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NATIONAL

TAMIL NADU LEADS IN DECEASED ORGAN DONATION, RANKS SECOND IN TRANSPLANTS -

- In the year 2025, India has achieved a milestone in the organ transplantation, as it saw total 20,138 organs transplanted through the year, as per the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) Annual Report 2025–26. Released during the commemoration of the 16th Indian Organ Donation Day, Tamil Nadu is noted in the report to be leading the nation in deceased organ donations made with the help of 266 deceased donors in the year. However, even as Tamil Nadu is recognized as the state with the highest number of deceased donors, it ranks second in total organ transplants after Delhi.



Tamil Nadu Leads in Deceased Organ Donation

- Tamil Nadu emerged as the India's best-performing state in deceased organ donation during 2025.
- Top States by Deceased Organ Donors (2025)
- Tamil Nadu: 266 (Deceased Donors)/ Telangana: 205 (Deceased Donors)/ Karnataka: 198 (Deceased Donors)/ Maharashtra: 154 (Deceased Donors)/ Gujarat: 152 (Deceased Donors)

CENTRE PROPOSES RULES FOR TWO-WHEELED AMBULANCES -

- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has proposed draft rules to introduce two-wheeled ambulances in India. The draft framework seeks to create a separate legal and technical basis for registration, design, safety, and operation under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.



Legal Status Under Motor Vehicle Rules

- Two-wheeled ambulances are not currently recognised as a separate vehicle category under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The proposed amendments aim to

place them within a defined regulatory structure for emergency medical transport.

Technical Standard and Compliance

- The draft rules propose adoption of Automotive Industry Standard (AIS)-209 (Part 1):2026 for life support two-wheeled road ambulances. All L2-category two-wheeled road ambulances manufactured on or after 1 October 2027 must comply with this standard, including requirements for emergency top lights.

INDIA COMMISSIONS FIRST GEOTHERMAL WELLS IN PUGA VALLEY OF LADAKH -

- India commissioned its first and deepest geothermal wells in the Puga Valley of Ladakh on 17 July 2026. Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh V.K. Saxena inaugurated two wells drilled to a depth of 1,000 metres each at an altitude of more than 14,000 feet.



Geothermal Energy in India

- Geothermal energy is heat derived from the Earth's interior and is used for electricity generation and direct heating applications. India has identified geothermal resource zones in regions such as Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Puga Valley Project Details

- The Puga Valley project includes two geothermal wells executed by the ONGC Energy Centre. The first well reached its target depth of 1,000 metres on 22 May 2026, and the second well was spudded on 3 June 2026 and completed on 8 July 2026. A maximum temperature of 135 degrees Celsius was recorded at a depth of 400 metres in the wells. Further testing is underway to assess higher temperatures and reservoir conditions for power generation.



LADAKH TO FORM HILL COUNCILS IN SEVEN DISTRICTS -

- Ladakh administration decided on 13 July 2026 to constitute Autonomous Hill Development Councils for all seven districts of the Union Territory. The decision covers Leh, Kargil, Nubra, Changthang, Sham, Zaskar, and Drass, after the creation of five new districts in April 2026.

**Autonomous Hill Development Councils in Ladakh**

- Autonomous Hill Development Councils are district-level elected bodies in Ladakh that function under the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Act. Leh has had such a council since 1995, and Kargil has had one since 2003.

District Reorganisation in Ladakh

- Ladakh had two districts, Leh and Kargil, before the notification of five new districts in April 2026. The new districts are Nubra, Changthang, Sham, Zaskar, and Drass, taking the total number of districts in Ladakh to seven.

INDIA'S FISHERIES SECTOR -

- The Government of India's recent assessment, based on Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute(CMFRI) data, indicates that India's marine fisheries are largely sustainable, with 91.1% of assessed fish stocks reported to be in good condition.
- However, the Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) observations and ground-level evidence point to concerns such as stagnant marine production, pressure on fish stocks, declining catches, damage to inshore ecosystems and the rapid growth of mechanised trawling.

**What is the Current Status of India's Fisheries Sector?**

- **Marine Resource Base:** India possesses an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of about 2.4 million sq. km (200 nautical miles), with the continental shelf and inshore waters serving as the most productive fishing grounds.

- **Status of Fish Stocks:** According to the latest CMFRI assessment, 91.1% of the 135 marine fish stocks assessed in 2022 were found to be sustainable, with most commercial fish stocks reported to be in good health.
- India primarily estimates fish stock health using landing (catch) data, unlike many advanced fishing nations that rely on scientific stock assessments at sea.
- **Economic Contribution:** Fisheries account for 7.43% of Agricultural Gross Value Added (GVA), with total production doubling to 197.75 lakh tonnes in FY 2024–25.
- **Export Performance:** Seafood exports reached Rs 62,408 crore in FY 2024–25, dominated by frozen shrimp, with the US and China as primary markets.

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.

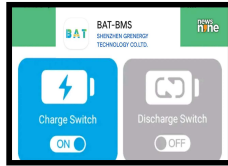
Objectives and Targets

- 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.



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.

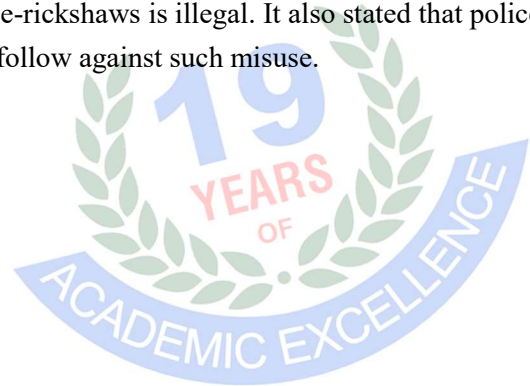
**BAT-BMS App and Battery Management Systems**

- The BAT-BMS app was developed by Shenzhen Grenergy 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.



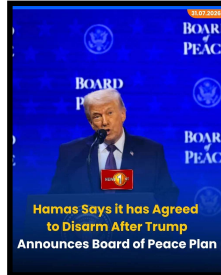
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INTERNATIONAL

HAMAS AGREES TO DISARM UNDER TRUMP'S BOARD OF PEACE PLAN - What Is the Board of Peace Plan?

- The Board of Peace is an initiative that has the support of the US and is designed to promote a long-lasting resolution in Gaza after months of negotiations with regional mediators.
- As per the Board, the agreement marks the end of a long period of negotiations and the implementation phase has been started. The initiative is part of the second phase of the US-brokered Gaza ceasefire framework involving security arrangements, governance changes, humanitarian recovery, and reconstruction.
- It is reported that the initiative has been facilitated by Egypt, Qatar, and Turkey.
- What is the Content of the Agreement?
- The suggested framework presents some crucial obligations intended to go beyond a mere ceasefire.
- Some of its key features includes,
- Full disarmament of Hamas and other militant groups in Gaza.
- Pullout of Israeli troops after a successful disarmament.
- Accounting and safe storage of Hamas's heavy arms by Palestine authorities.
- Forming an International Stabilization Force.
- Establishment of a new Palestinian police force.
- Restoration and rehabilitation of Gaza under international control.



Mount Olympus as a Mixed Heritage Site

- Mount Olympus is Greece's highest mountain and rises to 2,918 metres. UNESCO inscribed it as a mixed cultural and natural heritage site, a category used for places with both natural and cultural value. The mountain is linked to ancient Greek mythology as the home of the Olympian gods and has rich biodiversity and a long historical association with Greek civilisation.



D-Day Landing Beaches in Normandy

- The D-Day Landing Beaches in Normandy include Omaha, Utah, Sword, Gold and Juno beaches, along with Pointe du Hoc. These sites are associated with the Allied invasion of 6 June 1944 during the Second World War. UNESCO described the area as an exceptional cultural landscape shaped by the events of 1944 and by later remembrance practices.
- The ancient Buddhist site of Sarnath in Uttar Pradesh has been officially inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as India's 45th property.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2026: INDIA'S 120-MEMBER CONTINGENT -

- The 23rd edition of Commonwealth Games is slated to take place in Glasgow, Scotland from July 23 to August 2, 2026. The 11-day festival will witness sportspersons from 74 Commonwealth countries competing in 10 sporting events, including six events for para athletes.



UNESCO ADDS MOUNT OLYMPUS, D-DAY BEACHES TO WORLD HERITAGE LIST -

- UNESCO added Mount Olympus in Greece and the D-Day Landing Beaches in northern France to the World Heritage List on 26 July 2026. The decision was taken at the 48th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Busan, South Korea.



- India has announced the selection of 120 member delegation for the Commonwealth Games from 13 sports. Top athletes like Neeraj Chopra, Mirabai Chanu, Lovlina Borgohain, Srihari Nataraj and Murali Sreeshankar are expected to carry the medal hope of Indian team.

Commonwealth Games 2026 Sports List

- The Games will feature the,
- 3×3 Basketball
- 3×3 Wheelchair Basketball
- Artistic Gymnastics
- Athletics
- Para Athletics
- Bowls
- Para Bowls
- Boxing
- Judo
- Netball
- Swimming
- Para Swimming
- Track Cycling
- Para Track Cycling
- Weightlifting
- Para Powerlifting

Commonwealth Games Overview 2026

- Competition: Commonwealth Games 2026
- Edition: 23rd edition
- Dates: July 23 to August 2, 2026
- Host city: Glasgow, Scotland
- Countries participating: 74
- Duration: 11 days
- Games facility: 10
- Number of gold medals: 215
- Medals for India: 120 players
- Opening ceremony: July 23
- Closing ceremony: August 2

GENEVA TO HOST GLOBAL AI SUMMIT IN 2027 -

- Switzerland will host a global AI summit in Geneva on June 21-22, 2027. The summit is linked to international discussions on artificial intelligence governance,

trustworthy AI, and multilateral cooperation among governments, international organisations, scientists, businesses, and civil society.

Global AI Governance

- The Geneva summit is planned as a platform for stable and effective processes for global discussions on AI governance. Its stated themes include the responsible, safe, and human-centred use of artificial intelligence, along with broader questions on prosperity, progress, and public welfare.

Geneva and the AI for Good Framework

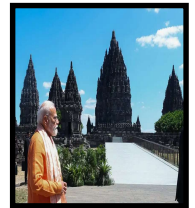
- The host city announcement was made during the AI for Good Global Summit in Geneva on July 8, 2026. Federal Councillor Albert Rosti confirmed Switzerland's role as host during the opening address of that event.

Previous and Future AI Summit Venues

- The Geneva AI Summit 2027 follows earlier editions held in Bletchley Park in 2023, Seoul in 2024, Paris in 2025, and New Delhi in 2026. The United Arab Emirates is scheduled to host a future AI summit in 2028.

PM MODI VISITS UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE PRAMBANAN TEMPLE IN INDONESIA -

- Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid visit to iconic Prambanan Temple Complex in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 8th of July, 2026, it reaffirms centuries old cultural and civilizational ties between India and Indonesia. Along with him, Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto accompanied the Indian Prime Minister during the visit, and both leaders unveiled a commemorative plaque which marks the commencement of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)'s conservation and restoration project.



PM Modi Visits the Historic Prambanan Temple Complex

- Honorable PM Modi visited the Prambanan Temple Complex, it is Indonesia's largest Hindu temple complex,

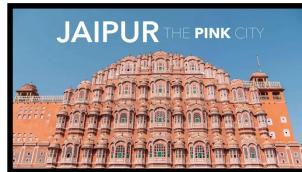


and it is one of Southeast Asia's most remarkable examples of Hindu architecture.

- This visit was marked by the unveiling of a plaque, which launched the ASI-led conservation and restoration project at the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

JAIPUR RANKED AMONG THE WORLD'S HAPPIEST CITIES IN HAPPY CITY INDEX 2026 -

- Jaipur made a remarkable global achievement, as the city became the only Indian city to be included in the top 10 in the Happy City Index 2026, and it ranked 6th globally. Jaipur was acknowledged for the quality of life,



rich heritage, good governance, and developing urban infrastructure. As per the latest report of the Happy City Index 2026, which recognises cities for their governance, health, environment, mobility, economy, and overall well-being. By the way, Jaipur is the only Indian city in the list, with London being the number one-ranked city in the world.

Jaipur Becomes India's Happiest City in 2026

- Jaipur, popularly called the Pink City, has achieved the distinction of being as the happiest city in India, based on the findings of the latest Happy City Index 2026.
- Jaipur has shone in blending the old world charm with the latest urban facilities and city planning which earned it the 6th spot in the global rankings.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

VIKRAM-1 LAUNCHES INDIA'S FIRST PRIVATE ORBITAL ROCKET -

- Vikram-1 is India's first privately developed orbital-class rocket. The rocket lifted off on 18 July 2026 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, at 12:05 pm IST and placed multiple payloads into Low Earth Orbit.



Vikram-1 Rocket

- Vikram-1 is a four-stage launch vehicle developed by Hyderabad-based Skyroot Aerospace. The rocket is built with an all-carbon composite structure and is about seven storeys tall. It can carry payloads of up to 350 kg to Low Earth Orbit.

Mission Aagaman and Payloads

- The launch mission was named Mission Aagaman. It placed technology demonstration payloads and commemorative items into a 450 km Low Earth Orbit at a 60-degree inclination.
- Grahaa Space, Cosmoserve Space, and DCUBED sent technology demonstration payloads on the mission.
- Skyroot Aerospace also carried its in-house SCOPE satellite.
- Commemorative payloads included a handwritten postcard from Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the words "Vande Mataram".
- The mission also carried an 18-karat gold miniature rocket and an artwork titled Cosmic Bloom by Cosmos Diamonds.

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.

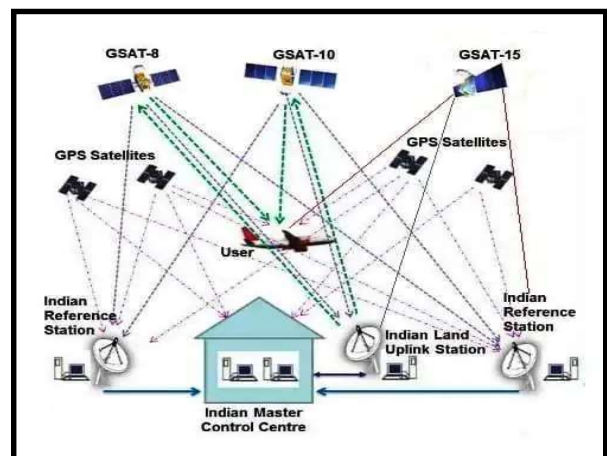


Mission Aagaman and Flight Objectives

- 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.

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.



ECONOMY & FINANCE

RBI MONETARY POLICY AUGUST 2026-

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced its August 2026 Monetary Policy on August 5, 2026, following the 62nd meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) held from August 3 to 5, 2026 under the chairmanship of RBI Governor Shri Sanjay Malhotra. In line with market expectations, the MPC unanimously decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 5.25% while retaining the 'Neutral' monetary policy stance.
- The central bank highlighted that although inflation has risen above the target due to food and fuel prices, the underlying inflation remains moderate. At the same time, India's economy continues to display resilience despite global uncertainties.



RBI Monetary Policy August 2026: Key Highlights

- Repo Rate: Unchanged at 5.25%
- Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): 5.00%
- Marginal Standing Facility (MSF): 5.50%
- Bank Rate: 5.50%
- Policy Stance: Neutral
- MPC Decision: Unanimous
- Real GDP Growth Forecast (FY 2026-27): 6.7%
- CPI Inflation Forecast (FY 2026-27): 5.0%
- Next MPC Meeting: October 5-7, 2026

MOSPI TO REPLACE WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX WITH PRODUCER PRICE INDEX FOR GDP DEFLATION -

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has announced a major reform in India's national accounting system by replacing the Wholesale



Price Index (WPI) with the Output Producer Price Index (PPI) as the GDP deflator for quarterly and annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) estimates, wherever applicable.

- The move aims to improve the accuracy of real GDP estimation, align India's statistical practices with international standards, and better reflect changes in production costs and economic activity.
- The Producer Price Index (PPI) series was released by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in June 2026 and will now play a central role in the revised GDP estimation framework.

What is the Producer Price Index (PPI)?

- The Producer Price Index (PPI) measures the average change in prices received by producers for goods and services before they reach consumers.
- Unlike the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), which mainly tracks wholesale market prices, the PPI reflects actual prices received by producers and is considered a more accurate indicator for measuring production costs and economic output.
- The adoption of PPI aligns India with international statistical best practices followed by many advanced economies.

Why is MoSPI Replacing WPI with PPI?

- The replacement of WPI with PPI is intended to:
- Improve the accuracy of GDP estimates.
- Better measure real economic growth.
- Reflect actual producer prices.
- Align India's National Accounts with international statistical standards.
- Reduce distortions in GDP calculations caused by the earlier methodology.

INDEX OF CORE INDUSTRIES WITH BASE YEAR 2022-23 -

- The Office of Economic Adviser (OEA), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, released the first

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provisional Index of Core Industries (ICI) under a new series with the base year 2022-23.

- The 2022-23 base year series replaces the 2011-12 series and is applied retrospectively from April 2023, with the back series released for historical comparison.



What is the Index of Core Industries (ICI)?

- About:** The ICI is a vital macroeconomic indicator that measures the combined and individual production performance of India's foundational industrial sectors on a monthly basis.
- The provisional ICI for a reference month will normally be released on the 20th of the following month, or on the next working day.
- Connection to IIP:** Core industries serve as the structural backbone for all other industrial activities. The combined weight of these core industries in the broader Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is now 32.88% (under the new 2022-23 base), updated from the previous 40.27% under the 2011-12 series.

IMF CUTS INDIA'S FY27 GROWTH FORECAST TO 6.4%, CITING HIGHER ENERGY PRICES -

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has revised the India's growth projection for FY2026-27 (FY27) and has estimated the growth rate of 6.4%, it is down from the previous projection of 6.5% released in the April 2026. This adjustment is made as per the latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) update by IMF which suggests that the IMF is worried about the rising global energy prices will overtake the robustness of the Indian economy.



India's Growth Predictions are Changed by the IMF

- According to the IMF's July update for 2026, India's economy exhibits constant strong growth. It's especially visible in private consumption and the service industry sector, where the economy remains strong.
- At the same time, the situation with global oil and power prices has caused some revisions in India's short-term forecasts.

The updated numbers are,

- FY27 GDP Growth: 6.4% vs. 6.5% in the April forecast
- FY28 GDP Growth: 6.7% vs. 6.5%

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

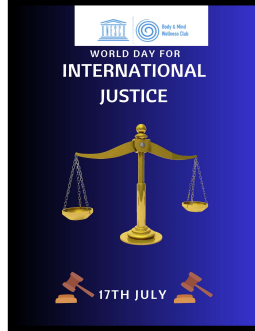
- The centre's fiscal deficit stood at around ₹1.62 lakh crore during the April-May and it compared with the just 0.8% of the annual target in the same period of the last year. The sharp increase was mainly driven by the softer revenue collections and the government expenditure continued at a robust 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.



IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

WHAT IS WORLD DAY FOR INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE ? -

- World Day for International Justice is observed every 17th day of July each year. It is aimed towards ensuring justice is served and the vital necessity of human rights and rule of law is recognized. This day was established as a mark of the signing of the Rome Statute in 1998 that founded the ICC (International Criminal Court). World Day for International Justice 2026 serves the purpose of reminding mankind of the global commitment towards stopping the impunity of war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity.

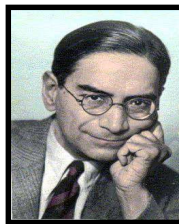


What is World Day for International Justice?

- World Day for International Justice, often referred to as International Justice Day, is celebrated 17 July every year.
- This day, acknowledge the importance of international criminal justice along with the necessity of bringing those behind serious crimes of humanity to justice.
- The day marks the implementation of the Rome Statute, which was signed on 17 July 1998 and justifies the creation of the International Criminal Court (ICC), the first court in history to operate permanently and hold trials against individuals perpetrating serious international crimes.

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?

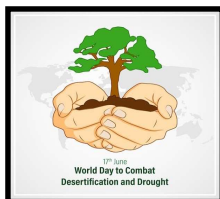
- Olympic Day is the annual celebration observed on June 23rd to commemorate the founding of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in the year 1894.
- This day marks the beginning of the modern Olympic Movement, which was revived by the French educator Baron Pierre de Coubertin.
- His vision was 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 OBSERVED IN INDIA -

- 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.



AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

NANDAN NILEKANI TO LEAD EXAM REFORMS TASK FORCE -

- India has constituted a high-powered task force on examination reforms to review the National Testing Agency (NTA) examination system and recommend measures for reliability, transparency, and technology use. The task force is chaired by Nandan Nilekani, co-founder of Infosys and founding chairman of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).



National Testing Agency and Examination Reforms

- The National Testing Agency was established in 2017 as an autonomous testing organisation under the Ministry of Education. It conducts major entrance examinations in India, including the Joint Entrance Examination and the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test, which are centralised computer-based or pen-and-paper assessments for higher education admissions. The task force has been formed after concerns linked to examination irregularities, including the NEET paper leak case. Its mandate covers structural reforms, technology-based safeguards, and measures to improve the credibility of public examinations.

CENTRAL VISTA AREA TO BE RENAMED KARTAVYA BHAWAN AREA -

- The Central Vista redevelopment area in New Delhi is being referred to as the Kartavya Bhawan Complex or Kartavya Bhawan Area from 12 July 2026. The renamed precinct covers the government buildings, Kartavya Marg, and future structures within the Central Vista zone.



Central Vista Redevelopment

- Central Vista is the central administrative axis of India in New Delhi. It includes major government buildings and ceremonial spaces between Rashtrapati Bhavan and India

Gate. The redevelopment plan includes the Common Central Secretariat, which is designed to house several Union ministries in one administrative cluster.

Kartavya Bhawan and Common Central Secretariat

- The Common Central Secretariat project includes 10 buildings under the Central Vista redevelopment plan. Three buildings have already been completed and named Kartavya Bhawans. The first building, Kartavya Bhavan, was inaugurated in August 2025 and is expected to be fully ready by September 2026.

WILLIE WALSH ASSUMES CHARGE AS INDIGO CEO -

- Willie Walsh assumed charge as the Chief Executive Officer of IndiGo on 3 August 2026. IndiGo had announced his appointment in March 2026, and he succeeded Pieter Elbers, who resigned as CEO on 10 March 2026.



IndiGo and Its Corporate Profile

- IndiGo is India's largest airline by fleet size and daily operations. The airline operates more than 430 aircraft and nearly 2,200 daily flights across over 95 domestic destinations and 40 international destinations.

Willie Walsh's Aviation Career

- Willie Walsh served as the Director General of the International Air Transport Association until 31 July 2026. His aviation career spans more than four decades and includes leadership roles at Aer Lingus, British Airways, and International Airlines Group.

AJINKYA RAHANE ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM INTERNATIONAL CRICKET -

- Former India captain Ajinkya Rahane has announced his retirement from international cricket, bringing the curtains down on an illustrious career. Popularly known as "Jinx", the veteran batter made the announcement



through a heartfelt video message on his Instagram account, stating that the time had come to move forward after serving Indian cricket with dedication and honesty.

- Rahane, who hails from Dombivli in Maharashtra's Thane district, thanked the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA), his family, teammates, and his wife Radhika for supporting him throughout his journey. While announcing his retirement, he hinted that he may continue contributing to cricket in a coaching or mentoring role.



protests over the alleged paper leak in NEET-UG 2026 and demands for action on examination-related misconduct.

Union Council of Ministers

- The Union Council of Ministers is the executive body that assists the Prime Minister under Article 74 of the Constitution of India. It includes Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State, and Ministers of State with independent charge.

ANDY BURNHAM BECOMES UK'S NEW PRIME MINISTER AFTER MEETING KING CHARLES III -

- Andy Burnham has become the new Prime Minister of United Kingdom after being sworn in by King Charles III on 20th July 2026. Burnham succeeds the Keir Starmer, who resigned from the post under pressure from the politicians within the Labour Party. After served as the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Burnham had been elected into his new position after invited by the King to form a government, it is the procedure followed in the UK.



Andy Burnham is Becoming the New Prime Minister

- Andy Burnham officially secured the office of Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, after the King Charles III's decision to appoint him to the position due to the resignation of Keir Starmer.
- Under the constitution of the United Kingdom, the monarch appoints a politician to be the Prime Minister when it becomes apparent that the new Prime Minister can gain the confidence of the House of Commons members, and after Burnham's meeting with King Charles III in Buckingham Palace, he formally started working, delivering his first speech on the steps of the 10 Downing Street.
- It also marks Burnham's becoming British Prime Minister number 7 in the last 10 years, which indicates the turbulent political history of the country.

PRALHAD JOSHI TAKES CHARGE AS EDUCATION MINISTER -

- Pralhad Joshi was appointed Union Education Minister on 25 July 2026 after the resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan from the Union Council of Ministers. He took charge of the Ministry of Education at Kartavya Bhavan on 26 July 2026 and continued to hold the portfolios of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and New and Renewable Energy.



Union Education Ministry

- The Ministry of Education is a Union ministry under the Government of India and is responsible for school education, higher education, literacy, and related policy matters. The ministry functions through departments such as the Department of School Education and Literacy and the Department of Higher Education.

DHARMENDRA PRADHAN RESIGNS AS UNION EDUCATION MINISTER AMID MASSIVE STUDENT PROTESTS -

- Dharmendra Pradhan resigned as Union Education Minister on 25 July 2026 amid nationwide student protests linked to alleged irregularities in competitive examinations. The resignation followed



Why Did Keir Starmer Step Down?

- Keir Starmer has decided to resign from his position after countless months of political dilemmas and increasing discontent from the labour party.
- Despite having led the labour party to attain the greatest parliamentary majority in the general elections of 2024, the government faced backlash for the slow progress regarding reforms and its economic standing.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF MANGAL PANDEY -

- The Prime Minister paid homage to the great revolutionary and freedom fighter Mangal Pandey on his birth anniversary on 19th July, recalling his courageous life and stating that his saga of patriotism and valour continues to inspire every generation of the nation.

**Mangal Pandey**

- **Early Life:** He was born on 19th July, 1827, in the Ballia district of Uttar Pradesh.
- He joined the 34th Bengal Native Infantry of the East India Company's army at the age of 22.
- **Mutiny:** He refused to use the newly introduced Enfield Pattern 1853 rifle-musket, as sepoys believed its cartridges were greased with beef and pork fat, which offended Hindu and Muslim religious sentiments.
- On 29th March, 1857, he mutinied and fired at his Senior Sergeant Major.
- **Impact of His Actions:** The movement of protest and rebellion came to be known as the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857, also known as the First War of Independence.
- Soldiers of the 7th Awadh Regiment revolted but were suppressed, while discontent spread to Ambala, Lucknow, and Meerut.
- On 10th May, 1857, Meerut sepoys rebelled, marched to Delhi, and declared Bahadur Shah Zafar II as Shah-en-shah-i-Hindustan, giving the 1857 revolt a symbolic national leadership.

THE NEW NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITIES CHIEF -

- Harjit Singh Grewal was appointed Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) on 16 July 2026. The Ministry of Minority Affairs issued the notification for the appointment on the same date. The post had remained vacant since April 2025 after the completion of Iqbal Singh Lalpura's tenure.

**National Commission for Minorities: Legal Basis**

- **The National Commission for Minorities is a statutory body constituted under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992. It functions at the Union level and deals with matters relating to minority communities in India.**

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

- The central government 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).



PROGRAMMES, SCHEMES AND INITIATIVES

FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION (REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2026 -

What is FCRA Amendment Bill of 2026?

- The FCRA amendment bill of 2026 attempts to modify the act related to foreign contributions by providing it with better compliance facilities and a legal framework which can be effectively used to control foreign contributions.
- Main objectives of the Bill are,
- Efficient monitoring of foreign contributions.
- Safeguarding the assets created by foreign contributions.
- Ensuring greater transparency and responsibility in the use of foreign contributions.
- Keeping away from misuse of foreign funds from abroad.
- Establishing a greater security system in the country.



Purposes of FCRA amendment Bill of 2026

- The bill is aimed at achieving a number of crucial aims which have been outlined below.
- Better regulation of foreign contributions.
- Ensuring the transparency in use of foreign funds.
- Preventing the misuse of foreign resources.
- Improving the management of NGOs getting foreign funds.
- Creating defense from foreign money against any crimes.

ANTI-PAPER LEAK BILL APPROVED BY UNION CABINET -

- The Union Cabinet approved a new anti-paper leak bill on 24 July 2026. The bill is scheduled for introduction in Parliament on Monday, during the second week of the Monsoon session. The proposed law is linked to measures against paper leaks in public examinations, including



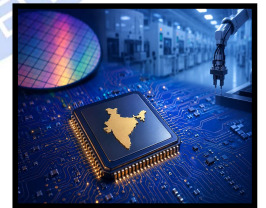
cases related to the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test.

Public Examinations and Unfair Means

- Public examinations in India include recruitment tests, entrance examinations, and other tests conducted by public authorities. Paper leaks, impersonation, and unauthorised access to question papers are treated as forms of unfair means in examination law. The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024, was enacted to address such offences in public examinations.

CABINET APPROVES SEMICON 2.0: ₹1.27 LAKH CRORE INITIATIVE TO BUILD INDIA'S SEMICONDUCTOR ECOSYSTEM -

- The Union Cabinet under the leadership of Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi given its approval to the Semicon 2.0, a policy to enhance the India's semiconductor design and making ecosystem. Semicon 2.0 has been approved in a meeting presided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and a budget of ₹1,27,500 crore has been allotted for the project. The primary objective of the project is to improve chip designing functions and capabilities, lure advanced semiconductors manufacturing companies, focus on the research and innovation efforts, support development of skilled workforce, and contribute to building a reliable semiconductor supply chain making India technologically and economically self-reliant.



What is Semicon 2.0?

- Semicon 2.0 is a new semiconductor development program introduced by the Indian government to provide continuous policy support to the semiconductor industry in India.
- The program is based on the earliest version Semicon 1.0 and aims to create a full semiconductor ecosystem which covers all stages from design and manufacturing of the



chip, to its packaging, development of materials, research, and workforce.

JAISALMER RAILWAY STATION GETS HERITAGE MAKEOVER UNDER AMRIT BHARAT SCHEME -

- Jaisalmer Railway Station in Rajasthan has been redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, with the project completed in July 2026 at an estimated cost of around Rs 140 crore. The station combines local architectural elements such as yellow sandstone and traditional Rajasthani designs with modern passenger facilities.



Amrit Bharat Station Scheme

- The Amrit Bharat Station Scheme is an Indian Railways station redevelopment programme for phased modernisation of railway stations across the country. The scheme includes station building upgrades, improved circulation areas, better passenger amenities, and integration of accessibility features.

Jaisalmer Station Design Features

- The redeveloped station uses yellow sandstone elements associated with Jaisalmer's built heritage. It also includes traditional Rajasthani design motifs, modern lighting, clear signboards, and a digital passenger information system.

VB-G RAM G ACT 2026 EXPLAINED: STATE-WISE WAGE RATES, 125 DAYS EMPLOYMENT -

- On 1st of July, 2026 nationwide rollout of new Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G), and the new legislation has replaced Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), it aims



to strengthen the rural livelihood security and aligning with the rural development with the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.

- Here is everything to know about the new Act, state wise wages, employment guarantee and major changes.

What Is the VB-G RAM G Act?

- The Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, 2025 is the Government of India's new rural employment law which is designed to provide guaranteed wage employment to the rural households.
- This Act ensures that every eligible rural household whose adult members volunteer to perform the unskilled manual work and receives 125 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year

ETHANOL BLENDING IN INDIA -

- India's Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme has become an important part of India's energy transition and biofuel policy, aiming to strengthen energy security, support farmers, reduce environmental impact, and encourage the use of domestically produced renewable fuel.
- However, the programme has recently drawn renewed public attention due to concerns over E20 petrol, particularly regarding its impact on vehicle mileage, engine performance, and consumer choice.



What is India's Ethanol Blending Programme (EBP)?

- **Ethanol:** Ethanol (ethyl alcohol) is a biofuel naturally produced by the fermentation of sugars by yeasts or via petrochemical processes.
- In India, it is primarily derived from sugarcane molasses, but increasingly from maize, surplus rice, and damaged foodgrains.
- Ethanol is classified into 1G, 2G, and 3G based on the type of feedstock used and the production technology.



- **Blending:** It involves mixing ethanol with motor fuel (petrol) to reduce the consumption of imported crude oil and curb carbon emissions.
- E10 and E20 petrol contain 10% and 20% ethanol respectively, with higher ethanol blends helping reduce crude oil consumption and emissions. However, while E10 is suitable for most vehicles, E20 requires compatible engines and may lead to a slight reduction in fuel efficiency.

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.

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

- The Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika 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.

GLAW LAKE BECOMES ARUNACHAL PRADESH'S FIRST RAMSAR SITE, INDIA'S 101ST -

- Glaw Lake in Arunachal Pradesh was designated as India's 101st Ramsar site on 3 August 2026. It became Arunachal Pradesh's first Ramsar wetland and is located in the Kamlang Tiger Reserve and



Wildlife Sanctuary in the Eastern Himalayas, in Lohit district.

Glaw Lake as a Ramsar Wetland

- Ramsar sites are wetlands listed under the Ramsar Convention, an international treaty adopted in 1971 in Ramsar, Iran. The convention covers wetlands of international importance, including lakes, marshes, peatlands, mangroves, and artificial wetlands. India joined the Ramsar Convention in 1982. With Glaw Lake, India's Ramsar site count reached 101, up from 26 in 2014.

INDIA LAUNCHES CLOUDED LEOPARD CONSERVATION ACTION PLAN -

- India launched a new Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan on International Clouded Leopard Day, observed on 4 August 2026. The plan was prepared under the Government of India-GEF-UNDP initiative and was released during the 91st meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife in Coimbatore.



Clouded Leopard: Species Profile

- The clouded leopard is a wild cat species found mainly in forested habitats of Northeast India and parts of South and South-East Asia. It is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List and is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

UTTARAKHAND TO RADIO-COLLAR ELEPHANTS AHEAD OF HARIDWAR KUMBH 2027 -

- As work are underway for the 2027 Haridwar Kumbh Mela, the Uttarakhand Forest Department has introduced a groundbreaking project to manage the wildlife in order to make the event safe for pilgrims and elephants. Under this project, the department will cooperate with the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) to set radio collars on elephants leading the herd so that their movements can be tracked in real time. This project aims



at to minimizing the risk of human-elephant contact, enabling quick responses, and conserving wildlife in one of the most crucial wildlife passages of the country.

Why Uttarakhand Is Radio-Collaring Elephants?

- Given the proximity of Haridwar to the Rajaji-Corbett elephant landscape, it is not surprising that wild elephants traverse between forests and local settlements.
- The increased human presence caused by religious events, like Kumbh Mela, only exacerbates the situation.
- Even with initiatives in place like: the construction of deep trenches, erecting solar-fenced barriers, creating geo-fencing mechanisms, and conducting forest patrols, elephants continue to visit villages and urban fringes in search of food or following traditional migration paths.

DELHI GOVERNMENT APPROVES PARIVARTAN SCHEME TO REPLACE OLD COMMERCIAL VEHICLES WITH BS-VI AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES -

- The Delhi Government has given approval for the rollout of the Parivartan Scheme, which is a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH). This scheme has been formulated to replace the old BS-IV commercial vehicles as well as older vehicles with BS-VI vehicles or electric vehicles thereby reducing the emissions from vehicles in the National Capital Region (NCR) of India. In a meeting by the Delhi Cabinet, presided by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the scheme has been approved and the measures like tax exemption, waiver on registration fee, interest subsidy and discount by manufacturers have been proposed.



What Is the Parivartan Scheme?

- **Parivartan refers to the Programme for Accelerated Renewal and Incentivization of Vehicle Assets for the Purpose of making transportation air pollution and other emissions.**

The scheme was developed by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways with the goal of to,

- Replace aging commercial vehicles with cleaner options.



- Decrease air pollution caused by transportation.
- Encourage the use of BS-VI and electric commercial vehicles.
- Modernize commercial vehicles in India.
- Foster sustainable transportation and decrease emissions.

Who Is Eligible?

- Eligible beneficiaries include the owners of,
- Light Goods Vehicles (LGVs) that are BS-IV or older
- Medium Goods Vehicles (MGVs) that are BS-IV or older
- Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) that are BS-IV or older
- Commercial buses that are BS-IV or older

INDIA'S FIRST NIGHT SAFARI GETS SUPREME COURT NOD -

- The Supreme Court of India granted final approval on 16 July 2026 for the Kukrail Night Safari and Day Zoo project in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The project is planned as India's first urban night safari and the world's fifth such facility after Singapore, Thailand, China and Indonesia.



Kukrail Reserve Forest and Project Area

- The project will come up in the 2,027-hectare Kukrail Reserve Forest, which is an ecologically sensitive forest area in Lucknow district. About 855 acres have been earmarked for the night safari and zoo complex. The estimated project cost is about ₹1,510 crore. The project received approvals from the Central Zoo Authority, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and a conditional clearance from the Central Empowered Committee before the Supreme Court's final nod.

Planned Facilities and Wildlife Enclosures

- Phase 1 of the project is expected to include 38 wildlife enclosures. The proposed species list includes Asiatic lions, Bengal tigers, leopards, hyenas, flying squirrels and gharials. The design includes theme-based zones, naturalistic animal habitats, night trails and forest trails. Visitors are planned to move through the safari in battery-

operated vehicles, and the lighting system is designed to mimic moonlight.

CABINET APPROVES NATIONAL INVESTMENT POLICY FOR UREA-2026 (NIPU-2026) -

- What Is the National Investment Policy for Urea-2026 (NIPU-2026)?



- The National Investment Policy for Urea-2026 (NIPU-2026) is the latest investment policy brought by the Department of Fertilizers with the aim to promote the establishment of new gas-based urea manufacturing plants in different parts of the country.
- The policy intends to draw investment from both private and public sectors by providing a transparent and viable means for establishing modern urea production facilities, replacing the earlier New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012, which expired in the October of 2019.
- The main aim of this policy is to increase the domestic urea production along with gradually reducing India's dependence on imported fertilizers.

What Was the Rationale Behind the Implementation of NIPU-2026?

- Urea, it is a type of fertilizer that plays a key role in the agricultural productivity, it is widely consumed throughout India.
- Despite an increase in the domestic supply over the years, demand remains as higher than supply, which leads to the import of huge quantities.

INDIA'S FIRST HYDROGEN FUEL CELL TRAIN: FEATURES, SAFETY, ROUTE AND GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE -

- Indian railways set to launch India's first Hydrogen Fuel Cell Train, the train was developed with domestic technology and with the assistance of the hydrogen ecosystem located in Jind, Haryana, the train that produces electricity on board with the help of hydrogen fuel cells with the only by-product being water vapour.



The train can take around 2,600 passengers; all advanced multi-layer safety systems, along with nearly zero emissions, are installed on board the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Train, which can be regarded as the India's movement towards clean energy provision and technological advancement in order to make the railway system greener.



About First Hydrogen Fuel Cell Train in India

- India's Hydrogen Fuel Cell Train is a next-gen railway vehicle that generates electricity onboard using the hydrogen fuel cells instead of conventional diesel engines or above-ground electric systems.
- In comparison with the normal trains, hydrogen stored in the tanks onboard the train reacts with oxygen to produce electricity through PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane) Fuel Cells.
- This is used to operate the engines of the train, and the only output is steam, which makes it one of the cleanest technologies for the railways.

AHMEDABAD SETS WORLD RECORD BY PLANTING 3.61 LAKH SAPLINGS IN ONE HOUR -

- Ahmedabad set a Guinness World Record on 12 July 2026 by planting 3.61 lakh, or 361,000, saplings in one hour at Bhadaj in Gujarat. The plantation drive was organised by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and used the Miyawaki method across an area of about 76,000 square metres.



Record-setting plantation drive

- More than 25,000 volunteers took part in the campaign. The drive included 35 indigenous species and was

conducted in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel.

Miyawaki method and urban afforestation

- The Miyawaki method is a dense plantation technique developed by Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki. It is used for creating native, multi-layered forests in small urban spaces and for increasing plant density in limited land areas.

GREY HORNBILL RETURNS TO GUJARAT'S GIR FORESTS AFTER SIX DECADES -

- The Indian Grey Hornbill, also known as Chilotro, has been reintroduced into the Gir forests of Gujarat after an absence of more than six decades. A scientific study in the peer-reviewed journal Birds records that the reintroduced birds are surviving and breeding in the wild.



Indian Grey Hornbill

- The Indian Grey Hornbill is a bird species found in parts of the Indian subcontinent. Hornbills belong to the family Bucerotidae, which includes large birds with a distinctive curved bill and a casque on the upper mandible.

Gir Landscape and Reintroduction Programme

- The Gir landscape in Gujarat is known for the Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, which is the only natural habitat of the Asiatic lion in India. The reintroduction programme released 40 hornbills in two phases, with 28 birds in 2021-2022 and 12 birds in 2023. Eleven male hornbills were fitted with satellite transmitters to track movement, habitat use, and breeding behaviour. Two tagged males were named LK and RSD in memory of ornithologists Lavkumar Khachar and R.S. Dharmakumarsinhji.



REPORTS & INDICES

INDIA CROSSES 20,000 ORGAN TRANSPLANTS IN 2025 -

- India recorded 20,138 organ transplants in 2025, which was the first time the annual total crossed 20,000 in India. The National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) compiled the annual figures, and the 2025 total was higher than 18,911 transplants in 2024 and 4,990 transplants in 2013.



Organ Transplantation in India

- Organ transplantation is a surgical procedure in which an organ is removed from one body and placed into another body. In India, major transplantable organs include the kidney, liver, heart, lung, pancreas, and intestine.
- Living donor transplantation uses an organ or part of an organ from a living person, and kidney and partial liver transplants are the most common examples in India.
- Deceased donor transplantation uses organs retrieved after brain stem death or circulatory death, subject to legal and medical certification.
- India ranked as the world's third-largest country in total organ transplants in 2025, after the United States and China.
- India remained first globally in living donor organ transplants as of 2026.

State-wise Distribution and Deceased Donation

- Delhi-NCR recorded 4,564 transplants in 2025, which was the highest among Indian regions. Tamil Nadu recorded 2,796 transplants, Maharashtra 2,136, Telangana 1,523, and Kerala 1,489.
- Tamil Nadu led deceased organ donation with 266 donors in 2025.
 - Maharashtra recorded 205 deceased donors in 2025.
 - Telangana recorded 198 deceased donors in 2025.
 - Karnataka recorded 154 deceased donors in 2025, and Kerala recorded 152.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDEX (EPI) 2026: ESTONIA TOPS GLOBAL RANKINGS, INDIA RANKED 176TH -

- The Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2026 has provided an extensive analysis of the environmental performance of countries in their environment-causing activity and sustainability initiatives. It has again covered 177 and devised 47 indicators across 12 issue categories that apply to climate change, health in the environment, biodiversity, quality of air, quality of water, and quality of ecosystem.



- According to the findings of the 2026 EPI ranking, Estonia has been ranked the highest while India stands at the 176th position only above Laos as a testimony to the significant environmental crisis faced by the nation.

What is the Environmental Performance Index (EPI)?

- The Environmental Performance Index (EPI) is a data-focused method that rates countries based on how well they perform in terms of their environmental performance.
- The index is created by the,
 - Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy (YCELP)
 - Columbia University's Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)
 - Yale Center for Geospatial Solutions



DELHI RANKS 120TH IN GLOBAL LIVEABILITY INDEX -

- New Delhi was ranked 120th out of 173 cities in the Economist Intelligence Unit's Global Liveability Index 2026, which was released on 8 July 2026. The city scored 48.1 in the 2026 index, and its scores varied across the five assessment categories used in the ranking.

**Global Liveability Index**

- The Global Liveability Index is an annual city ranking published by the Economist Intelligence Unit. The 2026 edition assessed 173 cities using 30 indicators across five categories: stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education, and infrastructure.

Delhi's Category-wise Scores

- New Delhi recorded 66.7 in education and 58.9 in infrastructure in the 2026 index. The city scored 41.7 in healthcare and 35.4 in culture and environment, while the index uses stability as one of its five core categories.

Indian Cities in the 2026 Index

- Among Indian cities in the 2026 index, Mumbai was ranked 121st, Chennai 123rd, and Bengaluru 127th. New Delhi remained at 120th place in the 2026 ranking, and Copenhagen, Denmark, retained the top position for the second consecutive year.

TAMIL NADU TOPS INDIA IN HIGHER EDUCATION GER -

- Tamil Nadu recorded a Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) of 52.3% in higher education for the 2023-24 academic year. The Union government released this figure in the latest All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) report for 2023-24. The state ranked first among Indian states in higher education GER.

**Gross Enrollment Ratio in Higher Education**

- Gross Enrollment Ratio is the number of students enrolled in a specific level of education as a percentage of the population in the official age group for that level. In India, higher education GER is calculated for the 18 to 23 age

group. Tamil Nadu's GER of 52.3% was higher than the national average of 30% in 2023-24.

Year-wise Trend in Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu's higher education GER rose from 47.0% in 2021-22 to 49.1% in 2022-23 and 52.3% in 2023-24. The state has shown a higher education GER above 47% for three consecutive academic years. This trend places Tamil Nadu among the leading states in student participation in tertiary education.

POSHAN TRACKER: INDIA'S REAL-TIME NUTRITION MONITORING PLATFORM -

- Poshan Tracker has emerged as India's real-time nutrition monitoring platform, achieving coverage across all 28 States and 8 UTs and registering over 8.93 crore beneficiaries (May 2026). It has become a Digital India success story by enabling real-time nutrition monitoring, Aadhaar-based beneficiary tracking, and evidence-based governance under Mission Poshan 2.0.

**What are the Key Facts About Poshan Tracker?**

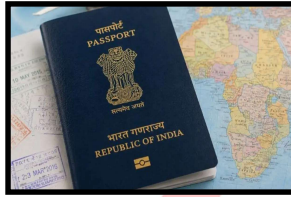
- **About:** Poshan Tracker is a mobile-based governance application that serves as the digital backbone of POSHAN Abhiyaan and Mission Poshan 2.0.
- **It was launched in March 2021 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with the National e-Governance Division.**
- It enables near real-time monitoring of nutrition services delivered through Anganwadi Centres across India.
- **Objective:** It strengthens nutrition governance through technology-based monitoring, beneficiary tracking, and evidence-based decision-making. It aims to improve service delivery for children, pregnant women, lactating mothers, and adolescent girls.
- **Beneficiary Monitoring:** The platform tracks beneficiaries across key categories such as children, pregnant women, lactating mothers, and adolescent girls. It maintains a live monthly database for over 7.7 crore children using Aadhaar-authenticated data.



- **Growth Monitoring:** It tracks indicators such as stunting, wasting, underweight, severe acute malnutrition, moderate acute malnutrition, and overweight or obesity. Poshan Tracker enables growth monitoring of children aged 0–5 years. As of May 2026, it monitored over 6.3 crore children, covering nearly 94% of registered beneficiaries.

INDIA'S PASSPORT RANKED 125TH IN GLOBAL PASSPORT INDEX 2026 -

- India's passport has ranked at 125th out of a total of 197 countries in the Global Passport Index (GPI) 2026, which was published by Global Citizen Solutions. India slipped one position compared to the last year, and India's overall passport has reached a score of 45.1, which is the highest in the last 5 years. This ranking shows mix picture, as India has improved in areas such as quality of life and investment potential, but limited global travel mobility impacts the overall position.



India Ranked 125th in the Global Passport Index 2026

- According to the Global Passport Index 2026, India ranks at 125th position in the world, slipping from 124th spot in the last edition.
- Despite the drop in ranking, India's combined composite score improved to 45.1, which is the country's strongest ever performance in the index over the last five years.
- Over the longer period, India has made only modest progress; it moved from 127th place in 2021 to 125th in 2026.

Why Did India's Passport Ranking Fall Despite a Higher Score?

- At first, India's overall score looks inconsistent with the lower-ranking countries, but the explanation lies in how the Global Passport Index evaluates passports.
- Compared to passport rankings that focus solely on visa-free travel, the Global Passport Index uses a broader assessment based on three key pillars,
- Enhanced Mobility (50%) Quality of Living (25%) Investment Opportunities (25%)



DEFENCE

WHAT IS BHARGAVA STRA? INDIA'S INDIGENOUS SHIELD AGAINST DRONE SWARMS -

- Bhargavastra is a homegrown anti-swarm drone system that has been engineered to neutralize enemy drones and loitering munitions. The Indian Army was shown Bhargavastra on July 24th in Nagpur during the Make-II project launch, thus demonstrating a crucial development in India's layered air defence system.
- With conflicts increasingly making use of drone warfare, Bhargavastra presents a low-cost, mobile, home-grown technology for detecting, tracking, and destroying both single and swarming drones.



What is Bhargavastra?

- Bhargavastra, in other words, is a 'weapon system' using the vehicle as a base aimed at getting information on drone threats and affording protection from them.
- The Bhargavastra counter-drone weapons system comprises advanced sensors for obtaining specific information on the UAVs, drones, loitering munitions, as well as the advanced electronic technology for carrying out the successful attacks on them.

IAF DEPLOYS RAFALE JETS FOR EXERCISE PITCH BLACK 2026 -

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) deployed four Rafale fighter jets, two C-17 transport aircraft, and more than 120 air warriors to Darwin, Australia, for Exercise Pitch Black 2026. The multinational air combat exercise is scheduled from 20 July to 7 August 2026 and is hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).



Exercise Pitch Black

- Exercise Pitch Black is a multinational air combat exercise conducted by the Royal Australian Air Force in

northern Australia. The 2026 edition is being held across RAAF Bases Darwin, Tindal, and Amberley.

Indian Air Force Contingent

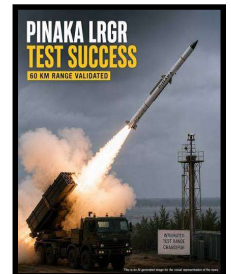
- The Indian contingent includes four Rafale fighter jets and two C-17 transport aircraft. This is the first participation of Indian Air Force Rafale fighter jets in Exercise Pitch Black.

Participating Forces and Objectives

- The exercise will involve up to 100 aircraft and more than 2,500 personnel from 19 to 20 allied and partner nations. Its stated objectives include interoperability, operational cooperation, combat flying skills, and exchange of best practices among air forces.

DRDO SUCCESSFULLY FLIGHT-TESTS PINAKA LONG RANGE GUIDED ROCKET, BOOSTING INDIA'S PRECISION STRIKE CAPABILITY -

- Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful flight-test of Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR) at the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur on 8th of July, 2026. The rocket was tested for a user defined minimum range of 60 kms. The Pinaka LRGR followed its planned trajectory perfectly and hit its target with great accuracy.



What Is the Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket?

- The Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR) is an innovative guided artillery rocket intended to improve the striking power of the Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launcher system of the Indian Army.
- As opposed to normal rockets, the LRGR uses high-tech guidance technology to hit specific targets accurately and deal with enemies from a considerable distance away.
- This system allows for enhancing the effectiveness in the battlefield due to the combination of distance with high precision of strikes.



SPORTS

HOCKEY WORLD CUP 2026 - 2026 Hockey World Cup: Tournament Overview

- The 2026 version of the FIH Hockey World Cup will be co-held in Belgium and Netherlands, making it one of the largest international hockey tournaments of the year.
- What is more, unlike in the previous editions, the competition format this time allows for more matches per team. Overall, there will be 32 teams (16 men's and 16 women's) playing in 15 days to win the trophy.
- The tournament will be held at two historic football venues at the same time, making it one of the most ambitious editions in the history of the FIH World Cup.



2026 Hockey World Cup Key Points

- Tournament: FIH Hockey World Cup 2026
- Dates: From August 15 to August 30, 2026
- Hosts: Belgium and the Netherlands
- Men's teams: 16
- Women's teams: 16
- Total number of teams: 32
- Locations: Amstelveen and Wavre

ISSF WORLD CUP 2026: INDIA FINISHES CAMPAIGN WITH FOUR MEDALS -

- India concluded its campaign at the ISSF World Cup 2026 on a positive note by securing four medals across rifle, pistol, and shotgun events. The final medal came in the 10-meter Air Rifle Mixed Team event, where Sonam Maskar and Himanshu Dhillon clinched the bronze medal, helping India finish the tournament with an impressive overall performance.
- The Indian contingent ended the competition with one gold, one silver, and two bronze medals, reflecting the country's growing strength in international shooting competitions.

Particular	Details
Tournament	ISSF World Cup 2026
India's Total Medals	4
Gold	1
Silver	1
Bronze	2
Final Medal	Bronze - 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team
Overall Performance	1 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze

SHARMILA DHANKAR WINS HISTORIC GOLD, SHILPA SHYLA BAGS BRONZE IN PARA SHOT PUT AT COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2026 -

Sharmila Dhankar Creates History With her Gold

- Sharmila Dhankar delivered the sensational performance in the final of Women's F57 Shot put.
- She threw the best throw of her season which measured 9.81 meters resulting in her winning the gold medal and making India wait 20 years for a Para Athletics medal at the Commonwealth Games.
- With this historic achievement she became the first Indian person to win a medal in Para Athletics at Commonwealth Games.



Shilpa Shyla Won Bronze Medal

- Indian thrower Shilpa Shyla won the bronze medal with a throw of 7.26 meters, which was her personal best throw in the women's F-54 category in the Commonwealth Games.
- Shilpa Shyla's performance added to India's remarkable achievement of accomplishing two medal victories in a para-athletics event in the Commonwealth Games for the first time in the history of the event.

AJAYA BABU WINS SILVER AT COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2026, INDIA CONTINUES WEIGHTLIFTING DOMINANCE -

Ajaya Babu Won Silver in Glasgow

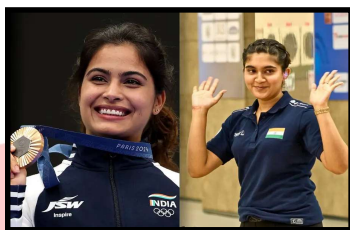
- Ajaya Babu was honored at the Commonwealth Games 2026 for the silver medal achievement in the Men's 79kg weightlifting.
- Ajaya Babu accomplished a remarkable feat by lifting 149 kg in the snatch and 181 kg in the clean and jerk achieving a total of 330 kg combined.



- Malaysia's Erry Hidayat Muhammad took home the gold medal with a Games record of 331 kg with a lift of 147 kg in snatch and 184 kg in clean and jerk whereas Chris Murray from England secured the bronze medal with a total of 325 kg.
- The final rankings are,
- Gold – Erry Hidayat Muhammad (Malaysia) – 331kg
- Silver – Ajaya Babu (India) – 330kg
- Bronze – Chris Murray (England) – 325kg

ISSF WORLD CUP 2026: ESHA SINGH WINS GOLD, MANU BHAKER BAGS BRONZE FOR INDIA -

- In the women's 25m pistol category at the ISSF World Cup 2026 in Hangzhou, China, Esha Singh brought home the gold medal, alongside Manu Bhaker who won the bronze medal in the same competition. Esha's remarkable performance in the final made her a champion and gave Esha an opportunity to qualify directly for the ISSF World Cup Final 2026 in Rome. As for Manu, she added another international medal to her long list of accomplishments.



Esha Singh Wins Gold in Women's 25m Pistol Final

- Esha Singh, who is just 21 years old, showed an impressive show in her performance and managed to get a gold medal in the women's 25m pistol final.
- On her way to winning the medal, Esha achieved a total of 40 hits, whereas the silver medalist from China, Zhang Yueyue achieved only 37 hits.
- Esha's remarkable performance at the final follows her good performance in the qualifiers, where she ended up at second position.

Manu Bhaker Honored with Bronze Medal for India.

- The Olympian Manu Bhaker proved her consistency by winning the bronze medal in the same category.
- In a tense shoot-off, the athlete remained calm to claim victory with 28 hits and earn her medal.

SPAIN VS ARGENTINA FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 -

- The final match of the FIFA World Cup 2026 took place on July 19th, 2026, at the New York New Jersey Stadium (MetLife Stadium), which is located in the East Rutherford, New Jersey, USA.



Key Points

- Champion:** Spain (Won their 2nd title; first was in 2010).
- Runner-up:** Argentina.
- Score:** 1-0 (Spain won in extra time).
- Goal Scorer:** Ferran Torres (106th minute).
- Venue:** MetLife Stadium (New York New Jersey Stadium), East Rutherford, USA.
- Host Countries:** USA, Canada, and Mexico (First time co-hosted by three nations).
- Historic Record:** Spain became the first nation to simultaneously hold both the Men's and Women's FIFA World Cup titles.

Individual Award Winners

- Golden Ball:** Rodri (Spain) – Best player of the tournament
- Silver Ball:** Lionel Messi (Argentina)
- Bronze Ball:** Kylian Mbappé (France)
- Golden Boot:** Kylian Mbappé (France) – 10 goals and 4 assists
- Silver Boot:** Lionel Messi (Argentina) – 8 goals and 4 assists
- Bronze Boot:** Jude Bellingham (England) – 7 goals
- Golden Glove:** Unai Simón (Spain) – Best goalkeeper with seven clean sheets
- FIFA Young Player Award:** Pau Cubarsí (Spain) – Outstanding 19-year-old defender
- FIFA Fair Play Trophy:** Netherlands



TAMIL NADU'S ASWATH BECOMES INDIA'S 98TH GRANDMASTER -

- S. Aswath, a 17-year-old chess player from Nagercoil in Tamil Nadu, became India's 98th Grandmaster on 8 July 2026. He earned his third and final Grandmaster norm at the Pune International GM tournament in July 2026.
- Grandmaster title in chess
- The Grandmaster title is awarded by the International Chess Federation, also known as FIDE. A player must secure three Grandmaster norms and cross a FIDE rating of 2500 to receive the title.

**Pune International Grandmaster Round Robin Tournament**

- Aswath finished second in the Pune International Grandmaster Round Robin Tournament with 7 points from 9 rounds. He defeated USA's FM Kannan Vaidyanathan with the black pieces in the final round to complete his final norm.

VAIBHAV SOORYAVANSHI BECOMES YOUNGEST INDIA DEBUTANT AT 15 -

- On 4th of July, 2026 Vaibhav Sooryavanshi became the youngest player ever to play for India in any form of International cricket. At the age of 15 years and 99 days, he received his T20Is cap, will play against the England at Old Trafford in Manchester against England. After his

debut he broke the record of legendary Sachin Tendulkar, who hold this record for more than three decades and played his first match against Pakistan at the age of 16 years and 205 days.

**Vaibhav Sooryavanshi Creates History on India Debut**

- Vaibhav Sooryavanshi made debut for India at the age of just 15 years and 99 days, with this Vaibhav Sooryavanshi becomes the youngest cricketer to play for India in any format.
- He broke the record of Master Blaster Sachin Tendulkar who played for India first time at the age of 16 years and 205 days old in a Test match against Pakistan in Karachi in 1989, November.
- He received his India cap before the second T20I match against England in Manchester on 4th July, 2026.

Records Broken by Vaibhav Sooryavanshi

- Here are the key records broken by Vaibhav
- Youngest player to play for India in cricket.
- Youngest Indian mens T20I debutant.
- Vaibhav Sooryavanshi broke Sachin Tendulkars record as India's international cricketer.
- Vaibhav Sooryavanshi also did better than Washington Sundar, who made his debut at 18 years and 80 days in 2017.
- Youngest player to debut for a cricket nation in Men's T20 International cricket.



MAPS

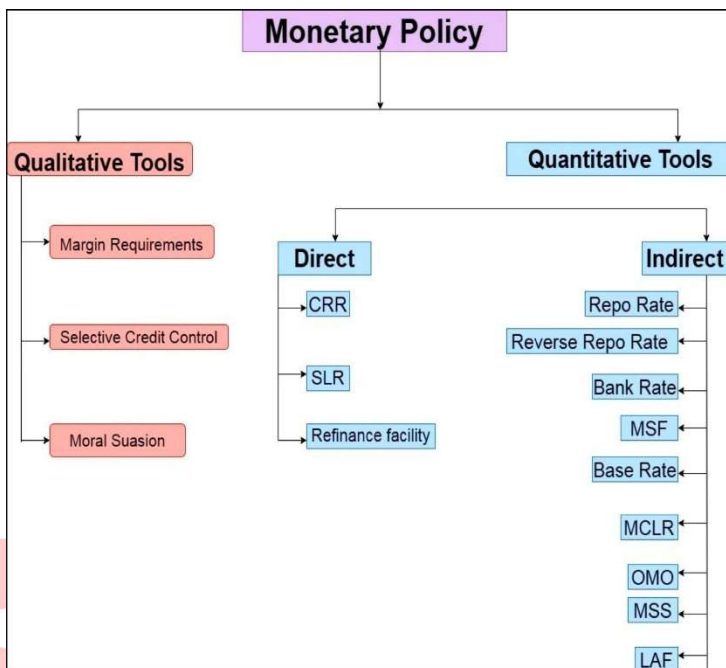


Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total Medals
1	Australia	70	45	56	171
2	England	29	45	36	110
3	Canada	19	20	23	62
4	India	13	17	9	39
5	Scotland (Host)	13	9	17	39
6	New Zealand	10	14	12	33
7	Nigeria	10	7	7	24
8	Jamaica	10	4	5	19
9	Wales	9	10	12	31
10	Malaysia	8	3	5	16



All Five-Year Plans of India

No.	Plan	Period
1	First Five-Year Plan	1951 – 1956
2	Second Five-Year Plan	1956 – 1961
3	Third Five-Year Plan	1961 – 1966
—	Plan Holiday (Annual Plans)	1966 – 1969
4	Fourth Five-Year Plan	1969 – 1974
5	Fifth Five-Year Plan	1974 – 1979
—	Rolling Plan	1978 – 1980
6	Sixth Five-Year Plan	1980 – 1985
7	Seventh Five-Year Plan	1985 – 1990
—	Annual Plans	1990 – 1992
8	Eighth Five-Year Plan	1992 – 1997
9	Ninth Five-Year Plan	1997 – 2002
10	Tenth Five-Year Plan	2002 – 2007
11	Eleventh Five-Year Plan	2007 – 2012
12	Twelfth Five-Year Plan	2012 – 2017



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



IMPORTANT MCQ FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS

- Q1. Recently, the PM-PRANAM scheme was in the news. The scheme primarily aims to:
- Increase the consumption of chemical fertilizers
 - Encourage States to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers through financial incentives
 - Provide free fertilizers to all farmers
 - Promote only organic exports from India
- Q2. Recently, Smt. Varsha Ashok Aglawe was in the news for becoming the first woman to head which of the following organizations ?
- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
 - Geological Survey of India (GSI)
 - Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)
 - National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
- Q3. Recently, cloudbursts were in the news following heavy rainfall in the Himalayan States. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), a cloudburst occurs when an area receives at least:
- 50 mm of rainfall in one hour
 - 75 mm of rainfall in one hour
 - 100 mm of rainfall in one hour
 - 150 mm of rainfall in one hour
- Q4. With reference to the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2026, consider the following statements:
- The Bill amends Section 13(3) of the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.
 - Registration of a birth or death delayed by more than two years will require an order from a First-Class Judicial Magistrate.
 - Registration delayed between one and two years will continue to be approved by the District Magistrate (DM), Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), or Executive Magistrate.
 - The Bill abolishes the Civil Registration System (CRS) and replaces it with a judicial registration mechanism.
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 1,3 and 4 only
 - 1, 2 and 3 only
 - 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q5. With reference to the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2026, consider the following statements about India:
- India secured the 176th rank out of 177 countries evaluated.
 - India's overall score was higher than the South Asian regional average.
 - The report noted critical concerns regarding tree cover loss in key biodiversity areas [0.3].
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 2 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 1, 2, and 3
- Q6. Aadi Perukku is a traditional festival celebrated in which state ?
- Karnataka
 - Kerala
 - Tamil Nadu
 - Andhra Pradesh
- Q7. Dhimsa, which recently entered the Guinness World Records, is a traditional tribal folk dance of which state?
- Andhra Pradesh
 - Karnataka
 - Kerala
 - Tamil Nadu
- Q8. Dhauladhar Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state ?
- Himachal Pradesh
 - Uttarakhand
 - Sikkim
 - Arunachal Pradesh
- Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the Nasha Mukti Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan:
- It is structured as a 100-week nationwide campaign aimed at building an addiction-free youth population for the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.



2. The campaign originated from a pilot initiative in Kashi and functions under the Kashi Declaration with support from spiritual bodies and NGOs.

3. The operational implementation of the campaign relies entirely on private corporate funding rather than government platforms like MY Bharat.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

Q10. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme, consider the following statements:

- 1. PM-KISAN is a Central Sector Scheme fully funded by the Government of India.
- 2. Eligible farmer families receive ₹6,000 annually in three equal installments through the Aadhaar-enabled Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism.
- 3. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- 4. The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the scheme from 2026–27 to 2030–31 with a financial outlay of ₹3.15 lakh crore.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

Q11. Which scheme was recently approved by the Union Cabinet to promote floating solar power projects ?

- a) PM Kusum Yojana
- b) PM Surya Ghar Yojana
- c) PM Surya Sarovar Yojana
- d) National Solar Mission

Q12. What is India's rank in the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2026 ?

- a) 170th
- b) 174th
- c) 176th
- d) 177th

Q13. What is the primary objective of recently launched 'e-Upahaar' portal ?

- a) Online public auction of Presidential gifts
- b) Digital registration of traditional artisans
- c) Distribution of scholarships to single girl children

d) Online sale of GI-tagged handicrafts

Q14. Consider the following pairs regarding the national symbols of India and historical facts:

- 1. Vande Mataram : First sung publicly by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay at the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress (INC).
- 2. Jana Gana Mana : Receives statutory protection under the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
- 3. Anandamath : The original source of Vande Mataram, written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1882.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched ?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q15. Consider the following statements regarding the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026:

- 1. It mandates investigating agencies to complete their investigations within 60 days.
- 2. Special Fast-Track Courts are required to conclude trials within three months from the date of filing the charge sheet.
- 3. The Central Government is empowered to constitute Special Task Forces (STFs) for inter-state coordination in organised exam fraud cases.

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

Q16. What is the primary objective of the PM-Vidyalaxmi Scheme ?

- a) To provide free laptops to all college students
- b) Provide financial support to meritorious students for higher education
- c) To offer scholarships only for overseas education
- d) To provide free coaching for civil services aspirants

Q17. Bornadi Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state ?

- a) Nagaland
- b) Manipur
- c) Tripura
- d) Assam



- Q18. The 'Samudra Pradakshina' expedition, recently flagged in by the Defence Minister, was undertaken onboard:
a) INS Vikrant
b) IASV Triveni
c) INS Tarini
d) INS Sunayna
- Q19. With reference to Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs), consider the following statements:
1. A retail CBDC is designed for widespread public use, allowing citizens to make daily digital payments directly using central bank money.
2. The United Kingdom became the first country in the world to fully launch a nationwide, functional retail digital currency.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
- Q20. Consider the following statements regarding the recent inscription of Sarnath on the UNESCO World Heritage List:
1. Sarnath is India's 45th UNESCO World Heritage Site and the second such site in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
2. The first sermon delivered by Lord Buddha at Sarnath to his five disciples is historically termed as Dharmachakrapravartana.
3. Sarnath is one of the four major Buddhist pilgrimage sites, alongside Lumbini, Bodhi Gaya, and Kushinagar.
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
- Q21. Mirabai Chanu won which medal at the 2026 Commonwealth Games ?
a) Gold
b) Silver
c) Bronze
d) None of the above
- Q22. Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed every year on which day ?
a) July 24
b) July 25
c) July 26
d) July 27
- Q23. Kusha Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LR-SAM) system has been developed by which organization ?
a) Defence Research and Development Organisation
b) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
c) Bharat Dynamics Limited
d) Indian Space Research Organization
- Q24. Consider the following statements regarding the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) and recent regional geopolitical updates:
1. The treaty allocates the entire unrestricted water usage of the Eastern Rivers (Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej) to India.
2. Pakistan receives entitlement to roughly 80% of the total water allocation of the Indus Basin under the original framework.
3. Following recent regional cross-border skirmishes, India has legally terminated the treaty and formally withdrawn from its legal structures.
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
- Q25. With reference to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and its expanding global footprint, consider the following statements:
1. The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has successfully linked UPI with Singapore's PayNow system to enable real-time cross-border peer-to-peer fund transfers.
2. UPI transactions in India are completely restricted to bank accounts and cannot be linked to credit cards under existing Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regulations.
3. Transactions executed via UPI are processed exclusively through the SWIFT international banking network to ensure global security compliance.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Q26. India's first immersive language museum, 'Museum of Word' (Shabdlok), has been established in which city?

- a) Mumbai
- b) Hyderabad
- c) Chennai
- d) Kolkata

Q27. The world's largest curd manufacturing plant is being developed in which state ?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) West Bengal
- d) Uttar Pradesh

Q28. India's first and deepest geothermal wells were commissioned in which state/UT ?

- a) Himachal Pradesh
- b) Ladakh
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Lakshadweep

Q29. Consider the following statements regarding the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC):

1. It comprises two distinct corridors: the East Corridor connecting India to the Arabian Gulf, and the Northern Corridor connecting the Gulf to Europe.
2. It includes a ship-to-rail transit network alongside electricity cables, a high-speed data line, and a clean hydrogen pipeline.
3. The project was officially launched under the aegis of the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) during the G20 New Delhi Summit.

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

Q30. Consider the following statements regarding the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) global expansion:

1. India's UPI has been integrated with Singapore's PayNow network to enable real-time, low-cost cross-border person-to-person (P2P) fund transfers.
2. The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) International Payments Limited (NIPL) is the entity tasked with deploying UPI architecture outside India.

3. France became the first European country to accept UPI payments, starting at the Eiffel Tower.

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

Q31. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) functions under which ministry ?

- a) Ministry of Home Affairs
- b) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- c) Ministry of External Affairs
- d) Ministry of Defence

Q32. Which state recorded the highest number of cyber fraud complaints in India during January-June 2026 ?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Karnataka
- d) Tamil Nadu

Q33. The Korku community, recently in the news, is primarily concentrated in which of the following states?

- a) Odisha and Jharkhand
- b) Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra
- c) Chhattisgarh and Telangana
- d) Gujarat and Rajasthan

Q34. Consider the following statements regarding the working mechanism of India's first hydrogen-powered train, the NaMo Green Rail:

1. The train generates electricity onboard through a chemical reaction between hydrogen and atmospheric oxygen.
2. The only by-product released during this power generation process is oxygen and water vapour.
3. It utilizes a propulsion system that solely relies on hydrogen fuel cells without requiring any batteries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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



- Q35. Consider the following statements regarding the recently approved Semicon Mission 2.0:
1. It is a completely new initiative succeeding the earlier Rs 76,000 crore allocation.
 2. The mission provides incentives only for finished semiconductor chip manufacturing, excluding raw materials and gases.
 3. The newly approved outlay is expected to attract four times its value in investments.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 3 only
 - c) 2 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q36. The 5th BIMSTEC National Security Advisers' Meeting was held in which city ?
- a) New Delhi
 - b) Chennai
 - c) Hyderabad
 - d) Bengaluru
- Q37. Recently, the Jaisalmer Railway Station was redeveloped under which of the following schemes ?
- a) PM Gati Shakti Scheme
 - b) Bharatmala Pariyojana
 - c) Smart Cities Mission
 - d) Amrit Bharat Station Scheme
- Q38. PM E-DRIVE Scheme is implemented by which ministry ?
- a) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
 - b) Ministry of Power
 - c) Ministry of Heavy Industries
 - d) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- Q39. Consider the following statements about the Index of Services Production (ISP):
1. It is developed by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) to cover both formal and informal services sectors.
 2. It has a base year of 2024–25 and acts as a high-frequency monthly indicator.
 3. It was introduced to address the measurement gap since the existing Index of Industrial Production (IIP) covers only industrial activities.
- 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
- Q40. 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
- Q41. NAMASTE Scheme, that was recently seen in news, primarily focuses on the welfare of which category of workers ?
- a) Sanitation workers, including sewer and septic tank workers
 - b) Agricultural workers, fishermen, and dairy workers
 - c) Delivery workers, transport workers, and street vendors
 - d) Construction workers, factory workers, and industrial labourers
- Q42. Recently, the Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR) was in the news. What is its operational strike range ?
- a) 30–60 km
 - b) 60–120 km
 - c) 120–180 km
 - d) 150–250 km
- Q43. Recently, Unjha Cumin (Jeera) and Unjha Fennel (Variyali) received Geographical Indication (GI) tags. They are associated with which of the following states?
- a) Rajasthan
 - b) Gujarat
 - c) Madhya Pradesh
 - d) Maharashtra



- Q44. With reference to Geographical Indication (GI) tags in India, consider the following statements:
1. A GI tag in India is governed by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
 2. The GI registry is administered by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
 3. The validity of a GI tag is 10 years, after which it cannot be renewed.
- 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
- Q45. Consider the following statements regarding the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme in India:
1. The programme aims to blend ethanol with petrol specifically to reduce dependence on fossil fuel imports and to lower carbon emissions.
 2. The implementation of the EBP Programme is overseen by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
 3. India successfully achieved its 20% ethanol blending (E20) target ahead of the original timeline.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 1 and 3 only
 - c) 2 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2, and 3
- Q46. Astra Mk 1 is an indigenous Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) developed by which organization ?
- a) Defence Research and Development Organisation
 - b) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
 - c) Indian Space Research Organization
 - d) Bharat Dynamics Limited
- Q47. Which state has become the 6th fully literate state in India under the ULLAS – New India Literacy Programme and NEP 2020 ?
- a) Odisha
 - b) Uttarakhand
 - c) Uttar Pradesh
 - d) Karnataka
- Q48. Recently, the Prambanan Temple was in the news. It is located in which of the following countries ?
- a) Thailand
 - b) Cambodia
 - c) Indonesia
 - d) Malaysia
- Q49. With reference to the Right to be Forgotten (RTBF) in India, consider the following statements:
1. The Right to be Forgotten is recognised as part of the right to privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution.
 2. In *Laksh Vir Singh Yadav v. Union of India* (2026), the Delhi High Court held that RTBF can, in appropriate cases, operate against private digital platforms and search engines.
 3. The Court ruled that all judicial records containing personal information must be permanently deleted upon an individual's request.
 4. The Court introduced a Structured Proportionality Test to balance privacy with open justice and public interest.
- Which of the statements given above are correct ?
- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
 - b) 1, 3 and 4 only
 - c) 1, 2 and 4 only
 - d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q50. Which of the following developments were announced during the recent India–Indonesia Summit ?
1. Cooperation in critical minerals, including rare earths and steel supply chains.
 2. Support for the Gaganyaan Mission through Indonesia's Biak tracking facilities.
 3. India's support for the restoration of the UNESCO-listed Prambanan Temple Complex.
 4. A joint decision to establish a common currency for bilateral trade.
- Select the correct answer using the code below:
- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
 - b) 1, 3 and 4 only
 - c) 1, 2 and 4 only
 - d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q51. The Prambanan Temple Complex, recently seen in the news, is located in which country ?
- a) Malaysia
 - b) Indonesia
 - c) Japan
 - d) Vietnam



- Q52. Which country won the ICC Women's T20 Cricket World Cup 2026 ?
a) England
b) Australia
c) India
d) New Zealand
- Q53. Recently, the Durand Cup 2026 was in the news. The Durand Cup is associated with which of the following sports ?
a) Hockey
b) Football
c) Cricket
d) Polo
- Q54. With reference to the Gaganyaan Mission, consider the following statements:
1. The mission aims to send three astronauts to Low Earth Orbit (LEO) at an altitude of about 400 km for a mission lasting up to seven days.
2. The mission will be launched using the Human-Rated LVM3 (HLVM3) launch vehicle.
3. Before the crewed mission, ISRO plans to conduct uncrewed flights, including one carrying the humanoid robot Vyommitra.
4. The Crew Escape System (CES) is designed primarily to provide propulsion for orbital manoeuvres after the spacecraft reaches orbit.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 1, 3 and 4 only
c) 1, 2 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q55. With reference to the Global Passport Index (GPI) 2026, consider the following statements:
1. The Global Passport Index ranks passports using only visa-free and visa-on-arrival travel access.
2. The index assigns the highest weightage to the Enhanced Mobility component.
3. The Investment Index and Quality of Living Index carry equal weightage in the overall ranking.
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
- Q56. Recently, the Union Government proposed a customized governance framework for Ladakh under which of the following constitutional provisions ?
a) Fifth Schedule
b) Sixth Schedule
c) Article 371
d) Article 356
- Q57. Recently, the National Narcotics Helpline MANAS was in the news. It has been launched under which of the following organizations ?
a) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
b) Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)
c) National Investigation Agency (NIA)
d) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)
- Q58. Recently, Mission Aagaman was in the news. It is the maiden launch mission of which of the following launch vehicles ?
a) SSLV-D4
b) PSLV-C65
c) GSLV Mk III
d) Vikram-1
- Q59. With reference to water security in India, consider the following statements:
1. Water security refers only to ensuring an adequate supply of water for agriculture and domestic use.
2. India possesses about 4% of the world's freshwater resources while supporting nearly 18% of the global population.
3. Per capita annual water availability below 1,000 cubic metres is generally regarded as an indicator of severe water scarcity.
4. Achieving water security requires efficient water management, conservation, reuse, recycling, and equitable allocation of water resources.
Which of the statements given above are correct ?
a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 1, 3 and 4 only
c) 2, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q60. With reference to the Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) [VB-G RAM G] Act, 2025, consider the following statements:
1. The Act replaces the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) across India.



2. It guarantees 125 days of wage employment to every rural individual above 18 years of age.
3. The Act mandates wage payment within 15 days, with compensation payable for delays.
4. Gram Panchayats prepare Viksit Gram Panchayat Plans (VGPPs) through Gram Sabha participation.
Which of the statements given above are correct ?
a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 1, 3 and 4 only
c) 2 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q61. Recently, Delhi's Monument Adoption Scheme was in the news. Under this scheme, adopted monuments are maintained by entities designated as:
a) Heritage Ambassadors
b) Monument Mitras
c) Culture Guardians
d) Monument Custodians
- Q62. Recently, which of the following countries became the 27th member of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) ?
a) Nepal
b) Bhutan
c) Bangladesh
d) Sri Lanka
- Q63. Recently, Project BRAHMANK was in the news. It is a specialized project of which of the following organizations ?
a) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
b) Border Roads Organisation (BRO)
c) National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)
d) Military Engineer Services (MES)
- Q64. With reference to the Civil Registration System (CRS) Report 2024, consider the following statements:
1. The Civil Registration System (CRS) is governed by the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.
2. The Registrar General of India (RGI) functions under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
3. The CRS provides continuous, compulsory, and universal registration of births, deaths, and stillbirths.
4. 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 ?
a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 1, 3 and 4 only
c) 2 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Q65. Consider the following statements regarding the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) as reported in the Civil Registration System (CRS) Report 2024:
1. The Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) is the number of female live births per 1,000 male live births.
2. India's Sex Ratio at Birth in 2024 was 917 females per 1,000 males.
3. A Sex Ratio at Birth close to 950 females per 1,000 males is generally considered the natural biological range.
4. Nagaland recorded the highest Sex Ratio at Birth among all States and Union Territories in 2024.
How many of the above statements are correct ?
a) Only one
b) Only two
c) Only three
d) all four
- Q66. Recently, Ayushman Sarathi was launched as an official WhatsApp chatbot for which of the following schemes ?
a) Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)
b) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
c) PM eVIDYA
d) eSanjeevani
- Q67. Recently, which of the following countries became the 27th member of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) ?
a) Nepal
b) Bhutan
c) Bangladesh
d) Sri Lanka
- Q68. Recently, an agreement was signed between which two states for implementation of the Yamuna Water Project ?
a) Haryana and Punjab
b) Rajasthan and Gujarat
c) Haryana and Rajasthan
d) Uttar Pradesh and Haryana
- Q69. With reference to the Europe Heatwave Crisis 2026, consider the following statements:
1. 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.

2. The high-pressure system associated with an Omega Block promotes cloud formation and rainfall, thereby moderating temperatures.

3. Europe is warming at nearly twice the global average, partly due to Arctic amplification.

4. Urban Heat Island Effect contributes to higher temperatures in cities by increasing heat absorption and retention.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

Q70. Recently, Delhi's Monument Adoption Scheme was in the news. Under this scheme, adopted monuments are maintained by entities designated as:

- a) Heritage Ambassadors
- b) Monument Mitras
- c) Culture Guardians
- d) Monument Custodians

Q71. Recently, which of the following countries became the 27th member of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) ?

- a) Nepal
- b) Bhutan
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Sri Lanka

Q72. Recently, Project BRAHMANK was in the news. It is a specialized project of which of the following organizations ?

- a) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
- b) Border Roads Organisation (BRO)
- c) National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)
- d) Military Engineer Services (MES)

Q73. With reference to the Civil Registration System (CRS) Report 2024, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Civil Registration System (CRS) is governed by the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.
- 2. The Registrar General of India (RGI) functions under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- 3. The CRS provides continuous, compulsory, and universal registration of births, deaths, and stillbirths.
- 4. 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 ?

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

Q74. Consider the following statements regarding the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) as reported in the Civil Registration System (CRS) Report 2024:

- 1. The Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) is the number of female live births per 1,000 male live births.
- 2. India's Sex Ratio at Birth in 2024 was 917 females per 1,000 males.
- 3. A Sex Ratio at Birth close to 950 females per 1,000 males is generally considered the natural biological range.
- 4. Nagaland recorded the highest Sex Ratio at Birth among all States and Union Territories in 2024.

How many of the above statements are correct ?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) all four

Q75. Recently, Ayushman Sarathi was launched as an official WhatsApp chatbot for which of the following schemes ?

- a) Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)
- b) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
- c) PM eVIDYA
- d) eSanjeevani

Q76. Recently, an agreement was signed between which two states for implementation of the Yamuna Water Project ?

- a) Haryana and Punjab
- b) Rajasthan and Gujarat
- c) Haryana and Rajasthan
- d) Uttar Pradesh and Haryana

Q77. With reference to the Europe Heatwave Crisis 2026, consider the following statements:

- 1. 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.
- 2. The high-pressure system associated with an Omega Block promotes cloud formation and rainfall, thereby moderating temperatures.
- 3. Europe is warming at nearly twice the global average, partly due to Arctic amplification.



4. Urban Heat Island Effect contributes to higher temperatures in cities by increasing heat absorption and retention.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

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

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

Q78. 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

Q79. Amrabad Tiger Reserve is located in which state ?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Telangana
- d) Madhya Pradesh

Q80. Lonar Lake, that was recently seen in news, is located in which state ?

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

Q81. The Kiru Hydroelectric Power Project is being developed on which river ?

- a) Beas
- b) Jhelum
- c) Chenab
- d) Ravi

Q82. 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.

Q83. 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

Q84. 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

Q85. 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

Q86. '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



- Q87. 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
- Q88. 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
- Q89. 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
- Q90. 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
- Q91. 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
- Q92. 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
- Q93. 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
- Q94. 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)
- Q95. 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



Q96. 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

Q97. Khurasani Imli, recently awarded a GI tag, is associated with which state ?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Gujarat
- c) Uttarakhand

d) Madhya Pradesh

Q98. 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

Q99. 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

Q100. Amangarh Tiger Reserve is located in which state ?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Odisha

ANSWERS

1- b	2- b	3- c	4- c	5- c	6- c	7- a	8- a	9- a	10- c
11- c	12- c	13- a	14- b	15- d	16- b	17- d	18- b	19- a	20- c
21- a	22- c	23- a	24- a	25- a	26- d	27- c	28- b	29- d	30- d
31- d	32- a	33- b	34- a	35- b	36- a	37- d	38- c	39- c	40- a
41- a	42- b	43- b	44- a	45- b	46- a	47- b	48- c	49- c	50- a
51- b	52- b	53- b	54- a	55- c	56- c	57- b	58- d	59- c	60- b
61- b	62- c	63- b	64- b	65- c	66- a	67- c	68- c	69- a	70- b
71- c	72- b	73- b	74- c	75- a	76- c	77- a	78- a	79- c	80- d
81- c	82- a	83- b	84- b	85- a	86- c	87- c	88- d	89- c	90- b
91- c	92- b	93- b	94- d	95- b	96- c	97- d	98- b	99- a	100- c

