

AIR1

UP-PSC2026

Prelims Facts Drill

Current Affairs *through* Q&A

**Monthly Compilation- 05
April 2026**



INDEX

POLITY, GOVERNANCE & JUDICIARY

• Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha – Harivansh Narayan Singh	1
• New Deportation Policy for Illegal Migrants	1
• Defeat of the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026	1
• Election Petitions	2
• Political Funding Reforms – ADR Report 2024–25	3
• Amaravati as Permanent Capital of Andhra Pradesh	4
• Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026	4
• Sindhi Version of the Constitution in Two Scripts	5
• Appointment of Chairperson of NCBC	5
• Punjab–Rajasthan Water Dispute	6
• NCERT Granted Deemed University Status	6
• IVFRT Scheme	7
• Nari Shakti Youth Parliament	7
• Preeti Saran & CESC	7
• NCERT Legal Studies Expert Committee	8

DEFENCE & SECURITY

• Left-Wing Extremism (LWE)	8
• HAL Aerospace Museum	9
• India–Uzbekistan & India–Egypt Military Exercises	9
• IONS Maritime Exercise 2026 & Exercise Amogh Jwala	9
• INS Taragiri & Project 17A	10
• S-400 Air Defence System	10

ECONOMY, INDUSTRY & FINANCE

• Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMI Pool)	10
• 10 Years of Unified Payments Interface (UPI)	11
• Workers' Unrest and Labour Reforms	11
• Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2025	12
• Trends in India's Female Credit Market	13
• Fiscal Deficit – India	13
• Grameen Credit Score (GCS) for Rural Lending	14

• India Manufacturing PMI and Impact of West Asian Conflict	14
• Implications of Global Tensions on India's Economic Stability	14
• Fall in Gold Prices Amid West Asia Tensions	15
• Flexible Inflation Targeting (FIT) Framework	15
• RBI Restrictions on Non-Deliverable Derivatives (NDDs)	16
• Syngas in Steel Industry	16
• Petrochemical Products – Customs Duty Exemption	17
• Amul – Cooperative Dairy Sector	17
• RELIEF Scheme	17
• P&I Club Initiative	18
• Biopharma SHAKTI Scheme	18

INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT & AVIATION

• MHydropower Projects in Arunachal Pradesh	18
• India's First Hydrogen-Powered Trainset	19
• India's Wind Energy Sector	19
• India's Major Ports – Record Cargo Handling	20
• LPG to PNG Transition in India	20
• Modified UDAN Scheme	20
• PM-KUSUM Scheme	21
• India's Metro Rail Network	21
• Bharat Electricity Summit 2026	21

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

• AssamSAT Mission	22
• Hubble Tension and Expansion of the Universe	22
• Quantum No-Cloning Theorem	22
• Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) and India's Three-Stage Nuclear Programme	23
• CALM-Brain Repository	23
• Artemis II Mission	24
• NS-25 Mission	25

ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY & WILDLIFE

• River Basin Management (RBM) Scheme	25
• Project Him Sarovar	25
• Food Waste in India – UNEP Food Waste Index 2024	26
• Emperor Penguin	26

• Hudsonian Godwit and CMS COP15	27
• National Repository for Deep-Sea Fauna	27
• Great Indian Bustard (GIB) Conservation	27
• India's Updated NDC 3.0 (2031-35)	28
• Earth Hour 2026	28
• Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 - 2026 Amendment	29
• Vantara University	29

HEALTH & MEDICINE

• Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month	30
• Cancer as a Notifiable Disease in Telangana	30
• Qdenga (TAK-003) - India's First Dengue Vaccine	30
• e-SafeHER Cyber Security Awareness Programme	31
• Poshan Pakhwada 2026	31
• Project Sanjeevani - Telangana	32
• Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G)	32
• DURGA Scheme	32

SPORTS

• Smriti Mandhana	33
• Khelo India Tribal Games 2026	33
• National Indoor Athletics Championships 2026	33
• Sheetal Devi & Hockey India Annual Awards 2025	33

AWARDS & HONOURS

• World Food Prize 2026	34
• Abel Prize 2026	34
• Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2026	35
• Saraswati Samman 2025	35
• Femina Miss India 2026	35

CULTURE, HERITAGE & TOURISM

• Lanjia Saora Tribe	35
• Aoleang Festival - Konyak Tribe	36
• B. R. Ambedkar - 135th Birth Anniversary	36
• Jallianwala Bagh Massacre - 1919	37

• Shyamji Krishna Varma	37
• Lord Vardhamana Mahavira	37
• Jyotiba Phule – Social Reform and Social Justice	38
• Yuva Sangam – Phase VI	38
• International Film Festival 2026	38
• Important Days & Themes 2026	38
• Asha Bhosle	39
• Samrat Samprati Museum	39

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & WORLD AFFAIRS

• India–Austria Relations	39
• India–Azerbaijan Relations	40
• India–Japan Economic and Investment Relations	40
• BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Cooperation	41
• BRICS Youth Coordination Meeting 2026	41
• Iran and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)	42
• World Bank and Middle East Conflict	42
• WTO’s 14th Ministerial Conference	43
• Indian Ocean Conference – 9th Edition	43

REPORTS & INDICES

• UN IGME 2025 Report	43
• Global Terrorism Index 2026	44
• World Air Quality Report 2025	44
• Internet Shutdowns 2025	44

UTTAR PRADESH CURRENT AFFAIRS

• Revised Minimum Wages in Uttar Pradesh – 2026	45
• Dugdha Swarn Mahotsav – Uttar Pradesh	45
• Navayug Palika Yojana – Uttar Pradesh	46
• National Moot Court Competition 2026	46
• Sansad Khel Mahakumbh 2026	46
• Smritika War Memorial – Laser, Light & Sound Show	47
• Vikramaditya Vedic Clock – Kashi Vishwanath Temple	47
• Divya Singh – Everest Base Camp Cycling	47
• Antarrashtriya Ram Katha Sangrahalaya	48

• Postal Training Centre, Saharanpur	48
• Lucknow Waste Management Initiative	48
• Noida International Airport - Phase I	49
• Kalinjar Fort - National Geo-Heritage Site	49

POLITY, GOVERNANCE & JUDICIARY

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF RAJYA SABHA – HARIVANSH NARAYAN SINGH

- **Who has been re-elected unopposed as the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha for a third consecutive term?**
– Harivansh Narayan Singh.
- **Under which Article of the Constitution is the office of Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha provided?**
– Article 89(2).
- **Who elects the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha?**
– The Rajya Sabha from among its own members.
- **How long does the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha hold office?**
– Until they cease to be a member, resign, or are removed by the Rajya Sabha.
- **How can the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha be removed from office?**
– By a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the Rajya Sabha.
- **What is the mandatory notice period for a resolution to remove the Deputy Chairman?**
– At least 14 days.

NEW DEPORTATION POLICY FOR ILLEGAL MIGRANTS

- **Which Ministry introduced the new deportation policy for illegal migrants?**
– Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Which groups of illegal migrants are particularly targeted under the new deportation policy?**
– Illegal migrants, especially from Bangladesh and Myanmar.
- **Which Act consolidates India's immigration laws and strengthens monitoring of foreigners?**
– Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025.
- **Which enforcement agency has been empowered under the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025?**
– Bureau of Immigration.
- **What are States required to establish in every district to identify and deport undocumented migrants?**
– Special task forces.
- **What is the maximum period prescribed for verifying the identity and background of suspected illegal migrants?**
– 90 days.

DEFEAT OF THE CONSTITUTION (131ST AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

- **Which Bill aimed to expedite the implementation of 33% reservation for women in legislatures?**
– Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026.

- **Which Constitutional Amendment Act introduced 33% reservation for women in legislatures?**
– 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023.
- **Which Census was proposed as the basis for the expedited delimitation under the Bill?**
– 2011 Census.
- **Which Constitutional Amendment Act imposed the freeze on constituency boundaries based on the 1971 Census?**
– 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976.
- **Until when was the freeze on delimitation later extended by the 84th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2001?**
– Until the first Census after 2026.
- **Which two related Bills were withdrawn following the defeat of the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026?**
– Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026 and Delimitation Bill, 2026.
- **Which constitutional principle did the proposed delimitation seek to strengthen?**
– “One person, one vote, one value.”
- **What major regional issue emerged as a hurdle to the proposed population-based delimitation?**
– The North–South divide.
- **What type of majority was required to pass the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026?**
– Special majority: majority of the total membership of the House and two-thirds of members present and voting.
- **How many votes did the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026 receive in the Lok Sabha?**
– 298 votes.
- **What was the required number of votes for the Bill in a House strength of 528?**
– 352 votes.
- **What was a major concern regarding the redistribution of Lok Sabha seats among States?**
– Fear of regional imbalance and unfair representation.

ELECTION PETITIONS

- **What is the sole legal remedy to challenge an election result in India?**
– Election Petition.
- **Which Article of the Constitution bars judicial interference in electoral matters except through an election petition?**
– Article 329(b).
- **Which law governs election petitions concerning Parliament and State Legislature elections?**
– Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- **Where are election petitions for Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Assembly elections filed?**
– High Court.

- Which court has jurisdiction over disputes relating to Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections?
– Supreme Court of India.
- Under which Article are disputes concerning Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections decided by the Supreme Court?
– Article 71.
- Within how many days of the declaration of results must an election petition be filed?
– 45 days.
- Which Constitutional Amendments provide the framework for local body election disputes under State laws?
– 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments.

POLITICAL FUNDING REFORMS – ADR REPORT 2024–25

- Which organisation released the report analysing political donations above ₹20,000 for FY 2024–25?
– Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).
- How much did the BJP receive in donations above ₹20,000 during FY 2024–25?
– ₹6,074 crore.
- By what percentage did BJP's donations increase in FY 2024–25 compared to the previous year?
– 171%.
- What was the total amount of donations above ₹20,000 received by political parties in FY 2024–25?
– ₹6,648 crore.
- What percentage of total donations above ₹20,000 was received by the BJP?
– Over 91%.
- Which sector accounted for the largest share of political donations in FY 2024–25?
– Corporate sector, accounting for 92.18%.
- What percentage of political donations came from individual donors in FY 2024–25?
– 7.61%.
- Which Electoral Trust emerged as the largest donor in FY 2024–25?
– Prudent Electoral Trust.
- How much did the Prudent Electoral Trust contribute to political parties in FY 2024–25?
– ₹2,413 crore.
- Which political parties received donations from the Prudent Electoral Trust?
– BJP, Indian National Congress (INC), and AAP.
- Which State/Union Territory recorded the highest political donations in FY 2024–25?
– Delhi.
- Which two States followed Delhi in terms of political donations?
– Maharashtra and Gujarat.

- Which political party continued its 19-year trend of declaring nil donations above ₹20,000?
– Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP).

AMARAVATI AS PERMANENT CAPITAL OF ANDHRA PRADESH

- Which Bill declared Amaravati as the sole and permanent capital of Andhra Pradesh?
– Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026.
- Which House of Parliament passed the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026?
– Lok Sabha.
- Which Act is amended by the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026?
– Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.
- What is the key constitutional significance of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026?
– It is the first instance in independent India of Parliament passing a law declaring a specific city as a permanent State capital.

JAN VISHWAS (AMENDMENT OF PROVISIONS) BILL, 2026

- Which Bill aims to promote Ease of Doing Business and Ease of Living through a trust-based governance framework?
– Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026.
- Which House of Parliament passed the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026?
– Lok Sabha.
- How many provisions across how many Central Acts does the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026 seek to amend?
– 784 provisions across 80 Central Acts.
- How many Ministries are covered under the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026?
– 23 Ministries.
- How many provisions are proposed to be decriminalised under the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026?
– 717 provisions.
- Which major financial legislation is proposed to be amended under the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026?
– Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- Which food-sector legislation is proposed to be amended under the Bill?
– Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- Which transport-related legislation is proposed to be amended under the Bill?
– Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.
- Which sectors are significantly impacted by the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026?
– Real estate, coal, mining, shipping, petroleum, power, railways, copyright and patents.

- **For what type of violations would courts continue to be used under the proposed framework?**
 - Serious or wilful violations.

SINDHI VERSION OF THE CONSTITUTION IN TWO SCRIPTS

- **Who released the updated Sindhi translation of the Constitution of India in 2026?**
 - Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan.
- **Where was the updated Sindhi translation of the Constitution of India released?**
 - Vice President's Enclave, New Delhi.
- **On which date was the Sindhi version of the Constitution released?**
 - 10 April 2026.
- **What is observed on 10 April as a celebration of Sindhi language and cultural heritage?**
 - Sindhi Bhasha Diwas (Sindhi Language Day).
- **In how many scripts has the Sindhi version of the Constitution been published?**
 - Two scripts.
- **Which script was used for the first edition of the Sindhi version of the Constitution?**
 - Devanagari script.
- **Which script was used for the second edition of the Sindhi version of the Constitution?**
 - Persian script.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON OF NCBC

- **Who has taken charge as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)?**
 - Niranjan Jyoti.
- **Who has taken charge as a Member of the NCBC along with Niranjan Jyoti?**
 - Kiran Umesh Mahalle.
- **Which Constitutional Amendment Act granted constitutional status to the NCBC?**
 - 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2018.
- **How many members constitute the National Commission for Backward Classes?**
 - Five members: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and three other members.
- **Who appoints the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and other members of the NCBC?**
 - The President of India.
- **Which Constitutional Amendment restored the power of States and Union Territories to prepare their own OBC lists?**
 - 105th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2021.
- **What type of powers does the NCBC possess while investigating or inquiring into complaints?**
 - Powers of a civil court.

PUNJAB-RAJASTHAN WATER DISPUTE

- Which State has demanded ₹1.44 lakh crore from Rajasthan over the use of river water since 1960?
– Punjab.
- How much water has Rajasthan been drawing since 1960, according to Punjab's claim?
– 18,000 cusecs.
- Which principle gives priority to States within a river basin in sharing river waters?
– Riparian principle.
- Which river was diverted through the Gang Canal under the colonial-era arrangement?
– Sutlej River.
- Which international treaty gave India exclusive rights over the eastern rivers of the Indus river system?
– Indus Waters Treaty, 1960.
- Which three eastern rivers are primarily under India's exclusive use under the Indus Waters Treaty?
– Ravi, Beas and Sutlej.
- Which three States were parties to the 1981 Tripartite Agreement?
– Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.

NCERT GRANTED DEEMED UNIVERSITY STATUS

- Which institution has been granted the status of an "Institution deemed to be University under a distinct category"?
– National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
- How many regional institutes of NCERT are covered under the new deemed university status?
– Six regional institutes.
- With which national policy must NCERT's academic programmes be aligned?
– National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- Which types of programmes is NCERT mandated to launch under its new status?
– Research, doctoral and innovative programmes.
- Under whose guidelines can NCERT establish off-campus and offshore campuses?
– University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines.
- What restriction has been imposed on NCERT regarding commercial activities?
– It is prohibited from engaging in commercial or profit-making activities.
- Which organisation is responsible for institutional accreditation of NCERT?
– National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).
- Which organisation will evaluate NCERT's academic programmes?
– National Board of Accreditation (NBA).
- Which national ranking framework is NCERT required to participate in?
– National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).

- Which digital academic system must NCERT adopt under its deemed university status?
 - Academic Bank of Credits (ABC).

IVFRT SCHEME

- What is the full form of IVFRT?
 - Immigration, Visa, Foreigners Registration & Tracking.
- For how many years has the IVFRT Scheme been extended?
 - Five years, from 2026 to 2031.
- What is the financial allocation for the extended IVFRT Scheme?
 - ₹1,800 crore.
- Which ministry implements the IVFRT Scheme?
 - Ministry of Home Affairs.
- What is the primary objective of the IVFRT Scheme?
 - To integrate and modernise visa issuance, immigration control and foreigner registration systems in India.
- Which stakeholders are connected through the IVFRT digital platform?
 - Indian Missions abroad, Immigration Check Posts (ICPs), Foreigners Regional Registration Offices (FRROs) and security agencies.

NARI SHAKTI YOUTH PARLIAMENT

- Under which initiative was the Nari Shakti Youth Parliament organised?
 - Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat).
- Which ministry organised the Nari Shakti Youth Parliament?
 - Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- Across how many zones was the Nari Shakti Youth Parliament organised?
 - 17 zones across India.
- How many young women participated in the programme?
 - More than 7,000 young women.
- What was the theme of the Nari Shakti Youth Parliament?
 - “Nari Shakti: Viksit Bharat Ki Awaaz – Strengthening Inclusive Democracy.”

PREETI SARAN & CESCR

- To which UN body has Preeti Saran been re-elected?
 - UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR).
- For how long has Preeti Saran been re-elected to CESCR?
 - A fresh three-year term beginning in 2027.
- What distinction does Preeti Saran hold in CESCR?
 - She is the Chair of CESCR and the first Indian to hold this position.

- **How many members does CESCR have?**
 - 18 independent experts.
- **What is the primary function of CESCR?**
 - To monitor the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

NCERT LEGAL STUDIES EXPERT COMMITTEE

- **Who are the prominent members of the expert committee constituted to review NCERT's legal studies curriculum?**
 - Former Supreme Court judge Justice Indu Malhotra and senior advocate K.K. Venugopal.
- **What is the committee tasked with reviewing?**
 - NCERT's legal studies curriculum for Class 8 and higher grades.
- **Which organisation's curriculum is being examined by the committee?**
 - National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
- **From which class does the review of the legal studies curriculum begin?**
 - Class 8 onwards.

DEFENCE & SECURITY

LEFT-WING EXTREMISM (LWE)

- **Which Ministry revised the classification of districts affected by Left-Wing Extremism (LWE)?**
 - Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **What is the main objective of revising the LWE-affected district classification?**
 - To reflect current ground realities and shrink the "Red Corridor."
- **What is the Government of India's strategic goal regarding Left-Wing Extremism?**
 - To achieve a Naxal-free Bharat and eradicate LWE completely.
- **By which year has the Government of India aimed to completely eradicate Left-Wing Extremism?**
 - 2026.
- **Which policy framework provides the comprehensive approach to counter Left-Wing Extremism in India?**
 - National Policy and Action Plan.
- **What are the three major components of India's comprehensive strategy against LWE?**
 - Security, development and governance.
- **Which three-pillar doctrine is associated with India's strategy to eliminate Left-Wing Extremism?**
 - "Clear, Hold, Build."
- **What does the "Clear, Hold, Build" approach seek to achieve in LWE-affected areas?**
 - Eliminate insurgents, secure territories and promote socio-economic development.

- **What does the SAMADHAN doctrine provide for in counter-LWE operations?**
 - Smart leadership, aggressive tactics, motivation and training, actionable intelligence, technology and choking terror finance.
- **Which specialised CRPF force conducts intelligence-based operations against Maoist insurgents?**
 - CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action).
- **Which other specialised forces are involved in counter-LWE operations?**
 - Greyhounds and District Reserve Guard (DRG).
- **Which agencies work to dismantle the financial networks supporting Left-Wing Extremism?**
 - National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Enforcement Directorate (ED).

HAL AEROSPACE MUSEUM

- **Where is the HAL Aerospace Museum located and which organisation operates it?**
 - Bengaluru, Karnataka; operated by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- **Which indigenous aircraft and helicopter are prominently showcased at the revamped museum?**
 - Tejas (LCA) and Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv.
- **What new technology has been introduced at the revamped HAL Aerospace Museum?**
 - A Virtual Reality (VR) zone.
- **What does the VR zone allow visitors to experience?**
 - Simulated fighter cockpit flights and interaction with advanced aviation technologies.
- **What is the significance of the revamped HAL Aerospace Museum?**
 - It showcases India's indigenous aerospace evolution and HAL's major achievements.

INDIA-UZBEKISTAN & INDIA-EGYPT MILITARY EXERCISES

- **Which countries participate in Exercise DUSTLIK 2026?**
 - India and Uzbekistan.
- **Where was Exercise DUSTLIK 2026 conducted?**
 - Namangan, Uzbekistan.
- **Which countries participate in Exercise Cyclone-IV?**
 - India and Egypt.
- **Where was Exercise Cyclone-IV held?**
 - Anshas, Egypt.

IONS MARITIME EXERCISE 2026 & EXERCISE AMOGH JWALA

- **Which organisation hosted the IONS Maritime Exercise 2026?**
 - Indian Navy.
- **Where was the IONS Maritime Exercise 2026 hosted?**
 - Kochi.

- **What was the format of the IONS Maritime Exercise 2026?**
 - Table Top Exercise (TTX) under the IMEX framework.
- **What was the key focus of the IONS Maritime Exercise 2026?**
 - Addressing emerging non-traditional maritime threats in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- **Where was Exercise Amogh Jwala conducted?**
 - Babina Field Firing Ranges, Uttar Pradesh.

INS TARAGIRI & PROJECT 17A

- **INS Taragiri is the fourth stealth frigate under which naval project?**
 - Project 17A.
- **What is the approximate indigenous content of INS Taragiri?**
 - More than 75%.
- **Which major weapon systems are equipped on INS Taragiri?**
 - Supersonic surface-to-surface missiles, medium-range surface-to-air missiles and an Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) suite.
- **What is the primary objective of Project 17A?**
 - To build advanced stealth frigates and strengthen the Indian Navy's maritime capabilities and indigenous shipbuilding.
- **Which organisation designed INS Dunagiri?**
 - Warship Design Bureau (WDB).

S-400 AIR DEFENCE SYSTEM

- **What is the total number of S-400 squadrons contracted by India from Russia?**
 - Five squadrons.
- **What was the value of India's S-400 deal with Russia signed in 2018?**
 - USD 5.43 billion.
- **How many S-400 squadrons are currently operational in India?**
 - Three squadrons.
- **By when are the remaining two S-400 squadrons expected to be delivered?**
 - By the end of 2026.
- **What is the S-400 known as in Indian service?**
 - "Sudarshan."

ECONOMY, INDUSTRY & FINANCE

BHARAT MARITIME INSURANCE POOL (BMI POOL)

- **What is the Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMI Pool)?**
 - A government-backed maritime insurance pool aimed at ensuring stable and affordable maritime insurance.

- **What sovereign guarantee has been approved for the Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool?**
– ₹12,980 crore.
- **What is the primary objective of the Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool?**
– To reduce dependence on foreign insurers and ensure uninterrupted maritime trade.
- **Which major international insurers' group is India seeking to reduce reliance on through the BMI Pool?**
– International Group of Protection and Indemnity (P&I) Clubs.
- **Which major maritime risks will be covered under the Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool?**
– Hull & Machinery, Cargo, War Risk and Protection & Indemnity (P&I).

10 YEARS OF UNIFIED PAYMENTS INTERFACE (UPI)

- **In which year was the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) launched?**
– 2016.
- **Which organisation developed the Unified Payments Interface (UPI)?**
– National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- **Under whose guidance was UPI developed?**
– Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA).
- **What types of transactions can be conducted through UPI?**
– Person-to-person (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions.
- **What are the two types of payment options supported by UPI?**
– “Push” payments for sending money and “Pull” payments for requesting money.
- **Which countries have operational links or connections with UPI for cross-border payments?**
– Singapore, United Arab Emirates, France, Bhutan and Nepal.

WORKERS' UNREST AND LABOUR REFORMS

- **What are the major factors behind the recent unrest among gig and factory workers?**
– Wage erosion, job insecurity, poor working conditions and weak enforcement of labour rights.
- **What are the two components of the wage system followed by many workers?**
– Base wage and Dearness Allowance (DA).
- **Which State's 35% wage hike in 2026 raised wage expectations in neighbouring regions?**
– Haryana.
- **Which Code introduced universal minimum wage coverage in India?**
– Code on Wages, 2019.
- **What proportion of India's workforce is broadly estimated to be in the informal sector?**
– Around 90%.
- **Which Labour Code deals with occupational safety, health and working conditions?**
– Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.
- **What is the statutory weekly working-hour limit under the labour framework?**
– 48 hours per week.

- **What regulatory issue has contributed to ambiguity over working hours and rest intervals?**
 - Lack of clarity in working-hour provisions and delayed State rules.
- **Which Labour Code governs industrial relations, including strikes and layoffs?**
 - Industrial Relations Code, 2020.
- **What change was made in the threshold for prior government approval for layoffs under the Industrial Relations Code?**
 - The threshold was increased from 100 to 300 workers.
- **What notice period is required before a strike under the Industrial Relations Code?**
 - 60 days.
- **Which form of employment has been promoted under the Industrial Relations Code?**
 - Fixed Term Employment (FTE).

INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

- **Which Bill introduced 12 key changes to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016?**
 - Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2025.
- **Which House of Parliament passed the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2025?**
 - Lok Sabha.
- **What are the key objectives of the IBC (Amendment) Bill, 2025?**
 - Maximising stakeholder value, ensuring time-bound resolution and aligning India's insolvency framework with global best practices.
- **What new insolvency mechanism has been introduced under the IBC (Amendment) Bill, 2025?**
 - Creditor-initiated insolvency with an out-of-court settlement option.
- **What governance model does the proposed amendment adopt for businesses undergoing insolvency?**
 - “Debtor-in-possession, creditor-in-control” model.
- **What is the prescribed timeline for completing the liquidation process under the proposed amendments?**
 - 180 days, extendable by 90 days.
- **Within how many days should insolvency cases be admitted under the proposed framework?**
 - 14 days.
- **Within what period must a resolution plan be approved under the proposed amendments?**
 - 30 days.
- **Within what period should appeals before the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) be decided?**
 - Three months.
- **What is the timeline for the proposed out-of-court compressed resolution process?**
 - 150 days.

TRENDS IN INDIA'S FEMALE CREDIT MARKET

- Which organisations released the joint report on India's female credit market?
– NITI Aayog, TransUnion CIBIL and MicroSave Consulting.
- What is the total credit portfolio held by women in India?
– ₹76 lakh crore.
- What percentage of India's total credit portfolio is held by women?
– 26%.
- How much have business-purpose loans among women grown since 2017?
– 7.5 times.
- How has the share of credit-active women changed between 2017 and 2025?
– It increased from 19% to 36%.
- Approximately how many active women borrowers are there in India?
– Nearly 16 crore.
- Which Digital Public Infrastructure tools have helped reduce barriers to women's access to credit?
– UPI and Aadhaar-based e-KYC.
- Which sophisticated credit instruments are women entrepreneurs increasingly using beyond microfinance?
– Cash credit and overdraft facilities.
- Which regions currently lead India's female credit market?
– Southern and western regions.
- Which two States are emerging as high-growth markets for women's business credit?
– Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.
- What level of digital adoption is observed among rural women?
– Around 60–70%.

FISCAL DEFICIT – INDIA

- What was India's fiscal deficit by February 2026?
– ₹12.52 trillion.
- What percentage of the annual fiscal deficit target had India achieved by February 2026?
– 80.4%.
- What percentage of the annual fiscal deficit target was recorded during the same period in 2024–25?
– 85.8%.
- What was the fiscal deficit target for 2025–26?
– ₹15.58 trillion, equivalent to 4.4% of GDP.
- Which organisation released the data on India's fiscal deficit by February 2026?
– Controller General of Accounts (CGA).
- What is the formula for calculating fiscal deficit?
– Fiscal Deficit = Total Expenditure – (Revenue Receipts + Non-debt Capital Receipts).

GRAMEEN CREDIT SCORE (GCS) FOR RURAL LENDING

- **What is the Grameen Credit Score (GCS)?**
 - An alternative credit-scoring model designed to assess rural and first-time borrowers with limited or no formal credit history.
- **When was the Grameen Credit Score announced?**
 - Union Budget 2025–26.
- **What is the primary objective of the Grameen Credit Score?**
 - To expand formal credit access and promote financial inclusion among unbanked and underbanked borrowers.
- **Which categories of borrowers are expected to benefit from the Grameen Credit Score?**
 - Self-Help Groups (SHGs), small farmers and rural micro-enterprises.
- **What is the scoring range of the Grameen Credit Score?**
 - 300–900.
- **Which existing databases are proposed to be used in Phase I of the Grameen Credit Score?**
 - Kisan Credit Cards (KCC), SVAMITVA Scheme, priority-sector loans and tractor loans.

INDIA MANUFACTURING PMI AND IMPACT OF WEST ASIAN CONFLICT

- **What was India's manufacturing PMI in March 2026?**
 - 53.9.
- **Why was the March 2026 manufacturing PMI significant?**
 - It fell to a 45-month low, indicating a clear slowdown in industrial momentum.
- **Which organisation's PMI indicated the slowdown in India's manufacturing sector?**
 - HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI).
- **What was the major reason for the sharp increase in input prices faced by Indian manufacturers?**
 - Rising costs of key raw materials such as aluminium, steel, chemicals and fuel.
- **What happened to crude oil prices amid the West Asian tensions?**
 - Crude oil prices crossed USD 110 per barrel.
- **Which industrial clusters faced disruptions due to restricted industrial gas supplies?**
 - Morbi's ceramics cluster and Surat's textile cluster.
- **By how much did steel scrap prices increase amid raw-material disruptions?**
 - Around 5–8%.
- **To what level did the Indian rupee weaken against the US dollar?**
 - Around ₹95 per US dollar.

IMPLICATIONS OF GLOBAL TENSIONS ON INDIA'S ECONOMIC STABILITY

- **What are the major macroeconomic impacts of rising tensions in West Asia on India?**
 - Rupee depreciation, higher oil prices, forex stress, inflationary pressures and fiscal stress.

- **To what level did the Indian rupee weaken amid global tensions?**
 - Around ₹95 per US dollar.
- **What was the approximate level of India's forex reserves mentioned amid the global tensions?**
 - Around USD 709.76 billion.
- **How much capital outflow intensified volatility in Indian financial markets?**
 - Around USD 8 billion.
- **Which institution intervened to stabilise the Indian rupee?**
 - Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **What proportion of India's crude oil requirements is met through imports?**
 - Around 85%.
- **How does a USD 10 per barrel rise in crude oil prices affect India's economy?**
 - It can increase the current account deficit by USD 9–10 billion, raise inflation by about 0.2% and reduce GDP growth.
- **What share of India's GDP is accounted for by private consumption?**
 - Around 61.4%.
- **What level have India's household liabilities crossed as a share of GDP?**
 - More than 41% of GDP.

FALL IN GOLD PRICES AMID WEST ASIA TENSIONS

- **Why have gold prices fallen despite the traditional safe-haven demand generated by West Asia tensions?**
 - Macroeconomic factors such as higher interest rates, rising bond yields, a stronger US dollar and liquidity pressures have overridden safe-haven demand.
- **How did the West Asia conflict affect crude oil prices?**
 - Crude oil prices rose above USD 120 per barrel due to disruptions in global oil supply chains.
- **How did higher oil prices influence global monetary policy expectations?**
 - Rising energy costs increased inflation concerns, prompting [Typo: original said "prompting"] major central banks to maintain a hawkish stance and delay expected rate cuts.
- **Why do prolonged high interest rates reduce the appeal of gold?**
 - Gold is a non-yielding asset, so higher interest rates make interest-bearing assets more attractive.

FLEXIBLE INFLATION TARGETING (FIT) FRAMEWORK

- **What inflation target has the Government of India retained for the period 2026–2031?**
 - 4% retail inflation with a tolerance band of $\pm 2\%$.
- **Which monetary policy framework has been reaffirmed for 2026–2031?**
 - Flexible Inflation Targeting (FIT) framework.
- **What is the primary objective of the Flexible Inflation Targeting framework?**
 - Maintaining price stability while keeping growth considerations in view.

- **How does Flexible Inflation Targeting differ from strict inflation targeting?**
 - It permits short-term deviations from the inflation target to minimise adverse effects on output, employment and financial stability.
- **When was India's Flexible Inflation Targeting framework formally adopted?**
 - 2016.
- **Which committee recommended the adoption of Flexible Inflation Targeting in India?**
 - Urjit Patel Committee.
- **How many times has India extended its inflation-targeting regime?**
 - Twice; the first extension was made in 2021 and the second for 2026–2031.

RBI RESTRICTIONS ON NON-DELIVERABLE DERIVATIVES (NDDs)

- **Why has the Reserve Bank of India restricted banks' participation in Non-Deliverable Derivative (NDD) contracts?**
 - To curb offshore currency manipulation, reduce speculative pressure and stabilise the Indian rupee.
- **What happened to the Indian rupee following the RBI's measures on NDDs?**
 - It recovered sharply from below ₹95 to around ₹93.10 per US dollar.
- **What are Non-Deliverable Derivatives (NDDs)?**
 - Financial contracts used to hedge or speculate on currencies that have capital controls or limited convertibility.
- **How are NDD contracts settled?**
 - The difference between the agreed contract rate and the prevailing spot rate on the fixing date is settled in cash.
- **Where are NDD contracts commonly traded?**
 - Offshore financial centres such as Singapore, London and Dubai.
- **What other regulatory measure did the RBI introduce alongside restrictions on NDDs?**
 - Tighter norms on Related Party Transactions (RPTs).
- **What is the objective of tightening Related Party Transaction norms?**
 - To prevent intra-group transactions from masking risks or facilitating profit shifting across jurisdictions.

SYNGAS IN STEEL INDUSTRY

- **Why has syngas been deployed in steel furnaces?**
 - To overcome shortages of natural gas, LPG and propane and ensure uninterrupted industrial operations.
- **What is syngas?**
 - A fuel gas primarily composed of carbon monoxide (CO) and hydrogen (H₂), produced through the gasification of coal, biomass or waste.
- **What is the major application of syngas in the steel industry?**
 - It is used as an alternative fuel in galvanising, colour-coating, DRI and blast furnace operations.

- Which important chemicals can be produced using syngas as a feedstock?
– Methanol and ammonia.
- What are the main components of syngas?
– Carbon monoxide (CO) and hydrogen (H₂).

PETROCHEMICAL PRODUCTS – CUSTOMS DUTY EXEMPTION

- What customs duty relief has the Government of India announced for petrochemical products?
– Full customs duty exemption on 40 critical petrochemical products till 30 June 2026.
- Why has the government provided customs duty exemption on these petrochemical products?
– To reduce cost pressures and address supply-chain disruptions arising from tensions in West Asia.
- What are petrochemicals?
– Chemical products derived primarily from petroleum or natural gas and used as basic building blocks in numerous industries.
- Approximately what share of manufactured goods use petrochemical products?
– Around 95%.
- What are the major categories of petrochemicals?
– Olefins (alkenes), BTX aromatics and synthesis gas (syngas).

AMUL – COOPERATIVE DAIRY SECTOR

- Which Indian FMCG company became the first to cross a turnover of ₹1 trillion?
– Amul, in FY 2025–26.
- What turnover milestone did Amul achieve in FY 2025–26?
– ₹1 trillion, equivalent to ₹1 lakh crore.
- What was Amul's annual growth rate in FY 2025–26?
– Around 11%.
- Which organisation markets the Amul brand?
– Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF).
- What revenue did GCMMF report in FY 2025–26?
– Approximately ₹73,450 crore.
- What was GCMMF's year-on-year revenue growth in FY 2025–26?
– Around 11.4%.

RELIEF SCHEME

- What is the full form of the RELIEF scheme?
– Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation.
- What is the financial outlay of the RELIEF scheme?
– ₹497 crore.

- **Why was the RELIEF scheme introduced?**
 - To support exporters, particularly MSMEs, facing trade and shipping disruptions caused by the West Asia crisis.
- **Which ministry implements the RELIEF scheme?**
 - Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- **Which organisation provides export credit insurance under the RELIEF scheme?**
 - Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC).

P&I CLUB INITIATIVE

- **What are Protection & Indemnity (P&I) Clubs?**
 - Mutual, nonprofit associations of shipowners that provide insurance against third-party maritime liabilities.
- **What types of risks are covered by P&I Clubs?**
 - Crew injuries, environmental pollution, cargo damage, ship collisions and legal liabilities.
- **What proportion of the global oceangoing fleet is insured by the International Group of P&I Clubs?**
 - Nearly 90%.

BIOPHARMA SHAKTI SCHEME

- **What is the full form of Biopharma SHAKTI?**
 - Strategy for Healthcare Advancement through Knowledge, Technology, and Innovation.
- **In which Union Budget was the Biopharma SHAKTI scheme introduced?**
 - Union Budget 2026–27.
- **What is the primary objective of Biopharma SHAKTI?**
 - To transform India from a generics-focused pharmaceutical hub into a global leader in high-value biologics and biosimilars.
- **What is the financial allocation for Biopharma SHAKTI?**
 - ₹10,000 crore over five years from FY 2026–27.
- **With which major national initiative does Biopharma SHAKTI work in synergy?**
 - National Biopharma Mission.
- **What is the broader target of the National Biopharma Mission?**
 - To build a \$100 billion biotechnology industry and expand India's share in the global pharmaceutical sector.
- **How many new NIPERs are proposed under Biopharma SHAKTI?**
 - Three new National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPERs).

INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT & AVIATION

MHYDROPOWER PROJECTS IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- **What total investment has the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved for two major hydropower projects in Arunachal Pradesh?**
 - About ₹40,175 crore.
- **What are the two hydropower projects approved in Arunachal Pradesh?**
 - The 1,720 MW Kamala Hydro Electric Project and the 1,200 MW Kalai-II Hydro Electric Project.
- **On which river is the Kamala Hydro Electric Project located?**
 - The Kamala River, a tributary of the Subansiri River.
- **How much electricity is the Kamala Hydro Electric Project expected to generate annually?**
 - About 6,870 million units.
- **On which river is the Kalai-II Hydro Electric Project located?**
 - The Lohit River, a major tributary of the Brahmaputra.
- **How much electricity is the Kalai-II Hydro Electric Project expected to generate annually?**
 - Around 4,853 million units.

INDIA'S FIRST HYDROGEN-POWERED TRAINSET

- **What major milestone has India's first hydrogen-powered trainset achieved?**
 - It successfully completed its oscillation trial, marking a key step towards safe and efficient green rail transport.
- **Which organisation conducted the oscillation trial of India's hydrogen trainset?**
 - Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO).
- **Where was India's hydrogen-powered trainset developed?**
 - Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai.
- **How many coaches does India's hydrogen trainset have?**
 - 10 coaches, making it the world's longest hydrogen trainset.
- **What is the power output of India's hydrogen trainset?**
 - 2,400 kW, making it among the most powerful hydrogen trains globally.
- **On which route is the hydrogen trainset expected to operate?**
 - The Jind-Sonipat route in Haryana.
- **Where has the dedicated hydrogen production facility for the train been established?**
 - Jind, Haryana.

INDIA'S WIND ENERGY SECTOR

- **How much wind power capacity did India add in FY 2025–26?**
 - A record 6.05 GW.
- **By what percentage did India's wind power capacity addition increase in FY 2025–26?**
 - Around 46% compared with the previous year.
- **What is India's total installed wind power capacity?**
 - More than 56 GW.
- **What is India's global rank in wind energy generation?**
 - 4th, after China, the United States and Germany.

- Which states have been major contributors to India's wind energy expansion?
– Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

INDIA'S MAJOR PORTS – RECORD CARGO HANDLING

- How much cargo did India's major ports handle in FY 2025–26?
– 915.17 million tonnes (MT).
- What was the growth rate in cargo handling at India's major ports in FY 2025–26?
– 7.06%.
- What was the annual cargo-handling target for India's major ports in FY 2025–26?
– 904 million tonnes.
- Under which vision did India's major ports achieve record cargo handling?
– Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047.
- Which major ports were among the top performers in cargo handling?
– Deendayal Port Authority, Paradip Port Authority, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority and Mormugao Port Authority.

LPG TO PNG TRANSITION IN INDIA

- Which geopolitical chokepoint highlighted India's vulnerability to energy-supply disruptions?
– The Strait of Hormuz.
- When was LPG introduced in India?
– In 1955 by Burmah Shell Oil Company.
- Which Indian company played a major role in expanding LPG distribution through the Indane brand?
– Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).
- Which government scheme significantly expanded access to LPG connections among households?
– Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY).
- Which Indian city pioneered the domestic PNG network?
– Vadodara, which had a domestic PNG network from the 1970s.
- What does PNG stand for?
– Piped Natural Gas.

MODIFIED UDAN SCHEME

- What is the full form of UDAN?
– Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik.
- What is the financial outlay of the Modified UDAN scheme?
– ₹28,840 crore for 2026–2036.
- What is the primary objective of Modified UDAN?
– To strengthen regional air connectivity and make air travel affordable, especially for Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.

- **When was the revamped UDAN introduced?**
– Union Budget 2025–26.
- **For how long will Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support be provided under Modified UDAN?**
– Five years, extended from the earlier three years.

PM-KUSUM SCHEME

- **When was PM-KUSUM launched and by which ministry?**
– 2019 by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- **What is the extended deadline for completing projects under PM-KUSUM?**
– 31 March 2027.
- **What is the primary objective of PM-KUSUM?**
– To promote solar energy in agriculture, reduce diesel dependence and strengthen farmers' energy security.
- **What are the three major components of PM-KUSUM?**
– Component A: Decentralised grid-connected solar plants; Component B: Stand-alone solar agricultural pumps; Component C: Solarisation of existing grid-connected agricultural pumps.
- **What is proposed under PM-KUSUM 2.0?**
– Integration of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) to store daytime solar power and supply it during evening peak demand.

INDIA'S METRO RAIL NETWORK

- **What is India's rank globally in terms of metro rail network size?**
– Third-largest metro rail network in the world.
- **How large is India's operational metro rail network?**
– Over 1,143 km across 29 cities.
- **Which city has India's first underwater metro tunnel?**
– Kolkata, inaugurated in 2024.
- **What is India's first water-based metro system?**
– Kochi Water Metro.

BHARAT ELECTRICITY SUMMIT 2026

- **Where was the Bharat Electricity Summit 2026 held?**
– New Delhi.
- **What was the theme of the Bharat Electricity Summit 2026?**
– "Electrifying Growth. Empowering Sustainability. Connecting Globally."
- **What was the primary objective of the Bharat Electricity Summit 2026?**
– To accelerate the transition towards a resilient and low-carbon energy system.
- **How many people and countries participated in the summit?**
– More than 25,000 attendees from over 80 countries.

- **What is the broader significance of the summit for India?**
 - It positions India as a hub for international energy cooperation.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

ASSAMSAT MISSION

- **Which Indian state has become the first to float a tender for a dedicated Earth-observation satellite constellation?**
 - Assam.
- **What is the name of Assam's proposed Earth-observation satellite constellation?**
 - AssamSAT.
- **What is the primary objective of the AssamSAT mission?**
 - To strengthen disaster management and border security through real-time Earth-observation data.
- **How many satellites will the AssamSAT constellation comprise at minimum?**
 - At least five satellites.
- **In which orbit will the AssamSAT satellites operate?**
 - Low Earth Orbit (LEO).

HUBBLE TENSION AND EXPANSION OF THE UNIVERSE

- **What is the latest estimated expansion rate of the universe mentioned in recent observations?**
 - About 73.5 km/s/Mpc.
- **What is the “Hubble tension” in cosmology?**
 - It is the disagreement between different methods of measuring the Hubble constant, the rate at which the universe is expanding.
- **What expansion rate is estimated using observations of the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)?**
 - Around 67 km/s/Mpc.
- **Why is the Hubble tension scientifically significant?**
 - If the discrepancy cannot be explained by measurement uncertainties or systematic errors, it could indicate that the standard model of cosmology is incomplete and point towards new physics.

QUANTUM NO-CLONING THEOREM

- **What is the No-Cloning Theorem in quantum physics?**
 - It states that an unknown quantum state cannot be perfectly copied or duplicated.
- **Why is the No-Cloning Theorem important for quantum technologies?**
 - It protects quantum information from unrestricted duplication and forms a fundamental basis of quantum computing and secure quantum communication.

- **What novel approach has researchers demonstrated to overcome the apparent limitation of the No-Cloning Theorem?**
 - Generating perfect copies by encrypting each copy with quantum noise so that the underlying information remains inaccessible without a decryption key.
- **What is required to access the information contained in the encrypted quantum copies?**
 - An appropriate decryption key.
- **How could the technique improve quantum memory systems?**
 - It could allow redundant, recoverable storage of quantum information while maintaining its security.

PROTOTYPE FAST BREEDER REACTOR (PFBR) AND INDIA'S THREE-STAGE NUCLEAR PROGRAMME

- **Where has India's indigenously developed Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) attained criticality?**
 - Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu.
- **What does "criticality" mean in a nuclear reactor?**
 - It is the stage at which a reactor achieves a self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction.
- **Why is PFBR criticality significant for India?**
 - It marks a major step in India's three-stage nuclear energy programme and advances the transition towards efficient utilisation of uranium and thorium resources.
- **What is the sequence of India's three-stage nuclear programme?**
 - PHWRs → Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) → Thorium-based reactors.
- **What type of reactors constitute Stage 1 of India's nuclear programme?**
 - Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs).
- **What fuel is primarily used in Stage 1 PHWRs?**
 - Natural uranium.
- **What is the approximate current nuclear capacity based on PHWRs mentioned in the given data?**
 - Around 8,180 MWe.
- **What is India's target for PHWR capacity by 2032?**
 - 22,400 MWe through fleet-mode construction.
- **What type of fuel is used in the PFBR?**
 - Mixed Oxide (MOX) fuel.
- **Which country currently operates commercial Fast Breeder Reactors before India's planned commercial FBR operation?**
 - Russia.

CALM-BRAIN REPOSITORY

- **What is CALM-Brain?**
 - India's first digital repository dedicated to major psychiatric disorders, designed to advance mental health research, diagnosis and treatment.

- **What type of database is CALM-Brain?**
 - An open-source database containing detailed information on brain structure and function across psychiatric conditions.
- **Which institutions developed the CALM-Brain repository?**
 - National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) and National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS).
- **Under which centre was CALM-Brain developed?**
 - The Rohini Nilekani Centre for Brain and Mind (CBM).
- **Which earlier programme laid the foundation for the CALM-Brain initiative?**
 - The Accelerator Program for Discovery in Brain Disorders using Stem Cells (ADBS), launched in 2016.
- **Which organisations supported the ADBS programme?**
 - Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Pratiksha Trust.
- **What types of datasets are integrated into the CALM-Brain repository?**
 - Clinical, neuro-imaging, behavioural and genetic datasets.
- **Which major psychiatric and neurological conditions are covered by CALM-Brain?**
 - Addiction, bipolar disorder, dementia and schizophrenia.

ARTEMIS II MISSION

- **When was NASA's Artemis II mission launched?**
 - 1 April 2026.
- **What is the major significance of Artemis II?**
 - It is the first crewed Artemis mission and marks the return of humans beyond low-Earth orbit after more than 50 years.
- **Which was the previous human mission to travel near the Moon before Artemis II?**
 - Apollo 17 in 1972.
- **What spacecraft is being used for Artemis II?**
 - Orion.
- **How long is the planned Artemis II mission?**
 - About 10 days.
- **How many astronauts are part of the Artemis II crew?**
 - Four.
- **Who is the commander of Artemis II?**
 - Reid Wiseman.
- **Who is the first non-American to travel beyond Earth orbit according to the given mission details?**
 - Jeremy Hansen of Canada.
- **Which launch vehicle is being used for Artemis II?**
 - NASA's Space Launch System (SLS).
- **What is the significance of the O2O laser communication system on Artemis II?**
 - It enables high-speed deep-space communication at about 260 Mbps, including transmission of high-quality video.

- **What is the objective of the AVATAR experiment aboard Artemis II?**
 - To study the effects of radiation and microgravity using organ-on-chip technology.
- **Which countries are contributing CubeSats to the Artemis II mission?**
 - Germany, Argentina, South Korea and Saudi Arabia.

NS-25 MISSION

- **Who became the first Indian space tourist through the NS-25 Mission?**
 - The selected Indian crew member of the NS-25 mission.
- **What was his distinction in India's space history?**
 - He became the first Indian space tourist and the second Indian to travel to space after Rakesh Sharma (1984).
- **Which launch vehicle was used for the NS-25 Mission?**
 - New Shepard, a fully reusable suborbital rocket developed by Blue Origin.
- **Who founded Blue Origin?**
 - Jeff Bezos.
- **What was the significance of the NS-25 Mission?**
 - It was the 25th flight of the New Shepard programme and the company's seventh human spaceflight.

ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY & WILDLIFE

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT (RBM) SCHEME

- **For which period has the River Basin Management (RBM) Scheme been extended?**
 - 2026–27 to 2030–31, corresponding to the 16th Finance Commission period.
- **Which ministry is responsible for implementing the River Basin Management Scheme?**
 - Ministry of Jal Shakti, through the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- **What are the two major components of the River Basin Management Scheme?**
 - The Brahmaputra Board and the Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS).
- **Which institutions implement the Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS)?**
 - The Central Water Commission (CWC) and the National Water Development Agency (NWDA).

PROJECT HIM SAROVAR

- **What is the primary objective of Project Him Sarovar?**
 - To address year-round water scarcity in Ladakh by capturing and utilising underused glacial meltwater.
- **What type of water resource does Project Him Sarovar seek to harness?**
 - Unused or underutilised glacial meltwater in high-altitude cold desert regions.

- **How does Project Him Sarovar aim to strengthen Ladakh's water security?**
 - By improving the capture, storage and utilisation of glacial meltwater for sustainable water management.
- **What are the major uses of water under Project Him Sarovar?**
 - Irrigation, domestic consumption and long-term climate-resilient water management.
- **Which areas of Ladakh are covered under Project Him Sarovar?**
 - Leh areas such as Nimoo, Nubra and Diskit, and Kargil areas such as Suru and Padum.

FOOD WASTE IN INDIA – UNEP FOOD WASTE INDEX 2024

- **What is the approximate annual quantity of food wasted in India?**
 - Around 78–80 million tonnes.
- **What is the estimated monetary value of food wasted annually in India?**
 - Around ₹1.55 lakh crore.
- **How many people in India are estimated to remain undernourished despite the large quantity of food waste?**
 - Nearly 194 million people.
- **What does the coexistence of large-scale food waste and undernourishment indicate?**
 - A serious food distribution and access gap.
- **What is the estimated global food waste annually according to the UNEP Food Waste Index 2024?**
 - Around 1.05 billion tonnes.
- **What share of global food waste comes from households?**
 - Around 60%.
- **What share of global food waste is generated by food services?**
 - Around 28%.
- **Which country is the largest food waster globally?**
 - China, with around 108 million tonnes of food waste annually.
- **Which country is the second-largest food waster globally?**
 - India, with around 78–80 million tonnes annually.
- **What global observance highlights the importance of reducing food waste?**
 - International Day of Zero Waste, observed on 30 March.

EMPEROR PENGUIN

- **What is the current IUCN conservation status of the Emperor Penguin?**
 - Endangered.
- **Where is the Emperor Penguin primarily found?**
 - Antarctica.
- **During which season do Emperor Penguins breed?**
 - The harsh Antarctic winter.
- **Who incubates the Emperor Penguin's egg?**
 - The male.

- **How long does the male Emperor Penguin incubate the egg?**

– About two months.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT AND CMS COP15

- **Why has the Hudsonian Godwit been proposed for enhanced protection at CMS COP15?**
 - Its population has declined by around 95%, making it a priority for urgent international conservation action.
- **What is the scientific name of the Hudsonian Godwit?**
 - *Limosa haemastica*.
- **What is the conservation status of the Hudsonian Godwit on the IUCN Red List?**
 - Vulnerable.
- **How far can the Hudsonian Godwit fly non-stop during migration?**
 - Nearly 11,000 km.
- **Where does the Hudsonian Godwit migrate between its breeding and non-breeding grounds?**
 - From Arctic breeding grounds to Patagonia in South America.

NATIONAL REPOSITORY FOR DEEP-SEA FAUNA

- **Which centre has designated its “Bhavasagara” Centre as a National Repository for Deep-Sea Fauna?**
 - Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology (CMLRE), Kochi.
- **Which ministry designated the Bhavasagara Centre as a National Repository for Deep-Sea Fauna?**
 - Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- **How many geo-referenced marine specimens does the Bhavasagara Centre house?**
 - More than 3,500 specimens, including invertebrates and vertebrates.
- **Which international initiative does the repository’s capacity-building work support?**
 - The UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030).
- **Under which ministry does the Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology function?**
 - Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).

GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD (GIB) CONSERVATION

- **Where was a Great Indian Bustard (GIB) chick successfully hatched after a decade using the “jumpstart” approach?**
 - Kutch, Gujarat.
- **What is the “jumpstart” approach used in GIB conservation?**
 - Transferring an incubated egg to a wild nest to facilitate successful hatching.
- **Which organisations collaborated in the first inter-State GIB conservation initiative?**
 - MoEF&CC, Rajasthan and Gujarat Forest Departments, and the Wildlife Institute of India (WII).

- **Under which programme was this inter-State GIB conservation initiative undertaken?**
 - Project Great Indian Bustard, launched in 2016.
- **What is the conservation status of the Great Indian Bustard according to the IUCN?**
 - Critically Endangered.
- **Which state considers the Great Indian Bustard its state bird?**
 - Rajasthan.
- **How is the Great Indian Bustard protected under international conventions?**
 - It is listed in Appendix I of both CITES and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS).

INDIA'S UPDATED NDC 3.0 (2031–35)

- **What is India's updated NDC 3.0 period?**
 - 2031–2035.
- **Under which international agreement will India submit its updated NDC 3.0?**
 - The Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC.
- **What principle guides India's updated NDC 3.0?**
 - Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC).
- **What is India's target for non-fossil installed electricity capacity by 2035?**
 - 60%.
- **What is India's target for reducing emissions intensity by 2035?**
 - A 47% reduction from 2005 levels.
- **What is India's additional carbon-sink target by 2035?**
 - 3.5–4 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent through forests and tree cover.
- **How much non-fossil installed capacity has India already achieved according to the given data?**
 - Around 52.57% in 2026.
- **What is the estimated annual financial requirement for achieving India's climate targets?**
 - Around USD 40–50 billion per year.

EARTH HOUR 2026

- **When did India participate in Earth Hour 2026?**
 - 28 March 2026, from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM.
- **What was the theme of Earth Hour 2026?**
 - “Give An Hour For Earth.”
- **What is the objective of Earth Hour?**
 - To raise awareness about climate change and environmental protection through voluntary participation.
- **Who organises Earth Hour globally?**
 - World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
- **What does Earth Hour traditionally encourage people to do?**
 - Switch off non-essential lights for one hour.

- **How widely is Earth Hour observed globally?**
 - In more than 190 countries and territories.

PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT RULES, 2016 – 2026 AMENDMENT

- **What is the major objective of the 2026 amendment to the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016?**
 - To ease compliance requirements while retaining Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)-based recycling targets.
- **For how long can a recycling deficit be carried forward from 2026–27?**
 - For up to three years.
- **What minimum portion of the carried-forward shortfall must be fulfilled annually?**
 - At least one-third of the shortfall must be met each year.
- **What is the EPR recycling target for Category I rigid plastics for 2025–26?**
 - 30%.
- **What will be the EPR recycling target for Category I rigid plastics by 2028–29?**
 - 60%.
- **What is the EPR recycling target for Category II flexible plastics?**
 - It increases from 10% in 2025–26 to 20% by 2028–29.
- **What is the EPR recycling target for Category III multi-layered plastics?**
 - It increases from 5% in 2025–26 to 10% by 2028–29.
- **What mechanism allows companies to meet EPR obligations by obtaining credits from other companies?**
 - The tradable recycling certificate system.

VANTARA UNIVERSITY

- **Where will Vantara University be established?**
 - Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- **Who founded the Vantara initiative associated with the university?**
 - Anant Ambani.
- **What is the primary focus of Vantara University?**
 - Wildlife conservation, veterinary medicine and animal welfare.
- **Why is Vantara University significant?**
 - It is envisioned as the world's first integrated global university dedicated exclusively to wildlife conservation and veterinary sciences.
- **Within which ecosystem will Vantara University be established?**
 - The existing Vantara wildlife conservation and rehabilitation ecosystem in Jamnagar.

HEALTH & MEDICINE

PARKINSON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

- Which month is observed as Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month?
– April.
- What is Parkinson's disease?
– A progressive neurological disorder that primarily affects movement and can eventually cause immobility and dementia.
- How has the global burden of Parkinson's disease changed over the past 25 years?
– It has approximately doubled.
- What share of global Parkinson's disease cases is associated with India according to the given data?
– Nearly 10%.
- Which age group is most commonly affected by Parkinson's disease?
– People in their 50s and 60s, although early-onset cases can also occur.
- What is Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) in Parkinson's disease treatment?
– An advanced therapy that uses targeted electrical stimulation of specific brain regions to reduce certain motor symptoms.

CANCER AS A NOTIFIABLE DISEASE IN TELANGANA

- Which Indian state has declared cancer a notifiable disease?
– Telangana.
- What does declaring cancer a "notifiable disease" mean?
– It makes reporting of diagnosed cancer cases mandatory to a designated centralised health information system.
- Who is required to report cancer cases under Telangana's notification system?
– Public and private hospitals, diagnostic laboratories, healthcare facilities, and registrars of births and deaths.
- Within what period must diagnosed cancer cases be reported?
– Within one month of diagnosis.
- Through which mechanism are cancer cases to be reported?
– A centralised online portal/system.

QDENG (TAK-003) – INDIA'S FIRST DENGUE VACCINE

- Which vaccine has been approved by India as its first dengue vaccine?
– TAK-003, also known as Qdenga.
- Which company developed the Qdenga dengue vaccine?
– Takeda Pharmaceutical Company.

- **Which Indian authority approved Qdenga?**
 - The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), based on the recommendation of the Subject Expert Committee (SEC).
- **For which age group has Qdenga been approved in India?**
 - Individuals aged 4–60 years.
- **What type of dengue vaccine is Qdenga?**
 - A tetravalent vaccine targeting all four dengue virus serotypes: DENV-1, DENV-2, DENV-3 and DENV-4.
- **In how many countries has Qdenga been approved according to the given data?**
 - More than 40 countries.
- **Against which dengue serotype does Qdenga show relatively higher efficacy?**
 - DENV-2.

E-SAFEHER CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS PROGRAMME

- **What is the objective of the e-SafeHER Cyber Security Awareness Programme?**
 - To empower one million rural women to participate safely in the digital ecosystem.
- **What does e-SafeHER focus on?**
 - Cybersecurity awareness, digital safety and gender-responsive digital inclusion.
- **Under which ministry is the e-SafeHER programme anchored?**
 - Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- **Who are “Cyber Sakhis” under the e-SafeHER programme?**
 - Trained women who promote safe digital practices and cybersecurity awareness within their communities.
- **What kind of model does e-SafeHER seek to establish?**
 - A gender-responsive and community-driven model of digital safety and inclusion.
- **Which states will initially implement the e-SafeHER programme?**
 - Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

POSHAN PAKHWADA 2026

- **What is the duration of the 8th edition of Poshan Pakhwada 2026?**
 - 9 April to 23 April 2026.
- **Which ministry launched the 8th edition of Poshan Pakhwada?**
 - Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- **What is the main theme of Poshan Pakhwada 2026?**
 - “Maximizing Brain Development in the First Six Years of Life.”
- **Why does Poshan Pakhwada 2026 emphasise the first six years of life?**
 - Because more than 85% of brain development occurs by the age of six.

PROJECT SANJEEVANI – TELANGANA

- **What is Project Sanjeevani?**
 - India's first fully integrated trauma care and highway rescue protocol for road accident victims.
- **Which state launched Project Sanjeevani?**
 - Telangana.
- **What is the primary objective of Project Sanjeevani?**
 - To reduce preventable deaths from road accidents through rapid, coordinated and structured emergency trauma care.
- **On which highway is Project Sanjeevani being implemented?**
 - National Highway 44.
- **What is the length of the highway stretch covered under Project Sanjeevani?**
 - 251 km.

PRADHAN MANTRI AWAAS YOJANA–GRAMIN (PMAY-G)

- **How many houses has PMAY-G completed as of March 2026?**
 - Nearly 3 crore houses.
- **What is the target of PMAY-G by 2029?**
 - Construction of 4.95 crore houses.
- **When was PMAY-G launched?**
 - 2016.
- **Which ministry implements PMAY-G?**
 - Ministry of Rural Development.
- **Which earlier housing scheme was restructured to create PMAY-G?**
 - Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY).

DURGA SCHEME

- **What is the full form of the DURGA Scheme?**
 - Driving Upliftment and Rozgar for Women/Transgender Green e-Auto.
- **What is the primary objective of the DURGA Scheme?**
 - To promote economic empowerment of women and transgender persons through sustainable livelihoods in electric mobility.
- **How many beneficiaries are covered under Phase I of the DURGA Scheme?**
 - 1,100 individuals—1,000 women and 100 transgender persons.
- **What key benefit is provided to beneficiaries under the scheme?**
 - Electric auto-rickshaw permits along with subsidies and interest subvention through empanelled banks.

SPORTS

SMRITI MANDHANA

- Who became India's highest run-scorer in T20 Internationals?
– Smriti Mandhana.
- Whose record did Smriti Mandhana break?
– Rohit Sharma's record.
- Against which team did she achieve this milestone?
– South Africa.
- Where was the match played?
– Durban, South Africa.
- What was the significance of the achievement?
– She became India's highest T20I run-scorer across both men's and women's cricket.

KHELO INDIA TRIBAL GAMES 2026

- Where were the Khelo India Tribal Games 2026 held?
– Chhattisgarh, across Raipur, Jagdalpur and Surguja.
- What was the significance of Khelo India Tribal Games 2026?
– It was India's first national-level multi-sport event dedicated to tribal athletes.
- What was the mascot of the Khelo India Tribal Games 2026?
– "Morveer", symbolising tribal pride, identity and bravery.
- Which indigenous sports were included in the Games?
– Kabaddi and Mallakhamb.

NATIONAL INDOOR ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

- Where was India's first National Indoor Athletics Championships held?
– Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- Which athlete set a new national record in the men's 60m?
– Gurindervir Singh.
- Who won the women's 3000m event?
– Priyanka.
- Which state hosted the National Indoor Athletics Championships 2026?
– Odisha.

SHEETAL DEVI & HOCKEY INDIA ANNUAL AWARDS 2025

- Who was named 'Para Archer of the Year 2025' by World Archery?
– Sheetal Devi.

- **What historic achievement did Sheetal Devi accomplish at the World Para Archery Championships 2025?**
 - She became the first female armless archer to win a gold medal at the championships.
- **Where is Sheetal Devi from?**
 - Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Who won the Hockey India Player of the Year Award 2025 in the men's category?**
 - Hardik Singh — **Balbir Singh Sr. Award.**
- **Who won the Hockey India Player of the Year Award 2025 in the women's category?**
 - Navneet Kaur — **Balbir Singh Sr. Award.**
- **Who received the Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award 2025?**
 - Zafar Iqbal.

AWARDS & HONOURS

WORLD FOOD PRIZE 2026

- **Who was named the Laureate of the World Food Prize 2026?**
 - Huub Lelieveld of the Netherlands.
- **For what contribution was Huub Lelieveld awarded the World Food Prize 2026?**
 - His pioneering work in global food safety science.
- **What was the major achievement of Huub Lelieveld's global volunteer network?**
 - Development of science-based food safety standards and regulations across more than 113 countries.
- **When was the Global Harmonization Initiative founded?**
 - 2004.
- **How did the Global Harmonization Initiative contribute to food safety?**
 - It reduced reliance on preservatives and improved food quality and shelf life.

ABEL PRIZE 2026

- **Who was awarded the Abel Prize 2026?**
 - Gerd Faltings.
- **Who awards the Abel Prize?**
 - The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters.
- **For which field was Gerd Faltings recognised?**
 - Arithmetic geometry.
- **Which major conjecture was solved by Gerd Faltings?**
 - The Mordell Conjecture, now known as Faltings' Theorem.
- **Which other major conjecture is associated with Faltings' work?**
 - The Lang Conjecture.

LATA DEENANATH MANGESHKAR AWARD 2026

- **Who was selected for the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2026?**
– Kailash Satyarthi.
- **For what contribution was Kailash Satyarthi honoured?**
– His lifelong efforts against child labour and advocacy for children's rights.
- **Who instituted the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award?**
– Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smruti Pratishthan.
- **When was the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award instituted?**
– 2022, in memory of Lata Mangeshkar.
- **Which other personalities received awards in 2026?**
– Raveena Tandon and Prajakta Mali (Cinema), Mahesh Kale (Music), Shama Bhate (Dance), and Sushil Kulkarni (Journalism).

SARASWATI SAMMAN 2025

- **Who was selected for the 35th Saraswati Samman 2025?**
– Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay.
- **For which work was Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay awarded the Saraswati Samman?**
– His novel Hara Parbati Katha.
- **When was Hara Parbati Katha published?**
– 2020.
- **What major themes are explored in Hara Parbati Katha?**
– Culture, mythology and society.

FEMINA MISS INDIA 2026

- **Who won Femina Miss India 2026?**
– Sadhvi Satish Sail from Goa.
- **What historic achievement did Sadhvi Satish Sail accomplish?**
– She became the first woman from Goa to win the Femina Miss India title.
- **Where was the 61st edition of Femina Miss India held?**
– Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), Bhubaneswar.
- **Which international pageant will Sadhvi Satish Sail represent India at?**
– Miss World 2027.

CULTURE, HERITAGE & TOURISM

LANJIA SAORA TRIBE

- **The Lanjia Saora tribe belongs to which category of tribal communities?**
 - Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).
- **Where does the Lanjia Saora tribe mainly reside?**
 - In the forested hills of Rayagada and Gajapati districts of Odisha.
- **The Lanjia Saora are a subgroup of which larger tribal community?**
 - The Saora tribe.
- **In which other states is the Saora community found?**
 - Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh, among other regions.
- **What are the major divisions within the Saora community?**
 - Lanjia Saora and Sudha Saora.
- **Which language is spoken by the Lanjia Saora?**
 - Saora.
- **To which language family does the Saora language belong?**
 - The Austroasiatic language family, specifically the Mundari branch.

AOLEANG FESTIVAL – KONYAK TRIBE

- **Which tribal community celebrates the Aoleang Festival?**
 - The Konyak tribe of Nagaland.
- **What is the traditional name of the Aoleang Festival?**
 - Aoleang Monyu.
- **When is the Aoleang Festival celebrated?**
 - Every year from 1–6 April.
- **What does the Aoleang Festival signify for the Konyak community?**
 - It marks the end of the old year and the beginning of a new year with the arrival of spring.
- **What agricultural activity is associated with the beginning of the Aoleang Festival?**
 - Completion of sowing activities.
- **Which important cultural venue also hosts Aoleang celebrations?**
 - Kisama Heritage Village.

B. R. AMBEDKAR – 135TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

- **When was B. R. Ambedkar born?**
 - 14 April 1891.
- **Where was B. R. Ambedkar born?**
 - Mhow, present-day Madhya Pradesh.
- **Which social group did B. R. Ambedkar belong to?**
 - Mahar community.
- **Where did B. R. Ambedkar earn doctorates in economics?**
 - Columbia University and the London School of Economics.
- **What was B. R. Ambedkar's position in independent India's first Union Cabinet?**
 - He served as the first Law Minister of independent India.

JALLIANWALA BAGH MASSACRE – 1919

- **When did the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre take place?**
 - 13 April 1919, on the occasion of Baisakhi.
- **Which legislation triggered widespread protests that preceded the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre?**
 - The Rowlatt Act, 1919.
- **Why was the Rowlatt Act called the “Black Law” by Mahatma Gandhi?**
 - It empowered the colonial government to detain individuals without trial and imposed severe restrictions on civil liberties.
- **Which two prominent leaders were arrested and deported in Amritsar before the massacre?**
 - Saifuddin Kitchlew and Satyapal.

SHYAMJI KRISHNA VARMA

- **When and where was Shyamji Krishna Varma born?**
 - 4 October 1857 in Mandvi, Kutch, Gujarat.
- **What was Shyamji Krishna Varma known for in his early life?**
 - He was a Sanskrit scholar and was given the title “Pandit.”
- **Which social reformer influenced Shyamji Krishna Varma’s ideas?**
 - Swami Dayanand Saraswati.
- **Which organisation did Shyamji Krishna Varma lead in Bombay in 1877?**
 - He served as President of the Bombay Arya Samaj.
- **Which princely states did Shyamji Krishna Varma serve as Diwan?**
 - Ratlam, Ajmer and Junagadh.
- **Which organisation did Shyamji Krishna Varma establish in London in 1905?**
 - Indian Home Rule Society.
- **Which journal did Shyamji Krishna Varma launch in 1905?**
 - The Indian Sociologist.

LORD VARDHAMANA MAHAVIRA

- **When is Mahavir Jayanti observed in 2026?**
 - 31 March 2026.
- **On which lunar day is Mahavir Jayanti celebrated?**
 - Trayodashi of the Shukla Paksha in the month of Chaitra.
- **When and where was Lord Mahavira born?**
 - 599 BCE at Kundalagrama near Vaishali in present-day Bihar.
- **To which dynasty did Lord Mahavira belong?**
 - The Ikshvaku dynasty.

JYOTIBA PHULE – SOCIAL REFORM AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

- **When and where was Jyotiba Phule born?**
– 11 April 1827 in Maharashtra.
- **What was the central vision of Jyotiba Phule's social reform movement?**
– A society based on equality, dignity and equitable distribution of power.
- **Which communities' rights did Jyotiba Phule strongly champion?**
– Dalits, women and other socially and economically marginalised communities.

YUVA SANGAM – PHASE VI

- **When was the Yuva Sangam programme launched?**
– 2023.
- **Under which initiative is Yuva Sangam implemented?**
– Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.
- **What is the primary objective of Yuva Sangam?**
– To promote national integration through youth exchange, cultural interaction and inter-state experiential learning.
- **Which age group is targeted under Yuva Sangam?**
– Youth aged 18–30 years.
- **Which categories of youth can participate in Yuva Sangam?**
– Students, NSS volunteers, NYKS members and young professionals.
- **Which ministry anchors the Yuva Sangam programme?**
– Ministry of Education.

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2026

- **Where was the first edition of the International Film Festival 2026 inaugurated?**
– Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- **Who inaugurated the International Film Festival 2026?**
– Rekha Gupta.
- **Which country was the Focus Country of the festival?**
– Spain.
- **What was the opening film of the festival?**
– Sirât, directed by Oliver Laxe.
- **Who received the Lifetime Achievement Awards at the festival?**
– Sharmila Tagore, Dharmendra and Nandamuri Balakrishna.

IMPORTANT DAYS & THEMES 2026

- **When is World Water Day observed and what is its 2026 theme?**
– 22 March; “Water and Gender.”

- **When is World TB Day observed and what is its 2026 theme?**
– 24 March; “Yes! We can End TB!”
- **When is National Maritime Day observed and what is its 2026 theme?**
– 5 April; “Maritime India, Empowering Progress.”
- **When is World Health Day observed and what is its 2026 theme?**
– 7 April; “Together for Health: Stand with Science.”

ASHA BHOSLE

- **Where was Asha Bhosle born?**
– Sangli, Maharashtra.
- **When did Asha Bhosle begin her playback singing career?**
– In 1943 with the Marathi film Majha Bal.
- **Approximately how many songs did Asha Bhosle record during her career?**
– Over 11,000–12,000 songs across more than 20 languages.
- **Which major civilian honour was conferred on Asha Bhosle?**
– Padma Vibhushan in 2008.
- **Which other major honours did Asha Bhosle receive?**
– Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2000), National Film Awards and Maharashtra Bhushan (2021).

SAMRAT SAMPRATI MUSEUM

- **Where was the Samrat Samprati Museum inaugurated?**
– Koba, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- **On which occasion was the Samrat Samprati Museum inaugurated?**
– Mahavir Jayanti, 2026.
- **Who was Samrat Samprati?**
– The 5th Mauryan emperor, who ruled around 224–215 BCE.
- **What was Samprati’s relationship with Ashoka?**
– He was the grandson of Ashoka and son of Kunala.
- **Why is Samprati known as the “Jain Ashoka”?**
– For his significant role in spreading and patronising Jainism, particularly associated with the Shvetambara tradition.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & WORLD AFFAIRS

INDIA–AUSTRIA RELATIONS

- **Who paid a four-day official visit to India, marking a major diplomatic milestone?**
– The Federal Chancellor of Austria.

- **What was signed to strengthen India–Austria defence cooperation?**
 - A Letter of Intent on military cooperation.
- **What mechanism was proposed to strengthen cooperation against terrorism?**
 - A Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism.
- **Which advanced technologies have emerged as areas of India–Austria cooperation?**
 - Quantum technology, machine learning, lasers and material science.
- **What space-sector initiative was announced by India and Austria?**
 - A joint space industry seminar in Vienna in Autumn 2026.
- **Which two agencies signed an MoU to strengthen food safety cooperation?**
 - The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety.
- **What new cybersecurity initiative was launched by India and Austria?**
 - An Institutional Cybersecurity Dialogue.
- **Which transport-related area saw renewed cooperation between India and Austria?**
 - Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS).

INDIA–AZERBAIJAN RELATIONS

- **When did India and Azerbaijan resume high-level diplomatic engagement after post-Operation Sindoor tensions?**
 - Through the 6th Foreign Office Consultations, the first since 2022.
- **What were the major areas discussed during the India–Azerbaijan Foreign Office Consultations?**
 - Trade, technology, tourism, pharmaceuticals, energy, culture, people-to-people ties and counter-terrorism.
- **What is the broad route of the INSTC through Azerbaijan?**
 - India → Iran (Bandar Abbas/Chabahar) → Azerbaijan → Russia/Europe.
- **How does the INSTC through Azerbaijan benefit India?**
 - It provides access to Central Asia and Eurasia while offering an alternative route that bypasses Pakistan.
- **How can India–Azerbaijan engagement help India counter the Pakistan–Turkey axis?**
 - It prevents Pakistan from gaining a strategic monopoly over Azerbaijan’s regional space and strengthens India’s independent presence.
- **Which major energy resources can India potentially access through Trans-Caspian routes?**
 - Turkmen natural gas and Kazakh oil.

INDIA–JAPAN ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT RELATIONS

- **Why is Japan launching a specialised centre for Japanese firms expanding into India?**
 - To help Japanese companies navigate India’s tax, regulatory and legal systems and streamline their operations.
- **What investment target does the new Japanese initiative support?**
 - A USD 62.6 billion (10 trillion yen) India–Japan investment target for 2025–35.

- **Which sectors are being prioritised under the India–Japan investment push?**
 - Manufacturing, artificial intelligence, startups and critical minerals.
- **How many Japanese firms operate in India compared with Thailand and Singapore?**
 - Around 1,434 in India, compared with about 6,000 in Thailand and 4,500 in Singapore.
- **What is Japan’s position among India’s foreign investors?**
 - Japan is India’s fifth-largest investor.
- **What was Japan’s cumulative FDI in India during 2000–2024?**
 - Around USD 43.2 billion.

BRICS SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (STI) COOPERATION

- **What theme is India following while leading BRICS on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)?**
 - “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.”
- **What major areas are gaining importance in BRICS STI cooperation?**
 - Deep-tech collaboration, technology governance and enhanced technology transfer.
- **Which BRICS declaration formally recognised science and technology cooperation?**
 - The Sanya Declaration of 2011.
- **Which forum was created to promote networking among young researchers under BRICS STI cooperation?**
 - BRICS Young Scientist Forum.
- **Which mechanism provides ministerial-level coordination of BRICS STI cooperation?**
 - Annual BRICS Science and Technology Ministers’ meetings.
- **Which Indian institutions coordinate BRICS STI initiatives?**
 - Institutions such as the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).
- **What is the objective of the BRICS Innovation Action Plan spearheaded by India?**
 - To deepen innovation ecosystems and strengthen collaboration among BRICS countries.

BRICS YOUTH COORDINATION MEETING 2026

- **Which country hosted the 1st BRICS Youth Coordination Meeting?**
 - India.
- **How was the 1st BRICS Youth Coordination Meeting conducted?**
 - Virtually.

What was the theme of the 1st BRICS Youth Coordination Meeting?

- “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.”
- **What is the objective of the BRICS Youth Track 2026?**
 - To strengthen youth participation and engagement in BRICS cooperation.
- **Which initiative was launched to promote youth volunteering under BRICS Youth Track 2026?**
 - Serve BRICS Volunteering.

- **What institutional mechanisms are included under the BRICS Youth Track 2026?**
 - Working Groups, Thematic Engagements, Youth Development Forum, Youth Council, Youth Summit and Ministerial Meeting.

IRAN AND THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT)

- **Why is Iran considering withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)?**
 - It has cited US and Israeli strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities, including Isfahan, as a reason for considering withdrawal.
- **What are the three core pillars of the NPT?**
 - Non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and peaceful use of nuclear energy.
- **What does the non-proliferation pillar of the NPT require?**
 - Nuclear-weapon states recognised by the treaty must not transfer nuclear weapons, while non-nuclear-weapon states must not acquire them.
- **Which countries are recognised as Nuclear-Weapon States (NWS) under the NPT?**
 - The United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France and China, based on their nuclear status before 1 January 1967.
- **Which organisation is responsible for verification and safeguards under the NPT?**
 - The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
- **Under which provision can a country withdraw from the NPT?**
 - Article X.
- **What notice period is required for withdrawal from the NPT?**
 - Three months' notice.

WORLD BANK AND MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

- **Why is the World Bank expediting assistance to countries affected by the Middle East conflict?**
 - Surging commodity prices and disrupted supply chains are putting pressure on emerging economies and increasing global economic risks.
- **Which World Bank institution provides concessional loans and grants to the poorest countries?**
 - International Development Association (IDA).
- **Which World Bank institution focuses on private-sector financing?**
 - International Finance Corporation (IFC).
- **Which World Bank institution provides political-risk insurance to investors?**
 - Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA).
- **Which World Bank institution facilitates the settlement of international investment disputes?**
 - International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).
- **How many countries are members of the World Bank?**
 - 189 countries.

WTO'S 14TH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

- **Where was the WTO's 14th Ministerial Conference (MC14) held?**
 - Yaoundé, Cameroon.
- **What major issue prevented consensus at the WTO's 14th Ministerial Conference?**
 - The e-commerce moratorium.
- **What happened to the WTO's e-commerce moratorium after MC14?**
 - It lapsed, allowing countries to impose taxes on electronic transmissions.
- **Which WTO agreement is particularly associated with transparency requirements?**
 - Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement).
- **Why does India oppose punitive transparency requirements?**
 - Developing and least-developed countries may face capacity constraints, while delayed reporting could be used to justify trade retaliation.
- **What happened to the TRIPS safeguard at MC14?**
 - It lapsed, reducing the policy space available to developing countries for certain public-health measures.
- **What progress was made on fisheries subsidies at MC14?**
 - Members agreed to continue negotiations on curbing subsidies for distant-water fishing, with recommendations expected at MC15.
- **What major demand did India raise regarding agriculture?**
 - A permanent solution to the issue of Public Stockholding (PSH) for food security.

INDIAN OCEAN CONFERENCE – 9TH EDITION

- **Where was the 9th edition of the Indian Ocean Conference held?**
 - Mauritius.
- **What was India's key position regarding the West Asia conflict at the conference?**
 - India condemned attacks on civilians, infrastructure and commercial shipping and called for de-escalation, peace and regional stability.
- **When was the Indian Ocean Conference launched and by whom?**
 - It was launched in 2016 by the India Foundation with regional partners.
- **What is the significance of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) for global trade?**
 - It handles around 50% of global container traffic, one-third of bulk cargo and two-thirds of global oil shipments.
- **What is India's strategic role in the Indian Ocean Region under the SAGAR vision?**
 - India acts as a net security provider and stabilising force in the region.

REPORTS & INDICES

UN IGME 2025 REPORT

- **Which organisation released the UN IGME 2025 Report?**
 - United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation.
- **How many under-5 children died globally in 2024 according to the report?**
 - Around 4.9 million, including 2.3 million newborns.
- **Which region accounted for the largest share of global under-5 deaths?**
 - Sub-Saharan Africa, accounting for 58%.
- **How much has India's Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR) declined between 1990 and 2024?**
 - It declined from 127 to 27 deaths per 1,000 live births, a 79% reduction.
- **What was India's Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR) in 2024?**
 - Around 17 deaths per 1,000 live births, down from 57 in 1990.

GLOBAL TERRORISM INDEX 2026

- **Who releases the Global Terrorism Index (GTI)?**
 - Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), headquartered in Sydney.
- **Which country ranked first in the Global Terrorism Index 2026?**
 - Pakistan.
- **What was India's rank and score in the Global Terrorism Index 2026?**
 - 13th, with a score of 6.428.
- **Which region accounted for more than half of global terrorism deaths in 2025?**
 - The Sahel region.
- **How has the Sahel's share of global terrorism deaths changed since 2007?**
 - It increased from less than 1% in 2007 to more than 50% in 2025.

WORLD AIR QUALITY REPORT 2025

- **Who releases the World Air Quality Report 2025?**
 - IQAir.
- **What parameter is primarily used to assess air pollution in the World Air Quality Report?**
 - PM2.5 concentration levels.
- **What was India's rank among 143 countries in the World Air Quality Report 2025?**
 - 6th.
- **Which city was identified as the world's most polluted city?**
 - Loni, Ghaziabad.
- **Which capital city remained the world's most polluted capital?**
 - New Delhi.

INTERNET SHUTDOWNS 2025

- **Which organisations released the report on internet shutdowns in 2025?**
 - Access Now and the #KeepItOn Coalition.

- **How many deliberate internet shutdowns were recorded globally in 2025?**
 - 313 shutdowns across 52 countries.
- **Which country recorded the highest number of internet shutdowns in 2025?**
 - Myanmar, with 95 shutdowns.
- **What was India's rank in terms of internet shutdowns in 2025?**
 - Second globally, with 65 shutdowns.
- **Across how many Indian States and Union Territories were the 65 shutdowns recorded?**
 - 12 States and Union Territories.

UTTAR PRADESH CURRENT AFFAIRS

REVISED MINIMUM WAGES IN UTTAR PRADESH – 2026

- **From which date were the revised minimum wages in Uttar Pradesh made effective?**
 - **1 April 2026**, retrospectively.
- **What is the maximum increase announced in minimum wages?**
 - Up to **21%**.
- **How many categories have been created for district-wise minimum wage classification?**
 - **Three categories:** Category I, Category II and Category III.
- **Which districts fall under Category I?**
 - High-cost industrial zones such as **Gautam Buddha Nagar (Noida)** and **Ghaziabad**.
- **What are the components of the revised wage structure?**
 - **Basic Pay + Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA)**, linked to the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**.

DUGDHA SWARN MAHOTSAV – UTTAR PRADESH

- **How many MoUs were signed during the Dugdha Swarn Mahotsav in Lucknow?**
 - **59 MoUs**.
- **What was the total investment value of the MoUs signed at the conclave?**
 - Over **₹3,000 crore**.
- **Which major private dairy companies participated in the investment agreements?**
 - **Ananda Dairy, Gyan Dairy and Param Dairy**.
- **How many jobs are expected to be generated through these investments?**
 - More than **13,000 jobs**.
- **What is the approximate contribution of the dairy sector to Uttar Pradesh's GSVA?**
 - Around **₹1.72 lakh crore**.

NAVAYUG PALIKA YOJANA – UTTAR PRADESH

- **What is the total outlay of the Navayug Palika Yojana?**
 - ₹2,915 crore over five years, up to 2029–30.
- **What is the main objective of the Navayug Palika Yojana?**
 - To upgrade smaller towns by replicating the success of the **Smart Cities Mission** in Tier-II and Tier-III centres.
- **How many district headquarters are covered under the scheme?**
 - 58 district headquarters, excluding the 17 municipal corporations.
- **What is the funding pattern of the Navayug Palika Yojana?**
 - It is **fully funded by the Uttar Pradesh Government**, with no central assistance.
- **Which areas are prioritised under the scheme?**
 - Modern roads, drainage, smart street lighting, e-governance, water supply, sanitation and waste management.

NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2026

- **Which university won the National Moot Court Competition 2026?**
 - Banaras Hindu University (BHU).
- **Which university was the runner-up?**
 - Chandigarh University.
- **Which institution hosted the National Moot Court Competition 2026?**
 - Chandigarh University.
- **What is the main objective of the National Moot Court Competition?**
 - To provide law students with practical exposure to **courtroom procedures, legal drafting and oral advocacy**.

SANSAD KHEL MAHAKUMBH 2026

- **Where was the 3rd edition of Sansad Khel Mahakumbh held?**
 - Lucknow, at KD Singh Babu Stadium.
- **Who inaugurated the 3rd edition of Sansad Khel Mahakumbh?**
 - Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- **What was the main objective of Sansad Khel Mahakumbh?**
 - To promote a **sports culture in rural areas** and encourage youth participation in sports.
- **Which sports were included in the event?**
 - Athletics, Football, Volleyball, Kabaddi, Taekwondo, Basketball, Hockey and Boxing.
- **What broader government priority was highlighted through the event?**
 - Expansion of **sports infrastructure**, including stadiums, training centres and sports facilities across the country.

SMRITIKA WAR MEMORIAL – LASER, LIGHT & SOUND SHOW

- **Where was the state-of-the-art Laser, Light & Sound Show inaugurated?**
 - At **Smritika War Memorial, Lucknow.**
- **Who jointly inaugurated the Laser, Light & Sound Show?**
 - **Rajnath Singh and Yogi Adityanath.**
- **What is the main objective of the show?**
 - To showcase the **history, valour and achievements of the Indian Army** through modern multimedia technology.
- **Which major military operations are highlighted in the show?**
 - **Operation Meghdoot** and **Operation Vijay**, along with major wars such as the 1947–48, 1962, 1965 and 1971 conflicts.
- **Which organisation implemented the programme?**
 - The **Central Command of the Indian Army**, in collaboration with the **Government of Uttar Pradesh** and **Uttar Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation.**

VIKRAMADITYA VEDIC CLOCK – KASHI VISHWANATH TEMPLE

- **Where has the Vikramaditya Vedic Clock been installed?**
 - At **Kashi Vishwanath Temple, Varanasi.**
- **Who presented the 700-kg Vikramaditya Vedic Clock?**
 - **Mohan Yadav.**
- **How does the Vedic Clock calculate a day?**
 - It measures time from **sunrise to the next sunrise**, rather than using the conventional 24-hour system.
- **Into how many Muhurtas is a day divided in the Vedic time system?**
 - **30 Muhurtas**, with each lasting approximately **48 minutes.**
- **What traditional information does the clock display?**
 - **Tithi, Nakshatra, lunar phases, eclipses, festivals and other astronomical information**, along with Vedic time, IST and GMT.

DIVYA SINGH – EVEREST BASE CAMP CYCLING

- **Who became the first Indian woman to cycle to Everest Base Camp?**
 - **Divya Singh**, a 28-year-old school teacher from Gorakhpur.
- **What historic distinction did Divya Singh achieve?**
 - She became the **first Indian woman and second woman globally** to reach Everest Base Camp by bicycle.
- **How long did the expedition take?**
 - **14 days**, cycling from Kathmandu to Everest Base Camp.
- **At what altitude is Everest Base Camp located?**
 - Approximately **17,560 ft (5,364 m)** above sea level.

- Which major challenges did she face during the expedition?
 - Extreme cold, low oxygen levels, strong winds and steep Himalayan trails, cycling around **10–12 hours daily.**

ANTARRASHTRIYA RAM KATHA SANGRAHALAYA

- What rare manuscript is being preserved at the Antarrashtriya Ram Katha Sangrahalaya?
 - An over **200-year-old copy of the Ramcharitmanas**, written in **Nagari script.**
- What is the main objective of the manuscript preservation initiative?
 - To create a comprehensive repository of **Ramayana texts from different languages and regions**, including regional adaptations, commentaries and illustrated manuscripts.
- When was the Antarrashtriya Ram Katha Sangrahalaya established?
 - **1988.**
- What is the museum's primary focus?
 - Preservation and promotion of the **life, teachings and legacy of Lord Rama** and research on diverse Ramayana traditions.
- What new conservation facility has been approved at the museum?
 - A **dedicated conservation centre** for preservation and research of rare manuscripts.

POSTAL TRAINING CENTRE, SAHARANPUR

- Which institution celebrated its Platinum Jubilee in 2026?
 - **Postal Training Centre, Saharanpur.**
- When was the Postal Training Centre, Saharanpur established?
 - **2 April 1951.**
- Who unveiled the commemorative postage stamp marking its 75th anniversary?
 - **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia.**
- What is the primary role of the Postal Training Centre?
 - To provide **structured and professional training** to postal personnel.
- How many States and Union Territories does the centre serve?
 - It serves postal staff across **eight States and Union Territories in Northern India.**

LUCKNOW WASTE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE

- How many electric and CNG vehicles were deployed for waste management in Lucknow?
 - **250 vehicles.**
- Who flagged off the new waste-management vehicles?
 - **Yogi Adityanath.**
- What is the main objective of the initiative?
 - To achieve **100% waste collection, transportation and processing** across all wards of Lucknow.
- How many EV charging points have been established in Lucknow?
 - Around **520 charging points at 13 locations.**

- What approach does the initiative promote?
 - A **“Waste-to-Wealth” approach**, focusing on resource recovery, recycling and circular-economy practices while reducing pollution and carbon emissions.

NOIDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – PHASE I

- Where is the Noida International Airport located?
 - Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh.
- Who inaugurated Phase-I of the Noida International Airport?
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- What was the approximate investment in Phase-I?
 - Around ₹11,200 crore.
- Which company developed and operates the airport?
 - Yamuna International Airport Private Limited.
- Why is the airport strategically important?
 - It strengthens **North India’s aviation and logistics connectivity**, with multimodal linkages and convergence with the **Dedicated Freight Corridor at Dadri**, facilitating faster domestic and global trade.

KALINJAR FORT – NATIONAL GEO-HERITAGE SITE

- Which hill region has been declared a National Geo-Heritage Site by the Geological Survey of India?
 - The **hill region around Kalinjar Fort** in **Banda district, Uttar Pradesh**.
- Which important geological feature is found at Kalinjar?
 - The **Eparchaeon Unconformity**, representing the contact between ancient rock formations.
- Which rock formations are associated with the Eparchaeon Unconformity at Kalinjar?
 - Approximately **2.5-billion-year-old Bundelkhand granite** and **1.2-billion-year-old Kaimur sandstone**.
- Kalinjar Fort is associated with which mountain range?
 - The **Vindhya Range**.
- Which historical ruler died during the siege of Kalinjar Fort in 1545?
 - **Sher Shah Suri**.
- Which dynasty played a major role in the development of Kalinjar Fort?
 - The **Chandela dynasty**, whose rulers used the title **“Kalanjaradhipati.”**