

AIR1

UP-PSC2026

Prelims Facts Drill

Current Affairs *through* Q&A

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POLITY, GOVERNANCE & JUDICIARY

INDIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT (IICDEM)-2026

- Which organisation will host the India International Conference on Democracy and Election Management (IICDEM)-2026?
– Election Commission of India (ECI).
- IICDEM-2026 will be organised by which institute under the aegis of ECI?
– India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM).
- What is the theme of the India International Conference on Democracy and Election Management (IICDEM)-2026?
– “Democracy for an inclusive, peaceful, resilient and sustainable world”.
- India will hold the chairmanship of which international organisation in 2026, reflecting its role in IICDEM-2026?
– International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA).
- Who will lead the India International Conference on Democracy and Election Management (IICDEM)-2026?
– Chief Election Commissioner Shri Gyanesh Kumar.

JUSTICE REVATI MOHITE DERE – CHIEF JUSTICE OF MEGHALAYA HIGH COURT

- Who was sworn in as the newest Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court?
– Justice Revati Mohite Dere.
- Under which Article of the Indian Constitution is the Chief Justice of a High Court appointed?
– Article 217.
- When was the Meghalaya High Court established?
– 23rd March, 2013.
- Who was the first female Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court?
– Justice T. Meena Kumari.
- Which constitutional body recommends the appointment of High Court judges?
– Supreme Court Collegium.

DRUG-FREE CAMPUS CAMPAIGN

- Who inaugurated the “Drug-Free Campus Campaign” at the University of Delhi?
– Vice-President Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan.
- The Drug-Free Campus Campaign is a part of which broader national initiative?
– Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA).

- **Which ministry launched the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan?**
– Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- **What is the main objective of the Drug-Free Campus Campaign?**
– To prevent substance abuse among youth and promote drug-free educational institutions.
- **Which Article of the Indian Constitution directs the State to work towards prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs?**
– Article 47.
- **Which organisation provides technical support to campus anti-drug campaigns?**
– Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

NATIONAL MODEL YOUTH GRAM SABHA (MYGS) AWARDS (2026)

- **Who conferred the National Model Youth Gram Sabha (MYGS) Awards at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi?**
– Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, S. P. Singh Baghel.
- **What is the main objective of the Model Youth Gram Sabha (MYGS) initiative?**
– To provide students experiential learning of the three-tier Panchayati Raj system and grassroots democracy.
- **The Model Youth Gram Sabha initiative is based on which Constitutional Amendment?**
– 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 199
- **Which ministries jointly organised the National Model Youth Gram Sabha Awards?**
– Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- **How many students participated in the simulated Gram Sabha proceedings under MYGS?**
– Over 28,000 students.
- **Which educational institutions participated in the MYGS initiative?**
– 619 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) and 200 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs).
- **Which school won the top prize in the JNV category of National Model Youth Gram Sabha Awards?**
– JNV Una, Himachal Pradesh.
- **Which school won the top prize in the EMRS category of National Model Youth Gram Sabha Awards?**
– EMRS Kosambuda, Chhattisgarh.
- **What was the prize money awarded to the first-place winners in both JNV and EMRS categories?**
– ₹1 crore each.
- **The Model Youth Gram Sabha initiative aligns with which national policy to promote experiential learning and democratic values?**
– National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

REPUBLIC DAY PARADE 2026 – BEST TABLEAU AWARDS

- **Which state's tableau won first place among states and union territories at the Republic Day Parade 2026?**
– Maharashtra.

- **What was the theme of Maharashtra's winning tableau at the Republic Day Parade 2026?**
 - "Ganeshotsav: A Symbol of Aatmanirbharta".
- **What aspects were highlighted through Maharashtra's Ganeshotsav tableau?**
 - Cultural heritage, community participation, social unity and self-reliance.
- **Which cultural group participated in Maharashtra's tableau to enhance its presentation?**
 - Nagpur dhol-tasha group.
- **Which state secured the second position in the Republic Day Parade 2026 tableau competition?**
 - Jammu & Kashmir.
- **Which state secured the third position for its tableau based on Water Metro and 100% Digital Literacy?**
 - Kerala.
- **Which armed force was declared the Best Marching Contingent among the three services at Republic Day Parade 2026?**
 - Indian Navy.
- **Which force won the Best Marching Contingent award among Central Armed Police Forces?**
 - Delhi Police.
- **Which ministry won the best tableau award among central ministries at Republic Day Parade 2026?**
 - Ministry of Culture.
- **What was the theme of the Ministry of Culture's award-winning tableau?**
 - "Vande Mataram – The Soul Cry of a Nation."

TELANGANA POLICE HOME-BASED FIR REGISTRATION INITIATIVE

- **Which state police has launched the initiative allowing victims to register FIRs from their residence or chosen location?**
 - Telangana Police.
- **What is the main objective of the home-based FIR registration initiative?**
 - To reduce procedural delays, protect victim dignity and safety, and remove barriers in accessing police services.
- **For which category of offences will the initiative initially be applicable?**
 - Specified categories of cognisable offences.
- **Which important laws are covered under the initial implementation of this initiative?**
 - POCSO Act, SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, and Telangana Prohibition of Ragging Act.
- **Where can police officers visit to record the initial statement of victims under this initiative?**
 - Victim's residence, hospital, or place of offence.
- **After registering the FIR, how will the victim receive a copy of the FIR?**
 - Through email, WhatsApp, or hard copy if required.
- **Which document has been issued to ensure uniform implementation of the initiative?**
 - Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

- **Which constitutional provision is linked with this victim-centric policing initiative?**
 - Article 21, which guarantees the right to life and personal liberty, including access to justice.
- **What type of policing approach is promoted through this initiative?**
 - Victim-centric policing.
- **What broader reforms does this initiative align with?**
 - Criminal justice reforms and improved access to justice.

AHMEDABAD CRIME BRANCH-PATHIK SOFTWARE AADHAAR INTEGRATION (2026)

- **Which law enforcement agency became the first in India to integrate Aadhaar-based verification with its PATHIK software?**
 - Ahmedabad Crime Branch of Gujarat Police.
- **With which organisation did the Ahmedabad Crime Branch sign a pact for Aadhaar verification integration?**
 - Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- **What is the significance of the Ahmedabad Crime Branch's Aadhaar integration with PATHIK software?**
 - It became the first law enforcement body in India to be recognised as an Offline Verification Seeking Entity (OVSE) for Aadhaar.
- **What does OVSE stand for in the context of Aadhaar verification?**
 - Offline Verification Seeking Entity.
- **What is PATHIK software?**
 - PATHIK (Programme for Analysis of Traveller and Hotel Informatics) is an application developed by Gujarat Police to track travellers, guests and residents staying in hotels, PGs and homestays.
- **Which state police uses the PATHIK software for security and verification purposes?**
 - Gujarat Police.
- **Which technology enables quick verification of individuals through the integrated PATHIK system?**
 - Digitally signed Aadhaar QR code-based verification.
- **Approximately how many hotels across Gujarat are connected with the PATHIK system?**
 - More than 9,000 hotels.
- **What type of establishments are covered under the PATHIK system?**
 - Hotels, paying guest (PG) accommodations and homestays.
- **Which government body selected the PATHIK project among nationally recognised technology projects?**
 - Government of India.
- **How many projects were selected at the national level by the Government of India for technological utility, including PATHIK?**
 - 11 projects.

- What type of verification does the Aadhaar-PATHIK integration provide?
 - Offline Aadhaar verification.

DEFENCE & SECURITY

‘ANJADIP’ ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE SHALLOW WATER CRAFT

- The Indian Navy received ‘Anjadip’, the third indigenously built _____ craft from GRSE.
 - Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC).
- Which organisation built the ‘Anjadip’ Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft?
 - Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata, in collaboration with L&T Shipyard, Kattupalli.
- Where was ‘Anjadip’ delivered to the Indian Navy?
 - INS Adyar, Chennai.
- What is the primary role of ‘Anjadip’ in the Indian Navy?
 - Detection and engagement of underwater threats in shallow coastal waters, strengthening anti-submarine warfare capabilities.

OPERATION SAHYADRI CHECKMATE

- Which organisation conducted Operation Sahyadri Checkmate?
 - Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI).
- In which region was Operation Sahyadri Checkmate conducted?
 - Sahyadri ranges.
- What was the main objective of Operation Sahyadri Checkmate?
 - To disrupt clandestine drug production networks in the remote Sahyadri forest region.
- What type of illegal facility was detected during Operation Sahyadri Checkmate?
 - A hidden mobile methamphetamine (mephedrone) laboratory disguised as a poultry farm.
- How much mephedrone was seized during Operation Sahyadri Checkmate?
 - 21.912 kg of mephedrone.
- What was the estimated illicit market value of the seized drugs and materials?
 - ₹55 crore.
- Which drug was primarily targeted during Operation Sahyadri Checkmate?
 - Mephedrone (a synthetic drug).
- What strategy was used by DRI during Operation Sahyadri Checkmate?
 - Intelligence-led surveillance and late-night interception.
- What is the significance of Operation Sahyadri Checkmate?
 - It helps prevent organised drug trafficking, protect public health, and disrupt criminal networks.

- **What is the role of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)?**
 - To investigate and prevent smuggling activities and economic offences, including illegal trafficking of contraband.

ASHOK CHAKRA 2026 – GROUP CAPTAIN SHUBHANSHU SHUKLA

- **Who conferred the Ashok Chakra to Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla during the 77th Republic Day 2026?**
 - President Droupadi Murmu.
- **Which gallantry award was awarded to Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla in 2026?**
 - Ashok Chakra.
- **What is the Ashok Chakra?**
 - India's highest peacetime gallantry award for acts of exceptional bravery, self-sacrifice, or valour.
- **The Ashok Chakra is equivalent in prestige to which wartime gallantry award?**
 - Param Vir Chakra.
- **Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla belongs to which organisation?**
 - Indian Air Force (IAF).
- **For which mission was Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla recognised with the Ashok Chakra?**
 - Axiom-4 space mission.
- **What historic achievement did Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla accomplish during the Axiom-4 mission?**
 - He became the first Indian astronaut to visit the International Space Station (ISS).
- **What does the recognition of Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla signify for India?**
 - It highlights India's growing capabilities in human space missions, aerospace achievements, and scientific contributions.
- **What type of acts are recognised through the Ashok Chakra award?**
 - Most conspicuous bravery or self-sacrifice during peacetime.
- **Which organisation operates the Axiom space missions?**
 - Axiom Space.

ECONOMY, INDUSTRY & FINANCE

NEW AIRLINES ENTRY INTO INDIAN AVIATION SECTOR

- **Which ministry has granted No Objection Certificates (NOCs) to new airlines Shankh Air, Al Hind Air and FlyExpress?**
 - Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- **After receiving NOC, which certificate is required by airlines to begin commercial flight operations?**
 - Air Operator Certificate (AOC) from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- **Which three new airlines have received NOCs to enter the Indian aviation sector?**

– Shankh Air, AI Hind Air and FlyExpress.

- **The entry of new regional and low-cost airlines is aligned with which government initiative for improving air connectivity?**
 - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) regional connectivity scheme.

PFRDA NPS OUTREACH FOR MSMES

- **Which statutory body conducted a specialized NPS outreach session for the MSME sector during the Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference?**
 - Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- **What was the primary objective of the PFRDA's NPS outreach session for the MSME sector?**
 - To encourage MSME owners and employees to adopt the National Pension System (NPS) and expand the social security net.
- **Which NPS model was highlighted by PFRDA for the MSME sector?**
 - NPS Corporate Sector Model.
- **Under which Act was the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) established?**
 - PFRDA Act, 2013.
- **What type of retirement savings scheme is the National Pension System (NPS)?**
 - A voluntary, defined contribution retirement savings scheme.
- **What is the full form of PRAN in the National Pension System (NPS)?**
 - Permanent Retirement Account Number.

INDIA'S FIRST TAILINGS POLICY

- **Which country has announced its first-ever Tailings Policy for mineral recovery?**
 - India.
- **What are tailings in the mining sector?**
 - Residual waste materials such as crushed rock, water, and chemicals left after extraction of valuable minerals from ore.
- **What is the primary objective of India's Tailings Policy?**
 - To recover critical and strategic minerals from mine waste such as tailings, mine dumps, slags, and overburden.
- **Which concept is promoted through the reprocessing of mining waste under the Tailings Policy?**
 - Circular economy in the mining sector.
- **Which organisations will lead the identification, sampling, and economic evaluation of secondary mineral resources under the policy?**
 - Geological Survey of India (GSI), Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), and Atomic Minerals Directorate (AMD).
- **Which critical minerals are expected to benefit from tailings reprocessing to reduce import dependence?**
 - Lithium, Cobalt, and Rare Earth Elements (REEs).

- **Which national mission is supported by the Tailings Policy for ensuring resource security?**
 - National Critical Mineral Mission.
- **Which ministries will coordinate for the implementation of the Tailings Policy?**
 - Ministries of Coal, Mines, Petroleum, and Atomic Energy.

INDIA POST-ONDC LOGISTICS INTEGRATION

- **Which organisation delivered its first-ever online order as a logistics service provider for ONDC?**
 - India Post (Department of Posts).
- **What product was delivered in the first online order handled by India Post for ONDC?**
 - Walnuts sourced from Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.
- **What was the role of India Post in the ONDC ecosystem?**
 - It acted as a Logistics Service Provider managing first-mile pickup to last-mile delivery.
- **What technology enabled the integration between India Post and ONDC?**
 - Integration of India Post's logistics software with the ONDC open protocol.
- **How many Post Offices does ONDC gain access to through India Post's onboarding?**
 - Over 1.6 lakh Post Offices.
- **Which government initiative receives a boost through India Post's ONDC integration by promoting regional products?**
 - One District One Product (ODOP) initiative.
- **How does India Post's integration with ONDC support rural entrepreneurs and MSMEs?**
 - By providing reliable logistics access, digital market connectivity, and promoting financial inclusion.

INDIA ENERGY WEEK (IEW) 2026

- **Where will the 4th edition of India Energy Week (IEW) 2026 be organised?**
 - Goa.
- **Under the patronage of which ministry is India Energy Week 2026 organised?**
 - Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- **What is the theme of India Energy Week 2026?**
 - “Energizing Growth, Securing Economies, and Enriching Lives.”
- **What are the three major pillars of India Energy Week 2026?**
 - Energy Security, Catalysing Investment, and Practical Decarbonisation Pathways.
- **Which sectors are covered under the energy spectrum of India Energy Week 2026?**
 - Fossil fuels, biofuels, hydrogen, and nuclear energy.
- **Which new zones have been added to the India Energy Week 2026 exhibition?**
 - Nuclear Energy and Sustainable Aviation Fuel zones.
- **Which initiatives at India Energy Week 2026 promote startups and innovation in the energy sector?**
 - Avinya 2026 and Hackathon Challenge 2026.

- **What is the significance of India Energy Week 2026 for India's energy sector?**
 - It promotes foreign investment, technology deployment, energy security, and clean energy transition.

MSME TECHNOLOGY CENTRES IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

- **Which ministry approved the establishment of two new MSME Technology Centres in Himachal Pradesh?**
 - Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME).
- **Where will the two new MSME Technology Centres be established in Himachal Pradesh?**
 - Pandoga industrial area in Una district and Parwanoo industrial area in Solan district.
- **What is the estimated cost of developing each MSME Technology Centre?**
 - Approximately ₹10 crore.
- **How many new Technology Centres/Extension Centres are planned to be established across India under this initiative?**
 - 13 new Technology Centres/Extension Centres.
- **What are the major objectives of MSME Technology Centres?**
 - To provide advanced technical support, innovation assistance, modern machinery, and skill development opportunities to industrial units.
- **Which advanced fields are being focused on for youth skill development under these centres?**
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Robotics.
- **Which existing MSME Technology Centre in Himachal Pradesh will be complemented by these new facilities?**
 - MSME Technology Centre, Baddi.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR REGULATORY AFFAIRS IN POWER SECTOR

- **Where was the Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Regulatory Affairs in the Power Sector inaugurated?**
 - IIT Delhi.
- **Which institutions jointly established the Centre of Excellence for Regulatory Affairs in the Power Sector?**
 - IIT Delhi, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), and Grid Controller of India Ltd. (Grid India).
- **What is the primary objective of the Centre of Excellence for Regulatory Affairs?**
 - To serve as a national hub for regulatory research, advisory support, capacity building, and knowledge dissemination in power sector regulation.
- **Which organisation provides regulatory leadership in the institutional model of the CoE?**
 - Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).
- **Which areas will be covered under the research focus of the Centre of Excellence?**
 - Power sector regulations, market design, grid operations, energy transition, decarbonisation, digitalisation, energy storage, and green hydrogen.

- **How will the Centre of Excellence contribute to India's energy transition?**
 - By supporting clean energy transition, competitive power markets, and consumer-centric reforms through evidence-based research.

PM SVANIDHI CREDIT CARD (2026)

- **Who launched the PM SVANidhi Credit Card for street vendors in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala?**
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **What does PM SVANidhi stand for?**
 - Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi.
- **When was the PM SVANidhi Scheme launched?**
 - June 2020.
- **Which ministry implements the PM SVANidhi Scheme?**
 - Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- **What is the main objective of the PM SVANidhi Credit Card?**
 - To provide instant access to affordable working capital and promote financial inclusion of street vendors.
- **What type of loans are provided under the PM SVANidhi Scheme?**
 - Collateral-free working capital loans.
- **Who are the major beneficiaries of the PM SVANidhi Scheme?**
 - Street vendors, hawkers, roadside sellers, cart vendors and other informal urban workers.
- **What digital payment platform is expected to be linked with the PM SVANidhi Credit Card?**
 - Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- **How does PM SVANidhi support financial inclusion?**
 - By integrating street vendors into the formal banking system, promoting digital payments and building their credit history.
- **Approximately how many street vendors received PM SVANidhi loans or credit cards in Kerala during the launch?**
 - Around 1 lakh street vendors.

PFRDA EXPERT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC ASSET ALLOCATION AND RISK GOVERNANCE (SAARG)

- **Which organisation has set up the Expert Committee on Strategic Asset Allocation and Risk Governance (SAARG)?**
 - Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- **What is the main objective of the SAARG Committee?**
 - To review and modernise the investment framework of the National Pension System (NPS).
- **The SAARG Committee is related to which pension scheme?**
 - National Pension System (NPS).

- **Who is the chairperson of the SAARG Committee?**
 - Narayan Ramachandran, former Country Head of Morgan Stanley India.
- **What areas will the SAARG Committee focus on for improving NPS?**
 - Strategic asset allocation, risk governance, diversification, risk management and expansion of investment choices.
- **What is the purpose of reviewing NPS investment guidelines by the SAARG Committee?**
 - To align India's pension fund management with global best practices and improve long-term retirement outcomes.
- **Which sectors' NPS investment guidelines will be reviewed by the SAARG Committee?**
 - Both government and non-government sectors.
- **Which regulatory authority governs the National Pension System in India?**
 - Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- **How will the SAARG Committee contribute to pension fund management?**
 - By improving portfolio resilience, optimising returns and strengthening risk mitigation strategies.
- **What broader objective does the SAARG initiative support?**
 - Deepening long-term domestic capital pools and enhancing financial security for an ageing population.

INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT & AVIATION

NHAI-KRCL MOU FOR INTEGRATED INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- **Which two organisations signed an MoU for integrated planning and development of road and rail infrastructure?**
 - National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL).
- **NHAI functions under which ministry of the Government of India?**
 - Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.
- **Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) functions under which ministry?**
 - Ministry of Railways.
- **What is the validity period of the NHAI-KRCL MoU?**
 - 5 years.
- **Which mechanism will monitor projects and guide execution under the NHAI-KRCL collaboration?**
 - Joint Working Group (JWG).
- **What is the main objective of the NHAI-KRCL MoU?**
 - To facilitate joint planning, coordination, and resource optimisation for road and rail infrastructure development.

- **Which areas of infrastructure development will be covered under the NHAI-KRCL cooperation?**
 - Tunnels, bridges, logistics hubs, project management, engineering design, construction methods, and environmental management.
- **What is the strategic significance of the NHAI-KRCL partnership?**
 - It enhances multimodal connectivity, improves logistics efficiency, and supports integrated infrastructure planning.

BHARAT FUTURE CITY – UAE-TELANGANA PARTNERSHIP

- **Which country has partnered with Telangana to develop Bharat Future City as a global urban and economic hub?**
 - United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- **During which global event was the UAE-Telangana collaboration for Bharat Future City announced?**
 - World Economic Forum (WEF) 2026.
- **Near which city will Bharat Future City be developed?**
 - Hyderabad, Telangana.
- **What is the vision behind Bharat Future City?**
 - To develop a next-generation, net-zero and sustainable city serving as a global hub for innovation, industry, and services.
- **Which sectors will have dedicated zones in Bharat Future City?**
 - Artificial Intelligence, education, healthcare, manufacturing, residential infrastructure, and entertainment.
- **What sustainability features are planned under Bharat Future City?**
 - Green infrastructure, clean energy, smart mobility, and low-carbon urban planning.
- **What mechanism will be formed to fast-track the planning and execution of Bharat Future City?**
 - A joint task force involving officials from the UAE and Telangana.

VIZHINJAM INTERNATIONAL SEAPORT EXPANSION

- **Where is the Vizhinjam International Seaport located?**
 - Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- **What is the significance of Vizhinjam International Seaport?**
 - It is India's first deep-water transshipment port.
- **Which ministry is responsible for the development of Vizhinjam International Seaport?**
 - Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- **By when is the entire Vizhinjam port project targeted for completion after the revised timeline?**
 - December 2028.
- **What is the total estimated cost of the Vizhinjam International Seaport project after expansion?**
 - Nearly ₹16,000 crore.

- **What will be the length of the extended container berth at Vizhinjam Port?**
– 2 kilometres.
- **How much will the operational capacity of Vizhinjam Port increase after expansion?**
– From 1 million TEUs to 5.7 million TEUs per annum.
- **How many mother vessels can Vizhinjam Port handle simultaneously after expansion?**
– Up to five mother vessels.
- **When did Phase I of Vizhinjam International Seaport commence commercial operations?**
– December 3, 2024.
- **Which foreign transshipment hub is India aiming to reduce dependence on through the expansion of Vizhinjam Port?**
– Colombo Port, Sri Lanka.

STEEL SLAG ROAD TECHNOLOGY – CSIR-CRRI & JSW STEEL COLLABORATION

- **Which organisations partnered to construct roads using steel slag technology in Tamil Nadu?**
– CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI) and JSW Steel Limited, Salem Works.
- **What is the primary objective of using steel slag in road construction?**
– To convert industrial waste from steel manufacturing into high-quality aggregates for durable and eco-friendly roads.
- **Which technology developed by CSIR-CRRI is being used for steel slag roads?**
– Patented Steel Slag Road Technology.
- **Steel slag used in road construction is a by-product of which industry?**
– Steel manufacturing industry.
- **Which types of steel slag will be processed into aggregates under this project?**
– Electric Optimization Furnace (EOF) and Ladle Refining Furnace (LRF) steel slag.
- **In which state is the first steel slag road technology project being implemented?**
– Tamil Nadu.
- **Which organisation developed the Steel Slag Road Technology?**
– Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI).
- **In which states has steel slag road technology previously been implemented?**
– Gujarat, Jharkhand, and Arunachal Pradesh.
- **What concept is promoted by using industrial waste for infrastructure development?**
– Circular economy.
- **What are the major environmental benefits of steel slag road technology?**
– Reduction in carbon footprint, conservation of natural resources, and reduced dependence on natural aggregates.

WINGS INDIA 2026

- **Where will Wings India 2026, Asia's largest civil aviation event, be held?**
 - Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad.
- **Which ministry announced the organisation of Wings India 2026?**
 - Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- **What is the theme of Wings India 2026?**
 - “Indian Aviation: Paving the Future–From Design to Deployment, Manufacturing to Maintenance, Inclusivity to Innovation and Safety to Sustainability.”
- **What type of event is Wings India 2026?**
 - A global civil aviation exhibition and conference covering the entire aviation value chain.
- **Which aviation sectors are covered under Wings India 2026?**
 - Airports, airlines, aircraft manufacturing, Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO), and logistics.
- **Which government scheme for regional air connectivity is promoted through Wings India 2026?**
 - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme.
- **What are the major focus areas of Wings India 2026?**
 - Aircraft manufacturing, MRO, aerospace component production, aircraft leasing, air cargo, drones, and advanced air mobility.
- **Which sustainable aviation initiatives are highlighted at Wings India 2026?**
 - Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), green airports, and digital and eco-friendly aviation technologies.
- **What is the significance of Wings India 2026 for India's aviation sector?**
 - It promotes innovation, investment, manufacturing capabilities, sustainability, and growth of India's civil aviation industry.

ELECTRONIC PERSONNEL LICENCE (EPL) FOR ATPL

- **Which organisation launched the Electronic Personnel Licence (EPL) services for Airline Transport Pilot Licence (ATPL)?**
 - Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- **What is the Electronic Personnel Licence (EPL)?**
 - A secure digital licence for pilots with ICAO-aligned security features.
- **What is the primary objective of the Electronic Personnel Licence (EPL)?**
 - To ensure authenticity, tamper-proofing, and real-time online verification of pilot licences.
- **Through which platform can pilots access and manage their Electronic Personnel Licence?**
 - Electronic DGCA (eGCA) mobile application.
- **For which licences had DGCA earlier introduced EPL services before ATPL?**
 - Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL) and Flight Radio Telephone Operator's (Restricted) Licence (FRTOL).

- Which international organisation's security standards are incorporated into the Electronic Personnel Licence (EPL)?
 - International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
- Which government initiatives are supported by the Electronic Personnel Licence (EPL)?
 - Digital India and Ease of Doing Business.

MATABARI TOURISM CIRCUIT – TRIPURA

- Who laid the foundation stone of the ₹450 crore Matabari Tourism Circuit in Tripura?
 - Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia.
- Where was the foundation stone of the Matabari Tourism Circuit laid?
 - Dumbur Lake, Tripura.
- What is the main objective of the Matabari Tourism Circuit?
 - To develop an integrated spiritual-eco tourism corridor connecting heritage and natural sites of Tripura.
- Which ministry is providing ₹276 crore for the Matabari Tourism Circuit project?
 - Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER).
- Which major tourist destinations are included in the Matabari Tourism Circuit?
 - Tripura Sundari Temple, Chabimura rock carvings, and Dumbur Lake.
- What major facilities will be developed under the Matabari Tourism Circuit?
 - Floating jetties, eco-friendly resorts, and tourist amenities.
- What is the significance of the Matabari Tourism Circuit for Tripura?
 - It aims to promote Tripura as a regional tourism hub and support the vision of a Developed Northeast.
- What is the objective of the ₹80 crore agarwood value-chain project announced in Tripura?
 - To enhance farmers' income and promote agro-forestry.
- Under which initiative have 22 engineered bamboo projects been approved in Tripura?
 - Green Gold initiative.
- Which national policy vision is supported by the Matabari Tourism Circuit?
 - Act East Policy and the vision of a Developed Northeast.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

PARAM SHAKTI SUPERCOMPUTER

- At which institution was the PARAM SHAKTI supercomputer inaugurated by MeitY?
 - Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras).
- Under which mission has the PARAM SHAKTI supercomputer been developed?
 - National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

- **What is the computing capacity of the PARAM SHAKTI supercomputer?**
– 3.1 Petaflop.
- **Which indigenous server series developed by C-DAC has been used in PARAM SHAKTI?**
– C-DAC's RUDRA server series.
- **PARAM SHAKTI is the _____ supercomputer installed across Indian academic institutions under the National Supercomputing Mission.**
– 37th supercomputer.

INDIA'S FIRST SOVEREIGN AI PARK

- **Which state signed an MoU with Sarvam AI to establish India's first Sovereign AI Park?**
– Tamil Nadu.
- **Where will India's first Sovereign AI Park be established?**
– Chennai.
- **Which company partnered with the Tamil Nadu government to establish the Sovereign AI Park?**
– Sarvam AI.
- **What type of infrastructure will be developed under the Sovereign AI Park?**
– Full-stack AI infrastructure including GPU-based data centres, indigenous Large Language Models (LLMs), and AI application tools.
- **What is the primary focus of the Indic-Centric AI initiative under the park?**
– Development of Indic Large Language Models (LLMs), especially Tamil-language AI models.
- **What does the term 'Sovereign AI' refer to?**
– A nation's or state's capability to build AI using its own infrastructure, data, and human capital.
- **Which central government mission does the Sovereign AI Park align with?**
– IndiaAI Mission.
- **Which agency will coordinate with the Tamil Nadu government for AI integration in public service delivery?**
– Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA).

HOPE ISLAND SATELLITE LAUNCHING FACILITY

- **In which state is the proposed satellite launching facility on Hope Island being developed?**
– Andhra Pradesh.
- **Where is the proposed satellite launching facility located?**
– Hope Island in Kakinada Bay, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Hope Island is located at what approximate distance from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota?**
– About 600 km.
- **Under which project is the Hope Island satellite launching facility being developed?**
– Space City Project.
- **Which company is collaborating in the development of the satellite launching facility?**
– Greenko Group.

- **What strategic advantage does Hope Island provide for satellite launches?**
 - Coastal location enabling suitable launch trajectories over the Bay of Bengal with minimal population risk.

C-DOT CELL BROADCAST SOLUTION

- **Which organisation received the SKOCH Award 2025 for its Cell Broadcast Solution?**
 - Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT).
- **At which event was the SKOCH Award 2025 presented to C-DOT?**
 - 104th SKOCH Summit, New Delhi.
- **What is the primary purpose of C-DOT's Cell Broadcast Solution?**
 - To provide public safety, disaster communication, and emergency alert services.
- **What is the key feature of the Cell Broadcast Solution developed by C-DOT?**
 - Geo-targeted real-time emergency alerts to mobile users in specific high-risk areas.
- **In how many Indian languages can C-DOT's Cell Broadcast Solution disseminate alerts?**
 - 21 Indian languages.
- **Which international standard is supported by C-DOT's Cell Broadcast Solution for emergency alerts?**
 - ITU's Common Alerting Protocol (CAP).
- **Which global initiative is aligned with C-DOT's Cell Broadcast Solution?**
 - United Nations' "Early Warnings for All" initiative.
- **Which mobile network technologies are supported by the Cell Broadcast Solution?**
 - 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G technologies.

INDIA'S FIRST PRIVATE SATELLITE AND ELECTRO-OPTICAL PAYLOAD MANUFACTURING PLANT

- **Where has India's first private satellite and electro-optical payload manufacturing plant been established?**
 - Sanand, Gujarat.
- **What is the name of India's first integrated private satellite and payload manufacturing facility?**
 - Palmnaro Electro-Optical Payload Facility.
- **Which company is developing the Palmnaro Electro-Optical Payload Facility?**
 - Azista Space Systems.
- **Where is the Palmnaro Electro-Optical Payload Facility located?**
 - Khoraj Industrial Estate, Sanand, Gujarat.
- **What is the significance of India's first private satellite and payload manufacturing plant?**
 - It marks the entry of the private sector into advanced satellite manufacturing, a field earlier dominated by ISRO and PSUs.
- **What is the primary objective of the Palmnaro Electro-Optical Payload Facility?**
 - To indigenise electro-optical payloads, reduce import dependence, and strengthen domestic space supply chains.

- **What are the major applications of the payloads manufactured at the facility?**
 - Earth observation, defence, agriculture, environment monitoring, and disaster management.
- **The establishment of this facility supports which national initiative?**
 - Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) vision.

MICROSOFT MAIA 200 AI CHIP (2026)

- **What is the name of Microsoft's second-generation AI chip launched for large-scale AI workloads?**
 - Maia 200.
- **Which company's 3nm process technology is used to manufacture Microsoft Maia 200 chip?**
 - Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC).
- **Approximately how many transistors does the Microsoft Maia 200 AI chip contain?**
 - Over 140 billion transistors.
- **What type of memory technology is used in Microsoft Maia 200 for high-speed AI processing?**
 - HBM3e (High Bandwidth Memory).
- **How much HBM3e memory is provided in the Maia 200 AI chip?**
 - 216 GB HBM3e memory.
- **Which companies are developing custom AI chips similar to Microsoft's Maia series?**
 - Google (TPU) and Amazon (Trainium).
- **What is the main objective behind Microsoft developing custom AI silicon?**
 - To reduce dependence on third-party chip suppliers like Nvidia and lower AI operational costs.
- **Which open-source compiler did Microsoft release with OpenAI to compete with Nvidia's CUDA ecosystem?**
 - Triton compiler.
- **What performance improvement does Maia 200 provide compared to current systems in terms of performance-per-dollar?**
 - Around 30% improvement.
- **What is the strategic significance of Microsoft Maia 200?**
 - It strengthens Microsoft's AI hardware ecosystem and helps manage the rising costs of large-scale AI operations.

GOOGLE DEEPMIND ALPHAGENOME AI TOOL (2026)

- **What is the name of the artificial intelligence tool launched by Google DeepMind to study genetic mutations?**
 - AlphaGenome.
- **What is the main objective of Google DeepMind's AlphaGenome?**
 - To predict how genetic mutations influence gene regulation and contribute to human diseases.
- **Which part of the human genome is primarily analysed by AlphaGenome?**
 - Non-coding (regulatory) DNA regions.

- **Approximately what percentage of the human genome consists of non-coding DNA regions?**
 - About 98%.
- **How many DNA base pairs can AlphaGenome analyse simultaneously?**
 - Up to one million DNA base pairs.
- **Which biological processes can AlphaGenome predict through DNA analysis?**
 - Gene expression, RNA splicing, chromatin accessibility and regulatory activity.
- **Which diseases can AlphaGenome help identify genetic drivers of?**
 - Cancer, cardiovascular disorders, autoimmune diseases and neurological conditions.
- **What type of datasets were used to train AlphaGenome?**
 - Large-scale public genomic datasets from humans and mice.
- **In what form was AlphaGenome released for scientific collaboration?**
 - As an Application Programming Interface (API) for non-commercial research use.

ASC ARJUN HUMANOID ROBOT

- **At which railway station has Indian Railways deployed the humanoid robot 'ASC ARJUN'?**
 - Visakhapatnam Railway Station, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Which organisation developed the humanoid robot ASC ARJUN?**
 - Railway Protection Force (RPF), Visakhapatnam.
- **What is the significance of ASC ARJUN's deployment in Indian Railways?**
 - It is the first deployment of a humanoid robot on the Indian Railways network.
- **What are the major security features of ASC ARJUN?**
 - Face Recognition System (FRS), AI-based crowd monitoring, and real-time connection with RPF control rooms.
- **In which languages can ASC ARJUN make automated public announcements?**
 - English, Hindi, and Telugu.
- **What navigation capability does ASC ARJUN possess?**
 - Semi-autonomous navigation with obstacle avoidance capabilities.
- **Which emergency detection systems are integrated into ASC ARJUN?**
 - Fire and smoke detection systems.
- **What is the primary objective of deploying ASC ARJUN at railway stations?**
 - To enhance passenger safety, security, assistance, and optimize manpower utilisation.

CENTRE FOR THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION (C4IR) – ANDHRA PRADESH

- **Which organisation announced the establishment of a new Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) in Andhra Pradesh?**
 - World Economic Forum (WEF).
- **What is the focus area of the new C4IR centre to be established in Andhra Pradesh?**
 - Energy systems and cybersecurity strategies.
- **The Indian C4IR centre is referred to as which type of centre?**
 - Centre for Energy and Cyber Resilience.

- **Which emerging technologies will be the focus areas of the new C4IR centres?**
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI), frontier technologies, energy transition, and cyber resilience.
- **Which countries are included in the global expansion of new Centres for the Fourth Industrial Revolution by WEF?**
 - France, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, and India.
- **What is the main objective of the WEF 4IR Network?**
 - To align emerging technologies with governance and societal needs.
- **What type of collaboration model will be followed by the new C4IR centres?**
 - Collaboration among governments, industries, and experts to develop scalable policy frameworks and pilot projects.
- **What is the strategic significance of the C4IR centre in Andhra Pradesh?**
 - It will enhance technology governance, sustainable innovation, and workforce development in digital and energy sectors.

IITM GLOBAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

- **IITM Global Research Foundation was launched at which institution?**
 - Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras).
- **Who launched the IITM Global Research Foundation?**
 - External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar.
- **What is the primary objective of the IITM Global Research Foundation?**
 - To position IIT Madras as the world's first multinational university by expanding global research, education and innovation collaborations.
- **Which of the following is a focus area of the IITM Global Research Foundation?**
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI), Data Science, Quantum Technologies, Cybersecurity, Energy, Water Systems, Health Technologies and Green Technologies.

GOOGLE'S AI FOR LEARNING FORUM

- **Which university has been selected for India's first AI-enabled state university pilot?**
 - Chaudhary Charan Singh University (CCSU), Meerut.
- **The AI-enabled state university pilot is a collaboration between which organisations?**
 - Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Google Cloud and Chaudhary Charan Singh University (CCSU), Meerut.
- **CCSU will serve as a national _____ for deploying and testing AI tools in education and administration.**
 - "Living laboratory".
- **What is the main objective of integrating AI into India's education and skilling ecosystem?**
 - To provide personalised learning, bridge skill gaps, and create an inclusive technology-driven education system.

FEDERATED INTELLIGENCE HACKATHON

- **The Federated Intelligence Hackathon was organised by which organisations?**
 - National Health Authority (NHA) in collaboration with IIT Kanpur and ICMR–National Institute for Research in Digital Health and Data Science (NIRDHDS).
- **What was the main objective of the Federated Intelligence Hackathon?**
 - To develop secure, scalable and privacy-preserving Digital Public Goods (DPGs) for Health Artificial Intelligence.
- **Which type of AI model was promoted through the Federated Intelligence Hackathon?**
 - Federated AI models that enable privacy-preserving learning without centralising sensitive health data.

ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY & WILDLIFE

KALAI-II HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

- **In which state is the 1,200 MW Kalai-II Hydroelectric Project proposed?**
 - Arunachal Pradesh.
- **The Kalai-II Hydroelectric Project is proposed on which river?**
 - Lohit River.
- **Which company will implement the Kalai-II Hydroelectric Project?**
 - THDC India Ltd.
- **The critically endangered white-bellied heron (*Ardea insignis*), associated with the Kalai-II project controversy, prefers which type of habitat?**
 - Free-flowing riverine habitats with low disturbance.

ARALAM BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY

- **Which wildlife sanctuary in Kerala has been renamed as the Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary?**
 - Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary, Kannur district.
- **Under which Act was the renaming of Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary officially notified?**
 - The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- **Approximately how many butterfly species are found in Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary?**
 - About 266 butterfly species (over 80% of Kerala's butterfly diversity).
- **How many butterfly species in Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary are endemic to the Western Ghats?**
 - 27 species.
- **How many butterfly species recorded in Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary are listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972?**
 - Six species.

- **Why is Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary globally significant?**
 - It is part of the Western Ghats, a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site, known for its exceptional biodiversity and endemism.

KAMALA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

- **What is the installed capacity of the Kamala Hydroelectric Project?**
 - 1720 MW.
- **On which river is the Kamala Hydroelectric Project being developed?**
 - Kamala River (a tributary of the Subansiri River).
- **What type of hydropower project is the Kamala Hydroelectric Project?**
 - A storage-cum-run-of-the-river project.
- **In which district of Arunachal Pradesh is the Kamala Hydroelectric Project located?**
 - Kamle district.
- **The Kamala River is a tributary of which major river?**
 - Subansiri River.
- **Which national target does the Kamala Hydroelectric Project support?**
 - India's target of achieving 500 GW of non-fossil energy capacity by 2030.

NIRANTAR PLATFORM

- **What is the NIRANTAR Platform launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change?**
 - A digital unified dashboard for strengthening coordination among environmental institutions.
- **Which ministry is responsible for operationalizing the NIRANTAR Platform?**
 - Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- **Which organisations are integrated through the NIRANTAR Dashboard?**
 - Pollution Control Boards (CPCB/SPCBs), Forest Survey of India (FSI), and Zoological Survey of India (ZSI).
- **What is the primary objective of the NIRANTAR Platform?**
 - To enable real-time monitoring and improve data integration for environmental policymaking.
- **Which earlier digital initiative of MoEFCC is complemented by the NIRANTAR Platform?**
 - PARIVESH (for environmental clearances).
- **Which Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are supported by the NIRANTAR Platform?**
 - SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 15 (Life on Land).

NAMAMI GANGE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION PROJECTS

- **Who inaugurated the aquatic biodiversity conservation projects under Namami Gange at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun?**
 - Union Jal Shakti Minister Shri C. R. Paatil.

- **What is the name of the dedicated national hub established for freshwater biodiversity monitoring under Namami Gange?**
 - Aqua Life Conservation Monitoring Centre for Ganga and Other Rivers.
- **Which organisation launched the Dolphin Rescue Ambulance for distressed Ganga dolphins?**
 - TSAFI.
- **Which rare bird species conservation project was launched in collaboration with the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)?**
 - Indian Skimmer Conservation Project.
- **Which two species received new conservation plans under the Namami Gange initiative?**
 - Gangetic Dolphin and Hilsa Fish.
- **What new focus areas were added under Namami Gange Phase II apart from “Aviral” and “Nirmal” Ganga?**
 - Gyan Ganga (research) and Arth Ganga (economic sustainability).

GEGENEOPHIS VALMIKI – NEW BLIND CAECILIAN SPECIES

- **Which new species of blind caecilian was discovered from the Western Ghats of Maharashtra?**
 - Gegeneophis valmiki.
- **From which location was Gegeneophis valmiki discovered?**
 - Valmiki Plateau in Satara district, Maharashtra.
- **Which organisation led the research team involved in the discovery of Gegeneophis valmiki?**
 - Zoological Survey of India (ZSI).
- **Gegeneophis valmiki belongs to which group of animals?**
 - Caecilians, a group of limbless amphibians.
- **Why is Gegeneophis valmiki called a “blind caecilian”?**
 - Because its eyes are hidden beneath bone and it is adapted to underground life.
- **What is the ecological role of caecilians in agricultural ecosystems?**
 - They improve soil structure through burrowing and feed on soil invertebrates.
- **The discovery of Gegeneophis valmiki highlights the biodiversity importance of which region?**
 - Western Ghats, a global biodiversity hotspot.

STRIPED TIGER BUTTERFLY – STATE BUTTERFLY OF CHANDIGARH

- **Which butterfly has been declared as the State Butterfly of Chandigarh?**
 - Striped Tiger Butterfly.
- **Which body officially declared the Striped Tiger Butterfly as the State Butterfly of Chandigarh?**
 - State Board of Wildlife (SBWL), Chandigarh.

- **How was the Striped Tiger Butterfly selected as the State Butterfly of Chandigarh?**
 - Through an online public voting process.
- **What percentage of votes did the Striped Tiger Butterfly receive during the selection process?**
 - About 54% of the total votes.
- **Which butterfly species were the other shortlisted contenders for Chandigarh's State Butterfly?**
 - Blue Tiger, Plain Tiger, and Jezebel.
- **In which protected areas of Chandigarh is the Striped Tiger Butterfly commonly found?**
 - Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary and Sector 26 Butterfly Park.
- **Under which Schedule of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 is the Striped Tiger Butterfly listed?**
 - Schedule I.
- **What unique defence mechanism is shown by the Striped Tiger Butterfly?**
 - It is unpalatable (distasteful) to predators.

88TH MEETING OF STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILDLIFE (SC-NBWL)

- **Who chaired the 88th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL)?**
 - Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav.
- **Where was the 88th Meeting of SC-NBWL held?**
 - New Delhi.
- **How many proposals related to Protected Areas, Tiger Reserves, and Eco-Sensitive Zones were addressed by SC-NBWL?**
 - 70 proposals.
- **How many defence-related proposals were approved by SC-NBWL?**
 - 17 proposals.
- **Which regions were the major focus areas for defence-related infrastructure proposals?**
 - Ladakh and Sikkim.
- **Which portal was highlighted for improving transparency in wildlife clearance processes?**
 - PARIVESH Portal.
- **Which region will benefit from the medium irrigation project considered by SC-NBWL for water security?**
 - Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh.
- **Which wildlife species was specifically mentioned in relation to improving habitat conditions through the irrigation project?**
 - Gharial.

KERALA'S ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) ADOPTION

- **Which state emerged as a leading state in India for personal electric vehicle (EV) adoption in 2025?**
 - Kerala.

- **What percentage of EVs in Kerala were personal vehicles in 2025?**
– Around 93.4%.
- **How many electric vehicles were sold in Kerala in 2025?**
– Around 80,261 EVs.
- **What was the increase in total vehicle registrations recorded by Kerala in 2025?**
– 12.8%.
- **Which year's EV policy laid the foundation for electric vehicle adoption in Kerala?**
– Kerala EV Policy, 2019.
- **What measures by the Kerala government encouraged EV adoption?**
– State subsidies, tax benefits, and reduced registration fees.

BACILLUS SUBTILIS – KERALA'S STATE MICROBE (2026)

- **Which state became the first Indian state to declare a microorganism as its State Microbe?**
– Kerala.
- **Which microorganism has been declared as Kerala's State Microbe?**
– Bacillus subtilis.
- **Bacillus subtilis is commonly known by which name?**
– Hay Bacillus.
- **What type of microorganism is Bacillus subtilis?**
– A Gram-positive, rod-shaped bacterium.
- **Where is Bacillus subtilis commonly found?**
– Soil, fermented foods and the gastrointestinal tract of humans and ruminants.
- **Why is Bacillus subtilis considered a resilient bacterium?**
– Due to its ability to form protective endospores that help it survive extreme conditions like heat and drought.
- **What does GRAS status indicate about Bacillus subtilis?**
– It is Generally Regarded As Safe for use in food and related applications.
- **Which traditional Japanese fermented food contains Bacillus subtilis?**
– Natto.
- **How does recognising Bacillus subtilis support the concept of 'One Health'?**
– It highlights the interconnectedness of human health, animal health and environmental health.
- **How can promoting beneficial bacteria like Bacillus subtilis help combat Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)?**
– By increasing awareness about microbiomes and reducing irrational antibiotic use.
- **Kerala aims to develop leadership in which field through this initiative?**
– Microbial Biotechnology.

ATLAS OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION IN INDIAN AGRICULTURE (ACASA-INDIA) & NICRA

- **Which organisations jointly organised the workshop for NICRA review and launch of ACASA-India?**
 - Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Borlaug Institute for South Asia (BISA).
- **What is ACASA-India?**
 - A web-enabled digital Climate Atlas for location-specific, data-driven climate adaptation planning in Indian agriculture.
- **Which organisation developed the ACASA-India digital platform?**
 - ICAR-led National Agricultural Research and Extension System (NARES) in collaboration with BISA-CIMMYT.
- **What does ACASA-India map and identify for agricultural adaptation?**
 - Climate risks and adaptation options for 15 crops and six livestock species.
- **When was the National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) launched?**
 - 2011.
- **What is the primary objective of NICRA?**
 - To enhance agricultural resilience to climate change through technology demonstration and research.
- **NICRA is currently implemented across how many climate-vulnerable districts?**
 - 151 climate-vulnerable districts.
- **How many climate-resilient crop varieties have been developed under NICRA?**
 - 11 climate-resilient crop varieties.
- **Which approach is being promoted for the future roadmap of NICRA under Viksit Bharat 2047?**
 - Landscape-level climate resilience interventions instead of only individual farm-level approaches.

HEALTH & MEDICINE

INDIA'S FIRST 3D FLEX AQUEOUS ANGIOGRAPHY WITH ISTENT

- **Where was India's first 3D Flex Aqueous Angiography with iStent performed?**
 - Army Hospital, Delhi Cantt.
- **The 3D Flex Aqueous Angiography with iStent procedure is related to the treatment of which disease?**
 - Glaucoma.
- **What is the function of the iStent device used in glaucoma treatment?**
 - It facilitates aqueous outflow and reduces intraocular pressure in glaucoma patients.
- **Which advanced technologies were used during India's first 3D Flex Aqueous Angiography with iStent procedure?**
 - Stand-mounted Spectralis system and a 3D operating microscope.

NTPC–GCRI RADIOTHERAPY SERVICES UPGRADE

- **NTPC Western Region signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with which institute for upgrading radiotherapy services?**
– Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute (GCRI).
- **Under the CSR initiative, NTPC will provide funding of how much amount for radiotherapy service upgradation?**
– ₹23.16 crore.
- **Which advanced medical equipment will be installed at Siddhpur Satellite Centre, Ahmedabad under this project?**
– High-energy Linear Accelerator (LINAC).
- **The NTPC–GCRI initiative contributes to which Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)?**
– SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

INDIA'S FIRST STATE-FUNDED BSL-4 LABORATORY

- **In which state is India's first state-funded Biosafety Level 4 (BSL-4) laboratory being established?**
– Gujarat.
- **What is the significance of India's first state-funded BSL-4 laboratory?**
– It marks a shift towards decentralized high-containment research beyond centrally funded institutions.
- **Which biosafety modules will be included in the integrated high-containment laboratory complex?**
– BSL-4, BSL-3, and BSL-2 modules.
- **Which animal biosafety modules are included in the laboratory facility?**
– ABSL-3 and ABSL-4 modules.
- **Which existing institution operates India's centrally funded BSL-4 laboratory?**
– National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune.
- **Which approach is supported by the integration of Animal Biosafety (ABSL) modules in the laboratory?**
– One Health Approach.

MOBILE 'ASHA VAN' FOR CANCER SCREENING

- **Which state inaugurated the mobile 'Asha Van' for early cancer detection?**
– Gujarat.
- **Who inaugurated the mobile 'Asha Van' in Gandhinagar?**
– Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel.
- **The mobile 'Asha Van' is equipped with which diagnostic technologies?**
– Enhanced Visual Assessment (EVA)-Pro diagnostics, mammography machine and tele-consultation services.
- **What is the primary objective of the 'Asha Van' initiative?**
– To provide early detection and screening of multiple cancers, especially in rural and remote areas.

POSHAN UDAAN 2026

- Which state launched the 'Poshan Udaan 2026' initiative?
– Gujarat.
- During which festival was the 'Poshan Udaan 2026' campaign launched?
– Makar Sankranti festival.
- What is the primary objective of the 'Poshan Udaan 2026' initiative?
– To spread nutrition and health awareness through community engagement.
- Under which government programme is Poshan Udaan 2026 implemented?
– Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS).
- Which department of Gujarat government organised the Poshan Udaan 2026 campaign?
– Department of Women and Child Development, Gujarat.
- Which groups are the major beneficiaries targeted under the Poshan Udaan 2026 initiative?
– Children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and local communities.
- What health interventions are included under Poshan Udaan 2026?
– Haemoglobin testing, IFA tablet distribution, BMI check-ups, and personalised nutrition counselling.

NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR TRIBAL HEALERS

- Which ministry launched the National Capacity Building Programme for Tribal Healers?
– Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- Where was the National Capacity Building Programme for Tribal Healers launched?
– Kanha Shanti Vanam, Hyderabad, Telangana.
- Who addressed the National Capacity Building Programme for Tribal Healers?
– Jual Oram, Union Minister of Tribal Affairs.
- What is the primary objective of the National Capacity Building Programme for Tribal Healers?
– To recognise tribal healers as partners in public health outreach and strengthen last-mile healthcare delivery in tribal regions.
- Under which project is the Bharat Tribal Health Observatory (B-THO) being established?
– Project DRISTI.
- Which organisation collaborated with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to establish the Bharat Tribal Health Observatory (B-THO)?
– ICMR-Regional Medical Research Centre, Bhubaneswar.
- What is the purpose of the Bharat Tribal Health Observatory (B-THO)?
– To collect, analyse, and share tribe-disaggregated health data for better healthcare planning, disease monitoring, and research.

SPORTS

NATIONAL OLYMPIC EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NOEDP)

- Which organisation launched the National Olympic Education and Development Programme (NOEDP)?
– Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
- What is the primary objective of the National Olympic Education and Development Programme (NOEDP)?
– To strengthen India's Olympic ecosystem from grassroots sports to elite levels.
- Which institution has been reactivated as the central hub for Olympic education under NOEDP?
– National Olympic Academy (NOA).
- Where is the National Olympic Academy (NOA) located?
– Ahmedabad.
- Who has been appointed as the President of the National Olympic Academy (NOA)?
– P. T. Usha.
- Who has been appointed as the Director of the National Olympic Academy (NOA)?
– Gagan Narang.
- The National Olympic Academy will collaborate with which international institution to align with global Olympic standards?
– International Olympic Academy, Olympia.

AMELIA VALVERDE – HEAD COACH OF INDIAN SENIOR WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM

- Who has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian Senior Women's National Football Team?
– Amelia Valverde.
- Which organisation appointed Amelia Valverde as the head coach of the Indian Senior Women's National Team?
– All India Football Federation (AIFF).
- Amelia Valverde belongs to which country?
– Costa Rica.
- From which year to which year did Amelia Valverde serve as the head coach of the Costa Rica Women's National Team?
– 2015 to 2023.
- Which major football tournaments did Amelia Valverde help Costa Rica qualify for?
– FIFA Women's World Cups 2015 and 2023.

- **Which AIFF roadmap is aligned with the appointment of Amelia Valverde?**
 - AIFF’s Vision 2047 roadmap.
- **Which organisation governs football in Asia and is relevant to India’s football development goals?**
 - Asian Football Confederation (AFC).

KHELO INDIA WINTER GAMES (KIWG) 2026

- **Where was the sixth edition of the Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG) 2026 inaugurated?**
 - Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh.
- **Who inaugurated the Khelo India Winter Games 2026?**
 - Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta.
- **Which organisations are responsible for organising the Khelo India Winter Games 2026?**
 - Youth Services and Sports Department of Ladakh UT under the supervision of Sports Authority of India (SAI).
- **Which new sports discipline was added to the Khelo India Winter Games 2026 programme for the first time?**
 - Figure skating.
- **The Khelo India Winter Games 2026 are being conducted in which two locations?**
 - Ice sports in Leh and snow events in Gulmarg (Jammu & Kashmir).
- **Which authority supervises the Khelo India Winter Games?**
 - Sports Authority of India (SAI).
- **What are the major objectives of Ladakh’s first Sports Policy?**
 - Talent identification, inclusive sports promotion, support for women and Divyang athletes, scholarships, job reservations, and development of sports infrastructure.

ICC MEN’S T20 WORLD CUP 2026 – BANGLADESH REPLACEMENT BY SCOTLAND

- **Which team replaced Bangladesh in the ICC Men’s T20 World Cup 2026?**
 - Scotland.
- **Which two countries are co-hosting the ICC Men’s T20 World Cup 2026?**
 - India and Sri Lanka.
- **Why did Bangladesh withdraw from the ICC Men’s T20 World Cup 2026?**
 - Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) refused to send its team to India citing security and safety concerns.
- **What was the outcome of the ICC’s independent security assessment regarding Bangladesh’s participation?**
 - It found no credible or verifiable security threat to the Bangladesh contingent in India.
- **Which team was selected as Bangladesh’s replacement in the tournament?**
 - Scotland.

- **What was Scotland's position in the ICC T20 International rankings at the time of selection?**
– 14th position.
- **In which group has Scotland been placed in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026?**
– Group C.
- **Which teams will compete with Scotland in Group C of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026?**
– England, West Indies, Italy, and Nepal.
- **What was the main objective behind replacing Bangladesh with Scotland in the tournament?**
– To maintain the 20-team structure and ensure smooth conduct of the tournament.

BCCI-GOOGLE GEMINI IPL SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

- **Which organisation signed a sponsorship agreement with Google's AI platform Gemini ahead of IPL 2026?**
– Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).
- **Which Google AI platform became the sponsor of IPL 2026?**
– Gemini.
- **What is the value of the BCCI-Gemini sponsorship agreement?**
– ₹270 crore.
- **What is the duration of the BCCI-Gemini sponsorship deal?**
– Three years.
- **From which IPL season will the Gemini sponsorship agreement begin?**
– IPL 2026 season.
- **What major trend does the BCCI-Gemini partnership highlight in sports sponsorship?**
– Increasing participation of AI and technology-driven brands in sports marketing.
- **Which regulatory change created opportunities for technology brands to enter major sports sponsorships in India?**
– Ban on real-money gaming and fantasy platforms from major sponsorship roles.
- **What future trend in sports engagement is highlighted by the BCCI-Gemini partnership?**
– Use of AI, data-driven insights, and personalised fan experiences in sports entertainment.

NOVAK DJOKOVIC – 400 GRAND SLAM SINGLES MATCH WINS (AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2026)

- **Who became the first tennis player in history to achieve 400 Grand Slam singles match wins?**
– Novak Djokovic.
- **At which tournament did Novak Djokovic achieve the milestone of 400 Grand Slam singles victories?**
– Australian Open 2026
- **Novak Djokovic belongs to which country?**
– Serbia.
- **Against whom did Novak Djokovic secure his 400th Grand Slam singles victory?**
– Botic van de Zandschulp.

- **How many Grand Slam singles titles has Novak Djokovic won?**
– 24 Grand Slam titles.
- **Whose record of 102 Australian Open match wins did Novak Djokovic equal after achieving this milestone?**
– Roger Federer.
- **Which unique surface-related record did Novak Djokovic achieve after this victory?**
– He became the first male player to win 100 or more matches on all three Grand Slam surfaces.
- **Which three playing surfaces are associated with Grand Slam tournaments?**
– Hard court, grass court and clay court.
- **Which Grand Slam tournament is played on clay courts?**
– French Open (Roland Garros).

AWARDS & HONOURS

SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE AAPDA PRABANDHAN PURASKAR 2026

- **Which organisation received the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2026 in the Institutional Category?**
– Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA).
- **Who received the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2026 in the Individual Category?**
– Lieutenant Colonel Seeta Ashok Shelke.
- **On which day is the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar announced every year?**
– January 23 (Parakram Diwas).
- **Which ministry is the nodal ministry for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar?**
– Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- **What is the prize money awarded in the Institutional Category of the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar?**
– ₹51 lakh along with a certificate.
- **What is the prize money awarded in the Individual Category of the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar?**
– ₹5 lakh along with a certificate.
- **How many Aapda Mitras have been trained and deployed by the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority?**
– 1,185 Aapda Mitras.
- **During which disaster did Lieutenant Colonel Seeta Ashok Shelke gain national recognition?**
– 2024 Wayanad (Kerala) landslides.
- **What major infrastructure work was completed under the leadership of Lieutenant Colonel Seeta Ashok Shelke during the Wayanad landslides?**
– Construction of a 190-foot-long Bailey Bridge at Chooralmala.

- Which disasters were managed by SSDMA using real-time coordination and rescue operations?

– 2023 Teesta Flash Floods and 2016 Mantam Landslide.

PADMA AWARDS 2026

- How many Padma Awards were approved by the President on the eve of India's 77th Republic Day (2026)?

– 131 Padma Awards.

- How many Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri awards were announced in 2026?

– 5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan and 113 Padma Shri awards.

- For what type of service is the Padma Vibhushan awarded?

– Exceptional and distinguished service.

- Which posthumous film actor received the Padma Vibhushan 2026?

– Dharmendra Singh Deol.

- Which retired Supreme Court judge was awarded the Padma Vibhushan 2026 for Public Affairs?

– Justice (Retd) K.T. Thomas.

- Who received the Padma Vibhushan 2026 in the field of Classical Music?

– N. Rajam.

- Who received the Padma Vibhushan 2026 in Literature and Education?

– P. Narayanan.

- Which former Kerala Chief Minister received the Padma Vibhushan 2026 (posthumously) for Public Affairs?

– V.S. Achuthanandhan.

- Which personalities received the Padma Bhushan 2026 in the field of Arts?

– Alka Yagnik, Mammooty, Shatavadhani R. Ganesh, and Piyush Pandey (Posthumous).

- Which industrialist received the Padma Bhushan 2026 in Trade and Industry?

– Uday Kotak.

- Which sportsperson received the Padma Bhushan 2026 in Sports?

– Vijay Amritraj.

- Which cricketers were honoured with the Padma Shri 2026?

– Rohit Sharma and Harmanpreet Kaur.

- Which hockey player received the Padma Shri 2026?

– Savita Punia.

- Which former UGC Chairman received the Padma Shri 2026 in Education and Science?

– Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar.

- Who was honoured as an unsung hero for building a library with around 2 million books?

– Anke Gowda.

- **Who founded Asia's first human milk bank and received the Padma Shri 2026?**
– Armida Fernandez.
- **How many women awardees were included in the Padma Awards 2026 list?**
– 19 women awardees.
- **How many posthumous honours were included in the Padma Awards 2026?**
– 16 posthumous honours.
- **How many foreign/NRI/PIO/OCI recipients were included in the Padma Awards 2026 list?**
– 6 recipients.
- **What is the significance of the Padma Awards 2026?**
– It recognises contributions of eminent personalities and grassroots “unsung heroes” in fields such as culture, science, sports, public service, and social development.

CULTURE, HERITAGE & TOURISM

NEW DELHI WORLD BOOK FAIR (NDWBF) 2026

- **Who inaugurated the New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF) 2026?**
– Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.
- **Where was the New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF) 2026 held?**
– Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- **Which organisation organises the New Delhi World Book Fair?**
– National Book Trust (NBT), India under the Ministry of Education.
- **What was the theme of the New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF) 2026?**
– “Indian Military History: Valour and Wisdom @75”.
- **Which country was the focus country and which country was the Guest of Honour Country at NDWBF 2026?**
– Focus Country: Spain; Guest of Honour Country: Qatar
Piprahwa Relics.

KOKBOROK DAY (TRIPURI LANGUAGE DAY)

- **Which state observes Kokborok Day, also known as Tripuri Language Day?**
– Tripura.
- **On which date is Kokborok Day observed every year?**
– January 19.
- **In which year was Kokborok recognised as an official state language of Tripura?**
– 1979.
- **Kokborok belongs to which language family?**
– Tibeto-Burman language family.

- **Kokborok is the native language of which community?**
– Borok (Tripuri) people.
- **Along with which two languages was Kokborok recognised as an official state language of Tripura?**
– Bengali and English.
- **Is Kokborok included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?**
– No, it is not included in the Eighth Schedule.

2ND GLOBAL BUDDHIST SUMMIT 2026

- **Where is the 2nd Global Buddhist Summit 2026 being organised?**
– Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- **Which organisation is organising the Global Buddhist Summit 2026?**
– International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
- **What is the theme of the 2nd Global Buddhist Summit 2026?**
– “Collective Wisdom, United Voice, Mutual Coexistence”.
- **What is the main objective of the Global Buddhist Summit?**
– To promote Buddhist values of compassion, wisdom, harmony, and their relevance in social peace, ethical leadership, environment, and well-being.
- **Which AI-based Buddhist language model was introduced during the summit?**
– NORBU.
- **What is the purpose of NORBU, the AI-based Buddhist language model?**
– To assist in the promotion, learning, and preservation of Buddhist knowledge.
- **Which organisation collaborated with the Ministry of Culture to organise the Global Buddhist Summit?**
– International Buddhist Confederation (IBC).
- **What is the significance of the Global Buddhist Summit for India?**
– It strengthens India’s role in international Buddhist dialogue, cultural diplomacy, and promotion of peaceful coexistence.

SEMMOZHI ILLAKIYA VIRUDHU

- **Which state government announced the establishment of the ‘Semmozhi Illakiya Virudhu’?**
– Tamil Nadu Government.
- **What is the primary objective of the ‘Semmozhi Illakiya Virudhu’?**
– To honour outstanding literary contributions and promote Tamil language, literature, and classical heritage.
- **What does the term ‘Semmozhi’ refer to?**
– Classical language.
- **When was Tamil accorded the status of a Classical Language in India?**
– 2004.
- **Which language was the first in India to receive the status of a Classical Language?**
– Tamil.

- **How frequently will the ‘Semmozhi Illakiya Virudhu’ be conferred?**
– Annually.
- **With which literary institution is the Tamil Nadu government’s dispute related to this award connected?**
– Sahitya Akademi.
- **What broader issue does the Semmozhi Illakiya Virudhu controversy highlight?**
– Federalism and assertion of cultural and linguistic identity by states.

GRAND INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION OF SACRED PIPRAHWA RELICS

- **What was the title of the exposition of sacred Piprahwa relics of Bhagwan Buddha inaugurated in New Delhi?**
– “The Light & the Lotus: Relics of the Awakened One”.
- **Who inaugurated the Grand International Exposition of Sacred Piprahwa Relics?**
– Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **The sacred Piprahwa relics were excavated in 1898 from which place?**
– Piprahwa village, Uttar Pradesh.
- **After how many years were the Piprahwa relics repatriated to India from the United Kingdom?**
– 127 years.
- **Which classical language is associated with the original teachings of Bhagwan Buddha?**
– Pali.

3RD INDIAN LIGHTHOUSE FESTIVAL

- **Where was the 3rd Indian Lighthouse Festival inaugurated?**
– Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Who inaugurated the 3rd Indian Lighthouse Festival?**
– Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.
- **What is the primary objective of the Indian Lighthouse Festival?**
– To transform historical lighthouses into vibrant tourist hubs and promote local economies.
- **Where will Andhra Pradesh’s first Lighthouse Museum be established?**
– Visakhapatnam (Vizag).
- **Which government vision is aligned with the Indian Lighthouse Festival for coastal development?**
– Maritime India Vision 2030.
- **Under which programme is the transformation of lighthouses being promoted as part of port-led development?**
– Sagarmala Programme.

BOOK “SING, DANCE AND LEAD: LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF SRILA PRABHUPADA”

- **Who launched the book “Sing, Dance and Lead: Leadership Lessons from the Life of Srila Prabhupada”?**
– Vice-President of India, C. P. Radhakrishnan.
- **Who is the author of the book “Sing, Dance and Lead: Leadership Lessons from the Life of Srila Prabhupada”?**
– Hindol Sengupta.
- **The book “Sing, Dance and Lead” is based on leadership lessons from the life of which personality?**
– A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, founder of ISKCON.
- **What is the main theme of the book “Sing, Dance and Lead”?**
– Value-based leadership emphasising ethics, humility, service orientation and moral clarity.

REPORTS & INDICES

GLOBAL RISKS REPORT 2026

- **Which organisation released the Global Risks Report 2026?**
– World Economic Forum (WEF).
- **What is the key characteristic defining the global risk landscape in the Global Risks Report 2026?**
– Uncertainty.
- **Which risk emerged as the top short-term global threat (up to 2028) according to the report?**
– Geoeconomic confrontation.
- **What are the major factors associated with geoeconomic confrontation?**
– Weaponization of trade through tariffs, sanctions, and investment restrictions.
- **Which environmental risks dominate the long-term (10-year) global risk outlook?**
– Extreme weather events and biodiversity loss.
- **Which risk is identified as the top threat for India over the next two years?**
– Cyber insecurity.
- **Which technology-related risk showed the largest rise in severity in the 10-year risk outlook?**
– Adverse outcomes of AI technologies.
- **Which river basin is highlighted as a major flashpoint for India’s water security risk?**
– Indus River Basin.

BRAND FINANCE GLOBAL 500 2025 REPORT

- Which Indian brand emerged as the most valuable brand according to the Brand Finance Global 500 2025 report?
– Tata Group.
- Which global brand was ranked as the world's most valuable brand in the Brand Finance Global 500 2025 report?
– Apple.
- What is the brand value of Tata Group according to the Brand Finance Global 500 2025 report?
– \$31.6 billion.
- Which Indian brand became the first to surpass the \$30 billion mark in brand value?
– Tata Group.
- What is the global ranking of Tata Group among the world's top 100 brands?
– 60th position.
- Which Indian brand ranked second in India with a brand value of \$16.3 billion?
– Infosys.
- Which Indian brand was recognised as the fastest-growing brand with a 36% increase in brand value?
– LIC.
- Which Indian brand retained the title of India's strongest brand for the fourth consecutive year with an AAA+ rating?
– Taj Hotels.
- What is the brand value of Apple according to the Brand Finance Global 500 2025 report?
– \$574.5 billion.
- Which Indian brand leads in Sustainability Perceptions Value (SPV)?
– Tata Group.

UTTAR PRADESH CURRENT AFFAIRS

PURVANCHAL YARN PROCESSING PLANT

- In which district of Uttar Pradesh will the first Yarn Processing Plant of Purvanchal be established?
– Mirzapur.
- Which major industry is expected to benefit directly from the first Yarn Processing Plant of Purvanchal?
– Handmade carpet industry.
- Under which model is the Mirzapur Yarn Processing Plant being developed?
– Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.

- Which Uttar Pradesh government policy supports the establishment of the first Yarn Processing Plant in Purvanchal?

– Uttar Pradesh Textile & Garmenting Policy, 2022.

UTTAR PRADESH SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET 2025–26

- What is the total outlay of the Uttar Pradesh Supplementary Budget for the financial year 2025–26?

– ₹24,496.98 crore.

- After the supplementary budget, what is the total budget outlay of Uttar Pradesh for 2025–26?

– Approximately ₹8,33,233.04 crore.

- In the Uttar Pradesh Supplementary Budget 2025–26, the highest share of expenditure has been allocated to which category?

– Revenue expenditure (₹18,369.30 crore).

- The Uttar Pradesh Supplementary Budget 2025–26 primarily focuses on strengthening which sectors?

– Health and family welfare, women and child development, technical education, and renewable energy promotion.

BAREILLY AIRPORT ACHIEVEMENT

- Which airport secured the top position in Uttar Pradesh in the Airports Authority of India (AAI) Customer Satisfaction Survey?

– Bareilly Airport.

- What was the national rank of Bareilly Airport in the Airports Authority of India (AAI) Customer Satisfaction Survey?

– 7th.

- Which airports jointly secured the top national rank in the Airports Authority of India (AAI) Customer Satisfaction Survey?

– Raja Bhoj Airport (Bhopal) and Khajuraho Airport.

- The Airports Authority of India (AAI) Customer Satisfaction Survey evaluates airports based on which aspects?

– Passenger satisfaction indicators such as check-in efficiency, security processing, cleanliness, signage, staff behaviour, and passenger convenience.

UTTAR PRADESH TOURISM 2025

- Which state emerged as the most visited state for domestic tourism in India in 2025, according to the Ministry of Tourism?

– Uttar Pradesh.

- Which major event contributed significantly to Uttar Pradesh becoming India's most visited state for domestic tourism in 2025?

– Mahakumbh 2025, Prayagraj.

- According to the Ministry of Tourism, what was Uttar Pradesh's rank in terms of foreign tourist arrivals in 2025?

– 4th.

- Under which policy has Uttar Pradesh registered 1,757 tourism units to strengthen tourism infrastructure?

– Uttar Pradesh Tourism Policy, 2022.

PRIME MINISTER'S BAL PURASKAR 2025

- Who from Uttar Pradesh was selected for the Prime Minister's Bal Puraskar 2025 for developing a dust-free wheat threshing device?

– Pooja Pal of Barabanki.

- Pooja Pal received the Prime Minister's Bal Puraskar for developing which innovation?

– Bhusa-Dhool Prithakkaran Yantra (dust-free wheat thresher attachment).

- Under which programme of the Ministry of Science & Technology was Pooja Pal's innovation supported?

– INSPIRE Award Scheme.

- The innovation developed by Pooja Pal primarily aims to address which problem faced by farmers?

– Respiratory illnesses and eye irritation caused by wheat dust during threshing.

INDIA'S FIRST GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL-BASED AI CLINIC

- India's first government hospital-based Artificial Intelligence (AI) clinic has been inaugurated at which institution?

– Government Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS), Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

- What is the primary objective of India's first government hospital-based AI clinic?

– To use AI algorithms and genetic screening for improved diagnosis and treatment.

- Which diagnostic investigations will AI tools assist in interpreting at the GIMS AI Clinic?

– X-rays, ultrasounds, CT scans, MRI reports, and laboratory investigations.

- Which advanced healthcare facility is planned as part of the AI Clinic at GIMS, Greater Noida?

– AI-assisted robotic surgery support.

72ND NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

- Where was the 72nd National Volleyball Tournament inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

– Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

- Which organization is the governing body of volleyball in India?

– Volleyball Federation of India (VFI).

- How many states participated in the 72nd National Volleyball Tournament?

– 28 states.

- During the inauguration of the 72nd National Volleyball Tournament, Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted India's aspiration to host which major international sporting event?

– 2036 Olympic Games.

GITA PRESS, GORAKHPUR AND 'KALYAN' MAGAZINE

- Where was Gita Press established and in which year?
– Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh in 1923.
- What is Gita Press known for?
– Publishing and disseminating Hindu religious literature such as Bhagavad Gita, Ramcharitmanas, Puranas, and Upanishads.
- Which prestigious award was conferred on Gita Press in 2021?
– Gandhi Peace Prize (2021).
- When was the 'Kalyan' magazine launched by Gita Press?
– 1927.
- What type of magazine is 'Kalyan' published by Gita Press?
– A monthly spiritual and cultural magazine.
- Which religious and cultural values are promoted through Gita Press and 'Kalyan' magazine?
– Ethical living, Indian philosophy, spiritual knowledge, and cultural traditions.
- Why is Gita Press considered significant in India's cultural landscape?
– It has played a major role in preserving, promoting, and disseminating Indian spiritual and religious literature.

INDIA'S FIRST DEDICATED GLASS MUSEUM

- Where is India's first dedicated Glass Museum being developed?
– Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh.
- Firozabad is popularly known as which city due to its glass industry?
– Glass City of India.
- Which department is implementing the Glass Museum project in Firozabad?
– Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department.
- What is the estimated cost of establishing India's first dedicated Glass Museum?
– Around ₹47 crore.

RENAMING OF RAJ BHAVAN TO JAN BHAVAN

- What is the new name given to the Governor's official residence in Lucknow by the Uttar Pradesh Government?
– Jan Bhavan.

- **Which Governor's residence has been renamed as Jan Bhavan?**
– Raj Bhavan, Lucknow.
- **Why was the name 'Lok Bhavan' not chosen for the Governor's residence?**
– Because Lok Bhavan already exists as the Chief Minister's office.
- **The renaming of Raj Bhavan to Jan Bhavan was done according to the guidelines of which ministry?**
– Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

UTTAR PRADESH DAY (UP DIWAS) 2026

- **On which date is Uttar Pradesh Day (UP Diwas) celebrated every year?**
– 24 January.
- **Which new scheme was launched during Uttar Pradesh Day 2026 celebrations?**
– One District One Cuisine (ODOC) Scheme.
- **The One District One Cuisine (ODOC) Scheme is inspired by which successful model of Uttar Pradesh?**
– One District One Product (ODOP) model.
- **What is the theme of Uttar Pradesh Day celebrations 2026?**
– "Viksit Bharat, Viksit Uttar Pradesh".
- **Why is 24 January significant in the history of Uttar Pradesh?**
– On 24 January 1950, the United Provinces was renamed as Uttar Pradesh.

LUCKNOW – FIRST ZERO FRESH WASTE DUMP CITY OF UTTAR PRADESH

- **Which city has been recognised as the first Zero Fresh Waste Dump City of Uttar Pradesh under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban?**
– Lucknow.
- **What is the meaning of Zero Fresh Waste Dump status achieved by Lucknow?**
– 100% scientific processing of municipal solid waste with no requirement for fresh waste dumping.
- **What is the waste processing capacity of the Shivari Solid Waste Management Plant in Lucknow?**
– 700 metric tonnes per day (MT/day).
- **How much municipal solid waste can Lucknow now manage through scientific processing?**
– About 2,100 MT/day.

UP-NASSCOM MOU FOR NEW-AGE TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

- **Which organisation has signed an MoU with the Uttar Pradesh Government to enhance new-age technology skills among youth?**
– National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM).
- **The UP Government's technology skilling programme with NASSCOM will be implemented through which platform?**
– FutureSkills Prime platform.

- **Which ministry supports the FutureSkills Prime digital skilling platform?**
 - Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- **Which emerging technologies are included under the UP-NASSCOM skill development initiative?**
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI), Virtual Reality (VR), Robotic Process Automation (RPA), Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data Analytics, 3D Printing and Cloud Computing.

86TH ALL INDIA PRESIDING OFFICERS' CONFERENCE (AIPOC)

- **Where was the 86th All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC) held?**
 - Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, Lucknow.
- **Who inaugurated the 86th All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC)?**
 - Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Anandiben Patel.
- **Who addressed the 86th All India Presiding Officers' Conference?**
 - Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla.
- **Uttar Pradesh hosted the All India Presiding Officers' Conference for the how many times in 2026?**
 - Fourth time (earlier held in 1961, 1985, and 2015).

SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL ZONE PROGRAMME

- **Which state government is set to launch the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Employment and Industrial Zone Programme?**
 - Uttar Pradesh Government.
- **What is the primary objective of the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Employment and Industrial Zone Programme?**
 - To create employment opportunities through employment-linked industrial development.
- **What type of industrial model will be adopted under the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Employment and Industrial Zone Programme?**
 - Plug-and-play industrial zone model.
- **Which state schemes will be integrated with the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Employment and Industrial Zone Programme?**
 - One District One Product (ODOP), MSME promotion policies, and Skill Development Mission of Uttar Pradesh.

SECOND RANGEWIDE ESTIMATION OF RIVERINE AND ESTUARINE DOLPHINS

- **From where was the Second Rangewide Estimation of Riverine and Estuarine Dolphins launched?**
 - Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Under which initiative is the Second Rangewide Estimation of Riverine and Estuarine Dolphins being conducted?**
 - Project Dolphin, launched in 2020.

- **Which organisation is coordinating the dolphin population estimation?**
 - Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun.
- **Which major river stretch is covered in Phase-I of the dolphin estimation survey?**
 - Main stem of the Ganga from Bijnor to Ganga Sagar and the Indus River.

SCORP (FOUR-LEGGED COLLABORATIVE ROBOTIC PLATFORM)

- **What is SCORP, recently unveiled by IIT Kanpur?**
 - India's first indigenous legged mobile manipulator combining a quadruped robotic platform with a robotic arm.
- **SCORP has been developed by which startup with assistance from IIT Kanpur?**
 - xTerra Robotics.
- **Under which initiative was SCORP developed at IIT Kanpur?**
 - Technology Innovation Hub (TIH), IIT Kanpur.
- **What are the major applications of SCORP?**
 - Disaster management, industrial inspection, hazardous environments, tunnels, and future space exploration missions.

UTTAR PRADESH AI MISSION

- **Where was the Regional AI Impact Conference 2026 and Fourth Meeting of the AI for Economic Growth and Social Good Working Group held?**
 - Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- **The Regional AI Impact Conference 2026 was organised by the Uttar Pradesh Government in collaboration with which organisation?**
 - IndiaAI, with support from the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY).
- **What is the proposed investment under the Uttar Pradesh AI Mission over three years?**
 - Around ₹2,000 crore.
- **How many AI and data labs are planned to be established under the Uttar Pradesh AI Mission?**
 - 62 AI and data labs.

ASHOK LEYLAND ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) MANUFACTURING PLANT

- **Where was the Ashok Leyland Electric Vehicle (EV) manufacturing plant inaugurated?**
 - Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Who inaugurated the Ashok Leyland Electric Vehicle (EV) manufacturing plant in Lucknow?**
 - Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- **What is the initial annual production capacity of the Ashok Leyland EV manufacturing plant?**
 - 2,500 electric vehicles per year.

- The Ashok Leyland EV plant in Lucknow is the first dedicated manufacturing unit for which type of vehicle?
- Electric buses (e-Buses).

FIRST STATE-LEVEL BRAILLE LIBRARY IN UTTAR PRADESH

- Where was Uttar Pradesh's first state-level Braille Library inaugurated?
- Dr. Shakuntala Misra National Rehabilitation University (DSMNRU), Lucknow.
- On whose birth anniversary was Uttar Pradesh's first state-level Braille Library inaugurated?
- Louis Braille, the inventor of the Braille script.
- How many Braille books are available in the first state-level Braille Library of Uttar Pradesh?
- More than 4,000 Braille books.
- The Braille Library at DSMNRU covers courses related to how many undergraduate and postgraduate programmes?
- 54 undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

INDIAAI-UPDESCO MOU

- IndiaAI and UPDESCO signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 12 January 2026 to strengthen the AI ecosystem under which mission?
- IndiaAI Mission.
- Which organization has been designated as the state nodal agency for implementing the IndiaAI-UPDESCO MoU in Uttar Pradesh?
- UPDESCO.
- Which department has been designated as the nodal department for the IndiaAI-UPDESCO MoU in Uttar Pradesh?
- Department of IT & Electronics, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- How many Data & AI Labs are proposed to be established across Uttar Pradesh under the IndiaAI-UPDESCO MoU?
- 65 Data & AI Labs.
- The IndiaAI-UPDESCO MoU was signed between UPDESCO and which organization?
- Digital India Corporation (IndiaAI).

9TH INDUS FOOD, 2026

- Where was the 9th Indusfood 2026 organized?
- India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida.
- Which organization organized the 9th Indusfood 2026 exhibition?
- Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI).
- Indusfood is recognized as India's premier global exhibition for which sector?
- Food and Beverage Sector.
- During which dates was the 9th Indusfood 2026 held?
- 8-10 January 2026.

CASHLESS MEDICAL TREATMENT SCHEME

- **The Cashless Medical Treatment Scheme for teachers in Uttar Pradesh was approved by the State Cabinet on which date?**
- 29 January 2026.
- **Approximately how many beneficiaries are covered under Uttar Pradesh's Cashless Medical Treatment Scheme for education personnel?**
- Around 15 lakh.
- **The Cashless Medical Treatment Scheme in Uttar Pradesh covers the teachers and staff of which departments?**
- Basic Education Department and Secondary Education Department.
- **What is the estimated cost of Uttar Pradesh's Cashless Medical Treatment Scheme for education personnel?**
- ₹448 crore.

