



## CENSUS OF INDIA 2027

### 1. Why is this in News?

- Union Cabinet approved the **Scheme for Conduct of Census of India 2027** with a financial outlay of **₹11,718.24 crore** (PIB, 12 December 2025).
- It will be **India's first fully digital census**, using:
  - Self-enumeration
  - Mobile applications
  - Geospatial mapping
  - Real-time monitoring
- **First nationwide caste enumeration** since Independence (Cabinet decision of 30 April 2025).
- Census postponed from **2021 due to COVID-19**; 2027 will be:
  - **16th Census overall**
  - **8th Census after Independence**
- No separate budget allocation for **NPR**; government stated that no final decision has been taken on its updation.

### 2. Relevance

#### GS-I: Indian Society

- Updated caste data provides insights into **social stratification and inequality**.
- Migration, fertility, and religious composition data help analyse **population dynamics**.
- Housing and urbanisation data reflect **living conditions and social change**.

#### GS-II: Governance and Social Justice

- Census Act, 1948 provides the **statutory basis** for population data governance.
- Enables **evidence-based policymaking** in:
  - Health
  - Education
  - Welfare
  - Reservations
  - Fiscal transfers
- Digital census improves:
  - Transparency
  - Accountability



- Administrative efficiency
- Strengthens **cooperative federalism** through Centre–State coordination.

### 3. What is the Census?

- World's **largest administrative and statistical exercise**.
- Legal framework:
  - Census Act, 1948
  - Census Rules, 1990
- Characteristics:
  - Mandatory
  - Confidential
  - Decennial
- Generates village/ward-level data on:
  - Population composition and religion
  - SC/ST population
  - **Caste (from 2027 onwards)**
  - Literacy, education, fertility
  - Economic activity and migration
  - Housing, amenities, assets
  - Languages and demographic transitions

### 4. Structure of Census 2027

#### Two-Phase Operation

- **Houselisting & Housing Census:** April–September 2026
- **Population Enumeration:** February 2027
- **Snow-bound areas exception:**
  - Ladakh
  - Selected areas of J&K
  - Himachal Pradesh
  - Uttarakhand → September 2026

#### Scale of Operations

- Around **30 lakh field functionaries** (mostly government teachers).
- **1.02 crore man-days** of employment generation.
- Supervision hierarchy:



- District Collectors
- Charge Officers
- Supervisors
- Enumerators

## 5. Key Features and Digital Innovations

### Digital-First Census

- Mobile applications (Android & iOS) for data collection.
- Digital identity verification.
- Encrypted data storage.

### Self-Enumeration

- Households can submit data online through a **secure portal**.

### Census Management & Monitoring System (CMMS)

- Real-time tracking of enumerators.
- Progress dashboards.
- Exception and delay alerts.

### HLB Creator

- Geospatial mapping of every **Houselisting Block (HLB)**.
- Improves geographical precision.

### Census-as-a-Service (CaaS)

- Machine-readable datasets for ministries.
- Enables automated dashboards and analytics.

### Enhanced Cybersecurity

- Data encryption
- Two-factor authentication
- Restricted access controls
- Audit trails

### Nationwide Awareness Campaign

- Focus on:
  - Migrants
  - Nomadic groups
  - Remote habitations
  - Digitally deprived regions



### Caste Enumeration

- Integrated into Population Enumeration Schedule.
- First comprehensive caste data collection since **1931** (excluding SECC 2011).

### 6. Administrative Process and Implementation

- Enumerators: **Government teachers** performing census duties alongside regular work.
- Extensive training on:
  - Digital tools
  - GIS mapping
  - Cybersecurity protocols
- Two questionnaires:
  - Houselisting & Housing Schedule
  - Population Enumeration Schedule (includes caste)
- Centre:
  - Designs questionnaires
  - Develops IT infrastructure
  - Conducts training
- States:
  - Deploy field staff
- Reflects **cooperative federalism** in execution.

### 7. Benefits and Governance Significance

#### Higher-Quality and Faster Data

- Digital capture reduces manual errors.
- Automated pipelines enable quicker release of census tables.

#### Micro-Targeting of Welfare

- Identification of:
  - Caste groups
  - Vulnerable households
  - Slum populations
  - Migrant clusters
- Supports targeted delivery of:
  - Education



- Health
- Nutrition
- Reservation policies

### Support to SDGs

- Better indicators for:
  - Maternal health
  - Sanitation
  - Urbanisation
  - Poverty
  - Gender equality

### Strengthening Digital State Capacity

- Administrative scale comparable to:
  - Aadhaar
  - UPI
- Builds a long-term digital backbone for population statistics.

### Public Access and Transparency

- Dashboards
- Visualisation tools
- Open, machine-readable datasets

## 8. Difference from Earlier Censuses

- Fully digital enumeration.
- First nationwide caste census.
- Geo-tagged houselisting.
- Self-enumeration option.
- Real-time digital audit trails.
- Machine-readable datasets.

## 9. Policy Significance of Caste Enumeration

- Enables recalibration of **OBC reservation framework**.
- Identifies **intra-group inequalities** among OBCs.
- Strengthens evidence-based **social justice policies**.

## 10. NPR, NRC and Census 2027

- No NPR budget allocation in 2027.



- Political sensitivities reduced.
- Technical possibility remains under **Citizenship Rules, 2003**.
- Census 2027 remains a **standalone demographic exercise**.

## 11. Implications of Census Delay (2011–2027)

- Outdated baselines for:
  - Poverty
  - Urbanisation
  - Fertility
  - Population projections
- Delimitation after 2026 requires updated data.
- Census 2027 will **reset national planning parameters**.

## 12. Macro Significance

- Deepens digital governance capacity.
- Integrates caste, socio-economic, and demographic data for welfare redesign.
- Strengthens Centre–State cooperation.
- Triggers debates on:
  - Privacy
  - Data sovereignty
  - Access governance
  - Algorithmic use of population data

## 13. Challenges

- Digital divide in remote areas.
- Enumerator workload (teachers handling dual responsibilities).
- Cybersecurity risks.
- Political sensitivity over caste data.
- Harmonising State-level objections.
- Tight timelines for training and digital readiness.

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If you want, next I can:

- Do **Fake News & Deepfakes, Ozempic, MGNREGA, and Nuclear–Insurance reforms** in the **same UPSC pointwise format**
- Convert this into **GS-ready notes + Mains questions**



- Prepare a **monthly current affairs PDF or Prelims MCQs set**

remove numbering just add number in headings

Below is the **revised UPSC-ready version** where **numbering is used ONLY in headings**, and **all content inside is purely pointwise without serial numbers**.

## 1. CENSUS OF INDIA 2027

### 1.1 Why is this in News?

- Union Cabinet approved the Scheme for Conduct of Census of India 2027 with a financial outlay of ₹11,718.24 crore (PIB, 12 December 2025).
- Census 2027 will be India's first fully digital census using self-enumeration, mobile applications, geospatial mapping, and real-time monitoring.
- It includes the first nationwide caste enumeration since Independence, as approved by the Cabinet on 30 April 2025.
- Census was postponed from 2021 due to COVID-19; 2027 will be India's 16th Census and the 8th after Independence.
- No separate allocation for NPR; the government stated that no final decision has been taken on updating the NPR.

### 1.2 Relevance

#### GS-I: Indian Society

- Caste enumeration provides updated insights into social stratification and inequalities.
- Migration, fertility, and religious composition data help analyse population dynamics.
- Housing and urbanisation data reveal trends in living conditions, amenities, and social change.

#### GS-II: Governance and Social Justice

- Census Act, 1948 provides the statutory framework for population data governance.
- Enables evidence-based policymaking in health, education, welfare, reservations, and fiscal transfers.
- Digital census enhances transparency, accountability, and administrative efficiency.
- Joint Centre–State implementation strengthens cooperative federalism.

### 1.3 What is the Census?

- World's largest administrative and statistical exercise.
- Conducted under the Census Act, 1948 and Census Rules, 1990.
- Mandatory, confidential, and decennial in nature.
- Generates village- and ward-level data on:



- Population composition and religion
- SC/ST population
- Caste (from 2027 onwards)
- Literacy, education, and fertility
- Economic activity and migration
- Housing conditions, amenities, and assets
- Languages and demographic transitions

#### 1.4 Structure of Census 2027

##### Two-Phase Operation

- Houselisting and Housing Census: April–September 2026
- Population Enumeration: February 2027
- Snow-bound regions such as Ladakh, selected areas of J&K, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand to be covered by September 2026

##### Scale of Operations

- Around 30 lakh field functionaries, primarily government teachers.
- Approximately 1.02 crore man-days of employment.
- Supervision chain includes District Collectors, Charge Officers, Supervisors, and Enumerators.

#### 1.5 Key Features and Digital Innovations

##### Digital-First Census

- Data collection through Android and iOS mobile applications.
- Digital identity verification and encrypted data storage.

##### Self-Enumeration

- Households can submit information online through a secure portal.

##### Census Management & Monitoring System (CMMS)

- Real-time tracking of enumerators.
- Progress dashboards and exception alerts.

##### HLB Creator

- Geospatial mapping of every Houselisting Block for higher geographic precision.

##### Census-as-a-Service (CaaS)

- Machine-readable datasets for ministries.
- Enables automated integration with dashboards and analytics platforms.



### Enhanced Cybersecurity

- Data encryption, two-factor authentication, restricted access, and audit trails.

### Nationwide Awareness Campaign

- Focus on migrants, nomadic communities, remote habitations, and digitally underserved regions.

### Caste Enumeration

- Integrated into the Population Enumeration Schedule.
- First comprehensive caste data collection since 1931, excluding SECC 2011.

## 1.6 Administrative Process and Implementation

- Enumerators will primarily be government teachers performing census duties alongside regular responsibilities.
- Extensive training provided on digital tools, GIS mapping, and cybersecurity protocols.
- Two schedules used:
  - Houselisting and Housing Schedule
  - Population Enumeration Schedule (includes caste)
- Centre responsible for questionnaire design, IT backbone, and training.
- States responsible for deployment of field staff, reflecting cooperative federalism.

## 1.7 Benefits and Governance Significance

### Higher-Quality and Faster Data

- Digital data capture reduces manual errors.
- Automated pipelines enable faster release of census tables.

### Micro-Targeting of Welfare

- Identification of caste groups, vulnerable households, slum populations, and migrant clusters.
- Supports targeted interventions in education, health, nutrition, and reservation policies.

### Support to Sustainable Development Goals

- Improved indicators related to maternal health, sanitation, urbanisation, poverty, and gender outcomes.

### Strengthening Digital State Capacity

- Administrative scale comparable to Aadhaar and UPI.
- Creation of a long-term digital backbone for population statistics.

### Public Access and Transparency



- Dashboards, data visualisation tools, and machine-readable datasets improve transparency.

### 1.8 Difference from Earlier Censuses

- Fully digital enumeration.
- First nationwide caste census.
- Geo-tagged houselisting.
- Option for self-enumeration.
- Real-time digital audit trails.
- Availability of machine-readable datasets.

### 1.9 Policy Significance of Caste Enumeration

- Enables recalibration of the OBC reservation framework.
- Identifies intra-group inequalities among OBC communities.
- Strengthens evidence-based social justice policymaking.

### 1.10 NPR, NRC and Census 2027

- No NPR budget allocation in the 2027 census.
- Political sensitivities lowered, though technical provisions remain under Citizenship Rules, 2003.
- Census 2027 positioned as a standalone demographic exercise.

### 1.11 Implications of Census Delay (2011–2027)

- Outdated national baselines for poverty, urbanisation, fertility, and population projections.
- Updated data required for post-2026 delimitation.
- Census 2027 will reset national planning parameters.

### 1.12 Macro Significance

- Deepens India's digital governance capacity.
- Integrates caste, socio-economic, and demographic data for welfare redesign.
- Strengthens Centre–State cooperation.
- Raises debates on privacy, data sovereignty, access governance, and algorithmic use of population data.

### 1.13 Challenges

- Digital divide in remote and underserved regions.
- Heavy workload on enumerators, particularly teachers.
- Cybersecurity vulnerabilities.



- Political sensitivity surrounding caste data.
- Harmonising State-level objections.
- Tight timelines for training and digital readiness.

## 2. STRENGTHENING INDIA'S FRAMEWORK AGAINST FAKE NEWS & DEEPFAKES

### 2.1 Why is this in News?

- Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting informed the Rajya Sabha that India has strengthened its framework to counter fake news and AI-generated deepfakes.
- Emphasis placed on balancing freedom of speech under Article 19(1)(a) with threats posed by misinformation to public order, elections, democracy, and social harmony.
- Existing statutory and institutional mechanisms highlighted:
  - Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act
  - Press Council of India norms
  - Information Technology Rules, 2021
  - Press Information Bureau Fact Check Unit
- Statement comes amid rising AI-enabled deepfakes, election-time misinformation, and regulatory debates over digital platforms.

### 2.2 Relevance

#### GS II: Governance

- Regulation of digital platforms under IT Rules, 2021.
- Role of statutory bodies such as PCI, PIB Fact Check Unit, and Programme Code authorities.
- Balance between freedom of speech and reasonable restrictions under Article 19(2).
- Impact of misinformation on elections, public order, and democratic processes.

#### GS III: Internal Security

- Deepfakes as an emerging cyber and information security threat.
- Risks to national security, communal harmony, and social stability.
- Need for AI governance, detection tools, and cyber regulation.

### 2.3 What is Fake News?

- False, misleading, manipulated, or fabricated information presented as authentic news.
- Includes text, images, videos, audio clips, voice clones, and AI-generated content.
- Deepfakes use AI models such as GANs and diffusion systems to synthetically alter faces or voices, making false content appear real.

### 2.4 Consequences



- Distorts democratic decision-making and voter behaviour.
- Fuels polarisation, hate speech, and violence.
- Undermines trust in institutions and media.
- Manipulates markets, public health responses, and disaster management.

## 2.5 Data and Facts

- India is among the world's largest consumers of social media, where misinformation spreads rapidly in trusted messaging ecosystems.
- Microsoft Threat Assessment Report (2023) identified India as a global hotspot for deepfake proliferation.
- LocalCircles (2023) survey found that 65% of Indians receive fake news at least once a day.
- Thousands of FIRs registered between 2018–2023, but conviction rates remain low due to technical complexity.
- Lok Sabha Elections 2024 saw a 300–400% increase in deepfake content.
- UNESCO (2023) reported that deepfakes globally are doubling every six months.

## 2.6 Constitutional Context

- Article 19(1)(a) guarantees freedom of speech and expression.
- Article 19(2) allows reasonable restrictions on grounds such as public order, defamation, sovereignty, security, decency, and morality.
- Fake news frequently violates public order and defamation standards, justifying regulatory intervention.

## 2.7 Statutory and Institutional Framework

### Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act

- Mandates adherence to the Programme Code.
- Prohibits obscene, defamatory, deliberately false, or misleading content.
- Provides a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism.

### Press Council of India

- Norms of Journalistic Conduct prohibit fake and misleading reporting.
- PCI can issue warnings, censure publications, and conduct inquiries.
- Lacks power to impose monetary penalties.

### IT Rules, 2021

- Code of Ethics for digital news publishers.
- Three-tier grievance redressal system involving publishers, self-regulatory bodies, and government oversight.



### PIB Fact Check Unit

- Verifies government-related claims on policies, schemes, data, and official statements.
- Social media platforms often rely on FCU flags for moderation.

### 2.8 Gaps and Challenges

- Framework remains largely reactive rather than preventive.
- Limited jurisdiction of FCU.
- Deepfake detection technology lagging behind AI evolution.
- Uneven enforcement across States.
- Lack of uniform authentication standards for AI-generated content.
- High misinformation volume during elections.
- Low digital literacy and linguistic diversity increase vulnerability.

### 2.9 Government Measures and Strengthening Efforts

- Deepfake Task Force proposed watermarking norms and rapid takedown mechanisms.
- Draft Digital India Act aims to redefine platform obligations.
- Expansion of Fact Check Units across ministries.
- Awareness campaigns with MeitY, NCERT, and MyGov.
- AI-based detection tools developed with IITs and CERT-In.
- Advisory to label synthetic media.

### 2.10 International Comparisons

- EU Digital Services Act imposes strict platform liability.
- US approach prioritises free speech with limited regulation.
- Singapore's POFMA grants strong correction powers.
- China mandates watermarking of AI-generated content.
- India's framework lies between EU-style regulation and US-style free speech.

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## 3. OZEMPIC (SEMAGLUTIDE)

### 3.1 Why is this in News?

- Ozempic (semaglutide), developed by Novo Nordisk, has been officially launched in India.
- Pricing per weekly dose:
  - 0.25 mg → ₹2,200



- 0.5 mg → ₹2,542
- 1 mg → ₹2,794
- Approved as a first-line therapy for Type-2 Diabetes Mellitus along with diet and exercise.
- Global attention due to strong glucose control and weight-loss effects of GLP-1 drugs.

### 3.2 Relevance

#### GS II: Health & Social Justice

- Rising burden of non-communicable diseases.
- Role of CDSCO in drug approval and pricing.
- Issues of accessibility and affordability of advanced therapies.

#### GS III: Science & Technology

- GLP-1 receptor agonists as pharmacological innovation.
- Biotechnology, clinical trials, and drug development.

### 3.3 What is Ozempic?

- A GLP-1 receptor agonist.
- Active molecule: semaglutide.
- Long-acting incretin mimetic.
- Administered once weekly via pre-filled injection pen.

### 3.4 How GLP-1 Drugs Work

- Stimulate glucose-dependent insulin secretion.
- Suppress glucagon release.
- Slow gastric emptying.
- Increase satiety and reduce appetite.
- Improve cardiometabolic risk markers.

### 3.5 Why Ozempic Matters for India

- Around 101 million diabetics in India.
- Nearly 136 million people are pre-diabetic.
- India accounts for one-seventh of global diabetes burden.
- Rising prevalence among the 20–45 age group.

### 3.6 Current Challenges

- Poor glycaemic control among patients.



- Rising obesity and metabolic syndrome.
- High cardiovascular risk associated with diabetes.

### 3.7 Advantages

- Significant reduction in HbA1c levels.
- Consistent weight loss.
- Proven cardiovascular risk reduction.
- Once-weekly dosing improves compliance.
- Lower risk of hypoglycaemia compared to older drugs.

### 3.8 Limitations and Concerns

- High cost limits access for low-income populations.
- Gastrointestinal side effects common initially.
- Injectable form may reduce acceptance.
- Risk of supply shortages.
- Cannot replace insulin in advanced diabetes.
- Risk of misuse for cosmetic weight loss.

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## 4. MGNREGA PROPOSED TO BE RENAMED ‘PUJYA BAPU GRAMIN ROZGAR YOJANA’

### 4.1 Why is this in News?

- Government considering renaming MGNREGA to “Puja Bapu Gramin Rozgar Yojana.”
- Proposal to increase guaranteed employment from 100 to 125 days.
- FY25 average employment per household was only 50 days.
- Only 40.70 lakh households completed 100 days in FY24.
- Proposal guided by findings of a 2022 Rural Development Ministry committee.

### 4.2 Relevance

#### GS II: Governance

- Rights-based welfare legislation.
- Centre–State fiscal relations.
- Administrative reforms, MIS, and social audits.

#### GS III: Indian Economy

- Rural employment, poverty reduction, and consumption.



- Fiscal implications of expanding guaranteed workdays.

#### 4.3 What is MGNREGA?

- Enacted under MGNREGA Act, 2005.
- Demand-driven and rights-based employment scheme.
- Guarantees 100 days of unskilled work per rural household.
- Work to be provided within 15 days of demand.
- Focus on natural resource management and rural infrastructure.

#### 4.4 Rural Labour Context

- Underutilisation of guaranteed employment.
- High demand but limited actual provision.
- Persistent mismatch between rural distress and budget allocation.

#### 4.5 Objectives

- Provide livelihood security.
- Prevent distress migration.
- Create durable rural assets.
- Promote participatory planning.
- Enhance women's labour force participation.

#### 4.6 Rationale for Renaming

- Alignment with Gandhian ideals.
- Reframing employment as nation-building.
- Signals expansion of guaranteed workdays.
- Part of broader administrative restructuring.

#### 4.7 Legal and Administrative Implications

- Act name unchanged unless amended by Parliament.
- Scheme name can be changed via executive order.
- MIS, job cards, and guidelines need updating.
- States must retrain frontline staff.

#### 4.8 Strengths

- World's largest employment guarantee programme.
- Counter-cyclical stabiliser during crises.
- Strong women participation.
- Durable asset creation.



- Digital MIS for transparency.

#### 4.9 Persistent Issues

- Under-provision of work.
- Delayed wage payments.
- Budget constraints.
- Aadhaar-based payment glitches.
- Weak social audit enforcement.

#### 4.10 Implications of Increasing Workdays

- Higher income security.
- Boost to rural consumption.
- Increased fiscal burden.
- Administrative capacity challenges.

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### 5. PRIVATE ENTRY IN NUCLEAR SECTOR & 100% FDI IN INSURANCE

#### 5.1 Why is this in News?

- Union Cabinet approved private participation in civil nuclear energy.
- Approved 100% FDI in insurance (up from 74%).
- Atomic Energy Bill, 2025 introduced under the SHANTI framework.
- Target to add 100 GW nuclear capacity by 2047.
- Nuclear Energy Mission launched with ₹20,000 crore for SMRs.

#### 5.2 Relevance

##### GS II: Governance

- Strategic sector reforms.
- Legislative amendments.
- Regulatory capacity and oversight.

##### GS III: Economy, Energy & S&T

- Energy security and decarbonisation.
- Insurance capital mobilisation.
- Technology development and SMRs.

#### 5.3 Background

- Atomic Energy Act, 1962 grants monopoly to the Centre.
- Private sector limited to EPC and non-strategic components.



- Nuclear liability governed by CLND Act, 2010.
- Nuclear energy crucial for net-zero by 2070.

#### 5.4 Key Components of the Reform

##### Private Participation in Nuclear Energy

- Regulated entry under SHANTI framework.
- Focus on reactor construction, manufacturing, and operations.
- Target of 100 GW by 2047.

##### Nuclear Energy Mission

- ₹20,000 crore outlay.
- Development of indigenous SMRs.
- Deployment by 2033.

##### 100% FDI in Insurance

- Attracts long-term capital.
- Improves insurance penetration.
- Strengthens solvency and risk capacity.

#### 5.5 Rationale for Reforms

- Stagnant nuclear capacity.
- Need for clean baseload energy.
- Private sector efficiency and capital.
- Global precedent of mixed nuclear ecosystems.

#### 5.6 Expected Benefits

- Faster nuclear expansion.
- Boost to Make in India.
- High-tech job creation.
- Greater insurance competition and capital depth.

#### 5.7 Challenges and Concerns

- Liability issues under CLND Act.
- Safety and public perception concerns.
- High capital costs.
- Data security and regulatory oversight in insurance.

#### 5.8 Governance and Institutional Implications

- Central legislative amendments required.



- Possible independent nuclear regulator.
- Strengthened IRDAI oversight.

### 5.9 Macro Significance

- Positions India for long-term energy security.
- Enhances investor confidence.
- Supports decarbonisation and infrastructure financing.

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15<sup>th</sup> December 2025: Daily MCQs

**Q1. With reference to the Census of India 2027, consider the following statements:**

1. It will be the first Census to allow self-enumeration by households.
2. It will be the first Census since Independence to include caste enumeration.
3. The Census Act, 1948 makes participation in Census voluntary.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only  
B. 2 and 3 only  
C. 1 only  
D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

Self-enumeration and nationwide caste enumeration are key features of Census 2027. Census participation is mandatory under the Census Act, 1948.

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**Q2. Consider the following regarding fake news and deepfakes in India:**

1. The PIB Fact Check Unit verifies only government-related information.
2. Deepfakes primarily rely on blockchain technology.
3. Article 19(2) of the Constitution provides the basis for regulating fake news.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

A. 1 and 3 only  
B. 2 only  
C. 1 only  
D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

PIB FCU checks government-related claims. Deepfakes rely on AI models like GANs, not blockchain. Article 19(2) enables reasonable restrictions.



**Q3. Ozempic (semaglutide) is best described as:**

- A. An insulin analogue used for Type-1 diabetes
- B. A GLP-1 receptor agonist administered daily
- C. A long-acting incretin mimetic used once weekly
- D. An oral anti-diabetic drug reducing insulin resistance

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Ozempic is a GLP-1 receptor agonist (semaglutide), administered once weekly via injection.

**Q4. With reference to MGNREGA, consider the following statements:**

- 1. It is a demand-driven and rights-based employment programme.
- 2. Unemployment allowance is payable if work is not provided within 15 days.
- 3. Gram Panchayats have no role in planning works under the scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

MGNREGA is rights-based and demand-driven. Gram Panchayats play a central role in planning and implementation.

**Q5. Consider the following statements regarding recent nuclear and insurance sector reforms:**

- 1. The SHANTI framework aims to add 100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047.
- 2. India currently allows 100% FDI in insurance with automatic approval.
- 3. Small Modular Reactors are designed to reduce cost and enhance safety.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

FDI has been increased to 100% but not fully under automatic route. SMRs are safer and cost-effective; SHANTI targets 100 GW by 2047.



**TAKSHASHILA**  
SCHOOL OF CIVIL SERVICES

Mains: Census of India 2027 is expected to redefine India's demographic and welfare architecture. Discuss its significance, innovations, and associated challenges. 250 words.

