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Weekly Current Affairs: 19–25 October 2026

173 stories

519 MCQs with answers

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19 October 2026

Pumped Storage: India Has 345.38 GW Potential, 7.43 GW Live

19 October 2026 · Environment

A PIB backgrounder says India has marked 320 pumped storage sites holding 345.38 GW of potential, of which 7.43 GW is running across 10 projects.

- PIB's backgrounder of 19 October 2026 explains pumped storage as a water battery: water is pumped to an upper reservoir when power is surplus and released through turbines when demand peaks
- India has marked 320 pumped storage sites with 345.38 GW of potential; 7.43 GW across 10 projects is operational as of August 2026 and 15.87 GW across 11 projects is being built
- The CEA puts the storage requirement at 73.93 GW by 2031-32, made up of 26.69 GW of pumped storage and 47.24 GW of battery energy storage systems
- The Western Region holds the largest identified potential at 129.72 GW, with Maharashtra at 67.36 GW and Gujarat at 33.36 GW
- World pumped hydro capacity was 159.8 GW at the end of 2025 by IRENA's count; India ranked fourth with 7.18 GW behind China, Japan and the United States

Subject	Pumped Storage Hydropower, PIB backgrounder of 19 October 2026
Identified potential	345.38 GW across 320 projects
Operational capacity	7.43 GW across 10 projects (August 2026)
Under construction	15.87 GW across 11 projects
CEA storage projection	73.93 GW by 2031-32 (26.69 GW PSP, 47.24 GW BESS)
Leading region	Western Region, 129.72 GW
World capacity, end 2025	159.8 GW (IRENA); India fourth with 7.18 GW
Scheme types	On-stream, off-stream open-loop, off-stream closed-loop

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pumped-storage-india-has-34538-gw-potential-743-gw-live/

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India to Host 61st CIML Meeting in New Delhi for First Time

19 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

New Delhi gets the 61st CIML Meeting from 26 to 28 October 2026, the first time India has been given the yearly meeting of the legal metrology committee.

- The 61st CIML Meeting is set for New Delhi from 26 to 28 October 2026, and India has been given this yearly gathering of the legal metrology committee for the first time
- The Department of Consumer Affairs is organising it with the International Organization of Legal Metrology, and more than 100 delegates and experts are expected
- An international seminar on Evolutions in Legal Metrology is set for 26 October 2026 and an OIML Strategy Workshop for 27 October 2026
- OIML was founded in 1955 as an intergovernmental body to harmonise legal metrology; CIML is its principal decision-making organ and meets every year
- The 60th CIML Meeting was held on 13 and 15 October 2025 in Paris, with 55 Member States, 12 Corresponding Members and five organisations in liaison

Event	61st Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML)
Dates	26 to 28 October 2026
Venue	New Delhi, India hosting for the first time
Organisers	Department of Consumer Affairs with the OIML
Participation	More than 100 international delegates and experts
Seminar	Evolutions in Legal Metrology, on 26 October 2026
Strategy Workshop	OIML Strategy Workshop on 27 October 2026
OIML founded	1955, as an intergovernmental organisation

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-to-host-61st-ciml-meeting-in-new-delhi-for-first-time/

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MoES-AcSIR MoU: 10 Earth Science Institutes to Award PhDs

19 October 2026 · Science & Technology

An MoU between the Ministry of Earth Sciences and AcSIR makes all ten MoES research institutes AcSIR Associated Research Institutes for doctoral research.

- The Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research announced a doctoral research partnership on 19 October 2026
- The MoU was executed on 21 August 2026 and declared at a ceremony on 13 October 2026 at Prithvi Bhawan, the Ministry's headquarters in New Delhi
- All ten MoES research institutes are now recognised as AcSIR Associated Research Institutes and are in the academy's current PhD enrolment cycle
- AcSIR will award the doctoral degree and the certificate will name the host institute; MoES scientists recognised as AcSIR faculty will supervise the work
- Research domains include numerical weather prediction, polar and cryosphere science, marine robotics, deep-sea mining, seismology and AI or ML in earth sciences

Partnership	Ministry of Earth Sciences and AcSIR
MoU executed	21 August 2026
Declared at	Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi, on 13 October 2026
Institutes covered	All ten MoES institutes, as AcSIR-ARIs
Signed by	Dr. Praveen Kumar D. for MoES, Prof. Manoj Kumar Dhar for AcSIR
Secretary, MoES	Dr. Srinivasa Kumar Tummala
Degree awarded by	AcSIR, with the host institute named on the certificate
Coordination	Nodal coordinator at each institute, central coordinator at MoES

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/moes-acsir-mou-10-earth-science-institutes-to-award-phds/

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NHRC Declares 10 Winners of Human Rights Quiz-2026

19 October 2026 · National

The NHRC named the ten winners of its online Human Rights Quiz-2026, held with MyGov from 1 September to 10 October 2026 before its 33rd Foundation Day.

- The NHRC announced the ten winners of Human Rights Quiz-2026 on 19 October 2026, held with MyGov ahead of the Commission's 33rd Foundation Day
- The quiz ran from 1 September to 10 October 2026 and covered human rights, the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 and the functions of the NHRC
- Aarti Mahajan won the first prize of Rs 15,000, Ritika the second of Rs 10,000 and Tooba Benazeer the third of Rs 5,000, with seven consolation prizes of Rs 2,000 each
- The quiz drew 1,67,127 views and 26,459 submissions from all States and Union Territories, most of them from the 18 to 24 age group
- A total of 5,753 participants scored 15 out of 15, so the ten winners were decided by a draw of lots by the MyGov team

Quiz	Human Rights Quiz-2026: Celebrating Life, Liberty, Equality and Dignity
Organisers	National Human Rights Commission with MyGov
Period	1 September to 10 October 2026
Occasion	Run-up to the NHRC's 33rd Foundation Day
First prize	Rs 15,000, won by Ms. Aarti Mahajan
Second and third prizes	Rs 10,000 to Ms. Ritika; Rs 5,000 to Ms. Tooba Benazeer
Participation	1,67,127 views and 26,459 submissions from all States and UTs
Top States	Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nhrc-declares-10-winners-of-human-rights-quiz-2026/

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Mona Agarwal Gold, Avani Lekhara Silver in 10m Air Rifle SH1

19 October 2026 · Sports

Mona Agarwal won gold with a new Asian Para Games record and Avani Lekhara took silver in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 at the Asian Para Games 2026.

- Mona Agarwal won gold in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 and her score set a new Asian Para Games record.
- Avani Lekhara won silver in the same women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 final, giving India the top two places in the event.
- Both medals came on the opening day of competition for India at the Asian Para Games 2026.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated both shooters, praising Mona Agarwal's precision and composure and Avani Lekhara's consistency.

Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Event	Women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 (para shooting)
Gold medal	Mona Agarwal
Record	New Asian Para Games record in the event, set by Mona Agarwal's score
Silver medal	Avani Lekhara
Day	India's opening day of competition at the Games

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mona-agarwal-gold-avani-lekhara-silver-in-10m-air-rifle-sh1/

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Agri Welfare Portal Launched by Shivraj Singh Chouhan

19 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the revamped Agri Welfare Portal, a single window carrying farm schemes, subsidies and advisories to mobiles.

- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the revamped Agri Welfare Portal for farmers on the Navami day of Navratri.
- The portal is a single window for the ministry's schemes, subsidies and digital services, and a common gateway for PM-KISAN, AgriStack and the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.
- It follows the MeitY standards DBIM 3.0 and GIGW 3.0, and is secure, mobile friendly, light on weak networks and accessible to persons with disabilities.
- The platform will also connect farmer producer organisations, primary agricultural credit societies, scientists, researchers and start-ups.
- A training campaign for farmers on the portal will be run through Krishi Vigyan Kendras across the country.

Portal	Agri Welfare Portal (revamped)
Launched by	Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Rural Development
Ministry	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Standards	DBIM 3.0 and GIGW 3.0 of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
Single window for	PM-KISAN, AgriStack and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
Training through	Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)
Also connects	FPOs, PACS, agricultural scientists, researchers and start-ups
Officials present	Secretary Atish Chandra, Additional Secretary Pramod Mehrda, officers of the ministry and NIC

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/agri-welfare-portal-launched-by-shivraj-singh-chouhan/

Coldwater Fisheries: Pithoragarh Cluster Reviewed Under PMMSY

19 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Fisheries Secretary Abhilaksh Likhi reviewed the Pithoragarh coldwater fisheries cluster, where PMMSY has drawn Rs 2,299 crore of investment into the hilly states.

- Coldwater fisheries clusters have been notified at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand, Kullu in Himachal Pradesh, Anantnag in Jammu and Kashmir and Kargil in Ladakh.
- India’s coldwater fisheries are concentrated in six hilly states and UTs: Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.
- Under PMMSY, over 5,600 raceways, 54 hatcheries, 293 cold storages and 260 feed mills have been sanctioned in these states, with investment above Rs 2,299 crore.
- Trout production has grown six-fold in a decade to nearly 5,000 MT a year, and Uttarakhand made its first international export, to Nepal, in June 2026.
- Productivity is 250 kg per raceway against a potential of 1,000 kg, and seed output is 15 lakh fingerlings against demand for 40 lakh.

Meeting	Pithoragarh Coldwater Fisheries Cluster review, at the Collectorate, Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand
Chaired by	Dr. Abhilaksh Likhi, Secretary, Department of Fisheries
Ministry	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Scheme	Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)
Notified clusters	Pithoragarh (Uttarakhand), Kullu (Himachal Pradesh), Anantnag (Jammu and Kashmir), Kargil (Ladakh)
Sanctioned under PMMSY	Over 5,600 raceways, 54 hatcheries, 293 cold storages, 260 feed mills
Investment	Over Rs 2,299 crore in hilly states; Rs 317 crore in Uttarakhand in six years
Trout production	Nearly 5,000 MT a year, a six-fold rise in a decade

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/coldwater-fisheries-pithoragarh-cluster-reviewed-under-pmmsy/

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Swachhata Hi Seva 2026: Petroleum Ministry Changes 9,845 Units

19 October 2026 · National

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas completed Swachhata Hi Seva 2026, transforming 9,845 cleanliness target units and cleaning 937 public spaces.

- The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, with its CPSEs and attached offices, took part in the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign from 17 September to 2 October 2026.
- A total of 9,845 cleanliness target units were transformed with 99,548 participants, and 937 public spaces were cleaned with 45,526 participants.
- The campaign held 143 water body cleanliness drives, 543 mohalla drives and reached 18,700 schoolchildren under Swachh Pathshala.
- For sanitation workers, 234 Safai Mitra Suraksha Evam Samman Shivir were organised with 7,098 workers, 276 health check-ups and 3,518 PPE kits.
- Under Swachhata Se Samriddhi, 175 plastic recycling melas were held, 135 plastic waste management units assessed and 687 Kabaad Se Jugaad entries received.

Campaign	Swachhata Hi Seva 2026
Ministry	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, with its CPSEs and attached offices
Period	17 September to 2 October 2026
Pledge ceremony	Administered by the Secretary (PNG) at Kartavya Bhawan-3, New Delhi
Target units transformed	9,845, with 99,548 participants
Public spaces cleaned	937, with 45,526 participants
Safai Mitra shivirs	234 camps with 7,098 sanitation workers
Schoolchildren reached	18,700 under Swachh Pathshala: Yuva for Swachhta

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swachhata-hi-seva-2026-petroleum-ministry-changes-9845-units/

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CCPA Delists 3,940 Explosive Sellers From 7 Online Platforms

19 October 2026 · National

The Central Consumer Protection Authority had listings of 3,940 sellers offering regulated explosives such as Ammonium Nitrate removed from seven online platforms.

- The CCPA acted against online listings of regulated explosives, and entries of 3,940 sellers were delisted from seven e-commerce platforms.
- The substances involved were Ammonium Nitrate, Gun Powder, Picric Acid and Pentaerythritol Tetranitrate (PETN).
- IndiaMART carried 3,092 of those sellers, ahead of ExportersIndia with 421, Justdial with 206, TradeIndia with 166 and Dial4Trade with 11.
- Three final orders each imposed a penalty of 10 lakh rupees, and the NCDRC dismissed Dial4Trade's appeal on 9 October 2026.
- Sale of explosives on an online platform can be reported to the National Consumer Helpline on 1915.

Regulator	Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)
Ministry	Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Sellers delisted	3,940 across seven online platforms
Platform with most sellers	IndiaMART, with 3,092 sellers
Substances	Ammonium Nitrate, Gun Powder, Picric Acid, PETN
Main laws	Consumer Protection Act, 2019; Explosives Act, 1884; Ammonium Nitrate Rules, 2012
Licensing body	Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO)
Penalty in each final order	10 lakh rupees

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ccpa-delists-3940-explosive-sellers-from-7-online-platforms/

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DRI Seizes 7.1 Kg Amphetamine and 3.1 Kg Cocaine, Three Held

19 October 2026 · National

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized about 7.1 kg amphetamine and 3.1 kg cocaine in three operations at Bengaluru, Nagpur and Delhi, arresting three people.

- The DRI seized about 7.1 kg amphetamine in two operations and about 3.1 kg cocaine in a third, and three persons were arrested.
- At Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru, 5.166 kg amphetamine was recovered from a passenger who arrived from Delhi on 14 October 2026.
- Near Khapa Phata, Saoner, on the outskirts of Nagpur, 1.97 kg amphetamine was found hidden in a backpack's lining and in a ladies' suit.
- At Terminal 3 of Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi, 3.134 kg cocaine in six packets was seized from a passenger arriving from Ghana.
- All the seizures were made under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

Agency	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)
Ministry	Ministry of Finance
Amphetamine seized	About 7.1 kg in two operations
Cocaine seized	About 3.1 kg in one operation
Bengaluru case	5.166 kg amphetamine, passenger from Delhi, 14 October 2026
Nagpur case	1.97 kg amphetamine near Khapa Phata, Saoner
Delhi case	3.134 kg cocaine in six packets, passenger from Ghana
Arrests	Three persons

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dri-seizes-71-kg-amphetamine-and-31-kg-cocaine-three-held/

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DRI Busts Gujarat Gold Racket, 13 Kg Seized Worth Rs 19.41 Cr

19 October 2026 · Economy

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence broke up a gold smuggling syndicate in Gujarat involving 13.017 kg of foreign-origin gold worth about Rs 19.41 crore.

- The DRI dismantled a gold smuggling syndicate running through Ahmedabad and Surat airports, with three arrests under the Customs Act, 1962.
- The dealings exposed involved 13.017 kg of foreign-origin gold worth about Rs 19.41 crore.
- Searches over 42 hours from 16 October 2026 led to the seizure of about 890 grams of gold and evidence of 6.41 kg melted illegally.
- Gold was concealed as rhodium-coated thin wires, inside trolley bag linings and as gold paste in the inner shells of bags.
- The melting unit was at Vadodara, the metal was sold through an Ahmedabad jewellery shop, and the syndicate's financier was based in Dubai.

Agency	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)
State	Gujarat
Airports used	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad and Surat International Airport
Gold in dealings exposed	13.017 kg of foreign origin
Value	About Rs 19.41 crore
Gold seized	About 890 grams
Illegally melted gold traced	6.41 kg
Melting facility	Vadodara

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dri-busts-gujarat-gold-racket-13-kg-seized-worth-rs-1941-cr/

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Rinku Hooda Wins Javelin F46 Gold With 65.11 Metre Throw

19 October 2026 · Sports

Rinku Hooda won the men's javelin throw F46 gold at the Asian Para Games 2026 with a season-best 65.11 metres, and Ajeet Singh took the silver medal.

- Rinku Hooda won gold in the men's javelin throw F46 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 with a season-best throw of 65.11 metres.
- Ajeet Singh won the silver medal in the same F46 javelin final, so India took both of the top two places in the event.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated both throwers, praising Rinku Hooda's discipline and Ajeet Singh's competitive spirit.
- In para athletics the letter F marks a field event such as the javelin, and medals are decided separately in each sport class.

Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Event	Men's javelin throw F46 (para athletics)
Gold medal	Rinku Hooda
Winning throw	65.11 metres, his season best
Silver medal	Ajeet Singh
Date of result	19 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rinku-hooda-wins-javelin-f46-gold-with-6511-metre-throw/

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Soumya Wins 1500m T12/13 Gold on Debut at Asian Para Games

19 October 2026 · Sports

Soumya won the women's 1500m T12/13 gold on debut with a personal best at the Asian Para Games 2026, and Radha Venkatesh took silver in the same race.

- Soumya won the women's 1500m T12/13 gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 on her debut at the Games, with a personal best timing.
- Radha Venkatesh took the silver medal in the same women's 1500m T12/13 race, so India filled both of the top two places.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the exceptional performance on debut reflected Soumya's talent, dedication and determination.
- A combined class such as T12/13 means athletes of two neighbouring sport classes compete together for one set of medals.

Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Event	Women's 1500m T12/13 (para athletics)
Gold medal	Soumya
What made it special	A gold on debut, run in a personal best time
Silver medal	Radha Venkatesh
Date of result	19 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/soumya-wins-1500m-t1213-gold-on-debut-at-asian-para-games/

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Nishad Kumar Wins Men's Long Jump T47 Gold on Event Debut

19 October 2026 · Sports

Nishad Kumar won the men's long jump T47 gold at the Asian Para Games 2026 with an outstanding jump, and the title came on his debut in the event.

- Nishad Kumar won the gold medal in the men's long jump T47 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 with an outstanding jump.
- The gold came on his debut in this event, which the Prime Minister said made the achievement even more special.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised his versatility, determination and sporting excellence and called the performance truly inspiring.
- In para athletics the letter T covers track and jumping events such as the long jump, and medals are decided separately in each sport class.

Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Event	Men's long jump T47 (para athletics)
Medal	Gold
Athlete	Nishad Kumar
Special feature	Gold won on his debut in the event
Date of result	19 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nishad-kumar-wins-mens-long-jump-t47-gold-on-event-debut/

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Kokila Judo Silver, Ravi Budigina Swim Silver for India

19 October 2026 · Sports

Kokila won silver in the women's J2 -52kg judo and Ravi K. Budigina silver in the men's 100m freestyle S13 at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 19 October.

- Kokila won the silver medal in the women's J2 -52kg judo event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 19 October 2026.
- She had won a bronze at the previous Asian Para Games, so the silver marked a step up the podium in a new category.
- Ravi K. Budigina won the silver medal in the men's 100m freestyle S13 swimming event at the same Games.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised Kokila's perseverance and called Ravi K. Budigina's result a proud moment for the nation.

Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Judo silver	Kokila, women's J2 -52kg
Kokila's earlier medal	Bronze at the previous Asian Para Games
Swimming silver	Ravi K. Budigina, men's 100m freestyle S13
Sports involved	Para judo and para swimming
Date of results	19 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kokila-judo-silver-ravi-budigina-swim-silver-for-india/

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Police Commemoration Day 2026 Honours Hot Springs Martyrs

19 October 2026 · Important Days

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will pay homage to police martyrs at the National Police Memorial in New Delhi on Police Commemoration Day, 21 October 2026.

- Police Commemoration Day is observed on 21 October every year; the main function in 2026 will be held at the National Police Memorial, New Delhi, with the Union Home Minister presiding
- The day marks the ambush of 21 October 1959 at Hot Springs in Ladakh, in which ten Indian policemen were killed by heavily armed Chinese troops
- The National Police Memorial at Chanakyapuri was dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister on Police Commemoration Day in 2018 and has a central sculpture, the Wall of Valour and a museum
- The central sculpture is a granite monolith 30 feet high; the memorial is open on all days except Monday
- A motorcycle rally on the theme Fight Against Drugs, with about 90 riders, will be flagged off and will reach Ekta Nagar in Gujarat for the Ekta Parade on 31 October 2026

Day	Police Commemoration Day, 21 October
Origin	Hot Springs ambush, Ladakh, 21 October 1959; ten policemen killed
Main venue 2026	National Police Memorial, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi
Presided over by	Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah
Memorial dedicated	By Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Police Commemoration Day, 2018
Memorial parts	Central sculpture (granite monolith, 30 feet), Wall of Valour, museum
Rally theme	Fight Against Drugs; about 90 riders flagged off
Rally destination	Ekta Nagar, Gujarat, for the Ekta Parade on 31 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/police-commemoration-day-2026-honours-hot-springs-martyrs/

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Swavlamban 2026: Navy Seminar on 26-27 October in New Delhi

19 October 2026 · Defence

The Indian Navy will hold the fifth edition of its NIIO seminar Swavlamban on 26 and 27 October 2026 at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, with three documents to be released.

- Swavlamban 2026, the fifth edition of the Indian Navy's NIIO seminar, will be held on 26 and 27 October 2026 at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
- The curtain raiser press conference was chaired by Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar, Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, in New Delhi on 19 October 2026
- Three documents will be released: the Swavlamban 5.0 Document, the Compendium on Technology Imperatives and the NAUSETU Interface Standards
- Exhibition themes include maritime surveillance, Counter-UAS, artificial intelligence and quantum, NBCD, and safety and efficiency enhancers
- The seminar has run since 2022 and connects the Navy with start-ups, MSMEs, academia and investors, including sessions on the iDEX ecosystem

Event	Swavlamban 2026, fifth edition of the Indian Navy's NIIO seminar
Dates	26 and 27 October 2026
Venue	Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
Curtain raiser chaired by	Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar, Vice Chief of the Naval Staff
Documents to be released	Swavlamban 5.0 Document; Compendium on Technology Imperatives; NAUSETU Interface Standards
NAUSETU	Naval Unified Systems, Ethernet and Tactical Utilisation
Exhibition themes	Maritime surveillance, Counter-UAS, AI and quantum, NBCD, safety and efficiency enhancers
Running since	2022

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swavlamban-2026-navy-seminar-on-26-27-october-in-new-delhi/

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Special Campaign 6.0 Earns Rs 491.28 Crore From Scrap

19 October 2026 · National

Special Swachhata Campaign 6.0 earned Rs 491.28 crore from scrap disposal and covered 8,34,509 cleanliness sites by 19 October 2026, Jitendra Singh reviewed.

- As on 19 October 2026, Special Swachhata Campaign 6.0 had covered 8,34,509 cleanliness campaign sites against 2,75,432 in the same period of Campaign 5.0, a 3.03-fold rise
- Revenue from scrap disposal reached Rs 491.28 crore, against Rs 304.72 crore in the corresponding period last year, a 1.61-fold increase
- Office space freed stood at 116 lakh square feet, compared with 113.12 lakh square feet during the same period of Special Campaign 5.0
- The Department of School Education and Literacy led on sites with 4,15,353, while the Ministry of Railways earned the most from scrap at Rs 425.06 crore
- Special Campaign 6.0 runs from 2 October to 31 October 2026; DARPG freed 1,200 square feet on one floor of its own office

Campaign	Special Swachhata Campaign 6.0, 2 October to 31 October 2026
Reviewed by	Union Minister of State Dr Jitendra Singh
Figures as on	19 October 2026
Cleanliness sites	8,34,509 against 2,75,432 last year (3.03 times)
Scrap revenue	Rs 491.28 crore against Rs 304.72 crore (1.61 times)
Space freed	116 lakh sq ft against 113.12 lakh sq ft
Most sites	Department of School Education and Literacy, 4,15,353
Highest scrap revenue	Ministry of Railways, Rs 425.06 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/special-campaign-60-earns-rs-49128-crore-from-scrap/

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NHAI Adds Toll Plaza Feedback Feature to Rajmargyatra App

19 October 2026 · National

The National Highways Authority of India has introduced a Toll Plaza Feedback feature on the Rajmargyatra mobile app so highway users can rate any toll plaza.

- NHAI has introduced a Toll Plaza Feedback feature on the Rajmargyatra mobile app, allowing national highway users to share their experience at toll plazas
- Annual pass holders get a notification on the app after crossing a toll plaza, inviting them to give feedback on that crossing
- All app users can reach the Toll Plaza Feedback option from the menu section and submit feedback on any toll plaza of their choice
- Users rate the experience on a scale, pick options relevant to their journey and can add remarks; the initiative comes under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- NHAI will use the responses to identify and monitor toll plazas where services need improvement, and has asked users to take part actively

Feature	Toll Plaza Feedback, on the Rajmargyatra mobile app
Introduced by	National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
Ministry	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
Automatic prompt	Annual pass users, after crossing a national highway toll plaza
Open to	All app users, through the menu section, for any toll plaza
What a user submits	A rating on a scale, options relevant to the journey, and remarks
Purpose	Safer, smoother and more convenient national highway journeys through citizen participation

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nhai-adds-toll-plaza-feedback-feature-to-rajmargyatra-app/

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MY Bharat Holds 1,174 Nasha Mukt Yuva Events in 36 States, UTs

19 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Mera Yuva Bharat held 1,174 programmes across 36 states and union territories in the fifth week of the Nasha Mukt Yuva Abhiyan, drawing 3,43,288 participants.

- MY Bharat held 1,174 programmes across 36 states and union territories on 17 October 2026, in the fifth week of the 100 Weeks Campaign under Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Abhiyan
- A total of 3,43,288 youth and citizens took part and the same number of pledges were taken, with 3,380 activities organised
- The two themes of the week were Yoga and Meditation for Nasha Mukt Yuva, and the Neighbourhood Youth Parliament discussion Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Par Charcha
- Partner organisations included Heartfulness, Project Point, CIPU, ASSOCHAM, FICCI, CII and the Brahma Kumaris
- MY Bharat is the youth platform of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; the activities covered pledges, yoga and meditation sessions and awareness discussions

Platform	Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
Campaign	Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Abhiyan, run as a 100 Weeks Campaign
Week and date	Fifth week, held on 17 October 2026
Themes	Yoga and Meditation for Nasha Mukt Yuva; Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Par Charcha (Neighbourhood Youth Parliament)
Programmes	1,174 across 36 states and union territories
Participation	3,43,288 youth and citizens; 3,43,288 pledges
Activities	3,380
Partners	Heartfulness, Project Point, CIPU, ASSOCHAM, FICCI, CII, Brahma Kumaris

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/my-bharat-holds-1174-nasha-mukt-yuva-events-in-36-states-uts/

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NFSC Fellowship Helps Solapur Scholar Finish His PhD

19 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment said a Solapur scholar completed his PhD with Rs 9.90 lakh of support under the NFSC fellowship scheme.

- Dr Shrikant Dilip Khandare of Solapur, Maharashtra, completed his PhD with support under the National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste Students (NFSC)
- The assistance, including the fellowship and House Rent Allowance, totalled Rs 9.90 lakh and began reaching him in October 2019
- He qualified the CSIR-UGC NET in June 2018; his research deals with sustainable solutions to plastic waste and pollution
- The NFSC scheme is run by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and supports eligible Scheduled Caste students in higher education and research
- The ministry highlighted the case to show how timely financial assistance helps scholars from disadvantaged backgrounds complete doctoral studies

Scheme	National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste Students (NFSC)
Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Scholar	Dr Shrikant Dilip Khandare, Solapur, Maharashtra
Assistance received	Rs 9.90 lakh, including fellowship and House Rent Allowance
Support began	October 2019
Examination qualified	CSIR-UGC NET, June 2018
Research area	Sustainable solutions to plastic waste and pollution

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nfsc-fellowship-helps-solapur-scholar-finish-his-phd/

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India-New Zealand FTA Comes Into Force on 20 October 2026

19 October 2026 · International

India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement takes effect on 20 October 2026, with duty-free entry for all Indian goods and a USD 20 billion investment pledge.

- The India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement enters into force on 20 October 2026, on Vijay Dashmi
- New Zealand has scrapped duty on all tariff lines for Indian goods, ending peak tariffs of up to 10 per cent
- New Zealand will facilitate USD 20 billion of investment into India under the agreement
- Indians get 5,000 Temporary Employment Entry visas and 1,000 Working Holiday visas a year; services access covers about 118 sectors
- Negotiations ran from 16 March 2025 to 22 December 2025 and the pact was signed on 27 April 2026

Agreement	India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA)
Entry into force	20 October 2026 (Vijay Dashmi)
Signed on	27 April 2026
Indian minister	Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry
New Zealand minister	Todd McClay, Trade and Investment
Investment pledge	USD 20 billion into India
Visa quotas for Indians	5,000 Temporary Employment Entry and 1,000 Working Holiday visas a year
Trade target	NZ$7 billion (about Rs 35,000 crore) by 2030

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

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AUSTRAHIND 2026: 5th India-Australia Exercise in Kerala

19 October 2026 · Defence

The 5th edition of India-Australia joint military exercise AUSTRAHIND began at Thiruvananthapuram on 19 October 2026 and runs till 1 November 2026.

- The 5th edition of India-Australia joint military exercise AUSTRAHIND began on 19 October 2026 at the Foreign Training Node, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- The exercise runs from 19 October to 1 November 2026 with about 120 personnel from each army
- The Indian contingent is based on the Garhwal Rifles; the Australian contingent comes from 13 Brigade
- Theme: Joint Sub-Conventional Operations in Island and Coastal Environment under Chapter VII of the UN Mandate
- For the first time an observer delegation from New Zealand is taking part; the 4th edition was held at Irwin Barracks, Perth, in October 2025

Exercise	AUSTRAHIND 2026 (5th edition)
Countries	India and Australia (armies)
Venue	Foreign Training Node, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
Dates	19 October to 1 November 2026
Strength	About 120 personnel from each army
Indian contingent	Troops of the Garhwal Rifles with other arms and services
Australian contingent	13 Brigade
Theme	Joint Sub-Conventional Operations in Island and Coastal Environment under Chapter VII of the UN Mandate

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/austrahind-2026-5th-india-australia-exercise-in-kerala/

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Financial Inclusion Saturation Drive From 21 October 2026

19 October 2026 · Banking & Finance

The Department of Financial Services will run a financial inclusion saturation campaign from 21 October to 31 December 2026 across 2.70 lakh gram panchayats and ULBs.

- The Department of Financial Services will run a financial inclusion saturation campaign from 21 October to 31 December 2026
- The campaign covers 2.70 lakh gram panchayats and urban local bodies across the country
- Bank camps will enrol people under PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY, open PMJDY accounts and complete re-KYC
- Camps will also run awareness sessions on digital frauds and on the unclaimed assets drive Aapki Poonji, Aapka Adhikar
- KCC applications and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana enrolment for the Rabi season are part of the campaign

Campaign	Saturation campaign of financial inclusion schemes
Run by	Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance
Period	21 October 2026 to 31 December 2026
Coverage	2.70 lakh gram panchayats and urban local bodies
Insurance schemes covered	PMJJBY and PMSBY
Pension scheme covered	Atal Pension Yojana
Account scheme covered	Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
Awareness theme	Digital frauds and Aapki Poonji, Aapka Adhikar on unclaimed financial assets

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/financial-inclusion-saturation-drive-from-21-october-2026/

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BIS Holds PRAGATI 2026 on AYUSH Quality Standards

19 October 2026 · National

BIS held PRAGATI 2026 in Belagavi and a Sowa-Rigpa session in Leh on standardisation in Ayurveda, Yoga and Sowa-Rigpa, drawing over 600 stakeholders.

- The AYUSH Department of the Bureau of Indian Standards held two national events on standardisation in Ayurveda, Yoga and Sowa-Rigpa
- More than 600 researchers, industry leaders, academics and practitioners took part in the nationwide campaign
- PRAGATI 2026, the National Seminar on Standardization in Ayurveda and Yoga, was held at Belagavi, Karnataka, with 600 participants
- A brainstorming session and the 5th Sowa-Rigpa Sectional Committee meeting were held at the National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa in Leh, Ladakh
- Shrishti Dixit, Scientist-E and Head (AYUSH) at BIS, spoke on Indian Standards and on India's role in ISO standardisation

Organiser	AYUSH Department, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
Seminar	PRAGATI 2026, National Seminar on Standardization in Ayurveda and Yoga
Seminar venue	Belagavi, Karnataka
Participation	Over 600 experts, practitioners and industry leaders
Second event	5th Sowa-Rigpa Sectional Committee meeting and brainstorming session
Second venue	National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa, Leh, Ladakh
Committee chairperson	Padma Shri Dr Padma Gurmet
BIS AYUSH head	Shrishti Dixit, Scientist-E

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bis-holds-pragati-2026-on-ayush-quality-standards/

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Defence Secretary Launches New MoD and DoD Websites

19 October 2026 · Defence

Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh launched revamped MoD and DoD websites on 19 October 2026, built to DBIM 3.0 and GIGW 3.0 and offered in 22 languages.

- Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh launched the revamped websites of the Ministry of Defence and the Department of Defence on 19 October 2026
- Both websites fully comply with the Digital Brand Identity Manual (DBIM) 3.0 and the Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW) 3.0
- The content is available in 22 Indian official languages for wider outreach and better accessibility
- The websites carry ministry policies, initiatives, activities, notifications and defence-related updates and can be used at www.mod.gov.in
- The relaunch is tied to the Digital India and e-governance push for transparency, efficiency and citizen-centric information delivery

Launched by	Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh
Date	19 October 2026
Websites	Ministry of Defence and Department of Defence
Standards followed	Digital Brand Identity Manual (DBIM) 3.0 and Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW) 3.0
Languages	22 Indian official languages
Web address	www.mod.gov.in
Aligned with	Digital India and e-governance

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/defence-secretary-launches-new-mod-and-dod-websites/

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India, Saudi Arabia Review Electrical Interconnection Plan

19 October 2026 · International

Power Secretary Pankaj Agarwal and Saudi Assistant Energy Minister Nasser Al-Qahtani reviewed the India-Saudi Arabia Electrical Interconnection plan.

- Power Secretary Pankaj Agarwal held a virtual bilateral meeting with Saudi Assistant Minister of Energy for Electricity Affairs Nasser Al-Qahtani
- The two sides reviewed progress of the India-Saudi Arabia Electrical Interconnection initiative
- Saudi Arabia sought closer cooperation on Extra High Voltage transmission systems and on grid codes
- Other areas raised were the challenges of higher renewable energy penetration in the grid and the rising power needs of data centres
- Both sides agreed to sustain the dialogue to deepen the India-Saudi Arabia partnership in the power sector

Initiative	India-Saudi Arabia Electrical Interconnection
Indian representative	Pankaj Agarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Power
Saudi representative	Nasser Al-Qahtani, Assistant Minister of Energy for Electricity Affairs
Format	Virtual bilateral meeting
Focus area 1	Extra High Voltage (EHV) transmission systems
Focus area 2	Higher renewable energy penetration in the grid
Focus area 3	Power requirements of emerging data centres
Focus area 4	Updating of grid codes

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-saudi-arabia-review-electrical-interconnection-plan/

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UPSC Declares CDS (II) 2026 Result, 8,956 Clear Written Test

19 October 2026 · Defence

The Union Public Service Commission declared the written result of Combined Defence Services Examination (II) 2026, with 8,956 candidates cleared for SSB.

- The Union Public Service Commission declared the written result of the Combined Defence Services Examination (II) 2026, a paper held on 13 September 2026.
- 8,956 candidates qualified for the interview conducted by the Service Selection Board of the Ministry of Defence.
- Qualifiers compete for the Indian Military Academy 163rd Direct Entry Course and the Air Force Academy 222 F(P) Pre-Flying Training Course, both from July 2027.
- The Officers Training Academy at Chennai runs the 126th Short Service Commission courses for men and for women from October 2027.
- Mark sheets reach the Commission online portal within 15 days of the Officers Training Academy final result and stay there for 30 days.

Examination	Combined Defence Services Examination (II) 2026
Conducted by	Union Public Service Commission
Written test held	13 September 2026
Qualified for interview	8,956 candidates
Interview body	Service Selection Board, Ministry of Defence
IMA Dehradun	163rd Direct Entry Course, from July 2027
Indian Naval Academy	Ezhimala, Kerala
Air Force Academy	Hyderabad, 222 F(P) Pre-Flying Training Course

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/upsc-declares-cds-ii-2026-result-8956-clear-written-test/

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DRI Seizes 591.3 kg Ganja Brought From Nepal Into Uttar Pradesh

19 October 2026 · National

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized 591.3 kg of ganja hidden in built-in truck cavities in Uttar Pradesh, a consignment suspected to be from Nepal.

- The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized 591.3 kg of ganja in Uttar Pradesh in an operation run during 17 and 18 October 2026.
- The consignment of 81 packets was hidden in two cavities fabricated in a truck, one above the hood and one behind the driver seat.
- Intelligence said the truck would enter Uttar Pradesh through Sonauli on the Nepal border; it was stopped between Gorakhpur and Kushinagar.
- DRI Gorakhpur led the surveillance with teams from Lucknow, Patna and Varanasi, keeping watch for over four hours.
- The ganja and the truck were seized under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

Agency	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Ministry of Finance
Seizure	591.3 kg ganja in 81 packets
Operation dates	17 and 18 October 2026
Suspected origin	Nepal
Entry point watched	Sonauli, Uttar Pradesh
Interception	Road between Gorakhpur and Kushinagar
Supporting units	Gorakhpur, Lucknow, Patna and Varanasi
Law invoked	NDPS Act, 1985

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dri-seizes-5913-kg-ganja-brought-from-nepal-into-uttar-pradesh/

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DRI Seizes Rs 8.64 Crore Smuggled Cigarettes in Mizoram

19 October 2026 · Economy

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized 43.2 lakh foreign-origin cigarettes worth Rs 8.64 crore in Mizoram and arrested the truck driver carrying them.

- The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized 43.2 lakh foreign-origin cigarette sticks worth Rs 8.64 crore in Mizoram.
- The consignment of 432 cases, of the Patron brand, was intercepted at Tuirial village on the Champhai-Aizawl Road.
- The packets lacked the pictorial and health warnings required by the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003.
- The cigarettes and the truck were seized under Section 110 of the Customs Act, 1962, and the driver was arrested.
- The cigarettes are suspected to have entered Mizoram from Myanmar through the Zokhawthar sector of the border.

Agency	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Aizawl Regional Unit
Quantity	43.2 lakh sticks, that is 43,20,000 cigarettes
Cases seized	432
Value	Rs 8.64 crore
Brand	Patron, foreign origin
Interception point	Tuirial village, Champhai-Aizawl Road
State	Mizoram
Suspected origin	Myanmar, through the Zokhawthar sector

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dri-seizes-rs-864-crore-smuggled-cigarettes-in-mizoram/

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20 October 2026

UDAN Completes 10 Years, Modified UDAN Opens Next Phase

20 October 2026 · Government Schemes

UDAN, the Regional Connectivity Scheme launched on 21 October 2016, completed ten years with 687 routes and 95 aerodromes operational, as Modified UDAN begins.

- UDAN, the Regional Connectivity Scheme, was launched on 21 October 2016 under the National Civil Aviation Policy 2016, and its first flight linked Shimla with Delhi in April 2017.
- In ten years the scheme has opened 687 regional routes and 95 aerodromes, including 17 heliports and two water aerodromes, carrying 1.72 crore passengers on more than 3.68 lakh flights.
- Viability Gap Funding of Rs 5091.23 crore had been disbursed up to 15 October 2026, while operational airports in India rose from 74 in 2014 to 166.
- Modified UDAN, launched on 4 July 2026, runs from FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36 with an outlay of Rs 28,840 crore covering 100 new airports, 200 helipads and airline support.
- In the North East 90 priority routes are operational, and 12 of the 52 aerodromes, heliports and water aerodromes identified there are working.

Scheme	UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik), the Regional Connectivity Scheme
Launched	21 October 2016, under the National Civil Aviation Policy 2016
First UDAN flight	Shimla to Delhi, April 2017
Routes operationalised	687
Aerodromes operationalised	95, including 17 heliports and two water aerodromes
Passengers carried	1.72 crore, on more than 3.68 lakh flights
VGF disbursed	Rs 5091.23 crore, as on 15 October 2026
Operational airports in India	166, up from 74 in 2014

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/udan-completes-10-years-modified-udan-opens-next-phase/

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Green Diwali Campaign Launched for 130 NCAP Cities

20 October 2026 · Environment

WWF-India's EIACP centre, backed by the Environment Ministry, launched a nationwide Green Diwali Campaign from 20 October to 8 November 2026 under Mission LiFE.

- WWF-India's Programme Centre - Resource Partner launched the nationwide Green Diwali Campaign on 20 October 2026, supported by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- The campaign runs from 20 October to 8 November 2026 and asks citizens to mark a cracker-free, clean and green Diwali in line with Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment).
- All 130 cities covered by the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) get special focus, besides schools, colleges, resident welfare associations and local communities.
- The Green Diwali Pledge covers avoiding firecrackers, using diyas and energy-efficient lights, keeping away from single-use plastic, segregating waste and choosing local products.
- Citizens are also urged to take WWF-India's Carbon Footprint Survey, while institutions report activities online and selected entries feature on EIACP websites.

Campaign	Green Diwali Campaign
Launched by	WWF-India EIACP Programme Centre - Resource Partner (PC-RP)
Supported by	Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Duration	20 October to 8 November 2026
Aligned with	Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)
Special focus	130 cities under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)
Main appeal	Celebrate a cracker-free, clean and green Diwali
Also promoted	WWF-India's Carbon Footprint Survey

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/green-diwali-campaign-launched-for-130-ncap-cities/

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Rajnath Singh at 25th SCO Heads of Government Meet in Dushanbe

20 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh led India at the 25th SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, and sought joint action on terror.

- The 25th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government was held at Dushanbe in Tajikistan on 20 October 2026, with Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh speaking for India.
- Rajnath Singh sought concerted effort to dismantle the entire ecosystem of terrorism, saying terror allows no excuse, no twin yardsticks and no refuge for its financiers and hosts.
- India supported the Action Plan for the Multilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation Programme for 2026-2030, and welcomed the Universal Centre at Tashkent and the Anti-Drug Centre at Dushanbe as permanent SCO bodies.
- The Minister named the International North-South Transport Corridor and Chabahar Port as links from Central Asia to wider markets, and said connectivity must respect sovereignty and territorial integrity.
- The Joint Communique adopted at the meeting carried the SCO budget for 2027; India has been a full member of the grouping since 2017.

Event	25th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG)
Venue	Dushanbe, Tajikistan
Date	20 October 2026
India represented by	Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh
Trade plan supported	Action Plan for the Multilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation Programme, 2026-2030
New permanent bodies	Universal Centre at Tashkent; Anti-Drug Centre at Dushanbe
Connectivity routes named	International North-South Transport Corridor and Chabahar Port
Budget adopted	SCO budget for 2027, in the Joint Communique

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rajnath-singh-at-25th-sco-heads-of-government-meet-in-dushanbe/

India Targets 100 GW Nuclear Power Capacity by 2047

20 October 2026 · Science & Technology

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said India's nuclear programme serves peaceful ends and the country aims at 100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047.

- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said India's nuclear programme is dedicated to peaceful purposes and not to warfare, speaking on the sidelines of the Bloomberg Economy Forum 2026.
- India is working towards 100 GW of nuclear power capacity by 2047 and Net Zero emissions by 2070, with nuclear energy supplying continuous and reliable clean electricity.
- The Minister said the spread of artificial intelligence and data centres will need a large and dependable power supply, which nuclear generation is expected to help meet.
- He recalled Dr. Homi Bhabha, the architect of India's nuclear programme, whose vision he said continues to guide the country's peaceful nuclear journey.
- Critical and sensitive sectors have been opened wider to non-government players, enlarging the scope for private participation in strategic areas.

Who said it	Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh
Department	Department of Atomic Energy
Occasion	Sidelines of the Bloomberg Economy Forum 2026
Nuclear capacity target	100 GW by 2047
Net Zero target	2070
Architect of India's nuclear programme	Dr. Homi Bhabha
Purpose of the programme	Peaceful purposes, not warfare
New demand driver named	Artificial intelligence and data centres

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-targets-100-gw-nuclear-power-capacity-by-2047/

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Vijaya Dashami Address: 650 Antiquities Returned in 12 Years

20 October 2026 · National

At Ramlila Maidan in Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said over 650 ancient idols had been brought back to India across the past 12 years.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Vijaya Dashami celebrations at Ramlila Maidan in Delhi on 20 October 2026
- He said more than 650 ancient idols have been brought back to India over the past 12 years after being taken abroad
- Deepavali was inscribed on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list in the previous year, he noted
- He asked the administration to follow the mantra of Nagrik Devo Bhava and to keep service of the poor and deprived foremost
- He recalled the vision of 'Ram Se Rashtra' and 'Dev Se Desh' conceived at the Ayodhya temple Pran Pratishtha ceremony

Occasion	Vijaya Dashami celebrations
Venue	Ramlila Maidan, Delhi
Date	20 October 2026
Antiquities repatriated	More than 650 ancient idols in the past 12 years
UNESCO listing cited	Deepavali on the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list
Governance mantra	Nagrik Devo Bhava
Vision recalled	'Ram Se Rashtra' and 'Dev Se Desh'
Goals named	Viksit Bharat and Aatmanirbhar Bharat

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vijaya-dashami-address-650-antiquities-returned-in-12-years/

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Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 Opens in Guwahati With 75 Artisans

20 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The second edition of Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 begins in Guwahati, Assam, with 75 artisans showing about 40 varieties of handloom and handicraft goods.

- Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 begins its eight-day Guwahati leg on 21 October 2026 and runs until Wednesday, 28 October
- A total of 75 artisans are taking part, including 31 women, displaying about 40 varieties of handloom and handicraft products
- The venue is Farm Gate, Khanapara, in Guwahati, open to the public from 11 in the morning to 9 at night
- BHARAT-TULIP stands for Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme and is the mela's main focus at Guwahati
- The mela supports artisans tied to NSFDC, NSKFDC and NBCFDC, drawn from SCs, OBCs, Safai Mitras and Denotified Tribes

Event	Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 (SSM 2026), Guwahati edition
Organiser	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Venue	Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati, Assam
Duration	Eight days, from 21 October to Wednesday, 28 October 2026
Visiting hours	11 in the morning to 9 at night
Participation	75 artisans, including 31 women, with about 40 product varieties
Key programme	BHARAT-TULIP, the Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme
Corporations involved	NSFDC, NSKFDC and NBCFDC

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shilp-samagam-mela-2026-opens-in-guwahati-with-75-artisans/

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Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 Concludes in Mysuru, Karnataka

20 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The nine-day Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 of the Social Justice Ministry ended at Mysuru with 83 stalls and artisans from 12 States and Union Territories.

- The nine-day Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment closed on 20 October 2026 at the Dasara Exhibition Grounds in Mysuru, Karnataka.
- It carried 83 stalls, of which 80 went to artisans, and 37 of those artisans were women; the sellers came from 12 States and Union Territories.
- The fair serves craft workers from the Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes and Safai Karamcharis, helped by the NSFDC, NBCFDC and NSKFDC.
- The Ministry has run these fairs since 2022; 13 editions have been held and 975 artisans have gained from them, and Mysuru was the first of the financial year 2026-27.
- BHARAT TULIP, the Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme, brands the goods of these groups for sale on digital platforms in India and abroad.

Event	Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 (nine days)
Venue	Dasara Exhibition Grounds, Mysuru, Karnataka
Organiser	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Corporations involved	NSFDC, NBCFDC and NSKFDC
Stalls	83 in all, 80 allotted to artisans
Women artisans	37
States and UTs represented	12
Fairs held since 2022	13, benefiting 975 artisans

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shilp-samagam-mela-2026-concludes-in-mysuru-karnataka/

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India Wins Two Bronze Medals at Asian Para Games 2026

20 October 2026 · Sports

Ravanni Valasanaini took bronze in the Women’s 1500m T11 and Bhavina Patel in the Women’s Singles Class 4-5 at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October.

- Ravanni Valasanaini won the bronze medal in the Women’s 1500m T11 event at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the run was also her personal best.
- Bhavina Patel won the bronze medal in the Women’s Singles Class 4-5 event at the same Games, adding another milestone to her record.
- Both medals came on 20 October 2026 and Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the two athletes the same day.
- The Prime Minister said Ravanni Valasanaini’s podium finish reflected the determination and perseverance of India’s para-athletes.
- He praised Bhavina Patel’s consistency over the years and her commitment to sporting excellence, and wished her well for her coming events.

Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Ravanni Valasanaini	Bronze, Women’s 1500m T11 event
Extra note on her run	The medal came with a personal best
Bhavina Patel	Bronze, Women’s Singles Class 4-5 event
Date of both medals	20 October 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-wins-two-bronze-medals-at-asian-para-games-2026/

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Deepthi Jeevanji Defends 400m T20 Gold With Games Record

20 October 2026 · Sports

Deepthi Jeevanji retained her Women’s 400m T20 title at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October with a Games Record, improving on her own winning run.

- Deepthi Jeevanji won the gold medal in the Women’s 400m T20 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026.
- The gold was a successful defence of the title she already held in the event, not a first win.
- She set a Games Record in the same race, so she improved her performance while keeping the title.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said she had shown the true spirit of a champion and would inspire countless young athletes.
- In para athletics the class code T20 is part of the event name, so the medal is a Women’s 400m T20 gold.

Athlete	Deepthi Jeevanji
Event	Women’s 400m T20
Medal	Gold
Special note	Title defended and a Games Record set in the same race
Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Date of the medal	20 October 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/deepthi-jeevanji-defends-400m-t20-gold-with-games-record/

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Prachi Pandey, Sahana Ravi Make Para Table Tennis History

20 October 2026 · Sports

Prachi Pandey won India’s first medal in the Women’s Singles Class 6 and Baby Sahana Ravi the first in the standing category at the Asian Para Games 2026.

- Prachi Pandey won bronze in the Women’s Singles Class 6 event and became the first Indian to win a medal in that event at the Asian Para Games.
- Baby Sahana Ravi won bronze in the Women’s Singles Class 9 event, India’s first-ever medal in the standing category at these Games.
- Both bronze medals came on the athletes’ debut appearance at the Asian Para Games, on 20 October 2026.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi called Prachi Pandey’s medal a historic first for Indian para table tennis and a pathbreaking achievement.
- He said Baby Sahana Ravi had created history and that the moment would encourage more young athletes to dream big.

Sport	Para table tennis
Prachi Pandey	Bronze, Women’s Singles Class 6
Her first	First Indian to win a medal in the Women’s Singles Class 6 event
Baby Sahana Ravi	Bronze, Women’s Singles Class 9
Her first	India’s first-ever medal in the standing category
Common to both	Won on debut at the Games
Games and date	Asian Para Games 2026, 20 October 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/prachi-pandey-sahana-ravi-make-para-table-tennis-history/

GK24.in

Jehan Madan, Sonalben Patel Add Para Table Tennis Bronze

20 October 2026 · Sports

Jehan Dorab Madan took bronze in the Men’s Singles Class 1 and Sonalben Patel in the Women’s Singles Class 3 at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October.

- Jehan Dorab Madan won the bronze medal in the Men’s Singles Class 1 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026.
- Sonalben Patel won the bronze medal in the Women’s Singles Class 3 event on the same day.
- The medal was the first individual medal Sonalben Patel had added to her record at the Asian Para Games.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India’s para table tennis contingent was continuing to make the nation proud.
- He said Sonalben Patel’s success had been made possible by years of dedication, discipline and hard work.

Sport	Para table tennis
Jehan Dorab Madan	Bronze, Men’s Singles Class 1
Sonalben Patel	Bronze, Women’s Singles Class 3
Landmark	Sonalben Patel’s first individual medal at the Asian Para Games
Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Date of both medals	20 October 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/jehan-madan-sonalben-patel-add-para-table-tennis-bronze/

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India Takes Silver and Bronze in 10m Air Pistol SH1 Events

20 October 2026 · Sports

Manish Narwal won silver in the Men’s 10m Air Pistol SH1 and Shrishti Arora bronze in the women’s event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October.

- Manish Narwal won the silver medal in the Men’s 10m Air Pistol SH1 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026.
- Shrishti Arora won the bronze medal in the Women’s 10m Air Pistol SH1 event on the same day.
- Shrishti Arora was competing at her first Asian Para Games, so the bronze came on her debut at the Games.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Manish Narwal continued to distinguish himself through his focus and commitment.
- He called Shrishti Arora’s medal a wonderful beginning and said he was confident she would keep making the nation proud.

Discipline	Para shooting, pistol
Manish Narwal	Silver, Men’s 10m Air Pistol SH1
Shrishti Arora	Bronze, Women’s 10m Air Pistol SH1
Debut note	Shrishti Arora was competing at her first Asian Para Games
Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Date of both medals	20 October 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-takes-silver-and-bronze-in-10m-air-pistol-sh1-events/

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Amit Shah Sets 2029 Deadline for a Drug-Free Punjab

20 October 2026 · National

At Ludhiana on 20 October 2026, Home Minister Amit Shah set a target of 31 December 2029 to rid Punjab of the drug trade and burnt a Ravana of ‘Chitta’.

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah attended the Vijayadashami festival at Ludhiana in Punjab on 20 October 2026 and burnt a symbolic Ravana of chitta, or drugs.
- He announced the resolve to free the entire state of Punjab from the drug trade by 31 December 2029 and make it drug-free.
- He said the Ramlila Committee of Ludhiana has been organising the Ravana Dahan programme for 200 years.
- He met families at three places in Punjab who had lost their sons in the fight against drugs, and sought a CBI probe into the remaining two murders.
- He asked people to report the drug trade on the toll-free helpline of the Narcotics Control Bureau, saying the government would act on the information.

Who	Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation
Where	Ludhiana, Punjab
Occasion	Vijayadashami, 20 October 2026
Symbolic act	Burning of a Ravana effigy representing chitta, or drugs
Target announced	A drug-free Punjab by 31 December 2029
Tradition cited	Ravana Dahan held by the Ludhiana Ramlila Committee for 200 years
Investigation	One of three murders handed to the CBI; the other two sought
Helpline named	The toll-free helpline of the Narcotics Control Bureau

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/amit-shah-sets-2029-deadline-for-a-drug-free-punjab/

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India Adds Five Medals in Athletics, Powerlifting, Swimming

20 October 2026 · Sports

Pradeep Kumar and Ashok won silver while Ayush Verma, Praveen Sharma and Himanshu Nandal took bronze at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October.

- Pradeep Kumar won silver in the Men’s Javelin Throw F53/54 event, his second consecutive Asian Para Games silver, with a personal best.
- Ayush Verma won bronze in the same Men’s Javelin Throw F53/54 event on his debut, also with a personal best.
- Praveen Sharma won bronze in the Men’s Shot Put F11 event at the Asian Para Games 2026.
- Ashok won silver in the Men’s -65kg Para Powerlifting event and Himanshu Nandal bronze in the Men’s 400m Freestyle S11 swimming event.
- All five medals came on 20 October 2026 and Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated each of the athletes the same day.

Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Date of the medals	20 October 2026
Pradeep Kumar	Silver, Men’s Javelin Throw F53/54, with a personal best
His record	Second consecutive Asian Para Games silver in the event
Ayush Verma	Bronze, Men’s Javelin Throw F53/54, on debut with a personal best
Praveen Sharma	Bronze, Men’s Shot Put F11
Ashok	Silver, Men’s -65kg Para Powerlifting
Himanshu Nandal	Bronze, Men’s 400m Freestyle S11

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-adds-five-medals-in-athletics-powerlifting-swimming/

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Nishad Kumar Takes High Jump T47 Gold With Games Record

20 October 2026 · Sports

Nishad Kumar won the Men’s High Jump T47 gold with a Games Record at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October, finishing the meet with two gold medals.

- Nishad Kumar won the gold medal in the Men’s High Jump T47 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026.
- The jump also produced a new Games Record in that event, so the gold came with a record.
- He had already won gold in the long jump at the same Games, taking his tally to two golds in one edition.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised his versatility and his pursuit of excellence, and wished him well for the events ahead.
- T47 is a para athletics classification code and forms part of the event name, so the medal is a Men’s High Jump T47 gold.

Athlete	Nishad Kumar
Event	Men’s High Jump T47
Medal	Gold
Record	New Games Record in the event
Other gold at these Games	Long jump
Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Date of the medal	20 October 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nishad-kumar-takes-high-jump-t47-gold-with-games-record/

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Devender Kumar Leads Indian Sweep in Para Discus Throw

20 October 2026 · Sports

Devender Kumar won gold, Rakesh silver and Pradeep Kumar bronze in the Men’s Discus Throw F43/F44/F62/F64 at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October.

- Devender Kumar won gold in the Men’s Discus Throw F43/F44/F62/F64 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026.
- Rakesh won the silver medal and Pradeep Kumar the bronze in the same event on the same day.
- All three medals in that discus throw event went to Indian athletes, giving India the full podium.
- Pradeep Kumar’s bronze came with a Personal Best throw, which is his own career-best mark rather than a record of the Games.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the three athletes and called the gold a celebration of India’s rise in para sport.

Event	Men’s Discus Throw F43/F44/F62/F64
Gold medallist	Devender Kumar
Silver medallist	Rakesh
Bronze medallist	Pradeep Kumar
Special note	All three medals in the event won by India
Bronze medallist’s mark	Personal Best throw
Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Date of the medals	20 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/devender-kumar-leads-indian-sweep-in-para-discus-throw/

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Pranav Soorma Wins Discus Gold With New Asian Record

20 October 2026 · Sports

Pranav Soorma won the Men’s Discus Throw F51/52/53 gold with a new Asian Record at the Asian Para Games 2026, while Ram Ratan Singh took the silver.

- Pranav Soorma won the gold medal in the Men’s Discus Throw F51/52/53 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026.
- His winning throw set a new Asian Record, which is the best mark recorded in the continent in that class.
- Ram Ratan Singh won the silver medal in the same event, so India took both the gold and the silver.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi called the gold a historic accomplishment and praised the thrower’s strength and competitive spirit.
- An Asian Record outranks a Games Record, which counts only performances achieved at the Asian Para Games.

Event	Men’s Discus Throw F51/52/53
Gold medallist	Pranav Soorma
Record set	New Asian Record
Silver medallist	Ram Ratan Singh
Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Date of the medals	20 October 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pranav-soorma-wins-discus-gold-with-new-asian-record/

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Simran Turns Previous Silver Into 200m T12 Gold With Record

20 October 2026 · Sports

Simran won the Women’s 200m T12 gold with a new record at the Asian Para Games 2026, improving on her silver from the last edition, as Tejalben Damor took bronze.

- Simran won the gold medal in the Women’s 200m T12 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026.
- The winning run also produced a new record in the event, so the gold came with a record.
- She had won the silver in the same event at the previous edition of the Asian Para Games, so this was an upgrade to gold.
- Tejalben Damor won the bronze in the same race, and the medal came on her debut appearance at the Asian Para Games.
- T marks a track event in para athletics and the number fixes the athlete’s class, so the medal is a Women’s 200m T12 medal.

Event	Women’s 200m T12
Gold medallist	Simran
Distinction	New record in the event
Her previous edition result	Silver in the same event
Bronze medallist	Tejalben Damor
Note on the bronze	Won on her Asian Para Games debut
Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Date of the medals	20 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/simran-turns-previous-silver-into-200m-t12-gold-with-record/

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Preeti Pal Takes Silver as India Adds Two Para Bronze

20 October 2026 · Sports

Preeti Pal won silver in the Women’s 200m T35, Hokato Hotozhe Sema bronze in the shot put and Niranjan Mukundan bronze in swimming on 20 October 2026.

- Preeti Pal won the silver medal in the Women’s 200m T35 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026.
- Hokato Hotozhe Sema won the bronze in the Men’s Shot Put F56/F57 event, bettering his performance from the previous edition of the Games.
- Niranjan Mukundan won the bronze in the Men’s 200m Individual Medley SM7 swimming event on the same day.
- An individual medley requires one swimmer to cover the distance in four different strokes, which is why the Prime Minister praised the skill and endurance it demands.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated all three athletes and hoped Preeti Pal would carry her momentum into her remaining events.

Silver medallist	Preeti Pal
Her event	Women’s 200m T35
Bronze in shot put	Hokato Hotozhe Sema, Men’s Shot Put F56/F57
Note on that bronze	Improved on his performance at the previous edition
Bronze in swimming	Niranjan Mukundan, Men’s 200m Individual Medley SM7
Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Date of the medals	20 October 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/preeti-pal-takes-silver-as-india-adds-two-para-bronze/

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Rajnath Singh Lists India’s Growth Figures in Dushanbe

20 October 2026 · National

Addressing the Indian diaspora in Dushanbe on 20 October 2026, Rajnath Singh said India adds over 16 per cent of global growth and grows at about 7.8 per cent.

- Rajnath Singh addressed the Indian diaspora in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on 20 October 2026 and listed India’s economic and defence figures.
- He said India contributes more than 16 per cent of global economic growth and is growing at about 7.8 per cent, and has free trade agreements with 38 countries.
- Defence exports have reached a record Rs 38,424 crore and defence production has risen to Rs 1.80 lakh crore.
- UPI transaction value has grown from Rs 7,000 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 314 lakh crore in 2025-26, and forex reserves are above US$700 billion.
- He felicitated Prof Habibullo Rajabov, an Indologist and the first Padma Shri awardee from Tajikistan, for his work in Hindi literature.

Who and where	Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, addressing the Indian diaspora in Dushanbe, Tajikistan
Date	20 October 2026
Share of global growth	More than 16 per cent
Growth rate	About 7.8 per cent
Free trade agreements	With 38 countries
Defence exports	Record Rs 38,424 crore
Defence production	Rs 1.80 lakh crore
Forex reserves	Above US$700 billion

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rajnath-singh-lists-indias-growth-figures-in-dushanbe/

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21 October 2026

SARAS Mela 2026: First National Edition Outside Delhi-NCR

21 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The National SARAS Mela 2026 at Punnami Ghat in Vijayawada is the first held outside Delhi-NCR, with 1,500 women SHG sellers from 34 states and UTs.

- The National SARAS Mela 2026 at Punnami Ghat, Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh) runs from 13 October to 31 October 2026 and is the first National SARAS Mela held outside the Delhi-NCR region.
- About 1,500 women SHG entrepreneurs and Lakhpati Didis from 34 states and union territories are selling through more than 650 stalls, under DAY-NRLM of the Ministry of Rural Development.
- SARAS began in 1999 with a Delhi fair of about 65 beneficiaries; 117 National SARAS Melas have since been held, with annual sales above Rs 200 crore and about 50 SARAS events a year countrywide.
- A Lakhpati Didi is an SHG member whose household earns at least Rs 1 lakh a year; the target went from two crore in August 2023 to three crore in the Interim Budget 2024-25, and to six crore in February 2026.
- The India Food Court has 50 stalls and over 200 first-generation women food entrepreneurs from more than 28 states and UTs; NABARD and NIRDPR support the fair and eSARAS carries the products online.

Event	National SARAS Mela 2026 (first outside Delhi-NCR)
Venue	Punnami Ghat, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
Dates	13 October 2026 to 31 October 2026
Organised under	Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)
Participation	About 1,500 women SHG entrepreneurs from 34 states and UTs, 650+ stalls
First edition	Delhi, 1999, with about 65 beneficiaries
Editions so far	117 National SARAS Melas, annual sales above Rs 200 crore
Lakhpati Didi	SHG member with household income of at least Rs 1 lakh a year

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/saras-mela-2026-first-national-edition-outside-delhi-ncr/

Police Commemoration Day 2026: Amit Shah Honours Fallen Police

21 October 2026 · Important Days

Union Home Minister Amit Shah paid homage at the National Police Memorial on Police Commemoration Day and flagged off a nationwide anti-drugs motorcycle rally.

- Police Commemoration Day is observed on 21 October, marking the Hot Springs action in Ladakh in 1959 in which ten CRPF men died resisting Chinese troops
- Amit Shah paid tribute at the National Police Memorial, New Delhi, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2018, where 36,852 police personnel are honoured
- The Home Minister said the country was freed from Naxalism on 31 March 2026, after more than 3,600 security personnel and nearly 13,700 civilians died since 1981
- The Union Home Ministry has set 31 December 2029 as the date by which India is to be rid of the drug menace under the Nasha Mukt Bharat roadmap
- A Fight against Drugs motorcycle rally of about 90 riders from states, CAPFs, RPF, NDRF and NIA will reach Ekta Nagar in Gujarat for the Ekta Parade-2026

Occasion	Police Commemoration Day, 21 October 2026
Origin of the day	Hot Springs post, Ladakh, 21 October 1959
Personnel lost in that action	Ten CRPF men, killed resisting Chinese troops
Ceremony venue	National Police Memorial, New Delhi
Memorial inaugurated	2018, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Police personnel honoured there	36,852
Freedom from Naxalism	31 March 2026
Drug-free India target	31 December 2029

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/police-commemoration-day-2026-amit-shah-honours-fallen-police/

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SKOCH Gold Award 2026 for Coal Ministry SUVIKALP Mine Tool

21 October 2026 · Awards & Honours

The Coal Controller Organisation won the SKOCH Gold Award 2026 for SUVIKALP, its in-house tool that ranks repurposing projects for closed coal mines.

- SUVIKALP, an in-house mine repurposing tool of the Coal Controller Organisation under the Ministry of Coal, won the SKOCH Gold Award 2026
- The award was given on 26 September 2026 in the category Digital Operational Efficiency - Data Driven Decision Making
- SUVIKALP ranks repurposing projects for worked-out mines against technical, environmental, social and economic criteria
- PRISM, the Post-Mining Repurposing Implementation Strategy Model, then supplies project concepts, case studies, sample DPRs and tender documents
- Twelve thematic webinars were held under the SUVIKALP Samvaad series, covering the RECLAIM and L.I.V.E.S. frameworks and mine transition experience

Initiative	SUVIKALP, an in-house Mine Repurposing Tool
Developed by	Coal Controller Organisation (CCO)
Ministry	Ministry of Coal
Award	SKOCH Gold Award 2026
Award category	Digital Operational Efficiency - Data Driven Decision Making
Date of award	26 September 2026
Companion model	PRISM, Post-Mining Repurposing Implementation Strategy Model
Webinar series	SUVIKALP Samvaad, twelve thematic webinars

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/skoch-gold-award-2026-for-coal-ministry-suvikalp-mine-tool/

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Swachhata Campaign 6.0: ICAR Holds Nearly 4,000 Clean Drives

21 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The ICAR network held nearly 4,000 cleanliness drives and freed about 1.3 lakh square feet of space under Swachhata Special Campaign 6.0 in October 2026.

- ICAR and its 114 institutes, Regional Centres, ATARIs and Krishi Vigyan Kendras are running Swachhata Special Campaign 6.0 from 2 to 31 October 2026
- Nearly 4,000 cleanliness campaigns were organised, about 1.3 lakh square feet of space was cleared and around Rs 10 lakh was earned from scrap disposal
- Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan felicitated Safai Mitras in a Shramik Samman programme at ICAR-CCARI, Goa
- ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, observed Swachh Bharat Diwas on the theme Swachhta Mein Sahbhag - Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat, addressed by DG (ICAR) Dr. Mangi Lal Jat
- At ICAR-CIARI, Sri Vijaya Puram, waste management covered 213 animals, with shed water and urine reused for fodder irrigation and dung sent for vermicompost

Campaign	Swachhata Special Campaign 6.0, by DARE and ICAR
Period	2 to 31 October 2026, month-long
Network covered	ICAR with 114 institutes, Regional Centres, ATARIs and KVKs
Cleanliness campaigns	Nearly 4,000
Space cleared	About 1.3 lakh square feet
Revenue from scrap	Around Rs 10 lakh
Launch venue	National Agricultural Science Complex, Pusa, New Delhi
Secretary DARE and DG ICAR	Dr. Mangi Lal Jat

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swachhata-campaign-60-icar-holds-nearly-4000-clean-drives/

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President Murmu Presents Lalit Kala Akademi Awards in New Delhi

21 October 2026 · Awards & Honours

President Droupadi Murmu gave away the Lalit Kala Akademi Awards to artists of the 65th National Exhibition of Art at a ceremony in New Delhi.

- President Droupadi Murmu presented the Lalit Kala Akademi Awards to selected artists of the 65th National Exhibition of Art in New Delhi
- She also felicitated the Grand Prize winners and Honourable Mentions of the 3rd Print Biennale India
- The President urged training for traditional artists of remote areas in new technology and contemporary techniques
- She said the Lalit Kala Akademi and the Ministry of Culture are encouraging the sale of artworks so that artists find buyers
- Art, she said, must reach schools, universities and public spaces instead of staying inside galleries

Event	65th National Exhibition of Art
Awards presented	Lalit Kala Akademi Awards
Presented by	President Droupadi Murmu
Venue	New Delhi
Also felicitated	Grand Prize winners and Honourable Mentions of the 3rd Print Biennale India
Parent ministry	Ministry of Culture

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/president-murmu-presents-lalit-kala-akademi-awards-in-new-delhi/

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Army Commanders Conference Begins; Land Warfare Doctrine Release

21 October 2026 · Defence

The Indian Army's apex biannual Army Commanders' Conference began in New Delhi on 21 October 2026, with the Land Warfare Doctrine to be released at it.

- The Army Commanders' Conference, the Indian Army's apex biannual forum, is being held in New Delhi from 21 to 23 October 2026 and is chaired by the Chief of the Army Staff
- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh will address the conference and release the Land Warfare Doctrine
- The Chief of Defence Staff, the Chief of the Naval Staff and the Secretary (Electronics and IT) will speak on contemporary security issues
- The Raksha Mantri will unveil the annual United Nations Journal and felicitate Army personnel who served as UN peacekeepers
- The Chief of the Army Staff will confer the Green Military Stations and Aviation Flight Safety awards

Event	Army Commanders' Conference, apex biannual forum of the Indian Army
Dates	21 to 23 October 2026
Venue	New Delhi
Chaired by	Chief of the Army Staff (COAS)
Doctrine released	Land Warfare Doctrine, by the Raksha Mantri
Raksha Mantri	Shri Rajnath Singh
Awards by COAS	Green Military Stations and Aviation Flight Safety

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/army-commanders-conference-begins-land-warfare-doctrine-release/

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Defence Ministry Inks Rs 770 Crore Deal for LLLR-I Radars

21 October 2026 · Defence

The Ministry of Defence signed a contract of about Rs 770 crore with Bharat Electronics Limited for Improved Low Level Light Weight Radars for the Army.

- The Ministry of Defence signed a contract with Bharat Electronics Limited for Improved Low Level Light Weight Radar, LLLR(I), at a cost of about Rs 770 crore
- The contract was signed in New Delhi in the presence of Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh
- LLLR(I) can detect and track fighter size targets as well as mini and micro drones, and can prioritise aerial targets
- The radar will help the Indian Army counter the threat of Unmanned Aerial Systems
- The ministry linked the deal to Viksit Bharat @2047 and to indigenisation of air defence platforms with a boost to MSMEs

Contract value	About Rs 770 crore
Equipment	Improved Low Level Light Weight Radar, LLLR(I)
Signed with	Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
For	Indian Army
Signed in presence of	Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh
Place and date	New Delhi, 21 October 2026
Vision linked	Viksit Bharat @2047

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/defence-ministry-inks-rs-770-crore-deal-for-lllr-i-radars/

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Vummidi Ethiraj, Craftsman of the Historic Sengol, Passes Away

21 October 2026 · Obituaries

Prime Minister Narendra Modi mourned the death of Thiru Vummidi Ethiraj of Tamil Nadu, who helped craft the historic Sengol given to Jawaharlal Nehru.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed deep grief at the passing of Thiru Vummidi Ethiraj, who helped craft the historic Sengol
- The Sengol was presented to the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and the craftsman belonged to a distinguished family of Tamil Nadu
- In 2023 the government gave the Sengol a place of pride in the new Parliament building
- The Prime Minister said he had met the craftsman around that time and thanked him for his contribution to the nation and its culture
- The Prime Minister said his life and craftsmanship represent a link between India's glorious traditions and the national journey

Person	Thiru Vummidi Ethiraj
Known for	Crafting the historic Sengol
State	Tamil Nadu
Sengol presented to	Former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru
Sengol installed in new Parliament building	2023
Tribute by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vummidi-ethiraj-craftsman-of-the-historic-sengol-passes-away/

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Namami Gange: 199 Sewerage Projects Worth Rs 31,327 Crore Taken Up

21 October 2026 · Environment

Under Namami Gange, 199 sewerage projects of about Rs 31,327 crore have been taken up, of which 116 are complete, with 2,237 MLD of new STP capacity built.

- The Namami Gange Programme, launched in 2014, is an integrated conservation mission to abate pollution and rejuvenate the National River Ganga
- It has taken up 199 sewerage infrastructure projects worth an estimated Rs 31,327 crore, of which 116 are complete
- Against a target of 5,270 MLD of new STP capacity, 2,237 MLD has been created, and 873 MLD of the 925 MLD rehabilitation target is done
- Five Food Chain Reactor based STPs are operational, two at Bhatpara in West Bengal and three at Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh
- The four-storey 7.5 MLD plant at Muni Ki Reti is the first such municipal STP in the country under the programme, built on about 900 square metres

Programme	Namami Gange Programme, launched 2014
Objective	Pollution abatement and rejuvenation of the National River Ganga
Sewerage projects	199 projects worth about Rs 31,327 crore, 116 completed
New STP capacity	2,237 MLD created against a target of 5,270 MLD
Rehabilitation	873 MLD done out of a target of 925 MLD
Food Chain Reactor plants	Two at Bhatpara, West Bengal and three at Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh
First four-storey municipal STP	Muni Ki Reti, Chandreshwar Nagar, of 7.5 MLD on about 900 square metres
Constructed wetlands	Bithoor, Uttar Pradesh, six wetlands treating about 2 MLD

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/namami-gange-199-sewerage-projects-worth-rs-31327-crore-taken-up/

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India Chem 2026 in Mumbai: Theme Advantage Bharat, Japan Partner

21 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 14th India Chem will be held at Mumbai from 22 to 24 October 2026 on the theme Advantage Bharat, with Japan taking part as the partner country.

- The 14th India Chem 2026 will be held from 22 to 24 October 2026 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, NESCO, Mumbai, organised by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals with FICCI
- The theme of the edition is Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub and Japan is the partner country
- Union Minister JP Nadda will inaugurate the event and Minister of State Anupriya Patel will also attend
- India is the sixth-largest chemicals producer in the world and the fourth-largest in Asia, with the industry projected at USD 300 billion by 2030 and USD 1 trillion by 2040
- Over 100 countries, more than 200 exhibitors and over 8,000 business visitors are expected, against 72 countries and 8,720 visitors at India Chem 2024

Event	14th India Chem 2026
Dates	22 to 24 October 2026
Venue	Bombay Exhibition Centre, NESCO, Mumbai
Theme	Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub
Partner country	Japan
Organisers	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals with FICCI
To be inaugurated by	Union Minister JP Nadda
India's rank	Sixth-largest chemicals producer in the world, fourth-largest in Asia

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-chem-2026-in-mumbai-theme-advantage-bharat-japan-partner/

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SIMBEX-2026 Opens at Visakhapatnam in Its 33rd Edition

21 October 2026 · Defence

The 33rd Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise opened at Visakhapatnam on 21 October 2026 and runs to 26 October, with a sea phase in the Bay of Bengal.

- The 33rd edition of SIMBEX, the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise, is being held at Visakhapatnam from 21 to 26 October 2026
- Republic of Singapore Navy ship RSS Supreme arrived at Visakhapatnam on the opening day to take part in the exercise
- The opening ceremony was held onboard the Indian Navy warships INS Nilgiri and INS Kamorta
- SIMBEX started in 1994 under the name Exercise Lion King and has expanded in scope and complexity since then
- The harbour phase runs from 21 to 23 October and the sea phase from 24 to 26 October in the Bay of Bengal

Exercise	SIMBEX-2026, Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise
Edition	33rd
Participating navies	Indian Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN)
Venue	Visakhapatnam; sea phase in the Bay of Bengal
Dates	21 to 26 October 2026
Harbour phase	21 to 23 October 2026
Sea phase	24 to 26 October 2026
RSN ship	RSS Supreme

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/simbex-2026-opens-at-visakhapatnam-in-its-33rd-edition/

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Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026 Parade to Be Held at Ekta Nagar

21 October 2026 · Important Days

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026 will be marked at Ekta Nagar in Gujarat on 31 October with an evening Ekta Parade, and the cultural theme is Vande Mataram.

- Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026 and Bharat Parv 2026 will be held at Ekta Nagar in Gujarat, with the main function on 31 October 2026
- The day opens with the Prime Minister paying tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at the Statue of Unity, and the Ekta Parade is held in the evening
- Vande Mataram is the theme of the cultural items and tableaux, as 2026 is its 150th year
- The National School of Drama play before the Prime Minister is based on Anandamath, the novel by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay
- About 2,000 artists from 126 districts once hit by armed Naxalism will perform, and about 5,000 people from those districts have been invited as spectators

Occasion	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026 and Bharat Parv 2026
Date of main function	31 October 2026
Venue	Ekta Nagar, Gujarat
Announced by	Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan, at a press conference in New Delhi
Tribute	Prime Minister to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at the Statue of Unity
Cultural theme	Vande Mataram, in its 150th year
Theatrical play	Based on Anandamath by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, presented by the National School of Drama
NSD presentation	Naxal Mukt Bharat, about 2,000 artists from 126 districts

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rashtriya-ekta-diwas-2026-parade-to-be-held-at-ekta-nagar/

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IAF Holds Industry Outreach on Unmanned Systems Roadmap

21 October 2026 · Defence

The Indian Air Force held an industry outreach at Vigyan Bhawan on 21 October 2026 on its unmanned systems roadmap, with about 100 industry representatives.

- The Indian Air Force conducted an Industry Outreach Programme at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, on 21 October 2026 on unmanned and autonomous systems
- The programme was chaired by Air Marshal Premkumar K, Director General (Weapon Systems) at Air Headquarters
- Around 100 representatives of drone companies and allied industry partners took part in the programme
- The IAF Unmanned and Autonomous Systems Roadmap was released during IAF Dronathon 2026 at Pokhran on 14 September 2026
- Indigenous propulsion, autonomous software, resilient navigation and standardised interfaces were named as the critical technology areas

Event	IAF Industry Outreach Programme on unmanned and autonomous systems
Venue	Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
Date	21 October 2026
Chaired by	Air Marshal Premkumar K, VM, VSM, Director General (Weapon Systems), Air Headquarters
Participation	Around 100 representatives of drone companies and industry partners
Roadmap	IAF Unmanned and Autonomous Systems Roadmap
Roadmap released at	IAF Dronathon 2026, Pokhran, on 14 September 2026
Critical technology areas	Indigenous propulsion, autonomous software, resilient navigation, standardised interfaces

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/iaf-holds-industry-outreach-on-unmanned-systems-roadmap/

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Simran Wins 100m T12 Gold With Asian Para Games Record

21 October 2026 · Sports

Sprinter Simran won the gold medal in the Women's 100m T12 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 with an outstanding timing and a new Games Record.

- Simran won the gold medal in the Women's 100m T12 event at the Asian Para Games 2026
- Her winning run also set a new Games Record in the event
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi called her speed, determination and dedication to sporting excellence truly commendable
- The congratulatory message was shared in a post on X by the Prime Minister's Office on 21 October 2026

Athlete	Simran
Event	Women's 100m T12
Medal	Gold
Meet	Asian Para Games 2026
Record	New Games Record set in the event
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Date	21 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/simran-wins-100m-t12-gold-with-asian-para-games-record/

Dilip Gavit Wins Men's 100m T47 Gold at Asian Para Games

21 October 2026 · Sports

Dilip Gavit won the gold medal in the Men's 100m T47 sprint at the Asian Para Games 2026 with a brilliant timing, a result the Prime Minister hailed.

- Dilip Gavit won the gold medal in the Men's 100m T47 event at the Asian Para Games 2026
- The winning run was described as a brilliant timing and an exceptional performance
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Gavit's electrifying speed and skill had brought immense pride to the nation
- The congratulatory message was shared in a post on X by the Prime Minister's Office on 21 October 2026

Athlete	Dilip Gavit
Event	Men's 100m T47
Medal	Gold
Meet	Asian Para Games 2026
Congratulated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Date	21 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dilip-gavit-wins-mens-100m-t47-gold-at-asian-para-games/

Asian Para Games 2026: Seven Silver and Four Bronze for India

21 October 2026 · Sports

India took seven silver and four bronze medals at the Asian Para Games 2026, led by Kasthuri Rajamani's first-ever powerlifting medal in the women's -67kg.

- India won seven silver and four bronze medals at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 21 October 2026
- Kasthuri Rajamani's silver in the women's -67kg was India's first-ever medal in that para powerlifting category
- Mohammad Basil M took silver in the men's 100m T47 after breaking the Games Record in the heats and improving his own mark in the final
- Preeti Pal won her second silver of the meet in the women's 100m T35, having earlier finished second in the 200m
- Mohd Yasser took silver and Parveen bronze in the same men's shot put F46 event

Meet	Asian Para Games 2026
Medals on the day	Seven silver and four bronze
First for India	Kasthuri Rajamani, women's -67kg para powerlifting
Games Record in a heat	Mohammad Basil M, men's 100m T47 (silver)
Two silvers	Preeti Pal, women's 100m T35 and 200m
Silver, javelin	Manjeet, men's javelin throw F12/F13
Silver, shot put	Bhagyashree Jadhav (women's F34) and Mohd Yasser (men's F46)
Silver, high jump	Banti, men's high jump T64

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asian-para-games-2026-seven-silver-and-four-bronze-for-india/

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AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026 Opens at Bharat Mandapam

21 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference began at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on the theme Powering the Global South, hosted for the first time in the Global South.

- The 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference (AWC) 2026 opened on 21 October 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- It is the first edition of this global summit to be hosted in the Global South, with India as host, on the theme 'Powering the Global South'
- The three-day conference is hosted by the MNRE with support from Germany's BMUV, in partnership with Conexio-PSE
- Three knowledge resources were released: the Decision-Making Tool by the India Agrivoltaics Alliance, the Book of Abstracts by IWMI and MNRE's AgriPV Policy Handbook
- More than 1200 delegates are attending, including over 150 foreign participants

Event	7th AgriVoltaics World Conference (AWC) 2026
Venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Theme	Powering the Global South
Host	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
Supported by	BMUV, Germany; organised with Conexio-PSE
First	First edition hosted in the Global South, and in India
Duration	Three days, from 21 October 2026
Participation	Over 1200 delegates, including more than 150 from abroad

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/agrivoltaics-world-conference-2026-opens-at-bharat-mandapam/

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IBSAMAR IX Naval Exercise Concludes at Simon's Town

21 October 2026 · Defence

The ninth edition of the India-Brazil-South Africa maritime exercise IBSAMAR ended at Simon's Town in South Africa after ten days of harbour and sea drills.

- The ninth edition of the India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime Exercise, IBSAMAR IX, concluded at Simon's Town, South Africa on 20 October 2026
- The exercise ran for ten days across a harbour phase and a sea phase, involving the Indian, Brazilian and South African navies
- INS Tarkash represented India, and its Commanding Officer addressed the closing ceremony
- The stated aims were greater interoperability, stronger operational cooperation and better mutual understanding among the three navies
- IBSAMAR is a trilateral exercise between three countries on three continents that share an interest in safe and stable seas

Exercise	IBSAMAR IX, the India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime Exercise
Edition	Ninth
Participants	Navies of India, Brazil and South Africa
Concluded at	Simon's Town, South Africa
Date of conclusion	20 October 2026
Duration	Ten days, in a harbour phase and a sea phase
Indian ship	INS Tarkash
Aim	Interoperability, operational cooperation and mutual understanding at sea

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ibsamar-ix-naval-exercise-concludes-at-simons-town/

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CAQM Invokes GRAP Stage-I in Delhi-NCR as AQI Reaches 245

21 October 2026 · Environment

The CAQM invoked all 25 action points of Stage-I of the GRAP across the NCR with immediate effect after Delhi's average AQI climbed to 245, in the poor band.

- The CAQM invoked Stage-I of the GRAP across the entire NCR with immediate effect on 21 October 2026
- Delhi's daily average AQI was 244 at 2 PM and rose to 245 at 4 PM, both in the poor category
- The poor category of the Air Quality Index covers readings from 201 to 300
- All 25 action points of Stage-I now apply, covering construction dust, waste burning, vehicle norms, diesel generator sets and public transport
- The decision was taken by the CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP after reviewing CPCB readings and IMD and IITM forecasts

Decision	Stage-I of the GRAP invoked across the entire NCR with immediate effect
Taken by	CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP
Date	21 October 2026
Delhi AQI	244 at 2 PM, rising to 245 at 4 PM
Category	Poor, an AQI of 201 to 300
Action points	All 25 under Stage-I
Readings from	Central Pollution Control Board daily AQI bulletin
Forecasts from	India Meteorological Department and Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/caqm-invokes-grap-stage-i-in-delhi-ncr-as-aqi-reaches-245/

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Asian Para Games 2026: Six Bronze and One Swimming Silver

21 October 2026 · Sports

Indian athletes closed 21 October at the Asian Para Games 2026 with one silver and six bronze medals, taken in the swimming pool and on the track.

- Ravi Kartik Budigina won the silver medal in the men's 100m backstroke S13 at the Asian Para Games 2026
- Shailesh Kumar took bronze in the men's long jump T42/T61/T63 with a jump of 5.57m
- Himanshu Nandal won bronze in the men's 100m breaststroke SB11 and Rohit Kumar bronze in the men's 100m breaststroke SB4 on his first appearance at the Games
- Pranav Desai was third in the men's 100m T64, Rakeshbhai Bhatt third in the men's 100m T37 and Anubhav Choudhary third in the men's 100m T35
- Rakeshbhai Bhatt and Anubhav Choudhary both improved their personal bests, and Anubhav was making his debut at the Games

Meet	Asian Para Games 2026
Silver	Ravi Kartik Budigina, men's 100m backstroke S13
Bronze (swimming)	Himanshu Nandal, men's 100m breaststroke SB11; Rohit Kumar, men's 100m breaststroke SB4
Bronze (sprint)	Pranav Desai, men's 100m T64; Rakeshbhai Bhatt, men's 100m T37; Anubhav Choudhary, men's 100m T35
Bronze (field)	Shailesh Kumar, men's long jump T42/T61/T63, with 5.57m
Debut medals	Rohit Kumar and Anubhav Choudhary won on their first appearance
Date	21 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asian-para-games-2026-six-bronze-and-one-swimming-silver/

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RRI Study Finds Accretion Disk Around Pulsar Centaurus X-3

21 October 2026 · Science & Technology

Scientists at the Raman Research Institute found that the bright X-ray pulsar Centaurus X-3 draws in matter through an accretion disk, a rare route.

- Scientists at the Raman Research Institute, an autonomous institution of the Department of Science and Technology, studied the X-ray pulsar Centaurus X-3
- They found that the pulsar accretes matter through an accretion disk, which is rare in high-mass X-ray binaries where stellar wind is captured directly
- The study, led by RRI researcher Kinjal Roy, analysed four secondary emission lines and traced their variation to the accretion stream co-rotating with the pulsar
- Centaurus X-3 lies about 24000 light years away, was the third X-ray source found in the constellation Centaurus and has a companion over 10 times the mass of the Sun
- Existing emission models of the system will have to be modified to include radiation from the disk

Object studied	Centaurus X-3, one of the brightest X-ray pulsars
Institute	Raman Research Institute (RRI), an autonomous institution of the Department of Science and Technology
Study led by	Kinjal Roy, researcher at RRI
Main finding	Matter is accreted through an accretion disk, rare in high-mass X-ray binaries
Clue used	Four secondary emission lines varying with the pulsar's rotation
Structure identified	Accretion stream co-rotating with the pulsar
Distance	About 24000 light years
Companion star	More than 10 times the mass of the Sun

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rri-study-finds-accretion-disk-around-pulsar-centaurus-x-3/

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Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 Opens in Guwahati With 75 Artisans

21 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The eight-day Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 of the Social Justice Ministry opened in Guwahati with 75 artisans, among them 31 women, showing about 40 craft varieties.

- The eight-day Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 began on 21 October in Guwahati, Assam, and runs until 28 October
- It is organised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment at Farm Gate, Khanapara, and is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- A total of 75 artisans, including 31 women, are displaying about 40 varieties of handloom and handicraft products
- A key focus is BHARAT-TULIP, the Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme, which markets artisans' products through outlets and e-commerce platforms
- The first edition of the year concluded at the Dasara Exhibition Ground in Mysuru, Karnataka on 19 October after nine days

Event	Shilp Samagam Mela 2026, Guwahati edition
Organiser	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Venue	Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati, Assam
Duration	Eight days, 21 October to 28 October, open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Participation	75 artisans, including 31 women, with about 40 varieties of products
Target groups	Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, Safai Mitras and Denotified Tribes
Programme promoted	BHARAT-TULIP, the Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme
Corporations involved	NSFDC, NSKFDC and NBCFDC

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shilp-samagam-mela-2026-opens-in-guwahati-with-75-artisans-2/

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Sachin Khilari Retains Shot Put F46 Gold at Asian Para Games

21 October 2026 · Sports

Sachin Khilari defended his Men's Shot Put F46 gold at the Asian Para Games 2026 with a season-best throw and led an all-Indian sweep of the podium.

- Sachin Khilari won gold in the Men's Shot Put F46 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 with a season-best throw
- He defended the title he had won in the same event at the previous edition of the Asian Para Games
- All three podium places in the event went to Indian athletes, an all-Indian sweep led by Khilari
- Mohd Yasser took the silver medal in the same Men's Shot Put F46 final, also with a season-best throw
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated both athletes in messages issued on 21 October 2026

Athlete	Sachin Khilari
Event	Men's Shot Put F46
Medal	Gold, title defended from the previous edition
Mark	Season-best throw
Silver medallist	Mohd Yasser (India), also a season-best throw
Games	Asian Para Games 2026
Note	All three podium places taken by Indian athletes

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/sachin-khilari-retains-shot-put-f46-gold-at-asian-para-games/

Praveen Kumar Defends High Jump T64 Gold With Games Record

21 October 2026 · Sports

Praveen Kumar retained his Men's High Jump T64 gold at the Asian Para Games 2026 and broke his own Games Record, with Banti of India taking the silver.

- Praveen Kumar won gold in the Men's High Jump T64 event at the Asian Para Games 2026
- He defended the title and broke the Games Record that stood in his own name in the event
- Banti of India won the silver medal in the same Men's High Jump T64 final
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated both jumpers in messages issued on 21 October 2026
- The T64 class is for jump and track athletes competing with a prosthesis after a lower-limb amputation

Athlete	Praveen Kumar
Event	Men's High Jump T64
Medal	Gold, title successfully defended
Record	Broke his own Games Record
Silver medallist	Banti (India)
Games	Asian Para Games 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/praveen-kumar-defends-high-jump-t64-gold-with-games-record/

Ayush Verma Wins Shot Put F53 Gold on Asian Para Games Debut

21 October 2026 · Sports

Ayush Verma won the Men's Shot Put F53 gold at the Asian Para Games 2026 and closed his debut campaign with two medals, a gold and a javelin bronze.

- Ayush Verma won the gold medal in the Men's Shot Put F53 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 with an excellent throw
- He had also won the bronze medal in the javelin throw at the same Games, taking his total to two medals
- It was his debut Asian Para Games campaign, which he concluded with a gold and a bronze
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi called the double a demonstration of talent, versatility and determination
- The F53 class is for seated throwers who compete from a throwing frame

Athlete	Ayush Verma
Gold event	Men's Shot Put F53
Second medal	Bronze in javelin throw
Total medals	Two, at his debut Asian Para Games
Games	Asian Para Games 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ayush-verma-wins-shot-put-f53-gold-on-asian-para-games-debut/

Asian Para Games 2026: Compound Silver and Two Sprint Bronzes

21 October 2026 · Sports

Sheetal Devi and Payal Nag won the women's para compound doubles silver at the Asian Para Games 2026, while Rakeshbhai Bhatt and Anubhav Choudhary took sprint bronzes.

- Sheetal Devi and Payal Nag won the silver medal in the Women's Para Compound Doubles event at the Asian Para Games 2026
- Rakeshbhai Bhatt won the bronze medal in the Men's 100m T37 event, clocking a personal best
- Anubhav Choudhary won the bronze medal in the Men's 100m T35 event with an impressive timing and a personal best
- It was Anubhav Choudhary's debut appearance at the Asian Para Games
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated all four athletes in separate messages on 21 October 2026

Silver	Sheetal Devi and Payal Nag, Women's Para Compound Doubles
Bronze	Rakeshbhai Bhatt, Men's 100m T37, personal best
Bronze	Anubhav Choudhary, Men's 100m T35, personal best
Debut	Anubhav Choudhary, first Asian Para Games
Games	Asian Para Games 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asian-para-games-2026-compound-silver-and-two-sprint-bronzes/

Core Industries Index Grows 7.9 Per Cent in September 2026

21 October 2026 · Economy

The Index of Core Industries rose 7.9 per cent year-on-year in September 2026, up from 5.9 per cent in August, led by iron ore, electricity and coal.

- The Index of Core Industries grew 7.9 per cent year-on-year in September 2026 on a provisional basis, against 5.9 per cent in August 2026
- Iron ore grew fastest at 18.4 per cent, followed by electricity at 11.4 per cent, coal at 10.7 per cent and refinery products at 10.3 per cent
- Fertilizers, natural gas and crude oil recorded negative growth during September 2026
- Cumulative ICI growth for April-September 2026 was 5.1 per cent, against 2.5 per cent in the same period a year earlier
- The final August 2026 index was revised from 119.2 to 120.4, lifting that month's growth from 4.8 per cent to 5.9 per cent

Index	Index of Core Industries (ICI), provisional for September 2026
Growth	7.9 per cent year-on-year
Previous month	5.9 per cent in August 2026 (final)
Base year	2022-23
Fastest sector	Iron ore, 18.4 per cent
Sectors in decline	Fertilizers, natural gas and crude oil
Cumulative, April-September 2026	5.1 per cent, against 2.5 per cent a year earlier
Released by	Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/core-industries-index-grows-79-per-cent-in-september-2026/

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India, New Zealand Sign MoC on Electronic Origin Data Exchange

21 October 2026 · International

CBIC and the New Zealand Customs Service signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on electronic origin data exchange under the India-New Zealand FTA.

- CBIC of India and the New Zealand Customs Service signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on electronic origin data exchange for trade in goods
- The MoC was signed on 19 October 2026 by CBIC Chairman Vivek Chaturvedi and NZCS Comptroller and Chief Executive Christine Stevenson
- It was concluded under the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement, which entered into force on 20 October 2026
- Advance electronic exchange of origin data is expected to improve efficiency, reduce information gaps and give traders greater certainty
- The arrangement is meant to help businesses use the tariff preferences negotiated under the FTA more effectively

Instrument	Memorandum of Cooperation on Electronic Origin Data Exchange of Trade in Goods
Signed between	CBIC (India) and the New Zealand Customs Service
Signatories	Vivek Chaturvedi, Chairman CBIC, and Christine Stevenson, Comptroller and Chief Executive, NZCS
Date of signing	19 October 2026
Signed under	India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement
FTA in force from	20 October 2026
Announced by	Ministry of Finance

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-new-zealand-sign-moc-on-electronic-origin-data-exchange/

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22 October 2026

Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026 Set for Bhopal

22 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026 is being held in Bhopal on 23 October 2026, and Madhya Pradesh will release its fisheries export policy.

- The Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026 is being held on 23 October 2026 at Bhopal by the Madhya Pradesh fisheries department and the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- The Madhya Pradesh Fisheries Investment and Export Guidelines, 2026 are being released at the conclave, along with SOPs on the export potential of inland states
- The Centre has notified Madhya Pradesh as a Reservoir Fisheries Cluster; the state holds about 4.50 lakh hectares of water area
- India's fish production reached 197.75 lakh tonnes in 2024-25, of which 151.60 lakh tonnes, nearly three-fourths, came from inland fisheries
- India's seafood exports were valued at Rs 73,890 crore in 2025-26, and over 1,000 fish farmers are expected at the Bhopal conclave

Event	Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026
Date of event	23 October 2026 (announced 22 October 2026)
Venue	Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
Organisers	Department of Fisheries, Madhya Pradesh, and Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Policy released	Madhya Pradesh Fisheries Investment and Export Guidelines, 2026
Madhya Pradesh tag	Notified by the Centre as a Reservoir Fisheries Cluster
Union Minister	Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh (Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Panchayati Raj)
Minister of State	Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/fisheries-investors-and-exporters-conclave-2026-set-for-bhopal/

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PM-DAKSH Subsumed Under PMKVY After Training 1,87,305

22 October 2026 · Government Schemes

PM-DAKSH, the skill training scheme for SC, OBC and Safai Karamchari youth, trained 1,87,305 candidates before it was merged into PMKVY from 2024-25.

- PM-DAKSH stands for Pradhan Mantri Dakshata Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi, a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched in 2020-21
- It trained SC, OBC, EWS, De-notified Tribes and Safai Karamcharis including waste pickers, through three corporations: NSFDC, NBCFDC and NSKFDC
- An empanelled institute had to place at least 70 per cent of its trainees, failing which the third instalment, 30 per cent of the training cost, was forfeited
- Against Rs 276.47 crore allotted from 2020-21 to 2023-24, expenditure of Rs 309.5 crore has been incurred; 1,87,305 candidates were trained and 96,162 placed
- From 2024-25 PM-DAKSH was subsumed under PMKVY because its job roles, drawn from the Skill India Digital Hub portal, duplicated those of PMKVY

Scheme	PM-DAKSH (Pradhan Mantri Dakshata Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi)
Type	Central Sector Scheme
Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Launched	2020-21
Target groups	SC, OBC, EWS, De-notified Tribes (DNTs) and Safai Karamcharis including waste pickers
Implementing corporations	NSFDC, NBCFDC and NSKFDC
Training institutes	Those empanelled under PMKVY of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
Placement condition	At least 70 per cent of trainees placed, else the third instalment of 30 per cent of the training cost is forfeited

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-daksh-subsumed-under-pmkvy-after-training-187305/

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Law Commission Opens Cooperative Federalism and Law Reforms Meet

22 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan inaugurated the Law Commission of India conference on cooperative federalism and law reforms at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan inaugurated the conference 'Co-operative Federalism and Law Reforms: National and State Perspectives' at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, on 22 October 2026
- The Law Commission of India organised the conference; its Chairperson is Justice Dinesh Maheshwari and its Member Secretary is Dr Anju Rathi Rana
- The Vice-President said three colonial-era criminal laws have been replaced and more than 1,700 obsolete laws repealed over the past twelve years
- He urged State Law Commissions to identify dated statutes for amendment or repeal, and described 'Team India' as consultation, coordination and shared responsibility between Centre and States
- Reform was linked to Viksit Bharat @2047, and he cited the Sengol in Parliament and the Tamil saint-poet Thiruvalluvar on good governance

Event	Conference on 'Co-operative Federalism and Law Reforms: National and State Perspectives'
Inaugurated by	Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan
Organiser	Law Commission of India
Venue	Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
Date	22 October 2026
Obsolete laws repealed	More than 1,700 in the past twelve years
Law Commission Chairperson	Justice Dinesh Maheshwari
Law Commission Member Secretary	Dr Anju Rathi Rana

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/law-commission-opens-cooperative-federalism-and-law-reforms-meet/

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Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0 to Run 28 November to 12 December 2026

22 October 2026 · National

Education Minister Pralhad Joshi launched the registration portal for Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0, themed Thirukkural Payilvom and set for 28 November to 12 December 2026.

- Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi launched the registration portal for Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0 on 22 October 2026
- KTS 5.0 runs from 28 November to 12 December 2026 on the theme “Thirukkural Payilvom – Thirukkural Abhyas Karen”, covering Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya
- Around 1,400 participants from Tamil Nadu come in seven groups of about 200 each, on an eight-day itinerary; registration on the IIT Madras portal closes on 13 November 2026
- A Students’ Engagement Programme on the Thirukkural will cover 1,000 higher education institutions nationwide
- The first Kashi Tamil Sangamam was held in 2022; the Department of Higher Education organises it with IIT Madras, BHU and the Central Institute of Classical Tamil, Chennai

Event	Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0 (fifth edition)
Dates	28 November to 12 December 2026
Theme	“Thirukkural Payilvom – Thirukkural Abhyas Karen”
Portal launched by	Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi, on 22 October 2026
Registration closes	13 November 2026
Portal hosted by	IIT Madras (kashitamil.iitm.ac.in)
Participants	About 1,400 from Tamil Nadu, in seven groups of about 200 each
Places covered	Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kashi-tamil-sangamam-50-to-run-28-november-to-12-december-2026/

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Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana Gets Rs 53,428 Crore

22 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The National Social Assistance Programme becomes the Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana, continued for five years to 2030-31 with an outlay of Rs 53,428 crore.

- On 14 October 2026 the Union Cabinet cleared five more years for the National Social Assistance Programme, running 2026-27 to 2030-31, at an outlay of Rs 53,428 crore
- The programme is renamed Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana; its sub-schemes become the Vridhavastha, Vidhawa, Divyangjan and Parivar Labh Yojanas
- The disability pension now uses the 40 per cent benchmark disability of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 in place of 80 per cent, and the minimum age of 18 years is removed
- Central assistance rises to Rs 375 a month for ages 0-79 years and Rs 625 at 80 years and above; disability beneficiaries go from 8.33 lakh to 27.48 lakh
- Launched on 15 August 1995, the programme gives effect to Article 41 of the Constitution and carries 100 per cent central assistance, now covering 3.20 crore beneficiaries

New name	Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana (earlier National Social Assistance Programme)
Approved on	14 October 2026, by the Union Cabinet
Period	Five years, 2026-27 to 2030-31
Outlay	Rs 53,428 crore
Proposing department	Department of Rural Development
Disability benchmark	40 per cent under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, replacing 80 per cent
Minimum age	Removed; eligibility runs from birth
New rates	Rs 375 a month for ages 0-79 years; Rs 625 at 80 years and above

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pradhan-mantri-samajik-sahayata-yojana-gets-rs-53428-crore/

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ICAR Chief M. L. Jat Addresses Borlaug Dialogue Roundtable

22 October 2026 · International

ICAR Director General M. L. Jat called for reimagining agricultural higher education at a roundtable on the sidelines of the Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue.

- Dr M. L. Jat, Secretary DARE and Director General ICAR, called for reimagining agricultural higher education to prepare professionals for global challenges
- He spoke virtually at a roundtable on the sidelines of the 2026 Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue of the World Food Prize Foundation at Des Moines, United States
- He addressed the Indian agricultural diaspora as President of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), India
- He urged a move from production-centric agriculture to an integrated agri-food systems and value-chain approach, with stronger academia-industry collaboration
- He highlighted a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) for research, capacity development and knowledge exchange

Who	Dr M. L. Jat, Secretary DARE and Director General, ICAR
Spoke as	President, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), India
Event	Roundtable on the sidelines of the 2026 Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue
Host	World Food Prize Foundation
Place	Des Moines, United States (addressed virtually)
MoU signed with	Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST)
NAAS representatives present	Dr B. S. Dwivedi (Secretary), Dr Karim Meredia (Foreign Secretary), Dr P. V. Varaprasad (Convener, International Chapter for the Western Hemisphere)
Core ask	Shift from production-centric agriculture to an integrated agri-food systems and value-chain approach

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/icar-chief-m-l-jat-addresses-borlaug-dialogue-roundtable/

GK24.in

India and Poland Agree to Double Bilateral Trade by 2030

22 October 2026 · International

India and Poland set a target of doubling bilateral trade by 2030 as Prime Minister Donald Tusk visited Delhi and Poland announced it is joining the CDRI.

- Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk visited India from 21 to 23 October 2026 with a delegation of about 100 CEOs and industry representatives
- India and Poland set a target of doubling bilateral trade by 2030 and agreed to establish a Defence Industry Dialogue and a counter-terrorism dialogue
- Poland announced it is joining the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI); India invited it to the International Solar Alliance and the Global Biofuels Alliance
- Ties became a Strategic Partnership during Modi's August 2024 visit to Warsaw, with the India-Poland Action Plan for 2024-2028
- Poland supported India's candidature for a non-permanent UN Security Council seat for 2028-29 and an expanded Council

Visiting leader	Donald Tusk, Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland
Visit dates	21 to 23 October 2026, on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's invitation
Trade target	Doubling bilateral trade by 2030
New grouping joined	Poland joins the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)
New mechanisms	Defence Industry Dialogue and a counter-terrorism dialogue
Partnership level	Strategic Partnership, set during Modi's Poland visit of August 2024
Action Plan	India-Poland Action Plan for 2024-2028, mid-term review done in Warsaw in September 2026
UNSC support	Poland backs India's non-permanent seat candidature for 2028-29

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-and-poland-agree-to-double-bilateral-trade-by-2030/

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India Post Crosses Rs 4,000 Crore Revenue in Two Straight Quarters

22 October 2026 · Economy

The Department of Posts earned Rs 8,212.7 crore in the first half of FY 2026-27, a growth of 24 per cent, and crossed Rs 4,000 crore in two quarters in a row.

- The Department of Posts crossed the Rs 4,000 crore quarterly revenue mark for two consecutive quarters for the first time
- Revenue in the first half of FY 2026-27 was Rs 8,212.7 crore, up 24 per cent from Rs 6,636 crore a year earlier
- Second quarter revenue was Rs 4,201.5 crore, a rise of 25 per cent year on year and 5 per cent over the first quarter
- Parcels grew fastest at 71 per cent, followed by PLI and RPLI at 44 per cent and international business at 38 per cent
- Bihar circle topped the quarter with 97.15 per cent of its target; the review was chaired by Jyotiraditya M. Scindia

Department	Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications
Milestone	Rs 4,000 crore quarterly revenue crossed in two consecutive quarters, a first
H1 FY 2026-27 revenue	Rs 8,212.7 crore, up 24 per cent over Rs 6,636 crore
Q2 revenue	Rs 4,201.5 crore, up 25 per cent year on year
Fastest vertical	Parcels, 71 per cent growth; parcels earned Rs 318.9 crore in Q2
Savings bank	Post Office Savings Bank contributed Rs 1,987 crore
Best circle in Q2	Bihar, 97.15 per cent of target, ahead of West Bengal at 97.07 per cent
Union Minister	Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Communications and Development of North Eastern Region

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-post-crosses-rs-4000-crore-revenue-in-two-straight-quarters/

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India to Host 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum on 26-27 October

22 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum will meet in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan on 26 and 27 October 2026.

- The Parliament of India will host the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum on 26 and 27 October 2026 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan
- The overarching theme is 'Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development', with four sessions on Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla announced the forum at a press conference in Parliament House on 22 October 2026
- Delegations from 11 BRICS member countries and 10 partner countries are expected; Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend and meet their leaders
- A meeting of the Secretaries of delegations on 25 October 2026 will finalise the Joint Statement of the forum

Event	12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum
Dates	26 and 27 October 2026, inaugurated on 26 October
Venue	Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi
Theme	Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development
Host	Parliament of India, under India's chairship of BRICS
Announced by	Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, at Parliament House on 22 October 2026
Sessions	Four high-level sessions: Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
Participation	11 member countries and 10 partner countries of BRICS

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-to-host-12th-brics-parliamentary-forum-on-26-27-october/

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SAEINDIA to Host 23rd APAC Mobility Conference in New Delhi

22 October 2026 · Science & Technology

SAEINDIA will host APAC 23, the 23rd Asia Pacific Automotive Engineering Conference, at Yashobhoomi in New Delhi on 13 and 14 November 2026.

- SAEINDIA will host APAC 23, the 23rd Asia Pacific Automotive Engineering Conference 2026, on 13 and 14 November 2026
- The venue is the Yashobhoomi Convention Centre in New Delhi and the theme is 'Xellerating towards Safe, Secure, Sustainable & Intelligent Mobility'
- India is hosting APAC for the second time, after a gap of 15 years; the forum represents 11 countries of the Asia-Pacific region
- The conference began in 1981 as the International Pacific Conference and is expected to draw over 1,000 delegates and 500 mobility experts
- TechHive is a dedicated platform at APAC 23 for mobility start-ups, alongside the Exposition and the Technology Theatre

Event	APAC 23, the 23rd Asia Pacific Automotive Engineering Conference 2026
Host	SAEINDIA, with the announcement made by the Ministry of Heavy Industries
Dates	13 and 14 November 2026
Venue	Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, New Delhi
Theme	Xellerating towards Safe, Secure, Sustainable & Intelligent Mobility
Origin	Started in 1981 as the International Pacific Conference; represents 11 countries
Scale	Over 1,000 delegates, 500 mobility experts, 150 technical presentations and 80 exhibitors
Start-up platform	TechHive, along with the Exposition and the Technology Theatre

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/saeindia-to-host-23rd-apac-mobility-conference-in-new-delhi/

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Defence Secretary Opens GYANDEEP Hindi Library at Sena Bhawan

22 October 2026 · Defence

Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh opened the Hindi library GYANDEEP at Sena Bhawan in New Delhi under Special Campaign 6 of the Ministry of Defence.

- Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh inaugurated the Hindi library GYANDEEP at Sena Bhawan, New Delhi, on 22 October 2026
- The library is part of Special Campaign 6, run by the Ministry of Defence from 2 to 31 October 2026
- About 35,000 square feet of space was freed in South Block and surrendered to the Yuga Yugeen Bharat Museum project
- The campaign has closed 1,361 e-files, weeded out 1,746 physical files and earned Rs 4.22 lakh from disposal of e-waste and obsolete items
- Eight Swachhta Veers were felicitated; the work also covers Kartavya Bhawan-II, Vayu Bhawan and KG Marg offices

Library	GYANDEEP, a Hindi library at Sena Bhawan, New Delhi
Inaugurated by	Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, on 22 October 2026
Campaign	Special Campaign 6 of the Ministry of Defence, 2 to 31 October 2026
Space freed	About 35,000 square feet in South Block
Space given to	Project Yuga Yugeen Bharat Museum
Files	1,361 e-files closed and 1,746 physical files weeded out
Revenue	Rs 4.22 lakh from disposal of e-waste and obsolete items
Felicitated	Eight Swachhta Veers for their contribution during the campaign

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/defence-secretary-opens-gyandeep-hindi-library-at-sena-bhawan/

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DST Frees 61,888 Square Feet Under Special Campaign 6

22 October 2026 · National

The Department of Science and Technology freed 61,888 square feet of space and earned Rs 8,25,696 from scrap disposal in the mid-campaign report of Special Campaign 6.

- DST reported its mid-campaign results for Special Campaign 6, counted up to 16 October 2026, with the campaign ending on 31 October 2026
- Identified cleanliness sites rose from 315 to 401, of which 397 were covered; the total is expected to reach nearly 800
- A total of 61,888 square feet of space was freed and Rs 8,25,696 was earned from the disposal of scrap
- Of 135 public grievances 99 were disposed of, 9 of 23 appeals were resolved and 7 of 12 references from MPs were settled
- Of 7,000 physical files due for review 6,280 were reviewed and 2,598 weeded out; of 1,900 e-files 1,791 were reviewed and 949 closed

Department	Department of Science and Technology (DST)
Campaign	Special Campaign 6, under the guidelines of DARPG
Period of report	Mid-campaign achievements counted up to 16 October 2026
Campaign ends	31 October 2026
Cleanliness sites	Rose from 315 to 401; 397 covered; nearly 800 expected by the end
Space freed	61,888 square feet
Scrap revenue	Rs 8,25,696
Files	6,280 of 7,000 physical files reviewed with 2,598 weeded out; 949 e-files closed

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dst-frees-61888-square-feet-under-special-campaign-6/

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Sheetal Devi Wins Two Para Archery Golds at Asian Para Games

22 October 2026 · Sports

Sheetal Devi won two golds in para compound archery at the Asian Para Games 2026, defending her individual title, as Swati Chaudhary took a W1 silver.

- Sheetal Devi won gold in the Women's Individual Para Compound Archery event at the Asian Para Games 2026, successfully defending her title
- The individual gold made Sheetal Devi champion in the event for a second consecutive edition of the Asian Para Games
- Sheetal Devi and Toman Kumar won gold in the Para Compound Mixed Team event, her second gold of the day
- Swati Chaudhary won silver in Women's W1 Archery on her debut, India's first ever medal in that category
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated all three archers, calling Swati Chaudhary's silver a very special achievement

Event	Asian Para Games 2026, archery competitions
Sheetal Devi	Gold in Women's Individual Para Compound Archery, second consecutive edition
Second gold	Gold in Para Compound Mixed Team with Toman Kumar
Swati Chaudhary	Silver in Women's W1 Archery on debut, India's first medal in the category
Date	22 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/sheetal-devi-wins-two-para-archery-golds-at-asian-para-games/

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India Wins Six Para Badminton Bronzes at Asian Para Games

22 October 2026 · Sports

India collected six para badminton bronze medals at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 22 October, in the SU5, SL3, SL4, SH6 and SL3-SU5 mixed doubles events.

- India won six para badminton bronze medals at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 22 October 2026
- Manisha Ramadass won bronze in Women's Singles SU5, a bronze for the second consecutive edition of the Games
- Sanjana Kumari won bronze in Women's Singles SL3, while Abhijeet Sakhuja and Suhas L. Yathiraj both won bronze in Men's Singles SL4
- Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan and Krishna Nagar won the Mixed Doubles SH6 bronze
- Pramod Bhagat and Manisha Ramadass won the Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5 bronze, giving Manisha two medals in a day

Competition	Asian Para Games 2026, para badminton
Medals	Six bronze medals won by India on 22 October 2026
Women's Singles SU5	Manisha Ramadass, bronze for a second consecutive edition
Women's Singles SL3	Sanjana Kumari, bronze
Men's Singles SL4	Abhijeet Sakhuja on debut and Suhas L. Yathiraj, both bronze
Mixed Doubles SH6	Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan and Krishna Nagar, bronze
Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5	Pramod Bhagat and Manisha Ramadass, bronze

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-wins-six-para-badminton-bronzes-at-asian-para-games/

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Anjanaben Wins 400m T47 Gold at Asian Para Games 2026

22 October 2026 · Sports

Anjanaben won the Women's 400m T47 gold at the Asian Para Games 2026, while Suvarna Raj triumphed in discus throw F54 and Tejalben Damor took 400m T12 silver.

- Anjanaben won the gold medal in the Women's 400m T47 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 with an outstanding timing
- Suvarna Raj recorded a victory in the Women's Discus Throw F54 event at the same Games
- Tejalben Damor won the silver medal in the Women's 400m T12 event
- India won two medals over the 400 metres distance on the same day, in the T47 and T12 classifications
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated all three athletes in separate messages on 22 October 2026

Competition	Asian Para Games 2026, para athletics
Gold	Anjanaben, Women's 400m T47
Discus throw	Suvarna Raj, Women's Discus Throw F54
Silver	Tejalben Damor, Women's 400m T12
Date	22 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/anjanaben-wins-400m-t47-gold-at-asian-para-games-2026/

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Indian Navy's First Training Squadron Arrives in Maldives

22 October 2026 · Defence

INS Tir, INS Sujata and Coast Guard Ship Sarathi of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron reached Male on 21 October 2026 on a long range deployment.

- Ships of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron reached Male, Maldives, on 21 October 2026 on a Long Range Training Deployment
- The squadron comprised INS Tir, INS Sujata and the Indian Coast Guard Ship Sarathi
- The Maldives National Defence Force welcomed the ships, and the Senior Officer of the squadron called on the Chief of Defence Force, MNDF, and the Commandant of the MNDF Coast Guard
- The Senior Officer also called on G. Balasubramaniam, High Commissioner of India to the Maldives, and trainees visited the Girifushi Training Centre
- The visit was placed within the MAHASAGAR vision, Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Squadron	First Training Squadron (1TS) of the Indian Navy
Ships	INS Tir, INS Sujata and Indian Coast Guard Ship Sarathi
Port of call	Male, Maldives, arrived 21 October 2026
Host force	Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF)
Training visit	Girifushi Training Centre
High Commissioner of India	G. Balasubramaniam
Vision	MAHASAGAR, Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indian-navys-first-training-squadron-arrives-in-maldives/

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NSDC Debuts on NSE Social Stock Exchange with ZCZP Issue

22 October 2026 · Economy

NSDC made its debut on the NSE Social Stock Exchange with a maiden Zero Coupon Zero Principal issue of which NABARD subscribed Rs 4 crore for skilling.

- NSDC debuted on the Social Stock Exchange platform of the National Stock Exchange in Mumbai, with Minister Jayant Chaudhary ringing the bell
- The listing was NSDC's maiden issue of Zero Coupon Zero Principal instruments, and NABARD subscribed Rs 4 crore to it
- The money will prepare 600 youth from economically weaker OBC households in Madhya Pradesh for jobs abroad, 300 for Japan and 300 for Germany
- The programme outlay is Rs 11.25 crore, met by 15 per cent beneficiary contribution, 35 per cent from the Social Stock Exchange and 50 per cent from Madhya Pradesh on successful placement
- The outcome-linked share is structured as a bilateral Social Impact Bond between NSDC and the Government of Madhya Pradesh

Listing	NSDC's debut on the Social Stock Exchange platform of the NSE, Mumbai
Instrument	Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP), NSDC's maiden issue
Subscriber	NABARD, Rs 4 crore
Programme outlay	Rs 11.25 crore
Beneficiaries	600 youth from economically weaker OBC households in Madhya Pradesh
Destinations	300 candidates for Japan and 300 for Germany
Funding split	15 per cent beneficiaries, 35 per cent Social Stock Exchange, 50 per cent Madhya Pradesh on placement
Minister	Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nsdc-debuts-on-nse-social-stock-exchange-with-zczp-issue/

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Amit Shah Opens Rs 8,941 Crore Yamuna Projects in Delhi

22 October 2026 · National

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated 10 projects and laid foundation stones for 33 more, worth Rs 8,941 crore, for the rejuvenation of the Yamuna.

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah attended the inauguration and foundation-stone ceremony for Yamuna rejuvenation projects worth Rs 8,941 crore in Delhi
- 10 projects were inaugurated and 33 projects were initiated at the ceremony, with Delhi LG Taranjit Singh Sandhu and Chief Minister Rekha Gupta present
- The Centre and the governments of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have prepared time-bound roadmaps to make the Yamuna clean by 2029
- The Home Minister said more than 40 per cent of the plan has been achieved and the river would be purified before May 2029
- Delhi has cleared 2.17 crore metric tonnes of garbage and freed 100 acres of land, with the Okhla and Bhalswa mounds down by 30 to 40 metres

Outlay	Rs 8,941 crore for Yamuna rejuvenation projects
Projects	10 inaugurated and 33 initiated on 22 October 2026
Target	Yamuna to be made clean by 2029, purification before May 2029
Governments involved	Centre, Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh
Present	Lieutenant Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu and Chief Minister Rekha Gupta
Waste cleared	2.17 crore metric tonnes of garbage, 100 acres of land freed
Riverfront works	Asita East, Bansera and Vasudev Ghat at Sarai Kale Khan and ITO

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/amit-shah-opens-rs-8941-crore-yamuna-projects-in-delhi/

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India Sweeps High Jump T42/T63 Podium at Asian Para Games

22 October 2026 · Sports

Shailesh Kumar jumped to gold with a Games Record while Varun Singh Bhati took silver and Rahul bronze, giving India every medal in the high jump T42/T63.

- Shailesh Kumar won the gold medal in the men's high jump T42/T63 at the Asian Para Games 2026 and set a new Games Record with his winning jump
- Varun Singh Bhati, a well-known Indian para athlete, finished second in the same event and took the silver medal
- Rahul won the bronze medal, which completed an Indian sweep of all three places on the podium in one final
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated all three jumpers, calling Shailesh Kumar's effort a magnificent performance
- The classification for the event is written T42/T63 and all three medals were decided on 22 October 2026

Event	Men's High Jump T42/T63, Asian Para Games 2026
Gold	Shailesh Kumar, with a new Games Record
Silver	Varun Singh Bhati
Bronze	Rahul
Result	All three podium places taken by India
Date	22 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-sweeps-high-jump-t42t63-podium-at-asian-para-games/

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India Takes Two Para Swimming Medals at Asian Para Games

22 October 2026 · Sports

Kapil Kumar won silver in the men's 400m freestyle S10 and Ravi Karthik Budigina took bronze in the men's 50m freestyle S13 at the Asian Para Games 2026.

- Kapil Kumar won the silver medal in the men's 400m freestyle S10 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 with an impressive timing
- Ravi Karthik Budigina won the bronze medal in the men's 50m freestyle S13 event at the same Games
- Both Indian swimming medals of the day came in freestyle races, one over the longest individual distance and one in the shortest sprint
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised Kapil Kumar's endurance and dedication and called Ravi Karthik Budigina's passion and commitment noteworthy
- The S in a para swimming class marks freestyle, backstroke and butterfly events, and the number groups swimmers by level of impairment

Games	Asian Para Games 2026, swimming
Silver	Kapil Kumar, men's 400m freestyle S10
Bronze	Ravi Karthik Budigina, men's 50m freestyle S13
Stroke	Freestyle in both events
Date	22 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-takes-two-para-swimming-medals-at-asian-para-games/

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Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan Reaches Over 35 Crore People

22 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan has reached more than 35 crore people, including 13.94 crore youth and 10.86 crore women, and over 32 lakh educational institutions.

- The Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan has reached more than 35 crore people, including over 13.94 crore youth and 10.86 crore women
- More than 32 lakh educational institutions have been covered by the campaign's outreach activities
- NMBA runs under the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction and was launched on 15 August 2020, initially in 272 vulnerable districts
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah set 31 December 2029 as the date by which the drug trade is to be uprooted from India, linking it to the Viksit Bharat goal of 2047
- The National De-Addiction Helpline number is 14446, and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment runs the campaign

Campaign	Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA)
Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Parent plan	National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR)
Launched	15 August 2020, initially in 272 vulnerable districts
Reach	Over 35 crore people, 13.94 crore youth, 10.86 crore women
Institutions	More than 32 lakh educational institutions
Target	Drug trade to be uprooted by 31 December 2029
Helpline	National De-Addiction Helpline 14446

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nasha-mukt-bharat-abhiyaan-reaches-over-35-crore-people/

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Railways Sets All-Time High Coal Loading Record in October

22 October 2026 · Economy

Indian Railways recorded 22.5% growth in coal loading up to 18 October 2026 and dispatched 430 coal rakes a day to thermal power plants in the first half of FY 2026-27.

- Indian Railways recorded an all-time high in coal loading, with 22.5 per cent growth in October 2026 up to the 18th of the month
- Coal loading in that period rose by 87 rakes per day compared with October 2025
- In the first half of FY 2026-27 the railways dispatched an average of 430 coal rakes a day to thermal power plants, up 7.1 per cent year on year
- Daily coal rake dispatches in September 2026 were 14 per cent higher than in September 2025
- Indian Railways is coordinating with the Ministry of Coal on evacuation and the Ministry of Power on sustained supply to thermal plants

Record	All-time high coal loading, October 2026 up to the 18th
Growth in October	22.5 per cent over the same period last year
Extra rakes	87 more coal rakes dispatched per day than October 2025
First half FY 2026-27	430 coal rakes a day to thermal power plants
Half-year growth	7.1 per cent over the corresponding period
September 2026	Daily dispatches up 14 per cent over September 2025
Coordination	Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Power

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/railways-sets-all-time-high-coal-loading-record-in-october/

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J. P. Nadda Opens 14th India Chem 2026 in Mumbai

22 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Union Minister J. P. Nadda inaugurated the 14th India Chem 2026 in Mumbai on the theme 'Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub', Japan the partner country.

- Union Minister J. P. Nadda inaugurated the 14th edition of India Chem 2026 in Mumbai, a three-day international exhibition and conference
- The theme is 'Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub', Japan is the partner country and seven states are partner states
- The BHAVYA Rasayan Scheme, or Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana, has been launched for three new dedicated chemical parks and was called a game changer
- India's chemical industry is projected to reach USD 300 billion by 2030 and USD 1 trillion by 2040
- Over 200 exhibitors, more than 8,000 business visitors and 50 leading CEOs are part of the event, organised with FICCI

Event	14th India Chem 2026, Mumbai, three days
Inaugurated by	Union Minister J. P. Nadda
Theme	Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub
Partner country	Japan
Organisers	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals with FICCI
Scheme	BHAVYA Rasayan Scheme for three new dedicated chemical parks
Projection	USD 300 billion by 2030 and USD 1 trillion by 2040
Participation	Over 200 exhibitors, 8,000 business visitors, 50 CEOs

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/j-p-nadda-opens-14th-india-chem-2026-in-mumbai/

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Bhupender Yadav Seeks Joint Push on Circular Economy at CII

22 October 2026 · Environment

At the CII Circular Economy Conference, Bhupender Yadav said 499.60 lakh metric tonnes of waste has been processed and 86,043 producers are registered under EPR.

- Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav addressed the CII Circular Economy Conference in New Delhi and sought coordinated action by government, industry and urban local bodies
- Sector-specific rules now cover nine waste streams, including plastic waste, battery waste, e-waste, waste tyres, used oil, end-of-life vehicles and non-ferrous scrap metal
- Nearly 499.60 lakh metric tonnes of waste has been processed across regulated waste streams as on date
- More than 86,043 producers and 4,880 recyclers are registered under the Extended Producer Responsibility framework
- The minister highlighted the LiFE initiative and four-stream segregation of solid waste into wet, dry, sanitary and special-care waste

Event	CII Circular Economy Conference, New Delhi
Addressed by	Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav
Waste processed	Nearly 499.60 lakh metric tonnes across regulated streams
EPR registrations	More than 86,043 producers and 4,880 recyclers
Waste streams covered	Nine, from plastic and battery waste to non-ferrous scrap metal
Initiative cited	Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)
Segregation	Four streams: wet, dry, sanitary and special-care waste

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bhupender-yadav-seeks-joint-push-on-circular-economy-at-cii/

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PM Modi Addresses NDTV World Summit 2026 in New Delhi

22 October 2026 · National

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the NDTV World Summit 2026 in New Delhi, seeking reformed global institutions and a bigger voice for the Global South.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the NDTV World Summit 2026 in New Delhi on 22 October 2026, a gathering framed around the theme of a world between orders.
- He pressed for reform of multilateral institutions and a stronger voice for the Global South, recalling the appeal he made from the G20 platform in 2020 during the pandemic.
- India has crossed 300 gigawatts of non-fossil electricity capacity for the first time, the Prime Minister told the summit.
- Penicillin G is being produced again at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh under the PLI scheme, with over Rs 5,000 crore invested in API projects and nearly forty of them operational.
- He described the shift from being the world's back office to becoming its brain office, with India hosting more than half of all Global Capability Centres.

Event	NDTV World Summit 2026
Addressed by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Venue	New Delhi
Date	22 October 2026
Framing theme	The World Between Orders
Clean energy milestone	300 gigawatts of non-fossil electricity capacity crossed for the first time
Pharma revival	Penicillin G production restarted at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, under PLI
API investment	More than Rs 5,000 crore, with nearly forty projects operational

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-modi-addresses-ndtv-world-summit-2026-in-new-delhi/

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Khet Bachao Abhiyan Launched Nationwide from Taraori, Karnal

22 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the nationwide Khet Bachao Abhiyan from Taraori in Karnal, to run from 22 October to 30 November 2026.

- Union Agriculture and Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the nationwide Khet Bachao Abhiyan on 22 October 2026 from Taraori in Karnal district, Haryana.
- The campaign runs from 22 October to 30 November 2026, with agricultural scientists holding awareness meetings in villages across the country.
- Farmers were given three steps: balanced fertiliser use read off the Soil Health Card, crop rotation with pulses, and natural farming on at least half an acre using Beejamrit and Ghanjeevamrit.
- A fertiliser subsidy of more than Rs 1.5 lakh crore keeps a urea bag at Rs 266 and a DAP bag at Rs 1,350, the Minister said.
- Haryana received a sanction of Rs 1,343.06 crore for 28,422 permanent houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin, handed to state minister Shyam Singh Rana.

Campaign	Khet Bachao Abhiyan
Launched by	Union Agriculture and Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan
Launch place	Taraori, Karnal district, Haryana
Duration	22 October to 30 November 2026
Urea bag price	Rs 266
DAP bag price	Rs 1,350
Fertiliser subsidy	More than Rs 1.5 lakh crore
Haryana housing sanction	Rs 1,343.06 crore for 28,422 houses under PMAY-Gramin

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/khet-bachao-abhiyan-launched-nationwide-from-taraori-karnal/

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Bhubaneswar to Host 19th Urban Mobility India Conference

22 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

MoHUA will hold the 19th Urban Mobility India Conference on 23-24 October 2026 and the 2nd National Urban Conclave on 24-25 October at Bhubaneswar.

- The 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition 2026 will be held on 23 and 24 October 2026 at Hotel Mayfair Sanctuary, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- The second National Urban Conclave follows on 24 and 25 October 2026 at the same venue, with its first edition having been held in New Delhi in November 2025.
- The conference theme is Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age, while the conclave theme is Urban Rising - Rethinking Urban Systems, Solutions and Delivery.
- Union Minister of State Tokhan Sahu will inaugurate both events, with Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, NITI Aayog CEO Anurag Jain and Member Rajiv Gauba attending the conclave.
- About 1,500 delegates and 28 exhibitors are expected, and the best three of 46 selected research papers get a cash award of Rs 25,000 each.

Events	19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition 2026; 2nd National Urban Conclave 2026
Dates	23-24 October 2026 and 24-25 October 2026
Venue	Hotel Mayfair Sanctuary, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
UMI theme	Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age
Conclave theme	Urban Rising - Rethinking Urban Systems, Solutions and Delivery
Inaugurated by	Union Minister of State Tokhan Sahu, with Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi
Delegates	About 1,500, with 28 exhibitors
Enabling policy	National Urban Transport Policy (NUTP), 2006

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bhubaneswar-to-host-19th-urban-mobility-india-conference/

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Odisha to Target 1 GW Agrivoltaics by 2030 Under New Policy

22 October 2026 · Environment

At the AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026, Odisha said its Agrivoltaics Policy 2026 will target 1 GW by 2030 with 90 per cent of sites kept cultivable.

- Day two of the AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026 featured a ministerial track organised with the International Institute for Sustainable Development and the Council on Energy, Environment and Water.
- Odisha is finalising an Agrivoltaics Policy 2026 with a target of 1 GW by 2030, keeping at least 90 per cent of every project site cultivable.
- Odisha will offer power purchase agreements of twenty-five years through GRIDCO along with grid connectivity and investment incentives.
- Uttar Pradesh will solarise sixteen lakh agricultural tubewells with waived bills, while Bihar has advanced work on about 2,700 agricultural feeders.
- A roundtable with the World Bank, KfW, the European Investment Bank and IREDA discussed blended finance and concessional lending for agrivoltaics.

Event	AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026, day two
Ministerial track organisers	International Institute for Sustainable Development and Council on Energy, Environment and Water
States represented	Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar
Odisha policy	Agrivoltaics Policy 2026, target of 1 GW by 2030
Cultivable condition	At least 90 per cent of each project site must remain cultivable
Odisha offtake	Power purchase agreements of twenty-five years through GRIDCO
Bihar	Work advanced on about 2,700 agricultural feeders
Pitch-Hub curator	National Solar Energy Federation of India

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/odisha-to-target-1-gw-agrivoltaics-by-2030-under-new-policy/

CAQM Reviews Stubble Burning Curbs in Punjab and Haryana

22 October 2026 · Environment

The Commission for Air Quality Management held separate reviews with Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh, warning districts against any laxity on stubble burning.

- The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas held separate review meetings with Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh on 22 October 2026 under Chairperson Rajesh Verma.
- The Punjab review covered the State Action Plan framed under CAQM Direction No. 99 dated 15 May 2026, enforcement, and the use of Crop Residue Management machinery.
- Direction No. 92 requires paddy straw based biomass pellets and briquettes in brick kilns, and biomass co-firing targets at thermal power plants were also reviewed.
- Burnt-area assessment is being validated in the field against satellite fire alerts, with drones and low-cost sensors deployed district-wise to track burning.
- The Haryana review also covered vehicular pollution, Automatic Number Plate Recognition at fuel and CNG stations for PUC enforcement, dust control and industrial pollution.

Body	Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM)
Chairperson	Rajesh Verma
States reviewed	Punjab and Haryana, in separate meetings
Venue	Chandigarh
Date	22 October 2026
Direction No. 99	Dated 15 May 2026, on the State Action Plan against paddy stubble burning
Direction No. 92	Use of paddy straw based biomass pellets and briquettes in brick kilns
Monitoring tools	Satellite fire alerts, drones and low-cost sensors

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/caqm-reviews-stubble-burning-curbs-in-punjab-and-haryana/

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Tripartite MoU Signed for ST Youth Livelihoods at Rourkela

22 October 2026 · Government Schemes

A tripartite MoU between NSTFDC, NSIC and SAIL's Rourkela Steel Plant was signed to strengthen the livelihood incubation centre for Scheduled Tribe youth.

- A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 22 October 2026 for the Livelihood Business Incubation Centre at Rourkela, Odisha, which trains Scheduled Tribe youth.
- The signatories are the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (Ministry of Tribal Affairs), NSIC (Ministry of MSME) and SAIL's Rourkela Steel Plant (Ministry of Steel).
- The centre was established in 2018 and has been recognised as a Centre of Excellence by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- Plant and machinery were installed under the ASPIRE scheme of the MSME ministry, the site comes from the Rourkela Steel Plant and recurring costs are borne by NSTFDC.
- More than 600 students have benefited and set up businesses in bakery, mushroom cultivation, beauty parlours and tailoring.

Agreement	Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding signed on 22 October 2026
Signatories	NSTFDC, NSIC and SAIL's Rourkela Steel Plant
Ministries involved	Tribal Affairs; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Steel
Centre	Livelihood Business Incubation Centre, Rourkela, Odisha
Established	2018
Recognition	Centre of Excellence by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Machinery	Installed under the ASPIRE scheme of the MSME ministry
Beneficiaries	More than 600 students

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/tripartite-mou-signed-for-st-youth-livelihoods-at-rourkela/

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23 October 2026

AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026 Meets in New Delhi

23 October 2026 · Environment

The 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference met in New Delhi from 21 to 23 October 2026 on the theme Powering the Global South, as India mapped its agri-solar scope.

- The 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference was held in New Delhi from 21 to 23 October 2026 on the theme Powering the Global South
- As of August 2025 India had 36 operational agrivoltaics projects with 37.54 megawatts of installed capacity and 10 pilot projects under development
- India's agrivoltaic potential is estimated between 3,000 GW and nearly 14,000 GW, and a GIS screening found 47.35 million hectares of restricted cropland fit for AgriPV
- PM KUSUM, launched in February 2019, envisages central financial assistance of about Rs 34,422 crore for solar power in farming
- Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh hold nearly 50 per cent of the estimated AgriPV generation potential

Event	7th AgriVoltaics World Conference
Venue and dates	New Delhi, 21 to 23 October 2026
Theme	Powering the Global South
Projects running (August 2025)	36 projects, 37.54 megawatts installed, plus 10 pilots
Estimated potential	3,000 GW to nearly 14,000 GW
Land fit for AgriPV	47.35 million hectares of restricted cropland
PM KUSUM	Launched February 2019, central assistance about Rs 34,422 crore
Centre of Excellence	National Institute of Solar Energy with ICAR's Indian Agricultural Research Institute; 100-kilowatt system

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/agrivoltaics-world-conference-2026-meets-in-new-delhi/

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Ameena Nazreen Wins Global Youth Institute Award in USA

23 October 2026 · Awards & Honours

Indian student Ameena Nazreen A S won the Global Youth Institute Award of US$500 at the World Food Prize Foundation event in Des Moines, Iowa, USA.

- Ms Ameena Nazreen A S of India won the Global Youth Institute Award with a cash prize of US$500 at the World Food Prize Foundation event
- The event was the 2026 Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue, held from 20 to 22 October 2026 in Des Moines, Iowa, in the United States
- The theme of the dialogue was Before Hunger Wins, and India was represented by the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi
- Seven Indian high school students chosen through the NAAS-YUVA drive presented research papers at the Global Youth Institute programme
- NAAS signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology of the United States

Award winner	Ms Ameena Nazreen A S of India
Award	Global Youth Institute Award, cash prize of US$500
Event	2026 Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue
Organiser	World Food Prize Foundation
Theme	Before Hunger Wins
Venue and dates	Des Moines, Iowa, United States, 20 to 22 October 2026
Indian body present	National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi
MoU signed with	Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST), USA

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ameena-nazreen-wins-global-youth-institute-award-in-usa/

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Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2026 to Be Held in New Delhi

23 October 2026 · Defence

The Indian Navy will hold the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2026 in New Delhi from 3 to 5 November, drawing experts from 18 countries of the region.

- The Indian Navy will hold the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2026 in New Delhi from 3 to 5 November 2026 with the National Maritime Foundation as principal organiser
- The theme of IPRD-2026 is Science, Technology and Academic Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, and experts from 18 countries will take part
- Five professional thematic sessions are spread over the three days, covering academic networks, maritime situational awareness, oceanographic science, ocean governance and transformative maritime technologies
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will deliver the Commemorative Address on the opening day, which also has a session called Perspectives from the Flag Bridge
- The Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative, with its seven maritime lines of thrust, was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 14th East Asia Summit in Bangkok in November 2019

Event	Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2026 (IPRD-2026)
Host	Indian Navy, with the National Maritime Foundation as principal organiser
Venue and dates	New Delhi, 3 to 5 November 2026
Theme	Science, Technology and Academic Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific
Participation	Experts from 18 countries across the Indo-Pacific
Sessions	Five professional thematic sessions over three days
Commemorative Address	Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, on the first day
Special session	Perspectives from the Flag Bridge, with former naval chiefs of India and Sri Lanka

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indo-pacific-regional-dialogue-2026-to-be-held-in-new-delhi/

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PLFS Sampling Design to Change from January 2027: NSO

23 October 2026 · Reports & Indices

The National Statistics Office will change the Periodic Labour Force Survey sampling design and schedule from January 2027 and add a stratum for gig workers.

- The National Statistics Office will change the Periodic Labour Force Survey sampling design, estimation procedure and schedule from January 2027
- The NSO has conducted the PLFS since 2017, and its sampling design was revamped from January 2025 for monthly, quarterly and annual estimates
- A new Second Stage Stratum for digital platform workers is being introduced, taking the count to four such strata in rural and five in urban areas, with 14 households per First Stage Unit
- Fresh samples for the two-year period 2027-2028, called Panel 6, will be drawn from an updated frame that also reflects a follow-up updation of the rural Census 2011 frame
- New questions on unpaid household and caregiving work, volunteer work and unpaid trainee work go into Schedule 10.4 for persons aged 15 years and above

Survey	Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)
Conducted by	National Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Running since	2017
Earlier revamp	Sampling design revamped from January 2025
Gig worker data	Digital platform workers covered experimentally since January 2026
Changes effective	January 2027
New panel	Panel 6, for the two-year period 2027-2028
Second Stage Strata	Four in rural areas, five in urban areas

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/plfs-sampling-design-to-change-from-january-2027-nso/

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C-DOT Opens Sixth Centre of Excellence at IIT (BHU) Varanasi

23 October 2026 · Science & Technology

C-DOT signed an MoU with IIT (BHU) Varanasi for its sixth Centre of Excellence, which will research 5G Advanced, 6G, quantum technology and AI networks.

- C-DOT signed an MoU with IIT (BHU), Varanasi to set up its sixth Centre of Excellence for next-generation telecom research
- C-DOT is the telecom research and development centre of the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications
- The centre will work on 5G Advanced and 6G, very large-scale MIMO, AI-native networks, quantum and post-quantum communication
- C-DOT already runs centres with IIT Kanpur, IIT Gandhinagar, IIT Roorkee, IIT Hyderabad and IISc Bengaluru through FSID
- The MoU was signed in the presence of Pankaj Kumar Dalela of C-DOT and Professor Amit Patra, Director of IIT (BHU), Varanasi

What happened	C-DOT signed an MoU with IIT (BHU), Varanasi for a Centre of Excellence
Which number	C-DOT's sixth Centre of Excellence
C-DOT	Centre for Development of Telematics, R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications
Ministry	Ministry of Communications
C-DOT CEO	Dr Rajkumar Upadhyay
IIT (BHU) Director	Professor Amit Patra
Signed in presence of	Pankaj Kumar Dalela, Executive Vice President, C-DOT
Research fields	5G Advanced and 6G, very large-scale MIMO, integrated sensing, AI-native networks, quantum and post-quantum communication

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/c-dot-opens-sixth-centre-of-excellence-at-iit-bhu-varanasi/

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C-DAC and Bank of India Sign Quantum Banking MoU

23 October 2026 · Banking & Finance

C-DAC, under MeitY, and Bank of India signed an MoU on 22 October 2026 to build a quantum ecosystem for financial innovation and quantum-safe banking.

- C-DAC and Bank of India signed an MoU on 22 October 2026 on quantum financial innovation and emerging technology in banking
- C-DAC is an autonomous scientific society under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
- The partnership aims to build a Quantum Ecosystem for Financial Innovation with quantum-safe and quantum-inspired methods
- Proofs of concept will be run in secure sandbox environments, with roadmaps for pilots and adoption
- The MoU also covers blockchain, artificial intelligence, smart contracts, digital identity and fraud analysis for banking

Agreement	MoU between C-DAC and Bank of India on quantum and emerging technologies in banking
Date of signing	22 October 2026
C-DAC	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, autonomous scientific society under MeitY
Main aim	Quantum Ecosystem for Financial Innovation
MeitY Secretary	S. Krishnan
C-DAC Director General	E. Magesh
Bank of India Executive Director	Rajiv Mishra
Exchanged by	Aditya Kumar Sinha (C-DAC Mumbai) and Satyendra Singh (CGM IT and CIO, Bank of India)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/c-dac-and-bank-of-india-sign-quantum-banking-mou/

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PM Modi Opens Chinmaya Amrit Mahotsav Global Sammelan

23 October 2026 · National

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Chinmaya Amrit Mahotsav Global Sammelan of the Chinmaya Mission at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on 23 October 2026.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Chinmaya Amrit Mahotsav Global Sammelan at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on 23 October 2026
- The Chinmaya Mission was founded by Swami Chinmayananda, who launched the Gita Gyana Yagna to take Vedanta and the Upanishads to the masses
- More than 100 Chinmaya educational institutions teach lakhs of students, and a commemorative coin was released on his birth centenary in 2015
- Swami Chinmayananda gave the first financial contribution for the Vivekananda Rock Memorial at Kanyakumari, built on Eknath Ranade's resolve
- Mahotsav volunteers covered 40,000 kilometres over 300 days and reached more than one lakh young citizens

Event	Chinmaya Amrit Mahotsav Global Sammelan
Inaugurated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Date	23 October 2026
Organisation	Chinmaya Mission, founded by Swami Chinmayananda
Campaign he began	Gita Gyana Yagna, to take the Upanishads and Vedanta to the people
Educational network	More than 100 Chinmaya educational institutions
Commemorative coin	Released during his birth centenary in 2015

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-modi-opens-chinmaya-amrit-mahotsav-global-sammelan/

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Special Campaign 6: Textiles, Jal Shakti Report Progress

23 October 2026 · National

Special Campaign 6, run from 2 to 31 October 2026 under DARPG, saw the Cotton Corporation of India and the water resources department report scrap and space gains.

- Special Campaign 6 is being run from 2 to 31 October 2026 under the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- The campaign aims to clear pending matters and improve cleanliness in government offices, with activity-wise targets
- The Cotton Corporation of India crossed its targets of 156 scrap items and Rs 82,469 in scrap revenue, and released 200 sq ft of office space
- The CCI branch office at Guntur listed 511 e-waste items for e-auction on the Government e-Marketplace
- The water resources department earned Rs 13,13,748 from scrap, weeded out 1,456 physical files, closed 835 e-files and freed 901 sq ft

Campaign	Special Campaign 6
Period	2 to 31 October 2026
Nodal department	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)
Aims	Faster disposal of pending matters and cleanliness in government offices
Textiles body reported	Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)
CCI scrap target	156 items and Rs 82,469 in revenue, both exceeded
CCI office space	200 sq ft released against a target of 229 sq ft
E-waste at Guntur	511 items listed for e-auction on the Government e-Marketplace

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/special-campaign-6-textiles-jal-shakti-report-progress/

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INDRA 2026 India-Russia Naval Exercise Ends at Vladivostok

23 October 2026 · Defence

INS Sahyadri sailed out of Vladivostok on 20 October 2026 as INDRA 2026, the India-Russia bilateral naval exercise, closed after harbour and sea phases.

- INS Sahyadri departed Vladivostok in the Russian Federation on 20 October 2026 at the close of the India-Russia bilateral naval exercise INDRA 2026.
- INDRA 2026 was conducted between the Indian Navy and the Russian Federation Navy (RuFN) and was run in two phases, harbour and sea.
- The harbour phase covered talks between senior officers, cross-deck visits, exchanges between subject matter experts, operational synchronisation activities, sports and cultural programmes.
- At sea the two navies practised coordinated manoeuvring, integrated communications, helicopter operations and medical evacuation drills.
- The Ministry of Defence said the exercise reaffirmed the enduring defence and maritime partnership between India and Russia.

Exercise	INDRA 2026, India-Russia bilateral naval exercise
Participating navies	Indian Navy and Russian Federation Navy (RuFN)
Indian ship	INS Sahyadri
Port of departure	Vladivostok, Russian Federation
Date of departure	20 October 2026
Phases	Harbour phase and sea phase
Sea phase drills	Coordinated manoeuvring, integrated communications, helicopter operations, medical evacuation
Announced by	Ministry of Defence

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indra-2026-india-russia-naval-exercise-ends-at-vladivostok/

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Indian Army to Train 600 Civil Defence Master Trainers

23 October 2026 · National

The Home Ministry and the Indian Army will train 600 Civil Defence Master Trainers from 12 States and UTs by the second week of November 2026.

- The Ministry of Home Affairs and the Indian Army have begun a first-of-its-kind joint training initiative to build a vibrant Civil Defence Network in India.
- In the first phase 600 Civil Defence Master Trainers, 50 from each of 12 States and UTs, will take a three-day course by the second week of November 2026.
- Each Master Trainer will then train 100 Civil Defence Volunteers, so the cascade can reach 60,000 volunteers across the participating States and UTs.
- The 12 participating States and UTs are Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Delhi, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
- The Prime Minister announced the vibrant Civil Defence network from the Red Fort on 15 August 2026; the nodal body is the DGFSCDHG under the Home Ministry.

Initiative	Joint training of Civil Defence Master Trainers by the Indian Army
Nodal body	Directorate General of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards (DGFSCDHG), Ministry of Home Affairs
Master Trainers in phase one	600, that is 50 from each participating State or UT
States and UTs in phase one	12, including Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Delhi and Tamil Nadu
Course length	Three days, at designated Indian Army training establishments
Deadline	Second week of November 2026
Volunteers per Master Trainer	100
Potential reach	60,000 Civil Defence Volunteers

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indian-army-to-train-600-civil-defence-master-trainers/

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Kittur Rani Chennamma's 202nd Vijayotsava Held in Parliament

23 October 2026 · Persons in News

The birth anniversary of Kittur Rani Chennamma and her 202nd Victory Celebration were marked at Prerana Sthal in the Parliament premises in New Delhi.

- The birth anniversary of Kittur Rani Chennamma and her 202nd Victory Celebration were observed at Prerana Sthal in the Parliament premises, New Delhi.
- The programme was held under the leadership of V. Somanna, Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti and Member of Parliament from Tumakuru.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil attended and paid floral tributes to the queen.
- Rani Chennamma, hailed as Veera Vanithe, is remembered for her victory against the British and as a symbol of resistance to imperial power.
- Kannadigas from several districts of Karnataka and from Delhi joined the ceremony, which is now organised at the site every year.

Occasion	Birth anniversary of Kittur Rani Chennamma and her 202nd Victory Celebration (Vijayotsava)
Venue	Prerana Sthal, Parliament premises, New Delhi
Led by	V. Somanna, Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti, MP from Tumakuru
Lok Sabha Speaker present	Om Birla
Union Minister present	C.R. Patil, Jal Shakti
Title used for the queen	Veera Vanithe, the brave queen of Kittur
Victory remembered	Her victory against the British
Ministry issuing the release	Ministry of Railways

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kittur-rani-chennammas-202nd-vijayotsava-held-in-parliament/

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Draft National Steel Policy Vision 2047 Targets 604 MT Capacity

23 October 2026 · Economy

The Ministry of Steel's draft National Steel Policy Vision 2047 targets crude steel capacity of 604 MT, per capita consumption of 302 kg and exports of 45 MT.

- The draft National Steel Policy Vision 2047 targets crude steel capacity of 604 MT, per capita steel consumption of 302 kg and exports of 45 MT by 2047.
- It also aims to cut emission intensity from 2.54 to about 1.54 tonnes of carbon dioxide for every tonne of crude steel made.
- Green Steel Certificates have gone to 104 distinct steel producers in the lists issued up to October 2026, most certified products holding five-star ratings.
- MOIL recorded its highest-ever first-half manganese ore output of 0.96 Mt, passing its previous record of 0.943 Mt, and set up a joint venture with Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation.
- NMDC Global IFSC Limited and SAIL Global IFSC Limited have been incorporated at GIFT City, the first for overseas mineral investments and the second as a group treasury centre.

Policy	Draft National Steel Policy, Vision 2047, prepared by the Ministry of Steel
Capacity target	604 MT of crude steel by 2047
Per capita consumption target	302 kg
Export target	45 MT
Emission intensity	From 2.54 to about 1.54 tonnes of carbon dioxide per tonne of crude steel
Green Steel Certificates	104 distinct steel producers up to October 2026
MOIL record	0.96 Mt of manganese ore in the first half, past the earlier record of 0.943 Mt
MOIL joint venture	MOIL MPSMCL Mining Limited, with Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation Limited

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/draft-national-steel-policy-vision-2047-targets-604-mt-capacity/

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Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026 Held in Bhopal

23 October 2026 · State News

Madhya Pradesh released its Fisheries Investment and Export Guidelines 2026 at the Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave held in Bhopal on 23 October 2026.

- The Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026 was held in Bhopal on 23 October 2026 by the Madhya Pradesh and Union Departments of Fisheries with the NFDB.
- The Madhya Pradesh Fisheries Investment and Export Guidelines, 2026 and the SOPs for Inland State Export Potential were released at the event.
- Under the Budget Announcement for 2026-27, 49 reservoirs at Rs 8755.60 lakh and five Amrit Sarovars at Rs 69 lakh were approved for the State, an investment of Rs 88.25 crore.
- India's fish production was 197.75 lakh MT in 2024-25, with 151.60 lakh tonnes from inland fisheries, and seafood exports stood at Rs 73,890 crore in 2025-26.
- Madhya Pradesh's fish production rose from 2.00 lakh MT in 2019-20 to 4.45 lakh MT in 2024-25, an increase of about 123 per cent.

Event	Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026
Venue and date	Bhopal, 23 October 2026
Organisers	Department of Fisheries of Madhya Pradesh with the Union Department of Fisheries (MoFAHD) and NFDB
Documents released	Madhya Pradesh Fisheries Investment and Export Guidelines, 2026; SOPs of Inland State Export Potential
Union Minister present	Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Panchayati Raj
Chief Minister present	Mohan Yadav of Madhya Pradesh
Budget 2026-27 approval	49 reservoirs at Rs 8755.60 lakh and five Amrit Sarovars at Rs 69 lakh, Rs 88.25 crore in all
India's fish production	197.75 lakh MT in 2024-25, inland share 151.60 lakh tonnes

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/fisheries-investors-and-exporters-conclave-2026-held-in-bhopal/

India Targets 30 Million Tonnes of Fish Production in Five Years

23 October 2026 · Economy

The development phase of a national action plan for inland small-scale fisheries was launched as India set a fish production target of 30 million tonnes.

- India has moved into the development phase of a separate National Plan of Action for small-scale inland fisheries, launched by Fisheries Secretary Abhilaksh Likhi at a workshop in Bhopal.
- The plan is being prepared under the framework of the FAO, led by the Union Department of Fisheries with the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation.
- India has set a target of 30 million tonnes of fish production over the next five years, with seafood exports expected to reach Rs 1.25 lakh crore.
- Annual fish production is 19.7 million tonnes at present, inland fisheries giving about three-fourths of it, and seafood exports have crossed Rs 70,000 crore.
- The development phase will address fishing rights, resource management, decent work, gender equality, value chains, post-harvest trade, disaster risks and climate change.

Plan	National Plan of Action (NPOA) for small-scale inland fisheries, development phase
Launched by	Abhilaksh Likhi, Secretary, Department of Fisheries
Venue	Two-day national workshop at Bhopal
International framework	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Partner organisation	Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO)
Production target	30 million tonnes in the next five years
Export target	Rs 1.25 lakh crore of seafood exports
Present production	19.7 million tonnes a year, inland share about three-fourths

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-targets-30-million-tonnes-of-fish-production-in-five-years/

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22nd National e-Governance Webinar Showcases TRINETRA and PAI

23 October 2026 · National

DARPG held the 22nd National e-Governance Webinar on 23 October 2026, presenting Ujjain's TRINETRA surveillance system and the Panchayat Advancement Index.

- DARPG organised the 22nd National e-Governance Webinar on 23 October 2026, chaired by Joint Secretary Shri Avanish Kumar Mishra.
- TRINETRA, a Gold Award winner at the National Awards for e-Governance 2026, runs more than 450 AI-enabled cameras around the Mahakaleshwar Temple at Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh.
- Emergency response time in the Mahakal Rudrasagar Integrated Development Area dropped from 15-20 minutes to under five minutes, with 552 missing-person cases closed.
- The Panchayat Advancement Index of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj scores gram panchayats on nine LSDG themes using 150 indicators and 230 data points.
- The PAI portal covers about 2.6 lakh gram panchayats, and more than 360 officials joined the webinar.

Event	22nd National e-Governance Webinar (NeGW)
Organiser	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)
Date	23 October 2026
Chaired by	Shri Avanish Kumar Mishra, Joint Secretary, DARPG
TRINETRA site	Mahakal Rudrasagar Integrated Development Area, including Mahakaleshwar Temple, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh
TRINETRA cameras	More than 450 AI-enabled cameras with an Integrated Command and Control Centre
PAI ministry	Ministry of Panchayati Raj
PAI scale	Nine LSDG themes, 150 indicators, 230 data points, about 2.6 lakh gram panchayats

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/22nd-national-e-governance-webinar-showcases-trinetra-and-pai/

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Engineering Exports Cross US$70 Billion in H1 of FY 2026-27

23 October 2026 · Economy

The Department of Commerce and EEPC India held a Chintan Shivir to plan for US$250 billion of engineering exports by 2030, as H1 shipments crossed US$70 billion.

- The Department of Commerce and EEPC India held a Chintan Shivir to chart a strategy for US$250 billion of engineering exports by 2030.
- Engineering exports crossed US$70 billion in the first half of FY 2026-27, a growth of nearly 20 per cent over a year earlier.
- India’s total merchandise and services exports grew 14 per cent to US$476.20 billion during April-September 2026-27.
- Commerce Secretary Shri Rajesh Agrawal said India’s share of global merchandise exports could rise from about 2 per cent to 15-20 per cent.
- EEPC India Chairman Shri Pankaj Chadha expects engineering exports to cross US$140 billion this financial year, while Joint Secretary Shri Vimal Anand proposed a US$300 billion goal for 2030.

Event	Chintan Shivir for the Engineering Sector
Held by	Department of Commerce with EEPC India
Target	US$250 billion of engineering goods exports by 2030
H1 FY 2026-27 engineering exports	Over US$70 billion, up nearly 20 per cent
Total exports, April-September	US$476.20 billion, up 14 per cent year-on-year
Commerce Secretary	Shri Rajesh Agrawal
EEPC India Chairman	Shri Pankaj Chadha
Higher goal proposed	US$300 billion of engineering exports by 2030 (Joint Secretary Shri Vimal Anand)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/engineering-exports-cross-usdollar70-billion-in-h1-of-fy-2026-27/

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AVYAY Supports 764 Senior Citizen Homes Under IPSrC Component

23 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Under the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana, 764 senior citizen homes, 13 continuous care homes, 17 mobile medicare units and 3 physiotherapy clinics are being supported.

- The Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) is implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the welfare of senior citizens.
- Its Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens supports 764 senior citizen homes, 13 continuous care homes, 17 mobile medicare units and 3 physiotherapy clinics.
- Each Regional Resource and Training Centre gets annual financial support of Rs 19.58 lakh under the scheme guidelines.
- AVYAY has three components: the IPSrC, the State Action Plan for Senior Citizens and the Regional Resource and Training Centres.
- States and Union Territories may spend up to 20 per cent of their allocated funds on state-specific programmes approved under AVYAY.

Scheme	Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY)
Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Components	IPSrC, State Action Plan for Senior Citizens (SAPSrC), Regional Resource and Training Centres (RRTCs)
Senior Citizen Homes supported	764
Continuous Care Homes	13
Mobile Medicare Units	17
Physiotherapy Clinics	3
Support to each RRTC	Rs 19.58 lakh a year

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/avyay-supports-764-senior-citizen-homes-under-ipsrc-component/

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ARIES Study Explains High-Frequency QPOs Near Spinning Black Holes

23 October 2026 · Science & Technology

Scientists at ARIES, an autonomous institute of DST, have shown how a black hole's spin shapes the frequency of quasi-periodic oscillations in its accretion flow.

- Scientists from ARIES, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology, explained how black hole spin controls QPO frequencies.
- Quasi-periodic oscillations (QPOs) are nearly regular brightness variations in radiation from matter falling into a black hole.
- When the viscosity of the accretion flow crosses a critical value, the steady shock in the disc becomes unstable and oscillates, producing QPOs.
- For very high spin, predicted QPO frequencies can exceed 100 Hz for a black hole of about ten solar masses.
- The study, led by Mr Sanit Debnath and Dr Indranil Chattopadhyay, was published in the Journal of High Energy Astrophysics.

Institute	Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES)
Parent body	Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India
Subject	Effect of black hole spin on quasi-periodic oscillations (QPOs)
Led by	Mr Sanit Debnath and Dr Indranil Chattopadhyay
Partners	Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center, Poland, and MJP Rohilkhand University, Bareilly
Published in	Journal of High Energy Astrophysics (JHEAP)
Key result	QPO frequencies can exceed 100 Hz for a rapidly spinning black hole of about ten solar masses

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/aries-study-explains-high-frequency-qpos-near-spinning-black-holes/

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President Droupadi Murmu Attends Bastar Dussehra at Jagdalpur

23 October 2026 · State News

President Droupadi Murmu joined a public programme at Jagdalpur in Chhattisgarh on Bastar Dussehra and called the festival a symbol of the state’s cultural pride.

- President Droupadi Murmu attended a public programme at Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, on the occasion of Bastar Dussehra on 23 October 2026.
- She called Bastar Dussehra a vibrant symbol of Chhattisgarh’s cultural pride and collective faith.
- The President said the region had been freed from Naxal violence through coordinated efforts of the Union and state governments.
- She linked support to tribal entrepreneurs and market linkages to the goal of a developed India by 2047.
- She interacted with Manjhi and Chalki at the Muriya Darbar and offered puja at the Maa Danteshwari Temple in Jagdalpur.

Who	President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu
Occasion	Bastar Dussehra
Place	Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh
Date	23 October 2026
Temple visited	Maa Danteshwari Temple, Jagdalpur
Traditional assembly	Muriya Darbar, where she met local Manjhi and Chalki
Goal mentioned	Developed India (Viksit Bharat) by 2047 through equitable and inclusive development

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/president-droupadi-murmu-attends-bastar-dussehra-at-jagdalpur/

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Piyush Goyal Opens DGAP India Centre During Berlin Visit

23 October 2026 · International

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal held talks with German Minister Katherina Reiche in Berlin and jointly inaugurated the India Centre at DGAP on 22 October.

- Union Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal held high-level engagements in Berlin on 22 October to strengthen India-Germany trade and investment ties.
- He and German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Ms Katherina Reiche jointly inaugurated the India Centre at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP).
- The talks covered industrial collaboration and the proposed India-European Union Free Trade Agreement.
- At the Berlin Global Dialogue Shri Goyal joined the panel "New Era, New Alliances: The Third Path?" moderated by Prof Dr Lars-Hendrik Roller.
- A delegation of around 100 Indian businesses and startups is accompanying the minister to Germany and the Netherlands.

Minister	Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry
German counterpart	Ms Katherina Reiche, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy
Place and date	Berlin, Germany, 22 October
Inaugurated	India Centre at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)
Roundtable partners	DGAP and the Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business (APA)
Panel at Berlin Global Dialogue	"New Era, New Alliances: The Third Path?", moderated by Prof Dr Lars-Hendrik Roller
Delegation	Around 100 Indian businesses and startups, visiting Germany and the Netherlands

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/piyush-goyal-opens-dgap-india-centre-during-berlin-visit/

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Sandeep Kumar Gold Marks India's 100th Asian Para Games Medal

23 October 2026 · Sports

Sandeep Kumar won the men's 400m T64 gold with a world record at the Asian Para Games on 23 October 2026, the day India reached its 100th medal there.

- Sandeep Kumar won gold in the men's 400m T64 at the Asian Para Games on 23 October 2026 with a new world record, on his debut at the Games.
- Sandeep Kumar's gold was India's 100th medal at the Asian Para Games.
- Haney won gold with a world record in the men's javelin throw F37/F38 event.
- Harvinder Singh and Vijay Sundi won the men's recurve doubles archery gold; Naveen Sivakumar won badminton men's singles SL4 on debut.
- Nitesh Kumar won badminton men's singles SL3 gold and Pramod Bhagat took the silver in the same class.

Event	Asian Para Games, medals of 23 October 2026
India's 100th medal	Sandeep Kumar's gold in the men's 400m T64
World records	Sandeep Kumar (men's 400m T64) and Haney (men's javelin throw F37/F38)
Archery gold	Harvinder Singh and Vijay Sundi, men's recurve doubles
Badminton golds	Naveen Sivakumar (men's singles SL4), Nitesh Kumar (men's singles SL3)
Silver in SL3	Pramod Bhagat
Debutants who won gold	Sandeep Kumar and Naveen Sivakumar

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/sandeep-kumar-gold-marks-indias-100th-asian-para-games-medal/

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Bhawna Choudhary and Pooja Jatyan Win Historic Recurve Silver

23 October 2026 · Sports

Bhawna Choudhary and Pooja Jatyan took India's first-ever women's recurve doubles medal at the Asian Para Games on 23 October 2026, a historic silver.

- Bhawna Choudhary and Pooja Jatyan won silver in women's recurve doubles at the Asian Para Games on 23 October 2026, India's first-ever medal in the event.
- Jehan Dorab Madan and Shubham Wadhwa won bronze in men's doubles class MD4, also India's first-ever medal in that event at the Games.
- Thulasimathi Murugesan won silver in women's singles SU5 and Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan silver in women's singles SH6, improving on her bronze from the previous edition.
- Parmod won silver in the men's 1500m T46, repeating his placing from the previous edition of the Games.
- Ajay Kumar won bronze in the men's 400m T64, the event in which Sandeep Kumar won gold with a world record.

Event	Asian Para Games, medals of 23 October 2026
First-ever medal (archery)	Bhawna Choudhary and Pooja Jatyan, silver in women's recurve doubles
First-ever medal (MD4)	Jehan Dorab Madan and Shubham Wadhwa, bronze in men's doubles class MD4
Badminton silvers	Thulasimathi Murugesan (women's singles SU5), Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan (women's singles SH6)
Athletics silver	Parmod, men's 1500m T46
Athletics bronze	Ajay Kumar, men's 400m T64
Improved on previous edition	Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan, from bronze to silver

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bhawna-choudhary-and-pooja-jatyan-win-historic-recurve-silver/

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Rajnath Singh Releases Land Warfare Doctrine at Army Conference

23 October 2026 · Defence

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released the Land Warfare Doctrine at the Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi on 23 October 2026 and unveiled the UN Journal.

- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh released the Land Warfare Doctrine at the Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi on 23 October 2026.
- He asked the Army leadership to plan with a long-term strategic vision for the next 20 to 30 years while staying ready for immediate challenges.
- Defence production in FY 2025-26 reached a record Rs 1.78 lakh crore and defence exports an all-time high of about Rs 38,000 crore.
- He credited innovative thinking, synergy, coordination and advanced weaponry for the success of Operation Sindoor.
- The Raksha Mantri also unveiled the annual United Nations Journal and felicitated Army personnel who served as UN peacekeepers.

Document released	Land Warfare Doctrine of the Indian Army
Released by	Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh
Occasion	Army Commanders' Conference, New Delhi, 23 October 2026
Defence production, FY 2025-26	Record Rs 1.78 lakh crore
Defence exports, FY 2025-26	All-time high of about Rs 38,000 crore
Strategic horizon urged	Next 20 to 30 years
Also unveiled	Annual United Nations Journal; UN peacekeepers felicitated
Chief of Defence Staff	General NS Raja Subramani

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rajnath-singh-releases-land-warfare-doctrine-at-army-conference/

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Nirmala Sitharaman Chairs 30th FSDC Meeting in New Delhi

23 October 2026 · Economy

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 30th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council in New Delhi on 23 October 2026.

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 30th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council in New Delhi on 23 October 2026.
- The FSDC took note of the Financial Sector Cyber Security Strategy prepared by an Inter-Ministerial Group of regulators and cyber security agencies.
- Members flagged geopolitical uncertainty, the artificial intelligence boom and the sharp rise in global bond yields as risks needing vigilance.
- Reform items included fintech innovation, tokenisation of assets, digital KYC for NRIs and FPIs, and scaling the Account Aggregator and Unified Lending Interface for MSMEs.
- The Finance Minister sought faster refund of unclaimed assets under the 'Your Money, Your Right' campaign and more frequent FSDC meetings on a fixed calendar.

Body	Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)
Meeting	30th meeting, New Delhi, 23 October 2026
Chaired by	Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Strategy noted	Financial Sector Cyber Security Strategy (FSCSS)
Sub-Committee chair	Governor, Reserve Bank of India
Campaign on unclaimed assets	'Your Money, Your Right'
RBI Governor	Shri Sanjay Malhotra
SEBI Chairperson	Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nirmala-sitharaman-chairs-30th-fsdc-meeting-in-new-delhi/

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19th Urban Mobility India Conference Opens in Bhubaneswar

23 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 19th Urban Mobility India Conference opened in Bhubaneswar on 23 October 2026 on the theme 'Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age'.

- The 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition 2026 was inaugurated by MoS Tokhan Sahu at Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 23 October 2026, the first time the city is hosting it.
- The theme is 'Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age'; about 1,500 delegates and 28 exhibitors are taking part.
- India's operational metro network has grown from 248 km in 2014 to over 1,185 km across 26 cities, with another 998 km under construction.
- The conference is an annual initiative of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under the National Urban Transport Policy, 2006, and has been held since 2008.
- A research symposium selected 46 papers, with cash awards of Rs 25,000 each for the three best; the National Urban Conclave 2026 follows on 24 and 25 October.

Event	19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition 2026
Venue and dates	Hotel Mayfair Sanctuary, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, 23-24 October 2026
Theme	Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age
Inaugurated by	Union MoS for Housing and Urban Affairs Shri Tokhan Sahu
Organisers	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs through the Institute of Urban Transport (India), with the Government of Odisha
Policy framework	National Urban Transport Policy, 2006; conference held since 2008
Metro network	248 km in 2014 to over 1,185 km in 26 cities; 998 km under construction
Participation	About 1,500 delegates and 28 exhibitors

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/19th-urban-mobility-india-conference-opens-in-bhubaneswar/

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Asian Para Games: India Sweeps Men's Javelin Throw Podium

23 October 2026 · Sports

India took all three medals in the Men's Javelin Throw at the Asian Para Games on 23 October 2026, Sumit winning gold and two throwers setting Games Records.

- India swept the podium in the Men's Javelin Throw at the Asian Para Games: Sumit gold, Mahendra Gurjar silver and Sandip Sanjay Sargar bronze
- Both the silver and the bronze in that javelin final were won with a Games Record, by Mahendra Gurjar and Sandip Sanjay Sargar
- Pranav Soorma retained his gold in the Men's Club Throw F51 with a new Games Record, and Dharambir took the bronze in the same event
- Navdeep won bronze in the Men's Javelin Throw F40/F41, improving on his fourth-place finish at the previous edition
- Sandeep added a bronze in the Men's 100m T44 to his 400m gold and world record; Rakeshbhai Bhatt won his second bronze of the edition in the Men's 200m T37

Event	Asian Para Games
Clean sweep	Men's Javelin Throw - gold, silver and bronze all to India
Javelin gold	Sumit
Javelin silver	Mahendra Gurjar, with a Games Record
Javelin bronze	Sandip Sanjay Sargar, with a Games Record
Men's Club Throw F51	Pranav Soorma gold with a Games Record, title retained; Dharambir bronze
Men's Javelin Throw F40/F41	Navdeep bronze, up from fourth place in the previous edition
Men's 100m T44	Sandeep bronze, after his 400m gold and world record

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asian-para-games-india-sweeps-mens-javelin-throw-podium/

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Mona Agarwal Shoots Gold With World Record at Para Games

23 October 2026 · Sports

Mona Agarwal won a historic gold in the Women’s 50m Rifle 3 Positions SH1 at the Asian Para Games on 23 October 2026 with a new world record.

- Mona Agarwal won gold in the Women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions SH1 at the Asian Para Games with a new world record and a new Asian Para Games record
- She became the first Indian para shooter to win a medal in that event, which is what made the gold historic
- Thulasimathi Murugesan and Manasi Joshi won the Women's Doubles SL3-SU5 para badminton gold
- Nitesh Kumar and Thulasimathi Murugesan took the Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5 silver, an improvement on their bronze at the previous edition
- Himanshu Nandal won bronze in the Men's 100m Freestyle S11 swimming event, his third bronze of this edition

Event	Asian Para Games
Shooting gold	Mona Agarwal, Women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions SH1
Records set	New world record and new Asian Para Games record
First	First Indian para shooter to win a medal in this event
Badminton women's doubles SL3-SU5	Thulasimathi Murugesan and Manasi Joshi, gold
Badminton mixed doubles SL3-SU5	Nitesh Kumar and Thulasimathi Murugesan, silver, up from bronze in the previous edition
Swimming	Himanshu Nandal, bronze in the Men's 100m Freestyle S11, his third bronze of the edition
Date	23 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mona-agarwal-shoots-gold-with-world-record-at-para-games/

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SMFCL, India's First Maritime NBFC, Disburses Rs 5,107 Crore

23 October 2026 · Economy

Sarbananda Sonowal opened the corporate office of SMFCL in New Delhi on 23 October 2026; the maritime NBFC has disbursed Rs 5,107 crore so far.

- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the corporate office of Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited at ISID, New Delhi, on 23 October 2026
- SMFCL is India's first dedicated NBFC in the maritime sector; it had sanctioned Rs 11,563 crore and disbursed Rs 5,107 crore as on 30 September 2026
- It aims at cumulative disbursements of Rs 60,205 crore by the end of FY2031, in line with Reserve Bank norms on its debt-to-equity ratio
- SBI Ventures Limited is the Fund Manager of the Maritime Investment Fund component of the Maritime Development Fund, whose first close of Rs 5,000 crore is targeted by January 2027
- The Interest Incentivisation Fund has supported loans of Rs 4,500 crore and released about Rs 25 crore of interest subvention

Company	Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL)
Distinction	India's first dedicated NBFC in the maritime sector
Office inaugurated at	Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), New Delhi
Inaugurated by	Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
Sanctioned (30 September 2026)	Rs 11,563 crore
Disbursed	Rs 5,107 crore
Target by end of FY2031	Rs 60,205 crore of cumulative disbursements
Maritime Development Fund	first close of Rs 5,000 crore targeted by January 2027

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/smfcl-indias-first-maritime-nbfc-disburses-rs-5107-crore/

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Centre Sets Up Committee to Review Pharma Marketing Practices

23 October 2026 · National

The Department of Pharmaceuticals formed a committee under NITI Aayog member Dr. M. Srinivas on 23 October 2026 to review the UCPMP framework.

- The Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, has constituted a committee on pharmaceutical marketing practices
- Dr. M. Srinivas, Member of NITI Aayog, is the Chairperson; Smt. Preeti Sudan and Dr. Naresh Trehan are the members
- The committee must submit its recommendations within two months from the date of its first meeting
- The Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices was introduced in 2015 as a voluntary, industry-led self-regulatory mechanism
- UCPMP 2024 superseded the 2015 code, strengthened implementation and is the version currently in operation

Set up by	Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Subject	Regulatory framework for pharmaceutical marketing practices
Chairperson	Dr. M. Srinivas, Member, NITI Aayog
Members	Smt. Preeti Sudan, former Union Health Secretary; Dr. Naresh Trehan, CMD, Medanta
Deadline	Two months from the date of the first meeting
Code under review	Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP)
UCPMP introduced	2015, as a voluntary industry-led self-regulatory mechanism
Code in force	UCPMP 2024, which superseded the 2015 version

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/centre-sets-up-committee-to-review-pharma-marketing-practices/

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Third Regional FRA Review Conference Held in Srinagar

23 October 2026 · National

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs held the third regional review of Forest Rights Act implementation in Srinagar on 23 October 2026 with seven States and a UT.

- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs held the Third Regional Review Conference on Forest Rights Act implementation at Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, on 23 October 2026
- Officials of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir attended; the first review was at Bengaluru on 10 September 2026 and the second at Kolkata on 9 October 2026
- As of 31 August 2026 about 54 lakh claims had been received, 43.56 lakh or 80.64 per cent disposed of, 10.45 lakh pending and 18.13 lakh rejected
- 25.42 lakh titles had been distributed over nearly 238 lakh acres, and habitat rights stand recognised for only 11 of the 75 PVTGs
- Jammu and Kashmir reported 48,287 claims received, 6,191 approved by District Level Committees and 6,178 titles distributed over about 3,960 hectares

Event	Third Regional Review Conference on Forest Rights Act implementation
Held at	Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir
Convened by	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Act	Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006
Participants	Maharashtra, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir
Earlier conferences	Bengaluru on 10 September 2026 and Kolkata on 9 October 2026
Claims received (31 August 2026)	about 54 lakh
Claims disposed of	43.56 lakh, that is 80.64 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/third-regional-fra-review-conference-held-in-srinagar/

24 October 2026

Great Indian Bustard Rewilding Begins at Desert National Park

24 October 2026 · Environment

Four male Great Indian Bustards were released into the wild at Desert National Park in Jaisalmer in October 2026, the first of 10 birds picked for rewilding.

- Four male Great Indian Bustards were released into the wild in October 2026 at Desert National Park near Sam, Jaisalmer, out of 10 birds earmarked for release
- The conservation-breeding programme was sanctioned in 2016 with an outlay of Rs 33.85 crore for five years; the first captive-bred chick hatched at Sam in March 2023
- National CAMPA approved Rs 77.05 crore in December 2024 for a five-year action plan covering the Great Indian Bustard and the Lesser Florican
- By October 2026 the Sam and Ramdevra centres held 96 birds, 40 from wild-origin eggs and 56 bred in captivity, with 86 kept for breeding
- The Jumpstart Approach, which moved an egg 770 km from Sam to Naliya in Gujarat, has yielded six chicks in Rajasthan and two in Gujarat

Species	Great Indian Bustard (GIB), Critically Endangered
Release site	Desert National Park, near Sam, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
Birds released	Four males, out of 10 earmarked for release
Breeding centres	Sam and Ramdevra, Jaisalmer
Programme sanctioned	2016, outlay of Rs 33.85 crore for five years
First captive-bred chick	March 2023, Sam Conservation Breeding Centre
CAMPA approval	Rs 77.05 crore in December 2024 for a five-year plan covering GIB and Lesser Florican
Captive stock, October 2026	96 birds (40 from wild-origin eggs, 56 captive-bred); 86 kept for breeding

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/great-indian-bustard-rewilding-begins-at-desert-national-park-2/

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11 Crore Farmer IDs Created Under Digital Agriculture Mission

24 October 2026 · Government Schemes

India has created 11 crore Farmer IDs under the Digital Agriculture Mission, five months before the March 31, 2027 deadline, Shivraj Singh Chouhan said.

- 11 crore Farmer IDs have been created under the Digital Agriculture Mission of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare
- The work was finished by the night of 23 October, five months before the 31 March 2027 deadline
- Union Agriculture, Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced the milestone
- The Digital Agriculture Mission was approved by the Union Cabinet on 2 September 2024 and builds a Digital Public Infrastructure for farming
- More than 6 crore farmers have already received direct scheme benefits through Farmer ID-based delivery

Milestone	11 crore Farmer IDs created
Mission	Digital Agriculture Mission
Ministry	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare
Minister	Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Agriculture, Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development)
Original deadline	31 March 2027
Completed by	Night of 23 October, five months early
Cabinet approval of mission	2 September 2024
Farmers already benefited	More than 6 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/11-crore-farmer-ids-created-under-digital-agriculture-mission/

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VB-G RAM G Guarantees 125 Days of Rural Wage Employment

24 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The VB-G RAM G Act, 2025, in force since 1 July 2026, guarantees 125 days of wage work a year, and 15.17 crore rural employment cards have been issued.

- The VB-G RAM G Act, 2025 came into force on 1 July 2026 and replaced the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA across all rural areas
- It gives a statutory guarantee of 125 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household volunteering for unskilled manual work
- The VGPP framework identifies 318 types of permissible works in four themes: water security, core rural infrastructure, livelihood infrastructure and extreme weather mitigation
- As on 24 September 2026 there were 10.88 crore active workers, 31.69 crore person-days and 61.65 percent women's participation
- Rs 93,841 crore was allotted to States and UTs as interim allocation, of which Rs 25,880 crore went out as the first instalment

Framework	Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin), or VB-G RAM G
Act	VB-G RAM G Act, 2025
In force from	1 July 2026
Replaced	Mahatma Gandhi NREGA
Employment guarantee	125 days a financial year per rural household
Core planning instrument	Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan (VGPP), approved by the Gram Sabha
Permissible works	318 types across four thematic areas
Wage rate	Rs 300 to Rs 450 a day

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vb-g-ram-g-guarantees-125-days-of-rural-wage-employment/

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8th All India Conference of GRP Chiefs Concludes in New Delhi

24 October 2026 · National

The 8th All India Conference of GRP Chiefs, convened by the RPF and chaired by DG Sonali Mishra, ended in New Delhi with a push for intelligence-led policing.

- The 8th All India Conference of GRP Chiefs, convened by the Railway Protection Force, concluded in New Delhi on 23 October 2026
- RPF Director General Ms Sonali Mishra presided; Railway Board Chairman and CEO Shri Satish Kumar also addressed the conference
- GRP personnel were onboarded onto the RailMadad platform by the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) for better grievance redressal
- South Central Railway showcased Pink Patrol: Eyes in the Sky, SHAKTI on the Ground, a women-led drone-assisted surveillance model
- Central Railway's Pune Division presented Project DISHA, the Dedicated Initiative for Safety, Harmony and Awareness for children living near tracks

Event	8th All India Conference of GRP Chiefs
Convened by	Railway Protection Force (RPF)
Venue	New Delhi
Concluded on	23 October 2026
Presided over by	Ms Sonali Mishra, Director General, RPF
Railway Board Chairman and CEO	Shri Satish Kumar
Platform GRP joined	RailMadad, onboarded by the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS)
Women-led initiative	Pink Patrol: Eyes in the Sky, SHAKTI on the Ground (South Central Railway)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/8th-all-india-conference-of-grp-chiefs-concludes-in-new-delhi/

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Piyush Goyal Ends Germany Visit With Berlin Industry Meetings

24 October 2026 · International

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal closed a two-day Germany visit in Berlin on 23 October 2026, meeting the G7/G20 Sherpa Levin Holle and German industry chiefs.

- Union Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal concluded a two-day official visit to Germany with engagements in Berlin on 23 October 2026
- He held a bilateral meeting with Mr Levin Holle, Economic and Financial Policy Advisor and G7/G20 Sherpa, at the German Federal Chancellery
- He met the CEO of Siemens Healthineers AG Mr Bernd Montag, Bertelsmann Investments CEO Mr Carsten Coesfeld and Volkswagen AG CFO and Skoda Auto CEO Mr Holger Peters
- A roundtable with heads of selected Fraunhofer Institutes covered microelectronics, power electronics, logistics, smart manufacturing and battery technologies
- The visit underlined the widening India-Germany Strategic Partnership in trade, investment, advanced manufacturing, research and industrial cooperation

Minister	Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry
Country visited	Germany
City of the engagements	Berlin
Visit	Two-day official visit, concluded 23 October 2026
Bilateral meeting	Mr Levin Holle, Economic and Financial Policy Advisor and G7/G20 Sherpa, German Federal Chancellery
Siemens Healthineers AG	CEO Mr Bernd Montag
Bertelsmann Investments	CEO Mr Carsten Coesfeld, also Member of the Executive Board of Bertelsmann
Volkswagen AG and Skoda Auto	CFO and CEO respectively, Mr Holger Peters

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/piyush-goyal-ends-germany-visit-with-berlin-industry-meetings/

gk24.in

Shram Samvad Campaign Covers 316 Districts on Labour Codes

24 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Labour Ministry’s Shram Samvad, a 90-day campaign launched on 28 September 2026, is reaching 316 districts in 36 States and UTs on the new Labour Codes.

- Shram Samvad, a 90-day nationwide outreach campaign of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, was launched on 28 September 2026
- It takes district-level engagement on labour reforms to 316 districts in all 36 States and Union Territories, with a focus on industrial clusters
- A two-day state-level programme under the campaign is being held at Lucknow with the Government of Uttar Pradesh
- The four Labour Codes covered are the Code on Wages (2019), the Industrial Relations Code (2020), the Code on Social Security (2020) and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code (2020)
- Sessions cover e-Shram, the Shram Suvidha Portal, SAMADHAN and the Labour Stack, and schemes including the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana

Campaign	Shram Samvad
Ministry	Ministry of Labour and Employment
Launched	28 September 2026, nationwide
Duration	90-day outreach initiative
Coverage	316 districts in all 36 States and Union Territories
State-level programme	Two-day programme at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
Labour Codes	Code on Wages (2019), Industrial Relations Code (2020), Code on Social Security (2020), Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code (2020)
Bodies taking part	ESIC and EPFO

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shram-samvad-campaign-covers-316-districts-on-labour-codes/

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AATAL Lab Opens in Delhi to Trace Air Pollution Sources

24 October 2026 · Science & Technology

Dr Jitendra Singh opened AATAL, called the world's first integrated air pollution analysis laboratory for Delhi NCR, at the IITM Delhi branch under Mission Mausam.

- AATAL, the Integrated Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Toxicity Analysis Laboratory, was inaugurated for Delhi NCR by Dr Jitendra Singh at the Delhi branch of IITM
- It is described as the first integrated facility of its kind in the world and has been set up under Mission Mausam by the Ministry of Earth Sciences
- The laboratory separates vehicular exhaust, industry, biomass and crop-residue burning, construction and road dust, and inflow from nearby regions, and gives each a share in real time
- It is linked with IITM's AIRWISE system, which forecasts air quality at a resolution of 400 metres for the next 72 hours across pockets of Delhi
- Its evidence will help the Commission for Air Quality Management target action and judge its effect, including under the Graded Response Action Plan

Facility	Integrated Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Toxicity Analysis Laboratory (AATAL)
Inaugurated by	Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences
Ministry	Ministry of Earth Sciences
Venue	Delhi branch of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM)
Mission	Mission Mausam, announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Linked system	AIRWISE, the Air Quality Warning and Integrated Decision Support System for Emissions
Forecast detail	400 metres spatial resolution for the next 72 hours
Shown at launch	Transport contributing about 25 per cent of Delhi's pollution, overall level around 180

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/aatal-lab-opens-in-delhi-to-trace-air-pollution-sources/

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NBA Releases Rs 1.04 Crore ABS Money to Biodiversity Boards

24 October 2026 · Environment

The National Biodiversity Authority has shared about Rs 1.04 crore of access and benefit-sharing money with 27 State Biodiversity Boards and two UT councils.

- The National Biodiversity Authority has disbursed about Rs 1.04 crore of access and benefit-sharing money among 27 State Biodiversity Boards and two Union Territory Biodiversity Councils
- The money was paid by Crystal Crop Protection Limited, Savannah Seeds Private Limited and Nunhems India Private Limited for access to pearl millet, jowar, maize, rice and bottle gourd
- Shares were fixed by an area-based method using farm statistics from the Unified Portal for Agricultural Statistics; Uttar Pradesh got the largest share at Rs 10,35,790 and the total came to Rs 1,03,63,188
- India’s ABS framework rests on the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, amended in 2023, the Biological Diversity Rules, 2024, and the Access and Benefit-Sharing Regulations, 2025, with Section 21 on fair sharing
- The NBA has released over Rs 204 crore in ABS benefits so far, and India will showcase its ABS work at a CBD COP 17 side event on 28 October 2026 in Yerevan, Armenia

Body	National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
Amount disbursed	About Rs 1.04 crore (Rs 1,03,63,188)
Recipients	27 State Biodiversity Boards and 2 Union Territory Biodiversity Councils
Companies that paid	Crystal Crop Protection Ltd, Savannah Seeds Pvt Ltd, Nunhems India Pvt Ltd
Crops covered	Pearl millet, jowar, maize, rice and bottle gourd
Largest state share	Uttar Pradesh, Rs 10,35,790
Method of allocation	Area-based, using the Unified Portal for Agricultural Statistics
ABS released till date	Over Rs 204 crore (about $21.48 million)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nba-releases-rs-104-crore-abs-money-to-biodiversity-boards/

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Swavlamban 2026: Navy's 5th Innovation Seminar in New Delhi

24 October 2026 · Defence

The Indian Navy will hold the fifth Swavlamban seminar at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, on 26-27 October 2026 on innovation and indigenisation.

- The fifth edition of Swavlamban, the Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar, is set for 26 and 27 October 2026 at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi
- The theme of Swavlamban 2026 is 'Strength & Power through Innovation and Indigenisation'; the seminar began in 2022 and is organised with the Defence Innovation Organisation and the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers
- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh will be the chief guest at the plenary session on 26 October 2026 and will felicitate industry partners for their work in defence indigenisation
- The Swavlamban 5.0 document and the Compendium on Technology Imperatives will be released at the plenary session as guides to the Navy's technological priorities
- The exhibition covers Maritime Surveillance, Counter UAS, Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Technologies, NBCD and Safety, and Efficiency Enhancers, with sessions on autonomous and hypersonic technologies and the iDEX ecosystem

Event	Swavlamban 2026, 5th Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar
Service	Indian Navy
Dates	26 and 27 October 2026
Venue	Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
Theme	Strength & Power through Innovation and Indigenisation
First held	2022
Chief guest at plenary	Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, on 26 October 2026
Documents to be released	Swavlamban 5.0 document and Compendium on Technology Imperatives

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swavlamban-2026-navys-5th-innovation-seminar-in-new-delhi/

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Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 Underway at Khanapara in Guwahati

24 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The second Shilp Samagam Mela of 2026-27, with 75 artisans including 31 women, is running at Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati, until 28 October.

- The eight-day Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 is on at Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati, and is the second fair of the series held by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in 2026-27
- A total of 75 artisans, among them 31 women, are showing about 40 varieties of handloom and handicraft products; the fair runs until 28 October and stays open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- The fair promotes BHARAT-TULIP, the Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme, which markets artisans' products through physical outlets and e-commerce platforms
- It supports artisans linked to three national corporations: NSFDC for Scheduled Castes, NSKFDC for Safai Karamcharis and NBCFDC for Backward Classes, under the principle 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'
- The first fair of the 2026 series ended at the Dasara Exhibition Ground in Mysuru, Karnataka, on 19 October after nine days

Event	Shilp Samagam Mela 2026, Guwahati (second of the 2026-27 series)
Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Venue	Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati, Assam
Duration	Eight days, continuing until 28 October
Artisans	75, including 31 women
Products	About 40 varieties of handloom and handicraft items
Programme promoted	BHARAT-TULIP (Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme)
Corporations involved	NSFDC, NSKFDC and NBCFDC

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shilp-samagam-mela-2026-underway-at-khanapara-in-guwahati/

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India Chem 2026 Ends in Mumbai With Japan as Partner Country

24 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 14th India Chem closed in Mumbai on the theme Advantage Bharat, with Japan as partner country and a sector target of USD 1 trillion by 2040.

- India Chem 2026, the 14th edition of the biennial chemicals and petrochemicals expo and conference, was held in Mumbai from 22 to 24 October 2026
- Its theme was Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub, and Japan was the partner country
- Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers Jagat Prakash Nadda inaugurated it; the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha and MoS Anupriya Patel were present
- The sector is to grow from about USD 220 billion now to around USD 1 trillion by 2040 and about USD 1.6 trillion by 2047
- The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals organised it with FICCI; footfall crossed 5,000 visitors and partner states were Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha

Event	India Chem 2026, the 14th biennial international expo and conference
Theme	Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub
Venue and dates	Mumbai, 22 to 24 October 2026
Partner country	Japan
Partner states	Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha
Inaugurated by	Jagat Prakash Nadda, Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers and for Health and Family Welfare
Organisers	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals with FICCI
Present market size	About USD 220 billion

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-chem-2026-ends-in-mumbai-with-japan-as-partner-country/

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AITA ACE 2032 Holds All-Women Coaches Course in New Delhi

24 October 2026 · Sports

Raksha Khadse addressed the All-Women Coaches Course of the AITA ACE 2032 initiative at the DLTA stadium in New Delhi and sought wider pathways for women.

- An All-Women Coaches Course was held under the All India Tennis Association's ACE 2032 initiative at the DLTA tennis stadium in New Delhi
- Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Raksha Khadse addressed it and called for wider pathways for women from grassroots play to coaching and leadership
- The initiative is supported by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Sports Authority of India, and links coach education with talent identification
- The ASMITA women's leagues under Khelo India, launched in 2021, have reached more than three lakh women
- A further course was discussed for Bengaluru from 10 December, with 16 players to be selected for the CHP course

Event	All-Women Coaches Course under the AITA ACE 2032 initiative
Venue	Delhi Lawn Tennis Association (DLTA) tennis stadium, New Delhi
Addressed by	Raksha Khadse, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports
Organising body	All India Tennis Association (AITA)
Supported by	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) and the Sports Authority of India (SAI)
Women's leagues	ASMITA leagues under the Khelo India framework, launched in 2021
ASMITA reach	More than three lakh women
Next course	Bengaluru from 10 December, with 16 players to be selected for the CHP course

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/aita-ace-2032-holds-all-women-coaches-course-in-new-delhi/

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NSS Marks Gram Seva evam Parampragat Khel Diwas in Villages

24 October 2026 · Government Schemes

MY Bharat NSS took Gram Seva evam Parampragat Khel Diwas to villages in week six of the Nasha Mukt Yuva campaign, drawing over 80,000 participants.

- MY Bharat NSS, under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, held Gram Seva evam Parampragat Khel Diwas as week six of the Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan
- The Directorate of NSS and 15 NSS Regional Directorates ran it across more than 160 institutions and their adopted villages, drawing over 80,000 participants
- The second month of the campaign runs on the theme Fit Youth, Addiction-Free Youth (Shakti evam Seva)
- Traditional sports tournaments in kabaddi, kho-kho, tug of war and kushti engaged over 21,500 people, while village service drives drew more than 19,800
- Over 29,500 young women took part and participants put out more than 4,000 social media posts with the hashtag NashaMuktYuva

Activity	Gram Seva evam Parampragat Khel Diwas (Village Service and Traditional Sports Day)
Campaign	Week six of the Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan
Ministry	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, through MY Bharat NSS
Implemented by	Directorate of NSS with 15 NSS Regional Directorates
Reach	More than 160 institutions and their adopted villages
Total participation	Over 80,000 participants, including Gram Panchayat members and village elders
Second month theme	Fit Youth, Addiction-Free Youth (Shakti evam Seva)
Traditional sports	Kabaddi, kho-kho, tug of war and kushti, with over 21,500 participants

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nss-marks-gram-seva-evam-parampragat-khel-diwas-in-villages/

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Satna–Devendranagar and Rewa–Churhat Rail Lines Opened

24 October 2026 · National

Ashwini Vaishnaw and Mohan Yadav opened the 53-km Satna–Devendranagar and 65-km Rewa–Churhat rail lines in Madhya Pradesh and flagged off a passenger train.

- The Satna–Devendranagar (about 53 km) and Rewa–Churhat (about 65 km) rail sections in Madhya Pradesh were dedicated to the nation on 24 October 2026
- Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw joined by video conferencing and Chief Minister Dr Mohan Yadav was present; a new Devendranagar–Churhat passenger train was flagged off
- Rewa–Churhat cost about ₹1,070 crore and Satna–Devendranagar about ₹873 crore; both are part of the 541-km Lalitpur–Singrauli railway project
- Churhat brings Sidhi district on to the rail map, while the Satna line serves limestone and cement industries
- Railway projects worth nearly ₹1 lakh crore are under way in Madhya Pradesh and about 80 stations are being redeveloped

Sections opened	Satna–Devendranagar and Rewa–Churhat, Madhya Pradesh
Lengths	About 53 km and about 65 km
Costs	About ₹873 crore and about ₹1,070 crore
Parent project	Lalitpur–Singrauli railway project, about 541 km
New train	Devendranagar–Churhat–Devendranagar passenger service
Opened by	Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw (by video conferencing) and Chief Minister Dr Mohan Yadav
District newly connected	Sidhi
Date	24 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/satna-devendranagar-and-rewa-churhat-rail-lines-opened/

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DRDO AIP Energy Module Begins Setting to Work Phase-2

24 October 2026 · Defence

DRDO opened the Setting to Work Phase-2 activity of its indigenous AIP Energy Module at L&T Hazira, meant for the Navy's diesel-electric submarines.

- The Setting to Work Phase-2 activity of the indigenous AIP Energy Module was inaugurated on 24 October 2026 at L&T's AM Naik Heavy Engineering Complex, Hazira, Gujarat
- The AIP system has been developed indigenously by the Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL) of the DRDO for diesel-electric submarines
- An AIP plant raises underwater endurance by cutting a submarine's dependence on oxygen from the atmosphere; the Indian design rests on hydrogen and fuel cell technology
- Defence Secretary and DRDO Chairman Rajesh Kumar Singh was the chief guest, joining virtually; Vice Admiral B Sivakumar and Dr R Balamuralikrishnan attended
- After testing to Navy protocols the module goes to Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited for integration on a Kalvari-class submarine in early 2027

System	Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) Energy Module
Developed by	Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL), DRDO
Milestone	Inauguration of Setting to Work (STW) Phase-2 activity
Venue	AM Naik Heavy Engineering Complex, L&T, Hazira, Gujarat
Chief guest	Rajesh Kumar Singh, Defence Secretary and Chairman, DRDO (virtually)
Integration	Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, on a Kalvari-class submarine in early 2027
Technology	Hydrogen and fuel cell based; raises underwater endurance
Date	24 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/drdo-aip-energy-module-begins-setting-to-work-phase-2/

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19th Urban Mobility India Conference Ends in Bhubaneswar

24 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 19th Urban Mobility India Conference closed in Bhubaneswar with about 1,500 delegates, as Manohar Lal set out integration, inclusiveness and intelligence.

- The 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition 2026 concluded in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 24 October 2026 after a two-day run on 23 and 24 October
- It was organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs through the Institute of Urban Transport (India) on the theme 'Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age'
- Union Minister Manohar Lal offered integration, inclusiveness and intelligence, the 3-I formula, as the pillars of future urban mobility
- Nine metro projects of about 174 km worth over ₹59,000 crore have been approved since December 2025; the operational metro network stands at about 1,185 km in 26 cities
- Under PM e-Bus Sewa, 1,100 electric buses run in 28 cities; the conference drew about 1,500 delegates and 28 exhibitors

Event	19th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference and Exhibition 2026
Venue and dates	Bhubaneswar, Odisha; 23 and 24 October 2026
Theme	Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age
Organiser	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs through the Institute of Urban Transport (India)
Three pillars	Integration, Inclusiveness and Intelligence (3-I)
Metro approvals since December 2025	Nine projects, about 174 km, over ₹59,000 crore
Operational metro network	About 1,185 km across 26 cities
PM e-Bus Sewa	1,100 electric buses in 28 cities

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/19th-urban-mobility-india-conference-ends-in-bhubaneswar/

National Urban Conclave 2026 Opens in Bhubaneswar

24 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Tokhan Sahu inaugurated the second National Urban Conclave at Bhubaneswar on the theme Urban Rising, drawing over 1,200 participants from across the country.

- The second National Urban Conclave was inaugurated in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 24 October 2026 by Union Minister of State Tokhan Sahu; it runs on 24 and 25 October
- Theme: 'Urban Rising – Rethinking Urban Systems, Solutions and Delivery'; the National Institute of Urban Affairs is the knowledge partner and over 1,200 participants are taking part
- India's urban population has grown from about 377 million in 2011 to around 500 million and may reach 600 million by 2036
- Reforms cited include a ₹1 lakh crore Urban Challenge Fund, a Credit Repayment Guarantee Scheme of ₹5,000 crore and an Urbanisation Premium Grant of ₹10,000 crore suggested by the Sixteenth Finance Commission
- Launches included HUDCO's Urban Invest Window journal, the Samarthya platform for CPHEEO, the ANKUR Handbook and the PMAY-U 2.0 mobile application

Event	National Urban Conclave 2026, second edition
Venue and dates	Bhubaneswar, Odisha; 24 and 25 October 2026
Theme	Urban Rising – Rethinking Urban Systems, Solutions and Delivery
Inaugurated by	Tokhan Sahu, Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs
Knowledge partner	National Institute of Urban Affairs; HUDCO and NBCC are principal sponsors
Participation	Over 1,200 participants, including ministers, mayors and ULB representatives
Urban population	About 377 million in 2011, around 500 million now, 600 million expected by 2036
Funds named	Urban Challenge Fund ₹1 lakh crore; Credit Repayment Guarantee Scheme ₹5,000 crore; Urbanisation Premium Grant ₹10,000 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-urban-conclave-2026-opens-in-bhubaneswar/

Bihar Integrated Manufacturing City Gaya Limited Launched

24 October 2026 · Economy

Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary launched BIMCGL at Bodh Gaya, where 12 MoUs for about 300 acres and ₹4,200 crore of investment were signed.

- Bihar Integrated Manufacturing City Gaya Limited was launched at Bodh Gaya on 24 October 2026 by Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, along with the curtain raiser of Bihar Business Connect 2027
- Twelve MoUs were signed for about 300 acres at IMC Gaya, carrying proposed investment of about ₹4,200 crore and employment potential of 16,095
- BIMCGL is the special purpose vehicle for the Integrated Manufacturing Cluster at Gaya, spread over about 1,670 acres in Dobhi block under the Amritsar–Kolkata Industrial Corridor
- The project was approved on 28 August 2024 at a cost of ₹1,339 crore and is expected to draw about ₹16,500 crore of investment and nearly 1.10 lakh jobs
- The company, incorporated on 6 January 2025, is an equal joint venture of BIADA and the National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust

Company launched	Bihar Integrated Manufacturing City Gaya Limited (BIMCGL)
Launched by	Samrat Choudhary, Chief Minister of Bihar, at Bodh Gaya
MoUs signed	12, for about 300 acres, investment about ₹4,200 crore, employment potential 16,095
Corridor	Amritsar–Kolkata Industrial Corridor, under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme
Cluster area	About 1,670 acres in Dobhi block, Gaya district
Approval	28 August 2024, at a cost of ₹1,339 crore including land
Joint venture	BIADA and NICDIT with equal equity; incorporated 6 January 2025
Expected outcome	Investment of about ₹16,500 crore and nearly 1.10 lakh jobs

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bihar-integrated-manufacturing-city-gaya-limited-launched/

CAQM Reviews Stubble Management in Amritsar, Tarn Taran

24 October 2026 · Environment

A CAQM team led by chairperson Rajesh Verma reviewed paddy stubble management in Punjab's Amritsar and Tarn Taran districts and ordered firmer field action.

- A CAQM team led by chairperson Rajesh Verma reviewed paddy stubble management with the Deputy Commissioners of Amritsar and Tarn Taran districts of Punjab on 24 October 2026
- The review covered in-situ and ex-situ stubble management and the machinery and infrastructure available in the two districts
- The Commission pressed for maximum use of stubble as fuel in thermal power plants, brick kilns and industries, with sector-wise nodal officers reporting compliance
- Tarn Taran, which reports among the highest numbers of stubble burning cases, was told to treat the issue as its topmost priority
- The team inspected an industrial boiler in Amritsar running on paddy stubble pellets as an example of productive ex-situ use

Body	Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM)
Chairperson	Rajesh Verma
Districts reviewed	Amritsar and Tarn Taran, Punjab
Subject	Paddy stubble management and prevention of stubble burning
Key direction	Maximum use of stubble as fuel in thermal power plants, brick kilns and industries
Coordination sought	Between farmers, Custom Hiring Centres and machinery providers
District under focus	Tarn Taran, among the highest in stubble burning incidents
Date	24 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/caqm-reviews-stubble-management-in-amritsar-tarn-taran/

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BHASHINI Shows Multilingual AI for Theses at ETD-2026, IIT Delhi

24 October 2026 · Science & Technology

The Digital India BHASHINI Division demonstrated its multilingual AI tools for translating theses and dissertations at the 29th ETD symposium at IIT Delhi.

- The Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD), under Digital India Corporation and MeitY, took part in the 29th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD-2026) at IIT Delhi from 23 to 25 October 2026
- Ms Baishali Chakraborty conducted the session ‘Workshop on AI BHASHINI: Bridging Divides and Increasing Productivity’ and demonstrated Shrutlekh, which transcribes speech live and translates it at the same time
- BHASHINI has crossed 10 billion cumulative AI inferences and covers 36 Indian languages in text, 23 in voice and 35 languages from abroad, with its translation plugin on more than 800 government websites
- BHASHINI Pragati, the document translation workbench built for the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, handles files of 100 to 500 pages and was proposed for repositories such as Shodhganga, maintained by INFLIBNET
- SHABD UDYAN handles terminology, BhashaDaan collects language contributions from citizens, and Granthika digitises manuscripts, folk tales and oral histories

Event	29th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD-2026)
Host and venue	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi
Dates	23 to 25 October 2026
Participating body	Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD), under Digital India Corporation (DIC), MeitY
Session	‘Workshop on AI BHASHINI: Bridging Divides and Increasing Productivity’
Conducted by	Ms Baishali Chakraborty, on behalf of DIBD
Live demonstration	Shrutlekh — real-time speech transcription with simultaneous translation
Cumulative AI inferences	Over 10 billion

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bhashini-shows-multilingual-ai-for-theses-at-etd-2026-iit-delhi/

25 October 2026

Ramsar Sites in India Reach 103 With Sukhna and Sauj Jheel

25 October 2026 · Environment

India's Ramsar Site network reached 103 wetlands on 15 October 2026 as Sukhna Wetland in Chandigarh and Sauj Jheel in Uttar Pradesh joined the list.

- India had 103 Ramsar Sites as on 15 October 2026, up from 26 in 2014, covering more than 13.87 lakh hectares across 28 States and Union Territories.
- Sukhna Wetland in Chandigarh, a reservoir built in 1958 below the Shivalik hills, and Sauj Jheel in Mainpuri district of Uttar Pradesh are the newest additions.
- The Ramsar Convention was agreed at Ramsar in Iran on 2 February 1971 and took effect in 1975; it now has 172 Contracting Parties and over 2,536 listed sites.
- Tamil Nadu leads the States with 20 sites and Uttar Pradesh follows with 14; Chilika Lake and Keoladeo National Park were India's first, on 1 October 1981.
- India's network ranks first in Asia and third in the world, and rests on the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 and the NPCA scheme.

Ramsar Sites in India	103, as on 15 October 2026
Area covered	Over 13.87 lakh hectares in 28 States and Union Territories
Rank	First in Asia, third in the world by number of sites
Convention adopted	Ramsar, Iran, on 2 February 1971; in force from 1975
India joined	1 February 1982
Newest sites	Sukhna Wetland (Chandigarh) and Sauj Jheel (Uttar Pradesh)
State with most sites	Tamil Nadu with 20, then Uttar Pradesh with 14
First Indian sites	Chilika Lake (Odisha) and Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan), 1 October 1981

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ramsar-sites-in-india-reach-103-with-sukhna-and-sauj-jheel/

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India Wins Record 114 Medals at Asian Para Games 2026

25 October 2026 · Sports

India closed the Asian Para Games 2026 with a record 114 medals, the best-ever showing by the country at the event, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed.

- India closed the Asian Para Games 2026 with a record 114 medals, the best-ever performance by the country at this continental event for para-athletes.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi called the result an extraordinary achievement and a moment of pride and joy for the entire nation.
- The Prime Minister credited the exceptional determination of the contingent and said every athlete in the squad had added to the record count.
- His message was carried on the social media platform X on 25 October 2026, as the Games came to a close.

Event	Asian Para Games 2026
India's medals	114, a record for the country
Significance	Best-ever Indian performance at the Asian Para Games
Hailed by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Date of the message	25 October 2026
Praised	Every member of the Indian para-athlete contingent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-wins-record-114-medals-at-asian-para-games-2026/

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Mann Ki Baat 139th Episode Flags 50 Crore e-Sanjeevani Calls

25 October 2026 · National

The 139th episode of Mann Ki Baat, aired on 25 October 2026, completed 12 years of the programme and put the e-Sanjeevani count at about 50 crore.

- The 139th episode of Mann Ki Baat was aired on 25 October 2026 and marked 12 years of the monthly programme, which started on Vijayadashami.
- About 50 crore tele-consultations have been done through e-Sanjeevani, and nearly 1,90,000 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs are serving as village wellness centres.
- The Sudha Gopalakrishnan Brain Centre at IIT Madras will map 100 human brains in 3D on the Param Shakti supercomputer and release the data as open source.
- Khadi Gram Udyog goods sold for more than ₹28 crore in a single day on Gandhi Jayanti, and Shabari Naturals packaging from Maharashtra won Japan’s Good Design Award.
- 31 October is Ekta Diwas and also the 100th birth anniversary of Narinder Singh Kapany, the Father of Fiber Optics; 4 November is Bhai Parmanand’s 150th.

Programme	Mann Ki Baat, 139th episode
Aired on	25 October 2026
Years completed	12 years, the first episode having been on Vijayadashami
e-Sanjeevani tele-consultations	About 50 crore
Ayushman Arogya Mandirs	Nearly 1,90,000
Brain centre opened	Sudha Gopalakrishnan Brain Centre, IIT Madras
Brains to be mapped	100 human brains, on the Param Shakti supercomputer
Khadi single-day sale	More than ₹28 crore on Gandhi Jayanti

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mann-ki-baat-139th-episode-flags-50-crore-e-sanjeevani-calls/

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Special Campaign 6: NLC India Earns 3.12 Crore From Scrap

25 October 2026 · Government Schemes

NLC India has beaten its Special Campaign 6 targets, clearing 180 sites, selling 1,272 MT of scrap and earning more than 3.12 crore rupees in revenue.

- Special Campaign 6 is run by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, and its implementation phase runs from 2 to 31 October 2026.
- The focus this year is the effective collection, segregation and disposal of institutional e-waste, handled under the E-Waste Management Rules, 2022.
- NLC India took up 180 campaign sites against a target of 145 and cleared 24,96,193 square feet of space against the 24,15,786 square feet proposed.
- NLC India disposed of 1,272 metric tonnes of scrap against a target of 1,266.22 MT and earned 3,11,89,078 rupees, or about 3.12 crore rupees.
- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy reported 60 to 70 per cent progress, with IREDA, SECI, NISE, NIWE and SSS-NIBE taking part.

Campaign	Special Campaign 6
Run by	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)
Focus this year	Effective collection, segregation and disposal of e-waste
Preparatory phase	15 to 30 September 2026
Implementation phase	2 to 31 October 2026
Rules followed for e-waste	E-Waste Management Rules, 2022
NLC India comes under	Ministry of Coal
Campaign sites	180 taken up against a target of 145

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/special-campaign-6-nlc-india-earns-312-crore-from-scrap/

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NITI Aayog Urges Elected Mayors at 2nd National Urban Conclave

25 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

At the 2nd National Urban Conclave, NITI Aayog Member Rajiv Gauba sought directly elected mayors with five-year terms and all 18 functions for cities.

- Rajiv Gauba, Member of NITI Aayog, closed the 2nd National Urban Conclave with a call for empowered city governments to unlock India's growth potential.
- India's population is expected to stabilise near 165 crore around 2060, while the urban population grows from about 50 crore now to 85 crore by 2050.
- The NITI Aayog and Housing Ministry report Moving Towards Effective City Governance seeks directly elected mayors with five-year terms and timely municipal polls.
- States were asked to devolve all 18 functions of the 74th Amendment to urban local bodies, including master planning, water supply, fire services and traffic.
- The Urban Challenge Fund of the 2025-26 budget is 1 lakh crore rupees; this year's budget gives 5,000 crore rupees each to 7 city economic regions over five years.

Event	2nd National Urban Conclave, valedictory session
Speaker	Rajiv Gauba, Member, NITI Aayog
Goal referred to	Viksit Bharat @ 2047
Population outlook	Stabilising at about 165 crore around 2060
Urban population	From about 50 crore now to 85 crore by 2050
Report cited	Moving Towards Effective City Governance, by NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Functions to be devolved	All 18 functions of the 74th Amendment to urban local bodies
Mayors	Directly elected, with a term of five years, plus a Mayor-in-Council system

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/niti-aayog-urges-elected-mayors-at-2nd-national-urban-conclave/

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Operation Trident: NCB Raids 38 Sites in Assam, Mizoram, Manipur

25 October 2026 · National

The NCB-led Operation Trident hit 38 locations in Assam, Mizoram and Manipur on 23 October 2026, froze 1,424 bank accounts and made 18 arrests.

- Operation Trident was led by the Narcotics Control Bureau with Mizoram Police and the Enforcement Directorate in the early hours of 23 October 2026.
- Thirty-eight multi-agency teams searched 38 locations in Assam, Mizoram and Manipur, among them Aizawl, Champhai, Zokhawthar, Churachandpur and the Cachar corridor.
- The action froze 1,424 bank accounts, attached property worth 17.82 crore rupees, exposed a hawala trail of about 100 crore rupees and ended in 18 arrests.
- Seizures included 500 detonators and 12 lakh rupees in cash; the network moved drugs through the Death Triangle Corridor linking India, Myanmar and Bangladesh.
- It follows the Vision Document on Narcotics Control (2026-2029) and the goal of ending every drug network by 31 December 2029.

Operation	Operation Trident
Lead agency	Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)
Partner agencies	Mizoram Police and Enforcement Directorate (ED)
Date of the strike	23 October 2026
States covered	Assam, Mizoram and Manipur
Teams and locations	38 teams at 38 locations
Bank accounts frozen	1,424
Property attached	17.82 crore rupees

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/operation-trident-ncb-raids-38-sites-in-assam-mizoram-manipur/

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BRICS Parliamentary Forum: India Hosts 12th Edition in Delhi

25 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

India will host the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum at the Parliament House Complex on 26 and 27 October 2026 on the theme of people-centric development.

- The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum is being hosted by the Parliament of India at the Parliament House Complex on 26 and 27 October 2026.
- Its theme is Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development, taken up through four high-level sessions on Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla met the Russian delegation led by Vyacheslav Volodin, Chairman of the State Duma, ahead of the forum.
- India holds the BRICS presidency in 2026, and the Speaker said a people-centric approach would guide it.
- India and Russia complete 80 years of diplomatic relations in 2027; Russia supports India's permanent membership of the UN Security Council.

Event	12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum
Host	Parliament of India
Venue	Parliament House Complex, New Delhi
Dates	26 to 27 October 2026
Theme	Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development
Sessions	Four high-level sessions on Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
Russian delegation	Led by Vyacheslav Volodin, Chairman of the State Duma
BRICS presidency	India holds it in 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/brics-parliamentary-forum-india-hosts-12th-edition-in-delhi/

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CCPA Fines 12 Entities 58 Lakh Rupees Over Walkie-Talkie Ads

25 October 2026 · National

The CCPA has fined 12 entities a total of 58 lakh rupees over misleading walkie-talkie advertisements, the newest penalty being on Hogar Technologies.

- The CCPA fined M/s Hogar Technologies and Innovations LLP one lakh rupees for misleading walkie-talkie advertisements under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.
- The authority, headed by Chief Commissioner Nidhi Khare with Commissioner Anupam Mishra, has now passed final orders against 12 entities with penalties of 58 lakh rupees in all.
- More than 16,970 non-compliant listings were found on online platforms and notices went to 13 e-commerce entities, including Amazon, Flipkart, Meesho, Meta, JioMart, IndiaMART and TradeIndia.
- Personal mobile radios working within 446.0 to 446.2 MHz are exempt from licensing under the rules of 2018, subject to conditions; sets outside the band need approvals.
- Amazon and Flipkart have moved the Karnataka High Court, Meta and TradeIndia the NCDRC, and IndiaMART the Delhi High Court against the orders.

Authority	Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)
Law applied	Consumer Protection Act, 2019
Headed by	Chief Commissioner Nidhi Khare, with Commissioner Anupam Mishra
Latest penalty	One lakh rupees on M/s Hogar Technologies and Innovations LLP
Product in question	Walkie-talkies, also called personal mobile radios
Licence-exempt band	446.0 to 446.2 MHz under the rules of 2018
Non-compliant listings found	More than 16,970
Notices issued to	13 e-commerce entities

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ccpa-fines-12-entities-58-lakh-rupees-over-walkie-talkie-ads/

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Urban Conclave 2026 Launches Used Water Marketplace, UCF Portal

25 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The National Urban Conclave 2026 ended in Bhubaneswar with a used water marketplace under AMRUT 2.0, a UCF portal and a municipal finance data hub.

- The National Urban Conclave 2026 closed in Bhubaneswar on 25 October 2026, with Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal giving the closing address.
- A Used Water Marketplace was opened under AMRUT 2.0 so urban local bodies can sell treated water to industries, institutions and private buyers.
- The UCF Portal became the common digital window for the Urban Challenge Fund, covering project submission, appraisal, tracking and monitoring.
- Development work formally began on 18 Street Food Hubs selected under PM SVANidhi, with the first tranche of funds released.
- JICA and CPHEEO signed a memorandum of understanding on circular use of treated used water, and the Model Municipal Law, 2003 is to be revised.

Event	National Urban Conclave 2026 (concluding day)
Venue	Bhubaneswar, Odisha
Concluded on	25 October 2026
Closing address	Manohar Lal, Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs
Technical sessions	Seven, from Right to Walk to Model Municipal Law
Marketplace launched	Used Water Marketplace, under AMRUT 2.0
Portal launched	UCF Portal, for the Urban Challenge Fund
Street Food Hubs	18, under PM SVANidhi, first tranche released

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/urban-conclave-2026-launches-used-water-marketplace-ucf-portal/

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RBI Data Centre, Cyber Security Institute Open at Bhubaneswar

25 October 2026 · Banking & Finance

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Reserve Bank of India data centre and cyber security training institute at Bhubaneswar in Odisha.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated an RBI data centre and a cyber security training institute at Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 25 October 2026
- RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and Union Minister Jual Oram attended the ceremony
- The Prime Minister said the coming decade must make banking more efficient and safer, which needs sturdy data centres and trained cyber security staff
- Figures cited included about 59 to 60 crore Jan Dhan accounts, 13 crore first-time entrepreneurs under Mudra Yojana and 9 crore people under Atal Pension Yojana
- Odisha was described as moving from mines to microchips, with a semiconductor and electronics ecosystem and investment in data centres and advanced computing

Event	Inauguration of RBI data centre and cyber security training institute
City	Bhubaneswar, Odisha
Date	25 October 2026
Inaugurated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
RBI Governor	Sanjay Malhotra
Union Finance Minister	Nirmala Sitharaman
Chief Minister of Odisha	Mohan Charan Majhi
Governor of Odisha	Brajamohan Ram

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rbi-data-centre-cyber-security-institute-open-at-bhubaneswar/

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Sonowal Begins Four-Day South Korea Shipbuilding Visit

25 October 2026 · International

Ports Minister Sarbananda Sonowal began a four-day South Korea visit at Busan, pitching India's shipbuilding opportunity under the VOYAGES framework.

- Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, began a four-day visit to South Korea, opening it in the port city of Busan
- India's goal is to rank among the world's top five shipbuilding nations by 2047, pursued through Maritime India Vision 2030 and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047
- VOYAGES, the India-Korea framework covering shipbuilding, shipping and maritime logistics, was adopted in April during the state visit of President Lee Jae Myung to India
- Gourangalal Das is India's Ambassador to South Korea; the Busan interaction drew professionals from Samsung Heavy Industries, Hanwha Ocean, HD Hyundai, DNV and the Indian Register of Shipping
- Sonowal is to join a ministerial roundtable in Busan for World Maritime Day, with the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organisation expected

Minister	Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
Visit	Four-day visit to South Korea, begun on 25 October 2026
First stop	Busan, called the hub of Korea's maritime industry
Framework	VOYAGES, covering shipbuilding, shipping and maritime logistics
Framework adopted	In April, during the state visit of South Korean President Lee Jae Myung to India
India's goal	Among the world's top five shipbuilding nations by 2047
Policy visions cited	Maritime India Vision 2030 and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047
Cabinet incentives	Policy incentives for the sector approved in September 2025

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/sonowal-begins-four-day-south-korea-shipbuilding-visit/

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Hack the Fork: India's First AI Food Tech Hackathon

25 October 2026 · Science & Technology

NIFTEM-Kundli hosted Hack the Fork, India's first AI and food tech hackathon on alternative proteins, with 22 teams from 10 states in the final round.

- NIFTEM-Kundli, under the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, hosted Hack the Fork, called India's first AI and food technology hackathon
- The 24-hour event was inaugurated on 24 October by Ms. Alice Pjie, Director of Hack the Fork, and concluded on 25 October before an expert jury
- Hack the Fork is a France-based non-profit initiative; it organised the hackathon in collaboration with NIFTEM-K
- Over 85 teams applied, 25 were shortlisted and 22 teams from 10 states with over 90 participants reached the final round, from the IITs, IIITs and University of Delhi
- The theme was Artificial Intelligence for the alternative protein industry; prizes were worth 1.5 lakh rupees with entry to the institute's Startup Incubation Programme

Event	Hack the Fork, India's first AI and food technology hackathon
Host	NIFTEM-Kundli (National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management)
Ministry	Ministry of Food Processing Industries
Organiser	Hack the Fork, a France-based non-profit initiative
Duration	24-hour hackathon, 24 to 25 October
Inaugurated by	Ms. Alice Pjie, Director, Hack the Fork
Participation	Over 85 applicant teams, 25 shortlisted, 22 teams from 10 states, over 90 participants
Theme	Artificial Intelligence for the alternative protein industry

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/hack-the-fork-indias-first-ai-food-tech-hackathon/

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Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 Under Way at Guwahati

25 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The second Shilp Samagam Mela of 2026-27 is on at Khanapara in Guwahati till 28 October, with 75 artisans showing about 40 handloom and handicraft varieties.

- Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 at Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati is organised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and runs from 21 to 28 October
- It is the second mela of the series in the financial year 2026-27; the first closed in Mysuru, Karnataka, on 19 October after nine days at the Dasara Exhibition Ground
- A total of 75 artisans, including 31 women, are displaying about 40 varieties of handloom and handicraft products, open to visitors from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- The fair supports beneficiaries of three national corporations, NSFDC, NSKFDC and NBCFDC, covering Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, Safai Mitras and Denotified Tribes
- A key focus is BHARAT-TULIP, the Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme, which markets artisans' products through outlets and e-commerce platforms

Event	Shilp Samagam Mela (SSM) 2026, Guwahati edition
Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Venue	Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati, Assam
Dates	21 October to 28 October, an eight-day fair open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Artisans	75 in all, including 31 women, with about 40 varieties of products
Edition	Second mela of the series in the financial year 2026-27
First edition	Closed in Mysuru, Karnataka, on 19 October, nine days at the Dasara Exhibition Ground
Corporations	NSFDC, NSKFDC and NBCFDC

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shilp-samagam-mela-2026-under-way-at-guwahati/

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Piyush Goyal Tours Port of Rotterdam on Netherlands Visit

25 October 2026 · International

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal began his Netherlands visit on 25 October 2026 and toured the Port of Rotterdam, Europe's largest port and a gateway for Indian goods.

- Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal began his Netherlands visit on 25 October 2026, focused on trade, investment and diaspora engagement
- He toured the Port of Rotterdam, Europe's largest port, with its Chief Executive Officer Boudewijn Siemons
- The port was described as a gateway for Indian goods to the European market and a hub for international trade and global supply chains
- The visit was placed in the context of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement, expected to create new opportunities for Indian exporters
- In Amsterdam the minister joined an Indian community interaction hosted by the Embassy of India at the Waldorf Astoria, attended by about 70 people

Minister	Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry
Country visited	The Netherlands, visit begun on 25 October 2026
Port visited	Port of Rotterdam, Europe's largest port
Port CEO	Boudewijn Siemons
Trade frame	India-EU Free Trade Agreement
Diaspora event	Indian community interaction at the Waldorf Astoria, Amsterdam, hosted by the Embassy of India
Attendance	About 70 participants at the community interaction
Focus areas	Trade, investment, maritime logistics and supply chain cooperation

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/piyush-goyal-tours-port-of-rotterdam-on-netherlands-visit/

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KVIC Puts Khadi Sector Turnover Above 1.87 Lakh Crore

25 October 2026 · Economy

KVIC chairman Manoj Goel said the khadi and village industries sector crossed a turnover of Rs 1.87 lakh crore in 2025-26 and employs over 2.04 crore people.

- KVIC chairman Manoj Goel said the khadi and village industries sector crossed a turnover of Rs 1.87 lakh crore in the 2025-26 financial year.
- The sector gave employment to more than 2.04 crore people, and its next turnover target is Rs 2.51 lakh crore.
- KVIC works under the Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Manoj Goel is its chairman.
- Khadi and village industry goods sold for more than Rs 28 crore in a single day on Gandhi Jayanti, a figure the Prime Minister cited in the 139th Mann Ki Baat episode.
- The first khadi appeal from Mann Ki Baat came on 3 October 2014; Khadi Bhawan at Connaught Place took Rs 1.34 crore on 2 October in 2022 and over Rs 1.52 crore on 2 October 2023.

Body	Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)
Ministry	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Chairman	Manoj Goel
Turnover, 2025-26	More than Rs 1.87 lakh crore
Employment	More than 2.04 crore people
Turnover target	Rs 2.51 lakh crore
Single-day sale	More than Rs 28 crore on Gandhi Jayanti
Khadi Bhawan record	Rs 1.34 crore on 2 October in 2022; over Rs 1.52 crore on 2 October 2023, at Connaught Place

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kvic-puts-khadi-sector-turnover-above-187-lakh-crore/

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Practice MCQs

Answers and short explanations follow the questions.

1. How much pumped storage potential has India identified in all, according to the PIB backgrounder?

(A) 288.71 GW
(B) 345.38 GW
(C) 105.56 GW
(D) 159.8 GW

2. Which region of India holds the largest identified pumped storage potential?

(A) Southern Region
(B) Northern Region
(C) Western Region
(D) Eastern Region

3. How much energy storage capacity does the Central Electricity Authority project India will need by 2031-32?

(A) 73.93 GW
(B) 26.69 GW
(C) 47.24 GW
(D) 100.81 GW

4. Which city will host the 61st Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology?

(A) Paris
(B) New Delhi
(C) Geneva
(D) Tokyo

5. In which year was the International Organization of Legal Metrology established?

(A) 1945
(B) 1955
(C) 1965
(D) 1975

6. What is the title of the international seminar being organised alongside the 61st CIML Meeting?

(A) Evolutions in Legal Metrology
(B) Measurement for Fair Trade
(C) Digital Metrology Mission
(D) Standards for Viksit Bharat

7. How many Ministry of Earth Sciences institutes have been recognised as AcSIR Associated Research Institutes?

(A) Five
(B) Seven
(C) Ten
(D) Twelve

8. Where was the MoES-AcSIR agreement formally declared?

(A) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
(B) Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi
(C) Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
(D) Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

9. Under the partnership, who awards the doctoral degree to a student working at a Ministry of Earth Sciences institute?

(A) The host MoES institute
(B) AcSIR
(C) The University Grants Commission
(D) Jawaharlal Nehru University

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10. Which body organised the Human Rights Quiz-2026 in collaboration with MyGov?

(A) National Commission for Women
(B) National Human Rights Commission
(C) National Commission for Minorities
(D) Law Commission of India

11. How many submissions did the NHRC's Human Rights Quiz-2026 receive?

(A) 16,712
(B) 26,459
(C) 57,530
(D) 1,67,127

12. Which Act was one of the subjects covered by the Human Rights Quiz-2026?

(A) Right to Information Act, 2005
(B) Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
(C) Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955
(D) Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987

13. Who won the gold medal in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Avani Lekhara
(B) Mona Agarwal
(C) Rubina Francis
(D) Sheetal Devi

14. Which medal did Avani Lekhara win in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Gold
(B) Silver
(C) Bronze
(D) She finished fourth and won no medal

15. Mona Agarwal's winning score in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 set which record?

(A) A new world record
(B) A new Asian Para Games record
(C) A new national record only
(D) No record was set

16. Which portal for farmers was launched by Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan?

(A) Kisan Suvidha Portal
(B) Agri Welfare Portal
(C) AgriStack Portal
(D) Annadata Seva Portal

17. The Agri Welfare Portal has been developed in line with the DBIM 3.0 and GIGW 3.0 standards of which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(B) Ministry of Rural Development
(C) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
(D) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

18. Through which institutions will the special training campaign for farmers on the new Agri Welfare Portal be run?

(A) Krishi Vigyan Kendras
(B) Primary agricultural credit societies
(C) State agricultural marketing boards
(D) Common service centres

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19. The Centre has notified coldwater fisheries clusters at Pithoragarh, Kullu, Anantnag and which other place?

(A) Leh
(B) Kargil
(C) Shimla
(D) Gangtok

20. India's annual trout production has grown six-fold in the last decade to reach nearly how much?

(A) 500 MT
(B) 5,000 MT
(C) 15,000 MT
(D) 50,000 MT

21. Uttarakhand achieved its first international export of trout in June 2026 to which country?

(A) Bhutan
(B) Bangladesh
(C) Nepal
(D) Sri Lanka

22. How many cleanliness target units were transformed by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas under the Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 campaign?

(A) 8,845
(B) 9,548
(C) 9,845
(D) 10,845

23. During which period was the Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 campaign of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas held?

(A) 2 September to 17 October 2026
(B) 17 September to 2 October 2026
(C) 1 September to 30 September 2026
(D) 2 October to 31 October 2026

24. How many Safai Mitra Suraksha Evam Samman Shivir were conducted by the organisations of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas during the campaign?

(A) 143
(B) 234
(C) 276
(D) 450

25. After the CCPA's action against online listings of regulated explosives, how many sellers were delisted from the seven platforms?

(A) 2,700
(B) 3,092
(C) 3,940
(D) 4,206

26. Which organisation issues the licence required to deal lawfully in Ammonium Nitrate and PETN in India?

(A) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
(B) Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO)
(C) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
(D) Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)

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27. Which appellate body dismissed Dial4Trade's appeal against the CCPA order on Ammonium Nitrate listings?

(A) National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission
(B) National Green Tribunal
(C) Competition Commission of India
(D) Securities Appellate Tribunal

28. Under which law did the DRI seize the amphetamine and cocaine recovered in these three operations?

(A) The Customs Act, 1962
(B) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985
(C) The Explosives Act, 1884
(D) The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002

29. At which airport did the DRI recover the single largest amphetamine consignment in these operations?

(A) Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
(B) Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi
(C) Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad
(D) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad

30. From which country had the passenger carrying the cocaine arrived at Terminal 3 in New Delhi?

(A) Brazil
(B) Ghana
(C) Nigeria
(D) Tanzania

31. Under which law were the three persons arrested in the DRI's Gujarat gold smuggling case?

(A) The Customs Act, 1962
(B) The NDPS Act, 1985
(C) The Gold Control Act, 1968
(D) The Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999

32. In which Gujarat city did the syndicate run its illegal gold-melting facility?

(A) Surat
(B) Vadodara
(C) Rajkot
(D) Gandhinagar

33. Which method of concealment was used to disguise the smuggled gold as something other than gold?

(A) Gold wires coated with rhodium
(B) Gold coins sewn into shoe soles
(C) Gold dust mixed with tea leaves
(D) Gold sheets hidden in book covers

34. Who won the gold medal in the men's javelin throw F46 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Ajeet Singh
(B) Rinku Hooda
(C) Sumit Antil
(D) Sandeep Chaudhary

35. How long was the throw with which Rinku Hooda won the F46 javelin gold at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) 62.11 metres
(B) 63.50 metres
(C) 65.11 metres
(D) 67.11 metres

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36. Which medal did Ajeet Singh win in the men's javelin throw F46 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Gold
(B) Silver
(C) Bronze
(D) He finished fourth and won no medal

37. Who won the gold medal in the women's 1500m T12/13 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Radha Venkatesh
(B) Soumya
(C) Simran Sharma
(D) Preeti Pal

38. What made Soumya's win in the women's 1500m T12/13 at the Asian Para Games 2026 notable?

(A) She won on her debut at the Games and clocked a personal best
(B) She set a new world record in the final
(C) She won a second gold in the same event
(D) She ran the race without a guide runner

39. Which medal did Radha Venkatesh win in the women's 1500m T12/13 at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Gold
(B) Silver
(C) Bronze
(D) She did not finish the race

40. Who won the gold medal in the men's long jump T47 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Praveen Kumar
(B) Nishad Kumar
(C) Sharad Kumar
(D) Mariyappan Thangavelu

41. What made Nishad Kumar's gold medal in the men's long jump T47 at the Asian Para Games 2026 even more special?

(A) It came on his debut in this event
(B) It was a new world record
(C) It was India's only medal of the Games
(D) He won it after returning from retirement

42. In a para athletics class such as T47, what does the letter T indicate?

(A) A throwing event
(B) A track-and-jump event
(C) A team event
(D) A trial event outside the medal programme

43. Which Indian judoka won the silver medal in the women's J2 -52kg event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Kokila
(B) Kapil Parmar
(C) Avani Lekhara
(D) Mona Agarwal

44. Kokila's silver at the Asian Para Games 2026 followed which medal at the previous edition of the Games?

(A) Gold
(B) Silver
(C) Bronze
(D) She won no medal at the previous edition

45. In which event did Ravi K. Budigina win a silver medal at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Men's 100m freestyle S13 swimming
(B) Men's 100m sprint T13 athletics
(C) Men's javelin throw F46
(D) Men's long jump T47

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46. Police Commemoration Day, observed on 21 October, commemorates the policemen killed in an ambush at which place?

(A) Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh
(B) Hot Springs, Ladakh
(C) Nathu La, Sikkim
(D) Walong, Arunachal Pradesh

47. The National Police Memorial in New Delhi was dedicated to the nation in which year?

(A) 2014
(B) 2016
(C) 2018
(D) 2020

48. What is the theme of the nationwide police motorcycle rally flagged off on Police Commemoration Day 2026?

(A) Fight Against Drugs
(B) Run for Unity
(C) Safe Roads, Safe India
(D) Beat Plastic Pollution

49. Swavlamban 2026, the fifth edition of the Indian Navy's innovation and indigenisation seminar, will be held at which venue?

(A) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
(B) Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
(C) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
(D) INS Shikra, Mumbai

50. In the context of Swavlamban 2026, what does NAUSETU stand for?

(A) National Autonomous Underwater Systems and Tactical Utility
(B) Naval Unified Systems, Ethernet and Tactical Utilisation
(C) Naval Undersea Surveillance and Electronic Tracking Unit
(D) Naval Upgrade Scheme for Equipment and Technology Users

51. Who chaired the curtain raiser press conference of Swavlamban 2026?

(A) The Chief of the Naval Staff
(B) The Vice Chief of the Naval Staff
(C) The Chief of Defence Staff
(D) The Defence Secretary

52. How much revenue had Special Swachhata Campaign 6.0 earned from scrap disposal as on 19 October 2026?

(A) Rs 304.72 crore
(B) Rs 425.06 crore
(C) Rs 491.28 crore
(D) Rs 113.12 crore

53. Which department reported the highest number of cleanliness campaign sites under Special Campaign 6.0?

(A) Department of School Education and Literacy
(B) Department of Personnel and Training
(C) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
(D) Department of Biotechnology

54. Special Swachhata Campaign 6.0 is being implemented during which period in 2026?

(A) 2 September to 30 September
(B) 2 October to 31 October
(C) 16 September to 30 September
(D) 1 November to 30 November

55. NHAI has introduced the Toll Plaza Feedback feature on which mobile application?

(A) Rajmargyatra
(B) FASTag Saathi
(C) Sugam Sadak
(D) Highway Mitra

56. Which category of users receives an automatic notification inviting toll plaza feedback after crossing a plaza?

(A) Users who pay by cash
(B) Annual pass users
(C) Commercial vehicle owners only
(D) Users travelling at night

57. The Toll Plaza Feedback feature on the Rajmargyatra app is an initiative of which authority?

(A) Indian Road Congress
(B) National Highways Authority of India
(C) Central Road Research Institute
(D) National Highways Logistics Management Limited

58. How many programmes did Mera Yuva Bharat organise in the fifth week of the Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Abhiyan?

(A) 874
(B) 1,174
(C) 2,174
(D) 3,380

59. Mera Yuva Bharat, which runs the Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Abhiyan, works under which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(B) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
(C) Ministry of Education
(D) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

60. How many youth and citizens participated in the fifth week of the campaign organised by MY Bharat?

(A) 1,43,288
(B) 2,43,288
(C) 3,43,288
(D) 4,43,288

61. The NFSC fellowship, in the news for supporting a Solapur scholar's doctorate, is run by which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Education
(B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(C) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(D) Ministry of Science and Technology

62. What was the total assistance received by the scholar under the NFSC scheme, including House Rent Allowance?

(A) Rs 4.50 lakh
(B) Rs 6.60 lakh
(C) Rs 9.90 lakh
(D) Rs 12.50 lakh

63. Which examination had Dr Shrikant Dilip Khandare qualified in June 2018 before his doctoral research?

(A) GATE
(B) CSIR-UGC NET
(C) ICAR NET
(D) CAT

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64. The India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement came into force on which date?

(A) 27 April 2026
(B) 20 October 2026
(C) 22 December 2025
(D) 16 March 2025

65. How much investment into India has New Zealand committed to facilitate under the agreement?

(A) USD 10 billion
(B) USD 15 billion
(C) USD 20 billion
(D) USD 25 billion

66. Under the Agricultural Productivity Partnership of the India-New Zealand FTA, Phase I kiwifruit sites have been identified in which two states?

(A) Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal
(B) Nagaland and Uttarakhand
(C) Uttar Pradesh and Nagaland
(D) Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh

67. Exercise AUSTRAHIND 2026, which began in October 2026, is a joint military exercise between India and which country?

(A) Austria
(B) Australia
(C) New Zealand
(D) Indonesia

68. Which Indian regiment forms the core of the Indian Army contingent at AUSTRAHIND 2026?

(A) Gorkha Rifles
(B) Rajputana Rifles
(C) Garhwal Rifles
(D) Jat Regiment

69. The fourth edition of Exercise AUSTRAHIND was held at which venue?

(A) Irwin Barracks, Perth
(B) Foreign Training Node, Thiruvananthapuram
(C) Mahajan Field Firing Range, Rajasthan
(D) Pune, Maharashtra

70. The saturation campaign of financial inclusion schemes announced by the Ministry of Finance will run during which period?

(A) 2 October 2026 to 31 October 2026
(B) 21 October 2026 to 31 December 2026
(C) 1 November 2026 to 31 March 2027
(D) 21 October 2026 to 26 January 2027

71. Which department is organising the nationwide saturation campaign of financial inclusion schemes?

(A) Department of Expenditure
(B) Department of Economic Affairs
(C) Department of Financial Services
(D) Department of Revenue

72. Under the campaign, bank camps will hold awareness sessions on unclaimed financial assets under which name?

(A) Aapki Poonji, Aapka Adhikar
(B) Dhan Suraksha Abhiyan
(C) Jan Nivesh Jagrukta
(D) Bachat Bima Sashaktikaran

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73. PRAGATI 2026, the national seminar on standardisation in Ayurveda and Yoga, was organised by which body?

(A) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(B) Bureau of Indian Standards
(C) National Medical Commission
(D) Quality Council of India

74. The 5th Sowa-Rigpa Sectional Committee meeting of BIS was held at which place?

(A) Belagavi, Karnataka
(B) Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh
(C) Leh, Ladakh
(D) Gangtok, Sikkim

75. Who is the chairperson of the BIS Sowa-Rigpa Sectional Committee and founding director of the National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa?

(A) Dr Padma Gurmet
(B) Shrishti Dixit
(C) Vaidya Jayant Deopujari
(D) Dr Arjun Singh

76. Who launched the revamped websites of the Ministry of Defence and the Department of Defence in October 2026?

(A) The Defence Minister
(B) The Defence Secretary
(C) The Chief of Defence Staff
(D) The Chief of Army Staff

77. In how many Indian official languages is content on the new Ministry of Defence website available?

(A) Twelve
(B) Sixteen
(C) Twenty-two
(D) Twenty-eight

78. In the context of the new defence websites, what does GIGW stand for?

(A) General Information Gateway for Websites
(B) Guidelines for Indian Government Websites
(C) Government Integrated Governance Web
(D) Guidance on Internet Governance Worldwide

79. The India-Saudi Arabia Electrical Interconnection initiative was reviewed in a virtual bilateral meeting led on the Indian side by which official?

(A) The Secretary, Ministry of Power
(B) The Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs
(C) The Chairperson, Central Electricity Authority
(D) The Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

80. Which of the following was NOT among the areas in which Saudi Arabia sought enhanced cooperation with India in this meeting?

(A) Extra High Voltage transmission systems
(B) Power requirements of emerging data centres
(C) Updating of grid codes
(D) Construction of nuclear power reactors

81. In the power sector, what does EHV stand for?

(A) Electrical Hybrid Voltage
(B) Extra High Voltage
(C) Efficient High Voltage
(D) Enhanced Hydro Voltage

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82. How many candidates qualified in the written stage of the Combined Defence Services Examination (II) 2026?

(A) 5,742
(B) 8,956
(C) 11,204
(D) 7,318

83. The 163rd Direct Entry Course of the Indian Military Academy, open to CDS (II) 2026 qualifiers, begins in which month and year?

(A) January 2027
(B) July 2027
(C) October 2027
(D) April 2027

84. Where is the Indian Naval Academy, one of the institutions CDS (II) 2026 qualifiers may join?

(A) Ezhimala, Kerala
(B) Hyderabad, Telangana
(C) Dehradun, Uttarakhand
(D) Chennai, Tamil Nadu

85. How much ganja did the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seize in its Uttar Pradesh operation of 17-18 October 2026?

(A) 591.3 kg
(B) 391.5 kg
(C) 719.2 kg
(D) 481.6 kg

86. Through which border crossing was the seized ganja consignment expected to enter Uttar Pradesh?

(A) Raxaul
(B) Sonauli
(C) Jogbani
(D) Banbasa

87. Under which law were the ganja consignment and the truck carrying it seized?

(A) Customs Act, 1962
(B) Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985
(C) Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003
(D) Explosives Act, 1884

88. What was the value of the foreign-origin cigarettes seized by the DRI in Mizoram?

(A) Rs 6.48 crore
(B) Rs 8.64 crore
(C) Rs 12.30 crore
(D) Rs 4.32 crore

89. At which Mizoram village was the truck carrying the smuggled cigarettes intercepted?

(A) Tuirial
(B) Champhai
(C) Zokhawthar
(D) Lengpui

90. Under Section 110 of which Act were the smuggled cigarettes and the truck seized?

(A) Customs Act, 1962
(B) Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985
(C) Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017
(D) Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003

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91. On which date was the Regional Connectivity Scheme, UDAN, launched?

(A) 21 October 2014
(B) 21 October 2016
(C) 27 April 2017
(D) 4 July 2026

92. How many regional routes has UDAN made operational in its first decade?

(A) 687
(B) 441
(C) 368
(D) 95

93. What is the total outlay of the Modified UDAN scheme announced for the next phase?

(A) Rs 12,159 crore
(B) Rs 10,043 crore
(C) Rs 28,840 crore
(D) Rs 5,091 crore

94. Which body launched the nationwide Green Diwali Campaign with support from the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change?

(A) Central Pollution Control Board
(B) WWF-India's Programme Centre - Resource Partner (EIACP)
(C) National Green Tribunal
(D) Botanical Survey of India

95. The Green Diwali Campaign gives special focus to how many cities covered under the National Clean Air Programme?

(A) 102
(B) 122
(C) 130
(D) 150

96. The Green Diwali Campaign has been aligned with which national mission?

(A) Mission LiFE
(B) Swachh Bharat Mission
(C) National Hydrogen Mission
(D) Mission Amrit Sarovar

97. In which city was the 25th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government held?

(A) Tashkent
(B) Bishkek
(C) Dushanbe
(D) Astana

98. India supported an SCO Action Plan for the Multilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation Programme for which period?

(A) 2024-2028
(B) 2025-2029
(C) 2026-2030
(D) 2027-2031

99. Where is the new Anti-Drug Centre of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation to be based?

(A) Tashkent
(B) Dushanbe
(C) Mumbai
(D) Bishkek

100. India is working towards how much nuclear power capacity by 2047?

(A) 50 GW
(B) 75 GW
(C) 100 GW
(D) 150 GW

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101. By which year does India aim to reach Net Zero emissions, as named in these remarks?

(A) 2037
(B) 2047
(C) 2060
(D) 2070

102. Who was recalled by the Minister as the architect of India's nuclear programme?

(A) Dr. Vikram Sarabhai
(B) Dr. Homi Bhabha
(C) Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam
(D) Dr. Raja Ramanna

103. How many ancient idols have been brought back to India in the past 12 years, as stated in the Vijaya Dashami address of 20 October 2026?

(A) More than 350
(B) More than 450
(C) More than 650
(D) More than 850

104. Which Indian festival was described in the address as having been inscribed on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list?

(A) Holi
(B) Deepavali
(C) Chhath
(D) Navratri

105. Which mantra did the Prime Minister ask the administration to follow while describing Ramrajya as a yardstick of governance?

(A) Jan Bhagidari
(B) Nagrik Devo Bhava
(C) Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas
(D) Atithi Devo Bhava

106. In which city is the second edition of Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 being held?

(A) Mysuru
(B) Guwahati
(C) Jodhpur
(D) Lucknow

107. BHARAT-TULIP, the initiative promoted at Shilp Samagam Mela 2026, stands for which of the following?

(A) Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme
(B) Tribal Upliftment and Local Industry Promotion
(C) Textile Units' Livelihood Improvement Plan
(D) Traditional Unified Loom Investment Programme

108. Which ministry organises Shilp Samagam Mela through its three national corporations?

(A) Ministry of Textiles
(B) Ministry of Culture
(C) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(D) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

109. Where was the Shilp Samagam Mela 2026, which concluded on 20 October 2026, organised?

(A) Dasara Exhibition Grounds, Mysuru
(B) Dilli Haat, New Delhi
(C) Surajkund, Faridabad
(D) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

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110. How many of the 83 stalls at the Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 in Mysuru were allotted to artisans?

(A) 60
(B) 75
(C) 80
(D) 83, all of them

111. BHARAT TULIP, launched by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, stands for which programme?

(A) Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme
(B) Tribal Upliftment and Local Industry Promotion
(C) Textile Units for Livelihood Improvement Programme
(D) Traditional Utility and Local Investment Plan

112. Bhavina Patel won a bronze medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Women's Singles Class 4-5
(B) Women's 1500m T11
(C) Women's Singles Class 9-10
(D) Women's Doubles Class 4-5

113. Which Indian athlete won bronze in the Women's 1500m T11 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 with a personal best?

(A) Bhavina Patel
(B) Ravanni Valasanaini
(C) Deepa Malik
(D) Simran Sharma

114. What colour were both the medals India won on 20 October 2026 at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) One gold and one silver
(B) Both silver
(C) Both bronze
(D) One bronze and one gold

115. Deepthi Jeevanji won a gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Women's 400m T20
(B) Women's 200m T20
(C) Women's 400m T11
(D) Women's 1500m T20

116. What additional distinction did Deepthi Jeevanji's gold-medal run at the Asian Para Games 2026 carry?

(A) A world record
(B) A Games Record
(C) A national record only
(D) No record of any kind

117. Which statement about Deepthi Jeevanji's gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 is correct?

(A) It was her first appearance in the event and her first title
(B) She successfully defended a title she already held
(C) She won it in a team relay event
(D) She finished second and was later awarded the gold

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118. Prachi Pandey became the first Indian to win a medal in which event at the Asian Para Games?

(A) Women's Singles Class 6
(B) Women's Singles Class 9
(C) Women's Singles Class 3
(D) Women's Doubles Class 6

119. Baby Sahana Ravi's bronze at the Asian Para Games was significant because it was India's first medal in which category?

(A) The wheelchair category
(B) The standing category
(C) The mixed doubles category
(D) The team category

120. What was common to the para table tennis bronze medals won by Prachi Pandey and Baby Sahana Ravi on 20 October 2026?

(A) Both were won in the same event
(B) Both were won on the athletes' debut appearance at the Games
(C) Both athletes had won gold at the previous edition
(D) Both medals were won in doubles competition

121. Jehan Dorab Madan won a bronze medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Men's Singles Class 1
(B) Men's Singles Class 3
(C) Men's Doubles Class 1
(D) Women's Singles Class 1

122. Sonalben Patel's bronze at the Asian Para Games 2026 was significant for which reason?

(A) It was her first individual medal at these Games
(B) It was the first medal of her entire career
(C) It was India's first medal in table tennis
(D) It came in a mixed doubles event

123. Which pair correctly matches the player with the event in which the bronze medal was won on 20 October 2026?

(A) Jehan Dorab Madan – Women's Singles Class 3
(B) Sonalben Patel – Men's Singles Class 1
(C) Sonalben Patel – Women's Singles Class 3
(D) Jehan Dorab Madan – Mixed Doubles Class 3

124. Manish Narwal won which medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 and in which event?

(A) Gold in the Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1
(B) Silver in the Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1
(C) Silver in the Men's 50m Rifle SH1
(D) Bronze in the Women's 10m Air Pistol SH1

125. Shrishti Arora's bronze medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 is notable for which reason?

(A) It came at her first Asian Para Games
(B) It was India's first medal in para shooting
(C) It was won in a rifle event
(D) It was won in a mixed team event

126. What is common to the two Indian para shooting medals won on 20 October 2026?

(A) Both were won in the same class, the 10m Air Pistol SH1
(B) Both were won by the same shooter
(C) Both were gold medals
(D) Both were won in rifle events

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127. By which date did Union Home Minister Amit Shah say Punjab would be freed of the drug trade?

(A) 31 December 2027
(B) 31 December 2029
(C) 15 August 2030
(D) 26 January 2028

128. At the Ludhiana Vijayadashami event attended by the Union Home Minister, the effigy of Ravana that was burnt symbolised what?

(A) Chitta, that is drugs
(B) Corruption in public offices
(C) Stubble burning
(D) Illegal migration

129. Which statement about the Union Home Minister's Ludhiana address is correct?

(A) He asked people to report the drug trade on the Narcotics Control Bureau's toll-free helpline
(B) He announced a new central police force for Punjab
(C) He said all three murder cases were already with the CBI
(D) He announced a financial package for Ludhiana's Ramlila Committee

130. Which two Indian athletes won medals in the Men's Javelin Throw F53/54 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Pradeep Kumar and Ayush Verma
(B) Pradeep Kumar and Praveen Sharma
(C) Ashok and Himanshu Nandal
(D) Ayush Verma and Praveen Sharma

131. Pradeep Kumar's silver at the Asian Para Games 2026 was notable because

(A) it was his first medal at the Games
(B) it was his second consecutive silver in the event
(C) it was won in a team event
(D) it was won in the shot put

132. Match the athlete with the sport in which the medal was won on 20 October 2026.

(A) Ashok – swimming
(B) Himanshu Nandal – powerlifting
(C) Praveen Sharma – shot put
(D) Ayush Verma – shot put

133. Nishad Kumar won a gold medal with a new Games Record at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Men's Long Jump T47
(B) Men's High Jump T47
(C) Men's High Jump T44
(D) Men's Triple Jump T47

134. How many gold medals did Nishad Kumar finish with at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) One
(B) Two
(C) Three
(D) Four

135. What does the code T47 in the event name 'Men's High Jump T47' indicate?

(A) The height cleared by the winner
(B) The number of athletes in the final
(C) The classification of the athletes competing
(D) The edition number of the Games

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136. Who won the gold medal in the Men's Discus Throw F43/F44/F62/F64 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Rakesh
(B) Pradeep Kumar
(C) Devender Kumar
(D) Ram Ratan Singh

137. What was notable about India's performance in the Men's Discus Throw F43/F44/F62/F64 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) India won only the gold medal
(B) India won all three medals in the event
(C) India won the silver and bronze only
(D) India finished without a medal

138. Pradeep Kumar's bronze-winning throw in the discus event was described as which of the following?

(A) A world record
(B) An Asian Record
(C) A Games Record
(D) A Personal Best

139. Pranav Soorma won gold at the Asian Para Games 2026 with a throw that set which record?

(A) A Games Record
(B) A new Asian Record
(C) A world record
(D) A national record

140. Who won the silver medal in the Men's Discus Throw F51/52/53 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Devender Kumar
(B) Rakesh
(C) Ram Ratan Singh
(D) Pradeep Kumar

141. In which event did India win both the gold and the silver through Pranav Soorma and Ram Ratan Singh?

(A) Men's Shot Put F56/F57
(B) Men's Discus Throw F51/52/53
(C) Men's Javelin Throw F53/54
(D) Men's Discus Throw F43/F44/F62/F64

142. Simran won the gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Women's 200m T35
(B) Women's 400m T12
(C) Women's 200m T12
(D) Women's 100m T12

143. What made Simran's gold in the Women's 200m T12 at the Asian Para Games 2026 particularly significant?

(A) It was her first international medal
(B) She improved on her silver from the previous edition and set a new record
(C) She won without facing any competition
(D) It was the only medal India won that day

144. Which Indian athlete won the bronze medal in the Women's 200m T12 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on her debut at the Games?

(A) Preeti Pal
(B) Simran
(C) Tejalben Damor
(D) Deepthi Jeevanji

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145. Which medal did Preeti Pal win in the Women's 200m T35 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Gold
(B) Silver
(C) Bronze
(D) She finished fourth

146. Hokato Hotozhe Sema won his bronze medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Men's Discus Throw F51/52/53
(B) Men's Javelin Throw F53/54
(C) Men's Shot Put F56/F57
(D) Men's Shot Put F11

147. Niranjan Mukundan's bronze at the Asian Para Games 2026 came in which sport?

(A) Swimming
(B) Athletics
(C) Para powerlifting
(D) Para table tennis

148. According to Rajnath Singh's address in Dushanbe, India's defence exports have reached a record figure of:

(A) Rs 21,083 crore
(B) Rs 38,424 crore
(C) Rs 46,210 crore
(D) Rs 52,500 crore

149. In his Dushanbe address, the Defence Minister said India has entered into free trade agreements with how many countries?

(A) 18
(B) 27
(C) 38
(D) 52

150. What did Rajnath Singh say about the growth in UPI transaction value?

(A) From Rs 7,000 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 314 lakh crore in 2025-26
(B) From Rs 70,000 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 140 lakh crore in 2025-26
(C) From Rs 7,000 crore in 2018-19 to Rs 95 lakh crore in 2025-26
(D) From Rs 1,000 crore in 2014-15 to Rs 500 lakh crore in 2025-26

151. The first National SARAS Mela to be organised outside the Delhi-NCR region is being held in which city?

(A) Visakhapatnam
(B) Vijayawada
(C) Hyderabad
(D) Bhopal

152. SARAS Melas are organised under which of the following missions?

(A) Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin
(B) Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission
(C) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
(D) Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana

153. What is the enhanced target for Lakhpati Didis announced by the government in February 2026?

(A) Two crore
(B) Three crore
(C) Six crore
(D) Ten crore

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154. Police Commemoration Day is observed every year on which date?

(A) 15 August
(B) 21 October
(C) 30 January
(D) 2 October

155. Ten CRPF personnel were killed in 1959 at the Hot Springs post located in which region?

(A) Ladakh
(B) Arunachal Pradesh
(C) Sikkim
(D) The Jammu region

156. In which year was the National Police Memorial in New Delhi inaugurated?

(A) 2014
(B) 2016
(C) 2018
(D) 2020

157. SUVIKALP, the mine repurposing tool honoured with the SKOCH Gold Award 2026, has been developed by which body?

(A) Coal India Limited
(B) Coal Controller Organisation
(C) NITI Aayog
(D) Central Pollution Control Board

158. In which category was SUVIKALP given the SKOCH Gold Award 2026?

(A) Digital Operational Efficiency - Data Driven Decision Making
(B) Environment and Climate Action
(C) Corporate Social Responsibility
(D) Skill Development and Livelihoods

159. What is the full form of PRISM, the model used after a mine repurposing project is selected?

(A) Post-Mining Repurposing Implementation Strategy Model
(B) Progressive Reclamation and Integrated Site Management
(C) Planned Rehabilitation of Indian Surface Mines
(D) Public Resource Investment and Site Monitoring

160. How many ICAR institutes are taking part in Swachhata Special Campaign 6.0 along with its Regional Centres, ATARIs and Krishi Vigyan Kendras?

(A) 74
(B) 96
(C) 114
(D) 150

161. Swachhata Special Campaign 6.0 of DARE and ICAR is being observed during which period?

(A) 2 to 31 October 2026
(B) 1 to 15 September 2026
(C) 2 to 31 January 2026
(D) 15 August to 2 October 2026

162. Who is the Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Director General of ICAR, who addressed the Swachh Bharat Diwas programme at ICAR-IARI?

(A) Dr. Mangi Lal Jat
(B) Shivraj Singh Chouhan
(C) Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra
(D) Pralhad Joshi

163. Who presented the Lalit Kala Akademi Awards to the selected artists of the 65th National Exhibition of Art?

(A) The President of India
(B) The Vice-President of India
(C) The Prime Minister
(D) The Union Minister of Culture

164. The Grand Prize winners of which event were felicitated along with the Lalit Kala Akademi awardees?

(A) Kala Kumbh
(B) Print Biennale India
(C) India Art Fair
(D) Kochi-Muziris Biennale

165. Which of the following did the President NOT say at the award ceremony?

(A) Traditional artists in remote areas should be trained in new technologies
(B) Artists need financial support and links with art collectors
(C) Art should reach schools, universities and public spaces
(D) Art galleries should be closed down across the country

166. Which document is to be released by the Raksha Mantri at the Army Commanders' Conference that began on 21 October 2026?

(A) Joint Doctrine for Amphibious Operations
(B) Land Warfare Doctrine
(C) Maritime Security Strategy
(D) Air Power Doctrine

167. Who chairs the Army Commanders' Conference, the apex-level biannual forum of the Indian Army?

(A) The Raksha Mantri
(B) The Chief of Defence Staff
(C) The Chief of the Army Staff
(D) The Defence Secretary

168. Which awards will be conferred by the Chief of the Army Staff at the conference?

(A) Green Military Stations and Aviation Flight Safety
(B) Swachh Cantonment and Best Marching Contingent
(C) Unit Citation and Battle Honours
(D) Best Recruiting Zone and Sainik School Trophy

169. With which company did the Ministry of Defence sign the contract for Improved Low Level Light Weight Radars?

(A) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
(B) Bharat Electronics Limited
(C) Bharat Dynamics Limited
(D) Bharat Earth Movers Limited

170. Which threat is the LLLR(I) radar mainly intended to help the Indian Army counter?

(A) Ballistic missiles
(B) Submarines
(C) Unmanned Aerial Systems
(D) Cyber intrusions

171. The procurement of the Improved Low Level Light Weight Radar has been linked to which national vision?

(A) Viksit Bharat @2047
(B) Mission Karmayogi
(C) Digital India 2030
(D) Smart Cities Mission

172. Thiru Vummidi Ethiraj, whose death was mourned by the Prime Minister, is remembered for crafting which object?

(A) The Ashoka Pillar replica
(B) The Sengol
(C) The Amrit Kalash
(D) The Rashtrapati Bhavan mace

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173. In which year was the Sengol given a place of pride in the new Parliament building?

(A) 2019
(B) 2021
(C) 2023
(D) 2025

174. The Sengol crafted by Thiru Vummidi Ethiraj was presented to which leader?

(A) Dr Rajendra Prasad
(B) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(C) C. Rajagopalachari
(D) Jawaharlal Nehru

175. In which year was the Namami Gange Programme launched?

(A) 2011
(B) 2014
(C) 2016
(D) 2019

176. Where is the country's first four-storey sewage treatment plant for a municipality built under Namami Gange?

(A) Prayagraj
(B) Bhatpara
(C) Muni Ki Reti
(D) Bithoor

177. Which technology, introduced in India through Namami Gange, uses fixed artificial media and plant roots and has operational plants at Bhatpara and Prayagraj?

(A) Food Chain Reactor
(B) Johkasou
(C) Electrocoagulation
(D) Upflow Anaerobic Sludge Blanket

178. Which country is the partner country at the 14th India Chem 2026?

(A) Germany
(B) Japan
(C) South Korea
(D) United States

179. What is the theme of the 14th India Chem 2026?

(A) Chemicals for a Green Tomorrow
(B) Make in India, Make for the World
(C) Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub
(D) Sustainable Petrochemicals for Viksit Bharat

180. India's chemical industry is projected to reach which size by 2030?

(A) USD 150 billion
(B) USD 300 billion
(C) USD 500 billion
(D) USD 850 billion

181. SIMBEX is a bilateral maritime exercise between India and which country?

(A) Indonesia
(B) Singapore
(C) Thailand
(D) Malaysia

182. Under what name was the SIMBEX series first held in 1994?

(A) Exercise Sea Dragon
(B) Exercise Lion King
(C) Exercise Tiger Triumph
(D) Exercise Bold Kurukshetra

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183. Onboard which Indian Navy ships was the opening ceremony of SIMBEX-2026 held?

(A) INS Vikrant and INS Vikramaditya
(B) INS Nilgiri and INS Kamorta
(C) INS Delhi and INS Mumbai
(D) INS Shivalik and INS Satpura

184. What is the theme of the cultural performances and tableaux at Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026?

(A) Jai Hind
(B) Vande Mataram
(C) Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat
(D) Naxal Mukt Bharat

185. The theatrical play to be presented before the Prime Minister at Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026 is based on which novel?

(A) Durgeshnandini
(B) Anandamath
(C) Devdas
(D) Gora

186. At Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026, from how many districts once affected by armed Naxalism have artists been drawn for the National School of Drama presentation?

(A) 96 districts
(B) 126 districts
(C) 150 districts
(D) 212 districts

187. At which event was the IAF Unmanned and Autonomous Systems Roadmap released?

(A) Aero India 2026 at Bengaluru
(B) IAF Dronathon 2026 at Pokhran
(C) DefExpo 2026 at Gandhinagar
(D) Exercise Vayu Shakti at Jaisalmer

188. Who chaired the Indian Air Force's Industry Outreach Programme on unmanned and autonomous systems held on 21 October 2026?

(A) The Chief of Air Staff
(B) The Director General (Weapon Systems), Air Headquarters
(C) The Defence Secretary
(D) The Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation

189. Which of the following was named by the IAF as a critical technology area for unmanned and autonomous systems?

(A) Resilient navigation
(B) Hypersonic glide vehicles
(C) Nuclear propulsion for aircraft
(D) Satellite launch vehicles

190. Simran won the gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Women's 200m T12
(B) Women's 100m T12
(C) Women's 400m T13
(D) Women's Long Jump T12

191. What made Simran's performance in the women's sprint final at the Asian Para Games 2026 especially notable?

(A) She equalled the world record in the class
(B) She set a new Games Record while winning gold
(C) She won the race after a photo finish
(D) She won India's first medal of the meet

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192. At which multi-sport event did Simran win the Women's 100m T12 gold medal?

(A) Asian Games 2026
(B) Asian Para Games 2026
(C) Commonwealth Para Championships
(D) World Para Athletics Championships

193. Dilip Gavit won the gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Men's 200m T47
(B) Men's 400m T47
(C) Men's 100m T47
(D) Men's Long Jump T47

194. Which colour of medal did Dilip Gavit take in the men's sprint final at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Gold
(B) Silver
(C) Bronze
(D) He finished fourth

195. In para athletics, what does the letter and number combination such as T47 in an event name indicate?

(A) The lane drawn by the athlete
(B) The classification group in which the athlete competes
(C) The number of athletes in the final
(D) The round of the competition

196. Kasthuri Rajamani won India's first-ever Asian Para Games medal in which category?

(A) Women's discus throw F55
(B) Women's -67kg para powerlifting
(C) Women's shot put F34
(D) Women's 100m T35

197. Which Indian sprinter broke the Games Record in the heats of the men's 100m T47 at the Asian Para Games 2026 and then went on to win the silver medal?

(A) Banti
(B) Sukhchain
(C) Mohammad Basil M
(D) Ravi Rongali

198. How many silver and bronze medals did India collect at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 21 October 2026?

(A) Five silver and six bronze
(B) Seven silver and four bronze
(C) Four silver and seven bronze
(D) Six silver and five bronze

199. What is the theme of the 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026 held in New Delhi?

(A) Food for All, Power for All
(B) Powering the Global South
(C) From Power to Empower
(D) Climate Resilient Agriculture

200. Which ministry hosted the AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026, and which country supported it?

(A) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, supported by Japan
(B) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, supported by Germany
(C) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, supported by France
(D) Ministry of Power, supported by Denmark

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201. Which of these was released at the opening of the AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026?

(A) The National Solar Mission Report
(B) The AgriPV Policy Handbook of the MNRE
(C) The Annual Renewable Energy Survey
(D) The Global Food Security Index

202. The IBSAMAR naval exercise is conducted between which three countries?

(A) India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka
(B) India, Brazil and South Africa
(C) India, Britain and Australia
(D) India, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia

203. Where did the ninth edition of the IBSAMAR exercise conclude in October 2026?

(A) Kochi, India
(B) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
(C) Simon's Town, South Africa
(D) Port Louis, Mauritius

204. Which Indian Navy ship represented India in IBSAMAR IX 2026?

(A) INS Tarkash
(B) INS Vikrant
(C) INS Shivalik
(D) INS Sahyadri

205. Stage-I of the Graded Response Action Plan is invoked when Delhi's air quality falls in which category?

(A) Moderate, an AQI of 101 to 200
(B) Poor, an AQI of 201 to 300
(C) Very Poor, an AQI of 301 to 400
(D) Severe, an AQI above 400

206. How many action points were brought into force when CAQM invoked Stage-I of the GRAP in the NCR on 21 October 2026?

(A) 11
(B) 16
(C) 25
(D) 32

207. Which body takes the decision to invoke a stage of the Graded Response Action Plan in Delhi-NCR?

(A) The Central Pollution Control Board
(B) The CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP
(C) The India Meteorological Department
(D) The Delhi Pollution Control Committee

208. Which Indian swimmer won the silver medal in the men's 100m backstroke S13 at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Himanshu Nandal
(B) Rohit Kumar
(C) Ravi Kartik Budigina
(D) Pranav Desai

209. Shailesh Kumar won a bronze medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event, and with what mark?

(A) Men's long jump T42/T61/T63, with 5.57m
(B) Men's high jump T64, with 1.95m
(C) Men's triple jump T47, with 13.20m
(D) Men's shot put F46, with 15.10m

210. What made Rohit Kumar's bronze in the men's 100m breaststroke SB4 at the Asian Para Games 2026 particularly notable?

(A) It came with a new world record
(B) It was won on his first appearance at the Games
(C) It was India's first medal in para swimming
(D) He won it after swimming in a higher class

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211. Scientists of which institute found that the X-ray pulsar Centaurus X-3 accretes matter through an accretion disk?

(A) Indian Institute of Astrophysics
(B) Raman Research Institute
(C) Physical Research Laboratory
(D) Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics

212. Why is the finding about Centaurus X-3 considered unusual?

(A) A high-mass X-ray binary usually captures stellar wind directly instead of forming a disk
(B) The pulsar was found to have no magnetic field at all
(C) The companion star was found to be smaller than the Sun
(D) The system was found to lie outside our galaxy

213. Which structure was identified as the cause of the varying secondary emission lines in Centaurus X-3?

(A) The stellar wind of the companion star
(B) The surface of the neutron star
(C) The accretion stream
(D) A ring of dust around the binary

214. The Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 that began on 21 October is being held in which city?

(A) Mysuru
(B) Guwahati
(C) Bhubaneswar
(D) Patna

215. How many artisans are participating in the Guwahati edition of the Shilp Samagam Mela 2026, and how many of them are women?

(A) 60 artisans, including 25 women
(B) 75 artisans, including 31 women
(C) 90 artisans, including 45 women
(D) 120 artisans, including 50 women

216. BHARAT-TULIP, promoted at the Shilp Samagam Mela, stands for which programme?

(A) Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme
(B) Tribal Urban Linkage and Investment Programme
(C) Textile Units and Local Industry Promotion
(D) Training for Urban Livelihoods in Production

217. In which event did Sachin Khilari win the gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Men's Discus Throw F46
(B) Men's Shot Put F46
(C) Men's Javelin Throw F46
(D) Men's Shot Put F57

218. Who won the silver medal behind Sachin Khilari in the Men's Shot Put F46 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Praveen Kumar
(B) Ayush Verma
(C) Mohd Yasser
(D) Anubhav Choudhary

219. What made India's result in the Men's Shot Put F46 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 notable?

(A) Indian athletes took every place on the podium
(B) India won its first ever medal in the event
(C) The event was held for the first time at the Games
(D) India won only the bronze medal in the event

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220. Praveen Kumar won the gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Men's Long Jump T64
(B) Men's High Jump T47
(C) Men's High Jump T64
(D) Men's Shot Put F46

221. Which record did Praveen Kumar break while winning the Men's High Jump T64 gold at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) The world record in the event
(B) The Games Record set by himself
(C) The Asian record held by another jumper
(D) The national record in the long jump

222. Who won the silver medal in the Men's High Jump T64 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Banti
(B) Mohd Yasser
(C) Rakeshbhai Bhatt
(D) Sachin Khilari

223. Ayush Verma won the gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Men's Javelin Throw F53
(B) Men's Shot Put F53
(C) Men's Shot Put F46
(D) Men's Discus Throw F53

224. How many medals did Ayush Verma win at his debut Asian Para Games, and of which kinds?

(A) One gold only
(B) Two: a gold and a bronze
(C) Two: a gold and a silver
(D) Three: a gold, a silver and a bronze

225. In which event did Ayush Verma win the bronze medal at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) High jump
(B) Discus throw
(C) Javelin throw
(D) Club throw

226. Which Indian pair won the silver medal in the Women's Para Compound Doubles event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Sheetal Devi and Payal Nag
(B) Sheetal Devi and Banti
(C) Payal Nag and Rakeshbhai Bhatt
(D) Sheetal Devi and Anubhav Choudhary

227. Rakeshbhai Bhatt won the bronze medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Men's 100m T35
(B) Men's 200m T37
(C) Men's 100m T37
(D) Men's High Jump T64

228. Which statement about Anubhav Choudhary's bronze at the Asian Para Games 2026 is correct?

(A) He won it in the Men's 100m T35 on his debut at the Games, with a personal best
(B) He won it in the Men's 100m T37 while defending an earlier title
(C) He won it in the women's compound doubles with Payal Nag
(D) He won it in the high jump after breaking a Games Record

229. By what rate did the Index of Core Industries grow year-on-year in September 2026, as per the provisional data?

(A) 5.9 per cent
(B) 7.9 per cent
(C) 5.1 per cent
(D) 4.8 per cent

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230. Which core sector recorded the highest year-on-year growth in September 2026?

(A) Coal
(B) Electricity
(C) Iron ore
(D) Cement

231. What is the base year used for the Index of Core Industries in this release?

(A) 2011-12
(B) 2017-18
(C) 2022-23
(D) 2024-25

232. Which Indian body signed the Memorandum of Cooperation on electronic origin data exchange with the New Zealand Customs Service?

(A) Directorate General of Foreign Trade
(B) Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs
(C) NITI Aayog
(D) Reserve Bank of India

233. When did the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement enter into force?

(A) 19 October 2026
(B) 20 October 2026
(C) 21 October 2026
(D) 1 November 2026

234. What is the subject of the Memorandum of Cooperation signed between India and New Zealand?

(A) Electronic exchange of origin data on trade in goods
(B) Mutual recognition of academic degrees
(C) Removal of all tariffs on dairy products
(D) Joint naval exercises in the Indian Ocean

235. In which city is the Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026 being held?

(A) Indore
(B) Bhopal
(C) Jabalpur
(D) Raipur

236. What was India's total fish production in 2024-25?

(A) 151.60 lakh tonnes
(B) 173.50 lakh tonnes
(C) 197.75 lakh tonnes
(D) 215.40 lakh tonnes

237. The Centre has notified Madhya Pradesh as which of the following?

(A) Marine Fisheries Zone
(B) Reservoir Fisheries Cluster
(C) Coastal Aquaculture Park
(D) Fish Seed Corridor

238. PM-DAKSH, now subsumed under PMKVY, was a scheme of which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
(B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(C) Ministry of Rural Development
(D) Ministry of Labour and Employment

239. How many candidates were trained under PM-DAKSH between 2020-21 and 2023-24?

(A) 96,162
(B) 1,87,305
(C) 2,76,470
(D) 3,09,500

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240. Under PM-DAKSH, what minimum share of trained candidates had an institute to place, failing which its third instalment was forfeited?

(A) 50 per cent
(B) 60 per cent
(C) 70 per cent
(D) 80 per cent

241. Who inaugurated the conference on 'Co-operative Federalism and Law Reforms: National and State Perspectives' in New Delhi?

(A) The President of India
(B) The Vice-President of India
(C) The Chief Justice of India
(D) The Union Home Minister

242. According to the Vice-President, how many obsolete laws have been repealed in the last twelve years?

(A) More than 700
(B) More than 1,200
(C) More than 1,700
(D) More than 2,500

243. Which body organised the New Delhi conference on co-operative federalism and law reforms, and where was it held?

(A) NITI Aayog, at Bharat Mandapam
(B) Law Commission of India, at Vigyan Bhawan
(C) Supreme Court of India, at Vigyan Bhawan
(D) Inter-State Council, at Bharat Mandapam

244. What is the theme of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0?

(A) “Thirukkural Payilvom – Thirukkural Abhyas Karen”
(B) “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat”
(C) “Tamil Mozhi Valarchi”
(D) “Sangam to Kashi”

245. How many participants from Tamil Nadu will take part in Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0, and in how many groups?

(A) About 1,000 in five groups
(B) About 1,400 in seven groups
(C) About 2,100 in seven groups
(D) About 1,400 in fourteen groups

246. Which three cities form the itinerary of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0?

(A) Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya
(B) Varanasi, Lucknow and Mathura
(C) Varanasi, Prayagraj and Chennai
(D) Madurai, Rameswaram and Varanasi

247. What is the outlay approved for the Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana for 2026-27 to 2030-31?

(A) Rs 9,652 crore
(B) Rs 35,428 crore
(C) Rs 53,428 crore
(D) Rs 73,428 crore

248. Under the revised disability pension, what benchmark of disability now decides eligibility?

(A) 40 per cent, under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016
(B) 80 per cent, under the National Trust Act 1999
(C) 50 per cent, under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016
(D) 60 per cent, under the National Trust Act 1999

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249. The renamed social assistance programme gives effect to which Article of the Constitution?

(A) Article 21
(B) Article 39
(C) Article 41
(D) Article 47

250. Who, as Secretary DARE and Director General ICAR, addressed a roundtable at the Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue?

(A) Dr M. L. Jat
(B) Dr B. S. Dwivedi
(C) Dr Karim Meredia
(D) Dr P. V. Varaprasad

251. The Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue is organised by which body?

(A) The Food and Agriculture Organization
(B) The World Food Prize Foundation
(C) The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
(D) The International Food Policy Research Institute

252. With which body did Dr M. L. Jat highlight the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding for agricultural cooperation?

(A) Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST)
(B) World Food Prize Foundation
(C) National Academy of Agricultural Sciences
(D) Food and Agriculture Organization

253. India and Poland have set a target of doubling their bilateral trade by which year?

(A) 2028
(B) 2030
(C) 2035
(D) 2040

254. During the October 2026 visit, Poland announced that it was joining which India-linked platform?

(A) International Solar Alliance
(B) Global Biofuels Alliance
(C) Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure
(D) Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative

255. For which term has Poland supported India's candidature for a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council?

(A) 2026-27
(B) 2027-28
(C) 2028-29
(D) 2030-31

256. What was the revenue of the Department of Posts in the first half of the financial year 2026-27?

(A) Rs 6,636 crore
(B) Rs 8,212.7 crore
(C) Rs 4,201.5 crore
(D) Rs 10,500 crore

257. Which business vertical of India Post recorded the highest year-on-year growth in the second quarter of FY 2026-27?

(A) Post Office Savings Bank
(B) Mails
(C) Parcels
(D) International Relations and Global Business

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258. Which postal circle achieved the highest share of its proportionate target in the second quarter of FY 2026-27?

(A) West Bengal
(B) Bihar
(C) Andhra Pradesh
(D) Kerala

259. What is the theme of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum being hosted by India?

(A) Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development
(B) Parliaments for a Resilient and Digital Future
(C) Parliamentary Diplomacy for Global Governance Reform
(D) Inclusive Growth through Legislative Cooperation

260. At which venue will the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum be held?

(A) Bharat Mandapam
(B) Vigyan Bhawan
(C) Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan
(D) Yashobhoomi Convention Centre

261. Which of the following is NOT one of the four high-level sessions of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum?

(A) Resilience
(B) Innovation
(C) Connectivity
(D) Sustainability

262. Which organisation will host APAC 23, the 23rd Asia Pacific Automotive Engineering Conference 2026?

(A) SIAM
(B) SAEINDIA
(C) ARAI
(D) NITI Aayog

263. Where and when will APAC 23 be held?

(A) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, 13-14 November 2026
(B) Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, New Delhi, 13-14 November 2026
(C) Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, 3-4 December 2026
(D) Chennai Trade Centre, 13-14 November 2026

264. In which year did the APAC conference series begin, under the name International Pacific Conference?

(A) 1971
(B) 1981
(C) 1991
(D) 2001

265. GYANDEEP, inaugurated by the Defence Secretary in New Delhi, is which of the following?

(A) A Hindi library at Sena Bhawan
(B) A digital records portal of the armed forces
(C) A training academy for defence civilians
(D) A museum of military history

266. How much space did the Ministry of Defence free in South Block during Special Campaign 6, and to which project was it surrendered?

(A) About 25,000 square feet, to the National Archives
(B) About 35,000 square feet, to Project Yuga Yugeen Bharat Museum
(C) About 45,000 square feet, to the National War Memorial
(D) About 35,000 square feet, to the National Museum of Natural History

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267. How many Swachhta Veers were felicitated by the Defence Secretary at the inauguration?

(A) Five
(B) Six
(C) Eight
(D) Ten

268. How much space has the Department of Science and Technology freed under Special Campaign 6, as reported up to 16 October 2026?

(A) 35,000 square feet
(B) 61,888 square feet
(C) 71,888 square feet
(D) 81,250 square feet

269. How did the number of cleanliness campaign sites identified by DST change during Special Campaign 6?

(A) It rose from 315 to 401
(B) It rose from 401 to 800
(C) It fell from 401 to 397
(D) It rose from 135 to 315

270. Special Campaign 6 in the Department of Science and Technology is being implemented in accordance with the guidelines of which body?

(A) NITI Aayog
(B) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
(C) Department of Personnel and Training
(D) Comptroller and Auditor General

271. In which event did Sheetal Devi defend her title and win gold at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Women's W1 Archery
(B) Women's Individual Para Compound Archery
(C) Para Compound Mixed Team
(D) Women's Individual Para Recurve Archery

272. Who partnered Sheetal Devi to the Para Compound Mixed Team gold at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Krishna Nagar
(B) Pramod Bhagat
(C) Toman Kumar
(D) Shubham Wadhwa

273. Swati Chaudhary's silver medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 was notable because it was India's first ever medal in which archery category?

(A) Compound Open
(B) Recurve Open
(C) W1
(D) Barebow

274. Which Indian para shuttler won two bronze medals on a single day at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Sanjana Kumari
(B) Manisha Ramadass
(C) Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan
(D) Suhas L. Yathiraj

275. In which para badminton class did India win two bronze medals at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Women's Singles SU5
(B) Men's Singles SL4
(C) Mixed Doubles SH6
(D) Women's Singles SL3

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276. Who were the Indian pair that won the Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5 para badminton bronze at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Krishna Nagar and Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan
(B) Suhas L. Yathiraj and Sanjana Kumari
(C) Pramod Bhagat and Manisha Ramadass
(D) Abhijeet Sakhuja and Manisha Ramadass

277. Anjanaben won a gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 in which event?

(A) Women's 400m T12
(B) Women's 400m T47
(C) Women's Discus Throw F54
(D) Women's 200m T47

278. Which Indian para athlete won the Women's Discus Throw F54 event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Tejalben Damor
(B) Anjanaben
(C) Suvarna Raj
(D) Sanjana Kumari

279. Tejalben Damor's silver medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 came in which classification of the women's 400 metres?

(A) T47
(B) T12
(C) F54
(D) S10

280. Which of the following was part of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron that arrived in the Maldives in October 2026?

(A) INS Vikrant
(B) INS Sujata
(C) INS Vikramaditya
(D) INS Arihant

281. MAHASAGAR, the vision mentioned in connection with the First Training Squadron's visit to the Maldives, stands for which of the following?

(A) Maritime Alliance for Harmony, Security and Growth Across Regions
(B) Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions
(C) Mission for Advancement of Shared Growth and Regional Security
(D) Maritime Highway for Safety, Growth and Regional Stability

282. The trainees of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron visited which training centre during the Maldives port call?

(A) Girifushi Training Centre
(B) Hulhumale Naval Academy
(C) Addu Maritime Training School
(D) Kadhdhoo Defence Institute

283. Which institution subscribed to NSDC's maiden Zero Coupon Zero Principal issue on the NSE Social Stock Exchange?

(A) SIDBI
(B) NABARD
(C) EXIM Bank
(D) NHB

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284. In the NSDC skilling programme financed through the Social Stock Exchange, what share of the cost does the Government of Madhya Pradesh bear on successful placement of candidates abroad?

(A) 15 per cent
(B) 35 per cent
(C) 50 per cent
(D) 75 per cent

285. The NSDC programme launched through the Social Stock Exchange prepares youth from Madhya Pradesh for employment in which two countries?

(A) Japan and Germany
(B) Japan and Australia
(C) Germany and Canada
(D) South Korea and Germany

286. What was the total value of the Yamuna rejuvenation projects inaugurated and begun in Delhi on 22 October 2026?

(A) Rs 5,941 crore
(B) Rs 8,941 crore
(C) Rs 11,941 crore
(D) Rs 2,941 crore

287. By which year is the Yamuna to be made clean, according to the roadmap described at the ceremony?

(A) 2027
(B) 2028
(C) 2029
(D) 2030

288. How many projects were inaugurated and how many were initiated at the Yamuna rejuvenation ceremony in Delhi?

(A) 33 inaugurated and 10 initiated
(B) 10 inaugurated and 33 initiated
(C) 13 inaugurated and 30 initiated
(D) 10 inaugurated and 43 initiated

289. Who won the gold medal in the men's high jump T42/T63 at the Asian Para Games 2026 with a new Games Record?

(A) Varun Singh Bhati
(B) Rahul
(C) Shailesh Kumar
(D) Toman Kumar

290. In which event did India win all three medals at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 22 October?

(A) Men's High Jump T42/T63
(B) Men's Long Jump T42/T63
(C) Men's 400m Freestyle S10
(D) Women's High Jump T42/T63

291. Which medal did Rahul win at the Asian Para Games 2026 in the men's high jump T42/T63?

(A) Gold
(B) Silver
(C) Bronze
(D) He finished fourth

292. In which event did Kapil Kumar win a silver medal at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Men's 50m freestyle S13
(B) Men's 400m freestyle S10
(C) Men's 100m backstroke S10
(D) Men's 400m individual medley SM10

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293. Who won the bronze medal for India in the men's 50m freestyle S13 at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Kapil Kumar
(B) Suhas L. Yathiraj
(C) Ravi Karthik Budigina
(D) Shubham Wadhwa

294. Which stroke produced both of India's swimming medals on 22 October at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) Butterfly
(B) Breaststroke
(C) Backstroke
(D) Freestyle

295. Under which national plan does the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan operate?

(A) National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction
(B) National Health Mission
(C) National Social Assistance Programme
(D) National Rural Livelihoods Mission

296. How many vulnerable districts did the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan focus on when it was launched?

(A) 112
(B) 272
(C) 372
(D) 750

297. By which date did Union Home Minister Amit Shah say the drug trade would be uprooted from India?

(A) 31 December 2027
(B) 15 August 2028
(C) 31 December 2029
(D) 15 August 2047

298. What was the growth in Indian Railways' coal loading in October 2026 up to the 18th of the month, compared with the same period a year earlier?

(A) 7.1 per cent
(B) 14 per cent
(C) 22.5 per cent
(D) 32.5 per cent

299. How many coal rakes a day did Indian Railways dispatch on average to thermal power plants in the first half of FY 2026-27?

(A) 87
(B) 340
(C) 430
(D) 530

300. Apart from the Ministry of Power, which ministry is Indian Railways coordinating with to ensure efficient coal evacuation?

(A) Ministry of Mines
(B) Ministry of Coal
(C) Ministry of Heavy Industries
(D) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

301. What is the theme of the 14th India Chem 2026 held in Mumbai?

(A) Chemicals for a Sustainable Future
(B) Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub
(C) Make in India for the World
(D) Atmanirbhar Rasayan Bharat

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302. Which country joined as the partner country for India Chem 2026?

(A) Germany
(B) Japan
(C) Republic of Korea
(D) United States

303. India's chemical industry is projected to reach what size by 2030?

(A) USD 150 billion
(B) USD 300 billion
(C) USD 500 billion
(D) USD 1 trillion

304. How much waste has been processed across India's regulated waste streams, as stated by the Union Environment Minister?

(A) 299.60 lakh metric tonnes
(B) 399.60 lakh metric tonnes
(C) 499.60 lakh metric tonnes
(D) 599.60 lakh metric tonnes

305. How many recyclers are registered under the Extended Producer Responsibility framework?

(A) 4,880
(B) 8,604
(C) 48,800
(D) 86,043

306. Which initiative, calling for mindful use of resources rather than destructive consumption, did the minister highlight?

(A) Swachh Bharat Mission
(B) Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)
(C) Mission Amrit Sarovar
(D) National Clean Air Programme

307. Which milestone in non-fossil electricity capacity did India cross for the first time, as stated by the Prime Minister at the NDTV World Summit 2026?

(A) 200 gigawatts
(B) 250 gigawatts
(C) 300 gigawatts
(D) 400 gigawatts

308. Around which central idea were the deliberations of the NDTV World Summit 2026 framed, as referred to by the Prime Minister?

(A) The Asian Century
(B) The World Between Orders
(C) One Earth, One Family, One Future
(D) Reforming Multilateralism Together

309. At which place has the domestic production of Penicillin G restarted under the Production Linked Incentive scheme, as mentioned at the NDTV World Summit 2026?

(A) Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh
(B) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
(C) Ankleshwar, Gujarat
(D) Hyderabad, Telangana

310. From which place was the nationwide Khet Bachao Abhiyan launched on 22 October 2026?

(A) Sirsa, Haryana
(B) Taraori in Karnal district, Haryana
(C) Sehore, Madhya Pradesh
(D) Pusa, New Delhi

311. Until which date will the nationwide Khet Bachao Abhiyan awareness drive run in villages?

(A) 31 October 2026
(B) 15 November 2026
(C) 30 November 2026
(D) 31 December 2026

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312. How many permanent houses were sanctioned for Haryana under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin at the Taraori event?

(A) 18,422
(B) 24,822
(C) 28,422
(D) 38,422

313. What is the theme of the 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition 2026?

(A) Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age
(B) Cities for All, Mobility for All
(C) Urban Rising - Rethinking Urban Systems, Solutions and Delivery
(D) Green Mobility for Viksit Bharat

314. In which city are the 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and the second National Urban Conclave being held in October 2026?

(A) Indore
(B) Bhubaneswar
(C) Ahmedabad
(D) New Delhi

315. Under which policy is the Urban Mobility India Conference organised as an annual initiative?

(A) National Urban Transport Policy, 2006
(B) National Transit Oriented Development Policy, 2017
(C) National Urban Housing Policy, 2007
(D) National Electric Mobility Mission, 2013

316. Which state announced at the AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026 that it is finalising a dedicated agrivoltaics policy with a target of 1 GW by 2030?

(A) Uttar Pradesh
(B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Odisha
(D) Bihar

317. Under Odisha's proposed agrivoltaics policy, what minimum share of a project site must remain cultivable?

(A) 50 per cent
(B) 70 per cent
(C) 80 per cent
(D) 90 per cent

318. Which two institutions jointly organised the ministerial track at the AgriVoltaics World Conference 2026?

(A) IISD and CEEW
(B) NITI Aayog and TERI
(C) IREDA and SECI
(D) NSEFI and NISE

319. Who chairs the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas, which reviewed pollution control work with Punjab and Haryana?

(A) Rajesh Verma
(B) Bhupender Yadav
(C) Tanmay Kumar
(D) Atal Dulloo

320. Which CAQM direction mandates the use of paddy straw based biomass pellets and briquettes in brick kilns?

(A) Direction No. 76
(B) Direction No. 88
(C) Direction No. 92
(D) Direction No. 99

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321. At which city did CAQM hold its separate review meetings with the governments of Punjab and Haryana?

(A) New Delhi
(B) Chandigarh
(C) Ludhiana
(D) Panipat

322. The Livelihood Business Incubation Centre at Rourkela, covered by the tripartite MoU, has been recognised as a Centre of Excellence by which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Steel
(B) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(C) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
(D) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

323. Under which scheme were plant and machinery installed at the Rourkela livelihood incubation centre?

(A) ASPIRE
(B) SAMARTH
(C) PM Vishwakarma
(D) Stand Up India

324. In which year was the Livelihood Business Incubation Centre at Rourkela established?

(A) 2014
(B) 2016
(C) 2018
(D) 2021

325. What was the theme of the 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference held in New Delhi?

(A) Food First, Energy Next
(B) Powering the Global South
(C) Sunlight for Every Farm
(D) Climate Resilient Water Management

326. As of August 2025, how many operational agrivoltaics projects did India have and what was their installed capacity?

(A) 26 projects, 27.54 megawatts
(B) 36 projects, 37.54 megawatts
(C) 46 projects, 47.54 megawatts
(D) 10 projects, 100 megawatts

327. PM KUSUM, which promotes solar energy in agriculture, was launched in which month and year?

(A) February 2019
(B) August 2020
(C) February 2023
(D) January 2015

328. Which Indian student won the Global Youth Institute Award at the World Food Prize Foundation event?

(A) Ms Ameena Nazreen A S
(B) Dr M. L. Jat
(C) Ms Anjali Sharma
(D) Dr Norman E Borlaug

329. What was the theme of the 2026 Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue held in Des Moines, Iowa?

(A) Agricultural Higher Education
(B) Before Hunger Wins
(C) Powering the Global South
(D) Feeding a Warming Planet

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330. The National Academy of Agricultural Sciences signed a Memorandum of Understanding at the event with which organisation?

(A) Indian Council of Agricultural Research
(B) World Food Prize Foundation
(C) Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, USA
(D) Department of Agricultural Research and Education

331. What is the theme of the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2026 to be held by the Indian Navy?

(A) Maritime Security and Blue Economy
(B) Science, Technology and Academic Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific
(C) Collaborative Approaches to Ocean Governance
(D) Powering the Global South

332. At which summit did Prime Minister Narendra Modi announce the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative?

(A) The 14th East Asia Summit in Bangkok
(B) The 14th G20 Summit in Osaka
(C) The 13th East Asia Summit in Singapore
(D) The 15th East Asia Summit in Hanoi

333. How many countries will send experts to the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2026, and how many thematic sessions does it have?

(A) 12 countries and three sessions
(B) 18 countries and five sessions
(C) 25 countries and seven sessions
(D) 18 countries and seven sessions

334. Which body conducts the Periodic Labour Force Survey in India?

(A) The Reserve Bank of India
(B) The National Statistics Office under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
(C) NITI Aayog
(D) The Ministry of Labour and Employment

335. From which month will the modified sampling design and schedule of the Periodic Labour Force Survey take effect?

(A) January 2025
(B) January 2026
(C) January 2027
(D) April 2027

336. Under the revised design, how many Second Stage Strata will there be and how many households will be canvassed in each First Stage Unit?

(A) Four rural and five urban strata, with 14 households per First Stage Unit
(B) Five rural and four urban strata, with 12 households per First Stage Unit
(C) Three rural and three urban strata, with 16 households per First Stage Unit
(D) Four rural and four urban strata, with 15 households per First Stage Unit

337. C-DOT's sixth Centre of Excellence has been set up at which institution?

(A) IIT Kanpur
(B) IISc Bengaluru
(C) IIT (BHU), Varanasi
(D) IIT Roorkee

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338. C-DOT, which signed the agreement for the new Centre of Excellence, works under which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
(B) Ministry of Communications
(C) Ministry of Education
(D) Ministry of Science and Technology

339. Which of the following was NOT named as a research area of the new C-DOT Centre of Excellence?

(A) Very large-scale MIMO systems
(B) Post-quantum communication
(C) Deep-sea mining equipment
(D) AI-native communication networks

340. C-DAC signed an MoU on quantum technologies for banking with which bank?

(A) State Bank of India
(B) Bank of India
(C) Punjab National Bank
(D) Bank of Baroda

341. C-DAC, which signed the quantum banking agreement, is an autonomous society under which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Finance
(B) Ministry of Science and Technology
(C) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
(D) Ministry of Communications

342. What is the stated central aim of the C-DAC and Bank of India partnership?

(A) A Quantum Ecosystem for Financial Innovation
(B) A new national payments switch
(C) A rural branch expansion plan
(D) A sovereign gold bond platform

343. Where was the Chinmaya Amrit Mahotsav Global Sammelan inaugurated?

(A) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
(B) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
(C) Yashobhoomi, Dwarka
(D) Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi

344. The Chinmaya Mission, whose global Sammelan was opened in New Delhi, was founded by whom?

(A) Swami Vivekananda
(B) Swami Sivananda
(C) Eknath Ranade
(D) Swami Chinmayananda

345. Which campaign did Swami Chinmayananda begin to take the Upanishads and Vedanta to ordinary people?

(A) Gita Gyana Yagna
(B) Satyarth Prakash Abhiyan
(C) Vedanta Padyatra
(D) Dharma Jagaran Yatra

346. Special Campaign 6 in central ministries is being conducted under the aegis of which department?

(A) Department of Expenditure
(B) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
(C) Department of Personnel and Training
(D) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

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347. What is the period of Special Campaign 6?

(A) 1 to 15 October 2026
(B) 2 to 31 October 2026
(C) 15 October to 15 November 2026
(D) 2 to 31 December 2026

348. Which branch office of the Cotton Corporation of India listed 511 e-waste items for e-auction on the Government e-Marketplace?

(A) Nagpur
(B) Guntur
(C) Rajkot
(D) Warangal

349. Which Indian Navy ship took part in Exercise INDRA 2026 with the Russian Federation Navy?

(A) INS Shivalik
(B) INS Sahyadri
(C) INS Talwar
(D) INS Tabar

350. Exercise INDRA 2026 was a bilateral naval exercise between India and which country?

(A) China
(B) France
(C) Russia
(D) Japan

351. From which Russian port did INS Sahyadri depart at the end of Exercise INDRA 2026?

(A) Murmansk
(B) Saint Petersburg
(C) Sevastopol
(D) Vladivostok

352. How many Civil Defence Master Trainers are to be trained by the Indian Army in the first phase of the new joint initiative?

(A) 300
(B) 600
(C) 1,200
(D) 6,000

353. Which body of the Ministry of Home Affairs is running the Civil Defence Master Trainer programme with the Indian Army?

(A) National Disaster Response Force
(B) National Disaster Management Authority
(C) Directorate General of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards
(D) Bureau of Police Research and Development

354. How many Civil Defence Volunteers is each trained Master Trainer expected to train in their own State or Union Territory?

(A) 25
(B) 50
(C) 100
(D) 500

355. Rani Chennamma, whose birth anniversary and Victory Celebration were marked at Prerana Sthal, was the queen of which princely state?

(A) Kittur
(B) Jhansi
(C) Keladi
(D) Mysore

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356. Which Victory Celebration of Kittur Rani Chennamma was observed at the Parliament premises in New Delhi?

(A) The 150th
(B) The 175th
(C) The 200th
(D) The 202nd

357. Who led the programme marking Rani Chennamma's birth anniversary at Prerana Sthal in the Parliament premises?

(A) Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways
(B) V. Somanna, Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti
(C) C.R. Patil, Minister of Jal Shakti
(D) Om Birla, Speaker of the Lok Sabha

358. The draft National Steel Policy, Vision 2047, sets what target for India's crude steel capacity?

(A) 300 MT
(B) 500 MT
(C) 604 MT
(D) 750 MT

359. Under the Green Steel Initiative, Green Steel Certificates have been issued to how many distinct steel producers up to October 2026?

(A) 54
(B) 104
(C) 204
(D) 404

360. Which public sector company reported its highest-ever first-half manganese ore production in April-September 2026?

(A) NMDC
(B) SAIL
(C) MOIL
(D) MECON

361. In which city was the Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026 organised?

(A) Indore
(B) Bhopal
(C) Jabalpur
(D) Gwalior

362. What was India's total fish production in 2024-25, as quoted at the conclave?

(A) 151.60 lakh MT
(B) 175.50 lakh MT
(C) 197.75 lakh MT
(D) 225.40 lakh MT

363. How many reservoirs in Madhya Pradesh were approved for integrated development under the Budget Announcement for 2026-27?

(A) 19
(B) 29
(C) 39
(D) 49

364. What fish production target has India set for the next five years, as announced by the Fisheries Secretary?

(A) 20 million tonnes
(B) 25 million tonnes
(C) 30 million tonnes
(D) 40 million tonnes

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365. The National Plan of Action for small-scale inland fisheries is being developed with which inter-governmental organisation?

(A) Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation
(B) Indian Ocean Rim Association
(C) Asian Fisheries Society
(D) World Organisation for Animal Health

366. Where was the development phase of the National Plan of Action for small-scale inland fisheries launched?

(A) Chennai
(B) Kochi
(C) Bhopal
(D) New Delhi

367. The TRINETRA AI-based video surveillance system has been deployed around which temple?

(A) Kashi Vishwanath Temple, Varanasi
(B) Mahakaleshwar Temple, Ujjain
(C) Somnath Temple, Gujarat
(D) Jagannath Temple, Puri

368. The Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) assesses gram panchayats using how many indicators?

(A) 75 indicators
(B) 120 indicators
(C) 150 indicators
(D) 216 indicators

369. Which department organises the National e-Governance Webinar series, whose 22nd edition was held in October 2026?

(A) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
(B) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
(C) NITI Aayog
(D) Department of Personnel and Training

370. What is the engineering goods export target set for 2030 at the Chintan Shivir held by the Department of Commerce and EEPC India?

(A) US$150 billion
(B) US$250 billion
(C) US$400 billion
(D) US$1 trillion

371. India's total exports of merchandise and services during April-September 2026-27 stood at:

(A) US$352.80 billion
(B) US$476.20 billion
(C) US$512.40 billion
(D) US$618.90 billion

372. Who is the Chairman of EEPC India, the apex engineering exports promotion body?

(A) Shri Rajesh Agrawal
(B) Shri Vimal Anand
(C) Shri Pankaj Chadha
(D) Shri Piyush Goyal

373. How many senior citizen homes are currently supported under the Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens of AVYAY?

(A) 432
(B) 586
(C) 764
(D) 921

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374. Under AVYAY, what is the annual financial support extended to each Regional Resource and Training Centre (RRTC)?

(A) Rs 9.75 lakh
(B) Rs 19.58 lakh
(C) Rs 25 lakh
(D) Rs 1.2 crore

375. Which ministry implements the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) for senior citizens?

(A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
(B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(C) Ministry of Women and Child Development
(D) Ministry of Rural Development

376. The study on the effect of black hole spin on quasi-periodic oscillations was led by scientists of which institute?

(A) Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru
(B) Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES)
(C) Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad
(D) Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Pune

377. In the context of black hole research, QPO stands for:

(A) Quantum Photon Oscillation
(B) Quasi-Periodic Oscillation
(C) Quadrupole Phase Orbit
(D) Quasar Polar Outflow

378. According to the ARIES study, what happens to the shock in the accretion disc when a black hole spins rapidly?

(A) It is pushed farther from the black hole, giving only low-frequency QPOs
(B) It is pulled closer to the black hole, producing QPOs over a wider range of frequencies
(C) It disappears completely and no QPOs are produced
(D) It becomes permanently stable and stops oscillating

379. President Droupadi Murmu attended a public programme on the occasion of Bastar Dussehra in which city?

(A) Raipur
(B) Bilaspur
(C) Jagdalpur
(D) Durg

380. Which temple did the President visit at Jagdalpur during her Bastar Dussehra visit?

(A) Maa Danteshwari Temple
(B) Maa Bamleshwari Temple
(C) Mahamaya Temple
(D) Rajiv Lochan Temple

381. In her Bastar Dussehra address, the President linked equitable and inclusive development to achieving a developed India by which year?

(A) 2030
(B) 2035
(C) 2040
(D) 2047

382. Shri Piyush Goyal and which German minister jointly inaugurated the India Centre at the German Council on Foreign Relations in Berlin?

(A) Ms Katherina Reiche
(B) Mr Martin Blessing
(C) Ms Emma Marcegaglia
(D) Dr Tan See Leng

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383. The India-Germany Business Roundtable co-chaired by Shri Piyush Goyal was organised with DGAP and which body?

(A) Federation of German Industries
(B) Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business
(C) German Chamber of Commerce in India
(D) European Business Council

384. Which two countries is Shri Piyush Goyal visiting with a delegation of around 100 Indian businesses and startups?

(A) Germany and France
(B) Germany and the Netherlands
(C) Germany and Belgium
(D) Germany and Switzerland

385. Who won India's 100th medal at the Asian Para Games, and in which event?

(A) Haney, men's javelin throw F37/F38
(B) Sandeep Kumar, men's 400m T64
(C) Nitesh Kumar, men's singles SL3
(D) Naveen Sivakumar, men's singles SL4

386. In which event did Haney win gold with a new world record at the Asian Para Games?

(A) Men's javelin throw F37/F38
(B) Men's shot put F37
(C) Men's discus throw F38
(D) Men's 1500m T46

387. Which pair won the men's recurve doubles gold for India at the Asian Para Games?

(A) Nitesh Kumar and Pramod Bhagat
(B) Harvinder Singh and Vijay Sundi
(C) Sandeep Kumar and Haney
(D) Naveen Sivakumar and Nitesh Kumar

388. Bhawna Choudhary and Pooja Jatyan won India's first-ever Asian Para Games medal in which event?

(A) Women's compound doubles
(B) Women's recurve doubles
(C) Women's singles SU5
(D) Mixed team recurve

389. Which Indian shuttler moved from bronze in the previous edition to silver in women's singles SH6 at the Asian Para Games?

(A) Thulasimathi Murugesan
(B) Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan
(C) Pooja Jatyan
(D) Bhawna Choudhary

390. Which Indian athlete won the bronze in the men's 400m T64 at the Asian Para Games on 23 October 2026?

(A) Parmod
(B) Ajay Kumar
(C) Shubham Wadhwa
(D) Jehan Dorab Madan

391. Which document did Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh release at the Army Commanders' Conference on 23 October 2026?

(A) Joint Doctrine for Air Operations
(B) Land Warfare Doctrine
(C) Maritime Security Strategy
(D) National Cyber Security Policy

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392. What figure for India's defence production in the financial year 2025-26 was cited at the Army Commanders' Conference?

(A) Rs 1.27 lakh crore
(B) Rs 1.78 lakh crore
(C) Rs 2.34 lakh crore
(D) Rs 95,000 crore

393. Which operation did the Raksha Mantri cite as proof of innovative thinking, synergy and superior coordination by the forces?

(A) Operation Sindoor
(B) Operation Vijay
(C) Operation Ganga
(D) Operation Brahma

394. Who chaired the 30th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council held on 23 October 2026?

(A) The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India
(B) The Union Finance Minister
(C) The Chairperson of SEBI
(D) The Chief Economic Adviser

395. The Financial Sector Cyber Security Strategy noted at the FSDC meeting was formulated by which body?

(A) An Inter-Ministerial Group of financial regulators and cyber security agencies
(B) The FSDC Sub-Committee alone
(C) A committee of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
(D) The International Financial Services Centres Authority

396. Which campaign was noted at the FSDC meeting for refunding unclaimed financial assets to their rightful owners?

(A) Jan Dhan Se Jan Suraksha
(B) Your Money, Your Right
(C) Udgam Sampada
(D) Mera Dhan Meri Pehchan

397. Where was the 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition 2026 inaugurated on 23 October 2026?

(A) New Delhi
(B) Bhubaneswar, Odisha
(C) Bengaluru, Karnataka
(D) Ahmedabad, Gujarat

398. What is the theme of the 19th Urban Mobility India Conference 2026?

(A) Mobility for All: Clean, Green and Safe
(B) Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age
(C) Transit Oriented Development for Viksit Bharat
(D) Smart Cities, Smarter Commuters

399. According to the figures given at the conference, how long was India's operational metro network in 2014?

(A) 248 km
(B) 998 km
(C) 1,185 km
(D) 1,500 km

400. At the Asian Para Games, Indian athletes swept all three medals in which event?

(A) Men's Club Throw F51
(B) Men's Javelin Throw
(C) Men's 200m T37
(D) Women's Long Jump T47

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401. Who retained his gold medal in the Men's Club Throw F51 at the Asian Para Games with a new Games Record?

(A) Dharambir
(B) Sumit
(C) Pranav Soorma
(D) Navdeep

402. Nimisha Chakkungalparambil Suresh won a silver medal at the Asian Para Games in which event?

(A) Women's Long Jump T47
(B) Women's 400m T47
(C) Women's Javelin Throw F51
(D) Women's 200m T37

403. Mona Agarwal won a historic gold medal at the Asian Para Games in which event?

(A) Women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1
(B) Women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions SH1
(C) Women's 25m Pistol SH1
(D) Women's Doubles SL3-SU5

404. Which pair won the Women's Doubles SL3-SU5 para badminton gold medal for India at the Asian Para Games?

(A) Thulasimathi Murugesan and Manasi Joshi
(B) Nitesh Kumar and Thulasimathi Murugesan
(C) Manasi Joshi and Mona Agarwal
(D) Thulasimathi Murugesan and Himanshu Nandal

405. Himanshu Nandal's bronze medal at the Asian Para Games came in which event?

(A) Men's 100m Freestyle S11, swimming
(B) Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions SH1, shooting
(C) Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5, badminton
(D) Men's Club Throw F51, athletics

406. Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL) is described as India’s first dedicated Non Banking Financial Company in which sector?

(A) Railways
(B) Maritime
(C) Civil aviation
(D) Renewable energy

407. How much had SMFCL disbursed as on 30 September 2026?

(A) Rs 11,563 crore
(B) Rs 60,205 crore
(C) Rs 5,107 crore
(D) Rs 9,800 crore

408. Who has been appointed the official Fund Manager for the Maritime Investment Fund component of the Maritime Development Fund?

(A) SBI Ventures Limited
(B) SMFCL itself
(C) The Securities and Exchange Board of India
(D) The Reserve Bank of India

409. Who has been named the Chairperson of the committee constituted to review pharmaceutical marketing practices?

(A) Smt. Preeti Sudan
(B) Dr. Naresh Trehan
(C) Dr. M. Srinivas
(D) The Union Health Secretary

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410. The Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) was first introduced in which year?

(A) 2015
(B) 2024
(C) 2019
(D) 2026

411. Within what period must the committee on pharmaceutical marketing practices submit its recommendations?

(A) Two months from the date of its first meeting
(B) Six months from the date of its constitution
(C) One year from the date of its first meeting
(D) Three months from the date of its constitution

412. The Third Regional Review Conference on the implementation of the Forest Rights Act was held in which city?

(A) Bengaluru
(B) Kolkata
(C) Srinagar
(D) New Delhi

413. As of 31 August 2026, what share of the Forest Rights Act claims received in the country had been disposed of?

(A) 80.64 per cent
(B) 54 per cent
(C) 43.56 per cent
(D) 25.42 per cent

414. Habitat rights under the Forest Rights Act have so far been recognised for how many of the country's Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups?

(A) 75 of 75
(B) 11 of 75
(C) 20 of 75
(D) 11 of 20

415. In October 2026, how many captive-bred male Great Indian Bustards were released into the wild at Desert National Park?

(A) Two
(B) Four
(C) Six
(D) Ten

416. Whose annual progress report for 2016-17 recorded a 75 per cent decline in the Great Indian Bustard population over the previous 30 years?

(A) Zoological Survey of India
(B) Wildlife Institute of India
(C) Bombay Natural History Society
(D) National Biodiversity Authority

417. How much did National CAMPA approve in December 2024 for the five-year Conservation Action Plan covering the Great Indian Bustard and the Lesser Florican?

(A) Rs 33.85 crore
(B) Rs 77.05 crore
(C) Rs 96.50 crore
(D) Rs 200 crore

418. How many Farmer IDs have been created under the Digital Agriculture Mission, as announced in October 2026?

(A) 7 crore
(B) 9 crore
(C) 11 crore
(D) 14 crore

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419. What was the original deadline for completing the Farmer ID target, which was met five months early?

(A) 31 December 2026
(B) 31 March 2027
(C) 30 September 2027
(D) 31 March 2028

420. The Farmer ID is created under which mission of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare?

(A) National Mission on Natural Farming
(B) Digital Agriculture Mission
(C) National Food Security Mission
(D) Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture

421. How many days of wage employment does the VB-G RAM G Act guarantee in a financial year?

(A) 100 days
(B) 120 days
(C) 125 days
(D) 150 days

422. VB-G RAM G, in force since 1 July 2026, has replaced which earlier rural employment programme?

(A) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana
(B) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA
(C) Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - NRLM
(D) Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana

423. How many types of permissible works does the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan framework identify?

(A) 184
(B) 262
(C) 318
(D) 404

424. Which edition of the All India Conference of GRP Chiefs concluded in New Delhi in October 2026?

(A) 6th
(B) 7th
(C) 8th
(D) 9th

425. Who is the Director General of the Railway Protection Force who presided over the conference?

(A) Sonali Mishra
(B) Satish Kumar
(C) Arun Kumar
(D) Jaya Varma Sinha

426. The women-led initiative Pink Patrol: Eyes in the Sky, SHAKTI on the Ground was showcased by which zone of Indian Railways?

(A) Northern Railway
(B) South Central Railway
(C) Central Railway
(D) Western Railway

427. Which Union Minister concluded a two-day official visit to Germany with engagements in Berlin in October 2026?

(A) S. Jaishankar
(B) Piyush Goyal
(C) Nirmala Sitharaman
(D) Ashwini Vaishnaw

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428. Mr Levin Holle, whom the Commerce Minister met at the German Federal Chancellery, holds which position?

(A) Federal Minister for Economic Affairs of Germany
(B) Economic and Financial Policy Advisor and G7/G20 Sherpa
(C) President of the German Federal Bank
(D) Germany's Ambassador to India

429. Mr Holger Peters, whom Piyush Goyal met in Berlin, is the Chief Executive Officer of which company?

(A) Siemens Healthineers AG
(B) Bertelsmann Investments
(C) Skoda Auto
(D) Bosch GmbH

430. The Shram Samvad campaign of the Ministry of Labour and Employment is covering how many districts?

(A) 216
(B) 316
(C) 416
(D) 516

431. Which of the four Labour Codes was enacted in 2019, with the other three dating from 2020?

(A) Code on Social Security
(B) Industrial Relations Code
(C) Code on Wages
(D) Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code

432. In which city is the two-day state-level Shram Samvad programme on Labour Codes being held?

(A) Kanpur
(B) Lucknow
(C) Noida
(D) Varanasi

433. What does AATAL, the new facility set up for Delhi NCR, stand for?

(A) Advanced Aerosol Tracking and Atmospheric Laboratory
(B) Integrated Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Toxicity Analysis Laboratory
(C) All India Air Toxicity Assessment Laboratory
(D) Atmospheric Analysis and Thermal Aerosol Laboratory

434. Under which mission has the AATAL air pollution analysis laboratory for Delhi NCR been established?

(A) Mission LiFE
(B) National Clean Air Programme
(C) Mission Mausam
(D) Mission Vayu Shakti

435. At what spatial resolution, and for how long ahead, does the AIRWISE system linked with AATAL forecast air quality?

(A) 400 metres, for the next 72 hours
(B) 1 kilometre, for the next 48 hours
(C) 100 metres, for the next 24 hours
(D) 4 kilometres, for the next 96 hours

436. Under which Act does India's access and benefit-sharing (ABS) mechanism operate?

(A) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972
(B) The Biological Diversity Act, 2002
(C) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
(D) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

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437. Which state received the largest share of the access and benefit-sharing amount distributed by the National Biodiversity Authority?

(A) Maharashtra
(B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Uttar Pradesh
(D) Bihar

438. India's ABS framework supports Target 13 of which global framework?

(A) The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
(B) The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
(C) The Aichi Biodiversity Targets
(D) The Paris Agreement

439. Swavlamban 2026 is the flagship innovation seminar of which armed force?

(A) The Indian Army
(B) The Indian Air Force
(C) The Indian Navy
(D) The Indian Coast Guard

440. What is the theme of Swavlamban 2026?

(A) Strength & Power through Innovation and Indigenisation
(B) Aatmanirbhar Bharat at Sea
(C) Innovation for Maritime Security
(D) Technology for Blue Economy

441. Which two documents are to be released at the plenary session of Swavlamban 2026?

(A) The Naval Vision document and the Maritime Doctrine
(B) The Swavlamban 5.0 document and the Compendium on Technology Imperatives
(C) The iDEX Annual Report and the Defence Procurement Manual
(D) The Indigenisation Roadmap and the Start-up Charter

442. Which ministry organises the Shilp Samagam Mela?

(A) The Ministry of Textiles
(B) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(C) The Ministry of Culture
(D) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

443. What is the full form of BHARAT-TULIP, the programme promoted at the Shilp Samagam Mela?

(A) Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme
(B) Tribal Upliftment and Livelihood Improvement Plan
(C) Textile Units' Livelihood Incentive Programme
(D) Traditional Udyam Livelihood Investment Plan

444. How many artisans, and how many women among them, are taking part in the Guwahati Shilp Samagam Mela?

(A) 50 artisans, including 20 women
(B) 75 artisans, including 31 women
(C) 90 artisans, including 45 women
(D) 60 artisans, including 31 women

445. What was the theme of India Chem 2026, held in Mumbai?

(A) Chemicals for a Green Tomorrow
(B) Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub
(C) Make in India for the World
(D) Sustainable Petrochemicals, Sustainable Growth

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446. Which country was the partner country at the 14th India Chem held in Mumbai?

(A) The United States
(B) Germany
(C) Japan
(D) The Republic of Korea

447. According to the targets set out at India Chem 2026, the chemicals and petrochemicals sector is to grow to about USD 1 trillion by which year?

(A) 2030
(B) 2035
(C) 2040
(D) 2047

448. The All-Women Coaches Course held at the DLTA stadium in New Delhi was organised under which initiative?

(A) Khelo India Rising Stars
(B) AITA ACE 2032
(C) Target Olympic Podium Scheme
(D) SAI Coach Connect

449. The ASMITA women's leagues, discussed at the course, run under which framework and were launched in which year?

(A) Khelo India, launched in 2021
(B) Fit India, launched in 2019
(C) Khelo India, launched in 2016
(D) National Sports Development Fund, launched in 2014

450. Who addressed the All-Women Coaches Course held in New Delhi?

(A) The Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports
(B) The Director General of the Sports Authority of India
(C) Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Raksha Khadse
(D) The President of the All India Tennis Association

451. Gram Seva evam Parampragat Khel Diwas was observed as part of which campaign?

(A) Fit India Movement
(B) Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan
(C) Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan of the Ministry of Social Justice
(D) Khelo India Grameen Khel Mahotsav

452. What is the theme of the second month of the Nasha Mukt Yuva campaign, under which week six was organised?

(A) Fit Youth, Addiction-Free Youth (Shakti evam Seva)
(B) Swachh Gaon, Swasth Gaon
(C) Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat
(D) Khel se Nasha Mukti

453. Which bodies implemented the sixth-week activities of the campaign in villages?

(A) The Sports Authority of India with state sports councils
(B) The Directorate of NSS along with 15 NSS Regional Directorates
(C) The Narcotics Control Bureau with district administrations
(D) Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan alone

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454. The Satna–Devendranagar and Rewa–Churhat rail sections opened in October 2026 form part of which railway project?

(A) Katni–Singrauli project
(B) Lalitpur–Singrauli project
(C) Indore–Dahod project
(D) Jabalpur–Gondia project

455. Which district was brought on to the national railway network when rail services reached Churhat?

(A) Panna
(B) Satna
(C) Sidhi
(D) Chhatarpur

456. What is the approximate cost of the new Satna–Devendranagar railway line?

(A) About ₹1,070 crore
(B) About ₹873 crore
(C) About ₹541 crore
(D) About ₹1,339 crore

457. Which DRDO laboratory has indigenously developed the AIP Energy Module for the Indian Navy's submarines?

(A) Naval Materials Research Laboratory
(B) Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory
(C) Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory
(D) Research Centre Imarat

458. What is the chief advantage an Air Independent Propulsion system gives a diesel-electric submarine?

(A) It allows the submarine to carry ballistic missiles
(B) It increases underwater endurance by reducing dependence on atmospheric oxygen
(C) It replaces the submarine's torpedo tubes with vertical launchers
(D) It makes the submarine capable of flight-deck operations

459. On which class of submarines will the indigenous AIP Energy Module be integrated, and by which shipyard?

(A) Shishumar class, by Garden Reach Shipbuilders
(B) Arihant class, by Hindustan Shipyard
(C) Kalvari class, by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
(D) Sindhughosh class, by Cochin Shipyard

460. In which city did the 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition 2026 conclude?

(A) Bhubaneswar
(B) New Delhi
(C) Kochi
(D) Chennai

461. What was the theme of the 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition?

(A) Mobility for All in Smart Cities
(B) Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age
(C) Green Transport for Viksit Bharat
(D) Rail-Led Integrated Urban Development

462. Which three principles did Union Minister Manohar Lal describe as the pillars of future urban mobility?

(A) Investment, Innovation and Implementation
(B) Integration, Inclusiveness and Intelligence
(C) Infrastructure, Industry and Institutions
(D) Information, Inspection and Incentives

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463. Under which theme is the second National Urban Conclave being held in Bhubaneswar?

(A) Cities of Tomorrow

(B) Urban Rising – Rethinking Urban Systems, Solutions and Delivery

(C) Samruddha Odisha, Viksit Bharat

(D) Adequate Housing for All

464. Which institution is the knowledge partner for the National Urban Conclave 2026?

(A) National Institute of Urban Affairs

(B) Institute of Urban Transport (India)

(C) NITI Aayog

(D) Indian Institute of Public Administration

465. India's urban population is expected to reach what level by 2036, as stated at the conclave?

(A) About 450 million

(B) About 600 million

(C) About 750 million

(D) About 900 million

466. The Integrated Manufacturing Cluster at Gaya is being developed under which industrial corridor?

(A) Delhi–Mumbai Industrial Corridor

(B) Amritsar–Kolkata Industrial Corridor

(C) Chennai–Bengaluru Industrial Corridor

(D) Vizag–Chennai Industrial Corridor

467. How many MoUs were signed at the launch of BIMCGL, and for what proposed investment?

(A) Twelve MoUs for about ₹4,200 crore

(B) Twelve MoUs for about ₹31,750 crore

(C) Twenty MoUs for about ₹16,500 crore

(D) Eight MoUs for about ₹1,339 crore

468. BIMCGL is a joint venture between which two bodies?

(A) BIADA and the National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust

(B) BIADA and the Bihar State Industrial Development Bank

(C) NICDC and the Gaya Municipal Corporation

(D) NITI Aayog and the Bihar Chamber of Commerce

469. Who is the chairperson of the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas?

(A) Rajesh Verma

(B) Rajesh Kumar Singh

(C) Manohar Lal

(D) Satendra Singh

470. In which state are Amritsar and Tarn Taran, the districts whose stubble management CAQM reviewed?

(A) Haryana

(B) Punjab

(C) Uttar Pradesh

(D) Rajasthan

471. Where did the CAQM team direct that paddy stubble should be used as fuel to the maximum extent?

(A) Only in household cooking stoves

(B) In thermal power plants, brick kilns and industries

(C) In railway locomotives

(D) In municipal incinerators alone

472. The 29th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD-2026), where BHASHINI showed its multilingual AI tools, was hosted by which institution?

(A) IIT Bombay
(B) IIT Delhi
(C) IIT Kanpur
(D) IISc Bengaluru

473. BHASHINI Pragati, the document translation workbench presented at ETD-2026, was developed for which body?

(A) Comptroller and Auditor General of India
(B) Election Commission of India
(C) NITI Aayog
(D) Reserve Bank of India

474. According to the figures presented at ETD-2026, how many Indian languages does BHASHINI support for text?

(A) 22
(B) 23
(C) 36
(D) 35

475. How many Ramsar Sites did India have after the designations of 15 October 2026?

(A) 96
(B) 101
(C) 103
(D) 110

476. Which two wetlands were added to the Ramsar list in October 2026 as the newest Indian sites?

(A) Surha Tal and Glaw Lake
(B) Sukhna Wetland and Sauj Jheel
(C) Chilika Lake and Keoladeo National Park
(D) Kolleru Lake and Deepor Beel

477. The Convention on Wetlands, known as the Ramsar Convention, was adopted in 1971 in which country?

(A) India
(B) Iran
(C) Switzerland
(D) Japan

478. How many medals did India win at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(A) 94
(B) 104
(C) 114
(D) 124

479. India's medal haul at the Asian Para Games 2026 is best described as which of the following?

(A) Its first appearance at the Games
(B) Its best-ever performance at the Games
(C) Exactly equal to its previous best
(D) Its weakest showing in recent editions

480. At which sporting event did Indian athletes win a record 114 medals in October 2026?

(A) Commonwealth Games
(B) Asian Para Games
(C) Summer Olympic Games
(D) World Para Athletics Championships

481. Which episode of Mann Ki Baat was broadcast on 25 October 2026?

(A) 129th
(B) 135th
(C) 139th
(D) 141st

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482. The Sudha Gopalakrishnan Brain Centre , which aims to map 100 human brains in 3D, has been set up at which institution?

(A) IISc Bengaluru
(B) IIT Madras
(C) AIIMS New Delhi
(D) IIT Bombay

483. Narinder Singh Kapany , whose 100th birth anniversary falls on 31 October, is known as the father of which technology?

(A) Fiber optics
(B) Semiconductors
(C) Radio astronomy
(D) Nuclear medicine

484. Which department runs Special Campaign 6 across Union ministries and public sector undertakings?

(A) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
(B) Department of Personnel and Training
(C) Department of Expenditure
(D) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

485. What is the stated focus of Special Campaign 6 this year?

(A) Conservation of water in government buildings
(B) Collection, segregation and disposal of e-waste
(C) Making every office paperless
(D) Removal of single-use plastic from canteens

486. NLC India Limited , which earned over 3.12 crore rupees from scrap disposal under Special Campaign 6, works under which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Coal
(B) Ministry of Power
(C) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
(D) Ministry of Heavy Industries

487. India's urban population is projected to rise from about 50 crore at present to how many by 2050?

(A) 65 crore
(B) 75 crore
(C) 85 crore
(D) 95 crore

488. How many functions did NITI Aayog ask States to devolve to urban local bodies in line with the 74th Amendment?

(A) 11
(B) 15
(C) 18
(D) 29

489. What is the size of the Urban Challenge Fund announced in the budget of 2025-26?

(A) 25,000 crore rupees
(B) 50,000 crore rupees
(C) 1 lakh crore rupees
(D) 2 lakh crore rupees

490. Which agency led Operation Trident, the anti-narcotics strike carried out in the North East in October 2026?

(A) National Investigation Agency
(B) Narcotics Control Bureau
(C) Central Bureau of Investigation
(D) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence

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491. Operation Trident searched 38 locations spread across which three States?

(A) Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram
(B) Nagaland, Manipur and Tripura
(C) Assam, Mizoram and Manipur
(D) Mizoram, Tripura and Nagaland

492. By which date does India aim to root out every drug network, as reaffirmed through Operation Trident?

(A) 2 October 2029
(B) 31 December 2029
(C) 31 March 2030
(D) 31 December 2027

493. What is the overarching theme of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum hosted by India?

(A) Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development
(B) Parliaments for a Greener Planet
(C) One Earth, One Family, One Future
(D) Reforming Multilateralism for a Just World

494. Who led the Russian parliamentary delegation that met the Lok Sabha Speaker ahead of the BRICS Parliamentary Forum?

(A) Sergey Lavrov, Foreign Minister
(B) Vyacheslav Volodin, Chairman of the State Duma
(C) Valentina Matviyenko, Chairperson of the Federation Council
(D) Mikhail Mishustin, Prime Minister

495. Through how many high-level sessions will the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum carry its deliberations?

(A) Three
(B) Four
(C) Five
(D) Six

496. Which authority imposed penalties on e-commerce entities for misleading walkie-talkie advertisements?

(A) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
(B) Bureau of Indian Standards
(C) Central Consumer Protection Authority
(D) Competition Commission of India

497. Under which law were the penalties for misleading walkie-talkie advertisements imposed?

(A) Consumer Protection Act, 1986
(B) Consumer Protection Act, 2019
(C) Legal Metrology Act, 2009
(D) Information Technology Act, 2000

498. Which frequency band is exempt from the licensing requirement for personal mobile radios in India?

(A) 433.0 to 434.8 MHz
(B) 446.0 to 446.2 MHz
(C) 865.0 to 867.0 MHz
(D) 2400 to 2483.5 MHz

499. Under which mission was the Used Water Marketplace launched at the National Urban Conclave 2026?

(A) Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban
(B) AMRUT 2.0
(C) PM SVANidhi
(D) Smart Cities Mission

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500. How many Street Food Hubs under PM SVANidhi had their development formally commenced at the National Urban Conclave 2026?

(A) 12
(B) 15
(C) 18
(D) 24

501. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a memorandum of understanding at the National Urban Conclave 2026 with which Indian organisation?

(A) Central Public Works Department (CPWD)
(B) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
(C) Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO)
(D) NITI Aayog

502. Which two Reserve Bank of India facilities were inaugurated at Bhubaneswar on 25 October 2026?

(A) A currency printing press and a note sorting centre
(B) A data centre and a cyber security training institute
(C) A regional office and a banking ombudsman office
(D) A coin museum and a financial literacy centre

503. Who is the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India who attended the Bhubaneswar inauguration?

(A) Shaktikanta Das
(B) Nirmala Sitharaman
(C) Sanjay Malhotra
(D) Mohan Charan Majhi

504. Under which scheme were 13 crore people said to have become entrepreneurs for the first time?

(A) PM SVANidhi
(B) Mudra Yojana
(C) PM Vishwakarma
(D) Atal Pension Yojana

505. Which framework covers India-South Korea cooperation in shipbuilding, shipping and maritime logistics?

(A) SAGAR
(B) VOYAGES
(C) HORIZON
(D) MAHASAGAR

506. By which year does India aim to be among the world's top five shipbuilding nations?

(A) 2030
(B) 2035
(C) 2047
(D) 2040

507. In which Korean city did Sarbananda Sonowal open his visit and is he to attend the World Maritime Day ministerial roundtable?

(A) Seoul
(B) Incheon
(C) Busan
(D) Ulsan

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508. Which institute hosted Hack the Fork, described as India's first hackathon on Artificial Intelligence and food technology?

(A) NIFTEM-Kundli
(B) CFTRI Mysuru
(C) IIFPT Thanjavur
(D) NDRI Karnal

509. Which industry's problems were the Hack the Fork teams asked to solve using Artificial Intelligence?

(A) Cold chain logistics
(B) Alternative protein industry
(C) Sugar industry
(D) Marine fisheries

510. Hack the Fork, the organiser of the hackathon held with NIFTEM-Kundli, is a non-profit initiative based in which country?

(A) Germany
(B) Netherlands
(C) France
(D) Singapore

511. Which ministry organises the Shilp Samagam Mela being held at Khanapara in Guwahati?

(A) Ministry of Textiles
(B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(C) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(D) Ministry of Rural Development

512. How many artisans are taking part in the Guwahati Shilp Samagam Mela, and how many of them are women?

(A) 40 artisans, 21 of them women
(B) 60 artisans, 28 of them women
(C) 75 artisans, 31 of them women
(D) 90 artisans, 45 of them women

513. What is the full form of BHARAT-TULIP, promoted at the Shilp Samagam Mela?

(A) Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme
(B) Tribal Artisans' Urban Linkage Investment Plan
(C) Textile Units' Livelihood Improvement Programme
(D) Traditional Arts Upgradation and Learning Initiative Plan

514. Which port, visited by Piyush Goyal, is Europe's largest and a gateway for Indian goods to the European market?

(A) Port of Hamburg
(B) Port of Antwerp
(C) Port of Rotterdam
(D) Port of Le Havre

515. Which portfolio does Piyush Goyal hold, as seen in his Netherlands engagements?

(A) External Affairs
(B) Commerce and Industry
(C) Finance
(D) Ports, Shipping and Waterways

516. Which trade agreement formed the backdrop to Piyush Goyal's talks in the Netherlands?

(A) India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement
(B) India-UK Free Trade Agreement
(C) India-EU Free Trade Agreement
(D) Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership

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517. What was the turnover of India's khadi and village industries sector in the 2025-26 financial year, as stated by KVIC?

(A) More than Rs 1.34 lakh crore
(B) More than Rs 1.87 lakh crore
(C) More than Rs 2.04 lakh crore
(D) More than Rs 2.51 lakh crore

518. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) works under which Union ministry?

(A) Ministry of Textiles
(B) Ministry of Rural Development
(C) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
(D) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

519. How many people were employed by the khadi and village industries sector, according to the figures given by KVIC for 2025-26?

(A) More than 1.52 crore
(B) More than 1.87 crore
(C) More than 2.04 crore
(D) More than 2.51 crore

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Answer key

1.	**B**	**345.38 GW** – Surveys have marked 320 pumped storage sites in India whose capacities add up to that figure, spread over all five regions of the country and at every stage of development, including schemes already running.
2.	**C**	**Western Region** – The correct answer is the Western Region, with 129.72 GW of identified potential.
3.	**A**	**73.93 GW** – As solar and wind capacity grows, electricity has to be stored when generation runs ahead of demand and returned when it falls short, so the Central Electricity Authority projects a storage requirement of that size by 2031-32.
4.	**B**	**New Delhi** – India will host the 61st CIML Meeting from 26 to 28 October 2026, the first time the country has been given this meeting, and the Department of Consumer Affairs is organising it with the International Organization of Legal Metrology.
5.	**B**	**1955** – The OIML was founded in that year as an intergovernmental organisation whose purpose is to bring legal metrology procedures in different countries into line with one another.
6.	**A**	**Evolutions in Legal Metrology** – That seminar is set for 26 October 2026 and will bring experts from different countries together to trade experience and good practice on modernising legal metrology systems.
7.	**C**	**Ten** – Under the agreement every one of the Ministry's premier research institutes has been recognised as an AcSIR Associated Research Institute, and all of them are already taking part in the academy's current PhD enrolment cycle.
8.	**B**	**Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi** – The correct answer is Prithvi Bhawan, the headquarters of the Ministry of Earth Sciences in New Delhi, where the ceremony was held on 13 October 2026.
9.	**B**	**AcSIR** – A student selected under the academy's PhD programme carries out the research at a Ministry of Earth Sciences institute under the supervision of Ministry scientists who have been recognised as AcSIR faculty, but the degree itself is awarded by the academy, an...
10.	**B**	**National Human Rights Commission** – It ran the online quiz with MyGov from 1 September to 10 October 2026 in the run-up to its own Foundation Day, and announced the ten winners on 19 October 2026.
11.	**B**	**26,459** – That is the number of entries actually submitted, and they came from every State and Union Territory of the country.
12.	**B**	**Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993** – The quiz sought to engage participants in learning about human rights, about that Act and about the functions, powers and duties of the National Human Rights Commission in promoting and protecting human rights across the country.
13.	**B**	**Mona Agarwal** – She won the gold medal in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 event at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the outstanding score she shot also set a new Asian Para Games record in that event.
14.	**B**	**Silver** – Avani Lekhara shot an impressive score in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 final at the Asian Para Games 2026 and finished second, which gave her the silver medal.
15.	**B**	**A new Asian Para Games record** – Mona Agarwal’s score in the women’s 10m air rifle standing SH1 event was high enough to establish a fresh Asian Para Games mark in that event, and the record came along with the gold medal on India’s opening day at the Games.

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16. **B** **Agri Welfare Portal** – Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan formally launched this revamped portal on the Navami day of Navratri, so that scheme information, financial assistance and farming advice reach farmers directly on...

17. **C** **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** – The DBIM and GIGW standards, in their 3.0 versions, are the government's norms for the look, the security and the accessibility of official websites, and the new portal has been built to follow them.

18. **A** **Krishi Vigyan Kendras** – The minister said a dedicated training drive would be run through the Krishi Vigyan Kendras across the country so that farmers become skilled in using the portal and other digital tools, and he asked that the language and the process be kept simple enough for...

19. **B** **Kargil** – The four notified coldwater fisheries clusters are Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand, Kullu in Himachal Pradesh, Anantnag in Jammu and Kashmir, and Kargil in Ladakh.

20. **B** **5,000 MT** – Trout production in India has risen six-fold over the past decade and now stands at nearly 5,000 MT a year, built on the raceways, hatcheries and feed systems sanctioned in the hilly states under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana.

21. **C** **Nepal** – Uttarakhand recorded its first international export of trout in June 2026, when a consignment went to Nepal, and ICAR-DCFR Bhimtal was credited both for introducing rainbow trout at Munsiyari and for supporting this historic shipment.

22. **C** **9,845** – Under the first pillar of the Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 campaign, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and its organisations transformed 9,845 cleanliness target units, and 99,548 people took part in that effort.

23. **B** **17 September to 2 October 2026** – The ministry, its central public sector enterprises and its attached offices took part in the campaign across this fortnight, which began with a pledge-taking ceremony administered by the Secretary (Petroleum and Natural Gas) at Kartavya Bhawan-3 in New Delhi...

24. **B** **234** – Recognising the contribution of sanitation workers, the ministry's organisations conducted 234 Safai Mitra Suraksha Evam Samman Shivir, and 7,098 sanitation workers took part in these camps.

25. **C** **3,940** – The seven online marketplaces together furnished the details of that many sellers and listing entries offering regulated explosive substances, and all of those entries were taken down from the platforms.

26. **B** **Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO)** – Substances such as Ammonium Nitrate, Gun Powder, Picric Acid and PETN are classed as explosives, their sale and purchase need the prescribed licence, and an online platform is expected to disclose the valid PESO licence details of a seller and to verify that...

27. **A** **National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission** – Dial4Trade was fined 10 lakh rupees and directed to stop listing Ammonium Nitrate and other explosive substances on its platform; the company challenged that order before the NCDRC under Section 24 of the Consumer Protection Act, the parties were heard on 9 O...

28. **B** **The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985** – The correct answer is the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, commonly called the NDPS Act.

29. **A** **Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru** – A passenger who arrived there from Delhi was intercepted, his baggage was examined and 5.166 kg of amphetamine was recovered, which is the biggest single haul among the three cases.

30. **B** **Ghana** – The passenger intercepted at Terminal 3 of Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi had arrived from Ghana, and a careful examination of his baggage produced six transparent packets of white powder weighing 3.134 kg together, which field tests confirm...

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31.	**A**	**The Customs Act, 1962** – Gold brought into the country without declaration and without payment of duty is smuggled goods, so the three arrests in this case, which covered dealings in 13.017 kg of foreign-origin gold valued at about Rs 19.41 crore, were made under that Act.
32.	**B**	**Vadodara** – After the gold reached India it was handed over to handlers outside the airports, routed through intermediaries and taken to an illegal melting facility in that city; the melted metal was then supplied to a jewellery shop in Ahmedabad and sold against cash.
33.	**A**	**Gold wires coated with rhodium** – The investigation found that the carriers drew the metal into thin wires and gave them a rhodium coating, which hides the colour of gold, and the same passengers also fitted gold into the inner linings of their trolley bags and carried gold paste inside the i...
34.	**B**	**Rinku Hooda** – He won the gold medal in the men's javelin throw F46 class at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the throw that won it measured 65.11 metres, the best distance he had produced all season.
35.	**C**	**65.11 metres** – That was the distance of the winning throw in the men's javelin throw F46 competition at the Asian Para Games 2026, and it was also the best mark Rinku Hooda had recorded during the season, so the title and a season best came in the same attempt.
36.	**B**	**Silver** – Ajeet Singh finished second in the men's javelin throw F46 final at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the Prime Minister praised his display of skill and his competitive spirit while wishing him well for the efforts still ahead.
37.	**B**	**Soumya** – She won the women's 1500m T12/13 title at the Asian Para Games 2026, and she did it on her first appearance at the Games while also running a personal best over the distance.
38.	**A**	**She won on her debut at the Games and clocked a personal best** – The correct answer is that she won on her debut and with a personal best.
39.	**B**	**Silver** – Radha Venkatesh finished second in the women's 1500m T12/13 final at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the Prime Minister expressed pride in the achievement, said the country was celebrating her success and wished her many more achievements in the future.
40.	**B**	**Nishad Kumar** – He won the men's long jump T47 gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2026 with what was described as an outstanding jump, and the Prime Minister noted that the title arrived on his debut in the event, which made it even more special.
41.	**A**	**It came on his debut in this event** – The correct answer is that it came on his debut in this event.
42.	**B**	**A track-and-jump event** – In para athletics every result carries a class written as a letter followed by a number: the letter T covers running and jumping events, so sprints, middle-distance races and the long jump in which Nishad Kumar won his gold medal are all written with a T, and...
43.	**A**	**Kokila** – She finished second in the women's J2 -52kg judo event at the Asian Para Games 2026 and took the silver medal, and her result was notable because she had won a bronze at the previous edition of the Games and has now moved up the podium while competing in a ne...
44.	**C**	**Bronze** – Kokila had finished with a bronze medal at the previous Asian Para Games, and at the 2026 edition she improved on it with a silver in the women's J2 -52kg judo event while competing in a new category.
45.	**A**	**Men's 100m freestyle S13 swimming** – Ravi K. Budigina was the runner-up in that race at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the Prime Minister called his determination, hard work and sporting spirit commendable, described the achievement as a proud moment for the nation and wished him continued succe...
46.	**B**	**Hot Springs, Ladakh** – On 21 October 1959 an Indian police patrol was ambushed there by heavily armed Chinese troops and ten policemen were killed.

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47.	C	**2018** – The National Police Memorial at Chanakyapuri in New Delhi was dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Police Commemoration Day that year, in recognition of the sacrifices of police personnel and their role in preserving national security an...
48.	A	**Fight Against Drugs** – The Union Home Minister flags off a motorcycle rally on this theme at the National Police Memorial, with about 90 riders drawn from the police of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi, f...
49.	B	**Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi** – The fifth edition of Swavlamban, the Navy's annual NIIO seminar on innovation and indigenisation, is scheduled there on 26 and 27 October 2026, as announced at the curtain raiser press conference chaired by Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar, Vice Chief of the Naval S...
50.	B	**Naval Unified Systems, Ethernet and Tactical Utilisation** – The NAUSETU Interface Standards will be released at Swavlamban 2026 together with the Swavlamban 5.0 Document and the Compendium on Technology Imperatives.
51.	B	**The Vice Chief of the Naval Staff** – The correct answer is the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar, who chaired the press conference in New Delhi on 19 October 2026.
52.	C	**Rs 491.28 crore** – That is the amount earned through the disposal of scrap under Special Swachhata Campaign 6.0 up to 19 October 2026, as reported at the mid-campaign review taken by Dr Jitendra Singh.
53.	A	**Department of School Education and Literacy** – The correct answer is the Department of School Education and Literacy, which reported 4,15,353 cleanliness campaign sites as on 19 October 2026, the largest single contribution to the overall figure of 8,34,509 sites.
54.	B	**2 October to 31 October** – The implementation phase of Special Swachhata Campaign 6.0 runs through that month, and the figures reviewed by Dr Jitendra Singh were those recorded up to 19 October 2026, roughly the midpoint of the drive.
55.	A	**Rajmargyatra** – The National Highways Authority of India has added the Toll Plaza Feedback option to this mobile app so that users of national highways can report their experience at a toll plaza.
56.	B	**Annual pass users** – After such a user crosses a national highway toll plaza, the Rajmargyatra app sends a notification inviting the user to share the experience of that plaza.
57.	B	**National Highways Authority of India** – The correct answer is the National Highways Authority of India, which works under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and has introduced the feature on the Rajmargyatra app.
58.	B	**1,174** – MY Bharat held that many programmes on 17 October 2026, spread over 36 states and union territories, in the fifth week of the 100 Weeks Campaign under the Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Abhiyan.
59.	B	**Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** – Mera Yuva Bharat, commonly written as MY Bharat, is that ministry's platform for youth engagement, and it organised the fifth week of the 100 Weeks Campaign on 17 October 2026 with 1,174 programmes in 36 states and union territories.
60.	C	**3,43,288** – The correct answer is 3,43,288, that is about 3.43 lakh youth and citizens, who joined the 1,174 programmes held on 17 October 2026 across 36 states and union territories.
61.	B	**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – The National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste Students, or NFSC, is that ministry's scheme and gives financial assistance to eligible Scheduled Caste students pursuing advanced education and research.
62.	C	**Rs 9.90 lakh** – That is the total assistance received by Dr Shrikant Dilip Khandare under the National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste Students, made up of fellowship support together with House Rent Allowance, with payments beginning in October 2019.

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63.	**B**	**CSIR-UGC NET** – The correct answer is CSIR-UGC NET, which the scholar qualified in June 2018 before continuing towards his doctorate.
64.	**B**	**20 October 2026** – The commerce ministers of the two countries announced jointly that the trade pact would take effect on this date, which fell on Vijay Dashmi, a day read as a mark of victory and fresh beginnings.
65.	**C**	**USD 20 billion** – Under the pact New Zealand has undertaken to facilitate investment of this size into India, and the money is expected to flow into agriculture, manufacturing, infrastructure and start-ups, supporting innovation, enterprise and job creation in line with the Ma…
66.	**B**	**Nagaland and Uttarakhand** – The Kiwifruit Action Plan has named Pfutsero in Nagaland and Magra in Uttarakhand as its first-phase sites, where New Zealand is giving technical help to set up centres of excellence.
67.	**B**	**Australia** – AUSTRAHIND is the joint military exercise of the Indian Army and the Australian Army, and its name joins the two countries.
68.	**C**	**Garhwal Rifles** – The Indian contingent at this edition is built around troops of the Garhwal Rifles, with personnel from other arms and services joining them, while the Australian contingent is drawn from 13 Brigade.
69.	**A**	**Irwin Barracks, Perth** – Australia hosted the fourth edition there in October 2025, which fits the pattern of the series moving between the two countries.
70.	**B**	**21 October 2026 to 31 December 2026** – The Department of Financial Services fixed this window for the countrywide drive, which reaches every gram panchayat and urban local body and asks banks to hold camps through the period.
71.	**C**	**Department of Financial Services** – DFS is the department of the Ministry of Finance that handles banks, insurance and pension schemes, so the financial inclusion drive sits with it, and its Joint Secretary for financial inclusion chaired the preparatory meeting with the senior management of ba…
72.	**A**	**Aapki Poonji, Aapka Adhikar** – The camps will run awareness sessions on financial inclusion schemes, on digital frauds and on this drive, which concerns financial assets lying unclaimed with banks and other institutions.
73.	**B**	**Bureau of Indian Standards** – BIS is the national standards body of India, responsible for standardisation and conformity assessment, and its AYUSH department organised the seminar at Belagavi in Karnataka as well as a parallel session on Sowa-Rigpa at Leh.
74.	**C**	**Leh, Ladakh** – The meeting, with a brainstorming session alongside it, was held at the National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa in Leh, which sits in the Union Territory of Ladakh and is the natural home for work on this system, since Sowa-Rigpa is the traditional medicine of the H…
75.	**A**	**Dr Padma Gurmet** – The correct answer is Dr Padma Gurmet, a Padma Shri awardee who chairs the Sowa-Rigpa Sectional Committee of the Bureau of Indian Standards and founded the National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa at Leh.
76.	**B**	**The Defence Secretary** – The correct answer is the Defence Secretary, Rajesh Kumar Singh, who launched the two rebuilt websites.
77.	**C**	**Twenty-two** – The ministry has put the content of the relaunched websites in that many Indian official languages, and it gives wider outreach and improved accessibility as the reason.
78.	**B**	**Guidelines for Indian Government Websites** – The relaunched platforms of the ministry and its Department of Defence are described as fully compliant with these guidelines in their third version, along with the Digital Brand Identity Manual, also in its third version.

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79.	**A**	**The Secretary, Ministry of Power** – The correct answer is the Secretary, Ministry of Power, Pankaj Agarwal, who held the virtual bilateral meeting with his Saudi counterpart to review progress on the proposed cross-border link.
80.	**D**	**Construction of nuclear power reactors** – The correct answer is construction of nuclear power reactors, which was not among the areas raised.
81.	**B**	**Extra High Voltage** – Saudi Arabia listed cooperation on such transmission systems as one of its priorities in the meeting with the Indian power ministry.
82.	**B**	**8,956** – The Union Public Service Commission declared the written result of the Combined Defence Services Examination (II) 2026 and named 8,956 candidates as qualified for the interview conducted by the Service Selection Board of the Ministry of Defence.
83.	**B**	**July 2027** – The Indian Military Academy at Dehradun starts its 163rd Direct Entry Course in July 2027, and the qualifiers of the Combined Defence Services Examination (II) 2026 are interviewed for admission to it.
84.	**A**	**Ezhimala, Kerala** – The Indian Naval Academy, whose course for Combined Defence Services Examination (II) 2026 qualifiers begins in July 2027, stands at Ezhimala in Kerala.
85.	**A**	**591.3 kg** – The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized 591.3 kg of ganja from a truck in Uttar Pradesh in an operation carried out during 17 and 18 October 2026.
86.	**B**	**Sonauli** – The intelligence that set off the operation said the truck carrying ganja from Nepal would come into Uttar Pradesh through Sonauli, so officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence at Gorakhpur built their surveillance around that crossing, helped by te...
87.	**B**	**Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985** – Ganja is a narcotic drug, so the 591.3 kg recovered in Uttar Pradesh and the truck in which it travelled were both seized under that statute, which governs narcotic and psychotropic offences in India and allows the conveyance used in the crime to be taken as...
88.	**B**	**Rs 8.64 crore** – The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence put that value on the 43.2 lakh foreign-origin cigarette sticks it seized in Mizoram, a haul of 432 cases of the Patron brand recovered from a truck.
89.	**A**	**Tuirial** – Officers of the Aizawl Regional Unit of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence mounted surveillance along the Champhai-Aizawl Road and stopped the truck at Tuirial village, where a search produced 432 cases containing 43.2 lakh cigarette sticks of the Patron...
90.	**A**	**Customs Act, 1962** – Section 110 of that Act lets a customs officer seize goods believed liable to confiscation, and it was used to take the 43.2 lakh foreign-origin cigarettes and the truck carrying them in Mizoram.
91.	**B**	**21 October 2016** – The Regional Connectivity Scheme, named UDAN for Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik, was launched on that day, and its promise of affordable yet commercially viable regional flying came out of the National Civil Aviation Policy adopted the same year.
92.	**A**	**687** – That is the number of regional routes put into service across the country in the ten years since the scheme began, and it sits alongside the other headline totals of the decade: more than 3.68 lakh flights and 1.72 crore passengers.
93.	**C**	**Rs 28,840 crore** – The correct answer is Rs 28,840 crore, the total provision for the next phase of the scheme launched on 4 July 2026 and running from FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36.
94.	**B**	**WWF-India's Programme Centre - Resource Partner (EIACP)** – The campaign was launched by this centre of WWF-India, working with the support of the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and it runs from 20 October to 8 November 2026.

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95.	**C**	**130** – The campaign is nationwide, but the cities covered under the National Clean Air Programme, numbering 130, have been singled out for special attention, because that is where the burden on air quality is heaviest and where a cracker-free festival makes the grea...
96.	**A**	**Mission LiFE** – Citizens have been asked to celebrate a clean and green Diwali in line with this mission, whose approach is to change everyday habits rather than wait for large interventions, and the pledge items follow from it directly: no firecrackers, earthen diyas and en...
97.	**C**	**Dushanbe** – The correct answer is Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan, where the 25th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Government of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation was held, with the Raksha Mantri speaking for India.
98.	**C**	**2026-2030** – Speaking at the meeting, the Raksha Mantri reaffirmed India's support for adopting an Action Plan for the Multilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation Programme for exactly that span, and the plan went on to form part of the Joint Communique that the heads of...
99.	**B**	**Dushanbe** – The Raksha Mantri welcomed the decisions taken at the SCO Summit at Bishkek to set up two permanent bodies of the organisation, and the Anti-Drug Centre is the one to be based at Dushanbe.
100.	**C**	**100 GW** – Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said the country's atomic ambitions have to be read against its longer development goals and its clean energy commitments, and named this figure as the nuclear power capacity India is targeting by 2047.
101.	**D**	**2070** – The correct answer is 2070, the year Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh named for India's Net Zero emissions commitment while explaining why nuclear power matters to the country's energy plans.
102.	**B**	**Dr. Homi Bhabha** – The correct answer is Dr. Homi Bhabha, whom Dr. Jitendra Singh recalled as the architect of India's nuclear programme, saying that his vision continues to guide a journey built around peaceful application and national development.
103.	**C**	**More than 650** – Speaking at the Vijaya Dashami celebrations at Ramlila Maidan in Delhi, the Prime Minister said that over 650 ancient idols have been returned to the country during the preceding 12 years, reversing a long period in which heritage objects were carried out of...
104.	**B**	**Deepavali** – While speaking about the standing of Indian culture abroad, the Prime Minister observed that many places in the country have entered the UNESCO World Heritage list in recent years, and that Deepavali was taken on to UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Hu...
105.	**B**	**Nagrik Devo Bhava** – Describing the rule set up after Lord Ram returned to Ayodhya, the Prime Minister called Ramrajya a benchmark of non-discriminatory governance in which everyone receives justice and equal opportunity and authority works for public welfare rather than for comm...
106.	**B**	**Guwahati** – The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment announced that the eight-day Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 would begin in Guwahati, the capital of Assam, running until Wednesday, 28 October, with the venue at Farm Gate in Khanapara and visiting hours from 11 in the...
107.	**A**	**Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme** – The ministry described BHARAT-TULIP as a key focus of the Guwahati mela, an initiative that takes the products of artisans from the target groups to buyers through physical outlets as well as e-commerce platforms.
108.	**C**	**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – The mela is that ministry's marketing-support platform for artisans and beneficiaries linked to its three national corporations, namely the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development C...
109.	**A**	**Dasara Exhibition Grounds, Mysuru** – The nine-day fair of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment ran at that ground in Mysuru in Karnataka and closed on 20 October 2026, drawing thousands of visitors to the handicraft and handloom goods on sale.

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110. **C** — **80** – The fair put up 83 stalls in all and 80 of them went to artisans, while the rest included food counters that served traditional dishes to visitors.

111. **A** — **Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme** – BHARAT TULIP is the brand under which the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment offers goods made by its target groups on digital platforms in India and abroad, so that a craft worker reaches buyers far beyond a fairground.

112. **A** — **Women's Singles Class 4-5** – Bhavina Patel took bronze in that class at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, and the medal was described as another milestone in a career that has produced several.

113. **B** — **Ravanni Valasanaini** – She brought home the bronze in the Women's 1500m T11 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, and the timing was also her personal best, which is why her result was read as a double gain: a podium place and her own fastest run.

114. **C** — **Both bronze** – The two Indian medals reported from the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026 were bronze: Ravanni Valasanaini in the Women's 1500m T11 event, where the result also stood as her personal best, and Bhavina Patel in the Women's Singles Class 4-5 event, where…

115. **A** — **Women's 400m T20** – Deepthi Jeevanji won the gold medal in that event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, and in doing so she retained the title she already held.

116. **B** — **A Games Record** – Besides winning the gold medal, Deepthi Jeevanji ran faster than any previous mark set at these Games in the Women's 400m T20 event, so the victory carried a Games Record with it.

117. **B** — **She successfully defended a title she already held** – The correct answer is that she successfully defended a title she already held.

118. **A** — **Women's Singles Class 6** – Prachi Pandey took bronze there on 20 October 2026 and became the first Indian ever to win a medal in that class at the Asian Para Games, which is why the Prime Minister described it as a historic first for Indian para table tennis and a pathbreaking achievem…

119. **B** — **The standing category** – Baby Sahana Ravi won bronze in the Women's Singles Class 9 event and in doing so recorded India's first-ever medal in the standing category at the Asian Para Games.

120. **B** — **Both were won on the athletes' debut appearance at the Games** – The correct answer is that both were won on the athletes' debut appearance at the Games.

121. **A** — **Men's Singles Class 1** – Jehan Dorab Madan won bronze there on 20 October 2026 at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the Prime Minister, congratulating him, said India's para table tennis contingent was continuing to make the nation proud and that the result reflected the player's passio…

122. **A** — **It was her first individual medal at these Games** – The correct answer is that it was her first individual medal at these Games.

123. **C** — **Sonalben Patel – Women's Singles Class 3** – The correct answer is Sonalben Patel with the Women's Singles Class 3 event.

124. **B** — **Silver in the Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1** – The correct answer is silver in the Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1 event.

125. **A** — **It came at her first Asian Para Games** – The correct answer is that it came at her first Asian Para Games.

126. **A** — **Both were won in the same class, the 10m Air Pistol SH1** – The correct answer is that both were won in the same class, the 10m Air Pistol SH1.

127. **B** — **31 December 2029** – Speaking at the Vijayadashami festival in Ludhiana on 20 October 2026, the Union Home Minister said the resolve taken that day was to free the whole of Punjab from the drug trade by that date and to make the state drug-free, and he described it as the greates…

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128. **A** **Chitta, that is drugs** – The effigy burnt by Amit Shah at Ludhiana on 20 October 2026 was described as the symbolic Ravana of chitta, which let the festival's central idea, the victory of good over evil, carry a message about the drug trade in Punjab.

129. **A** **He asked people to report the drug trade on the Narcotics Control Bureau's toll-free helpline** – The correct answer is that he asked people to report the drug trade on the Narcotics Control Bureau's toll-free helpline, saying that the government would act on the information the public provided.

130. **A** **Pradeep Kumar and Ayush Verma** – Both stood on the podium in the same Men's Javelin Throw F53/54 event on 20 October 2026, Pradeep Kumar taking the silver and Ayush Verma the bronze, and each of them recorded a personal best.

131. **B** **it was his second consecutive silver in the event** – The correct answer is that it was his second consecutive silver in the event.

132. **C** **Praveen Sharma – shot put** – He won bronze in the Men's Shot Put F11 event at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the Prime Minister said the achievement reflected his courage, his preparation and his dedication.

133. **B** **Men's High Jump T47** – Nishad Kumar won that title at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, and the height he cleared was the best ever recorded at these Games in the event, which is why the gold is paired with a Games Record.

134. **B** **Two** – Nishad Kumar had already won the long jump gold earlier at the Asian Para Games 2026, and on 20 October 2026 he added the Men's High Jump T47 gold with a new Games Record, so he ended the meet with two gold medals.

135. **C** **The classification of the athletes competing** – Para athletics groups competitors by the type and degree of their impairment and marks each group with a code, so a medal is always announced with that code attached.

136. **C** **Devender Kumar** – He won the gold medal in the Men's Discus Throw F43/F44/F62/F64 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, and the Prime Minister described the throw as excellent and the victory as a celebration of the way Indian para sport is growing.

137. **B** **India won all three medals in the event** – The correct answer is that India won all three medals in the event.

138. **D** **A Personal Best** – Pradeep Kumar secured the bronze in the Men's Discus Throw F43/F44/F62/F64 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 with the best throw of his own career, and the Prime Minister praised his commitment to pushing his own limits.

139. **B** **A new Asian Record** – Pranav Soorma won the Men's Discus Throw F51/52/53 gold at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, and the Prime Minister described the achievement as historic precisely because the winning throw went past the best mark previously recorded in the contin…

140. **C** **Ram Ratan Singh** – He took the silver in the Men's Discus Throw F51/52/53 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, with Pranav Soorma winning the gold in the same final, so India claimed both the top places in that class group.

141. **B** **Men's Discus Throw F51/52/53** – Pranav Soorma won the gold there with a new Asian Record and Ram Ratan Singh finished second for the silver, both on 20 October 2026 at the Asian Para Games 2026.

142. **C** **Women's 200m T12** – Simran won that title at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026 and the run also produced a new record, which is why the Prime Minister said her journey embodied the spirit of excellence.

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143. **B** **She improved on her silver from the previous edition and set a new record** – The correct answer is that she improved on her silver from the previous edition and set a new record.

144. **C** **Tejalben Damor** – She took the bronze in the Women's 200m T12 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, and because she was competing at these Games for the first time, the Prime Minister described the result as a debut to cherish and praised the promise such a pe...

145. **B** **Silver** – Preeti Pal finished second in the Women's 200m T35 sprint at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, and the Prime Minister described her as a fine example of perseverance and dedication while hoping she would carry the momentum into her remaining event...

146. **C** **Men's Shot Put F56/F57** – Hokato Hotozhe Sema took the bronze there on 20 October 2026, and the Prime Minister noted that the throw improved on what he had produced at the previous edition of the Games, calling it a sign of passion and dedication.

147. **A** **Swimming** – Niranjan Mukundan won the bronze in the Men's 200m Individual Medley SM7 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 on 20 October 2026, and the individual medley is a swimming race in which one competitor covers the distance in four different strokes.

148. **B** **Rs 38,424 crore** – Speaking to the Indian diaspora in Dushanbe on 20 October 2026, the Defence Minister said defence exports had touched that record level, and in the same breath he put defence production at Rs 1.80 lakh crore, so the two figures are best learnt as a pair becau...

149. **C** **38** – Rajnath Singh said India has signed free trade agreements with that many countries, and he singled out the agreements with the United Kingdom and the European Union, which are expected to remove tariffs on 99 per cent of Indian exports to those two markets.

150. **A** **From Rs 7,000 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 314 lakh crore in 2025-26** – The correct answer is the rise from Rs 7,000 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 314 lakh crore in 2025-26.

151. **B** **Vijayawada** – The National SARAS Mela is being held at Punnami Ghat in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, from 13 October to 31 October 2026, and it is the first National SARAS Mela placed anywhere outside the Delhi-NCR region.

152. **B** **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission** – The correct answer is the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

153. **C** **Six crore** – The Lakhpati Didi initiative under DAY-NRLM moved up in stages, and in February 2026 the government announced a raised target of six crore Lakhpati Didis, a phase that puts weight on holding on to income gains and helping enterprises grow rather than only cou...

154. **B** **21 October** – The day recalls the action at the Hot Springs post in the remote and inhospitable terrain of Ladakh on 21 October 1959, when ten personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force were killed while resisting an attack by Chinese troops.

155. **A** **Ladakh** – Hot Springs lies in the remote, high-altitude and inhospitable stretch of Ladakh, and it was there on 21 October 1959 that ten men of the Central Reserve Police Force laid down their lives against an attack by Chinese troops.

156. **C** **2018** – Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the National Police Memorial in that year, dedicating it to police personnel from every part of the country who died in the line of duty.

157. **B** **Coal Controller Organisation** – The CCO, which functions under the Ministry of Coal, developed SUVIKALP as an in-house Mine Repurposing Tool to help stakeholders select suitable projects for land left behind after mining, and it is the CCO that has been recognised with the SKOCH Gold Award...

158. **A** **Digital Operational Efficiency - Data Driven Decision Making** – SUVIKALP received the SKOCH Gold Award 2026 under this category on 26 September 2026, and the choice of category fits the tool, which

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ranks mine repurposing options through a structured, data-driven process that weighs technical, environmental, social and eco...

159. **A** **Post-Mining Repurposing Implementation Strategy Model** – PRISM is the next step after SUVIKALP has helped identify a suitable project for land left over from mining.

160. **C** **114** – The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is running the month-long campaign along with its 114 institutes, Regional Centres, Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes and Krishi Vigyan Kendras, which makes the drive national in reach.

161. **A** **2 to 31 October 2026** – The campaign is a month-long exercise and it opened on 2 October 2026, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, with cleanliness drives at ICAR establishments across the country and a floral tribute to Gandhi.

162. **A** **Dr. Mangi Lal Jat** – The correct answer is Dr. Mangi Lal Jat, who holds the posts of Secretary in the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

163. **A** **The President of India** – President Droupadi Murmu handed over the Lalit Kala Akademi Awards to the artists selected for the 65th National Exhibition of Art at a ceremony in New Delhi, and at the same function she felicitated the Grand Prize winners and the Honourable Mentions of the...

164. **B** **Print Biennale India** – Besides giving away the Lalit Kala Akademi Awards to the artists of the 65th National Exhibition of Art, the President felicitated the Grand Prize winners and the artists who received Honourable Mentions at the third edition of the Print Biennale India, which...

165. **D** **Art galleries should be closed down across the country** – The correct answer is art galleries should be closed down across the country, which the President never said.

166. **B** **Land Warfare Doctrine** – A key highlight of the conference is its release by the Raksha Mantri, and the document is intended to give the Indian Army an overarching framework for meeting the challenges created by the changing character of warfare and by future conflicts.

167. **C** **The Chief of the Army Staff** – The conference is the apex-level biannual forum of the Indian Army and is chaired by the COAS, who also confers the Green Military Stations and Aviation Flight Safety awards during the event.

168. **A** **Green Military Stations and Aviation Flight Safety** – The Chief of the Army Staff is to confer these awards to recognise excellence in environmental sustainability, resource management and the promotion of a strong aviation safety culture within the force.

169. **B** **Bharat Electronics Limited** – The Ministry of Defence signed the contract with BEL to procure the Improved Low Level Light Weight Radar for the Indian Army at a cost of about Rs 770 crore, in the presence of the Defence Secretary in New Delhi.

170. **C** **Unmanned Aerial Systems** – The radar is able to detect and track targets of fighter aircraft size as well as mini and micro drones, and it can also prioritise aerial targets, which together allow the Army to counter the threat posed by unmanned aerial systems.

171. **A** **Viksit Bharat @2047** – The Ministry of Defence stated that the purchase aligns with the government's vision of a developed India and is a significant step towards indigenisation of air defence platforms, giving a boost to the domestic defence manufacturing ecosystem, including micr...

172. **B** **The Sengol** – The Prime Minister said that Thiru Vummidi Ethiraj would always be remembered for his effort in crafting the historic sceptre that was presented to former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, and that in 2023 the government had the honour of giving it a place of...

173. **C** **2023** – In his message the Prime Minister recalled that many years after the sceptre was made, it was in that year that his government had the honour of installing the Sengol in the new Parliament building, and

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he met Thiru Vummidi Ethiraj around the same time to con...

174. **D** **Jawaharlal Nehru** – The tribute states that the historic Sengol was presented to the former Prime Minister, and the craftsman who helped make it has now passed away, drawing the Prime Minister's condolences.

175. **B** **2014** – The Namami Gange Programme was launched in that year as an integrated conservation mission with the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution and the conservation and rejuvenation of the National River Ganga.

176. **C** **Muni Ki Reti** – The correct answer is Muni Ki Reti, at Chandreshwar Nagar, where limited land, three sewage drains and a stormwater drain made a conventional plant difficult to build.

177. **A** **Food Chain Reactor** – This technology was brought to India through the programme and improves upon the activated sludge process and the sequential batch reactor by adding fixed artificial media and plant roots, which gives it a smaller footprint, lower power use and nutrient remov...

178. **B** **Japan** – The correct answer is Japan, which joins the fourteenth edition as the partner country, a step seen as strengthening economic cooperation between India and Japan.

179. **C** **Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub** – Under this theme the three-day event at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, NESCO, in Mumbai will display the country's industrial capabilities, investment opportunities and emerging technologies, and position India as a global manufacturing and sourcing destinatio...

180. **B** **USD 300 billion** – The industry is projected to reach that size by 2030 and to grow to USD 1 trillion by 2040, supported by rising demand, export opportunities, a demographic dividend, relatively low per capita consumption and enabling government initiatives.

181. **B** **Singapore** – SIMBEX is the short name of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise, and the two forces that take part are the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy, abbreviated RSN.

182. **B** **Exercise Lion King** – The series now known as SIMBEX was first conducted in 1994 under that name, and it has since widened in scope and complexity to become a significant maritime engagement between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy.

183. **B** **INS Nilgiri and INS Kamorta** – The opening ceremony of SIMBEX-2026 took place on 21 October 2026 onboard these two Indian Navy warships at Visakhapatnam, and it was attended by the Chief Staff Officer (Operations) of the Eastern Naval Command, the Fleet Commander of the Republic of Singapo...

184. **B** **Vande Mataram** – The Union Home Secretary said the theme of the cultural items at the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas celebrations, the tableaux included, is Vande Mataram, and that this is its 150th year, from which several new features of the parade have been drawn.

185. **B** **Anandamath** – The Union Home Secretary said that the play, curated by the National School of Drama and staged before the Prime Minister, takes Anandamath as its theme this year because it is the year of Vande Mataram, and that it rests on the novel's enduring idea that eve...

186. **B** **126 districts** – The Union Home Secretary said the National School of Drama would present its programme with an array of around 2,000 artists drawn from 126 districts of the country that had at some point witnessed the menace of armed Naxalism, and that these artists would sh...

187. **B** **IAF Dronathon 2026 at Pokhran** – The roadmap was released there on 14 September 2026, and the Industry Outreach Programme of 21 October 2026 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi was built on it, with the roadmap booklet distributed to industry partners on that day.

188. **B** **The Director General (Weapon Systems), Air Headquarters** – The correct answer is the Director General (Weapon Systems), Air Headquarters, the post held by Air Marshal Premkumar K, VM, VSM, who chaired the programme at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on 21 October 2026.

189. **A** **Resilient navigation** – At the outreach the Air Force listed four areas needing focused attention: indigenous propulsion, autonomous software, resilient navigation and standardised interfaces, all of them meant to cut dependence on external sources and strengthen the domestic defenc...

190. **B** **Women's 100m T12** – Simran took the title in the women's 100 metres run in the T12 classification at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the timing she produced in that final was good enough to stand as a new Games Record.

191. **B** **She set a new Games Record while winning gold** – The correct answer is that she set a new Games Record while winning gold.

192. **B** **Asian Para Games 2026** – Simran's gold in the Women's 100m T12, together with the new Games Record, came at that meet, and the Prime Minister's congratulations on 21 October 2026 named it specifically.

193. **C** **Men's 100m T47** – Dilip Gavit won the gold medal in the men's 100 metres run in the T47 classification at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the timing he produced in that final was described as brilliant.

194. **A** **Gold** – The result on record is a gold medal for Dilip Gavit in the Men's 100m T47 at the Asian Para Games 2026, won with a timing that was called brilliant and a performance described as exceptional.

195. **B** **The classification group in which the athlete competes** – Para athletics places competitors in classes so that athletes with a comparable degree of impairment face one another, and an event is then named by the distance along with the class, which is why Dilip Gavit's gold is recorded as the Men's 100m T47 and not m...

196. **B** **Women's -67kg para powerlifting** – Kasthuri Rajamani took the silver medal there with an impressive lift, and that silver was the first medal India had ever won in the class, a result described as a historic milestone for Indian para powerlifting.

197. **C** **Mohammad Basil M** – The correct answer is Mohammad Basil M. He broke the Games Record in the heats of the men's 100m T47, improved on his own mark in the final, and finished with the silver medal in that race.

198. **B** **Seven silver and four bronze** – The silver medallists were Manjeet in the men's javelin throw F12/F13, Bhagyashree Jadhav in the women's shot put F34, Mohd Yasser in the men's shot put F46, Banti in the men's high jump T64, Mohammad Basil M in the men's 100m T47, Preeti Pal in the women's 1...

199. **B** **Powering the Global South** – The seventh edition of the AgriVoltaics World Conference, which opened at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, was organised under that theme by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in partnership with Conexio-PSE.

200. **B** **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, supported by Germany** – The correct answer is the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, supported by Germany.

201. **B** **The AgriPV Policy Handbook of the MNRE** – Three knowledge resources were formally brought out at the opening of the conference: a Decision-Making Tool developed by the India Agrivoltaics Alliance, a Book of Abstracts prepared by the International Water Management Institute, and the AgriPV Policy Hand...

202. **B** **India, Brazil and South Africa** – IBSAMAR stands for the India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime Exercise, and the ninth edition brought the navies of these three countries together before concluding at Simon's Town in South Africa.

203. **C** **Simon's Town, South Africa** – The closing ceremony of IBSAMAR IX was held there on 20 October 2026, rounding off ten days of joint activity in a harbour phase and a sea phase.

204. **A** **INS Tarkash** – The ship took part in the ninth edition of the India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime Exercise, and its Commanding Officer spoke at the closing ceremony at Simon's Town, where he described such exercises as a platform that turns long-standing diplomatic ties into…

205. **B** **Poor, an AQI of 201 to 300** – The correct answer is the poor category, an AQI of 201 to 300.

206. **C** **25** – The Sub-Committee on GRAP decided to invoke all the action points listed under Stage-I of the plan then in force, and that list runs to twenty-five items, applying across the whole National Capital Region with immediate effect.

207. **B** **The CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP** – The Sub-Committee met on 21 October 2026, reviewed the air quality of Delhi and the region along with the forecasts placed before it, and decided to bring Stage-I of the plan into force with immediate effect.

208. **C** **Ravi Kartik Budigina** – He finished second in the men's 100m backstroke S13 and his was the only silver among the Indian results announced in the evening hours of that day, the rest of the group being bronze medals.

209. **A** **Men's long jump T42/T61/T63, with 5.57m** – Shailesh Kumar reached that distance in the final and finished third, and the event name carries three class codes because athletes from three classification groups were ranked together in one competition.

210. **B** **It was won on his first appearance at the Games** – The correct answer is that it was won on his first appearance at the Games.

211. **B** **Raman Research Institute** – The correct answer is the Raman Research Institute, an autonomous institution working under the Department of Science and Technology, where a team led by the researcher Kinjal Roy carried out the study.

212. **A** **A high-mass X-ray binary usually captures stellar wind directly instead of forming a disk** – The correct answer is that a high-mass X-ray binary usually captures stellar wind directly instead of forming a disk.

213. **C** **The accretion stream** – The correct answer is the accretion stream, the channel that carries matter from the disk towards the magnetic poles of the pulsar.

214. **B** **Guwahati** – The correct answer is Guwahati, the capital of Assam, where the eight-day fair opened at Farm Gate in Khanapara and will run until the twenty-eighth of the month.

215. **B** **75 artisans, including 31 women** – The ministry put the participation at that level for the Guwahati leg, and between them the craftspeople are showing about forty varieties of handloom and handicraft products, drawn from the North-Eastern states as well as other regions of the country.

216. **A** **Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme** – It is an initiative of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment aimed at selling the goods made by artisans of the target groups, namely the Scheduled Castes, the Other Backward Classes, Safai Mitras and Denotified Tribes, through physical outlets as we…

217. **B** **Men's Shot Put F46** – Sachin Khilari took the gold medal in the men's shot put in the F46 classification at the Asian Para Games 2026, and he did so with the best throw of his season.

218. **C** **Mohd Yasser** – The silver medal in the Men's Shot Put F46 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 went to Mohd Yasser of India, who produced a season-best throw of his own, and the Prime Minister's congratulatory message noted that his improvement since the previous edition of t…

219. **A** **Indian athletes took every place on the podium** – The correct answer is that Indian athletes took every place on the podium.

220. **C** **Men's High Jump T64** – Praveen Kumar won the gold medal in the men's high jump in the T64 classification at the Asian Para Games 2026, defending the title he already held in the event, and his winning jump improved on the Games Record that stood in his own name.

221. **B** **The Games Record set by himself** – The announcement of Praveen Kumar's gold said clearly that the magnificent jump with which he defended his title broke his own Games Record in the Men's High Jump T64 event, so the mark he improved was the one he had set at these Games earlier in his career.

222. **A** **Banti** – The silver medal in the Men's High Jump T64 event at the Asian Para Games 2026 was won by Banti of India, and the Prime Minister's message on the result said that the jumper had shown great promise and determination and that the medal should give him the conf...

223. **B** **Men's Shot Put F53** – Ayush Verma won his gold medal with an excellent throw in the men's shot put in the F53 classification at the Asian Para Games 2026.

224. **B** **Two: a gold and a bronze** – Ayush Verma concluded his debut Asian Para Games campaign with two medals, the gold in the Men's Shot Put F53 event and the bronze in the javelin throw, and it was this pair that the Prime Minister's congratulatory message described as a wonderful demonstrati...

225. **C** **Javelin throw** – Along with his gold in the Men's Shot Put F53 event, Ayush Verma had won a bronze medal in the javelin throw at the same Asian Para Games 2026, and the two results together made up the pair of medals with which he finished his first appearance at the Games.

226. **A** **Sheetal Devi and Payal Nag** – The pair secured the silver medal in the Women's Para Compound Doubles event at the Asian Para Games 2026, and the Prime Minister's message on the result called it a fine display of teamwork and sporting excellence that had made the nation proud, with best wi...

227. **C** **Men's 100m T37** – Rakeshbhai Bhatt won the bronze medal in the men's 100 metres sprint in the T37 class at the Asian Para Games 2026 and set a personal best in the process, a run the Prime Minister described as a brilliant sprint in which speed, focus and dedication earned a w...

228. **A** **He won it in the Men's 100m T35 on his debut at the Games, with a personal best** – The correct answer is that he won it in the Men's 100m T35 on his debut at the Games, with a personal best.

229. **B** **7.9 per cent** – The provisional Index of Core Industries for September 2026 grew by 7.9 per cent compared with September of the previous year, and this was the headline number in the release issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

230. **C** **Iron ore** – Among the nine core industries, iron ore posted the fastest year-on-year growth in September 2026 at 18.4 per cent.

231. **C** **2022-23** – The provisional index for September 2026 and the final index for August 2026 were both published with the base year 2022-23, which the release states in its title.

232. **B** **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs** – The memorandum concerning the electronic exchange of origin data on trade in goods was signed by the CBIC on behalf of India and by the New Zealand Customs Service on the other side, with CBIC Chairman Vivek Chaturvedi and NZCS Comptroller and Chief Executive...

233. **B** **20 October 2026** – The release on the customs memorandum states that the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement entered into force from that date, and that the memorandum itself was concluded under the agreement.

234. **A** **Electronic exchange of origin data on trade in goods** – The correct answer is the electronic exchange of origin data on trade in goods.

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235.	**B**	**Bhopal** – The Fisheries Investors and Exporters Conclave 2026 is being organised on 23 October 2026 at Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh, by the state's Department of Fisheries together with the Department of Fisheries under the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal...
236.	**C**	**197.75 lakh tonnes** – That is the level India's fish production reached in 2024-25.
237.	**B**	**Reservoir Fisheries Cluster** – Madhya Pradesh has been notified in that category by the Centre, and the tag fits a state whose fisheries rest on large standing water bodies rather than on the sea.
238.	**B**	**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – PM-DAKSH was a Central Sector Scheme of that ministry, and its Department of Social Justice and Empowerment ran it through three corporations, NSFDC, NBCFDC and NSKFDC, which reimbursed training costs to the institutes.
239.	**B**	**1,87,305** – That many candidates were trained under PM-DAKSH in the years from 2020-21 to 2023-24.
240.	**C**	**70 per cent** – After a course finished, the training institute had to provide wage employment or self-employment to at least that share of the candidates it had trained.
241.	**B**	**The Vice-President of India** – Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan inaugurated the conference at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, on 22 October 2026, and in his address he asked States to clear outdated laws from their statute books and described legal reform as a condition for Viksit Bharat @2047.
242.	**C**	**More than 1,700** – Speaking at the Law Commission of India conference, the Vice-President pointed to the repeal of over 1,700 obsolete laws in the past twelve years, together with the replacement of three criminal laws inherited from colonial rule, as the major steps taken to m...
243.	**B**	**Law Commission of India, at Vigyan Bhawan** – The Commission organised the conference on national and state perspectives on co-operative federalism and law reforms, and it was held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi, where the Vice-President opened it.
244.	**A**	**“Thirukkural Payilvom – Thirukkural Abhyas Karen”** – The correct answer is “Thirukkural Payilvom – Thirukkural Abhyas Karen”, which means let us study the Thirukkural.
245.	**B**	**About 1,400 in seven groups** – Each of the seven groups will carry roughly 200 participants from Tamil Nadu, and every group follows an eight-day itinerary made up of four days of travel and four days of visits and structured programmes in Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya.
246.	**A**	**Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya** – The itinerary for each group covers these three cities with cultural, academic, domain-specific and spiritual engagements spread over four programme days, after four days of travel.
247.	**C**	**Rs 53,428 crore** – The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, approved this outlay on 14 October 2026 when it cleared the continuation of the National Social Assistance Programme for five years and renamed it the Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana.
248.	**A**	**40 per cent, under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016** – The correct answer is 40 per cent, under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016.
249.	**C**	**Article 41** – The programme, launched on 15 August 1995 and now renamed the Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana, gives effect to Article 41, which directs the State to provide public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement.
250.	**A**	**Dr M. L. Jat** – He is Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and he addressed the roundtable virtually, speaking in his capacity as President of the National Academy of Agricultu...

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251. **B** **The World Food Prize Foundation** – The roundtable that Dr M. L. Jat addressed was held on the sidelines of the Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue during the World Food Prize Foundation programme at Des Moines in the United States, and he joined it virtually.

252. **A** **Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST)** – Referring to efforts to widen international institutional partnerships, Dr Jat pointed to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with CAST, which is expected to open new avenues of cooperation in agricultural research, capacity development and knowledge...

253. **B** **2030** – The list of outcomes of the Polish Prime Minister's official visit places the target of doubling bilateral trade by 2030 first, under the area of trade, and the joint statement repeats that the leaders set this target while inviting Polish companies to expand...

254. **C** **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure** – The correct answer is the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, usually shortened to CDRI.

255. **C** **2028-29** – In the section on multilateral cooperation, the Polish side supported India's membership of a reformed and expanded Security Council and reiterated its support for India's candidature for a non-permanent seat for the term 2028-29.

256. **B** **Rs 8,212.7 crore** – The correct answer is Rs 8,212.7 crore, the revenue earned between April and September 2026, which is the first half of the financial year 2026-27.

257. **C** **Parcels** – The correct answer is parcels, which grew 71 per cent over the same quarter of the previous year, the highest among the six verticals.

258. **B** **Bihar** – The correct answer is Bihar, which reached 97.15 per cent of its proportionate target for the quarter and was recognised for that performance.

259. **A** **Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development** – The correct answer is Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development, the overarching theme announced by the Lok Sabha Speaker for the forum in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan.

260. **C** **Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan** – The correct answer is the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan, the building that housed Parliament before the new building came into use and which carries the Constituent Assembly's legacy.

261. **C** **Connectivity** – The four high-level sessions announced for the forum are Resilience, on the role of parliaments in strengthening institutions for a better future; Innovation, on promoting human-centred innovation in artificial intelligence and digital technologies through pa...

262. **B** **SAEINDIA** – The correct answer is SAEINDIA, the professional engineering society that works on advancing mobility knowledge in India and is bringing the Asia Pacific Automotive Engineering Conference to New Delhi on 13 and 14 November 2026.

263. **B** **Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, New Delhi, 13-14 November 2026** – The correct answer is the Yashobhoomi Convention Centre in New Delhi on 13 and 14 November 2026.

264. **B** **1981** – The series started in that year as the International Pacific Conference and has since grown into a collaborative automotive engineering forum representing 11 countries across the Asia-Pacific region.

265. **A** **A Hindi library at Sena Bhawan** – The Defence Secretary opened it on 22 October 2026 as part of Special Campaign 6 of the Ministry of Defence, with the aim of promoting Hindi books and literature, encouraging the use of Hindi in official work and strengthening the culture of working in Hindi...

266. **B** **About 35,000 square feet, to Project Yuga Yugeen Bharat Museum** – The correct answer is about 35,000 square feet, surrendered to Project Yuga Yugeen Bharat Museum.

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267. **C** **Eight** – At the opening of the GYANDEEP library the Defence Secretary felicitated eight Swachhta Veers, or cleanliness champions, in recognition of their special contribution during the ongoing campaign.

268. **B** **61,888 square feet** – The correct answer is 61,888 square feet, freed through the disposal activities and cleanliness campaigns taken up during Special Campaign 6 and reported in the mid-campaign figures.

269. **A** **It rose from 315 to 401** – At the start of the campaign 315 sites were identified, and after the review meeting of 5 October, chaired by the Joint Secretary (Administration) as nodal officer, the figure went up to 401.

270. **B** **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** – The correct answer is the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, usually written as DARPG, whose guidelines govern the campaign.

271. **B** **Women's Individual Para Compound Archery** – Sheetal Devi won the gold medal in this event at the Asian Para Games 2026 and, because she had also won it at the previous edition of the Games, the win counted as a successful defence of her title and made her champion for a second consecutive edition.

272. **C** **Toman Kumar** – Sheetal Devi and Toman Kumar together won the gold medal in the Para Compound Mixed Team event at the Asian Para Games 2026, a victory the Prime Minister described as a display of skill, composure and teamwork.

273. **C** **W1** – Swati Chaudhary won the silver medal in Women's W1 Archery on her very first appearance at the Asian Para Games, and this was India's first ever medal in the W1 category, which is why the achievement was singled out as a special moment for Indian para archery.

274. **B** **Manisha Ramadass** – She won bronze in the Women's Singles SU5 event, a bronze medal for the second consecutive edition of the Games, and then won a second bronze in the Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5 event alongside Pramod Bhagat, which gave her two medals on the same day.

275. **B** **Men's Singles SL4** – Two Indians stood on the podium in that class, Abhijeet Sakhuja, who reached it on his first appearance at the Games, and Suhas L. Yathiraj, and both of them took bronze.

276. **C** **Pramod Bhagat and Manisha Ramadass** – The two won the bronze medal in the Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5 event, and their teamwork, determination and competitive spirit through the tournament were singled out in the Prime Minister's message.

277. **B** **Women's 400m T47** – Anjanaben won the gold medal in that event with an outstanding timing, and her speed, focus and determination were singled out for praise.

278. **C** **Suvarna Raj** – Her victory came in the Women's Discus Throw F54 event, and the Prime Minister's message credited it to hard work, perseverance and an unwavering commitment to sporting excellence, adding that India was celebrating the triumph.

279. **B** **T12** – Tejalben Damor won the silver medal in the Women's 400m T12 event, and her speed, determination and commitment to excellence were described as commendable.

280. **B** **INS Sujata** – The First Training Squadron that arrived off Male consisted of INS Tir, INS Sujata and the Indian Coast Guard Ship Sarathi, and the three reached the Maldives on 21 October 2026 on a Long Range Training Deployment.

281. **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.

282. **A** **Girifushi Training Centre** – As part of the training exchanges arranged during the port call, trainees of the First Training Squadron visited this centre, while the Senior Officer of the squadron called on the Chief of Defence Force of the Maldives National Defence Force, on the Commanda…

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283. **B** **NABARD** – The correct answer is NABARD, the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, which subscribed Rs 4 crore to the National Skill Development Corporation's first Zero Coupon Zero Principal issue on the Social Stock Exchange platform of the National Sto...

284. **C** **50 per cent** – The programme uses a blended financing structure with three parts: beneficiary participation meets 15 per cent of the cost, money raised on the Social Stock Exchange meets 35 per cent, and the Government of Madhya Pradesh provides the remaining 50 per cent on...

285. **A** **Japan and Germany** – The programme will prepare 600 young people from economically weaker Other Backward Classes households in Madhya Pradesh for work abroad, with 300 of them readied for Japan and 300 for Germany through residential training in the Japanese and German languages...

286. **B** **Rs 8,941 crore** – Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah attended the ceremony at which 10 Yamuna rejuvenation projects were inaugurated and foundation stones were laid for 33 more, and the schemes together carry this total cost.

287. **C** **2029** – The Home Minister said that time-bound roadmaps had been prepared jointly for Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi, with the Centre and these state governments working together, and that the Yamuna would be made clean by that year.

288. **B** **10 inaugurated and 33 initiated** – The Home Minister said that 10 projects were inaugurated at the function and 33 projects were started with the laying of foundation stones, and that the schemes begun carry a total cost of Rs 8,941 crore.

289. **C** **Shailesh Kumar** – He finished first in the men's high jump T42/T63 at these Games, and the height he cleared was better than any previously managed in the event at the competition, so the win also gave him a new Games Record.

290. **A** **Men's High Jump T42/T63** – Gold went to Shailesh Kumar, silver to Varun Singh Bhati and bronze to Rahul, so every place on the podium in that single final was filled by an Indian athlete.

291. **C** **Bronze** – Rahul took third place in the men's high jump T42/T63, and the Prime Minister called it a proud moment while hoping the athlete would reach greater heights in the seasons to come.

292. **B** **Men's 400m freestyle S10** – Kapil Kumar finished second in that race and collected the silver medal, and the Prime Minister noted his stamina, dedication and determination in earning a place on the podium.

293. **C** **Ravi Karthik Budigina** – He finished third in the men's 50m freestyle S13 sprint, and the Prime Minister said he was very proud of the achievement and described the swimmer's passion and commitment as noteworthy.

294. **D** **Freestyle** – Kapil Kumar's silver came in the men's 400m freestyle S10 and Ravi Karthik Budigina's bronze in the men's 50m freestyle S13, so although the distances and the classifications were different, the stroke was the same in both races.

295. **A** **National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction** – The correct answer is the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction, usually shortened to NAPDDR.

296. **B** **272** – The campaign began on 15 August 2020 with that many vulnerable districts, selected because substance use was found to be especially widespread in them, and it has since widened its reach to the country as a whole.

297. **C** **31 December 2029** – The Union Home Minister stated this deadline while addressing the third National Conference of Anti-Narcotics Task Force Heads of States and Union Territories in New Delhi in September, and he coupled it with a call for coordinated action, clear targets, acco...

298. **C** **22.5 per cent** – That is the growth the railways registered in coal loading during the month up to the eighteenth day, measured against the corresponding stretch of the previous year, and it amounts to an

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all-time high for coal loading.

299. **C** — **430** – This was the average daily dispatch of coal rakes to thermal power plants over the first six months of the financial year, and it was 7.1 per cent higher than the dispatch rate in the corresponding half of the year before.

300. **B** — **Ministry of Coal** – The railways works with it on moving coal out of the mines efficiently, while its coordination with the Ministry of Power is about sustaining transport and supply so that thermal plants hold enough stock to generate reliably.

301. **B** — **Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub** – The theme frames the event as a platform for domestic and international stakeholders to share knowledge, build alliances and look for investment, and the minister repeated it when describing what the gathering was meant to achieve.

302. **B** — **Japan** – It came in as the partner country for this edition, a step described as strengthening economic cooperation with India and opening fresh avenues for collaboration in chemicals and petrochemicals.

303. **B** — **USD 300 billion** – That is the projection for the Indian chemical industry by 2030, and the growth outlook is attributed to rising domestic demand, expanding export opportunities, the demographic dividend, relatively low per capita consumption and supportive government measures.

304. **C** — **499.60 lakh metric tonnes** – That is the quantity of waste processed as on date across the waste streams that now carry their own rules, and the minister cited it as evidence that policy intent is being translated into measurable action.

305. **A** — **4,880** – Under the EPR framework the registered recyclers number that much, while the registered producers are far more numerous.

306. **B** — **Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)** – The minister raised it precisely to make the point that regulation on its own cannot build a circular economy, because the demand side depends on how individuals choose to consume, and LiFE asks for deliberate and mindful use of resources instead of destructi...

307. **C** — **300 gigawatts** – Addressing the summit in New Delhi, the Prime Minister listed a set of national firsts and said that India had crossed the figure of 300 gigawatts in non-fossil electricity capacity.

308. **B** — **The World Between Orders** – The Prime Minister took up this framing directly and said it raises two questions: why the existing order is slipping and why legacy systems cannot answer today's challenges, and what role India plays in a world that is changing.

309. **A** — **Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh** – The Prime Minister used the antibiotic precursor Penicillin G as an illustration of how long-term policy can rebuild a lost industry.

310. **B** — **Taraori in Karnal district, Haryana** – The Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development chose this historic town for the launch of the soil health campaign, and farmers at the venue took a collective pledge to apply fertiliser in balance and to stop setting fire to cro...

311. **C** — **30 November 2026** – The Minister asked vice-chancellors of agricultural universities, the Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, scientists and officials to leave their laboratories and offices and reach villages between 22 October and 30 November 2026,...

312. **C** — **28,422** – Speaking as Union Rural Development Minister, Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced central approval for that many permanent houses for eligible poor families in Haryana, with Rs 1,343.06 crore sanctioned for the purpose, and handed the formal letter to Haryana Agr...

313. **A** — **Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age** – The ministry's joint secretary announced this theme for the two-day conference in Bhubaneswar, and said sessions would look at sustainable low-carbon public transport, integration of modes, first and last mile connectivity, Mobility as a Service and real-time...

314. **B** **Bhubaneswar** – The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs is holding both events at Hotel Mayfair Sanctuary in the Odisha capital, with the state government as partner, and the curtain-raiser press conference was also held there.

315. **A** **National Urban Transport Policy, 2006** – The conference is run every year by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under that policy, through the Institute of Urban Transport (India), and the policy itself stresses capacity building at state and city level while promoting equitable and sustainab...

316. **C** **Odisha** – Its Deputy Chief Minister told the ministerial track that the state is giving final shape to an Agrivoltaics Policy 2026 built around a target of 1 GW by 2030, under which at least ninety per cent of a project site must remain cultivable, farmer consent and c...

317. **D** **90 per cent** – The whole point of agrivoltaics is that farming continues under and around the solar panels, so the draft policy fixes a high floor for the share of each site that must stay fit for cultivation, and pairs it with safeguards on farmer consent and crop insuranc...

318. **A** **IISD and CEEW** – The correct answer is IISD and CEEW, that is the International Institute for Sustainable Development and the Council on Energy, Environment and Water.

319. **A** **Rajesh Verma** – He chaired the two separate review meetings the Commission held at Chandigarh with the governments of Punjab and Haryana, going through enforcement on the ground, district preparedness and the use of crop residue machinery.

320. **C** **Direction No. 92** – Compliance with it was reviewed with both Punjab and Haryana, because moving brick kilns to pellets and briquettes made from paddy straw creates steady demand for the residue and takes away the reason to set fields on fire.

321. **B** **Chandigarh** – The correct answer is Chandigarh, the common capital of the two states, which is why the Commission could meet both governments separately on the same day.

322. **B** **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** – The correct answer is the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, which recognised the Rourkela centre as a Centre of Excellence and also meets its recurring expenses through a grant routed by the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation.

323. **A** **ASPIRE** – The correct answer is ASPIRE, a scheme of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises under which the equipment at the Rourkela centre was installed.

324. **C** **2018** – The centre at Rourkela in Odisha was set up that year as a joint effort of three ministries and the central public sector undertakings under them, and it has since trained Scheduled Tribe youth in trades ranging from tailoring and baking to mushroom farming,...

325. **B** **Powering the Global South** – The 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference was held in New Delhi from 21 to 23 October 2026 and this was the theme chosen for it.

326. **B** **36 projects, 37.54 megawatts** – That was the count of operational agrivoltaics projects in India as of August 2025, and alongside them another 10 pilot projects were under development.

327. **A** **February 2019** – The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan, shortened to PM KUSUM, was launched in that month to encourage the use of solar energy on farms.

328. **A** **Ms Ameena Nazreen A S** – The correct answer is Ms Ameena Nazreen A S. She won the Global Youth Institute Award, which carries a cash prize of US$500, at the World Food Prize Foundation event held in Des Moines, Iowa, in the United States.

329. **B** **Before Hunger Wins** – This was the theme of the 2026 Norman E Borlaug International Dialogue, the World Food Prize Foundation event held from 20 to 22 October 2026 in Des Moines, Iowa, in the United States.

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330. **C** **Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, USA** – The correct answer is the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) of the United States.

331. **B** **Science, Technology and Academic Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific** – The Indian Navy will hold the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue in New Delhi from 3 to 5 November 2026 on this theme, with the National Maritime Foundation as the principal organiser, and experts from 18 countries of the region taking part.

332. **A** **The 14th East Asia Summit in Bangkok** – The correct answer is the 14th East Asia Summit in Bangkok, where the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative was announced in November 2019.

333. **B** **18 countries and five sessions** – Maritime practitioners, scientists, academicians, policymakers and experts from 18 countries across the Indo-Pacific will contribute to the dialogue, and the conference has five professional thematic sessions spread over its three days.

334. **B** **The National Statistics Office under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** – The correct answer is the National Statistics Office under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

335. **C** **January 2027** – The modified sampling design, the changed estimation procedure and the revised schedule all take effect from that month, when fresh samples for the two-year period 2027-2028, known as Panel 6, will be drawn from an updated sampling frame.

336. **A** **Four rural and five urban strata, with 14 households per First Stage Unit** – The correct answer is four rural and five urban strata, with 14 households per First Stage Unit.

337. **C** **IIT (BHU), Varanasi** – The Centre for Development of Telematics signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Institute of Technology (BHU), Varanasi to establish its sixth Centre of Excellence, and the signing was followed by the formal opening of the centre on the campus.

338. **B** **Ministry of Communications** – The Centre for Development of Telematics, or C-DOT, is the research and development centre of the Department of Telecommunications, which is a department of the Ministry of Communications, and it is in that capacity that it signed the agreement for a Centre o…

339. **C** **Deep-sea mining equipment** – The correct answer is deep-sea mining equipment, which has nothing to do with the centre.

340. **B** **Bank of India** – The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing signed the memorandum with Bank of India on 22 October 2026 to work on quantum financial innovation and the adoption of emerging technologies in banking.

341. **C** **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** – The correct answer is the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, usually written as MeitY.

342. **A** **A Quantum Ecosystem for Financial Innovation** – This is the named focus of the partnership, meant to prepare banking systems both for the opportunities that quantum technology brings and for the security problems it creates, which is why the two sides will study quantum-inspired and quantum-safe methods.

343. **B** **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi** – The Prime Minister inaugurated the Chinmaya Amrit Mahotsav Global Sammelan there on 23 October 2026, the global gathering of the Chinmaya Mission founded by Swami Chinmayananda.

344. **D** **Swami Chinmayananda** – The correct answer is Swami Chinmayananda, the sage who founded the Chinmaya Mission and whose work the Amrit Mahotsav celebrates.

345. **A** **Gita Gyana Yagna** – Swami Chinmayananda launched it so that the Upanishads, Vedanta and the scriptures would reach people in ordinary life rather than remain with a few scholars, and the Prime Minister described this effort as an important chapter in India's cultural and spiritu…

346. **B** **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** – The correct answer is the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, commonly written as DARPG.

347. **B** **2 to 31 October 2026** – The drive is conducted through that month under the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, and it is meant both to speed up the disposal of pending matters and to improve cleanliness in government offices.

348. **B** **Guntur** – The branch office of the Cotton Corporation of India there identified 511 items of electronic waste for disposal through an e-auction on the Government e-Marketplace, with the bids to be opened in the fourth week of the month.

349. **B** **INS Sahyadri** – The Ministry of Defence said that Indian Naval Ship Sahyadri departed Vladivostok in the Russian Federation on 20 October 2026 after the bilateral naval exercise INDRA 2026 between the Indian Navy and the Russian Federation Navy was completed, so Sahyadri is...

350. **C** **Russia** – INDRA is the bilateral naval exercise of the Indian Navy and the Russian Federation Navy, and the Ministry of Defence said the conclusion of the drill reaffirmed the enduring defence and maritime partnership between India and Russia.

351. **D** **Vladivostok** – The Ministry of Defence statement records that INS Sahyadri left Vladivostok in the Russian Federation on 20 October 2026, after the harbour phase of the exercise had been held there and the sea phase had been completed.

352. **B** **600** – The Ministry of Home Affairs has said that in the first phase a total of 600 Civil Defence Master Trainers, 50 from each participating State or Union Territory, are proposed to be trained by the second week of November 2026 through a three-day specialised pro...

353. **C** **Directorate General of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards** – The correct answer is the Directorate General of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards, abbreviated DGFSCDHG.

354. **C** **100** – Under the structured Master Trainer model, every Master Trainer who completes the Army course will go back and train 100 Civil Defence Volunteers in their own State or Union Territory.

355. **A** **Kittur** – The official account of the programme calls her Kittur Rani Chennamma and describes her as the brave queen of Kittur, the nation's unparalleled woman warrior who challenged an imperial power and stands in history as an immortal symbol of resistance.

356. **D** **The 202nd** – The ceremony at Prerana Sthal in the Parliament premises combined two occasions, the birth anniversary of Kittur Rani Chennamma and the 202nd Victory Celebration, or Vijayotsava, of her win against the British.

357. **B** **V. Somanna, Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti** – The correct answer is V. Somanna, the Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti and Member of Parliament from Tumakuru, under whose leadership the programme was organised.

358. **C** **604 MT** – The Ministry of Steel has prepared a draft National Steel Policy, Vision 2047, and it targets crude steel capacity of 604 MT by the year 2047.

359. **B** **104** – The Ministry of Steel says that under its Green Steel Initiative, Green Steel Certificates have been issued to 104 distinct steel producers across the lists put out up to October 2026.

360. **C** **MOIL** – The correct answer is MOIL, which produced 0.96 Mt of manganese ore in the first half of the financial year and so surpassed its own earlier half-year record of 0.943 Mt.

361. **B** **Bhopal** – The conclave was organised in Bhopal by the Department of Fisheries of the Government of Madhya Pradesh along with the Union Department of Fisheries and the National Fisheries Development Board, to draw investment into processing, value addition and exports f...

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362. **C** **197.75 lakh MT** – That was India's total fish production in 2024-25, and of this quantity inland fisheries contributed 151.60 lakh tonnes, which is close to three-fourths of the national output.

363. **D** **49** – Under the Budget Announcement for 2026-27, the Union Department of Fisheries approved integrated development of 49 reservoirs in Madhya Pradesh at a project cost of Rs 8755.60 lakh, along with five Amrit Sarovars at a cost of Rs 69 lakh, an investment of Rs 8...

364. **C** **30 million tonnes** – Abhilaksh Likhi, Secretary in the Department of Fisheries, said India has set a target of 30 million tonnes of fish production over the next five years, and that seafood exports are expected to rise to Rs 1.25 lakh crore in the same period.

365. **A** **Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation** – The correct answer is the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation, known as BOBP-IGO.

366. **C** **Bhopal** – The correct answer is Bhopal, where a two-day national workshop identified the priorities for developing the action plan and where the Secretary of the Department of Fisheries, Abhilaksh Likhi, formally launched the development phase.

367. **B** **Mahakaleshwar Temple, Ujjain** – TRINETRA was built for the Mahakal Rudrasagar Integrated Development Area in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh, which includes the Mahakaleshwar Temple, and it was implemented with Ujjain Smart City Limited and the Shri Mahakaleshwar Temple Management Committee.

368. **C** **150 indicators** – The Panchayat Advancement Index, a framework of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, measures the performance of gram panchayats across nine Localized Sustainable Development Goal themes, and it does so with 150 indicators and 230 data points.

369. **A** **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** – The correct answer is the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), which works under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

370. **B** **US$250 billion** – The Chintan Shivir for the engineering sector was convened by the Department of Commerce along with EEPC India to chart a strategy for total engineering goods exports of US$250 billion by 2030, together with deeper market access through free trade agreements...

371. **B** **US$476.20 billion** – Commerce Secretary Shri Rajesh Agrawal said in his keynote address that India’s combined exports of goods and services grew by 14 per cent year-on-year to this level during April-September of 2026-27, which he cited as evidence that exports had stayed resilie...

372. **C** **Shri Pankaj Chadha** – Speaking at the Chintan Shivir, he said the engineering sector was on track to surpass the export numbers of the previous financial year, that the medium and long-term growth outlook remained positive, and that engineering exports were expected to cross US$14...

373. **C** **764** – Under the Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC) of the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana, run by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, 764 senior citizen homes are being supported at present, along with 13 continuous care homes, 17 mobile medicar...

374. **B** **Rs 19.58 lakh** – The scheme guidelines of the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana provide annual financial support of this amount to each Regional Resource and Training Centre, and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment also assists designated non-governmental organisations and...

375. **B** **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – The correct answer is the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which implements the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana.

376. **B** **Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES)** – The correct answer is the Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology.

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377. **B** **Quasi-Periodic Oscillation** – Matter pulled towards a black hole forms an accretion flow that falls inward at high speed and emits non-thermal radiation, and the brightness of that radiation shows nearly regular variations known as quasi-periodic oscillations.

378. **B** **It is pulled closer to the black hole, producing QPOs over a wider range of frequencies** – The correct answer is that the shock is pulled closer to the black hole, producing QPOs over a much wider range of frequencies.

379. **C** **Jagdalpur** – The correct answer is Jagdalpur, the main town of the Bastar region in Chhattisgarh, where the President graced and addressed a public programme on the occasion of Bastar Dussehra.

380. **A** **Maa Danteshwari Temple** – The correct answer is the Maa Danteshwari Temple at Jagdalpur, where the President performed darshan and puja before the day's other engagements.

381. **D** **2047** – The President said she was happy to note that initiatives to provide financial support to tribal entrepreneurs and connect them with markets had been accelerated, and expressed confidence that such efforts would prove instrumental in achieving the goal of a d...

382. **A** **Ms Katherina Reiche** – The correct answer is Ms Katherina Reiche, the German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy.

383. **B** **Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business** – The roundtable was organised along with the German Council on Foreign Relations and the APA, and German chief executives and business leaders took part.

384. **B** **Germany and the Netherlands** – A delegation of around 100 Indian businesses and startups is accompanying the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry on this visit, and the Berlin engagements form part of continuing efforts to deepen the India-Germany Strategic Partnership in trade, investm...

385. **B** **Sandeep Kumar, men's 400m T64** – Competing at the Asian Para Games for the first time, Sandeep Kumar won the gold in that sprint and set a new world record, and the medal was counted as India's 100th at these Games, which is why the Prime Minister described it as a proud milestone for the na...

386. **A** **Men's javelin throw F37/F38** – Haney won the gold in that event and set a new world record in the same competition, an achievement the Prime Minister described as a proud moment for Indian para athletics.

387. **B** **Harvinder Singh and Vijay Sundi** – The two archers won the men's recurve doubles gold at the Asian Para Games, and the Prime Minister said their performance had brought great pride to the nation.

388. **B** **Women's recurve doubles** – The pair won the silver in that archery event, and it was described as India's first medal of any colour in the event at the Asian Para Games, which is what made the result historic.

389. **B** **Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan** – She won the silver in the women's singles SH6 class, and the Prime Minister noted that moving from the bronze of the previous edition to a silver this time was a fine step forward for her.

390. **B** **Ajay Kumar** – He won the bronze in the men's 400m T64 event, and the Prime Minister said the run on the track had brought another moment of pride for India.

391. **B** **Land Warfare Doctrine** – The Raksha Mantri released it at the Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi, and it provides an overarching framework to prepare the Indian Army for the evolving character of warfare and for future conflicts, which is why it was issued to the Army's senior...

392. **B** **Rs 1.78 lakh crore** – The Raksha Mantri said defence production had surged to that record level in the financial year 2025-26, and that defence exports in the same period had reached an all-time high of about Rs 38,000 crore, both of which he attributed to the priority given to se...

393. **A** **Operation Sindoor** – Addressing the Commanders, the Raksha Mantri said innovative thinking, enhanced synergy and superior coordination, complemented by advanced weaponry, had contributed to its success, and that the operation carried a clear message that India would not hesitate...

394. **B** **The Union Finance Minister** – Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, chaired the 30th meeting of the FSDC in New Delhi, which fits the Council's design: the Finance Minister heads it and the heads of the financial sector regulators sit on it.

395. **A** **An Inter-Ministerial Group of financial regulators and cyber security agencies** – The correct answer is an Inter-Ministerial Group of financial sector regulators and cyber security agencies, which worked in coordination with the Department of Economic Affairs, the Department of Financial Services and the Ministry of Electronics and Informa...

396. **B** **Your Money, Your Right** – The Council noted the success of this campaign at the district level in returning unclaimed financial assets, and guided ministries and regulators to make further efforts for timely refunds.

397. **B** **Bhubaneswar, Odisha** – The two-day conference was inaugurated there by the Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Shri Tokhan Sahu, in the presence of the state's Housing and Urban Development Minister, and it was the first time the city had hosted this annual event...

398. **B** **Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age** – The theme guided the whole programme, which looked at improving access within cities, integrating transport infrastructure and using digital technologies to raise the quality of urban life, and the opening session carried the same title in its conclave form.

399. **A** **248 km** – The Minister of State said the operational metro network had expanded from that figure in 2014 to more than 1,185 km across 26 cities, with work under way on a further 998 km, so three numbers travel together in this question and they are easy to mix up.

400. **B** **Men's Javelin Throw** – India filled all three places on the podium in this event: Sumit won the gold medal, Mahendra Gurjar took the silver with a Games Record and Sandip Sanjay Sargar claimed the bronze, also with a Games Record.

401. **C** **Pranav Soorma** – He defended the title he already held in the Men's Club Throw F51 and set a fresh Games Record while doing so, which is why the Prime Minister called the achievement a source of pride for the nation.

402. **A** **Women's Long Jump T47** – Nimisha Chakkungalparambil Suresh finished second in this event and the Prime Minister said that her dedication and hard work had brought another proud moment for Indian para athletics, wishing her well for future competitions.

403. **B** **Women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions SH1** – Mona Agarwal won the gold in this shooting event at the Asian Para Games, and her winning performance stood as a new world record as well as a new Asian Para Games record.

404. **A** **Thulasimathi Murugesan and Manasi Joshi** – The duo became Asian Para Games champions in the Women’s Doubles SL3-SU5 class, and the Prime Minister said their superb performance had brought great pride to the nation and hoped they would continue to shine on the international stage.

405. **A** **Men's 100m Freestyle S11, swimming** – Himanshu Nandal finished third in this race, and the Prime Minister pointed out that it was the third bronze medal to his name at this edition of the Games, calling it an impressive performance.

406. **B** **Maritime** – Inaugurating the corporate office of SMFCL in New Delhi, the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways described the company as India's first dedicated Non Banking Financial Company in the maritime sector, set up to mobilise long term finance for port-l...

407. **C** **Rs 5,107 crore** – As on 30 September 2026 the corporation had disbursed this amount, and more than half of what it had sanctioned was still to be drawn as the projects behind the sanctions advanced.

408. **A** **SBI Ventures Limited** – The correct answer is SBI Ventures Limited, which has been appointed the official Fund Manager for the Maritime Investment Fund component and brings professional management to the fund.

409. **C** **Dr. M. Srinivas** – The correct answer is Dr. M. Srinivas, a Member of NITI Aayog, who has been named the Chairperson of the committee set up by the Department of Pharmaceuticals to examine the framework governing pharmaceutical marketing practices.

410. **A** **2015** – The code was introduced in that year as a voluntary, industry-led self-regulatory mechanism meant to promote ethical pharmaceutical marketing and to regulate the interactions between pharmaceutical companies and healthcare professionals.

411. **A** **Two months from the date of its first meeting** – The correct answer is two months from the date of its first meeting.

412. **C** **Srinagar** – The Ministry of Tribal Affairs convened the third and concluding conference of the regional review series in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, where senior officials of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Rajasthan and the host Union Territ...

413. **A** **80.64 per cent** – The Ministry reported that about 54 lakh claims had been received across the country and that 43.56 lakh of them, which is this share, had been disposed of by that date.

414. **B** **11 of 75** – The Ministry of Tribal Affairs noted that habitat rights have been recognised for only this small number out of all the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in the country, and for that reason it urged the States to expedite recognition and to build a habita...

415. **B** **Four** – In October 2026 four male Great Indian Bustards were set free inside Desert National Park, close to Sam village in the Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan.

416. **B** **Wildlife Institute of India** – Its annual progress report for 2016-17 recorded that the population of the Great Indian Bustard had fallen by three quarters over the thirty years before that report, a decline driven by the loss of its grassland habitat and by pressures created by people, an...

417. **B** **Rs 77.05 crore** – National CAMPA cleared this amount in December 2024 for a five-year Conservation Action Plan that covers both the Great Indian Bustard and the Lesser Florican.

418. **C** **11 crore** – The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare announced that the creation of 11 crore Farmer IDs, each a unique digital identity for a cultivator, had been completed by the night of 23 October, five months before the deadline of 31 March 2027.

419. **B** **31 March 2027** – That was the date fixed for the completion of the Farmer ID registry, and the work was closed by the night of 23 October, which is five months earlier.

420. **B** **Digital Agriculture Mission** – The Farmer ID is issued under this mission, which the Union Cabinet approved on 2 September 2024 and which is building a Digital Public Infrastructure, or DPI, for the farm sector.

421. **C** **125 days** – The VB-G RAM G Act provides a statutory guarantee of 125 days of wage employment in every financial year to each rural household whose adult members volunteer for unskilled manual work.

422. **B** **Mahatma Gandhi NREGA** – The Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) took its place when the VB-G RAM G Act, 2025 came into force on 1 July 2026, and the changeover was described as seamless and free of disruption, with the supporting digital systems live f...

423. **C** **318** – The Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan framework identifies 318 types of permissible works, spread across the four thematic areas of water security, core rural infrastructure, livelihood-related infrastructure and

the mitigation of extreme weather events.

424. **C** **8th** – The 8th All India Conference of Government Railway Police Chiefs, convened by the Railway Protection Force, concluded in New Delhi on 23 October 2026.

425. **A** **Sonali Mishra** – The correct answer is Sonali Mishra, Director General of the Railway Protection Force, who presided over the high-level conference and closed it by stressing the need for intelligence-led policing to strengthen railway security.

426. **B** **South Central Railway** – Its Pink Patrol initiative, with the tagline Eyes in the Sky, SHAKTI on the Ground, is a women-led model that combines drone-assisted surveillance with rapid-response teams working under the SHAKTI framework.

427. **B** **Piyush Goyal** – The correct answer is Piyush Goyal, the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, who completed a two-day official visit to Germany with a series of engagements in Berlin on 23 October 2026.

428. **B** **Economic and Financial Policy Advisor and G7/G20 Sherpa** – Mr Levin Holle holds that position at the German Federal Chancellery, where the bilateral meeting took place, and the discussion covered economic cooperation and the strengthening of economic and investment ties between India and Germany.

429. **C** **Skoda Auto** – Mr Holger Peters is the Chief Executive Officer of Skoda Auto and at the same time the Chief Financial Officer of Volkswagen AG, and he met the Commerce Minister in Berlin.

430. **B** **316** – Shram Samvad is a 90-day outreach initiative through which the Ministry of Labour and Employment is undertaking district-level engagement across 316 districts in all 36 States and Union Territories, with special attention to industrial clusters.

431. **C** **Code on Wages** – The other three Codes are all of 2020: the Industrial Relations Code, the Code on Social Security, and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code.

432. **B** **Lucknow** – The correct answer is Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh, where the Ministry of Labour and Employment is holding the two-day state-level capacity-building and awareness programme on Labour Codes, labour welfare and social protection in collaboration with t…

433. **B** **Integrated Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Toxicity Analysis Laboratory** – That is the full form of AATAL, the facility inaugurated for Delhi NCR by Dr Jitendra Singh at the Delhi branch of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology.

434. **C** **Mission Mausam** – The laboratory has been established under Mission Mausam, announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to deepen the scientific understanding of atmospheric pollution and to supply usable evidence for managing air quality in Delhi NCR.

435. **A** **400 metres, for the next 72 hours** – AIRWISE, the Air Quality Warning and Integrated Decision Support System for Emissions, issues air-quality forecasts at a spatial resolution of 400 metres for the following 72 hours.

436. **B** **The Biological Diversity Act, 2002** – India’s access and benefit-sharing framework is governed by this Act, as amended in 2023, along with the Biological Diversity Rules, 2024, and the Access and Benefit-Sharing Regulations, 2025.

437. **C** **Uttar Pradesh** – The correct answer is Uttar Pradesh, which drew Rs 10,35,790, the biggest single state allocation in the distribution.

438. **A** **The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework** – Its Target 13 calls for real measures to ensure that the gains from using genetic resources, digital sequence information and the traditional knowledge tied to them are shared fairly and equitably, which is exactly what India’s benefit-sharing payments to Sta…

439. **C** **The Indian Navy** – Swavlamban is the Navy's own Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar, and the name of the event itself points to naval innovation.

440. **A** **Strength & Power through Innovation and Indigenisation** – The correct answer is 'Strength & Power through Innovation and Indigenisation', the theme announced for the fifth edition of the seminar at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi.

441. **B** **The Swavlamban 5.0 document and the Compendium on Technology Imperatives** – The correct answer is the Swavlamban 5.0 document and the Compendium on Technology Imperatives.

442. **B** **The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – The fair is its marketing-support initiative for artisans and beneficiaries tied to its three national corporations: the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation and the...

443. **A** **Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme** – BHARAT-TULIP is aimed at marketing the products of artisans belonging to the target groups of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, using both physical outlets and e-commerce platforms so that a maker in a small town can reach a buyer anywhere.

444. **B** **75 artisans, including 31 women** – They are showing roughly 40 varieties of handloom and handicraft products at Farm Gate, Khanapara, in Guwahati, where the fair is open to the public from 11 in the morning to 9 at night and will continue until 28 October.

445. **B** **Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub** – The 14th edition of India Chem was held under this theme in Mumbai, and the theme framed everything at the event: the business parleys, the CEOs Forum and the roundtables were all pointed at drawing investment and presenting the country as a competitive base...

446. **C** **Japan** – Japan was the partner country at the 14th India Chem, and the release notes that India shares a strong trade relationship with it in the chemicals and petrochemicals sector in particular.

447. **C** **2040** – Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers Jagat Prakash Nadda said the sector must grow from its present market size of roughly USD 220 billion to about USD 1 trillion by 2040, and then to around USD 1.6 trillion by 2047.

448. **B** **AITA ACE 2032** – The correct answer is AITA ACE 2032, the initiative of the All India Tennis Association under which the All-Women Coaches Course was held at the Delhi Lawn Tennis Association tennis stadium in New Delhi.

449. **A** **Khelo India, launched in 2021** – The ASMITA leagues are women's leagues run under the Khelo India framework, and since their launch in that year they have reached more than three lakh women, opening up organised participation and competition across regions and communities.

450. **C** **Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Raksha Khadse** – The correct answer is Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Raksha Khadse.

451. **B** **Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan** – The correct answer is the Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan.

452. **A** **Fit Youth, Addiction-Free Youth (Shakti evam Seva)** – That is the theme set for the campaign's second month, and the week's activities were arranged under it, bringing together physical fitness, community participation and social responsibility as the route to a substance-free society.

453. **B** **The Directorate of NSS along with 15 NSS Regional Directorates** – The correct answer is the Directorate of NSS along with 15 NSS Regional Directorates.

454. **B** **Lalitpur–Singrauli project** – Both the new sections, Satna–Devendranagar of about 53 km and Rewa–Churhat of about 65 km, were built under this project, which the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh put at about 541 km and described as a link between Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh covering...

455. **C** **Sidhi** – Churhat lies in Sidhi district, and with the Rewa–Churhat line of about 65 km finished, residents of Sidhi gained the chance to travel on the national rail network.

456. **B** **About ₹873 crore** – The Satna–Devendranagar line measures roughly 53 km and was built at that cost, the last 8 km between Phulwari and Devendranagar completing it.

457. **A** **Naval Materials Research Laboratory** – The correct answer is the Naval Materials Research Laboratory, usually written as NMRL, which designed and built the Air Independent Propulsion Energy Module as an indigenous effort of the DRDO.

458. **B** **It increases underwater endurance by reducing dependence on atmospheric oxygen** – The correct answer is that it increases underwater endurance by reducing dependence on atmospheric oxygen.

459. **C** **Kalvari class, by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited** – In the stage that follows the Setting to Work Phase-2 activity, the AIP Energy Module will be energised for power production and tested rigorously against the Indian Navy's protocols.

460. **A** **Bhubaneswar** – The correct answer is Bhubaneswar, the capital of Odisha, where the two-day conference and exhibition ended on 24 October 2026 after sessions on 23 and 24 October.

461. **B** **Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age** – The correct answer is 'Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age', the theme under which the nineteenth edition was held in Bhubaneswar.

462. **B** **Integration, Inclusiveness and Intelligence** – The correct answer is Integration, Inclusiveness and Intelligence, which the Minister shortened to the 3-I formula.

463. **B** **Urban Rising – Rethinking Urban Systems, Solutions and Delivery** – The correct answer is 'Urban Rising – Rethinking Urban Systems, Solutions and Delivery'.

464. **A** **National Institute of Urban Affairs** – The correct answer is the National Institute of Urban Affairs, which is the knowledge partner for the conclave, with the Housing and Urban Development Corporation and the National Buildings Construction Corporation as principal sponsors.

465. **B** **About 600 million** – The Union Minister of State said the urban population had grown from roughly 377 million in 2011 to around 500 million at present and was expected to reach that mark by 2036, adding that by the centenary of independence nearly one in every two Indians would b...

466. **B** **Amritsar–Kolkata Industrial Corridor** – The correct answer is the Amritsar–Kolkata Industrial Corridor, along which the Integrated Manufacturing Cluster at Gaya is coming up as part of the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme.

467. **A** **Twelve MoUs for about ₹4,200 crore** – Those agreements were signed with prospective investors for roughly 300 acres of industrial land at the Gaya cluster, and the employment potential attached to them was estimated at 16,095.

468. **A** **BIADA and the National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust** – The correct answer is the Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority and the National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust, commonly written as BIADA and NICDIT, which hold equal equity in the company.

469. **A** **Rajesh Verma** – The correct answer is Rajesh Verma, who heads the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas and led the high-level team that met the Deputy Commissioners and other officers of Amritsar and Tarn Taran on 24 October 2026.

470. **B** **Punjab** – Both Amritsar and Tarn Taran are districts of Punjab, and the commission's team held its review meeting with their Deputy Commissioners and other concerned officers.

471. **B** **In thermal power plants, brick kilns and industries** – The correct answer is in thermal power plants, brick kilns and industries where such fuel use is feasible.

472. **B** **IIT Delhi** – The 29th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations, shortened to ETD-2026, was held at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi from 23 to 25 October 2026, and the Digital India BHASHINI Division took part in it with a session on its mult...

473. **A** **Comptroller and Auditor General of India** – BHASHINI Pragati is a document translation workbench that the Digital India BHASHINI Division built for the CAG, and it was put before the symposium as an example of translating structured documents, including files that run from 100 to 500 pages, with qualit...

474. **C** **36** – The figures placed before the symposium were that BHASHINI supports 36 Indian languages for text, 23 Indian languages for voice and 35 international languages, that it has recorded over 10 billion cumulative AI inferences, and that its website translation plu...

475. **C** **103** – India reached this figure on 15 October 2026, when Sukhna Wetland in Chandigarh and Sauj Jheel in Uttar Pradesh were added to the list of Wetlands of International Importance.

476. **B** **Sukhna Wetland and Sauj Jheel** – Sukhna Wetland lies in Chandigarh and is a rain-fed reservoir created in 1958 at the foot of the Shivalik hills; it shelters threatened species such as the Pallas's fish eagle, the common pochard and the black pond turtle, and migratory birds of the Central A...

477. **B** **Iran** – The treaty takes its name from Ramsar, the Iranian town where it was adopted on 2 February 1971, and it entered into force in 1975.

478. **C** **114** – The Indian contingent of para-athletes closed the Asian Para Games 2026 with that number of medals, which is a record for the country at the event and the best-ever performance it has managed there.

479. **B** **Its best-ever performance at the Games** – The correct answer is that it was the best-ever performance by India at the Asian Para Games.

480. **B** **Asian Para Games** – India recorded 114 medals at the 2026 edition of this competition, the largest haul the country has ever managed there, and the Games had just concluded when Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the contingent.

481. **C** **139th** – Mann Ki Baat is the monthly radio address of the Prime Minister, and the edition broadcast on 25 October 2026 was its 139th.

482. **B** **IIT Madras** – The Prime Minister inaugurated the Sudha Gopalakrishnan Brain Centre there during his visit to Chennai earlier in the month, and he spoke about it in the 139th episode of Mann Ki Baat.

483. **A** **Fiber optics** – Narinder Singh Kapany is known across the world as the Father of Fiber Optics, and his 100th birth anniversary falls on 31 October.

484. **A** **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** – The correct answer is the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, known as DARPG, which heads this nationwide drive across all Union ministries and their public sector undertakings.

485. **B** **Collection, segregation and disposal of e-waste** – This edition of the campaign places a dedicated emphasis on handling institutional electronic waste in an environment-friendly way, and the work is done in keeping with the E-Waste Management Rules, 2022.

486. **A** **Ministry of Coal** – The correct answer is the Ministry of Coal, under which NLC India Limited works as a public sector undertaking.

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487. **C** **85 crore** – Addressing the closing session of the 2nd National Urban Conclave, Rajiv Gauba, Member of NITI Aayog, said that nearly half of all Indians are expected to be living in urban areas by 2050, and that the urban population would therefore climb from roughly 50 cr...

488. **C** **18** – Drawing on the report Moving Towards Effective City Governance, prepared jointly by NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Rajiv Gauba said States must devolve all 18 functions to urban local bodies in line with the 74th Amendment, naming m...

489. **C** **1 lakh crore rupees** – Setting out NITI Aayog's Growth Hub initiative, Rajiv Gauba pointed to the Urban Challenge Fund of 1 lakh crore rupees announced in the budget of 2025-26, meant to develop cities as hubs of growth.

490. **B** **Narcotics Control Bureau** – The bureau planned the operation and led it in the early hours of 23 October 2026, working under a single command with Mizoram Police and the Enforcement Directorate.

491. **C** **Assam, Mizoram and Manipur** – The teams moved on city hubs and border stretches in these three States: Aizawl and Champhai in Mizoram, the Indo-Myanmar border trading town of Zokhawthar, operative bases at Churachandpur in Manipur, and the Cachar transit corridor in Assam.

492. **B** **31 December 2029** – The operation was presented as proof of India's resolve to wipe out every drug network by that date, the horizon fixed in the Vision Document on Narcotics Control, whose period runs from 2026 to 2029.

493. **A** **Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development** – That is the theme under which the forum, hosted by the Parliament of India at the Parliament House Complex in New Delhi, will deliberate on 26 and 27 October 2026.

494. **B** **Vyacheslav Volodin, Chairman of the State Duma** – The correct answer is Vyacheslav Volodin, Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.

495. **B** **Four** – The forum will facilitate consensus-based dialogue through four high-level sessions, themed on Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.

496. **C** **Central Consumer Protection Authority** – It is the body set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 to act against misleading advertisements and unfair trade practices, and it is headed by a Chief Commissioner, at present Nidhi Khare, sitting with Commissioner Anupam Mishra.

497. **B** **Consumer Protection Act, 2019** – The order against M/s Hogar Technologies and Innovations LLP, which carried a penalty of one lakh rupees, was passed under this Act, as were the earlier orders in the same matter against e-commerce platforms and sellers.

498. **B** **446.0 to 446.2 MHz** – Under the rules of 2018 on the use of low power and very low power short range radio frequency devices, personal mobile radios working within this narrow band are exempt from the requirement of a licence, subject to the conditions laid down.

499. **B** **AMRUT 2.0** – The Used Water Marketplace opened on the concluding day of the conclave is a digital platform set up under AMRUT 2.0, and it connects urban local bodies with users and investors in the treated used water ecosystem.

500. **C** **18** – On the second and concluding day of the conclave, the development of the eighteen selected Street Food Hubs under PM SVANidhi was formally commenced, and the release of the first tranche of funds marked the formal start of project implementation.

501. **C** **Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO)** – The correct answer is the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO).

502. **B** **A data centre and a cyber security training institute** – The correct answer is a data centre and a cyber security training institute.

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503. **C** **Sanjay Malhotra** – The Prime Minister named him as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India while greeting the guests on the dais at Bhubaneswar.

504. **B** **Mudra Yojana** – The Prime Minister said that this scheme made 13 crore people entrepreneurs for the first time, as part of a wider point that a borrower with nothing to offer as security can now raise a cheap and easy loan to start work.

505. **B** **VOYAGES** – This is the cooperation framework that India and South Korea adopted in April, when South Korean President Lee Jae Myung paid a state visit to India, and it covers shipbuilding, shipping and maritime logistics.

506. **C** **2047** – India has set itself the goal of ranking among the world's top five shipbuilding nations by that year, and the four-day South Korea visit of Sarbananda Sonowal was pitched as a step towards it.

507. **C** **Busan** – Sarbananda Sonowal opened his four-day South Korea visit in Busan, which he called the hub of the Korean maritime industry, with an interaction with Indian professionals working in Korean shipbuilding, and the same city is to host the ministerial roundtable f...

508. **A** **NIFTEM-Kundli** – The National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management at Kundli, which works under the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, hosted Hack the Fork on its campus, and the event has been described as India's first hackathon to bring Artific...

509. **B** **Alternative protein industry** – The challenge was built around harnessing Artificial Intelligence to advance that industry, and the areas opened to the teams included plant-based food innovation, fermentation technologies and food systems more broadly, along with nutritional optimisation, f...

510. **C** **France** – Hack the Fork is a France-based non-profit initiative, and it organised the hackathon in collaboration with NIFTEM-Kundli, with its Director, Ms. Alice Pjie, inaugurating the twenty-four hour contest on 24 October.

511. **B** **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – The Shilp Samagam Mela is its initiative to give marketing support to artisans and beneficiaries associated with its three national corporations, the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Dev...

512. **C** **75 artisans, 31 of them women** – The Guwahati edition of the fair has drawn these artisans from across the country, including the North-Eastern States, and together they are displaying roughly 40 varieties of handloom and handicraft products.

513. **A** **Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme** – BHARAT-TULIP is a key focus of the Guwahati fair and is meant to help market the products of artisans from the ministry's target groups through physical outlets as well as e-commerce platforms.

514. **C** **Port of Rotterdam** – The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry toured it with its Chief Executive Officer, Boudewijn Siemons, on the first day of his visit to the Netherlands, and the port is described as the largest in Europe, a gateway for Indian goods entering the European m...

515. **B** **Commerce and Industry** – Piyush Goyal is the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, and in that capacity he began a visit to the Netherlands aimed at strengthening economic ties, exploring fresh avenues for trade and investment, and deepening engagement with the Indian community.

516. **C** **India-EU Free Trade Agreement** – The minister's tour of the Port of Rotterdam was explicitly placed in the context of that agreement, which is expected to create significant new opportunities for Indian exporters; the world-class ports of the Netherlands, its logistics infrastructure and its...

517. **B** **More than Rs 1.87 lakh crore** – The Khadi and Village Industries Commission said the sector's turnover crossed that mark in the 2025-26 financial year, and that the same year it gave work to more than 2.04 crore people.

518.	**C**	**Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** – KVIC is the commission placed under that ministry, and its chairman Manoj Goel spoke in that capacity when he put the khadi and village industries sector's turnover above Rs 1.87 lakh crore with employment of more than 2.04 crore people.
519.	**C**	**More than 2.04 crore** – KVIC chairman Manoj Goel said the sector supported employment on that scale in the 2025-26 financial year, in the same statement in which he placed its turnover above Rs 1.87 lakh crore.

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