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Daily PIB summary**Nandan Nilekani Task Force on Public Examination Reforms**

UPSC Civil Services · 29 August 2026 · Prelims and Mains

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WHY IN NEWS

- High-Powered Task Force constituted by the Central Government invited public inputs to reform the design, security, and governance of public examinations.

WHAT IS THE HIGH-POWERED TASK FORCE?

- Constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Nandan Nilekani to review systemic vulnerabilities in public entrance and recruitment examinations.
- Examines structural, administrative, and technological security procedures of national testing bodies including the **National Testing Agency**.

KEY AREAS OF EXAMINATION REFORM

- Formulating robust measures for prevention, early detection, and legal redressal of examination paper leaks and technological malpractices.
- Standardizing secure digital and physical examination infrastructure across diverse socio-economic and linguistic regions.
- Creating institutional grievance redressal mechanisms and incorporating student well-being protocols into test administration.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Ensures public trust and institutional credibility in high-stakes merit-based entrance examinations.
- Complements legislative frameworks such as the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act to deter paper leaks.

KEY TERMS

- **National Testing Agency:** An autonomous society under the Department of Higher Education established to conduct standardized entrance tests for educational institutions.

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PRELIMS FACTS

- High-Powered Task Force on public examination reforms is headed by Nandan Nilekani.

MAINS DISCUSSION

- Discuss the technological and institutional reforms required to safeguard integrity and transparency in national public examinations.

KEY DATA

- **Task Force Chairman:** Nandan Nilekani - Appointed to lead the expert panel recommending technological and institutional reforms in public examinations.
- **Key Body Under Review:** National Testing Agency - Central autonomous testing agency responsible for conducting major national entrance tests.

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