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Monthly Current Affairs: September 2026

207

stories

414

MCQs with answers

Covers 1–25 September 2026; this PDF is updated every day until the month ends.

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Generated: 26 September 2026

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Indian Railways Approves Kavach 4.0 and Three More Works

1 September 2026 · National

Indian Railways sanctioned four works on 1 September 2026, among them Kavach 4.0 on 712 route km of the Moradabad Division at a cost of ₹170 crore.

- Kavach Version 4.0 was sanctioned for the remaining 712 route kilometres of the Moradabad Division of Northern Railway at a cost of ₹170 crore
- Electronic Interlocking was approved at 21 stations of the Samastipur Division of East Central Railway at a cost of ₹233 crore, which also prepares them for Kavach
- An 11 km bypass line between Adra and Joychandipahar in South Eastern Railway was cleared for ₹272 crore as part of the Energy, Mineral and Cement Corridor
- The Bhavnagar Para yard in Gujarat will be remodelled for about ₹125 crore to decongest Bhavnagar Terminus, with a new high-level island platform and two road under bridges
- Kavach is an indigenous Automatic Train Protection system that prevents Signal Passing at Danger, applies brakes automatically and controls train speed

Kavach 4.0 sanction	Remaining 712 route kilometres of Moradabad Division, Northern Railway, for ₹170 crore
Electronic Interlocking	21 stations of Samastipur Division, East Central Railway, for ₹233 crore
New bypass line	11 km between Adra and Joychandipahar, South Eastern Railway, for ₹272 crore
Yard remodelling	Bhavnagar Para, Gujarat, for about ₹125 crore
What Kavach is	Indigenous Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system
Corridor	The Adra-Joychandipahar bypass is part of the Energy, Mineral and Cement Corridor
Freight served	SAIL's iron ore demand of 23.40 MTPA and BCCL's projected 45 rakes a day
Capacity outlook	Line capacity of 47.50 per cent expected to reach 56.45 per cent by 2028-29; extra traffic of 8.88 MTPA

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indian-railways-approves-kavach-40-and-three-more-works/

Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules 2026 Notified

2 September 2026 · National

The Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026 make IST the legally recognised time reference for India and come into force 180 days after publication.

- The Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026 were notified by the Department of Consumer Affairs on 27 August 2026 and published in the Official Gazette on 29 August 2026
- The Rules come into force 180 days from the date of publication and support the Government's One Nation, One Time vision
- CSIR-National Physical Laboratory, India's National Metrology Institute, generates IST using an ensemble of atomic clocks and keeps it traceable to UTC within a few nanoseconds
- Secondary timescales were set up jointly by CSIR-NPL, ISRO and Legal Metrology at five Regional Reference Standard Laboratories: Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhubaneswar, Faridabad and Guwahati
- IST is disseminated through NTP and PTP over networks, through ISRO's NavIC by satellite, and through White Rabbit over optical fibre, which is under testing

Rules	Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026
Notified by	Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Date of notification	27 August 2026
Gazette publication	29 August 2026
Coming into force	180 days after publication
Vision	One Nation, One Time
Scientific custodian of IST	CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL)
International reference	Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), maintained by BIPM

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/legal-metrology-indian-standard-time-rules-2026-notified/

Commemorative Stamp Marks 75 Years of Dinamalar Newspaper

5 September 2026 · National

Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan released a commemorative postage stamp in Chennai marking the 75th year of the Tamil newspaper Dinamalar, founded in 1951.

- Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan released a commemorative postage stamp in Chennai on 5 September 2026 marking the 75th year of Dinamalar
- Dinamalar was founded in 1951 with the resolve to serve as a touchstone of truth, and its founder was T. V. Ramasubbaiyer
- The Vice President said the newspaper has earned readers' trust over 75 years by upholding truth, patriotism and public service
- He said a newspaper keeps public trust only when it stands firm against pressures and upholds higher values without fear
- He appreciated Dinamalar's Pattam publication, which carries general awareness, language skills and scientific innovations to school students

Occasion	75th year of the newspaper Dinamalar
Released by	Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan
What was released	A commemorative postage stamp
Venue	Chennai
Date	5 September 2026
Year of founding	1951
Founder	T. V. Ramasubbaiyer
Publication for students	Pattam

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/commemorative-stamp-marks-75-years-of-dinamalar-newspaper/

Bye-Election Schedule: Five Assembly Seats, Nagaon Poll on 6 October

7 September 2026 · National

The Election Commission announced bye-elections to five Assembly seats in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and West Bengal and the Nagaon Lok Sabha seat in Assam.

- The Election Commission announced bye-elections to five Assembly constituencies and one parliamentary constituency, all six seats having fallen vacant through resignations
- The Assembly seats are Madurantakam (SC) and Dharapuram (SC) in Tamil Nadu, Thattanchavady in Puducherry, and Rejinagar and Nandigram in West Bengal
- The parliamentary seat is Nagaon in Assam, vacated by the resignation of Sh. Pradyut Bordoloi
- Polling is on 6 October 2026, counting on 9 October 2026, and the election must be completed before 11 October 2026
- EVMs and VVPATs will be used at all polling stations, EPIC is the main identity document, and the Model Code of Conduct applies from the day of announcement

Announced by	Election Commission of India, on 7 September 2026
Seats	Five Assembly constituencies and one parliamentary constituency
Tamil Nadu	Madurantakam (SC) and Dharapuram (SC)
Puducherry	Thattanchavady Assembly constituency
West Bengal	Rejinagar and Nandigram
Assam	Nagaon parliamentary constituency
Notification	9 September 2026
Last date of nomination	16 September 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bye-election-schedule-five-assembly-seats-nagaon-poll-on-6-october/

E-Commerce Rules Amended to Strengthen Consumer Protection

10 September 2026 · National

The Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020 have been amended to curb dark patterns and misleading search results, and the new rules apply from 2027.

- The Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) (Amendment) Rules, 2026 amend the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020, notified under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019
- The amended rules come into force from 1 January 2027 and require every e-commerce entity to join the convergence process of the National Consumer Helpline
- During 2025 the National Consumer Helpline received 17,71,622 grievances, of which 5,11,196, about 29 per cent, related to e-commerce
- Search results may not be manipulated, sponsored listings must be clearly disclosed, and on a price cut both the reduced price and the prior price must be displayed
- Platforms must follow the dark patterns guidelines of 2023, conduct a yearly self-audit and prominently display a certificate of compliance

New rules	Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) (Amendment) Rules, 2026
Rules amended	Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020
Parent Act	Consumer Protection Act, 2019
Ministry	Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
In force from	1 January 2027
NCH grievances in 2025	17,71,622
From e-commerce	5,11,196, about 29 per cent
Prior price defined as	The lowest price offered during the 30 days before the announcement

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/e-commerce-rules-amended-to-strengthen-consumer-protection/

Lothal Maritime Heritage Complex Phase 1A Crosses 82 Per Cent

11 September 2026 · National

Sarbananda Sonowal chaired the 2nd Governing Council meeting of the NMHC Society and was told Phase 1A at Lothal has crossed 82 per cent progress.

- Sarbananda Sonowal chaired the 2nd Governing Council meeting of the National Maritime Heritage Complex Society on 11 September 2026
- Phase 1A of the complex at Lothal in Gujarat has crossed about 82 per cent physical progress, against a revised target of 31 October 2026
- 13 countries, among them Portugal, the UAE, Vietnam, Oman, Israel, Germany and Singapore, have signed MoUs, with a pipeline of over 35 proposed
- 1,492 artefacts are ready for installation, and excavation at Lothal by the Archaeological Survey of India is 70 per cent complete
- Later phases will add a 5D Dome Theatre, a Coastal States Pavilion, a Lighthouse Museum with DGLL and a Maritime Research Institute with the Indian Maritime University

Project	National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC), Lothal, Gujarat
Meeting	2nd Governing Council meeting of the NMHC Society
Chaired by	Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
First Council meeting	June 2025
Phase 1A progress	About 82 per cent physical completion
Revised completion target	31 October 2026
Artefacts ready	1,492, awaiting installation
Countries with MoUs	13, with a proposed pipeline of more than 35

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/lothal-maritime-heritage-complex-phase-1a-crosses-82-per-cent/

ECI Holds 5th Electoral Literacy Club Conference at Ahmedabad

11 September 2026 · National

The Election Commission held its fifth regional conference on Electoral Literacy Clubs and ECINET at Ahmedabad, where CEC Gyanesh Kumar spoke on ELC 2.0.

- The Election Commission of India held its fifth regional conference on Electoral Literacy Clubs and ECINET at Ahmedabad on 11 September 2026
- Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said the students of today are the torchbearers of tomorrow's democracy
- The earlier regional conferences were held at Patna, Lucknow, Chennai and Margao
- ELC 2.0 carries the tagline 'Learn Democracy. Lead Democracy.' and runs on the ECINET platform with a dedicated ELC portal
- India has about 15 lakh schools with nearly 25 crore students, and higher education has nearly 1,500 universities with an enrolment of 4.33 crore

Event	Fifth regional conference on Electoral Literacy Clubs and ECINET
Held at	Ahmedabad, Gujarat, on 11 September 2026
Addressed by	Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar
Earlier conferences	Patna, Lucknow, Chennai and Margao
Initiative	ELC 2.0, with the tagline 'Learn Democracy. Lead Democracy.'
Digital platform	ECINET, which provides election services from roll to poll
School ecosystem	About 15 lakh schools, nearly 25 crore students, over one crore teachers
Higher education	Nearly 1,500 universities and around 70,000 institutions, enrolment 4.33 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/eci-holds-5th-electoral-literacy-club-conference-at-ahmedabad/

Two Commemorative Stamps Mark Two Decades of BRICS Cooperation

12 September 2026 · National

Two commemorative postage stamps on twenty years of BRICS were released in New Delhi on 12 September 2026 on the sidelines of the 18th BRICS Summit.

- Two commemorative postage stamps on two decades of BRICS were released on 12 September 2026 in New Delhi, on the sidelines of the 18th BRICS Summit
- The stamps carry the inscription 'BRICS: Two Decades of Cooperation, 2006-2026' in English and in Hindi
- The first stamp depicts the rise of BRICS as a platform built on mutual respect, understanding and solidarity
- The second stamp carries the logo of India's Chairship along with its 'humanity first' and 'people-centric' vision
- The stamps reflect the theme of India's BRICS Chairship 2026, 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability'

Occasion	Two decades of BRICS cooperation
Number of stamps released	Two commemorative postage stamps
Date and place	12 September 2026, New Delhi
Released on the sidelines of	The 18th BRICS Summit
Inscription	'BRICS: Two Decades of Cooperation, 2006-2026'
First stamp	The emergence of BRICS as a platform of mutual respect, understanding and solidarity
Second stamp	The Chairship logo with the 'humanity first' and 'people-centric' vision
Theme of India's Chairship	Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/two-commemorative-stamps-mark-two-decades-of-brics-cooperation/

National Conference on Construction Workers Concludes in Mumbai

12 September 2026 · National

The two-day National Conference on Building and Other Construction Workers ended in Mumbai, with States showing their work on skilling and digital labour chowks.

- The two-day National Conference on Building and Other Construction Workers was held on 11 and 12 September 2026 in Mumbai and concluded on 12 September 2026
- It was organised by the Ministry of Labour and Employment with the Government of Maharashtra; Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya chaired the first day
- Labour and Employment Secretary Dr Chandra Bhushan Kumar opened the second day and called for a stronger skill ecosystem and the dignity of labour at the centre of policy
- Uttar Pradesh presented skill development of building workers, Rajasthan its Digital Labour Chowks, Bihar the Shram Seva Suvidha Kendras and Assam the Nirman Sakhi Portal
- Sessions covered BOCW Welfare Boards under the new labour codes, skilling and employment, the Labour Stack, and the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers

Event	National Conference on Building and Other Construction Workers (BOCW)
Place and dates	Mumbai, 11 and 12 September 2026
Organised by	Ministry of Labour and Employment with the Government of Maharashtra
Chaired day one	Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya
Also present	Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje
Opened day two	Dr Chandra Bhushan Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment
Uttar Pradesh presented	Skill development of building workers
Rajasthan presented	Digital Labour Chowks

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-conference-on-construction-workers-concludes-in-mumbai/

India Sends Largest-Ever Team to WorldSkills Shanghai 2026

15 September 2026 · National

A 70-member Indian contingent was flagged off for the 48th WorldSkills Competition at Shanghai, where it will compete across 63 skill categories from 22 to 27 September.

- A 70-member Indian contingent, the largest ever, was flagged off on 15 September 2026 for WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 from Kaushal Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The 48th WorldSkills Competition will be held in Shanghai, China, from 22 to 27 September 2026, with India competing in 63 skill categories.
- India will make its debut in 11 new-age skill categories, including Unmanned Aerial Systems, Software Testing and Aircraft Maintenance.
- The Shanghai edition will have more than 1,400 competitors from over 60 countries and regions across 64 skill competitions.
- India rose from the 29th position in 2015 to the 13th at WorldSkills Lyon 2024, where it won four Bronze Medals and 12 Medallions for Excellence.

Event	48th WorldSkills Competition, Shanghai 2026
Dates	22 to 27 September 2026
Host country	China
Indian contingent	70 members, the largest ever
Skill categories for India	63
Debut categories	11 new-age and emerging skills
Send-off venue	Kaushal Bhawan, New Delhi, 15 September 2026
Minister	Jayant Chaudhary, MoS with Independent Charge, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-sends-largest-ever-team-to-worldskills-shanghai-2026/

CCPA Fines Rapido 10 Lakh Rupees for Dark Patterns

15 September 2026 · National

The Central Consumer Protection Authority imposed a penalty of ten lakh rupees on the operator of Rapido for confirm shaming and interface interference in its app.

- The Central Consumer Protection Authority imposed a penalty of ten lakh rupees on Roppen Transportation Services, which runs Rapido.
- Two dark patterns were found: confirm shaming in the pricing prompts and interface interference in the colour-coded price slider.
- Both are identified under the Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns, 2023.
- The Motor Vehicle Aggregator Guidelines, 2025 require that any tipping feature be offered only after the ride is complete.
- CCPA is headed by Chief Commissioner Nidhi Khare and acts under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019; complaints go to the helpline number 1915.

Regulator	Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)
Chief Commissioner	Nidhi Khare; Commissioner Anupam Mishra
Company penalised	Roppen Transportation Services Private Limited, which runs Rapido
Penalty	Ten lakh rupees
Dark patterns found	Confirm Shaming and Interface Interference
Guidelines cited	Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns, 2023
Tipping rule	Motor Vehicle Aggregator Guidelines, 2025 allow tipping only after the ride
Parent law	Consumer Protection Act, 2019

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ccpa-fines-rapido-10-lakh-rupees-for-dark-patterns/

MHA Declares Shahzad Bhatti Network a Terrorist Organisation

16 September 2026 · National

The Ministry of Home Affairs declared the Shahzad Bhatti Network a terrorist organisation under the UAPA, Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced on 16 September.

- The Ministry of Home Affairs declared the Shahzad Bhatti Network a terrorist organisation under the UAPA on 16 September 2026.
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah announced the decision, calling it part of a zero tolerance policy on terrorism.
- The network is accused of smuggling arms, explosives and narcotics across the border.
- It is also charged with pushing young people and petty criminals into terrorism.
- The syndicate published hateful digital content targeting India's democratic structure and communal harmony.

Organisation	Shahzad Bhatti Network
Action	Declared a terrorist organisation
Law	Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA)
Ministry	Ministry of Home Affairs
Announced by	Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation
Date	16 September 2026
Main charges	Smuggling of arms, explosives and narcotics across borders

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mha-declares-shahzad-bhatti-network-a-terrorist-organisation/

Vice-President Attends 79th Hyderabad Liberation Day at Secunderabad

17 September 2026 · National

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan was chief guest at the 79th Hyderabad Liberation Day celebrations at Parade Ground, Secunderabad, in Telangana.

- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan was chief guest at the 79th Hyderabad Liberation Day celebrations at Parade Ground, Secunderabad, Telangana, on 17 September 2026.
- On 17 September 1948 the erstwhile Hyderabad State merged into the Indian Union after the events of September 1948 and Operation Polo.
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Home Minister and Minister for States, was credited with laying the foundation of a strong and unified Ek Bharat.
- The Vice-President paid homage to Ramji Gond, Turrebaz Khan and Komaram Bheem among the patriots of the Hyderabad struggle.
- He credited the Central Armed Police Forces for their role in integrating princely states and safeguarding territorial integrity in 1947 and 1948.

Occasion	79th Hyderabad Liberation Day
Date of event	17 September 2026
Venue	Parade Ground, Secunderabad, Telangana
Chief guest	Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan
Historic date	17 September 1948
Action	Operation Polo
Integration led by	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, first Home Minister and Minister for States
Patriots honoured	Ramji Gond, Turrebaz Khan, Komaram Bheem

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vice-president-attends-79th-hyderabad-liberation-day-at-secunderabad/

Kathakali Festival Opens in Chennai: Three Schools, Three Nights

18 September 2026 · National

Chennai's Kalakshetra Foundation has opened the seventeenth edition of its Kathakali festival, with three schools of the form staging one production each.

- The seventeenth Kathakali festival has opened at Bharata Kalakshetra Auditorium, Thiruvannamiyur, Chennai
- The Kalakshetra Foundation hosts it, working under the Ministry of Culture
- Performances run across three evenings, 18 to 20 September 2026
- Sadanam Academy, Kerala Kalamandalam and Margi Theatre stage one production each
- Rukmini Devi Arundale founded the Kalakshetra Foundation in 1936

Event	17th Kathakali Festival
Organiser	Kalakshetra Foundation, under the Ministry of Culture
Venue	Bharata Kalakshetra Auditorium, Thiruvannamiyur, Chennai
Dates	18 to 20 September 2026
Theme	Kadha Rasa Sangama - Confluence of Essence of Stories
Chief Guest	Shri K. K. Mishra, IRTS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture
Foundation established	1936, by Rukmini Devi Arundale

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kathakali-festival-opens-in-chennai-three-schools-three-nights/

PM Mementos e-Auction 2026: Gujarat's Heritage Goes Under the Hammer

21 September 2026 · National

The 8th PM Mementos e-Auction, begun on 17 September 2026, offers 1,498 mementos, with Gujarat's crafts featured; proceeds go to the Namami Gange Programme.

- The 8th edition of the PM Mementos e-Auction began on 17 September 2026 and offers 1,498 mementos
- It is organised by the Ministry of Culture through the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi
- Proceeds go to the Namami Gange Programme for the rejuvenation of the River Ganga
- Gujarat items include a Pithora painting of the Rathwa, Bhil and Bhilala communities and India's first solar tile with Modhera Sun Temple glass
- The auction series began in January 2019 and has raised more than ₹50 crore

Edition	8th PM Mementos e-Auction
Began	17 September 2026
Mementos offered	1,498
Organised by	Ministry of Culture through NGMA, New Delhi
Proceeds	Namami Gange Programme
First edition	January 2019
Raised so far	More than ₹50 crore
Portal	pmmementos.gov.in

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-mementos-e-auction-2026-gujarats-heritage-goes-under-the-hammer/

TRAI Mandates Voice-and-SMS-Only Recharge Packs of 30 Days or Less

22 September 2026 · National

TRAI's Thirteenth Amendment to the Telecom Consumer Protection Regulations makes operators offer voice-and-SMS-only recharge vouchers for validities of 30 days and less.

- TRAI released the Telecom Consumer Protection (Thirteenth Amendment) Regulations, 2026 on 22 September 2026
- Operators must offer voice-and-SMS-only special tariff vouchers for every validity of 30 days and less that they offer for bundled packs
- A monthly pack must renew on the same date each month; at least one longer-validity voice-SMS pack is also required
- The draft was issued on 7 April 2026, received 1,132 responses and was discussed at an open house on 15 June 2026

Regulator	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
Regulation	Telecom Consumer Protection (Thirteenth Amendment) Regulations, 2026
Released	22 September 2026
Mandate	Voice-and-SMS-only STVs for every validity of 30 days and less, plus a monthly-renewing pack and one longer pack
Draft issued	7 April 2026
Responses received	1,132
Open house discussion	15 June 2026
Earlier rule	Twelfth Amendment, 2024, first required voice-and-SMS-only STVs

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/trai-mandates-voice-and-sms-only-recharge-packs-of-30-days-or-less/

India Cine Hub: NFDC's Single-Window Portal for Film Shooting Permits

22 September 2026 · National

India Cine Hub, run by the National Film Development Corporation, is a single-window digital portal for film-shooting permits, film visas and co-production applications.

- India Cine Hub is a single-window digital portal for film-shooting permits, film visas and co-production applications, run by NFDC
- It integrates State-level permit systems, offers a GIS-based location directory, and now also handles live event permissions with 9 venues onboarded
- India's film, TV and online content sector earned USD 13.1 billion in FY 2024 and may reach USD 17.5–19.7 billion by FY 2029
- NFDC, set up in 1975, absorbed the Films Division, Directorate of Film Festivals, National Film Archive and Children's Film Society after 2020
- Ramoji Film City in Hyderabad is certified by Guinness World Records as the world's largest film studio complex

Portal	India Cine Hub (ICH)
Run by	National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), Ministry of I&B
Purpose	Single window for film-shooting permits, film visas, co-production applications
Also covers	Live event permissions; 9 premier venues onboarded
Content sector revenue	USD 13.1 billion in FY 2024; USD 17.5–19.7 billion expected by FY 2029
NFDC established	1975
Merged into NFDC after 2020	Films Division, Directorate of Film Festivals, National Film Archive of India, Children's Film Society
Film cities	Film City Mumbai (1977), Ramoji Film City Hyderabad (1996), Noida Film City

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-cine-hub-nfdcs-single-window-portal-for-film-shooting-permits/

Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 Campaign: Theme, Dates and Pillars

22 September 2026 · National

Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 runs from 17 September to 2 October on the theme 'Swachhata Mein Sahbhag, Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat' across ministries.

- The theme of Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 is 'Swachhata Mein Sahbhag, Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat'
- The campaign is observed from 17 September to 2 October 2026, ending on Gandhi Jayanti
- It is jointly organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti
- Wellbeing, health and social security of Safai Mitras is one of the six pillars of the campaign; Pillar-2 is 'Swachh Paathshala - Yuva for Swachhata'
- Under the SafaiMitra Suraksha Evam Samman Shivirs component, a preventive health camp was held at the National Media Centre with RML Hospital

Campaign	Swachhata Hi Seva 2026
Theme	Swachhata Mein Sahbhag, Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat
Duration	17 September to 2 October 2026
Organisers	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs with the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti
Pillar-2	Swachh Paathshala - Yuva for Swachhata
Safai Mitra component	SafaiMitra Suraksha Evam Samman Shivirs
DFPD Secretary	Sanjeev Chopra, who administered the Swachhata pledge at Krishi Bhawan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swachhata-hi-seva-2026-campaign-theme-dates-and-pillars/

IMEI Tampering Draws Three-Year Jail Under Telecom Act, 2023

23 September 2026 · National

A PIB backgrounder explains IMEI tampering, the Device Setu-ICDR portal and the Telecommunications Act, 2023, which allows three years in jail or a Rs 50 lakh fine.

- India's active wireless mobile subscriber base reached 1,204.01 million in July 2026, making device identity a growing security concern.
- An IMEI is a 15-digit number; its first eight digits form the Type Allocation Code (TAC), whose global allocation is overseen by the GSMA.
- Users can see an IMEI by dialling *#06# and verify it on the Sanchar Saathi portal or by sending KYM with the IMEI to 14422 by SMS.
- Manufacturers, importers and brand owners must register IMEIs and brands through the Device Setu-Indian Counterfeited Device Restriction (ICDR) portal.
- Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023, tampering with telecom identifiers can bring three years in jail, a fine up to Rs 50 lakh, or both, and the offence is cognizable and non-bailable.

IMEI length	15 digits
First eight digits	Type Allocation Code (TAC)
Global allocation of TAC	GSMA (Global System for Mobile Communications Association)
Code to display IMEI	*#06#
SMS verification	KYM with the IMEI, sent to 14422
Verification platform	Sanchar Saathi portal and app; CEIR for blocking
Registration portal	Device Setu-Indian Counterfeited Device Restriction (ICDR)
Law	Telecommunications Act, 2023, Sections 42(3)(c) and 42(3)(e)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/imei-tampering-draws-three-year-jail-under-telecom-act-2023/

Special Campaign 6: MHA Targets Pendency and Swachhata

23 September 2026 · National

The Ministry of Home Affairs will join DARPG's Special Campaign 6, whose preparation phase runs to 30 September 2026 and implementation from 2 to 31 October 2026.

- The Ministry of Home Affairs will take part in Special Campaign 6, organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).
- The preparation phase runs from 15 September to 30 September 2026 and the implementation phase from 2 October to 31 October 2026.
- Under the guidance of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, field and outstation offices that deal directly with the public get special attention.
- Between November 2025 and August 2026 the Ministry held 761 Swachhata campaigns and disposed of 52,050 public grievances and 7,410 appeals.
- The Ministry also freed 1,02,084 sq ft of office space and cleared 299 references from MPs, 336 from State Governments and 7 from the PMO.

Campaign	Special Campaign 6
Organised by	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)
Preparation phase	15 September to 30 September 2026
Implementation phase	2 October to 31 October 2026
Guidance	Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah
Swachhata campaigns held	761, between November 2025 and August 2026
Public grievances disposed of	52,050
Grievance appeals disposed of	7,410

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/special-campaign-6-mha-targets-pendency-and-swachhata/

President Murmu Attends 75th MS University Convocation, Vadodara

23 September 2026 · National

President Droupadi Murmu attended the 75th annual convocation of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda at Vadodara and spoke on multidisciplinary learning.

- President Droupadi Murmu attended the 75th annual convocation of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda at Vadodara, Gujarat, on 23 September 2026.
- She said education will be meaningful only if the country and society benefit from it.
- The President argued that no major problem can be solved within one discipline and called for a multidisciplinary approach in higher education.
- She asked graduates in every field, from engineering and medicine to teaching and public life, to place national and social interest first.
- She linked the address to the national goal of building a Viksit Bharat by 2047, in which universities and youth have a key role.

Dignitary	President of India, Droupadi Murmu
Occasion	75th annual convocation ceremony
University	Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda
Place	Vadodara, Gujarat
Date	23 September 2026
Central message	Education is meaningful only if the country and society benefit from it
Approach urged	Multidisciplinary learning in higher education
National goal cited	Viksit Bharat by 2047

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/president-murmu-attends-75th-ms-university-convocation-vadodara/

PBSHABD: Prasar Bharati Free News Feed Serves 3,600 Outlets

24 September 2026 · National

PBSHABD, the free news feed that Prasar Bharati launched on 13 March 2024, now serves 3,600 media organisations and stays free of cost up to March 2027.

- PBSHABD is the free news feed service of Prasar Bharati, launched in New Delhi on 13 March 2024 by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- The name expands to Prasar Bharati - Shared Audio-Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination, and the service is free of cost up to March 2027.
- It offers five formats - text, video, audio, photographs and infographics - in 15 Indian languages and nearly 50 news categories.
- The user base has reached 3,600 media organisations in two years, and content carries no Prasar Bharati logo and needs no credit line.
- Prasar Bharati was created by an Act of Parliament of 1990 and came into existence on 23 November 1997, working through Akashvani and Doordarshan.

Service	PBSHABD, free news feed of Prasar Bharati
Full form	Prasar Bharati - Shared Audio-Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination
Launched	13 March 2024, New Delhi, by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Free up to	March 2027
Users	3,600 media organisations
Formats and languages	Five formats, 15 Indian languages, nearly 50 categories
Prasar Bharati Act	1990; corporation came into existence on 23 November 1997
Constituents	Akashvani and Doordarshan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pbshabd-prasar-bharati-free-news-feed-serves-3600-outlets/

Special Campaign 6.0 to Run in Offices from 2 to 31 October

24 September 2026 · National

Special Campaign 6.0, the DARPG drive against pendency, runs from 2 to 31 October 2026, with a preparatory phase from 16 to 30 September and a focus on e-waste.

- Special Campaign 6.0, launched by DARPG, has a preparatory phase from 16 to 30 September 2026 and an implementation phase from 2 to 31 October 2026.
- The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities works under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and has nominated a Nodal Officer for the drive.
- This edition gives special emphasis to the collection, segregation and disposal of e-waste alongside cleanliness and disposal of pendency.
- In Special Campaign 5.0, held from 2 to 31 October 2025, DEPwD digitised and weeded out 11,972 files and freed about 15,588 square feet of space.
- That campaign generated revenue of 14,47,619 rupees and saw 64 cleanliness drives; achievements are uploaded on the SCDPM portal.

Campaign	Special Campaign 6.0, on Swachhata and disposal of pendency
Launched by	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)
Preparatory phase	16 to 30 September 2026
Implementation phase	2 to 31 October 2026
Special emphasis	Collection, segregation and disposal of e-waste
Department in focus	DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Campaign 5.0 dates	2 to 31 October 2025
Campaign 5.0 results	11,972 files digitised, 15,588 sq ft freed, 14,47,619 rupees of revenue, 64 cleanliness drives

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/special-campaign-60-to-run-in-offices-from-2-to-31-october/

New Bhuj-Barauni Amrit Bharat Express to Cover 2,532 km

25 September 2026 · National

Indian Railways cleared a tri-weekly Amrit Bharat Express between Bhuj and Barauni covering 2,532 km through Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

- Indian Railways approved a new tri-weekly Amrit Bharat Express between Bhuj in Gujarat and Barauni in Bihar, running 2,532 km through four states
- Train 19427 leaves Bhuj at 17:30 and reaches Barauni at 04:05 on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday; train 19428 leaves Barauni at 23:55 and reaches Bhuj at 13:15 on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
- Halts include Samakhiali, Ahmedabad, Ratlam, Kota, Sawai Madhopur, Bharatpur, Mathura, Bareilly, Gonda, Gorakhpur, Chhapra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur and Samastipur
- The Virangana Lakshmibai Jhansi to Agra Cantt Express, trains 11901 and 11902, was extended up to Mathura, taking its run from 217 km to 270 km
- On the extended stretch the train will halt at Raja ki Mandi, Runkuta, Deen Dayal Dham and Baad

New service	Tri-weekly Amrit Bharat Express, Bhuj to Barauni
Distance	2,532 km
States covered	Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar
Train numbers	19427 (Bhuj-Barauni) and 19428 (Barauni-Bhuj)
Running days	Monday, Wednesday, Saturday from Bhuj; Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday from Barauni
Second approval	Virangana Lakshmibai Jhansi-Agra Cantt Express extended to Mathura
Extended train numbers	11901 and 11902
Revised distance	From 217 km to 270 km

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/new-bhuj-barauni-amrit-bharat-express-to-cover-2532-km/

India-Belgium Joint Statement: Defence LoI and Investment Track

3 September 2026 · International

Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever visited India from 2 to 4 September 2026, and the two sides signed a Letter of Intent between their Defence Ministries.

- Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever was on an official visit to India from 2 to 4 September 2026, his first since taking office in February 2025, accompanied by Defence and Foreign Trade Minister Theo Francken
- A Letter of Intent was signed between the Defence Ministries of the two countries, and an MoU between the Central Bureau of Investigation and Belgium's Federal Police on organised crime and cybercrime
- Belgium was among the first European countries to establish diplomatic relations with India in 1947, and the 80th anniversary of those relations will fall in 2027
- The two countries will back each other for non-permanent seats on the UN Security Council, India for the 2028-29 term and Belgium for 2037-2038, and Belgium supports India's permanent seat
- The India-Belgium Investment Fast-Track Mechanism was launched, and the leaders aimed at doubling bilateral trade over the next 5 years; the Belgian frigate LEOPOLD I will visit India from 5 to 8 November 2026

Visiting leader	Bart De Wever, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Belgium
Dates of visit	2 to 4 September 2026
Accompanying minister	Theo Francken, Minister of Defence and Foreign Trade
Diplomatic relations since	1947
Anniversary in 2027	80th anniversary of Belgium-India relations
Defence document signed	Letter of Intent between the two Defence Ministries
Police MoU	Central Bureau of Investigation and Federal Police of Belgium
Investment platform launched	India-Belgium Investment Fast-Track Mechanism

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-belgium-joint-statement-defence-loi-and-investment-track/

India-France Space Talks Ahead of Paris International Space Summit

4 September 2026 · International

Dr Jitendra Singh and French Minister Philippe Baptiste met virtually on 4 September 2026 to plan India's role at the Paris International Space Summit.

- Dr Jitendra Singh and France's Minister for Higher Education, Research and Space, Prof Philippe Baptiste, held a virtual bilateral meeting on space cooperation
- The International Space Summit is to be held in Paris on 9 and 10 September 2026, while the Bengaluru Space Expo runs from 7 to 9 September 2026
- The Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space has been invited to deliver the opening keynote at Paris on India's future human spaceflight in Low Earth Orbit
- Prof Philippe Baptiste will visit India from 28 to 30 September 2026 and wishes to see ISRO facilities in Bengaluru
- ISRO and France's CNES have flown the joint satellite missions Megha-Tropiques and SARAL in a partnership of nearly six decades

Indian minister	Dr Jitendra Singh, MoS (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences
French minister	Prof Philippe Baptiste, Minister for Higher Education, Research and Space
International Space Summit	Paris, 9 to 10 September 2026
Bengaluru Space Expo	7 to 9 September 2026
Keynote invitation	Chairman, ISRO / Secretary, Department of Space, on India's future human spaceflight in Low Earth Orbit
French space agency	CNES
Joint missions	Megha-Tropiques and SARAL
Visit of Prof Baptiste	28 to 30 September 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-france-space-talks-ahead-of-paris-international-space-summit/

BRICS Backs Expert Working Group on Traditional Medicine

13 September 2026 · International

The New Delhi Declaration of the 18th BRICS Summit welcomed a BRICS Expert Working Group on Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine under the Health Track.

- The New Delhi Declaration of the 18th BRICS Summit welcomed a proposed BRICS Expert Working Group on Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine (TCIM).
- The proposed working group will function under the BRICS Health Track as a platform for dialogue and exchange among member states.
- A BRICS meeting on TCIM held at Chandigarh on 21 July 2026 under India's Chairship agreed on the Terms of Reference for the group.
- The declaration seeks research cooperation on medicinal plants and herbal preparations and on shared traditional pharmacopoeias.
- The WHO Global Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025-2034 forms the wider backdrop to the BRICS decision.

Outcome document	New Delhi Declaration, 18th BRICS Summit
Body welcomed	BRICS Expert Working Group on TCIM
Full form of TCIM	Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine
Placed under	BRICS Health Track
Terms of Reference agreed at	Chandigarh, 21 July 2026
Union Minister of State (IC), Ayush	Shri Prataprao Jadhav
Secretary, Ministry of Ayush	Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha
WHO strategy	Global Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025-2034

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/brics-backs-expert-working-group-on-traditional-medicine/

India-MERCOSUR PTA: Protocol Signed, Expansion Talks Begin

14 September 2026 · International

India and MERCOSUR signed the First Additional Protocol to their Preferential Trade Agreement for electronic Certificates of Origin and launched talks to expand the pact.

- India and MERCOSUR signed the First Additional Protocol to their Preferential Trade Agreement to allow electronic Certificates of Origin.
- The Protocol amends Article 16 of Annex III of the agreement, which contains the Rules of Origin.
- The India-MERCOSUR Preferential Trade Agreement was signed on 25 January 2004 and came into force on 1 June 2009.
- India gives tariff concessions on 450 tariff lines and MERCOSUR on 452 tariff lines under the agreement.
- Piyush Goyal and Uruguay's Foreign Minister Mario Lubetkin also announced the launch of negotiations to expand the agreement.

Agreement	India-MERCOSUR Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)
New instrument	First Additional Protocol, for electronic Certificates of Origin
Signed for India by	Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agarwal
Signed for MERCOSUR by	Ambassadors of Uruguay and Paraguay to India
In the presence of	Mario Lubetkin, Foreign Minister of Uruguay
MERCOSUR Pro Tempore Presidency	Held by Uruguay
PTA signed on	25 January 2004
PTA in force from	1 June 2009

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-mercosur-pta-protocol-signed-expansion-talks-begin/

New Zealand Passes Law to Bring India-New Zealand FTA Into Force

17 September 2026 · International

India welcomed the New Zealand Parliament's passage of legislation for the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement signed in New Delhi on 27 April 2026.

- The Parliament of New Zealand passed legislation on 16 September 2026 to give effect to the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement.
- The FTA was signed in New Delhi on 27 April 2026 and gives duty-free access for 100 per cent of Indian exports to New Zealand from entry into force.
- Indian gains cover textiles and apparel, leather and footwear, engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, agriculture and processed food.
- New Zealand gets preferential access for wood, wool, sheep meat and raw hides; the pact also facilitates 20 billion US dollars of investment into India.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's July 2026 visit to New Zealand was the first by an Indian Prime Minister in four decades.

Agreement	India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA)
Signed on	27 April 2026, New Delhi
Law passed	16 September 2026 by the Parliament of New Zealand
Ministry in India	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Duty-free access	100 per cent of Indian exports to New Zealand
Indian sectors gaining	Textiles and apparel, leather and footwear, engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, processed food
New Zealand sectors gaining	Wood, wool, sheep meat, raw hides of leather
Investment facilitation	20 billion US dollars into India

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/new-zealand-passes-law-to-bring-india-new-zealand-fta-into-force/

India-New Zealand FTA to Enter into Force on 20 October 2026

21 September 2026 · International

The India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement, signed on 27 April 2026, will come into force on 20 October 2026 and make all of India's exports duty-free.

- The India-New Zealand FTA will enter into force on 20 October 2026, the day of Dussehra-Vijayadashami
- It was signed on 27 April 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, by Piyush Goyal and Todd McClay
- All tariff lines covering 100% of India's exports to New Zealand become duty-free from day one
- Dairy, animal meat except sheep, key farm commodities, sugar and edible oils are excluded from tariff concessions
- New Zealand commits to facilitate USD 20 billion of investment; India gets 5,000 Temporary Employment Entry visas and 1,000 Working Holiday visas a year

Agreement	India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement
Signed on	27 April 2026
Venue of signing	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Enters into force	20 October 2026 (Dussehra-Vijayadashami)
New Zealand Parliament passed law	16 September 2026
India's minister	Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry
New Zealand's minister	Todd McClay, Trade and Investment
Duty-free Indian exports	100% of tariff lines

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-new-zealand-fta-to-enter-into-force-on-20-october-2026/

7th OPEC-India Energy Dialogue Held in New Delhi

22 September 2026 · International

The 7th High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-India Energy Dialogue was held in New Delhi, co-chaired by Hardeep Singh Puri and OPEC chief Haitham Al Ghais.

- The Seventh High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-India Energy Dialogue was held on 22 September 2026 in New Delhi
- It was co-chaired by Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and OPEC Secretary General Haitham Al Ghais
- The OPEC-India Energy Dialogue was launched in New Delhi in 2015 and is now eleven years old
- Talks focused on oil market stability, energy security and timely investment across the oil industry
- The Eighth High-Level Meeting will be held in Vienna, Austria, on a mutually convenient date

Event	Seventh High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-India Energy Dialogue
Date and venue	22 September 2026, New Delhi
Co-chair (India)	Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas
Co-chair (OPEC)	Haitham Al Ghais, OPEC Secretary General
Dialogue launched	New Delhi, 2015
Focus areas	Oil market stability, energy security, timely investment
Next meeting	Eighth High-Level Meeting at Vienna, Austria

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/7th-opec-india-energy-dialogue-held-in-new-delhi/

India Showcases UHC Gains at UNGA81, Co-launches OneSCD

24 September 2026 · International

At UNGA81 India cited over 1.8 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, 900 million health IDs and 497 million e-Sanjeevani teleconsultations, and co-launched OneSCD.

- Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava represented India at two health events on the sidelines of the 81st United Nations General Assembly in New York.
- India reported over 1.8 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, more than 900 million citizens with unique health identities and over 497 million teleconsultations on e-Sanjeevani.
- For hepatitis, India restated the 2030 elimination goal for Hepatitis B and C; treatment has reached 1,039 centres and nearly 225 million people have been screened since 2018.
- India co-hosted the launch of OneSCD with the Government of Nigeria, WHO, UNICEF, Africa CDC and other partners to make sickle cell care more equitable.
- The National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission, launched in 2023, targets 2047 and has screened more than 7.29 crore people and issued over 4.93 crore cards.

Occasion	Side events of the 81st United Nations General Assembly (UNGA81), New York
India represented by	Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava
First meeting	Seventh Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of UHC and Global Health
Ayushman Arogya Mandirs	Over 1.8 lakh
Unique health identities	Over 900 million citizens
e-Sanjeevani teleconsultations	Over 497 million
Hepatitis goal	Eliminate Hepatitis B and C as public health threats by 2030
Hepatitis treatment centres	1,039; nearly 225 million screened since 2018

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-showcases-uhc-gains-at-unga81-co-launches-onescd/

India Joins 14th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers Meeting in Manila

24 September 2026 · International

India took part in the 14th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers Meeting and the 23rd ASEAN-India consultation at Manila, with trade at USD 128.38 billion.

- India joined the 14th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers Meeting and the 23rd ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultation at Manila, Philippines.
- The Indian delegation was led by Shri Nitin Kumar Yadav, Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce.
- All eleven ASEAN members took part along with East Asia Summit partners such as Australia, China, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia and the United States.
- India-ASEAN two way trade reached USD 128.38 billion in 2025-26, with ASEAN forming 10.55 per cent of India's global trade.
- Talks focused on the ongoing review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement, meant to raise trade flows and fix trade asymmetries.

Meetings	14th EAS Economic Ministers Meeting and 23rd ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultation
Venue	Manila, Philippines
Indian delegation led by	Shri Nitin Kumar Yadav, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce
ASEAN members present	All eleven, including Timor-Leste
Agreement under review	ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA)
India-ASEAN trade	USD 128.38 billion in 2025-26
Share in India's global trade	10.55 per cent
Research paper	Presented by ERIA on energy security and industrial clusters

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-joins-14th-east-asia-summit-economic-ministers-meeting-in-manila/

Vice-President Opens 4th IN-STEP with 22 Nations Taking Part

25 September 2026 · International

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan addressed the fourth International Strategic Engagement Programme, which has 38 delegates, of whom 25 are from 22 countries.

- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan addressed the fourth edition of the International Strategic Engagement Programme (IN-STEP) at Uprashtrapati Bhawan
- IN-STEP is organised jointly by the Ministry of External Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and the National Security Council Secretariat with the National Defence College, and runs for two weeks
- The edition has 38 delegates in all, including 25 international delegates drawn from 22 countries such as Sri Lanka, Nepal, Mauritius, Maldives, Chile, Brazil and Uzbekistan
- Earlier editions were held in March 2024, October 2024 and October-November 2025
- His three-part message was to think globally, engage strategically and act in cohesion, and he asked Global South countries to build corruption-free systems

Event	4th International Strategic Engagement Programme (IN-STEP)
Addressed by	Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan
Venue	Uprashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi
Organisers	Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Defence and National Security Council Secretariat
Host institution	National Defence College
Duration	Two weeks
Participation	38 delegates, including 25 international delegates from 22 countries
Earlier editions	March 2024, October 2024 and October-November 2025

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vice-president-opens-4th-in-step-with-22-nations-taking-part/

14 Women in India's 70-Member Team at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026

25 September 2026 · International

Fourteen young women are part of India's 70-member contingent competing across 63 skills at the 48th WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai from 22 to 27 September 2026.

- Fourteen young women are part of Team India at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026, more than a fifth of the competitor contingent.
- India has fielded a 70-member contingent competing across 63 skills at the event.
- The 48th WorldSkills Competition is being held in Shanghai from 22 to 27 September 2026.
- The women are competing in trades such as Chemical Laboratory Technology, Logistics and Freight Forwarding, Visual Merchandising, Fashion Technology and Beauty Therapy.
- Manisha Sensarma, Official Delegate of WorldSkills India, is Senior Economic Adviser in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Event	48th WorldSkills Competition, WorldSkills Shanghai 2026
Host city	Shanghai, China
Dates	22 to 27 September 2026
India's contingent	70 competitors
Skills contested	63
Women competitors from India	14, more than a fifth of the contingent
Ministry	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
Official Delegate, WorldSkills India	Manisha Sensarma, Senior Economic Adviser

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/14-women-in-indias-70-member-team-at-worldskills-shanghai-2026/

India's GDP Grows 7.8% in Q1 of 2026-27, Best in Four Years

1 September 2026 · Economy

India's real GDP rose 7.8% in the first quarter of 2026-27 to ₹81.36 lakh crore, the strongest first-quarter growth in four years, while real GVA gained 8.2%.

- Real GDP grew 7.8 per cent in the first quarter of 2026-27, the highest first-quarter growth in the four years from 2023-24, and above the Reserve Bank of India's estimate of 7.0 per cent
- Real GDP stood at ₹81.36 lakh crore and nominal GDP at ₹88.27 lakh crore; real GVA was ₹73.82 lakh crore, growing 8.2 per cent
- Investment measured by Gross Fixed Capital Formation rose 11.9 per cent, household consumption 7.1 per cent and exports 12.0 per cent
- Manufacturing grew 9.2 per cent and the tertiary sector 10.0 per cent; real GDP growth for 2025-26 was revised up to 7.8 per cent
- The IMF in July 2026 called India a key engine of global growth, and S&P Global Ratings affirmed the BBB rating with a stable outlook in August 2026

Quarter	First quarter (Q1) of 2026-27
Real GDP growth	7.8 per cent
Real GDP level	₹81.36 lakh crore
Nominal GDP	₹88.27 lakh crore, up 10.3 per cent
Real GVA	₹73.82 lakh crore, up 8.2 per cent
RBI projection for the quarter	7.0 per cent
Investment (GFCF)	Up 11.9 per cent
Manufacturing growth	9.2 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indias-gdp-grows-78percent-in-q1-of-2026-27-best-in-four-years/

Q1 2026-27 GDP Estimates Explained: Base Year and Deflators

2 September 2026 · Economy

GDP at current prices for the first quarter of 2026-27 stood at Rs 88.27 lakh crore, and manufacturing GVA was worked out using the double deflation method.

- The updated annual and quarterly GDP series, released on 31 August 2026, uses 2022-23 as its base year in place of 2011-12, along with a new output PPI and a Banking Services Price Index
- Manufacturing GVA is now compiled by double deflation, under which output and intermediate consumption are deflated separately; the IMF calls it the preferred method for volume measurement
- Manufacturing nominal GVA grew 7.7 per cent against real growth of 9.2 per cent, producing an implicit GVA deflator of -1.5 per cent, while agriculture recorded implied inflation of 3.9 per cent
- Mining and quarrying had real GVA growth of -2.4 per cent but nominal growth of 22.3 per cent, because crude petroleum and natural gas prices rose 69.5, 72.2 and 33.7 per cent in April, May and June
- GDP at current prices was Rs 88.27 lakh crore in the first quarter of 2026-27, to be read against the same series estimate of Rs 80.32 lakh crore, not the old Rs 86.05 lakh crore

Ministry	Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
Quarter	First quarter (April-June) of 2026-27
New base year	2022-23, replacing 2011-12
Updated series released	31 August 2026
New method	Double deflation for manufacturing
GDP at current prices, Q1 2026-27	Rs 88.27 lakh crore
Comparable Q1 2025-26 estimate	Rs 80.32 lakh crore
Manufacturing implicit GVA deflator	-1.5 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/q1-2026-27-gdp-estimates-explained-base-year-and-deflators/

Japan Credit Rating Agency Upgrades India to 'A-', Outlook Stable

2 September 2026 · Economy

Japan Credit Rating Agency raised India's long-term foreign and local currency issuer ratings by one notch from 'BBB+' to 'A-' and kept the outlook stable.

- Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR) raised India's long-term foreign currency and local currency issuer ratings by one notch from BBB+ to A-, with a stable outlook
- India's country ceiling was also raised by one notch to A, which lets Indian companies borrow abroad on easier terms
- JCR cited real GDP growth of 7.8 per cent in FY26, with the same pace held in the first quarter of FY27
- The Centre's fiscal deficit fell from 4.7 per cent in FY25 to 4.4 per cent in FY26 while capital spending stayed high
- Morningstar DBRS upgraded India in May 2025, S&P Global Ratings in August 2025 and R&I of Japan in September 2025

Agency	Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR)
Earlier rating	BBB+
New rating	A- (one notch up)
Outlook	Stable
Country ceiling	Raised one notch to A
Ratings covered	Long-term foreign currency and local currency issuer ratings
Real GDP growth cited	7.8 per cent in FY26
Fiscal deficit	4.7 per cent in FY25 to 4.4 per cent in FY26

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/japan-credit-rating-agency-upgrades-india-to-a-outlook-stable/

Steel Sector Grows in April-August 2026; NMDC Sets August Record

3 September 2026 · Economy

India's steel production, consumption and trade all rose between April and August 2026, and NMDC mined 4.07 million tonnes of iron ore in August alone.

- The Ministry of Steel's review for April to August 2026, based on provisional Joint Plant Committee data, showed crude steel output up 1.8 per cent and finished steel consumption up 7.0 per cent over the year
- India remained a net importer of finished steel by quantity during April to August 2026, even though both imports and exports grew
- NMDC mined 4.07 million tonnes of iron ore in August 2026 with sales of 3.58 million tonnes, growth of 20.8 per cent and 5.6 per cent; its Kirandul, Bacheli and Donimalai mines set August records
- SRTMI of India and SWERIM of Sweden signed an MoU covering iron and steel research, green steel, decarbonisation, the circular economy and advanced steels
- SAIL won Top Employer certification valid till December 2027, and its Bhilai Steel Plant launched a carbon dioxide dashboard for daily monitoring of emissions

Data source	Provisional Joint Plant Committee data for August 2026
Period reviewed	April to August 2026
Crude steel growth	1.8 per cent over the year
Finished steel consumption growth	7.0 per cent over the year
Net trade position	India was a net importer of finished steel by quantity
Top 7 producers	SAIL, RINL, NSL, TSL Group, AM/NS, JSL (JSPL), JSW Group
NMDC iron ore, August 2026	4.07 million tonnes mined, 3.58 million tonnes sold
NMDC record mines	Kirandul, Bacheli and Donimalai

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/steel-sector-grows-in-april-august-2026-nmdc-sets-august-record/

SAIL Posts Best-Ever August Output and 13% Sales Growth

4 September 2026 · Economy

SAIL recorded its best-ever August production of hot metal, crude steel and saleable steel in August 2026, with total sales rising 13 per cent to 1.871 million tonnes.

- SAIL achieved its best-ever August output of hot metal, crude steel and saleable steel in August 2026
- Crude steel production grew 8 per cent to 1.68 MT, hot metal rose 9 per cent to 1.78 MT and saleable steel rose 1 per cent to 1.69 MT
- Total sales in August 2026 were 1.871 million tonnes, a rise of 13 per cent over 1.654 million tonnes a year earlier, with cash collections up 23 per cent
- Rail supplies to Indian Railways rose 5 per cent to 1.23 lakh tonnes, and Long Rails supplies touched a record 1.12 lakh tonnes
- SAIL cut borrowings by Rs 870 crore from the 31.03.2026 level and cumulative April to August 2026 sales reached 7.71 million tonnes

Company	Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), under the Ministry of Steel
Crude steel, August 2026	1.68 MT, up 8 per cent from 1.55 MT
Hot metal, August 2026	1.78 MT, up 9 per cent from 1.63 MT
Saleable steel, August 2026	1.69 MT, up 1 per cent from 1.66 MT
Total sales, August 2026	1.871 million tonnes, up 13 per cent from 1.654 million tonnes
Cash collections	Up 23 per cent year on year
Rail supplies to Indian Railways	1.23 lakh tonnes, up 5 per cent from 1.18 lakh tonnes
Long Rails supplies	1.12 lakh tonnes, highest ever, up 11 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/sail-posts-best-ever-august-output-and-13percent-sales-growth/

India-EU FTA Binds a Market of 2 Billion People: Piyush Goyal

4 September 2026 · Economy

Piyush Goyal told the India-Belgium High-Level Dialogue in Mumbai that the India-EU FTA joins 2 billion people and a quarter of the global GDP.

- Piyush Goyal addressed the India-Belgium High-Level Dialogue on the India-EU FTA in Mumbai, with Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis present
- The India-EU FTA brings together 2 billion people, a quarter of global GDP, a third of world trade and a market of USD 24 trillion, with all 27 EU countries on board
- Bart De Wever said tariffs on more than 95 per cent of Indian and European goods exports would be scrapped or reduced
- India-EU trade has doubled over the last decade to nearly USD 140 billion, and the Port of Antwerp-Bruges is Europe's second-largest seaport
- India aims to grow from a USD 4 trillion economy to a USD 30 trillion economy by 2047, when it completes 100 years of independence

Event	India-Belgium High-Level Dialogue on the India-EU FTA, Mumbai
Addressed by	Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal
Also present	Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis
People covered by the FTA	2 billion, a quarter of global GDP and a third of world trade
Size of the combined market	USD 24 trillion
EU countries on board	All 27
Tariff relief	On more than 95 per cent of Indian and European goods exports
India-EU trade	Doubled in a decade to nearly USD 140 billion

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-eu-fta-binds-a-market-of-2-billion-people-piyush-goyal/

NITI Aayog Launches PACT and ZET Marketplace for Electric Trucks

7 September 2026 · Economy

NITI Aayog member Rajiv Gauba launched the PACT platform and the ZET Marketplace at the 5th e-FAST India Summit 2026 to speed up zero-emission freight.

- NITI Aayog Member Shri Rajiv Gauba launched the Platform for Aggregating Clean Transport (PACT) and the ZET Marketplace at the 5th e-FAST India Summit 2026
- PACT aggregates freight demand from shippers and logistics service providers and converts it into deployment opportunities on identified freight corridors
- E-freight vehicle deployment rose more than fourfold from 201 vehicles to 826, and over 3,000 electric medium and heavy-duty trucks are now in operation
- Heavy trucks are only 3 to 4 per cent of the fleet but cause over a third of transport carbon emissions, and about 70 per cent of India's freight moves by road
- e-FAST India stands for Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport - India, a NITI Aayog led platform linking government and industry

Launched	Platform for Aggregating Clean Transport (PACT) and Zero Emission Truck (ZET) Marketplace
Launched by	Shri Rajiv Gauba, Member, NITI Aayog
Occasion	5th e-FAST India Summit 2026, on 7 September 2026
e-FAST India	Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport - India, led by NITI Aayog
E-freight deployment	Up from 201 vehicles to 826, a more than fourfold rise
E-trucks in operation	More than 3,000 electric medium and heavy-duty trucks
Heavy truck share	3 to 4 per cent of the fleet, over a third of transport carbon emissions
Road share of freight	About 70 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/niti-aayog-launches-pact-and-zet-marketplace-for-electric-trucks/

Kharif Sowing Reaches 1086.31 Lakh Hectares This Season

8 September 2026 · Economy

Kharif crops had been sown on 1086.31 lakh hectares by 4 September 2026, which is 17.69 lakh hectares less than a year earlier; pulses and jute gained area.

- All India kharif sowing reached 1086.31 lakh hectares as on 4 September 2026, which is 17.69 lakh hectares below the same week of the previous season
- The season is running below the normal area of the department, the average against which every weekly sowing report is read
- Pulses at 117.13 lakh hectares and jute and mesta at 6.34 lakh hectares are the only two groups with a higher area than last year
- Rice area fell to 421.82 lakh hectares from 438.19 lakh hectares, a drop of 16.37 lakh hectares
- Oilseeds stood at 191.99 lakh hectares, cotton at 109.17 lakh hectares and sugarcane at 58.47 lakh hectares

Report	Weekly kharif area coverage of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Position as on	4 September 2026
Total sown area	1086.31 lakh hectares
Change from last year	Down 17.69 lakh hectares
Rice	421.82 lakh hectares, down 16.37 lakh hectares
Pulses	117.13 lakh hectares, up 1.84 lakh hectares
Cotton	109.17 lakh hectares

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kharif-sowing-reaches-108631-lakh-hectares-this-season/

Cabinet Clears Eight Railway Multitracking Projects in Nine States

9 September 2026 · Economy

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved eight railway multitracking projects on 9 September 2026 costing Rs 10,021 crore and Rs 10,783 crore.

- The CCEA on 9 September 2026 approved five railway multitracking projects costing about Rs 10,021 crore across 17 districts of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana
- It also approved three projects costing Rs 10,783 crore across 14 districts of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh
- The five projects add about 540 km of line and the three projects about 656 km; all eight are to be completed by 2029-30
- The five projects will serve about 2,121 villages with 52 lakh people; the three projects about 4,790 villages with 56 lakh people
- Extra freight capacity created is 47 MTPA from the southern package and 27 MTPA from the eastern package, all planned under PM-Gati Shakti

Approved by	Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister
Date of approval	9 September 2026
First package	Five projects, Rs 10,021 crore, 17 districts, about 540 km
States covered (first)	Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana
Second package	Three projects, Rs 10,783 crore, 14 districts, about 656 km
States covered (second)	West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh
Completion target	2029-30
Planning framework	PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cabinet-clears-eight-railway-multitracking-projects-in-nine-states/

DRI Seizes 41 kg Smuggled Gold Worth Rs 62 Crore Across India

10 September 2026 · Economy

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized about 41 kg of foreign-origin gold in six operations across India and arrested 24 people, three of them foreigners.

- The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized about 41 kg of foreign-origin gold worth around Rs 62 crore in six intelligence-led operations
- In all 24 persons were arrested, including three foreign nationals, and the networks ran through airports, rail routes and the Indo-Bangladesh border
- In Delhi a melting and die-cutting unit was found in a residential premises, taking that seizure to about 10.2 kg of gold
- Near the Indo-Bangladesh border at BOP Halderpara, 89 gold bars weighing about 11.3 kg were seized with the help of the Border Security Force
- At Mumbai airport eight capsules of gold dust in wax form weighing 3.47 kg were recovered and five persons, including two transit passengers, were arrested

Agency	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Ministry of Finance
Gold seized	Around 41 kg of foreign-origin gold
Value	Around Rs 62 crore
Operations	Six intelligence-led operations
Arrests	24 persons, including three foreign nationals
Law invoked	Customs Act, 1962
Border seizure	89 bars weighing about 11.3 kg at BOP Halderpara, with the Border Security Force
Mumbai airport case	Eight capsules of gold dust in wax form, 3.47 kg net weight

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dri-seizes-41-kg-smuggled-gold-worth-rs-62-crore-across-india/

Cochin Shipyard and Drydocks World Form 50:50 Ship Repair JV

11 September 2026 · Economy

Cochin Shipyard and Dubai's Drydocks World have signed a 50:50 joint venture to run and expand the International Ship Repair Facility at Cochin.

- Cochin Shipyard Limited and Drydocks World, a DP World company, signed a 50:50 joint venture agreement on 11 September 2026
- The venture will operate, consolidate and expand the International Ship Repair Facility at Cochin
- The agreement was signed in New Delhi on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit 2026, in the presence of Sarbananda Sonowal
- It builds on an MoU signed by the two during India Maritime Week 2025 and is a first-of-its-kind public-private partnership in Indian ship repair
- The partnership is placed under the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 and the vision of Maritime India 2030

Partners	Cochin Shipyard Limited and Drydocks World, a DP World company
Shareholding	50:50, with initial capital from equity of both parties
Facility	International Ship Repair Facility (ISRF), Cochin
Signed by	Captain Rado Antolovic, CEO of Drydocks World, and Jose V. J., CMD of Cochin Shipyard
Signed at	New Delhi, on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit 2026
Present	Sarbananda Sonowal and UAE Assistant Foreign Minister Omran Sharaf Alhashimi
Earlier step	An MoU signed during India Maritime Week 2025
Significance	First-of-its-kind public-private partnership in India's ship repair sector

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cochin-shipyard-and-drydocks-world-form-5050-ship-repair-jv/

Railway Freight Loading Grows 5.4 Per Cent in August 2026

13 September 2026 · Economy

Indian Railways loaded 137.9 million tonnes of freight in August 2026, up 5.4 per cent, and carried 67.27 crore passengers during the same month.

- Indian Railways loaded 137.9 million tonnes of freight in August 2026 against 130.9 million tonnes in August 2025, a growth of 5.4 per cent.
- Freight revenue in August 2026 rose 6.27 per cent over August 2025, with iron ore loading up 12.1 per cent and clinker up 10.4 per cent.
- Five new Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals were commissioned, taking the total to 149 as on 31 August 2026.
- Fourteen Amrit Bharat services were regularised during the month, taking the total number of such services to 86.
- The network carried 67.27 crore passengers in August 2026 against 64.43 crore a year earlier, with suburban traffic up 9.02 per cent.

Month reported	August 2026
Freight loaded	137.9 million tonnes, against 130.9 million tonnes in August 2025
Freight growth	5.4 per cent year-on-year
Freight revenue growth	6.27 per cent
New Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals	5, taking the total to 149 as on 31 August 2026
Amrit Bharat services regularised	14, taking the total to 86
Passengers carried	67.27 crore, against 64.43 crore in August 2025
Suburban passengers	38.01 crore, up 9.02 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/railway-freight-loading-grows-54-per-cent-in-august-2026/

Retail Inflation at 4.82 Percent in August 2026: CPI Data

14 September 2026 · Economy

Retail inflation measured by the Consumer Price Index on the base year 2024 equals 100 stood at 4.82 percent in August 2026, while food inflation reached 5.95 percent.

- Retail inflation based on the Consumer Price Index was 4.82 per cent in August 2026, measured against August 2025.
- Rural inflation stood at 5.23 per cent and urban inflation at 4.31 per cent, so villages faced the sharper price rise.
- Food inflation measured by the Consumer Food Price Index was 5.95 per cent, with rural at 6.13 per cent and urban at 5.64 per cent.
- The index uses the new base year in which 2024 equals 100, and the data comes from 1407 urban markets and 1465 villages.
- Silver jewellery led the items with high inflation while tomato recorded the steepest fall among key items.

Index	Consumer Price Index, base year 2024 equals 100
Month	August 2026, provisional estimate
Retail inflation	4.82 per cent
Rural inflation	5.23 per cent
Urban inflation	4.31 per cent
Food inflation (CFPI)	5.95 per cent
Rural and urban food inflation	6.13 per cent and 5.64 per cent
Price sample	1407 urban markets and 1465 villages

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/retail-inflation-at-482-percent-in-august-2026-cpi-data/

WPI Inflation Rises to 9.92 Percent in August 2026

14 September 2026 · Economy

Wholesale price inflation on the base year 2022-23 rose to 9.92 per cent in August 2026 from 9.78 per cent in July, with fuel and power inflation at 22.93 per cent.

- Wholesale price inflation was 9.92 per cent in August 2026, up from 9.78 per cent in July 2026, on the base year 2022-23.
- The all commodities index stood at 110.8 in August 2026 against 110.0 in July 2026.
- Fuel and Power recorded the highest inflation among the major groups at 22.93 per cent, against 20.05 per cent in July.
- Primary Articles recorded 7.76 per cent and Manufactured Products 8.37 per cent in August 2026.
- The WPI Food Index, which carries a weight of 24.99 per cent, recorded inflation of 7.05 per cent.

Index	Wholesale Price Index, base year 2022-23
Month	August 2026, provisional estimate
WPI inflation	9.92 per cent
Previous month	9.78 per cent in July 2026
All commodities index	110.8 in August 2026
Primary Articles	7.76 per cent, index 118.1
Fuel and Power	22.93 per cent, index 108.3
Manufactured Products	8.37 per cent, index 108.8

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/wpi-inflation-rises-to-992-percent-in-august-2026/

India's Exports Reach 399.27 Billion Dollars in April-August

15 September 2026 · Economy

India's total exports of goods and services in April-August 2026-27 are estimated at 399.27 billion dollars, a growth of 15.55 per cent over the same months last year.

- India's total exports of goods and services in April-August 2026-27 are estimated at 399.27 billion dollars, up 15.55 per cent.
- Total exports in August 2026 alone are estimated at 82.68 billion dollars, a growth of 25.41 per cent over August 2025.
- Merchandise exports in April-August 2026-27 stood at 215.91 billion dollars, a growth of 17.85 per cent.
- Non-petroleum exports in the same months were 180.61 billion dollars, 14.39 per cent above the previous year.
- Electronic goods exports rose 89.82 per cent in the month, from 2.93 billion dollars to 5.55 billion dollars.

Released by	Ministry of Commerce and Industry, 15 September 2026
Cumulative exports, April-August 2026-27	399.27 billion US dollars
Growth over last year	15.55 per cent
Cumulative imports	459.65 billion US dollars, up 18.01 per cent
Exports in August 2026	82.68 billion US dollars, up 25.41 per cent
Imports in August 2026	92.09 billion US dollars, up 18.75 per cent
Merchandise exports, April-August	215.91 billion US dollars, up 17.85 per cent
Non-petroleum exports	180.61 billion US dollars, up 14.39 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indias-exports-reach-39927-billion-dollars-in-april-august/

Cabinet Raises EPFO Wage Ceiling to Rs 25,000 Per Month

16 September 2026 · Economy

The Union Cabinet cleared a rise in the EPFO wage ceiling for mandatory coverage from Rs 15,000 to Rs 25,000 a month, pulling in 51 lakh more workers.

- The Union Cabinet on 16 September 2026 approved raising the EPFO wage ceiling for compulsory coverage from Rs 15,000 to Rs 25,000 a month.
- More than 51 lakh additional employees are expected to come inside mandatory EPFO coverage because of the change.
- The ceiling had last been revised in September 2014; it stayed frozen right through the decade from 2004 to 2014.
- The new ceiling takes effect from 17 September 2026, observed as Vishwakarma Jayanti and Sewa Divas.
- Covered workers get provident fund savings, EPS pension cover and EDLI insurance; Dr Mansukh Mandaviya announced the date.

Decision	EPFO wage ceiling for mandatory coverage raised
From	Rs 15,000 per month
To	Rs 25,000 per month
Approved by	Union Cabinet, 16 September 2026
Effective from	17 September 2026 (Vishwakarma Jayanti and Sewa Divas)
Extra coverage	More than 51 lakh employees
Ministry	Ministry of Labour and Employment
Minister	Dr Mansukh Mandaviya

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cabinet-raises-epfo-wage-ceiling-to-rs-25000-per-month/

Coal Ministry Launches 16th Round of Commercial Coal Mine Auctions

17 September 2026 · Economy

The Ministry of Coal opened the 16th round of commercial coal mine auctions in New Delhi, offering 25 blocks across nine coal-bearing states of India.

- The Ministry of Coal launched the 16th round of commercial coal mine auctions in New Delhi on 17 September 2026, with MoS Satish Chandra Dubey as chief guest.
- The round offers 25 coal blocks, 21 fully explored and four partly explored, spread across nine coal-bearing states.
- Six blocks come under the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act and 19 under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act.
- CMDPAs were handed to winners of six mines with reserves of about 1,504 million tonnes and a combined peak rated capacity of 11.62 MTPA.
- Since commercial mining opened in 2020, 147 mines have been auctioned, promising yearly revenue above Rs 47,500 crore.

Event	16th round of commercial coal mine auctions
Date	17 September 2026, New Delhi
Ministry	Ministry of Coal
Launched by	Satish Chandra Dubey, Minister of State for Coal and Mines
Blocks offered	25 (21 fully explored, four partly explored)
States	Nine, from Arunachal Pradesh to West Bengal
CMDPAs signed	Six mines, including Tara (Revised) and Mandla South
Reserves of the six	About 1,504 million tonnes

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/coal-ministry-launches-16th-round-of-commercial-coal-mine-auctions/

NLMC Board Clears Assets Worth Over Rs 5,000 Crore

19 September 2026 · Economy

The National Land Monetization Corporation's board has recommended surplus land and buildings valued at over Rs 5,000 crore for monetisation at its 21st meeting.

- The 21st board meeting of the National Land Monetization Corporation was held on 18 September 2026
- Proposals covering assets worth over Rs 5,000 crore were recommended for monetisation
- The assets are surplus land and buildings identified for the purpose
- NLMC helps Central Public Sector Enterprises and other government entities monetise surplus assets
- The board approved the Annual Financial Statements and Directors' Report for 2025-26

Body	National Land Monetization Corporation Limited (NLMC)
Ministry	Ministry of Finance
Meeting	21st Meeting of the Board of Directors
Date	18 September 2026
Assets recommended	Over Rs 5,000 crore
Asset type	Surplus land and building assets
Works with	Central Public Sector Enterprises and other government entities
Accounts approved	Annual Financial Statements and Directors' Report, 2025-26

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nlmc-board-clears-assets-worth-over-rs-5000-crore/

India Aims to Be World's No. 1 Silk Producer by 2028-29

20 September 2026 · Economy

India's silk output has risen from 26,000 tonnes in 2014 to 42,000 tonnes; the Centre targets 60,000 tonnes by 2030-31 and the world's top spot by 2028-29.

- India's silk production rose from 26,000 metric tonnes in 2014 to 42,000 metric tonnes at present
- The target is 60,000 metric tonnes of silk by 2030-31
- The government has resolved to make India the world's No. 1 silk producer by 2028-29
- Karnataka holds the leading position in India's total silk production
- The goals were announced at the Central Silk Board's 77th Foundation Day in Bengaluru on 20 September 2026

Occasion	77th Foundation Day of the Central Silk Board, Bengaluru, 20 September 2026
Inaugurated by	Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh and MoS Shobha Karandlaje
Silk production in 2014	26,000 metric tonnes
Silk production at present	42,000 metric tonnes
Production target	60,000 metric tonnes by 2030-31
World No. 1 goal	By 2028-29
Leading silk-producing state	Karnataka
Farmer income aspiration	₹10 lakh to ₹12 lakh a year

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-aims-to-be-worlds-no-1-silk-producer-by-2028-29/

Asia's First Telecom Manufacturing Zone to Come Up in Gwalior

20 September 2026 · Economy

Asia's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone will come up in Gwalior with about ₹5,500 crore of investment; 24 companies have applied and 170 acres are identified.

- Asia's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ) is to be set up in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
- It is expected to attract about ₹5,500 crore of investment and create more than 18,000 jobs
- About 170 acres have been identified for the first phase, at SADA and the IT Park
- 24 companies have begun the application process to set up units in the zone
- The DoT and the Madhya Pradesh government signed an MoU for the TMZ in July 2026

Project	Asia's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ)
Location	Shrimant Madhavrao Scindia Counter Magnet City (SADA) and IT Park, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
Expected investment	About ₹5,500 crore
Expected jobs	More than 18,000
Companies applying	24
Land for phase one	About 170 acres (90+ acres in SADA, 70+ acres in the IT Park)
Units planned	24-25 telecom manufacturing units across six verticals
MoU	July 2026, between the DoT and the Government of Madhya Pradesh

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asias-first-telecom-manufacturing-zone-to-come-up-in-gwalior/

Mines Ministry Launches Concept Paper on Critical Mineral Recycling

21 September 2026 · Economy

At a national seminar with MRAI, Mines Minister G. Kishan Reddy launched a Concept Paper on the Critical Mineral Recycling Ecosystem and urged Jan Bhagidari.

- G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the National Seminar on India's Critical Minerals Recycling Ecosystem and Circular Economy on 21 September 2026
- The seminar was organised by the Ministry of Mines with the Materials Recycling Association of India (MRAI)
- A Concept Paper on the Critical Mineral Recycling Ecosystem was launched
- E-waste and End-of-Life products were highlighted as secondary sources of critical minerals
- Sessions covered lithium-ion battery metal recovery and the export of black mass

Event	National Seminar on India's Critical Minerals Recycling Ecosystem and Circular Economy
Date	21 September 2026
Organised by	Ministry of Mines with Materials Recycling Association of India (MRAI)
Venue	New Delhi
Inaugurated by	G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister for Coal and Mines
Minister of State	Satish Chandra Dubey
Mines Secretary	Keshav Chandra
Document launched	Concept Paper on Critical Mineral Recycling Ecosystem

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mines-ministry-launches-concept-paper-on-critical-mineral-recycling/

SEMICON India 2026: Whole-of-Industry Push for Semiconductors

23 September 2026 · Economy

SEMICON India 2026 drew over 600 exhibitors and 56 MoUs, as industry bodies pressed for a whole-of-industry approach to India's semiconductor ambitions.

- A panel at SEMICON India 2026 titled 'Industry Associations Advancing India's National Agenda' called for a whole-of-industry approach to the semiconductor and electronics sector.
- The session was moderated by Amitesh Kumar Sinha, Chief Executive Officer of the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM).
- SEMICON India 2026 drew more than 600 exhibitors, of whom nearly 300 were international companies.
- The event recorded 56 MoUs, strategic initiatives and industry announcements across manufacturing, design, packaging, AI, R&D, logistics and skilling.
- The government has approved 12 semiconductor projects under the Semicon India programme, with five commercial units operational as of September 2026.

Event	SEMICON India 2026
Panel discussion	Industry Associations Advancing India's National Agenda
Moderator	Amitesh Kumar Sinha, CEO, India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)
Exhibitors	More than 600, including nearly 300 international companies
MoUs and announcements	56
Vision cited	Silicon to Systems
Projects approved	12 under the Semicon India programme
Units operational	Five commercial semiconductor units, as of September 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/semicon-india-2026-whole-of-industry-push-for-semiconductors/

Crude Sunflower Oil Import Duty Cut to Nil, Palm and Soybean to 5%

24 September 2026 · Economy

Basic Customs Duty on crude sunflower oil is now nil and that on crude palm and soybean oil 5%, with the crude-refined duty gap held at 19.25% for refiners.

- The Basic Customs Duty on crude sunflower oil has been reduced from 10% to nil, and the duty on crude soybean oil and crude palm oil from 10% to 5%.
- Duty on the corresponding refined edible oils was also reduced, but the differential between crude and refined edible oils has been kept at 19.25%.
- The differential is meant to keep domestic refining capacity in use and to discourage heavy imports of already refined oil.
- An advisory asks edible oil associations and industry to revise the Price to Distributors and the Maximum Retail Price at once so consumers get the benefit.
- The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution announced the decision on 24 September 2026 as a step against food-price inflation.

Decision	Basic Customs Duty cut on major crude edible oils
Crude sunflower oil	10% reduced to nil
Crude soybean and crude palm oil	10% reduced to 5%
Crude-refined duty differential	19.25%, kept unchanged
Ministry	Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Advisory to industry	Revise Price to Distributors (PTD) and Maximum Retail Price (MRP) immediately
Reason given	Sharp rise in international edible oil prices and inflationary pressure at home
Announced on	24 September 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/crude-sunflower-oil-import-duty-cut-to-nil-palm-and-soybean-to-5percent/

11th National Traders Welfare Board Meeting Held in New Delhi

25 September 2026 · Economy

The 11th meeting of the National Traders' Welfare Board was held at Vanijya Bhawan in New Delhi and reviewed GST, credit, digital and export issues of traders.

- The 11th meeting of the National Traders' Welfare Board was held at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, in hybrid mode and was chaired by Sunil J. Singhi
- The board reviewed GST rationalisation, refund delays, lengthy audits, input tax credit mismatches, a centralised loan portal with a 30-day timeline and credit score reforms
- DigiDukaan, an initiative of the Open Network for Digital Commerce, has over 19,000 retailers live in Hyderabad and Jaipur
- The Jan Vishwas Act has eased 40,000 compliances, and state traders' welfare boards exist in Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, with Goa and Telangana confirming in writing
- Members were briefed on the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill 2026, proposed to take effect from 1 January 2027, and on the trade agreement being negotiated with the United Kingdom

Meeting	11th meeting of the National Traders' Welfare Board (NTWB)
Venue	Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, in hybrid mode
Chairman	Sunil J. Singhi
Ministry	Ministry of Commerce and Industry, through DPIIT
DPIIT Director	Yuvraj Ravindra Patil
Jan Vishwas Act	Eased 40,000 compliances
State boards	Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu
DigiDukaan	Over 19,000 retailers live in Hyderabad and Jaipur

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/11th-national-traders-welfare-board-meeting-held-in-new-delhi/

Centre to Borrow Rs 7,86,000 Crore in H2 of FY 2026-27

25 September 2026 · Economy

The Centre will raise Rs 7,86,000 crore from the market in the second half of FY 2026-27 through 23 weekly auctions, with Rs 15,000 crore from green bonds.

- The Centre will borrow Rs 7,86,000 crore from the market in the second half of FY 2026-27, the October to March period.
- The borrowing is to be completed through 23 weekly auctions of dated securities, spread over tenors of three to fifty years.
- Sovereign Green Bonds worth Rs 15,000 crore form part of this half-yearly borrowing programme.
- Dated-security borrowing for the full year is now put at Rs 15,99,506 crore against a Budget Estimate of Rs 17,20,000 crore.
- The RBI has fixed the Ways and Means Advances ceiling for the half-year at Rs 50,000 crore.

Gross H2 borrowing	Rs 7,86,000 crore
Period covered	Second half of FY 2026-27 (October to March)
Auctions	23 weekly auctions of dated securities
Sovereign Green Bonds	Rs 15,000 crore
Tenors on offer	Three, five, seven, ten, fifteen, thirty, forty and fifty years
Largest maturity share	Ten-year paper, 26.3 per cent
Full-year dated borrowing	Rs 15,99,506 crore
Budget Estimate for the year	Rs 17,20,000 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/centre-to-borrow-rs-786000-crore-in-h2-of-fy-2026-27/

IPPB Marks 9th Foundation Day, Launches DakPay Sound Box

1 September 2026 · Banking & Finance

India Post Payments Bank marked its 9th Foundation Day on 1 September 2026 and launched the DakPay Sound Box for merchants along with two new digital platforms.

- India Post Payments Bank marked its 9th Foundation Day on 1 September 2026; the bank was launched on 1 September 2018 under the Department of Posts with the entire equity held by the Government of India
- Three launches were announced: the DakPay Sound Box for Merchants, a Digital Insurance Technology Platform and a Digital Mutual Fund Platform
- As on 31 March 2026 the bank had 13.25 crore customers, 77 per cent of them rural and 49 per cent women, with deposits of ₹29,104 crore
- Digital financial transactions touched ₹21.61 lakh crore, UPI remittances ₹7.41 lakh crore, and 6.5 crore DBT beneficiaries received about ₹1.55 lakh crore
- Shri R. Viswesvaran is the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer; the bank serves more than 13 crore customers in 5.57 lakh villages and towns in 13 languages

Occasion	9th Foundation Day of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB Day 2026)
Bank launched on	1 September 2018
Ownership	Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications; 100% equity with the Government of India
MD and CEO	Shri R. Viswesvaran
Main launch	DakPay Sound Box for Merchants
Other launches	Digital Insurance Technology Platform and Digital Mutual Fund Platform
Customers (31 March 2026)	13.25 crore, 77% rural and 49% women
Deposits	₹29,104 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ippb-marks-9th-foundation-day-launches-dakpay-sound-box/

GIFT IFSC Banks Disburse \$52.82 Billion Under RBI Swap Facility

2 September 2026 · Banking & Finance

Twenty IFSC Banking Units at GIFT City sanctioned \$54.02 billion under the RBI's FCNR(B) swap facility by 31 August 2026, of which \$52.82 billion was disbursed.

- As on 31 August 2026, twenty IFSC Banking Units at GIFT City had sanctioned USD 54.02 billion under the RBI's special swap facility for FCNR(B) deposits, of which about USD 52.82 billion was disbursed
- Sanctions rose from USD 28.60 billion on 14 August to USD 37.26 billion on 21 August and USD 54.02 billion by 31 August 2026
- IBUs disbursed USD 11.62 billion of External Commercial Borrowings between April and August 2026, monthly flows rising from USD 1.54 billion to USD 3.54 billion
- Indian banks raised USD 11.12 billion through bond listings on IFSC exchanges in the same period, USD 9.17 billion of it in July and August 2026
- IFSCA, headed by Chairperson K. Rajaraman, is the unified regulator for IFSCs in India, established under the IFSCA Act, 2019

Regulator	International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)
Established under	IFSCA Act, 2019
Chairperson	K. Rajaraman
Location	GIFT City IFSC, Gujarat
Facility	RBI special swap facility for FCNR(B) deposits
Sanctioned as on 31 August 2026	USD 54.02 billion by 20 IBUs
Disbursed	About USD 52.82 billion
ECBs disbursed, April-August 2026	USD 11.62 billion

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/gift-ifsc-banks-disburse-dollar5282-billion-under-rbi-swap-facility/

ECLGS 5.0 Explained: ₹2.55 Lakh Crore Credit Guarantee Push

5 September 2026 · Banking & Finance

ECLGS 5.0, approved on 5 May 2026 and run by NCGTC, targets an extra credit flow of ₹2.55 lakh crore for MSMEs, non-MSMEs and scheduled passenger airlines.

- ECLGS 5.0 was approved by the Government on 5 May 2026 and aims to facilitate an additional credit flow of up to ₹2.55 lakh crore
- The scheme is implemented by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company and covers MSMEs, eligible non-MSME borrowers and scheduled passenger airlines
- Guarantee cover is 100 per cent for eligible MSMEs and 90 per cent for eligible non-MSMEs and airlines, with no guarantee fee charged to lenders
- As on 20 August 2026 the scheme had issued 6,73,979 guarantees worth ₹2,50,024 crore, with MSMEs accounting for 97.3 per cent by number and 80.79 per cent by amount
- From ECLGS 1.0 to 4.0, launched in 2020 under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Package, 1.19 crore guarantees worth ₹3.68 lakh crore were issued before those phases ended on 31 March 2023

Scheme	Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) 5.0
Approved on	5 May 2026
Implemented by	National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC)
Target credit flow	Up to ₹2.55 lakh crore
Valid till	31 March 2027, or till guarantees of ₹2.55 lakh crore are issued
Guarantee cover	100 per cent for MSMEs, 90 per cent for non-MSMEs and airlines
Ceiling per borrower	₹100 crore for MSMEs and non-MSMEs, ₹1,500 crore for airlines
Interest cap	9 per cent a year for banks, 13 per cent a year for eligible NBFCs

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/eclgs-50-explained-rs-255-lakh-crore-credit-guarantee-push/

FRI Blocks Cyber Fraud Worth Over Rs 5,000 Crore

8 September 2026 · Banking & Finance

The Financial Fraud Risk Indicator of the Department of Telecommunications has stopped suspected cyber fraud of over Rs 5,000 crore since its launch in May 2025.

- The Financial Fraud Risk Indicator of the Department of Telecommunications has prevented suspected cyber fraud of more than Rs 5,000 crore in fifteen months
- FRI was launched on 22 May 2025 and works under the Digital Intelligence Platform of the DoT
- Cumulative prevention rose from Rs 139.16 crore in August 2025 to Rs 5,043.73 crore by August 2026, a nearly eight-fold rise from Rs 660 crore in the first six months
- FRI classifies mobile numbers into three risk levels, namely Medium, High and Very High, using Sanchar Saathi and NCRP inputs
- More than 1,600 organisations are on the Digital Intelligence Platform and about 1,500 banks, institutions and regulators have been trained

Tool	Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI)
Developed by	Department of Telecommunications
Launched on	22 May 2025
Platform	Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP)
Risk categories	Medium, High, Very High
Fraud prevented	Rs 5,043.73 crore up to August 2026
First six months	Rs 660 crore
Organisations on DIP	More than 1,600

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/fri-blocks-cyber-fraud-worth-over-rs-5000-crore/

UIDAI Launches Aadhaar Face Authentication SDK and Sandbox

9 September 2026 · Banking & Finance

UIDAI launched the Aadhaar Face Authentication SDK and Sandbox at the Global Fintech Fest 2026 on 9 September 2026 for banks and fintech companies.

- UIDAI launched the Aadhaar Face Authentication SDK and Sandbox at the Global Fintech Fest 2026 on 9 September 2026
- The SDK brings face authentication into native Android and iOS apps, removing the need for the separate FaceRD app and easing RBI-mandated multi-factor authentication
- UIDAI's face authentication solution was launched in 2021 and has processed over 500 crore transactions, adopted by nearly 200 entities
- The technology won the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2023 in the Innovation category
- UIDAI also unveiled a Playbook on ease of Onboarding; Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bajaj Finance and Airtel Payments Bank completed the proof of concept

Launched by	Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)
Parent ministry	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
What was launched	Aadhaar Face Authentication SDK and Aadhaar Face Authentication Sandbox
Occasion	Global Fintech Fest 2026, on 9 September 2026
Face authentication launched in	2021
Transactions processed	Over 500 crore
Entities using it	Nearly 200
Award	Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2023, Innovation category

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/uidai-launches-aadhaar-face-authentication-sdk-and-sandbox/

Bankers' Books Evidence Act 2026 in Force from 1 October

11 September 2026 · Banking & Finance

The Finance Ministry says the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026, which replaces the 1891 law, will come into force on 1 October 2026 under a notification of 10 September.

- The Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 comes into force on 1 October 2026 under a notification dated 10 September 2026
- The Act received the assent of the President on 13 August 2026 and replaces the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891
- It is technology-neutral and recognises banking records kept in physical, electronic, digital, virtual and cloud-based forms
- Certification of banking records has been simplified and standardised and may be done by manual, digital or electronic signature
- Where a bank is not a party to a case, a court must record a special cause in writing before summoning a bank official

Law	Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026
Ministry	Ministry of Finance
Replaces	The Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891
Assent of the President	13 August 2026
Notification	Dated 10 September 2026
Comes into force	1 October 2026
Approach	Technology-neutral, covering cloud-based and virtual records
Certification	Manual, digital or electronic signature

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bankers-books-evidence-act-2026-in-force-from-1-october/

UPI Stays Free for P2P and 96% of Merchant Payments

15 September 2026 · Banking & Finance

The Finance Ministry clarified that UPI remains free for all person-to-person transfers and for about 96 per cent of merchant payments under the new MDR framework.

- All person-to-person UPI transfers stay completely free irrespective of the amount, and they account for 70 per cent of total transaction value.
- Merchant payments up to 2,000 rupees remain free, so about 96 per cent of merchant transactions are unaffected.
- An MDR of 0.4 per cent applies above 2,000 rupees, capped at 300 rupees for transactions of 75,000 rupees and above.
- Essential sectors such as railways, telecom, insurance, fuel and agricultural inputs attract a flat MDR of 5 rupees per transaction.
- The framework was introduced under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 after deliberations by the UPI Steering Committee.

Announced by	Ministry of Finance, 15 September 2026
Person-to-person transfers	Completely free, any amount
Free merchant limit	Payments up to 2,000 rupees
MDR above the limit	0.4 per cent, capped at 300 rupees for payments of 75,000 rupees and above
Essential sectors	Flat 5 rupees per transaction above 2,000 rupees
Capital market payments	0.02 per cent, capped at 300 rupees
Small merchants	Zero MDR up to 1 lakh rupees a month through QR codes
Coverage	About 96 per cent of merchant transactions unaffected

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/upi-stays-free-for-p2p-and-96percent-of-merchant-payments/

Government Urges PSB and RRB Staff to Call Off Bank Strikes

21 September 2026 · Banking & Finance

The Finance Ministry appealed to employees of public sector banks and RRBs to drop strikes planned for 28–30 September and from 26 October 2026 over five-day banking.

- The Finance Ministry appealed to PSB and RRB employees on 21 September 2026 to refrain from strikes
- The unions' two demands were five-day banking and withdrawal of the Performance Linked Incentive scheme; the PLI scheme has been kept in abeyance
- A three-day strike is scheduled for 28–30 September 2026 and an indefinite strike from 26 October 2026
- The Staff Welfare Fund of PSBs was enhanced by 56% in August 2024
- The 2nd and 4th Saturdays have been bank holidays for PSBs since 2015

Appeal by	Ministry of Finance
Addressed to	Employees of Public Sector Banks and Regional Rural Banks
Umbrella union body	United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU)
Pending demand	Five-day banking
Scheme kept in abeyance	Performance Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme
Strike held	11 September 2026
Strike scheduled	28 to 30 September 2026
Indefinite strike proposed	From 26 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/government-urges-psb-and-rrb-staff-to-call-off-bank-strikes/

RDI Fund of ₹1 Lakh Crore Needs Wider Awareness: Minister

1 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Dr Jitendra Singh sought wider awareness of the ₹1 lakh crore RDI Fund at the 30th Foundation Day of the Technology Development Board on 1 September 2026.

- Dr Jitendra Singh called for wider awareness about the ₹1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation Fund, so that eligible applicants understand its purpose and process
- He spoke at the 30th Foundation Day of the Technology Development Board, which was set up to carry technologies from the laboratory to the market
- The RDI Fund offers support at a later stage, at TRL4 level, and the Technology Development Board was the first to roll out its proposals
- The Minister said the fund must not be seen as another source of finance or a conventional loan facility, and that the funding process is transparent with safeguards in place
- He said start-ups are not limited to Bengaluru or Hyderabad, with more than 50 per cent coming from smaller towns, and cited Skyroot and BotLab as examples of TDB support

Fund	Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund
Corpus	₹1 lakh crore
Occasion	30th Foundation Day of the Technology Development Board (TDB)
Minister	Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister for Science and Technology
Stage of support	Later stage, at TRL4 level; TDB first to roll out proposals
TDB's mandate	To take technologies from laboratories into products, solutions and enterprises
Examples of TDB support	Skyroot and BotLab
Start-ups from smaller towns	More than 50 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rdi-fund-of-rs-1-lakh-crore-needs-wider-awareness-minister/

CeNS Bengaluru Turns Peptides Into Piezoelectric Biomaterials

3 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Scientists at CeNS Bengaluru switched on a strong piezoelectric response in peptides by adding one per cent of a co-solvent, opening the way to self-powered implants.

- Researchers at the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), Bengaluru, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology, made highly efficient piezoelectric biomaterials from peptides
- The work was done with IISER Kolkata and JNCASR Bengaluru, and was led by Dr Goutam Ghosh with his doctoral scholar Aparna Ramesh
- Adding just one per cent of a suitable co-solvent reorganised the peptide molecules into an ordered supramolecular arrangement and switched on a strong piezoelectric response without changing the chemical composition
- Controlled chiral self-assembly aligns molecular dipoles into a non-centrosymmetric structure, which is the basic structural requirement for piezoelectricity
- The engineered peptide nanomaterials reached a piezoelectric coefficient of nearly 30 pm per volt, and the discovery was published in Angewandte Chemie International Edition

Lead institute	Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), Bengaluru
Parent department	Department of Science and Technology
Partner institutes	IISER Kolkata and JNCASR, Bengaluru
Led by	Dr Goutam Ghosh, with doctoral scholar Aparna Ramesh
Material used	Peptides, the natural building blocks of proteins
Key intervention	Adding one per cent of a suitable co-solvent
Structural requirement	Non-centrosymmetric structure formed by chiral self-assembly
Microscopy used	Atomic force microscopy and field emission scanning electron microscopy

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cens-bengaluru-turns-peptides-into-piezoelectric-biomaterials/

ISRO Launches EOS-05 on GSLV-F17: A Geosynchronous First

4 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed ISRO for the successful launch of GSLV-F17 carrying EOS-05, India's first imaging satellite placed in Geosynchronous orbit.

- ISRO successfully launched GSLV-F17 carrying the satellite EOS-05, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the space agency on 4 September 2026
- EOS-05 is India's first-ever imaging satellite to be placed in Geosynchronous orbit, a first for the Indian space programme
- The Prime Minister said the launch reflects the excellence, innovation and growing capabilities of India's space sector
- He also said the growing partnership between ISRO and Indian industry is adding new strength and scale to the space programme
- GSLV stands for Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle and EOS stands for Earth Observation Satellite

Launch vehicle	GSLV-F17
Satellite	EOS-05, an imaging satellite
Orbit	Geosynchronous orbit
Distinction	India's first-ever imaging satellite from Geosynchronous orbit
Agency	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a post on X

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/isro-launches-eos-05-on-gslv-f17-a-geosynchronous-first/

Vice President Launches India Valve Registry in Chennai

5 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan launched the India Valve Registry at India Valves 2026 in Chennai, a national meeting on valvular and structural heart disease.

- Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan launched the India Valve Registry at India Valves 2026 in Chennai on 5 September 2026
- India Valves 2026 is a national academic meeting on valvular and structural heart disease, attended by cardiologists and cardiac surgeons from India and abroad
- The registry is a collaborative multicentre initiative for systematic, secure and de-identified collection of real-world data on transcatheter valve interventions across India
- The Vice President said healthcare is a human right and that India-specific clinical evidence creates our country's own data for our own countrymen
- He recalled that India supplied COVID-19 vaccines to around 100 countries, and said a Viksit Bharat by 2047 must also be a Swasth Bharat

Initiative launched	India Valve Registry
Launched by	Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan
Occasion	India Valves 2026, a national academic meeting
Venue	Chennai
Date	5 September 2026
Subject area	Valvular and structural heart disease
What the registry collects	Real-world, de-identified data on transcatheter valve interventions across India
Purpose	To strengthen India-specific clinical evidence and improve patient care

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vice-president-launches-india-valve-registry-in-chennai/

6th RISE Conclave 2026 Opens at CSIR-IICB in Kolkata

6 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Dr Jitendra Singh opened the 6th RISE Conclave 2026 at CSIR-IICB, Kolkata, built around a 4M framework of minerals, medicine, materials and machines.

- The 6th RISE Conclave 2026 was inaugurated in Kolkata on 6 September 2026 by Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology
- The venue is CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Salt Lake, and the theme is 'Driving Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Viksit Bharat 2047'
- Four CSIR laboratories host it jointly: CSIR-CGCRI, CSIR-IICB, CSIR-CMERI and CSIR-IMMT, working to a 4M framework of minerals, medicine, materials and machines
- Outcomes include eight MoUs, four technology transfer initiatives, two product launches and one facility inauguration, with eight panels and 67 panellists
- Earlier editions were held in Mumbai, Lucknow, Hyderabad, Chennai and Bengaluru, making Kolkata the sixth host city

Event	6th RISE Conclave 2026
Venue	CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Salt Lake, Kolkata
Dates	6 and 7 September 2026
Theme	Driving Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Viksit Bharat 2047
Inaugurated by	Dr Jitendra Singh, MoS (IC) for Science and Technology
Organisers	CSIR-CGCRI, CSIR-IICB, CSIR-CMERI and CSIR-IMMT
Framework	4M: minerals, medicine, materials and machines
Outcomes	Eight MoUs, four technology transfers, two product launches, one facility inaugurated

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/6th-rise-conclave-2026-opens-at-csir-iicb-in-kolkata/

RRI Scientists Delay Entanglement Sudden Death with Timed Flip

7 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Scientists at the Raman Research Institute delayed entanglement sudden death with one well-timed flip, in work funded by the National Quantum Mission.

- Scientists showed that a single well-timed flip operation can delay or even prevent entanglement sudden death without any change in hardware
- Entanglement sudden death is the abrupt disappearance of entanglement at a finite time, well before the decay of the particles is complete
- The team came from the Raman Research Institute, an autonomous institution of the Department of Science and Technology, with the University of Calgary and Louisiana State University
- The study was funded in part by the National Quantum Mission, the flagship mission of the Department of Science and Technology
- Urbasi Sinha of the Quantum Information and Computing lab led the study and Saumya Ranjan Behera was the lead author; the paper appeared in Physical Review A

Finding	A single well-timed flip operation can delay or prevent entanglement sudden death
Lead institution	Raman Research Institute (RRI), an autonomous institution of the Department of Science and Technology
Partner institutions	University of Calgary and Louisiana State University
Funding	Partly by the National Quantum Mission, a flagship mission of the Department of Science and Technology
Laboratory	Quantum Information and Computing (QuIC) lab at RRI
Group leader	Urbasi Sinha, senior professor at RRI
Lead author	Saumya Ranjan Behera
Journal	Physical Review A of the American Physical Society, published in July

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rri-scientists-delay-entanglement-sudden-death-with-timed-flip/

Ocean Research Vessel ORV Sagar Manthan Launched at Kolkata

9 September 2026 · Science & Technology

India's first advanced ocean research vessel ORV Sagar Manthan was launched on 9 September 2026 at Kolkata, built by GRSE for NCPOR at about Rs 840 crore.

- ORV Sagar Manthan, India's first advanced ocean research vessel built by GRSE, was launched on 9 September 2026 at Rishi Bankim Shipyard, Kolkata
- It was built for the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research under the Ministry of Earth Sciences at a cost of about Rs 840 crore
- The vessel comes under Vertical-4, Deep Ocean Survey and Exploration, of the Deep Ocean Mission and has a projected service life of 30 years
- It will gradually replace the 43-year-old ORV Sagar Kanya, which was procured from Germany in 1983
- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched it virtually and it carries dual class certification from the Indian Register of Shipping and the American Bureau of Shipping

Vessel	ORV Sagar Manthan (Yard 3041)
Launched on	9 September 2026, Rishi Bankim Shipyard, Kolkata
Launched by	Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of Earth Sciences (virtually)
Builder	Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE)
Owner	National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research, Ministry of Earth Sciences
Cost	About Rs 840 crore
Programme	Vertical-4 of the Deep Ocean Mission
Service life	30 years

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ocean-research-vessel-urv-sagar-manthan-launched-at-kolkata/

India Endorses Call to Action for 6G Leadership and Security

9 September 2026 · Science & Technology

India endorsed the Call to Action for 6G Leadership and Security, joining over 20 governments, with the Department of Telecommunications to carry it forward.

- India endorsed the Call to Action for 6G Leadership and Security, joining over 20 like-minded governments committed to open, interoperable and secure next-generation networks
- The announcement was made on the sidelines of the G20 Innovation Ministerial at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, held on 1-2 September 2026 under the United States presidency
- India aims to contribute 10 per cent of global 6G standards and patents, and the Department of Telecommunications will take the initiative forward
- The handshake marking the endorsement was between Minister of State Jitin Prasada and United States Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick
- Signatories must name 6G points of contact within one month and meet in person in 2027 to review progress

Initiative	Call to Action for 6G Leadership and Security
Announced at	Sidelines of the G20 Innovation Ministerial, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, United States
Dates of the ministerial	1-2 September 2026, under the United States G20 presidency
Nodal body in India	Department of Telecommunications
India's target	10 per cent of global 6G standards and patents
Communications Minister	Jyotiraditya M. Scindia
Handshake partners	Jitin Prasada and Howard Lutnick, United States Secretary of Commerce
Next in-person review	2027

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-endorses-call-to-action-for-6g-leadership-and-security/

BRICS Bharat Innovates Expo Opens at Bharat Mandapam

11 September 2026 · Science & Technology

The BRICS Bharat Innovates Exposition is showing 37 Indian deep-tech start-ups at Bharat Mandapam on 11 and 12 September 2026, alongside the 18th BRICS Summit.

- The BRICS Bharat Innovates Exposition is being held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 11 and 12 September 2026 by the Ministry of Education
- It shows 37 Indian deep-tech start-ups drawn from the cohort of 120 that took part in the first Bharat Innovates at Nice, France
- The 18th BRICS Summit is to be held on 12 and 13 September 2026 under India's BRICS Chairship
- The maiden Bharat Innovates was held at Nice from 14 to 16 June 2026 and drew over 2,000 participants from 29 countries
- Indian start-ups at Nice secured funding commitments of USD 254.5 million after 1,350 business-to-business meetings

Event	BRICS Bharat Innovates (BBI) Exposition
Venue and dates	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, 11 and 12 September 2026
Organised by	Ministry of Education with the Ministry of External Affairs
Start-ups on show	37 Indian deep-tech start-ups and ventures
18th BRICS Summit	12 and 13 September 2026, under India's BRICS Chairship
Theme of the Chairship	Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
Maiden edition	Nice, France, 14 to 16 June 2026, under the India-France Year of Innovation 2026
Nice outcome	USD 254.5 million in funding commitments after 1,350 B2B meetings

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/brics-bharat-innovates-expo-opens-at-bharat-mandapam/

Raigarh Steel Slag Road Sets Guinness World Record in India

12 September 2026 · Science & Technology

A 1.85-km road built with processed steel slag at Raigarh in Chhattisgarh won a Guinness World Record, cutting construction cost by about 40 per cent.

- A 1.85-km road at Raigarh in Chhattisgarh has won the Guinness World Record for the world's longest road built with processed steel slag aggregates
- The road was built jointly by CSIR-Central Road Research Institute, New Delhi, and Jindal Steel Limited
- Dr Jitendra Singh said the technology cuts road construction cost by about 40 per cent, gives four times the strength and needs major maintenance only after about 15 years
- A Technology Transfer Agreement was signed between CSIR-CRRI and Jindal Steel and the 'Steel Grit' brand was launched at the event
- CSIR-CRRI has received a work order for a 40-km steel slag road in Odisha from Jindal Steel's Angul plant

Record	Guinness World Record for the World's Longest Road Built with Processed Steel Slag Aggregates
Length and location	1.85 km, Raigarh, Chhattisgarh
Partners	CSIR-Central Road Research Institute, New Delhi, and Jindal Steel Limited
Minister at the event	Dr Jitendra Singh, MoS (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences
Cost saving	About 40 per cent lower construction cost
Strength	Four times that of a conventional road
Maintenance	Major maintenance only after about 15 years
Brand launched	Steel Grit

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/raigarh-steel-slag-road-sets-guinness-world-record-in-india/

First Badri Calf Born Through OPU-IVF in Uttarakhand

12 September 2026 · Science & Technology

A healthy Badri female calf was born through OPU-IVF after a Badri embryo was transferred into a Sahiwal cow, a first for Uttarakhand's state animal.

- A healthy Badri female calf was born on 11 September 2026 through Ovum Pick-Up and In Vitro Fertilization at the Academic Dairy Farm, the announcement coming on 12 September 2026
- The Badri embryo was transferred into a Sahiwal recipient cow; Badri cattle are the state animal of Uttarakhand
- ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, and G. B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, did the work with funds from the Uttarakhand Biotechnology Council, Haldi
- The research programme began in 2023 under the then Vice-Chancellor Dr M. S. Chauhan, and semen of a superior Badri bull came from the Uttarakhand Livestock Development Board
- The team has also produced cloned Badri embryos and plans to transfer OPU-IVF and cloning-derived embryos into Sahiwal, crossbred and Badri recipient cows

Achievement	Birth of a Badri female calf through OPU-IVF
Full form	Ovum Pick-Up and In Vitro Fertilization
Date of birth	11 September 2026, at the Academic Dairy Farm
Recipient cow	A Sahiwal cow carried the Badri embryo
Breed	Badri cattle, the state animal of Uttarakhand
Institutions	ICAR-NDRI, Karnal, and G. B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar
Funding	Uttarakhand Biotechnology Council, Haldi
Programme started	2023, under the then Vice-Chancellor Dr M. S. Chauhan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/first-badri-calf-born-through-opu-ivf-in-uttarakhand/

India Is World's Largest Vaccine Producer by Volume: Minister

13 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Dr Jitendra Singh said India is the world's largest vaccine producer by volume, supplying more than 100 countries, as the CEPI Board met in New Delhi.

- Dr Jitendra Singh said India is the world's largest vaccine producer and global supplier by volume, speaking at a CEPI Board and Investors Council reception in New Delhi.
- India supplies vaccines to more than 100 countries, accounts for nearly 60 per cent of global vaccine production and meets over 65 per cent of the WHO's routine immunisation needs.
- India's bioeconomy reached USD 195.3 billion in 2025 with 18 per cent growth, and the biotech startup base stood at 11,855, including 1,780 added in 2025.
- The DBT-BIRAC-CEPI engagement strategy, first executed in October 2019, was renewed in September 2025 for five more years.
- Ind-CEPI delivered GEMCOVAC-19, India's first mRNA COVID-19 vaccine, and the BRIC-THSTI Bioassay Laboratory is one of CEPI's 17 centralised network laboratories.

Speaker	Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology
Occasion	CEPI Board and Investors Council reception, India International Centre, New Delhi
CEPI full form	Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations
Countries supplied with vaccines	More than 100
Share of global vaccine production	Nearly 60 per cent
Bioeconomy, 2025	USD 195.3 billion, up 18 per cent
Biotech startups	11,855, including 1,780 added in 2025
India's first mRNA COVID-19 vaccine	GEMCOVAC-19, under Ind-CEPI

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-is-worlds-largest-vaccine-producer-by-volume-minister/

PM Modi Inaugurates SEMICON India 2026, Launches Semicon 2.0

17 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Prime Minister Narendra Modi opened the fifth SEMICON India 2026 at Yashobhoomi in New Delhi and unveiled Semicon 2.0, the mission's second phase.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the fifth edition of SEMICON India 2026 at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi; the event runs from 17 to 19 September 2026.
- Semicon 2.0, the second phase of the India Semiconductor Mission, is sized at 13.5 billion dollars against about 8 billion dollars in the first phase.
- Semicon 2.0 rests on six pillars: design, equipment and materials, fabs, advanced packaging, applied research and talent development.
- Investment pledges of nearly Rs 1 lakh crore have been received and close to 1 lakh new jobs are expected across the semiconductor ecosystem.
- Commercial lines were launched at CDIL Semiconductor, Mohali and Suchi Semicon, Surat, taking India to five working commercial ATMP units.

Event	SEMICON India 2026, fifth edition
Dates	17 to 19 September 2026
Venue	Yashobhoomi, New Delhi
Inaugurated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Ministry	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
Minister	Ashwini Vaishnaw
Launched	Semicon 2.0, second phase of the India Semiconductor Mission
Phase size	13.5 billion dollars (first phase about 8 billion dollars)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-modi-inaugurates-semicon-india-2026-launches-semicon-20/

India's 51st Doppler Weather Radar Inaugurated at Sambalpur, Odisha

17 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Union Minister Jitendra Singh virtually opened India's 51st Doppler Weather Radar at Sambalpur in Odisha, taking Mission Mausam a step further.

- Dr Jitendra Singh virtually inaugurated India's 51st Doppler Weather Radar at Sambalpur, Odisha, on 17 September 2026 in the presence of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi.
- Odisha now has three Doppler Weather Radars, the other two being at Gopalpur and Paradip.
- India had only 14 Doppler Weather Radars in 2014; the network has now reached 51, with about 40 more planned under Mission Mausam to take the total near 81.
- The Sambalpur radar will strengthen weather watch over Western Odisha and help southern Jharkhand, northern Chhattisgarh and parts of north Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal.
- Balasore, Puri and Bhubaneswar are next in line for radars, while the IMD supports 13 neighbouring countries with weather and early warnings.

Facility	51st Doppler Weather Radar of India
Location	Sambalpur, Odisha
Date	17 September 2026, inaugurated virtually
Inaugurated by	Dr Jitendra Singh, MoS (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences
Also present	Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi
Radars in Odisha	Three, with Gopalpur and Paradip
Network in 2014	14 radars
Planned under Mission Mausam	About 40 more, total near 81

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indias-51st-doppler-weather-radar-inaugurated-at-sambalpur-odisha/

Office of PSA Holds First State Nodal Officers Meeting on I-STEM

21 September 2026 · Science & Technology

The Office of the PSA held the first meeting of State nodal officers for I-STEM, a portal listing over 31,000 scientific instruments in about 4,000 institutions.

- The Office of the PSA convened the first State Governments Nodal Officers Meeting for the I-STEM portal on 21 September 2026
- The meeting was chaired by Dr (Mrs) Parvinder Maini, Scientific Secretary, and had nodal officers from 23 States and 4 UTs
- I-STEM, the Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map, was launched by the Prime Minister in January 2020
- It lists more than 31,000 scientific instruments across nearly 4,000 institutions, with over 65,000 registered users
- Publicly funded equipment costing above ₹20 lakh is to be listed on I-STEM

Portal	I-STEM (Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map)
Conceived by	Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser
Launched	January 2020, by the Prime Minister
Meeting	First State Governments Nodal Officers Meeting
Date	21 September 2026
Chaired by	Dr (Mrs) Parvinder Maini, Scientific Secretary, Office of PSA
Participants	Nodal officers from 23 States and 4 UTs
Instruments listed	More than 31,000

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/office-of-psa-holds-first-state-nodal-officers-meeting-on-i-stem/

SEMICON India 2026: 'Silicon to Systems' Shows India's Chip Ecosystem

22 September 2026 · Science & Technology

SEMICON India 2026 at Yashobhoomi (17–19 September) showcased indigenous chips, RISC-V processors and Semicon 2.0's ₹1,27,500 crore plan under 'Silicon to Systems'.

- SEMICON India 2026, the fifth edition, was held at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi, from 17 to 19 September 2026
- Theme: 'Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem'; more than 600 exhibiting companies
- Semicon 2.0, approved by the Cabinet in July 2026 with ₹1,27,500 crore, rests on six pillars from design to talent
- Under the Semicon India Programme 12 projects are approved across six States with over ₹1.64 lakh crore in commitments; three facilities are in commercial production
- C-DAC displayed the AUM HPC-AI processor, the RUDRA-AUM node and its indigenous 64-bit RISC-V processor

Event	SEMICON India 2026, fifth edition
Venue	Yashobhoomi, New Delhi
Dates	17 to 19 September 2026
Theme	Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem
Exhibitors	More than 600 companies
Semicon 2.0	Approved July 2026; outlay ₹1,27,500 crore; six pillars
Semicon India Programme	12 projects in six States; commitments over ₹1.64 lakh crore; three facilities in production
C-DAC processors	AUM HPC-AI processor, RUDRA-AUM node, 64-bit RISC-V processor

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/semicon-india-2026-silicon-to-systems-shows-indias-chip-ecosystem/

KAVACH 4.0 Goes Live First Time on South Central Railway

23 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Indian Railways commissioned KAVACH Version 4.0 for the first time on South Central Railway, covering 108 route kilometres of the Malkajgiri-Kamareddi section.

- KAVACH Version 4.0 was commissioned for the first time on South Central Railway, over 108 route kilometres of the Malkajgiri-Kamareddi section in Hyderabad Division.
- Version 3.2 already runs on 1,465 route kilometres of South Central Railway, and that experience shaped the newer edition.
- KAVACH is India's own Automatic Train Protection system; it brakes a train by itself if the Loco Pilot crosses a speed limit or is about to pass a signal at danger.
- The equipment must clear Safety Integrity Level-4 (SIL-4), the highest safety grade demanded of such systems.
- Version 4.0 brings sharper location accuracy, better signal information in big yards, station-to-station links over optical fibre and a direct tie-in with electronic interlocking.

System	KAVACH Version 4.0, an Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system
Zone	South Central Railway (SCR)
Division and section	Hyderabad Division, Malkajgiri-Kamareddi
Length upgraded	108 route kilometres, from Version 3.2 to Version 4.0
Version 3.2 spread on SCR	1,465 route kilometres
Safety certification	Safety Integrity Level-4 (SIL-4)
Ministry	Ministry of Railways
Origin	Indigenously developed in India

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kavach-40-goes-live-first-time-on-south-central-railway/

WAVES OTT and MyWAVES Turn Viewers Into Content Creators

23 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Prasar Bharati's WAVES OTT now carries over 24,000 titles and reaches 130 countries, while MyWAVES lets citizens upload their own original content.

- WAVES OTT, Prasar Bharati's public-service streaming platform, was launched on 20 November 2024 at the 55th International Film Festival of India in Goa.
- It carries more than 24,000 titles and 15,000 hours of content, over 140 television channels and 220 radio services, and all 35 Doordarshan satellite channels.
- The platform has 1.2 crore registered users, over 1.5 crore downloads and viewers in more than 130 countries, with content in over 26 languages.
- MyWAVES, launched on 23 March 2026 within WAVES OTT, lets citizens create and upload original short, vertical and episodic content.
- The Gems of India Challenge pilot began on 21 July 2026 in six States and Union Territories, inviting district stories of one to three minutes.

Platform	WAVES OTT, run by Prasar Bharati
Launched	20 November 2024, at the 55th International Film Festival of India, Goa
Library	Over 24,000 titles and 15,000 hours of content
Live carriage	Over 140 television channels and 220 radio services; all 35 Doordarshan satellite channels
Users	1.2 crore registered users, over 1.5 crore downloads
Global reach	More than 130 countries; content in over 26 languages
MyWAVES launched	23 March 2026, within WAVES OTT
Gems of India pilot	21 July 2026, across six pilot States and Union Territories

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/waves-ott-and-mywaves-turn-viewers-into-content-creators/

TDB Clears Rs 285 Crore for Ubifly's Indigenous ePlane e200X

23 September 2026 · Science & Technology

The Technology Development Board approved Rs 285 crore from the RDI Fund for Ubifly Technologies to take its indigenous ePlane from TRL-6 to TRL-9.

- The Technology Development Board under the Department of Science and Technology approved Rs 285 crore for Ubifly Technologies Private Limited, Chennai.
- The support comes from the Research Development and Innovation Fund, a Rs 1 lakh crore pool, and is routed through Optionally Convertible Debentures.
- The total approved project cost is Rs 570 crore and the aim is to take the indigenous ePlane technology from TRL-6 to TRL-9.
- The e200X is a three-seater, zero-emission aircraft for one pilot and two passengers, with a targeted range of 110 km and an ideal speed of 160 kmph.
- TDB Secretary Rajesh Kumar Pathak said the fund enables private-sector participation; the project is classified under Deep Technology with Space Technologies as sub-sector.

Funding body	Technology Development Board (TDB), Department of Science and Technology
Amount approved	Rs 285 crore
Beneficiary	Ubifly Technologies Private Limited, Chennai
Fund	Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund of Rs 1 lakh crore
Total project cost	Rs 570 crore
Instrument	Optionally Convertible Debentures (OCD)
Aircraft	e200X, three-seater, one pilot and two passengers
Range and speed	110 km targeted range, 160 kmph ideal speed

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/tdb-clears-rs-285-crore-for-ubiflys-indigenous-eplane-e200x/

TDB Gives GalaxEye Rs 63.84 Crore for OptoSAR Satellite

24 September 2026 · Science & Technology

TDB under DST signed an agreement with Bengaluru's GalaxEye for Rs 63.84 crore of RDI Fund support to build an OptoSAR multisensor satellite costing Rs 247.69 crore.

- The Technology Development Board under the Department of Science and Technology signed an agreement with GalaxEye Space Solutions Private Limited, Bengaluru.
- The support is Rs 63.84 crore from the Research Development and Innovation Fund, against a total approved project cost of Rs 247.69 crore.
- The project will build a multisensor satellite with OptoSAR, which fuses Synthetic Aperture Radar with electro-optical imaging for sub-half-metre resolution.
- SAR can image at night and through cloud while optical imaging gives fine detail, so combining them yields a more continuous view of the earth.
- The funding takes the technology from TRL-6 to TRL-9; Rajesh Kumar Pathak is Secretary of the Technology Development Board.

Agreement	TDB-DST with GalaxEye Space Solutions Private Limited, Bengaluru
Support	Rs 63.84 crore under the Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund
Total approved project cost	Rs 247.69 crore
Mode of support	Optionally convertible debentures
Technology	OptoSAR, fusing Synthetic Aperture Radar with electro-optical imaging
Resolution	Finer than half a metre
Technology readiness	TRL-6 to TRL-9
TDB Secretary	Rajesh Kumar Pathak

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/tdb-gives-galaxeye-rs-6384-crore-for-optosar-satellite/

Bio-based Biodegradable PLA Plastic Launched Under BioE3 Framework

24 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Dr Jitendra Singh launched commercial use of PLA-based biodegradable plastic under BioE3, with a BIRAC grant backing a 100 TPA pilot plant in Uttar Pradesh.

- Dr Jitendra Singh formally launched the commercial use of bio-based biodegradable plastic made from Polylactic Acid under the BioE3 framework.
- BioE3 stands for Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment, and the venture is being run by Balrampur Chini Mills Limited.
- A Rs 75 crore BIRAC grant supports the 100 TPA pilot scale research facility for PLA and co-polymers at Kumbhi in Uttar Pradesh.
- India's bioeconomy has grown from about US\$10 billion in 2014 to nearly US\$195 billion, the Minister said at the launch in New Delhi.
- DBT Secretary and BIRAC Chairman Dr Rajesh Sudhir Gokhale said the project builds a value chain beyond ethanol using sugar and biomass.

Launched by	Dr Jitendra Singh, MoS (IC) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences
Framework	BioE3 - Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment
Material	Bio-based biodegradable plastic from Polylactic Acid (PLA)
Company	Balrampur Chini Mills Limited (BCML)
Grant	Rs 75 crore from BIRAC, under the Department of Biotechnology
Facility	100 TPA pilot scale R&D facility for PLA and co-polymers
Site	BCML integrated complex, Kumbhi, Uttar Pradesh
Bioeconomy	About US\$10 billion in 2014 to nearly US\$195 billion now

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bio-based-biodegradable-pla-plastic-launched-under-bioe3-framework/

TRAI Launches Digital Connectivity Rating Platform for Properties

25 September 2026 · Science & Technology

TRAI launched the Digital Connectivity Rating Platform, an online window where buildings are rated for digital connectivity and buyers can verify the certificate.

- TRAI, under the Ministry of Communications, launched the Digital Connectivity Rating (DCR) Platform along with a mobile app for testing connectivity inside buildings
- It carries out the regulator's rules of 2024 on rating properties, as amended by a notification of 13 May 2026, and the Rating Manual of 2026 issued on 9 June 2026
- Property managers, registered Digital Connectivity Rating Agencies and consumers use one common interface; properties are enrolled as public, government, commercial or private
- Consumers search a rated property by name, certificate number or location and verify the digitally signed certificate through a QR code
- Ratings weigh fibre readiness, mobile network availability, in-building solutions and Wi-Fi; TRAI Chairman is Anil Kumar Lahoti

Platform	Digital Connectivity Rating (DCR) Platform
Launched by	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
Ministry	Ministry of Communications
TRAI Chairman	Anil Kumar Lahoti
Parent regulations	Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulations, 2024
Amendment notified	13 May 2026
Rating Manual	Issued on 9 June 2026
Rating parameters	Fibre readiness, mobile network availability, in-building solutions, Wi-Fi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/trai-launches-digital-connectivity-rating-platform-for-properties/

RRI Study Shows Black Hole Jets Choke Star Birth in Galaxies

25 September 2026 · Science & Technology

Raman Research Institute and Arizona State University found that jets from black holes heat gas along their path and stop new stars from forming in galaxies.

- Researchers from the Raman Research Institute, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology, and Arizona State University made the finding
- The circumgalactic medium (CGM) is the faint gas envelope around a galaxy, spreading 10 to 20 times the size of the galaxy, and it is the fuel for star formation
- A jet of hot plasma from the supermassive black hole energises gas only along its own direction, not equally in all directions around the galaxy
- The signal is strongest at the edge of the stellar disc and again at the outer boundary of the CGM, where energy is deposited and star formation is suppressed
- Namrata Roy of RRI is the lead author and the paper is published in The Astrophysical Journal Letters

Indian institute	Raman Research Institute (RRI), Bengaluru
Parent department	Department of Science and Technology
Partner university	Arizona State University, United States
Lead author	Namrata Roy, assistant professor, astronomy and astrophysics division, RRI
Co-author quoted	Sanchayeeta Borthakur, Arizona State University
Journal	The Astrophysical Journal Letters
Key term	Circumgalactic medium (CGM), the gas envelope around a galaxy
Extent of CGM	10 to 20 times the size of the galaxy

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rri-study-shows-black-hole-jets-choke-star-birth-in-galaxies/

Shakti Sharma Becomes First Woman Two-Star Officer

1 September 2026 · Defence

Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma became the first woman officer outside the medical stream to reach a two-star rank in the Indian defence forces on 1 September 2026.

- Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma is the first woman officer outside the medical stream in the Indian defence forces to reach the rank of Air Vice Marshal or its equivalent, a two-star rank
- She assumed the appointment of Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Education) at Air Headquarters on 1 September 2026
- She was commissioned into the Education Branch of the Indian Air Force on 18 June 1994 and has served more than three decades
- She was earlier the first woman officer from the three services to command a Sainik School, as Principal of Sainik School, Kapurthala
- She led the creation of the Indian Air Force Chairs of Excellence at IIT Kanpur and Pune University for academic and strategic defence collaboration

Officer	Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma
Record set	First woman officer (non-medical) at a two-star rank in the Indian defence forces
New appointment	Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Education), Air Headquarters
Date of taking charge	1 September 2026
Commissioned	18 June 1994, Education Branch, Indian Air Force
Earlier first	First woman from the tri-services to command a Sainik School, at Kapurthala
Institutions she helped set up	IAF Chairs of Excellence at IIT Kanpur and Pune University
Air Force motto quoted	Touch the Sky with Glory

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shakti-sharma-becomes-first-woman-two-star-officer/

16th Aero India to Be Held at Bengaluru in February 2027

2 September 2026 · Defence

The 16th Aero India will run from 8 to 12 February 2027 at Air Force Station Yelahanka, Bengaluru, with exhibitor registration opening on 3 September 2026.

- The 16th edition of Aero India will be held from 8 to 12 February 2027 at Air Force Station, Yelahanka, in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- It is organised by the Department of Defence Production under the Ministry of Defence, and is described as Asia's largest air show
- Online registration and booking of exhibition space begin on 3 September 2026 through the portal www.aeroindia.gov.in
- The five-day event features an exhibition, business and strategic engagements, technology demonstrations and aerial displays by the Indian Air Force and international flying teams
- The show is expected to support the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision and open opportunities for Indian defence firms, including MSMEs and start-ups

Event	16th Aero India
Dates	8 to 12 February 2027
Venue	Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru
State	Karnataka
Organiser	Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence
Duration	Five days
Registration opens	3 September 2026
Portal	www.aeroindia.gov.in

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/16th-aero-india-to-be-held-at-bengaluru-in-february-2027/

Rajnath Singh Releases 'RAKSHA' Defence Diplomacy Document

3 September 2026 · Defence

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released the 'RAKSHA' document in New Delhi, setting out India's defence diplomacy roadmap for global partnerships over the next 10 years.

- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh released the 'RAKSHA' document on defence diplomacy in New Delhi on 3 September 2026
- The document sets out India's strategic roadmap and vision for global defence partnerships over the next 10 years, that is, for the coming decade
- Its four pillars are Strategic Partnerships, Capacity Building, Indigenous Exports and Maritime Security
- Under Maritime Security the document strengthens India's role as a Net Security Provider and a First Responder in the Indian Ocean Region
- Indigenous Exports seeks to promote Make-in-India defence platforms so that India becomes a reliable global defence manufacturing hub

Document released	RAKSHA, on defence diplomacy
Released by	Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh
Date and place	3 September 2026, New Delhi
Period covered	The next 10 years
Pillar 1	Strategic Partnerships
Pillar 2	Capacity Building
Pillar 3	Indigenous Exports
Pillar 4	Maritime Security

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rajnath-singh-releases-raksha-defence-diplomacy-document/

IAF Sarang Team Reaches Egypt for El Alamein Airshow

6 September 2026 · Defence

The Indian Air Force Sarang helicopter display team reached Egypt for the second El Alamein International Airshow, to be held from 8 to 10 September 2026.

- The Indian Air Force's Sarang Helicopter Display Team reached Egypt to take part in the second edition of the El Alamein International Airshow
- The airshow will be held from 8 to 10 September 2026 at El Alamein International Airport in Egypt
- Sarang is the world's only five-helicopter display team and flies the indigenously designed and built Advanced Light Helicopter Dhruv
- The team will perform its famous 'Dolphin Leap' manoeuvre and also present a new manoeuvre called the 'Spot Stall Turn'
- The participation reflects growing defence and diplomatic ties between India and Egypt, the Ministry of Defence said

Team	Sarang Helicopter Display Team, Indian Air Force
Event	El Alamein International Airshow, second edition
Venue	El Alamein International Airport, Egypt
Dates	8 to 10 September 2026
Aircraft	Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv, designed and built in India
Distinction	World's only five-helicopter display team
Manoeuvres	Dolphin Leap, and the new Spot Stall Turn

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/iaf-sarang-team-reaches-egypt-for-el-alamein-airshow/

DAC Clears Rs 1.10 Lakh Crore Defence Procurement Proposals

7 September 2026 · Defence

On 7 September 2026 the Defence Acquisition Council under Rajnath Singh accorded Acceptance of Necessity to defence buys worth about Rs 1,10,000 crore.

- The Defence Acquisition Council cleared Acceptance of Necessity for defence proposals worth about Rs 1,10,000 crore on 7 September 2026
- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh chairs the Defence Acquisition Council, and Acceptance of Necessity is the in-principle administrative approval that starts a purchase
- Army items cleared include CBRN Recce Vehicles, High Mobility Vehicles, Self-Propelled Mechanical Mine Layers, Advanced Light Helicopters, Trawl Tanks and the Sarvatra Bridge System
- The Navy got clearance for Arudhra Radar and for Marine Gas Turbines, a warship propulsion system to be designed and developed in India
- About 98 per cent of the cleared value is to be procured from Indian industry, and the Air Force list includes the GBMPJ jammer and the DEFSAC smart card system

Body	Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)
Chairman	Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh
Date of meeting	7 September 2026
Value cleared	About Rs 1,10,000 crore
Approval granted	Acceptance of Necessity (AoN), the in-principle administrative approval
Army systems	CBRN Recce Vehicles, HMV, Self-Propelled Mechanical Mine Layers, ALH, Trawl Tanks, Sarvatra Bridge System
Navy systems	Arudhra Radar and Marine Gas Turbine (MGT)
Air Force systems	Ground-Based Multi-Purpose Jammer (GBMPJ) and DEFSAC card system

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dac-clears-rs-110-lakh-crore-defence-procurement-proposals/

Exercise Veer Guardian-2026 Begins at Jodhpur with Japan

8 September 2026 · Defence

India and Japan will hold the bilateral air exercise Veer Guardian-2026 at Air Force Station Jodhpur from 9 to 22 September 2026 with Tejas and F-2A jets.

- Veer Guardian-2026 is a bilateral air exercise of the Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self Defence Force, held at Air Force Station Jodhpur
- The exercise runs from 9 September 2026 to 22 September 2026 and the flying programme covers fourteen days
- India is flying the indigenous LCA Tejas along with the Su-30 MKI and the Rafale; Japan has brought the F-2A fighter
- Mission planning conferences, subject matter expert exchanges and talks on engineering and aerospace safety are part of the programme
- The drill is presented as a sign of the deepening strategic partnership between India and Japan

Exercise	Veer Guardian-2026
Type	Bilateral air exercise
Participants	Indian Air Force and Japan Air Self Defence Force
Venue	Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan
Dates	9 September 2026 to 22 September 2026
Indian aircraft	LCA Tejas, Su-30 MKI, Rafale
Japanese aircraft	F-2A

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/exercise-veer-guardian-2026-begins-at-jodhpur-with-japan/

India-Morocco Hold First Joint Defence Committee Meeting

8 September 2026 · Defence

India and Morocco held the first meeting of their Joint Defence Committee in New Delhi on 8 September 2026 and agreed to widen defence cooperation.

- The inaugural India-Morocco Joint Defence Committee meeting was held in New Delhi on 8 September 2026
- It was co-chaired by Amitabh Prasad, Joint Secretary (International Cooperation) in the Ministry of Defence, and Brigadier General Abdellah Athmani of the Moroccan Royal Armed Forces
- Training, peacekeeping, military exercises, medical cooperation, cyber defence and defence industries were the areas discussed
- The committee was created under a defence MoU signed during Rajnath Singh's visit to Morocco in September 2025
- India-Morocco bilateral cooperation will complete its 70th anniversary in 2027

Event	Inaugural India-Morocco Joint Defence Committee meeting
Date	8 September 2026
Venue	New Delhi
Indian co-chair	Amitabh Prasad, Joint Secretary (International Cooperation), Ministry of Defence
Moroccan co-chair	Brigadier General Abdellah Athmani, Chief of the 2nd Bureau, Royal Armed Forces
Delegation visit	7 to 10 September 2026
Parent agreement	Defence MoU signed during Rajnath Singh's Morocco visit in September 2025
Milestone ahead	70th anniversary of bilateral cooperation in 2027

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-morocco-hold-first-joint-defence-committee-meeting/

Rajnath Singh in Colombo: India, Sri Lanka Sign Two Defence MoUs

9 September 2026 · Defence

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met Sri Lanka's President and Prime Minister in Colombo on 9 September 2026 and the two sides exchanged two defence MoUs.

- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh visited Colombo on 9 September 2026 and called on Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake and Prime Minister Dr Harini Amarasuriya
- Two MoUs were exchanged: upgradation of six L70 air defence guns of the Sri Lankan Air Force under an Indian grant, and cooperation between the NCC and the National Defence Colleges
- Three Bailey Bridges built by the Indian defence forces were inaugurated virtually by the two sides
- President Dissanayake thanked India for relief under Operation Sagar Bandhu during Cyclone Ditwah and said Sri Lankan soil would never be used against India
- At the Sri Lankan Ministry of Defence, Rajnath Singh invoked the MAHASAGAR vision, Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Who visited	Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh
Where and when	Colombo, Sri Lanka, 9 September 2026
President of Sri Lanka	Anura Kumara Dissanayake
Prime Minister of Sri Lanka	Dr Harini Amarasuriya
First MoU	Upgradation of six L70 guns for the Sri Lankan Air Force under a Government of India grant
Second MoU	Cooperation between the NCC and the National Defence Colleges of the two countries
Also inaugurated	Three Bailey Bridges built by the Indian defence forces
Relief operation recalled	Operation Sagar Bandhu during Cyclone Ditwah

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rajnath-singh-in-colombo-india-sri-lanka-sign-two-defence-mous/

Exercise Samudra Laksamana: INS Mysore Reaches Lumut, Malaysia

10 September 2026 · Defence

INS Mysore arrived at Lumut in Malaysia for the fourth edition of the bilateral maritime exercise Samudra Laksamana with the Royal Malaysian Navy.

- INS Mysore arrived at Lumut in Malaysia on 9 September 2026 as part of an operational deployment of the Indian Navy
- The ship is taking part in the fourth edition of Samudra Laksamana, a bilateral maritime exercise with the Royal Malaysian Navy
- The exercise has a harbour phase and a sea phase, and includes cross-deck visits, operational interactions and sporting engagements
- The twelfth India-Malaysia Sub Committee Meeting, held on 1 July 2026, was among the recent engagements that led up to the visit
- The engagement is aligned with the MAHASAGAR vision of the Government of India and the ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation 2026

Exercise	Samudra Laksamana, fourth edition
Type	Bilateral maritime exercise
Participants	Indian Navy and Royal Malaysian Navy
Indian ship	INS Mysore
Port of arrival	Lumut, Malaysia
Date of arrival	9 September 2026
Aligned with	MAHASAGAR vision and the ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation 2026
Recent engagement	Twelfth India-Malaysia Sub Committee Meeting, 1 July 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/exercise-samudra-laksamana-ins-mysore-reaches-lumut-malaysia/

Colombo Security Conclave Table Top Exercise Ends at Visakhapatnam

12 September 2026 · Defence

A three-day Colombo Security Conclave Table Top Exercise on illicit maritime activity in the Indian Ocean ended at Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam.

- A three-day Table Top Exercise of the Colombo Security Conclave concluded at Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam, and was announced on 12 September 2026
- The exercise opened on 9 September 2026 with an address by Rear Admiral Manoj Jha, Chief Staff Officer (Operations), Eastern Naval Command
- Its theme was a 'Coordinated Response to Illicit Maritime Activities in the Indian Ocean Region', with more than 72 hours of simulated scenarios
- Maritime terrorism, narcotics smuggling, human trafficking and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing were the threats worked through
- The drill supports the MAHASAGAR vision, short for Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Exercise	Table Top Exercise under the Colombo Security Conclave
Venue	Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam
Duration	Three days, opened on 9 September 2026
Opened by	Rear Admiral Manoj Jha, Chief Staff Officer (Operations)
Theme	Coordinated Response to Illicit Maritime Activities in the Indian Ocean Region
Duration of scenarios	More than 72 hours of simulated operational scenarios
Threats covered	Maritime terrorism, narcotics smuggling, human trafficking, IUU fishing
Concept strengthened	Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/colombo-security-conclave-table-top-exercise-ends-at-visakhapatnam/

INS Sudarshini Sails from Livorno in Italy under Lokayan 2026

13 September 2026 · Defence

The Indian Navy's sail training ship INS Sudarshini left Livorno in Italy on 12 September 2026 after a port call under the Lokayan 2026 expedition.

- INS Sudarshini, a sail training ship of the Indian Navy, set sail from Livorno in Italy on 12 September 2026 after completing a port call.
- The ship is on the Lokayan 2026 expedition and carries forward the MAHASAGAR vision.
- MAHASAGAR stands for Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.
- Admiral Giuseppe Berutti Bergotto, Chief of the Italian Navy, visited the ship and met its crew and trainees.
- Indian sea trainees visited ITS Virginio Fasan and the Italian Naval Academy, while Italian naval personnel visited INS Sudarshini.

Ship	INS Sudarshini, sail training ship of the Indian Navy
Expedition	Lokayan 2026
Port of call left	Livorno, Italy
Date of departure	12 September 2026
Chief of the Italian Navy	Admiral Giuseppe Berutti Bergotto
Commandant, Italian Naval Academy	Rear Admiral Alberto Tarabotto
Mayor of Livorno	Mr Luca Salvetti
Italian ship visited by Indian trainees	ITS Virginio Fasan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ins-sudarshini-sails-from-livorno-in-italy-under-lokayan-2026/

IAF Opens First Dronathon-2026 at Pokhran Firing Range

14 September 2026 · Defence

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit inaugurated the first Indian Air Force Dronathon-2026 at the Pokhran Field Firing Range and released the IAF UAS Roadmap for industry.

- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, Vice Chief of the Air Staff, inaugurated the first Indian Air Force Dronathon-2026 at the Pokhran Field Firing Range in Jaisalmer.
- The three-day event runs from 14 to 16 September 2026 and has drawn more than 20 leading defence companies besides start-ups, MSMEs and defence public sector undertakings.
- The Vice Chief of the Air Staff released the IAF UAS Roadmap, which sets out the force's capability priorities for Indian industry.
- The Air Force demonstrated Vayu UTtaM, an indigenously developed multi mode Unmanned Traffic Management system that tracked both military and civil drones.
- Demonstrations cover surveillance, autonomous operations, swarm technologies, electronic warfare and Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

Event	Indian Air Force Dronathon-2026, first edition
Venue	Pokhran Field Firing Range, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
Inaugurated by	Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, Vice Chief of the Air Staff
Dates	14 to 16 September 2026, three days
Participants	More than 20 leading defence companies, start-ups, MSMEs and DPSUs
Document released	IAF UAS Roadmap
System demonstrated	Vayu UTtaM, indigenous multi mode Unmanned Traffic Management system
Also present	Officers of the Ministry of Defence, HQ IDS, Indian Army and BSF

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/iaf-opens-first-dronathon-2026-at-pokhran-firing-range/

INS Mysore Ends Exercise Samudra Laksamana in Malaysia

14 September 2026 · Defence

INS Mysore completed the 4th edition of Exercise Samudra Laksamana with the Royal Malaysian Navy at Lumut in Malaysia, held from 9 to 12 September 2026.

- INS Mysore took part in the 4th edition of Exercise Samudra Laksamana with the Royal Malaysian Navy at Lumut, Malaysia.
- The exercise was held from 9 to 12 September 2026 as part of the Indian Navy's operational deployment.
- It had a harbour phase of professional exchanges and an operational phase at sea.
- At sea INS Mysore exercised with the Royal Malaysian Navy ships KD Lekir and KD Gagah Samudera.
- The exercise followed the 12th India-Malaysia Sub Committee Meeting, which was held on 1 July 2026.

Exercise	Samudra Laksamana, 4th edition
Participants	Indian Navy and Royal Malaysian Navy
Indian ship	INS Mysore
Malaysian ships	KD Lekir and KD Gagah Samudera
Venue	Lumut, Malaysia
Dates	9 to 12 September 2026
Phases	Harbour phase and operational phase at sea
Related meeting	12th India-Malaysia Sub Committee Meeting, 1 July 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ins-mysore-ends-exercise-samudra-laksamana-in-malaysia/

India-US Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2026 Begins at Auli and Mahajan

15 September 2026 · Defence

India and the United States opened the 22nd edition of Exercise Yudh Abhyas at Auli in Uttarakhand, with 600 personnel from each side also training at Mahajan.

- The 22nd edition of the India-US joint military exercise Yudh Abhyas opened on 15 September 2026 at the Auli Foreign Training Node in Uttarakhand.
- The drill is being run at the same time at the Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan.
- Each side has fielded 600 personnel; Major General Amaresh Gunjan and Colonel Benjamin Jackman addressed the contingents.
- The aim is joint capability for Integrated Battle Groups in mountainous and semi-mountainous terrain, with infantry-led operations stressed.
- Drones and autonomous systems for surveillance and reconnaissance form the technology focus, along with multi-domain warfare.

Exercise	Yudh Abhyas (India-United States)
Edition	22nd
Opening ceremony	15 September 2026
Venue 1	Auli Foreign Training Node, Uttarakhand
Venue 2	Mahajan Field Firing Range, Rajasthan
Troops	600 personnel from each army
Indian officer	Major General Amaresh Gunjan, GOC, 14 Infantry Division
US officer	Colonel Benjamin Jackman, 1st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 11th Airborne Division

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-us-exercise-yudh-abhyas-2026-begins-at-auli-and-mahajan/

VIMARSH 2026: DRDO Hands Nine Technology Transfer Licences

15 September 2026 · Defence

At the VIMARSH DRDO-Industry Synergy Meet in New Delhi, Rajnath Singh released new MSME and start-up initiatives and nine technology transfer licences were handed over.

- VIMARSH, the DRDO-Industry Synergy Meet on the theme 'Varta se Vikas', was held in New Delhi on 15 September 2026.
- Nine Licensing Agreements for Transfer of Technology were handed over to 13 manufacturing partners in the presence of Rajnath Singh.
- A framework to share DRDO-developed software source codes with licensee industries was launched, along with support measures for MSMEs and deep-tech start-ups.
- DRDO signed a contract with the Quality Council of India for SAMAR version 2.0 and exchanged MoUs with SIDM and Laghu Udyog Bharati.
- More than 2,300 technology transfers have gone to over 1,100 industries so far, and about 50 DRDO missiles' technologies are open to industry.

Event	VIMARSH, DRDO-Industry Synergy Meet
Theme	Varta se Vikas
Date	15 September 2026
Venue	New Delhi
Unveiled by	Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh
Licences	Nine LAToTs to 13 manufacturing partners
MoUs	Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers and Laghu Udyog Bharati
Rating tool	SAMAR version 2.0, contracted with the Quality Council of India

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vimarsh-2026-drdo-hands-nine-technology-transfer-licences/

NCC Girl Cadets Complete Aparajita Parang La 2026 Trek

16 September 2026 · Defence

Twenty NCC girl cadets completed the Aparajita Parang La 2026 high altitude trek, crossing the Parang La Pass at 5,578 metres between Himachal and Ladakh.

- Twenty NCC girl cadets completed the Aparajita - Parang La 2026 high altitude long trek, flagged in at Karzok in Ladakh on 16 September 2026.
- The team crossed the Parang La Pass at 5,578 metres, which links the Spiti Valley of Himachal Pradesh with the Changthang region of Ladakh.
- The route ran from Kibber in Himachal Pradesh to Karzok in Ladakh, about 250 kilometres covered over 30 days.
- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh had flagged off the trek from New Delhi on 18 August 2026.
- DG NCC Lieutenant General Virendra Vats and Additional Secretary Dipti Mohil Chawla received the team at the flag-in ceremony.

Expedition	Aparajita - Parang La 2026
Organiser	National Cadet Corps
Cadets	20 girl cadets from across India
Pass	Parang La Pass, 5,578 metres
Connects	Spiti Valley (Himachal Pradesh) and Changthang (Ladakh)
Route	Kibber to Karzok
Distance and duration	About 250 kilometres in 30 days
Flag-off	18 August 2026, Rajnath Singh, New Delhi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ncc-girl-cadets-complete-aparajita-parang-la-2026-trek/

43rd Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference Begins in New Delhi

17 September 2026 · Defence

The 43rd Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference opened in New Delhi, with Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth addressing the commanders on maritime security.

- The 43rd Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference began in New Delhi on 17 September 2026 and runs for three days.
- Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth addressed the opening day and interacted with Director General Paramesh Sivamani and the Coast Guard commanders.
- The Minister asked the force to become a co-creator of technology by working with start-ups, industry, DRDO and research institutions.
- He linked capability building to the MAHASAGAR vision, which stands for Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.
- Commanders will also interact with Chief of Defence Staff General NS Raja Subramani and Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Krishna Swaminathan.

Event	43rd Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference
Began	17 September 2026, New Delhi
Duration	Three days
Addressed by	Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth
Director General, ICG	Paramesh Sivamani
Chief of Defence Staff	General NS Raja Subramani
Chief of the Naval Staff	Admiral Krishna Swaminathan
Vision cited	MAHASAGAR: Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/43rd-indian-coast-guard-commanders-conference-begins-in-new-delhi/

CORE Programme 2026: Tri-Service Review Ends in New Delhi

18 September 2026 · Defence

A five-day tri-service review of national security challenges ended at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi, with three ministries joining the deliberations.

- The 2026 CORE Programme closed at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi
- Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff put it together; the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies ran it
- It lasted five days, from 14 to 18 September 2026
- All three Services attended, along with the Defence, External Affairs and Home ministries
- Participants settled on a Whole-of-Nation approach as the way to handle security

Programme	Combined Operational Review and Evaluation (CORE) Programme 2026
Organised by	Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS)
Conducted by	Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS)
Venue	Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
Duration	Five days, September 14 to 18, 2026
Ministries represented	Defence, External Affairs, Home Affairs
Key phrase	Whole-of-Nation approach to national security

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/core-programme-2026-tri-service-review-ends-in-new-delhi/

HAL Delivers Tejas Trainers and Dhruv NG Helicopters

18 September 2026 · Defence

Hindustan Aeronautics handed five aircraft to the Air Force and four Dhruv NG helicopters to Pawan Hans at a Bengaluru ceremony attended by two ministers.

- HAL handed over two Tejas LCA twin-seat trainers at Final Operational Clearance standard to the Indian Air Force
- Three HTT 40 basic trainers also went to the Air Force at the same ceremony
- Pawan Hans Limited received four Dhruv helicopters of the Next Generation variant
- The ceremony was held at Bengaluru in Karnataka on 18 September 2026
- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh and Civil Aviation Minister Shri K Rammohan Naidu attended

Manufacturer	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
To the Indian Air Force	2 LCA Tejas FOC Twin Seater Trainers and 3 HTT 40 Basic Trainers
To Pawan Hans Limited	4 Dhruv Next Generation (NG) helicopters
Venue	Bengaluru, Karnataka
Date	18 September 2026
Raksha Mantri	Shri Rajnath Singh
Civil Aviation Minister	Shri K Rammohan Naidu

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/hal-delivers-tejas-trainers-and-dhruv-ng-helicopters/

Indian Navy's First NGMV Keel Laid at Cochin Shipyard, Kochi

19 September 2026 · Defence

The keel of the Indian Navy's first Next Generation Missile Vessel was laid at Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi, on 18 September 2026 under a March 2023 contract.

- Keel of the Indian Navy's first Next Generation Missile Vessel laid at Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi
- The ceremony was held on 18 September 2026, with Vice Admiral Sanjay Sadhu as Chief Guest
- The NGMV construction contract was concluded with Cochin Shipyard Limited in March 2023
- All major role-defining equipment on the vessels is indigenously developed and manufactured
- The Ministry links the project to Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India and Make for the World

Project	Next Generation Missile Vessel (NGMV)
Shipyard	Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi
Keel laying date	18 September 2026
Chief Guest	Vice Admiral Sanjay Sadhu, Controller of Warship Production and Acquisition
Contract concluded	March 2023, with Cochin Shipyard Limited
Ministry	Ministry of Defence
Stated vision	Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India, Make for the World

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indian-navys-first-ngmv-keel-laid-at-cochin-shipyard-kochi/

SLINEX-26: 13th India–Sri Lanka Naval Exercise at Visakhapatnam

20 September 2026 · Defence

SLINEX-26, the 13th India–Sri Lanka naval exercise, is being held at Visakhapatnam from 17 to 21 September 2026 with INS Kavaratti, INS Jyoti and SLNS Sindurala.

- SLINEX-26 is the 13th edition of the bilateral maritime exercise between India and Sri Lanka
- It is being held at Visakhapatnam from 17 to 21 September 2026, with a Harbour Phase followed by a Sea Phase
- INS Kavaratti, an indigenous anti-submarine warfare corvette, and the fleet tanker INS Jyoti represent the Indian Navy
- SLNS Sindurala represents the Sri Lanka Navy
- The SLINEX series was conceptualised in 2005, and this edition is aligned with India's MAHASAGAR vision

Exercise	SLINEX-26 (India–Sri Lanka bilateral maritime exercise)
Edition	13th
Venue	Visakhapatnam
Dates	17 to 21 September 2026
Phases	Harbour Phase, then Sea Phase
Indian Navy ships	INS Kavaratti (indigenous anti-submarine warfare corvette) and INS Jyoti (fleet tanker)
Sri Lanka Navy ship	SLNS Sindurala
Harbour Phase conducted under	Eastern Naval Command

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/slinex-26-13th-india-sri-lanka-naval-exercise-at-visakhapatnam/

Suryakiran Aerobatic Team Performs Over Meerut for the First Time

20 September 2026 · Defence

The IAF's Suryakiran Aerobatic Team flew over Meerut for the first time on 19 and 20 September 2026, drawing more than 1 lakh spectators over the two days.

- The IAF's Suryakiran Aerobatic Team performed over Meerut for the first time on 19 and 20 September 2026
- More than 1 lakh people, including students, NCC cadets and NSS volunteers, watched the two-day display
- SKAT flies nine Hawk Mk132 aircraft, licence-manufactured in India by HAL
- Smoke pods producing coloured smoke were integrated into the aircraft at the IAF's Base Repair Depot, Nashik
- Established in 1996, SKAT is Asia's only nine-aircraft aerobatic team and has flown more than 800 displays

Team	Suryakiran Aerobatic Team (SKAT), Indian Air Force
Venue and dates	Meerut, 19 and 20 September 2026 (first display in the city)
Spectators	More than 1 lakh over two days
Aircraft	Nine Hawk Mk132, licence-manufactured in India by HAL
Coloured smoke pods	Integrated at the IAF's Base Repair Depot, Nashik
Established	1996
Distinction	Only nine-aircraft aerobatic team in Asia
Displays so far	More than 800 in 30 years

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/suryakiran-aerobatic-team-performs-over-meerut-for-the-first-time/

Veer Guardian 2026: IAF-Japan Air Exercise Ends at Jodhpur

22 September 2026 · Defence

The bilateral air exercise Veer Guardian 2026 between the Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self Defense Force concluded at Air Force Station Jodhpur.

- Veer Guardian 2026, the bilateral air exercise of the Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self Defense Force, concluded at Air Force Station Jodhpur on 22 September 2026
- The IAF flew the Su-30 MKI, the Rafale and the indigenous LCA Tejas; the JASDF took part with the F-2A fighter aircraft
- The joint training spanned 14 days and covered within visual range combat and coordinated multi-aircraft missions
- On Distinguished Visitor's Day, JASDF Chief of Staff General Takehiro Morita and Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal AP Singh flew the indigenous Tejas
- Ground activities included subject matter expert exchanges, mission planning conferences, engineering interactions and aerospace safety briefings

Exercise	Veer Guardian 2026 (bilateral air exercise)
Participants	Indian Air Force and Japan Air Self Defense Force
Venue	Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan
Concluded on	22 September 2026
Duration	14 days of joint training
IAF aircraft	Su-30 MKI, Rafale, LCA Tejas
JASDF aircraft	F-2A fighter
JASDF Chief of Staff	General Takehiro Morita

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/veer-guardian-2026-iaf-japan-air-exercise-ends-at-jodhpur/

SLINEX-26: India-Sri Lanka Maritime Exercise Ends in Visakhapatnam

23 September 2026 · Defence

The 13th edition of the India-Sri Lanka bilateral naval exercise SLINEX-26 ended at Visakhapatnam on 21 September 2026 after a five-day harbour and sea run.

- SLINEX-26, the 13th edition of the India-Sri Lanka bilateral maritime exercise, concluded at Visakhapatnam on 21 September 2026.
- The exercise was conducted from 17 to 21 September 2026 and was held in two stages, a harbour phase and a sea phase.
- The sea phase included coordinated manoeuvres, air operations, night replenishment at sea, slithering and Visit, Board, Search and Seizure drills.
- The Ministry of Defence linked the exercise to India's MAHASAGAR vision and to the Neighbourhood First policy.
- Visakhapatnam, the base of the Eastern Naval Command, was the host port for this edition.

Exercise	SLINEX-26, bilateral maritime exercise
Participants	Indian Navy and Sri Lanka Navy
Edition	13th
Venue	Visakhapatnam
Dates	17 to 21 September 2026
Phases	Harbour phase and sea phase
Special Forces drill	Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) and slithering
Policy frame	MAHASAGAR vision and Neighbourhood First policy

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/slinex-26-india-sri-lanka-maritime-exercise-ends-in-visakhapatnam/

INS Trishul Reaches Toulon for 24th Exercise VARUNA

24 September 2026 · Defence

INS Trishul reached Toulon in France on 22 September 2026 for the 24th edition of Exercise VARUNA, the bilateral maritime drill of the Indian and French navies.

- INS Trishul arrived at Toulon in France on 22 September 2026 to take part in Exercise VARUNA, as announced by the Ministry of Defence on 24 September 2026.
- This is the 24th edition of VARUNA, the bilateral maritime exercise conducted by the Indian Navy together with the French Navy.
- The exercise has a harbour phase and a sea phase, with cross-deck visits, operational interactions and sporting engagements between the two crews.
- The stated aims are sharing experience and best practices, improving interoperability and building greater mutual understanding between the two navies.
- Toulon lies on the Mediterranean coast of France and the visit is described as a sign of the enduring India-France maritime partnership.

Exercise	VARUNA, 24th edition
Type	Bilateral maritime exercise
Participants	Indian Navy and French Navy
Indian ship	INS Trishul
Port of arrival	Toulon, France
Date of arrival	22 September 2026
Activities	Cross-deck visits, operational interactions and sporting engagements, in harbour and at sea
Aims	Sharing best practices, interoperability and mutual understanding

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ins-trishul-reaches-toulon-for-24th-exercise-varuna/

DRDO Signs First High-Value TDF Deep Tech Pact with Quantum Start-up

24 September 2026 · Defence

DRDO signed its first high-value deep tech agreement under the Technology Development Fund with start-up Zero mK India for a 20 mK dilution refrigerator.

- DRDO has signed its first high-value deep tech project agreement with a start-up under the Technology Development Fund scheme.
- The partner is Zero mK India Private Limited of Alwar, Rajasthan, and the signing took place in New Delhi with the Director, TDF.
- It is the first big agreement under the Rs 500 crore corpus cleared by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh for deep tech projects.
- A 20 mK dilution refrigerator creates the ultra-cold millikelvin environment in which quantum computing platforms are run and tested.
- The indigenous effort supports the National Quantum Mission and cuts dependence on imported cryogenic infrastructure.

Organisation	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
Scheme	Technology Development Fund (TDF)
Industry partner	Zero mK India Private Limited, Alwar, Rajasthan
Product	20 mK dilution refrigerator for quantum applications
Corpus	Rs 500 crore for deep tech and cutting-edge projects
Corpus approved by	Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh
Mentoring laboratory	Solid State Physics Laboratory (SSPL)
Mission supported	National Quantum Mission

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/drdo-signs-first-high-value-tdf-deep-tech-pact-with-quantum-start-up/

ICG Ship Shaunak Sails for Perth on QUAD-at-Sea Observer Mission

25 September 2026 · Defence

Indian Coast Guard Ship Shaunak left Chennai for Perth in Australia on 25 September 2026 for the QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission, carrying six Sea Riders.

- Indian Coast Guard Ship Shaunak sailed from Chennai for Perth, Australia, on 25 September 2026 under the QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission.
- The QUAD grouping is made up of India, Australia, Japan and the United States.
- Six Sea Riders embarked on Shaunak: two officers each from India and Japan, and one each from Australia and the United States.
- The mission flows from the Quad Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement of 26 May 2026 on a free, open, inclusive and rules-based maritime order.
- It also reflects MAHASAGAR, India's maritime vision, short for Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.

Mission	QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission
Ship	Indian Coast Guard Ship Shaunak
Sailed from	Chennai
Destination	Perth, Australia
Date of sailing	25 September 2026
QUAD members	India, Australia, Japan and the United States
Sea Riders embarked	Six - two each from India and Japan, one each from Australia and the United States
Guiding document	Quad Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement of 26 May 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/icg-ship-shaunak-sails-for-perth-on-quad-at-sea-observer-mission/

Operation Drishti: AFMS Does 220 Eye Surgeries at Tangdhar

25 September 2026 · Defence

Armed Forces Medical Services surgeons performed 220 sight-restoring surgeries at a two-day mega eye camp at Tangdhar in Kupwara along the LoC under Operation Drishti.

- AFMS surgeons performed 220 sight-restoring surgeries at Tangdhar in Kupwara, Jammu and Kashmir, on 24 and 25 September 2026.
- This was the tenth edition of the mega eye surgical camp series held under Operation Drishti, run from an underground operation theatre near the Line of Control.
- The team was led by Brigadier Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Head of Ophthalmology at the Army Hospital (Research and Referral), Delhi Cantonment.
- Chief of the Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth and DG AFMS Air Marshal Sandeep Thareja visited the camp during the two days.
- The series, envisaged by Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh, has screened over 1.50 lakh patients and done over 3,500 surgeries across 10 cities.

Operation	Operation Drishti
Conducted by	Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS)
Surgeries performed	220 sight-restoring surgeries
Place	Tangdhar, Kupwara district, Jammu and Kashmir, along the Line of Control
Dates	24 and 25 September 2026
Edition	Tenth camp of the series
Team led by	Brigadier Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Army Hospital (Research and Referral), Delhi Cantonment
Visited by	Chief of the Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth and DG AFMS Air Marshal Sandeep Thareja

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/operation-drishti-afms-does-220-eye-surgeries-at-tangdhar/

Amit Shah Opens World Archery Para Series in Ahmedabad

4 September 2026 · Sports

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Archery Association of India's World Archery Para Series in Ahmedabad, with 108 athletes from 19 countries.

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Archery Association of India's World Archery Para Series through video conferencing
- The competition is being held in Ahmedabad from 5 to 9 September 2026 with 108 athletes from 19 countries taking part
- The Home Minister named Harvinder Singh, Sheetal Devi, Rakesh Kumar, Shyam Sundar Sami and Payal Nag among archers who brought India global glory
- The 2030 Commonwealth Games will be the centenary edition of the Games and Ahmedabad will host it
- Ahmedabad has submitted a bid to host the 2036 Olympic Games, and Gujarat hosted around 10 international sporting events between 2025 and 2026

Event	World Archery Para Series
Organiser	Archery Association of India
Inaugurated by	Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah, through video conferencing
Dates	5 to 9 September 2026
Host city	Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Participation	108 athletes from 19 countries
Indian para archers named	Harvinder Singh, Sheetal Devi, Rakesh Kumar, Shyam Sundar Sami, Payal Nag
Commonwealth Games 2030	Centenary edition, to be hosted by Ahmedabad

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/amit-shah-opens-world-archery-para-series-in-ahmedabad/

89th Fit India Sundays on Cycle Held in Surat, Gujarat

6 September 2026 · Sports

The 89th Fit India Sundays on Cycle was held in Surat on the theme 'Nasha Mukh Yuva for Viksit Bharat', drawing riders at over 25,000 locations nationwide.

- The 89th edition of Fit India Sundays on Cycle was organised in Surat, Gujarat, on 6 September 2026 with the theme 'Nasha Mukh Yuva for Viksit Bharat'
- Union Sports Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya and Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi led the ride and administered the Nasha Mukh Pledge
- More than 5 million young people joined the edition at over 25,000 locations across the country
- The Surat ride started at the Sardar Patel Statue, Mangadh Chowk, and covered 6 km towards the Sarthana Zoo
- Fit India Sundays on Cycle is organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports with the Cycling Federation of India, Raahgiri Foundation and MY Bharat

Event	89th Fit India Sundays on Cycle
Main venue	Surat, Gujarat
Theme	Nasha Mukh Yuva for Viksit Bharat
Led by	Dr Mansukh Mandaviya and Harsh Sanghavi
Participation	More than 5 million people at over 25,000 locations
Route	Sardar Patel Statue, Mangadh Chowk, to Sarthana Zoo, 6 km
Organisers	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports with the Cycling Federation of India, Raahgiri Foundation and MY Bharat
Delhi venue	Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, on a Teachers' Day theme

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/89th-fit-india-sundays-on-cycle-held-in-surat-gujarat/

503-Member Indian Contingent Sent Off for Asian Games 2026

8 September 2026 · Sports

India's 503-member contingent for the Asian Games 2026 in Japan was given a send-off in New Delhi on 8 September 2026 by Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.

- The send-off for India's Asian Games 2026 contingent was held in New Delhi on 8 September 2026
- The contingent has 503 members, including athletes and support staff, and the Games are being held in Japan
- More than 300 of the athletes are taking part in the Asian Games for the first time
- Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, IOA President P. T. Usha, Sports Secretary Hari Ranjan Rao and Chef de Mission Sahdev Yadav unveiled the contingent jersey
- The minister named 2036 as the target year for hosting the Olympics and spoke of more than Rs 36,000 crore for sports infrastructure

Event	Send-off of the Indian contingent for the Asian Games 2026
Date and venue	8 September 2026, New Delhi
Host country of the Games	Japan
Contingent size	503 members, athletes and support staff
First-timers	More than 300 athletes
Sports Minister	Dr Mansukh Mandaviya
IOA President	Dr P. T. Usha
Chef de Mission	Sahdev Yadav

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/503-member-indian-contingent-sent-off-for-asian-games-2026/

Indian Junior Hockey Teams Win Both Asia Cup Titles

13 September 2026 · Sports

India's Junior Men's Hockey Team won the Asia Cup with a 4-1 win in the final, while the Junior Women's Hockey Team retained its Asia Cup title unbeaten.

- The Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team won the Asia Cup by beating its opponents 4-1 in the final.
- The Indian Junior Women's Hockey Team retained the Asia Cup after an unbeaten campaign.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated both teams in posts on X on 13 September 2026.
- The message for the women's team called the win a proud moment for Indian hockey and tagged Hockey India.

Tournament	Asia Cup, junior level
Junior Men's Hockey Team	Won the title, 4-1 in the final
Junior Women's Hockey Team	Retained the title, unbeaten campaign
Greetings sent by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Platform used	X
Date of the messages	13 September 2026
Federation tagged	Hockey India

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indian-junior-hockey-teams-win-both-asia-cup-titles/

Indian Women's Cricket Team Wins the Asia Cup Title

14 September 2026 · Sports

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the Indian Women's Cricket Team on winning the Asia Cup, praising the side's confidence, consistency and spirit.

- The Indian Women's Cricket Team won the Asia Cup, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the side on 14 September 2026.
- The Prime Minister praised the team's confidence, its consistency and its remarkable spirit, which he said were on full display through the tournament.
- He called the victory a proud moment for Indian cricket.
- He expressed the hope that the triumph would inspire millions of youngsters across the country to play more and to shine.
- The message was sent as a post on X and issued the same day as a release by the Prime Minister's Office.

Tournament	Asia Cup, women's cricket
Winner	Indian Women's Cricket Team
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Date of the message	14 September 2026
Platform used	A post on X
Qualities praised	Confidence, consistency and remarkable spirit
Hope expressed	That the win would inspire millions of youngsters to play more and shine

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indian-womens-cricket-team-wins-the-asia-cup-title/

Asian Games 2026: Elavenil Valarivan Wins Two Silvers in Shooting

20 September 2026 · Sports

Elavenil Valarivan won two silver medals in women's 10m air rifle at the Asian Games 2026 on 20 September, one with the team and one individually.

- Elavenil Valarivan won two silver medals in women's 10m air rifle at the Asian Games 2026 on 20 September
- The team silver was won by Sonam Uttam Maskar, Elavenil Valarivan and Vidarsa K Vinod
- Her silver in the individual event was her second medal of the day
- The Asian Games 2026 are being held in Nagoya, Japan, where India has a contingent of over 500 athletes
- Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya led the 91st 'Sundays on Cycle' ride with the Indian diaspora at Meijō Park, Nagoya

Games	Asian Games 2026, Nagoya, Japan
Discipline	Women's 10m air rifle
Team silver	Sonam Uttam Maskar, Elavenil Valarivan and Vidarsa K Vinod
Individual silver	Elavenil Valarivan
Date	20 September 2026
Indian contingent	More than 500 athletes
Sundays on Cycle in Nagoya	91st edition, Meijō Park, led by Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya
Sundays on Cycle organisers	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports with the Cycling Federation of India, Raahgiri Foundation and MY Bharat

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asian-games-2026-elavenil-valarivan-wins-two-silvers-in-shooting/

Asian Games 2026: India Win Three Medals in Men's 10m Air Rifle

21 September 2026 · Sports

Indian shooters won a team silver and two individual medals in men's 10m air rifle at the Asian Games 2026: Himanshu Dhillon silver and Rudrankksh Patil bronze.

- India won silver in the men's 10m air rifle team event at the Asian Games 2026 through Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil, Himanshu Dhillon and Parth Rakesh Mane
- Himanshu Dhillon won silver in the individual men's 10m air rifle
- Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil won bronze in the individual men's 10m air rifle
- The 2026 Asian Games, the 20th edition, are being held in Aichi and Nagoya, Japan

Event	Men's 10m air rifle, Asian Games 2026
Team medal	Silver
Team members	Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil, Himanshu Dhillon, Parth Rakesh Mane
Individual silver	Himanshu Dhillon
Individual bronze	Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil
Date	21 September 2026
Host of Asian Games 2026	Aichi and Nagoya, Japan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asian-games-2026-india-win-three-medals-in-mens-10m-air-rifle/

Asian Games: India's First Gold via Women's Cricket, First MMA Medal

22 September 2026 · Sports

India's women's cricket team won the country's first gold of the Asian Games 2026; Suchika Tariyal's MMA bronze is India's first-ever Asian Games medal in the sport.

- India's women's cricket team won gold at the Asian Games 2026, the country's first gold of this edition
- Suchika Tariyal won bronze in mixed martial arts, India's first-ever Asian Games medal in the sport
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated both in separate messages on 22 September 2026
- The 2026 Asian Games, the 20th edition, are being held in Aichi and Nagoya, Japan

Games	Asian Games 2026, 20th edition, Aichi–Nagoya, Japan
India's first gold of the edition	Women's cricket team
Mixed martial arts bronze	Suchika Tariyal
Significance	India's first-ever Asian Games medal in mixed martial arts
Date	22 September 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asian-games-indias-first-gold-via-womens-cricket-first-mma-medal/

Jay Meena Wins India's First Asian Games Soft Tennis Medal

23 September 2026 · Sports

Jay Meena took bronze in the men's individual soft tennis event to become India's first-ever Asian Games medallist in the sport, the Prime Minister said.

- Jay Meena won bronze in the men's individual soft tennis event and became India's first-ever Asian Games medallist in the sport.
- The Prime Minister called the result a historic achievement that opens a new chapter for soft tennis in India.
- Mirabai Chanu won the silver medal in the women's 49 kg weightlifting event.
- Parinaaz Dhaliwal, Maheshwari Chauhan and Raiza Dhillon won bronze in the women's skeet team event in shooting.
- All three congratulatory messages were issued by the Prime Minister's Office on 23 September 2026.

Historic first	Jay Meena, India's first-ever Asian Games medallist in soft tennis
Jay Meena's medal	Bronze, men's individual event
Mirabai Chanu	Silver, women's 49 kg weightlifting
Women's skeet team	Bronze, in shooting
Skeet team members	Parinaaz Dhaliwal, Maheshwari Chauhan and Raiza Dhillon
Announced by	Prime Minister's Office, on 23 September 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/jay-meena-wins-indias-first-asian-games-soft-tennis-medal/

Roshibina Devi Takes Sanda Silver, Rowers Win Sculls Bronze

24 September 2026 · Sports

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Naorem Roshibina Devi on silver in the women's Sanda 60kg and Satnam Singh and Salman Khan on double sculls bronze.

- Naorem Roshibina Devi won the silver medal in the women's Sanda 60kg event, and the Prime Minister congratulated her on 24 September 2026.
- The Prime Minister noted that she has won medals at three consecutive Asian Games and called her consistency, courage and determination commendable.
- Satnam Singh and Salman Khan won a bronze medal for India in the men's double sculls, a rowing event for a crew of two.
- The Prime Minister said the composure and the coordination of the rowing pair stood out and hoped the result would inspire them further.
- Both messages were issued by the Prime Minister's Office and shared as posts on X on the same day.

Silver medallist	Naorem Roshibina Devi
Event	Women's Sanda 60kg
Sport	Sanda, the combat format of wushu
Record noted	Medals at three consecutive Asian Games
Bronze medallists	Satnam Singh and Salman Khan
Their event	Men's double sculls, rowing
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Date of messages	24 September 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/roshibina-devi-takes-sanda-silver-rowers-win-sculls-bronze/

Asian Games: Seema, Skeet Pair and Badminton Team Take Bronze

24 September 2026 · Sports

India added three bronze medals at the Asian Games through Seema in the women's 10,000m, the skeet mixed team pair and the men's badminton team.

- Seema won the bronze medal in the women's 10,000m at the Asian Games, bringing India a medal in the event after many years.
- Parinaaz Dhaliwal and Anantjeet Singh Naruka won bronze in the skeet mixed team event, India's first ever medal in that event at the Asian Games.
- The Indian men's badminton team also claimed a bronze medal at the same Games.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated all three sets of winners in messages shared by the Prime Minister's Office.
- The three medals span athletics, shooting and badminton, and each of them was a bronze.

Games	Asian Games
Athletics	Seema, bronze in the women's 10,000m
Significance of that medal	India's medal in the event after many years
Shooting	Parinaaz Dhaliwal and Anantjeet Singh Naruka, bronze in skeet mixed team
Significance	India's first ever medal in the skeet mixed team event at the Asian Games
Badminton	Men's team, bronze
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asian-games-seema-skeet-pair-and-badminton-team-take-bronze/

Mixed 4x400m Relay Team Wins Asian Games Silver for India

25 September 2026 · Sports

Manu TS, Poovamma MR, Vishal TK and Vithya Ramraj took the silver medal in the mixed 4x400m relay at the Asian Games, the Prime Minister said.

- India won the silver medal in the mixed 4x400m relay at the Asian Games
- The Indian quartet was made up of Manu TS, Poovamma MR, Vishal TK and Vithya Ramraj
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the four runners and praised their pace, understanding and resolve
- The congratulatory message was carried by the Prime Minister's Office in a post on the platform X
- In a mixed 4x400m relay four athletes, two men and two women, each run a lap of 400 metres

Event	Mixed 4x400m Relay
Competition	Asian Games
Medal won by India	Silver
Indian team	Manu TS, Poovamma MR, Vishal TK, Vithya Ramraj
Lap run by each athlete	400 metres
Team composition	Two men and two women
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Date of the message	25 September 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mixed-4x400m-relay-team-wins-asian-games-silver-for-india/

Awards & Honours

Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards 2024 Announced

2 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

Four adventurers will receive the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards 2024, each getting a statuette, a certificate and prize money of Rs 15 lakh.

- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announced the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards for 2024, covering Land Adventure, Water Adventure, Air Adventure and Lifetime Achievement
- Baljeet Kaur and Skalzang Rigzin were named for Land Adventure, Rimo Saha for Water Adventure and Shiv Prasad Chamoli for Lifetime Achievement
- Each awardee receives a statuette, a certificate and award money of Rs 15 lakh
- The President of India will confer the awards at Rashtrapati Bhavan along with the National Sports Awards 2025, on a date to be announced separately
- The selections were made on the recommendations of the National Selection Committee after scrutiny of the nominations

Award	Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards (TNNAA) 2024
Ministry	Youth Affairs and Sports
Categories	Land Adventure, Water Adventure, Air Adventure, Lifetime Achievement
Land Adventure	Baljeet Kaur and Skalzang Rigzin
Water Adventure	Rimo Saha
Lifetime Achievement	Shiv Prasad Chamoli
Award money	Rs 15 lakh, with a statuette and a certificate
Conferred by	President of India, at Rashtrapati Bhavan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/tenzing-norgay-national-adventure-awards-2024-announced/

NHAI Announces Green Highways Excellence Awards 2026 Winners

3 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

NHAI named the winners of the Green Highways Excellence Awards 2026 in three plantation categories, choosing from 86 nominations received from across the country.

- NHAI announced the winners of the Green Highways Excellence Awards 2026 in three categories: Avenue Plantations, Median Plantations, and Plantation in Land Parcels covering clover leaves, interchanges, toll plazas and service areas
- A total of 86 nominations came from across the country, 27 for Avenue Plantations, 36 for Median Plantations and 23 for Plantation in Land Parcels
- After initial screening, 15 nominations were shortlisted for final assessment, five in each of the three categories
- The survival rate of plantations carried the highest weight in the assessment framework, and entries had to submit geo-tagged photographs and drone videos
- The awards were instituted by NHAI in 2025 as mandated in the Green Highways Policy, 2015

Awarding body	National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
Award	Green Highways Excellence Awards 2026
Categories	Avenue Plantations, Median Plantations, Plantation in Land Parcels
Nominations received	86
Category-wise nominations	27 Avenue, 36 Median, 23 Land Parcels
Shortlisted	15, five in each category
Highest weight in assessment	Survival rate of plantations
Awards instituted	2025

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nhai-announces-green-highways-excellence-awards-2026-winners/

India Wins Best-Ever 9 Medals at 19th Earth Science Olympiad

4 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

India took nine medals, four of them gold, at the 19th International Earth Science Olympiad in Turin, Italy, its best-ever haul at the competition.

- India won nine medals, four gold, three silver and two bronze, at the 19th International Earth Science Olympiad 2026, its highest-ever tally at the event
- The Olympiad was held in Turin, Italy from 20 to 27 August 2026 under the aegis of the International Geoscience Organisation, with 39 countries taking part
- Soumik Mandal of DAV Model School, Durgapur, West Bengal won two gold and one silver and stood third in the overall global ranking
- Union Minister for Earth Sciences Dr Jitendra Singh felicitated the team at Prithvi Bhawan, Lodhi Road, New Delhi
- Selection began with an all-India test facilitated by the Geological Society of India in which about 17,800 students appeared at 500 centres

Event	19th International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) 2026
Venue	Turin, Italy
Dates of the Olympiad	20 to 27 August 2026
Held under	International Geoscience Organisation
Countries taking part	39
India's medals	9 in all: 4 gold, 3 silver, 2 bronze, the highest ever
Top Indian performer	Soumik Mandal, 2 gold and 1 silver, third in the global ranking
Felicitated by	Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-wins-best-ever-9-medals-at-19th-earth-science-olympiad/

National Teachers Awards 2026: President Honours 82 Teachers

5 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

President Droupadi Murmu gave the National Awards to Teachers to 82 teachers and educators at a New Delhi function on Teachers' Day, 5 September 2026.

- President Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Awards to Teachers at a function in New Delhi on Teachers' Day, 5 September 2026
- A total of 82 teachers and educators were selected for the awards this year from three departments
- The break-up is 48 teachers from the Department of School Education and Literacy, 21 from higher educational institutions and polytechnics, and 13 skill trainers from the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- The President said education is the most effective means of realising the Constitution's ideal of equality of opportunity, and credited teachers with the negligible primary school dropout rate
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi met the winners at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg a day earlier and spoke about drug awareness, screen time and the National Education Policy

Award	National Awards to Teachers
Conferred by	President Droupadi Murmu
Date and occasion	5 September 2026, Teachers' Day
Venue	New Delhi
Total awardees	82 teachers and educators
School education share	48 teachers from the Department of School Education and Literacy
Higher education share	21 teachers and faculty members from higher educational institutions and polytechnics
Skill training share	13 skill trainers from the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-teachers-awards-2026-president-honours-82-teachers/

President's Colour Presented to Goa Police by Amit Shah in Panaji

7 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the President's Colour to the Goa Police at Panaji on 7 September 2026, honouring eight decades of service.

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the President's Colour to the Goa Police at Panaji on 7 September 2026, marking eight decades of service
- Goa Police has cut the response time on emergency helpline 112 from 18 minutes to 8 minutes and has given prompt help on nearly 20,000 calls
- The conviction rate of the Goa Police rose by 30 percentage points in one year, from 23 per cent to 53 per cent of FIRs
- Goa Police has launched an AI-based call agent for the 1930 cyber fraud helpline that takes complaints in all languages of the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution
- Goa Police ranks second in the country in implementing the new criminal codes with 93.38 per cent progress, and a roadmap for 2026 to 2029 has been prepared for a narcotics-free India

Honour	President's Colour, presented to the Goa Police
Presented by	Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah
Place and date	Panaji, capital of Goa, 7 September 2026
Also present	Goa Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant and Shri Shripad Yesso Naik
Service recognised	Eight decades of service by the Goa Police
Emergency helpline	112, response time cut from 18 minutes to 8 minutes
Cyber fraud helpline	1930, with an AI-based call agent launched by Goa Police
Languages covered	All languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/presidents-colour-presented-to-go-a-police-by-amit-shah-in-panaji/

Kishor Makwana Conferred Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Jan Seva Award 2026

10 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

NCSC Chairman Kishor Makwana received the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Jan Seva Award 2026 at the Sansad Ratna Awards held at the Dr Ambedkar International Centre.

- Kishor Makwana, Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, was conferred the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Jan Seva Award 2026
- The award was presented during the sixteenth edition of the Sansad Ratna Awards 2026 at the Dr Ambedkar International Centre in the national capital
- Union Minister of Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy was the Chief Guest and Dr Sukanta Majumdar attended as the Special Guest
- The ceremony was presided over by Hansraj Ahir, former Chairman of the National Commission for Backward Classes, and former Chief Justice B. R. Gavai was present
- He was nominated for the award by the Prime Point Foundation and the Sansad Ratna Awards Committee

Award	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Jan Seva Award 2026
Recipient	Kishor Makwana
His post	Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)
Occasion	Sixteenth edition of the Sansad Ratna Awards 2026
Venue	Dr Ambedkar International Centre, national capital
Chief Guest	G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of Coal and Mines
Special Guest	Dr Sukanta Majumdar, Minister of State for Education and Development of the North Eastern Region
Presided over by	Hansraj Ahir, former Chairman, National Commission for Backward Classes

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kishor-makwana-conferred-dr-apj-abdul-kalam-jan-seva-award-2026/

Anant Nag Chosen for Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024

16 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

Veteran actor Anant Nag will receive the Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024 at the 72nd National Film Awards ceremony at Kevadia in Gujarat on 22 September.

- Veteran actor Anant Nag has been selected for the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2024, on the Selection Committee's recommendation.
- The award will be presented at the 72nd National Film Awards ceremony on 22 September 2026 at Kevadia in Gujarat.
- Born on 4 September 1948 in Karnataka, he debuted in the Kannada film Sankalp and made his Hindi debut with Ankur.
- He has acted in more than 300 films across six languages and is widely remembered for the television series Malgudi Days.
- He served in the Karnataka Legislative Council from 1988 to 1994 and in the Legislative Assembly from 1994 to 1999.

Award	Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2024
Recipient	Anant Nag
Date of birth	4 September 1948, Karnataka
Ceremony	72nd National Film Awards
Date of ceremony	22 September 2026
Venue	Kevadia, Gujarat
Ministry	Information and Broadcasting
Debut film	Sankalp (Kannada); Ankur in Hindi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/anant-nag-chosen-for-dadasaheb-phalke-award-2024/

72nd National Film Awards: Winners, Venue and Key Facts

20 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

The 72nd National Film Awards, for films of 2024, will be presented on 22 September 2026 at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat. Article 370 won the Best Feature Film award.

- The 72nd National Film Awards, for films of 2024, will be presented by the President on 22 September 2026 at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat
- Article 370 won Best Feature Film, and Yami Gautam won Best Actress for the same film
- Mammooty (Bramayugam) and Kartik Aaryan (Chandu Champion) share the Best Actor award
- Anant Nag will receive the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2024
- The awards were instituted in 1954, and the first edition honoured films of 1953

Edition	72nd National Film Awards (films of 2024)
Ceremony	22 September 2026, Ekta Nagar (formerly Kevadia), Gujarat
Winners announced	18 July 2026
Best Feature Film	Article 370 (Hindi)
Best Actor (shared)	Mammooty (Bramayugam) and Kartik Aaryan (Chandu Champion)
Best Actress	Yami Gautam (Article 370)
Best Direction	Rajkumar Periasamy (Amaran)
Best Popular Film	Kalki 2898 AD (Telugu)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/72nd-national-film-awards-winners-venue-and-key-facts/

National Film Awards to Be Held at India's Best Tourist Destinations

22 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

I&B Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the National Film Awards will move from conference halls to the country's best tourist destinations; States can propose venues.

- The National Film Awards will be held at India's best tourist destinations, I&B Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on 22 September 2026
- States have been invited to propose their best tourism destination, with facilities and a 360-degree development plan; the selected State hosts the next awards
- Ekta Nagar, home to the Statue of Unity, was cited as an example of such a destination
- The move follows the G20 model of taking national events across States and aims to bring film and tourism together

Announcement	National Film Awards to be held at India's best tourist destinations
Announced by	Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting
Date	22 September 2026
Process	States propose their best tourism destination with facilities and a 360-degree development plan
Example cited	Ekta Nagar, Gujarat, home to the Statue of Unity
Model	G20 events held across States
Presented by	President of India

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-film-awards-to-be-held-at-indias-best-tourist-destinations/

72nd National Film Awards: Anant Nag Gets Dadasaheb Phalke Award

22 September 2026 · Awards & Honours

President Droupadi Murmu conferred the 72nd National Film Awards at Ekta Nagar in Gujarat and gave the Dadasaheb Phalke Award to actor Anant Nag.

- President Droupadi Murmu presented the 72nd National Film Awards at Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, in Gujarat, the first edition of the ceremony to be held outside Delhi.
- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2024 went to Kannada actor Anant Nag, who acted in about 50 plays before films and had received the Padma Bhushan a year earlier.
- Best Actor was shared by Mammooty for Bramayugam and Kartik Aaryan for Chandu Champion; Yami Gautam won Best Actress for Article 370, also the Best Feature Film.
- Rajkumar Periasamy won Best Direction for Amaran, Kalki 2898 AD was the Best Popular Film and Captain Miller won for national, social and environmental values.
- Entries numbered 400 feature films in 34 languages and 161 non-feature films in 24 languages; awards went to 22 feature and 23 non-feature categories.

Event	72nd National Film Awards
Date	22 September 2026
Venue	Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat (first time outside Delhi)
Awards conferred by	President Droupadi Murmu
Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2024)	Anant Nag, Kannada actor
Best Feature Film	Article 370
Best Actor	Mammooty (Bramayugam) and Kartik Aaryan (Chandu Champion)
Best Actress	Yami Gautam (Article 370)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/72nd-national-film-awards-anant-nag-gets-dadasaheb-phalke-award/

Appointments

Vinaya Prakash Singh Re-elected APPU Secretary-General

6 September 2026 · Appointments

Dr Vinaya Prakash Singh was re-elected Secretary-General of the Asian-Pacific Postal Union unopposed at the 14th APPU Congress in Bangkok on 4 September 2026.

- Dr Vinaya Prakash Singh, a 1988 batch officer of the Indian Postal Service, was re-elected Secretary-General of the Asian-Pacific Postal Union for a second consecutive four-year term
- He was declared elected unopposed by acclamation at the 14th APPU Congress held in Bangkok on 4 September 2026
- His second term will run from January 2027 to December 2030; he first took charge in January 2023 after being elected at the 13th Congress in 2022
- The Asian-Pacific Postal Union is an inter-governmental body of 32 member countries with its headquarters in Bangkok
- APPU functions as a Regional Union of the Universal Postal Union, the United Nations specialised agency for the postal sector

Person	Dr Vinaya Prakash Singh, Indian Postal Service, 1988 batch
Post	Secretary-General, Asian-Pacific Postal Union
Elected at	14th APPU Congress, Bangkok, 4 September 2026
Manner of election	Unopposed, by acclamation
Second term	January 2027 to December 2030
First term began	January 2023, after election at the 13th Congress in 2022
APPU headquarters	Bangkok
Member countries	32

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vinaya-prakash-singh-re-elected-appu-secretary-general/

Bhagwat Prasad Makwana Appointed NCSK Chairperson

6 September 2026 · Appointments

Bhagwat Prasad Makwana was named Chairperson of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis, with Kaishab Bihari as Vice-Chairperson and three Members.

- Bhagwat Prasad Makwana has been appointed Chairperson of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis and Kaishab Bihari its Vice-Chairperson
- Manoj Kumar Balmiki, Sushma Gaudiyal and Ravi Ramu Kalose have been appointed Members of the Commission
- All the appointments remain effective up to 31 March 2028, matching the remaining tenure of the present Commission
- The Chairperson has earlier served as Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Safai Karamchari Commission of Uttarakhand and as an Independent Director on the NHPC Board
- The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment made the appointments, announced on 6 September 2026

Body	National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK)
Chairperson	Bhagwat Prasad Makwana
Vice-Chairperson	Kaishab Bihari
Members	Manoj Kumar Balmiki, Sushma Gaudiyal and Ravi Ramu Kalose
Term	Effective up to 31 March 2028
Appointing Department	Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
Chairperson's earlier post	Vice-Chairman and Chairman, Safai Karamchari Commission, Uttarakhand
Relevant law	Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bhagwat-prasad-makwana-appointed-ncsk-chairperson/

Bhagwat Prasad Makwana Takes Charge as NCSK Chairperson

9 September 2026 · Appointments

Bhagwat Prasad Makwana assumed charge as Chairperson of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis on 9 September 2026, after his appointment on 6 September.

- Bhagwat Prasad Makwana assumed charge as Chairperson of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis on 9 September 2026
- The Government of India had appointed him to the post on 6 September 2026
- He earlier served as Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Safai Karamchari Commission of the Government of Uttarakhand
- He has been an Independent Director on the Board of NHPC and a member of the Central Monitoring Committee under the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013
- He holds a Master's degree in Economics and has long experience in social work concerning Scheduled Caste communities

Who	Shri Bhagwat Prasad Makwana
Post	Chairperson, National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK)
Took charge on	9 September 2026
Appointed on	6 September 2026
Ministry concerned	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Earlier state role	Vice-Chairman and Chairman, Safai Karamchari Commission, Uttarakhand
Corporate role	Independent Director on the Board of NHPC
Statutory role	Member, Central Monitoring Committee under the Manual Scavengers Act, 2013

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bhagwat-prasad-makwana-takes-charge-as-ncsk-chairperson/

President Appoints 14 Judges to Four High Courts

19 September 2026 · Appointments

Fourteen judicial officers have been appointed to the Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Jharkhand and Karnataka High Courts by the President.

- Fourteen judicial officers have been appointed to four High Courts
- The Delhi High Court receives seven, two as Judges and five as Additional Judges
- Three go to the Jharkhand High Court as Judges and three to Karnataka as Additional Judges
- One officer becomes a Judge of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh
- The President made the appointments after consulting the Chief Justice of India

Total appointed	14 judicial officers
Delhi High Court	2 Judges and 5 Additional Judges
Jharkhand High Court	3 Judges
Karnataka High Court	3 Additional Judges
J&K and Ladakh High Court	1 Judge
Appointing authority	The President of India
Consultation	Chief Justice of India
Ministry	Ministry of Law and Justice

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/president-appoints-14-judges-to-four-high-courts/

Government Schemes

PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana Score Rises to 38.85 in July

1 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The average score of the 100 districts under PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana rose from 22.54 in April 2026 to 38.85 in July 2026, a gain of 16.31 points.

- The average score of the 100 PM-DDKY districts across six objectives rose from 22.54 in April 2026 to 38.85 in July 2026, an improvement of 16.31 points
- PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana covers 100 districts chosen for low agricultural productivity, low cropping intensity and low agricultural credit disbursement
- It is implemented through the convergence of 36 central schemes of 11 ministries and departments, along with state schemes and private-sector participation
- Progress is tracked on 121 indicators, made up of 74 output indicators and 47 outcome indicators, with monthly district rankings on the dashboard
- Between January and July 2026 the scheme trained 6,90,530 farmers and 88,961 extension workers, and 2,20,683 more were trained in natural farming

Scheme	Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PM-DDKY)
Reviewed by	Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Coverage	100 districts with low productivity, low cropping intensity and low farm credit
Objectives	Six, from productivity and diversification to credit and governance
Convergence	36 central schemes of 11 ministries and departments
Indicators	121 in all, being 74 output and 47 outcome indicators
Average score	Rose from 22.54 in April 2026 to 38.85 in July 2026, a gain of 16.31 points
Training, January to July 2026	6,90,530 farmers and 88,961 extension workers; 2,20,683 trained in natural farming

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-dhan-dhaanya-krishi-yojana-score-rises-to-3885-in-july/

Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan Turns Six: National Pledge Planned

3 September 2026 · Government Schemes

A National Mass Pledge against drug abuse has been planned for the 6th anniversary of the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan, which has reached over 34.56 crore citizens.

- A National Mass Pledge Against Drug Abuse has been planned for this month to mark the 6th anniversary of the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan, with a target of mobilising more than 10 crore citizens
- The Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan was launched by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on 15 August 2020 to curb drug demand in the country
- The campaign has reached more than 34.56 crore citizens, including over 13.71 crore youth and 10.65 crore women, and more than 1.64 lakh Nasha Mukti Mitras have joined it
- The strategy runs under the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction and rests on the first National Survey on the Extent and Pattern of Substance Use, done by the NDDTC at AIIMS New Delhi
- The de-addiction helpline number is 14446, and the NMBA 2.0 mobile application helps a citizen locate the nearest de-addiction centre

Campaign	Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA)
Launched on	15 August 2020
Anniversary being marked	6th
Nodal Ministry	Social Justice and Empowerment
Target for the pledge	More than 10 crore citizens
Citizens reached so far	More than 34.56 crore
Youth and women reached	Over 13.71 crore youth and 10.65 crore women
Nasha Mukti Mitras	More than 1.64 lakh

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nasha-mukt-bharat-abhiyaan-turns-six-national-pledge-planned/

Grain Storage Plan: Godowns Built in 313 PACS by July 2026

3 September 2026 · Government Schemes

Godown construction under the Decentralised Grain Storage Plan was complete in 313 PACS by July 2026, creating more than 1.80 lakh metric tonnes of storage capacity.

- The Decentralised Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector was launched in 2023 and works through Primary Agricultural Credit Societies, with the National Cooperative Development Corporation as the implementing agency
- The pilot covered 11 PACS across 11 states with 9,750 MT of capacity; by July 2026, 1012 PACS had been identified and godowns were complete in 313 PACS, creating more than 1.80 lakh metric tonnes of capacity
- Foodgrain production for 2025-26 is estimated at 376.563 million tonnes against 357.732 million tonnes a year earlier, while the National Food Security Act of 2013 covers about 80 crore people
- The subsidy under the Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure scheme was raised from 25 per cent to 33.33 per cent, and with NABARD refinance and 3 per cent interest subvention the effective loan rate for PACS falls to 1 per cent
- Nerpingalai PACS in Amravati, Maharashtra built a 3,000 MT warehouse where about 300 farmers store nearly 32,000 bags of soybean, with advances of about Rs 4.50 crore given against stored produce

Plan	Decentralised Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector
Launched	2023; pilot rolled out on 31 May 2023
Works through	Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)
Implementing agency	National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)
Pilot	11 PACS across 11 states, 9,750 MT of capacity
PACS identified by July 2026	1012
Godowns completed by July 2026	313 PACS
Capacity created	More than 1.80 lakh metric tonnes

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/grain-storage-plan-godowns-built-in-313-pacs-by-july-2026/

Special Campaign 3 Settles 2,306 Long-Pending Pension Grievances

4 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare redressed 2,306 long-pending pension grievances under Special Campaign 3, a redressal rate of 72 per cent.

- The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare redressed 2,306 of the 3,193 cases taken up under Special Campaign 3, a redressal rate of 72 per cent
- Special Campaign 3 ran from 7 July 2026 to 31 August 2026 and had a preparatory phase and an execution phase
- Ministries identified 1,062 target cases, and another 2,131 cases pending on the CPENGRAMS portal for over a month were also taken up
- The coordinated efforts of 40 ministries and departments produced the result, with two mid-campaign review meetings held
- Most resolved cases belonged to pensioners in rural areas, which the department describes as evidence that the digital divide is narrowing

Campaign	Special Campaign 3, the third annual edition since 2024
Run by	Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW)
Ministry	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
Campaign period	7 July 2026 to 31 August 2026
Cases redressed	2,306 out of 3,193 taken up
Redressal rate	72 per cent
Target cases identified in the preparatory phase	1,062
CPENGRAMS cases taken up	2,131, pending for more than one month

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/special-campaign-3-settles-2306-long-pending-pension-grievances/

Coal Gasification Scheme: ₹37,500 Crore Outlay, NTPC Applies

5 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The Coal Ministry said the ₹37,500 crore surface coal and lignite gasification scheme has drawn applications from Talcher Fertilisers and NTPC Limited.

- The Union Cabinet approved the Scheme for Promotion of Surface Coal and Lignite Gasification Projects on 13 May 2026 with an outlay of ₹37,500 crore
- The scheme promotes conversion of domestic coal and lignite into syngas, methanol, ammonia and urea, cutting dependence on imported feedstock
- The Ministry of Coal said Talcher Fertilisers Limited and NTPC Limited have already applied, and rejected press reports that the scheme had no takers
- The first-round application deadline is 7 September 2026, and rounds run on a rolling basis with the next opening the day after one closes and staying open for two months
- The scheme is expected to draw investment of about ₹2.5 lakh crore to ₹3 lakh crore across nearly 25 projects and generate around 50,000 direct and indirect jobs

Scheme	Scheme for Promotion of Surface Coal and Lignite Gasification Projects
Ministry	Ministry of Coal
Approved by	Union Cabinet, on 13 May 2026
Outlay	₹37,500 crore
Products targeted	Syngas, methanol, ammonia and urea
Applicants named	Talcher Fertilisers Limited and NTPC Limited
Request for Proposal issued	7 July 2026
First-round deadline	7 September 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/coal-gasification-scheme-rs-37500-crore-outlay-ntpc-applies/

Vibrant Villages Programme: Rs 11,639 Crore for Border Villages

6 September 2026 · Government Schemes

A Home Ministry backgrounder of 6 September 2026 showed the Vibrant Villages Programme covering over 2,616 border villages with an outlay of Rs 11,639 crore.

- The Vibrant Villages Programme runs as VVP-I and VVP-II with a combined outlay of Rs 11,639 crore and covers more than 2,616 villages along India's international land borders
- VVP-I is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rs 4,800 crore for the northern border; VVP-II is a Central Sector Scheme funded fully by the Centre for the remaining land borders
- VVP-I was launched at Kibithoo in Anjaw district, Arunachal Pradesh, on 10 April 2023 and prioritised 662 villages with a population of about 1.42 lakh
- VVP-II covers 1,954 villages in 334 blocks spread over 15 States and 2 Union Territories, and the Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal ministry
- By July 2026 the Home Ministry had sanctioned 1,248 projects worth Rs 3,020.32 crore, released Rs 953.47 crore and seen 283 projects completed

Scheme	Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP-I and VVP-II)
Nodal Ministry	Ministry of Home Affairs
Combined outlay	Rs 11,639 crore
Villages covered	More than 2,616
VVP-I outlay	Rs 4,800 crore, of which Rs 2,500 crore is for roads
VVP-I launch	Kibithoo, Anjaw district, Arunachal Pradesh, 10 April 2023
VVP-I priority villages	662 villages, population about 1.42 lakh
VVP-II coverage	1,954 villages in 334 blocks of 15 States and 2 Union Territories

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vibrant-villages-programme-rs-11639-crore-for-border-villages/

9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah Begins from Varanasi

8 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah starts on 9 September 2026 at Varanasi on the theme Hamari Anganwadi Hamari Jimmedari, marking ten years of PMMVY.

- The 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah will be launched on 9 September 2026 at the Rudraksh centre in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- The theme of this edition is Hamari Anganwadi Hamari Jimmedari, which calls for shared ownership of Anganwadi centres
- POSHAN Abhiyaan was launched in March 2018 and was brought under Mission Poshan 2.0 in the Union Budget of 2021-22
- Mission Poshan 2.0 merges POSHAN Abhiyaan, Anganwadi Services or ICDS and the Scheme for Adolescent Girls under the Ministry of Women and Child Development
- The month also marks ten years of the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana and stresses the first 1,000 days of life

Campaign	9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah, observed every September
Launch	9 September 2026, Rudraksh International Cooperation and Convention Centre, Varanasi
Theme	Hamari Anganwadi Hamari Jimmedari
Ministry	Ministry of Women and Child Development
POSHAN Abhiyaan launched	March 2018
Mission Poshan 2.0	Announced in the Union Budget of 2021-22
Anniversary marked	Ten years of the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana
Focus window	First 1,000 days of life

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/9th-rashtriya-poshan-maah-begins-from-varanasi/

Coal Sector Gets India's First Sector-Wide CSR Framework

8 September 2026 · Government Schemes

Coal Minister G. Kishan Reddy launched the first sector-wide CSR framework for Indian coal companies in New Delhi on 8 September 2026, prepared by IICA.

- The Comprehensive CSR Framework for Indian Coal Companies was launched in New Delhi on 8 September 2026 by Coal and Mines Minister G. Kishan Reddy
- It is the first sector-specific CSR framework since statutory CSR began under the Companies Act, 2013, and has been prepared by the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs
- Under the Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojana more than 1,050 bone marrow transplants are done, with an outlay of Rs 130 crore over four phases
- The thalassemia scheme now covers twenty one empanelled hospitals, up from four, and pays up to Rs 10 lakh per patient
- Nanha Sa Dil, run with the Sri Sathya Sai Health and Education Trust since March 2024, has completed more than 1,500 free corrective heart surgeries

Launched	Comprehensive CSR Framework for Indian Coal Companies
Date and place	8 September 2026, New Delhi
Launched by	G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of Coal and Mines
Prepared by	Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA)
Distinction	First sector-specific CSR framework since statutory CSR under the Companies Act, 2013
Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojana	More than 1,050 bone marrow transplants, outlay of Rs 130 crore
Nanha Sa Dil	More than 1,500 free corrective heart surgeries
Coal Ministry Secretary	Vikram Dev Dutt

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/coal-sector-gets-indias-first-sector-wide-csr-framework/

9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2026 Launched at Varanasi

9 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2026 at Varanasi on 9 September 2026 on a theme about Anganwadis.

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2026 at the Rudraksh Centre, Varanasi, on 9 September 2026
- The theme of the month-long campaign is Hamari Anganwadi, Hamari Jimmedari, focusing on dietary diversity, adequate protein and fresh hot cooked meals
- More than 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres serve over 7.5 crore children, 1.10 crore pregnant and lactating women and nearly 16 lakh adolescent girls
- The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana completed ten years, transferring more than Rs 21,000 crore to over 4.65 crore mothers through direct benefit transfer
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Union Minister Annpurna Devi led the launch; 2 lakh centres are being upgraded into Saksham Anganwadis

Campaign	9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2026
Launched by	Ministry of Women and Child Development
Venue and date	Rudraksh International Cooperation and Convention Centre, Varanasi, 9 September 2026
Theme	Hamari Anganwadi, Hamari Jimmedari
Union Minister	Annpurna Devi
Anganwadi Centres	More than 14 lakh, serving over 7.5 crore children
Saksham Anganwadi upgrade	2 lakh centres, about 24,000 approved in Uttar Pradesh
PMMVY milestone	Ten years; more than Rs 21,000 crore to over 4.65 crore mothers

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/9th-rashtriya-poshan-maah-2026-launched-at-varanasi/

Scholarships Worth Rs 12,773 Crore for 1.44 Crore SC Students

10 September 2026 · Government Schemes

More than 1.44 crore Scheduled Caste students have received scholarships of Rs 12,773 crore, and reforms have been made in three education support schemes.

- More than 1.44 crore Scheduled Caste students have benefited under the Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes, with Rs 12,773 crore disbursed
- More than 1.01 crore OBC and EBC students have received assistance of Rs 2,445.05 crore under the same schemes
- The National Entrance Test for SHRESHTA has been advanced from May to December so that counselling and admission fit the academic cycle
- On-the-spot verification of income and caste certificates was introduced under the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme from the academic year 2024-25
- A mandatory seven-day grievance window after UGC-NET and Joint CSIR-UGC NET results was introduced under the National Fellowship for SC Students from 2025-26

Department	Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
SC students supported	More than 1.44 crore
Amount disbursed to SC students	Rs 12,773 crore
OBC and EBC students supported	More than 1.01 crore
Amount for OBC and EBC students	Rs 2,445.05 crore
SHRESHTA	Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas
NETS examination	Advanced from May to December
Overseas scholarship reform	On-the-spot verification of income and caste certificates, from 2024-25

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/scholarships-worth-rs-12773-crore-for-144-crore-sc-students/

India Crosses 80 Lakh HPV Vaccine Doses in Cancer Drive

11 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The Health Ministry says over 80 lakh HPV vaccine doses have been given under the National HPV Vaccination Campaign, with four states at full coverage.

- More than 80 lakh, or 8 million, HPV vaccine doses have been given under the National HPV Vaccination Campaign since February 2026
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the campaign, which gives 14-year-old girls a free, voluntary single dose at government health facilities
- Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram have achieved full coverage of their target cohorts
- Uttar Pradesh has vaccinated the most, with over 22 lakh adolescent girls; Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Assam have crossed 90 per cent
- The campaign uses the U-WIN platform to track district-level coverage, and about 1.2 crore girls form the annual cohort of 14-year-olds

Milestone	More than 80 lakh, or 8 million, HPV vaccine doses
Campaign	National HPV Vaccination Campaign
Launched by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in February 2026
Ministry	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Beneficiaries	Girls aged 14, free voluntary single dose with parental consent
Annual cohort	About 1.2 crore girls, as per Registrar General of India estimates of 2021
Full coverage	Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram
Highest numbers	Uttar Pradesh, over 22 lakh adolescent girls

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-crosses-80-lakh-hpv-vaccine-doses-in-cancer-drive/

PMAY-Urban 2.0 Sanctions Reach 18.77 Lakh Houses at 9th CSMC

11 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The 9th CSMC meeting cleared over 29,000 more houses under PMAY-Urban 2.0, taking total sanctions to 18.77 lakh, of which 17.19 lakh went to women.

- Total sanctions under PMAY-Urban 2.0 have reached 18.77 lakh houses after the 9th CSMC meeting held in New Delhi on 10 September 2026
- Over 29,000 houses were approved at the meeting under the Beneficiary Led Construction and Affordable Housing in Partnership verticals
- The approvals cover six states: Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Telangana, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh
- Of the 18.77 lakh houses sanctioned, 17.19 lakh or 92 per cent have been allotted to women, and 1.80 lakh to senior citizens
- Under PMAY-U and PMAY-U 2.0 together, more than 1.25 crore houses have been sanctioned and over 1 crore completed

Scheme	Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban 2.0
Meeting	9th meeting of the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC)
Chaired by	Satendra Singh, Secretary, Department of Urban Development, MoHUA
Date and place	10 September 2026, New Delhi
Houses approved at the meeting	Over 29,000, under the BLC and AHP verticals
States covered	Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Telangana, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh
Total sanctions	18.77 lakh houses
Houses for women	17.19 lakh, or 92 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pmay-urban-20-sanctions-reach-1877-lakh-houses-at-9th-csmc/

Nadda Opens 10 Critical Care Blocks, 12 Labs in Andhra Pradesh

12 September 2026 · Government Schemes

Union Health Minister J P Nadda inaugurated 10 Critical Care Blocks and 12 Integrated Public Health Laboratories in Andhra Pradesh under PM-ABHIM.

- Union Health Minister J P Nadda inaugurated 10 Critical Care Blocks and 12 Integrated Public Health Laboratories in Andhra Pradesh under PM-ABHIM on 12 September 2026
- The Government of India has sanctioned 631 Critical Care Blocks across States and Union Territories under PM-ABHIM
- Andhra Pradesh has been approved Rs 1,271.80 crore for the five-year scheme period, covering 24 Critical Care Blocks at about Rs 606 crore and 26 laboratories with Rs 32.50 crore
- Nadda said out-of-pocket health expenditure has fallen to 43.4 per cent and more than 1.75 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandirs are working in the country
- He praised Andhra Pradesh's Sanjeevani programme, which offers doorstep testing for 41 health parameters

Inaugurated by	Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda
Date and state	12 September 2026, Andhra Pradesh
Facilities opened	10 Critical Care Blocks and 12 Integrated Public Health Laboratories
Scheme	Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM)
Also present	Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and state Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav
Critical Care Blocks sanctioned in India	631, across States and Union Territories
Outlay for Andhra Pradesh	Rs 1,271.80 crore for the five-year scheme period
Blocks and labs for the state	24 Critical Care Blocks at about Rs 606 crore; 26 laboratories with Rs 32.50 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nadda-opens-10-critical-care-blocks-12-labs-in-andhra-pradesh/

PM Vishwakarma Turns Three, 30 Lakh Artisans Registered

16 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The PM Vishwakarma Scheme completed three years with 30 lakh artisans registered, and the anniversary will be marked at Kolkata in West Bengal on 17 September.

- The PM Vishwakarma Scheme, launched on 17 September 2023, has completed three years with 30 lakh beneficiaries registered.
- About 24.50 lakh Vishwakarmas have received basic skill training from the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- Loans worth Rs 5,297 crore have gone to 6.18 lakh artisans at a concessional interest rate of 5 per cent a year.
- 18.15 lakh modern toolkits have been delivered to artisans at their doorsteps through India Post.
- The third anniversary will be celebrated on 17 September 2026 at the Dhono Dhanyo Auditorium in Kolkata, West Bengal.

Scheme	PM Vishwakarma
Ministry	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Launched on	17 September 2023
Trades	18 identified traditional trades
Beneficiaries registered	30 lakh
Skill training	About 24.50 lakh Vishwakarmas
Loan support	Rs 5,297 crore to 6.18 lakh artisans
Interest rate	5 per cent per annum, loans up to one lakh rupees

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-vishwakarma-turns-three-30-lakh-artisans-registered/

DDU-GKY 2.0 Training to Begin in 14 States from October

19 September 2026 · Government Schemes

Skill training under DDU-GKY 2.0 starts in October 2026, with 34,920 rural youth in the first 1,164 batches across fourteen States and Union Territories.

- DDU-GKY 2.0 training batches begin in October 2026 across most States and Union Territories
- The first round covers 1,164 batches with 34,920 rural youth in fourteen States and UTs
- The sanctioned target for those fourteen is 3,57,112 candidates by 31 December 2027
- 24 States and UTs have allocated 5.6 lakh targets across more than 1,200 projects
- DDU-GKY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme offering placement-linked training of three to twelve months

Scheme	Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) 2.0
Ministry	Ministry of Rural Development
Training begins	October 2026
First round	1,164 batches, 34,920 rural youth, 14 States/UTs
Sanctioned target	3,57,112 rural youth by 31 December 2027
Allocation so far	5.6 lakh targets across more than 1,200 projects by 24 States/UTs
Scheme type	Centrally Sponsored Scheme, placement-linked
Training duration	Three months to twelve months

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ddu-gky-20-training-to-begin-in-14-states-from-october/

Swachhata Hi Seva 2026: Theme, Dates and ODF Plus Progress

20 September 2026 · Government Schemes

Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 began on 17 September with the theme 'Swachhata Mein Sahbhag'. India now has 5.69 lakh ODF Plus villages, 5.25 lakh of them Model.

- Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 began on 17 September with the theme 'Swachhata Mein Sahbhag; Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat'
- Citizens will do a collective shramdaan on 1 October under 'Ek Din, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath'
- As of 17 September 2026, India has 5.69 lakh ODF Plus villages, 5.25 lakh of them with Model status
- ODF Plus villages are graded in three stages: Aspiring, Rising and Model
- Rural sanitation coverage was 39 percent in 2014; rural India was declared ODF in 2019

SHS 2026 theme	Swachhata Mein Sahbhag; Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat
SHS 2026 start	17 September 2026
1 October	Collective shramdaan: Ek Din, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath
2 October	Special Gram Sabhas in villages
SHS launched	2017
SHS 2025 participation	More than 18.06 crore citizens
ODF Plus villages	5.69 lakh (5.25 lakh Model), as of 17 September 2026
ODF Plus stages	Aspiring, Rising, Model

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swachhata-hi-seva-2026-theme-dates-and-odf-plus-progress/

Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0: Nal Jal Mitra and Sujalam Shakti Push

21 September 2026 · Government Schemes

DDWS held its first virtual conference with States on a skilled rural water workforce under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0, pushing the Nal Jal Mitra and Sujalam Shakti schemes.

- DDWS held its first National Virtual Conference with States/UTs on a skilled rural water workforce under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 on 21 September 2026
- Nal Jal Mitra offers a 510-hour Short-Term Training course and a 120-hour Recognition of Prior Learning pathway
- Sujalam Shakti is a women-led initiative for village-level water quality testing and disinfection, based on an NSQF Level-2 qualification
- More than 13 lakh personnel may be needed to operate and maintain rural water supply systems
- States must decide on adopting the Nal Jal Mitra course by 15 October 2026

Organised by	Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti
Event	First National Virtual Conference with States/UTs
Date	21 September 2026
Mission	Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0
DDWS Secretary	Ashok K.K. Meena
Nal Jal Mitra training	510-hour Short-Term Training; 120-hour RPL
Sujalam Shakti	Women-led water quality surveillance and disinfection
Sujalam Shakti qualification	NSQF Level-2, Fundamentals of Basic Water Quality Testing and Disinfection

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/jal-jeevan-mission-20-nal-jal-mitra-and-sujalam-shakti-push/

Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY at 8: 48.51 Crore Cards, ₹2.03 Lakh Crore Care

22 September 2026 · Government Schemes

On its eighth anniversary, Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY covers about 33% of Indians with 48.51 crore cards and has funded 13.25 crore admissions worth ₹2.03 lakh crore.

- AB PM-JAY was launched on 23 September 2018 and completes eight years in 2026
- It provides cashless hospital cover of up to ₹5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care
- Over 48.51 crore Ayushman cards, about 33% of the population, and 13.25 crore admissions worth ₹2.03 lakh crore
- All senior citizens aged 70 and above are covered since 11 September 2024 through the Ayushman Vay Vandana card
- Funding is shared 60:40 between Centre and States, 90:10 for the North-East and Himalayan States and J&K

Scheme	Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)
Launched	23 September 2018
Cover	Up to ₹5 lakh per family per year, cashless
Ayushman cards	Over 48.51 crore (about 33% of the population)
Admissions funded	About 13.25 crore, worth ₹2.03 lakh crore
Empanelled hospitals	Over 38,000
Procedures	1,961 across 27 specialties
Beneficiary identification	Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ayushman-bharat-pm-jay-completes-8-years-48-51-crore-cards/

NAMASTE Scheme: 90,186 Sewer Workers Validated in 36 States, UTs

22 September 2026 · Government Schemes

Under the NAMASTE Scheme, 90,186 sewer and septic tank workers have been validated across 36 States and UTs and 2,51,756 waste pickers profiled.

- Under NAMASTE, 90,186 sewer and septic tank workers have been validated across all 36 States and Union Territories as on 22 September
- The validated workforce comprises 86,468 men, 3,713 women and five transgender persons
- 87,008 PPE kits and 753 Emergency Response Sanitation Unit safety equipment sets have been distributed to stakeholders
- Under the Swachhta Udyami Yojana, 983 beneficiaries received capital subsidy support worth Rs 34.16 crore for mechanisation
- 2,51,756 waste pickers have been profiled across 34 States and Union Territories, including 1,35,233 men and 1,16,498 women

Scheme	NAMASTE - National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem
Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Secretary	Sudhansh Pant
Workers validated	90,186 across 36 States and Union Territories
Composition	86,468 men, 3,713 women, five transgender persons
PPE kits distributed	87,008 (87,037 ordered so far)
ERSU safety equipment sets	753
Swachhta Udyami Yojana	983 beneficiaries supported with Rs 34.16 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/namaste-scheme-90186-sewer-workers-validated-in-36-states-uts/

Ayushman Bharat Completes Eight Years, 60 Crore Beneficiaries

23 September 2026 · Government Schemes

Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked eight years of Ayushman Bharat, which now gives more than 60 crore beneficiaries an annual health cover of Rs 5 lakh.

- Ayushman Bharat completed eight years since its rollout, and the Prime Minister marked the anniversary by listing the initiative's achievements.
- More than 60 crore beneficiaries now have an annual health cover of Rs 5 lakh under the scheme.
- The Prime Minister described it as the largest healthcare scheme in the world, crediting it with record savings on medical expenses for the poor and the middle class.
- Ayushman Arogya Mandirs have recorded over 500 crore visits, strengthening primary healthcare at the grassroots.
- The message was shared on X with the hashtag #8YearsOfAyushmanBharat.

Initiative	Ayushman Bharat
Anniversary	Eight years since rollout
Beneficiaries	More than 60 crore
Annual health cover	Rs 5 lakh
Standing	Largest healthcare scheme in the world
Primary-care centres	Ayushman Arogya Mandirs
Visits recorded	Over 500 crore
Hashtag used	#8YearsOfAyushmanBharat

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ayushman-bharat-completes-eight-years-60-crore-beneficiaries/

MY Bharat Crosses 3 Crore Registered Youth in Under Three Years

23 September 2026 · Government Schemes

Mera Yuva Bharat, the youth platform of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, has crossed 3 crore registered youth less than three years after its launch.

- MY Bharat, or Mera Yuva Bharat, has crossed 3 crore registered youth in less than three years since its launch.
- It is the national youth engagement platform of the Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the platform on 31 October 2023; registrations crossed 2 crore in October 2025 and 2.46 crore by August 2026.
- By August 2026 over 1.22 lakh youth had enrolled in nearly 25,000 Experiential Learning Programmes, and an AI-enabled CV Builder has been added.
- The national Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue will be held in New Delhi from 10 to 12 January 2027.

Platform	Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)
Ministry	Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
Milestone	3 crore registered youth, in less than three years
Launched by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on 31 October 2023
Earlier marks	2 crore in October 2025; over 2.46 crore by August 2026
Experiential Learning	Over 1.22 lakh youth in nearly 25,000 programmes by August 2026
New feature	AI-enabled CV Builder
VBYLD 2027	National dialogue in New Delhi, 10 to 12 January 2027

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/my-bharat-crosses-3-crore-registered-youth-in-under-three-years/

DDU-GKY 2.0 Raises Minimum Placement Period to Six Months

24 September 2026 · Government Schemes

DDU-GKY 2.0 has doubled the minimum placement period to six months, and the rural skilling scheme of 25 September 2014 now runs in 31 States and UTs.

- DDU-GKY was launched on 25 September 2014 under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission, for rural youth aged 15 to 35 years from poor households.
- The DDU-GKY 2.0 guidelines, notified in May 2025, raise the minimum placement period from three months to six months and track a candidate for twelve months.
- A placed candidate gets 7,620 rupees at 1,270 rupees a month for six months, and 5,000 rupees more for staying in work 365 days.
- The scheme runs in 31 States and Union Territories through 749 approved projects, 760 training centres and more than 455 implementing agencies.
- Since 2014-15 it has trained over 18.47 lakh candidates and placed over 12.43 lakh; the Union Budget for 2026-27 allots it 750 crore rupees.

Scheme	Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)
Launched	25 September 2014
Ministry	Ministry of Rural Development
Parent mission	National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)
Age group	15 to 35 years, poor rural households
2.0 guidelines notified	May 2025
Minimum placement	Six months, raised from three months
Course length	576 hours (396 domain, 180 non-domain)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ddu-gky-20-raises-minimum-placement-period-to-six-months/

DDU-GKY 2.0 to Train 70,000 Rural Youth from October 2026

25 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Rural Development will open DDU-GKY 2.0 training for about 70,000 rural youth in 2,015 batches across 24 States and UTs from October 2026.

- DDU-GKY 2.0 training batches will open across most States and UTs from October 2026
- About 70,000 rural youth in 2,015 batches across 24 States and UTs are expected to begin training
- Targets of 5.6 lakh over more than 1,200 projects have already gone to Project Implementation Agencies
- All 31 participating States and UTs share targets of more than 9 lakh for the two-year cycle of 2026-28
- States must allot targets to implementing agencies by 31 October 2026 so that training can start

Scheme	Deen Dayal Upadhyaya - Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) 2.0
Ministry	Ministry of Rural Development
Type of scheme	Centrally Sponsored Scheme
Training begins	October 2026
Trainees in the first wave	About 70,000 rural youth
Batches	2,015
States and UTs starting batches	24
Targets already given to PIAs	5.6 lakh over more than 1,200 projects

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ddu-gky-20-to-train-70000-rural-youth-from-october-2026/

Pharma PLI Draws Rs 46,744 Crore Investment, 57 Devices Made

25 September 2026 · Government Schemes

The Department of Pharmaceuticals said its three PLI schemes drew Rs 46,744 crore in pharma investment and started production of 57 medical devices in India.

- The PLI scheme for bulk drugs was approved in 2020 with an outlay of Rs 6,940 crore for 41 critical products; 48 projects were approved and 39 commissioned for 28 ingredients
- Bulk drug investment reached Rs 5,210.74 crore against a committed Rs 4,330 crore, with sales of Rs 3,792.49 crore including exports of Rs 560.16 crore and about 5,127 jobs
- The PLI scheme for pharmaceuticals, approved in 2021 with an outlay of Rs 15,000 crore, selected 55 applicants including 20 MSMEs and drew Rs 46,744 crore against a target of Rs 17,275 crore
- Pharma PLI beneficiaries reported sales of Rs 4,02,869 crore, exports of Rs 2,57,370 crore and 1,21,294 jobs up to June 2026
- The medical devices PLI, approved in 2020 with Rs 3,420 crore, gives a 5 per cent incentive for five years; 57 devices including MRI machines and linear accelerators are now made in India

Implementing body	Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Bulk drugs PLI	Approved 2020, outlay Rs 6,940 crore, 41 critical products
Bulk drugs progress	48 projects approved, 39 commissioned, 28 ingredients made
Bulk drugs investment	Rs 5,210.74 crore against a committed Rs 4,330 crore
Pharmaceuticals PLI	Approved 2021, outlay Rs 15,000 crore, 55 applicants including 20 MSMEs
Pharma investment	Rs 46,744 crore against a target of Rs 17,275 crore
Pharma jobs and sales	1,21,294 jobs; sales Rs 4,02,869 crore including exports of Rs 2,57,370 crore
Medical devices PLI	Approved 2020, outlay Rs 3,420 crore, 5 per cent incentive for five years

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pharma-pli-draws-rs-46744-crore-investment-57-devices-made/

Important Days

11th Ayurveda Day 2026: Nagpur to Host on 23 September

7 September 2026 · Important Days

The 11th Ayurveda Day will be observed on 23 September 2026 at Nagpur in Maharashtra on the theme Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow, said Prataprao Jadhav.

- The 11th Ayurveda Day 2026 will be celebrated on 23 September 2026 at Nagpur in Maharashtra, with the Ministry of Ayush as the organiser
- The theme of the 11th edition is 'Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow', announced at a curtain raiser press conference in New Delhi on 7 September 2026
- Union Minister of State with independent charge for Ayush, Shri Prataprao Jadhav, called for the day to become a national health communication campaign
- Three focus areas guide the campaign: integrative healthcare, evidence and research and innovation, and community wellbeing with sustainable living
- The day will see the National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2026, safety dossiers on medicinal plants, Standard Treatment Guidelines for skin diseases and Ayush Vision 2030

Occasion	11th Ayurveda Day 2026
Date of main celebration	23 September 2026
Venue	Nagpur, Maharashtra
Theme	Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow
Ministry	Ministry of Ayush
Minister	Shri Prataprao Jadhav, MoS (Independent Charge) for Ayush
Curtain raiser	National Media Centre, New Delhi, 7 September 2026
Awards	National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/11th-ayurveda-day-2026-nagpur-to-host-on-23-september/

Hindi Diwas 2026: Amit Shah Opens 6th Rajbhasha Conference

14 September 2026 · Important Days

Union Home Minister Amit Shah addressed Hindi Diwas 2026 and the 6th All India Official Language Conference at Navi Mumbai and gave away the Rajbhasha Kirti Awards.

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah was the chief guest at Hindi Diwas 2026 and the 6th All India Official Language Conference at the CIDCO Exhibition Centre, Vashi, Navi Mumbai.
- The conference is being held on 14 and 15 September 2026 by the Department of Official Language under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Hindi Shabd Sindhu has grown to 8 lakh words after more than 50,000 words from local languages were added, and is set to be the world's largest dictionary by 2029.
- The Department of Financial Services won the first Rajbhasha Kirti prize for 2025-26 among ministries with fewer than 300 employees.
- The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances received the special Rajbhasha Utkrishtata Sammaan after winning first place in 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Occasion	Hindi Diwas 2026, observed on 14 September
Conference	6th All India Official Language Conference
Venue	CIDCO Exhibition Centre, Vashi, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra
Dates	14 and 15 September 2026
Chief guest	Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah
Organiser	Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs
Dictionary	Hindi Shabd Sindhu, now 8 lakh words, world's largest by 2029
AI tool	Kanthasth 2.0, database of over five crore sentences

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/hindi-diwas-2026-amit-shah-opens-6th-rajbhasha-conference/

World Patient Safety Day 2026 Theme is Safe Care for NCDs

17 September 2026 · Important Days

Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda marked World Patient Safety Day 2026 at Dr RML Hospital, New Delhi, and released a Quality and Safety Handbook.

- World Patient Safety Day 2026 was marked on 17 September 2026, with Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda addressing an event at ABVIMS and Dr RML Hospital, New Delhi.
- The theme for 2026 is 'Safe care for noncommunicable diseases' and the slogan is 'Safe care for life!'.
- A Quality and Safety Handbook was released at the hospital to strengthen quality and patient safety practices.
- NQAS certification, introduced in 2015, now covers about 60,000 government health facilities, with a target of around 2 lakh institutions.
- Ayushman Bharat has covered about 11.5 crore beneficiaries with treatment worth around Rs 1.6 lakh crore, while Jan Aushadhi has saved citizens about Rs 45,000 crore.

Day	World Patient Safety Day, observed on 17 September
Theme 2026	Safe care for noncommunicable diseases
Slogan	Safe care for life!
Event venue	ABVIMS and Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi
Addressed by	Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda
Released	Quality and Safety Handbook
NQAS introduced	2015
NQAS certified facilities	About 60,000, target around 2 lakh

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/world-patient-safety-day-2026-theme-is-safe-care-for-ncds/

11th Ayurveda Day on 23 September: Theme, Facts and Schemes

22 September 2026 · Important Days

India marks the 11th Ayurveda Day on 23 September 2026 with the theme 'Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow'. Here are the key facts, schemes and numbers.

- The 11th Ayurveda Day is observed on 23 September 2026, aligned with the autumnal equinox
- The theme is 'Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow'
- 12,260 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (Ayush) were functional as on 19 September 2026, against a target of 12,500
- The Union Budget 2026-27 allocated ₹4,408 crore to the Ministry of Ayush and announced three new All India Institutes of Ayurveda
- The WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre is at Jamnagar, Gujarat; Ayush visas are M-3 for patients and M-4 for attendants

Occasion	11th Ayurveda Day
Date	23 September 2026 (every year on 23 September)
Theme	Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow
Linked to	Autumnal equinox
Nodal ministry	Ministry of Ayush
Ayush budget 2026-27	₹4,408 crore
Functional Ayush AAMs	12,260 (target 12,500)
Ayurveda colleges	593, with 45,245 UG and 5,673 PG seats

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/11th-ayurveda-day-on-23-september-theme-facts-and-schemes/

Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0 Launched for Ocean Cleanup

1 September 2026 · Environment

Dr Jitendra Singh launched the 5th edition of Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar, a nationwide coastal cleanup campaign that will run from 12 to 19 September 2026.

- Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, launched the 5th edition of Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar on 1 September 2026
- The campaign, written as SSSS v.5.0, will run for a week from 12 to 19 September 2026 and is led by the Ministry of Earth Sciences
- Beach clean-up drives are planned at more than 100 locations, along with a human chain, cycling rallies, marathons and ozone day activities
- The first-ever national Ocean Olympiad is the new element of this edition, meant to build environmental awareness among students and youth
- The Minister said India's coastline stretches over 11,000 km, and named the SAGAR PRAHARI mobile app, the Ocean Pledge and the campaign website among the launches

Campaign	Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar 2026 (SSSS v.5.0), 5th edition
Launched by	Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences
Ministry	Ministry of Earth Sciences
Dates	12 to 19 September 2026, a week-long campaign
Coastline quoted	Over 11,000 km, from the eastern to the western side of India
Clean-up locations	More than 100 across the country
New this edition	First-ever national Ocean Olympiad
Mobile app	SAGAR PRAHARI

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swachh-sagar-surakshit-sagar-50-launched-for-ocean-cleanup/

IBCA and ADB Sign MoU at Tiger Landscapes Workshop in Delhi

2 September 2026 · Environment

Bhupender Yadav opened a two-day international workshop on tiger landscapes in New Delhi, where the International Big Cat Alliance and the ADB signed an MoU.

- Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav inaugurated a two-day international workshop on tiger landscapes in New Delhi on 2 September 2026, running on 2 and 3 September
- It is jointly organised by the International Big Cat Alliance, the Asian Development Bank and the National Tiger Conservation Authority
- IBCA and ADB signed an MoU covering landscape conservation, sustainable development, capacity building, knowledge exchange and nature-positive financing
- ADB Country Director for India Mia Oka said 2026 marks 40 years of the bank's partnership with India
- Experts and government representatives from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Malaysia, Nepal and Vietnam attended; IBCA works on the conservation of seven big cat species

Event	International Workshop on Tiger Landscapes
Theme	Tiger Landscapes: Conservation, Bioeconomy and Ecotourism as Pillars for Livelihood and Income Generation
Dates	2 and 3 September 2026 (two days)
Venue	New Delhi
Inaugurated by	Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Organisers	IBCA, ADB and NTCA
Agreement	MoU between IBCA and ADB
DG, IBCA	S. P. Yadav

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ibca-and-adb-sign-mou-at-tiger-landscapes-workshop-in-delhi/

Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Crosses 1.58 Crore Recharge Structures

3 September 2026 · Environment

More than 1.58 crore artificial groundwater recharge structures had been built under Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari as of 3 September 2026, a PIB backgrounder said.

- Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari was launched on 6 September 2024 and is guided by the 3Cs, namely Community, Corporate Social Responsibility and Cost, following a Whole-of-Government and Whole-of-Society approach
- More than 27 lakh structures were built under JSJB 1.0 by May 2025; JSJB 2.0 was launched in June 2025 and had more than 1.5 crore recharge structures by May 2026
- In June 2026 the initiative was merged with the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign, and as of 3 September 2026 more than 1.58 crore artificial groundwater recharge structures had been built
- The Ministry of Jal Shakti held its first Departmental Summit in New Delhi on 1 and 2 September 2026, with four thematic pillars including rural water supply under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0
- Under the Aawa Paani Jhoki movement in Korea district of Chhattisgarh, more than 1,260 farmers gave 5 per cent of their land for recharge ponds and groundwater rose by 3 to 4 metres in many villages

Initiative	Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB)
Launched on	6 September 2024
Guiding principle	The 3Cs: Community, Corporate Social Responsibility and Cost
JSJB 1.0 progress	More than 27 lakh structures by May 2025
JSJB 2.0 launched	June 2025
JSJB 2.0 progress	More than 1.5 crore structures by May 2026
Merged in June 2026 with	Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR)
Total as of 3 September 2026	More than 1.58 crore recharge structures

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/jal-sanchay-jan-bhagidari-crosses-158-crore-recharge-structures/

Geothermal Energy: India's First Two Wells at Puga Valley, Ladakh

4 September 2026 · Environment

A PIB backgrounder sets out India's geothermal push: the first two wells at Puga Valley in Ladakh, 381 mapped hot springs and a 10.6 GW theoretical prospect.

- The ONGC Energy Centre commissioned India's first two geothermal wells at Puga Valley in Ladakh in July 2026, each about 1,000 metres deep
- Puga Valley lies at over 14,000 feet above sea level and the wells pave the way for India's first 1 megawatt demonstration geothermal power project
- The National Policy on Geothermal Energy was notified in September 2025, with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy as the nodal ministry
- The Geological Survey of India has mapped 381 hot springs and identified 10 geothermal provinces, with a theoretical prospect of nearly 10.6 GW and 42 promising sites
- Global installed geothermal capacity reached 15.67 GW by the end of 2025, with Indonesia, the United States, the Philippines, Türkiye and New Zealand holding about 67 per cent

First two geothermal wells	Puga Valley, Ladakh, commissioned in July 2026
Commissioned by	ONGC Energy Centre
Depth of each well	About 1,000 metres
Altitude of Puga Valley	Over 14,000 feet above sea level
Policy	National Policy on Geothermal Energy, notified in September 2025
Nodal ministry	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
Hot springs mapped	381, by the Geological Survey of India
Geothermal provinces	10, with 42 sites recognised as promising

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/geothermal-energy-indias-first-two-wells-at-puga-valley-ladakh/

NBA Crosses ₹200 Crore in Access and Benefit-Sharing Payouts

5 September 2026 · Environment

The National Biodiversity Authority crossed ₹200 crore in cumulative ABS disbursement and sanctioned ₹8.23 crore to 27 State boards and 5 UT councils.

- The National Biodiversity Authority has crossed ₹200 crore in cumulative Access and Benefit-Sharing disbursement, the Environment Ministry said on 5 September 2026
- A fresh ₹8.23 crore was sanctioned to 27 State Biodiversity Boards and 5 Union Territory Biodiversity Councils
- The proceeds arose from access to biological resources of four crops: bitter gourd, okra, chilli and onion, paid by three seed companies
- Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra are the largest cumulative recipients, Maharashtra mainly because it holds more than 49 per cent of India's onion cultivation area
- Funds must be used for activities under Section 32(2) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, such as People's Biodiversity Registers and Biodiversity Heritage Sites

Body	National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
Ministry	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Milestone	Cumulative ABS disbursement above ₹200 crore
Fresh sanction	₹8.23 crore
Recipients	27 State Biodiversity Boards and 5 Union Territory Biodiversity Councils
Crops involved	Bitter gourd, okra, chilli and onion
Largest recipients	Madhya Pradesh, followed by Maharashtra
Maharashtra's onion share	More than 49 per cent of India's onion cultivation area

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nba-crosses-rs-200-crore-in-access-and-benefit-sharing-payouts/

Vulture Awareness Day 2026 Marked at Panchkula, Haryana

6 September 2026 · Environment

Bhupender Yadav opened a national vulture workshop at Panchkula on the theme 'From Crisis to Recovery' and released the book 'Story of Jatayu'.

- International Vulture Awareness Day 2026 was observed at Panchkula, Haryana, on 6 September 2026, led by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav
- The national workshop carried the theme 'From Crisis to Recovery - Conserving India's Vultures' and was organised with the Central Zoo Authority, BNHS and the Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre, Pinjore
- During 2025-26 the Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre housed 356 vultures, bred 35 chicks, contributed 87 vultures for reintroduction and trained 1,222 participants from 22 institutions
- India is home to nine vulture types, among them the White-rumped, Long-billed, Slender-billed, Red-headed, Egyptian, Himalayan Griffon and Bearded vultures
- The coffee table book 'Story of Jatayu: Saving India's Vulture' was released, and the Minister called for more Vulture Safe Zones

Occasion	International Vulture Awareness Day 2026
Venue	Panchkula, Haryana
Theme of workshop	From Crisis to Recovery - Conserving India's Vultures
Led by	Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Haryana Minister present	Rao Narbir Singh
Breeding centre	Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre, Pinjore
Vultures housed in 2025-26	356, with 35 chicks bred
Training	1,222 participants from 22 institutions

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vulture-awareness-day-2026-marked-at-panchkula-haryana/

5th Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards Given on Swachh Vayu Diwas 2026

7 September 2026 · Environment

The Environment Ministry gave the 5th Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan awards on Swachh Vayu Diwas 2026 and released a compendium of best practices under NCAP.

- Swachh Vayu Diwas 2026 was held on 7 September 2026, the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- NGT Chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava was the chief guest, and the 5th Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan awards went to the best performing cities and wards
- The National Clean Air Programme covers 130 cities in 24 States and Union Territories, which have received a performance linked grant of Rs 16,425 crore
- Against the levels of 2017-18, 108 of the 130 cities improved their PM10 levels, 72 cut them by more than 20 per cent, 26 by more than 40 per cent and 14 met the NAAQS
- A Compendium of Best Management Practices under NCAP was released, and the PRANA portal tracks air quality management for the 130 NCAP cities

Occasion	Swachh Vayu Diwas 2026, on the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies
Date	7 September 2026
Organiser	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Chief guest	Justice Prakash Shrivastava, Chairperson, National Green Tribunal
Awards	5th Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan awards to best performing cities and wards
NCAP coverage	130 cities in 24 States and Union Territories
Grant released	Rs 16,425 crore as performance linked grant
PM10 improvement	108 cities improved; 72 cut PM10 by over 20 per cent; 26 by over 40 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/5th-swachh-vayu-sarvekshan-awards-given-on-swachh-vayu-diwas-2026/

Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0 Begins at Digha Beach

12 September 2026 · Environment

A coastal cleanup drive at Digha in East Midnapore marked the start of the Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0 campaign of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

- A coastal cleanup drive at Digha in East Midnapore marked the beginning of the Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0 campaign, announced on 12 September 2026
- The Ministry of Earth Sciences organised the drive and the National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, coordinated the campaign nationwide
- Around 100 participants took part, including college students and officials of MARC, NIOT, INCOIS, the India Meteorological Department and the Indian Coast Guard
- Sreenivasa Rao Gangi Reddy, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Earth Sciences, inaugurated the programme at the Marine Aquarium and Regional Centre
- The drive was a prelude to International Coastal Cleanup Day, observed on 19 September 2026

Campaign	Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0
Event	Coastal cleanup drive at Digha, East Midnapore
Announced on	12 September 2026
Organised by	Ministry of Earth Sciences
Coordinated nationwide by	National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai
Inaugural venue	Marine Aquarium and Regional Centre (MARC)
Inaugurated by	Sreenivasa Rao Gangi Reddy, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences
Participants	Around 100, including college students and officials of MARC, NIOT, INCOIS, IMD and the Indian Coast Guard

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swachh-sagar-surakshit-sagar-50-begins-at-digha-beach/

India to Host World Circular Economy Forum 2026 at Gandhinagar

13 September 2026 · Environment

India will host the World Circular Economy Forum 2026 at Gandhinagar from 15 to 18 September, the first time the forum is being held in South Asia.

- India will host the World Circular Economy Forum 2026 at Gandhinagar in Gujarat from 15 to 18 September 2026, the first such forum in South Asia.
- The theme is Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity.
- Union Minister Bhupender Yadav and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendrabhai Patel will jointly inaugurate the forum on 15 September.
- Over 2,000 stakeholders from more than 65 countries will take part, and more than 125 exhibitors will display circular solutions at the expo.
- The Board of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns will meet at Gandhinagar on 15 September, with India as a Co-Chair.

Event	World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF) 2026
Venue and dates	Gandhinagar, Gujarat, 15 to 18 September 2026
Theme	Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity
First of its kind	First WCEF held in South Asia
Inaugurated by	Bhupender Yadav and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendrabhai Patel
Partner fund and country	Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra, Government of Finland
Participation	Over 2,000 stakeholders from more than 65 countries
Expo	More than 125 national and international exhibitors

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-to-host-world-circular-economy-forum-2026-at-gandhinagar/

Gujarat Action Plan for Great Indian Bustard Released at Bhuj

13 September 2026 · Environment

Bhupender Yadav released the Gujarat Action Plan for GIB Conservation at Bhuj and said Project Cheetah's population has grown from 29 founders to 52.

- Bhupender Yadav released the Gujarat Action Plan for GIB Conservation at Bhuj on 13 September 2026, prepared by the Wildlife Institute of India with the Gujarat Forest Department.
- The plan seeks a minimum viable population of over 30 Great Indian Bustards and 200 to 500 sq km of safe contiguous habitat, with immediate focus on the Lala-Rawa landscape.
- At Naliya about 11 sq km of grassland was restored and a 15 sq km enclosure secured with 30 km of predator-proof fencing.
- Project Cheetah has grown from 29 founder cheetahs to 52 individuals, including 49 cubs born in India, with a cub survival rate of about 68 per cent at Kuno.
- Protected cheetah habitat has expanded to 3,428 sq km through Kuno National Park and Gandhi Sagar, with Banni and Nauradehi identified as future release sites.

Meeting	Review of flagship programmes, Bhuj, Kachchh, Gujarat
Chaired by	Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav
Document released	Gujarat Action Plan for GIB Conservation
Prepared by	Wildlife Institute of India with the Gujarat Forest Department
Habitat target	200 to 500 sq km, with immediate focus on Lala-Rawa
Work at Naliya	11 sq km grassland restored, 15 sq km enclosure, 30 km predator-proof fencing
Project Cheetah	From 29 founders to 52 individuals, 49 cubs born in India
Cheetah habitat	3,428 sq km, Kuno National Park and Gandhi Sagar

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/gujarat-action-plan-for-great-indian-bustard-released-at-bhuj/

Great Indian Bustard Soft Release Centre Opens in Kachchh

14 September 2026 · Environment

Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav opened the Great Indian Bustard Soft Release Centre at Naliya in Kachchh, Gujarat, and flagged off 33 patrolling and rescue vehicles.

- Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav inaugurated the Soft Release Centre for the Great Indian Bustard at Naliya in Kachchh district, Gujarat.
- About 11 square kilometres of grassland has been restored and 30 kilometres of predator proof fencing raised over 15 square kilometres in the bustard landscape.
- A chick born from the second jump-start attempt, in which infertile eggs were replaced with viable ones, survived beyond its first three months in the wild.
- The Minister flagged off 33 new patrolling and rescue vehicles for the Kachchh Forest Circle and inaugurated the Sayara Van Kavach built by the Miyawaki method.
- Under the MISHTI programme, mangrove plantation has been completed over 27,652 hectares against a target of 29,250 hectares for 2023-24 to 2026-27.

Species	Great Indian Bustard (GIB)
Place	Naliya, Kachchh district, Gujarat
Inaugurated	Soft Release Centre for the Great Indian Bustard
Union Minister	Bhupender Yadav, Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Gujarat Minister	Arjun Modhwadia
Grassland restored	About 11 square kilometres cleared of Prosopis juliflora
Fencing	30 kilometres of predator proof fencing over 15 square kilometres
Vehicles flagged off	33 patrolling and rescue vehicles for Kachchh Forest Circle

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/great-indian-bustard-soft-release-centre-opens-in-kachchh/

India Marks 32nd World Ozone Day, Launches Net Zero Portal

16 September 2026 · Environment

The 32nd World Ozone Day was observed in Mumbai on the theme Global Action for a Cooler Planet, with the launch of India's Net Zero Portal and NAPCC Dashboard.

- The 32nd World Ozone Day was observed nationally in Mumbai on 16 September 2026 with the theme Global Action for a Cooler Planet.
- Union Minister of State Kirti Vardhan Singh launched India's Net Zero Portal and the NAPCC Dashboard at the event.
- The Net Zero Portal lets Indian entities voluntarily register net zero targets and disclose greenhouse gas emissions.
- Twelve refrigeration and air-conditioning manufacturers have adopted 248 Industrial Training Institutes under a four-party agreement.
- Maharashtra Minister Pankaja Munde and UNDP and GIZ country heads took part; India's Montreal Protocol record was highlighted.

Occasion	32nd World Ozone Day
Date	16 September 2026
Venue	Mumbai
Theme	Global Action for a Cooler Planet
Ministry	Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Presided by	Kirti Vardhan Singh, Minister of State
State minister present	Pankaja Munde, Maharashtra
Launched	Net Zero Portal and NAPCC Dashboard

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-marks-32nd-world-ozone-day-launches-net-zero-portal/

NGT Conference on Future of Environment and Climate Concludes

20 September 2026 · Environment

President Droupadi Murmu addressed the close of NGT's two-day conference on 'The Future of Environment and Climate Dynamics', with 17 countries taking part.

- The NGT's two-day International Conference on 'The Future of Environment and Climate Dynamics' concluded in New Delhi on 20 September 2026
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated it on 19 September; President Droupadi Murmu addressed the valedictory session
- Participants came from 17 countries, along with UNEP and the Asian Development Bank
- The NGT's souvenir 'Harit Nyayam' was released and its first copy presented to the President
- Non-fossil sources make up nearly 55 per cent of India's installed generation capacity, Manohar Lal said

Conference	International Conference on 'The Future of Environment and Climate Dynamics'
Organised by	National Green Tribunal (NGT)
Venue	New Delhi
Inaugurated	19 September 2026, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Valedictory address	20 September 2026, by President Droupadi Murmu
Participation	17 countries, UNEP and the Asian Development Bank
NGT Chairperson	Justice Prakash Shrivastava
Souvenir released	Harit Nyayam

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ngt-conference-on-future-of-environment-and-climate-concludes/

Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0: 15 Lakh Take Ocean Pledge

21 September 2026 · Environment

The fifth Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar coastal clean-up covered 231 locations in 13 States/UTs, and 15 lakh people took the Ocean Conservation Pledge.

- Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0 was held from 12 to 19 September 2026
- The coastal clean-up covered 231 locations across 13 States/UTs
- 15 lakh people took the Ocean Conservation Pledge during the campaign
- 'Vigyan Ki Baat' is a monthly lecture series of the Department of Science & Technology; its second edition is on 26 September 2026
- CSIR-NIScPR is the nodal institution for the proposed Digital Library of Scientific Achievements

Campaign	Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0
Meaning	Clean Sea, Safe Sea
Held	12 to 19 September 2026
Locations	231
States/UTs covered	13
Ocean Conservation Pledge	15 lakh people
Reviewed by	Dr Jitendra Singh
'Vigyan Ki Baat' run by	Department of Science & Technology

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swachh-sagar-surakshit-sagar-50-15-lakh-take-ocean-pledge/

NRAA Holds REWARD Meeting on Watershed Guidelines for PMKSY

23 September 2026 · Environment

The National Rainfed Area Authority held a National Level Technical Committee meeting under the REWARD programme at the NASC Complex in New Delhi.

- The National Rainfed Area Authority held a National Level Technical Committee meeting under the REWARD programme on 22 September 2026 at the NASC Complex, New Delhi.
- REWARD stands for Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development, and the NRAA works under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- Dr Chandra Shekhar Kumar, IAS, Chief Executive Officer of the NRAA, presided, and about 45 participants took part.
- The Department of Land Resources proposed cutting the time for preparing a Detailed Project Report from six months to three months.
- The National Technical Guidelines being drafted will guide watershed development under the Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana 3.0.

Organiser	National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Meeting	National Level Technical Committee (NLTC) under the REWARD programme
REWARD full form	Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development
Date and venue	22 September 2026, NASC Complex, New Delhi
Presided by	Dr Chandra Shekhar Kumar, IAS, CEO, NRAA
Coordinated by	Dr Susama Sudhishri, Technical Expert (Watershed Development) and PI-REWARD, NRAA
Participants	About 45, including SLNA representatives of Odisha and Karnataka
DPR proposal	Preparation time to be cut from six months to three months

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nraa-holds-reward-meeting-on-watershed-guidelines-for-pmkSY/

Reports & Indices

NSO Releases First District-Level Estimates of Unincorporated Sector

10 September 2026 · Reports & Indices

The National Statistics Office has published district-level estimates of the unincorporated non-agricultural sector for the first time, covering 757 districts.

- The National Statistics Office has released district-level estimates of the unincorporated non-agricultural sector for the first time, based on ASUSE 2025
- Estimates cover 757 of the 770 districts in the sampling frame; Lakshadweep, Chandigarh and Delhi are not shown separately
- The top 50 districts account for nearly one-third of establishments, workforce and gross value added, and the top 10 for about one-tenth
- In 280 districts the gross value added per worker is above the all-India average of Rs 1,56,539, and in about 331 districts it lies between 1 lakh and 1.5 lakh rupees
- Women form one-third of the workforce in 237 districts and more than half in 25 districts

Released by	National Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Source survey	Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) 2025
Districts covered	757 out of 770 districts in the sampling frame
Not covered separately	Lakshadweep, Chandigarh and Delhi
Top 50 districts	Nearly one-third of establishments, workforce and gross value added
Top 10 districts	About one-tenth of the sector, spread across Gujarat, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal
All-India GVA per worker	Rs 1,56,539, exceeded in 280 districts
Women in the workforce	One-third in 237 districts and above half in 25 districts

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nso-releases-first-district-level-estimates-of-unincorporated-sector/

PLFS Bulletin August 2026: LFPR Rises to 55.6 Per Cent

15 September 2026 · Reports & Indices

The Periodic Labour Force Survey bulletin for August 2026 put the overall LFPR at 55.6 per cent, the WPR at 52.8 per cent and the unemployment rate at 5.0 per cent.

- The PLFS monthly bulletin for August 2026, the seventeenth in the series, was released on 15 September 2026 by MoSPI.
- The overall LFPR for persons aged 15 years and above rose to 55.6% from 55.4% in the previous month.
- The overall WPR rose to 52.8%, the highest level since March 2026, while rural WPR reached 55.8%.
- The overall unemployment rate was 5.0% and the rural rate fell to 4.1%, the lowest since January 2026.
- The estimates are based on a sample of 3,70,160 persons, of whom 2,11,353 were rural and 1,58,807 urban.

Report	Periodic Labour Force Survey monthly bulletin, August 2026
Released on	15 September 2026
Conducted by	National Statistical Office, MoSPI
Position in series	Seventeenth monthly bulletin
Overall LFPR	55.6% (from 55.4% in July 2026)
Overall WPR	52.8%, highest since March 2026
Overall UR	5.0%
Rural UR	4.1%, lowest since January 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/plfs-bulletin-august-2026-lfpr-rises-to-556-per-cent/

NITI Aayog Releases Ninth Trade Watch Quarterly Edition

16 September 2026 · Reports & Indices

NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Ashok Kumar Lahiri released the ninth Trade Watch Quarterly, which puts India's total trade at \$506.9 billion in the first quarter.

- NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Ashok Kumar Lahiri released the ninth edition of Trade Watch Quarterly on 16 September 2026 in New Delhi.
- India's total merchandise and services trade reached \$506.9 billion in the first quarter of FY27, a rise of 15.5 per cent year on year.
- Global goods trade stood at \$13.7 trillion in the first half of 2026, growing 12.5 per cent, while services trade grew 10.5 per cent.
- India rose from the fifth to the fourth largest exporter of digitally delivered services, with exports of \$317 billion in 2025.
- The thematic focus is metals and ores; imports in this segment grew from \$32.2 billion in 2015 to \$60.5 billion in 2025.

Publication	Trade Watch Quarterly, ninth edition
Published by	NITI Aayog
Released by	Ashok Kumar Lahiri, Vice-Chairman
Date	16 September 2026, New Delhi
Quarter covered	First quarter of FY27 (April to June 2026)
India's total trade	\$506.9 billion, up 15.5 per cent
Global goods trade	\$13.7 trillion, up 12.5 per cent
Services trade growth	10.5 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/niti-aayog-releases-ninth-trade-watch-quarterly-edition/

Summits & Conferences

PM Modi Attends 26th SCO Summit at Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

1 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 26th SCO Summit at Bishkek in the Kyrgyz Republic, where the Bishkek Declaration and four MoUs were adopted.

- The 26th meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State was held at Bishkek, capital of the Kyrgyz Republic, from 31 August to 1 September 2026
- This is the 25th anniversary year of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation; Kyrgyzstan held the chair and President Sadyr Japarov hosted the leaders
- India's vision rests on three pillars whose initials spell SCO: S for Security, C for Connectivity and O for Opportunity
- The summit adopted the Bishkek Declaration, four MoUs and more than twenty decisions and statements on climate, nuclear safety, energy conservation and drug addiction
- India will host the first SCO Civilisational Dialogue Forum this year; English as an official language of the SCO Charter was among four India-backed proposals in the declaration

Event	26th SCO Summit (Council of Heads of State)
Venue	Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic
Dates	31 August to 1 September 2026
Host	President Sadyr Japarov; Kyrgyzstan held the chair
Milestone	25th anniversary year of the SCO
Outcome document	Bishkek Declaration, four MoUs, over twenty decisions and statements
India's three pillars	Security, Connectivity, Opportunity
India to host	First SCO Civilisational Dialogue Forum, this year

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-modi-attends-26th-sco-summit-at-bishkek-kyrgyz-republic/

18th BRICS IP Offices Heads Meeting Held in New Delhi

2 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 18th Meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices of BRICS countries ran in New Delhi from 1 to 3 September 2026 and adopted Updated Operational Guidelines.

- The 18th Meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices of BRICS countries was held in New Delhi from 1 to 3 September 2026
- It was hosted by the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks under DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- Around 35 delegates took part; those from Russia, Iran and Ethiopia joined online while other member offices attended in person
- The meeting adopted the Updated Operational Guidelines, its main outcome, to guide cooperation and help shape global IP standards
- Deliberations followed the theme of India's BRICS Chairship, Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability

Meeting	18th Meeting of Heads of IP Offices of BRICS countries
Venue	New Delhi
Dates	1 to 3 September 2026 (three days)
Host	Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM)
Parent department	DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Delegates	Around 35
Joined online	Russia, Iran and Ethiopia
Main outcome	Updated Operational Guidelines adopted

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/18th-brics-ip-offices-heads-meeting-held-in-new-delhi/

16th National Meet of Biodiversity Boards Opens in Chandigarh

6 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The National Biodiversity Authority opened the 16th National Meet of State Biodiversity Boards at Chandigarh on 6 September 2026, a two-day meeting on governance.

- The 16th National Meet of State Biodiversity Boards and Union Territory Biodiversity Councils opened at Chandigarh on 6 September 2026 and runs for two days
- It is organised by the National Biodiversity Authority, whose Chairperson is Virendra Tiwari, and was presided over by Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria and Union Minister Bhupender Yadav
- The governance framework rests on the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, strengthened by the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023 and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2024
- The National Biodiversity Authority has shared over Rs 200 crore of Access and Benefit Sharing funds with farmers, communities, boards and research institutions
- India's updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for 2024 to 2030 is aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Event	16th National Meet of State Biodiversity Boards and UT Biodiversity Councils
Venue	Chandigarh
Dates	6 and 7 September 2026
Organiser	National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
NBA Chairperson	Virendra Tiwari
Presided by	Gulab Chand Kataria, Bhupender Yadav and Rao Narbir Singh
Parent law	Biological Diversity Act, 2002
Recent changes	Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2024

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/16th-national-meet-of-biodiversity-boards-opens-in-chandigarh/

G20 Innovation Ministerial: Jitin Prasada Leads India at Chapel Hill

7 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Union Minister of State Jitin Prasada led India at the G20 Innovation Ministers' Meeting in Chapel Hill, where ministers agreed on the Carolina Principles.

- The G20 Innovation Ministers' Meeting was held on 1 and 2 September 2026 at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, in the United States
- Union Minister of State for Electronics and IT and for Commerce and Industry, Shri Jitin Prasada, led the Indian delegation to the meeting
- Ministers adopted the Innovation Ministerial Statement by consensus, built on six pillars including IP policies for AI and standards for AI
- The meeting also produced the Carolina Principles for Emerging Technologies, the AI Prosperity Objectives and the AI Prosperity Compact
- India offered India Stack digital solutions including DPI to African countries, and discussed semiconductors, AI, data centres and ISM 2.0 with the United States

Event	G20 Innovation Ministers' Meeting
Dates	1 and 2 September 2026
Venue	Chapel Hill, North Carolina, United States
Hosts	US Department of Commerce and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
Indian delegation led by	Shri Jitin Prasada, Union Minister of State for Electronics and IT and for Commerce and Industry
Main outcome	Innovation Ministerial Statement adopted by consensus, on six pillars
Other outcomes	Carolina Principles for Emerging Technologies, AI Prosperity Objectives, AI Prosperity Compact
Offer to African Union	India Stack digital solutions, including Digital Public Infrastructure

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/g20-innovation-ministerial-jitin-prasada-leads-india-at-chapel-hill/

PM Opens 7th Global Fintech Fest 2026 in Mumbai

8 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 7th Global Fintech Fest in Mumbai on 8 September 2026, held on the theme Potential to Impact until 11 September.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 7th Global Fintech Fest 2026 in Mumbai on 8 September 2026; the event runs to 11 September 2026
- The theme is Potential to Impact, built on Agentic AI, tokenisation and quantum technologies for inclusive finance
- The Payments Council of India, the National Payments Corporation of India and the Fintech Convergence Council are the principal organisers
- The Prime Minister cited growth of 7.8 per cent in the April to June quarter and a rating upgrade to the A- category by a Japanese agency after three decades
- He asked the sector to work on cybersecurity, ethical data protection, a regulator-industry innovation ecosystem and a Fintech Consumer Protection Index

Event	7th Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2026
Inaugurated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Venue and dates	Mumbai, 8 to 11 September 2026
Theme	Potential to Impact: Agentic AI, Tokenisation, Quantum
Principal organisers	Payments Council of India, NPCI and Fintech Convergence Council
First edition	2020
Growth cited	7.8 per cent in the April to June quarter

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-opens-7th-global-fintech-fest-2026-in-mumbai/

9th ASEAN-India Agriculture Ministerial Meeting Held in New Delhi

9 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 9th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry was held in New Delhi on 9 September 2026, co-chaired by India and the Philippines.

- The 9th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry was held in New Delhi on 9 September 2026
- It was co-chaired by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture of the Philippines
- The ministers welcomed ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future and the ASEAN Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectoral Plan 2026-2030
- The India-ASEAN Friendship Spike for Agriculture and Forestry was unveiled at the meeting as a symbol of the partnership
- The 10th ASEAN-India Agriculture Working Group Meeting on 8 September 2026 brought 45 delegates from 11 ASEAN member states to New Delhi

Event	9th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry
Venue and date	New Delhi, 9 September 2026
Indian co-chair	Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare
ASEAN co-chair	Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, the Philippines
Vision welcomed	ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future
Sectoral plan	ASEAN Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectoral Plan 2026-2030
Symbol unveiled	India-ASEAN Friendship Spike for Agriculture and Forestry
Next ministerial	The 10th edition, to be convened two years later

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/9th-asean-india-agriculture-ministerial-meeting-held-in-new-delhi-2/

PM Modi Addresses First International Space Summit in Paris

10 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the first International Space Summit in Paris by video conference and set out India's space goals for 2035 and 2040.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the first International Space Summit, held in Paris, France, on 10 September 2026 through video conference
- President Emmanuel Macron took the initiative for the summit and invited the Prime Minister to address it
- Indian rockets have launched more than 430 payloads belonging to 34 countries, and Chandrayaan-3 made India the first nation to land near the Moon's south pole
- India plans an indigenous space station by 2035 and an Indian astronaut on the Moon by 2040
- France has been a partner since the Indian space programme began at Thumba in the 1960s; Aditya-L1 is currently studying the Sun

Event	First International Space Summit
Venue	Paris, France
Addressed by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi, through video conference
Initiative and invitation	President Emmanuel Macron of France
Foreign payloads launched	More than 430 payloads for 34 countries
Indigenous space station	Target year 2035
Indian astronaut on the Moon	Target year 2040
Solar mission named	Aditya-L1

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-modi-addresses-first-international-space-summit-in-paris/

9th ASEAN-India Agriculture Ministerial Meeting Held in New Delhi

10 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 9th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry was held in New Delhi and agreed on a new plan of action for the years 2026-2030.

- The 9th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (9th AIMMAF) was held in New Delhi on 9 September 2026
- It was co-chaired by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Agriculture Secretary of the Philippines
- The meeting reviewed the plan of action for 2021-2025 and looked ahead to the new plan of action for 2026-2030, built on four areas of work
- The ASEAN-India fellowship launched in 2024 provides 50 master's fellowships over five years for students of ASEAN member states
- The Tenth ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry will be convened in 2028

Meeting	Ninth ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (9th AIMMAF)
Venue	New Delhi, India
Date of the meeting	9 September 2026
Co-chair for India	Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Co-chair for ASEAN	Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, the Philippines
Plan reviewed	Medium-term plan of action for 2021-2025
New plan	Medium-term plan of action for 2026-2030, with four areas of work
Fellowship	Launched in 2024, 50 master's fellowships over five years

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/9th-asean-india-agriculture-ministerial-meeting-held-in-new-delhi/

BRICS Business Forum 2026 Held in Delhi as Group Turns 20

11 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The largest BRICS Business Forum so far met in New Delhi, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Piyush Goyal set out India's agenda for the grouping.

- The BRICS Business Forum was held in New Delhi on 11 September 2026 under India's BRICS Chairship and was called the largest edition held so far
- BRICS began in 2006 with four countries; with its partners it is now a family of 21 countries
- BRICS countries hold 50 per cent of world population, 40 per cent of global GDP and more than 25 per cent of global trade
- The theme of India's BRICS Chairship is Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
- Trade among BRICS countries rose from USD 84 billion in 2003 to nearly USD 1.2 trillion in 2024, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said

Event	BRICS Business Forum 2026, the largest edition so far
Venue and date	New Delhi, 11 September 2026
Theme of India's BRICS Chairship	Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
Year BRICS was launched	2006, with four countries
Countries today	21, counting members and partners
Share of the world	50 per cent of population, 40 per cent of GDP, over 25 per cent of trade
Addressed by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Opening session	Piyush Goyal, S. Jaishankar, Jitin Prasada and Rajesh Agrawal

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/brics-business-forum-2026-held-in-delhi-as-group-turns-20/

Dryland Congress 2026 Adopts Delhi Declaration on Drylands

13 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The three-day Dryland Congress 2026 ended in New Delhi with the Delhi Declaration on Drylands (3D) and the first ISSCA Global Awards for the Global South.

- The three-day Dryland Congress 2026 ended in New Delhi on 13 September 2026 with the Delhi Declaration on Drylands, known in short as 3D.
- The theme of the Congress was Transforming Dryland Agriculture with South-South Cooperation.
- The closing day coincided with the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation.
- The first ISSCA Global Awards 2026 drew 170 nominations from 34 countries; the Mega Award went to ICARDA, CIMMYT and the Odisha Livelihoods Mission.
- Dr M. L. Jat, Secretary DARE and Director General of ICAR, sought a foresight mandate for ICAR-NIAP on dryland agriculture.

Event	Dryland Congress 2026, three days, New Delhi
Outcome document	Delhi Declaration on Drylands (3D)
Theme	Transforming Dryland Agriculture with South-South Cooperation
Closing day observance	United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation
Secretary DARE and DG, ICAR	Dr M. L. Jat
Director General, ICRISAT	Dr Himanshu Pathak
Award presented	ISSCA Global Awards 2026, first edition
Nominations received	170, from 34 countries

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dryland-congress-2026-adopts-delhi-declaration-on-drylands/

World Circular Economy Forum 2026 Opens in Gandhinagar

15 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Bhupender Yadav and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendrabhai Patel opened the World Circular Economy Forum 2026 at Gandhinagar, the first such forum held in South Asia.

- The World Circular Economy Forum 2026 was inaugurated at Gandhinagar on 15 September 2026 and runs until 18 September.
- Its theme is 'Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity', and this is the first hosting of the forum in South Asia.
- As of August 2026 more than 83,000 producers and 4,802 recyclers were registered under EPR frameworks.
- Nearly 482.24 lakh metric tonnes of waste has been processed across regulated waste streams.
- The forum has 135 exhibitors and over 3600 participants from 62 countries, and is organised jointly with the Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra.

Event	World Circular Economy Forum 2026
Venue	Gandhinagar, Gujarat
Dates	15 to 18 September 2026
Theme	Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity
Inaugurated by	Bhupender Yadav and Bhupendrabhai Patel
Distinction	First hosting of the forum in South Asia
Producers under EPR	More than 83,000, as of August 2026
Recyclers under EPR	4,802

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/world-circular-economy-forum-2026-opens-in-gandhinagar/

World Circular Economy Forum 2026 Ends at Gandhinagar

16 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The World Circular Economy Forum 2026 closed at Gandhinagar in Gujarat after two days, and Columbia University in the United States will host the 2027 edition.

- The World Circular Economy Forum 2026 concluded at Gandhinagar in Gujarat on 16 September 2026 after two days of discussions.
- Around 2,700 delegates and 260 speakers from more than 60 countries took part in the forum.
- Columbia University in the United States will host the next edition, WCEF 2027; SITRA handed over the baton at the closing.
- The forum held four plenary sessions and 16 parallel sessions; the concurrent exhibition had 135 exhibitors.
- The Ecomark logo was launched at the closing session, attended by Gujarat minister Pravinbhai Mali and Finland's Sari Multala.

Event	World Circular Economy Forum 2026 (WCEF2026)
Venue	Gandhinagar, Gujarat
Concluded	16 September 2026
Delegates	About 2,700
Speakers	260, from over 60 countries
Sessions	Four plenary and 16 parallel sessions
Exhibitors	135 national and international
Launched	Ecomark logo

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/world-circular-economy-forum-2026-ends-at-gandhinagar/

India at G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial Meeting in Houston

17 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Union Minister Manohar Lal led India at the G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial Meeting in Houston and pressed for secure, affordable and reliable energy.

- Union Minister Manohar Lal led the Indian delegation at the G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial Meeting held in Houston, USA, from 14 to 16 September 2026.
- The meeting was held under the United States presidency of the G20 and ran along three pillars: energy security and affordable baseload, permitting and regulatory efficiency, and critical minerals.
- India reported installed electricity generation capacity of 552 GW, more than half of it from non-fossil fuel sources, and a Net Zero goal of 2070.
- Outcomes included the G20 Statement on Advancing Clean Cooking Access, the Permitting and Regulatory Efficiency Symposium, the Water Reuse Initiative and the Critical Minerals Communique.
- India showcased the National Single Window System, PARIVESH, PM Gati Shakti and the National Critical Mineral Mission.

Meeting	G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial Meeting
Venue	Houston, United States
Dates	14 to 16 September 2026
Presidency	United States
India led by	Manohar Lal, Union Minister for Power and Housing and Urban Affairs
Pillars	Energy security and affordable baseload; permitting and regulatory efficiency; critical minerals and resilient supply chains
India's installed capacity	552 GW, more than half from non-fossil sources
Net Zero target	2070

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-at-g20-energy-abundance-ministerial-meeting-in-houston/

NHRC Ends Fifth ITEC Human Rights Course for Global South

18 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

A six-day NHRC programme for human rights institutions of the Global South closed in New Delhi, drawing 38 officials from fourteen countries across four continents.

- The fifth ITEC Executive Capacity Building Programme on human rights concluded in New Delhi
- The NHRC of India organised it in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs
- It ran for six days, beginning on 14 September 2026
- Thirty-eight senior functionaries attended from fourteen national human rights institutions
- NHRC Chairperson Justice V. Ramasubramanian gave the valedictory address

Programme	Fifth ITEC Executive Capacity Building Programme on human rights
Organised by	National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India
In partnership with	Ministry of External Affairs
Venue	New Delhi
Duration	Six days, beginning 14 September 2026
Participants	38 senior functionaries from 14 NHRIs
Valedictory address	Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Chairperson, NHRC India

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nhrc-ends-fifth-itec-human-rights-course-for-global-south/

Vice-President Opens 9th India International Water Week 2026

22 September 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan opened the 9th India International Water Week on the theme 'Climate Resilient Water Management' and launched the SURM Framework.

- The 9th India International Water Week 2026 runs from 22 to 26 September at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, organised by the Ministry of Jal Shakti
- Theme: 'Climate Resilient Water Management'; inaugurated by Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan
- The Sustainable Urban River Management (SURM) Framework and AI/ML-driven Integrated Reservoir Sediment Management were launched
- India has about 2.4% of the world's land and 18% of its population but only about 4% of global freshwater
- 10 inter-State MoUs on water sharing have been signed; the Kishau Multipurpose Project agreement involves six States

Event	9th India International Water Week (IIWW) 2026
Dates	22 to 26 September 2026
Venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Organiser	Ministry of Jal Shakti
Theme	Climate Resilient Water Management
Inaugurated by	Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan
Launched	Sustainable Urban River Management (SURM) Framework; AI/ML-driven Integrated Reservoir Sediment Management
India's share	2.4% of world land, 18% of population, about 4% of freshwater

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vice-president-opens-9th-india-international-water-week-2026/

Indore Metro Priority Corridor-2 Opens with 11 Stations

5 September 2026 · State News

Union Minister Manohar Lal inaugurated Indore Metro Priority Corridor-2, an 11-station stretch of about 11 km built at an estimated cost of ₹2,850 crore.

- Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal inaugurated Indore Metro Priority Corridor-2 on 5 September 2026, with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav present
- The newly opened Phase-I (Reach-II) covers about 11 km with 11 stations, from Super Corridor-3 to Malviya Nagar Chauraha, at an estimated cost of ₹2,850 crore
- With this addition the Indore Metro has 16 operational stations over roughly 17 km, at a cumulative project cost of about ₹4,370 crore
- Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu also attended the inauguration
- The project is executed by the Madhya Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Limited, which the Union Minister congratulated

Project	Indore Metro Priority Corridor-2, Phase-I (Reach-II)
Inaugurated by	Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal
Present at the event	Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and MoS Tokhan Sahu
New stretch	About 11 km with 11 stations
Route	Super Corridor-3 to Malviya Nagar Chauraha
Cost of new stretch	₹2,850 crore (estimated)
Network now	16 operational stations over about 17 km
Cumulative project cost	About ₹4,370 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indore-metro-priority-corridor-2-opens-with-11-stations/

Practice MCQs

Answers and short explanations follow the questions.

1. Which city hosted the 26th SCO Summit attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

- (A) Astana
- (B) Bishkek
- (C) Tashkent
- (D) Samarkand

2. In India's vision for the SCO, what do the letters S, C and O stand for?

- (A) Stability, Commerce and Order
- (B) Security, Connectivity and Opportunity
- (C) Solidarity, Culture and Outreach
- (D) Sovereignty, Cooperation and Openness

3. What was India's real GDP growth in the first quarter of 2026-27?

- (A) 6.9 per cent
- (B) 7.0 per cent
- (C) 7.8 per cent
- (D) 8.2 per cent

4. Which body publishes India's quarterly GDP estimates referred to here?

- (A) NITI Aayog
- (B) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- (C) Reserve Bank of India
- (D) Department of Economic Affairs

5. Who became the first woman officer (non-medical) to attain a two-star rank in the Indian defence forces?

- (A) Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma
- (B) Air Marshal Sadhna Saxena Nair
- (C) Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin
- (D) Air Vice Marshal Padma Bandopadhyay

6. Which appointment did Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma assume on 1 September 2026?

- (A) Director General of Medical Services (Air)
- (B) Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Education)
- (C) Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance
- (D) Principal, Sainik School, Kapurthala

7. Which Foundation Day did India Post Payments Bank celebrate on 1 September 2026?

- (A) 7th
- (B) 8th
- (C) 9th
- (D) 10th

8. Which of these was launched by IPPB on its 9th Foundation Day for merchants?

- (A) DakPay Sound Box
- (B) Digital Mutual Fund Platform
- (C) Surakshit Savings Account
- (D) Digital Insurance Technology Platform

9. How many districts are covered under PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana?

- (A) 75
- (B) 100
- (C) 112
- (D) 121

10. To what level did the average score of the PM-DDKY districts rise by July 2026?

- (A) 22.54
- (B) 16.31
- (C) 38.85
- (D) 10.33

11. Kavach Version 4.0 has been sanctioned for the remaining sections of which railway division?

- (A) Samastipur Division
- (B) Moradabad Division
- (C) Adra Division
- (D) Bhavnagar Division

12. Kavach is best described as which kind of system?

- (A) An indigenous Automatic Train Protection system
- (B) A ticketing and reservation platform
- (C) A satellite-based cargo tracking service
- (D) A rolling stock maintenance depot

13. Which edition of Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar was launched on 1 September 2026?

- (A) Third
- (B) Fourth
- (C) Fifth
- (D) Sixth

14. Which ministry runs the Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar campaign?

- (A) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (B) Ministry of Earth Sciences
- (C) Ministry of Jal Shakti
- (D) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

15. What is the corpus of the Research, Development and Innovation Fund?

- (A) ₹10,000 crore
- (B) ₹50,000 crore
- (C) ₹1 lakh crore
- (D) ₹2 lakh crore

16. Dr Jitendra Singh spoke about the RDI Fund at the Foundation Day of which body?

- (A) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- (B) Technology Development Board
- (C) Department of Science and Technology
- (D) Science and Engineering Research Board

17. What is the base year of India's updated series of annual and quarterly GDP estimates?

- (A) 2004-05
- (B) 2011-12
- (C) 2022-23
- (D) 2024-25

18. Under double deflation, which two items are deflated separately to arrive at real Gross Value Added?

- (A) Output and intermediate consumption
- (B) Exports and imports
- (C) Wages and profits
- (D) Government spending and private consumption

19. Japan Credit Rating Agency upgraded India's long-term sovereign issuer ratings from BBB+ to which level?

- (A) A+
- (B) A-
- (C) AA-
- (D) BBB

20. According to the release, the Central Government's fiscal deficit in FY26 stood at:

- (A) 5.6 per cent
- (B) 4.9 per cent
- (C) 4.7 per cent
- (D) 4.4 per cent

21. How much had IFSC Banking Units at GIFT City sanctioned under the RBI's FCNR(B) swap facility as on 31 August 2026?

- (A) USD 28.60 billion
- (B) USD 37.26 billion
- (C) USD 54.02 billion
- (D) USD 62.40 billion

22. Under which law was the International Financial Services Centres Authority established?

- (A) The SEBI Act, 1992
- (B) The IFSCA Act, 2019
- (C) The Banking Regulation Act, 1949
- (D) The FEMA, 1999

23. After how many days from Gazette publication do the Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026 come into force?

- (A) 30 days
- (B) 90 days
- (C) 180 days
- (D) 365 days

24. Which institution is the scientific custodian of Indian Standard Time?

- (A) CSIR-National Physical Laboratory
- (B) Indian Institute of Astrophysics
- (C) Survey of India
- (D) India Meteorological Department

25. How much award money does each Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award winner receive?

- (A) Rs 5 lakh
- (B) Rs 10 lakh
- (C) Rs 15 lakh
- (D) Rs 25 lakh

26. Which of these is NOT a category of the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards?

- (A) Land Adventure
- (B) Water Adventure
- (C) Air Adventure
- (D) Polar Adventure

27. Where will the 16th Aero India be held?

- (A) Air Force Station, Hindon, Ghaziabad
- (B) Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru
- (C) Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad
- (D) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

28. Which department organises Aero India?

- (A) Department of Defence Production
- (B) Department of Military Affairs
- (C) Department of Defence Research and Development
- (D) Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare

29. Which city hosted the 18th Meeting of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices of BRICS countries?

- (A) Moscow
- (B) New Delhi
- (C) Johannesburg
- (D) Rio de Janeiro

30. What was adopted as the major outcome of the 18th IP BRICS meeting?

- (A) The New Delhi Declaration on Patents
- (B) The Updated Operational Guidelines
- (C) The BRICS Charter on Copyright
- (D) A single BRICS patent office

31. Which two organisations signed a Memorandum of Understanding at the international workshop on tiger landscapes?

- (A) IBCA and the World Bank
- (B) IBCA and the Asian Development Bank
- (C) NTCA and the World Wide Fund for Nature
- (D) NTCA and the Asian Development Bank

32. Who inaugurated the international workshop on tiger landscapes in New Delhi?

- (A) The Prime Minister
- (B) Bhupender Yadav, Union Environment Minister
- (C) S. P. Yadav, Director General, IBCA
- (D) Mia Oka, ADB Country Director for India

33. Bart De Wever, who was on an official visit to India from 2 to 4 September 2026, is the Prime Minister of which country?

- (A) The Netherlands
- (B) Belgium
- (C) Luxembourg
- (D) Denmark

34. In which year were diplomatic relations between India and Belgium established, as recalled in the joint statement?

- (A) 1947
- (B) 1950
- (C) 1962
- (D) 1971

35. Who released the 'RAKSHA' document on defence diplomacy in New Delhi on 3 September 2026?

- (A) The Prime Minister
- (B) The Chief of Defence Staff
- (C) The Raksha Mantri
- (D) The Defence Secretary

36. The 'RAKSHA' document sets out India's roadmap for global defence partnerships over which period?

- (A) The next 3 years
- (B) The next 5 years
- (C) The next 10 years
- (D) The next 25 years

37. How much iron ore did NMDC produce in August 2026, according to the Ministry of Steel's review?

- (A) 2.58 million tonnes
- (B) 3.58 million tonnes
- (C) 4.07 million tonnes
- (D) 6.15 million tonnes

38. Which of the following is NOT among the Top 7 steel producers named by the Ministry of Steel?

- (A) SAIL
- (B) NMDC
- (C) RINL
- (D) JSW Group

39. How many nominations did NHAH receive for the Green Highways Excellence Awards 2026?

- (A) 56
- (B) 86
- (C) 115
- (D) 150

40. Which parameter carried the highest weight in assessing entries for the Green Highways Excellence Awards 2026?

- (A) Diversity of species planted
- (B) Size of the pits dug
- (C) Survival rate of plantations
- (D) Total length of the highway stretch

41. Which institute led the research that made peptides strongly piezoelectric?

- (A) Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences, Bengaluru
- (B) Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata
- (C) Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research
- (D) Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad

42. How did the researchers switch on a strong piezoelectric response in the peptide material?

- (A) By changing the chemical composition of the peptide
- (B) By adding one per cent of a suitable co-solvent
- (C) By coating the peptide with a ceramic layer
- (D) By heating the peptide above 500 degrees Celsius

43. When was the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan launched?

- (A) 2 October 2019
- (B) 15 August 2020
- (C) 26 January 2021
- (D) 1 April 2022

44. How many citizens has the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan reached through nationwide awareness activities?

- (A) More than 10.65 crore
- (B) More than 13.71 crore
- (C) More than 25.40 crore
- (D) More than 34.56 crore

45. Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari is guided by the 3Cs. Which three does the term stand for?

- (A) Community, Corporate Social Responsibility and Cost
- (B) Catchment, Conservation and Community
- (C) Cost, Capacity and Coordination
- (D) Community, Conservation and Compliance

46. As of 3 September 2026, how many artificial groundwater recharge structures had been built under Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari?

- (A) More than 27 lakh
- (B) More than 1.5 crore
- (C) More than 1.58 crore
- (D) More than 2.4 crore

47. Which body is the implementing agency of the Decentralised Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector?

- (A) Food Corporation of India
- (B) National Cooperative Development Corporation
- (C) NABARD
- (D) Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority

48. By July 2026, in how many PACS had godown construction been completed under the Plan?

- (A) 11
- (B) 313
- (C) 521
- (D) 1012

49. Which launch vehicle carried the EOS-05 satellite?

- (A) PSLV-C58
- (B) GSLV-F17
- (C) LVM3-M4
- (D) SSLV-D3

50. EOS-05 is described as India's first-ever imaging satellite from which orbit?

- (A) Low Earth orbit
- (B) Sun-synchronous orbit
- (C) Geosynchronous orbit
- (D) Polar orbit

51. In which city is the International Space Summit discussed by India and France being held?

- (A) Vienna
- (B) Paris
- (C) Toulouse
- (D) Geneva

52. Who has been invited to deliver the opening keynote at the International Space Summit on India's future human spaceflight?

- (A) The Prime Minister of India
- (B) Dr Jitendra Singh
- (C) The Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space
- (D) The Principal Scientific Adviser

53. In which city was the 19th International Earth Science Olympiad 2026 held?

- (A) Rome, Italy
- (B) Turin, Italy
- (C) Milan, Italy
- (D) Vienna, Austria

54. What was India's medal break-up at the 19th International Earth Science Olympiad 2026?

- (A) 3 gold, 4 silver, 2 bronze
- (B) 4 gold, 3 silver, 2 bronze
- (C) 5 gold, 2 silver, 2 bronze
- (D) 4 gold, 2 silver, 3 bronze

55. How many athletes are taking part in the World Archery Para Series inaugurated by Amit Shah?

- (A) 88 athletes from 15 countries
- (B) 108 athletes from 19 countries
- (C) 120 athletes from 19 countries
- (D) 108 athletes from 29 countries

56. Which city is to host the centenary edition of the Commonwealth Games in 2030?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Mumbai
- (C) Ahmedabad
- (D) Bhubaneswar

57. What were SAIL's total sales in August 2026?

- (A) 1.654 million tonnes
- (B) 1.871 million tonnes
- (C) 7.71 million tonnes
- (D) 1.69 million tonnes

58. By how much did SAIL reduce its borrowings from the 31.03.2026 level?

- (A) Rs 560 crore
- (B) Rs 870 crore
- (C) Rs 1,230 crore
- (D) Rs 770 crore

59. According to Piyush Goyal, the India-EU FTA brings together a market of how many people?

- (A) 1 billion people
- (B) 2 billion people
- (C) 3 billion people
- (D) 1.5 billion people

60. The Port of Antwerp-Bruges, described as a key India-Europe link, is which seaport of Europe by size?

- (A) The largest
- (B) The second-largest
- (C) The third-largest
- (D) The fifth-largest

61. Where were India's first two geothermal wells commissioned?

- (A) Tattapani, Chhattisgarh
- (B) Puga Valley, Ladakh
- (C) Manikaran, Himachal Pradesh
- (D) Ankleshwar, Gujarat

62. How many hot springs has the Geological Survey of India mapped in the country?

- (A) 183
- (B) 381
- (C) 420
- (D) 106

63. How many long-pending pension grievances were redressed under Special Campaign 3?

- (A) 1,062
- (B) 2,131
- (C) 2,306
- (D) 3,193

64. Special Campaign 3 for redressal of pension grievances ran between which dates?

- (A) 1 July 2026 to 30 September 2026
- (B) 7 July 2026 to 31 August 2026
- (C) 2 October 2026 to 31 October 2026
- (D) 1 April 2026 to 31 August 2026

65. How many teachers and educators were selected for the National Teachers Awards conferred on 5 September 2026?

- (A) 75
- (B) 82
- (C) 91
- (D) 50

66. Which department accounted for the largest share of the National Teachers Awards winners in 2026?

- (A) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (B) Department of Higher Education
- (C) Department of School Education and Literacy
- (D) Ministry of Tribal Affairs

67. The Indore Metro Priority Corridor-2 inaugurated on 5 September 2026 runs between which two points?

- (A) Super Corridor-3 and Malviya Nagar Chauraha
- (B) Rajwada and Vijay Nagar
- (C) Super Corridor-3 and Rajwada
- (D) Gandhi Nagar and Bhawarkuan

68. After the inauguration of Priority Corridor-2, how many stations of the Indore Metro are operational?

- (A) 11
- (B) 14
- (C) 16
- (D) 21

69. What is the additional credit flow that ECLGS 5.0 aims to facilitate?

- (A) ₹1.50 lakh crore
- (B) ₹2.55 lakh crore
- (C) ₹3.68 lakh crore
- (D) ₹5 lakh crore

70. Under ECLGS 5.0, what is the credit guarantee cover for loans extended to eligible MSMEs?

- (A) 75 per cent
- (B) 80 per cent
- (C) 90 per cent
- (D) 100 per cent

71. How much fresh Access and Benefit-Sharing money did the National Biodiversity Authority sanction to State boards and UT councils?

- (A) ₹8.23 crore
- (B) ₹82.3 crore
- (C) ₹200 crore
- (D) ₹23.8 crore

72. Which State is the largest cumulative recipient of the latest ABS proceeds across the four crops?

- (A) Maharashtra
- (B) Madhya Pradesh
- (C) Andhra Pradesh
- (D) Karnataka

73. What is the total financial outlay of the Scheme for Promotion of Surface Coal and Lignite Gasification Projects?

- (A) ₹8,500 crore
- (B) ₹37,500 crore
- (C) ₹1 lakh crore
- (D) ₹6,000 crore

74. Which two companies were named by the Ministry of Coal as having applied under the gasification scheme?

- (A) Coal India Limited and GAIL
- (B) Talcher Fertilisers Limited and NTPC Limited
- (C) NLC India and IOCL
- (D) SAIL and ONGC

75. Who launched the India Valve Registry at India Valves 2026?

- (A) The President of India
- (B) The Vice President of India
- (C) The Union Health Minister
- (D) The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

76. The India Valve Registry collects data mainly on which type of medical procedure?

- (A) Transcatheter valve interventions
- (B) Kidney transplants
- (C) Cataract surgeries
- (D) Knee replacement surgeries

77. The commemorative postage stamp released in Chennai on 5 September 2026 marked the 75th year of which newspaper?

- (A) Dinamani
- (B) Dinamalar
- (C) Daily Thanthi
- (D) Malayala Manorama

78. In which year was Dinamalar founded?

- (A) 1947
- (B) 1951
- (C) 1956
- (D) 1962

79. What is the combined outlay of VVP-I and VVP-II under the Vibrant Villages Programme?

- (A) Rs 4,800 crore
- (B) Rs 11,639 crore
- (C) Rs 15,000 crore
- (D) Rs 9,250 crore

80. Where was the first phase of the Vibrant Villages Programme launched on 10 April 2023?

- (A) Nathanpur, Cachar district, Assam
- (B) Kibithoo, Anjaw district, Arunachal Pradesh
- (C) Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh
- (D) Leh, Ladakh

81. In which city was the 6th RISE Conclave 2026 inaugurated on 6 September 2026?

- (A) Bengaluru
- (B) Kolkata
- (C) Hyderabad
- (D) Lucknow

82. The 4M framework at the centre of the RISE Conclave 2026 stands for which four areas?

- (A) Minerals, Medicine, Materials and Machines
- (B) Mining, Manufacturing, Metals and Mobility
- (C) Minerals, Marine, Materials and Microchips
- (D) Medicine, Metals, Manufacturing and Machines

83. What was the theme of the national workshop held on International Vulture Awareness Day 2026?

- (A) Wings of Hope
- (B) From Crisis to Recovery - Conserving India's Vultures
- (C) Save the Scavengers
- (D) Vultures for a Clean India

84. How many vultures did the Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre, Pinjore, house during 2025-26?

- (A) 245
- (B) 356
- (C) 412
- (D) 180

85. Which city hosted the 16th National Meet of State Biodiversity Boards and Union Territory Biodiversity Councils?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Chandigarh
- (C) Panchkula
- (D) Jaipur

86. Which Act is the parent law for biodiversity governance in India?

- (A) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972
- (B) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- (C) The Biological Diversity Act, 2002
- (D) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

87. Who was re-elected Secretary-General of the Asian-Pacific Postal Union at its 14th Congress?

- (A) Dr Vinaya Prakash Singh
- (B) Shri Tanmay Kumar
- (C) Dr N. Kalaiselvi
- (D) Shri Rajesh Agarwal

88. Where are the headquarters of the Asian-Pacific Postal Union?

- (A) Bern
- (B) Singapore
- (C) Bangkok
- (D) New Delhi

89. Who has been appointed Chairperson of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis?

- (A) Kaishab Bihari
- (B) Bhagwat Prasad Makwana
- (C) Manoj Kumar Balmiki
- (D) Ravi Ramu Kalose

90. Until what date will the new appointments to the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis remain effective?

- (A) 31 March 2028
- (B) 31 December 2027
- (C) 30 September 2029
- (D) 31 March 2030

91. In which country is the El Alamein International Airshow being held, where the IAF's Sarang team will perform?

- (A) Egypt
- (B) Oman
- (C) United Arab Emirates
- (D) Jordan

92. Which helicopter does the Indian Air Force's Sarang display team fly?

- (A) HAL Rudra
- (B) HAL Prachand
- (C) Advanced Light Helicopter Dhruv
- (D) Mi-17 V5

93. In which city was the 89th edition of Fit India Sundays on Cycle organised on 6 September 2026?

- (A) Ahmedabad
- (B) Surat
- (C) Vadodara
- (D) New Delhi

94. What was the theme of the 89th Fit India Sundays on Cycle?

- (A) Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat
- (B) Cycle for Clean Air
- (C) Fit Youth, Fit Nation
- (D) Pedal for Progress

95. The Defence Acquisition Council meeting of 7 September 2026 cleared proposals of about what value?

- (A) Rs 45,000 crore
- (B) Rs 1,10,000 crore
- (C) Rs 2,23,000 crore
- (D) Rs 84,560 crore

96. Who chairs the Defence Acquisition Council?

- (A) The Chief of Defence Staff
- (B) The Defence Secretary
- (C) The Raksha Mantri
- (D) The National Security Adviser

97. On which date will voting be held in the bye-elections announced on 7 September 2026?

- (A) 16 September 2026
- (B) 19 September 2026
- (C) 6 October 2026
- (D) 9 October 2026

98. The Nandigram Assembly constituency, going to a bye-election, is in which State?

- (A) Assam
- (B) Tamil Nadu
- (C) Puducherry
- (D) West Bengal

99. What is the theme of the 11th Ayurveda Day 2026?

- (A) Ayurveda for One Health
- (B) Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow
- (C) Ayurveda for Every Household
- (D) Ayurveda for Sustainable Wellness

100. Where will the main celebration of the 11th Ayurveda Day be held?

- (A) Jaipur, Rajasthan
- (B) New Delhi
- (C) Nagpur, Maharashtra
- (D) Goa

101. How many cities are covered under the National Clean Air Programme?

- (A) 102 cities
- (B) 130 cities
- (C) 150 cities
- (D) 178 cities

102. Swachh Vayu Diwas is observed on which international day?

- (A) World Environment Day
- (B) World Ozone Day
- (C) International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies
- (D) World Meteorological Day

103. Where was the G20 Innovation Ministers' Meeting held?

- (A) Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- (B) Raleigh, North Carolina
- (C) Washington DC
- (D) Boston, Massachusetts

104. Who led the Indian delegation to the G20 Innovation Ministers' Meeting?

- (A) The Minister of External Affairs
- (B) Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State
- (C) The Principal Scientific Adviser
- (D) The CEO of NITI Aayog

105. PACT, launched at the 5th e-FAST India Summit, stands for what?

- (A) Programme for Accelerated Clean Transport
- (B) Platform for Aggregating Clean Transport
- (C) Partnership for Alternative Clean Technology
- (D) Portal for Advanced Cargo Tracking

106. By how much did e-freight vehicle deployments rise, according to the summit?

- (A) From 201 vehicles to 826 vehicles
- (B) From 826 vehicles to 3,000 vehicles
- (C) From 150 vehicles to 600 vehicles
- (D) From 500 vehicles to 1,200 vehicles

107. Which police force was presented the President's Colour at Panaji on 7 September 2026?

- (A) Maharashtra Police
- (B) Goa Police
- (C) Kerala Police
- (D) Karnataka Police

108. The AI-based call agent launched by Goa Police works on which helpline?

- (A) 100
- (B) 112
- (C) 1930
- (D) 1098

109. Which institute led the study on delaying entanglement sudden death?

- (A) Indian Institute of Astrophysics
- (B) Raman Research Institute
- (C) Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics
- (D) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

110. What is meant by entanglement sudden death?

- (A) The complete decay of both particles to the ground state
- (B) The abrupt vanishing of entanglement at a finite time, before decay is complete
- (C) The failure of a quantum computer to read out a result
- (D) The collapse of a wave function on measurement

111. In which city was the 7th Global Fintech Fest 2026 inaugurated by the Prime Minister?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Mumbai
- (C) Bengaluru
- (D) Gandhinagar

112. Which three technologies form the pillars of the theme of the Global Fintech Fest 2026?

- (A) Blockchain, drones and 5G
- (B) Agentic AI, tokenisation and quantum
- (C) Cloud, metaverse and robotics
- (D) Big data, biometrics and semiconductors

113. What is the theme of the 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah?

- (A) Sahi Poshan Desh Roshan
- (B) Hamari Anganwadi Hamari Jimmedari
- (C) Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi
- (D) Suposhit Bharat Saksham Bharat

114. Mission Poshan 2.0 is anchored by which ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (B) Ministry of Rural Development
- (C) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- (D) Ministry of Education

115. The Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI) has been developed by which department?

- (A) Department of Financial Services
- (B) Department of Telecommunications
- (C) Department of Revenue
- (D) Department of Consumer Affairs

116. Under which platform of the Department of Telecommunications does the Financial Fraud Risk Indicator work?

- (A) Sanchar Saathi
- (B) Digital Intelligence Platform
- (C) National Cybercrime Reporting Portal
- (D) Unified Payments Interface

117. What was the all India kharif sown area as on 4 September 2026, as reported by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare?

- (A) 986.31 lakh hectares
- (B) 1086.31 lakh hectares
- (C) 1186.31 lakh hectares
- (D) 1286.31 lakh hectares

118. Which two crop groups recorded higher area coverage than the corresponding period of last year in the kharif report of 8 September 2026?

- (A) Rice and cotton
- (B) Oilseeds and sugarcane
- (C) Pulses, and jute and mesta
- (D) Coarse cereals and cotton

119. Which institute has prepared the Comprehensive CSR Framework for Indian Coal Companies?

- (A) Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs
- (B) Indian Institute of Public Administration
- (C) National Institute of Financial Management
- (D) Indian School of Mines

120. Under which Act did corporate social responsibility become a statutory obligation in India, making the new coal sector framework the first sector-specific one since then?

- (A) The Companies Act, 1956
- (B) The Companies Act, 2013
- (C) The Mines and Minerals Act, 1957
- (D) The Coal Mines Act, 1952

121. Exercise Veer Guardian-2026 is being conducted between the Indian Air Force and the air force of which country?

- (A) France
- (B) Japan
- (C) Australia
- (D) Singapore

122. At which station is Exercise Veer Guardian-2026 being held?

- (A) Air Force Station Hindon
- (B) Air Force Station Kalaikunda
- (C) Air Force Station Jodhpur
- (D) Air Force Station Sullur

123. The inaugural meeting of the India-Morocco Joint Defence Committee was held in which city?

- (A) Rabat
- (B) Casablanca
- (C) New Delhi
- (D) Mumbai

124. The India-Morocco Joint Defence Committee was created under an agreement signed during whose visit to Morocco?

- (A) The Prime Minister
- (B) The Raksha Mantri
- (C) The External Affairs Minister
- (D) The Chief of Defence Staff

125. How many members are there in the Indian contingent for the Asian Games 2026?

- (A) 403
- (B) 503
- (C) 603
- (D) 703

126. Who was named the Chef de Mission of the Indian contingent for the Asian Games 2026?

- (A) Dr P. T. Usha
- (B) Hari Ranjan Rao
- (C) Sahdev Yadav
- (D) Dr Mansukh Mandaviya

127. What is the total approved cost of the five railway multitracking projects cleared for Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana on 9 September 2026?

- (A) Rs 10,021 crore
- (B) Rs 10,783 crore
- (C) Rs 12,540 crore
- (D) Rs 9,656 crore

128. The three multitracking projects approved for West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh will create how much additional freight capacity a year?

- (A) 47 MTPA
- (B) 27 MTPA
- (C) 56 MTPA
- (D) 14 MTPA

129. Whom did Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh call on as the President of Sri Lanka during his Colombo visit on 9 September 2026?

- (A) Mr Anura Kumara Dissanayake
- (B) Dr Harini Amarasuriya
- (C) Mr Aruna Jayasekara
- (D) Mr Ranil Wickremesinghe

130. The MoU signed between India and Sri Lanka on 9 September 2026 covers the upgradation of which equipment?

- (A) Dornier maritime patrol aircraft
- (B) L70 air defence guns of the Sri Lankan Air Force
- (C) Offshore patrol vessels of the Sri Lankan Navy
- (D) Radar stations of the Sri Lankan Army

131. Which shipyard designed and built the ocean research vessel ORV Sagar Manthan, launched on 9 September 2026?

- (A) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- (B) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
- (C) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited
- (D) Hindustan Shipyard Limited

132. ORV Sagar Manthan will gradually replace which older research vessel?

- (A) ORV Sagar Nidhi
- (B) ORV Sagar Kanya
- (C) INS Sandhayak
- (D) MV Sagar Sampada

133. At which event did UIDAI launch the Aadhaar Face Authentication SDK and Sandbox on 9 September 2026?

- (A) India Mobile Congress
- (B) Global Fintech Fest 2026
- (C) Digital India Week
- (D) World Economic Forum

134. In which year was UIDAI's AI and ML driven Aadhaar face authentication solution launched, and how many transactions has it processed?

- (A) 2019, over 300 crore transactions
- (B) 2020, over 400 crore transactions
- (C) 2021, over 500 crore transactions
- (D) 2023, over 600 crore transactions

135. India's endorsement of the Call to Action for 6G Leadership and Security was announced on the sidelines of which meeting?

- (A) G20 Innovation Ministerial at Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- (B) World Telecommunication Development Conference at Geneva
- (C) BRICS Digital Ministers Meeting at Rio de Janeiro
- (D) Quad Technology Summit at Tokyo

136. What share of global 6G standards and patents does India aim to contribute?

- (A) 5 per cent
- (B) 10 per cent
- (C) 20 per cent
- (D) 25 per cent

137. Which edition of the ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry was held in New Delhi on 9 September 2026?

- (A) 7th
- (B) 8th
- (C) 9th
- (D) 10th

138. How many delegates attended the 10th ASEAN-India Agriculture Working Group Meeting held in New Delhi on 8 September 2026?

- (A) 11 delegates from 45 states
- (B) 45 delegates from 11 ASEAN member states
- (C) 65 delegates from 10 ASEAN member states
- (D) 30 delegates from 12 ASEAN member states

139. Where was the 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2026 launched on 9 September 2026?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Lucknow
- (C) Varanasi
- (D) Prayagraj

140. What is the theme of the 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2026?

- (A) Hamari Anganwadi, Hamari Jimmedari
- (B) Suposhit Bharat, Saksham Bharat
- (C) Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi
- (D) Sahi Poshan, Desh Roshan

141. Who assumed charge as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis on 9 September 2026?

- (A) Shri Bhagwat Prasad Makwana
- (B) Shri Anil Malik
- (C) Shri Jitin Prasada
- (D) Shri Prataprao Jadhav

142. Bhagwat Prasad Makwana was earlier a member of the Central Monitoring Committee constituted under which law?

- (A) The Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993
- (B) The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013
- (C) The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989
- (D) The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955

143. Where was the first International Space Summit, addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, held?

- (A) Berlin
- (B) Paris
- (C) Rome
- (D) Madrid

144. By which year does India plan to establish its own space station, as stated at the summit?

- (A) 2030
- (B) 2035
- (C) 2040
- (D) 2045

145. Where was the 9th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry held?

- (A) Jakarta
- (B) Manila
- (C) New Delhi
- (D) Bangkok

146. The new ASEAN-India medium-term plan of action for cooperation in agriculture and forestry covers which period?

- (A) 2021-2025
- (B) 2026-2030
- (C) 2025-2029
- (D) 2027-2031

147. Exercise Samudra Laksamana is a bilateral maritime exercise between India and which country?

- (A) Indonesia
- (B) Malaysia
- (C) Singapore
- (D) Thailand

148. Which edition of Exercise Samudra Laksamana is INS Mysore participating in?

- (A) Second
- (B) Third
- (C) Fourth
- (D) Fifth

149. From which date will the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) (Amendment) Rules, 2026 come into force?

- (A) 1 October 2026
- (B) 1 January 2027
- (C) 1 April 2027
- (D) 1 January 2028

150. Under the amended rules, the prior price of goods means the lowest price offered during how many days before the announcement?

- (A) 15 days
- (B) 30 days
- (C) 45 days
- (D) 90 days

151. The first district-level estimates of the unincorporated non-agricultural sector are based on which survey?

- (A) Periodic Labour Force Survey
- (B) Annual Survey of Industries
- (C) Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises 2025
- (D) National Family Health Survey

152. For how many districts have the estimates been presented?

- (A) 640
- (B) 757
- (C) 770
- (D) 788

153. Under which law was the smuggled foreign-origin gold seized by the DRI?

- (A) The Customs Act, 1962
- (B) The Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999
- (C) The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002
- (D) The Gold Control Act, 1968

154. Which force worked with the DRI in the seizure made near the Indo-Bangladesh border?

- (A) Central Reserve Police Force
- (B) Indo-Tibetan Border Police
- (C) Border Security Force
- (D) Sashastra Seema Bal

155. How much has been disbursed as scholarships to more than 1.44 crore Scheduled Caste students?

- (A) Rs 2,445.05 crore
- (B) Rs 9,773 crore
- (C) Rs 12,773 crore
- (D) Rs 21,773 crore

156. The National Entrance Test for SHRESHTA has been advanced from which month to which month?

- (A) From June to January
- (B) From May to December
- (C) From April to November
- (D) From December to May

157. Kishor Makwana, who was conferred the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Jan Seva Award 2026, is the Chairman of which body?

- (A) National Commission for Backward Classes
- (B) National Commission for Scheduled Castes
- (C) National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
- (D) National Human Rights Commission

158. The Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Jan Seva Award 2026 was presented during which ceremony?

- (A) Sansad Ratna Awards 2026
- (B) Rashtriya Ekta Awards 2026
- (C) National Social Justice Awards 2026
- (D) Sansad Gaurav Awards 2026

159. What is the theme of India's BRICS Chairship, named at the BRICS Business Forum 2026?

- (A) One Earth, One Family, One Future
- (B) Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
- (C) Strengthening Multilateralism for Shared Prosperity
- (D) Inclusive Growth for a Sustainable Planet

160. In which year was the BRICS grouping launched, as stated at the BRICS Business Forum 2026?

- (A) 2003
- (B) 2006
- (C) 2009
- (D) 2014

161. How many Indian deep-tech start-ups are being shown at the BRICS Bharat Innovates Exposition?

- (A) 13
- (B) 15
- (C) 37
- (D) 120

162. Where was the maiden edition of Bharat Innovates held in June 2026?

- (A) Nice, France
- (B) Geneva, Switzerland
- (C) Bhubaneswar, India
- (D) Dubai, United Arab Emirates

163. From which date does the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 come into force?

- (A) 13 August 2026
- (B) 10 September 2026
- (C) 1 October 2026
- (D) 1 April 2027

164. The Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 replaces a law of which year?

- (A) 1872
- (B) 1881
- (C) 1891
- (D) 1949

165. How many HPV vaccine doses has India administered under the National HPV Vaccination Campaign?

- (A) More than 22 lakh
- (B) More than 80 lakh
- (C) More than 1.2 crore
- (D) More than 8 crore

166. Which of these states has NOT achieved full coverage of its target cohort under the campaign?

- (A) Gujarat
- (B) Mizoram
- (C) Karnataka
- (D) Madhya Pradesh

167. How many houses have been sanctioned in all under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban 2.0?

- (A) 8.22 lakh
- (B) 17.19 lakh
- (C) 18.77 lakh
- (D) 1.25 crore

168. Who chaired the 9th meeting of the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee?

- (A) The Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs
- (B) Satendra Singh, Secretary, Department of Urban Development
- (C) Kumar Ravikant Singh, Mission Director, Housing for All
- (D) The Cabinet Secretary

169. What is the shareholding pattern of the new Cochin Shipyard and Drydocks World joint venture?

- (A) 51:49 in favour of Cochin Shipyard
- (B) 50:50
- (C) 74:26 in favour of Drydocks World
- (D) 60:40 in favour of Cochin Shipyard

170. Drydocks World, the partner in the new joint venture, is a company of which group?

- (A) DP World
- (B) Maersk
- (C) Adani Ports
- (D) PSA International

171. The National Maritime Heritage Complex reviewed at the 2nd Governing Council meeting is coming up at which place?

- (A) Dholavira, Gujarat
- (B) Lothal, Gujarat
- (C) Kochi, Kerala
- (D) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

172. How many countries have signed MoUs for the National Maritime Heritage Complex project?

- (A) 7
- (B) 13
- (C) 24
- (D) 35

173. In which city did the Election Commission hold its fifth regional conference on Electoral Literacy Clubs and ECINET?

- (A) Patna
- (B) Margao
- (C) Ahmedabad
- (D) Chennai

174. What is the tagline of the ELC 2.0 initiative of the Election Commission?

- (A) Learn Democracy. Lead Democracy.
- (B) My Vote, My Right
- (C) No Voter to be Left Behind
- (D) Proud to be a Voter

175. How many commemorative postage stamps were released to mark two decades of BRICS cooperation?

- (A) One
- (B) Two
- (C) Four
- (D) Five

176. Which inscription appears on the commemorative stamps released on the sidelines of the 18th BRICS Summit?

- (A) BRICS: Two Decades of Cooperation, 2006-2026
- (B) BRICS: Twenty Years of Partnership, 2005-2025
- (C) BRICS: A Journey of Solidarity, 2009-2029
- (D) BRICS: Building Together, 2001-2021

177. The Table Top Exercise of the Colombo Security Conclave concluded at which naval command?

- (A) Western Naval Command, Mumbai
- (B) Southern Naval Command, Kochi
- (C) Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam
- (D) Andaman and Nicobar Command, Port Blair

178. What was the focus of the Colombo Security Conclave Table Top Exercise held in September 2026?

- (A) Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief after a cyclone
- (B) Coordinated Response to Illicit Maritime Activities in the Indian Ocean Region
- (C) Anti-submarine warfare in the Bay of Bengal
- (D) Joint amphibious landing operations

179. Under which mission were the Critical Care Blocks and Integrated Public Health Laboratories in Andhra Pradesh built?

- (A) National Health Mission
- (B) Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission
- (C) Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission
- (D) Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana

180. How many Critical Care Blocks has the Government of India sanctioned across States and Union Territories under PM-ABHIM?

- (A) 431
- (B) 531
- (C) 631
- (D) 731

181. The Guinness World Record for the world's longest road built with processed steel slag aggregates was set at which place?

- (A) Angul, Odisha
- (B) Raigarh, Chhattisgarh
- (C) Hazira, Gujarat
- (D) Bhilai, Chhattisgarh

182. According to Dr Jitendra Singh, steel slag road technology can reduce road construction cost by roughly how much?

- (A) 10 per cent
- (B) 25 per cent
- (C) 40 per cent
- (D) 60 per cent

183. Badri cattle, in which the OPU-IVF calf was born, are the state animal of which State?

- (A) Himachal Pradesh
- (B) Uttarakhand
- (C) Sikkim
- (D) Arunachal Pradesh

184. In the Badri breeding programme, the Badri embryo was transferred into a recipient cow of which breed?

- (A) Gir
- (B) Tharparkar
- (C) Sahiwal
- (D) Red Sindhi

185. Which ministry organised the coastal cleanup drive marking the start of Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0?

- (A) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (B) Ministry of Earth Sciences
- (C) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- (D) Ministry of Jal Shakti

186. International Coastal Cleanup Day, for which the Digha drive was a prelude, is observed on which date?

- (A) 5 June
- (B) 8 June
- (C) 19 September
- (D) 29 September

187. The National Conference on Building and Other Construction Workers concluded in which city?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Mumbai
- (C) Pune
- (D) Nagpur

188. At the BOCW conference, which state presented its experience with Digital Labour Chowks?

- (A) Uttar Pradesh
- (B) Bihar
- (C) Rajasthan
- (D) Assam

189. By what scoreline did the Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team win the Asia Cup final?

- (A) 2-1
- (B) 3-0
- (C) 4-1
- (D) 5-2

190. What did the Indian Junior Women's Hockey Team achieve at the Asia Cup?

- (A) It won the Asia Cup for the first time
- (B) It retained the Asia Cup with an unbeaten campaign
- (C) It finished as the runner-up
- (D) It shared the trophy after a drawn final

191. Which declaration was adopted at the closing plenary of the Dryland Congress 2026?

- (A) The New Delhi Declaration on Food Security
- (B) The Delhi Declaration on Drylands
- (C) The Global South Charter on Agriculture
- (D) The Bharat Declaration on Arid Farming

192. How many nominations did the first edition of the ISSCA Global Awards receive, and from how many countries?

- (A) 120 nominations from 24 countries
- (B) 170 nominations from 34 countries
- (C) 210 nominations from 44 countries
- (D) 150 nominations from 30 countries

193. The proposed BRICS Expert Working Group on TCIM will function under which track?

- (A) The BRICS Science and Technology Track
- (B) The BRICS Health Track
- (C) The BRICS Finance Track
- (D) The BRICS Sherpa Track

194. Where was the BRICS meeting on Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine held that agreed the Terms of Reference for the proposed Expert Working Group?

- (A) New Delhi, on 13 September 2026
- (B) Chandigarh, on 21 July 2026
- (C) Goa, on 21 June 2026
- (D) Bengaluru, on 12 August 2026

195. How much freight did Indian Railways load in August 2026?

- (A) 130.9 million tonnes
- (B) 137.9 million tonnes
- (C) 147.9 million tonnes
- (D) 127.3 million tonnes

196. What was the cumulative number of commissioned Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals as on 31 August 2026?

- (A) 139
- (B) 144
- (C) 149
- (D) 154

197. What does CEPI stand for?

- (A) Council for Epidemic Prevention in India
- (B) Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations
- (C) Centre for Emerging Pathogen Investigation
- (D) Commission for Epidemic Policy and Immunisation

198. What was the size of India's bioeconomy in 2025, according to the release?

- (A) USD 165.3 billion
- (B) USD 185.7 billion
- (C) USD 195.3 billion
- (D) USD 215.9 billion

199. Where is the World Circular Economy Forum 2026 being held?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- (C) Helsinki, Finland
- (D) Bhuj, Gujarat

200. What is the theme of the World Circular Economy Forum 2026?

- (A) Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity
- (B) Waste to Wealth for a Green Tomorrow
- (C) Reuse, Recycle, Rebuild
- (D) Circularity for Climate Resilience

201. How large is the protected habitat for cheetahs under Project Cheetah, according to the review at Bhuj?

- (A) 2,428 sq km
- (B) 3,428 sq km
- (C) 4,328 sq km
- (D) 1,428 sq km

202. Which institution prepared the Gujarat Action Plan for Great Indian Bustard Conservation?

- (A) The Zoological Survey of India
- (B) The National Tiger Conservation Authority
- (C) The Wildlife Institute of India, with the Gujarat Forest Department
- (D) The Forest Survey of India

203. INS Sudarshini, which sailed from Livorno, is which kind of ship of the Indian Navy?

- (A) A sail training ship
- (B) A guided missile destroyer
- (C) A submarine tender
- (D) An aircraft carrier

204. What is the full form of MAHASAGAR, the vision carried forward by INS Sudarshini?

- (A) Maritime Alliance for Security and Growth Across Regions
- (B) Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions
- (C) Maritime Advancement for Shared Growth and Regional Harmony
- (D) Mutual Assistance for Safety and Growth in All Regions

205. Which Indian team did Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulate on 14 September 2026 for winning the Asia Cup?

- (A) The Men's Cricket Team
- (B) The Women's Cricket Team
- (C) The Junior Men's Hockey Team
- (D) The Women's Kabaddi Team

206. Which three qualities of the team did the Prime Minister highlight in his message?

- (A) Discipline, fitness and patience
- (B) Confidence, consistency and remarkable spirit
- (C) Courage, teamwork and planning
- (D) Experience, aggression and skill

207. Where was the 6th All India Official Language Conference, held along with Hindi Diwas 2026, organised?

- (A) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
- (B) CIDCO Exhibition Centre, Vashi, Navi Mumbai
- (C) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- (D) Science City, Ahmedabad

208. How many words does the dictionary 'Hindi Shabd Sindhu' now contain, according to the Union Home Minister?

- (A) 2 lakh words
- (B) 5 lakh words
- (C) 8 lakh words
- (D) 12 lakh words

209. What was India's retail inflation rate based on the Consumer Price Index in August 2026?

- (A) 3.96 per cent
- (B) 4.45 per cent
- (C) 4.82 per cent
- (D) 5.95 per cent

210. Which of the following correctly gives the rural and urban retail inflation rates for August 2026?

- (A) Rural 4.31 per cent, urban 5.23 per cent
- (B) Rural 5.23 per cent, urban 4.31 per cent
- (C) Rural 6.13 per cent, urban 5.64 per cent
- (D) Rural 3.96 per cent, urban 4.84 per cent

211. What was India's Wholesale Price Index inflation rate for August 2026?

- (A) 8.37 per cent
- (B) 9.78 per cent
- (C) 9.92 per cent
- (D) 10.45 per cent

212. Which major group recorded the highest year on year inflation in the Wholesale Price Index for August 2026?

- (A) Primary Articles
- (B) Fuel and Power
- (C) Manufactured Products
- (D) All Commodities

213. The First Additional Protocol signed between India and MERCOSUR relates mainly to which of the following?

- (A) Acceptance of electronic Certificates of Origin
- (B) Removal of all tariffs on farm produce
- (C) A common currency for bilateral trade
- (D) Mutual recognition of academic degrees

214. When did the India-MERCOSUR Preferential Trade Agreement enter into force?

- (A) 25 January 2004
- (B) 1 June 2009
- (C) 27 November 2025
- (D) 9 April 2026

215. Where was the first Indian Air Force Dronathon-2026 inaugurated?

- (A) Pokhran Field Firing Range, Jaisalmer
- (B) Air Force Station Hindan, Ghaziabad
- (C) Chandipur Test Range, Odisha
- (D) Suryalanka Firing Range, Andhra Pradesh

216. What is 'Vayu UTtAm', demonstrated by the Indian Air Force at Dronathon-2026?

- (A) A long range armed drone
- (B) An indigenous Unmanned Traffic Management system
- (C) A new air to air missile
- (D) A satellite for weather forecasting

217. Exercise Samudra Laksamana is held between the Indian Navy and the navy of which country?

- (A) Indonesia
- (B) Malaysia
- (C) Singapore
- (D) Thailand

218. Which Indian Navy ship took part in the 4th edition of Exercise Samudra Laksamana?

- (A) INS Vikrant
- (B) INS Mysore
- (C) INS Shivalik
- (D) INS Kolkata

219. The Soft Release Centre inaugurated in September 2026 at Naliya, Kachchh, is meant for which species?

- (A) Asiatic lion
- (B) Great Indian Bustard
- (C) Indian wild ass
- (D) Olive ridley turtle

220. How many new patrolling and rescue vehicles did the Union Environment Minister flag off for the Kachchh Forest Circle?

- (A) 15
- (B) 25
- (C) 33
- (D) 47

221. How many personnel has each side fielded for Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2026?

- (A) 400 personnel
- (B) 500 personnel
- (C) 600 personnel
- (D) 800 personnel

222. Where was the opening ceremony of the 22nd edition of Yudh Abhyas held?

- (A) Auli Foreign Training Node, Uttarakhand
- (B) Mahajan Field Firing Range, Rajasthan
- (C) Babina Military Station, Uttar Pradesh
- (D) Deolali Cantonment, Maharashtra

223. What was the theme of the VIMARSH DRDO-Industry Synergy Meet held in September 2026?

- (A) Varta se Vikas
- (B) Vikas se Vishwas
- (C) Shodh se Samriddhi
- (D) Nav Bharat Nav Nirman

224. How many Licensing Agreements for Transfer of Technology were handed over at VIMARSH, and to how many manufacturing partners?

- (A) Five agreements to nine partners
- (B) Nine agreements to 13 partners
- (C) Thirteen agreements to nine partners
- (D) Eleven agreements to 15 partners

225. According to the PLFS bulletin for August 2026, what was the overall Labour Force Participation Rate for persons aged 15 years and above?

- (A) 52.8 per cent
- (B) 55.6 per cent
- (C) 58.2 per cent
- (D) 50.4 per cent

226. Which organisation conducts the Periodic Labour Force Survey?

- (A) Reserve Bank of India
- (B) NITI Aayog
- (C) National Statistical Office under MoSPI
- (D) Labour Bureau under the Ministry of Labour

227. What is the estimated value of India's total exports of goods and services during April-August 2026-27?

- (A) 345.55 billion US dollars
- (B) 399.27 billion US dollars
- (C) 459.65 billion US dollars
- (D) 215.91 billion US dollars

228. Which commodity group recorded an export growth of 89.82 per cent in August 2026?

- (A) Engineering goods
- (B) Petroleum products
- (C) Electronic goods
- (D) Marine products

229. Up to what value do merchant payments through UPI remain free of MDR under the new framework?

- (A) 1,000 rupees
- (B) 2,000 rupees
- (C) 5,000 rupees
- (D) 10,000 rupees

230. Under which law has the new UPI framework been introduced?

- (A) Banking Regulation Act, 1949
- (B) Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007
- (C) Consumer Protection Act, 2019
- (D) Information Technology Act, 2000

231. What is the theme of the World Circular Economy Forum 2026 held at Gandhinagar?

- (A) Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity
- (B) Waste to Wealth for a Green Tomorrow
- (C) One Earth, One Resource, One Future
- (D) Sustainable Consumption and Responsible Production

232. Which of these is a co-organiser of the World Circular Economy Forum 2026 in India?

- (A) United Nations Environment Programme
- (B) The Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra
- (C) World Economic Forum
- (D) International Energy Agency

233. How many members does India's contingent for WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 have?

- (A) 48 members
- (B) 63 members
- (C) 70 members
- (D) 64 members

234. Where and when is the 48th WorldSkills Competition being held?

- (A) Lyon, France, in October 2026
- (B) Shanghai, China, from 22 to 27 September 2026
- (C) Singapore, from 22 to 27 September 2026
- (D) Tokyo, Japan, in November 2026

235. Which two dark patterns did the Central Consumer Protection Authority find in Rapido's ride-booking interface?

- (A) Drip pricing and bait and switch
- (B) Confirm shaming and interface interference
- (C) False urgency and basket sneaking
- (D) Subscription trap and forced action

236. Under which guidelines are dark patterns identified and regulated in India?

- (A) Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns, 2023
- (B) Motor Vehicle Aggregator Guidelines, 2025
- (C) E-Commerce Rules, 2020
- (D) Digital Advertising Code, 2022

237. To what monthly figure has the Union Cabinet raised the EPFO wage ceiling for mandatory coverage?

- (A) Rs 21,000
- (B) Rs 25,000
- (C) Rs 30,000
- (D) Rs 18,000

238. From which date does the revised EPFO wage ceiling take effect?

- (A) 1 October 2026
- (B) 17 September 2026
- (C) 1 April 2027
- (D) 16 September 2026

239. Who has been selected for the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2024?

- (A) Mohanlal
- (B) Anant Nag
- (C) Rajinikanth
- (D) Waheeda Rehman

240. At which venue will the 72nd National Film Awards ceremony be held?

- (A) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
- (B) Kevadia, Gujarat
- (C) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- (D) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

241. Under which law has the Shahzad Bhatti Network been declared a terrorist organisation?

- (A) The National Security Act
- (B) The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act
- (C) The Prevention of Money Laundering Act
- (D) The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act

242. Which minister announced the declaration of the Shahzad Bhatti Network as a terrorist organisation?

- (A) The Union Defence Minister
- (B) The Union Home Minister
- (C) The Union Law Minister
- (D) The Union External Affairs Minister

243. Which edition of Trade Watch Quarterly was released by NITI Aayog on 16 September 2026?

- (A) Seventh
- (B) Eighth
- (C) Ninth
- (D) Tenth

244. What is the thematic focus of the ninth edition of Trade Watch Quarterly?

- (A) India's pharmaceutical exports
- (B) India's metals and ores trade
- (C) India's agricultural exports
- (D) India's textile trade

245. What was the theme of the 32nd World Ozone Day celebration held in Mumbai?

- (A) Global Action for a Cooler Planet
- (B) Ozone for Life
- (C) Cooling for All
- (D) Protecting Our Atmosphere

246. Which two digital platforms were launched on World Ozone Day 2026?

- (A) Net Zero Portal and NAPCC Dashboard
- (B) Green India Portal and Carbon Dashboard
- (C) Ozone Cell Portal and Mission LiFE Dashboard
- (D) Climate Finance Portal and NDC Dashboard

247. Where was the World Circular Economy Forum 2026 held?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- (C) Helsinki, Finland
- (D) Mumbai, Maharashtra

248. Which institution will host the World Circular Economy Forum 2027?

- (A) Columbia University, United States
- (B) University of Helsinki, Finland
- (C) Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
- (D) University of Tokyo, Japan

249. At what altitude is the Parang La Pass, crossed during the Aparajita - Parang La 2026 trek?

- (A) 4,578 metres
- (B) 5,578 metres
- (C) 6,578 metres
- (D) 5,050 metres

250. Who flagged off the Aparajita - Parang La 2026 trek from New Delhi?

- (A) The Director General of the NCC
- (B) Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh
- (C) The Chief of the Army Staff
- (D) The Additional Secretary, Ministry of Defence

251. How many beneficiaries have been registered under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme in its first three years?

- (A) 10 lakh
- (B) 20 lakh
- (C) 30 lakh
- (D) 50 lakh

252. On which date was the PM Vishwakarma Scheme launched?

- (A) 17 September 2023
- (B) 15 August 2023
- (C) 17 September 2022
- (D) 2 October 2023

- 253. SEMICON India 2026, inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 17 September 2026, was held at which venue?**
- (A) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi (B) Yashobhoomi, New Delhi
(C) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi (D) Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar
- 254. What is the size of Semicon 2.0, the second phase of the India Semiconductor Mission announced at SEMICON India 2026?**
- (A) 8 billion dollars (B) 10 billion dollars
(C) 13.5 billion dollars (D) 21 billion dollars
- 255. How many coal blocks are offered in the 16th round of commercial coal mine auctions launched on 17 September 2026?**
- (A) 19 blocks (B) 21 blocks
(C) 25 blocks (D) 32 blocks
- 256. What level of foreign direct investment is permitted in commercial coal mining under the liberal framework described in the 16th auction round?**
- (A) 49 per cent through the government route (B) 74 per cent through the automatic route
(C) 100 per cent through the automatic route (D) 26 per cent through the government route
- 257. The India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement, for which New Zealand's Parliament passed enabling legislation in September 2026, was signed on which date?**
- (A) 27 April 2026 in New Delhi (B) 16 September 2026 in Wellington
(C) 12 January 2026 in Auckland (D) 5 July 2026 in New Delhi
- 258. What share of Indian exports gets duty-free access to New Zealand under the India-New Zealand FTA?**
- (A) 75 per cent (B) 90 per cent
(C) 99 per cent (D) 100 per cent
- 259. Which city hosted the G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial Meeting attended by India from 14 to 16 September 2026?**
- (A) Washington DC (B) Houston
(C) Johannesburg (D) Rio de Janeiro
- 260. What installed electricity generation capacity did India report at the G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial Meeting?**
- (A) 425 GW (B) 490 GW
(C) 552 GW (D) 610 GW
- 261. India's 51st Doppler Weather Radar, inaugurated on 17 September 2026, is located at which place?**
- (A) Paradip, Odisha (B) Sambalpur, Odisha
(C) Gopalpur, Odisha (D) Balasore, Odisha

262. How many Doppler Weather Radars did India have in 2014, according to the Minister for Earth Sciences?

- (A) 8
- (B) 14
- (C) 24
- (D) 40

263. What is the theme of World Patient Safety Day 2026?

- (A) Safe care for noncommunicable diseases
- (B) Safe maternal and newborn care
- (C) Medication without harm
- (D) Engaging patients for patient safety

264. The National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) certification for health institutions was introduced in which year?

- (A) 2005
- (B) 2015
- (C) 2018
- (D) 2021

265. The erstwhile Hyderabad State merged into the Indian Union following which military action?

- (A) Operation Vijay
- (B) Operation Polo
- (C) Operation Meghdoot
- (D) Operation Cactus

266. Which edition of Hyderabad Liberation Day was celebrated at Parade Ground, Secunderabad, on 17 September 2026?

- (A) 75th
- (B) 77th
- (C) 78th
- (D) 79th

267. Which edition of the Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference commenced in New Delhi on 17 September 2026?

- (A) 41st
- (B) 42nd
- (C) 43rd
- (D) 45th

268. What does MAHASAGAR, the vision cited at the Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference, stand for?

- (A) Maritime Alliance for Harbour Safety and Growth Across Regions
- (B) Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions
- (C) Maritime Assistance for Humanitarian Aid, Security and Governance
- (D) Mission for Advanced Harbour and Sea Guard Readiness

269. The CORE Programme 2026, which concluded at the Manekshaw Centre, was conducted by which body?

- (A) Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses
- (B) Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS)
- (C) National Defence College
- (D) Defence Research and Development Organisation

270. Officials from which three ministries took part in the CORE Programme 2026?

- (A) Defence, Finance and Home Affairs
- (B) Defence, External Affairs and Home Affairs
- (C) Defence, External Affairs and Commerce
- (D) Home Affairs, External Affairs and Science and Technology

271. The Kalakshetra Foundation, which organised the 17th Kathakali Festival, was established in which year?

- (A) 1936
- (B) 1947
- (C) 1955
- (D) 1962

272. What is the theme of the 17th Kathakali Festival organised by the Kalakshetra Foundation?

- (A) Nritya Sangama - Confluence of Dance
- (B) Kadha Rasa Sangama - Confluence of Essence of Stories
- (C) Natya Parampara - Tradition of Theatre
- (D) Raga Rasa Yatra - Journey of Melody

273. How many LCA Tejas Final Operational Clearance twin-seat trainers did HAL hand over to the Indian Air Force at the September 2026 ceremony?

- (A) One
- (B) Two
- (C) Three
- (D) Four

274. Which organisation received the four Dhruv Next Generation helicopters from HAL?

- (A) Indian Air Force
- (B) Indian Coast Guard
- (C) Pawan Hans Limited
- (D) Border Security Force

275. Who delivered the valedictory address at the fifth ITEC capacity-building programme on human rights?

- (A) The Union Home Minister
- (B) Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Chairperson, NHRC India
- (C) The Chief Justice of India
- (D) The Union Minister of External Affairs

276. How many national human rights institutions sent participants to the programme?

- (A) Eight
- (B) Eleven
- (C) Fourteen
- (D) Twenty

277. At which shipyard was the keel of the Indian Navy's first Next Generation Missile Vessel laid?

- (A) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai
- (B) Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi
- (C) Garden Reach Shipbuilders, Kolkata
- (D) Hindustan Shipyard, Visakhapatnam

278. In which month and year was the contract for construction of the Next Generation Missile Vessels concluded?

- (A) March 2023
- (B) March 2021
- (C) September 2026
- (D) August 2024

279. How many judicial officers were appointed as Judges and Additional Judges in the September 2026 announcement?

- (A) Ten
- (B) Twelve
- (C) Fourteen
- (D) Sixteen

280. Under the Constitution, who appoints Judges of a High Court, and after consulting whom?

- (A) The Prime Minister, after consulting the Law Minister
- (B) The President, after consulting the Chief Justice of India
- (C) The Chief Justice of India, after consulting the President
- (D) The Governor of the State, after consulting the High Court Chief Justice

281. How many rural youth will begin training in the first round of DDU-GKY 2.0 in October 2026?

- (A) 34,920
- (B) 3,57,112
- (C) 1,164
- (D) 5.6 lakh

282. Which ministry implements the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana?

- (A) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (B) Ministry of Rural Development
- (C) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- (D) Ministry of Education

283. What was the value of the monetisation proposals recommended at NLMC's 21st board meeting?

- (A) Over Rs 1,000 crore
- (B) Over Rs 5,000 crore
- (C) Over Rs 10,000 crore
- (D) Over Rs 50,000 crore

284. Whose surplus assets does the National Land Monetization Corporation help monetise?

- (A) State government departments only
- (B) Private companies in financial distress
- (C) Central Public Sector Enterprises and other government entities
- (D) Municipal corporations and urban local bodies

285. SLINEX-26, the 13th edition of a bilateral maritime exercise held at Visakhapatnam from 17 to 21 September 2026, is conducted between the Indian Navy and the navy of which country?

- (A) Singapore
- (B) Sri Lanka
- (C) Thailand
- (D) Maldives

286. Which Indian Navy ship taking part in SLINEX-26 is described by the Ministry of Defence as an indigenous Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette?

- (A) INS Jyoti
- (B) INS Kavaratti
- (C) SLNS Sindurala
- (D) INS Vikrant

287. Which film won the Best Feature Film award at the 72nd National Film Awards?

- (A) Amaran
- (B) Article 370
- (C) Kalki 2898 AD
- (D) Chandu Champion

288. Who will receive the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2024?

- (A) Mohanlal
- (B) Mithun Chakraborty
- (C) Anant Nag
- (D) Waheeda Rehman

289. Sonam Uttam Maskar, Elavenil Valarivan and Vidarsa K Vinod won a silver medal at the Asian Games 2026 in which event?

- (A) Women's 10m Air Pistol
- (B) Women's 10m Air Rifle
- (C) Women's 25m Pistol
- (D) Women's Trap

290. According to the Prime Minister, Elavenil Valarivan's silver in the women's 10m air rifle individual event at the Asian Games 2026 was her ____ medal of the day.

- (A) first
- (B) second
- (C) third
- (D) fourth

291. The Suryakiran Aerobatic Team of the Indian Air Force, which performed over Meerut for the first time in September 2026, flies which aircraft?

- (A) HAL Tejas
- (B) Hawk Mk132
- (C) Kiran Mk II
- (D) Pilatus PC-7

292. In which year was the Suryakiran Aerobatic Team (SKAT) of the Indian Air Force established?

- (A) 1982
- (B) 1996
- (C) 2002
- (D) 2011

293. According to Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh, India's silk production, which stood at 26,000 metric tonnes in 2014, has now reached how much?

- (A) 32,000 metric tonnes
- (B) 38,000 metric tonnes
- (C) 42,000 metric tonnes
- (D) 60,000 metric tonnes

294. By which year has the Government of India resolved to make India the world's No. 1 producer of silk?

- (A) 2026-27
- (B) 2028-29
- (C) 2030-31
- (D) 2035-36

295. What is the title of the souvenir released by the National Green Tribunal at its international conference on 'The Future of Environment and Climate Dynamics' in September 2026?

- (A) Harit Nyayam
- (B) Prakriti Vandan
- (C) Harit Bharat
- (D) Paryavaran Nyay

296. According to Union Minister Manohar Lal at the NGT conference in September 2026, non-fossil sources account for nearly what share of India's installed generation capacity?

- (A) 40 per cent
- (B) 50 per cent
- (C) 55 per cent
- (D) 65 per cent

297. Asia's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ), whose site was inspected by the Union Communications Minister in September 2026, is being set up in which city?

- (A) Indore
- (B) Gwalior
- (C) Noida
- (D) Bhopal

298. What is the approximate investment expected in the Telecom Manufacturing Zone at Gwalior?

- (A) ₹2,000 crore
- (B) ₹3,500 crore
- (C) ₹5,500 crore
- (D) ₹6,500 crore

299. What is the theme of Swachhata Hi Seva 2026, which began on 17 September 2026?

- (A) Swachhata Mein Sahbhag; Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat
- (B) Swabhav Swachhata, Sanskaar Swachhata
- (C) Garbage Free India
- (D) Ek Din, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath

300. Under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin, an ODF Plus village that manages both solid and liquid waste but has not yet reached the top stage is classified as:

- (A) Aspiring
- (B) Rising
- (C) Model
- (D) Emerging

301. The India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement will enter into force on which date?

- (A) 27 April 2026
- (B) 16 September 2026
- (C) 20 October 2026
- (D) 1 January 2027

302. Under the India–New Zealand FTA, New Zealand has committed to facilitate investment of how much into India?

- (A) USD 10 billion
- (B) USD 15 billion
- (C) USD 20 billion
- (D) USD 25 billion

303. At the Asian Games 2026, which medal did India's men's 10m air rifle team of Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil, Himanshu Dhillon and Parth Rakesh Mane win?

- (A) Gold
- (B) Silver
- (C) Bronze
- (D) Finished fourth

304. Who won India's individual silver medal in men's 10m air rifle at the Asian Games 2026?

- (A) Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil
- (B) Parth Rakesh Mane
- (C) Himanshu Dhillon
- (D) Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar

305. The coastal clean-up under 'Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar' 5.0 covered how many locations?

- (A) 131
- (B) 231
- (C) 331
- (D) 431

306. 'Vigyan Ki Baat', a monthly lecture series showcasing India's autonomous scientific institutions, was launched by which body?

- (A) Department of Biotechnology
- (B) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- (C) Department of Science & Technology
- (D) Ministry of Earth Sciences

307. The proceeds of the PM Mementos e-Auction go to which programme?

- (A) Swachh Bharat Kosh
- (B) Namami Gange Programme
- (C) PM CARES Fund
- (D) National Defence Fund

308. The PM Mementos e-Auction is organised by the Ministry of Culture through which institution?

- (A) Lalit Kala Akademi
- (B) National Museum, New Delhi
- (C) National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi
- (D) Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

309. Bank unions have called strikes in September–October 2026 mainly over which demand that remains pending?

- (A) Withdrawal of the Performance Linked Incentive scheme
- (B) Implementation of five-day banking
- (C) Restoration of the Old Pension Scheme
- (D) Merger of Regional Rural Banks

310. In which year were the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of every month declared holidays for Public Sector Banks?

- (A) 2012
- (B) 2015
- (C) 2019
- (D) 2020

311. What did the Ministry of Mines launch at the National Seminar on India's Critical Minerals Recycling Ecosystem and Circular Economy on 21 September 2026?

- (A) A critical minerals trading exchange
- (B) Concept Paper on Critical Mineral Recycling Ecosystem
- (C) New E-Waste (Management) Rules
- (D) A list of new critical mineral blocks for auction

312. The Ministry of Mines organised the national seminar on critical minerals recycling in collaboration with which body?

- (A) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- (B) Materials Recycling Association of India
- (C) Confederation of Indian Industry
- (D) Indian Bureau of Mines

313. Under the Nal Jal Mitra programme of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0, how long is the Short-Term Training course for new entrants?

- (A) 120 hours
- (B) 240 hours
- (C) 360 hours
- (D) 510 hours

314. 'Sujalam Shakti', discussed under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0, is a women-led initiative for what purpose?

- (A) Village-level water quality testing and disinfection
- (B) Building rainwater harvesting structures
- (C) Running village solar pumps
- (D) Collecting water tariffs

315. The I-STEM portal for sharing scientific research facilities was launched by the Prime Minister in which month and year?

- (A) January 2018
- (B) January 2020
- (C) August 2021
- (D) January 2023

316. The I-STEM portal was conceived and is supported by which office?

- (A) NITI Aayog
- (B) Department of Science & Technology
- (C) Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser
- (D) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

317. Ayurveda Day is now observed in India every year on which date?

- (A) 21 June
- (B) 23 September
- (C) 7 April
- (D) 1 July

318. What is the theme of the 11th Ayurveda Day, observed on 23 September 2026?

- (A) Ayurveda for People and Planet
- (B) Ayurveda for One Health
- (C) Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow
- (D) Ayurveda for Every Home

319. Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) was launched on which date?

- (A) 15 August 2018
- (B) 23 September 2018
- (C) 2 October 2018
- (D) 1 April 2019

320. What is the maximum annual cashless hospitalisation cover per family under AB PM-JAY?

- (A) ₹1 lakh
- (B) ₹2 lakh
- (C) ₹5 lakh
- (D) ₹10 lakh

321. SEMICON India 2026 was held at which venue?

- (A) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- (B) Yashobhoomi, New Delhi
- (C) Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar
- (D) BIEC, Bengaluru

322. Semicon 2.0, approved by the Union Cabinet in July 2026, has an outlay of how much?

- (A) ₹76,000 crore
- (B) ₹1,00,000 crore
- (C) ₹1,27,500 crore
- (D) ₹1,64,000 crore

323. Which team won India's first gold medal of the Asian Games 2026?

- (A) Men's hockey team
- (B) Women's cricket team
- (C) Men's cricket team
- (D) Women's kabaddi team

324. Suchika Tariyal won India's first-ever Asian Games medal in which sport?

- (A) Judo
- (B) Mixed martial arts
- (C) Taekwondo
- (D) Wushu

325. What is the theme of the 9th India International Water Week 2026?

- (A) Water for Sustainable Development
- (B) Climate Resilient Water Management
- (C) Water Security for Peace
- (D) Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari

- 326. Which framework did Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan launch at the inauguration of India International Water Week 2026?**
- (A) National Water Policy 2026 (B) Sustainable Urban River Management (SURM) Framework
(C) Atal Bhujal Framework (D) Namami Gange 3.0
- 327. Which body released the Telecom Consumer Protection (Thirteenth Amendment) Regulations, 2026 on 22 September 2026?**
- (A) Department of Telecommunications (B) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
(C) Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (D) Ministry of Electronics and IT
- 328. TRAI's Thirteenth Amendment of 2026 mandates special tariff vouchers of what kind?**
- (A) Data-only vouchers with unlimited validity (B) Voice-and-SMS-only vouchers for validities of 30 days and less
(C) Free roaming vouchers for all users (D) International calling vouchers
- 329. On 22 September 2026, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said which awards will be held at the country's best tourist destinations?**
- (A) Padma Awards (B) National Film Awards
(C) Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (D) National Sports Awards
- 330. Ekta Nagar, cited by the Minister as a destination for the National Film Awards, is home to which landmark?**
- (A) Sabarmati Ashram (B) Statue of Unity
(C) Rani ki Vav (D) Somnath Temple
- 331. The India Cine Hub, a single-window portal for film-shooting permits, is managed by which organisation?**
- (A) Central Board of Film Certification (B) National Film Development Corporation
(C) Film and Television Institute of India (D) Prasar Bharati
- 332. Which film city is certified by Guinness World Records as the world's largest film studio complex?**
- (A) Film City, Mumbai (B) Ramoji Film City, Hyderabad
(C) Noida Film City (D) Prayag Film City, Kolkata
- 333. Who received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award at the 72nd National Film Awards?**
- (A) Mammooty (B) Anant Nag
(C) Sanjay Mishra (D) Randeep Hooda
- 334. Where was the 72nd National Film Awards ceremony held?**
- (A) New Delhi (B) Mumbai
(C) Ekta Nagar, Kevadia (D) Gandhinagar

335. Exercise Veer Guardian 2026 concluded at which Indian Air Force station?

- (A) Air Force Station Gwalior
- (B) Air Force Station Jodhpur
- (C) Air Force Station Kalaikunda
- (D) Air Force Station Sulur

336. The Indian Air Force conducted Exercise Veer Guardian 2026 with the air force of which country?

- (A) Republic of Korea
- (B) Australia
- (C) Japan
- (D) France

337. Who co-chaired the Seventh High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-India Energy Dialogue along with OPEC Secretary General Haitham Al Ghais?

- (A) Piyush Goyal
- (B) Hardeep Singh Puri
- (C) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (D) Pralhad Joshi

338. The Eighth High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-India Energy Dialogue will be held in which city?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Riyadh
- (C) Vienna
- (D) Abu Dhabi

339. What does NAMASTE stand for in the context of the sanitation workers scheme?

- (A) National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem
- (B) National Mission for Advanced Sanitation and Technology
- (C) National Agency for Municipal Sanitation and Training Enterprise
- (D) National Authority for Mechanized Sewerage and Treatment

340. How many sewer and septic tank workers have been validated under the NAMASTE Scheme?

- (A) 58,412
- (B) 90,186
- (C) 1,24,530
- (D) 2,51,756

341. What is the theme of the Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 campaign?

- (A) Swachhata Mein Sahbhag, Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat
- (B) Sampoorana Swachhata
- (C) Swabhav Swachhata, Sanskaar Swachhata
- (D) Swachh Bharat, Swasth Bharat

342. Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 is jointly organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and which other body?

- (A) Department of Rural Development
- (B) Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti
- (C) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (D) Department of Health and Family Welfare

343. On which zone of Indian Railways was KAVACH Version 4.0 commissioned for the first time?

- (A) Northern Railway
- (B) South Central Railway
- (C) Western Railway
- (D) East Coast Railway

344. How many route kilometres of the Malkajgiri-Kamareddi section were upgraded from KAVACH Version 3.2 to Version 4.0?

- (A) 108 route kilometres
- (B) 208 route kilometres
- (C) 1,465 route kilometres
- (D) 512 route kilometres

345. What is the annual health cover available to a beneficiary under Ayushman Bharat, as cited by the Prime Minister on its eighth anniversary?

- (A) Rs 1 lakh
- (B) Rs 3 lakh
- (C) Rs 5 lakh
- (D) Rs 10 lakh

346. How many visits have Ayushman Arogya Mandirs recorded, according to the Prime Minister's message?

- (A) Over 100 crore
- (B) Over 300 crore
- (C) Over 500 crore
- (D) Over 700 crore

347. Who moderated the panel discussion 'Industry Associations Advancing India's National Agenda' at SEMICON India 2026?

- (A) The Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog
- (B) Amitesh Kumar Sinha, CEO of the India Semiconductor Mission
- (C) The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India
- (D) The Chairman of ISRO

348. How many exhibitors took part in SEMICON India 2026?

- (A) More than 400
- (B) More than 600
- (C) More than 800
- (D) More than 1,000

349. How many digits does an IMEI number contain?

- (A) Ten digits
- (B) Twelve digits
- (C) Fifteen digits
- (D) Eighteen digits

350. Which body oversees the global allocation of the Type Allocation Code used in IMEI numbers?

- (A) GSMA
- (B) TRAI
- (C) Department of Telecommunications
- (D) International Telecommunication Union

351. At which event was Prasara Bharati's WAVES OTT platform launched?

- (A) The 55th International Film Festival of India in Goa
- (B) The first WAVES Summit in Mumbai
- (C) The India International Trade Fair in New Delhi
- (D) The Kolkata International Film Festival

352. When was MyWAVES launched within the WAVES OTT platform?

- (A) 20 November 2024
- (B) 1 May 2025
- (C) 23 March 2026
- (D) 21 July 2026

353. Which department organises the Special Campaign in which the Ministry of Home Affairs is taking part?

- (A) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- (B) Department of Personnel and Training
- (C) Cabinet Secretariat
- (D) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

354. When does the implementation phase of Special Campaign 6 run?

- (A) 15 September to 30 September 2026
- (B) 1 October to 15 October 2026
- (C) 2 October to 31 October 2026
- (D) 1 November to 30 November 2026

355. What is the full form of the REWARD programme under which the NRAA held its technical committee meeting?

- (A) Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development
- (B) Renewing Water Resources for Agriculture and Rural Development
- (C) Restoring Ecology, Water and Rainfed Drylands
- (D) Rural Employment through Watershed and Rainfed Development

356. Who presided over the National Level Technical Committee meeting held under the REWARD programme?

- (A) The Deputy Director General (NRM) of ICAR
- (B) Dr Chandra Shekhar Kumar, CEO of the NRAA
- (C) The Joint Secretary (Watershed Management), Department of Land Resources
- (D) The Commissioner of the Watershed Development Department, Karnataka

357. SLINEX-26, which concluded at Visakhapatnam, is a bilateral maritime exercise between India and which country?

- (A) Bangladesh
- (B) Sri Lanka
- (C) Maldives
- (D) Indonesia

358. Which edition of SLINEX was held in September 2026?

- (A) 11th
- (B) 12th
- (C) 13th
- (D) 14th

359. Who became India's first-ever Asian Games medallist in soft tennis?

- (A) Jay Meena
- (B) Mirabai Chanu
- (C) Raiza Dhillon
- (D) Maheshwari Chauhan

360. Mirabai Chanu won a silver medal in which event?

- (A) Women's 45 kg weightlifting
- (B) Women's 49 kg weightlifting
- (C) Women's 55 kg weightlifting
- (D) Women's skeet individual

361. How much support has the Technology Development Board approved for Ubifly Technologies under the RDI Fund?

- (A) Rs 150 crore
- (B) Rs 285 crore
- (C) Rs 570 crore
- (D) Rs 1,000 crore

362. The e200X being developed by Ubifly Technologies is which kind of aircraft?

- (A) A two-seater trainer aircraft powered by a piston engine
- (B) A three-seater zero-emission advanced air mobility aircraft
- (C) An unmanned cargo drone with no pilot on board
- (D) A regional turboprop airliner for sixty passengers

363. MY Bharat, which has crossed 3 crore registered youth, is a platform of which ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Education
- (B) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- (C) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (D) Ministry of Women and Child Development

364. On which date was the MY Bharat platform launched by the Prime Minister?

- (A) 12 January 2023
- (B) 15 August 2023
- (C) 31 October 2023
- (D) 26 January 2024

365. Who graced the 75th annual convocation ceremony of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda?

- (A) The Prime Minister
- (B) The President of India
- (C) The Vice-President
- (D) The Union Education Minister

366. The Maharaja Sayajirao University, whose 75th convocation was held in September 2026, is located in which city?

- (A) Ahmedabad
- (B) Surat
- (C) Vadodara
- (D) Rajkot

367. Under the DDU-GKY 2.0 framework, what is the minimum placement duration for a trained candidate?

- (A) Three months
- (B) Six months
- (C) Nine months
- (D) Twelve months

368. DDU-GKY was launched on which date and under which mission?

- (A) 25 September 2014, under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission
- (B) 25 September 2015, under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana
- (C) 2 October 2014, under MGNREGA
- (D) 15 August 2016, under the Skill India Mission

369. PBSHABD, the free news feed service in the news, belongs to which organisation?

- (A) Press Trust of India
- (B) Prasar Bharati
- (C) Press Information Bureau
- (D) Indian Institute of Mass Communication

370. Up to which date has free access to PBSHABD been assured?

- (A) March 2025
- (B) March 2026
- (C) March 2027
- (D) March 2030

371. Special Campaign 6.0, the drive on cleanliness and disposal of pendency, has been launched by which department?

- (A) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- (B) Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
- (C) Department of Personnel and Training
- (D) Department of Expenditure

372. What are the dates of the implementation phase of Special Campaign 6.0?

- (A) 16 to 30 September 2026
- (B) 2 to 31 October 2026
- (C) 1 to 30 November 2026
- (D) 2 to 31 October 2025

373. Naorem Roshibina Devi, congratulated by the Prime Minister, won a silver medal in which event?

- (A) Women's Sanda 60kg
- (B) Women's boxing 60kg
- (C) Women's judo 63kg
- (D) Women's double sculls

374. According to the Prime Minister's message, Naorem Roshibina Devi has won medals at how many consecutive Asian Games?

- (A) Two
- (B) Three
- (C) Four
- (D) Five

375. The Basic Customs Duty on crude sunflower oil has been reduced to which level?

- (A) 5%
- (B) Nil
- (C) 7.5%
- (D) 10%

376. What import duty differential between crude and refined edible oils has the government maintained?

- (A) 8.25%
- (B) 13.75%
- (C) 19.25%
- (D) 22.50%

377. India's two global health engagements were held on the sidelines of which session of the United Nations General Assembly?

- (A) 79th
- (B) 80th
- (C) 81st
- (D) 82nd

378. How many teleconsultations has e-Sanjeevani facilitated, according to India's statement at UNGA81?

- (A) 297 million
- (B) 397 million
- (C) 497 million
- (D) 597 million

379. How much support has the Technology Development Board agreed to give GalaxEye under the RDI Fund?

- (A) Rs 36.48 crore
- (B) Rs 63.84 crore
- (C) Rs 84.63 crore
- (D) Rs 127.50 crore

380. What is the total approved cost of the GalaxEye multisensor satellite project?

- (A) Rs 147.69 crore
- (B) Rs 247.69 crore
- (C) Rs 347.69 crore
- (D) Rs 447.69 crore

381. INS Trishul has arrived at Toulon for which edition of Exercise VARUNA?

- (A) 22nd
- (B) 23rd
- (C) 24th
- (D) 25th

382. Exercise VARUNA is a bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and the navy of which country?

- (A) France
- (B) United Kingdom
- (C) United States of America
- (D) Russia

383. Under which DRDO scheme was the first high-value deep tech project agreement with a start-up signed for a 20 mK dilution refrigerator?

- (A) Technology Development Fund
- (B) Innovations for Defence Excellence
- (C) Make-II Procedure
- (D) Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme

384. Zero mK India Private Limited, the start-up that will develop the dilution refrigerator with DRDO, is based in which state?

- (A) Gujarat
- (B) Rajasthan
- (C) Telangana
- (D) Kerala

385. What does the E3 in the BioE3 framework, under which the PLA biodegradable plastic venture was launched, stand for?

- (A) Energy, Ecology and Efficiency
- (B) Economy, Environment and Employment
- (C) Education, Enterprise and Export
- (D) Ethanol, Enzymes and Engineering

386. The BioE3-supported pilot scale facility for PLA and co-polymers will be set up at Kumbhi in which state?

- (A) Uttar Pradesh
- (B) Maharashtra
- (C) Karnataka
- (D) Bihar

387. Where were the 14th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers Meeting and the 23rd ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultation held?

- (A) Jakarta, Indonesia
- (B) Manila, Philippines
- (C) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- (D) Hanoi, Vietnam

388. What was the value of India-ASEAN bilateral trade in 2025-26, as stated at the consultation?

- (A) USD 98.24 billion
- (B) USD 110.60 billion
- (C) USD 128.38 billion
- (D) USD 152.75 billion

389. Seema won a bronze medal for India at the Asian Games in which event?

- (A) Women's marathon
- (B) Women's 10,000m
- (C) Women's 3000m steeplechase
- (D) Women's 800m

390. Parinaaz Dhalwal and Anantjeet Singh Naruka won a bronze medal in which event, described as India's first ever medal in it at the Asian Games?

- (A) Trap mixed team
- (B) Air rifle mixed team
- (C) Skeet mixed team
- (D) Air pistol mixed team

391. Which medal did India's mixed 4x400m relay team win at the Asian Games, as noted in the Prime Minister's message of 25 September 2026?

- (A) Gold
- (B) Silver
- (C) Bronze
- (D) The team finished fourth and missed the podium

392. How many athletes make up a team in the mixed 4x400m relay, and how is the team composed?

- (A) Two athletes, one man and one woman
- (B) Three athletes, two men and one woman
- (C) Four athletes, two men and two women
- (D) Six athletes, three men and three women

393. How many rural youth are expected to begin skill training under DDU-GKY 2.0 in October 2026?

- (A) About 45,000
- (B) About 70,000
- (C) About 1.2 lakh
- (D) About 5.6 lakh

394. Which ministry implements the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya - Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)?

- (A) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (B) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- (C) Ministry of Rural Development
- (D) Ministry of Education

395. Which body launched the Digital Connectivity Rating (DCR) Platform?

- (A) Department of Telecommunications
- (B) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- (C) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
- (D) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

396. The Digital Connectivity Rating Platform gives effect to the regulations on rating of properties for digital connectivity framed in which year?

- (A) 2018
- (B) 2020
- (C) 2022
- (D) 2024

397. What is the total financial outlay of the PLI scheme for bulk drugs?

- (A) Rs 3,420 crore
- (B) Rs 6,940 crore
- (C) Rs 15,000 crore
- (D) Rs 17,275 crore

398. How many unique medical devices have gone into production under the PLI scheme for medical devices?

- (A) 28
- (B) 39
- (C) 48
- (D) 57

399. How many countries are represented among the international delegates at the fourth edition of IN-STEP?

- (A) 16
- (B) 22
- (C) 25
- (D) 38

400. IN-STEP is organised jointly by the Ministry of External Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and which other body?

- (A) NITI Aayog
- (B) National Security Council Secretariat
- (C) Indian Council of World Affairs
- (D) Ministry of Home Affairs

401. The circumgalactic medium (CGM) referred to in the study is best described as

- (A) The dense core of a galaxy where stars are packed together
- (B) The faint envelope of gas surrounding a galaxy beyond its disc
- (C) The ring of dust that forms the spiral arms of a galaxy
- (D) The region inside the event horizon of a black hole

402. Which Indian institute, along with Arizona State University, carried out the study on black hole jets and star formation?

- (A) Indian Institute of Astrophysics
- (B) Raman Research Institute
- (C) Physical Research Laboratory
- (D) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

403. What distance will the new tri-weekly Amrit Bharat Express between Bhuj and Barauni cover?

- (A) 1,532 km
- (B) 2,532 km
- (C) 3,252 km
- (D) 2,352 km

404. The Virangana Lakshmibai Jhansi-Agra Cantt Express has been extended up to which station?

- (A) Gwalior
- (B) Mathura
- (C) Bharatpur
- (D) Hathras

405. Where was the 11th meeting of the National Traders' Welfare Board held?

- (A) Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi
- (B) Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi
- (C) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
- (D) Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

406. How many compliances has the Jan Vishwas Act rationalised, as stated at the meeting?

- (A) 4,000
- (B) 14,000
- (C) 40,000
- (D) 400,000

407. How much does the Government of India plan to borrow from the market in the second half of FY 2026-27?

- (A) Rs 6,86,000 crore
- (B) Rs 7,86,000 crore
- (C) Rs 8,86,000 crore
- (D) Rs 9,86,000 crore

408. Through how many weekly auctions will the second-half market borrowing be completed?

- (A) 13
- (B) 19
- (C) 23
- (D) 26

409. Which Indian Coast Guard ship sailed from Chennai to Perth for the QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission?

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| (A) ICGS Samarth | (B) ICGS Sarthak |
| (C) ICGS Shaunak | (D) ICGS Vikram |

410. How many Sea Riders embarked on the Indian Coast Guard ship for the QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission?

- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| (A) Four | (B) Six |
| (C) Eight | (D) Ten |

411. How many sight-restoring surgeries were performed at the mega eye camp held at Tangdhar under Operation Drishti?

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| (A) 120 | (B) 180 |
| (C) 220 | (D) 320 |

412. The mega eye surgical camp at Tangdhar under Operation Drishti was held in which district of Jammu and Kashmir?

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| (A) Baramulla | (B) Kupwara |
| (C) Poonch | (D) Rajouri |

413. WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 is which edition of the WorldSkills Competition?

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (A) 46th | (B) 47th |
| (C) 48th | (D) 49th |

414. How many competitors are there in India's contingent at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026?

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| (A) 14 | (B) 63 |
| (C) 70 | (D) 84 |

Answer key

1. **B** **Bishkek** – The release from the Prime Minister's Office says that the 26th meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation was held at Bishkek, the capital of the Kyrgyz Republic, and that the Prime Minister took part in it on 1 Septemb...
2. **B** **Security, Connectivity and Opportunity** – In his statement at Bishkek the Prime Minister recalled that at the previous summit he had set out three main pillars of India's thinking on the grouping, and that their initials spell the organisation's own short name: S for Security, C for Connectivity and...
3. **C** **7.8 per cent** – Real GDP, that is GDP at constant prices, is estimated at ₹81.36 lakh crore for the first quarter of 2026-27, and that level represents growth of 7.8 per cent.
4. **B** **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** – The correct answer is the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, usually shortened to MoSPI.
5. **A** **Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma** – The Ministry of Defence release says that she became the first woman officer outside the medical stream in the Indian defence forces to attain the rank of Air Vice Marshal or an equivalent rank, and that on 1 September 2026 she assumed the appointment of Assi...
6. **B** **Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Education)** – The correct answer is Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Education), a post at Air Headquarters.
7. **C** **9th** – The correct answer is the 9th Foundation Day, observed as IPPB Day 2026.
8. **A** **DakPay Sound Box** – The release describes it as a launch for merchants, designed to simplify and strengthen the acceptance of everyday digital payments at their end.
9. **B** **100** – The scheme was designed to speed up agricultural development in districts identified on three counts: low agricultural productivity, low cropping intensity and low disbursement of agricultural credit.
10. **C** **38.85** – The average score of the 100 districts across the six objectives of the scheme stood at 22.54 in April 2026 and reached 38.85 in July 2026.
11. **B** **Moradabad Division** – Indian Railways approved Kavach Version 4.0 on the sections of this division that were still without the system, covering 712 route kilometres at a total cost of ₹170 crore.
12. **A** **An indigenous Automatic Train Protection system** – The correct answer is that Kavach is an indigenous Automatic Train Protection system, often shortened to ATP.
13. **C** **Fifth** – The correct answer is the fifth edition, written in official papers as SSSS v.5.0.
14. **B** **Ministry of Earth Sciences** – The campaign is spearheaded by that ministry, and the minister who launched it, Dr Jitendra Singh, holds Earth Sciences as Minister of State with Independent Charge.
15. **C** **₹1 lakh crore** – The release refers throughout to the ₹1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation Fund, and it is the size of that corpus that makes the Minister's appeal for outreach necessary: thousands of applications are arriving, some from applicants who do not ap...
16. **B** **Technology Development Board** – The correct answer is the Technology Development Board, usually shortened to TDB, whose 30th Foundation Day was the occasion for the address.
17. **C** **2022-23** – The backgrounder states that the updated series of annual and quarterly GDP estimates, released on 31 August 2026, takes 2022-23 as its base year.
18. **A** **Output and intermediate consumption** – Double deflation is a production-side technique: gross output is deflated with one price index and intermediate consumption with another, and real Gross Value Added is what remains after subtracting the second from the first.

19.	B	A- – The agency moved both the long-term foreign currency issuer rating and the long-term local currency issuer rating up by exactly one notch, from BBB+ to A-, and kept the outlook at stable.
20.	D	4.4 per cent – JCR noted that the Centre's fiscal deficit came down from 4.7 per cent in FY25 to 4.4 per cent in FY26, and that this happened while capital spending was kept high, with infrastructure investment given particular weight.
21.	C	USD 54.02 billion – That is the figure twenty IFSC Banking Units had sanctioned under the Reserve Bank's special swap facility for FCNR(B) deposits as on 31 August 2026, and about USD 52.82 billion of it had already been disbursed.
22.	B	The IFSCA Act, 2019 – The release describes IFSCA as the unified regulatory authority set up by the Government of India under an Act of Parliament for the development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions in India's International Finan...
23.	C	180 days – The Rules were notified by the Department of Consumer Affairs on 27 August 2026 and published in the Official Gazette on 29 August 2026, and the release states that they take effect 180 days from the date of that publication.
24.	A	CSIR-National Physical Laboratory – It is India's National Metrology Institute, mandated to set up primary national standards and to disseminate them.
25.	C	Rs 15 lakh – The release states that every awardee receives three things: a statuette, a certificate and award money of Rs 15 lakh.
26.	D	Polar Adventure – The award has exactly four categories and that is not one of them.
27.	B	Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru – The 16th edition of Aero India is scheduled there from 8 to 12 February 2027, in the state of Karnataka, and is organised by the Department of Defence Production under the Ministry of Defence.
28.	A	Department of Defence Production – It organises Aero India under the Ministry of Defence, which fits the show's purpose of displaying India's capability in aerospace and defence manufacturing and drawing in partnerships, investment and exports.
29.	B	New Delhi – The three-day meeting was held there from 1 to 3 September 2026, hosted by the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, which functions under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade in the Ministry of Commerce...
30.	B	The Updated Operational Guidelines – The release names their adoption as a major outcome of the deliberations, and explains their purpose: to guide result-oriented cooperation among the member offices, to promote cross-border innovation, and to strengthen joint efforts in shaping global intellec...
31.	B	IBCA and the Asian Development Bank – The two formalised their partnership through an MoU at the event, marking a step towards stronger collaboration in landscape conservation, sustainable development, capacity building, knowledge exchange and nature-positive financing initiatives.
32.	B	Bhupender Yadav, Union Environment Minister – The correct answer is Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
33.	B	Belgium – The joint statement records that Bart De Wever, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Belgium, was on an official visit to India at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
34.	A	1947 – The two leaders noted that Belgium was among the first European countries to establish diplomatic ties with India, and the statement fixes that year as 1947.

35.	C	The Raksha Mantri – The release states plainly that he put out the RAKSHA document on defence diplomacy in New Delhi, and that the framework sets down India's strategic roadmap and vision for defence partnerships across the world for the next 10 years.
36.	C	The next 10 years – The release calls RAKSHA a comprehensive framework that carries India's strategic roadmap and vision for global defence partnerships over the coming decade, and it repeats that the document gives a clear and actionable vision for the next ten years.
37.	C	4.07 million tonnes – The review records that NMDC mined that quantity of iron ore in August 2026, which is growth of 20.8 per cent over the same month a year earlier.
38.	B	NMDC – The review names the Top 7 producers as SAIL, RINL, NSL, the TSL Group, AM/NS, JSL (JSPL) and the JSW Group.
39.	B	86 – The release calls the response encouraging and puts the number of nominations received from across the country at that figure.
40.	C	Survival rate of plantations – The release states that the evaluation used a comprehensive assessment framework in which the survival rate carried the highest weightage.
41.	A	Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences, Bengaluru – The correct answer is the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences, Bengaluru, an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology.
42.	B	By adding one per cent of a suitable co-solvent – The correct answer is by adding one per cent of a suitable co-solvent.
43.	B	15 August 2020 – The release states that the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan on that date to combat the demand for drugs in the country, which is why the campaign is now marking its sixth anniversary with a National Mas...
44.	D	More than 34.56 crore – That is the total reach of the campaign as stated in the release.
45.	A	Community, Corporate Social Responsibility and Cost – The backgrounder states that the initiative is guided by the 3Cs and spells them out in exactly those words.
46.	C	More than 1.58 crore – The backgrounder gives a running series of figures, and each belongs to a different date, which is where candidates slip.
47.	B	National Cooperative Development Corporation – The backgrounder names it as the implementing agency, supported by coordination at the national, state and district levels through an Inter-Ministerial Committee, a National Level Coordination Committee, and State and District Cooperative Development Committee...
48.	B	313 – The backgrounder reports that as of July 2026 godown construction had been completed in that many PACS across the country, creating more than 1.80 lakh metric tonnes of storage capacity.
49.	B	GSLV-F17 – The release records that ISRO carried out the successful launch of GSLV-F17 carrying EOS-05, and that the Prime Minister praised the space agency for the achievement.
50.	C	Geosynchronous orbit – The distinction claimed for EOS-05 in this release is precisely this: it is India's first-ever imaging satellite from Geosynchronous orbit.
51.	B	Paris – The release states that the virtual bilateral meeting between Dr Jitendra Singh and Prof Philippe Baptiste took place ahead of the International Space Summit, which is scheduled in Paris on 9 and 10 September 2026.
52.	C	The Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space – The correct answer is the Chairman of ISRO, who is also Secretary of the Department of Space.

53.	B	Turin, Italy – The release records that Indian student delegates delivered their best-ever performance at the 19th International Earth Science Olympiad, held under the aegis of the International Geoscience Organisation in Turin, Italy, from 20 to 27 August 2026.
54.	B	4 gold, 3 silver, 2 bronze – The correct answer is four gold, three silver and two bronze, which adds up to the nine medals that made this India's highest-ever haul at the competition.
55.	B	108 athletes from 19 countries – The release records that the Union Home Minister extended his best wishes to the 108 athletes from 19 countries participating in the World Archery Para Series, and that the participating nations include Bhutan, the United Kingdom, China, Bangladesh, France, G...
56.	C	Ahmedabad – Speaking at the inauguration, the Union Home Minister said that the 2030 Commonwealth Games will mark the centenary edition of those Games, and that it is a matter of great joy that Ahmedabad will host the event.
57.	B	1.871 million tonnes – The release states that SAIL achieved double digit year-on-year growth in overall sales volumes in August 2026, with total sales at this level, registering a rise of 13 per cent over the corresponding period last year.
58.	B	Rs 870 crore – The release records that during August 2026 SAIL further strengthened its financial position by reducing borrowings by this amount from the level of 31.03.2026.
59.	B	2 billion people – Addressing the India-Belgium High-Level Dialogue in Mumbai, the Commerce and Industry Minister said the India-EU Free Trade Agreement brings together 2 billion people, representing a quarter of global GDP, a third of world trade and a market of USD 24 trillio...
60.	B	The second-largest – Shri Goyal said that Belgium stands at the gateway of the opportunity created by the India-EU FTA, and noted that the Port of Antwerp-Bruges is Europe's second-largest seaport.
61.	B	Puga Valley, Ladakh – The backgrounder records that the ONGC Energy Centre commissioned the country's first two geothermal wells there in July 2026.
62.	B	381 – The backgrounder states that the Geological Survey of India has mapped 381 hot springs and identified 10 geothermal provinces across the country, and that India's theoretical geothermal prospect stands at nearly 10.6 GW, of which 42 sites have been recognised...
63.	C	2,306 – The release states that the coordinated efforts of forty ministries and departments culminated in the successful resolution of this many cases, and that the redressal rate works out to seventy-two per cent.
64.	B	7 July 2026 to 31 August 2026 – The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare started Special Campaign 3 on the earlier of those dates, for the timely and qualitative redressal of long-pending pension grievances, claims and issues, and the campaign concluded on the later one.
65.	B	82 – The release records that 82 teachers and educators were selected for the National Teachers Awards this year, and that they came from three departments.
66.	C	Department of School Education and Literacy – Of the 82 awardees, 48 came from that department, which is well over half the total and easily the largest block.
67.	A	Super Corridor-3 and Malviya Nagar Chauraha – The release describes the newly inaugurated Phase-I (Reach-II) as a stretch of about 11 km with 11 stations running from Super Corridor-3 to Malviya Nagar Chauraha, developed at an estimated cost of ₹2,850 crore.
68.	C	16 – The release states that with this expansion the Indore Metro network now comprises 16 operational stations covering approximately 17 km, at a cumulative project cost of about ₹4,370 crore.
69.	B	₹2.55 lakh crore – The backgrounder states that the scheme, approved on 5 May 2026 and implemented by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company, aims to facilitate an additional credit flow of up to

that amount, and that the scheme runs till 31 March 2027 or till guarantees...

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70. **D** **100 per cent** – The release separates the two levels of cover clearly: eligible MSMEs get a full guarantee, while eligible non-MSME borrowers get 90 per cent cover.
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71. **A** **₹8.23 crore** – The release records that the Authority sanctioned that amount in ABS proceeds to 27 State Biodiversity Boards and 5 Union Territory Biodiversity Councils, arising from access to biological resources of four vegetable crops.
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72. **B** **Madhya Pradesh** – The table in the release ranks the recipients, and Madhya Pradesh stands at the top, ahead of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat.
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73. **B** **₹37,500 crore** – The Ministry of Coal states that the Union Cabinet approved the scheme on 13 May 2026 with that total financial outlay, and the same figure appears at the start of the clarification issued about press reports on the scheme.
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74. **B** **Talcher Fertilisers Limited and NTPC Limited** – The Ministry said it had been informed that both companies had already submitted their applications through the online portal, and it used this fact to reject the claim that the scheme had received no takers.
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75. **B** **The Vice President of India** – The release records that he launched the India Valve Registry at India Valves 2026, a national academic meeting on valvular and structural heart disease held in Chennai.
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76. **A** **Transcatheter valve interventions** – The release describes the registry as a collaborative multicentre initiative for the systematic, secure and de-identified collection of real-world data on transcatheter valve interventions across India, with the aim of strengthening India-specific clinical ev...
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77. **B** **Dinamalar** – The release records that the Vice President released a commemorative postage stamp in Chennai marking the 75th year of Dinamalar, and that the function itself was held to mark the paper's 75th year of publication along with the release of the stamp.
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78. **B** **1951** – The Vice President noted in his address that Dinamalar was founded in that year with the resolve to serve as a touchstone of truth, and the same address places the paper in its 75th year of publication, which fits the founding year.
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79. **B** **Rs 11,639 crore** – The backgrounder states that the Vibrant Villages Programme is being carried out through two phases whose outlays together come to that figure, and that the two phases between them reach more than 2,616 villages along the international land border.
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80. **B** **Kibithoo, Anjaw district, Arunachal Pradesh** – The release records that VVP-I was launched there on 10 April 2023.
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81. **B** **Kolkata** – The release says the sixth edition opened at the CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology in Salt Lake, Kolkata, and runs on 6 and 7 September.
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82. **A** **Minerals, Medicine, Materials and Machines** – The release places this 4M framework at the heart of the conclave and explains that the four words represent the complementary strengths of the four CSIR laboratories hosting it.
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83. **B** **From Crisis to Recovery - Conserving India's Vultures** – Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav inaugurated the national workshop under this theme at Panchkula in Haryana, and the release uses the same phrase again at the close to describe the journey the country has made in vulture conservation through science...
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84. **B** **356** – The release records that the Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre at Pinjore housed that many vultures during 2025-26 and bred 35 chicks successfully in the same period.
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85. **B** **Chandigarh** – The release states that the 16th National Meet, organised by the National Biodiversity Authority, was inaugurated there and runs for two days, on 6 and 7 September.
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86.	C	The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 – The Union Minister referred to it as the foundation of the country's biodiversity governance and noted that two later measures have strengthened and streamlined it: the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023 and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2024.
87.	A	Dr Vinaya Prakash Singh – He is a 1988 batch officer of the Indian Postal Service and was declared elected unopposed, by acclamation, at the 14th APPU Congress held in Bangkok on 4 September 2026.
88.	C	Bangkok – The release describes the Asian-Pacific Postal Union as an inter-governmental organisation headquartered in Bangkok with 32 member countries, and it was in Bangkok that the 14th Congress met on 4 September 2026 and re-elected its Secretary-General.
89.	B	Bhagwat Prasad Makwana – The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment appointed him Chairperson of the Commission, and the release sets out his background: a Master's degree in Economics, long experience in social work for Scheduled Caste communities, earlier service as Vice-Chai...
90.	A	31 March 2028 – The release states that the appointments will be effective up to that date, which corresponds to the remaining tenure of the present Commission.
91.	A	Egypt – The Ministry of Defence said the Sarang Helicopter Display Team of the Indian Air Force had reached Egypt to take part in the second edition of the El Alamein International Airshow, which is held at El Alamein International Airport from 8 to 10 September 2026.
92.	C	Advanced Light Helicopter Dhruv – The release states that the Sarang team flies this helicopter, that it is designed and manufactured in India, and that the team's displays show off both the skill of the pilots and the capability of the country's indigenous aerospace industry.
93.	B	Surat – The release says the 89th edition was organised there with the theme 'Nasha Mukti Yuva for Viksit Bharat', led by Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Dr Mansukh Mandaviya together with Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi.
94.	A	Nasha Mukti Yuva for Viksit Bharat – The release names this theme for the 89th edition and links it to the Nasha Mukti Sankalp Abhiyan, under which the Union Minister, the Deputy Chief Minister and the participants together took the Nasha Mukti Pledge.
95.	B	Rs 1,10,000 crore – The Defence Acquisition Council, meeting under the chairmanship of the Raksha Mantri, gave Acceptance of Necessity to acquisition proposals of the three Services at an estimated cost of about that amount.
96.	C	The Raksha Mantri – The release states that the meeting was held under the chairmanship of Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, so the Defence Minister heads this council.
97.	C	6 October 2026 – The correct answer is 6 October 2026, the date of poll in the schedule annexed to the Commission's announcement.
98.	D	West Bengal – The Commission's list places Nandigram along with Rejinagar in West Bengal, both vacant because the sitting members resigned.
99.	B	Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow – The correct answer is Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow, announced at the curtain raiser held in New Delhi.
100.	C	Nagpur, Maharashtra – The correct answer is Nagpur, Maharashtra, named in the announcement as the place of the main celebration on 23 September 2026.
101.	B	130 cities – The correct answer is 130 cities, spread across 24 States and Union Territories.
102.	C	International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies – The correct answer is the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, on which the ministry held Swachh Vayu Diwas and gave away the fifth round of Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan awards.

103.	A	Chapel Hill, North Carolina – The correct answer is Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where the ministerial met on 1 and 2 September 2026.
104.	B	Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State – The correct answer is Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State, who holds charge as Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology and also for Commerce and Industry.
105.	B	Platform for Aggregating Clean Transport – The word that carries the meaning is aggregating, because the whole purpose of the platform is to pool the freight demand of shippers and logistics service providers so that it becomes large enough and visible enough to justify electric trucks on a corridor.
106.	A	From 201 vehicles to 826 vehicles – The correct answer is from 201 vehicles to 826 vehicles, a rise of more than four times in a single year, which is the figure NITI Aayog used to show that the electric freight market has begun to move.
107.	B	Goa Police – The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation presented the President's Colour to this force at Panaji, the capital of Goa, saying that after eight decades of distinguished service it now stands alongside the other police forces of the country that carr...
108.	C	1930 – The Home Minister said this number will become a strong shield against every kind of cyber fraud, and that the Goa Police has moved ahead of other States by putting an AI-based call agent on it.
109.	B	Raman Research Institute – The correct answer is the Raman Research Institute, an autonomous institution of the Department of Science and Technology, whose Quantum Information and Computing laboratory led the work.
110.	B	The abrupt vanishing of entanglement at a finite time, before decay is complete – The correct answer is the abrupt vanishing of entanglement at a finite time, before decay is complete.
111.	B	Mumbai – Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the seventh edition of the Global Fintech Fest there on 8 September 2026, and the festival continues in the same city until 11 September 2026.
112.	B	Agentic AI, tokenisation and quantum – The theme of this edition is Potential to Impact, and these three technologies are described as the foundations that are moving global finance towards autonomous, programmable and secure systems for inclusive finance.
113.	B	Hamari Anganwadi Hamari Jimmedari – This is the central theme of the nutrition month that begins on 9 September 2026 at the Rudraksh centre in Varanasi, and it calls upon every citizen to take shared ownership of the Anganwadi centre, described as part of the largest childcare network in the wo...
114.	C	Ministry of Women and Child Development – Mission Poshan 2.0 is the unified national nutrition mission of the country, brought together in the Union Budget of 2021-22 under that ministry, and it merges POSHAN Abhiyaan, Anganwadi Services or the Integrated Child Development Services, and the Scheme fo...
115.	B	Department of Telecommunications – The FRI is a telecom intelligence framework built by that department and offered to financial institutions through its Digital Intelligence Platform, and on 8 September 2026 it was reported to have prevented suspected cyber fraud of more than five thousand cr...
116.	B	Digital Intelligence Platform – The FRI is developed under this platform, which classifies mobile numbers as medium, high or very high risk and securely shares the result with banks, payment service providers, insurers, securities intermediaries and pension entities.
117.	B	1086.31 lakh hectares – The weekly progressive sowing report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, issued on 8 September 2026, gives this as the total area under kharif crops for the position as on 4 September 2026.

118.	C	Pulses, and jute and mesta – Pulses were sown on 117.13 lakh hectares against 115.30 lakh hectares a year earlier, and jute and mesta on 6.34 lakh hectares against 6.24 lakh hectares, so these are the only two groups of the report standing above last season.
119.	A	Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs – The framework launched by the Union Minister of Coal and Mines in New Delhi on 8 September 2026 was drafted by this institute and is meant to guide outcome-oriented corporate social responsibility spending for people living around coal mines.
120.	B	The Companies Act, 2013 – The launch described the coal sector document as the first sector-specific corporate social responsibility framework since statutory CSR came in under that Act, which is the legal anchor of the entire CSR system for Indian companies.
121.	B	Japan – Veer Guardian-2026 is a bilateral air exercise of the Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self Defence Force, and it is being held at Air Force Station Jodhpur from 9 September 2026 to 22 September 2026.
122.	C	Air Force Station Jodhpur – The Ministry of Defence has said that the Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self Defence Force are flying the Veer Guardian-2026 exercise at this station in Rajasthan, and the programme runs from 9 September 2026 to 22 September 2026.
123.	C	New Delhi – The first meeting of the Joint Defence Committee between India and Morocco took place in the Indian capital on 8 September 2026, and the Moroccan delegation was in India from 7 to 10 September 2026 for the purpose.
124.	B	The Raksha Mantri – A Memorandum of Understanding on defence cooperation was signed when Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh visited Morocco in September 2025, and the Joint Defence Committee is the institutional mechanism established through that MoU.
125.	B	503 – At the send-off ceremony in New Delhi on 8 September 2026, the Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports said that a contingent of this size, made up of athletes together with support staff, is going to the Asian Games in Japan.
126.	C	Sahdev Yadav – At the send-off he unveiled the official jersey of the contingent along with three other office bearers, and the release identifies him as the Chef de Mission, the person who leads the contingent at the Games themselves.
127.	A	Rs 10,021 crore – The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved five projects of the Ministry of Railways at this cost, spread over 17 districts of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana, and adding about 540 km to the network.
128.	B	27 MTPA – The correct answer is 27 MTPA, that is 27 million tonnes per annum.
129.	A	Mr Anura Kumara Dissanayake – The correct answer is Mr Anura Kumara Dissanayake, the President of Sri Lanka, on whom the Raksha Mantri called in Colombo.
130.	B	L70 air defence guns of the Sri Lankan Air Force – The correct answer is the L70 air defence guns of the Sri Lankan Air Force.
131.	C	Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited – The correct answer is Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited, a defence public sector undertaking, which designed, engineered and constructed the vessel at its Rishi Bankim Shipyard in Kolkata for the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research.
132.	B	ORV Sagar Kanya – That vessel is 43 years old and was procured from Germany in 1983, and the new ship will take over its work step by step.
133.	B	Global Fintech Fest 2026 – The correct answer is the Global Fintech Fest 2026, where the Unique Identification Authority of India released both the software development kit and the sandbox for Aadhaar face authentication.

134.	C	2021, over 500 crore transactions – UIDAI engineered the face authentication solution in India and launched it in that year, and it has since been adopted by nearly 200 entities, among them central ministries and departments, state governments, banks, non-banking financial companies, telecom op...
135.	A	G20 Innovation Ministerial at Chapel Hill, North Carolina – The correct answer is the G20 Innovation Ministerial at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, which was held in the United States under its presidency of the G20.
136.	B	10 per cent – That is the target India has set for its contribution to global 6G standards and patents, and it sits behind the larger ambition of moving the country from being an adopter of technology to being a setter of standards, an emphasis credited to the Minister of...
137.	C	9th – It was co-chaired by the Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, and the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture of the Philippines, Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, and it reaffirmed the shared commitment of India and the group...
138.	B	45 delegates from 11 ASEAN member states – The working group met a day before the ministerial and was co-chaired by India and the Philippines, with Dr M.L. Jat, Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Director General of ICAR, leading the Indian delegation.
139.	C	Varanasi – The correct answer is Varanasi, where the Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the campaign at the Rudraksh International Cooperation and Convention Centre.
140.	A	Hamari Anganwadi, Hamari Jimmedari – The correct answer is Hamari Anganwadi, Hamari Jimmedari, which places the responsibility for the Anganwadi Centre on the community itself.
141.	A	Shri Bhagwat Prasad Makwana – The correct answer is Shri Bhagwat Prasad Makwana, who took charge as Chairperson of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis on that date, having been appointed by the Government of India a few days earlier.
142.	B	The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 – The correct answer is the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013.
143.	B	Paris – The release states that the Prime Minister addressed the International Space Summit held in Paris, France, and that he joined the gathering through video conference.
144.	B	2035 – While outlining the road map for the country, the Prime Minister announced plans to establish an indigenous space station by 2035 and to send an astronaut to the Moon by 2040.
145.	C	New Delhi – The release opens by saying that the Ninth ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry was held on 9 September 2026 in New Delhi, India, and it closes with the ministers thanking the Government of India for the hospitality and the arrangements...
146.	B	2026-2030 – The meeting looked forward to the adoption and implementation of the medium-term plan of action for cooperation in agriculture and forestry for 2026-2030, and the release sets out its four mutually reinforcing areas, namely policy dialogue with food security,...
147.	B	Malaysia – The release states that INS Mysore arrived at Lumut, Malaysia, to take part in the fourth edition of the bilateral maritime exercise Samudra Laksamana between the Indian Navy and the Royal Malaysian Navy, and it adds that the ship and her crew were welcomed b...
148.	C	Fourth – The release says plainly that INS Mysore arrived at Lumut to participate in the fourth edition of the bilateral maritime exercise Samudra Laksamana held between the Indian Navy and the Royal Malaysian Navy.
149.	B	1 January 2027 – The release says in its headline points, and repeats at the very end, that the new rules shall come into force from January 1, 2027, which gives e-commerce entities a clear runway before compliance becomes mandatory.

150.	B	30 days – The amended rules provide that where a price reduction is announced, both the reduced price and the prior price shall be displayed, and they define the prior price as the lowest price at which the goods or services were offered during the thirty days precedin...
151.	C	Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises 2025 – The correct answer is the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises 2025, abbreviated as ASUSE 2025.
152.	B	757 – The release says that estimates of the indicators are given for 757 out of the 770 districts available in the sampling frame at the time the ASUSE sample was selected.
153.	A	The Customs Act, 1962 – The release names this statute twice in the same episode near the Indo-Bangladesh border, saying that because the person could not produce documents for lawful possession the gold was seized under the Customs Act, and that he was arrested under the relevant p...
154.	C	Border Security Force – The release records that the DRI, acting in coordination with the BSF, seized 89 pieces of foreign-origin gold bars weighing around 11.3 kg from a person near the Indo-Bangladesh border at BOP Halderpara, and that the man, unable to produce documents of lawfu...
155.	C	Rs 12,773 crore – The release states that more than 1.44 crore Scheduled Caste students have benefited under the Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes and that scholarships amounting to Rs 12,773 crore have been disbursed to support their education.
156.	B	From May to December – Under the Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas, the annual examination schedule of the National Entrance Test for SHRESHTA has been advanced from May to December.
157.	B	National Commission for Scheduled Castes – The release identifies Kishor Makwana as the Chairman of the NCSC and says the award recognises his dedicated service to that Commission and his contribution to advancing social justice, adding that the Commission has strengthened its role in safeguarding the...
158.	A	Sansad Ratna Awards 2026 – The release states that the award was presented during the sixteenth edition of the Sansad Ratna Awards, held at the Dr Ambedkar International Centre in the national capital, and it adds that the jury of the Sansad Ratna Awards Committee recognised the servic...
159.	B	Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability – The Prime Minister named this theme while addressing the BRICS Business Forum in New Delhi, and said India had made the same mantra the base of its economic and trade policy over the past twelve years.
160.	B	2006 – The Prime Minister said the group was launched in that year with only four countries, and that the Forum was being held in the year the grouping completes twenty years.
161.	C	37 – The Ministry of Education says the exposition at Bharat Mandapam is showing that many Indian deep-tech start-ups and ventures, and that they were drawn from the larger group which had taken part in the first Bharat Innovates at Nice.
162.	A	Nice, France – The release records that the first Bharat Innovates was held there from the fourteenth to the sixteenth of June 2026, under the India-France Year of Innovation, and that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Emmanuel Macron inaugurated it together.
163.	C	1 October 2026 – The Ministry of Finance says a notification appointed that day as the date on which the provisions of the Act take effect.
164.	C	1891 – The release states that the new Act replaces the Bankers' Books Evidence Act of that year and provides a modern framework for the use of banking records as evidence in keeping with the way banks work now.
165.	B	More than 80 lakh – The correct answer is more than 80 lakh, which the Ministry also writes as over 8 million doses.

166.	C	Karnataka – The Ministry places that state in a different band, saying it has achieved more than 85 per cent coverage of its identified target population rather than complete coverage.
167.	C	18.77 lakh – The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs says that is the total number of houses approved under the second phase of the mission after the ninth meeting of the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee, and that cumulative sanctions are now nearing the two...
168.	B	Satendra Singh, Secretary, Department of Urban Development – The release says the meeting was held under his chairmanship in New Delhi, and that it was he who told the states the committee would meet in the second week of every month and asked them to submit duly approved projects by the end of each month.
169.	B	50:50 – The release says both Drydocks World and Cochin Shipyard will each hold half of the joint venture, with the initial capital funded through equity contributions from both parties, and it describes the arrangement as a first-of-its-kind public-private partnersh...
170.	A	DP World – The release introduces Drydocks World as a DP World company in its opening line and records that its Chief Executive Officer, Captain Rado Antolovic, signed the joint venture agreement with Cochin Shipyard.
171.	B	Lothal, Gujarat – The release says the project reviewed by the Governing Council is coming up there, and that it seeks to revive and showcase a maritime legacy spanning over five millennia, with the aim of making the town a globally known centre of maritime heritage, knowledge...
172.	B	13 – The Minister told the Council that this many countries, among them Portugal, the United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, Thailand, the Netherlands, Denmark, Oman, Israel, Germany, the Republic of Korea, Italy, New Zealand and Singapore, had signed memoranda of underst...
173.	C	Ahmedabad – The Commission held the fifth conference in the series there, and the participants were students and teachers drawn from schools, colleges and universities across Gujarat.
174.	A	Learn Democracy. Lead Democracy. – Lead Democracy.
175.	B	Two – A pair of commemorative postage stamps was released in New Delhi on the sidelines of the 18th BRICS Summit to mark the completion of two decades of the grouping.
176.	A	BRICS: Two Decades of Cooperation, 2006-2026 – The stamps carry these words in English and the same inscription in Hindi.
177.	C	Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam – The three-day exercise was held under the aegis of the Colombo Security Conclave and concluded at this command, with the opening address delivered by Rear Admiral Manoj Jha, Chief Staff Officer (Operations) of the same command.
178.	B	Coordinated Response to Illicit Maritime Activities in the Indian Ocean Region – The correct answer is Coordinated Response to Illicit Maritime Activities in the Indian Ocean Region.
179.	B	Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission – The correct answer is Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission, shortened to PM-ABHIM.
180.	C	631 – The Union Health Minister said that under PM-ABHIM the Government of India has sanctioned this many Critical Care Blocks across the States and Union Territories, creating a nationwide network of critical-care capacity.
181.	B	Raigarh, Chhattisgarh – The record road runs 1.85 km and was pursued jointly by the CSIR-Central Road Research Institute of New Delhi and Jindal Steel Limited, with the record conferred at an event addressed by Dr Jitendra Singh.
182.	C	40 per cent – The Minister said the technology can cut construction cost by around this share while delivering four times the strength of a conventional road, and can stretch the maintenance cycle so that

major maintenance is needed only after about fifteen years in suitab...

183. **B** **Uttarakhand** – Badri cattle are described as an important indigenous cattle genetic resource of that state and are recognised as its state animal, which is why the conservation of the breed carries both a scientific and a symbolic weight there.
184. **C** **Sahiwal** – Under the programme, oocytes were collected from genetically valuable Badri donor cows through ultrasound-guided ovum pick-up, matured and fertilised in the laboratory with semen from a genetically superior Badri bull, and grown as embryos under controlled co...
185. **B** **Ministry of Earth Sciences** – The drive at Digha in East Midnapore was organised by this ministry, and the campaign was coordinated across the country by the National Institute of Ocean Technology at Chennai, which is an institute under the same ministry.
186. **C** **19 September** – The cleanup drive at Digha was described as a prelude to International Coastal Cleanup Day, to be observed on 19 September 2026, and the objective was to build wider awareness about marine pollution and to encourage practices that protect coastal and marine e...
187. **B** **Mumbai** – The two-day conference was organised by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in collaboration with the Government of Maharashtra and concluded in the city on the second day.
188. **C** **Rajasthan** – In the session on the roles and responsibilities of BOCW Welfare Boards in the light of the new labour codes, several States and Union Territories presented their own initiatives.
189. **C** **4-1** – The Prime Minister's message says that the Junior Men's Hockey Team won the Asia Cup with an emphatic win by four goals to one in the final.
190. **B** **It retained the Asia Cup with an unbeaten campaign** – The correct answer is it retained the Asia Cup with an unbeaten campaign.
191. **B** **The Delhi Declaration on Drylands** – The three-day Congress ended in New Delhi and its closing plenary endorsed this document, which is written in short as 3D.
192. **B** **170 nominations from 34 countries** – The ISSCA Global Awards are an annual flagship initiative that recognises proven agricultural innovations from institutions across the Global South, chosen for their potential to be scaled up and adapted across countries.
193. **B** **The BRICS Health Track** – A key outcome of the New Delhi Declaration adopted at the 18th BRICS Summit is the welcome given to the proposed establishment of an Expert Working Group on Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine under this track.
194. **B** **Chandigarh, on 21 July 2026** – The release records that the development in the New Delhi Declaration follows the BRICS meeting on Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine held in that city under India's BRICS Chairship.
195. **B** **137.9 million tonnes** – Indian Railways loaded that quantity during August 2026 and recorded a year-on-year growth of 5.4 per cent.
196. **C** **149** – Five new Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals were commissioned during August 2026, which took the cumulative count to this figure at the end of the month.
197. **B** **Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations** – Its Board and Investors Council met in New Delhi, and the Department of Biotechnology and CEPI jointly hosted a high-level evening reception at the India International Centre.
198. **C** **USD 195.3 billion** – India's bioeconomy reached that size in 2025 and recorded eighteen per cent growth over the previous year.

199.	B	Gandhinagar, Gujarat – India is hosting the forum there from 15 to 18 September 2026, and this is the first time that the World Circular Economy Forum is being held in South Asia.
200.	A	Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity – The forum at Gandhinagar is being organised under this theme, and its objective is to showcase India's initiatives for promoting circularity and to strengthen international cooperation.
201.	B	3,428 sq km – The Union Environment Minister said that protected habitat for cheetahs has expanded to this area through the integrated management of Kuno National Park and Gandhi Sagar.
202.	C	The Wildlife Institute of India, with the Gujarat Forest Department – The correct answer is the Wildlife Institute of India, with the Gujarat Forest Department.
203.	A	A sail training ship – The Ministry of Defence release describes INS Sudarshini in exactly these words and records that she set sail from Livorno in Italy after completing a successful port call.
204.	B	Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions – The correct answer is Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.
205.	B	The Women's Cricket Team – The Prime Minister congratulated the Indian Women's Cricket Team on winning the Asia Cup and opened his message by calling the result a proud moment for Indian cricket.
206.	B	Confidence, consistency and remarkable spirit – The Prime Minister named exactly these three, and he added that they were on full display not in one match but throughout the tournament, which is why the phrase is worth memorising as a set.
207.	B	CIDCO Exhibition Centre, Vashi, Navi Mumbai – The Department of Official Language, which functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs, held the sixth edition of the All India Official Language Conference there together with the Hindi Diwas programme, and the sittings were spread over 14 and 15 September...
208.	C	8 lakh words – The Home Minister told the conference that Hindi Shabd Sindhu has now grown to that size, and that it is expected to become the largest dictionary anywhere in the world by 2029.
209.	C	4.82 per cent – This is the provisional year on year rate for August 2026 compared with August 2025, worked out on the Consumer Price Index whose base year is 2024 equals 100.
210.	B	Rural 5.23 per cent, urban 4.31 per cent – The correct answer is rural 5.23 per cent and urban 4.31 per cent.
211.	C	9.92 per cent – That is the provisional year on year wholesale inflation rate announced for August 2026 on the base year 2022-23, and the index for all commodities stood at 110.8 in the same month.
212.	B	Fuel and Power – The correct answer is Fuel and Power, which recorded inflation of 22.93 per cent in August 2026.
213.	A	Acceptance of electronic Certificates of Origin – The Protocol provides that a Certificate of Origin issued in electronic form will carry the same legal validity and value as one issued on paper, provided it is issued and signed electronically by duly authorised entities and officials under each side's own d...
214.	B	1 June 2009 – Candidates must keep two dates apart here, because both appear in the same sentence of the release.
215.	A	Pokhran Field Firing Range, Jaisalmer – The Vice Chief of the Air Staff, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, opened the first edition of Dronathon there, and the same range hosted the live demonstration of the indigenous traffic management system Vayu UTtaM on the opening day.
216.	B	An indigenous Unmanned Traffic Management system – Vayu UTtaM is described as an indigenously developed multi mode system, and during its real time demonstration at the Pokhran range it detected

and tracked both military and civil unmanned aircraft.

217. **B** **Malaysia** – Exercise Samudra Laksamana is conducted between the Indian Navy and the Royal Malaysian Navy, and its fourth edition was held at Lumut in Malaysia from 9 to 12 September 2026 with INS Mysore taking part as part of an operational deployment.
218. **B** **INS Mysore** – The ship was deployed as part of the Indian Navy's operational deployment and took part in the fourth edition of the exercise at Lumut in Malaysia.
219. **B** **Great Indian Bustard** – Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav inaugurated the Soft Release Centre for the bird at the facility in Naliya, in the Kachchh district of Gujarat, and the centre carries infrastructure meant to support conservation, monitoring and the gradual adaptati...
220. **C** **33** – The Minister flagged off that many new patrolling and rescue vehicles, and they are to be used across various divisions under the Kachchh Forest Circle for forest protection, forest development, wildlife protection, field patrolling, monitoring and quick resp...
221. **C** **600 personnel** – The release on the opening ceremony states plainly that the contingents addressed by the two commanders were made up of that number of troops from each army, so the Indian side and the American side are equally represented.
222. **A** **Auli Foreign Training Node, Uttarakhand** – The correct answer is the Auli Foreign Training Node in Uttarakhand, where the opening ceremony of this edition was conducted.
223. **A** **Varta se Vikas** – The correct answer is Varta se Vikas, the theme named by the Defence Secretary and DRDO Chairman while describing how the meet was designed.
224. **B** **Nine agreements to 13 partners** – The release records that nine Licensing Agreements for Transfer of Technology, written in short as LAToTs, were handed over to that many manufacturing partners in the presence of the Raksha Mantri, so that they may take up commercial production of the systems...
225. **B** **55.6 per cent** – The correct answer is 55.6 per cent, which is the overall Labour Force Participation Rate reported for the month, up from the reading of the previous month.
226. **C** **National Statistical Office under MoSPI** – The correct answer is the National Statistical Office under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
227. **B** **399.27 billion US dollars** – The correct answer is 399.27 billion US dollars, the cumulative figure for merchandise and services exports taken together over the five months of the current financial year covered by the release.
228. **C** **Electronic goods** – The correct answer is electronic goods, whose exports in the month climbed from 2.93 billion dollars a year earlier to 5.55 billion dollars, a jump the release lists first among the drivers of merchandise export growth.
229. **B** **2,000 rupees** – Every person-to-merchant payment at or below that value stays free of the Merchant Discount Rate, and customers pay no charge for making such payments through the platform.
230. **B** **Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007** – The correct answer is the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, the statute named in the release as the basis of the framework.
231. **A** **Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity** – The correct answer is Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity, the theme under which the forum is being organised at Gandhinagar.
232. **B** **The Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra** – The release lists the organisers as the Central Pollution Control Board, that Finnish fund, the Government of Finland, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the Government of Gujarat and the Gujarat Pollution Control Board.

233.	C	70 members – The correct answer is 70 members, and the release adds the detail that makes it worth remembering: this is the largest contingent of skilled young competitors India has ever sent to the competition.
234.	B	Shanghai, China, from 22 to 27 September 2026 – The correct answer is Shanghai in China, from the twenty second to the twenty seventh of September.
235.	B	Confirm shaming and interface interference – The first was found in the prompts that told a rider, after the booking had already been made, that captains were not accepting at the quoted fare and that a higher price improves the chance of getting a ride.
236.	A	Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns, 2023 – The correct answer is the Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns of 2023, under which both the findings in this order are identified as recognised dark patterns.
237.	B	Rs 25,000 – The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, cleared the Labour Ministry's proposal on 16 September 2026 to lift the wage ceiling for compulsory EPFO membership from Rs 15,000 a month to Rs 25,000 a month.
238.	B	17 September 2026 – Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, the Union Minister of Labour and Employment and also of Youth Affairs and Sports, told a press briefing that the higher ceiling would come into force on that day, which is observed as Vishwakarma Jayanti and as Sewa Divas.
239.	B	Anant Nag – The Government of India announced on 16 September 2026, acting on the recommendation of the Dadasaheb Phalke Award Selection Committee, that the veteran actor would receive the country's highest cinema honour for the year 2024.
240.	B	Kevadia, Gujarat – The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting stated that Anant Nag would be handed the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2024 at the 72nd National Film Awards ceremony, and that the ceremony was fixed for 22 September 2026 at Kevadia.
241.	B	The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act – The correct answer is the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, commonly written as UAPA.
242.	B	The Union Home Minister – Amit Shah, who is Union Home Minister and also Minister of Cooperation, announced that the Ministry of Home Affairs had declared the Shahzad Bhatti Network a terrorist organisation under the UAPA.
243.	C	Ninth – Ashok Kumar Lahiri, Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog, released it in New Delhi along with the chief executive officer and other senior officials of the institution, and the edition covers the first quarter of FY27, that is April to June 2026.
244.	B	India's metals and ores trade – The edition treats this as a strategically important sector for manufacturing, infrastructure, the energy transition and advanced industries, and it examines both export competitiveness and rising import dependence.
245.	A	Global Action for a Cooler Planet – The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change organised the national celebration of the 32nd World Ozone Day in Mumbai on 16 September 2026 under this theme, with Minister of State Kirti Vardhan Singh presiding and Maharashtra's Environment Min...
246.	A	Net Zero Portal and NAPCC Dashboard – Union Minister of State Kirti Vardhan Singh launched both in Mumbai on the occasion of World Ozone Day.
247.	B	Gandhinagar, Gujarat – The forum, written in short as WCEF2026, ran for two days and concluded there on 16 September 2026, bringing together around 2,700 delegates and 260 speakers from more than 60 countries, including governments, international organisations, industry, start-ups,...

248.	A	Columbia University, United States – At the closing ceremony in Gandhinagar, Kristo Lehtonen, Director of International Programmes at SITRA, handed over the baton for organising the next edition of the forum to Columbia University.
249.	B	5,578 metres – The team of 20 NCC girl cadets crossed the Parang La Pass at this height during the All India Girls High Altitude Long Trek.
250.	B	Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh – The correct answer is Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh, who flagged the trek off from New Delhi on 18 August 2026.
251.	C	30 lakh – The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises stated that this many beneficiaries have been registered under the scheme after clearing a three-stage verification process, which means the registration target set for the scheme has been met within three y...
252.	A	17 September 2023 – The Prime Minister launched the scheme on that day to give end-to-end support to traditional artisans and craftspeople engaged in 18 identified trades, which is why its third anniversary falls on 17 September 2026 and is being celebrated at the Dhono Dhanyo A...
253.	B	Yashobhoomi, New Delhi – The fifth edition of SEMICON India was hosted at Yashobhoomi and the Prime Minister opened it on 17 September 2026.
254.	C	13.5 billion dollars – The Prime Minister said the second phase of the Semiconductor Mission has been set at this size while addressing the opening session.
255.	C	25 blocks – The 16th round puts 25 coal blocks before bidders, of which 21 are fully explored and four only partly explored, and they are spread across nine coal-bearing states from Arunachal Pradesh to West Bengal.
256.	C	100 per cent through the automatic route – The commercial coal mining framework was designed to attract wide participation, so it carries no end-use restriction on the coal mined, permits full foreign investment without prior approval, and keeps upfront payments low by allowing them to be adjusted aga...
257.	A	27 April 2026 in New Delhi – The agreement was signed in the Indian capital on that date, and the legislation to give it effect was passed by the Parliament of New Zealand months later.
258.	D	100 per cent – From the date the agreement enters into force, the whole of India's export basket to New Zealand becomes duty free.
259.	B	Houston – The ministerial was held in that American city under the United States presidency of the G20, and the Indian delegation was led by the Union Minister for Power and Housing and Urban Affairs.
260.	C	552 GW – The Union Minister told the ministerial that India's installed electricity generation capacity had reached this level and that more than half of it now comes from non-fossil fuel sources.
261.	B	Sambalpur, Odisha – The Union Minister of State for Earth Sciences inaugurated the radar virtually in the presence of the Chief Minister of Odisha, and its main job is to strengthen weather watch over Western Odisha along with adjoining parts of southern Jharkhand, northern Chha...
262.	B	14 – The Minister contrasted the position a decade ago with the present network, which has now reached 51 radars with the commissioning of the Sambalpur facility.
263.	A	Safe care for noncommunicable diseases – The correct answer is Safe care for noncommunicable diseases, and the accompanying slogan is 'Safe care for life!'.
264.	B	2015 – The Union Health Minister said the standards were brought in that year to create nationally recognised benchmarks for assessing the quality of healthcare institutions.

265.	B	Operation Polo – The Vice-President said that 17 September 1948 closed a decisive chapter in the history of independent India, with the erstwhile Hyderabad State becoming part of the Indian Union after the events of September 1948 and this operation.
266.	D	79th – The Vice-President took part as chief guest at Parade Ground in Secunderabad, Telangana, where he inspected the parade, laid a wreath at the War Memorial and watched the March Past along with cultural performances.
267.	C	43rd – The three-day conference opened in the national capital, and on the first day the Raksha Rajya Mantri interacted with the Director General of the Indian Coast Guard and the assembled commanders on national and maritime security.
268.	B	Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions – The correct answer is Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.
269.	B	Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS) – The correct answer is the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies, commonly abbreviated as CENJOWS.
270.	B	Defence, External Affairs and Home Affairs – The release states that the five-day programme brought together senior officers from the three Services along with officials from the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Home Affairs, for deliberations on contemporary and...
271.	A	1936 – According to the Ministry of Culture, the Kalakshetra Foundation was established in 1936 by Rukmini Devi Arundale, and it has since played a significant role in the preservation, practice and dissemination of Indian classical arts.
272.	B	Kadha Rasa Sangama - Confluence of Essence of Stories – The correct answer is Kadha Rasa Sangama - Confluence of Essence of Stories.
273.	B	Two – The answer is two.
274.	C	Pawan Hans Limited – The answer is Pawan Hans Limited.
275.	B	Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Chairperson, NHRC India – The answer is Justice V. Ramasubramanian, who chairs the National Human Rights Commission of India and closed the programme.
276.	C	Fourteen – The answer is fourteen.
277.	B	Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi – The Ministry of Defence stated that the keel laying ceremony of the first ship of the Indian Navy's Next Generation Missile Vessel project was held at Cochin Shipyard Limited in Kochi on 18 September 2026, with Vice Admiral Sanjay Sadhu, Controller of Warship...
278.	A	March 2023 – The Ministry of Defence release states that the contract for construction of the NGMVs was concluded with Cochin Shipyard Limited in March 2023.
279.	C	Fourteen – The answer is fourteen.
280.	B	The President, after consulting the Chief Justice of India – The answer is the President, after consulting the Chief Justice of India.
281.	A	34,920 – The answer is 34,920.
282.	B	Ministry of Rural Development – The answer is the Ministry of Rural Development, which is reviewing State readiness and rolling out the second phase of the scheme.
283.	B	Over Rs 5,000 crore – The answer is over Rs 5,000 crore.
284.	C	Central Public Sector Enterprises and other government entities – The answer is Central Public Sector Enterprises and other government entities.

285.	B	Sri Lanka – SLINEX is the bilateral maritime exercise between the navies of India and Sri Lanka, and the Ministry of Defence has described SLINEX-26 as its 13th edition, held at Visakhapatnam from 17 to 21 September 2026.
286.	B	INS Kavaratti – The Ministry of Defence lists two Indian ships in SLINEX-26: INS Kavaratti, an indigenous Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette, and INS Jyoti, the Fleet Tanker.
287.	B	Article 370 – The PIB backgrounder on the 72nd National Film Awards lists the Hindi film Article 370, directed by Aditya Suhas Jambhale, as the Best Feature Film.
288.	C	Anant Nag – The Government of India announced on 16 September 2026 that the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2024 will be conferred on Anant Nag, a veteran of Kannada cinema.
289.	B	Women's 10m Air Rifle – On 20 September 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Sonam Uttam Maskar, Elavenil Valarivan and Vidarsa K Vinod on winning the silver medal in the women's 10m air rifle event at the Asian Games 2026, and credited the result to hard work and teamwo...
290.	B	second – In his message on X, the Prime Minister congratulated Elavenil Valarivan on the silver in the women's 10m air rifle individual event and noted that it was her second medal of the day, which made it even more special.
291.	B	Hawk Mk132 – The Ministry of Defence says the Suryakiran Aerobatic Team flies nine distinctive red-and-white Hawk Mk132 aircraft, licence-manufactured in India by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
292.	B	1996 – According to the Ministry of Defence, SKAT was established in 1996 and holds the distinction of being the only nine-aircraft aerobatic team in Asia.
293.	C	42,000 metric tonnes – Speaking at the Central Silk Board's 77th Foundation Day in Bengaluru on 20 September 2026, the minister said India's silk production had grown from 26,000 metric tonnes in 2014 to 42,000 metric tonnes today.
294.	B	2028-29 – Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh said a resolve has been made to take India to the No. 1 rank in global silk production by 2028-29.
295.	A	Harit Nyayam – At the valedictory session in New Delhi on 20 September 2026, Union Minister Manohar Lal released the NGT's souvenir titled Harit Nyayam and presented its first copy to the President of India.
296.	C	55 per cent – Speaking at the valedictory session of the National Green Tribunal's conference, Manohar Lal, Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs and Power, said non-fossil sources account for nearly 55 per cent of India's installed generation capacity.
297.	B	Gwalior – The Ministry of Communications said Asia's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone will be established in Gwalior, and Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia inspected the identified site at the Shrimant Madhavrao Scindia Counter Magnet City (SADA) on 20 September 2026.
298.	C	₹5,500 crore – The Ministry of Communications said the proposed TMZ will be established with an investment of approximately ₹5,500 crore, and that 24 companies have initiated the application process to set up units there.
299.	A	Swachhata Mein Sahbhag; Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat – The PIB backgrounder of 20 September 2026 gives this as the theme of Swachhata Hi Seva 2026, which began on 17 September.
300.	B	Rising – The backgrounder explains that ODF Plus villages are classified into three progressive stages.
301.	C	20 October 2026 – On 21 September 2026, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and New Zealand's Trade and Investment Minister Todd McClay announced that the agreement would come into force on that day, which is Dussehra-Vijayadashami.

302.	C	USD 20 billion – The agreement includes New Zealand's commitment to facilitate investment of this amount into India, and the Commerce Ministry says it is expected to benefit Indian agriculture, manufacturing, infrastructure and start-ups.
303.	B	Silver – On 21 September 2026 the trio of Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil, Himanshu Dhillon and Parth Rakesh Mane won silver in the men's 10m air rifle team event.
304.	C	Himanshu Dhillon – In the individual men's 10m air rifle, Himanshu Dhillon won silver, and the Prime Minister highlighted his calm under pressure and remarkable accuracy.
305.	B	231 – Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar 5.0 was conducted from 12 to 19 September 2026, and its coastal clean-up covered 231 locations across 13 States/UTs.
306.	C	Department of Science & Technology – 'Vigyan Ki Baat' is a monthly lecture series launched by DST to showcase the work of India's autonomous scientific institutions and take their achievements to a wider audience.
307.	B	Namami Gange Programme – The money raised by the PM Mementos e-Auction supports Namami Gange, the national mission dedicated to the conservation, rejuvenation and protection of the River Ganga and its ecosystem.
308.	C	National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi – The Ministry of Culture organises the PM Mementos e-Auction through NGMA, and the auction gives citizens, collectors, institutions and art enthusiasts a chance to acquire mementos presented to the Prime Minister on various occasions.
309.	B	Implementation of five-day banking – The United Forum of Bank Unions and some other unions in public sector banks, supported by Regional Rural Banks, raised two principal demands: a five-day working week for banks and withdrawal of the Performance Linked Incentive scheme.
310.	B	2015 – In its appeal of 21 September 2026, the Ministry of Finance recalled that the Government, in the interest of bank employees, declared the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of every month as holidays for public sector banks in 2015.
311.	B	Concept Paper on Critical Mineral Recycling Ecosystem – At the seminar in New Delhi, the Union Ministers launched this paper, which outlines a strategic framework for strengthening critical mineral recycling in India.
312.	B	Materials Recycling Association of India – The day-long National Seminar on "India's Critical Minerals Recycling Ecosystem and Circular Economy" was organised by the Ministry of Mines in collaboration with MRAI, an industry body of recyclers.
313.	D	510 hours – At its virtual conference on 21 September 2026, the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation briefed States on the two pathways of the Nal Jal Mitra programme: a 510-hour Short-Term Training course for new entrants, and a 120-hour Recognition of Prior Lear...
314.	A	Village-level water quality testing and disinfection – Sujalam Shakti aims to create a trained workforce of village women for water quality surveillance, testing and basic disinfection, and to strengthen women's role in rural water governance.
315.	B	January 2020 – I-STEM, the Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map, was conceived and supported by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser and launched by the Prime Minister in January 2020.
316.	C	Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser – The PSA's Office conceived and supports I-STEM, and it was this office that convened the first State Governments Nodal Officers Meeting for the portal on 21 September 2026.

317.	B	23 September – The Government marks Ayurveda Day every year on 23 September, which is close to the autumnal equinox, when day and night are almost equal; the date was chosen to reflect the idea of natural balance at the heart of Ayurveda.
318.	C	Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow – The PIB backgrounder released on 22 September 2026 says the Government is running a national strategy to revive traditional healthcare under this theme.
319.	B	23 September 2018 – AB PM-JAY was launched on that date to move India towards universal health coverage, and the PIB backgrounder of 22 September 2026 marks its eighth anniversary.
320.	C	₹5 lakh – AB PM-JAY provides cashless hospitalisation cover of up to ₹5 lakh per family per year, covering 1,961 procedures across 27 medical specialties at public and private empanelled hospitals.
321.	B	Yashobhoomi, New Delhi – The fifth edition of SEMICON India ran there for three days, from 17 to 19 September 2026, on the theme "Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem", with more than 600 exhibiting companies, a Start-up Pavilion, a Workforce Development Pavilion, country and S...
322.	C	₹1,27,500 crore – Semicon 2.0 was approved by the Union Cabinet in July 2026 with this outlay.
323.	B	Women's cricket team – On 22 September 2026 India's women won the cricket gold at the Asian Games, and the Prime Minister noted that it was the country's first gold of this edition of the Games.
324.	B	Mixed martial arts – Suchika Tariyal won bronze in mixed martial arts at the Asian Games 2026, and the Prime Minister described it as a historic achievement because it is India's first-ever Asian Games medal in that field.
325.	B	Climate Resilient Water Management – The 9th India International Water Week, organised by the Ministry of Jal Shakti at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, from 22 to 26 September 2026, is centred on this theme.
326.	B	Sustainable Urban River Management (SURM) Framework – At the inauguration on 22 September 2026, the Vice-President launched the SURM Framework along with an AI/ML-driven Integrated Reservoir Sediment Management system, described as steps towards technology-enabled and climate-resilient water management.
327.	B	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India – TRAI, the sector's regulator, released the Thirteenth Amendment on 22 September 2026 after a draft issued on 7 April 2026 drew 1,132 responses and an open house discussion on 15 June 2026.
328.	B	Voice-and-SMS-only vouchers for validities of 30 days and less – The correct answer is Voice-and-SMS-only vouchers for validities of 30 days and less.
329.	B	National Film Awards – The Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting said the National Film Awards are being taken to India's best tourist destinations, inspired by the Prime Minister's approach of holding national events beyond conventional venues, much as G20 meetings were...
330.	B	Statue of Unity – Ashwini Vaishnaw said Ekta Nagar has gained recognition across the world as a highly attractive destination because it is home to the world's tallest statue, that of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
331.	B	National Film Development Corporation – NFDC, which works under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, runs the India Cine Hub as a digital single-window portal where domestic and international creators apply for filming permissions, film visas and co-production approvals.
332.	B	Ramoji Film City, Hyderabad – Set up by the Ramoji Group in 1996, it is certified by Guinness World Records as the world's largest film studio complex and is also described as the world's largest integrated film city and India's only thematic holiday destination built around filmmaking.

333.	B	Anant Nag – President Droupadi Murmu presented the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2024 to the veteran Kannada actor at the 72nd National Film Awards at Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, in Gujarat.
334.	C	Ekta Nagar, Kevadia – The 72nd National Film Awards were conferred there, in Gujarat, and it was the first time the ceremony had been taken out of the national capital.
335.	B	Air Force Station Jodhpur – The Ministry of Defence stated that the bilateral air exercise between the Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self Defense Force concluded at Air Force Station Jodhpur, and it was also at Jodhpur that the two air chiefs came for Distinguished Visitor's Day an...
336.	C	Japan – Veer Guardian is the bilateral air exercise between the Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self Defense Force, and the release describes the drill as strengthening the strategic partnership between the two air forces of India and Japan.
337.	B	Hardeep Singh Puri – The meeting was co-chaired by Hardeep Singh Puri, India's Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, and by the OPEC Secretary General.
338.	C	Vienna – The release records that both sides agreed to hold the Eighth High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-India Energy Dialogue in Vienna, Austria, on a mutually convenient date.
339.	A	National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem – The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment defines NAMASTE exactly this way, and describes its aim as ensuring the safety and dignity of sanitation workers by creating an enabling ecosystem that recognises their contribution to the operation and mainten...
340.	B	90,186 – The Ministry's Secretary stated that the sewer and septic tank workers component now covers all 36 States and Union Territories, and that this many workers have been validated.
341.	A	Swachhata Mein Sahbhag, Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat – Both the Department of Food and Public Distribution and the Ministry of Textiles named this as the theme of the current campaign, and described it as an appeal to treat cleanliness as a collective effort and a festival of community involvement.
342.	B	Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti – The correct answer is the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
343.	B	South Central Railway – The Ministry of Railways said that Version 4.0 of the train protection system was put into service for the first time on this zone, on the Malkajgiri-Kamareddi section of the Hyderabad Division.
344.	A	108 route kilometres – That is the length of the Malkajgiri-Kamareddi section in the Hyderabad Division on which the system was carried up from the older edition to the newer one.
345.	C	Rs 5 lakh – In his anniversary message the Prime Minister said that more than sixty crore beneficiaries now have access to an annual health cover of this amount, and that the reach of the cover is what makes the initiative the largest healthcare scheme in the world.
346.	C	Over 500 crore – The Prime Minister used this figure to argue that healthcare is moving closer to every doorstep, since the centres named Ayushman Arogya Mandirs deliver primary care in neighbourhoods and villages rather than in distant hospitals.
347.	B	Amitesh Kumar Sinha, CEO of the India Semiconductor Mission – The correct answer is Amitesh Kumar Sinha, Chief Executive Officer of the India Semiconductor Mission.
348.	B	More than 600 – The backgrounder records that the event brought together this many exhibitors, of whom close to three hundred were international companies, and treats that mix as a sign of the global interest now being shown in the country's semiconductor and electronics eco...
349.	C	Fifteen digits – The International Mobile Equipment Identity is described as a unique number of that length which identifies a mobile device on a telecom network, and the first eight of those digits make up

the Type Allocation Code that identifies the model or type of the han...

350. **A** **GSMA** – The correct answer is the GSMA, the Global System for Mobile Communications Association.
351. **A** **The 55th International Film Festival of India in Goa** – The correct answer is the 55th International Film Festival of India in Goa, where the platform was unveiled in November as the public broadcaster's public-service streaming service.
352. **C** **23 March 2026** – MyWAVES was opened inside the existing streaming platform on that date, and it changed the service from something people only watched into something they could contribute to, by letting citizens make, upload and share original short, vertical and episodic con...
353. **A** **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** – The correct answer is the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, usually written as DARPG, which the release names as the organiser of the drive.
354. **C** **2 October to 31 October 2026** – The campaign is split in two, and this is the second and longer part, in which the work actually happens across offices.
355. **A** **Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development** – The correct answer is Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development, the expansion given in the release for the programme under which the technical committee met at the NASC Complex in New Delhi.
356. **B** **Dr Chandra Shekhar Kumar, CEO of the NRAA** – The correct answer is Dr Chandra Shekhar Kumar, Chief Executive Officer of the National Rainfed Area Authority.
357. **B** **Sri Lanka** – SLINEX is the bilateral maritime exercise held between the Indian Navy and the Sri Lanka Navy, and its name itself is formed from the two countries.
358. **C** **13th** – The Ministry of Defence described the exercise held from 17 to 21 September 2026 as the 13th edition of the India-Sri Lanka bilateral maritime exercise, and it concluded at Visakhapatnam.
359. **A** **Jay Meena** – He won the bronze medal in the men's individual event in soft tennis and thereby became the first Indian ever to win an Asian Games medal in that sport.
360. **B** **Women's 49 kg weightlifting** – The Prime Minister congratulated Mirabai Chanu on winning the silver medal in that category, saying her determination and consistency continue to inspire the nation and that India is proud of her.
361. **B** **Rs 285 crore** – The Technology Development Board, which functions under the Department of Science and Technology, approved that amount for Ubify Technologies Private Limited of Chennai out of the Research Development and Innovation Fund, for its indigenous ePlane advanced a...
362. **B** **A three-seater zero-emission advanced air mobility aircraft** – The release describes the e200X as configured for one pilot and two passengers, with a targeted range of 110 km and an ideal speed of 160 kmph, and with a landing gear built for both conventional and vertical landing so that it can operate out of relatively s...
363. **B** **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** – Mera Yuva Bharat, or MY Bharat, is the national youth engagement platform of the Department of Youth Affairs within that ministry, and it has now gone past 3 crore registered youth in under three years.
364. **C** **31 October 2023** – Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Mera Yuva Bharat on that date, setting it up as a technology-enabled platform through which young Indians could join the country's development journey.
365. **B** **The President of India** – She attended the 75th annual convocation ceremony of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda at Vadodara in Gujarat and addressed the graduating students, telling them that

education will be meaningful only if the country and society benefit from it.

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366. **C** **Vadodara** – The President attended the 75th annual convocation of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda in that city, and the university takes its name from the ruler of the former princely state of Baroda, which is the older name of Vadodara itself.
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367. **B** **Six months** – Under the earlier design of the scheme a placement counted only when the trained candidate held continuous employment for at least three months, so option A states the old rule and not the present one.
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368. **A** **25 September 2014, under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission** – The correct answer is 25 September 2014, under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission.
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369. **B** **Prasar Bharati** – PBSHABD is its free news feed, and the very name carries the parent body in it, since it expands to Prasar Bharati - Shared Audio-Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination.
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370. **C** **March 2027** – Free access has been stretched in steps rather than granted once and for all, which is exactly what makes this a favourite question.
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371. **A** **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** – The correct answer is the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, usually written as DARPG.
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372. **B** **2 to 31 October 2026** – The campaign is run in two clearly separated stages, and a question of this kind usually turns on telling them apart.
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373. **A** **Women's Sanda 60kg** – The correct answer is the women's Sanda 60kg event, in which she took the silver medal.
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374. **B** **Three** – What the Prime Minister called noteworthy was not the single silver alone but the run behind it: medals at three Asian Games one after another, a record of turning up at the top of the sport over many years rather than in one good season.
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375. **B** **Nil** – Among the oils covered by this decision, crude sunflower oil is the only one whose Basic Customs Duty was taken all the way down to zero, from the earlier level of 10%.
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376. **C** **19.25%** – While cutting the duty on crude oils, the government also trimmed the duty on the matching refined oils, but it kept the distance between the two rates at this level rather than letting it shrink.
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377. **C** **81st** – The correct answer is the 81st session, written in the release as UNGA81 and held in New York.
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378. **C** **497 million** – The Union Health Secretary cited this figure as proof that technology is closing the distance between a patient in a remote area and a doctor, and she placed it beside the other digital health number from the same speech, namely that over 900 million citizens...
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379. **B** **Rs 63.84 crore** – The correct answer is Rs 63.84 crore, the financial support agreed under the Research Development and Innovation Fund and routed through optionally convertible debentures rather than paid out as a simple grant.
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380. **B** **Rs 247.69 crore** – This is the approved cost of the whole project, of which the Technology Development Board is supporting a part from the Research Development and Innovation Fund, the rest being borne by the company.
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381. **C** **24th** – The Ministry of Defence announcement names the edition explicitly, and it is the single most asked detail about a recurring exercise, because the number records how far back the series goes and distinguishes this year's round from every earlier one.
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382. **A** **France** – VARUNA is the naval exercise that India holds with the French Navy, and the supporting detail in this announcement points the same way, since the Indian ship has berthed at Toulon, a French port on the Mediterranean, for the harbour and sea phases of the exer...
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383.	A	Technology Development Fund – DRDO signed the agreement for an indigenous 20 mK dilution refrigerator with the start-up Zero mK India Private Limited under the TDF scheme, and it is the first high-value deep tech project agreement the scheme has supported.
384.	B	Rajasthan – The release places Zero mK India Private Limited at Alwar in Rajasthan, and the agreement itself was signed in New Delhi between the Director of the Technology Development Fund and the start-up.
385.	B	Economy, Environment and Employment – BioE3 is the government framework named Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment, and the commercial launch of bio-based biodegradable plastic from Polylactic Acid by Balrampur Chini Mills has been taken forward under it.
386.	A	Uttar Pradesh – The pilot scale research facility of 100 TPA for Polylactic Acid and co-polymers is to be built inside the integrated manufacturing complex of Balrampur Chini Mills Limited at Kumbhi in Uttar Pradesh, while the launch event itself was held at the Department o...
387.	B	Manila, Philippines – The Indian delegation, led by Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce Shri Nitin Kumar Yadav, travelled to Manila for both meetings, and it was there that economic ministers or their representatives from every ASEAN member met the East Asia Summit...
388.	C	USD 128.38 billion – The release states that bilateral trade between India and the ASEAN bloc reached this level in 2025-26, and that the bloc made up 10.55 per cent of total Indian trade with the world.
389.	B	Women's 10,000m – Seema finished third in this long distance track race, and the Prime Minister said her determined performance had brought India a medal in the event after many years, describing it as a wonderful achievement reflecting endurance, discipline and years of hard...
390.	C	Skeet mixed team – The Prime Minister congratulated Parinaaz Dhaliwal and Anantjeet Singh Naruka on the bronze and said their achievement marks the first ever Indian medal in this event at the Asian Games, adding that he hoped the success would inspire many more milestones.
391.	B	Silver – The Prime Minister's message congratulated Manu TS, Poovamma MR, Vishal TK and Vithya Ramraj specifically on taking the silver medal in the mixed 4x400m relay at the Asian Games, so option B is the one supported by the release.
392.	C	Four athletes, two men and two women – The name of the discipline itself carries the answer: the figure before the multiplication sign gives the number of runners and the figure after it gives the lap each of them covers, so a mixed 4x400m relay is run by four athletes who each complete a lap of 4...
393.	B	About 70,000 – The Ministry of Rural Development has said that roughly that many rural young people, organised into 2,015 batches across 24 States and Union Territories, are expected to start their training in the opening month of the rollout.
394.	C	Ministry of Rural Development – The announcement on the rollout of DDU-GKY 2.0 came from that ministry, which is also the body pressing States and Union Territories to allot targets to their implementing agencies and holding review meetings with them in phases.
395.	B	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India – The Digital Connectivity Rating Platform was launched by the telecom regulator, which functions under the Ministry of Communications, and the launch was announced on 25 September 2026.
396.	D	2024 – The platform carries out the framework prescribed by the regulator's rules of 2024 on the rating of properties for digital connectivity.
397.	B	Rs 6,940 crore – The bulk drugs scheme, which covers key starting materials, drug intermediates and active pharmaceutical ingredients, was approved in 2020 with that outlay and it works on 41 critical products where imports dominated.

398.	D	57 – Production of 57 unique medical devices has begun under the scheme, and the list runs from magnetic resonance imaging machines, computed tomography scanners, cath labs and linear accelerators to C-arms, mammography machines, ultrasound systems, anaesthesia ma...
399.	B	22 – The fourth edition of the International Strategic Engagement Programme has 38 delegates in all, and of these 25 are international delegates who have come from 22 countries, among them Sri Lanka, Seychelles, Mongolia, Nepal, Mauritius, Maldives, Oman, Guyana,...
400.	B	National Security Council Secretariat – The programme is put together by the two ministries along with that secretariat, and it is conducted in association with the National Defence College, which is where such strategic courses are run.
401.	B	The faint envelope of gas surrounding a galaxy beyond its disc – The correct answer is the faint envelope of gas surrounding a galaxy beyond its disc.
402.	B	Raman Research Institute – The correct answer is the Raman Research Institute, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology, whose scientists worked with colleagues at Arizona State University in the United States.
403.	B	2,532 km – The new service approved by Indian Railways connects Bhuj in Gujarat with Barauni in Bihar and covers that distance while passing through Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, which makes it one of the longer runs given to a train of the Amrit Bharat c...
404.	B	Mathura – Indian Railways approved the extension of trains 11901 and 11902 up to Mathura station, which lifts the run of the service from 217 km to 270 km and brings Jhansi, Agra and Mathura together on one train.
405.	B	Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi – The correct answer is Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, which houses the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and where the board met in hybrid mode, with some members present and others joining online.
406.	C	40,000 – The chairman of the board cited the Jan Vishwas Act as a reform that has rationalised that many compliances, and placed it alongside the ease of doing business measures and the creation of state level traders' welfare boards as the main steps taken for the tr...
407.	B	Rs 7,86,000 crore – The Finance Ministry, after consulting the Reserve Bank of India, settled on this gross market borrowing figure for the closing half of FY 2026-27, and the whole sum is to be raised through 23 weekly auctions of dated securities.
408.	C	23 – The gross borrowing of Rs 7,86,000 crore planned for the second half of FY 2026-27 will be completed through 23 weekly auctions of dated securities, with the paper spread over eight maturity buckets ranging from three years to fifty years.
409.	C	ICGS Shaunak – Shaunak is the Indian Coast Guard ship that left Chennai on 25 September 2026 for Perth in Australia as India's contribution to the QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission, carrying six Sea Riders drawn from the four QUAD countries.
410.	B	Six – The officers who boarded the ship for the passage are called Sea Riders, and the split is worth memorising because a paper setter can ask about it directly: India and Japan contributed two officers each, while Australia and the United States contributed one o...
411.	C	220 – Surgeons of the Armed Forces Medical Services completed 220 sight-restoring surgeries during the two-day mega eye surgical camp at Tangdhar in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir, held on 24 and 25 September 2026 under Operation Drishti.
412.	B	Kupwara – Tangdhar lies in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir, a shelling-prone area close to the Line of Control, and the camp there had to be run from an underground operation theatre for that reason.

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413. **C** **48th** – WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 is the 48th edition of the WorldSkills Competition and is being held in Shanghai from 22 to 27 September 2026.
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414. **C** **70** – India's competitor contingent at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 has 70 members.
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