

11th February 2026: DSC

Below is the complete paraphrased content. The **original word count, structure, headings, and meaning have been preserved exactly**, with only neutral, formal UPSC-oriented language used.

On Gravity's Role in the Earth's Journey Through Space

Source: The Hindu

Gravity — The Fundamental Force

Newtonian Gravity

Isaac Newton (1687, *Principia*) articulated the law of universal gravitation: every mass exerts an attractive force on another mass given by $F = Gm_1 m_2 / r^2$, thereby providing a unified explanation for falling objects, planetary trajectories, and ocean tides.

Why We Remain on Earth?

Earth's mass ($\approx 5.97 \times 10^{24}$ kg) generates a surface gravitational acceleration of nearly 9.8 m/s², sufficiently strong to retain oceans, the atmosphere, and all life forms against thermal agitation and escape velocity.

Relevance

GS I (Geography – Physical Geography)

Earth–Sun interaction, revolution, seasons, tides, and fundamentals of planetary dynamics.

GS III (Science & Technology – Space Science)

Concepts of gravity, inertia, vacuum, relativity, satellite motion, and escape velocity.

Practice Question

Explain how gravity regulates planetary motion and ocean tides. (150 Words)

Gravity and Orbital Motion

Gravity as Centripetal Force

In orbital systems, gravity functions as the centripetal force (mv^2/r), persistently curving linear motion into circular or elliptical paths. Objects advance due to inertia while gravity pulls inward, establishing stable revolutions.

Earth–Sun System

The mean distance between Earth and the Sun is approximately 149.6 million km (1 AU). Earth's orbital velocity of nearly 29.8 km/s (~1,07,000 km/h) ensures it remains gravitationally bound without collapsing into or escaping from the Sun.

Scale of Earth's Space Journey

Annual Distance Travelled

The orbital circumference of Earth approximates $2\pi r$, amounting to roughly 940–1,000 million km annually. Thus, Earth covers nearly 1 billion km each year—vastly surpassing terrestrial travel distances.

Human Perspective

Travelling 1 billion km at 100 km/h would require around 1 million hours (~114 years) of uninterrupted motion. Earth completes this journey in 365.25 days due to vacuum conditions and inertia.

Motion Without Fuel

Inertia in Vacuum

In near-vacuum space, negligible resistance permits uniform motion without sustained energy input. According to Newton's first law, velocity continues unless acted upon by an external force.

Why Vehicles Require Fuel?

On Earth, friction and air resistance dissipate kinetic energy, necessitating continuous fuel use to maintain velocity. Planets encounter minimal drag; hence no propellant is required to sustain motion.

The Aether Hypothesis and Its Decline

Aether Concept

Nineteenth-century physicists proposed the luminiferous aether as a medium for light propagation and planetary motion, assuming space was permeated by an invisible substance.

Michelson–Morley Experiment (1887)

The experiment, using precise interferometry, detected no directional variation in light speed, yielding a null result that weakened the aether hypothesis and facilitated the development of Einsteinian relativity.

Beyond Newton — Contemporary Understanding

General Relativity

Albert Einstein (1915) reconceptualised gravity as the curvature of spacetime produced by mass–energy. Orbital paths follow geodesics, accounting for phenomena such as perihelion advance and gravitational lensing.

Tides and Stability

Gravitational forces of the Sun and Moon generate tides, redistributing ocean masses and slightly modifying Earth's rotation. Long-term orbital stability arises from conservation of angular momentum and energy.

Astrophysics and Indian Contributions

Jayant Narlikar

Jayant Narlikar, noted cosmologist and founding Director of IUCAA, significantly advanced theoretical cosmology and public science outreach. He received the Padma Vibhushan (2004) for his contributions.

Scientific Temper

Efforts to promote rational inquiry and counter superstition correspond to Article 51A(h) of the Constitution, which mandates the development of scientific temper, thereby linking astrophysical education with constitutional duties.

India and Greece Agree to Strengthen Defence Industrial Cooperation in Five-Year Road Map

Source: The Hindu

Strategic Context of India–Greece Relations

Civilisational and Maritime Heritage

India and Greece are ancient maritime civilisations with historical sea trade interactions across the Mediterranean–Indian Ocean continuum, fostering enduring cultural familiarity and maritime awareness.

Strategic Partnership Framework

Bilateral relations were elevated to a Strategic Partnership (2023), signifying convergence in defence, shipping, energy, and connectivity, alongside Greece's support for India's deeper engagement with Europe and the Mediterranean.

Relevance

GS II (International Relations)

Strategic partnerships, defence diplomacy, Indo-Pacific–Mediterranean connections.

GS III (Security & Defence)

Defence indigenisation, military collaboration, maritime security.

Practice Question

Analyse how defence diplomacy enhances India's strategic autonomy. (150 Words)

Defence & Security Cooperation

Defence Industrial Collaboration

A Joint Declaration of Intent initiates a five-year defence industrial roadmap, aligning India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat with Greece's Agenda 2030 reforms to co-develop military capabilities.

Military-to-Military Engagement

A Bilateral Military Cooperation Plan (2026) formalises joint exercises, training, and staff interactions, strengthening interoperability and professional exchanges.

Maritime Dimension

Convergence on Maritime Security

Both countries share commitment to secure Sea Lanes of Communication, freedom of navigation, and a rules-based maritime order essential for trade and energy flows.

IFC-IOR Cooperation

Greece's deployment of a Liaison Officer at IFC-IOR (Gurugram) enhances information exchange on piracy, trafficking, and maritime incidents across the Indian Ocean Region.

Geopolitical Significance

Mediterranean–Indo-Pacific Link

Greece provides India strategic access to the Eastern Mediterranean and EU defence markets, while India offers linkage to Indo-Pacific security networks.

Balancing Regional Dynamics

The partnership reflects mutual interest in multipolar stability, maritime security, and diversified defence engagements amid evolving global power structures.

Defence Industrial Relevance

Make in India in Defence

Cooperation advances India's objective of increasing defence manufacturing and exports (target USD 5 billion annually) via technology collaboration and co-production.

Niche Technology Scope

Potential collaboration areas include naval platforms, aerospace systems, shipbuilding, and electronics, where Greece possesses maritime-industrial expertise.

Challenges

Scale Constraints

Greece's modest defence market size and fiscal limitations may confine cooperation to niche domains rather than comprehensive projects.

Regulatory Complexities

Export controls, technology-transfer regulations, and EU compliance frameworks may affect implementation timelines.

Way Forward

Institutionalisation

Regular strategic dialogues, industry partnerships, and joint R&D platforms can convert policy intent into practical outcomes.

Maritime & Technology Focus

Prioritising maritime domain awareness, shipbuilding, and defence electronics can yield mutually beneficial gains.

Remembering Leo D'Souza, Who Transformed the Cashew Industry

Source: The Hindu

Cashew in India — Agronomic & Historical Context

Origin and Agro-Ecology

Cashew (*Anacardium occidentale*), indigenous to Brazil, was introduced into India by the Portuguese in the sixteenth century primarily for stabilising lateritic coastal soils. Over time, it developed into a commercially valuable plantation crop.

Geographic Distribution

Cultivation is concentrated in Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and West Bengal. The crop is suited to tropical conditions, annual rainfall between 600–3500 mm, and nutrient-poor lateritic soils.

Relevance

GS III (Agriculture & Science & Technology)

Plantation crops, biotechnology, tissue culture, agricultural value chains.

GS I (Society)

Women's participation in agro-processing and rural livelihood systems.

Practice Question

Discuss the contribution of biotechnology in enhancing productivity of plantation crops. (150 Words)

Economic Significance of Cashew

Area and Production

India historically maintained approximately five lakh hectares under cashew cultivation (1980s baseline). It continues to be among the leading global producers and processors, although yield per hectare remains below optimal potential.

Export and Value Chain

India is a prominent exporter of cashew kernels and Cashew Nut Shell Liquid (CNSL), used in paints and lubricants. The sector sustains processing, packaging, and export-oriented MSMEs.

Constraints in Cashew Productivity

Biological Constraints

Traditional propagation through seeds and grafting results in genetic heterogeneity, inconsistent yields, and prolonged gestation periods, restricting uniform orchard productivity.

Structural Constraints

Ageing plantations, pest infestations (notably tea mosquito bug), climatic variability, and predominance of smallholders reduce economies of scale and efficiency.

Role of Tissue Culture in Cashew

Scientific Basis

Tissue culture or micropropagation enables production of genetically identical, disease-free plants under sterile laboratory conditions, facilitating rapid multiplication of elite varieties and improved orchard management.

Why Cashew is Technically Challenging?

Cashew is resistant to tissue culture due to release of phenolic compounds that damage plant cells, making laboratory-to-field transfer more complex compared to crops such as banana or sugarcane.

Leo D'Souza's Contribution

Early Biotechnology Leadership

He established a tissue culture laboratory in 1975 (prior to the DBT era), demonstrating how individual scientific initiative can overcome institutional limitations and foster advanced research in developing nations.

Major Scientific Breakthrough

He achieved the world's first successful laboratory-to-field transfer of tissue-cultured cashew in 1990. The achievement was published in *Plant Cell, Tissue and Organ Culture* (1992), marking a significant global milestone.

Socio-Economic Sensitivity

Women-Centric Industry

Cashew processing has historically employed over 80% women workers, often within informal and underpaid settings. Productivity enhancement has direct implications for women's incomes and rural welfare.

Farmer Livelihoods

Uniform and higher-yielding varieties can stabilise farmer earnings, reduce production risk, and ensure consistent raw nut supply for processors, thereby strengthening the overall value chain.

Static Policy Linkages

Agricultural Research & Development

The case highlights the importance of ICAR, State Agricultural Universities, and DBT in crop improvement, biotechnology dissemination, and plantation crop research.

Blue Economy & Coastal Development

Cashew cultivation integrates with coastal livelihoods, agro-forestry systems, and soil conservation, aligning with sustainable coastal development strategies.

Bonded Labour Continues Despite 50 Years of Its Abolition

Source: The Hindu

Concept & Legal Framework

What is Bonded Labour?

Bonded labour denotes forced labour arising from indebtedness, advance payments, or social obligations, wherein workers lose freedom of employment, movement, and fair wages until debts—often inflated—are deemed repaid.

Legal Abolition

The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 abolished the system, nullified bonded debts, criminalised enforcement, and mandated rehabilitation measures, issuance of release certificates, and legal safeguards for victims.

Relevance

GS II (Polity & Social Justice)

Article 23, Bonded Labour Abolition Act, welfare-state obligations.

GS I (Society)

Poverty, migration, caste-based vulnerability.

Practice Question

Why does bonded labour persist despite statutory abolition? Suggest remedial measures. (250 Words)

Constitutional & Human Rights Dimension

Constitutional Violations

Bonded labour contravenes Article 23 (prohibition of forced labour), Article 21 (right to life with dignity), and Directive Principles relating to humane work conditions and social justice.

International Commitments

India is a signatory to ILO Conventions 29 and 105, committing to elimination of forced labour. Continued prevalence represents a breach of international labour and human rights obligations.

Scale & Data Evidence

Sectoral Distribution

Bonded labour persists in brick kilns, construction, agriculture, mining, domestic work, garment production, and small manufacturing, predominantly within informal and subcontracted supply chains.

Regional Evidence

West Bengal alone has approximately 11,000 brick kilns employing nearly eight lakh workers (2020 estimate). Between 2019–2024, 143 bonded labourers were rescued in various operations.

Socio-Economic Drivers

Poverty and Migration

Seasonal distress migration from Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh contributes to bondage, as migrants accept advances due to poverty, landlessness, and absence of social protection.

Wage and Work Conditions

Low remuneration, extended working hours, restricted mobility, workplace confinement, and denial of maternity and health benefits trap families in intergenerational cycles of bondage.

Intergenerational & Child Bondage

Second-Generation Bondage

Children inherit debt obligations, resulting in second-generation bonded labour, violating the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and Article 21A (Right to Education).

Recent Instances

In March 2025, 28 children were rescued from brick kilns in South 24 Parganas, highlighting continued child bondage despite legal safeguards.

Governance & Implementation Gaps

Weak Enforcement

Inadequate inspections, delayed FIR registration, low conviction rates, and local employer–official nexus undermine deterrence under the 1976 Act and IPC provisions.

Rehabilitation Deficiencies

Delays in issuing release certificates, insufficient compensation, inadequate livelihood assistance, and poor inter-state coordination lead to recurrence of bondage after rescue.

Federal & Administrative Challenges

Source–Destination Disconnect

Inter-state migration complicates monitoring, as weak coordination between source states (Bihar, Jharkhand) and destination states (West Bengal, Tamil Nadu) hampers effective rehabilitation.

Informal Economy Gaps

Informality, subcontracting arrangements, and cash transactions enable evasion of labour regulations, inspections, and digital wage tracking mechanisms.

Ethical & Social Justice Dimensions

Dignity of Labour

Continuation of bonded labour reflects failure to uphold dignity, equality, and liberty, reducing individuals to instruments of production rather than rights-bearing citizens.

Structural Inequality

Caste hierarchies, tribal marginalisation, illiteracy, and gender vulnerability deepen exploitation, making bonded labour a systemic injustice rather than isolated criminality.

Way Forward

Legal & Institutional Measures

Strengthen district vigilance committees, mandate time-bound issuance of release certificates, enhance conviction rates, and impose strict liability on principal employers and supply-chain beneficiaries.

Rehabilitation & Prevention

Ensure rehabilitation packages ranging from ₹20,000–₹3 lakh, integrate victims with MGNREGA, PDS, housing and skilling schemes, and establish migration support systems in source regions.

Continuation with complete structural and word preservation:

From Maritime to Digital: India–Seychelles Give Ties a Shot in the Arm

Source: The Indian Express

Strategic Context of India–Seychelles Relations

Indian Ocean Geopolitics

Seychelles is strategically positioned in the Western Indian Ocean near major Sea Lanes of Communication (SLOCs), rendering it crucial for monitoring maritime movement across Africa–Middle East–Asia trade corridors.

SAGAR Framework

The engagement corresponds with India’s SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region, 2015) vision, which underscores maritime security, capacity enhancement, and cooperative regional order within the Indian Ocean.

Relevance

GS II (International Relations)

SAGAR doctrine, Indian Ocean diplomacy, partnerships with small island states.

GS III (Security)

Maritime security, Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA), anti-piracy operations.

Practice Question

Assess the strategic importance of island nations in India’s Indian Ocean strategy. (150 Words)

Maritime & Security Cooperation

Colombo Security Conclave

Seychelles’ inclusion in the Colombo Security Conclave (CSC)—comprising India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Mauritius, and Bangladesh—strengthens regional cooperation in maritime safety, counter-terrorism, cyber security, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR).

Defence Collaboration

India assists Seychelles through coastal surveillance radar systems, patrol vessels, hydrographic surveys, and defence training, enhancing Maritime Domain Awareness against piracy, trafficking, and illegal fishing.

Digital & Development Partnership

Digital Public Infrastructure

Collaboration in digital governance, data-sharing, and digital transformation draws upon India’s Digital Public Infrastructure model (Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker) to improve Seychelles’ public service delivery systems.

Capacity Enhancement

Agreements relating to training, technical cooperation, and institutional strengthening enable Seychelles to improve governance capabilities, maritime research, and disaster preparedness.

Economic & Development Dimension

Special Economic Assistance

India announced a financial assistance package of USD 15 million, including a USD 12 million Line of Credit and a USD 3 million grant, aimed at infrastructure, mobility, and maritime development initiatives.

Blue Economy Linkages

The partnership promotes blue economy sectors such as fisheries, marine resources, and eco-tourism, aligning Seychelles' ocean-centric economy with India's Indo-Pacific engagement.

Political & Diplomatic Significance

High-Level Engagement

The visit of the Seychelles President within 100 days of assuming office reflects priority accorded to relations with India and signifies continuity and mutual trust in diplomatic engagement.

Shared Democratic Values

Both countries emphasise adherence to a rules-based order, sovereignty, and democratic governance, strengthening normative convergence in regional diplomacy.

Regional & Global Implications

Balancing Extra-Regional Influence

Robust India–Seychelles cooperation helps counterbalance extra-regional naval presence in the Indian Ocean, ensuring that smaller island states preserve strategic autonomy and diversified partnerships.

Western Indian Ocean Stability

The collaboration contributes to stability in a region vulnerable to piracy, trafficking, and climate risks, reinforcing India's role as a net security provider.

Challenges

Capacity Limitations

Seychelles' small population (approximately one lakh) and constrained fiscal capacity necessitate sustained external support, making long-term project implementation and maintenance challenging.

Strategic Sensitivities

Island states frequently balance multiple external partners. India must ensure that cooperation remains transparent, demand-driven, and respectful of sovereignty to avoid perceptions of strategic overreach.

Way Forward

Institutionalised Engagement

Regular CSC exercises, coordinated patrols, and intelligence-sharing mechanisms can institutionalise cooperation beyond leadership-level interactions.

Sustainable Development Orientation

Incorporating climate resilience, renewable energy, and coastal management into bilateral cooperation can align relations with SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and island sustainability imperatives.

Rs 54,000 Crore Lost in Digital Arrests, This is Dacoity: Supreme Court

Source: The Indian Express

Understanding Digital Arrest Frauds

Modus Operandi

Digital arrest scams involve fraudsters impersonating officials from police, CBI, ED, or RBI, utilising video calls, fabricated notices, and psychological coercion to compel victims to transfer money into so-called “safe accounts.”

Scale and Trend

Reported losses exceeding ₹54,000 crore illustrate the systemic magnitude of cyber fraud. NCRB statistics indicate annual growth in cybercrime cases, with financial fraud constituting the largest category of complaints.

Relevance

GS III (Internal Security / Cyber Security)

Cyber fraud, risks within the digital economy, financial security concerns.

GS II (Governance)

RBI regulation, inter-institutional coordination mechanisms.

Practice Question

Examine the rise of cyber financial frauds in India and the associated regulatory challenges. (250 Words)

Constitutional & Legal Dimensions

Property and Due Process

Forced digital transfers violate Article 300A (right to property) and principles of natural justice, as deprivation occurs without lawful authority, consent, or judicial procedure.

Statutory Provisions

Such offences attract IPC provisions relating to cheating, extortion, and criminal intimidation, along with Sections 66C and 66D of the IT Act. However, low conviction rates reflect jurisdictional complexities and evidentiary challenges inherent in cybercrime cases.

Banking Regulation & RBI Oversight

Fiduciary Responsibility of Banks

The Supreme Court characterised banks as “trustees of public money,” implying a heightened duty of care in monitoring suspicious transactions beyond mere facilitation of high-volume digital transfers.

KYC–AML Framework

Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and RBI Master Directions on KYC (2016, periodically updated), banks are required to detect abnormal transaction patterns. Nevertheless, real-time intervention remains inconsistent across institutions.

Governance & Institutional Gaps

Fragmented Institutional Response

Cyber fraud control involves RBI, commercial banks, state police, I4C under MHA, and CERT-In. However, fragmented databases and delayed coordination impede rapid fund-freezing during critical time windows.

Recovery versus Prevention Bias

Judicial observations that banks act effectively as loan recovery agents highlight an imbalance: robust systems exist for recovering institutional dues, whereas depositor protection mechanisms remain comparatively weaker.

Technological Dimension

AI-Based Detection

Artificial Intelligence and machine learning systems can identify velocity anomalies, mule accounts, and behavioural red flags, enabling automated transaction pauses, enhanced authentication, and pre-transfer alerts for high-risk transactions.

Implementation Constraints

Uneven adoption of RBI-supported analytical tools and concerns about customer inconvenience reduce proactive blocking measures, permitting fraudsters to swiftly layer and disperse stolen funds.

Economic & Social Impact

Confidence in Digital Economy

Large-scale financial fraud undermines trust in UPI and digital payment ecosystems, potentially slowing fintech expansion and financial inclusion efforts in a country processing billions of UPI transactions monthly.

Household Vulnerability

Victims frequently include elderly individuals, retirees, and first-generation digital users, meaning losses often involve life savings, affecting consumption capacity, healthcare security, and broader social stability.

Ethical Dimensions

Protection versus Profit

An ethical dilemma arises if financial institutions prioritise transaction volume and convenience over protective safeguards. Fiduciary institutions must balance innovation with depositor protection.

State Responsibility

In line with welfare-state principles, regulators must ensure a secure digital financial architecture, as individual citizens cannot effectively counter sophisticated and transnational cybercrime networks independently.

Way Forward

Regulatory Measures

Mandate real-time risk assessment systems, introduce cooling-off periods for high-value transfers, and require compulsory alerts for first-time large payments to new beneficiaries across banking platforms.

Institutional Strengthening

Establish time-bound fund-freezing protocols, define statutory liability standards for negligence, and develop unified cyber-fraud command centres integrating banks, telecom providers, and law enforcement agencies.

11th February 2026: Daily MCQs

Below is the fully rewritten, plagiarism-free version. Structure, questions, options, answers, and explanations are preserved while language has been completely rephrased.

Q1. Consider the following statements about Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation:

1. The gravitational force between two bodies is proportional to the product of their masses.

2. The force of gravity reduces in direct proportion to the distance between the bodies.
3. The same gravitational principle accounts for both objects falling on Earth and the motion of planets.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A) Only one
- B) Only two
- C) All three
- D) None

Answer: (B)

Explanation:

Statement 1 — Correct:

According to Newton's formulation, gravitational force varies directly with the product of the two interacting masses.

Statement 2 — Incorrect:

Gravity follows an inverse-square relationship ($1/r^2$), meaning the force decreases with the square of the distance, not in a simple linear manner.

Statement 3 — Correct:

Newton's theory provided a unified explanation for both terrestrial phenomena (like a falling apple) and celestial motion, marking a major turning point in scientific thought.

Q2. Sea Lanes of Communication (SLOCs) hold strategic significance because they:

1. Facilitate transportation of global energy supplies.
2. Enable large-scale international trade.
3. Exist primarily for conducting naval warfare.

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (A)

Explanation:

Statement 1 — Correct:

A substantial share (around 80%) of global crude oil trade passes through major maritime chokepoints such as Hormuz, Malacca, and Bab-el-Mandeb.

Statement 2 — Correct:

Nearly 90% of global merchandise trade by volume is transported by sea, underscoring the economic importance of SLOCs.

Statement 3 — Incorrect:

Although navies operate along these routes, their principal function is commercial and economic rather than military.

Q3. Which of the following states are significant producers of cashew?

1. Kerala
2. Odisha
3. Punjab
4. Maharashtra

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1, 2 and 4 only
B) 1 and 3 only
C) 2 and 3 only
D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (A)

Explanation:

- **Kerala:** A leading state in cashew cultivation and processing.
- **Odisha:** Possesses extensive acreage under cashew cultivation.
- **Maharashtra:** The Konkan region contributes significantly to production.
- **Punjab:** Climatic conditions are unsuitable for cashew cultivation.

Cashew thrives in tropical coastal climates with lateritic soil conditions.

Q4.

Assertion (A): Bonded labour is forbidden under the Indian Constitution.

Reason (R): Article 23 prohibits trafficking in persons and forced labour.

- A) Both A and R are correct, and R is the correct explanation of A
B) Both A and R are correct, but R is not the correct explanation of A
C) A is correct, R is incorrect
D) A is incorrect, R is correct

Answer: (A)

Explanation:

Article 23, which forms part of the Right against Exploitation, explicitly prohibits begar, bonded labour, and other forms of forced labour. Therefore, bonded labour constitutes both a constitutional violation and a punishable offence under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976.

Q5. Island countries such as Seychelles are strategically relevant because they:

1. Are located close to major Sea Lanes of Communication.
2. Contribute to Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) systems.
3. Provide access to the Arctic region.
4. Assist in counter-piracy operations.

- A) 1, 2 and 4 only
B) 1 and 3 only
C) 2 and 3 only
D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (A)

Explanation:

Statement 1 — Correct:

Many island states are positioned near crucial Indian Ocean maritime routes.

Statement 2 — Correct:

Surveillance infrastructure and radar networks enhance regional Maritime Domain Awareness.

Statement 3 — Incorrect:

These islands have no geographical linkage to Arctic navigation routes.

Statement 4 — Correct:

The Western Indian Ocean has experienced piracy threats, and island nations support cooperative security efforts.

Island states thus function as important strategic nodes within Indo-Pacific geopolitics.

Mains: India's internal security landscape is progressively influenced by emerging and unconventional threats rather than traditional law-and-order disturbances. Analyse the evolving character of these internal security challenges and evaluate the extent to which India's security framework is equipped to address them. (250 words)