

TRIPURA QUEEN PINEAPPLE MISSION

1. BASIC FACTS (CORE DATA)

- **Launched By:** Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER), **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**, and Chief Minister of Tripura, **Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha**.
- **Total Budget Outlay:** ₹236 Crore.
- **Implementation Timeline:** A 3-year roadmap spanning from **Q2 FY2026 to Q4 FY2028**.
- **Objective:** To scale up the cultivation and develop an integrated international value chain for Tripura's unique, **GI-tagged (Geographical Indication)** 'Queen Pineapple'.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Led by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) under a convergence model, integrating schemes from various central ministries (Agriculture, Food Processing, Commerce, MSME, etc.) and the Government of Tripura.

2. SIGNIFICANCE & KEY FEATURES

- **State Fruit of Tripura:** Pineapple is the official State Fruit of Tripura. The renowned '**Queen**' and '**Kew**' varieties are grown naturally without chemical inputs (organic by default) in the state's hilly terrains.
- **The Current Challenge:** Despite its premium quality, weak market integration and lack of infrastructure force farmers to sell their produce at raw commodity prices of just **₹6-10 per kg** at the farmgate.
- **Hub & Spoke Model:**
 - **1 Central Hub:** To be established near the Agartala airport.
 - **8 Spoke Collection Centers:** To be set up across major pineapple-growing clusters in West Tripura, Khowai, and Sepahijala districts.
 - **Infrastructure Facilities:** Will include grading facilities, cold storage, reefer logistics (refrigerated transport), IoT-enabled farm monitoring, and digital traceability systems.

3. KEY PROJECTS & BIO-ECONOMY STRATEGY

- **Nalkata Pineapple Processing Unit:** This defunct unit will be revived by NERAMAC (North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation) using a Viability Gap Funding (VGF) model through a public-private partnership (PPP).
- **Waste-to-Wealth (Circular Economy):** Nearly 60% of the pineapple plant, which is currently discarded as waste, will be processed into high-value products:
 1. **Bromelain Extraction:** An enzyme with significant medicinal and pharmaceutical value.
 2. **Pineapple Leaf Fiber (PALF):** Extracting fiber from leaves for textile and industrial use.
 3. **GI-Branded Confectionery:** For commercial food processing.
- **Socio-Economic Impact:** These bio-economy interventions will create new livelihood opportunities for women Self-Help Groups (SHGs), tribal communities, and rural entrepreneurs.

4. MARKETING, BRANDING, AND DIGITALIZATION

- Introduction of **QR-code-based traceability systems** and a structured GI monetization framework to ensure quality control and premium pricing.

- **Tripura Queen Pineapple Festival:** To be celebrated annually on **June 27**, aligning with International Pineapple Day, to boost buyer-seller meets and global branding.

EXPECTED EXAM-STYLE PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q1. The 'Queen Pineapple', which recently saw the launch of a dedicated ₹236 crore mission, is a GI-tagged product of which Indian state?

- A) Assam
- B) Manipur
- C) Tripura
- D) Meghalaya

Answer: C) Tripura

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the "Tripura Queen Pineapple Mission":

1. It is a three-year convergence-led initiative anchored by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER).
2. The infrastructure framework of the mission relies on a "Hub & Spoke" ecosystem with a central hub near the Agartala airport.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) Both 1 and 2

Q3. The terms 'Bromelain extraction' and 'PALF processing' were recently seen in the news in the context of which sector?

- A) Space technology
- B) Bio-economy and agricultural waste management
- C) Deep-sea mining
- D) Semiconductor manufacturing

Answer: B) Bio-economy and agricultural waste management (Note: Bromelain is an enzyme from pineapple and PALF stands for Pineapple Leaf Fiber).

AYUSH - INTERNATIONAL CODING SYSTEM FOR TRADITIONAL MEDICINE (WHO-ICHI & NHIC)

1. BASIC FACTS (CORE DATA)

- **Organized By:** Ministry of Ayush, Government of India.
- **Event Context:** A 2-day high-level review and consultative meeting (held on May 25–26, 2026) regarding the development of international and national health intervention codes for traditional medicine.
- **Chaired By:** Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush.
- **Key International Agreement:** This initiative is driven by a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Donor Agreement signed between the Ministry of Ayush and the World Health Organization (WHO).

2. KEY TERMS AND ACRONYMS (CRUCIAL FOR EXAMS)

- **WHO-ICHI:** International Classification of Health Interventions.
- **NHIC:** National Health Intervention Codes.
- **ASU Systems:** Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani systems of medicine.

3. OBJECTIVE & STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE

- **Global Standardization:** Developing a globally standardized, scientifically robust, and uniform coding vocabulary for ASU clinical interventions.
- **Insurance Integration:** Standardized codes will allow traditional medicine interventions to be recognized by global health insurance systems, facilitating smooth coverage and claim settlements worldwide.
- **Digital Health Ecosystem:** Enabling seamless cross-border data exchange, strengthening global clinical research, and enhancing interoperability within digital health frameworks.

4. NODAL RESEARCH COUNCILS INVOLVED

The four-level hierarchical coding directories for the respective medical systems were presented by three premier national research bodies:

1. **Ayurveda (NHICA):** Presented by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) – Director General: Prof. Vaidya Rabinarayan Acharya.
2. **Siddha (NHICS):** Presented by the Central Council for Research in Siddha Sciences (CCRS) – Director General: Prof. Dr. N. J. Muthukumar.
3. **Unani (NHICUM):** Presented by the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) – Director General: Dr. N. Zaheer Ahmed.

5. FUTURE ROADMAP

- The framework finalized during this meeting will serve as the foundation for the upcoming **WHO-ICHI ASU Alpha Draft editorial workshop**, scheduled to take place in **July 2026**.

EXPECTED EXAM-STYLE PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q1. The 'ICHI' (International Classification of Health Interventions) framework, recently seen in the news in connection with traditional medicine, is developed by which international organization?

- A) World Bank
- B) World Health Organization (WHO)
- C) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- D) UNESCO

Answer: B) World Health Organization (WHO)

Q2. What is the primary benefit of integrating Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani (ASU) systems into the global WHO-ICHI framework?

- A) To phase out the use of traditional medicine globally
- B) To enable cross-border health data exchange and support global insurance integration
- C) To completely replace allopathic medical practices in India
- D) To limit traditional clinical documentation exclusively to Indian laboratories

Answer: B) To enable cross-border health data exchange and support global insurance integration

Q3. Match the following apex research councils under the Ministry of Ayush with their respective fields of medicine:

1. CCRAS – A) Siddha
2. CCRS – B) Unani
3. CCRUM – C) Ayurveda

Select the correct code:

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

Answer: B) 1-C, 2-A, 3-B

"NASHA MukT YUVA" CONCLAVE AND CHINTAN SHIVIR - 2026

1. BASIC FACTS (CORE DATA)

- **Organized By:** Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, in collaboration with **MY Bharat** (Mera Yuva Bharat).
- **Venue:** Indian Institute of Management (**IIM Shillong**), Meghalaya.
- **Key Dignitaries:** Union Minister **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** and Minister of State (MoS) **Smt. Raksha Nikhil Khadse**.
- **Vision/Context:** Aligned with the broader national vision of **Viksit Bharat @2047** to build an empowered, educated, and socially responsible youth ecosystem.

2. TWO CORE EVENTS

A) "NASHA MukT YUVA FOR VIKSIT BHARAT" CONCLAVE (28 MAY 2026)

- **Core Objective:** Addressing and curbing the rising challenge of substance abuse and drug addiction among youth.
- **Northeast Focus:** The concept note highlights that Northeastern states bear a disproportionately higher burden of substance use disorders due to geo-strategic vulnerabilities and international drug trafficking routes. The conclave aims to mobilize youth as ambassadors of a drug-free India.
- **Conclusion:** The event concluded with a collective "**Nasha Mukti Pledge**" ceremony, reaffirming the commitment toward a drug-free society.

B) "CHINTAN SHIVIR - PURVOTTAR" (29-30 MAY 2026)

- **Core Objective:** A structured platform for brainstorming, policy alignment, innovation in governance, and leadership development within the youth ecosystem.
- **Key Themes:** Strategic discussions focused on Annual Action Plans, community mobilization, '**Fit India**', and the '**Prime Minister Internship Scheme**'.
- **Institutional Support:** Special transformational leadership sessions were conducted for the participating youth officers by the faculty of IIM Shillong.

3. KEY DIGITAL PLATFORMS & SYSTEMS (CRUCIAL FOR EXAMS)

- **MY Bharat Portal:** An pivotal digital platform aimed at unified youth development, enabling digital youth engagement and facilitating institutional coordination for nation-building.
- **NSS (National Service Scheme):** Institutional strengthening of the MY Bharat-NSS framework at the field level was a core focus area of the deliberations.

EXPECTED EXAM-STYLE PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q1. The "Nasha MukT Yuva for Viksit Bharat" Conclave was organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in May 2026 at which of the following locations?

- A) Guwahati, Assam
- B) Shillong, Meghalaya
- C) Imphal, Manipur
- D) Kohima, Nagaland

Answer: B) Shillong, Meghalaya

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the "Chintan Shivir - Purvottar" held in 2026:

1. It was conceptualized to drive innovation in governance, leadership development, and policy alignment for youth affairs.
2. It included strategic focus sessions on the Fit India movement and the Prime Minister Internship Scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) Both 1 and 2

Q3. The 'MY Bharat' portal, frequently seen in the news, is primarily designed as an institutional mechanism for which of the following?

- A) Providing automated agricultural loans to smallholder farmers
- B) Serving as a unified platform for youth development and community-led social engagement
- C) Tracking cross-border wildlife trafficking in the Northeast region
- D) Issuing digital passports and travel clearances for sports personnel

Answer: B) Serving as a unified platform for youth development and community-led social engagement

RURAL WATER GOVERNANCE: PARTICIPATORY WATER BUDGETING

1. WATER RESOURCE DYNAMICS IN INDIA – CURRENT STATISTICS

- **Average Annual Precipitation:** According to the Central Water Commission (CWC) 2019 report, India receives an average annual precipitation of about **3,880 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM)**.

- **Net Water Availability:** After accounting for natural losses such as evaporation, the actual average annual water available in the country is estimated at **1,999.20 BCM**.
- **Population & Livestock Pressure:** India sustains **17.5%** of the global human population and **11.6%** of the world's livestock, but possesses only **4%** of the world's renewable water resources.
- **Rural Sector Consumption:** Agriculture is the largest consumer, accounting for **80% to 90%** of water use in rural areas. The National Commission on Integrated Water Resources Development estimates that irrigation demand could reach **807 BCM by 2050** under a high-demand scenario.

What is Water Budgeting?

It is a systematic, scientific assessment of water availability (supply) against multi-sectoral requirements (demand) within a defined geographical unit (village, watershed, block, or district). It marks a paradigm shift from a traditional supply-driven approach to a sustainable, demand-based management system.

2. KEY NATIONAL SCHEMES & MISSIONS

A) ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA (ATAL JAL)

- **Launch:** 2019 (Central Sector Scheme).
- **Core Objective:** Ground water management and community-led decentralized water governance in water-stressed areas.
- **Implementation:** Implemented on a pilot basis across **229 blocks in 7 groundwater-stressed states**.
- **The 7 Targeted States:** Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.
- **Progress Report (As of March 2026):**
 - Measurable improvement in groundwater levels observed in 180 out of 229 blocks.
 - Approximately 81,700 traditional water conservation and recharge structures (such as Johad, Bawdi, Tanka, Gokatte) have been created or restored.
 - Annual water budgets have been institutionalized and completed across **8,203 Gram Panchayats (GPs)** (Highest in Gujarat: 1,873; Lowest in Uttar Pradesh: 549).

B) NATIONAL WATER MISSION (NWM)

- **Nari Shakti se Jal Shakti:** A flagship campaign under NWM emphasizing women-led institutions, including Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Water Users' Associations (WUAs), in grassroot water conservation.
- **Case Study:** In Udham Singh Nagar (Uttarakhand), 300 women-led Village Water and Sanitation Committees are actively operational under the Jal Jeevan Mission framework.

3. STATE-LEVEL BEST PRACTICES & MODELS

State	Scheme / Initiative	Key Highlights & Outcomes
Maharashtra	Hiware Bazar Model	<p>* A drought-prone village transformed into a resilient ecosystem through community-led watershed management.</p> <p>* Institutionalized water budgeting at the <i>Gram Sabha</i> level to plan cropping patterns based on water availability and enforced a strict ban on deep borewells. This model inspired a state policy aiming to make 5,000 villages water-secure annually.</p>
Maharashtra	Jalyukt Shivar Abhiyan (JSA)	<p>* Launched in 2014 to drought-proof rural areas. Utilizes a mobile app and MRSAC geotagging for real-time web-based monitoring.</p> <p>* Made over 11,000 villages drought-free, increased water table levels by 1.5-2 meters, and boosted crop productivity by 30-50%.</p>
Rajasthan	Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan	<p>* Launched in 2016 based on the "Four Waters Concept" (conserving rainwater, surface runoff, groundwater, and soil moisture).</p> <p>* Resulted in a 4% rise in groundwater tables and enhanced water access for 4.1 million people and 4.5 million livestock.</p>

4. DIGITAL INTERVENTION – 'VARUNI' WEB APPLICATION

- **Development:** Developed under the Indo-German bilateral project WASCA (Water Security and Climate Adaptation in Rural India).
- **Collaborative Framework:** Jointly implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Ministry of Rural Development, with technical backing from NITI Aayog.
- **Functionality:** It automatically sources data from authoritative government portals (on rainfall, cropping patterns, population, etc.) to generate block-level water budgets, eliminating human error. It flags whether a block is in a water *surplus* or *deficit* to aid location-specific policy interventions.

EXPECTED EXAM-STYLE PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q1. According to data provided by the Central Water Commission (CWC), what is the estimated net average annual water available in India after accounting for natural losses?

- A) 3,880 BCM
- B) 1,999.20 BCM
- C) 807 BCM
- D) 536 BCM

Answer: B) 1,999.20 BCM

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Atal Bhujal Yojana':

1. It is a demand-side management scheme being implemented across all Gram Panchayats in India.
2. It prioritizes decentralized water governance and mandates the preparation of annual water budgets at the local level.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B) 2 only (Note: Statement 1 is incorrect because it is a pilot project limited to 229 blocks across 7 groundwater-stressed states, not the entire country).

Q3. The 'Varuni' web application, which was developed with technical support from NITI Aayog, serves as a digital tool for which of the following?

- A) Real-time tracking of monsoon floods in urban agglomerations
- B) Generating automated, data-driven block-level water budgets to aid local governance
- C) Monitoring chemical pesticide residues in rural drinking water networks
- D) Resolving inter-state river water sharing disputes through satellite imagery

Answer: B) Generating automated, data-driven block-level water budgets to aid local governance

Q4. The "Four Waters Concept" – which focuses on the simultaneous conservation of rainwater, surface runoff, groundwater, and soil moisture – is the foundational pillar of a major water conservation mission in which state?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Gujarat
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Uttarakhand

Answer: C) Rajasthan (*Under the Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan*)

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS: NEW PRIME MINISTER OF SLOVENIA

1. CORE FACTS

- **Appointment:** Mr. Janez Janša has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Slovenia.
- **India's Response:** Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Janez Janša on his election and emphasized working closely together to further strengthen bilateral ties for shared prosperity and mutual benefit.

2. EXAM-CENTRIC STATIC GK (SLOVENIA)

In competitive exams (especially UPSC, SSC, and Banking), questions are frequently asked about the geography, capital, and currency of nations recently featured in international news:

- **Capital:** Ljubljana
- **Currency:** Euro (EUR)
- **Geographical Location:** It is a nation located in **Central Europe**.
- **Bordering Countries:** Italy, Austria, Hungary, and Croatia.
- **International Groupings:** Slovenia is a member state of both the **European Union (EU)** and **NATO**.

EXPECTED EXAM-STYLE PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q1. Who among the following has been elected as the Prime Minister of Slovenia in May 2026?

- A) Robert Golob
- B) Janez Janša
- C) Karl Erjavec
- D) Borut Pahor

Answer: B) Janez Janša

Q2. Which of the following is the capital city of the Central European country, Slovenia, which was recently in the news?

- A) Bratislava
- B) Budapest
- C) Zagreb
- D) Ljubljana

Answer: D) Ljubljana

Q3. Consider the following countries:

1. Italy
2. Austria
3. Germany
4. Hungary

Slovenia shares its international land borders with which of the countries given above?

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

Answer: B) 1, 2, and 4 only (Note: Slovenia shares borders with Italy, Austria, Hungary, and Croatia. It does not share a direct land border with Germany).

NATIONAL E-GOVERNANCE SERVICE DELIVERY ASSESSMENT (NESDA) 2025

1. CONTEXT

- On May 25, 2026, the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) launched the **NeSDA 2025 Portal** during a meeting with Nodal Officers of Central Ministries, States, and Union Territories.
- The meeting was chaired by **Smt. Sarita Chauhan**, Additional Secretary, DARPG, who presented a detailed walkthrough and demonstration of the new assessment framework, submission workflows, and timelines.

2. WHAT IS NESDA? (CORE CONCEPT)

- **Full Form:** National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment.
- **Nodal Department:** Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (**DARPG**), which functions under the *Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions*.

- **Frequency:** It is a **biennial** (once every two years) assessment framework.
- **Objective:** It measures the depth and effectiveness of existing e-Governance service delivery mechanisms across India from the citizen's perspective.
- **Global Benchmark:** It is modeled on the **Online Service Index (OSI)** of the United Nations (UN) e-Government Survey and customized to fit the Indian federal structure.

3. KEY DIMENSIONS AND ADDITIONS IN NESDA 2025

- **Portal Classification:** Portals assessed under this framework are divided into two distinct categories:
 1. State, UT, City, and Central Ministry Portals (General informational portals).
 2. State, UT, City, and Central Ministry Service Portals (Portals delivering specific online services).
- **New Sector Inclusion:** The NeSDA 2026 assessment cycle expands its scope by adding the services of the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs**.
- **Mandatory Services Count:**
 - A total of **59 mandatory services** will be assessed for every State and Union Territory.
 - A total of **43 services** will be assessed covering Central Ministries and Departments.
- **Sectors Covered:** G2C (Government to Citizen) and G2B (Government to Business) services spanning vital sectors such as Finance, Labour & Employment, Education, Local Governance & Utility Services, Social Welfare (including Health, Agriculture, and Home Security), Environment, Tourism, Public Grievance, Transport, and Travel.

4. CORE ASSESSMENT PARAMETERS

The maturity and effectiveness of online portals are evaluated across multiple criteria, including: Accessibility, Content Availability, Ease of Use, Information Security and Privacy, Integrated Service Delivery, Status and Request Tracking, Open Government Data (OGD), E-Participation, and **Leveraging Emerging Technologies**.

EXPECTED EXAM-STYLE PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q1. The 'National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment' (NeSDA) framework is a biennial benchmarking exercise launched by which of the following organizations?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) National Informatics Centre (NIC)
- C) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)
- D) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)

Answer: C) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the newly launched NeSDA 2025 framework:

1. It is customized for the Indian federal structure based on the Online Service Index (OSI) of the UN e-Government Survey.
2. Under NeSDA 2025, services provided by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs have been added to the focus sectors.
3. It evaluates an equal number of mandatory services (50 services each) for both Central Ministries and State Governments.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only (Note: Statement 3 is incorrect because the framework proposes 59 mandatory services for States/UTs and 43 services for Central Ministries).

Q3. The NeSDA assessment cycle, which evaluates the digital maturity of government websites, is conducted at what frequency?

- A) Annually
- B) Biennially
- C) Triennially
- D) Quinquennially

Answer: B) Biennially (Every two years)

INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE (IBC), 2016: CORE CONCEPTS

- **Background:** Prior to 2016, insolvency resolution in India was fragmented across multiple overlapping laws and forums, such as the Companies Act, SICA, Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs), and SARFAESI. This fragmentation led to prolonged delays, asset value erosion, and systemic recovery failures.
- **Unified Framework:** The IBC, 2016 consolidated these multiple laws into a single framework, creating a uniform mechanism to resolve insolvency across corporate entities, partnership firms, and individuals.
- **Shift in Paradigm:** The Code shifted the regime from a "debtor-in-possession" (debtor-controlled) system to a "creditor-driven" resolution framework.
- **Statutory Timelines:** The Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) is designed to be completed within a time-bound window of **180 days**, extendable up to a maximum of **330 days** under specified circumstances. If it remains unresolved, the corporate debtor mandatorily enters liquidation.

INSTITUTIONAL ECOSYSTEM UNDER THE IBC

- **IBBI (Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India):** The apex regulatory authority responsible for overseeing insolvency processes, Insolvency Professionals (IPs), and info utilities.
- **Insolvency Professionals (IPs):** Licensed experts who temporarily take over and administer the affairs of the distressed entity, safeguard assets, and facilitate creditor meetings during CIRP.
- **Adjudicating Authorities:**
 - **NCLT (National Company Law Tribunal):** The primary adjudicating authority that hears and decides corporate insolvency matters.
 - **NCLAT (National Company Law Appellate Tribunal):** The appellate authority that hears appeals against the orders and decisions passed by the NCLT.

SUCCESS AND IMPACT OF THE IBC (DATA UP TO MARCH 2026)

These reliable data points and outcomes serve as highly valuable fodder for descriptive answers (Mains) or specific factual statements in prelims:

- **Total Financial Realization:** Through approved resolution plans under the IBC, creditors successfully realized approximately **₹4.32 lakh crore** up to March 2026.
- **Value Maximization:** The recovery rate through approved plans exceeded **116.85% of the liquidation value** and more than **94.56% of the fair value** of the assets.
- **Banking Sector Recoveries (RBI Report 2024-25):** Out of the total ₹1,04,099 crore recovered by Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) through various legal channels, the **IBC alone contributed 52.4% (₹54,528 crore)** – far outperforming SARFAESI, DRTs, and Lok Adalats.
- **Post-Resolution Performance (IIM Ahmedabad Study):** Resolved firms witnessed a 76% growth in sales, achieved operational break-even by the third year, and listed firms experienced a tripling of their collective market valuation (from ₹2 lakh crore to ₹6 lakh crore).
- **Credit Discipline (IIM Bangalore Study):** The deterrent effect of the IBC significantly enhanced corporate loan compliance. The average duration a defaulted loan account remained in the "Overdue" category before turning back to "Normal" plummeted from 248–344 days down to **30–87 days**.

INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2026: KEY REFORMS

Building upon nearly a decade of institutional experience and addressing operational bottlenecks like excessive litigation and adjudication delays, the **2026 Amendment Act** introduced major structural improvements:

1. STRIKING LEGAL CLARITY AND DEFINITIONS

- **Service Provider:** Formally defined to explicitly encompass insolvency professionals (IPs), insolvency professional agencies (IPAs), information utilities (IUs), and other entities registered under the IBBI.
- **Security Interest:** Clarified to exist strictly when it arises through a voluntary agreement or arrangement between parties. Security interests created merely by the operation of law stand excluded.
- **Avoidance Transactions:** Provided precise statutory definitions for transactions involving unfair preference to specific creditors, undervalued asset transfers, defrauding of creditors, or extortionate credit extensions.
- **Fraudulent/Wrongful Trading:** Distinctly defined under Section 66 of the Principal Act to fasten accountability.

2. TIME-BOUND ADMISSION WINDOW

- The Adjudicating Authority (NCLT) must decide on the admission or rejection of insolvency applications within a **strict 14-day timeline**. If the timeline is breached, the tribunal must formally and transparently record its reasons in writing, introducing systemic accountability.

3. DISCIPLINARY RESTRICTIONS ON CASE WITHDRAWAL

- To prevent wastage of judicial and administrative efforts, withdrawal of a case is now legally restricted. It **cannot occur before the Committee of Creditors (CoC) is formally constituted**, and it is completely **barred once resolution plans have been formally invited**.

4. FORTIFYING MORATORIUM PROTECTIONS

- The amendment clarifies that the interim statutory moratorium **also applies to corporate guarantors**. This stops creditors from executing parallel, indirect recovery proceedings against guarantors, allowing a secure and undivided resolution ecosystem for the distressed firm.

5. EXTENDED OVERSIGHT BY CREDITORS DURING LIQUIDATION

- Previously, the CoC's primary decision-making power diminished substantially once liquidation commenced. The 2026 amendment **extends the CoC's active oversight role right into the liquidation stage**, empowering them to supervise the process and replace the liquidator if necessary.

6. WIDEN ASSET BASE VIA GUARANTORS

- To maximize the overall recovery percentages in complex financial arrangements, the pool of assets eligible for the resolution process can now include the **assets of corporate guarantors**, subject to specified conditions and CoC approval.

7. FAIR TREATMENT TO DISSENTING CREDITORS

- To mitigate litigation from dissatisfied lenders, the law explicitly provides that dissenting creditors will receive at least the lower of: the liquidation value or the amount receivable under the resolution plan when distributed as per the priority waterfall mechanism under **Section 53**.

8. ONE-TIME RESTORATION WINDOW BEFORE LIQUIDATION

- To prevent premature closures of otherwise viable businesses, the amendment permits a **one-time restoration of the CIRP framework** within defined timelines, even after a liquidation direction is considered, providing an extra window for business revival.

9. CREDITOR-INITIATED INSOLVENCY PROCESS

- Introduced a flexible, **creditor-led fast-track mechanism** that allows specified categories of financial creditors to directly initiate structured insolvency proceedings based on predefined approval thresholds, lowering reliance on lengthy initial court-admission phases.

HISTORICAL BLUEPRINT: KEY PRE-2026 AMENDMENTS

- **2018 Amendment:** Streamlined voting thresholds of the CoC and fortified **Section 29A** (the crucial gatekeeping clause that debars willful defaults or unviable promoters from bidding for their own stressed assets at cheap prices).
- **2019 Amendment:** Mandated an overall binding legal timeline of **330 days** to complete the entire CIRP, including judicial review periods.
- **2020 Amendment:** Provided ring-fenced structural immunity to a resolved corporate debtor from liabilities of offenses committed by past management prior to CIRP. It also suspended fresh filings during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **2021 Amendment:** Introduced the **Pre-packaged Insolvency Resolution Process (PPIRP)** tailored specifically for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), allowing a swift "debtor-in-possession" model under creditor oversight.

Exam
Champs