



DATE: 13 MAY 2026

1 Consumer Price Index (CPI) (Source: The Hindu)

CPI measure changes in prices of goods and services that households acquire for the purpose of consumption.

Facts you need to know (Please learn thoroughly these for 2026 CSE Prelims).

- It is used as a tool by governments and central banks for inflation targeting and for monitoring price stability.
- It is used for indexing dearness allowance to employees for an increase in prices.
- The CPI is released by the National Statistical Office under the Ministry of Statistics.
- **The CPI base year is to be changed to 2024 from 2012.**
- The composition of the inflation basket has changed: the weight of food and beverages has been reduced from 54% to 37%.
- The United Nations Statistical Division's (UNSD) Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP 2018) will be adopted into CPI for better global comparison.
- The CPI basket now includes 358 weighted items, up from 299 earlier.
- New inclusions include rural house rent, OTT services, international air travel, and newer energy sources such as CNG and PNG.
- The number of service items has risen to 50.
- The new CPI uses the Jevons index, a chain-price method that links monthly price changes.



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2 Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) Scheme (Source: The Hindu)

The PM SHRI Scheme is a **centrally sponsored initiative**, launched in 2022, by the Government of India aimed at establishing over 14,500 PM SHRI Schools by enhancing existing schools **under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**.

- Duration of the scheme is 2022-23 to 2026-27.
- Under Ministry of Education

Focus of the Scheme

- The primary objective is to create an inclusive and nurturing environment that promotes the well-being and safety of every student, offering diverse learning experiences and access to quality infrastructure and resources.

Key Features

- These schools will focus on holistic student development, including the skills of communication, collaboration, and critical thinking.
- Teaching methods will be experiential, inquiry-driven, and learner-centred.
- Schools will have modern labs, libraries, art rooms, and promote "green" initiatives like water conservation and waste recycling.
- They have best-in-class modern facilities, including Smart Classrooms, Computer Labs, Integrated Science Labs, Vocational Labs/Skill Labs, and Atal Tinkering Labs.
- Learning outcomes will be prioritized, with competency-based assessments that apply knowledge to real-life situations.

Monitoring:

- A School Quality Assessment Framework (SQAF) will monitor performance, with regular evaluations to ensure high standards.



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3 Science Excellence for Health through Agricultural Transformation (SEHAT) Mission (Source: PIB)

It is a national mission aimed at linking agriculture, nutrition, and public health by converting agricultural innovations into better health outcomes for people in India.

- Launched by Union Ministry of Health
- It is a joint initiative of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

Focus Areas

- The development and evaluation of biofortified and nutrient-dense crop varieties to address malnutrition and improve nutritional status;
- Strengthening integrated farming systems to promote dietary diversification, enhance farm incomes, and build resilience.
- Addressing occupational health risks among agricultural workers through targeted, evidence-based interventions.
- Advancing agriculture-enabled strategies for the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases through the promotion of functional foods and nutritionally superior crop varieties.
- Strengthening One Health preparedness through integrated surveillance, diagnostics, and research at the human–animal–environment interface.