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1

Foreign Exchange Reserves (Forex Reserves) (Source: The Hindu)

Forex reserves are assets held on reserve by a central bank (RBI) in foreign currencies like dollar, which can include bonds, treasury bills and other government securities.

Need To Know

- They are an important component of the Balance of Payments (BoP)
- **Components of India's Forex Reserves**
 - Foreign Currency Assets (FCA) (largest contributor)
 - Gold reserves (second largest contributor)
 - Special Drawing Rights: It is not a currency, but its value is determined by a basket of 5 major currencies: the US dollar, euro, Chinese renminbi, Japanese yen, and British pound sterling.
 - Reserve Tranche Position (RTP) with the IMF: RTP is a country's quota-based access to IMF resources, available for borrowing without strict conditions, used for BoPs or financial stability.

How much forex reserve does India have?

- Foreign Currency Assets: about US\$564.68 billion
- Gold reserves: about US\$104.74 billion
- Special Drawing Rights (SDRs): approximately US\$18.65 billion
- Reserve position with the IMF: approximately US\$4.80 billion

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2 Disputed Regions of India and Its Border Countries (Source: The Hindu)

DISPUTED REGIONS OF INDIA — AND ITS BORDER COUNTRIES —			
India shares borders with 7 countries. Several boundary sections remain disputed due to historical, territorial and strategic reasons.			
	LOCATION	ISSUE	STATUS
1 LADAKH REGION (India – China) 	LOCATION • Eastern Ladakh (Aksai Chin & LAC)	ISSUE • Boundary not clearly delineated. • China claims Aksai Chin.	STATUS • Stalemate along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). • No final resolution.
2 JAMMU & KASHMIR (India – Pakistan) 	LOCATION • Jammu & Kashmir (Entire region)	ISSUE • Both claim the entire region in full. • Rooted in the 1947 Partition.	STATUS • UN resolutions exist. • Issue remains unresolved since 1947.
3 SIR CREEK AREA (India – Pakistan) 	LOCATION • Rann of Kutch (Gujarat sector)	ISSUE • Pakistan claims Sir Creek as a tidal estuary.	STATUS • Under dispute. • No resolution so far.
4 KALAPANI – LIPULEKH – LIMPIYADHURA (India – Nepal) 	LOCATION • Uttarakhand (Pithoragarh district)	ISSUE • Nepal claims the area including Kalapani, Lipulekh & Limpiyadhura.	STATUS • India considers the area integral part of its territory. • Dispute continues.
5 DOKLAM PLATEAU (India – Bhutan – China) 	LOCATION • Doklam Plateau (Sikkim sector)	ISSUE • China claims the area under its jurisdiction. • Bhutan claims it, India supports Bhutan.	STATUS • 2017 military standoff. • Status quo maintained.
6 DAKHIN DINAJPUR (India – Bangladesh) 	LOCATION • Dakhin Dinajpur (West Bengal)	ISSUE • Boundary misalignment and enclaves.	STATUS • Land Boundary Agreement 2015 resolved major issues, some enclaves exchanged.
7 ARUNACHAL PRADESH 	LOCATION • Arunachal Pradesh (Entire state)	ISSUE • China calls it "South Tibet" and claims the entire state.	STATUS • India administers the region. • Dispute continues.
(India – Myanmar) 			
LOCATION • Arunachal Pradesh (Some areas along the border)	ISSUE • Myanmar claims some areas along the border.	STATUS • Under discussion. • No final settlement.	
KEY TAKEAWAYS			
 Boundary disputes are due to colonial legacy, unclear demarcation, historical claims and strategic interests.	 India prefers peaceful resolution through dialogue and diplomacy.	 Maintaining peace and stability along borders is vital for national security and regional cooperation.	 Strong Borders. Peaceful Neighbourhood. Secure India.



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3 DNA vs RNA (Source: Down To Earth)

Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA)	Ribonucleic Acid (RNA)
- DNA is an organic chemical that contains genetic information and instructions for protein synthesis. - DNA is a key part of reproduction in which genetic heredity is passed down through DNA from parents to offspring	RNA is a nucleic acid principally involved in the synthesis of proteins, carrying the messenger (ex: mRNA) instructions from DNA, which itself contains the genetic instructions
It has a deoxyribose and phosphate backbone having four distinct bases: Adenine, Cytosine, Guanine & Thymine (ACGT).	It has a ribose and phosphate backbone with four bases: Adenine, Cytosine, Guanine & Uracil (ACGU).
Found in the cell nucleus and Mitochondria.	Found in the Cytoplasm, nucleus, and ribosomes
Has 2-deoxyribose	Has Ribose
A double-stranded molecule with a long chain of nucleotides	A single-stranded molecule with a shorter chain of nucleotides.
Self-replicating	Synthesizes from DNA when required



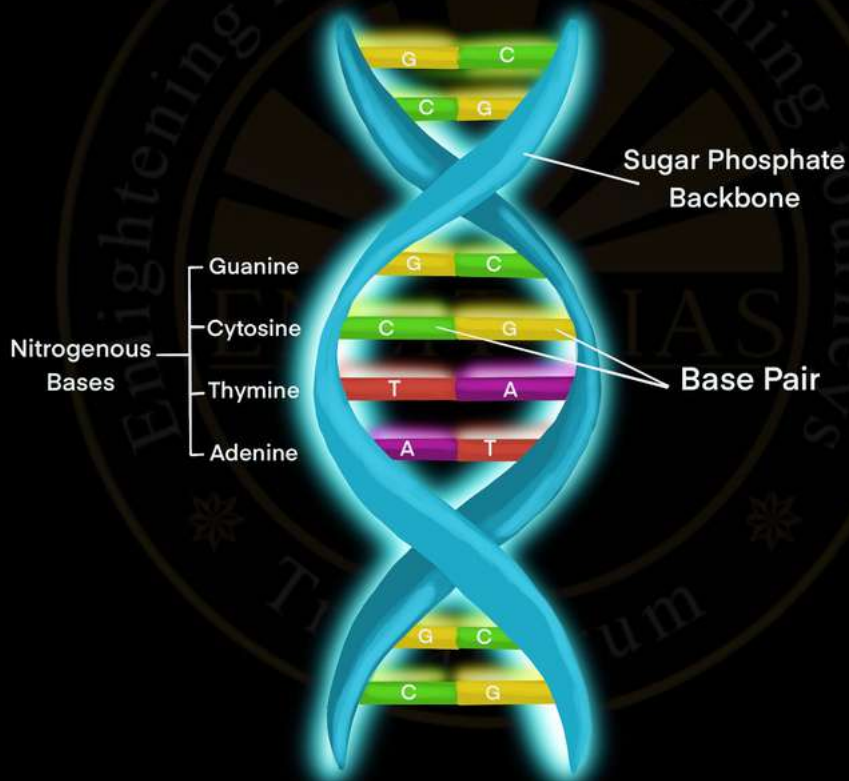
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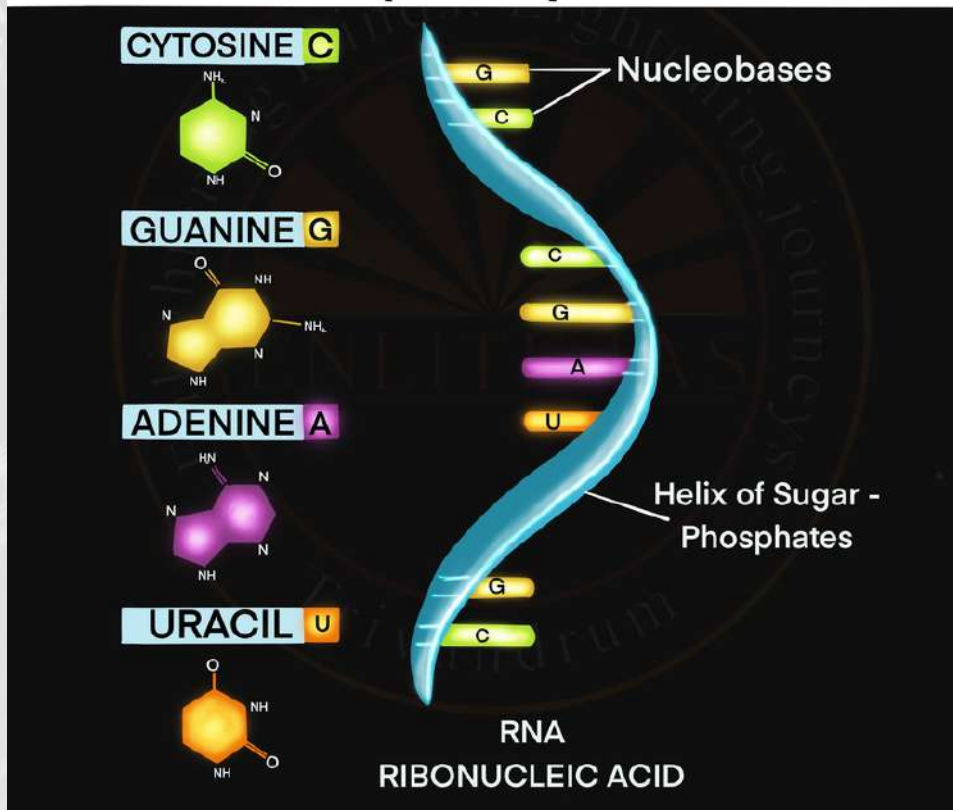
ENLIGHTENING MINDS, LIGHTENING JOURNEYS

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DNA STRUCTURE



RIBONUCLEIC ACID (RNA)



mRNA

- **mRNA stands for messenger ribonucleic acid.**
- **It is a usually single-stranded RNA molecule that carries genetic instructions copied from DNA to ribosomes, where proteins are synthesized.**