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NATIONAL

WHAT IS MANAS ? -

- The National Narcotics Helpline MANAS, or Madak Padarth Nishedh Asoochna Kendra, was launched on 18 July 2024 by the Union government under the Narcotics Control Bureau in the Ministry of Home Affairs, with support from the Digital India Corporation. The platform provides a national channel for reporting drug trafficking, peddling, illegal cultivation, and substance abuse-related concerns.



MANAS Platform and Helpline 1933

- MANAS operates through the helpline number 1933, an official portal, email, and the UMANG app. The platform connects the public with 30 NCB Zonal Units and 36 State and Union Territory Anti-Narcotics Task Forces.

Usage and Service Data

- By June 2026, MANAS had recorded more than 9.94 lakh connection attempts. The portal had received 2,65,673 drug-related inputs by June 2026, and the platform had generated over 16,200 actionable intelligence inputs related to drug trafficking. By July 2026, the helpline had connected over 47,500 calls to professional counselling services. Since its launch, MANAS had assisted more than 32,900 individuals with substance abuse concerns and addressed over 12,800 rehabilitation requests.

RAJASTHAN AND HARYANA SIGN HISTORIC YAMUNA WATER PROJECT AGREEMENT -

What Is the Yamuna Water Project?

- The Yamuna Water Project is the inter-state water infrastructure initiative which is designed to transport Rajasthan's allocated share of the Yamuna River water through an underground pipeline network.



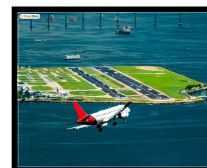
- The project will draw water from the Western Yamuna Canal and it deliver to Rajasthan by using a modern pipeline system and enabling the state to utilize its share of water allocated under the 1994 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Sharing of the Utilisable Surface Waters of the Upper Yamuna Basin.
- The initiative also benefits Haryana by improving regional water management and ensuring a reliable drinking water supply.

Why Was This Agreement Needed?

- Although Rajasthan was allocated the share of the Yamuna waters under the 1994 Upper Yamuna Basin agreement, the absence of adequate infrastructure prevented the effective utilization of this allocation.
- For nearly three decades, this issue remained unresolved because of the technical, financial and administrative challenges.

INDIA'S FIRST OFFSHORE AIRPORT APPROVED IN MAHARASHTRA: LOCATION, FEATURES, BENEFITS -

- Maharashtra is set to become home to India's first offshore airport, marking a major milestone in the country's aviation infrastructure. The ambitious project has received in-principle approval from Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, following a proposal presented by the Maharashtra Airport Development Company (MADC).
- The proposed offshore airport will be developed off the coast of Palghar district and is expected to significantly improve air connectivity in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR). The project aims to address the growing demand for aviation infrastructure while overcoming land constraints in one of India's most densely populated regions.



What is an Offshore Airport?

- An offshore airport is an airport constructed entirely over the sea, either on an artificial island or on specially designed offshore platforms. Unlike conventional airports built on land, offshore airports utilize marine areas, making them an ideal solution for coastal cities facing land shortages.

LOHAGAD FORT: THE IRON FORTRESS THAT GUARDED THE DECCAN -

- Nestled in the scenic hills of Lonavala in Maharashtra, Lohagad Fort is one of India's oldest and most historically significant hill forts. Believed to be nearly 2,000 years old, the fort has witnessed the rise and fall of several dynasties, including the Satavahanas, Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Yadavas, Marathas, Mughals, and the British.
- Known as the "Iron Fortress of the Deccan," Lohagad Fort is renowned for its strong fortifications, strategic location, and rich Maratha heritage. Today, it is a popular trekking destination and an important historical monument.



Where is Lohagad Fort Located?

- Lohagad Fort is situated near Lonavala in Pune district, Maharashtra, in the Sahyadri mountain range (Western Ghats).

HEMIS FESTIVAL 2026 -

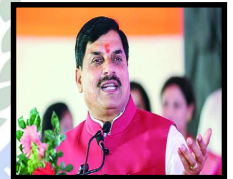
- The Hemis Festival is one of the most vibrant and significant Buddhist festivals celebrated in Ladakh. Held annually at the famous Hemis Monastery in the Leh district, the festival commemorates the birth anniversary of Guru Padmasambhava, also known as Guru Rinpoche or the Second Buddha. It is celebrated with colorful masked dances, sacred rituals, traditional music, and prayers, attracting thousands of devotees and tourists from across the world.
- In 2026, the Hemis Festival began on 24 June and concluded on 25 June at the Hemis Monastery. The

inauguration ceremony was attended by the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, V. K. Saxena.

Particulars	Details
Festival Name	Hemis Festival
Date	24-25 June 2026
Location	Hemis Monastery, Leh, Ladakh
Occasion	Birth Anniversary of Guru Padmasambhava
Religion	Buddhism
Duration	Two Days
Celebrated By	Buddhist Monks, Local Communities and Tourists
Chief Guest (2026 Inauguration)	Lieutenant Governor V. K. Saxena

MADHYA PRADESH TO INTRODUCE UCC BILL IN ASSEMBLY -

- On 17 June 2026, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav announced that a Uniform Civil Code Bill would be introduced in the Monsoon Session of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly. The session is scheduled from 20 July to 24 July 2026 and is expected to include the first supplementary budget for 2026-27.



Uniform Civil Code in India

- A Uniform Civil Code refers to a common set of civil laws for matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption, and succession. Article 44 of the Constitution of India places the Uniform Civil Code among the Directive Principles of State Policy.

State-Level Drafting Process

- A six-member high-level committee was formed by the Madhya Pradesh Government in April 2026 to draft the Bill. The committee is headed by retired Supreme Court Judge Justice Ranjana Prasad Desai and has been asked to submit a detailed report within 60 days. The committee has visited different parts of Madhya Pradesh to collect suggestions from people of different religions. It is also studying the models adopted by Uttarakhand and Gujarat, which are ruled by the Bharatiya Janata Party.



DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION MADE MANDATORY FOR COUGH SYRUPS -

- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare made a doctor's prescription mandatory for the purchase of syrup medicines, including cough syrups, on 16 June 2026. The change took effect immediately after the publication of the Drugs (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2026, in the Official Gazette.



Drugs Rules and Schedule K

- The Drugs Rules, 1945, govern the manufacture, sale, and distribution of medicines in India. Schedule K of the Drugs Rules, 1945, lists categories of medicines exempt from certain regulatory provisions. The amendment removes the word "syrups" from Schedule K, which places syrup-based formulations under prescription control.

Prescription Requirement for Syrup Formulations

- Commonly sold cough syrups such as Benadryl, Glycodin, Zedex, Tusq DX, Grilinctus, Cofsils, Himalaya Koflet, and Dabur Honitus now require a valid prescription. Lozenges, pills, and tablets used for cough treatment continue to remain exempt under Schedule K and can be purchased over the counter.

TRIPURA'S TRADITIONAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT SARINDA RECEIVES GI TAG RECOGNITION -

Tripura Sarinda Receives GI Tag

- Respectable Chief Minister Manik Saha has announced that Tripura Sarinda has been awarded the Geographical Indication status.
- He described the achievement as a proud moment for the state's cultural heritage and it is a significant step towards to preserving and promoting indigenous folk traditions.



- This recognition acknowledges the instrument's unique association with the Tripura and it safeguards the its identity against unauthorized imitation or any misuse.

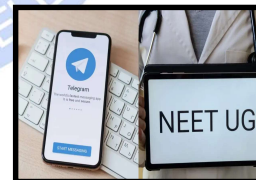
About Tripura Sarinda

- Tripura Sarinda is the traditional bowed string musical instrument that is widely used in the folk music traditions of the state's tribal communities.
- It is handcrafted from a single block of wood and it features a hollow resonator that produces the its distinctive sound.
- The instrument is played using the bow and is commonly used during the folk performances, cultural ceremonies and traditional musical expressions.

CENTRE BLOCKS TELEGRAM ACCESS TILL JUNE 22 AHEAD OF NEET UG 2026 RE-EXAMINATION -

Why Has Telegram Been Restricted?

- According to official information, the restriction has been imposed as the preventive measure to safeguard the integrity of the NEET (UG) 2026 re-examination.
- Authorities have expressed the concerns that Telegram channels and groups could potentially be used to circulate the examination-related content which includes the alleged question papers, answer keys and misleading information.
- The temporary restriction is intended to reduce the risk of the malpractice and to maintain public confidence in the examination process.
- The National Testing Agency has welcomed the decision and stated that it would help to ensure a fair and secure examination environment.



ZOJILA TUNNEL NEARS BREAKTHROUGH

- The Zojila Tunnel is a 13.153-kilometre road tunnel under construction in the Himalayas at an altitude of about 11,578 feet, or nearly 3,000 metres, above sea level. The final breakthrough is scheduled for 9 June 2026, and full operational completion is expected by February 2028.



Zojila Tunnel Project

- The tunnel is being built to provide all-weather road connectivity between Baltal near Sonamarg in Jammu and Kashmir and Meenamarg in the Drass-Kargil region of Ladakh. The route across Zojila Pass remains closed for several months each year because of heavy snowfall and avalanches.

**ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS RECORD INDIA'S LOWEST FERTILITY RATE IN NFHS-6 -**

- Andaman and Nicobar Registers The India's Lowest Fertility Rate
- The NFHS-6 data reveals that the Total Fertility Rate in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands has dropped to just 0.9 and making it as the lowest in the country. This marks the decline from 1.3 in NFHS-5 and 1.4 in NFHS-4.
- A fertility rate below the 2.1 means that the population is unable to replace itself over the period of time without migration. The current figure indicates that the Union Territory could experience the sustained population decline in the coming decades if the trend continues.

**What Does a Fertility Rate of 0.9 Mean?**

- The Total Fertility Rate means that the average number of the children a woman is expected to have during her reproductive years.
- A TFR of 2.1 is considered as the replacement level which ensuring that each generation replaces itself. When this rate falls significantly below this benchmark, the number of the births becomes insufficient to maintain the population stability.

LADAKH GETS INDIA'S FIRST MODEL BORDER VILLAGE -

- Ladakh's Chumur village in eastern Ladakh has become the site of India's first model border village near the India-China border. The project is being developed under the Union Government's Vibrant Villages Programme, which

covers border settlements in high-altitude and remote areas.

Chumur and its border location

- Chumur is located at an altitude of 16,700 feet in eastern Ladakh. The village has 24 households and a population of 91 people, and many residents are engaged in Pashmina rearing and production. The settlement lies in a strategic border region along the India-China frontier.

**Vibrant Villages Programme**

- The Vibrant Villages Programme is a Central Sector scheme for developing villages in border areas with basic infrastructure and livelihood support. The first phase of the programme includes plans for 10 model border villages. The programme covers infrastructure, employment and livelihood creation, all-weather functionality, and civilian-defence integration.

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.



PM MODI CHAIRS 11TH NITI AAYOG MEETING, FOCUSES ON VIKSIT BHARAT 2047 -

- Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi ha chaired the 11th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog on 11th of June, 2026 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre in the National Capital.



- This meeting was themed around “Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat @2047” and brought together the Chief Ministers, Lieutenant Governors and Administrators from 28 States and 5 Union Territories. Significantly it marks the first occasion when the Chief Ministers of all the 28 States have participated in the Governing Council meeting.

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,

- A. Supreme Court
- B. High Courts

- C. District Courts
- D. Taluka Courts
- E. Government departments

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.



INTERNATIONAL

UPI TO BECOME OPERATIONAL IN SEYCHELLES -

- The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is targeted to become operational in Seychelles by the end of 2026. India and Seychelles signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for UPI implementation during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Seychelles, which concluded on 29 June 2026.



Unified Payments Interface

- UPI is an instant digital payment system developed in India for bank-to-bank transfers through mobile applications. The system is operated by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) under the regulatory framework of the Reserve Bank of India.

India-Seychelles Payment Agreement

- The UPI MoU was signed between NPCI and the Central Bank of Seychelles. The agreement covers the technical and institutional steps needed for UPI acceptance in Seychelles and is intended to support cashless transactions for Indian tourists.

PM MODI OFFERS ASSISTANCE TO VENEZUELA AFTER DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKES -

- India has extended the its support to the Venezuela after the series of the powerful earthquakes which struck the South American nation on 24th June, 2026 and it caused the significant loss of the life and widespread destruction. Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed the deep sorrow over the tragedy and he conveyed the India's readiness to provide the assistance during the crisis. The earthquakes which



measures the 7.2 and 7.5 in magnitude and it affected the several parts of Venezuela it includes the areas near the capital city of Caracas.

What Happened in Venezuela?

- On June 24th, 2026, two major earthquakes have struck western Venezuela within a short interval.

Key Details of the Earthquakes

- Magnitude of earthquake: 7.2 and 7.5
- Date: June 24, 2026
- Location: Near Montalbán and Yumare, west of Caracas
- Affected Regions: Western Venezuela and the capital region

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.



INDIA TO HOST BRICS NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISERS MEETING BEGINNING JUNE 22 -

- India's annual defence production reached ₹1.78 lakh crore in Financial Year 2025-26. The figure was ₹84,643 crore in FY 2020-21 and ₹43,746 crore in FY 2013-14.

**Defence Production in India**

- Defence production includes the manufacture of weapons, platforms, systems, ammunition, and related equipment for the armed forces. India's defence industrial base includes Defence Public Sector Undertakings, ordnance factories, and private sector manufacturers.

Public and Private Sector Share

- Defence Public Sector Undertakings and other public sector units contributed about 76% of total defence production in FY 2025-26. The private sector's share rose to nearly ₹42,000 crore in FY 2025-26, which was 24% of total production.

PM MODI VISITS SLOVAKIA FOR FIRST STATE VISIT -

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a state visit to Slovakia from 14 June to 16 June 2026. It was the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Slovakia since the country became independent in 1993. The visit took place in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, during the second leg of a three-nation European tour.

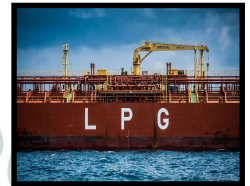
**India-Slovakia Bilateral Relations**

- India and Slovakia established diplomatic relations after Slovakia became an independent state in 1993. The two

countries have held regular high-level exchanges, including the State Visit of President Droupadi Murmu to Slovakia in April 2025 and the visit of Slovak President Peter Pellegrini to India for the AI Impact Summit in February 2026.

UNITED STATES BECOMES INDIA'S LARGEST LPG SUPPLIER -

- India's liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) import pattern changed in 2026, with the United States becoming India's largest supplier and the Middle East losing its earlier dominant share. India imports LPG for household cooking fuel, industrial use, and commercial consumption, and the fuel is traded in pressurised cylinders or bulk cargoes.

**Liquefied Petroleum Gas in India**

- Liquefied petroleum gas is a mixture of propane and butane that is stored as a liquid under pressure. India is one of the world's largest LPG consumers, and its import basket has traditionally depended on Gulf suppliers because of shorter shipping routes and established trade links.

Shift in Import Sources

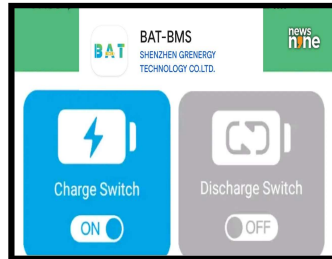
- In May 2026, the United States supplied more than 55% of India's LPG imports. U.S. shipments to India rose to 666,000 tonnes in May 2026, compared with much lower volumes in February 2026. Before the escalation of tensions in West Asia around 28 February 2026, the Gulf region accounted for about 60% of India's LPG consumption and up to 90% of its imports.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

GOVERNMENT ORDERS REMOVAL OF BAT-BMS APP -

- The BAT-BMS app is a mobile application linked to Battery Management Systems for lithium-ion batteries. On 2 July 2026, the Delhi Transport Minister directed the Transport Department to verify claims about the app after videos showed its use in disabling e-rickshaws through Bluetooth access.



BAT-BMS App and Battery Management Systems

- The BAT-BMS app was developed by Shenzhen Greenergy Technology, a Chinese company. A Battery Management System, or BMS, monitors battery functions such as charge level, voltage, and temperature in lithium-ion batteries. Bluetooth-enabled BMS units can connect to mobile devices within a short range. In the reported case, the range mentioned was about 15 metres, and the discharge function of some e-rickshaw batteries was switched off remotely.

Use in E-Rickshaws

- E-rickshaws in India commonly use lithium-ion batteries fitted with BMS units. Some of these systems have minimal Bluetooth security and may lack passwords or authentication, which allows unauthorised access to battery controls. The Delhi government stated that misuse of the app to stop e-rickshaws is illegal. It also stated that police action would follow against such misuse.

WHAT IS SKYROOT'S VIKRAM-1 MISSION ? -

- Skyroot Aerospace has announced a launch window for Vikram-1 from 12 July to 4 August 2026. The mission, named Mission Aagaman, is planned from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre-SHAR in Sriharikota and involves India's first privately built orbital rocket.

Vikram-1 Launch Vehicle

- Vikram-1 is a seven-storey, multi-stage orbital launch vehicle developed by Hyderabad-based Skyroot Aerospace. It uses an all-carbon composite structure and is designed to carry small satellites of up to 350 kg to low Earth orbit.



Mission Aagaman and Flight

Objectives

- The main objective of Mission Aagaman is to collect real-time flight performance data across multiple systems. The mission is also intended to validate design parameters for future vehicle development.

ODISHA APPROVES DEEP SEA FISHING MISSION -

- Odisha Cabinet approved the Deep Sea Fishing Mission on 1 July 2026. The mission is a flagship initiative of the Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department under the administrative control of the Odisha government.



Mission Framework

- The mission will run for 10 years, from 2026 to 2036. The estimated investment is ₹2,295.45 crore to ₹2,295.46 crore, and some references describe it as over ₹2,000 crore. The mission will be implemented in phases through central and state funding, beneficiary participation, institutional finance, and Public-Private Partnerships.

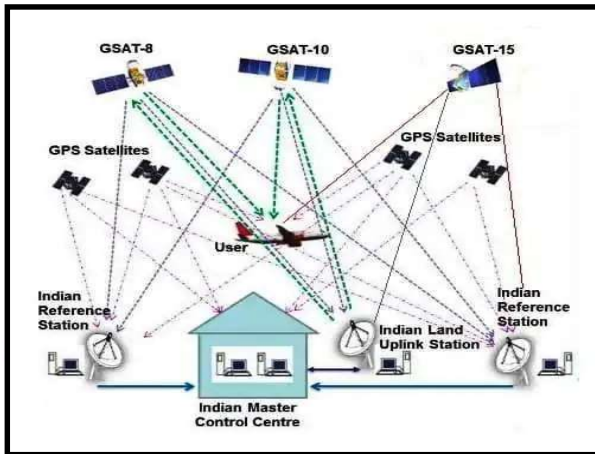
Objectives and Targets

- The mission covers sustainable deep-sea fishing, marine fisheries infrastructure, seafood exports, and coastal livelihoods. It targets an additional two lakh metric tonnes of marine fish production annually by 2036. It also targets more than 50,000 jobs by 2036 and marine exports of around ₹5,000 crore annually by 2036.



GAGAN SATELLITE-BASED AUGMENTATION SYSTEM -

- GAGAN stands for GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation. It is India's indigenous Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS) developed jointly by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Airports Authority of India (AAI). The system has been operational since 2015 and supports satellite navigation for aircraft operations in Indian airspace.



Satellite-Based Augmentation System

- A Satellite-Based Augmentation System is a regional navigation system that improves the accuracy, reliability, and integrity of Global Positioning System signals. SBAS uses ground reference stations, master control centres, uplink stations, and geostationary satellites to correct navigation errors and provide precision approach services.

GAGAN Network and Space Segment

- GAGAN operates through 15 Indian Reference Stations, two Master Control Centres, three Land Uplink Stations, four communication networks, and three geostationary satellites. The satellites used for GAGAN payloads are GSAT-8, GSAT-10, and GSAT-15.

RAKHIGARHI SKELETONS TRANSFERRED FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH -

- Human skeletal remains from Rakhigarhi, a major Harappan archaeological site in Haryana, have been formally handed over by the Archaeological Survey of

India to the Anthropological Survey of India, a national research institute under the Union Ministry of Culture, for detailed scientific study.



- **Transfer:** The handover was carried out under a recently signed Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions. Three complete skeletons and related skeletal fragments have been shifted to the Anthropological Survey of India's Kolkata laboratory.
- **About:** Rakhigarhi, spread across about 550 hectares, is considered one of the largest known settlements of the Harappan Civilisation, also referred to as the Indus Valley Civilisation or Indus-Saraswati Civilisation.
- **Evidence:** Excavations at the site have revealed planned settlements, drainage systems, craft production centres, trade networks, and burial grounds, indicating continuous habitation from the Early Harappan to the Mature Harappan periods.
- **Burials:** Mound Number 7 at Rakhigarhi has been identified as a major burial area, from where 56 human skeletons were recovered, including the remains of a woman dated to around 4,600 years ago.
- **Ancestry:** Deoxyribonucleic Acid analysis of the Rakhigarhi woman indicated the absence of the Steppe Pastoralist genetic component, contributing to debates on Aryan or Indo-Aryan migration into India.

INDIA LAUNCHES WORLD'S FIRST NUCLEAR PROCESS HEAT-BASED HYDROGEN PRODUCTION FACILITY - World's First Hydrogen Production Facility

- The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has inaugurated the world's first Hydrogen Production Facility which is based on nuclear process heat at the Indira Gandhi Center for Atomic Research (IGCAR) at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu.
- This project utilizes the heat generated from the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) to produce hydrogen



through the Copper-Chlorine (Cu-Cl) Thermochemical Cycle and it is the advanced technology which developed indigenously by the Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC), Mumbai.

- This facility has been established as the technology demonstrator, validating the feasibility of producing clean hydrogen by using nuclear energy rather than fossil fuels.

What Is the Nuclear Process Heat-Based Hydrogen Production Facility?

- The newly commissioned facility is the advanced, capable plant that converts the water into hydrogen by using high-temperature nuclear heat instead of just relying solely on electricity.

35 NATIONS SIGN AI OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT AT PAX SILICA SUMMIT -

- The second Pax Silica Summit was held in Washington, D.C., on 25–26 June 2026, bringing together representatives from 35 countries, including India, to strengthen global cooperation in artificial intelligence

(AI). The participating nations signed the Joint Statement on AI Opportunity, reaffirming their commitment to promoting innovation, trusted AI governance, resilient supply chains, and industrial cooperation in AI-related technologies.



- The summit marked another important step toward building an international framework for responsible AI development while encouraging economic growth and technological collaboration.



ECONOMY & FINANCE

INDIA'S FISCAL DEFICIT RISES 12-FOLD IN APRIL-MAY FY27 DESPITE RBI DIVIDEND -

- In April-May FY2026-27, India's fiscal deficit widened sharply to the ₹1.62 lakh crore and it showcases the weaker revenue collections despite receiving the record surplus transfer from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). According to the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), the fiscal deficit has already reached to 9.6% of the full year Budget Estimate (BE) of ₹16.96 lakh crore.



Fiscal Deficit Surge in April-May FY27

- The centre's fiscal deficit stood at around ₹1.62 lakh crore during the April-May and it compared with the just 0.8% of the annual target in the same period of the last year. The sharp increase was mainly driven by the softer revenue collections and the government expenditure continued at a robust pace.
- Despite the higher deficit in the first two months, fiscal performance is generally influenced by the seasonal revenue and expenditure patterns in the financial year.

RBI INJECTS ₹1.41 LAKH CRORE INTO BANKING SYSTEM THROUGH 7-DAY VRR AUCTION -

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has infused ₹1.41 lakh crore into the banking system through a 7-day Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auction to ease short-term liquidity pressures. The move comes after banking system liquidity slipped into a deficit, largely due to outflows related to GST payments and advance tax collections.
- The liquidity injection aims to ensure adequate funds are available in the banking system and to keep short-term money market interest rates aligned with the RBI's monetary policy stance.

INDIA REMAINS ADB'S LARGEST PRIVATE SECTOR MARKET AS LENDER EYES \$1 BILLION FINANCING IN 2026 -

- According to the ADB Vice-President (Market Solutions) Bhargav Dasgupta, India has been remained as the institution's largest private sector market in the year 2025 and it is also expected to retain that status in 2026.
- ADB has provided more than \$4 billion in the sovereign financing and over \$1 billion in direct private sector financing from its own capital in the India last year.
- In addition, the bank has mobilized a similar amount from the external sources and it taking the total private sector funding facilitated through the ADB to nearly \$2 billion in 2025.
- This strong financing pipeline underscores the India's importance in ADB's regional development strategy and it also demonstrates the bank's confidence in the country's long-term economic prospects.



RBI HOLDS REPO RATE AND LOWERS GDP GROWTH FORECAST -

- In its June 2026 review, the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) unanimously voted to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 5.25% while revising the FY27 real GDP growth forecast downward to 6.6% and consumer inflation upward to 5.1%, alongside a sweeping suite of joint fiscal and regulatory measures designed to attract foreign capital and stabilize the domestic currency.



What are the Key Highlights of the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (June 2026)?

- Status Quo on Policy Rates:
- **Policy Repo Rate:** Retained at 5.25% under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF).



- **Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate:** Unchanged at 5.00% (acting as the floor of the LAF corridor).
- **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate:** Maintained at 5.50% (acting as the ceiling of the LAF corridor).
- **Bank Rate:** Held steady at 5.50%.
- **Growth Revision:** Projected Real GDP growth for 2026–27 has been cut to 6.6% (down from 6.9%).
- **Inflation Projection:** Headline Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation forecast has been raised by 50 basis points to 5.1% for FY27, with core inflation pegged at 4.7%.
- **Policy Stance:** The committee decided to continue with its 'Neutral' stance. This approach keeps the RBI data-dependent, giving it the tactical flexibility to move interest rates in either direction based on incoming macroeconomic indicators without committing to an explicit easing or tightening cycle.

INDIA AND NEPAL LAUNCH UPI-NPI CROSS-BORDER REMITTANCE SERVICE -

- India and Nepal have launched the cross border peer to peer remittance mechanism which directly linking India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with the Nepal's National Payments Interface (NPI). It will officially operationalized on 6th of June, 2026. This initiative enables the citizens of both the countries to make instant, secure and seamless money transfers via mobile banking applications and digital wallets.
- The newly launched payment corridor establishes the direct connection between the India's UPI ecosystem and Nepal's National Payments Interface.



With this integration, users can,

- Transfer the money instantly across borders.
- Use the mobile banking apps and digital wallets.
- Also avoid delays generally associated with traditional banking channels.
- Make secure and the real-time transactions.
- Reduce the dependency on cash-based payments.

- The initiative simplifies the financial transactions for individuals, businesses and travelers moving between the two countries.

PROVISIONAL ESTIMATES OF GDP FOR FY 2025-26 -

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has released the provisional estimates of national income, revealing that India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth accelerated to 7.7% in the financial year 2025-26, up from 7.1% in FY 2024-25.
- **Headline Economic Growth:** India's real GDP grew at 7.7% for the full fiscal year 2025-26, higher than the 7.6% estimate released in February 2026.
- However, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has projected GDP growth to moderate to 6.6% in FY 2026-27, due to downside risks arising from the geopolitical crisis in West Asia and expectations of a lower-than-normal monsoon.



Sectoral Performance Heterogeneity:

- **Manufacturing Powerhouse:** The manufacturing sector expanded by 10.7% in FY26 (compared to 9.3% in FY25).
- **Services Boom:** The contact-intensive sector comprising trade, repair, hotels, transport, and communication quickened to an 11% growth rate in FY26 from 6.6% in the previous fiscal.
- **Agricultural Deceleration:** Highlighting structural climate vulnerability, agriculture and allied sectors slowed down to 3% growth in FY26 from 4.2% in FY25.

INDIA RECORDS SURPRISE CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS OF \$7.1 BILLION IN Q4 FY26 -

India's Current Account Surplus in Q4

- As per the latest RBI data, India have posted the current account surplus of \$7.1 billion during the period of January-March 2026 (Q4 of FY26).



- This marks significant turnaround from the current account deficit of the \$13.2 billion or 1.3% of GDP from the previous quarter.
- The surplus represented the 0.7% of GDP and exceeded market expectations and reflected the strong performance in India's invisible trade components such as services exports and remittances.



What is the Current Account?

- The current account is the key component of the country's Balance of Payments (BoP) and records transactions involving the,
- Exports and imports of goods
- Exports and imports of services
- Income from the investments
- Remittances and transfers

INDIA'S FOREX RESERVES RISE TO \$682.32 BILLION DESPITE DECLINE IN GOLD HOLDINGS -

- India's Forex Reserves Increase to \$682.3 Billion
- The Reserve Bank of India reported that the India's total foreign exchange reserves was increased by \$938 million during the latest reporting week.



The reserves stood at the,

- Previous Week: \$681.384 billion
- Current Week: \$682.321 billion
- Weekly Increase: \$938 million
- The rise follows the significant decline of the \$7.511 billion recorded in the previous week. Despite recent fluctuations India's forex reserves remain among the largest in the world and it providing the buffer to the emergency external shocks.

Foreign Currency Lead the Growth

- Foreign Currency Assets (FCAs), which form the largest part of the India's forex reserves and it recorded a substantial increase.

- According to RBI data,
- FCAs increased by the \$3.116 billion
- Total FCAs reached to the \$546.148 billion
- Foreign currency assets also include the holdings in major international currencies such as the,
- US Dollar
- Euro
- British Pound
- Japanese Yen

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.

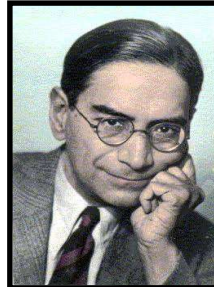
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IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

20TH STATISTICS DAY AND SDGS-NATIONAL INDICATOR FRAMEWORK PROGRESS REPORT 2026 -

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) celebrated the 20th Statistics Day on 29th June 2026. The event was organized to commemorate the 133rd Birth Anniversary of Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis, recognizing his invaluable contribution to the national statistical system.
- On this occasion, MoSPI also released the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – National Indicator Framework Progress Report, 2026, tracking India's progress towards the SDGs.



What is National Statistics Day?

- National Statistics Day:** The Government of India designated 29th June as 'Statistics Day' in 2007. It serves as an annual tribute to the legacy of Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis.
- Objective:** To create public awareness, especially among the youth, about the role of statistics in socio-economic planning and policy formulation.
- Theme for 2026:** "Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data." It highlights the shift towards utilizing data generated through everyday government operations (like tax records, registries, and welfare enrollments) for evidence-based policymaking, rather than relying solely on traditional, resource-heavy sample surveys.

Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis

- About:** Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (1893–1972) is widely regarded as the Father of Indian Statistics. His visionary approach laid the foundation for India's modern statistical architecture.

Key Contributions:

- Institutional Builder:** He founded the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in 1931 (declared an 'Institution of National

Importance' by Parliament in 1959). Furthermore, his vision directly led to the establishment of the National Sample Survey (NSS) in 1950 and the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO).

- He also founded Sankhya, India's first statistical journal, in 1933.

OLYMPIC DAY 2026: THEME, HISTORY, SIGNIFICANCE AND CELEBRATIONS -

- On 23rd June, 2026 every year millions of the people around the world come together to celebrate the Olympic Day. It is a global event which promotes the sport, physical activity, friendship and the core values of the Olympic Movement. It is more than just a tribute to the elite athlete and Olympic Day encourages the people of all ages and abilities to embrace the healthier lifestyles and experience the joy of the movement.



What Is Olympic Day?

- Olympic Day is the annual celebration observed on June 23rd to commemorate the founding of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in the year 1894.
- This day marks the beginning of the modern Olympic Movement, which was revived by the French educator Baron Pierre de Coubertin.
- His vision was to promote the peace, friendship and international understanding via sporting competition.
- Unlike the Olympic Games, which occur every four years Olympic Day is celebrated annually and it is open to everyone not just for the athletes.

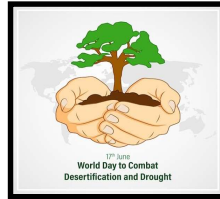
Olympic Day 2026 Theme

- The theme for Olympic Day 2026 is the,
- "Sport: Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers"



WORLD DAY TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

- The World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought was observed on 17 June 2026 across 813 project areas under the Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana 2.0 (WDC-PMKSY 2.0) in India. The programme is implemented by the Watershed Management Division of the Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development.

**WDC-PMKSY 2.0**

- WDC-PMKSY 2.0 is a watershed development programme for the period 2021-2026. It aims to cover 49.50 lakh hectares of degraded land with a financial outlay of Rs. 8,134 crore. The programme includes soil conservation, water conservation, and land restoration activities in watershed areas.

Activities Held on 17 June 2026

- Nationwide observance on 17 June 2026 included Bhoomi Poojan for 1,444 new watershed development works and Lokarpan of 8,341 completed watershed assets. The campaign Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam included the planting of 51,299 saplings. A public pledge was administered with the theme “For a Developed India, Let Us Build a Drought-Free India”.

GLOBAL WIND DAY 2026 OBSERVED ON 15 JUNE -

- Global Wind Day 2026 will be observed on 15 June 2026 as the 18th annual observance of the day. WindEurope and the Global Wind Energy Council organise the observance to promote wind energy as a renewable power source. India will host the Global Wind Day 2026 Conference in Goa on 15 June 2026 under the theme “Wind Energy: From Ambition to Acceleration”.

**Global Wind Day**

- Global Wind Day is observed every year on 15 June. The day is linked with public awareness on wind power, renewable electricity, and energy transition. The 2026 global theme is “Our wind, our community”.

Wind Energy as a Power Source

- Wind energy is a renewable source of electricity generated from moving air through wind turbines. It is classified as a non-fossil energy source and is used in onshore and offshore wind farms. Wind power is also described as inexhaustible because wind is naturally replenished.

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.



AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

ITALY BECOMES THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CAPITAL WITH 61 PROTECTED SITES -

- Italy has officially become the UNESCO World Heritage Capital after reaching 61 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the highest number recorded by any country in the world. This remarkable achievement highlights Italy's extraordinary cultural heritage, ancient history, architectural marvels, and breathtaking natural landscapes.
- Out of the 61 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, 55 are Cultural Heritage Sites and 6 are Natural Heritage Sites, reflecting the country's unparalleled contribution to world civilization. The recognition further strengthens Italy's position as one of the world's most visited cultural tourism destinations.



Italy Becomes the UNESCO World Heritage Capital

- Italy now holds the distinction of having the largest number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites globally, surpassing every other nation. The latest addition to the prestigious list has taken the country's total to 61 protected sites, showcasing more than two millennia of history, art, architecture, archaeology, and natural beauty.

PRESIDENT MURMU CONFERS 65 PADMA AWARDS; ROHIT SHARMA, MAMMOOTTY, R MADHAVAN AMONG RECIPIENTS -

- In the Padma Awards 2026 ceremony Honourable President Droupadi Murmu honored the 65 distinguished personalities from diverse fields, including sports, cinema, music, literature, public affairs, and social service. This award recognize the exceptional contributions to the nation and it remain among the India's highest civilian honours. In the second phase of the awards President honored several figures like Rohit Sharma, R. Madhavan, Mammootty, Alka Yagnik, and Vijay Amritraj.

What Happened at the Padma Awards 2026 Ceremony?

- President Murmu has conferred the 65 Padma Awards during the formal investiture ceremony which was held at the presidential residence.
- According to official details, the awards presented included the,
 - 2 Padma Vibhushan awards
 - 7 Padma Bhushan awards
 - 56 Padma Shri awards



SMRITI MANDHANA BECOMES ONLY INDIAN IN TIME100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN SPORTS 2026 -

Smriti Mandhana Earns The Place in TIME100 Sports 2026

- TIME magazine's annual list recognizes the athletes, coaches, executives, investors and advocates who are shaping the future of sports worldwide.
- In the 2026 edition, Mandhana stands alongside with the icons such as the Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo, LeBron James, Carlos Alcaraz and Temba Bavuma.
- Her inclusion showcases the growing recognition of the women's cricket on the world stage.



Why Was Smriti Mandhana Selected?

- TIME has highlighted the several remarkable achievements that have defined Mandhana's career in the recent years.
- She became the first Indian woman to score a double century in a domestic one-day match and the first Indian woman cricketer to register the centuries in all three international formats such as Test, ODI, and T20I cricket.



PRESIDENT MURMU CONFERS KIRTI CHAKRAS AT DEFENCE CEREMONY -

- President Droupadi Murmu conferred seven Kirti Chakras, 15 Vir Chakras and 29 Shaurya Chakras during Phase-I of the Defence Investiture Ceremony 2026 at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi on 8 June 2026. Indian



Air Force Air Commodore Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair, a Gaganyaan astronaut-designate, was among the Kirti Chakra recipients.

Kirti Chakra and Peacetime Gallantry Awards

- The Kirti Chakra is India's second-highest peacetime gallantry award. It is awarded for courage, devotion to duty and distinguished service, and it is placed below the Ashoka Chakra in the peacetime gallantry order. The Vir Chakra is a wartime gallantry award, and the Shaurya Chakra is a peacetime gallantry award. These awards are conferred on personnel from the Armed Forces, Central Armed Police Forces and State or Union Territory Police.

RAVI AGRAWAL REAPPOINTED AS CBDT CHAIRMAN: CENTRE EXTENDS TENURE TILL DECEMBER 2026 -

- The central government of has reappointed Ravi Agrawal as the Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). His tenure was extended for another six months and will be effective from 1st of July, 2026. This decision was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) and it extends the tenure till December 31, 2026 or until any further orders.

**Key Takeaways**

- Ravi Agrawal has been reappointed as the CBDT Chairman for another six months period.
- His new tenure is effective from July 1st to December 31st, 2026.
- He is a 1988-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer.

- The extension was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).

MAHESH DIXIT APPOINTED AS NEW INTELLIGENCE BUREAU DIRECTOR -

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the appointment of Mahesh Dixit as the new Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB). A 1993-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre, Dixit will assume charge on 30 June, succeeding Tapan Kumar Deka.
- The appointment is for a two-year tenure from the date he assumes office or until further orders, whichever is earlier. The approval includes an extension in service under the relevant provisions of the All India Services rules.

**TUSHAR MEHTA REAPPOINTED AS SOLICITOR GENERAL OF INDIA FOR THREE YEARS -**

- The Union Government has reappointed the senior advocate Tushar Mehta as the Solicitor General of India for a new fresh term of the three years and reaffirmed the confidence in him. This decision was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) and will take effect from the 1st of July, 2026.

**Tushar Mehta Reappointed as Solicitor General of India**

- According to the fresh order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Tushar Mehta's reappointment on June 20th, 2026.
- He will continue to serve as the Solicitor General of India for another three-year term which will begin from July 1, 2026, or until further orders whichever is the earlier.
- The decision showcases the government's intent to maintain the stability in its legal team and particularly as



the several significant legal and constitutional issues remain under judicial consideration.

LT GEN DHIRAJ SETH APPOINTED NEXT CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF -

- Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth was appointed as the next Chief of the Army Staff of India on 13 June 2026. He is scheduled to assume office on 30 June 2026 after the retirement of General Upendra Dwivedi, and his tenure is expected to continue until 31 August 2028.



Chief of Army Staff

- The Chief of Army Staff is the professional head of the Indian Army and one of the three service chiefs of the Indian Armed Forces. The office functions under the Ministry of Defence and is held by a four-star general.

Career Profile of Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth

- Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth served as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff from 1 April 2026 before his appointment as COAS. He was commissioned into the Armoured Corps in December 1986 after graduating from the National Defence Academy at Khadakwasla.

Operational Commands and Decorations

- Lt Gen Seth commanded two operational Army Commands on the western front, namely the South Western Command and the Southern Command. He also commanded an armoured regiment and a counter-insurgency force in Jammu and Kashmir.

NASA NAMES ARTEMIS III CREW FOR HISTORIC 2027 MOON MISSION TEST FLIGHT -

- NASA has announced the crew for the Artemis III mission which is scheduled for the 2027. This mission will serve as the critical test flight designed to validate the complex spacecraft rendezvous and docking operations in the Earth orbit before future lunar landings. It features the both NASA and the



European Space Agency (ESA) and Artemis III will test the ext-generation exploration technologies and will pave the way for the Artemis IV.

NASA Announces Artemis III Crew Members

- NASA has officially selected the four astronauts to serve as the prime crew for Artemis III as one of the most ambitious human spaceflight missions in the recent history.
- Artemis III Prime Crew
- Randy Bresnik – Commander/Luca Parmitano – Pilot/Andre Douglas – Mission Specialist/Frank Rubio – Mission Specialist

PRESIDENT APPROVES APPOINTMENT OF FIVE NEW SUPREME COURT JUDGES -

- The Central Government of India has approved the appointment of the five new judge s 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.



AIR MARSHAL ASHUTOSH DIXIT NAMED NEXT VICE CHIEF -

- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit was appointed as the next Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS) of the Indian Air Force on 5 June 2026. He is scheduled to assume office on 1 July 2026 and will succeed Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor, who took charge as VCAS on 1 January 2026.

**Vice Chief of the Air Staff**

- The Vice Chief of the Air Staff is a senior three-star appointment in the Indian Air Force. The office functions under the Chief of the Air Staff and is part of the Air Headquarters structure in New Delhi.

Career Profile of Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit

- Air Marshal Dixit was commissioned into the fighter stream of the Indian Air Force on 6 December 1986. He served as the Chief of Integrated Defence Staff at Headquarters, Integrated Defence Staff, from 1 May 2025 before his appointment as VCAS.

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.



PROGRAMMES, SCHEMES AND INITIATIVES

DELHI ELECTRIC VEHICLE POLICY 2.0 -

- Recently, the Delhi government notified its new Electric Vehicle Policy 2.0, with the policy likely to come into effect from 1st July 2026 and remain valid till 31st March 2030.



What are the Key Provisions of Delhi Electric Vehicle Policy 2.0?

- About:** The policy aims to make Delhi a leading electric mobility hub by focusing on high-polluting and high-use vehicle segments such as two-wheelers, three-wheelers, commercial goods vehicles, school buses, aggregator fleets and government transport fleets.
- Target:** It aims to achieve at least 30% electrification of Delhi's total vehicle fleet by 31st March 2030, building on the success of the EV policy 2020, under which Delhi achieved around 14% EV penetration by 2025.
- Mandates:** From 1st January 2027, only electric three-wheelers and N1 category trucks will be registered in Delhi; from 1st April 2028, only electric two-wheelers will be registered. Already registered fossil-fuel vehicles will be allowed to complete their full lifecycle.
- Buses:** School buses will have to convert at least 10% of their fleet to EVs within two years of notification of the policy, with a broader target of 30% electrification by 2030.
- Funding:** The government has allocated ₹7,000 crore for policy implementation, with an overall investment plan of ₹15,000 crore, including charging infrastructure, purchase incentives and scrapping incentives.

VB-G RAM G ACT 2025 COMES INTO FORCE FROM JULY 1 -

- The Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, 2025 will come into force in India from 1st of July, 2026. This act introduced the strengthened framework for the rural

employment and livelihood security. The landmark legislation increases the statutory wage employment guarantee from 100 days to 125 days for every eligible rural household and placing greater emphasis on the durable asset creation, sustainable development and transparent governance. Ahead of the nation wide rollout, Respectable Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has affirmed that no eligible rural worker should remain without the employment even for a single day.



What Is the VB-G RAM G Act?

- The VB-G RAM G Act, 2025 is the new rural employment framework which is aimed at enhancing the livelihood security, creating productive community assets and strengthening village economies.
- It replaces the earlier structure with the expanded employment opportunities and improved implementation mechanisms.
- This act forms the part of the Government's broader vision of Viksit Bharat @2047 and it focusing on to the inclusive rural development through the sustainable employment, technology-driven governance, and community participation.

ANAEMIA MUKT BHARAT ABHIYAAN GUIDELINES RELEASED -

- The Union Health and Family Welfare Minister released the operational guidelines for the Anaemia Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan in New Delhi on 29 June 2026. The revised framework uses the name Anaemia Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan and replaces the earlier Anaemia Mukta Bharat programme structure.



Anaemia Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan

- Anaemia Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan is a public health programme for prevention, detection, and management of anaemia in priority population groups. Anaemia is a condition marked by low haemoglobin concentration in blood and is commonly linked with iron deficiency, folate deficiency, vitamin B12 deficiency, chronic disease, and parasitic infections.

7x7x7 Strategy

- The updated operational design adopts a 7x7x7 strategy in place of the earlier 6x6x6 framework. The strategy includes seven beneficiary groups, seven interventions, and seven institutional mechanisms for service delivery and monitoring.
- Low birth weight infants aged 0-6 months have been added as a seventh beneficiary group.
- Eating Right has been added as a seventh intervention.
- Regular intake of iron-rich and diversified diets forms part of the dietary intervention package.
- The programme uses a life-cycle approach for anaemia prevention across maternal and child health groups.

INDIA LAUNCHES NEW WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX SERIES WITH BASE YEAR 2022-23 -**Why the New WPI Series Was Introduced**

- The revised WPI reflects the structural changes in the Indian economy over the last decade. New industries, products, technologies and energy sources have emerged and which make the update necessary.
- The government aims to gradually transition from the WPI to Producer Price Indices, which are widely used across the advanced economies.
- To facilitate the smooth shift, both WPI and PPI will be published simultaneously for over the next five years.
- This move is also consistent with the recommendations made by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which



advocates the use of Producer Price Indices for better measurement of the producer-level inflation.

OILSEEDS KISAAN MITRA: INDIA'S FIRST WHATSAPP AI ADVISORY FOR OILSEED CULTIVATION -

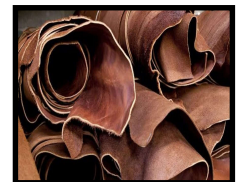
- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has launched the 'Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra' which is the India's first nationwide WhatsApp-based AI advisory service for oilseed farmers. It is developed by the ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (ICAR-IIOR), Hyderabad and this platform provides the free, multilingual and research-based guidance to the farmers. It was launched during the National Oilseeds Conference and this initiative aims to support the farmers with scientific advice on oilseed cultivation.

**Why Was Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra Launched?**

- India imports the significant portion of its edible oil requirements and making oilseed production as a strategic priority.
- The initiative has been launched to the,
- Improve the oilseed productivity.
- Deliver the scientific knowledge directly to farmers.
- Promote the digital agriculture.
- Reduce dependence on edible oil imports.
- Strengthen farmer access to timely crop advisory.

GOVERNMENT PLANS MEGA LEATHER CLUSTERS IN FOUR STATES -

- The Centre is establishing mega leather, footwear and accessories clusters in Muzaffarpur in Bihar, Sitapur in Madhya Pradesh, Raigad district in Maharashtra, and Ranipet in Tamil Nadu. The combined investment for these clusters is projected at Rs 898 crore, and the projects fall under



industrial development initiatives for the leather and footwear sector.

Mega Leather Cluster Framework

- Mega leather clusters are industrial parks for leather products, footwear, accessories and related manufacturing units. Such clusters usually include common infrastructure, industrial plots, logistics facilities and, in some cases, common effluent treatment plants for tannery operations.

WEST BENGAL JOINS AYUSHMAN BHARAT PM-JAY, BECOMES 36TH STATE TO IMPLEMENT SCHEME -

West Bengal Joins the Ayushman Bharat Network

- The state Government of West Bengal is set to formally join the Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY scheme via an agreement with the National Health Authority (NHA).
- With this the West Bengal will become the 36th State/UT to implement the flagship health assurance program. This development is viewed as the major advancement to expanding the healthcare coverage across the India and ensuring that more citizens have access to quality medical treatment.



What is Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY?

- National Health Authority administers Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY which is recognized as the world's largest public funded health assurance scheme.
- The scheme provides the health insurance coverage of up to the ₹5 lakh per family per year for the secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to eligible beneficiaries.
- It also aims to reduce the out of pocket healthcare expenses and improve the access to quality treatment through a nationwide network of the empaneled hospitals.

FLOATING SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC POTENTIAL IN INDIA -

- India's reservoirs can host about 102 gigawatt (GW) of floating solar capacity, according to the first

comprehensive national assessment by the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), an autonomous institute under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). The report frames panels on water as a solution to the land constraint in solar deployment.



- **About:** Floating solar parks are solar photovoltaic (PV) installations built on water surfaces such as reservoirs, lakes, or ponds instead of land.
- **Land Constraints:** Ground-mounted solar dominates India's ~100 GW capacity but requires 3–4 times more land than the panels occupy. Land acquisition is slow, costly, and often conflicts with agriculture or habitation.
- Floating solar is "land neutral," avoiding these issues. Nationwide, 1,946 km² of water surface is suitable, translating to 102.18 GW potential.
- **Cost Consideration:** Floating solar plants are estimated to cost ~25% more upfront than ground-mounted ones, due to floats, anchoring and waterproofing.
- **Agri-Photovoltaics:** MNRE is promoting agri-photovoltaics, where solar panels are mounted on structures above farm beds, integrating energy generation with agriculture.
- **Top States:** Bulk potential is in Maharashtra (16.28 GW), Madhya Pradesh (14.89 GW), Karnataka (13.69 GW), Odisha (12.81 GW), Telangana (10.72 GW).
- **Flagship Project:** The Omkareshwar floating solar park on the Narmada River, MP, is India's largest at 278 MW, planned to scale to 600 MW.
- **Global Context:** By 2024, floating solar installations reached about 9.6 GW worldwide, with nearly 90% in Asia, led by China's 120 MW plant on Poyang Lake.
- **Significance:** Floating solar offers a scalable, land-efficient solution for India's target of 500 GW non-fossil capacity by 2030, supporting renewable energy expansion, grid stability, and multi-use waterbody management.



DELHI EV POLICY 2.0 EXPLAINED: NEW RULES, SUBSIDIES, TAX BENEFITS AND PETROL VEHICLE DEADLINES FROM JULY 1, 2026 -

- Delhi approved the Delhi Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy 2.0, and it will be effective from July 1, 2026, to March 31, 2030. This policy primarily aims to accelerate the electric vehicle adoption via the subsidies, tax exemptions, scrappage incentives and the phased transition away from the petrol and CNG vehicles. This scheme is backed by the estimated amount of ₹15,000 crore budget and this policy seeks to improve the Delhi's air quality, reduce vehicular emissions, and expand EV infrastructure.



About the Delhi EV Policy 2.0?

- Delhi EV Policy 2.0 is the updated roadmap to make electric mobility to the preferred mode of the transportation in the capital. This policy combines the financial incentives with regulatory reforms to encourage the residents, businesses, and commercial operators to switch from internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles to the electric vehicles.
- The policy focuses onto the,
- Increasing EV ownership across all vehicle categories.
- Reducing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Expanding charging infrastructure.
- Promoting zero-emission public and commercial transport.
- Phasing out of the new registrations of petrol and CNG vehicles in stages.

PM NARENDRA MODI MEETS JONATHAN, THE WORLD'S OLDEST LIVING LAND ANIMAL, DURING SEYCHELLES VISIT -

- Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Jonathan who is the world's oldest living land animal during his official state visit to Seychelles National Botanical Gardens on 28th June,



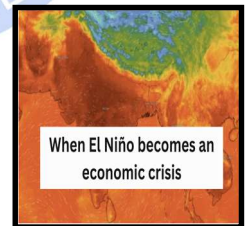
2026. The meeting was formed part of the Prime Minister's official visit to Seychelles and he attended the country's National Day celebrations as the Guest of Honour and also commemorated the 50 years of diplomatic relations between India and Seychelles.

PM Modi Visits Seychelles National Botanical Gardens

- One of the major highlights of Prime Minister Modi's Seychelles visit was his tour of the Seychelles National Botanical Gardens, which is one of the country's most renowned conservation sites.
- During the visit, the Prime Minister,
- Met Jonathan, the world's oldest living land animal.
- Planted a tree as a symbol of the environmental conservation.
- Also highlighted the importance of the sustainable development.

ECONOMIC THREAT OF EL NIÑO TO INDIA -

- As India faces a delayed southwest monsoon and an emerging El Niño condition in the equatorial Pacific, meteorologists and historians are drawing uneasy parallels to the catastrophic Great Famine of 1876-78.



- With the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecasting a below-normal monsoon, this climate anomaly serves as a stark reminder of how deeply ocean-atmosphere disruptions can trigger economic crises.

Summary

- El Niño and a likely below-normal monsoon in 2026 could weaken agricultural output, increase food inflation, reduce rural incomes, and pose risks to India's economic growth and livelihood security.
- India must strengthen climate resilience through drought-resistant agriculture, efficient irrigation, restoration of traditional water bodies, heat action plans, and ecosystem-based adaptation to mitigate future climate shocks.

What are the Economic Implications of El Niño for India?



- **Monsoon Deficit:** El Niño typically weakens the easterly trade winds, which disrupts global atmospheric circulation and suppresses India's Southwest Monsoon.
- Because nearly 70% of India's annual rainfall occurs during this season, a deficit immediately threatens the country's primary water source for agriculture, reservoir replenishment, and groundwater recharge.

Agricultural Shock:

- **Crop Failures:** Around half of India's net sown area is rain-fed. A delayed or deficient monsoon severely impacts the sowing and yield of crucial Kharif crops like rice, cotton, soybeans, and pulses.
- **Surging Input Costs:** To compensate for the lack of rain, farmers are forced to extract groundwater.
- This leads to a sharp spike in input costs, primarily for the diesel and electricity required to run irrigation pumps.

BONN CLIMATE CONFERENCE 2026: HEALTH ALLIANCE URGES \$120 BILLION ADAPTATION FINANCE GOAL BY 2035 -

- The Bonn Climate Conference 2026 (SB64) kicked off with the renewed calls for the stronger climate action and increased financial support for the vulnerable nations. Several health experts and climate advocates have urged the governments to triple a public adaptation finance to at least \$120 billion by the year 2035 and warned that the inadequate funding could weaken the health systems and increase climate-related risks.



Health Groups Seek Major Increase in Adaptation Finance

- The Global Climate and Health Alliance (GCHA) has called on the governments to significantly increase the public and grant-based adaptation finance.
- The alliance argues that the current global adaptation funding target is insufficient to meet the growing challenges posed by the climate change.
- It has proposed the raising adaptation finance to at least \$120 billion annually by the year 2035 which is nearly

three times the existing target which was established at COP26.

- According to the health advocates increased adaptation funding is essential to protect the vulnerable populations from the worsening impacts of the climate change.

INDIA LAUNCHES E85 FUEL: 85% ETHANOL BLEND TO REDUCE OIL IMPORTS AND EMISSIONS - What is E85 Fuel?

- E85 is the high-ethanol fuel blend which is consisting of the approximately 85% ethanol and 15% petrol.
- It is specifically designed for the Flex-Fuel Vehicles (FFVs) which can operate on to the varying ethanol-petrol blends.
- This fuel is considered more environmentally friendly than conventional petrol because ethanol is produced from the renewable agricultural sources such as sugarcane, maize, rice and other biomass feedstocks.
- The introduction of the E85 represents the next phase of the India's ethanol blending program after the successfully implementing E20 fuel nationwide.



Why is India Promoting E85 Fuel?

- India imports the large portion of its crude oil requirements and this makes the country vulnerable to the global energy price fluctuations and geopolitical tensions.
- The government sees E85 fuel as a strategic solution to the,
- Reduce the crude oil imports
- Improve energy security
- Lower greenhouse gas emissions
- Support domestic ethanol production
- Increase farmers income opportunities
- Promote cleaner transportation alternatives



REPORTS & INDICES

INDIA VS PAKISTAN GLOBAL RANKINGS COMPARISON 2026 -

Category	India	Pakistan	Better Performer
Nominal GDP Rank	6th	42nd	India
GDP (PPP) Rank	3rd	27th	India
Military Power (Global Firepower)	4th	12th	India
Human Development Index (HDI)	130th	168th (approx.)	India
Global Innovation Index	38th	Around 90+	India
World Happiness Report	118th	Around 109th	Pakistan
Higher Education (QS Rankings Presence)	50+ ranked universities	Fewer globally ranked universities	India
Population	1st	5th	—

INDIA RANKS 13TH IN QS WORLD FUTURE SKILLS INDEX 2027 -

- India has secured the 13th position in the QS World Future Skills Index of 2027 and it highlights the country's growing readiness for the artificial intelligence-driven future. The latest report which was released by the global higher education analytics firm QS has recognizes the India as one of the strongest-performing lower-middle-income economies in preparing for the AI-led economic transformation.



What Is the QS World Future Skills Index 2027?

- The QS World Future Skills Index is the global assessment which measures how prepared countries are to capitalize the opportunities that are created by the artificial intelligence, digital technologies and emerging industries.
- The 2027 edition evaluated total 89 countries through a combination of the higher education data, labor market indicators, AI readiness metrics and economic transformation measures.

WORLD BANK RAISES INDIA'S FY27 GROWTH FORECAST TO 6.6% -

- The World Bank has revised the India's GDP growth forecast upward to around 6.6% for FY2026-27 and it showcases the confidence in the country's resilient domestic demand and also improving the export prospects. The World Bank has also increased its projection for FY2027-28 to 7.2% and indicates the expectations of the stronger recovery in the upcoming years.



Why The World Bank to Upgrade India's Growth Outlook?

- The World Bank has highlighted the India's strong economic fundamentals despite global uncertainties.
- Key growth drivers includes the,
 - Strong rural consumption demand.
 - Recovery in urban spending.
 - Resilient domestic market.
 - Improving business environment.
 - Expansion of trade partnerships.
 - Expected increase in the foreign investment.

INDIA RANKS FIFTH IN MILITARY SPENDING, SECOND IN ARMS IMPORTS -

- India remained the world's fifth-largest military spender in 2025 with expenditure of \$92.1 billion, and it ranked behind the United States, China, Russia and Germany. India was also the world's second-largest importer of major arms during the 2021–25 period, with 8.2% of total global arms imports.



Global Military Expenditure

- India's military expenditure in 2025 rose by 8.9% from the previous year. The United States, China, Russia and



Germany were the only countries with higher defence spending in 2025.

India's Arms Import Profile

- India's arms imports declined by 4% between 2016–20 and 2021–25. SIPRI linked this fall to India's growing capacity to design and produce weapons, while also noting delays in domestic production.

INDIA RECORDS 7.7% GDP GROWTH IN FY26 -

- India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 7.7% in Fiscal Year 2025-26, and the economy expanded by 7.8% in the fourth quarter of FY26 from January to March 2026. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lowered its GDP growth forecast for FY27 to 6.6% and raised its inflation forecast for FY27 to 5.1% on 5 June 2026.



Gross Domestic Product and Gross Value Added

- Gross Domestic Product measures the market value of all final goods and services produced within a country during a specific period. Real Gross Value Added (GVA) measures economic activity excluding taxes and subsidies, and it grew by 7.9% in FY26.

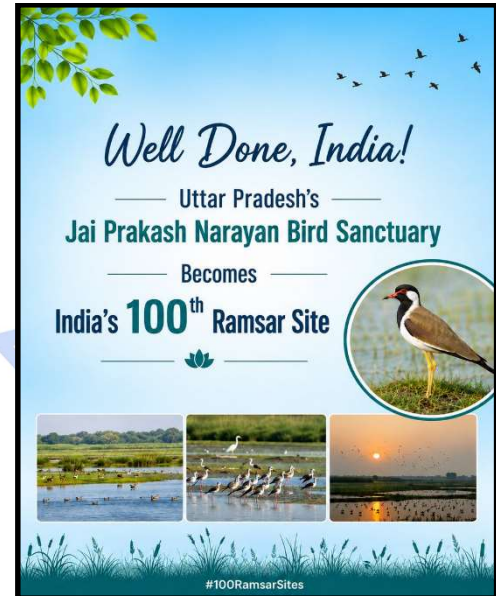
RBI Monetary Policy Committee

- The RBI Monetary Policy Committee consists of six members and decides the policy repo rate under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. On 5 June 2026, the MPC kept the repo rate unchanged at 5.25% and retained a neutral policy stance.

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.



DEFENCE

NETRA AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING AND CONTROL (AEW&C) SYSTEM -

- India's indigenous Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) system has received Final Operational Clearance (FOC), marking its readiness for full operational use by the Indian Air Force (IAF).



- About:** Netra is India's 1st indigenously developed airborne surveillance and battle-management system, developed by the Centre for Airborne Systems (CABS) under the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- Global Capability:** India is the 5th country, after the United States, Russia, Israel and China, to develop an indigenous AEW&C capability, strengthening its defence technology base and self-reliance.
- Aircraft Platform:** The system is integrated on the Brazilian Embraer EMB-145I aircraft platform and functions as an "eye in the sky" by detecting, tracking, identifying and monitoring airborne as well as maritime targets.
- Key Capabilities:** Netra is equipped with an Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) system, mission computer, secure communication networks, Electronic Support Measures (ESM), Communication Support Measures (CSM) and self-protection systems.

IAF EQUIPS 40 SUKHOI SU-30MKI FIGHTER JETS WITH BRAHMOS MISSILES, STRENGTHENING LONG-RANGE STRIKE CAPABILITY -

Indian Air Force Completes Integration of BrahMos Missile

- The Indian Air Force has completed the integration of the air-launched BrahMos missile as total 40 Su-30MKI fighter aircraft inducted.

- According to the Alexander Maksichev, Co-Director of BrahMos Aerospace, the rearmament program is still underway and the additional Sukhoi fighters are expected to receive the missile capability in the upcoming years.
- This will improve the IAF's ability to conduct long-range precision strikes while remaining outside the engagement range of the enemies air defense systems.



BrahMos-Su-30MKI Combination

- The Su-30MKI serves as the backbone of the Indian Air Force with nearly 270 aircraft in service.
- It is manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) under license, the aircraft is known for its long endurance, heavy payload capacity and multi-role capabilities.

OPERATION AMISTAD: INDIA LAUNCHES HUMANITARIAN RELIEF MISSION TO VENEZUELA AFTER DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKE -

- India has launched Operation Amistad to support Venezuela after devastating earthquake that caused the extensive loss of life, injuries and widespread destruction. It is a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) mission and it showcases India's growing role as the first responder in international disaster relief. It also reinforces its commitment to standing with the partner countries during the humanitarian crises.



About Operation Amistad

- Operation Amistad is the India's humanitarian relief mission that was launched to assist the Venezuela after a powerful earthquake that struck the country on 24th June, 2026.
- This operation has been initiated under the India's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)



framework and it provides the immediate emergency support to affected communities.

INDIA'S FIRST MADE-IN-INDIA C295 AIRCRAFT SET FOR IAF DELIVERY IN SEPTEMBER -

- India's first Made In India C295 transport aircraft is set to be delivered to the Indian Air Force (IAF) in the September 2026 and it will mark the historic moment in the country's defence manufacturing journey. This aircraft assembled by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) in partnership with Airbus and it is the first military aircraft to be produced by the India's private sector.



What Is the C295 Aircraft?

- The C295 is the medium tactical transport aircraft which is developed by the Airbus Defence and Space.
- It is designed for the wide range of the military operations, including troop transport, cargo movement, medical evacuation, disaster relief and special missions.
- It is known for the its reliability and versatility and this aircraft can operate from the short and unprepared runways and making it ideal for the missions in remote and difficult terrains.
- The C295 is currently used by the several air forces worldwide and it has earned the reputation for the efficient tactical airlift operations.

IAF TO ACQUIRE NINE RETIRED JAGUAR FIGHTER JETS FROM UK TO SUSTAIN AGING FLEET -

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) has decided to acquire the nine retired SEPECAT Jaguar fighter aircraft from the United Kingdom and this strategic move aimed at to sustaining the its aging Jaguar fleet. Rather than being inducted into the active service, these aircraft will be used as the source of spare parts and reusable components to keep the existing Jaguar squadrons operational.



Why Is the IAF Acquiring Retired Jaguars?

- The Jaguar fighter aircraft is no longer in the production and India is currently the only country in the world which continues to operate the aircraft in the frontline service.
- As the global operators have retired their Jaguar fleets to obtaining the spare parts has become increasingly difficult.

The retired British aircraft will be cannibalized for the,

- Engines and engine components
- Airframe structures
- Avionics systems
- Critical sub-assemblies
- Maintenance and repair spares
- This approach allows the IAF to extend the operational life of the its existing fleet without investing in to the expensive new production lines or redesign program.

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

- The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and the Indian Air Fore (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 to neutralizing enemy assets from the long distances.
- The missile ha 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'S DEFENCE PRODUCTION REACHES RECORD HIGH -

- India's annual defence production reached ₹1.78 lakh crore in Financial Year 2025-26. The figure was ₹84,643 crore in FY 2020-21 and ₹43,746 crore in FY 2013-14.

**Defence Production in India**

- Defence production includes the manufacture of weapons, platforms, systems, ammunition, and related equipment for the armed forces. India's defence industrial base includes Defence Public Sector Undertakings, ordnance factories, and private sector manufacturers.

Public and Private Sector Share

- Defence Public Sector Undertakings and other public sector units contributed about 76% of total defence production in FY 2025-26. The private sector's share rose to nearly ₹42,000 crore in FY 2025-26, which was 24% of total production.

**DRDO SUCCESSFULLY TESTS LONG RANGE LAND ATTACK CRUISE MISSILE (LRLACM) IN ODISHA -
DRDO Conducts Successful Flight-Test of LRLACM**

- The Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) successfully tested the Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, which is located off the coast of Odisha.
- According to the DRDO, all mission parameters were achieved successfully. The missile's performance was monitored



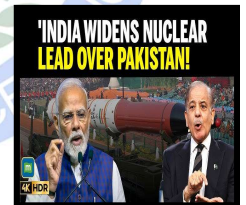
via the various tracking systems deployed by the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur.

What is the Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM)?

- The Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) is an indigenously developed cruise missile that is designed to strike the strategic land targets with high precision over long distances.
- Unlike the ballistic missiles, cruise missiles fly at the lower altitudes and follow the guided flight path which makes them difficult to detect and intercept.

SIPRI REPORT 2026: INDIA WIDENS NUCLEAR LEAD OVER PAKISTAN WITH 190 WARHEADS -

- SIPRI Report 2026 Highlights India's Growing Nuclear Arsenal
- The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has released its Yearbook 2026 and providing the assessment of the global military spending, nuclear forces, arms transfers and security developments.
- According to the report, India has possessed approximately 190 nuclear warheads as of the January 2026 and compared to Pakistan's estimated 170 warheads. This gives India an advantage of around the 20 warheads over its western neighbor.
- This report also notes that the both countries continued to strengthen and modernize their nuclear capabilities throughout 2025.



SPORTS

LIST OF PLAYERS WITH MOST GOALS IN FIFA WORLD CUP HISTORY -

- The record for the most goals in the FIFA World Cup history belongs to Miroslav Klose of Germany who had scored 16 goals across the four World Cups.
- Klose has surpassed the long-standing record of the Brazilian legend Ronaldo Nazário during the 2014 FIFA World Cup and he remains the tournament's highest-ever goal scorer.

Rank	Player	Country	Goals	Matches	Goal Ratio
1	Lionel Messi	Argentina	13	26	0.50
2	Miroslav Klose	Germany	16	24	0.67
3	Kylian Mbappé	France	12	14	0.86
4	Ronaldo Nazário	Brazil	15	19	0.79
5	Gerd Müller West	Germany	14	13	1.08
6	Just Fontaine	France	13	6	2.17
7	Pelé	Brazil	12	14	0.86
8	Jürgen Klinsman	Germany	11	17	0.65
9	Sándor Kocsis	Hungary	11	5	2.20
10	Gabriel Batistuta	Argentina	10	12	0.83

INDIA TOPS WORLD YOGASANA CHAMPIONSHIP 2026 MEDAL TABLE WITH RECORD 114 MEDALS -

- India emerged as the champion at the inaugural World Yogasana Championship 2026. As India finished at the first position of the medal tally with the extraordinary efforts and grabs the 114 medals which includes the 102 gold medals. It was held at the EKA Arena in Ahmedabad from June 4 to June 8 and this championship brought together the 522 athletes from 79 countries.



India Tops World Yogasana Championship

- The inaugural World Yogasana Championship was concluded as India delivered the most dominant performances seen at the international sporting event.
- While competing across the multiple age groups and disciplines, the Indian contingent secured the,
 - 102 Gold Medals
 - 9 Silver Medals
 - 3 Bronze Medals
- With the total of 114 medals, India finished far ahead of every other participating nation and underlining the its expertise and long-standing tradition in yoga and Yogasana.

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



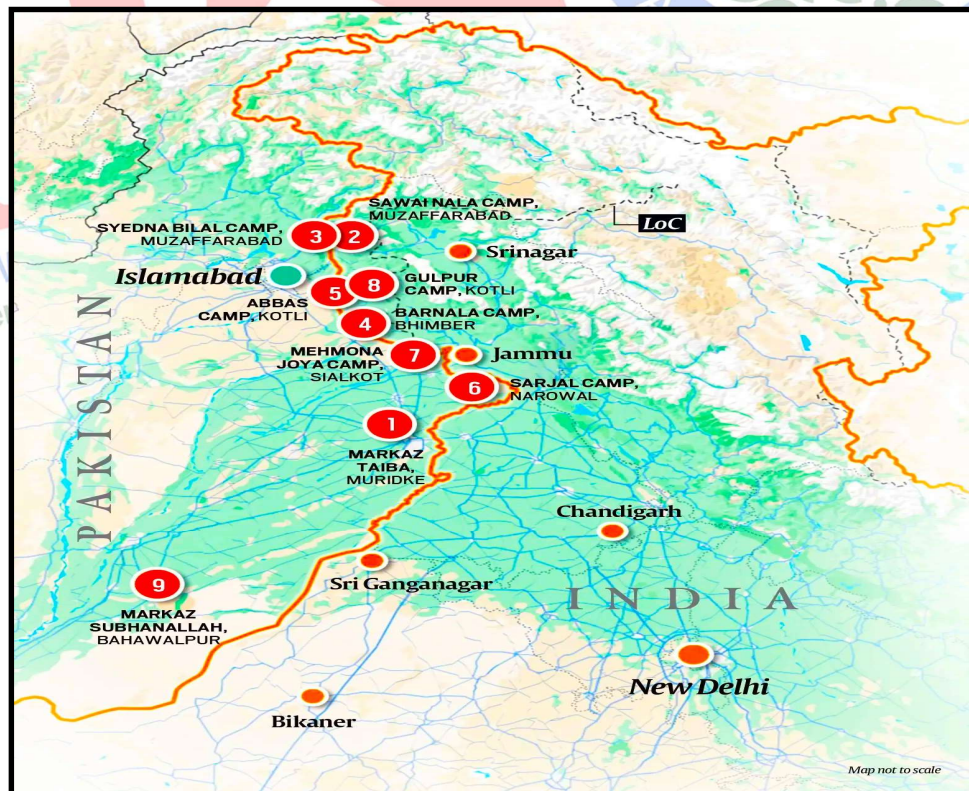
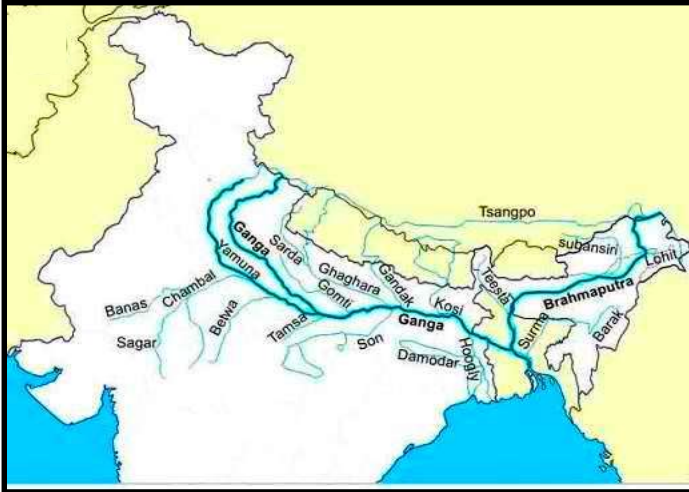
event brings together the athletes from different countries and it represents the major step toward establishing Yogasana as the competitive sport at the international level and it organized just ahead of the International Yoga Day 2026.

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.



MAPS



IMPORTANT MCQ FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS

- Q1. Recently, Delhi's Monument Adoption Scheme was in the news. Under this scheme, adopted monuments are maintained by entities designated as:
- Heritage Ambassadors
 - Monument Mitras
 - Culture Guardians
 - Monument Custodians
- Q2. Recently, which of the following countries became the 27th member of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) ?
- Nepal
 - Bhutan
 - Bangladesh
 - Sri Lanka
- Q3. Recently, Project BRAHMANK was in the news. It is a specialized project of which of the following organizations ?
- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
 - Border Roads Organisation (BRO)
 - National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)
 - Military Engineer Services (MES)
- Q4. With reference to the Civil Registration System (CRS) Report 2024, consider the following statements:
- The Civil Registration System (CRS) is governed by the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.
 - The Registrar General of India (RGI) functions under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
 - The CRS provides continuous, compulsory, and universal registration of births, deaths, and stillbirths.
 - According to the CRS Report 2024, more than 99% of both births and deaths were registered in India.
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- 1, 2 and 3 only
 - 1, 3 and 4 only
 - 2 and 4 only
 - 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) as reported in the Civil Registration System (CRS) Report 2024:
- The Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) is the number of female live births per 1,000 male live births.
 - India's Sex Ratio at Birth in 2024 was 917 females per 1,000 males.
- Q6. A Sex Ratio at Birth close to 950 females per 1,000 males is generally considered the natural biological range.
- Q7. Nagaland recorded the highest Sex Ratio at Birth among all States and Union Territories in 2024.
- How many of the above statements are correct ?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - Only three
 - all four
- Q6. Recently, Ayushman Sarathi was launched as an official WhatsApp chatbot for which of the following schemes ?
- Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)
 - Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
 - PM eVIDYA
 - eSanjeevani
- Q7. Recently, an agreement was signed between which two states for implementation of the Yamuna Water Project ?
- Haryana and Punjab
 - Rajasthan and Gujarat
 - Haryana and Rajasthan
 - Uttar Pradesh and Haryana
- Q8. With reference to the Europe Heatwave Crisis 2026, consider the following statements:
- An Omega Block is a meteorological phenomenon in which a high-pressure system is trapped between two low-pressure systems, leading to persistent heatwave conditions.
 - The high-pressure system associated with an Omega Block promotes cloud formation and rainfall, thereby moderating temperatures.
 - Europe is warming at nearly twice the global average, partly due to Arctic amplification.
 - Urban Heat Island Effect contributes to higher temperatures in cities by increasing heat absorption and retention.
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- 1, 3 and 4 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 2, 3 and 4 only
 - 1, 2, 3 and 4



- Q9. With reference to the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) and its role in India's clean energy transition, consider the following statements:
1. The Fast Breeder Test Reactor is located at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu.
 2. It uses liquid sodium as the primary coolant.
 3. It uses mixed plutonium–uranium carbide fuel.
 4. The reactor is primarily designed to generate hydrogen directly through electrolysis.
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
 - b) 2, 3 and 4 only
 - c) 1, 3 and 4 only
 - d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q10. Amrabad Tiger Reserve is located in which state ?
- a) Maharashtra
 - b) Karnataka
 - c) Telangana
 - d) Madhya Pradesh
- Q11. Lonar Lake, that was recently seen in news, is located in which state ?
- a) Kerala
 - b) Karnataka
 - c) Gujarat
 - d) Maharashtra
- Q12. The Kiru Hydroelectric Power Project is being developed on which river ?
- a) Beas
 - b) Jhelum
 - c) Chenab
 - d) Ravi
- Q13. Consider the following statements regarding China's non-fossil energy target:
1. China has announced a target of generating 50% of its electricity from non-fossil energy sources by 2030.
 2. Non-fossil energy sources include nuclear, hydropower, solar, and wind energy.
 3. Under the Paris Agreement, countries are required to adopt identical renewable energy targets.
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 2 and 3 only
 - c) 1 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2 and 3
- Q14. Consider the following statements regarding the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010:
1. It is implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs.
 2. The Act prohibits election candidates, journalists, and government servants from receiving foreign contributions.
 3. Interest accrued on foreign contributions deposited in a bank is not considered a foreign contribution under the Act.
 4. The registration granted under the FCRA is valid for a period of five years.
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 1, 2 and 4 only
 - c) 1, 2 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q15. What is the primary objective of the PM-RAHAT Scheme ?
- a) Rural housing
 - b) Road accident victim treatment
 - c) Health insurance for senior citizens
 - d) Disaster relief
- Q16. HELINA missile has been developed by which organization ?
- a) Defence Research and Development Organisation
 - b) Indian Space Research Organisation
 - c) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
 - d) Bharat Electronics Limited
- Q17. 'Project Hawk Eye' has been launched by which police force to strengthen surveillance for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026 ?
- a) Delhi Police
 - b) Maharashtra Police
 - c) Jammu and Kashmir Police
 - d) Punjab Police
- Q18. Recently, Prabhjeet Singh was appointed as the Managing Director for India of which of the following organisations ?
- a) Google
 - b) Microsoft
 - c) OpenAI
 - d) NVIDIA



- Q19. Consider the following statements regarding the Toshakhana in India:
1. Toshakhana is the official repository where gifts received by public functionaries from foreign dignitaries are deposited.
 2. The Ministry of External Affairs is responsible for managing the Toshakhana.
 3. Gifts deposited in the Toshakhana may be auctioned in accordance with the prescribed government rules.
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 2 and 3 only
 - c) 1 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2 and 3
- Q20. Consider the following statements regarding the provisions reportedly introduced by the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2026:
1. NGOs are now required to disclose their social media accounts at the time of registration or renewal.
 2. Organizations must specify the exact states or Union Territories where the foreign funds will be utilized.
 3. The diversion of foreign funds attracts a penalty of ₹1 lakh or 30% of the diverted amount, whichever is higher.
- How many of the statements given above are correct ?
- a) Only one
 - b) Only two
 - c) All three
 - d) None
- Q21. The Sahariya tribe is primarily found in which states ?
- a) Odisha and Jharkhand
 - b) Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan
 - c) Chhattisgarh and Telangana
 - d) Gujarat and Maharashtra
- Q22. Recently, the QS World Future Skills Index 2027 was released. India secured which of the following ranks in the index ?
- a) 10th
 - b) 11th
 - c) 13th
 - d) 15th
- Q23. Recently, the Bharat Climate Observation Network (BCON) was in the news. The primary objective of BCON is to:
- a) Develop indigenous climate-resilient crop varieties
 - b) Establish a long-term, high-precision climate monitoring framework across India
 - c) Forecast earthquakes and tsunamis in the Indian Ocean region
 - d) Promote carbon trading among Indian industries
- Q24. Recently, Katchatheevu Island was in the news. The island is located in which of the following water bodies ?
- a) Gulf of Mannar
 - b) Palk Strait
 - c) Bay of Bengal
 - d) Arabian Sea
- Q25. Recently, the Energy Transition Index 2026 was in the news. The index is published by which of the following organizations in collaboration with Accenture ?
- a) International Energy Agency (IEA)
 - b) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
 - c) International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
 - d) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- Q26. Consider the following statements about INS Dunagiri, which was recently commissioned into the Indian Navy:
1. It is a Project 17A stealth frigate designed for high-intensity surface combat operations.
 2. The vessel was entirely imported from a foreign strategic partner under a technology transfer agreement.
 3. It has been primarily built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata.
- 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
- Q27. Consider the following statements regarding the recent Supreme Court judgment on the Right to Walk:
1. The right to walk on safe and demarcated footpaths is a newly created fundamental right under the Indian Constitution.
 2. The Court interpreted the right to safe pedestrian infrastructure as an integral component of Article



- 19(1)(d) and Article 21.
3. The judgment states that the pedestrian right of way takes precedence over the movement of motorized vehicles.
- 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
- Q28. Khurasani Imli, recently awarded a GI tag, is associated with which state ?
- a) Maharashtra
b) Gujarat
c) Uttarakhand
d) Madhya Pradesh
- Q29. What is the name of the flagship employment generation scheme launched to encourage job creation in the formal sector ?
- a) PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana
b) PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana
c) Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana
d) PM Vishwakarma Yojana
- Q30. Which Indian has been selected as the Vice-President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for the 2026–27 term ?
- a) Vivek Aggarwal
b) Randhir Jaiswal
c) Vikram Mehta
d) Ajeet Porwal
- Q31. Consider the following statements regarding 'Project Nimbus':
1. It is a joint cloud computing and artificial intelligence initiative awarded to Google and Microsoft.
2. The project aims to establish local cloud infrastructure to enhance data sovereignty.
3. The technology is strictly prohibited from being used by the military or defense ministries.
- 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
- Q32. Amangarh Tiger Reserve is located in which state ?
- a) Gujarat
b) Uttarakhand
c) Uttar Pradesh
d) Odisha
- Q33. Which state recorded the highest fiscal deficit in FY25, according to data from a Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report ?
- a) Meghalaya
b) Punjab
c) Haryana
d) Maharashtra
- Q34. Recently, Section 69A of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 was in the news. It empowers the Central Government to:
- a) Regulate digital payments through banks
b) Block public access to digital information through any computer resource
c) Issue licences to social media platforms
d) Regulate cryptocurrency transactions
- Q35. Consider the following statements regarding the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) in India:
1. It measures the changes in the price of goods at the wholesale stage as well as services consumed by households.
2. It is published by the Office of the Economic Adviser under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
3. Weights in the WPI basket are currently based on Gross Value of Output (GVO) instead of earlier valuation methods.
- 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
- Q36. Consider the following statements regarding India–Slovakia relations:
1. During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit in 2026, India and Slovakia upgraded their bilateral ties to the level of a Comprehensive Partnership.
2. Slovakia supported India's bid for permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council



(UNSC) and membership in the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

3. Both countries reaffirmed their support for the early adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Q37. Recently, the 52nd G7 Summit was held in Evian, France. India participated in the summit as an invitee for the 13th time overall. The G7 comprises which of the following countries ?

- a) Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, United States
- b) Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Germany, Japan
- c) Canada, France, Germany, India, Japan, United Kingdom, United States
- d) Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, United Kingdom, United States

Q38. Exercise Pitch Black is hosted by which country ?

- a) United States
- b) Australia
- c) Japan
- d) United Kingdom

Q39. The Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament 2026 has been launched by which ministry ?

- a) Ministry of Education
- b) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- c) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
- d) Ministry of Home Affairs

Q40. Consider the following statements regarding Cruise Missiles and Ballistic Missiles:

- 1. Cruise missiles remain powered by their engines for most of their flight duration.
- 2. Ballistic missiles generally follow a predictable trajectory.
- 3. Cruise missiles are relatively difficult to detect by radar because they fly at low altitudes.
- 4. Ballistic missiles possess more advanced terrain-following capabilities than cruise missiles.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- a) 1 and 2 only

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

Q41. Consider the following statements regarding the findings of the SIPRI Yearbook 2026:

- 1. All nine recognized nuclear-armed states are actively modernizing and expanding their nuclear arsenals.
- 2. India officially holds the highest number of deployed nuclear warheads among South Asian countries.
- 3. According to the report, India remains the world's second-largest arms importer.

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

Q42. INS Baaz, that was recently seen in news, is an Indian naval air station located in which state/UT ?

- a) Lakshadweep
- b) Goa
- c) Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- d) Gujarat

Q43. According to recent report, what is India's current position in the global domestic aviation market ?

- a) First
- b) Second
- c) Third
- d) Fourth

Q44. Recently, the first "Made in India" Airbus C-295 military transport aircraft successfully completed its maiden test flight from the Final Assembly Line (FAL). The FAL for the aircraft is located in which of the following places ?

- a) Bengaluru
- b) Hyderabad
- c) Vadodara
- d) Nagpur

Q45. Regarding the Multi-Layered Air Defence Architecture of India, consider the following statements:



1. The S-400 Triumf forms the outermost long-range defence layer of India's air defence network.
2. Project Kusha is an indigenous long-range air defence programme developed to counter aircraft, drones, cruise missiles, and hypersonic weapons.
3. Directed Energy Weapons (DEWs) are a part of the Medium-Range Defence Layer in India's architecture.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
- a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3
- Q46. With reference to India's space sector reforms, consider the following statements:
1. The Indian Space Policy, 2023 provides regulatory clarity for private participation in the space sector.
2. IN-SPACe is responsible for promoting and authorizing non-governmental participation in space activities.
3. IN-SPACe functions as a commercial arm of ISRO for marketing space technologies.
- 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
- Q47. Which city introduced a QR code-based vendor registration and monitoring system for street food vendors in June 2026 ?
- a) Ahmedabad
b) Mumbai
c) Chennai
d) Hyderabad
- Q48. 'Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra', a WhatsApp-based AI-powered advisory service for oilseed farmers, has been developed by which institution ?
- a) ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (IIOR)
b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
c) Food Corporation of India (FCI)
d) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- Q49. Recently, the Union Government approved 22 new applicants under the third round of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles. Which of the following product categories are covered under the scheme ?
- a) Cotton yarn, handloom products, and silk garments only
b) Natural fibre-based textiles and coir products only
c) Jute products, woollen garments, and handicrafts only
d) Man-Made Fibre apparel, Man-Made Fibre fabrics, and technical textiles
- Q50. Which of the following are salient features of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 ?
1. It applies to all children below the age of 18, irrespective of their gender.
2. Under the Act, consent given by a minor to any sexual act is legally invalid.
3. Mandatory reporting of suspected child sexual abuse is required only for family members.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q51. Which state government has launched 'Project Ganga' to ensure last-mile digital connectivity in rural areas ?
- a) Uttarakhand
b) Uttar Pradesh
c) Madhya Pradesh
d) Gujarat
- Q52. Recently, a 250 MW Solar Power Project with Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) has been approved in which city of Uttar Pradesh ?
- a) Sitapur
b) Prayagraj
c) Jhansi
d) Kanpur
- Q53. Which country won the SAFF Women's Championship 2026 ?
- a) Bangladesh
b) Nepal
c) India
d) Sri Lanka



Q54. Consider the following statements about the PM E-DRIVE (Prime Minister Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement) Scheme:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented by the Ministry of Heavy Industries.
2. It features an e-Voucher system for Aadhaar-authenticated digital subsidy disbursement to ensure transparency.
3. The scheme provides incentives for the procurement of electric buses as well as electric trucks linked to the scrapping of old diesel vehicles.

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

Q55. Kirthai-II Hydroelectric Project is located in which state/UT ?

- a) Jammu and Kashmir
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Delhi

Q56. According to National Family Health Survey-6, which State/UT has recorded the lowest Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in India ?

- a) Kerala
- b) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- c) Lakshadweep
- d) Sikkim

Q57. Who became the first Indian to win the Norway Chess title ?

- a) D. Gukesh
- b) Viswanathan Anand
- c) R. Praggnanandhaa
- d) Arjun Erigaisi

Q58. Consider the following statements regarding the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC):

1. The MPC was given a statutory basis through an amendment to the RBI Act, 1934 in 2016.
2. The MPC consists of six members, including three external members nominated by the Government of India.
3. In the event of a tie during voting, the RBI Governor has a casting vote.

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

Q59. Recently, Oil India Limited (OIL) announced natural gas discovery in the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well located in which of the following regions ?

- a) Krishna-Godavari Basin
- b) Mumbai Offshore Basin
- c) Andaman Shallow Offshore Block
- d) Cambay Basin

Q60. Recently, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) introduced a standardized logo that will become mandatory on approved food products from July 1, 2027, to help consumers easily identify products and prevent misleading claims. Which logo is it ?

- a) Organic Food Logo
- b) Vegan Food Logo
- c) Fortified Food Logo
- d) Non-GMO Food Logo

Q61. 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

Q62. 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



- Q63. 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
- Q64. 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
- Q65. 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
- Q66. Virupaksha Temple, that was recently seen in news, is located in which state ?
a) Karnataka
b) Kerala
c) Tamil Nadu
d) Maharashtra
- Q67. 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
- Q68. 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
- Q69. 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
- Q70. 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
- Q71. A new species of lizard named Mesalina bishnoi has recently been discovered in which state ?
a) Rajasthan
b) Gujarat
c) Odisha
d) Haryana
- Q72. Kshipra River, that was recently seen in news, is a tributary of which river ?
a) Narmada
b) Yamuna
c) Godavari
d) Chambal



- Q73. Recently, the BrahMos missile was in the news after India signed a missile export deal with Vietnam. BrahMos is best described as:
- a) A subsonic ballistic missile
 - b) A hypersonic glide vehicle
 - c) A long-range supersonic cruise missile
 - d) An anti-tank guided missile
- Q74. Consider the following statements regarding the strategic and security dimensions of India–Myanmar relations:
1. Myanmar shares a land boundary with four Indian states: Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram.
 2. The India-Myanmar border runs entirely along the porous, low-security regions and is regulated under the Free Movement Regime (FMR) without any fencing.
 3. 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 ?
- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 1 and 3 only
 - c) 2 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q75. With reference to the Indian Armed Forces, consider the following statements regarding the office of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS):
1. The post of CDS was officially created through an executive mandate in 2019, with General Bipin Rawat serving as the country's first CDS.
 2. The CDS functions as the administrative head and Secretary of the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) under the Ministry of Defence.
 3. 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?
- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 1 and 3 only
 - c) 2 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q76. An economy is experiencing a high fiscal deficit alongside a widening current account deficit. This scenario is widely known as which of the following economic phenomena ?
- a) Twin Deficits Hypothesis
 - b) Crowding-out Effect
 - c) Liquidity Trap
 - d) Fiscal Profligacy Paradox
- Q77. If the Reserve Bank of India decides to execute a 'Sterilized Intervention' in the foreign exchange market to control the rapid appreciation of the Indian Rupee (INR), which combination of actions will it take?
- a) Buy US Dollars in the forex market and simultaneously buy Government Securities (G-Secs) via OMO
 - b) Sell US Dollars in the forex market and simultaneously sell Government Securities (G-Secs) via OMO
 - c) Buy US Dollars in the forex market and simultaneously sell Government Securities (G-Secs) via OMO
 - d) Sell US Dollars in the forex market and simultaneously buy Government Securities (G-Secs) via OMO
- Q78. According to the Economic Survey and Indian public finance conventions, how is the 'Primary Deficit' mathematically derived ?
- a) Fiscal Deficit minus Revenue Deficit
 - b) Fiscal Deficit minus Interest Payments
 - c) Budget Deficit minus Subsidies
 - d) Capital Deficit minus Borrowings
- Q79. Which of the following bodies is responsible for recommending the minimum Support Prices (MSP) for mandated crops to the Government of India, and which concept of agricultural cost is the primary baseline used to calculate the 50% profit margin ?
- a) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) using the A2 + FL cost baseline
 - b) Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare using the comprehensive C2 cost baseline
 - c) Food Corporation of India (FCI) using the A2 pure cash cost baseline
 - d) NITI Aayog using the weighted average of FL and C2 baselines



- Q80. Consider the operational mechanics of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC-R) or e-Rupee launched by the RBI. Which of the following structural attributes accurately describes the retail digital rupee ?
- It is an indirect claim on commercial banks and earns interest aligned with the savings bank rate.
 - It is a direct sovereign liability of the RBI, is non-remunerative (bears no interest), and is distributed via an intermediated model.
 - It is a decentralized crypto-asset that requires commercial bank collateral backing to maintain its stable value peg.
 - It is an electronic payment ledger settlement system that completely bypasses the digital wallets of commercial banks.
- Q81. Which of the following funds is specifically maintained by NABARD to provide credit to state governments for developing rural infrastructure ?
- Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)
 - Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF)
 - Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF)
 - Priority Sector Lending Fund (PSLF)
- Q82. A financial contract that gives the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy an underlying asset at a predetermined price before a specific date is known as a:
- Future Contract
 - Forward Contract
 - Swap Contract
 - Call Option
- Q83. The Self-Help Group-Bank Linkage Programme (SHG-BLP), which pioneered microfinance and financial inclusion in India, was launched in 1992 by which organization ?
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
 - State Bank of India (SBI)
 - National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
 - NITI Aayog
- Q84. In India's Balance of Payments (BoP) accounting, where are remittances sent home by overseas Indians classified ?
- Capital Account – Foreign Direct Investment
 - Capital Account – External Commercial Borrowings
 - Current Account – Invisibles (Transfers)
 - Current Account – Trade Balance (Merchandise)
- Q85. Which of the following is the primary objective of the Priority Sector Lending Certificates (PSLCs) mechanism introduced in India ?
- To allow foreign institutional investors to fund rural cooperative banks directly.
 - To enable banks to trade their priority sector achievements to manage shortfalls efficiently.
 - To exempt public sector banks from meeting agriculture credit targets.
 - To provide direct government subsidies to farmers through digital wallets.

ANSWERS

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

