UPSC Current Affairs

Thursday, 12 November 2026 · Sources: PIB and The Hindu · 44 items

Paper	Items	Top headlines
GS1	6	Drone industry needs deeper localisation as import dependenc; Alice Huang, accused of spying on Nvidia chief, entered Taiw
GS2	30	G7 Foreign Ministers say China's actions east of Taiwan thre; Naturopathy Day 2026: Scientific Research Strengthens Indias
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Prelims	1	Visions of the future: On this year's Booker Prize

Every item links to its original source: tap a headline or the Source line to open the full article on thehindu.com or the press release on pib.gov.in. The Hindu text here is only the short RSS excerpt.

GS Paper I: Heritage, Culture, History, Geography & Society

AGRICULTURE

Cyclone Murasu damages over 274 hectares of crop area in Prakasam district

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Agriculture, Geography

• District Agriculture Officer says maize suffered the maximum damage across 154.17 hectares, followed by paddy and cotton crops sown on 66.02 hectares and 49.78 hectares respectively; APCPDCL restores power across 613 cyclone-affected villages in the district

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Geography & disasters:** India is exposed to cyclones, floods and heatwaves; the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (amended 2025), NDMA and NDRF/SDRF lead the response.
• **Governance & polity:** Shift from relief to risk reduction (Sendai Framework); early warning, CDRI and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Cyclone Murasu, Prakasam, District Agriculture Officer, APCPDCL

Source: The Hindu, National, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/cyclone-murasu-damages-over-274hecta

ECONOMY

Drone industry needs deeper localisation as import dependence poses risks: DFI

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Economy, Geography, Polity & Constitution

• The dependence on foreign-made motors, batteries, flight controllers, communication systems and rare earth magnets leaves the sector vulnerable to supply disruptions and export restrictions, cautions Smit Shah, president, Drone Federation India

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Internal security:** Narco-terror links across the Punjab border (Golden Crescent) and in the North-East (Golden Triangle); drones are used to drop drugs and arms.
• **Society:** Drug abuse among youth; NDPS Act, 1985 and Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan.
• **Economy:** Affects India's export competitiveness, MSMEs and jobs in labour-intensive sectors; India's recent FTAs include UAE, Australia, EFTA (TEPA) and the UK.
• **International relations:** Trade is now a tool of geopolitics; India defends policy space at the WTO on food security (public stockholding) and agriculture.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Drone, DFI, Smit Shah, Drone Federation India

Source: The Hindu, National, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/drone-industry-needs-deeper-localisation-

GEOGRAPHY

Central committee suggests three-year roadmap to phase out unsustainable sand mining from active river channels

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Geography, International Relations, Economy

• In its report, the CEC observes that while sand and gravel are crucial ingredients for infrastructure and construction, their unscientific or excessive extraction from active channels and floodplains disrupts the delicate dynamic balance of river systems

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** RBI's MPC targets 4% CPI inflation (±2%); rate decisions affect EMIs, credit growth, investment and the rupee.
• **Society:** Food inflation hits poor households the most; links to supply-side measures like buffer stocks and export curbs.
• **Geography & disasters:** India is exposed to cyclones, floods and heatwaves; the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (amended 2025), NDMA and NDRF/SDRF lead the response.
• **Governance & polity:** Shift from relief to risk reduction (Sendai Framework); early warning, CDRI and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Central, CEC

Source: The Hindu, Environment, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/central-committee-suggests-three-year-roadmap-to-ph

HISTORY & ART AND CULTURE

Indian billionaire, doctors spar over $900 brain blood-flow tracker Temple

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · History & Art and Culture, Polity & Constitution, Governance & Social Justice

• Promotional materials for the device, developed by Deepinder Goyal, ■say that its BrainFlow feature shows how well the brain is being supplied with blood in real time

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Temple, Promotional, Deepinder Goyal, BrainFlow

Source: The Hindu, Health, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/indian-billionaire-doctors-spar-over-900-brai

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Alice Huang, accused of spying on Nvidia chief, entered Taiwan eight times in 2024-25: Official

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Geography, Science & Technology

• Taiwan, a dominant player in the global semiconductor industry, sits at the centre of strategic competition between the United States and China, which claims the self-ruled island as part of its territory

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **International relations:** India's Act East Policy and vision of a free, open, rules-based Indo-Pacific (UNCLOS 1982); Quad and ASEAN centrality.
• **Economy:** A large share of India's trade passes through the Malacca Strait and South China Sea; disruption hits supply chains (semiconductors from Taiwan).
• **Internal security:** Unsettled LAC (eastern Ladakh, Arunachal): border infrastructure, disengagement and buffer zones; China's dual-use villages (Xiaokang) and dams on the Brahmaputra (Yarlung Tsangpo).

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Alice Huang, Nvidia, Taiwan, Official, United States and China

Source: The Hindu, International, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/chinese-woman-accused-of-spying-on-nvidia-chie

ALSO IN THE NEWS (LOWER PRIORITY)

• Registration for WaveX Startup Pavilion at IFFI Goa 2026 Closes Tomorrow (PIB, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, 12 Nov 2026)

GS Paper II: Polity, Governance, Social Justice & IR

AGRICULTURE

One Nation, One Ration Card

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Agriculture, Governance & Social Justice, Science & Technology

• The One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme was launched in 2019 by the Department of Food & Public Distribution.
• It is a major reform of the Public Distribution System (PDS) , enabling nationwide portability of ration cards and beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA).

Prelims pointers

• NFSA establishes legal entitlements for subsidized food grains, while TPDS distributes these grains to eligible…
• Key terms: One Nation, One Ration Card, One Nation One Ration Card, ONORC, Department of Food

Source: PIB, PIB Backgrounder, 12 Nov 2026 · https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2335306

GOVERNANCE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Naturopathy Day 2026: Scientific Research Strengthens Indias Nature-Based Healthcare Ecosystem

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice, Science & Technology, Environment & Ecology

• Naturopathy in India is gradually moving beyond its traditional association with nature cure towards a more structured ecosystem of scientific research, clinical evaluation and preventive healthcare.
• With growing attention to lifestyle-related disorders, obesity, stress and healthy ageing, its emphasis on nutrition, natural therapies and lifestyle modification is finding renewed relevance.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Naturopathy Day, Scientific Research Strengthens Indias Nature-Based Healthcare Ecosystem, Naturopathy, National

Source: PIB, AYUSH, 12 Nov 2026 · https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2335313

Keralam to launch Family Sustainability Mapping to identify children in high-risk environments

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice, Science & Technology

• Minister for Women and Child Development Bindhu Krishna says circumstances of families and children will be assessed with cooperation of schools, Anganwadis, local self-government institutions, District Child Protection Units, healthcare workers and police

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Society:** Women's safety, workforce participation and representation (Women's Reservation Act 2023, one-third seats after delimitation).
• **Governance & polity:** Laws such as the POSH Act 2013 and the new criminal laws (BNS 2023) and their implementation gaps.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Keralam, Family Sustainability Mapping, Minister for Women and Child Development Bindhu Krishna, Anganwadis, District Child Protection Units

Source: The Hindu, National, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/keralam-to-launch-family-sustainability-mapp

Consultations with Governor ongoing to arrive at agreement over V-C appointment: Higher Education Minister

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice, Polity & Constitution

• Consultations with Governor ongoing to arrive at agreement over V-C appointment: Higher Education Minister

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Governance & polity:** Role of the Governor in withholding assent to state bills (Article 200, 201) and Supreme Court guidance on timelines; tests cooperative federalism.
• **Ethics:** Constitutional morality: holders of constitutional office are expected to act neutrally and in good faith.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Consultations, Governor, V-C, Higher Education Minister

Source: The Hindu, National, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/consultations-with-governor-ongoing-to-a

Government extends micro credit guarantee scheme for five years

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice, Economy, Science & Technology

• Collateral-free loans have created a whole new generation of entrepreneurs who previously could not avail loans from the formal banking system

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Collateral-free

Source: The Hindu, National, 11 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/government-extends-micro-credit-guarantee-scheme-fo

Chittoor, Annamayya mango growers fear dry spell, rainfall deficit likely to impact 2027 yields

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice, Agriculture

• Chittoor district alone has roughly 51,736 hectares planted with Totapuri mangoes, boasting an expected production capacity of 5.17 lakh tonnes; if the intense water crunch continues, Chittoor will easily see a 10% to 20% drop from its usual overall production, says an official from the Horticulture Department

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Chittoor, Annamayya, Totapuri, Horticulture Department

Source: The Hindu, National, 11 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/chittoor-annamayya-mango-growers-fea

Anaemia prevention in India: pivoting towards better multidimensional strategies

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice, International Relations

• If anaemia reduction should align with India’s goals for NCD reduction, then the focus must be on better diets through diversification.
• That should be non-negotiable for public health policy: no amount of papering over cracks with pills and potions will work in the long term

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Society:** Public health outcomes and out-of-pocket spending; schemes like Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY and the TB-elimination target.
• **Governance & polity:** Health is a State subject; centre–state coordination and the One Health approach for disease surveillance.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Anaemia, NCD, That

Static connect: Anaemia

• Anaemia Mukt Bharat strategy targets children, adolescents and women; NFHS data show high prevalence among women and children.
UPSC angle: Nutrition and health policy (GS2).

Source: The Hindu, Health, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/anaemia-prevention-in-india-pivoting-towards-bett

■50-crore bio-economy mission proposed for Kalyana Karnataka

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice, Agriculture, Science & Technology

• The three-year initiative to focus on biotechnology, sustainable agriculture, and rural entrepreneurship across seven districts

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Kalyana Karnataka

Source: The Hindu, National, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/50-crore-bio-economy-mission-proposed-for

Spain’s first general strike in 14 years brings clashing social and political desires to the fore

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice, Science & Technology, Reports & Indices

• The two main unions calling for the strike, UGT and CCOO, reported widespread participation in the early hours “with significant work stoppages in strategic sectors”

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** RBI's MPC targets 4% CPI inflation (±2%); rate decisions affect EMIs, credit growth, investment and the rupee.

• **Society:** Food inflation hits poor households the most; links to supply-side measures like buffer stocks and export curbs.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Spain, UGT and CCOO

Source: The Hindu, International, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/spains-first-general-strike-in-14-years-brings

Why are fertility centres in Hyderabad in crosshairs over human egg harvesting? | Explained

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice

• The police have arrested a number of people including the persons who had rented the premises and were liaisoning with the fertility centres.

• The Health and Medical Department has issued notices to 13 ART centres out of the 44 identified facilities

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Why, Hyderabad, Explained, Health and Medical Department, ART

Source: The Hindu, National, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/why-are-fertility-centres-in-hyderabad-in

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

G7 Foreign Ministers say China's actions east of Taiwan threaten stability

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations

• The G7 statement said the Ministers ■stressed the importance of maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Internal security:** Unsettled LAC (eastern Ladakh, Arunachal): border infrastructure, disengagement and buffer zones; China's dual-use villages (Xiaokang) and dams on the Brahmaputra (Yarlung Tsangpo).
• **Economy:** Large trade deficit and dependence on Chinese inputs (APIs, electronics, solar, rare earths) drive PLI schemes, Press Note 3 (2020) FDI curbs and supply-chain diversification.
• **International relations:** Strategic competition in the Indian Ocean (String of Pearls), BRI vs connectivity alternatives (IMEC), and balancing via Quad while engaging in BRICS/SCO.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: G7 Foreign Ministers, China, Taiwan, Ministers, Taiwan Strait

Static connect: Taiwan Strait

• Separates Taiwan from mainland China and links the East and South China Seas.
UPSC angle: Indo-Pacific security (GS2).

Static connect: G7

• US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and Canada, with the EU taking part; India is often invited as an outreach partner.
UPSC angle: Global governance groupings (GS2).

Source: The Hindu, International, 12 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/g7-foreign-ministers-say-chinas-actions-east-o

Is Trump’s ‘no-war, no-peace’ plan on Iran sustainable?

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Polity & Constitution, Science & Technology

• President’s decision to hold off on further strikes, he remains neck-deep in the war he launched alongside Israel’s Netanyahu on February 28 this year

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** US is India's largest export market; tariffs, H-1B visa rules and trade-deal talks hit IT services, textiles, gems and pharma exports and the rupee.
• **International relations:** Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership: defence deals, iCET/TRUST technology cooperation, Quad; India balances this with strategic autonomy (Russian oil, BRICS).
• **Society:** About 9 million Indians live in the Gulf; their safety (evacuation operations such as Ajay/Kaveri) and remittances (India is the world's largest recipient) are at stake.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Is Trump, Iran, Despite, President, Israel

Source: The Hindu, International, 12 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/is-trumps-no-war-no-peace-plan-on-iran-sustain

Netanyahu dismisses claims that Israel blocking supplies to Gaza

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Economy

• Benjamin Netanyahu said the Palestinian militant group Hamas is to blame because it continues to refuse to disarm, a condition of the deal announced by Donald Trump, and seizes humanitarian aid in order to use it for military purposes

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** India imports most of its crude oil, much of it from the Gulf; conflict raises oil prices, shipping and insurance costs, inflation and the current account deficit.
• **Society:** About 9 million Indians live in the Gulf; their safety (evacuation operations such as Ajay/Kaveri) and remittances (India is the world's largest recipient) are at stake.
• **International relations:** India balances ties with Israel, Iran and the Arab states; projects like Chabahar and IMEC depend on regional stability.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Netanyahu, Israel, Gaza, Benjamin Netanyahu, Palestinian

Static connect: Gaza Strip

• Narrow Palestinian territory on the Mediterranean coast, bordering Israel and Egypt (Rafah crossing).
• India's long-standing position supports a two-state solution.

UPSC angle: India's West Asia policy and humanitarian law (GS2).

Source: The Hindu, International, 11 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/netanyahu-dismisses-claims-that-israel-blockin

Israeli strike on southern Gaza hospital kills six, health authorities say

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Governance & Social Justice

• Israeli forces have previously targeted Nasser Hospital; in 2025, the military killed five journalists — including AP contributor Mariam Dagga — when it struck a gathering point for local reporters at the complex

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** India imports most of its crude oil, much of it from the Gulf; conflict raises oil prices, shipping and insurance costs, inflation and the current account deficit.
• **Society:** About 9 million Indians live in the Gulf; their safety (evacuation operations such as Ajay/Kaveri) and remittances (India is the world's largest recipient) are at stake.
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Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Israeli, Gaza, Nasser Hospital, Mariam Dagga

Static connect: Gaza Strip

• Narrow Palestinian territory on the Mediterranean coast, bordering Israel and Egypt (Rafah crossing).
• India's long-standing position supports a two-state solution.

UPSC angle: India's West Asia policy and humanitarian law (GS2).

Source: The Hindu, International, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/israeli-strike-on-southern-gaza-hospital-kills

Russia, Ukraine agree to major prisoner swap after U.S.-brokered talks in Abu Dhabi

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations

• The two sides have exchanged thousands of captured soldiers throughout the almost five-year war, started by Russia’s 2022 invasion

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** US is India's largest export market; tariffs, H-1B visa rules and trade-deal talks hit IT services, textiles, gems and pharma exports and the rupee.
• **International relations:** Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership: defence deals, iCET/TRUST technology cooperation, Quad; India balances this with strategic autonomy (Russian oil, BRICS).
• **Internal security:** Dependence on Russian defence equipment (S-400, Su-30) and the push for indigenisation (Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence).

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Russia, Ukraine, Abu Dhabi

Source: The Hindu, International, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/russia-ukraine-agree-to-prisoner-swap-at-us-br

Amid reports of Korean firms shifting to A.P., Hwashin and Seoyon commit ■1,370-crore investments in T.N.

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Economy, Reports & Indices

• A formal MoU is expected to be signed at the upcoming Investment Conversion Conclave of the TVK government

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** RBI's MPC targets 4% CPI inflation (±2%); rate decisions affect EMIs, credit growth, investment and the rupee.
• **Society:** Food inflation hits poor households the most; links to supply-side measures like buffer stocks and export curbs.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Korean, Hwashin and Seoyon, MoU, Investment Conversion Conclave, TVK

Source: The Hindu, National, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/amid-reports-of-korean-firms-shifting-to

Pawan Kalyan pitches Andhra Pradesh as trusted global hub; Lokesh unveils red-carpet framework at 31st Vizag CII Summit

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Economy, Reports & Indices

• Lokesh urged corporate leaders to move beyond setting up manufacturing units and relocate their primary corporate headquarters to Andhra Pradesh, citing superior quality of life, skilled talent pipelines, and seamless connectivity anchored by new ports and the Bhogapuram International Airport

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Pawan Kalyan, Andhra Pradesh, Lokesh, Vizag CII Summit, Bhogapuram International Airport

Source: The Hindu, National, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Visakhapatnam/pawan-kalyan-pitches-andhra-pradesh-as-

POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Indonesia's Vice President resigns as eligibility and academic credentials are questioned

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution

• The Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court ruled last month that the documents submitted by Gibran Rakabuming Raka, the 39-year-old son of former President Joko Widodo, regarding his overseas education didn't meet election requirements

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Governance & polity:** Judicial review and the separation of powers; such rulings often clarify fundamental rights or federal relations and become Mains examples.
• **Society:** Access to justice and pendency (over 5 crore cases) affect citizens' trust in institutions.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Indonesia, Vice President, Constitutional Court, Supreme Court, Gibran Rakabuming Raka

Source: The Hindu, International, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/indonesias-vice-president-resigns-as-eligibili

Govt. clears infrastructure works for ■376 crore across State; roads set for upgrade

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution, Economy

• clears 2,880 works to improve water supply, waterbodies, parks, and retaining walls in Chennai Corporation areas, other municipal corporations, municipalities, and town panchayats

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Govt, Chennai Corporation

Source: The Hindu, National, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/th-exclusive-from-cities-to-panchayats-cms-mi

Mississippi elects Democrat Scott Colom as state's first Black U.S. senator since Reconstruction

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution, International Relations

• Former President Bill Clinton and former Vice-President Kamala Harris campaigned on Scott Colom's behalf in the campaign's closing weeks

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** US is India's largest export market; tariffs, H-1B visa rules and trade-deal talks hit IT services, textiles, gems and pharma exports and the rupee.
• **International relations:** Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership: defence deals, iCET/TRUST technology cooperation, Quad; India balances this with strategic autonomy (Russian oil, BRICS).

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Mississippi, Democrat Scott Colom, Black, Reconstruction, Former President Bill Clinton

Source: The Hindu, International, 12 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/mississippi-elects-democrat-scott-colom-as-sta

Jagga Reddy plans Telugu film on Sonia Gandhi’s life based on book ‘Belonging: A Journey of Love’

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution, Governance & Social Justice, Internal Security

• Supporting TPCC working president’s plans, Constituency Congress convenor Julakanti Anjaneyulu announced a contribution of ■2 crore towards its production

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Jagga Reddy, Telugu, Sonia Gandhi, Belonging, Journey of Love

Source: The Hindu, National, 12 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/jagga-reddy-plans-telugu-film-on-sonia-ga

Nvidia preparing to oust CEO Jensen Huang: U.S. media

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution, Governance & Social Justice, Reports & Indices

• The New York Times reported that Jensen Huang was also involved in a second extramarital affair, with Nvidia's vice-president of health care, Kimberly Powell

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** US is India's largest export market; tariffs, H-1B visa rules and trade-deal talks hit IT services, textiles, gems and pharma exports and the rupee.
• **International relations:** Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership: defence deals, iCET/TRUST technology cooperation, Quad; India balances this with strategic autonomy (Russian oil, BRICS).
• **Society:** Food inflation hits poor households the most; links to supply-side measures like buffer stocks and export curbs.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Nvidia, CEO Jensen Huang, New York Times, Jensen Huang, Kimberly Powell

Source: The Hindu, International, 12 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/nvidia-preparing-to-oust-ceo-jensen-huang-us-m

REPORTS & INDICES

INSA endorses G20 Science Academies' Joint Statement, reaffirming commitment to science-led solutions to global challenges

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Reports & Indices, Governance & Social Justice, International Relations

• The Indian National Science Academy (INSA), an institution of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), actively participated in the S20 2026 process and endorsed the Joint S20 Statement, released by the science academies of the G20 countries, on November 10, 2026, under the leadership of the U.S.
• National Academy of Sciences (NAS), as part of the Science20 (S20) engagement process.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** US is India's largest export market; tariffs, H-1B visa rules and trade-deal talks hit IT services, textiles, gems and pharma exports and the rupee.
• **International relations:** Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership: defence deals, iCET/TRUST technology cooperation, Quad; India balances this with strategic autonomy (Russian oil, BRICS).

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: INSA, G20 Science Academies, Joint Statement, Indian National Science Academy, Department of Science and Technology

Static connect: G20

• 19 countries plus the EU and the African Union (AU joined in 2023 under India's presidency).
UPSC angle: India's G20 presidency outcomes; global economic governance (GS2).
Source: PIB, Ministry of Science & Technology, 12 Nov 2026 · https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2335323

ALSO IN THE NEWS (LOWER PRIORITY)

• BJP leader Ravi Kumar seeks withdrawal of 'army training' advertisement by Minorities Department of Karnataka (The Hindu, National, 12 Nov 2026)
• DR Congo Ebola outbreak exceeds 11,000 cases, causes 5,387 deaths (The Hindu, International, 11 Nov 2026)
• 'Iran will not allow enriched nuclear material to leave the country' (The Hindu, International, 11 Nov 2026)
• New registration framework proposed to strengthen allied and healthcare professions in India (The Hindu, Health, 11 Nov 2026)
• Why do firecracker emissions sometimes linger in the air? (The Hindu, Science, 10 Nov 2026)
• Prime Minister shares a Sanskrit Subhashitam, highlighting the selfless devotion of noble people to the welfare of others (PIB, Prime Minister's Office, 12 Nov 2026)
• Sacred Relics of Shakyamuni Buddha Receive Devout Homage from Nearly 50,000 Devotees Across Arunachal Pradesh So Far (PIB, Ministry of Culture, 12 Nov 2026)

GS Paper III: Economy, Environment, S&T, Security & DM

ECONOMY

Milking power: On the overturning of Gokul Dairy cooperative mandate

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Economy, Agriculture

• The overturning of the mandate in the Gokul Dairy cooperative is disturbing

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Milking, Gokul Dairy
Source: The Hindu, Editorial, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/milking-power-on-the-overturning-of-gokul-dairy

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Tamil Nadu's growing industrial water challenge

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Economy

• Weak water security threatens to undermine the State's investment appeal and industrial growth prospects

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Tamil Nadu, Weak
Source: The Hindu, Lead (Op-Ed), 11 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/tamil-nadus-growing-industrial-water-challenge/artic

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ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

COP31 leaders urge focus on climate action despite global conflicts

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Environment & Ecology

• Negotiators from nearly 200 countries are seeking agreement at COP31 on a proposal from Turkey to increase the share of electricity in global ■energy use and revive stalled efforts to move away from fossil fuels

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Environment:** India's NDCs (45% cut in emission intensity of GDP from 2005 levels by 2030, 50% non-fossil power capacity, net zero by 2070) and the principle of CBDR-RC.
• **International relations:** India speaks for the Global South on climate finance and technology transfer; carbon border taxes like the EU's CBAM affect Indian exports.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: COP31, Negotiators, Turkey

Static connect: UNFCCC & Paris Agreement

• UNFCCC adopted at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit; the Conference of Parties (COP) meets yearly.
• Paris Agreement (COP21, 2015): keep warming well below 2°C, pursue 1.5°C; countries submit NDCs.
• India's targets include net zero by 2070.

UPSC angle: Climate negotiations and India's commitments (GS3).

Source: The Hindu, International, 11 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/war-conflict-must-not-distract-from-climate-ac

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

India, France hold dialogues on economic security, space, technology

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Science & Technology, Economy, Agriculture

• The two sides discuss supply chain vulnerabilities, critical technologies, cybersecurity and safeguarding strategic supplies, as part of the India-France Economic Security and Critical Technologies Dialogue

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Internal security:** Cyber attacks on critical infrastructure and fraud like 'digital arrest' scams; CERT-In, NCIIPC and I4C are the response agencies.
• **Governance & polity:** IT Act 2000, Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023, and the need for cyber hygiene and capacity in state police.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: France, India-France Economic Security and Critical Technologies Dialogue

Source: The Hindu, National, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-france-hold-dialogues-on-economic-security-sp

TDB-DST signs agreement with Astrome for ■64.05 crore RDI support to develop sovereign space-based AI-ELINT constellation

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Science & Technology

• In a significant step towards strengthening India's indigenous space-based intelligence and advanced satellite technology capabilities, the Technology Development Board (TDB), Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, has signed an agreement with M/s Astrome Technologies Pvt Ltd, Bengaluru, Karnataka for financial support of ■64.05 crore under the Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund.…

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Science & tech:** India's space programme (Gaganyaan, Chandrayaan, NavIC) and the 2023 Space Policy opening the sector to private firms (IN-SPACe).
• **Internal security:** Space is now a strategic domain: surveillance satellites, anti-satellite capability (Mission Shakti 2019) and the Defence Space Agency.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: TDB-DST, Astrome, RDI, AI-ELINT, Technology Development Board

Source: PIB, Ministry of Science & Technology, 12 Nov 2026 · https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2335322

ALSO IN THE NEWS (LOWER PRIORITY)

• Alice Huang, who reportedly had affair with Nvidia CEO, is Chinese banker turned tech exec (The Hindu, International, 11 Nov 2026)

• Element of Surprise, Technological Superiority & Jointness key to enhancing operational readiness against emerging threats: Raksha Mantri at Air Force Commanders' Conference (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 12 Nov 2026)

Prelims Facts: Reports, Indices, Awards

AWARDS, DAYS & PERSONS

Visions of the future: On this year's Booker Prize

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Awards, Days & Persons

• This year's Booker Prize betrays an anxiety about AI's place in society

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Visions, Booker Prize

Source: The Hindu, Editorial, 11 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/visions-of-the-future-on-this-years-booker-priz