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NATIONAL

WHAT IS 'ONE CASE ONE DATA'? THE NEW REFORM OF SUPREME COURT EXPLAINED -

- Respectable Supreme Court of India has taken the step towards the modernization of judicial services with the launch of 'One Case One Data' initiative. Along with this AI powered chatbot which named 'Su-Sahayak' is also launched. This move aims to connect digitally judicial data across the all levels of the court, from taluka courts to district courts and Supreme courts.



What Is the 'One Case One Data' Initiative ?

- The One Case One Data initiative is the new digital case management framework which is designed to integrate the judicial records into a unified system.
- **For the first time courts across the different levels of the judicial hierarchy will be digitally connected via a common data access structure.**
- This means case-related information from,
 - Supreme Court
 - High Courts
 - District Courts
 - Taluka Courts
 - Government departments

CABINET APPROVES SUPREME COURT JUDGE STRENGTH INCREASE FROM 33 TO 37 -

- The Union Cabinet approved on 5 May 2026 a proposal to increase the sanctioned strength of Supreme Court judges from 33 to 37, excluding the Chief Justice of India. With the Chief Justice of India included, the total strength of the Supreme Court will rise from 34 to 38 judges.



Supreme Court Strength and Statutory Basis

- The strength of the Supreme Court is governed by The

Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956. The proposed change will require an amendment through The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026, which will be introduced in Parliament.

Caseload and Bench Formation

- The Supreme Court has more than 92,000 pending cases. The increase in judge strength is linked to the functioning of more benches at the same time, since the court hears matters through division benches and larger constitutional benches.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ANNOUNCES KAILASH MANSAROVAR YATRA 2026 -

- The Government of India have officially announced that the 2026 Kailash Mansarovar Yatra will take place from the June to August. It will marks the another important step to restoring cross-border pilgrimage sites. It is organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in the coordination with China and this yatra will proceed through the two key routes Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand and Nathu La Pass in Sikkim. It will offering the devotees the chance to undertake one of the most sacred journeys in the Asia.

Routes for Kailash Mansarovar Yatra 2026

1. Lipulekh Pass Route (Uttarakhand)

- The Lipulekh Pass route is the traditional and more physically demanding route. The pilgrims trek via the Himalayan terrain and making it ideal for those seeking the spiritually intense and adventurous experience.

2. Nathu La Pass Route (Sikkim)

- The Nathu La Pass route offers the comparatively easier journey with the most of the travel done by vehicles. It is also suitable for elderly pilgrims or those who are unable to undertake long treks.

Batch Details and Participation

- This yatra will be conducted in the structured manner to ensure the safety and smooth coordination.
- 20 batches in total
- Each batch will have the total 50 pilgrims



- 10 batches via Lipulekh Pass
- 10 batches via Nathu La Pass
- This means around the 1,000 pilgrims will participate in the 2026 yatra.

SIKKIM BECOMES INDIA'S FIRST PAPERLESS JUDICIARY STATE -

- Sikkim has been declared the first state in India to adopt a fully paperless judiciary by Justice Surya Kant, marking a major milestone in digital justice delivery.



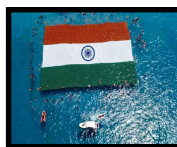
Key Points

- **Historic Declaration:** The announcement was made by the Chief Justice of India during the National Conclave on Technology and Judicial Education held in Gangtok.
- **Organised by:** The conclave was organised by the High Court of Sikkim and the Sikkim Judicial Academy.
- **Complete Digital Ecosystem:** The paperless judiciary involves end-to-end digital functioning including e-filing, digital case records, virtual hearings, and automated workflows.
- Digital processes are expected to reduce case pendency, ensure faster hearings, and improve overall efficiency in justice delivery.
- **Use of Advanced Technology:** The judiciary is increasingly adopting tools like Artificial Intelligence (e.g., SUPACE and SUVAS) for research, translation, and case management.

INDIA SETS GUINNESS RECORD WITH LARGEST UNDERWATER TRICOLOUR AT RADHANAGAR BEACH -

Andaman Sets Guinness World Record with Underwater Tricolour

- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands administration successfully set the new Guinness World Record by unfurling the largest underwater national flag of India at Radhanagar Beach.
- This massive Indian Tricolour is measuring 60 x 40 metres was carefully deployed underwater in the proper



coordinated operation.

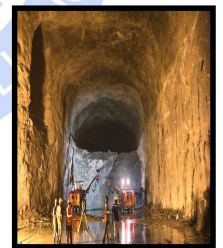
- The event was officially confirmed by a Guinness representative and marks a proud moment for the nation.

Massive Coordination Between Divers and Agencies

- The underwater operation required the accurate planning and teamwork and it involves more than 200 trained divers.
- Key Participants Included
- Andaman and Nicobar Police
- Forest Department
- Indian Navy
- Indian Coast Guard
- Professional scuba divers from multiple centres

UAE TO STORE CRUDE OIL IN INDIA'S STRATEGIC RESERVE -

- India and the United Arab Emirates agreed on 15 May 2026 to expand energy cooperation through crude oil storage in India's Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The arrangement allows the UAE to store up to 30 million barrels of crude oil in India, and it was linked to talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi.



Strategic Petroleum Reserve in India

- India's Strategic Petroleum Reserve is a crude oil storage system created for emergency supply management. Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited, a Government of India company, manages the country's strategic crude storage facilities. India's operational strategic crude oil storage sites include Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, Mangaluru in Karnataka, and Padur in Karnataka. Planned expansion projects have also been discussed for Chandikol in Odisha.

ARTICLE 25 AND GENDER EQUALITY -

- **On 14 and 15 May 2026, the Indian government told a nine-judge Supreme Court bench that Article 25(1) of the Constitution protects freedom of conscience and**



the right to profess, practise and propagate religion, but does not itself deal with gender equality. The bench was headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, and the matter was heard over 16 days across five weeks.



Article 25 in the Constitution of India

- Article 25(1) is part of Part III of the Constitution of India and guarantees freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practise and propagate religion. Article 25(2) permits the State to regulate or restrict secular activity associated with religious practice and to provide for social welfare and reform.

Equality Provisions and Sex Discrimination

- Articles 15 and 16 of the Constitution prohibit discrimination on grounds including sex. Article 15 deals with equality and non-discrimination, while Article 16 deals with equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.

INDIA'S WATER SCARCITY -

- India faces a stark population-resource paradox, supporting 18% of humanity with only 4% of freshwater.
- While the Ministry of Jal Shakti leads national missions, the crisis is deepened by irrational crop patterns and 70% surface water contamination.
- Sustaining growth requires a circular water economy and community-led groundwater budgeting.



What are the Key Facts Regarding Water Availability in India?

- Population-Resource Paradox:** India supports nearly 18% of the world's population but possesses only 4% of global freshwater resources. Approximately 60 Crore people experience high to extreme water stress.
- Per capita water availability has plummeted from**

over 5,000 cubic meters in 1947 to nearly 1,400 cubic meters today. If it falls below 1,000 cubic meters, the nation will be officially classified as "water-scarce."

- Precipitation and Usability:** While India receives nearly 4,000 BCM (Billion Cubic Metres) of annual rainfall, only about 1,123 BCM is considered "utilisable." The gap is due to inadequate storage infrastructure, geological barriers, and the highly seasonal nature of the monsoon (70% of rain occurs in just 3–4 months).
- Current Storage & Reservoir Status:** As of early April 2026, the Central Water Commission (CWC) has flagged that water levels in 166 monitored reservoirs have fallen to below 45% of total capacity.
- Southern India has seen the steepest drop, with several reservoirs reaching critically low levels, while North-Eastern states like Arunachal Pradesh remain water-abundant due to high rainfall and Himalayan runoff.

AMIT SHAH LAUNCHES AI-POWERED DIAL 112 EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLES IN CHHATTISGARH -

- Respectable Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched the major public safety initiative by flagging off a new fleet of advanced Dial 112 emergency response vehicles and the modern forensic mobile vans in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. This upgraded system now expands from the 16 districts to all 33 districts of the state.



Amit Shah Flags Off Advanced Dial 112 Emergency Fleet in Raipur

- A major upgrade has come to the Chhattisgarh's emergency response infrastructure.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched the modern emergency vehicle fleet at a state level event in Raipur.
- IN the flag off event,
 - F. Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai
 - G. Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma
 - H. Assembly Speaker Raman Singh
- also presented along with the Home Minister.



SHRAMMITRA APP LAUNCHED IN HARYANA TO REPLACE TRADITIONAL LABOUR CHOWK SYSTEM -

- The Haryana government has officially launched the ShramMitra mobile application, it is a digital initiative aimed at making worker hiring faster, simpler and more transparent.
- The app has been developed by the Haryana Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board.
- According to the Labour Minister Anil Vij, this platform will create a direct communication channel between employers and workers, reducing delays, confusion and dependence on the informal hiring networks.
- The initiative is being positioned as the major labour market reform.

**SC ORDERS MANDATORY FIRS IN MISSING CHILD CASES -**

- The Supreme Court of India ordered all police stations in India to register a First Information Report for every complaint of a missing child or missing person. The order was passed on 22 May 2026 by a bench of Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Justice R. Mahadevan. The directions cover missing children, missing adults, kidnapping-related offences, Anti-Human Trafficking Units, and a national data grid for trafficking cases.

First Information Report in Criminal Procedure

- A First Information Report is the written record of information relating to a cognisable offence under Indian criminal law. In missing child cases, the Court directed immediate registration of FIRs without a preliminary inquiry. The FIRs must include relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita relating to kidnapping.

SIKKIM BECOMES INDIA'S FIFTH FULLY LITERATE STATE -

- Sikkim was declared a fully literate state on 27 May 2026 under the ULLAS – Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram. The state recorded a literacy rate of 99.82 per cent, which

is above the Ministry of Education benchmark of 95 per cent for full literacy.

**ULLAS Framework**

- ULLAS stands for Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society. The programme was launched in Sikkim on 14 November 2022 and was implemented across all six districts, 34 blocks, Gram Panchayat units, and wards.

Declaration and Ceremony

- Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang made the declaration during the 7th convocation ceremony of Sikkim University in Gangtok. President Droupadi Murmu and Governor Om Prakash Mathur were present at the ceremony held at Manan Kendra in Gangtok.

ASSAM ASSEMBLY PASSES UNIFORM CIVIL CODE BILL -

- The Assam Assembly passed the Uniform Civil Code Bill by voice vote on 27 May 2026. The Bill was introduced in the state assembly on 25 May 2026 and was moved by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Atul Bora on behalf of Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.

**Uniform Civil Code**

- A Uniform Civil Code is a common set of civil laws for marriage, divorce, succession, and related family matters. Article 44 of the Constitution of India places the Uniform Civil Code among the Directive Principles of State Policy.

Key Provisions of the Assam Bill

- The Bill applies to marriage, divorce, succession, and live-in relationships for citizens in Assam irrespective of religion. It bans polygamy, requires mandatory registration of marriages and divorces, and makes registration of live-in relationships compulsory within one month. The legislation excludes Scheduled Tribes residing in Assam from its purview. It also includes a savings clause for existing polygamous marriages solemnised before the enforcement of the Uniform Civil Code.



INTERNATIONAL

CHINA CONFIRMS TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO PAKISTAN -

- China confirmed on 7 May 2026 that it provided on-site technical support to Pakistan during a four-day conflict with India in May 2025. The confirmation concerned Chinese personnel involvement in an India-Pakistan clash linked to the military operation India called Operation Sindoor.

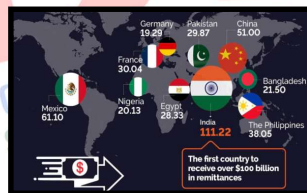


Operation Sindoor and the 2025 Conflict

- The conflict began on 7 May 2025 after a militant attack in Pahalgam in Indian-administered Kashmir on 22 April 2025 killed 26 civilians. Indian forces launched strikes on nine sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Jammu and Kashmir, and India stated that the sites were used to plan the attack.

INDIA AMONG TOP MIGRATION CORRIDORS -

- India remained one of the largest migration corridors in the world in 2024, and remittances to India reached \$134 billion in the same year. Remittances are cross-border personal transfers sent by migrant workers to households in their home countries.



Migration Corridors

- A migration corridor is a route between a country of origin and a country of destination for migrant workers and other migrants. India has large migration links with the Gulf region, North America, Europe, and parts of Asia.

Remittances

- Remittances are recorded in balance of payments statistics and are classified as personal transfers in many international datasets. India has ranked among the largest remittance-receiving countries for several years because of its large overseas workforce.

INDIA GIFTS 10 BHISHM CUBE UNITS TO JAMAICA -

- India has gifted 10 BHISHM Cube mobile hospital units to Jamaica as part of bilateral cooperation in health support. BHISHM stands for Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog, Hita and Maitri, and the system is designed for rapid medical response in emergencies and disaster zones.



BHISHM Cube: Basic Features

- BHISHM Cube is a modular mobile medical unit developed for field deployment. It can be transported to affected areas and used for triage, emergency care, and short-term treatment. The system is intended for use in disaster relief, mass casualty situations, and remote locations with limited medical infrastructure.

India-Jamaica Cooperation

- India and Jamaica maintain diplomatic relations through the Commonwealth framework and wider South-South cooperation. India has extended assistance to several countries through medical aid, disaster relief supplies, and capacity-building support in public health.

BRICS BACKS INDEPENDENT STATE OF PALESTINE -

- BRICS foreign ministers met in New Delhi on 15 May 2026 and reaffirmed support for an independent and viable State of Palestine within the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. The meeting also referred to the Gaza Strip as part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and linked Palestinian statehood to the two-state solution under international law.



BRICS and West Asia Diplomacy

- BRICS is an intergovernmental grouping of major emerging economies. Its members are Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, and the grouping has expanded in recent years to include new members.



Foreign ministers of the grouping meet regularly to discuss international peace, security, trade and multilateral cooperation.

Palestinian Statehood and the Two-State Solution

- The two-state solution refers to the creation of two sovereign states, Israel and Palestine, in the territory of historic Palestine. The pre-1967 borders refer to the armistice lines that existed before the Six-Day War of 1967, and East Jerusalem is claimed by Palestinians as the capital of a future Palestinian state. The Palestinian Authority was created under the Oslo Accords of the 1990s and administers parts of the West Bank. The West Bank and the Gaza Strip are the two main Palestinian territories, and the Gaza Strip has been under blockade and repeated conflict since 2007.

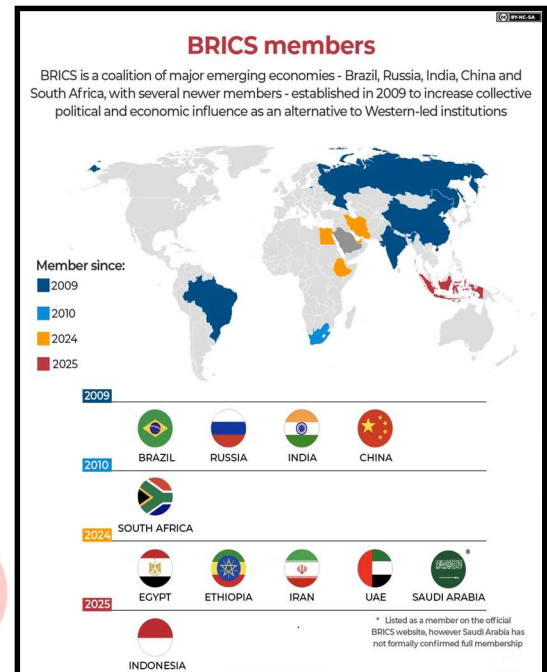
BRICS REAFFIRMS TWO-STATE SOLUTION IN ISRAEL-PALESTINE CONFLICT -

- The BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in New Delhi (May 2026) reaffirmed support for an independent Palestinian State based on the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. India also reiterated its traditional support for a "two-state solution" to resolve the Israel-Palestine conflict.
- Sharp disagreements, particularly between Iran and the United Arab Emirates, prevented the adoption of a joint declaration, leading instead to the release of a "Chair's Statement and Outcome Document."
- A similar deadlock had emerged during the BRICS Deputy Foreign Ministers and Special Envoys meeting held in New Delhi in April 2026, where both countries clashed over references to the US-Israel conflict involving Iran, with the UAE also expressing concerns over Iranian aggression.

What are the Key Highlights of the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting?

- Support for Palestinian Statehood:** Reaffirmed support for the establishment of a sovereign, independent, and viable Palestinian State based on the internationally recognised pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

- Reiterated commitment to the two-state solution in accordance with international law, UN Security Council resolutions, and the Arab Peace Initiative.



- Position on Gaza Strip:** Described the Gaza Strip as an inseparable part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and called for the unification of Gaza and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.
- Both Iran and the UAE raised heavy objections to the wording of this transition of power.
- Maritime Security and West Asia:** Emphasised the importance of maintaining safe and unimpeded maritime commerce through international waterways and protecting civilian infrastructure and lives.
- Acknowledged differing views among members regarding the situation in West Asia, especially concerning the Strait of Hormuz, the Red Sea, and the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait.

CHINA LAUNCHES SHENZHOU 23 MISSION WITH THREE ASTRONAUTS FOR MAJOR TIANGONG SPACE STATION MISSION -

- China has launched the Shenzhou 23 spacecraft and sent the three astronauts to its Tiangong space station. This is



historic mission as one astronaut is expected to remain in orbit for one full year and with this it will be one of the longest human space missions in history.



Shenzhou 23 Mission Launch

- The Shenzhou 23 spacecraft was launched on the May 25, 2026, from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in the northwestern China.
- The successful launch represents the another major achievement in the China's steadily advancing human spaceflight program.
- This mission comes at a time when Beijing is accelerating the ambitious preparations for a crewed lunar landing before 2030 and placing itself firmly in the global space race.
- The spacecraft is heading towards the China's independently built Tiangong space station, which has become the center of the country's orbital research efforts.

INDIA TESTS SYSTEMS AGAINST MYTHOS CYBER THREAT -

- India is testing financial and government digital systems, including the Aadhaar national identity system and government login platforms, against vulnerabilities linked to Anthropic's next-generation AI model, Mythos. The tests involve Indian technology firms, the national cybersecurity agency CERT-In, and critical digital infrastructure used by public institutions and banks.



Mythos and Frontier AI Security

- Anthropic unveiled Claude Mythos Preview on 7 April 2026. The model has been associated with autonomous discovery and exploitation of zero-day vulnerabilities in operating systems and web browsers. Zero-day vulnerabilities are software flaws that are unknown to the vendor or remain unpatched at the time of discovery.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

GAGANYAAN PROGRAMME EXPANDS WITH CIVILIAN ASTRONAUT SELECTION PLAN -

- The Indian Space Research Organization started preparing to select the second batch of astronauts for the ambitious Gaganyaan program. Unlike the first batch which was chosen in 2020 this new selection is expected to include the civilian experts from the STEM fields alongside military personnel. This move also signals the India's long-term vision of building the robust human spaceflight ecosystem and includes the future plans for the space station and a manned Moon mission by 2040.



ISRO Expands Astronaut Selection Beyond Test Pilots

- The upcoming astronaut selection will mark the significant shift in the India's space strategy. The first batch of the astronauts for Gaganyaan Program was just limited to Indian Air Force test pilot which are chosen through the rigorous process which involves the medical, psychological and operational evaluations.

INDIA ADVANCES AMCA, EYES 6TH-GEN FIGHTER COLLABORATION -

- India is accelerating its defence modernisation efforts with progress on the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) programme and plans to explore partnerships for sixth-generation fighter jets. Alongside aviation advancements, developments in missile technology, including the Agni-VI and hypersonic systems, highlight a comprehensive push to strengthen national security capabilities.



AMCA Programme Gains Momentum

- The procurement process for the AMCA project is moving forward, with a Request for Proposal (RFP) expected to

be issued soon to shortlisted private sector players. The initiative marks a shift towards greater private participation in indigenous fighter aircraft production. The move aims to enhance domestic manufacturing capacity and reduce reliance on imports in the defence sector.

MAHARASHTRA APPROVES AI POLICY 2026 -

- The Maharashtra Cabinet has approved the Artificial Intelligence Policy 2026 with a planned investment of ₹10,000 crore to strengthen the state's AI ecosystem. The policy aims to promote innovation, create jobs, support industries and position Maharashtra as a leading artificial intelligence hub in India.



Major Investment and Job Creation

- The policy targets the creation of 1.5 lakh employment opportunities across sectors linked to artificial intelligence. Electronics, Information Technology and Artificial Intelligence Minister Ashish Shelar said the main objective is large-scale employment generation and stronger economic growth through technology-driven development.

AI Excellence Centres and Innovation Cities

- Under the policy, the state will establish six AI Excellence Centres and five AI Innovation Cities. These centres will focus on research, skill development, startup support and industry collaboration. The innovation cities are expected to attract investments and strengthen Maharashtra's digital economy.



INDIA'S PRIVATE SECTOR LAUNCHES 'MISSION DRISHTI' EARTH OBSERVATION SATELLITE -

Mission Drishti Launch

- The launch of Mission Drishti marks important moment in the country's private space journey. It is developed by GalaxEye and the satellite is the largest privately built Earth observation satellite in the India.
- It was launched from Vandenberg, California and was aboard on SpaceX's Falcon 9. The satellite has successfully entered orbit. The Initial imagery from the satellite is expected to be delivered to users in the upcoming weeks after the commissioning phase.
- This mission will showcases the India's growing capability to compete in the global satellite data market.



What Makes Mission Drishti Unique?

- Mission Drishti stands out in the world as the first satellite to integrate the Electro-Optical (EO) and Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) into a single platform.

Key Technological Features

- EO Sensors capture the high-resolution images in clear conditions.
- The SAR Technology enables imaging even through clouds, rain and darkness.
- The combined OptoSAR system ensures continuous and reliable data collection.

BHAJAN LAL SHARMA INAUGURATES RAJASTHAN'S FIRST SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING CLUSTER -

Rajasthan's First Semiconductor Cluster

- The newly launched semiconductor cluster is located in Bhiwadi, which is one of the Rajasthan's important industrial clusters.
- The project is part of a broader electronics manufacturing push.
- According to Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, the Bhiwadi electronics manufacturing cluster has already attracted around the ₹1,200 crore in investment.
- The project is expected to generate approximately 2,500 jobs in future.
- With this it marks the Rajasthan's formal entry into one of the world's most strategically important manufacturing sectors.



Why Semiconductors Matter So Much

- Semiconductors are the backbone of the digital economy.
- They are essential components in the,
 - A. Smartphones
 - B. Computers
 - C. Electric vehicles
 - D. Defense systems
 - E. Medical equipment
 - F. Telecom networks
 - G. Artificial intelligence hardware
 - H. Industrial electronics



ECONOMY & FINANCE

CABINET APPROVES EMERGENCY CREDIT LINE GUARANTEE SCHEME 5.0 -

- The Union Cabinet has approved Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme 5.0, which belongs to the family of credit guarantee measures used in India for liquidity support to eligible borrowers. The Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme, or ECLGS, was first introduced in 2020 as a pandemic-era measure for collateral-free additional credit to stressed businesses.



Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme

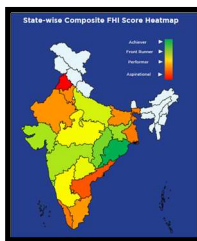
- The Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme is a government-backed credit guarantee framework for lending institutions. It was designed to provide additional working capital support through guaranteed loans to eligible entities, including micro, small and medium enterprises, and certain other borrower categories notified under the scheme.

Key Features of ECLGS

- The scheme uses a sovereign guarantee mechanism to reduce lender risk on sanctioned credit.
- The scheme has been linked to collateral-free or partially collateral-free lending in its earlier versions.
- The scheme has been implemented through banks and other eligible financial institutions.
- The scheme has been extended in multiple versions since its launch in 2020.

REVENUE DEFICIT STATES AND CHALLENGE OF FISCAL STABILITY -

- The Ministry of Finance's Monthly Economic Review (April 2026) has highlighted that States with revenue deficits and high debt burdens may face fiscal stress, limited flexibility in responding to shocks, and risk violating the 'golden rule' of fiscal financing.



What are the Key Highlights of India's Fiscal Outlook?

- Central Resilience:** The Union government maintains a cautious fiscal path supported by conservative tax buoyancy assumptions (0.8) and the newly created Economic Stabilisation Fund, which provides a buffer against external shocks without derailing fiscal deficit targets.
- State-Level Revenue Deficits:** Out of 18 large states, 9 are in revenue deficit, including Himachal Pradesh (-2.4%), Punjab (-2.2%), Kerala (-2.1%), Andhra Pradesh (-1.1%), Rajasthan (-1.1%), Haryana (-0.9%), Karnataka (-0.7%), Maharashtra (-0.7%), and Chhattisgarh (-0.3%).
- Interest Payment Burdens:** High debt servicing limits "degrees of freedom" for stressed states; Punjab faces the highest stress, spending 22.8% of its revenue receipts on interest payments.
- Fiscal Deficit Breach vs. Deliberate Investment:** While 13 states budget a fiscal deficit at or above 3% of GSDP, some cases like Odisha (3.5% fiscal deficit but 3% revenue surplus) represent deliberate capital outlay (6.5% of GSDP) rather than fiscal stress.
- Revenue Surplus Leaders:** 8 states projected revenue surpluses, notably Odisha (3%), Jharkhand (2.5%), Uttar Pradesh (1.6%), Goa (1.3%), Gujarat (0.8%), Uttarakhand (0.6%), Telangana (0.3%), and Bihar (0.1%).
- 16th Finance Commission (FC) Impact:** FY 2026-27 is the first year of the 16th Finance Commission period, introducing risks related to changes in devolution shares and the absence of Revenue Deficit Grants.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA SAYS 98.47% OF ₹2,000 NOTES RETURNED TO BANKING SYSTEM -

- The Reserve Bank of India have announced that 98.47% of ₹2,000 Indian currency notes have been returned to the central banking system. ₹2,000 denominations notes were withdraw by the RBI three years ago. It marks the



significant milestone in the India's currency management process and it reflects the smooth transition from the valid notes.

Background of Withdrawal of ₹2,000 Notes in 2023

- The RBI have announced the withdrawal of ₹2,000 banknotes from circulation on 19th May, 2023. This decision comes from the central bank of India for its currency management strategy.
- At that time the total circulation of these valid notes is approximately around ₹3.56 lakh crore.
- Unlike the demonetization this move did not invalidate the notes but it aims to gradually reduce their circulation.

RBI MONETARY POLICY MEETING JUNE 2026: REPO RATE UNCHANGED AT 5.25% -

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced its latest monetary policy decisions after the 61st meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) held from June 3 to June 5, 2026, under the chairmanship of RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra.
- Amid rising geopolitical uncertainty, elevated energy prices, global supply chain disruptions, and inflation concerns, the committee decided to maintain the existing policy rate while continuing with a neutral policy stance.
- The decision reflects RBI's balanced approach of supporting economic growth while remaining vigilant against inflationary risks.



RBI Monetary Policy Meeting June 2026: Key Decisions

- After reviewing domestic and global macroeconomic developments, the Monetary Policy Committee unanimously decided to:
- **Keep the Repo Rate unchanged at 5.25%**
- Maintain the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate at 5.00%
- Keep the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate at 5.50%
- Continue with the Neutral Policy Stance
- The decision indicates that RBI is currently adopting a wait-and-watch approach before making further adjustments.

BANKS SANCTION ₹35,194 CRORE UNDER ECLGS 5.0 -

- The Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) 5.0 is a government credit guarantee scheme approved by the Union Cabinet on 5 May 2026 for industries affected by the West Asia crisis, including Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and airlines. Banks had sanctioned ₹35,194 crore in loans under the scheme by 29 May 2026.



Scheme Framework

- ECLGS 5.0 has a budgetary outlay of ₹18,100 crore and is designed to facilitate additional credit flow of ₹2.55 lakh crore. The scheme includes a specific allocation of ₹5,000 crore for airlines.

Eligibility and Coverage

- Borrowers eligible for ECLGS 5.0 must have credit facilities classified as Standard, excluding Special Mention Account-2, as of 31 March 2026. The scheme remains open for loan sanctions until 31 March 2027 or until guarantees for the full ₹2.55 lakh crore are issued, whichever occurs earlier.

INDIA, UAE SIGN PACTS ON LPG AND STRATEGIC OIL RESERVES -

- India and the United Arab Emirates signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 15 May 2026 for cooperation in strategic petroleum reserves and for increased liquefied petroleum gas supplies to India. The agreements were signed during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Abu Dhabi, where bilateral talks were held with UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.



India-UAE Energy Cooperation

- The UAE is India's largest supplier of liquefied petroleum gas and meets about 40% of India's LPG requirement. The UAE was also India's fourth-largest source of crude oil in the previous year, with a share of nearly 11% of India's crude oil imports. India and the UAE had earlier partnered on strategic petroleum reserves in 2018, when Indian



Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company agreed on storage of more than 5 million barrels of crude oil at the Mangaluru facility in Karnataka.

INDIA REVISES EXPORT DUTIES ON PETROL AND DIESEL -

- India revised export duties on petroleum products on 15 May 2026, and the changes took effect from 16 May 2026. The revision covered petrol, diesel and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), which are refined petroleum products used in transport and aviation.



Export Duty Structure on Petroleum Products

- The Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED) on petrol exports was increased to ₹3 per litre. The export duty on diesel was reduced to ₹16.5 per litre from ₹23 per litre. The export levy on ATF was cut to ₹16 per litre from ₹33 per litre.

Road and Infrastructure Cess and Domestic Duties

- The Road and Infrastructure Cess (RIC) on exported petrol, diesel and ATF was removed. Domestic excise duties on petrol and diesel remained unchanged, and retail fuel prices within India were not altered by this revision.

INDIA'S TOTAL SUGAR EXPORT BAN -

- The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has issued a notification placing the export of all categories of sugar (raw, white, and refined) under the "Prohibited" category with immediate effect until 30th September 2026.



What are the Reasons for the Total Sugar Export Ban?

The El Niño-Induced Agro-Climatic Threat: While the 2026–27 crop is secure, global meteorological models predict a moderate-to-strong El Niño persisting through 2026.

- El Niño suppresses the Southwest Monsoon, threatening the crucial planting window for the 2027–28 sugar year.

- Sugarcane has a prolonged vegetative phase. In North India (Suru crop), it takes 11–12 months. In Maharashtra (Pre-seasonal and Adsali crops), it takes 15–18 months.

Geopolitical Spillover on Agri-Inputs: Sugarcane is a highly water and fertilizer-intensive crop.

- The geopolitical escalation in West Asia threatens maritime chokepoints, risking massive disruptions in the global supply chains for nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers.
- Input shortages directly depress cane yields and sucrose recovery rates.

Inflationary Targeting: Sugar holds a sensitive weight in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

- Amidst global volatility in food and fuel matrices, the government is exercising extreme caution to prevent domestic speculative hoarding and localized price shocks.

Administrative Asymmetry: Banning exports seals off the international leak, ensuring domestic obligations are met first. Sugar mills must file monthly 'P-II' returns declaring stock levels, which dictate their domestic release quotas.

- The government suspects discrepancies between declared virtual ledgers and actual physical inventory in mill godowns.

Exemptions: The prohibition excludes a minimal preferential quota of approximately 14,500 tonnes earmarked for concessional duty exports to the European Union (EU) and the United States.

What is the Current Status of the Indian Sugar Industry?

- Global Standing:** India retains its position as the world's second-largest producer of sugar (trailing only Brazil) and is the world's largest consumer.
- In 2024, India was the world's third-largest exporter of raw sugar.

INDIA EXTENDS INDIA SEMICONDUCTOR MISSION 2.0 -

- The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) was approved by the Union Cabinet in December 2021 with an outlay of ₹76,000 crore. By May 2026,



the mission had approved 12 semiconductor manufacturing and packaging projects with investments of around ₹1.64 trillion.

India Semiconductor Mission 2.0

- The second phase of the mission is under consideration for an extension from 5 years to as long as 12 years. The proposed extension is linked to longer investment and development timelines in the semiconductor sector.

Funding and Incentive Structure

- ISM 2.0 is expected to have a higher outlay, with estimates of nearly ₹1.5 trillion. The first phase of the mission had an initial incentive package of \$10 billion. The incentive support for semiconductor fabrication, OSAT, and ATMP units may be reduced to 30% from 50% in the first phase.

RBI APPROVES RECORD ₹2.87 LAKH CRORE DIVIDEND -

- The Reserve Bank of India approved a dividend of ₹2,86,588.46 crore for the Central Government for the accounting year 2025-26 on 22 May 2026. The amount is the largest surplus transfer in the history of the Reserve Bank of India and is 6.7% higher than the ₹2.69 lakh crore transferred in 2024-25.



Reserve Bank of India Dividend Framework

- The Reserve Bank of India transfers surplus income to the Central Government under its annual balance sheet and profit distribution process. The dividend is derived after

meeting expenditure, provisions, and risk buffers under the central bank's accounting framework.

Central Board of Directors Meeting

- The decision was taken in the 623rd meeting of the Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India in Mumbai. Governor Sanjay Malhotra chaired the meeting, which approved the surplus transfer for FY26.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS 28% GST ON ONLINE GAMING -

- The Supreme Court of India upheld the retrospective levy of 28% Goods and Services Tax on online gaming companies on 27 May 2026. The bench of Justice J.B. Pardiwala and Justice R. Mahadevan held that online gaming platforms fall within the GST framework as taxable actionable claims when a stake is placed.



GST on Online Gaming

- Goods and Services Tax is an indirect tax levied under the Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, and it applies to the supply of goods and services in India. The 28% GST slab for online money gaming was introduced through amendments in August 2023 and was treated by the Court as clarificatory in nature.



IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

WHY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK 2026 IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER -

- The Mental Health Awareness Week 2026 is being observed from 11 May to 17 May this year. This week will be observed around the theme of 'Action' and it encourages people to move beyond the conversations and take practical steps to support mental wellbeing. This is organized by the Mental Health Foundation and supported by organizations like Mind and the NHS and this year's main focus on hope, human connection and prevention driven mental healthcare.



Why the Theme 'Action' Is Important in 2026

- The mental health challenges are increasing worldwide due to stress, loneliness, financial pressures, social isolation and the workplace burnout.
- Technical experts believe that discussing mental health simply is no longer enough.
- The 2026 theme which is 'Action' focuses on the encouraging people to take even small steps which can improve emotional wellbeing.

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' DAY 2026 (MAY DAY) -

- Every year, the 1st of May is observed globally as International Workers' Day, commonly known as May Day or Labour Day. It is a day dedicated to honoring the historic struggles, sacrifices, and subsequent gains made by the labor movement and workers worldwide.
- **May Day:** Traces its origins to the Haymarket Affair at Haymarket Square in Chicago, where a peaceful workers' rally demanding an eight-hour workday turned violent after a bomb was thrown, amid the harsh conditions of the Industrial



Revolution, when workers were often forced to labor 10–16 hours in unsafe environments.

- In 1889, the Second International declared 1st May as International Workers' Day to honor the Haymarket Martyrs, symbolizing the global struggle for fair working hours based on the principle of 8 hours for work, 8 hours for rest, and 8 hours for personal life.
- **The International Labour Organization theme for May Day 2026 is "Ensuring a Healthy Psychosocial Working Environment" highlights rising workplace stress, burnout, and mental health issues, urging governments and employers to prioritize psychosocial risk management alongside physical well-being.**
- **First Celebration in India:** May Day was first formally observed in India on 1st May 1923, in Madras (Chennai).

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY 2026 -

- International Labour Day is the global event observed in the over 80 countries and it is often marked as the public holiday. It is associated with workers rights movements and the demand for the fair labour standards.



- The day also continues to highlight the key issues such as social justice, equality and the dignity of labour and making it highly relevant even in the modern economies shaped by automation and digital work.

History of May Day: From Protest to Global Movement

- The origins of Labour Day can be traced back to the historic Haymarket Affair in the United States.
- In the year 1886 the workers in Chicago went on to the strike demanding an 8-hour workday. The protest have turned out the violent and drawing the global attention to labour rights.
- In the year 1889 this international socialist movement declared May 1 as Labour Day to honor these workers.

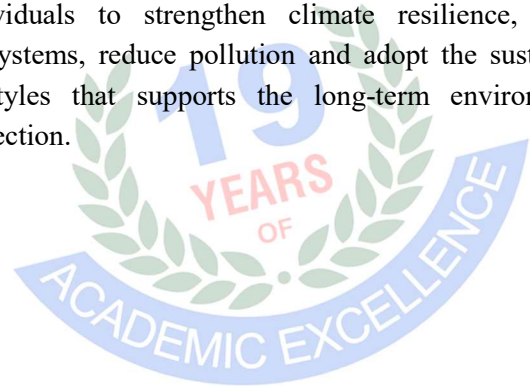


WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2026: DATE, THEME, HISTORY, SIGNIFICANCE, HOST COUNTRY AND WHY CLIMATE ACTION MATTERS -

- On 5th June 2026 World Environment Day will be celebrated worldwide and it brings together the governments, organizations, businesses and citizens from all around the world to address the pressing environmental challenges. The day observed annually under the leadership of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and this day serves as the global platform for the environmental awareness and action.

**World Environment Day 2026: Date and Theme**

- World Environment Day is observed every year on 5th of June and it is considered as the largest global platform dedicated to the environmental awareness and action.
- The theme for the World Environment Day 2026 is “Inspired by Nature: For Climate. For Our Future.” and this campaign is also driven by the global call to action #NowForClimate and it highlighting the need to move beyond the promises and implement real climate solutions.
- The theme encourages the countries, institutions and individuals to strengthen climate resilience, restore ecosystems, reduce pollution and adopt the sustainable lifestyles that supports the long-term environmental protection.



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AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

ANAND RK, SUPARNA SHARMA WIN 2026 PULITZER PRIZE -

- Indian illustrator Anand RK, freelance investigative journalist Suparna Sharma, and Natalie Obiko Pearson of Bloomberg won the 2026 Pulitzer Prize in the Illustrated Reporting and Commentary category on 4 May 2026. The winning work, titled trAPPed, is a visual investigation into India's digital arrest scam.



Pulitzer Prize Category

- The Pulitzer Prize is an annual set of awards administered by Columbia University in New York. The Illustrated Reporting and Commentary category recognises work that combines visual storytelling with reporting.

About trAPPed

- trAPPed examines a case involving a neurologist in India who was placed under digital arrest through her phone. The project was published by Bloomberg and deals with online fraud, surveillance, and scam networks.

SUMAN KALYANPUR DIES AT 89 -

- Suman Kalyanpur, a veteran playback singer associated with Hindi and Marathi film music, died on 31 May 2026 at the age of 89. She died at her residence in Lokhandwala, Mumbai, due to age-related ailments. Her last rites were scheduled for 1 June 2026 at the Pawan Hans crematorium in Mumbai.



Suman Kalyanpur and Indian Playback Singing

- Suman Kalyanpur sang in Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Kannada, and Assamese film industries. Playback singing in Indian cinema refers to pre-recorded songs sung by professional singers for actors on screen. Her career spanned more than six decades and included songs such as Aajkal Tere Mere Pyar Ke Charche and Na Na Karte Pyar Tumhin Se.

PM MODI RECEIVES SWEDEN'S TOP CIVIL HONOUR DURING OFFICIAL VISIT -

- In the significant development, Sweden has conferred the its top honor for a Head of Government on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The award recognizes the contributions to international relations, public leadership and strengthening bilateral cooperation.
- The honor was awarded during the PM Modi's official two day visit to Sweden.
- His visit includes the high level delegation talks focused on expanding the strategic cooperation between India and Sweden.
- This recognition also adds another major international distinction to the PM Modi's growing list of global honors.



What Is Sweden's Royal Order of the Polar Star?

- The Royal Order of the Polar Star is one of the Sweden's most historic and prestigious honors.
- It was established in the year 1748 by King Frederick I of Sweden.

INDIAN AIR FORCE OFFICER SQUADRON LEADER SAANYA BECOMES FIRST WOMAN CAT-A FLYING INSTRUCTOR -

- The Indian Air Force has marked the historic milestone as Squadron Leader Saanya has become the first woman in the Indian Air Force to earn the Cat-A Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI) qualification. It showcases the growing role of the women in the India's defense forces.



Historic First for the Indian Air Force

- The Indian Air Force has officially announced the achievement on 18th of May, 2026. On X post



(Formerly Twitter) IAF has described the Squadron Leader Saanya's success as a proud milestone.

- The force said her achievement reflects the excellence, dedication and relentless pursuit of the professional standards.

What Is the Cat-A Qualified Flying Instructor Qualification?

- The Cat-A Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI) qualification is one of the most respected flying instructor certifications in the Indian Air Force.
- It is awarded to those pilots who demonstrates the exceptional instructional ability, flying expertise and professional competence.
- Also Qualified Flying Instructors plays the critical role in training future military pilots.
- The Cat-A category represents the highest standards in the flying instruction.

BSF'S 1ST ALL-WOMEN EVEREST EXPEDITION -

- Recently, the Border Security Force (BSF)'s first all-women mountaineering expedition successfully scaled Mount Everest, creating a landmark achievement in India's adventure and security history.
- **Mission Vande Mataram:** The expedition was named "Mission Vande Mataram" as part of the BSF's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the 150th anniversary of the national song 'Vande Mataram'.
- Under the "Clean Himalaya – Clean Glaciers" campaign, the team also collected waste from Everest camps for proper disposal.
- **Border Security Force (BSF):** The Border Security Force (BSF) was established on 1st December 1965 after the India-Pakistan war and is regarded as India's "First Line of Defence", guarding borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh.
- It is one of the seven Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) of India and functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).



- **Mount Everest:** Mount Everest is the world's highest mountain peak with a height of 8,849 metres (29,032 feet), located in the Himalayas on the Nepal–China border.
- In Nepal, it is known as Sagarmatha, while in Tibet it is called Chomolungma.
- It was first successfully climbed in 1953 by Sir Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa of Nepal.

ASSAM ENTERS NEW LEADERSHIP PHASE AS CM HIMANTA SARMA SWORN IN AGAIN -

Himanta Sarma CM of Assam

- On 12th May, Himanta Biswa Sarma took the oath Chief Minister of the State of Assam for the 2nd consecutive term. In the year 2021 he became the CM of the state for first time. Under his leadership BJP and its allies have secured the majority for the third consecutive term from the year 2016.
- Several national leaders like the PM Modi, Cabinet Ministers and Chief Ministers from BJP & NDA ruled state were present at the event.



Assam Government Formation 2026

- On the 4th May, 206 NDA led government in the Assam have secured the two third majority in the recent Assembly Elections.
- In which.
- BJP had won 82 seats.
- BJP's Allies AGP and BPF secured 10 seats each.
- Opposition congress managed to win only 19 seats.

VICE ADMIRAL KRISHNA SWAMINATHAN APPOINTED NEXT NAVY CHIEF -

- Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan was appointed as the next Chief of the Naval Staff of India on 9 May 2026. He is scheduled to assume office on 31 May 2026 and will succeed Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, who retires on the same date.



Chief of the Naval Staff

- The Chief of the Naval Staff is the professional head of the Indian Navy and one of the three service chiefs in India. The post is held by a four-star officer and is part of the higher defence leadership structure under the Ministry of Defence.

Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan

- Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 1 July 1987. He specialises in Communication and Electronic Warfare, which are branches linked to naval command, signals, and electronic countermeasures.

Western Naval Command

- Before this appointment, he served as the Western Naval Commander in Mumbai. The Western Naval Command is one of the three operational commands of the Indian Navy and has its headquarters at Mumbai, Maharashtra.

LT GEN N S RAJA SUBRAMANI APPOINTED INDIA'S NEXT CDS -

- Lieutenant General N S Raja Subramani (Retd.) was appointed as India's next Chief of Defence Staff on 9 May 2026. He will take charge from General Anil Chauhan on 30 May 2026 and will also serve as Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Military Affairs.

**Chief of Defence Staff in India**

- The Chief of Defence Staff is the senior-most military officer in India's armed forces. The office was created in 2019 after the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee and the Group of Ministers on defence reforms.

Career Profile of Lt Gen N S Raja Subramani

- Lt Gen N S Raja Subramani served as Military Adviser at the National Security Council Secretariat from 1 September 2025. He was Vice Chief of the Army Staff from 1 July 2024 to 31 July 2025 and General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Army's Central Command from March 2023 to June 2024.

SUVENDU ADHIKARI SWORN IN AS WEST BENGAL CHIEF MINISTER -

- Suvendu Adhikari was sworn in as the Chief Minister of West Bengal on 9 May 2026. He became the first Bharatiya Janata Party Chief Minister of the state and the 9th person to hold the office in West Bengal.

**West Bengal Chief Ministership**

- West Bengal is a state in eastern India, and the Chief Minister is the head of the elected state government under Article 164 of the Constitution of India. The Governor of West Bengal administers the oath of office to the Chief Minister under the constitutional procedure.

2026 West Bengal Legislative Assembly Election

- The Bharatiya Janata Party won 207 of 294 seats in the 2026 West Bengal Legislative Assembly election. The result ended the Trinamool Congress government's 15-year tenure in the state.

PRESIDENT APPROVES APPOINTMENT OF FIVE NEW SUPREME COURT JUDGES -

- The Central Government of India has approved the appointment of the five new judges to the Supreme Court after newly expanded sanctioned strength of 38 judges. The appointments comes shortly after the Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the new names and it marks the first major elevation exercise under the Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant.

**Centre Approves Five New Supreme Court Judges**

- **Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal has announced that the Honorable President has approved the appointments under the Article 124(2) of the Constitution of India, which governs the appointment of judges to the Supreme Court.**
- This appointments includes the four sitting High Court Chief Justices and one distinguished senior advocate.
- Approval came within the few days of the Supreme Court Collegium's recommendation which highlights the



smooth coordination between the judiciary and the executive in this round of the appointments.

IAS OFFICER SAURABH VIJAY TAKES CHARGE AS CEO OF UIDAI -

- Senior IAS officer Shri. Saurabh Vijay has officially assumed the charge as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). He is a 1998 batch Maharashtra cadre officer and will bring the extensive administrative experience from both the state and central government roles.



Saurabh Vijay Assumes Charge as UIDAI CEO

- Shri. Saurabh Vijay took the charge as the new CRO of UIDAI on 18th of May, 2026.
- He will take the India's most crucial digital governance leadership roles
- UIDAI manages the Aadhaar which is the world's largest biometric identity program.

RAGHAV CHADHA HEADS RAJYA SABHA COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS -

- Raghav Chadha, a Rajya Sabha member, was appointed chairman of the Committee on Petitions of the Upper House on 23 May 2026. The appointment took effect on 20 May 2026 after the committee was reconstituted by Rajya Sabha Chairman C.P. Radhakrishnan.



Committee on Petitions in Parliament

- The Committee on Petitions is a parliamentary committee of the Rajya Sabha that examines petitions presented

before the House. It makes recommendations on matters of public importance and legislative concern.

Composition and Nomination

- C.P. Radhakrishnan nominated 10 members to the Committee on Petitions. The panel includes Harsh Mahajan, Gulam Ali, Shambhu Sharan Patel, Mayankumar Nayak, Masthan Rao Yadav Beedha, Jebi Mather Hisham, Subhasish Khuntia, Rwngrwa Narzary, and P. Sandosh Kumar.

UN HONOURS MAJOR ABHILASHA BARAK WITH GENDER ADVOCATE AWARD -

- Indian Army officer Major Abhilasha Barak received the United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award for 2025 on 22-23 May 2026. She serves with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon as Commander of the Female Engagement Team in the Indian Battalion.



United Nations Military Gender Advocate Award

- The United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award was instituted in 2016 by the Office of Military Affairs under the United Nations Department of Peace Operations. The award is presented annually to a military peacekeeper for work related to gender equality and Women, Peace and Security.

United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325

- United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 was adopted in 2000 and deals with Women, Peace and Security. The resolution covers the participation of women in peace processes, the protection of women and girls in conflict, and gender perspectives in peacekeeping operations.



PROGRAMMES, SCHEMES AND INITIATIVES

INDIA'S LATEST MISSION COULD CHANGE RURAL JOBS FOREVER UNDER VB-G RAM G ACT FROM JULY 1, 2026 -

- MGNREGA to Be Replaced From July 1, 2026
- The Ministry of Rural Development has officially notified that the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 will stand repealed from the July 1, 2026.
- This transition marks one of the most important reforms in the India's rural governance and employment structure in the recent decades.
- The government has also described the move as a shift towards a more integrated, productivity driven and future ready rural economy.
- **Importantly the all ongoing MGNREGA works will continue without any interruption and will seamlessly shift into the new framework.**



What Is the Viksit Bharat G RAM G Act?

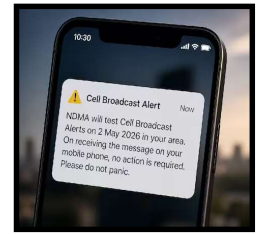
- The Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) is the statutory rural employment program which is designed to strengthen employment generation and livelihood security in the villages.
- Under the new law,
- Every eligible rural household will receive the legal guarantee of 125 days of wage employment every financial year.
- Employment will be provided to adults who are willing to perform the unskilled manual work.
- Also the workers will continue to receive the unemployment allowance if jobs are not provided within the prescribed time.

RECEIVED NDMA ALERT? INDIA TESTS NEW CELL BROADCAST EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM -

What Is the Cell Broadcast Alert System?

- The Cell Broadcast Alert System is the modern technology in which it sends the emergency messages

directly to the all mobile phones in a particular area at the same time. As compare to the regular SMS it does not depend on the individual phone numbers. This system also works efficiently despite the networks are crowded.



- In the simple terms it means that this alert messages can reach the people faster and without any delay, even during the high-pressure situations like disasters. This alert system will be the reliable tool for emergency communication.

STRENGTHENING INDIA'S SUPPLY CHAINS THROUGH INLAND WATERWAYS

- The Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) highlighted the importance of inland waterways in strengthening India's supply chains and logistics efficiency.
- He stressed that amid disruptions in global shipping routes due to the West Asian conflict 2026, developing internal transport networks is essential for logistics resilience and economic stability.



Summary

- Inland waterways are emerging as a cost-effective, eco-friendly, and resilient transport mode, crucial for reducing logistics costs and strengthening supply chains.
- With policy push, infrastructure development, and targets (5% modal share by 2030), India aims to make waterways a key pillar of sustainable economic growth.

What is the Importance of Inland Waterways in India's Supply Chains?

- **Cost-Effectiveness:** Inland Water Transport (IWT) is the most economical mode of freight movement.
- Moving goods via waterways costs approximately Rs 0.25– Rs 0.30 per ton-km, drastically lower than rail (Rs 1.0) and road (Rs 1.5).



- This directly reduces the overall logistics cost for domestic industries, making Indian goods more competitive globally.
- **Massive Bulk Carrying Capacity:** Waterways offer incredible scale for heavy cargo. A single standard 2,000-tonne inland vessel can carry the equivalent of 125 standard trucks.
- This makes it the ideal mode for transporting bulk commodities essential to the economy, such as coal, cement, fertilizers, and food grains.
- **Decongesting Terrestrial Networks:** India's road and rail networks are heavily burdened, leading to delayed shipments and higher maintenance costs.
- By absorbing a large share of heavy cargo, waterways alleviate severe congestion on national highways and freight corridors, reducing wear-and-tear on infrastructure and minimizing transit delays.

FSSAI LAUNCHES OFFICIAL VEGAN LOGO TO IMPROVE CONSUMER AWARENESS AND TRANSPARENCY -

- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has introduced the standardized vegan logo for the approved vegan food products in India. The new logo will become mandatory from 1st July in 2027 and it aims to provide the consumers with a clear and reliable way to identify vegan foods. This move is expected to strengthen transparency, prevent misleading claims and promote the environmentally sustainable food choices in India.



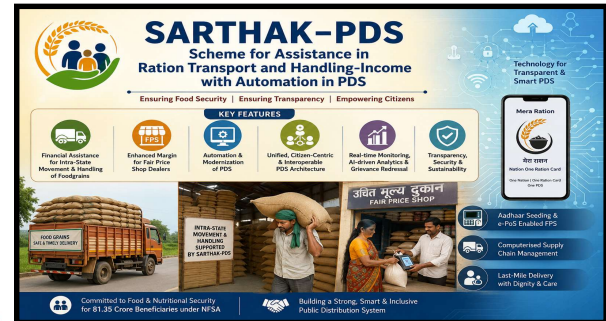
FSSAI Introduces Standard Vegan Logo

- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has notified the standardized logo that will serve as the official identification mark for the all vegan food products which are sold in India.
- Under the amended Food Safety and Standards (Vegan Foods) Regulations, all the approved vegan food packages must display the logo in the prescribed format.

CABINET APPROVES SARTHAK-PDS SCHEME FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM -

- The Union Cabinet approved the Scheme for Assistance in Ration Transport and Handling-Income with Automation in PDS (SARTHAK-PDS) on 27 May 2026. The scheme has a central outlay of ₹25,530 crore and will run from April 2026 to March 2031.

Public Distribution System and NFSA



- The Public Distribution System is India's food subsidy delivery network for essential commodities, especially food grains. The National Food Security Act, 2013 covers nearly 80 crore beneficiaries through subsidised food grain distribution.

Scheme Components and Merged Programmes

- SARTHAK-PDS combines two existing schemes into one framework. These are Assistance to State Agencies for intra-State movement of foodgrains and FPS dealers' margin under NFSA, and the Scheme for Modernisation and Reforms through Technology in Public Distribution System (SMART PDS). The scheme provides financial support for intra-State transportation and handling of food grains. It also provides enhanced margins for Fair Price Shop dealers, who operate the last-mile distribution network under the PDS.



INDIA REACHES LANDMARK OF 100 RAMSAR SITES WITH JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN BIRD SANCTUARY -

India Reaches the Landmark of the 100 Ramsar Sites

- The designation of the Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary as a Ramsar Site has elevated the India's total count of internationally recognized wetlands to the 100.
- This achievement showcases the country's growing focus on to the wetland conservation and sustainable environmental management.
- This recognition was granted under the Ramsar Convention it is an international treaty which is dedicated to the conservation and the wise use of wetlands.
- The addition of Surha Tal further will further strengthens the India's position as one of the leading nations in to the wetland conservation globally.



INDIA'S FIRST SATELLITE TAGGED GANGES SOFTSHELL TURTLE RELEASED IN KAZIRANGA -

- India's first satellite tagged Ganges softshell turtle released in the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve. This initiative was launched on Endangered Species Day and it aims to track the



movement and habitat of this rare species.

What Is the Ganges Softshell Turtle?

- The Ganges softshell turtle (*Nilssonia gangetica*) is a unique freshwater species found across the India.
- Key Features
- Distinct arrowhead-shaped markings on the head
- They are found in rivers, lakes and reservoirs.
- Mainly large and long-lived species.

SAUDI ARABIA JOINS INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE -

- Saudi Arabia became the newest member of the International Big Cat Alliance on 22 May 2026. The alliance now has 26 member countries and five observer nations.



International Big Cat Alliance

- The International Big Cat Alliance is an India-led global initiative launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2023. The Union Cabinet approved the alliance in February 2024. The IBCA works for the conservation of seven big cat species: tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, cheetah, jaguar, and puma.

Membership and Structure

- The IBCA includes member countries and observer nations. Saudi Arabia conveyed its intention to join the alliance in May 2026. The alliance provides a platform for coordinated action on wildlife conservation and biodiversity protection.



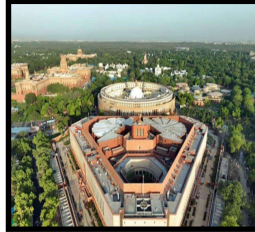
REPORTS & INDICES

OM BIRLA RECONSTITUTES PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES FOR 2026-27: FULL DETAILS -

List Of Committees and Their Chairpersons

1. Committee of Estimates

- The committee of Estimates comprise the 30 members from the Lok Sabha and it will be chaired by the Sanjay Jaiswal. The main functions of this committee to examine how the government funds are allocated and spent.



2. Public Accounts Committee

- The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is one of the most influential financial committees in the India's parliamentary system. For upcoming cycle it will be headed by the K. C. Venugopal.

3. Committee on Public Undertakings

- This committee will chaired by the Baijant Panda and it consists of 15 Lok Sabha members and 7 Rajya Sabha members. This committee reviews the functioning and the performance of public sector undertakings (PSUs) of government and also ensures that these enterprises will operate efficiently and work in line with national objectives.

4. Committee on Welfare of SCs and ST

- The Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be chaired by the Faggan Singh Kulaste. This committee includes the 20 members from the Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha. This committee main focus on to the safeguarding the rights and welfare of SC and ST communities.

Understanding Parliamentary Committees

- A Parliamentary committee is a committee of the Members of Parliament (MPs) who are elected or appointed from amongst the members of the house or nominated by the Speaker or Chairman. This concept of Parliamentary committees was originated in the British

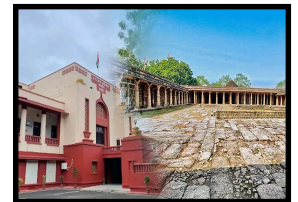
Parliament. These committees have to operate under the direction of the Speaker of Lok Sabha or Chairman of Rajya Sabha. This committees have to present their findings and recommendations to the respective houses.

Constitutional Backing For The Committees

- The Parliamentary committees are functions under the Article of 105 and 118 of the Indian Constitution.
- Article 105:** Powers, privileges, etc., of the houses of Parliament and of the members and committees thereof.
- Article 118:** Each House of Parliament may make rules for regulations, subject to the provisions of this constitution, its procedure and the conduct of its business.
- This committees are classified as per their working nature.
- Standing committees.** **Ad hoc committees.** **Standing committees**

MADHYA PRADESH HIGH COURT DECLARES BHOJSHALA COMPLEX A TEMPLE -

- The Madhya Pradesh High Court, Indore Bench, declared the Bhojshala-Kamal Maula Mosque complex in Dhar district a temple on 15 May 2026. The Bench of Justices Vijay Kumar Shukla and Alok Awasthi held that the religious character of the disputed structure is that of a temple dedicated to Goddess Saraswati, also called Vagdevi.



Bhojshala Complex and Dispute

- Bhojshala is a disputed religious site in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh. The site has been the subject of petitions seeking Hindu worship rights and restrictions on Muslim prayers inside the complex. The Hindu Front for Justice was among the petitioners in the case.

Archaeological Survey of India and Earlier Orders

- The High Court quashed the 2003 order of the Archaeological Survey of India that had restricted

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Hindu worship rights and permitted the Muslim community to offer prayers. The Archaeological Survey of India conducted a scientific survey of the complex between 22 March and 30 June 2024. The survey report stated that the existing structure was made from parts of earlier temples.

LOK SABHA SPEAKER OM BIRLA CONSTITUTES COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN -

- Lok Sabha Speaker Shri. Om Birla has constituted the Committee on Empowerment of Women. This committee focused on women centric policy oversight and the welfare initiatives. This newly formed committee will be chaired by the BJP MP Dr Daggubati Purandeswari.



Committee on Empowerment of Women Formed

- The Committee on Empowerment of Women has officially been constituted by the Lok Sabha Speaker.
- This parliamentary panel plays the important role in examining issues related to women's welfare, development and empowerment.
- Their main functions to reviewing government policies and implementation concerning women.
- The formation of the committee this comes as part of regular parliamentary institutional processes.

MAHARASHTRA BECOMES NO.1 STATE IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PROJECTS ACROSS INDIA -

- India is witnessing rapid infrastructure growth through major central government projects spread across different states. These projects include highways, railways, airports, industrial corridors, energy plants, ports, and urban development initiatives. Recent data shows that Maharashtra leads the country in the number of central government projects, followed by Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

Rank	State	Number of Projects	Cost (₹ Trillion)
1	Maharashtra	215	5.5
2	Uttar Pradesh	180	4.3
3	Andhra Pradesh	141	2.1
4	Gujarat	127	4.3
5	Madhya Pradesh	125	3.1
6	Bihar	125	2.4
7	Karnataka	121	2.0
8	Odisha	108	2.1
9	Jharkhand	103	2.0
10	Assam	89	1.2

- Maharashtra has emerged as the leading state with 215 central government projects worth around ₹5.5 trillion. The state's strong industrial ecosystem, financial importance, port connectivity, and urban infrastructure make it a major destination for government investment.



DEFENCE

INDIA CONDUCTS MAIDEN TEST OF NUCLEAR-CAPABLE ICBM -

- India conducted a maiden test of a nuclear-capable intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) off the Odisha coast on 8 May 2026. The launch took place from Abdul Kalam Island near Chandipur, and the missile test involved a danger corridor of about 3,560 km over the Bay of Bengal.



Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles

- An intercontinental ballistic missile is a long-range ballistic missile with a range of more than 5,500 km. ICBMs are designed to deliver conventional or nuclear warheads over intercontinental distances and follow a ballistic trajectory after powered flight.

Odisha Test Range

- Abdul Kalam Island, earlier known as Wheeler Island, is a missile test site off the Odisha coast. The island lies near Chandipur, which is associated with India's Integrated Test Range under the Defence Research and Development Organisation.

Pre-Launch Procedures and Related Trials

- India issued a Notice to Airmen for the Bay of Bengal from 6 May to 9 May 2026 before the launch. The missile test followed the maiden flight trial of the Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation glide weapon system on 7 May 2026, also off the Odisha coast.

INDIA AND CAMBODIA KICK OFF 2ND EDITION OF CINBAX-II MILITARY DRILL **Key Highlights of The CINBAX-II**

- In 2026 the second edition of the bilateral military exercise between the India and Cambodia will deepen the defense collaboration. It will be hosted in Kampong Speu Province and exercise spans around two weeks and aims to strengthen the joint operational capabilities.
- Total 120 personnel from the Indian Army and it will primarily featured from a battalion of the Maratha Light

Infantry Regiment. While Cambodia has contributed 160 from the Royal Cambodian Army.

- The exercise also designed to simulate the real-world operational conditions and particularly those encountered during United Nations peacekeeping missions.



Focus on Counter-Terrorism and Modern Warfare Skills

- The major focus of CINBAX-II exercise is to enhancing the preparedness for counter-terrorism operations and which remain a key challenge in today's global security environment.
- The exercise includes,
- The tactical drills simulating real combat like scenarios.
- Also training in drone operations which reflects the modern warfare trends
- Training will be provided for the sniper and mortar handling.

INDIA CONDUCTS SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT-TEST OF INDIGENOUS RUDRAM-II AIR-TO-SURFACE MISSILE -

- The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and the Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully conducted the flight tests of the RudraM-II



Air to Surface Missile on 2nd of June 2026. This missile was tested under the challenging operational conditions and it successfully struck its designated target with the remarkable precision.

What is the RudraM-II Missile?

- RudraM-II is an indigenously developed air to surface missile designed to launched from the fighter aircraft against ground-based targets. It is the part of the India's effort to develop advanced precision guided**



weapons which are capable of neutralizing enemy assets from the long distances.

- The missile has been developed by the Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad and it serves as the nodal laboratory under DRDO. Several other DRDO laboratories and industry have partners and contributed to this project.

INDIA SIGNS BRAHMOS MISSILE DEAL WITH VIETNAM, INDONESIA AGREEMENT NEARS COMPLETION -

- India's Defense Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh indicated that BrahMos missile deal with Vietnam has already been signed and negotiations with Indonesia has entered the final stage. This showcases the India's growing role as the defense manufacturing and export hub and also highlights the increasing interest among Southeast Asian nations to acquiring advanced Indian military technology.



India Expands BrahMos Missile Exports

- The BrahMos missile system has emerged as India's one of the most successful defense exports in recent years.
- Speaking at the Shangri-La Dialogue in the Singapore, Defense Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh stated that Vietnam has already signed the deal to procure the BrahMos missile system but the official public announcement is yet to be made.
- He also confirmed that the negotiations with Indonesia are entered in the final stages and could be concluded soon.

PRAGATI 2026 MILITARY EXERCISE BEGINS IN MEGHALAYA -

- PRAGATI 2026, a multinational military exercise, began in Meghalaya on 20 May 2026. The two-week exercise is being held at Umroi Military Station near Shillong and involves armed forces personnel from 13 countries.



Participating Countries

- India is hosting 12 partner nations in PRAGATI 2026. The participating countries are Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam.

Exercise Focus and Terrain

- PRAGATI 2026 focuses on joint counter-terrorism operations in jungle and semi-mountainous terrain. The exercise includes training for coordinated action in difficult terrain conditions that are common in parts of the North-East region of India.

RUSSIA REPORTEDLY USED ITS HYPERSONIC ORESHNIK BALLISTIC MISSILE DURING A LARGE-SCALE DRONE AND MISSILE ATTACK ON UKRAINE, MARKING THE WEAPON'S THIRD REPORTED USE IN THE RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR -

- The Oreshnik is a Russian hypersonic intermediate-range ballistic missile, capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads, and is believed to be linked to the RS-26 Rubezh missile system.



- **Its name means "hazel tree" or "hazelnut tree" in Russian.**
- **Features:** Its major feature is the ability to carry multiple warheads, enabling it to strike different targets or widen the area of impact.
- Multiple-warhead capability can complicate air defence interception and is usually associated with longer-range intercontinental ballistic missiles.
- **Range:** Russia claims that the missile can travel at around Mach 10, or nearly ten times the speed of sound, making it difficult to intercept through existing missile defence systems.
- **Impact:** The missile is designed to strike military infrastructure, command centres, air bases and deeply buried targets at very high speed, with Russia claiming that multiple Oreshnik missiles could cause destruction comparable to a nuclear strike.



RAJNATH SINGH LAUNCHES INDIA'S FIRST 300-KM ROCKET SYSTEM SURYAstra IN MAJOR DEFENCE BOOST -

- Respectable Defense minister Rajnath Singh has launched the first indigenous 300 km Universal Rocket Launching System which is 'Suryastra'. Along with this he also inaugurated the major private defense manufacturing complex in Shirdi, Maharashtra. Defense Minister described this milestone as a symbol of the country's growing strategic independence.

**What Is Suryastra Rocket System?**

- Suryastra is the India's first 300-km Universal Rocket Launching System, which is developed as part of the India's effort to modernize its artillery and long-range strike capabilities.
- This rocket system is expected to strengthen the India's operational flexibility by enhancing precision strike capability over long distances.
- Its induction also highlights the India's move towards the advanced indigenous weapons platforms which are capable of meeting modern battlefield requirements.
- Key significance
- **Range:** 300 km
- **Category:** Universal Rocket Launching System

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SPORTS

HOW DID INDIA JUST PULLED OFF A STUNNING COMEBACK TO WIN ARCHERY WORLD CUP STAGE 2 -

- Indian Women's recurve archery team has scripted a memorable victory at the Archery World Cup Stage 2 in Shanghai after defeating the host nation China highly tense shoot off final. The Indian trio of Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat and Kumkum Mohod has showed the remarkable composure under pressure to secure the India's first Archery World Cup gold medal since 2021.



India Defeats China in Dramatic Shoot Off to Win Gold

- The final against the China has turned into one of the most intense matches of the tournament.
- India has started strongly by winning the opening set but the Chinese team has responded quickly to level the contest.
- After the four sets the both teams remained tied and forced the gold medal clash into a shoot off.
- The pressure if the final at its peak and the home crowd backing China the Indian archers had stayed calm in the decider and edged out the hosts 28-26.

PM MODI INAUGURATES FIRST WORLD YOGASANA CHAMPIONSHIP 2026 IN AHMEDABAD -

- Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the First World Yogasana Championship 2026 in Ahmedabad, Gujarat on 4th of June, 2026. This event brings together the athletes from different countries



and it represents the major step toward establishing Yogasana as the competitive sport at the international level and it organized just ahead of the International Yoga Day 2026.

First World Yogasana Championship Begins in Ahmedabad

- Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the First World Yogasana Championship through a video message from and calling it as the historic addition to the world's sporting legacy.
- The championship is the first international event dedicated exclusively to the Yogasana and it aims to showcase the sport's competitive potential. Athletes from around the world have gathered to participate in this competition.

INDIA WINS 27 MEDALS AT ASIAN BOXING U15 CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 -

- India delivered the exceptional performance at the Asian Boxing U15 Championships 2026 and finished with the total of 27 medals. Out of 27 models India have claimed the 9 Gold medal and this achievement reflects the emergence of young talent on international stage.



India Tops U-15 Girls Category with 7 Gold Medals

- The U-15 girls team was the standout performer in this tournament.
- Medal Tally (U-15 Girls)
- Gold: 7
- Silver: 2
- Bronze: 5



ARTICLE

THE TRANSITION TO DIGITAL BANKING — CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL CURRENCY (CBDC) VS. UNIFIED PAYMENTS INTERFACE (UPI)

Introduction

The digital payments ecosystem in India is undergoing a massive transformation. For competitive exams, understanding the core functional and economic differences between India's landmark payment systems is a high-yield topic. While both systems drive financial inclusion, they operate on entirely different financial mechanisms.

Conceptual Core: Money vs. Payment System

- **UPI is a Payment System:** It acts as an instant communication pipeline between two distinct bank accounts. When you use UPI, commercial bank money moves from Bank A to Bank B. It relies completely on the health and infrastructure of the commercial banking system.
- **CBDC (Digital Rupee/₹) is Money:** It is a digital token that acts as legal tender issued directly by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It is the digital equivalent of a physical sovereign currency note.

Key Structural Differences

Parameter	UPI (Unified Payments Interface)	CBDC (Central Bank Digital Currency)
Nature	An electronic fund transfer interface.	A digital form of sovereign legal tender.
Liability	The liability rests with the commercial bank.	The liability rests directly with the RBI.
Settlement	Requires interbank settlement behind the scenes.	Immediate finality; no clearinghouse needed.
Anonymity	Fully traceable via bank account statements.	Offers a degree of anonymity similar to cash.

Intermediary Risk	Vulnerable to bank server downtimes.	Risk-free from commercial bank failures.
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CONSTITUTIONAL CHECKPOINTS — THE DYNAMICS OF THE FINANCE COMMISSION (ARTICLE 280)

Introduction

The **Finance Commission (FC)** bridges the gap between Indian Polity and Economy. It is a vital institutional mechanism that resolves vertical and horizontal financial imbalances in Indian fiscal federalism.

Constitutional Framework & Composition

- **Article 280:** Dictates that the **President of India** must constitute a Finance Commission every five years (or earlier).
- **Structure:** The commission operates as a quasi-judicial body. It consists of a **Chairman** and **four other members** appointed by the President.
- **Qualifications:** The Constitution empowers **Parliament** to determine the qualifications of its members. The Chairman must be an individual with experience in public affairs.

Core Mandate: Terms of Reference

The Finance Commission is constitutionally mandated to make recommendations to the President on three major pillars:

- **Vertical Devolution:** The division of the net proceeds of taxes shared between the Union and the States.
- **Horizontal Devolution:** The allocation principles governing the distribution of these tax proceeds among the states themselves based on criteria like population, forest cover, income distance, and fiscal performance.
- **Grants-in-Aid:** The principles governing grants-in-aid given to states out of the Consolidated Fund of India under **Article 275**.

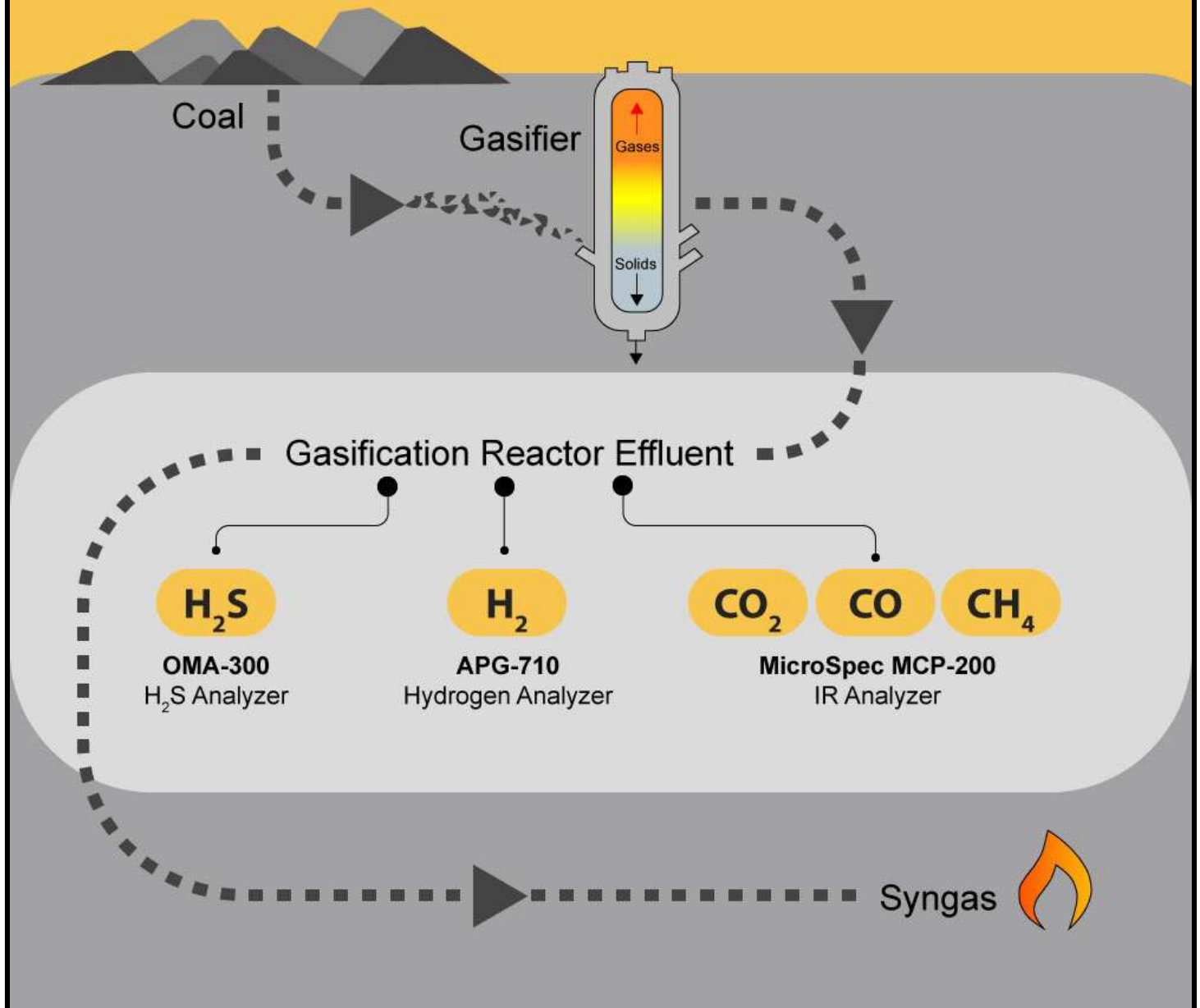


MAPS



Coal Gasification

A New Take on an Old Technology



IMPORTANT MCQ FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS

- Q1. Sabarmati River, that was recently seen in news, flows through which states ?
a) Rajasthan and Gujarat
b) Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh
c) Punjab and Haryana
d) Bihar and Jharkhand
- Q2. National Technology Day is celebrated every year on which day ?
a) May 9
b) May 10
c) May 11
d) May 12
- Q3. According to Ministry of Panchayati Raj, which state secured the highest number of Panchayat Awards 2025?
a) Karnataka
b) Madhya Pradesh
c) Uttar Pradesh
d) Odisha
- Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Hypersonic Missiles:
1. Unlike conventional ballistic missiles, hypersonic weapons can fly at lower altitudes and change direction, making them highly unpredictable.
2. Hypersonic Glide Vehicles (HGVs) use scramjet engines for continuous, fuel-efficient atmospheric flight.
3. Hypersonic Cruise Missiles (HCMs) require carrying their own oxidizers to sustain combustion.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q5. With reference to the MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle) technology, consider the following statements:
1. It allows a single missile to carry only one large warhead that can maneuver to evade enemy radars.
2. After reaching space, the missile releases multiple re-entry vehicles that follow separate trajectories toward different targets.
3. The successful integration of this technology places India among a select group of global nations.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q6. Ulsoor Lake, that was recently seen in news, is located in which city ?
a) Bengaluru
b) Chennai
c) Hyderabad
d) Mumbai
- Q7. TARA is India's first indigenous glide weapon system designed developed by which institution ?
a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
b) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
c) Indian Space and Research Organization
d) None of the Above
- Q8. Sambhar Lake, that was recently seen in news, is located in which state ?
a) Gujarat
b) Odisha
c) Karnataka
d) Rajasthan
- Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the "Essential Religious Practices (ERP) Doctrine" and Constitutional Morality:
1. The ERP doctrine was established to allow secular courts to distinguish core religious tenets from non-essential, secular practices, originating from the Shirur Mutt case (1954).
2. In the 2018 judgment on Sabarimala Temple Entry Case, the Supreme Court ruled that the exclusion of women aged 10–50 was an essential practice of the Ayyappa sect, but it was invalid under Articles 14 and 15.



3.The 2026 review hearings are examining whether “constitutional morality” based on principles of equality should take precedence over “public morality” derived from long-standing religious customs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q10. With reference to juvenile crimes in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. Under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, every person below 18 years of age is considered a juvenile.
- 2. In cases of heinous offences, juveniles between 16–18 years of age may be tried as adults under special circumstances.
- 3. The Juvenile Justice Board consists only of police officials.

Which of the above statements are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q11. Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR) is located in which state ?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Kerala
- d) Tamil Nadu

Q12. The Bureau of Indian Standards functions under which ministry ?

- a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- b) Ministry of Science and Technology
- c) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Q13. Sanjay Gandhi National Park is located in which state?

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Gujarat
- d) Maharashtra

Q14. According to the United Nations report (2024), which of the following migration corridors are among the top 10 in the world ?

- 1. India–United Arab Emirates
- 2. India–United States of America
- 3. India–Australia
- 4. India–Canada

Select the correct answer:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q15. Consider the following statements regarding the Supreme Court of India based on recent developments: The Union Cabinet approved increasing the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court to 38, including the Chief Justice of India (CJI).

1.The power to increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court lies with the Supreme Court Collegium.

2.The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2026, was passed to increase the judge strength from 34 to 38.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q16. Easter Island, that was recently seen in news, is located in which ocean ?

- a) Pacific Ocean
- b) Atlantic Ocean
- c) Indian Ocean
- d) Arctic Ocean

Q17. Kotgarh Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state ?

- a) Odisha
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Gujarat
- d) Karnataka

Q18. Naval Anti-Ship Missile–Short Range, India’s first indigenous helicopter-launched anti-ship missile, has been developed by which organization ?

- a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- b) Indian Space Research Organization



- c) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- d) Bharat Dynamics Limited

- b) 225 GW
- c) 256 GW
- d) 300 GW

Q19. Consider the following statements regarding the role and significance of the Secretary-General of the United Nations:

1. The Secretary-General is described as the Chief Administrative Officer under the UN Charter.
2. The Secretary-General has the authority to directly impose sanctions on member states.
3. The Secretary-General can bring matters threatening international peace and security to the Security Council.
4. The Secretary-General often acts as a global spokesperson on issues like climate change and inequality.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1,3 and 4 only
- c) 2 ,3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q20. Consider the following statements:

1. The military cooperation plan between India and Italy promotes joint military exercises and training.
2. Italy, being a NATO partner of India, provides security guarantees to India.
3. This cooperation also includes defence production and technological partnership.

Which of the above statements is/are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q21. Recently, India launched its first official Formula 1 Sim Racing Championship. The national championship round of this competition is scheduled to be held in which of the following cities ?

- a) Bengaluru
- b) Delhi
- c) Mumbai
- d) Chennai

Q22. Recently, India achieved its highest-ever peak electricity demand. What was the approximate peak electricity demand successfully met by India on April 25, 2026 ?

- a) 200 GW

Q23. Recently, India signed a Defence Industrial Cooperation Roadmap and an arrangement for UN Peacekeeping Training cooperation with which of the following countries ?

- a) Germany
- b) France
- c) Italy
- d) Japan

Q24. With reference to NITI Aayog, recently in the news, consider the following statements:

- 1.NITI Aayog was established in 2015 to replace the Planning Commission as the Government of India's public policy think tank.
- 2.NITI Aayog is a constitutional body with statutory powers to allocate funds to states.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct ?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q25. With reference to the Anti-Defection Law, recently in the news, consider the following statements:

- 1.A legislator can avoid disqualification under the Anti-Defection Law if at least two-thirds of the members of their legislative party agree to a merger with another party.
- 2.The original provision allowing exemption in case of a split by one-third of members continues to remain valid.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct ?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q26. SVAMITVA scheme was launched by which ministry?

- a) Ministry of Rural Development
- b) Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- c) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- d) Ministry of Agriculture



- Q27. The Korowai tribe is primarily found in which country?
a) Indonesia
b) Australia
c) New Zealand
d) China
- Q28. Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state ?
a) Rajasthan
b) Gujarat
c) Karnataka
d) Kerala
- Q29. Consider the following statements regarding INS Mahendragiri:
1.It is the final ship of the Project 17A (Nilgiri-class) frigates being constructed for the Indian Navy.
2.The ship is built using Integrated Modular Construction techniques by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata.
3.It is equipped with the Barak-8 Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LR-SAM) system.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q30. Statement (A): Artificial Intelligence (AI) can make the decision-making process in national security and diplomacy completely human-free.
Reason (R): AI can analyze vast data and prepare policy options and crisis forecasts.
a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
b) Both A and R are correct, but R does not correctly explain A
c) A is correct but R is incorrect
d) A is incorrect but R is correct
- Q31. Virupaksha Temple, that was recently seen in news, is located in which state ?
a) Karnataka
b) Kerala
c) Tamil Nadu
d) Maharashtra
- Q32. According to recent report, India overtook which country to become the world's second-largest solar market in 2025 ?
a) United States
b) China
c) Germany
d) France
- Q33. Who has been elected as the President of the 81st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) ?
a) Annalena Baerbock
b) Andreas S. Kakouris
c) Khalilur Rahman
d) Antonio Guterres
- Q34. Consider the following statements regarding the RudraM-II missile:
1.It is an air-to-surface anti-radiation missile primarily designed to destroy enemy radar and communication systems.
2.It features a dual-guidance system that utilizes an Imaging Infrared (IIR) seeker to maintain target tracking even if the enemy turns off their radar.
3.It has a speed capability of up to Mach 5.5 and can engage targets within a stand-off range of 300 km.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q35. With reference to the recent developments in India–Myanmar relations, consider the following initiatives:
1.The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project connects India's mainland directly to Southeast Asia.
2.The India–Myanmar–Thailand Trilateral Highway aims to link India to the ASEAN markets.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) None
- Q36. A new species of lizard named Mesalina bishnoi has recently been discovered in which state ?
a) Rajasthan
b) Gujarat
c) Odisha



- d) Haryana
- Q37. Kshipra River, that was recently seen in news, is a tributary of which river ?
- Narmada
 - Yamuna
 - Godavari
 - Chambal
- Q38. Recently, the BrahMos missile was in the news after India signed a missile export deal with Vietnam. BrahMos is best described as:
- A subsonic ballistic missile
 - A hypersonic glide vehicle
 - A long-range supersonic cruise missile
 - An anti-tank guided missile
- Q39. Consider the following statements regarding the strategic and security dimensions of India-Myanmar relations:
- Myanmar shares a land boundary with four Indian states: Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram.
 - The India-Myanmar border runs entirely along the porous, low-security regions and is regulated under the Free Movement Regime (FMR) without any fencing.
 - During the 2026 Summit, Myanmar reiterated assurances that its sovereign territory would not be used for activities hostile to India's security interests.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1, 2, and 3
- Q40. With reference to the Indian Armed Forces, consider the following statements regarding the office of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS):
- The post of CDS was officially created through an executive mandate in 2019, with General Bipin Rawat serving as the country's first CDS.
 - The CDS functions as the administrative head and Secretary of the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) under the Ministry of Defence.
 - The creation of the CDS office has altered the constitutional position of the President of India, who now exercises supreme command through the CDS.
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1, 2, and 3
- Q41. What is the name of scheme that allows duty-free import of inputs used in the production of export goods?
- Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme
 - Advance Authorisation Scheme
 - Merchandise Exports from India Scheme
 - Production Linked Incentive Scheme
- Q42. Rakchham Chitkul Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state ?
- Uttarakhand
 - Jammu and Kashmir
 - Himachal Pradesh
 - Sikkim
- Q43. Which tiger reserve has been selected for establishing India's first Human-Elephant Conflict Research Centre ?
- Kanha Tiger Reserve
 - Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve
 - Palamu Tiger Reserve
 - Nagarhole Tiger Reserve
- Q44. Consider the following statements regarding the recent ban on sugar exports by the Government of India:
- The ban shifts the export policy of raw, white, and refined sugar from a 'restricted' to a 'prohibited' category.
 - The export restriction is applicable to all countries without any exceptions.
 - The decision aims to ensure adequate domestic availability to meet sugar demand and ethanol blending targets.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 2 and 3 only
 - 1, 2, and 3



- Q45. Consider the following statements regarding the recent hike in import duties on gold and silver in India:
1.The hike was implemented by revising the Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC) and Social Welfare Surcharge (SWS).
2.The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is responsible for administering these import duty laws.
3.The primary economic objective behind this move includes conserving foreign exchange reserves for critical imports like crude oil and fertilisers.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q46. India's first Artificial Intelligence-enabled block-level monsoon forecasting system was launched by which organisation ?
a) Indian Space Research Organisation
b) India Meteorological Department
c) National Disaster Management Authority
d) Central Water Commission
- Q47. The report titled "India's Nuclear Energy Vision: Strategic Pathways for SMR Deployment" was released by which organisation ?
a) NITI Aayog
b) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
c) The Energy and Resources Institute
d) Central Electricity Authority
- Q48. Agalega Islands, recently seen in news for their strategic importance in the Indian Ocean, belong to which country ?
a) Sri Lanka
b) Mauritius
c) Seychelles
d) Maldives
- Q49. Regarding India's forest conservation and restoration targets as of 2025, consider the following statements:
1.India has achieved its target of 33% forest and tree cover, standing at 35% as per 2025 data.
2.Under the Bonn Challenge, India has pledged to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030.
- 3.The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA) and the Green India Mission are key initiatives to meet these restoration targets.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q50. Consider the following statements regarding the 2026 World Press Freedom Index released by Reporters Without Borders (RSF):
1.The 2026 report indicates that the global average score for press freedom has reached its highest level in 25 years.
2.The index evaluates countries based on five core indicators: political context, legal framework, economic conditions, sociocultural environment, and safety of journalists.
3.According to the 2026 findings, the legal indicator registered the steepest global decline.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q51. The AI-based helpbot "ABHAY" was launched by which organisation ?
a) Reserve Bank of India
b) NITI Aayog
c) National Investigation Agency
d) Central Bureau of Investigation
- Q52. What is the name of the operation launched by the Narcotics Control Bureau against an international Captagon drug trafficking network ?
a) Operation Prahar
b) Operation Trishul
c) Operation RAGEPILL
d) Operation Suraksha
- Q53. Ebola disease, that was recently seen in news, is caused by which agent ?
a) Bacteria
b) Virus
c) Fungus



d) Protozoa

Q54. Consider the following statements regarding the BRICS grouping and its recent Foreign Ministers' Meeting:

1. The recent meeting in New Delhi concluded with the unanimous adoption of a Joint Declaration outlining the bloc's unified stance on West Asian maritime security.

2. The expanded BRICS+ configuration currently includes Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Ethiopia, Indonesia, and Iran.

3. The New Development Bank (NDB), which finances infrastructure projects for the bloc, is headquartered in New Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q55. Consider the following statements regarding the recent bilateral outcomes and investments between India and the UAE:

1. The UAE committed an investment of USD 5 billion in India, which includes commitments from entities like ADIA–NIIF and IHC.

2. The UAE is India's largest LPG supplier and is a key participating partner in India's Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) programme.

3. The bilateral trade between India and the UAE crossed USD 100 billion, with a target set to reach USD 200 billion by 2030.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q56. Which organisation is the nodal agency for the National One Health Mission ?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- c) Indian Council of Medical Research
- d) Council of Scientific & Industrial Research

Q57. According to recent report, which state is the largest producer of Jaggery ?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Gujarat
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

Q58. Barda Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Karnataka

Q59. Which of the following provisions/mechanisms under the Indian Constitution mandates a minimum number of judges to sit for deciding cases involving the interpretation of the Constitution ?

- a) Article 124(3)
- b) Article 131
- c) Article 145(3)
- d) Article 143

Q60. Consider the following statements regarding Ebola Virus Disease (EVD):

1. It is a zoonotic disease caused by viruses belonging to the genus Orthoebolavirus.

2. The Bundibugyo strain of the Ebola virus has multiple WHO-approved vaccines and therapeutic treatments available globally.

3. Upon declaring a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), the WHO mandates that all countries impose strict international travel and border restrictions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q61. Which book won the 2026 International Booker Prize?

- a) Taiwan Travelogue
- b) The Things We Never Say
- c) Not a River
- d) A Little Life

Q62. Loktak Lake, that was recently seen in news, is located in which state ?

- a) Manipur



- b) Tripura
- c) Nagaland
- d) Mizoram

- Q63. Kumbhalgarh Fort, recently recognised for having the world's second-longest surviving wall, is located in which state ?
- a) Rajasthan
 - b) Gujarat
 - c) Karnataka
 - d) Maharashtra

- Q64. With reference to the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) and related geographical features, consider the following pairs:

Hydroelectric Project	River	Category of River under IWT
1. Kishanganga	Jhelum	Western River (Allocated to Pakistan)
2. Ratle	Chenab	Western River (Allocated to Pakistan)
3. Bhakra Nangal	Sutlej	Eastern River (Allocated to India)

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

- Q65. Consider the following statements regarding the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court of India:
1. The sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court is determined by the President of India on the advice of the Chief Justice of India.
 2. The Supreme Court began functioning in 1950 with a total sanctioned strength of eight judges, which included seven puisne judges and one Chief Justice.
 3. The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Ordinance, 2026, increased the sanctioned strength of the apex court to 38 judges (37 judges and 1 Chief Justice).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

- Q66. Ambazari Lake, that was recently seen in news, is located in which state ?
- a) Maharashtra
 - b) Gujarat
 - c) Karnataka
 - d) Kerala

- Q67. Khet Bachao Abhiyan" is implemented by which institution ?
- a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research
 - b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
 - c) Food Corporation of India
 - d) Department of Rural Development

- Q68. RAINMUMBAI is India's first exchange-traded weather derivatives contract launched by which institution ?
- a) Bombay Stock Exchange
 - b) National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange
 - c) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India
 - d) Reserve Bank of India

- Q69. Consider the following statements regarding the law of Sedition (Section 124A of the IPC) in India:

1. More criticism of the government constitutes sedition.
2. It is a cognizable and non-bailable offence.
3. The Supreme Court of India in the Kedar Nath Singh vs. State of Bihar (1962) case ruled that the sedition law violates the right to freedom of speech and expression.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

- Q70. Consider the following statements with reference to the International Court of Justice (ICJ):

1. Only sovereign states can be parties in contentious cases before the ICJ.
2. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and the Security Council (UNSC) can request advisory opinions from the ICJ.



3. ICJ judgments are legally binding, and the UNSC is exclusively responsible for their automatic enforcement.

4. All members of the United Nations are ipso facto parties to the Statute of the Court.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q71. Which organisation released the "Ease of Doing Research and Development in India" report ?

- a) National Statistical Office
- b) Reserve Bank of India
- c) NITI Aayog
- d) Department of Biotechnology

Q72. Agni-I, that was recently seen in news, is classified as which type of missile ?

- a) Intercontinental ballistic missile
- b) Cruise missile
- c) Surface-to-air missile
- d) Short-range ballistic missile

Q73. Haryana's first constellation garden has been developed at which wildlife sanctuary ?

- a) Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary
- b) Saraswati Wildlife Sanctuary
- c) Khaparwas Wildlife Sanctuary
- d) Nahar Wildlife Sanctuary

Q74. Consider the following statements regarding the provisions of bail under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967:

- 1. Under Section 43D(5) of the UAPA, the court is barred from granting bail if the accusations are prima facie true.
- 2. The Act mandates that the investigating agency must file a chargesheet within 60 days, failing which the accused is granted default bail.
- 3. The Supreme Court of India has held that under Article 21, courts can grant bail in exceptional cases of prolonged incarceration, even under the strict provisions of the UAPA.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only

Q75. Consider the following statements regarding the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court of India:

- 1. The sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court is determined by the President of India on the advice of the Chief Justice of India.
- 2. The Supreme Court began functioning in 1950 with a total sanctioned strength of eight judges, which included seven puisne judges and one Chief Justice.
- 3. The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Ordinance, 2026, increased the sanctioned strength of the apex court to 38 judges (37 judges and 1 Chief Justice).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q76. Recently, the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting was hosted by India in New Delhi. Which of the following countries is NOT a member of the Quad ?

- a) India
- b) Japan
- c) Australia
- d) South Korea

Q77. Recently, Major Abhilasha Barak was honoured by the United Nations with which of the following awards ?

- a) United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award
- b) UN Peacekeeping Leadership Award
- c) Dag Hammarskjöld Medal
- d) UN Women in Security Award

Q78. Recently, Myopia was in the news as a growing global health concern. Myopia is a condition in which:

- a) Nearby objects appear blurred while distant objects appear clear
- b) Both near and distant objects appear equally blurred
- c) Distant objects appear blurred while nearby objects appear clear
- d) A person loses the ability to distinguish colours



Q79. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Ministry of Home Affairs recently constituted a High-Level Committee to study demographic changes arising from illegal immigration and other abnormal reasons.

Statement-II: The committee has been tasked with conducting a scientific assessment of demographic changes and analysing population fluctuations among specific religious and social communities in certain regions.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

Q80. Consider the following statements regarding the Smart Border Project and India's border management:

1. The Smart Border Project specifically aims to make India's borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh completely technology-driven.

2. The Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS) is a component of border modernization that utilizes underground sensors, thermal imaging, and radars.

3. The Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM) Scheme focuses solely on security fencing and overlooks border road connectivity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q81. Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary, which has been designated as India's 100th Ramsar Site, is located in which state ?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Rajasthan

Q82. Recently, the 1st World Yogasana Sports Championship 2026 was inaugurated in which of the following cities ?

- a) Bengaluru
- b) New Delhi
- c) Ahmedabad
- d) Rishikesh

Q83. Recently, Khalilur Rahman was elected President of the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). He belongs to which of the following countries ?

- a) Cyprus
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Maldives

Q84. Consider the following statements regarding Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFVs):

1. Flex Fuel Vehicles can operate on petrol, ethanol, or any blend of the two without requiring engine modifications by the user.

2. Ethanol blending helps reduce dependence on crude oil imports and provides additional income opportunities for farmers.

3. India achieved nationwide E20 ethanol blending by March 2025.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Q85. Consider the following statements regarding the BrahMos Missile System:

1. It is a "fire-and-forget" ballistic missile that follows a high, arched trajectory.

2. It uses a two-stage propulsion system consisting of a solid rocket booster and a liquid-fuel ramjet engine.

3. It can be launched from multiple platforms including submarines, ships, aircraft, and land-based systems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3



ANSWERS

1- a	2- c	3- a	4- b	5- c	6- a	7- b	8- d	9- b	10- a
11- a	12- c	13- d	14- a	15- a	16- a	17- a	18- c	19- b	20- b
21- c	22- c	23- a	24- a	25- a	26- b	27- a	28- b	29- b	30- d
31- a	32- a	33- c	34- d	35- c	36- a	37- d	38- c	39- b	40- a
41- b	42- c	43- c	44- b	45- d	46- b	47- c	48- b	49- c	50- c
51- d	52- c	53- b	54- b	55- a	56- c	57- c	58- a	59- c	60- a
61- a	62- a	63- a	64- d	65- c	66- a	67- a	68- b	69- b	70- c
71- c	72- d	73- b	74- c	75- c	76- d	77- a	78- c	79- a	80- a
81- a	82- c	83- b	84- a	85- c					

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