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MAGAZINE NOTES

Dr M.S. Swaminathan — Architect of Abundance

15 January 2026 ·

ECONOMY

PERSONS & AWARDS

GS3

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

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Dr M.S. Swaminathan — Architect of Abundance

■ Yojana Chapter 8 · 2 min read ·

- **Born:** 7 August 1925, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu
- **Passed away:** 28 September 2023
- **First World Food Prize recipient (1987)** — used prize money to establish **MSSRF** (M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation), Chennai
- Pioneered India's **Green Revolution** with Norman Borlaug collaboration — introduced high-yielding wheat varieties (HYV) in the 1960s
- Coined concept of “**biohappiness**” — real happiness when humans and environment thrive together
- Key contributions: Mangrove ecosystem protection, food security initiatives, biofortification advocacy
- **National Commission on Farmers (2004-06):** Recommended MSP at C2+50% (known as the Swaminathan Commission formula)
- Awards: Padma Shri (1967), Padma Bhushan (1972), Padma Vibhushan (1989), Ramon Magsaysay Award (1971)

UPSC Angle

- **GS3:** Agriculture, food security, Green Revolution, MSP
 - **Interview:** “Dr Swaminathan warned about the ecological costs of the Green Revolution even as he pioneered it. How should India balance productivity with sustainability in agriculture?”
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KEY TERMS FOR QUICK REVISION

TERM	FULL FORM / MEANING
GBS	Gender Budgeting Statement (Part A/B/C classification)
GCF	Green Climate Fund (world's largest, est. 2010)
SGrBs	Sovereign Green Bonds (Budget 2022-23)
NAFCC	National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (est. 2015, NABARD)
CBDR-RC	Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities
RB-CRIS	Climate Risk Information System (RBI)
CCFU	Climate Change Finance Unit (est. 2011, Ministry of Finance)
NGFS	Network for Greening the Financial System (India joined 2021)
NSFI	National Strategy for Financial Inclusion (2019-2024)
TKDL	Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (4.5 lakh+ formulations)
Mission LiFE	Lifestyle for Environment (NDC update, Aug 2022)
MSSRF	M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation
DPI	Digital Public Infrastructure (Aadhaar + UPI + DigiLocker stack)

UPSC MAINS PRACTICE QUESTIONS

- GS2 (250 words):** “The Gender Budgeting Statement shows India’s gender budget increased from 6.8% to 8.9% of total expenditure. Critically examine whether budgetary allocation alone can address structural gender inequality.”
- GS3 (250 words):** “India needs USD 1 trillion in climate finance over the next decade but less than 25% of its needs are currently met. Evaluate India’s domestic climate finance mechanisms and suggest reforms.”
- GS3 (250 words):** “RBI’s revised microfinance framework (2022) shifted regulation from institution-centric to borrower-centric. Analyse the impact of this shift on financial inclusion and borrower protection.”
- GS2 (250 words):** “India’s Digital Public Infrastructure (Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker) has transformed governance delivery. Discuss its significance for inclusive governance and the challenges that remain.”

- 5 **Essay:** “Innovation in governance is not merely about technology — it is about reimagining the relationship between the state and the citizen.”

Sources: [NextIAS Yojana January 2026](#) , [EduRev Yojana January 2026 Part 2](#)



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