

PIB

Daily Update

05 April 2026

Key Government Initiatives

UPSC/TNPSC/SSC Standard MCQs + Exam Notes | YouTube Study Series

13 Topics • Statement-Based MCQs • Correct Answer in Explanation

Bio-Bitumen Technology — Farm Residue to Roads

Consider the following statements about Bio-Bitumen technology:

1. It was jointly developed by CSIR-CRRI and CSIR-IIP.
2. It uses a photochemical conversion process.
3. It is being adopted by MoRTH for national highway projects.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A** 1 and 2 only
- B** 1 and 3 only
- C** 2 and 3 only
- D** 1, 2 and 3

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: B — Statement 2 is wrong; it uses thermochemical (not photochemical) conversion. Statements 1 and 3 are correct.

Bio-Bitumen Technology — Farm Residue to Roads

WHAT

Bio-Bitumen from Lignocellulosic Biomass — farm residue converted into road-building material via thermochemical conversion

DEVELOPED BY

CSIR-CRRI (Central Road Research Institute) + CSIR-IIP (Indian Institute of Petroleum)

EVENT

Technology Transfer Event held in New Delhi — organized by CSIR for large-scale industry adoption

KEY BENEFIT

Renewable, low-carbon alternative to petroleum-based bitumen; reduces stubble burning & environmental pollution

FARMER LINK

Converts farm residue into income opportunity for farmers; aligns with circular economy & Net Zero targets

ALIGNS WITH

Atmanirbhar Bharat, National Bio-Energy Mission, Make in India & Ministry of Road Transport (MoRTH)

EXAM TIP

CSIR-CRRI + CSIR-IIP = Bio-Bitumen. 'Waste to Wealth' & 'Farm to Road' — key phrases. MoRTH adoption important.

Nalanda Excavation & ASI Protected Monuments

With reference to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), consider the following:

1. ASI protects a total of 3,686 monuments across India.
2. Nalanda was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2019.
3. Only 143 out of ASI's protected monuments are ticketed.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A 1 and 2 only

B 2 and 3 only

C 1 and 3 only

D 1, 2 and 3

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: C — Nalanda was listed by UNESCO in 2016 (not 2019). Statements 1 and 3 are correct.

Nalanda Excavation & ASI Protected Monuments

ASI TOTAL

3,686 centrally protected monuments & archaeological sites across India under ASI

NALANDA

UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2016; major tourist destination; local communities involved in conservation

TICKETED

143 protected monuments charge entry fees; Agra Circle has highest footfall (10.4 lakh+ in 2024-25)

TOP CIRCLE

Dharwad Circle — highest monuments (282); Delhi Circle — highest staff (622 sanctioned)

CONSERVATION

Funds for conservation allocated annually; National Policy for Conservation 2014 governs guidelines

LOCAL IMPACT

Excavation & conservation work provides employment to local people; communities actively participate

EXAM TIP

3686 total monuments. 143 ticketed. Nalanda = UNESCO 2016. Dharwad Circle = most monuments (282). ASI under Ministry of Culture.

Kisan Credit Card (KCC) — Digital & Credit Reforms

With reference to the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme, which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. MISS effective rate after prompt repayment — 4%
2. Collateral-free loan limit enhanced to — ₹2 lakh (w.e.f. Jan 2025)
3. KCC extended to fisheries sector — since 2021

Select the correct answer:

A 1 only

B 1 and 2 only

C 2 and 3 only

D 1, 2 and 3

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: B — KCC was extended to fisheries/animal husbandry since 2019 (not 2021). Statements 1 and 2 are correct.

Kisan Credit Card (KCC) — Digital & Credit Reforms

KCC RATE

MISS (Modified Interest Subvention Scheme): KCC loans at 7%; prompt repayment = extra 3% incentive → effective rate 4%

COLLATERAL

Collateral-free limit raised from ₹1.60 lakh to ₹2.00 lakh per borrower by RBI w.e.f. 1 January 2025

EXTENDED TO

Since 2019, KCC extended to Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries working capital

DIGITAL

Jan Samarth Portal — one-stop platform for KCC; NABARD e-KCC portal for RRBs & Rural Cooperative Banks

PSL TARGET

Banks must allocate min 18% of ANBC to agriculture; sub-target 10% for Small & Marginal Farmers (SMFs)

GRIEVANCE

RBI Integrated Ombudsman Scheme 2026 (effective 1 July 2026); CPGRAM portal for grievances

EXAM TIP

MISS: 7% base → 4% after incentive. Collateral limit ₹2L (from ₹1.6L), effective Jan 2025. Jan Samarth portal for KCC. KCC extended 2019.

MSME — Udyam Registration & Budget 2026-27 Reforms

Arrange the following MSME registration milestones in correct chronological order:

1. Launch of Udyam Registration Portal (URP)
2. Launch of Udyam Assist Platform (UAP)
3. Adoption of revised composite criteria for MSME classification
4. Total registrations crossing 7 crore mark

Choose the correct sequence:

A 3 → 1 → 2 → 4

B 1 → 3 → 2 → 4

C 3 → 2 → 1 → 4

D 1 → 2 → 3 → 4

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: A — Revised classification adopted (2020) → URP launched 01 Jul 2020 → UAP launched 11 Jan 2023 → crossed 7Cr+ registrations.

MSME — Udyam Registration & Budget 2026-27 Reforms

URP LAUNCH

Udyam Registration Portal (URP) launched: 01 July 2020; Udyam Assist Platform (UAP) launched: 11 January 2023

TOTAL REG

Over 7.83 crore enterprises registered on URP + UAP as of 28 Feb 2026; Maharashtra leads (1.01 crore)

GROWTH

FY-wise registrations: 0.79Cr → 1.64Cr → 4.12Cr → 6.19Cr → 7.83Cr (2021-22 to 2025-26)

BUDGET 2026-27

TReDS as mandatory settlement platform for CPSE purchases; CGTMSE-backed credit guarantee on TReDS

GEM-TREDS

GeM integrated with TReDS for faster credit to MSMEs; TReDS receivables as asset-backed securities

KEY SCHEMES

PM Employment Generation, Credit Guarantee Scheme, PM Vishwakarma, ZED Certification, TEAM Initiative

EXAM TIP

URP = 1 Jul 2020; UAP = 11 Jan 2023. 7.83 crore total. TReDS reforms in Budget 2026-27. Maharashtra = top state for MSME registrations.

PM-SETU — Skilling via Upgraded ITIs

Consider the following about PM-SETU scheme:

1. Total outlay is ₹60,000 crore with equal sharing between Centre and State.
2. It upgrades 1,000 ITIs in a Hub and Spoke model (200 Hub + 800 Spoke).
3. Singapore MoU is signed for NSTI Hyderabad.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

A 1 and 3 only

B 2 only

C 1 and 2 only

D 2 and 3 only

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: B — Sharing is NOT equal (Centre ₹30K, State ₹20K, Industry ₹10K). Singapore MoU is for NSTI Chennai, not Hyderabad. Only Statement 2 is correct.

PM-SETU — Skilling via Upgraded ITIs

FULL FORM

PM SETU = Pradhan Mantri Skilling & Employability through Upgraded ITIs; Centrally Sponsored Scheme

OUTLAY

₹60,000 crore total (Central: ₹30,000 Cr | State: ₹20,000 Cr | Industry: ₹10,000 Cr); 50% co-financed by ADB & World Bank

COMPONENT I

Upgradation of 1,000 Govt ITIs (200 Hub + 800 Spoke) — smart classrooms, modern labs, industry-aligned courses

COMPONENT II

Capacity Augmentation of 5 NSTIs: Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Ludhiana — National Centres of Excellence

GLOBAL TIES

Singapore MoU → NSTI Chennai; Germany JDol → NSTI Hyderabad; France Lol → NSTI Kanpur

SPV MODEL

Industry-led Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) lead upgradation; National Steering Committee chaired by Secretary MSDE

EXAM TIP

₹60,000 Cr = 30+20+10 (NOT equal share). Hub:Spoke = 200:800. Singapore=Chennai, Germany=Hyderabad, France=Kanpur.

Energy Statistics India 2026 — Key Highlights

With reference to 'Energy Statistics India 2026', consider the following statements:

1. India's total renewable energy potential is 47,04,043 MW as of March 2025.
2. Solar energy accounts for the highest share (~71%) of RE potential.
3. Rajasthan has the highest share of RE potential among Indian states.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A** 1 and 2 only
- B** 2 and 3 only
- C** 1 and 3 only
- D** 1, 2 and 3

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: D — All three statements are correct. RE potential = 47,04,043 MW; Solar = 71%; Rajasthan leads with 23.7% share.

Energy Statistics India 2026 — Key Highlights

PUBLICATION

Energy Statistics India 2026 — 33rd edition released by NSO (National Statistics Office), MoSPI

TPES

Total Primary Energy Supply (TPES) grew 2.95% in 2024-25; stood at 9,32,816 KToE

RE POTENTIAL

Renewable energy potential = 47,04,043 MW (Solar 71%, Wind 11,63,856 MW, Large Hydro 1,33,410 MW)

TOP 6 STATES

Rajasthan(23.7%) > Maharashtra(14.26%) > Gujarat(9.1%) > Andhra Pradesh(9.1%) > Karnataka(8.59%) > MP(8.09%)

INSTALLED CAP

RE installed capacity: 90,134 MW (2016) → 2,29,346 MW (2025); CAGR 10.93%

T&D LOSS

Transmission & Distribution losses reduced: 22% (2015-16) → 17% (2024-25); per capita energy rose to 18,096 MJ/person

EXAM TIP

47,04,043 MW RE potential. Solar = 71% share. TPES = 9,32,816 KToE. T&D loss 22%→17%. Top state = Rajasthan (23.7%).

CCRAS–Anuvadini AI MoU — Ayurveda in 13 Languages

Which of the following correctly describes the Anuvadini AI platform?

1. It is developed by AICTE under Ministry of Education.
2. CCRAS MoU aims to translate Ayurveda research into 13 regional languages.
3. CCRAS operates 30 institutes across 30 states.

Select the correct answer:

A 1 and 2 only

B 2 and 3 only

C 1 and 3 only

D 1, 2 and 3

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: A — CCRAS has 30 institutes across 25 states (not 30). Statements 1 and 2 are correct.

CCRAS-Anuvadini AI MoU — Ayurveda in 13 Languages

MoU SIGNED

CCRAS (Ministry of Ayush) signed MoU with Anuvadini AI (AICTE, Ministry of Education) for AI-powered translation

PURPOSE

Translate CCRAS research outputs & educational materials into 13 regional languages including Hindi

CCRAS

CCRAS = Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences; 30 institutes across 25 states; publishes CCRAS Bulletin (quarterly)

ANUVADINI AI

AI platform translating technical, scientific & governance knowledge into Indian & foreign languages

KEY PERSONS

MoU signed by Prof. Rabinarayan Acharya (DG, CCRAS) & Dr. Buddha Chandrasekhar (CEO, Anuvadini AI)

FUTURE SCOPE

May extend to foreign languages — countries with Ayush Chairs established by Ministry of Ayush

EXAM TIP

CCRAS + Anuvadini AI (AICTE). 13 languages. CCRAS = 30 institutes, 25 states (NOT 30 states). AICTE under Ministry of Education.

General Elections 2026 — Home Voting Facility

Consider the following about the Home Voting facility in General Elections 2026:

1. It is provided under Section 60(c) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
2. It is mandatory for all voters above 85 years of age.
3. A videographer must accompany the polling team during home voting.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

A 1 and 3 only

B 2 and 3 only

C 1 only

D 1, 2 and 3

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: A — Home voting is OPTIONAL (not mandatory) for 85+ voters. Statements 1 and 3 are correct.

General Elections 2026 — Home Voting Facility

ELECTIONS

General Elections 2026: Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu & West Bengal + bye-elections in 6 states; announced 15 March 2026

PHASE 1

Assam, Kerala & Puducherry polling on April 9, 2026

HOME VOTING

Sec 60(c) RPA 1951 — OPTIONAL home voting for 85+ years electors & PwDs; apply within 5 days of notification

NUMBERS

2.37 lakh electors approved — Kerala: 2,07,761 | Assam: 26,412 | Puducherry: 3,687

KERALA LEAD

Kerala: 71.27% of 85+ electors opted for home voting; 25.50% of PwD electors

TRANSPARENCY

Video recording mandatory; police security; candidates given list of home-voting electors; completed by April 5

EXAM TIP

Section 60(c) RPA 1951. Home voting is OPTIONAL (not mandatory) for 85+ & PwDs. 2.37 lakh approved. Kerala leads at 71.27%.

INS Agray — 4th ASW Shallow Water Craft Delivered

With reference to the delivery of 'Agray' to the Indian Navy, consider the following statements:

1. It is the 4th of 8 Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Crafts.
2. It was built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai.
3. It carries over 80% indigenous content.

Which of the above is/are correct?

A 1 and 2 only

B 2 and 3 only

C 1 and 3 only

D 1, 2 and 3

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: C — Agray was built by GRSE Kolkata (not Mazagon Dock). Statements 1 and 3 are correct.

INS Agray — 4th ASW Shallow Water Craft Delivered

WHAT 'Agray' — 4th of 8 ASW SWC (Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft) delivered to Indian Navy on 30 Mar 2026

BUILT BY GRSE (Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers), Kolkata — indigenously designed & built; classified by IRS

SPECS ~77 metres long; largest Indian Naval warships propelled by waterjets; >80% indigenous content

WEAPONS Equipped with Lightweight Torpedoes, Indigenous Rocket Launchers & shallow water SONAR

CAPABILITIES Enhances anti-submarine & mine-warfare capabilities + coastal surveillance of Indian Navy

LEGACY Named after erstwhile INS Agray (1241 PE Class Patrol Vessel, decommissioned 2017); Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision

EXAM TIP GRSE Kolkata built Agray (NOT Mazagon Dock). 4th of 8 ASW SWC. 77m, waterjet propulsion, 80%+ indigenous. Delivered 30 March 2026.

Solid Waste Management Rules 2026 — Effective April 1

Which of the following is NOT a feature of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026?

1. It supersedes the SWM Rules of 2016.
2. It mandates three-stream segregation of waste at source.
3. It increases fuel substitution rate from 5% to 15% over 6 years.
4. It introduces the 'Polluter Pays' principle for environmental compensation.

A 1 and 3

B 2 only

C 3 and 4

D 1 and 4

EXPLANATION

Correct Answer: B — SWM Rules 2026 mandate FOUR-stream segregation (not three). All other statements are correct.

Solid Waste Management Rules 2026 — Effective April 1

NOTIFIED

SWM Rules 2026 notified on 27 January 2026 in Official Gazette; supersedes SWM Rules 2016

EFFECTIVE

Come into effect from April 1, 2026; integrates circular economy & Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

4 STREAMS

Mandatory 4-stream source segregation: Wet waste | Dry waste | Sanitary waste | Special Care waste

RDF FUEL

Fuel substitution rate for industrial units raised from 5% to 15% over 6 years using Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF)

DIGITAL TRACK

Centralised Online Portal for tracking all stages: collection, transportation, processing & disposal

POLLUTER PAYS

Environmental compensation based on 'Polluter Pays' principle; Central & State committees constituted for implementation

EXAM TIP

SWM Rules 2026 = effective 1 April 2026. Supersedes 2016 rules. 4 waste streams (NOT 3). RDF: 5%→15% in 6 years. Polluter Pays principle.

All the Best!

Link in description

PIB Daily Update — 06 April 2026

13 Topics • 13 MCQs • 13 Notes Slides

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