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1. Who was appointed as India's next Ambassador to Mexico in July 2026?

जुलाई 2026 में मेक्सिको में भारत के अगले राजदूत के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया?

- (a) Vikram Misri
- (b) Ngulkham Jathom Gangte
- (c) Sanjeev Jain
- (d) P. Kumaran
- (e) S. Jaishankar

Ans. b

Sol. Ngulkham Jathom Gangte Appointed as India's Next Ambassador to Mexico

Ngulkham Jathom Gangte was appointed as India's next Ambassador to Mexico. He was serving as Special Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) before this appointment.

An Ambassador is the head of a country's diplomatic mission and represents India in bilateral relations with the host nation. Ambassadors are appointed to countries with which India has full diplomatic relations.

About Mexico

- Capital- Mexico City
- Currency – Peso
- President- Claudia Sheinbaum (first woman president of nation)
- Continent- North America

2. Under which legal provisions was the winding up of Paytm Payments Bank ordered by the Delhi High Court?

दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने किन कानूनी प्रावधानों के तहत Paytm पेमेंट्स बैंक को बंद करने का आदेश दिया?

- (a) RBI Act, 1934 and FEMA, 1999
- (b) Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and Companies Act, 2013
- (c) Banking Companies Act, 1970 and Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
- (d) Companies Act, 1956 and Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007
- (e) Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 and SEBI Act, 1992

Ans. b

Sol. Delhi High Court Orders Winding-Up of Paytm Payments Bank After RBI Cancels Licence

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cancelled the banking licence of Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) on 24 April 2026 over persistent regulatory non-compliance and concerns that its operations were detrimental to the interests of depositors.

The Delhi High Court subsequently ordered the winding-up of Paytm Payments Bank under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and the Companies Act, 2013, acting on RBI's application.

The Court appointed Girikumar M. Nair, former Chief General Manager of SBI, as the Official Liquidator, who assumed the powers of the bank's Board to oversee the liquidation process.

3. What is the name of the newly launched co-branded credit card by Google Pay and SBI Card?

Google Pay और SBI Card द्वारा हाल ही में लॉन्च किए गए को-ब्रांडेड क्रेडिट कार्ड का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Google Pay Platinum SBI Card
- (b) Google Pay Rewards Card
- (c) Google Pay Flex SBI Card
- (d) Google Pay Cashback Card
- (e) Google Pay Signature SBI Card

Ans. c

Sol. Google Pay and SBI Card Launch 'Google Pay Flex SBI Card' with Rewards up to ₹18,000 Annually

Google Pay and SBI Card have launched the Google Pay Flex SBI Card, a co-branded credit card that offers rewards worth up to ₹18,000 annually, flexible bill repayment options, and complete in-app credit card management through Google Pay.

The card is designed to reward everyday spending on categories such as groceries, utility bill payments, travel, and shopping, enhancing value for frequent digital payment users.

4. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has granted a Certificate of Registration to ProTec General Insurance Ltd., a joint venture between the M Pallonji Group and True North's Divya Sehgal, enabling it to commence general insurance business. ProTec General Insurance became the _____ insurance company to receive an IRDAI licence in the calendar year 2026.

इंश्योरेंस रेगुलेटरी एंड डेवलपमेंट अथॉरिटी ऑफ़ इंडिया (IRDAI) ने ProTec जनरल इंश्योरेंस लिमिटेड को रजिस्ट्रेशन का सर्टिफिकेट दिया है। यह कंपनी M Pallonji ग्रुप और True North के दिव्या सहगल का जॉइंट वेंचर है और इसे जनरल इंश्योरेंस का बिज़नेस शुरू करने की मंजूरी मिल गई है। ProTec जनरल इंश्योरेंस, कैलेंडर वर्ष 2026 में IRDAI का लाइसेंस पाने वाली _____ इंश्योरेंस कंपनी बन गई है।

- (a) First

(b) Second

(c) Third

(d) Fourth

(e) Fifth

Ans. d

Sol. IRDAI Grants Licence to ProTec General Insurance, Approves Fourth Insurance Company in 2026

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has granted a Certificate of Registration to ProTec General Insurance Ltd., a joint venture between the M Pallonji Group and True North's Divya Sehgal, enabling it to commence general insurance business.

ProTec General Insurance is the fourth insurance company to receive an IRDAI licence in 2026, following approvals for Kiwi General Insurance, Prudential HCL Health Insurance, and Allianz Jio Reinsurance.

IRDAI stated that the approvals reflect strong investor confidence in India's insurance sector and the impact of reforms under the Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (SBSR) Act, including the provision allowing 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) in the insurance sector.

5. Which international financial institution approved an USD 850 million loan to support India's PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana?

भारत की 'पीएम सूर्य घर: मुफ्त बिजली योजना' को सपोर्ट करने के लिए किस इंटरनेशनल फाइनेंशियल इंस्टीट्यूशन ने 850 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर के लोन को मंजूरी दी?

(a) World Bank

(b) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

(c) Asian Development Bank (ADB)

(d) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

(e) New Development Bank (NDB)

Ans. c

Sol. ADB Approves USD 850 Million Loan to Boost PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved an USD 850 million loan to support the Government of India's Prime Minister Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSG-MBY) and accelerate the adoption of rooftop solar systems across the country.

The financing aims to expand clean energy access, promote renewable energy generation, reduce electricity costs for households, and strengthen India's transition towards sustainable energy.

PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, launched in February 2024, seeks to install rooftop solar systems in 1 crore households, enabling eligible families to receive up to 300 units of free electricity per month.

About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- **Founded** - 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters** - Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- **President** - Masato Kanda (Japan)
- **Member Countries** - 69 (Israel)

6. The Government of Chhattisgarh launched the DWEEPTI Yojana in July 2026 to promote women-led solar entrepreneurship across the state. What does the acronym DWEEPTI stand for?

छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार ने राज्य भर में महिलाओं के नेतृत्व वाले सोलर एंटरप्रेन्योरशिप को बढ़ावा देने के लिए जुलाई 2026 में DWEEPTI योजना शुरू की। DWEEPTI का पूरा नाम क्या है?

- (a) Development of Women Entrepreneurs in Energy and Power Technology Initiative
- (b) Decentralised Women Empowerment on Energy and Policy for Transformative Inclusion
- (c) Digital Women Empowerment through Energy Policy and Technology Initiative
- (d) Distributed Women Energy Enterprise and Public Transformation Initiative
- (e) Decentralised Welfare and Energy Empowerment Programme for Tribal Inclusion

Ans. b

Sol. Chhattisgarh Government Launches 'DWEEPTI Yojana' for Women-Led Solar Entrepreneurship.

The Government of Chhattisgarh launched the DWEEPTI (Decentralised Women Empowerment on Energy and Policy for Transformative Inclusion) Yojana in July 2026 to promote women-led solar entrepreneurship across the state.

DWEEPTI Yojana is India's first women-led distributed renewable energy policy, designed to empower Self-Help Groups (SHGs) as solar entrepreneurs while promoting clean energy adoption and women's economic empowerment.

About Chhattisgarh

- **Capital** – Raipur
- **Chief Minister** – Vishnu Deo Sai (replace Bhupesh Baghel)
- **Deputy CM** - Arun Sao & Vijay Sharma
- **Governor** – Raman Deka

7. Which shipyard delivered the indigenously built Diving Support Vessel (DSV) 'Nipun' to the Indian Navy?

किस शिपयार्ड ने भारतीय नौसेना को स्वदेशी रूप से निर्मित डाइविंग सपोर्ट वेसल (DSV) 'निपुण' सौंपा?

- (a) Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)
- (b) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL)
- (c) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE)
- (d) Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)
- (e) Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Navy Receives Indigenous Diving Support Vessel 'Nipun' from Hindustan Shipyard Limited

'Nipun', the second indigenously built Diving Support Vessel (DSV), was delivered to the Indian Navy by Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) at Visakhapatnam. The first DSV, 'Nistar', was commissioned into the Navy in July 2025.

Built in accordance with the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) classification rules, Nipun has around 75% indigenous content, reinforcing the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiative in defence shipbuilding.

The vessel is equipped to undertake deep-sea diving, submarine rescue, underwater repair, and salvage operations, significantly enhancing the Indian Navy's underwater operational and rescue capabilities.

8. Ajinkya Rahane, who recently announced his retirement, is associated with which sport?

हाल ही में संन्यास की घोषणा करने वाले अजिंक्य रहाणे किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Ajinkya Rahane Announces Retirement from International Cricket Across All Formats

Former India Test captain Ajinkya Rahane announced his retirement from international cricket across Tests, ODIs, and T20Is, ending a distinguished international career in which he scored 8,414 runs.

Rahane retired with a 100% winning record as India's Test captain, never losing a Test match while leading the national team.

His greatest captaincy achievement came in the 2020–21 Border-Gavaskar Trophy, when he guided India to a historic 2–1 series victory in Australia after the team had lost the opening Test at Adelaide.

Recently Retired Players

- *Heather Knight (England) - International Cricket*
- *Tammy Beaumont (England) – International Cricket*
- *Stan Wawrinka (Switzerland) - Professional tennis*
- *Ben Stokes (England) – International Test Cricket*
- *Kane Williamson (New Zealand) - International cricket*

9. Who has assumed charge as the General Manager (GM) of the Integral Coach Factory (ICF)?

इंटीग्रल कोच फैक्ट्री (ICF) के महाप्रबंधक (GM) का पदभार किसने संभाला है?

- (a) Shraddha Joshi Raj
- (b) Manish Agarwal
- (c) Satish Kumar
- (d) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- (e) Vinai Kumar Saxena

Ans. b

Sol. Manish Agarwal Assumes Charge as General Manager of Integral Coach Factory (ICF)

Manish Agarwal has assumed charge as the General Manager (GM) of Integral Coach Factory (ICF), succeeding U. Subba Rao, who has taken over as the General Manager of Southern Railway.

An Indian Railways Service of Mechanical Engineers (IRSME) 1989 batch officer, Agarwal has over 35 years of service in Indian Railways, holding several key positions across the country.

About Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai

- *Integral Coach Factory (ICF) is a premier rail coach manufacturing unit of the Indian Railways, located in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. It was established in 1955.*
- *ICF manufactures passenger coaches, EMU/MEMU coaches, Vande Bharat Express trainsets, and metro coaches. It is one of the largest rail coach manufacturers in the world.*
- *ICF developed and manufactured India's first semi-high-speed Vande Bharat Express (Train 18), which was inaugurated in 2019 and marked a major milestone in indigenous railway technology.*

10. Whose tenure has the Central Government extended as the Chairperson of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)?

केंद्र सरकार ने इंटरनेशनल फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज सेंटर्स अथॉरिटी (IFSCA) के चेयरपर्सन के तौर पर किसका कार्यकाल बढ़ाया है?

- (a) T. Rabi Sankar
- (b) K. Rajaraman
- (c) M. Nagaraju
- (d) Sanjay Malhotra
- (e) Ajay Seth

Ans. b

Sol. Centre Extends K. Rajaraman's Tenure as IFSCA Chairperson Till October 2028

The Central Government has extended the tenure of K. Rajaraman as the Chairperson of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) beyond 31 July 2026. K. Rajaraman will continue in the role until he attains the age of 65 years in October 2028 or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

11. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport in which state?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने किस राज्य में अल्लूरी सीताराम राजू अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे का उद्घाटन किया?

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

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi Inaugurates Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram, Andhra Pradesh, and dedicated development projects worth over ₹17,900 crore to the nation.

The Greenfield airport has been developed under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model at a cost of over ₹5,640 crore and has an annual passenger handling capacity of 6 million.

The airport features AI, Building Information Modelling (BIM), Airside 4.0, Airport Predictive Operations Centre (APOC), biometric passenger processing, and automated baggage handling systems, ensuring smart, efficient, and sustainable operations.

12. The Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY) with a total outlay of ₹5,070 crore to promote floating solar photovoltaic (PV) projects with Energy Storage Systems (ESS). PM-SSY aims to develop how much floating solar photovoltaic capacity?

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने एनर्जी स्टोरेज सिस्टम (ESS) के साथ फ्लोटिंग सोलर फोटोवोल्टिक (PV) प्रोजेक्ट्स को बढ़ावा देने के लिए ₹5,070 करोड़ के कुल खर्च वाली प्रधानमंत्री सूर्य सरोवर योजना (PM-SSY) को मंजूरी दी है। PM-SSY का लक्ष्य कितनी फ्लोटिंग सोलर फोटोवोल्टिक क्षमता विकसित करना है?

- (a) 2,000 MW
- (b) 3,500 MW
- (c) 4,000 MW
- (d) 5,000 MW
- (e) 7,500 MW

Ans. d

Sol. Union Cabinet Approves ₹5,070 Crore Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)

The Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY) with a total outlay of ₹5,070 crore to promote floating solar photovoltaic (PV) projects with Energy Storage Systems (ESS).

The scheme aims to develop 5,000 MW of floating solar capacity with co-located energy storage of at least 2 hours, totalling 10,000 MWh, over a five-year period. PM-SSY will utilize existing reservoirs, canals, and industrial ponds, eliminating the need for additional land acquisition while promoting clean energy generation and efficient use of water bodies.

13. The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme from 2026–27 to 2030–31. What is the total financial outlay approved for the PM-KISAN Scheme during 2026–27 to 2030–31?

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 2026-27 से 2030-31 तक प्रधानमंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि (PM-KISAN) योजना को जारी रखने की मंजूरी दे दी है। 2026-27 से 2030-31 के दौरान PM-KISAN योजना के लिए कुल कितना वित्तीय आवंटन मंजूर किया गया है?

- (a) ₹2.50 lakh crore
- (b) ₹2.75 lakh crore
- (c) ₹3.15 lakh crore
- (d) ₹3.50 lakh crore
- (e) ₹4.15 lakh crore

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet Approves Extension of PM-KISAN Till 2030–31

The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme from 2026–27 to 2030–31 with a total financial outlay of ₹3.15 lakh crore.

Under PM-KISAN, more than ₹4.47 lakh crore has been transferred directly to farmers' bank accounts through 23 Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) installments, supporting timely investment in agricultural inputs.

The Cabinet also approved the National Offshore Exploration Scheme – Samudra Manthan with an outlay of ₹84,084 crore for implementation up to FY 2030–31, aimed at strengthening India's offshore exploration ecosystem.

14. Bajaj Finserv has approved its entry into which business, subject to IRDAI approval?

IRDAI की मंजूरी मिलने पर, बजाज फिनसर्व ने किस बिज़नेस में उतरने को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) Mutual Fund Business
- (b) Reinsurance Business
- (c) Stock Broking Business
- (d) Pension Fund Business
- (e) Asset Reconstruction Business

Ans. b

Sol. Bajaj Finserv Approves Entry into India's Reinsurance Business

Bajaj Finserv has approved its entry into the reinsurance business, subject to approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

With this move, Bajaj Finserv becomes the third private player in about a year to announce plans to enter India's domestic reinsurance market, following Valueattics Re and Allianz-Jio Reinsurance.

The growing interest in India's reinsurance sector is driven by economic growth, regulatory reforms, rising insurance demand, and efforts to retain more risk, premiums, and underwriting capacity within the country.

15. World Wide Web Day is observed every year on which date?

वर्ल्ड वाइड वेब डे हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 31 July
- (b) 1 August
- (c) 5 August
- (d) 4 August
- (e) 3 August

Ans. b

Sol. 1 August - World Wide Web Day

World Wide Web Day is observed every year on 1 August to celebrate the invention and global impact of the World Wide Web (WWW).

The World Wide Web was invented by Tim Berners-Lee in 1989, revolutionizing communication, education, and access to information.

The day highlights the importance of the internet, digital connectivity, innovation, and the free exchange of information across the world.

16. National Mountain Climbing Day is observed every year on:

राष्ट्रीय पर्वतारोहण दिवस हर साल मनाया जाता है:

- (a) 31 July
- (b) 1 August
- (c) 5 August
- (d) 3 August
- (e) 4 August

Ans. b

Sol. 1 August - National Mountain Climbing Day

National Mountain Climbing Day is observed every year on 1 August to celebrate the spirit of mountaineering, adventure, and exploration.

The day commemorates the achievements of Bobby Matthews and his friend Josh Madigan, who climbed the 46 High Peaks of the Adirondack Mountains (New York, USA).

17. What was the total GST collection in India for July 2026?

जुलाई 2026 के लिए भारत में कुल GST कलेक्शन कितना था?

- (a) ₹1,83,065 crore
- (b) ₹1,95,420 crore
- (c) ₹2,11,205 crore
- (d) ₹2,25,000 crore
- (e) ₹2,31,150 crore

Ans. c

Sol. GST Collections Rise 15.4% to ₹2.11 Lakh Crore in July 2026

Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections reached ₹2,11,205 crore in July 2026, registering a 15.4% year-on-year growth from ₹1,83,065 crore in July 2025.

Gross domestic GST revenue stood at ₹1,44,695 crore, reflecting a 10.1% increase compared to the corresponding month last year.

GST revenue from imports rose sharply by 28.8% to ₹66,511 crore, significantly contributing to the overall GST collections for the month.

GST Collection of Previous Months

- January 2026 – ₹1.93 lakh crore
- February 2026 - ₹1.83 Lakh Crore
- March 2026 – ₹2 lakh crore
- March 2025 – March 2026 → 22 lakh crore
- April 2026 - ₹2.42 lakh crore
- May 2026 - ₹1.94 lakh crore
- June 2026 – ₹1.95 lakh crore

18. The Union Government released an additional tax devolution instalment of ₹1,09,019 crore to State Governments, over and above the regular monthly transfer scheduled for 10 August. Which state received the highest share of the additional tax devolution?

केंद्र सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों को ₹1,09,019 करोड़ की अतिरिक्त टैक्स डिवोल्यूशन (कर हस्तांतरण) किस्त जारी की, जो 10 अगस्त को होने वाले नियमित मासिक हस्तांतरण के अलावा थी। अतिरिक्त टैक्स डिवोल्यूशन का सबसे बड़ा हिस्सा किस राज्य को मिला?

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Uttar Pradesh
- (e) West Bengal

Ans. d

Sol. Centre Releases Additional ₹1.09 Lakh Crore as Tax Devolution to States

The Union Government released an additional tax devolution instalment of ₹1,09,019 crore to State Governments, over and above the regular monthly transfer scheduled for 10 August.

The additional release aims to provide states with greater fiscal space to accelerate capital expenditure and development projects.

Uttar Pradesh received the highest allocation of ₹19,208 crore, followed by Bihar (₹10,845 crore) and Madhya Pradesh (₹8,010 crore).

What is Tax Devolution?

- Tax Devolution is the distribution of a share of the Central Government's tax revenue to the State Governments, as provided under Article 270 of the Constitution.
- The Finance Commission recommends the percentage of taxes to be shared and the formula for distributing the funds among the states.
- Tax devolution helps strengthen the financial capacity of states, enabling them to fund development projects, infrastructure, healthcare, education, and other public welfare programmes.

19. The Maldives has launched real-time cross-border fund transfers to India by integrating its _____ instant payment system with India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

मालदीव ने अपने _____ इंस्टेंट पेमेंट सिस्टम को भारत के यूनिफाइड पेमेंट्स इंटरफेस (UPI) के साथ जोड़कर भारत में रियल-टाइम क्रॉस-बॉर्डर फंड ट्रांसफर की सुविधा शुरू की है।

- (a) RuPay
- (b) Favara
- (c) PayNow
- (d) Shraddha Now
- (e) Faster Payments

Ans. b

Sol. Maldives Launches Real-Time Fund Transfers to India via UPI

The Maldives has launched real-time cross-border fund transfers to India by integrating its Favara instant payment system with India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

Under the new facility, users can send money in Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR), which is credited directly in Indian Rupees (INR) to UPI-enabled bank accounts in India.

The service is initially available to customers of Bank of Maldives Plc and Maldives Islamic Bank Plc, and was implemented through collaboration between the Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA), Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL).

20. Which Australian university has inaugurated its first international campus in India?

किस ऑस्ट्रेलियाई यूनिवर्सिटी ने भारत में अपना पहला इंटरनेशनल कैंपस शुरू किया है?

- (a) University of Melbourne
- (b) Monash University
- (c) University of New South Wales
- (d) Australian National University
- (e) University of Sydney

Ans. c

Sol. Australia's UNSW Sydney Inaugurates First International Campus in India

The University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney), Australia, has inaugurated its first international campus in India at Embassy Manyata Business Park, Bengaluru, Karnataka.

UNSW Sydney received the Letter of Approval from the University Grants Commission (UGC), enabling it to establish and operate its campus in India under the UGC's regulations.

21. IBM has partnered with which Indian AI company to develop Sovereign AI solutions in India?

IBM ने भारत में सॉवरेन AI समाधान विकसित करने के लिए किस भारतीय AI कंपनी के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Krutrim AI
- (b) Sarvam
- (c) Haptik
- (d) Yellow.ai
- (e) CoRover AI

Ans. b

Sol. IBM and Sarvam Partner to Advance Sovereign AI Solutions in India

IBM and Indian AI startup Sarvam have partnered to accelerate the development and adoption of Sovereign Artificial Intelligence (AI) solutions for the Government of India and regulated enterprises.

The collaboration will integrate IBM Sovereign Core with Sarvam's India-first AI stack, enabling secure, locally governed, multilingual, and voice-enabled AI solutions.

The partnership will focus on citizen services, grievance redressal, document processing, and administrative workflows, aiming to enhance secure and efficient government-to-citizen service delivery.

22. Exercise ROTOR CLAP III was conducted at which Field Firing Range in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan?

राजस्थान के जैसलमेर ज़िले में किस फ़ील्ड फ़ायरिंग रेंज में 'एक्सरसाइज़ रोटर क्लैप III' (Exercise ROTOR CLAP III) आयोजित की गई थी?

- (a) Mahajan Field Firing Range
- (b) Pokhran Field Firing Range
- (c) Babina Field Firing Range
- (d) Chandan Field Firing Range
- (e) Suratgarh Field Firing Range

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Air Force Concludes Counter-Drone Exercise ROTOR CLAP III in Rajasthan

The Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully concluded Exercise ROTOR CLAP III at the Pokhran Field Firing Range in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

The exercise focused on the theme "Counter-UAS", aimed at enhancing capabilities to detect, track, and neutralise Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)/drones.

23. The Union Cabinet has approved an expanded Khelo India Scheme and enhanced Assistance to National Sports Federations (ANSFs) with a combined outlay of ₹36,441 crore for the period:

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने इस अवधि के लिए कुल ₹36,441 करोड़ के खर्च के साथ, विस्तारित 'खेलो इंडिया योजना' और राष्ट्रीय खेल महासंघों (ANSFs) को दी जाने वाली बढ़ी हुई सहायता को मंजूरी दी है:

- (a) 2025–26 to 2029–30
- (b) 2026–27 to 2030–31
- (c) 2027–28 to 2031–32
- (d) 2024–25 to 2028–29
- (e) 2028–29 to 2032–33

Ans. b

Sol. Cabinet Approves ₹36,441 Crore for Expanded Khelo India Scheme and Sports Development

The Union Cabinet has approved an expanded Khelo India Scheme and enhanced Assistance to National Sports Federations (ANSFs) with a combined outlay of ₹36,441 crore for the period 2026–27 to 2030–31.

The initiative aims to strengthen sports infrastructure and athlete development from the grassroots level to the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), providing a clear pathway for talented youth to achieve excellence in sports.

24. Which Indian tennis pair clinched the men's doubles title at the Bonn Open 2026 by defeating Scott Duncan of England and Adam Heinonen of Sweden in the final?

किस भारतीय टेनिस जोड़ी ने बॉन ओपन 2026 के फ़ाइनल में इंग्लैंड के स्कॉट डंकन और स्वीडन के एडम हेइनोनन को हराकर पुरुष डबल्स का खिताब जीता?

- (a) Rohan Bopanna and Yuki Bhambri
- (b) Ramkumar Ramanathan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth
- (c) Rithvik Bollipalli and Sumit Nagal
- (d) Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and N. Sriram Balaji
- (e) Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi

Ans. b

Sol. Ramkumar Ramanathan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth Win Bonn Open 2026 Doubles Title

Ramkumar Ramanathan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth won the doubles title at the Bonn Open 2026 by defeating Scott Duncan (England) and Adam Heinonen (Sweden) in the final.

The victory marked Ramkumar Ramanathan's 13th ATP Challenger title and his second ATP Challenger doubles trophy of 2026 after winning the Texas Spine and Joint Challenger Men's Championship in June.

25. Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh created history by winning India's first-ever judo gold medals at the Commonwealth Games 2026 held in Glasgow, Scotland. Asmita Dey won the gold medal in which women's judo category at the Commonwealth Games 2026?

अस्मिता डे और हर्ष सिंह ने स्कॉटलैंड के ग्लासगो में आयोजित कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स 2026 में भारत के लिए जूडो में पहला गोल्ड मेडल जीतकर इतिहास रचा। अस्मिता डे ने कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स 2026 में महिलाओं की किस जूडो कैटेगरी में गोल्ड मेडल जीता?

- (a) 44kg category
- (b) 48kg category
- (c) 52kg category
- (d) 57kg category
- (e) 63kg category

Ans. b

Sol. Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh Win India's First-Ever Judo Gold Medals at Commonwealth Games 2026

Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh created history by winning India's first-ever judo gold medals at the Commonwealth Games 2026 held in Glasgow, Scotland.

Asmita Dey won the women's 48kg judo gold medal by defeating Canada's Heidi Quach 2-1 in a golden score contest, becoming the first Indian judoka to win a Commonwealth Games gold medal.

Harsh Singh secured the men's 60kg judo gold medal after defeating Australia's Joshua Katz 10-0 by waza-ari, becoming the first male Indian judoka to win Commonwealth Games gold.

Before these victories, India had won 11 judo medals at the Commonwealth Games (5 silver and 6 bronze) but had never won a gold medal in the sport.

26. Nirmal "Nimsdai" Purja, who recently died in an avalanche, was a renowned mountaineer from which country?

हाल ही में हिमस्खलन में मारे गए निर्मल "निम्सदाई" पुर्जा किस देश के मशहूर पर्वतारोही थे?

- (a) India
- (b) Nepal

- (c) Bhutan
- (d) Tibet
- (e) Pakistan

Ans. b

Sol. Renowned Mountaineer Nirmal "Nimsdai" Purja Dies in Avalanche on Broad Peak
Renowned Nepal-born mountaineer Nirmal "Nimsdai" Purja died in an avalanche on Broad Peak in the Karakoram mountain range.

In 2019, he created history by climbing all 14 peaks above 8,000 metres in just 6 months and 6 days under his Project Possible mission.

27. World Breastfeeding Week is observed every year during which period?

विश्व स्तनपान सप्ताह हर साल किस अवधि में मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 2–9 August
- (b) 1–7 August
- (c) 7–14 August
- (d) 5–12 August
- (e) 1–7 September

Ans. b

Sol. 1 - 7 August - World Breastfeeding Week

World Breastfeeding Week is observed every year from 1 to 7 August to raise awareness about the importance of breastfeeding for infants' health and development.

Theme 2026: Breastfeeding for a Sustainable Start in Life: Strengthen What Work
The week promotes exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a baby's life and highlights its benefits for both mother and child health.

It is coordinated globally by organisations including the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) to support breastfeeding-friendly environments.

28. Who has assumed charge as the Deputy Chief of the Air Staff (DCAS) of the Indian Air Force?

भारतीय वायु सेना के डिप्टी चीफ ऑफ एयर स्टाफ (DCAS) के रूप में किसने कार्यभार संभाला है?

- (a) Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti
- (b) Air Marshal Tejpal Singh
- (c) Air Chief Marshal Shraddha Joshi Raj
- (d) Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor
- (e) Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari

Ans. b

Sol. Air Marshal Tejpal Singh Takes Charge as Deputy Chief of the Air Staff of Indian Air Force

Air Marshal Tejpal Singh has assumed charge as the Deputy Chief of the Air Staff (DCAS) of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

He has succeeded Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti as the new Deputy Chief of the Air Staff.

Air Marshal Tejpal Singh brings extensive experience as a fighter pilot, Experimental Test Pilot, and senior IAF officer with over 3,500 hours of flying experience.

Recent Appointments in Defence Sector

- **Vice Chief of the Air Staff** - Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
- **Director of Intelligence Bureau (IB)** - Mahesh Dixit (replcae Tapan Kumar Deka)
- **Chief of the Army Staff** - Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth (replcace General Upendra Dwivedi)
- **Additional DG of Military Nursing Service** - Maj Gen Rachel Thomas (Maj Gen Lissamma PV)
- **20th Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command** -Vice Admiral Vineet McCarty

29. Varsha Ashok Aglawe has become the first woman to head which organisation?

वर्षा अशोक अगलावे किस संगठन की प्रमुख बनने वाली पहली महिला बनी हैं?

- (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI)
- (b) Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)
- (c) Survey of India
- (d) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- (e) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Ans. a

Sol. Varsha Ashok Aglawe Becomes First Woman Director General of Geological Survey of India

Varsha Ashok Aglawe has assumed charge as the 54th Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI), becoming the first woman to lead GSI in its 176-year history. She succeeded Asit Saha.

A palaeontologist with over 30 years of experience, Ms Aglawe joined GSI in 1992 and succeeded Asit Saha, who served as the Director General for two years.

About Geological Survey of India (GSI)

- *The Geological Survey of India (GSI) is the premier geoscientific organisation of India, responsible for conducting geological surveys and studies related to minerals, natural resources, and earth sciences.*
- *Established- 1851*
- *Headquarters- Kolkata, West Bengal*
- *GSI works under the Ministry of Mines, Government of India*
- *First Director General - Thomas Oldham (1851)*
- *Current Director General (54th)- Varsha Ashok Aglawe (first woman to head GSI)*

30. Which ministry organised the GI and Beyond 2.0 Summit?

GI और बियॉन्ड 2.0 समिट का आयोजन किस मंत्रालय ने किया?

- (a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (b) Ministry of Culture
- (c) Ministry of Textiles
- (d) Ministry of MSME
- (e) Ministry of Rural Development

Ans. c

Sol. New Delhi hosts GI & Beyond 2.0 Summit

The Ministry of Textiles has organised the GI and Beyond 2.0 Summit in New Delhi to showcase India's GI-tagged Handloom and Handicraft Products and promote them in domestic and international markets.

The event featured displays of more than 100 GI-registered handloom and handicraft products, along with thematic exhibitions and live demonstrations of weaving and handicraft techniques.

31. What was the total number of UPI transactions processed in July 2026, marking an all-time monthly high?

जुलाई 2026 में प्रोसेस किए गए UPI ट्रांज़ैक्शन की कुल संख्या क्या थी, जिसने अब तक का सबसे ज़्यादा मासिक आंकड़ा दर्ज किया?

- (a) 20.66 billion transactions
- (b) 21.72 billion transactions
- (c) 23.66 billion transactions
- (d) 25.88 billion transactions
- (e) 29.88 billion transactions

Ans. c

Sol. UPI Records Highest-Ever Monthly Transaction Volume in July 2026 with 23.66 Billion Transactions

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) recorded its highest-ever monthly transaction volume in July 2026, processing 23.66 billion transactions worth ₹29.88 lakh crore, as per data released by NPCI.

UPI transaction volume increased 4.1% month-on-month from 22.72 billion transactions in June 2026, while transaction value rose 3.3% from ₹28.92 lakh crore. On a year-on-year basis, UPI transaction volume grew by 22% and transaction value increased by 19%, reflecting the continued growth of digital payments in India.

32. Shivalik Small Finance Bank has recently completed the acquisition and merger of which Delhi-based housing finance company in a deal worth nearly ₹109 crore?

शिवालिक स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक ने हाल ही में लगभग ₹109 करोड़ की डील में दिल्ली की किस हाउसिंग फाइनेंस कंपनी का अधिग्रहण और विलय पूरा किया है?

- (a) Aavas Financiers Ltd.
- (b) PNB Housing Finance Ltd.
- (c) Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd.
- (d) ManiBhavnam Home Finance India Pvt. Ltd.
- (e) India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd.

Ans. d

Sol. Shivalik Small Finance Bank Enters Affordable Housing Finance with ₹109 Crore ManiBhavnam Merger

Shivalik Small Finance Bank has completed the acquisition and merger of ManiBhavnam Home Finance India Pvt. Ltd. in a deal valued at around ₹109 crore. The merger marks Shivalik's entry into the affordable housing finance segment, which is expected to grow at a 20% CAGR until 2030.

The transaction includes 20% cash payment and the remaining amount through a share swap, with the merger receiving approval from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA).

33. Which regulatory body recently imposed penalties totaling ₹1.48 crore on Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd. (ZEEL) and its promoters?

हाल ही में किस रेगुलेटरी बॉडी ने ज़ी एंटरटेनमेंट एंटरप्राइजेज़ लिमिटेड (ZEEL) और उसके प्रमोटरों पर कुल ₹1.48 करोड़ का जुर्माना लगाया है?

- (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- (b) Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)
- (c) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- (d) Competition Commission of India (CCI)
- (e) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)

Ans. c

Sol. SEBI Imposes ₹1.48 Crore Penalty on ZEEL, Bars Subhash Chandra and Punit Goenka for One Year

SEBI imposed penalties totaling ₹1.48 crore on Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd. (ZEEL) and its promoters for violations of securities laws and corporate governance norms.

Subhash Chandra and Punit Goenka have been barred from accessing or dealing in the securities market for one year as part of SEBI's enforcement action.

34. Which state government has recently signed a tripartite agreement with Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), and BSNL for the rollout of the ₹3,384.82-crore amended BharatNet Programme?

हाल ही में किस राज्य सरकार ने ₹3,384.82 करोड़ के संशोधित भारतनेट प्रोग्राम को लागू करने के लिए डिजिटल भारत निधि (DBN), दूरसंचार विभाग (DoT) और BSNL के साथ त्रिपक्षीय समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Chhattisgarh
- (e) Jharkhand

Ans. b

Sol. Odisha Signs ₹3,384.82 Crore BharatNet Pact to Connect All 6,799 Gram Panchayats with Fibre Broadband

The Odisha Government signed a tripartite agreement with Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), and BSNL to implement the ₹3,384.82-crore amended BharatNet Programme.

The project aims to connect all 6,799 Gram Panchayats in Odisha with a modern fibre-based broadband network over the next 10 years, strengthening rural digital connectivity and digital public infrastructure.

BSNL has been designated as the Single Project Management Agency (SPMA), while Creative Newtech Private Limited has been appointed as the Project Implementing Agency (PIA).

About Odisha

- **Capital** – Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Mohan Charan Majhi (replace Naveen Patnaik)
- **Deputy CM** - KV Singhdeo and Pravati Parida
- **Governor** – Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati

35. Indian badminton player Tanvi Sharma recently won her maiden BWF World Tour title by clinching which tournament?

भारतीय बैडमिंटन खिलाड़ी तन्वी शर्मा ने हाल ही में कौन सा टूर्नामेंट जीतकर अपना पहला BWF वर्ल्ड टूर खिताब हासिल किया?

- (a) China Open Super 1000
- (b) Thailand Open Super 500
- (c) Taipei Open Super 300
- (d) Malaysia Masters Super 500
- (e) Indonesia Open Super 1000

Ans. c

Sol. Tanvi Sharma Clinches Maiden BWF World Tour Title, Becomes Youngest Taipei Open Champion

India's 17-year-old Tanvi Sharma won her maiden BWF World Tour title by defeating Vietnam's Nguyen Thuy Linh 21-16, 21-16 in the Taipei Open Super 300 women's singles final.

Tanvi became the youngest-ever Taipei Open champion, surpassing Tai Tzu Ying, and the first Indian woman since Saina Nehwal (2008) to win the Taipei Open women's singles title.

36. At the Commonwealth Games 2026, which Indian athlete, who is also the reigning Olympic champion, won the silver medal in the men's javelin throw event with a season's best throw of 85.83 metres?

कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स 2026 में, किस भारतीय एथलीट ने - जो मौजूदा ओलंपिक चैंपियन भी हैं - पुरुषों की जैवलिन थ्रो स्पर्धा में 85.83 मीटर के सीजन के सर्वश्रेष्ठ थ्रो के साथ सिल्वर मेडल जीता?

- (a) Kishore Jena
- (b) Rohit Yadav
- (c) Neeraj Chopra
- (d) Shivpal Singh
- (e) Yash Vir Singh

Ans. c

Sol. Neeraj Chopra Wins Silver, Yash Vir Singh Bags Bronze in Commonwealth Games 2026 Javelin Throw

Neeraj Chopra won the silver medal in the men's javelin throw at the Commonwealth Games 2026, registering his season's best throw of 85.83 metres.

Yash Vir Singh secured the bronze medal with a personal best throw of 85.41 metres on his final attempt, achieving the feat at the age of 24.

Sri Lanka's Rumesh Pathirage claimed the gold medal with a record-breaking throw of 89.75 metres, setting a new Commonwealth Games record.

37. Which Indian city officially received the Commonwealth Games Flag and the Host Baton during the closing ceremony of the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games?

ग्लासगो 2026 कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स के समापन समारोह के दौरान किस भारतीय शहर को आधिकारिक तौर पर कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स का झंडा और होस्ट बैटन मिला?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Ahmedabad Receives Commonwealth Games Flag, Set to Host Centenary Edition in 2030

Ahmedabad officially received the Commonwealth Games Flag and the Host Baton during the closing ceremony of the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games, marking the handover of hosting responsibilities.

Ahmedabad will host the 2030 Commonwealth Games, which will be the centenary edition of the Games, celebrating 100 years since the inaugural event.

The first Commonwealth Games were held in Hamilton, Canada, in 1930, while the Baton Relay tradition began at the 1958 Commonwealth Games in Cardiff, Wales.

Ahmedabad 2030 will become the second Commonwealth Games hosted by India, following the successful hosting of the Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games.

38. The Xtreme Weather Grade (XWG) Diesel has been jointly developed by the Indian Army and which of the following organisations?

एक्सट्रीम वेदर ग्रेड (XWG) डीज़ल को भारतीय सेना और इनमें से किस संगठन ने मिलकर विकसित किया है?

- (a) Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)
- (b) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- (c) Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs)
- (d) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
- (e) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)

Ans. c

Sol. Army Launches Indigenous Xtreme Weather Grade Diesel for High-Altitude Operations

Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Dhiraj Seth launched the indigenously developed Xtreme Weather Grade (XWG) Diesel in New Delhi, developed jointly by the Indian Army and Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs).

XWG Diesel is designed to enhance the mobility, safety, and operational readiness of combat and logistics vehicles in extreme weather and high-altitude conditions, reducing the need for special measures to keep vehicles operational during severe winters.

39. General Vishwa Nath Sharma, who recently passed away, served as which Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) of India?

हाल ही में गुज़रे जनरल विश्वनाथ शर्मा, भारत के कौन से 'चीफ़ ऑफ़ द आर्मी स्टाफ़' (COAS) थे?

- (a) 12th
- (b) 13th
- (c) 14th
- (d) 15th
- (e) 16th

Ans. c

Sol. Former Army Chief General Vishwa Nath Sharma Passes Away

Former Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Vishwa Nath Sharma passed away. He served as the 14th Chief of the Army Staff from 1 May 1988 to 30 June 1990.

40. A book on the life and legacy of S.N.N. Sankaralinga Iyer was released, highlighting his entrepreneurial journey and contributions to India's banking and cement industries. S.N.N. Sankaralinga Iyer was the founder of which of the following institutions?

S.N.N. शंकरलिंग अय्यर के जीवन और उनकी विरासत पर एक किताब जारी की गई, जिसमें उनके उद्यमी सफ़र और भारत के बैंकिंग और सीमेंट उद्योगों में उनके योगदान पर प्रकाश डाला गया। S.N.N. शंकरलिंग अय्यर इनमें से किस संस्थान के संस्थापक थे?

- (a) Indian Bank and ACC Cement
- (b) Indo Commercial Bank and India Cements
- (c) Canara Bank and UltraTech Cement
- (d) Punjab National Bank and Dalmia Cement
- (e) Both a and d

Ans. b

Sol. Book Celebrating S.N.N. Sankaralinga Iyer's Legacy Released

The book "Cementing Legacies: The Life of SNN Sankaralinga Iyer – A Pioneering Polymath" was released, chronicling the life and legacy of S.N.N. Sankaralinga Iyer, founder of Indo Commercial Bank and India Cements.

Authored by veteran journalist K. Balakumar, the book highlights Sankaralinga Iyer's pioneering contributions to India's banking and cement industries, along with his entrepreneurial vision and legacy.

41. 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) Swati Sharma
- (b) Meena Hemchandra
- (c) Shraddha Joshi Raj
- (d) Deepak Kumar
- (e) Monisha Chakraborty

Ans. e

Sol. RBI Appoints Monisha Chakraborty as Executive Director

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Monisha Chakraborty as Executive Director (ED).

Before her promotion, she served as Chief General Manager-in-Charge in the Department of Supervision and has over 30 years of experience in supervision, foreign exchange, and government & bank accounts.

42. Who has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran?

इस्लामिक रिपब्लिक ऑफ़ ईरान में भारत का अगला राजदूत किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Sanjeev Jain
- (b) Amit Kumar
- (c) Pavan Kapoor
- (d) Vikram Misri
- (e) Vishwesh Negi

Ans. e

Sol. IFS Officer Vishwesh Negi Named India's Ambassador to Iran

Vishwesh Negi, a 2002-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Before this appointment, he was serving as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), New Delhi, and is expected to assume his diplomatic assignment in Tehran shortly.

About Iran

- **Capital** – Tehran
- **Currency** – Rial
- **Supreme Leader** - Mojtaba Khamenei

43. Glaw Lake, recently declared India's 101st Ramsar Site, is located in which state?

हाल ही में भारत का 101वां रामसर स्थल घोषित किया गया ग्लॉ लेक किस राज्य में स्थित है?

- (a) Sikkim
- (b) Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Assam
- (d) Meghalaya
- (e) Nagaland

Ans. b

Sol. Glaw Lake Becomes India's 101st Ramsar Site, First for Arunachal Pradesh
Glaw Lake in Arunachal Pradesh has been designated as India's 101st Ramsar Site, making it the first Ramsar Site in Arunachal Pradesh.

The pristine freshwater lake, located within Kamlang Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary, is a biodiversity hotspot with over 150 tree species and 49 orchid species. India has increased its Ramsar Sites from 26 in 2014 to 101 in 2026, reflecting its commitment to wetland conservation, biodiversity protection, climate security, and sustainable development.

44. HDFC Bank recently launched 'Max for Seniors' and 'Max for Her' under which savings account portfolio?

एचडीएफसी बैंक ने हाल ही में 'Max for Seniors' और 'Max for Her' किस सेविंग्स अकाउंट पोर्टफोलियो के तहत लॉन्च किए हैं?

- (a) Smart Savings
- (b) Savings Plus
- (c) Savings Max
- (d) DigiSave
- (e) Insta Savings

Ans. c

Sol. HDFC Bank Launches 'Max for Seniors' and 'Max for Her' Savings Accounts
HDFC Bank has launched two new savings account variants under its Savings Max portfolio — 'Max for Seniors' and 'Max for Her', designed specifically for senior citizens and women.

The new accounts focus on financial security, easy financial management, lifestyle benefits, and enhanced banking convenience, catering to the unique needs of these customer segments.

The launch aligns with growing financial inclusion, as India's senior citizen population is projected to reach 230 million by 2036, while women hold 39.2% of bank accounts and contribute 39.7% of total bank deposits.

45. Karnataka Bank has launched 'KBL Finsurance', a comprehensive digital insurance portal to streamline the creation, tracking, and monitoring of insurance business leads across its branch network. The 'KBL Finsurance' platform is powered by which fintech company?

कर्नाटक बैंक ने अपने ब्रांच नेटवर्क में इंश्योरेंस बिज़नेस लीड्स बनाने, ट्रैक करने और मॉनिटर करने को आसान बनाने के लिए एक बड़ा डिजिटल इंश्योरेंस पोर्टल 'KBL Finsurance' लॉन्च किया है। 'KBL Finsurance' प्लेटफॉर्म किस फिनटेक कंपनी द्वारा चलाया जाता है?

- (a) Perfios
- (b) SprintMoney
- (c) Razorpay
- (d) M2P Fintech
- (e) FinBox

Ans. b

Sol. Karnataka Bank Launches 'KBL Finsurance' Digital Insurance Portal

Karnataka Bank has launched 'KBL Finsurance', a comprehensive digital insurance portal to streamline the creation, tracking, and monitoring of insurance business leads across its branch network.

The platform is powered by SprintMoney, a fintech company that provides white-labelled digital solutions to banks and financial institutions.

46. The Government of India has announced the sale of up to what percentage stake in LIC through the Offer for Sale (OFS) route?

भारत सरकार ने ऑफर फॉर सेल (OFS) के माध्यम से LIC में अधिकतम कितनी हिस्सेदारी बेचने की घोषणा की है?

- (a) 2.50%
- (b) 4.00%
- (c) 5.00%
- (d) 6.54%
- (e) 10.00%

Ans. d

Sol. Government Launches LIC OFS to Sell Up to 6.54% Stake, Aims to Raise Over ₹31,000 Crore

The Government of India has announced the sale of up to 6.54% stake in Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) through the Offer for Sale (OFS) route, expected to raise over ₹31,000 crore, making it the largest OFS proceeds to date.

The OFS includes 2.5% equity with an additional 4% green shoe option, while 50 lakh shares (0.04%) have been reserved for eligible LIC employees. The floor price has been fixed at ₹382 per share.

The disinvestment will help LIC achieve the Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS) norm, increasing public shareholding from 3.5% to 10%, ahead of the May 16, 2027 deadline.

47. Jagadguru Kripalu University, which was recently inaugurated by President Droupadi Murmu, is located in which state?

जगद्गुरु कृपालु यूनिवर्सिटी, जिसका हाल ही में राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने उद्घाटन किया, किस राज्य में स्थित है?

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) West Bengal
- (e) Uttar Pradesh

Ans. a

Sol. President Murmu Inaugurates Jagadguru Kripalu University in Odisha
President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated Jagadguru Kripalu University in Cuttack district, Odisha, marking the establishment of a new higher education institution in the state.

The university is situated at Banara in Damapada tehsil, near Cuttack, and aims to strengthen educational opportunities in the region.

48. The Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) recently signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with the Government of which city to strengthen urban development and smart mobility initiatives?

ग्रेटर विशाखापत्तनम म्युनिसिपल कॉर्पोरेशन (GVMC) ने हाल ही में शहरी विकास और स्मार्ट मोबिलिटी पहलों को मजबूत करने के लिए किस शहर की सरकार के साथ सहयोग ज्ञापन (MoC) पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) London
- (b) Tokyo
- (c) Moscow
- (d) Paris
- (e) Singapore

Ans. c

Sol. GVMC, Moscoaw Government Sign MoC to Boost Smart Mobility and Urban Development in Visakhapatnam

Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) and the Government of Moscow signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) to enhance urban development and smart mobility initiatives in Visakhapatnam.

The agreement was signed during the 5th International Transport Summit in Moscow by GVMC Commissioner Ketan Garg and Maksim Liksutov, Deputy Mayor of Moscow, in the presence of Visakhapatnam MP M. Sribharat.

The partnership will focus on Integrated Urban Transport Planning, Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), AI-based traffic management, digital ticketing, autonomous transport technologies, and sustainable infrastructure, supporting Visakhapatnam's vision of becoming a technology-driven global city.

49. The Pacific Island nation of Nauru has officially changed its name to the Republic of Naoero, aligning with the spelling and pronunciation in its national language. Before gaining independence in 1968, Nauru was administered by which country?

पैसिफिक द्वीप देश नाउरू ने आधिकारिक तौर पर अपना नाम बदलकर 'रिपब्लिक ऑफ़ नाओएरो' (Republic of Naoero) कर लिया है, ताकि यह अपनी राष्ट्रीय भाषा में नाम की स्पेलिंग और उच्चारण से मेल खा सके। 1968 में आज़ादी मिलने से पहले, नाउरू का प्रशासन किस देश के पास था?

- (a) New Zealand
- (b) United Kingdom
- (c) Australia
- (d) France
- (e) Japan

Ans. c

Sol. Pacific Island Nation Nauru Officially Renamed as the Republic of Naoero

The Pacific Island nation of Nauru has officially changed its name to the Republic of Naoero, aligning with the spelling and pronunciation in its national language.

As part of the change, the country's international code will change from NRU to NRO, and its citizens will now be known as dei-Naoero instead of Nauruan.

Naoero is the world's third-smallest country by population (around 12,000 people), after Tuvalu and Vatican City, and gained independence from Australia in 1968.

50. Justice M.S. Liberhan, who recently passed away at the age of 87, is best known for heading which inquiry commission?

हाल ही में 87 साल की उम्र में गुज़रे जस्टिस एम.एस. लिबरहान किस जाँच आयोग के प्रमुख के तौर पर सबसे ज़्यादा जाने जाते हैं?

- (a) Sarkaria Commission
- (b) Nanavati Commission
- (c) Liberhan Commission
- (d) Punchhi Commission
- (e) Shah Commission

Ans. c

Sol. Former Liberhan Commission Chief Justice M.S. Liberhan Passes Away at 87
Justice Manmohan Singh (M.S.) Liberhan, former Chief Justice and head of the Liberhan Commission, passed away at the age of 87 in Chandigarh.

He was appointed head of the one-man Liberhan Commission on 16 December 1992 to investigate the circumstances leading to the Babri Masjid demolition in Ayodhya. Justice Liberhan served as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court (1997) and later as Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court (1998), after being elevated as a judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court in 1987.

51. The Ministry of Ayush recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which organisation to promote AI-driven innovation in the Ayush sector?

आयुष मंत्रालय ने हाल ही में आयुष क्षेत्र में AI-आधारित इनोवेशन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किस संगठन के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Digital India Corporation
- (c) IndiaAI
- (d) ISRO
- (e) DRDO

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Ayush and IndiaAI Sign MoU to Promote AI-Driven Innovation in Traditional Medicine

The Ministry of Ayush and IndiaAI (MeitY) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote Artificial Intelligence (AI)-driven innovation in the Ayush sector. Under the partnership, the Ministry of Ayush will integrate with the AIKosh platform to share eligible health research datasets, AI models, metadata, toolkits, and use cases, fostering AI-based research and collaboration.

The MoU will provide the Ayush sector with access to GPU-based high-performance computing infrastructure through the IndiaAI initiative, supporting advanced AI research and healthcare applications in traditional medicine.

52. Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day is observed annually on which date?

क्लोव्स सिंड्रोम जागरूकता दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 August
- (b) 2 August
- (c) 3 August
- (d) 4 August
- (e) 5 August

Ans. c

Sol. 3 August - Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day

Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day is observed annually on 3 August to raise awareness about CLOVES Syndrome, a rare congenital overgrowth disorder caused by mutations in the PIK3CA gene.

The day aims to promote early diagnosis, research, improved treatment options, and support for individuals and families affected by the disorder.

CLOVES stands for Congenital Lipomatous Overgrowth, Vascular Malformations, Epidermal Nevi, and Skeletal/Spinal Abnormalities, describing the key features of the syndrome.

53. National Watermelon Day is observed annually on which date?

राष्ट्रीय तरबूज दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 August
- (b) 2 August
- (c) 3 August
- (d) 4 August
- (e) 5 August

Ans. c

Sol. 3 August - National Watermelon Day

National Watermelon Day is observed annually on 3 August to celebrate the watermelon, one of the world's most popular and refreshing summer fruits.

The day promotes the nutritional and health benefits of watermelon, which is rich in water, vitamins A and C, antioxidants, and lycopene, helping support hydration and overall health.

54. Who has officially assumed charge as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IndiGo, India's largest airline?

भारत की सबसे बड़ी एयरलाइन, इंडिगो के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (CEO) के रूप में आधिकारिक तौर पर किसने कार्यभार संभाला है?

- (a) Pieter Elbers

- (b) Willie Walsh
- (c) Campbell Wilson
- (d) Alan Joyce
- (e) Ishika Bansal

Ans. b

Sol. Willie Walsh Assumes Charge as CEO of IndiGo

Willie Walsh has officially assumed charge as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IndiGo, India's largest airline.

Walsh replaced Pieter Elbers, who resigned from the CEO position on 10 March 2026.

About IndiGo

- *Founded: 2006*
- *Commenced Operations: 4 August 2006*
- *Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana*
- *CEO: Willie Walsh*

55. The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) kept the policy repo rate unchanged at what percentage in its August 2026 meeting?

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक की मौद्रिक नीति समिति (MPC) ने अगस्त 2026 की बैठक में पॉलिसी रेपो रेट को किस प्रतिशत पर अपरिवर्तित रखा?

- (a) 5.00%
- (b) 5.25%
- (c) 5.50%
- (d) 5.75%
- (e) 5.35%

Ans. b

Sol. RBI MPC Keeps Repo Rate Unchanged at 5.25%, Retains Neutral Stance

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) voted unanimously to keep the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) unchanged at 5.25%, after a detailed assessment of the evolving macroeconomic and financial developments and the outlook.

Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remains at 5%, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the bank rate remain at 5.50%.

The MPC also decided to continue with the neutral stance.

RBI Current Policy Rate are as under –

- *Policy Repo Rate – 5.25%*
- *Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) – 5.00%*
- *Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) – 5.50%*
- *Bank Rate – 5.50%*

- Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35%
- Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) – 3.00%
- Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) – 18%

56. The Department of Posts released a commemorative postage stamp on 3 August 2026 to mark the birth centenary of Satish Gujral, which was unveiled by Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia at Bikaner House, New Delhi. The commemorative postage stamp released on the birth centenary of Satish Gujral was designed by whom?

डाक विभाग ने 3 अगस्त 2026 को सतीश गुजराल की जन्म शताब्दी के अवसर पर एक स्मारक डाक टिकट जारी किया, जिसका अनावरण केंद्रीय मंत्री ज्योतिरादित्य एम. सिंधिया ने नई दिल्ली के बीकानेर हाउस में किया। सतीश गुजराल की जन्म शताब्दी पर जारी किए गए इस स्मारक डाक टिकट को किसने डिज़ाइन किया था?

- (a) Raseel Gujral Ansal
- (b) Jyotiraditya M. Scindia
- (c) Anuj Kumar
- (d) Satish Gujral
- (e) India Post Design Cell

Ans. c

Sol. Department of Posts Releases Commemorative Stamp Honouring Satish Gujral's Birth Centenary

The Department of Posts released a commemorative postage stamp on 3 August 2026 to mark the birth centenary of Satish Gujral, which was unveiled by Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia at Bikaner House, New Delhi.

Satish Gujral (1925–2020) was a renowned Indian painter, sculptor, muralist, and architect, regarded as one of the leading figures of modern Indian art.

The stamp features Satish Gujral's 2010 acrylic self-portrait, one of only four self-portraits created by him, with the design prepared by Anuj Kumar based on a proposal by his daughter Raseel Gujral Ansal.

57. Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh inaugurated the Centre of Excellence for Handloom Technology (CoE-HT) at which institution?

केंद्रीय कपड़ा मंत्री गिरिराज सिंह ने किस संस्थान में 'सेंटर ऑफ़ एक्सीलेंस फ़ॉर हैंडलूम टेक्नोलॉजी' (CoE-HT) का उद्घाटन किया?

- (a) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay
- (b) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras
- (c) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi
- (d) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur

(e) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur**Ans. c****Sol.** Giriraj Singh Inaugurates Centre of Excellence for Handloom Technology at IIT Delhi

Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh inaugurated the Centre of Excellence for Handloom Technology (CoE-HT) at IIT Delhi to modernise India's handloom sector through technology, innovation, and research.

The Centre aims to integrate India's traditional weaving heritage with advanced technologies, promoting digital innovation, sustainability, entrepreneurship, and improved market access for handloom weavers.

CoE-HT will serve as a hub for research, skill development, and collaboration among academia, industry, government, startups, designers, and weavers to strengthen the handloom ecosystem.

58. Union Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan dedicated India's first indigenous vaccine against which disease affecting pigs?

केंद्रीय कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान ने सूअरों को प्रभावित करने वाली किस बीमारी के खिलाफ भारत की पहली स्वदेशी वैक्सीन समर्पित की?

(a) Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD)**(b) Classical Swine Fever (CSF)****(c) African Swine Fever (ASF)****(d) Avian Influenza****(e) Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)****Ans. c****Sol.** India Launches First Indigenous African Swine Fever Vaccine for Pigs

Union Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan dedicated India's first indigenous MA-104 Cell Line-Based Live Attenuated African Swine Fever (ASF) Vaccine for pigs, marking a major milestone in veterinary science.

The vaccine has successfully passed laboratory and field evaluations for safety, purity, genetic stability, immunogenicity, and protective efficacy, and is suitable for large-scale production.

Recommended for healthy pigs above 8 weeks of age, the vaccine is administered as a 1 mL intramuscular dose, followed by a booster after 14 days, highlighting India's growing capability in developing indigenous animal health solutions.

59. Esri India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which Navratna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) to collaborate on defence projects?

Esri India ने रक्षा परियोजनाओं पर सहयोग करने के लिए किस नवरत्न केंद्रीय सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र उद्यम (CPSE) के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)
- (b) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- (c) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- (d) BEML Limited
- (e) both a and b

Ans. c

Sol. Esri India and BEL Sign MoU to Boost Defence Capabilities with GIS and GeoAI
Esri India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Navratna CPSE Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) to collaborate on defence projects involving Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Location Intelligence, and GeoAI.

The partnership builds on the successful execution of earlier projects for the Indian Armed Forces and aims to strengthen the use of advanced geospatial technologies in defence.

According to Esri India Managing Director Agenda Kumar, geospatial intelligence has become a strategic capability that enables defence forces to analyse, plan, and respond with greater speed, accuracy, and precision.

60. Harshita Jakhar became the first Indian woman cyclist to feature at which prestigious international cycling event?

हर्षिता जाखड़ किस प्रतिष्ठित अंतरराष्ट्रीय साइकिलिंग इवेंट में भाग लेने वाली पहली भारतीय महिला साइकिलिस्ट बनीं?

- (a) Giro d'Italia Women
- (b) UCI Road World Championships
- (c) Tour de France Femmes
- (d) Vuelta a España Femenina
- (e) UCI Track Cycling World Championships

Ans. c

Sol. Harshita Jakhar Becomes First Indian Woman to Feature at Tour de France Femmes

Harshita Jakhar of Rajasthan became the first Indian woman cyclist to feature at the prestigious Tour de France Femmes, creating a historic milestone for Indian cycling. She participated in the ceremonial start of Stage 2 of the Tour de France Femmes at Aigle, Switzerland, marking India's first-ever women's representation at the event.

61. Dr D.Y. Patil, who passed away, had served as the Governor of which two Indian states?

डॉ. डी.वाई. पाटिल, जिनका निधन हो गया, ने किन दो भारतीय राज्यों के राज्यपाल के रूप में कार्य किया था?

- (a) Maharashtra and Gujarat
- (b) Karnataka and Goa
- (c) Tripura and Bihar
- (d) Odisha and Jharkhand
- (e) Punjab and Haryana

Ans. c

Sol. Former Bihar and Tripura Governor Dr. D.Y. Patil Passes Away at 90

Dr D.Y. Patil, noted educationist, social worker, and former Governor of Tripura and Bihar, passed away on 4 August 2026 in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, at the age of 90. He was honoured with the Padma Shri in 1991 for his contributions to social work and had earlier served as Mayor of Kolhapur (1957–1962) and as a Congress MLA (1967–1978).

Dr. D.Y. Patil served as Governor of Tripura (2009–2013) and Governor of Bihar (2013–2014), and also held additional charge as the Governor of West Bengal.

62. The Government has extended the tenure of Dr. T.V. Somanathan as:

सरकार ने डॉ. टी.वी. सोमनाथन का कार्यकाल किस पद पर बढ़ाया है?

- (a) Finance Secretary
- (b) Home Secretary
- (c) Defence Secretary
- (d) Cabinet Secretary
- (e) Foreign Secretary

Ans. d

Sol. Government Extends Tenure of Cabinet Secretary T.V. Somanathan and Home Secretary Govind Mohan by One Year

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved a one-year extension in the tenure of Dr. T.V. Somanathan as Cabinet Secretary, allowing him to continue in office beyond 30 August 2026.

The ACC has also approved a one-year extension in the tenure of Govind Mohan as Home Secretary.

63. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of Air India?

एयर इंडिया के नए मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (CEO) और प्रबंध निदेशक (MD) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Campbell Wilson
- (b) Natarajan Chandrasekaran

(c) Tewolde Gebremariam

(d) Ilker Ayci

(e) Pieter Elbers

Ans. c

Sol. Tewolde Gebremariam Appointed as Air India's New CEO and Managing Director
The Board of Directors of Air India has appointed Tewolde Gebremariam as the airline's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD), succeeding Campbell Wilson.

The appointment follows a global leadership search conducted by a dedicated Board committee, which evaluated both internal and international external candidates.

Recent Appointments

- **CEO of IndiGo** - Willie Walsh (replace Pieter Elbers)
- **54th Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI)** - Varsha Ashok Aglawe (first woman; replace Asit Saha)
- **General Manager of Integral Coach Factory (ICF)** - Manish Agarwal (replace U. Subba Rao)
- **Secretary of Ministry of Mines** – Keshav Chandra (replace Piyush Goyal)

64. According to the India Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2025, who emerged as India's most valued celebrity brand?

'इंडिया सेलिब्रिटी ब्रांड वैल्यूएशन रिपोर्ट 2025' के अनुसार, भारत का सबसे मूल्यवान सेलिब्रिटी ब्रांड कौन बनकर उभरा?

(a) Sunny Leone

(b) Ranveer Singh

(c) Shah Rukh Khan

(d) Amitabh Bachchan

(e) Deepika Padukone

Ans. c

Sol. Shah Rukh Khan Becomes India's Most Valued Celebrity Brand in 2025

Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan emerged as India's most valued celebrity brand in 2025, according to the India Celebrity Brand Valuation Report released by global financial and risk advisory firm Kroll.

- Shah Rukh Khan moved from the third position in 2024 to the first position in 2025, with an estimated brand value of \$177.9 million.

Rank (2025)	Celebrity	Brand Value (USD Million)
1	Shah Rukh Khan	177.9
2	Ranveer Singh	162.9
3	Virat Kohli	158.4

Rank (2025)	Celebrity	Brand Value (USD Million)
4	Sachin Tendulkar	125.9
5	Mahendra Singh Dhoni	115.3
6	Alia Bhatt	93.9
7	Deepika Padukone	89.2
8	Hrithik Roshan	88.9
9	Amitabh Bachchan	80.8
10 (Joint)	Akshay Kumar	80.0
10 (Joint)	Ranbir Kapoor	80.0

65. With reference to the RBI's Draft Guidelines for 'On Tap' Licensing of Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs), consider the following statements:

अर्बन को-ऑपरेटिव बैंकों (UCBs) के लिए RBI की 'ऑन टैप' लाइसेंसिंग से जुड़ी ड्राफ्ट गाइडलाइंस के संदर्भ में, नीचे दिए गए बयानों पर विचार करें:

1. The RBI proposes to resume issuing fresh licences for UCBs after a gap of two decades.
2. Only existing multi-state Credit Co-operative Societies (CCSs) with at least 10 years of operations are eligible to apply.
3. The minimum deposit size required for eligibility is ₹15,000 crore.

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) None of the above

Ans. a

Sol. RBI Proposes Fresh Licensing of Urban Co-operative Banks After 20 Years

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed to resume issuing fresh licences for Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) after a gap of 20 years, following an 'on tap' licensing approach.

Only existing multi-state Credit Co-operative Societies (CCSs) with at least 10 years of operations, ₹10,000 crore in deposits, and a minimum net worth of ₹300 crore will be eligible to apply.

Eligible CCSs must have maintained a CRAR of at least 12%, a Net NPA ratio of not more than 3%, and demonstrate a positive financial and operational track record over the previous five years.

Conversion of a Credit Co-operative Society into a UCB will require approval by at least two-thirds of the shareholders, both in number and value, at a specially convened meeting.

66. The Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Netflix, organised a special event at the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi, to mark 10 years of Netflix in India. During the event, the Ministry of Tourism integrated the 'As Seen on Netflix' section with which of the following digital platforms?

पर्यटन मंत्रालय ने संस्कृति मंत्रालय और नेटफ्लिक्स के साथ मिलकर, भारत में नेटफ्लिक्स के 10 साल पूरे होने पर नई दिल्ली में नेशनल गैलरी ऑफ़ मॉडर्न आर्ट (NGMA) में एक खास इवेंट किया। इवेंट के दौरान, पर्यटन मंत्रालय ने 'ऐज़ सीन ऑन नेटफ्लिक्स' सेक्शन को इनमें से किस डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म के साथ जोड़ा?

- (a) Digital India
- (b) PM Gati Shakti
- (c) Incredible India
- (d) India Stack
- (e) MyGov India

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Tourism Launches 'As Seen on Netflix' Initiative on Incredible India Platform

The Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Netflix, organised a special event at the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi, to mark 10 years of Netflix in India.

The Ministry of Tourism has integrated the 'As Seen on Netflix' section with the Incredible India digital platform.

The initiative enables travellers to explore real Indian destinations featured in popular Netflix films and web series, promoting tourism through screen-inspired travel.

67. The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) participated in the 10th Anniversary Meeting of the South-East Asia Regulatory Network (SEARN), which was held in:

इंडियन फार्माकोपिया कमीशन (IPC) ने साउथ-ईस्ट एशिया रेगुलेटरी नेटवर्क (SEARN) की 10वीं वर्षगांठ की बैठक में हिस्सा लिया, जो यहाँ आयोजित की गई थी:

- (a) New Delhi, India
- (b) Dhaka, Bangladesh
- (c) Kathmandu, Nepal
- (d) Colombo, Sri Lanka

(e) Bangkok, Thailand

Ans. c

Sol. Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission Recognised as WHO-SEARN Regional Centre of Excellence

The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) participated in the 10th Anniversary Meeting of the South-East Asia Regulatory Network (SEARN) held in Kathmandu, Nepal.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced that the IPC has been recognised as the WHO-SEARN Regional Centre of Excellence in Pharmacovigilance. The IPC has also been designated as the WHO-SEARN Technical Centre in Quality, strengthening its role in promoting medicine quality standards.

These recognitions establish the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) as a key regional institution for enhancing the quality, safety, and pharmacovigilance of medicines across South-East Asia.

68. In August 2026, India marked how many years since the provisions of Article 370 were made inoperative?

अगस्त 2026 में, अनुच्छेद 370 के प्रावधानों को निष्क्रिय किए हुए भारत को कितने साल हो गए?

- (a) 5 years
- (b) 6 years
- (c) 7 years
- (d) 8 years
- (e) 10 years

Ans. c

Sol. India Marks Seven Years Since the Abrogation of Article 370

5 August 2026 marks seven years since the process to make the provisions of Article 370 inoperative began in 2019, ending the special status of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir.

The process commenced on 5 August 2019, when the Presidential Order and the resolution related to Article 370 were introduced in Parliament.

Parliament approved the proposal on 6 August 2019, while 5 August is widely observed as the anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370.

69. On 6 August 2026, the world marked how many years since the atomic bombing of Hiroshima?

6 अगस्त 2026 को हिरोशिमा पर परमाणु बम गिराए जाने के कितने साल पूरे हुए?

- (a) 75 years

(b) 78 years

(c) 80 years

(d) 81 years

(e) 85 years

Ans. d

Sol. World Marks 81st Anniversary of Hiroshima Atomic Bombing

6 August 2026 marks 81 years since the United States dropped the first atomic bomb, "Little Boy," on Hiroshima, Japan, during World War II.

The bombing of Hiroshima (6 August 1945) was followed by the bombing of Nagasaki (9 August 1945) with the "Fat Man" atomic bomb.

The atomic bombings caused massive destruction and loss of life, leading to Japan's surrender on 15 August 1945 and the end of World War II.

70. Who is the author of the book Bringing the Cheetah Back to India?

'ब्रिंगिंग द चीता बैक टू इंडिया' (Bringing the Cheetah Back to India) किताब के लेखक कौन हैं?

(a) Shashi Tharoor

(b) Prashant Agrawal

(c) Jairam Ramesh

(d) Amitav Ghosh

(e) Sanjeev Sanyal

Ans. d

Sol. Prashant Agrawal's Bringing the Cheetah Back to India Chronicles the Story of Project Cheetah

Bringing the Cheetah Back to India, authored by Prashant Agrawal, narrates the story of Project Cheetah, highlighting the diplomatic, ecological, and administrative efforts behind the reintroduction of cheetahs to India after 70 years.

Written from the perspective of India's former High Commissioner to Namibia, the book provides an insider's account of the India–Namibia collaboration that made the historic cheetah translocation possible.

71. National Handloom Day is observed every year in India on:

भारत में राष्ट्रीय हथकरघा दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

(a) 5 August

(b) 6 August

(c) 7 August

(d) 8 August

(e) 9 August

Ans. c

Sol. 7 August - National Handloom Day

National Handloom Day is observed every year on 7 August to celebrate India's rich handloom heritage and honour the contribution of handloom weavers to the country's cultural and economic development.

The day commemorates the Swadeshi Movement, which was launched on 7 August 1905, encouraging the use of indigenous products, including handwoven textiles.

National Handloom Day was first observed in 2015, with the objective of promoting the handloom sector, generating employment, and supporting the 'Vocal for Local' initiative.

72. The International Day of Awareness of the Special Development Needs and Challenges of Landlocked Developing Countries is observed every year on:

ज़मीन से घिरे विकासशील देशों की विशेष विकास संबंधी ज़रूरतों और चुनौतियों के बारे में जागरूकता का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल इस तारीख को मनाया जाता है:

(a) 5 August

(b) 6 August

(c) 7 August

(d) 8 August

(e) 9 August

Ans. b

Sol. 6 August - International Day of Awareness of the Special Development Needs and Challenges of Landlocked Developing Countries

International Day of Awareness of the Special Development Needs and Challenges of Landlocked Developing Countries is observed annually on 6 August to raise awareness about the unique development challenges faced by 32 Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs).

The day highlights issues such as lack of direct access to the sea, high transport and trade costs, geographical isolation, and limited connectivity, which hinder sustainable economic growth and development.

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed this international observance in 2025, with the first observance held on 6 August 2025, to promote global partnerships and support for the sustainable development of LLDCs.

73. What is the name of the new digital platform that the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is set to launch for tracking inoperative EPF accounts?

एम्प्लॉइज प्रोविडेंट फंड ऑर्गनाइजेशन (EPFO) द्वारा निष्क्रिय EPF खातों को ट्रैक करने के लिए लॉन्च किए जाने वाले नए डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म का नाम क्या है?

- (a) EPF Mitra Portal
- (b) E-PRAAPTI
- (c) UAN Connect Portal
- (d) EPF Digital Access Portal
- (e) e-Shram EPF Portal

Ans. b

Sol. EPFO to Launch 'E-PRAAPTI' Portal for Tracking and Activating Inoperative EPF Accounts

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) will launch the EPF Aadhaar-Based Access Portal for Tracking Inoperative Accounts (E-PRAAPTI) to help members identify, track, link, and activate old EPF accounts.

The portal will use Aadhaar-based authentication to enable secure access to old EPF accounts, allowing members to update their profile and seamlessly link and activate their Universal Account Number (UAN).

E-PRAAPTI is expected to reduce manual intervention, minimise documentation, and improve the transparency, efficiency, and ease of accessing inactive EPF accounts.

74. Which of the following correctly represents India's medal tally at the Commonwealth Games 2026?

इनमें से कौन सा विकल्प कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स 2026 में भारत की मेडल टैली को सही ढंग से दिखाता है?

- (a) 13 Gold, 17 Silver, 9 Bronze
- (b) 17 Gold, 13 Silver, 9 Bronze
- (c) 13 Gold, 9 Silver, 17 Bronze
- (d) 9 Gold, 17 Silver, 13 Bronze
- (e) 15 Gold, 14 Silver, 10 Bronze

Ans. a

Sol. India Finishes 4th at 2026 Commonwealth Games with 39 Medals, Including 13 Gold

India finished 4th in the 2026 Commonwealth Games held in Glasgow, winning a total of 39 medals — 13 Gold, 17 Silver, and 9 Bronze.

Indian boxers delivered an outstanding performance, winning 10 medals on the final day, including 7 gold medals, significantly boosting India's overall medal tally.

Mirabai Chanu won India's first gold medal in the women's 48 kg weightlifting event, while para-powerlifter Jhandu Kumar secured India's first medal of the Games with a bronze.

India's 13 gold medals came from Weightlifting (1), Para-athletics (2), Judo (2), and Boxing (7), highlighting the country's dominance in combat sports and para-events.

Top 10 Nations Final Standings – Commonwealth Games 2026

Rank	Team / Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Australia	70	45	56	171
2	England	29	45	36	110
3	Canada	19	20	23	62
4	India	13	17	9	39
5	Scotland	13	9	17	39
6	New Zealand	10	13	12	35
7	Nigeria	10	7	7	24
8	Jamaica	10	4	5	19
9	Wales	9	10	12	31
10	Malaysia	8	3	5	16

Gold Medal Winners (13 Gold)		
S.No.	Athlete	Sport/Event
1	Saikhom Mirabai Chanu	Weightlifting – Women's 48kg
2	Sharmila Dhankar	Para-Athletics – Women's Shot Put F57
3	Dilip Gavit	Para-Athletics – Men's 100m T47
4	Asmita Dey	Judo – Women's 48kg
5	Harsh Singh	Judo – Men's 60kg
6	Soman Rana	Para-Athletics – Men's Shot Put F57
7	Preeti Pawar	Boxing – Women's Category
8	Jaismine Lamboria	Boxing – Women's Category
9	Sakshi Chaudhary	Boxing – Women's Category
10	Priya Ghanghas	Boxing – Women's Category
11	Arundhati Choudhary	Boxing – Women's Category
12	Sachin Siwach	Boxing – Men's Category
13	Ankush Panghal	Boxing – Men's Category
Silver Medal Winners (17 Silver)		
S.No.	Athlete	Sport/Event
1	Neeraj Chopra	Athletics – Men's Javelin Throw

Gold Medal Winners (13 Gold)		
S.No.	Athlete	Sport/Event
2	Murali Sreeshankar	Athletics – Men's Long Jump
3	Praveen Chithravel	Athletics – Men's Triple Jump
4	Sarvesh Anil Kushare	Athletics – Men's High Jump
5	Gulveer Singh	Athletics – Men's 10,000m
6	Rishikanta Singh	Weightlifting – Men's 60kg
7	Muthupandi Raja	Weightlifting – Men's 65kg
8	Gyaneshwari Yadav	Weightlifting – Women's 53kg
9	Valluri Ajaya Babu	Weightlifting – Men's 79kg
10	Harjinder Kaur	Weightlifting – Women's 69kg
11	Lovepreet Singh	Weightlifting – Men's +110kg
12	Lovlina Borgohain	Boxing – Women's 75kg
13	Narender Berwal	Boxing – Men's 90+kg
14	Jadumani Singh	Boxing – Men's 55kg
15	Yamini Mourya	Judo – Women's 57kg
16	Mohammed Basil	Para-Athletics – Men's 100m T47
17	Shubham Juyal	Para-Athletics – Men's Shot Put F57
Bronze Medal Winners (9 Bronze)		
S.No.	Athlete	Sport/Event
1	Yashvir Singh	Athletics – Men's Javelin Throw
2	Selva Prabhu Thirumaran	Athletics – Men's Triple Jump
3	Gulveer Singh	Athletics – Men's 5000m
4	Tejaswin Shankar	Athletics – Men's Decathlon
5	Seema Kaliramna	Athletics – Women's Discus Throw
6	Bindyarani Devi	Weightlifting – Women's 58kg
7	Jhandu Kumar	Para Powerlifting – Men's Heavyweight
8	Shilpa Shyla	Para-Athletics – Women's Shot Put F57
9	Unnati Sharma	Judo – Women's -64kg

75. Who has been recommended as the new Managing Director of Muthoot Finance Limited?

मुथूट फाइनेंस लिमिटेड के नए मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर के तौर पर किसकी सिफारिश की गई है?

- (a) Alexander George
- (b) George Alexander Muthoot
- (c) Thomas John Muthoot
- (d) M.G. George Muthoot
- (e) Alexander Mathew

Ans. a

Sol. Muthoot Finance Appoints Alexander George as Managing Director

Alexander George has been recommended by the Board of Directors as the Managing Director of Muthoot Finance, effective October 1, 2026, subject to shareholders' approval at the upcoming AGM.

George Alexander Muthoot, the current Managing Director, will transition to the role of Executive Vice Chairman.

76. Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched the Har Ghar Tiranga 2026 campaign to be observed from 9–17 August 2026 across India and among the Indian diaspora. Har Ghar Tiranga was first launched in which year under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav?

केंद्रीय संस्कृति और पर्यटन मंत्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत ने 'हर घर तिरंगा 2026' अभियान की शुरुआत की, जिसे 9-17 अगस्त 2026 तक पूरे भारत और विदेशों में रहने वाले भारतीयों के बीच मनाया जाएगा। 'आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव' के तहत 'हर घर तिरंगा' अभियान पहली बार किस वर्ष शुरू किया गया था?

- (a) 2020
- (b) 2021
- (c) 2022
- (d) 2023
- (e) 2024

Ans. c

Sol. Har Ghar Tiranga 2026 to Be Celebrated from 9–17 August Across India

Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched the Har Ghar Tiranga 2026 campaign to be observed from 9–17 August 2026 across India and among the Indian diaspora.

Har Ghar Tiranga was first launched in 2022 under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, and the 2026 edition marks its fifth edition.

The campaign encourages citizens to hoist the National Flag and participate in activities promoting patriotism, national unity, and India's cultural heritage.

The 2026 campaign coincides with the 150th anniversary of India's National Song, "Vande Mataram," composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay.

The government also launched SURYAPATH TIRANGA, a symbolic global relay of the Indian National Flag to strengthen patriotic participation worldwide.

77. What is the total outlay approved for the GOBARdhan National Circular Bioenergy Scheme?

गोबरधन (GOBARdhan) नेशनल सर्कुलर बायोएनर्जी स्कीम के लिए मंजूर किया गया कुल खर्च कितना है?

- (a) ₹18,500 crore
- (b) ₹20,731 crore
- (c) ₹23,731 crore
- (d) ₹25,000 crore
- (e) ₹27,500 crore

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet Approves GOBARdhan National Circular Bioenergy Scheme

The Union Cabinet approved the GOBARdhan (National Circular Bioenergy Scheme) with a total outlay of ₹23,731 crore, to be implemented from 2026–27 to 2035–36.

The scheme aims to increase domestic Compressed Biogas (CBG) production nearly ten-fold, establish CBG as a key pillar of India's energy mix, and create 1.5 lakh jobs. GOBARdhan will convert agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, municipal organic waste, and other biomass into clean fuel, organic manure, rural income, and economic value.

78. Who has taken charge as the Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)?

कार्यवाहक केंद्रीय सतर्कता आयुक्त (सीवीसी) के रूप में किसने कार्यभार संभाला है?

- (a) Praveen Kumar Srivastava
- (b) Vivek Joshi
- (c) A.S. Rajeev
- (d) Sanjay Malhotra
- (e) Rajiv Gauba

Ans. c

Sol. A.S. Rajeev Takes Charge as Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)

A.S. Rajeev has taken charge as the Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) following the completion of Praveen Kumar Srivastava's tenure.

Rajeev was appointed Vigilance Commissioner on 9 February 2024 and joined the Central Vigilance Commission on 11 March 2024.

A Chartered Accountant (CA) with an MBA in Banking & Finance, Rajeev has over 38 years of banking experience across Syndicate Bank, Vijaya Bank, Indian Bank and Bank of Maharashtra.

79. Which Indian state is set to establish the country's first Rail-Tech Park, aimed at creating a dedicated ecosystem for railway equipment, components, and specialised engineering products?

रेलवे के उपकरणों, पुर्जों और विशेष इंजीनियरिंग उत्पादों के लिए एक समर्पित इकोसिस्टम बनाने के उद्देश्य से, देश का पहला रेल-टेक पार्क किस भारतीय राज्य में स्थापित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Karnataka
- (e) Tamil Nadu

Ans. b

Sol. Odisha to Launch India's First Rail-Tech Park in Khordha

Odisha is set to launch India's first Rail-Tech Park at the Sahaspur Industrial Estate in Khordha district.

The park will create a dedicated ecosystem for manufacturers of railway equipment, components and specialised engineering products.

Odisha Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (IDCO) has completed a preliminary assessment and land-development work, while the DPR has been prepared.

About Odisha

- **Capital** – Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Mohan Charan Majhi (replace Naveen Patnaik)
- **Deputy CM** - KV Singhdeo and Pravati Parida
- **Governor** – Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati

80. Which country will host the first Global South Film Festival next year?

अगले साल पहला 'ग्लोबल साउथ फिल्म फेस्टिवल' किस देश में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Brazil
- (b) Russia
- (c) India
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) South Africa

Ans. c

Sol. India to Host First Global South Film Festival Next Year

India will host the first Global South Film Festival next year, as announced on the sidelines of the BRICS WAVES Bazaar in Mumbai.

The NFDC and NFAI signed agreements, exchanged Letters of Intent, and held discussions with institutions from Brazil, Russia and Vietnam, including exploring opportunities for film co-production.

The two-day WAVES BRICS Bazaar brought together 900+ delegates from 20 BRICS member and partner countries, with around 250 meetings held to promote collaboration in the film and entertainment sector.

81. What was the net profit reported by State Bank of India (SBI) in Q1 FY27?

Q1 FY27 में स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया (SBI) का नेट प्रॉफ़िट कितना था?

- (a) ₹19,160 crore
- (b) ₹20,121 crore
- (c) ₹21,121 crore
- (d) ₹22,121 crore
- (e) ₹23,121 crore

Ans. c

Sol. SBI Records Highest-Ever Quarterly Net Profit of ₹21,121 Crore in Q1 FY27

State Bank of India (SBI) recorded its highest-ever quarterly net profit of ₹21,121 crore in Q1 FY27.

SBI's net profit increased by 10% YoY, from ₹19,160 crore in Q1 FY26 to ₹21,121 crore in Q1 FY27.

Particulars	Q1 FY26	Q1 FY27	% Change
Net Profit	19,160	21,121	10.2%
Net Interest Income	40,907	46,992	14.9%
Non-Interest Income	17,511	15,923	-9.1%
Operating Profit	30,544	33,529	9.8%

82. Which bank has received RBI approval to establish a wholly owned subsidiary for stock broking activities?

स्टॉक ब्रोकिंग गतिविधियों के लिए पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाली सहायक कंपनी स्थापित करने के लिए किस बैंक को RBI से मंजूरी मिली है?

- (a) Yes Bank
- (b) IndusInd Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) Federal Bank
- (e) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Ans. b

Sol. IndusInd Bank Gets RBI Nod to Set Up Wholly Owned Stock Broking Subsidiary

IndusInd Bank has received RBI approval to establish a wholly owned subsidiary for undertaking stock broking business.

The approval also permits the bank to infuse equity capital into the proposed subsidiary, subject to RBI's specified conditions.

The move will strengthen IndusInd Bank's presence in capital market-related financial services and enable it to offer stock broking services through a dedicated subsidiary.

83. Which Indonesian ministry has partnered with the IIT Madras Global Research Foundation (IITM Global)?

किस इंडोनेशियाई मंत्रालय ने IIT मद्रास ग्लोबल रिसर्च फ़ाउंडेशन (IITM Global) के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Ministry of Education
- (b) Ministry of Science and Technology
- (c) Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology
- (d) Ministry of Industry
- (e) Ministry of Digital Development

Ans. d

Sol. Indonesia Partners with IIT Madras Global to Boost Higher Education, Research & Deep Tech

Indonesia's Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology has partnered with the IIT Madras Global Research Foundation (IITM Global) to strengthen collaboration in higher education, research and innovation.

The partnership will also focus on deep technology, entrepreneurship and talent development, promoting greater academic and technological cooperation between India and Indonesia.

84. Which three countries signed the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement?

किन तीन देशों ने मक्का संयुक्त रक्षा समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) Pakistan, Iran and Türkiye
- (b) Saudi Arabia, UAE and Pakistan
- (c) Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye
- (d) Türkiye, Qatar and Saudi Arabia
- (e) Pakistan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia

Ans. c

Sol. Pakistan, Saudi Arabia & Türkiye Sign Mecca Joint Defence Agreement

Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye signed the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, marking a major step in trilateral defence cooperation.

The agreement establishes a collective-defence principle, under which an armed attack against any one of the three countries will be treated as an attack against all three.

The pact aims to strengthen joint deterrence, defence cooperation and security coordination among the three countries amid rising regional tensions.

85. Which company has introduced India's first satellite-guided precision navigation system for helicopters?

किस कंपनी ने हेलीकॉप्टरों के लिए भारत का पहला सैटेलाइट-गाइडेड प्रिसिजन नेविगेशन सिस्टम पेश किया है?

- (a) Bharat Electronics Limited
- (b) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- (c) Bharat Dynamics Limited
- (d) Indian Space Research Organisation
- (e) Airports Authority of India

Ans. b

Sol. HAL Introduces India's First Satellite-Guided Precision Navigation System for Helicopters

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has introduced India's first satellite-guided precision navigation system for helicopters at its airport in Bengaluru.

The system, called Required Navigation Performance – Category H (RNP CAT H), enables faster and more precise take-off and landing of helicopters.

The RNP CAT H procedure was developed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI).

86. Who has been awarded the prestigious COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026 for outstanding contributions to space research in developing countries?

विकासशील देशों में अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान में उत्कृष्ट योगदान के लिए प्रतिष्ठित COSPAR विक्रम साराभाई मेडल 2026 से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Anil Bhardwaj
- (b) Annapurni Subramaniam
- (c) Gurbax Singh Lakhina
- (d) K. Sivan
- (e) U.R. Rao

Ans. b

Sol. Annapurni Subramaniam Wins COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026

Annapurni Subramaniam, Director of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), has been awarded the COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026 at the 46th COSPAR General Assembly in Florence, Italy.

She became the first Indian woman and the fourth Indian to receive this prestigious medal. Previous Indian recipients were U.R. Rao (1996), Gurbax Singh Lakhina (2014), and Anil Bhardwaj (2024).

The medal recognises outstanding contributions to space research in developing countries and is awarded jointly by ISRO and COSPAR.

The award is presented once every two years in honour of Vikram Sarabhai, known as the Father of the Indian Space Programme.

87. Which Bengaluru-based space company has unveiled India's first privately built 800 kN FFSC rocket engine?

बेंगलुरु स्थित किस स्पेस कंपनी ने भारत का पहला निजी तौर पर निर्मित 800 kN FFSC रॉकेट इंजन पेश किया है?

- (a) Skyroot Aerospace
- (b) Agnikul Cosmos
- (c) Astrobase Space Technologies
- (d) Pixxel
- (e) Bellatrix Aerospace

Ans. c

Sol. Astrobase Unveils India's First Privately Built 800 kN FFSC Rocket Engine 'EVEREST'

Bengaluru-based Astrobase Space Technologies has unveiled EVEREST, India's first privately developed 800 kN Full-Flow Staged Combustion (FFSC) LOX-Methane rocket engine.

With the development of EVEREST, India has become the fourth country to achieve FFSC engine technology, after Russia, the U.S. and China.

The engine is aimed at strengthening India's indigenous launch infrastructure and advancing reusable launch capabilities, marking a major milestone for the country's private space sector.

88. Which Indian Grandmaster won the Grand Chess Tour St. Louis Rapid & Blitz title in 2026?

किस भारतीय ग्रैंडमास्टर ने 2026 में ग्रैंड शतरंज टूर सेंट लुइस रैपिड एंड ब्लिट्ज़ खिताब जीता?

- (a) D. Gukesh
- (b) Arjun Erigaisi
- (c) R. Praggnanandhaa
- (d) Vidit Gujrathi
- (e) Pentala Harikrishna

Ans. c

Sol. R. Praggnanandhaa Wins Grand Chess Tour St. Louis Rapid & Blitz Title
Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa won the Grand Chess Tour St. Louis Rapid & Blitz title in the United States, securing the championship after drawing against Uzbekistan's Javokhir Sindarov in the penultimate round.

This victory adds another major title to Praggnanandhaa's impressive 2026 season, following his triumph at the Norway Chess 2026 tournament in Oslo in June.

Praggnanandhaa's consecutive international successes highlight his growing stature among the world's leading chess players.

89. Who broke the Indian Under-20 National Record in the men's 400 metres at the World Athletics U20 Championships?

वर्ल्ड एथलेटिक्स U20 चैंपियनशिप में पुरुषों की 400 मीटर दौड़ में भारतीय U20 नेशनल रिकॉर्ड किसने तोड़ा?

- (a) Anil Kumar
- (b) Mohammed Ashfaq
- (c) Amoj Jacob
- (d) Muhammad Anas
- (e) Arokia Rajiv

Ans. b

Sol. Mohammed Ashfaq Breaks India's U20 National Record in Men's 400m
India's Mohammed Ashfaq broke the Under-20 National Record in the men's 400 metres at the World Athletics U20 Championships in Eugene, United States. He clocked 45.81 seconds in the first-round Heat 5. He improved upon his own previous national record of 46.05 seconds.

90. Recently, retired England's John Turner is associated with which sport?

हाल ही में रिटायर हुए इंग्लैंड के जॉन टर्नर किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

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

Ans. c

Sol. England Pacer John Turner Announces Retirement from Professional Cricket
England fast bowler John Turner has announced his retirement from all forms of professional cricket at the age of 25, bringing a promising career to an early end.

Turner's decision comes after persistent injury problems, including a career-ending stress fracture. He represented England in two ODIs and two T20Is in 2024.

91. National Javelin Day is observed in India on which date?

भारत में राष्ट्रीय भाला फेंक दिवस किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. 7 August - National Javelin Day

National Javelin Day is observed in India every year on 7 August to honour the success of Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra.

The day commemorates Neeraj Chopra's historic gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics on 7 August 2021, where he became the first Indian track-and-field athlete to win an Olympic gold.

92. India recently crossed which milestone in installed non-fossil fuel-based electricity capacity?

भारत ने हाल ही में नॉन-फॉसिल फ्यूल (जीवाश्म-मुक्त ईंधन) आधारित बिजली क्षमता में कौन-सा मील का पत्थर हासिल किया है?

- (a) 200 GW
- (b) 250 GW
- (c) 300 GW
- (d) 350 GW
- (e) 500 GW

Ans. c

Sol. India Crosses 300 GW of Installed Non-Fossil Fuel-Based Power Capacity
India has crossed 300 GW of installed non-fossil fuel-based electricity capacity, marking a major milestone in its clean energy journey.

India's renewable energy capacity has surged by 400% over the last 12 years, reflecting rapid growth in the clean energy sector.

New and Renewable Energy Minister Pralhad Joshi said the milestone demonstrates India's clean energy transition and its growing role in setting global benchmarks.

93. Where was the 11th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting held?

11वीं ब्रिक्स (BRICS) संस्कृति मंत्रियों की बैठक कहाँ आयोजित की गई थी?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Bhopal
- (d) Jaipur
- (e) Lucknow

Ans. c

Sol. 11th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting Held in Bhopal

The 11th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting was held in Bhopal under India's BRICS Chairship and adopted the Bhopal Declaration to strengthen cultural cooperation. Representatives from 14 countries—10 BRICS members and 4 partner countries—discussed cultural and creative industries, opportunities for artists, digital platforms, and protection of cultural heritage.

India announced a pilot Voluntary Artist Registry to promote cultural exchanges and professional networks, while the meeting also addressed artists' rights and copyright in the age of AI.

94. Which department under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry signed strategic MoUs with key industry leaders and ecosystem enablers to strengthen India's startup ecosystem?

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय के किस विभाग ने भारत के स्टार्टअप इकोसिस्टम को मजबूत करने के लिए प्रमुख उद्योग लीडर्स और इकोसिस्टम को बढ़ावा देने वालों के साथ रणनीतिक MoU पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) Department of Financial Services (DFS)
- (b) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
- (c) Department of Economic Affairs (DEA)
- (d) Department of Science and Technology (DST)
- (e) Department of Telecommunications (DoT)

Ans. b

Sol. DPIIT Signs Five MoUs to Strengthen India's Startup Ecosystem and Innovation

DPIIT has signed strategic MoUs with five organisations—Cashfree Payments, Darwin Dynamics, Vultr India, Cars24, and Council for Startup India (CSI)—to strengthen India's startup ecosystem.

The partnerships focus on digital infrastructure, cloud computing, mentorship, entrepreneurship, investment opportunities, skilling, and access to markets for DPIIT-recognised startups.

The MoUs aim to promote innovation-led growth, expand Startup India's reach to Tier-II, Tier-III and rural regions, and enhance the global competitiveness of Indian startups.

95. Who chaired the CEO Round Table held during the India Medical Device Conference 2026 in New Delhi, where discussions focused on strengthening India's medical device sector?

नई दिल्ली में आयोजित इंडिया मेडिकल डिवाइस कॉन्फ्रेंस 2026 के दौरान CEO राउंड टेबल की अध्यक्षता किसने की, जिसमें भारत के मेडिकल डिवाइस सेक्टर को मजबूत करने पर चर्चा हुई?

- (a) Mansukh Mandaviya
- (b) Jagat Prakash Nadda
- (c) Piyush Goyal
- (d) Dharmendra Pradhan
- (e) Ashwini Vaishnaw

Ans. b

Sol. JP Nadda Chairs CEO Round Table at India Medical Device Conference 2026a
Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda chaired a CEO Round Table at the India Medical Device Conference 2026 in New Delhi.

The round table focused on strengthening innovation, regulatory excellence, domestic manufacturing, value chains, market access and exports to position India as a global hub for quality medical devices.

The government reaffirmed its commitment to building a competitive, innovation-driven and globally integrated MedTech ecosystem through closer industry collaboration.

96. Who inaugurated the new office complex of the National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation (NUCFDC) in Mumbai?

मुंबई में नेशनल अर्बन कोऑपरेटिव फाइनेंस एंड डेवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन (NUCFDC) के नए ऑफिस कॉम्प्लेक्स का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Piyush Goyal
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (d) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- (e) Devendra Fadnavis

Ans. b

Sol. Amit Shah Inaugurates NUCFDC Office in Mumbai

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the new office complex of the National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation (NUCFDC) in Mumbai's Fort area and launched several related services.

NUCFDC and the National Forensic Sciences University signed an MoU to strengthen cybersecurity, technological capabilities and institutional capacity in the Urban Cooperative Banking sector.

Amit Shah also inaugurated a Security Operations Centre (SOC) to enhance cybersecurity and resilience of Urban Cooperative Banks, along with Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis.

97. Which Indian weightlifter won a silver medal in the women's 45kg category at the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships?

एशियाई यूथ और जूनियर वेटलिफ्टिंग चैंपियनशिप में महिलाओं की 45 किग्रा कैटेगरी में किस भारतीय वेटलिफ्टर ने सिल्वर मेडल जीता?

- (a) Parishmita Gogoi
- (b) Titli Maji
- (c) Mirabai Chanu
- (d) Bindyarani Devi
- (e) Harshada Garud

Ans. b

Sol. Titli Maji Wins Silver in Women's 45kg at Asian Youth & Junior Weightlifting Championships

Indian weightlifter Titli Maji won the silver medal in the women's 45 kg category at the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. She recorded a total lift of 145 kg, including 65 kg in snatch and 80 kg in clean & jerk. Parishmita Gogoi finished fourth in the same event.

98. Justice Abha Nayar Patel has become the first woman of Indian origin to be appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of which country?

जस्टिस आभा नायर पटेल किस देश के सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जज नियुक्त होने वाली भारतीय मूल की पहली महिला बनी हैं?

- (a) Uganda
- (b) Kenya
- (c) Zambia
- (d) Tanzania
- (e) Ghana

Ans. c

Sol. Justice Abha Nayar Patel Becomes First Woman of Indian Origin Appointed to Zambia's Supreme Court

Justice Abha Nayar Patel has made history as the first woman of Indian origin appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Zambia.

She was recently welcomed at the Supreme Court of India by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and other judges, marking a notable judicial and India–Zambia connection.

Justice Patel was appointed to Zambia's Supreme Court on 27 May 2026; she previously served on the Zambian Court of Appeal and holds an LLM from the University of Cambridge.

99. Who has been granted a one-year extension as the Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED)?

एनफोर्समेंट डायरेक्टोरेट (ED) के डायरेक्टर के तौर पर किसे एक साल का एक्सटेंशन दिया गया है?

- (a) Shraddha Joshi Raj
- (b) Rahul Navin
- (c) Ishika Bansal
- (d) Tuhin Kanta Pandey
- (e) Vikram Dev Dutt

Ans. b

Sol. ED Director Rahul Navin Gets One-Year Extension.

Rahul Navin has been granted a one-year extension as the Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

His tenure has been extended beyond August 13, 2026, up to August 13, 2027, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Navin, a 1993-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer of the Income Tax cadre, has been heading the ED since September 2023.

100. Which state government has announced a monthly pension of ₹10,000 for 325 people who were jailed for participating in protests during the Emergency?

किस राज्य सरकार ने आपातकाल के दौरान विरोध प्रदर्शनों में भाग लेने के कारण जेल भेजे गए 325 लोगों के लिए ₹10,000 की मासिक पेंशन की घोषणा की है?

- (a) Bihar
- (b) West Bengal
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Jharkhand
- (e) Assam

Ans. b

Sol. West Bengal Announces ₹10,000 Monthly Pension for 325 Emergency-Era Protesters

West Bengal Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari announced a monthly pension of ₹10,000 for 325 people who were jailed for participating in protests during the Emergency (1975–77).

The beneficiaries will be honoured under the 'Paschimanga Loktantra Senani Samman' scheme for their sacrifices in defending democracy during the Emergency.

101. India completed its first-ever sea export of GI-tagged Mithila Makhana to which country?

भारत ने GI-टैग वाले मिथिला मखाना का समुद्री रास्ते से अपना पहला निर्यात किस देश को किया?

- (a) USA
- (b) Australia
- (c) Japan
- (d) UAE
- (e) Singapore

Ans. b

Sol. India Makes First-Ever Sea Export of GI-Tagged Mithila Makhana from Bihar to Australia

India completed its first-ever sea export of GI-tagged Mithila Makhana from Bihar to Australia in August 2026.

The consignment was flagged off from the Integrated Unit of Irradiation-cum-Packhouse at Bihta near Patna and routed through Kolkata for sea transport.

Mithila Makhana is a GI-tagged agricultural product associated with the Mithila region of Bihar. GI registration in India is governed by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

102. Who became the first Indian to win the Korea Masters women's singles title?

कोरिया मास्टर्स महिला एकल खिताब जीतने वाली पहली भारतीय कौन बनी?

- (a) PV Sindhu
- (b) Aakarshi Kashyap
- (c) Ashmita Chaliha
- (d) Anmol Kharb
- (e) Malvika Bansod

Ans. c

Sol. Ashmita Chaliha Becomes First Indian to Win Korea Masters

Indian badminton player Ashmita Chaliha won the women's singles title at the Korea Masters, becoming the first Indian to win the tournament.

Chaliha secured her maiden BWF World Tour Super 300 title in Asan, South Korea, defeating China's fourth seed Han Qian Xi in the final. She won the final in 53 minutes with a score of 14-21, 21-14, 21-14, after losing the opening game at the Yi Sun-sin Gymnasium.

103. When is the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples observed annually?

दुनिया के मूल निवासियों का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 5 August
- (b) 7 August
- (c) 9 August
- (d) 12 August
- (e) 15 August

Ans. c

Sol. 9 August - International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is observed every year on 9 August.

Theme 2026 - Honouring Indigenous Midwives: Safeguarding Life and Well-being

The day aims to raise awareness about the rights, cultures, traditions, and contributions of Indigenous Peoples around the world.

It also highlights the need to protect Indigenous communities, their cultural heritage, and their traditional knowledge.

104. Who launched the 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands?

अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह में 'हर घर तिरंगा अभियान' किसने शुरू किया?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Om Birla
- (d) Rajnath Singh
- (e) C. P. Radhakrishnan

Ans. e

Sol. C. P. Radhakrishnan Launches 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' in Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan launched the 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands by hoisting the National Flag at Flag Point, Sri Vijaya Puram on August Kranti Diwas.

He recalled Mahatma Gandhi's "Do or Die" call of 8 August 1942, which inspired millions of Indians and strengthened the Quit India Movement. Radhakrishnan highlighted the islands' historical connection with the Tricolour, noting that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose hoisted the Indian National Flag there on 30 December 1943.

105. Where is the Indian Navy-US Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026 being conducted?

भारतीय नौसेना और अमेरिकी नौसेना का 'एक्सप्लोसिव ऑर्डनेंस डिस्पोजल' (EOD) अभ्यास 2026 कहाँ आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

- (a) Visakhapatnam
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Kochi
- (d) Chennai
- (e) Port Blair

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Navy-US Navy EOD Exercise 2026 Begins in Kochi to Boost Interoperability

The Indian Navy-US Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026 is being conducted at Southern Naval Command, Kochi, from 10 to 14 August 2026.

The five-day exercise aims to enhance interoperability and strengthen professional cooperation between the specialist diving and EOD teams of the Indian and US Navies.

The exercise includes Subject Matter Expert Exchanges, cross-training, equipment demonstrations, and scenario-based practical exercises. It is the eighth edition of the specialised bilateral training exercise.

106. Who won the silver medal in the men's 65 kg category at the Asian Junior Weightlifting Championships?

एशियन जूनियर वेटलिफ्टिंग चैंपियनशिप में पुरुषों के 65 किलोग्राम वर्ग में रजत पदक किसने जीता?

- (a) Hoang Thach
- (b) Maharajan Arumugapandian
- (c) Jeremy Lalrinnunga
- (d) Achinta Sheuli
- (e) Vikas Thakur

Ans. b

Sol. Maharajan Arumugapandian Wins Silver in 65kg Category at Asian Junior Weightlifting Championships

Indian weightlifter Maharajan Arumugapandian won the silver medal in the men's 65 kg category at the Asian Junior Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Maharajan recorded a personal best total of 285 kg, lifting 128 kg in the snatch and 157 kg in the clean and jerk.

Vietnam's Hoang Thach won the gold medal with a total lift of 291 kg, finishing 6 kg ahead of Maharajan.

107. World Lion Day is observed annually on which date?

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

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

Ans. c

Sol. 10 August - World Lion Day

World Lion Day is observed annually on 10 August to raise awareness about the conservation and protection of lions.

The day highlights threats to lion populations, including habitat loss, human-wildlife conflict, and poaching.

108. World Steelpan Day is observed annually on which date?

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

- (a) 9 August
- (b) 10 August
- (c) 11 August
- (d) 12 August
- (e) 13 August

Ans. b

Sol. 10 August - International Biodiesel Day

International Biodiesel Day is observed annually on 10 August to promote awareness about biodiesel as a renewable and alternative fuel.

The day commemorates Rudolf Diesel, who demonstrated the use of peanut oil as fuel in his engine in 1893.

Biodiesel is a cleaner, biodegradable fuel that can help reduce dependence on conventional fossil fuels and greenhouse-gas emissions.

109. The 80th Independence Day celebrations will have a special focus on the 150th anniversary of which song?

80वें स्वतंत्रता दिवस समारोह में किस गीत की 150वीं वर्षगांठ पर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाएगा?

- (a) Sare Jahan Se Achha
- (b) Jana Gana Mana
- (c) Vande Mataram
- (d) Ae Mere Watan Ke Logon
- (e) Kadam Kadam Badhaye Ja

Ans. c

Sol. India to Celebrate 80th Independence Day with Focus on 'Vande Mataram' & Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047

India will celebrate its 80th Independence Day on 15 August 2026, with a special focus on the 150th anniversary of 'Vande Mataram'.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lead the celebrations at the historic Red Fort, unfurl the National Flag and address the nation.

For the first time, 'Vande Mataram' will be sung from the ramparts of the Red Fort as the Prime Minister arrives at the venue.

The theme of the celebrations will be "Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047", highlighting the role of India's youth in achieving the vision of a developed India by 2047.

110. Which Indian-origin chess player created history at the 2026 British Chess Championships by becoming Britain's youngest-ever Women's Chess Champion at the age of 11?

भारतीय मूल की किस शतरंज खिलाड़ी ने 2026 ब्रिटिश शतरंज चैंपियनशिप में 11 साल की उम्र में ब्रिटेन की सबसे कम उम्र की महिला शतरंज चैंपियन बनकर इतिहास रचा?

- (a) Sharddha Joshi Raj
- (b) Bodhana Sivanandan
- (c) Ishika Bansal
- (d) Vaishali Rameshbabu
- (e) Harika Dronavalli

Ans. b

Sol. Indian-Origin Chess Players Bodhana Sivanandan & Shreyas Royal Win Major Titles at 2026 British Chess Championships

Bodhana Sivanandan and Shreyas Royal, both Indian-origin chess players, won major titles at the 2026 British Chess Championships held at the University of Warwick, Coventry, England.

11-year-old Bodhana Sivanandan became Britain's youngest-ever Women's Chess Champion, defeating Irish Women Grandmaster Trisha Kanyamarala in a rapid playoff. Shreyas Royal won the overall British Chess Championship title, with the 2026 edition marking the 122nd year of the championship series.

111. The Union Government introduced the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 in the Lok Sabha, proposing to officially change the name of the state from "Kerala" to "Keralam." Which Article of the Constitution of India provides the Parliament with the power to alter the name, area or boundaries of existing states?

केंद्र सरकार ने लोकसभा में 'केरल (नाम परिवर्तन) विधेयक, 2026' पेश किया, जिसमें राज्य का नाम आधिकारिक तौर पर "केरल" से बदलकर "केरलम" करने का प्रस्ताव है। भारतीय संविधान का कौन सा अनुच्छेद संसद को मौजूदा राज्यों के नाम, क्षेत्र या सीमाओं में बदलाव करने की शक्ति देता है?

- (a) Article 1
- (b) Article 2
- (c) Article 3
- (d) Article 4
- (e) Article 5

Ans. c

Sol. Centre Introduces Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 to Rename State as 'Keralam'

The Union Government introduced the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 in the Lok Sabha on 10 August 2026, proposing to officially change the name of the state from "Kerala" to "Keralam."

The move follows a unanimous resolution passed by the Kerala Legislative Assembly in June 2024, requesting the Centre to alter the state's official name to "Keralam."

The proposed change is rooted in Malayalam language and historical identity, as the state is traditionally referred to as "Keralam" in Malayalam and was formed as a linguistic state on 1 November 1956, observed as Kerala Piravi Day.

The alteration process is governed by Article 3 of the Constitution of India, which empowers Parliament to alter the name, area or boundaries of existing states, subject to the prescribed constitutional procedure.

112. Who has been appointed as the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह के मुख्य सचिव के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Gyanesh Bharti

- (b) Shraddha Joshi Raj
 (c) Ishika Bansal
 (d) Sanjay Malhotra
 (e) Anil Kumar

Ans. a

Sol. Gyanesh Bharti Appointed Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Islands
 Gyanesh Bharti, a senior IAS officer, has been appointed as the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Islands by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Bharti has been repatriated to his parent AGMUT cadre from central deputation following approval by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).

He was appointed Deputy Election Commissioner on 25 August 2025, with his tenure originally scheduled until 18 June 2028.

Recent Appointments

- **Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)** - A.S. Rajeev (replace Praveen Kumar Srivastava)
- **CEO and MD Air India** - Tewolde Gebremariam (replace Campbell Wilson)
- **CEO of IndiGo** - Willie Walsh (replace Pieter Elbers)
- **54th Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI)** - Varsha Ashok Aglawe (first woman; replace Asit Saha)

113. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has initiated the phase-wise implementation of which numbering series to help consumers distinguish genuine service and transactional calls from potentially fraudulent calls?

टेलीकॉम रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी ऑफ़ इंडिया (TRAI) ने ग्राहकों को असली सर्विस और ट्रांज़ैक्शनल कॉल को संभावित धोखाधड़ी वाली कॉल से अलग पहचानने में मदद करने के लिए किस नंबरिंग सीरीज़ को चरणबद्ध तरीके से लागू करना शुरू किया है?

- (a) 1401-series
 (b) 1555-series
 (c) 1616-series
 (d) 1601-series
 (e) 1701-series

Ans. d

Sol. TRAI Begins Rollout of 1601-Series Numbers for Trusted Service Calls

TRAI has initiated the phase-wise implementation of the 1601-series numbering system for service and transactional voice calls by entities outside the BFSI and government sectors.

In the first phase, the 1601-series will cover entities in the utilities, courier and logistics sectors, including electricity, water, LPG and parcel delivery services.

The 1601-series numbers will be directly allocated to eligible entities, with telecom service providers required to verify their eligibility before assignment.

114. Which bird has India donated to the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), including a rare white-feathered male, as a symbol of the country's rich natural heritage and commitment to biodiversity conservation?

भारत ने देश की समृद्ध प्राकृतिक विरासत और जैव विविधता संरक्षण के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता के प्रतीक के रूप में, जिनेवा स्थित संयुक्त राष्ट्र कार्यालय (UNOG) को कौन सा पक्षी (जिसमें सफेद पंखों वाला एक दुर्लभ नर भी शामिल है) भेंट किया है?

- (a) Indian Roller
- (b) Indian Peacock
- (c) Sarus Crane
- (d) Himalayan Monal
- (e) Great Indian Bustard

Ans. d

Sol. India Donates Five Peacocks, Including Rare White Peacock, to UN Office in Geneva

India has donated five peacocks, including one rare white-feathered male, to the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), reviving a decades-old tradition.

The five young peacocks comprise four blue peafowl and one white-feathered male, symbolising the blue and white colours associated with the United Nations.

This is the second time India has presented peacocks to UNOG; the first donation was made in 1981, when then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi sent a breeding pair from the Delhi Zoo.

115. According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), what was India's unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above during the April–June 2026 quarter?

. पीरियोडिक लेबर फोर्स सर्वे (PLFS) के अनुसार, अप्रैल-जून 2026 तिमाही के दौरान 15 वर्ष और उससे अधिक आयु के लोगों के लिए भारत की बेरोजगारी दर क्या थी?

- (a) 4.8%
- (b) 5.0%
- (c) 5.4%
- (d) 5.8%
- (e) 6.1%

Ans. c

Sol. India's Unemployment Rate Rises to 5.4% in April–June 2026: PLFS

According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), India's unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above rose to 5.4% in the April–June 2026 quarter, up from 5.0% in the previous quarter.

The rural unemployment rate increased to 4.8%, while the urban unemployment rate edged up to 6.7% during the April–June 2026 quarter.

The overall Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) for persons aged 15 years and above declined to 54.6%, compared with 55.5% in the previous quarter.

116. SBI Life Insurance has entered into a strategic corporate agency tie-up with which bank to expand access to life insurance solutions in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh?

SBI Life Insurance ने जम्मू-कश्मीर और लद्दाख में जीवन बीमा समाधानों की पहुँच बढ़ाने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ रणनीतिक कॉर्पोरेट एजेंसी समझौता किया है?

- (a) Bank of Baroda
- (b) J & K Bank
- (c) Punjab National Bank
- (d) HDFC Bank
- (e) Canara Bank

Ans. b

Sol. SBI Life Insurance Partners with J&K Bank to Expand Insurance Access Across J&K and Ladakh

SBI Life Insurance has entered into a strategic corporate agency tie-up with J & K Bank to expand access to life insurance solutions across Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Under the partnership, customers can access SBI Life's protection, savings, retirement and child insurance plans through 1,000+ branches of J & K Bank across the region.

The collaboration supports financial inclusion and aligns with IRDAI's vision of "Insurance for All by 2047", aimed at extending long-term financial security to more communities.

117. Who among the following Indian physicists was named a recipient of the 2026 Dirac Medal by the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)?

इनमें से किस भारतीय भौतिक विज्ञानी को अब्दुस सलाम इंटरनेशनल सेंटर फॉर थ्योरेटिकल फिजिक्स (ICTP) द्वारा 2026 के डिराक मेडल के लिए चुना गया?

- (a) Deepak Dhar
- (b) Ashoke Sen
- (c) C. N. R. Rao

(d) S. N. Bose

(e) Vikram Sarabhai

Ans. a

Sol. Indian Physicist Deepak Dhar Named Recipient of 2026 Dirac Medal

Indian physicist Deepak Dhar was named a recipient of the 2026 Dirac Medal by the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy. He shared the award with Bernard Derrida (France), Marc Mézard (Italy), and Haim Sompolinsky (Israel and the United States) for their contributions to theoretical physics.

The Dirac Medal, established by ICTP in 1985, is awarded annually on 8 August, the birth anniversary of physicist Paul Dirac, and carries a US\$5,000 prize.

Recent Awards

- **COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026** - Annapurni Subramaniam
- **60th Jnanpith Award 2025** - Tamil Poet R. Vairamuthu
- **UNESCO Heritage Conservation Award** - Jestha Varna Mahavihar (Lalitpur, Nepal)
- **Indonesia's Highest Civilian Honour 'Bintang Adipurna'** - PM Narendra Modi
- **'Green Oscar' (Whitley Award)** - Parveen Shaikh and Barkha Subba (for Wildlife Conservation)

118. Who has become the first woman to graduate from the Indian Air Force's elite Fighter Combat Leader course after completing advanced combat flying training?

एडवांस्ड कॉम्बैट फ्लाईंग ट्रेनिंग पूरी करने के बाद इंडियन एयर फ़ोर्स के खास 'फाइटर कॉम्बैट लीडर' कोर्स से ग्रेजुएट होने वाली पहली महिला कौन बनी हैं?

(a) Avani Chaturvedi

(b) Shraddha Joshi Raj

(c) Bhawana Kanth

(d) Ishika Bansal

(e) Shivangi Singh

Ans. c

Sol. Bhawana Kanth Becomes First Woman to Graduate from IAF's Elite Fighter Combat Leader Course

Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth has become the first woman to graduate from the Indian Air Force's (IAF) elite Fighter Combat Leader course after completing 20 weeks of advanced combat flying training.

The 33-year-old pilot is now among the select officers qualified from the IAF's prestigious "Top Gun" school, which trains pilots for complex combat operations. Bhawana Kanth was among the first three women fighter pilots commissioned into the IAF in 2016, alongside Avani Chaturvedi and Mohana Singh, and became the first woman fighter pilot to participate in the Republic Day parade in 2021.

119. Which organisation has been conferred the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) Award for the Maximum Number of Orders Value to Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs)?

माइक्रो और स्मॉल एंटरप्राइजेज (MSEs) को सबसे ज़्यादा ऑर्डर वैल्यू देने के लिए किस संगठन को गवर्नमेंट ई-मार्केटप्लेस (GeM) अवॉर्ड दिया गया है?

- (a) ISRO
- (b) DRDO
- (c) HAL
- (d) BHEL
- (e) BEL

Ans. b

Sol. DRDO Receives GeM Award for Maximum Order Value to Micro & Small Enterprises

DRDO has received the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) Award for the Maximum Number of Orders Value to Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs).

Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal presented the award to Dr. Ravindra Singh, DG (RM), DRDO, during an event marking the 10th anniversary of GeM.

The award recognises DRDO's efforts to empower MSEs, strengthen India's indigenous defence ecosystem, and promote greater participation of small enterprises in defence procurement.

120. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Executive Director of LIC International?

LIC इंटरनेशनल के नए मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (CEO) और कार्यकारी निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Veena Khan
- (b) Shraddha Joshi
- (c) Pooja Vaibhav Bhardwaj
- (d) Ishika Bansal
- (e) Kavita Singh

Ans. a

Sol. Veena Khan Appointed New CEO and Executive Director of LIC International

LIC International has appointed Veena Khan as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Executive Director.

LIC International is a Bahrain-based subsidiary of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), providing insurance services primarily across the GCC region.

Veena Khan succeeds Debashis Prasad Pattanaik, who retired as CEO and Executive Director in July 2026.

121. Who has been awarded the prestigious INAE Young Engineer Award 2026 for her contributions to engineering?

इंजीनियरिंग में उनके योगदान के लिए प्रतिष्ठित INAE यंग इंजीनियर अवार्ड 2026 से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Dr. Akanksha Tyagi
- (b) Dr. Shraddha Joshi Raj
- (c) Dr. Ishika Bansal
- (d) Dr. Neha Verma
- (e) Dr. Kavita Rao

Ans. a

Sol. IIT Roorkee's Dr. Akanksha Tyagi Receives INAE Young Engineer Award 2026

Dr Akanksha Tyagi of the Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Roorkee has received the prestigious INAE Young Engineer Award 2026.

The award, conferred by the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE), recognises her outstanding engineering contributions, professional excellence and potential as a young engineer.

Dr. Tyagi will also be inducted as an INAE Young Associate, highlighting her growing contribution to the engineering and research community.

122. International Youth Day is observed every year on 12 August to highlight the challenges and opportunities faced by young people worldwide. What is the theme of International Youth Day 2026?

दुनिया भर के युवाओं के सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों और अवसरों को उजागर करने के लिए हर साल 12 अगस्त को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय युवा दिवस मनाया जाता है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय युवा दिवस 2026 की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Youth for a Sustainable Future
- (b) Different Contexts, Common Aspirations
- (c) Youth and Global Development
- (d) Empowering Youth for Tomorrow
- (e) Youth for a Better World

Ans. b

Sol. 12 August - International Youth Day

International Youth Day is observed every year on 12 August to highlight the challenges and opportunities faced by young people worldwide.

Theme 2026 - Different Contexts, Common Aspirations.

The day was designated by the United Nations General Assembly in 1999, following a recommendation by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth.

123. Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan recently released scholarship and fellowship funds for agriculture students across the country. Through which platform were these funds released?

कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान ने हाल ही में देश भर के कृषि छात्रों के लिए स्कॉलरशिप और फेलोशिप फंड जारी किए। ये फंड किस प्लेटफॉर्म के माध्यम से जारी किए गए?

- (a) DigiLocker
- (b) UMANG Portal
- (c) National Scholarship Portal
- (d) MyGov Portal
- (e) e-Kranti Portal

Ans. c

Sol. Shivraj Singh Chouhan Releases ₹21 Crore+ Scholarships for Agriculture Students via NSP-DBT

Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan released scholarship and fellowship funds for agriculture students through the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) in New Delhi.

Under the initiative, more than 6,000 students received over ₹21 crore directly through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism.

Agriculture students will now receive their scholarships every month directly through DBT, ensuring timely, transparent and hassle-free financial assistance.

124. Assam recently achieved a significant milestone in wildlife conservation with the world's first-ever release of which captive-bred species?

असम ने हाल ही में वन्यजीव संरक्षण में एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि हासिल की है, जब उसने विश्व में पहली बार किस बंदी-प्रजनित प्रजाति को प्राकृतिक आवास में छोड़ा?

- (a) Red-headed vulture
- (b) Egyptian vulture
- (c) Slender-billed vulture
- (d) Himalayan griffon
- (e) Bearded vulture

Ans. c

Sol. Assam Records World's First-Ever Release of Captive-Bred Slender-Billed Vultures

Assam has recorded the world's first-ever release of captive-bred slender-billed vultures, with five birds bred at the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) conservation facility released into the wild.

The five slender-billed vultures, along with five captive-bred white-rumped vultures, were released at the Jatayu Soft Release Centre in Biswanath Division of Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve.

India's Gyps vulture population has declined by around 99% over the last two decades, mainly due to veterinary drugs; although several drugs have been banned, pesticide poisoning continues to threaten vultures in Assam.

125. What is the name of the AI-powered supercomputing facility inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at IIT Delhi's Sonipat campus?

IIT दिल्ली के सोनीपत कैंपस में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा उद्घाटन की गई AI-संचालित सुपरकंप्यूटिंग सुविधा का क्या नाम है?

- (a) Param Shakti
- (b) Param Pragya
- (c) Param Ganga
- (d) Param Bharat
- (e) Param Vikas

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi Inaugurates 'Param Pragya' AI Supercomputing Facility at IIT Delhi's 57th Convocation

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 57th Convocation Ceremony of IIT Delhi as the chief guest and presented prestigious awards to meritorious graduating students.

PM Modi inaugurated 'Param Pragya', an AI-powered supercomputing facility, at the Sonipat campus of IIT Delhi, aimed at strengthening advanced computing and AI capabilities.

He conferred prestigious honours including the President's Gold Medal, Director's Gold Medal, Shankar Dayal Sharma Gold Medal, and Perfect Ten Gold Medals on outstanding students.

126. How many gold medals did India win at the 23rd International Linguistics Olympiad (IOL) 2026 held in Bucharest, Romania?

रोमानिया के बुखारेस्ट में आयोजित 23वें इंटरनेशनल लिंग्विस्टिक्स ओलंपियाड (IOL) 2026 में भारत ने कितने गोल्ड मेडल जीते?

- (a) None
- (b) One
- (c) Two
- (d) Three
- (e) Four

Ans. b

Sol. India Wins 5 Honours at 23rd International Linguistics Olympiad 2026 in Romania

India won 1 gold, 3 bronze medals and 1 Honourable Mention at the 23rd International Linguistics Olympiad (IOL) 2026, held in Bucharest, Romania. Shrilakshmi Venkatraman won the individual gold medal with a score of 70.0, while Aarav Anil Rao, Nishanth Shankar Lakshmanan and Advay Misra secured bronze medals.

With this performance, India's cumulative IOL tally since its first participation in 2009 reached 37 individual medals — 6 gold, 9 silver and 22 bronze.

127. Who has been elected by Hungary's Parliament as the country's next President in the latest development?

हाल ही में हंगरी की संसद ने किसे देश का अगला राष्ट्रपति चुना है?

- (a) Viktor Orban
- (b) Peter Magyar
- (c) Andras Baka
- (d) Katalin Novak
- (e) Ferenc Gyurcsany

Ans. c

Sol. Andras Baka Elected Hungary's Next President Amid Fidesz Boycott

Hungary's Parliament elected former Supreme Court chief Andras Baka as the country's next President, a largely ceremonial position.

Baka secured the support of lawmakers from the governing centre-right Tisza party, while opposition Fidesz lawmakers boycotted the vote.

128. Which country's Parliament has voted to abolish the death penalty and replace it with life imprisonment with aggravated hard labour?

किस देश की संसद ने मौत की सज़ा को खत्म करने और उसकी जगह कड़ी मेहनत वाली उम्रकैद की सज़ा लागू करने के लिए वोट किया है?

- (a) Jordan
- (b) Lebanon
- (c) Egypt

(d) Syria

(e) Iraq

Ans. b

Sol. Lebanon Parliament Abolishes Death Penalty, Replaces It With Life Imprisonment
Lebanon's Parliament voted to abolish the death penalty, making Lebanon the first country in the Arab world and the Middle East to formally eliminate capital punishment.

The law replaces death sentences with life imprisonment with aggravated hard labour. A majority of the 128-member Parliament backed the measure, while the Hezbollah parliamentary bloc opposed it.

Venezuela was the first country in the world to permanently abolish the death penalty for all crimes.

129. The Central Government has sanctioned an additional ₹1,000 crore for electric two-wheelers (e2Ws) under the PM E-DRIVE scheme to continue incentives for the segment. Until which month and year have incentives for electric two-wheelers under the PM E-DRIVE scheme been extended?

केंद्र सरकार ने PM E-DRIVE स्कीम के तहत इलेक्ट्रिक टू-व्हीलर्स (e2Ws) के लिए अतिरिक्त ₹1,000 करोड़ मंजूर किए हैं, ताकि इस सेगमेंट के लिए इंसेंटिव जारी रखे जा सकें। PM E-DRIVE स्कीम के तहत इलेक्ट्रिक टू-व्हीलर्स के लिए इंसेंटिव किस महीने और साल तक बढ़ाए गए हैं?

(a) July 2027

(b) December 2027

(c) March 2028

(d) July 2028

(e) March 2029

Ans. c

Sol. Government Sanctions Additional ₹1,000 Crore Under PM E-DRIVE to Boost Electric Two-Wheelers

The Central Government has sanctioned an additional ₹1,000 crore for electric two-wheelers (e2Ws) under the PM E-DRIVE scheme to continue incentives for the segment.

The additional funding will extend e2W incentives until March 2028, after the earlier deadline of 31 July 2026 was due to expire.

India's current electric two-wheeler penetration is around 7.6%, with the government aiming to increase it to 9–10% to support mass mobility and last-mile transportation. Under the PM E-DRIVE scheme, originally notified in September 2024 with a total outlay of ₹10,900 crore, each approved e2W is eligible for an incentive of up to ₹5,000.

130. Which two organisations have signed an MoU to accelerate the commercialisation and global market access of India's Geographical Indication (GI) products?

भारत के जियोग्राफिकल इंडिकेशन (GI) उत्पादों के कमर्शियलाइज़ेशन और ग्लोबल मार्केट तक पहुंच को तेज़ करने के लिए किन दो संगठनों ने MoU पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Ministry of Textiles and DPIIT
- (b) Ministry of MSME and DPIIT
- (c) Ministry of Commerce and RBI
- (d) Ministry of Agriculture and NABARD
- (e) Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Tourism

Ans. b

Sol. MSME Ministry and DPIIT Sign MoU to Boost Global Market Access for India's GI Products

The Ministry of MSME and DPIIT have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to accelerate the commercialisation and global market access of India's Geographical Indication (GI) products.

The partnership will focus on quality standardisation, wider market access and digital enablement, with GI collectives and authorised users being onboarded onto platforms such as ONDC and Government e-Marketplace (GeM) under the Bharat GI banner.

The initiative will support artisans, weavers and producer collectives through capacity building and better market opportunities, strengthening the One District One Product (ODOP) ecosystem and advancing Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Vocal for Local.

131. What is the name of the new open-weight AI model launched by Meta?

मेटा द्वारा लॉन्च किए गए नए ओपन-वेट AI मॉडल का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Llama Spark
- (b) Muse Glimmer
- (c) Meta Nova
- (d) Atlas AI
- (e) Orion Meta

Ans. b

Sol. Meta Launches 'Muse Glimmer', a New Open-Weight AI Model for Agentic Tasks
Meta has launched Muse Glimmer, a new open-weight AI model designed primarily for agentic AI tasks, enabling AI systems to perform multi-step tasks with limited human intervention.

Muse Glimmer is relatively smaller than leading frontier AI models and can run directly on a Mac or PC using a single GPU, making it more accessible for local AI deployment.

132. What is the name of the Indian Navy's second Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV) launched by GRSE in August 2026?

अगस्त 2026 में GRSE द्वारा लॉन्च किए गए भारतीय नौसेना के दूसरे नेक्स्ट जेनरेशन ऑफ़शोर पेट्रोल वेसल (NGOPV) का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Sanghmitra
- (b) Shruti
- (c) Samudra
- (d) Shachi
- (e) Shikha

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Navy's Second Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Shruti' Launched by GRSE in Kolkata

The Indian Navy's second Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV), named INS Shruti (Yard 3037), was launched on 11 August 2026 by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) in Kolkata, West Bengal.

The 11-ship NGOPV programme was contracted by the Ministry of Defence on 30 March 2023 at a cost of ₹9,781 crore, with 7 ships assigned to Goa Shipyard Limited and 4 to GRSE.

GRSE's NGOPVs are 113 metres long, have a 3,000-tonne displacement, a maximum speed of 23 knots, and an endurance of 8,500 nautical miles at 14 knots.

GRSE had earlier launched the first NGOPV, Sanghmitra (Yard 3039), on 20 May 2026 and plans to launch the remaining two contracted NGOPVs by the end of FY 2026–27.

133. India and the United States are strengthening their cooperation in lunar exploration through which international framework?

भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका किस अंतरराष्ट्रीय ढांचे के माध्यम से चंद्रमा की खोज में अपना सहयोग मजबूत कर रहे हैं?

- (a) International Space Station Programme
- (b) Artemis Accords
- (c) Outer Space Treaty
- (d) Lunar Gateway Agreement
- (e) Mars Exploration Accord

Ans. b

Sol. NASA Invites ISRO to Join Moon Base Programme as India-US Space Cooperation Deepens

NASA has invited ISRO to join its Moon Base programme, marking a significant expansion of India-US cooperation in lunar exploration under the Artemis Accords. During the 9th India-US Civil Space Joint Working Group (CSJWG) meeting held in Bengaluru, both sides agreed to advance cooperation on open scientific data sharing under the Artemis Accords.

134. What is the title of former President Ram Nath Kovind's autobiography?

पूर्व राष्ट्रपति रामनाथ कोविंद की आत्मकथा का शीर्षक क्या है?

- (a) My Journey in Public Life
- (b) Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles
- (c) The Story of My Presidency
- (d) India and My Life Journey
- (e) My Years in Public Service

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi to Release Former President Ram Nath Kovind's Autobiography 'Triumph of the Indian Republic'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to release the autobiography of former President Ram Nath Kovind, titled "Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles."

The book will chronicle Ram Nath Kovind's life, struggles and journey in public service, offering insights into his experiences and contributions to India.

135. On which date is World Biofuel Day observed annually?

विश्व जैव ईंधन दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 5 August
- (b) 8 August
- (c) 10 August
- (d) 12 August
- (e) 15 August

Ans. c

Sol. 10 August - World Biofuel Day

World Biofuel Day is observed annually on 10 August to highlight the importance of biofuels as an alternative source of energy.

The day aims to promote the use of renewable and sustainable fuels and reduce dependence on conventional fossil fuels.

136. What is the estimated cost of the Kavach Version 4.0 project?

कवच वर्शन 4.0 प्रोजेक्ट की अनुमानित लागत क्या है?

- (a) ₹195 crore
- (b) ₹245 crore
- (c) ₹295 crore
- (d) ₹350 crore
- (e) ₹450 crore

Ans. c

Sol. Kavach 4.0 Approved for 660 Route Km in Izzatnagar Division at ₹295 Crore
Kavach Version 4.0 has been approved for 660 route kilometres of the Izzatnagar Division of North Eastern Railway.

The project will be implemented at an estimated cost of ₹295 crore under the umbrella work for providing Kavach with an LTE communication backbone.

Kavach is India's indigenous Automatic Train Protection system that helps prevent Signal Passed at Danger (SPAD) incidents and train collisions by continuously monitoring train movements and automatically applying brakes when required.

137. Which Vietnamese company has signed a contract with SpaceX to launch its first satellites?

किस वियतनामी कंपनी ने अपने पहले सैटेलाइट लॉन्च करने के लिए SpaceX के साथ कॉन्ट्रैक्ट साइन किया है?

- (a) Viettel Space
- (b) VinSpace
- (c) VietnamSat
- (d) VNSat Technologies
- (e) FPT Space

Ans. b

Sol. Vietnam's VinSpace Signs Deal with SpaceX to Launch First Satellites in 2027
Vietnam's VinSpace has signed a contract with SpaceX to launch its first satellites into orbit in 2027.

The satellites will be launched through a SpaceX Transporter rideshare mission, allowing multiple customers to share a single rocket and reduce launch costs.

VinSpace, a subsidiary of Vingroup, was established in November 2025 and will develop and operate the satellites to test its technology and support future commercial applications.

138. Who launched the new initiative for the disbursement of scholarship and fellowship funds to agriculture students through the National Scholarship Portal (NSP)?

नेशनल स्कॉलरशिप पोर्टल (NSP) के ज़रिए एग्रीकल्चर के छात्रों को स्कॉलरशिप और फ़ेलोशिप फ़ंड देने की नई पहल किसने शुरू की?

- (a) Narendra Singh Tomar
- (b) Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- (c) Dharmendra Pradhan
- (d) Piyush Goyal
- (e) Both a and b

Ans. b

Sol. Shivraj Singh Chouhan Launches NSP Initiative to Provide Monthly Scholarships to Agriculture Students

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the scholarship and fellowship fund disbursement for agriculture students through the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) at ICAR-IARI, Pusa.

A total of ₹21.35 crore was transferred through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to more than 6,000 agriculture students across the country.

Under the new initiative, agriculture students will receive their scholarship amounts every month through DBT, helping eliminate delays and difficulties in the traditional payment system.

139. Which major authority has recently approved the proposal for developing the Desert Zoological Park and Night Safari project at Deesa in Gujarat's Banaskantha district, which aims to create Asia's first desert-themed drive-through night safari?

हाल ही में किस प्रमुख संस्था ने गुजरात के बनावसकांठा ज़िले के डीसा में 'डेज़र्ट ज़ूलॉजिकल पार्क और नाइट सफ़ारी' प्रोजेक्ट को मंजूरी दी है, जिसका मकसद एशिया की पहली डेज़र्ट-थीम वाली ड्राइव-थ्रू नाइट सफ़ारी बनाना है?

- (a) National Board for Wildlife
- (b) Central Zoo Authority
- (c) Wildlife Institute of India
- (d) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (e) National Biodiversity Authority

Ans. b

Sol. CZA Approves Asia's First Desert-Themed Drive-Through Night Safari in Gujarat
The Central Zoo Authority (CZA) has approved the Desert Zoological Park and Night Safari at Deesa, Banaskantha, Gujarat, spread over 103 hectares with an estimated cost of ₹542.14 crore.

The project will feature Asia's first desert-themed drive-through night safari, with a day zoo and five dedicated night safari enclosures.

The park will house around 2,700 animals and birds across nearly 83 species and focus on conservation breeding, wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and environmental education.

140. Who has been selected for the post of Vice-Chancellor at the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Public Service and Innovation (AIPSI) in Mauritius?

मॉरीशस में अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ पब्लिक सर्विस एंड इनोवेशन (एआईपीएसआई) में कुलपति पद के लिए किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Dr. Bhooma VG
- (b) Dr. Shraddha Joshi Raj
- (c) Dr. Ishika Bansal
- (d) Dr. Anjali Menon
- (e) Dr. Renu Kapoor

Ans. a

Sol. Dr. Bhooma VG Selected as Vice-Chancellor of AIPSI in Mauritius

Dr Bhooma VG (IRPS Retd.) has been selected as the Vice-Chancellor of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Public Service and Innovation (AIPSI), Mauritius.

AIPSI, formerly the Civil Service College of Mauritius, was jointly inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mauritius PM Navinchandra Ramgoolam in March 2025 and is being developed as a premier training agency and centre of excellence for the African region.

141. Ladakh has organised its first-ever Black-necked Crane Festival primarily to highlight the importance of conservation and the region's role in protecting the habitat of this endangered bird. In which Union Territory is the festival being held?

लद्दाख ने अपना पहला 'ब्लैक-नेक्ड क्रेन फेस्टिवल' आयोजित किया है। इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य संरक्षण के महत्व और इस लुप्तप्राय पक्षी के आवास की रक्षा में इस क्षेत्र की भूमिका को उजागर करना है। यह फेस्टिवल किस केंद्र शासित प्रदेश में आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

- (a) Jammu and Kashmir
- (b) Ladakh
- (c) Chandigarh
- (d) Puducherry
- (e) Lakshadweep

Ans. b

Sol. Ladakh Hosts First-Ever Black-necked Crane Festival to Promote Conservation

Ladakh is hosting its first-ever Black-necked Crane Festival to raise awareness about the conservation of the endangered species and highlight Ladakh's role in protecting its habitat.

Changthang Cold Wildlife Sanctuary is the only breeding ground of the Black-necked Crane in India, with key breeding wetlands including Tsokar and Hanle, located at elevations of 2,500–5,000 metres.

The Black-necked Crane is the only alpine crane species in the world and was officially declared the State Bird of Ladakh after its formation as a Union Territory; it is also regarded as a sacred bird and a symbol of peace in the region.

142. Which organisation suspended the recognition of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) due to governance-related deficiencies?

किस संगठन ने कामकाज से जुड़ी कमियों के कारण टेबल टेनिस फेडरेशन ऑफ़ इंडिया (TTFI) की मान्यता निलंबित कर दी?

- (a) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (b) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- (c) Sports Authority of India
- (d) Indian Olympic Association
- (e) NITI Aayog

Ans. b

Sol. Sports Ministry Suspends Recognition of Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI)

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports suspended the recognition of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) due to governance deficiencies.

The action was taken after the TTFI failed to conduct organisational elections within the prescribed timeframe and gave an unsatisfactory response to the Ministry's show-cause notice.

The TTFI is the national governing body for table tennis in India and oversees domestic competitions, player selection and affiliation with the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

143. Which ministry is organising the special programme 'Srijan: Voices from the Loom' to celebrate the contributions and inspiring journeys of women weavers in India's handloom sector?

भारत के हथकरघा (handloom) क्षेत्र में महिला बुनकरों के योगदान और उनकी प्रेरणादायक यात्राओं का जश्न मनाने के लिए कौन सा मंत्रालय 'सृजन: वॉयस फ्रॉम द लूम' (Srijan: Voices from the Loom) नाम का विशेष कार्यक्रम आयोजित कर रहा है?

- (a) Ministry of Culture
- (b) Ministry of Textiles

(c) Ministry of Women and Child Development

(d) Ministry of Rural Development

(e) Ministry of MSME

Ans. b

Sol. Ministry of Textiles to Organise 'Srijan: Voices from the Loom' to Honour Women Weavers

The Ministry of Textiles will organise 'Srijan: Voices from the Loom' in New Delhi to celebrate women weavers and recognise their contribution to India's rich handloom heritage.

More than 100 women weavers from six handloom clusters will participate and share their stories of resilience, creativity and preservation of India's weaving traditions.

An anthology featuring the inspiring stories, journeys and voices of these women weavers will also be released during the programme.

144. Union Home Minister Amit Shah recently launched the 'Gramin Gyan Setu' app, which aims to integrate and connect libraries across which Lok Sabha constituency of Gujarat?

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने हाल ही में 'ग्रामीण ज्ञान सेतु' ऐप लॉन्च किया है, जिसका उद्देश्य गुजरात के किस लोकसभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में पुस्तकालयों को एकीकृत और आपस में जोड़ना है?

(a) Ahmedabad West

(b) Gandhinagar

(c) Surat

(d) Vadodara

(e) Rajkot

Ans. b

Sol. Amit Shah Launches 'Gramin Gyan Setu' App to Connect Rural Libraries in Gujarat

Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the 'Gramin Gyan Setu' app through video conferencing to integrate libraries across the Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency of Gujarat.

The app was launched on the birth anniversary of Padma Shri S. R. Ranganathan, observed as National Library Day, with the aim of establishing a library in every village, preferably near schools.

Around 63 village libraries have already been established, while 752 libraries are connected through the app; four libraries with nearly 2.8 lakh books have also been linked to rural libraries.

145. Who inaugurated IIHT SUTRA 2026, the first national conclave of the Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology (IIHTs), aimed at strengthening education, research and innovation in the handloom sector?

हैंडलूम सेक्टर में शिक्षा, रिसर्च और इनोवेशन को मज़बूत करने के मकसद से इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ़ हैंडलूम टेक्नोलॉजी (IIHTs) के पहले नेशनल कॉन्क्लेव 'IIHT SUTRA 2026' का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Piyush Goyal
- (b) Giriraj Singh
- (c) Sarbananda Sonowal
- (d) Jyotiraditya Scindia
- (e) Dharmendra Pradhan

Ans. b

Sol. Giriraj Singh Inaugurates IIHT SUTRA 2026, First National Conclave of Handloom Technology Institutes

Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh inaugurated IIHT SUTRA 2026, the first national conclave of Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology (IIHTs), in New Delhi to strengthen technical education, research, innovation and industry collaboration. Organised by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, the conclave was held under the theme "IIHTs: Weaving the Future of the Indian Handloom Sector – Educate. Innovate. Transform."

The conclave aims to position IIHTs as centres of excellence for technical education, research, entrepreneurship and technological innovation, helping enhance productivity, design, technology and global competitiveness in the handloom sector.

146. Former Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji, who was known for his blunt and outspoken style of leadership, passed away at the age of 97. During which period did he serve as the Premier of China?

चीन के पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री झू रोंगजी, जो अपनी बेबाक और स्पष्टवादी नेतृत्व शैली के लिए जाने जाते थे, का 97 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। उन्होंने किस अवधि के दौरान चीन के प्रधानमंत्री के रूप में कार्य किया?

- (a) 1989–1995
- (b) 1993–1998
- (c) 1998–2003
- (d) 2000–2005
- (e) 2003–2008

Ans. c

Sol. Former Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji Dies at 97

Former Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji died at the age of 97. Known for his blunt and outspoken style, he served as Vice Premier from 1991 to 1998 and Premier from 1998 to early 2003.

Zhu played a major role in China's economic reforms, including restructuring state-owned enterprises, controlling inflation, centralising tax powers, and introducing housing ownership reforms.

He was instrumental in guiding China's entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2002, following lengthy negotiations, which became a major milestone in China's integration into the global economy.

147. According to the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), what was India's retail inflation rate in July 2026?

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय (MoSPI) द्वारा जारी नवीनतम उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक (CPI) आंकड़ों के अनुसार, जुलाई 2026 में भारत की खुदरा मुद्रास्फीति दर क्या थी?

- (a) 3.95%
- (b) 4.15%
- (c) 4.38%
- (d) 4.45%
- (e) 4.84%

Ans. d

Sol. India's Retail Inflation Rises to 4.45% in July 2026

India's retail inflation (CPI) increased to 4.45% in July 2026, up from 4.38% in June 2026, according to data released by MoSPI.

Based on the new 2024=100 CPI base, July inflation stood at 4.84% in rural areas and 3.96% in urban areas.

Compared with June, rural inflation rose from 4.74% to 4.84%, while urban inflation increased slightly from 3.93% to 3.96%.

Previous Months CPI-based Retail inflation

- **January 2026 – 2.75% (Update : Base Year 2024 Start)**
- **February 2026 – 3.21%**
- **March 2026 – 3.4%**
- **April 2026 – 3.48%**
- **May 2026 -3.93%**
- **June 2026 – 4.40%**

148. International Left-Handers Day is observed annually on which date to celebrate left-handed people and raise awareness about their experiences and challenges?

बाएं हाथ से काम करने वाले लोगों का जश्न मनाने और उनके अनुभवों व चुनौतियों के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए 'अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बायां-हाथ दिवस' हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 10 August
- (b) 11 August
- (c) 12 August
- (d) 13 August
- (e) 14 August

Ans. d

Sol. 13 August- International Left-Handers Day

International Left-Handers Day is observed annually on 13 August to celebrate left-handed people and recognise their unique experiences and abilities.

The day was first observed in 1976, initiated by Dean R. Campbell, founder of the organisation Left-Handers International, Inc.

It aims to raise awareness about the challenges faced by left-handers in a predominantly right-handed world and promote inclusivity and understanding.

149. World Organ Donation Day is observed annually to raise awareness about the importance of organ donation and encourage people to contribute to life-saving transplantation programmes. On which date is it observed?

अंग दान के महत्व के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने और लोगों को जीवन बचाने वाले प्रत्यारोपण कार्यक्रमों में योगदान देने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने के उद्देश्य से हर साल 'विश्व अंग दान दिवस' मनाया जाता है। यह किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 10 August
- (b) 11 August
- (c) 12 August
- (d) 13 August
- (e) 14 August

Ans. d

Sol. 13 August- World Organ Donation Day

World Organ Donation Day is observed annually on 13 August to raise awareness about the importance of organ donation and transplantation.

The day encourages people to pledge their organs and highlights how organ donation can save and transform the lives of patients suffering from organ failure.

It also aims to dispel myths and misconceptions about organ donation and promote awareness about the need for more voluntary donors.

150. India celebrated its 80th Independence Day on which date in 2026?

- (a) 14 August 2026
- ((b) 15 August 2026

(c) 16 August 2026

(d) 26 January 2026

(e) 2 October 2026

Ans. b

Sol. According to the file, India celebrated its 80th Independence Day on 15 August 2026, marking 79 years of freedom from British rule. Prime Minister Narendra Modi hoisted the national flag and addressed the nation from the Red Fort. The celebrations focused on 150 years of Vande Mataram and Yuva Shakti.

151. Where was the Meeting of Heads of BRICS Competition Authorities held on 8 August 2026?

(a) Jaipur, Rajasthan

(b) New Delhi, Delhi

(c) Udaipur, Rajasthan

(d) Bengaluru, Karnataka

(e) Mumbai, Maharashtra

Ans. c

Sol. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) hosted the Meeting of Heads of BRICS Competition Authorities on 8 August 2026 in Udaipur, Rajasthan, under India's BRICS Chairship. The meeting focused on fair competition in renewable energy and digital markets.

152. Which state announced that India's first government-driven Artificial Intelligence University would be established there?

(a) Telangana

(b) Karnataka

(c) Maharashtra

(d) Tamil Nadu

(e) Andhra Pradesh

Ans. b

Sol. According to the file, Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar announced that India's first government-driven Artificial Intelligence (AI) University would come up in Karnataka. The state will also establish an AI Hub as an incubation centre for AI research and development.

153. Under which scheme did the Karnataka Cabinet approve ₹5 lakh annual family health cover for state pensioners and their families?

- (a) Karnataka Arogya Scheme
- (b) Sandhya Kiran Scheme
- (c) Jeevan Jyoti Scheme
- (d) Pension Health Suraksha Scheme
- (e) Karnataka Swasthya Scheme

Ans. b

Sol. The Karnataka Cabinet approved the Sandhya Kiran Scheme, a contributory cashless healthcare initiative under Ayushman Bharat–Arogya Karnataka (AB-Ark). The scheme provides ₹5 lakh annual family health cover and is expected to cover around 4.93 lakh beneficiaries, including state pensioners and their dependents.

154. What was the first-quarter revenue achieved by India Post in Q1 FY2026–27?

- (a) ₹3,009 crore
- (b) ₹3,509 crore
- (c) ₹4,009 crore
- (d) ₹4,509 crore
- (e) ₹5,009 crore

Ans. c

Sol. India Post achieved its highest-ever first-quarter revenue of ₹4,009 crore during Q1 FY2026–27 (April–June 2026). The file states that this represented a 22% year-on-year growth, with growth across parcel delivery, mail, citizen services and postal savings.

155. Which company was named India's most valuable tyre brand in 2026?

- (a) Apollo Tyres
- (b) CEAT
- (c) JK Tyre
- (d) MRF Tyres
- (e) Bridgestone India

Ans. d

Sol. According to the Brand Finance India 100 report, MRF Tyres retained the top position as India's most valuable and strongest tyre brand in 2026. Its brand value reached \$863 million, registering a 24% year-on-year increase.

156. Natarajan Chandrasekaran is set to step down as Executive Chairman of Tata Sons upon completion of his current term on which date?

- (a) 20 February 2026
- (b) 20 January 2027
- (c) 20 February 2027
- (d) 20 March 2027
- (e) 31 December 2027

Ans. c

Sol. The file states that Natarajan Chandrasekaran is set to step down as Executive Chairman of Tata Sons Private Limited upon completion of his current term on 20 February 2027. He was appointed Chairman of Tata Sons in February 2017 and reappointed in 2022.

157. Which organisation approved India's first indigenous, fully commercial Earth Observation constellation under the PPP model?

- (a) ISRO
- (b) DRDO
- (c) IN-SPACe
- (d) NSIL
- (e) DoT

Ans. c

Sol. The Indian Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) approved and signed an agreement for India's first indigenous, fully commercial Earth Observation (EO) constellation under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. The private consortium involved is Allied Orbits Private Limited.

158. Which Bengali filmmaker, whose 1996 directorial debut Damu won the National Film Award, died at the age of 71?

- (a) Aparna Sen
- (b) Raja Sen
- (c) Mrinal Sen
- (d) Buddhadeb Dasgupta
- (e) Goutam Ghose

Ans. b

Sol. Veteran Bengali filmmaker Raja Sen died at a Kolkata hospital at the age of 71. His feature filmmaking journey began with Damu in 1996, which focused on a young boy and his bond with an elephant and won the National Film Award for Best Children's Film.

159. India launched its first-ever Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems (ONEs) at which event?

- (a) COP15 of UNFCCC
- (b) COP17 of UNCCD
- (c) COP16 of UNFCCC
- (d) COP28 of UNFCCC
- (e) COP18 of UNCCD

Ans. b

Sol. India launched its first-ever Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems (ONEs) at the 17th Session of COP17 to the United Nations Convention

to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Its theme is "Restoring Land. Restoring Hope".

160. The Qatar-India Postal Remittance Service is based on which technology/platform?

- (a) RuPay
- (b) SWIFT
- (c) PosTransfer powered by UPI
- (d) IMPS
- (e) Bharat BillPay

Ans. c

Sol. The Qatar-India remittance service is based on PosTransfer powered by UPI, enabling customers in Qatar to send money directly to UPI-enabled bank accounts in India through Qatar Post outlets.

161. RBI imposed a monetary penalty of how much on IndusInd Bank for regulatory non-compliance?

- (a) ₹25.20 lakh
- (b) ₹49.50 lakh
- (c) ₹59.20 lakh
- (d) ₹69.20 lakh
- (e) ₹79.20 lakh

Ans. c

Sol. On 14 August 2026, the Reserve Bank of India imposed a ₹59.20 lakh monetary penalty on IndusInd Bank for non-compliance with regulatory directions relating to Interest Rate on Deposits and Securitisation of Standard Assets.

162. Who took charge as the new CEO of NITI Aayog for a two-year term?

- (a) B.V.R. Subrahmanyam
- (b) Anurag Jain
- (c) Amitabh Kant
- (d) Rajiv Gauba

(e) T.V. Somanathan

Ans. b

Sol. Senior IAS officer Anurag Jain took charge as the new CEO of NITI Aayog for a two-year term, succeeding B.V.R. Subrahmanyam. He had earlier served as Secretary in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and as Chief Secretary of Madhya Pradesh.

163. India and Armenia signed an MoU on 17 August 2026 to deepen cooperation primarily in which field?

- (a) Space exploration
- (b) Nuclear energy
- (c) Defence industrial cooperation
- (d) Agriculture
- (e) Renewable energy

Ans. c

Sol. India and Armenia signed an MoU to expand cooperation in defence research, development, innovation and joint production. The agreement aims to go beyond defence procurement and promote joint research and technology development.

164. Where did the eighth India-US Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026 conclude?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Visakhapatnam
- (c) Kochi
- (d) Chennai
- (e) Goa

Ans. c

Sol. The 8th India-US Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026 concluded at the Southern Naval Command in Kochi, Kerala, on 14 August 2026. The exercise focused on professional cooperation and interoperability in specialized maritime operations.

165. Exercise MAITREE-XV 2026 is a bilateral military exercise between India and which country?

- (a) Myanmar
- (b) Thailand
- (c) Vietnam
- (d) Indonesia
- (e) Malaysia

Ans. b

Sol. India and Thailand began Exercise MAITREE-XV 2026, the 15th edition of their bilateral military exercise. It is being conducted from 18–31 August 2026 at Vibhavadi Rangsit Camp in Surat Thani, Thailand.

166. Who was conferred the honorary rank of General of the Nepal Army by Nepal President Ramchandra Paudel?

- (a) General Upendra Dwivedi
- (b) General Manoj Pande
- (c) General Dhiraj Seth
- (d) General Anil Chauhan
- (e) General Bipin Rawat

Ans. c

Sol. Indian Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth was conferred the rank of Honorary General of the Nepal Army by Nepal President Ramchandra Paudel on 16 August in Kathmandu. This tradition between India and Nepal dates back to 1950

167. Who received the Dronacharya Award 2025 in Athletics?

- (a) Tejaswin Shankar
- (b) Parveer Singh
- (c) Muhammed Ajmal V
- (d) Akhil Sheoran
- (e) Arvind Singh

Ans. b

Sol. According to the provided file, Parveer Singh was selected for the Dronacharya Award 2025 in Athletics.

Arjuna Award

A total of 17 sportspersons have been selected for the Arjuna Award for outstanding performance over the last four years.

- Athletics: Tejaswin Shankar, Muhammed Ajmal V, Priyanka Goswami
- Badminton: Treesa Jolly, Pullela Gayatri Gopichand
- Boxing: Narender
- Chess: Vidit Santosh Gujrathi, Divya Jitendra Deshmukh
- Hockey: Lalremsiami Hmarzote, Rajkumar Pal
- Kabaddi: Surjeet, Pooja
- Para-Athletics: Ekta Bhyan
- Para-Shooting: Rudransh Khandelwal
- Deaf Shooting: Dhanush Srikanth
- Rowing: Arvind Singh
- Shooting: Akhil Sheoran
- Football (Lifetime): I Arumainayagam

Dronacharya Award

- Athletics: Parveer Singh
- Boxing: Chhote Lal Yadav
- Shooting: Neha Nandkumar Chavan
- Dronacharya Life time Award : Dharmendra Singh Yadav (Boxing), Virender Kumar (Wrestling)

Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar

- Winner: Army Paralympic Node, Pune (Reason: Honoured for its visible role and contributions to the promotion and grassroots development of sports.)

168. Who won the Esports World Cup Chess Title 2026 for the second consecutive year?

- (a) Denis Lazavik
- (b) Hikaru Nakamura
- (c) Fabiano Caruana
- (d) Magnus Carlsen
- (e) Ian Nepomniachtchi

Ans. d

Sol. World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen won the 2026 Esports World Cup Chess title in Paris, defending his crown for the second consecutive year. He represented Team Liquid and defeated Belarusian Grandmaster Denis Lazavik 2–0 in the final.

169. National award-winning sculptor and master craftsman Chandrashekhar Y. Shilpi passed away at the age of:

- (a) 65 years
- (b) 70 years
- (c) 72 years
- (d) 75 years
- (e) 80 years

Ans. d

Sol. Chandrashekhar Y. Shilpi, a national award-winning veteran sculptor and master craftsman, passed away at the age of 75 in Kalaburagi, Karnataka, on 15 August 2026. He was known for preserving traditional Indian temple architecture and wood and stone carving heritage.

170. Under the UP Mukhyamantri Yuva Swarojgar Yojana 2026, what is the maximum loan amount available for industrial/manufacturing units?

- (a) ₹10 lakh
- (b) ₹15 lakh
- (c) ₹20 lakh
- (d) ₹25 lakh
- (e) ₹30 lakh

Ans. d

Sol. The **UP Mukhyamantri Yuva Swarojgar Yojana** provides educated youth in Uttar Pradesh with bank loans up to **₹25 lakh for industrial units and ₹10 lakh for service sectors**, backed by a 25% state margin money subsidy.

Applicants must be permanent state residents aged 18 to 40 with at least a Class 10 qualification.

Key Scheme Highlights

- **Industry/Manufacturing Loan:** Up to ₹25 lakh (25% margin money capped at ₹6.25 lakh).
- **Service Sector Loan:** Up to ₹10 lakh (25% margin money capped at ₹2.5 lakh).
- **Age Limit:** 18 to 40 years.
- **Education Requirement:** Minimum Class 10 (High School) pass.
- **Subsidy Conversion:** Margin money assistance transforms into a government grant after two successful years of enterprise operation.

Eligibility Criteria

- Must be a permanent resident/native of Uttar Pradesh.
- Must not be a defaulter of any nationalized bank or financial institution.
- Should not be receiving financial support under any other self-employment scheme from the central or state government.

171. Vizhinjam International Seaport, which has started full-fledged EXIM operations, is located in which state?

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Andhra Pradesh
- (e) Goa

Ans. b

Exp. Vizhinjam International Seaport in Kerala has started full-fledged export-import (EXIM) operations, marking a major shift in its role from a transshipment hub to a direct gateway for Indian goods entering and leaving global markets.

The move is expected to give businesses in South India easier access to international shipping routes, reduce dependence on **foreign transshipment ports and improve the efficiency of India's supply chains.**

172. What was the balance of the PM CARES Fund as of March 31, 2025?

- (a) ₹6,452.06 crore
- (b) ₹7,173 crore
- (c) ₹7,846.65 crore
- (d) ₹8,452.06 crore
- (e) ₹9,452.06 crore

Ans. d

Sol.

- The **PM CARES Fund balance reached a record high of ₹8,452.06 crore** as of March 31, 2025, according to newly released audited financial statements.
- Roughly 93% of this corpus—about ₹7,846.65 crore—is parked in fixed deposits, which generated substantial interest income to grow the reserve despite lower fresh donations.

Financial Breakdown (FY 2024–25)

- **Closing Balance:** ₹8,452.06 crore (up from ₹7,173 crore the previous year).
- **Fixed Deposits:** ₹7,846.65 crore held in scheduled banks.
- **Savings Accounts:** ₹605.41 crore held in liquid savings.
- **Interest Earned:** ~₹469–475 crore generated from existing fixed deposits.
- **Fresh Donations:** ~₹479.96 crore received in domestic and foreign contributions.

173. Tata Power signed a Master Research Agreement (MRA) with which institution to accelerate innovation in clean energy and advanced power technologies?

- (a) IIT Delhi
- (b) IIT Madras
- (c) IIT Bombay
- (d) IIT Kanpur
- (e) IIT Kharagpur

Ans. c

Sol.

- Tata Power, one of India's largest integrated power companies, and the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay), one of the country's premier institutions for science, engineering and technology research, signed a Master Research Agreement (MRA) marking the beginning of a long-term strategic partnership for accelerating scaling up and commercialization of lab scale

innovations in next generation energy technologies and advanced clean energy solutions.

- **Aims:** To accelerate the translation of cutting-edge research into scalable, industry-ready technologies that contribute to India's clean energy transition, energy security, and sustainable development.

174. The 'Vidyarthi Sahayahasta' scheme was announced by which state government?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Telangana

Ans. b

Sol.

- **Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar announced the Vidyarthi Sahayahasta scheme to improve access to professional education for students from rural backgrounds.**
- The scheme was announced during Independence Day celebrations at Manekshaw Parade Grounds in Bengaluru.
- **Eligible students who completed Classes I to X in rural government schools** will receive a dedicated share within the existing rural reservation for admission to professional courses such as medicine and engineering.

175. Who was re-elected as the President of Zambia for a second five-year term?

- (a) Hakainde Hichilema
- (b) Edgar Lungu
- (c) Michael Sata
- (d) Levy Mwanawasa
- (e) Rupiah Banda

Ans. a

Sol. Hakainde Hichilema was re-elected as Zambia's President for a second five-year term. He secured more than 51% of the votes and won the presidential election outright without a run-off.

176. What FY27 GDP growth rate has India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) estimated for India?

- (a) 6.2%
- (b) 6.4%
- (c) 6.6%
- (d) 6.7%
- (e) 6.8%

Ans. e

Sol.

- **India Ratings and Research Pvt. Ltd. (Ind-Ra)** on 19 August estimated India's **gross domestic product (GDP) growth to moderate to 6.8% in 2026-27** due to higher fuel and food inflation stemming from the war in West Asia, a weak currency, and the likely impact of El Niño on agriculture.
- Though slower than the **National Statistical Office's (NSO)** provisional **estimates of 7.6%** GDP growth for FY26, the agency's FY27 projection is higher than its May forecast of 6.7%.
- The upward revision of growth for the current fiscal year comes just days after the Reserve Bank of India also revised the country's growth projections to 6.7% from 6.6%, citing the resilience of the domestic economy.

177. Which bank launched the 'YES Essence' credit card specifically designed for women?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) ICICI Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) YES Bank
- (e) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Ans. d

Sol. YES Bank launched the YES Essence Credit Card, a lifestyle-focused credit card designed for women. It normally carries a regular joining and annual fee of ₹799 plus GST, but it is being made available as a lifetime-free card under a limited-period offer.

Key Features & Benefits

- **Welcome Vouchers:** Get vouchers worth ₹1,000 upon activation.
- **Milestone Rewards:** Earn 5,000 bonus YES Rewardz when you spend ₹50,000 within the first 90 days.

- **Annual Spending Bonus:** Receive an additional 10,000 bonus YES Rewardz on annual spends reaching ₹1,00,000.
- **Entertainment:** Enjoy a buy-one-get-one offer on District.

178. Who has been appointed as the new Chairperson of Airtel Payments Bank?

- (a) Shabnam Sinha
- (b) Arundhati Bhattacharya
- (c) Renu Sud Karnad
- (d) Naina Lal Kidwai
- (e) Chanda Kochhar

Ans. a

Sol.

- **Founder Sunil Bharti Mittal is concluding his tenure as Non-Executive Chairman of Airtel Payments Bank.** His **successor, Shabnam Sinha**, brings over 30 years of development finance and governance expertise, including a prominent tenure at the World Bank. The leadership shift has received RBI approval and comes as the digital bank achieves an annualized revenue run rate exceeding ₹3,400 crore.
- Airtel Payments Bank has announced a major leadership transition as Mr. Sunil Bharti Mittal steps down as **Non-Executive Chairman effective September 30, 2026**. Ms. Shabnam Sinha, a highly experienced development finance professional, will assume the role of Chairperson **for a three-year term starting October 1, 2026**.

179. How many Indian peacekeepers, including 6 women and 7 Staff Officers, were awarded the UN Medal in Juba, South Sudan?

- (a) 150
- (b) 180
- (c) 200
- (d) 210
- (e) 250

Ans. d

Sol.

- **Over 200 Indian peacekeepers deployed with the UN mission in South Sudan** have been awarded the prestigious **UN medal for their exceptional service**.

- The UN Mission in Sudan, UNMISS informed that 210 Indian peacekeepers, including 6 women and 7 Staff Officers, were awarded the UN Medal for their exceptional service in Juba, South Sudan.
- The Mission called it a proud moment for **India's Blue Helmets**. It added that through crises, medical emergencies and lifesaving missions, the courage and compassion of the Indian peacekeepers continue to protect lives and advance peace.
- **India is the second-largest contributor** of uniformed personnel to UN Peacekeeping. It currently contributes **more than 4,200 military and police personnel**.

180. Sadbhavana Diwas is observed on August 20 to commemorate the birth anniversary of which former Prime Minister of India?

- (a) Indira Gandhi
- (b) Rajiv Gandhi
- (c) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (d) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (e) Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Ans. b

Sol. Sadbhavana Diwas is observed on August 20, marking the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister **Rajiv Gandhi**. The day promotes national integration, peace, goodwill and communal harmony.

181. What is the theme of World Humanitarian Day 2026?

- (a) Humanitarian Action for Peace
- (b) Together for Humanity
- (c) Honouring fallen humanitarians and calling for greater protection of health care
- (d) Humanity Beyond Borders
- (e) Protecting People, Protecting Peace

Ans. c

Sol. World Humanitarian Day is observed every August 19 to honor aid workers who risk their lives to help people affected by crises and to remember those who died in the line of duty. The 2026 theme is **"Honouring fallen humanitarians and calling for greater protection of health care."**

182. What is the theme of World Photography Day 2026?

- (a) Photography for Humanity
- (b) Capturing the Future

- (c) Lens of Life
- (d) Home
- (e) Photography and Culture

Ans. d

Sol. World Photography Day is celebrated every year on August 19. The 2026 theme is **"home,"** focusing on personal spaces, memories and cultural roots. The date also marks the day in 1839 when the French government bought the patent for the Daguerreotype process and gifted it to the world.

183. Where was the first Kaushal Mahotsav 2026 in West Bengal held?

- (a) Kolkata Stadium
- (b) Salt Lake Stadium
- (c) Balurghat Stadium
- (d) Eden Gardens
- (e) Siliguri Stadium

Ans. c

Sol. West Bengal hosted its inaugural Kaushal Mahotsav on August 18, 2026, at Balurghat Stadium in the **Dakshin Dinajpur district**, marking a significant milestone for the state's efforts to foster job creation and skill development.

- The event, the **11th edition of Kaushal Mahotsav** in India, was organized through collaboration between the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, the National Skill Development Corporation, and the Government of West Bengal.
- Kaushal Mahotsav, a nationwide job fair initiative **under the Skill India Mission, is designed to bridge the gap between employers and job seekers**, enabling recruitment, screening, and placement opportunities across diverse sectors.

184. The 12th BRICS Communications Ministers Meeting 2026 was held in which city?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Pune
- (d) Gurugram
- (e) Visakhapatnam

Ans. c

Sol.

- The **12th BRICS Communications Ministers Meeting took place in Pune, Maharashtra on August 21, 2026**. Chaired by India's Union Minister for Communications, **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**, the meeting focused on advancing resilient digital infrastructure, cybersecurity, and information and communication technology (ICT) cooperation.
- **ICT Track Theme:** "Innovate, Cooperate and Transform (ICT) for a Resilient Future"
- **India's BRICS Chairship Theme:** "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"

185. Which two countries signed a Memorandum of Arrangement on Maritime Security Cooperation on 19 August 2026?

- (a) India and France
- (b) India and Australia
- (c) India and Japan
- (d) India and South Korea
- (e) India and Indonesia

Ans. c

Sol.

- **India and Japan on 19 August agreed to further deepen defence and maritime security cooperation**, with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Japanese counterpart Shinjiro Koizumi signing a Memorandum of Arrangement on Maritime **Security Cooperation in New Delhi**.
- The agreement provides a framework for strengthening cooperation between the **Indian Navy and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force, including information sharing on Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA), Search and Rescue (SAR), and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)**.

186. PhonePe PulsePro signed an MoU with which ministry to support the PM GatiShakti mission?

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

- (d) Ministry of Communications
- (e) Ministry of Skill Development

Ans. c

Sol.

- **PhonePe announced the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** to share insights from **PhonePe PulsePro**, its enterprise data intelligence platform, to support the **PM GatiShakti mission** for **national infrastructure planning, economic analysis**, and holistic urban and rural development.
- **Under the MoU with MeitY, PhonePe PulsePro** metrics will be integrated into the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan portal, managed in collaboration with Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N).
- By sharing granular transactional insights with the PM GatiShakti portal, PhonePe is making hyperlocal PulsePro data accessible for internal government use to **enable them to make smarter**, data-based decisions for national development planning.

187. India and the Asian Development Bank signed a loan agreement worth how much for upgrading Chennai's water system?

- (a) \$190 million
- (b) \$200 million
- (c) \$210 million
- (d) \$230 million
- (e) \$250 million

Ans. d

Sol.

- **India and the Asian Development Bank signed a \$230 million loan agreement.** This project will expand and **modernize Chennai's water supply and sanitation infrastructure.** It includes building new pipes and upgrading pumping stations across the city.
- Chennai will also implement a comprehensive ring-main system for improved water reliability. The initiative aims to enhance public health and urban resilience to climate change.

188. Who was elected as the 23rd President of Bangladesh?

- (a) Tarique Rahman
- (b) Oli Ahmad
- (c) Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir
- (d) Ahsan Iqbal
- (e) Muhammad Yunus

Ans. c

Sol. Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, a veteran Bangladesh Nationalist Party leader, was elected as Bangladesh's **23rd President**, securing 255 votes in the presidential election.

189. Who was selected for the 47th Sarala Puraskar?

- (a) Ashutosh Parida
- (b) Sarala Das
- (c) Ahsan Iqbal
- (d) Sowcar Janaki
- (e) L. V. Prasad

Ans. a

Sol.

- **Dr. Ashutosh Parida, an Odia poet, essayist, and former CSIR-IMMT scientist**, has been selected for the 47th Sarala Puraskar for his **poetry collection Bishwas De Pruthwi**.
- The award carries ₹7 lakh and will be presented on October 25, 2026.

About Sarala Puraskar

- Named after the 15th-century Odia poet Sarala Das, this award is one of the most prestigious in Odia literature. It is administered by the Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT). It recognises outstanding contributions to Odia literature.

190. What is the name of the fastest known securely orbiting star discovered in the Milky Way?

- (a) S101
- (b) S201
- (c) S301
- (d) S401
- (e) S501

Ans. c

Sol.

- Astronomers discovered S301, the fastest known securely orbiting star in the Milky Way. It zooms around Sagittarius A*, the galaxy's central supermassive black hole, at an incredible speed of 25,000 kilometers per second—about 8% the speed of light.

Key Facts About S301

- **Speed:** Reaches up to 25,000 km/s (15,500 miles per second).
- **Orbit Time:** Takes just 8.7 years to finish one full loop.
- **Close Approach:** Skims past the black hole at a distance only 12 times the space between Earth and the Sun.
- **Discovery Tool:** Found using the European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope Interferometer

191. Indian Akshay Urja Day is observed annually on which date?

- (a) 15 August
- (b) 18 August
- (c) 20 August
- (d) 21 August
- (e) 25 August

Ans. c

Sol. Indian Akshay Urja Day is observed on 20 August. It promotes renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro and biomass and highlights clean energy adoption and sustainable development.

192. World Mosquito Day is observed on which date?

- (a) 19 August
- (b) 20 August
- (c) 21 August
- (d) 22 August
- (e) 25 August

Ans. b

Sol. World Mosquito Day is observed annually on 20 August to commemorate Sir Ronald Ross's 1897 discovery in India proving that female mosquitoes transmit malaria.

193. World Senior Citizens Day is observed annually on which date?

- (a) 20 August
- (b) 21 August
- (c) 22 August
- (d) 25 August
- (e) 30 August

Ans. b

Sol.

- **World Senior Citizens Day is observed annually on August 21** to honor older adults, recognize their life achievements, and raise awareness about **issues affecting them, such as health decline, financial insecurity, and elder abuse.**
- The observance traces back to 1988 when U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed Proclamation 5847 to officially create National Senior Citizens Day on August 21.

194. Veteran actress Sowcar Janaki, who died at the age of 94, had acted in more than how many films?

- (a) 200 films
- (b) 300 films
- (c) 350 films
- (d) 400 films
- (e) 500 films

Ans. d

Sol.

- **Veteran actress Sowcar Janaki (94)** died in hospital. Born Sankaramanchi Janaki in 1931, she was christened Sowcar Janaki when she started acting in films.
- She has worked in over 400 films since her debut in the Telugu film Shavukaru directed by LV Prasad. This film earned her the title 'Sowcar' Janaki.

195. Former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar represented which Lok Sabha constituency?

- (a) South Delhi
- (b) Outer Delhi
- (c) North Delhi

- (d) East Delhi
(e) West Delhi

Ans. b

Sol.

- **Former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar**, who was serving life sentence for his role in the **1984 anti-Sikh riots in Delhi**, died at **Safdarjung Hospital** on 19 August.
- According to the hospital, Kumar, aged 84 years, was brought to the medical facility by police with altered sensorium. Kumar, a three-time Lok Sabha member, represented the Outer Delhi constituency and had been a prominent Congress leader. He resigned from the party after his 2018 conviction.
- He was serving multiple life sentences after his conviction in cases linked to the 1984 anti-Sikh riots in Delhi.

196. India hosted the Eighth BRICS Youth Energy Summit 2026 virtually on which date?

- (a) August 15, 2026
(b) August 16, 2026
(c) August 17, 2026
(d) August 18, 2026
(e) August 19, 2026

Ans. c

Sol. India hosted the **virtual Eighth BRICS Youth Energy Summit 2026 on August 17, 2026**, under its BRICS Chairship. More than 100 participants discussed **clean energy, energy security, inclusive access, and youth-led green technology innovation** under the theme **“सर्वेषां ऊर्जम्” (Energy for All)**.

197. Who inaugurated ‘MALHAR 2026’, a youth-centric, monsoon-themed celebration of Indian classical music?

- (a) C. P. Radhakrishnan
(b) S. Jaishankar
(c) Sergey Lavrov
(d) Anand Mahindra
(e) Somanath Sreedhara Panicker

Ans. a

Sol.

- **The Vice President, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, today inaugurated 'MALHAR 2026', a youth-centric,** monsoon-themed celebration of Indian classical music by Antar Hriday Connect, in New Delhi.
- Vice President appreciated Antar Hriday Connect for creating opportunities for young people to experience and engage with India's rich classical music heritage, particularly through free classical music concerts.

198. For how many years did India and Mauritius sign the sales and purchase agreement for petroleum products?

- (a) 3 years
- (b) 4 years
- (c) 5 years
- (d) 7 years
- (e) 10 years

Ans. c

Sol.

- **India and Mauritius signed a broad government-to-government oil and gas MoU alongside a five-year sales and purchase agreement.** Under this pact, Indian Oil Corporation will fulfill the entire import needs of Mauritius for petrol, diesel, and aviation turbine fuel to ensure energy security and stable pricing.
- The MoU between the two countries institutionalizes the longstanding energy partnership between the two countries, **covering petroleum products supply, training and capacity building for Mauritian officials and biofuels cooperation.**

199. S. Jaishankar was scheduled to co-chair which session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation?

- (a) 25th session
- (b) 26th session
- (c) 27th session
- (d) 28th session
- (e) 29th session

Ans. c

Sol.

- **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will undertake a two-day official visit** to Moscow beginning on 23rd August to hold talks with his Russian counterparts on a range of issues, including bilateral trade and investment ties.
- Jaishankar will also meet Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, with talks between the two set to focus on regional and global issues.
- **Jaishankar will co-chair the 27th session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC)** alongside Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov.

200. What is the name of the AI-powered multi-currency travel card launched by Wizzmon Financial Services Ltd and Oman Air?

- (a) Wizz Travel Card
- (b) Wizz Voyager
- (c) Oman Multi Card
- (d) Wizz Global Pay
- (e) Voyager Plus

Ans. b

Sol.

- **Wizzmon Financial Services Ltd and Oman Air have partnered to launch the co-branded Wizz Voyager Multi-Currency Card, an AI-powered travel card** supporting **multiple global currencies**.
- Bringing together Wizzmon's fintech capabilities with Oman Air's international network, the partnership delivers a more seamless travel experience by integrating payments, rewards, and travel benefits into a single platform.

201. Who was appointed as a part-time, non-official director on the RBI Central Board in August 2026?

- (a) Denis Manturov
- (b) Somanath Sreedhara Panicker
- (c) Navin Ramgoolam
- (d) C. P. Radhakrishnan
- (e) Sergey Lavrov

Ans. b

Sol.

- **The Indian government appointed former ISRO chairman Somanath Sreedhara Panicker and re-appointed Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra as part-time, non-official directors on the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Central Board for four years starting August 20, 2026.**
- The RBI's central board comprises official directors (including the Governor and up to four Deputy Governors), government-nominated directors and other non-official **directors drawn from various fields, who provide direction to the central bank's affairs.**

202. What was the name of the third Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft delivered by Cochin Shipyard Limited to the Indian Navy?

- (a) INS Arnala
- (b) INS Androth
- (c) Mangrol
- (d) INS Mahe
- (e) INS Kiltan

Ans. c

Sol.

- **Kochi-based Cochin Shipyard Limited** has delivered the third **Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft, Mangrol, to the Indian Navy.**
- The Defence Ministry said that the ship comprises over 80 per cent indigenous content. The ship is equipped for underwater surveillance, Anti-Submarine Warfare operations in coastal waters, Low-Intensity Maritime Operations, along with mine warfare capabilities.

203. Which football club defeated Mohun Bagan Super Giant 4–1 to claim the Durand Cup title in August 2026?

- (a) Bengaluru FC
- (b) East Bengal FC
- (c) FC Goa
- (d) Mumbai City FC
- (e) Kerala Blasters FC

Ans. b

Sol.

- *East Bengal FC recently defeated arch-rivals Mohun Bagan Super Giant 4-1 to claim their record-equalling 17th title in the prestigious Durand Cup on August 23, 2026.*

About

- **Score:** East Bengal FC 4 – 1 Mohun Bagan Super Giant
- **Date & Venue:** August 23, 2026, at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (Salt Lake Stadium) in Kolkata

204. International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition is observed annually on which date?

- (a) August 15
- (b) August 21
- (c) August 23
- (d) August 26
- (e) August 29

Ans. c

Sol. The **International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition** is commemorated annually on **August 23** by UNESCO. It memorializes the transatlantic slave trade and honors its victims and freedom fighters.

205. What was the theme of India's 3rd National Space Day 2026?

- (a) Space for Sustainable Development
- (b) Towards Viksit Bharat: Innovating, Collaborating and Aspiring to Global Space Leadership
- (c) India's Journey to the Moon
- (d) Space Technology for New India
- (e) Innovating Space for Humanity

Ans. b

Sol. India celebrated its **3rd National Space Day on August 23, 2026**. The day marks the anniversary of the **Chandrayaan-3 soft landing at Shiv Shakti Point** near the Moon's south pole in 2023. The **2026 theme** was **"Towards Viksit Bharat: Innovating, Collaborating and Aspiring to Global Space Leadership."**

206. Which country's highest civilian award is the Nishan-e-Imtiaz mentioned in the news?

- (a) India
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) Pakistan
- (d) Afghanistan
- (e) Sri Lanka

Ans. c

Sol.

- **Two doctors - a physician and a radiologist - of Mumbai's Parsi community** will receive **Pakistan's highest civilian award, Nishan-e-Imtiaz**, for keeping secret **Muhammad Ali Jinnah's terminal illness**, according to a federal minister.
- Planning minister Ahsan Iqbal disclosed this in a post on X. "I feel honoured to have had the privilege, as chairman of the awards committee, of nominating for Nishan-e-Imtiaz two remarkable doctors, a physician and a radiologist, both members of Bombay's Parsi community, who faithfully guarded the secret of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's terminal illness

207. In August 2026, the Government of Maharashtra signed an MoU with which German state to strengthen cooperation in investment, innovation and skill development?

- (a) Bavaria
- (b) Hesse
- (c) Saxony
- (d) Brandenburg
- (e) Hamburg

Ans. b

Sol.

- In August 2026, the **Government of Maharashtra and the German State of Hesse** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation in areas including investment, industry, innovation, employment and skill development.**

- The MoU was signed by Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister (CM), Maharashtra and Boris Rhein, Minister-President of Hesse, at Sahyadri Guest House, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

208. The Odisha Government launched the '**Bidesh Sikhyabruti**' scheme primarily to provide financial assistance for higher education abroad to which students?

- (a) Women students only
- (b) Minority students
- (c) SC and ST students
- (d) OBC students
- (e) Economically weaker students only

Ans. c

Sol.

- The **Odisha government** on 24th August launched the "**Bidesh Sikhyabruti**" **scholarship scheme** to provide **financial assistance to Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) students aspiring to pursue higher education at top-ranked global universities.**
- Each beneficiary under the scheme will receive financial assistance of up to **₹25 lakh per annum.** The scholarship is designed to offer comprehensive **financial coverage, taking care of tuition fees, accommodation and living expenses,** international travel, medical insurance, and other incidental costs.

209. Who launched **Operation Economic Outcast** against Iran in 2026?

- (a) U.S. Secretary of State
- (b) U.S. Defense Secretary
- (c) U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent
- (d) U.S. National Security Advisor
- (e) U.S. Commerce Secretary

Ans. c

Sol.

- **Six months into the West Asia war,** US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has launched "**Operation Economic Outcast**", a sustained campaign aimed at **cutting off Iran's financial lifelines.**
- The new sectoral sanctions target digital assets, technology, gold, aviation and shipping, while more than 60 entities, individuals and vessels accused of

helping Tehran generate oil revenue, procure nuclear and missile technology and conduct cyber operations have also been sanctioned.

210. Which of the following countries was **NOT** among the five African countries where WHO confirmed the end of poliovirus type 2 outbreaks?

- (a) Burundi
- (b) Ghana
- (c) Uganda
- (d) Nigeria
- (e) Guinea-Bissau

Ans. d

Sol.

- **The World Health Organization (WHO)** Regional Office for Africa confirmed the end of poliovirus type 2 outbreaks in **Burundi, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, the Republic of Congo and Uganda** following Independent Outbreak Response Assessment (OBRA) conducted between January and June 2026.
- The assessments examined disease surveillance, laboratory and epidemiological evidence, population immunity and vaccination campaign performance.

211. Which credit card will Punjab National Bank offer specifically to **Army officers** under its MoU with the Indian Army?

- (a) PNB Parakram Credit Card
- (b) PNB LUXURA Metal Credit Card
- (c) PNB Rakshak Credit Card
- (d) PNB Defence Elite Card
- (e) PNB Army Pride Card

Ans. b

Sol.

- **Punjab National Bank and the Indian Army have signed** an exclusive memorandum of understanding. This partnership will offer two specialised credit cards for Army personnel.
- These cards provide benefits like cashback and airport lounge access. Under the partnership, PNB will offer the **PNB LUXURA Metal Credit Card** for Army officers and **the PNB Parakram Credit Card** for Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs) and other ranks personnel.

212. Who was crowned **Miss Universe India 2026**?

- (a) Manika Vishwakarma
- (b) Vaishnavi Gannesh
- (c) Anushri Satavlekar
- (d) Kaziah Liz Mejo
- (e) Sadhvi Sail

Ans. d

Sol.

- **Kerala's 19-year-old Kaziah Liz Mejo was crowned the prestigious Miss Universe India 2026** at the grand finale held at Zee Studios in **Jaipur** on 24th August.
- Mejo beat 52 finalists from across the country to win the title. During the grand finale, Miss Universe India **2025 Manika Vishwakarma crowned her successor.**
- Kaziah will now represent India at the **75th Miss Universe pageant**, which will be held in **Puerto Rico in November.**
- **1st Runner-up / Miss International India 2026 is Vaishnavi Gannesh (Tamil Nadu) and 2nd Runner-up is Anushri Satavlekar (Gujarat).**

213. The first 100% indigenous AK-203 rifle, named '**Sher**', was test-fired at which facility?

- (a) Korwa Ordnance Facility, Amethi
- (b) INS Kunjali, Kochi
- (c) DRDO Facility, Hyderabad
- (d) Ordnance Factory, Kanpur
- (e) HAL Facility, Bengaluru

Ans. a

Sol.

India successfully test-fired its first 100% indigenous AK-203 assault rifle, named 'Sher', built entirely with domestic components and input materials at the Korwa Ordnance Facility in Amethi, Uttar Pradesh.

About 'Sher' Rifle

- **Manufacturer:** Produced by Indo-Russian Rifles Private Limited (IRRPL), a joint venture in Amethi.

- **Indigenisation:** Achieved 100% domestic sourcing for every part, moving past local assembly of imported kits.
- **Purpose:** Designed to replace the ageing INSAS 5.56 mm rifles in the Indian Armed Forces.
- **Production Goal:** The facility aims for a production rate of one rifle every 100 seconds, with over 6 lakh units planned for the military.

214. Who won the **2026 Dutch Grand Prix** at Zandvoort?

- (a) George Russell
- (b) Kimi Antonelli
- (c) Lewis Hamilton
- (d) Lando Norris
- (e) Charles Leclerc

Ans. d

Sol.

- **Lando Norris won the 2026 Dutch Grand Prix at Zandvoort.** The victory marked his second consecutive Formula 1 win. **Kimi Antonelli** finished second, while **George Russell** secured third place.
- Lando Norris is a **British racing driver** who competes in Formula One for **McLaren**.

215. Which Indian Grandmaster won the **Kanizsa Open 2026** in Hungary?

- (a) Gukesh D
- (b) Arjun Erigaisi
- (c) Pranesh M
- (d) R Praggnanandhaa
- (e) Harshavardhan G.B.

Ans. c

Sol.

- **India's 19-year-old Grandmaster Pranesh M (from Karaikudi in Tamil Nadu)** emerged as the champion in the prestigious **Kanizsa Open 2026** in **Nagykanizsa, Hungary**, securing the Group A title with a superb performance.
- In the ninth and final round of the tournament, Pranesh defeated Vadim Petrovskiy of Germany with white pieces. Pranesh has a rating of 2673 and is ranked 44th in the latest FIDE Rankings of August 2026.

216. The **India Open Super 750** badminton tournament will be shifted to which city for the 2028 edition?

- (a) Patna
- (b) Guwahati
- (c) Bengaluru
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) Pune

Ans. b

Sol.

- **India Open Super 750 tournament will be shifted to Guwahati for the 2028 edition** due to **clash with Republic Day in New Delhi**, Badminton Association of India secretary Sanjay confirmed on 24th August.
- The tournament, usually held at the IG Indoor Stadium in New Delhi, will move to the **National Center of Excellence of Badminton in Guwahati** for one season due to the dates clashing with the celebration of the Republic Day in the capital city.

217. By which year does India aim to establish its own space station, according to the news?

- (a) 2030
- (b) 2032
- (c) 2035
- (d) 2040
- (e) 2047

Ans. c

Sol.

- **India is working to establish its own space station by 2035**, with the first module of the proposed **Bharatiya Antariksha Station (BAS)** already approved, **ISRO Chairman Dr V Narayanan said on 24th August**.
- Speaking at the third National Space Day celebrations in Ahmedabad, Narayanan said India's space programme has expanded significantly since its launch 64 years ago, with space-based applications now being used across more than 50 areas that directly benefit citizens.

218. Sophie Adenot became the first woman from which country to conduct a spacewalk?

- (a) Germany
- (b) Italy
- (c) France
- (d) Spain
- (e) Belgium

Ans. c

Sol.

- **European Space Agency astronaut Sophie Adenot** has officially made history as the **first French woman to walk in space**.
- During U.S. Spacewalk 97 outside the International Space Station, Adenot spent over six hours performing maintenance, marking a major milestone for European spaceflight.

219. Women's Equality Day is observed annually on which date?

- (a) 8 March
- (b) 15 August
- (c) 26 August
- (d) 5 September
- (e) 24 October

Ans. c

Sol. Women's Equality Day is observed annually on **26 August**. It commemorates the 1920 adoption of the **19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution**, which secured women's right to vote. The 2026 theme mentioned in the file is **"Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future."**

220. In 2026, Onam culminated on which day?

- (a) August 15
- (b) August 17
- (c) August 24
- (d) August 26
- (e) August 30

Ans. d

Sol.

- **Onam is Keralam's largest and most vibrant harvest festival**. A 10-day harvest festival starting with Atham on August 17 and culminating on Thiruvonam on August 26, 2026.

- it is celebrated during the month of Chingam according to the Malayalam solar calendar, which corresponds to August-September. The festival marks a period of abundance, unity, and cultural pride, bringing people together from all walks of life.
- According to mythology, the festival honours the return of King Mahabali, a wise and generous ruler who once governed Keralam. His reign was considered a golden era filled with prosperity and joy. Seeing his growing power, the Gods sought help from Lord Vishnu, who assumed the form of a dwarf named Vamana.

221. Who launched the book '**Africa Before America**' in August 2026?

- (a) Arindam Chaudhuri
- (b) Ramachandra Guha
- (c) Chetan Bhagat
- (d) Amish Tripathi
- (e) Shashi Tharoor

Ans. a

Sol. Dr. Arindam Chaudhuri, a management thinker, author and education entrepreneur, launched his book '**Africa Before America**' in August 2026. The book explores historical perspectives on Africa's role and significance before the rise of modern America.

222. The second edition of the India-New Zealand Defence Strategic Dialogue was held in which city on August 24, 2026?

- (a) Auckland
- (b) Wellington
- (c) Christchurch
- (d) Mumbai
- (e) New Delhi

Ans. b

Sol.

- The second edition of Defence Strategic Dialogue between India and New Zealand took place in Wellington on August 24, 2026.
- Co-chaired by Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence Shri Amitabh Prasad and Deputy Secretary, New Zealand Ministry of Defence Mr Richard Schmidt, the

high-level talks focused on advancing maritime security, joint military training, and overall defence cooperation.

223. What was the consolidated net profit of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in FY 2025-26?

- (a) ₹6,820 crore
- (b) ₹8,750 crore
- (c) ₹9,500 crore
- (d) ₹10,176 crore
- (e) ₹13,500 crore

Ans. d

Sol. The consolidated net profit of **Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)** rose to an all-time high of **Rs 10,176 crore in the financial year 2025-26**, while their total **business crossed Rs 13.5 lakh crore**, surpassing the business levels of several individual Public Sector Banks.

- According to data shared by the Ministry of Finance, the net profit registered in FY25-26 represents a substantial increase compared to the consolidated net profit of **Rs 6,820 crore reported in FY24-25**.

224. Satish Golcha has been appointed as the next Director General of which organisation?

- (a) Border Security Force
- (b) Central Reserve Police Force
- (c) Delhi Home Guards
- (d) National Security Guard
- (e) Delhi Police

Ans. c

Sol.

- Senior IPS officer and former **Delhi Police Commissioner Satish Golcha** has been appointed as the next **Director General (DG) of Delhi Home Guards**.
- Golcha, a 1992-batch AGMUT cadre IPS officer, will formally assume charge as DG Home Guards on October 1, 2026, following the retirement of incumbent chief Virender Singh on September 30.

Note: Chiefs and DGS

- **BSF**-Praveen Kumar
- **CRPF**-Gyanendra Pratap Singh

- **CISF**-Praveer Ranjan
- **ITBP**-Shatrujeet Singh Kapoor
- **NSG (National Security Guard)**-B. Srinivasan
- **NCB (Narcotics Control Bureau)**-Shri Anurag Garg
- **NDRF (National Disaster Response Force)** -Piyush Anand

225. Dolly Parton, who recently passed away at the age of 80, was best known as a legend of which music genre?

- (a) Jazz
- (b) Classical
- (c) Country Music
- (d) Electronic Music
- (e) Reggae

Ans. c

Sol.

- **Dolly Parton, the country music icon** whose soaring vibrato vocals, poignant songwriting and sparkling costumes defined her rise from a log cabin in the Tennessee mountains to the height of stardom and acclaim, has died in Nashville. She was 80 years old. "After bravely facing a brief battle with cancer
- Dolly Parton wrote hundreds of songs, including classics like "Jolene," "Coat of Many Colors" and "I Will Always Love You," that totaled more than 100 million worldwide sales and more than 1 billion online streams.

226. Which film marked Kuku Kohli's directorial debut?

- (a) Suhaag
- (b) Haqeeqat
- (c) Anari No. 1
- (d) Phool Aur Kaante
- (e) Yeh Dil Aashiqanaa

Ans. d

Sol.

- **Veteran Bollywood filmmaker Kuku Kohli passed away** at the age of 77 on August 25, 2026, following a cardiac arrest at Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital in Mumbai.
- **Directorial Debut Best known for directing the 1991 blockbuster Phool Aur Kaante**, which gave actor Ajay Devgn his iconic entry into Bollywood.

- **Hit Movies:** Directed major 1990s and 2000s commercial hits including Suhaag, Haqeeqat, Anari No. 1, and Yeh Dil Aashiqanaa.
- The Indian pair lost to top seeds and defending champions Liu Sheng Shu and Tan Ning of China in the semi-final at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi.

227. Vibha Padalkar has been re-appointed as the MD & CEO of HDFC Life for another five-year term effective from:

- (a) August 25, 2026
- (b) September 1, 2026
- (c) September 12, 2026
- (d) October 1, 2026
- (e) December 12, 2026

Ans. c

Sol.

- **Vibha Padalkar has been re-appointed as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of HDFC Life Insurance Company** for another five-year term, effective September 12, 2026, following approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
- Padalkar has been leading **HDFC Life as MD & CEO since 2018**. Her re-appointment extends her leadership at the life insurer as it enters its next phase of growth and strategic expansion.

228. Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand won which medal in the women's doubles event at the Badminton World Championships?

- (a) Gold
- (b) Silver
- (c) Bronze
- (d) Platinum
- (e) No medal

Ans. c

Sol.

- **Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand** won the bronze medal in the **women's doubles event at the Badminton World Championships**, creating history for Indian badminton.

- They became only the second Indian women's doubles pair to win a World Championships medal, **after Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa.**

229. International Dog Day 2026 was observed on which date?

- (a) August 15
- (b) August 20
- (c) August 24
- (d) August 26
- (e) August 30

Ans. d

Sol.

- **International Dog Day was celebrated on August 26, 2026**, to honor dogs, encourage rescue **adoptions**, and **recognize working and companion dogs.**
- **The day aims to create awareness** about dog welfare, responsible pet ownership and the importance of treating dogs with care and compassion.

230. The Himachal Pradesh Forest Department signed a five-year MoU with which institution to realise the state's forest and pastoral economy potential?

- (a) IIT Delhi
- (b) Indian School of Business
- (c) IIM Ahmedabad
- (d) NITI Aayog
- (e) Forest Research Institute

Ans. b

Sol.

- **The Himachal Pradesh forest department signed a five-year memorandum of understanding (MoU)** with the **Bharti Institute of Public Policy**, Indian **School of Business (ISB-BIPP)**, in the presence of chief minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on 26 August to realise the state's untapped forest and pastoral economy through science and technology-enabled governance.
- Ahead of the signing the MoU, the team of ISB-BIPP presented findings from a joint forest inventory, wherein over **500 forest guards collected more than 2,00,000 tree-level records and species-tagged images, combined with satellite imagery and AI/ML**, then validated on the ground. Maps have been

generated for seven species including khair, bamboo, chir pine, amla, wild mango, sal, and rhododendron published jointly as counting green wealth.

231. The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) introduced the “GARBHINI MITRA” Course for which academic session?

- (a) 2024–25
- (b) 2025–26
- (c) 2026–27
- (d) 2027–28
- (e) 2028–29

Ans. c

Sol.

- **The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, an autonomous premier institution under the Ministry of Ayush, has introduced the Garbhini Mitra Course for the 2026–2027 academic session.**
- The initiative is a structured healthcare **skill-development programme aimed at creating trained personnel to provide appropriate health education, lifestyle guidance, and community-level support** to women during pregnancy and the postnatal period.
- Offered at the AIIA campus in Sarita Vihar, New Delhi, the course admits 20 students per batch. **Candidates who have passed the Senior Secondary (10+2) examination from any recognized board in India and are at least 18 years of age are eligible to apply.** Candidates currently awaiting their 12th-grade results may also submit provisional applications.
- **After completing the course, candidates can pursue roles as Garbhini Mitra Assistants, Prenatal/Postnatal Care Assistants, Antenatal Wellness Guides and Maternal Health Support Workers, with opportunities in Ayush centres, maternity clinics, NGOs, community health projects and wellness institutions.**

232. Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s four-day visit beginning on 28 August 2026 includes which of the following destinations?

- (a) Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic
- (b) Kazakhstan and Tajikistan
- (c) Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan

- (d) Kyrgyz Republic and Turkmenistan
(e) Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

Ans. a

Sol.

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28 August embarked on a four-day visit to Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic**, during which he will hold bilateral talks with Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and attend the **26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Bishkek**.
- PM Modi will be on a State Visit to Uzbekistan on August 29-30 at the invitation of Mirziyoyev before travelling to Bishkek for the SCO summit on August 31 and September 1.
- Visit would **focus on strengthening India's strategic partnerships in Central Asia and deepening its ties with the region**.

233. The 'Lokmata Ahilyabai Matrushakti Yatra' scheme launched by the Uttar Pradesh government provides free bus travel to women aged:

- (a) 50 years and above
(b) 55 years and above
(c) 60 years and above
(d) 65 years and above
(e) 70 years and above

Ans. c

Sol.

- **Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** on 27 August launched the 'Lokmata **Ahilyabai Matrushakti Yatra**' scheme and flagged off special buses to provide free travel facilities to **women aged 60 years** and and above in the state.
- **Aimed:** Making the journey of women more convenient and dignified and strengthening their self-reliance.

234. Air India has entered into an interline partnership with which airline to strengthen air connectivity between India and Bhutan?

- (a) Bhutan Airlines
(b) Drukair-Royal Bhutan Airlines
(c) Buddha Air

- (d) Nepal Airlines
- (e) SriLankan Airlines

Ans. b

Sol.

- **Air India has entered into an interline partnership with Bhutan's flag carrier Drukair-Royal Bhutan Airlines** to offer seamless travel across their networks and strengthen air connectivity **between India and Bhutan.**
- The arrangement also offers competitive interline fares, greater travel flexibility and improved connectivity. With the partnership, the airline now provides connectivity to nearly all countries in the **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) region through its own or partner network.**

235. Who has been appointed as the Vice President and Auditor General of the World Bank Group?

- (a) Indermit Gill
- (b) Ajay Banga
- (c) Yuko Keicho
- (d) Mari Pangestu
- (e) Carmen Reinhart

Ans. c

Sol.

- **The World Bank Group announced the appointment of Yuko Keicho** (Japanese national) as **Vice President and Auditor General.**
- Keicho will lead the Internal Audit Vice Presidency, **providing independent assurance and advisory services that support effective governance,** accountability, risk management, and internal controls across the institution. She will report to World Bank Group President Ajay Banga and functionally to the Audit Committee.

236. R. Praggnanandhaa became the first Indian to win which of the following titles?

- (a) FIDE World Cup
- (b) Grand Chess Tour
- (c) World Rapid Championship
- (d) Candidates Tournament
- (e) Chess Olympiad

Ans. b

Sol.

- **R. Praggnanandhaa has made history by becoming the first Indian to win the Grand Chess Tour** after defeating the U.S. defending champion Fabiano Caruana 15–13 in the final **held in St. Louis.**
- The Grand Chess Tour is an elite circuit spanning Classical, Rapid and Blitz events with the world's best players and a total prize pool of \$2 million.
- After five gruelling tournaments, which include two Classical and three Rapid and Blitz events, the top four players qualify for the GCT finals, a knockout event where the year's best compete for the title.

237. 'Samarthak', the first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV) received by the Indian Navy, was constructed by:

- (a) Hindustan Shipyard Limited
- (b) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- (c) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers
- (d) Larsen & Toubro
- (e) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders

Ans. d

Sol.

- **The Indian Navy has taken delivery of Samarthak, its first locally built Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV),** constructed by **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** at its Kattupalli shipyard near Chennai.
- The vessel was delivered on August 27. More than 75% of the vessel's components are made in India. It will mainly be **used to test and evaluate new naval weapons, sensors and other systems.**

238. DRDO successfully tested its indigenous Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS) from an altitude of:

- (a) 18,000 feet
- (b) 20,000 feet
- (c) 22,000 feet
- (d) 25,000 feet
- (e) 30,000 feet

Ans. c

Sol.

- **The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested its indigenous Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS) at the Nyoma-Mudh drop zone in Ladakh from an altitude of 22,000 feet.**

Note:

- **Location:** Nyoma-Mudh drop zone, Ladakh (landing at 13,700 feet)
- **Jump Altitude:** 22,000 feet above mean sea level in temperatures of -15°C
- **Deployment:** Parachute deployed at 20,000 feet by test jumpers including Wg Cdr Rahul Jha, MWO R J Singh, and MWO Vivek Tiwari
- **Developers:** Designed by the Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE) in Agra and the Defence Bioengineering and Electromedical Laboratory (DEBEL) in Bengaluru
- **Sub-systems:** Utilized indigenous gear including a para computer, specialized jumpsuits, and an oxygen system
- **System Specs:** Designed for operations up to 32,000 feet with a payload capacity of up to 200 kg and NavIC compatibility

239. Who launched the biographical novel '**Kaho Kalidasa!**' in New Delhi on 25 August 2026?

- (a) Dharmendra Pradhan
- (b) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- (c) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- (d) Kiren Rijiju
- (e) Piyush Goyal

Ans. b

Sol.

- **Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** launched the biographical novel '**Kaho Kalidasa!**' on August 25, 2026, at the **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) in New Delhi.**
- **Theme:** The novel explores the lesser-known life and personality of the classical Sanskrit poet Mahakavi Kalidasa through five love stories inspired by his seven famous literary works.

240. National Sports Day in India is celebrated every year on 29 August to commemorate the birth anniversary of:

- (a) Milkha Singh
- (b) Balbir Singh Sr.
- (c) Major Dhyan Chand
- (d) PT Usha
- (e) Kapil Dev

Ans. c

Sol. India observes **National Sports Day on 29 August** every year to mark the birth anniversary of legendary hockey player **Major Dhyan Chand**. The Government of India declared 29 August as National Sports Day in 2012.

241. World Sanskrit Day, also known as Vishva Samskrita Dinam, is observed on which occasion?

- (a) Chaitra Purnima
- (b) Shravana Amavasya
- (c) Shravana Purnima
- (d) Kartika Purnima
- (e) Vaishakha Purnima

Ans. c

Sol. **World Sanskrit Day** is observed on **Shravana Purnima**, the full moon day in the Hindu month of Shravana, to honor the Sanskrit language and promote its learning.

242. Yayoi Kusama, who recently passed away at the age of 97, was a famous artist from which country?

- (a) South Korea
- (b) China
- (c) Japan
- (d) Thailand
- (e) Vietnam

Ans. c

Sol.

- **Yayoi Kusama, the Japanese artist known for her polka-dot paintings, pumpkin sculptures and immersive "Infinity Mirror Rooms", has died at the age of 97.**
- **Kusama was born in Matsumoto, Japan, on March 22, 1929. She became famous for polka dots, pumpkin sculptures and Infinity Mirror Rooms.**

243. Gujarat has launched which pioneering programme for athletes?

- (a) Sports AI Programme
- (b) Sports Genomics Programme
- (c) National Athlete Health Programme
- (d) Sports Psychology Mission
- (e) Gujarat Sports Research Mission

Ans. b

Sol. Gujarat has launched the first state-level **Sports Genomics Programme** to understand the genetic and physiological characteristics of athletes and support better athlete development and competition readiness. The initiative is also significant for Gujarat's preparation for the **2030 Commonwealth Games**.

244. India and Uzbekistan elevated their relationship to which level?

- (a) Strategic Economic Partnership
- (b) Comprehensive Economic Partnership
- (c) Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
- (d) Special Strategic Partnership
- (e) Global Strategic Partnership

Ans. c

Sol.

- **India and Uzbekistan announced to elevate their mutual Strategic Partnership to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership level.** The Central Asian country also agreed to establish a framework for long-term supply of uranium to India and discuss the sites of the mining for rare earth minerals.
- India and Uzbekistan signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) in various sectors, **including Mining, Ayurveda, Tourism, Economic and financial dialogue, Comprehensive and strategic partnership, Higher education and the environment.**
- Both Countries agreed to set **a target of 5 billion dollars of bilateral trade by 2030, which is 5 times the current trade.**

245. Who has been named the next Director and CEO of TVS Motor Company?

- (a) K N Radhakrishnan
- (b) Peyman Kargar

- (c) Sudarshan Venu
- (d) Venu Srinivasan
- (e) Ralf Speth

Ans. b

Sol.

- **TVS Motor Company has appointed Peyman Kargar** as its **next Director and CEO**. He will take over from **K N Radhakrishnan on January 27, 2027**.
- **Peyman** Kargar joined TVS in 2025. He is currently the president of international business. Radhakrishnan will continue as CEO until January 27 and later serve as a non-executive director until the company's AGM in July 2027.
- Kargar has more than three decades of experience in the automotive industry. He has worked in various domains, including product development, research and development, manufacturing, quality, sales and marketing, and international business operations.

246. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with which highest Uzbek honour for foreign leaders?

- (a) Order of Zayed
- (b) Order of the Nile
- (c) Oliy Darajali Do'stlik Order
- (d) Order of the Druk Gyalpo
- (e) Order of Excellence

Ans. c

Sol.

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on 30 August conferred with Uzbekistan's highest honour for foreign leaders, the 'Oliy Darajali Do'stlik' Order**, which he dedicated to the **"enduring"** bond between New Delhi and Tashkent.
- The prime minister was conferred with the **honour by Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev**.
- The Uzbek honour adds to a list of top state and civilian awards conferred on PM Modi by close to three dozen countries in recognition of his leadership and contribution to bilateral ties.
- PM Modi is in Uzbekistan on a two-day visit to **bolster ties in a range of areas including trade, clean energy and connectivity**.

247. India signed a \$93 million deal with the United States to procure approximately how many Javelin missile rounds?

- (a) 50
- (b) 75
- (c) 100
- (d) 125
- (e) 150

Ans. c

Sol.

- The Indian Army has signed a US Foreign Military Sales Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LoA) to procure nearly 100 FGM-148 Javelin anti-tank guided missile systems worth \$93 million.

About Deal

- **Value:** Approximately \$93 million for the combined package.
- **Contents:** Around 100 Javelin missile rounds, 25 command launch units, simulation rounds, and M982A1 Excalibur precision-guided artillery shells.
- **Route:** Executed via the U.S. Foreign Military Sales (FMS) emergency procurement process

248. Who won the PSA Budapest Squash Open title in Hungary?

- (a) Balazs Farkas
- (b) Eain Yow Ng
- (c) Veer Chotrani
- (d) Velavan Senthilkumar
- (e) Saurav Ghosal

Ans. d

Sol.

- **India's Velavan Senthilkumar won the PSA Budapest Squash Open title in Hungary** after defeating home favourite Balazs Farkas 3-0 in the final.
- He had an impressive run to the title, beating World No. 18 and Asian Games gold medallist Eain Yow Ng 3-0 in the quarterfinals before overcoming fellow Indian Veer Chotrani 3-2 in a thrilling semifinal. Senthilkumar capped his remarkable week with a dominant performance in the final.

249. King Harald V of Norway, who passed away at the age of 89, became king in which year?

- (a) 1989
- (b) 1990
- (c) 1991
- (d) 1992
- (e) 1993

Ans. c

Sol. According to the provided current-affairs material, **King Harald V** became King of Norway in **1991**, following the death of his father, King Olav V. He remained monarch during decades of economic growth driven largely by Norway's oil and gas sector.

250. King Oyo Nyimba Kabamba Iguru Rukidi IV became King of Tooro at what age?

- (a) One year
- (b) Two years
- (c) Three years
- (d) Four years
- (e) Five years

Ans. c

Sol.

- A traditional Ugandan ruler named as the world's youngest monarch has died aged 34. Oyo Nyimba Kabamba Iguru Rukidi IV became king of Tooro in western Uganda at just three years old in 1995 after the death of his father.
- The Tooro kingdom did not disclose the cause of King Oyo's death. Though Uganda is governed by an elected president and parliament, it has several traditional kingdoms which continue to have significant cultural influence despite not having political power.

251. International Day Against Nuclear Tests is observed annually on which date?

- (a) August 26
- (b) August 27
- (c) August 28

- (d) August 29
- (e) August 30

Ans. d

Sol. The **International Day Against Nuclear Tests** is observed every year on **29 August** to raise global awareness about the devastating health and environmental impacts of nuclear weapon test explosions. The focus includes nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and restraint.

252. The Gaj Gaurav Award 2026 was conferred for outstanding contribution to which area?

- (a) Tiger Conservation
- (b) Elephant Conservation
- (c) Forest Restoration
- (d) Wetland Conservation
- (e) Rhino Conservation

Ans. b

Sol. The Gaj Gaurav Award 2026 was conferred on 13 August 2026 in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. It honored seven frontline mahouts and forest staff from West Bengal's Jaldapara Wildlife Division for their bravery during severe North Bengal floods.

253. The first India-Kuwait Joint Defence Committee meeting was held in which city?

- (a) Kuwait City
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Hyderabad

Ans. c

Sol.

- **The inaugural meeting of the India-Kuwait Joint Defence Committee (JDC) was held in New Delhi.** During the meeting, both countries agreed to

further strengthen the bilateral defence cooperation across a wide **range of areas, including training, military exercises, military medicine, staff talks, defence industry, and Research and Development.**

- The first meeting of the JDC marked an important step towards operationalising the objectives outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Defence Cooperation between India and Kuwait, signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kuwait in December 2024.

