

02 July 2025

Question 1. The submission of the Law Commission's report on the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) seeks to bring legislation on a matter that is explicitly mentioned in which part of the Indian Constitution?

- (a) Part III: Fundamental Rights
- (b) Part V: The Union
- (c) Part IV-A: Fundamental Duties
- (d) Part IV: Directive Principles of State Policy

Answer: (d)

- The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is mentioned in Article 44 of the Constitution of India, which is part of the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) in Part IV.

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Question 2. Consider the following statements regarding the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM):

1. Its primary objective is to establish India as a global hub for semiconductor design and manufacturing, thereby reducing import dependency.
2. The mission exclusively focuses on establishing fabrication plants for cutting-edge sub-10nm chips.
3. The Dholera SEMICON City in Gujarat is a key project being developed under this mission.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

- **Statement 1 is correct**, as the goal is to reduce import dependency and build a domestic ecosystem. Statement 3 is correct as the Dholera plant is a flagship project under the mission. Statement 2 is incorrect; the news specifies the rollout of 28nm chips, which are crucial but not the most cutting-edge (like sub-10nm). The mission encompasses various types of semiconductors, not exclusively the most advanced ones.

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Question 3. The "Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET)" is a significant framework for strategic cooperation between India and which of the following countries?

- (a) France
- (b) Russia
- (c) United States of America
- (d) Japan

Answer: (c)

- The news report on the high-level dialogue clearly states that iCET is an initiative between India and the United States, led by their National Security Advisors.

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Question 4. With reference to India's stance at the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference, consider the following statements:

1. India is advocating for the restoration of the two-tier appellate body of the WTO's Dispute Settlement System.
2. India is seeking a permanent solution on public stockholding for food security purposes.
3. India is actively promoting plurilateral agreements on e-commerce to bypass the slow multilateral process.

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

Answer: (a)

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct** as the news explicitly mentions that India is pushing for the restoration of the two-tier dispute settlement body and a permanent solution on public stockholding.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**; the news states that India raised concerns about plurilateral agreements, arguing that they bypass the multilateral framework, not that it is promoting them.

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Question 5. What does the principle of "human-in-the-loop", as mandated by the new 'National Guidelines for Ethical and Responsible Use of AI in Defence', primarily signify for Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS)?

- (a) That AI systems can only be used for surveillance and logistics, not for lethal applications.
- (b) That the final decision to engage a target and use lethal force must remain under human command and control.
- (c) That AI algorithms, once deployed, cannot be modified or updated by human operators.
- (d) That humans are only involved in the initial design and programming phase of the AI system.

Answer: (b)

- The news on AI in Defence guidelines explicitly states that the "human-in-the-loop" approach for LAWS ensures that the final decision to use force remains under human command and control. This makes option (b) the most accurate description of the principle.