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Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

10th August 2026



Mecca Joint Defence Agreement

CONTEXT: Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Türkiye signed the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement under which an armed attack against one of the three is to be treated as an attack against all.



THE MECCA DEAL
A TRILATERAL MUTUAL DEFENCE PACT

SAUDI ARABIA **TURKEY** **PAKISTAN**

An armed attack on any one of the three countries will be regarded as an attack on all.
Commits the parties to closer defence cooperation and collective deterrence.

WHAT'S INCLUDED	WHAT IT DOES NOT INCLUDE
 Mutual defence guarantee An attack on one is an attack on all.	 No explicit nuclear provision No mention of nuclear weapons or a nuclear umbrella.
 Legal basis Grounded in Article 51 of the UN Charter – the right to individual and collective self-defence.	 No defined scope No clarity on geographical scope of the guarantee.
 Military cooperation Training, exchange of personnel, and joint exercises.	 No automatic intervention No specifics on when or how the three countries would be required to intervene.
 Intelligence sharing Framework established for deeper intelligence cooperation.	 No full treaty text released Exact military obligations and operational details not specified in the public domain.

- **Signed**
 - Mecca, Saudi Arabia
 - 7 August 2026
- **Core Principle**
 - **"Attack on one = attack on all."**
 - An armed attack against one member is to be treated as an attack against all three.
- **Nature of the Agreement**
 - Joint defence cooperation
 - Mutual deterrence
 - Defence coordination
 - Strategic cooperation
 - Described by members as defensive
 - Not formally a NATO-style alliance, despite comparisons in public commentary.
 - Some label it as **Muslim NATO**.



Mecca Joint Defence Agreement

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Türkiye-Saudi Arabia-Pakistan Mecca Joint Defence Agreement



- The agreement was signed in Mecca by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, and Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif
- It stipulates that **an armed attack against any one of the three countries** will be considered an attack against all three
- Under the agreement, **defense cooperation among the three countries** is to be strengthened across all dimensions
- The agreement aims to enhance **collective deterrence** against all forms of aggression



Mecca Joint Defence Agreement

CONTEXT: Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Türkiye signed the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement under which an armed attack against one of the three is to be treated as an attack against all.

Why has the Agreement Emerged?

- **Growing West Asian Instability**
 - Iran-Israel conflict
 - Regional armed groups have increased security concerns among Gulf.
- **Search for Greater Strategic Autonomy**
 - Saudi Arabia is seeking greater diversification of its security partnerships.
- **Strengthening Saudi-Pakistan Defence Ties**
 - Builds upon the longstanding Saudi-Pakistan military relationship and the bilateral Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement signed in 2025.
- **Türkiye's Expanding Regional Role**
 - Türkiye brings significant military-industrial and technological capabilities to the partnership.
- **Military Capability Synergy**
 - Saudi Arabia – Financial & energy power
 - Pakistan – Large military + nuclear power
 - Türkiye – Military technology + defence industry
- **Reduced Dependence on External Security Guarantees**
 - Creates another layer of security cooperation outside traditional US-led arrangements.

IMPLICATIONS FOR INDIA

Mecca Joint Defence Agreement: What it means for India

A PAKISTAN'S STRATEGIC LEVERAGE MAY INCREASE



How?

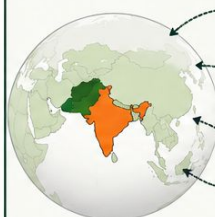
Saudi financial and political backing + Türkiye's defence capabilities could strengthen Pakistan's strategic position.

Implication for India

► Could increase Pakistan's diplomatic and military confidence.

! However: the pact does not automatically mean Saudi Arabia or Türkiye will intervene in an India-Pakistan conflict; the actual scope and implementation of collective defence remain important variables.

B COMPLICATES INDIA'S PAKISTAN STRATEGY



How?

Any future India-Pakistan military crisis could acquire a broader diplomatic dimension.

Example

► India may have to factor in possible diplomatic or logistical support for Pakistan from partner states.

C CHALLENGE TO INDIA'S WEST ASIA BALANCING

India has carefully maintained strong relations with:



Implication

► A deeper Saudi-Pakistan-Türkiye strategic alignment creates a more complex diplomatic environment for India's multi-alignment strategy.



D TÜRKIYE-PAKISTAN ALIGNMENT

How?

Türkiye has historically maintained close political and defence ties with Pakistan.



Implication

► The institutionalisation of this relationship could make Türkiye an even more important factor in India's West Asia and Pakistan calculations.



💡 India must remain vigilant, strengthen partnerships, and pursue strategic autonomy while protecting its national interests.



Mecca Joint Defence Agreement

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IMPLICATIONS FOR INDIA

E ENERGY SECURITY IMPLICATIONS

Why?

Saudi Arabia and the wider Gulf are critical to India's:

- Crude oil
- LPG
- Petrochemicals
- Energy imports



Implication

► Instability in the Gulf can directly affect India's energy prices, inflation and current account.

F MARITIME SECURITY CONCERNS

Why?

The Gulf connects to India through the:



Implication

► Any military escalation could affect India's shipping, energy supplies and diaspora evacuation routes.

G INDIAN DIASPORA

Example

► Millions of Indians work across Gulf countries.

Implication

Regional conflict creates challenges related to:

- Safety
- Evacuation
- Remittances
- Employment



H NUCLEAR DIMENSION



Pakistan is a **nuclear-armed state**, making any expansion of its strategic partnerships particularly significant.

Implication

► India must closely monitor whether the agreement results in deeper defence-technological or strategic cooperation.



Important UPSC nuance: Do not write that the agreement automatically provides Saudi Arabia with a Pakistani "nuclear umbrella". The public information available does not establish such an automatic arrangement.

Why the Agreement is NOT Necessarily a Major Setback for India

- **India's Strong Saudi Relationship**
 - India-Saudi ties have expanded across:
 - Energy
 - Investment
 - Trade
 - Defence
 - Counter-terrorism
 - Saudi Arabia remains an important economic and energy partner for India.
- **Saudi Arabia Has Its Own Strategic Interests**
 - Riyadh is unlikely to completely subordinate its economic and diplomatic interests to Pakistan.
- **Agreement is Primarily West Asia-Focused**
 - The signatories have described it as defensive and not directed at a specific country.



Mecca Joint Defence Agreement



CONTEXT: Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Türkiye signed the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement under which an armed attack against one of the three is to be treated as an attack against all.

- **India is Not Militarily Isolated**

- India has strong partnerships with:
- USA
- France
- Japan
- Australia
- UAE
- Israel
- Eg: Quad and Indo-Pacific partnerships diversify India's strategic options.

- **Diversify Energy Sources**

- Expand: Strategic Petroleum Reserves
- Renewable energy
- Nuclear power
- Multiple crude suppliers

- **Strengthen Iran Engagement**

- Maintain Chabahar connectivity to preserve India's strategic access to Afghanistan and Central Asia.

- **Prepare for Diaspora Evacuation**

- Build upon India's experience of Operation Ganga and Operation Kaveri for future West Asian contingencies.

Way Forward

- **Deepen India-Saudi Strategic Partnership**

- Expand cooperation in:
- Defence, Investment
- Energy, Counter-terrorism

- **Strengthen India-UAE-Saudi Engagement**

- Use platforms such as I2U2 and India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC).

- **Maintain Strategic Autonomy**

- India should avoid being drawn into competing West Asian blocs.

- **Strengthen Maritime Capabilities**

- Enhance surveillance and naval preparedness across the Indian Ocean.

MAINS PRACTISE QUESTION:

"The Mecca Joint Defence Agreement reflects the emergence of a new regional security architecture in West Asia. Examine its implications for India's strategic interests."

(10 Marks, 150 words)

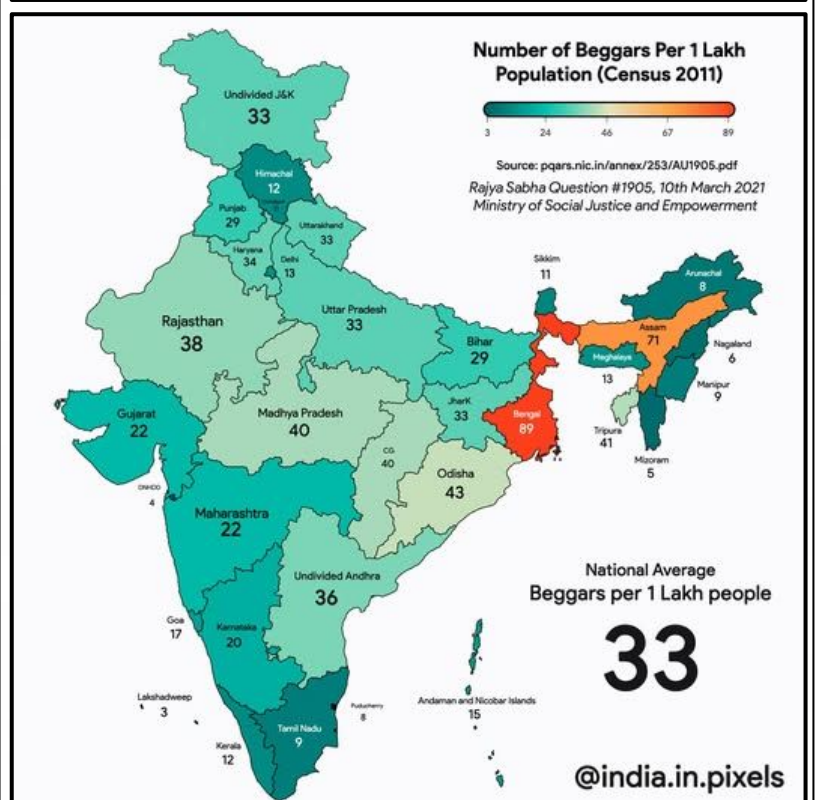
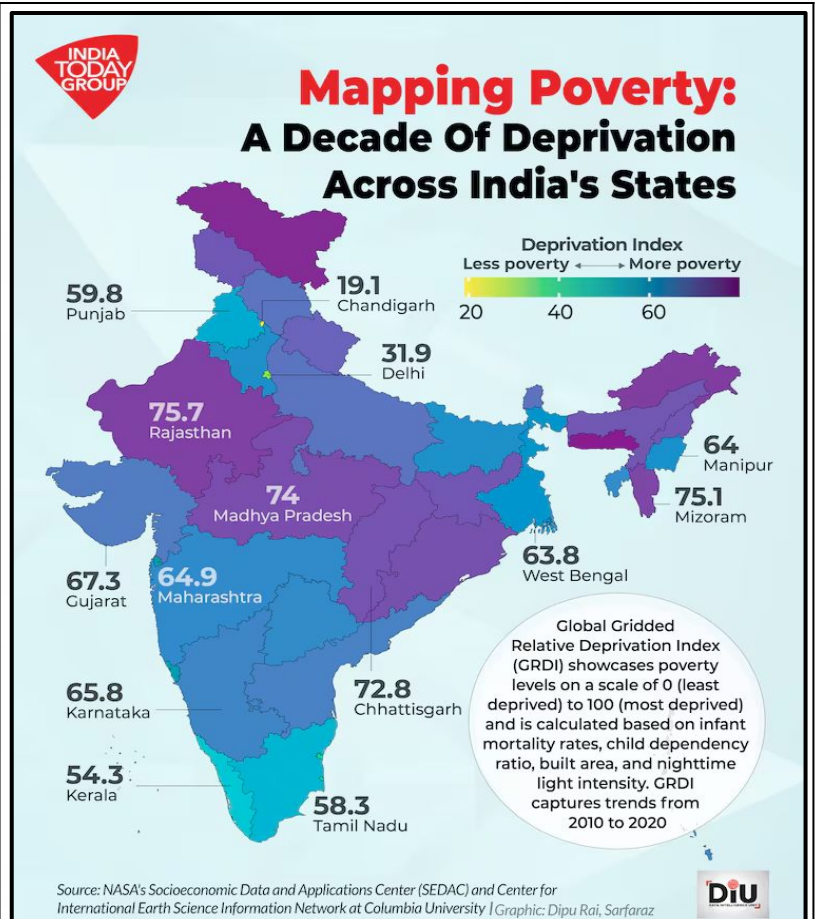


Begging in India

CONTEXT: The issue of begging has gained renewed attention with the Delhi Government's 2026 initiative to make the city free of child begging

What is Begging?

- Begging broadly involves **soliciting or receiving alms in public places** or entering private premises for this purpose.
 - Some state laws also include displaying injuries, deformities or other conditions to solicit alms.
- Important distinction
 - Begging $\neq$ Poverty**
- Begging may also be linked to:
 - Homelessness
 - Disability, Mental illness
 - Old age, Unemployment
 - Trafficking, Social exclusion
- As per **Census 2011**, India has around **4,13,670** beggars and vagrants.
 - WB** leads with the highest numbers, followed by **UP** and **BH**.



Begging in India

CONTEXT: The issue of begging has gained renewed attention with the Delhi Government's 2026 initiative to make the city free of child begging

CAUSES OF BEGGING IN INDIA

Begging is often a symptom of deeper social and economic vulnerabilities

A POVERTY & UNEMPLOYMENT



► Lack of stable income pushes vulnerable households towards begging.

B HOMELESSNESS & MIGRATION



► Migrants without social networks or stable employment may depend on informal survival mechanisms.

C DISABILITY & ILLNESS



► Persons with disabilities or chronic illnesses may face barriers to formal employment.

D SOCIAL EXCLUSION



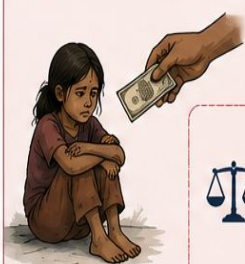
► Marginalised communities may face discrimination in education, housing and employment.

E LACK OF SOCIAL SECURITY



► Elderly persons without family support may depend on begging for survival.

F CHILD TRAFFICKING & EXPLOITATION



► Children may be deliberately pushed into begging by organised groups.



The Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 treats a child found begging as a **child in need of care and protection**, while **Section 76** penalises employing or using children for begging.

G MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE DEPENDENCE



Homeless persons suffering from untreated mental illness may become dependent on begging.



Addressing begging requires tackling root causes through social protection, inclusion and rehabilitation, not merely removing people from the streets.

Begging in India



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Impacts of Begging:

- **Human Dignity**
 - Exposes vulnerable persons to humiliation, exploitation and violence.
- **Child Exploitation**
 - Children may be denied education.
- **Inter-generational Poverty**
 - Children growing up on streets may remain trapped in poverty and exclusion.
- **Public Health Concerns**
 - Homeless persons may lack access to sanitation, healthcare and nutrition.
- **Organised Exploitation**
 - Criminal networks may exploit children and PwD for monetary gain.
- **Urban Governance Challenge**
 - Begging around major intersections, railway stations and religious centres creates challenges for urban authorities.

Begging: Criminalisation vs Rehabilitation:

Traditional Approach

- Begging = Public nuisance / law-and-order issue
 - Police action
 - Detention
 - Removal from public spaces
- Several States have **anti-begging laws**, with many adopting versions of the **Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959.**

Rights-Based Approach

- Begging = manifestation of socio-economic vulnerability
 - Identification
 - Shelter
 - Healthcare
 - Counselling
 - Skill development
 - Livelihood
 - Social security

Constitutional & Legal Framework

- **Article 14:** Equality before law.
- **Article 21:** Right to life and dignity.
- **Article 23:** Protection against trafficking and forced labour.
- **Article 41:** State shall make effective provision for:
 - Right to work
 - Education
 - Public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement.
- **Article 47:** Improvement of public health.
- **State Anti-Begging Laws**
- **Juvenile Justice Act, 2015**
 - Provides protection and rehabilitation for children found begging and penalises those who employ children for begging.



Begging in India



CONTEXT: The issue of begging has gained renewed attention with the Delhi Government's 2026 initiative to make the city free of child begging

Judicial Perspective

- **Harsh Mander v. UOI case (2018)**
- The Delhi HC struck down several provisions of the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act as unconstitutional in Delhi.
- **Core principle**
 - The State cannot treat poverty itself as a crime.
- The Supreme Court in:
- **M.S. Patter v. State of NCT of Delhi**
- Held that state-run beggars' homes are neither "quasi-penal facilities" nor acts of "discretionary charity" but are constitutional trusts.

Government Initiatives

- **SMILE Scheme (2022 - MoSJE)**
 - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise
 - Aims to rehabilitate beggars by providing medical care, education, and skills training, working toward a "**beggar-free India by 2026**."
- **Shelter & Urban Welfare Programmes**
- **Child Protection Mechanisms**
 - Children found begging are brought under the child-protection framework.
- **Decriminalisation of Begging**

Case Studies

-  **Delhi – Child Begging Initiative (2026)**
 - Approach: Protection + counselling + family support + safe alternatives.
 - Lesson: Child begging should be addressed through child protection rather than punishment.
-  **Indore – Begging Rehabilitation Initiatives**
 - Approach: Identification and rehabilitation of persons begging at major public places.
 - Lesson: Urban local bodies can combine enforcement with welfare interventions.

Persisting Challenges

- Criminalisation of Poverty
- Lack of Accurate Data
- Inadequate Rehabilitation Capacity
- Organised Begging Networks
- Poor Inter-State Coordination
- Lack of Livelihood Opportunities



Begging in India

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WAY FORWARD: ADDRESSING BEGGING IN INDIA

From removing beggars from streets to **removing vulnerabilities** that push people onto them.

A SHIFT FROM CRIMINALISATION TO REHABILITATION



Prioritise shelter, healthcare and livelihood over punitive detention.

B STRENGTHEN SOCIAL SECURITY



Ensure vulnerable elderly, widows and persons with disabilities receive pensions and welfare benefits.

C PREVENT CHILD BEGGING



Strengthen Child Welfare Committees, family counselling and school reintegration.

D TARGET ORGANISED BEGGING NETWORKS



Focus criminal enforcement on **traffickers and exploiters**, not vulnerable persons.

E CREATE SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS



Link rehabilitation with skill development, SHGs, street-vending opportunities and employment.

F STRENGTHEN URBAN HOMELESSNESS SUPPORT



Expand shelters, community kitchens, healthcare and identity/documentation support.

G CONVERGENCE-BASED APPROACH



Coordinate across departments and stakeholders for holistic, sustainable solutions.

Dignity, opportunity and protection—not punishment—are the foundations of a compassionate and inclusive society.

MAINS PRACTISE QUESTION

Ques. "Begging in India is more a manifestation of social exclusion and poverty than an individual choice." Discuss the causes and consequences of begging and suggest a humane approach to address it.

(10 marks, 150 words)



Newspaper : The Hindu **Page No :** 07

The cost of unconditional cash transfers

- **Fiscal crowding-out:** Rising UCT expenditure can reduce fiscal space for education, health and infra.
- **Opportunity cost:** Alternative public investments are being sacrificed.
- **Targeting vs universality:** Risk leakages and inclusion errors if poorly targeted.
- **Empowerment vs dependency:** Cash support should ideally complement, not substitute, employment, skilling and public services.
- **Political economy:** Expansion of cash transfers close to elections raises concerns about short-term electoral incentives vs long-term fiscal sustainability.
- **Gender dimension:** Women's cash transfers can enhance financial autonomy and household bargaining power.
- **16th Finance Commission angle:** Rising committed expenditure can constrain States' ability to invest in new infrastructure and services.

Useful Data Points from the Article

- In JH, KA and WB, UCT spending exceeds 50% of state education expenditure.
- In JH, UCT expenditure is around 10% of total State expenditure.
- UCT schemes have also become significant relative to health budgets in several States.

Table1: A State-wise list of unconditional cash transfer (UCT) schemes, which have increased since 2023

State	Scheme name	Monthly amount (₹)	Year of introduction
Goa	Griha Aadhar Scheme	₹1,500	2016 (renewed in 2023)
Sikkim	Sikkim Aama Sashaktikaran Yojana	₹40,000 (per year)	2022 (expanded in 2023)
Karnataka	Gruha Lakshmi Scheme	₹2,000	2023
M.P.	Ladli Behna Yojana	₹1,500	2023
T.N.	Kalaigarn Magalir Urimai Thogai	₹1,000	2023
Telangana	Mahalakshmi Scheme	₹2,500	2023
Maharashtra	Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana	₹1,500	2024
Jharkhand	Mukhyamantri Maiya Samman Yojana	₹ 2,500	2024
Odisha	Subhadra Yojana	₹10,000 (per year)	2024
Chhattisgarh	Mahtari Vandan Yojana	₹1,000	2024
Assam	Orunodoi 3.0	₹1,250	2024
Himachal	Indira Gandhi Pyari Behna Sukh Samman Nidhi	₹1,500	2024
Haryana	Lado Lakshmi Yojana	₹2,100	2025
Kerala	Sthree Suraksha Scheme	₹1,000	2026
Punjab	Mukh Mantri Mawan Dheeyan Satkar Yojna	₹1,000 - 1,500	2026
Delhi	Lakshmi Yojana	₹2,500	2026 (replacing earlier scheme)
West Bengal	Annapurna Bhandar	₹3,000	2026 (replacing Lakshmir Bhandar [2021])



Newspaper : The Hindu Page No : 07

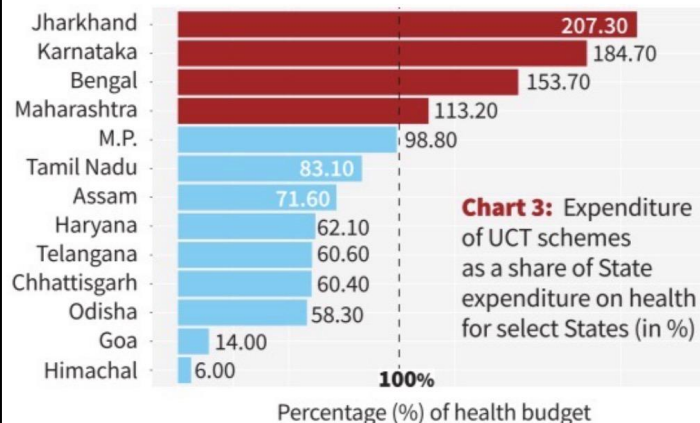


Chart 1: Expenditure of UCT schemes as a share of total expenditure for select States (in %)

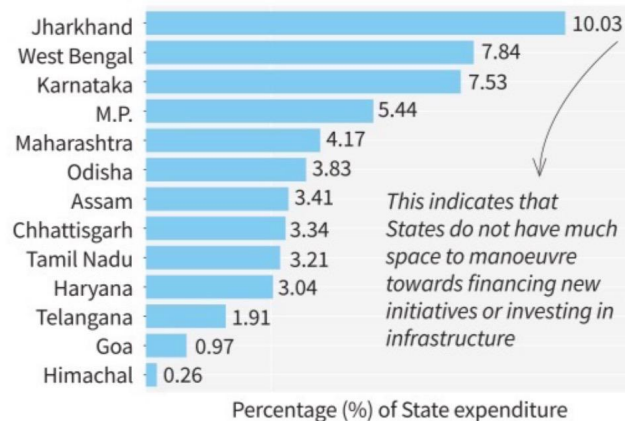
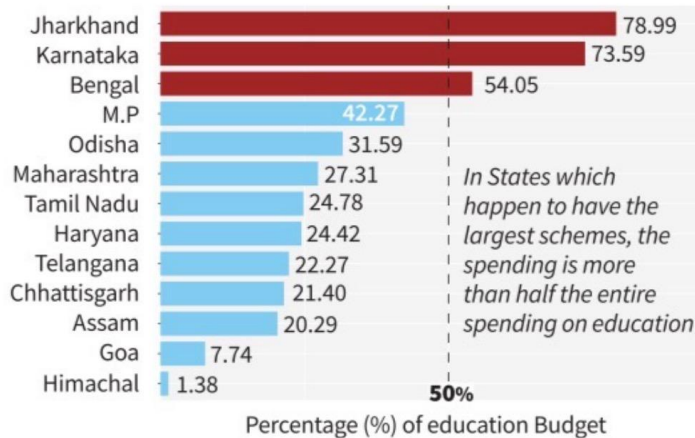


Chart 2: Expenditure on UCTs as a % of State expenditure on education for select States



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Internal Security
Newspaper : The Hindu Page No : 12

Integrated Theatre Command (ITC)

- A **unified military command** where elements of the Army, Navy and Air Force are placed under a single theatre commander.
- **Core Idea:**
 - "One theatre → One commander → Integrated forces."
- **Purpose:**
 - Improve jointness and coordination.
 - Enable faster decision-making and integrated warfighting.
 - Avoid duplication of resources.
 - Optimal utilisation of manpower & equipment.
- **How is it different from present system?**
 - Traditionally, the three Services largely operate through their separate command structures.
- **Chief of Defence Staff (CDS):**
 - The CDS is driving the process of greater jointness and integration.
 - General N.S. Raja Subramani.
- **Legal Foundation:**
 - Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control & Discipline) Act, 2023
- ITCs are part of the broader move towards integrated warfare across **Multi-Domain:**
 - Land
 - Sea
 - Air
 - Space
 - Cyber
 - Cognitive domain.

RINGS OF PROTECTION

The three proposed theatre commands cover our northern flanks, as well as the Indian Ocean Region

CHINA-CENTRIC NORTHERN THEATRE COMMAND

Covers the entire 3,488 kilometres of Line of Actual Control, starting from the Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to Kibithu in Arunachal Pradesh

HQ in Lucknow

PAKISTAN-CENTRIC WESTERN THEATRE COMMAND

From Indira Col on Saltoro Ridge in the Siachen Glacier to Gujarat

HQ in Jaipur

MARITIME COMMAND

Responsible for India's coastline of 7,516 km, as well as the Indian Ocean Region

HQ in Thiruvananthapuram



★ WHY INDIA NEEDS ITCs? ★

Integrated Theatre Commands for a Stronger, Unified and Future-Ready India

01





India's security challenges span **multiple geographical fronts.**

02





Modern warfare requires simultaneous use of **land, sea, air, space and cyber capabilities.**

03





Reduces **inter-service silos.**

04





Enables better **integration** of intelligence, logistics and firepower.

05





Helps create a **joint war-fighting** capability.



One Theatre. One Commander. Integrated Forces. Stronger India.

★★★★



Integrated Theatre Command



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Internal Security

Newspaper : The Hindu Page No : 12

Exam Traps

- ITC means only the Army and Air Force operate under one commander → WRONG
- ITC is the same as Integrated Battle Group (IBG) → WRONG
- ITCs eliminate the separate identities of the three Services → WRONG
- CDS is the commander of all Theatre Commands → WRONG
- ITCs are meant only for land warfare → WRONG



Types of Writs in India

SYLLABUS : Prelims : Polity

Newspaper : The Hindu Page No : 03

News Summary

- The case relates to the alleged unlawful detention by Excise Police officials.
- The father approached the Patna High Court through a **writ petition of habeas corpus**, seeking judicial intervention.
- The case highlights the role of constitutional courts in protecting personal liberty and ensuring an effective investigation.

Types of Writs in India

- The Constitution empowers the SC (U/A 32) and HC (U/A 226) to issue five types of writs for protection of rights and judicial review.

TYPES OF WRIT PETITIONS IN INDIA			
Writ	Meaning	Main Purpose	Easy Memory
 Habeas Corpus	<i>"To have the body"</i>	 Protects against illegal detention	 Release the person
 Mandamus	<i>"We command"</i>	 Orders a public authority to perform its legal duty	 Do your duty
 Prohibition	<i>"To forbid"</i>	 Stops a lower court/tribunal from exceeding its jurisdiction	 Stop the case
 Certiorari	<i>"To be informed/certified"</i>	 Quashes an order of a lower court/tribunal for jurisdictional/legal error	 Quash the order
 Quo Warranto	<i>"By what authority?"</i>	 Challenges a person's illegal occupation of a public office	 Show your authority

Exam Traps

- Supreme Court can issue writs under Article 226 → **WRONG**
- High Courts can issue writs only for Fundamental Rights → **WRONG**
- Prohibition can be issued after a lower court has passed its final order → **WRONG**
- Mandamus can be issued against the President or Governor → **WRONG**
- Quo Warranto can be issued against a private office → **WRONG**
- Habeas Corpus can be used only by the detained person → **WRONG**

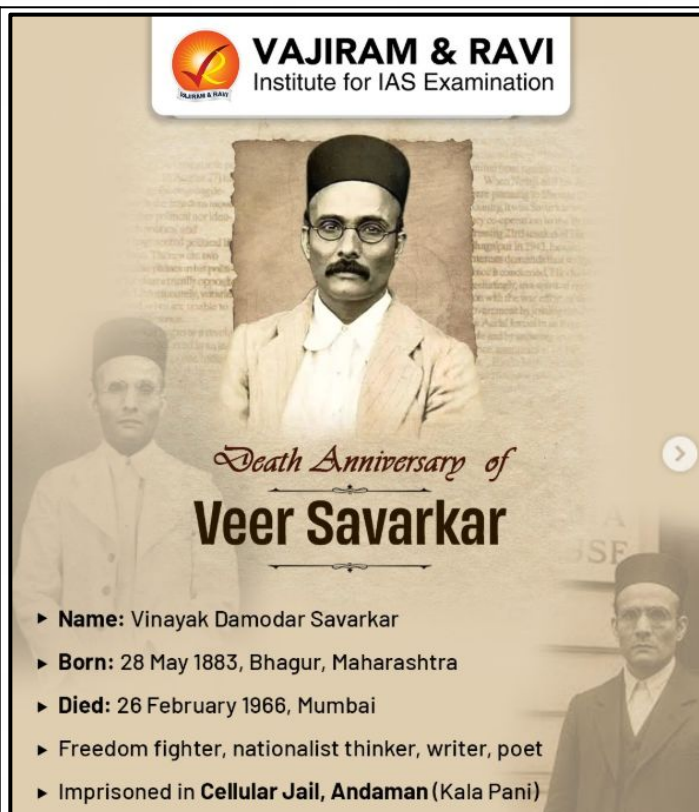


SYLLABUS : Prelims : Modern History

Newspaper : The Hindu Page No : 04

V.D. Savarkar (Vinayak Damodar Savarkar)

- Major Organization:
 - Founded **Abhinav Bharat Society in 1904**.
 - It was initially known as **Mitra Mela**.
 - Established **Free India Society** (1906, London)
 - Joined India House in London, a centre of revolutionary nationalist activity.
- Important Book:
 - The Indian War of Independence of 1857** (published in 1909).
- Arrest & Transportation:
 - Arrested by the British in 1910.
 - Sentenced to 2 life imprisonments (50 yr)
 - Imprisoned in Cellular Jail, Port Blair (A&N)
- Hindutva:
 - His work **Essentials of Hindutva** (1923) articulated his conception of Hindutva.
 - Published as **Hindutva: Who is a Hindu?**
- Ratnagiri Period:
 - Released from the Cellular Jail in 1921.
 - Worked against untouchability and for social reform within Hindu society.
- Hindu Mahasabha:
 - Served as **President** (1930s–40s).
- Quit India Movement (1942):
 - The Hindu Mahasabha under Savarkar did **not support the Quit India** Movement.
- Gandhi Assassination Case:
 - Savarkar was tried but acquitted** in the assassination case of Mahatma Gandhi in 1948 due to **insufficient evidence**.



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

Death Anniversary of
Veer Savarkar

- **Name:** Vinayak Damodar Savarkar
- **Born:** 28 May 1883, Bhagur, Maharashtra
- **Died:** 26 February 1966, Mumbai
- Freedom fighter, nationalist thinker, writer, poet
- Imprisoned in **Cellular Jail, Andaman** (Kala Pani)

Exam Traps

- Savarkar founded the Ghadar Party → **WRONG**
- He founded the Indian National Congress → **WRONG**
- The Indian War of Independence of 1857 was written in Hindi → **WRONG**
- Savarkar was convicted for Gandhi's assassination → **WRONG**
- Savarkar supported the Quit India Movement → **WRONG**
- Savarkar coined the term Hindutva → **WRONG**



SYLLABUS : Prelims : Geography

Newspaper : The Indian Express Page No : 01

TYPES / LEVELS OF AIRCRAFT TURBULENCE

Turbulence Intensity and What It Means

Level	Turbulence Type	Description	Impact
1	LIGHT TURBULENCE	Small, brief changes in aircraft movement.	Barely noticeable; normal activities can continue.
2	MODERATE TURBULENCE	Noticeable changes in altitude/attitude; passengers may be thrown against seat belts.	Bothersome; seat belts recommended.
3	SEVERE TURBULENCE	Large, abrupt changes in aircraft movement; objects may be thrown around.	Very uncomfortable and potentially dangerous.
4	EXTREME TURBULENCE	Aircraft may become difficult to control and structural damage is possible, though extremely rare.	Very serious; pilots take immediate corrective action.

Fasten your seat belt whenever seated. | Stay safe. Stay secure.

AIRCRAFT TURBULENCE

Irregular and sudden movement of an aircraft caused by disturbances in the surrounding airflow.

MAJOR TYPES OF AIRCRAFT TURBULENCE

Type	Description	Key Factor
1 CLEAR-AIR TURBULENCE (CAT)	Occurs without visible clouds, usually at high altitudes. Common near jet streams due to strong wind-speed gradients. Difficult to detect visually and can occur suddenly.	Jet streams & wind speed gradients
2 CONVECTIVE TURBULENCE	Caused by strong vertical air currents associated with thunderstorms and intense heating of the Earth's surface. Common in areas with cumulonimbus clouds.	Thunderstorms & strong convection
3 MOUNTAIN-WAVE TURBULENCE	Occurs when strong winds flow over mountain ranges, generating atmospheric waves. Can affect aircraft even at considerable distances from the mountains.	Mountain ranges & strong winds
4 MECHANICAL TURBULENCE	Caused by airflow disrupted by mountains, buildings and other surface features. More common at lower altitudes.	Surface features & rough terrain
5 WAKE TURBULENCE	Caused by wingtip vortices generated by another aircraft. Particularly important when aircraft fly close behind large/heavy aircraft.	Wingtip vortices of preceding aircraft

SYLLABUS : Prelims : Geography

Newspaper : The Indian Express Page No : 01

Aircraft Turbulence

- It is the irregular and sudden movement of an aircraft caused by disturbances in the surrounding airflow.
- **Main Cause:**
 - Rapid changes in air velocity and direction create unstable airflow around the aircraft.
- **Is Turbulence Dangerous?**
 - Most turbulence is not dangerous to the aircraft itself.
 - However, unrestrained passengers and crew can suffer serious injuries.
 - Hence, keeping seat belts fastened is the most important safety precaution.

Exam Traps

- Turbulence means the aircraft is losing engine power → WRONG
- Clear-air turbulence occurs only inside clouds → WRONG
- Turbulence is caused only by bad weather → WRONG
- Jet streams can produce wake turbulence → WRONG
- Clean air turbulence is caused by wingtip vortices → WRONG



Q1. With reference to the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement, consider the following statements:

1. It was signed by Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Türkiye.
2. It provides that an armed attack against one of the three countries shall be treated as an attack against all.
3. The Agreement contains an explicit provision for a joint nuclear deterrence framework among the member countries.

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

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

Answer: b

Q2. With reference to the proposed Integrated Theatre Commands (ITCs) in India, consider the following statements:

1. An Integrated Theatre Command envisages operational integration of the Army, Navy and Air Force under a unified commander for a specified theatre.
2. An Integrated Theatre Command is the same as an Integrated Battle Group.
3. Integrated Theatre Commands are meant only for land warfare.

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

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

Answer: a

Q3. With reference to V.D. Savarkar, consider the following statements:

1. He founded the Abhinav Bharat Society in 1904.
2. Under his leadership, the Hindu Mahasabha supported the Quit India Movement of 1942.

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: a

Q4. With reference to the writs in India, consider the following statements:

1. High Courts can issue writs only for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights.
2. A writ of Prohibition is issued to prevent a lower court from exceeding its jurisdiction before it passes its final order.
3. A writ of Mandamus cannot be issued against the President of India.
4. A writ of Quo Warranto can be issued against a private entity.

How many of the statements given above are NOT correct?

- a) 1 and 4 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- d) 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: a

Q5. With reference to aircraft turbulence, consider the following statements:

1. Clear-air turbulence usually occurs without visible clouds and is commonly associated with jet streams.
2. Turbulence necessarily means that the aircraft is losing engine power.
3. Wake turbulence is caused by wingtip vortices generated by another aircraft.

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

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

Answer: b





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