Haiti

Haiti faces a surge in **gang violence**, with over **5,600 deaths** in 2024. The **United Nations (UN)** highlighted **human rights violations** and **corruption** exacerbating the crisis.

- It is driven by **political instability**, **corruption**, weak governance, **economic hardship**, **impunity**, and the **flow of illegal arms**, compounded by **widespread displacement**.
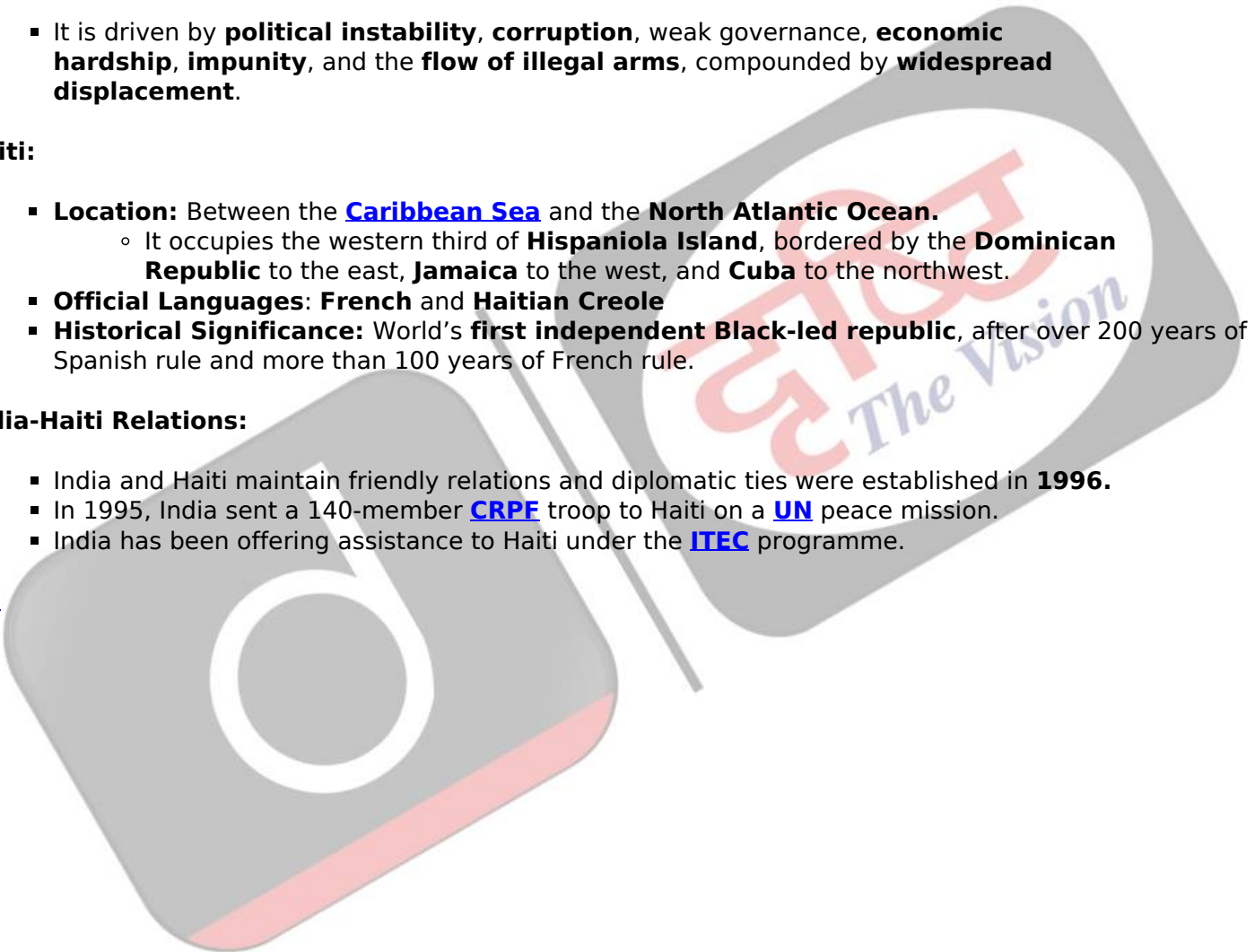
Haiti:

- **Location:** Between the **Caribbean Sea** and the **North Atlantic Ocean.**
    - It occupies the western third of **Hispaniola Island**, bordered by the **Dominican Republic** to the east, **Jamaica** to the west, and **Cuba** to the northwest.
- **Official Languages**: **French** and **Haitian Creole**
- **Historical Significance:** World's **first independent Black-led republic**, after over 200 years of Spanish rule and more than 100 years of French rule.

India-Haiti Relations:

- India and Haiti maintain friendly relations and diplomatic ties were established in **1996.**
- In 1995, India sent a 140-member **CRPF** troop to Haiti on a **UN** peace mission.
- India has been offering assistance to Haiti under the **ITEC** programme.

//

Read More: [Assasination of Haiti's President](#)

India Won ICC Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup 2025

India won the [International Cricket Council (ICC)](#) **Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup 2025**, defeating South Africa in Malaysia.

- It is organised by the ICC, it features national women's under-19 teams competing in the **Twenty20 format.**
- **First Edition:** The inaugural ICC Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup was held in **2023**, with **South**

Africa as the host. India won the maiden title, defeating **England**.

- **ICC:** It is the **global governing body for cricket,** responsible for overseeing **108 members (including India)** and managing the sport worldwide.
    - Enforces the **ICC Code of Conduct** and playing conditions, and appoints match officials for international matches.
    - ICC plays a crucial role in **combating corruption** and **match-fixing** through its Anti-Corruption Unit, ensuring the integrity of the sport.
- **Formats of Cricket:** The ICC recognizes three main formats of cricket at the international level **(Test matches**, **One-Day Internationals (ODIs)**, and **Twenty20 Internationals (T20Is)).**
    - **Test cricket:** The oldest format (since 1877), lasting five days with two innings per team.
    - **ODIs:** Introduced in 1971, these 50-over matches blend technique, speed, and skill.
    - **T20Is:** Introduced in 2005, **T20Is** are the newest, shortest (usually competed in three hours) and fastest form of cricket, with each team playing 20 overs.

Read more: India Won the 2024 T20 World Cup

Breach of Parliamentary Privileges

Source: HT

Formal notices of **breach of parliamentary privilege** were filed against some **MPs** following their comment on the **President address**.

- A **breach of privilege** occurs when someone **disregards or attacks** the **privileges, rights, or immunities** of a **member** or the **House** itself.
- **About: Parliamentary privileges and immunities** are **special rights** granted to **MPs** and **MLAs** to ensure their effective functioning **without external interference.**
- **Sources:**
    - Constitution i..e, **Article 105**, **Article 122**, **Article 194**, and **Article 212**.
    - **Parliamentary Conventions** (based on **British parliamentary practices** as of 1947).
    - **Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business** (**Lok Sabha** and **Rajya Sabha**)
    - Judicial Interpretations **(Supreme Court** and **High Court** rulings)
    - **Statutory Laws** (laws enacted by **Parliament**) (Currently, there is no act of the Parliament defining parliamentary privileges).
- **Parliamentary Privilege Includes:**
    - **Individual Privileges: Freedom of Speech**, Immunity from **Legal Proceedings**, Freedom from **Arrest** etc.
    - **Collective Privileges: Secret Sittings**, Inquiry Powers, Judicial Immunity etc.
- Under **Article 87**, the President addresses both Houses of **Parliament** at the start of the first session **after each general election** and at the commencement of the **first session of each year.**
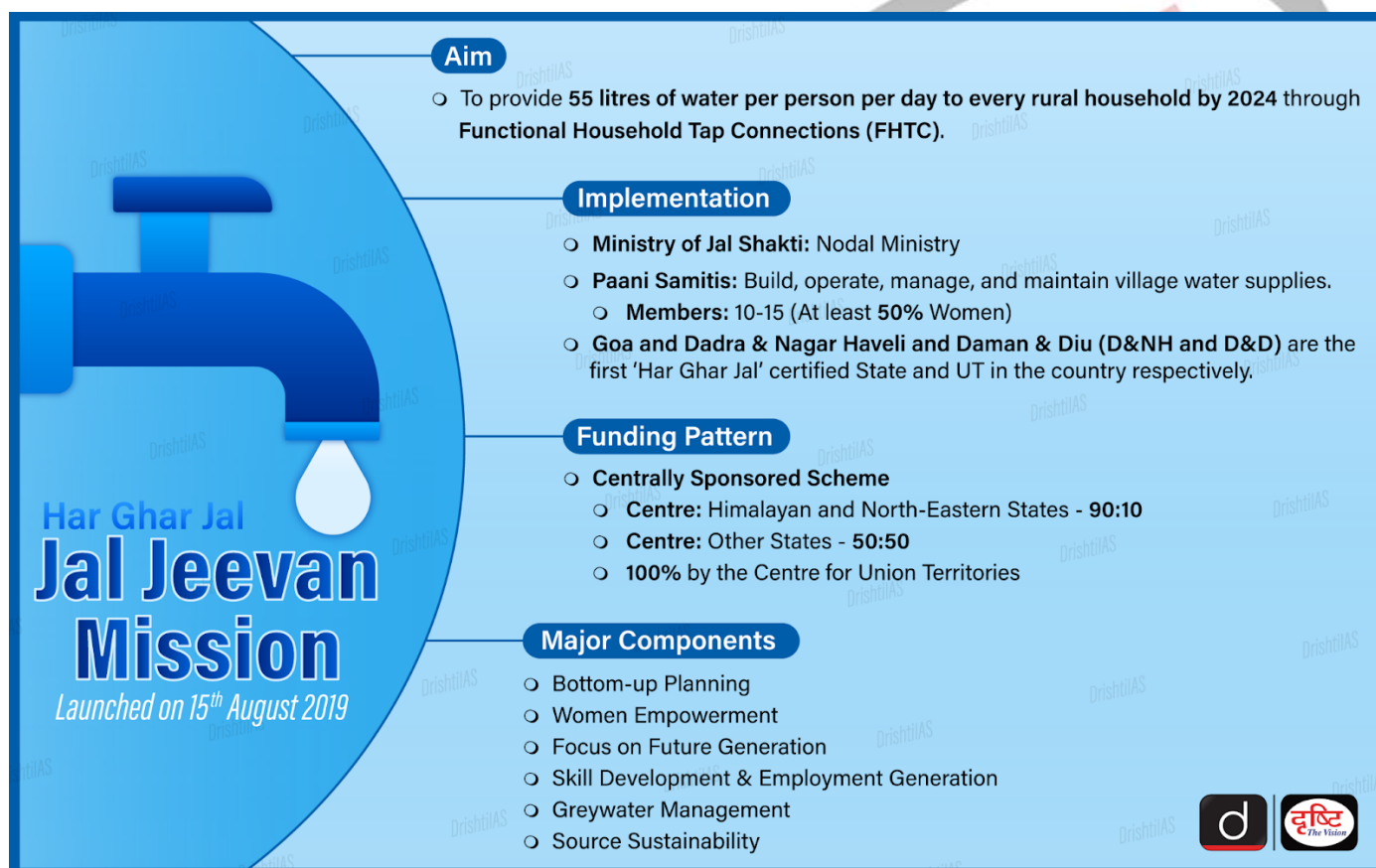
Read More: Parliamentary Privileges and Immunities

Jal Jeevan Mission Extended Till 2028

Source: IE

Union Budget 2025-26 has extended the **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** till **2028** with the aim of benefiting the remaining (20%) rural households.

- **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)**
- **About:** The JJM was **launched in 2019** with the aim to **provide drinking tap water supply to every rural household by 2024,** targeting **55 liters per person per day**.
- **Progress**: In 2019, only **3.23 crore (17%)** of rural households had tap water connections.
  - As of 2024, it covered **15 crore households** (**80%** of rural India).
- **Focus**: The extension of the Mission will focus on **improving the quality of infrastructure** and ensuring the **operation and maintenance** of rural piped water supply systems, with a strong emphasis on **public participation**.
- **Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs)**: New MoUs will be signed with states and union territories to ensure the sustainability and **citizen-centric water service delivery**.
- **Impact of JJM:**
  - **Time Savings**: **WHO** estimates JJM will save over **5.5 crore hours daily**, primarily for women, spent collecting water.
  - **Health Benefits**: JJM could prevent nearly **400,000 deaths** from diarrheal diseases and save **14 million Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs).**
  - **Child Mortality Reduction**: Research suggests safe water could reduce child mortality by **30%**, saving **136,000 lives** annually.

Aim
- To provide **55 litres of water per person per day to every rural household by 2024** through **Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC).**

Implementation
- **Ministry of Jal Shakti:** Nodal Ministry
- **Paani Samitis:** Build, operate, manage, and maintain village water supplies.
  - **Members:** 10-15 (At least **50%** Women)
- **Goa and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (D&NH and D&D)** are the first 'Har Ghar Jal' certified State and UT in the country respectively.

Funding Pattern
- **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**
  - **Centre:** Himalayan and North-Eastern States - **90:10**
  - **Centre:** Other States - **50:50**
  - **100%** by the Centre for Union Territories

Major Components
- Bottom-up Planning
- Women Empowerment
- Focus on Future Generation
- Skill Development & Employment Generation
- Greywater Management
- Source Sustainability

Har Ghar Jal
Jal Jeevan Mission
Launched on 15th August 2019

Read More: Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

Maharashtra Mandates Marathi Language Use

Source: TH

Why in News?

Maharashtra has **mandated the use of Marathi language in all official communication** across government, semi-government, local self-government bodies, and government-aided offices.

- The **Marathi Language Policy**, approved in **2024**, recommends the **use of Marathi in all public affairs**.

Note:

- **Marathi** was designated as the **official language of Maharashtra in 1960.**
- In 2024, **Marathi** achieved the status of a **classical language.**
- India has **2 official Languages (Hindi and English)** and **22 Scheduled Languages** as per the **Eighth Schedule** to the Constitution of India.
  - It includes **Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu**.
  - **Part XVII** of the Indian constitution deals with the official languages in **Articles 343 to 351.**

Mandatory Regional Languages in Other Indian States

- **Tamil Nadu**: Tamil is **mandatory for government communication**, and passing a Class 10 Tamil exam is required for government jobs.
- **Karnataka**: Kannada is **compulsory in government offices and business signboards,** with a law mandating 60% of signboard space in Kannada.
- **Jharkhand**: Jharkhand mandated knowledge of **regional and tribal languages** for government jobs, requiring candidates to score **at least 30% in languages like Mundari, Santhali, Ho, or Kurukh.**
- **West Bengal**: Encourages hiring candidates **fluent in Bengali** for government jobs.

What are the Key Constitutional Provisions Related to Official Language?

- **Article 345**: **Article 345** of the **Constitution** states that a **state legislature can choose one or more languages** to be used for official purposes.
  - This includes the **language or languages already spoken in the state, or Hindi.**
- **Article 347**: **Article 347** of the Constitution deals with the **recognition of languages spoken by a section of a state's population**.
  - It allows the **President** to **officially recognize such languages** if a **substantial portion of the state's population requests it.**
  - This provision allows the **inclusion of regional languages into the official framework of the state**, ensuring linguistic inclusivity.
- **Article 350A**: **Article 350A** of the Constitution requires **states to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother tongue** for children from l**inguistic minority groups**. This applies to **primary education.**
- **Article 351**: **Article 351** of the Constitution provides for the **promotion of the spread of Hindi** as a **link language without** overriding the linguistic rights of states to promote their official languages.

Committees and Commissions Related to Languages of Union

- **The Official Languages Commission (1955):** It was established under the Chairmanship of **B.G. Kher**, that **examined the issue of the use of Hindi and English as the official language of the Union** and made recommendations for the transition to Hindi.
- **Parliamentary Committee of Official Language (1976):** The **Parliamentary Committee of**

Official Language (1976) recommends **replacing English with Hindi in institutions and Central services exams**.

- However, these proposals have not been fully implemented due to resistance, especially from non-Hindi speaking states.

SCHEDULES IN THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

Originally (1949), the Constitution had 8 schedules. Now, it comprises 12 Schedules; various amendments carried out since 1951 have added 4 Schedules (9th, 10th, 11th and 12th).

First Schedule
- Articles: 1 & 4
- States and Union Territories with their territorial jurisdiction

Second Schedule
- Articles: 59, 65, 75, 97, 125, 148, 158, 164, 186 & 221
- Emoluments, allowances and privileges of various constitutional posts (President, Governor, Judges of the SC & High Courts, CAG etc.)

Third Schedule
- Articles: 75, 84, 99, 124, 146, 173, 188 & 219
- Forms of oaths or affirmations (Union ministers, MPs, Judges of the SC & High Courts, CAG etc.)

Fourth Schedule
- Articles: 4 & 80
- Allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha

Fifth Schedule
- Article: 244
- Administration and Control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes

Sixth Schedule
- Articles: 244 & 275
- Administration of tribal areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura & Mizoram

Seventh Schedule
- Article: 246
- Union List (98 subjects), State List (59 subjects), & Concurrent List (52 subjects)

Eighth Schedule
- Articles: 344 & 351
- 22 recognised languages by the Constitution

Ninth Schedule (1st Amendment Act, 1951)
- Article: 31-B
- Validation of certain acts and regulations

Tenth Schedule (52nd Amendment Act, 1985)
- Articles: 102 & 191
- Anti-defection law

Eleventh Schedule (73rd Amendment Act, 1992)
- Article: 243-G
- Powers, authority and responsibilities of Panchayats

Twelfth Schedule (74th Amendment Act, 1992)
- Article: 243-W
- Powers, authority and responsibilities of Municipalities

Drishti IAS

UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q1. Consider the following statements:(2021)

1. 21st February is declared to be the International Mother Language Day by UNICEF.
2. The demand that Bangla has to be one of the national languages was raised in the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

Q2. With reference to India, the terms 'Halbi, Ho and Kui' pertain to (2021)

(a) dance forms of Northwest India
(b) musical instruments
(c) pre-historic cave paintings
(d) tribal languages

Ans: (d)

Q3. Which one of the following was given classical language status recently? (2015)

(a) Odia
(b) Konkani
(c) Bhojpuri
(d) Assamese

Ans: (a)

State of India's Digital Economy (SIDE) Report 2024

For Prelims: State of India's Digital Economy (SIDE) Report 2024, **Digital India**, **BharatNet**, **Open Network for Digital Commerce**, **5G rollout**, **Skill India Digital Hub**, **India's Atma Nirbhar Bharat vision**, **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission**.

For Mains: Key Drivers of India's Digital Growth, Key Issues Associated with India's Digital Growth.

Source: PIB

Why in News?

The **State of India's Digital Economy (SIDE) Report** 2024, published by the Ministry **of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, provides a comprehensive analysis of India's digital economy.

What are the Key Highlights of State of India's Digital Economy Report 2024?

- **India's Digital Economy Standing:** India is the **3rd largest digitalized** (behind the **US and**

China) economy in the world **in terms of economy-wide digitalisation.**
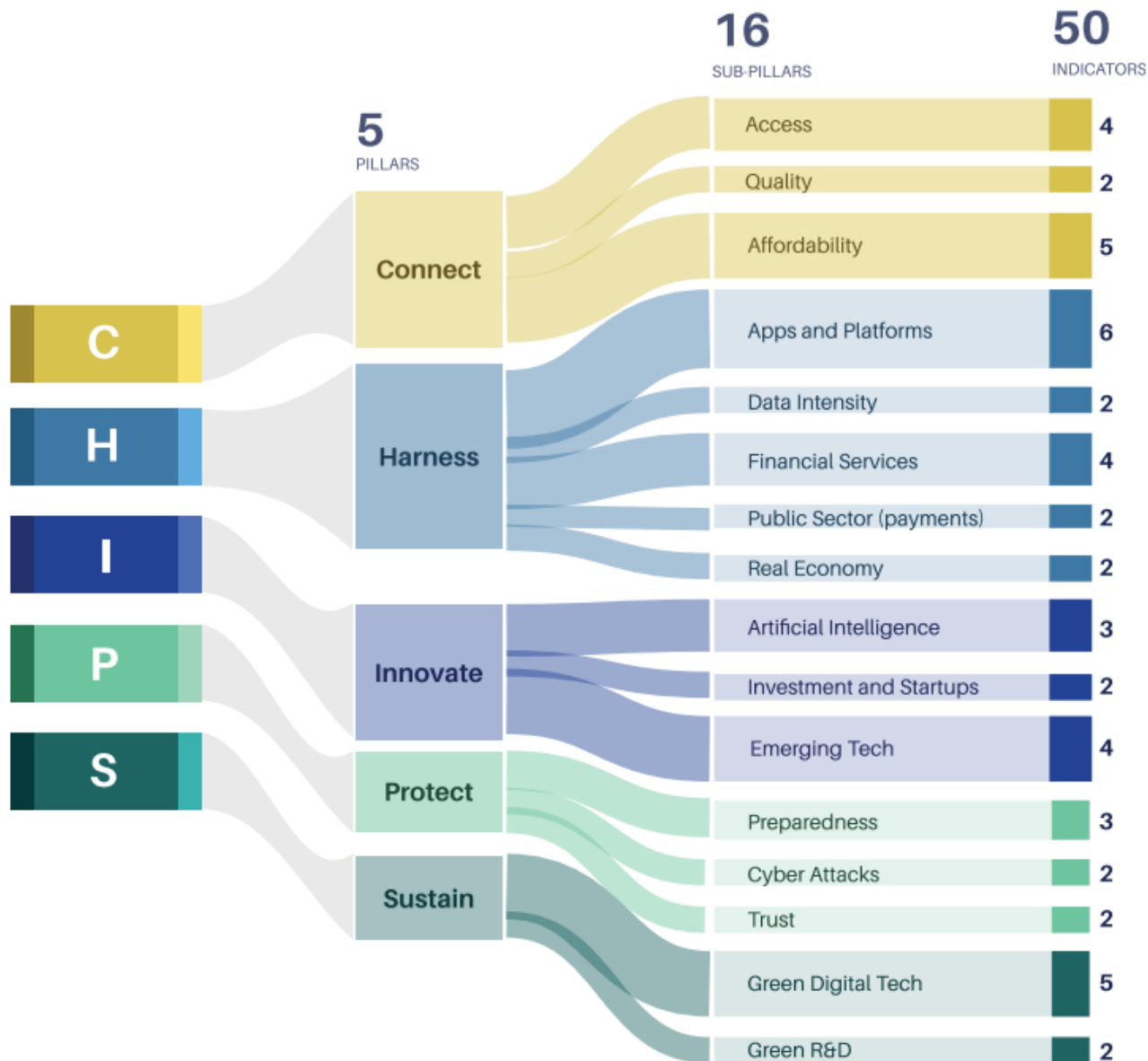   - **It ranks 12th** among **G20** nations in terms of **digitalisation of individual users**, indicating **lower average user digitalisation.**
- **Contribution of Digital Economy:** In 2022-23, the **digital economy** contributed **11.74% to GDP**, with projections to **rise to 13.42% by 2024-25**.
    - It **employs** 2.55% of the workforce with **productivity 5 times higher than the overall economy.**
- **Future Projection: By 2029-30**, the digital economy is expected to contribute **one-fifth (20%) of GDP**, surpassing agriculture and manufacturing**.**
- **Sectoral Breakdown:** The traditional **ICT sector** is the largest contributor to the digital economy, while new digital industries, including **Big Tech and platforms,** account for nearly **2%** of **GVA**.
- **State-Level Disparities**: **Richer states** like Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana, Gujarat, and Haryana exhibit higher **digitalisation levels compared to poorer states.**

CHIPS (Connect-Harness-Innovate-Protect-Sustain):

- The **CHIPS (Connect-Harness-Innovate-Protect-Sustain)** framework, introduced in the SIDE 2024, offers a **comprehensive approach to measuring digitalization**, focusing on **outcomes and risks**.
- Unlike traditional indices that emphasize internet access, the CHIPS framework includes **5 pillars (Connect, Harness, Innovate, Protect, Sustain) and 50 indicators**, enabling comparisons at both **national and sub-national levels.**
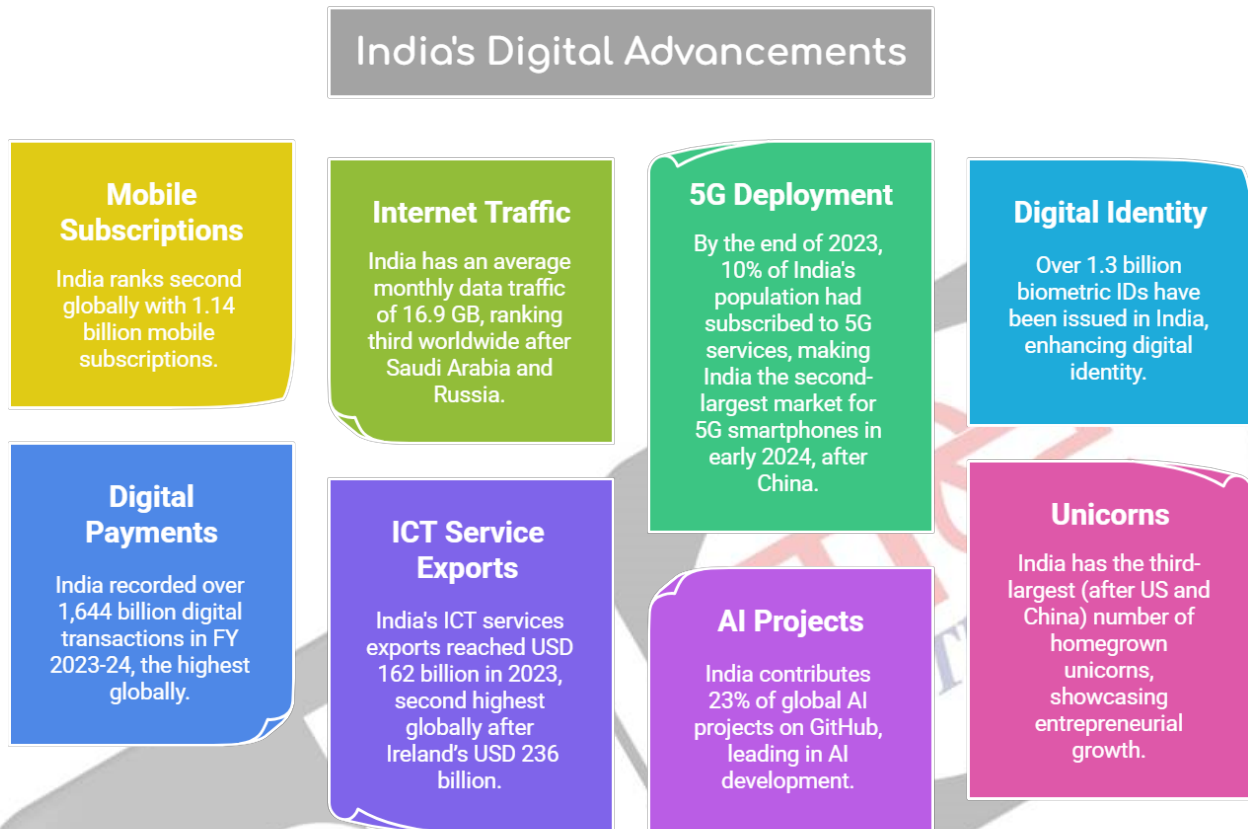
The CHIPS framework

Source: IPCIDE Research

5 PILLARS → **16 SUB-PILLARS** → **50 INDICATORS**

Pillar	Sub-pillar	Indicators
Connect	Access	4
	Quality	2
	Affordability	5
Harness	Apps and Platforms	6
	Data Intensity	2
	Financial Services	4
	Public Sector (payments)	2
	Real Economy	2
Innovate	Artificial Intelligence	3
	Investment and Startups	2
	Emerging Tech	4
Protect	Preparedness	3
	Cyber Attacks	2
	Trust	2
Sustain	Green Digital Tech	5
	Green R&D	2

What are the Key Drivers of Digital Economy Growth in India?

- **Expanding Digital Infrastructure**: India's digital infrastructure is bridging urban-rural divides and fueling a vibrant digital economy.
  - Initiatives like **BharatNet** are providing **high-speed internet to rural areas,** while the **5G rollout** is enhancing **digital adoption, e-governance, e-commerce**, fintech and IT services especially in underserved regions.
  - Programs like **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)** are enabling **small businesses to enter the digital marketplace.**
- **Rising Smartphone Penetration**: Affordable **smartphones and low-cost data** have positioned India as a mobile-first economy, enhancing access to **online education, digital payments, and entertainment**.
  - Domestic manufacturing incentives are supporting India's Atma Nirbhar Bharat initiative.
- **Global Capability Centers (GCCs)**: India hosts **55% of the world's GCCs,** which provide essential services like **IT support, R&D,** and **business process management.**

- **Start-Up Ecosystem and Innovation**: India's startup ecosystem is a major driver of digital innovation. Initiatives like **Start-Up India** and strong funding have helped tech startups address unique market needs.
  - **In 2024, Indian startups raised USD 30.4 billion** in funding, despite global economic challenges.
- **Digital Financial Inclusion**: Programs such as **UPI** and **Jan Dhan accounts** are transforming **financial inclusion** in India, especially in rural areas.
  - UPI processed Rs 23.49 lakh crores across 16.58 billion transactions in October 2024.

India's Digital Advancements

Mobile Subscriptions
India ranks second globally with 1.14 billion mobile subscriptions.

Internet Traffic
India has an average monthly data traffic of 16.9 GB, ranking third worldwide after Saudi Arabia and Russia.

5G Deployment
By the end of 2023, 10% of India's population had subscribed to 5G services, making India the second-largest market for 5G smartphones in early 2024, after China.

Digital Identity
Over 1.3 billion biometric IDs have been issued in India, enhancing digital identity.

Digital Payments
India recorded over 1,644 billion digital transactions in FY 2023-24, the highest globally.

ICT Service Exports
India's ICT services exports reached USD 162 billion in 2023, second highest globally after Ireland's USD 236 billion.

AI Projects
India contributes 23% of global AI projects on GitHub, leading in AI development.

Unicorns
India has the third-largest (after US and China) number of homegrown unicorns, showcasing entrepreneurial growth.

Conclusion

India's digital economy is a key driver of **economic growth and employment**. The digitalization of traditional sectors, along **with the rise of digital platforms**, is transforming industries and creating new job opportunities. With growing digital literacy, adoption **of emerging technologies, and expanding employment prospects**, India is well-positioned to lead in digital transformation, ensuring sustainable and inclusive growth.

UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q. Consider the following: (2022)

1. Aarogya Setu
2. CoWIN
3. DigiLocker
4. DIKSHA

Which of the above are built on top of open-source digital platforms?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2, 3 and 4 only

(c) 1, 3 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans: (d)

Mains

Q. "The emergence of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (Digital Revolution) has initiated e-Governance as an integral part of government". Discuss. (2020)