Prelims Exam Topics

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT (RBM) SCHEME

Context

The Ministry of Jal Shakti has extended the River Basin Management (RBM) scheme for another five years (2026–2031).

About River Basin Management (RBM) Scheme

- It is a central sector initiative designed to provide a scientific and institutional framework for managing the country's vast water resources.
- **Implementing Agency:** Central Water Commission (CWC) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- **Core Philosophy:** Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land, and related resources to maximize economic and social welfare without compromising ecosystem sustainability.
- **Objectives**
    - **Hydrological Observations:** Operation and maintenance of a vast network of stations that monitor river discharge, water quality, and siltation levels across all major river basins.
    - **Interstate Dispute Resolution:** Providing technical support to various **Interstate River Water Disputes Tribunals** by offering verified hydrological data.
    - **Flood Forecasting:** Enhancing the early warning systems to minimize loss of life and property during monsoon seasons.
    - **Basin Planning:** Developing comprehensive "Master Plans" for river basins to balance the needs of agriculture, industry, and environmental flows.

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY (NBA) REFORMS

Context

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) approved a landmark series of reforms to streamline Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) funds and modernize the management of biological repositories under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

Streamlining Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)

- **Identifiable Source:** When the origin of a resource (like a specific medicinal plant) is known, 60–75% of the ABS funds are funneled directly to the local community/beneficiaries via State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs).
    - The remaining 25–40% goes to the providing institution for documentation and conservation.
- **Unidentifiable Source:** In cases where the origin is unclear (e.g., resources sourced from bulk traders), a fixed 70:30 split is implemented-70% to the NBA/SBBs for general conservation and 30% to the supporting institutions.
- **Purpose:** This ensures that money paid by companies for using India's biodiversity doesn't remain idle but is actively used for local school infrastructure, ecosystem restoration, and village development

Modernization of Biological Repositories

Under **Section 39** of the Act, the government has designated new institutions as "National Repositories" to ensure the safe custody of India's genetic wealth.

- **New Designations:** Recent additions include the **Referral Centre Bhavasagara (Kochi)** for deep-sea biodiversity and the **Agharkar Research Institute (Pune)** for fungal and microbial cultures.
- **Mandatory Digitization:** New guidelines require these repositories to create "digital birth certificates" for all specimens. This move aims to prevent **biopiracy** by allowing remote verification and tracking of every biological sample used in commercial research.
- **Traceability:** Robust documentation of "provenance records" (origin data) is now mandatory, ensuring that every specimen in a lab can be traced back to its natural habitat

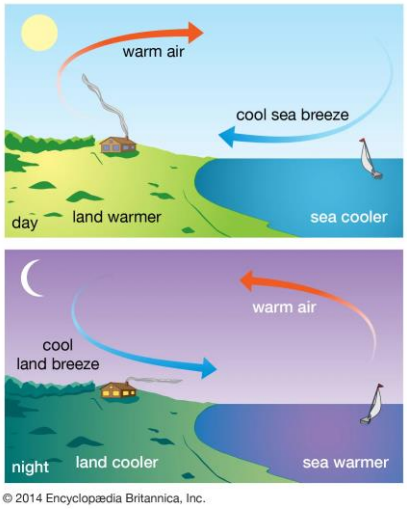
HOW IS GLOBAL WARMING AFFECTING THE SEA-LAND BREEZE?

Context

A study published in Nature Climate Change warns that global warming is weakening the sea-land breeze cycles essential for the health and habitability of coastal megacities.

About Sea-Land Breeze

The sea-land breeze is a localized atmospheric circulation driven by the **differential heating** of land and water surfaces.



- **Daytime (Sea Breeze):** Land heats up faster than the sea. The warm air over land rises, creating a low-pressure area that "pulls" cooler, high-pressure air from the sea toward the coast.
- **Nighttime (Land Breeze):** The land cools down faster than the ocean. The air over the relatively warmer sea rises, and the breeze reverses, flowing from the land toward the water.

Impact of Global Warming

- **Reduced Temperature Gap:** While both land and sea are warming, the significant increase in ocean temperatures is reducing the **thermal contrast** between the two.
- **Weakened Circulation:** Since the breeze depends on the magnitude of the temperature difference, a smaller gap results in weaker, less frequent breezes.
- **Historical Decline:** The analysis shows that ocean warming has already reduced the number of "breeze days" by approximately **3%** in most studied cities.
- **Most Affected Cities:** Mid-latitude megacities such as **London, New York, Shanghai, and Buenos Aires** have witnessed the most dramatic declines in sea breeze activity.

INDIA'S FIRST WATER-NEUTRAL RAILWAY DEPOT

Context

Kankaria Coaching Depot in Ahmedabad has become India's first 'water-neutral' railway depot by recycling wastewater used in coach washing and maintenance.

About

- The Kankaria Coaching Depot in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, is the first railway depot in India to achieve water neutrality by treating and reusing wastewater generated during routine railway coach cleaning and maintenance.
- It minimizes freshwater dependency by ensuring that almost all operational water demand is met through recycled water, promoting sustainable railway infrastructure.

Key Features

- **Phytoremediation-Based Treatment System:** The depot uses phytoremediation, an eco-friendly process where specially selected plants naturally absorb pollutants and purify wastewater before reuse.
- **Multi-Stage Water Purification:** Wastewater passes through wetland treatment, followed by carbon filtration, sand filtration, and ultraviolet (UV) disinfection to ensure safe and efficient reuse.
- **Massive Water Conservation:** The system saves nearly 1.60 lakh litres of water daily and around 5.84 crore litres annually, significantly reducing freshwater consumption and operational costs.

INDIA'S SHIFT TOWARD STATE-WISE AGRICULTURAL ROADMAPS

Context

India is shifting from a one-size-fits-all agricultural policy to state-wise agricultural roadmaps to improve regional productivity, climate resilience, and implementation.

Significance of India's Agriculture Sector

- Agriculture and allied activities contribute nearly **18% to India's Gross Value Added (GVA).**
- **Employment:** The sector employs nearly **46% of India's workforce, with women's participation rising to 64.4% in 2023-24.**
- **Rural Income: Nearly 54.25%** of rural households earn most of their income directly from agriculture.
- **Growth:** Agriculture grew **4.4% annually from FY21 to FY25**, surpassing the global average, with exports hitting a **record $51.1 billion in FY25.**
- **FDI Inflows:** Agriculture, including allied value-added sectors like food processing, has attracted **over $10 billion by mid-2025.**

Need for State-Specific Interventions

- **Agro-Climatic Diversity:** India's 15 agro-climatic zones vary in soils and rainfall, making uniform cropping strategies unviable.
- **Resource Disparity:** Different regional resource pressures require tailored interventions; Punjab faces groundwater depletion, Assam faces floods, and Vidarbha faces droughts.
- **Climate Vulnerability:** Local extremes require region-specific resilient seeds and micro-irrigation systems for erratic monsoons and heatwaves.
- **Market Alignment:** State roadmaps better address local infrastructure needs like Andhra Pradesh's cold storage and Goa's cashew processing units.

Key Features of the New Roadmap

- **Customised Strategies:** States can now develop local farm strategies around crop diversification, resource availability, and market demand.

- **Team Approach:** The Centre provides funding and scientific experts from ICAR, while the states lead ground-level implementation.
- **Financial Flexibility:** States can now choose priorities from a menu of schemes, such as fencing or drip irrigation, according to local needs.
- **Tech Integration:** Centre deploys Farmer IDs for transparent loans and subsidies, while Bharat-VISTAAR offers real-time weather and crop advisories.

Key Challenges of State-Specific Interventions

- **Data Gaps:** Weak district-level real-time data and digital divides limit the effectiveness of AI-driven advisory tools like Bharat-VISTAAR.
- **Operational Deficits:** Bureaucratic delays, fragmented land holdings, and poor last-mile delivery diminish the impact of state-level policy.
- **Farmer Reluctance:** Farmers hesitate to grow high-value crops due to price volatility and limited local cold storage infrastructure.
- **Capacity Constraints:** Gram Panchayats often lack the technical capacity to effectively manage decentralised budgets and advisory systems.

Key State Initiatives & Regional Roadmaps

- **Madhya Pradesh** launched district-wise roadmaps with Seed Villages, integrated farming, and a Soil Mobile App.
- **Rajasthan** partnered with the Centre to co-create a scientific roadmap and launched an **'AI for Agriculture Roadmap'.**
- **Union Budget 2026-27** launched **"Support for High Value Agriculture"** to aid coastal crops, Northeastern agar, and hilly-region nuts.

GENE DRIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR MALARIA CONTROL

Context

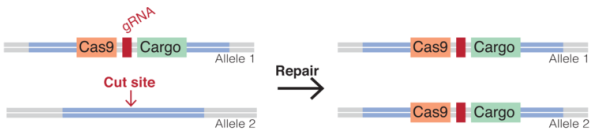
- Malaria remains a major global health challenge which is now facing **resistance issues**, prompting exploration of genetic solutions like gene drives.

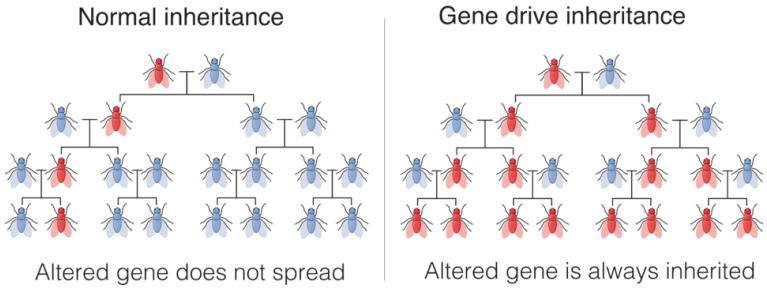
About Gene Drive

Normally, a gene passes to **50% of offspring**, but a gene drive increases this to **>90%**, allowing it to **spread very quickly through a population**.

- **Mechanism:**
  - A gene drive uses the CRISPR–Cas9 system, where a protein (Cas9) cuts the mosquito's DNA at a specific site.
  - The cell repairs this cut using the modified gene as a template, forcing it to copy the "drive sequence" into both DNA strands (instead of one).
  - This ensures the modified gene is passed to most offspring (>90%), allowing it to spread rapidly in mosquito populations.

- **Types of Gene Drives**
    - **Population Suppression:** These drives disrupt the genes essential for female mosquitoes to develop or become fertile. As the drive spreads, more females become sterile, causing mosquito populations to shrink or collapse.





    - **Population Modification (Replacement):** In these drives, mosquitoes remain alive but carry genes that prevent the malaria parasites from developing inside their bodies

How Gene Drive Helps Malaria Control

- **Step 1: Genetic Engineering** Scientists change mosquito genes so they **either cannot reproduce properly or cannot carry malaria parasites**.
- **Step 2: Biased Inheritance** These changed genes are passed to **most offspring (>90%) instead of half**, so they spread very fast.
- **Step 3: Population Spread** Over generations, **more and more mosquitoes carry the modified gene**, making it common in the population.
    - **Step 4A: Suppression Pathway** If reproduction is affected, **female mosquitoes become sterile**, so the **mosquito population reduces**.
    - **Step 4B: Modification Pathway** If parasites are targeted, mosquitoes produce **substances that kill or stop malaria parasites inside them**.
- **Step 5: Transmission Block** Parasites cannot grow to the infectious stage, so **mosquitoes cannot spread malaria to humans**.

AI COMPANIES ARE BECOMING THE WORLD'S CYBERSECURITY GATEKEEPERS

Context

Advanced AI models like Mythos are transforming cybersecurity by **automating detection and defence**, making big tech firms central to global digital security systems.

How AI Companies are Building Cybersecurity Tools

- **AI-Based Vulnerability Detection:** AI tools scan large codebases and find hidden flaws much faster than humans.
    - **E.g.** Mythos found bugs in OpenBSD (a highly secure system) and FFmpeg (widely used video software) that humans and tools missed for years ⟶ shows AI can uncover deep, unnoticed weaknesses)

- **Building Defensive Coalitions:** Companies collaborate to secure global software systems using shared AI tools.
    - **E.g.** Project Glasswing includes AWS, Google, Microsoft, etc., that coordinate its protection from **Cyber threats.**
- **Integration with Cloud Platforms:** Cybersecurity is built directly into cloud systems for continuous monitoring.
    - **E.g**. Google acquired Wiz in which its cloud can automatically scan customer systems for risks ⟶ security becomes part of cloud service, not a separate tool
- **Funding Open-Source Security:** AI companies support developers to fix vulnerabilities found in widely used software.
    - **E.g.** funding to open-source foundations helps maintainers patch bugs quickly ⟶ improves security of global digital infrastructure used by millions
- **AI-Driven Cybersecurity Platforms:** Companies offer complete security systems combining detection, prevention and response.
    - **E.g**. Google integrates AI + cloud + security. Thus firms become full-service cybersecurity providers

Implications:

- **Exclusive Access and Controlled Deployment:** Most powerful AI tools are restricted to selected organisations.
    - **E.g.** Mythos is not publicly released; only trusted firms get access ⟶ prevents misuse but also concentrates power in few companies
- **Competition Among AI Firms:** Companies compete to build more advanced AI security tools.
    - **E.g.** OpenAI launched GPT-5.4-Cyber after Anthropic's move ⟶ rapid innovation and race in AI-driven cybersecurity

INDIA'S FIRST ADVANCED 3D CHIP PACKAGING UNIT

Context:

Odisha is setting up **India's first advanced 3D chip packaging unit**, marking a step toward **high-end semiconductor manufacturing and global supply chain participation**.

About the Project

- **Implementation:** The project is led by **3D Glass Solutions (US-based)** through its Indian arm, also funded by Intel.
- **Under Government Mission: India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)**, which supports domestic chip manufacturing.
- **Technology:** Uses **3D heterogeneous integration**, meaning multiple chips are combined into one for **better performance**.

Ecosystem Significance

- **Complete Ecosystem:** Odisha becomes the first state with both **chip manufacturing (fab) and advanced packaging**, strengthening the ecosystem.

- **Boost to ATMP/OSAT Sector:** Improves India's role in **assembly, testing, marking and packaging**, a key part of the chip supply chain.
- **Reduced Import Dependence:** Less reliance on countries like **Taiwan and South Korea** for chip processing.

About 3D Chip Packaging

In 3D Chip Packaging, instead of placing chips side-by-side, chips are **stacked one above another**, which saves space and allows **faster communication between them**.

Key Components:

- **3D Stacking:** Multiple chips are placed in layers, so **more components fit in less space**.
- **Through-Silicon Vias (TSVs):** These are tiny vertical connections that **directly link stacked chips**, allowing **very fast data transfer**.
- **Glass Substrate:** Using glass as a base improves **heat management, signal quality, and reduces energy loss**, making chips more reliable.

Advantages

- **Higher Speed:** Since chips are closer together, data travels shorter distances, resulting in **faster processing**.
- **Energy Efficient:** Less distance and better design reduce power use, leading to **lower energy consumption and less heat**.
- **Compact Devices:** Stacking chips are **smaller and lighter without losing performance**.
- **Advanced Applications:** high-end uses like **AI, 5G networks, defence systems, and supercomputing**, where high speed and efficiency are essential.

SUPREME COURT ISSUES NATIONWIDE ROAD SAFETY DIRECTIVES

Context

In the Phalodi Accident v. National Highways Authority of India case, the Supreme Court cautioned that expressways should not turn into "corridors of danger" due to lapses in governance or infrastructure. Invoking Article 142 of the Constitution of India, it issued pan-India directions.

Key Observations

- The Court ruled that road safety forms an integral part of the right to life and dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution of India.
- It emphasised that Article 21 imposes a positive obligation on the State to maintain safe road conditions.
- Although National Highways make up only about 2% of total road length, they account for nearly 30% of road deaths.

Key Directions

- **District Highway Safety Task Forces**: To be constituted in all districts through which National Highways pass for better coordination.
- **Infrastructure Upgradation:** Mandatory provision of adequate lighting, signage, lane markings, and crash barriers in line with safety norms.
- **Monitoring & Enforcement**: Regular patrolling along with Advanced Traffic Management Systems (such as CCTV surveillance, speed monitoring devices, and emergency call facilities).

- **Blackspot Correction:** Identification and rectification of accident-prone stretches within a fixed timeframe.
- **Inter-State Coordination:** The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to establish a coordinated mechanism among states for uniform enforcement (including standardised driving hours and penalties).
- **Additional Measures**: Prohibition of illegal parking, deployment of emergency response units at regular intervals, and provision of safe parking and rest areas.

YALE UNIVERSITY REPORT ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Context

Amid rising doubts about the value of college education in the United States and falling enrollment numbers, a recent report points to deep structural and credibility issues confronting universities.

Key Findings

- **Rising Tuition Costs:** Excessively high fees have eroded public confidence in higher education.
- **Opaque Admissions:** The discretionary and non-transparent nature of admissions—particularly in elite institutions like Yale University has intensified mistrust.
- **Inconsistent Academic Quality:** Variations in standards across institutions contribute to skepticism about educational outcomes.
- **Free Speech Concerns**: Campus debates over freedom of expression have emerged as a major source of anxiety.

Context and Causes

- The report emerged during a phase of turbulence in US universities, including actions by the Trump administration, which suspended funding to certain institutions over allegations of antisemitism and disputes around Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programmes.
- Changes in immigration policies and probes into race-based admissions practices have further complicated the landscape.
- High costs and lack of transparency have reinforced the perception that higher education—especially at elite institutions is inaccessible.
- Additionally, a weak job market has made families increasingly question the return on investment in college education.

Suggested Reforms

- Improve financial transparency to restore public trust.
- Reinforce institutional commitment to protecting free speech on campuses.

Lessons for India

The US experience illustrates that once public trust in higher education declines, restoring it is difficult, offering a cautionary lesson for countries like India to prioritise transparency, accessibility, and credibility in their academic systems.

CBSE THIRD-LANGUAGE POLICY: SHIFT FROM FOREIGN LANGUAGES TO INDIAN LANGUAGES

Context

Under the new three-language framework, several Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) schools are phasing out foreign languages such as French and German at the middle-school level. For instance, a South Delhi school has decided to discontinue French from Class VI, prioritising Hindi, Sanskrit, and English to encourage multilingual proficiency and cultural roots.

Curriculum Changes

- The National Curriculum Framework for School Education 2023 mandates the introduction of a compulsory third language (R3) from the 2026-27 academic year.
- Students must study at least two Indian languages.
- In English-medium schools, English is treated as the non-native language, limiting the scope for foreign languages like French or German.
- These changes are aligned with the National Education Policy 2020, which requires three-language learning up to Class 10, along with internal assessment by 2030–31.

Implementation in Schools

- CBSE has directed affiliated schools to begin teaching the third language from Class VI using locally available resources.
- Schools must select their R3 language and inform regional CBSE offices, as this will determine language availability in higher classes.

Challenges and Adjustments

- Institutions are adapting by introducing regional languages; for example, some schools now offer options such as Punjabi or Tamil.
- The shift has been difficult where French and German were previously popular among students.
- To balance demand, some schools may provide foreign languages as hobby classes, club activities, or through online modes.

Impact on Teachers and Students

- Teachers of foreign languages face uncertainty and may need to acquire additional qualifications (Eg: B.Ed, CTET) to remain employable.
- In states like Maharashtra, where Marathi is compulsory, students typically choose between Hindi and Sanskrit as the additional Indian language.
- While the policy promotes Indian languages, schools must navigate practical issues in offering foreign languages as supplementary options.

Mains Exam Topics

THE NATIONALISATION OF BANKS IN INDIA

Context

The **55th anniversary of bank nationalisation in India** remains a subject of intense economic debate, as the move continues to be regarded as one of the **most transformative decisions since 1947.**

Definition

Bank nationalisation refers to the historic process of bringing privately owned commercial banks under the ownership and control of the Government of India. This transition moved the commanding heights of the economy from private hands to the state, effectively turning bank employees into public servants and aligning credit flow with government priorities.

Years and Phases

- **Phase 1 (1955):** The nationalisation of the Imperial Bank of India, which became the State Bank of India (SBI).
- **Phase 2 (July 19, 1969):** The most significant phase, where 14 major private banks with deposits exceeding ₹50 crore were nationalised via an Ordinance by the Indira Gandhi government.
- **Phase 3 (1980):** A second wave involving 6 more banks was nationalised, further consolidating state control over the banking sector.

Aim of Nationalisation

- To expand banking services to rural and semi-urban areas that were neglected by profit-driven private banks.
- To ensure that credit reached vital but weak sectors such as agriculture, small-scale industries, and the self-employed.
- To mobilize resources for national development and reduce the concentration of wealth among a few industrial houses.
- To give the government direct access to public savings for use in Five-Year Plans and infrastructure projects.

Rationale Behind Bank Nationalisation in India

- **Limited Reach of Banking Services:** Before the 1960s, banking expansion was largely confined to urban centres, leaving rural and semi-urban areas underserved. As a result, key sectors like agriculture, small-scale industries, and self-employed individuals lacked access to institutional credit.
- **Inadequate Support for Priority Sectors:** The absence of banking services in large parts of the country meant that developmental needs of the economy were not being met, particularly in sectors crucial for inclusive growth.
- **Perception of Profit-Oriented Private Banks:** There was a growing political belief that private banks prioritised profits over social responsibility. They were seen as reluctant to: Expand into less profitable rural areas; Lend to smaller borrowers; Diversify credit across sectors.

Key Features

- **₹50 Crore Threshold:** In 1969, the government chose banks with deposits of ₹50 crore or more, covering roughly 85% to 90% of the total banking business.
- **Exclusion of Foreign Banks:** Based on advice from officials like I.G. Patel, foreign-owned banks were left out of the nationalisation process.
- **Social Control:** The move was the culmination of social control policies aimed at making banks aware of the credit needs of society.
- **Centralized Regulation:** It significantly increased the power of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Finance Ministry over the day-to-day operations of the banking system.

Political and Public Reactions

The decision sparked immediate debate:

- **Jayaprakash Narayan** criticised it as unwarranted, arguing it would increase bureaucratic power without solving economic issues.
- **Atal Bihari Vajpayee** questioned the use of an Ordinance for such a major reform when Parliament was about to convene.
- **Within the Reserve Bank of India, d**iscussions began shortly after the announcement, though records indicate only limited and cautious deliberation on the implications.

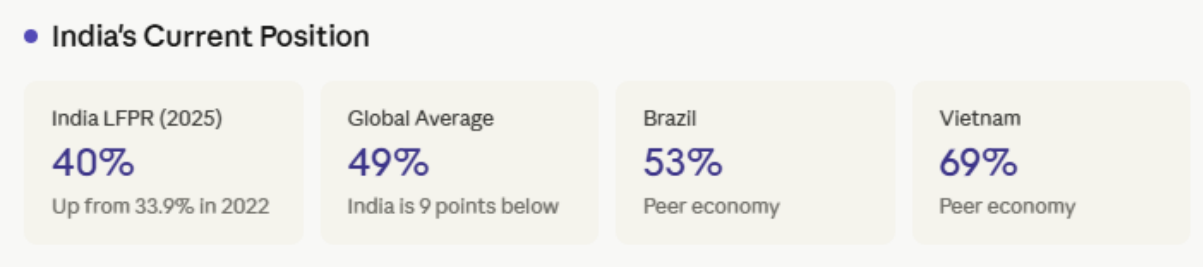
FEMALE LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION IN INDIA

Context

Despite a **rising trend in female LFPR, India remains significantly below global averages.** The Women's Reservation Act's stalled Parliamentary approval has renewed focus on women's broader economic participation in the workforce, academia, and corporate leadership.

What is Female LFPR?

- **Definition:** Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) measures the percentage of the working-age population (15–64 years) that is either employed or actively seeking employment.
- **Why it matters:** It is a key indicator of how productively a country utilises its human capital. A low female LFPR signals a large untapped economic potential.
- **Economic link:** The World Bank (2023) noted that India must grow at nearly 8% per year to become a developed economy by 2047, a target that is unachievable with persistently low female workforce participation.



Why is India's Female LFPR Low?

Demand-side problem (Primary cause)

- **Core issue:** India's low female LFPR is primarily a demand-side problem; there are not enough quality jobs, not just a reluctance to work.
- **Labour-abundant economic risk:** In India's informal-sector-dominated economy, simply increasing female labour supply without creating new jobs would only drive wages down further, not improve welfare.

Supply-side barriers (Secondary causes)

- **Patriarchal norms:** Persistent social expectations restrict women's mobility and professional aspirations across many regions.
- **Institutional barriers:** Limited access to formal education, credit, and legal protection constrains women's economic agency.
- **Sector exclusion:** Limited opportunities in high-productivity sectors like manufacturing, technology, and finance.
- **Decision-making gap:** Underrepresentation in leadership and decision-making roles creates a structural self-reinforcing cycle.

Women in Senior Academic Positions

- **National trend:** Women in professor-level roles increased from 25.9% (2011–12) to 29.5% (2021–22).

IITs (Indian Institutes of Technology)

- **National average:** Female faculty stagnant at ~14% of total strength.
- **Best performer:** IIT-Jodhpur at 22% (57 of 259 faculty) in 2024–25, up from 14% in 2014–15.
- **Decline:** Some IITs have actually seen a fall in female faculty numbers over the years.

Women in Business and Corporate Leadership

Ownership and Entrepreneurship

- **Proprietorship gap:** Female-owned establishments account for only **27% of total unincorporated sector enterprises (Statistics Ministry, 2025).**

Senior Management

- **Stark disparity:** For every 100 males working as legislators, senior officials, and managers, only **13 females hold similarly high positions (PLFS, 2025).**
- What this means: The gender gap in management is not marginal — it is structural, at a ratio of nearly 8:1.

Corporate Boards

- **Nominal compliance:** Nearly all leading Indian firms have at least one woman director but **77% of firms have only 1–2 women directors.**
- **Leadership void:** Only 7**% of BSE 200 and 5% of NSE 500 board chairpersons are women.**
- Tokenism concern: The **"one-woman director"** mandate is widely treated as the maximum rather than the minimum, reducing it to a box-ticking exercise rather than genuine inclusion.

Steps Taken by the Government to Enhance Female Labour Force Participation

- **Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 2017:** Increased paid maternity leave to 26 weeks, with

provisions for work-from-home options and mandatory crèche facilities for large establishments.

- **Anganwadi Centres under ICDS:** Provide nutritional security, early childhood education, and a safe environment to support women in returning to the workforce.
- **National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013:** Cash transfer of ₹ 6,000 to pregnant and lactating women to alleviate the pressure of early re-entry to work.
- **Stand Up India Scheme:** Facilitates bank loans (₹ 10 lakh to 1 crore) for women entrepreneurs in sectors like manufacturing, services, and agri-allied activities.
- **Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013:** Ensures workplace safety for women by providing legal recourse against harassment.
- **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS):** 55% female participation, enhancing livelihood security for rural women.
- **Factories Act, 1948 (Night Shift Provisions):** Lifting of the night shift ban for women, with safety and transport provisions to increase job opportunities.
- **Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK):** Empowers rural women through skill development and employment opportunities.