

Best 300+ MCQs

October 2025

Current Affairs PDF



1. Moody's has affirmed India's long-term local and foreign-currency issuer ratings at:

Moody's ने भारत की दीर्घकालिक स्थानीय और विदेशी मुद्रा इश्यूअर रेटिंग को किस स्तर पर बनाए रखा है?

- (a) A1
- (b) Baa3
- (c) Ba1
- (d) BBB
- (e) P-3

Ans. b

Sol. Moody's Affirms India's Baa3 Rating with Stable Outlook

Moody's affirmed India's long-term local and foreign-currency issuer ratings at Baa3 with a 'Stable' outlook, citing robust economic growth, a sound external position, and a stable domestic financing base.

While India's credit strengths provide resilience against external shocks, fiscal weaknesses persist, with high government debt and measures to boost private consumption limiting improvement in debt affordability.

India's long-term local-currency bond ceiling remains A2 and foreign-currency bond ceiling remains A3, reflecting modest external imbalances and limited external indebtedness.

2. RITES Limited has signed an MoU with which company to strengthen business collaboration in the mobility sector?

RITES लिमिटेड ने मोबिलिटी सेक्टर में व्यावसायिक सहयोग मजबूत करने के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ MoU पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) Indian Railways
- (b) Etihad Rail
- (c) IRCON International Limited
- (d) DFCCIL
- (e) NICC LLC

Ans. b

Sol. RITES Signs MoU with Etihad Rail to Boost Mobility Collaboration

RITES Limited, India's leading transport infrastructure consultancy and engineering firm, signed an MoU with Etihad Rail to enhance collaboration in the mobility and transport infrastructure sector across the UAE and international markets, formalized at the Global Rail 2025 exhibition in Abu Dhabi.

The partnership will combine RITES' 50 years of expertise in consultancy and engineering with NICC LLC's execution capabilities to develop infrastructure projects and expand RITES' international presence under its RITES Videsh initiative.

At the Indian Pavilion, RITES, along with IRCON and DFCCIL, showcased transport consultancy, rail system design, project management, and sustainable mobility solutions, highlighting Indian Railways' sustainability initiatives and Net Zero mission.

3. Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of Union Bank of India?

किसे यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया का नया एमडी और सीईओ नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) M. V. Rao
- (b) Kalyan Kumar
- (c) Asheesh Pandey
- (d) Bhanu Pratap Sharma
- (e) Shaktikanta Das

Ans. c

Sol. Asheesh Pandey Named MD & CEO of Union Bank, Kalyan Kumar to Lead Central Bank of India for 3 Years

The government has appointed Asheesh Pandey as MD & CEO of Union Bank of India and Kalyan Kumar as MD & CEO of Central Bank of India for three years. Pandey, currently Executive Director at Bank of Maharashtra, will lead UBI, while Kumar, ED at Punjab National Bank, will succeed M. V. Rao at CBI after his retirement in July.

The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB), headed by Bhanu Pratap Sharma, recommended both appointments, later approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

Recent Appointments in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - Shirish Chandra Murmu (replace M. Rajeshwar Rao); for 3 Years+
- **Chairman of Piramal Finance** - Anand Piramal
- **CFO of IndusInd Bank** - Viral Damania
- **India's Executive Director at ADB** - L. Satya Srinivas (replace Vikas Sheel)
- **MD of SBI by FSIB** - Ravi Ranjan (replace Vinay M Tonse)
- **Chairman of National Stock Exchange** - Injeti Srinivas

4. Which two cross-border India-Bhutan rail links have been approved by the Indian government to enhance connectivity and trade?

भारत सरकार ने कनेक्टिविटी और व्यापार को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किन दो भारत-भूटान सीमापार रेल लिंक को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) Guwahati-Thimphu and Siliguri-Paro
- (b) Kokrajhar-Gelephu and Banarhat-Samtse
- (c) Kolkata-Thimphu and Assam-Phuentsholing
- (d) Banarhat-Gelephu and Kokrajhar-Samtse

(e) Delhi-Thimphu and Kolkata-Paro

Ans. b

Sol. India and Bhutan to Launch First Cross-Border Rail Links, Boosting Connectivity and Trade

The Centre approved two India–Bhutan rail links—Kokrajhar-Gelephu (Assam) and Banarhat-Samtse (West Bengal)—covering 89 km at a cost of ₹4,033 crore, marking the first-ever rail connectivity between the two countries.

The projects, agreed during PM Modi's March 2024 Bhutan visit, will provide Bhutan access to India's 1,50,000 km railway network, with Kokrajhar-Gelephu to be completed in four years and Banarhat-Samtse in three years.

The rail links will boost Bhutan's economy by enhancing trade, tourism, industrial growth, and people-to-people movement; both lines are designed to accommodate Vande Bharat trains.

India, Bhutan's largest trading and development partner, has pledged ₹10,000 crore for Bhutan's 13th Five-Year Plan (2024–2029), doubling previous assistance, and continues to collaborate on infrastructure and hydropower projects.

5. The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) launched which program for Department of Commerce officials?

भारतीय विदेश व्यापार संस्थान (IIFT) ने वाणिज्य विभाग के अधिकारियों के लिए कौन सा कार्यक्रम शुरू किया?

- (a) International Business Management Program
- (b) International Trade Negotiations Program
- (c) Global Market Expansion Program
- (d) Trade Policy and Research Program
- (e) Strategic Export Promotion Program

Ans. b

Sol. IIFT Launches International Trade Negotiations Program to Strengthen India's Global Trade Engagement

The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), through its Centre for International Negotiations (CIN), launched the International Trade Negotiations Program for officials of the Department of Commerce.

The program aims to enhance the negotiation skills of government officials to strengthen India's global trade engagement.

Expert-led sessions will cover key topics in international trade, providing participants with a unique and practical learning experience.

6. The Department of Posts (DoP) signed an MoU with which institute to promote sustainable packaging?

डाक विभाग (DoP) ने सतत पैकेजिंग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किस संस्थान के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT)
- (b) Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP)
- (c) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi
- (d) National Institute of Design (NID)
- (e) National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)

Ans. b

Sol. DoP Signs MoU with IIP to Promote Sustainable Packaging and Enhance Postal Efficiency

The Department of Posts (DoP) signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) to promote sustainable packaging and improve postal service efficiency.

The collaboration will develop eco-friendly, durable, and cost-effective packaging solutions, including airworthy materials for liquids and scalable designs for pan-India use.

IIP will provide expert guidance, global benchmarking, pricing strategies, and training materials to support India Post's shift towards sustainable practices.

7. The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has sanctioned how much amount for Red Sanders conservation in Andhra Pradesh?

राष्ट्रीय जैव विविधता प्राधिकरण (एनबीए) ने आंध्र प्रदेश में रेड सैंडर्स संरक्षण के लिए कितनी राशि मंजूर की है?

- (a) ₹62 lakh
- (b) ₹75 lakh
- (c) ₹82 lakh
- (d) ₹90 lakh
- (e) ₹100 lakh

Ans. c

Sol. NBA Sanctions ₹82 Lakh for Red Sanders Conservation in Andhra Pradesh

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) sanctioned ₹82 lakh to the Andhra Pradesh Biodiversity Board for the conservation of Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*), an endemic and highly threatened species of the Eastern Ghats.

The initiative aims to raise one lakh Red Sanders saplings for farmers under the Trees Outside Forests (ToF) programme, promoting conservation and sustainable use.

Funds are sourced through the Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) mechanism under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (amended 2023), ensuring equitable sharing with local communities and Biodiversity Management Committees.

The conservation programme will involve grassroots participation of tribal and local communities in nursery development, plantation, skill-building, and long-term care, enhancing both livelihood and biodiversity protection.

8. The International Cricket Council (ICC) and UNICEF launched the Promise to Children digital campaign during the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025.

What is the main objective of the "Promise to Children" campaign?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट परिषद (ICC) और UNICEF ने ICC महिला क्रिकेट विश्व कप 2025 के दौरान "बच्चों से वादा" डिजिटल अभियान शुरू किया। "बच्चों से वादा" अभियान का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) Promote cricket tournaments
- (b) Ensure equal opportunities and improve lives of children
- (c) Fund women's cricket teams only
- (d) Encourage adult literacy programs
- (e) Develop sports infrastructure only

Ans. b

Sol. ICC and UNICEF Launch "Promise to Children" Campaign to Promote Equal Opportunities for Kids

The International Cricket Council (ICC) and UNICEF launched the Promise to Children digital campaign during the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025, promoting equal opportunities for all children, especially the most vulnerable.

Supported by UNICEF National Ambassador Ayushmann Khurrana and Indian women's cricket team vice-captain Smriti Mandhana, the campaign focuses on children's rights, including education, healthcare, nutrition, safe water, sanitation, and protection from violence.

The initiative aims to engage the entire cricketing community—from players and coaches to fans—to improve children's lives and ensure they are healthy, educated, and able to play.

9. Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) recently received its Aerodrome Licence from which authority?

नवी मुंबई अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे (NMIA) को हाल ही में किस प्राधिकरण से एयरोड्रोम लाइसेंस प्राप्त हुआ है?

- (a) Airports Authority of India
- (b) NITI Aayog
- (c) Ministry of Civil Aviation
- (d) International Civil Aviation Organization
- (e) Directorate General of Civil Aviation

Ans. e

Sol. Navi Mumbai International Airport Secures DGCA Licence

Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) received its Aerodrome Licence from DGCA, a crucial step ahead of its inauguration by PM Narendra Modi on October 8, 2025, enabling it to commence operations.

The licence allows NMIA to function as a regular place for landings and departures, with regulatory conditions under the Aircraft Act 1934 and Aircraft Rules 1937, and is non-transferable.

In its first phase, NMIA will handle 20 million passengers and 500,000 metric tonnes of cargo annually, with full capacity projected at 90 million passengers and 3.2 million metric tonnes of cargo, easing congestion at Mumbai's existing airport.

10. **Where is the Air India-Airbus joint venture pilot training centre located?**

एयर इंडिया-एयरबस संयुक्त पायलट प्रशिक्षण केंद्र कहाँ स्थित है?

- (a) Bengaluru
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Gurugram
- (d) Amravati
- (e) Delhi

Ans. c

Sol. Air India-Airbus Launch State-of-the-Art Pilot Training Centre in Gurugram with ₹1,000 Crore Investment

Air India and Airbus have launched a joint venture pilot training centre at the Air India Aviation Training Academy in Gurugram, Haryana, with an investment of over ₹1,000 crore to house 10 full-flight simulators, including India's first A350 simulators. The facility, inaugurated by Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu, will train over 5,000 new pilots in the next decade, consolidating Air India's training infrastructure and strengthening the Indian aviation industry's self-reliance.

Spread over 12,000 sq. metres, the centre currently has two A320 simulators, with six more A320 and two A350 simulators to be installed progressively, complementing Airbus' existing training centre in Delhi for a combined 14 full-flight simulators.

Beyond pilot training, Air India is also establishing South Asia's largest Flying Training Organisation (FTO) in Amravati, Maharashtra, and a Basic Maintenance Training Organisation (BMTO) in Bengaluru, which will support future fleets and create a skilled workforce of engineers and technicians.

11. **Which district in Jammu & Kashmir has been selected as an aspirational agricultural district under PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana?**

PM धन धान्य कृषि योजना के तहत जम्मू और कश्मीर का कौन सा जिला आकांक्षी कृषि जिला चुना गया है?

- (a) Srinagar
- (b) Kishtwar
- (c) Jammu
- (d) Leh
- (e) Anantnag

Ans. b

Sol. Kishtwar in J&K Selected as Aspirational Agricultural District Under PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana

Kishtwar district in Jammu & Kashmir has been selected as an aspirational agricultural district under the PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana, aiming to boost agriculture in remote areas.

The initiative is part of the government's plan to develop 100 Aspirational Agricultural Districts over six years, announced in the Union Budget 2025-26. Aspirational districts were identified based on low crop productivity, low cropping intensity, and limited short-term credit disbursement, encouraging Agri-Entrepreneurs and enhancing agricultural development.

About Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana

- *The Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) is a comprehensive agricultural development initiative approved by the Union Cabinet on July 16, 2025.*
- *Launched with an annual outlay of ₹24,000 crore, the scheme is set to run for six years, from FY 2025-26 to FY 2030-31.*
- *It aims to transform 100 underperforming agricultural districts across India through the convergence of 36 existing schemes from 11 central ministries, focusing exclusively on agriculture and allied sectors.*

12. Recently, Kondareddypally has become the second village in India to achieve which milestone?

हाल ही में, कोंडारेड्डीपल्ली कौन सा मील का पत्थर हासिल करने वाला भारत का दूसरा गांव बन गया है?

- (a) Fully organic farming village
- (b) Fully solar-powered village
- (c) Fully wind-powered village
- (d) Fully digital village
- (e) Fully water-conservation village

Ans. b

Sol. Kondareddypally Becomes India's Second Fully Solar-Powered Village

Kondareddypally in Nagarkurnool district, Telangana has become the second fully solar-powered village in India, covering 514 houses and 11 government buildings under the state's green energy mission.

480 houses are equipped with 3 KW rooftop solar panels, while schools and government buildings use 60 KW solar units, generating 360 units of power per month per house, ensuring uninterrupted electricity and eliminating bills.

The project, costing approximately ₹10.53 crore, was funded through a combination of Central Government subsidy (₹3.56 crore), CSR contributions (₹4.09 crore), and state infrastructure investment (₹2.59 crore), with the village earning revenue by supplying surplus energy to the grid.

About Telangana

- **Established** – 2 June 2014
- **Capital** – Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – Revanth Reddy (replace K. Chandrashekar Rao)
- **Deputy CM** - Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka
- **Governor** – Jishnu Dev Varma

13. Sergio Busquets, who recently announced his retirement, is associated with which sport?

सेर्जियो बुस्केट्स, जिन्होंने हाल ही में संन्यास की घोषणा की, किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

- (a) Basketball
- (b) Football
- (c) Tennis
- (d) Cricket
- (e) Hockey

Ans. b

Sol. Sergio Busquets Announces Retirement from Soccer

Sergio Busquets, the legendary Spanish midfielder, announced his retirement from soccer at the end of the 2025 season with Inter Miami in Major League Soccer.

Widely regarded as one of the best defensive midfielders of his generation, Busquets was a key part of Barcelona's iconic midfield alongside Xavi Hernández and Andres Iniesta, supporting stars like Lionel Messi.

Making his Barcelona debut in 2008 under Pep Guardiola, Busquets played 722 matches, won 9 La Liga titles and 3 Champions League trophies, ranking third in club appearances behind Xavi and Messi.

Recently Retired Players

- *Jerome Boateng (German) - Professional Scooer*
- *Samuel Umtiti (France) – Professional Scooer*

- Amit Mishra (India)- Professional Cricket
- Asif Ali (Pakistan) - International cricket
- Mitchell Starc (Australia) - T20Is cricket
- Ravichandran Ashwin (India) - Indian Premier League
- Cheteshwar Pujara (India) - All forms of cricket

14. When is the International Day of Older Persons observed every year?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वृद्धजन दिवस हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 3 October
- (b) 1 October
- (c) 2 October
- (d) 30 September
- (e) 4 October

Ans. b

Sol. 1 October - International Day of Older Persons

International Day of Older Persons is observed annually on October 1 to honor the contributions of older individuals and raise awareness about the challenges they face. The United Nations 2025 theme is: "Older Persons Driving Local and Global Action: Our Aspirations, Our Well-Being, Our Rights", highlighting the active role of elderly in society.

In India, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment celebrated the day under the theme "Ageing with Dignity", promoting welfare programs and a dignified ecosystem for senior citizens.

15. Who assumed charge as the Director General of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) recently?

हाल ही में राष्ट्रीय कैडेट कोर (एनसीसी) के महानिदेशक के रूप में किसने कार्यभार संभाला?

- (a) Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh
- (b) Lieutenant General Virendra Vats
- (c) Lieutenant General Rajesh Agrawal
- (d) Lieutenant General Parul Tyagi
- (e) Lieutenant General Piyush Goya

Ans. b

Sol. Lieutenant General Virendra Vats Assumes Charge as Director General of NCC
Lieutenant General Virendra Vats assumed charge as the Director General (DG) of the National Cadet Corps (NCC).

He was commissioned into the 19 KUMAON Regiment of the Indian Army in December 1988 and has served as Commandant at the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington.

He succeeds Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh as the head of NCC.

Recent Appointments in Defence Sector

- **Director General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)** - Praveen Kumar (replace Rahul Rasgotra)
- **Director General of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** - Praveer Ranjan (replace Rajwinder Singh Bhatti)
- **Deputy National Security Advisor (NSA)** - Anish Dayal Singh
- **Delhi Police Commissioner** - Satish Golcha (replace Shashi Bhushan Kumar Singh)
- **Commandant of the Indian Naval Academy (INA), Ezhimala** - Vice Admiral Manish (replace Vice Admiral C.R. Praveen Nair)

16. India has been conferred with the prestigious International Social Security Association (ISSA) Award 2025 at the World Social Security Forum held in Kuala Lumpur. The award recognised which specific achievement of India?

भारत को कुआलालंपुर में आयोजित वर्ल्ड सोशल सिक्योरिटी फोरम में प्रतिष्ठित अंतरराष्ट्रीय सामाजिक सुरक्षा संघ (ISSA) अवार्ड 2025 से सम्मानित किया गया। यह अवार्ड भारत की किस विशेष उपलब्धि के लिए दिया गया?

- (a) Excellence in Labour Law Reforms
- (b) Outstanding Achievement in Social Security Expansion
- (c) Best Practices in Healthcare and Insurance
- (d) Digital Innovation in Employment Services
- (e) Leadership in Global Social Protection Strategy

Ans. b

Sol. India Wins Prestigious ISSA Award 2025 for Outstanding Achievement in Social Security

India honoured with International Social Security Association (ISSA) Award 2025 for 'Outstanding Achievement in Social Security' at the World Social Security Forum in Kuala Lumpur, recognising expansion of coverage from 19% in 2015 to 64.3% in 2025, benefitting over 940 million citizens.

Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya received the award on behalf of India, highlighting initiatives like the e-Shram portal (310 million workers) and National Career Service portal connecting youth to global opportunities.

With strengthened institutions like EPFO and ESIC, India now holds 30 seats in ISSA General Assembly (highest vote share globally), showcasing its leadership in digital-driven social protection.

17. **Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw recently inaugurated the National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT) Digital University (NDU) Platform. What is its primary objective?**

केंद्रीय मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने हाल ही में राष्ट्रीय इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (NIELIT) डिजिटल यूनिवर्सिटी (NDU) प्लेटफॉर्म का उद्घाटन किया। इसका प्राथमिक उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) Promote traditional learning methods
- (b) Democratize access to high-quality digital education
- (c) Provide free laptops to students
- (d) Replace conventional universities
- (e) Focus only on rural skilling programs

Ans. b

Sol. Ashwini Vaishnaw Launches NIELIT Digital University Platform

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT) Digital University (NDU) Platform in New Delhi, aiming to democratize access to quality digital education with courses in AI, Cybersecurity, Data Science, and Semiconductors.

As part of the event, five new NIELIT Centres were virtually inaugurated in Muzaffarpur, Balasore, Tirupati, Daman, and Lunglei, further strengthening India's digital skilling ecosystem.

The launch also featured a panel discussion on "Role of AI in Digitization of Education", felicitation of top DevSecOps students, and signing of MoUs with industry partners to boost academia-industry collaboration.

18. **Which state's Tourism Department has received the Global Tourism Award 2025 for Visionary Initiatives and Investment Milestones?**

किस राज्य के पर्यटन विभाग को दूरदर्शी पहल और निवेश मील के पत्थर के लिए वैश्विक पर्यटन पुरस्कार 2025 प्राप्त हुआ है?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Gujarat
- (e) Tamil Nadu

Ans. b

Sol. Andhra Pradesh Tourism Wins Global Tourism Award 2025 for Visionary Initiatives and Investment Milestones

Andhra Pradesh Tourism Department was honoured with the Global Tourism Award 2025 in New Delhi for its outstanding initiatives to position the State as a top tourist

destination. Tourism consultant Nishitha Goyal received the award on behalf of the department.

The recognition highlighted AP's visionary tourism policy, eco-friendly capital city development, promotion of Gandikota as an eco-adventure hub, and success in attracting large-scale investments.

In the past 15 months, the department signed 103 MoUs, developed infrastructure, created employment opportunities, and promoted private sector participation under the PPP model.

Recent Awards

- **Saraswati Samman 2024** - Sanskrit Scholar Mahamahopadhyay Bhadrashdas Swami (for Swaminarayan Siddhant Sudha)
- **Living Bridge' honour** - UK PM Keir Starmer
- **Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2023** - Legendary actor Mohanlal
- **PV Narasimha Rao Award** - Late Manmohan Singh (for Economic Contributions)
- **TIME magazine's 'Kid of the Year' 2025** - Tejasvi Manoj (for her innovation 'Shield Seniors', a website to protect older adults from online scam)

19. Who has been appointed as the new Director General of CISF (Central Industrial Security Force)?

CISF (केंद्रीय औद्योगिक सुरक्षा बल) के नए महानिदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) R.S. Bhatti
- (b) Praveer Ranjan
- (c) Praveen Kumar
- (d) Rahul Rasgotra
- (e) Shirish Murmu

Ans. b

Sol. Praveer Ranjan Appointed CISF DG, Praveen Kumar Takes Charge as ITBP Chief
Senior IPS officers Praveer Ranjan and Praveen Kumar were appointed as the new chiefs of CISF and ITBP, respectively.

Praveer Ranjan (1993 batch, AGMUT cadre) took charge as Director General of CISF, succeeding R.S. Bhatti, after serving as Special DG, Airport Security Division.

Praveen Kumar (1993 batch, West Bengal cadre) became the new Director General of ITBP, replacing Rahul Rasgotra after his retirement.

Prior to this, Praveen Kumar worked as Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau and has over 32 years of service in various key assignments

20. **What does AVAS stand for in electric vehicles, a safety feature proposed to alert pedestrians and other road users?**

इलेक्ट्रिक वाहनों में **AVAS** का पूरा नाम क्या है, जो पैदल यात्रियों और अन्य सड़क उपयोगकर्ताओं को सचेत करने के लिए एक सुरक्षा सुविधा है?

- (a) Automatic Vehicle Acceleration System
- (b) Acoustic Vehicle Alerting System
- (c) Advanced Vehicle Anti-collision System
- (d) Active Vehicle Alarm System
- (e) Automated Vehicle Assistance System

Ans. b

Sol. Govt to Make Acoustic Alert System Mandatory for All Electric Vehicles from October 2027

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has proposed making Acoustic Vehicle Alerting System (AVAS) mandatory for all electric cars, buses, and trucks from October 1, 2027 to enhance road safety.

All new electric passenger and goods vehicle models manufactured after October 2026 must be equipped with AVAS, which emits an artificial sound to alert pedestrians and other road users.

Category M vehicles include electric cars and buses for passenger transport, while Category N vehicles cover electric trucks and goods vehicles; both categories must comply with AIS-173 audibility requirements.

Countries like the U.S., Japan, and some EU nations have already mandated AVAS in hybrid vehicles, aligning India with global road safety standards.

21. **India has been re-elected to which part of the ICAO Council for the 2025–2028 term?**

भारत को 2025–2028 की अवधि के लिए ICAO काउंसिल के किस भाग में पुनः निर्वाचित किया गया है?

- (a) Part I
- (b) Part II
- (c) Part III
- (d) Part IV
- (e) Part V

Ans. b

Sol. India Re-elected to Part II of ICAO Council for 2025–2028

India re-elected to Part II of the ICAO Council for the 2025–2028 term during the 42nd ICAO Assembly Session held on 27 September 2025 in Montreal, Canada, securing more votes than in 2022.

Part II of the ICAO Council represents states making the largest contributions to international civil air navigation, and India's strong mandate reflects global confidence in its leadership and commitment.

As a founding member of ICAO since 1944, India has maintained 81 years of uninterrupted presence on the Council and reaffirmed its commitment to aviation safety, security, sustainability, equitable growth, and ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative.

22. Which organisation's Management Training Institute (MTI) signed an MoU with IIM Jammu for Executive Education Programmes?

कौन से संगठन के मैनेजमेंट ट्रेनिंग इंस्टीट्यूट (MTI) ने IIM जम्मू के साथ कार्यकारी शिक्षा कार्यक्रमों के लिए MoU साइन किया?

- (a) NTPC
- (b) Steel Authority of India Limited
- (c) ONGC
- (d) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- (e) Indian Railways

Ans. b

Sol. SAIL's MTI Partners with IIM Jammu to Launch Executive Education Programmes for Future-Ready Leaders

SAIL's Management Training Institute (MTI) signed an MoU with IIM Jammu to collaborate on Executive Education Programmes for developing future-ready leaders. The partnership aims to strengthen organisational capacity, adopt global best practices, and promote nation-building through leadership excellence, reflecting SAIL's commitment to nurturing capable leaders.

The MoU was signed by Shri Sanjay Dhar (MTI, SAIL) and Cmdr Kesavan Baskkaran (IIM Jammu), in the presence of senior officials from both SAIL and IIM Jammu, including Shri K.K. Singh, Shri B.S. Popli, and Dr. Rajesh Sikka.

Recent MoU

- DoP Signs MoU with IIP to Promote Sustainable Packaging and Enhance Postal Efficiency
- Gol partnered with Zepto to enhance employment opportunities
- IILM University Gurugram in collaboration with AIMS Launch Experiential Learning Lab to Drive MSME Innovation Across India
- HCL and OIL Sign MoU to Jointly Explore and Develop Critical & Strategic Minerals*
- DoP and BSNL Sign MoU to Expand SIM Sales & Mobile Recharge Services via 1.65 Lakh Post Offices

23. **Which company has received in-principle approval from CCI to acquire Jaiprakash Associates?**

कौन सी कंपनी ने Jaiprakash Associates को अधिग्रहित करने के लिए CCI से सिद्धांत अनुमोदन प्राप्त किया है?

- (a) Adani Group
- (b) Dalmia Bharat
- (c) Jindal Power
- (d) PNC Infratech
- (e) Tata Power

Ans. c

Sol. CCI Grants In-Principle Approval for Jindal Power's Acquisition of Jaiprakash Associates

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has given in-principle approval to Naveen Jindal-led Jindal Power to acquire debt-laden Jaiprakash Associates Limited (JAL), if it wins the ongoing insolvency bid.

CCI has also cleared the acquisition proposals of PNC Infratech, Adani Group, and Dalmia Bharat for JAL.

The approval follows a Supreme Court ruling stating that CCI's consent is mandatory under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) before submission of any resolution plan.

24. **Who has been selected for the Hombale Samhita Harinikumar Alumni Krishi Media Award – 2025 for his contribution to agricultural reporting?**

कौन होंबले समिति हरिनिकुमार एलुमनी कृषी मीडिया अवार्ड – 2025 के लिए चुने गए हैं?

- (a) Ramesh Kumar
- (b) Amshi Prasannakumar
- (c) K.K. Singh
- (d) Rajesh Sikka
- (e) Sanjay Dhar

Ans. b

Sol. Mysuru Journalist Amshi Prasannakumar to Receive Hombale Samhita Harinikumar Krishi Media Award 2025

Amshi Prasannakumar, a senior journalist from Mysuru, has been selected for the 'Hombale Samhita Harinikumar Alumni Krishi Media Award – 2025' for his contribution to agricultural reporting.

The award recognises journalists in print and electronic media for creating awareness among farmers and promoting agricultural issues.

The award will be presented on October 11, 2025, at the Alumni Association, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, Veterinary College Campus, Hebbal; Mr. Prasannakumar is a former president of the Mysore District Journalists' Association and a member of the Karnataka Media Academy.

25. **Chris Woakes, the all-rounder who recently announced his retirement from international cricket, represented which country?**

क्रिस वोक्स, जो हाल ही में अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास ले चुके हैं, किस देश का प्रतिनिधित्व करते थे?

- (a) Australia
- (b) England
- (c) India
- (d) South Africa
- (e) New Zealand

Ans. b

Sol. England All-Rounder Chris Woakes Announces Retirement from International Cricket

England all-rounder Chris Woakes has announced his retirement from international cricket, stating it is the right time for him to step away from the game.

Woakes played 217 matches for England across all formats since his debut in 2011, taking 396 wickets and scoring 3,705 runs.

He was a key member of England's 2019 World Cup-winning team and also won the T20 World Cup in 2022, contributing significantly with both bat and ball.

Recently Retired Players

- Sergio Busquets (Spain) - Professional Scooper
- Jerome Boateng (German) - Professional Scooper
- Samuel Umtiti (France) - Professional Scooper
- Amit Mishra (India)- Professional Cricket
- Asif Ali (Pakistan) - International cricket
- Mitchell Starc (Australia) - T20Is cricket

26. **Who has been appointed as Secretary, Department of Commerce on 1 October 2025?**

1 अक्टूबर 2025 को वाणिज्य विभाग के सचिव के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Sunil Barthwal
- (b) Rajesh Agrawal
- (c) Piyush Goyal
- (d) Ajay Seth
- (e) Ramesh Abhishek

Ans. b

Sol. Rajesh Agrawal Takes Charge as Secretary, Department of Commerce
Senior IAS officer Rajesh Agrawal assumed charge as Secretary, Department of Commerce on 1 October 2025, succeeding Sunil Barthwal, who retired on 30 September.

He brings 30 years of experience in governance, policy-making, and implementation across sectors like skilling, power, fertilisers, agriculture, and MSMEs.

Recent Appointments

- **Board of the India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF)** - Jayen Mehta,
- **Attorney General of India** - R. Venkataramani (re-appointment for 2 years effect from 1 Oct 25)
- **MD & CEO of Tata Motors** - Shailesh Chandra (replace P B Balaji); for 3 years
- **Controller General of Communication Accounts in New Delhi** - Vandana Gupta
- **Chairman of Coal India Ltd** - B. Sairam (replace P. M. Prasad)

27. **The International Day of Non-Violence is observed every year on which date?**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अहिंसा दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 October
- (b) 8 October
- (c) 2 October
- (d) 5 October
- (e) 6 October

Ans. c

Sol. 2 October - International Day of Non-Violence

The International Day of Non-Violence is observed every year on 2 October, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, who led India's freedom struggle through non-violent resistance.

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) established this day in 2007 to spread the message of peace, tolerance, and non-violence.

The day aims to inspire individuals, communities, and nations to resolve conflicts through dialogue and compassion instead of violence.

28. **World Vegetarian Day is observed every year on which date?**

विश्व शाकाहारी दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 October
- (b) 2 October
- (c) 3 October

(d) 4 October

(e) 5 October

Ans. a

Sol. 1 October - World Vegetarian Day

World Vegetarian Day is observed every year on 1 October to promote the health, environmental, and ethical benefits of vegetarianism.

It was established by the North American Vegetarian Society (NAVS) in 1977 and endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union in 1978.

The day encourages people to adopt a vegetarian lifestyle for better health, animal welfare, and sustainability.

29. International Coffee Day is observed every year on which date?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कॉफी दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

(a) 1 October

(b) 2 October

(c) 3 October

(d) 4 October

(e) 5 October

Ans. a

Sol. 1 October - International Coffee Day

International Coffee Day is observed every year on 1 October to celebrate coffee as one of the most popular beverages worldwide.

The day highlights the efforts of coffee growers, farmers, and workers who contribute to the multi-billion-dollar global coffee industry.

It raises awareness about the challenges faced by coffee producers, including fair trade, sustainable farming, and climate change impacts.

The event was officially launched by the ICO in 2015 in Milan, Italy, during Expo 2015.

30. In October 2025, RBI revised its economic projections for FY 2025-26. What are the new estimates for inflation and GDP growth?

अक्टूबर 2025 में, आरबीआई ने वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 के लिए अपने आर्थिक अनुमानों को संशोधित किया। मुद्रास्फीति और जीडीपी वृद्धि के नए अनुमान क्या हैं?

(a) Inflation – 3.1%, GDP – 6.5%

(b) Inflation – 2.6%, GDP – 6.8%

(c) Inflation – 3.5%, GDP – 7.0%

(d) Inflation – 2.9%, GDP – 6.4%

(e) Inflation – 2.8%, GDP – 6.2%

Ans. b

Sol. RBI Keeps Repo Rate Unchanged at 5.5%, Projects Higher GDP Growth and Lower Inflation

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra announced the fourth bi-monthly policy, keeping the repo rate unchanged at 5.5%, with MPC unanimously voting to maintain a neutral stance.

The Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate remains at 5.75% and the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate at 5.25%, ensuring policy stability.

RBI revised inflation projection to 2.6% (earlier 3.1%) and upgraded real GDP growth to 6.8% (earlier 6.5%), citing steady domestic growth and subdued inflation.

RBI Current Policy Rate are as under

- *Policy Repo Rate – 5.50%*
- *Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) – 5.25%*
- *Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) – 5.75%*
- *Bank Rate – 5.75%*
- *Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35%*
- *Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) – 3.75%*
- *Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) – 18%*

31. TATA AIG General Insurance partnered with which bank to expand insurance access across urban and rural India through a bancassurance model?

टाटा एआईजी जनरल इन्श्योरेंस ने बैंक एश्योरेंस मॉडल के माध्यम से शहरी और ग्रामीण भारत में बीमा पहुंच का विस्तार करने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Bandhan Bank
- (b) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- (c) AU Small Finance Bank
- (d) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- (e) Jana Small Finance Bank

Ans. b

Sol. TATA AIG Joins Hands with Equitas Small Finance Bank to Expand Insurance Reach in Rural and Urban India

TATA AIG General Insurance partnered with Equitas Small Finance Bank to expand insurance access across urban and rural India through a bancassurance model.

The tie-up will allow Equitas customers to buy motor, health, personal accident, travel, and other general insurance products, focusing especially on semi-urban and rural markets.

The collaboration aims to provide affordable financial protection to households and small businesses, combining Equitas Bank's retail reach with TATA AIG's insurance expertise.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Bank of Baroda and IIFL Finance Join Hands in Co-Lending Partnership to Expand Gold Loans in Rural India
- Tally Solutions Partners with Indian Bank to Enable Seamless E-Payments for SMEs via TallyPrime
- PayRupy Partners with BRISKPE to Launch Unified Domestic and Global Payments Platform
- SBI General Insurance and CarePlix launch first-of-its-kind biometric health scanning feature on mobile app
- Godrej Finance and Muthoot FinCorp partner to boost MSME secured lending in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities

32. What was the theme of the 11th World Green Economy Summit (WGES 2025)?

11वें विश्व हरित अर्थव्यवस्था शिखर सम्मेलन (WGES 2025) की थीम क्या थी?

- (a) Green Growth for All
- (b) Innovating for Impact: Accelerating the Future of the Green Economy
- (c) Sustainability and Prosperity Together
- (d) Towards Net-Zero Future
- (e) Climate Action for Equity

Ans. b

Sol. The 11th World Green Economy Summit (WGES 2025) opened in Dubai with over 3,300 participants from 30+ countries under the theme "Innovating for Impact: Accelerating the Future of the Green Economy."

The summit, co-located with WETEX 2025, focuses on technology, policy, climate finance, and youth engagement to drive net-zero targets and global green transformation.

Featuring around 80 international speakers, WGES highlights renewable energy, circular economy, and accountability in sustainability pledges, while the Global Alliance on Green Economy (GAGE) unveiled its 2024–25 portfolio of flagship initiatives.

33. The Union Cabinet approved the six-year "Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses" on October 1, 2025, with a financial outlay of ₹11,440 crore, aiming to make India self-sufficient in pulses production by 2030-31. Which pulses are primarily targeted under the mission?

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 1 अक्टूबर, 2025 को ₹11,440 करोड़ के वित्तीय परिव्यय के साथ छह साल के "दलहन में आत्मनिर्भरता मिशन" को मंजूरी दी, जिसका लक्ष्य 2030-31 तक भारत

को दाल उत्पादन में आत्मनिर्भर बनाना है। मिशन के तहत मुख्य रूप से कौन सी दालें लक्षित हैं?

- (a) Chana, Moong, Masur
- (b) Tur, Urad, Masur
- (c) Lentil, Soybean, Pea
- (d) Moong, Chana, Tur
- (e) Urad, Chana, Lentil

Ans. b

Sol. Union Cabinet Approves Six-Year "Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses" with ₹11,440 Crore Outlay

The Union Cabinet approved the six-year "Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses" on October 1, 2025, with a financial outlay of ₹11,440 crore, aiming to make India self-sufficient in pulses production by 2030-31.

The mission aims to increase pulses production to 350 lakh tonnes, expand cultivation area to 310 lakh hectares, and improve yield to 1,130 kg per hectare, focusing on tur, urad, and masur, with assured procurement under PM-AASHA. Key initiatives include the distribution of 126 lakh quintals of certified seeds, the establishment of 1,000 new processing units, cluster-based implementation across 416 districts, and capacity building for farmers, aiming to reduce imports, boost incomes, and promote climate-resilient practices.

34. **On which date is World Cerebral Palsy Day observed every year?**

वर्ल्ड सेरेब्रल पाल्सी डे हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 4th October
- (b) 5th October
- (c) 6th October
- (d) 7th October
- (e) 8th October

Ans. c

Sol. 6 October - World Cerebral Palsy Day

World Cerebral Palsy Day is observed annually on 6th October to raise awareness about Cerebral Palsy (CP), a neurological disorder affecting movement and posture. The day aims to highlight the challenges faced by individuals with CP and promote their inclusion in society.

Theme 2025 -- Unique and United

35. **The Union Cabinet approved a 3% hike in Dearness Allowance (DA) and Dearness Relief (DR) on October 1, 2025, benefiting about 49.19 lakh central**

employees and 68.72 lakh pensioners. From which date is the 3% DA/DR increase effective?

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 1 अक्टूबर, 2025 को महंगाई भत्ते (डीए) और महंगाई राहत (डीआर) में 3% बढ़ोतरी को मंजूरी दे दी, जिससे लगभग 49.19 लाख केंद्रीय कर्मचारियों और 68.72 लाख पेंशनभोगियों को फायदा होगा। 3% DA/DR वृद्धि किस तारीख से प्रभावी है?

- (a) January 1, 2025
- (b) March 1, 2025
- (c) July 1, 2025
- (d) October 1, 2025
- (e) December 1, 2025

Ans. c

Sol. Union Cabinet Approves 3% Hike in Dearness Allowance and Relief

The Union Cabinet approved a 3% hike in Dearness Allowance (DA) and Dearness Relief (DR) on October 1, 2025, benefiting about 49.19 lakh central employees and 68.72 lakh pensioners.

The DA/DR increase raises the existing rate from 55% of basic pay/pension to 58%, effective July 1, 2025, to offset price rise.

The combined financial impact on the exchequer due to this hike is ₹10,083.96 crore per annum, implemented as per the 7th Central Pay Commission formula.

36. What is the interest rate for the Sukanya Samriddhi Scheme during October–December 2025?

अक्टूबर-दिसम्बर 2025 तिमाही के दौरान सुकन्या समृद्धि योजना की ब्याज दर कितनी रहेगी?

- (a) 7.1%
- (b) 7.4%
- (c) 7.5%
- (d) 8.2%
- (e) 7.7%

Ans. d

Sol. Finance Ministry Keeps Small Savings Scheme Interest Rates Unchanged for 7th Consecutive Quarter (Oct–Dec 2025)

The Finance Ministry announced that interest rates on Small Savings Schemes will remain unchanged for the October–December 2025 quarter, marking the seventh successive quarter with no revision.

Sukanya Samriddhi Scheme will continue to offer 8.2%, while the three-year term deposit and Public Provident Fund (PPF) remain at 7.1%, and Post Office savings deposits stay at 4%.

Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) will carry an interest rate of 7.5%, maturing in 115 months, while National Savings Certificate (NSC) will offer 7.7%.

The Monthly Income Scheme (MIS) will continue to provide 7.4% interest for investors in the October–December 2025 quarter.

These schemes, operated mainly through post offices and banks, are fully backed by the government, ensuring guaranteed returns on both principal and interest.

Saving Schemes Interest rates for October 2025 – December 2025

- *Post Office Savings Deposit- 4 per cent*
- *Post Office Monthly Income Account- 7.4 percent*
- *1-Year Post Office Time Deposits- 6.9 percent*
- *2-Year Post Office Time Deposits- 7.0 percent*
- *3-Year Post Office Time Deposits- 7.1 percent*
- *5-Year Post Office Time Deposits- 7.5 percent*
- *5-Year Recurring Deposits- 6.7 percent*
- *Senior Citizens Savings Scheme- 8.2 per cent*
- *Sukanya Samriddhi Account- 8.2 per cent*
- *National Saving Certificates (NSC)- 7.7 percent*
- *Kisan Vikas Patra- 7.5 percent (will mature in 115 months)*
- *Public Provident Fund- 7.1 per cent*

37. What was India's gross GST collection in September 2025?

सितंबर 2025 में भारत का सकल GST संग्रह कितना रहा?

- (a) ₹1.73 trillion
- (b) ₹1.80 trillion
- (c) ₹1.86 trillion
- (d) ₹1.89 trillion
- (e) ₹1.95 trillion

Ans. d

Sol. India's GST Collections Rise 9.1% in September 2025 to ₹1.89 Trillion

India's GST collection rose 9.1% YoY in September 2025 to ₹1.89 trillion, compared to ₹1.73 trillion in September 2024, supported by higher sales after the recent GST rate rationalisation.

Domestic GST revenue increased 6.8% to ₹1.36 trillion, while import GST collections surged 15.6% to ₹52,492 crore; refunds grew sharply by 40.1% YoY to ₹28,657 crore. The net GST revenue stood at ₹1.60 trillion, showing 5% annual growth, despite large manufacturing states like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka registering only single-digit growth.

On September 4, 2025, the government announced a major GST reform, consolidating the six-tier structure into four slabs — 0%, 5%, 18%, and a new 40% slab for luxury and sin goods, effective September 22, 2025.

Under the new structure, essentials like milk, breads, and life-saving medicines fall under 0% GST, daily-use items like toothpaste, shampoo, butter, ghee, and low-priced footwear under 5%, while household appliances, mid-segment vehicles under 18%, and luxury cars, alcohol, tobacco under 40%.

GST Collection of Previous Months

- January 2025 – 1.96 lakh crore
- February 2025 – 1.84 lakh crore
- March 2025 – 1.96 lakh crore
- April 2025 – 2.36 lakh crore
- May 2025 – 2.01 lakh crore
- June 2025 – 1.85 lakh crore
- July 2025 – 1.96 lakh crore
- August 2025 – 1.86 lakh crore
- September 2025 – 1.89 lakh crore

38. **What was the total value of UPI transactions in September 2025?**

सितंबर 2025 में UPI लेन-देन का कुल मूल्य कितना रहा?

- (a) ₹24.85 trillion
- (b) ₹24.9 trillion
- (c) ₹19.63 trillion
- (d) ₹24.5 trillion
- (e) ₹23.9 trillion

Ans. b

Sol. UPI Transactions Dip 2% in September 2025 to 19.63 Billion
UPI transactions fell 2% MoM in September 2025 to 19.63 billion, compared to 20.01 billion in August, though transaction value rose 0.2% to ₹24.9 trillion; YoY growth stood strong at 31% in volume and 21% in value.

Daily UPI transactions increased to 654 million in September (vs. 645 million in August), with daily value rising to ₹82,991 crore from ₹80,177 crore.

Other payment systems saw declines: IMPS down 17% (394 million transactions, ₹5.97 trillion), FASTag down 10% (333 million, ₹6,421 crore), and AePS down 17% (106 million, ₹27,388 crore) compared to August.

39. **Which company became India's first large, diversified enterprise and integrated steel manufacturer to be recognised as an Awarding Body by NCVET?**

कौन सी कंपनी भारत की पहली बड़ी, विविधीकृत उद्यम और एकीकृत स्टील निर्माता बन गई जिसे NCVET द्वारा Awarding Body के रूप में मान्यता मिली?

- (a) Tata Steel
- (b) JSW Steel
- (c) Jindal Steel
- (d) Steel Authority of India
- (e) Essar Steel

Ans. c

Sol. Jindal Steel Becomes India's First Integrated Steelmaker Recognised as NCVET Awarding Body

Jindal Steel becomes India's first large, diversified enterprise and integrated steel manufacturer to be recognised as an Awarding Body by NCVET, granting it PAN-India authority in the Large Indian Enterprise/MNC category.

The recognition enables Jindal Steel to develop industry-aligned standards, structured skilling programs, and drive workforce development under the National Credit Framework aligned with NEP 2020.

This milestone strengthens practical, outcome-based vocational education, enhances the global portability of credentials, and underscores Jindal Steel's commitment to nation-building, green energy, and modern infrastructure.

About NCVET

- National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) was established by the Government of India in 2018 under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- It acts as the regulatory body for all vocational education and training programs
- It regulates, promotes, and standardizes vocational programs, ensuring they are industry-aligned and nationally recognized.
- NCVET credentials are linked to the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) and NEP 2020, enhancing employability, career mobility, and global recognition of vocational skills.

40. **Which company's subsidiary, FatakSecure, has received IRDAI approval for a composite Corporate Agent License?**

किस कंपनी की सहायक कंपनी FatakSecure को कॉम्पोजिट कॉर्पोरेट एजेंट लाइसेंस के लिए IRDAI से मंजूरी मिली है?

- (a) Paytm
- (b) FatakPay
- (c) PolicyBazaar
- (d) LIC
- (e) HDFC Life

Ans. b

Sol. FatakSecure Gets IRDAI Approval for Composite Corporate Agent License
FatakSecure, a subsidiary of FatakPay, has received IRDAI approval for its composite Corporate Agent License, enabling formal operations in the insurance sector. The approval allows FatakSecure to offer a wide range of insurance products, including motor, health, accident, life, corporate, and consumable insurance. CEO Bikash Choudhary highlighted that the license will help extend insurance coverage, long-term savings, and financial protection to millions of individuals across India.

41. Raghavachari Govindarajan, who recently passed away, was the father of which former RBI Governor?

राघवाचारी गोविंदराजन, जिनका हाल ही में निधन हुआ, किस पूर्व RBI गवर्नर के पिता थे?

- (a) D. Subbarao
- (b) Urjit Patel
- (c) Raghuram Rajan
- (d) Shaktikanta Das
- (e) Y.V. Reddy

Ans. c

Sol. Former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan's Father, Veteran IPS Officer Raghavachari Govindarajan, Passes Away

Raghavachari Govindarajan, father of former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan, passed away in Chennai at the age of 94.

A 1953 IPS officer, he served in the Intelligence Bureau and was part of the founding team of RAW, working closely with its first chief RN Kao in shaping India's external intelligence system.

He is survived by his wife Mythili and four children, including Mukund Rajan (ex-Tata Sons brand custodian) and Srinivas Rajan (renewable energy expert in the US).

42. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of 'Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025'?

'विकसित भारत बिल्डथॉन 2025' का ब्रांड एंबेसडर किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rakesh Sharma
- (b) Sunita Williams
- (c) Shivangi Mishra
- (d) Parul Goyal
- (e) Shubhanshu Shukla

Ans. e

Sol. Shubhanshu Shukla, First Indian to Reach ISS, Named Brand Ambassador of 'Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025'

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, the first Indian to reach the International Space Station (ISS) and second Indian in space after Rakesh Sharma, has been appointed as the brand ambassador of 'Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025', India's largest school hackathon.

The Buildathon, organised by the Ministry of Education and Atal Innovation Mission, will engage over 1 crore students from 1.5 lakh schools (Classes 6–12) to design prototypes under four themes: Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Swadeshi, Vocal for Local, and Samridhi.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- *Mohammed Siraj - Skechers India*
- *Alia Bhatt- Denim brand Levi's*
- *Abhinav Bindra - International Olympic Committee (IOC) Mental Health Ambassadors*
- *Madhuri Dixit – Odisha state's handloom industry.*
- *Shah Rukh Khan - Zomato (for Fuel Your Hustle Campaign)*
- *MS Dhoni - ACKO*

43. **Whose tenure as MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank has been extended by RBI for one month from October 16, 2025?**

कर्नाटक बैंक के एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसका कार्यकाल RBI ने 16 अक्टूबर 2025 से एक महीने के लिए बढ़ाया है?

- (a) Sekhar Rao
- (b) Raghavendra Srinivas Bhat
- (c) Srikrishan Hari Hara Sarma
- (d) Shaktikanta Das
- (e) Chanda Kochhar

Ans. b

Sol. RBI Extends Tenure of Raghavendra Srinivas Bhat as MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank

The RBI has extended the tenure of Raghavendra Srinivas Bhat as MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank for one month starting October 16, 2025, or until a regular appointment is made.

Bhat, who took charge as MD & CEO on July 16, 2025, has served Karnataka Bank for nearly four decades, holding key posts including Chief Operating Officer (COO) and Chief General Manager.

His extension follows top-level resignations in the bank, including Srikrishan Hari Hara Sarma (MD & CEO) and Sekhar Rao (Executive Director), both of whom stepped down citing personal reasons.

Recent Appointments in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD & CEO of Union Bank of India** - Asheesh Pandey; for 3 years
- **MD & CEO of Central Bank of India** - Kalyan Kumar; for 3 years
- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - Shirish Chandra Murmu (replace M. Rajeshwar Rao); for 3 Years+
- **Chairman of Piramal Finance** - Anand Piramal
- **CFO of IndusInd Bank** - Viral Damania

44. **World Animal Welfare Day is observed every year on 4th October to raise awareness about the well-being and protection of animals worldwide. What is the theme of World Animal Welfare Day 2025?**

विश्व पशु कल्याण दिवस हर साल 4 अक्टूबर को दुनिया भर में पशुओं के कल्याण और संरक्षण के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए मनाया जाता है। विश्व पशु कल्याण दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Protect Wildlife, Protect Future
- (b) Save Animals, Save the Planet!
- (c) Care for Creatures
- (d) Animals First, Humans Next
- (e) Green Earth, Happy Animals

Ans. b

Sol. 4 October - World Animal Welfare Day

World Animal Welfare Day is observed every year on 4th October to raise awareness about the well-being and protection of animals worldwide.

Theme 2025 - Save Animals, Save the Planet!

The day was first celebrated in 1925 in Berlin, Germany, initiated by animal rights activist Heinrich Zimmermann.

45. **On which date is World Teachers' Day observed every year?**

वर्ल्ड टीचर्स डे हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 4th October
- (b) 5th October
- (c) 6th October
- (d) 7th October
- (e) 8th October

Ans. b

Sol. 5 October - World Teachers' Day

World Teachers' Day is celebrated every year on 5th October to honor the contributions of teachers and educators worldwide.

The day was established by UNESCO in 1994 to commemorate the signing of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.

It aims to raise awareness about the crucial role of teachers in providing quality education and shaping future generations.

46. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched which campaign to help citizens claim unclaimed financial assets?

वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने नागरिकों को अप्राप्त वित्तीय संपत्तियों का दावा करने में मदद के लिए कौन सा अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Apka Paisa, Apka Haq
- (b) Apki Poonji, Apka Adhikar
- (c) Jan Dhan Suraksha Abhiyan
- (d) Apni Dhanrashi, Apna Adhikar
- (e) Financial Awareness Mission

Ans. b

Sol. FM Nirmala Sitharaman Launches 'Apki Poonji, Apka Adhikar' Campaign to Help Citizens Claim ₹1.84 Trillion in Unclaimed Financial Assets

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched the "Apki Poonji, Apka Adhikar" (Your Money, Your Right) campaign in Gandhinagar, aiming to help citizens recover unclaimed financial assets worth ₹1.84 trillion lying with banks and regulators. The three-month campaign will focus on the "3 As – Awareness, Access, and Action," encouraging people to identify and claim their unclaimed deposits, insurance, provident fund, and shares.

Sitharaman highlighted that the RBI's UDGM portal enables citizens to trace and claim their unclaimed deposits easily, emphasizing the government's role as a custodian of these funds.

She urged officials and banks, including Gujarat Gramin Bank, to actively raise awareness and assist people across villages in reclaiming their rightful money.

47. Former DR Congo President Joseph Kabila was sentenced to death in absentia for which of the following charges?

पूर्व डीआर कांगो के राष्ट्रपति जोसेफ काबिला को अनुपस्थिति में किस आरोप में मौत की सजा सुनाई गई?

- (a) Corruption and Fraud
- (b) War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, and Treason
- (c) Tax Evasion
- (d) Electoral Malpractice
- (e) Espionage

Ans. b

Sol. Former DR Congo President Joseph Kabila Sentenced to Death in Absentia for War Crimes and Treason

Former DR Congo President Joseph Kabila has been sentenced to death in absentia for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and treason, including murder, sexual assault, torture, and insurrection.

The charges relate to allegations that Kabila supported the M23 rebel group, which has caused devastation in eastern DR Congo, though he denied the accusations and did not appear in court.

The military court also ordered Kabila to pay a fine of \$33 billion (£25 billion); his allies have criticized the trial as politically motivated and “theatrical.”

Kabila, who ruled DR Congo for 18 years, went into self-imposed exile in 2023 after falling out with President Félix Tshisekedi, while conflict in the mineral-rich east continues despite a ceasefire deal reached in July.

48. **Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw approved the establishment of the 'NaMo Semiconductor Laboratory' at IIT Bhubaneswar with an estimated cost of ₹4.95 crore. The lab will primarily focus on which of the following areas?**

इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और आईटी मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने आईआईटी भुवनेश्वर में ₹4.95 करोड़ की अनुमानित लागत से 'नमो सेमीकंडक्टर प्रयोगशाला' की स्थापना को मंजूरी दे दी है। यह प्रयोगशाला मुख्य रूप से निम्नलिखित में से किस क्षेत्र पर केंद्रित होगी?

- (a) Software Development
- (b) Semiconductor Training, Design, and Fabrication
- (c) Renewable Energy
- (d) Artificial Intelligence
- (e) Semiconductor Robotics

Ans. b

Sol. Electronics Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw Approves 'NaMo Semiconductor Laboratory' at IIT Bhubaneswar

Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw approved the establishment of the 'NaMo Semiconductor Laboratory' at IIT Bhubaneswar with an estimated cost of ₹4.95 crore.

The lab will be equipped with essential tools and software for semiconductor training, design, and fabrication, aiming to develop a skilled, industry-ready workforce.

It will support India's chip manufacturing and packaging units and act as a catalyst for the growing semiconductor ecosystem, boosting 'Make in India' and 'Design in India' initiatives.

49. **Navi Mumbai International Airport will be renamed after which personality?**

नवी मुंबई अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा किस व्यक्ति के नाम पर नामित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj
- (b) Loknete D. B. Patil
- (c) Jagadguru Sant Tukaram
- (d) Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj
- (e) Devendra Fadnavis

Ans. b

Sol. Navi Mumbai International Airport to Be Renamed 'Loknete D. B. Patil Navi Mumbai International Airport'

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced that Navi Mumbai International Airport will be named after late Loknete D. B. Patil, with approval from Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The state government has also proposed renaming Pune Airport after Jagadguru Sant Tukaram and Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar Airport after Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, with approvals expected soon under the new central naming policy. Fadnavis stated that cases registered against protestors during the airport naming agitation will be withdrawn to ensure they do not hinder employment opportunities at the airport.

50. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) recently inaugurated its first fully women-operated central store unit in which city?

दक्षिण पूर्वी कोलफील्ड्स लिमिटेड (SECL) ने हाल ही में अपनी पहली पूर्ण रूप से महिला संचालित केंद्रीय भंडार इकाई किस शहर में शुरू की है?

- (a) Bilaspur
- (b) Raipur
- (c) Korba
- (d) Dhanbad
- (e) Ranchi

Ans. c

Sol. SECL Inaugurates First Fully Women-Operated Central Store Unit in Korba under Special Campaign 5.0

South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL), inaugurated its first fully women-operated central store unit at the Korba workshop. The initiative is part of the Government of India's Special Campaign 5.0, promoting women empowerment in the coal sector.

The new unit, managed by eight women officers, will oversee spare parts supply and inventory management, reflecting SECL's commitment to "nari shakti se rashtra shakti."

51. **Exercise KONKAN-2025 is a bilateral naval exercise between which two countries?**

Exercise KONKAN-2025 दो देशों के बीच एक द्विपक्षीय नौसैनिक अभ्यास है, वे देश कौन से हैं?

- (a) India and France
- (b) India and USA
- (c) India and UK
- (d) India and Japan
- (e) India and Australia

Ans. c

Sol. India and UK Begin Exercise KONKAN-2025 to Strengthen Maritime Cooperation under Vision 2035

Exercise KONKAN-2025, a bilateral naval exercise between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy, began off India's western coast, reaffirming the nations' commitment to secure and open seas under the India-UK Vision 2035.

The exercise, conducted in two phases (5–12 October 2025), includes professional exchanges, cross-deck visits, sports, cultural events, and advanced maritime drills in anti-air, anti-surface, and anti-submarine warfare.

Key participants include the Indian Navy's INS Vikrant carrier battle group and the UK Carrier Strike Group (UK CSG-25) led by HMS Prince of Wales, with additional assets from Norway and Japan.

Recent Exercise

- **Exercise ZAPAD 2025** between Russia & India – Mulino Training Ground, Nizhniy, Russia
- 14th edition of Joint Military **Exercise MAITREE-XIV** between India & Thailand - Joint Training Node (JTN), Umroi, Meghalaya
- 21st edition of **Joint Military Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2025** between India and USA - Fort Wainwright,
- 14th Edition of Military Exercise '**Bold Kurukshetra**' between India and Singapore - Jodhpur

52. **How many total medals did India win at the World Para Athletics Championships held in New Delhi?**

नई दिल्ली में आयोजित वर्ल्ड पैरालंपिक एथलेटिक्स चैम्पियनशिप में भारत ने कुल कितने पदक जीते?

- (a) 18
- (b) 20
- (c) 22
- (d) 24

(e) 26

Ans. c

Sol. India Secures 22 Medals, Including 6 Gold, at World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi

India concluded the World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi with a total of 22 medals: 6 Gold, 9 Silver, and 7 Bronze.

On the final day at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Simran Sharma won silver in 200m T12 and Preeti Pal secured silver in 100m T35, marking their second medals of the tournament.

Paralympic champion Navdeep claimed silver in javelin throw F41, and Sandeep earned bronze in 200m T44, contributing to India's overall medal tally.

53. **Which organisation signed an MoU with Thermo Fisher Scientific to support India's biotechnology sector?**

किस संगठन ने भारत के बायोटेक क्षेत्र का समर्थन करने के लिए Thermo Fisher Scientific के साथ MoU पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) NITI Aayog – National Institution for Transforming India Aayog
- (b) DPIIT – Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (d) CSIR – Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- (e) DBT – Department of Biotechnology

Ans. b

Sol. DPIIT Signs MoU with Thermo Fisher Scientific to Boost Innovation and Support 500+ Biotech Startups in India

DPIIT signs MoU with Thermo Fisher Scientific to boost innovation in India's biotechnology sector and support the growth of high-potential startups.

The partnership aims to assist over 500 biotech startups in the next three years through strategic advisory, technology access, mentorship, and investor connections.

The collaboration with Startup India and Thermo Fisher Scientific will strengthen the biotech ecosystem and create opportunities for early-stage entrepreneurs to scale their solutions and contribute to India's bioeconomy.

54. **Where is the Kronotsky volcano, which recently erupted, located?**

हाल ही में विस्फोटित हुए क्रोनॉट्स्की ज्वालामुखी का स्थान कहाँ है?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Russia
- (c) Indonesia
- (d) Philippines
- (e) Iceland

Ans. b

Sol. Kronotsky Volcano in Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula Erupts

Kronotsky volcano on Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula erupted, sending an ash plume 9.2 km above sea level and stretching about 85 km to the south and southeast.

A red aviation alert has been issued due to the high hazard posed to both local and international air traffic, according to the Kamchatka Volcanic Eruption Response Team.

55. Who has been appointed as the official ambassador for the English Premier League (EPL) in India?

भारत में इंग्लिश प्रीमियर लीग (EPL) के आधिकारिक ब्रांड एम्बेसडर के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Virat Kohli
- (b) Rohit Sharma
- (c) Sanju Samson
- (d) Yuvraj Singh
- (e) MS Dhoni

Ans. c

Sol. Sanju Samson Appointed as Official Ambassador of English Premier League (EPL) in India

Indian cricketer Sanju Samson has been appointed as the official ambassador for the English Premier League (EPL) in India, marking the league's effort to strengthen its presence in the Indian subcontinent.

During his ambassadorial duties, Samson met former England and Liverpool striker Michael Owen at a fan engagement event in Mumbai, reflecting the EPL's growing fan culture in India.

Samson, who is also the brand ambassador for Kerala Blasters FC (ISL), aims to promote football in Kerala and inspire youth by bridging the gap between cricket and football through his dual sporting influence.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Shubhanshu Shukla - Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025
- Mohammed Siraj - Skechers India
- Alia Bhatt- Denim brand Levi's
- Abhinav Bindra - International Olympic Committee (IOC) Mental Health Ambassadors
- Madhuri Dixit – Odisha state's handloom industry

56. During the Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, PM Narendra Modi launched a major youth-focused scheme named PM-SETU.

This initiative aims to upgrade over 1,000 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) with modern infrastructure and connect India's youth with global skill demands. What is the full form of PM-SETU?

नई दिल्ली के विज्ञान भवन में आयोजित कौशल दीक्षांत समारोह के दौरान प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने युवाओं पर केंद्रित एक महत्वपूर्ण योजना PM-SETU शुरू की। इस योजना का उद्देश्य देशभर के 1,000 से अधिक आईटीआई (ITIs) को आधुनिक उपकरणों से लैस करना और भारत के युवाओं को वैश्विक कौशल आवश्यकताओं से जोड़ना है। PM-SETU का पूरा नाम क्या है?

- (a) Pradhan Mantri Skill Enhancement and Training Unit
- (b) Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs
- (c) Pradhan Mantri Skill Education and Technical Upgrade
- (d) Pradhan Mantri Self-Employment Training Unit
- (e) None of the above

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi Launches ₹62,000 Crore Youth-Centric Initiatives

Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled youth-focused initiatives worth over ₹62,000 crore at the Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh in New Delhi, aimed at boosting education, skilling, and entrepreneurship across India.

He launched the Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU), which will modernize over 1,000 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and align youth skills with global demand.

PM Modi also inaugurated 1,200 Vocational Skill Labs in 400 Navodaya Vidyalayas and 200 Eklavya Model Residential Schools, emphasising that ITIs are vital for building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

The Prime Minister launched Bihar's revamped Mukhyamantri Nishchay Swayam Sahayata Bhatta Yojana, providing ₹1,000 monthly allowance and free skill training to nearly 5 lakh graduate youth annually, and felicitated 46 All India ITI toppers.

57. The 'Auto Driverla Sevalo' scheme, providing ₹15,000 annual financial assistance to over 2.9 lakh auto, cab, and maxi cab drivers, has been launched by the government of which Indian state?

‘ऑटो ड्राइवरला सेवालो’ योजना, जिसके तहत 2.9 लाख से अधिक ऑटो, कैब और मैक्सी कैब ड्राइवरों को प्रति वर्ष ₹15,000 आर्थिक सहायता दी जाएगी, किस भारतीय राज्य की सरकार ने शुरू की है?

- (a) Telangana
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Andhra Pradesh

Ans. e

Sol. Andhra Pradesh Launches 'Auto Driverla Sevalo' Scheme

Andhra Pradesh CM N. Chandrababu Naidu launched the 'Auto Driverla Sevalo' scheme, providing ₹15,000 annual financial assistance to over 2.9 lakh auto, cab, and maxi cab drivers affected by the state's Stree Shakti free bus travel initiative.

For the financial year 2025–26, the state government will disburse ₹436 crore directly into beneficiaries' bank accounts, reaffirming its commitment to driver welfare and livelihood support.

Naidu announced plans to convert all public transport vehicles to electric, assured no harassment of drivers, and highlighted ongoing road repairs worth ₹3,400 crore to improve conditions across 23,000 km of roads.

About Andhra Pradesh

- **Capital** – Amaravati
- **Chief Minister** – N Chandrababu Naidu
- **Deputy CM** – Pawan Kalyan
- **Governor** – S. Abdul Nazeer

58. In which Indian state were two Guinness World Records set during the Bathukamma Festival?

बथुकम्मा महोत्सव के दौरान दो गिनीज वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड किस भारतीय राज्य में बनाए गए?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Odisha

Ans. b

Sol. Telangana Sets Two Guinness World Records During Bathukamma Festival Celebration

Telangana celebrates Bathukamma Festival with two new Guinness World Records: the largest Bathukamma floral decoration (7 tonnes of flowers, 63.11 ft high, and 11 ft wide) and the most synchronised performance by 1,354 women.

The records were certified by Guinness World Records and presented to State Tourism Minister Krishna Rao and Women Development Minister Anasuya Sitakka during the event at Saroornagar Stadium, Hyderabad.

The Bathukamma structure was built by around 300 workers using metal, bamboo, and flowers, taking 72 hours to complete, with special guests including Miss World 2025 Opal Suchata Chuangsri and other finalists attending the celebrations.

59. **The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2025 was awarded to Mary Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell, and Shimon Sakaguchi for their achievement in: 2025 का फिजियोलॉजी या मेडिसिन का नोबेल पुरस्कार मैरी ब्रंको, फ्रेड रैम्सडेल और शिमोन साकागुची को किस उपलब्धि के लिए दिया गया?**

- (a) Discovering the detailed structure and function of DNA and its role in genetic inheritance
- (b) Developing an effective and widely used vaccine for COVID-19 to prevent viral infections globally
- (c) Uncovering key mechanisms of the human immune system and regulatory T cells
- (d) Inventing CRISPR-Cas9 gene-editing technology to modify genetic material in living organisms
- (e) Discovering insulin and its medical applications for treating diabetes and regulating blood sugar levels

Ans. c

Sol. Three Scientists Win 2025 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for Discoveries on Immune System and Regulatory T Cells

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2025 awarded to Mary Brunkow (USA), Fred Ramsdell (USA), and Shimon Sakaguchi (Japan) for uncovering key mechanisms of the human immune system, particularly regulatory T cells that prevent autoimmune attacks.

Their research on peripheral immune tolerance explained how the immune system distinguishes harmful invaders from the body's own cells, paving the way for treatments for cancer, autoimmune diseases, and improved organ transplantation.

Shimon Sakaguchi discovered regulatory T cells in 1995, while Brunkow and Ramsdell identified the role of the Foxp3 gene in 2001; together, these findings established the foundation for modern immunology therapies.

What is Nobel Prize?

- *The Nobel Prize is one of the most prestigious international awards, established by the will of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite, in 1895. It is awarded annually to individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions in the fields of:*
 - *Physics – for groundbreaking discoveries in the physical sciences.*
 - *Chemistry – for exceptional achievements in chemistry.*
 - *Physiology or Medicine – for discoveries that have advanced medical science and human health.*
 - *Literature – for distinguished literary work.*
 - *Peace – for efforts in promoting global peace and resolving conflicts.*
- *Later, in 1968, the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel was added for contributions to economics.*

- *The first Nobel Prizes were awarded on December 10, 1901.*
- *Key Features:*
 - *Winners are called Nobel Laureates*
 - *Each prize consists of a medal, a diploma, and a cash award.*
 - *The awards are usually announced in October and presented on December 10, the anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death.*
 - *The prizes recognize achievements that benefit humanity and have a lasting impact on society.*

60. **On which date is World Cerebral Palsy Day observed every year?**

विश्व मस्तिष्क पक्षाघात (Cerebral Palsy) दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 4 October
- (b) 5 October
- (c) 6 October
- (d) 7 October
- (e) 8 October

Ans. c

Sol. 6 October - World Cerebral Palsy Day

World Cerebral Palsy Day is observed on 6 October each year to raise awareness about cerebral palsy (CP) and advocate for the rights, inclusion, and well-being of people living with CP.

Theme 2025 - #UniqueAndUnited

Cerebral palsy (CP) is a group of disorders affecting movement, posture, and muscle coordination, usually caused by abnormal brain development or brain damage before, during, or shortly after birth.

61. **How much funding has Hero Future Energies secured from SBI and Canara Bank?**

Hero Future Energies ने SBI और Canara Bank से कितनी राशि का फंडिंग प्राप्त किया है?

- (a) ₹1,500 crore
- (b) ₹1,750 crore
- (c) ₹1,908 crore
- (d) ₹2,000 crore
- (e) ₹2,100 crore

Ans. c

Sol. Hero Future Energies secures ₹1,908 cr funding from SBI, Canara Bank

Hero Future Energies has secured ₹1,908 crore in funding from State Bank of India (lead) and Canara Bank to support renewable energy projects.

The funds will be used to develop a 120 MW renewable hybrid project at Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, integrating wind, solar, and storage technologies to provide reliable peak power.

The project, contracted with SJVN, has a repayment period of 21 years, ensuring timely execution and commencement of commercial operations.

62. Which company has acquired 100% stake in Sterling Bank, Bahamas?

किस कंपनी ने स्टर्लिंग बैंक, बहामास में 100% हिस्सेदारी हासिल की है?

- (a) IndusInd Bank Ltd.
- (b) ICICI International Holdings Ltd.
- (c) HDFC Bank
- (d) IndusInd International Holdings Ltd.
- (e) Axis International Holdings Ltd.

Ans. d

Sol. IIHL Mauritius Acquires 100% Stake in Sterling Bank, Bahamas

IndusInd International Holdings Ltd. (IIHL), Mauritius, has completed the acquisition of 100% stake in Sterling Bank, Bahamas, after previously acquiring 51% in September 2022; the acquisition was made through IIHL's wholly owned subsidiary, IIHL (Capital), Mauritius.

Sterling Bank will be renamed as 'IIHL Bank & Trust Ltd.', marking IIHL's expansion in the global Banking, Financial Services, Securities, and Insurance (BFSI) sector.

IIHL, with a net worth of \$1.26 billion (as of August 31, 2025), aims to enhance long-term shareholder value, expand globally, and achieve a \$50 billion global market capitalisation by 2030 in the BFSI sector.

63. What is the name of the retirement benefits model launched by Zomato and HDFC Pension for delivery partners?

डिलीवरी पार्टनर्स के लिए ज़ोमैटो और एचडीएफसी पेंशन द्वारा लॉन्च किए गए सेवानिवृत्ति लाभ मॉडल का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Gig Workers Pension Scheme
- (b) NPS Platform Workers Model
- (c) Delivery Partners Retirement Plan
- (d) Zomato Pension Plus
- (e) HDFC Secure Retirement

Ans. b

Sol. Zomato and HDFC Pension Launch NPS Model to Secure Retirement Benefits for Delivery Partners

Zomato-HDFC Pension collaboration: Zomato and HDFC Pension launched the 'NPS Platform Workers Model' to provide delivery partners access to formal retirement benefits, formally inaugurated by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on October 1. **Rapid onboarding of delivery partners:** Over 30,000 Zomato delivery partners have already generated their PRANs within 72 hours, with the platform aiming to cover more than 1 lakh delivery partners under NPS by 2025.

Benefits for gig workers: The model offers long-term financial security, including lump sum payments and monthly pensions at retirement, along with flexibility for small, regular contributions, addressing the current gap in retirement awareness and savings among platform workers.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- *Bank of Baroda Gets IFSCA Approval to **Operate as Trading-Cum-Clearing Member** on India International Bullion Exchange at GIFT City*
- *Jio Payments Bank Launches '**Savings Pro**' to Auto-Invest Surplus Funds with Up to 6.5% Returns*
- *Bank of Baroda Launches **eRUPI P2P Digital Gifting** on bob ₹ Pay UPI App*
- *DBS Bank India becomes the **first wholly-owned subsidiary authorised by RBI to collect GST payments***
- *South Indian Bank Launches **UPI-Based GST Payment Facility** for Seamless Tax Transactions*

64. **What was the main scientific contribution for which John Clarke, Michel Devoret, and John Martinis were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics 2025?**

किस वैज्ञानिक योगदान के लिए जॉन क्लार्क, मिशेल देवोरेट और जॉन मार्टिनिस को भौतिकी में नोबेल पुरस्कार 2025 से सम्मानित किया गया?

- For their groundbreaking research on gravitational waves that proved Einstein's theory of relativity
- For the development of quantum computers that perform parallel processing at atomic levels
- For their discovery of the Higgs boson confirming the Standard Model of particle physics
- For their observation of black holes and event horizons in distant galaxies
- For experiments showing macroscopic quantum tunnelling in superconducting circuits

Ans. e

Sol. Nobel Prize in Physics 2025 Awarded to Clarke, Devoret, and Martinis for Pioneering Quantum Experiments

John Clarke (UK), Michel Devoret (France), and John Martinis (USA) have been awarded the Nobel Prize for their pioneering experiments on quantum mechanics, specifically demonstrating macroscopic quantum tunnelling using superconducting circuits.

The trio devised circuits with two superconductors separated by a Josephson junction, showing that all particles in the superconductor could act collectively, simulating current flow even without voltage.

Their research laid the foundation for superconducting qubits, essential for practical quantum computers that operate with qubits rather than classical bits, enabling exponentially faster computation and advanced quantum technologies.

Clarke, Devoret, and Martinis collaborated at UC Berkeley with careful experimental precision over decades. They will equally share the prize of 11 million Swedish kroner (approximately ₹1 crore).

What is Nobel Prize?

- *The Nobel Prize is one of the most prestigious international awards, established by the will of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite, in 1895. It is awarded annually to individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions in the fields of:*
 - *Physics – for groundbreaking discoveries in the physical sciences.*
 - *Chemistry – for exceptional achievements in chemistry.*
 - *Physiology or Medicine – for discoveries that have advanced medical science and human health.*
 - *Literature – for distinguished literary work.*
 - *Peace – for efforts in promoting global peace and resolving conflicts.*
- *Later, in 1968, the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel was added for contributions to economics.*
- *The first Nobel Prizes were awarded on December 10, 1901.*
- *Key Features:*
 - *Winners are called Nobel Laureates*
 - *Each prize consists of a medal, a diploma, and a cash award.*
 - *The awards are usually announced in October and presented on December 10, the anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death.*
 - *The prizes recognize achievements that benefit humanity and have a lasting impact on society.*

65. **Which island in Singapore was renamed as “Zubeen Garg Island” on Google Maps?**

सिंगापुर के किस द्वीप का नाम बदलकर “Zubeen Garg Island” रखा गया है?

- (a) Sentosa Island
- (b) St. John's Island
- (c) Lazarus Island
- (d) Pulau Ubin
- (e) Kusu Island

Ans. b

Sol. Singapore Renames Site of Zubeen Garg's Passing as Zubeen Garg Island
Singapore's St. John's Island has been renamed "Zubeen Garg Island" on Google Maps as a symbolic tribute to the late singer.

The renaming was initiated by enthusiastic fans who added the new label using Google Maps' "Add a missing place" feature, rather than through any formal government order.

The gesture reflects the deep emotional resonance of Zubeen Garg's legacy, making his memory a permanent part of geographic maps beyond Assam

66. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 9th edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025 at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi. What is the theme of the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025?**

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने नई दिल्ली के यशोभूमि में इंडिया मोबाइल कांग्रेस (IMC) 2025 के 9वें संस्करण का उद्घाटन किया। इंडिया मोबाइल कांग्रेस (IMC) 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Digital India 2.0
- (b) Innovate to Transform
- (c) Technology for All
- (d) Connected Future
- (e) Smart Nation Mission

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates 9th Edition of India Mobile Congress 2025 in New Delhi
Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 9th edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025 at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi, under the theme "Innovate to Transform", showcasing India's commitment to digital innovation and transformation. IMC 2025, Asia's largest telecom, media, and technology event, features participation from over 150 countries, 400 companies, and 1.5 lakh visitors, focusing on key themes like 6G, AI, Quantum Communications, and Semiconductors.

Later in the day, PM Modi inaugurated Phase 1 of the Navi Mumbai International Airport and Phase 2B of Mumbai Metro Line-3, besides launching 'Mumbai One', India's first integrated public transport app.

He also launched the Short-Term Employability Program in Maharashtra to enhance youth skills across 400 ITIs and 150 Technical Schools, and is set to host UK PM Keir Starmer to strengthen the India-UK 'Vision 2035' partnership.

67. **Linthoi Chanambam, who was recently in the news, is associated with which sport?**

हाल ही में चर्चा में रहे लिनथोई चनम्बम किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

- (a) Golf
- (b) Judo
- (c) Boxing
- (d) Badminton
- (e) Weightlifting

Ans. b

Sol. Linthoi Chanambam Wins India's First-Ever Medal at Judo Junior World Championships

Judo player Linthoi Chanambam won India's first-ever medal at the Judo Junior World Championships in Lima, Peru.

The 19-year-old clinched the bronze medal in the women's 63 kg category by defeating Netherlands' Joni Geilen.

After losing her Group D final match to Japan's So Morichika, Chanambam entered the medal match through the repechage route and secured the bronze.

68. **A heavy-duty Russian cargo plane embarked for Antarctica, carrying large scientific instruments and equipment to study atmospheric and climate changes. This marked the first-ever direct air cargo mission from India to Antarctica. What type of plane was used for this cargo mission?**

एक भारी-भरकम रूसी मालवाहक विमान अंटार्कटिका के लिए रवाना हुआ, जिसमें वायुमंडलीय और जलवायु परिवर्तनों का अध्ययन करने के लिए बड़े वैज्ञानिक उपकरण और सामग्री थी। यह भारत से अंटार्कटिका के लिए पहला सीधा हवाई मालवाहक मिशन था। इस मालवाहक मिशन के लिए किस प्रकार के विमान का उपयोग किया गया?

- (a) Boeing 747
- (b) IL-76
- (c) C-130 Hercules
- (d) Airbus A320
- (e) Antonov AN-225

Ans. b

Sol. India's First Direct Air Cargo Mission to Antarctica Departs with 18 Tons of Scientific Equipment

A heavy-duty Russian cargo plane embarked for Antarctica, carrying large scientific instruments and equipment to study atmospheric and climate changes.

This marked the first-ever direct air cargo mission from India to Antarctica, operated by IL-76 under DROMLAN, transporting 18 tons of gear, medicines, provisions, and essentials for Indian researchers at Bharati and Maitri research bases.

The specialized cargo plane, usually deployed for military transport including by the Indian Army, was re-routed via Goa's Manohar International Airport (Mopa) and will enroute South Africa's Cape Town before reaching Antarctica.

69. Which Ministry of the Government of India is responsible for conferring the National Service Scheme (NSS) Award, recognizing exceptional contributions of NSS Units, Programme Officers, and Volunteers towards community service and nation-building?

भारत सरकार के किस मंत्रालय के तहत National Service Scheme (NSS) Award प्रदान किया जाता है, जो NSS यूनिट्स, प्रोग्राम ऑफिसर्स और वॉलंटियर्स की उत्कृष्ट सामुदायिक सेवा और राष्ट्रनिर्माण में योगदान को मान्यता देता है?

- (a) Ministry of Education
- (b) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- (c) Ministry of Culture
- (d) Ministry of Social Justice
- (e) Ministry of Home Affairs

Ans. b

Sol. President Murmu Presents MY Bharat NSS Awards 2022-23 at Rashtrapati Bhavan
President Droupadi Murmu presented the MY Bharat – National Service Scheme (NSS) Awards 2022-23 at Rashtrapati Bhavan, honoring 40 NSS Units, Programme Officers, and Volunteers for their outstanding contributions.

The National Service Scheme Award, conferred by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, recognises NSS members for their exceptional community service and nation-building efforts.

NSS, launched in 1969 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, aims to develop the personality and character of student youth through voluntary community service; Union Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya was also present at the ceremony.

70. When is Indian Air Force Day celebrated every year?

भारतीय वायु सेना दिवस हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 5 October
- (b) 6 October
- (c) 8 October
- (d) 7 October
- (e) 9 October

Ans. c

Sol. 8 October - Indian Air Force Day

Indian Air Force Day is celebrated every year on 8 October to commemorate the establishment of the Indian Air Force (IAF) in 1932.

The day honours the courage, dedication, and achievements of the personnel of the Indian Air Force in defending the country's airspace.

IAF Day celebrations include air shows, flypasts, parades, and award ceremonies, showcasing the operational capabilities and technological advancements of the Air Force.

71. World Cotton Day is observed every year on 7 October to recognise the global importance of cotton in trade, economy, and sustainable development. What is the theme for World Cotton Day 2025?

व्यापार, अर्थव्यवस्था और सतत विकास में कपास के वैश्विक महत्व को मान्यता देने के लिए हर साल 7 अक्टूबर को विश्व कपास दिवस मनाया जाता है। विश्व कपास दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Cotton for Growth
- (b) Threads of Sustainability
- (c) The Fabric of Our Lives
- (d) Cotton and Commerce
- (e) Sustainable Fibres

Ans. c

Sol. 7 October - World Cotton Day

World Cotton Day is observed every year on 7 October to recognise the global importance of cotton in trade, economy, and sustainable development.

The day aims to promote fair trade practices, sustainability, and the livelihoods of cotton farmers, especially in developing countries.

Theme 2025 - The Fabric of Our Lives

Initiated by the World Trade Organization (WTO) in collaboration with international cotton-producing nations, the day highlights cotton's contribution to economic growth and global commerce.

72. Cyclone Shakhti, the first post-monsoon cyclone over the Arabian Sea in 2025, has intensified into a severe cyclonic storm with wind speeds of around 100 kmph, causing rough sea conditions off India's western coast. Which country suggested the name 'Shakhti' for this cyclone?

अरब सागर में 2025 में आने वाला पहला मानसून-पश्चात चक्रवात, शक्ति, लगभग 100 किमी प्रति घंटे की तेज़ हवाओं के साथ एक भीषण चक्रवाती तूफ़ान में बदल गया है, जिससे भारत के पश्चिमी तट पर समुद्र में उथल-पुथल मच गई है। इस चक्रवात के लिए 'शक्ति' नाम किस देश ने सुझाया था?

- (a) India
- (b) Maldives
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Bangladesh
- (e) Thailand

Ans. c

Sol. Cyclone Shakhti Intensifies into Severe Storm over Arabian Sea

Cyclone Shakhti, the first post-monsoon cyclone over the Arabian Sea in 2025, has intensified into a severe cyclonic storm with wind speeds around 100 kmph, creating rough sea conditions off India's western coast.

The storm's name, 'Shakhti', was suggested by Sri Lanka following the World Meteorological Organisation/ESCAP naming convention for tropical cyclones.

73. The recently erupted Baratang mud volcano is located in which region of India?

हाल ही में विस्फोट हुए बरतांग मड वोल्केनो भारत के किस क्षेत्र में स्थित है?

- (a) Lakshadweep Islands
- (b) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- (c) Sunderbans, West Bengal
- (d) Western Ghats, Kerala
- (e) Nicobar Islands

Ans. b

Sol. Baratang Mud Volcano in Andaman Erupts After 20 Years

The Baratang mud volcano in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands erupted violently on 2 October 2025, ending over 20 years of dormancy, producing a 3–4 metre-high mound and spreading mud over 1,000 sq. metres.

Located about 150 km from Port Blair in the North and Middle Andaman district, the Baratang mud volcano is India's only known mud volcano and a unique geological tourist attraction.

Mud volcanoes are formed by the eruption of mud, water, and gases (mainly methane) from deep underground, unlike regular volcanoes that emit lava; these eruptions occur when gases and fluids push upward, creating cone-shaped mounds or domes.

74. Which company has recently signed a tripartite MoU with BrahMos Aerospace Thiruvananthapuram Ltd (BATL) and Axiscades Technologies to jointly bid for DRDO's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) programme?

हाल ही में किस कंपनी ने DRDO के एडवांस्ड मीडियम कॉम्बैट एयरक्राफ्ट (AMCA) कार्यक्रम के लिए संयुक्त रूप से बोली लगाने के लिए ब्रह्मोस एयरोस्पेस तिरुवनंतपुरम लिमिटेड (BATL) और एक्सिसकेड्स टेक्नोलॉजीज के साथ एक त्रिपक्षीय समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Tata Advanced Systems
- (b) Larsen & Toubro
- (c) Goodluck India
- (d) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- (e) Bharat Forge

Ans. c

Sol. Goodluck India Signs Tripartite MoU for DRDO's AMCA Programme

Goodluck India, a leading special steel manufacturer, has signed a tripartite MoU with BrahMos Aerospace Thiruvananthapuram Ltd (BATL) and Axiscades Technologies to jointly bid for DRDO's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) programme.

The AMCA programme aims to develop a fifth-generation stealth fighter aircraft equipped with advanced avionics, super-cruise capability, internal weapon bays, and electronic warfare systems, marking a major leap in India's defence technology.

The collaboration supports the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, focusing on enhancing indigenous defence manufacturing and strengthening India's self-reliance in aerospace and defence capabilities.

75. The Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Akshar, which was recently commissioned at Karaikal, Puducherry, belongs to which specific class of Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) designed for coastal surveillance, anti-smuggling, and law enforcement operations?

भारतीय तट रक्षक जहाज (ICGS) अक्षर, जिसे हाल ही में कराईकल, पुडुचेरी में चालू किया गया था, तटीय निगरानी, तस्करी विरोधी और कानून प्रवर्तन कार्यों के लिए डिज़ाइन किए गए फास्ट पेट्रोल वेसल्स (FPV) के किस विशिष्ट वर्ग से संबंधित है?

- (a) Samarth-class
- (b) Sankalp-class
- (c) Adanya-class
- (d) Vikram-class
- (e) Sarathi-class

Ans. c

Sol. ICGS Akshar Commissioned at Karaikal: Boost to Aatmanirbhar Bharat and India's Maritime Strength

The Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Akshar, the second vessel in the Adanya-class Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) series, was commissioned at Karaikal, Puducherry, and built indigenously by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) with over 60% indigenous content, promoting Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India.

The 51-metre-long, 320-ton vessel is powered by twin 3,000 KW diesel engines, offering a top speed of 27 knots and an endurance of 1,500 nautical miles, equipped with Controllable Pitch Propellers (CPP) for enhanced manoeuvrability.

It features advanced weapon systems including a 30 mm CRN 91 gun and two 12.7 mm Stabilized Remote-Controlled Guns (SRCG) with a fire-control system, along with automation technologies like IBS, IPMS, and APMS.

76. World Habitat Day is observed on the first Monday of October every year to raise awareness about the state of human settlements and the right to adequate shelter. This year, it is observed on 6 October 2025. What is the theme of World Habitat Day 2025?

मानव बस्तियों की स्थिति और पर्याप्त आश्रय के अधिकार के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए हर साल अक्टूबर के पहले सोमवार को विश्व पर्यावास दिवस मनाया जाता है। इस वर्ष यह 6 अक्टूबर 2025 को मनाया जा रहा है। विश्व पर्यावास दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Sustainable Cities
- (b) Urban Crisis Response
- (c) Housing For All
- (d) Smart Cities
- (e) Better Urban Life

Ans. b

Sol. 6 October 2025 - World Habitat Day

World Habitat Day is observed on the first Monday of October every year to raise awareness about the state of human settlements and the right to adequate shelter. This year, it is observed on 6 October 2025.

Theme 2025 - Urban crisis response

The day was established by the United Nations in 1985 to highlight the need for sustainable urban development and improved living conditions worldwide.

77. The 2025 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, and Omar M. Yaghi for creating molecular structures that have large internal spaces, enabling gases and chemicals to flow, and which can be used in applications such as harvesting water from desert air, capturing carbon dioxide, storing toxic gases, and catalyzing chemical reactions. What kind of chemical structures did they develop?

2025 का रसायन विज्ञान नोबेल पुरस्कार Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, और Omar M. Yaghi को ऐसे आणविक ढांचे बनाने के लिए दिया गया जिनमें बड़े आंतरिक स्थान होते हैं, जिससे गैसों और रसायन प्रवाहित हो सकते हैं और जिनका उपयोग मरुस्थलीय हवा से पानी निकालने, कार्बन डाइऑक्साइड को पकड़ने, विषैले गैसों को संग्रहीत करने और रासायनिक प्रतिक्रियाओं को उत्प्रेरित करने में किया जा सकता है। उन्होंने किस प्रकार के रासायनिक ढांचे विकसित किए?

- (a) Porous polymer networks
- (b) Supramolecular cages
- (c) Nanotube assemblies
- (d) Covalent organic frameworks
- (e) **Metal-organic frameworks**

Ans. e

Sol. Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, and Omar Yaghi Win 2025 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for Metal-Organic Frameworks

The 2025 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, and Omar M. Yaghi for the development of metal-organic frameworks (MOFs), announced by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

Metal-organic frameworks are molecular constructions with large spaces that allow gases and chemicals to flow, enabling applications such as harvesting water from desert air, capturing carbon dioxide, storing toxic gases, and catalyzing chemical reactions.

In 1989, Richard Robson pioneered combining positively charged copper ions with a four-armed molecule, laying the initial concept of MOFs, although the structure was unstable.

Susumu Kitagawa and Omar Yaghi enhanced Robson's concept by creating stable and flexible MOFs with rational design, demonstrating their ability to be modified for new and useful properties.

What is Nobel Prize?

- *The Nobel Prize is one of the most prestigious international awards, established by the will of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite, in 1895. It is awarded annually to individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions in the fields of:*
 - *Physics – for groundbreaking discoveries in the physical sciences.*
 - *Chemistry – for exceptional achievements in chemistry.*
 - *Physiology or Medicine – for discoveries that have advanced medical science and human health.*
 - *Literature – for distinguished literary work.*
 - *Peace – for efforts in promoting global peace and resolving conflicts.*
- *Later, in 1968, the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel was added for contributions to economics.*
- *The first Nobel Prizes were awarded on December 10, 1901.*
- **Key Features:**
 - *Winners are called Nobel Laureates*
 - *Each prize consists of a medal, a diploma, and a cash award.*
 - *The awards are usually announced in October and presented on December 10, the anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death.*
 - *The prizes recognize achievements that benefit humanity and have a lasting impact on society.*

78. **World Postal Day is observed annually on 9 October to celebrate the role of postal services in connecting people and facilitating communication globally. What is the theme of World Postal Day 2025?**

विश्व डाक दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 9 अक्टूबर को लोगों को जोड़ने और वैश्विक स्तर पर संचार को सुगम बनाने में डाक सेवाओं की भूमिका का जश्न मनाने के लिए मनाया जाता है। विश्व डाक दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) #Delivering Progress
- (b) #Connecting the Globe
- (c) #Innovation in Communication
- (d) #Post for People: Local Service
- (e) #Mail for the Future

Ans. d

Sol. 9 October - World Postal Day

World Postal Day is observed annually on 9 October to celebrate the role of postal services in connecting people and facilitating communication globally.

Theme 2025 – #Post for People: Local Service

The day commemorates the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874, which standardised and improved international mail delivery.

World Postal Day aims to raise awareness about the importance of postal networks in social and economic development, especially in remote and rural areas.

79. **On which day of October is World Sight Day observed every year to promote awareness about eye health worldwide?**

वर्ल्ड साइट डे हर वर्ष अक्टूबर के किस दिन मनाया जाता है ताकि विश्वभर में आंखों के स्वास्थ्य के प्रति जागरूकता फैलाई जा सके?

- (a) First Friday of October
- (b) Second Monday of October
- (c) Second Thursday of October
- (d) Third Wednesday of October
- (e) First Sunday of October

Ans. c

Sol. 10 October - World Sight Day

World Sight Day is observed this year on 10 October 2025 (second Thursday of October) to raise global awareness about eye health and vision care.

Theme 2025 - #LoveYourEyes

The day emphasizes the importance of preventing blindness, improving access to eye care services, and promoting early detection of eye conditions.

80. **Who inaugurated the Satcom Summit at the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025, emphasizing the role of satellite communication in digital inclusion and empowerment?**

सैटकॉम समिट (IMC 2025) का उद्घाटन किसने किया, जिन्होंने सैटेलाइट कम्युनिकेशन की डिजिटल समावेशन और सशक्तिकरण में भूमिका पर बल दिया?

- (a) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- (b) Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Jitendra Singh
- (e) Jyotiraditya M. Scindia

Ans. e

Sol. Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia Inaugurates Satcom Summit at IMC 2025

Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia inaugurated the Satcom Summit at India Mobile Congress 2025, highlighting satellite communication as a tool for digital inclusion and empowerment of farmers, students, doctors, and remote communities.

The government aims to connect 38,260 remote villages under the Universal Service Obligation Fund and Digital Bharat Nidhi, with around 29,000 villages already connected, and announced major policy reforms including GMPCS licenses to OneWeb and Jio, and a Letter of Intent to Starlink.

India's SATCOM sector, valued at \$4.3 billion in 2024 and projected to reach \$14.8 billion by 2033, will get a ₹900 crore National SATCOM Monitoring Facility, reinforcing the country's role as a global hub in satellite communications and space innovation.

81. ICICI Bank and Visa recently launched the Corporate Sapphire Forex Card, aimed at entrepreneurs and corporate leaders traveling internationally. This card, designed to provide premium benefits such as airport lounge access, meet-and-assist services, and multi-currency transactions with zero cross-currency markup, is powered by which premium Visa platform, known for its high-end offerings and global privileges?

ICICI Bank और Visa ने हाल ही में Corporate Sapphire Forex Card लॉन्च किया, जो अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्रा करने वाले उद्यमियों और कॉर्पोरेट लीडर्स के लिए है। इस कार्ड में एयरपोर्ट लाउंज एक्सेस, मीट-एंड-असिस्ट सेवाएँ, और जीरो क्रॉस-करेंसी मार्जिन के साथ मल्टी-करेंसी लेन-देन जैसी प्रीमियम सुविधाएँ शामिल हैं। यह कार्ड किस प्रीमियम Visa प्लेटफॉर्म द्वारा संचालित है, जो उच्च-स्तरीय सुविधाओं और वैश्विक विशेषाधिकारों के लिए जाना जाता है?

- (a) Visa Platinum
- (b) Visa Premium
- (c) Visa Signature
- (d) Visa Gold
- (e) Visa Infinite

Ans. e

Sol. ICICI Bank and Visa Launch Corporate Sapphire Forex Card with Premium Benefits for International Business Travelers

ICICI Bank and Visa launched the Corporate Sapphire Forex Card, the first prepaid card in Asia powered by Visa Infinite, targeting entrepreneurs and corporate leaders traveling internationally.

The card allows transactions in 15 currencies with zero cross-currency markup, offering benefits like airport lounge access, meet-and-assist services, a complimentary international eSIM, and ATM fee waivers.

Customers can apply and load the card digitally via ICICI Bank's InstaBIZ app, with plans to expand to large corporate employees through Corporate Internet Banking, supporting seamless international business travel.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Zomato and HDFC Pension launched 'NPS Platform Workers Model' to provide delivery partners access to formal retirement benefits
- Bank of Baroda Gets IFSCA Approval to **Operate as Trading-Cum-Clearing Member** on India International Bullion Exchange at GIFT City
- Jio Payments Bank Launches '**Savings Pro**' to Auto-Invest Surplus Funds with Up to 6.5% Returns
- Bank of Baroda Launches **eRUPI P2P Digital Gifting** on bob ₹ Pay UPI App
- DBS Bank India becomes the **first wholly-owned subsidiary authorised** by RBI to collect GST payments

82. According to Union Renewable Energy Minister Pralhad Joshi, India's solar power generation capacity has reached 125 GW, reflecting significant growth in the country's renewable energy sector. With this capacity, India has now become the ____ largest solar energy producer in the world, highlighting its global leadership in solar energy.

केंद्रीय नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री प्रल्हाद जोशी के अनुसार, भारत की सौर ऊर्जा उत्पादन क्षमता 125 GW तक पहुँच गई है, जो देश के नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण वृद्धि को दर्शाती है। इस क्षमता के साथ, भारत अब दुनिया में ____ सबसे बड़ा सौर ऊर्जा उत्पादक बन गया है, जो सौर ऊर्जा में वैश्विक नेतृत्व को उजागर करता है।

- (a) First
- (b) Second
- (c) Third
- (d) Fourth
- (e) Fifth

Ans. c

Sol. India's Solar Capacity Hits 125 GW, Becomes Third-Largest Producer Ahead of 8th ISA Assembly

India's solar power capacity has reached 125 GW, making the country the third-largest solar energy producer globally, according to Union Renewable Energy Minister Pralhad Joshi.

The 8th session of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Assembly is scheduled from October 27 to 30 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, with ISA membership now at 124 countries.

The ISA, a collaborative initiative between India and France, aims to combat climate change by promoting solar energy, targeting USD 1 trillion in solar investments by 2030 and reducing technology and financing costs.

Initiatives like PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana have already enabled over 20 lakh households to benefit from rooftop solar installations, highlighting India's efforts to translate national ambition into local impact.

83. **What is the name of the AI-powered feature launched by Paytm that turns users' spending data into rap songs?**

Paytm द्वारा लॉन्च की गई AI-संचालित फीचर का नाम क्या है, जो उपयोगकर्ताओं के खर्च डेटा को रैप सॉन्ग में बदल देता है?

- (a) Replay
- (b) Playback
- (c) PayRap
- (d) SpendTune
- (e) RapTrack

Ans. b

Sol. Paytm Launches 'Playback' – AI-Powered Feature That Turns Monthly Spending into Personalised Rap Songs

Paytm introduced 'Playback', an AI-powered feature that converts users' monthly spending data into personalised rap songs, currently in beta for select high-transaction users.

The feature analyses spending patterns across categories like shopping, food, travel, and utilities, generating custom rap lyrics summarising monthly expenses that can be listened to or shared.

Playback aims to make expense tracking more engaging, especially for younger users, by turning routine financial data into an interactive, entertaining experience while promoting financial awareness.

84. **A collaboration was announced to integrate India's UPI with PayPal World, enabling seamless transactions between domestic wallets and global payment systems. Which two organisations announced this integration?**

भारत के घरेलू वॉलेट और वैश्विक भुगतान सिस्टम के बीच सहज लेनदेन के लिए भारत की UPI को PayPal World के साथ एकीकृत करने के लिए सहयोग की घोषणा की गई। इस एकीकरण की घोषणा करने वाले दो संगठन कौन थे?

- (a) SBI and PayPal
- (b) NPCI and PayPal
- (c) RBI and PayPal
- (d) HDFC and PayPal
- (e) NPCI and Google Pay

Ans. b

Sol. NPCI Partners with PayPal to Integrate UPI with PayPal World for Seamless Global Payments

NPCI and PayPal announced a collaboration to integrate India's UPI with PayPal World, making India's instant payments platform the first to launch on the global digital payments network.

The collaboration aims to create a seamless, interoperable platform for consumers and merchants, enabling frictionless interactions between domestic wallets and global payment systems.

PayPal CEO Alex Chriss emphasised that the move focuses on connecting India to the world, rather than competing with UPI, reflecting India's growing importance in the global payments ecosystem.

85. What innovative feature has NPCI introduced through wearable smart glasses under the UPI Lite system to make digital payments completely hands-free and convenient for users?

NPCI ने डिजिटल भुगतान को पूरी तरह हैंड्स-फ्री और सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिए UPI Lite सिस्टम के तहत वियरेबल स्मार्ट ग्लास के माध्यम से कौन-सी नई सुविधा शुरू की है?

- (a) NFC-based cardless payment system that works only with banking apps
- (b) QR-scanning module for bill payments using eye movement detection
- (c) Bluetooth-linked smart lens payment support for offline transactions
- (d) Gesture-controlled fund transfer using smart watch integration
- (e) Hands-free payment feature allowing users to complete small transactions via voice commands and QR code scanning

Ans. c

Sol. NPCI launches biometric, wearable glass authentication for UPI payments

NPCI and RBI introduced face and fingerprint-based UPI authentication, allowing users to approve payments using Aadhaar-linked biometrics, potentially replacing traditional UPI PINs.

A hands-free UPI Lite feature for wearable smart glasses enables small-value transactions using voice commands and QR code scans, without needing phones, PINs, or touch.

Multi-signatory UPI accounts allow joint account holders to make payments that require approval from one or more signatories, enhancing convenience and transparency for family or business accounts.

The system uses on-device biometric technology for secure authentication, supports PIN setup/reset and ATM withdrawals, and targets senior citizens, rural users, and first-time digital payment users for a more inclusive experience.

86. Amid rising medical costs, a first-of-its-kind plan called Health Alpha allows customers to fully customise their health coverage. Which company has launched this innovative plan?

बढ़ती चिकित्सा लागतों के बीच, हेल्थ अल्फा नामक अपनी तरह की पहली योजना ग्राहकों को अपने स्वास्थ्य कवरेज को पूरी तरह से अनुकूलित करने की अनुमति देती है। यह इनोवेटिव प्लान किस कंपनी ने लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) ICICI Lombard
- (b) SBI General Insurance
- (c) HDFC Ergo
- (d) Bajaj Allianz
- (e) Reliance General Insurance

Ans. b

Sol. SBI General Launches 'Health Alpha' – India's First Fully Customizable DIY Health Insurance Plan

SBI General Insurance has launched 'Health Alpha', a first-of-its-kind customizable health plan designed to give customers total control over their coverage — from choosing benefits to adjusting limits and even modifying waiting periods.

The plan introduces a “do-it-yourself” approach to health insurance, allowing customers to build policies tailored to their specific needs and lifestyle rather than opting for one-size-fits-all solutions.

With over 50 coverage options and innovative features, Health Alpha aims to provide flexible and affordable protection for Indian families amid rising medical inflation.

87. According to the World Bank, what is India's projected GDP growth for FY26?

विश्व बैंक के अनुसार, FY26 में भारत की अनुमानित GDP वृद्धि क्या है?

- (a) 6.0%
- (b) 6.3%
- (c) 6.5%
- (d) 6.8%
- (e) 7.0%

Ans. c

Sol. World Bank Projects India as Fastest-Growing Major Economy in FY26 with 6.5% Growth

According to the World Bank, India is expected to remain the world's fastest-growing major economy in FY26, driven by strong consumption, improved agricultural output, and rural wage growth.

The World Bank raised India's GDP growth forecast to 6.5% for FY26 from the earlier 6.3%, citing resilient domestic demand, rural recovery, and positive effects of tax reforms.

Regional growth forecasts include Bangladesh at 4.8%, Bhutan downgraded to 7.3% due to hydropower delays, Maldives at 3.9%, and Nepal at 2.1% owing to political and economic uncertainties.

88. In October 2025, how much total funding has the Centre approved for fire services in Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan under NDRF?

अक्टूबर 2025 में, केंद्र ने NDRF के तहत हरियाणा, मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान में अग्निशमन सेवाओं के लिए कुल कितनी धनराशि स्वीकृत की है?

- (a) ₹903 crore
- (b) ₹703 crore
- (c) ₹1,003 crore
- (d) ₹1,203 crore
- (e) ₹1,503 crore

Ans. a

Sol. Centre approves ₹903 crore for fire services in Haryana, MP, and Rajasthan under NDRF

The Centre has approved over 903 crore rupees to Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan under the National Disaster Response Fund for the expansion and modernisation of fire services.

A High-Level Committee, under the Chairmanship of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, has approved the assistance. Out of the total amount, more than 117 crore rupees have been approved for Haryana, 397 crore for Madhya Pradesh and over 388 crore rupees for Rajasthan.

The committee has also approved over 707 crore rupees of additional Central assistance to Assam and Gujarat from NDRF, affected by floods and landslides during 2024. During the current financial year, the Central Government has released 13 thousand 603 crore rupees to 27 States under the State Disaster Response Fund and over two thousand crore rupees under NDRF to 12 States.

89. To improve ease of doing business, which organization has introduced a system-based auto-approval for IFSC code registration to speed up bank account approvals and facilitate faster credit of export incentives?

व्यापार में आसानी को बेहतर बनाने के लिए, किस संगठन ने बैंक खाता अनुमोदन में तेजी लाने और निर्यात प्रोत्साहनों के त्वरित ऋण की सुविधा के लिए IFSC कोड पंजीकरण हेतु सिस्टम-आधारित स्वतः अनुमोदन शुरू किया है?

- (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- (b) Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)
- (c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (d) NITI Aayog
- (e) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**

Ans. b

Sol. CBIC introduces system-based auto-approval for IFSC code registration

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has launched a system-based auto-approval mechanism for IFSC code registration to improve the ease of doing business.

The initiative will enable faster approval of bank account and IFSC code requests, ensuring quick and seamless credit of export incentives to exporters' accounts across multiple ports.

The Ministry of Finance stated that CBIC aims to leverage technology to simplify customs procedures, reduce transaction costs, and enhance trade efficiency for India's business community.

90. The PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana has achieved a major milestone with Public Sector Banks sanctioning over 5.79 lakh loan applications worth ₹10,907 crore as of September 2025, promoting household solar energy adoption. Which two ministries are jointly monitoring the implementation of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana?

पीएम सूर्य घर मुफ्त बिजली योजना ने सितंबर 2025 तक सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंकों द्वारा ₹10,907 करोड़ के 5.79 लाख से अधिक ऋण आवेदनों को मंजूरी देकर एक बड़ी उपलब्धि हासिल की है, जिससे घरेलू सौर ऊर्जा अपनाने को बढ़ावा मिला है। कौन से दो मंत्रालय संयुक्त रूप से पीएम सूर्य घर मुफ्त बिजली योजना के कार्यान्वयन की निगरानी कर रहे हैं?

- (a) Ministry of Power & Ministry of Finance

- (b) Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Environment
- (c) Department of Financial Services & Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- (d) Ministry of Power & Ministry of Housing
- (e) Ministry of Rural Development & Ministry of Energy

Ans. c

Sol. PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana Crosses ₹10,907 Crore in Loans, Empowering Over 5.79 Lakh Households with Rooftop Solar Energy

The PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana has achieved a major milestone with Public Sector Banks sanctioning over 5.79 lakh loan applications worth ₹10,907 crore as of September 2025, promoting household solar energy adoption.

The scheme encourages rooftop solar installations with collateral-free loans up to ₹2 lakh, offered at competitive interest rates, featuring simplified documentation and longer repayment periods linked to electricity cost savings.

All loan applications are processed digitally via the JanSamarth Portal, which is integrated with the National Portal (pmsuryaghar.gov.in), ensuring seamless, transparent, and data-driven loan disbursal.

Recent improvements include allowing co-applicants, removing capacity-based restrictions, and simplifying documentation, based on feedback from both beneficiaries and banks.

The Department of Financial Services (DFS) and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) are jointly overseeing the scheme's implementation, which has already benefited over 5 lakh households, advancing India's goals of clean energy, self-reliance, and green economic growth.

91. The Government of India unveiled the logo for the India-AI Impact Summit 2026, scheduled on February 19-20, 2026, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Who designed the winning logo for the India-AI Impact Summit 2026?

भारत सरकार ने 19-20 फरवरी, 2026 को भारत मंडपम, नई दिल्ली में आयोजित होने वाले भारत-एआई इम्पैक्ट समिट 2026 के लिए लोगो का अनावरण किया। भारत-एआई इम्पैक्ट समिट 2026 का विजेता लोगो किसने डिज़ाइन किया?

- (a) Ramesh Kumar
- (b) Ajith P. Suresh
- (c) Nikhil Verma
- (d) Shruti Sharma
- (e) Saurabh Mehta

Ans. b

Sol. Government Unveils Logo for India-AI Impact Summit 2026

The Government of India unveiled the logo for the India-AI Impact Summit 2026, scheduled on February 19-20, 2026, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi; the winning design by Shri Ajith P. Suresh was chosen from 599 entries submitted via the MyGov platform.

The logo symbolizes India's vision of ethical and responsible AI, featuring the Ashoka Chakra for governance and justice, and neural network flares representing AI's transformative and inclusive power across sectors and geographies.

The vibrant gradient and modern typography in the logo reflect innovation, diversity, and clarity, merging tradition with modernity to portray India's leadership in shaping the global AI movement through the MeitY-hosted summit.

92. **National Post Day is celebrated in India every year on which date?**

राष्ट्रीय डाक दिवस हर साल भारत में किस तिथि को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 8 October
- (b) 9 October
- (c) 10 October
- (d) 11 October
- (e) 12 October

Ans. c

Sol. 10 October - National Post Day

National Post Day is celebrated every year on 10th October to honour the vital role of the Indian Postal Department in connecting the nation.

The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of postal services in communication, financial inclusion, and e-commerce delivery.

It is organised by the Department of Posts (India Post) under the Ministry of Communications.

India Post, one of the world's largest postal networks, was established in 1854 and continues to serve even the remotest areas of the country.

93. **World Mental Health Day is observed every year on 10th October to raise global awareness about mental health issues and mobilise efforts to support mental well-being. What is the theme for World Mental Health Day 2025?**

विश्व मानसिक स्वास्थ्य दिवस हर साल 10 अक्टूबर को मानसिक स्वास्थ्य के मुद्दों के बारे में वैश्विक जागरूकता बढ़ाने और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य को बढ़ावा देने के प्रयासों को गति देने के लिए मनाया जाता है। विश्व मानसिक स्वास्थ्य दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Access to Services: Mental Health in Catastrophes and Emergencies
- (b) Make Mental Health a Global Priority
- (c) Mental Health in the Workplace
- (d) Together for Mental Wellness
- (e) Mental Health for All

Ans. a

Sol. 10 October - World Mental Health Day

World Mental Health Day is observed every year on 10th October to raise global awareness about mental health issues and mobilize efforts to support mental well-being.

Theme 2025 - Access to Services: Mental Health in Catastrophes and Emergencies

It was first celebrated in 1992 at the initiative of the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH).

The day is supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) and focuses on promoting understanding, reducing stigma, and improving mental health care worldwide.

94. **Who has been appointed as the Executive Director (ED) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?**

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक (RBI) के कार्यकारी निदेशक (ED) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Michael Patra
- (b) M. Rajeshwar Rao
- (c) Sanjay Kumar Hansda
- (d) Swaminathan J.
- (e) Ramesh Chand

Ans. c

Sol. Sanjay Kumar Hansda Appointed as Executive Director of RBI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Sanjay Kumar Hansda as Executive Director (ED) with effect from March 3, 2025.

He returned to RBI on October 6, 2025, after completing his deputation as Senior Advisor to the Executive Director (India) at the International Monetary Fund (IMF). As Executive Director, Hansda will oversee the Department of Economic and Policy Research; he holds a postgraduate degree in Economics from JNU and a diploma in Financial Services Management from Jamnalal Bajaj Institute, Mumbai.

Recent Appointments in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank** - Raghavendra Srinivas Bhat; (reappointment for 1 month)
- **MD & CEO of Union Bank of India** - Asheesh Pandey; for 3 years
- **MD & CEO of Central Bank of India** - Kalyan Kumar; for 3 years
- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - Shirish Chandra Murmu (replace M. Rajeshwar Rao); for 3 Years
- **Chairman of Piramal Finance** - Anand Piramal

95. **Who made history by becoming the first-ever Indian winner of the prestigious Mrs Universe 2025 pageant, held in Manila, Philippines, outshining 120 international delegates with her poise, eloquence, and advocacy for women's empowerment and mental health awareness?**

कौन पहली भारतीय बनीं Mrs Universe 2025 के प्रतिष्ठित पेजेंट की विजेता, जो मनीला, फिलीपींस में आयोजित हुआ, जहां उन्होंने 120 अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रतिभागियों को पीछे छोड़ते हुए अपने आत्मविश्वास, स्पष्ट वाणी और महिलाओं के सशक्तिकरण तथा मानसिक स्वास्थ्य जागरूकता के संदेश के लिए इतिहास रचा?

- (a) Parul Tyagi
- (b) Priyanka Chopra
- (c) Aishwarya Rai
- (d) Manushi Chhillar
- (e) Sherry Singh

Ans. e

Sol. Sherry Singh Makes History as First Indian to Win Mrs Universe 2025

Sherry Singh made history by becoming the first Indian to win Mrs Universe 2025, at the 48th edition held in Okada, Manila, Philippines, with 120 international delegates competing.

She represented India after being crowned Mrs India 2025 by UMB Pageants, impressing judges with her poise, eloquence, and advocacy for women's empowerment and mental health awareness.

The final results were: Winner – India (Sherry Singh), 1st Runner-up – Saint Petersburg, 2nd Runner-up – Philippines, 3rd Runner-up – Asia, and 4th Runner-up – Russia.

Recent Awards

- **Hombale Samhita Harinikumar Krishi Media Award 2025** - Mysuru Journalist Amshi Prasannakumar (for his contribution to agricultural reporting)
- **Tourism Wins Global Tourism Award 2025** - Andhra Pradesh (for Visionary Initiatives and Investment Milestones)
- **Saraswati Samman 2024** - Sanskrit Scholar Mahamahopadhyay Bhadreshdas Swami (for Swaminarayan Siddhant Sudha)
- **Living Bridge' honour** - UK PM Keir Starmer

96. Who led the Indian Parliamentary Delegation to the 68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) held in Bridgetown, Barbados?

ब्रिजटाउन, बारबाडोस में आयोजित 68वें कॉमनवेल्थ संसदीय सम्मेलन (CPC) में भारतीय संसदीय प्रतिनिधिमंडल का नेतृत्व किसने किया?

- (a) Shri Harivansh
- (b) Shri Anurag Sharma
- (c) Shri Om Birla
- (d) Dr. K. Sudhakar
- (e) Shri Utpal Kumar Singh

Ans. c

Sol. Om Birla Leads Indian Delegation to 68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Barbados

Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla led the Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Bridgetown, Barbados, for the 68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) held from October 5–12, 2025, participating in the opening ceremony and representing India on a global parliamentary platform.

As part of the conference, Shri Birla chaired a workshop on “Leveraging Technology: Enhancing Democracy through Digital Transformations and Tackling the Digital Divide”, and addressed the General Assembly on “The Commonwealth: A Global Partner”, highlighting India's commitment to democratic values, inclusive governance, and parliamentary cooperation.

The Indian delegation, including 36 Presiding Officers from 24 State/UT Legislatures, actively participated in seven thematic workshops and bilateral meetings with

counterparts from other Commonwealth nations, strengthening parliamentary diplomacy, global cooperation, and capacity building.

97. The Government will launch Tobacco Free Youth Campaign 3.0 (TFYC 3.0) to promote tobacco-free learning environments and safeguard student health nationwide. Which two ministries are jointly leading the TFYC 3.0 initiative?

सरकार देश भर में तंबाकू मुक्त शिक्षण वातावरण को बढ़ावा देने और छात्रों के स्वास्थ्य की सुरक्षा के लिए तंबाकू मुक्त युवा अभियान 3.0 (TFYC 3.0) शुरू करेगी। कौन से दो मंत्रालय संयुक्त रूप से TFYC 3.0 पहल का नेतृत्व कर रहे हैं?

- (a) Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- (b) Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- (c) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Ministry of Education
- (d) Ministry of Education and Ministry of Sports
- (e) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Ministry of Youth Affairs

Ans. b

Sol. Government to Launch Tobacco Free Youth Campaign 3.0 to Promote Healthy, Tobacco-Free Learning Environments

The Government will launch Tobacco Free Youth Campaign 3.0 (TFYC 3.0), jointly led by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, to promote tobacco-free learning environments and safeguard student health nationwide.

Tobacco use remains a serious public health challenge in India, claiming over 13 lakh lives annually, with 8.4% of students aged 13–15 years using tobacco, highlighting the importance of youth-focused interventions.

The 60-day campaign will feature awareness drives, tobacco-free campus enforcement, workshops, counselling, community initiatives, and innovative student engagement activities like quizzes, competitions, and educational videos, supporting the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047.

98. Where was the third edition of the International Purple Festival held in 2025? 2025 में इंटरनेशनल पर्पल फेस्टिवल का तीसरा संस्करण कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Delhi
- (c) Panaji
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Hyderabad

Ans. c

Sol. Third International Purple Festival Begins in Panaji, Goa

The third edition of the International Purple Festival began in Panaji, Goa, celebrating Persons with Disabilities and promoting empowerment, accessibility, and social integration.

Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar praised the Goa government for organizing an international-standard festival and emphasized the importance of integrating Persons with Disabilities into mainstream national growth.

99. Hungarian author Laszlo Krasznahorkai has been awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature 2025. What is the main reason cited by the Swedish Academy for honoring him with this prestigious award?

हंगेरियन लेखक लास्ज़लो क्रास्ज़नाहोरकाई को साहित्य के नोबेल पुरस्कार 2025 से सम्मानित किया गया है। स्वीडिश अकादमी द्वारा उन्हें इस प्रतिष्ठित पुरस्कार से सम्मानित करने का मुख्य कारण क्या है?

- (a) For his compelling and visionary literary works amidst apocalyptic themes
- (b) For his contributions to political essays and non-fiction works
- (c) For writing best-selling romance and adventure novels
- (d) For promoting Hungarian folklore and historical literature internationally
- (e) For scientific writing and research in literature

Ans. a

Sol. Hungarian Author Laszlo Krasznahorkai Wins 2025 Nobel Prize in Literature for Visionary and Epic Works

Hungarian author Laszlo Krasznahorkai has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature 2025 "for his compelling and visionary oeuvre that, in the midst of apocalyptic terror, reaffirms the power of art."

Krasznahorkai, born in 1954 in Gyula, Hungary, is known for epic, absurdist, and grotesque literature, with his breakthrough novel 'Satantango' (1985) set in a remote rural area.

His work 'Herscht 07769' has been praised as a great contemporary German novel, accurately depicting social unrest, reflecting his mastery in portraying complex human and societal themes.

The Nobel Prize in Literature, awarded by the Swedish Academy, carries a cash award of 11 million crowns (\$1.2 million); it was the fourth Nobel announced this week, after medicine, physics, and chemistry.

100. According to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, which tracks the net worth of the world's richest people based on earnings, investments, and endorsements, which footballer became the first player in history to achieve billionaire status, with a reported net worth of \$1.4 billion (£1.04 billion), including earnings from salary, sponsorships, and business ventures?

ब्लूमबर्ग बिलियनेयर्स इंडेक्स के अनुसार, जो दुनिया के सबसे अमीर लोगों की कुल संपत्ति को कमाई, निवेश और एंडोर्समेंट के आधार पर ट्रैक करता है, कौन सा फुटबॉलर इतिहास में पहला खिलाड़ी बन गया, जिसकी कुल संपत्ति \$1.4 बिलियन (£1.04 बिलियन) रिपोर्ट की गई, जिसमें सैलरी, स्पॉन्सरशिप और व्यवसायिक उपक्रमों से कमाई शामिल है?

- (a) Lionel Messi
- (b) Cristiano Ronaldo
- (c) Neymar Jr.
- (d) Kylian Mbappé
- (e) Mohamed Salah

Ans. b

Sol. Cristiano Ronaldo Becomes Football's First Billionaire Player with \$1.4 Billion Net Worth

Cristiano Ronaldo has become football's first billionaire player, with a net worth of \$1.4 billion (£1.04 billion), according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, which factors in career earnings, investments, and endorsements.

Between 2002 and 2023, Ronaldo earned over \$550 million (£410 million) in salary, including a decade-long Nike sponsorship deal worth nearly \$18 million (£13.4 million) per year.

After joining Al-Nassr in 2022, Ronaldo became the highest-paid footballer in history, with an annual salary of £177 million, and later signed a new two-year contract worth over \$400 million (£298 million), keeping him at the club past his 42nd birthday.

Comparatively, Lionel Messi earned over \$600 million (£447 million) in pre-tax salary during his career, with a guaranteed \$20 million (£15 million) annual pay since 2023, and is expected to receive a stake in Inter Miami upon retirement.

101. Kolkata has been ranked India's safest city for the fourth consecutive year according to the NCRB 2023 data, recording the lowest rate of cognizable crimes at 83.9 per lakh population among 19 major metropolitan cities. Which city emerged as the most crime-prone in 2023 according to NCRB?

NCRB 2023 के आंकड़ों के अनुसार कोलकाता को लगातार चौथे वर्ष भारत का सबसे सुरक्षित शहर का दर्जा दिया गया है, जिसमें 19 प्रमुख महानगरीय शहरों में प्रति लाख जनसंख्या पर 83.9 की सबसे कम संज्ञेय अपराध दर दर्ज की गई है। NCRB के अनुसार 2023 में कौन सा शहर सबसे अधिक अपराध-प्रवण के रूप में उभरा?

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Kochi
- (c) Surat
- (d) Jaipur
- (e) Lucknow

Ans. b

Sol. Kolkata Declared India's Safest City for Fourth Consecutive Year, NCRB 2023 Data
Kolkata has been ranked India's safest city for the fourth consecutive year according to the NCRB 2023 data, recording the lowest rate of cognizable crimes at 83.9 per lakh population among 19 major metropolitan cities.

The total number of cognizable crimes in Kolkata declined from 14,591 in 2021 to 11,843 in 2023, showing a consistent decrease over the years.

Crimes against women also declined, with 1,746 cases in 2023 and a rate of 25.7 per lakh population, making it among the lowest after Chennai (17.3) and Coimbatore (22.7).

Kochi emerged as the most crime-prone city, followed by Delhi and Surat, while serious crimes in Kolkata, including adult and minor rape cases, placed the city 10th among 19 metros.

The top 10 safest cities in India in 2023 are Kolkata, Hyderabad, Pune, Mumbai, Coimbatore, Chennai, Kanpur, Ghaziabad, Bengaluru, and Ahmedabad, whereas the most unsafe cities include Kochi, Delhi, Surat, Jaipur, Patna, Indore, Lucknow, Nagpur, Kozhikode, and Ahmedabad.

102. Which country's peacekeepers were honoured by UNISFA for their dedicated service in the Abyei region?

किस देश के शांति सैनिकों को UNISFA द्वारा एब्बेई क्षेत्र में उनकी समर्पित सेवा के लिए सम्मानित किया गया?

- (a) United States
- (b) United Kingdom
- (c) India
- (d) Canada
- (e) France

Ans. c

Sol. Indian Peacekeepers Honoured by UNISFA for Dedicated Service in Abyei Region
Indian peacekeepers in Abyei were honoured by the Acting Head of Mission of UNISFA for their dedicated service in the oil-rich, contested border region between Sudan and South Sudan.

The Abyei Area holds a special administrative status under the 2004 Abyei Protocol of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), which ended the Second Sudanese Civil War.

India is a major contributor to UN peacekeeping, having sent over 2,90,000 personnel since the 1950s, with over 5,000 troops currently serving in nine active UN missions worldwide.

103. Bajaj Finserv recently acquired the remaining stake of Allianz SE in its joint ventures for general and life insurance, increasing its shareholding from 74% to full ownership. What percentage stake did Bajaj Finserv acquire from Allianz SE to gain 100% control of its insurance businesses?

बजाज फिनसर्व ने हाल ही में जनरल और लाइफ इंश्योरेंस के अपने संयुक्त उद्यमों में Allianz SE का शेष हिस्सा अधिग्रहित किया, जिससे इसका हिस्सा 74% से बढ़कर पूर्ण स्वामित्व हो गया। अपने बीमा व्यवसायों पर 100% नियंत्रण प्राप्त करने के लिए बजाज फिनसर्व ने Allianz SE का कितना प्रतिशत हिस्सा खरीदा?

- (a) 20%
- (b) 26%
- (c) 30%
- (d) 50%
- (e) 74%

Ans. b

Sol. Bajaj Finserv Rebrands Insurance Ventures as Bajaj General and Bajaj Life after Full Acquisition of Allianz Stake

Bajaj Finserv has officially rebranded its insurance businesses as Bajaj General Insurance and Bajaj Life Insurance after acquiring Allianz SE's 26% stake, achieving full ownership of its insurance ventures.

The company launched the campaign '100% Bajaj. Made in India. Made for India. Made by India,' emphasizing its commitment to policyholders, business partners, and the future of insurance in India.

The new brand identity reflects core values of trust, customer fairness, transparency, and a strong pledge to support India's growth trajectory, according to Sanjiv Bajaj, Chairman and MD.

104. **According to Forbes' 2025 ranking of India's richest individuals, Mukesh Ambani, chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), retained the top spot. What is his estimated net worth, making him a centibillionaire?**

फोर्ब्स 2025 की भारत की सबसे अमीर व्यक्तियों की रैंकिंग के अनुसार, रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड (RIL) के अध्यक्ष और प्रबंध निदेशक मुकेश अंबानी ने शीर्ष स्थान बनाए रखा। उनकी अनुमानित कुल संपत्ति कितनी है, जिससे वह एक सेंटिबिलियनेयर बन गए हैं?

- (a) \$92 billion
- (b) \$105 billion
- (c) \$40.2 billion
- (d) \$34.2 billion
- (e) \$33.2 billion

Ans. b

Sol. Mukesh Ambani Tops Forbes India Rich List 2025 with \$105 Billion Net Worth

Mukesh Ambani has retained the top position on Forbes' list of India's 100 richest, with a net worth of \$105 billion, while Gautam Adani ranked second with \$92 billion, and Savitri Jindal third with \$40.2 billion.

JP Morgan valued Reliance Retail at \$143 billion and Reliance Jio at \$135 billion, noting that RIL's consumer businesses will drive most of its future earnings growth.

At the 48th AGM, Ambani announced that Reliance achieved record revenue of ₹10.71 lakh crore (\$125.3 billion) and aims to transform into a deeptech enterprise focusing on clean energy, genomics, and AI.

The combined wealth of India's 100 richest fell by 9% to \$1 trillion in 2025 due to a weaker rupee and stock market dip, though Ambani also regained the top spot in the Hurun India Rich List 2025 with wealth estimated at \$105 billion.

105. **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently launched a retail sandbox for its Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC). What is the main purpose of introducing this sandbox?**

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक (RBI) ने हाल ही में अपनी सेंट्रल बैंक डिजिटल करेंसी (CBDC) के लिए रिटेल सैंडबॉक्स लॉन्च किया है। इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) To allow fintech firms to build and test innovative solutions using the digital rupee
- (b) To introduce a new cryptocurrency for international trade
- (c) To replace all paper currency with digital tokens immediately
- (d) To regulate private cryptocurrencies in India
- (e) To merge all digital payment platforms under one authority

Ans. a

Sol. RBI Launches Retail Sandbox for Digital Rupee to Boost Fintech Innovation and Tokenised Transactions

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a retail sandbox for its Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), enabling fintech companies to develop and test digital currency-based solutions as part of the ongoing pilot.

The retail e-rupee pilot — India's version of the CBDC — was first launched on December 1, 2022, and currently has around 7 million users participating in the project. The RBI plans to use the wholesale segment of the CBDC as the foundational layer for this exercise, collaborating with select banks to ensure smoother integration and scalability.

The initiative leverages digital tokenisation, which makes transactions faster, cheaper, and more secure, by converting traditional bank deposits into digital tokens that can be easily transferred or settled across systems.

106. The Union Government recently released how much amount to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in West Bengal under the 15th Finance Commission?

केंद्र सरकार ने हाल ही में 15वें वित्त आयोग के तहत पश्चिम बंगाल में पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRIs) को सशक्त करने के लिए कितनी राशि जारी की है?

- (a) ₹702.04 crore
- (b) ₹967.68 crore
- (c) ₹680.71 crore
- (d) ₹1,131.42 crore
- (e) ₹4,181.23 crore

Ans. c

Sol. Centre Releases ₹680.71 Crore to Strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions in West Bengal under 15th Finance Commission

The Union Government released ₹680.71 crore as the first instalment of Untied (Basic) Grants under the 15th Finance Commission for strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in West Bengal for FY 2025–26, covering 3,224 Gram Panchayats, 335 Block Panchayats, and 21 Zilla Parishads.

During FY 2024–25 and 2025–26, a total of ₹4,181.23 crore has been released to West Bengal — including ₹2,082.13 crore as Untied Grants and ₹2,099.10 crore as Tied Grants — to enhance grassroots governance and service delivery.

Untied Grants give Rural Local Bodies flexibility to fund location-specific development like roads, street lighting, digital connectivity, and environmental protection, while Tied Grants focus on sanitation, drinking water, and ODF maintenance.

107. According to the official announcement by the Swedish Academy, what was the main reason the Norwegian Nobel Committee cited for awarding María Corina Machado the Nobel Peace Prize 2025?

स्वीडिश अकादमी की आधिकारिक घोषणा के अनुसार, नॉर्वेजियन नोबेल समिति ने मारिया कोरिना मचाडो को नोबेल शांति पुरस्कार 2025 देने के लिए मुख्य कारण क्या बताया?

- (a) Her continuous efforts in environmental conservation and climate change awareness campaigns

- (b) Her work in empowering women and promoting equal participation in politics
- (c) Promoting democratic rights and peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy
- (d) Her humanitarian work during natural disasters and refugee crises
- (e) Her global efforts to ban nuclear weapons and promote nuclear disarmament

Ans. c

Sol. María Corina Machado Wins Nobel Peace Prize 2025 for Championing Democracy in Venezuela

María Corina Machado of Venezuela has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize 2025 for her relentless efforts to promote democratic rights and lead a peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy in Venezuela.

Despite threats to her life and living in hiding, she continued her struggle within the country, inspiring millions and uniting Venezuela's opposition.

The announcement was made by Jørgen Watne Frydnes, Chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee; in 2024, the prize was awarded to Nihon Hidankyo, a Japanese movement of atomic bomb survivors (Hibakusha).

What is Nobel Prize?

- *The Nobel Prize is one of the most prestigious international awards, established by the will of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite, in 1895. It is awarded annually to individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions in the fields of:*
 - *Physics – for groundbreaking discoveries in the physical sciences.*
 - *Chemistry – for exceptional achievements in chemistry.*
 - *Physiology or Medicine – for discoveries that have advanced medical science and human health.*
 - *Literature – for distinguished literary work.*
 - *Peace – for efforts in promoting global peace and resolving conflicts.*
- *Later, in 1968, the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel was added for contributions to economics.*
- *The first Nobel Prizes were awarded on December 10, 1901.*
- *Key Features:*
 - *Winners are called Nobel Laureates*
 - *Each prize consists of a medal, a diploma, and a cash award.*
 - *The awards are usually announced in October and presented on December 10, the anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death.*
 - *The prizes recognize achievements that benefit humanity and have a lasting impact on society.*

108. Who has been appointed as the first-ever Mental Health Ambassador of India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare?

भारत के स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय की पहली मानसिक स्वास्थ्य राजदूत के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Sunny Leone
- (b) Alia Bhatt

- (c) Priyanka Chopra
- (d) Deepika Padukone
- (e) Kareena Kapoor

Ans. d

Sol. Deepika Padukone Named India's First Mental Health Ambassador to Promote Awareness and Well-Being

Renowned actor Deepika Padukone has been appointed as the first-ever Mental Health Ambassador of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, expressing her honour and commitment to the role.

She aims to support India's mental health initiatives under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, contributing to strengthening the nation's mental health framework.

This partnership focuses on raising awareness, reducing stigma, and promoting mental well-being across India, marking a significant step in prioritising mental health.

109. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the PM Dhan-Dhaanya Yojana and Self-Reliance in Pulses Mission in New Delhi, highlighting the government's focus on farmer welfare, agricultural self-reliance, and rural infrastructure development. What is the outlay of PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने नई दिल्ली में प्रधानमंत्री धन-धान्य योजना और दलहन आत्मनिर्भरता मिशन का शुभारंभ किया। इस योजना के माध्यम से सरकार का किसान कल्याण, कृषि आत्मनिर्भरता और ग्रामीण बुनियादी ढाँचे के विकास पर विशेष ध्यान केंद्रित किया गया है। प्रधानमंत्री धन-धान्य कृषि योजना का परिव्यय क्या है?

- (a) ₹10,000 crore
- (b) ₹15,000 crore
- (c) ₹24,000 crore
- (d) ₹30,000 crore
- (e) ₹35,000 crore

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi Launched PM Dhan-Dhaanya Yojana and Self-Reliance in Pulses Mission to Boost Farmer Welfare and Agricultural Productivity

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the PM Dhan-Dhaanya Yojana and Self-Reliance in Pulses Mission in New Delhi, highlighting the government's focus on farmer welfare, agricultural self-reliance, and rural infrastructure development.

The PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana, with an outlay of ₹24,000 crore, aims to enhance agricultural productivity, promote crop diversification, and encourage sustainable farming practices.

The Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses, with an outlay of over ₹11,000 crore, focuses on improving pulse productivity, expanding cultivation areas, strengthening the value chain, and reducing losses.

During the event, the Prime Minister will interact with farmers, particularly those involved in pulse cultivation and members of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) benefiting from the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund.

110. Under the National Green Hydrogen Mission, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has recognised certain major ports as Green Hydrogen Hubs to promote an integrated hydrogen ecosystem and advance India's clean energy transition. Which of the following ports is NOT included in this list of recognised Green Hydrogen Hubs?

नेशनल ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन मिशन के तहत, नई और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्रालय ने कुछ प्रमुख बंदरगाहों को ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन हब के रूप में मान्यता दी है ताकि एक समेकित हाइड्रोजन इकोसिस्टम को बढ़ावा दिया जा सके और भारत के स्वच्छ ऊर्जा संक्रमण को आगे बढ़ाया जा सके। निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा बंदरगाह इस सूची में शामिल नहीं है?

- (a) Kolkata Port, West Bengal
- (b) V.O. Chidambaranar Port, Tamil Nadu
- (c) Paradip Port, Odisha
- (d) Deendayal Port, Gujarat
- (e) All of the above are included

Ans. a

Sol. Three Major Indian Ports Recognised as Green Hydrogen Hubs Under National Mission

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has officially recognised Deendayal Port (Gujarat), V.O. Chidambaranar Port (Tamil Nadu), and Paradip Port (Odisha) as Green Hydrogen Hubs under the National Green Hydrogen Mission, advancing India's clean energy transition.

Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal called it a defining moment in India's maritime journey and emphasised the government's push for sustainable development and achieving net zero by 2070.

The National Green Hydrogen Mission aims to make India a global hub for production, utilisation, and export of green hydrogen and its derivatives, promoting large-scale hydrogen hubs as key centres for production and consumption.

111. The International Day of the Girl Child is observed annually on 11 October to highlight the challenges faced by girls and promote their empowerment and human rights. What is the theme of International Day of the Girl Child 2025?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बालिका दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 11 अक्टूबर को लड़कियों के सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों को उजागर करने और उनके सशक्तिकरण व मानवाधिकारों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए मनाया जाता है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बालिका दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Girls' Rights, Our Future
- (b) Empower Her Voice
- (c) The girl I am, the change I lead: Girls on the frontlines of crisis
- (d) Educate the Girl, Empower the Nation
- (e) Digital Generation, Our Generation

Ans. c

Sol. 11 October - International Day of the Girl Child

The International Day of the Girl Child is observed annually on 11 October to highlight the challenges faced by girls and promote their empowerment and human rights.

Theme 2025 - The girl I am, the change I lead: Girls on the frontlines of crisis

The day was first declared by the United Nations in 2011, following a resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly.

112. **Which hillock has been declared as Tamil Nadu's fourth Biodiversity Heritage Site?**

किस पहाड़ी को तमिलनाडु का चौथा जैव विविधता विरासत स्थल घोषित किया गया है?

- (a) Arittapatti
- (b) Kasampatty
- (c) Elathur Lake
- (d) Nagamalai Hillock
- (e) Nilgiri Hills

Ans. d

Sol. Tamil Nadu Declares Nagamalai Hillock in Erode as State's Fourth Biodiversity Heritage Site

The Tamil Nadu government has notified Nagamalai hillock in Erode district as the State's fourth Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS) under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, joining Arittapatti, Kasampatty, and Elathur lake.

Spanning 32.22 hectares, Nagamalai hillock is an ecological hotspot supporting rich biodiversity, including 138 plant species, 118 bird species (30 migratory), seven mammals, 11 reptiles, and 71 insect species, with key species like the Greater Spotted Eagle and Bonelli's Eagle.

The hillock also holds archaeological and cultural significance, featuring Iron Age cairn circles, rock shelters, ancient artefacts, and a 400-year-old stone carving of Lord Anjaneya, reflecting its historical and cultural heritage alongside ecological value.

113. **Who commissioned the 250-tonne slipway cradle to enhance India's Blue Economy and fisheries modernisation?**

भारत की ब्लू इकॉनमी और मत्स्य पालन आधुनिकीकरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 250 टन क्षमता वाले स्लिपवे क्रेडल का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Nitin Gadkari
- (c) George Kurian
- (d) Narendra Modi
- (e) Mansukh Mandaviya

Ans. c

Sol. Union Minister George Kurian Commissions 250-Tonne Slipway Cradle to Boost India's Blue Economy and Fisheries Modernisation

Union Minister of State for Fisheries George Kurian commissioned a 250-tonne capacity slipway cradle, enhancing docking and maintenance capabilities for vessels ranging from fishing boats to research ships.

The slipway cradle, built by the Fishery Survey of India (FSI) at a cost of ₹1.78 crore, is a heavy-duty steel platform designed for the safe hauling and launching of vessels up to 250 tonnes.

The facility supports India's vision of a sustainable Blue Economy and will integrate transponders on fishing vessels in collaboration with ISRO for real-time communication and access to fish-rich area forecasts.

114. **Which country has launched its first-ever National Child Safeguarding Policy to ensure child safety across all sectors?**

किस देश ने सभी क्षेत्रों में बाल सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए अपनी पहली राष्ट्रीय बाल सुरक्षा नीति शुरू की है?

- (a) Australia
- (b) Fiji
- (c) New Zealand
- (d) Papua New Guinea
- (e) Samoa

Ans. b

Sol. Fiji Launches First-Ever National Child Safeguarding Policy to Strengthen Child Protection Across the Country

Fiji has launched its first-ever National Child Safeguarding Policy, establishing a national benchmark to ensure child safety across all sectors of society.

The policy mandates child-safe practices in all services involving children, including a Child Protection Code of Conduct, safe recruitment and vetting processes, and risk mitigation strategies to prevent harm.

The initiative addresses regional concerns in the Pacific, where cultural taboos, limited resources, and underreporting have often left cases of child abuse hidden or unresolved.

About Fiji

- Capital- Suva
- Currency- Fijian dollar
- President - Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu
- Prime Minister- Sitiveni Rabuka

115. **The World Bank launched the BETI project to empower women entrepreneurs in India. What does the acronym BETI specifically stand for, and what is its primary focus?**

विश्व बैंक ने भारत में महिला उद्यमियों को सशक्त बनाने के लिए बेटी परियोजना शुरू की है। बेटी का संक्षिप्त नाम क्या है और इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) Business Enterprise Technology for India
- (b) Better Education for Technological Inclusion
- (c) Business Empowerment & Training Initiative
- (d) Banking Education & Technology Initiative
- (e) Business Enterprise Technology for Indian women

Ans. e

Sol. World Bank and SEWA Launch BETI Project to Empower Women Entrepreneurs in Gujarat with Digital Tools

The World Bank's BETI (Business Enterprise Technology for Indian women) project, in collaboration with SEWA, has trained micro-level women entrepreneurs in Gujarat to use digital tools and financial management skills to build and manage their businesses. The initiative extends the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign by adding a focus on economic empowerment — termed 'Beti Kamao' — helping women become entrepreneurs and job creators.

The pilot, implemented in Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Anand, and Bodeli, equipped women with mobile-based tools to improve bookkeeping, inventory management, debt tracking, and product cataloguing for sales.

116. Which organisation has launched the roadmap titled "AI for Inclusive Societal Development" to empower India's informal workers?

भारत के अनौपचारिक श्रमिकों को सशक्त बनाने के लिए किस संगठन ने "समावेशी सामाजिक विकास के लिए कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता" नामक रोडमैप लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (b) NITI Aayog
- (c) Confederation of Indian Industry
- (d) World Bank
- (e) Deloitte

Ans. b

Sol. NITI Aayog Launches "AI for Inclusive Societal Development" Roadmap to Empower India's 490 Million Informal Workers

NITI Aayog launched the "AI for Inclusive Societal Development" roadmap, a first-of-its-kind national initiative aimed at leveraging AI and frontier technologies to improve the lives and livelihoods of India's 490 million informal workers.

The roadmap, developed in partnership with Deloitte, focuses on the informal sector—which contributes nearly half of India's GDP—addressing challenges such as financial insecurity, limited market access, and lack of skills and social protection.

The initiative emphasizes collaboration between government, industry, academia, and civil society, highlighting that empowering informal workers is essential for achieving India's \$30 trillion Viksit Bharat 2047 vision and ensuring sustainable economic growth.

117. Which fintech company has appointed Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma as global brand ambassadors?

किस फिनटेक कंपनी ने विराट कोहली और अनुष्का शर्मा को वैश्विक ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया है?

- (a) Paytm
- (b) PhonePe
- (c) Razorpay
- (d) Google Pay
- (e) Pay10

Ans. e

Sol. Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma Appointed as Global Brand Ambassadors for Pay10 Ahead of UPI App Launch

Fintech firm Pay10 has appointed Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma as global brand ambassadors ahead of the launch of its UPI-enabled payments app in India. The collaboration aims to promote safe, seamless, and smart digital transactions while engaging India's growing population of tech-savvy users. Pay10 believes the duo reflects the brand's values of trust, innovation, and reliability, making them ideal representatives for a platform that seeks to make digital payments accessible to all.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Sanju Samson - English Premier League (EPL) in India
- Shubhanshu Shukla - Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025
- Mohammed Siraj - Skechers India
- Alia Bhatt- Denim brand Levi's
- Abhinav Bindra - International Olympic Committee (IOC) Mental Health Ambassadors

118. Which pension fund Management Company has voluntarily surrendered its licence, leading to the transfer of its NPS subscribers?

किस पेंशन फंड प्रबंधन कंपनी ने स्वेच्छा से अपना लाइसेंस सरेंडर कर दिया है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप उसके एनपीएस ग्राहकों का स्थानांतरण हो गया है?

- (a) LIC Pension Fund
- (b) SBI Pension Fund
- (c) Max Life Pension Fund Management
- (d) HDFC Pension Fund
- (e) ICICI Prudential Pension Fund

Ans. c

Sol. Max Life Pension Fund Management Withdraws Licence

Max Life Pension Fund Management has voluntarily surrendered its licence, and its registration with the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has been cancelled.

NPS subscribers of Max Life Pension have been transferred to other pension funds in accordance with regulatory guidelines, ensuring uninterrupted fund management. From April 19, 2025, all pension assets previously managed by Max Life have been shifted to UTI Pension Fund, and from June 21, 2025, subscribers registered through Max Life as PoP have been moved to Axis Bank.

Subscribers' accumulated corpus continues to earn returns under the new fund managers, and under PFRDA rules, NPS investors can change their Pension Fund Manager (PFM) once per year for Tier-I accounts and multiple times for Tier-II accounts.

119. Which state government has launched a collateral-free loan scheme to support small businesses and women entrepreneurs, aiming to boost economic growth and provide credit without requiring collateral?

किस राज्य सरकार ने छोटे व्यवसायों और महिला उद्यमियों को आर्थिक विकास को बढ़ावा देने और बिना किसी संपार्श्विक के ऋण प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से एक संपार्श्विक-मुक्त ऋण योजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Delhi
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Gujarat

Ans. b

Sol. Delhi Government Launches Collateral-Free Loan Scheme to Empower Small Businesses and Women Entrepreneurs

The Delhi government has launched a collateral-free loan scheme to support small businesses and women entrepreneurs, aiming to enhance the city's economic growth and improve access to credit without requiring personal or business assets as security. The scheme, with an initial allocation of ₹5 crore in FY26 and a phased ₹50 crore contribution in partnership with Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), provides guarantee coverage of up to 95% to reduce lenders' risk.

Under the initiative, loans up to ₹10 crore are available for small and women-led enterprises, with higher coverage for women entrepreneurs, Agniveer-promoted MSMEs, and micro units, supporting sectors like manufacturing, services, retail, and education.

120. Consider the following statements regarding the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2026:

टाइम्स हायर एजुकेशन (THE) वर्ल्ड यूनिवर्सिटी रैंकिंग 2026 के संबंध में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार करें:

1. India has become the country with the second-highest number of ranked universities, next only to China.
2. The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, is placed in the 201–250 rank band.
3. Hong Kong achieved a record with six universities in the top 200 due to improvements in teaching metrics..

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3
- (e) 3 only

Ans. b

Sol. India Becomes Second-Highest Contributor in THE World University Rankings 2026; IISc Bangalore Leads National List

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, has been ranked as India's top university in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2026, securing a spot in the 201–250 rank band.

India has achieved a major milestone by becoming the country with the second-highest number of ranked universities, trailing only the United States.

Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences (Chennai) improved its ranking to the 351–400 band, while Jamia Millia Islamia (Delhi) and Shoolini University (Himachal Pradesh) were placed in the 401–500 category.

Prestigious institutions like BHU, IIT Indore, KIIT University, Lovely Professional University, Mahatma Gandhi University, and UPES Dehradun are ranked in the 501–600 range.

Several universities including AMU, Amity, IIT Patna, NIT Rourkela, University of Delhi, and VIT Vellore feature in the 601–800 rank band, reflecting India's broad representation across multiple categories.

Globally, the University of Oxford retained the No. 1 spot for the 10th consecutive year, while Princeton University reached joint 3rd place, and China and Hong Kong strengthened their presence with 13 and 6 universities, respectively, in the top 200.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026 feature 2,191 institutions from 115 countries and territories. For universities beyond the top 100, THE assigns them to rank bands instead of specific positions.

Hong Kong sets a record with six universities in the top 200, driven by improvements in teaching performance.

121. Where was the third edition of the International Purple Fest – Purple Fair 2025 held?

इंटरनेशनल पर्पल फेस्ट – पर्पल फेयर 2025 का तीसरा संस्करण कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Delhi
- (c) Goa
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Chennai

Ans. c

Sol. International Purple Fest 2025 in Goa Showcases India's Commitment to Inclusion and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

The third edition of the International Purple Fest – Purple Fair 2025 was inaugurated in Goa, celebrating the talent, resilience, and entrepreneurship of persons with disabilities and promoting an inclusive and accessible society.

Leaders, including Goa CM Dr. Pramod Sawant, Union Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar, and MoS Ramdas Athawale, emphasised that persons with disabilities are empowered individuals contributing actively to the nation's growth, not merely beneficiaries.

The event, jointly organised by the Government of India and the Goa government, saw participation from international organizations and activists, with DEPwD Secretary

Rajesh Aggarwal highlighting initiatives like resolving 50,000 complaints and CSR projects worth ₹50 crore.

122. The Indian Army will host the Conclave of Chiefs of United Nations Troop Contributing Countries (UNTCC) from October 14, bringing together representatives from 32 UN troop-contributing nations, including 15 Chiefs and 17 Vice Chiefs. Where will the UNTCC Conclave be held?

भारतीय सेना 14 अक्टूबर से संयुक्त राष्ट्र सैन्य योगदान देने वाले देशों (यूएनटीसीसी) के प्रमुखों के सम्मेलन की मेजबानी करेगी, जिसमें 32 संयुक्त राष्ट्र सैन्य योगदान देने वाले देशों के प्रतिनिधि शामिल होंगे, जिनमें 15 प्रमुख और 17 उप-प्रमुख शामिल होंगे। यूएनटीसीसी सम्मेलन कहाँ आयोजित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Bengaluru
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) Pune

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Army to Host UN Troop Contributing Countries Conclave in New Delhi from October 14

The Indian Army will host the Conclave of Chiefs of United Nations Troop Contributing Countries (UNTCC) in New Delhi from October 14, bringing together representatives from 32 UN troop-contributing nations, including 15 Chiefs and 17 Vice Chiefs.

The three-day conclave aims to discuss operational challenges, evolving threats, best practices, and future peacekeeping strategies, reflecting the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and India's strong commitment to UN peace missions.

123. What is the State Bank of India's (SBI) target for increasing the percentage of women in its workforce within the next five years?

भारतीय स्टेट बैंक (एसबीआई) का अगले पाँच वर्षों में अपने कार्यबल में महिलाओं का प्रतिशत बढ़ाने का लक्ष्य क्या है?

- (a) 25%
- (b) 27%
- (c) 30%
- (d) 33%
- (e) 35%

Ans. c

Sol. SBI to enhance gender diversity, increase female workforce to 30% by 2030

SBI aims to increase women workforce to 30% in five years — currently, women constitute 27% of the total staff and 33% of frontline staff. The bank is implementing targeted measures to improve gender diversity at all levels.

Women-centric initiatives and leadership programs include Empower Her for mentoring and grooming women leaders, creche allowances, family connect programs, training for employees returning from maternity or sabbatical, and health-focused programs like breast and cervical cancer screenings and nutrition support.

Inclusive and supportive work environment — SBI operates over 340 all-women branches, ensures representation across geographies and hierarchies, and promotes innovation and security in banking operations, reflecting its commitment to diversity, inclusion, and employee well-being.

124. **Who has been appointed as the new Executive Director of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) effective October 9, 2025?**

9 अक्टूबर, 2025 से प्रभावी भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) के नए कार्यकारी निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Parul Tyagi
- (b) Y. V. Reddy
- (c) Sonali Sen Gupta
- (d) Duvvuri Subbarao
- (e) K. V. Kamath

Ans. c

Sol. Sonali Sen Gupta Appointed as New Executive Director of RBI

Sonali Sen Gupta appointed as Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Executive Director with effect from October 9, 2025.

She has over three decades of experience at RBI, previously serving as Regional Director for Karnataka, and has worked in departments like Financial Inclusion, HR Management, Banking Regulation, and Supervision.

As Executive Director, she will oversee Consumer Education & Protection, Financial Inclusion & Development, and Inspection Departments; she holds an MBA in Banking & Finance and is a Certified Associate of IIBF.

Recent Appointments in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Executive Director of RBI** - Sanjay Kumar
- **MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank** - Raghavendra Srinivas Bhat; (reappointment for 1 month)
- **MD & CEO of Union Bank of India** - Asheesh Pandey; for 3 years
- **MD & CEO of Central Bank of India** - Kalyan Kumar; for 3 years
- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - Shirish Chandra Murmu (replace M. Rajeshwar Rao); for 3 Years

125. **After the Delhi government's recent revision of the State Handicraft Awards Scheme, the Rajya Shilpkaar Puraskar (State Award) prize has been significantly increased to better reflect the value of craftsmanship and encourage artisans.**

What is the new prize amount for this award?

दिल्ली सरकार द्वारा राज्य हस्तशिल्प पुरस्कार योजना में हाल ही में किए गए संशोधन के बाद, शिल्प कौशल के मूल्य को बेहतर ढंग से दर्शाने और कारीगरों को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए राज्य शिल्पकार पुरस्कार (राज्य पुरस्कार) की राशि में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि की गई है। इस पुरस्कार की नई पुरस्कार राशि क्या है?

- (a) ₹30,000
- (b) ₹50,000

- (c) ₹75,000
(d) ₹1,00,000
(e) ₹1,25,000

Ans. d

Sol. Delhi Government Triples Handicraft Award Money

The Delhi government has tripled the award money under the State Handicraft Awards Scheme to promote “Vocal for Local”, “Atmanirbhar Bharat”, and “Make in India” initiatives.

The prize for the Rajya Shilpkaar Puraskar (State Award) has been increased from ₹30,000 to ₹1,00,000, and the Rajya Dakshata Puraskar (State Merit Award) from ₹20,000 to ₹75,000. The number of awards has also been doubled to six Shilpkaar Puraskars (including one reserved for women) and 18 Dakshata Puraskars across diverse craft forms.

This marks the first major revision in 12 years, reflecting the government’s intent to value traditional craftsmanship and inspire artisans to innovate and preserve Delhi’s craft heritage.

New categories have been introduced for startups, young artisans, women, and specially-abled craftsmen to ensure inclusivity and wider recognition.

126. **Which state approved the Menstrual Leave Policy-2025, granting one day’s paid leave per month to women employees across all sectors?**

कौन सा राज्य Menstrual Leave Policy-2025 को मंजूरी दी, जिसमें सभी क्षेत्रों में काम करने वाली महिलाओं को प्रति माह एक दिन का वेतनमान अवकाश मिलेगा?

- (a) Kerala
(b) Bihar
(c) Odisha
(d) Karnataka
(e) Tamil Nadu

Ans. d

Sol. Karnataka Becomes First State to Implement Menstrual Leave Policy for Both Government and Private Sectors

Karnataka State Cabinet approved the Karnataka Menstrual Leave Policy-2025, granting one day of paid leave per month for women employees across both government and private sectors, making Karnataka the first state in India to cover all sectors.

The policy follows recommendations from a Labour Department committee advocating paid menstrual leave and is applicable to all sectors employing women, aiming to support employee well-being and inclusion.

About Karnataka

- **Capital** – Bengaluru
- **Chief Minister** –Siddaramaiah
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - DK Shivakumar
- **Governor** – Thawar Chand Gehlot

127. Which bank recently received a 'Letter of Caution' from the Reserve Bank of India for non-compliance with KYC norms?

हाल ही में किस बैंक को केवाईसी मानदंडों का अनुपालन न करने के लिए भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक से 'सावधानी पत्र' प्राप्त हुआ?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) ICICI Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) State Bank of India
- (e) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Ans. c

Sol. RBI Issues 'Letter of Caution' to Axis Bank Over KYC Norms Non-Compliance

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a 'Letter of Caution' to Axis Bank for non-compliance with Know-Your-Customer (KYC) norms, urging the bank to exercise extreme caution and diligence.

RBI acknowledged the remedial actions and system improvements already undertaken by Axis Bank but emphasised the need for strict adherence to KYC regulations in the future.

Axis Bank stated that it has initiated corrective measures and does not expect any material impact on its financial, operational, or other activities due to the cautionary letter.

128. Which three organizations have collaborated to launch Agentic Payments on ChatGPT, enabling users in India to shop and make payments seamlessly within a single AI chat environment without leaving the platform?

किन तीन संगठनों ने ChatGPT पर एजेंटिक पेमेंट्स लॉन्च करने के लिए सहयोग किया है, जो भारत में उपयोगकर्ताओं को प्लेटफॉर्म छोड़े बिना एकल AI चैट वातावरण में खरीदारी करने और भुगतान करने में सक्षम बनाता है?

- (a) Paytm, Google, and Microsoft
- (b) Razorpay, NPCI, and OpenAI
- (c) Amazon, Axis Bank, and OpenAI
- (d) Razorpay, Amazon, and Gemini
- (e) NPCI, Grok, and Flipkart

Ans. b

Sol. Razorpay, NPCI, and OpenAI Launch India's First AI-Powered Agentic Payments on ChatGPT

Razorpay, NPCI, and OpenAI have collaborated to launch Agentic Payments on ChatGPT, enabling users in India to shop and pay within a single AI chat environment without leaving the platform.

The system leverages UPI innovations like UPI Circle and UPI Reserve Pay, backed by Axis Bank and Airtel Payments Bank, providing a seamless, secure, and real-time transactional experience for AI-powered shopping.

BigBasket is among the first merchants to participate, allowing ChatGPT users to browse products, select items, and complete purchases via AI agents, with features like instant

tracking, revocation, and user-controlled checkout, marking India's first UPI-integrated conversational payment experience.

129. **What is the name of the indigenously developed counter-drone system recently procured by the Indian Army to enhance airspace security?**

हाल ही में भारतीय सेना द्वारा हवाई क्षेत्र की सुरक्षा बढ़ाने के लिए खरीदी गई स्वदेशी काउंटर-ड्रोन प्रणाली का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Akashteer
- (b) Saksham
- (c) Netra
- (d) Prithvi
- (e) Shakti

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Army to Deploy Indigenous 'Saksham' CUAS Grid System for Real-Time Drone Threat Neutralisation and Airspace Security

The Indian Army has initiated procurement of the indigenously developed 'Saksham' Counter-Unmanned Aerial System (CUAS) Grid System, designed to detect, track, identify, and neutralise hostile drones and unmanned aerial systems in real time across the Tactical Battlefield Space (TBS).

Developed in collaboration with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Saksham integrates AI-driven analytics, CUAS sensors, weapons systems, and the Army Data Network (ADN) to create a real-time Recognised UAS Picture (RUASP) for commanders, enabling automated decision support and 3D battlefield visualisation.

130. **At the 27th CEAT Cricket Rating Awards 2025, which international cricketer was honoured as the Best Male International Cricketer of the Year, recognising his consistent performance, leadership, and outstanding contributions in global cricket matches during the previous season?**

27वें CEAT क्रिकेट रेटिंग अवार्ड्स 2025 में, किस अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्रिकेटर को पिछले सीज़न के दौरान वैश्विक क्रिकेट मैचों में उनके लगातार प्रदर्शन, नेतृत्व और उत्कृष्ट योगदान को मान्यता देते हुए, वर्ष के सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुरुष अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्रिकेटर के रूप में सम्मानित किया गया था?

- (a) Rohit Sharma
- (b) Kane Williamson
- (c) Joe Root
- (d) Virat Kohli
- (e) Harry Brook

Ans. c

Sol. Rohit Sharma, Joe Root Shine at CEAT Cricket Rating Awards 2025

The 27th CEAT Cricket Rating Awards were held in Mumbai, honouring global cricket talents, with Rohit Sharma receiving a special memento for leading India to two ICC titles in 2024.

Joe Root was named Best Male International Cricketer of the Year, while Brian Lara and Bhagwat Chandrasekhar were honoured with Lifetime Achievement Awards.

Sri Lankan left-arm spinner Prabath Jayasuriya won the Men's Test Bowler of the Year award, highlighting outstanding international cricket performances.

Complete list of CEAT Cricket Rating Awards Winners 2025 -

- **Special Memento for Winning the Champions Trophy-** Rohit Sharma
- **Lifetime Achievement Award-** Brian Lara
- **Best International Cricketer of the Year-** Joe Root
- **Best T20I Batter of the Year-** Sanju Samson
- **Best T20I Bowler of the Year-** Varun Chakravathy
- **CEAT Geostar Award-** Shreyas Iyer
- **Best Male ODI Batter of the Year-** Kane Williamson
- **Best Male ODI Bowler of the Year-** Matt Henry
- **CEAT Lifetime Achievement Award-** B.S. Chandrasekhar
- **Best Female Batter of the Year-** Smriti Mandhana
- **Best Female Bowler of the Year-** Deepti Sharma
- **Emerging Player of the Year-** Angkrish Raghuvanshi
- **Award for Outstanding Leadership-** Temba Bavuma
- **Best Male Test Bowler of the Year-** Prabath Jayasuriya
- **Best Male Test Cricketer of the Year-** Harry Brook
- **Best CEAT Domestic Cricketer of the Year-** Harsh Dubey

131. **World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) is observed on 11 October every year to raise awareness about the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats.**

What is the theme of World Migratory Bird Day 2025?

प्रवासी पक्षियों और उनके आवासों के संरक्षण के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए हर साल 11 अक्टूबर को विश्व प्रवासी पक्षी दिवस (WMBD) मनाया जाता है। विश्व प्रवासी पक्षी दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Protecting Endangered Species
- (b) Shared Spaces: Creating Bird-Friendly Cities and Communities
- (c) Climate Action for Birds
- (d) Global Bird Migration Routes
- (e) Birds and Forest Conservation

Ans. b

Sol. 11 October - World Migratory Bird Day

World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) is observed on 11 October every year to raise awareness about the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats.

Theme 2025 - Shared Spaces: Creating Bird-Friendly Cities and Communities

The day highlights the threats migratory birds face, including habitat loss, climate change, hunting, and pollution, emphasising the need for global cooperation.

132. **Which former political leader has joined Microsoft and AI startup Anthropic as a senior adviser?**

कौन से पूर्व राजनीतिक नेता Microsoft और AI स्टार्टअप Anthropic में वरिष्ठ सलाहकार के रूप में शामिल हुए हैं?

- (a) Rishi Sunak
- (b) Tony Blair
- (c) Boris Johnson
- (d) David Cameron
- (e) Jeremy Corbyn

Ans. a

Sol. Former UK PM Rishi Sunak Joins Microsoft and AI Startup Anthropic as Senior Adviser on Global Strategy

Former British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has joined Microsoft and AI startup Anthropic as a senior adviser, focusing on global strategy, macroeconomic, and geopolitical trends.

Sunak, who stepped down as Conservative Party leader after the July general election defeat, continues to serve as a Member of Parliament in the UK.

His part-time advisory role with Anthropic is fully compliant with ACoBA regulations, restricting him from engaging with UK government officials on behalf of the company.

133. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Global Fintech Fest 2025 in Mumbai, Maharashtra, highlighting the role of technology in transforming the financial ecosystem. What is the central theme of Global Fintech Fest 2025?

प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने महाराष्ट्र के मुंबई में ग्लोबल फिनटेक फेस्ट 2025 को संबोधित करते हुए वित्तीय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में बदलाव लाने में प्रौद्योगिकी की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डाला। ग्लोबल फिनटेक फेस्ट 2025 का मुख्य विषय क्या है?

- (a) Banking for Growth
- (b) Financial Inclusion and Literacy
- (c) Empowering Finance for a Better World
- (d) Sustainable Investment Practices
- (e) Digital Payments Revolution

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi Inaugurates Global Fintech Fest 2025 in Mumbai, Showcasing AI and Innovation in Finance

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Global Fintech Fest 2025 in Mumbai, Maharashtra, highlighting the role of technology in transforming the financial ecosystem.

The event brought together over 100,000 participants from 75+ countries, including 7,500 companies, 800 speakers, 400 exhibitors, and 70 regulators, making it one of the world's largest fintech gatherings.

The fest's theme, 'Empowering Finance for a Better World' – Powered by AI, Augmented Intelligence, Innovation, and Inclusion, emphasized the convergence of technology and human insight in creating an ethical and sustainable financial future, with participation from global regulators like MAS (Singapore), Deutsche Bundesbank (Germany), Banque de France, and FINMA (Switzerland).

134. Which bank has recently launched India's first "My Business QR", a digital solution designed to provide small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with their

first commerce identity, integrating payments, communication, and business visibility in one platform?

हाल ही में किस बैंक ने भारत में पहली बार “My Business QR” लॉन्च किया है, जो छोटे और मध्यम उद्यमों (SMEs) को उनकी पहली कॉमर्स पहचान प्रदान करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया डिजिटल समाधान है, जिसमें पेमेंट्स, कम्युनिकेशन और व्यापार की दृश्यता एक प्लेटफ़ॉर्म में शामिल है?

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) State Bank of India
- (e) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Ans. b

Sol. HDFC Bank Unveils India's First “My Business QR” Powered by Vyaparify to Digitally Empower Bharat's SMEs'

HDFC Bank has launched India's first “My Business QR”, powered by Vyaparify, aimed at giving small and medium enterprises (SMEs) their first digital commerce identity and unifying payments, communication, and business visibility.

The My Business QR serves as a single smart QR solution, integrating payments, identity, engagement, and commerce, thereby helping entrepreneurs manage and grow their businesses more efficiently.

Vyaparify, the tech platform behind the innovation, enables businesses to create a digital identity, showcase products, collect payments, and connect via WhatsApp, serving as a commerce playbook for Bharat's SMEs.

135. India has launched the National Red List Assessment of Indian Flora and Fauna, a first-of-its-kind initiative to evaluate the extinction risk of nearly 11,000 species of plants and animals by 2030, following global standards for assessing species vulnerability. Which international organisation's methodology will be followed in this assessment?

भारत ने प्रजातियों की भेद्यता के आकलन के लिए वैश्विक मानकों का पालन करते हुए, 2030 तक पौधों और जानवरों की लगभग 11,000 प्रजातियों के विलुप्त होने के जोखिम का मूल्यांकन करने के लिए भारतीय वनस्पतियों और जीवों का राष्ट्रीय रेड लिस्ट आकलन शुरू किया है, जो अपनी तरह की पहली पहल है। इस मूल्यांकन में किस अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संगठन की कार्यप्रणाली का पालन किया जाएगा?

- (a) World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- (b) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- (c) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- (d) Global Biodiversity Council (GBC)
- (e) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Ans. c

Sol. India to launch 'Red List' survey to assess extinction risks to plants and animals

India has launched the National Red List Assessment of Indian Flora and Fauna, a first-of-its-kind initiative to evaluate the extinction risk of nearly 11,000 species of plants and animals by 2030, following the IUCN Red List methodology.

The project aims to create a science-based, nationally coordinated red-listing system and publish National Red Data Books on flora and fauna, supported by a user-friendly online database and a team of 300 certified assessors for future assessments.

The initiative, led by the Ministry of Environment, involves key organisations like the Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), IUCN India, and the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI), aligning with India's commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF).

The ₹95 crore project, primarily funded by BSI and ZSI, seeks to strengthen conservation planning and policy-making amid alarming global biodiversity loss, as highlighted in the Living Planet Report 2024, which recorded a 73% decline in vertebrate species since 1970.

136. Which organisation co-hosted the 'AI for Good – Impact India' Conference 2025 along with the Department of Telecommunications (DoT)?

किस संगठन ने दूरसंचार विभाग (DoT) के साथ 'AI फॉर गुड - इम्पैक्ट इंडिया' सम्मेलन 2025 की सह-मेजबानी की?

- (a) UNESCO
- (b) World Bank
- (c) International Telecommunication Union
- (d) NITI Aayog
- (e) World Economic Forum

Ans. c

Sol. DoT and ITU Host 'AI for Good – Impact India' Summit at IMC 2025 to Promote Responsible and Inclusive AI Innovation

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) co-hosted the "AI for Good – Impact India" Conference 2025 at IMC 2025 in New Delhi, inaugurated by Dr. Neeraj Mittal and Mr. Bilel Jamoussi. The summit gathered global AI leaders, policymakers, industry experts, start-ups, and academia to discuss how AI can drive sustainable and inclusive development across sectors.

ITU, founded in 1865, is a UN specialised agency for ICTs, responsible for setting global telecom standards, managing radio spectrum and satellite orbits, and promoting digital inclusion worldwide.

137. The Arulmigu Ekambaranathar Temple in Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu, will hold its consecration ceremony on December 8, 2025, after a 17-year gap, as announced by the state's Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Minister P.K. Sekar Babu. The Arulmigu Ekambaranathar Temple is dedicated to which Hindu deity?

तमिलनाडु के कांचीपुरम में अरुल्लिगु एकंबरनाथर मंदिर, 17 साल के अंतराल के बाद 8 दिसंबर, 2025 को अपना अभिषेक समारोह आयोजित करेगा, जैसा कि राज्य के हिंदू धार्मिक और धर्मार्थ बंदोबस्ती मंत्री पी.के. ने घोषणा की है। शेखर बाबू, अरुल्लिगु एकंबरनाथर मंदिर किस हिंदू देवता को समर्पित है?

- (a) Lord Vishnu
- (b) Goddess Parvati
- (c) Lord Shiva
- (d) Lord Murugan
- (e) Lord Ganesha

Ans. c

Sol. Arulmigu Ekambaranathar Temple in Kanchipuram to Hold Grand Consecration on December 8 After 17 Years

The Arulmigu Ekambaranathar Temple in Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu, will hold its consecration ceremony on December 8, 2025, after a 17-year gap, as announced by the state's Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Minister P.K. Sekar Babu.

The 1,300-year-old temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, received patronage from the Pallava, Chola, and Vijayanagara dynasties and is renowned for its tall Dravidian-style gateway tower.

Due to 34 extensive renovation works costing around ₹28 crore, the consecration was delayed beyond the traditional 12-year cycle; restoration was carried out under strict preservation guidelines.

In Turkey's Denizli region, archaeologists unearthed a 2,700-year-old temple dedicated to the 'Mother Goddess', featuring a monumental structure, ritual cave, and twin stone statues reflecting Phrygian spiritual and artistic traditions.

138. Which two organisations have collaborated to launch the AI Skills Passport, a free online programme aimed at providing high-quality AI education for learners aged 16 and above in India, to help bridge the skills gap in the rapidly growing AI sector?

भारत में 16 वर्ष और उससे अधिक उम्र के छात्रों के लिए उच्च गुणवत्ता वाली एआई शिक्षा प्रदान करने वाले मुफ्त ऑनलाइन कार्यक्रम, एआई स्किल्स पासपोर्ट को शुरू करने के लिए कौन से दो संगठन मिलकर काम कर रहे हैं, ताकि तेजी से बढ़ते एआई क्षेत्र में कौशल अंतर को कम किया जा सके?

- (a) Google and TCS
- (b) EY India and Microsoft
- (c) Infosys and IBM
- (d) NASSCOM and Accenture
- (e) Amazon and PwC

Ans. b

Sol. EY India and Microsoft Launch Free 'AI Skills Passport' Programme to Bridge India's AI Talent Gap

EY India has partnered with Microsoft to launch the AI Skills Passport, a free online programme aimed at providing quality AI education for learners aged 16 and above.

The initiative seeks to equip students and early-career professionals with job-ready AI skills, following its global launch which saw over 40,000 enrolments and 13,000 completions.

With only 31% of Indian professionals feeling adequately prepared to use AI tools (as per Nasscom), the programme aims to bridge the AI skills gap and support India's growing demand for skilled AI talent in the digital economy.

139. What world record did Smriti Mandhana achieve with her recent performances in ODIs?

स्मृति मंधाना ने हाल ही में वनडे में किस विश्व रिकॉर्ड को अपने प्रदर्शन से हासिल किया?

- (a) Fastest to 6000 ODI runs
- (b) First batter to score over 1000 runs in a calendar year
- (c) Most sixes in an ODI series
- (d) Highest individual score in ODIs
- (e) Most 50's scored in a calendar year

Ans. b

Sol. Smriti Mandhana Creates History with Five Consecutive 50+ Scores Against Multiple Opponents in Women's ODIs

Smriti Mandhana returned to top form in the ongoing Women's World Cup against Australia, scoring 80 runs off 66 balls and achieving multiple world records, including being the fastest to 5000 ODI runs and the first batter to score over 1000 runs in a calendar year.

She became the first player in the world to record five consecutive 50-plus scores against multiple opponents in ODIs, with her latest streak achieved against Australia. Over the last five innings against Australia, Mandhana has scored 485 runs, including three centuries, an 80, and a 58, with this run beginning at the WACA in Perth in December last year.

140. Where will the fourth edition of the India-Australia joint military Exercise AUSTRALIND 2025, aimed at enhancing military cooperation, improving interoperability, and providing a platform for exchanging tactics and procedures in sub-conventional warfare, take place?

भारत और ऑस्ट्रेलिया के संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास AUSTRALIND 2025 का चौथा संस्करण, जिसका उद्देश्य सैन्य सहयोग बढ़ाना, इंटरऑपरेबिलिटी सुधारना और उप-सांप्रदायिक युद्धक रणनीतियों और प्रक्रियाओं के आदान-प्रदान का मंच प्रदान करना है, कहाँ आयोजित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Sydney, Australia
- (b) Melbourne, Australia
- (c) Perth, Australia
- (d) Brisbane, Australia
- (e) Canberra, Australia

Ans. c

Sol. Fourth Edition of India-Australia Joint Military Exercise AUSTRALIND 2025 to Commence in Perth

The fourth edition of India-Australia joint military Exercise AUSTRALIND 2025 will begin in Perth, Australia, with a 120-member Indian Army contingent led by a Battalion of Gorkha Rifles participating from various arms and services.

The exercise aims to enhance military cooperation, improve interoperability, and allow participating armies to exchange tactics, techniques, and procedures in sub-conventional warfare in urban or semi-urban terrain, focusing on joint company-level operations in open and semi-desert areas.

AUSTRALIND 2025 will provide an opportunity to hone operational capabilities, integrate emerging technologies, and operate jointly in a combat environment, thereby strengthening defence cooperation and camaraderie between Indian and Australian Army troops.

Recent Exercise

- **Exercise KONKAN-2025** between Indian Navy and Royal Navy - Arabian Sea off the western coast of India
- **Exercise ZAPAD 2025** between Russia & India – Mulino Training Ground, Nizhniy, Russia
- 14th edition of Joint Military **Exercise MAITREE-XIV** between India & Thailand - Joint Training Node (JTN), Umroi, Meghalaya
- 21st edition of **Joint Military Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2025** between India and USA - Fort Wainwright,

141. **International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) is observed on 13 October every year to promote a global culture of disaster prevention, mitigation, and preparedness. What is the theme of IDDRR 2025?**

आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस (IDDRR) हर साल 13 अक्टूबर को आपदा निवारण, शमन और तैयारी की वैश्विक संस्कृति को बढ़ावा देने के लिए मनाया जाता है। IDDRR 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Early Warning Saves Lives
- (b) Build Back Better
- (c) Resilient Cities and Communities
- (d) Disaster Preparedness for All
- (e) Fund Resilience, Not Disasters

Ans. e

Sol. 13 October - International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) is observed on 13 October every year to promote a global culture of disaster prevention, mitigation, and preparedness.

The day aims to raise awareness about reducing vulnerabilities and risks associated with natural and man-made disasters.

Theme 2025 - Fund Resilience, Not Disasters

142. **Breast Cancer Awareness Day is observed on which date each year to raise awareness about breast cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment?**

स्तन कैंसर की रोकथाम, शीघ्र पहचान और उपचार के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए प्रत्येक वर्ष किस तिथि को स्तन कैंसर जागरूकता दिवस मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 12 October
- (b) 13 October
- (c) 14 October
- (d) 15 October
- (e) 16 October

Ans. b

Sol. 13 October - Breast Cancer Awareness Day

Breast Cancer Awareness Day is observed on 13 October each year to raise awareness about breast cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment.

The day emphasises the importance of regular screening, self-examination, and timely medical intervention to reduce mortality rates.

What is Breast cancer?

- Breast cancer is a type of cancer that develops in the cells of the breast. It occurs when breast cells begin to grow abnormally and uncontrollably, forming a tumor that can often be felt as a lump in the breast or detected on imaging tests.

143. **When is World Standards Day observed each year to recognize the efforts of experts and organizations in developing international standards?**

विश्व मानक दिवस हर साल कब मनाया जाता है ताकि विशेषज्ञों और संगठनों के अंतरराष्ट्रीय मानक विकसित करने के प्रयासों को मान्यता दी जा सके?

- (a) 12 October
- (b) 13 October
- (c) 14 October
- (d) 15 October
- (e) 16 October

Ans. c

Sol. 14 October - World Standards Day

World Standards Day is observed on 14 October each year to recognize the efforts of experts and organizations that develop international standards to ensure quality, safety, and efficiency across industries.

Theme 2025 - Shared Vision for a Better World | Spotlight on SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals

The day highlights the importance of standards in global trade, technology, healthcare, and environmental protection to facilitate international cooperation.

144. **Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Capri Global Capital?**

किसे कैपरी ग्लोबल कैपिटल का नया CEO नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Sharma
- (b) Rakesh Kumar
- (c) Monu Ratra
- (d) Ramesh Nair
- (e) Anuj Agarwal

Ans. c

Sol. Monu Ratra Appointed as CEO of Capri Global Capital After Exit from IIFL Home Finance

Monu Ratra, former CEO of IIFL Home Finance, is set to join Capri Global Capital as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

At Capri Global, he will oversee overall operations and lead the company's medium-term growth strategy, reporting directly to MD and promoter Rajesh Sharma.

Capri Global Capital, a retail-focused NBFC with ₹24,753 crore AUM and 0.56 million customers, offers loans in MSME, gold, construction, and housing segments through its subsidiary, Capri Global Housing Finance.

Recent Appointments in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Executive Director of RBI** - Sonali Sen Gupta
- **Executive Director of RBI** - Sanjay Kumar
- **MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank** - Raghavendra Srinivas Bhat; (reappointment for 1 month)
- **MD & CEO of Union Bank of India** - Asheesh Pandey; for 3 years
- **MD & CEO of Central Bank of India** - Kalyan Kumar; for 3 years

145. **The European Free Trade Association (EFTA), which recently signed the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with India, is an intergovernmental organization established in 1960 to promote free trade and economic integration among its member countries. Which of the following group of countries make up the EFTA?**

यूरोपीय मुक्त व्यापार संघ (EFTA), जिसने हाल ही में भारत के साथ व्यापार और आर्थिक साझेदारी समझौता (TEPA) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं, 1960 में अपने सदस्य देशों के बीच मुक्त व्यापार और आर्थिक एकीकरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए स्थापित किया गया था। निम्नलिखित में से कौन-से देश EFTA का हिस्सा हैं?

- (a) France, Germany, Italy, Spain
- (b) Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein
- (c) Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Austria
- (d) Belgium, Ireland, Portugal, Greece
- (e) Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia

Ans. b

Sol. India, EFTA Sign Landmark TEPA to Unlock \$100 Billion Investment and Create 1 Million Jobs

India and EFTA (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein) signed the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) on 10 March 2024, which came into effect on 1 October 2025, marking India's first FTA with developed European nations.

The agreement includes a \$100 billion investment and 1 million job creation commitment over 15 years — the first binding pledge of its kind in any Indian FTA.

TEPA enhances market access, technology cooperation, and sustainability, while protecting key sectors like dairy, soya, coal, and agriculture, and promoting services trade through professional mobility and digital delivery.

WHAT IS EFTA?

- EFTA is the intergovernmental organisation of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. It was set up in 1960 by its then 7 Member States for promotion of free trade and economic integration between its members. EFTA is 1 important economic block out of the 3 (other 2 - EU & UK) in Europe.

WHAT IS TEPA?

- TEPA (Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement) is a modern and ambitious agreement which, for the first time in any Free Trade Agreement (FTA) signed by India, includes binding commitments on investment and job creation.

146. Which Indian state, formed in the year 2000, is witnessing a major industrial boost due to recent GST reforms?

कौन-सा भारतीय राज्य, जो वर्ष 2000 में बना था, हालिया जीएसटी सुधारों के कारण औद्योगिक वृद्धि का अनुभव कर रहा है?

- (a) Chhattisgarh
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Madhya Pradesh
- (e) Bihar

Ans. c

Sol. GST Reforms Set to Boost Jharkhand's Industrial Growth and Unlock Economic Potential

Jharkhand, formed in 2000, is rich in natural resources with vast iron ore reserves, strong steel and heavy engineering industries, and 29% forest cover, one of the highest in India.

As a tribal-dominated state, Jharkhand's economy also relies heavily on agriculture and allied sectors, providing livelihood to a large share of its population.

The recent GST reforms have introduced significant tax rate reductions across key industries, unlocking Jharkhand's economic growth potential and boosting industrial competitiveness.

Jharkhand contributes 20-25% of India's steel output, hosting major hubs like Jamshedpur (Tata Steel) and Bokaro (SAIL), supporting over 1 lakh workers and a strong MSME and vendor network in metal and engineering sectors.

147. GalaxEye, an Indian space-tech startup, is set to make a landmark achievement by launching its first multi-sensor Earth Observation (EO) satellite in 2026. This satellite will integrate both Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and high-resolution optical payloads, making it capable of all-weather, real-time Earth observation. What is the name of this pioneering satellite?

गैलेक्सी आई, एक भारतीय स्पेस-टेक स्टार्टअप, 2026 में अपना पहला मल्टी-सेंसर अर्थ ऑब्ज़र्वेशन (EO) सैटेलाइट लॉन्च करने जा रहा है। यह सैटेलाइट सिंथेटिक एपर्चर रडार (SAR) और हाई-रेजोल्यूशन ऑप्टिकल पेलोड दोनों को एक साथ जोड़ता है, जिससे यह किसी भी मौसम में वास्तविक समय पृथ्वी अवलोकन सक्षम करेगा। इस अग्रणी सैटेलाइट का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Mission Satya
- (b) Mission Parul

- (c) Mission Surya
- (d) Mission Tara
- (e) Mission Drishti

Ans. e

Sol. GalaxEye to Launch India's Largest Privately Built Multi-Sensor EO Satellite 'Mission Drishti' in 2026

GalaxEye plans to launch 'Mission Drishti', the world's first multi-sensor Earth Observation (EO) satellite, in the first quarter of 2026, marking India's largest privately built satellite weighing 160 kg.

Mission Drishti integrates Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and high-resolution optical payloads on a single platform, enabling all-weather, real-time Earth observation. This launch initiates GalaxEye's satellite constellation program, with 8-12 satellites planned to be launched successively until 2029 for near-real-time global EO applications.

The satellite will support governments, defence agencies, and industries in border surveillance, disaster management, infrastructure monitoring, agriculture, and financial/insurance assessment.

GalaxEye's proprietary Sync Fused Opto-SAR technology aims to revolutionise Earth observation, transforming space technology into actionable intelligence for businesses, governments, and communities.

148. Indian Railways is signing an MoU with a domestic navigation company to integrate its navigation technology into the railway network, supporting the government's "Har Ghar Swadeshi" initiative. Which company is it?

भारतीय रेलवे एक घरेलू नेविगेशन कंपनी के साथ MoU कर रहा है, ताकि इसके नेविगेशन तकनीक को रेलवे में एकीकृत किया जा सके और "हर घर स्वदेशी" पहल को समर्थन मिले। यह कंपनी कौन सी है?

- (a) Google Maps
- (b) MapmyIndia
- (c) HERE Technologies
- (d) Waze
- (e) Sygic

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Railways to Collaborate with MapmyIndia's Mappls App to Boost Swadeshi Digital Infrastructure

Indian Railways is set to sign an MoU with MapmyIndia to integrate its Mappls navigation app into the railway network, promoting the government's "Har Ghar Swadeshi" initiative.

The collaboration aims to enhance operational efficiency and safety in Indian Railways by leveraging a comprehensive indigenous navigation system.

This partnership represents a broader push for self-reliant digital infrastructure, supporting local technology companies and demonstrating public-private collaboration for national development.

149. Which city in India has launched the country's first QR code-based traffic challan payment kiosk?

भारत का पहला QR कोड आधारित ट्रैफिक चालान भुगतान कियोस्क किस शहर में लॉन्च किया गया है?

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Gurugram
- (c) Mumbai
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Hyderabad

Ans. b

Sol. Gurugram Launches India's First QR Code-Based Traffic Challan Payment Kiosk
Gurugram becomes the first city in India to launch a QR code-based kiosk for digital payment of traffic challans, simplifying and speeding up the process.

The kiosk, set up at Ambience Mall, was developed jointly by Gurugram Police and the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority under a CSR initiative.

Drivers can check and pay outstanding challans by entering their vehicle number and scanning a QR code; however, court-pending or 90+ days overdue challans cannot be paid through it.

Similar kiosks will soon be installed at other high-footfall locations, aiming to ease police workload and enhance citizen convenience using digital technology.

150. Who were awarded the 2025 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences for their contributions to innovation-driven economic growth?

नवाचार-आधारित आर्थिक विकास में अपने योगदान के लिए 2025 का नोबेल स्मारक अर्थशास्त्र पुरस्कार किन्हें दिया गया है?

- (a) Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, and Michael Kremer
- (b) Thomas Piketty, Paul Krugman, and Amartya Sen
- (c) Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt
- (d) Richard Thaler, Robert Shiller, and Eugene Fama
- (e) Kenneth Arrow, Robert Solow, and Milton Friedman

Ans. c

Sol. Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt Win 2025 Nobel Prize in Economics for Innovation-Driven Growth

Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt won the 2025 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences for their work on innovation-driven economic growth.

Mokyr highlighted the importance of scientific explanations for innovations, while Aghion and Howitt developed the concept of creative destruction, showing how new products replace older ones and drive growth.

The Economics Nobel, officially called the Bank of Sweden Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, has been awarded 56 times since 1968, with only three women among the laureates.

Nobel Prize 2025

Physiology or Medicine Nobel Prize 2025

- **Given By** - The Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm, Sweden
- **Awardee** - Mary Brunkow (USA), Fred Ramsdell (USA), and Shimon Sakaguchi (Japan)
- **Achievement** - *for their discoveries concerning peripheral immune tolerance*

Physics Nobel Prize 2025

- **Given By** - The Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm, Sweden
- **Awardee** - John Clarke (UK), Michel Devoret (France), and John Martinis (USA)
- **Achievement** - *for the discovery of macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation in an electric circuit*

Chemistry Nobel Prize 2025

- **Given By** - The Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm, Sweden
- **Awardee** - Susumu Kitagawa (Japan), Richard Robson (Australilia), and Omar M. Yaghi (USA)
- **Achievement** - *for the development of metal-organic frameworks*

Literature Nobel Prize 2025

- **Given By** - The Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm, Sweden
- **Awardee** - Hungarian author Laszlo Krasznahorkai
- **Achievement** - *for his compelling and visionary oeuvre that, in the midst of apocalyptic terror, reaffirms the power of art*

Peace Nobel Prize 2025

- **Given by** - Norwegian Nobel Committee
- **Awardee** - María Corina Machado (Venezuela)
- **Achievement** - *for her tireless work promoting democratic rights for the people of Venezuela and for her struggle to achieve a just and peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy*

151. Which cricketing legend recently launched the sportswear and athleisure brand 'TEN x YOU' aimed at encouraging India to become a sport-playing nation?

किस क्रिकेट दिग्गज ने हाल ही में भारत को खेल खेलने वाला राष्ट्र बनने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने के उद्देश्य से स्पोर्ट्सवियर और एथलेजर ब्रांड 'टेन एक्स यू' लॉन्च किया?

- (a) Virat Kohli
- (b) MS Dhoni
- (c) Sachin Tendulkar
- (d) Rohit Sharma
- (e) Kapil Dev

Ans. c

Sol. Sachin Tendulkar Launches 'TEN x YOU' Sportswear Brand to Inspire a Sport-Playing India

Sachin Tendulkar launched his new sportswear and athleisure brand "TEN x YOU" under SRT10 Athleisure Pvt. Ltd., co-founded with Karthik Gurusurthy and Karan Arora, aimed initially at cricket players and later for all sports enthusiasts.

The brand focuses on India-specific designs, considering factors like wider feet, diverse body structures, and climate conditions, offering products tested for comfort, durability, and style across all playing levels.

TEN x YOU plans to target ₹4–5 crore monthly revenue initially, aiming for ₹30–35 crore within 18 months, with future export plans, and shoe prices ranging from ₹5,000–₹9,000 per pair.

152. **Which airline has launched India's first fixed airfare scheme 'Fare Se Fursat'?**
भारत की पहली फिक्स्ड एयरफेयर योजना 'Fare Se Fursat' किस एयरलाइन ने शुरू की है?

- (a) IndiGo
- (b) SpiceJet
- (c) Alliance Air
- (d) Air India
- (e) Akasa Air

Ans. c

Sol. Alliance Air Unveils 'Fare Se Fursat' – India's First Fixed Airfare Scheme to Make Flying Affordable and Predictable

Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu Kinjarapu launched 'Fare Se Fursat', a first-of-its-kind fixed airfare scheme by Alliance Air, ensuring constant fares irrespective of booking dates.

The pilot phase will run from October 13 to December 31, 2025, across select routes to assess operational feasibility and passenger response.

The initiative aligns with the UDAN scheme's vision of making aviation affordable for the middle and lower-middle class, eliminating stress from fluctuating ticket prices.

The scheme supports Tier-2 and Tier-3 city travelers, promoting "Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik", and could set a new model for transparent and stable regional airfares in India.

153. **Who became the first Indian to receive the Kenton R. Miller Award for Innovation in National Parks and Protected Area Sustainability?**

राष्ट्रीय उद्यानों और संरक्षित क्षेत्र की स्थिरता में नवाचार के लिए केनटन आर. मिलर पुरस्कार प्राप्त करने वाली पहली भारतीय कौन बनीं?

- (a) Parul Tyagi
- (b) Sonali Ghosh
- (c) Medha Patkar
- (d) Sunita Narain
- (e) Arti Gupta

Ans. b

Sol. Sonali Ghosh Becomes First Indian to Win IUCN's Kenton R. Miller Award for Innovation in National Parks

Sonali Ghosh, Director of Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, became the first Indian to receive the Kenton R. Miller Award for innovation in national parks and protected area sustainability.

She was honoured by the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) at a ceremony held in Abu Dhabi.

The Kenton R. Miller Award, established in 2006, is presented biennially by the IUCN-WCPA to individuals or teams demonstrating impactful innovations in protected area management and sustainability.

The WCPA, a key technical commission of the IUCN, works globally to promote effective governance, management, and conservation of national parks, reserves, and marine protected areas.

Recent Awards

- **Mrs Universe 2025** - Sherry Singh; 1st Runner-up – Saint Petersburg
- **Hombale Samhita Harinikumar Krishi Media Award 2025** - Mysuru Journalist Amshi Prasannakumar (for his contribution to agricultural reporting)
- **Tourism Wins Global Tourism Award 2025** - Andhra Pradesh (for Visionary Initiatives and Investment Milestones)
- **Saraswati Samman 2024** - Sanskrit Scholar Mahamahopadhyay Bhadreshdas Swami (for Swaminarayan Siddhant Sudha)
- **Living Bridge' honour** - UK PM Keir Starmer

154. **According to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), what was India's retail inflation rate in September 2025?**

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय (MoSPI) के अनुसार, सितंबर 2025 में भारत की खुदरा मुद्रास्फीति दर क्या थी?

- (a) 2.07%
- (b) 1.54%
- (c) 1.87%
- (d) 2.28%
- (e) 1.07%

Ans. b

Sol. India's Retail Inflation Drops to 8-Year Low of 1.54% in September 2025

India's retail inflation eased to 1.54% in September 2025, the lowest in eight years, compared to 2.07% in August, with rural inflation at 1.07% and urban inflation at 2.04%.

Food inflation entered deflation for the fourth consecutive month, falling to -2.28%, the lowest since December 2018, driven by cheaper vegetables, oils, fruits, pulses, and cereals.

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) attributed the decline to a favorable base effect and falling prices across key food categories.

Previous Months CPI-based Retail inflation

- **April 2025** – 3.16%
- **May 2025** – 2.84%
- **June 2025** – 2.10%
- **July 2025** – 1.61%
- **August 2025** – 2.07%
- **September 2025** – 1.54%

155. **Union Minister Piyush Goyal launched the Logistics Excellence, Advancement, and Performance Shield (LEAPS) 2025 during the 4th Anniversary of PM GatiShakti at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. LEAPS 2025 is an initiative of which department?**

केंद्रीय मंत्री पीयूष गोयल ने नई दिल्ली स्थित भारत मंडपम में प्रधानमंत्री गतिशक्ति की चौथी वर्षगांठ के अवसर पर लॉजिस्टिक्स उत्कृष्टता, उन्नति और प्रदर्शन शील्ड (LEAPS) 2025 का शुभारंभ किया। LEAPS 2025 किस विभाग की पहल है?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- (c) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- (d) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- (e) Ministry of Railways

Ans. c

Sol. Piyush Goyal Unveils 'LEAPS 2025' to Promote Excellence, Innovation, and Sustainability in India's Logistics Sector

Union Minister Piyush Goyal launched the Logistics Excellence, Advancement, and Performance Shield (LEAPS) 2025 during the 4th Anniversary of PM GatiShakti at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

LEAPS 2025, an initiative of DPIIT under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, aims to benchmark logistics excellence and align with the National Logistics Policy (NLP) and PM GatiShakti vision.

The initiative promotes innovation, sustainability, and ESG practices, inviting participation from air, road, rail, and sea operators, MSMEs, startups, and academia across 13 award categories.

Registrations are open on the Rashtriya Puraskar Portal (awards.gov.in) until 15th November 2025, aiming to build a future-ready logistics ecosystem supporting Make in India and Viksit Bharat 2047.

Previous Months CPI-based Retail inflation

- **April 2025 - 3.16%**
- **May 2025 - 2.84%**
- **June 2025 - 2.10%**
- **July 2025 - 1.61%**
- **August 2025 - 2.07%**
- **September 2025 - 1.54%**

156. **Which organisation has released the report titled "India's Blue Economy: Strategy for Harnessing Deep-Sea and Offshore Fisheries"?**

कौन सा संगठन "India's Blue Economy: Strategy for Harnessing Deep-Sea and Offshore Fisheries" शीर्षक वाली रिपोर्ट जारी की है?

- (a) Ministry of Fisheries
- (b) NITI Aayog
- (c) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (d) Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- (e) National Institute of Ocean Technology

Ans. b

Sol. NITI Aayog Releases Report on India's Blue Economy to Harness Deep-Sea and Offshore Fisheries

NITI Aayog launched the report "India's Blue Economy: Strategy for Harnessing Deep-Sea and Offshore Fisheries", highlighting the potential of India's 2 million sq km EEZ and 11,098 km coastline to expand deep-sea fisheries.

India is the second-largest fish-producing country, supporting 30 million livelihoods and earning ₹60,523 crore in exports during FY 2023-24, with deep-sea resources largely untapped.

The report proposes a science-based, technology-enabled, socially inclusive, and ecologically sustainable framework, emphasising policy reform, fleet modernisation, community participation, and investment priorities.

A three-phase strategy (2025-28, 2029-32, 2033 onwards) aims to strengthen governance, boost exports, ensure ecological sustainability, and position India as a global leader in sustainable deep-sea fisheries.

157. **Which organisation is responsible for conducting the National Household Income Survey (NHIS) 2026, which aims to capture comprehensive data on household income, expenditure patterns, and living conditions across India?**

भारत में घर-घर की आय, खर्च और जीवन स्तर पर व्यापक डेटा एकत्र करने वाले राष्ट्रीय गृह आय सर्वेक्षण (NHIS) 2026 का संचालन किस संगठन द्वारा किया जा रहा है?

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) National Statistics Office
- (c) Reserve Bank of India
- (d) NITI Aayog
- (e) Census of India

Ans. b

Sol. National Household Income Survey (NHIS) 2026 to Measure Household Income Across India

National Household Income Survey (NHIS) 2026, the first pan-India survey on household income, will provide critical data on living conditions, income, and expenditure patterns, supporting poverty analysis, CPI rebasing, and national accounts preparation.

Conducted by NSO under MoSPI, the survey builds on decades of National Sample Survey (NSS) experience capturing household welfare, consumption, employment, health, and assets.

A Technical Expert Group (TEG), chaired by Dr. Surjit S. Bhalla, guided the survey design, and a pre-testing exercise was conducted across 15 Regional Offices covering urban and rural areas, affluent and non-affluent segments.

Pre-testing helped refine the draft questionnaire, ensuring clarity, flow, reliability, and user-friendliness before final field deployment.

The Draft Schedule and Pre-Testing Report have been uploaded on MoSPI's website, inviting feedback from researchers, policymakers, institutions, and the public by 30th October 2025 to improve survey quality and policy relevance.

158. In a significant move to promote cooperative ride-hailing in India, which organisation has officially entered into a strategic advisory partnership with Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Limited to support the launch and development of Bharat Taxi, India's first cooperative-led national ride-hailing platform?

भारत में सहकारी राइड-हेलिंग को बढ़ावा देने के एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम के रूप में, किस संगठन ने भारत के पहले सहकारी-नेतृत्व वाले राष्ट्रीय राइड-हेलिंग प्लेटफॉर्म, भारत टैक्सी के शुभारंभ और विकास का समर्थन करने के लिए सहकार टैक्सी कोऑपरेटिव लिमिटेड के साथ आधिकारिक तौर पर एक रणनीतिक सलाहकार साझेदारी की है?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) National e-Governance Division
- (c) Ministry of Road Transport
- (d) Digital India Foundation
- (e) Indian Railways

Ans. b

Sol. NeGD Partners with Bharat Taxi to Launch India's First Cooperative Ride-Hailing Platform

The National e-Governance Division (NeGD) of Digital India Corporation, under MeitY, has partnered with Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Limited to support Bharat Taxi, India's first cooperative-led national ride-hailing platform.

An MoU has been signed to provide strategic advisory and technical support in areas like platform integration, cybersecurity, data privacy, compliance, and governance.

Bharat Taxi is promoted by major cooperatives and financial institutions such as NCDC, IFFCO, AMUL, KRIBHCO, NAFED, NABARD, NDDB, and NCEL, reflecting the cooperative movement aligned with the Digital India vision.

NeGD's support covers platform integration with national digital systems, security and compliance, program advisory, and UI/UX enhancements, aiming for a transparent, inclusive, and citizen-centric mobility solution launching in December 2025.

159. Which company has launched India's first e-RUPI voucher issuance platform for businesses?

किस कंपनी ने व्यवसायों के लिए भारत का पहला ई-रुपी वाउचर जारी करने वाला प्लेटफॉर्म लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) PhonePe
- (b) CotoPay
- (c) Paytm
- (d) Pine Labs
- (e) Razorpay

Ans. b

Sol. CotoPay launches India's First e-RUPI Voucher Issuance Stack for Businesses

CotoPay has launched a platform enabling businesses to manage their expenses using the existing UPI ecosystem, bringing the convenience of UPI payments to corporate spends for both employees and businesses.

Businesses can issue UPI Vouchers to employees, locked for specific purposes like meals, fuel, or general spends. Vouchers are non-transferable, redeemable only at merchant-linked accounts, and visible in existing UPI apps like Google Pay, BHIM, and bob iPay. Businesses gain full control and visibility over employee spends through CotoPay's dashboard, tracking merchant name, time, date, and spend value, while any unutilized funds are automatically refunded to the business.

160. **Which Indian tech startup has partnered with NPCI to launch India's first wearable payments ecosystem?**

किस भारतीय टेक स्टार्टअप ने भारत का पहला वियरेबल पेमेंट इकोसिस्टम लॉन्च करने के लिए NPCI के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Pine Labs
- (b) Muse Wearables
- (c) Paytm
- (d) Razorpay
- (e) PhonePe

Ans. b

Sol. Muse Wearables Partners with NPCI to Launch India's First Wearable Payments Ecosystem

Indian tech startup Muse Wearables has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to introduce India's first wearable payments ecosystem using Muse Wallet and the RuPay network.

Users can make instant, secure payments by tapping Muse's smart ring, "Ring One," on any NFC-enabled point-of-sale terminal, without needing a phone, card, or wallet. Muse Wallet, already operational in over 40 countries and supporting cards from nearly 600 banks, is bringing its platform to India via RuPay to provide easy and secure digital payments.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **HDFC Bank Unveils India's First "My Business QR"** Powered by Vyaparify to Digitally Empower Bharat's SMEs'
- **ICICI Bank and Visa Launch Corporate Sapphire Forex Card** with Premium Benefits for International Business Travelers
- **Paytm Launches 'Playback' – AI-Powered Feature** that Turns Monthly Spending into Personalised Rap Songs
- **SBI General Launches 'Health Alpha' – India's First Fully Customizable DIY Health Insurance Plan**
- **Zomato and HDFC Pension launched 'NPS Platform Workers Model'** to provide delivery partners access to formal retirement benefits

161. **Which two companies have jointly launched the GlobalPay Co-Branded Forex Card in India?**

भारत में ग्लोबलपे को-ब्रांडेड फ़ॉरेक्स कार्ड किन दो कंपनियों ने संयुक्त रूप से लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) WSFx Global Pay and Paytm

- (b) WSFx Global Pay and Zaggle
- (c) Razorpay and Zaggle
- (d) PhonePe and GlobalPay
- (e) ICICI Bank and Zaggle

Ans. b

Sol. WSFx Global Pay and Zaggle Launch Co-Branded GlobalPay Forex Card for Seamless Corporate Travel

WSFx Global Pay and Zaggle have jointly launched the GlobalPay Co-Branded Forex Card in India, catering to both corporate and individual international travel needs.

The card provides global airport lounge access, airport transit hotels, doorstep visa assistance, global SIM cards, instant travel insurance, and optional privileges like golf club access, airport spas, curated food & beverage, and valet services.

Zaggle's platform supports OCR-powered receipt capture, real-time spend tracking, automated expense approvals, and seamless reconciliation, ensuring transparency, control, and compliance for corporate transactions.

The partnership combines GlobalPay's forex expertise with Zaggle's enterprise network to offer scalable, compliant solutions for international travel expenses, benefiting businesses and regulators alike.

162. How many Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed between India and Mongolia during President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa's visit?

भारत और मंगोलिया के बीच राष्ट्रपति खुरेलसुख उखना की यात्रा के दौरान कितने समझौता ज्ञापन (MoUs) पर हस्ताक्षर हुए?

- (a) 5
- (b) 7
- (c) 10
- (d) 12
- (e) 15

Ans. c

Sol. India and Mongolia Sign 10 MoUs, Strengthen Strategic, Cultural, and Economic Ties
India and Mongolia signed ten MoUs covering humanitarian aid, heritage restoration, immigration, geology and mineral resources, promotion of cooperatives, and sharing of digital solutions during Mongolian President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa's visit to New Delhi. Both leaders released commemorative stamps marking 70 years of bilateral relations. India will provide free e-visas to Mongolian citizens and sponsor annual visits of young Mongolian cultural ambassadors. Collaboration between Nalanda University and Gandan Monastery will strengthen spiritual and educational ties.

India supports Mongolia's development, including the \$1.7 billion Oil Refinery Project enhancing Mongolia's energy security. Both nations reaffirmed shared values, close partnership in international forums, and cooperation in resilient supply chains and critical minerals.

A Mongolian air carrier will operate charter flights to India, boosting tourism and business. The MoU on digital cooperation marks a landmark agreement, reflecting deep-

rooted friendship and laying the foundation for closer collaboration across multiple sectors.

163. Union Minister of State for Law and Justice, Arjun Ram Meghwal, inaugurated the Live Cases Dashboard of LIMBS in New Delhi to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in government litigation management. What does LIMBS stand for?

केंद्रीय विधि एवं न्याय राज्य मंत्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल ने सरकारी मुकदमेबाजी प्रबंधन में पारदर्शिता, जवाबदेही और दक्षता बढ़ाने के लिए नई दिल्ली में LIMBS के लाइव केस डैशबोर्ड का उद्घाटन किया। LIMBS का क्या अर्थ है?

- (a) Legal Investigation and Monitoring Bureau System
- (b) Legal Information Management and Briefing System
- (c) Law and Investigation Management Board System
- (d) Litigation Information Monitoring Bureau Setup
- (e) Legal Integration Management Base System

Ans. b

Sol. Arjun Ram Meghwal Launches LIMBS Live Cases Dashboard to Enhance Government Litigation Management

Union Minister of State for Law and Justice, Arjun Ram Meghwal, inaugurated the Live Cases Dashboard of the Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS) in New Delhi to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in government litigation management.

The dashboard provides details of all cases scheduled in the next seven days across the Supreme Court, High Courts, and other courts involving various ministries, allowing officers and ministers to monitor and receive updates directly from their office.

LIMBS presents real-time data visualisation of court cases, enabling proactive decision-making, better inter-ministerial coordination, and efficient management of around 7 lakh live cases from 53 Ministries and Departments.

164. What was India's WPI-based inflation in September 2025?

सितंबर 2025 में भारत की WPI-आधारित मुद्रास्फीति क्या थी?

- (a) 0.52%
- (b) 0.13%
- (c) 1.54%
- (d) 2.33%
- (e) -0.13%

Ans. b

Sol. India's Wholesale Inflation Falls to 0.13% in September, Retail Inflation Hits Eight-Year Low

India's wholesale price index (WPI) based inflation eased to 0.13% in September, down from 0.52% in August, driven by increases in prices of manufactured food products, textiles, transport equipment, and other manufacturing items.

The WPI food index recorded a negative inflation rate of 2%, while primary articles and fuel & power segments saw deflation of 3.32% and 2.58% respectively; inflation in manufactured products rose to 2.33% year-on-year.

WPI measures wholesale-level price changes, differing from CPI which tracks consumer-level prices, and this easing aligns with retail inflation slipping to an eight-year low of 1.54% in September.

Recent WPI-based Wholesale inflation in India

- **April 2025** – 0.85%
- **May 2025** – 0.39%
- **June 2025** – (-)0.1%
- **July 2025** – (-) 0.6%
- **August 2025** – 0.52%

165. **Who won his first ATP title at the 2025 Shanghai Masters?**

2025 शंघाई मास्टर्स में अपना पहला एटीपी खिताब किसने जीता?

- (a) Novak Djokovic
- (b) Arthur Rinderknech
- (c) Valentin Vacherot
- (d) Roger Federer
- (e) Rafael Nadal

Ans. c

Sol. Valentin Vacherot Becomes Lowest-Ranked Player to Win ATP Masters 1000 Title at 2025 Shanghai Masters

Valentin Vacherot, a 26-year-old qualifier from Monaco, won his first ATP title at the 2025 Shanghai Masters by defeating his cousin Arthur Rinderknech 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 in the final.

Ranked 204, Vacherot became the lowest-ranked player ever to win a Masters 1000 event, including a remarkable semifinal victory over Novak Djokovic.

The win propels him into the ATP top 50, earns him over \$1.1 million, and was an emotional milestone, with Vacherot celebrating the victory with tears and family.

166. **When is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day observed every year?**

गर्भावस्था और शिशु हानि स्मरण दिवस हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 10 October
- (b) 12 October
- (c) 16 October
- (d) 20 October
- (e) 15 October

Ans. e

Sol. 15 October - Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day is observed every year on 15 October across the world to honour babies lost through miscarriage, stillbirth, SIDS, or infant death.

The day seeks to provide comfort and support to grieving parents and families while raising public awareness about the impact of pregnancy and infant loss.

167. Global Handwashing Day is observed every year on 15 October to promote the importance of hand hygiene in preventing diseases and saving lives. What is the theme of Global Handwashing Day 2025?

बीमारियों से बचाव और जीवन बचाने में हाथों की स्वच्छता के महत्व को बढ़ावा देने के लिए हर साल 15 अक्टूबर को वैश्विक हाथ धुलाई दिवस मनाया जाता है। वैश्विक हाथ धुलाई दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है

- (a) Clean Hands for All
- (b) Hand Hygiene for Health
- (c) Our Future is in Our Hands
- (d) It Might Be Gloves. It's Always Hand Hygiene
- (e) Safe Hands, Healthy Lives

Ans. d

Sol. 15 October - Global Handwashing Day

Global Handwashing Day is observed every year on 15 October to promote the importance of hand hygiene in preventing diseases and saving lives.

Theme 2025 - It Might Be Gloves. It's Always Hand Hygiene.'5 hours ago

The day was first launched in 2008 by the Global Handwashing Partnership, a coalition of international stakeholders.

168. The 16th Annual Meeting of the World Health Organisation – International Regulatory Cooperation for Herbal Medicines (WHO-IRCH) is being hosted to promote global collaboration on herbal medicine regulation. In which country and city is this important meeting taking place in 2025?

विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन - हर्बल औषधियों के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय नियामक सहयोग (WHO-IRCH) की 16वीं वार्षिक बैठक, हर्बल औषधियों के विनियमन पर वैश्विक सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आयोजित की जा रही है। यह महत्वपूर्ण बैठक 2025 में किस देश और शहर में हो रही है?

- (a) New Delhi, India
- (b) Bangkok, Thailand
- (c) Jakarta, Indonesia
- (d) Manila, Philippines
- (e) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Ans. c

Sol. 16th WHO-IRCH Annual Meeting Commences in Jakarta to Boost Global Collaboration on Herbal Medicine Regulation

The 16th WHO-IRCH Annual Meeting is being held in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 14–16 October 2025, to strengthen global cooperation on herbal medicine regulation.

The meeting focuses on harmonising regulatory frameworks and enhancing international collaboration to ensure the safety, quality, and efficacy of herbal medicines.

India's delegation, led by Dr. Raghu Arackal (Advisor, Ayurveda, Ministry of Ayush), includes Dr. Raman Mohan Singh (DDG & Director, PCIM&H) and Dr. Mahesh Dadhich (CEO, NMPB), showcasing India's leadership in traditional medicine integration.

A major highlight was the release of the Proceedings of the WHO-IRCH Workshops on "Safety and Regulation" and "Efficacy and Intended Use of Herbal Medicines", organised by WHO and the Ministry of Ayush in Ghaziabad, India (6-8 August 2025).

169. Where was the 8th Session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) held in 2025?

2025 में कोडेक्स समिति की मसाले और पाक जड़ी-बूटियों पर 8वीं बैठक कहाँ आयोजित की गई थी?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Chennai
- (d) Kochi
- (e) Guwahati

Ans. e

Sol. India Showcases Global Leadership in Spice Standards at 8th Codex Committee Session Held in Guwahati

The 8th Session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) began in Guwahati, Assam, reinforcing India's leadership in global spice standardisation.

The event, organised by the Spices Board under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, brought together 81 delegates from 27 countries to discuss harmonised international standards for spices and culinary herbs.

Established in 2013 at India's initiative, the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs operates under the Codex Alimentarius Commission of FAO and WHO, with India (through the Spices Board) serving as its Secretariat.

170. Which PSU received the HR Excellence Award at the Fortune Leadership Awards 2025?

किस सार्वजनिक उपक्रम (PSU) को फॉर्च्यून लीडरशिप अवार्ड्स 2025 में HR उत्कृष्टता पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया?

- (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)
- (b) Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL)
- (c) RailTel Corporation of India
- (d) Power Grid Corporation of India
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)

Ans. b

Sol. TCIL Wins HR Excellence Award at Fortune Leadership Awards 2025 for Outstanding People-Centric Reforms and Innovation

Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), a Miniratna Schedule 'A' PSU under the Department of Telecommunications, received the HR Excellence Award at the Fortune Leadership Awards 2025, held at Radisson Blu Plaza, Delhi, for its outstanding HR innovation, employee development, and inclusivity.

Between 2021 and 2025, TCIL implemented major HR reforms under Mission Karmayogi, including function-wise restructuring, merit-based promotions,

performance-linked management systems, reward mechanisms, and digitisation initiatives like E-Office and ERP.

The company focused strongly on skill enhancement, with 58 executives earning global certifications in areas such as cybersecurity, networking, and auditing, boosting efficiency and delivery in high-value telecom and IT projects.

171. The inaugural India–South Korea naval bilateral exercise began at Busan Naval Base to strengthen maritime cooperation and strategic ties. Which Indian naval ship, currently on operational deployment to the South China Sea and Indo-Pacific, participated in this maiden exercise?

प्रारंभिक भारत-दक्षिण कोरिया नौसैनिक द्विपक्षीय अभ्यास बुसान नौसैनिक अड्डे पर समुद्री सहयोग और रणनीतिक संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए शुरू हुआ। इस पहले अभ्यास में कौन सा भारतीय नौसेना जहाज, जो वर्तमान में साउथ चाइना सी और इंडो-पैसिफिक में ऑपरेशनल डिप्लॉयमेंट पर है, ने भाग लिया?

- (a) INS Kolkata
- (b) INS Sahyadri
- (c) INS Talwar
- (d) INS Vikramaditya
- (e) INS Shakti

Ans. b

Sol. India–South Korea Inaugural Naval Bilateral Exercise Kicks Off at Busan to Strengthen Strategic Maritime Partnership

The inaugural India–South Korea naval bilateral exercise began at Busan Naval Base, with INS Sahyadri participating to strengthen navy-to-navy cooperation and deepen the strategic partnership between the two countries.

The exercise includes harbour and sea phases, featuring cross-deck visits, professional exchanges, sports fixtures, cross-training, and complex joint manoeuvres between INS Sahyadri and ROKS Gyeongnam to enhance interoperability and operational synergy.

The exercise reflects India's commitment to the Indo-Pacific as a responsible maritime stakeholder, promoting shared interests, common values, and laying the foundation for future larger-scale naval engagements with South Korea.

172. To enhance employability and skill recognition among construction workers in Uttar Pradesh, which two organisations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to implement the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme and empower workers through structured skill development training?

उत्तर प्रदेश में निर्माण श्रमिकों के बीच रोजगार क्षमता और कौशल पहचान को बढ़ाने के लिए, किन दो संगठनों ने पूर्व शिक्षण की मान्यता (आरपीएल) कार्यक्रम को लागू करने और संरचित कौशल विकास प्रशिक्षण के माध्यम से श्रमिकों को सशक्त बनाने के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन (एमओयू) पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) DTNBWED and UPBOCWWB
- (b) NSDC and FICCI

- (c) AICTE and UP Skill Development Mission
- (d) Ministry of Labour & Employment and NITI Aayog
- (e) DGT and UP MSME Board

Ans. a

Sol. DTNBWED and UPBOCWBB Collaborate to Empower Uttar Pradesh Construction Workers through Skill Development Training

The Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Workers Education & Development (DTNBWED) signed an MoU with the Uttar Pradesh Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (UPBOCWBB) to empower construction workers through skill development under the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme.

In Phase 1, DTNBWED will implement 120-hour RPL training for 1,00,000 registered construction workers across 7 districts of Uttar Pradesh, aligning skills with NCVET standards, followed by assessment and certification, with plans to expand to 2,00,000 workers in subsequent phases.

This collaboration strengthens the commitment of DTNBWED and UPBOCWBB to enhance employability, skill recognition, and social security for workers in the unorganised construction sector, marking a significant step in workforce capacity building in Uttar Pradesh.

173. Until which date has the government extended the tenure of the 16th Finance Commission?

सरकार ने 16वीं वित्त आयोग की अवधि को किस तिथि तक बढ़ाया है?

- (a) October 31, 2025
- (b) November 15, 2025
- (c) November 30, 2025
- (d) December 31, 2025
- (e) January 31, 2026

Ans. c

Sol. Centre Extends Tenure of 16th Finance Commission to November 30 for Final Report Submission

The government has extended the tenure of the 16th Finance Commission by one month, now set to submit its report by November 30, 2025, instead of the original October 31 deadline.

The 16th Finance Commission, chaired by former NITI Aayog vice-chairman Arvind Panagariya, was constituted on December 31, 2023, and will make recommendations on tax distribution between the Centre and states for five years starting April 1, 2026.

The Commission consists of four members, assisted by Secretary Ritvik Pandey, two joint secretaries, and one economic advisor, including full-time members Annie George Mathew and Manoj Panda and part-time members Soumya Kanti Ghosh (SBI) and T Rabi Sankar (RBI).

174. What is India's revised GDP growth forecast for FY26 according to the IMF?

IMF के अनुसार FY26 के लिए भारत का संशोधित GDP वृद्धि अनुमान क्या है?

- (a) 6.2%

- (b) 6.4%
- (c) 6.5%
- (d) 6.6%
- (e) 6.8%

Ans. d

Sol. IMF Raises India's FY26 GDP Growth Forecast to 6.6%

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has raised India's GDP growth forecast for FY26 by 20 basis points to 6.6%, citing a strong first quarter that offset the impact of the US rate hike, and also revised FY27 growth to 6.2%.

The World Bank recently revised India's FY26 GDP forecast to 6.5% (up from 6.3%) while slightly lowering FY27 growth to 6.3%, noting that India is expected to remain the world's fastest-growing major economy driven by strong consumption growth.

The Economic Survey projects FY26 GDP growth between 6.3% and 6.8%, while the IMF also raised global growth for 2025 to 3.2%, keeping the 2026 global growth forecast unchanged at 3.1%.

175. **On which date is the International Day of Rural Women observed annually?**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण महिला दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस तिथि को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 October
- (b) 13 October
- (c) 16 October
- (d) 15 October
- (e) 17 December

Ans. d

Sol. 15 October - International Day of Rural Women

International Day of Rural Women is observed annually on 15 October to recognise the vital role of women in rural areas in agriculture, food production, and rural development.

The day highlights the challenges faced by rural women, such as poverty, limited access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities, while celebrating their resilience and leadership.

Theme 2025 - The Rise of Rural Women: Building Resilient Futures with Beijing+30

Established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007, the day encourages governments, organizations, and communities to invest in initiatives that support and empower rural women worldwide.

176. **World White Cane Day is observed annually on 15 October to recognise the achievements of people who are blind or visually impaired and to highlight the importance of the white cane as a symbol of independence. What is the theme of World White Cane Day 2025?**

विश्व सफ़ेद छड़ी दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 15 अक्टूबर को दृष्टिबाधित या दृष्टिबाधित लोगों की उपलब्धियों को मान्यता देने और स्वतंत्रता के प्रतीक के रूप में सफ़ेद छड़ी के महत्व को उजागर करने के लिए मनाया जाता है। विश्व सफ़ेद छड़ी दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Empowering Women with Disabilities

- (b) Modernisation of the White Cane
- (c) Technology for All
- (d) Inclusive Education
- (e) Accessibility in Cities

Ans. b

Sol. 15 October - World White Cane Day

World White Cane Day is observed annually on 15 October to recognise the achievements of people who are blind or visually impaired and to highlight the importance of the white cane as a symbol of independence.

Theme 2025 - Modernisation of the White Cane - Development of Visually Impaired Persons'.

The white cane empowers visually impaired individuals by providing mobility, safety, and self-confidence, allowing them to navigate their surroundings independently.

First celebrated in the United States in 1964, World White Cane Day now serves as an international observance advocating for the rights, empowerment, and inclusion of visually impaired individuals.

177. **World Students' Day is observed annually on 15 October to honour the birth anniversary of former President of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, and to recognise the achievements and potential of students worldwide.**

What is the theme of World Students' Day 2025?

विश्व छात्र दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 15 अक्टूबर को भारत के पूर्व राष्ट्रपति डॉ. एपीजे अब्दुल कलाम की जयंती के उपलक्ष्य में और दुनिया भर के छात्रों की उपलब्धियों और क्षमता को मान्यता देने के लिए मनाया जाता है। विश्व छात्र दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Education for All
- (b) Empowering Students as Agents of Innovation and Change
- (c) Students and Sports Excellence
- (d) Digital Learning for Youth
- (e) Innovation in Science

Ans. b

Sol. 15 October - World Students' Day

World Students' Day is observed annually on 15 October to honour the birth anniversary of former President of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, and to recognise the achievements and potential of students worldwide.

Theme 2025 - Empowering Students as Agents of Innovation and Change

The day emphasizes the importance of education, innovation, and youth empowerment, encouraging students to pursue knowledge, creativity, and leadership skills.

178. **Raavu Balasaraswathi Devi, who recently passed away, was widely recognised for being the first playback singer in which regional cinema?**

हाल ही में निधन हुई रावु बालासरस्वती देवी किस क्षेत्रीय सिनेमा की पहली पार्श्वगायिका (Playback Singer) के रूप में जानी जाती थीं?

- (a) Tamil Cinema
- (b) Kannada Cinema

- (c) Telugu Cinema
- (d) Malayalam Cinema
- (e) Marathi Cinema

Ans. c

Sol. Veteran Telugu Playback Singer and Actress Raavu Balasaraswathi Devi Passes Away
Veteran actress and singer Raavu Balasaraswathi Devi, widely recognised as the first playback singer in Telugu cinema and the first 'light music' singer on All India Radio, passed away in Hyderabad at the age of 97.

She made her cinematic singing debut with Bhagya Lakshmi (1943), lending her voice to actress Kamala Kotnis, marking a revolutionary shift in Telugu cinema and ushering in the era of playback singing.

Beginning her career as a child actor, Balasaraswathi Devi also appeared in several Tamil classics including Bhaktha Kuchela (1936) and Balayogini (1937), leaving behind a rich artistic legacy that continues to inspire generations of artists.

179. IndiaAI recently launched the Face Authentication Challenge to promote AI-based image verification and de-duplication solutions for public examinations. Under which organisation has this initiative been launched?

भारतएआई ने हाल ही में सार्वजनिक परीक्षाओं में एआई आधारित इमेज वेरिफिकेशन और डुप्लिकेशन रोकथाम समाधान को बढ़ावा देने के लिए फेस ऑथेंटिकेशन चैलेंज शुरू किया है। यह पहल किस संगठन के तहत शुरू की गई है?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Digital India Corporation
- (c) MeitY Startup Hub
- (d) National Informatics Centre
- (e) NICSI

Ans. b

Sol. IndiaAI Launches ₹2.5 Crore Face Authentication Challenge to Strengthen Exam Integrity and Promote Ethical AI Innovation

IndiaAI, under the Digital India Corporation, launched the Face Authentication Challenge on 14 October 2025, inviting startups to create secure and scalable AI-based facial verification systems to prevent impersonation and duplicate entries in public exams.

The challenge carries a ₹2.5 crore prize pool, with the top two teams eligible for a two-year contract and up to ₹1 crore for final deployment of their solutions.

The initiative builds on the success of the AI-based facial recognition pilot conducted by UPSC and NeGD during NDA and CDS exams in September, which reduced verification time to 8–10 seconds per candidate.

Applications remain open till 25 October 2025 on indiaai.gov.in, aligning with the ₹10,372 crore IndiaAI Mission aimed at promoting ethical, responsible, and inclusive AI innovation across sectors.

180. **Under which government programme is the Ministry of Minority Affairs supporting universities to set up Centres of Excellence for heritage and classical languages?**

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय किस सरकारी कार्यक्रम के तहत विश्वविद्यालयों में विरासत और शास्त्रीय भाषाओं के लिए उत्कृष्टता केंद्र स्थापित करने में सहायता कर रहा है?

- (a) Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan
- (b) Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram
- (c) Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan
- (d) Digital India Mission
- (e) National Education Mission

Ans. b

Sol. Ministry of Minority Affairs Launches Centre for Jain Studies at DAVV Indore under PMJVK to Promote Heritage Languages

The Ministry of Minority Affairs is supporting universities nationwide to establish Centres of Excellence for promoting and preserving heritage and classical languages under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) initiative.

As part of the programme, Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya (DAVV), Indore, inaugurated its Centre for Jain Studies, approved at a cost of ₹27.16 crore, during a National Seminar on "Jainism and Indian Knowledge System" attended by senior officials and ministers.

Ministry officials encouraged the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital tools for research and preservation, with similar Centres of Excellence already operational at University of Mumbai and Gujarat University for Pali, Prakrit, and Avesta Pahlavi studies, aiming to integrate traditional wisdom with modern learning.

181. **Which two banks jointly financed the USD 215 million term loan for AI Fleet Services IFSC Limited (AIFS)?**

कौन से दो बैंक ने एआई फ्लीट सर्विसेज IFSC लिमिटेड (AIFS) के लिए 215 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर का टर्म लोन संयुक्त रूप से वित्तपोषित किया?

- (a) ICICI Bank & HDFC Bank
- (b) Standard Chartered & Bank of India
- (c) SBI & Axis Bank
- (d) Kotak Mahindra Bank & Punjab National Bank
- (e) HSBC & Yes Bank

Ans. b

Sol. Standard Chartered & Bank of India Finance USD 215 Million for Air India's Fleet Expansion via GIFT City

Standard Chartered and Bank of India have jointly financed a USD 215 million term loan for AI Fleet Services IFSC Limited (AIFS), Air India's leasing arm based in GIFT City, Gujarat, to fund six Boeing 777-300 ER aircraft for fleet expansion.

The seven-year amortising loan is the first commercial aircraft financing structured with a GIFT City borrower, with Standard Chartered as Structuring Bank and both banks acting as Mandated Lead Arrangers and Bookrunners (MLAB).

Air India, operating 55 domestic and 45 international routes, is expanding its fleet under the Vihaan.AI five-year transformation program, including an order of 570 new aircraft, with GIFT City serving as a key financing hub for this initiative.

182. **Which insurance company has partnered with Andhra Pradesh Grameena Bank (APGB) to offer general insurance products across Andhra Pradesh?**

कौन सी बीमा कंपनी ने पूरे आंध्र प्रदेश में बीमा उत्पाद प्रदान करने के लिए आंध्र प्रदेश ग्रामीण बैंक (APGB) के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) ICICI Lombard
- (b) Bajaj Allianz
- (c) Universal Sompo General Insurance
- (d) HDFC Ergo
- (e) Reliance General Insurance

Ans. c

Sol. Universal Sompo Partners with Andhra Pradesh Grameena Bank to Expand Insurance Access Across Rural Andhra Pradesh

Universal Sompo General Insurance Company has partnered with Andhra Pradesh Grameena Bank (APGB) to provide a wide range of general insurance products across all 26 districts of Andhra Pradesh, focusing on rural and semi-urban areas.

APGB, with its strong network of 1,351 branches, supports agriculture, MSMEs, self-help groups (SHGs), small and marginal farmers, and promotes financial inclusion through priority sector lending.

The collaboration aims to offer customised insurance solutions under the State Insurance Plan, covering crop loss, property damage, and health emergencies, thereby enhancing affordable insurance access and delivering integrated financial and insurance services to the rural population.

183. **Who inaugurated the Farmers Training and Common Facility Centre at Methagal village in Koppal, North Karnataka?**

कर्नाटक के उत्तर कोप्पल के मेथागल गांव में किसानों के प्रशिक्षण और सामान्य सुविधा केंद्र का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (d) Piyush Goyal
- (e) Anurag Thakur

Ans. c

Sol. FM Nirmala Sitharaman Inaugurates Farmers Training and Common Facility Centre in Koppal to Boost Agri Value Addition and Modern Farming

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the Farmers Training and Common Facility Centre at Methagal village, Koppal (North Karnataka), built with financial aid under MPLADS and executed by NABARD, to support Farmer-Producer Organisations (FPOs) and promote modern farming and food processing.

The centre has the capacity to process 840 metric tonnes of mango and 600 metric tonnes of papaya into dry powder, juice, and pulp, all FSSAI-certified products ensuring easy urban market access and better income through value addition for farmers.

184. India has been elected unopposed to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for which upcoming term, marking its seventh tenure at the council?

भारत को संयुक्त राष्ट्र मानवाधिकार परिषद (UNHRC) के लिए बिना किसी विरोध के किस आगामी कार्यकाल के लिए चुना गया है, जिससे यह परिषद में उसका सातवां कार्यकाल बन गया है?

- (a) 2024–2026
- (b) 2025–2027
- (c) 2026–2028
- (d) 2027–2029
- (e) 2028–2030

Ans. c

Sol. India Elected Unopposed to UN Human Rights Council for 2026–2028 Term

India has been elected unopposed to the UN Human Rights Council for the seventh time, for the 2026–2028 term, starting next year.

Permanent Representative P. Harish stated that the election reflects India's strong commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms, expressing gratitude for the global support.

The Human Rights Council, established in 2006 by the UN General Assembly, has 47 member countries and serves as the primary UN body for promoting and protecting human rights globally.

About the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC)

- The UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is the main inter-governmental body within the United Nations responsible for promoting and protecting human rights worldwide.
- It was established in 2006 by the UN General Assembly, replacing the former UN Commission on Human Rights.
- The Council consists of 47 member countries, elected for three-year terms on a regional group basis.
- The UNHRC meets in Geneva, Switzerland, at the Palais des Nations, and holds regular and special sessions to address urgent human rights issues.
- Its key functions include reviewing human rights situations in all UN member states, conducting the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), and making recommendations for the promotion and protection of rights globally.

185. World Food Day (WFD) is observed every year on 16 October to raise awareness about global food security, nutrition, and the importance of eradicating hunger. What is the theme of World Food Day 2025?

विश्व खाद्य दिवस (WFD) हर साल 16 अक्टूबर को वैश्विक खाद्य सुरक्षा, पोषण और भूखमरी उन्मूलन के महत्व के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए मनाया जाता है। विश्व खाद्य दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Zero Hunger
- (b) Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future
- (c) Sustainable Agriculture for All
- (d) Food for Everyone
- (e) Healthy Diets, Healthy Planet

Ans. b

Sol. 16 October - World Food Day (WFD)

World Food Day (WFD) is observed every year on 16 October to raise awareness about global food security, nutrition, and the importance of eradicating hunger.

Theme 2025 - Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future

It marks the founding day of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, which was established on 16 October 1945.

The day aims to highlight issues related to hunger, food security, sustainable agriculture, and malnutrition, emphasizing that access to safe and nutritious food is a fundamental human right.

186. **Who has been named FICCI President-Elect for 2025-26?**

2025-26 के लिए FICCI के राष्ट्रपति-चुनिंदा के रूप में किसे नामित किया गया है?

- (a) Harsha Vardhan Agarwal
- (b) Anant Goenka
- (c) Sanjiv Goenka
- (d) Aditya Puri
- (e) Nirmala Sitharaman

Ans. b

Sol. Anant Goenka Named FICCI President-Elect for 2025-26

FICCI announced Anant Goenka, Vice Chairman of RPG Group, as President-Elect for 2025-26, succeeding Harsha Vardhan Agarwal after the annual general meeting.

Mr Goenka has previously served as MD and CEO of CEAT and has also worked with Unilever and KEC International.

He holds an MBA from Kellogg School of Management and a BS in Economics from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

187. **Axis Finance, the wholly owned non-banking finance subsidiary of Axis Bank, is set to be classified as an upper-layer NBFC due to the size of its Assets Under Management (AUM). Following its classification as an upper-layer NBFC, what does Axis Bank plan for Axis Finance?**

एक्सिस बैंक की पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाली गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय सहायक कंपनी, एक्सिस फाइनेंस, अपने प्रबंधनाधीन परिसंपत्तियों (एयूएम) के आकार के कारण, ऊपरी स्तर की एनबीएफसी के रूप में

वर्गीकृत होने वाली है। ऊपरी स्तर की एनबीएफसी के रूप में वर्गीकरण के बाद, एक्सिस बैंक एक्सिस फाइनेंस के लिए क्या योजना बना रहा है?

- (a) Merge with another NBFC
- (b) Sell to a foreign investor
- (c) List it on recognised stock exchanges
- (d) Convert into a public sector bank
- (e) Close down the subsidiary

Ans. c

Sol. Axis Finance to Become Upper-Layer NBFC, Plans for Future Stock Exchange Listing
Axis Finance, the wholly owned non-banking finance subsidiary of Axis Bank, is set to be classified as an upper-layer NBFC due to the size of its Assets Under Management (AUM).

Following its classification, Axis Bank plans to list Axis Finance on recognised stock exchanges in the future, as part of regulatory requirements and strategic growth.

As per RBI norms, an NBFC classified in the upper layer must mandatorily list its shares on a recognised stock exchange within three years of such classification.

188. Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), established in 1941 and a key player in India's shipbuilding sector, achieved a remarkable turnaround through reforms in financial management, productivity, and technology. In recognition of its performance and contribution to India's maritime and defence sectors, HSL was recently conferred which status?

1941 में स्थापित और भारत के जहाज निर्माण क्षेत्र में एक प्रमुख खिलाड़ी हिंदुस्तान शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड (एचएसएल) ने वित्तीय प्रबंधन, उत्पादकता और प्रौद्योगिकी में सुधारों के माध्यम से एक उल्लेखनीय बदलाव हासिल किया। भारत के समुद्री और रक्षा क्षेत्रों में इसके प्रदर्शन और योगदान की मान्यता में, HSL को हाल ही में कौन सा दर्जा प्रदान किया गया?

- (a) Maharatna
- (b) Navratna
- (c) Defence PSU
- (d) Strategic Enterprise
- (e) Mini Ratna

Ans. e

Sol. Hindustan Shipyard Limited Achieves Mini Ratna Status

Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) has been conferred Mini Ratna status, recognising its financial revival, operational excellence, and growing contribution to India's maritime and defence sectors.

Established in 1941, HSL has been central to India's shipbuilding capabilities. It faced prolonged financial difficulties from the 1980s, and even after being transferred to the Ministry of Defence in 2010, its net worth remained negative.

Post-2015, HSL undertook targeted reforms in financial management, productivity, and technological modernisation, resulting in a sustained turnaround and eventual recognition as a Mini Ratna company.

Achieving Mini-Ratna status will grant HSL enhanced financial autonomy, allowing it to make investments up to Rs 500 crore or an amount equal to its net worth, whichever is lower.

189. By how much has the Defence Ministry approved the increase in financial assistance for Ex-Servicemen and their dependents?

रक्षा मंत्रालय ने पूर्व सैनिकों और उनके आश्रितों के लिए वित्तीय सहायता में कितनी वृद्धि को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 50%
- (b) 75%
- (c) 100%
- (d) 125%
- (e) 150%

Ans. c

Sol. Defence Minister Approves 100% Hike in Financial Assistance for Ex-Servicemen and Dependents

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved a 100% increase in financial assistance, doubling the penury grant from ₹4,000 to ₹8,000 per month per beneficiary, supporting aged and non-pensioner Ex-Servicemen and widows above 65 years with no regular income.

The education grant has been raised from ₹1,000 to ₹2,000 per month per child for up to two dependent children, while the marriage grant has increased from ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh per beneficiary.

The revised rates are effective for applications submitted from 1st November 2025, with an annual financial implication of approximately ₹257 crore.

These schemes are funded through the Raksha Mantri Ex-Servicemen Welfare Fund, a subset of the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, reinforcing the government's commitment to the social security of veterans and their families.

190. The Ministry of Defence recently signed a ₹659.47 crore contract for the procurement of advanced Night Sights for which weapon of the Indian Army?

रक्षा मंत्रालय ने हाल ही में भारतीय सेना के किस हथियार के लिए ₹659.47 करोड़ का उन्नत नाइट साइट खरीद अनुबंध किया है?

- (a) INSAS Rifle
- (b) AK-203 Rifle
- (c) SIG 716 Assault Rifle
- (d) Sniper Rifle
- (e) Carbine

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Defence Signs ₹659.47 Crore Contract for Advanced Night Sights for Indian Army's 7.62x51mm Assault Rifles

The Ministry of Defence signed a ₹659.47 crore contract with a consortium of MKU Ltd (Lead Member) and Medbit Technologies Pvt Ltd for the procurement of Night Sight (Image Intensifier) devices for 7.62x51mm Assault Rifles of the Indian Army.

The new Advanced Night Sights will enhance the SIG 716 Rifle's effective range up to 500 metres, even under starlit conditions, offering superior performance compared to existing Passive Night Sights.

The procurement, classified as a Buy (Indian-IDDMM) project with over 51% indigenous content, aligns with the goal of Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence manufacturing and will benefit MSMEs involved in production and supply.

191. The bilateral naval exercise 'Samudra Shakti - 2025' is conducted between the navies of which two countries?

‘समुद्र शक्ति - 2025’ नौसैनिक अभ्यास किन दो देशों की नौसेनाओं के बीच आयोजित किया जाता है?

- (a) India and Singapore
- (b) India and Indonesia
- (c) India and Malaysia
- (d) India and Sri Lanka
- (e) India and Thailand

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Navy Hosts 5th Edition of Bilateral Maritime Exercise 'Samudra Shakti - 2025' with Indonesian Navy at Visakhapatnam

The Indian Navy is hosting the 5th edition of the Indo-Indonesian bilateral maritime exercise 'Samudra Shakti - 2025' at Visakhapatnam, with participation from INS Kavaratti and Indonesian Navy Ship KRI John Lie.

The harbour phase includes activities like Cross Deck Visits, Joint Yoga Sessions, Friendly Sports Fixtures, and Professional Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEE) to enhance professional ties.

The sea phase will feature advanced maritime operations such as Helicopter Operations, Air Defence Exercises, Weapon Firing Drills, and Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) exercises to strengthen tactical coordination.

192. The Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS), indigenously developed by DRDO, was successfully tested through a combat freefall jump from 32,000 feet, demonstrating its reliability and advanced design. The MCPS was jointly developed by which two DRDO laboratories?

डीआरडीओ द्वारा स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित सैन्य लड़ाकू पैराशूट प्रणाली (एमसीपीएस) का 32,000 फीट की ऊँचाई से लड़ाकू फ्रीफॉल जंप के माध्यम से सफलतापूर्वक परीक्षण किया गया, जिससे इसकी विश्वसनीयता और उन्नत डिज़ाइन का प्रदर्शन हुआ। एमसीपीएस को डीआरडीओ की किन दो प्रयोगशालाओं द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से विकसित किया गया है?

- (a) ADE, Bengaluru and DEBEL, Pune
- (b) ADRDE, Agra and DEBEL, Bengaluru
- (c) ADRDE, Agra and GTRE, Bengaluru

(d) DRDL, Hyderabad and DEBEL, Bengaluru

(e) ADE, Bengaluru and DRDL, Hyderabad

Ans. c

Sol. DRDO Successfully Tests Indigenous Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS) at 32,000 Feet

The Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS), indigenously developed by DRDO, was successfully tested through a combat freefall jump from 32,000 feet, demonstrating its reliability and advanced design.

This achievement makes MCPS the only parachute system currently in operational use by the Indian Armed Forces capable of deployment above 25,000 feet.

The system was jointly developed by Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (Agra) and Defence Bioengineering and Electromedical Laboratory (Bengaluru) of DRDO.

Equipped with enhanced tactical features such as a lower rate of descent, superior steering, and Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) compatibility, the MCPS ensures accurate navigation, safe landing, and immunity from foreign signal interference.

193. The Ministry of Mines has launched the State Mining Readiness Index (SMRI) and corresponding State rankings to promote mining sector reforms at the State level, fulfilling a key announcement made in the Union Budget 2025-26. Under the SMRI framework, States have been divided into three categories based on their mineral endowment — Category A (mineral-rich States), Category B, and Category C. Which State secured the top position in Category A (mineral-rich States) under the SMRI?

खान मंत्रालय ने केंद्रीय बजट 2025-26 में की गई एक प्रमुख घोषणा को पूरा करते हुए, राज्य स्तर पर खनन क्षेत्र में सुधारों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए राज्य खनन तैयारी सूचकांक (एसएमआरआई) और संबंधित राज्य रैंकिंग शुरू की है। एसएमआरआई ढांचे के तहत, राज्यों को उनकी खनिज बंदोबस्ती के आधार पर तीन श्रेणियों में विभाजित किया गया है - श्रेणी ए (खनिज समृद्ध राज्य), श्रेणी बी, और श्रेणी सी। किस राज्य ने एसएमआरआई के तहत श्रेणी ए (खनिज समृद्ध राज्य) में शीर्ष स्थान हासिल किया है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh

(b) Tamil Nadu

(c) Madhya Pradesh

(d) Odisha

(e) Jharkhand

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Mines Releases State Mining Readiness Index (SMRI) to Boost Mining Sector Reforms

The Ministry of Mines launched the State Mining Readiness Index (SMRI) and State rankings to promote mining sector reforms at the State level, fulfilling a Union Budget 2025-26 announcement.

The SMRI evaluates States on parameters such as auction performance, mine operationalisation, exploration focus, and sustainable mining practices for non-coal minerals.

States are divided into three categories:

- Category A (mineral-rich): Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat topped.
- Category B: Goa, Uttar Pradesh, and Assam led.
- Category C: Punjab, Uttarakhand, and Tripura ranked highest.

The index aims to benchmark State performance, encourage healthy competition, and accelerate mining reforms and sustainable resource management across India.

194. World Anaesthesia Day is observed annually on 16 October to commemorate the first successful demonstration of ether anesthesia in 1846 by William T.G. Morton, a dentist in Boston, USA. What is the theme for World Anaesthesia Day 2025?

विश्व एनेस्थीसिया दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 16 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है। यह दिवस 1846 में अमेरिका के बोस्टन में दंत चिकित्सक विलियम टी.जी. मॉर्टन द्वारा ईथर एनेस्थीसिया के पहले सफल प्रदर्शन की स्मृति में मनाया जाता है। विश्व एनेस्थीसिया दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Pain-Free Surgery for All
- (b) Anaesthesiology in Health Emergencies
- (c) Safe Surgical Practices
- (d) Advancements in Anaesthesia
- (e) Anaesthesiology and Patient Cares.

Ans. b

Sol. 16 October - World Anaesthesia Day

World Anaesthesia Day is observed annually on 16 October to commemorate the first successful demonstration of ether anesthesia in 1846 by William T.G. Morton, a dentist in Boston, USA.

Theme 2025 - Anaesthesiology in Health Emergencies

The day celebrates the role of anaesthesiologists in medicine, highlighting their contribution to pain-free surgery and patient safety.

It also raises awareness about advancements in anaesthesia techniques, patient care, and the importance of safe surgical practices.

195. World Spine Day is observed annually on which date?

विश्व स्पाइन दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 October
- (b) 15 October
- (c) 16 October
- (d) 17 October
- (e) 18 October

Ans. c

Sol. 16 October - World Spine Day

World Spine Day is observed annually on 16 October to raise awareness about spinal health, posture, and prevention of back pain.

Theme 2025 - Invest in Your Spine

The day highlights the importance of maintaining a healthy spine for overall well-being, mobility, and quality of life.

It is celebrated under the aegis of the World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) and other global health organizations.

196. **Which organisation's Executive Council recently approved the establishment of a Special Purpose Fund (SPF) for the ₹1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) scheme?**

किस संगठन की कार्यकारी परिषद ने हाल ही में ₹1 लाख करोड़ के अनुसंधान, विकास और नवाचार (RDI) योजना के लिए विशेष प्रयोजन कोष (SPF) की स्थापना को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Department of Economic Affairs
- (c) Anusandhan National Research Foundation
- (d) Department of Expenditure
- (e) Science and Engineering Research Board

Ans. b

Sol. ANRF Approves Special Purpose Fund and Guidelines to Operationalize ₹1 Lakh Crore RDI Scheme for Private Sector-Led Innovation

The Executive Council of Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) has approved the establishment of a Special Purpose Fund (SPF), Implementation Guidelines, and Governance Framework for the ₹1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund, aimed at boosting private sector-led R&D in sunrise sectors. The Department of Science & Technology (DST), with inputs from the Departments of Economic Affairs and Expenditure, prepared the Implementation Guidelines and Special Financial Rules, ensuring efficient governance and smooth execution to promote long-term innovation-driven growth.

The RDI scheme will follow a two-tiered funding model, where the SPF under ANRF will manage the ₹1 lakh crore corpus and channel funds to second-level managers like AIFs, DFIs, and NBFCs, who will recommend investments through expert committees operating independently from the government.

197. **Which ministry signed an MoU with Zomato to enhance access to flexible and technology-enabled livelihood opportunities through the National Career Service (NCS) portal?**

किस मंत्रालय ने ज़ोमैटो के साथ राष्ट्रीय करियर सेवा (NCS) पोर्टल के माध्यम से लचीले और तकनीकी-सक्षम आजीविका के अवसर बढ़ाने के लिए समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (b) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (c) Ministry of Labour & Employment
- (d) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- (e) Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sport

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Labour & Employment Signs MoU with Zomato to Offer 2.5 Lakh Flexible Livelihood Opportunities Annually via NCS Portal

The Ministry of Labour & Employment (MoLE) signed an MoU with Zomato in New Delhi to enhance access to flexible and technology-enabled livelihood opportunities through the National Career Service (NCS) platform, aiming to integrate platform economy roles into the formal employment system.

The NCS portal, launched in 2015, has mobilised over 7.7 crore vacancies, becoming a vital bridge between job seekers and employers, while this collaboration with Zomato will help connect more youth and women to dignified livelihoods.

Under the new 'Aggregator' category, Zomato will list around 2.5 lakh flexible livelihood opportunities annually on the NCS portal, supporting the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY) and the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision to expand formalisation and social security coverage for gig and platform workers.

198. The Union Ministry of Law and Justice recently launched a dashboard called LIMBS to track and manage cases across multiple courts, enabling real-time monitoring, better inter-ministerial coordination, and data-driven decision-making. What does the acronym LIMBS stand for?

केंद्रीय कानून और न्याय मंत्रालय ने हाल ही में कई अदालतों में मामलों को ट्रैक करने और प्रबंधित करने के लिए एलआईएमबीएस नामक एक डैशबोर्ड लॉन्च किया है, जो वास्तविक समय की निगरानी, बेहतर अंतर-मंत्रालयी समन्वय और डेटा-संचालित निर्णय लेने में सक्षम बनाता है।

LIMBS का संक्षिप्त रूप क्या है?

- (a) Legal Information Management and Briefing System
- (b) Litigation Integration and Monitoring Bureau System
- (c) Legal Intelligence and Management Board System
- (d) Law Implementation Monitoring and Briefing System
- (e) Legal Insights Management and Backup System

Ans. a

Sol. Arjun Ram Meghwal Launches LIMBS Live Cases Dashboard to Boost Transparency and Efficiency in Government Litigation Management

Union Minister of State for Law and Justice, Arjun Ram Meghwal, inaugurated the Live Cases Dashboard of the Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS) in New Delhi to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in government litigation management.

The dashboard provides real-time information on all cases scheduled for hearing in the next seven days across the Supreme Court, High Courts, and other courts, allowing ministers and officers to monitor updates directly from their offices.

The LIMBS portal currently tracks around 7 lakh live cases from 53 Ministries and Departments, enabling data-driven insights, better inter-ministerial coordination, and promoting the government's vision of technology-enabled governance.

199. Which Minister inaugurated the BioNEST Incubation Centre (BIC) at IIT Dharwad?

किस मंत्री ने IIT धारवाड़ में BioNEST इनक्यूबेशन सेंटर (BIC) का उद्घाटन किया?

- (a) Ramesh Pokhriyal
- (b) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (c) Piyush Goyal
- (d) Smriti Irani
- (e) Dharmendra Pradhan

Ans. b

Sol. Nirmala Sitharaman Inaugurates BioNEST Incubation Centre at IIT Dharwad
Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the BioNEST Incubation Centre (BIC) at IIT Dharwad in collaboration with Research and Technology Incubator (dhaRti), aiming to foster innovation and entrepreneurship among students.

The FM emphasized the government's commitment to sustainable green models and zero emissions by 2047, highlighting support for renewable energy enterprises through subsidies, green bonds, and CSR funds, while noting the need for advanced technology in sectors like steel and cement to reduce emissions.

Sitharaman stressed the importance of industry-academia collaboration, urging technology institutes to update curricula, provide hands-on experience, and help students develop multiple skill sets to meet the evolving needs of the job market and technological advancements.

200. **The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment signed MoUs with three universities—University of Mumbai, Jaipur National University, and G B Pant University of Agriculture and Technology—to establish new Dr Ambedkar Chairs promoting research on Dr B R Ambedkar's vision and philosophy. How many operational Dr Ambedkar Chairs are there in India after the addition of these new chairs?**

सामाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता मंत्रालय ने डॉ. बी. आर. अंबेडकर के दृष्टिकोण और दर्शन पर शोध को बढ़ावा देने के लिए नई डॉ. अंबेडकर पीठों की स्थापना हेतु तीन विश्वविद्यालयों - मुंबई विश्वविद्यालय, जयपुर राष्ट्रीय विश्वविद्यालय और जी. बी. पंत कृषि एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय - के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। इन नई पीठों के जुड़ने के बाद भारत में कितनी डॉ. अंबेडकर पीठें कार्यरत हैं?

- (a) 25
- (b) 26
- (c) 27
- (d) 28
- (e) 30

Ans. d

Sol. Ministry of Social Justice Signs MoUs with Three Universities to Establish New Dr Ambedkar Chairs

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment signed MoUs with three universities—University of Mumbai, Jaipur National University, and G B Pant University of Agriculture and Technology—to establish new Dr Ambedkar Chairs promoting research on Dr B R Ambedkar's vision and philosophy.

The initiative will strengthen policy-oriented research and enhance public awareness on social justice, equality, and empowerment of marginalised communities.

With the addition of these new Chairs, the total number of operational Dr Ambedkar Chairs in India has increased to 28, furthering the goal of building an equitable and inclusive society as envisioned by Dr Ambedkar.

Recent MoU

- *Indian Railways to Collaborate with MapmyIndia's Mappls App to Boost Swadeshi Digital Infrastructure*
- *Goodluck India Signs Tripartite MoU for DRDO's AMCA Programme*
- *SAIL's MTI Partners with IIM Jammu to Launch Executive Education Programmes for Future-Ready Leaders*
- *DoP Signs MoU with IIP to Promote Sustainable Packaging and Enhance Postal Efficiency*
- *Gol partnered with Zepto to enhance employment opportunities*

201. The fifth Khelo India University Games (KIUG) will be held from November 24 across 7 cities in Rajasthan—Jaipur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Kota, and Bharatpur—with over 5,000 university athletes participating in 23 medal sports and one demonstration sport. Which sport will be featured as a demonstration event in KIUG 2025?

पांचवें खेलो इंडिया यूनिवर्सिटी गेम्स (केआईयूजी) 24 नवंबर से राजस्थान के 7 शहरों-जयपुर, अजमेर, उदयपुर, जोधपुर, बीकानेर, कोटा और भरतपुर में आयोजित किए जाएंगे, जिसमें 23 पदक खेलों और एक प्रदर्शन खेल में 5,000 से अधिक विश्वविद्यालय एथलीट भाग लेंगे। KIUG 2025 में किस खेल को प्रदर्शन कार्यक्रम के रूप में प्रदर्शित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Basketball
- (b) Kho-Kho
- (c) Archery
- (d) Rugby
- (e) Mallakhamb

Ans. b

Sol. Fifth Khelo India University Games to Be Held Across 7 Cities in Rajasthan

The fifth Khelo India University Games (KIUG) will be held from November 24 across 7 cities in Rajasthan—Jaipur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Kota, and Bharatpur—with over 5,000 university athletes participating in 23 medal sports and one demonstration sport, Kho-Kho.

Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya highlighted that the Rajasthan edition will showcase India's growing sports ecosystem, inspire students to balance academics and sports, and strengthen the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' through healthy competition.

This year's medal sports include archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, fencing, football, hockey, judo, kabaddi, mallakhamb, rugby, shooting, swimming, table tennis, tennis, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling, yogasana, cycling, beach volleyball, canoeing, and kayaking, while Kho-Kho will be featured as a demonstration sport.

For the first time, beach volleyball, canoeing and kayaking, and cycling are being introduced in the KIUG programme, reflecting the initiative's aim to expand sports opportunities and promote talent development nationwide.

202. **Which company became the first in India to receive the BIS license for hot rolled steel for welded steel pipes for pipeline transportation?**

भारत में पाइपलाइन ट्रांसपोर्टेशन के लिए वेल्डेड स्टील पाइप हेतु हॉट रोल्ड स्टील का BIS लाइसेंस सबसे पहले किस कंपनी को मिला?

- (a) Steel Authority of India Limited
- (b) NMDC Steel Limited
- (c) Tata Steel
- (d) JSW Steel
- (e) Essar Steel

Ans. b

Sol. NMDC Steel Becomes First Indian Company to Receive BIS License for Hot Rolled Steel for Pipeline Transportation

NMDC Steel Limited has become the first company in India to receive the BIS license for Hot-Rolled Steel Strip, Sheet, and Plates for Welded Steel Pipes for Pipeline Transportation Systems under IS 18384:2023.

The certification was presented by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) during World Standards Day 2025 in Raipur and received by Shri Amrit Narayan, Chief General Manager (Steel), NMDC Steel, from Chhattisgarh CM Vishnu Deo Sai.

The IS 18384:2023 certification underscores NMDC Steel's commitment to technological advancement, superior product quality, and sustainable manufacturing for the petroleum and natural gas pipeline sector.

203. **Who has been appointed as the Country Head for Allianz India?**

Allianz इंडिया के लिए कंट्री हेड के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (b) Ritu Arora
- (c) Mansukh Mandaviya
- (d) Amrit Narayan
- (e) Virendra Kumar

Ans. b

Sol. Allianz Appoints Ritu Arora as Country Head for India to Lead Growth and Investment Strategy

Allianz has appointed Ritu Arora as Country Head for India, effective immediately, to lead the company's growth strategy in the country.

Previously, Arora served as CEO and CIO of Allianz Investment Management in Asia-Pacific, managing assets of approximately \$50 billion across 12 countries and boosting investments in Indian public and private markets.

Ritu Arora has a long-standing career in India's insurance sector, having held leadership roles at major institutions and being a founding member of PNB MetLife and Canara HSBC Insurance, contributing since the industry's deregulation in 2003.

204. **Which telecom company has partnered with IBM to expand cloud services in India?**

भारत में क्लाउड सेवाओं का विस्तार करने के लिए किस टेलीकॉम कंपनी ने IBM के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Reliance Jio
- (b) Vodafone Idea
- (c) Bharti Airtel
- (d) Tata Communications
- (e) BSNL

Ans. c

Sol. Bharti Airtel Partners with IBM to Expand Cloud Services and Launch Multizone Regions in India

Bharti Airtel has partnered with IBM to offer the tech giant's services through its Airtel Cloud platform, catering to growing demand for computing capacity.

The partnership enables Airtel Cloud customers to deploy AI-ready servers and other IBM offerings in regulated sectors like banking, healthcare, and government.

IBM and Airtel plan to establish two new Multizone Regions (MZRs) in Mumbai and Chennai to strengthen cloud infrastructure in India.

Airtel's collaboration with IBM complements its ongoing partnership with Google for a data center in Visakhapatnam, following Google's \$15 billion AI investment plan in Andhra Pradesh.

205. **The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed every year on which date?**

गरीबी उन्मूलन के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस को हर वर्ष किस तिथि को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 15 October
- (b) 16 October
- (c) 17 October
- (d) 18 October
- (e) 19 October

Ans. c

Sol. 17 October - International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

Observed annually on 17 October, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty highlights the global commitment to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions.

Theme 2025 - Stop the stigma

The day emphasises the importance of recognising and including the voices of people living in poverty in the fight against inequality and injustice.

It was officially declared by the United Nations in 1992, inspired by Father Joseph Wresinski, founder of the International Movement ATD Fourth World.

206. **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has launched a special ₹1 Diwali 4G plan as a festive offer. The BSNL ₹1 Diwali 4G plan is available for which group of customers?**

भारत संचार निगम लिमिटेड (बीएसएनएल) ने त्योहारी ऑफर के तौर पर एक विशेष ₹1 दिवाली 4G प्लान लॉन्च किया है। बीएसएनएल का ₹1 दिवाली 4G प्लान किन ग्राहकों के लिए उपलब्ध है?

- (a) Existing customers
- (b) Corporate users
- (c) New customers
- (d) Rural customers only
- (e) Government employees only

Ans. c

Sol. BSNL Launches ₹1 Diwali 4G Plan Offering 30 Days of Free Services for New Customers

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has launched a special ₹1 Diwali 4G plan as a festive offer for new customers across India.

The plan, valid from 15th of this month to 15th of next month, provides 30 days of free mobile services including unlimited calls, 2GB data per day, and 100 SMS per day.

BSNL CMD A. Robert J. Ravi announced that the offer lets users experience the Make-in-India 4G network, along with five additional festive plans for different customer segments.

207. **World Menopause Day is observed every year on which date?**

विश्व रजोनिवृत्ति दिवस (World Menopause Day) हर वर्ष किस तिथि को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 15 October
- (b) 18 October
- (c) 20 October
- (d) 22 October
- (e) 25 October

Ans. b

Sol. 18 October - World Menopause Day

World Menopause Day is observed every year on 18 October to raise awareness about menopause and support women's health during midlife and beyond.

Theme 2025 - Lifestyle Medicine

The day was established by the International Menopause Society (IMS) in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

It aims to promote understanding of the physical, emotional, and psychological challenges faced by women during menopause.

208. **Which team did India defeat to reach the Sultan of Johor Cup final?**

भारत ने सुल्तान ऑफ जोहोर कप फाइनल में पहुँचने के लिए किस टीम को हराया?

- (a) Australia
- (b) England
- (c) Malaysia
- (d) Germany
- (e) South Korea

Ans. c

Sol. India Beats Malaysia 2-1 to Reach Sultan of Johor Cup Men's Hockey Final Against Australia

India defeated hosts Malaysia 2-1 in their final pool-stage match to reach the final of the Sultan of Johor Cup Men's Hockey Tournament in Johor, Malaysia.

Gurjot Singh scored the opening goal for India in the 22nd minute, while Sourabh Anand Kushwaha netted the winning goal from a penalty corner in the 48th minute.

With this victory, India advanced to the final, where they will face Australia in the title clash.

209. **Which country has recently become the newest State Member of the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)?**

हाल ही में कौन सा देश IUCN (अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रकृति संरक्षण संघ) का नया राज्य सदस्य बना है?

- (a) Georgia
- (b) Azerbaijan
- (c) Armenia
- (d) Turkey
- (e) Iran

Ans. c

Sol. Armenia Joins IUCN, Boosting Global Biodiversity Conservation and Preparing for COP17

Armenia became the newest State Member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) during the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Abu Dhabi, highlighting its commitment to biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. The membership will provide Armenia access to global expertise, innovative tools, and international partnerships, supporting its preparations to host COP17 of the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2026.

Armenia, located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, is home to diverse habitats and several rare species like the Caucasian leopard, Bezoar goat, and Sevan trout, and continues to advance biodiversity policies, forest restoration, and Nature-based Solutions.

About Armenia

- Capital- Yerevan
- Currency- Armenian Dram
- Official language- Armenian
- Continent- Asia
- Prime minister- Nikol Pashinyan

210. **The NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) and DP World have jointly launched which initiative to support women entrepreneurs?**

नीति आयोग के विमेन एंटरप्रेन्योरशिप प्लेटफॉर्म (WEP) और डीपी वर्ल्ड ने महिला उद्यमियों का समर्थन करने के लिए कौन सी पहल शुरू की है?

- (a) She Leads India
- (b) Global Women Connect

- (c) We Rise
- (d) Women Global Hub
- (e) EmpowerHer India

Ans. c

Sol. NITI Aayog's WEP and DP World Launch 'We Rise' Initiative to Empower Women Entrepreneurs for Global Expansion

NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) and DP World launched the joint initiative 'We Rise - Women Entrepreneurs Reimagining Inclusive and Sustainable Enterprises' under WEP's Award to Reward (ATR) programme to help women-led MSMEs expand globally through mentorship, trade facilitation, and partnerships. Under this initiative, 100 high-potential women entrepreneurs will be mentored to enhance export readiness and showcase their products at Bharat Mart, Dubai (Jebel Ali Free Zone)—a global B2B and B2C marketplace offering access to international buyers. With over 90,000 women entrepreneurs already engaged on the WEP platform, this collaboration marks a strong public-private partnership aimed at promoting women-led development, inclusive trade, and global business expansion in line with the Government of India's vision for women-led growth.

211. **Which companies have launched the Bharat Yatra Card to simplify public transport payments in India?**

कौन सी कंपनियों ने भारत में सार्वजनिक परिवहन भुगतान को सरल बनाने के लिए भारत यात्रा कार्ड लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Paytm and IRCTC
- (b) Flipkart and Pine Labs
- (c) Amazon and PhonePe
- (d) SBI and HDFC
- (e) Google Pay and NPCI

Ans. b

Sol. Flipkart and Pine Labs Launch 'Bharat Yatra Card' to Simplify Public Transport Payments Across India

Flipkart in collaboration with Pine Labs has launched the Flipkart Bharat Yatra Card, a digital prepaid card to simplify payments for public transport across India.

The card is NCMC-enabled, allowing commuters to make seamless payments in metros, buses, and other transit systems that accept the National Common Mobility Card.

Priced at ₹50, the reloadable, non-KYC smart card allows users to load up to ₹2,000 offline and manage funds via UPI apps, Bharat Yatra Card app, Bharat Connect, or metro counters.

212. **Five beaches in Maharashtra—Shrivardhan and Nagaon (Raigad), Parnaka (Palghar), and Guhagar and Ladghar (Ratnagiri)—have received the international Blue Flag certification, announced by Minister Aditi Tatkare. Which organisation awards the Blue Flag certification?**

महाराष्ट्र के पाँच समुद्र तटों - श्रीवर्धन और नागांव (रायगढ़), परनाका (पालघर), और गुहागर और लाडघर (रत्नागिरी) - को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ब्लू फ्लैग प्रमाणन प्राप्त हुआ है, जिसकी घोषणा मंत्री अदिति तटकरे ने की। ब्लू फ्लैग प्रमाणन कौन सा संगठन प्रदान करता है?

- (a) UNESCO
- (b) World Wildlife Fund
- (c) Foundation for Environmental Education
- (d) Greenpeace
- (e) International Beach Council

Ans. c

Sol. Five Maharashtra Beaches Awarded International Blue Flag Certification for Cleanliness and Sustainability

Five beaches in Maharashtra—Shrivardhan and Nagaon (Raigad), Parnaka (Palghar), and Guhagar and Ladghar (Ratnagiri)—have received the international Blue Flag certification, announced by Minister Aditi Tatkare.

What Is Blue Flag Certification?

- Blue Flag is an international eco-label awarded by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) based in Denmark. It recognises beaches and marinas that meet 33 stringent criteria.
- These criteria focus on environmental education, water quality, safety, environmental management, and public amenities. The certification promotes sustainable tourism and environmental conservation.

213. **The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has introduced the SITAA Initiative to enhance India's digital identity ecosystem and counter threats like deepfakes, spoofing, and presentation attacks. What is the full form of SITAA launched by UIDAI?**

भारतीय विशिष्ट पहचान प्राधिकरण (UIDAI) ने भारत के डिजिटल पहचान पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को बेहतर बनाने और डीपफेक, स्पूफिंग और प्रेजेंटेशन हमलों जैसे खतरों का मुकाबला करने के लिए SITAA पहल शुरू की है। UIDAI द्वारा शुरू की गई SITAA का पूरा नाम क्या है?

- (a) Scheme for Integrated Technology and Aadhaar Advancement
- (b) Scheme for Innovation and Technology Association with Aadhaar
- (c) System for Innovation in Technology and Aadhaar Authentication
- (d) Scheme for Intelligent Tech Association with Aadhaar
- (e) Scheme for Innovation through Aadhaar Application

Ans. b

Sol. UIDAI Launches SITAA Initiative to Boost Aadhaar Security and Promote Indigenous Innovation in Digital Identity

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has introduced the Scheme for Innovation and Technology Association with Aadhaar (SITAA) to enhance India's digital identity ecosystem and counter threats like deepfakes, spoofing, and presentation attacks.

UIDAI signed MoUs with MeitY Startup Hub (MSH) and NASSCOM — MSH will offer technical mentoring and incubation support, while NASSCOM will provide industry linkages and global outreach.

SITAA will promote co-development of secure and scalable Aadhaar authentication solutions focusing on AI, biometrics, data privacy, and authentication frameworks.

The pilot phase includes challenges for (i) Face Liveness Detection, (ii) Presentation Attack Detection (PAD), and (iii) Contactless Fingerprint Authentication to enhance biometric security.

The program supports Atmanirbhar Bharat by encouraging indigenous innovation and aims to build a future-ready, globally benchmarked authentication framework for India's digital public infrastructure.

214. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) celebrated its 32nd Foundation Day at Vigyan Bhawan, with former President Ram Nath Kovind as the chief guest and NHRC Chairperson Justice (retd) V. Ramasubramanian presiding over the event. In which year was the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) established?

राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने विज्ञान भवन में अपना 32वां स्थापना दिवस मनाया, जिसमें पूर्व राष्ट्रपति राम नाथ कोविंद मुख्य अतिथि थे और एनएचआरसी अध्यक्ष न्यायमूर्ति (सेवानिवृत्त) वी. रामसुब्रमण्यम कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता कर रहे थे। राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) की स्थापना किस वर्ष की गई थी?

- (a) 1990
- (b) 1992
- (c) 1993
- (d) 1994
- (e) 1996

Ans. c

Sol. Former President Ram Nath Kovind says country has built comprehensive framework for protection of human rights

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) celebrated its 32nd Foundation Day on October 16 at Vigyan Bhawan, with former President Ram Nath Kovind as the chief guest and NHRC Chairperson Justice (retd) V. Ramasubramanian presiding over the event.

Since its establishment in 1993, NHRC has handled over 23.79 lakh cases, recommended ₹263 crore in relief, and issued 31 advisories on issues like child protection, transgender welfare, environmental safety, and dignity of the dead.

As part of the celebrations, a national conference on "Human Rights of Prison Inmates" was organized, bringing together experts from the judiciary, ministries, academia, and civil society to discuss the welfare and dignity of prisoners.

215. Ravi Naik, who recently passed away, was a former Chief Minister of which Indian state?

हाल ही में निधन होने वाले रवि नाइक किस भारतीय राज्य के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री थे?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Goa
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Kerala
- (e) Gujarat

Ans. b

Sol. Former Goa Chief Minister and Agriculture Minister Ravi Naik Passes Away at 79
Goa's former Chief Minister and current Agriculture Minister Ravi Naik passed away at the age of 79 due to a cardiac arrest.

During his long political career, Ravi Naik held several key positions including Chief Minister and Cabinet Minister, and was known for his commitment to public welfare and empowerment of the marginalised.

216. **Pankaj Dheer, who passed away recently, was best known for playing which character in Mahabharat?**

हाल ही में निधन होने वाले पंकज धीरे किस पात्र के रूप में महाभारत में सबसे अधिक प्रसिद्ध थे?

- (a) Arjuna
- (b) Karna
- (c) Bhishma
- (d) Duryodhana
- (e) Krishna

Ans. b

Sol. Veteran Actor Pankaj Dheer, Known for Role as Karna in Mahabharat, Passes Away
Veteran actor Pankaj Dheer, famous for portraying Karna in B.R. Chopra's Mahabharat, passed away in Mumbai at the age of 68 after battling cancer.

He gained nationwide recognition and admiration for his role as Karna, which became a defining part of his long acting career.

Besides Mahabharat, Dheer appeared in films like Baadshah and Tumko Na Bhool Payenge, and TV shows including Sasural Simar Ka and Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat.

217. **When is World Statistics Day celebrated?**

विश्व सांख्यिकी दिवस कब मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 October
- (b) 16 October
- (c) 18 October
- (d) 20 October
- (e) 22 October

Ans. d

Sol. 20 October - World Statistics Day

World Statistics Day is celebrated every five years on 20 October to recognise the importance of statistics in shaping evidence-based policies and decision-making worldwide.

Theme 2025 - Driving change with quality statistics and data for everyone

The day emphasises the role of high-quality official statistics in sustainable development, informed governance, and addressing global challenges like health, economy, and climate change.

218. **How much total amount did the Central Government approve as the second installment of the Central share of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for the states of Karnataka and Maharashtra for the year 2025-26, aimed at providing immediate relief to people affected by heavy rainfall and floods during this year's South-West monsoon?**

केंद्रीय सरकार ने 2025-26 के लिए कर्नाटक और महाराष्ट्र राज्यों के लिए राज्य आपदा प्रतिक्रिया कोष (SDRF) की केंद्रीय हिस्सेदारी की दूसरी किस्त के रूप में कुल कितनी राशि मंजूर की, जिसका उद्देश्य इस वर्ष के दक्षिण-पश्चिम मानसून के दौरान भारी वर्षा और बाढ़ से प्रभावित लोगों को तुरंत राहत प्रदान करना है?

- (a) ₹1,500 crore
- (b) ₹1,950 crore
- (c) ₹2,000 crore
- (d) ₹2,500 crore
- (e) ₹3,050 crore

Ans. b

Sol. Centre Approves ₹1,950 Crore SDRF Release for Karnataka and Maharashtra to Aid Flood Relief

The Centre approved the second installment of the Central share of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) worth over ₹1,950 crore for Karnataka (₹384 crore) and Maharashtra (₹1,566 crore) for 2025-26 to provide immediate relief from heavy rainfall and floods.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government is committed to assisting states affected by floods, landslides, and cloudbursts with timely financial and logistic support.

In 2025-26, the government has already released over ₹13,603 crore under SDRF to 27 states, ₹2,189 crore under NDRF to 15 states, and additional amounts from State and National Disaster Mitigation Funds to affected states.

During this year's monsoon, a maximum deployment of 199 NDRF teams along with Army and Air Force support was made across 30 states and Union Territories for effective rescue and relief operations.

219. **Veteran Hindi film actor Shri Govardhan Asrani, popularly known as Asrani, passed away at the age of 84 after a prolonged illness. Asrani was best known for his iconic role as the jailer in which legendary Bollywood film?**

अनुभवी हिंदी फिल्म अभिनेता श्री गोवर्धन असरानी, जिन्हें असरानी के नाम से जाना जाता है, का लंबी बीमारी के बाद 84 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। असरानी को किस प्रसिद्ध बॉलीवुड फिल्म में जेलर की प्रतिष्ठित भूमिका के लिए जाना जाता था?

- (a) Chupke Chupke
- (b) Dhamaal

- (c) Sholay
- (d) Golmaal
- (e) Hera Pheri

Ans. c

Sol. Veteran Actor Asrani Passes Away at 84

Veteran Hindi film actor Shri Govardhan Asrani, popularly known as Asrani, passed away at the age of 84 after a prolonged illness.

Best remembered for his iconic "jailer" role in Sholay, Asrani also appeared in popular films like Chupke Chupke, Bhool Bhulaiyaa, Dhamaal, and Bunty Aur Babli 2.

A native of Jaipur, Rajasthan, and an alumnus of St. Xavier's School, Asrani's career in Hindi cinema spanned over five decades, making a lasting mark as one of India's most beloved comedy actors.

220. **When is Police Commemoration Day observed in India every year?**

भारत में हर वर्ष पुलिस स्मृति दिवस कब मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 2nd October
- (b) 8th October
- (c) 21st October
- (d) 24th October
- (e) 31st October

Ans. c

Sol. 21 October - Police Commemoration Day

Police Commemoration Day is observed every year on 21st October to honor the bravery and sacrifice of police personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

The day marks the martyrdom of 10 CRPF soldiers who were killed by Chinese troops at Hot Springs, Ladakh, in 1959 while protecting India's borders.

221. **Who won the 2025 MLS Golden Boot after scoring 29 goals and providing 19 assists in his second full season with Inter Miami CF, becoming the first Argentine to achieve this since 2021?**

2025 एमएलएस गोल्डन बूट पुरस्कार किसने जीता, जिन्होंने इंटर मियामी सीएफ के लिए अपने दूसरे पूर्ण सीजन में 29 गोल किए और 19 असिस्ट दिए, और 2021 के बाद यह उपलब्धि हासिल करने वाले पहले अर्जेन्टीनी बने?

- (a) Denis Bouanga
- (b) Sam Surridge
- (c) Carlos Vela
- (d) Lionel Messi
- (e) Taty Castellanos

Ans. d

Sol. Lionel Messi Wins 2025 MLS Golden Boot with Record-Breaking Season for Inter Miami

Lionel Messi won the 2025 MLS Golden Boot, scoring 29 goals and 19 assists in his second full season with Inter Miami CF, becoming both Miami's first Golden Boot winner and the first Argentine to win it since Taty Castellanos (2021).

With 48 goal contributions, Messi came just one short of Carlos Vela's 2019 record, and is now on track to become MLS's first back-to-back MVP winner after Miami's remarkable 2024 Supporters' Shield success.

Earlier this week, Messi also became the all-time assist leader in men's international football, reaching 60 assists after Argentina's 6-0 win over Puerto Rico.

222. As per the Notaries (Amendment) Rules, 2025, what is the revised upper limit for the number of Notaries that can be appointed by the State Government of Gujarat, replacing the earlier limit of 2,900 as per the 1956 Rules?

नोटरी (संशोधन) नियम, 2025 के अनुसार, गुजरात राज्य सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त किए जाने वाले नोटरी की अधिकतम सीमा क्या निर्धारित की गई है, जो पहले 1956 के नियमों के तहत 2,900 थी?

- (a) 4,000
- (b) 5,000
- (c) 6,000
- (d) 7,000
- (e) 3,500

Ans. c

Sol. Centre Notifies Notaries (Amendment) Rules, 2025; Increases Notary Limits for Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, and Nagaland

The Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, has notified the Notaries (Amendment) Rules, 2025 through G.S.R. 763(E), amending the Notaries Rules, 1956 under Section 15 of the Notaries Act, 1952.

The amendment increases the maximum number of Notaries appointed by State Governments: Gujarat – 6,000, Tamil Nadu – 3,500, Rajasthan – 3,000, and Nagaland – 400.

This decision was taken following requests from the respective State Governments, considering population growth, an increase in administrative divisions, and rising demand for Notary services.

The new rules, titled Notaries (Amendment) Rules, 2025, come into effect from the date of publication in the Official Gazette as per the Ministry's notification.

223. Which religion of the Bodo community in Assam has been granted a separate code in the upcoming Census of India?

असम की बोडो जनजाति के किस धर्म को आगामी जनगणना में एक अलग कोड प्रदान किया गया है?

- (a) Santhali
- (b) Bathou
- (c) Vaishnavism
- (d) Donyi-Polo
- (e) Sarna

Ans. b

Sol. Bathou Religion of Assam's Bodo Community Granted Separate Code in Upcoming Census

The Bathou religion, practiced by the Bodo community in Assam, has been granted a separate code in the upcoming Census of India, recognizing it as a distinct faith for the first time.

The move is aimed at preserving and officially acknowledging the unique religious and cultural identity of the Bodo community, which primarily follows Bathouism—a nature-worshipping faith centered on Siju (Euphorbia) plants as sacred symbols.

This decision marks a significant milestone for indigenous faith representation in India's census process, ensuring accurate demographic documentation and greater visibility for the Bodo people's spiritual traditions.

224. Which country has become the first in predominantly Catholic Latin America to legalize euthanasia through legislation?

प्रमुख रूप से कैथोलिक लैटिन अमेरिका का कौन-सा देश कानून के माध्यम से इच्छामृत्यु (Euthanasia) को वैध बनाने वाला पहला देश बन गया है?

- (a) Colombia
- (b) Ecuador
- (c) Uruguay
- (d) Chile
- (e) Argentina

Ans. c

Sol. Uruguay Becomes First Catholic Latin American Country to Legalize Euthanasia Through Legislation

Uruguay has become the first country in predominantly Catholic Latin America to legalize euthanasia through legislation, after its Senate passed the law with 20 out of 31 votes in favor, following earlier approval by the lower house.

The new law decriminalizes euthanasia, allowing healthcare professionals to perform it for patients suffering from incurable or unbearable illnesses, though it does not permit assisted suicide where patients self-administer lethal medication.

Unlike countries such as the U.S., Australia, and New Zealand, Uruguay's law sets no time limits on life expectancy for eligibility, extending the right to all patients experiencing unbearable suffering, even if their condition is not terminal.

This reform reinforces Uruguay's progressive legacy, as it had previously legalized same-sex marriage, abortion, and recreational marijuana, cementing its status as one of the most socially liberal nations in Latin America.

225. International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD) is observed every year on October 22 to raise global awareness about stuttering (stammering) and support individuals who experience it. What is the theme of International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD) 2025?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हकलाना जागरूकता दिवस (ISAD) हर साल 22 अक्टूबर को हकलाने (हकलाने) के बारे में वैश्विक जागरूकता बढ़ाने और इससे पीड़ित व्यक्तियों का समर्थन करने के लिए मनाया जाता है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हकलाना जागरूकता दिवस (ISAD) 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Empower Voices, End the Stigma

- (b) Speak with Confidence
- (c) A Diverse Stuttering Community – Meeting Challenges With Strengths
- (d) Stuttering Awareness for All
- (e) Breaking the Silence Together

Ans. c

Sol. 22 October - International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD)

International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD) is observed every year on October 22 to raise global awareness about stuttering (stammering) and support individuals who experience it.

ISAD aims to reduce stigma, promote understanding and acceptance, and encourage speech therapy and early intervention for those who stutter.

Theme 2025 - A Diverse Stuttering Community – Meeting Challenges With Strengths

The day was established in 1998 by the International Stuttering Association (ISA), International Fluency Association (IFA), and European League of Stuttering Associations (ELSA).

226. Trans rights activist Akkai Padmashali has been appointed as a member of a Supreme Court (SC)-appointed committee formed to create an equal opportunity policy for safeguarding the rights of transgender persons. With this appointment, Akkai Padmashali becomes the first transgender person from Karnataka to be part of a panel constituted by the Supreme Court of India. Who is heading the Supreme Court-appointed committee for the protection of transgender rights?

ट्रांस अधिकार कार्यकर्ता अक्कई पद्मशाली को ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों के अधिकारों की सुरक्षा के लिए समान अवसर नीति बनाने के लिए गठित सुप्रीम कोर्ट (एससी) द्वारा नियुक्त समिति के सदस्य के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है। इस नियुक्ति के साथ, अक्कई पद्मशाली भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा गठित पैनल का हिस्सा बनने वाली कर्नाटक की पहली ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्ति बन गई हैं। ट्रांसजेंडर अधिकारों की सुरक्षा के लिए सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा नियुक्त समिति का नेतृत्व कौन कर रहा है?

- (a) Justice Hima Kohli
- (b) Justice Asha Menon
- (c) Justice Indu Malhotra
- (d) Justice R. Banumathi
- (e) Justice Rekha Sharma

Ans. b

Sol. Akkai Padmashali Becomes First Transgender Person from Karnataka to Join Supreme Court-Appointed Panel for Trans Rights

Trans rights activist Akkai Padmashali has been appointed as a member of a Supreme Court (SC)-appointed committee formed to create an equal opportunity policy for safeguarding the rights of transgender persons.

With this appointment, Akkai Padmashali becomes the first transgender person from Karnataka to be part of a panel constituted by the Supreme Court of India.

This is also the first Supreme Court-appointed committee to include representation from the transgender community, marking a historic step toward inclusivity.

The committee is headed by Justice Asha Menon (Retd.), former judge of the Delhi High Court, and includes members like Grace Banu, Vyjayanthi Vasanta Mogli, Sourav Mandal, Nithya Rajshekhar, and Sanjay Sharma.

227. Which company has partnered with ESAF Small Finance Bank to deploy its next-generation payment switch 'Vega'?

किस कंपनी ने अपना नेक्स्ट-जेनरेशन पेमेंट स्विच 'Vega' लागू करने के लिए ESAF स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Paytm
- (b) Razorpay
- (c) PhonePe
- (d) Getepay
- (e) Google Pay

Ans. d

Sol. Getepay Partners with ESAF Small Finance Bank to Deploy 'Vega', Next-Generation Payment Switch

Getepay has partnered with ESAF Small Finance Bank to deploy 'Vega', its next-generation payment switch, aimed at enhancing India's digital payments infrastructure. The partnership focuses on providing seamless, secure, and inclusive digital banking experiences for both customers and businesses across India.

'Vega', developed by Getepay, is a future-ready payment switch that offers real-time transaction processing, automated reconciliation, and scalable infrastructure for banks and financial institutions.

228. Where did Zoravar Singh Sandhu win the bronze medal in men's trap at the ISSF Shotgun Worlds 2025?

जोरावर सिंह संधू ने ISSF शॉटगन वर्ल्ड्स 2025 में मेन्स ट्रैप में कांस्य पदक कहाँ जीता?

- (a) Zagreb, Croatia
- (b) Cairo, Egypt
- (c) Athens, Greece
- (d) Tokyo, Japan
- (e) Madrid, Spain

Ans. c

Sol. Zoravar Singh Sandhu Wins Historic Bronze in Men's Trap at ISSF Shotgun Worlds 2025

Zoravar Singh Sandhu won the bronze medal in men's trap at the ISSF World Championship Shotgun 2025 held in Athens, Greece, hitting 31 out of 50 targets in the final.

This achievement marks India's third-ever medal in men's trap shooting at the Shotgun World Championships, after Manavjeet Singh Sandhu's gold in 2006 and Karni Singh's silver in 1962.

The victory was celebrated as a historic moment by the National Rifle Association of India, highlighting Zoravar's dedication and the guidance of coach Peter Wilson's team.

229. **Where did Jyothi Surekha Vennam win the bronze medal at the Archery World Cup Final?**

ज्योथी सुरेखा वेंणम ने आर्चरी वर्ल्ड कप फाइनल में कांस्य पदक कहाँ जीता?

- (a) Tokyo, Japan
- (b) Nanjing, China
- (c) Paris, France
- (d) Madrid, Spain
- (e) Seoul, South Korea

Ans. b

Sol. Jyothi Surekha Vennam Becomes First Indian Woman to Win Medal at Archery World Cup Final

Jyothi Surekha Vennam became the first Indian woman compound archer to win a medal at the Archery World Cup Final, securing bronze in Nanjing, China.

She defeated second seed Ella Gibson of Great Britain 150-145, shooting a perfect 15 tens across five ends, after narrowly losing to world number one Andrea Becerra of Mexico in the semifinals.

This achievement marks India's first-ever women's compound medal at the season-ending World Cup Final, highlighting Jyothi's consistency and precision in international archery.

230. **When was the UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) scheme launched under the National Civil Aviation Policy?**

UDAN (उड़े देश का आम नागरिक) योजना को राष्ट्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन नीति के तहत कब लॉन्च किया गया था?

- (a) 21st October 2015
- (b) 21st October 2016
- (c) 21st October 2017
- (d) 21st October 2018
- (e) 21st October 2019

Ans. b

Sol. Ministry of Civil Aviation Celebrates 9th Anniversary of UDAN

The Ministry of Civil Aviation celebrated the 9th anniversary of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (UDAN) in New Delhi, highlighting its role in making air travel affordable and accessible for common citizens.

Since its launch on 21st October 2016, UDAN has operationalised 649 routes connecting 93 unserved and underserved airports, including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes, serving over 1.56 crore passengers through 3.23 lakh flights.

The Government has supported UDAN through Viability Gap Funding of over Rs. 4,300 crore and Rs. 4,638 crore invested in airport development, with recent initiatives including Comprehensive Guidelines for Seaplane Operations (Aug 2024) and UDAN 5.5 for seaplanes and helicopters.

The Ministry plans to continue UDAN beyond April 2027 under an Expanded UDAN Framework, focusing on hilly, North-Eastern, and aspirational regions, aiming to develop around 120 new destinations, promoting inclusive and sustainable air connectivity.

231. **What major diplomatic step has India recently taken in Afghanistan?**

भारत ने हाल ही में अफगानिस्तान में कौन-सा प्रमुख कूटनीतिक कदम उठाया है?

- (a) Closed its embassy in Kabul
- (b) Opened a new consulate in Kandahar
- (c) Upgraded its Technical Mission in Kabul to the status of an Embassy
- (d) Signed a defence pact with Afghanistan
- (e) Transferred the mission to Doha

Ans. c

Sol. India Upgrades Technical Mission in Kabul to Embassy

India restored the status of its Technical Mission in Kabul to that of an Embassy, emphasizing the commitment to deepen bilateral engagement with Afghanistan in all areas of mutual interest.

The decision was announced by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar during his meeting with Afghan Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi, who visited India. The Embassy of India in Kabul will enhance India's contribution to Afghanistan's comprehensive development, including humanitarian assistance, capacity-building initiatives, public infrastructure, healthcare, and earthquake rehabilitation.

232. **Who is the legendary voice actor of Goku in Dragon Ball honoured as Japan's first voice performer Person of Cultural Merit?**

ड्रैगन बॉल में गोकू की प्रसिद्ध आवाज़ अभिनेता कौन हैं जिन्हें जापान का पहला वॉइस परफॉर्मर पर्सन ऑफ कल्चरल मेरिट सम्मानित किया गया?

- (a) Parul Ryo
- (b) Masako Nozawa
- (c) Megumi Hayashibara
- (d) Nobuyuki Hiyama
- (e) Hiroshi Kamiya

Ans. b

Sol. Dragon Ball's Goku Voice Actor Masako Nozawa Becomes Japan's First Voice Performer Named Person of Cultural Merit'

Masako Nozawa, the legendary voice of Goku in Dragon Ball, has become the first voice actor to receive Japan's prestigious Person of Cultural Merit recognition.

The award, announced by Nippon TV, honors her exceptional contribution to Japanese culture and includes a lifelong pension of 3.5 million yen per year.

At 88 years old with a career spanning over six decades, Nozawa will attend the official ceremony on November 3 in Tokyo, alongside other distinguished honorees.

233. **Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra was recently conferred with which honorary rank in the Indian Army?**

ओलंपिक चैंपियन नीरज चोपड़ा को हाल ही में भारतीय सेना में कौन-सी मानद रैंक से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Major
- (b) Captain

- (c) Lieutenant Colonel
- (d) Brigadier
- (e) Colonel

Ans. c

Sol. Olympic Champion Neeraj Chopra Honoured with Lieutenant Colonel Rank in Indian Army

Star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra was officially conferred the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Territorial Army at a special ceremony in New Delhi, attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi.

Born in Khandra village, Panipat (Haryana), Neeraj joined the Indian Army in 2016 and has served with The Rajputana Rifles, bringing immense national pride through his outstanding athletic achievements.

He made history by becoming India's first Olympic gold medalist in track and field (Tokyo 2020), later adding a silver at Paris 2024 and a gold at the 2023 World Athletics Championships, along with multiple wins at the Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, and Diamond League.

In recognition of his exceptional contributions, President Droupadi Murmu granted him the honorary commission on April 16, 2025; his personal best throw of 90.23m (2025) stands as a milestone in Indian sports, and he holds numerous national honors including the Padma Shri, Khel Ratna, and Arjuna Award.

234. The Ramanujan Research Fellowship initiative, launched jointly by India and the United Kingdom, aims to promote research collaboration between young scientists and researchers of both countries in the fields of mathematics and physics. This prestigious fellowship is supported by which Indian government body responsible for promoting scientific research and innovation?

भारत और यूनाइटेड किंगडम द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से शुरू की गई रामानुजन रिसर्च फेलोशिप पहल का उद्देश्य दोनों देशों के युवा वैज्ञानिकों और शोधकर्ताओं के बीच गणित और भौतिकी के क्षेत्रों में शोध सहयोग को बढ़ावा देना है। यह प्रतिष्ठित फेलोशिप किस भारतीय सरकारी संस्था द्वारा समर्थित है जो वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और नवाचार को प्रोत्साहित करती है?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) University Grants Commission
- (c) Indian Space Research Organization
- (d) Ministry of Education
- (e) Department of Science and Technology

Ans. e

Sol. India-UK Launch Ramanujan Research Fellowship for Young Scientists

India and the United Kingdom have jointly launched the Ramanujan Junior Researchers Programme, a new initiative to promote scientific collaboration between young physicists and mathematicians from both nations.

Supported by India's Department of Science and Technology (DST), the programme was announced after UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer's visit to India, drawing inspiration from Srinivasa Ramanujan's 1913 collaboration with G.H. Hardy.

In the first phase, up to six PhD students from the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) will visit the London Institute for Mathematical Sciences (LIMS) for research and lectures.

The second phase will introduce Ramanujan Junior Fellowships — three-year positions at LIMS for early-career Indian researchers, allowing them to engage in advanced theoretical research alongside British scientists at the Royal Institution, Mayfair.

235. Coal India Limited (CIL) recently signed an MoU with which IIT to establish the “Centre for Sustainable Energy”?

कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड (CIL) ने हाल ही में “सेंटर फॉर सस्टेनेबल एनर्जी” की स्थापना के लिए किस आईआईटी के साथ समझौता किया है?

- (a) IIT Delhi
- (b) IIT Madras
- (c) IIT Bombay
- (d) IIT Kharagpur
- (e) IIT Kanpur

Ans. b

Sol. Coal India & IIT Madras Join Hands to Establish Centre for Sustainable Energy
Coal India Limited (CIL) has signed an MoU with IIT Madras to set up the “Centre for Sustainable Energy”, which will act as a hub for advanced research and development in sustainable energy technologies.

The Centre, supported by CIL’s funding, aims to develop low-carbon technologies, repurpose coal mines, and redefine coal as a feedstock for India’s clean energy future, aligning with CIL’s diversification goals.

This collaboration highlights a shared vision of accelerating India’s energy transition through indigenous innovation and research, contributing to the country’s net-zero emissions target by 2070.

Recent MoU

- Ministry of Social Justice Signs MoUs with Three Universities to Establish New Dr Ambedkar Chairs
- Indian Railways to Collaborate with MapmyIndia’s Mappls App to Boost Swadeshi Digital Infrastructure
- Goodluck India Signs Tripartite MoU for DRDO’s AMCA Programme
- SAIL’s MTI Partners with IIM Jammu to Launch Executive Education Programmes for Future-Ready Leaders
- DoP Signs MoU with IIP to Promote Sustainable Packaging and Enhance Postal Efficiency

236. Who led India’s delegation at the XVIth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र व्यापार और विकास सम्मेलन (UNCTAD) के 16वें सत्र में भारत के प्रतिनिधिमंडल का नेतृत्व किसने किया?

- (a) Dr. S. Jaishankar

- (b) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (c) Piyush Goyal
- (d) Rajnath Singh
- (e) Dharmendra Pradhan

Ans. c

Sol. Piyush Goyal Leads India's Delegation at XVIth UNCTAD Session in Geneva
Union Minister Piyush Goyal led the Indian delegation at the 16th Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD XVI) in Geneva, where he delivered India's national statement and participated in major global trade discussions. Established in 1964, UNCTAD aims to promote the integration of developing nations into the global economy through policies focused on trade, investment, and sustainable development.

In his address, Goyal highlighted India's economic transformation, noting that India has become one of the top five global economies and the fastest-growing large economy with an average 7% annual growth rate over the past three years.

He emphasized India's achievement in lifting millions out of poverty, strengthening the middle class, and reaffirmed India's commitment to inclusive and sustainable global growth, resonating with UNCTAD XVI's theme — "Shaping the Future: Driving Economic Transformation for Equitable, Inclusive, and Sustainable Development."

237. **How much money did the National Biodiversity Authority release to the Dapur Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC)?**

राष्ट्रीय जैव विविधता प्राधिकरण ने दापूर जैव विविधता प्रबंधन समिति (BMC) को कितनी राशि जारी की?

- (a) ₹50 lakh
- (b) ₹67 lakh
- (c) ₹75 lakh
- (d) ₹80 lakh
- (e) ₹100 lakh

Ans. b

Sol. National Biodiversity Authority Releases ₹67 Lakh to Dapur BMC for Equitable Benefit Sharing

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has released ₹67 lakh to the Dapur Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) in Sinnar Taluk, Nashik (Maharashtra), through the Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board, ensuring equitable benefit sharing with local communities.

The payment represents Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) revenue earned from a company that used microorganisms from Dapur's soil to develop probiotic supplements, as per Section 44 of the Biological Diversity Act and Maharashtra Biological Diversity Rules.

Established under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, the NBA safeguards India's biological resources and ensures fair benefit distribution to local custodians—advancing India's vision of sustainable and inclusive biodiversity management that links conservation with community welfare.

238. **The Skilling for AI Readiness (SOAR) programme, launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in July 2025, aims to integrate AI learning into school education, preparing students and teachers for a rapidly evolving digital world. Which classes of students are targeted under the SOAR programme for AI education?**

कौशल विकास एवं उद्यमिता मंत्रालय (MSDE) द्वारा जुलाई 2025 में शुरू किए गए AI रेडीनेस के लिए कौशल (SOAR) कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य स्कूली शिक्षा में AI सीखने को एकीकृत करना और छात्रों और शिक्षकों को तेज़ी से विकसित हो रही डिजिटल दुनिया के लिए तैयार करना है। SOAR कार्यक्रम के तहत AI शिक्षा के लिए किन कक्षाओं के छात्रों को लक्षित किया गया है?

- (a) Classes 1 to 5
- (b) Classes 6 to 12
- (c) Classes 9 to 12 only
- (d) Undergraduate college students
- (e) Postgraduate student

Ans. b

Sol. India Launches SOAR Programme to Build an AI-Ready Generation

The Skilling for AI Readiness (SOAR) programme, launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in July 2025, aims to integrate AI learning into school education, preparing students and teachers for a rapidly evolving digital world.

SOAR targets students from classes 6–12 with three 15-hour modules and teachers with a 45-hour module, covering foundational AI, machine learning, data literacy, and ethical technology use, fostering curiosity and responsible innovation.

Aligned with Atmanirbhar Bharat and the Skill India Mission, the initiative addresses growing demand for AI-skilled professionals across sectors like healthcare, manufacturing, finance, and education, while supporting vocational training programmes such as PMKVY 4.0 and NAPS-2.

The Union Budget 2025–26 allocated ₹500 crore to establish a Centre of Excellence in AI for Education, focusing on AI-based learning tools, multilingual resources, innovative classroom practices, and strengthening curriculum development across schools and technical institutions.

239. **Goa Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant unveiled the official logo and anthem for the FIDE Chess World Cup 2025. Who has sung the official anthem of the FIDE Chess World Cup 2025?**

गोवा के मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. प्रमोद सावंत ने FIDE शतरंज विश्व कप 2025 के आधिकारिक लोगो और गान का अनावरण किया। FIDE शतरंज विश्व कप 2025 का आधिकारिक गान किसने गाया है?

- (a) Arijit Singh
- (b) Shreya Ghoshal
- (c) Daler Mehndi
- (d) Sonu Nigam
- (e) Neha Kakkar

Ans. c

Sol. Goa CM Unveils Official Logo & Anthem for FIDE Chess World Cup 2025

Goa Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant unveiled the official logo and anthem for the FIDE Chess World Cup 2025, with the anthem sung by Daler Mehndi and the logo reflecting Goa's culture and the game of chess.

Highlighting chess as a tool to develop focus, strategic thinking, and leadership among students, the CM urged schools and colleges in Goa to integrate chess into their educational curriculum.

The FIDE Chess World Cup 2025, returning to India after 23 years, will be held in Goa from October 31 to November 17, featuring 206 players from 82 countries and a total prize pool of \$2 million, including top players like Gukesh D, Arjun Erigaisi, Anish Giri, and Wesley So.

240. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of WIPO's Advisory Board of Judges for 2025-2027?

2025-2027 के लिए WIPO के एडवाइजरी बोर्ड ऑफ जजेस की चेयरपर्सन के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Justice Radhakrishnan
- (b) Justice Prathiba M. Singh
- (c) Justice D.Y. Chandrachud
- (d) Justice N.V. Ramana
- (e) Justice Indira Banerjee

Ans. b

Sol. Justice Prathiba M. Singh Appointed Chair of WIPO Advisory Board

Justice Prathiba M. Singh of the Delhi High Court has been appointed Chairperson of the WIPO Advisory Board of Judges for the 2025-2027 term, guiding the organisation on global intellectual property matters.

She also serves as co-chair of the WHO's Working Group on Regulatory Considerations on AI in Health, highlighting her expertise at the intersection of law, health, and technology.

Justice Singh previously chaired the first Intellectual Property Division of the Delhi High Court (2021-2022), has practiced law since 1991, and has appeared before the Supreme Court of India, Delhi High Court, IP Appellate Board, and Indian Patent Office.

Recognized as one of the 50 most influential people in intellectual property globally in 2021 and 2022, she will work alongside nine other international members from countries including Panama, China, Kazakhstan, Egypt, France, Canada, Tanzania, the EU, and South Korea.

241. United Nations Day is celebrated every year on which date?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र दिवस हर वर्ष किस तिथि को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 21 October
- (b) 22 October
- (c) 23 October
- (d) 24 October

(e) 25 October

Ans. d

Sol. 24 October - United Nations Day

United Nations Day is celebrated every year on 24 October to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the UN in 1945, when the UN Charter came into effect.

The day highlights the UN's mission of maintaining international peace, promoting human rights, and encouraging global cooperation for sustainable development.

First observed in 1948, and in 1971, the UN General Assembly recommended that the day be observed as an international public holiday.

The UN Charter was signed in San Francisco on 26 June 1945 and came into force on 24 October 1945, after ratification by the five permanent members of the Security Council.

242. The Government of India recently announced the release of a ₹200 commemorative coin to mark an important event in India's early freedom struggle. This event, which took place nearly two decades before the 1857 revolt, symbolised one of the first armed resistances against British rule led by a brave queen from Karnataka. What does this coin commemorate?

भारत सरकार ने हाल ही में भारत के प्रारंभिक स्वतंत्रता संग्राम की एक महत्वपूर्ण घटना की स्मृति में ₹200 का स्मारक सिक्का जारी करने की घोषणा की है। यह घटना 1857 के विद्रोह से लगभग दो दशक पहले हुई थी और कर्नाटक की एक वीर रानी द्वारा ब्रिटिश शासन के खिलाफ पहले सशस्त्र संघर्षों में से एक का प्रतीक है। यह सिक्का किस अवसर पर जारी किया जा रहा है?

(a) 150th Anniversary of Revolt of 1857

(b) 200th Anniversary of Rani Channamma's Victory at Kittur

(c) 100th Anniversary of Tipu Sultan's Birth

(d) 175th Anniversary of Rani Lakshmibai's Martyrdom

(e) 125th Anniversary of Indian National Congress Formation

Ans. b

Sol. Government to Issue ₹200 Commemorative Coin Marking 200th Anniversary of Rani Channamma's Victory at Kittur

The Government of India will issue a ₹200 commemorative coin marking the 200th anniversary of Rani Channamma's Victory at Kittur (1824–2024) — one of the earliest armed resistances against the British East India Company, predating the 1857 revolt.

The circular coin, with a 44 mm diameter and 200 serrations, will be made of a quaternary alloy — silver (50%), copper (40%), nickel (5%), and zinc (5%). The obverse side features the Lion Capital of Ashoka, "Satyamev Jayate," "Bharat," "India," and the denomination "₹200."

The reverse side of the coin will depict Rani Channamma's image with the years 1824 and 2024 on either side. The upper periphery will read "200th Anniversary of Rani Channamma's Victory at Kittur" in Devanagari, and the lower periphery in English. Rani Channamma of Kittur (born 1778, died 1829) fought bravely against the British East India Company after it denied the legitimacy of her adopted son under the Doctrine

of Lapse. Her initial victory in 1824 became a symbol of early Indian resistance to colonial rule.

243. **Which bank has been honoured with the titles “World’s Best Consumer Bank 2025” and “Best Bank in India 2025” by Global Finance, New York?**

ग्लोबल फाइनेंस, न्यूयॉर्क द्वारा “वर्ल्ड्स बेस्ट कंज्यूमर बैंक 2025” और “बेस्ट बैंक इन इंडिया 2025” के खिताब से किस बैंक को सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) ICICI Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) State Bank of India
- (e) Punjab National Bank

Ans. d

Sol. SBI Wins “World’s Best Consumer Bank 2025” and “Best Bank in India 2025” Titles from Global Finance, New York

State Bank of India (SBI) has been honoured with two prestigious titles — “World’s Best Consumer Bank 2025” and “Best Bank in India 2025” — by Global Finance, New York, at the Global Finance Award Ceremony held during the World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings 2025.

These dual awards reaffirm SBI’s status as a global banking leader, recognised for its innovation, financial inclusion, customer-centric services, and technological advancement across India’s vast geographical landscape.

SBI Chairman Challa Sreenivasulu Setty highlighted that serving 520 million customers and adding 65,000 new customers daily reflects the bank’s continuous investment in digitalisation and advanced technology to enhance customer experience.

Recent Awards

- **HR Excellence Award at Fortune Leadership Awards 2025** - Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (for Outstanding People-Centric Reforms and Innovation)
- **IUCN’s Kenton R. Miller Award** - Director of Kaziranga National Park Sonali Ghosh (for Innovation in National Parks)
- **Mrs Universe 2025** - Sherry Singh; 1st Runner-up – Saint Petersburg
- **Hombale Samhita Harinikumar Krishi Media Award 2025** - Mysuru Journalist Amshi Prasannakumar (for his contribution to agricultural reporting)
- **Tourism Wins Global Tourism Award 2025** - Andhra Pradesh (for Visionary Initiatives and Investment Milestones)

244. **How much money did SBI raise through its Basel III-compliant Tier 2 bond issuance?**

SBI ने अपने Basel III अनुरूप Tier 2 बॉन्ड इश्यू के माध्यम से कितनी राशि जुटाई?

- (a) ₹5,000 crore
- (b) ₹6,000 crore
- (c) ₹7,500 crore

(d) ₹10,000 crore

(e) ₹12,500 crore

Ans. c

Sol. SBI Raises ₹7,500 Crore Through Basel III Compliant Tier 2 Bonds at 6.93% Coupon Rate

The State Bank of India (SBI) raised ₹7,500 crore through Basel III-compliant Tier 2 bonds at a coupon rate of 6.93%, marking its first bond issuance of FY26 with a 10-year tenor and call option after 5 years.

The issue saw bids worth 3 times the base issue size of ₹5,000 crore, with 101 bids received from a diverse group of institutional investors such as provident funds, pension funds, mutual funds, and banks, showcasing high investor confidence in SBI.

In FY26, SBI has also raised ₹25,000 crore via QIP and \$500 million through senior unsecured fixed-rate notes (5-year maturity, 4.50% coupon), reflecting its strategic approach to strengthen capital adequacy and global funding profile.

245. **How much has ICICI Bank pledged for building the new cancer care facility at Tata Memorial Centre (TMC), Navi Mumbai?**

ICICI बैंक ने टाटा मेमोरियल सेंटर (TMC), नवी मुंबई में नए कैंसर केयर सुविधा के निर्माण के लिए कितनी राशि देने की घोषणा की है?

(a) Rs 500 crore

(b) Rs 625 crore

(c) Rs 750 crore

(d) Rs 1,000 crore

(e) Rs 1,200 crore

Ans. b

Sol. ICICI Bank Pledges Rs 625 Crore for Cancer Care

ICICI Bank, India's second-largest private sector lender, announced a donation of Rs 625 crore to build an 11-storey building at Tata Memorial Centre's (TMC) Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research and Education in Cancer, Navi Mumbai, as part of its Rs 1,800 crore commitment to construct three facilities nationwide.

The new building will cover 3.4 lakh sq ft., house 12 Linear Accelerators (LINACs) and other advanced equipment, enabling precise radiation therapy that minimizes damage to healthy tissues. It will serve 7,200 patients annually and provide over two lakh radiation sessions, along with OPD consultations and diagnostics for 25,000 new patients each year.

The facility is expected to be operational by 2027.

246. **On which date is World Development Information Day observed annually?**

विश्व विकास सूचना दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

(a) 20 October

(b) 22 October

(c) 24 October

(d) 26 October

(e) 28 October

Ans. c

Sol. 24 October - World Development Information Day

World Development Information Day is observed annually on 24 October to raise awareness about global development issues and the role of information and communication in promoting development.

The day emphasizes the importance of sharing knowledge and information to support sustainable development, economic growth, and international cooperation.

247. When is Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week observed every year?

ग्लोबल मीडिया और इन्फॉर्मेशन लिटरसी (MIL) वीक हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1-7 October
- (b) 10-17 October
- (c) 24-31 October
- (d) 15-22 October
- (e) 20-27 October

Ans. c

Sol. 24-31 October - Global Media and Information Literacy Week

Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week is observed annually from 24th to 31st October to promote the responsible use and understanding of media and information worldwide.

The week emphasises developing critical skills to access, evaluate, and create information, fostering media literacy, digital literacy, and ethical information practices.

Theme 2025 - Minds Over AI - MIL in Digital Spaces

248. When is Disarmament Week observed every year?

डिसआर्मामेंट वीक हर साल किस तारीख से मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1-7 October
- (b) 10-16 October
- (c) 24-30 October
- (d) 15-21 October
- (e) 20-26 October

Ans. c

Sol. 24-30 October - Disarmament Week

Disarmament Week is observed annually from 24th to 30th October to raise awareness about the importance of peace, disarmament, and the reduction of weapons globally.

The week emphasises the need for nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the responsible use of technology to ensure global security.

Organized under the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), it encourages nations to cooperate internationally to prevent conflicts and promote peaceful conflict resolution.

249. Which Indian regulatory body has launched a digital monitoring system to oversee high-risk ingredients used in cough syrups?

भारत में कौन-सी नियामक संस्था ने खांसी की दवा में उपयोग होने वाले उच्च जोखिम वाले घटकों की निगरानी के लिए डिजिटल सिस्टम लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- (b) Drug Controller General of India (DCGI)
- (c) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- (d) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)
- (e) Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)

Ans. e

Sol. India's Drug Watchdog Launches Digital Tracker for High-Risk Cough Syrup Ingredients

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has launched a digital monitoring system on the ONDLS portal to oversee the production, movement, and quality of high-risk ingredients used in drug formulations, particularly cough syrups. The system aims to track the supply chain, quality checks, and testing of high-risk solvents to ensure safer manufacturing and regulatory compliance across all states and union territories.

High-risk ingredients monitored under this initiative include glycerin, propylene glycol, sorbitol, polyethylene glycol, hydrogenated starch hydrolysate, maltitol, and ethyl alcohol, among others.

250. **Piyush Pandey, who passed away at the age of 70, was famously known as the father of which industry in India?**

70 वर्ष की आयु में निधन होने वाले पियूष पांडे को भारत में किस उद्योग का पिता कहा जाता था?

- (a) Bollywood
- (b) Advertising
- (c) Journalism
- (d) Film Direction
- (e) Fashion Design

Ans. b

Sol. Legendary Indian Ad Guru Piyush Pandey Passes Away at 70

Legendary advertising guru Piyush Pandey, known for giving Indian advertising its unique identity with iconic campaigns like "Har Ek Friend Zaroori Hota Hai", "Fevicol ka mazboot jod", and "Mile Sur Mera Tumhara", passed away at the age of 70.

Under his leadership, Ogilvy India became the country's most awarded agency; he was the first Asian to chair the Cannes Lions jury, and received numerous accolades including the Padma Shri (2016), CLIO Lifetime Achievement Award, and the 2024 LIA Legend Award.

251. **At which international event was India re-elected as Vice-Chairperson of the COP10 Bureau for the Asia-Pacific (Group IV)?**

किस अंतरराष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम में भारत को एशिया-प्रशांत (Group IV) के लिए COP10 ब्यूरो का उपाध्यक्ष फिर से निर्वाचित किया गया?

- (a) 10th Session of UN General Assembly
- (b) 10th Session of the Conference of Parties

- (c) 20th World Anti-Doping Congress
- (d) Olympic Council Meeting 2025
- (e) UNESCO Sports Summit 2025

Ans. b

Sol. India Re-elected as Vice-Chairperson of COP10 Bureau, Reaffirms Commitment to Clean Sport

India actively participated in the 10th Session of the Conference of Parties (COP10) to the International Convention against Doping in Sport held from 20–22 October 2025 at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, marking the 20th anniversary of the Convention.

During the meeting, India was re-elected as Vice-Chairperson of the COP10 Bureau for the Asia-Pacific (Group IV) for the term 2025–2027, reaffirming its commitment to promoting integrity and eliminating doping in sport.

The Indian delegation, led by Shri Hari Ranjan Rao (Secretary, Sports) and Shri Anant Kumar (DG, NADA), engaged with delegates from over 190 States Parties, as well as representatives from the African Union, International Olympic Committee, WADA, and other international organizations.

252. **Where was the 14th India-Bhutan Meeting on Border Management and Security held?**

सीमा प्रबंधन और सुरक्षा पर 14वीं भारत-भूटान बैठक किस स्थान पर आयोजित हुई?

- (a) Thimphu, Bhutan
- (b) New Delhi, India
- (c) Paro, Bhutan
- (d) Guwahati, India
- (e) Mumbai, India

Ans. a

Sol. 14th India-Bhutan Border Management and Security Meeting held in Thimphu

The 14th India-Bhutan Meeting on Border Management and Security was held in Thimphu, Bhutan, with the Indian delegation led by Dr. Rajendra Kumar, Secretary, Department of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Indian delegation included officials from Sashastra Seema Bal, Land Ports Authority of India, Department of Telecommunications, Narcotics Control Bureau, Survey of India, Customs, and representatives from Assam, West Bengal, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh, while Bhutan was represented by Mr. Sonam Wangyel, Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.

253. **The Central Government has announced that key provisions related to nomination under the Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025 will come into force from November 1, 2025, enhancing flexibility and transparency in banking operations. Which sections of the Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025 deal with nominations for deposit accounts, safe custody, and locker facilities?**

केंद्र सरकार ने घोषणा की है कि बैंकिंग कानून (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2025 के तहत नामांकन से संबंधित प्रमुख प्रावधान 1 नवंबर, 2025 से लागू होंगे, जिससे बैंकिंग कार्यों में लचीलापन और

पारदर्शिता बढ़ेगी। बैंकिंग कानून (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2025 की कौन सी धाराएं जमा खातों, सुरक्षित अभिरक्षा और लॉकर सुविधाओं के लिए नामांकन से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Sections 3, 4, 5
- (b) Sections 10, 11, 12, 13
- (c) Sections 15, 16, 17
- (d) Sections 18, 19, 20, 22
- (e) Sections 6, 7, 8

Ans. b

Sol. Nomination provisions under Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025 to come into effect from November 1, 2025

The Central Government has announced that key provisions related to nomination under the Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025 will come into force from November 1, 2025, enhancing flexibility and transparency in banking operations.

The Amendment Act, notified on April 15, 2025, introduced 19 amendments across five major legislations, including the RBI Act (1934), Banking Regulation Act (1949), SBI Act (1955), and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Acts of 1970 and 1980.

The provisions under Sections 10, 11, 12, and 13 — dealing with nominations for deposit accounts, articles kept in safe custody, and safety lockers — will be implemented from November 1, 2025.

Under the new rules, depositors can make up to four nominations, either simultaneously or successively, ensuring flexibility in claim settlement and improved transparency. For deposit accounts, both simultaneous and successive nominations will be allowed, whereas for safe custody and locker facilities, only successive nominations are permitted for clarity in succession.

The government will soon publish the Banking Companies (Nomination) Rules, 2025, prescribing detailed procedures and forms for making, cancelling, or updating multiple nominations across banks.

The Amendment Act aims to strengthen governance and depositor protection, improve audit quality in public sector banks, and enhance customer convenience through modernized nomination systems and rationalized board tenures in cooperative banks.

254. **Who has been appointed as the new full-time Member Secretary of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in NCR and adjoining areas?**

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र (NCR) और इसके आसपास के क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग (CAQM) के नए पूर्णकालिक सदस्य सचिव के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Arvind Kumar Nautiyal
- (b) Tarun Kumar Pithode
- (c) Shivani Tyagi
- (d) Rameshwar Prasad
- (e) Ajay Yadav

Ans. b

Sol. Tarun Kumar Pithode appointed as new full-time Member Secretary of CAQM

IAS officer Tarun Kumar Pithode (2009 batch, Madhya Pradesh cadre) has taken charge as the new full-time Member Secretary of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in NCR and adjoining areas.

He previously served as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and has been appointed to this post for a five-year tenure till 8 September 2029, or until further orders.

Pithode succeeds Arvind Kumar Nautiyal (IRSME, 1992 batch) as the new Member Secretary of CAQM, which plays a key role in tackling air pollution in the National Capital Region.

Recent Appointments

- **Chairperson of the WIPO Advisory Board of Judges for the 2025-2027** - Delhi HC Justice Prathiba M. Singh
- **President of FICCI for 2025-26** - Anant Goenka (replace Harsha Vardhan Agarwal)
- **Secretary in Department of Commerce** - Rajesh Agrawal (replace Sunil Barthwal)
- **Director of the Botanical Survey of India (BSI)** - Kanad Das Appointed; 13th

255. **The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which organization to strengthen India's startup and innovation ecosystem through mentorship, market access, and policy awareness initiatives?**

उद्योग और आंतरिक व्यापार संवर्धन विभाग (DPIIT) ने हाल ही में भारत के स्टार्टअप और नवाचार पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को सशक्त करने के लिए मार्गदर्शन, बाज़ार पहुंच और नीतिगत जागरूकता पहलों के माध्यम से किस संगठन के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Primus Partners Pvt. Ltd.
- (c) FICCI
- (d) ASSOCHAM
- (e) Confederation of Indian Industry

Ans. b

Sol. DPIIT signs MoUs with Primus Partners and Kotak Mahindra Bank to strengthen India's startup and innovation ecosystem

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Commerce and Industry Ministry signed an MoU with Primus Partners Pvt. Ltd. to boost collaboration for strengthening India's startup and innovation ecosystem, focusing on capacity building, mentorship, market access, and policy awareness.

DPIIT also signed a separate MoU with Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. to enhance financial and non-financial support for startups, including customised banking solutions, credit access, digital infrastructure, and startup-focused programs.

These partnerships aim to foster an innovation-led and self-reliant economy, empowering startups through structured engagement, technology integration, and inclusive growth to position India as a global hub for innovation and entrepreneurship.

Recent MoU

- Coal India & IIT Madras Join Hands to Establish Centre for Sustainable Energy
- Ministry of Social Justice Signs MoUs with Three Universities to Establish New Dr Ambedkar Chairs
- Indian Railways to Collaborate with MapmyIndia's Mappls App to Boost Swadeshi Digital Infrastructure
- Goodluck India Signs Tripartite MoU for DRDO's AMCA Programme
- SAIL's MTI Partners with IIM Jammu to Launch Executive Education Programmes for Future-Ready Leaders

256. In a major step towards equitable sharing of benefits from biodiversity resources, the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has released ₹1.36 crore to local communities in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. Under which mechanism has this amount been released to ensure fair compensation to local Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs)?

जैव विविधता संसाधनों से होने वाले लाभों के समान वितरण की दिशा में एक बड़े कदम के रूप में, राष्ट्रीय जैव विविधता प्राधिकरण (NBA) ने महाराष्ट्र और उत्तर प्रदेश के स्थानीय समुदायों को ₹1.36 करोड़ जारी किए हैं। यह राशि स्थानीय जैव विविधता प्रबंधन समितियों (BMCs) को न्यायसंगत मुआवजा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए किस तंत्र के तहत जारी की गई है?

- (a) National Clean Energy Fund
- (b) Access and Benefit Sharing mechanism
- (c) Pradhan Mantri Vriksha Mitra Yojana
- (d) National Rural Livelihood Mission
- (e) Bio-Eco Development Scheme

Ans. b

Sol. NBA releases ₹1.36 crore to local communities in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh for biodiversity conservation and benefit sharing

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has released ₹1.36 crore to local communities in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, promoting fair benefit sharing and biodiversity conservation.

The funds will be distributed through State Biodiversity Boards to three Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) — Sakharwadi (Satara), Kunjirwadi (Pune), and Kasganj (Etah), each receiving ₹45.50 lakh.

The release represents an Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) payment from a commercial entity that utilized microorganisms for producing Fructo-oligosaccharides products.

This initiative supports India's National Biodiversity Target 13 under the NBSAP 2024–2030, aligning with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (CoP-15) to ensure conservation and community prosperity.

257. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) recently signed a \$3 billion sovereign exposure exchange agreement (EEA) with which global institution?

एशियाई विकास बैंक (ADB) ने हाल ही में 3 अरब डॉलर का संप्रभु एक्सपोजर एक्सचेंज एग्रीमेंट (EEA) किस वैश्विक संस्था के साथ हस्ताक्षर किया?

- (a) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- (b) World Bank
- (c) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

- (d) New Development Bank (NDB)
(e) International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Ans. b

Sol. ADB Signs \$3 Billion Exposure Exchange Agreement with World Bank to Boost Lending Capacity

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$3 billion sovereign exposure exchange agreement (EEA) with the World Bank to enhance its lending capacity for developing member countries.

This marks ADB's first EEA with the World Bank and sixth overall with multilateral development banks since 2020, raising the total exchanged amount to \$9 billion.

The EEA helps reduce concentration risk, optimize capital usage, and expand support to member nations through improved risk management.

About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- **Founded** - 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters** - Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- **President** - Masato Kanda (replace Masatsugu Asakawa)
- **Vice President** - Ashok Lavasa
- **Member Countries** - 69 (latest Israel)

258. What was the percentage growth in India's infrastructure output in September 2025 compared to the same month last year?

सितंबर 2025 में भारत के इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर उत्पादन में पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में कितनी प्रतिशत वृद्धि हुई?

- (a) 2.5%
(b) 3%
(c) 3.5%
(d) 4%
(e) 5%

Ans. b

Sol. India's Core Infrastructure Output Rises 3% in September; Steel Leads with 14.1% Growth

India's infrastructure output, measured by the Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI), grew by 3% in September 2025 compared to the same month last year, with August's growth revised upward to 6.5%.

Among the eight core sectors, steel (14.1%), cement (5.3%), electricity (2.1%), and fertilizers (1.6%) recorded positive growth in September.

However, natural gas (-3.8%), petroleum refinery products (-3.7%), crude oil (-1.3%), and coal (-1.2%) witnessed a decline in production during the same period.

The cumulative growth of the Eight Core Industries during April–September 2025 stood at 2.9% provisionally, compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

259. What is the name of the new web browser launched by OpenAI to compete with Google Chrome?

Google Chrome से प्रतिस्पर्धा करने के लिए OpenAI द्वारा लॉन्च किए गए नए वेब ब्राउज़र का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Orion
- (b) Paro
- (c) Nova
- (d) Comet
- (e) Atlas

Ans. e

Sol. OpenAI launches web browser 'Atlas' to compete with Google Chrome

OpenAI launched its own web browser, "Atlas," positioning itself as a direct competitor to Google Chrome, aiming to make ChatGPT a new gateway for online searches and digital advertising revenue.

Atlas initially launches on Apple laptops, with future availability on Windows, iOS, and Android, and includes a premium "agent mode" that autonomously browses the internet for users based on their history and queries.

CEO Sam Altman described Atlas as a "once-a-decade opportunity" to reinvent web browsing, though analysts warn it faces a tough battle against Google Chrome's 3 billion users and existing AI-integrated browsers like Gemini-powered Chrome.

260. Which US-based airline announced plans to set up a Global Innovation Centre in Hyderabad?

कौन-सा अमेरिकी एयरलाइन है जिसने हैदराबाद में ग्लोबल इनोवेशन सेंटर स्थापित करने की योजना की घोषणा की?

- (a) Delta Airlines
- (b) Southwest Airlines
- (c) United Airlines
- (d) American Airlines
- (e) JetBlue

Ans. b

Sol. Southwest Airlines to Set Up Global Innovation Centre in Hyderabad

Southwest Airlines announced plans to set up a Global Innovation Centre in Hyderabad, India, following discussions with Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.

The meeting included Southwest Airlines' senior management, such as CIO Lauren Woods and CTO Tom Merritt, along with HEX Advisory Group representatives.

CM Reddy welcomed the decision, stating it aligns with Telangana's "Rising 2047" vision to achieve a \$1 trillion economy by 2034 and \$3 trillion by 2047.

261. Which company partnered with Tata Elxsi to develop Kavach 4.0, India's next-generation Automatic Train Protection system?

कौन-सी कंपनी ने भारत के अगले जनरेशन ऑटोमेटिक ट्रेन प्रोटेक्शन सिस्टम, Kavach 4.0, को विकसित करने के लिए Tata Elxsi के साथ साझेदारी की?

- (a) e2E Transportation Infrastructure Ltd
- (b) Larsen & Toubro
- (c) Bharat Electronics Limited

(d) Reliance Infrastructure

(e) Adani Enterprises

Ans. a

Sol. Kavach 4.0: Nova Control Tecnologix and Tata Elxsi Collaborate to Enhance Indian Railways Safety

Nova Control Tecnologix, a deep-tech subsidiary of e2E Transportation, has partnered with Tata Elxsi to develop Kavach 4.0, the next-generation Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system for Indian Railways.

The collaboration aims to enhance train safety using SIL4-certified engineering and deploy the system across the national railway network, marking a significant private sector entry into critical rail safety infrastructure.

Tata Elxsi brings expertise in digital railway solutions, including AI-powered drone inspections, obstacle detection technologies, and IoT-enabled asset management, with production of Kavach 4.0 set for the Bengaluru facility.

262. **What is the name of the Indian stealth frigate that participated in JAIMEX-25?**
JAIMEX-25 में भाग लेने वाला भारतीय स्टील्थ फ्रिगेट कौन सा है?

(a) INS Vikramaditya

(b) INS Sahyadri

(c) INS Kolkata

(d) INS Shivalik

(e) INS Arihant

Ans. b

Sol. INS Sahyadri Participates in JAIMEX-25, Strengthening India-Japan Naval Cooperation in Indo-Pacific

INS Sahyadri, an indigenously built Shivalik-class stealth frigate, participated in JAIMEX-25 (Japan-India Maritime Exercise), conducting advanced anti-submarine warfare and missile defence drills with JMSDF ships.

During the harbour phase at Yokosuka Port, crews engaged in professional and cultural exchanges, including cross-deck visits, joint operational planning, sharing best practices, and even a yoga session.

Commissioned in 2012, INS Sahyadri reflects India's indigenous defence capabilities under the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiative and continues its Long Range Deployment in the Indo-Pacific, strengthening India-Japan naval cooperation.

263. **What is the primary purpose of the Pratibha Setu Portal launched by PM Modi?**

प्रधानमंत्री मोदी द्वारा लॉन्च किए गए Pratibha Setu Portal का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?

(a) To provide UPSC study materials

(b) To connect final-stage UPSC candidates with employment opportunities

(c) To register candidates for UPSC exams

(d) To monitor civil service appointments

(e) To conduct skill development workshops

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi Unveils 'Pratibha Setu' to Harness UPSC Talent for Public and Private Sector Jobs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Pratibha Setu Portal' to connect UPSC candidates who reached the final stages but did not qualify with employment opportunities in private and public institutions.

The initiative aims to optimally utilise youth talent, allowing institutions to directly engage with highly capable individuals, ensuring their efforts do not go in vain.

264. **The Maharashtra government recently issued a gazette notification renaming Aurangabad railway station. What is the new official name of the station, reflecting a tribute to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's son?**

महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने हाल ही में औरंगाबाद रेलवे स्टेशन का नाम बदलने के लिए गजट अधिसूचना जारी की। छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज के पुत्र को सम्मानित करते हुए स्टेशन का नया आधिकारिक नाम क्या है?

- (a) Chhatrapati Shivaji Nagar
- (b) Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar
- (c) Sambhaji Railway Station
- (d) Shivaji Maharaj Station
- (e) Aurangzeb Station

Ans. b

Sol. Aurangabad Railway Station Renamed as Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar Station in Maharashtra

Aurangabad railway station in Maharashtra has been officially renamed as Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar station through a gazette notification by the state government.

The renaming honours Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's son Sambhaji and follows the city's rechristening nearly three years ago, previously named after Mughal emperor Aurangzeb.

The station, opened in 1900 by the 7th Nizam of Hyderabad, is part of the Kacheguda-Manmad section under the Nanded division of South Central Railway, serving a city famous for Ajanta and Ellora Caves and its historical gates.

265. **Which Indian city has become the first to launch a fully operational Real-Time Flood Forecasting and Spatial Decision Support System (RTFF & SDSS)?**

कौन सा भारतीय शहर पूर्णतया कार्यात्मक रीयल-टाइम फ्लड फोरकास्टिंग और स्पेशियल डिसेजन सपोर्ट सिस्टम (RTFF & SDSS) लॉन्च करने वाला पहला शहर बन गया है?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Kolkata
- (d) Delhi
- (e) Bengaluru

Ans. b

Sol. Chennai Becomes First Indian City with Real-Time Flood Forecasting and Decision Support System

Chennai becomes the first Indian city to launch a fully operational Real-Time Flood Forecasting and Spatial Decision Support System (RTFF & SDSS), aimed at minimising flood damage and saving lives.

The system, costing around Rs 107.2 crore, covers lakes, rivers, storm water drains, and the sea, providing river, tank, and street-level flood forecasts for vulnerable areas like Pulianthope, Nungambakkam, Velachery, and Mudichur.

The RTFF & SDSS monitors an area of approximately 4,974 sq km, including Chennai and surrounding districts, focusing on major river sub-basins such as Adyar, Cooum, Kosasthalaiyar, and Kovalam Rivers.

Equipped with Automatic Rain Gauges, Weather Stations, Water Level Recorders, and Gate Sensors, the system gathers high-resolution hydrometeorological data, funded by the World Bank and implemented by TNUIFSL.

266. Who received an award from the President of India for outstanding contribution to PM-JANMAN?

प्रधानमंत्री जनजाति आदिवासी न्याय महा अभियान (PM-JANMAN) में उत्कृष्ट योगदान के लिए भारत के राष्ट्रपति से पुरस्कार किसे मिला?

- (a) Shri Anil Malik
- (b) Shri Rajesh Kumar
- (c) Shri Arvind Singh
- (d) Smt. Smriti Irani
- (e) Shri Piyush Goyal

Ans. a

Sol. Anil Malik Honoured by President for Outstanding Contribution to PM-JANMAN Tribal Welfare Initiative

Shri Anil Malik, Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD), received an award from the President of India for his outstanding contribution to Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN).

The felicitation was held at the National Conclave on 'Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan' at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, organized by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Under PM-JANMAN, more than 2,000 Anganwadi Centres have been made functional in Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) areas, aiming to improve nutrition, education, and child care services for tribal communities.

267. The World Bank recently approved a programme to improve Kerala's health system, aiming to enhance life expectancy, quality of life, and resilience to climate shocks for elderly and vulnerable populations. What is the total funding approved for this Kerala Health System Improvement Programme?

विश्व बैंक ने हाल ही में केरल के स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली को सुधारने के लिए एक कार्यक्रम को मंजूरी दी, जिसका उद्देश्य वरिष्ठ नागरिकों और कमजोर जनसंख्या के जीवन प्रत्याशा, जीवन गुणवत्ता और जलवायु जोखिमों के प्रति स्थिरता बढ़ाना है। इस केरल हेल्थ सिस्टम इम्प्रूवमेंट प्रोग्राम के लिए कुल स्वीकृत राशि कितनी है?

- (a) \$150 million

- (b) \$200 million
- (c) \$280 million
- (d) \$350 million
- (e) \$400 million

Ans. c

Sol. World Bank Approves \$280-Million Kerala Health System Improvement Programme for Elderly and Vulnerable Populations

The World Bank approved a \$280-million Kerala Health System Improvement Programme to enhance life expectancy and quality of life for 1.1 crore elderly and vulnerable people, focusing on wider health coverage and resilient systems. The programme will strengthen Kerala's digital health infrastructure through expanded e-health services, integrated data platforms, cyber security, and individual electronic tracking for patients with hypertension and diabetes.

It will introduce a home-based care model for bedbound, homebound, and vulnerable elderly, improve cancer screening for women, and support climate-resilient primary health facilities in districts like Wayanad, Kozhikode, and Alappuzha.

268. **What is the name of Ola Electric's first residential battery energy storage system (BESS) launched in India?**

ओला इलेक्ट्रिक का भारत में पहला रेजिडेंशियल बैटरी एनर्जी स्टोरेज सिस्टम (BESS) किस नाम से लॉन्च किया गया है?

- (a) Ola Power
- (b) Ola Shakti
- (c) Ola Energy
- (d) Ola HomeCharge
- (e) Ola Volt

Ans. b

Sol. Ola Electric Enters India's ₹1 Trillion Battery Storage Market with Launch of Ola Shakti Residential Solution

Ola Electric launches Ola Shakti, its first residential battery energy storage system (BESS) in India, marking the company's entry into the ₹1 trillion BESS market and leveraging its 4680 cell technology and Gigafactory capabilities.

Ola Shakti is fully indigenously designed and offers features like instant power switching, smart energy management, voltage protection, automotive-grade safety, IP67 weatherproofing, and advanced functions including Time-of-Day charging, remote diagnostics, and OTA updates.

The product is available in 1.5 kWh, 3 kWh, 5.2 kWh, and 9.1 kWh variants, with introductory prices ranging from ₹29,999 to ₹159,999 for the first 10,000 units, aiming to scale India's energy storage capacity and promote clean, efficient home energy use.

269. **Coal India Limited (CIL) signed an MoU with which institute to establish the Centre for Sustainable Energy?**

कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड (CIL) ने सतत ऊर्जा केंद्र की स्थापना के लिए किस संस्थान के साथ समझौता किया?

- (a) IIT Bombay
- (b) IIT Madras
- (c) IIT Delhi
- (d) IISc Bengaluru
- (e) IIT Kharagpur

Ans. b

Sol. Coal India and IIT Madras Join Hands to Establish Centre for Sustainable Energy for Clean Energy Research and Innovation

Coal India Limited (CIL) signed an MoU with IIT Madras to establish the Centre for Sustainable Energy, focusing on research in low-carbon technologies, repurposing coal mines, and supporting India's clean energy transition.

CIL's funding will drive the Centre's initiatives as part of its strategy to diversify into clean energy, marking its shift from a traditional coal company to a contributor in India's green energy future.

The Centre will also develop human capital by offering Ph.D., postdoctoral, and internship programs, nurturing future researchers and innovators in sustainable and green energy domains.

270. **What is the name of India's first indigenously discovered antibiotic?**

भारत की पहली स्वदेशी रूप से खोजी गई एंटीबायोटिक का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Azithromycin
- (b) Nafithromycin
- (c) Amoxicillin
- (d) Ciprofloxacin
- (e) Erythromycin

Ans. b

Sol. India Unveils First Indigenous Antibiotic 'Nafithromycin' and Achieves Breakthrough in Gene Therapy for Hemophilia

India has developed its first indigenously discovered antibiotic, Nafithromycin, effective against resistant respiratory infections, especially in cancer patients and those with uncontrolled diabetes, marking a major step toward pharmaceutical self-reliance.

A successful indigenous clinical trial for gene therapy in Hemophilia was conducted at Christian Medical College, Vellore, achieving a 60–70% correction rate with zero bleeding episodes, and the results were published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

India has sequenced over 10,000 human genomes and aims to reach one million, while AI-based hybrid mobile clinics are helping deliver quality healthcare to rural and remote areas, reflecting the nation's drive toward a self-sustainable and innovative scientific ecosystem.

271. **Chen Ning Yang, who recently passed away at the age of 103, was awarded the 1957 Nobel Prize in which field?**

103 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हुए चेन निंग यांग को 1957 में किस क्षेत्र में नोबेल पुरस्कार मिला था?

- (a) Chemistry

- (b) Physics
- (c) Medicine
- (d) Literature
- (e) Peace

Ans. b

Sol. Nobel Laureate Physicist Chen Ning Yang, Pioneer of Parity Theory, Passes Away at 103

Nobel laureate Chen Ning Yang, one of the world's most influential physicists, passed away at the age of 103 due to illness.

He, along with Lee Tsung-Dao, won the 1957 Nobel Prize in Physics for their groundbreaking work on parity laws, which revolutionised understanding of elementary particles.

Born in 1922 in Anhui province, Yang studied at Tsinghua University and the University of Chicago, where he worked under Enrico Fermi, the inventor of the world's first nuclear reactor.

Throughout his illustrious career, Yang contributed to statistical mechanics and symmetry principles, received multiple honors including the Albert Einstein Commemorative Award (1957), and served as Professor and Honorary Dean at Tsinghua University.

272. **Who has been elected as the 10th President of Ireland after a landslide victory?**

आयरलैंड के 10वें राष्ट्रपति के रूप में भारी जीत के बाद किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Heather Humphreys
- (b) Michael D. Higgins
- (c) Jim Gavin
- (d) Catherine Connolly
- (e) Leo Varadkar

Ans. d

Sol. Catherine Connolly Becomes Ireland's 10th President with Record Landslide Victory
Catherine Connolly was elected as Ireland's 10th President after securing a record 63% (914,143) of first preference votes, defeating Fine Gael's Heather Humphreys in a landslide victory.

The 68-year-old independent from Galway, supported by left-wing parties, pledged to be "an inclusive president for all" and emphasized peace, neutrality, and climate action in her speech.

Connolly succeeds Michael D. Higgins, who completed two terms; voter turnout was 46%, with a record 213,738 spoiled votes — the highest in Irish presidential election history.

Newly Appointed Prime Ministers & Presidents

- First Female PM of Japan - Sanae Takaichi (from Liberal Democratic Party)
- *Interim PM of Nepal - Sushila Karki (first woman Chief Justice of nation from 2016-2017)*

- President of Guyana - Irfaan Ali
- PM of France - Sebastien Lecornu
- Deputy PM of UK - David Lammy (replace Angela Rayner)

273. Which Nilgiris-based Indian scientist has been featured for the third consecutive year (2023, 2024, and 2025) in the prestigious World's Top Scientists list jointly released by Stanford University and Elsevier Publishers?

कौन-से नीलगिरी स्थित भारतीय वैज्ञानिक को लगातार तीसरे वर्ष (2023, 2024 और 2025) स्टैनफोर्ड यूनिवर्सिटी और एल्सेवियर पब्लिशर्स द्वारा जारी प्रतिष्ठित "विश्व के शीर्ष वैज्ञानिकों" की सूची में शामिल किया गया है?

- (a) Dr. Venkatraman Ramakrishnan
- (b) Dr. Tessy Thomas
- (c) Dr. Parul Tyagi
- (d) Dr. Ashokkumar Veeramuthu
- (e) Dr. Soumya Swaminatha

Ans. d

Sol. Nilgiris Scientist Dr Ashokkumar Veeramuthu Named Among World's Top Scientists for Third Consecutive Year

Dr Ashokkumar Veeramuthu from Nilgiris has been listed among the World's Top Scientists by Stanford University and Elsevier Publishers for the third consecutive year (2023, 2024, and 2025).

His research focuses on linking science with society, addressing issues like environmental protection, waste management, and human health through sustainable solutions.

Dr. Ashokkumar has developed microalgae-based clean fuels, plastic-to-useable material technologies, and received the "Brain Pool: Visiting Global Scientist Award" from the National Research Foundation of Korea for his global contributions to sustainable research.

274. Which state recently signed an MoU with the Central Government to join the Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme?

किस राज्य ने हाल ही में केंद्र सरकार के साथ 'प्रधानमंत्री स्कूल्स फॉर राइजिंग इंडिया (PM SHRI)' योजना से जुड़ने के लिए समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Telangana

Ans. b

Sol. Kerala Joins PM SHRI Scheme After Months of Debate, Secures ₹1,500 Crore Central Aid for School Development

Kerala signed an MoU with the Central Government to join the Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme, marking a major policy shift after months of political debate and hesitation.

The state had earlier opposed the scheme, fearing it might indirectly introduce the National Education Policy (NEP) in Kerala, but later decided to proceed despite objections from the Communist Party of India (CPI).

Under the PM SHRI scheme, the Centre plans to upgrade two schools per block nationwide, providing each selected school ₹1 crore annually for five years to improve infrastructure and quality.

Kerala's Education Minister V. Sivankutty confirmed the move, stating it was essential to secure the Centre's pending ₹1,500 crore for the state's various educational programmes.

275. In a landmark move towards labor reform and human rights protection, which Middle Eastern country officially abolished its 50-year-old Kafala (sponsorship) system in June 2025 — a system that had long tied migrant workers' residency and employment status to their employers, often resulting in exploitation and restricted mobility?

श्रम सुधार और मानवाधिकार संरक्षण की दिशा में एक ऐतिहासिक कदम उठाते हुए, किस मध्य पूर्वी देश ने जून 2025 में अपनी 50 साल पुरानी कफ़ाला (प्रायोजन) प्रणाली को आधिकारिक तौर पर समाप्त कर दिया है? यह एक ऐसी प्रणाली थी जो लंबे समय से प्रवासी श्रमिकों के निवास और रोज़गार की स्थिति को उनके नियोक्ताओं से जोड़ती थी, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप अक्सर शोषण और सीमित गतिशीलता होती थी?

- (a) United Arab Emirates
- (b) Oman
- (c) Qatar
- (d) Kuwait
- (e) Saudi Arabia

Ans. e

Sol. Saudi Arabia Abolishes 50-Year-Old Kafala System

Saudi Arabia has officially abolished its 50-year-old Kafala (sponsorship) system, a major labour reform announced in June 2025, impacting nearly 13 million migrant workers—mainly from South and Southeast Asia.

The Kafala system, introduced in the 1950s, tied workers' residency and employment to their employers (kafeel), often leading to exploitation, abuse, and restricted job mobility, as workers required employer consent for job changes or travel.

Under the new contractual employment model, workers can change employers without approval, leave the country without exit visas, and gain legal protections, aligning with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 reform agenda to modernize its economy and labor rights framework.

The reform is hailed as a historic step in advancing labor rights in the Gulf region, expected to reduce exploitation, improve working conditions, and empower migrant workers with greater freedom, fairness, and dignity.

About Saudi Arabia

- **Capital-** Riyadh
- **Currency-** Saudi riyal
- **Prime minister-** Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud

276. Which country has officially become the 11th member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)?

कौन-सा देश आधिकारिक रूप से दक्षिण पूर्व एशियाई राष्ट्रों के संगठन (आसियान) का 11वां सदस्य बन गया है?

- (a) Papua New Guinea
- (b) Timor-Leste
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Fiji
- (e) Maldives

Ans. b

Sol. Timor-Leste Joins ASEAN as 11th Member at 47th Summit in Kuala Lumpur
 Timor-Leste officially became the 11th member of ASEAN during the 47th ASEAN Summit held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, marking the bloc's first expansion since 1999. The inclusion was confirmed through a formal signing ceremony attended by Prime Minister Xanana Gusmão and ASEAN leaders, symbolizing the nation's entry into the regional alliance.

ASEAN, established in 1967 in Bangkok, originally had five founding members — Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand — and now focuses on the theme "Inclusivity and Sustainability" under Malaysia's 2025 chairmanship.

About ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)

- **Formation-** 8 August 1967
- **Headquarters-** Jakarta, Indonesia
- **Member Countries-** 11 (after inclusion of Timor-Leste in 2025)
- **Objective-** To promote regional peace, stability, and economic growth.
 - To foster cooperation and cultural development among Southeast Asian nations.
 - To act as a collective economic and political voice on the global stage.
- **Founding Members-** Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand
- Formed through the Bangkok Declaration (1967).
- **Motto-** "One Vision, One Identity, One Community."
- ASEAN Secretariat is headed by the Secretary-General (5-year term).
- India participates in the East Asia Summit (EAS), an ASEAN-led forum.

277. Reliance Industries and Meta have formed a joint venture worth how much to develop enterprise AI products in India?

रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज और मेटा ने भारत में एंटरप्राइज एआई प्रोडक्ट विकसित करने के लिए कितने मूल्य का संयुक्त उपक्रम बनाया है?

- (a) ₹555 crore
- (b) ₹750 crore
- (c) ₹855 crore
- (d) ₹950 crore
- (e) ₹1000 crore

Ans. c

Sol. Reliance and Meta launch ₹855-crore joint venture to develop enterprise AI products in India

Reliance Industries and Meta have announced a new ₹855-crore joint venture focused on developing enterprise-grade AI products in India.

The collaboration aims to create AI solutions tailored for Indian businesses, enhancing automation, analytics, and digital operations.

This partnership leverages Reliance's digital infrastructure and Meta's AI and cloud technologies to accelerate AI adoption across industries.

The venture aligns with India's vision of becoming a global AI innovation hub, fostering job creation and technological advancement.

278. New York-based private equity firm Blackstone has announced a major investment in India's private banking sector. Through its affiliate Asia II Topco XIII Pte Ltd, the firm will acquire a significant stake in Federal Bank via a preferential issue on a private placement basis. What is the total value of this proposed investment?

न्यूयॉर्क स्थित प्राइवेट इक्विटी फर्म ब्लैकस्टोन ने भारत के निजी बैंकिंग क्षेत्र में एक बड़ा निवेश करने की घोषणा की है। अपनी सहयोगी कंपनी एशिया II टॉपको XIII प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के माध्यम से, यह फर्म फेडरल बैंक में प्राइवेट प्लेसमेंट के जरिए प्रेफरेंशियल इश्यू के तहत हिस्सेदारी खरीदेगी। इस प्रस्तावित निवेश की कुल राशि कितनी है?

- (a) ₹5,500 crore
- (b) ₹6,196 crore
- (c) ₹7,005 crore
- (d) ₹4,800 crore
- (e) ₹6,590 crore

Ans. b

Sol. Blackstone to invest ₹6,196 crore in Federal Bank

Blackstone, through its affiliate Asia II Topco XIII Pte Ltd, will invest ₹6,196.51 crore in Federal Bank via a preferential issue on a private placement basis, making it the largest shareholder.

The bank will issue 272.97 million warrants, each convertible into one equity share at ₹227 per share, which will give Blackstone a 9.99% stake post-conversion, subject to approval.

Blackstone will initially pay 25% of the issue price, with the remaining 75% payable upon conversion, and will gain the right to nominate one non-executive director if it maintains at least a 5% stake.

279. **Punjab National Bank (PNB) recently divested 10% of its stake in which insurance company through an Offer for Sale (OFS)?**

पंजाब नेशनल बैंक (PNB) ने हाल ही में ऑफर फॉर सेल (OFS) के माध्यम से किस बीमा कंपनी में अपनी 10% हिस्सेदारी बेची है?

- (a) HDFC Life Insurance
- (b) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
- (c) Canara HSBC Life Insurance
- (d) SBI Life Insurance
- (e) Max Life Insurance

Ans. c

Sol. PNB sells 10% stake in Canara HSBC Life Insurance for ₹1,007 crore

Punjab National Bank (PNB) has divested 10% of its stake in Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Ltd, reducing its shareholding from 23% to 13%, through an Offer for Sale (OFS) during the insurer's IPO.

The sale generated approximately ₹1,007 crore for PNB from the sale of 9.5 crore shares at ₹106 per share, with buyers being public investors, not related parties.

This divestment is part of PNB's capital optimization strategy, aimed at unlocking value in non-core assets while retaining a strategic presence in financial services; the bank recently reported a 14% YoY profit rise to ₹4,904 crore for the September quarter.

280. **Which three major aerospace and defense companies have announced a joint venture to create a leading European space entity?**

कौन सी तीन प्रमुख एयरोस्पेस और डिफेंस कंपनियों ने एक अग्रणी यूरोपीय अंतरिक्ष इकाई बनाने के लिए संयुक्त उपक्रम की घोषणा की है?

- (a) Airbus, Boeing, and Lockheed Martin
- (b) Airbus, Leonardo, and Thales
- (c) Thales, SpaceX, and Eutelsat
- (d) Leonardo, Safran, and OneWeb
- (e) Boeing, Thales, and Dassault

Ans. b

Sol. Airbus, Leonardo, and Thales unite to create a leading European space company
Airbus, Leonardo, and Thales have announced a major joint venture to merge their satellite and space operations, aiming to build a "leading European player in space" and offer a homegrown alternative to Elon Musk's Starlink.

The new entity will combine complementary technologies and employ around 25,000 people across Europe, with Airbus holding a 35% stake and Leonardo and Thales owning 32.5% each; space launcher development will not be part of its operations.

281. **The BlueBird-6 satellite mission, one of the heaviest commercial satellite projects handled by ISRO, is designed to provide direct-to-device mobile broadband connectivity to regions with poor terrestrial networks. The mission is being led by which Texas-based telecommunications company that aims to bridge the global digital divide through satellite technology?**

ब्लूबर्ड-6 उपग्रह मिशन, जो ISRO द्वारा संचालित सबसे भारी वाणिज्यिक उपग्रह परियोजनाओं में से एक है, का उद्देश्य उन क्षेत्रों में डिवाइस-से-डिवाइस मोबाइल ब्रॉडबैंड कनेक्टिविटी प्रदान करना है जहाँ स्थलीय नेटवर्क कमजोर हैं। यह मिशन किस टेक्सास-आधारित दूरसंचार कंपनी द्वारा संचालित किया जा रहा है, जो उपग्रह तकनीक के माध्यम से वैश्विक डिजिटल अंतर को कम करने का लक्ष्य रखती है?

- (a) SpaceX
- (b) OneWeb
- (c) AST SpaceMobile
- (d) Eutelsat Communications
- (e) Hughes Network Systems

Ans. c

Sol. ISRO to launch 6.5-tonne BlueBird-6 satellite for AST SpaceMobile on LVM3 rocket
BlueBird-6, one of the heaviest commercial satellites weighing 6.5 tonnes, arrived in India from the US on October 19, to be launched by ISRO from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre using its LVM3 rocket.

The mission, led by AST SpaceMobile, aims to provide direct-to-device mobile broadband connectivity, helping bridge the digital divide in areas with limited terrestrial networks.

The satellite was flown to Chennai aboard the world's largest cargo aircraft, the Antonov, and transported by road to Sriharikota for integration, fuelling, and pre-launch checks.

The launch, handled by NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), marks a significant milestone in ISRO's commercial operations, with future satellites BlueBird-7 to BlueBird-16 planned for launch between 2025 and 2026.

282. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) reported that Cyclone Montha is expected to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm by October 28, bringing heavy rainfall across Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala. The name 'Montha', meaning "beautiful or fragrant flower", was contributed by which country?

भारतीय मौसम विज्ञान विभाग (IMD) ने बताया है कि चक्रवात मोन्था के 28 अक्टूबर तक एक भीषण चक्रवाती तूफान में तब्दील होने की आशंका है, जिससे आंध्र प्रदेश, ओडिशा, तमिलनाडु और केरल में भारी बारिश होगी। 'मोन्था' नाम, जिसका अर्थ है "सुंदर या सुगंधित फूल", किस देश से आया है?

- (a) India
- (b) Thailand
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Qatar
- (e) Oman

Ans. b

Sol. Cyclone Montha likely to intensify into a severe storm

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) reported that Cyclone Montha is expected to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm by October 28, bringing heavy rainfall across Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala.

The name 'Montha', meaning a beautiful or fragrant flower, was contributed by Thailand, and names are selected from a rotating list of neutral, non-political, and culturally sensitive names given by 13 member countries under the WMO/ESCAP Panel.

IMD, one of the six Regional Specialised Meteorological Centres (RSMCs) worldwide, provides cyclone and storm surge advisories to 13 countries including India, Bangladesh, Oman, and UAE. The next cyclones after Montha will be named Senyar (UAE), Ditwah (Yemen), Arnab (Bangladesh), and Murasu (India).

283. Which two advanced Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) were recently launched by the Indian Coast Guard at Goa Shipyard Limited to strengthen India's maritime security and surveillance network?

भारत की समुद्री सुरक्षा और निगरानी नेटवर्क को मज़बूत करने के लिए भारतीय तटरक्षक बल ने हाल ही में गोवा शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड में कौन से दो उन्नत तीव्र गश्ती पोत (FPV) लॉन्च किए हैं?

- (a) ICGS Vikram and ICGS Veer
- (b) ICGS Ajit and ICGS Aparajit
- (c) ICGS Sujeet and ICGS Sajag
- (d) ICGS Amrit and ICGS Arjun
- (e) ICGS Shourya and ICGS Samrat

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Coast Guard Launches Advanced Fast Patrol Vessels ICGS Ajit and ICGS Aparajit, Boosting Maritime Security

Indian Coast Guard (ICG) launched two advanced Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs), ICGS Ajit and ICGS Aparajit, at Goa Shipyard Limited, enhancing India's maritime security capabilities.

These vessels are the seventh and eighth in a series of eight indigenously built FPVs, highlighting India's growing self-reliance in defence shipbuilding.

Designed entirely by GSL, the 52-metre-long vessels displace 320 tonnes and feature Controllable Pitch Propellers (CPP), offering superior manoeuvrability and propulsion efficiency.

The FPVs are multi-mission capable, intended for fisheries protection, coastal patrol, anti-smuggling, anti-piracy, and search and rescue operations, particularly around India's island territories and Exclusive Economic Zone.

284. Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Ireland?

किसे भारत का अगले आयरलैंड का राजदूत नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Taranjit Singh Sandhu
- (b) Manish Gupta
- (c) Vinay Mohan Kwatra
- (d) Riva Ganguly Das
- (e) Harsh Vardhan Shringla

Ans. b

Sol. Manish Gupta Appointed as India's Next Ambassador to Ireland, Strengthening Bilateral Ties

Manish Gupta, currently serving as India's High Commissioner to Ghana, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Ireland and is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

India-Ireland relations have deep historical roots, with formal diplomatic ties established in 1947 and India opening its Embassy in Dublin in 1951; a significant Indian community of around 80,000 people resides in Ireland, contributing to healthcare, IT, engineering, and management sectors.

About Ireland

- Capital - Dublin
- Currency - Euro
- Continent - Europe
- President - Catherine Connolly
- Prime Minister - Micheál Martin

285. Who has been selected as a torch-bearer for the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics?

मिलानो कोर्टिना 2026 विंटर ओलंपिक्स के लिए मशाल वाहक के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Neeraj Chopra
- (b) P. V. Sindhu
- (c) Abhinav Bindra
- (d) Parul Tyagi
- (e) Saina Nehwal

Ans. c

Sol. Olympic Gold Medallist Abhinav Bindra Chosen as Torch-Bearer for Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics

Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra has been selected as a torch-bearer for the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics, scheduled from February 6–22, 2026, in Italy. Bindra, who won gold in the 10m air rifle event at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, expressed his honour and excitement on social media, highlighting the Olympic flame as a symbol of dreams, perseverance, and unity.

The Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Games will be the fourth Winter Olympics hosted by Italy, featuring 116 medal events across 16 disciplines, which is an increase from Beijing 2022.

286. Yogendra Makwana, who passed away at the age of 92, was primarily associated with which field?

92 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हुए योगेंद्र मकवाना मुख्य रूप से किस क्षेत्र से जुड़े थे?

- (a) Literature
- (b) Politics
- (c) Sports
- (d) Science

(e) Arts

Ans. b

Sol. Former Union Minister Yogendra Makwana Passes Away at 92

Former Union Minister and Congress leader Yogendra Makwana passed away in Ahmedabad at the age of 92 due to age-related issues.

Makwana served in the Rajya Sabha from 1973 to 1989 and held key positions in the Union cabinet under Prime Ministers Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, managing portfolios like Home Affairs, Planning, Communications, Steel and Mines, Health, and Agriculture.

A champion for Scheduled Castes and marginalized communities, he was appointed chairman of the AICC Scheduled Caste Department in 2006, promoting welfare initiatives such as the Social Component Plan.

287. India improved its global forest area rank to 9th position in the Global Forest Resource Assessment (GFRA) 2025 by the United Nations, up from 10th earlier, while retaining the 3rd position in annual net forest gain. The Global Forest Resource Assessment (GFRA), released every five years, provides detailed data on global forest cover, deforestation trends, and ecosystem health. Which United Nations agency is responsible for publishing this comprehensive report?

भारत ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र की ग्लोबल फॉरेस्ट रिसोर्स असेसमेंट (GFRA) 2025 रिपोर्ट में अपना वैश्विक वन क्षेत्र रैंक 10वें से सुधारकर 9वां स्थान प्राप्त किया है और वार्षिक शुद्ध वन वृद्धि में तीसरा स्थान बनाए रखा है। यह रिपोर्ट हर पाँच वर्ष में जारी की जाती है और इसमें वैश्विक वन क्षेत्र, वनों की कटाई की प्रवृत्तियों तथा पारिस्थितिक तंत्र के स्वास्थ्य का विस्तृत विवरण होता है। यह व्यापक रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित करने की जिम्मेदारी किस संयुक्त राष्ट्र एजेंसी की है?

(a) UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme

(b) FAO – Food and Agriculture Organisation

(c) UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

(d) WHO – World Health Organization

(e) WMO – World Meteorological Organization

Ans. b

Sol. India rises to 9th rank globally in forest area, maintains 3rd position in annual forest gain: FAO report

India improved its global forest area rank to 9th position in the 2025 Global Forest Resource Assessment (GFRA) by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), up from 10th earlier, while retaining the 3rd spot in annual net forest gain.

The GFRA 2025, released in Bali, found that global deforestation, though slowed, still occurs at an alarming rate of 10.9 million hectares per year, with fire, insects, and weather damaging millions of hectares annually.

India's forest cover stands at 72.7 million hectares (about 2% of the world's total), with Asia being the only region to record an increase in forest area between 1990 and 2025—mainly due to gains in China and India.

According to India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023, the country's forest cover stands at 71.5 million hectares. Globally, Russia has the highest forest cover (832.6 million

hectares) followed by Brazil (486 million hectares), Canada (368.8 million hectares), the USA (308.8 million hectares), China (227 million hectares), Congo (139 million hectares), Australia (133.5 million hectares), Indonesia (96 million hectares), India (72.7 million hectares) and Peru (67 million hectares).

288. Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary, the only wildlife sanctuary in India dedicated entirely to the Indian grey wolf — a smaller and more elusive species adapted to dry grasslands and open forests — is located in which state of India?

महुआदानर वुल्फ अभयारण्य, भारत का एकमात्र वन्यजीव अभयारण्य जो पूरी तरह से भारतीय ग्रे वुल्फ को समर्पित है - जो सूखी घासभूमियों और खुले वनों में रहने के लिए अनुकूलित एक छोटी और दुर्लभ प्रजाति है — भारत के किस राज्य में स्थित है?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Chhattisgarh
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Odisha
- (e) Bihar

Ans. c

Sol. Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary: India's Only Haven Dedicated to the Elusive Indian Grey Wolf

Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary in Jharkhand's Latehar district is India's only wildlife sanctuary dedicated to the Indian grey wolf, a smaller and more elusive species adapted to dry grasslands and open forests.

The sanctuary offers a raw, untouched wildlife experience, best visited between October and June, with peak wolf activity during the breeding season (November–February); nearby attractions include Netarhat hill station, Lodh Falls, and Betla National Park.

Local tribal communities play a crucial role in conservation through traditional practices like avoiding forest entry during denning season and revering Sal trees, creating natural safe zones that help wolves thrive.

About Jharkhand

- **Capital** – Ranchi
- **Chief Minister** – Hemant Soren
- **Governor** - Santosh Kumar Gangwar

289. Where is the Taal Volcano, which recently witnessed minor eruptions, located?

हाल ही में छोटे विस्फोटों का अनुभव करने वाला टाल ज्वालामुखी कहाँ स्थित है?

- (a) Indonesia
- (b) Japan
- (c) Philippines
- (d) Papua New Guinea
- (e) Malaysia

Ans. c

Sol. Taal Volcano in the Philippines Spews Ash in Minor Eruptions; Alert Level Remains Low

Taal Volcano in the Philippines experienced four minor eruptions, producing steam-driven (phreatic) and steam-and-magma (phreatomagmatic) blasts with ash plumes rising up to 2,100 meters, as reported by PHIVOLCS.

Located in Batangas province, about 60 km south of Manila, Taal Volcano sits within a large caldera and is known for its complex, unpredictable, and explosive eruptions, the last major one occurring in 2020.

290. Infantry Day 2025 was celebrated by the Indian Army with solemn tributes at the National War Memorial in New Delhi, marking 79 years of the Infantry's unparalleled courage, sacrifice, and service to the nation. What historical event does Infantry Day commemorate?

भारतीय सेना द्वारा नई दिल्ली में राष्ट्रीय युद्ध स्मारक पर श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करते हुए इन्फैंट्री दिवस 2025 मनाया गया, जो इन्फैंट्री के अद्वितीय साहस, बलिदान और राष्ट्र के प्रति सेवा के 79 वर्ष पूरे होने का प्रतीक है। इन्फैंट्री दिवस किस ऐतिहासिक घटना की याद दिलाता है?

- (a) Kargil War victory
- (b) Independence of India
- (c) Indian troops' landing in Srinagar in 1947
- (d) Bangladesh Liberation
- (e) Operation Vijay

Ans. c

Sol. Indian Army Celebrates 79th Infantry Day Honouring the Courage and Sacrifice of Its Brave Soldiers Across the Nation

Infantry Day 2025 was celebrated by the Indian Army with solemn tributes at the National War Memorial in New Delhi, marking 79 years of the Infantry's unparalleled courage, sacrifice, and service to the nation.

Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi led the wreath-laying ceremony at the Amar Chakra to honour the brave Infantry soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

Infantry Day, observed annually on October 27, commemorates the historic 1947 landing of Indian Infantry troops at Srinagar Airport, a decisive move that defended Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistan-backed tribal invaders. The day highlights the Infantry's steadfast commitment to India's sovereignty and unity, celebrated nationwide with seminars, marathons, felicitation ceremonies, and the release of the "Infantry Magazine."

291. Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah inaugurated the 'Deep Sea Fishing Vessels' project under which flagship government scheme aimed at transforming India's fisheries sector and improving fishermen's incomes?

केंद्रीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री अमित शाह ने 'डीप सी फिशिंग वेसल्स' परियोजना का शुभारंभ किस प्रमुख सरकारी योजना के तहत किया, जिसका उद्देश्य भारत के मत्स्य क्षेत्र को विकसित करना और मछुआरों की आय में सुधार लाना है?

- (a) Blue Revolution Mission

- (b) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
- (c) Sagarmala Project
- (d) Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan
- (e) Coastal Livelihood Development Mission

Ans. b

Sol. Amit Shah Launches Deep-Sea Fishing Project; 200 Trawlers to Boost Coastal Fishermen

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated 'Deep Sea Fishing Vessels' under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) at Mazgaon Dock, Mumbai, in the presence of Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis, DCMs Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar, and MoS Murlidhar Mohol.

As part of this project, 200 trawlers will be provided to fishermen in three coastal states, with the first 14 trawlers launched under the cooperative-based fishing model to ensure that profits directly reach fishermen's households instead of salaried intermediaries.

Each deep-sea trawler can stay in the sea for up to 25 days and carry up to 20 tons of fish, with additional support ships planned for coordination and fish transport from the sea to the shore.

292. **Under which framework did the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) release ₹55 lakh to Red Sanders farmers in Tamil Nadu?**

राष्ट्रीय जैव विविधता प्राधिकरण (NBA) ने तमिलनाडु के रेड सैंडर्स किसानों को ₹55 लाख किस ढांचे के तहत जारी किए?

- (a) National Afforestation Programme
- (b) Access and Benefit Sharing Framework
- (c) Green India Mission
- (d) Sustainable Forest Management Scheme
- (e) National Agroforestry Policy

Ans. b

Sol. NBA Releases ₹55 Lakh to Tamil Nadu Farmers for Red Sanders Cultivation Under Landmark Biodiversity Benefit-Sharing Initiative

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has released ₹55 lakh to 18 farmers and cultivators of Red Sanders in Tiruvallur district, Tamil Nadu, under the Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) framework—marking India's first-ever farmer benefit-sharing initiative for biodiversity conservation.

This step follows the NBA's earlier ₹48 crore ABS release to forest departments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, and aligns with the 2015 Expert Committee recommendations and the 2019 DGFT policy relaxation that allowed export of cultivated Red Sanders.

The initiative promotes farm-based conservation and sustainable trade of Red Sanders, an endemic and valuable species of the Eastern Ghats, ensuring community participation, fair compensation, and reduced pressure on wild populations through legally cultivated sources.

293. **The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched a new toll-free helpline number for POSHAN and PMMVY. What is the new helpline number?**

महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय ने पोषण और प्रधानमंत्री मातृ वंदना योजना (PMMVY) के लिए नया टोल-फ्री हेल्पलाइन नंबर शुरू किया है। वह नया नंबर क्या है?

- (a) 1440
- (b) 1098
- (c) 1515
- (d) 1551
- (e) 0112

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Women and Child Development Launches New Helpline Number 1515 for POSHAN and PMMVY from November 1, 2025

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has announced a new toll-free helpline number 1515 for POSHAN and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), effective from 1st November 2025, replacing the existing number 14408.

The change aims to make the helpline easier to remember and improve accessibility for beneficiaries seeking assistance under both nutrition and maternity benefit schemes.

During the transition phase, callers facing connectivity issues with the new number 1515 can continue to use the old number 14408 until full integration is completed.

294. **The Reserve Bank of India has recently placed which fund under the “specified exemption category” to encourage investments by regulated entities?**

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक (RBI) ने हाल ही में किस फंड को “निर्दिष्ट छूट श्रेणी” (Specified Exemption Category) में रखा है ताकि विनियमित संस्थाओं को निवेश के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जा सके?

- (a) NIIF Fund
- (b) SWAMIH Investment Fund-I
- (c) Bharat Housing Fund
- (d) PM Awas Development Fund
- (e) NAREDCO Housing Revival Fund

Ans. b

Sol. RBI Grants Specified Exemption to SWAMIH Investment Fund-I, Enabling Greater Bank Participation in Housing Project Revival

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has placed the SWAMIH Investment Fund-I under the “specified exemption category”, allowing regulated entities (REs) such as banks to invest in it without being subject to investment and provisioning limits under the RBI (Investment in AIF) Directions, 2025.

The move is aimed at encouraging greater participation from regulated financial institutions in the fund, thereby boosting liquidity and ensuring completion of stalled housing projects across India.

The SWAMIH Fund-I, launched in November 2019, has raised ₹15,530 crore and approved over ₹12,000 crore in sanctions for around 130 projects, making it India's largest social impact fund in affordable and mid-income housing.

The recently launched SWAMIH Fund-II, with a corpus of ₹15,000 crore, is a blended finance facility involving government, banks, and private investors, targeting the completion of an additional 1 lakh stalled housing units.

295. **Project Arunank of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) recently celebrated its __ Raising Day.**

सीमा सड़क संगठन (बीआरओ) की परियोजना अरुणांक ने हाल ही में अपना __ स्थापना दिवस मनाया।

- (a) 15th
- (b) 16th
- (c) 17th
- (d) 18th
- (e) 20th

Ans. d

Sol. BRO's Project Arunank Marks 18th Raising Day, Strengthening Border Connectivity in Arunachal Pradesh

Project Arunank, a key initiative of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), celebrated its 18th Raising Day at Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh on October 24, 2025, marking 17 years of service in tough Himalayan terrains.

Since its inception in 2008, the project has constructed and maintained over 696 km of roads and 1.18 km of major bridges, strengthening connectivity to remote valleys and aiding Armed Forces operations in border areas.

A major achievement of Project Arunank includes the 278 km Hapoli-Sarli-Huri Road, blacktopped for the first time since Independence, significantly improving access to the Kurung Kumey district in Arunachal Pradesh.

296. **The Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) has signed an MoU with which institution for collaboration on advanced telecom technologies?**

टेलीकम्युनिकेशन इंजीनियरिंग सेंटर (TEC) ने उन्नत दूरसंचार प्रौद्योगिकियों पर सहयोग के लिए किस संस्थान के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) IIT Bombay
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Hyderabad
- (d) IIT Kanpur
- (e) IISc Bengaluru

Ans. c

Sol. TEC and IIT Hyderabad Join Hands to Advance Research in 6G, AI, and Next-Gen Telecom Technologies

The Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), signed an MoU with IIT Hyderabad to strengthen collaboration in advanced telecom technologies.

The partnership will focus on joint studies, research, and technical contributions in areas like 6G, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs).

The MoU aims to develop India-specific standards, create test frameworks, and enhance India's participation in global standardization activities, especially ITU-T Study Groups.

Recent MoU

- *DPIIT signs MoUs with Primus Partners and Kotak Mahindra Bank to strengthen India's startup and innovation ecosystem*
- *Coal India & IIT Madras Join Hands to Establish Centre for Sustainable Energy*
- *Ministry of Social Justice Signs MoUs with Three Universities to Establish New Dr Ambedkar Chairs*
- *Indian Railways to Collaborate with MapmyIndia's Mappls App to Boost Swadeshi Digital Infrastructure*
- *Goodluck India Signs Tripartite MoU for DRDO's AMCA Programme*

297. **Which Indian Union Territory has revived the historic 150-year-old “Darbar Move” tradition of shifting its capital biannually?**

किस भारतीय केंद्रशासित प्रदेश ने अपनी राजधानी को वर्ष में दो बार बदलने की 150 साल पुरानी “दरबार मूव” परंपरा को फिर से शुरू किया है?

- (a) Ladakh
- (b) Jammu & Kashmir
- (c) Puducherry
- (d) Delhi
- (e) Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Ans. b

Sol. Jammu & Kashmir Revives 150-Year-Old ‘Darbar Move’ Tradition, Restoring Biannual Capital Shift Between Srinagar and Jammu

Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah announced the revival of the 150-year-old “Darbar Move” tradition, which involves shifting the Union Territory's capital between Srinagar (summer) and Jammu (winter).

The practice, started by Maharaja Gulab Singh in 1872, was scrapped in 2021 by Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha as a cost-cutting measure, estimated to save about ₹200 crore annually.

The Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industries and local traders had long demanded the restoration of the move, citing economic losses and the decline of local livelihoods after its suspension.

298. **Indian-origin historian Sunil Amrith won the 2025 British Academy Book Prize for his book, earning a £25,000 award for his outstanding non-fiction work. What is the title of the book for which Sunil Amrith received the 2025 British Academy Book Prize?**

भारतीय मूल के इतिहासकार सुनील अमृत ने अपनी पुस्तक के लिए 2025 ब्रिटिश अकादमी पुस्तक पुरस्कार जीता, और अपने उत्कृष्ट गैर-काल्पनिक काम के लिए £25,000 का पुरस्कार अर्जित किया। उस पुस्तक का शीर्षक क्या है जिसके लिए सुनील अमृत को 2025 ब्रिटिश अकादमी पुस्तक पुरस्कार मिला?

- (a) The Great Derangement

- (b) The Burning Earth
- (c) The Climate of History
- (d) Oceans of Prosperity
- (e) The Last Empire

Ans. b

Sol. Indian-Origin Historian Sunil Amrith Wins 2025 British Academy Book Prize for 'The Burning Earth'

Indian-origin historian Sunil Amrith won the 2025 British Academy Book Prize for his book "The Burning Earth: An Environmental History of the Last 500 Years", earning a £25,000 award for his outstanding non-fiction work.

Currently a Professor of History at Yale University (U.S.), Amrith was born in Kenya, raised in Singapore, and educated at the University of Cambridge.

The British Academy Book Prize, established in 2013, honours the world's best non-fiction works in humanities and social sciences, with shortlisted authors also receiving £1,000 each.

Recent Awards

- **World's Best Consumer Bank 2025 by Global Finance** - State Bank of India (SBI)
- **Best Bank in India 2025 by Global Finance** - State Bank of India (SBI)
- **HR Excellence Award at Fortune Leadership Awards 2025** - Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (for Outstanding People-Centric Reforms and Innovation)
- **IUCN's Kenton R. Miller Award** - Director of Kaziranga National Park Sonali Ghosh (for Innovation in National Parks)
- **Mrs Universe 2025** - Sherry Singh; 1st Runner-up – Saint Petersburg

299. **Thailand's former Queen Sirikit, who recently passed away, was the mother of which current Thai monarch?**

थाईलैंड की पूर्व रानी सिरिकित, जिनका हाल ही में निधन हुआ, वर्तमान थाई सम्राट की माता थीं। वह कौन हैं?

- (a) King Bhumibol Adulyadej
- (b) King Vajiralongkorn
- (c) King Mahendra Varma
- (d) King Ananda Mahidol
- (e) King Rama IV

Ans. b

Sol. Thailand's Former Queen Sirikit Passes Away at 93

Thailand's former Queen Sirikit, mother of King Vajiralongkorn, passed away at the age of 93, marking the end of an era for the Thai monarchy.

Married to King Bhumibol Adulyadej, Thailand's longest-reigning monarch, she was admired globally as a style icon and served as a symbol of grace and devotion to the Thai people.

Her birthday, 12 August, has been celebrated as Mother's Day in Thailand since 1976, reflecting her revered status as a maternal figure of the nation.

300. Who has been appointed as the first-ever female Archbishop of Canterbury, succeeding Justin Welby?

जस्टिन वेल्बी के बाद पहली महिला आर्कबिशप ऑफ कैंटरबरी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Dame Sarah Mullally
- (b) Mary Davidson
- (c) Elizabeth Brown
- (d) Angela Martin
- (e) Helen Thompson

Ans. a

Sol. Dame Sarah Mullally Appointed as First Female Archbishop of Canterbury
Dame Sarah Mullally, the Bishop of London, has been appointed as the first-ever female Archbishop of Canterbury, succeeding Justin Welby, who resigned following a safeguarding scandal.

Aged 63, Mullally previously served as Chief Nursing Officer for England, and will officially assume the post in January at Canterbury Cathedral, followed by a formal enthronement ceremony attended by members of the royal family.

Her appointment marks a historic moment for the Church of England, being the first selection since women were allowed to become bishops in 2014.

301. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has withdrawn its 2016 circular that capped total banking system lending to a single large corporate borrower, aiming to reduce concentration risk. Under the RBI's Large Exposure Framework (LEF), what is the maximum exposure a bank can have to a single borrower or a group of connected borrowers, respectively?

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक (RBI) ने अपने 2016 के परिपत्र को वापस ले लिया है, जिसमें एकाग्रता जोखिम को कम करने के उद्देश्य से एक बड़े कॉर्पोरेट उधारकर्ता को कुल बैंकिंग प्रणाली ऋण देने की सीमा तय की गई थी। आरबीआई के बड़े एक्सपोज़र फ्रेमवर्क (एलईएफ) के तहत, एक बैंक एक उधारकर्ता या जुड़े उधारकर्ताओं के समूह के लिए क्रमशः कितना अधिकतम एक्सपोज़र रख सकता है?

- (a) 15% and 20%
- (b) 20% and 25%
- (c) 25% and 30%
- (d) 10% and 15%
- (e) 30% and 35%

Ans. b

Sol. RBI Withdraws 2016 Circular on Lending Cap to Large Corporates, Retains Large Exposure Framework

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has withdrawn its 2016 circular that capped total banking system lending to a single large corporate borrower, aiming to reduce concentration risk.

The large exposure framework (LEF) will remain in place, limiting a bank's exposure to 20% for a single borrower and 25% for a corporate group of its Tier 1 capital.

The withdrawn circular had earlier reduced the lending threshold from ₹25,000 crore (FY18) → ₹15,000 crore (FY19) → ₹10,000 crore (FY20).

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra stated that the move follows a 10% decline in corporate share of total banking exposure, indicating lower systemic risk and does not signify any relaxation of financial stability norms.

302. Satish Shah, who recently passed away, was best known for his role in which popular TV sitcom?

सतीश शाह, जिनका हाल ही में निधन हुआ, किस प्रसिद्ध टीवी सिटकॉम में अपनी भूमिका के लिए जाने जाते थे?

- (a) Office Office
- (b) Dekh Bhai Dekh
- (c) Sarabhai vs Sarabhai
- (d) Nukkad
- (e) Hum Paanch

Ans. c

Sol. Veteran Actor Satish Shah Passes Away at 74

Veteran actor Satish Shah, best known for his iconic role as Indravadan Sarabhai in Sarabhai vs Sarabhai, passed away at the age of 74 in Mumbai due to kidney failure. His illustrious career spanned across films like Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro (1983), Kal Ho Naa Ho (2003), Main Hoon Na (2004), and Om Shanti Om (2007), along with popular TV shows like Yeh Jo Hai Zindagi and Ghar Jamai.

Besides acting, he co-judged "Comedy Circus" in 2008 and was appointed to the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) society in 2015.

303. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched HaRBInger 2025 – Innovation for Transformation, its fourth global hackathon, to promote secure, inclusive, and identity-driven banking innovations using emerging technologies. What is the theme of HaRBInger 2025?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों का उपयोग करके सुरक्षित, समावेशी और पहचान-संचालित बैंकिंग नवाचारों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अपना चौथा वैश्विक हैकथॉन, HaRBInger 2025 - इनोवेशन फॉर ट्रांसफॉर्मेशन लॉन्च किया। HaRBInger 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Digital India: Smart Banking for All
- (b) Fintech Revolution: Innovation for Growth
- (c) Secure Banking: Powered by Identity, Integrity, and Inclusivity
- (d) Innovation in Payments and Compliance
- (e) Next-Gen Banking: Automation and AI

Ans. c

Sol. RBI Launches HaRBInger 2025 Global Hackathon to Foster Secure and Inclusive Banking Innovations

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched HaRBInger 2025 – Innovation for Transformation, its fourth global hackathon, to promote secure, inclusive, and identity-driven banking innovations using emerging technologies.

The theme for HaRBInger 2025 is “Secure Banking: Powered by Identity, Integrity, and Inclusivity,” focusing on protecting customer identity, fostering trust, and ensuring inclusive access to financial systems.

Participants will develop solutions for three key problem areas — Tokenized KYC, Offline CBDC, and Enhancing Trust in Digital Financial Services — addressing major challenges in digital banking and security.

Registrations began on 23 October 2025, inviting individuals, startups, fintechs, and institutions globally, with entries evaluated on innovation, feasibility, and user-centric design.

304. **When is International Animation Day celebrated every year?**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एनीमेशन दिवस हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?

- (a) October 20
- (b) October 25
- (c) October 28
- (d) October 30
- (e) November 1

Ans. c

Sol. 28 October - International Animation Day

International Animation Day is celebrated every year on October 28, marking the first public performance of animated films by French artist Émile Reynaud in 1892 at the Musée Grévin in Paris.

The day was proclaimed in 2002 by the International Animated Film Association (ASIFA) to honor the history, creativity, and evolution of animation as an art form. Various film screenings, workshops, and exhibitions are organized worldwide to recognize the contribution of animators and promote appreciation for animated films and visual storytelling.

305. **India's UPI has introduced a groundbreaking feature called 'Pay with Mutual Fund', allowing users to make real-time payments directly from their liquid mutual fund holdings — a global first in retail fintech innovation. Which type of mutual fund is used for the 'Pay with Mutual Fund' feature?**

भारत के यूपीआई ने 'पे विद म्यूचुअल फंड' नामक एक अभूतपूर्व सुविधा शुरू की है, जिससे उपयोगकर्ता अपने लिक्विड म्यूचुअल फंड होल्डिंग्स से सीधे रीयल-टाइम भुगतान कर सकते हैं - जो खुदरा फिनटेक नवाचार में दुनिया का पहला कदम है। 'पे विद म्यूचुअल फंड' सुविधा के लिए किस प्रकार के म्यूचुअल फंड का उपयोग किया जाता है?

- (a) Equity Mutual Fund
- (b) Hybrid Mutual Fund
- (c) Liquid Mutual Fund
- (d) Index Fund

(e) Debt Mutual Fund

Ans. c

Sol. UPI Launches 'Pay with Mutual Fund' Feature, Enabling Real-Time Payments Directly from Investments — A Global First in Fintech

India's UPI has introduced a groundbreaking feature called 'Pay with Mutual Fund', allowing users to make real-time payments directly from their liquid mutual fund holdings — a global first in retail fintech innovation.

The feature is backed by ICICI Prudential AMC, Bajaj Finserv AMC, and fintech startup Curie Money, enabling investors to use their liquid mutual fund units like a digital wallet for instant transactions.

When a UPI payment is made, the equivalent amount is automatically redeemed from the user's liquid mutual fund, providing seamless and instant fund transfer without routing money through a bank account.

Liquid mutual funds, known for their low risk, high liquidity, and stable returns (around 6–7%), are ideal for this feature, combining investment growth with instant payment convenience.

The innovation offers instant liquidity, better returns than savings accounts, and simplified digital transactions, positioning India as the first country to enable direct mutual fund-based payments through UPI.

306. **Which West Bengal-based NBFC-MFI recently withdrew its application for a Small Finance Bank (SFB) licence despite a strong financial performance in FY25?**

किस पश्चिम बंगाल स्थित NBFC-MFI ने FY25 में मजबूत प्रदर्शन के बावजूद स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक (SFB) लाइसेंस के लिए अपना आवेदन वापस ले लिया है?

- (a) Bandhan Financial Services
- (b) Arohan Financial Services
- (c) VFS Capital Limited
- (d) Satin Creditcare Network Ltd
- (e) Annapurna Finance Pvt Ltd

Ans. c

Sol. VFS Capital Withdraws Application for Small Finance Bank Licence, Despite Strong FY25 Performance

VFS Capital Limited, a West Bengal-based NBFC-MFI, has withdrawn its application for a Small Finance Bank (SFB) licence, which it had submitted under the RBI's "on tap" licensing guidelines for private sector SFBs.

Incorporated in 1994, VFS Capital—formerly Village Financial Services Pvt Ltd—focuses on providing microfinance loans to rural women through the Joint Liability Group (JLG) model, with complete digital loan disbursement.

The company's promoters, Ajit Kumar Maity (Chairman) and Kuldeep Maity (MD & CEO), hold 92.74% of the shareholding, while IDFC First Bank owns 7.03% as of December 2023.

307. **Which two organizations have partnered to commercialise Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) solutions in India?**

भारत में मानवरहित हवाई वाहन (UAV) समाधान को व्यावसायिक रूप देने के लिए किन दो संगठनों ने साझेदारी की है?

- (a) ISRO and HAL
- (b) DRDO and BEL
- (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited BSNL and Viasat India
- (d) Ministry of Civil Aviation and Vistara
- (e) Tata Advanced Systems and Skyroot Aerospace

Ans. c

Sol. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Viasat India Partner to Commercialise UAV Solutions

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Viasat India have expanded their collaboration in the satellite communication (satcom) sector to commercialise Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) solutions and promote skill development through a Centre of Excellence at BRBRAIN, focusing on UAVs, IoT, and emerging technologies. The partnership will introduce Viasat's Velaris uncrewed air solutions in India, offering secure and reliable satellite connectivity for UAVs operating beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) using Viasat's global L-band satellite network.

This collaboration aligns with India's Digital India mission, aiming to strengthen the low-altitude economy by fostering innovation, building indigenous technological capabilities, and enabling new opportunities in drone-based and advanced air mobility services.

308. **The India Maritime Week 2025, organised by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways in Mumbai, focuses on strengthening India's position as a global maritime hub. What is the official theme of this grand maritime event that aims to promote international collaboration and a sustainable Blue Economy?**

मुंबई में आयोजित भारत मेरीटाइम वीक 2025, जिसे पोर्ट्स, शिपिंग और वाटरवेज मंत्रालय द्वारा आयोजित किया गया है, का उद्देश्य भारत की स्थिति को एक वैश्विक समुद्री केंद्र के रूप में मजबूत करना है। इस भव्य समुद्री आयोजन की आधिकारिक थीम क्या है, जो अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग और सतत ब्लू इकॉनमी को बढ़ावा देने पर केंद्रित है?

- (a) Sailing Towards Blue Economy
- (b) Ports for Prosperity
- (c) Uniting Oceans, One Maritime Vision
- (d) India: Global Maritime Hub
- (e) Maritime Amrit Kaal

Ans. c

Sol. India Maritime Week 2025 Inaugurated in Mumbai: Showcasing India's \$1 Trillion Maritime Vision

India Maritime Week 2025 (IMW 2025) was inaugurated at NESCO Grounds, Mumbai, organized by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) in partnership with the Indian Ports Association under the theme "Uniting Oceans, One Maritime Vision."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the event, attended by chief ministers of key coastal states — Devendra Fadnavis (Maharashtra), Bhupendra Patel (Gujarat), Pramod Sawant (Goa), and Mohan Charan Majhi (Odisha).

The five-day event (Oct 27–31) brings together delegations from 11 countries, 100,000+ delegates from 85+ nations, 500+ exhibitors, and 350+ speakers, focusing on investment, innovation, and collaboration in maritime sectors such as ports, logistics, shipbuilding, green shipping, and inland waterways.

The event supports national visions like Maritime India Vision 2030 and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, with Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal emphasizing a \$1 trillion maritime investment roadmap to make India a global maritime hub and Blue Economy leader.

309. The Vigilance Awareness Week 2025, observed nationwide from 27 October to 2 November, aims to promote transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct in governance, while strengthening the collective fight against corruption. What is the official theme of this year's observance as announced by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)?

सतर्कता जागरूकता सप्ताह 2025, जो पूरे देश में 27 अक्टूबर से 2 नवम्बर तक मनाया जा रहा है, का उद्देश्य शासन में पारदर्शिता, जवाबदेही और नैतिक आचरण को बढ़ावा देना तथा भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ सामूहिक संघर्ष को मजबूत करना है। केंद्रीय सतर्कता आयोग (CVC) द्वारा घोषित इस वर्ष की आधिकारिक थीम क्या है?

- (a) Say No to Corruption
- (b) Integrity – A Way of Life
- (c) Vigilance – Our Shared Responsibility
- (d) Transparency in Governance
- (e) Fight Corruption, Save Nation

Ans. c

Sol. Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 Begins Nationwide with Theme “Vigilance – Our Shared Responsibility”

Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 (from 27 October to 2 November) began across India to promote integrity, ethics, and transparency in public life, with the theme “Vigilance – Our Shared Responsibility.”

The week commenced with pledge-taking ceremonies by public servants across ministries, departments, PSUs, banks, and organizations, led by Central Vigilance Commissioner Praveen Kumar Srivastava and Vigilance Commissioner A. S. Rajeev at the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), New Delhi.

The observance, held annually in the last week of October to coincide with the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, includes awareness programs and activities to fight corruption and promote good governance.

310. The Uttarakhand government will introduce a green tax on vehicles entering from other states to reduce pollution and protect the Himalayan ecosystem. From which date will this system come into effect?

उत्तराखंड सरकार प्रदूषण को कम करने और हिमालयी पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र की रक्षा के लिए अन्य राज्यों से प्रवेश करने वाले वाहनों पर हरित कर लगाएगी। यह व्यवस्था किस तारीख से लागू होगी?

- (a) November 1, 2025
- (b) December 1, 2025
- (c) January 1, 2026
- (d) January 26, 2025
- (e) March 1, 2026

Ans. b

Sol. Uttarakhand to Impose Green Tax on Out-of-State Vehicles from December 1

Uttarakhand government will implement a green tax on vehicles entering from other states starting December 1, 2025, aimed at reducing pollution, protecting the Himalayan ecosystem, and promoting environmental sustainability.

The tax rates will vary by vehicle type — ₹80 for small passenger vehicles, ₹250 for small goods carriers, ₹140 for buses, and ₹120–₹700 for trucks, depending on their load capacity, as per the state transport department.

To ensure strict enforcement, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras are being installed at border checkpoints — 16 are already operational, and the number will be increased to 37 entry points across the state.

The initiative aligns with the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways guidelines on green taxation, aiming to discourage use of old, polluting vehicles, promote cleaner alternatives, and generate revenue for anti-pollution measures — a system already in place in states like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Jharkhand.

311. **The historic Laxman Jhula in Rishikesh, which has been closed since 2019 due to safety concerns, is being replaced by which new bridge?**

ऋषिकेश का ऐतिहासिक लक्ष्मण झूला, जिसे 2019 से सुरक्षा कारणों से बंद किया गया था, उसकी जगह कौन-सा नया पुल बनाया जा रहा है?

- (a) Ram Setu
- (b) Bharat Setu
- (c) Kedarnath Setu
- (d) Ganga Setu
- (e) Bajrang Setu

Ans. e

Sol. Rishikesh's Iconic Laxman Jhula Replaced by 132-Metre Glass Suspension Bridge 'Bajrang Setu', Set for Completion by December 2025

The historic Laxman Jhula, built in 1929 and closed in 2019 due to safety concerns, is being replaced by Bajrang Setu — a 132.5-meter-long glass suspension bridge over the Ganges River in Rishikesh, scheduled for completion by December 2025.

Bajrang Setu features 3.5-inch thick toughened glass walkways, two-way lanes for light vehicles, and a design inspired by the Kedarnath Temple, with intricately carved towers symbolizing Uttarakhand's cultural heritage.

312. **What is Taftan, recently seen in the news?**

हाल ही में समाचारों में चर्चा में रहा तफ्तान क्या है?

- (a) A newly launched Iranian satellite for space research
- (b) A new trade route connecting Iran and Pakistan
- (c) A volcano near Iran–Pakistan border showing renewed activity
- (d) A high-speed train project between Tehran and Karachi
- (e) A cultural festival celebrated annually in southeastern Iran

Ans. c

Sol. Taftan Volcano Near Iran–Pakistan Border Shows Signs of Awakening After 700,000 Years of Dormancy

The Taftan volcano, located near the Iran–Pakistan border, is showing renewed volcanic activity after being dormant for over 700,000 years, according to a study published in Geophysical Research Letters.

Between July 2023 and May 2024, the volcano's summit rose by 3.5 inches, indicating gas pressure buildup beneath the surface; scientists warn it could release energy either violently or quietly in the future.

313. **Where will the Global Peace Prayer Festival (GPPF) 2025 be held?**

ग्लोबल पीस प्रेयर फेस्टिवल (GPPF) 2025 कहाँ आयोजित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Kathmandu, Nepal
- (b) Thimphu, Bhutan
- (c) Lhasa, Tibet
- (d) Colombo, Sri Lanka
- (e) Dharamshala, India

Ans. b

Sol. Bhutan to Host Global Peace Prayer Festival 2025 in Thimphu from November 4 to 19

Bhutan's capital, Thimphu, will host the Global Peace Prayer Festival (GPPF) from November 4 to 19, 2025, aiming to promote world peace, compassion, and harmony amid global conflicts.

The festival will feature spiritual leaders and monks from all schools of Buddhism, with key rituals like Jabzhi Dhoechog and Kalachakra initiation, along with the launch of the Guru App for spiritual guidance.

A major highlight will be the ordination of over 250 Buddhist nuns (Gelongma) from November 15 to 19 — a landmark step toward gender equality in monastic traditions of Vajrayana Buddhism.

314. **Recently in the news, the CR450 bullet train achieved a record speed of 450 kmph during trials. This next-generation high-speed train, set for commercial launch in 2026, belongs to which country?**

हाल ही में चर्चा में रही CR450 बुलेट ट्रेन ने परीक्षण के दौरान 450 किमी प्रति घंटे की रिकॉर्ड गति हासिल की है। यह अगली पीढ़ी की हाई-स्पीड ट्रेन, जो 2026 में व्यावसायिक रूप से शुरू होगी, किस देश की है?

- (a) Japan
- (b) South Korea
- (c) China
- (d) France
- (e) Germany

Ans. c

Sol. China's CR450 Bullet Train Achieves 450 kmph

China's CR450 bullet train, the world's fastest, has achieved a top speed of 450 kmph during pre-service trials on the Shanghai–Chongqing–Chengdu route, with commercial launch expected in 2026.

The train features advanced aerodynamics, including a 15-metre-long nose cone, enclosed bogies, and lower skirt panels, reducing air drag by 22% and ensuring smoother, quieter travel.

CR450 is lighter, shorter, and more energy-efficient than previous models, capable of accelerating from 0 to 350 kmph in just 4 minutes 40 seconds, over a minute faster than the current CR400 Fuxing series.

Developed over five years, the CR450 represents China's leap from "Made in China" to "Created in China", reinforcing the nation's leadership in global high-speed rail innovation.

315. **Who won the gold medal for India in the men's freestyle 65kg category at the U-23 World Wrestling Championships?**

भारत के लिए U-23 विश्व कुश्ती चैंपियनशिप में पुरुषों की फ्रीस्टाइल 65 किलोग्राम श्रेणी में स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता?

- (a) Deepak Punia
- (b) Sujeet Kalkal
- (c) Bajrang Punia
- (d) Ravi Dahiya
- (e) Aman Sehrawat

Ans. b

Sol. Sujeet Kalkal Clinches Gold for India in Men's Freestyle 65kg at U-23 World Wrestling Championships

India's Sujeet Kalkal clinched the gold medal in the men's freestyle 65 kg category at the U-23 World Wrestling Championships, defeating Uzbekistan's Umidjon Jalolov by a dominant 10–0 margin.

This is Sujeet Kalkal's first-ever world title; he already holds two U-23 Asian titles and one U-20 Asian Championship gold.

The Indian women's team performed impressively at the same event, winning 5 bronze, 2 silver medals, and securing the team championship title, while Sujeet's was India's only men's medal this year.

316. **Which organisation unveiled the roadmap titled "Reimagining Manufacturing: India's Roadmap to Global Leadership in Advanced Manufacturing"?**

किस संगठन ने “Reimagining Manufacturing: India’s Roadmap to Global Leadership in Advanced Manufacturing” शीर्षक वाली रूपरेखा जारी की?

- (a) Ministry of Heavy Industries
- (b) NITI Aayog
- (c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (d) FICCI
- (e) ASSOCHAM

Ans. b

Sol. NITI Aayog Unveils Roadmap to Position India as a Global Leader in Advanced Manufacturing by 2035

NITI Aayog’s Frontier Tech Hub launched the roadmap “Reimagining Manufacturing: India’s Roadmap to Global Leadership in Advanced Manufacturing”, unveiled by Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis and top dignitaries in Pune.

The roadmap identifies AI & ML, Advanced Materials, Digital Twins, and Robotics as high-impact technologies across 13 priority sectors, aiming to raise manufacturing’s share to 25% of GDP and create 100 million jobs by 2035.

It provides a 10-year strategic roadmap to overcome barriers in R&D, infrastructure, and workforce readiness, warning of potential losses of US\$ 270 billion by 2035 and US\$ 1 trillion by 2047 if frontier technologies aren’t adopted.

Developed jointly by NITI Aayog, CII, and Deloitte, the roadmap envisions India as a global advanced manufacturing hub and aligns with the national vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 through innovation-driven industrial transformation.

317. Which leading Japanese financial institution has recently announced the establishment of its first Global Capability Centre (GCC) in Porur, Chennai, aimed at strengthening its global operations and leveraging India’s IT and financial expertise?

किस प्रमुख जापानी वित्तीय संस्थान ने हाल ही में चेन्नई के पोरूर में अपना पहला ग्लोबल कैपेबिलिटी सेंटर (GCC) स्थापित करने की घोषणा की है, जिसका उद्देश्य भारत की आईटी और वित्तीय विशेषज्ञता का उपयोग कर अपनी वैश्विक संचालन क्षमता को मजबूत करना है?

- (a) Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group
- (b) Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation
- (c) Mizuho Bank
- (d) Japan Post Bank
- (e) Shinsei Bank

Ans. b

Sol. Japan’s Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation to Launch First Global Offshoring Hub in Chennai

Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC), a leading Japanese lender, announced the establishment of its first Global Capability Centre (GCC) in Porur, Chennai, named SMBC Global Services Private Limited.

The new hub will leverage India’s skilled IT and financial talent pool to support a wide range of SMBC’s global business operations.

SMBC highlighted India's strengths in demographics, digitalisation, infrastructure, and industrial diversification, reaffirming its continued investments and partnerships in the Indian market under its multi-franchise strategy.

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