs Eating?** 🍖



**SYLLABUS:** PRELIMS : *Flora and fauna*  
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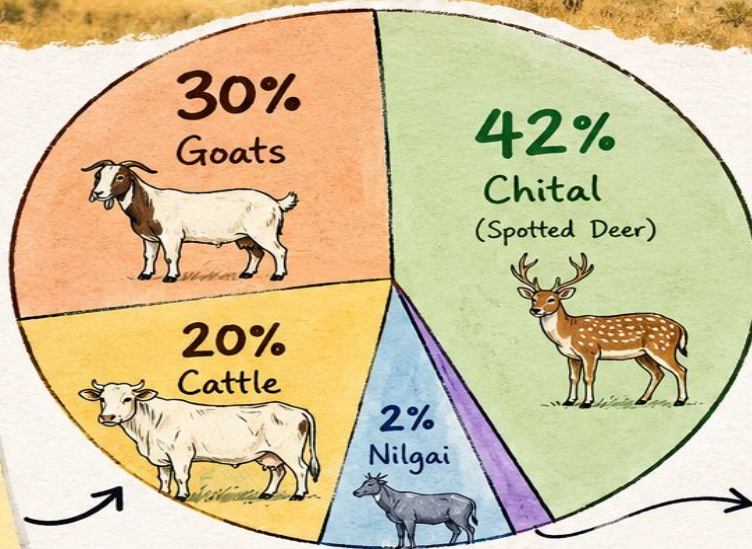
# What Do India's Cheetahs Eat?

A look at prey of free-ranging cheetahs in Kuno National Park

Project Cheetah aims to build a self-sustaining population in the wild.



What's on the menu?



Domestic livestock (goats + cattle) together account for **50%** of recorded kills.

- 1% each
- Hare
- Sambar
- Chinkara
- Sheep
- Wild Pig

## Why is livestock becoming important prey?



Low wild prey density outside core areas



Cheetahs move into multi-use landscapes



Livestock are easily available near villages



Opportunistic hunting by cheetahs



Human-wildlife interface increases



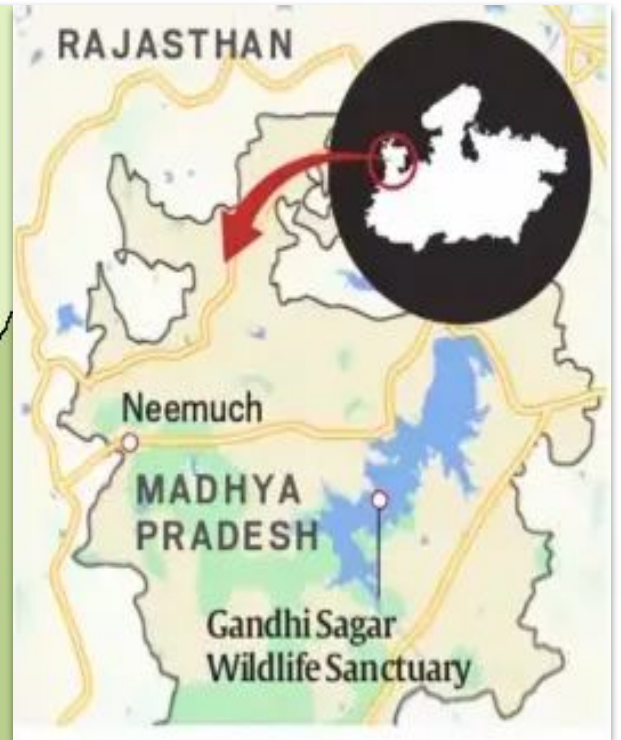
## The Big Takeaway

- Cheetahs do not "prefer" livestock.
- Prey choice reflects **availability** across different landscapes.

→ Conserving **wild prey and habitats** is key to cheetahs' long-term survival.



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS: Flora and fauna**  
**Newspaper: The Hindu Page Number: 15**



**Prelims Quick-facts**

**KUNO NATIONAL PARK**

LOCATION	NO. OF CHEETAHS	DATE OF ARRIVAL
NAMIBIA (AIRLIFTED)	8	17 SEPTEMBER, 2022
SOUTH AFRICA (AIRLIFTED)	12	18 FEBRUARY, 2023
KUNO (BORN TO JIWALA)	4	29 MARCH, 2023



**Kuno National Park Geography:**  
 @ Sheopur district (MP).

**Core NP: 748.76 sq km.**

**Landscape Type:** Part of the larger Sheopur-Shivpuri dry deciduous open forests ( 6,800 sq km).

**River:** The **Kuno River** (tributary of Chambal) bisects the park.



**Q1. Consider the following statements:**

1. The greenhouse effect occurs when greenhouse gases trap a part of the heat radiated back by the Earth.
2. Europe is warming at a slower rate than the global average.
3. A heatwave refers to a single day of exceptionally high temperature in a region.

**Which of the above given statements is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) All of the above

**Answer: a**

**Q2: Which of the following statements regarding the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) is NOT correct?**

- a) NIIF was established in 2015 as a sovereign-anchored investment platform for infrastructure projects.
- b) The Government of India holds 49% equity in NIIF.
- c) The remaining capital is mobilised from sovereign wealth funds, pension funds, multilateral institutions, and domestic financial institutions.
- d) NIIF directly implements infrastructure projects as a government department.

**Answer: d**

**Q3. With reference to IndiaAI Mission, consider the following statements:**

1. The IndiaAI Datasets Platform aims to provide streamlined access to quality non-personal datasets for AI innovation.
2. The IndiaAI Application Development Initiative promotes AI solutions for problem statements sourced from Central Ministries, State Departments, and other institutions.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: c**

**Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Cheetah:**

1. The African Cheetah is classified as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.
2. The Asiatic Cheetah is classified as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.
3. The Cheetah is included in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

**How many of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

**Answer: a**

**Q5. With reference to Kuno National Park, consider the following statements:**

1. It is located in the Sheopur district of Madhya Pradesh.
2. The Kuno River, a tributary of the Chambal River, flows through the park.
3. The park forms part of the larger Sheopur–Shivpuri dry deciduous open forest landscape

**How many of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

**Answer: c**





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