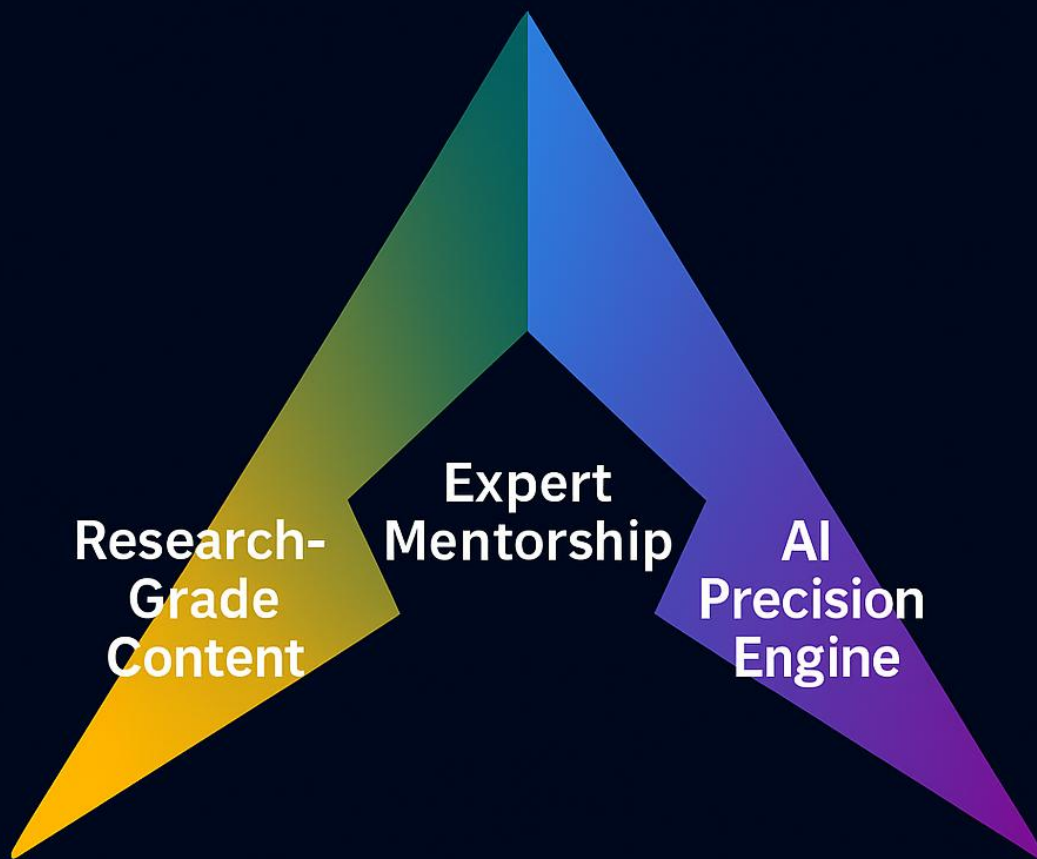


PrepAlpine

The Next-Generation UPSC Institution

Where Research Meets Mentorship & Precision



Preparation Meets Precision

A Next-Generation Learning Institution

Copyright © 2025 PrepAlpine

All Rights Reserved

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means—whether photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods—without the prior written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain non-commercial uses permitted by copyright law.

For permission requests, please write to:

PrepAlpine

Email: info@PrepAlpine.com

Website: PrepAlpine.com

Disclaimer

The information contained in this book has been prepared solely for educational purposes. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, PrepAlpine makes no representations or warranties of any kind and accepts no liability for any errors or omissions. The use of any content is solely at the reader's discretion and risk.

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS DATED 15.04.2026

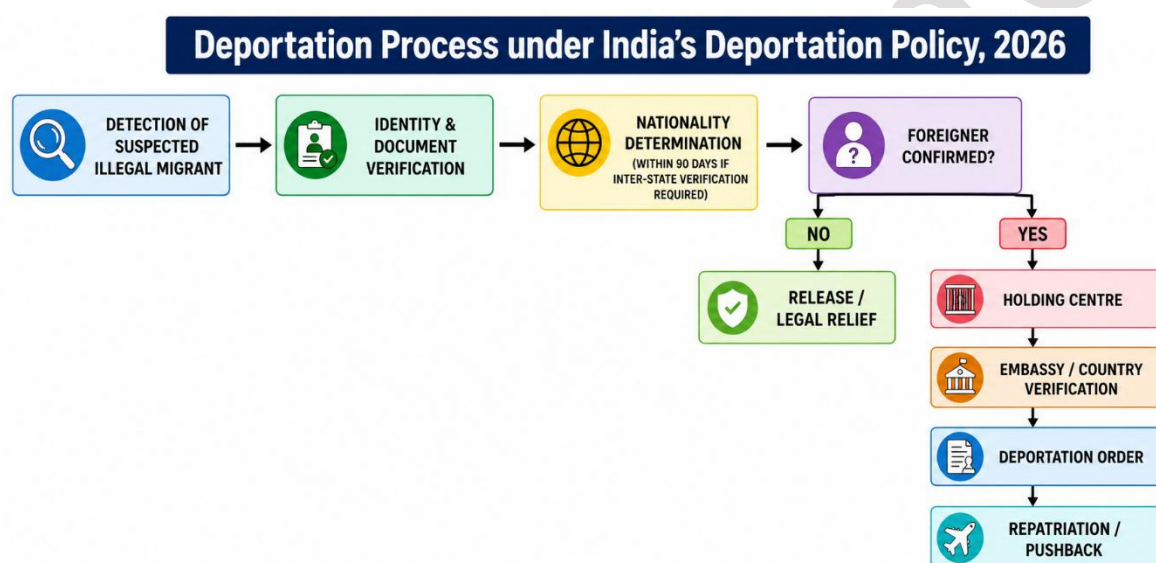
GS Paper III: Security

1. India's Deportation Policy for Illegal Migrants, 2026

a. Introduction

India's management of illegal migration has acquired renewed importance in 2026, after the Ministry of Home Affairs issued a comprehensive deportation policy for States and Union Territories. The policy seeks to create a uniform framework for the detection, identification, detention and deportation of illegal migrants, especially from neighbouring countries such as Bangladesh and Myanmar.

The issue is not merely administrative. It lies at the intersection of national security, border management, constitutional rights, humanitarian obligations, Centre-State coordination and India's neighbourhood relations. Therefore, the policy must be understood as an attempt to balance state sovereignty with human dignity.



b. Understanding Deportation in India

Formal Removal of Foreign Nationals

Deportation refers to the formal removal of a foreign national from India when such a person:

- Enters India without valid documents.
- Overstays a visa.
- Violates visa conditions.
- Is declared a foreigner by competent authorities.

Executive Nature

- It is mainly an executive action carried out under India's foreigner-management framework.

Constitutional Limitation

- Deportation cannot be arbitrary. While Article 19 is available only to citizens, Article 21 protects every person, including foreigners. Hence, life, personal liberty and human dignity must be respected.

This makes due process central to any lawful deportation framework.

c. Major Laws Governing Deportation

- **Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025 (IFA, 2025):** This is the principal legislation governing the entry, stay, registration, movement, monitoring, detention, removal, and deportation of foreigners in India. The Act consolidates and replaces several earlier laws, including the Foreigners Act, 1946; Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920; Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939; and Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Act, 2000. It empowers the Central Government and immigration authorities to identify, regulate, detain, and deport illegally staying foreign nationals.
- **Citizenship Act, 1955:** This Act becomes relevant when the nationality or citizenship status of an individual is disputed. It provides the legal framework for determining whether a person is an Indian citizen or a foreign national liable for deportation.
- **Passport Act, 1967:** This Act regulates passports and travel documents and is relevant in cases involving passport violations, travel documentation issues, and repatriation procedures.

Together, the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025, the Citizenship Act, 1955, and the Passport Act, 1967 constitute the primary legal framework for identifying illegal migrants, verifying nationality, regulating the stay of foreign nationals, and carrying out deportation proceedings in India.

d. Key Features of the Deportation Policy

i. District-Level Special Task Forces

- **Local Institutional Mechanism:** Every district is expected to create a dedicated mechanism for detecting illegal migrants, verifying nationality, coordinating deportation and monitoring visa overstays.
- **Administrative Accountability:** This shifts responsibility closer to the ground level and creates clearer accountability.

ii. Monthly Reporting System

Regular Data Flow

States must send monthly reports on:

- Illegal migrants detected.
- Deportations completed.
- Missing foreigners.
- Visa overstayers.

Centre-State Coordination

- This improves monitoring and reduces the possibility of cases remaining pending indefinitely.

iii. Timeline for Nationality Verification

- **Ninety-Day Limit:** If a suspected foreigner claims residence in another State, verification must be completed within ninety days.
- **Reduction of Delay:** Earlier, such cases often remained pending for years due to weak coordination and document-related problems.
- **Legal Significance:** A defined timeline can reduce prolonged detention and make deportation more orderly.

These features show that the policy seeks to make deportation more structured, time-bound and administratively accountable.

e. Holding Centres and Humanitarian Safeguards

Purpose of Holding Centres

- **Temporary Accommodation:** Holding centres are meant to house foreign nationals awaiting deportation.
- **Security Requirements:** They are expected to have secure infrastructure, including boundary walls, fencing, controlled entry and round-the-clock security.

Humanitarian Standards

- **Not Prison-Like:** The policy states that holding centres should not resemble prisons.
- **Basic Facilities:** They must provide accommodation, sanitation, toilets, kitchens, dining halls, fire safety and medical facilities.

Family and Vulnerable Groups

- **Family Unity:** Family members should not be separated, though men and women may be housed separately while preserving family contact.
- **Communication Rights:** Detainees may communicate with family members and embassies through controlled facilities.
- **Special Protection:** Women, nursing mothers, children, transgender persons and elderly detainees require special care.
- **Welfare Facilities:** Creches, school admissions for children, ambulances, interpreters, libraries, indoor games, yoga and open spaces are envisaged.

Thus, the policy attempts to balance restriction of movement with constitutional and humanitarian safeguards.

f. Technology-Driven Monitoring

Foreigners Identification Portal

- **Biometric Data:** The portal is expected to record fingerprints, facial photographs and demographic details.
- **Better Tracking:** Biometric records can help identify repeat offenders and prevent illegal re-entry.

Fraudulent Documents

- **Document Uploading:** Authorities must upload details of fraudulently obtained documents such as Aadhaar, PAN and driving licences.
- **Cancellation and Blacklisting:** Such documents may be cancelled or blacklisted in government databases.
- **Security Link:** This is important because illegal migration may overlap with fake identity networks, welfare misuse, electoral controversies and organised crime.

Technology can strengthen enforcement, but it must be accompanied by safeguards against wrongful identification.

g. Border Pushback and Immediate Repatriation

Immediate Return at Borders

- **Land and Maritime Borders:** Illegal entrants intercepted at borders may be returned after biometric capture and preliminary verification.
- **Quick Response:** This aims to prevent illegal entry from turning into prolonged detention.

Inadvertent and Deliberate Crossing

- **Inadvertent Crossing:** Fishermen, villagers or border residents may cross accidentally and can be handed over to neighbouring border authorities.

- **Deliberate Illegal Entry:** Intentional illegal entry may require custody, investigation, legal proceedings and formal deportation.

This distinction is important because all border crossings cannot be treated with the same degree of suspicion.

h. Special Focus on Bangladesh and Myanmar

Bangladesh

- **Porous Border:** The India-Bangladesh border has long-standing challenges of porous movement and economic migration.
- **Document Fraud:** Concerns include fake identity documents and illegal access to services.
- **Wider Implications:** Illegal migration from Bangladesh has implications for demographic pressure, electoral debates, resource allocation and security.

Myanmar

- **Political Instability:** Myanmar has faced military rule, ethnic conflict and civil war since the 2021 coup.
- **Border Movement:** People have entered India through Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland.
- **Complex Challenge:** The issue combines humanitarian protection with internal security concerns in sensitive border regions.

The Bangladesh and Myanmar dimensions show that deportation policy must be linked with border management and neighbourhood diplomacy.

i. Internal Security Linkage

Security Concerns

Illegal migration may be linked with:

- Fake identity networks.
- Human trafficking.
- Smuggling.
- Cross-border crime.
- Terrorist infiltration.
- Demographic tensions.

Role of Biometrics

- **Identification:** Biometric databases may help identify repeat entrants and track cross-border movement.
- **Intelligence Use:** They can support intelligence and law enforcement work.
- **Safeguards Needed:** Such systems must avoid wrongful identification, profiling and misuse.

Thus, illegal migration must be treated as both a governance and security issue, without weakening constitutional protections.

j. Major Concerns and Challenges

Wrongful Identification

- **Risk to Citizens:** Indian citizens may be mistakenly treated as foreigners.
- **Article 21 Concern:** Such errors violate due process and human dignity.

Statelessness

- **Lack of Documents:** Some persons may lack proof of nationality.
- **Refusal by Foreign States:** If neighbouring countries refuse to accept them, they may become neither deportable nor fully protected.

Human Rights Concerns

- **Prolonged Detention:** Lengthy detention without final resolution can become punitive.
- **Conditions of Centres:** Holding centres must remain humane, monitored and accountable.

Diplomatic Challenges

- **Nationality Verification:** Deportation requires the receiving country to confirm nationality.
- **Delays:** Foreign missions may delay or reject verification, slowing the process.

Federal Issues

- **Division of Powers:** Law and order is a State subject, while citizenship and foreign affairs are Union subjects.
- **Implementation Variation:** Different States may vary in capacity, political approach and resources.

These challenges show that deportation cannot succeed through policing alone; it requires legality, diplomacy and cooperative federalism.

k. International Perspective

Comparative Practices

- **United States:** Uses immigration detention centres and expedited removal procedures.
- **European Union:** Follows return-directive mechanisms with safeguards such as review and rights protection.
- **Australia:** Has used offshore detention, though this model has faced strong humanitarian criticism.

India's Approach

India's policy combines:

- Security-based detection.
- Administrative deportation.
- Biometric monitoring.
- Welfare-oriented detention standards.

Its success will depend on whether this balance is preserved in implementation.

1. Significance of the Policy

- **Governance Significance:** The policy standardises procedures and reduces administrative delay.
- **Security Significance:** It strengthens border management, helps prevent illegal re-entry and creates biometric records.
- **Administrative Significance:** It introduces timelines, reporting duties and institutional accountability.
- **Constitutional Significance:** Its legitimacy depends on protecting due process, preventing wrongful deportation and ensuring humane treatment.

Thus, the policy is significant not only for migration control but also for testing the balance between security and rights.

m. Way Forward

- **Transparent Nationality Determination:** Nationality verification must be evidence-based, reviewable and legally sound.
- **Stronger Border Management:** Smart fencing, surveillance systems, integrated border management and inter-agency coordination must be improved.
- **Humane Holding Centres:** Holding centres must comply with constitutional standards, especially dignity, health, family unity and protection of vulnerable persons.
- **Diplomatic Arrangements:** India needs stronger arrangements with Bangladesh, Myanmar and other countries for timely verification and repatriation.
- **Balance between Security and Humanity:** A democratic state must secure its borders, but it must do so without compromising dignity, due process and humanitarian responsibility.

Conclusion

India's Deportation Policy, 2026 represents an attempt to bring order, speed and uniformity to the management of illegal migration. It recognises the risks associated with porous borders, fake documents, unregulated cross-border movement and internal security challenges.

At the same time, the policy includes welfare provisions for detainees and acknowledges the need for humane treatment. Its real test will lie in implementation.

If applied with fairness, constitutional discipline and diplomatic coordination, it can strengthen border management and internal security. If implemented arbitrarily, it may create legal, humanitarian and federal tensions.

Therefore, India's deportation framework must rest on a careful balance between sovereignty, security and human dignity.

Reader's Note — About This Current Affairs Compilation

Dear Aspirant,

This document is part of the PrepAlpine Current Affairs Series — designed to bring clarity, structure, and precision to your daily UPSC learning.

While every effort has been made to balance depth with brevity, please keep the following in mind:

1. Orientation & Purpose

This compilation is curated primarily from the UPSC Mains perspective — with emphasis on conceptual clarity, analytical depth, and interlinkages across GS papers.

However, the PrepAlpine team is simultaneously developing a dedicated Prelims-focused Current Affairs Series, designed for:

- factual coverage
- data recall
- Prelims-style MCQs
- objective pattern analysis

This Prelims Edition will be released separately as a standalone publication.

2. Content Length

Some sections may feel shorter or longer depending on topic relevance and news density. To fit your personal preference, you may freely resize or summarize sections using any LLM tool (ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, etc.) at your convenience.

3. Format Flexibility

The formatting combines:

- paragraphs
- lists
- tables
- visual cues

—all optimised for retention.

If you prefer a specific style (lists → paras, paras → tables, etc.), feel free to convert using any free LLM.

4. Monthly Current Affairs Release

The complete Monthly Current Affairs Module will be released soon, optimized to a compact 100–150 pages — comprehensive yet concise, exam-ready, and revision-efficient.

PrepAlpine