Day 26 | Complete teaching notes and sources

English

IAS with Dr Ravi · APPSC Group 1 · 1,000 Topics in 100 Days

Topics 251–260. Updated 1 November 2026. Pictographs are supplied separately; these notes preserve the full teaching sequence.

Topic	Contents
251	Arya Samaj, Ramakrishna Mission and Theosophical Society
252	Kakatiya administration and tank irrigation
253	Parliamentary and presidential systems compared
254	Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers
255	Planning in India: objectives and types of planning
256	Revolution of the Earth, seasons, solstices and equinoxes
257	Protected areas: national parks, sanctuaries, biosphere reserves and conservation reserves
258	Goleman's model: the five components
259	Profit and loss: cost price, selling price and profit per cent
260	Heatwaves and lightning: recommendation, notified status and disaster finance

Topic 251 | Arya Samaj, Ramakrishna Mission and Theosophical Society

1. Concept in one line

The Arya Samaj of Dayananda Saraswati (1875), the Ramakrishna Mission of Swami Vivekananda (1897) and the Theosophical Society of Helena Blavatsky and Henry Steel Olcott (New York, 1875) were three religious and social movements of the late nineteenth century, each linked with education, service and reform. The examination asks for their founders, years and places, their main ideas, and the persons and institutions that grew out of them.

2. Revision notes

2.1 Where these three fit

- **Topic 191:** Ram Mohan Roy's Brahmo Sabha first met in Calcutta on 20 August 1828; NCERT gives the Brahmo Samaj as formed in 1830.
- **Topic 72:** Kandukuri Veeresalingam performed the first widow marriage at Rajahmundry on 11 December 1881. NCERT, which spells him Veerasalingam Pantulu, names him as the reformer who formed an association for widow remarriage.
- NCERT's Class VIII chapter "Women, Caste and Reform" takes up the Arya Samaj and the Ramakrishna Mission in its account of reform associations.

2.2 The Arya Samaj

Point	What the sources give
Founder	Swami Dayananda Saraswati (NCERT spells him Dayanand). Born on 12 February 1824 at Tankara in Kathiawar, now in Gujarat; his original name was Mool Shankar; he died on 30 October 1883 near Ajmer (Wikipedia)
Founding	NCERT: Dayanand founded the Arya Samaj in 1875. Wikipedia, citing Lala Lajpat Rai (1915): at Bombay, on 10 April 1875, with ten principles
Lahore, 1877	The ten principles were finally settled at Lahore in 1877 (Wikipedia, same sources)
Main book	Satyarth Prakash, published in 1875; a second edition was written at Udaipur in 1882-83 (Wikipedia)

Point	What the sources give
Call	A return to the Vedas: the PIB release records his call "Vedon Ki Aur Lauto". Britannica: the aim was to re-establish the Vedas as revealed truth; later additions were treated as degenerate
Idol worship	Opposed image worship (Britannica)
Caste	Opposed caste by birth and untouchability (Britannica). Dayananda held that varna should rest on education and profession (Wikipedia)
Child marriage	Opposed (Britannica)
Women	NCERT: Dayanand also supported widow remarriage, and the Arya Samaj set up schools for girls in Punjab. Britannica: it promoted female education and intercaste marriage and built homes for widows
What it kept	The infallibility of the Vedas, karma, samsara, the sanctity of the cow, the samskaras (sacraments) and Vedic fire offerings (Britannica)
Shuddhi	A movement to bring converts back to Hinduism. It began under the Arya Samaj: Dayananda was the first to devise a ritual of reconversion (Christophe Jaffrelot). It was later led by Swami Shraddhanand; it became an important force by 1923, and late in 1923 he became president of the Bharatiya Hindu Shuddhi Sabha (Wikipedia, citing Neeti Nair and R. K. Ghai)

- Its largest following has been in western and northern India. It also ran schools and colleges, orphanages, famine relief and medical work (Britannica).

2.3 The DAV and the Gurukul wings

- **DAV (Dayanand Anglo-Vedic):** the first DAV school was set up at Lahore in 1886 and was later raised to the first DAV College (Wikipedia). Lala Hansraj (1864 to 1938) co-founded it with Gurudatta Vidyarthi on 1 June 1886, in memory of Dayananda, who had died three years earlier. Hansraj was the school's first headmaster, and when the DAV College was founded at Lahore in 1889 he became its honorary principal (Hansraj College's page).
- **The split in Punjab:** the Samaj in Punjab divided into two sections. Hansraj's section, with Lala Lajpat Rai, kept control of the DAV College, Lahore. The other section, led by Pandit Lekh Ram and Munshi Ram, formed the Punjab Arya Samaj (Wikipedia, citing Thursby).
- **Gurukul:** Swami Shraddhanand (born Munshi Ram, 1856 to 1926) founded the Gurukul on 4 March 1902 on the bank of the Ganga, about 6 km from Hardwar (the university's page), at Kangri village, then in Bijnor district (Wikipedia). It grew into the Gurukula Kangri university, whose main campus is now at Haridwar.

Wing	Leader	Founded	Stress
DAV	Lala Hansraj	First DAV school, Lahore, 1886	Schools and colleges under the Anglo-Vedic name; this section kept the DAV College, Lahore
Gurukul	Swami Shraddhanand (Munshi Ram)	Gurukul at Kangri, near Hardwar, 4 March 1902	Vedic studies at the core of the course

2.4 The Ramakrishna Mission

- **Ramakrishna Paramahamsa (1836 to 1886):** the Mission calls him "the Prophet of the Modern Age". Vivekananda was his chief disciple.
- **Swami Vivekananda (1863 to 1902):** born in Kolkata on 12 January 1863. His pre-monastic name was Narendra Nath Datta (the Mission's page); NCERT spells it Narendra Nath Dutta. He met Ramakrishna in November 1881 at the Kali temple at Dakshineswar, and died on 4 July 1902.
- **Chicago, 1893:** he left Bombay for America on 31 May 1893 and spoke at the World's Parliament of Religions in Chicago in September 1893 (the Mission's page); his first address was on 11 September 1893 (the Art Institute of Chicago). NCERT quotes the New York Herald after hearing him: "We feel how foolish it is to send missionaries to this learned nation".
- **The Mission:** he returned to India in January 1897 and founded the Ramakrishna Mission on 1 May 1897, soon after his return to Kolkata (the Mission's page). In early 1898 he acquired land at Belur on the western bank of the Ganga. Belur Math, in Howrah district, is now the headquarters of both the Ramakrishna Math and the Ramakrishna Mission, which are twin organisations, legally and financially separate.
- **Motto:** "ātmano mokṣārthaṃ jagat hitāya ca", that is, for one's own salvation and for the welfare of the world. Vivekananda formulated it.
- **Service as worship:** NCERT says the Mission "stressed the ideal of salvation through social service and selfless action". The Mission's own words are "service to man as service to God", linked with the phrase "Shiva jnane jiva seva".
- **Vedanta:** Ramakrishna purified and energised Vedanta, and Vivekananda presented it in modern language. Its key message, for him, was the potential divinity of the soul.
- **The masses and caste:** he named "the neglect of the masses" as the real cause of India's downfall. Belur Math is open to all men without any distinction of religion, race or caste. Britannica says he was determined to spread education among women and the lower castes.

2.5 The Theosophical Society and Annie Besant

- **Founding:** 17 November 1875, in New York City (the Society's page; Britannica). Founders: Helena Petrovna Blavatsky (1831 to 1891), Henry Steel Olcott (1832 to 1907) and William Quan Judge (1851 to 1896) (Britannica).

- **Three objects:** to form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour; to encourage the study of comparative religion, philosophy and science; to investigate unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in man (Wikipedia).
- **India:** Blavatsky and Olcott left New York for Bombay late in 1878 and set up the Society's headquarters at Bombay (the Society's page); Britannica says they settled in India in 1879. In 1882 they set up the permanent headquarters at Adyar, Madras (Britannica and the Society's page).
- Britannica says its teachings stressed human service, and links the Society, through Olcott, with a revival of Buddhism.
- **Annie Besant:** joined the Society in 1889 and first came to India in 1893 (Theosophical Society in Australia). She was international president from 1907 to 1933. The supplied Britannica account dates her move to 1895; do not confuse this residence account with her first arrival.
- **Central Hindu College:** Besant founded it at Kamachha in Benares (Varanasi) in July 1898; it is now the Central Hindu School. The supplied secondary account dates a college handover to the Hindu University Society to 27 November 1915 and links it to BHU in 1916. Separately, BHU's Annual Report 2023–24, page 78, dates the school's establishment to 7 July 1898 and its entrustment to Malaviya to 30 March 1914; BHU classes occupied the school premises during 1916–1921. These school and college accounts describe different institutional stages and must not be collapsed into a single unqualified transfer date.
- **Politics, in a line:** Britannica says she headed a Home Rule League and was the first woman president of the Indian National Congress. The Home Rule movement is Topic 672.

2.6 The three compared

Point	Arya Samaj	Ramakrishna Mission	Theosophical Society
Founder	Dayananda Saraswati	Swami Vivekananda, in the name of his guru Ramakrishna	Blavatsky, Olcott and Judge
Year	1875 (10 April)	1897 (1 May)	1875 (17 November)
Place	Bombay; principles settled at Lahore in 1877	Kolkata; headquarters later at Belur Math	New York; headquarters at Adyar, Madras, from 1882
Core idea	The Vedas as infallible revealed truth	Vedanta; potential divinity of the soul; harmony of religions	Universal brotherhood; comparative study of religion, philosophy and science
Social reform	Against image worship, caste by birth, untouchability and child marriage; for widow remarriage	Service to man as service to God; Belur Math open to all without distinction of religion, race or caste	Brotherhood without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour

Point	Arya Samaj	Ramakrishna Mission	Theosophical Society
Education	DAV schools and colleges; the Gurukul; girls' schools in Punjab	Vivekananda's aim of spreading education among women and the lower castes	Central Hindu College, Benares, 1898
Impact	Britannica calls it an important factor in the growth of Indian nationalism	Hindu spirituality presented to the West; organised social service	The college became the nucleus of Banaras Hindu University; Besant entered Indian politics

2.7 Common features and limits

- **The appeal to ancient texts:** NCERT says that whenever the reformers wished to challenge a practice that seemed harmful, they tried to find a verse in the ancient texts to support their view. The Arya Samaj went to the Vedas, and the Ramakrishna Mission to Vedanta.
- **Revival and reform together:** Dayananda denounced idolatry and ritual in order to revive Vedic religion (Wikipedia), yet the Samaj kept the samskaras and Vedic fire offerings (2.2).
- **National awakening:** Britannica calls the Arya Samaj an important factor in the growth of Indian nationalism. The 2024 PIB release says that revolutionaries such as Lala Lajpat Rai, Ram Prasad Bismil and Swami Shraddhanand emerged under the influence of the Arya Samaj.
- **Limits:** NCERT notes that many reformers and members of reform associations were of upper castes, and that orthodox Hindu society reacted by founding Sanatan Dharma Sabhas and the Bharat Dharma Mahamandal in the north. Britannica records the criticism that the Arya Samaj was overly dogmatic and showed "aggressive intolerance" towards Christianity and Islam.

2.8 The Andhra link

- Adyar lies in Madras, then the capital of the Madras Presidency, to which the Telugu districts, Rajahmundry among them, belonged. So the Theosophical Society had its world headquarters inside the Presidency from 1882.
- Veeresalingam's own path ran through the Prarthana Samaj, formed at his house in Rajahmundry in 1878, and the South Indian Brahmo Samaj at Madras, of which he was elected president (Topic 72).
- Left to other days: Phule and Narayana Guru (Topic 501), reform among Muslims, Sikhs and Parsis (Topic 822), the Home Rule movement (Topic 672).

2.9 Where the sources differ

Point	What each source gives
Founding of the Arya Samaj	NCERT: 1875. Wikipedia, citing Lajpat Rai: Bombay, 10 April 1875

Point	What each source gives
Where the Ramakrishna Mission was founded	The Mission's page: 1 May 1897, soon after his return to Kolkata; the Belur land came in early 1898. The Mission's Balaram Mandir page: the meeting of 1 May 1897 at Balaram Basu's house in north Kolkata laid its foundation. Britannica places the founding at Belur Math
Besant's move to India	Britannica: moved to India in 1895. A Theosophical Society (Australia) page: first came to India in 1893

3. Extra section: chronology, 1824 to 1916

Year	Event
1824	Dayananda (Mool Shankar) born at Tankara (12 February)
1836	Ramakrishna born
1863	Vivekananda born at Kolkata (12 January)
1875	Arya Samaj founded at Bombay (10 April); Satyarth Prakash published; Theosophical Society founded at New York (17 November)
1877	Arya Samaj principles settled at Lahore
1879	Blavatsky and Olcott settle in India
1881	Narendra Nath meets Ramakrishna at Dakshineswar (November)
1882	Theosophical Society headquarters set up at Adyar, Madras
1883	Dayananda dies (30 October)
1886	Ramakrishna dies; first DAV school at Lahore (1 June)
1889	Annie Besant joins the Theosophical Society
1893	Vivekananda at the World's Parliament of Religions, Chicago (September)
1893	Besant first comes to India (institutional account)
1897	Vivekananda returns (January); Ramakrishna Mission founded (1 May)
1898	Land at Belur acquired (early 1898); Central Hindu College founded at Benares (July)
1902	Gurukul founded by Shraddhanand (4 March); Vivekananda dies (4 July)
1907	Besant becomes president of the Theosophical Society

Year	Event
1914	School entrusted to Malaviya, 30 March (BHU Annual Report 2023–24, p. 78); distinguish the secondary college-transfer account
1916	The college becomes the nucleus of Banaras Hindu University

4. Three common exam traps

1. **“The Arya Samaj was founded at Lahore.”** It was founded at Bombay on 10 April 1875. Lahore comes in 1877, when its ten principles were finally settled there; the Samaj’s largest following has been in western and northern India. A statement that puts the founding at Lahore is wrong.
2. **Chicago and the Mission are four years apart.** Vivekananda spoke at Chicago in September 1893; he came back in January 1897 and founded the Mission on 1 May 1897. The land at Belur came only in early 1898. The Ramakrishna Math and the Ramakrishna Mission are twin bodies, legally and financially separate, not one body under two names.
3. **“Back to the Vedas” is not “back to everything old”.** The Arya Samaj held the Vedas to be infallible but rejected the Puranas, image worship, caste by birth and child marriage. It did not reject all ritual: it kept the samskaras, Vedic fire offerings and the sanctity of the cow. A statement that it rejected all Hindu ritual is wrong.

7. Sources

7.1 Sources

No.	Source	Used for
S1	NCERT, *Our Pasts III* (Class VIII), Chapter 8, "Women, Caste and Reform" (2020-21 reprint), Internet Archive text copy. https://archive.org/download/ncert-hess2/hess208_djvu.txt	Dayanand founded the Arya Samaj in 1875; he supported widow remarriage; Arya Samaj schools for girls in Punjab (and Phule in Maharashtra); the Ramakrishna Mission named after Ramakrishna Paramhansa and stressing salvation through social service and selfless action; Vivekananda (1863 to 1902), original name Narendra Nath Dutta; Chicago, 1893, and the New York Herald's words; Veerasalingam Pantulu's widow remarriage association; reformers seeking verses in ancient texts; many reformers of upper castes; Sanatan Dharma Sabhas and the Bharat Dharma Mahamandal
S2	Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Arya Samaj" (revised and updated by Matt Stefon). https://www.britannica.com/topic/Arya-Samaj	Founded by Dayananda in 1875; re-establishing the Vedas as revealed truth and later additions as degenerate; following in western and northern India; local, provincial and all-India samajas; opposition to image worship, caste by birth, untouchability and child marriage; what it upheld (Vedas, karma, samsara, cow, samskaras, fire oblations); female education, intercaste marriage, widows' homes, schools, famine relief and medical work; a factor in the growth of Indian nationalism; criticism of dogmatism and "an aggressive intolerance"
S3	Wikipedia, "Arya Samaj" (citing Lala Lajpat Rai, *The Arya Samaj*, 1915; G. P. Upadhyaya, 1954; *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, 1909; Neeti Nair, 2011; Kenneth W. Jones, 1976; M. Kishwar, 1986). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arya_Samaj	Founding at Bombay on 10 April 1875 with ten principles; principles finally settled at Lahore in 1877; idol worship strictly prohibited; Vedas infallible and Puranas rejected; Shraddhanand leading the Shuddhi movement; the split of 1893 in Punjab over meat-eating; support for widow remarriage and women's education

No.	Source	Used for
S4	Wikipedia, “Dayananda Saraswati”. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dayananda_Saraswati	Birth on 12 February 1824 at Tankara, Kathiawar; original name Mool Shankar; death on 30 October 1883 at Bhinai near Ajmer (Ajmer in the summary box); Satyarth Prakash published in 1875, second edition written at Udaipur in 1882-83; “Back to the Vedas”; idolatry denounced to revive Vedic religion; varna by education and profession
S5	Press Information Bureau, Prime Minister’s Office, “English rendering of PM’s remarks on birth anniversary of Swami Dayanand Saraswati via Video Conferencing”, 11 February 2024. https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2004938	The 200th birth anniversary; Tankara as his birthplace; the call “Vedon Ki Aur Lauto”; revolutionaries such as Lala Lajpat Rai, Ram Prasad Bismil and Swami Shraddhanand emerging under the influence of the Arya Samaj
S6	Wikipedia, “Swami Shraddhanand” (citing R. K. Ghai, 1990). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swami_Shraddhanand	Born Munshi Ram, 1856; died 1926; the Gurukul of 1902; the split of 1892 over Vedic studies at the DAV College and the Gurukul and DAV sections; Shuddhi an important force by 1923; president of the Bharatiya Hindu Shuddhi Sabha in late 1923
S7	Wikipedia, “Mahatma Hansraj” (citing Cush, Robinson and York, *Encyclopedia of Hinduism*, 2012; J. R. Thursby, *Hindu-Muslim Relations in British India*, 1975, p. 14). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahatma_Hansraj	Years 1864 to 1938; co-founding the first DAV school at Lahore with Gurudatta Vidyarthi on 1 June 1886, in memory of Dayananda; the split of 1893, his section with Lajpat Rai keeping the college, the other led by Lekh Ram and Munshi Ram forming the Punjab Arya Samaj
S8	Wikipedia, “Dayanand Anglo-Vedic Schools System”. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dayanand_Anglo-Vedic_Schools_System	First DAV school established at Lahore in 1886 and later upgraded to the first DAV College
S9	Wikipedia, “Gurukul Kangri University” (citing the university’s page “About Main Campus”). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gurukul_Kangri_University	Founded on 4 March 1902 by Swami Shraddhanand; shifted to Kangri village of Bijnor district; main campus now at Haridwar

No.	Source	Used for
S10	Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math, “About Us”. https://belurmath.org/about-us/	Ramakrishna (1836 to 1886), “the Prophet of the Modern Age”; Vivekananda (1863 to 1902) his chief disciple; twin organisations, legally and financially separate; the motto and its meaning; work as worship, potential divinity of the soul, harmony of religions; “service to man as service to God”; no belief in conversion; Vedanta purified by Ramakrishna and presented in modern language by Vivekananda; headquarters at Belur, Howrah district
S11	Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math, “Swami Vivekananda”. https://belurmath.org/swami-vivekananda/	Birth on 12 January 1863 in Kolkata; name Narendra Nath Datta; meeting Ramakrishna in November 1881 at Dakshineswar; leaving Bombay on 31 May 1893; speeches at Chicago in September 1893; return in January 1897; Mission founded on 1 May 1897 soon after his return to Kolkata; land at Belur in early 1898; death on 4 July 1902; uplift of the masses; “the neglect of the masses”; Belur Math open to all without distinction of religion, race or caste; “Shiva jnane jiva seva”
S12	Encyclopaedia Britannica, “Vivekananda”. https://www.britannica.com/biography/Vivekananda	Name Narendranath Datta; World’s Parliament of Religions, Chicago, 1893; founding of the Ramakrishna Mission in 1897, placed at Belur Math; education among women and the lower castes
S13	Encyclopaedia Britannica, “Theosophical Society” and the related “Theosophy” article. https://www.britannica.com/topic/Theosophical-Society	Founded in New York City in 1875; founders Blavatsky (1831 to 1891), Olcott (1832 to 1907) and Judge (1851 to 1896); visit to India in 1878, settling in 1879; permanent headquarters at Adyar, Madras, in 1882; stress on human service; the revival of Buddhism through Olcott
S14	Wikipedia, “Theosophical Society Adyar”. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theosophical_Society_Adyar	Founding on 17 November 1875 in New York City; headquarters moved to Adyar in 1882; the three objects; Annie Besant president from 1907 to 1933

No.	Source	Used for
S15	Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Annie Besant" (updated 6 October 2026). https://www.britannica.com/biography/Annie-Besant	Joined the Theosophical Society in 1889; moved to India in 1895; international president from 1907 until her death; headed a Home Rule League; first woman president of the Indian National Congress
S16	Wikipedia, "Central Hindu School" (citing Kumari Jayawardena, *The White Woman's Other Burden*, 1995, pp. 128-129; Rajendra Prasad, *Correspondence and Select Documents*, 1984, p. 479; Britannica). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Hindu_School	Founded by Annie Besant in July 1898 at Kamachha, Varanasi, formerly the Central Hindu College; handed over to the Hindu University Society on 27 November 1915; nucleus of Banaras Hindu University in 1916; dedicated by Besant to Madan Mohan Malaviya
S17	The Theosophical Society (Adyar), "How we began" (early history). https://www.ts-adyar.org/early-history	17 November 1875 as Foundation Day, with Olcott's inaugural address; the Founders leaving New York for Bombay late in 1878 and setting up the headquarters at Bombay; the move to Adyar, Madras, in 1882; the Adyar Library formally opened in December 1886
S18	The Theosophical Society (Adyar), "Prominent Theosophists". https://www.ts-adyar.org/person	Olcott (1832 to 1907) as President-Founder; Annie Besant (1847 to 1933) second President from 1907 to 1933
S19	Gurukula Kangri (Deemed to be University), Haridwar, "About Main Campus". https://gkv.ac.in/about-us	Founded on 4 March 1902 by Swami Shraddhanand on the bank of the Ganga, about 6 km from Hardwar; address at Kankhal, Haridwar
S20	Hansraj College, University of Delhi, "Historical Perspective". https://www.hansrajcollege.ac.in/about/historicalperspective	Hansraj born in 1864, died in 1938; at 22, Honorary Founder and Head Master of the DAV High School, Lahore, opened in 1886, and its first Headmaster; Honorary Principal of the DAV College, Lahore, when it was founded in 1889
S21	Wikipedia, "Mahatma Hansraj" and "Gurukul Kangri University". https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahatma_Hansraj ; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gurukul_Kangri_University	Founding of the DAV school with Gurudatta Vidyarthi on 1 June 1886; the 1893 split (citing Thursby); the Gurukul's first brick at Gujranwala and its shift to Kangri village of Bijnor district

No.	Source	Used for
S22	Ramakrishna Math (Balaram Mandir), “Visit us”. https://balarammandir.rkmm.org/visit-us ; All India Radio News, “Ramkrishna Mission Foundation Day”, 1 May 2025. https://www.newsonair.gov.in/ramkrishna-mission-foundation-day-swami-vivekananda-established-mission-on-may-1-1897-in-kolkata	The meeting of 1 May 1897 at Balaram Basu’s house in north Kolkata that laid the foundation of the Ramakrishna Mission
S23	Art Institute of Chicago, “Swami Vivekananda and His 1893 Speech”. https://www.artic.edu/swami-vivekananda-and-his-1893-speech	His first address at the World’s Parliament of Religions on 11 September 1893, on the site of the present Art Institute
S24	The Theosophical Society in Australia, “Annie Besant in India”. https://theosophicalsociety.org.au/books/annie-besant-in-india	Besant first came to India in 1893 and made India her home
S25	Central Hindu Girls School (Banaras Hindu University), “About”. https://chgsbhu.in/about1.php	Besant founded the Central Hindu School and College at Benares in 1898; the college became the nucleus of Banaras Hindu University (the page says 1915)
S26	Christophe Jaffrelot, “Reconversion paradoxes”, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (first published in the Indian Express), 7 January 2015. https://carnegieendowment.org/posts/2015/01/reconversion-paradoxes	Dayananda the first to devise a ritual of reconversion (shuddhi); Shraddhanand developing the Shuddhi Sabha

Topic 252 | Kakatiya administration and tank irrigation

1. Concept in one line

The Kakatiyas ruled through a king and his ministers, military chiefs called nayakas who held territories for service, a ladder of territorial units and village servants called ayagars, and members of the royal family, generals and nobles built many irrigation tanks across the Telangana uplands. The examination asks you to place each office or unit correctly and to link each famous tank with its builder.

2. Revision notes

2.1 Recall and setting

- **Topic 2:** Ganapatideva (c. 1199 to 1262), Rudramadevi (c. 1262 to 1289) and Prataparudra (c. 1289 to 1323) ruled from Orugallu (Warangal). Recherla Rudra was the commander who held the kingdom together while Ganapatideva was a captive of the Yadavas.
- **Topic 151:** under Vijayanagara, amara-nayakas governed territories given by the king and kept troops for him (the nayankara system), and each village was run by hereditary servants, the ayagars. Both systems were already at work in the Kakatiya kingdom.

2.2 The Kakatiya administration at a glance

Part of the system	What the sources say
The king	The supreme head of the State, but his power was limited by dharma and custom
The court	Ministers called mahapradhanas, pradhanas, amatyas and mantrins; an officer called the Bahattara Niyogadhipati headed the 72 niyogas (branches of the administration)
Military officers	The Gajasahini commanded the elephants; the Tantrapala was an army chief; royal bodyguards called Lenkas also made land grants
Nayakas (nayankara system)	Military chiefs who held territories (nayankaras) and kept troops in return; one account says the kingdom was divided into 77 nayankaras
Territorial units	Village, then sthala (a group of villages), then nadu (a large unit such as Sabbi-nadu, Kamma-nadu or Pottapi-nadu); sima is a later term

Part of the system	What the sources say
The village	Run by hereditary servants, the ayagars, conventionally twelve, paid with tax-free land (manyam)
Revenue	Mainly taxes on agricultural produce; other dues such as ari (land tax), pullari (grazing tax) and sunkams (tolls on goods)
Temples and inscriptions	About 1,000 stone inscriptions and 12 copper-plate inscriptions survive; most record religious matters such as gifts to temples

2.3 The nayankara system

- **Who the nayakas were:** military chiefs who also served as provincial governors. Anyone, whatever his birth, could earn the title nayaka, which marked warrior status. Recruiting peasants into the army created a new warrior class and made society more mobile.
- **What they held:** a territory called a nayankara. One account of the Kakatiya empire says it was divided into 77 nayankaras.
- **What they owed:** troops. Citing the *Nitisara*, a Telangana history account says villages were assigned in place of a salary and to maintain armed forces; the number of elephants, horses and foot soldiers each nayaka had to keep was fixed by the size of his holding.
- **When it grew:** Rudramadevi relied more on appointed officers than on hereditary chiefs (Topic 2). The same Telangana account says the nayankara system began under her and was extended by Prataparudra, who also reorganised the Kakatiya army soon after he came to the throne.
- **A dated record:** a record of 1311-12, in Prataparudra's reign, speaks of the nayankara administration of a chief.
- **Control:** a study guide says the king limited the nayakas' power by giving them smaller villages and moving them often.
- **Later history (one line):** the Musunuri Nayaks had served as army chiefs of the Kakatiya kingdom; after 1323 they united the Telugu chiefs and ruled for about half a century.

2.4 Territorial units and the village

- **Units:** the village was the smallest unit. Several villages formed a sthala, and several sthalas formed a nadu. Examples: the sthala of Tekumbedla (Tekmal) in a record of 1308, and the sthala of Manuru, with 12 villages, in a record of 1315. Sabbi-nadu, centred on Vemulavada, is described as a region of 1,000 villages (the "Sabbi-1000"). Sima appears as a late term, and kampana was sometimes used for a unit like the vishaya.
- **Note:** the Vijayanagara books in Topic 151 put the units in the order rajya, nadu, sthala, village, with the nadu above the sthala. The same order holds here: sthala below, nadu above.

- **The ayagars:** hereditary village servants, conventionally twelve; lists vary. The ten roles named in one account are the reddi (headman, who settled disputes and dealt with the king's officials), the karanam (accountant, who kept the registers and the land records), the talari (night watchman), the neerati (who shared out the water of the village tank), the kammari (blacksmith), the vadrangi (carpenter), the kummari (potter), the purohita (priest), the chakali (washerman) and the mangali (barber).
- **Payment:** tax-free land (manyam), held in return for hereditary service.

2.5 Why tanks: the land and the rain

- The Telangana Government's Mission Kakatiya page says that the topography and rainfall pattern of Telangana made tank irrigation the ideal kind of irrigation: a tank stores and regulates rain water for the fields. Tank building there is older than the Satavahanas.
- The Kakatiyas introduced reservoirs in the uplands, called tanks, many of which are still in use. Warrior families under the Kakatiyas built around 5,000 of them, among them the large tanks at Pakhal (Pakala) and Ramappa.
- Tanks were also called *samudrams*, and the Government page says the Kakatiya tanks "resemble seas".
- Many tanks are linked in chains: the Government page speaks of "chains of tank networks", and Mission Kakatiya identified the chain of tanks in each mandal in its first phase.

2.6 The major Kakatiya tanks

Tank	Builder and date, as the sources give them	Where and other points
Pakhal lake	Built in Ganapatideva's reign. The Telangana Tourism pages say Ganapatideva built it in 1213; a Telangana history account names Jagadala Mummadi as the builder and cites an inscription of 1243	About 50 km east of Warangal, in Warangal district, inside the Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary
Ramappa lake (Ramappa Cheruvu)	The Telangana Tourism pages date it to the 13th century, in Ganapatideva's time; another account says the general Recherla Rudra excavated it after Ganapatideva granted him the village of Palampet	Beside the Ramappa (Rudreswara) temple at Palampet, Venkatapur mandal, Mulugu district
Laknavaram lake	Built by the Kakatiya rulers in the 13th century	Govindaraopet mandal, Mulugu district
Ghanapuram tank	Named among the Kakatiya tanks by the Telangana Government; no builder or date is given there	Ghanpur is also the site of the Kota Gullu temples built by Ganapatideva

Tank	Builder and date, as the sources give them	Where and other points
Bayyaram tank	Built by Mailama (also written Mailamba), a sister of Ganapatideva, and named Dharmakirti-Maila-Samudra after her title	Its inscription is also a key source for the family tree of the Kakatiyas

2.7 Tanks, temples and inscriptions

- **Tank building as merit:** building a reservoir is described as an act of religious merit (dharma). The ideal of the seven meritorious deeds (saptasantana) counts the digging of a tank among them, along with the building of a temple. Kings, royal women, generals and nobles built tanks and recorded them in inscriptions, as at Bayyaram.
- **Ramappa:** UNESCO says the construction of the sandstone temple began in 1213 and is believed to have gone on for about 40 years. An inscription there records that Recherla Rudra commissioned it in 1213, in Ganapatideva's reign. UNESCO's page describes the temple at the foot of a forested area, amid fields, near the Kakatiya-built reservoir Ramappa Cheruvu, and names the temple's builders as "Rudradeva and Recharla Rudra". It was inscribed on the World Heritage List on 25 July 2021.
- **Temples as records:** grants to temples were cut in stone, so temple inscriptions are a main record of grants, and they also name taxes and local units.
- **Motupalli (one line):** Ganapatideva's pillar inscription of 1244-45 at this port assured safety to foreign sea traders (Topic 752 covers trade).
- **Decline:** the Delhi Sultanate's campaigns ended Kakatiya rule in 1323, when Ulugh Khan took Warangal (Topics 2 and 241).
- **Mission Kakatiya (one line):** the Telangana programme to restore minor irrigation tanks by desilting them began on 12 March 2015.

Primary-source clarification (1 November 2026): Epigraphia Telanganica II, printed pages 317–319 (PDF pages 318–320), describes the undated Bayyaram inscription and names the tank Dharmakirti-Maila-Samudra. Volume III, printed page 38, records ayagamdru in Rudramadevi's reign; printed page 188 gives a 1311 nayankara record. The official July 2014 figure of around 46,531 covers an enumeration of minor-irrigation sources of several types, not only medieval tanks and not completed restoration works in 2026.

3. Extra section: a chronology of dated records

Year	Record or event
1213	Construction of the Ramappa temple begins; an inscription records that Recherla Rudra commissioned it
1213 or 1243	Pakhal lake built (the Telangana Tourism pages give 1213; another account cites an inscription of 1243)

Year	Record or event
1234-35	An inscription at Ghanpur, in Ganapatideva's reign, records land given to the god Ganapateshwara
1244-45	Ganapatideva's Motupalli pillar inscription
1308	Record naming the sthala of Tekumbedla (Tekmal)
1315	Record naming the sthala of Manuru, with 12 villages
1323	Warangal falls to Ulugh Khan; Kakatiya rule ends
July 2014	A Telangana census of tanks counts about 46,531 tanks
12 March 2015	Mission Kakatiya begins
25 July 2021	The Rudreswara (Ramappa) temple is inscribed on the World Heritage List

4. Three common exam traps

1. **"Nayankara and ayagars began under Vijayanagara."** Both were already at work in the Kakatiya kingdom; they were not new under Vijayanagara (Topic 151). In both kingdoms the nayaka was a military chief with a territory, while the ayagars were village servants, not officers sent from the capital.
2. **Two dates for Pakhal.** The Telangana Tourism pages date Pakhal lake to 1213, and another account cites an inscription of 1243. Do not mix either date with 1213 as the year the Ramappa temple was begun.
3. **Old tanks and new counts.** Around 5,000 is a scholar's figure for the reservoirs built by warrior families under the Kakatiyas. About 46,531 is the July 2014 count of all tanks in Telangana, of every age. Mission Kakatiya (2015) is a modern restoration programme of the Telangana Government, not a Kakatiya scheme.

7. Sources

7.1 Sources

No.	Source	Used for
S1	UNESCO World Heritage Centre, “Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple, Telangana”. https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1570	Construction of the sandstone temple begun in 1213 and believed to have continued some 40 years; built “under rulers Rudradeva and Recharla Rudra”; Palampet, about 200 km north-east of Hyderabad; setting at the foothills of a forested area amid agricultural fields; Ramappa Cheruvu as a Kakatiya-built reservoir and the Kakatiya-built irrigation systems
S2	Wikipedia, “Ramappa Temple” (citing UNESCO, “Two new Indian sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List”, 27 July 2021; *The Hindu*, 26 October 2016). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramappa_Temple	Inscription recording that Recherla Rudra commissioned the temple in 1213 in Ganapatideva’s reign; Rudra excavated Ramappa Lake after Ganapati granted him Palampet; lake of the 13th century; Venkatapur mandal, Mulugu district; World Heritage inscription on 25 July 2021
S3	Wikipedia, “Kakatiya dynasty” (citing Richard M. Eaton, *A Social History of the Deccan*, 2005, pp. 14-15; P.V. Parabrahma Sastry, *The Kakatiyas of Warangal*, 1978, pp. 3-6, 30, 48-49; B. Satyanarayana Singh, 1999, pp. 33, 65; Cynthia Talbot, *Precolonial India in Practice*, 2001, pp. 174, 177-182; Desai 1962). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kakatiya_dynasty	Nayaka title open to anyone regardless of birth; peasants recruited into the army; Musunuri Nayaks as Kakatiya army chiefs; Sabbi-1000 and Vemulavada; upland reservoirs called tanks, many still in use; around 5,000 reservoirs by warrior families, including Pakala and Ramappa; Ganapati and Pakhal Lake; the Bayyaram tank inscription and Mailama’s Dharmakirti-Maila-Samudra; about 1,000 stone and 12 copper-plate inscriptions, most on religious matters
S4	Wikipedia, “Pakhal Lake”. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakhal_Lake	Built in 1213 under Ganapatideva by Jagadala Mummadi; Warangal district, about 50 km east of Warangal; Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary
S5	Wikipedia, “Laknavaram Lake”. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laknavaram_Lake	Built by the Kakatiyas in the 13th century; Govindaraopet mandal, Mulugu district

No.	Source	Used for
S6	Wikipedia, "Kota Gullu" (citing the Jayashankar Bhupalpally district website and M. Rama Rao, *The Temples of Ghanapur*). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kota_Gullu	Kota Gullu temples at Ghanpur built by Ganapatideva; inscription of 1234-35 on the installation of Ganapateshwara and a gift of land
S7	Wikipedia, "Nayaka dynasties" (citing P. Raghunadha Rao, *Ancient and Medieval History of Andhra Pradesh*, 1993; Talbot 2001). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nayaka_dynasties	The nayankara administrative system of the Kakatiyas; the empire divided into 77 nayankaras; the nayaka as military chief and provincial governor
S8	Wikipedia, "Prataparudra" (citing Sastry 1978, pp. 129-130). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prataparudra	Prataparudra reorganised the Kakatiya military soon after his accession
S9	Wikipedia, "Mission Kakatiya" (citing the official Mission Kakatiya site). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mission_Kakatiya	Start date 12 March 2015; restoration of minor irrigation tanks by desilting; 46,531 tanks
S10	Government of Telangana, Irrigation and CAD Department, Mission Kakatiya, "About the Mission". https://missionkakatiya.cgg.gov.in/homemission	Tank construction older than the Satavahanas; Ramappa, Pakhala, Laknavaram, Ghanapuram and Bayyaram as tanks built by the Kakatiyas that "resemble seas"; topography and rainfall making tank irrigation ideal; census of July 2014 counting about 46,531 tanks; "chains of tank networks" and the chain of tanks in each mandal in the first phase; desilting to restore storage
S11	P.V. Parabrahma Sastry, *The Kakatiyas and their Times* (doctoral thesis, Karnatak University, 1975), Internet Archive. https://archive.org/details/the-kakatiyas-and-their-times	The Bayyaram tank inscription of Mailamba, sister of Ganapatideva, recording the tank Dharmakirti-Maila-Samudra named after her "guna-nama or title" Dharmakirti, and its use as a genealogical source; the many surviving tanks of the period as proof of irrigation work by rulers and subordinates

No.	Source	Used for
S12	Telangana360, "Kakatiya administration" (citing *Epigraphia Telanganica*, Vols. 1-4; Sastry 1978; M. Somasekhara Sarma 1945; Talbot 2001). https://www.telangana360.com/2026/06/kaktiya-administration.html	The king limited by dharma and custom; the ministers; the Bahattara Niyogadhipati and the 72 niyogas; Gajasahini, Tantrapala and Lenkas; the nayankara system begun by Rudramadevi and extended by Prataparudra; villages assigned in place of salary (the *Nitisara*); troops fixed by the holding; nadu, sthala, sima and kampana; Tekumbedla (1308) and Manuru (1315); ari, pullari and sunkams
S13	Telangana360, "Kakatiya dynasty: ayagar system" (citing Sastry, *The Kakatiyas of Warangal*; Talbot, *Precolonial India in Practice*). https://www.telangana360.com/2025/12/kakatiya-dynasty-ayagar-system.html	Twelve ayagars; the duties of the reddi, karanam, talari, neerati, kammari, vadrangi, kummari, purohita, chakali and mangali; tax-free manyam land for hereditary service
S14	Telangana360, "Kakatiya infrastructure and public works" (citing Sastry 1978; Talbot 2001; *Epigraphia Telanganica*). https://www.telangana360.com/2026/06/kakatiya-infrastructure-public-works.html	Pakhal built by Jagadala Mummadi, inscription of 1243; Bayyaram tank of Mailama, sister of Ganapatideva; reservoir building as an act of religious merit (dharma)
S15	Vajiram and Ravi, "Kakatiya Dynasty". https://vajiramandravi.com/upsc-exam/kakatiya-dynasty/	Nayakas chosen from military chiefs; the king limiting their power by smaller villages and frequent transfers; villages forming a sthala and sthalas forming a nadu; revenue mainly from taxes on agricultural produce; tanks called samudrams
S16	UNESCO World Heritage Centre, news item of 25 July 2021, "Cultural sites in China, India, Iran and Spain inscribed". https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2317/ ; decision 44 COM 8B.12, https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/7931	Inscription of the Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple on the World Heritage List on 25 July 2021; Palampet, about 200 km north-east of Hyderabad; construction from 1213; near a Kakatiya-built reservoir

No.	Source	Used for
S17	ICOMOS evaluation of the nomination of the Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple, 2020, pp. 40-46. https://whc.unesco.org/document/189214	Recharla Rudra began the temple in 1213, recorded in a 204-line inscription on a basalt pillar; Rudra as a supporter of Ganapatideva; the temple close to the shores of Ramappa Cheruvu; the saptasantana ideal, in which building a temple and digging a tank are among the seven deeds that bring merit
S18	Government of Telangana, Telangana Tourism, "Pakhal Lake". https://telanganatourism.gov.in/partials/destinations/nature-discovery/warangal/pakhal-lake.html	Pakhal lake built in 1213 by the Kakatiya king Ganapatideva; about 50 km east of Warangal city
S19	Government of Telangana, Telangana Tourism, "Mulugu" district page. https://telanganatourism.gov.in/partials/about/33-districts-of-telangana/mulugu.html	Ramappa lake built in the 13th century in Ganapatideva's time; Laknavaram lake built by the Kakatiya rulers in the 13th century, in Govindaraopet mandal
S20	Government of Telangana, Telangana Tourism, "Laknavaram". https://telanganatourism.gov.in/partials/destinations/nature-discovery/warangal/laknavaram.html	Laknavaram lake built by the rulers of the Kakatiya dynasty in the 13th century; Govindaraopet mandal
S21	*Epigraphia Telanganica*, Vol. II, pp. 8, 29-32. Dr MCR HRD Institute, Government of Telangana. https://www.mcrhrdi.gov.in/images/epigraphia/Vol-II.pdf	Sabbi-nadu as the region of "Sabbi-one thousand"; the Bayyaram tank inscription of Ganapatideva's sister
S22	*Epigraphia Telanganica*, Vol. III, *Decline of Kakatiyas*, pp. 19, 28, 38. Dr MCR HRD Institute, Government of Telangana. https://www.mcrhrdi.gov.in/images/epigraphia/Vol-III.pdf	A karanam and the ayagars (ayagamdru) named in records of the time of Rudramadevi and Prataparudra; a sthala as an administered unit
S23	Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy for the year ending 31 March 1935, Kakatiyas, para. 29 (text as reproduced by The Indian Analyst). https://www.whatisindia.com/inscriptions/annualreports/31stmarch1935/kakatiyas.html	A record of Saka 1233 (1311-12), in Prataparudra's reign, that mentions the nayankara administration of a chief; Prataparudra as the last king of the family, ruling from his capital (nelevidu) at Orugallu

No.	Source	Used for
S24	*Deccan Chronicle*, "Mission Kakatiya to be launched today", 12 March 2015. https://www.deccanchronicle.com/amp/150312/nation-current-affairs/article/mission-kakatiya-be-launched-today	Mission Kakatiya launched by the Chief Minister on 12 March 2015

Topic 253 | Parliamentary and presidential systems compared

1. Concept in one line

In a parliamentary system the head of State is nominal and the real executive, the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers, stays in office only while it keeps the confidence of the popular House, while in a presidential system one President is both head of State and head of government, is elected for a fixed term and stands apart from the legislature. The examination asks for the features that tell the two apart, the Articles that make India's system parliamentary and Dr B.R. Ambedkar's reason for choosing it.

2. Revision notes

2.1 What earlier topics have covered

- **Topic 42:** the parliamentary form of government (Articles 74 and 75) is a salient feature of the Constitution; Dr Ambedkar called the President "the head of the State but not of the Executive".
- **Topics 183 and 223:** the President is elected indirectly, can be removed only by impeachment (Article 61), and must act on the advice of the Council of Ministers (Article 74(1)).
- **Topics 54 and 82:** the Lok Sabha (House of the People) continues for five years unless dissolved sooner, and the President can dissolve it (Article 85(2)(b)); the Rajya Sabha (Council of States) is not subject to dissolution and cannot make or unmake the Government.

2.2 The two systems defined

- **Parliamentary system (NCERT):** "In a parliamentary system, the prime minister is the head of government." "Most parliamentary systems have a president or a monarch who is the nominal Head of state." NCERT's examples: Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and Portugal; India is the chapter's own case.
- **Parliamentary system (Britannica):** the party, or a coalition of parties, with the greatest representation in parliament forms the government. "Executive functions are exercised by members of the parliament appointed by the prime minister to the cabinet." Prime ministers may be removed whenever they lose the confidence of a majority of the ruling party or of parliament. The system originated in Britain and was adopted in several of its former colonies.
- **Presidential system (NCERT):** "In a presidential system, the president is the Head of state as well as head of government." The office is very powerful, in theory and in practice. NCERT's examples: "the United States, Brazil and most nations in Latin America".

- NCERT also names a third type, the **semi-presidential system**, with both a President and a Prime Minister, in which the President may have significant day-to-day powers: France, Russia and Sri Lanka. A country that has a President is therefore not presidential for that reason alone.
- **The model of the presidential system, the US Constitution:** "All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States" (Article I, Section 1). "The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America", who "shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years" (Article II, Section 1). "The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court" and in such lower courts as Congress sets up (Article III, Section 1).
- **Separation of powers (Britannica):** the "division of the legislative, executive, and judicial functions of government among separate and independent bodies". Montesquieu gave its first modern formulation (*De l'esprit des lois*, 1748), and his work "profoundly influenced the framing of the U.S. Constitution".

2.3 The features compared

Feature	Parliamentary system (UK, India)	Presidential system (USA, Brazil)
Head of State and head of government	Two different persons: a nominal head of State (a President or a monarch) and a Prime Minister who heads the government (NCERT)	One person: the President is both (NCERT)
Where the executive comes from	From the legislature: the ministers are members of parliament (Britannica). In India a Minister who is not a member of either House for six consecutive months ceases to be a Minister (Article 75(5))	Separate from the legislature: "no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office" (Article I, Section 6)
To whom the executive answers	The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the House of the People (Article 75(3))	The President does not depend on a majority in Congress; in Ambedkar's words, "the Congress of the United States cannot dismiss the Executive"

Feature	Parliamentary system (UK, India)	Presidential system (USA, Brazil)
Removal of the executive	Loss of confidence: a Ministry that loses the confidence of the Lok Sabha is obliged to resign (NCERT). The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible (Article 75(3)), so the ministers stand or fall together. The supplied NCERT wording stresses collective responsibility. A no-confidence motion is against the Council as a whole; ordinary criticism or censure of one minister is not automatically a successful collective no-confidence vote	In the US model, removal for the specified constitutional offences is by impeachment and conviction: the House of Representatives has "the sole Power of Impeachment" (Article I, Section 2), the Senate has "the sole Power to try all Impeachments" (Article I, Section 3), conviction needs two-thirds of the members present, and the grounds are "Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors" (Article II, Section 4)
Term and dissolution	The government has no fixed term. The Lok Sabha sits for five years unless dissolved sooner; the President can dissolve it (Article 85(2)(b)), and a Prime Minister may ask for dissolution (NCERT)	Fixed terms: four years for the President (Article II); the House of Representatives is chosen "every second Year" (Article I, Section 2). Ambedkar noted that in the USA the electorate's judgment of the executive "takes place once in two years"; these two years are the interval between elections to the House, not the President's term
Executive and legislature	Fused: the ministers are members of the legislature (Britannica); R. Kent Weaver (1985, cited by Wikipedia) speaks of a "fusion of powers system"	Separated: Articles I, II and III vest the three powers in Congress, the President and the courts

- **Removal: two different tools.** A no-confidence motion removes a government for losing its majority. Impeachment removes a President for a wrong done. India has both, used on different persons: the Council of Ministers answers to the Lok Sabha, while the President can be removed only by impeachment, for violation of the Constitution. The ground is in Article 56(1)(b); the procedure is in Article 61.

2.4 Merits and demerits, with who says what

System	Merits	Demerits
Parliamentary	**Responsible government:** Ambedkar: the British system "gives you more responsibility"; members of Parliament test the executive every day "through Questions, Resolutions, No-confidence motions". **Harmony of legislature and executive:** parliamentary systems "allow rapid changes in legislation and policy" (R. Kent Weaver, 1985, cited by Wikipedia). **Responsiveness:** the Swaran Singh Committee (1976) said the parliamentary system "ensures greater responsiveness to the voice of the people" (quoted in the NCRWC report, 2002)	**Less stability:** Ambedkar: it gives "less stability", because a parliamentary government "must resign the moment it loses the confidence of a majority of the members". **Cabinet dominance:** the phrase "elective dictatorship", popularised by Lord Hailsham (BBC lecture, 1976), is used for a government that dominates Parliament, usually through a large majority (Wikipedia, citing *The Listener*, 21 October 1976)
Presidential	**Stability:** Ambedkar: "The American and the Swiss systems give more stability but less responsibility." **Separation of powers:** dividing the three functions among separate bodies limits "arbitrary excesses by government" (Britannica)	**Deadlock:** gridlock between the President and the legislature is "a common occurrence" (*Government in America*, 2016, cited by Wikipedia); Juan Linz (1990) warned of "the rigidity of the president's fixed term in office". **Authoritarian risk:** NCERT: "There is always the danger of personality cult in presidential executive." Fred W. Riggs (1997), as Wikipedia sums him up, argued that presidential systems have slid into authoritarian rule in nearly every country that tried them

2.5 Why India chose the parliamentary system

- **Ambedkar, 4 November 1948 (Constituent Assembly Debates):** "Unfortunately it has not been possible so far to devise a system which can ensure both in equal degree." "The American and the Swiss systems give more stability but less responsibility." "The British system on the other hand gives you more responsibility but less stability." His conclusion: "The Draft Constitution in recommending the Parliamentary system of Executive has preferred more responsibility to more stability."
- **The colonial experience (NCERT):** "India already had some experience of running the parliamentary system under the Acts of 1919 and 1935." That experience showed that "the executive can be effectively controlled by the representatives of the people".

- **Accountability (NCERT):** the makers wanted that "the government would be sensitive to public expectations and would be responsible and accountable".
- **Fear of one-person rule (NCERT):** the presidential form puts much emphasis on the President, with "the danger of personality cult".
- Ambedkar on the President's place: "Under the Draft Constitution the President occupies the same position as the King under the English Constitution."

2.6 The special features of the Indian system

- **A nominal President:** "There shall be a President of India" (Article 52). "The executive power of the Union shall be vested in the President and shall be exercised by him either directly or through officers subordinate to him in accordance with this Constitution" (Article 53(1)). Yet NCERT calls the President "a formal power holder and a ceremonial head of the nation".
- **Article 74(1) as now worded:** "There shall be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice". Proviso: "Provided that the President may require the Council of Ministers to reconsider such advice, either generally or otherwise, and the President shall act in accordance with the advice tendered after such reconsideration."
- **How the wording grew:** the text of 1950 said only that the Council of Ministers would "aid and advise the President in the exercise of his functions". The Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976 (the 42nd Amendment) added the words that bind him to "act in accordance with such advice". The Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978 (the 44th Amendment) added the proviso, in force from 20 June 1979, so he can send advice back once (Topic 223).
- **Article 74(2):** whether any advice, and if so what advice, was tendered "shall not be inquired into in any court".
- **The Prime Minister:** appointed by the President; the other Ministers are appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister (Article 75(1)); Ministers hold office during the pleasure of the President (Article 75(2)). Nehru called the Prime Minister "the linchpin of Government" (NCERT). His powers and the Council of Ministers are taught in Topic 254.
- **Responsibility to one House:** Article 75(3) makes the Council of Ministers collectively responsible to the House of the People. A Minister may come from either House (Article 75(5) speaks of "either House"), but the Rajya Sabha cannot vote a government out (Topic 82).
- **An elected, removable head of State:** unlike a monarch, the President is elected indirectly (Topic 183). Article 56(1)(b) gives the ground: he may, "for violation of the Constitution, be removed from office by impeachment in the manner provided in article 61". Article 61 gives the procedure: the charge may be preferred by either House, and each House must act by not less than two-thirds of its total membership.

2.7 The debate on a presidential system for India

- The Swaran Singh Committee (1976) found "it is unnecessary to abandon it in favour of the Presidential or any other system", and the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (NCRWC), set up on 22 February 2000 under Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah, was asked to work "within the framework of parliamentary democracy" (NCRWC report, 2002).

Source-scope clarification (1 November 2026): Constitutional provisions here were checked against the official Indian text as on 1 May 2024 and the US National Archives transcription and amendments. The US Twenty-fifth Amendment separately addresses succession and incapacity; impeachment is not every possible end or interruption of tenure. Historical textbook country examples are attributed classifications, not a freshly certified universal current taxonomy. The six-month rule in Article 75(5) concerns a minister's non-membership of either House, not reconstitution after dissolution.

3. Extra section: Ambedkar's argument, step by step

Dr Ambedkar's speech of 4 November 1948, moving the Draft Constitution, set out the choice as a test with two conditions.

Step	What Ambedkar said	What it means
1. The two conditions	"A democratic executive must satisfy two conditions": it must be stable, and it must be responsible	Stability and responsibility are the two tests of any executive
2. The trade-off	"Unfortunately it has not been possible so far to devise a system which can ensure both in equal degree."	Every system gives more of one and less of the other
3. The two models	"The American and the Swiss systems give more stability but less responsibility." "The British system on the other hand gives you more responsibility but less stability."	The USA and Switzerland stand on one side, Britain on the other
4. The reason	"Being a non-Parliamentary Executive, the Congress of the United States cannot dismiss the Executive." A parliamentary government "must resign the moment it loses the confidence of a majority of the members"	Security of tenure gives stability; dependence on a majority gives responsibility

Step	What Ambedkar said	What it means
5. How responsibility is judged in the USA	Periodically: "It takes place once in two years." "It is done by the Electorate."	Congress cannot dismiss the President merely through a vote of no confidence; legislative oversight and constitutional checks still operate between elections. The two years are the interval between elections to the House of Representatives; the President's term is four years
6. How it is judged in England	Both daily and periodically: the daily assessment by members of Parliament "through Questions, Resolutions, No-confidence motions"; the periodic one "by the Electorate at the time of the election which may take place every five years or earlier"	The executive is answerable every sitting day, not only at elections
7. The choice	"The Draft Constitution in recommending the Parliamentary system of Executive has preferred more responsibility to more stability."	India accepted some instability for daily accountability

- The same speech placed the President: "He is the head of the State but not of the Executive."
- In the USA, Congress still has impeachment: the House of Representatives impeaches (Article I, Section 2) and the Senate tries (Article I, Section 3). The grounds are set in Article II, Section 4. They are offences such as treason and bribery, not the loss of a majority, so impeachment does not contradict step 4.

4. Three common exam traps

1. **Head of State against head of government.** In India the President is head of State and the Prime Minister heads the government; in the USA the President is both. Distinguish formal from real executive: Article 53 vests Union executive power in the President, while the Council headed by the Prime Minister provides real political executive leadership under Articles 74–75. Ambedkar's historical phrase concerns that political distinction, not a denial of Article 53.
2. **No-confidence motion against impeachment.** They are not two names for one thing. A no-confidence motion removes a government that has lost its majority in the Lok Sabha, and it needs no wrongdoing. Impeachment removes a President, needs a charge, and in India the only ground is violation of the Constitution. The US President is not removable by a legislative no-confidence vote; impeachment and conviction are distinct, and resignation, death and incapacity arrangements must also be distinguished; Ambedkar's point was that Congress cannot dismiss it for want of a majority.

3. **“A country with a President is a presidential system.”** India, Italy and Portugal have Presidents, yet NCERT lists them under the parliamentary system, where the President is nominal. France, Russia and Sri Lanka, which have both a President and a Prime Minister, are semi-presidential. The test is who heads the government and to whom he answers, not the title of the head of State.

7. Sources

7.1 Sources

No.	Source	Used for
S1	NCERT, *Indian Constitution at Work* (Class XI), Chapter 4, “Executive”, as reproduced on the SATHEE portal of IIT Kanpur (the NCERT file is keps204.pdf). https://sathee.iitk.ac.in/ncert-books/class-11/political-science/indian-constitution-at-work/chapter-04-executive	Definitions of the parliamentary and presidential systems; “nominal Head of state”; the examples of each system (USA, Brazil, most of Latin America; Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, Portugal); the semi-presidential system (France, Russia, Sri Lanka); experience under the Acts of 1919 and 1935; “effectively controlled by the representatives of the people”; “sensitive to public expectations”; “danger of personality cult”; advice made binding and reconsideration once (without naming the amendments); collective responsibility to the Lok Sabha and the effect of a no-confidence vote; the Prime Minister’s advice on dissolution; “a formal power holder and a ceremonial head of the nation”; Nehru’s “the linchpin of Government”

No.	Source	Used for
S2	Lok Sabha Secretariat, Digital Library (eParlib), *Constituent Assembly Debates*, official record of 4 November 1948. https://eparlib.sansad.in/bitstream/123456789/762996/1/cad_04-11-1948.pdf	Ambedkar's exact words: the two conditions; "Unfortunately it has not been possible so far to devise a system which can ensure both in equal degree"; "The American and the Swiss systems give more stability but less responsibility"; "The British system on the other hand gives you more responsibility but less stability"; "Being a non-Parliamentary Executive, the Congress of the United States cannot dismiss the Executive"; "must resign the moment it loses the confidence of a majority of the members"; "It takes place once in two years"; "It is done by the Electorate"; "through Questions, Resolutions, No-confidence motions"; "every five years or earlier"; "has preferred more responsibility to more stability"; the President and the King; "head of the State but not of the Executive"
S3	Centre for Law and Policy Research, Constitution of India website, *Constituent Assembly Debates*, 4 November 1948 (Volume VII), paragraphs 7.48.199 and 7.48.200. https://www.constitutionofindia.net/debates/04-nov-1948/	A second reading of the same passages; "A democratic executive must satisfy two conditions"
S4	Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department, *The Constitution of India* [As on 1st May, 2024]. https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s380537a945c7aaa788ccfcdf1b99b5d8f/uploads/2024/07/20240716890312078.pdf	Article 52; Article 53(1)
S5	Centre for Law and Policy Research, Constitution of India website, "Article 74". https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-74-council-of-ministers-to-aid-and-advise-president/	Present text of Article 74(1), its proviso and 74(2); the 1950 text of clause (1), without "act in accordance with such advice" and without the proviso

No.	Source	Used for
S6	Same site, "Article 75". https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-75-other-provisions-as-to-ministers/	Article 75(1), (2), (3) and (5)
S7	Same site, "Article 61". https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-61-procedure-for-impeachment-of-the-president/	Article 61(1), (2) and (4): "violation of the Constitution"; charge preferred by either House; two-thirds of the total membership
S8	US National Archives, "The Constitution of the United States: A Transcription". https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript	Article I, Sections 1, 2, 3 and 6; Article II, Sections 1, 2 and 4; Article III, Section 1: the vesting of the three powers; the four-year term; the House chosen "every second Year"; the House's sole power of impeachment; the Senate's sole power to try impeachments, two-thirds of the members present; the grounds of removal; the bar on federal office-holders sitting in Congress
S9	Encyclopaedia Britannica, "parliamentary system". https://www.britannica.com/topic/parliamentary-system	Definition; executive functions exercised by members of parliament appointed to the cabinet; removal on loss of confidence; origin in Britain and adoption by former colonies
S10	Encyclopaedia Britannica, "separation of powers". https://www.britannica.com/topic/separation-of-powers	Definition; limiting "arbitrary excesses by government"; Montesquieu, *De l'esprit des lois* (1748), and its influence on the US Constitution
S11	Wikipedia, "Presidential system" (citing Juan Linz, "The Perils of Presidentialism", 1990; Fred W. Riggs, "Presidentialism versus Parliamentarism", 1997; *Government in America*, 2016 edition). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidential_system	Gridlock "a common occurrence"; "the rigidity of the president's fixed term in office" (Linz); Riggs's view on the slide into authoritarianism
S12	Wikipedia, "Parliamentary system" (citing R. Kent Weaver, "Are Parliamentary Systems Better?", *The Brookings Review*, 1985). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliamentary_system	"Fusion of powers"; parliamentary systems "allow rapid changes in legislation and policy"

No.	Source	Used for
S13	Wikipedia, "Forty-second Amendment of the Constitution of India". https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forty-second_Amendment_of_the_Constitution_of_India	Article 74 amended so that the President acts in accordance with the advice of the Council of Ministers; the year of the Act, 1976
S14	Wikipedia, "Elective dictatorship" (citing Lord Hailsham, "Elective dictatorship", *The Listener*, 21 October 1976). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elective_dictatorship	Lord Hailsham's phrase, from a BBC Richard Dimbleby Lecture of 1976; a government that dominates Parliament, usually through a large majority
S15	Ministry of Law and Justice, Department of Legal Affairs, *Report of the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution* (2002), Chapter 1. https://legalaffairs.gov.in/sites/default/files/chapter1.pdf	Resolution of 22 February 2000; Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah as Chairperson; "within the framework of parliamentary democracy" (para 1.3.1); the Swaran Singh Committee: "it is unnecessary to abandon it in favour of the Presidential or any other system" and "ensures greater responsiveness to the voice of the people" (para 1.4.12)
S16	Earlier topics of this programme, read for consistency: Topic 42 (salient features), Topic 54 (Lok Sabha), Topic 82 (Rajya Sabha), Topic 183 (election and impeachment of the President) and Topic 223 (powers of the President), with their official sources, among them the official text of Part V hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs, https://www.mea.gov.in/Images/pdf1/Part5.pdf	Topic 42: parliamentary form a salient feature; "the head of the State but not of the Executive". Topic 54: five-year term of the Lok Sabha and Article 85(2)(b). Topic 82: the Rajya Sabha not subject to dissolution and unable to make or unmake the Government. Topic 183: indirect election. Topic 223: the proviso to Article 74(1) inserted by the Forty-fourth Amendment Act, 1978, in force from 20 June 1979
S17	Centre for Law and Policy Research, Constitution of India website, "Article 85". https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-85-sessions-of-parliament-prorogation-and-dissolution/	Article 85(2): the President may from time to time "(a) prorogue the Houses or either House; (b) dissolve the House of the People" (as in Topic 54)

No.	Source	Used for
S18	NCERT, *Indian Constitution at Work* (Class XI), Chapter 4, "Executive", Reprint 2026-27, pp. 78 to 98, as reproduced at https://competishun.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/4.EXECUTIVE.pdf	A second reading of the NCERT text: the definitions and examples of the presidential, parliamentary and semi-presidential systems; "very powerful, both in theory and practice"; "a Ministry which loses confidence of the Lok Sabha is obliged to resign"; "a vote of no confidence even against a single minister leads to the resignation of the entire Council of Ministers"; the President's intervention "to grant a request for dissolution of Lok Sabha by a Prime Minister who could not prove majority"; "There is always the danger of personality cult in presidential executive"; the Acts of 1919 and 1935; "a formal power holder and a ceremonial head of the nation"; "the linchpin of Government"
S19	Wikipedia, "Article 74 of the Constitution of India" (citing *The Constitution of India*, Ministry of Law and Justice, as modified up to 1 December 2007, p. 35). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Article_74_of_the_Constitution_of_India	The 42nd Amendment made the President "act in accordance with such advice"; the 44th Amendment proviso on reconsideration, in effect from 20 June 1979
S20	Centre for Law and Policy Research, Constitution of India website, "Article 56". https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-56-term-of-office-of-president/	Article 56(1)(b): the President may, "for violation of the Constitution, be removed from office by impeachment in the manner provided in article 61"

Topic 254 | Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers

1. Concept in one line

The Council of Ministers, with the Prime Minister at its head, aids and advises the President, and Article 75 lays down how its members are appointed, how many there may be, how long they stay and to whom they answer. The examination asks which clause says what, and how the Cabinet and the Prime Minister fit into this scheme.

2. Revision notes

2.1 Where this topic sits

- **Recall Topic 253:** it compares the parliamentary and presidential systems. This topic shows how India's parliamentary executive is built in the text.
- **Recall Topics 183 and 223:** the President is elected indirectly and removed only by impeachment; he is a formal head who acts on the advice of the Council of Ministers (Shamsher Singh v. State of Punjab, 23 August 1974, seven judges).
- **Recall Topic 82:** a Minister may come from the Rajya Sabha as well as the Lok Sabha.
- **Article 74(1):** there shall be a Council of Ministers "with the Prime Minister at the head" to aid and advise the President, who shall act in accordance with that advice. Under the proviso added by the Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978, he may ask the Council to reconsider its advice once, and must then act on the advice given after reconsideration.
- **Article 74(2):** no court may inquire whether any advice, and if so what advice, was tendered by Ministers to the President.

2.2 Appointment and term of the Prime Minister

- **Article 75(1):** "The Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President." The other Ministers are appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.
- The text names no qualification and no test of majority. The Supreme Court explained the practice in S.P. Anand v. H.D. Deve Gowda (6 November 1996): the Prime Minister can hold office only if he enjoys the confidence of the majority of the elected representatives in the Lok Sabha.
- In the same case the Court said that, when a person is appointed Prime Minister, the President may ask him to seek a vote of confidence in the Lok Sabha within a few days of the appointment.
- **Recall Topic 4:** in S.R. Bommai v. Union of India (11 March 1994, nine judges) the Court said a Ministry's majority must be tested on the floor of the House.

- **Article 75(2):** "The Ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the President." Read with Article 74(1) and with the confidence that S.P. Anand speaks of, the term of a Ministry in practice lasts as long as it keeps the confidence of the Lok Sabha.

2.3 Article 75, clause by clause

Clause	What it provides
75(1)	The President appoints the Prime Minister; he appoints the other Ministers on the Prime Minister's advice
75(1A)	The total number of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15 per cent of the total number of members of the House of the People
75(1B)	A member of either House belonging to any political party who is disqualified under paragraph 2 of the Tenth Schedule is also disqualified to be appointed a Minister, till his term as a member would have expired or, if he contests an election earlier, till he is declared elected, whichever is earlier
75(2)	The Ministers hold office during the pleasure of the President
75(3)	The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the House of the People
75(4)	Before a Minister enters office, the President administers to him the oaths of office and of secrecy in the forms set out in the Third Schedule
75(5)	A Minister who for any period of six consecutive months is not a member of either House of Parliament ceases to be a Minister at the end of that period
75(6)	Salaries and allowances of Ministers are as Parliament determines by law; until then, as specified in the Second Schedule

- Clauses (1A) and (1B) came with the Constitution (Ninety-first Amendment) Act, 2003, which aimed to limit the size of the Council of Ministers and to keep those disqualified for defection out of office.
- **The ceiling in figures:** the Lok Sabha now has 543 members (Topic 54). 15 per cent of 543 is 81.45, so the Council can have at most 81 Ministers, the Prime Minister included. The ceiling counts the Lok Sabha only, even though Ministers may come from either House.
- The Tenth Schedule itself (the anti-defection law) is taught in Topic 353.

2.4 The non-member Minister and the non-member Prime Minister

- Article 75(5) allows a person who is not a Member of Parliament to be a Minister, but only for six consecutive months unless he becomes a member.
- **S.P. Anand v. H.D. Deve Gowda (1996):** the Court held that a person who is not a member of either House can be appointed Prime Minister. It said the Constitution "does not draw any distinction between the Prime Minister and any other Minister in this behalf", so the same six-month period applies.
- The Court refused to import the British convention that the Prime Minister must sit in a House, saying it is "neither in tune with our constitutional scheme" nor a recognised practice in India. It relied on the Har Sharan Verma cases, including one that upheld a non-member's appointment as a Union Minister under Article 75(5) read with Article 88.
- **Article 88:** every Minister has the right to speak in, and otherwise to take part in the proceedings of, either House, any joint sitting and any committee of Parliament of which he is named a member, "but shall not by virtue of this article be entitled to vote". A Minister votes only in the House of which he is a member.

2.5 Collective responsibility and the responsibility of each Minister

- **The Council as a whole (Article 75(3)):** the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the House of the People, not to the Rajya Sabha. The Court in S.P. Anand pointed to this clause: it keeps the Government answerable even when the Prime Minister is not a member.
- **Each Minister (Article 75(2)):** each Minister holds office during the pleasure of the President, and the President acts on advice (Article 74(1)). So a single Minister's tenure is settled on the Prime Minister's advice, while the life of the whole Council depends on the Lok Sabha.
- Collective responsibility in depth, with the cabinet committees, is taught in Topic 862.

2.6 The Cabinet and the Council of Ministers

- Articles 74 and 75 speak of the "Council of Ministers". The Constitution uses the word "Cabinet" in Article 352(3): the President shall not proclaim an Emergency unless "the decision of the Union Cabinet (that is to say, the Council consisting of the Prime Minister and other Ministers of Cabinet rank appointed under article 75)" has been communicated to him in writing.
- So the Cabinet is a smaller body inside the Council: the Prime Minister and the Ministers of Cabinet rank.

Category	Place in the Council	Number in the allocation of June 2024	Number in the PMO list as on 25 July 2026
Prime Minister	Head of the Council (Article 74(1)) and of the Cabinet (Article 352(3))	1	1

Category	Place in the Council	Number in the allocation of June 2024	Number in the PMO list as on 25 July 2026
Cabinet Ministers	Ministers of Cabinet rank; with the Prime Minister they form the Union Cabinet	30	29
Ministers of State (Independent Charge)	Listed as a separate category	5	5
Ministers of State	Listed as a separate category	36	34
Deputy Ministers	None is listed in either list	0	0
Total	Must stay within the ceiling of Article 75(1A)	72	69

2.7 How the Government's business is run

- **Article 77(1):** all executive action of the Government of India is expressed to be taken in the name of the President.
- **Article 77(3):** the President "shall make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government of India, and for the allocation among Ministers of the said business".
- The Cabinet Secretariat administers two sets of rules of business: the **Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961**, made by the President under Article 77(3), which distribute the Government's business among the ministries and departments, and the **Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961**, which keep business in the ministries and departments running smoothly.
- The Cabinet Secretariat "functions directly under the Prime Minister". It gives secretarial help to the Cabinet and its committees. The cabinet committees themselves are taught in Topic 862.

2.8 The Prime Minister's powers and functions

Role	Constitutional or legal basis	What it means
Head of the Council of Ministers	Article 74(1)	The Council aids and advises the President "with the Prime Minister at the head"
Chooses the Ministers	Article 75(1)	The other Ministers are appointed on his advice
Shares out the work	Notice of the President, June 2024	Portfolios are allocated by the President "as advised by the Prime Minister"

Role	Constitutional or legal basis	What it means
Link between the President and the Council	Article 78	He must (a) communicate to the President all decisions of the Council on administration and proposals for legislation, (b) furnish information on these that the President calls for, and (c) if the President so requires, put before the Council a matter decided by one Minister but not considered by the Council
Head of the coordinating machinery	Cabinet Secretariat	The Cabinet Secretariat functions directly under him
Chairperson of NITI Aayog	Cabinet resolution (Topic 35)	He holds the office ex officio and chairs its Governing Council
Chairperson of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)	Disaster Management Act, 2005, section 3 (Topic 246)	He holds the office ex officio

2.9 Dated PMO roster: 25 July 2026 (rechecked 1 November 2026)

- **Narendra Modi** is the Prime Minister (Prime Minister's Office website, as on 30 October 2026). He was sworn in for a third term on 9 June 2024.
- The PMO's list of portfolios, marked "as on 25.07.2026", has 69 members: the Prime Minister, 29 Cabinet Ministers, 5 Ministers of State (Independent Charge) and 34 Ministers of State. The allocation of portfolios of June 2024 had 72 (1 + 30 + 5 + 36). Both are within the ceiling of 81.

Verification note (1 November 2026): The official PMO roster explicitly dates its composition to 25 July 2026. Counted listed persons, not the duplicated serial number 27: 29 Cabinet ministers, 5 independent-charge Ministers of State and 34 other Ministers of State, plus the Prime Minister = 69. This is a dated snapshot, not a timeless constitutional count. Constitutional clauses were checked against the official text as on 1 May 2024; the original Supreme Court judgment of 6 November 1996 and Cabinet Secretariat functions were also retrieved. Article 88 does not itself confer a vote; a minister who is an MP retains voting rights as a member, including at an applicable joint sitting.

3. Extra section: from a Lok Sabha verdict to a working Council of Ministers

Step	What happens	Where the rule comes from
1	The President appoints the Prime Minister	Article 75(1)

Step	What happens	Where the rule comes from
2	The Prime Minister must have the confidence of the majority in the Lok Sabha; the President may ask him to seek a vote of confidence within a few days	S.P. Anand (1996); recall Bommai (1994) on the floor test
3	The President appoints the other Ministers on the Prime Minister's advice	Article 75(1)
4	The total, with the Prime Minister, stays within 15 per cent of the Lok Sabha's strength, and no member disqualified for defection is made a Minister	Article 75(1A) and 75(1B)
5	The President administers the oaths of office and of secrecy	Article 75(4), Third Schedule
6	The President, as advised by the Prime Minister, allocates the portfolios	Article 77(3); Allocation of Business Rules, 1961
7	A Minister, or the Prime Minister, who is not a Member of Parliament must become one within six consecutive months	Article 75(5); S.P. Anand (1996)
8	The Ministry runs: action in the President's name, decisions reported to him, responsibility to the Lok Sabha	Articles 77(1), 78 and 75(3)

What the steps show:

- Apart from step 1, the President's part is formal: he appoints the other Ministers on the Prime Minister's advice (Article 75(1)), swears in the Ministers (step 5) and allocates portfolios as advised by the Prime Minister (step 6); and he must act on the Council's advice (Article 74(1)). Step 1 is the exception: Article 75(1) mentions no one's advice for the Prime Minister's own appointment. What limits the choice is that the Prime Minister must have the confidence of the majority in the Lok Sabha (step 2).
- The two real tests are political and come from the Lok Sabha: the confidence of its majority (step 2) and collective responsibility to it (step 8).
- Two limits are numerical and fixed by the text: 15 per cent (step 4) and six consecutive months (step 7).

4. Three common exam traps

1. **“The President appoints all the Ministers at his own choice.”** In the words of Article 75(1), only the appointment of the Prime Minister mentions no one’s advice; every other Minister is appointed on the Prime Minister’s advice. The President must act on the Council’s advice (Article 74(1)); he can send it back for reconsideration only once.
2. **Mixing up the two Schedules.** The oaths of office and of secrecy are in the Third Schedule, and the President administers them (Article 75(4)). The Second Schedule holds the salaries and allowances only until Parliament fixes them by law (Article 75(6)).
3. **“The Prime Minister chairs every national disaster body.”** He is the ex officio Chairperson of the NDMA, but the National Executive Committee is headed by a Secretary to the Government of India (Topic 246). He is likewise the ex officio Chairperson of NITI Aayog (Topic 35).

7. Sources

7.1 Sources

No.	Source	Used for
S1	Indian Kanoon, “Article 75 in Constitution of India” (text of the Constitution with an editorial note). https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1324537/	Article 75(1) “The Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President” and the other Ministers on his advice; 75(1A) 15 per cent ceiling including the Prime Minister; 75(1B) bar on members disqualified under paragraph 2 of the Tenth Schedule, till the term would expire or till declared elected, whichever is earlier; 75(2) pleasure of the President; 75(3) collective responsibility to the House of the People; 75(4) oaths of office and secrecy administered by the President, Third Schedule; 75(5) six consecutive months; 75(6) salaries by law of Parliament, until then the Second Schedule; the Constitution (Ninety-first Amendment) Act, 2003 and its aims
S2	Centre for Law and Policy Research, Constitution of India website, “Article 88”. https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-88-rights-of-ministers-and-attorney-general-as-respects-houses/	Right of every Minister to speak in and take part in the proceedings of either House, joint sittings and committees, “but shall not by virtue of this article be entitled to vote”

No.	Source	Used for
S3	Same site, “Article 352”. https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-352-proclamation-of-emergency/	Article 352(3): “the decision of the Union Cabinet (that is to say, the Council consisting of the Prime Minister and other Ministers of Cabinet rank appointed under article 75)” communicated in writing
S4	Same site, “Article 77”. https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-77-conduct-of-business-of-the-government-of-india/	Article 77(1) action in the name of the President; 77(3) rules for the more convenient transaction of business and for its allocation among Ministers
S5	Supreme Court of India, S.P. Anand, Indore v. H.D. Deve Gowda and Others, judgment of 6 November 1996. https://api.sci.gov.in/jonew/judis/14816.pdf	A non-member may be appointed Prime Minister; no distinction between the Prime Minister and any other Minister for the six-month rule; British convention “neither in tune with our constitutional scheme”; Prime Minister holds office only while he enjoys the confidence of the majority of the elected representatives in the Lok Sabha; the President may ask him to seek a vote of confidence within a few days; collective responsibility keeps the Government accountable; the Har Sharan Verma cases, including a non-member Union Minister under Article 75(5) read with Article 88
S6	Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India, home page (opened 30 October 2026). https://cabsec.gov.in/	Administers the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 and (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961; functions of each set of rules; “functions directly under the Prime Minister”; secretarial assistance to the Cabinet and its committees
S7	Prime Minister’s Office, home page (opened 30 October 2026; page updated 29 October 2026). https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/	Shri Narendra Modi as Prime Minister; sworn in for a third term on 9 June 2024

No.	Source	Used for
S8	Prime Minister's Office, "Portfolios of the Union Council of Ministers" (posted 10 June 2024; list marked "As on 25.07.2026"). https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/portfolios-of-the-union-council-of-ministers-2/	Membership of the Council as on 25 July 2026: the Prime Minister, 29 Cabinet Ministers, 5 Ministers of State (Independent Charge), 34 Ministers of State, no Deputy Ministers
S9	President's Secretariat, notice of the allocation of portfolios among members of the Union Council of Ministers (June 2024). https://www.presidentofindia.gov.in/sites/default/files/2024-06/the_president_of_india_1.pdf	"The President of India, as advised by the Prime Minister, has directed the allocation of portfolios"; Prime Minister Narendra Modi, 30 Cabinet Ministers, 5 Ministers of State (Independent Charge), 36 Ministers of State
S10	Earlier topics of this programme, read for consistency: Topic 223 (President's powers), Topic 4 (Governor), Topic 54 (Lok Sabha), Topic 35 (NITI Aayog), Topic 246 (Disaster Management Act), Topics 183 and 82. Topic 223 rests on the official text of Part V of the Constitution, https://www.mea.gov.in/Images/pdf1/Part5.pdf, and on https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-74-council-of-ministers-to-aid-and-advise-president/ and https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-78-duties-of-prime-minister-as-respects-the-furnishing-of-information-to-the-president-etc/	Topic 223: Article 74(1) with the proviso of the Forty-fourth Amendment, 1978, and 74(2); Article 78(a) to (c); Shamsher Singh (23 August 1974, seven judges). Topic 4: S.R. Bommai (11 March 1994, nine judges), majority tested on the floor of the House. Topic 54: Lok Sabha strength of 543. Topic 35: Prime Minister as ex officio Chairperson of NITI Aayog and of its Governing Council. Topic 246: Prime Minister as ex officio Chairperson of the NDMA under section 3; the National Executive Committee headed by a Secretary
S11	Government of India, text of the Constitution (Ninety-first Amendment) Act, 2003 (National Portal of India). https://www.india.gov.in/sites/upload_files/npi/files/amend91.pdf	Section 2 amends Article 75: clause (1A), "shall not exceed fifteen per cent. of the total number of members of the House of the People", the Prime Minister included; clause (1B), a member "belonging to any political party" disqualified "under paragraph 2 of the Tenth Schedule" is also disqualified to be appointed a Minister until his term would expire or, if he contests earlier, until he is declared elected, "whichever is earlier"

No.	Source	Used for
S12	Centre for Law and Policy Research, Constitution of India website, "Article 75". https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-75-other-provisions-as-to-ministers/	Current text of Article 75(1), (1A), (1B), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6)
S13	NCERT, Class XI, *Indian Constitution at Work*, Chapter 4, "Executive" (Internet Archive copy of keps204). https://dn721602.ca.archive.org/0/items/ncert-keps2/keps204.pdf	Council of Ministers limited to 15 per cent of the House of the People by the 91st Amendment Act (2003) (p. 91); collective responsibility to the Lok Sabha (p. 91); ranks of cabinet minister, minister of State and deputy minister (p. 90)
S14	Supreme Court of India, Shamsher Singh and Another v. State of Punjab, judgment of 23 August 1974 (seven judges). https://api.sci.gov.in/jonew/judis/6215.pdf	The President, like the Governor, is the constitutional or formal head and acts on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers
S15	Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 (compilation as amended up to 26 July 2018). https://www.cabsec.gov.in/writereaddata/allocationbusinessrule/completeaobrules/english/1_Upload_1447.pdf	Made "In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (3) of article 77 of the Constitution"; business transacted in the Ministries and Departments, subjects distributed among the Departments (rules 2 and 3); the President may, on the advice of the Prime Minister, allocate the business among Ministers (rule 4(2))
S16	President's Secretariat, press communique of 25 July 2026. https://presidentofindia.nic.in/press_releases/press-communique-35	A Cabinet Minister's resignation accepted under Article 75(2) on the Prime Minister's advice on 25 July 2026, the date of the PMO list in S8

Topic 255 | Planning in India: objectives and types of planning

1. Concept in one line

In NCERT's words, a plan spells out how the resources of a nation should be put to use, and India planned through five year plans drawn up by the Planning Commission, which was set up in 1950. The exam asks about the road to planning, the goals of the plans and the types of planning.

2. Revision notes

Recall in a line each. Topic 35: NITI Aayog took the place of the Planning Commission under a Cabinet resolution of 1 January 2015. Topic 184: India's features as a developing economy. Topic 213: growth is a rise in output; development adds qualitative change.

2.1 What a plan is

- **NCERT's definition** (Class XI, *Indian Economic Development*, Chapter 2): "A plan spells out how the resources of a nation should be put to use."
- India's plans were for five years, so they were called five year plans. NCERT says the idea was borrowed from the former Soviet Union.
- **Perspective plan:** NCERT calls the long-term plan a perspective plan. It covers about twenty years, and the five year plans were meant to provide its basis.
- NCERT: "In 1950, the Planning Commission was set up with the Prime Minister as its Chairperson." With it, NCERT says, the era of five year plans had begun.

2.2 Planning before 1950

- **National Planning Committee, 1938:** it was set up by the Indian National Congress when Subhas Chandra Bose was Congress President. The scientist Meghnad Saha was among those who pressed for it and became an important member. Jawaharlal Nehru was its chairman.
- **Bombay Plan, January 1944:** its title was "A Brief Memorandum Outlining a Plan of Economic Development for India". Eight industrialists prepared it: J. R. D. Tata, Ghanshyam Das Birla, Ardeshir Dalal, Lala Shri Ram, Kasturbhai Lalbhai, Ardeshir Darabshaw Shroff, Purshottamdas Thakurdas and John Mathai. A second edition, in two volumes, came out in 1945.
- The Bombay Plan was never officially adopted, but writers see a direct line of continuity from it to the First Five Year Plan.
- Industrialists and economists drew up at least three such plans of their own in these years.

2.3 The Planning Commission and its functions

- **Set up:** on 15 March 1950, by a Resolution of the Government of India, through the Cabinet. Jawaharlal Nehru was its first Chairman.
- **Functions in the 1950 resolution.** The Commission was to:
    1. "Make an assessment of the material, capital and human resources of the country", and propose ways to add to those found short.
    2. "Formulate a Plan for the most effective and balanced utilisation of country's resources".
    3. "On a determination of priorities, define the stages in which the Plan should be carried out", and propose how resources should be allocated for each stage.
    4. "Indicate the factors which are tending to retard economic development", and the conditions needed for the Plan to succeed.
    5. "Determine the nature of the machinery which will be necessary for securing the successful implementation" of each stage of the Plan.
    6. "Appraise from time to time the progress achieved in the execution of each stage of the Plan", and recommend changes in policy.
    7. "Make such interim or ancillary recommendations as appear to it to be appropriate".
- The Planning Commission's own list of functions, under the Allocation of Business Rules of 1961, later also named "Perspective Planning" and "Public Co-operation in National Development".
- **National Development Council (NDC):** set up on 6 August 1952. The Prime Minister presided over it, and it was neither a constitutional nor a statutory body. The NDC finalised the Approach Paper to each Plan and gave final approval to the Plan.

2.4 Objectives of planning in India

NCERT: "The goals of the five year plans were: growth, modernisation, self-reliance and equity."

Goal	What NCERT says it means
Growth	A rise in the country's capacity to produce goods and services within the country; it is seen in a steady increase in GDP
Modernisation	The adoption of new technology; it also means a change in social outlook, such as recognising that women should have the same rights as men
Self-reliance	Avoiding imports of goods that could be produced in India itself, to reduce dependence on foreign countries, especially for food

Goal	What NCERT says it means
Equity	The benefits of prosperity should reach the poor sections too, and every Indian should be able to meet basic needs

- NCERT adds: "This does not mean that all the plans have given equal importance to all these goals." NCERT also says that the Second Plan laid down the basic ideas regarding the goals of Indian planning.
- **The First Plan's own words:** its central objective was "to initiate a process of development which will raise living standards".
- **The Directive Principles:** the First Plan recalls the Directive Principles of State Policy in Articles 36 to 51 of the Constitution. They require that the working of the economic system should not result in the concentration of wealth and economic power in a few hands.

2.5 The mixed economy framework

- NCERT: "Most economies are mixed economies, i.e. the government and the market together answer the three questions" (what to produce, how and for whom).
- Nehru favoured socialism, but not the Soviet model, in which the government owned all the means of production. NCERT sums up the choice: "India would be a socialist society with a strong public sector but also with private property and democracy."
- NCERT says the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1948 and the Directive Principles reflected this outlook.
- NCERT says the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 put industries in three categories: those owned only by the State; a second category in which the private sector could supplement the State's efforts; and the rest, left to the private sector. Private industry stayed under State control through licensing. The two Resolutions are taught in detail in Topic 705.
- NCERT says Mahalanobis "can be regarded as the architect of Indian planning", and that planning in the real sense began with the Second Five Year Plan, which was based on his ideas.

2.6 Types of planning

The meanings below follow a college study note on the types of planning, and, for imperative and indicative planning, two reference works as well; the Indian examples come from NCERT, the Planning Commission and the other sources named in Section 7.

Type	What it means	Indian or other example in the sources
Imperative planning	All economic activity and resources come under State direction; the planners decide what each enterprise produces, policies are rigid, and there is no consumer sovereignty	NCERT: India's leaders did not take the Soviet model, in which the government owned all the means of production

Type	What it means	Indian or other example in the sources
Indicative planning	The State sets priorities, gives facilities and points out areas for private investment, but does not give orders to individual firms; it is flexible. France is the usual example	The Planning Commission moved towards indicative planning: a long-term strategic vision with priorities. One account says the Eighth Plan (1992-97) adopted indicative planning in India; another says that since the Ninth Plan (1997) the stress on the public sector became less pronounced and planning was to be increasingly indicative
Perspective (long-term) planning	Long-range targets for 15 to 25 years, broken into shorter plans	NCERT: a perspective plan of about twenty years, with the five year plans as its basis. “Perspective Planning” was a function of the Planning Commission
Five year and annual planning	A fixed plan of 4 to 7 years with definite aims, physical targets and outlays, changed only in an emergency; it is split into annual plans	India’s five year plans are the study note’s example of fixed plans. Three Annual Plans were made from 1966 to 1969, and 1990-91 and 1991-92 were also Annual Plans
Rolling plan	Every year three plans are made: one for the current year, one for 3, 4 or 5 years and one for 10, 15 or 20 years. It is more flexible than a fixed plan	Taught with the new Sixth Plan that the Janata Party government brought in from 1978; the next government rejected it in 1980
Centralised planning	One central authority sets the objectives and priorities for every sector; it tends to be rigid	It is the opposite of the next row
Decentralised (multi-level) planning	The plan is drawn up at the centre in consultation with lower units, and is carried out from the grassroots; State, district and village plans feed into it	The Planning Commission had a Multi Level Planning Division that dealt with decentralised planning. The 74th Amendment (in force from 1 June 1993) provides for District Planning Committees and Metropolitan Planning Committees
Financial planning	Resources are allocated in money terms, to balance demand and supply and to keep inflation down	India’s fixed plans set money outlays

Type	What it means	Indian or other example in the sources
Physical planning	Real resources (men, materials, machinery) are allocated, physical production targets are set and bottlenecks are removed	India's fixed plans set physical targets
Planning by direction	One central authority plans and orders how the plan is carried out; there is no laissez-faire; it belongs to a socialist society	It is the opposite of the next row
Planning by inducement	Democratic planning that works through the market, by persuasion and by monetary and fiscal measures	NCERT: India chose private property and democracy beside a strong public sector, though private industry was controlled through licensing

- The first two rows are a pair, and so are the last two: imperative against indicative, direction against inducement.
- The sources describe India's turn to indicative planning as a gradual shift, and they differ on where it began: one account names the Eighth Plan (1992-97), another the Ninth Plan (1997). Do not turn this source-dependent chronology into an unqualified single-date quiz key.

2.7 From the Planning Commission to NITI Aayog

- The Planning Commission was replaced by NITI Aayog on 1 January 2015 (Topic 35). Financial powers, such as influencing annual allocations, now rest with the Ministry of Finance (Budget Division).
- NITI Aayog's Governing Council first met on 8 February 2015 and decided that the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017) would continue. The formal notification came later: the Cabinet Secretariat notified the Council's composition on 16 February 2015, the date from which the Council is in effect (Topic 35). The five year plans were discontinued in 2017.
- Left to other days: the Five Year Plans in detail (Topics 285 and 405); achievements and failures of planning (Topic 684).

Verification clarification (1 November 2026): The original 1952 NDC resolution was not recovered. UGC ePGPathshala's National Development Council module, PDF page 4, identifies Cabinet Secretariat resolution 62/CF/50 of 6 August 1952. Its executive origin is not a constitutional-body status. The old Arthapedia NDC page incorrectly calls it constitutional and has stale meeting information; those statements are excluded. Lok Sabha answer 2533 of 11 December 2024 confirms the Governing Council notification of 16 February 2015; the 8 February meeting is separately recorded in IES Arthapedia. Planning types are analytical models, not universal legal requirements.

3. Extra section: a chronology of planning in India

Date	Event
1938	The National Planning Committee of the Congress is set up; Nehru becomes its head
January 1944	The first edition of the Bombay Plan is published
15 March 1950	The Planning Commission is set up
6 August 1952	The National Development Council is set up
1966 to 1969	Three Annual Plans are made after the Third Plan
1978 and 1980	The Janata Party government brings in a new Sixth Plan in 1978; the next government rejects it in 1980
1990-91 and 1991-92	These two years are treated as Annual Plans
1992	The Eighth Plan is launched, after structural adjustment policies begin
1 June 1993	The 74th Amendment comes into force, with District and Metropolitan Planning Committees
1 January 2015	NITI Aayog replaces the Planning Commission
2017	The five year plans are discontinued

How to use the chronology:

- Two bodies, two dates: the Commission made the Plans (1950), and the NDC, with the Chief Ministers, approved them (1952).
- Annual Plans came twice in place of a five year plan: 1966 to 1969, and 1990 to 1992.

4. Three common exam traps

1. **“The Bombay Plan was the Congress party’s plan.”** It was not. Eight industrialists, among them J. R. D. Tata and G. D. Birla, prepared it, and its first edition came out in January 1944. The Congress’s own body was the National Planning Committee of 1938, which Nehru headed.
2. **“India copied the Soviet model of planning.”** India borrowed only the idea of five year plans from the Soviet Union. NCERT says Nehru did not want the Soviet model in which the government owned all the means of production; India chose a strong public sector together with private property and democracy, that is, a mixed economy.
3. **Mixing up the Planning Commission, the NDC and NITI Aayog.** The Commission came on 15 March 1950 and the NDC on 6 August 1952; the Prime Minister headed both. NITI Aayog replaced the Commission on 1 January 2015. The NDC and NITI Governing Council are distinct historical institutions; no present-day abolition-status claim is made here.

7. Sources

7.1 Sources

No.	Source	Used for
S1	NCERT, *Indian Economic Development* (Class XI), Chapter 2, "Indian Economy 1950-1990" (pages marked 2020-21), copy on the Internet Archive. https://archive.org/download/ncert-keec1/keec102.pdf	Definition of a plan; five year plans borrowed from the former Soviet Union; perspective plan of about twenty years; Planning Commission set up in 1950 with the Prime Minister as Chairperson; the four goals and NCERT's explanation of each; "This does not mean that all the plans have given equal importance"; the Second Plan and the goals; Nehru, socialism and the Soviet model; "a socialist society with a strong public sector but also with private property and democracy"; mixed economies; Industrial Policy Resolutions of 1948 and 1956 and licensing; Mahalanobis as architect and the Second Plan as planning in the real sense
S2	Indian Economic Service, Arthapedia, "Planning Commission", by A Srija, IES. https://ies.gov.in/arthapedia/concept/planning-commission	Set up on 15 March 1950 through a Cabinet resolution; the seven functions of the 1950 resolution and the words quoted from them; the move towards indicative planning; replacement by NITI Aayog on 1 January 2015; financial powers with the Ministry of Finance (Budget Division)
S3	NITI Aayog Digital Library, record of Planning Commission, *Descriptive Memoir of Planning Commission* (1 April 1954). https://digitallibrary.niti.gov.in/items/43b55bad-ba29-46f6-9171-674b84a21307/full	Planning Commission established by a Resolution of the Government of India dated 15 March 1950; terms of reference to assess the material, capital and human resources and to formulate a Plan

No.	Source	Used for
S4	Planning Commission, *Annual Report* 2007-08, copy on the IDSA site. https://www.idsa.in/system/files/AnnualReport_PlanningCommission_0708.pdf	Functions under the Allocation of Business Rules, 1961, including "Perspective Planning" and "Public Co-operation in National Development"; Multi Level Planning Division and decentralised planning; Five Year Plans and Annual Plans
S5	Planning Commission, *First Five Year Plan*, Chapter 1, on the NITI Aayog archive. https://niti.gov.in/planningcommission.gov.in/docs/plans/planrel/fiveyr/1st/1planch1.html	Central objective "to initiate a process of development which will raise living standards"; the Directive Principles in Articles 36 to 51 and the concentration of wealth and economic power
S6	Wikipedia, "Planning Commission (India)". https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Planning_Commission_(India)	National Planning Committee of 1938, Bose, Meghnad Saha and Nehru; at least three plans by industrialists and economists; 15 March 1950 and Nehru as first Chairman; three Annual Plans of 1966 to 1969; Annual Plans of 1990-91 and 1991-92 and the Eighth Plan in 1992; the Ninth Plan (1997) and planning of an increasingly indicative nature
S7	Wikipedia, "Five-Year Plans of India" (citing, for the plan holidays and the rolling plan, no separate work). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five-Year_Plans_of_India	Plan holidays from 1966 to 1969; the Janata Party government's Sixth Plan of 1978-80, rejected in 1980; the rolling plan's three plans and its flexibility; 1990-91 and 1991-92 as Annual Plans; Eighth Plan launched in 1992; replacement by NITI Aayog in 2015; plans discontinued in 2017
S8	Wikipedia, "Bombay Plan" (citing Purshottamdas Thakurdas and others, *A Brief Memorandum Outlining a Plan of Economic Development for India*, 1945 edition; Vivek Chibber, *Locked in Place*, 2003, p. 88). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bombay_Plan	First edition in January 1944, second edition of 1945; title; the eight industrialists; continuity with the First Plan; not officially adopted

No.	Source	Used for
S9	Wikipedia, "National Development Council (India)" (citing The Hindu, 31 December 2015, for the proposal to abolish it). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Development_Council_(India)	NDC set up on 6 August 1952; neither constitutional nor statutory; the Prime Minister presided; present abolition status not used
S10	Indian Economic Service, Arthapedia, "Five Year Plans", by A Srija, IES. https://ies.gov.in/arthapedia/concept/five-year-plans	The NDC finalising the Approach Paper and approving the Plan; the decision at the Governing Council's first meeting, on 8 February 2015, that the Twelfth Plan (2012-2017) would continue
S11	Wikipedia, "Seventy-fourth Amendment of the Constitution of India". https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventy-fourth_Amendment_of_the_Constitution_of_India	In force from 1 June 1993; District Planning Committees and Metropolitan Planning Committees
S12	Government T. Romana College, Aizawl (Government of Mizoram), study material "Meaning and types of planning" (2013). https://www.trcollege.edu.in/study-material/24-economics/43-meaning-and-types-of-planning.html	Meanings of imperative and indicative planning (France), perspective planning (15 to 25 years), fixed and rolling plans (India's five year plans as fixed plans with physical targets and outlays), centralised and decentralised planning, financial and physical planning, planning by direction and by inducement
S13	NCERT, *Politics in India since Independence* (Class XII), Chapter 3, "Politics of Planned Development" (pages marked 2020-21), copy on the Internet Archive. https://archive.org/download/ncert-leps2/leps203.pdf	Big industrialists drafting a joint proposal for a planned economy in 1944 (the Bombay Plan); Planning Commission set up in March 1950 by a resolution of the Government of India; five year plans as in the USSR; Second Plan drafted under P. C. Mahalanobis
S14	Martin C. Spechler, "Indicative Planning", *Encyclopedia of Russian History* (Gale), on Encyclopedia.com. https://www.encyclopedia.com/history/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/indicative-planning	Indicative planning as projections and coordinated information that guide market choices, not mandatory instructions; the French planning commission as the model; contrast with Soviet directive planning

No.	Source	Used for
S15	Encyclopaedia Britannica, “Economic planning”. https://www.britannica.com/topic/economic-planning	Soviet command planning: inputs and outputs of enterprises determined by the planners; Western European planning indirect, with the State rarely intervening directly in individual firms
S16	Indian Economic Service, Arthapedia, “National Development Council (NDC)”, by A Srija, IES. https://ies.gov.in/arthapedia/concept/national-development-council-ndc ; and Gautam Chikermane, “70 Policies: Planning Commission, 1950”, Observer Research Foundation (2 August 2018). https://orfonline.org/research/42943-70-policies-planning-commission-1950	NDC set up on 6 August 1952 (by a Cabinet resolution, ORF) and headed by the Prime Minister; Planning Commission created by the Resolution of 15 March 1950
S17	Banglapedia (Asiatic Society of Bangladesh), “Saha, Meghnad”. https://en.banglapedia.org/index.php/Saha,_Meghnad	National Planning Committee set up in 1938 under the chairmanship of Jawaharlal Nehru; Meghnad Saha an important member
S18	Wikipedia, “Indicative planning”. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indicative_planning	The Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-1997) adopted indicative planning in India (one account of the start of the shift)
S19	NITI Aayog, “Governing Council Secretariat” page. https://www.niti.gov.in/divisions/division/governing-council-secretariat	Governing Council first constituted in February 2015; Cabinet Secretariat notification of 16 February 2015 on its composition

Topic 256 | Revolution of the Earth, seasons, solstices and equinoxes

1. Concept in one line

Revolution is the Earth's yearly journey round the Sun in an elliptical orbit, and because its tilted axis keeps pointing the same way all through that journey, the latitude where the Sun's rays fall vertically shifts during the year and gives the seasons, the two solstices and the two equinoxes. The examination asks for the dates, the latitudes reached by the vertical rays, and why the seasons come from the tilt and not from the Earth's distance from the Sun.

2. Revision notes

2.1 Revolution and the orbit

- **Revolution** is the movement of the Earth around the Sun in a fixed path or orbit. The plane formed by the orbit is the **orbital plane**. The Earth goes round the Sun in an **elliptical orbit** (NCERT, Class VI).
- **Time taken:** NCERT gives 365¼ days (one year). For convenience a year is taken as 365 days, and the six hours left over are ignored. Every fourth year these add up to one day, so February has 29 days instead of 28, and that year of 366 days is a **leap year** (NCERT). The tropical year, the year of the seasons (365.242 days, see below), is a little shorter than 365¼ days; the century rule that trims the leap years for this reason is in Topic 48.
- **Two NASA figures for the year:** the sidereal orbit period (once round the Sun measured against the stars) is 365.256 days; the tropical orbit period (from one season to the same season again) is 365.242 days (NASA, Earth Fact Sheet). Topic 195's "365.2 days" is the rounded value, and Topic 48's tropical year of 365.2422 days is the same quantity.
- **Speed:** the mean orbital velocity is 29.78 km per second, about 30 km per second; it ranges between 29.29 and 30.29 km per second (NASA).
- **Shape:** the orbit eccentricity is 0.0167 (NASA), so the ellipse is very close to a circle. The semimajor axis is 149.598 million km, the mean distance of about 150 million km that Topic 195 called 1 astronomical unit.
- **Recall:** rotation is the spin on the axis in about 24 hours, with the axis at 66½° to the orbital plane (Topic 225); the Tropics lie at 23½° and the polar circles at 66½°, and they bound the heat zones (Topic 94); the Earth is the third planet, at 1 AU from the Sun (Topic 195).

2.2 The tilted axis, its fixed direction and the ecliptic

- **The tilt:** the Earth's axis makes an angle of 66½° with its orbital plane (NCERT), that is, it is tilted 23½° from the perpendicular to that plane. NASA gives the obliquity as 23.44°. These are the values used in Topics 25, 94 and 225.
- **Fixed direction:** throughout its orbit the Earth is inclined in the same direction, and the axis remains approximately aligned in the same direction over one year (the school orbital model, not permanent fixation). Because the axis keeps the same direction in space, it stays parallel to itself at every point of the orbit; this is what the phrase "parallelism of the axis" means. So in June the northern end leans towards the Sun, and six months later, on the other side of the orbit, the same lean points away from it.
- **Ecliptic (Britannica):** the apparent path of the Sun among the constellations in the course of a year; seen another way, the projection of the Earth's orbit on the sky. It is inclined at 23.44° to the celestial equator (the obliquity of the ecliptic, the same angle as the tilt). The two points where it crosses the celestial equator mark the vernal and the autumnal equinoxes.

2.3 Why there are seasons

- NCERT (Class VI): the fixed tilt of the axis, together with revolution, causes the seasons.
- NCERT (Class XI, as in Topic 25): the tilt "has a greater influence on the amount of insolation received at different latitudes"; two of the factors of insolation are the angle of the Sun's rays and the length of the day. The tilt is what makes both change through the year.
- **The hemisphere tilted towards the Sun** gets more vertical rays and longer days: it has summer. The hemisphere tilted away gets slanting rays and shorter days: it has winter.
- **Distance is not the cause.** NASA: "Earth's tilted axis causes the seasons"; in the northern hemisphere "we are having winter when Earth is closest to the Sun", which proves that the distance from the Sun is not the cause. The two hemispheres also have opposite seasons at the same moment, at one and the same distance from the Sun.

Point	Perihelion	Aphelion
Meaning	The Earth is nearest to the Sun	The Earth is farthest from the Sun
Date in NCERT (Class XI)	3 January	4 July
Distance in NCERT	147 million km	152 million km
NASA figure	147.095 million km	152.100 million km
In 2026 (US Naval Observatory in UT; IST worked out by adding 5 hours 30 minutes)	3 January, 17:15 UT (22:45 IST)	6 July, 17:30 UT (23:00 IST)

Point	Perihelion	Aphelion
Season in the northern hemisphere	Winter	Summer

- The two distances differ by about 5 million km, about 3.3 per cent of the mean distance (worked from NASA's figures). NCERT says the effect of this variation is masked by other factors, such as the distribution of land and sea and the atmospheric circulation.

2.4 The four positions: solstices and equinoxes

Position	Date in NCERT	2026 in IST (worked out from US Naval Observatory UT)	Sun's rays fall directly on	Northern hemisphere	Southern hemisphere
Vernal equinox	21 March	20 March, 20:16	The Equator	Spring	Autumn
Summer solstice	21 June	21 June, 13:54	The Tropic of Cancer	Summer; the longest day; places beyond the Arctic Circle have continuous daylight	Winter; the conditions are reversed
Autumnal equinox	23 September	23 September, 05:35	The Equator	Autumn	Spring
Winter solstice	22 December	22 December, 02:20 (21 December, 20:50 UT)	The Tropic of Capricorn	Winter	Summer

- **Solstice (Britannica):** either of the two moments in the year when the Sun's apparent path is farthest north or south from the Equator. At the June solstice the noon Sun is directly overhead at the Tropic of Cancer; six months later it is overhead at the Tropic of Capricorn.
- **Equinox:** the Sun's centre crosses the celestial equator. Day and night are approximately equal in the ideal geometric model away from the poles. Actual sunrise and sunset use the Sun's upper limb and are affected by refraction, so measured daylight need not be exactly 12 hours. The school dates 21 March and 23 September are conventional; spring in one hemisphere is autumn in the other.
- **The names follow the northern hemisphere.** NCERT calls 21 June the summer solstice and 22 December the winter solstice; in the southern hemisphere 21 June brings winter and 22 December brings summer.
- **The dates move a little.** Britannica gives the summer solstice as 20 or 21 June and the winter solstice as 21 or 22 December, and the equinoxes as "about" 21 March and 23 September. In 2026 the March equinox fell on 20 March. A moment late in the day by Universal Time (UT) can fall on the

next date in India: the December solstice of 2026 is on 21 December by UT but on 22 December by IST. Use the year, time zone and source specified in the question; textbook dates are conventional approximations.

2.5 The Tropics and the polar circles: why they lie where they do

- **The Tropics:** the Tropic of Cancer marks the Sun's farthest northward position; around 21 June the Sun is directly over it (Britannica). Its latitude equals the tilt of the axis, 23½° (Topic 94); Britannica gives about 23°27′ N, and NASA's tilt of 23.44° is about 23°26′. The Tropic of Capricorn is the same line south of the Equator, reached around 22 December.
- **The name:** the Tropic of Cancer retains a historical constellation name. The present constellation position is not needed to establish the latitude or seasonal geometry; no unverified 2026 boundary position is asserted here.
- **The polar circles:** they lie at 90° minus the tilt, 90° - 23½° = 66½°. The Arctic Circle is the southernmost latitude of the northern hemisphere where the Sun's centre can stay continuously above or below the horizon for 24 hours. At the circle itself the Sun does not set on the June solstice and does not rise on the December solstice; the nearer the pole, the longer these spells last (Wikipedia). NCERT's "continuous daylight for about six months" beyond the Arctic Circle is the case near the pole; at the circle itself it is about one day. The Antarctic Circle is the same line in the south, with the dates reversed.
- **Not fixed for ever:** obliquity and axial direction change over long timescales. Use 23½° and 66½° as school approximations, not an epoch-specific modern geodetic measurement.

2.6 Length of the day by latitude

- On 21 June the northern hemisphere has its longest day, and places beyond the Arctic Circle have continuous daylight; at the equinoxes NCERT gives equal days and nights everywhere (NCERT).
- **An Indian illustration (US Naval Observatory, 2026; IST; the length worked from the sunrise and sunset times):**

Date in 2026	Sunrise	Sunset	Length of the day
20 March (equinox)	06:14	18:21	12 hours 7 minutes
21 June (solstice)	05:24	18:59	13 hours 35 minutes
21 December (eve of the solstice in IST)	06:47	17:29	10 hours 42 minutes

- The place is the point 23.5° N, 80° E in central India, just north of the Tropic of Cancer. The figures are for illustration only. Even at the equinox the published sunrise to sunset time is a few minutes more than 12 hours; the textbook equality is an ideal approximation, not an exact measured sunrise-to-sunset duration everywhere.

2.7 India's seasons, in a line

- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) recognises four seasons: winter, summer (pre-monsoon), monsoon and post-monsoon (Know India portal). They are taken up in Topic 336.
- Left to other days: the Moon, eclipses and tides (Topic 415).

Verification note (1 November 2026): NASA figures are from its Earth Fact Sheet updated 15 November 2024, not a fresh 2026 distance measurement. The USNO 2026 seasons API and all three rise/set coordinate requests were independently retrieved; source times are preserved exactly. The December dates and rise/set values are predictions at this review date. School solstice names in the MCQ refer to the Northern Hemisphere. Distance variation can affect received energy, but it is not the main cause of opposite hemispheric seasons.

3. Extra section: the Earth's orbital calendar for 2026

The US Naval Observatory gives these moments in Universal Time (UT). IST is UT plus 5 hours 30 minutes; the IST column was worked out by calculation.

Event	Date and time (UT)	Date and time (IST)	What happens
Perihelion	3 January, 17:15	3 January, 22:45	Nearest to the Sun, in the northern winter
March equinox	20 March, 14:46	20 March, 20:16	The Sun over the Equator
June solstice	21 June, 08:24	21 June, 13:54	The Sun over the Tropic of Cancer
Aphelion	6 July, 17:30	6 July, 23:00	Farthest from the Sun, in the northern summer
September equinox	23 September, 00:05	23 September, 05:35	The Sun over the Equator
December solstice	21 December, 20:50	22 December, 02:20	The Sun over the Tropic of Capricorn

- **Worked example:** 21 December, 20:50 UT + 5 hours 30 minutes = 26:20, which is past midnight: 02:20 on 22 December IST.
- **Two things to read off the table:** (1) perihelion comes about two weeks after the December solstice and aphelion about two weeks after the June solstice, so the nearest and farthest points do not coincide with the solstices; (2) the northern summer half, from the March equinox to the September equinox, contains aphelion.

4. Three common exam traps

1. **“Summer comes when the Earth is nearest to the Sun.”** The Earth is nearest in early January, in the northern winter, and farthest in early July, in the northern summer. In January the southern hemisphere has its summer at the very distance at which the northern hemisphere has its winter. The seasons come from the tilted axis, which changes the angle of the Sun’s rays and the length of the day.
2. **“The solstices and equinoxes fall on fixed dates.”** NCERT’s dates (21 March, 21 June, 23 September, 22 December) are conventional textbook dates, not compulsory answers for every year or time zone, but the actual moment shifts by about a day from year to year. In 2026 the March equinox fell on 20 March, and the December solstice falls on 21 December by Universal Time but on 22 December in India.
3. **“The Earth takes exactly 365 days to go round the Sun.”** NCERT gives 365¼ days; the leap year adds back the six hours left out each year. The year from season to season is in fact 365.242 days (NASA), a little less than 365¼, which is why a century year is a leap year only when it is divisible by 400 (Topic 48).

7. Sources

7.1 Sources

No.	Source	Used for
S1	NCERT, *The Earth*: *Our Habitat* (Class VI Geography), Chapter 3, “Motions of the Earth”, as reproduced on the SATHEE portal of IIT Kanpur. https://sathee.iitk.ac.in/ncert-books/class-06/social-science/the-earth-our-habitat/chapter-03-motions-of-the-earth	Revolution and the orbit; the orbital plane; the elliptical orbit; 365¼ days, the year taken as 365 days, every fourth year February of 29 days, the leap year of 366 days; axis at 66½° to the orbital plane; the Earth inclined in the same direction throughout its orbit, the axis inclined permanently in the same position; tilt and revolution causing the seasons; 21 June: rays directly on the Tropic of Cancer, summer solstice, longest day in the north, continuous daylight for about six months beyond the Arctic Circle, conditions reversed in the southern hemisphere; 22 December: Tropic of Capricorn, winter solstice; 21 March and 23 September: rays on the Equator, equinox, “the whole earth experiences equal days and equal nights”; spring and autumn in opposite hemispheres

No.	Source	Used for
S2	NCERT, *Fundamentals of Physical Geography* (Class XI), Chapter 8, "Solar Radiation, Heat Balance and Temperature", as reproduced on the SATHEE portal of IIT Kanpur. https://sathee.iitk.ac.in/ncert-books/class-11/geography/fundamental-of-physical-geography/chapter-08-solar-radiation-heat-balance-and-temperature	Axis at 66½° to the plane of the orbit having "a greater influence on the amount of insolation received at different latitudes"; angle of the rays and length of the day among the factors of insolation; aphelion 152 million km on 4 July, perihelion 147 million km on 3 January; the variation masked by the distribution of land and sea and the atmospheric circulation
S3	NASA, Earth Fact Sheet (NSSDCA, D.R. Williams, updated 15 November 2024). https://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/factsheet/earthfact.html	Semimajor axis 149.598 million km; sidereal orbit period 365.256 days; tropical orbit period 365.242 days; perihelion 147.095 million km; aphelion 152.100 million km; mean orbital velocity 29.78 km/s, maximum 30.29 and minimum 29.29 km/s; eccentricity 0.0167; obliquity 23.44°
S4	NASA Space Place, "What Causes the Seasons?". https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/seasons/en/	"Earth's tilted axis causes the seasons"; the North Pole tilted towards the Sun around June and the South Pole around December; "we are having winter when Earth is closest to the Sun"; distance from the Sun not the cause; opposite timing of the seasons in the two hemispheres
S5	US Naval Observatory, Astronomical Applications Department, "Earth's Seasons and Apsides", data for 2026. https://aa.usno.navy.mil/api/seasons?year=2026	Perihelion 3 January 17:15, March equinox 20 March 14:46, June solstice 21 June 08:24, aphelion 6 July 17:30, September equinox 23 September 00:05, December solstice 21 December 20:50, all in UT (IST worked out by adding 5 hours 30 minutes)

No.	Source	Used for
S6	US Naval Observatory, "Sun and Moon Data for One Day", for 23.5° N, 80.0° E, time zone +5.5, on 20 March, 21 June and 21 December 2026. https://aa.usno.navy.mil/api/rstt/oneday?date=2026-03-20&coords=23.5,80.0&tz=5.5 ; https://aa.usno.navy.mil/api/rstt/oneday?date=2026-06-21&coords=23.5,80.0&tz=5.5 ; https://aa.usno.navy.mil/api/rstt/oneday?date=2026-12-21&coords=23.5,80.0&tz=5.5	Sunrise and sunset: 06:14 and 18:21 on 20 March; 05:24 and 18:59 on 21 June; 06:47 and 17:29 on 21 December (lengths of day worked out from these)
S7	Encyclopaedia Britannica, "ecliptic". https://www.britannica.com/science/ecliptic	The ecliptic as the apparent path of the Sun among the constellations in a year, and as the projection of the Earth's orbit on the celestial sphere; inclined at 23.44° to the celestial equator (obliquity of the ecliptic); the two intersections marking the vernal and autumnal equinoxes
S8	Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Tropic of Cancer". https://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/92300	Latitude approximately 23°27′ N; the Sun's farthest northward position; the Sun directly over it around 21 June; the name from the constellation Cancer, in which the Sun stood at the June solstice long ago
S9	Encyclopaedia Britannica, "solstice". https://www.britannica.com/science/solstice	Definition of solstice; summer solstice on 20 or 21 June and winter solstice on 21 or 22 December in the northern hemisphere; seasons reversed in the southern hemisphere; noon Sun directly overhead at the Tropic of Cancer at the northern summer solstice and at the Tropic of Capricorn six months later
S10	Encyclopaedia Britannica, "equinox". https://www.britannica.com/science/equinox-astronomy	Definition of equinox: the Sun exactly above the Equator, day and night of equal length; vernal equinox about 21 March and autumnal equinox about 23 September

No.	Source	Used for
S11	Supplied secondary Arctic Circle reference; current precision held	The unverified present latitude and exact long-term cycle figures are omitted; retain only the school complement relationship and general long-term variability
S12	Know India (National Portal of India), “Climate”. https://knowindia.india.gov.in/profile/climate.php	The IMD’s four official seasons: winter, summer (pre-monsoon), monsoon (rainy) and post-monsoon
S13	NCERT, *The Earth*: *Our Habitat* (Class VI Geography), Chapter 3, “Motions of the Earth” (file fess203.pdf), Internet Archive copy of the NCERT PDF. https://archive.org/download/ncert-fess2/fess203.pdf	The printed text of S1: revolution in a fixed path or orbit; the orbital plane; the elliptical orbit; 365¼ days; the leap year of 366 days; the axis at 66½° to the orbital plane; the Earth inclined in the same direction throughout its orbit, the axis inclined permanently in the same position; revolution and the inclination of the axis in a fixed direction causing seasons; 21 June: rays directly on the Tropic of Cancer, the Summer Solstice, longest day, continuous daylight for about six months beyond the Arctic Circle, conditions reversed in the Southern Hemisphere; 22 December: the Tropic of Capricorn, the Winter Solstice; 21 March and 23 September: rays on the equator, equinox, equal days and equal nights; 23 September autumn in the north and spring in the south, 21 March spring in the north and autumn in the south
S14	Supplied StarDate constellation reference; not freshly retrieved	Present 2026 Taurus/Gemini boundary claim omitted; historical naming retained without a current positional claim

Topic 257 | Protected areas: national parks, sanctuaries, biosphere reserves and conservation reserves

1. Concept in one line

The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 defines four kinds of “protected area” (national parks, sanctuaries, conservation reserves and community reserves) and separately provides for tiger reserves, while biosphere reserves come from UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere Programme and not from the Act. The examination asks who declares each kind, what human use each allows, its legal basis and the numbers with their dates.

2. Revision notes

2.1 Where this topic stands

- **Topic 37 (Day 4)** taught biodiversity, hotspots and the IUCN Red List of species.
- **Topic 175 (Day 18)** covered Andhra Pradesh protected areas; here use verified category examples rather than an undated State total.
- **Topic 197 (Day 20)** taught the Act’s four Schedules and its authorities: the National Board for Wild Life (NBWL), chaired by the Prime Minister; and the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), constituted by the Central Government (section 38L).
- **Legal teaching source:** the cited amended statutory provisions, checked against the 2002 and 2022 amendment instruments and a reproduction dated 5 June 2025. This is not a claim that every subsequent notification or case-specific order has been checked.
- **Definition:** section 2(24A) of the Act defines a “protected area” as a national park, a sanctuary, a conservation reserve or a community reserve notified under sections 18, 35, 36A and 36C. A tiger reserve and a biosphere reserve are not in this list.

2.2 The categories at a glance

Category	Legal basis	Declared by	Human activity	Examples or count
Wildlife sanctuary	Sections 18 to 26A of the Act	The State Government, by notification (section 18); the Central Government for an area leased or transferred to it (section 38(1))	Existing rights over land may be allowed to continue (section 24(2)(c)); grazing may be regulated, controlled or prohibited (section 33(d)); no one may destroy or remove wild life or forest produce without a permit (section 29)	Coringa in Andhra Pradesh (Kakinada district official tourism page)
National park	Section 35	The State Government (section 35(1)); the Centre under section 38(2)	All rights in the land must vest in the State Government before the final notification (section 35(4)); no grazing of any live-stock (section 35(7))	Sri Venkateswara in Andhra Pradesh (Tirupati district official tourism page)
Conservation reserve	Sections 36A and 36B	The State Government, after consulting the local communities (section 36A); since 1 April 2023 the Central Government also (section 38(2A))	Land owned by the Government; a management committee advises the Chief Wild Life Warden (section 36B)	115 in India (27 November 2023)
Community reserve	Sections 36C and 36D	The State Government (section 36C)	Private or community land whose owners have volunteered; a management committee is the authority that manages it (section 36D)	220 in India (27 November 2023)
Tiger reserve	Section 38V (Chapter on the NTCA)	The State Government, on the recommendation of the NTCA (section 38V(1))	Core kept inviolate for tigers; buffer for co-existence with people (2.5)	Nagarjunsagar Srisailam in Andhra Pradesh; Madhav, Madhya Pradesh (2025), the latest in the NTCA list

Category	Legal basis	Declared by	Human activity	Examples or count
Biosphere reserve	Not under the Act; UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme	Established in India by the Central Government (MoEFCC); 13 of them also recognised by UNESCO in its World Network	Core, buffer and transition area (2.6)	Nilgiri (1986), the oldest; Panna (2011), the newest

2.3 National park and sanctuary: the differences in the Act

Point	Wildlife sanctuary	National park
Area that can be chosen	Any area other than one within a reserve forest or the territorial waters: the State Government first declares its intention to make it a sanctuary (section 18) and, once the claims are disposed of, declares it a sanctuary (section 26A(1)(a)). An area within a reserve forest or the territorial waters is included in a sanctuary directly by a notification under section 26A(1)(b)	Any area, "whether within a sanctuary or not" (section 35(1))
Rights of people	The Collector, in consultation with the Chief Wild Life Warden, may allow "the continuation of any right of any person in or over any land" within the sanctuary (section 24(2)(c))	The same procedure for claims applies (sections 19 to 26A, through section 35(3)), except section 24(2)(c), so no right is allowed to continue; and the final notification comes only when all rights in the land have vested in the State Government (section 35(4))
Grazing	The Chief Wild Life Warden may regulate, control or prohibit it (section 33(d))	"No grazing of any live-stock shall be permitted in a National Park" (section 35(7))
Alteration of boundaries	By the State Government only on the recommendation of the NBWL (section 26A(3))	By the State Government only on the recommendation of the NBWL (section 35(5))

- **Rights and grazing** are the two real differences. A national park is the stricter category.
- **Boundaries are now treated alike.** Both sub-sections were substituted by Act 16 of 2003, in force from 1 April 2003.

2.4 Conservation and community reserves

- **Origin:** sections 36A to 36D were inserted by the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002, which is Act 16 of 2003, in force from 1 April 2003.
- **Conservation reserve (section 36A):** the State Government, after consulting the local communities, may declare any area owned by the Government, "particularly the areas adjacent to National Parks and sanctuaries and those areas which link one protected area with another", to protect landscapes, seascapes, flora, fauna and their habitat.
- **Its committee (section 36B):** a conservation reserve management committee, set up by the State Government, advises the Chief Wild Life Warden. It includes a representative of each Village Panchayat concerned.
- **Community reserve (section 36C):** the State Government may declare private or community land "not comprised within a National Park, sanctuary or a conservation reserve", where a community or an individual has volunteered to conserve wild life and its habitat.
- **Its committee (section 36D):** the community reserve management committee "shall be the authority responsible for conserving, maintaining and managing the community reserve" and prepares its management plan. It has not less than five representatives nominated by the Village Panchayat or the Gram Sabha. Since 2023, for private land, it includes the owner of the land.
- **The difference to remember:** the conservation reserve's committee advises; the community reserve's committee manages.

2.5 Tiger reserves in brief

- Section 38V was inserted by Act 39 of 2006, in force from 4 September 2006. The State Government notifies a tiger reserve on the recommendation of the NTCA.
- A tiger reserve has a **core or critical tiger habitat**, made of areas of national parks and sanctuaries kept inviolate for tiger conservation, and a **buffer or peripheral area** around it for co-existence between wild life and human activity, fixed in consultation with the Gram Sabha and an Expert Committee.
- Project Tiger, elephant reserves and the reserves of India in detail are Topic 495 (Day 50).

2.6 Biosphere reserves

- **What they are:** "A biosphere reserve is a site designated under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme" (UNESCO). The MAB Programme was launched by UNESCO in 1971 (MoEFCC Biosphere Reserve Division note, December 2023). The first biosphere reserves in the world were designated in 1976 (UNESCO).
- **They are not created by the Wild Life (Protection) Act.** A biosphere reserve often contains national parks or sanctuaries.

Zone (UNESCO)	What it is for
Core area	Strictly protected ecosystems for conserving the biodiversity of habitats and species
Buffer zone	Surrounds or adjoins the core; activities that fit with conservation, such as research, education and sustainable resource use
Transition area	The outer area where communities live and work, with a focus on sustainable economic and human development

- **India (PIB, 3 November 2025):** 18 notified biosphere reserves covering about 91,425 sq km; 13 of them are in UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR). The oldest is Nilgiri (1986) and the newest is Panna (2011). The largest is the Great Rann of Kutch, Gujarat (12,454 sq km). The smallest in the MoEFCC list (as on December 2023) is Dibru-Saikhowa, Assam (765 sq km); the PIB document names Nokrek, Meghalaya (820 sq km), which is the smallest of those in the WNBR. Central assistance is shared 60:40 between the Centre and the State, and 90:10 for the North Eastern and Himalayan States.
- **The 13th in the World Network:** the Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve, about 7,770 sq km in Lahaul-Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh, was added in September 2025, at the World Congress of Biosphere Reserves in Hangzhou, China (United Nations in India, 27 September 2025).
- **The world:** the WNBR has 797 biosphere reserves in 145 countries (UNESCO), after 14 new sites were designated on 5 June 2026, none of them in India.

2.7 The numbers, with their dates

Category	Number	Area	Source and date
National parks	106	Not separately used here	WII baseline, 27 November 2023; reproduced by PIB, 3 March 2025
Wildlife sanctuaries	573	Not separately used here	WII baseline, 27 November 2023; reproduced by PIB, 3 March 2025
Conservation reserves	115	Not given separately	Wildlife Institute of India, National Wildlife Database, 27 November 2023
Community reserves	220	Not given separately	Wildlife Institute of India, 27 November 2023
All protected areas	1,014	1,75,169.42 sq km, about 5.32 per cent of India's geographical area	Wildlife Institute of India, 27 November 2023; repeated by PIB on 3 March 2025

Category	Number	Area	Source and date
Tiger reserves	58	84,487.83 sq km (core 46,701.29 + buffer 37,786.54)	NTCA list, updated on 23 October 2026
Biosphere reserves	18 (13 in the WNBR)	About 91,425 sq km	PIB, 3 November 2025

- **Keep the vintage together:** 1,014 = 106 + 573 + 115 + 220 and 5.32% belong to the 27 November 2023 baseline. They are not a current 2026 category breakdown.
- **Later totals, without a breakdown:** 1,022 protected areas and 5.43% in Lok Sabha answer 1021 of 10 February 2025 (PDF page 3); 1,134 for the year 2025 in New India Samachar, 1–15 June 2026 (printed page 68). Do not combine figures of different vintages.

2.8 Eco-sensitive zones, Andhra Pradesh and the IUCN categories

- **Eco-sensitive zones (ESZs), Supreme Court:** in *T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad v. Union of India*, the order of 3 June 2022 directed that every national park and wildlife sanctuary must have an ESZ of at least one kilometre from its demarcated boundary. The judgment of 26 April 2023 modified this: the one-kilometre rule does not apply where the MoEFCC has issued a draft or final ESZ notification or has received a proposal, or where protected areas lie on inter-State borders or share common boundaries. It directed that mining within a national park or wildlife sanctuary, and within one kilometre of its boundary, is not permissible, and that the ESZ guidelines of 9 February 2011 be strictly followed.
- **Andhra Pradesh examples:** Sri Venkateswara National Park, Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary, Nagarjunsagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve, and Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve. Seshachalam is on the national list, not the UNESCO World Network list used here.
- **IUCN categories:** the IUCN's management categories for protected areas are Ia (strict nature reserve), Ib (wilderness area), II (national park), III (natural monument or feature), IV (habitat or species management area), V (protected landscape or seascape) and VI (protected area with sustainable use of natural resources) (Dudley, IUCN Guidelines, 2008). These are not the Red List categories of Topic 37.

Scope and safeguards: section 35(4) describes the ordinary final-notification route; the section 35 Explanation separately covers land whose rights have already been extinguished and vested. Section 35(7) prohibits grazing but permits livestock entry when used as a vehicle by an authorised entrant. Section 38(2A) concerns transferred/leased areas subject to section 36A conditions. Section 38V preserves statutory forest-dweller rights and resettlement safeguards. The ESZ discussion explains the dated 26 April 2023 judgment, not a fresh decision in 2026.

3. Extra section: chronology of protected areas in India

Year	Event
1971	UNESCO launches the Man and the Biosphere Programme
1972	The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972
1976	The first biosphere reserves in the world are designated
1986	Nilgiri, India's oldest biosphere reserve
1991	Act 44 of 1991 inserts section 26A (in force from 2 October 1991)
2003	Act 16 of 2003, the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002, in force from 1 April 2003: conservation and community reserves; boundary changes on the NBWL's recommendation
2006	Act 39 of 2006 inserts section 38V on tiger reserves (in force from 4 September 2006)
2011	Panna, India's newest biosphere reserve; ESZ guidelines of 9 February 2011
2022	Supreme Court order of 3 June 2022 on a one-kilometre ESZ
2023	The 2022 amendment in force from 1 April 2023 (the Centre may declare a conservation reserve); Supreme Court judgment of 26 April 2023 modifies the ESZ order
2025	Madhav, Madhya Pradesh, the latest tiger reserve in the NTCA list; Cold Desert becomes India's 13th site in the WNBR (September)

How to use it:

- The order of the laws explains the order of the categories: sanctuaries and national parks (1972), conservation and community reserves (2003), tiger reserves (2006).
- A biosphere reserve stands outside this chain: it is a UNESCO designation, not a section of the Act.

4. Three common exam traps

1. **"UNESCO has declared all of India's biosphere reserves."** India has 18 notified biosphere reserves; only 13 of them are in UNESCO's World Network (PIB, 3 November 2025). Seshachalam Hills in Andhra Pradesh is one of the five that are not. A biosphere reserve is also not one of the four "protected areas" defined in section 2(24A) of the Act.

2. **"The NTCA declares a tiger reserve."** The NTCA recommends; the State Government notifies (section 38V(1)). The NTCA itself is constituted by the Central Government (section 38L). A tiger reserve's core is made of areas of national parks and sanctuaries, yet the tiger reserve is not in the Act's list of protected areas.
3. **Quoting a count without its date:** 1,014 and 5.32% are the WII 27 November 2023 baseline, reproduced by PIB in March 2025. The NTCA list updated 23 October 2026 has 58 tiger reserves. These are different categories and dates, not competing totals.

7. Sources

7.1 Sources

No.	Source	Used for
S1	Wild Life (Protection) Act: 2002 amendment, official Maharashtra Police copy; 2022 Gazette instrument; consolidated reproduction dated 5 June 2025	Amended statutory teaching. Official consolidated endpoint could not be freshly retrieved; exact verification limits in private QA
S2	Section 38V of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, text on LawX (a mirror of the Act). https://lawx.in/acts/section/125/1123/9644	State Government notifies a tiger reserve on the recommendation of the Tiger Conservation Authority; core or critical tiger habitat and buffer or peripheral area; inserted by Act 39 of 2006, w.e.f. 4-9-2006
S3	Wildlife Institute of India, National Wildlife Database Cell page (last updated 27 November 2023). https://v1.wii.gov.in/node/229	1,014 protected areas: 106 national parks, 573 wildlife sanctuaries, 115 conservation reserves, 220 community reserves; 1,75,169.42 sq km; about 5.32 per cent of the geographical area
S4	Press Information Bureau, "India's Wildlife Conservation Milestones", MoEFCC, 3 March 2025. https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2025/mar/doc202533511501.pdf	The same protected area figures given as on 27 November 2023; 54 tiger reserves in that document
S7	National Tiger Conservation Authority, "Tiger Reserves" (page last updated 23 October 2026; read on 30 October 2026). https://ntca.gov.in/tiger-reserves/	58 tiger reserves; total 84,487.83 sq km (core 46,701.29, buffer 37,786.54); Madhav, Madhya Pradesh (2025) as the latest listed; Nagarjunsagar Srisailam

No.	Source	Used for
S8	Press Information Bureau, “Sustaining Life, Celebrating Nature: India’s Biosphere Reserves”, 3 November 2025. https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2025/nov/doc2025113683301.pdf	18 notified biosphere reserves, about 91,425 sq km; 13 in the WNBR; Cold Desert entering the WNBR in September 2025; oldest Nilgiri (1986), newest Panna (2011), largest Great Rann of Kutch (12,454 sq km), smallest Nokrek (820 sq km); funding 60:40 and 90:10; eco-sensitive zones around national parks and sanctuaries
S9	United Nations in India, “Where snow leopards roam: India’s cold desert earns global recognition” (27 September 2025). https://india.un.org/en/302288-where-snow-leopards-roam-indias-cold-desert-earns-global-recognition	Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve: about 7,770 sq km in Lahaul-Spiti, Himachal Pradesh; Pin Valley National Park, Kibber and Chandratal Wildlife Sanctuaries; designated at the World Congress of Biosphere Reserves, Hangzhou; India’s 13th
S10	UNESCO, “About the World Network of Biosphere Reserves”. https://www.unesco.org/en/mab/wnbr/about	Definition of a biosphere reserve under the MAB Programme; core, buffer and transition zones; first biosphere reserves designated in 1976; 797 biosphere reserves in 145 countries (map 2025-2026)
S11	UNESCO, “Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme”. https://www.unesco.org/en/mab	The WNBR of 797 sites in 145 countries
S14	Supreme Court of India, *T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad v. Union of India*, I.A. No. 131377 of 2022 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995, judgment of 26 April 2023. https://api.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/1995/2997/2997_1995_8_1501_43924_Judgement_26-Apr-2023.pdf	The order of 3 June 2022 (one-kilometre ESZ from the demarcated boundary); the 2023 modification (draft or final ESZ notifications and proposals; inter-State borders and common boundaries); mining not permissible within national parks and sanctuaries and within one kilometre; 9 February 2011 guidelines; “not to hamper the day to day activities of the citizens”

No.	Source	Used for
S18	The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002 (Act No. 16 of 2003, assented to on 17 January 2003), text hosted by Maharashtra Police. https://www.mahapolice.gov.in/uploads/acts_rules/TheWildLife(Protection)AmendmentAct,2002.pdf	Section 14 substituting section 26A(3) and section 19 substituting section 35(5) (boundary alteration by the State Government only on the recommendation of the National Board); section 20 inserting sections 36A to 36D
S19	Lok Sabha, Unstarred Question No. 1021, "Schemes to address Climate Change", answered on 10 February 2025. https://eparlib.sansad.in/bitstream/123456789/2988620/1/AU1021_jlog6h.pdf	1,022 protected areas, 5.43 per cent of the geographical area; 220 community reserves
S21	New India Samachar (PIB), 1 to 15 June 2026, printed page 68 (HTML file page70). https://newindiasamachar.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/flipbook/2026/Jun/1st/English/files/basic-html/page70.html	1,134 protected areas in 2025; 58 tiger reserves in 2025
S22	UNESCO, "UNESCO designates 14 new biosphere reserves on World Environment Day", 5 June 2026. https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/unesco-designates-14-new-biosphere-reserves-world-environment-day	The 14 sites of 2026, none in India; WNBR of 797 sites in 145 countries
S23	UNESCO, Biosphere reserves in Asia and the Pacific (country list). https://en.unesco.org/biosphere/aspac	The 12 Indian sites in the WNBR before 2025: Nilgiri, Gulf of Mannar, Sundarban, Nanda Devi, Nokrek, Pachmarhi, Similipal, Achanakmar-Amarkantak, Great Nicobar, Agasthyamala, Khangchendzonga, Panna; Seshachalam not among them
S24	N. Dudley (ed.), *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories*, IUCN, 2008. https://portals.iucn.org/library/efiles/documents/PAPS-016.pdf	Names of the IUCN categories Ia to VI
S25	MoEFCC, Biosphere Reserve Division, website note on biosphere reserves (figures as on December 2023). https://moef.gov.in/uploads/pdf/Approved%20copy%20of%20Website%20note%20of%20BR.pdf	MoEFCC has established 18 biosphere reserves; list with areas: Dibru-Saikhowa, Assam, 765 sq km (the smallest in the list); Nokrek, Meghalaya, 820 sq km (the smallest of those in the WNBR)

Topic 258 | Goleman's model: the five components

1. Concept in one line

Daniel Goleman’s mixed model describes emotional intelligence at work as five components (self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy and social skill), each with a definition and a set of hallmarks; he calls the first three self-management skills and says the last two concern managing relationships with others. The exam asks which component a hallmark, competence or behaviour belongs to, how this model differs from Salovey and Mayer’s ability model, and how it has been criticised.

2. Revision notes

2.1 Where this topic fits

- **Topic 68:** emotional intelligence is the ability to monitor one’s own and others’ emotions, to discriminate among them and to use the information to guide thinking and action. Salovey and Mayer published a formal theory of emotional intelligence in 1990; Goleman’s book (1995) made the term widely known.
- **Topic 128:** recognising an emotion from the cues a public-service situation states, including mixed feelings.
- **Topic 138:** social intelligence, the ability to understand people and situations and to act wisely in dealing with others; Goleman’s separate social intelligence model of 2006 has two halves, social awareness and social facility.
- **Topic 198:** what an emotion is, and basic emotions (Ekman’s six, Plutchik’s eight) against complex emotions (blends and self-conscious emotions).
- Self-awareness and self-regulation in depth come in Topics 328 and 378; Mayer and Salovey’s ability model in Topic 778.

2.2 Who Goleman is, and his three works on emotional intelligence

- Daniel Goleman is a psychologist and science journalist.
- **1995, *Emotional Intelligence*,** subtitled “Why It Can Matter More Than IQ”: the bestseller that popularised the term. He did not introduce the concept.
- **1998, *Working with Emotional Intelligence*** (Bantam): the book on which the Emotional Competence Framework in 2.5 is largely based.

- **1998, "What Makes a Leader?"** (*Harvard Business Review*, November-December 1998): the article that sets out the five components in a table, each with a definition and its hallmarks. Its opening claim is that IQ and technical skills are important, but emotional intelligence is the "sine qua non" (an essential condition) of leadership.

2.3 Goleman's mixed model against the ability model

Topic 68 gave the models as follows; this topic keeps that account.

Kind of model	Linked with	What it treats emotional intelligence as	How it is measured
Ability model	Mayer and Salovey	A mental ability: reasoning about emotions	An ability test with emotion-based problems to solve, the Mayer-Salovey-Caruso Emotional Intelligence Test (MSCEIT)
Mixed model	Goleman	A wide array of competencies and skills	Ratings by several people who know the person (multi-rater assessment)

- For Goleman's model, the Emotional Competence Inventory (ECI, developed in 1998 according to the June 2011 ESCI User Guide) and its later reconceptualisation, the Emotional and Social Competence Inventory (ESCI, 2007), were developed by Goleman and Boyatzis as a behavioural measure of emotional and social competencies.
- The ability model defines emotional intelligence in terms of cognitive and emotional abilities; the mixed model is a set of emotional competencies, and it is sometimes regarded as a form of trait emotional intelligence.
- Topic 68 noted Mayer's own statement that emotional intelligence is not motivation, among other things. Goleman's list includes motivation. This is the sharpest difference between the two lists.

2.4 The five components (Goleman, "What Makes a Leader?", 1998)

Component	Goleman's definition	Hallmarks
1. Self-awareness	The ability to recognise and understand one's moods, emotions and drives, as well as their effect on others	Self-confidence; realistic self-assessment; a self-deprecating sense of humour
2. Self-regulation	The ability to control or redirect disruptive impulses and moods; the propensity to suspend judgement, to think before acting	Trustworthiness and integrity; comfort with ambiguity; openness to change

Component	Goleman's definition	Hallmarks
3. Motivation	A passion to work for reasons that go beyond money or status; a propensity to pursue goals with energy and persistence	A strong drive to achieve; optimism, even in the face of failure; organisational commitment
4. Empathy	The ability to understand the emotional make-up of other people; skill in treating people according to their emotional reactions	Expertise in building and retaining talent; cross-cultural sensitivity; service to clients and customers
5. Social skill	Proficiency in managing relationships and building networks; an ability to find common ground and build rapport	Effectiveness in leading change; persuasiveness; expertise in building and leading teams

- Each component has three hallmarks in the article, fifteen in all.
- In the text of the article, self-awareness means a deep understanding of one's emotions, strengths, weaknesses, needs and drives. A self-aware person can turn down a tempting job offer that does not fit his principles or long-term goals.
- "Self-deprecating" means able to laugh at one's own faults. It is a hallmark of self-awareness, not of social skill.
- Hallmarks that sound alike sit in different components: "openness to change" is self-regulation, but "effectiveness in leading change" is social skill; "building and retaining talent" is empathy, but "building and leading teams" is social skill.

2.5 Personal competence and social competence

- **In the article:** "The first three components of emotional intelligence are all self-management skills. The last two, empathy and social skill, concern a person's ability to manage relationships with others."
- **In the Emotional Competence Framework** of the Consortium for Research on Emotional Intelligence in Organizations, drawn mostly from *Working with Emotional Intelligence* (1998), the same two groups are headed **Personal Competence** and **Social Competence**. It lists 25 competences in five clusters.

Group	Cluster (Consortium's name)	Competences in the cluster
Personal Competence	Self-Awareness	Emotional awareness; accurate self-assessment; self-confidence
Personal Competence	Self-Regulation	Self-control; trustworthiness; conscientiousness; adaptability; innovativeness
Personal Competence	Self-Motivation	Achievement drive; commitment; initiative; optimism

Group	Cluster (Consortium's name)	Competences in the cluster
Social Competence	Social Awareness	Empathy; service orientation; developing others; leveraging diversity; political awareness
Social Competence	Social Skills	Influence; communication; leadership; change catalyst; conflict management; building bonds; collaboration and cooperation; team capabilities

- Personal Competence holds 12 competences (3 + 5 + 4) and Social Competence holds 13 (5 + 8).
- The framework's own definitions of some of them: emotional awareness, recognising one's emotions and their effects; accurate self-assessment, knowing one's strengths and limits; self-confidence, sureness about one's self-worth and capabilities; trustworthiness, maintaining standards of honesty and integrity; adaptability, flexibility in handling change; initiative, readiness to act on opportunities; optimism, persistence in pursuing goals despite obstacles and setbacks; service orientation, anticipating, recognising and meeting customers' needs; conflict management, negotiating and resolving disagreements.
- **The names differ between the two works.** The article's "motivation" is the framework's "Self-Motivation". The article's "empathy" is a component; in the framework, empathy is one competence inside the cluster "Social Awareness".
- **A later version:** the June 2011 ESCI User Guide already groups 12 competencies in four domains: self-awareness (1), self-management (4), social awareness (2) and relationship management (5). Its timeline dates ECI development to 1998 and ESCI reconceptualisation to 2007. The 2017 Goleman–Boyatzis article is a later presentation, not the introduction of this four-domain structure.

2.6 Learning and the limits of historical claims

- **What the 1998 article says:** Goleman argues that both nature and nurture influence emotional intelligence and that it can increase with maturity. Read this as the author's historical position, not a guarantee that every person's skill rises with age or a quantified genetic finding.
- **Practice:** the article emphasises motivation, extended practice and feedback rather than information alone. A useful learning cycle is to identify one behaviour, practise it in a real situation, seek feedback and adjust. For example, a manager can practise pausing before replying to a complaint and ask colleagues whether the response becomes clearer and fairer.
- **No neuroscience shortcut:** the article explains learning through a limbic-system/neocortex contrast. This is a historical explanation, not a verified modern claim that one brain region alone governs a skill or that a particular training programme necessarily improves performance.
- **Performance claims need a stated study:** Goleman describes IQ and technical skills as entry-level threshold capabilities and reports that emotional competencies were twice as important in his competency-model analysis. That is an attributed result of his analysis, not a universal ratio applying to every job, student or country.

- **Learning is not automatic:** repeated behaviour, feedback and a suitable context matter. A one-off lecture or a high self-rating does not demonstrate improved emotional skill.

2.7 How to evaluate the model critically

Question	Why it matters
Which model is being tested?	A broad competence model includes motivation and social behaviours; an ability model tests reasoning about emotions. Findings from one do not automatically validate the other.
Which measure is used?	Self-reports, observer ratings and performance tests use different evidence. A favourable self-description is not the same as solving an emotion problem or being rated consistently by others.
Does it add prediction?	Ask whether the measure explains relevant outcomes beyond IQ and personality, in an appropriate sample. Overlap between constructs and measurement methods must be examined.
Is evidence independently checkable?	Ask for the sample, method, outcome, limitations and independent replication rather than accepting a commercial success claim.

Emmerling and Goleman's October 2003 paper discusses model differences, measurement and the need for further research. It is an author position paper, not an independent verdict settling every debate. No verified universal formula assigns 80% of success to emotional intelligence. Keep useful practice separate from sweeping claims.

2.8 In the syllabus

This topic falls under Item 16 of the General Mental Ability (reasoning and psychological) part of the APPSC Group 1 Screening Test schedule followed in this programme. Questions usually give a hallmark, a competence or a workplace behaviour and ask for its component, or ask which work or author a list comes from.

3. Extra section: the five components in public-service situations

The situations are illustrations; each shows one hallmark from the table in 2.4.

Component	Situation	Hallmark it shows
Self-awareness	A newly posted Mandal Revenue Officer tells her staff that she has little experience of land surveys and asks the senior surveyor to check her first orders	Realistic self-assessment
Self-regulation	Relief rules change twice in one week during a flood. A tahsildar does not freeze or complain; he redraws the distribution plan calmly and explains it to his staff	Comfort with ambiguity; openness to change
Motivation	A headmaster whose school's results fell sharply runs remedial classes all through the next year, sure that the results can be turned round	Optimism, even in the face of failure
Empathy	A municipal commissioner sees that migrant workers stay away from a health camp because no one speaks their language, and posts interpreters at the camp	Cross-cultural sensitivity
Social skill	A district collector persuades the health, education and women and child welfare departments to run one joint anaemia campaign, and leads the joint team	Persuasiveness; building and leading teams

How to use the table: in a situation question, ask first whether the person is managing himself or herself (one of the first three components) or managing a relationship with others (one of the last two); then match the behaviour to a hallmark.

4. Three common exam traps

1. **"Goleman gave the concept of emotional intelligence, and his model is an ability model."** Salovey and Mayer published the formal theory in 1990; Goleman popularised the term in 1995. His model is a mixed model of competencies and skills, and motivation is in his list but not among the abilities of Mayer and Salovey.
2. **Mixing the names of the two works.** The 1998 article speaks of five components, with empathy as one of them. The Emotional Competence Framework calls its clusters Self-Awareness, Self-Regulation, Self-Motivation, Social Awareness and Social Skills, and treats empathy as one competence within Social Awareness. Read which work a question names.

3. **Confusing a component with a hallmark or a competence.** Self-confidence, for example, is not a sixth component: in the article it is a hallmark of self-awareness, and in the framework it is a competence in the Self-Awareness cluster. A question that lists “self-confidence” beside “empathy” as if both were components is mixing levels.

7. Sources

- Goleman, “What Makes a Leader?”, 1998 article, January 2004 HBR reprint, PDF6 exhibit: https://jackiegleadership.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/goleman-2004-what-makes-a-leader.pdf
- CREIO, Emotional Competence Framework,1998: https://www.eiconsortium.org/reports/emotional_competence_framework.html
- Hay Group, ESCI User Guide,June2011,PDF4 domains and PDF6 development timeline: https://www.eiconsortium.org/pdf/ESCI_user_guide.pdf
- CREIO, MSCEIT ability test: https://www.eiconsortium.org/measures/msceit.html
- Emmerling and Goleman, Emotional Intelligence: Issues and Common Misunderstandings,October2003, especiallyPDF4,10–14: https://www.eiconsortium.org/pdf/EI_Issues_And_Common_Misunderstandings.pdf

Topic 259 | Profit and loss: cost price, selling price and profit per cent

1. Concept in one line

Profit or loss is the gap between the selling price and the cost price, and its per cent is reckoned on the cost price unless the question names another base. The exam tests whether you build the cost price correctly (overheads included), keep it as the base, and work backwards by dividing where a hurried candidate subtracts.

2. Revision notes

2.1 Recall from earlier topics

- **Topic 29:** a percentage is a fraction with denominator 100: 1/8 = 12 1/2%, 1/6 = 16 2/3%, 1/5 = 20%, 1/4 = 25% and 1/3 = 33 1/3%.
- **Topic 109:** BODMAS: brackets first; division and multiplication have equal priority and proceed left to right, as do addition and subtraction. Use brackets to make the intended grouping of "of" explicit. So in CP × (100 + P)/100 the bracket is worked first.
- **Topic 159:** a percentage change is reckoned on the old value; old value = new value ÷ factor; for two changes of a% and b% (write a fall with a minus sign): net change = a + b + ab/100 per cent.
- **Topic 169:** one part = the given amount ÷ the number of parts it stands for. If SP : CP = 6 : 5, the profit is 1 part, that is, 1/5 of the CP.

2.2 The terms

The textbook used here is NCERT *Mathematics*, Class VII, "Comparing Quantities" (the textbook used before *Ganita Prakash*), with one line from the Class VIII chapter of the same name.

Term	Meaning	Example
Buying price	The price paid for the article	A house is bought for ₹4,52,000
Overhead expenses	Additional expenses made after buying an article, such as repairs; they are added to the cost price	₹28,000 spent on repairs to the house
Cost price (CP)	Buying price + overhead expenses	₹4,52,000 + ₹28,000 = ₹4,80,000
Selling price (SP)	The price at which the article is sold	The house is sold for ₹4,92,000

Term	Meaning	Example
Profit (gain)	When SP is more than CP: profit = SP - CP	₹4,92,000 - ₹4,80,000 = ₹12,000
Loss	When CP is more than SP: loss = CP - SP	A T-shirt bought for ₹120 and sold for ₹100: loss ₹20
Neither	When SP = CP, there is no profit and no loss	

- NCERT Class VIII gives the overhead rule as CP = buying price + overhead expenses.

2.3 Profit per cent and loss per cent: on the CP unless stated otherwise

- **Profit % = profit ÷ CP × 100. Loss % = loss ÷ CP × 100.**
- Profit and loss per cents are reckoned on the CP unless the question states another base.
- A toy bought for ₹72 and sold for ₹80: profit ₹8, and $8/72 \times 100 = 11\ 1/9\%$.
- The T-shirt above: $20/120 \times 100 = 16\ 2/3\%$ loss.
- The house above: $12{,}000/4{,}80{,}000 \times 100 = 2.5\%$ profit. The base is ₹4,80,000, the CP with the repairs, not the buying price of ₹4,52,000.

2.4 Finding the SP or the CP

Here P and L are numerical percentage rates: use P = 20 for a 20% profit.

Given	To find	Formula
CP and profit %	SP	$SP = CP \times (100 + P)/100$
CP and loss %	SP	$SP = CP \times (100 - L)/100$
SP and profit %	CP	$CP = SP \times 100/(100 + P)$
SP and loss %	CP	$CP = SP \times 100/(100 - L)$

- **Forward.** A vase with a CP of ₹120 is sold at a loss of 10%: $SP = 120 \times 90/100 = ₹108$.
- **Reverse.** A toy car is sold for ₹540 at a profit of 20%: $CP = 540 \times 100/120 = ₹450$. Check: 20% of 450 is 90, and 450 + 90 = 540. Taking 20% of ₹540 off ₹540 gives ₹432, which is wrong: the 20% is of the CP, not of the SP. This is Topic 159's reverse change.
- **Two steps.** A book sold for ₹258 at a gain of 20% has $CP = 258 \times 100/120 = ₹215$. To gain 30%, it must be sold for $215 \times 130/100 = ₹279.50$.

2.5 The multiplier method

- A profit of P% means SP = (1 + P/100) × CP; a loss of L% means SP = (1 - L/100) × CP. A profit of 20% means SP = 1.2 × CP = 6/5 × CP, which is how NCERT writes the toy car. Going back, CP = SP ÷ multiplier.
- The fraction form of Topic 29 makes the working mental. Read it as parts (Topic 169): 9/8 means a CP of 8 parts and an SP of 9 parts.

Profit or loss	Multiplier as a decimal	Multiplier as a fraction
Profit 10%	1.1	11/10
Profit 12 1/2%	1.125	9/8
Profit 16 2/3%	1.1666...	7/6
Profit 20%	1.2	6/5
Profit 25%	1.25	5/4
Profit 33 1/3%	1.333...	4/3
Loss 10%	0.9	9/10
Loss 12 1/2%	0.875	7/8
Loss 20%	0.8	4/5
Loss 25%	0.75	3/4

- Example: an article sold for ₹1,800 at a profit of 12 1/2% has CP = 1,800 × 8/9 = ₹1,600.

2.6 Profit on the CP against profit on the SP

- The same rupees give two per cents on two bases. CP ₹1,200 and SP ₹1,500: the profit of ₹300 is 25% of the CP but 20% of the SP. The answer to “profit per cent” is 25%.
- In business, markup is reckoned on cost and margin on the selling price, so one deal gives two different per cents.
- A profit of P% on the CP is P/(100 + P) × 100 per cent of the SP. This is Topic 159’s rule for undoing a rise.

Profit as a per cent of the CP	Same profit as a per cent of the SP
10%	9 1/11%
20%	16 2/3%
25%	20%
33 1/3%	25%

Profit as a per cent of the CP	Same profit as a per cent of the SP
50%	33 1/3%

- If a question does say "a profit of 20% on the selling price", then CP = 80% of SP, so SP = CP ÷ 0.8, and the profit on the CP is 25%.

2.7 Three classic results

(a) Same SP, x% profit on one article and x% loss on the other: a net loss of $x^2/100$ per cent.

- Proof: the CPs are SP ÷ (1 + x/100) and SP ÷ (1 - x/100), so the total CP = 2 SP ÷ (1 - x^2/10,000), while the total SP = 2 SP. The total SP is therefore (1 - x^2/10,000) of the total CP: a loss of x^2/100 per cent.
- Example: two horses are sold for ₹29,700 each, one at a gain of 10% and the other at a loss of 10%. CPs: ₹27,000 and ₹33,000, total ₹60,000. Total SP ₹59,400. Loss ₹600, which is 1% (= 10^2/100).
- For 0 < x < 100, the result is a loss. At x = 0, there is no gain or loss. It needs the same positive SP and the same per cent; it is the same figure as Topic 159's equal rise and fall. Other two-article cases are Topic 999.

(b) Buying m articles for ₹a and selling n articles for ₹b.

- Compare one article: CP of one = a/m, SP of one = b/n. Profit % = (b/n ÷ a/m - 1) × 100 = (bm/an - 1) × 100.
- Oranges bought at 25 for ₹100 and sold at 20 for ₹100: CP of one ₹4, SP of one ₹5, profit 25%.
- **Swapped figures.** Buying 12 for ₹10 and selling 10 for ₹12: CP of one = 10/12 = 5/6, SP of one = 12/10 = 6/5. Multiplier 6/5 ÷ 5/6 = 36/25 = 1.44: a profit of 44%. It is two rises of 20% in a row (20 + 20 + 400/100 = 44, by Topic 159), not "no profit, no loss" and not 20%.

(c) CP of x articles = SP of y articles.

- Proof: x × CP = y × SP, so SP/CP = x/y and the profit = (x - y)/y of the CP. **Profit % = (x - y)/y × 100.**
- CP of 15 articles = SP of 12 articles: 3/12 × 100 = 25%. The denominator is y, the number sold, not x.
- If x is less than y, it is a loss of (y - x)/y × 100 per cent.

2.8 Common traps

Trap	Wrong working	Right working
Profit per cent taken on the SP	CP ₹1,200, SP ₹1,500: 300/1,500 = 20%	300/1,200 = 25%
Overheads left out	House: 40,000/4,52,000, about 8.85%	12,000/4,80,000 = 2.5%

Trap	Wrong working	Right working
Reverse case by subtracting	Toy car: 540 - 108 = ₹432	540 × 100/120 = ₹450
Same SP read as no change	Two horses at ₹29,700, 10% each way: no loss	Loss of 1%
Wrong denominator in "CP of x = SP of y"	CP of 15 = SP of 12: 3/15 = 20%	3/12 = 25%
Swapped figures read as no profit	12 for ₹10, 10 for ₹12: 0%	44%

Discount is a reduction given on the marked price (NCERT Class VIII). Other days cover marked price and discount (Topic 459), successive discounts (Topic 739), the dishonest dealer (Topic 919), and two articles and special cases (Topic 999).

3. Extra section: a drill of eight questions with full working

1. **Profit per cent with overheads.** A scooter is bought for ₹24,000; ₹1,000 is spent on repairs; it is sold for ₹27,500. CP = 24,000 + 1,000 = ₹25,000. Profit = ₹2,500. Profit % = 2,500/25,000 × 100 = 10%.
2. **Loss per cent.** A mixer bought for ₹2,400 is sold for ₹2,100. Loss = ₹300. Loss % = 300/2,400 × 100 = 12 1/2%. Check: 2,400 × 7/8 = 2,100.
3. **SP from the CP.** CP ₹1,440, profit 12 1/2%. SP = 1,440 × 9/8 = ₹1,620.
4. **CP from the SP after a profit.** SP ₹3,500 at a profit of 16 2/3%. Multiplier 7/6. CP = 3,500 × 6/7 = ₹3,000. Taking 1/6 of ₹3,500 off ₹3,500 gives about ₹2,916.67, which uses the SP as the base.
5. **CP from the SP after a loss.** SP ₹1,350 at a loss of 10%. CP = 1,350 × 100/90 = ₹1,500. Adding 10% of ₹1,350 gives ₹1,485, which is wrong for the same reason.
6. **Same SP.** Two cycles are sold for ₹4,800 each, one at a profit of 20% and the other at a loss of 20%. CPs: 4,800 × 5/6 = ₹4,000 and 4,800 × 5/4 = ₹6,000, total ₹10,000. Total SP ₹9,600. Loss ₹400 = 4% (= $20^2/100$).
7. **CP of x = SP of y.** The CP of 18 articles equals the SP of 15 articles. Profit % = (18 - 15)/15 × 100 = 20%.
8. **m for ₹a, n for ₹b.** Pens bought at 4 for ₹30 and sold at 5 for ₹45. CP of one = ₹7.50; SP of one = ₹9. Profit = ₹1.50 on ₹7.50 = 20%.

4. Three common exam traps

1. **Profit per cent is on the CP.** An article bought for ₹400 and sold for ₹500 gives a profit of 100/400 × 100 = 25%. The figure of 20% is the profit as a per cent of the SP, and it is not the answer unless the question asks for it.
2. **In the reverse case, divide by the multiplier.** An article sold for ₹660 at a profit of 10% cost 660 ÷ 1.1 = ₹600, not 660 - 66 = ₹594.

3. **Equal profit and loss per cents on the same SP are not "no profit, no loss".** The article sold at a loss cost more, so the loss outweighs the profit: the net result is a loss of $x^2/100$ per cent. At 10% each way, it is a loss of 1%.

7. Sources

7.1 Sources

No.	Source	Used for
S1	NCERT, *Mathematics*, Class VII, chapter "Comparing Quantities" (the textbook used before *Ganita Prakash*), Section 7.3 "Prices Related to an Item or Buying and Selling", 7.3.1 "Profit or Loss as a Percentage", Examples 12 and 13, Exercise 7.2 and "What have we discussed?", read on the SATHEE portal of IIT Kanpur. https://sathee.iitk.ac.in/ncert-books/class-07/mathematics/chapter-7-comparing-quantities	Buying price as cost price and the price sold at as selling price; profit = SP - CP when SP is more; loss = CP - SP when CP is more; neither when equal; profit or loss per cent reckoned on the CP; toy ₹72 sold for ₹80 (profit ₹8, 11 1/9%); T-shirt ₹120 sold for ₹100 (loss ₹20, 16 2/3%); vase CP ₹120 at a loss of 10%, SP ₹108; toy car SP ₹540 at a profit of 20%, CP ₹450, with SP = 6/5 × CP
S2	NCERT, *Mathematics*, Class VIII, Chapter 7 "Comparing Quantities", the part "Finding Discounts" and "What have we discussed?", read on the SATHEE portal of IIT Kanpur. https://sathee.iitk.ac.in/ncert-books/class-08/mathematics/chapter-7-comparing-quantities	Additional expenses made after buying an article are included in the cost price and are known as overhead expenses; CP = buying price + overhead expenses; discount as a reduction given on the marked price
S3	National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), Secondary Course Mathematics (211), Lesson 8 "Percentage and Its Applications", Section 8.5.1 "Profit and Loss", Examples 8.16 to 8.21. https://digital.nios.ac.in/content/211en/Chapter-8.pdf	Definitions of cost price, selling price, profit and loss; gain per cent or loss per cent always calculated on the C.P.; the formulas for profit per cent, loss per cent, SP from CP and CP from SP; house bought for ₹4,52,000 with ₹28,000 of repairs, sold for ₹4,92,000 (gain 2.5%); book sold for ₹258 at a gain of 20% (CP ₹215; ₹279.50 for a gain of 30%); oranges at 25 for ₹100 sold at 20 for ₹100 (gain 25%); two horses at ₹29,700 each, 10% gain and 10% loss (CP ₹60,000, SP ₹59,400, loss 1%); CP of 15 articles = SP of 12 articles (gain 25%)

No.	Source	Used for
S4	Business Victoria, Calculate your breakeven point, margin and markup, 4 July 2022. https://business.vic.gov.au/business-information/finance/pricing-for-profit/calculate-your-breakeven-point-margin-and-markup	Markup is reckoned against cost and profit margin against the selling price, so one deal gives two different per cents; conversion between the two

Topic 260 | Heatwaves and lightning: recommendation, notified status and disaster finance

1. Concept in one line

The Sixteenth Finance Commission, in its report for 2026-27 to 2030-31 tabled on 1 February 2026, recommended adding heatwaves and lightning to the list of notified natural calamities that can get relief from the disaster response funds, and the Ministry of Home Affairs has included both in that list for 2026-31, as the Government told the Lok Sabha on 4 August 2026. The examination asks about this step and who took it, the Commission's disaster funds, the India Meteorological Department's heat wave criteria and the warning and planning tools for heat and lightning.

2. Revision notes

2.1 Links with earlier topics

- **Topic 237 (environmental hazards):** a hazard becomes a disaster under section 2(d) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 when its losses are beyond the coping capacity of the community of the affected area.
- **Topic 246 (the Act and its institutions):** the response and mitigation funds at the national, State and district levels (sections 46 to 48), and the Fifteenth Finance Commission's funds for 2021-22 to 2025-26, compared with the Sixteenth's in 2.5.
- Left to other days: the disaster management cycle and the Sendai Framework (Topic 617); preparedness for cyclones, floods and droughts (Topic 687).

2.2 The recommendation and what followed

- **The report:** the Sixteenth Finance Commission's report covers the award period 2026-27 to 2030-31. It was tabled in Parliament on 1 February 2026. Its recommendations on financing disaster management are in Chapter 11 of Volume I.
- **What it recommended, in the Government's words:** the Commission "recommended inclusion of heatwaves and lightning in the list of notified natural calamities, considering the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events arising from climate change" (Lok Sabha reply of 4 August 2026).
- **Acceptance:** the Ministry of Finance's Explanatory Memorandum on the action taken, dated 1 February 2026, sets out the Commission's recommendations on the disaster funds and says: "The Government has accepted the above recommendations of the Commission."

- **The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) acts:** "Based on these recommendations, the Ministry of Home Affairs has included heatwaves and lightning in the list of notified natural calamities under the Operational Guidelines for Administration of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for the award period 2026-31."
- **Result, as the same reply puts it:** "a policy framework for providing relief assistance through SDRF/ NDRF is now in place", and "Heat Wave Mitigation Projects are eligible under the Disaster Mitigation Funds."
- **Position on 1 November 2026:** heatwaves and lightning are notified natural calamities for 2026-31; this is no longer only a recommendation.
- **A point of wording:** use the official term "notified natural calamities". Inclusion concerns eligibility for SDRF/NDRF relief under norms; it does not create an unrestricted category called "national disasters".

2.3 The list of notified disasters and the State's own list

- **The list until 2025-26:** in replies to the Lok Sabha on 9 August 2023 and 20 August 2025, the Government listed 12 disasters eligible for assistance from the NDRF and SDRF: 1. cyclone, 2. drought, 3. earthquake, 4. fire, 5. flood, 6. tsunami, 7. hailstorm, 8. landslide, 9. avalanche, 10. cloudburst, 11. pest attack, 12. frost and cold wave. Heat wave and lightning were not in it.
- **For 2026-31:** the MHA has included heatwaves and lightning in the list (2.2).
- **The State's own list (as the Government described it on 20 August 2025):** a State Government can use up to 10 per cent of the annual fund allocation of the SDRF for immediate relief to victims of disasters that it considers to be disasters in the local context and that are not in the notified list, subject to prescribed conditions and norms.
- **Why the change matters:** until 2025-26, relief for a heatwave or lightning could come from the SDRF only inside that 10 per cent window. Now both are notified, so they come under the SDRF and NDRF in the same way as the other notified calamities.

2.4 The Commission's disaster funds for 2026-31

Point	Sixteenth Finance Commission (as accepted, Explanatory Memorandum of 1 February 2026)
State-level corpus	Rs 2,04,401 crore for the SDRF and the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) together, for 2026-27 to 2030-31
Who pays	Union share Rs 1,55,915.85 crore; States' share Rs 48,485.15 crore
Cost sharing, Union to State	75:25 for States other than the Northeastern and Hilly (NEH) States; 90:10 for the NEH States
Split of the corpus	SDRF to SDMF in the ratio 80:20: SDRF Rs 1,63,521 crore, SDMF Rs 40,880 crore

Point	Sixteenth Finance Commission (as accepted, Explanatory Memorandum of 1 February 2026)
Inside the SDRF	Flexibility to reallocate between Response and Relief and Recovery and Reconstruction
Preparedness and Capacity Building	To be covered under the SDMF and the National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF)
Unspent balance	If the unspent SDRF balance exceeds the sum of the past three years' annual allocation, further releases may be temporarily withheld; they are released when the balance falls below that level
National level	Rs 79,406 crore for the NDRF and the NDMF, based on past expenditure at the national level
State contribution to central assistance from the NDMF, and from the NDRF other than its Response and Relief part	10 per cent for assistance up to Rs 250 crore, 20 per cent for assistance above Rs 250 crore and up to Rs 500 crore, 25 per cent above Rs 500 crore; the NEH States contribute 10 per cent
Data condition	From 2027-28, the second year of the award, complete feeding and validation of data in the National Disaster Management Information System (NDMIS) portal (for a financial year, by 31 May of the next year) is a necessary condition for the Disaster Management Grant

2.5 Fifteenth and Sixteenth Finance Commissions compared

Point	Fifteenth (2021-22 to 2025-26, Topic 246)	Sixteenth (2026-27 to 2030-31)
State-level money	State Disaster Risk Management Fund (SDRMF), Rs 1,60,153 crore	SDRF and SDMF together, Rs 2,04,401 crore
National-level money	National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF), Rs 68,463 crore	NDRF and NDMF, Rs 79,406 crore
State-level response to mitigation	80:20	80:20
Preparedness and capacity building	A window of 10 per cent of the whole, inside the response part	Covered under the mitigation funds (SDMF and NDMF)
States' share	25 per cent; 10 per cent for the North-Eastern and Himalayan States	25 per cent in the 75:25 ratio; 10 per cent for the NEH States
Heatwave and lightning	Not in the notified list of 12	Recommended for inclusion; included by the MHA for 2026-31

The 80:20 comparison above concerns the **State** corpus only, not an assumed national split. Allocation is not actual expenditure.

The Fifteenth Finance Commission's term is "North-Eastern and Himalayan States"; the Explanatory Memorandum for the Sixteenth uses "Northeastern and Hilly (NEH) States". Use the term of the Commission the question names.

2.6 Heat wave and lightning: definitions and warning tools

The India Meteorological Department's (IMD) heat wave criteria (as printed in its heat bulletins, for example the bulletin of 30 June 2026):

Criterion	Heat wave	Severe heat wave
Threshold the station's maximum temperature must first reach	At least 40 degrees C in the plains, 37 degrees C at coastal stations, 30 degrees C in hilly regions	The same thresholds
Based on departure from normal	Departure of 4.5 degrees C to 6.4 degrees C	Departure of more than 6.4 degrees C
Based on actual maximum temperature (plains)	45 degrees C or more	47 degrees C or more

- The criteria must be met at least at two stations in a meteorological sub-division for at least two consecutive days; the heat wave is declared on the second day.
- **Lightning:** "a sudden electrostatic discharge that occurs during a Thunderstorm" (Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre, lightning action plan 2025-26).
- **Damini app (capabilities described in the 9 August 2023 reply):** developed and maintained by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM). It shows lightning within a 40 km radius of the user during the last 15 minutes and the likely occurrence over the next half an hour (Ministry of Earth Sciences, Lok Sabha, 9 August 2023).
- **IMD nowcasts:** for thunderstorms and the weather that comes with them, including lightning, one to three hours in advance, down to the district or town level.

2.7 Plans for heat and lightning

- **Heat wave:** the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has issued National Guidelines for the Effective Management of Heatwaves, and in October 2019 it formulated the National Guidelines for Preparation of Action Plan, Prevention and Management of Heat Wave, a revision of guidelines first issued in 2016. These help heatwave-prone States and Union territories prepare Heat Action Plans (HAPs). The Government's reply of 20 August 2025 refers to Heat Action Plans in 23 States prone to heatwave conditions.
- **Lightning:** the NDMA has issued detailed guidelines on action plans for State and local authorities, with do's and don'ts for the public (as stated at a Ministry of Earth Sciences workshop, 28 June 2021).

2.8 Deaths in official data

Year	Heat or sun stroke deaths, India (NCRB)	Of which Andhra Pradesh	Lightning deaths, India (NCRB)
2018	890	97	Not in the reply used here
2019	1,274	128	2,876
2020	530	50	2,862
2021	374	22	2,880
2022	730	47	Not in the reply used here

- The heat figures are from the National Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) "Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India", as given to the Lok Sabha on 20 August 2025. The lightning figures are from the same NCRB series, as given to the Lok Sabha on 9 August 2023.
- **2026 season (a different count):** the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's National Heat-Related Illness and Death Surveillance covers over 51,000 reporting units. From 1 March to 26 July 2026 it recorded 4,853 heatstroke cases and 20 confirmed deaths, 11 of them in Maharashtra (Lok Sabha, 4 August 2026). In the same period Andhra Pradesh reported 540 cases and 4 confirmed deaths; Telangana reported 915 cases and 2 confirmed deaths. These are not full-year totals.
- At a workshop on 28 June 2021 (press release of the Press Information Bureau), an NDMA member called thunderstorms with lightning "the single largest killer natural disaster in India".

2.9 Why it matters, and the difficulties

- **Relief:** notified status brings heat and lightning victims under the relief norms of the SDRF and NDRF, without the 10 per cent limit of the State's own list.
- **Mitigation:** heat wave mitigation projects can now be paid for from the disaster mitigation funds.
- **The reason given:** the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events arising from climate change.
- **Analytical challenges—not official findings:** cause-of-death attribution can be difficult; wider coverage may create fiscal and administrative demands; remote communities may face reporting gaps. Verification should prevent false claims without excluding genuine victims. These are issues for analysis, not a verified claim that every system is failing.

3. Extra section: chronology

Date	What happened
October 2019	NDMA formulates the National Guidelines for Preparation of Action Plan, Prevention and Management of Heat Wave

Date	What happened
28 June 2021	Ministry of Earth Sciences workshop on lightning: the Damini app and NDMA guidelines on lightning action plans
9 August 2023	Lok Sabha reply: lightning deaths of 2019 to 2021; the list of 12 notified disasters, without lightning
20 August 2025	Lok Sabha reply: heat or sun stroke deaths of 2018 to 2022; heat wave not in the list of 12; the 10 per cent State window
1 February 2026	The Sixteenth Finance Commission's report for 2026-31 is tabled; the Explanatory Memorandum records acceptance of its recommendations on the disaster funds
4 August 2026	Lok Sabha reply: the MHA has included heatwaves and lightning in the list of notified natural calamities for 2026-31
2027-28	The NDMIS data condition for the Disaster Management Grant applies from this year

4. Three common exam traps

1. **A threshold is not the criterion.** Reaching 40 degrees C in the plains, 37 degrees C on the coast or 30 degrees C in the hills only makes a station eligible to be considered. A heat wave then needs the departure from normal, or, in the plains, an actual maximum of 45 degrees C or more (47 degrees C or more for a severe heat wave). The 45 and 47 degree rules are not given for the coast or the hills, and one hot station on one day is not a heat wave: the criteria must hold at two stations on two consecutive days.
2. **Many "10 per cents".** The 10 per cent that a State may spend from its annual SDRF allocation on disasters it considers local is one figure. The 10 per cent State share for the NEH States, the 10 per cent State contribution for central assistance up to Rs 250 crore, and the Fifteenth Finance Commission's 10 per cent preparedness window are three others. Read what each is a share of.
3. **Different counts, different years.** The NCRB figures are deaths in a calendar year (heat up to 2022, lightning up to 2021 in the replies used here). The 2026 figures come from a health surveillance system and count heatstroke cases and confirmed deaths for part of one season. Do not add or compare them as if they were one series.

7. Sources

7.1 Sources

Additional primary check, 1 November 2026: MHA guidelines dated 12 January 2022, PDF pages 2–4, paragraphs 2.2–2.3, 3.2 and 5 (historical 2021–26 funding): https://ndmindia.mha.gov.in/ndmi/viewUploadedDocument?uid=NEW2132 . Current inclusion cross-check: https://ndmindia.mha.gov.in/ndmi/responsefund . Precise XVI-FC figures follow the signed Explanatory Memorandum, not typographical errors on the summary webpage.

No.	Source	Used for
S1	Ministry of Finance (Budget Division), "Explanatory Memorandum as to the Action Taken on the Recommendations Made by the Sixteenth Finance Commission", 1 February 2026. https://fincomindia.nic.in/asset/doc/commission-reports/16th-FC/16fc-EM.pdf	Paragraphs 20 to 25: corpus of Rs 2,04,401 crore; Union and State shares; 75:25 and 90:10; 80:20 split, SDRF and SDMF amounts; reallocation within the SDRF; Preparedness and Capacity Building under the SDMF and NDMF; the unspent balance rule; Rs 79,406 crore for the NDRF and NDMF; graded State contributions; the NDMIS condition from 2027-28; Chapter 11 of Volume I; acceptance by the Government
S2	Finance Commission of India, "Report of Sixteenth Finance Commission for 2026-2031" (page of the report, with Volume I, Volume II and the Explanatory Memorandum). https://fincomindia.nic.in/commission-reports-sixteenth ; Volume I: https://fincomindia.nic.in/asset/doc/commission-reports/16th-FC/reports/Vol1-Main-Report.pdf	Title and award period of the report; Chapter 11 on financing disaster management in Volume I
S3	PRS Legislative Research, "Report of the 16th Finance Commission for 2026-31" (report summary). https://prsindia.org/policy/report-summaries/report-of-the-16th-finance-commission-for-2026-31	Report tabled in Parliament on 1 February 2026; cross-check of the corpus, the cost sharing and the Centre's share

No.	Source	Used for
S4	Lok Sabha, Unstarred Question No. 2541, "Declaring Heatwaves as a Natural Disaster", Ministry of Home Affairs, answered 4 August 2026. https://sansad.in/getFile/lsapps/loksabhaquestions/annex/188/AU2541_Ql0SOe.pdf?source=lsapps	The Commission's recommendation and the reason for it; inclusion by the MHA in the list of notified natural calamities under the SDRF and NDRF guidelines for 2026-31; relief framework; Heat Wave Mitigation Projects; NDMA heat wave guidelines (October 2019) and Heat Action Plans; heat-related illness surveillance figures for 2026
S5	Press Information Bureau (Ministry of Earth Sciences), "Parliament Question: Loss of Lives and Health Crisis due to Intense Heat", 20 August 2025, Release ID 2158403 (Lok Sabha reply). https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2158403	The 12 notified disasters; heat wave not among them; the 10 per cent State window and its conditions; Heat Action Plans in 23 States; NCRB heat or sun stroke deaths 2018 to 2022, all India and Andhra Pradesh; Damini among IMD apps
S6	Lok Sabha, Unstarred Question No. 3235, "Deaths Due to Lightning Strikes", Ministry of Earth Sciences, 9 August 2023. https://sansad.in/getFile/loksabhaquestions/annex/1712/AU3235.pdf?source=pqals	NCRB lightning deaths 2019 to 2021; the Damini app (IITM; 40 km, last 15 minutes, next half an hour); IMD nowcasts one to three hours ahead; the list of 12 notified disasters without lightning
S7	India Meteorological Department, morning heat bulletin dated 30 June 2026, Annexure 7. https://mausam.imd.gov.in/pdfs/heatcolduser/morning_heat_bulletin.pdf	Heat wave and severe heat wave criteria: thresholds of 40, 37 and 30 degrees C; departures of 4.5 to 6.4 and more than 6.4 degrees C; 45 and 47 degrees C actual; two stations, two consecutive days, declared on the second day
S8	Press Information Bureau (Ministry of Earth Sciences), "An awareness session-cum-workshop on mitigating hazards due to lightning and thunderstorms by creating last mile connectivity", 28 June 2021, Release ID 1730978. https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1730978	NDMA guidelines on lightning action plans for State and local authorities; the NDMA member's description of lightning as the single largest killer natural disaster in India

No.	Source	Used for
S9	Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre, Government of Karnataka, “Lightning Action Plan 2025-26”. https://ksndmc.org/Content/Documents/General/LIGHTNING-ACTION%20PLAN-English-2025-26.pdf	Definition of lightning; cross-check of the Damini app (IITM)
S10	Fifteenth Finance Commission, Report for 2021-26, Chapter 8, “Disaster Risk Management” (copy hosted by the Uttar Pradesh SDMA). https://sdma.up.gov.in/front/assets/img/upsdma/fc_recommendation3.pdf	The Fifteenth Finance Commission’s funds, amounts, windows and State shares, as taught in Topic 246
S11	Down To Earth, “India updates disaster list to include heatwaves and lightning after Finance Commission push”, 7 August 2026, https://www.downtoearth.org.in/climate-change/india-updates-disaster-list-to-include-heatwaves-and-lightning-after-finance-commission-push ; and “Heatwaves and lightning should be added to national disaster list, Finance Commission says”, 2 February 2026, https://www.downtoearth.org.in/amp/story/natural-disasters/heatwaves-and-lightning-should-be-added-to-national-disaster-list-finance-commission-says	Secondary cross-check of the MHA’s step and of the earlier 10 per cent route for heatwave relief
S12	Mongabay India, “Heatwaves and lightning notified as national disasters, government says”, August 2026. https://india.mongabay.com/short-article/2026/08/heatwaves-and-lightning-notified-as-national-disasters-government-says/	Pointer to the Lok Sabha reply of 4 August 2026
S13	The institute’s current affairs file: Insights “Current Affairs 30”, February 2026, “16th Finance Commission Recommends Heatwaves and Lightning as National Disasters”, page 37	Selection of the item; the difficulties listed in 2.9, given as the compiler’s points

No.	Source	Used for
S14	Ministry of Home Affairs, “Policies and Guidelines” page (Disaster Management Division), listing “Operational Guidelines for Administration of the SDRF and NDRF based on the recommendations of Sixteenth Finance Commission 2026-27 to 2030-31”. https://www.mha.gov.in/policies-guidelines?page=1	Title of the MHA’s operational guidelines for 2026-31 named in 2.2 and in Q2
S15	National Disaster Management Authority, presentation “Heat wave Management: Preparedness and response”, hosted by the National Centre for Disease Control (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare). https://ncdc.mohfw.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/3-PPT-Heat-wave-Management-Preparedness-and-response-NDMA.pdf	NDMA heat wave action plan guidelines first issued in 2016, revised in 2017 and 2019
S16	Sixteenth Finance Commission, Report for 2026-31, Volume I, paragraphs 2.33 and 2.37 (same URL as S2)	The Commission’s own statement that it recommended expanding the list of nationally notified disasters