

Mains Exam Practice (MEP): Questions of the Day

1. The Government of Bihar recently conducted a caste-based survey. Analyze the significance of this survey in the context of socio-economic planning. Discuss the potential benefits, challenges, and implications of such a survey for governance and social justice [BPSC General Studies GS II Section II: 38 marks]
2. Droughts and floods are recurring natural calamities that significantly impact Bihar's socio-economic development. Analyze the causes of drought and flood problems in Bihar. Discuss their socio-economic consequences and suggest comprehensive strategies and policy measures to mitigate their adverse effects and enhance disaster resilience in the state. [BPSC General Studies GS II Section II : 19+19 marks]

National Affairs

BHARATPOL Portal

Why in the news?

Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the BHARATPOL portal developed by the Central Bureau of Investigation in New Delhi on 7th January 2025.

About the portal:

- ❖ It will streamline the processing of all requests for international assistance through INTERPOL, including the issuance of Red Notices and other colour-coded INTERPOL notices.
- ❖ It will significantly facilitate Indian law enforcement agencies enabling real-time information sharing for faster access to international police assistance.
- ❖ **Why was it needed?**
 - The growing footprint of trans-national crimes including cyber-crime, financial crimes, online radicalization, organized crimes, drug trafficking, and human trafficking, necessitates rapid and real-time international assistance in criminal investigations.
 - By facilitating easier and faster access to international assistance, it will strengthen India's efforts in combating transnational crimes.



Jammu Railway Division

Why in the news?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the Jammu Division of Indian Railways on 6th January 2025.

- ❖ It is the Indian Railways' 70th overall and the sixth under Northern Railways after Ambala, Delhi, Lucknow, Moradabad and Firozpur.
- ❖ The Railway Board has appointed E Srinivas as the first Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of the Jammu Rail Division after its inauguration

About the Jammu Railway Division:

- ❖ The Jammu Division has a total rail network of 742.1 km, with sections such as Pathankot-Jammu-Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla (423 route km), Bhogpur-Sirwal-Pathankot (87.21 route km), Batala (excluding)-Pathankot (68.17 route km) and Pathankot-Joginder Nagar (narrow gauge section, 163.72 route km) coming under it.



Awards and Honors

82nd Golden Globe Awards

Why in the news?

The 82nd Golden Globe Awards was hosted by comedian Nikki Glaser at the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills in California.

- ❖ The 82nd Golden Globes marked the first time when a woman solo-hosted the show.
- ❖ The French musical crime comedy, Emilia Perez, leads the pack with a stellar 10 nominations, including Best Motion Picture (Musical or Comedy), Best Director (Jacques Audiard), Best Actress (Karla Sofia Gascon), and Best Supporting Actress (Zoe Saldana and Selena Gomez).
 - The film took home four awards, including Best Picture, Best Supporting Actress (Zoe Saldana), Best Non-English Feature, and Best Original Song.
- ❖ The stellar run of A24 films continued with Brady Corbet's The Brutalist, which came a close second with seven nominations, and three wins for Best Actor (Adrien Brody), Best Director (Brady), and Best Movie (Drama).

List of Winners:

Category	Winner
Motion picture – musical or comedy	Emilia Pérez
Motion picture – drama	The Brutalist
Performance by a male actor in a motion picture – drama	Adrien Brody for his role in “The Brutalist”
Performance by a female actor in a motion picture – drama	Fernanda Torres for her role in “I’m Still Here”
Television series – drama	Shōgun
Performance by a female actor in a television series – drama	Anna Sawai for her role in “Shōgun”
Television series – musical or comedy	“Hacks”
Original song	“El Mal” (“Emilia Pérez”)
Director	Brady Corbet for “The Brutalist”
Screenplay	Peter Straughan, “Conclave”
Motion picture – non-English-language	“Emilia Pérez”

❖ India was on the verge of creating history with the double nominations for Payal Kapadia’s All We Imagine As Light.

- The film, starring Kani Kusruti and Divya Prabha, lost in the Best Non-English feature award category to Emilia Perez.

➤ Payal missed out on the final cut in the Best Director category, which was won by Brady for The Brutalist.



Persons In News

Sister Simona Brambilla



Why in the news?

Pope Francis appointed Sister Simona Brambilla to head the Vatican office that oversees religious orders for both men and women.

- ❖ She is the first woman to reach the No. 1 position in an office in the Holy See.

- ❖ Vietnam's capital Hanoi has been declared as the world's most polluted city.
- ❖ Puducherry recorded the highest percentage of women electors in the country in the 2024 Lok Sabha Elections, as per a comprehensive dataset released by the Election Commission of India.
- ❖ Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada has announced his resignation.

News in Short

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh has achieved the highest number of hospital registrations in the country under the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, both at government and private hospitals.



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