

P2. NATIONAL



**Diversion of rice meant for poor in North-East: 5 senior Food Corporation officials suspended** - Alleged diversion of PDS rice under the Open Market Sale Scheme highlights concerns over food security governance, transparency and corruption.

P3. NATIONAL



**Conservation projects for river dolphins, three other species get CAMPA nod** - CAMPA has expanded wildlife conservation, ecological restoration and technology-driven forest governance through new species programmes and afforestation initiatives.

P4. HEALTH



**Novo Nordisk launches weekly insulin shot Awiqli in India** - Understanding how plastic pollution, ghost nets and human activities are threatening India's marine mammals, with a focus on the endangered Indian Ocean humpback dolphin.

Editor's Note

The latest edition of Pala Civil Times brings together a carefully curated collection of issues that explain the ideas, policies and developments shaping contemporary India and the world. This edition examines the latest initiatives under CAMPA, highlighting efforts in afforestation, ecological restoration, wildlife conservation, technology-enabled forest governance, and the protection of culturally significant ecosystems such as sacred groves. It also explores the launch of Awiqli, the world's first once-weekly basal insulin, and its potential to improve diabetes management in a country facing a growing non-communicable disease burden.

The Decoded Editorials section analyses the evolving trajectory of India-China relations in the post-Galwan era and examines the opportunities and challenges arising from the growing participation of women in higher education, with a focus on their implications for economic development and national progress. Meanwhile, the Science & Technology pages cover significant global developments in reusable space technology, artificial intelligence and digital productivity tools. Much like a balanced meal provides all the essential nutrients for healthy growth, this edition brings together a balanced mix of governance, economy, science, environment, international relations and social issues to help you develop a well-rounded understanding of current affairs. We hope these pages encourage you to think beyond the news, connect ideas across disciplines and strengthen your preparation. Happy reading!

Editorials Decoded

P7. SCIENCE



**OpenAI launches ChatGPT Work, delving into workplace automation** - OpenAI's latest AI platform integrates advanced reasoning, coding and workflow automation to transform ChatGPT into an enterprise productivity ecosystem.

The Indian EXPRESS

Easing on China is right move at right time



India is pursuing a calibrated strategy of engaging economically with China while reducing strategic vulnerabilities and safeguarding national security.

THE HINDU

Over and above



Rising female enrolment has nearly achieved gender parity in higher education, but disparities remain in STEM participation, leadership roles and employment outcomes.



## Diversion of rice meant for poor in North-East: 5 senior Food Corporation officials suspended

Five officials of the Food Corporation of India (FCI), including an Executive Director, were suspended over alleged irregularities in the sale of rice meant for Public Distribution System (PDS) beneficiaries in the North Eastern States. The case involves the alleged diversion of PDS rice through the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS(D)], highlighting concerns over governance, accountability and leakages in India's food security system.

### Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic)

- OMSS(D) is a Government of India mechanism under which the Food Corporation of India (FCI) sells surplus foodgrains in the open market through e-auctions at predetermined reserve prices.
- The scheme aims to - moderate market prices of foodgrains, improve market availability, prevent excessive inflation, and optimise utilisation of surplus buffer stocks.
- OMSS(D) operates under policy guidelines issued by the Government and is distinct from foodgrain allocation under the Public Distribution System.
- **To remember : The Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) is aimed at augmenting the supply of food grains in the open market and helping in moderating the rising prices.**

## Kerala birth rate has reached an all-time low: 7 takeaways

According to Kerala's Vital Statistics Report 2024, the state's **Crude Birth Rate (CBR)** fell **below 10 per 1,000 population** for the first time, reaching **9.64 in 2024 (11.06 in 2023)**. The report also recorded the sharpest consecutive annual decline in birth rates in more than three decades, indicating an accelerated demographic transition.

### Key Demographic Trends

- Live births declined significantly from 393,231 (2023) to 344,766 (2024).
- The CBR declined by 1.42 points during 2023–24, following a 1.47-point decline during 2022–23, the steepest back-to-back annual declines since comparable records began.
- After a temporary rise in 2022 following the COVID-19 pandemic (12.53), the long-term downward trend resumed.
- Kerala's CBR has steadily fallen from 17.67 (1992) to 9.64 (2024), reflecting sustained demographic transition and declining fertility.
- A clear north–south demographic divide exists within the state.
- Lowest CBR: Alappuzha (5.28), followed by Kollam (6.63).
- Highest CBR: Malappuram (15.16), with Kozhikode, Wayanad and Kannur also recording birth rates above the state average.
- This variation highlights differing fertility patterns even within a highly developed state.



### Mortality Trends

- Kerala's Crude Death Rate (CDR) stood at 8.77 in 2024, showing relative stability after the temporary spike during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The pandemic pushed the CDR to 9.66 (2021) before gradually declining.
- Highest CDR: Kottayam (12.39).
- Lowest CDR: Malappuram (5.24).

### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. The economic cost of food grains to the Food Corporation of India is Minimum Support Price and bonus (if any) paid to the farmers plus (2019)

- Transportation cost only
- Interest cost only
- Procurement incidentals and distribution cost
- Procurement incidentals and charges for godowns

### RELEVANCE

**GS III : Public Distribution System and issues of buffer stocks and food security**

**GS I : Population and associated issues**



## Conservation projects for river dolphins, three other species get CAMPA nod

The Governing Body of the National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (National CAMPA) approved a series of wildlife conservation, ecological restoration and technology-driven governance initiatives at its 7th Governing Body Meeting (2026), reflecting the expanding role of CAMPA beyond compensatory afforestation.

### What is CAMPA?

- The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) was established under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act, 2016.
- Its primary objective is to manage and utilise compensatory afforestation funds collected from user agencies that divert forest land for non-forest purposes under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.
- The funds are deposited in the National and State Compensatory Afforestation Funds and are utilised in accordance with the CAF Act, 2016 and CAF Rules, 2018 for afforestation, ecological restoration and related conservation activities.

### Wildlife Conservation

- CAMPA approved five new species-specific conservation initiatives to strengthen scientific wildlife management and recovery of threatened species.
- **Approved Projects:** *River Dolphin Recovery Plan, Project Snow Leopard Phase-II (including the second national population estimation), Conservation Action Plan for the Indian Rhinoceros, Pan-India Conservation Strategy for the Wild Water Buffalo, and continued support for Sangai (Manipur's brow-antlered deer).*
- **Focus:** Scientific population monitoring, habitat restoration and long-term species recovery.
- **Significance:** Reflects a shift towards species-specific conservation alongside habitat protection.

### Aastha Van Sanrakshan Yojana

- **Objective:** Conserve nearly 15,000 sacred groves through community-led protection, biodiversity conservation and restoration of local ecosystems and water sources.
- **Funding:** ₹3,000 crore allocated for 2026–31.

### MISHTI (Mangrove Restoration)

- The Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes (MISHTI) focuses on restoring degraded mangrove ecosystems along India's coastline.
- **Objective:** Strengthen coastal protection, improve climate resilience and support sustainable livelihoods through mangrove restoration.
- **Latest Decisions:** Programme extended till 2029 with the total outlay increased to ₹600 crore (₹88.40 crore released so far across six States/UTs).

### Nagar Van Yojana (Urban Forestry)

- **Objective:** Increase urban green cover, improve biodiversity and reduce the urban heat island effect.
- **Progress:** 652 Nagar Vans/Vatikas developed with ₹571.50 crore released.

### Technology-enabled Forest Governance

- **GIS Monitoring System :** A dedicated GIS Lab will use satellite imagery, GIS mapping and field verification to monitor compensatory afforestation and other CAMPA projects.
- **Harit-SANKALP Portal :** Developed with FAO-India, the portal digitises the management of seed sources, nurseries and planting material through QR-code traceability and integrated monitoring dashboards.
- **Digital Annual Plan of Operation (Digital APO) :** States and Union Territories will prepare and submit their Annual Plans of Operation (APOs) entirely through an online platform.

#### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. Which of the following best explain(s) the rationale for protecting mangrove ecosystems in the context of climate resilience? (2026)

1. Mangroves reduce tidal energy and store freshwater, making them ideal sites for paddy cultivation in saline estuarine belts.
  2. Their salt-sensitive roots filter seawater, making mangroves key to converting coastal land into freshwater aquaculture zones.
  3. By withstanding tidal surges and offering biomass resources, mangroves function both as natural bio shields and livelihood bases for rural communities.
- Select the answer using the code given below:  
 (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 only

### RELEVANCE

#### GS III : Environmental Conservation



## Novo Nordisk launches weekly insulin shot Awiqli in India

Novo Nordisk has launched Awiqli (insulin icodec) in India, the world's first once-weekly basal insulin approved for clinical use. India becomes the seventh country to introduce the drug, marking an important advancement in long-acting insulin therapy for diabetes management.

### What is Awiqli?

- **Awiqli (generic name: insulin icodec)** is a once-weekly basal (long-acting/background) insulin indicated for the treatment of **Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes mellitus in adults**.
- Unlike conventional basal insulin, which requires daily administration, **Awiqli requires one injection per week, reducing the number of annual injections from 365 to 52.**
- The drug has already received regulatory approval in the United States, the European Union, and several other countries.
- The once-weekly dosing schedule aims to improve treatment adherence, particularly among patients reluctant to initiate or continue insulin therapy due to the burden of frequent injections.
- According to Novo Nordisk, **insulin initiation in India is delayed by an average of 7–9 years**, with fear of injections, anticipated pain and cost being major contributing factors.
- By reducing injection frequency, long-acting insulin formulations have the potential to improve long-term diabetes management and patient compliance.

### Diabetes Burden in India

- Diabetes is a **chronic non-communicable disease (NCD)** caused by inadequate insulin production or ineffective use of insulin, resulting in persistently high blood sugar.
- **Disease Burden:** Around 77 million adults have diabetes and nearly 25 million are prediabetic; over 50% remain undiagnosed.
- **Major Complications:** Increases the risk of cardiovascular diseases, kidney failure, blindness, neuropathy and lower-limb amputations.

### Increasing burden

Following are the key findings of the study conducted by the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation in collaboration with the ICMR and Union Health Ministry:

- The highest prevalence of diabetes was found in Goa (26.4%), Puducherry and Kerala (nearly 25%)



- The study notes a national prevalence of 11.4% diabetes, 15.3% pre-diabetes, 35.5% hypertension, 28.6% generalised obesity, 39.5% abdominal obesity and 24% hypercholesterolemia in India

- In numbers, there were 101 million people in the country with diabetes, 136 million with pre-diabetes, while 315 million people had high blood pressure, 254 million had generalised obesity, and 351 million had abdominal obesity

## DIABETES AWARENESS

### Diabetes Burden in India

- The high disease burden underscores the need for early diagnosis, effective treatment and improved patient adherence, making innovations such as once-weekly basal insulin (Awiqli) particularly significant.
- The innovation aims to improve patient adherence by reducing the burden of frequent insulin injections.
- **Why it matters:** Insulin initiation in India is delayed by an average of 7–9 years, largely due to fear of injections, anticipated pain and treatment costs.
- **Potential Impact:** Reduced injection frequency may improve treatment adherence, long-term glycaemic control and quality of life for eligible patients.
- **Broader Relevance:** Demonstrates the role of pharmaceutical innovation in strengthening diabetes management and addressing India's rising NCD burden.

#### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. In a crucial domain like the public healthcare system, the Indian State should play a vital role in containing the adverse impact of the marketisation of the system. Suggest measures through which the State can enhance the reach of public healthcare at the grassroots level. (GS II – Social Justice – 2024)

#### RELEVANCE

GS II : Social Services - Healthcare



## Easing on China is right move at right time (Indian Express : 11-07-2026)

The Centre has approved the Dixon Technologies–Vivo Mobile joint venture for smartphone manufacturing, following recent policy changes facilitating selected investments from neighbouring countries. The development reflects India's evolving approach towards China by moving from broad restrictions to selective economic engagement while retaining strategic safeguards.

### Why India Cannot Completely Decouple from China

- **China remains India's largest import source**, accounting for around **16% of total imports in FY 2024–25**.
- Bilateral merchandise trade stood at US\$127.7 billion, with imports of US\$113.5 billion and exports of only US\$14.3 billion, resulting in a trade deficit of US\$99.2 billion, India's largest with any country.
- Indian manufacturing remains heavily dependent on Chinese machinery, electronics, chemicals, batteries, renewable-energy equipment and other intermediate goods.
- Since manufacturing contributes only 16–17% of GDP, achieving India's target of 25% manufacturing share requires stronger integration with global value chains, mostly centred on China.



### India's Strategic Concerns

The 2020 Galwan Valley clash fundamentally changed India's approach towards China by bringing national security considerations into economic policymaking. This led to tighter scrutiny of Chinese investments through Press Note 3 (2020) and greater caution in sensitive sectors. At the same time, developments such as China's export restrictions on rare-earth elements have reinforced the risks of excessive dependence on a single country for critical inputs. Consequently, India's current policy is not aimed at complete economic disengagement, but at reducing strategic vulnerabilities while maintaining economic engagement where it serves national interests.

### RELEVANCE

GS II : International Relations

### Emerging Policy Approach

Rather than pursuing complete economic decoupling, India is adopting a strategy of managed strategic interdependence, characterised by:

- Selective opening for investments that strengthen domestic manufacturing.
- Continued security screening of investments in sensitive sectors.
- Diversification of supply chains under the China+1 strategy.
- Expansion of domestic manufacturing and value addition.
- Reducing dependence in strategically critical sectors while retaining economic engagement where beneficial.

### Way Forward

India's China policy is increasingly guided by strategic risk management, seeking to balance economic engagement with national security. Rather than pursuing complete decoupling, India aims to reduce critical dependencies through domestic capability-building, supply-chain diversification and calibrated engagement while preserving strategic autonomy.

### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. Which one of the following pairs of States of India indicates the easternmost and westernmost State? (2015)

- Assam and Rajasthan
- Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan
- Assam and Gujarat
- Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat

Q. Siachen Glacier is situated to the: (2020)

- East of Aksai Chin
- East of Leh
- North of Gilgit
- North of Nubra Valley



## Over and above (The Hindu : 11-07-2026)

The All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2023–24 reports a significant rise in female participation in higher education, with women now accounting for 49.7% of total enrolment. While the gender gap in access has largely narrowed, challenges remain in terms of discipline-wise participation, faculty representation and employment outcomes.

### Key Trends in Female Enrolment

- Female enrolment increased by **42%** over the past decade, rising from **1.57 crore (2014–15) to 2.24 crore (2023–24)**, compared to a **22.16% increase** in male enrolment.
- **Total higher education enrolment** reached a record **4.5 crore**, with women constituting nearly half of all students.
- The **Gender Parity Index (GPI)** reached **1.08**, indicating that 108 women are enrolled in higher education for every 100 men.
- Female enrolment among Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) increased by 51.4% and 75.7%, respectively, reflecting improved access among historically disadvantaged communities.



### Persistent Gaps

- Although women account for 44% of total STEM enrolment, participation is uneven across disciplines.
- Women constitute 54.6% of students in the general sciences (e.g., biology and chemistry) but only 31.1% in engineering and technology, indicating continued gender imbalance in high-growth technical fields.
- Representation among faculty also remains unequal, with only 82 female teachers for every 100 male teachers, and women continue to be underrepresented in institutional leadership positions.

### RELEVANCE

GS I : Indian Society

### Employment Challenges

- Higher educational attainment has not translated into proportionate labour market outcomes for women.
- According to the **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2025**, *women have lower participation in regular salaried employment (18.2%) compared to men (26.5%)*.
- Women also earn less on average, with monthly earnings of ₹18,353, compared to ₹24,217 for men.
- A large proportion of women (64.2%) are classified as self-employed, a category that often includes unpaid household and agricultural work, highlighting the gap between educational achievement and quality employment.

### Significance

- The AISHE findings indicate that India has made substantial progress in improving gender parity in higher education, including among socially disadvantaged groups.
- However, ensuring equitable outcomes now requires greater participation of women in technical disciplines, improved representation in academic leadership, and stronger linkages between higher education and productive, well-paid employment.
- The data highlights the need to move beyond access to education towards economic empowerment and workforce participation, which are essential for inclusive and sustainable development.

#### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. Women's social capital complements in advancing empowerment and gender equity. Explain (GS II – Social Justice – 2025)



## OpenAI launches ChatGPT Work, delving into workplace automation

OpenAI has launched its latest flagship AI model family GPT-5.6 along with ChatGPT Work, an integrated AI workspace aimed at enterprise productivity. The launch marks OpenAI's shift from being primarily a conversational AI provider to becoming a comprehensive AI-powered productivity platform.

### ChatGPT Work

- ChatGPT Work is OpenAI's new AI-powered productivity platform that integrates ChatGPT, Codex and workflow automation into a single application for desktop, web and mobile.
- It is designed to help users complete professional tasks from one interface without switching between multiple software applications.
- The platform represents OpenAI's transition from a conversational chatbot to a comprehensive AI productivity ecosystem.
- ChatGPT Work can generate reports, conduct research, analyse datasets, write software, build websites, create presentations and draft documents.

### GPT-5.6

- GPT-5.6 is OpenAI's latest flagship family of Large Language Models (LLMs).
- Three Model Variants were released :
- **Sol** – Most capable flagship model for advanced reasoning, coding and research tasks.
- **Terra** – Mid-tier model offering performance comparable to GPT-5.5 at a lower cost.
- **Luna** – Fastest and most economical model designed for everyday AI tasks.
- All three variants are available through the OpenAI API, allowing developers to choose models based on performance and cost requirements.

## China achieves first controlled recovery of reusable rocket booster

On 10 July 2026, China successfully conducted the maiden launch of the Long March-10B reusable carrier rocket and achieved its first controlled recovery of an orbital-class first-stage booster, becoming the second country after the United States to demonstrate this capability. The mission successfully placed its payload into the designated orbit before recovering the booster. The achievement marks a major milestone in China's reusable launch vehicle programme. Earlier attempts by Chinese reusable rockets using SpaceX-style vertical landing techniques in 2025 had failed, making this mission China's first successful demonstration of reusable booster recovery.

### Controlled Recovery & Reusable Rocket Technology

- A controlled recovery involves safely returning a rocket's first-stage booster after stage separation so that it can be refurbished and reused in future launches. Reusability significantly reduces launch costs, increases launch frequency and improves the economic viability of commercial space missions.
- Unlike conventional vertical landings, the Long March-10B booster was recovered on the sea-based 'Linghangzhe' (Pathfinder) platform using a fully automated net-capture system, supported by dynamic positioning, laser radar tracking and automated cable mechanisms to safely arrest the descending booster.
- **Long March-10B** is a large, two-stage reusable liquid-fuelled carrier rocket.
- It uses **Liquid Oxygen (LOX) + Kerosene** in the first stage and **Liquid Oxygen (LOX) + Methane** in the second stage.
- In reusable mode, it can place 16 tonnes into Low Earth Orbit (LEO), making it suitable for launching large commercial satellites.

#### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. "Energy security constitutes the dominant kingpin of India's foreign policy, and is linked with India's overarching influence in Middle Eastern countries." How would you integrate energy security with India's foreign policy trajectories in the coming years? (GS II – International Relations – 2025)

#### RELEVANCE

GS II : International Relations



### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. The economic cost of food grains to the Food Corporation of India is Minimum Support Price and bonus (if any) paid to the farmers plus (2019)

- Transportation cost only
- Interest cost only
- Procurement incidentals and distribution cost
- Procurement incidentals and charges for godowns

Ans : C

The economic cost of food grains procured by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) is a total of Minimum Support Price and bonus (if any) paid to the farmers plus the procurement incidentals and distribution cost.

### Food Corporation of India

The **Food Corporation of India** was setup under the **Food Corporation's Act 1964** , in order to fulfill following objectives of the Food Policy:

- Effective price support operations for safeguarding the interests of the farmers.
- Distribution of foodgrains throughout the country for public distribution system.
- Maintaining satisfactory level of operational and buffer stocks of foodgrains to ensure National Food Security.

Since its inception, FCI has played a significant role in India's success in transforming the crisis management oriented food security into a stable security system.

Q. . Which of the following best explain(s) the rationale for protecting mangrove ecosystems in the context of climate resilience? (2026)

- Mangroves reduce tidal energy and store freshwater, making them ideal sites for paddy cultivation in saline estuarine belts.
- Their salt-sensitive roots filter seawater, making mangroves key to converting coastal land into freshwater aquaculture zones.
- By withstanding tidal surges and offering biomass resources, mangroves function both as natural bio shields and livelihood bases for rural communities. Select the answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3
- 3 only

Ans : d

**Statement 1 is not correct:** Mangroves themselves are not ideal sites for normal paddy cultivation because mangrove ecosystems are: highly saline, waterlogged, tidal, low in oxygen, and ecologically fragile.

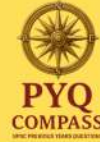
**Statement 2 is not correct:** Mangroves have remarkable adaptations that help them deal with salty seawater, but the process is not exactly like a household "filter." Some mangroves prevent most of the salt from entering the plant at the root surface itself. The roots act like a selective barrier, allowing water to enter while blocking a large proportion of dissolved salts but mangroves do not completely desalinate seawater. They only regulate salt intake sufficiently for survival.

**Statement 3 is correct:** Mangroves offer valuable biomass resources such as fuelwood, timber, honey, tannins and fisheries, function both as natural bio-shields and livelihood bases for rural communities. They protect coastal areas from cyclones, storm surges, coastal erosion and saline intrusion, while also supporting the livelihoods of fishermen, local artisans and forest-dependent populations through fisheries, aquaculture and collection of forest products.



### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. Which one of the following pairs of States of India indicates the easternmost and westernmost State? (2015)

- a) Assam and Rajasthan
- b) Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan
- c) Assam and Gujarat
- d) Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat

**Ans : d**

India's easternmost point lies in Arunachal Pradesh near Kibithu, which borders China and Myanmar. This makes Arunachal Pradesh the easternmost state. The westernmost point of India is in Gujarat, near the village of Guhar Moti in Kutch, bordering Pakistan. Among the given pairs, "Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat" correctly represent the easternmost and westernmost states of India, making option (d) the correct answer.

India-China clash

The Galwan Valley clash occurred against the backdrop of increasing Chinese incursions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). In April–May 2020, the PLA deployed large numbers of troops and blocked Indian patrols at multiple friction points in eastern Ladakh, departing from existing border management agreements and the established status quo.

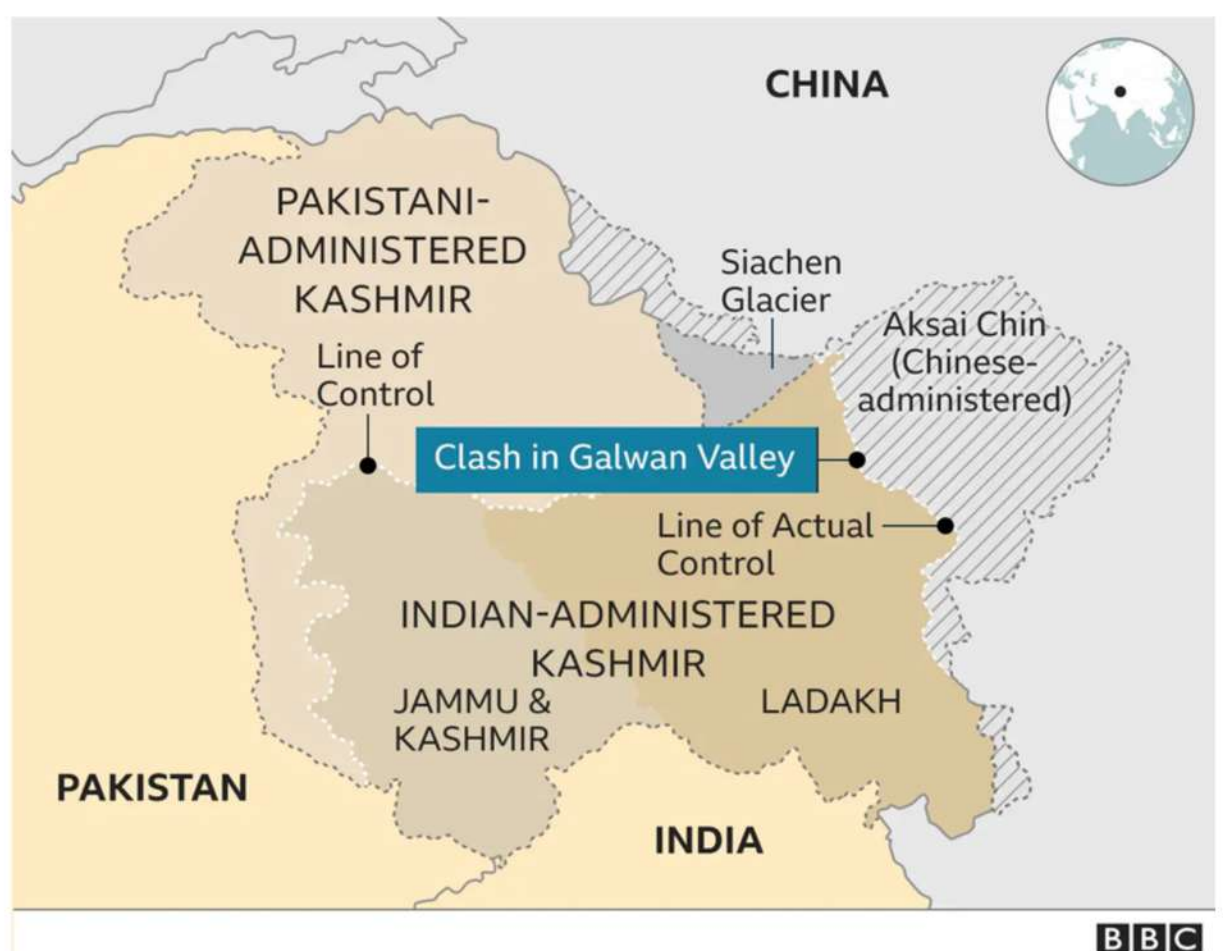
On 15 June 2020, during the disengagement process in the Galwan Valley, violent hand-to-hand clashes resulted in the deaths of 20 Indian soldiers and four Chinese soldiers—the first fatalities along the India–China border in over four decades. The incident marked a fundamental deterioration in bilateral relations and transformed India's China policy by placing national security and border stability at the centre of economic and diplomatic engagement.

Q. Siachen Glacier is situated to the: (2020)

- a) East of Aksai Chin
- b) East of Leh
- c) North of Gilgit
- d) North of Nubra Valley

**Ans : d**

The Siachen Glacier is part of Ladakh, which has now been converted into a Union Territory. It is located in the eastern Karakoram range in the Himalayan mountains. It lies to the south of the great drainage divide that separates the Eurasian Plate from the Indian subcontinent in the glaciated portion of the Karakoram.





Practice Questions and answers

Q. With reference to GPT-5.6 and ChatGPT Work, consider the following statements:

- 1.GPT-5.6 consists of three variants named Sol, Terra and Luna.
- 2.ChatGPT Work integrates AI-assisted coding, document creation and workflow automation into a single platform.
- 3.GPT-5.6 introduces configurable reasoning levels that allow users to choose different levels of computational effort.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1, 2 and 3  
(d) 1 and 3 only

**Answer: (c)**

**Statement 1: Correct.** GPT-5.6 comprises the Sol, Terra and Luna model variants.

**Statement 2: Correct.** ChatGPT Work combines ChatGPT, Codex and workflow automation within a unified productivity platform.

**Statement 3: Correct.** GPT-5.6 allows users to select different reasoning levels based on task complexity.

Q. With reference to China's Long March-10B, consider the following statements:

- 1.It is China's first successful controlled recovery of an orbital-class first-stage rocket booster.
- 2.The recovered booster was captured using a sea-based net-capture system.
- 3.In reusable mode, the rocket can place payloads only into Geostationary Orbit (GEO).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (a)**

**Statement 1: Correct.** China became the second country after the United States to demonstrate this capability.

**Statement 2: Correct.** Recovery was carried out using the sea-based Linghangzhe platform with a net-capture system.

**Statement 3: Incorrect.** The rocket is designed to place 16 tonnes into Low Earth Orbit (LEO) in reusable mode.