

**AIR1**

**UP-PSC2026**

# Prelims Facts Drill

**Current Affairs *through* Q&A**

**Monthly Compilation- 10  
September 2026**



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## UTTAR PRADESH CURRENT AFFAIRS

### ELECTIONS TO THE UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

- **Which constitutional provisions govern the creation and composition of State Legislative Councils?**
  - Articles 168, 169 and 171 cover legislatures and Councils.
- **How can a State Legislative Council be created or abolished?**
  - Assembly passes a special resolution; Parliament then legislates.
- **What are the minimum and maximum sizes of a State Legislative Council?**
  - Minimum 40; maximum one-third of the State Assembly's strength.
- **Is a State Legislative Council a permanent body?**
  - Yes; permanent House, with one-third retiring every two years.
- **What is the term and minimum age for a Legislative Council member?**
  - Six years; minimum candidate age: 30 years.
- **Which groups elect or nominate members of a Legislative Council?**
  - Local authorities, MLAs, graduates, teachers; Governor nominates one-sixth.
- **How are Legislative Council elections conducted?**
  - Proportional representation through single transferable vote and preferential voting.
- **What is the Legislative Council's role in relation to a Money Bill?**
  - It cannot reject Money Bills; recommendations are non-binding.
- **What is the proportional composition of a State Legislative Council under Article 171?**
  - Local bodies, MLAs, graduates, teachers; Governor nominates one-sixth.
- **What basic qualifications apply to a Legislative Council candidate?**
  - Indian, 30+, state elector; no disqualification or profit-making office.

### BHARAT TAXI AND COOPERATIVE INITIATIVES

- **What is the operating model of Bharat Taxi in Uttar Pradesh?**
  - Driver-owned cooperative; zero commission; drivers receive fares and shares.
- **Which four cities were named for the first phase of Bharat Taxi?**
  - Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Varanasi and Prayagraj.
- **What social-security cover is associated with Bharat Taxi drivers?**
  - Driver insurance and social security: up to ₹5 lakh.
- **Which transport services are integrated with Bharat Taxi in Lucknow?**
  - Metro, airport and emergency links improve access and safety.
- **What is the purpose of the proposed Gramin Bus Sewa?**
  - Connect remote villages with block headquarters and district centres.
- **What interest rate was announced under Mukhyamantri Krishak Samridhi Yojana for eligible long-term farm loans?**
  - 6% annually, reduced from 11% through cooperative land-development lending.

## BHU RAJGHAT ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

- **Where were the artefacts recently opened by Banaras Hindu University excavated?**
  - Rajghat, Varanasi, associated with ancient Kashi.
- **When were the Rajghat excavations conducted?**
  - Between 1957 and 1969.
- **How many sealed boxes from the Rajghat excavations were opened by BHU?**
  - 22 boxes, unopened for nearly seven decades.
- **What types of important finds were reported from the Rajghat boxes?**
  - 10,000+ artefacts, including pottery, seals, coins, tools and skeleton.
- **How old is the earliest pottery reported from the Rajghat finds?**
  - Pre-Northern Black Polished Ware pottery, circa 800 BCE.
- **Why are the Rajghat seals of archaeological interest?**
  - Administrative seals bear Greek and Brahmi inscriptions.

## UTTAR PRADESH CABINET DECISIONS

- **What expressway project did the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approve in Chitrakoot?**
  - 15.17-km, six-lane greenfield link; revised cost about ₹1,008.67 crore.
- **What reservation and age-relaxation benefits were approved for former Agniveers in two state recruitments?**
  - 20% horizontal quota; three-year age relaxation for specified posts.
- **What is the objective and validity period of the Uttar Pradesh Toy Manufacturing Promotion Policy 2025?**
  - Promote toy industry, clusters and jobs; five-year policy.
- **What development was approved for council-run primary schools?**
  - 14,429 Smart Schools; ₹300 crore for classes and labs.
- **What benefits were approved for Provincial Rakshak Dal volunteers?**
  - ₹600 daily; cashless care up to ₹5 lakh annually.
- **What agricultural credit support was approved under Mukhyamantri Krishak Samridhhi Yojana?**
  - Loans: ₹6 lakh at 6%; state support: ₹384 crore.
- **What was approved for fisheries development in Gorakhpur?**
  - WorldFish project centre MoU; ₹600 lakh allocated for 2026–27.
- **What ethanol project was approved for Mathura?**
  - Private dual-mode grain/molasses ethanol plant; minimum capacity 120 KLPD.
- **What land-related public facilities were approved by the Cabinet?**
  - NSG hub, 13 ECHS clinics, two bus stations approved.
- **What other urban-development decisions were approved?**
  - ₹655.76 crore seed capital; ₹380 crore released first.
- **What was approved to address the stalled Ansal township project in Lucknow?**
  - LDA may approach NCLT; project serves 5,000 homebuyers.

- **What additional administrative and market measures were included in the Cabinet decisions?**
  - Expanded engineer powers, testing policy, shop margins, stamp relief.

## UTTAR PRADESH FISHERIES AND RURAL LIVELIHOODS

- **How has annual fish production in Uttar Pradesh changed over the reported eight-year period?**
  - Production increased from 6.29 to 15.90 lakh tonnes.
- **What water resources are being mobilized for inland fisheries in Uttar Pradesh?**
  - 80,000+ hectares of ponds, 2,205-km rivers and 342 reservoirs.
- **What change in fisheries practices is being promoted?**
  - Scientific fish culture, fingerling stocking, balanced feed, modern infrastructure.
- **Which communities are expected to benefit from organized leasing and market links?**
  - Mallahs, Kashyaps, Nishads and marginal farmers.

## STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT IN HIGHER EDUCATION

- **What mental-health support arrangement is proposed for colleges and universities in Uttar Pradesh?**
  - Mental Health Support Cell in every college and university.
- **Who is identified as the nodal authority for the proposed student mental-health policy?**
  - The Director of Higher Education.
- **Who is to lead district-level monitoring of the student mental-health policy?**
  - A district committee headed by the District Magistrate.
- **Which student concerns are the proposed support cells expected to address?**
  - Counselling for academic, exam, career and emotional stress.

## ANGANWADI WORKERS AND HELPERS

- **What monthly honorarium was announced for Anganwadi workers in Uttar Pradesh?**
  - ₹12,000 per month, increased from ₹8,000.
- **What monthly honorarium was announced for Anganwadi helpers?**
  - ₹6,000 per month, increased from ₹4,000.
- **What annual cashless medical cover was announced for Anganwadi workers, helpers and their families?**
  - Up to ₹5 lakh.
- **How many smartphones were reported distributed to Anganwadi workers in the first phase?**
  - 1.28 lakh smartphones for real-time data and programme delivery.
- **How many Take Home Ration plants were reported to be operated by women's Self-Help Groups?**
  - 204 locations.
- **What infrastructure upgrade was announced for Anganwadi centres?**
  - Over 70,000 centres upgraded, including dedicated government buildings.

## GOMTI UDGAM STHAL RESTORATION

- **Where is Gomti Udgam Sthal located?**
  - Gomat Taal (Fulhar Jheel), Madho Tanda, Pilibhit.
- **Which mission supports the ecological restoration of Gomti Udgam Sthal?**
  - Namami Gange Mission and National Mission for Clean Ganga.
- **What are the approved outlay and construction period for the restoration plan?**
  - ₹12.26 crore and 24 months for construction.
- **Which nature-based measures are proposed to treat sewage at Gomat Taal?**
  - Interceptor drains feed wastewater to bio-filters and constructed wetlands.
- **What ecological features of the Gomat Taal plan support wetland and wildlife conservation?**
  - Three lakes linked; monsoon flows and turtle-nesting habitat restored.

## INDIA'S BEST TEACHERS AWARD

- **Which Uttar Pradesh teacher received the India's Best Teachers Award?**
  - Deepti, a government teacher from Lucknow.
- **What was the broad basis of the recognition?**
  - Innovative teaching and student-welfare contributions.

## ELECTRONICS AND SEMICONDUCTOR INVESTMENT IN UTTAR PRADESH

- **What share of India's mobile-phone production is attributed to Uttar Pradesh?**
  - More than 55%.
- **Where are Uttar Pradesh's two Electronics Manufacturing Clusters located?**
  - Noida and Greater Noida, Gautam Buddh Nagar.
- **What does ATMP mean in semiconductor manufacturing?**
  - Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging.
- **Where is the ATMP unit and semiconductor park being developed?**
  - YEIDA's Yamuna Expressway region; planned area: 1,000 acres.
- **What investment was reported in Uttar Pradesh's electronics and semiconductor sector?**
  - ₹43,000+ crore; ATMP investment exceeds ₹3,700 crore.
- **Which policy is intended to promote local electronics-component manufacturing?**
  - The Uttar Pradesh Electronics Component Manufacturing Policy 2025.
- **How many technology companies and jobs were associated with the sector in the state profile?**
  - 200+ technology firms and over three lakh jobs.

## UTTAR PRADESH TRAUMA AND EMERGENCY NETWORK

- **What is UPTEN?**
  - Statewide emergency, trauma, cardiac, burn and stroke-care network.

- **What emergency-care support is proposed under the UPTEN plan?**
  - Free initial treatment for 48 hours.
- **How many emergency units and ambulances are planned for the UPTEN network?**
  - 173 emergency units and 1,200 Advanced Life Support ambulances.
- **What does “golden hour” mean in emergency care?**
  - First hour after serious injury; rapid care improves survival.
- **How are ALS ambulances expected to function under the proposed plan?**
  - Mobile units provide emergency care during patient transport.

## VISIT MY STATE UTTAR PRADESH CAMPAIGN

- **Which campaign has Uttar Pradesh Tourism launched to engage Gen Z?**
  - “Visit My State Uttar Pradesh” promotes local tourism videos.
- **What is the maximum reel duration under the campaign?**
  - 60 seconds.
- **What kinds of local experiences does the campaign encourage creators to feature?**
  - Heritage, cuisine, crafts, neighbourhoods, traditions and tourist landmarks.

## CASHLESS HEALTHCARE FOR RURAL WORKERS

- **How many rural workers and functionaries could be covered under the proposed cashless-healthcare scheme?**
  - About 2 crore.
- **Which groups are identified as potential beneficiaries of the proposed rural healthcare cover?**
  - SHG, MGNREGS workers, Gram Rozgar Sevaks, Block Resource Persons.
- **What is the administrative status of the rural cashless-healthcare proposal?**
  - Rural Development and Panchayati Raj proposal awaited Cabinet approval.
- **How would beneficiaries receive treatment under the proposed scheme?**
  - Cashless care at empanelled government and private facilities.

## ETAWAH SAFARI PARK

- **What was the reported animal population of Etawah Safari Park in September 2026?**
  - 424 animals, up from 285 in 2024.
- **How many Asiatic lions and leopards were reported at Etawah Safari Park?**
  - 22 Asiatic lions and 33 leopards.
- **What conservation role does Etawah Safari Park perform beyond tourism?**
  - Wildlife rescue, veterinary care and rehabilitation across Uttar Pradesh.

## UTTAR PRADESH INTERNATIONAL TRADE SHOW 2026

- **When and where was UP International Trade Show 2026 held?**
  - 25–29 September 2026, India Expo Centre, Greater Noida.

- **Which six countries were named as official partner nations at UPITS 2026?**
  - Austria, Japan, Russia, Singapore, Belarus and Vietnam.
- **Which state-level initiatives were highlighted alongside UPITS?**
  - One District, One Product and One District, One Cuisine.
- **What three kinds of market interaction does the UPITS format combine?**
  - International B2B, domestic B2B and business-to-consumer trade.
- **Which edition of UPITS was held in 2026?**
  - The fourth edition.
- **How many visitors and foreign-buyer countries were reported for the event?**
  - Over 5.5 lakh visitors; buyers registered from 72+ countries.

## WOMEN'S DAIRY CONCLAVE IN JHANSI

- **Where and when was the Dairy Conclave focused on women's participation held?**
  - In Jhansi on 11 September 2026.
- **Which women-led dairy enterprise was cited as a Bundelkhand example?**
  - Balinee Milk Producer Company.
- **What was the purpose of linking women's Self-Help Groups with dairy activity?**
  - Expand women's ownership in dairy processing and value addition.
- **What scale did the Balinee Milk Producer Company reach, as reported?**
  - About 62,000 members; annual turnover around ₹115 crore.

## UTTAR PRADESH'S FIRST LEOPARD SAFARI

- **Where is Uttar Pradesh's proposed first leopard safari planned?**
  - Gopalpur forest range, spanning Pilibhit and Shahjahanpur.
- **What area and estimated cost are proposed for the leopard safari?**
  - About 1,974 hectares and ₹49.45 crore.
- **What is the principal conservation and safety objective of the project?**
  - Rescue leopards and reduce conflict through protected habitat.
- **Which authority's final approval is required for the proposed safari?**
  - The Central Zoo Authority (CZA).
- **What leopard population figures were reported in Uttar Pradesh?**
  - 2022 census: 371; officials estimated statewide population at 1,500+.

## UP'S SDG STRATEGY FOR HEALTH, NUTRITION AND EDUCATION

- **What was Uttar Pradesh's composite score in the state SDG Index 2024–25?**
  - 69.95; district-level scores ranged from 61.48 to 75.85.
- **How many indicators are tracked through the state's Common Indicator Framework?**
  - 245 indicators.
- **Which areas were the focus of the state's SDG-acceleration workshops?**
  - Health and nutrition, and education and skill development.

- **What health and nutrition concerns were highlighted at the workshops?**
  - Child mortality, low birth weight, malnutrition and stunting.
- **What education and skills priorities were highlighted?**
  - Foundational learning, retention, digital literacy and job-aligned vocational training.

## RASHTRIYA POSHAN MAAH IN UTTAR PRADESH

- **Where was the 2026 Rashtriya Poshan Maah launched in Uttar Pradesh?**
  - At the Rudraksha Convention Centre in Varanasi.
- **What were the dates and theme of the 2026 campaign?**
  - 9 September–8 October 2026; “Hamari Anganwadi, Hamari Zimmedari”.
- **Which four areas were emphasized during the campaign?**
  - Protein-rich diets, cooked meals, community accountability and early stimulation.
- **Which central scheme’s beneficiaries received direct benefit transfers at the launch event?**
  - Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY).

## ADDITIONAL NATIONAL-LEVEL FACTS:

- **What was the theme of the 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2026?**
  - “Hamari Anganwadi, Hamari Jimmedari”.
- **Where was Poshan Maah 2026 launched?**
  - Rudraksh International Cooperation and Convention Centre, Varanasi.
- **When was POSHAN Abhiyaan launched?**
  - March 2018.
- **Which scheme completed 10 years during Poshan Maah 2026?**
  - Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY).
- **What was the theme of the 8th Poshan Pakhwada (2026)?**
  - “Maximizing Brain Development in the First Six Years of Life”.
- **When was the Poshan Tracker launched?**
  - 1st March 2021.

## FLOOD SITUATION IN UTTAR PRADESH

- **How many districts and people were affected by the reported Uttar Pradesh floods?**
  - 31 districts, 3.53 lakh affected; 26 districts severely inundated.
- **How many people were reported evacuated during the floods?**
  - More than 17,500 people.
- **Which rivers were reported above warning or danger levels in the affected areas?**
  - The Ganga, Ghaghra and Mandakini.
- **Which district saw a major surge in the Mandakini River, and how many villages were affected?**
  - Chitrakoot; 36 villages were affected.
- **Which rescue and relief resources were deployed during the floods?**
  - 452 boats, 742 posts, 105 centres, 225 medical teams.

## LUCKNOW TOPS SWACHH VAYU SARVEKSHAN 2026

- Which city ranked first in the million-plus category of Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2026?  
– Lucknow, with 198 points.
- Which cities ranked second and third in the million-plus category?  
– Indore ranked second and Jabalpur third.
- Which Uttar Pradesh city shared fourth place in the million-plus category?  
– Agra, jointly with Bhopal.
- Which body conducts Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan?  
– The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
- Which indicators are considered in the survey?  
– Pollution, construction waste, electric transport, greenery and dust control.

## FIVE MEASURES BEHIND LUCKNOW'S AIR-SURVEY RANK

- How did electric mobility contribute to Lucknow's clean-air measures?  
– 90% electric collection fleet, 140 e-buses and expanded charging.
- What road-dust control measures were reported in Lucknow?  
– Mechanized sweeping; about 559.85 km of roads paved.
- How was municipal waste managed as part of Lucknow's clean-air strategy?  
– Municipal waste processing capacity: 2,550 tonnes daily.
- Which nature-based measures were used to expand green cover in Lucknow?  
– Miyawaki plantations and vertical gardens.
- What was notable about Ward 70 in Lucknow's clean-air initiative?  
– Nationally first among urban wards exceeding 30,000 population.
- How much did Lucknow's annual PM10 concentration fall from the reported 2017–18 level?  
– PM10 fell from 250 to 137  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , over 45%.

## IMPROVEMENT IN UTTAR PRADESH'S POWER SECTOR

- How did power-distribution losses change in Uttar Pradesh between 2020–21 and 2025–26?  
– They fell from 20.63% to 13.04%.
- How did AT&C losses change over the same period?  
– They declined from 31.19% to 17.83%.
- What change was reported in the share of profitable non-agricultural feeders?  
– It increased from 31% to 38%.
- What was the High Loss Cluster Model designed to do?  
– Feeder-level action across 703 clusters serving 42 lakh consumers.

## SIX-SITE BUDDHIST CIRCUIT IN UTTAR PRADESH

- Which six places are included in the proposed Buddhist circuit?  
– Sarnath, Kushinagar, Shravasti, Kapilvastu, Kaushambi and Sankisa.

- **Where did Buddha deliver his first sermon?**  
– Sarnath, where Buddha delivered his first sermon.
- **Which site in the circuit is associated with Buddha's Mahaparinirvana?**  
– Kushinagar.
- **What are examples of proposed site-specific facilities in the circuit?**  
– Kushinagar Vipassana centre; Kaushambi theme park; Kapilvastu heritage park.

## MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT AND INNOVATION

- **What was the value of the medical-device and healthcare-technology MoUs signed at UPITS 2026?**  
– ₹970 crore.
- **Which company proposed an ₹800-crore investment in medical equipment and surgical robotics?**  
– Sudhir Srivastava Innovations Pvt. Ltd.
- **What focus was associated with UnivLabs Technologies' proposed ₹170-crore investment?**  
– Indigenous medical devices, endoscopy systems and healthcare-technology solutions.
- **Which institutions facilitated the MedTech investment session?**  
– Invest UP and GIMS Incubation Centre.

## RAIN DAMAGE TO KHARIF CROPS AND RABI SOWING

- **What was the reported "double blow" to farmers from late-season rain and high winds?**  
– Rain damaged Kharif crops; waterlogging threatened Rabi sowing.
- **What share of Uttar Pradesh's Kharif cultivated area is under paddy, according to the report?**  
– More than 60%.
- **Which Kharif crop was especially vulnerable to lodging and rotting?**  
– Paddy.
- **Which Rabi crops were at risk from delayed sowing after waterlogging?**  
– Wheat, mustard and early potato.
- **How can delayed Rabi sowing affect crop yields?**  
– Delayed sowing shortens growth and risks heat-related yield losses.

## UTTAR PRADESH AS A GROWTH ENGINE

- **What share of Uttar Pradesh's population is youth?**  
– About 56%.
- **What was the Chief Minister's broad description of Uttar Pradesh's economic transition?**  
– Shifted from BIMARU to revenue surplus and national growth.
- **How many government jobs were reported as provided over the preceding nine and a half years?**  
– About 9.5 lakh.

- **How large is the reported MSME employment footprint in Uttar Pradesh?**
  - About 96 lakh MSMEs employing approximately 3.25 crore people.
- **How many registered startups and women-led startups were reported in Uttar Pradesh?**
  - 24,000+ registered startups; roughly half women-led or women-founded.
- **What women's economic-participation examples were highlighted?**
  - Dairy collectives, 54,000 BC Sakhis, 36–37% workforce, 44,000 policewomen.

## POLITY, GOVERNANCE & JUDICIARY

### DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA GRAMEEN KAUSHALYA YOJANA (DDU-GKY) 2.0

- **When was DDU-GKY launched and by which ministry?**
  - 25th September 2014, by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) under NRLM.
- **What is the age group of rural youth targeted under DDU-GKY?**
  - 15 to 35 years, from poor rural households.

**What share of coverage does DDU-GKY reserve for SC/ST, women and persons with disabilities?**

- SC/ST 50%, women 33% and persons with disabilities 5%.
- **What is the minimum training duration retained under DDU-GKY 2.0?**
  - 576 hours (396 hours domain-specific and 180 hours mandatory non-domain training).
- **To what has the minimum placement duration been increased under DDU-GKY 2.0?**
  - From 3 months to 6 months.
- **Which initiative under DDU-GKY provides residential skill training in LWE-affected districts?**
  - Roshni Initiative.
- **Which special DDU-GKY programme covers Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh?**
  - Himayat Initiative (100% centrally funded).
- **Which was the first state to create DDU-GKY 2.0 batches?**
  - Goa.
- **How much was allocated to DDU-GKY in the Union Budget 2026-27?**
  - ₹750 crore.

### SC MANDATES STRICT SAFEGUARDS FOR ARREST AND RE-ARREST

- **In which 2026 case did the Supreme Court hold that failure to communicate grounds of arrest makes the arrest unconstitutional?**
  - Jaskaran Jeet Singh Deol v. State of Punjab (2026).
- **Which Article guarantees that an arrested person must be informed of the grounds of arrest and can consult a lawyer?**
  - Article 22(1).
- **Which Article requires production of an arrested person before a Magistrate within 24 hours?**
  - Article 22(2).

- Whose approval is now required for re-arresting a person released due to violation of Article 22 safeguards?

– The Magistrate's approval.

**Which earlier judgments did the Court extend to require written grounds of arrest under all laws?**

- Pankaj Bansal v. Union of India (2023) and Mihir Rajesh Shah v. State of Maharashtra (2025).
- Release due to violation of Article 22(1) is treated as what, according to the Court?
  - Release from illegal detention, not bail.

## SC STRIKES DOWN MAHARASHTRA'S METHANOL RULES

**Which rules of the Maharashtra Poisons Rules, 1972 did the Supreme Court strike down?**

– Rules 18A and 18B.

- On which doctrine did the Court hold these rules unconstitutional?
  - Doctrine of Proportionality.
- Which tragedy led Maharashtra to amend its Poisons Rules in 2011?
  - The 1991 Mumbai hooch tragedy.
- In which case did the SC hold that industrial alcohol falls under “intoxicating liquor” in Entry 8 of the State List?
  - State of U.P. v. Lalta Prasad Vaish (2024).
- Under which Act was the Methanol (Quality Control) Order, 2019 issued?
  - BIS Act, 2016.
- Under which mission did India notify Green Methanol standards in 2026?
  - National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- What is the emission limit for green methanol under the 2026 standards?
  - Not more than 0.44 kg CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per kg of methanol.

## UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

- Which Article of the Constitution directs the State to endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code?
  - Article 44 (Directive Principles, Part IV).
- Which state implemented UCC in January 2025?
  - Uttarakhand.
- UCC Bills of which states are awaiting Presidential assent?
  - Assam, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- Which Law Commission said a UCC was “neither necessary nor desirable at this stage”?
  - 21st Law Commission (2018).
- Which case declared instant triple talaq unconstitutional?
  - Shayara Bano v. Union of India (2017).
- Which case recognised Goa's civil code as an example of uniform civil law?
  - Jose Paulo Coutinho v. Maria Luiza Valentina Pereira (2019).

- In which case did the SC uphold maintenance rights of divorced Muslim women and highlight Article 44?

– Mohd. Ahmed Khan v. Shah Bano Begum (1985).

## ROLE OF ECI IN RESOLVING POLITICAL PARTY DISPUTES & SYMBOL ALLOCATION

- Which party's name and reserved symbol did the ECI freeze due to rival faction claims?  
– All India Trinamool Congress.
- Under which Order does the ECI resolve disputes over party names and symbols?  
– Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968.
- Which case laid down the three-test formula to decide the legitimate faction of a party?  
– Sadiq Ali v. ECI (1971).
- What are the three tests in the Sadiq Ali formula?  
– Aims and Objects Test, Party Constitution Test and Majority Test.
- Does the ECI decide factional disputes of unrecognised parties?  
– No; it may direct such parties to the courts.

## 3 YEARS OF PM VISHWAKARMA SCHEME

- How many traditional artisans had registered under PM Vishwakarma by September 2026?  
– 30 lakh.
- On which three pillars is the PM Vishwakarma Scheme built?  
– Samman (Respect), Samarthya (Capability) and Samriddhi (Prosperity).
- What is the outlay of PM Vishwakarma for 2023-24 to 2027-28?  
– ₹13,000 crore (Central Sector Scheme).
- How many traditional trades are notified under the scheme?  
– 18.
- What is the maximum collateral-free loan under PM Vishwakarma?  
– Up to ₹3 lakh in two tranches at 5% interest.
- What toolkit incentive is given under the scheme?  
– e-Voucher up to ₹15,000.
- What daily stipend is paid during skill training?  
– ₹500 per day.

## PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN MAANDHAN YOJANA (PM-KMY)

- How many years did PM-KMY complete in 2026?  
– 7 years (launched in 2019).
- What assured monthly pension does a PM-KMY subscriber receive after 60 years of age?  
– ₹3,000 per month.
- Which institution is the partner institution for PM-KMY?  
– LIC.

- **What is the entry age and landholding eligibility under PM-KMY?**
  - 18 to 40 years, with cultivable land up to 2 hectares.
- **What is the monthly contribution range for farmers under PM-KMY?**
  - ₹55 to ₹200, matched equally by the Central Government.
- **Which state has the highest enrolment under PM-KMY?**
  - Haryana, followed by Bihar.

## INDIA ELECTRIC MOBILITY INDEX 2025

- **Which organisation released the India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI) 2025?**
  - NITI Aayog, in collaboration with WRI India.
- **Which State/UT ranked first in IEMI 2025 and with what score?**
  - Delhi, with a score of 84.
- **Which state topped among Hilly and North-Eastern States?**
  - Manipur (score 46).
- **What are the three pillars of IEMI and their weights?**
  - Transport Electrification Progress (50%), Charging Infrastructure Readiness (30%) and EV Research & Innovation (20%).
- **Which state was the leader in Charging Infrastructure?**
  - Karnataka.
- **Which state improved by 16 positions to rank 7th overall?**
  - Madhya Pradesh.
- **What was India's EV share in 2025-26?**
  - 8.25% (up from 0.5% in 2018).

## PM SHRI SCHEME

- **When was the PM SHRI Scheme launched?**
  - 7th September 2022.
- **How many schools had been selected under PM SHRI as of July 2026?**
  - 13,092 schools across 36 States/UTs.
- **What is the target number of schools under PM SHRI?**
  - 14,500+ schools, including KVS, NVS and local body schools.
- **Which policy do PM SHRI schools showcase?**
  - National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- **What is the central share of PM SHRI?**
  - ₹18,128 crore (Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 2022-23 to 2026-27).

## CURBING MISUSE OF POLITICAL FUNDING THROUGH RUPPS

- **Under which section of the RPA, 1951 are political parties registered?**
  - Section 29A.
- **Which section of the RPA requires annual contribution reports for donations above ₹20,000?**
  - Section 29C.

- **Which section of the Companies Act, 2013 regulates corporate political donations?**  
– Section 182.
- **How many RUPPs were registered as of July 2026?**  
– More than 2,800.
- **How many RUPPs did the ECI find non-compliant in 2025?**  
– 334.
- **In which case did the SC hold that the ECI can deregister a party only in exceptional cases?**  
– Indian National Congress v. Institute of Social Welfare (2002).
- **Which Law Commission report recommended giving the ECI deregistration powers?**  
– Law Commission 255th Report (2015).
- **Which committee recommended partial state funding of elections?**  
– Indrajit Gupta Committee (1998).

## CONCERNS REGARDING THE POPULATION ENUMERATION OF CENSUS 2027

- **How many questions are in the Population Enumeration schedule of Census 2027?**  
– 40 questions (compared to 29 in Census 2011).
- **Which office notified the Census 2027 schedule?**  
– Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India (ORGI).
- **Census 2027 will be India's first Census of what kind?**  
– Fully digital and self-enumerated Census.
- **How many caste names did the 2011 SECC reportedly generate?**  
– Around 46 lakh.
- **Under which Act does the Census carry confidentiality safeguards?**  
– Census Act, 1948.

## GRAM SABHA CONSENT AND FOREST CLEARANCE

- **Which ministry stated that the FRA, 2006 has no provision requiring Gram Sabha consent for Stage-II forest clearance?**  
– Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA).
- **Which rules removed the requirement of Gram Sabha consent before forest clearance?**  
– Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022.
- **What consent threshold did the Parliamentary Committee suggest for large hydropower projects?**  
– A qualified super-majority of 70 to 75%.
- **Which 2013 SC judgment recognised the Gram Sabha's role before forest diversion?**  
– Niyamgiri judgment.
- **Which hydroelectric project is stalled due to pending Gram Panchayat consent?**  
– Teesta-IV Hydroelectric Project.

## DECENTRALISED GRAIN STORAGE PLAN IN COOPERATIVE SECTOR

- **What is the implementing agency of the Decentralised Grain Storage Plan?**
  - National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- **Which cooperative bodies are being developed into rural agricultural service hubs under the plan?**
  - Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS).
- **To what level was the AMI Scheme subsidy increased under the plan?**
  - From 25% to 33.33%.
- **What effective loan interest rate do PACS get under the plan?**
  - 1%.
- **Which body provides assured hiring of godowns created under the plan?**
  - Food Corporation of India (FCI).
- **Storage structures under the plan must comply with norms of which authority?**
  - Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA).

## ARTICLE 142 OF THE CONSTITUTION

- **Why did the SC recently invoke Article 142?**
  - To quash FIRs against participants of protests led by the Cockroach Janta Party over the NEET-UG 2026 exam leak.
- **What does Article 142(1) empower the Supreme Court to do?**
  - Pass any decree or order necessary for doing “complete justice” in any pending matter.
- **From which provision of the Government of India Act, 1935 is Article 142 derived?**
  - Section 210.
- **As which Article was Article 142 originally drafted in the Constituent Assembly?**
  - Article 118.
- **Which case held that Article 142 supplements but cannot override existing laws?**
  - Supreme Court Bar Association v. Union of India (1998).
- **In which case did the SC use Article 142 to approve the USD 470 million Bhopal settlement?**
  - Union Carbide Corporation v. Union of India (1989).

## CVC ANNUAL REPORT 2025

- **How many CBI-probed corruption cases were pending trial according to the CVC Annual Report 2025?**
  - Over 7,200 cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.
- **What was the CBI’s conviction rate in 2025?**
  - 71.71% (up from 69.14% in 2024).
- **Which section of the PCA, 1988 requires prior sanction for investigation of official decisions of public servants?**
  - Section 17A.
- **How many vacancies does the CBI have against its sanctioned strength?**
  - 1,088 vacancies against 7,300 posts.

## DISTINGUISHED JURIST AS A SUPREME COURT JUDGE

- Which Article provides for appointing a “distinguished jurist” as a Supreme Court judge?  
– Article 124(3).
- Has the distinguished jurist category ever been used?  
– No, it has never been used.
- Which amendment introduced the distinguished jurist provision for High Courts, and which removed it?  
– Introduced by the 42nd Amendment (1976) and removed by the 44th Amendment (1978).
- Who introduced the distinguished jurist clause in the Constituent Assembly?  
– H.V. Kamath (May 1949).
- Which Bar Council rule prevents full-time law teachers from practising law?  
– Rule 49 of the Bar Council of India Rules.

## PER DROP MORE CROP (PDMC)

- How much area had PDMC brought under micro-irrigation by July 2026?  
– Around 115 lakh hectares (8.11% of net sown area).
- Under which scheme framework has PDMC been implemented since 2022-23?  
– PM-RKVY (Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana).
- What is the assistance given to small and marginal farmers under PDMC?  
– 55% (45% for other farmers), for up to 5 hectares per beneficiary.
- Under which scheme was PDMC implemented from 2015-16 to 2021-22?  
– Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).
- Which states recorded the highest micro-irrigation coverage in 2025-26?  
– Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Rajasthan.

## RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED TO ACCESS AN FIR

- Which 2016 case laid down guidelines on the accused’s right to timely FIR access?  
– Youth Bar Association of India v. Union of India (2016).
- Within how many hours should FIRs generally be uploaded on police websites?  
– 24 hours (extendable to 48 to 72 hours).
- Which section of the BNSS requires the Magistrate to give the accused the FIR after cognizance?  
– Section 230 of BNSS.
- Which rank of officer must decide to withhold an FIR from online publication?  
– DSP rank or above.
- Which FIRs are exempted from mandatory online publication?  
– FIRs involving sexual offences, POCSO Act and terror offences.

## FSSAI PROPOSES FRONT-OF-PACK WARNING LABELS FOR PACKAGED FOODS

- **What symbol has FSSAI proposed for front-of-pack warning labels?**  
– A red hexagonal warning symbol.
- **To which foods will the warning labels apply?**  
– Foods High in Fat, Sugar and/or Salt (HFSS).
- **On which guidelines are the warning thresholds based?**  
– Dietary Guidelines for Indians, 2024 issued by ICMR-NIN.
- **Under which Act was FSSAI established?**  
– Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- **What is the maximum fine for misbranding under the FSS Act, 2006?**  
– ₹3 lakh.
- **Which country uses black octagon stop-sign warnings on food?**  
– Chile (also Mexico and Peru).

## REGULATION OF SOCIAL MEDIA ADDICTION AMONG CHILDREN

- **What was the value of Meta's settlement with US states over addictive use among minors?**  
– USD 17.1 billion.
- **Which Economic Survey flagged digital addiction among the 15-24 age group as a public health concern?**  
– Economic Survey 2025-26.
- **Which US law protects children's data from misuse without parental consent?**  
– Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), 1998.
- **Which section of the IT Act, 2000 gives safe harbour to intermediaries?**  
– Section 79.
- **Which case held that internet-based speech is protected under Article 19?**  
– Anuradha Bhasin v. Union of India (2020).

## NATIONAL ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAMME (NADCP)

- **When was NADCP launched?**  
– September 2019.
- **Which two diseases does NADCP aim to control and eradicate?**  
– Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis.
- **By which year does India aim to eradicate FMD?**  
– 2030.
- **How many FMD vaccine doses have been administered under NADCP?**  
– 147.16 crore.
- **On which portal are livestock given a unique 12-digit Tag ID?**  
– Bharat Pashudhan Portal.
- **What is the helpline for Mobile Veterinary Units?**  
– 1962.
- **How much was the G20 Pandemic Fund project for animal health security?**  
– US\$25 million.

## PRADHAN MANTRI FORMALISATION OF MICRO FOOD PROCESSING ENTERPRISES SCHEME (PMFME)

- **When was the PMFME Scheme launched?**  
– 29th June 2020.
- **Which ministry implements PMFME?**  
– Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- **What credit-linked capital subsidy is given to individual units under PMFME?**  
– 35%, up to ₹10 lakh per unit.
- **How much seed capital is provided per SHG member?**  
– ₹40,000 (maximum ₹4 lakh per SHG).
- **How many districts are covered under ODOP in PMFME?**  
– 713 districts across 35 States/UTs, covering 137 products.

## PM STREET VENDOR'S ATMANIRBHAR NIDHI (PM SVANIDHI)

- **When was PM SVANidhi launched and by which ministry?**  
– June 2020, by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- **Till when has the restructured PM SVANidhi been extended?**  
– 31st March 2030.
- **What are the three loan tranches under PM SVANidhi?**  
– ₹15,000, ₹25,000 and ₹50,000.
- **What interest subsidy is given under PM SVANidhi?**  
– 7% through DBT.
- **What is the initial limit of the UPI-linked RuPay Credit Card under the scheme?**  
– ₹10,000 (extendable to ₹30,000).
- **What is the name of MoHUA's initiative that links vendors with 8 welfare schemes?**  
– 'SVANidhi se Samriddhi'.

## TRANSPARENCY CONCERNS OVER COLLEGIUM SYSTEM OF JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

- **In which year did the Collegium decide to publish brief reasons for its recommendations?**  
– 2017.
- **Which 2023 judgment held sealed-cover procedures to be against transparency?**  
– MediaOne judgment.
- **Which case brought the CJI's office under RTI?**  
– Subhash Chandra Agarwal case (2019).
- **Which country uses a Judicial Appointments Commission with public vacancies and lay members?**  
– United Kingdom.
- **Which Article of the Constitution deals with separation of judiciary from the executive?**  
– Article 50.

## 5 YEARS OF E-SHRAM PORTAL

- **When was the e-Shram Portal launched and by which ministry?**  
– 2021, by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- **What unique number does e-Shram provide to workers?**  
– A 12-digit Universal Account Number (UAN).
- **How many registrations does e-Shram have?**  
– Over 31.89 crore.
- **How many welfare schemes are integrated under the e-Shram One-Stop Solution?**  
– 15 schemes.
- **Which platform enables e-Shram services in 22 languages?**  
– Bhashini.
- **What is the minimum age to register on e-Shram?**  
– 16 years.

## NATION & STATES

### GORKHALAND ISSUE

- **Who heads the committee formed by MHA to draft a permanent political solution on Gorkhaland?**  
– Pankaj Kumar Singh.
- **The Gorkhaland demand concerns which region of West Bengal?**  
– Darjeeling hills and the Terai-Dooars region.
- **Which constitutional amendment added Nepali to the Eighth Schedule?**  
– 71st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.
- **Which body was created in 2011 to give greater powers to the Darjeeling hills?**  
– Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA).
- **Who led the GNLF agitation of the 1980s?**  
– Subhas Ghising.
- **Which strategic corridor lies near Darjeeling?**  
– Siliguri Corridor (“Chicken’s Neck”).

### VIBRANT VILLAGES PROGRAMME (VVP)

- **When was the Vibrant Villages Programme launched?**  
– 2023.
- **How many villages are targeted under VVP-I and VVP-II?**  
– 2,616+ villages along India’s international land border.
- **Which force procures milk, vegetables and grains directly from border villages in Arunachal Pradesh?**  
– ITBP.

- In which Arunachal districts have residents started returning to border villages?
  - Kurung Kumey, Dibang Valley and Shi-Yomi.

## DEFENCE & SECURITY

### INDIA SIGNS DEAL FOR 60 US JAVELIN ANTI-TANK MISSILES

- How many Javelin Anti-Tank Guided Missiles has India agreed to acquire from the US?
  - Around 60.
- What document did India sign with the US for the Javelin acquisition?
  - Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA).
- Which companies form the Javelin Joint Venture?
  - Lockheed Martin and RTX.
- What is the effective range of the Javelin missile?
  - 2.5 to 4 km.
- Under which procurement route were the Javelins acquired?
  - Emergency Procurement (EP-6).
- Which indigenous missile is being developed to replace the Milan-2T and Konkurs systems?
  - Man-Portable ATGM (MPATGM).

### SLINEX-26

- Which edition of SLINEX was held in 2026?
  - 13th edition.
- Where was SLINEX-26 conducted?
  - Visakhapatnam, under the Eastern Naval Command.
- In which year did SLINEX begin?
  - 2005.
- Which Sri Lankan ship participated in SLINEX-26?
  - SLNS Sindurala.

### EXERCISE NOMADIC ELEPHANT 2026

- Exercise Nomadic Elephant is held between India and which country?
  - Mongolia.
- Which edition of Nomadic Elephant was held in 2026?
  - 18th edition.
- Where was Nomadic Elephant 2026 held?
  - Foreign Training Node, Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.
- What is the name of Mongolia's multinational peacekeeping exercise?
  - Khaan Quest.

## EXERCISE YUDH ABHYAS 2026

- **Exercise Yudh Abhyas is held between the armies of which countries?**  
– India and the United States.
- **Which edition of Yudh Abhyas was held in 2026?**  
– 22nd edition.
- **In which year did Yudh Abhyas begin?**  
– 2004.
- **Which US counter-drone system was deployed in India for the first time during Yudh Abhyas 2026?**  
– MLIDS (Mobile Low, Slow, Small Unmanned Aircraft Integrated Defeat System).
- **What is the India-US special forces exercise called?**  
– Vajra Prahar.

## INDIA-PAKISTAN NAVAL COLLISION IN THE NORTH ARABIAN SEA

- **Which ships collided in the North Arabian Sea?**  
– Pakistani OPV PNS Hunain and Indian destroyer INS Kolkata.
- **INS Kolkata is the lead ship of which project?**  
– Project 15A (Kolkata-class guided-missile destroyers).
- **Under the 1991 India-Pakistan agreement, what minimum separation must naval vessels maintain?**  
– 3 nautical miles.
- **Under which body were the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs) adopted?**  
– International Maritime Organization (IMO).

## 1ST WOMAN OFFICER TO LEAD CRPF'S COBRA UNIT

- **Who became the first woman Inspector General of CRPF's CoBRA?**  
– Sanjukta Parasor (2006-batch IPS).
- **By what title is Sanjukta Parasor known?**  
– "Iron Lady of Assam".
- **When was CoBRA established?**  
– 2008.
- **What is CoBRA's primary role?**  
– Jungle warfare and guerrilla operations against Left Wing Extremism.

## SHAKTI SHARMA BECOMES 1ST NON-MEDICAL WOMAN TWO-STAR OFFICER

- **Who became the first non-medical woman officer to attain the rank of Air Vice Marshal?**  
– Shakti Sharma.

- **Air Vice Marshal is equivalent to which rank in the Army and Navy?**
  - Major General (Army) and Rear Admiral (Navy).
- **In which IAF branch was Shakti Sharma commissioned?**
  - Education Branch (18th June 1994).
- **Which Sainik School did she command as the first woman Tri-Services officer?**
  - Sainik School, Kapurthala.

## RAKSHA DOCUMENT ON DEFENCE DIPLOMACY

- **Who released the 'RAKSHA' document on defence diplomacy?**
  - The Defence Minister.
- **What is the duration of the RAKSHA policy framework?**
  - 10 years.
- **What were India's defence exports in FY 2025-26 according to the RAKSHA document?**
  - ₹38,424 crore.
- **Which bodies' objectives does RAKSHA integrate?**
  - MoD, MEA and the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS).

## KHAGANTAK-243 LONG RANGE GLIDE BOMB

- **Which force tested the Khagantak-243 Long Range Glide Bomb?**
  - Indian Air Force.
- **What is the strike range of Khagantak-243?**
  - 144 to 180 km.
- **From which aircraft was Khagantak-243 initially tested?**
  - Su-30MKI, at Pokhran.
- **Under which model was Khagantak-243 developed?**
  - Development-cum-Production Partner (DcPP) model.
- **What warhead does Khagantak-243 carry?**
  - Mk-81 general-purpose blast fragmentation warhead.

## INDIAN NAVY GETS 1ST INDIGENOUS MULTIPURPOSE VESSEL SAMARTHAK

- **What is the name of the Indian Navy's first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel?**
  - Samarthak.
- **Which company built INS Samarthak?**
  - Larsen & Toubro (Kattupalli Shipyard, Chennai).
- **What is the indigenous content of Samarthak?**
  - Over 75%.
- **What does "Samarthak" mean?**
  - "The Proponent".

## SMART BORDER ARCHITECTURE TO STRENGTHEN INDIA'S BORDER SECURITY

- Which ministry is developing the smart border architecture?  
– Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Along which border is the initial pilot of the smart border project?  
– Pakistan border.
- How many border districts will the Quadrangular Security Grid cover?  
– 119 border districts across 17 States/UTs.

## DRDO TO TRANSFER MISSILE TECHNOLOGY TO INDIAN DEFENCE INDUSTRY

- What did the Defence Minister approve regarding DRDO missile technologies?  
– Transfer of DRDO-developed conventional missile technologies to Indian industry.
- What was India's defence production in 2024-25?  
– ₹1.54 lakh crore.
- What is India's defence production target by 2029?  
– ₹3 lakh crore.

## ECONOMY, INDUSTRY & FINANCE

### INDIA'S FINTECH ECOSYSTEM (7TH GLOBAL FINTECH FEST 2026)

- Which edition of the Global FinTech Fest was held in 2026?  
– 7th Global FinTech Fest (GFF) 2026.
- Which bodies organise the Global FinTech Fest?  
– Payments Council of India (PCI), NPCI and Fintech Convergence Council (FCC).
- Which three technologies featured in the GFF 2026 theme?  
– Agentic AI, Tokenisation and Quantum.
- How many UPI transactions were processed in July 2026?  
– 2,365.8 crore transactions.
- What was RBI's Financial Inclusion Index in March 2026?  
– 70.0 (up from 43.4 in March 2017).
- In which year did RBI launch its Regulatory Sandbox?  
– 2019.
- What is the national cybercrime helpline number?  
– 1930.

## SCHEME TO PROMOTE MANUFACTURING OF SINTERED RARE EARTH PERMANENT MAGNETS (REPM)

- **What is the outlay of the scheme for Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnet manufacturing?**  
– ₹7,280 crore (approved November 2025).
- **What is the target manufacturing capacity under the REPM scheme?**  
– 6,000 MTPA, split among 5 beneficiaries of 1,200 MTPA each.
- **What is the duration of the REPM scheme?**  
– 7 years (2-year gestation and 5-year incentives).
- **What share of India's permanent magnets did China supply during 2022-25?**  
– 60 to 90%.
- **How much monazite resource does India have?**  
– 13.15 million tonnes, containing about 7.23 million tonnes of rare earth oxides.
- **Which heavy rare earth elements does India lack for high-temperature magnets?**  
– Dysprosium and Terbium.
- **Which are among the strongest permanent magnets?**  
– Sintered NdFeB (neodymium-iron-boron) and SmCo (samarium-cobalt) magnets.

## REAL-WORLD ASSET (RWA) TOKENISATION

- **Which state proposed the DELTA Act for land tokenisation?**  
– Maharashtra.
- **What does DELTA stand for?**  
– Digitisation and Exchange of Land Token Assets.
- **What is Real-World Asset tokenisation?**  
– Conversion of ownership rights of physical assets into digital tokens using blockchain and DLT.
- **What is the name of the RBI-SEBI initiative to issue tokenised corporate bonds?**  
– Demat 2.0.
- **How many digits does the ULPIN (Bhu-Aadhaar) land parcel ID have?**  
– 14 digits.
- **Which Singapore project covers tokenised bonds, funds and forex?**  
– Project Guardian.

## DEDICATED FREIGHT CORRIDORS (DFCS)

- **Which freight corridor has recently become fully operational?**  
– Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC).
- **What is the total operational length of India's DFC network?**  
– 2,843 km.
- **What is the route of the Western DFC?**  
– Dadri (UP) to JNPT, Mumbai (1,506 km).

- **What is the route of the Eastern DFC?**
  - Ludhiana (Punjab) to Sonnagar (Bihar) (1,337 km).
- **Which company implements the DFCs?**
  - Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL).
- **What is the axle load and speed on DFCs?**
  - 25 tonnes axle load and speeds up to 100 km/h.
- **What rail share in freight does the National Rail Plan 2030 target?**
  - 45% (from about 27%).

## **NPCI INTRODUCES MDR ON HIGH-VALUE MERCHANT UPI TRANSACTIONS**

- **What MDR has NPCI introduced on eligible P2M UPI transactions above ₹2,000?**
  - 0.4%.
- **From which date does the new UPI MDR take effect?**
  - 15th October 2026.
- **Which UPI transactions remain exempt from MDR?**
  - P2P transactions, P2M transactions up to ₹2,000 and small merchants.
- **Up to what monthly UPI receipts do small merchants remain exempt?**
  - ₹1 lakh per month.
- **What share of MDR collections will fund UPI adoption among small merchants?**
  - 5%.

## **TRANSFORMING INDIA'S BAMBOO ECONOMY**

- **When is World Bamboo Day observed?**
  - 18th September.
- **What was the theme of World Bamboo Day 2026?**
  - “Bamboo Beyond Borders”.
- **Which amendment removed bamboo grown outside forests from the definition of “tree”?**
  - 2017 amendment to the Indian Forest Act, 1927.
- **Which institution promotes bamboo technologies in the North East?**
  - North East Centre for Technology Application & Reach (NECTAR).
- **When was the National Bamboo Mission restructured as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme?**
  - 2018-19.
- **Bamboo belongs to which plant family?**
  - Poaceae (grass family).
- **Which agarbatti project in Maharashtra employs about 90% women workers?**
  - Gadchiroli Agarbatti Project.

## INDIA'S GROWTH CHALLENGE: THE MIDDLE-INCOME TRAP

- **Who coined the term “middle-income trap”?**
  - World Bank economists (2007).
- **Which economies are cited as having escaped the middle-income trap?**
  - South Korea, Taiwan and Singapore.
- **What has been the share of manufacturing in India's GVA for two decades?**
  - Around 14 to 17%.
- **What is India's Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD) as a share of GDP?**
  - Around 0.64%.
- **Which report highlighted stagnation in real wages between 2012 and 2022?**
  - ILO India Employment Report 2024.
- **Which Economic Survey discussed “firm dwarfism” in India?**
  - Economic Survey 2018-19.

## PRADHAN MANTRI MATSYA SAMPADA YOJANA (PMMSY)

- **How many years has PMMSY completed?**
  - Six years (launched in 2020).
- **What is the total outlay of PMMSY?**
  - ₹20,750 crore.
- **What is the name of the PMMSY sub-scheme for 2023-24 to 2026-27?**
  - Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY), with ₹6,000 crore outlay.
- **How much was allocated to PMMSY in BE 2026-27?**
  - ₹2,500 crore.

## JUTE SECTOR IN INDIA

- **How much raw jute did India produce in FY 2025-26?**
  - 76 lakh bales of raw jute and 12.80 lakh MT of jute goods.
- **Which state has the largest share in jute production and mills?**
  - West Bengal (89 of 120 composite jute mills).
- **What share of global jute goods production does India account for?**
  - About 75%.
- **Under which Act must 100% food grains and 20% sugar be packed in jute bags?**
  - Jute Packaging Materials Act, 1987.
- **Which body implements MSP policy for raw jute?**
  - Jute Corporation of India (JCI).
- **What is the JUTE-ICARE scheme?**
  - Improved Cultivation and Advanced Retting Exercise scheme, launched in FY 2015-16.
- **Which institutes developed the jute-viscose apparel worn at the Commonwealth Games 2026?**
  - National Jute Board and NIFT, New Delhi.

## FATF REPORT ON UNDERGROUND BANKING AND DIGITAL HAWALA

- Which body released the report on underground banking, hawala and similar service providers?  
– Financial Action Task Force (FATF).
- What share of jurisdictions reported the presence of underground banking and HOSSPs?  
– About 90%.
- What does HOSSP stand for?  
– Hawala and Other Similar Service Providers.
- What is “Digital Hawala”?  
– Tech-enabled informal money transfer using digital platforms, virtual assets and encrypted communication.
- Which laundering method continues to be used in Latin America for narcotics proceeds?  
– Black Market Peso Exchange (BMPE).
- Which Indian unit is the financial intelligence agency for suspicious transactions?  
– FIU-IND.

## DISTRICTS AS EXPORT HUBS (DEH)

- Which body implements the Districts as Export Hubs initiative?  
– DGFT, under the Department of Commerce.
- How many districts does DEH cover?  
– 770+ districts (January 2026).
- From which approach did DEH evolve?  
– One District One Product (ODOP).
- In which state was ODOP launched in 2018?  
– Uttar Pradesh (with Moradabad brassware).
- With which bank did DGFT partner under the GRID programme?  
– EXIM Bank.
- Which six districts are covered under GRID?  
– Anantapur, Raipur, Solan, Tiruppur, Kanpur and Kolhapur.

## A DECADE OF FLEXIBLE INFLATION TARGETING IN INDIA

- In which year did India adopt Flexible Inflation Targeting?  
– 2016.
- On which committee’s recommendations was FIT adopted?  
– Urjit Patel Committee.
- Which section of the RBI Act, 1934 mandates setting the inflation target?  
– Section 45-ZA.
- What is India’s inflation target and tolerance band?  
– 4% with a band of  $\pm 2\%$ .
- For which period has the 4% target been retained?  
– 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2031.

- **What was the average inflation after FIT adoption?**  
– 4.9% (compared to 6.8% before FIT).
- **After how many consecutive quarters of breach must RBI report to the government?**  
– Three consecutive quarters.

## NATIONAL ACCOUNTS STATISTICS 2026

- **Which ministry released the National Accounts Statistics 2026?**  
– Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- **What is the new base year for national accounts?**  
– 2022-23.
- **Which method was adopted for manufacturing GVA estimation as per UN SNA?**  
– Double deflation.
- **What was India's real GDP growth in Q1 FY 2026-27?**  
– 7.8%.
- **What was the growth of the primary sector in Q1 FY 2026-27?**  
– 2.9%.
- **Which database of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs is used for GDP estimates?**  
– MCA-21.

## INDIA'S RECORD FOREX RESERVES: FCNR(B) SWAP FACILITY

- **What record level did India's forex reserves reach on 21st August 2026?**  
– USD 729.33 billion.
- **Which RBI facility helped raise forex reserves?**  
– Concessional FCNR(B) swap window.
- **Who can open FCNR(B) accounts?**  
– NRIs and PIOs.
- **Under which RBI Governor was a similar swap used during the 2013 Taper Tantrum?**  
– Raghuram Rajan.
- **What are the four components of India's forex reserves?**  
– Foreign Currency Assets, Gold, Special Drawing Rights and Reserve Tranche Position.
- **Which component of forex reserves is called "Paper Gold"?**  
– Special Drawing Rights (SDRs).

## 12 YEARS OF PRADHAN MANTRI JAN DHAN YOJANA

- **When was PMJDY launched?**  
– August 2014.
- **How many PMJDY accounts were there in August 2026?**  
– 59.09 crore.
- **What share of PMJDY accounts are held by women?**  
– Around 56%.

- What is the overdraft facility under PMJDY?  
– Up to ₹10,000.
- What accident insurance is given on PMJDY accounts opened after 28 August 2018?  
– ₹2 lakh.
- How many accounts were opened in one week to set a Guinness World Record in 2015?  
– 18,096,130 accounts.

## STREAMLINING INDIA'S R&D FUNDING

- Which NITI Aayog report highlighted gaps in India's research funding system?  
– 'Ease of Doing R&D in India'.
- What share of ANRF funding goes to IITs?  
– Over 80%.
- How many researchers per million people does India have?  
– Around 262.
- What platform has NITI Aayog proposed to integrate research funding data?  
– Unified Project Management System (UPMS).
- What is the EU's central database of funded research projects?  
– CORDIS.

## SUGAR PRICE SURGE IN INDIA

- By how much did sugar prices rise in August 2026?  
– About 40% within a fortnight.
- Which diseases reduced sugarcane yield in Maharashtra?  
– Red Rot and Top Borer.
- Which price does the Centre fix for sugarcane?  
– Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP).
- What higher prices do some states announce for sugarcane?  
– State Advised Prices (SAP).
- Which committee in 2012 recommended a revenue-sharing formula for sugarcane pricing?  
– Rangarajan Committee.

## SC REVISITS THE DEFINITION OF 'INDUSTRY' IN INDIAN LABOUR LAW

- In which case did the SC rule on the definition of "industry" in 2026?  
– State of Uttar Pradesh v. Jai Bir Singh.
- Which 1978 judgment laid down the Triple Test for "industry"?  
– Bangalore Water Supply & Sewerage Board v. A. Rajappa.
- Under which section of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 is "industry" defined?  
– Section 2(j).
- Which new code gets a "clean slate" interpretation of "industry"?  
– Industrial Relations Code (IRC), 2020.

- Which DPSP Article provides for workers' participation in management?

– Article 43A.

## INDIA SEES INCREASED FDI INFLOWS UNDER REVISED PRESS NOTE 3 FRAMEWORK

- How much FDI was facilitated by the relaxed Press Note 3 rules between March and August 2026?

– ₹4,895 crore, with 29 projects approved.

- Which department issued Press Note 3 (2020)?

– DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

- FDI from which countries requires prior approval under PN3?

– Countries sharing land borders with India: China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Afghanistan.

- What beneficial ownership threshold allows automatic route investment under the 2026 relaxation?

– Up to 10%, with no management control.

- What is the fast-track approval period for critical manufacturing sectors?

– 60 days.

## INFRASTRUCTURE, ENERGY & WATER RESOURCES

### NORTHEAST INDIA'S LARGEST THERMAL POWER PROJECT

- Where is the 3,200 MW ultra-supercritical thermal power plant being built?

– Chapar, Dhubri district, Assam.

- Which company is developing the Chapar thermal power project?

– Adani Power Ltd.

- Which project will it surpass as the largest power project in the Northeast?

– 2,000 MW Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project.

- From when will the Chapar project be commissioned?

– In phases from December 2030.

### UPPER BHADRA PROJECT

- Which was the first irrigation project in Karnataka to get National Project status?

– Upper Bhadra Project.

- Water from which reservoir reached Chitradurga after five decades?

– Bhadra reservoir.

- What is the cost of the Upper Bhadra Project?

– ₹21,500 crore.

- **Where do the Tunga and Bhadra rivers meet to form the Tungabhadra?**  
– Koodli, near Shivamogga.
- **How much land will the Upper Bhadra Project irrigate?**  
– 2.25 lakh hectares.

## KISHAU MULTIPURPOSE PROJECT

- **On which river is the Kishau Multipurpose Project located?**  
– Tons River, a tributary of the Yamuna.
- **How many states signed the MoU on the Kishau project?**  
– Six (Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, UP, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi).
- **What is the power capacity of the Kishau project?**  
– 422 MW.
- **What is the height of the Kishau dam?**  
– 232.6 metres.
- **Which 1994 agreement identified the need for three storage projects in the Upper Yamuna?**  
– Yamuna Water Sharing Agreement.
- **What share of project water will be reserved for Yamuna's ecological flow?**  
– 25%.

## OCEAN RESEARCH VESSEL SAGAR MANTHAN

- **Where was ORV Sagar Manthan launched?**  
– Rishi Bankim Shipyard, Kolkata.
- **Which shipbuilder built ORV Sagar Manthan?**  
– Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).
- **Which vessel will Sagar Manthan replace?**  
– ORV Sagar Kanya (acquired from Germany in 1983).
- **For which institute is Sagar Manthan designed?**  
– National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), MoES.

## 9TH INDIA INTERNATIONAL WATER WEEK 2026

- **Which ministry organised the 9th India International Water Week?**  
– Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- **What was the theme of IIWW 2026?**  
– “Climate Resilient Water Management”.
- **Which were the partner countries of IIWW 2026?**  
– Netherlands and Germany.
- **Where was IIWW 2026 inaugurated?**  
– Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### 18TH BRICS SUMMIT 2026 (NEW DELHI)

- Which country hosted the 18th BRICS Summit in 2026?  
– India (New Delhi).
- What was the theme of the 18th BRICS Summit?  
– “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability”.
- What declaration was adopted at the 18th BRICS Summit?  
– New Delhi Declaration.
- How many full members and partner countries does BRICS have?  
– 11 full members and 10 partner countries.
- Where has the BRICS Risk Lab been proposed to be established?  
– GIFT City.
- By which year is the BRICS Grain Exchange to be launched?  
– 2027.
- Which country will host the 19th BRICS Summit in 2027?  
– China.
- Which Odisha coffee was given to BRICS delegates to promote Vocal for Local?  
– Koraput coffee.

### PARTNERS FOR MULTILATERALISM SUMMIT AND V4+INDIA

- On the sidelines of which UNGA session were the P4M Summit and V4+India meeting held?  
– 81st UNGA, New York.
- Which countries form the Visegrad Group (V4)?  
– Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.
- In which year and where was the V4 established?  
– 1991, at Visegrad, Hungary.
- Who initiated the P4M (Partners for Multilateralism) Summit?  
– Leaders of the EU, Brazil, Kenya and Canada.
- What “4F crisis” did India highlight affecting the Global South?  
– Fuel, Food, Fertiliser and Finance.

### INDIA-CHINA TRADE AND ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

- What was India’s trade deficit with China in 2025-26?  
– USD 112.16 billion (up from USD 99.21 billion in 2024-25).
- What was the India-China bilateral trade in 2025?  
– USD 167.6 billion.
- What share of global rare earth magnet manufacturing does China control?  
– Around 90%.

- What is India's dependence on China for basic APIs, intermediates and KSMs?  
– 65 to 70%.
- How much e-waste did India generate in 2024-25?  
– 13.98 lakh tonnes.

## INDIA-EU FTA: COPYRIGHT CONCERNS

- Which section of the Copyright Act, 1957 allows fair dealing for education and research?  
– Section 52.
- Which section of the Copyright Act, 1957 permits lawful circumvention of digital locks?  
– Section 65A.
- Which section of the Patents Act, 1970 prevents patent evergreening?  
– Section 3(d).
- In which year did India accede to the WIPO Copyright Treaty and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty?  
– 2018.
- What share of Indian exports will get EU tariff concessions under the India-EU FTA?  
– 97% tariff lines covering 99.5% of Indian exports.

## INDIA'S ENERGY SECURITY AMID SANCTIONING RUSSIA AND IRAN ACT OF 2026

- Which US law authorises up to 100% tariffs on major buyers of Russian oil?  
– Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act, 2026.
- What share of India's crude imports came from Russia in July 2026?  
– Over 51%.

What were India's Russian crude imports in July 2026?

- 2.6 million barrels per day.
- Till which year does the Act extend sanctions on Iran's energy and military sectors?  
– 2031.
- What is Project Nexus?  
– A multilateral initiative joined by RBI for instant cross-border retail payments by interlinking fast payment systems.
- What is India's rank as a global supplier of seafarers?  
– 2nd largest (12.16% of the global workforce).

## CARDIFF PACT AND UK FEDERAL CHALLENGE

- Leaders of which regions signed the Cardiff MoU?  
– Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- Which 1998 agreement established power-sharing in Northern Ireland?  
– Good Friday Agreement (Belfast Agreement).

- **Which formula determines annual block grants to the UK's devolved governments?**  
– Barnett Formula.
- **Which Indian constitutional amendment reinforced that states have no right to secede?**  
– 16th Constitutional Amendment, 1963.
- **Which Article of the Indian Constitution provides for the Inter-State Council?**  
– Article 263.

## UK RECOGNISES INDIA'S CARBON CREDIT TRADING SCHEME (CCTS)

- **Under which UK mechanism has India's CCTS been recognised as a qualifying carbon pricing system?**  
– UK Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM).
- **Which body administers India's CCTS?**  
– Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
- **What certificates are traded under the CCTS?**  
– Carbon Credit Certificates (CCCs).
- **Which scheme preceded CCTS and used Energy Saving Certificates?**  
– Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme.
- **Which body acts as the registry for the Indian Carbon Market?**  
– Grid Controller of India Ltd.

## INDIA'S PROPOSED BRICS REFORM ROADMAP

- **How many global governance reform measures did India propose at the 18th BRICS Summit?**  
– 10 measures.
- **By which year is the BRICS Reform Roadmap to be developed?**  
– 2027.
- **What are the three pillars (3Rs) of India's reform proposal?**  
– Representation, Responsiveness and Rule-making.
- **What did India call for replacing the "pyramid of privilege" with?**  
– A "platform of partnership".

## INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)

- **Under which statute was the ICC created?**  
– Rome Statute (1998), in force from 2002.
- **Where is the ICC headquartered?**  
– The Hague, Netherlands.
- **Which four crimes does the ICC prosecute?**  
– Genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression.
- **Which was the first country to withdraw from the ICC?**  
– Burundi (2017).

- **How many States Parties does the Rome Statute have?**  
– 125 (India, US, China and Israel are not members).

## INDIA-SRI LANKA DEFENCE COOPERATION

- **After how many years did an Indian Defence Minister visit Sri Lanka?**  
– 38 years.
- **How many defence MoUs did India and Sri Lanka sign during the visit?**  
– Three.
- **Which anti-aircraft guns of the Sri Lankan Air Force will India upgrade?**  
– Six 40mm L70 anti-aircraft guns.
- **Under which operation did India inaugurate Bailey bridges in Sri Lanka after Cyclone Ditwah?**  
– Operation Sagar Bandhu.
- **What is the value of India's reconstruction package for Sri Lanka?**  
– USD 450 million.
- **Name the India-Sri Lanka naval and army exercises.**  
– SLINEX (Navy) and MITRA SHAKTI (Army).

## BRICS PROPOSED 'POWER' FRAMEWORK AND ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT SYSTEMS

- **What framework did BRICS finance ministers and central banks discuss ahead of the 18th Summit?**  
– The five-point POWER framework.
- **Which multi-CBDC platform was developed by China, Thailand, Hong Kong and UAE?**  
– mBridge.
- **Which BRICS clearing mechanism was referenced at the 2024 Kazan Summit?**  
– BRICS Clear.
- **What share of mBridge settlement volume uses China's digital yuan?**  
– More than 95%.

## INDIA-CHINA BORDER MANAGEMENT

- **Where were the first Corps Commander-level talks in the Eastern Sector held?**  
– Wacha-Damai Border Personnel Meeting Point, Arunachal Pradesh.
- **In which area of Upper Subansiri district have localised stand-offs occurred?**  
– Taksing.
- **What is the length of the India-China boundary?**  
– 3,488 km.
- **Which line does India support in the Eastern Sector?**  
– McMahon Line (1914).

- **What name does China use for Arunachal Pradesh?**  
– Zangnan (“South Tibet”).
- **How many locations in Arunachal Pradesh did India formally identify on the Survey of India map in August 2026?**  
– 27 locations.
- **In which year was the Border Defence Cooperation Agreement signed?**  
– 2013.

## INDIA-BELGIUM RELATIONS

- **What mechanism did India and Belgium launch to facilitate two-way investment?**  
– Investment Fast-Track Mechanism.
- **What was India-Belgium bilateral trade in 2025-26?**  
– USD 13.01 billion.
- **Which Belgian frigate is planned to be deployed in November 2026?**  
– LEOPOLD I.
- **Which Belgian research centre is known for nanoelectronics expertise?**  
– imec (Interuniversity Microelectronics Centre).
- **Which Belgian port is to be developed as a gateway for Indian exports to Europe?**  
– Port of Antwerp-Bruges.
- **For which term is India seeking UNSC non-permanent membership, supported by Belgium?**  
– 2028-29.

## INDIA-UZBEKISTAN COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

- **To what level were India-Uzbekistan relations elevated?**  
– Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.
- **Which highest Uzbek honour was conferred on PM Narendra Modi?**  
– “Oliy Darajali Do’sstlik” Order.
- **What grant did India announce for the Aral Sea region?**  
– USD 1 million for afforestation and restoration.
- **Which Buddhist heritage sites in Uzbekistan will be conserved?**  
– Fayaz Tepa and Karatepa.
- **What is the bilateral trade target set by India and Uzbekistan?**  
– USD 5 billion by 2030.
- **Which India-Uzbekistan military exercise was held in April 2026?**  
– Dustlik.
- **Uzbekistan’s NAM Chairship has been supported by India for which period?**  
– 2027-2030.

## 26TH SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION SUMMIT

- **Where was the 26th SCO Summit held?**  
– Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

- Which SCO anniversary did the 26th Summit mark?  
– 25th anniversary.
- What declaration was adopted at the 26th SCO Summit?  
– Bishkek Declaration.
- Which country holds the SCO chairmanship for 2026-27?  
– Pakistan.
- Which city was designated SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital for 2026-27?  
– Lahore.
- Where is the SCO's Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) headquartered?  
– Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- Where is the SCO Secretariat?  
– Beijing, China.

## INDIA REJECTS HAGUE COURT'S RULING ON INDUS WATERS TREATY

- Where and when was the Indus Waters Treaty signed?  
– Karachi, 1960, brokered by the World Bank.
- Which rivers are allocated to India under the IWT?  
– Eastern Rivers: Ravi, Beas and Sutlej.
- On which river is the 850 MW Ratle Hydroelectric Project located?  
– Chenab.
- What is the capacity of the Kishenganga project?  
– 330 MW.
- Which body serves as the Secretariat of the Court of Arbitration under IWT?  
– Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague.
- After which attack did India place the IWT in abeyance?  
– The April 2025 Pahalgam attack.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### DEEP-SEA MINING: BALANCING MINERAL SECURITY WITH CONSERVATION

- Which minerals are found in polymetallic nodules?  
– Manganese, nickel, cobalt and copper.
- Under UNCLOS, what is the seabed beyond national jurisdiction called?  
– “The Area”, recognised as the common heritage of mankind.
- Where is the International Seabed Authority (ISA) headquartered?  
– Kingston, Jamaica.
- When was India's Deep Ocean Mission launched and by which ministry?  
– 2021, by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).

- **What is the name of the manned submersible under the Samudraa Project?**
  - MATSYA-6000 (capable of reaching 6,000 m depth).
- **Which NIOT-developed underwater mining system was tested at 5,270 m depth?**
  - Varaha.
- **How many ISA exploration contracts does India hold?**
  - Three (one for polymetallic nodules and two for sulphides).

## AI STANDARDS BODY AND AGENTIC MISALIGNMENT RISKS

- **Which companies discussed an industry-led AI standards body?**
  - Anthropic, Google and OpenAI.
- **The proposed AI standards body is partly inspired by which US financial regulator?**
  - FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority).
- **What is agentic misalignment?**
  - When autonomous AI agents pursue goals that diverge from human intentions, safety rules or ethical boundaries.
- **Which EU law bans unacceptable-risk AI applications like social scoring?**
  - EU AI Act, 2024.
- **Which Indian rules of 2026 regulate Synthetically Generated Information (SGI)?**
  - IT Amendment Rules, 2026.
- **Under which mission has India set up an AI Safety Institute?**
  - IndiaAI Mission.

## BRICS OPEN-SOURCE AI COMMUNITY

- **Which country proposed a BRICS open-source AI community at the New Delhi Summit?**
  - China.
- **Which Chinese open-weight AI models are cited in this context?**
  - Alibaba's Qwen and DeepSeek.
- **Which Indian AI firms or initiatives may face competition from free foreign models?**
  - Sarvam and BharatGen.

## COSMOCUBE AND PRATUSH MISSIONS

- **What is the objective of the CosmoCube lunar satellite mission?**
  - To detect the 21-cm radio signal from neutral hydrogen during the Cosmic Dark Ages.
- **Which institutions developed CosmoCube?**
  - Royal Astronomical Society and the University of Cambridge.
- **Why is the lunar far side ideal for radio astronomy?**
  - It is naturally radio-quiet and shielded from Earth's radio interference.
- **Which Indian institute is developing the PRATUSH mission?**
  - Raman Research Institute (RRI), Bengaluru, under DST with ISRO.

- **What is the full form of PRATUSH?**
  - Probing ReionizATIOn of the Universe using Signal from Hydrogen.
- **The Cosmic Dark Ages lasted for which period after the Big Bang?**
  - Around 380,000 to 200 million years after the Big Bang.

## DATA CENTRE COOLING TECHNOLOGIES

- **What was India's data centre capacity in 2026?**
  - About 1.5 to 1.57 GW (up from 520 MW in 2020).
- **How much heat does an AI rack generate compared to a traditional server rack?**
  - 120 to 150 kW per rack, against 5 to 10 kW for traditional racks.
- **Which cooling technology submerges servers in non-conductive dielectric fluid?**
  - Immersion cooling.
- **Which cooling technology will Google's 1 GW data centre in Visakhapatnam use?**
  - Air cooling.
- **Which cooling will TCS's HyperVault AI data centre in Hyderabad use?**
  - Direct-to-Chip liquid cooling.

## EOS-05: INDIA'S 1ST DEDICATED GEOSYNCHRONOUS EARTH OBSERVATION SATELLITE

- **Which launch vehicle carried EOS-05?**
  - GSLV-F17.
- **What is EOS-05 popularly known as?**
  - "Eye in the Sky".
- **What is the weight of EOS-05?**
  - 2,367 kg, the heaviest payload on a standard GSLV configuration.
- **Which operational flight of GSLV was GSLV-F17?**
  - 19th operational flight.
- **At what altitude is the Geosynchronous Orbit?**
  - Around 36,000 km.
- **Which motor does EOS-05 use for orbit raising?**
  - Liquid Apogee Motor (LAM).

## ADITYA-L1 DETECTS EARLY WARNING SIGNS BEFORE SOLAR FLARES

- **What did Aditya-L1 detect hours before major solar flares?**
  - Small, short-lived brightenings (pre-flare transient events) in the Sun's atmosphere.
- **From which point does Aditya-L1 observe the Sun?**
  - Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1).
- **How many near-ultraviolet filters does the SUIT instrument use?**
  - 11.

- **Which Aditya-L1 instrument measures low-energy X-rays?**
  - Solar Low Energy X-ray Spectrometer (SoLEXS).
- **Which Aditya-L1 instrument studies high-energy X-rays during flares?**
  - High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer (HEL1OS).

## CYBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS (NM-ICPS)

- **Which department implements the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems?**
  - Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- **What outlay did the Cabinet approve for NM-ICPS in 2018?**
  - ₹3,660 crore for nine years.
- **How many Technology Innovation Hubs has NM-ICPS established?**
  - 25.
- **Which four TIHs were selected as Technology Translation Research Parks in 2025?**
  - IIT Kanpur, IISc Bengaluru, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad and IIT Indore.
- **Which institute leads BharatGen?**
  - IIT Bombay.
- **How many parameters does BharatGen's Param-2 foundation model have?**
  - 17 billion, supporting 22 Scheduled Indian languages.

## INDIGENOUS QUANTUM PRODUCTS FOR SECURE COMMUNICATION NETWORKS

- **Which organisation unveiled 14 indigenous quantum products?**
  - Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), on its 43rd Foundation Day.
- **Which C-DOT products are fibre-based QKD systems?**
  - Q-AKSHAY CD and Q-AKSHAY MD.
- **Which C-DOT optical encryptor provides 200 Gbps Layer-1 quantum-safe encryption?**
  - Q-AMOGH.
- **How many layers does the OSI model have?**
  - Seven.
- **What is the difference between QKD and PQC?**
  - QKD is based on quantum mechanics and needs special infrastructure; PQC is based on classical cryptography and works on existing networks.

## GAGANYAAN'S THERMAL PROTECTION SYSTEM

- **What type of Thermal Protection System does Gaganyaan use?**
  - Ablative TPS.
- **Up to what temperature does the Gaganyaan crew module heat during re-entry?**
  - About 1,800°C.

- **Below what temperature must the TPS keep the crew module interior?**  
– 150°C.
- **Which materials are used in ablative heat shields?**  
– Carbon-phenolic and silica-phenolic.
- **Which 2014 mission demonstrated crew module re-entry with ablative TPS?**  
– LVM-3/CARE mission.

## NATIONAL SPACE DAY 2026

- **When is National Space Day observed?**  
– 23rd August.
- **What event does National Space Day commemorate?**  
– Chandrayaan-3's soft landing on the Moon in 2023.
- **What was the theme of National Space Day 2026?**  
– "Towards Viksit Bharat: Innovating, Collaborating and Aspiring Global Space Leadership".
- **What were the names of Chandrayaan-3's lander and rover?**  
– Vikram Lander and Pragyan Rover.

## SEMICON INDIA 2026

- **What was the theme of SEMICON India 2026?**  
– "Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem".
- **Which edition of SEMICON India was held in 2026?**  
– Fifth edition (first held in 2022 at Bengaluru).
- **What is the outlay of Semicon India Programme 2.0?**  
– ₹1,27,500 crore (approved July 2026).
- **With what outlay was the Semicon India Programme launched in 2021?**  
– ₹76,000 crore.
- **How many skilled semiconductor professionals does India aim to create?**  
– 85,000.
- **Which programme provides EDA tools and chip design training to institutions?**  
– Chips to Startup (C2S) Programme.

## MAGNETAR STUDY REVEALS VACUUM BIREFRINGENCE

- **Which phenomenon predicted by Quantum Electrodynamics was evidenced by a magnetar study?**  
– Vacuum birefringence.
- **Who predicted vacuum birefringence in the 1930s?**  
– Werner Heisenberg and Hans Heinrich Euler.
- **Which NASA observatory detected highly polarised X-rays from the magnetar?**  
– Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer (IXPE).

## NANCY GRACE ROMAN SPACE TELESCOPE

- Who is known as the “Mother of the Hubble Space Telescope”?  
– Nancy Grace Roman.
- Near which point will the Roman Space Telescope operate?  
– Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 2 (L2).
- On which rocket was the Roman Space Telescope launched?  
– SpaceX Falcon Heavy.

## INDIA'S 1ST “GREEN FORGE” COMPLEX INAUGURATED

- Where was India's first Green Forge Complex inaugurated?  
– BRIC-NABI, Mohali.
- Under which conclave was the Green Forge launched?  
– National Conclave on BioE3, 2026.
- To what size has India's bioeconomy grown?  
– USD 200 billion (from USD 10 billion in 2014).

## ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY & WILDLIFE

### WORLD RHINO DAY 2026

- When is World Rhino Day observed?  
– 22nd September.
- What was the theme of World Rhino Day 2026?  
– “Keep the Five Alive”.
- Which organisation released the 2026 State of the Rhino Report?  
– International Rhino Foundation (IRF).
- What is the estimated global rhino population?  
– About 26,700.
- What is the population of the Greater One-Horned Rhino?  
– About 4,075.
- To what number did the rhino population in Dudhwa Tiger Reserve rise?  
– 53 (from 42 in 2022).
- When was India's National Rhino Conservation Strategy launched?  
– 2019.

### MONTREAL PROTOCOL AND WORLD OZONE DAY

- When is World Ozone Day observed?  
– 16th September.
- In which year was the Montreal Protocol adopted?  
– 1987.

- Which 1985 convention established international cooperation for ozone protection?  
– Vienna Convention.
- When did India join the Montreal Protocol?  
– 1992.
- Which amendment to the Montreal Protocol aims to phase down HFCs?  
– Kigali Amendment (2016).
- By which year does India target an 85% phase-down of HFCs?  
– 2047 (with a freeze by 2028).
- What was the theme of World Ozone Day 2026?  
– “Global action for a cooler planet: Celebrating 10 years of sustainable cooling under the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol”.

## SWACHHATA HI SEVA 2026

- During which period was Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 held?  
– 17th September to 2nd October 2026.
- What was the theme of Swachhata Hi Seva 2026?  
– “Swachhata Mein Sahbhag; Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat”.
- Since which year has the SHS campaign been observed?  
– 2017.
- When was the Swachh Bharat Mission launched?  
– 2nd October 2014.
- What does FACES stand for in toilet assessment?  
– Functional, Accessible, Clean, Eco-friendly, Safe.

## INDIA'S PATH TO BLUE SKIES

- When is the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies observed?  
– 7th September (designated by UNGA in 2019).
- What was the theme of Swachh Vayu Diwas 2026?  
– “Clean Air for Climate Action”.
- Which city topped Category 1 in Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2026?  
– Lucknow.
- Which cities topped Category 2 and Category 3 in Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2026?  
– Rourkela (Category 2) and Kalinganagar (Category 3).
- When was the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) launched and how many cities does it cover?  
– 2019, covering 130 cities.
- How many pollutants are covered under India's AQI?  
– 8 pollutants.
- Which portal tracks the progress of NCAP?  
– PRANA portal.

- From which date are only BS-VI, CNG and electric buses allowed in Delhi?  
– 1st November 2026.

## NEPAL'S CLIMATE JUSTICE CLAIM: FROM DISASTER RELIEF TO CLIMATE LIABILITY

- What share of Nepal's installed hydropower capacity was damaged by the August 2026 avalanche and flood?  
– Around 10%.
- From which countries did Nepal seek climate compensation?  
– Major GHG emitters including the US, China and India.
- Which Article of the Paris Agreement recognises Loss and Damage?  
– Article 8.
- At which COP was the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage operationalised?  
– COP28.
- What share of global GHG emissions does Nepal contribute?  
– About 0.1%.

## HANGING GLACIERS

- How many hanging glaciers were identified in the Alaknanda basin in a 2026 study?  
– 219.
- The Alaknanda basin lies in which Himalayan region?  
– Garhwal Himalayas.
- What are hanging glaciers?  
– Masses of ice on steep mountain slopes, often detached from the main glacier system.
- In which Uttarakhand sector did simulations show avalanche flows could exceed 50 metres?  
– Badrinath-Mana sector.

## GEOHERMAL ENERGY IN INDIA

- Where were India's first two geothermal wells commissioned?  
– Puga Valley, Ladakh.
- Which national policy promotes geothermal energy in India?  
– National Policy on Geothermal Energy, 2025.
- Earth's internal heat mainly comes from the radioactive decay of which elements?  
– Uranium, thorium and potassium.
- What is the approximate temperature of Earth's core?  
– Around 5,000 to 6,000°C.

## UNEP'S LIMITING OVERSHOOT REPORT: MANAGING 1.5°C BREACH

- Which organisation released the report 'Limiting Overshoot'?  
– UNEP.
- By how much has global warming risen above pre-industrial levels?  
– Around 1.4°C.
- What is the probability of exceeding 1.5°C during 2026-2030?  
– 75%.
- How much warming do current policies lead to by 2100?  
– 2.6°C.
- What pathway does the report propose?  
– 'Overshoot, Peak and Decline' pathway.
- What does the Global Methane Pledge aim for?  
– 30% reduction in methane from 2020 levels by 2030.

## NAMAMI GANGE PROGRAMME

- When was the Namami Gange Programme launched?  
– 2014.
- What is the public participation pillar of the Namami Gange Programme?  
– Jan Ganga.
- How many projects have been sanctioned and completed under Namami Gange?  
– 524 sanctioned and 355 completed.
- How much area has been afforested in the Ganga basin?  
– Around 33,024 hectares.

## UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION: COP17

- Where was UNCCD COP17 held?  
– Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- What was the theme of UNCCD COP17?  
– "Restoring Land. Restoring Hope."
- Which country will host UNCCD COP18 and where?  
– Egypt, at Sharm El-Sheikh (2028).
- What is 2026 designated as by the UN?  
– International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP 2026).
- What guide did India launch at COP17?  
– Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems (ONES).
- How much degraded land has India restored under the Bonn Challenge?  
– 21.76 million hectares against a target of 26 million hectares by 2030.
- Which facility did UNCCD and Luxembourg launch to finance drought resilience?  
– Drought Resilience Investment Facility (DRIF).

## NEPAL FLASH FLOODS AND VULNERABILITY OF HIMALAYAN REGION

- **How many deaths did the Nepal flash floods cause?**  
– Over 150.
- **Which 1976 committee recommended restricting construction in unstable Himalayan zones?**  
– Mishra Committee.
- **Which 1999 committee recommended disaster management laws and building codes?**  
– J.C. Pant Committee.
- **Which institution devised the Eight-Step Springshed Management Methodology?**  
– NITI Aayog.

## BIHAR RAISES CONCERNS OVER RENEWAL OF FARAKKA WATER TREATY

- **When does the India-Bangladesh Ganga Water Sharing Treaty expire?**  
– December 2026.
- **When was the Ganga Water Sharing Treaty signed?**  
– 12th December 1996, valid for 30 years.
- **For which period does the treaty regulate water sharing at Farakka?**  
– Dry season, 1st January to 31st May.
- **In which district is Farakka Barrage located?**  
– Murshidabad, West Bengal.
- **When was the India-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission established?**  
– 1972.

## SPECIES IN NEWS

### 3,261 FLOWERING PLANT SPECIES IN AGASTHYAMALAI BIOSPHERE RESERVE

- **How many flowering plant species were documented in Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve?**  
– 3,261 species.  
**Which institute released the checklist?**  
– Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI).
- **When was Agasthyamalai included in UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves?**  
– 2016.
- **Which plant family has the highest diversity in Agasthyamalai?**  
– Fabaceae.

### NEW CAT SPECIES 'TILCAYO' IDENTIFIED IN BOLIVIA

- **What is the scientific name of the new cat species found in Bolivia?**  
– *Leopardus tilcayo*.

- In which habitat is Tilcayo found?  
– Yungas cloud forests of Bolivia.
- After how long has a new living cat species been formally described?  
– Over 100 years.

## SUMATRAN ELEPHANTS

- What is the IUCN status of the Sumatran Elephant?  
– Critically Endangered.
- What is the estimated wild population of Sumatran elephants?  
– 1,320 to 1,635.

## PYGMY HOG

- When was the Pygmy Hog Conservation Programme started?  
– 1995.
- What is the scientific name of the Pygmy Hog?  
– *Porcula salvinia*.
- To which landscape of Assam is the Pygmy Hog now mainly restricted?  
– Manas landscape.
- What is the IUCN status of the Pygmy Hog?  
– Endangered (CITES Appendix I; WPA Schedule I).

## ORANGUTANS

- From where were five baby orangutans rescued in India?  
– Balasore, Odisha.
- To which zoo were the rescued orangutans shifted?  
– Nandankanan Zoological Park, Bhubaneswar.
- What does “orangutan” mean in Malay?  
– “Man of the forest”.
- Which orangutan species is considered the most threatened great ape?  
– Tapanuli Orangutan.

## OPHIPOGON JAPONICUS

- Where was Ophiopogon japonicus recorded for the first time in India?  
– West Kameng district, Arunachal Pradesh.
- What is the common name of Ophiopogon japonicus?  
– Dwarf lilyturf or mondo grass.
- To which family does Ophiopogon belong?  
– Asparagaceae.

## STRIPED HYENAS

- **What is the scientific name of the Striped Hyena?**  
– *Hyaena hyaena*.
- **What is the IUCN status of the Striped Hyena?**  
– Near Threatened (WPA Schedule I).
- **What is the estimated striped hyena population in India?**  
– About 1,000 to 3,000.

## WATER HYACINTH MENACE IN VEMBANAD LAKE

- **Which body is launching a robotic pilot to control water hyacinth in Vembanad Lake?**  
– State Wetland Authority Kerala (SWAK).
- **Where is the pilot project located?**  
– Kumarakom, Kerala.
- **What is the scientific name of water hyacinth?**  
– *Eichhornia crassipes*.
- **Which weevils are used for biological control of water hyacinth?**  
– *Neochetina* weevils.

## VULTURES IN INDIA

- **How many vulture species does India have?**  
– 9 species.
- **Which veterinary drug caused the sharp decline of vultures in South Asia?**  
– Diclofenac (banned for veterinary use in 2006).
- **Which safer drug is promoted as an alternative to diclofenac?**  
– Meloxicam.
- **When is Vulture Awareness Day observed?**  
– First Saturday of September.

## HEALTH & MEDICINE

### ADVISORY ON REGULATION OF STEM CELL THERAPY

- **Which ministry issued the advisory on stem cell therapy?**  
– Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- **Which January 2026 SC judgment preceded the advisory?**  
– *Yash Charitable Trust & Ors. v. Union of India*.
- **For which condition is stem cell therapy permitted only under approved clinical trials?**  
– Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

- Which guidelines govern stem cell clinical trials in India?  
– National Guidelines for Stem Cell Research, 2017 (ICMR and DBT).
- Which body approves stem cell-derived products as New Drugs?  
– CDSCO.
- What are iPSCs?  
– Adult cells reprogrammed to act like embryonic stem cells.

## GROWING HEALTH BURDEN OF SALMONELLA

- How many typhoid cases did a Lancet study estimate in India in 2023?  
– 4.9 million.
- Which bacteria cause typhoid and paratyphoid fever?  
– Salmonella Typhi and S. Paratyphi.
- What is the main diagnostic test for typhoid?  
– Blood culture.
- From what age does WHO recommend Typhoid Conjugate Vaccines?  
– 6 months.
- Resistance to which class of antibiotics is rising in S. Typhi?  
– Fluoroquinolones.

## PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTHCARE COVERAGE GAP

- How many Indians fall in the healthcare “missing middle”?  
– Over 40 crore.
- What is government health expenditure as a share of GDP?  
– 1.43%, against the NHP 2017 target of 2.5%.
- What share of current health expenditure goes on medicines?  
– Nearly 30%.
- What is the average childbirth cost in private hospitals compared to public facilities?  
– ₹37,630 in private against ₹2,299 in public facilities.
- Which Act does the Committee want enforced for price transparency in private hospitals?  
– Clinical Establishments Act, 2010.

## SOCIAL ISSUES

### RECOGNISING WOMEN FARMERS IN INDIA

- Which was the first state to pass a Women Farmers Empowerment Bill?  
– Maharashtra (2026).
- What document recognises women as farmers under Maharashtra’s law?  
– Woman Farmer Certificate.

- **The UN has designated 2026 as the International Year of what?**  
– The Woman Farmer.
- **What share of operational landholdings do women hold?**  
– Only 14% (Agricultural Census 2015-16).
- **What share of PM-KISAN beneficiaries are women?**  
– 23%.
- **Which state gives 1% stamp duty concession on land registered in women's names?**  
– Uttar Pradesh.
- **Under which mission is Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana implemented?**  
– DAY-NRLM.

## NCPCR PROBES META OVER CSEAM ADS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Which body summoned Meta over CSEAM-linked advertisements?**  
– National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR).
- **Under which Act was the NCPCR established?**  
– Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 (set up in 2007).
- **What is the composition of NCPCR?**  
– Chairperson and 6 members (at least 2 women).
- **Which section of the IT Act penalises transmitting child sexual content?**  
– Section 67B.
- **When did India ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child?**  
– 1992.

## UNTOUCHABILITY IN INDIA

- **Which Article of the Constitution abolishes untouchability?**  
– Article 17.
- **Where did a “Shuddhikaran” ritual after Dalits used a public venue spark debate?**  
– Haldwani, Uttarakhand.
- **Which Act was enacted in 1955 to implement Article 17?**  
– Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955.
- **Under which Article is the National Commission for Scheduled Castes established?**  
– Article 338.
- **Which 2024 case allowed States to sub-classify Scheduled Castes?**  
– State of Punjab v. Davinder Singh.
- **What share of public procurement is reserved for SC/ST-owned MSEs?**  
– 4%.

## RPWD ACT, 2016: BRIDGING THE POST-18 DISABILITY SUPPORT GAP

- **Which Act governs the rights of persons with disabilities in India?**  
– Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016.

- Which state's 'Anpu' Homes are cited as a model for respite care?  
– Kerala.
- What is the Unique Disability ID system known as?  
– UDID.
- Which campaign aims to improve accessibility in transport and public infrastructure?  
– Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan (Accessible India Campaign).

## HISTORY, ART & CULTURE

### SWAMI VIVEKANANDA'S CHICAGO ADDRESS

- When did Swami Vivekananda deliver his Chicago Address?  
– 11th September 1893, at the World's Parliament of Religions.
- With which phrase did Vivekananda begin his Chicago Address?  
– "Sisters and Brothers of America".
- What was Swami Vivekananda's birth name?  
– Narendra Nath Datta.
- In which years did Vivekananda found the Ramakrishna Mission and Belur Math?  
– Ramakrishna Mission in 1897 and Belur Math in 1899.
- On whose birth anniversary is National Youth Day observed?  
– Swami Vivekananda (12th January).

### HYDERABAD LIBERATION DAY

- When is Hyderabad Liberation Day observed?  
– 17th September.
- Through which operation was Hyderabad integrated with India?  
– Operation Polo (13th September 1948).
- Who was the Nizam of Hyderabad at the time of integration?  
– Mir Osman Ali Khan (Asaf Jah VII).
- Who led the Razakars?  
– Qasim Razvi.
- Which agreement did India and Hyderabad sign in 1947?  
– Standstill Agreement.

### HINDI DIWAS 2026

- When is Hindi Diwas observed?  
– 14th September.
- Which formula on official language did the Constituent Assembly adopt in 1949?  
– Munshi-Ayyangar formula.

- **Which Article makes Hindi in Devanagari script the official language of the Union?**  
– Article 343.
- **Which Article directs the promotion and development of Hindi?**  
– Article 351.
- **Where was the 6th All India Official Language Conference held?**  
– Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- **Which ministry won the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar among ministries with over 300 personnel?**  
– Ministry of Defence.
- **When is World Hindi Day observed?**  
– 10th January.

## INTERIM GOVERNMENT OF 1946

- **When was the Interim Government of India formed?**  
– 2nd September 1946.
- **Who headed the Interim Government as Vice-President of the Executive Council?**  
– Jawaharlal Nehru.
- **Who headed the Cabinet Mission of 1946?**  
– Lord Pethick-Lawrence.
- **When did the Muslim League join the Interim Government?**  
– 26th October 1946.
- **Which Muslim League leader held the Finance portfolio?**  
– Liaquat Ali Khan.
- **When did the Muslim League observe 'Direct Action Day'?**  
– 16th August 1946.
- **Who held the Home portfolio in the Interim Government?**  
– Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

## SPORTS

### ALEXANDER ZVEREV WINS US OPEN 2026 TITLE

- **Who won the US Open 2026 men's singles title?**  
– Alexander Zverev (Germany).
- **Whom did Zverev defeat in the US Open 2026 final?**  
– Ben Shelton (USA).
- **Where did Zverev win his maiden Grand Slam in 2026?**  
– Roland Garros (French Open) 2026.
- **Who was the last German man before Zverev to win the US Open singles?**  
– Boris Becker (1989).

- Who is World No. 1 ahead of Zverev after the US Open 2026?

– Jannik Sinner.

## **DHIRAJ BOMMADEVARA: 1ST INDIAN MAN TO WIN ARCHERY WORLD CUP FINAL**

- Who became the first Indian male recurve archer to win the Archery World Cup Final?  
– Dhiraj Bommadevara.
- Where was the Archery World Cup Final 2026 held?  
– Saltillo, Mexico.
- Whom did Dhiraj defeat in the final?  
– Junya Nakanishi (Japan).
- Who was the first Indian archer to win an individual World Cup Final title?  
– Dola Banerjee (Women's Recurve, 2007 Dubai).

## **6TH WORLD NOMAD GAMES**

- Where were the 6th World Nomad Games held?  
– Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- How many members were in India's contingent at the 6th World Nomad Games?  
– 87.
- Which declaration established the World Nomad Games?  
– 2012 Bishkek Declaration.
- Which traditional Kyrgyz horseback game is recognised by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage?  
– Kok Boru (inscribed 2017).

## **AWARDS & HONOURS**

### **ANANT NAG SELECTED FOR DADASAHEB PHALKE AWARD 2024**

- Who was selected for the Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024?  
– Veteran Kannada actor Anant Nag.
- Which was Anant Nag's Hindi debut film?  
– Ankur.
- When was the Dadasaheb Phalke Award instituted?  
– 1969.
- What does the Dadasaheb Phalke Award include?  
– Swarna Kamal medallion, shawl and ₹10 lakh cash prize.
- Which was India's first full-length feature film directed by Dadasaheb Phalke?  
– Raja Harishchandra (1913).

## RAMON MAGSAYSAY AWARDS 2026

- **Who were the winners of the Ramon Magsaysay Awards 2026?**  
– Tommy Koh (Singapore), Runa Khan (Bangladesh) and Bo Kyi (Myanmar).
- **In which year was the Ramon Magsaysay Award established?**  
– 1958.
- **By what name is the Ramon Magsaysay Award known?**  
– “Asia’s Nobel Prize”.
- **Which category continues since 2009 with support of the Ford Foundation?**  
– Emergent Leadership.

## REPORTS & INDICES

### GLOBAL GENDER GAP (GGG) INDEX 2026

- **What is India’s rank in the Global Gender Gap Index 2026?**  
– 131st out of 145 countries.
- **Which organisation releases the Global Gender Gap Index?**  
– World Economic Forum (WEF).
- **What is India’s overall gender parity score?**  
– 64.5%.
- **Which country topped the GGG Index 2026?**  
– Iceland (17th time).
- **Which country ranked last in the GGG Index 2026?**  
– Chad (145th).
- **What is India’s score in Educational Attainment?**  
– 96.6%.

### 1ST EVER DISTRICT-LEVEL ESTIMATES FOR THE UNINCORPORATED NON-AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

- **Which body released the first district-level estimates for the unincorporated non-agricultural sector?**  
– NSO (MoSPI).
- **On which survey are these estimates based?**  
– ASUSE 2025.
- **For how many districts are the estimates available?**  
– 757 out of 770 districts.
- **What is the average GVA per worker in the unincorporated sector?**  
– ₹1,56,539.
- **In which state do female-owned establishments account for over 50% in every district?**  
– Mizoram.

## INDIA'S SPACE LAUNCH COST

- What was India's estimated LEO launch cost in 2025?  
– USD 13,302 per kg.
- What is the global average LEO launch cost?  
– USD 3,868 per kg.
- Which company launched India's first privately built orbital rocket in July 2026?  
– Skyroot Aerospace.
- On which rocket was GSAT-N2 launched in November 2024?  
– SpaceX Falcon 9.
- What share of global payload did SpaceX place into orbit in 2025?  
– Around 75%.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 11TH AYURVEDA DAY

- When is Ayurveda Day observed?  
– 23rd September.
- What was the theme of the 11th Ayurveda Day?  
– "Ayurveda for a Healthy Future".
- Where did the Ministry of Ayush celebrate the 11th Ayurveda Day?  
– Nagpur.
- On which occasion was Ayurveda Day observed earlier?  
– Dhanvantari Jayanti (Dhanteras).
- Which portal enables paperless licensing of Ayurvedic drug manufacturing?  
– e-Aushadhi Portal.

### 150TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF SARATCHANDRA CHATTOPADHYAY

- When was Saratchandra Chattopadhyay born?  
– 15th September 1876, Hooghly, Bengal Presidency.
- Which novel of Saratchandra reflected revolutionary nationalism?  
– Pather Dabi (1926).
- In which year was Devdas published?  
– 1917.

### BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF ACHARYA VINOBA BHAVE

- Where did Vinoba Bhave launch the Bhoodan Movement in 1951?  
– Pochampalli, Telangana.
- Who was selected by Gandhi as the first Individual Satyagrahi in 1940?  
– Vinoba Bhave.

- **When did Vinoba Bhave found the Brahma Vidya Mandir?**  
– 1959.
- **When was Vinoba Bhave awarded the Bharat Ratna?**  
– 1983 (posthumously).
- **Which award did Vinoba Bhave receive in 1958?**  
– Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership.

## INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY 2026

- **When is International Literacy Day observed?**  
– 8th September.
- **What was the theme of International Literacy Day 2026?**  
– “Literacy for people, the planet and prosperity”.
- **What is ULLAS also known as?**  
– Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram (New India Literacy Programme).
- **Which organisation proclaimed International Literacy Day?**  
– UNESCO (14th General Conference, 1966).

## NATIONAL FLUOROSIS DAY

- **When is National Fluorosis Day observed?**  
– 9th September.
- **What is the safe fluoride limit in drinking water as per BIS?**  
– 1 to 1.5 mg/L.
- **Under which Five Year Plan was the NPPCF launched?**  
– 11th Five Year Plan.

## TEACHERS’ DAY: BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. SARVEPALLI RADHAKRISHNAN

- **On whose birth anniversary is Teachers’ Day observed in India?**  
– Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (5th September).
- **Which commission did Radhakrishnan chair in 1948-49?**  
– University Education Commission.
- **Which professorship at Oxford did Radhakrishnan hold as the first Indian?**  
– Spalding Professorship of Eastern Religions and Ethics.
- **In which year was Radhakrishnan awarded the Bharat Ratna?**  
– 1954.

## BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF V. O. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI

- **Which company did V.O. Chidambaram Pillai establish in 1906 at Tuticorin?**  
– Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company.

- **By what title is V.O.C. known for running indigenous steamships?**  
– “Kappalottiya Tamizhan” (The Tamil Helmsman).
- **Which strike did V.O.C. lead in 1908?**  
– Tuticorin Coral Mills Strike.
- **Which port is named after V.O. Chidambaram Pillai?**  
– V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority, Thoothukudi.

## 9TH FOUNDATION DAY OF INDIA POST PAYMENTS BANK (IPPB)

- **When was the India Post Payments Bank launched?**  
– 1st September 2018.
- **How many customers does IPPB have?**  
– 13.25 crore (77% rural, 49% women).
- **What cyber-insurance cover does the IPPB Surakshit Savings Account offer?**  
– ₹25,000.

## RANI AVANTI BAI LODHI

- **Which state did Rani Avanti Bai Lodhi rule?**  
– Ramgarh State.
- **Whom did Rani Avanti Bai defeat in the Battle of Kheri (1857)?**  
– British forces led by Mandla Deputy Commissioner Waddington.
- **What did Rani Avanti Bai send to rulers urging them to fight the British?**  
– Letters with two black bangles.
- **Which UP PAC women’s battalion is named after her?**  
– Rani Avanti Bai Lodhi Women’s Battalion, Badaun.

## SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

### WORLD CIRCULAR ECONOMY FORUM 2026

- **Where was the World Circular Economy Forum 2026 held?**  
– Gandhinagar, Gujarat (first WCEF in South Asia).
- **What was the theme of WCEF 2026?**  
– “Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity”.
- **Which Finnish body co-organised the WCEF?**  
– Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra.
- **Which coalition on circular economy was launched during India’s G20 Presidency?**  
– Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC).

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE DYNAMICS

- Which body organised the International Conference on “The Future of Environment and Climate Dynamics”?  
– National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- How many countries participated in the conference?  
– 17 countries.
- What was India’s per capita GHG emission in 2022?  
– 2.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, against the global average of 6.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.
- What app was launched to improve access to environmental justice?  
– NGT Mobile App.

## G20 ENERGY ABUNDANCE MINISTERIAL

- Where was the G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial held?  
– Houston, Texas.
- How many consensus outcomes were adopted at the G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial?  
– Four.
- Which voluntary initiative did the G20 launch at this meeting?  
– Water-reuse initiative.

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON QUALITY AND SAFETY OF BIOSIMILARS

- Which body organised the national conference on biosimilars?  
– Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC).
- In which Union Budget was Biopharma SHAKTI announced?  
– Union Budget 2025-26.
- What is the outlay of Biopharma SHAKTI?  
– ₹10,000 crore over 5 years.
- For which drug did IPC release an Indian Pharmacopoeia Reference Substance?  
– Enoxaparin Sodium.

## PLACES IN NEWS

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

- Why was the DRC in news?  
– It plans a national databank to control critical mineral geological data.
- What is the capital of the DRC?  
– Kinshasa.
- Which mineral region in southern DRC has high-grade copper and cobalt deposits?  
– Katanga Copperbelt.
- Which lake on the DRC’s border is the world’s second-deepest?  
– Lake Tanganyika.

- What is the highest peak of the Ruwenzori Mountains?

– Margherita Peak.

## MOUNT ANAK KRAKATAU

- In which country is Mount Anak Krakatau?

– Indonesia.

- In which strait is Anak Krakatau located?

– Sunda Strait, between Java and Sumatra.

- What does “Anak Krakatau” mean?

– “Child of Krakatau”.

- In which year did the catastrophic Krakatau eruption occur?

– 1883.

## KHIJADIYA BIRD SANCTUARY

- In which district is Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary located?

– Jamnagar, Gujarat.

- For which bird has Khijadiya emerged as a breeding site?

– Black-necked Stork.

- When was Khijadiya declared a Ramsar Site?

– February 2022.

- What is the IUCN status of the Black-necked Stork?

– Near Threatened.

## JOJARI RIVER, RAJASTHAN

- Within how many metres of the Jojari River did the SC ban construction?

– 100 metres (and hazardous industry within 500 metres).

- The Jojari River is a tributary of which river?

– Luni River.

- Where does the Jojari River originate?

– Near Pandalu village, Nagaur district.

## BARRIER LAKES: FLOOD THREAT FOR NEPAL

- In which river system did the ice-rock avalanche trigger flash floods in Nepal?

– Bhote Koshi-Trishuli river system.

- What is a barrier lake?

– A lake formed when landslides, rockfalls or avalanches block a river with debris.

- What does LLOF stand for?

– Landslide Lake Outburst Flood.

- Which corridor is a key trade link between Nepal and China?

– Rasuwagadhi-Gyirong corridor.

## PORTALS & APPS

### INDIA'S NET ZERO PORTAL AND NAPCC DASHBOARD

- **On which day were India's Net Zero Portal and NAPCC Dashboard launched?**
  - World Ozone Day 2026.
- **What is the purpose of the Net Zero Portal?**
  - Voluntary registration and disclosure of Net Zero commitments by Indian entities.
- **What does the NAPCC Dashboard show?**
  - Progress of the National Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### CENSUS 2027: LADAKH TO LEAD CASTE ENUMERATION

- **Which region will be the first to implement caste enumeration in the Population Enumeration phase of Census 2027?**
  - Ladakh.
- **During which period will enumeration be held in Ladakh and snow-bound areas?**
  - 1st to 30th September 2026.
- **How will sensitive defence establishments along the LAC be recorded?**
  - Through paper schedules as “special charges”.

### DEFERMENT OF THE MANIPUR CENSUS

- **Why has the Census 2027 in Manipur been deferred?**
  - Due to ethnic tensions and demands for a State-specific NRC.
- **Which base year do pro-NRC groups demand for the Manipur NRC?**
  - 1951.
- **Under which section of the Census Act, 1948 can the Centre conduct the Census when necessary?**
  - Section 3.
- **How many applicants were excluded in the Assam NRC (2019)?**
  - 19.06 lakh.

### PROPOSED ARTICLE 371(K) FOR LADAKH

- **Which ministry has proposed Article 371(K) for Ladakh?**
  - Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **In which Part of the Constitution do Articles 371 to 371J fall?**
  - Part XXI (Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions).

- **What institution would Article 371(K) create for Ladakh?**
  - A directly elected UT-level legislative body.
- **Which two hill councils currently exist in Ladakh?**
  - Leh and Kargil Autonomous Hill Development Councils.

## DEFINITION OF CENSUS TOWN

- **What are the three criteria for a Census Town?**
  - Population of 5,000+, 75% male workforce in non-agricultural work and density of 400 persons per sq km.
- **What was India's urbanisation as per Census 2011?**
  - 31.2%.
- **Which ministry flagged that Census Town criteria are outdated?**
  - Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

## TULU ACCORDED 2ND OFFICIAL LANGUAGE STATUS IN KARNATAKA

- **In which districts has Tulu been granted additional administrative language status?**
  - Dakshina Kannada and Udupi.
- **Which committee recommended recognition of Tulu?**
  - M. Mohan Alva Committee (2023).
- **Which Article allows a State Legislature to adopt a regional official language?**
  - Article 345.
- **What is the script of Tulu called?**
  - Tigalari.

## RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS WING (R&AW)

- **How many years did R&AW complete in 2026?**
  - 58 years (established 1968).
- **Who was the first chief of R&AW?**
  - R.N. Kao.
- **Under which Prime Minister was R&AW created?**
  - Indira Gandhi.

## INDIA'S 1ST SOIL CARBON PAYMENTS INITIATIVE

- **Under which programme did farmers in Punjab and Haryana receive carbon payments?**
  - 'Aadi' farmer carbon programme.
- **Which company launched the Aadi Programme in 2019?**
  - Grow Indigo, with technical support from ICAR.
- **Under which methodology were the carbon credits issued?**
  - Verra VM0042.

## INDIA REJECTS PAKISTAN-CHINA BOUNDARY JOINT COMMISSION

- **When was the Pakistan-China Boundary Joint Commission operationalised?**  
– September 2026.
- **From which agreement does the Commission stem?**  
– 2013 Pakistan-China Agreement on the Boundary Management System.
- **How much of the Shaksgam Valley did Pakistan cede to China in 1963?**  
– About 5,180 sq km.

## AMENDMENTS TO CONSUMER PROTECTION (E-COMMERCE) RULES, 2026

- **Which department notified the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Amendment Rules, 2026?**  
– Department of Consumer Affairs.
- **From which date will these rules come into force?**  
– 1st January 2027.
- **Promotional sales must display the lowest price of how many previous days?**  
– 30 days.
- **Which Act replaced the Consumer Protection Act, 1986?**  
– Consumer Protection Act, 2019.

## IAEA REFERS IRAN TO UNSC OVER NUCLEAR NON-COMPLIANCE

- **After how many years has the IAEA referred Iran to the UNSC?**  
– 20 years.
- **How much 60% enriched uranium does Iran possess?**  
– About 441 kg.
- **Where is the IAEA headquartered?**  
– Vienna.
- **In which year did the IAEA receive the Nobel Peace Prize?**  
– 2005.

## OPENAI CLAIMS SOLUTION TO THE NAVIER-STOKES PROBLEM

- **The Navier-Stokes existence and smoothness problem is one of how many Millennium Prize Problems?**  
– Seven.
- **Which institute identified the Millennium Prize Problems in 2000?**  
– Clay Mathematics Institute.
- **What prize does each Millennium Problem carry?**  
– USD 1 million.
- **Which computer system was used to check the proof?**  
– Lean.

## INDIA'S STAND ON UN CARTOGRAPHIC RESOLUTION

- What is the name of the UNGA resolution on map representation?
  - “Correct the Map: Rebalancing Global Cartographic Representation”.
- Which map projection does the UN encourage?
  - Equal Earth projection (2018).
- Which traditional projection distorts landmass sizes?
  - Mercator projection.

## CONSENSUS ON DEFINING LETHAL AUTONOMOUS WEAPONS SYSTEMS (LAWS)

- How many countries reached consensus on defining LAWS?
  - 128 countries.
- Under which UN convention was the LAWS definition agreed?
  - Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).
- When was the CCW adopted?
  - 1980, in Geneva (in force from 1983).

## WMO EL NIÑO OUTLOOK

- Which organisation warned that El Niño may become very strong?
  - World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
- Till when may the current El Niño persist?
  - Early 2027.
- How often does El Niño generally occur?
  - Every 2 to 7 years.

## BANKS SEEK CRR CUT ON GREEN DEPOSITS

- What CRR reduction have public sector banks sought on green deposits?
  - Up to 100 basis points (1%).
- Which RBI framework governs green deposits?
  - RBI Green Deposit Framework 2023.
- How much cumulative investment does NITI Aayog estimate India needs for net zero?
  - USD 22.7 trillion.

## RBI'S FOREX SWAP FACILITY AND VRRR OPERATIONS

- How much did the RBI's special forex swap facility mobilise by September 2026?
  - USD 143.5 billion.
- How much liquidity did RBI absorb through the overnight VRRR auction?
  - ₹71,971 crore.

- **What does VRRR stand for?**

– Variable Rate Reverse Repo.

## **US, DENMARK AND GREENLAND SIGN AGREEMENT ON ARCTIC SECURITY**

- **Which 1951 agreement does the trilateral Arctic security deal amend?**

– 1951 US-Denmark Defense Agreement on Greenland.

- **Which US base in Greenland will be expanded?**

– Pituffik Space Base.

## **LEGAL METROLOGY (INDIAN STANDARD TIME) RULES, 2026**

- **Under which section of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 were the IST Rules notified?**

– Section 52.

- **On which meridian is IST based?**

– 82.5° E.

- **Which institution maintains IST?**

– CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (NPL), New Delhi.

- **Which technology is used under the One Nation, One Time initiative?**

– White Rabbit Technology.

## **ARCTIC AMPLIFICATION AND ‘SHRUBIFICATION’**

- **How much faster is the Arctic warming compared to the global average?**

– Around four times faster.

- **What is shrubification?**

– Expansion of taller shrubs into Arctic tundra due to rising temperatures.

## **UNSC CONDUCTS SECOND STRAW POLL FOR NEXT SECRETARY-GENERAL**

- **When does António Guterres’ term as UN Secretary-General end?**

– 31st December 2026.

- **Which Article of the UN Charter governs appointment of the Secretary-General?**

– Article 97.

- **How many affirmative UNSC votes does a candidate need?**

– At least 9, with no P5 veto.

## **INDIA’S 1ST NON-GMO HIGH-EXPANSION POPCORN MAIZE HYBRID SEED**

- **Who launched India’s first non-GMO high-expansion popcorn maize hybrid seed?**

– The Vice-President of India.

- Which institute developed the popcorn hybrid along with Gourmet Popcornica?  
– ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research (ICAR-IIMR).
- What was India's maize production in 2025-26?  
– 55.09 million tonnes.

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**01 NOV**  
2026

SIMULATOR - 2  
**11 NOV**  
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