



OAS HUB

IDEAL FOR
UPSC, OPSC and Other
Competitive Examinations

English

DAILY CHRONICLE CURRENT AFFAIRS

NEWS CREDIT

PIB/ PTI/ News On Air/ The Hindu/ IANS/ Business Standard/ Times Of India/ Deccan Herald/ Hindustan Times/ BBC News/ Aljazeera/ Mirror.Uk/ Times Now/ Economic Times/ Financial Express/ Indian Express...

NEWS COVERED

Business News, financial news, economy news, company news, politics news, India news, breaking news, Indian economy, International News, Sports News, and many more topics...



Tuesday, September 08, 2026



TABLE OF CONTENT

- **EOS-05 Mission Strengthens India's Geosynchronous Earth Observation, Strategic Surveillance and Space-Sector Capabilities:** *Geosynchronous Earth Observation / Strategic Surveillance / Space Technology / Remote Sensing / National Security (GS-III)*
- **NCPCR's Nationwide Child Labour Campaign Highlights Persistent Gaps in Child Protection, Education, Rehabilitation and Social Security:** *Child Labour / Child Rights / Rehabilitation / Social Security / Education (GS-II)*
- **Teachers' Day 2026 Highlights Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's Educational Philosophy, Nation-Building Role and Legacy:** *Education / Educational Philosophy / Nation Building / Human Capital / Constitutional Values (GS-II)*
- **Manipur Census 2027 Deferred Amid NRC Demand, Ethnic Displacement and Delimitation Concerns:** *Census / NRC / Internal Security / Ethnic Conflict / Delimitation (GS-II, GS-III)*
- **Nepal Seeks Climate Compensation After Himalayan Disaster, Challenging Global Climate Finance and Climate Justice Frameworks:** *Climate Change / Climate Finance / Climate Justice / Himalayan Disasters / Loss and Damage (GS-II, GS-III)*

IMPORTANT INSIGHTS

EOS-05 Mission Strengthens India's Geosynchronous Earth Observation, Strategic Surveillance and Space-Sector Capabilities

Recent Developments:

- On 4 September 2026, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the EOS-05 Earth Observation Satellite aboard GSLV-F17 from the Second Launch Pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- EOS-05 is India's first imaging satellite designed to operate from a geosynchronous orbit, marking a major expansion of India's Earth-observation capabilities.
- The approximately 2,367-kg satellite was injected into its intended Sub-Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit, after which onboard propulsion and orbital manoeuvres will enable it to reach its operational orbit.
- The mission is the 19th flight of the GSLV, and its success strengthens confidence in India's indigenous cryogenic launch-vehicle capability after earlier GSLV setbacks.

Why is EOS-05 Important?

A New Generation of Earth Observation:

- Conventional Earth-observation satellites generally operate from **Low Earth Orbit (LEO)** or **Sun-synchronous Polar Orbit**, allowing high-resolution imaging but requiring repeated passes over a particular region.
- EOS-05 introduces a different operational model by using **geosynchronous orbit** for frequent observation of a large geographical area.
- A **geosynchronous orbit** has an orbital period equal to Earth's rotational period, whereas a **geostationary orbit** is a special geosynchronous orbit that is circular, equatorial and appears fixed over one point on Earth.
- EOS-05's inclined orbital configuration means that the more precise term is **geosynchronous**, rather than strictly geostationary.
- Its high-altitude vantage point is intended to enable **persistent and frequent observation** of the Indian landmass and surrounding areas, thereby reducing the temporal gaps associated with conventional low-orbit observation systems.

Imaging and Data Capabilities:

- EOS-05 is designed as a **geo-imaging satellite** with advanced optical sensing capabilities, including **Visible and Near-Infrared (VNIR)** and **Short-Wave Infrared (SWIR)** bands.
- Its imaging architecture supports **frequent observations over large areas**, which can complement the higher-resolution but less frequent observations obtained from many LEO Earth-observation satellites.
- Such observations can support **agriculture, forestry, environmental monitoring, disaster management and strategic surveillance**.
- Frequent imagery can improve the monitoring of rapidly changing phenomena such as **cyclones, floods, cloud systems, forest fires and other environmental events**.
- The mission therefore represents a shift from merely obtaining periodic imagery towards **high-frequency and persistent Earth observation**.

Strategic Significance:

Disaster Management:

- EOS-05 can strengthen India's disaster-management architecture by providing **frequent wide-area imagery** during rapidly evolving natural disasters.
- Timely satellite imagery can support **situational awareness, damage assessment, relief planning and post-disaster reconstruction**.
- The capability can complement existing systems based on meteorological satellites, radar satellites, aerial platforms and ground-based observations.

Agriculture and Natural Resources:

- Repeated observation can support **crop monitoring, vegetation assessment, land-use mapping and agricultural planning**.
- Multispectral and infrared observations can provide information about vegetation and surface characteristics that cannot be obtained from ordinary visible-light imagery alone.
- The data can contribute to **precision agriculture, drought assessment, forest monitoring and natural-resource management**.

National Security:

- Persistent observation can strengthen **strategic surveillance and situational awareness** across India's territory and surrounding maritime areas.
- Frequent imagery can supplement existing **terrestrial, aerial and space-based surveillance systems**.
- The mission demonstrates the increasing convergence of **space technology and national security**, particularly as satellite imagery becomes an important component of modern intelligence and surveillance architectures.

Significance for India's Earth Observation Programme:

Complementing Existing Satellite Systems:

- India already operates a diversified Earth-observation constellation involving **optical, radar, meteorological and ocean-observation satellites**.
- The successful **NISAR mission**, launched by GSLV-F16 in July 2025, added advanced microwave imaging through jointly developed **L-band and S-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR)** technology.
- EOS-05 adds a complementary capability by focusing on **frequent geosynchronous imaging**, thereby expanding the temporal dimension of India's Earth-observation architecture.
- The combination of **LEO, polar, sun-synchronous and geosynchronous platforms** can provide a more comprehensive national Earth-observation system.

GSLV-F17 and Indigenous Cryogenic Technology:

Importance of GSLV:

- GSLV is a three-stage launch vehicle using a **solid first stage, liquid strap-on propulsion and an indigenous cryogenic upper stage**.
- It is designed primarily to place approximately **2,000-kg-class spacecraft** into **Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO)**.

- GSLV-F17 successfully demonstrated the capability to inject EOS-05 into its required Sub-GTO trajectory.
- The successful performance of the **cryogenic upper stage** is particularly significant because cryogenic propulsion involves extremely low-temperature propellants and complex turbomachinery, making it technologically demanding.
- The mission consequently strengthens India's capability to undertake increasingly complex **geosynchronous satellite launches** using indigenous technology.

Lessons from Earlier Missions:

- The mission also carries significance because the earlier **GSLV-F10/EOS-03 mission in August 2021 was unsuccessful** due to an anomaly involving the cryogenic upper stage.
- EOS-05 therefore represents an important technological follow-up to the earlier attempt to establish India's dedicated geosynchronous imaging capability.
- The successful GSLV-F17 mission demonstrates the importance of **incremental technological development, failure analysis and reliability improvement** in complex space programmes.

Growing Role of the Private Space Sector:

Industry Participation:

- The EOS-05 mission also illustrates the growing participation of **Indian private industry** in the national space programme.
- **Ananth Technologies** contributed critical avionics, electronics and spacecraft subsystems to both the launch vehicle and EOS-05.
- The company supplied **28 hardware packages** for GSLV-F17 and **15 systems** for the EOS-05 spacecraft, including power-management systems, onboard computers and star-sensor systems.
- Such participation indicates a gradual transition from a predominantly government-led space programme towards a broader **space ecosystem involving public institutions and private enterprises**.

IN-SPACE and Space-Sector Reforms:

- **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe)** plays an important role in enabling private-sector participation in India's space activities.
- Greater participation by private firms can expand **manufacturing capacity, technology development, launch services, satellite applications and downstream space services**.
- This ecosystem can allow ISRO to devote greater attention to **advanced research, planetary exploration, human spaceflight and strategic missions**, while industry increasingly undertakes commercial and manufacturing activities.

Challenges and Way Forward:

Key Challenges:

- India needs to improve the **reliability, frequency and cost-effectiveness** of its launch systems while developing greater capacity for heavy-payload missions.
- Earth-observation capabilities must increasingly integrate **optical, hyperspectral, infrared and Synthetic Aperture Radar data** for comprehensive applications.
- Effective use of satellite data also requires stronger **data-processing infrastructure, artificial intelligence, geospatial analytics and last-mile delivery systems**.
- India must simultaneously address concerns relating to **space debris, orbital congestion, cybersecurity and protection of critical space assets**.

Way Forward:

- India should develop an integrated Earth-observation architecture combining **LEO, polar and geosynchronous satellites** according to specific temporal and spatial requirements.
- Greater **public-private collaboration** should be promoted in satellite manufacturing, launch services, data analytics and downstream applications.
- Satellite data should be integrated with **GIS, Artificial Intelligence, disaster-management platforms and agricultural decision-support systems**.
- Indigenous development of launch vehicles, propulsion systems, sensors and spacecraft electronics should remain central to India's objective of achieving greater **strategic autonomy in space**.

Value Addition for UPSC:***Key Concepts to Remember:***

- **EOS-05:** India's first imaging satellite designed to operate from **Geosynchronous Orbit**.
- **Launch Vehicle:** **GSLV-F17**, the 19th GSLV flight.
- **Launch Site:** **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**.
- **Launch Date:** **4 September 2026**.
- **Initial Orbit:** **Sub-Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (Sub-GTO)**.
- **Major Applications:** Disaster management, agriculture, forestry, environmental monitoring and strategic surveillance.

NCPCR's Nationwide Child Labour Campaign Highlights Persistent Gaps in Child Protection, Education, Rehabilitation and Social Security

Recent Developments:

- The **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** rescued more than **3,800 children** from child labour and facilitated registration of more than **575 FIRs** during its **Pan-India Rescue and Rehabilitation Campaign** conducted from **12 June to 31 August 2026**.
- The campaign involved **State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, District Magistrates, Labour Departments, police authorities and other stakeholders**, with targeted operations at child labour and trafficking hotspots.
- The campaign also focused on **rehabilitation, restoration to families, educational mainstreaming, compensation and follow-up monitoring**, indicating that rescue alone is insufficient for eliminating child labour.
- The development is significant for **GS Paper II**, particularly **social justice, vulnerable sections, child rights, governance and implementation of welfare legislation**.

Understanding Child Labour:***Meaning and Scope:***

- **Child labour** refers to work that deprives children of their childhood, dignity, education and development and involves activities that are harmful to their physical, mental, social or moral well-being.

- The worst forms of child labour can include **slavery, trafficking, forced labour, commercial sexual exploitation, illicit activities and recruitment for armed conflict**.
- Child labour should therefore be distinguished from every form of work performed by children because **age, nature of work, working conditions and its impact on education and development** determine whether an activity amounts to prohibited child labour.
- The **International Labour Organization** treats elimination of hazardous and exploitative child labour as essential for protecting children's rights and building productive human capital.

Status and Nature of Child Labour in India:

Magnitude and Vulnerability:

- The **2011 Census** identified approximately **43.53 lakh working children in the 5–14 years age group**, making child labour an important social and developmental challenge in India.
- Child labour has historically been associated with sectors such as **beedi manufacturing, carpet weaving, fireworks, mining, construction, domestic work and informal manufacturing**, where regulation and inspection can be difficult.
- Children engaged in labour are particularly vulnerable to **trafficking, exploitation, physical abuse, school dropout and intergenerational poverty**.
- The recent NCPCR campaign demonstrates that child labour remains closely connected with **trafficking and informal-sector exploitation**, requiring coordinated action by multiple agencies.

Major Causes of Child Labour:

Poverty and Income Insecurity:

- **Poverty** remains a major structural driver because households with unstable incomes may depend on children's earnings for basic consumption.
- Debt, seasonal migration, unemployment and economic shocks can increase the probability of children entering the labour market.
- Child labour can consequently become part of a **poverty trap**, where immediate income is prioritised over long-term education and skill formation.

Educational Deficits:

- Poor access to quality schools, inadequate infrastructure, long distances, weak learning outcomes and household responsibilities can reduce **school attendance and retention**.
- Children who fall behind academically may become more vulnerable to entering low-skilled employment.
- The problem therefore requires convergence between **education policy, social protection and labour enforcement** rather than relying exclusively on punitive measures.

Informal-Sector Demand:

- Employers in parts of the **informal economy** may prefer children because they can be paid lower wages and are often easier to control.
- Weak registration of enterprises, subcontracting and fragmented supply chains make detection and enforcement more difficult.
- Child labour can therefore persist even when formal-sector regulation is relatively strong.

Social and Cultural Factors:

- **Caste-based occupational patterns, gender discrimination, early marriage, household responsibilities and traditional expectations** can contribute to school exclusion.
- Girls may face an additional burden because unpaid domestic and care work can remain invisible in conventional labour statistics.
- Seasonal migration can further disrupt children's schooling and increase their vulnerability to exploitation.

Consequences of Child Labour:

Health and Psychological Impact:

- Exposure to **toxic chemicals, dust, heavy machinery, excessive working hours and hazardous environments** can cause injuries, chronic illness and impaired physical development.
- Long working hours and exploitative conditions can produce **stress, anxiety, low self-esteem and psychological trauma**, while depriving children of recreation and social development.

Education and Human Capital:

- Child labour can cause **school absenteeism, poor learning outcomes and permanent dropout**, thereby reducing future employment opportunities.
- Loss of education also limits the development of market-relevant skills and reduces the quality of India's human capital.
- At the macroeconomic level, persistent child labour can weaken the ability to realise India's **demographic dividend**.

Intergenerational Poverty:

- Children who leave school early often enter low-paid and insecure occupations as adults, reproducing the same socioeconomic disadvantages within the next generation.
- Child labour therefore represents both a **symptom of poverty and a mechanism through which poverty is reproduced**.

Constitutional and Legal Safeguards:

Constitutional Framework:

- **Article 23** prohibits **traffic in human beings and forced labour**, providing a broader constitutional safeguard against exploitation.
- **Article 24** prohibits the employment of children below **14 years** in factories, mines or other hazardous employment.
- **Article 21A** provides for **free and compulsory education for children between 6 and 14 years**, making education a crucial instrument for preventing child labour.
- **Article 39(e) and 39(f)** direct the State to protect the health and strength of workers and ensure that children develop in conditions of freedom, dignity and protection from exploitation.

Child and Adolescent Labour Law:

- The **Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986**, substantially amended in **2016**, provides the principal statutory framework for regulating child and adolescent labour.

- The amended framework generally **prohibits employment of children below 14 years**, subject to limited statutory exceptions such as assistance in certain family enterprises after school hours and work as a child artist under prescribed conditions.
- It prohibits the employment of **adolescents between 14 and 18 years in hazardous occupations and processes**.
- The framework combines **prohibition, regulation, penalties and rehabilitation**, reflecting a shift from merely regulating child labour towards its elimination.

Protection Against Trafficking and Exploitation:

- The **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023** contains provisions addressing the **selling and buying of children for specified exploitative purposes**.
- The **Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956** addresses trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation.
- The **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015** provides mechanisms for the **care, protection, rehabilitation and social reintegration** of children in need of care and protection.
- The **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012** strengthens protection against sexual offences involving children and is relevant where child labour overlaps with sexual exploitation.

Government Measures:

National Policy and Rehabilitation:

- The **National Policy on Child Labour, 1987** adopted a multi-dimensional approach based on **legislative action, convergence of developmental programmes and project-based interventions**.
- The **National Child Labour Project** was launched in **1988** to withdraw children from hazardous occupations and facilitate their **rehabilitation** through **education, vocational training, nutrition and healthcare**.
- The NCLP approach has subsequently been integrated with broader educational interventions, and the Government has merged the **NCLP Scheme with Samagra Shiksha**, strengthening convergence with the formal education system.

Enforcement and Digital Monitoring:

- The Ministry of Labour and Employment developed the **PENCIL portal, or Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour**, to facilitate complaints, monitoring and coordination among enforcement authorities.
- The platform seeks to connect enforcement mechanisms with rehabilitation and child-tracking processes, thereby improving institutional convergence.
- The recent NCPCR campaign similarly emphasised **regular reporting, Action Taken Reports, interdepartmental coordination and follow-up rehabilitation**, reflecting the importance of implementation capacity.

Judicial Interventions:

Vishal Jeet Case:

- In **Vishal Jeet v. Union of India, 1990**, the Supreme Court recognised trafficking and child prostitution as serious socioeconomic problems and emphasised preventive and rehabilitative approaches.

M.C. Mehta Case:

- In **M.C. Mehta v. State of Tamil Nadu, 1996**, the Supreme Court issued directions concerning children employed in hazardous industries and strengthened the framework for their protection and rehabilitation.

Bachpan Bachao Andolan Case:

- In **Bachpan Bachao Andolan v. Union of India, 2011**, the Supreme Court addressed the exploitation and trafficking of children and reinforced the responsibility of authorities to protect vulnerable children.

Key Challenges:***Implementation Gap:***

- India has a relatively comprehensive legal framework, but **weak enforcement, inadequate inspections, informal employment and fragmented supply chains** can reduce its effectiveness.
- Rescue operations must therefore be accompanied by **prosecution, rehabilitation, family support, education and long-term monitoring**.

Rehabilitation Gap:

- Removing a child from employment without addressing household poverty can result in **re-entry into labour**.
- Effective rehabilitation requires educational mainstreaming, social security, livelihood support for families, counselling and access to essential services.

Informal Economy:

- The highly fragmented nature of the informal sector makes identification of employers and supply-chain responsibility difficult.
- Greater accountability is required for **subcontracting networks and industries with high child-labour risks**.

Way Forward:***A Convergent Strategy:***

- India should move from a **rescue-centric approach towards a prevention-and-rehabilitation model** based on convergence among labour, education, women and child development, police, social security and local-government institutions.
- Targeted social protection should focus on households facing **poverty, migration, debt, unemployment and economic shocks**, which are major pathways into child labour.
- School retention should be strengthened through **quality education, transport, nutrition, scholarships, counselling and bridge courses** for rescued children.
- Technology-enabled identification, geospatial mapping of hotspots and stronger supply-chain monitoring can improve enforcement.
- Community institutions, schools, local governments and civil society organisations should be empowered to identify vulnerable children before exploitation occurs.

Value Addition for UPSC:

Key Facts and Conceptual Linkages:

- **Current Affairs:** NCPCR rescued **3,800+ children** and saw **575+ FIRs** during its **Pan-India Rescue and Rehabilitation Campaign**, conducted from **12 June to 31 August 2026**.
- **Constitutional Linkage:** **Articles 21A, 23, 24, 39(e) and 39(f)** collectively establish an important constitutional framework for protecting children from exploitation and ensuring education and dignified development.
- **Legal Linkage:** The **Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986**, as amended in **2016**, is the principal legislation governing child and adolescent labour.
- **Governance Linkage:** NCPCR's campaign demonstrates the importance of **cooperative and multi-agency governance** involving Union, State, district and enforcement authorities.
- **Development Linkage:** Child labour reduces **human capital formation**, weakens the quality of the workforce and can undermine India's ability to convert its young population into a demographic dividend.
- **SDG Linkage:** Elimination of child labour contributes directly to **SDG 4 — Quality Education**, **SDG 8 — Decent Work and Economic Growth**, and **SDG 16 — Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**.

Teachers' Day 2026 Highlights Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's Educational Philosophy, Nation-Building Role and Legacy

Recent Developments:

- **Teachers' Day** was observed across India on **5 September 2026** to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**, India's second President, philosopher, educationist and distinguished teacher. The day has been observed in India since **1962**.
- On Teachers' Day 2026, **President Droupadi Murmu** conferred **National Teachers' Awards on 48 school teachers** at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, recognising exemplary contributions to the quality of school education and student development.
- The 2026 awards also recognised **21 teachers and faculty members from higher education institutions and polytechnics**, comprising 12 from central higher education institutions, 5 from state universities and colleges, and 4 from polytechnics.
- The **National Teachers' Awards**, instituted in **1958**, provide public recognition to meritorious teachers and are administered under the overall supervision of the **Ministry of Education**.
- The President's 2026 Teachers' Day message emphasised that teachers contribute not merely to academic learning but also to **nurturing talent, strengthening character, recognising individual potential and developing responsible human beings**.

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan: Life and Intellectual Formation:

Early Life and Education:

- **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan** was born on **5 September 1888** at **Tiruttani**, then part of the Madras Presidency and now located in Tamil Nadu.
- He received his higher education at **Christian College, Madras**, where he developed a deep interest in **philosophy, religion and comparative thought**.

- His intellectual development was shaped by an effort to interpret Indian philosophical traditions in dialogue with Western philosophical thought, making him one of the most influential Indian philosophers of the modern period.
- His later writings sought to demonstrate that Indian philosophical traditions possessed considerable **rational, ethical and spiritual depth**, while also engaging critically with modernity.

Academic Career:

- Radhakrishnan taught philosophy at several leading institutions and subsequently became associated with major centres of higher learning, including the **University of Mysore** and the **University of Calcutta**.
- He served as Vice-Chancellor of **Andhra University from 1931 to 1936** and later became Vice-Chancellor of **Banaras Hindu University**, demonstrating his wider engagement with institution-building in Indian higher education.
- In **1936**, he became the **Spalding Professor of Eastern Religions and Ethics at the University of Oxford**, becoming the first Indian to hold an Oxford chair.
- His international academic career gave Indian philosophical traditions greater visibility within global intellectual discourse and strengthened the academic study of Indian philosophy and religion.

Contribution to Philosophy and Comparative Religion:

Indian Philosophy and the Western Intellectual World:

- Radhakrishnan played a significant role in presenting **Indian philosophy** to Western audiences through systematic interpretations of **Vedanta, Hindu thought, comparative religion and ethics**.
- His approach did not simply reproduce traditional philosophical ideas but attempted to interpret them in a manner accessible to modern intellectual discourse.
- His major works included **Indian Philosophy, The Hindu View of Life, An Idealist View of Life and Eastern Religions and Western Thought**, through which he explored the relationship between Indian philosophical traditions and modern intellectual currents.
- His scholarship contributed to the intellectual defence of Indian civilisation during the colonial period by demonstrating that Indian philosophical traditions possessed sophisticated systems of metaphysics, ethics and epistemology.

Philosophy as a Social and Ethical Discipline:

- Radhakrishnan viewed philosophy not merely as an abstract academic discipline but as a means of understanding **human life, morality, religion and social responsibility**.
- His writings emphasised the importance of dialogue between different religious and philosophical traditions, making **comparative religion and intercultural understanding** important dimensions of his intellectual legacy.
- His thought is therefore relevant to contemporary debates concerning **pluralism, tolerance, ethical education and civilisational dialogue**.

Radhakrishnan's Educational Philosophy:

Education as Social Transformation:

- Radhakrishnan regarded **education as an instrument of social transformation** capable of developing intellectual independence, moral responsibility and a deeper understanding of human society.
- He believed that education should not be restricted to the accumulation of information but should cultivate **reason, character, ethical awareness and responsible citizenship**.

- His approach placed teachers at the centre of nation-building because teachers influence both the intellectual development and moral orientation of future generations.

Teacher as Nation Builder:

- Radhakrishnan considered the teacher a crucial link between **knowledge, character formation and social progress**.
- The modern relevance of his educational philosophy lies in the recognition that effective teachers do more than transmit curriculum; they encourage **critical thinking, curiosity, ethical reasoning and independent judgement**.
- Teachers therefore contribute directly to the development of **human capital**, social cohesion and democratic citizenship.

University Education Commission:

- Radhakrishnan chaired the **University Education Commission, 1948–49**, popularly known as the **Radhakrishnan Commission**, which examined the condition and future direction of higher education in independent India.
- The Commission emphasised the importance of improving the quality of universities, strengthening teaching standards, developing research and ensuring that higher education contributed to national development.
- Its recommendations became an important foundation for subsequent thinking on higher education policy and influenced the evolution of India's post-independence higher education system.

Political and Diplomatic Career:

Ambassador and Vice President:

- Radhakrishnan served as **India's Ambassador to the Soviet Union from 1949 to 1952**, representing India during the formative years of its post-independence foreign policy.
- He became the **first Vice President of India in 1952** and served in that office until **1962**.
- His tenure reflected the role of intellectuals and public scholars in India's early diplomatic and constitutional institutions.

Second President of India:

- Radhakrishnan became the **second President of India**, serving from **13 May 1962 to 13 May 1967**.
- His presidency coincided with a critical phase of the Indian Republic, including the **1962 India-China War**, the **1965 India-Pakistan War** and significant debates concerning national development and democratic consolidation.
- He was widely respected for his scholarship, intellectual dignity and commitment to **constitutional democracy and parliamentary institutions**.

Teachers' Day in India:

Origin and Significance:

- India observes **5 September as Teachers' Day** because it marks the birth anniversary of Dr. Radhakrishnan.
- When admirers sought permission to celebrate his birthday after he became President in **1962**, he suggested that the day instead be dedicated to teachers, thereby transforming a personal commemoration into a national tribute to the teaching profession.

- Teachers' Day consequently represents not merely a celebration of an individual but recognition of the broader contribution of teachers to **education, character formation, social development and nation-building**.

National Teachers' Awards:

- The **National Teachers' Awards** were instituted in **1958**, several years before Teachers' Day formally began in 1962, to recognise teachers who demonstrated exceptional commitment to improving education and enriching students' learning experiences.
- The contemporary selection system emphasises a **transparent, online and multi-stage process**, involving self-nomination, institutional or peer participation, screening and an independent national jury.
- The awards therefore provide an institutional mechanism for recognising **innovation, excellence, dedication and measurable educational impact** rather than treating Teachers' Day solely as a ceremonial occasion.

Bharat Ratna and Legacy:

National Recognition:

- Radhakrishnan was awarded the **Bharat Ratna in 1954**, India's highest civilian honour, in recognition of his exceptional contribution to **philosophy, education and public life**.
- His legacy extends across **philosophy, education, diplomacy, constitutional governance and public intellectual life**, making him an important figure for understanding the intellectual foundations of post-independence India.

Contemporary Relevance:

- Radhakrishnan's emphasis on education as a means of developing **ethical and intellectually independent citizens** remains relevant to contemporary educational reforms.
- His life demonstrates the connection between **education and public service**, as he moved from academia to diplomacy, constitutional office and the Presidency while retaining his identity as a scholar and teacher.
- His emphasis on comparative thought and dialogue remains relevant to a diverse society where **constitutional values, pluralism, tolerance and critical thinking** are essential for democratic citizenship.

UPSC Perspective: Education and Nation-Building:

Link with General Studies:

- General Studies Paper I:** Radhakrishnan's contribution can be connected with **Indian intellectual traditions, modern Indian thinkers and the evolution of educational institutions**.
- General Studies Paper II:** His career is relevant to **education policy, constitutional democracy, institutional development, governance and social-sector administration**.
- General Studies Paper IV:** His emphasis on teachers, moral development and responsible citizenship provides examples for **ethics, integrity, compassion, public service and character formation**.
- Essay Paper:** Teachers' Day can provide a broader framework for essays concerning **education as an instrument of social transformation, human capital development and nation-building**.

Challenges in Contemporary Teacher Education:

Quality and Professional Development:

- India's educational transformation requires teachers who are adequately trained in **pedagogy, digital learning, inclusive education, competency-based assessment and critical thinking**.
- Continuous professional development is essential because teachers must adapt to technological change, diverse classrooms and evolving learning requirements.

Technology and Artificial Intelligence:

- The expansion of **artificial intelligence and digital education** can improve personalised learning and access to educational resources, but technology cannot completely substitute the teacher's role in mentorship, emotional support, ethical guidance and social development.
- The future education system therefore requires a **human-centred technology model** in which digital tools strengthen rather than replace teachers.

Equity and Inclusion:

- Teacher quality must be accompanied by equitable access to education for children from **economically weaker, socially disadvantaged, rural, tribal and differently abled backgrounds**.
- Teachers play an important role in creating inclusive classrooms and preventing discrimination, exclusion and learning gaps.

Way Forward:

Strengthening the Teacher-Centred Education System:

- India should strengthen **teacher education, professional development, research-based pedagogy and school leadership** to improve learning outcomes.
- Recruitment and deployment policies should reduce teacher shortages and ensure a more equitable distribution of teachers across regions and social groups.
- Teacher appraisal should focus not merely on administrative compliance but also on **learning outcomes, innovation, inclusion, mentoring and community engagement**.
- Greater integration of **digital tools, artificial intelligence, experiential learning and competency-based education** can improve teaching effectiveness while retaining the teacher as the central human element of education.
- Teachers should be empowered as **professionals and nation-builders**, with adequate institutional support, autonomy, training and recognition.

Value Addition for UPSC:

Key Facts:

- **Born:** 5 September 1888, Tiruttani.
- **Died:** 17 April 1975.
- **First Vice President of India:** 1952–1962.
- **Second President of India:** 13 May 1962–13 May 1967.
- **Bharat Ratna:** 1954.
- **University Education Commission:** 1948–49.

- **Spalding Professorship at Oxford:** From 1936, where he became the first Indian to hold an Oxford chair.
- **Teachers' Day in India:** 5 September, observed since 1962.
- **National Teachers' Awards:** Instituted in 1958 and presented annually to recognise meritorious teachers.
- **Teachers' Day 2026:** 48 school teachers and 21 teachers/faculty from higher education institutions and polytechnics were recognised through the National Teachers' Awards.

Manipur Census 2027 Deferred Amid NRC Demand, Ethnic Displacement and Delimitation Concerns

Recent Developments:

- The Union Government has **deferred the house-listing phase of Census 2027 in Manipur**, which was scheduled to begin on **1 September 2026**, amid demands from several civil-society groups that an updated **National Register of Citizens (NRC)** should precede the Census. The decision followed a high-level review chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and came amid continuing political and ethnic tensions.
- The **Manipur High Court** had also directed that the Census house-listing exercise remain in abeyance until **12 October 2026**, adding a judicial dimension to the controversy.
- The controversy connects three closely interlinked issues: **citizenship and migration, displacement caused by ethnic conflict, and political representation through delimitation.**
- The Centre's decision is significant because the Census 2027 framework had already been formally notified, with **1 March 2027** fixed as the national reference date, making the Manipur deferment an important state-specific development in an otherwise nationwide exercise.

Why Is the Census Being Opposed?

Citizenship and Demographic Change:

- Several **Meitei and Naga civil-society organisations** argue that migration from Myanmar has altered Manipur's demographic composition and therefore demand that citizenship status be clarified before population figures are formally recorded.
- Their central concern is that a Census records the **resident population**, whereas an NRC would seek to establish who qualifies as an Indian citizen; therefore, they argue that population enumeration without prior citizenship verification could institutionalise disputed demographic changes.
- However, allegations of illegal immigration and demographic change should not automatically be treated as proof of illegal immigration because **population-growth figures alone cannot establish citizenship status.**

Displacement Caused by Ethnic Conflict:

- The ethnic violence that began in **May 2023** has produced large-scale internal displacement, with communities separated from their original villages and many people living in relief camps or other temporary locations.
- Meitei organisations argue that conducting a Census during continuing displacement could record the **geography of displacement rather than the settled demographic structure** of Manipur.
- The demand for postponement therefore also has a rehabilitation dimension: supporters argue that displaced persons should be able to return before a population baseline is established.

Political Representation:

- Census population figures have implications for **delimitation**, because population distribution is a major consideration in determining territorial constituencies.
- Since Manipur's Assembly constituencies have not undergone a fresh comprehensive delimitation based on later Census figures, communities fear that a new population count could alter the existing balance between valley and hill constituencies.

Is the NRC Demand New?

Evolution of the Demand:

- The demand for an NRC in Manipur predates the present Census controversy. In **June 2022**, the **Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity** and the **United Naga Council** jointly sought an NRC and a State Population Commission.
- The **Manipur Legislative Assembly** subsequently adopted a resolution on **5 August 2022** seeking both mechanisms and reaffirmed the demand on **1 March 2024**.
- Supporters pointed to unusually high population growth in certain hill areas between earlier Census periods and argued that these trends required demographic investigation; however, such statistical differences by themselves cannot conclusively establish the presence of illegal immigrants.
- The state government established the **Manipur State Population Commission in February 2023**, with the broader objective of examining demographic changes and identifying illegal immigrants.

The Myanmar Factor:

Cross-Border Migration and Security:

- Myanmar's **2021 military coup** intensified armed conflict, particularly in Chin State, and contributed to the movement of people across the India–Myanmar border, including persons sharing ethnic and linguistic links with Manipur's **Kuki-Zomi population**.
- The influx became politically contentious because the Manipur government associated it with concerns relating to **new settlements, forest encroachment and poppy cultivation**, while Kuki organisations argued that genuine Indian citizens were sometimes being conflated with recent arrivals.
- The controversy illustrates the difficulty of distinguishing **cross-border migration, refugee movement, traditional ethnic linkages and illegal immigration** in a border region where communities have historically existed on both sides of an international boundary.

Free Movement Regime:

- In **February 2024**, the Union Government decided to scrap the **Free Movement Regime with Myanmar**, citing internal-security requirements and the need to protect the demographic structure of India's northeastern states bordering Myanmar.
- The decision demonstrates the growing importance of **border management, migration governance and demographic security** in India's northeastern frontier policy.

What Do Kuki-Zo Groups Say?

Opposition to NRC Before Census:

- The **Kuki-Zo Council** has opposed conducting an NRC before the Census, describing such sequencing as premature and unjustified.
- It argues that the NRC is fundamentally a **national citizenship exercise** and that a state-level process should not be unilaterally imposed without an appropriate legal and institutional framework.
- Kuki-Zo representatives contend that allegations against their community should first be tested against **credible demographic and administrative evidence**, rather than using disputed allegations to determine the methodology of population enumeration.
- Since **Kuki, Zomi and Chin communities extend across the India–Myanmar border**, they argue that an old documentary cut-off could potentially exclude families that have lived in Manipur for generations but lack documentation corresponding to the proposed historical baseline.
- The Kuki-Zo position supports **delimitation based on verified demographic data**, but opposes using an NRC as a precondition that could potentially disenfranchise genuine citizens.

Why Is Delimitation the Real Stake?

Existing Electoral Structure:

- Manipur has **60 Assembly seats**, comprising **40 seats in the valley** and **20 seats in the hill areas**.
- The present territorial arrangement is rooted in the earlier delimitation framework based on the **1971 Census**, making subsequent population changes politically significant.
- The **Election Commission of India** identifies delimitation as the process of fixing the territorial boundaries of legislative constituencies and notes that delimitation commissions have been constituted periodically under parliamentary law.

Why Population Data Matters:

- Manipur, along with **Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland**, faced special treatment in the national delimitation process because of security concerns and disputes surrounding demographic data.
- The Election Commission's records also document the historical **deferment of delimitation in Manipur**, demonstrating that the issue has long involved legal, administrative and security considerations.
- Consequently, fresh demographic figures could have major political consequences if population distribution is subsequently used to redraw constituencies.
- Political anxieties in the valley centre on the possibility that a revised population distribution could alter the existing **40:20 electoral balance**, although specific future seat ratios cannot be predicted without an actual delimitation exercise.

Can Manipur Have Its Own NRC?

Constitutional and Legal Framework:

- **Section 14A of the Citizenship Act, 1955** empowers the Central Government to compulsorily register Indian citizens, issue national identity cards and maintain a **National Register of Indian Citizens** through the prescribed institutional framework.
- The statutory framework therefore places the principal authority for maintaining the national citizens' register with the **Central Government**, making the legal architecture different from a state government independently creating its own citizenship register.

- A state-specific NRC would consequently require appropriate **central action, legal procedure and administrative safeguards**, rather than merely a unilateral state decision.
- The issue remains politically sensitive because citizenship determination directly affects constitutional rights, electoral participation and access to public institutions.

Alternative Tools Being Used:

Demographic and Electoral Mechanisms:

- The Centre and state authorities have mechanisms other than an NRC to address demographic concerns, including **population studies, electoral-roll revision, border management and immigration enforcement**.
- The **Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls** is particularly relevant because electoral rolls determine voting eligibility, although voter registration and citizenship determination are legally distinct processes.
- Stronger **border surveillance, biometric documentation, verification of migrants and action against illegal foreign nationals** can supplement broader citizenship and security measures without automatically equating every undocumented person with an illegal immigrant.

Census and NPR Distinction:

- The **Census** is fundamentally a population-enumeration exercise, whereas the **National Population Register** is intended to contain information on usual residents and an **NRC** concerns citizenship.
- These instruments therefore have different purposes and legal implications; conflating them can create conceptual and administrative confusion.
- The official Census 2027 framework confirms that population enumeration is being conducted under the **Census Act, 1948**, with the nationwide reference date fixed at 1 March 2027.

Way Forward:

Sequencing Citizenship, Census and Delimitation:

- The immediate priority should be to establish a **transparent and legally defensible sequence** among Census, citizenship verification, rehabilitation and delimitation rather than allowing one exercise to delegitimise another.
- Any citizenship-verification process should apply **uniform legal standards, adequate documentary flexibility, notice and appeal mechanisms**, particularly in border regions where historical migration and cross-border ethnic linkages complicate documentation.
- Census enumeration should remain **statistically neutral and professionally administered**, while displacement-related limitations should be addressed through robust enumeration methodology and subsequent updating mechanisms.
- Rehabilitation of internally displaced persons should proceed alongside demographic exercises so that conflict-induced displacement does not permanently distort political representation.
- Any future delimitation should rely on **verified population data, constitutional safeguards and an inclusive consultation process** to prevent demographic competition from deepening ethnic divisions.
- Border management should combine **security enforcement with humanitarian considerations**, especially where refugees, traditional cross-border communities and Indian citizens may have overlapping ethnic identities.

Conclusion:

- The Manipur Census controversy demonstrates how **citizenship, demographic change, displacement and political representation** can become inseparable in a conflict-affected border state.
- **Meitei and Naga groups** view an NRC as necessary for establishing a reliable citizenship and demographic baseline before Census and delimitation, whereas **Kuki-Zo groups** fear that an NRC conducted first could wrongly exclude genuine citizens and aggravate ethnic marginalisation.
- The Centre's deferment provides an opportunity to build consensus, but it also highlights the need to prevent demographic exercises from becoming instruments of ethnic competition.
- A sustainable solution requires **evidence-based citizenship verification, credible Census methodology, rehabilitation of displaced persons, effective border governance and constitutionally grounded delimitation**, with due protection of the rights of all communities.

Value Addition for UPSC:

Key Concepts:

- **Census:** A statutory population-enumeration exercise conducted under the Census Act, 1948.
- **NRC:** A citizenship-oriented register intended to identify persons recognised as Indian citizens under the applicable legal framework.
- **NPR:** A register concerning usual residents, which is conceptually distinct from a citizens' register.
- **Delimitation:** The process of fixing or redrawing territorial boundaries of legislative constituencies according to the applicable constitutional and statutory framework.
- **Free Movement Regime:** A special border arrangement that historically facilitated regulated cross-border movement between India and Myanmar.

Mains-Ready Analytical Point:

- “In conflict-affected border regions, demographic data is not merely a statistical resource; it can influence citizenship, political representation and perceptions of ethnic security. Therefore, Census, citizenship verification and delimitation must remain legally distinct, institutionally credible and sequenced through constitutional safeguards.”

Best Institute for OAS/IAS

Nepal Seeks Climate Compensation After Himalayan Disaster, Challenging Global Climate Finance and Climate Justice Frameworks

Recent Developments:

- A catastrophic **glacial collapse and flash flood on 26 August 2026** devastated northern Nepal and adjoining areas, causing more than 1,200 deaths, thousands of missing persons and extensive destruction of infrastructure; by 5 September, reported deaths in Nepal had risen to around 1,295–1,300.
- In the aftermath, Nepal shifted the diplomatic focus from conventional humanitarian assistance towards **climate compensation and climate justice**, arguing that countries with much larger emissions should bear greater responsibility for climate-related losses.

- Nepal's position has particular significance because the country contributes only a small share of global greenhouse-gas emissions, while its Himalayan geography exposes it disproportionately to glacier-related hazards.
- The episode has therefore revived debates over **Loss and Damage**, historical responsibility, climate finance, adaptation limits and the principle of **Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities**.

Why Is Nepal's Demand Significant?

From Humanitarian Aid to Climate Justice:

- Nepal's diplomatic approach is significant because it seeks to frame assistance not merely as **charity**, but as part of a broader international responsibility towards countries suffering severe climate-related losses despite having contributed relatively little to historical emissions.
- However, the demand should be understood primarily as a **political, moral and climate-justice claim**, rather than an already established legal right to compensation from specific emitting countries.
- The debate therefore raises an important question for global governance: **Can existing climate institutions deliver finance at the speed and scale required after catastrophic climate-related events?**

The Third Pole Paradox:

- The **Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH)** is often described as the **Third Pole** because it contains one of the world's largest concentrations of snow and ice outside the polar regions.
- The region supports food, water, energy and livelihood security for billions of people through major river systems, while its glaciers are undergoing accelerating ice loss.
- ICIMOD's 2026 assessment found that **HKH glacier ice-loss rates have doubled since 2000**, while glaciers lost about **12% of their area and 9% of estimated ice reserves between 1990 and 2020**.
- The region's vulnerability creates a major climate paradox: countries with relatively low historical emissions can face disproportionately high impacts because of **elevation-dependent warming, glacier retreat, extreme precipitation and fragile mountain ecosystems**.

How Climate Change Amplifies Himalayan Risks:

Glacier Instability and Extreme Events:

- Rising temperatures accelerate **glacier melt, permafrost degradation and slope instability**, increasing the probability of cascading hazards involving ice, rock, debris and floodwater.
- The 26 August disaster near the Nepal–China border demonstrated how a sudden collapse in the cryosphere can rapidly transform into a destructive downstream flood, affecting settlements, transport networks, hydropower projects and river systems.
- Scientific assessments indicate that Himalayan climate risks cannot be viewed only through individual disasters because long-term warming simultaneously alters **water availability, flood intensity, glacier stability and ecosystem resilience**.
- The HKH region is also crucial for India because Himalayan glaciers feed major river systems whose waters support agriculture, drinking water, hydropower and ecosystems across northern India.

Climate Teleconnections:

- Himalayan climate risks are influenced not only by local warming but also by broader atmospheric processes, including **changes in circulation patterns, monsoon behaviour and Northern Hemisphere climate dynamics**.

- Consequently, extreme events in mountain regions can reflect interactions between global atmospheric warming and highly vulnerable local topography.
- This strengthens the argument for treating Himalayan disasters as part of a **transboundary climate-risk system**, rather than as isolated national emergencies.

Economic Impact on Nepal:

Damage to Hydropower and Infrastructure:

- Nepal's development strategy relies heavily on **hydropower**, making climate-resilient infrastructure essential for both economic growth and energy security.
- The August disaster damaged hydropower facilities, construction sites, roads, bridges and other critical infrastructure, while rescue operations were complicated by extensive debris and inaccessible mountain terrain.
- The destruction has wider economic implications because damage to electricity-generation capacity can simultaneously affect **domestic supply, export earnings, industrial activity and reconstruction costs**.
- Nepal's experience demonstrates that climate adaptation cannot remain limited to conventional engineering; future Himalayan infrastructure increasingly requires **climate-resilient design, improved hazard mapping, early-warning systems and risk-sensitive land-use planning**.

The Development–Resilience Dilemma:

- Climate disasters can force developing countries into a cycle in which resources intended for **poverty reduction, infrastructure development and human capital** are repeatedly diverted towards reconstruction.
- This creates a **climate finance trap**, where countries least responsible for cumulative emissions may face increasing fiscal pressure to finance adaptation and recovery themselves.

The Global Climate Finance Gap:

Loss and Damage Fund:

- At **COP27 in 2022**, Parties agreed to establish new funding arrangements for addressing **Loss and Damage** in particularly vulnerable developing countries, while COP28 in 2023 operationalised the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage.
- The Fund is intended to support developing countries facing both **economic and non-economic losses**, including losses arising from extreme weather events and slow-onset climate processes.
- The World Bank was invited to host the Fund as an interim financial intermediary for four years, while the Fund retains its own institutional structure and decision-making arrangements.

Scale Mismatch:

- The central challenge is the enormous gap between available climate finance and the rapidly increasing cost of climate-related disasters.
- By April 2025, the Fund had received **USD 768.40 million in pledges from 27 contributors**, illustrating the limited scale of resources compared with global climate-related losses.
- Earlier UNFCCC assessments also highlighted that vulnerable developing countries could face hundreds of billions of dollars in climate-related damages, making existing commitments inadequate relative to projected needs.
- Nepal's demand therefore exposes a structural problem: **a multilateral fund designed to address systemic climate losses cannot effectively respond if its resources remain far below the magnitude of individual catastrophes**.

Why This Matters for Global Climate Governance:

From Charity to Responsibility:

- Nepal's position strengthens the broader Global South argument that climate finance should be **predictable, adequate, accessible and additional**, rather than dependent primarily on voluntary humanitarian contributions.
- It also highlights the distinction between **adaptation finance**, which seeks to reduce future vulnerability, and **Loss and Damage finance**, which addresses residual impacts that cannot be prevented or adapted to.
- The debate could strengthen demands for innovative sources of climate finance, including **polluter-based contributions, fossil-fuel levies, international shipping levies and other predictable financing mechanisms**.

Limits of Attribution:

- A major challenge for Nepal's compensation argument is establishing a direct causal chain between emissions from a particular country and a specific disaster.
- Climate change can increase the probability or severity of extreme events without making one emitter legally responsible for an individual event.
- Therefore, a workable global system may require **collective responsibility and vulnerability-based financing** rather than case-by-case litigation over individual disasters.

Implications for India:

Climate Diplomacy:

- Nepal's demand creates a complex situation for India because India has consistently supported **equity, climate justice, historical responsibility and CBDR-RC** in international climate negotiations.
- India's 2026 NDC explicitly links climate policy with the **fair and equitable sharing of the global carbon budget** and emphasises cumulative historical emissions in assessing responsibility.
- At the same time, India is itself highly exposed to Himalayan climate risks, including **glacial lake outburst floods, glacier retreat, landslides and changing river flows**.
- Recent assessments have identified numerous high-risk glacial lakes in Sikkim, demonstrating that Nepal's experience has direct relevance for India's Himalayan states.

Regional Cooperation:

- India and Nepal need stronger cooperation on **hydrometeorological data sharing, glacier monitoring, early-warning systems, disaster-response capacity, resilient hydropower and transboundary river management**.
- Climate diplomacy in South Asia should therefore combine **finance, technology transfer, disaster preparedness and scientific cooperation** rather than focusing exclusively on compensation.

Way Forward:

Building a Climate-Resilient Himalayan Framework:

- Strengthen **regional cryosphere monitoring** through satellites, ground stations, glacier inventories and high-altitude observatories, particularly because major portions of the HKH remain inadequately monitored.

- Develop interoperable **early-warning systems** for floods, landslides, glacial hazards and extreme rainfall across Himalayan countries.
- Make new hydropower, roads and settlements subject to **climate-risk and cumulative-impact assessments** rather than relying only on conventional environmental clearances.
- Reform Loss and Damage financing to ensure **rapid access, adequate scale, concessionality and transparency**, while preventing vulnerable countries from accumulating unsustainable debt.
- Promote **India–Nepal–China scientific and disaster-risk cooperation** wherever politically feasible, particularly on glacier observation and transboundary hazards.

Conclusion:

- Nepal's demand following the August 2026 disaster represents more than a request for financial assistance; it is a challenge to the existing architecture of **climate responsibility, finance and international solidarity**.
- The central lesson is that climate justice requires moving beyond declarations towards institutions capable of delivering **timely finance, technology, resilience and disaster-risk reduction**.
- For India, the episode reinforces the need to balance its climate-justice position with its role as a major regional power and a country facing increasingly serious Himalayan climate risks.

Value Addition for UPSC:

Key Concepts:

- **Loss and Damage:** Climate-related economic and non-economic losses that cannot be fully avoided through mitigation or adaptation.
- **CBDR-RC:** Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities, recognising common responsibility but differentiated obligations based on circumstances and capabilities.
- **Third Pole:** The Hindu Kush Himalaya region, containing extensive mountain cryosphere outside the polar regions.
- **Climate Justice:** The principle that climate action should account for historical responsibility, vulnerability, capacity and equitable development.

Mains-Ready Analytical Point:

- *“The Nepal disaster demonstrates that climate vulnerability is no longer merely an environmental concern; it is simultaneously a question of development, fiscal stability, regional security and international justice.”*

QUESTIONS

1. Consider the following statements:

Statement 1: The EOS-05 mission represents a strategic transition in India's space program from periodic Earth observation to persistent, high-frequency Earth observation.

Statement 2: EOS-05 operates from Low Earth Orbit (LEO) using Synthetic Aperture Radar to bypass atmospheric cloud cover continuously.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (A) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct and Statement 2 is the correct explanation for Statement 1.
- (B) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct but Statement 2 is NOT the correct explanation for Statement 1.
- (C) Statement 1 is correct but Statement 2 is incorrect.
- (D) Statement 1 is incorrect but Statement 2 is correct.

2. Consider the following statements regarding statutory and constitutional protections against child labour in India:

(1) Article 24 of the Constitution imposes an absolute prohibition on the employment of children below 14 years in factories, mines, or any hazardous employment.

(2) Under the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 (as amended in 2016), employment of children below 14 years is permitted if they assist in family enterprises after school hours or work as child artists under prescribed safety conditions.

(3) The amended Child Labour Act completely permits adolescents (aged 14 to 18 years) to work in all sectors without any restriction or prohibition.

(4) Article 21A guarantees the right to free and compulsory education for children up to the age of 18 years as a fundamental right.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (A) Only one
- (B) Only two
- (C) Only three
- (D) All four

3. Consider the following statements regarding Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's educational philosophy and committee leadership:

(1) He chaired the University Education Commission (1948–49), which laid key foundations for post-independence higher education policy in India.

(2) His philosophical approach viewed education not as mere information accumulation, but as a medium for moral development, critical thinking, and social transformation.

(3) He advocated that teachers act as central figures in nation-building by shaping character, ethical reasoning, and democratic citizenship.

(4) The observance of Teachers' Day on 5 September was initiated in 1962 upon his suggestion to honor the teaching community rather than celebrate his personal birthday.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (C) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

4. Given below are two statements, one labeled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): High statistical population growth rates in border districts cannot be used as sole legal evidence to cancel an individual's citizenship status.

Reason (R): Population growth metrics aggregate demographic trends but do not establish individual citizenship status under the statutory requirements of the Citizenship Act, 1955.

In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer:

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both A and R are true but R is NOT the correct explanation of A.
- (C) A is true but R is false.
- (D) A is false but R is true.

5. Consider the following statements regarding cryospheric changes and historical glaciological trends in the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) region:

- (1) The Hindu Kush Himalaya is referred to as the 'Third Pole' due to hosting the largest concentration of snow and ice outside the polar ice caps.
- (2) Glacial ice-loss rates across the Hindu Kush Himalaya have accelerated significantly since the turn of the 21st century compared to the preceding decades.
- (3) High-altitude mountain regions experience uniform warming rates that are identical in magnitude to low-altitude coastal regions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2
- (C) 2 and 3
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

ANSWER KEY

1 – Answer (C), 2 – Answer (B), 3 – Answer (D), 4 – Answer (A), 5 – Answer (B)



OAS HUB

DAILY CHRONICLE CURRENT AFFAIRS

In today's fast-changing world, staying updated with current affairs is essential for both academic success and professional growth. Awareness of national and international events not only broadens general knowledge but also sharpens critical and analytical thinking skills. It enables individuals to form well-informed opinions, which are crucial for competitive examinations, group discussions, interviews, and impactful essay writing.

Being well-informed reflects adaptability, awareness, and intellectual curiosity—qualities that are highly valued in a competitive environment. A strong grasp of contemporary issues enhances confidence, widens perspective, and prepares individuals to tackle real-world challenges effectively, ultimately opening the door to better opportunities and long-term personal and career advancement.

-  oashub19  oashub19
-  OASHUB22  oashub19@gmail.com
-  M5/17, Acharya Vihar Bhubaneswar 751022