

AIR1

UP-PSC2026

Prelims Facts Drill

Current Affairs *through* Q&A

**Monthly Compilation- 09
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UTTAR PRADESH CURRENT AFFAIRS

UTTAR PRADESH – KAUSHAL SAMPARK

- Which State Government launched the 'Kaushal Sampark' QR code initiative to facilitate direct feedback from youth undergoing skill training?
– Uttar Pradesh.
- On which occasion was the 'Kaushal Sampark' QR code initiative launched?
– Independence Day.
- Where was the 'Kaushal Vatika' inaugurated?
– Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission headquarters.
- With which two companies did the Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission sign MoUs for specialised training?
– ITP Intense Education Tech Pvt. Ltd. and Fulgor Energy Pvt. Ltd.

PARICHHA WEIR – JHANSI

- Which 140-year-old irrigation structure in Jhansi has been recognised as a World Heritage Irrigation Structure (WHIS)?
– Parichha Weir.
- Which organisation recognises World Heritage Irrigation Structures (WHIS)?
– International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID).
- Across which river is the Parichha Weir constructed?
– Betwa River.
- When did construction of the Parichha Weir begin?
– 1881.
- What is the minimum age requirement for an irrigation structure to receive WHIS recognition?
– Over 100 years old and still functional.
- In which project is the Parichha Weir expected to play a role?
– Ken-Betwa River Linking Project.

KANPUR – LABOUR SETTLEMENT

- How many contract workers at the Ordnance Factory, Kanpur benefited from the settlement of a wage-related dispute?
– 423 contract workers.
- Under which company does the Ordnance Factory, Kanpur operate?
– Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited (AWEIL).
- Through which process was the wage-related dispute of 423 contract workers resolved?
– Conciliation proceedings.

- **Who led the conciliation proceedings that resolved the dispute?**
 - Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Kanpur.

UTTAR PRADESH POLICE – KIRTI CHAKRA

- **Which Uttar Pradesh Police Inspector was posthumously awarded the Kirti Chakra for exceptional bravery during an encounter with the Mukim Kala gang?**
 - Inspector Sunil Kumar.
- **In which district did Inspector Sunil Kumar lose his life during the operation against the Mukim Kala gang?**
 - Shamli.
- **Inspector Sunil Kumar was associated with which police unit?**
 - Special Task Force (STF).
- **Who became the first Uttar Pradesh Police personnel to receive the Kirti Chakra?**
 - Inspector Sunil Kumar.

BAREILLY – PARAMPARA CENTRE

- **Which city is among the five cities selected for the establishment of ‘Parampara Centres’ by the Uttar Pradesh Government?**
 - Bareilly.
- **What is the main objective of the ‘Parampara Centres’?**
 - To preserve and promote regional folk culture, art, cuisine and traditions while boosting tourism.
- **In which five cities will ‘Parampara Centres’ be developed?**
 - Bareilly, Ayodhya, Gorakhpur, Varanasi and Chitrakoot.
- **Approximately how much land is required for a ‘Parampara Centre’?**
 - Around 2 acres.
- **What is the estimated cost prepared for the proposed ‘Parampara Centre’ in Bareilly?**
 - ₹5 crore.
- **Where is land being explored for the proposed Parampara Centre in Bareilly?**
 - Near the Ramganga River in Chaubari.
- **What products will be displayed at the Parampara Centre?**
 - ODOP products and other prominent local products.
- **Which major tourist destinations are proposed to be connected with the Parampara Centre in Bareilly?**
 - Nath Corridor, Manauna Dham and Kachhla Ganga Ghat.
- **Which initiatives are also promoting tourism in Bareilly?**
 - Nath Corridor, Nagar Van and Leelaur Lake.

UTTAR PRADESH – VEDARANYAM

- Which State is developing 'Vedaranyam', described as the country's first ecospiritual park?
– Uttar Pradesh.
- Where is 'Vedaranyam' being developed?
– Naimisharanya, Sitapur.
- What is the estimated cost of developing 'Vedaranyam'?
– Around ₹14.09 crore.
- Over approximately how much area will 'Vedaranyam' be spread?
– 10 hectares.
- How many trees and plants are planned to be planted in 'Vedaranyam'?
– Around 2 lakh.
- Which organisation is undertaking the construction of 'Vedaranyam'?
– Uttar Pradesh Rajkiya Nirman Nigam.
- How much has been sanctioned for the first phase of 'Vedaranyam'?
– Around ₹6 crore.
- What is the theme of 'Vedaranyam'?
– "Where Nature Meets Eternal Knowledge".
- Which Vedic trees will cover around 30% of 'Vedaranyam'?
– Peepal, Banyan, Bel, Amla and Shami.
- Cuttings of Banyan trees associated with which sacred trees will be used in 'Vedaranyam'?
– Akshayavat (Prayagraj), Panchavat (Nashik), Vanshivat (Vrindavan), Gayavat (Gaya) and Siddhavat (Ujjain).
- Which facilities are planned to showcase the lifestyle and traditions of ancient sages at 'Vedaranyam'?
– Sut Gaddi, Rishi Sabha, walking trails and arrangements for Vedic sounds.

UP-JAPAN INVESTMENT MEET 2026

- How many Japanese industrialists, CEOs, business representatives, and policymakers is the UP-Japan Investment Meet 2026 expected to bring together?
– More than 200.
- Where is Uttar Pradesh proposing to develop a dedicated 500-acre 'Japanese City'?
– In the YEIDA region.
- Who is leading the Japanese delegation at the UP-Japan Investment Meet 2026?
– Kotaro Nagasaki, Governor of Yamanashi Prefecture.
- Which sectors are the major focus areas of the UP-Japan Investment Meet 2026?
– Manufacturing, semiconductors, clean and green energy, digital infrastructure, skill development, and tourism.
- Which locations are being explored for Japanese investment under the Buddhist tourism circuit?
– Varanasi, Sarnath, and Kushinagar.

- Which city is being considered for Japanese investment in tourism and smart civic infrastructure?
– Agra.
- What broader economic target does the UP–Japan investment initiative support?
– Uttar Pradesh’s target of achieving a **US\$1 trillion economy**.

CHHOTE LAL YADAV – DRONACHARYA AWARD

- Who received the prestigious Dronacharya Award for his contribution to Indian boxing coaching?
– Chhote Lal Yadav.
- Chhote Lal Yadav is a resident of which city of Uttar Pradesh?
– Varanasi.
- Whose former personal coach was Chhote Lal Yadav?
– Legendary boxer MC Mary Kom.
- Chhote Lal Yadav served as the coach of which Indian team?
– Indian women’s boxing team.
- Which international coaching certification does Chhote Lal Yadav hold?
– AIBA 2-Star Coach certification.

KAUN BANEGA GYAN RATNA – RAMAYANA

- Who received the ‘Gyan Ratna’ certificate for his performance in the national-level ‘Kaun Banega Gyan Ratna’ competition?
– Abhay Singh.
- Abhay Singh is a Class 11 student of which college in Uttar Pradesh?
– BKT Inter College, Lucknow.
- The ‘Kaun Banega Gyan Ratna’ competition was based on which epic?
– Ramayana.
- What type of questions did Abhay Singh answer on the competition’s hot seat?
– Questions related to the stories, characters, and events of the Ramayana.
- Students from which level participated in the ‘Kaun Banega Gyan Ratna’ competition?
– Students from various states across India.
- Who guided Abhay Singh in preparing for the ‘Kaun Banega Gyan Ratna’ competition?
– Harishchandra Singh Chauhan, a science teacher at his school.

CHIEF MINISTER’S RURAL HOUSING SCHEME – MATHURA

- How many eligible beneficiaries have been selected under the Chief Minister’s Rural Housing Scheme in Mathura district?
– 511 eligible beneficiaries.

- **How much financial assistance will each eligible family receive under the scheme?**
– ₹1.20 lakh in three installments.
- **How much will beneficiaries receive as the first installment?**
– ₹40,000.
- **Which groups are particularly focused on under the Chief Minister's Rural Housing Scheme?**
– Nomadic communities, snake charmers, and destitute women.
- **Which development block recorded the highest number of beneficiaries in Mathura district?**
– Chhata block, with 201 beneficiaries.
- **At which level were the applicants verified before being declared eligible?**
– Block level.

LUCKNOW–NEW DELHI TEJAS EXPRESS – COMMERCIAL BRANDING

- **Which train is set to become India's first commercially branded passenger train?**
– Lucknow–New Delhi Tejas Express.
- **Under which name will the Lucknow–New Delhi Tejas Express operate for a limited period?**
– Sprite Tejas Express.
- **Which organisation operates the Lucknow–New Delhi Tejas Express?**
– Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).
- **What is the main objective of commercially branding the Tejas Express?**
– To generate additional **non-fare revenue** for Indian Railways through commercial branding and advertising.

UTTAR PRADESH – LEADING STATE IN DOMESTIC TOURISM

- **Which Indian state recorded the highest number of domestic tourist visits in 2026?**
– Uttar Pradesh, with 646.8 million domestic tourist visits.
- **Which state ranked second in domestic tourist visits after Uttar Pradesh in 2026?**
– Tamil Nadu, with 306.8 million visits.
- **Which major religious and cultural tourism centres emerged in Uttar Pradesh?**
– Ayodhya, Varanasi, Prayagraj, Mathura and Vindhyachal.
- **How many devotees visited Ayodhya between January and June 2026?**
– Around 7.20 crore devotees.
- **How much did the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department undertake in tourism-related projects?**
– Projects worth ₹1,283.33 crore.
- **Which central government schemes have supported tourism infrastructure development in Uttar Pradesh?**
– Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD.
- **Which programmes promote youth participation in Uttar Pradesh's tourism sector?**
– Chief Minister Tourism Fellowship Programme and Youth Travel Mart.

BEL DEFENCE MANUFACTURING FACILITY – CHITRAKOOT

- Which public sector defence company will invest over ₹600 crore to establish a defence manufacturing facility in Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh?
– Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).
- Where will BEL establish its new defence manufacturing facility?
– At the Chitrakoot node of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC).
- What is the initial investment proposed for the BEL project in Chitrakoot?
– Around ₹562.5 crore.
- Which committee approved the proposal to grant a Letter of Comfort (LoC) to BEL?
– High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC).
- Who chairs the High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) of Uttar Pradesh?
– Uttar Pradesh Chief Secretary S.P. Goyal.
- Which defence systems will the Chitrakoot facility support?
– QRSM, Air Defence Systems and Next Generation Radar Systems.

PRAKRITI GYAN DHAM – LUCKNOW

- Where was the Eco-Educational Hub ‘Prakriti Gyan Dham’ inaugurated?
– At the Maharishi Parashar Bioresource Centre (MPBC), Banthra, Lucknow.
- Which organisation developed ‘Prakriti Gyan Dham’?
– CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute (CSIR-NBRI).
- Who dedicated ‘Prakriti Gyan Dham’ to the nation?
– Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh.
- What does PAaVan Path stand for?
– Plants and Associated Vegetations for Appreciating Nature.
- How many indigenous and exotic bamboo species are housed in Bamboosteum?
– 43 species.
- What does Bamboosteum highlight?
– The applications of bamboo in ecological restoration, carbon sequestration, soil conservation and sustainable livelihoods.
- To which organisation did CSIR-NBRI transfer four plant-based technologies?
– Kudumbashree State Poverty Eradication Mission, Kerala.

FARMER REGISTRY CAMPAIGN – UTTAR PRADESH

- What percentage of its target has Uttar Pradesh achieved under the Farmer Registry Campaign?
– 85.19%.
- What position has Uttar Pradesh secured nationally under the Farmer Registry Campaign?
– 10th position.

- **What is the Government of India's target for farmer registration in Uttar Pradesh?**
– 2,88,70,495 farmers.
- **How many farmers have been registered in Uttar Pradesh under the Farmer Registry Campaign?**
– 2,45,94,831 farmers.
- **Which districts of Uttar Pradesh have achieved 100% farmer registration?**
– Ghaziabad and Rampur.
- **Which districts recorded the best performance in land-share determination (Ansh Nirdharan)?**
– Jhansi and Hardoi.
- **What percentage of Ansh Nirdharan work has been completed in Uttar Pradesh?**
– 88.92%.

PMMVY – UTTAR PRADESH

- **What percentage of its registration target did Uttar Pradesh achieve under PMMVY by 31 July 2026?**
– 102.13%.
- **Which scheme recorded 102.13% of its registration target in Uttar Pradesh in FY 2026–27?**
– Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY).
- **Which workers contributed to achieving the PMMVY registration target in Uttar Pradesh?**
– Anganwadi workers and ASHA workers, along with the Women and Child Development Department.
- **How much has been transferred to beneficiaries under PMMVY in Uttar Pradesh in FY 2026–27?**
– Over ₹86.55 crore.
- **How much assistance is provided for the second child if it is a girl?**
– ₹6,000.
- **How is the application, verification, approval and payment process under PMMVY conducted?**
– The entire process is conducted online.
- **Which technology is used under PMMVY to match beneficiaries' faces with Aadhaar?**
– Facial Recognition System (FRS).

SC/ST (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) ACT – UTTAR PRADESH

- **How much funding has the Central Government released to Uttar Pradesh since 2019–20 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for implementation of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989?**
– ₹747.17 crore.
- **How many atrocity victims have received relief under the scheme in Uttar Pradesh?**
– More than 1.43 lakh victims.

- **What is the main objective of the scheme for implementing the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989?**
- – To strengthen prevention of atrocities, speedy justice, relief and rehabilitation for SC/ST communities.
- **Which committees are provided under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989?**
 - State-level and District-level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees.

AVGC-XR PARK – JEWAR

- **Which state plans to develop a state-of-the-art AVGC-XR Park in Jewar?**
 - Uttar Pradesh.
- **What does AVGC-XR stand for?**
 - Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics and Extended Reality.
- **Which authority will develop the AVGC-XR Park in Jewar?**
 - Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA).
- **Where will the proposed AVGC-XR Park be located?**
 - Near the upcoming Noida International Airport and the proposed International Film City.
- **In which sectors can AVGC-XR technologies be applied?**
 - Entertainment, education, healthcare, defence, tourism and industrial training.

VARANASI – CONNECTIVITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- **What is the main objective of the Government of India's infrastructure initiatives in Varanasi?**
 - To strengthen Varanasi's position as a global spiritual and cultural destination.
- **Which modes of connectivity are being improved to enhance access to Varanasi?**
 - Road, rail, air and inland waterways.
- **Which airport is being upgraded to enhance domestic and international connectivity to Varanasi?**
 - Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport.
- **Which major sites and public facilities have received infrastructure upgrades in Varanasi?**
 - Kashi Vishwanath Dham, riverfront ghats, heritage sites and public amenities.

'BAGH MITRA' INITIATIVE – UTTAR PRADESH

- **How many tigers were recorded in Uttar Pradesh in the 2022 All India Tiger Estimation?**
 - 205 tigers.
- **When and where was the 'Bagh Mitra' initiative launched?**
 - In Pilibhit in 2019.
- **What is the primary objective of the 'Bagh Mitra' initiative?**
 - To reduce human-wildlife conflict and strengthen tiger conservation.

- **Who launched the 'Bagh Mitra' App and when?**
 - Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched it in Pilibhit in October 2023.
- **Who are selected and trained as 'Bagh Mitras'?**
 - Villagers living within 5 km of forest areas are selected and trained by the Forest Department.

BRICS NSOS MEETING – LUCKNOW

- **Where was the Meeting of Heads of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of BRICS Countries held in 2026?**
 - Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Under whose chairship was the Meeting of Heads of NSOs of BRICS Countries held?**
 - India's BRICS Chairship 2026.
- **What was the theme of the Statistics Track under India's BRICS Chairship 2026?**
 - "Quality Statistics as Driver of Change."
- **What was the broader theme of India's BRICS Chairship 2026?**
 - "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability."
- **Which digital platform did India showcase for digital surveys and census data collection?**
 - e-SIGMA (e-Survey Information Gathering and Management Application).
- **Which international statistical framework did India present a roadmap for implementing?**
 - System of National Accounts (SNA) 2025.

MUKHYAMANTRI KRISHAK CHHATRAVRITTI YOJANA – UTTAR PRADESH

- **Who directed the expansion of the Mukhyamantri Krishak Chhatravritti Yojana in Uttar Pradesh?**
 - Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.
- **Whom is the expanded Mukhyamantri Krishak Chhatravritti Yojana intended to benefit?**
 - More children of farmers pursuing higher education.
- **What budget was approved for the Uttar Pradesh Rajya Krishi Utpadan Mandi Parishad?**
 - ₹3,025.49 crore.
- **For which purposes will the Mandi Parishad funds be used?**
 - Modernisation of agricultural mandis, road construction, storage facilities, drainage systems and other rural infrastructure.
- **Which Act regulates agricultural markets in Uttar Pradesh?**
 - Uttar Pradesh Krishi Utpadan Mandi Adhiniyam, 1964.

JAN AUSHADHI KENDRAS – UTTAR PRADESH

- **Which state has emerged as the leading state in India with 4,226 functional Jan Aushadhi Kendras?**
 - Uttar Pradesh.

- **Under which scheme are Jan Aushadhi Kendras operated?**
 - Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
- **What is the Centre's revised target for Jan Aushadhi Kendras across India by March 2027?**
 - 25,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras.
- **At what lower prices do Jan Aushadhi Kendras generally provide quality generic medicines compared with branded alternatives?**
 - 50%–90% lower prices.
- **How many medicines are currently included in the Jan Aushadhi portfolio?**
 - 2,110 medicines.
- **Which organisation procures medicines for Jan Aushadhi Kendras?**
 - Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI).

UTTAR PRADESH: WATER CONSERVATION & SDG-6

- **Which UN Sustainable Development Goal has Uttar Pradesh achieved its core targets for ahead of schedule?**
 - SDG-6: Clean Water and Sanitation.
- **What is the objective of Uttar Pradesh's Har Ghar Jal initiative?**
 - To expand functional household tap connections in rural areas and improve access to safe drinking water.
- **What is the objective of Uttar Pradesh's Amrit Sarovar initiative?**
 - Construction and rejuvenation of village ponds to promote rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge.
- **What is the primary objective of Uttar Pradesh's Khet Talab Yojana?**
 - To promote rainwater harvesting and climate-resilient agriculture through the construction of farm ponds (Khet Talabs).
- **What is the objective of community-led river rejuvenation initiatives in Uttar Pradesh?**
 - To restore aquatic ecosystems and local biodiversity by cleaning and rejuvenating small rivers and tributaries.

NIPUN LAKSHYA: STRENGTHENING PRIMARY EDUCATION

- **Which department has launched the Nipun Lakshya programme in Uttar Pradesh?**
 - Uttar Pradesh Basic Education Department.
- **What is the main objective of Uttar Pradesh's Nipun Lakshya programme?**
 - To strengthen Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) among students of Grades 1–3, in alignment with the NIPUN Bharat Mission.
- **What does the Nipun Lakshya programme aim to improve among primary students?**
 - Basic proficiency in reading, writing and mathematics.
- **How many structured classroom practices are introduced under Nipun Lakshya?**
 - 10 structured classroom practices.

- **How many primary teachers are being trained under Nipun Lakshya?**
 - More than 5 lakh primary teachers.
- **What are Shikshak Sankuls under the Nipun Lakshya programme?**
 - Teacher clusters used to strengthen community participation and monitor students' academic progress.

UTTAR PRADESH: ENERGY FORESTS – PLANTATION MAHAYAGNA-2026

- **What is the objective of establishing 'Energy Forests' under the "One Tree in the Name of Mother" Plantation Mahayagna-2026?**
 - To ensure a sustainable supply of fuelwood, reduce dependence on natural forests and promote sustainable forest-resource management.
- **Where will 'Energy Forests' be established in Uttar Pradesh?**
 - In every development block of the state.
- **What will be the minimum area of each Energy Forest?**
 - At least 1 hectare.
- **On which types of land will Energy Forests be established?**
 - Forest land, village community land and community agricultural land.
- **Which departments will implement the Energy Forest initiative in Uttar Pradesh?**
 - The Forest and Wildlife Department, with support from the Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj Department.
- **Which fast-growing species will be planted in Energy Forests?**
 - Alder, Acacia, Subabul, Gum and Kadamba.

NATURAL BIO-ECONOMY MODEL – TRIBAL WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

- **What is the objective of Uttar Pradesh's Natural Bio-Economy Model?**
 - To convert locally available natural resources into value-added products to generate rural employment and strengthen the rural bio-economy.
- **Which mission supports the Natural Bio-Economy Model in Uttar Pradesh?**
 - Uttar Pradesh State Rural Livelihood Mission (UPSRLM) under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).
- **Which Self-Help Group has emerged as a successful example of Uttar Pradesh's Natural Bio-Economy Model?**
 - Bajrangbali Self-Help Group in Sajaur village, Robertsganj Block, Sonbhadra.
- **What product is produced by tribal women under the Natural Bio-Economy Model?**
 - Herbal soaps using locally available natural resources.
- **What training is provided to Self-Help Groups under the Natural Bio-Economy Model?**
 - Training in scientific processing, product manufacturing, packaging, branding and marketing.

RANI LAKSHMIBAI SCOOTY YOJANA

- **What is the budget allocation for the Rani Lakshmibai Scooty Yojana approved by the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet?**
– ₹400 crore.
- **Who will benefit from the Rani Lakshmibai Scooty Yojana?**
– Around 50,000 meritorious female graduates across Uttar Pradesh.
- **What benefit will be provided under the Rani Lakshmibai Scooty Yojana?**
– Free petrol-powered scooters to eligible meritorious female graduates.
- **Which female graduates are eligible under the Rani Lakshmibai Scooty Yojana?**
– Permanent female residents of Uttar Pradesh who graduated during the 2025–26 academic session from state, private or affiliated colleges.
- **What costs will the Uttar Pradesh Government bear under the Rani Lakshmibai Scooty Yojana?**
– Scooter cost, comprehensive insurance, RTO registration, ISI-marked helmet and initial fuel.
- **What is the annual family income limit for applicants under the Rani Lakshmibai Scooty Yojana?**
– Less than ₹12 lakh per annum.
- **For whom are the income and merit criteria relaxed under the Rani Lakshmibai Scooty Yojana?**
– Disabled students, daughters of martyrs and girls from destitute families.

POLITY, GOVERNANCE & JUDICIARY

NALSAR CONTROVERSY AND POWERS OF THE BCI

- **Which Act establishes the Bar Council of India (BCI)?**
– Advocates Act, 1961.
- **Which body is primarily empowered to enrol persons as advocates on its rolls?**
– State Bar Councils.
- **To whom do the primary disciplinary powers under Chapter V of the Advocates Act apply?**
– Persons already enrolled as advocates.
- **Which university was at the centre of the 2026 BCI enrolment controversy?**
– NALSAR University of Law.

DELIMITATION IN INDIA

- **What is meant by delimitation in India?**
– Redrawing electoral constituency boundaries and readjusting seats to ensure more equal population representation.

- **How many times has the Delimitation Commission been constituted in India?**
 - Four times: 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002.
- **Which Constitutional Amendment extended the freeze on inter-State allocation of Lok Sabha seats until the first Census after 2026?**
 - 84th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2001.
- **How is women's reservation linked to delimitation under the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023?**
 - The 33% reservation for women in legislatures is linked to the completion of delimitation.
- **What is gerrymandering in the context of delimitation?**
 - Manipulation of constituency boundaries to favour particular political interests, including through “cracking” and “packing.”

TRIBUNALS REFORMS BILL, 2026

- **What is the primary objective of the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026?**
 - To replace the Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021 and establish a National Tribunals Commission (NTC).
- **Which body is proposed to oversee appointments, administration and functioning of tribunals under the Bill?**
 - National Tribunals Commission (NTC).
- **What is the proposed composition of each Tribunal under the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026?**
 - One Chairperson and two Technical Members.
- **What is the minimum professional experience prescribed for Technical Members?**
 - At least 25 years of relevant professional experience.
- **What is the maximum age limit proposed for Chairpersons and other Tribunal members?**
 - 70 years for Chairpersons and 67 years for members.
- **What is the proposed tenure of Tribunal members under the Bill?**
 - Five years or until the prescribed maximum age, whichever is earlier.

TAXATION AND OTHER LAWS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2026

- **Which major laws are amended by the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2026?**
 - Income-tax Act, 2025; Finance Act, 2026; and Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- **What is the primary objective of the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2026?**
 - To attract foreign investment, promote Make in India, improve ease of doing business and strengthen the digital-financial ecosystem.
- **Up to which financial year is the tax holiday extended for eligible foreign companies in electronics manufacturing?**
 - 2040–41.
- **Which sectors receive specific tax exemptions under the Act?**
 - Electronics manufacturing and the diamond sector.

- **Which foreign investors are exempted from income tax on interest and capital gains from government securities?**
 - Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) and the Bank for International Settlements (BIS).
- **What tax benefit has been restored for unit holders of REITs and InvITs?**
 - Tax-free dividend income.

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

- **Which Act is sought to be amended by the NCDC (Amendment) Bill, 2026?**
 - National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962.
- **What is the major objective of the NCDC (Amendment) Bill, 2026?**
 - To expand NCDC's financing powers and strengthen India's cooperative sector.
- **To whom can NCDC directly provide loans and grants under the amended framework?**
 - Any cooperative society or entity engaged in cooperative development.
- **What major change has been made regarding the geographical eligibility of industrial, cottage and village cooperatives?**
 - The requirement that they must be located in rural areas has been removed.
- **What additional food-related entities are covered under the expanded NCDC financing framework?**
 - Cooperatives dealing with processed food and other food items notified by the Central Government.

MINES AND MINERALS (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2026

- **Which Act is sought to be amended by the MMDR Amendment Bill, 2026?**
 - Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.
- **What is the primary objective of the MMDR Amendment Bill, 2026?**
 - To establish a uniform and predictable fiscal framework for mineral rights and mineral-bearing lands.
- **Under what condition can States impose future taxes or levies on mineral rights and mineral-bearing lands?**
 - Only under conditions prescribed by the Central Government.
- **What happens to unpaid or unrecovered State levies imposed before the amendment?**
 - They become invalid.
- **What is the major federalism-related concern associated with the MMDR Amendment Bill, 2026?**
 - Its potential impact on fiscal federalism and Centre-State financial relations.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

- Which Act is sought to be strengthened by the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2026?
 - Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.
- What authority is required for registration of a birth or death delayed by more than two years?
 - An order from a Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC).
- Who can approve registration when the delay is between one and two years?
 - The District Magistrate (DM), Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) or an authorised Executive Magistrate.
- Which criminal procedure law replaces references to the CrPC, 1973 under the Bill?
 - Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023.
- What major legal harmonisation does the Bill introduce?
 - It replaces references to the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973 with the BNSS, 2023 and updates the definition of “Executive Magistrate.”

PREVENTION OF INSULTS TO NATIONAL HONOUR (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2026

- Which Act is amended by the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Act, 2026?
 - Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
- What is the primary objective of the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Act, 2026?
 - To provide statutory protection to **Vande Mataram**.
- What conduct relating to Vande Mataram is proposed to be penalised under the amendment?
 - Intentionally preventing its singing or causing disturbance during its rendition.
- Which section of the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971 deals with disrupting the singing of Jana Gana Mana?
 - Section 3.
- What is the maximum punishment for offences under Section 3 of the 1971 Act?
 - Imprisonment up to three years, fine, or both.
- What is the minimum punishment prescribed for repeat offenders?
 - One year of imprisonment.

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS (PREVENTION OF UNFAIR MEANS) AMENDMENT ACT, 2026 & NANDAN NILEKANI-LED TASK FORCE

- What is the primary objective of the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Act, 2026?
 - To strengthen the integrity, transparency and security of public examinations.

- **What is the maximum imprisonment proposed for offences such as question-paper leaks and OMR-sheet tampering?**
 - Up to 10 years.
- **What is the maximum fine for general examination-related offences under the amended framework?**
 - ₹50 lakh.
- **What is the minimum fine for organised examination fraud involving syndicates or institutions?**
 - ₹10 crore.
- **For how long can offenders be debarred from participating in public examinations?**
 - Eight years.
- **Within what period must investigations into examination offences be completed?**
 - Within 60 days.
- **Within what period must trials be completed after filing of the chargesheet?**
 - Within three months.
- **Who heads the High-Powered Task Force constituted for reforms in the public examination system?**
 - Nandan Nilekani, co-founder of Infosys and former founding Chairman of UIDAI.
- **Who are the key members of the Nandan Nilekani-led Task Force besides Nandan Nilekani?**
 - Anita Karwal, Amrit Lal Meena, V. Kamakoti, S. Somnath and Tapan Deka.

NATIONAL ANTI-DOPING (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2025

- **Which Act is amended by the National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Act, 2025?**
 - National Anti-Doping Act, 2022.
- **What is the primary objective of the National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Act, 2025?**
 - To strengthen India's legal and institutional framework for preventing doping and ensuring clean sport.
- **Which international code does India's anti-doping framework align with?**
 - World Anti-Doping Code (WADA Code).
- **Which international convention is India's anti-doping system aligned with?**
 - UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport.
- **Which organisation is responsible for implementing anti-doping rules and conducting testing in India?**
 - National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA).
- **Which body oversees the functioning of NADA and advises the Central Government on anti-doping policies?**
 - National Board for Anti-Doping in Sports.

GRIEVANCE APPELLATE COMMITTEE (GAC)

- **Under which Rule was the Grievance Appellate Committee (GAC) established?**
 - Rule 3A of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.
- **What is the main purpose of the Grievance Appellate Committee (GAC)?**
 - To strengthen intermediary accountability and grievance redressal and promote a “Safe, Trusted and Accountable Internet.”
- **What type of mechanism is the Grievance Appellate Committee (GAC)?**
 - An online dispute-resolution mechanism.

CITIZENSHIP UNDER SECTION 6B

- **Which Ministry amended the citizenship-processing framework under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019?**
 - Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- **Which amendment empowers District Collectors to process citizenship applications under Section 6B?**
 - Citizenship (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026.
- **Which authorities have been empowered to process citizenship applications under Section 6B?**
 - District Collectors.
- **Which States are covered under the new citizenship-processing arrangement?**
 - Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, West Bengal, Assam and Tripura.
- **Which Union Territories are covered under the new citizenship-processing arrangement?**
 - Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

KERALA (ALTERATION OF NAME) BILL, 2026

- **What new name has been proposed for the State of Kerala?**
 - Keralam.
- **Which Bill provides for changing the official name of Kerala to “Keralam”?**
 - Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026.
- **Under which Article of the Constitution is the procedure for renaming a State governed?**
 - Article 3.
- **Which constitutional provisions require consequential changes to reflect Kerala’s new name?**
 - First and Fourth Schedules, Article 31A and Article 290A.
- **Whose recommendation is required before a Bill for alteration of a State’s name can be introduced in Parliament?**
 - President of India.

- **To whom is the Bill referred for obtaining views before Parliament considers it?**
 - The concerned State Legislature.

CPGRAMS – GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

- **What is the Government's flagship 24x7 digital platform for public grievance redressal?**
 - Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS).
- **Which entities are connected through CPGRAMS for lodging and tracking public-service grievances?**
 - Central Ministries, Departments, State Governments and Union Territories.
- **Since which year has CPGRAMS evolved from a largely manual system into a technology-driven, citizen-centric governance platform?**
 - 2014.

DEFENCE & SECURITY

MAKKAH JOINT DEFENCE AGREEMENT (MJDA)

- **Which three countries signed the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement (MJDA)?**
 - Saudi Arabia, Türkiye and Pakistan.
- **Where was the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement signed?**
 - At Al-Safa Palace in Makkah, Saudi Arabia.
- **How is the MJDA being described strategically?**
 - As a potential “triple alliance” or “Sunni security triangle.”
- **What broader strategic shift does the MJDA reflect?**
 - A move towards greater regional strategic autonomy and diversification beyond the traditional US-led security architecture.
- **Which countries are among the major regional actors whose rivalries could be affected by the pact?**
 - Saudi Arabia, Iran, Türkiye and Israel, among other regional actors.
- **What is the geographical significance of Makkah in the agreement?**
 - The agreement was signed in Makkah, Saudi Arabia, at Al-Safa Palace.

EXERCISE MAITREE-XV 2026

- **Exercise MAITREE is a bilateral military exercise between which two countries?**
 - India and Thailand.
- **Which two armed forces participate in Exercise MAITREE-XV?**
 - Indian Army and Royal Thai Army.
- **When was Exercise MAITREE resumed after a five-year gap?**
 - 2024, after the previous exercise in 2019.

INS MALVAN

- Which class of Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft is INS Malvan?
– Mahe-class.
- Which position does INS Malvan hold among the indigenously designed and built Mahe-class ASW-SWCs?
– It is the second such craft.
- Where was INS Malvan commissioned into the Indian Navy?
– Karwar, Karnataka.
- After what place is INS Malvan named?
– Malvan, a historic coastal town in Maharashtra associated with the maritime legacy of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.
- What is the primary role of INS Malvan?
– To detect, track and engage underwater threats in shallow coastal waters.

AGNI-4 BALLISTIC MISSILE

- Where was the Agni-4 ballistic missile successfully test-fired?
– Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha.
- Under which command was the Agni-4 test conducted?
– Strategic Forces Command (SFC).
- What type of missile is Agni-4?
– An indigenously developed, intermediate-range, surface-to-surface ballistic missile of the Agni series.
- Which organisation developed the Agni-4 missile?
– Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- What is the approximate range of the Agni-4 missile?
– Around 4,000 km.
- What is the approximate payload capacity of Agni-4?
– Approximately 1,000 kg.

PELLET GUNS AND SHOCK BATONS

- Pellet guns were first deployed in which region during the 2010 unrest?
– Kashmir.
- What type of weapons are pellet guns classified as?
– Non-lethal crowd-control weapons.
- What do pellet guns fire?
– Cartridges containing hundreds of small **lead pellets**.

- **What are the major risks associated with pellet guns?**
 - They can cause **severe injuries, permanent blindness and fatal injuries**, particularly when fired at close range or towards the eyes and soft tissues.
 - **What is a shock baton?**
 - A handheld **electroshock device** used by security forces for self-defence and crowd control.
- Which Indian security force carries shock batons as part of its standard crowd-control equipment?**
- Rapid Action Force (RAF).

ECONOMY, FINANCE & TRADE

ELECTRONIC GOLD RECEIPT (EGR)

- **What is an Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR)?**
 - A SEBI-regulated electronic security representing ownership of physical gold stored in accredited vaults.
- **Which regulator governs Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) in India?**
 - Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- **In what form are Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) held?**
 - Dematerialised (demat) form.
- **Under which framework were Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) introduced?**
 - SEBI's Gold Exchange Framework, 2022.
- **What does each Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) represent?**
 - An equivalent quantity and purity of physical gold stored in a SEBI-registered vault.
- **What is the typical fineness of gold underlying EGRs?**
 - Generally 995 or 999 fineness.
- **Who stores and manages the physical gold underlying EGRs?**
 - A SEBI-registered Vault Manager.

INDEX OF CORE INDUSTRIES (ICI) – BASE YEAR 2022–23

- **Which organisation releases the Index of Core Industries (ICI)?**
 - Office of Economic Adviser (OEA), DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- **What is the new base year of the Index of Core Industries?**
 - **2022–23**, replacing the earlier **2011–12** base year.
- **From which period has the 2022–23 base-year ICI series been applied retrospectively?**
 - April 2023.
- **How many sectors are included in the Core Industries under the revised 2022–23 series?**
 - 9 sectors, with Iron Ore added as the new sector.

- **Which are the nine core industries covered under the revised ICI?**
 - Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Steel, Cement, Electricity and Iron Ore.
- **What is the combined weight of core industries in the IIP under the 2022–23 base year?**
 - **32.88%**, compared with **40.27%** under the 2011–12 series.
- **How are the sectoral weights revised under the new ICI series?**
 - They are revised using the **IIP 2022–23 base** and normalised to **100**.

POLYMER CURRENCY NOTES

- **Which RBI subsidiary has invited global Expressions of Interest (EOI) for polymer substrate?**
 - Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL).
- **What type of polymer substrate is proposed for Indian polymer currency notes?**
 - Biaxially Oriented Polypropylene (BOPP).
- **Which denominations are likely to be covered in the initial pilot rollout?**
 - ₹10 and ₹20 notes.
- **What material is traditionally used for Indian currency notes?**
 - 100% cotton-pulp paper.
- **What are the major advantages of polymer banknotes over paper notes?**
 - They are more durable, water-resistant and tear-resistant.
- **How do polymer banknotes enhance security against counterfeiting?**
 - Through features such as transparent windows and embedded security elements.
- **How many countries use polymer currency in some form?**
 - More than 60 countries.

PRODUCTION OF INDIAN CURRENCY

- **How many currency printing presses print banknotes in India?**
 - Four.
- **Which organisation operates the currency printing presses at Nashik and Dewas?**
 - Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL).
- **Where are the two SPMCIL currency printing presses located?**
 - Nashik (Maharashtra) and Dewas (Madhya Pradesh).
- **Which organisation operates the currency printing presses at Mysuru and Salboni?**
 - Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of the RBI.
- **Where are the two BRBNMPL currency printing presses located?**
 - Mysuru (Karnataka) and Salboni (West Bengal).

- **How many government-owned mints manufacture coins in India?**
– Four.
- **Where are India's four government-owned coin mints located?**
– Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Noida.
- **Which organisation operates India's four coin mints?**
– SPMCIL.

ILO CONVENTION NO. 193 ON DECENT WORK IN THE PLATFORM ECONOMY

- **What is the subject of ILO Convention No. 193?**
– Decent Work in the Platform Economy, focusing on gig and platform workers.
- **At which ILO event was Convention No. 193 adopted?**
– The 114th International Labour Conference in Geneva.
- **What is the significance of ILO Convention No. 193?**
– It is the first legally binding international treaty specifically addressing the rights and working conditions of gig and platform workers.
- **What did India's government delegates do during the adoption of Convention No. 193?**
– Abstained, while Indian employer and worker representatives voted in favour.
- **What major protections does Convention No. 193 provide to platform workers?**
– Fair wages, timely payment, social security, and occupational safety and health protections.
- **On what basis should platform workers be classified under the Convention?**
– On the actual nature of their work, rather than merely their contractual designation.

INDIA UNDER US SCRUTINY OVER ALLEGED CHINESE TRANSSHIPMENT

- **Under which US law were tariffs of up to 100% imposed on certain Chinese goods?**
– Section 301 of the Trade Act, 1974.
- **What is meant by transshipment in international trade?**
– Routing goods through a **third country**, often with limited processing, assembly, repackaging or relabelling, to conceal their actual origin and reduce tariff liabilities.
- **What are "screwdriver factories"?**
– Facilities carrying out minimal assembly or processing that may help exporters create the appearance of a different country of origin.
- **Which US report has placed India under scrutiny for alleged Chinese transshipment?**
– The White House report titled "**The Great Transshipment Scam.**"
- **In which tier has India been placed for elevated transshipment risks?**
– **Tier 1**, along with Canada, the EU, Japan and Mexico.
- **Which Indian industrial corridor has been highlighted in the US report?**
– The Pune-Gujarat-Chennai industrial corridor.

INDIA'S BANKING COVERAGE

- **What percentage of India's inhabited villages have access to banking services within a 5-km radius?**
– 99.92%.
- **Which mechanisms have strengthened banking coverage in India?**
 - Brick-and-mortar branches, Banking Correspondents, Digital Banking Units (DBUs) and postal banking services.

INDIA'S MARKET COMPETITION REFORM PROGRESS

- **According to the Competere Foundation, from which rank to which rank did India improve between 2010 and 2023?**
– From 82nd in 2010 to 57th in 2023.
- **What does the index measuring India's 2010–2023 reform progress assess?**
– Progress in reducing market distortions and strengthening competition.
- **By how many positions did India improve between 2010 and 2023 in reducing anti-competitive market distortions?**
– 25 positions.

BANKING CYBERSECURITY & DATA PROTECTION

- **Which public sector bank initiated a forensic investigation following an alleged customer-data breach involving data reportedly leaked on the dark web?**
– Bank of Baroda (BoB).
- **Which agency is India's national nodal agency for responding to cybersecurity incidents?**
– Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In).
- **What cybersecurity measures are banks required to maintain under the RBI framework?**
 - A Board-approved cybersecurity policy, a Cyber Crisis Management Plan (CCMP) and prompt reporting of unusual or significant cyber incidents.
- **Which Act governs the protection of digital personal data in India?**
– Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023.
- **Under the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, what are banks considered?**
 - Data Fiduciaries, with obligations to safeguard personal data.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & WORLD AFFAIRS

INDIA'S 'PEACOCK DIPLOMACY'

- **To which organisation did India donate five Indian male peafowls?**
– United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG).

- **India's 'Peacock Diplomacy' is often compared with which country's diplomacy?**
– China's "Panda Diplomacy".
- **What is the IUCN conservation status of the Indian peafowl?**
– Least Concern (LC).
- **Under which Schedule of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 is the Indian peafowl listed?**
– Schedule I.
- **Under which CITES Appendix is the Indian peafowl listed?**
– Appendix III.

BRICS AND EU CARBON TAX

- **Which EU mechanism was opposed by BRICS countries at the 12th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting?**
– European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM).
- **Where was the 12th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting held?**
– New Delhi.
- **When did the definitive phase of the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) begin?**
– 1 January 2026.
- **What does the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) require importers to account for?**
– Carbon emissions embedded in the production of carbon-intensive imported products.

ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL ENTRY POINTS FOR E-VISA HOLDERS

- **How many additional international entry points were notified for foreign nationals holding valid e-Visas?**
– 11 entry points.
- **How many of the 11 additional entry points for e-Visa holders are land ports?**
– 9 land ports.
- **Which two airports were added as international entry points for e-Visa holders?**
– Bhopal and Tirupati airports.
- **Name the nine land ports added for e-Visa holders.**
– Agartala, Darranga, Gede, Ghojadanga, Haridaspur, Jaigaon, Dawki, Moreh and Attari (Road).

GI & BEYOND 2.0 SUMMIT

- **Which Ministry organised the GI & Beyond 2.0 Summit in collaboration with the HEPC?**
– Ministry of Textiles, in collaboration with the Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC).
- **Where was the GI & Beyond 2.0 Summit held?**
– Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.

- **What was launched at the GI & Beyond 2.0 Summit?**
 - “Digital Handloom Atlas – One Platform. Endless Markets”.
- **What is the main objective of the Digital Handloom Atlas?**
 - To digitally showcase Indian handloom products and connect artisans with global markets.

WORLD ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE 2026

- **Where was the 2026 World Artificial Intelligence Conference held?**
 - Shanghai, China.
- **Which organisation was operationally launched at the 2026 World Artificial Intelligence Conference?**
 - World AI Cooperation Organization (WAICO).
- **How many countries participated in the establishment of WAICO?**
 - 29 countries.
- **What is the main objective of WAICO?**
 - To promote an alternative framework for global AI governance emphasising inclusivity, Global South participation and state-led cooperation.
- **Where is the headquarters of the World AI Cooperation Organization (WAICO)?**
 - Shanghai, China.
- **What type of organisation is WAICO?**
 - An independent intergovernmental organisation.

ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY & WILDLIFE

GRASSLANDS, OPEN NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS & ELEPHANT CORRIDORS

- **At which UNCCD Conference of the Parties was India’s first Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems (ONEs) launched?**
 - 17th UNCCD COP17, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- **What does India’s first Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems (ONEs) document?**
 - Grasslands, savannas, deserts, scrublands, ravines, rocky plateaus and other open natural ecosystems.
- **Which major Indian ecosystems are covered in the ONEs guide?**
 - Himalayan and Terai grasslands, Thar and Banni landscapes, Deccan savannas, Aravalli scrublands, Yamuna-Chambal ravines, Western Ghats rocky plateaus, Central Nicobar grasslands and Tamil Nadu’s Theri Kaadu.
- **How do elephant corridors contribute to elephant conservation?**
 - They maintain genetic diversity, reduce habitat fragmentation and minimise human-elephant conflict.

- Give examples of elephant movement across State/international boundaries.
 - Nepal–West Bengal–Jharkhand and Haryana–Uttarakhand–Himachal Pradesh corridors.

ZANSKAR GLACIER STUDY

- Which journal published the study on glacier changes in the Zaskar Basin during 1992–2023?
 - The Cryosphere.
- How many glaciers in the Zaskar Basin were studied during 1992–2023?
 - 12 glaciers.
- By how much have Zaskar glaciers slowed on average over the past three decades?
 - Approximately 2.4 metres/year per decade.
- How did the rate of ice-surface thinning of Zaskar glaciers change during 2000–2020?
 - From around 0.22 m/year (2000–2005) to approximately 0.57 m/year (2015–2020).
- What is “peak water” in the context of glacier melting?
 - The initial increase in river discharge due to rapid glacier melting before declining glacier mass reduces their contribution to river flows.

RIVER GANGA (SECOND AMENDMENT) ORDER, 2026

- Which order amended the 2016 framework governing the rejuvenation, protection and management of the River Ganga?
 - River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities (Second Amendment) Order, 2026.
- Under which Act was the River Ganga (Second Amendment) Order, 2026 issued?
 - Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Which body’s guidelines form the basis of floodplain zoning under the 2026 amendment?
 - Central Water Commission (CWC) guidelines.
- What are the three floodplain zones defined under the amended framework?
 - Active Flood Plain, Regulatory Zone and Warning Zone.
- In which floodplain zones is regulated construction permitted subject to clearances?
 - Regulatory Zone (flooding once in 5–25 years) and Warning Zone (once in 25–100 years).

CLOUDED LEOPARD CONSERVATION ACTION PLAN (CAP) – 2026

- On which day was India’s Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan (CAP) launched?
 - International Clouded Leopard Day (4 August).
- Under which initiative was the Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan (CAP) prepared?
 - Government of India–Global Environment Facility (GEF)–UNDP initiative.
- Where was the Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan officially released in 2026?
 - At the 91st meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life (SCNBWL) held in Coimbatore.

- **How many priority conservation landscapes have been identified under the Clouded Leopard CAP?**
 - 14 priority conservation landscapes across Northeast India.
- **Which technologies are proposed for standardised population monitoring of clouded leopards?**
 - Camera traps, occupancy surveys, genetic analysis and environmental DNA (eDNA).
- **Which application is being used to strengthen anti-poaching measures for clouded leopard conservation?**
 - **M-STrIPES** smart application.

ASAN WETLAND CONSERVATION RESERVE – SUPREME COURT DIRECTIONS

- **Where is the Asan Wetland Conservation Reserve located?**
 - At the confluence of the Asan and Yamuna rivers in Uttarakhand.
- **When was the Asan Wetland designated as a Ramsar Site?**
 - 2020.
- **What did the Supreme Court direct in its February 2024 interim order regarding mining around Asan Wetland?**
 - Mining within a 10-km radius requires prior permission from the Standing Committee of NBWL and/or MoEFCC.
- **What did the Supreme Court direct authorities to determine regarding the Asan Wetland and Himachal Pradesh?**
 - Whether the Asan Wetland extends into Himachal Pradesh.
- **What will happen if the Asan Wetland is found to extend into Himachal Pradesh?**
 - The 2024 10-km mining restriction will apply.

IOT SMART COLLAR FOR HIMALAYAN YAKS

- **What technology-based smart collar was developed by Indian scientists to monitor high-altitude yaks?**
 - An Internet of Things (IoT)-based smart collar for monitoring health, stress levels and movement.
- **What is the scientific name of the domestic yak?**
 - *Bos grunniens*.
- **Why is the yak known as the “Ship of the Himalayas”?**
 - Due to its ability to survive in extreme cold and rugged mountainous terrain.
- **Approximately how many yaks are found in India, and which region has nearly half of them?**
 - Around **58,000 yaks**, with nearly half found in **Ladakh**.
- **What is the IUCN Red List status of the wild yak?**
 - Vulnerable.

- Under which CITES appendix and Wildlife (Protection) Act schedule is the wild yak protected?
– CITES Appendix I and Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

INDIA'S NON-FOSSIL FUEL CAPACITY – 300 GW MILESTONE

- India recently crossed which milestone in installed non-fossil fuel-based electricity capacity?
– 300 GW.
- What percentage of India's 2030 non-fossil fuel capacity target has India achieved after crossing 300 GW?
– More than 60%.
- What is India's target for installed non-fossil fuel-based electricity capacity by 2030?
– 500 GW.
- Which two renewable energy sources are the major drivers of India's clean-energy capacity expansion?
– Solar and wind energy.

INDIA'S FIRST COMPREHENSIVE CATALOGUE OF LEPIDOPTERA

- Which organisation completed India's first comprehensive Catalogue of Lepidoptera?
– Zoological Survey of India (ZSI).
- How long did the Zoological Survey of India take to complete India's first comprehensive Catalogue of Lepidoptera?
– More than 12 years of research.
- What does the Catalogue of Lepidoptera cover?
– Butterflies and moths found across India.
- What major issue does India's first comprehensive Catalogue of Lepidoptera address?
– Taxonomic gaps that had remained unresolved for more than a century.

THAMIRABARANI RIVER

- Which High Court recognised the Thamirabarani River as a legal person?
– Madras High Court.
- Why was the Thamirabarani River recognised as a legal person?
– Due to its religious, cultural and ecological significance.
- Which judges delivered the judgment recognising the Thamirabarani River as a legal person?
– Justice G.R. Swaminathan and Justice B. Pugalendhi.
- What is the significance of granting legal personhood to the Thamirabarani River?
– It provides the river with distinct legal status, protection and representation for its preservation.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE – 12 AUGUST 2026

- **On which date was the total solar eclipse of 2026 visible over parts of Greenland, Iceland, Russia, Spain and Portugal?**
– 12 August 2026.
- **What is a total solar eclipse?**
– It occurs when the Sun, Moon and Earth align nearly in a straight line, with the Moon completely blocking sunlight for observers in the umbra.
- **What is the “path of totality” during a total solar eclipse?**
– The narrow region on Earth’s surface across which the Moon’s umbra travels and totality can be observed.

PRAXIS MISSION – NASA NIAC 2026

- **What is PRAXIS selected by NASA for NIAC 2026 Phase I funding?**
– Planetary Rings Autonomous Exploration with In-situ Sampling (PRAXIS), a proposed mission to directly sample particles from planetary rings.
- **Which planetary rings will PRAXIS aim to sample?**
– Rings of Saturn, Uranus and Neptune, along with smaller ringed bodies such as Chariklo and Chiron.
- **What properties of ring particles will PRAXIS study?**
– Their size, porosity, internal structure and chemical composition.
- **Which planetary ring features will PRAXIS investigate through direct sampling?**
– Density waves, ring gaps, propellers and self-gravity wakes.

BETA PICTORIS D – JWST DISCOVERY

- **Which new giant exoplanet was discovered by NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) in the Beta Pictoris system?**
– Beta Pictoris d.
- **About how far from Earth is the Beta Pictoris star system located?**
– Approximately 63 light-years away in the Milky Way Galaxy.
- **Which instrument of JWST was used to discover Beta Pictoris d?**
– Near-Infrared Spectrograph (NIRSpec) Integral Field Unit (IFU).
- **How old is the Beta Pictoris planetary system?**
– Approximately 23 million years old.
- **What type of exoplanet is Beta Pictoris d and how massive is it?**
– A gas giant with at least twice the mass of Jupiter.

EXOSATELLITE CANDIDATE – CD-35 2722 B

- **Which telescope detected evidence of a possible exosatellite orbiting the brown dwarf CD-35 2722 B?**
 - European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope (VLT) in Chile.
- **What is the newly detected object orbiting CD-35 2722 B?**
 - A giant gaseous exosatellite candidate, potentially the first confirmed exomoon if further observations verify it.
- **How long does the candidate take to complete one revolution around CD-35 2722 B?**
 - Approximately **170 days**.
- **What is an exomoon?**
 - A natural satellite orbiting a planet or another celestial body outside the Solar System.
- **About how far from Earth is the star associated with CD-35 2722 B?**
 - Approximately 72 light-years.
- **Which future telescope could help detect smaller exomoons and study similar systems in greater detail?**
 - European Southern Observatory's Extremely Large Telescope (ELT).

ROTATING DETONATION ENGINE (RDE)

- **Which Indian defence start-up demonstrated India's first indigenous 5 kN air-breathing Rotating Detonation Engine (RDE)?**
 - D-Propulse.
- **Where was India's first indigenous 5 kN air-breathing RDE demonstrated?**
 - At a DRDO facility in Hyderabad.
- **What Technology Readiness Level (TRL) was achieved in the RDE demonstration?**
 - TRL-5.
- **What is a Rotating Detonation Engine (RDE)?**
 - An advanced propulsion system that uses **continuous supersonic detonation waves** to generate thrust.
- **How does detonation differ from conventional deflagration?**
 - **Deflagration** propagates at subsonic speed, whereas **detonation** occurs through a supersonic shock wave that rapidly compresses and burns the fuel-air mixture.
- **How does an RDE differ from a Pulsed Detonation Engine (PDE)?**
 - An **RDE** uses an annular combustion chamber between two concentric cylinders and produces sustained thrust, whereas a PDE operates intermittently in a straight tube.

EVEREST ROCKET ENGINE

- **Which Bengaluru-based space start-up unveiled EVEREST, India's first privately developed 800 kN FFSC LOX-Methane rocket engine?**
 - Astrobase Space Technologies.

- **What is the thrust capacity of the EVEREST engine?**
– 800 kN.
- **Which propellants are used in the EVEREST engine?**
– Liquid Oxygen (LOX) and Methane.
- **What type of combustion cycle does the EVEREST engine use?**
– Full-Flow Staged Combustion (FFSC).
- **What is the proposed payload and orbital target of the EVEREST-powered launch vehicle?**
– Around 3 tonnes to a 500-km Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
- **What recovery system is proposed for the EVEREST-powered launch vehicle?**
– Return-to-Launch-Site (RTLS) recovery.

NASA-ISRO MOON BASE PROGRAMME

- **During which meeting was NASA's invitation to ISRO to participate in the Moon Base Programme extended?**
– 9th meeting of the India-US Civil Space Joint Working Group (CSJWG) at ISRO headquarters, Bengaluru.
- **What is the primary objective of the Moon Base Programme?**
– To establish a permanent human outpost near the lunar South Pole.
- **Which programme provides the broader framework for establishing a sustained human presence on the Moon?**
– NASA's Artemis Programme.
- **When did India become the 27th signatory to the Artemis Accords?**
– June 2023.
- **What are the three phases of the Moon Base Programme?**
– Phase I: Till 2029 – robotic exploration and technology demonstrations; Phase II: 2029–2032 – development of essential systems and infrastructure; Phase III – construction of a permanent lunar outpost.
- **Which NASA-ISRO mission was reviewed during the India-US CSJWG meeting?**
– NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) mission.
- **Under which initiative is India-US civil and commercial space cooperation being strengthened?**
– The US-India TRUST initiative.

LAB-GROWN DIAMONDS (LGDS)

- **What are Lab-Grown Diamonds (LGDs)?**
– Synthetic diamonds produced under controlled laboratory conditions.
- **How do Lab-Grown Diamonds compare with natural diamonds in physical properties?**
– They possess similar lustre, brilliance, hardness and durability to natural diamonds.
- **What advantage do Lab-Grown Diamonds offer in terms of the supply chain?**
– They offer greater supply-chain traceability.

- **Why is India promoting indigenous production of Lab-Grown Diamonds?**
 - To promote **research, technological innovation and domestic production** of LGDs.

GLUEBALL

- **Which particle has emerged as a leading candidate for the long-predicted glueball?**
 - $X(2370)$.
- **What is a glueball?**
 - A hypothetical composite particle made predominantly of gluons.
- **What are gluons?**
 - Elementary particles that act as force carriers of the strong nuclear force, binding quarks together inside protons and neutrons.
- **How do gluons differ from photons?**
 - Unlike photons, gluons carry colour charge and can therefore interact with one another.
- **What type of fundamental interaction is associated with glueballs?**
 - The strong nuclear force.

BOROPHENE

- **Which institute demonstrated the first-ever use of borophene as a high-performance lubricant additive in castor oil?**
 - Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), Guwahati.
- **What is borophene?**
 - A two-dimensional (2D) nanomaterial composed entirely of boron atoms.
- **What are the major properties of borophene?**
 - High mechanical strength, excellent electrical conductivity and superior tribological properties.
- **What are some potential applications of borophene?**
 - Batteries, supercapacitors, fuel cells and green lubrication technologies.
- **What lubricant was used with borophene in the IASST study?**
 - Castor oil.

INDIA'S FIRST EVTOL AIR TAXI PROTOTYPE

- **Which company unveiled India's first Electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft prototype?**
 - ePlane Company, an IIT Madras-incubated startup.
- **When does the ePlane Company plan to begin commercial operations of its eVTOL air taxi?**
 - 2028.
- **What does eVTOL stand for?**
 - Electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing.

- **What type of aircraft are eVTOL aircraft?**
 - Battery-powered aircraft capable of vertical take-off and landing like helicopters and forward flight like conventional aircraft.

BHASHINI RAJYAM

- **Which division launched the 'BHASHINI Rajyam' initiative?**
 - Digital India BHASHINI Division.
- **Where was the BHASHINI Rajyam initiative launched?**
 - Goa.
- **What is the main objective of BHASHINI Rajyam?**
 - To promote AI-powered multilingual governance.
- **BHASHINI functions as which national mission?**
 - National Language Translation Mission (NLTM).
- **Which technologies are used by BHASHINI to overcome language barriers?**
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) technologies.

SOUTH INDIA'S FIRST SEMICONDUCTOR PACKAGING FACILITY

- **Where is South India's first semiconductor packaging facility being established?**
 - Tarlupada, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Under which mission is South India's first semiconductor packaging facility being established?**
 - India Semiconductor Mission (ISM).
- **Who virtually laid the foundation stone for South India's first semiconductor packaging facility?**
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **What will the semiconductor packaging facility manufacture?**
 - Advanced semiconductor packaging and System-in-Package (SiP) solutions.
- **What is System-in-Package (SiP) technology?**
 - It integrates multiple semiconductor components into compact packages.

HEALTH & MEDICINE

WEST NILE FEVER – KERALA

- **In which district of Kerala were suspected cases of West Nile Fever reported, prompting a health alert?**
 - Ernakulam district.
- **What causes West Nile Fever (WNF)?**
 - **West Nile Virus (WNV)**, a positive-sense single-stranded RNA virus belonging to the **Flaviviridae** family and **Orthoflavivirus** genus.

- **How is West Nile Virus primarily transmitted to humans?**
 - Through the bite of infected mosquitoes, primarily Culex mosquitoes.
- **What are the principal reservoir hosts of West Nile Virus?**
 - Birds.
- **Where do Culex mosquitoes commonly breed and when are they particularly active?**
 - They commonly breed in stagnant or polluted water and are particularly active at night.

LEPTOSPIROSIS

- **What is leptospirosis?**
 - A zoonotic disease caused by pathogenic, spiral-shaped bacteria of the genus Leptospira.
- **How is leptospirosis primarily transmitted?**
 - From infected animals to humans.
- **Which animals commonly act as reservoirs of leptospirosis?**
 - Rodents, cattle, buffaloes, pigs, dogs, horses, sheep and goats.
- **How can humans be exposed to Leptospira bacteria?**
 - Through direct contact with urine or tissues of infected animals, or indirectly through contaminated water, soil or food.
- **How do Leptospira bacteria enter the human body?**
 - Through cuts, abrasions, mucous membranes or water-softened skin.
- **When does Kerala particularly face a higher burden of leptospirosis?**
 - During the monsoon and post-monsoon seasons.

QDENG DENGUE VACCINE

- **Which dengue vaccine has been approved for the first time in India?**
 - QDENG (TAK-003).
- **Who developed QDENG (TAK-003)?**
 - Takeda.
- **What type of vaccine is QDENG?**
 - A recombinant, live-attenuated, tetravalent dengue vaccine.
- **Who granted marketing authorisation to QDENG in India?**
 - Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- **For which age group is QDENG approved in India?**
 - Individuals aged 4–60 years.
- **Under which legislation was QDENG granted approval in India?**
 - Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs Rules, 1945.

CANCER AS A NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

- Which body directed the 19 States and Union Territories to consider declaring cancer as a notifiable disease?
– Supreme Court of India.
- What is a notifiable disease?
– A disease that healthcare providers are legally required to report to designated public health authorities.

HISTORY & CULTURE

PINGALI VENKAYYA

- On whose 150th birth anniversary did the Prime Minister pay tribute on 2 August?
– Pingali Venkayya.
- For what major contribution is Pingali Venkayya remembered?
– His contribution to the design of India's **National Flag (Tiranga)** and the freedom movement.
- In which war did Pingali Venkayya participate in South Africa?
– The Second Boer War (1899–1902).
- At which Indian National Congress session did Pingali Venkayya present the **Swaraj Flag** to Mahatma Gandhi?
– The 1921 Indian National Congress session at Vijayawada.

MALAYADIPATTI ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

- Where is the Malayadipatti archaeological site located?
– Near Karivalamvanthanallur in Tenkasi district, Tamil Nadu, along the Vaippar River.
- Which archaeological periods show evidence of continuous occupation at Malayadipatti?
– Microlithic □ Iron Age □ Early Historic □ Historic periods.
- Which archaeological department is conducting excavations at Malayadipatti?
– Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology.
- How many trenches have been opened at the Malayadipatti site?
– 18 trenches.
- Which pottery find at Malayadipatti indicates ritual burial practices?
– A red-slipped burial pot painted with peacocks, found along with human teeth and a black-and-red ware vessel.
- Which important types of pottery have been found at Malayadipatti?
– Black-and-Red Ware and graffiti-marked pottery.
- Which types of beads and figurines have been found at the site?
– Hematite, glass and coral beads; shell bangles and terracotta figurines.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES & SOCIAL WELFARE

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

- **Which policy was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) to strengthen India's domestic urea production?**
 - National Investment Policy for Urea-2026 for Atmanirbhar Bharat (NIPU-2026).
- **How many new gas-based urea manufacturing plants are envisaged under NIPU-2026?**
 - 8-9 new plants across the country.
- **What would be the approximate annual production capacity of each new urea plant under NIPU-2026?**
 - Approximately 12.7 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) per year.
- **How much additional domestic urea production capacity is expected under NIPU-2026?**
 - Around 10 million tonnes.
- **What Return on Equity (RoE) framework has been introduced under NIPU-2026?**
 - A minimum (floor) RoE of 12% and a maximum (ceiling) RoE of 16%.
- **When will fixed costs be converted into Indian Rupees under NIPU-2026?**
 - After four years, based on prevailing exchange rates.

PM-KUSUM

- **What is the full form of PM-KUSUM?**
 - Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan.
- **When was PM-KUSUM launched?**
 - 2019.
- **Which Union Ministry implements PM-KUSUM?**
 - Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- **What is the target under Component A of PM-KUSUM?**
 - Setting up 10,000 MW of decentralized grid-connected solar power plants of 500 kW to 2 MW capacity.
- **What does Component B of PM-KUSUM focus on?**
 - Installation of 14 lakh standalone off-grid solar agricultural pumps, primarily to replace diesel pumps.
- **What does Component C of PM-KUSUM focus on?**
 - Solarisation of 35 lakh existing grid-connected agricultural pumps through Individual Pump Solarisation (IPS) and Feeder Level Solarisation (FLS).

PRADHAN MANTRI SURYA SAROVAR YOJANA (PM-SSY)

- **What is the main objective of the Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)?**
 - To expand floating solar capacity and strengthen renewable energy generation and energy security.

- **What type of projects does PM-SSY promote?**
 - Floating Solar Photovoltaic (FSPV) projects integrated with Energy Storage Systems (ESS).
- **Where are solar panels installed under floating solar projects?**
 - On floating platforms over water bodies, avoiding competition for land.
- **What is the FSPV capacity target under PM-SSY?**
 - 5,000 MW during FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31.
- **What is the minimum storage requirement for projects under PM-SSY?**
 - Co-located Energy Storage Systems with at least 2 hours of storage capacity.
- **What is the cumulative storage capacity targeted under PM-SSY?**
 - 10,000 MWh.

GYAN BHARATAM MISSION

- **What is the Gyan Bharatam Mission aimed at?**
 - To preserve, digitise and disseminate India's manuscript heritage using modern technology.
- **When was the Gyan Bharatam Mission announced and what is its total outlay?**
 - Announced in the Union Budget 2025–26, it is a Central Sector Scheme for 2024–31 with an outlay of ₹482.85 crore.
- **What is the interim target for manuscript digitisation under the Gyan Bharatam Mission?**
 - 20 lakh manuscripts by 31 March 2027.
- **How many manuscripts have been digitised so far under the Mission?**
 - Around 7.5 lakh manuscripts.
- **Which earlier programme does the Gyan Bharatam Mission build upon?**
 - The National Mission for Manuscripts (2003).

GOVERNMENT E-MARKETPLACE (GeM)

- **When did the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) complete 10 years of operations?**
 - 9 August 2026.
- **What is the Government e-Marketplace (GeM)?**
 - A unified, end-to-end digital platform for government procurement, making procurement paperless, cashless, contactless, transparent and competitive.
- **Which organisations can procure through GeM?**
 - Central and State Ministries, Government Departments, PSUs, autonomous bodies, local bodies, Panchayats and cooperatives.
- **What are the major procurement methods available on GeM?**
 - Direct purchase, price comparison, e-bidding and reverse auctions.
- **With which major procurement portals is GeM being integrated?**
 - Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP), Indian Railway Electronic Procurement System (IREPS) and Defence Public Procurement Portal (DPPP).
- **What was GeM's Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) and order volume in 2025–26?**
 - Over ₹20 lakh crore GMV and 75 lakh+ orders.

SAPT DHARA (SEVEN STREAMS OF STRENGTH)

- **When did the Prime Minister address the nation from the Red Fort on India's 80th Independence Day?**
 - 15 August 2026.
- **What framework was outlined to accelerate India's journey towards Viksit Bharat 2047?**
 - The 'Sapt Dhara' (Seven Streams of Strength) framework.
- **Which earlier framework does Sapt Dhara build upon?**
 - The Panch Pran (Five Resolves) announced in the 2022 Independence Day address.
- **What was a historic first at the Red Fort during the 2026 Independence Day celebrations?**
 - The full version of 'Vande Mataram' was rendered for the first time at the Red Fort.
- **What anniversary of 'Vande Mataram' was marked in 2026?**
 - Its 150th anniversary.

PM-VBRY (PRADHAN MANTRI VIKSIT BHARAT ROZGAR YOJANA)

- **When did PM-VBRY complete one year of implementation?**
 - 1 August 2026.
- **What is the primary objective of PM-VBRY?**
 - To boost formal employment and expand social security coverage.
- **Who is incentivised under PM-VBRY?**
 - Both first-time employees and employers for first-time employment and additional job creation.
- **Which organisation administers PM-VBRY?**
 - The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO).
- **How many people is PM-VBRY expected to benefit?**
 - More than 3.5 crore people, including 1.92 crore first-time employees.
- **What is the wage limit for an employee to qualify for the employer incentive?**
 - The employee must earn up to ₹1 lakh per month.
- **What is the minimum retention period for an employee under the employer incentive?**
 - The eligible additional employee must be retained for at least six months.

SAMUDRA MANTHAN – NATIONAL OFFSHORE EXPLORATION SCHEME

- **What is 'Samudra Manthan'?**
 - The National Offshore Exploration Scheme aimed at unlocking India's offshore energy potential and strengthening domestic oil and gas exploration.
- **Which Ministry is implementing the Samudra Manthan scheme?**
 - The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- **What are the major components of the offshore oil and gas industry under Samudra Manthan?**
 - Seismic Data, Drilling, Infrastructure, Manufacturing and Services, and Digital Programme.

- **What are the major activities under the Drilling component?**
 - Deepwater Drilling and Scientific Drilling.
- **What are the two major types of infrastructure covered under the scheme?**
 - Production Infrastructure and Evacuation Infrastructure.
- **What does the Manufacturing and Services component include?**
 - Oil Manufacturing, Gas Manufacturing and Services.

PM-KISAN – PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN SAMMAN NIDHI

- **What is PM-KISAN?**
 - A Central Sector Scheme, launched in 2019, providing income support to eligible landholding farmer families with cultivable land.
- **For which period has PM-KISAN been approved for continuation?**
 - 2026–27 to 2030–31, with a total outlay of ₹3.15 lakh crore.
- **How much was allocated for PM-KISAN in the Union Budget 2026–27?**
 - ₹60,000 crore.
- **How much financial assistance does an eligible farmer family receive annually under PM-KISAN?**
 - ₹6,000 per year in three equal instalments of ₹2,000 each.
- **How are PM-KISAN funds transferred to beneficiaries?**
 - Directly to Aadhaar-seeded bank accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- **Who identifies eligible farmers under PM-KISAN?**
 - State Governments identify eligible farmers and maintain the beneficiary database.
- **At which levels does the monitoring system of PM-KISAN operate?**
 - At the national, State and district levels.
- **Who chairs the national-level review mechanism of PM-KISAN?**
 - The Cabinet Secretary.

SHANTI FRAMEWORK

- **What does SHANTI stand for?**
 - Securing Holistic Advancement through Norms, Trust and Integrity.
- **For which term did India launch its candidature for the UNSC along with the SHANTI Framework?**
 - UNSC 2028–29 term.
- **Which region has been identified to operationalise the SHANTI Framework initially?**
 - Bay of Bengal.
- **What is the main objective of the SHANTI Framework?**
 - To establish a rules-based framework for cooperation in shared maritime spaces.
- **Which two initiatives does SHANTI build upon?**

– SAGAR (2015) and MAHASAGAR (2025).

- **What does SHANTI seek to strengthen in maritime security?**
 - Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) and coordinated responses to traditional and non-traditional maritime threats.
- **Which regional grouping can benefit from strengthened maritime cooperation under SHANTI?**
 - BIMSTEC.

AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME (ABSS)

- **When was the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) launched?**
 - December 2022.
- **Which Ministry launched the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme?**
 - Ministry of Railways.
- **How many railway stations have been identified nationally under ABSS as of March 2026?**
 - 1,338 stations.
- **How many redeveloped railway stations were inaugurated under ABSS?**
 - 75 stations across 20 States.
- **What sustainable development measures are promoted under ABSS?**
 - Energy-efficient buildings, green landscaping, rainwater harvesting, solar energy utilisation and environment-friendly construction practices.

PM VIDYALAXMI SCHEME

- **What is the PM Vidyaxmi Scheme?**
 - A mission-mode initiative providing **collateral-free education loans and interest subvention** to meritorious students admitted to Quality Higher Educational Institutions (QHEIs).
- **For which period has the PM Vidyaxmi Scheme been approved?**
 - 2024–25 to 2030–31, with an outlay of ₹3,600 crore.
- **How many Quality Higher Educational Institutions (QHEIs) are covered under the scheme?**
 - 1,425 QHEIs, including top NIRF-ranked institutions, State Government institutions and all Central Government HEIs.
- **What is the government credit guarantee for education loans up to ₹7.5 lakh?**
 - 75% government credit guarantee, with interest rates capped at EBLR + 0.5%.
- **What is the repayment period of loans under PM Vidyaxmi?**
 - Up to 15 years, excluding the course period and one-year moratorium.
- **Which institutions provide loans under the scheme?**
 - Scheduled Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks.

BHAVYA RASAYAN SCHEME

- **What is the BHAVYA Rasayan Scheme?**
 - Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana Rasayan, aimed at establishing **three dedicated Chemical Parks** with integrated infrastructure.

- **Where was the BHAVYA Rasayan Scheme introduced?**
– Union Budget 2026–27.
- **What is the total outlay of the BHAVYA Rasayan Scheme?**
– ₹3,030 crore, including ₹3,000 crore for common infrastructure and utilities and ₹30 crore for administrative expenses.
- **How much Central assistance can each Chemical Park receive?**
– Up to ₹1,000 crore per park, with a minimum **State contribution of ₹500 crore.**
- **What is the implementation period of the scheme?**
– Five years, from FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31.
- **What is the minimum land requirement for each Chemical Park?**
– At least **8 sq. km (2,000 acres)** of contiguous, encumbrance-free land.

DAANVEER INITIATIVE

- **Which Ministry launched the DAANVEER Initiative?**
– Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), in collaboration with NIC and DigiHaat.
- **What is the main objective of the DAANVEER Initiative?**
– To strengthen the digital infrastructure of Gram Panchayats through voluntary citizen participation.
- **What is the tagline of the DAANVEER Initiative?**
– “Give Back to Your Village”.
- **Through which app is the DAANVEER Initiative available?**
– Meri Panchayat App.
- **How many Gram Panchayats are there approximately in India?**
– Nearly **2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats.**
- **Which MoPR platforms does DAANVEER complement?**
– e-GramSwaraj, Meri Panchayat, Sabha Saar, AuditOnline and Gram Manchitra.

GRAMODYAM PROGRAMME

- **Which organisation launched the ‘Gramodyam’ programme?**
– National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
- **What is the main objective of the Gramodyam programme?**
– To promote rural entrepreneurship and facilitate the establishment of around 4,000 rural enterprises during its three-year pilot phase.
- **Who launched the Gramodyam programme?**
– NABARD Chairman Dr. Shaji K. V.
- **Which organisation is the implementation partner for the Gramodyam programme?**
– Institute for Industrial Development (IID).
- **What approach will be used under the Gramodyam programme?**
– A digital-first hybrid model for enrolment, training, mentoring and enterprise support.

- **Which institutions will Gramodyam beneficiaries be connected with for credit facilitation?**
 - Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), financial institutions and government schemes.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH – E-BHAVISHYA

- **Which State Government launched the e-Bhavishya Pension Sanction and Tracking System?**
 - Arunachal Pradesh.
- **What is the e-Bhavishya Pension Sanction and Tracking System?**
 - A paperless digital platform for faster and more efficient pension processing.

REPORTS & INDICES

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDEX (EPI) 2026

- **Which country topped the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2026?**
 - Estonia, with a score of 74.79.
- **What was India's rank in the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2026?**
 - 176th out of 177 countries, with a score of 22.46.
- **What was India's rank among South Asian countries in the EPI 2026?**
 - 7th among 8 South Asian countries.

GLOBAL TERRORISM INDEX (GTI) 2026

- **Which organisation publishes the Global Terrorism Index (GTI)?**
 - Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP).
- **By what percentage did terrorism-related deaths decline globally in 2025?**
 - 28%.
- **By what percentage did terrorist incidents decline globally in 2025?**
 - 22%.
- **Which country ranked first in the Global Terrorism Index 2026?**
 - Pakistan.
- **What was India's rank in the Global Terrorism Index 2026?**
 - 13th.
- **Which five countries accounted for nearly 70% of terrorism-related deaths in 2025?**
 - Pakistan, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Niger and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).
- **Which region accounted for over half of global terrorism fatalities in 2025?**
 - The Sahel.
- **What percentage of terrorist attacks occur within 100 km of international borders?**
 - Over 60%.

AWARDS & HONOURS

SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AWARDS

- **Who conferred the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship and Awards for 2024 and 2025?**
– The President of India.
- **Where were the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship and Awards for 2024 and 2025 conferred?**
– Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- **What is the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship also known as?**
– Akademi Ratna.
- **How many eminent artists were selected for the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship for 2024 and 2025?**
– 7 artists.
- **How much cash award is given to a Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellow?**
– ₹3 lakh, along with Tamrapatra and Angavastram.

GALLANTRY AWARDS 2026

- **On which date did President Droupadi Murmu approve 78 Gallantry Awards in 2026?**
– 14 August 2026.
- **How many Gallantry Awards were approved in 2026?**
– 78 Gallantry Awards.
- **How many Kirti Chakras were approved in 2026?**
– 9 Kirti Chakras, including 7 posthumous.
- **How many Shaurya Chakras were approved in 2026?**
– 19 Shaurya Chakras, including 1 posthumous.
- **How many Sena Medals (Gallantry) were approved in 2026?**
– 36 Sena Medals (Gallantry), including 5 posthumous.
- **How many Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry) were approved in 2026?**
– 5.
- **How many Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry) were approved in 2026?**
– 3.
- **How many Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry) were approved in 2026?**
– 5.
- **What is the order of precedence of India's Gallantry Awards from highest to lower?**
– Param Vir Chakra > Ashoka Chakra > Maha Vir Chakra > Kirti Chakra > Vir Chakra > Shaurya Chakra.

PRESIDENT'S COLOURS TO PUDUCHERRY POLICE

- Which police force was awarded the President's Colours by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in 2026?
– Puducherry Police.
- For what qualities was the President's Colours conferred on the Puducherry Police?
– Valour, service, dedication and commitment.
- What does the President's Colours represent for a disciplined force?
– It is one of the highest honours awarded in recognition of distinguished service.

DIRAC MEDAL 2026

- Who was named a co-recipient of the 2026 Dirac Medal?
– Professor Deepak Dhar.
- Who were the co-recipients of the 2026 Dirac Medal along with Deepak Dhar?
– Bernard Derrida, Marc Mézard and Haim Sompolsky.
- For what contributions was the 2026 Dirac Medal awarded?
– Contributions to statistical physics and non-equilibrium systems.
- Who was the first scientist working in India to receive the Dirac Medal?
– Ashoke Sen (2014).
- Who was the second scientist working in India to receive the Dirac Medal?
– Deepak Dhar (2026).
- When was the Dirac Medal established?
– 1985.
- Which organisation established the Dirac Medal?
– Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP - Trieste, Italy).

FIELDS MEDAL 2026

- Who were awarded the Fields Medal in 2026?
– Yu Deng, John Pardon, Jacob Tsimerman and Hong Wang.
- Which organisation awards the Fields Medal?
– International Mathematical Union (IMU).
- Through whose efforts was the Fields Medal established?
– Canadian mathematician **John Charles Fields(1936)**.
- Who became the third woman to receive the Fields Medal in 2026?
– Hong Wang.
- Who became the first Chinese nationals to win a Fields Medal since Shing-Tung Yau?
– Yu Deng and Hong Wang.

LOKMANYA TILAK NATIONAL AWARD 2026

- **Who has been selected for the Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026?**
– National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval.
- **For what contribution will Ajit Doval receive the Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026?**
– For his outstanding contribution to India's national security.
- **Which organisation confers the Lokmanya Tilak National Award?**
– Lokmanya Tilak Smarak Trust.
- **For which areas has Ajit Doval been honoured with the Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026?**
– National security, counter-terrorism operations, covert missions and border security.

IMPORTANT DAYS

WORLD ELEPHANT DAY

- **When is World Elephant Day observed?**
– 12 August.
- **What is the theme/tagline of World Elephant Day?**
– “Bringing the world together to help elephants”.

WORLD LION DAY

- **When is World Lion Day observed?**
– 10 August.
- **What is the theme of World Lion Day 2026?**
– “Coexistence in a Changing Climate”.

NATIONAL HANDLOOM DAY

- **When is National Handloom Day observed in India?**
– 7 August.
- **What is the theme/tagline of National Handloom Day?**
– “Hands that Weave the Nation”.

GLOBAL TIGER DAY 2026

- **When is Global Tiger Day observed?**
– 29 July.
- **What is the theme of Global Tiger Day 2026?**
– “Coexistence in Action: Scaling Solutions for People and Tigers”.

WORLD HEPATITIS DAY 2026

- **When is World Hepatitis Day (WHD) observed?**
– 28 July.
- **What is the theme of World Hepatitis Day 2026?**
– “Hepatitis: Let’s Break It Down.”

PERSONALITIES IN NEWS

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA – VARSHA ASHOK AGLAWE

- **Who became the 54th Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI)?**
– Varsha Ashok Aglawe (first woman).
- **Whom did Varsha Ashok Aglawe succeed as Director General of GSI?**
– Asit Saha.

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITIES – HARJIT SINGH GREWAL

- **Who assumed charge as the Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM)?**
– Harjit Singh Grewal.
- **When did the tenure of the previous NCM Chairperson end?**
– April 2025.

SPORTS

NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS 2025

- **Which awards are included under the National Sports Awards 2025?**
– Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Awards, Dronacharya Awards and Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar.
- **How many sportspersons were selected for the Arjuna Award 2025?**
– 17 sportspersons.
- **Who among the following was selected for the Arjuna Award 2025?**
– Tejaswin Shankar, Muhammed Ajmal V, Priyanka Goswami, Treasa Jolly, Pullela Gayatri Gopichand, Vidit Santosh Gujarathi, Divya Jitendra Deshmukh, Lalremsiami and Rajkumar Pal.
- **Who received the Dronacharya Award 2025 in the Regular Category for Athletics?**
– Parveer Singh.
- **Who received the Dronacharya Award 2025 in the Regular Category for Boxing?**

– Chhote Lal Yadav.

- **Who received the Dronacharya Award 2025 in the Lifetime Category for Wrestling?**

– Virender Kumar.

JUSTIN GREAVES – TEST CRICKET

- **Who became the first bowler in Test cricket history to bowl five consecutive wicket- maiden overs?**

– Justin Greaves.

- **Against which team did Justin Greaves achieve the record of five consecutive wicket- maiden overs?**

– Pakistan.

- **Whose record of four consecutive wicket- maiden overs did Justin Greaves surpass?**

– Stuart Broad.

TANVI SHARMA – TAIPEI OPEN

- **Who won her maiden BWF World Tour title at the Taipei Open Super 300?**

– Tanvi Sharma.

- **At what age did Tanvi Sharma become the youngest finalist in Taipei Open history?**

– 17 years and 222 days.

- **Who was the last Indian woman before Tanvi Sharma to win the Taipei Open women's singles title?**

– Saina Nehwal in 2008.

KHELO INDIA – REVAMPED SCHEME

- **Which scheme was expanded by the Union Cabinet along with enhanced assistance to National Sports Federations?**

– Khelo India Scheme.

- **The revamped Khelo India Scheme is aligned with which two major policy frameworks?**

– Khelo Bharat Niti 2025 and National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

PV SINDHU – JAPAN OPEN 2026

- **Who became the first Indian to win the Japan Open women's singles title?**

– PV Sindhu.

- **Whom did PV Sindhu defeat to win the Japan Open 2026 women's singles title?**

– Akane Yamaguchi.

- **Since which major triumph did the Japan Open 2026 become PV Sindhu's biggest international title?**

– 2019 BWF World Championships.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2026 – INDIA

- **Where were the 2026 Commonwealth Games held?**
– Glasgow, Scotland.
- **How many medals did India win at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– 39 medals (13 Gold, 17 Silver and 9 Bronze).
- **What position did India secure in the medal table at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– 4th.
- **Which country will host the 2030 Commonwealth Games?**
– India, in Ahmedabad.
- **Who received the Commonwealth Flag when India took over as host of the 2030 Commonwealth Games?**
– Neeraj Chopra.
- **How many medals did India win in boxing at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– 10 medals (7 Gold and 3 Silver).
- **How many para-sport medals did India win at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– 7 medals.
- **What medal did Neeraj Chopra win in men's javelin at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– Silver.

23RD COMMONWEALTH GAMES – GLASGOW 2026

- **Which edition of the Commonwealth Games was held in Glasgow in 2026?**
– 23rd Commonwealth Games.
- **How many nations and territories participated in the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– 74.
- **How many days did the 2026 Commonwealth Games last?**
– 10 days.
- **How many members were there in India's contingent at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– 125 members, including para-athletes.
- **Which two sports were not participated in by India at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– 3x3 Basketball and Netball.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2026

- **Who became the first Indian man to win a Commonwealth Games medal in the men's 10,000m?**
– Gulveer Singh.
- **Which medal did Gulveer Singh win in the men's 10,000m at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– Silver.

- **Who won silver in the women's 69 kg weightlifting category at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– Harjinder Kaur.
- **Who became the first Indian to win the girls' singles title at the World Junior Squash Championships?**
– Anahat Singh.
- **Where were the 2026 World Junior Squash Championships held?**
– Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada.
- **Who won India's first gold medal at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– Saikhom Mirabai Chanu.
- **What was Saikhom Mirabai Chanu's total lift while winning gold at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– 190 kg.
- **Who won silver in the women's 53 kg weightlifting event at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– Gyaneshwari Yadav.
- **Who won gold in the women's 53 kg weightlifting event at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– Onome Omolola Didih of Nigeria.
- **What was the Commonwealth Games record total lift achieved by Onome Omolola Didih?**
– 206 kg.
- **Who secured India's first medal at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– Jhandu Kumar.
- **Which medal did Jhandu Kumar win in the men's heavyweight para-powerlifting event?**
– Bronze.
- **What was Jhandu Kumar's best lift in the men's heavyweight para-powerlifting event?**
– 190 kg.
- **Who won bronze in the women's 58 kg weightlifting event at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**
– Bindyarani Devi Sorokhaibam.

PLACES IN NEWS

DELHI – HONORARIUM HIKE FOR DDMA PERSONNEL

- **Which Delhi authority announced an honorarium hike of up to 100% for disaster-management personnel?**
– Delhi Government.
- **Why was the honorarium of DDMA personnel increased?**
– To strengthen disaster preparedness and support frontline responders.

DELHI – E-ZERO FIRS

- Which Union Territory registered the highest number of e-Zero FIRs among 18 States and Union Territories?
– Delhi.
- Which Ministry provided information on e-Zero FIRs in the Lok Sabha?
– Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

DELHI LAKSHMI YOJANA

- What monthly financial assistance is provided under the Delhi Lakshmi Yojana?
– ₹2,500 per month.
- Who are eligible beneficiaries under the Delhi Lakshmi Yojana?
– Women aged 21-60 years with an annual family income of up to ₹2.5 lakh, who have been Delhi residents for at least 10 years and are registered voters in Delhi.
- How many beneficiaries are expected to be covered under the Delhi Lakshmi Yojana?
– More than 17 lakh beneficiaries.
- How many women from one family can receive benefits under the Delhi Lakshmi Yojana?
– Only one woman per family, with preference given to the eldest eligible woman.

TRIPURA – MUSTARD HONEY EXPORT

- Which organisation facilitated the first international export of mustard honey from Tripura?
– Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).
- Where was Tripura's mustard honey exported for the first time internationally?
– Dubai, UAE.

TAMIL NADU – ORGAN DONATION

- Which State recorded the highest number of deceased organ donors in India in 2025?
– Tamil Nadu.
- How many transplant centres does Tamil Nadu have?
– 172 transplant centres, the highest among Indian States.
- How many transplant centres are there across India?
– More than 800 transplant centres.

TAMIL NADU – AI-INTEGRATED VERTICAL UNIVERSITY

- Who inaugurated the VELS Thiruvananthapuram Campus in Chennai?
– Padma Shri Sridhar Vembu, Chief Scientist and Co-Founder of Zoho Corporation.

- **Where is India's first AI-Integrated Vertical University Campus being established?**
– VELS Thiruvannamiyur Campus, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS – HAR GHAR TIRANGA

- **Who launched the 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands?**
– Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan.
- **Where was the National Flag hoisted during the launch of Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands?**
– Flag Point, Sri Vijaya Puram.
- **On which occasion was the Har Ghar Tiranga event held in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands?**
– August Kranti Diwas (8 August), commemorating the Quit India Movement of 1942.

HIMACHAL PRADESH – FIRST DRONE DELIVERY OF TIRANGA

- **From where to where was India's first drone delivery of the Tiranga conducted?**
– From Mandi Head Post Office to Rehardhar Branch Post Office in Himachal Pradesh.
- **Who inaugurated the first-ever drone delivery of the Tiranga?**
– Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia.
- **On what occasion was the first drone delivery of the Tiranga conducted?**
– On the eve of Independence Day.

GUJARAT – DESERT ZOOLOGICAL PARK AND NIGHT SAFARI

- **Where has the Central Zoo Authority approved Gujarat's proposed Desert Zoological Park and Drive-Through Night Safari?**
– Juna Deesa, Banaskantha district, Gujarat.
- **Which organisation is developing the Desert Zoological Park and Drive-Through Night Safari?**
– Gujarat Forest Department.
- **What distinction is the proposed Juna Deesa safari expected to achieve?**
– It is expected to become Asia's first desert-themed drive-through night safari.

JAMMU & KASHMIR – RATTAN GARH FORT

- **How much funding did the J&K Government approve for the restoration of Rattan Garh Fort?**
– ₹10 crore.
- **Where is Rattan Garh Fort located?**
– Doda district, in the Bhardwah Valley of the Chenab Valley.
- **Who built Rattan Garh Fort and when?**
– Raja Sampat Pal in 1733.

- **What is the objective of the Rattan Garh Fort restoration project?**
 - To conserve its historical character, improve visitor facilities and develop it as a heritage tourism destination.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH – SURVEY OF INDIA MAP

- **How many locations in Arunachal Pradesh have been officially identified on the Survey of India map?**
 - 27 locations.
- **What is the significance of officially identifying these locations on the Survey of India map?**
 - It counters China's attempts to rename places in Arunachal Pradesh and reinforce its territorial claims.
- **What name does China use for Arunachal Pradesh in support of its territorial claims?**
 - “Zangnan” (South Tibet).
- **In which years has China issued alternative names for places in Arunachal Pradesh?**
 - 2017, 2021 and 2023.
- **Which location was the site of an early India-China border confrontation in 1959?**
 - Long Ju.
- **Where did fighting begin during the 1962 India-China War?**
 - Thag La.
- **Which strategic passes in Arunachal Pradesh have been formally identified?**
 - Bisa, Dzo La, Riza La, Pukur La and Thag La.
- **Which location in Changlang district is an important logistics hub towards eastern Arunachal Pradesh and the Myanmar border?**
 - Jairampur.
- **Which memorial commemorates Jaswant Singh Rawat, a hero of the 1962 war?**
 - Jaswant Garh.
- **Whom does the Sher-e-Thapa Memorial honour?**
 - Trilok Singh Thapa, a 1962 war hero.
- **Which high-altitude lake has been included among the identified locations in Arunachal Pradesh?**
 - Sambho Sarovar.

GLAW LAKE – RAMSAR SITE

- **Which lake in Arunachal Pradesh has been designated as India's 101st Ramsar Site?**
 - Glaw Lake.
- **What is the significance of Glaw Lake's Ramsar designation?**
 - It is India's 101st Ramsar Site and the first wetland of international importance in Arunachal Pradesh.

- **How many Ramsar Sites does India have in 2026?**
– 101 Ramsar Sites.
- **What type of lake is Glaw Lake?**
– A pristine freshwater lake.

SHIPKI LA PASS

- **When did cross-border trade between India and China through Shipki La Pass resume?**
– 1 August 2026.
- **Where is Shipki La Pass located?**
– In Kinnaur district, Himachal Pradesh, along the India-China border with the Tibet Autonomous Region.
- **What were the earlier names of Shipki La Pass?**
– Pema La or Shared Gate.
- **Who renamed the pass as Shipki La?**
– Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) after the 1962 India-China War.

GWALIOR – TELECOM MANUFACTURING ZONE

- **Where is India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ) proposed to be established?**
– Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- **Which organisations will collaborate for establishing India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone?**
– Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, and Government of Madhya Pradesh.
- **What will be signed for the establishment of India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone?**
– A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

KARNATAKA – HFSS FOODS

- **Which State prohibited the sale and promotion of HFSS foods in educational institutions?**
– Karnataka.
- **What does HFSS stand for?**
– High Fat, Sugar and Salt.
- **Within what radius of schools and colleges does Karnataka's HFSS restriction apply?**
– Within a 50-metre radius.
- **What activities related to HFSS foods have been prohibited in Karnataka's educational institutions?**
– Sale, free distribution, advertising and promotion.

KEN-BETWA RIVER LINKING PROJECT

- **Which communities have protested against the Ken-Betwa River Linking Project?**
 - Tribal communities in Madhya Pradesh.
- **What are the major concerns raised regarding the Ken-Betwa River Linking Project?**
 - Displacement, rehabilitation, compensation and environmental impacts.
- **Which is India's first river-linking project?**
 - Ken-Betwa River Linking Project (KBRL).
- **Under which plan is the Ken-Betwa River Linking Project the first among the proposed 30 interlinking projects?**
 - National Perspective Plan (1980).
- **Through which authority is the Ken-Betwa River Linking Project being implemented?**
 - Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).

LADAKH – PUGA VALLEY

- **Where did India commission its first and deepest geothermal wells?**
 - Puga Valley, Ladakh.
- **In which region of Ladakh is Puga Valley located?**
 - South-eastern Changthang region.
- **Approximately how far is Puga Valley from the Salt Lake Valley?**
 - 22 km.

KOLKATA – SHABDALOK

- **Where was the first phase of India's first immersive Museum of Word (Shabdlok) inaugurated?**
 - National Library campus, Kolkata.
- **What is Shabdlok dedicated to?**
 - Languages, words and India's rich multilingual heritage.

MAHARASHTRA – ECO-NATURE PARK

- **Where is the Eco-Nature Park with India's first AI-powered bird detection and monitoring centre being developed?**
 - Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary, Maharashtra.
- **When was the Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary declared a Wildlife Sanctuary?**
 - 2015.
- **Which is India's first dedicated flamingo sanctuary?**
 - Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary.

SIKKIM – TEESTA STAGE VI

- **Where did a suspected methane gas explosion occur inside the under-construction Head Race Tunnel of the Teesta Stage VI Hydropower Project?**
– Samardung, Namchi district, Sikkim.
- **What major safety concern was highlighted by the Teesta Stage VI tunnel incident?**
– Geological hazards and safety challenges in the fragile Himalayan region.

SARNATH – UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

- **Which ancient Buddhist site in Uttar Pradesh was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List during the 48th World Heritage Committee session?**
– Sarnath.
- **Where did Gautama Buddha deliver his first sermon?**
– Sarnath.
- **What is the first sermon of Gautama Buddha at Sarnath known as?**
– Dharmachakra Pravartana (Turning of the Wheel of the Law).

COLOMBIA – EARTHQUAKE

- **Which country declared a national state of emergency after a magnitude 7.4 earthquake struck its western region?**
– Colombia.
- **Where was the magnitude 7.4 earthquake in Colombia centred?**
– Near San José del Palmar in Chocó.
- **According to the Colombian Geological Service, what was notable about the magnitude 7.4 earthquake?**
– It was the strongest earthquake in Colombia in the 21st century.

SPAIN – WILDFIRES

- **Which country declared a national emergency due to severe wildfires fuelled by extreme heat, drought and strong winds?**
– Spain.
- **Which wildfire was reported as the largest wildfire in Spain's history?**
– Ávila wildfire.
- **Which regions of Spain were severely affected by the wildfires?**
– Community of Madrid, Ávila and Toledo.

LEBANON – DEATH PENALTY

- **Which Arab country became the first to legally abolish the death penalty?**
– Lebanon.

- **What will happen to existing death sentences in Lebanon after abolition of the death penalty?**

– They will be commuted to life imprisonment.

BLACK SEA – UKRAINE

- **Through which sea do nearly 90% of Ukraine's wheat, corn and sunflower-seed exports move?**

– Black Sea.

- **What was the historical name of the Black Sea?**

– Euxine Sea (Pontus Euxinus).

- **Which six countries border the Black Sea?**

– Bulgaria, Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, Romania and Türkiye.

NAURU – REPUBLIC OF NAOERO

- **Which Pacific island nation officially adopted its indigenous name, the Republic of Naoero?**

– Nauru.

- **What is the approximate area of Naoero (Nauru)?**

– 21 sq. km.

- **Which country annexed Naoero in 1888?**

– Germany.

CEUTA – MIGRATION CRISIS

- **Which Spanish autonomous city witnessed a major migration crisis in July 2026, with nearly 60,000 migrants attempting to enter from Morocco?**

– Ceuta.

- **Where is Ceuta located?**

– On the northern coast of Africa, bordering Morocco and overlooking the Strait of Gibraltar.

QESHM ISLAND – IRAN

- **Which is the largest island in the Persian Gulf and is located near the mouth of the Strait of Hormuz?**

– Qeshm Island.

- **In which Iranian province is Qeshm Island located?**

– Hormozgan Province.

- **Qeshm Island is located near which major Iranian port city?**

– Bandar Abbas.

PICKAXE MOUNTAIN – IRAN

- Which mountain in Iran gained international attention amid reports of possible underground nuclear facilities?
– Pickaxe Mountain.
- Where is Pickaxe Mountain located?
– Near Natanz, about 220 km south of Tehran, within the Karkas Range.
- Pickaxe Mountain is part of which geological belt?
– Urumieh-Dokhtar magmatic belt.

FRANCE – SOCIAL MEDIA BAN

- Which EU member state became the first to introduce a nationwide ban on social media access for children below 15 years of age?
– France.
- What is the main objective of France's nationwide social media restriction for children below 15?
– To protect children from harmful online content and risks.

MOLDOVA – INDIA

- Which country did the President of India visit for the first time by an Indian Head of State?
– Moldova.
- What was announced during the President's visit to Moldova regarding ITEC training?
– Doubling of ITEC training slots for professionals from Moldova.
- Which two countries border Moldova?
– Romania and Ukraine.

NORTH MACEDONIA – INDIA

- Which Balkan country witnessed the first-ever visit by an Indian Head of State?
– North Macedonia.
- In which region is North Macedonia located?
– Balkan Peninsula of Southeast Europe.
- What type of country is North Macedonia?
– A landlocked country.

ROMANIA – INDIA

- Which European country did President Droupadi Murmu visit as the final leg of her State Visits to Moldova, North Macedonia and Romania?
– Romania.

- Which year will be celebrated as the “India–Romania Year of Innovation”?
– 2028.
- Why will 2028 be celebrated as the “India–Romania Year of Innovation”?
– To commemorate 80 years of diplomatic relations.
- What is the capital of Romania?
– Bucharest.

BRAZIL – AMAZON REGION

- In which country did forest fires in the Amazon region fall to their lowest level since records began in 1985?
– Brazil.
- What is significant about the recent forest-fire trend in Brazil’s Amazon region?
– It represents a significant improvement over the severe fire season of 2024.
- Approximately how large is the Amazon rainforest?
– Around 6 million sq. km.
- Across how many South American countries/territories does the Amazon rainforest extend?
– Nine.
- Approximately what share of the Amazon rainforest lies within Brazil?
– Nearly 60%.





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