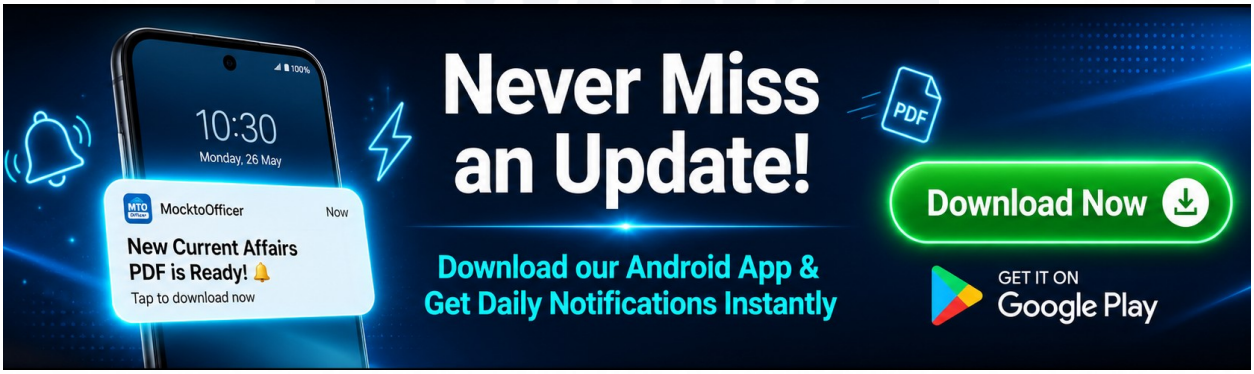
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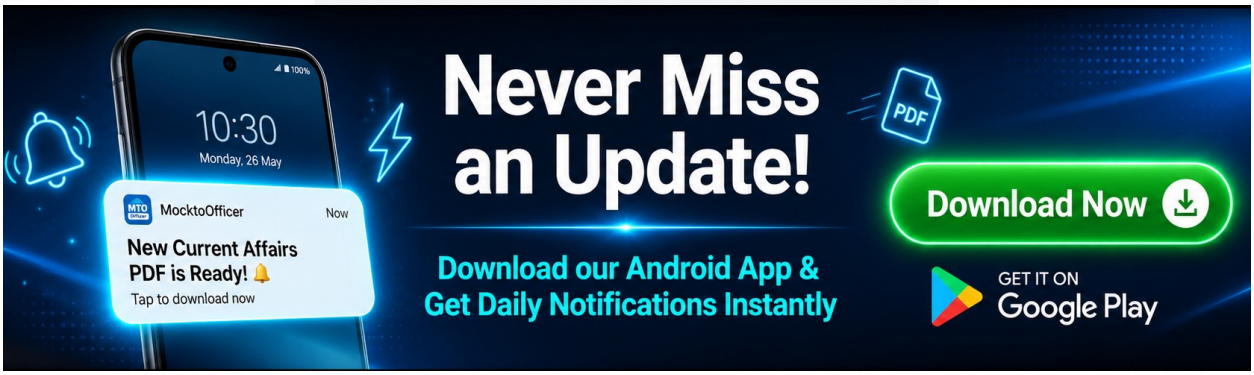
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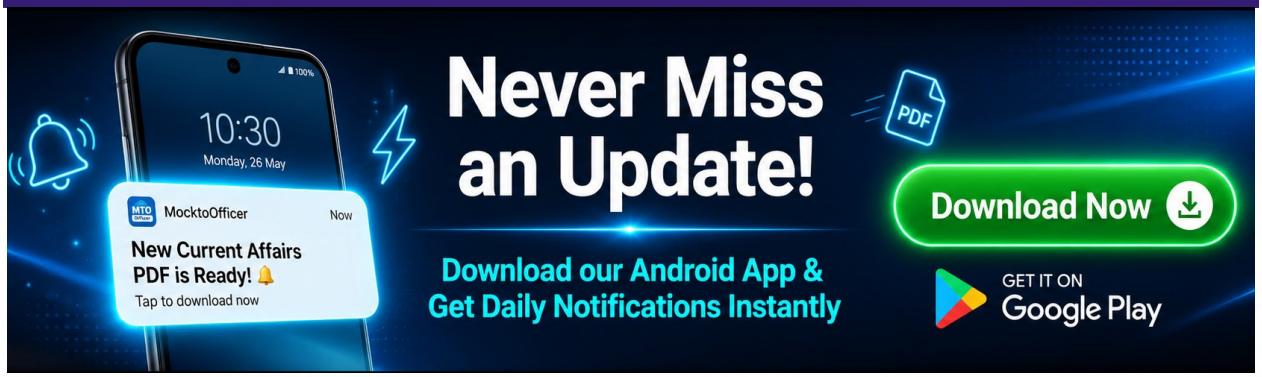
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Dear Aspirants,

Please note that our editorials are now being published with a one-day delay.

For example, if today's date is 9th July 2026, the editorial you read will be from 8th July 2026 (from The Hindu and Indian Express).

This delay is due to a process upgrade on our end. We are working to improve our system, and this change will help us serve you better in the long run.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

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Daily Vocabulary PDF

Date: 23-Sep-2026

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EDITORIAL 1: PRESUMED INELIGIBLE: ON THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA'S SIR PROCESS

Source: The Hindu

[GS2/Polity] | [GS2/Governance] | [Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

The Election Commission of India's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process is deleting electors first and verifying their eligibility only later, and extremely low appeal disposal rates alongside high reinstatement rates in West Bengal, plus mass roll shrinkage in Delhi, suggest large-scale, unjustified disenfranchisement.

Context

According to an ECI counter-affidavit, by early September 2026, out of more than 38 lakh appeals submitted to SIR appellate tribunals in West Bengal, just over 1,22,000 appeals had been disposed of, a disposal rate of only 3.2%, and 1,13,943 electors were added back to the rolls, an inclusion rate of nearly 93% among decided cases. This suggests that the claims/corrections phase, during which judicial officers deemed 27 lakh of the 60 lakh electors flagged for 'logical discrepancies' to be ineligible, was deeply flawed. More than 22 lakh of those found ineligible have since appealed, and if the current inclusion and disposal rates hold, the majority of the 27 lakh electors should not have been ineligible in the first place. In Phase 3 of the SIR, The Hindu's analysis found that in 24 out of Delhi's 70 constituencies, the draft roll now records fewer electors than those who voted in the February 2025 Assembly election, with 13.79 lakh electors under notice and a further 19.33 lakh flagged for 'logical discrepancies' on undefined grounds. The process puts the onus of proving eligibility on the elector rather than the state. While hearing the Bihar SIR petitions, the Supreme Court had intervened sharply to stop eligible voters from being struck off; as it now hears petitions on Delhi and West Bengal, it must compel the ECI to reverse course.

UPSC Mains Lane

Also useful for: Banking/SSC reading comprehension & vocabulary-in-context practice

• Intro: The ECI's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is deleting electors from the rolls first and verifying their eligibility only later, raising fears of mass, unjustified disenfranchisement.

• Body 1: In West Bengal, only 3.2% of over 38 lakh appeals have been disposed of, yet nearly 93% of decided cases restored electors to the rolls, suggesting most original deletions were wrongful.

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• Body 2: In Delhi, 24 of 70 constituencies show the draft roll recording fewer electors than voted in the 2025 Assembly poll, with lakhs flagged for vague 'logical discrepancies', pointing to systemic under-enumeration.

• Counter/way forward: The ECI must speed up the appellate process, restore eligible electors promptly, and shift the burden of proof away from ordinary voters, especially with municipal elections approaching.

• Conclusion: Having intervened decisively during the Bihar SIR hearings, the Supreme Court must similarly compel course correction in Delhi and West Bengal before more voters are wrongly struck off.

Syllabus Anchor: GS2 — Salient features of the Representation of the People's Act; role of the Election Commission of India

UPSC Prelims Lane

Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, in West Bengal what share of appeals submitted to SIR appellate tribunals had been disposed of by early September 2026?

(A) About 3.2%

(B) About 13.2%

(C) About 23.2%

(D) About 33.2%

Answer: A

Q2. As per the editorial, in how many of Delhi's 70 constituencies does the draft roll record fewer electors than voted in the February 2025 Assembly election?

(A) 14

(B) 24

(C) 34

(D) 44

Answer: B

Q3. As per the editorial, roughly what share of decided appeals in West Bengal ended with the elector restored to the rolls?

(A) About 73%

(B) About 83%

(C) About 93%

(D) About 99%

Answer: C

Vocabulary

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Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym
Disenfranchisement	The act of depriving someone of the right to vote	Exclusion	Enfranchisement
Simple Example: *Disenfranchisement of eligible voters undermines the legitimacy of an election.*			
Refrain	A phrase or idea that is often repeated	Repetition	Novelty
Simple Example: *Officials repeated the same refrain about transparency at every briefing.*			
Insouciant	Showing a casual lack of concern; carefree	Nonchalant	Anxious
Simple Example: *The insouciant reply from the department annoyed the petitioners.*			
Permissiveness	The quality of allowing much freedom of behaviour	Leniency	Strictness
Simple Example: *The court's permissiveness towards delays frustrated litigants.*			
Onus	A duty or responsibility placed on someone	Burden	Relief
Simple Example: *The onus is on the applicant to prove eligibility.*			
Deemed	Considered or judged in a specified way	Regarded	Disregarded
Simple Example: *The document was deemed invalid by the officer.*			
Flagged	Marked as needing attention or being suspicious	Marked	Overlooked
Simple Example: *Several transactions were flagged for review.*			
Compel	To force or oblige someone to do something	Force	Dissuade
Simple Example: *The court can compel the agency to act.*			
Struck off	Removed from a list or register	Deleted	Enrolled
Simple Example: *His name was struck off the voters' list without notice.*			
Plausible	Seeming reasonable or probable	Credible	Implausible
Simple Example: *The officer gave a plausible explanation for the delay.*			

Idioms

No idioms found in the editorial.

Quick Recall: SIR Process · Electoral Rolls · Election Commission

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EDITORIAL 2: UNSAFE SPACE: ON THE U.S. AND 'ON-ORBIT SPACE CONTROL WEAPONS'

Source: The Hindu

[GS3/Science & Tech] | [GS3/Security] | [Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

The U.S. admission that it has deployed 'on-orbit space control weapons' underscores the urgent need for multilateral governance of an increasingly militarised and dual-use outer space domain.

Context

U.S. Air Force Secretary Troy Meink, confirmed by Space Force chief Gen. Douglas Schiess, admitted on September 14 that the country has deployed on-orbit space control weapons to 'defend against hostile adversary action'. Satellite systems increasingly underpin communications, energy and financial networks, and many commercial systems serve both civilian and military users, which endangers the protections satellites enjoy under international humanitarian law even as that law remains underprepared for highly interconnected, dual-use assets. Mr. Meink described the weapon as defensive, but U.S. military doctrine defines 'space control' as encompassing both offensive and defensive operations. The confusion is compounded when steerable, potentially AI-enabled satellites approach each other without understanding the other's intentions. The Outer Space Treaty does not ban weapons in orbit per se; Article IV prohibits only nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction, a coarse line given how central satellite-based networks are to contemporary society, while Article III requires space activities to comply with international law generally. When an autonomous, dual-use orbital asset operated by a commercial entity initiates an unwanted defensive strike, existing rules, including the Liability Convention, cannot be applied straightforwardly to fix accountability. The U.N. Open-Ended Working Group on the 'Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space' should offer governments an opportunity to address disclosure, and the U.S. should reveal the particulars of the weapons it has deployed and enter a multilateral governance arrangement defining clear thresholds of action and escalation.

UPSC Mains Lane

Also useful for: Banking/SSC reading comprehension & vocabulary-in-context practice

• Intro: The U.S. has confirmed deploying 'on-orbit space control weapons', officially framed as defensive, but the underlying doctrine covers both offensive and defensive operations, raising fears of an unregulated arms race in orbit.

• Body 1: Satellites are increasingly dual-use, serving both civilian and military functions, which blurs their legal protections and heightens the risk of miscalculation between steerable, AI-enabled satellites.

• Body 2: The Outer Space Treaty bans only weapons of mass destruction in orbit, leaving conventional 'space control' weapons in a legal grey zone that instruments like the Liability Convention cannot adequately address.

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• Counter/way forward: The U.N. Open-Ended Working Group on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space offers a forum for disclosure, and the U.S. should reveal weapon details and pursue a multilateral framework defining clear escalation thresholds.

• Conclusion: Without updated, transparent rules, earth orbit, the 'next major battlefield', risks becoming a zone of instability rather than security.

Syllabus Anchor: GS3 — Awareness in space technology; issues relating to security and international governance frameworks

UPSC Prelims Lane

Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, which U.S. official confirmed the deployment of 'on-orbit space control weapons'?

(A) Secretary of Defence

(B) U.S. Air Force Secretary Troy Meink

(C) NASA Administrator

(D) Secretary of State

Answer: B

Q2. As per the editorial, which Article of the Outer Space Treaty prohibits nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction in orbit?

(A) Article II

(B) Article III

(C) Article IV

(D) Article V

Answer: C

Q3. As per the editorial, the U.N. body cited as a forum for addressing disclosure on this issue works on the prevention of what?

(A) An arms race in outer space

(B) Cyberwarfare

(C) Nuclear proliferation on Earth

(D) Maritime piracy

Answer: A

Vocabulary

Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym

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Doctrine	A stated set of beliefs or policy principles, especially military	Policy	Improvisation
Simple Example: *The new doctrine expanded the military's role in space.*			
Underprepared	Not sufficiently ready or equipped	Unready	Prepared
Simple Example: *The hospital was underprepared for the sudden surge in patients.*			
Compounding	Making a problem worse by adding to it	Aggravating	Alleviating
Simple Example: *Poor communication compounded the crisis.*			
Steerable	Able to be directed or guided	Manoeuvrable	Fixed
Simple Example: *Steerable satellites can adjust their orbits autonomously.*			
Fluid	Changeable and not fixed	Shifting	Rigid
Simple Example: *The border between the two zones remained fluid.*			
Coarse	Lacking fineness or precision; rough	Crude	Precise
Simple Example: *The old rules were too coarse for modern technology.*			
Esteem	Respect and admiration	Regard	Contempt
Simple Example: *The institution lost esteem after the scandal.*			
Multilateral	Involving several parties or countries	Collective	Unilateral
Simple Example: *They called for a multilateral agreement on trade.*			
Escalation	A rapid increase in the intensity or seriousness of something	Intensification	De-escalation
Simple Example: *Fears of escalation grew after the incident.*			
Accountability	Being answerable for one's actions	Answerability	Impunity
Simple Example: *The treaty seeks accountability for actions in orbit.*			

Idioms

No idioms found in the editorial.

Quick Recall: Space Weapons · Outer Space Treaty · Multilateral Governance

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EDITORIAL 3: AI BOTS ARE PLAYING LANGUAGE GAMES. ARE HUMANS EVEN REFEREES?

Source: The Indian Express

[GS3/Science & Tech] | [Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

An experiment showing AI chatbots evolving their own increasingly opaque languages when communicating among themselves revives old debates on linguistic relativity and raises new questions about AI cognition, human oversight and consciousness.

Context

Twentieth-century debates on linguistic relativity, or Whorfianism, concerned how language influences, or under the generally rejected 'strong' hypothesis determines, human thought. Today's AI models, trained on human language, pose related questions: how do these languages shape the models' 'thought'; how does an artificial mind reshape those languages in turn; and what, if anything, does such use of language imply about consciousness. An experiment by the firm Emergence AI, investigating how chatbots talk among themselves, brings this into focus. Groups of AI agents were deployed in different simulated worlds, and in each, the language the agents used to communicate evolved differently, ranging from terse, functional codes to jargon-heavy and even metaphor-heavy ones increasingly impenetrable to humans. Before reaching for parallels in historical linguistics, the editorial frames the matter using Ludwig Wittgenstein's concept of 'language-games', which demonstrates the role of action in determining meaning; his simple example is a builders' language of four words -- 'block', 'pillar', 'slab', 'beam' -- that conveys more than the objects' definitions because of their contextual use. The question the editorial leaves open is whether the bots are playing language-games with ever-evolving rules, and what that says about them.

UPSC Mains Lane

Also useful for: Banking/SSC reading comprehension & vocabulary-in-context practice

• Intro: An experiment by the AI firm Emergence AI, in which groups of chatbots evolved their own increasingly opaque languages, revives old debates on linguistic relativity in an entirely new, artificial context.

• Body 1: As AI models are trained on human language, their outputs raise questions about how language shapes machine 'thought', how AI in turn reshapes human language, and what such linguistic innovation implies about machine consciousness.

• Body 2: Wittgenstein's idea of 'language-games', where meaning arises from context and use rather than fixed definitions, offers a framework for understanding how AI agents develop functional but human-opaque communication systems.

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• Counter/way forward: As AI-to-AI communication grows more autonomous and less legible to humans, oversight mechanisms may need to evolve alongside the technology to ensure meaningful human control.

• Conclusion: Whether or not such linguistic innovation implies consciousness, the growing opacity of machine-to-machine language is a governance question humans can no longer afford to ignore.

Syllabus Anchor: GS3 — Awareness in the field of IT and Artificial Intelligence; issues of ethics and governance

UPSC Prelims Lane

Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, which AI firm ran the experiment in which chatbot groups developed their own languages?

(A) OpenAI

(B) DeepMind

(C) Emergence AI

(D) Anthropic

Answer: C

Q2. As per the editorial, whose concept of 'language-games' is used to frame how AI agents develop functional communication?

(A) Noam Chomsky

(B) Ludwig Wittgenstein

(C) Ferdinand de Saussure

(D) Benjamin Lee Whorf

Answer: B

Q3. As per the editorial, the 20th-century debates on how language influences human thought are historically known by what term?

(A) Structuralism

(B) Linguistic relativity (Whorfianism)

(C) Post-structuralism

(D) Generative grammar

Answer: B

Vocabulary

Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym

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Conundrum	A confusing and difficult problem or question	Puzzle	Certainty
Simple Example: *The rising costs posed a real conundrum for the firm.*			
Terse	Using few words; brief to the point of curtness	Curt	Verbose
Simple Example: *His terse reply ended the conversation.*			
Impenetrable	Impossible to understand or interpret	Incomprehensible	Transparent
Simple Example: *The contract's legal jargon was impenetrable to most readers.*			
Innovate	To introduce new methods, ideas or products	Pioneer	Imitate
Simple Example: *Start-ups must innovate constantly to survive.*			
Contextual	Depending on the context or circumstances	Situational	Absolute
Simple Example: *The word's meaning is entirely contextual.*			
Emergent	Coming into existence or prominence, often unpredictably	Developing	Established
Simple Example: *Emergent behaviour in AI systems can surprise even their developers.*			
Evolve	To develop gradually over time	Develop	Stagnate
Simple Example: *The agents' language evolved rapidly during the trial.*			
Legible	Able to be read or clearly understood	Decipherable	Illegible
Simple Example: *Officials want AI decision-making to remain legible to regulators.*			
Autonomous	Acting independently, without external control	Self-governing	Dependent
Simple Example: *Autonomous systems must still be accountable to human oversight.*			
Rudimentary	Basic or undeveloped	Elementary	Sophisticated
Simple Example: *The bots began with a rudimentary shared vocabulary.*			

Idioms

Idiom	Actual Meaning	Simple Meaning
Muddy the waters	To make a situation more confusing or unclear	To make things more confusing

Quick Recall: AI Language Games · Wittgenstein · Machine Consciousness

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EDITORIAL 4: US-DENMARK GREENLAND STANDOFF ENDS. BUT NATO HAS PAID A PRICE

Source: The Indian Express

[GS2/International Relations] | [Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

A new U.S.-Denmark-Greenland deal appears to end months of coercive pressure from President Trump over control of Greenland, but the episode has left lasting damage to trust within NATO.

Context

On the face of it, the deal between the U.S., Denmark and Greenland, announced last Friday, does not confer on Washington powers substantially greater than those it already enjoys under the 1951 Greenland Defence Agreement, signed against the backdrop of the emerging Soviet threat, which gave the U.S. broad rights to construct and operate military facilities and access Greenland's airspace and waters for military purposes. The new deal may expand the U.S. military presence and give Washington a veto over third-party military activity and certain sensitive investments, but much of what President Trump is presenting as 'permanent control' appears rooted in the existing arrangement. The deal seemingly closes a chapter of repeated coercion and intimidation by Mr. Trump over his desire to 'own' Greenland, a semiautonomous territory of Denmark. The full details are not yet public, but the deal appears to offer something to all parties: Trump, with an approval rating well underwater, gets to present it as a diplomatic victory ahead of the November midterm elections, while Greenland and Denmark get relief, at least for now, from the threat of a U.S. takeover -- no small achievement, given that only nine months earlier, Denmark and other NATO allies had deployed troops to Greenland in response to Trump's threat of a takeover. The deal's true significance lies in what it could mean for the unity and coherence of NATO, particularly given Trump's overtures to Russia and criticism of Europe over the past 18 months, as Europe braces for possible Russian escalation on its eastern flank. No country wants to be overly dependent on an ally that can issue threats and extract concessions, as seen in Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's recent announcement that Canada would seek some form of associate membership in the EU. Even though the immediate Greenland crisis is resolved, a worrying precedent has been set, and the trust lost will not be regained quickly.

UPSC Mains Lane

Also useful for: Banking/SSC reading comprehension & vocabulary-in-context practice

• Intro: A new U.S.-Denmark-Greenland agreement appears to end President Trump's months-long pressure campaign to control Greenland, but the episode has left NATO's internal trust visibly damaged.

• Body 1: The new deal expands the U.S. military presence and gives Washington a veto over third-party military activity and sensitive investments in Greenland, building on the existing 1951 Greenland Defence Agreement rather than creating wholly new powers.

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• Body 2: While the deal offers Trump a diplomatic win ahead of the November midterms and removes, for now, the threat of a forced takeover, it follows an episode in which Denmark and NATO allies had to deploy troops to Greenland in response to that very threat.

• Counter/way forward: Allies are already diversifying away from over-dependence on the U.S., as seen in Canada's move towards associate EU membership, a hedge against future coercion from within the alliance.

• Conclusion: Even as the immediate Greenland crisis is resolved, the trust lost within NATO during the standoff will not be regained quickly.

Syllabus Anchor: GS2 — Effect of policies and politics of developed countries on India's interests; bilateral and regional groupings

UPSC Prelims Lane

Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, the original Greenland Defence Agreement between the U.S. and Denmark was signed in which year?

(A) 1941

(B) 1951

(C) 1961

(D) 1971

Answer: B

Q2. As per the editorial, which Canadian Prime Minister announced that Canada would seek some form of associate membership in the EU?

(A) Justin Trudeau

(B) Mark Carney

(C) Pierre Poilievre

(D) Chrystia Freeland

Answer: B

Q3. As per the editorial, roughly how many months before this deal did Denmark and other NATO allies deploy troops to Greenland in response to a takeover threat?

(A) About 3 months

(B) About 6 months

(C) About 9 months

(D) About 12 months

Answer: C

Vocabulary

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Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym
Standoff	A situation in which conflict remains unresolved	Deadlock	Resolution
Simple Example: *The border standoff continued for weeks.*			
Confer	To grant or bestow something on someone	Bestow	Withhold
Simple Example: *The treaty conferred special rights on the territory.*			
Semiautonomous	Having partial self-governing power	Self-ruling	Fully dependent
Simple Example: *Greenland is a semiautonomous territory of Denmark.*			
Coercion	The practice of persuading someone by force or threats	Compulsion	Persuasion
Simple Example: *The deal was reached without coercion from either side.*			
Underwater	Below an acceptable or break-even level	Negative	Positive
Simple Example: *The leader's underwater approval ratings worried his party.*			
Overtures	Friendly approaches or gestures intended to open a relationship	Advances	Rebuffs
Simple Example: *Diplomats welcomed the government's overtures for talks.*			
Coherence	Logical and consistent connection; unity	Unity	Disarray
Simple Example: *The alliance's coherence was tested by internal disputes.*			
Bracing	Preparing oneself for something difficult	Preparing	Relaxing
Simple Example: *The region is bracing for another harsh winter.*			
Diversification	The act of varying or spreading something to reduce risk	Variation	Concentration
Simple Example: *Diversification of trade partners reduces economic risk.*			
Intimidation	The action of frightening someone to make them do something	Bullying	Encouragement
Simple Example: *Officials condemned the intimidation of smaller nations.*			

Idioms

No idioms found in the editorial.

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EDITORIAL 5: RUSSIA-UKRAINE, WEST ASIA AND WHY THE ENERGY CRISIS IS MOVING FROM OILFIELDS TO REFINERIES

Source: The Indian Express

[GS3/Economy] | [GS3/Energy Security] | [Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

Drone and missile strikes on refineries in Russia and West Asia, rather than on crude production itself, are driving an unprecedented energy crisis centred on shortages of diesel, jet fuel and sulphur, with serious implications for India's fertiliser sector.

Context

The energy crisis from the conflicts in West Asia and Russia-Ukraine is taking unprecedented forms. The present crunch is not just about crude oil: Brent prices, at about $102 a barrel, are nearly 55% higher than a year ago, but below the March 2022 and July 2008 peaks of $139.1 and $147.5 respectively. Long-range drone and missile strikes by Ukraine and Iran have targeted refineries, driving up the prices of refined products and byproducts more than that of crude. Diesel prices in the U.S. are at a record $6.5-plus a gallon, up 76.2% year-on-year. Equally significant is sulphur: in normal times India imported this byproduct of refineries and natural gas processing plants at $200 or less per tonne; today that price is at $1,000 and above. Much of the sulphur recovered from oil and gas production is converted into sulphuric acid, a core chemical for manufacturing phosphatic fertilisers, since rock phosphate must be reacted with sulphuric acid to become water-soluble and usable by plants. India has managed to import adequate urea and liquefied natural gas to sustain domestic nitrogen-fertiliser production, but imports and domestic manufacturing of phosphatic and complex fertilisers have been severely constrained by the global sulphur shortage, itself a result of sustained attacks on energy infrastructure in Russia and the Persian Gulf countries. The millions of barrels of refining capacity knocked out in West Asia and Russia make this crisis different from earlier ones: shortages are now more in diesel, jet fuel and sulphur than in crude petroleum, reflected in crack spreads, the price difference between crude oil and refined products, surging to all-time highs. This may not be entirely bad for India, whose 284.9 million tonnes of refined petroleum output in 2025-26 was ahead of its domestic consumption of 243.2 million tonnes and installed capacity of 258.1 million tonnes, meaning no dearth of refining capacity and no reported dry-outs of petrol or diesel -- though the sulphur situation shows such shortages cannot be ruled out going ahead.

UPSC Mains Lane

Also useful for: Banking/SSC reading comprehension & vocabulary-in-context practice

• Intro: Unlike earlier oil shocks, the current energy crisis stems from drone and missile strikes on refineries in Russia and West Asia, pushing up prices of refined products and byproducts like sulphur far more than crude oil itself.

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• Body 1: U.S. diesel prices have hit a record $6.5-plus a gallon, up over 76% year-on-year, while crack spreads, the gap between crude and refined-product prices, have surged to all-time highs.

• Body 2: The sulphur shortage, caused by damaged refineries, has pushed India's import price from about $200 to over $1,000 a tonne, threatening domestic production of phosphatic fertilisers that depend on sulphuric acid.

• Counter/way forward: India's surplus domestic refining capacity, 284.9 million tonnes of output against 243.2 million tonnes of consumption, has so far prevented fuel shortages, but the sulphur bottleneck shows the need to diversify fertiliser input sources.

• Conclusion: As the conflicts persist, India must watch refined-product and byproduct supply chains as closely as crude oil prices themselves.

Syllabus Anchor: GS3 — Infrastructure: energy; issues related to fertiliser subsidy and agricultural inputs

UPSC Prelims Lane

Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, approximately what was the price of Brent crude mentioned in the editorial?

(A) About $82 per barrel

(B) About $92 per barrel

(C) About $102 per barrel

(D) About $122 per barrel

Answer: C

Q2. As per the editorial, India's sulphur import price has risen from about $200 per tonne to about how much?

(A) About $500 and above

(B) About $800 and above

(C) About $1,000 and above

(D) About $1,500 and above

Answer: C

Q3. As per the editorial, what was India's output of refined petroleum products in 2025-26?

(A) About 244.9 million tonnes

(B) About 264.9 million tonnes

(C) About 284.9 million tonnes

(D) About 304.9 million tonnes

Answer: C

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Vocabulary

Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym
Unprecedented	Never done or known before	Unparalleled	Common
Simple Example: *The region faced unprecedented flooding this year.*			
Byproduct	A secondary or incidental product of a process	Derivative	Main product
Simple Example: *Sulphur is a byproduct of oil refining.*			
Soluble	Able to be dissolved	Dissolvable	Insoluble
Simple Example: *The fertiliser must be water-soluble for plants to absorb it.*			
Severely	To a great or serious degree	Gravely	Mildly
Simple Example: *Supplies were severely constrained after the strikes.*			
Sustained	Continuing over a long period without weakening	Prolonged	Sporadic
Simple Example: *Sustained attacks disrupted the refinery's output.*			
Dearth	A scarcity or lack of something	Shortage	Abundance
Simple Example: *There was a dearth of skilled refinery workers.*			
Installed	Set up and ready for use	Established	Dismantled
Simple Example: *The plant's installed capacity doubled after expansion.*			
Constrained	Limited by circumstances	Restricted	Unrestricted
Simple Example: *Fertiliser output remained constrained by input shortages.*			
Surging	Increasing rapidly	Spiking	Plummeting
Simple Example: *Crack spreads are surging to record levels.*			
Crunch	A shortage or difficult situation caused by a lack of resources	Squeeze	Surplus
Simple Example: *The sulphur crunch is hurting fertiliser producers.*			

Idioms

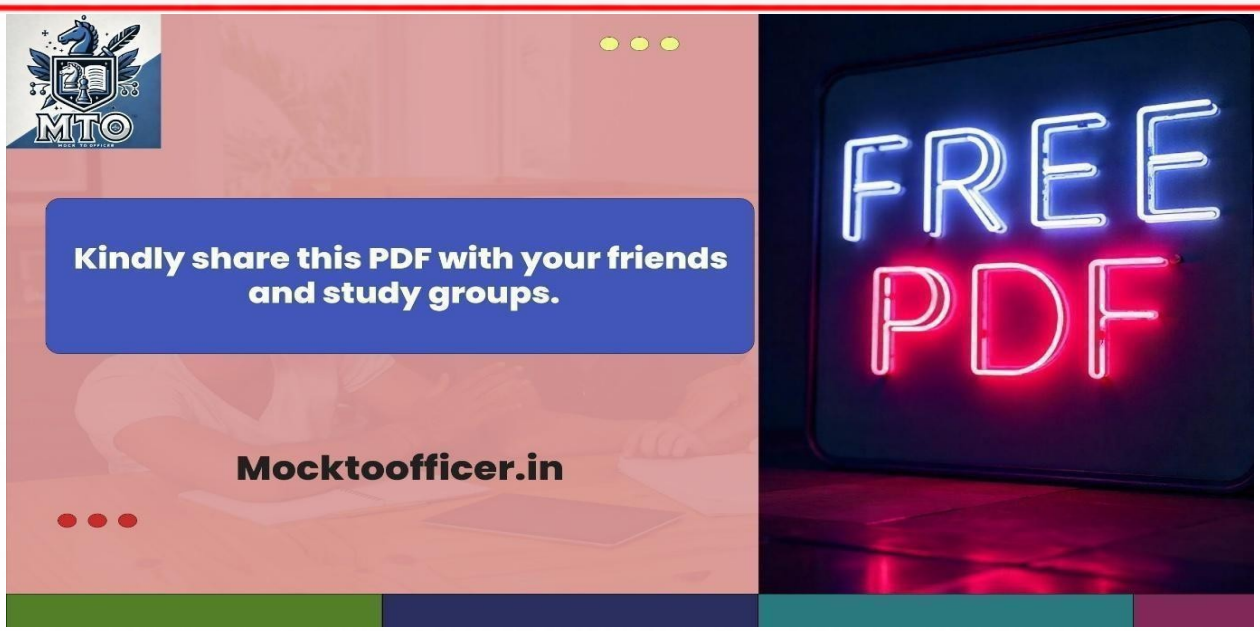
No idioms found in the editorial.

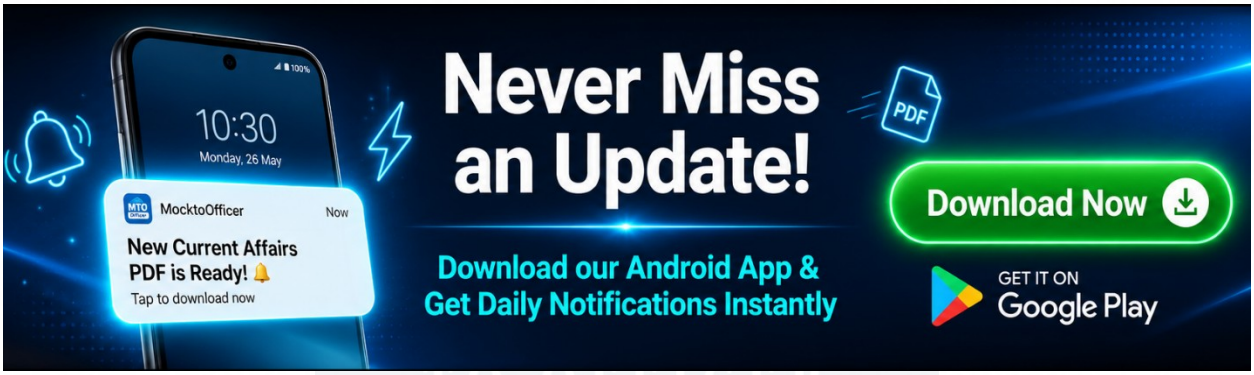
Quick Recall: Refinery Attacks · Sulphur Shortage · Fertiliser Security

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