

Daily Current Affairs

05 August 2026

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Daily Current Affairs Quiz 05 August 2026

Q1. The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act was originally enacted in which year?

- (a) 2022
- (b) 2024
- (c) 2025
- (d) 2026

Ans.(b)

Sol. The correct answer is (B) 2024

Explanation:

- The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act was originally enacted by the Parliament of India in the year 2024.
- It received the assent of the President of India on February 13, 2024, and officially came into force on June 21, 2024.
- The primary objective of the 2024 Act was to bring transparency, fairness, and credibility to public examination systems conducted by central authorities.
- It was specifically introduced to prevent unfair practices such as paper leaks, impersonation, unauthorized access to question papers or optical mark recognition (OMR) sheets, and tampering with computer systems.
- The law caters to central public examinations administered by central recruitment and entrance bodies.

Information Booster:

- Under the original 2024 Act, all offences were categorized as cognizable, non-bailable, and non-compoundable.
- The Act targeted organized crime syndicates, service providers, and examinee-assisting groups involved in systemic cheating and question paper leaks.
- Individual offenders who committed unfair means were liable for imprisonment ranging from three to five years and a fine of up to ₹10 lakh.
- In cases involving organized crime, the Act prescribed a minimum imprisonment of five years, extendable up to ten years, along with a minimum fine of ₹1 crore.
- Service providers found guilty of malpractices could face fines up to ₹1 crore, recovery of exam costs, and a ban from conducting public exams for four years.
- Genuine candidates appearing for exams were kept outside the direct punitive scope unless they colluded with organized syndicates.

Additional Knowledge:

- 2022 (Option A): While several state governments (such as Rajasthan and Gujarat) drafted state-level anti-paper leak bills around 2022, the central Public Examinations Act was not enacted in 2022.
- 2025 (Option C): No primary Act by this name was passed in 2025; the central legislation was established in early 2024.
- 2026 (Option D): In 2026, Parliament introduced the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill to further strengthen the penalties and procedures established under the original 2024 Act.

Q2. The Amendment Bill provides for the establishment of which type of courts to deal with offences related to public examinations?

- (a) District Courts
- (b) Consumer Courts
- (c) Special Fast Track Courts
- (d) High Courts

Ans.(c)

Sol. The correct answer is (C) Special Fast Track Courts

Explanation:

- The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 explicitly provides for the establishment of Special Fast Track Courts in every state and union territory.
- These courts are designated exclusively to hear and adjudicate cases related to public examination malpractices, paper leaks, and organized exam fraud.
- The aim of setting up Special Fast Track Courts is to eliminate long judicial delays and render swift deterrence against offenders.
- The Amendment Bill mandates that trials in these Special Fast Track Courts should be completed within a period of three months from the date of filing the charge sheet.
- To assist these courts, the government is empowered to appoint Special Public Prosecutors specifically trained to prosecute examination-related offences.

Information Booster:

- Under the Amendment Bill, 2026, a strict time-bound mechanism is instituted for both the investigation and trial phases.
- The investigation into offences under this Act must be completed within two months from the date of FIR registration.
- The legislation provides for the creation of a dedicated Special Task Force (STF) to investigate complex and cross-border paper leak rackets.
- Fast-track judicial processes safeguard the interests of millions of young aspirants whose career prospects are hampered by prolonged legal uncertainty.
- The establishment of specialized courts ensures that cases involving technical, digital, and organized exam fraud receive focused judicial expertise.
- Enhanced judicial speed acts as a vital pillar in restoring public trust and institutional credibility in the national recruitment system.

Additional Knowledge:

- District Courts (Option A): Regular District Courts handle general criminal matters, but due to heavy case backlogs, specialized examination cases are transferred to designated Special Fast Track Courts under the 2026 Amendment Bill.
- Consumer Courts (Option B): Consumer Courts (Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions) adjudicate grievances regarding goods and services under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, and do not handle criminal offences like paper leaks.
- High Courts (Option D): High Courts possess constitutional and appellate jurisdiction over state judiciaries; while they exercise oversight, trial proceedings for examination offences are conducted in the Special Fast Track Courts.

Q3. The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 was passed by the Lok Sabha through which method?

- (a) Secret ballot
- (b) Voice vote
- (c) Division of votes
- (d) Electronic voting

Ans.(b)

Sol. The correct answer is (B) Voice vote

Explanation:

- The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 was passed by the Lok Sabha through a voice vote on July 29, 2026.
- The Bill was introduced in the House by Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh on July 27, 2026, to overhaul the punitive framework against paper leaks.
- A voice vote involves the Speaker putting the question to the House and asking members to say 'Ayes' for approval or 'Noes' for rejection, deciding based on the volume of sound.
- The passage of the Bill occurred following an extensive debate on the integrity of competitive examinations and student welfare.
- The amended law seeks to impose tougher punishments, setup fast-track courts, and mandate short investigation timelines.

Information Booster:

- Voice vote is the simplest and most common method of deciding a question in the Indian Parliament, as per Rule 367 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.
- If a decision reached by voice vote is challenged by a member, the Speaker may order a Division of votes to record the exact count.
- During the debate on the Public Examinations Amendment Bill, key discussions focused on safeguarding student rights, increasing penalties, and establishing specialized task forces.
- The 2026 Amendment was introduced following widespread national attention regarding paper leaks and unfair means in competitive examinations.
- After approval by the Lok Sabha, the Bill proceeds to the Rajya Sabha for consideration and passage before receiving Presidential assent.
- The legislation marks a decisive policy step toward creating zero-tolerance legal barriers against paper leak syndicates.

Additional Knowledge:

- Secret ballot (Option A): Secret balloting in Parliament is used only in specific elections, such as the election of the Speaker or Deputy Speaker, and is never used for passing legislative bills.
- Division of votes (Option C): A division of votes involves recording each MP's vote individually through automatic vote recorders or lobby slips; this method was not pressed into action for the final passage of this Bill.
- Electronic voting (Option D): Electronic voting is one of the methods used during a Division of votes when MPs cast votes using electronic buttons installed on their seats.

Q4. Within what period should the investigation of offences under the Amendment Bill be completed?

- (a) One month
- (b) Two months
- (c) Three months
- (d) Six months

Ans.(b)

Sol. The correct answer is (B) Two months

Explanation:

- The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 mandates that the investigation into offences under the Act must be completed within two months.
- The two-month period commences from the date of registration of the First Information Report (FIR) or initiation of formal inquiry.
- This strict deadline is designed to prevent procedural delays that often allow perpetrators of paper leaks to tamper with evidence or escape justice.
- By enforcing a two-month investigation limit, the legal framework ensures fast-track collection of digital, forensic, and physical evidence.
- Once the investigation is completed, the charge sheet is submitted to the designated Special Fast Track Court for speedy trial.

Information Booster:

- Coupled with the two-month investigation limit, the Amendment Bill stipulates that trials before Special Fast Track Courts should be concluded within three months from charge sheet filing.
- To enforce these timelines effectively, the legislation empowers the government to constitute dedicated Special Task Forces (STF) comprising expert investigators.
- Standard Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) norms apply where specific provisions are not altered, but special legislation sets stringent caps for exam-related crimes.
- Rapid investigation and trial timelines protect the career calendars of millions of students by preventing indefinite exam cancellations and postponements.
- The law also provides for the appointment of Special Public Prosecutors to handle court proceedings without procedural bottlenecks.
- Speedy prosecution is intended to serve as a strong deterrent against commercial paper-leak syndicates and compromised testing centers.

Additional Knowledge:

- One month (Option A): While some preliminary inquiries or administrative reports operate on a 30-day window, the statutory period fixed for full criminal investigation under the Bill is two months.
- Three months (Option C): Three months is the statutory timeline prescribed for completing the judicial trial in Special Fast Track Courts following charge sheet submission.
- Six months (Option D): A six-month timeframe was deemed too long for examination cases because delayed investigations disrupt academic sessions and recruitment cycles.

Q5. According to the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, what are the enhanced maximum fines imposed on individuals and on service providers involved in examination malpractices, respectively?

- (a) ₹20 lakh and ₹2 crore
- (b) ₹30 lakh and ₹5 crore
- (c) ₹50 lakh and ₹10 crore
- (d) ₹50 lakh and ₹5 crore

Ans.(d)

Sol. The correct answer is (D) ₹50 lakh and ₹5 crore

Explanation:

- Under the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, the maximum fine for individual offenders involved in exam malpractices has been enhanced from ₹10 lakh to ₹50 lakh.
- For service providers (including technology partners, exam centre operators, and printing vendors) involved in offences, the maximum fine has been raised five-fold from ₹1 crore to ₹5 crore.
- In addition to financial penalties, prison terms for individual offenders have been increased from 3–5 years to 5–10 years.

- For service providers, the period of debarment from conducting or participating in public examinations has been doubled from four years to eight years.
- Top management personnel, directors, and key executives of service provider agencies involved in paper leaks also face 5 to 10 years of imprisonment along with fines up to ₹5 crore.

Information Booster:

- For organized crime syndicates committing paper leaks, the Amendment Bill increases the maximum fine to ₹10 crore, with prison terms ranging from 7 to 10 years.
- The Act mandates that if a service provider commits an offence, the actual cost of re-conducting the examination shall also be recovered from that service provider.
- All properties belonging to individuals or entities involved in organized paper leak rackets are subject to attachment and forfeiture under the law.
- These enhanced financial and custodial penalties aim to create a severe economic and legal disincentive against commercializing question paper leaks.
- The 2026 amendments address loopholes identified in computer-based testing, question paper distribution networks, and digital server vulnerabilities.
- Combining heavy monetary recovery with lengthy imprisonment reinforces accountability across all stakeholders in the examination eco-system.

Additional Knowledge:

- ₹20 lakh and ₹2 crore (Option A): This combination does not correspond to the statutory penalty thresholds set under either the 2024 Act or the 2026 Amendment Bill.
- ₹30 lakh and ₹5 crore (Option B): While ₹5 crore is the enhanced fine cap for service providers, the individual fine cap was set at ₹50 lakh rather than ₹30 lakh.
- ₹50 lakh and ₹10 crore (Option C): ₹10 crore is the maximum fine reserved specifically for organized crime syndicates, whereas the maximum fine for service providers is capped at ₹5 crore.



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