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Weekly Current Affairs: 26 October – 1 November 2026

206 stories

618 MCQs with answers

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26 October 2026

Lula da Silva Re-elected President of Brazil

26 October 2026 · International

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on his re-election as President of Brazil and sought a deeper Strategic Partnership.

- Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva won the presidential election in Brazil, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated him on 26 October 2026.
- The Prime Minister called the result a remarkable re-election victory and addressed President Lula as a dear friend.
- India and Brazil share a multifaceted Strategic Partnership, which the Prime Minister said he wished to deepen and expand.
- The message spoke of advancing the shared priorities of the Global South and of a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable world.

Leader	Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva
Country	Brazil
Result	Victory in the presidential elections, described as a re-election
Greeted by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Relationship	India-Brazil Strategic Partnership, called multifaceted
Grouping named	The Global South

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/lula-da-silva-re-elected-president-of-brazil/

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ESTIC 2026 Curtain Raiser Held at ICGEB New Delhi

26 October 2026 · Science & Technology

ICGEB New Delhi hosted the curtain raiser of ESTIC 2026 with a session on System and Synthetic Biology, ahead of the CSIR conclave at Bharat Mandapam.

- ICGEB New Delhi hosted the curtain raiser of ESTIC 2026 with a special session on System and Synthetic Biology.
- Prof. Gobardhan Das, Member of NITI Aayog, was the Chief Guest; Dr. Ramesh V. Sonti, Director of ICGEB New Delhi, gave the overview.
- ESTIC 2026 is organised by CSIR under the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser and runs from 27 to 29 October 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- The conclave covers 12 thematic areas, including artificial intelligence, semiconductors and advanced healthcare, in support of Viksit Bharat 2047.
- Dr. Dhananjay Kumar Tiwary, Scientist-H at DBT and MD of BIRAC, highlighted the BioE3 Policy's promise for biotechnology.

Event	Curtain raiser of ESTIC 2026, hosted by ICGEB New Delhi
Special session	System and Synthetic Biology
Chief Guest	Prof. Gobardhan Das, Member, NITI Aayog
Conclave organiser	CSIR, under the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser
Conclave dates	27 to 29 October 2026
Venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Thematic areas	12, including AI, semiconductors and advanced healthcare
Vision supported	Viksit Bharat 2047

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/estic-2026-curtain-raiser-held-at-icgeb-new-delhi/

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Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Crosses 1.55 Crore Structures

26 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Over 1.55 crore recharge and storage structures have come up under Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari, and a study credits them with 2.43 billion cubic metres of recharge.

- Over 1.55 crore artificial recharge and storage structures have been built under the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative.
- JSJB 1.0 ran from 1 April 2024 to 31 May 2025 on the 3Cs - Community, CSR and Cost - and JSJB 2.0 was launched on 1 June 2025.
- An impact study of 23 lakh structures, using rainfall data from 1 June 2025 to 31 December 2025, estimated 2.43 billion cubic metres of groundwater recharge.
- Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain was launched on 22 March 2021, World Water Day, with the slogan Catch the Rain, Where It Falls, When It Falls.
- Jal Shakti Abhiyan of 2019 covered 1,592 water-stressed blocks in 256 districts, and the 2023 edition focused on 150 water-stressed districts.

Campaign	Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari: Catch the Rain (JSJB: CTR)
Structures built	Over 1.55 crore artificial recharge and storage structures
JSJB 1.0 period	1 April 2024 to 31 May 2025
The 3Cs	Community, CSR and Cost
JSJB 2.0 launch	1 June 2025, for over-exploited and critical districts
Impact study	23 lakh structures, 2.43 billion cubic metres of groundwater recharge
JSA: CTR launch	22 March 2021, on World Water Day
JSA: CTR slogan	Catch the Rain, Where It Falls, When It Falls

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/jal-sanchay-jan-bhagidari-crosses-155-crore-structures/

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Immersive Tech Push: Rs 250 Crore for AVGC Creator Labs

26 October 2026 · Science & Technology

The Union Budget 2026-27 set aside Rs 250 crore for AVGC Content Creator Labs in 15,000 secondary schools and 500 colleges, with IICT Mumbai as nodal agency.

- The Union Budget 2026-27 allocated Rs 250 crore for AVGC Content Creator Labs in 15,000 secondary schools and 500 colleges, with IICT Mumbai as nodal agency.
- India's immersive technology market earned USD 1,259.5 million in 2023 and is projected to touch USD 7,818.7 million by 2030 at a CAGR of 29.8 per cent.
- Extended Reality covers Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality and Mixed Reality; 360-degree video and haptic technology are related tools.
- The AVGC Promotion Task Force was constituted by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in April 2022, and IICT was established in 2025.
- MeitY's GENESIS scheme, launched in 2022, aims to support about 1,600 startups over five years and backs 106 incubators.

Budget allocation	Rs 250 crore in the Union Budget 2026-27 for AVGC Content Creator Labs
Coverage of labs	15,000 secondary schools and 500 colleges
Nodal agency	Indian Institute of Creative Technologies (IICT), Mumbai
AVGC-XR	Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics and Extended Reality
Forms of XR	Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality and Mixed Reality
Market size	USD 1,259.5 million in 2023, projected USD 7,818.7 million by 2030
Growth rate	CAGR of 29.8 per cent, fastest-growing market in Asia Pacific
Task Force	AVGC Promotion Task Force, constituted in April 2022 by MIB

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/immersive-tech-push-rs-250-crore-for-avgc-creator-labs/

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12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum Under India's Chairship

26 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum will take up institutional resilience, AI governance, South-South cooperation and sustainability under India's BRICS Chairship.

- The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum is to strengthen parliamentary dialogue and cooperation among member and partner countries of the grouping.
- Its sittings will discuss institutional resilience, AI governance, South-South cooperation and sustainability.
- The agenda is guided by the four pillars of India's 2026 BRICS Chairship.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla wrote on the Forum's role, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi shared the article on 26 October 2026.

Event	12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum
Purpose	Strengthening parliamentary dialogue and cooperation
Subjects on the agenda	Institutional resilience, AI governance, South-South cooperation, sustainability
Guiding framework	The four pillars of India's 2026 BRICS Chairship
Who wrote on it	Shri Om Birla, Speaker of the Lok Sabha
Participants	Member and partner countries of BRICS

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/12th-brics-parliamentary-forum-under-indias-chairship/

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TDB Funds Manastu Space Green Propulsion With Rs 116 Crore

26 October 2026 · Science & Technology

The Technology Development Board has sanctioned Rs 116 crore to Manastu Space Technologies for an indigenous green propulsion system for satellites.

- TDB, under the Department of Science and Technology, signed an agreement with Manastu Space Technologies Private Limited of Navi Mumbai for Rs 116 crore of support from the RDI Fund
- The total project cost is Rs 277.63 crore and the TDB share will be given as Optionally Convertible Debt
- The green propulsion system spans the 5 mN to 300 N thrust class and uses a hydrogen peroxide based propellant with additives
- The project will raise the technology from Technology Readiness Level six to Technology Readiness Level nine
- The work sits in the Deep Technology sector with Space Technology as the sub-sector; TDB Secretary is Shri Rajesh Kumar Pathak

Funding body	Technology Development Board (TDB), Department of Science and Technology
Company	Manastu Space Technologies Private Limited, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra
TDB support	Rs 116 crore from the Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund
Total project cost	Rs 277.63 crore
Funding instrument	Optionally Convertible Debt (OCD)
Thrust class	5 mN to 300 N
Propellant	Hydrogen peroxide based green propellant with additives
Maturity target	Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 6 to TRL 9

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/tdb-funds-manastu-space-green-propulsion-with-rs-116-crore/

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RELIEF Export Scheme Extended Till 31 March 2027

26 October 2026 · Economy

The Department of Commerce has extended Component II of the RELIEF initiative under the Export Promotion Mission till 31 March 2027 with 95 per cent risk cover.

- The Department of Commerce has extended Component II of RELIEF, a time-bound intervention under the Export Promotion Mission, until 31 March 2027
- RELIEF stands for Resilience and Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation and was launched on 19 March 2026
- Component II gives 95 per cent risk coverage to encourage exporters to take ECGC cover for shipments to specified regions
- The benefit covers Standalone Policies and Whole Turnover Policies taken on or after 16 March 2026, and premium is protected against rises beyond pre-disruption levels
- Covered cargo includes Full Container Load, Less than Container Load and reefer containers, while energy shipments are excluded

Scheme	RELIEF: Resilience and Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation
Parent mission	Export Promotion Mission (EPM)
Ministry	Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Extended until	31 March 2027 (Component II)
Notification	No. 37/2026-27 dated 30 September 2026
Risk coverage	95 per cent
Cover provider	Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC)
Eligible policies	Standalone and Whole Turnover Policies taken on or after 16 March 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/relief-export-scheme-extended-till-31-march-2027/

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13th ADMM-Plus at Cebu: Rajnath Singh to Lead India

26 October 2026 · Defence

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will lead the Indian delegation at the 13th ASEAN ADMM-Plus meeting at Cebu in the Philippines from 28 to 29 October 2026.

- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh will lead the Indian delegation at the 13th ADMM-Plus at Cebu, Philippines, on 28 and 29 October 2026
- The Philippines is the chair of ADMM-Plus for the current year; the forum brings together 11 ASEAN member states and 8 Dialogue Partners
- India became a dialogue partner of ASEAN in 1992 and the first ADMM-Plus was held in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 12 October 2010
- ADMM-Plus Ministers have been meeting every year since 2017; the ADMM is the highest defence consultative mechanism within ASEAN
- India co-chairs the Experts Working Group on Counter-Terrorism with Malaysia for the cycle 2024 to 2027, part of defence diplomacy under the Act East policy

Event	13th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus)
Venue	Cebu, Philippines
Dates	28 to 29 October 2026
Indian delegation led by	Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh
Chair for the year	Philippines
Participants	11 ASEAN member states and 8 Dialogue Partners
India as ASEAN dialogue partner since	1992
First ADMM-Plus	Hanoi, Vietnam, on 12 October 2010

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/13th-admm-plus-at-cebu-rajnath-singh-to-lead-india/

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Army Seminar MTS 2.0 Themed CHAKRA: Curtain Raiser Held

26 October 2026 · Defence

The Army held the curtain raiser for Mechanisation Technology Seminar 2.0, themed CHAKRA, which will be held at Chandimandir on 14 and 15 December 2026.

- Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh, GOC-in-C Western Command, inaugurated the Curtain Raiser for Mechanisation Technology Seminar 2.0 at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
- The seminar theme is CHAKRA, Transforming Existing Platforms for Future Combat, and it will be held on 14 and 15 December 2026
- The venue of the seminar is Chandimandir Military Station, organised by Western Command with the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM)
- MTS 2.0 aims to convert platforms already in service into technologically advanced, future-ready combat systems for mechanised forces
- Focus areas are combat capability enhancement, harnessing technology, adaptability, kinetics, refurbishment and Atmanirbharta, with gaps written up as Problem Definition Statements

Event	Curtain Raiser for Mechanisation Technology Seminar 2.0 (MTS 2.0)
Inaugurated by	Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh, GOC-in-C, Western Command
Curtain raiser venue	Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, on 26 October 2026
Seminar theme	CHAKRA, Transforming Existing Platforms for Future Combat
Seminar dates	14 and 15 December 2026
Seminar venue	Chandimandir Military Station
Organisers	Western Command with the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM)
Focus areas	Combat capability enhancement, technology, adaptability, kinetics, refurbishment, Atmanirbharta

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/army-seminar-mts-20-themed-chakra-curtain-raiser-held/

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CBSE Holds 4th School-to-Work Transition Summit in Delhi

26 October 2026 · National

CBSE opened the 4th National Summit on Facilitating School-to-Work Transition in New Delhi on 26 and 27 October 2026 with the Sahodaya School Complexes.

- CBSE, with the Sahodaya School Complexes of Delhi and the NCR, is holding the 4th National Summit on Facilitating School-to-Work Transition in New Delhi on 26 and 27 October 2026
- Shri T. K. Anil Kumar, Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy, and CBSE Chairman Dr. Mandeep Bhandari attended the summit
- Four priorities were named: technology with digital safety and skills; design, creativity and innovation; recognition of skills through the National Credit Framework; and career guidance with equitable pathways
- The summit brings together school leaders, educators, industry experts and policymakers to discuss emerging workforce requirements
- The approach follows the vision of the National Education Policy 2020 of breaking barriers between streams of education

Event	4th National Summit on Facilitating School-to-Work Transition
Organisers	CBSE with the Sahodaya School Complexes of Delhi and the NCR
Dates	26 and 27 October 2026
Venue	New Delhi
DoSEL Secretary	Shri T. K. Anil Kumar
CBSE Chairman	Dr. Mandeep Bhandari
Framework for skill recognition	National Credit Framework
Policy vision	National Education Policy 2020

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cbse-holds-4th-school-to-work-transition-summit-in-delhi/

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Shivraj Chouhan to Give 67th Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture

26 October 2026 · National

Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will deliver the 67th Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture on 27 October 2026, to be broadcast by Akashvani on 31 October.

- Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, will deliver the 67th Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture on 27 October 2026
- The venue is the Rang Bhawan Auditorium of Akashvani in New Delhi, and the recording is broadcast on the entire Akashvani network on 31 October at 9.30 at night
- Akashvani has organised the annual Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Lecture since 1955 in memory of independent India's first Deputy Prime Minister and Information and Broadcasting Minister
- The inaugural lecture was delivered by Bharat Ratna Shri C. Rajagopalachari, independent India's first Governor General
- The 66th edition was delivered by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Labour and Employment; Sardar Patel is remembered as the Iron Man of India

Event	67th Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture
Speaker	Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Rural Development
Date and time	27 October 2026, three in the afternoon
Venue	Rang Bhawan Auditorium, Akashvani, Sansad Marg, New Delhi
Broadcast	Entire Akashvani network on 31 October at 9.30 at night
Series began	1955, organised by Akashvani
Inaugural speaker	Bharat Ratna Shri C. Rajagopalachari, first Governor General of independent India
Previous edition	66th, delivered by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Labour and Employment

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shivraj-chouhan-to-give-67th-sardar-patel-memorial-lecture/

DAC Clears Rs 2.12 Lakh Crore Defence Acquisition Proposals

26 October 2026 · Defence

The Defence Acquisition Council, chaired by Rajnath Singh, granted Acceptance of Necessity to capital proposals worth about Rs 2.12 lakh crore for the three Services.

- The Defence Acquisition Council met on 26 October 2026 under Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh and cleared proposals costing about Rs 2,12,000 crore
- Acceptance of Necessity is in-principle administrative approval, the first formal step of a capital acquisition, not the signing of a contract
- Army items include High Mobility Vehicles, a Self-Propelled Tracked Gun System, the Gun Shot Response System, LMRH and VSHORADS
- The Navy gets the Active Offboard Decoy System against anti-ship missiles; the Air Force gets a Mobile X-Band Doppler Weather Radar System
- Roughly 82 per cent of the cleared procurement is to come from Indian industry

Body	Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)
Chaired by	Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh
Date of meeting	26 October 2026
Approval granted	Acceptance of Necessity (AoN), in-principle administrative approval
Estimated cost	About Rs 2,12,000 crore (Rs 2.12 lakh crore)
Army systems	HMV, Self-Propelled Tracked Gun System, GSRS, LMRH, VSHORADS, C-UAS, surveillance UAV, long-range kamikaze drones
Navy system	Active Offboard Decoy System (AODS) and major indigenous naval platforms
Air Force systems	Helicopters, air defence systems, weapons, Mobile X-Band Doppler Weather Radar System

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dac-clears-rs-212-lakh-crore-defence-acquisition-proposals/

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Cyclone Arnab: NCMC Reviews Andhra Pradesh Landfall Plans

26 October 2026 · National

Cabinet Secretary T. V. Somanathan chaired the National Crisis Management Committee as cyclonic storm Arnab headed for the Andhra Pradesh coast by 28 October.

- Cabinet Secretary Dr. T. V. Somanathan chaired the National Crisis Management Committee on 26 October 2026 on the Bay of Bengal cyclone
- The cyclonic storm has been named Arnab and is forecast to cross the Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts between Bapatla and Visakhapatnam
- Landfall is expected by the forenoon of 28 October 2026 as a very severe cyclonic storm with winds of 115-125 kmph gusting to 140 kmph
- Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Puducherry briefed the Committee; NDRF and SDRF teams are on standby
- The Cabinet Secretary set the objective of zero loss of life, and asked that eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar be alerted for heavy rain

Cyclone	Cyclonic storm Arnab, over the Bay of Bengal
Committee	National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC)
Chaired by	Cabinet Secretary Dr. T. V. Somanathan
Meeting date	26 October 2026
Expected landfall	Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts, between Bapatla and Visakhapatnam, by the forenoon of 28 October 2026
Intensity at landfall	Very severe cyclonic storm, winds 115-125 kmph gusting to 140 kmph
Position on 26 October	About 650 km east-south-east of Visakhapatnam and 590 km north-west of Sri Vijaya Puram
States and UT represented	Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Puducherry

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cyclone-arnab-ncmc-reviews-andhra-pradesh-landfall-plans/

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MoSPI Flash Report: 1,853 Projects Worth Rs 37.56 Lakh Crore

26 October 2026 · Reports & Indices

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation now monitors 1,853 central sector infrastructure projects costing Rs 37.56 lakh crore as of September 2026.

- MoSPI's Flash Report for September 2026 tracks 1,853 ongoing central sector infrastructure projects worth Rs 37.56 lakh crore
- Cumulative expenditure on them is Rs 17.73 lakh crore, about 47.21 per cent of the project cost
- Of the total, 780 are mega projects of Rs 1,000 crore and above and 1,073 are major projects below that level
- Transport and Logistics has 1,320 projects and Energy 225; together they are 83.4 per cent of the monitored projects
- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has the most projects at 974, costing Rs 9.46 lakh crore

Report	Monthly Flash Report on Central Sector Infrastructure Projects, September 2026
Released by	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
Platform	PAIMANA, renamed PAIMANA-PROJ, with PAIMANA-CRIP as the data repository
Projects monitored	1,853 ongoing projects across 17 Ministries and Departments
Total cost	Rs 37.56 lakh crore
Expenditure	Rs 17.73 lakh crore, about 47.21 per cent of cost
Coverage threshold	Projects costing Rs 150 crore and above
Mega and major projects	780 mega projects of Rs 1,000 crore and above; 1,073 major projects below that

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mospi-flash-report-1853-projects-worth-rs-3756-lakh-crore/

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TRAI Recommends ALTD Authorisation Framework for TV Apps

26 October 2026 · National

TRAI has recommended a light-touch authorisation framework for Application-based Linear Television Distribution services, including free ad-supported streaming TV.

- TRAI released recommendations on an authorisation framework for Application-based Linear Television Distribution services on 26 October 2026
- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting made the reference on 15 December 2025 under Section 11(1)(a) of the TRAI Act, 1997
- ALTD Service is to be a distinct sub-category of Television Channel Distribution Services under Section 3(1)(a) of the Telecommunications Act, 2023
- The authorisation would run for 20 years, renewable for 10 years at a time, with a processing fee of Rs 10,000 and an entry fee of Rs 1 lakh
- A Master ALTD app repository is to be kept by the Ministry, and ALTD viewership folded into audience measurement under the TV Ratings Policy, 2026

Regulator	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
Recommendations on	Authorisation Framework for Application-based Linear Television Distribution (ALTD) Services
Includes	Free Ad-Supported Streaming Television (FAST) services
Reference from	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, 15 December 2025, under Section 11(1)(a) of the TRAI Act, 1997
Consultation paper	Issued 6 April 2026; 207 comments and 11 counter-comments received
Open House Discussion	Held on 10 June 2026
Proposed legal basis	Sub-category under Section 3(1)(a) of the Telecommunications Act, 2023; terms as Rules under Section 56
Validity and fees	20 years initial validity, renewable for 10 years; Rs 10,000 processing fee and Rs 1 lakh one-time entry fee

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/trai-recommends-altd-authorisation-framework-for-tv-apps/

GeM AABHAR Collection Lists 294 Artisan Gift Products

26 October 2026 · Economy

Government e-Marketplace is promoting The AABHAR Collection, a storefront of 294 product listings from 10 handloom and handicraft emporiums for government buyers.

- Government e-Marketplace is promoting The AABHAR Collection, a digital storefront of curated gift items and hampers rooted in Indian crafts
- The collection carries 294 product catalogue listings from 10 State and Central handloom and handicraft emporiums
- Products are linked to the One District, One Product initiative and to Geographical Indication tags
- Seven more bodies, including the Coffee Board, Utkalika of Odisha and Panthoibi of Manipur, are completing seller onboarding
- The storefront was launched in July 2024; GeM's Chief Executive Officer is Shri Mihir Kumar

Platform	Government e-Marketplace (GeM), Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Storefront	The AABHAR Collection
Product listings	294 product catalogue listings
Emporiums on board	10 State and Central handloom and handicraft emporiums
Linked initiatives	One District, One Product (ODOP) and Geographical Indication (GI) tags
Launched	July 2024
Chief Executive Officer, GeM	Shri Mihir Kumar
Additional CEO (Social Inclusion)	Shri Ajit B. Chavan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/gem-aabhar-collection-lists-294-artisan-gift-products/

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First National SARAS Mela at Vijayawada Till 31 October

26 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The first National SARAS Mela held outside Delhi-NCR is on at Punnami Ghat in Vijayawada till 31 October 2026, showcasing Lakhpati Didi enterprises.

- The National SARAS Mela 2026 at Punnami Ghat, Vijayawada, is the first National SARAS Mela held outside Delhi-NCR and runs till 31 October 2026
- It is organised by the Ministry of Rural Development with the Andhra Pradesh government and support from NABARD, NIRDPR and Kudumbashree
- President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the Mela and said SARAS Melas will now be held every year in a different State
- A Lakhpati Didi is an SHG household woman with sustainable annual household income of at least Rs 1 lakh; the target is six crore such women by 2029
- A 16-foot installation named SHAKTI - The Spirit of Lakhpati Didi stands at the Lakhpati Didi Pavilion

Event	First National SARAS Mela 2026 held outside Delhi-NCR
Venue	Punnami Ghat, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
Dates	Continues till 31 October 2026, open daily from 11:00 am to 9:30 pm
Organised by	Ministry of Rural Development with the Government of Andhra Pradesh
Supported by	NABARD, NIRDPR and Kudumbashree
Inaugurated by	President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu
Lakhpati Didi	Woman of an SHG household with sustainable annual household income of at least Rs 1 lakh
Target	Six crore Lakhpati Didis by 2029

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/first-national-saras-mela-at-vijayawada-till-31-october/

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Special Campaign 6.0: Coal CPSEs Earn Rs 53.94 Crore from Scrap

26 October 2026 · National

Special Campaign 6.0, running from 2 to 31 October 2026, saw Coal Ministry CPSEs clean 130.16 lakh square feet and earn about Rs 53.94 crore from scrap.

- Special Campaign 6.0 runs from 2 October to 31 October 2026 and is aimed at Swachhata in government offices and the disposal of pending matters
- CPSEs under the Ministry of Coal cleaned 1,696 sites and 130.16 lakh square feet, against targets of 1,565 sites and 101.80 lakh square feet
- Scrap disposal of 16,158 metric tonnes by Coal CPSEs earned the exchequer about Rs 53.94 crore, the day’s largest such figure
- The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways earned Rs 9.79 crore from scrap and freed 88,171 square feet of space
- The Health Ministry holds Kayakalp activities on 27 October 2026, and States must clear pending grievances by 30 October 2026

Campaign	Special Campaign 6.0 for Swachhata and disposal of pending matters
Duration	2 October to 31 October 2026
Main heads	Cleanliness, file weeding, office space management, e-waste disposal, grievance redressal
Coal CPSEs: area cleaned	130.16 lakh sq ft at 1,696 sites, against 101.80 lakh sq ft at 1,565 sites
Coal CPSEs: scrap	16,158 metric tonnes disposed, earning about Rs 53.94 crore
Coal CPSEs: files	78,635 reviewed against a target of 59,593; 70,093 closed or weeded out
Ports, Shipping and Waterways	173 drives, Rs 9.79 crore from scrap, 88,171 sq ft freed
CBIC	449 offices, 21,015 kg scrap cleared, 24,222 sq ft reclaimed, Rs 65,663 earned

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/special-campaign-60-coal-cpses-earn-rs-5394-crore-from-scrap/

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World Maritime Day: Sonowal Joins IMO Chief at Busan Meet

26 October 2026 · International

At a World Maritime Day ministerial roundtable in Busan, Sarbananda Sonowal sought universal shipping rules with flexible implementation and wooed Korean firms.

- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal spoke at the World Maritime Day ministerial roundtable in Busan, South Korea, alongside IMO Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez.
- He pressed for ambitious universal maritime standards whose implementation recognises differences in development, technology and access to finance.
- India's Maritime Single Window covers 69 ports and terminals; the Alang-Sosiya yard has 115 Hong Kong Convention-compliant ship recycling facilities.
- KOMEA, founded in 1980 with 304 members, will open its first India office in Mumbai on 30 October under the VOYAGES cooperation framework.
- Indian yards have order book visibility of more than 400 vessels worth about $23 billion over ten years, with shipbuilding output up over 80 per cent in 2026.

Occasion	World Maritime Day ministerial roundtable
Venue	Busan, South Korea
India represented by	Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
IMO Secretary-General	Arsenio Dominguez
Other ministers	South Korea, Norway and Cyprus
Session chaired by	Moon Seong-hyeok, former Korean minister of oceans and fisheries
Maritime Single Window	69 ports and terminals
Alang-Sosiya	115 Hong Kong Convention-compliant ship recycling facilities

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/world-maritime-day-sonowal-joins-imo-chief-at-busan-meet/

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SWAVLAMBAN 2026: Rajnath Singh Calls for Aatmanirbharta 2.0

26 October 2026 · Defence

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh called for Aatmanirbharta 2.0 in defence while addressing the fifth edition of SWAVLAMBAN, the Indian Navy's indigenisation seminar.

- SWAVLAMBAN 5.0 is the fifth edition of the Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar, held at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, on 26 and 27 October 2026
- Its theme is 'Strength and Power through Innovation and Indigenisation'; the Indian Navy organised it with the Defence Innovation Organisation and SIDM
- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh called for Aatmanirbharta 2.0, a second phase of defence self-reliance serving the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047
- Start-ups and MSMEs have sent more than 4,000 proposals against 229 iDEX challenges issued by the Indian Navy
- 41 Acceptance of Necessity cases worth over Rs 3,500 crore have been accorded and 25 contracts worth over Rs 1,900 crore signed

Event	SWAVLAMBAN 5.0, the Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar
Edition	Fifth; the platform was launched in 2022
Theme	Strength and Power through Innovation and Indigenisation
Venue and dates	Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, 26 to 27 October 2026
Organised by	Indian Navy with the Defence Innovation Organisation and SIDM
Addressed by	Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh
Call given	Aatmanirbharta 2.0, the next phase of defence self-reliance
Chief of the Naval Staff	Admiral Krishna Swaminathan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/swavlamban-2026-rajnath-singh-calls-for-aatmanirbharta-20/

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Jaipur-Tatanagar-Santragachi Express Train Flagged Off

26 October 2026 · National

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari flagged off the new Jaipur (Khatipura)-Tatanagar-Santragachi Express train.

- The Jaipur (Khatipura)-Tatanagar-Santragachi Express was flagged off on 26 October 2026 by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari
- The train improves connectivity across Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal, joining Jaipur with Jamshedpur and Kolkata
- Jharkhand's railway allocation has grown from Rs 450 crore to Rs 7,500 crore, about 16 times, with projects worth about Rs 75,000 crore under way
- 57 stations in Jharkhand and more than 1,300 across India are being redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme
- West Bengal's railway allocation rose from an annual average of Rs 4,380 crore in 2009-2014 to Rs 14,205 crore for 2026-27

Train	Jaipur (Khatipura)-Tatanagar-Santragachi Express
Flagged off by	Railway Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw (by video conferencing) and West Bengal Chief Minister Shri Suvendu Adhikari
Date	26 October 2026
States connected	Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal
Cities joined	Jaipur with Jamshedpur and Kolkata
Jharkhand allocation	Up from Rs 450 crore to Rs 7,500 crore, about 16 times
Projects in Jharkhand	About Rs 75,000 crore
Amrit Bharat stations	57 in Jharkhand; more than 1,300 across the country

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/jaipur-tatanagar-santragachi-express-train-flagged-off/

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Nadda Launches De-addiction Training for 10,000 Providers

26 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda launched a capacity building programme to train 10,000 service providers in drug de-addiction care by March 2029, at New Delhi.

- Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda launched the capacity building training programme for medical and allied healthcare professionals in drug de-addiction services at Kartavya Bhawan-1, New Delhi
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare must train 10,000 service providers by March 2029 under the Vision Document on Narcotic Control: 2026-2029
- Training is phased as 2,000 providers this financial year, 3,000 in 2027-28 and 5,000 in 2028-29, towards a Nasha Mukt Bharat by 2029
- Six Drug De-addiction Programme institutions will run it, with NDDTC, AIIMS New Delhi as the coordinating centre and a capacity of 300 participants a week
- The second edition of Substance Use Disorder: Manual for Physicians, first published in 2005, was released at the event

Programme	Capacity Building Training Programme for Medical and Allied Healthcare Professionals in drug de-addiction services
Launched by	Union Health Minister Shri J.P. Nadda
Venue and date	Kartavya Bhawan-1, New Delhi, 26 October 2026, in hybrid mode
Target	10,000 service providers by March 2029
Mandate from	Vision Document on Narcotic Control: 2026-2029, unveiled by Home Minister Shri Amit Shah in June 2026
Phasing	2,000 in the current financial year, 3,000 in 2027-28, 5,000 in 2028-29
Goal	Nasha Mukt Bharat by 2029
Institutions	NDDTC AIIMS New Delhi, NIMHANS Bengaluru, PGIMER Chandigarh, CIP Ranchi, Dr. RML Hospital New Delhi, AIIMS Bhubaneswar

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nadda-launches-de-addiction-training-for-10000-providers/

MoRTH Amends Motor Vehicle Rules for E85, E100 Flex Fuel

26 October 2026 · Environment

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways amended the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, to include E100 alongside E85 in emission certification for flex fuel cars.

- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has amended the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, to support flex fuel vehicles using E85 and other high ethanol fuels
- The emission certification provisions now name E100 expressly alongside E85, and certified vehicles must meet the emission and safety norms of their category
- E85 is a petrol-ethanol blend with up to 85 per cent ethanol by volume; E denotes ethanol and the number its share, so E100 is predominantly ethanol
- Compatibility with E10 or E20 does not make a vehicle suitable for E85, and no existing vehicle owner has to switch fuels or modify the vehicle
- The amendments also update biodiesel provisions and take effect from the date of publication in the Official Gazette

Ministry	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)
Rules amended	Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989
Change made	E100 included expressly alongside E85 in the emission certification provisions
E85	Petrol and ethanol blend containing up to 85 per cent ethanol by volume
Meaning of E	Ethanol; the number gives the proportion of ethanol in the fuel
E100	A fuel consisting predominantly of ethanol
Countries already using flex fuel	Brazil and the United States
Fuel tank	A single tank, with engine controls adjusting automatically to the fuel composition

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/morth-amends-motor-vehicle-rules-for-e85-e100-flex-fuel/

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ASUSE 2027-28 to Shift to April-March Financial Year

26 October 2026 · Reports & Indices

MoSPI will run the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises from April 2027 to March 2028, aligning it with the financial year and adding new questions.

- ASUSE 2027-28 is proposed to be conducted from April 2027 to March 2028, shifting the survey period from the calendar year to the financial year
- The National Statistics Office under MoSPI has conducted the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises since 2021-22
- For the first time the survey will capture gender-specific constraints faced by women entrepreneurs; new questions cover electricity sources and long-period investment in fixed assets
- Two questions to identify handloom, power-loom and handicraft establishments were added at the request of the Ministry of Textiles
- The January to March 2027 quarter will be surveyed on the existing ASUSE 2026 schedule so the quarterly series is not broken; comments are invited till 15 November 2026

Survey	Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE)
Conducted by	National Statistics Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Running since	2021-22
New survey period	April 2027 to March 2028 for ASUSE 2027-28
Change made	Reference period shifted from the calendar year (January-December) to the financial year (April-March)
Aligned with	Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) and Annual Survey of Incorporated Services Sector Enterprises (ASISSE)
First-time question	Gender-specific constraints faced by women entrepreneurs
Other new questions	Sources of electricity used; investment in fixed assets over a longer reference period

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/asuse-2027-28-to-shift-to-april-march-financial-year/

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INS Trishul Arrives at Civitavecchia Port in Italy

26 October 2026 · Defence

INS Trishul reached Civitavecchia in Italy on its Mediterranean Sea deployment after a Passage Exercise with the Italian Navy ship Carlo Margottini.

- INS Trishul arrived at the port of Civitavecchia in Italy on 25 October 2026 during its operational deployment to the Mediterranean Sea
- Before entering harbour the ship held a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the Italian Naval Ship Carlo Margottini
- The PASSEX covered coordinated manoeuvring, communication procedures, replenishment approaches, cross-deck landings, personnel transfers and boarding operations
- The exercise helped the two navies exchange best practices and improve operational synergy with each other
- The ship will be open to visitors during the port call, which also features professional interactions and cultural exchanges

Ship	Indian Naval Ship (INS) Trishul
Port visited	Civitavecchia, Italy
Date of arrival	25 October 2026
Deployment	Operational deployment to the Mediterranean Sea
Exercise held	Passage Exercise (PASSEX)
Partner ship	Italian Naval Ship Carlo Margottini
Drills covered	Coordinated manoeuvring, communication procedures, replenishment approaches, cross-deck landings, personnel transfers, boarding operations
During the port call	Professional interactions, cultural visits and exchanges; the ship open to visitors

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ins-trishul-arrives-at-civitavecchia-port-in-italy/

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India Hosts 61st CIML Meeting in New Delhi for First Time

26 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

India is hosting the 61st Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology at New Delhi from 26 to 28 October 2026, its first time as host.

- India is hosting the 61st Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML) at New Delhi from 26 to 28 October 2026, the first time it has hosted this OIML gathering.
- Dr. Bob Joseph Matthew is President of CIML; Ms. Renee Hansson of Sweden is First Vice-President and Mr. Anthony Donellan directs the BIML.
- The opening international seminar carried the theme 'Evolutions in Legal Metrology'; an OIML Strategy Workshop follows on 27 October 2026.
- India has been recognised as an OIML-CS Issuing Authority, and runs the e-Maap national portal along with Government Approved Test Centres.
- The National Time Dissemination Project 'One Nation, One Time' will carry traceable Indian Standard Time to banking, telecom, 5G, navigation and power systems.

Event	61st Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML)
Dates	26 to 28 October 2026
Venue	New Delhi
Parent body	International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML)
Host ministry	Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
CIML President	Dr. Bob Joseph Matthew
First Vice-President	Ms. Renee Hansson (Sweden)
BIML Director	Mr. Anthony Donellan

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

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Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 Theme: Probity for Prosperity

26 October 2026 · Important Days

Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 is being observed from 26 October to 1 November on the theme Probity for Prosperity, with J. P. Nadda leading the Integrity Pledge.

- Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 is being observed from 26 October to 1 November 2026 across central ministries and their offices
- The theme for the year is 'Satyanishtha se Samriddhi', given in English as Probity for Prosperity
- The week is always placed around the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, which falls on 31 October
- Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda administered the Integrity Pledge at Kartavya Bhawan-1, New Delhi, with Ministers of State Prataprao Jadhav and Anupriya Patel present
- At the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Secretary Sudhansh Pant administered the pledge and ordered timely disposal of scheme-related public grievances

Observance	Vigilance Awareness Week 2026
Dates	26 October to 1 November 2026
Theme	Satyanishtha se Samriddhi (Probity for Prosperity)
Why this week	It covers the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on 31 October
Health ministry ceremony	Integrity Pledge administered by Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda at Kartavya Bhawan-1, New Delhi
Ministers of State present	Prataprao Jadhav (Health and AYUSH, Independent Charge) and Anupriya Patel
Law ministry ceremony	Pledge administered by Additional Secretary Manoj Kumar at Kartavya Bhawan-2
Social justice ministry	Pledge administered by Secretary Sudhansh Pant

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vigilance-awareness-week-2026-theme-probity-for-prosperity/

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Dr. NTR University Ruby Jubilee: VP Cites 846 Medical Colleges

26 October 2026 · National

At the 40th Ruby Jubilee celebrations of Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences in Vijayawada, Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan cited 846 medical colleges.

- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan addressed the 40th anniversary (Ruby Jubilee) celebrations of Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
- He said the number of medical colleges in India has risen from 387 before 2014 to 846 at present, more than doubling
- MBBS seats are up 172 per cent, from about 51,000 to over 1.4 lakh, and postgraduate seats up 177 per cent, from about 31,000 to over 86,000
- The university is named after former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao; Governor S. Abdul Nazeer is its Chancellor and P. Chandrasekhar its Vice-Chancellor
- The Vice-President released a souvenir on the university's forty-year journey and took a pledge with the gathering for a drug-free society

Event	40th (Ruby Jubilee) Anniversary Celebrations of Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences
Venue	Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
Addressed by	Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan
Named after	Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh
Medical colleges	387 before 2014, 846 at present
MBBS seats	Up 172 per cent, from about 51,000 to over 1.4 lakh
PG seats	Up 177 per cent, from about 31,000 to over 86,000
Chancellor	S. Abdul Nazeer, Governor of Andhra Pradesh

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dr-ntr-university-ruby-jubilee-vp-cites-846-medical-colleges/

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Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 in Guwahati Draws 75 Artisans

26 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The eight-day Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 at Khanapara in Guwahati runs till 28 October with 75 artisans, and pushes BHARAT-TULIP market linkages for crafts.

- Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 at Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati began on 21 October and continues till 28 October 2026, open from 11 AM to 9 PM
- It is the second mela of the Shilp Samagam series in the financial year 2026-27, after the first edition at Dasara Exhibition Grounds, Mysuru, which closed on 19 October
- 75 artisans, including 31 women, are showing about 40 varieties of handloom and handicraft products
- The fair is organised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and promotes BHARAT-TULIP, the Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme
- Support goes to artisans linked to three national corporations, NSFDC, NSKFDC and NBCFDC, covering Scheduled Castes, OBCs, Safai Mitras and Denotified Tribes

Event	Shilp Samagam Mela (SSM) 2026, Guwahati
Organiser	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Venue	Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati, Assam
Dates	21 October to 28 October 2026, eight days, 11 AM to 9 PM
Participation	75 artisans, including 31 women, with about 40 varieties of products
Edition	Second mela of the series in financial year 2026-27
First edition	Dasara Exhibition Grounds, Mysuru, Karnataka, concluded 19 October 2026
Scheme promoted	BHARAT-TULIP, the Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme

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

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Nasha Mukt Yuva Viksit Bharat Quiz on MY Bharat Portal

26 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has opened the Nasha Mukt Yuva, Viksit Bharat Quiz on the MY Bharat portal, running from 26 October to 25 November.

- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the 'Nasha Mukt Yuva, Viksit Bharat Quiz' under the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan
- The online quiz runs from 26 October to 25 November 2026 on the MY Bharat portal and is open to all citizens
- It has 20 multiple-choice questions to be answered in 10 minutes, with a participation certificate and the correct answers shown at the end
- The Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan was launched on 15 August 2020, began in 272 vulnerable districts and now covers every district in the country
- The campaign has reached more than 35 crore people, including 13 crore youth and 10 crore women, and is in its seventh year

Initiative	Nasha Mukt Yuva, Viksit Bharat Quiz
Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Parent campaign	Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA)
Quiz window	26 October to 25 November 2026
Platform	MY Bharat portal
Format	20 multiple-choice questions in 10 minutes, with a participation certificate
NMBA launched	15 August 2020, initially in 272 vulnerable districts, now all districts
Reach	Over 35 crore people, including 13 crore youth and 10 crore women

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nasha-mukt-yuva-viksit-bharat-quiz-on-my-bharat-portal/

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IIPA Names Paul H. Appleby 2026 Awardees at 328th EC Meet

26 October 2026 · Awards & Honours

The 328th Executive Council meeting of the IIPA, chaired by Jitendra Singh, named three retired IAS officers for the Paul H. Appleby 2026 award in New Delhi.

- Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh chaired the 328th meeting of the Executive Council of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) in New Delhi as its Chairman
- The Paul H. Appleby 2026 award goes to retired IAS officers S. S. Kshatriya, D. P. Tiwari and B. R. Sharma
- The Dr. Rajendra Prasad award for academic excellence goes to Prof. K. Chockalingam, former Vice-Chancellor of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli
- The council thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for One Nation One Subscription (ONOS), which gives faculty access to a wider pool of journals and research papers
- IIPA's structured internship programme, launched in May 2026, was praised and the council asked for its scope to be widened, with interns joining research work

Body	Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi
Meeting	328th meeting of the Executive Council
Chaired by	Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State, as Chairman IIPA
Paul H. Appleby 2026 award	Retired IAS officers S. S. Kshatriya, D. P. Tiwari and B. R. Sharma
Dr. Rajendra Prasad award	Prof. K. Chockalingam, former Vice-Chancellor, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu
Flagship course	Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration (APPPA)
Scheme cited	One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) for access to journals and research papers
Internship programme	Structured internship programme launched in May 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/iipa-names-paul-h-appleby-2026-awardees-at-328th-ec-meet/

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27 October 2026

India-Netherlands Business Forum Co-Chaired by Piyush Goyal

27 October 2026 · International

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal co-chaired the India-Netherlands Business Forum with Dutch Minister Sjoerd Sjoerdsma, drawing about 200 participants.

- Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal held a second day of trade and investment engagements in the Netherlands on 26 October 2026.
- He co-chaired the India-Netherlands Business Forum with Dutch Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation Sjoerd Sjoerdsma; about 200 people attended.
- Other leaders he met were Heleen Herbert, Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate, and Arthur van Dijk, King's Commissioner of the Province of North Holland.
- A roundtable with the top management of 15 Dutch companies was hosted by India's Embassy in The Hague along with HSBC Netherlands.
- Talks were built around cashing in the India-EU Free Trade Agreement, after the elevation of India-Netherlands ties to a Strategic Partnership.

Country visited	Netherlands, engagements of 26 October 2026
Indian Minister	Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry
Main event	India-Netherlands Business Forum
Dutch co-chair	Sjoerd Sjoerdsma, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation
Forum participation	About 200, largely Indian and Dutch business representatives
Other minister met	Heleen Herbert, Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate
Provincial dignitary	Arthur van Dijk, King's Commissioner, Province of North Holland
CXO roundtable	15 Dutch companies, with the Embassy in The Hague and HSBC Netherlands

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-netherlands-business-forum-co-chaired-by-piyush-goyal/

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Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana: Rs 77.98 Crore for 755 Projects

27 October 2026 · Government Schemes

India's umbrella elderly welfare scheme AVYAY released Rs 77.98 crore in grant-in-aid to 755 senior citizen projects for the quarter ending 30 September 2026.

- AVYAY was launched in 2021 by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and subsumed the earlier National Action Plan for Senior Citizens into one umbrella scheme.
- Rs 77.98 crore was released as grant-in-aid to 755 projects under the Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens for the quarter ending 30 September 2026.
- IPSrC currently supports 764 senior citizen homes, 13 continuous care homes, 17 mobile medicare units and 3 physiotherapy clinics.
- Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana, started in 2017, has supplied 55,87,653 assistive devices to over 10.45 lakh senior citizens through ALIMCO.
- Elderline, the national helpline numbered 14567, has handled more than 8.66 lakh actionable calls since October 2021.

Scheme	Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY)
Nodal Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Launched	2021, subsuming the National Action Plan for Senior Citizens
Grant released	Rs 77.98 crore to 755 projects for the quarter ending 30 September 2026
Facilities supported	764 senior citizen homes, 13 continuous care homes, 17 mobile medicare units, 3 physiotherapy clinics
Helpline	Elderline, number 14567, launched in October 2021
Elderly population	10.38 crore in Census 2011; projected 23 crore by 2036
Digital tools	JEEVAN app and SHATAYU dashboard, launched in May 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/atal-vayo-abhyuday-yojana-rs-7798-crore-for-755-projects/

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DPIIT Reforms: 2,50,046 Startups and USD 843 Billion FDI

27 October 2026 · Economy

DPIIT reported 2,50,046 recognised startups with 25.42 lakh jobs, 47,957 compliances reduced and USD 843 billion of foreign direct investment over twelve years.

- DPIIT has recognised 2,50,046 startups reporting more than 25.42 lakh jobs across over 770 districts and 56 industries.
- The Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups has guaranteed 532 loans worth Rs 1,662.71 crore, with cover per borrower doubled to Rs 20 crore.
- A total of 47,957 compliances have been reduced and the Jan Vishwas Acts have decriminalised 900 provisions of central laws.
- India received USD 843 billion in FDI from FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26, 169 per cent more than the USD 313 billion of the preceding twelve years.
- The National Single Window System offers 3,779 live services in 22 Indian languages and has registered 5,76,778 businesses.

Department	Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Startups recognised	2,50,046, with over 25.42 lakh jobs in 770+ districts and 56 industries
Seed Fund Scheme	Rs 775.67 crore approved for 4,194 startups through 244 incubators
Fund of Funds	SIDBI committed Rs 12,623 crore to 166 AIFs, which invested Rs 28,254 crore in 1,475 startups
Credit guarantee	532 loans worth Rs 1,662.71 crore; cover per borrower doubled to Rs 20 crore
Compliances reduced	47,957, of which 22,290 digitised and 5,255 decriminalised
Jan Vishwas Acts	900 provisions decriminalised: 183 in 42 Acts in 2023 and 717 in 79 Acts in 2026
Labour Codes	Twenty-nine central labour laws merged into four Labour Codes

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dpiit-reforms-250046-startups-and-usd-843-billion-fdi/

CCUS: Rs 20,000 Crore Scheme for Net Zero Industry

27 October 2026 · Science & Technology

A PIB backgrounder on carbon capture set out the Rs 20,000 crore CCUS scheme of Union Budget 2026-27 and the country road to Net Zero by 2070.

- Union Budget 2026-27 announced a CCUS scheme of Rs 20,000 crore over five years for power, steel, cement, refineries and chemicals.
- NITI Aayog treats steel, cement, oil and gas, petrochemicals, chemicals and fertilisers as hard-to-abate sectors needing carbon capture.
- Emissions from hard-to-abate sectors and thermal power are expected to near 2,300 million tonnes a year by 2030.
- The first integrated CCUS Field Laboratory opened at IIT Bombay in May 2026 and can capture up to 3 tonnes of carbon dioxide a day.
- ESTIC-2026, the second edition of the conclave, runs from 27 to 29 October 2026 at Bharat Mandapam under CSIR.

Full form	Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS)
Budget scheme	Rs 20,000 crore over five years, announced in February 2026 in Union Budget 2026-27
Sectors covered	Power, steel, cement, refineries and chemicals
Net Zero target	2070
Emission projection	Nearly 2,300 million tonnes a year from hard-to-abate sectors and thermal power by 2030
Field laboratory	First integrated CCUS Field Laboratory at IIT Bombay, opened May 2026, up to 3 tonnes of carbon dioxide a day
National CCUS Centres	Set up in 2022 at IIT Bombay and JNCASR, Bengaluru
Fossil share of capacity	45.12 per cent of installed power capacity as of August 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ccus-rs-20000-crore-scheme-for-net-zero-industry/

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Vigilance Awareness Week 2026: Probity for Prosperity Theme

27 October 2026 · Important Days

The Central Vigilance Commission is observing Vigilance Awareness Week from 26 October to 1 November 2026 on the theme Probity for Prosperity.

- Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 is being observed from 26 October to 1 November 2026 by the Central Vigilance Commission.
- The theme is Probity for Prosperity, rendered in Hindi as Satyanishtha se Samriddhi.
- Central Vigilance Commissioner A. S. Rajeev and Vigilance Commissioner Praveen Vashista administered the integrity pledge at Satarkata Bhawan, New Delhi.
- All central ministries and organisations have been advised to run a three-month preventive vigilance campaign from 17 August to 16 November 2026.
- A one-day workshop on Transformation Through Technology is scheduled for 30 October 2026.

Observance	Vigilance Awareness Week 2026
Dates	26 October to 1 November 2026
Theme	Probity for Prosperity (Satyanishtha se Samriddhi)
Organiser	Central Vigilance Commission
Pledge administered by	A. S. Rajeev, Central Vigilance Commissioner, with Vigilance Commissioner Praveen Vashista
Venue	Satarkata Bhawan, New Delhi
Preventive campaign	Three months, 17 August to 16 November 2026, with five focus areas
Workshop	Transformation Through Technology, on 30 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vigilance-awareness-week-2026-probity-for-prosperity-theme/

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Bihar Gramin Bank Pacts Give Staff Rs 77.69 Crore Gains

27 October 2026 · Banking & Finance

Two conciliated settlements at Bihar Gramin Bank will give financial benefits of about Rs 77.69 crore to more than 10,900 employees of the bank.

- Two industrial disputes at Bihar Gramin Bank were settled on 22 and 23 October 2026 through conciliation by the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Patna.
- The settlements bring financial benefits of about Rs 77.69 crore to more than 10,900 employees of the bank.
- The first settlement, with the Bihar Gramin Bank Adhikari Sangh, covers around 8,400 employees and about Rs 67.17 crore.
- The second settlement, with the Bihar Gramin Bank Workers Organisation, covers around 2,500 employees and about Rs 10.52 crore.
- Recurring annual benefits of about Rs 9.02 crore flow from the settlement with the workers organisation.

Bank	Bihar Gramin Bank
Ministry	Ministry of Labour and Employment
Conciliating authority	Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Patna, under the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central)
Dates of settlement	22 and 23 October 2026
Total benefit	About Rs 77.69 crore to more than 10,900 employees
First settlement	Bihar Gramin Bank Adhikari Sangh, Patna: about Rs 67.17 crore for around 8,400 employees
Second settlement	Bihar Gramin Bank Workers Organisation: about Rs 10.52 crore for around 2,500 employees
Recurring benefit	About Rs 9.02 crore a year under the workers organisation settlement

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bihar-gramin-bank-pacts-give-staff-rs-7769-crore-gains/

Jal Shakti Review: Ken-Betwa and Farakka Work Assessed

27 October 2026 · National

Union Jal Shakti Minister C. R. Patil reviewed water resources projects including the Ken-Betwa Link, the Farakka Barrage and flood management works.

- Union Jal Shakti Minister C. R. Patil chaired a review of the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation on 27 October 2026.
- Minister of State for Jal Shakti Raj Bhushan Choudhary attended the review with the heads of department.
- The Ken-Betwa Link Project was reviewed, including the link canal and the Daudhan Dam.
- Work at the Farakka Barrage Project covering replacement of barrage gates and anti-erosion measures was taken up.
- The review covered 35 pilot clusters under M-CADWM and four ongoing censuses under the Minor Irrigation Statistics programme.

Who chaired	Union Minister for Jal Shakti Shri C. R. Patil
Also present	Shri Raj Bhushan Choudhary, Minister of State for Jal Shakti
Department	Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
Date	27 October 2026
Ken-Betwa Link Project	Link canal and Daudhan Dam reviewed
Farakka Barrage Project	Replacement of barrage gates and anti-erosion measures
M-CADWM	Implementation status of 35 pilot clusters
Minor Irrigation Statistics	Four censuses under way

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/jal-shakti-review-ken-betwa-and-farakka-work-assessed/

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Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 Enters Guinness World Records

27 October 2026 · Awards & Honours

Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 has entered the Guinness World Records as the largest innovation solution competition, with 2,87,967 project submissions.

- Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 has been certified by Guinness World Records as the Largest Innovation Solution Competition.
- The competition drew 2,87,967 project submissions through its Idea Track and Prototype Track.
- It is conducted by the Department of School Education and Literacy with the Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and AICTE.
- Its four pillars are Atmanirbhar Bharat, Swadeshi, Vocal for Local and Samriddh Bharat.
- Education Minister Pralhad Joshi will felicitate ten national-level winning teams in New Delhi on 28 October 2026.

Competition	Viksit Bharat Buildathon (VBB) 2025
Record	Guinness World Records title for the Largest Innovation Solution Competition
Submissions	2,87,967 projects
Tracks	Idea Track and Prototype Track
Organisers	DoSEL with Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and AICTE
Four pillars	Atmanirbhar Bharat, Swadeshi, Vocal for Local, Samriddh Bharat
Felicitation	28 October 2026 at New Delhi by Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi
Winners	Ten national-level winning teams

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/viksit-bharat-buildathon-2025-enters-guinness-world-records/

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CBD COP-17: India Lists 1,134 Protected Areas at Yerevan

27 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Union Minister Bhupender Yadav read India's national statement at CBD COP-17 in Yerevan, Armenia, citing 1,134 protected areas and 23 biodiversity targets.

- Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav delivered India's National Statement at the High-Level Segment of CBD COP-17 at Yerevan, Armenia.
- India's updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan turns the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework into 23 National Biodiversity Targets with 142 indicators.
- India reported 1,134 Protected Areas, 103 Ramsar sites, 57 Biodiversity Heritage Sites and 18 Biosphere Reserves, 13 of them in UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere network.
- India supported benefit sharing from digital sequence information through the multilateral mechanism, including the Cali Fund.
- The statement ended on the theme One Earth, One Family, One Future.

Event	17th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP-17)
Venue	Yerevan, Armenia
India represented by	Union Environment Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav
Framework	Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
National targets	23 National Biodiversity Targets with 142 indicators
Protected Areas	1,134
Ramsar sites	103
Biodiversity Heritage Sites	57

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cbd-cop-17-india-lists-1134-protected-areas-at-yerevan/

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NHRC Advisory on Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces

27 October 2026 · National

The National Human Rights Commission issued an advisory on women's safety at work and in public spaces to ten Union ministries, the Railway Board and all states.

- The NHRC has issued an advisory on 'Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces' to ten Union ministries, the Railway Board chairperson and all states and union territories.
- The advisory sets out eight key areas for action, from awareness and infrastructure to policing, survivor support and cybercrime.
- The commission cited women's labour force participation of 34.6 per cent in September 2026, from the Periodic Labour Force Participation Survey.
- It also cited about 4.4 lakh cases of crimes against women from the latest National Crime Records Bureau report, published in 2026.
- Authorities must send an Action Taken Report to the commission within two months.

Issued by	National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India
Advisory	Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces
Sent to	Secretaries of ten Union ministries, Chairperson of the Railway Board, chief secretaries and administrators of all states and union territories
Key areas	Eight
Labour force participation of women	34.6 per cent in September 2026, as per the Periodic Labour Force Participation Survey
Crimes against women	About 4.4 lakh cases, as per the latest NCRB report published in 2026
Report sought	Action Taken Report within two months

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nhrc-advisory-on-womens-safety-at-work-and-public-spaces/

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Special Campaign 6: Petroleum Ministry Reviews 5,593 Files

27 October 2026 · National

The Petroleum Ministry reported a full review of 5,593 physical files and Rs 34.64 crore of revenue under Special Campaign 6 as on 25 October 2026.

- Special Campaign 6 for cleanliness and disposal of pending matters is guided by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances.
- The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas completed the review of all 5,593 physical files and put up 712 e-files for review as on 25 October 2026.
- It disposed of 500 public grievance appeals in full and settled 6,006 of 7,500 public grievances, a progress of 80.10 per cent.
- Cleanliness drives covered 126 of 148 targeted sites, 2.22 lakh square feet of space was freed against a target of 1.15 lakh, and Rs 34.64 crore of revenue was earned against a target of Rs 41 crore.
- The Ministry of Textiles highlighted the National Handloom Development Corporation at Noida for activities held from 2 to 23 October 2026.

Campaign	Special Campaign 6 for Swachhata and disposal of pending matters
Guided by	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
Progress as on	25 October 2026
Physical files reviewed	All 5,593 identified for review
E-files	712 put up for review
Grievance appeals	500 disposed, 100 per cent
Cleanliness sites	126 of a target of 148
Space freed	2.22 lakh square feet, target 1.15 lakh

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/special-campaign-6-petroleum-ministry-reviews-5593-files/

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Khet Bachao Abhiyan 2026: ICAR Meets Champaran Farmers

27 October 2026 · State News

ICAR-MGIFRI, Motihari held a farmer awareness programme under Khet Bachao Abhiyan 2026 at a village in East Champaran, Bihar on 27 October 2026.

- ICAR-MGIFRI, Motihari held a farmer awareness programme under Khet Bachao Abhiyan 2026 at Kothia Hariram village in Mehsi block of East Champaran, Bihar.
- Twenty-nine farmers and participants attended and interacted with scientists on orchard productivity and resource-use efficiency.
- Dr. Amol K. Jadhav, Scientist at the institute, led the programme and pressed for soil-test-based nutrient management.
- Farmers were advised to recycle crop residues, fallen leaves, farmyard manure and compost to build soil organic matter.
- Legumes and other local crops were suggested as intercrops in mango and litchi orchards, chosen by orchard age, canopy cover and moisture.

Institute	ICAR-Mahatma Gandhi Integrated Farming Research Institute (ICAR-MGIFRI), Motihari, Bihar
Parent department	Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE)
Campaign	Khet Bachao Abhiyan 2026
Venue	Kothia Hariram village, Mehsi block, East Champaran district, Bihar
Date	27 October 2026
Participants	Twenty-nine farmers and participants
Led by	Dr. Amol K. Jadhav, Scientist, ICAR-MGIFRI
Crops in focus	Mango and litchi orchards

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/khet-bachao-abhiyan-2026-icar-meets-champaran-farmers/

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12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum Ends With Joint Declaration

27 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum closed in New Delhi with a Joint Declaration backing UN Security Council reform, as Om Birla handed China the 2027 chair.

- The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum concluded in New Delhi on 27 October 2026 with a Joint Declaration adopted by consensus
- Its theme was "Fostering Parliaments for People-Centric Development"; Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla gave the valedictory address
- The declaration endorses UN Security Council reform, citing Paragraph 13 of the New Delhi Declaration, for greater Global South representation
- Paragraph 40 of the New Delhi Declaration underpins its condemnation of cross-border terrorism, terror financing and safe havens
- Om Birla handed the Forum chairship to China, which assumes the BRICS chair for 2027

Event	12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum, 2026
Venue	New Delhi; valedictory session at Constitution House of the Parliament of India
Theme	Fostering Parliaments for People-Centric Development
Outcome	Joint Declaration adopted by consensus
Valedictory address	Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla
UNSC reform	Endorsed, citing Paragraph 13 of the New Delhi Declaration
Terrorism	Cross-border terrorism, terror financing and safe havens condemned (Paragraph 40)
Next chair	China, for the year 2027

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/12th-brics-parliamentary-forum-ends-with-joint-declaration/

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Exercise Garuda Shakti: 11th India-Indonesia Drill Begins

27 October 2026 · Defence

The 11th edition of the India-Indonesia joint special forces exercise Garuda Shakti began at Banyuwangi in Indonesia and runs till 06 November 2026.

- The 11th edition of Exercise Garuda Shakti, the India-Indonesia joint special forces exercise, began on 27 October 2026
- It is being held at Banyuwangi in Indonesia and continues till 06 November 2026
- The Indian contingent is drawn from the Parachute Regiment (Special Forces); Indonesia has fielded its Special Forces personnel
- Training covers special operations in jungle terrain, obstacle crossing, combat marksmanship, mountaineering, air assault and combat-hardening
- The exercise will conclude with a validation exercise testing endurance, coordination and combat readiness

Exercise	Garuda Shakti, 11th edition
Countries	India and Indonesia
Type	Joint Special Forces exercise
Venue	Banyuwangi, Indonesia
Dates	27 October to 06 November 2026
Indian contingent	Parachute Regiment (Special Forces)
Focus	Special operations in jungle environments; interoperability
Conclusion	Validation exercise simulating realistic operational scenarios

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/exercise-garuda-shakti-11th-india-indonesia-drill-begins/

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Mandaviya Chairs UNESCO Anti-Doping COP10 Bureau Meeting

27 October 2026 · Sports

Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya chaired the COP10 Bureau meeting under the UNESCO anti-doping convention in New Delhi and promised criminal provisions in the law.

- Dr Mansukh Mandaviya chaired the third COP10 Bureau meeting and the fourth Fund Approval Committee meeting for 2026-27 in New Delhi
- The meetings were held under the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport; India is a Vice-Chairperson representing Group IV
- The National Anti-Doping Act, 2022 and its 2025 Amendment both came into force in July 2026
- A further amendment in the next session of Parliament will introduce criminal provisions covering coaches and supply chain stakeholders
- NADA conducted over 7,000 tests and more than 350 awareness sessions reaching 27,000 participants in 2025-26

Meeting	Third COP10 Bureau meeting; fourth Fund Approval Committee meeting for 2026-27
Convention	UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport
Chaired by	Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports
Venue	New Delhi
COP10 Bureau Chairperson	Farid Gayibov, Minister of Youth and Sports of Azerbaijan
India’s position	Vice-Chairperson representing Group IV
Law	National Anti-Doping Act, 2022 and its 2025 Amendment, in force July 2026
NADA in 2025-26	Over 7,000 tests; more than 350 awareness sessions; 27,000 participants

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mandaviya-chairs-unesco-anti-doping-cop10-bureau-meeting/

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Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada 2026: Over 300 Tribal Projects

27 October 2026 · Important Days

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs will hold Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada from 1 to 15 November 2026, with over 300 projects and two national digital launches.

- Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada will be observed from 1 to 15 November 2026, ending on Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas on 15 November
- 15 November was designated Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas in 2021 to mark the birth anniversary of Dharti Aaba Bhagwan Birsa Munda
- More than 300 projects will be taken up, with 228 ready for inauguration and 74 for foundation stone laying
- The Jan-HIT Portal, built with ICMR, is India's first platform for tribe-disaggregated health data and covers 20 States
- The National FRA Digital Platform will take forest rights claims under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 onto a single system

Observance	Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada, 1 to 15 November 2026
Ministry	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas	15 November, designated in 2021
Honours	Dharti Aaba Bhagwan Birsa Munda
Projects	Over 300; 228 for inauguration and 74 for foundation stone laying
Digital launches	Jan-HIT Portal (with ICMR), covering 20 States; National FRA Digital Platform
Women's conclave	Rani Durgavati Adivasi Mahila Sammelan, 14 November, 500 entrepreneurs from 30 States/UTs
Healers	About 1,500 traditional healers from 9 States/UTs trained at Hyderabad

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/janjatiya-gaurav-pakhwada-2026-over-300-tribal-projects/

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PM Vishwakarma Artisans Show Crafts at BRICS Cultural Bazar

27 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Eight PM Vishwakarma artisans from eight States displayed traditional crafts at the Cultural Bazar held during the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum in New Delhi.

- A two-day Cultural Bazar was held during the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum at the Parliament House Complex, New Delhi, on 26 and 27 October 2026
- Eight PM Vishwakarma artisans took part, one each from Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Nagaland, Karnataka and Maharashtra
- PM Vishwakarma is a scheme of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises for traditional artisans and craftspeople
- The trades on show included Tailor, Goldsmith, Sculptor or Stone Carver, Doll and Toy Maker, and Cobbler
- Crafts displayed included Dokra metal craft, the GI-tagged Jabalpur Stone Craft, Kolhapuri chappals, Channapatna and Kinhal toys, and lac bangles

Event	Two-day Cultural Bazar during the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum
Venue and dates	Parliament House Complex, New Delhi, 26 and 27 October 2026
Scheme	PM Vishwakarma Scheme
Ministry	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Artisans	Eight, one each from eight States and Union Territories
States represented	Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Nagaland, Karnataka, Maharashtra
Trades	Tailor, Goldsmith, Sculptor or Stone Carver, Doll and Toy Maker, Cobbler
GI-tagged craft on show	Jabalpur Stone Craft, worked in New Bhedaghat Marble

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-vishwakarma-artisans-show-crafts-at-brics-cultural-bazar/

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AIIA Ayurveda Study Screens 5,594 Elderly in Faridabad

27 October 2026 · Science & Technology

An All India Institute of Ayurveda project in Faridabad screened 5,594 elderly people and recorded gains in quality of life and bone mineral density.

- The All India Institute of Ayurveda screened 5,594 people aged 60 to 80 in Faridabad district over three months under its Public Health Initiative
- A separate dementia component screened 200 patients and gave them Ayurveda-based medicines over four months
- After a 60-day intervention the WHOQOL total score rose from 292.0 to 326.3, with gains in Agnibala and bone mineral density
- In the cognitive component the quality-of-life score rose from 277.4 to 364.2, with MMSE scores moving towards normal
- The initial screening found vision problems in 67.73 per cent, physical inactivity in 43.05 per cent and reduced cognitive function in 6.85 per cent

Institute	All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, under the Ministry of Ayush
Location	Faridabad district, Haryana
Programme	Public Health Initiative (PHI)
Screened	5,594 people aged 60 to 80 over three months
Dementia component	200 patients screened over four months
WHOQOL score (first component)	Rose from 292.0 to 326.3 after a 60-day intervention
WHOQOL score (cognitive component)	Rose from 277.4 to 364.2
Baseline findings	Vision problems 67.73 per cent; physical inactivity 43.05 per cent; reduced cognition 6.85 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/aiia-ayurveda-study-screens-5594-elderly-in-faridabad/

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TRAI: India's Tele-density at 95.52 Per Cent in September 2026

27 October 2026 · Reports & Indices

India's overall tele-density stood at 95.52 per cent at the end of September 2026, TRAI data shows, with urban density at 155.85 and rural far behind at 61.30.

- India's overall tele-density with machine-to-machine connections counted in stood at 95.52 per cent at the end of September 2026, and 85.41 per cent without them
- Urban tele-density was 155.85 per cent against a rural figure of 61.30 per cent, leaving a wide gap between towns and villages
- Towns and cities held 59.05 per cent of all telephone subscribers and villages 40.95 per cent
- The subscriber base grew 0.53 per cent during the month, with urban growth at 0.69 per cent and rural growth at 0.31 per cent
- Porting requests in the month came to 16.77 million and active wireless users at peak Visitor Location Register stood at 1,212.80 million

Released by	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
Data month	September 2026
Overall tele-density	95.52 per cent with M2M connections
Tele-density without M2M	85.41 per cent
Urban tele-density	155.85 per cent
Rural tele-density	61.30 per cent
Share of subscribers	Urban 59.05 per cent, rural 40.95 per cent
Monthly growth rate	0.53 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/trai-indias-tele-density-at-9552-per-cent-in-september-2026/

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Concessional Local Pass for NH Users Living Within 20 Km

27 October 2026 · National

From 1 November 2026 non-commercial vehicle owners living within 20 km of a national highway fee plaza can buy a yearly Concessional Local Pass for Rs 1,500.

- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has introduced a Concessional Local Pass for owners of non-commercial vehicles living within 20 km of a national highway fee plaza
- The annual charge is Rs 1,500 where the plaza lies outside a municipal or local town area and Rs 3,000 where it lies inside such limits
- The rule takes effect from 1 November 2026; the pass reaches the Rajmargyatra app from 1 December 2026 and is valid at only one plaza
- It is not offered on highways or expressways using a closed user-fee collection system, nor where a service road or alternative road exists
- The change comes through the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2026 under the National Highways Act, 1956

Scheme	Concessional Local Pass for national highway fee plazas
Ministry	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
Who is eligible	Non-commercial vehicle owners living within 20 km of a fee plaza, with a valid FASTag
Annual charge	Rs 1,500 outside municipal or local town area; Rs 3,000 inside
Effective from	1 November 2026
On Rajmargyatra app from	1 December 2026
Notified under	National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2026
Parent law	National Highways Act, 1956

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/concessional-local-pass-for-nh-users-living-within-20-km/

Indian Railways to Recruit 1,265 Station Masters Under CEN 08/2026

27 October 2026 · National

Indian Railways has opened applications for 1,265 Station Master posts under CEN No. 08/2026, with RRB Mumbai notifying the most vacancies at 177.

- Indian Railways has notified 1,265 Station Master vacancies under Centralised Employment Notice (CEN) No. 08/2026, open to any graduate
- Online applications opened on 27 October 2026 and the last date for submitting them is 25 November 2026
- RRB Mumbai has the highest number of vacancies at 177, followed by Jammu-Srinagar with 122 and Chennai with 119
- The Railway Board has decided that from 2026 onwards Station Master recruitment will be notified separately from other posts
- The dedicated notice carries the eligibility conditions, the examination procedure and the board-wise distribution of vacancies

Post	Station Master, Indian Railways
Notice	Centralised Employment Notice (CEN) No. 08/2026
Total vacancies	1,265
Qualification	Any graduate
Applications open	27 October 2026
Last date	25 November 2026
Highest vacancies	RRB Mumbai, 177
Next highest	Jammu-Srinagar 122 and Chennai 119

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indian-railways-to-recruit-1265-station-masters-under-cen-082026/

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Navy's First Training Squadron Ships Arrive at Colombo

27 October 2026 · Defence

INS Tir, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron reached Colombo on 26 October 2026 for a port call with the Sri Lanka Navy.

- Ships of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron reached Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 26 October 2026 and were given a ceremonial welcome by the Sri Lanka Navy
- The squadron on this visit comprises INS Tir, INS Sujata and the Indian Coast Guard Ship Sarathi
- The Director General of Naval Training and the Commander of the Eastern Naval Area of the Sri Lanka Navy interacted with sea trainees on board
- Cross-training visits and a Passage Exercise, known as PASSEX, are part of the engagements during the port call
- The visit aligns with India's MAHASAGAR vision, Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Squadron	First Training Squadron (1TS), Indian Navy
Ships	INS Tir, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi
Port visited	Colombo, Sri Lanka
Date of arrival	26 October 2026
Host navy	Sri Lanka Navy
Exercise during the call	Passage Exercise (PASSEX)
Vision aligned with	MAHASAGAR, Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/navys-first-training-squadron-ships-arrive-at-colombo/

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National Startup Awards 6.0 Launched With 20 Sectoral Categories

27 October 2026 · Awards & Honours

DPIIT has launched the sixth National Startup Awards with 20 sectoral and three special categories, a new Student Innovator Award and a prize of Rs 25 lakh.

- DPIIT has launched the 6th edition of the National Startup Awards under the Startup India initiative to recognise innovation and entrepreneurship
- NSA 6.0 covers 20 sectoral categories and three special categories, with 12 sectoral categories added for the first time
- A Student Innovator or Aspiring Entrepreneur Award has been introduced, open to school and college students across all 36 States and Union Territories
- Winners in sectoral and startup-focused special categories get a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh per category; the student award has a pool of Rs 25 lakh across four sub-categories
- Applications are open from 27 October to 20 November 2026 on the Startup India portal; the year 2026 marks ten years of Startup India, launched in January 2016

Award	National Startup Awards 6.0 (NSA 6.0)
Launched by	DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Parent initiative	Startup India, launched in January 2016
Awards began in	2019
Categories	20 sectoral and three special categories
New sectoral categories	12
New special category	Student Innovator or Aspiring Entrepreneur Award
Cash prize	Rs 25 lakh per category

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-startup-awards-60-launched-with-20-sectoral-categories/

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ESTIC 2026: Genetic Diversity Can Make India a Gene Research Hub

27 October 2026 · Science & Technology

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh told a session at ESTIC 2026 that India's genetic diversity can make it a global destination for gene research.

- Dr Jitendra Singh said India's genetic diversity could make the country a global destination for gene research and a source of genetic resources for the world
- He was speaking at a session on System and Synthetic Biology at the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- The Minister stressed building indigenous gene-synthesis capability, saying dependence on overseas suppliers costs Indian scientists time, access and continuity
- He said the recently enacted SHANTI Act opens nuclear medicine research to private-sector participation
- Dr Rajesh S. Gokhale, Secretary of the Department of Biotechnology, also took part in the session

Event	Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026
Venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Session	System and Synthetic Biology
Speaker	Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences
Main point	India's genetic diversity can make it a global destination for gene research
Capability sought	Indigenous gene-synthesis capability
Law mentioned	SHANTI Act, opening nuclear medicine research to the private sector
Also present	Dr Rajesh S. Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/estic-2026-genetic-diversity-can-make-india-a-gene-research-hub/

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SIMBEX-2026: 33rd India-Singapore Maritime Exercise Concludes

27 October 2026 · Defence

The 33rd edition of SIMBEX, the India-Singapore maritime exercise, ended at Visakhapatnam on 26 October, with INS Nilgiri and RSS Supreme taking part.

- SIMBEX-2026, the 33rd edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise, concluded on 26 October 2026 after being hosted by the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam
- The exercise had a harbour phase of expert exchanges and planning conferences, and a sea phase in the Bay of Bengal with interdiction, anti-submarine, anti-air and anti-surface drills
- Singapore was represented by RSS Supreme, a Formidable-class stealth frigate carrying an SH-70B helicopter
- India deployed the indigenous stealth frigate INS Nilgiri and the anti-submarine corvette INS Kamorta, with P-8I, Dornier, Hawk and MH-60R aviation assets
- RSN Fleet Commander Colonel Bertram Ang called on Rear Admiral Vishal Bishnoi, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet

Exercise	SIMBEX-2026, Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise
Edition	33rd
Host and venue	Indian Navy, Visakhapatnam
Concluded on	26 October 2026
Sea phase area	Bay of Bengal
Singapore ship	RSS Supreme, a Formidable-class stealth frigate with an SH-70B helicopter
Indian ships	INS Nilgiri (stealth frigate) and INS Kamorta (ASW corvette)
Aviation assets	P-8I, Dornier, Hawk advanced jet trainers, MH-60R helicopters

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/simbex-2026-33rd-india-singapore-maritime-exercise-concludes/

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Srishti: Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel Launched at Goa

27 October 2026 · Defence

Yard 1283, named Srishti, a Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel for the Indian Navy, was launched at Goa Shipyard Limited on 27 October 2026.

- Yard 1283, named Srishti, a Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel, was launched at Goa Shipyard Limited in Goa on 27 October 2026
- The launch was performed by Smt Sandeepa Sahay in the presence of Shri Vishvajit Sahay, Secretary (Defence Finance)
- Srishti is a Sanskrit word meaning creation, in keeping with the practice of naming ships of this class after India's heritage
- The NGOPVs will be used for maritime surveillance, search and rescue, protection of offshore assets, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and anti-piracy work
- Construction of the NGOPVs is going on at two shipyards at once, Goa Shipyard Limited in Goa and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers in Kolkata

Ship	Srishti (Yard 1283)
Type	Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV)
Launched at	Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa
Date of launch	27 October 2026
Launched by	Smt Sandeepa Sahay
Chief guest	Shri Vishvajit Sahay, Secretary (Defence Finance)
Meaning of name	Creation, or the act of creating, in Sanskrit
Yards building the class	Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/srishti-next-generation-offshore-patrol-vessel-launched-at-goa/

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Gyan Bharatam: India-France MoU to Digitise Indic Manuscripts

27 October 2026 · International

The Ministry of Culture and the National Library of France signed an MoU in Paris on 26 October 2026 under the Gyan Bharatam Mission to digitise Indic manuscripts.

- The Ministry of Culture and the Bibliotheque nationale de France signed and exchanged an MoU in Paris on 26 October 2026 under the Gyan Bharatam Mission
- Shri Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, signed for India and Mr Gilles Pecout, President of the BnF, signed for France
- The MoU sets out five areas: digitisation, cross-sharing on the National Digital Repository, technology exchange, conservation, and research and development
- The two sides will identify and digitise Indic-origin manuscripts held by the BnF and share OCR and HTR tools for Indian scripts along with cataloguing standards
- On the Indian side the partnership involves Gyan Bharatam, the National Archives of India in New Delhi and the National Library in Kolkata

Agreement	MoU between the Ministry of Culture and the Bibliotheque nationale de France
Signed at	Paris, on 26 October 2026
Mission	Gyan Bharatam Mission of the Ministry of Culture
Signed by	Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, and Gilles Pecout, President, BnF
Indian institutions	National Archives of India, New Delhi and National Library, Kolkata
Areas of cooperation	Digitisation, cross-sharing on the National Digital Repository, technology exchange, conservation, research and development
Focus	Manuscripts and collections of Indic origin held by the BnF

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/gyan-bharatam-india-france-mou-to-digitise-indic-manuscripts/

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India-New Zealand U20 Rugby Series Concludes at Rajgir, Bihar

27 October 2026 · Sports

The India-New Zealand U20 Rugby Series ended at the Rajgir Sports Complex in Bihar, marking 100 years of sporting ties between the two countries.

- The India-New Zealand Under-20 Rugby Series concluded at the Rajgir Sports Complex in Bihar under the 100 Years of Unity through Sport initiative
- The series marked a century of sporting ties between India and New Zealand and featured four Rugby Sevens matches
- Two mixed-team matches were played for the first time, with Indian and New Zealand players on the same side
- The New Zealand delegation had the Under-20 men's team Tama Toa and the Under-20 women's team Hine Toa, with 24 young Maori players
- In May 2026 Rugby India had hosted New Zealand coaching educators at Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, for a course with 35 Indian coaches

Event	India-New Zealand Under-20 Rugby Series
Venue	Rajgir Sports Complex, Bihar
Initiative	100 Years of Unity through Sport
Matches	Four Rugby Sevens matches, including two mixed-team matches played for the first time
New Zealand teams	Tama Toa (men's U20) and Hine Toa (women's U20), with 24 young Maori players
Union Minister of State	Smt Raksha Khadse, Youth Affairs and Sports
Rugby India President	Mr Rahul Bose
Earlier exchange	May 2026 coaching course for 35 Indian coaches at Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-new-zealand-u20-rugby-series-concludes-at-rajgir-bihar/

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ARISE Cities Forum 2026 Opens in New Delhi for Global South

27 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The second ARISE Cities Forum opened at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi with over 200 delegates, and will adopt the Delhi Declaration on 28 October.

- The second ARISE Cities Forum opened on 27 October 2026 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, organised by ICLEI South Asia with NIUA and supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- The theme is From Bharat to Antalya - Commit. Implement. Deliver., with 3 technical plenaries and 14 technical sessions
- More than 200 delegates from over 50 cities across more than 18 countries of the Global South are taking part
- The Delhi Declaration on Local Action for Global Climate Goals 2026 will be adopted on 28 October 2026 and presented at COP31 in Antalya, Turkiye
- Day one saw the launch of the SUMMIT centre for sustainable urban mobility and the award of the Ritu Thakur Memorial Award to Youth for Climate Hackathon winners

Event	ARISE Cities Forum 2026, second edition
Venue and date	India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, from 27 October 2026
Theme	From Bharat to Antalya - Commit. Implement. Deliver.
Organisers	ICLEI South Asia with the National Institute of Urban Affairs, supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Opened by	Shri Tokhan Sahu, Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs
Participation	Over 200 delegates from more than 50 cities in over 18 countries
Outcome document	Delhi Declaration on Local Action for Global Climate Goals 2026, to be adopted on 28 October 2026
To be presented at	COP31 in Antalya, Turkiye

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/arise-cities-forum-2026-opens-in-new-delhi-for-global-south/

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Sonowal in Busan: Cyprus Backs India's Ship Recycling Bid

27 October 2026 · Economy

At Busan, Sarbananda Sonowal won Cyprus's backing for EU recognition of Indian ship-recycling yards and courted Korean shipbuilders and maritime financiers.

- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal held a series of maritime meetings in Busan, South Korea, covering shipbuilding, finance, port development, green technology and ship recycling
- Cyprus's Shipping Deputy Minister Marina Hadjimanolis reaffirmed support for India's bid for European Union recognition of eligible Indian ship-recycling yards
- About 25 leading Cypriot companies are expected to visit India in November to explore partnerships in shipping, ship management and maritime technology
- Korean firms discussed LPG and LNG cargo tanks, cryogenic structures and ship blocks, while KOMERI explored cooperation with the proposed India Ship Technology Center
- India has approved a shipbuilding support package of about 7.8 billion dollars and has a pipeline of more than 400 vessels worth an estimated 23 billion dollars

Minister	Sarbananda Sonowal, Ports, Shipping and Waterways
Venue of talks	Busan, South Korea
Cyprus minister	Marina Hadjimanolis, Shipping Deputy Minister
Cyprus support	Backing for European Union recognition of eligible Indian ship-recycling yards
Cypriot visit	About 25 leading companies expected in India in November
Finance vehicles offered	Maritime Development Fund and Sagarmala Finance Corporation
Proposed institution	India Ship Technology Center, for ship design, research, testing and training
Order pipeline	More than 400 vessels worth an estimated 23 billion dollars

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/sonowal-in-busan-cyprus-backs-indias-ship-recycling-bid/

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28 October 2026

Kuno Cheetah KNG22 Dies of Pellet Injuries; Centre Sends Team

28 October 2026 · Environment

A 19-month-old male cheetah, KNG22, of Kuno National Park died of firearm pellet injuries, and the Centre has sent a high-level team to Madhya Pradesh.

- A 19-month-old male cheetah coded KNG22, an offspring of the female Nirva, died on 27 October 2026 of firearm pellet injuries.
- It was found injured on 25 October 2026 in the territorial forests of Morena, outside Kuno National Park, and rescued from the Sheopur Territorial Forest Division.
- Five gun pellets were taken out during emergency surgery at the veterinary facility in Jabalpur, and internal injuries matched them.
- The MoEFCC team has the Inspector General of Forests, NTCA, the Additional Director, WCCB, and a Regional Deputy Director of the WCCB.
- Madhya Pradesh has set up a Special Task Force of forest and police officers; the central team will also review protection and monitoring protocols.

Animal	Male cheetah KNG22, 19 months old, offspring of Nirva
Home	Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh
Cause of death	Firearm pellet injuries; five pellets recovered
Found injured	25 October 2026, territorial forests of Morena
Rescued from	Sheopur Territorial Forest Division
Treated at	Veterinary facility, Jabalpur (emergency surgery)
Date of death	27 October 2026
Central team	IG Forests (NTCA), Additional Director (WCCB), Regional Deputy Director (WCCB)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kuno-cheetah-kng22-dies-of-pellet-injuries-centre-sends-team/

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PM Modi Opens ESTIC 2026 Conclave at Bharat Mandapam

28 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, drawing over 5,000 delegates.

- ESTIC 2026 opened at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 27 October 2026 with more than 5,000 delegates from India and abroad.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated it and sought measurable, scalable outcomes within a three-year operating horizon.
- Dr Jitendra Singh said startups grew from about 400 in 2014 to more than 2.3 lakh, with 50 to 60 per cent in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.
- Principal Scientific Adviser Prof. Ajay K. Sood set out the conclave's 12 core thematic priority domains.
- Nobel laureates Joachim Frank (Chemistry, 2017) and Sir Richard J. Roberts (Physiology or Medicine, 1993) delivered plenary talks.

Event	Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026
Venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Opening day	27 October 2026
Inaugurated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Delegates	More than 5,000 from across the world
Science and Technology Minister	Dr Jitendra Singh, MoS (Independent Charge)
Principal Scientific Adviser	Prof. Ajay K. Sood
Thematic priority domains	12

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-modi-opens-estic-2026-conclave-at-bharat-mandapam/

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14th International Tourism Mart to Open at Tawang

28 October 2026 · National

The Ministry of Tourism will hold the 14th International Tourism Mart for the North East at Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh from 29 to 31 October 2026.

- The 14th International Tourism Mart runs from 29 to 31 October 2026 at Hotel Vivanta, Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh.
- It is organised by the Ministry of Tourism with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and the other North Eastern States.
- More than 200 participants are expected, among them 43 international buyers from 22 countries.
- The inaugural on 29 October 2026 is to be attended by Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Suresh Gopi and Chief Minister Pema Khandu.
- Tawang hosts after thirteen years, having held the 2nd edition in 2013; the previous edition was at Gangtok, Sikkim, in November 2025.

Event	14th International Tourism Mart (ITM) for the North Eastern Region
Dates	29 to 31 October 2026
Venue	Hotel Vivanta, Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh
Organiser	Ministry of Tourism with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and other North Eastern States
Participants	More than 200 buyers and sellers
International buyers	43, from 22 countries
States showcasing	All eight North Eastern States
Inaugural guests	Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Suresh Gopi, Chief Minister Pema Khandu

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/14th-international-tourism-mart-to-open-at-tawang/

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India and Mexico Begin Preferential Trade Agreement Talks

28 October 2026 · International

India and Mexico signed the Terms of Reference on 28 October 2026 to formally open negotiations on a Preferential Trade Agreement between the two economies.

- India and Mexico signed the Terms of Reference on 28 October 2026, formally launching negotiations for a Preferential Trade Agreement.
- The Terms of Reference fix the framework, scope, modalities and roadmap of the talks.
- The step follows the understanding between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Dr Claudia Sheinbaum at the G7 Summit in Canada in June 2025.
- Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal led the Indian side; Mexico's Undersecretary of Foreign Trade Luis Rosendo Gutierrez Romano represented Secretary of Economy Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon.
- A Mexican business mission to India is being considered for the first quarter of 2027.

Agreement	India-Mexico Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)
Document signed	Terms of Reference for negotiations
Indian ministry	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Indian delegation head	Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal
Mexican representative	Luis Rosendo Gutierrez Romano, Undersecretary of Foreign Trade
Mexico's Secretary of Economy	Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon
Origin of the move	Modi-Sheinbaum meeting on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Canada, June 2025
Proposed business mission	Mexican business mission to India in the first quarter of 2027

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-and-mexico-begin-preferential-trade-agreement-talks/

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Jal Shakti Ministry Launches Punah Bharan Mobile Application

28 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Union Jal Shakti Minister launched the Punah Bharan mobile application, built by BISAG-N, to plan groundwater recharge using geospatial data.

- The Union Jal Shakti Minister launched the Punah Bharan Mobile Application on 28 October 2026 for scientific groundwater recharge planning.
- The application has been developed by BISAG-N with the National Water Mission, Department of Water Resources, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- Users can identify potential artificial recharge zones within a radial distance of up to 3 km and see which recharge structures suit local conditions.
- The accompanying web portal offers village-level Artificial Recharge Structure (ARS) zonation maps, GIS tools and thematic layers.
- The platform draws on geospatial datasets of rainfall, groundwater levels, groundwater yield, slope and drainage.

Application	Punah Bharan Mobile Application
Launched by	Union Minister of Jal Shakti
Developed by	BISAG-N
In collaboration with	National Water Mission (NWM), Department of Water Resources, RD&GR
Ministry	Ministry of Jal Shakti
Purpose	Scientific groundwater recharge planning
Search range	Potential artificial recharge zones within a radial distance of up to 3 km
Datasets used	Rainfall, groundwater levels, groundwater yield, slope and drainage

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/jal-shakti-ministry-launches-punah-bharan-mobile-application/

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NHRC Advisory on Rights of Female Inmates and Children

28 October 2026 · National

The NHRC issued an advisory on protecting the human rights of female inmates and their children, naming ten areas and seeking action reports in two months.

- The NHRC issued an advisory on the Protection of Human Rights of Female Inmates and their Children on 28 October 2026.
- It was sent to nine Union Ministries, to Chief Secretaries and Administrators of all States and Union Territories, and to their Directors General of Police.
- The advisory identifies ten broad areas for action, from pre-admission and arrest to rehabilitation and foreign national inmates.
- It calls for humane prison conditions, maternal and child healthcare, access to justice, preservation of family ties and social reintegration.
- Concerned authorities must submit an Action Taken Report to the Commission within two months.

Issued by	National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India
Subject	Protection of Human Rights of Female Inmates and their Children
Sent to	Nine Union Ministries, Chief Secretaries/Administrators and DGPs of all States and UTs
Focus areas	Ten broad areas of action
Reporting requirement	Action Taken Report (ATR) within two months
Approach stressed	Sensitive, gender-responsive approach for a vulnerable group
Areas covered include	Health and mental health, mulakat and family contact, legal aid, rehabilitation, foreign national inmates

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nhrc-advisory-on-rights-of-female-inmates-and-children/

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DRI Seizes 55,000 E-Cigarettes at Kolkata's SMP Port

28 October 2026 · National

The DRI seized around 55,000 smuggled e-cigarettes worth Rs 13.50 crore from two containers at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, on 24 October 2026.

- The DRI seized around 55,000 smuggled e-cigarettes worth about Rs 13.50 crore at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, on 24 October 2026.
- Two containers of a Nepal-bound transshipment consignment were intercepted; the goods were mis-declared as water glass and ceramic mugs.
- The first container yielded 40,000 IGET brand e-cigarettes and the second about 15,000 of brands including VTV, VOKO, Bang and Ejoy.
- E-cigarettes and all Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) are banned under the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2019.
- In FY 2026-27 the DRI has seized nearly 3,00,000 e-cigarettes worth over Rs 120 crore in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Delhi and West Bengal.

Agency	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Ministry of Finance
Place	Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata
Date of seizure	24 October 2026
Quantity	Around 55,000 e-cigarettes
Value	Rs 13.50 crore
Destination of consignment	Nepal, as a transshipment consignment
Law banning e-cigarettes	Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2019
FY 2026-27 seizures	Nearly 3,00,000 e-cigarettes worth more than Rs 120 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dri-seizes-55000-e-cigarettes-at-kolkatas-smp-port/

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National Green Hydrogen Mission: Targets, Outlay and Progress

28 October 2026 · Environment

A PIB backgrounder on green hydrogen sets out the National Green Hydrogen Mission's Rs 19,744 crore outlay, its 5 MMT target for 2030 and progress so far.

- The Union Cabinet approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission in January 2023 with an outlay of Rs 19,744 crore.
- The Mission targets at least 5 MMT of annual green hydrogen production capacity by 2030, which could reach 10 MMT with export demand.
- India's Green Hydrogen Standard, notified in August 2023, allows a maximum of 2 kg of CO2 equivalent per kg of hydrogen, well-to-gate, on a 12-month average.
- Deendayal Port (Kandla), V.O. Chidambaranar Port (Tuticorin) and Paradip Port have been recognised as green hydrogen hubs.
- The Mission is expected to attract over Rs 8 lakh crore in investment, create more than 6 lakh jobs and avert nearly 50 MMT of carbon dioxide emissions a year.

Mission	National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM), Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Cabinet approval	January 2023
Outlay	Rs 19,744 crore
Production target	At least 5 MMT a year by 2030; up to 10 MMT with export demand
SIGHT programme outlay	Rs 17,490 crore up to 2029-30
Green Hydrogen Standard	Maximum 2 kg CO2 equivalent per kg of hydrogen, well-to-gate, 12-month average (notified August 2023)
Port hubs	Deendayal Port (Kandla), V.O. Chidambaranar Port (Tuticorin), Paradip Port
Hydrogen Valley Innovation Clusters	Jodhpur, Odisha, Pune and Kerala

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-green-hydrogen-mission-targets-outlay-and-progress/

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India's New-Age Space Technologies: NGLV, SpaDeX, NavIC

28 October 2026 · Science & Technology

A PIB backgrounder traces India's new space technologies, from the Rs 8,240 crore NGLV and SpaDeX docking to a US$44 billion space economy target for 2033.

- India's first sounding rocket flew from Thumba, Kerala on 21 November 1963; ISRO was formed on 15 August 1969 and came under the Department of Space in 1972.
- The Next Generation Launch Vehicle was approved in September 2024 with an outlay of Rs 8,240 crore and is designed to carry 30 tonnes to low Earth orbit.
- Through SpaDeX, India became the fourth country to demonstrate space docking, after the United States, Russia and China.
- NISAR, launched on 30 July 2025 aboard GSLV-F16, is the first satellite mission to use two radar frequencies together and revisits land and ice every 12 days.
- India's space economy is targeted to reach US$44 billion by 2033, with start-up investment at about US$618.5 million as on 31 March 2026.

First sounding rocket	Thumba, Kerala, 21 November 1963
ISRO formed	15 August 1969, under the Department of Space from 1972
NGLV	Approved September 2024, outlay Rs 8,240 crore, 30 tonnes to LEO; reusable variant of 14 tonnes
RLV demonstrator	Pushpak, landing experiments on 2 April 2023, 22 March 2024 and 23 June 2024
Scramjet	Flight-tested on 28 August 2016 at Mach 6; India the fourth country to demonstrate it
SpaDeX	First docking 16 January 2025; autonomous docking from 15 m on 20 April 2025; India the fourth docking nation
NavIC	Regional navigation up to 1,500 km beyond the Indian mainland
NISAR	Launched 30 July 2025 on GSLV-F16; NASA's L-band with ISRO's S-band; 12-day revisit

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indias-new-age-space-technologies-nglv-spadex-navic/

Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 4.0 Launched as 60-Day Drive

28 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Minister of State Prataprao Jadhav launched the 60-day Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 4.0 in New Delhi, putting universities and colleges at the heart of the drive.

- TFYC 4.0 was launched on 28 October 2026 at ABVIMS and Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi, as a 60-day nationwide drive of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- The first three editions together saw over 5.8 lakh educational institutions and more than 73,000 villages declared tobacco-free
- TFYC 3.0 of October 2025 covered 2,57,807 institutions and 33,850 villages, with 1,45,477 challans issued under Section 4 of COTPA, 2003
- Six strategies guide the edition, among them enforcement of COTPA, 2003 and the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2019, and a first-time focus on universities
- Tobacco smoke holds more than 7,000 chemicals, and nicotine in adolescence damages brain development, attention, memory and learning

Campaign	Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 4.0 (TFYC 4.0)
Launched by	Shri Prataprao Jadhav, MoS (IC) Ayush and MoS Health and Family Welfare
Ministry	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Venue	ABVIMS and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi
Duration	60 days
New focus	Universities and colleges (Higher Educational Institutions)
Laws enforced	COTPA, 2003 and Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2019
First edition	31 May 2023, World No Tobacco Day

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/tobacco-free-youth-campaign-40-launched-as-60-day-drive/

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Thoothukudi Shipyard: Sonowal Meets HD Hyundai Chief in Seoul

28 October 2026 · National

Ports Minister Sarbananda Sonowal met HD Hyundai Chairman Chung Ki-sun in Seoul to push the proposed 4 billion dollar greenfield shipyard at Thoothukudi.

- Sarbananda Sonowal met HD Hyundai Chairman Chung Ki-sun in Seoul on 28 October 2026 to take forward the greenfield shipyard proposed at Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu
- The yard carries an investment of 4 billion dollars and is planned for an annual capacity of about 2.5 million Gross Tonnage, to be confirmed by the Detailed Project Report
- A joint working group will steer the project, a joint venture structure is to be agreed and the Detailed Project Report is due within six months
- HD KSOE and NSHIP-TN had signed their Memorandum of Understanding on 20 April 2026 during the state visit of Korean President Lee Jae Myung
- Public agencies in India plan to acquire more than 400 vessels in the coming years, and the yard is expected to be India's largest commercial shipyard

Project	Greenfield mega shipyard at Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu
Union Minister	Sarbananda Sonowal, Ports, Shipping and Waterways
Met	Chung Ki-sun, Chairman of HD Hyundai, in Seoul
Investment	4 billion dollars
Planned capacity	About 2.5 million Gross Tonnage a year
Korean partner	HD Korea Shipbuilding and Offshore Engineering (HD KSOE)
Indian partner	National Shipbuilding and Heavy Industries Park, Tamil Nadu Limited (NSHIP-TN)
Scheme	Shipbuilding Development Scheme of the Government of India

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/thoothukudi-shipyard-sonowal-meets-hd-hyundai-chief-in-seoul/

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India-EFTA TEPA: Goyal Meets Liechtenstein Prince Alois

28 October 2026 · Economy

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal met Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein and explored stronger investment ties under the India-EFTA trade agreement.

- Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal called on Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein on 28 October 2026 during the Prince's State Visit to India
- The India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement came into force on 1 October 2025 and targets 100 billion dollars of FDI into India over 15 years with one million direct jobs
- Cumulative FDI inflows stood at 843 billion dollars from FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26, with a record 94.53 billion dollars in FY 2025-26
- India has 2.50 lakh startups supporting over 25.42 lakh jobs across more than 770 districts and 56 industries, and 52 per cent of them are outside metropolitan cities
- The India-EFTA Prosperity Summit was held in New Delhi on 7 October 2026 to mark the agreement's first anniversary

Agreement	India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA)
In force since	1 October 2025
Indian Minister	Shri Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry
Guest	H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein, on a State Visit
Investment target	100 billion dollars of FDI over 15 years and one million direct jobs
Cumulative FDI	843 billion dollars, FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26
Record year	94.53 billion dollars in FY 2025-26
Startups	2.50 lakh, supporting over 25.42 lakh jobs in more than 770 districts and 56 industries

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-efta-tepa-goyal-meets-liechtenstein-prince-alois/

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DRI Seizes 45 Live Reptiles at Trichy Airport, Two Arrested

28 October 2026 · Environment

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence recovered 45 sedated live reptiles hidden in food packets at Trichy airport and arrested two passengers from Bangkok.

- DRI, with the Air Intelligence Unit at Trichy, foiled the smuggling of 45 live reptiles through Trichy International Airport
- Two Indian passengers arriving from Bangkok via Colombo on 26 October 2026 were intercepted on specific intelligence and later arrested
- The live wildlife was found concealed in 27 food packets, with every animal in a sedated condition
- The haul was made up of 23 Corn Snakes, 16 Ball Pythons, 5 Argentine Black and White Tegus and 1 Snow White Iguana
- The arrests were made under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962, and the wildlife was handed to AIU, Trichy, for further action

Agencies	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence with Air Intelligence Unit, Trichy
Airport	Trichy International Airport, Tamil Nadu
Seizure	45 live reptiles, all sedated
Concealment	27 food packets in passengers' baggage
Species	23 Corn Snakes, 16 Ball Pythons, 5 Argentine Black and White Tegus, 1 Snow White Iguana
Route	Bangkok to Colombo to Trichy
Date of interception	26 October 2026
Law applied	Customs Act, 1962

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dri-seizes-45-live-reptiles-at-trichy-airport-two-arrested/

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SECL Earns Rs 26.17 Crore from Scrap in Special Campaign 6

28 October 2026 · National

South Eastern Coalfields Limited beat its targets under Special Campaign 6, disposing of 4,602 tonnes of scrap and earning about Rs 26.17 crore in revenue.

- SECL, a Coal India subsidiary under the Ministry of Coal, surpassed several targets under Special Campaign 6 in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh
- It disposed of 4,602 metric tonnes of scrap against a target of 3,300 metric tonnes, earning revenue of about Rs 26.17 crore
- Cleanliness work was taken up at 226 sites against a target of 225, covering more than 47 lakh square feet against a target of 40 lakh square feet
- In record management it reviewed 2,100 physical files and 14,215 e-files, weeded out 872 physical files and closed 13,708 e-files
- Special Campaign 6 runs from 2 to 31 October 2026 and its implementation phase opened on Gandhi Jayanti with a Swachhata Happy Run at Bilaspur

Company	South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited
Ministry	Ministry of Coal
Campaign	Special Campaign 6, from 2 to 31 October 2026
States covered	Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh
Headquarters	Bilaspur
Scrap disposed	4,602 metric tonnes against a target of 3,300 metric tonnes
Revenue earned	About Rs 26.17 crore
Sites cleaned	226 against a target of 225, over 47 lakh square feet

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/secl-earns-rs-2617-crore-from-scrap-in-special-campaign-6/

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Khet Bachao Abhiyan Rabi 2026: Scientists Visit Delhi Farms

28 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Agriculture Ministry is running Khet Bachao Abhiyan Rabi 2026 from 22 October to 30 November, with KVK Ujwa holding camps at 25 places in rural Delhi.

- Khet Bachao Abhiyan - Rabi 2026 is being held across the country from 22 October to 30 November 2026 by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare through its two departments
- The campaign applies the Lab to Land concept, with agricultural scientists visiting farmers' fields instead of farmers coming to research stations
- KVK Ujwa, Delhi has picked 25 locations in the South-West, North-West and North districts of the National Capital Territory for awareness programmes
- Each team is made up of four to five subject-matter experts, scientists, departmental officials and innovative farmers, with senior IARI Pusa scientists also taking part
- An awareness programme was held at Qazipur village on 27 October 2026 on soil health, timely farm operations, balanced fertiliser use and natural farming

Campaign	Khet Bachao Abhiyan - Rabi 2026
Ministry	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, through its two departments
Period	22 October to 30 November 2026
Concept applied	Lab to Land
Krishi Vigyan Kendra	KVK Ujwa, Delhi
Locations in Delhi	25, in the South-West, North-West and North districts
Team composition	Four to five subject-matter experts, scientists, officials and innovative farmers
Institute involved	Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Pusa, New Delhi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/khet-bachao-abhiyan-rabi-2026-scientists-visit-delhi-farms/

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Dearness Allowance Raised 3% to 63% From 1 July 2026

28 October 2026 · Economy

The Union Cabinet cleared an extra 3 per cent Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief instalment from 1 July 2026, taking the rate to 63 per cent of basic pay.

- The Union Cabinet approved an additional instalment of Dearness Allowance for central employees and Dearness Relief for pensioners on 28 October 2026
- The rise is 3 per cent over the existing 60 per cent of basic pay or pension, taking the rate to 63 per cent
- The revision is effective from 1 July 2026, so arrears are due for the elapsed months
- The combined annual burden on the exchequer is 10,016.10 crore rupees
- About 48.54 lakh central government employees and 68.71 lakh pensioners gain from the order

Decision	Additional instalment of Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief
Approved by	Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Quantum	3 per cent over the existing rate
Rate before and after	60 per cent to 63 per cent of basic pay or pension
Effective from	1 July 2026
Annual cost	10,016.10 crore rupees
Employees benefited	About 48.54 lakh
Pensioners benefited	About 68.71 lakh

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dearness-allowance-raised-3percent-to-63percent-from-1-july-2026/

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PM Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana Cleared With Rs 7,395.55 Crore

28 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Union Cabinet approved the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana, a centrally sponsored panchayat scheme of 7,395.55 crore rupees for 2026-27 to 2030-31.

- The Union Cabinet approved the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 28 October 2026
- Outlay is 7,395.55 crore rupees, with a central share of 4,869.48 crore rupees and a state share of 2,526.07 crore rupees
- The scheme runs from 2026-27 to 2030-31, co-terminus with the Sixteenth Finance Commission period
- About 32 lakh elected representatives across over 2.55 lakh panchayats and traditional local bodies are direct beneficiaries
- PANCHAM, an AI-enabled two-way platform in 17 Indian languages, will carry scheme messages to villages

Scheme	Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (PM VGSY)
Type	Centrally Sponsored Scheme
Period	2026-27 to 2030-31, co-terminus with the Sixteenth Finance Commission
Total outlay	7,395.55 crore rupees
Central share	4,869.48 crore rupees
State share	2,526.07 crore rupees
Direct beneficiaries	About 32 lakh elected representatives
Coverage	Over 2.55 lakh panchayats and traditional local bodies in all states and union territories

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-viksit-gram-swaraj-yojana-cleared-with-rs-739555-crore/

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Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme Gets Rs 10,000 Crore

28 October 2026 · Economy

The Union Cabinet approved the Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme with an outlay of 10,000 crore rupees up to 2039-40 to cut reliance on imported containers.

- The Union Cabinet cleared the Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme on 28 October 2026 with an outlay of 10,000 crore rupees up to 2039-40
- It has three parts: Interest Subvention Assistance of 859 crore rupees, Operational Expenditure Assistance of 8,891 crore rupees and testing support of 150 crore rupees
- Interest subvention is 3 per cent a year on eligible term loans for greenfield plants and brownfield expansion
- Annual container making capacity is to rise about ten-fold, up to 7.5 lakh TEUs
- An estimated 3,000 direct and over 50,000 indirect jobs are expected, aiding trades such as corner castings and specialised steel

Scheme	Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS)
Approved by	Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Outlay	10,000 crore rupees up to the financial year 2039-40
Announced in	Union Budget 2026-27
Interest Subvention Assistance	859 crore rupees, at 3 per cent a year on eligible term loans
Operational Expenditure Assistance	8,891 crore rupees
Testing and certification assistance	150 crore rupees
Capacity target	About ten-fold rise, up to 7.5 lakh TEUs a year

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/container-manufacturing-promotion-scheme-gets-rs-10000-crore/

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IIP Grows 6.7% in September 2026 on Power and Factories

28 October 2026 · Economy

India’s Index of Industrial Production rose 6.7 per cent in September 2026, helped by 7.6 per cent growth in manufacturing and 11.2 per cent in electricity and gas.

- India's Index of Industrial Production grew 6.7 per cent in September 2026 over September 2025, against 8.0 per cent in August 2026
- Electricity and gas supply led with 11.2 per cent growth, manufacturing grew 7.6 per cent and mining contracted 6.2 per cent
- The general index stood at 124.3 on the base 2022-23 equal to 100, against 116.5 a year earlier
- Within manufacturing 17 of 23 industry groups grew, led by electrical equipment at 33.9 per cent
- By end use, intermediate goods rose 12.2 per cent and capital goods 10.4 per cent, with consumer non-durables nearly flat at 1.4 per cent

Indicator	Index of Industrial Production, quick estimates for September 2026
Released by	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Overall growth	6.7 per cent year on year
Base year	2022-23 equal to 100
General index	124.3, against 116.5 in September 2025
Fastest sector	Electricity and gas supply, 11.2 per cent
Weakest sector	Mining and quarrying, a contraction of 6.2 per cent
Top industry group	Manufacture of electrical equipment, 33.9 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/iip-grows-67percent-in-september-2026-on-power-and-factories/

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India Signs UNESCO Pact on Sports Values in Classrooms

28 October 2026 · Sports

The Sports and Education Ministries exchanged an MoU with UNESCO to carry clean sport values into Indian classrooms through a toolkit in 13 Indian languages.

- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, the Ministry of Education and UNESCO exchanged an MoU on 28 October 2026 on clean sport values in classrooms
- Delivery is through the Sports Values in Every Classroom Toolkit, with video modules in 13 Indian languages
- The MoU was exchanged at NADA India's Clean Sport Conclave; UNESCO was represented by Dr Tim Curtis of its Regional Office for South Asia
- The toolkit builds three values in children: respect, integrity and fairness, in line with Khelo Bharat Niti 2025
- NADA conducted over 7,000 tests and more than 350 awareness sessions reaching 27,000 participants in 2025-26

Agreement	Memorandum of Understanding on sports values in education
Parties	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Education and UNESCO
Instrument	Sports Values in Every Classroom Toolkit
Languages	Video modules in 13 Indian languages
Values taught	Respect, integrity and fairness
Occasion	Clean Sport Conclave of NADA India
Ministers	Dr Mansukh Mandaviya and Shri Pralhad Joshi
UNESCO representative	Dr Tim Curtis, Director, Regional Office for South Asia

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-signs-unesco-pact-on-sports-values-in-classrooms/

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Rajnath Singh Holds US, Japan Talks at 13th ADMM-Plus

28 October 2026 · Defence

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met the US Secretary of War and Japan's Defense Minister at the 13th ADMM-Plus in Cebu, reviewing frameworks and maritime cooperation.

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met the US Secretary of War and Japan's Defense Minister on 28 October 2026 on the margins of the 13th ADMM-Plus in Cebu, the Philippines
- With Pete Hegseth he reviewed the India-US Major Defence Partnership and the 10-year India-US Defence Framework
- India and the United States reiterated a joint commitment against terrorism, with a call for zero tolerance towards states that fund or train terrorist groups
- With Shinjiro Koizumi the talks covered mine countermeasures and possible joint development in naval shipbuilding and design
- Japan Air Self-Defense Force fighters visited India for the first time during exercise Veer Guardian 26, and a Defence Industry Forum in Tokyo drew about 40 companies

Event	13th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus)
Venue	Cebu, the Philippines
Date	28 October 2026
India represented by	Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
US counterpart	Secretary of War Pete Hegseth
Japanese counterpart	Minister of Defense Shinjiro Koizumi
India-US framework	10-year India-US Defence Framework, under the Major Defence Partnership
India-Japan relationship	Special Strategic and Global Partnership

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rajnath-singh-holds-us-japan-talks-at-13th-admm-plus/

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Khelo India Sports Goods Scheme Gets Rs 1,856.67 Crore

28 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Union Cabinet approved the Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme with an outlay of Rs 1,856.67 crore for the period 2026 to 2033-34.

- The Union Cabinet approved the Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme on 28 October 2026 with an outlay of Rs 1,856.67 crore
- The scheme runs from 2026 to 2033-34 and was announced in the Union Budget 2026-27
- Dedicated Sports Goods Manufacturing Zones will be built by converging with the BHAVYA Scheme and NICDC Industrial Parks
- Anchor Investment Support and Turnover Linked Support together carry an outlay of Rs 1,130 crore
- Rs 105 crore is set aside to help manufacturers obtain and renew certification from International Sports Federations

Scheme	Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme
Approved by	Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Ministry	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
Total outlay	Rs 1,856.67 crore
Period	2026 to 2033-34
Announced in	Union Budget 2026-27
Investment components	Anchor Investment Support and Turnover Linked Support, with Rs 1,130 crore
Certification support	Rs 105 crore for certification from International Sports Federations

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/khelo-india-sports-goods-scheme-gets-rs-185667-crore/

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INS Sahyadri Reaches Busan for India-Korea Naval Drill

28 October 2026 · Defence

INS Sahyadri, an indigenously built guided missile stealth frigate, reached Busan on 26 October 2026 for the India-Republic of Korea Navy bilateral exercise.

- INS Sahyadri, an indigenously designed and built guided missile stealth frigate, arrived at Busan Naval Harbour in the Republic of Korea on 26 October 2026
- The visit is for the India-Republic of Korea Navy (IN-RoKN) Bilateral Exercise
- The harbour phase covers professional interactions, cross-deck visits, cross-training activities and sporting events
- At sea, INS Sahyadri will carry out coordinated maritime activities with the Republic of Korea Navy ship ROKS Munmu the Great
- The exercise is aimed at stronger maritime cooperation and interoperability in the Indo-Pacific

Indian ship	INS Sahyadri
Type	Indigenously designed and built guided missile stealth frigate
Port visited	Busan Naval Harbour, Republic of Korea
Date of arrival	26 October 2026
Exercise	India-Republic of Korea Navy (IN-RoKN) Bilateral Exercise
Partner navy	Republic of Korea Navy (RoKN)
Partner ship at sea	ROKS Munmu the Great
Region	Indo-Pacific

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ins-sahyadri-reaches-busan-for-india-korea-naval-drill/

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India Releases Four Biodiversity Papers at CBD COP-17

28 October 2026 · Environment

Union Minister Bhupender Yadav released four publications on biodiversity, biosafety and benefit sharing at a CBD COP-17 side event in Yerevan, Armenia.

- India released four publications on biodiversity, biosafety and Access and Benefit Sharing at a side event of CBD COP-17 in Yerevan, Armenia
- Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav led the Indian side and called for turning global biodiversity pledges into implementation and finance
- The side event was organised by the Environment Ministry with the National Biodiversity Authority and the UNDP
- The publications are the I-OECM designation guidelines of 2026, the 5th National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, a CBD handbook and India's ABS Success Story
- CBD COP-17 President Hambardzum Matevosyan, who is Armenia's Environment Minister, and the CBD Secretariat's ABS unit head Dr Taukondjo Shikongo attended

Conference	17th Conference of the Parties (COP-17) to the Convention on Biological Diversity
Venue	Yerevan, Armenia
India represented by	Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Side event theme	From Policy to Practice: Advancing India's Biodiversity Commitments through Innovation, Finance, ABS and OECMs
Organised with	National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Publications released	Four, on I-OECM designation, biosafety reporting, a CBD handbook and India's ABS record
COP-17 President	Hambardzum Matevosyan, Minister of Environment of Armenia
CBD Secretariat official	Dr Taukondjo Shikongo, Head of the Access and Benefit-sharing unit

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-releases-four-biodiversity-papers-at-cbd-cop-17/

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Textiles PLI Portal Reopens for Round 4 From 1 November

28 October 2026 · Economy

The Ministry of Textiles will reopen the PLI scheme portal for Round 4 applications from 1 November to 31 December 2026, with the turnover bar cut by half.

- The Ministry of Textiles will reopen the PLI Scheme for Textiles portal for Round 4 applications from 1 November 2026 to 31 December 2026
- The minimum turnover criterion under Part 2 of the scheme has been reduced from 200 crore rupees to 100 crore rupees to let MSMEs and mid-sized units apply
- The scheme tenure has been extended up to the financial year 2033-34 exclusively for applicants approved under Round 4
- Existing participants of Rounds 1, 2 and 3 who have not claimed or received any incentive may migrate to Round 4 after withdrawing their earlier applications
- The scheme covers Man-Made Fibre Apparel, MMF Fabrics and Technical Textiles

Scheme	Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles
Ministry	Ministry of Textiles
Round	Round 4
Application window	1 November 2026 to 31 December 2026
Minimum turnover, Part 2	Reduced from 200 crore rupees to 100 crore rupees
Tenure extension	Up to financial year 2033-34, only for Round 4 applicants
Migration allowed	Round 1, 2 and 3 participants who have not claimed any incentive, on withdrawal of earlier applications
Segments covered	Man-Made Fibre Apparel, MMF Fabrics and Technical Textiles

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/textiles-pli-portal-reopens-for-round-4-from-1-november/

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NPPA Revises MRP of 543 Anti-Cancer Medicine Brands

28 October 2026 · National

NPPA has published revised maximum retail prices for 543 brands of anti-cancer medicines, and the lower rates must be charged from 9 November 2026.

- NPPA has released revised maximum retail prices for 543 brands of anti-cancer medicines, and the new rates apply from 9 November 2026.
- The list reflects prices filed by companies up to 27 October 2026 and will keep being updated as more manufacturers report their rates.
- On 17 October 2026 NPPA had ordered Trade Margin Rationalisation for 137 non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs in public interest.
- NPPA functions under the Department of Pharmaceuticals in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
- The full brand-wise list sits on the NPPA portal, and several injections on it now cost roughly a quarter or a fifth of their earlier shelf price.

Regulator	National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)
Parent body	Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Brands covered	543 brands of anti-cancer medicines
New prices effective from	9 November 2026
Company filings taken up to	27 October 2026
Trade Margin Rationalisation	137 non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs, ordered on 17 October 2026
Molecules named	Denosumab, Pegfilgrastim, Bevacizumab, Anastrozole, Dasatinib, Erlotinib, Fulvestrant

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nppa-revises-mrp-of-543-anti-cancer-medicine-brands/

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Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 Enters Guinness World Records

28 October 2026 · Awards & Honours

Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 has entered the Guinness World Records as the largest innovation solution competition, with 2,87,967 project entries.

- Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 has been certified by the Guinness World Records as the largest innovation solution competition.
- The record rests on 2,87,967 project submissions received across the Idea and Prototype tracks from school students.
- It was organised by DoSEL of the Ministry of Education with the Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog and AICTE.
- Judging ran at three levels and produced 10 national, 100 state and 1,000 district awardees, with a prize pool above Rs 1 crore.
- Union MoS for Education Jayant Chaudhary also released the ULLAS guidelines for Teacher Education Institutions at the same event.

Record	Largest Innovation Solution Competition, Guinness World Records
Competition	Viksit Bharat Buildathon (VBB) 2025
Submissions	2,87,967 projects across Idea and Prototype tracks
Organisers	DoSEL, Ministry of Education, with Atal Innovation Mission (NITI Aayog) and AICTE
Four pillars	Atmanirbhar Bharat, Swadeshi, Vocal for Local, Samriddh Bharat
Awardees	10 national, 100 state and 1,000 district
Prize money	Pool above Rs 1 crore; Rs 17.50 lakh to the 10 national teams
Felicitated by	Union Minister of State for Education Shri Jayant Chaudhary

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/viksit-bharat-buildathon-2025-enters-guinness-world-records-2/

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Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana: Rs 77.98 Crore to 755 Projects

28 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Centre has released Rs 77.98 crore as grant-in-aid to 755 projects under the Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens, a part of Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana.

- Grant-in-aid worth Rs 77.98 crore has gone to 755 projects for senior citizens, covering the quarter that closed on 30 September 2026.
- The programme is a component of Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana, a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- AVYAY was launched in 2021 and subsumed the earlier National Action Plan for Senior Citizens, resting on Ageing with Dignity and Ageing in Place.
- India's senior citizen population is projected to reach 23 crore by 2036; Census 2011 counted 10.38 crore people aged 60 and above.
- District Committees chaired by the Collector or District Magistrate select indigent beneficiaries and monitor senior citizen homes.

Grant released	Rs 77.98 crore
Projects funded	755
Component	Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC)
Umbrella scheme	Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY), launched in 2021
Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Quarter covered	Quarter ending 30 September 2026, financial year 2026-27
Guiding principles	Ageing with Dignity and Ageing in Place
Replaced	National Action Plan for Senior Citizens (NAPSrC)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/atal-vayo-abhyuday-yojana-rs-7798-crore-to-755-projects/

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Shripad Naik Leads India at Singapore Energy Week 2026

28 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Power Minister of State Shripad Yesso Naik led India at Singapore International Energy Week 2026 and held talks with Singapore, Bhutan, IRENA and IEA.

- Shripad Yesso Naik, MoS for Power and New and Renewable Energy, led India at Singapore International Energy Week 2026 from 26 to 28 October.
- India's installed electricity capacity stood at 558.9 GW on 30 September 2026, of which about 308 GW or 55 per cent is non-fossil.
- India reached 50 per cent non-fossil installed capacity in June 2025, five years ahead of its 2030 NDC target, and now aims at 500 GW by 2030.
- He held bilateral meetings with Singapore, Bhutan, IRENA and IEA, covering a cross-border power link and the Punatsangchhu projects.
- He visited Sembcorp's 326 MWh battery storage plant on Jurong Island, the largest utility-scale battery system in Southeast Asia.

Event	Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW) 2026
Venue and dates	Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Singapore, 26 to 28 October 2026
India led by	Shri Shripad Yesso Naik, MoS for Power and New and Renewable Energy
Installed capacity	558.9 GW as on 30 September 2026
Non-fossil share	About 308 GW, or 55 per cent
Target	500 GW non-fossil capacity by 2030
Bilaterals	Singapore, Bhutan, IRENA and IEA
Bhutan projects	Punatsangchhu-I (1200 MW) and Punatsangchhu-II (1020 MW)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shripad-naik-leads-india-at-singapore-energy-week-2026/

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Vice-President Meets European Parliament AFET Delegation

28 October 2026 · International

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan met the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee delegation and called the proposed India-EU FTA the mother of all deals.

- Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman C. P. Radhakrishnan met a European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs delegation at Parliament House, New Delhi.
- The delegation was led by Mr David McAllister, and the meeting covered trade, technology and the wider India-EU partnership.
- He called the proposed India-EU Free Trade Agreement the 'Mother of all deals' and hoped it would be signed within the year.
- India and the EU together form a market of about 25 trillion US dollars and nearly two billion people.
- He welcomed the end of negotiations on India's association with the Horizon Europe research and innovation programme.

Who met	Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan
Delegation	European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)
Led by	Mr David McAllister
Venue	Parliament House, New Delhi
Phrase used	The proposed India-EU Free Trade Agreement called the 'Mother of all deals'
Combined market	About 25 trillion US dollars and nearly two billion people
Summit recalled	16th India-EU Summit, during which the EU leaders were Republic Day Guests of Honour
Mechanism praised	India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vice-president-meets-european-parliament-afet-delegation/

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29 October 2026

ESIC Extends New Amnesty Scheme 2025 Till 31 December 2026

29 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation has extended its New Amnesty Scheme 2025 by three months, keeping the dispute settlement window open till 31 December 2026.

- ESIC has extended the New Amnesty Scheme, 2025 by three months; it now runs from 1 October 2026 to 31 December 2026 on unchanged terms.
- The scheme originally ran from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026 and is a one-time route to settle ESI disputes outside court.
- Ad-hoc assessments can be closed by paying the actual contribution with interest, and no damages are levied in such cases.
- Where dues are already paid, a pending case is withdrawn on payment of 10% of the damages in dispute.
- Only court cases filed up to 31 March 2025 are eligible; the announcement came from the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Scheme	New Amnesty Scheme, 2025
Run by	Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)
Ministry	Ministry of Labour and Employment
Original period	1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026
Extended period	1 October 2026 to 31 December 2026
Length of extension	Three months, on existing terms and conditions
Eligibility	Court cases filed up to 31 March 2025
Ad-hoc assessments	Actual contribution plus interest; no damages levied

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/esic-extends-new-amnesty-scheme-2025-till-31-december-2026/

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Rajnath Singh Addresses 13th ADMM-Plus Meeting in Cebu

29 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressed the 13th ADMM-Plus at Cebu in the Philippines on 29 October 2026 and proposed a defence Youth Bridge with ASEAN.

- The 13th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) was held at Cebu in the Philippines, where Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh spoke on 29 October 2026.
- The theme of the 13th ADMM-Plus is 'Navigating Our Future, Together'; the Defence Minister tied it to the saying 'Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah'.
- India and Malaysia are co-chairing the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Counter-Terrorism for the 2024 to 2027 cycle.
- India has declared 2026 the ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation, and the second ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise was conducted in it.
- Rajnath Singh proposed a defence 'Youth Bridge' with ASEAN for people-to-people contact, digital innovation and capacity building.

Event	13th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus)
Venue	Cebu, Philippines
Date of address	29 October 2026
Theme	'Navigating Our Future, Together'
India represented by	Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh
Counter-terrorism working group	India and Malaysia co-chair the Experts' Working Group for the 2024 to 2027 cycle
Maritime year	2026 declared the ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation
Proposal made	Defence 'Youth Bridge' with ASEAN countries

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rajnath-singh-addresses-13th-admm-plus-meeting-in-cebu/

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Rabi MSP for 2027-28: Safflower Gets the Biggest Rise

29 October 2026 · Economy

The Rabi MSPs for marketing season 2027-28 carry the largest rise for safflower at Rs 675 a quintal, with Rs 90,962 crore to be paid for 324 lakh tonnes.

- The government approved higher MSPs for all mandated rabi crops of Rabi Marketing Season 2027-28 on 30 September 2026.
- An estimated Rs 90,962 crore is to be paid to farmers for 324 lakh metric tonnes of rabi produce in RMS 2027-28.
- Safflower received the highest absolute increase at Rs 675 a quintal, followed by rapeseed and mustard at Rs 413, lentil at Rs 390 and barley at Rs 136.
- Wheat carries the highest margin over the cost of production at 106 per cent, followed by rapeseed and mustard at 96 per cent and lentil at 92 per cent.
- Pulses, oilseeds and copra are procured under the Price Support Scheme of PM-AASHA through NAFED and NCCF, using the e-Samriddhi and e-Samyukti portals.

Season	Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2027-28
Approved on	30 September 2026
Estimated payment to farmers	Rs 90,962 crore for 324 lakh metric tonnes
Highest absolute rise	Safflower, Rs 675 a quintal
Highest margin over cost	Wheat, 106 per cent
Crops under MSP	22 mandated crops
Recommending body	Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)
Minimum margin over cost	50 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rabi-msp-for-2027-28-safflower-gets-the-biggest-rise/

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ESTIC 2026 Session Takes Up Physical AI and Robotics

29 October 2026 · Science & Technology

A session on autonomous systems, physical AI and robotics at ESTIC 2026 in New Delhi heard that 25 technology innovation hubs work under the NM-ICPS mission.

- A session on Autonomous Systems, Physical AI and Robotics was held at ESTIC 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, by the Department of Science and Technology.
- The Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave 2026 was held from 27 to 29 October 2026.
- Under DST's National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems, technology innovation hubs have been established at 25 leading academic institutions.
- Phase I of the NM-ICPS mission is scheduled to conclude in December 2027, and the session feedback will shape the second phase.
- NITI Aayog Member Prof. Abhay Karandikar said stakeholder consultations have considered a proposal for a dedicated Physical AI Mission.

Event	Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026
Venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Dates	27 to 29 October 2026
Session subject	Autonomous Systems, Physical AI and Robotics
Organising department	Department of Science and Technology (DST)
DST Secretary	Prof. Umesh V. Waghmare
NITI Aayog Member who spoke	Prof. Abhay Karandikar
Mission highlighted	National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/estic-2026-session-takes-up-physical-ai-and-robotics/

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Cyclone Arnab: Amit Shah Speaks to Four Chief Ministers

29 October 2026 · National

Union Home Minister Amit Shah spoke to the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Odisha and Chhattisgarh after Cyclone Arnab and promised every help.

- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah spoke to the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Odisha and Chhattisgarh in the wake of Cyclone Arnab.
- He assured the states and the Union Territory of every assistance to reduce the hardship caused by the disaster.
- NDRF and SDRF teams are carrying out rescue and relief operations on a war footing in the affected areas.
- Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) are to be sent soon to assess the impact of the cyclone and the further assistance required.
- The Home Minister conveyed the message through a post on the X platform on 29 October 2026.

Cyclone	Cyclone Arnab
Union Minister who spoke	Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs and of Cooperation
States and UT contacted	Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Odisha and Chhattisgarh
Date	29 October 2026
Forces deployed	National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF)
Teams to be sent	Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs), to assess the impact and the further assistance needed
Medium of the message	A post on the X platform

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cyclone-arnab-amit-shah-speaks-to-four-chief-ministers/

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India Tops World in Green Hydrogen Offtake Commitments

29 October 2026 · Environment

Indian companies have signed green hydrogen offtake commitments of 5,55,610 MTPA till October 2026, the world's largest, needing about Rs 90,000 crore of capital.

- India's signed green hydrogen offtake commitments reached 5,55,610 MTPA by October 2026, the largest order book of its kind in the world.
- Indian companies closed 18 fresh offtake agreements during 2026, taking the tally since 2023 to 23 contracts, with over 70 per cent of the volume meant for export.
- Reliance Industries' agreement with Samsung C&T of South Korea, valued above USD 3 billion, ranks among the world's largest green ammonia offtake contracts.
- Under the SIGHT programme, 6,70,000 MTPA of green ammonia goes to 11 fertiliser units and 30,000 MTPA of green hydrogen to IOCL, BPCL, HPCL and NRL refineries.
- The National Green Hydrogen Mission carries an outlay of Rs 19,744 crore up to 2029-30 and aims at 5 MMTPA of green hydrogen by 2030.

Announced by	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Total offtake commitments	5,55,610 MTPA of green hydrogen equivalent (October 2026)
Contracts signed	23 since 2023, of which 18 during 2026
Export share	Over 70 per cent of the committed volume
Capital required	About Rs 90,000 crore (USD 9.5 billion)
Share of mission target	About 11 per cent
Mission outlay	Rs 19,744 crore up to 2029-30
Targets by 2030	5 MMTPA green hydrogen, 125 GW renewable capacity addition, over 6 lakh jobs, 50 MMT CO2 avoided

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/india-tops-world-in-green-hydrogen-offtake-commitments/

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MeghRaj 2.0 Cloud Now Serves 2,330 Government Departments

29 October 2026 · Science & Technology

A PIB backgrounder on India's cloud ecosystem says MeghRaj 2.0 serves 2,330 government departments and 30 cloud service providers stand empanelled by September 2026.

- MeghRaj, the Government of India's cloud ecosystem, was launched in 2014 by MeitY; its successor MeghRaj 2.0 had reached 2,330 government departments by September 2026.
- India had empanelled 30 cloud service providers by September 2026, including Jio Platforms, TCS, BSNL, ITI, RailTel, AdaniConneX and Yotta Data Services.
- Data centre capacity stood at 1.57 GW in August 2026 and is projected to near 8 GW by 2030, with USD 70 billion of investment under way.
- The IndiaAI Mission, with an outlay of Rs 10,371.92 crore, has onboarded more than 45,000 GPUs for a common AI computing facility.
- BHASHINI moved to an Indian cloud run by Yotta in February 2026, gaining up to 40 per cent better performance and 99.99 per cent uptime.

Document	PIB backgrounder on the cloud ecosystem in India, 29 October 2026
MeghRaj launched	2014, by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
Departments on MeghRaj 2.0	2,330 as of September 2026
Empanelled cloud providers	30 as of September 2026
Data centre capacity	1.57 GW in August 2026, projected near 8 GW by 2030
NIC data centres	4 National Data Centres and 24 Mini Data Centres
IndiaAI Mission outlay	Rs 10,371.92 crore, with over 45,000 GPUs onboarded
Internet subscribers	1,092.79 million in March 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/meghraj-20-cloud-now-serves-2330-government-departments/

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Ganga Flood Control Board's 19th Meeting Launches Punah Bharan App

29 October 2026 · National

C. R. Patil chaired the 19th Ganga Flood Control Board meeting at Bharat Mandapam and launched the Punah Bharan mobile app for groundwater recharge siting.

- The 19th meeting of the Ganga Flood Control Board was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 27 October 2026, chaired by Union Jal Shakti Minister C. R. Patil.
- The Ganga Flood Control Board was constituted by the Government of India on 18 April 1972 for coordinated action on floods, erosion and drainage in the Ganga Basin.
- The Board is chaired by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti, and the Chairman of the Ganga Flood Control Commission serves as its Member Secretary.
- The Punah Bharan Mobile App, developed by BISAG-N with the National Water Mission, was launched to identify suitable sites for artificial groundwater recharge.
- The Board discussed a revised mandate for the Ganga Flood Control Commission, including a Flood Management Information System and risk-based basin master plans.

Event	19th meeting of the Ganga Flood Control Board (GFCB)
Date of meeting	27 October 2026
Venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Chaired by	C. R. Patil, Union Minister of Jal Shakti
Board constituted on	18 April 1972 by the Government of India
Member Secretary	Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC)
App launched	Punah Bharan Mobile App, for siting artificial groundwater recharge
App developed by	Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics with the National Water Mission

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ganga-flood-control-boards-19th-meeting-launches-punah-bharan-app/

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Rs 3.36 Crore Settlement for 217 UltraTech Bathinda Workers

29 October 2026 · Economy

Two Memorandums of Settlement signed at UltraTech, Bathinda will give 217 workers benefits of about Rs 3.36 crore over five years after central conciliation.

- Two Memorandums of Settlement were signed between the management of UltraTech, Bathinda and workers' unions on 14 October 2026.
- The settlements are expected to extend financial benefits of about Rs 3.36 crore to 217 workers over the next five years.
- The agreements were concluded with the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) and the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC).
- Conciliation was carried out by the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Jalandhar, under the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) in the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- The agreed benefits will apply retrospectively from the second quarter of the year as per the terms of each agreement.

Agreements	Two Memorandums of Settlement (MoS)
Signed on	14 October 2026
Establishment	UltraTech, Bathinda, Punjab
Unions	Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) and All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC)
Financial benefit	About Rs 3.36 crore
Workers covered	217
Period	Next five years, with benefits retrospective from the second quarter of the year
Conciliation by	Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Jalandhar

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rs-336-crore-settlement-for-217-ultratech-bathinda-workers/

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Textile Committee Earns Rs 4,38,444 in Special Campaign 6.0

29 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Textiles said the Textile Committee raised Rs 4,38,444 from scrap disposal under Special Campaign 6.0, held from 2 to 31 October 2026.

- Special Campaign 6.0 is being conducted from 2 to 31 October 2026 with a focus on institutional cleanliness, record management, disposal of pending matters and sustainable practices.
- The Textile Committee generated revenue of Rs 4,38,444 through scrap disposal during the campaign, the Ministry of Textiles reported on 29 October 2026.
- The first week, from 2 to 9 October 2026, covered record management, space management planning, scrap disposal and cleaning of record rooms and storage racks.
- The second week, from 10 to 16 October 2026, removed scrap, cardboard boxes, old cartons and unusable items, with similar drives at all regional offices.
- The third week, from 17 to 23 October 2026, cleared packing material, waste plastic and remnant samples, and produced most of the scrap revenue.

Campaign	Special Campaign 6.0
Duration	2 to 31 October 2026
Organisation in focus	Textile Committee, under the Ministry of Textiles
Revenue from scrap disposal	Rs 4,38,444
Objectives	Institutional cleanliness, efficient record management, disposal of pending matters, sustainable practices
First week	2 to 9 October 2026, record and space management with cleaning of record rooms
Second week	10 to 16 October 2026, removal of scrap, cartons and unusable items
Third week	17 to 23 October 2026, disposal of packing material, waste plastic and remnant samples

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/textile-committee-earns-rs-438444-in-special-campaign-60/

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Ayushman Vay Vandana Completes Two Years of Elderly Care

29 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Ayushman Vay Vandana completed two years on 29 October 2026 after clearing 23.46 lakh hospital admissions worth Rs 5,668.80 crore for people aged 70 and above.

- Ayushman Vay Vandana, launched by the Prime Minister on 29 October 2024, completed two years on 29 October 2026 and covers every citizen aged 70 and above irrespective of income.
- It is implemented by the National Health Authority under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and reaches about 6 crore seniors in roughly 4.5 crore families.
- Cover is up to Rs 5 lakh per family a year, with a separate top-up of up to Rs 5 lakh for members aged 70 and above in families already under AB PM-JAY.
- As on 20 October 2026 the scheme had authorised 23.46 lakh hospital admissions valued at Rs 5,668.80 crore.
- Cataract surgery was the most used treatment with 4.71 lakh procedures, about 20.1 per cent of the total, while PTCA took the largest value at about Rs 649 crore.

Scheme	Ayushman Vay Vandana
Launched	29 October 2024, by the Prime Minister
Eligibility	All citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of income
Implementing body	National Health Authority (NHA)
Ministry	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Cover	Up to Rs 5 lakh per family per year, plus a separate Rs 5 lakh top-up for AB PM-JAY families
Admissions (to 20 October 2026)	23.46 lakh
Value of admissions	Rs 5,668.80 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ayushman-vay-vandana-completes-two-years-of-elderly-care/

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Delhi Declaration 2026 Adopted at ARISE Cities Forum

29 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The ARISE Cities Forum 2026 in New Delhi adopted the Delhi Declaration on Local Action for Global Climate Goals, which will be carried to COP31 in Antalya.

- The ARISE Cities Forum 2026, held on 27 and 28 October 2026 at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi, was the second edition of the forum.
- It was organised by ICLEI South Asia with the National Institute of Urban Affairs, supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- The Delhi Declaration on Local Action for Global Climate Goals was adopted on 28 October 2026 and will be taken to COP31 at Antalya in Turkiye.
- The theme was 'From Bharat to Antalya - Commit. Implement. Deliver.', and more than 200 participants from over 50 cities in more than 18 countries took part.
- The declaration sets out ten shared commitments and the closing ceremony launched the Delhi Biodiversity Map developed by ICLEI South Asia.

Event	ARISE Cities Forum 2026, second edition
Dates	27 and 28 October 2026
Venue	India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
Organisers	ICLEI South Asia with the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
Supported by	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Theme	From Bharat to Antalya - Commit. Implement. Deliver.
Document adopted	Delhi Declaration on Local Action for Global Climate Goals, on 28 October 2026
Commitments	Ten shared commitments

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/delhi-declaration-2026-adopted-at-arise-cities-forum/

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Index of Services Production for August 2026 Released

29 October 2026 · Reports & Indices

MoSPI released the trial Index of Services Production for August 2026 across 19 sub-sectors, with retail trade growing fastest and air transport down 9.6 per cent.

- MoSPI released the trial Index of Services Production for August 2026, covering 19 broad sub-sectors on the base year 2024-25.
- Accommodation and food services recorded the highest index reading, followed by retail trade and repair services.
- Retail trade grew fastest over August 2025, with repair services and real estate next at an equal pace and insurance behind them.
- Air transport was the weakest, contracting 9.6 per cent to 89.2, the only reading below the base-year level.
- Arts, entertainment and recreation services, the other sub-sector to shrink, fell 4.7 per cent to 111.7, while railway transport grew the least at 3.7 per cent.

Index	Index of Services Production (ISP), trial sub-sectoral series
Released by	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
Month	August 2026
Sub-sectors covered	19
Base year	2024-25
Highest reading	Accommodation and food services
Fastest growth	Retail trade, over August 2025
Weakest sub-sector	Air transport, index 89.2, down 9.6 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/index-of-services-production-for-august-2026-released/

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India's Nine Trade Pacts Open USD 60 Trillion Market

29 October 2026 · Economy

Piyush Goyal said India's nine trade agreements open economies worth USD 60 trillion against USD 10 trillion covered by pacts signed before 2014.

- Piyush Goyal said India's nine free trade and bilateral agreements open preferential access to economies with a combined GDP of USD 60 trillion, against USD 10 trillion under pacts signed before 2014.
- He listed quality, global market access, economies of scale and inclusivity as the four differentiators for India's industrial transformation.
- India's trade agreements now cover 38 developed and relatively prosperous countries, and the domestic market of 1.4 billion people supports economies of scale.
- The India-Germany migration agreement involves a requirement of 90,000 Indians a year, and Goyal expects India to stay the fastest-growing major economy for 20 to 25 years.
- India's space economy is valued at USD 8.4 billion and could reach USD 44 billion by 2033, while green and renewable sources make up 60 per cent of installed power capacity.

Speaker	Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry
Occasion	Fourth National Conference on India's Industrial Transformation, organised by ISID and IDRA
Four differentiators	Quality, global market access, economies of scale, inclusivity
Trade agreements	Nine free trade and bilateral agreements
Markets opened	Economies with aggregate GDP of USD 60 trillion
Before 2014	Agreements covered USD 10 trillion
Countries covered	38 developed and relatively prosperous countries
Germany migration pact	Requirement of 90,000 Indians a year

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indias-nine-trade-pacts-open-usd-60-trillion-market/

DRDO Clears 20,000 Files Under Special Campaign 6.0

29 October 2026 · Defence

DRDO has rolled out Special Campaign 6.0 across its laboratories, weeding out about 20,000 files, digitising 5 lakh pages and earning Rs 35 lakh from scrap.

- DRDO has rolled out the Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters, SCDPM 6.0, across its headquarters, laboratories and establishments.
- The campaign is coordinated by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).
- DRDO achieved 100 per cent of its targets on pending public grievances, Parliamentary Assurances and inter-ministerial references.
- About 20,000 files earmarked for weeding out are being disposed of as per record retention schedules, with shredded paper sent to KVIC for recycling.
- Around 5 lakh historical pages have been digitised and the eco-friendly disposal of scrap and obsolete hardware generated Rs 35 lakh in revenue.

Campaign	Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters (SCDPM 6.0)
Organisation	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
Coordinated by	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)
Coverage	DRDO headquarters, laboratories and establishments
Targets met	100 per cent on public grievances, Parliamentary Assurances and inter-ministerial references
Files weeded out	About 20,000, as per record retention schedules
Records digitised	Approximately 5 lakh historical pages
Shredded paper sent to	Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/drdo-clears-20000-files-under-special-campaign-60/

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NHRC Notice to Kolkata Police Over Parading of Three Men

29 October 2026 · National

The NHRC has taken suo motu cognizance of three men being paraded semi-nude by police in Kolkata and sought a report from the Commissioner in two weeks.

- The National Human Rights Commission took suo motu cognizance of a media report that police paraded three persons in a semi-nude condition in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- It issued a notice to the Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, calling for a detailed report within two weeks.
- The report, carried on 28 October 2026, said the three arrested men were made to walk shirtless and barefoot for over 100 metres for a reconstruction of the crime scene.
- The three were the girl's father, her maternal uncle and his friend, held after a youth of 18, his friend of 19 and the youth's father were assaulted and paraded at the girl's house.
- The Commission observed that the contents of the report, if true, raise serious issues of violation of human rights.

Body	National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India
Action	Suo motu cognizance of a media report
Notice issued to	Commissioner of Police, Kolkata
Report sought within	Two weeks
State	West Bengal
Date of media report	28 October 2026
Allegation	Three persons paraded semi-nude with ropes tied around their waists
Distance walked	More than 100 metres, shirtless and barefoot

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nhrc-notice-to-kolkata-police-over-parading-of-three-men/

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Shram Samvad on Labour Codes Held for Employers in Kanpur

29 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Uttar Pradesh Labour Department held Shram Samvad, a programme on the four Labour Codes, at Kanpur.

- Shram Samvad, a regional capacity-building and awareness programme on the Labour Codes, labour welfare and social protection, was held at Kanpur on 28 October 2026.
- It was organised jointly by the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Labour Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh at IIA Bhavan, Dadanagar Industrial Area.
- Officials of EPFO, ESIC and the Directorate General of Labour Welfare took part along with employers and legal, HR and finance professionals.
- The third and fourth technical sessions covered the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana and the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan scheme.
- A Handbook of Compliance for Employers and a Compilation of Frequently Asked Questions, both prepared by the Ministry, were shared with participants.

Programme	Shram Samvad, a regional capacity-building and awareness programme on Labour Codes
Date	28 October 2026
Venue	IIA Bhavan, Dadanagar Industrial Area, Kanpur
Organisers	Ministry of Labour and Employment with the Labour Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh
Bodies represented	EPFO, ESIC and the Directorate General of Labour Welfare
Inaugural address	Abhinav J. Jain, IAS, Chief Development Officer, Kanpur Nagar
First technical session	Dr R. G. Meena, Adviser, Ministry of Labour and Employment
Schemes covered	Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PMVBRY) and Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shram-samvad-on-labour-codes-held-for-employers-in-kanpur/

Amit Shah Chairs 93rd NCDC General Council Meeting

29 October 2026 · Economy

Amit Shah chaired the 93rd General Council meeting of the National Cooperative Development Corporation, whose cumulative lending has reached Rs 4,14,586 crore.

- The 93rd General Council meeting of the National Cooperative Development Corporation was held on 29 October 2026 in New Delhi, chaired by Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah.
- NCDC has disbursed Rs 4,14,586 crore to cooperatives from the creation of the Ministry of Cooperation up to 25 October 2026.
- In FY 2025-26 it sanctioned projects worth Rs 1,55,408 crore, disbursed Rs 1,27,596 crore, earned a net profit of Rs 1,475 crore, recovered 99.84 per cent of loans and held net NPA at zero.
- Disbursal targets are Rs 1.70 lakh crore for FY 2026-27, Rs 2.10 lakh crore for FY 2027-28 and Rs 2.50 lakh crore for FY 2028-29.
- The Minister set 2030 as the year by which the North-East should be self-reliant in milk, eggs, fish and meat, and asked for a 25-year roadmap for the Corporation.

Event	93rd General Council meeting of NCDC
Date and venue	29 October 2026, NCDC headquarters, New Delhi
Chaired by	Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs and of Cooperation
Ministry	Ministry of Cooperation
Cumulative disbursal	Rs 4,14,586 crore up to 25 October 2026
FY 2025-26 sanctions	Rs 1,55,408 crore
FY 2025-26 disbursal	Rs 1,27,596 crore, against Rs 24,733 crore in FY 2020-21
Net profit	Rs 1,475 crore in FY 2025-26

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/amit-shah-chairs-93rd-ncdc-general-council-meeting/

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RCNCA's 15th Meeting Clears Sardar Sarovar Dues Deal

29 October 2026 · National

The 15th RCNCA meeting, chaired by C. R. Paatil with four Chief Ministers present, adopted the Narmada agreement of 7 July and fixed how dues will be paid.

- The 15th meeting of the Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority was held on 27 October 2026 through video conferencing.
- It was chaired by Union Jal Shakti Minister C. R. Paatil, who is also Chairman of the RCNCA.
- Chief Ministers Bhupendra Patel of Gujarat, Devendra Fadnavis of Maharashtra, Mohan Yadav of Madhya Pradesh and Bhajan Lal Sharma of Rajasthan took part.
- The Committee adopted the Attorney General for India's opinion and the Memorandum of Agreement signed by the four States on 7 July 2026 in New Delhi.
- Outstanding dues of NWDT Award projects are to be paid within the financial year 2026-27, ending a decades-old Sardar Sarovar cost-sharing dispute.

Event	15th meeting of the Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority (RCNCA)
Date and mode	27 October 2026, through video conferencing
Chairman	C. R. Paatil, Union Minister of Jal Shakti
Gujarat	Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel
Maharashtra	Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis
Madhya Pradesh	Chief Minister Mohan Yadav
Rajasthan	Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma
Memorandum of Agreement	Signed 7 July 2026 at New Delhi by the four States

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rcncas-15th-meeting-clears-sardar-sarovar-dues-deal/

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National Workshop on Coastal Resilience Opens in Delhi

29 October 2026 · Environment

A two-day national workshop on coastal resilience opened in New Delhi under the Green Climate Fund's GCF-ECRICC project, drawing close to 150 participants.

- The National Workshop on 'Enhancing Coastal Resilience through Adaptive Strategies' was held in New Delhi on 29 and 30 October 2026 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- It was organised under the Green Climate Fund project Enhancing Climate Resilience of India's Coastal Communities (GCF-ECRICC).
- The project restores mangroves, coastal watersheds, seagrass, salt marshes and corals, and is running in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha.
- MoEFCC Secretary Narendra Bhooshan said the National Coastal Mission would be the fulcrum for coastal resilience, linked to the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision.
- Close to 150 participants attended, and the project's Climate Champion model of women volunteers known as ECRICC Didi was showcased.

Workshop	National Workshop on 'Enhancing Coastal Resilience through Adaptive Strategies'
Dates and venue	29 and 30 October 2026, New Delhi
Organised by	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)
Project	Enhancing Climate Resilience of India's Coastal Communities (GCF-ECRICC)
Funding	Green Climate Fund (GCF)
Project States	Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha
Ecosystems covered	Mangroves, coastal watersheds, seagrass, salt marshes and corals
MoEFCC Secretary	Narendra Bhooshan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-workshop-on-coastal-resilience-opens-in-delhi/

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INS Trishul Wraps Up Italy Port Call in Mediterranean

29 October 2026 · Defence

INS Trishul ended its port call at Civitavecchia in Italy on 28 October 2026 and has moved to the next phase of its Mediterranean Sea deployment.

- INS Trishul of the Indian Navy concluded its port call at Civitavecchia, Italy, on 28 October 2026 during an operational deployment in the Mediterranean Sea.
- The ship's Commanding Officer called on the Fleet Commander of the Italian Navy, and the crew visited the Italian aircraft carrier ITS Cavour.
- Vani Rao, India's Ambassador to Italy, and Vice Admiral Aurelio De Carolis, Fleet Commander and CINCNAV of the Italian Navy, came aboard the ship.
- A cultural event on board drew the Mayor of Civitavecchia, senior Italian Navy and Coast Guard officers and defence envoys from 13 nations.
- The ship was opened to visitors and has since proceeded to the next phase of its Mediterranean deployment.

Ship	INS Trishul, Indian Navy
Port and country	Civitavecchia, Italy
Port call concluded	28 October 2026
Deployment	Operational deployment in the Mediterranean Sea
Italian carrier visited by crew	ITS Cavour
Ambassador of India to Italy	Vani Rao
Italian Fleet Commander and CINCNAV	Vice Admiral Aurelio De Carolis
Called on by	Commanding Officer of INS Trishul on the Italian Fleet Commander

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ins-trishul-wraps-up-italy-port-call-in-mediterranean/

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Rail Jan Samvaad Held at 5,884 Railway Stations

29 October 2026 · National

Indian Railways held Rail Jan Samvaad at 5,884 stations on 22 October 2026 and has crossed several targets of Special Campaign 6, which ends on 31 October.

- Indian Railways has crossed several key targets under Special Campaign 6, which runs from 2 October to 31 October 2026.
- The campaign is the Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters, referred to as SCDPM-6.
- Rail Jan Samvaad was held on 22 October 2026 at 5,884 railway stations to collect passenger feedback on cleanliness, amenities and service delivery.
- Railway Board Chairman and CEO Satish Kumar interacted with stakeholders at New Delhi, while the Secretary, DARPG, joined the programme at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai.
- Gains were reported in cleanliness, scrap disposal, e-waste management, disposal of pending matters and process simplification.

Campaign	Special Campaign 6, the Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters (SCDPM-6)
Campaign period	2 October to 31 October 2026
Outreach programme	Rail Jan Samvaad
Date of Rail Jan Samvaad	22 October 2026
Stations covered	5,884 railway stations across the country
Feedback sought on	Cleanliness, passenger amenities and service delivery
Railway Board Chairman and CEO	Satish Kumar, who interacted with stakeholders at New Delhi
DARPG Secretary's venue	Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rail-jan-samvaad-held-at-5884-railway-stations/

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TRAI Drive Test Checks Mobile Networks in Kachchh

29 October 2026 · Reports & Indices

TRAI released findings of an Independent Drive Test in the Kachchh area of Gujarat, covering 245.2 km of city routes and the Bhuj-Bhachau highway of 75.7 km.

- TRAI released the findings of an Independent Drive Test conducted in the Kachchh area of Gujarat, including Gandhidham and Bhuj cities and the Bhuj to Bhachau highway.
- The testing was carried out from 8 to 11 September 2026 under the supervision of TRAI's regional office at Jaipur.
- The agency covered 245.2 km of city routes, 9 hotspot locations and 75.7 km of the Bhuj-Bhachau highway using live voice and data sessions on 2G, 3G, 4G and 5G.
- In the city stretch average download speeds were 231.92 Mbps for Reliance Jio and 177.25 Mbps for Airtel, with 31.68 Mbps for Vodafone Idea and 10.27 Mbps for BSNL.
- On the highway the average download speed was 241.22 Mbps for Jio and 139.15 Mbps for Airtel, and the findings have been shared with the service providers.

Regulator	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
Exercise	Independent Drive Test (IDT)
Area tested	Kachchh, including Gandhidham and Bhuj cities, and the Bhuj to Bhachau highway
Licensed service area	Gujarat LSA
Dates	8 to 11 September 2026
Supervised by	TRAI Regional Office, Jaipur
City drive	245.2 km, plus 9 hotspot locations
Highway drive	75.7 km, Bhuj to Bhachau

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/trai-drive-test-checks-mobile-networks-in-kachchh/

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AIIA-iCAINE Launches National Ayurveda AI Challenge

29 October 2026 · Science & Technology

AIIA's incubator AIIA-iCAINE marked its sixth Foundation Day with AyushTech Innovate, a national open Ayurveda AI challenge run with Techfest, IIT Bombay.

- AIIA-iCAINE, the incubation centre of the All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi, marked its sixth Foundation Day on 29 October 2026.
- AyushTech Innovate: National Open Ayurveda AI Challenge was launched by Techfest, IIT Bombay with the Ministry of Ayush and AIIA; the grand finale runs at IIT Bombay from 15 to 18 December 2026.
- Entries use AyurParam, IIT Bombay's open-source Ayurveda large language model, and address clinical practice, classical text retrieval, research, treatment planning and public health awareness.
- The incubator has supported 52 problem statements, mentored over 100 startup ideas and given seed support of Rs 3 lakh each to nine startups since it was set up on 29 October 2021.
- MoUs were signed with the World Ayurveda Foundation for a secretariat for AI in Ayurveda and with Reliance Retail Limited (Pahadi Local) for Ayurveda-based skincare products.

Event	Sixth Foundation Day of AIIA-iCAINE
Parent institute	All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi
Ministry	Ministry of Ayush
Challenge launched	AyushTech Innovate: National Open Ayurveda AI Challenge
Challenge organiser	Techfest, IIT Bombay, with the Ministry of Ayush and AIIA
AI model used	AyurParam, IIT Bombay's open-source Ayurveda large language model
Grand finale	IIT Bombay, 15 to 18 December 2026
MoU partners	World Ayurveda Foundation; Reliance Retail Limited (Pahadi Local)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/aiia-icaine-launches-national-ayurveda-ai-challenge/

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Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 Concludes in Guwahati, Assam

29 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The eight-day Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 at Khanapara in Guwahati ended with 75 artisans, 31 of them women, selling about 40 kinds of handloom and handicraft.

- The eight-day Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 concluded at Farm Gate, Khanapara, in Guwahati, Assam, organised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- Guwahati was the second edition of the Shilp Samagam series in the financial year 2026-27; the first edition closed at Mysuru in Karnataka on 19 October.
- A total of 75 artisans took part, including 31 women, offering about 40 distinct varieties of handloom and handicraft products.
- BHARAT-TULIP, the Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme, was promoted at the fair to link artisans with physical outlets and e-commerce platforms.
- Ministry Secretary Sudhansh Pant visited with NSFDC Chairman cum Managing Director Prabhat Tyagi; the pavilion showcased schemes of NSFDC, NBCFDC and NSKFDC.

Event	Shilp Samagam Mela 2026, held over eight days
Venue	Farm Gate, Khanapara, Guwahati, Assam
Organiser	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Edition	Second of the Shilp Samagam series in the financial year 2026-27
First edition	Mysuru, Karnataka, concluded on 19 October
Artisans	75, including 31 women
Products	About 40 distinct varieties of handloom and handicraft
Programme promoted	BHARAT-TULIP, Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/shilp-samagam-mela-2026-concludes-in-guwahati-assam/

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MY Bharat Holds 50 Know Your Vote Yuva Samvads

29 October 2026 · National

Mera Yuva Bharat has held 50 'Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad: Know Your Vote' sittings in 19 States and Union Territories, reaching 11,787 young people so far.

- Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), under the Department of Youth Affairs, held 23 'Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad: Know Your Vote' programmes in 12 States and Union Territories on 29 October 2026, with 5,481 youth taking part.
- The nationwide campaign runs from 26 October to 5 November 2026 and is to cover 500 universities, colleges and institutions.
- By 29 October, 50 Yuva Samvads had been held across 19 States and Union Territories, engaging 11,787 youth and 51 Youth Icons.
- Each sitting carries the Loktantrik Pledge and a 'Know Your Vote' online quiz, and brings students together with elected representatives and Youth Icons.
- At Narmadapuram in Madhya Pradesh, Asian Games bronze medallist Harshita Tomar spoke to youth on voting rights and informed electoral participation.

Campaign	Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad: Know Your Vote
Organiser	Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
Campaign period	26 October to 5 November 2026
Institutions to be covered	500 universities, colleges and institutions
Programmes on 29 October 2026	23, across 12 States and Union Territories, with 5,481 youth
Total so far	50 Yuva Samvads in 19 States and Union Territories
Youth engaged so far	11,787, along with 51 Youth Icons
Pledge administered	Loktantrik Pledge

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/my-bharat-holds-50-know-your-vote-yuva-samvads/

14th International Tourism Mart Opens in Tawang, Arunachal

29 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat opened the 14th International Tourism Mart at Tawang, which drew 43 foreign buyers from 22 countries.

- The 14th International Tourism Mart opened at Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh, on 29 October 2026 and runs for three days till 31 October 2026.
- It is organised by the Union Ministry of Tourism with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and the other north eastern states, and covers all eight states of the region.
- The edition drew 43 international buyers from 22 countries, the highest foreign participation so far, along with 42 domestic buyers from 16 states and union territories and 81 sellers.
- Domestic tourist visits to the eight north eastern states rose from 95.65 lakh in 2019 to 1.51 crore in 2025, a growth of about 58 per cent.
- The mart returned to Tawang after 13 years; the second edition was held there in 2013. A regional meeting of north eastern tourism ministers is scheduled for 30 October 2026.

Event	14th International Tourism Mart (ITM) 2026
Venue	Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh
Dates	29 to 31 October 2026, three days
Organiser	Ministry of Tourism with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and other north eastern states
Inaugurated by	Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister for Tourism and Culture
Chief Ministers present	Pema Khandu (Arunachal Pradesh) and Prem Singh Tamang (Sikkim)
International buyers	43 from 22 countries, the highest ever at ITM
Domestic buyers and sellers	42 buyers from 16 states and union territories; 81 sellers

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/14th-international-tourism-mart-opens-in-tawang-arunachal/

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India's FTAs to Cover 76% of Global GDP, Says Piyush Goyal

29 October 2026 · Economy

At the Invest Telangana Global Summit curtain raiser, Piyush Goyal said India's trade pacts, with eight more in talks, would cover 76% of global GDP.

- Piyush Goyal addressed the curtain raiser of the Invest Telangana Global Summit in New Delhi on 29 October 2026.
- India's existing trade pacts cover economies worth 70 trillion dollars; eight more under negotiation would add 15 trillion dollars, taking preferential access to about 76 per cent of the 115 trillion dollar world economy.
- India has set an export target of one trillion dollars with 15 per cent growth sought this year, against an IMF projection of only 1.9 per cent growth in global trade.
- Telangana aims to grow from about 200 billion dollars to 3 trillion dollars by 2047; the Kakatiya Mega Textile Park at Warangal was called the first fully functional PM MITRA park.
- Goyal recalled the Motupalli Abhaya Shasana, a maritime charter issued in 1244 by Kakatiya ruler Ganapati Deva, as an early guarantee of predictable trade.

Occasion	Curtain raiser of the Invest Telangana Global Summit, New Delhi
Speaker	Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry
Telangana Chief Minister	A. Revanth Reddy
Access now	Economies worth 70 trillion dollars, of which 60 trillion from the nine recent agreements
Under negotiation	Eight bilateral or multilateral agreements worth a further 15 trillion dollars
Eventual coverage	About 76 per cent of global GDP of 115 trillion dollars
Export target	One trillion dollars, with 15 per cent growth sought this year
IMF projection	Global trade growth of just 1.9 per cent

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indias-ftas-to-cover-76percent-of-global-gdp-says-piyush-goyal/

Finance Ministry Clarifies IDBI Bank Restructuring Process

29 October 2026 · Banking & Finance

The Finance Ministry said the Core Group of Secretaries fixed the best-offer round for IDBI Bank and that the reserve price was neither cut nor raised.

- The Finance Ministry clarified on 29 October 2026 that DIPAM ran IDBI Bank's first bid round in 2025-26 under indicative guidelines, not binding rules.
- Paragraph 5.3.6(iii) of the request for proposal lets the Government decide the course of action if the highest financial bid falls below the reserve price, without later challenge.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, in its meeting of 16 August 2017, empowered the Core Group of Secretaries on Disinvestment to decide procedural issues and permit deviations.
- The reserve price was neither lowered nor raised; the CGD fixed the best offer round procedure and the first round became functus officio after the initial bids were not approved.
- Potential liability from the indemnified disputed tax demands was Rs 627 crore, while the bid discovered price rose by Rs 3,917 crore.

Subject	Strategic restructuring of IDBI Bank Ltd
Clarification by	Ministry of Finance, 29 October 2026
First bid round	Conducted by DIPAM in the financial year 2025-26
Enabling clause	Paragraph 5.3.6(iii) of the request for proposal
Empowered body	Core Group of Secretaries on Disinvestment (CGD)
CCEA approval	Meeting of 16 August 2017, on procedure and mechanism for strategic disinvestment
Reserve price	Neither decreased nor increased; first round became functus officio
Valuation review	By the CGD in April 2026; revised valuations begun in May 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/finance-ministry-clarifies-idbi-bank-restructuring-process/

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NSIC Pays Rs 47.76 Crore Dividend to the Government

29 October 2026 · Economy

NSIC Chairman Subhransu Sekhar Acharya presented a dividend of Rs 47.76 crore for 2025-26 to Union MSME Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi on 28 October 2026.

- NSIC presented a dividend of Rs 47.76 crore for the financial year 2025-26 to the Government of India on 28 October 2026.
- The dividend was handed over by Dr Subhransu Sekhar Acharya, Chairman-cum-Managing Director of NSIC, a Schedule 'A' Mini Ratna company.
- It was received by Jitan Ram Manjhi, Union Minister for MSME, and Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State for MSME, with Secretary Bharat Khera present.
- NSIC reported revenue of Rs 3,767 crore and profit after tax of Rs 159 crore for the year, both up strongly on the previous financial year.
- The ministry credited NSIC's integrated support services for empowering MSMEs and backed its role in entrepreneurship, enterprise creation and skill development.

Corporation	National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC)
Status	Schedule 'A' Mini Ratna company
Ministry	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Dividend	Rs 47.76 crore for the financial year 2025-26
Date of presentation	28 October 2026
Presented by	Dr Subhransu Sekhar Acharya, Chairman-cum-Managing Director
Received by	Jitan Ram Manjhi, Union Minister for MSME, and Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State
Secretary present	Bharat Khera

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nsic-pays-rs-4776-crore-dividend-to-the-government/

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Pralhad Joshi Opens New NIEPA Academic Building in Delhi

29 October 2026 · National

Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurated the new academic building and main entrance gate of NIEPA in New Delhi and spoke on NEP 2020 work.

- Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurated the new Academic Building and Main Entrance Gate of NIEPA in New Delhi on 29 October 2026.
- NIEPA monitors the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020, identifies the problems that arise and works with state governments to resolve them.
- The minister said the new building would help the institute expand its national and international programmes and improve its academic and research capabilities.
- He cited the PM Vidyalaxmi Scheme, under which soft loans of Rs 60,000 crore have been provided for higher education, and the digital platforms SWAYAM and DIKSHA.
- Present at the event were Higher Education Secretary Deepti Gaur Mukherjee, NIEPA Chancellor Prof. Rama Shanker Dubey and Vice-Chancellor Prof. Shashikala Wanjari.

Event	Inauguration of NIEPA's new Academic Building and Main Entrance Gate
Institute	National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), New Delhi
Inaugurated by	Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister for Education
Date	29 October 2026
Institute's role	Monitoring implementation of the National Education Policy 2020 with state governments
Scheme cited	PM Vidyalaxmi Scheme, with Rs 60,000 crore in soft loans for higher education
Platforms cited	SWAYAM and DIKSHA
Higher Education Secretary	Deepti Gaur Mukherjee

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pralhad-joshi-opens-new-niepa-academic-building-in-delhi/

30 October 2026

National Social Security Board for Gig Workers Notified

30 October 2026 · National

The Labour Ministry has notified the National Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers and Gig and Platform Workers under the Code on Social Security.

- The Ministry of Labour and Employment has notified the constitution of the National Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers and Gig and Platform Workers.
- The Board is set up under the statutory framework of the Code on Social Security, one of the Labour Codes.
- The Union Minister for Labour and Employment presides over the Board.
- Members are drawn from the Central and State Governments, aggregator companies, employers, civil society organisations, workers' unions and gig and platform associations.
- The Board must meet at least thrice a year, following rules of procedure prescribed by the Central Government.

Body notified	National Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers and Gig and Platform Workers
Notified by	Ministry of Labour & Employment
Statutory basis	Code on Social Security (one of the Labour Codes)
Presided over by	Union Minister for Labour & Employment
Members	Central and State Governments, aggregator companies, employers, civil society organisations, workers' unions, gig and platform associations
Meetings	At least thrice a year
Rules of procedure	As prescribed by the Central Government
Workers covered	Unorganised workers, gig workers and platform workers

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-social-security-board-for-gig-workers-notified/

Fisheries Sector Gets Rs 39,272 Crore Push for Value Addition

30 October 2026 · Government Schemes

India’s fisheries sector is moving from production to value addition, backed by Rs 39,272 crore of public investment committed since 2015 across central schemes.

- Public investment of Rs 39,272 crore has been committed to the fisheries sector since 2015 through the Blue Revolution Scheme, FIDF, PMMSY, PM-MKSSY and the Kisan Credit Card.
- The schemes reach 74.66 lakh fishers and fish farmers, and 46,500 logistics and market facilities have been added at an investment of over Rs 3,393 crore.
- Five modern smart fish markets are under development and are expected to generate 15,900 employment opportunities.
- 2,195 Fisheries Farmer Producer Organizations have been formed, some linked to ONDC, and 5,500 fisheries cooperatives are being strengthened as FFPOs under PM-MKSSY.
- Under PMMSY, projects worth over Rs 4,155 crore with a central share of Rs 1,572 crore have been approved in five years for more than 1.28 lakh women beneficiaries.

Ministry	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying
Public investment since 2015	Rs 39,272 crore
Schemes	Blue Revolution Scheme, FIDF, PMMSY, PM-MKSSY, Kisan Credit Card
Beneficiaries	74.66 lakh fishers and fish farmers
Facilities added	46,500, with an investment of over Rs 3,393 crore
Smart fish markets	Five under development, expected to generate 15,900 jobs
FFPOs formed	2,195, several linked to ONDC
Cooperatives being made FFPOs	5,500 under PM-MKSSY, with NCDC, NAFED, SFAC and NERAMAC

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/fisheries-sector-gets-rs-39272-crore-push-for-value-addition/

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Buddha's Piprahwa Relics Head to Arunachal Pradesh Exposition

30 October 2026 · National

The Holy Piprahwa Relics of Lord Buddha will be open for public veneration at Tawang, Bomdila and Namsai in Arunachal Pradesh from 31 October to 21 November 2026.

- The Ministry of Culture, the Arunachal Pradesh government, the International Buddhist Confederation and the National Museum are holding the exposition from 31 October to 21 November 2026.
- Public darshan runs at Tawang Monastery from 1 to 7 November, at the TGL Monastery Lower Gompa in Bomdila from 8 to 13 November and at the Golden Pagoda, Namsai, from 14 to 20 November.
- The relics come from Piprahwa in Siddharthnagar district of Uttar Pradesh, where William Claxton Peppe opened a stupa in 1898 and the ASI dug again between 1971 and 1977.
- Of the 22 relics recovered, 20 are preserved at the National Museum in New Delhi and two at the Indian Museum in Kolkata.
- A conference on Buddhism in the Himalayan region meets at Kalawangpo Convention Hall, Tawang, on 2 November 2026 with delegates from seven countries.

Event	Exposition of the Holy Relics of Lord Buddha in Arunachal Pradesh
Dates	31 October to 21 November 2026
Venues	Tawang Monastery, TGL Monastery (Lower Gompa) Bomdila, Golden Pagoda Namsai
Relics	Piprahwa relics, normally kept at the National Museum, New Delhi
Organisers	Ministry of Culture with the Arunachal Pradesh government, International Buddhist Confederation and National Museum
Opened by	Union Culture and Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Tawang, 31 October 2026
Chief Guest on 1 November	Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu
First excavation	William Claxton Peppe at Piprahwa, 1898

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/buddhas-piprahwa-relics-head-to-arunachal-pradesh-exposition/

Indian Navy's First Training Squadron Departs Colombo

30 October 2026 · Defence

Ships of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron, INS Tir, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi, left Colombo on 29 October 2026 after a PASSEX with SLNS Nandimithra.

- The First Training Squadron of the Indian Navy, made up of INS Tir, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi, left Colombo in Sri Lanka on 29 October 2026.
- The Senior Officer of the squadron and the commanding officers of the ships called on the Commander of the Western Naval Area of the Sri Lanka Navy.
- Sea trainees of the squadron visited the Naval and Maritime Academy at Trincomalee, and cadets of the academy came aboard the Indian ships in return.
- On leaving harbour the squadron held a Passage Exercise, or PASSEX, with the Sri Lanka Navy ship SLNS Nandimithra.
- The engagement followed the MAHASAGAR vision, which stands for 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 ICGS Sarathi
Port call	Colombo, Sri Lanka
Departure	29 October 2026
Exercise	Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with SLNS Nandimithra
Academy visited	Naval and Maritime Academy, Trincomalee
Senior call on	Commander, Western Naval Area, Sri Lanka Navy
Vision	MAHASAGAR: Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/indian-navys-first-training-squadron-departs-colombo/

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DRI Busts Synthetic Drug Laboratory in Jalaun, Seizes 1,100 kg

30 October 2026 · National

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence busted a clandestine synthetic drug laboratory in Jalaun district of Uttar Pradesh and seized about 1,100 kg of material.

- The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence busted a fully functional clandestine synthetic drug laboratory in a remote village of Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh.
- About 1,100 kg of drugs and precursor chemicals were seized in all, along with the equipment used for manufacture, and two persons were arrested.
- The raid was carried out in the early hours of 29 October 2026 with operational help from the Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorist Squad.
- The laboratory yielded about 184 kg of semi-prepared drugs and about 582 kg of precursor chemicals; follow-up searches gave 15.4 kg of finished methaqualone, 153 kg of chemicals and 168 kg more precursors.
- The two accused were arrested under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

Agency	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Ministry of Finance
Place	A remote village in Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh
Date of operation	Early hours of 29 October 2026
Assisted by	Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorist Squad (UP ATS)
Total seizure	About 1,100 kg of drugs and precursor chemicals
At the laboratory	About 184 kg semi-prepared drugs and about 582 kg precursor chemicals
Finished drug recovered	About 15.4 kg of methaqualone
Other recoveries	About 153 kg of chemicals and about 168 kg of precursor chemicals

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dri-busts-synthetic-drug-laboratory-in-jalaun-seizes-1100-kg/

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Digital Life Certificate Campaign 5 Begins in 2000 Districts

30 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare will run its fifth nationwide Digital Life Certificate drive in 2000 districts from 1 to 30 November 2026.

- The fifth nationwide Digital Life Certificate campaign runs from 1 to 30 November 2026 in 2000 cities and districts, the largest such drive so far
- The target is 2.30 crore digital life certificates, of which 1.50 crore are to be made through face authentication
- 19 pension disbursing banks, 785 district post offices and 56 pensioners welfare associations are among the partners in the month-long drive
- MeitY and UIDAI give the technical support; face authentication works on both Android and iOS phones
- Camps run in Utsav mode with health check-ups and Aadhaar updation, and doorstep service for pensioners who cannot travel

Campaign	Fifth nationwide Digital Life Certificate (DLC) Campaign
Dates	1 to 30 November 2026
Reach	2000 districts and cities
Target	2.30 crore DLCs, including 1.50 crore by face authentication
Ministry	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare)
Technical support	MeitY and UIDAI
Partners	19 banks, 785 district post offices, 56 welfare associations
Guidelines	Office memorandum dated 13 August 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/digital-life-certificate-campaign-5-begins-in-2000-districts/

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19th India-BLEU Joint Economic Commission Meets in Luxembourg

30 October 2026 · International

The 19th session of the India-Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union Joint Economic Commission was held in Luxembourg on 29 October 2026 to widen trade ties.

- The 19th session of the India-BLEU Joint Economic Commission was held in Luxembourg on 29 October 2026
- Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal co-chaired it with Filip Vanden Bulcke of Belgium and Henri Schumacher of Luxembourg
- BLEU stands for the Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union, through which India engages both countries together
- Talks covered logistics, renewable energy, FinTech, ICT, healthcare, Ayurveda and agro and food processing
- Aerospace, research and innovation, higher education and skill development were named as areas for deeper cooperation

Event	19th Session of the India-BLEU Joint Economic Commission (JEC)
Venue	Luxembourg
Date of meeting	29 October 2026
BLEU	Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union
Indian co-chair	Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal
Belgian co-chair	Filip Vanden Bulcke, Director-General for Geo-Economy and Economic Diplomacy
Luxembourg co-chair	Henri Schumacher, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs
Indian ministry	Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/19th-india-bleu-joint-economic-commission-meets-in-luxembourg/

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CGIAR Science and Partnership Week 2027 to be Held in New Delhi

30 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

ICAR and CGIAR announced that New Delhi will host the CGIAR Science and Partnership Week from 12 to 17 April 2027, with over 5,000 delegates expected.

- New Delhi will host the CGIAR Science and Partnership Week from 12 to 17 April 2027, with over 5,000 delegates expected
- It is organised by ICAR, under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, along with CGIAR
- CGIAR is a partnership of 15 research centres working in more than 100 countries; ten of them operate in India
- The first CGIAR Science Week was held in Nairobi, Kenya, in April 2025
- Dr M L Jat is Secretary of DARE and Director General of ICAR; Dr Ismahane Elouafi is Executive Managing Director of CGIAR

Event	CGIAR Science and Partnership Week 2027
Venue	New Delhi
Dates	12 to 17 April 2027
Delegates expected	Over 5,000
Organisers	ICAR, under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, with CGIAR
First edition	Nairobi, Kenya, April 2025
CGIAR	Partnership of 15 research centres working in more than 100 countries
DG, ICAR	Dr M L Jat, also Secretary, DARE

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cgiar-science-and-partnership-week-2027-to-be-held-in-new-delhi/

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PM-KISAN 24th Instalment Pays Rs 18,690 Crore to Farmers

30 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The 24th PM-KISAN instalment released on 30 October 2026 from Banaskantha sent over Rs 18,690 crore to more than 9.34 crore farmer families by DBT.

- The 24th PM-KISAN instalment was released on 30 October 2026 from Banaskantha in Gujarat and paid about Rs 18,690 crore to more than 9.34 crore farmer families
- Total payment under the scheme has crossed Rs 4.64 lakh crore across 24 instalments since it began on 24 February 2019
- Each eligible farmer family gets Rs 6,000 a year in three equal instalments of Rs 2,000, credited to Aadhaar-seeded accounts
- The Union Cabinet in July 2026 approved the scheme from 2026-27 to 2030-31 with an outlay of Rs 3.15 lakh crore
- The Union Budget 2026-27 allocated Rs 60,000 crore to PM-KISAN; payments move through PFMS, sponsor banks and the NPCI

Scheme	Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)
Instalment	24th, released on 30 October 2026
Amount transferred	Over Rs 18,690 crore
Beneficiaries	More than 9.34 crore farmer families
Place of release	Banaskantha, Gujarat
Annual benefit	Rs 6,000 in three equal instalments of Rs 2,000
Launched on	24 February 2019
Cumulative payout	Over Rs 4.64 lakh crore in 24 instalments

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pm-kisan-24th-instalment-pays-rs-18690-crore-to-farmers/

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Modi Launches Rs 14,000 Crore Projects in Banaskantha

30 October 2026 · National

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated and laid the foundation of projects worth over Rs 14,000 crore in Banaskantha, Gujarat, on 30 October 2026.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched projects worth over Rs 14,000 crore at Banaskantha in Gujarat on 30 October 2026
- A Rashtriya Gokul Mission research centre at Banaskantha becomes the country's first such facility for the Kankrej cattle breed
- Twelve cluster development projects were cleared for tomato, potato, chilli, grapes, banana, onion, orange, pomegranate and cocoa; two clusters went to north Gujarat
- The Ahmedabad-Varanasi Sabarmati Express and the Mehsana-Becharaji-Sabarmati MEMU were flagged off, and the Ahmedabad-Mehsana highway will go from four to eight lanes
- Over 4,000 modern Anganwadi centres were inaugurated in Gujarat, expected to serve about 4 lakh children and pregnant women

Event	Launch of development projects at Banaskantha, Gujarat
Date	30 October 2026
Value of projects	More than Rs 14,000 crore
Dairy project	Rashtriya Gokul Mission research centre, first in India for the Kankrej breed
Breeds covered	Gir, Sahiwal, Kankrej cattle; Mehsana, Murrah, Jaffarabadi buffalo
Energy projects	Foundation stones for two bio-CNG plants with Banas Dairy
Horticulture	Twelve cluster development projects approved, two in north Gujarat
Trains flagged off	Ahmedabad-Varanasi Sabarmati Express and Mehsana-Becharaji-Sabarmati MEMU

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/modi-launches-rs-14000-crore-projects-in-banaskantha/

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Vice-President at Gandhigram Institute Golden Jubilee

30 October 2026 · National

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan attended the Golden Jubilee and 39th convocation of Gandhigram Rural Institute at Dindigul in Tamil Nadu on 30 October 2026.

- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan attended the Golden Jubilee celebrations and the 39th convocation of Gandhigram Rural Institute, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, on 30 October 2026
- Honorary doctorates went to Thavathiru Kundrakudi Ponnambala Adigalar, former ISRO aerospace scientist S. Nambi Narayanan and Professor S. S. M. Sundaram
- He released the book Inclusivity of India's Ageing Population and unveiled a Golden Jubilee commemorative postage stamp and postal cover
- Two buildings were inaugurated and foundation stones laid for a 22 kV power house, a School of Education block and an academic complex of 30 classrooms
- He said about 25 crore people came out of multidimensional poverty between 2014 and 2023 and that Viksit Bharat 2047 must begin with empowered villages

Occasion	Golden Jubilee celebrations and 39th convocation
Institution	Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed to be University), Dindigul, Tamil Nadu
Chief guest	Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan
Date	30 October 2026
Honorary doctorates	Thavathiru Kundrakudi Ponnambala Adigalar, S. Nambi Narayanan, Prof. S. S. M. Sundaram
Book released	Inclusivity of India's Ageing Population
Also unveiled	Golden Jubilee commemorative postage stamp and postal cover
Buildings inaugurated	Examination and Seminar Halls; Pushpkunj Heritage Building

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vice-president-at-gandhigram-institute-golden-jubilee/

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TRAI Issues Draft AI Guidelines for Telecom Networks

30 October 2026 · Science & Technology

TRAI released draft guidelines on the responsible use of artificial intelligence in telecom networks and services on 30 October 2026 for public comments.

- TRAI on 30 October 2026 released draft Guidelines on Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Telecommunication Networks and Provision of Telecommunication Services
- Written comments from stakeholders have been invited up to 27 November 2026, preferably by electronic mail
- The draft applies the India AI Governance Guidelines, released by the Government of India in February 2026, to the telecom sector
- Those national guidelines rest on seven guiding sutras, from Trust is the Foundation and People First to Safety, Resilience and Sustainability
- TRAI, which works under the Ministry of Communications, says telecom matters for national security and emergency response besides commerce

Regulator	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
Ministry	Ministry of Communications
Document	Draft Guidelines on Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Telecommunication Networks and Provision of Telecommunication Services
Released on	30 October 2026
Last date for comments	27 November 2026
Parent policy	India AI Governance Guidelines, released February 2026
Guiding principles	Seven sutras, including Trust is the Foundation and People First
Practical guidance	Part 4 of the India AI Governance Guidelines

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/trai-issues-draft-ai-guidelines-for-telecom-networks/

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TRAI Drive Test Checks Mobile Networks in Leh Region

30 October 2026 · Reports & Indices

TRAI released findings of its independent drive test across Leh, Nubra Valley and Pangong under the Jammu and Kashmir service area, held in August 2026.

- TRAI published on 30 October 2026 the findings of its independent drive test across Leh and nearby routes in the Jammu and Kashmir service area, held in August 2026
- The test ran from 17 to 21 August 2026 and covered a city drive of 62.6 km and a highway drive of 396.3 km under the TRAI regional office at Delhi
- On the Leh city route average download speeds were 121.65 Mbps for Airtel, 8 Mbps for BSNL and 267.13 Mbps for Reliance Jio
- On the Leh to Nubra Valley highway downloads averaged 109.57 Mbps for Airtel, 16.39 Mbps for BSNL and 122.16 Mbps for Reliance Jio
- Parameters measured include coverage gap, call setup success rate, drop call rate, call silence instances, mean opinion score, throughput, latency and jitter

Regulator	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
Exercise	Independent Drive Test (IDT)
Service area	Jammu and Kashmir Licensed Service Area (Leh and nearby routes)
Testing period	17 to 21 August 2026
Findings released	30 October 2026
City drive	62.6 km, with seven hotspot locations
Highway drive	396.3 km
Walk test	1.1 km at Leh Market

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/trai-drive-test-checks-mobile-networks-in-leh-region/

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TRAI Tests Mobile Networks in Hyderabad and Adoni

30 October 2026 · Reports & Indices

TRAI released findings of its September 2026 drive test across Hyderabad and the Adoni-Mantralayam stretch in the Andhra Pradesh licensed service area.

- TRAI released on 30 October 2026 the findings of its September 2026 drive test in the Andhra Pradesh Licensed Service Area covering Hyderabad and the Adoni-Mantralayam stretch
- The Hyderabad leg covered a city drive of 63 km and a walk test of 21.5 km on 15 and 16 September 2026, supervised by the TRAI regional office at Hyderabad
- The Adoni-Mantralayam leg in Kurnool district covered 201.8 km with six hotspot locations on 17 and 18 September 2026
- Average download speeds in Hyderabad were 82.88 Mbps for Airtel, 7.13 Mbps for BSNL, 145.79 Mbps for Reliance Jio and 41.41 Mbps for Vodafone Idea
- On the Adoni-Mantralayam stretch Reliance Jio recorded the highest average download speed at 209.11 Mbps, ahead of Airtel at 118.55 Mbps

Regulator	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
Exercise	Independent Drive Test (IDT)
Service area	Andhra Pradesh Licensed Service Area
Hyderabad leg	City drive of 63 km and walk test of 21.5 km, 15 and 16 September 2026
Second leg	Adoni-Mantralayam and nearby areas, 201.8 km, 17 and 18 September 2026
District	Kurnool
Findings released	30 October 2026
Supervision	TRAI regional office, Hyderabad

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/trai-tests-mobile-networks-in-hyderabad-and-adoni/

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BharatNet Pact Links 4,767 Tamil Nadu Villages on Demand

30 October 2026 · Government Schemes

Digital Bharat Nidhi, the Tamil Nadu government and TANFINET signed a BharatNet utilisation pact for over five lakh rural fibre links and 4,767 villages.

- Digital Bharat Nidhi of the Department of Telecommunications, the Government of Tamil Nadu and Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation signed a BharatNet utilisation agreement at Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi
- Central subsidy will support more than five lakh rural home fibre connections in Tamil Nadu under the Amended BharatNet Programme
- A further 4,767 villages in the state will get connectivity on a demand basis to strengthen last-mile reach
- The state-led model is used, and the Union Cabinet had approved the Amended BharatNet Programme on 4 August 2023
- Digital Bharat Nidhi is the renamed Universal Service Obligation Fund, set up under the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act of 2003 and renamed by the Telecommunications Act of 2023

Agreement	Utilisation agreement for the BharatNet network in Tamil Nadu under the Amended BharatNet Programme
Signed between	Digital Bharat Nidhi (DoT), Government of Tamil Nadu and Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation (TANFINET)
Venue	Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi
Model	State-led model
Home connections	Over five lakh rural home fibre connections in Tamil Nadu
Villages on demand	4,767 villages
DBN Administrator	Shyamal Misra
ABP approved by Cabinet	4 August 2023

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bharatnet-pact-links-4767-tamil-nadu-villages-on-demand/

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DRI Seizes 50 kg Methamphetamine in Mizoram and Assam

30 October 2026 · National

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized 50 kg of methamphetamine in Mizoram and Assam, arrested four persons and took over three vehicles.

- DRI seized 50 kg of methamphetamine in Mizoram and Assam in two back-to-back operations, made up of 30 kg of Yaba tablets and 20 kg of crystal meth
- The first interception was on 29 October 2026 near Aizawl on the Aizawl-Champhai road, where 30 kg of tablets lay in a cavity inside an office table
- The second was on 30 October 2026 at Dholai, about 40 km from Silchar, where 20 kg of crystal meth was packed in tea packets above a truck driver's cabin
- Four persons were arrested under the NDPS Act, 1985 and three vehicles were seized; the drugs are believed to have come from Myanmar
- The agency had earlier made two large recoveries of 232 kg and 56 kg of methamphetamine in the North Eastern region

Agency	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Ministry of Finance
Total seizure	50 kg of methamphetamine
Break-up	30 kg of methamphetamine tablets (Yaba) and 20 kg of crystal meth
States	Mizoram and Assam
Assisting force	Assam Rifles
Law invoked	Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985
Arrests	Four persons
Vehicles seized	Three

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dri-seizes-50-kg-methamphetamine-in-mizoram-and-assam/

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VISV-2026 Opens in Delhi as DRDO Courts Partner Nations

30 October 2026 · Defence

Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth opened VISV-2026 at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi and released a DRDO product compendium in three foreign languages.

- VISV-2026 was inaugurated by Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi on 30 October 2026
- VISV stands for Vision, Innovation, Synergy and Values, the four pillars named by the minister; it was organised by DRDO with CENJOWS
- The theme was showcasing defence capabilities and strengthening global partnerships, with a seminar on DRDO solutions for partner nations
- A compendium of DRDO products was released in Arabic, Spanish and French to help engagement with international partners
- Secretary (Defence Production) Sanjeev Kumar said invitations are being sent abroad for Aero India 2027 at Bengaluru

Event	VISV-2026 (Vision, Innovation, Synergy, Values)
Inaugurated by	Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth
Venue	Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
Organisers	DRDO with the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS)
Theme	Showcasing Defence Capabilities, Strengthening Global Partnerships
Compendium languages	Arabic, Spanish and French
Defence Secretary and DRDO Chairman	Rajesh Kumar Singh
Secretary, Defence Production	Sanjeev Kumar

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/visv-2026-opens-in-delhi-as-drdo-courts-partner-nations/

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DRDO Leads Semiconductor Session at ESTIC 2026 in Delhi

30 October 2026 · Science & Technology

DRDO chaired the thematic session on semiconductors and next-generation chips at ESTIC 2026, held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi in late October.

- ESTIC 2026 was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi from 27 to 29 October 2026 and was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- The conclave's theme was creative minds catalysing science and empowering society, and twelve ministries and departments organised it jointly
- DRDO led the thematic session on semiconductors and next-generation chips, chaired by Dr B K Das, Director General, Electronics and Communication Systems
- DRDO displayed MMICs on gallium arsenide and gallium nitride and Infrared Focal Plane Arrays, both developed by the Solid State Physics Laboratory, Delhi
- India aims to be a self-reliant semiconductor power by 2047, drawing on laboratories such as SSPL, GAETEC, STARC and the Semiconductor Laboratory

Conclave	Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026
Venue and dates	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, 27 to 29 October 2026
Inaugurated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Theme	Creative Minds, Catalysing Science, Empowering Society
Organisers	Twelve ministries and departments, guided by the Principal Scientific Adviser
DRDO session	Semiconductors and Next-Generation Chips
Session chair	Dr B K Das, DG, Electronics and Communication Systems
Panellist	Dr Sheena Rani, DG (Micro Electronic Devices, Computational Systems and Cyber Systems)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/drdo-leads-semiconductor-session-at-estic-2026-in-delhi/

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PAVAN-I3C Centre Tracks Delhi-NCR Air Quality in Real Time

30 October 2026 · Environment

Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav reviewed CAQM's new PAVAN integrated command and control centre, which pulls over 30 air quality data streams together.

- Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav reviewed CAQM's Integrated Command and Control Centre named PAVAN in New Delhi on 30 October 2026
- PAVAN stands for Platform for Air quality Vigilance and Analytics for NCR and integrates more than 30 APIs and data streams on a single screen
- It draws on 111 continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations, over 2,300 industries and more than 3,200 active construction sites
- The platform works on the principle of detect, analyse and act, raising alerts that are escalated to the agency concerned for action
- Construction and demolition activity across the NCR will be halted from 5 to 20 November to curb pollution

Platform	PAVAN: Platform for Air quality Vigilance and Analytics for NCR
Built by	Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)
Reviewed by	Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav
Data streams	More than 30 APIs and data streams
Monitoring stations	111 continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations
Industries and sites	Over 2,300 industries and more than 3,200 construction sites
Working principle	Detect, Analyse, Act
Construction halt	C and D activity stopped across NCR from 5 to 20 November

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pavan-i3c-centre-tracks-delhi-ncr-air-quality-in-real-time/

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Centre Receives Rs 18,35,422 Crore up to September 2026

30 October 2026 · Economy

The Centre received Rs 18,35,422 crore up to September 2026, half of the budget estimate, and spent Rs 25,49,835 crore in the first six months.

- Total receipts of the Government of India up to September 2026 stood at Rs 18,35,422 crore, which is 50.3 per cent of the budget estimate for 2026-27
- Receipts comprised Rs 12,76,088 crore of tax revenue net to the Centre, Rs 4,80,732 crore of non-tax revenue and Rs 78,602 crore of non-debt capital receipts
- Rs 6,99,409 crore was devolved to state governments as their share of taxes, Rs 67,658 crore more than in the same period a year earlier
- Total expenditure was Rs 25,49,835 crore or 47.7 per cent of the budget estimate, of which Rs 18,95,288 crore was on revenue account and Rs 6,54,547 crore on capital account
- Interest payments took Rs 6,46,010 crore and major subsidies Rs 2,22,905 crore out of total revenue expenditure

Period	April to September 2026, first half of FY 2026-27
Total receipts	Rs 18,35,422 crore (50.3 per cent of budget estimate)
Tax revenue (net to Centre)	Rs 12,76,088 crore
Non-tax revenue	Rs 4,80,732 crore
Non-debt capital receipts	Rs 78,602 crore
Devolution to states	Rs 6,99,409 crore, up by Rs 67,658 crore year on year
Total expenditure	Rs 25,49,835 crore (47.7 per cent of budget estimate)
Revenue expenditure	Rs 18,95,288 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/centre-receives-rs-1835422-crore-up-to-september-2026/

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Coal Ministry Holds Mining for Future Consultation in Goa

30 October 2026 · Economy

Of 137 commercial coal mines allotted since 2020 only 25 are producing, the Coal Ministry said at its Mining for Future consultation in Panjim.

- The Ministry of Coal held a stakeholder consultation called Mining for Future at Panjim, Goa on 30 October 2026, with Coal Secretary Vikram Dev Dutt as chief guest
- Of 137 commercial mines allotted since 2020, only 25 are producing, and allottees were asked to open mines ahead of revised timelines
- India produced 1,041 million tonnes of coal in 2025-26, and coal supplies more than 70 per cent of the country's electricity
- NITI Aayog projects coal demand rising from about 1.25 billion tonnes in 2025 to over 2.6 billion tonnes by 2050 under current policies
- Reforms have cut scheduled operationalisation from 51 to 40 months for fully explored blocks and allowed 100 per cent FDI through the automatic route

Event	Stakeholder Consultation on Mining for Future
Venue and date	Panjim, Goa, 30 October 2026
Chief guest	Vikram Dev Dutt, Secretary, Ministry of Coal
Nominated Authority	Rupinder Brar, Additional Secretary
Commercial mines allotted since 2020	137, of which 25 are producing
India's coal output in 2025-26	1,041 million tonnes
Coal in electricity generation	More than 70 per cent
World coal demand forecast for 2026	A record 8.94 billion tonnes

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/coal-ministry-holds-mining-for-future-consultation-in-goa/

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High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat Constituted

30 October 2026 · Banking & Finance

The Centre has constituted the High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat under former Central Vigilance Commissioner Suresh N. Patel.

- The High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat will recommend structural, institutional, regulatory and legislative reforms for India's banking sector
- Former Central Vigilance Commissioner Suresh N. Patel is the Chairman and the panel has a tenure of six months
- RBI Deputy Governor Shirish Chandra Murmu, former Indian Bank MD and CEO Padmaja Chunduru and former RBI Deputy Governor N. S. Vishwanathan are the three members
- The Joint Secretary (Banking) of the Department of Financial Services serves as Member Secretary of the committee
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the panel in the Budget speech for 2026-27; the goal year is 2047

Committee	High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat
Chairman	Suresh N. Patel, former Central Vigilance Commissioner
Members	Shirish Chandra Murmu, Padmaja Chunduru, N. S. Vishwanathan
Member Secretary	Joint Secretary (Banking), Department of Financial Services
Tenure	Six months
Announced in	Budget speech 2026-27 by Nirmala Sitharaman
Ministry	Ministry of Finance
Goal year	Viksit Bharat, 2047

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/high-level-committee-on-banking-for-viksit-bharat-constituted/

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Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia Named Vice Chief of Air Staff

30 October 2026 · Appointments

Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia, at present Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Air Command, takes over as Vice Chief of the Air Staff on 1 November.

- Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia, AVSM VM, becomes Vice Chief of the Air Staff with effect from 1 November 2026
- He was serving as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Air Command and is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy
- Commissioned into the fighter stream on 11 June 1988, he is qualified on all variants of the MiG-21, MiG-23, MiG-27, Jaguar and Su-30 MKI
- He has commanded a frontline fighter squadron and the Tactics and Air Combat Development Establishment, and was Defence Attache in Japan and South Korea
- He received the Vayu Sena Medal in 2008 and the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2018, and succeeds Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit

Appointment	Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS)
Officer	Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia, AVSM VM
Effective from	1 November 2026
Earlier post	Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Air Command
Commissioned	Fighter stream, 11 June 1988
Awards	Vayu Sena Medal (2008), Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (2018)
Succeeds	Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
New Air Chief	Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, 29th Chief of the Air Staff, from 31 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/air-marshal-inderpal-singh-walia-named-vice-chief-of-air-staff/

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UPI Enabled for Bookings at Burj Khalifa and Sentosa

30 October 2026 · Banking & Finance

Indian travellers can now pay through UPI for online bookings at At the Top, Burj Khalifa in the UAE and Resorts World Sentosa in Singapore.

- UPI can now be used for online bookings at At the Top, Burj Khalifa in the UAE and at Resorts World Sentosa in Singapore
- NPCI International Payments Limited announced the UAE partnership on 29 July 2026 and the Singapore partnership on 9 September 2026
- NEOPAY and Emaar Entertainment are the UAE partners; Burj Khalifa's observation deck is the first UAE attraction to take UPI for e-commerce
- FOMO Pay is the Singapore partner, and the facility covers Universal Studios Singapore, the Singapore Oceanarium and Adventure Cove Waterpark
- UPI is accepted in ten countries at present, and Uzbekistan will become the eleventh after an agreement announced on 30 August 2026

Attractions	At the Top, Burj Khalifa (UAE); Resorts World Sentosa (Singapore)
Indian agency	NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)
UAE partners	NEOPAY and Emaar Entertainment
Singapore partner	FOMO Pay
Partnerships announced	UAE on 29 July 2026; Singapore on 9 September 2026
Indian visitors to Singapore	1.2 million in 2025
Earlier milestone	Eiffel Tower ticketing through UPI, 26 January 2024
Countries accepting UPI	Ten, with Uzbekistan set to be the eleventh

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/upi-enabled-for-bookings-at-burj-khalifa-and-sentosa/

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INS Tarkash Arrives at Port Louis in Mauritius

30 October 2026 · Defence

INS Tarkash reached Port Louis on 30 October 2026 during its deployment to the Southern Indian Ocean and will join the 192nd Aapravasi Diwas events.

- INS Tarkash arrived at Port Louis, Mauritius, on 30 October 2026 during an operational deployment to the Southern Indian Ocean Region
- The crew will hold joint training with the Mauritius Coast Guard to share best practice and improve interoperability
- The ship will join the commemoration of the 192nd Aapravasi Diwas of Mauritius on 2 November 2026
- Aapravasi Diwas marks the arrival of the first indentured labourers from India at Aapravasi Ghat, Port Louis, on 2 November 1834
- The deployment advances MAHASAGAR, Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Ship	INS Tarkash, Indian Navy
Port of call	Port Louis, Mauritius
Date of arrival	30 October 2026
Deployment	Southern Indian Ocean Region
Partner force	Mauritius Coast Guard
Event	192nd Aapravasi Diwas, 2 November 2026
Historic date	2 November 1834, arrival of first indentured labourers at Aapravasi Ghat
Vision	MAHASAGAR: Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ins-tarkash-arrives-at-port-louis-in-mauritius/

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14th International Tourism Mart Concludes in Tawang

30 October 2026 · Summits & Conferences

The 14th International Tourism Mart ended its main sessions at Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh with a regional meeting of North Eastern tourism ministers.

- The 14th International Tourism Mart was held at Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh, from 29 to 31 October 2026 by the Ministry of Tourism
- It drew 43 international buyers from 22 countries, 42 domestic buyers from 16 States and Union Territories and 81 sellers, with 1580 B2B meetings
- Union Tourism and Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat chaired the regional meeting of North Eastern tourism ministers on 30 October 2026
- Presentations covered Dekho Apna Desh 2.0, the National Digital Tourism Stack, the live concert economy and RAP or PAP simplification
- Domestic tourist visits rose from 1.32 billion in 2014 to 4.34 billion in 2025; tourism supports 89 million jobs and 5.22 per cent of GDP

Event	14th International Tourism Mart (ITM)
Venue	Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh
Dates	29 to 31 October 2026
Organiser	Ministry of Tourism with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh
Participation	43 international buyers from 22 countries, 42 domestic buyers, 81 sellers
B2B meetings	1580
Ministers' meeting chaired by	Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister for Tourism and Culture
Schemes presented	Dekho Apna Desh 2.0 and the National Digital Tourism Stack

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/14th-international-tourism-mart-concludes-in-tawang/

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Cyclone Arnab: DoT Restores Telecom Links in Two States

30 October 2026 · National

After Cyclone Arnab hit the Andhra Pradesh and Odisha coast, the Department of Telecommunications lifted network availability in Andhra Pradesh to 99.18 percent.

- Cyclone Arnab crossed the coast along Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, and heavy rain, flash floods, tree falls and power damage disrupted telecom services in both States
- Overall telecom network availability in Andhra Pradesh has been restored to 99.18 percent; it is 98.5 per cent in West Godavari and 91.96 per cent in Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema
- Intra-Circle Roaming lets a subscriber use another operator's network within the same telecom circle, and DoT kept it running across the affected districts
- Eleven Cell on Wheels were deployed to add emergency coverage where towers were out of service
- In Odisha the network in Ganjam, Gajapati and Kandhamal districts improved as rainfall eased and floodwater receded

Cyclone	Cyclone Arnab, which hit the Andhra Pradesh and Odisha coast
Nodal body	Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications
Availability in Andhra Pradesh	99.18 percent overall
Worst-hit districts	West Godavari (98.5 per cent) and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema (91.96 per cent)
Odisha districts affected	Ganjam, Gajapati and Kandhamal
Emergency measures	Intra-Circle Roaming kept operational; 11 Cell on Wheels deployed
Main causes of outage	Commercial power supply disruption and optical fibre cable cuts

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cyclone-arnab-dot-restores-telecom-links-in-two-states/

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DigiDukaan Links 21,000 Kirana Retailers to 450 Brands

30 October 2026 · Economy

Piyush Goyal chaired the Bharat Commerce Chintan Shivir at Vanijya Bhawan, where ONDC's DigiDukaan was shown to connect over 21,000 retailers with 450 brands.

- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal chaired the Bharat Commerce Chintan Shivir, a CEO roundtable held by DPIIT and ONDC at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi
- ONDC's DigiDukaan has connected over 21,000 retailers with more than 450 brands across Hyderabad, Jaipur and Mumbai, against over 12,000 retailers a quarter earlier
- Hyderabad alone has more than 16,000 retailers onboarded, with monthly repeat ordering rates of 73 to 78 per cent
- An ONDC study found 40 per cent of surveyed retailers held lower inventory for goods bought through DigiDukaan
- The National Traders' Welfare Board, chaired by Sunil J. Singhi, is working with ONDC to spread DigiDukaan among kirana retailers

Event	Bharat Commerce Chintan Shivir, a CEO roundtable
Chaired by	Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry
Organisers	DPIIT with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)
Venue	Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi
Platform	ONDC DigiDukaan, which digitises kirana stores as buyers
Reach	Over 21,000 retailers and more than 450 brands in Hyderabad, Jaipur and Mumbai
DPIIT Secretary	Amardeep Singh Bhatia
ONDC MD and CEO	Vibhor Jain

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/digidukaan-links-21000-kirana-retailers-to-450-brands/

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Posts Department Issues Breast Cancer Awareness Stamps

30 October 2026 · National

The Department of Posts released a souvenir sheet of two commemorative stamps on breast cancer awareness at Dak Bhawan, New Delhi, with picture postcards.

- The Department of Posts released a souvenir sheet with two commemorative postage stamps on breast cancer awareness, plus picture postcards, at Dak Bhawan, New Delhi
- Director General Postal Services Manisha Sinha released them with Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava present
- Under NP-NCD, 86.97 crore screenings have been done for oral, breast and cervical cancers, of which 22.90 crore were for breast cancer
- Of 5.50 lakh people now under treatment, 1.43 lakh are breast cancer patients, 2.70 lakh oral and 1.37 lakh cervical
- India reported more than two lakh new breast cancer cases in 2024, with about one in every 29 women at risk

What was released	A souvenir sheet of two commemorative postage stamps on breast cancer awareness, with picture postcards
Issued by	Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications
Venue	Dak Bhawan, New Delhi
Released by	Manisha Sinha, Director General Postal Services
Health Secretary present	Punya Salila Srivastava
NP-NCD screenings	86.97 crore in all; 49.02 crore oral, 22.90 crore breast, 14.05 crore cervical
Under treatment	5.50 lakh, including 1.43 lakh breast cancer patients
Screening centres	More than 1.8 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandirs

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/posts-department-issues-breast-cancer-awareness-stamps/

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Survey of India Workshop Charts Geospatial Economy Plan

30 October 2026 · Science & Technology

Jitendra Singh told a Survey of India workshop in New Delhi that geospatial capability will decide India's growth, and urged industry to enable, invest and adopt.

- Dr. Jitendra Singh gave the keynote at a Survey of India workshop in New Delhi on co-creating the geospatial economy for Viksit Bharat 2047
- He said geospatial capability would be a key determinant of India's future economic growth and that reforms had been made over the past 12 to 13 years
- His formula for the sector was enable, invest and adopt: enable to build confidence, invest to develop capability, adopt to generate growth
- The National Geospatial Policy 2022 is an open framework that can take in geospatial artificial intelligence, and it names DST the nodal agency for the domain
- S. K. Sinha is Surveyor General of India, Prof. Umesh V. Waghmare is DST Secretary and Srikant Sastri chairs the Geospatial Data Promotion and Development Committee

Event	Workshop on Government and Industry Synergy for Geospatial Transformation, New Delhi
Organiser	Survey of India, under the Department of Science and Technology
Keynote	Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences
Formula for the sector	Enable, invest and adopt
Policy framework	National Geospatial Policy 2022, which makes DST the nodal agency
Surveyor General of India	S. K. Sinha
DST Secretary	Prof. Umesh V. Waghmare
GDPDC Chairman	Srikant Sastri

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/survey-of-india-workshop-charts-geospatial-economy-plan/

31 October 2026

Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak 2026 Goes to 490 Personnel

31 October 2026 · Awards & Honours

The Ministry of Home Affairs named 490 personnel of the states, Union Territories, CAPFs and CPOs for the Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak for 2026.

- The Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak for the year 2026 has been awarded to 490 personnel of various states, Union Territories, CAPFs and CPOs.
- The medal was instituted by a Ministry of Home Affairs notification dated 1 February 2024.
- Recipients are announced every year on 31 October, the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- Operations, investigation, exceptional performance, intelligence service and forensic science are the five grounds for the award.
- Police forces, security and intelligence organisations, CPOs, CAPFs, the NSG, the Assam Rifles and forensic science services are all covered.

Award	Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak, year 2026
Recipients	490 personnel
Announced by	Ministry of Home Affairs
Instituted	Notification dated 1 February 2024
Announcement date	31 October every year
Occasion	Birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Covered forces	State and UT police, CAPFs, CPOs, NSG, Assam Rifles, forensic science services
Union Home Minister	Amit Shah, who also holds the Cooperation portfolio

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kendriya-grihmantri-dakshata-padak-2026-goes-to-490-personnel/

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Social Security Cover at 68.4% as EPFO Ceiling Hits Rs 25,000

31 October 2026 · Economy

India's social protection coverage rose from 19% in 2015 to 68.4% in 2026, and the EPFO wage ceiling for mandatory cover was raised to Rs 25,000 a month.

- Social protection coverage in India rose from 19% in 2015 to 68.4% in 2026, bringing over one billion people within the framework.
- The EPFO wage ceiling for mandatory coverage was raised to Rs 25,000 a month in September 2026, from Rs 15,000 fixed in September 2014.
- EPF, EPS and EDLI were recast as 2026 schemes under the Code on Social Security, 2020; EDLI cover is up to Rs 7 lakh with no separate premium.
- Contributing EPFO members grew from 3.49 crore in 2014-15 to about 7.98 crore, and claims settled from 1.30 crore to 6.42 crore.
- The Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana replaced the National Social Assistance Programme in October 2026 and runs to 2030-31.

Social protection coverage	19% in 2015 to 68.4% in 2026
New EPFO wage ceiling	Rs 25,000 a month, approved September 2026
Previous ceiling	Rs 15,000, fixed September 2014, up from Rs 6,500
Extra employees covered	Over 51 lakh
Parent law	Code on Social Security, 2020
EDLI insurance cover	Up to Rs 7 lakh, no separate premium
Contributing members	About 7.98 crore as on 16 September 2026
Pensioners	About 82 lakh, up from 51.04 lakh in 2014-15

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/social-security-cover-at-684percent-as-epfo-ceiling-hits-rs-25000/

GK24.in

PMGSY-IV Clears 45 Mizoram Road Works Worth Rs 710.40 Crore

31 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Rural Development approved 45 road works of 509.54 km in Mizoram under PMGSY-IV at a cost of Rs 710.40 crore, linking 48 habitations.

- The Ministry of Rural Development has approved 45 road works of 509.54 km in Mizoram under PMGSY-IV, Batch-1 of the financial year 2026-27.
- The total estimated cost of the newly approved works is Rs 710.40 crore.
- 48 habitations in the state will get all-weather road connectivity for the first time through these works.
- The roads are meant to open access to schools, hospitals and rural markets, supporting the goal of a Viksit Bharat.
- Counting everything sanctioned so far, Mizoram has 367 road works of 4,935 km and 7 bridges worth Rs 3,412 crore under PMGSY.

Scheme	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Phase IV (PMGSY-IV)
Batch	Batch-1, financial year 2026-27
State	Mizoram
Ministry	Ministry of Rural Development
Road works approved	45
Length approved	509.54 km
Estimated cost	Rs 710.40 crore
Habitations connected	48, for the first time with all-weather roads

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pmgsy-iv-clears-45-mizoram-road-works-worth-rs-71040-crore/

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GSLV-F18 Launches NVS-03 to Strengthen NavIC System

31 October 2026 · Science & Technology

ISRO successfully launched GSLV-F18 carrying the NVS-03 navigation satellite, a mission that strengthens NavIC, India's own satellite navigation system.

- GSLV-F18 successfully carried the NVS-03 navigation satellite, and the Prime Minister congratulated ISRO's scientists and engineers on the mission.
- NVS-03 is a navigation satellite meant for NavIC, the satellite navigation system India has developed on its own.
- The satellite carries enhanced capabilities, so the navigation services NavIC offers to citizens are expected to improve.
- The mission was described as a step in India's pursuit of self-reliance in critical technologies.

Mission	GSLV-F18 carrying NVS-03
Satellite	NVS-03, a navigation satellite with enhanced capabilities
System strengthened	NavIC, India's indigenous satellite navigation system
Space agency	ISRO
In the news on	31 October 2026
Stated significance	Self-reliance in critical technologies and better navigation services for citizens

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/gslv-f18-launches-nvs-03-to-strengthen-navic-system/

GK24.in

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Marks Patel's 151st Birth Anniversary

31 October 2026 · Important Days

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas was observed on 31 October 2026, the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, with the unity pledge taken in ministries.

- Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, or National Unity Day, is observed every year on 31 October, the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- The year 2026 marked the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda administered the unity pledge to officials of the Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals and Fertilizers ministries at Kartavya Bhawan-1, New Delhi.
- President Droupadi Murmu paid floral tributes at Rashtrapati Bhavan and at Sardar Patel Chowk in New Delhi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi described Patel as the Iron Man of India and the architect of a united India.

Day	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day)
Observed on	31 October every year
Occasion in 2026	151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Pledge administered by	Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda
Venue of the ceremony	Kartavya Bhawan-1, New Delhi
Ministries that took the pledge	Health and Family Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers
Tributes by the President	Rashtrapati Bhavan and Sardar Patel Chowk, New Delhi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/rashtriya-ekta-diwas-marks-patels-151st-birth-anniversary/

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Panchayat Workshop Pushes Atmanirbhar Panchayats, EV MoU

31 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj held its national workshop on the People's Plan Campaign 2026-27 and signed an MoU with CESL for EV charging on Panchayat land.

- The national workshop on the People's Plan Campaign 2026-27 was held in New Delhi on 30 October 2026 with over 400 participants, and the PPC booklet was released.
- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj signed an MoU with CESL, a subsidiary of Energy Efficiency Services Limited under the Ministry of Power, for EV charging and battery swapping stations on Panchayat land.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (PM VGSY) for grassroots governance reform.
- The Sixteenth Finance Commission has recommended Rs 4,35,236 crore in grants for Panchayati Raj Institutions and rural local bodies in all 28 states for 2026-31.
- The People's Plan Campaign has run since 2018 under the theme Sabki Yojana, Sabka Vikas and was launched for this cycle on 2 October 2026.

Event	National Workshop on People's Plan Campaign 2026-27, New Delhi, 30 October 2026
Participants	More than 400 from across the country
Union Minister	Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh, Panchayati Raj and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Scheme cited	Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (PM VGSY), approved by the Union Cabinet
MoU signed with	Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL), a subsidiary of EESL under the Ministry of Power
Purpose of the MoU	EV charging and battery swapping stations on Panchayat land
Sixteenth Finance Commission grants	Rs 4,35,236 crore for PRIs and rural local bodies in 28 states, 2026-31
PPC theme	Sabki Yojana, Sabka Vikas, run since 2018

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/panchayat-workshop-pushes-atmanirbhar-panchayats-ev-mou/

Bharat Parv 2026 at Ekta Nagar: PM Visits CCIC Pavilion

31 October 2026 · National

The Prime Minister visited the CCIC pavilion at Bharat Parv 2026 in Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, where the handloom and handicraft exhibition runs till 15 November 2026.

- Bharat Parv 2026 is being held at Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, in Gujarat, and the Prime Minister visited the CCIC pavilion there on 30 October 2026.
- CCIC, the Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Ltd, is a Government of India enterprise under the Ministry of Textiles.
- The pavilion shows handloom and handicraft work from across the country, including Gujarat's artisans working on Agate and semi-precious stones and Appliqué work.
- CCIC links its work to Vocal for Local and to taking Local to Global by widening market access for artisans and weavers.
- The exhibition remains open to visitors at Ekta Nagar until 15 November 2026.

Event	Bharat Parv 2026
Venue	Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat
Pavilion visited by the Prime Minister	CCIC pavilion, on 30 October 2026
CCIC	Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Ltd, a Government of India enterprise
Ministry	Ministry of Textiles
Managing Director of CCIC	Bimal Gopalachari
Open to visitors until	15 November 2026
Themes highlighted	Vocal for Local and Local to Global

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bharat-parv-2026-at-ekta-nagar-pm-visits-ccic-pavilion/

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CCI Clears Power Sector Buyouts by Adani and Aditya Birla

31 October 2026 · Economy

The Competition Commission of India cleared Adani Energy Solutions' purchase of IntelliSmart Infrastructure and Aditya Birla Renewables' buyout of Solenergi Power.

- The CCI approved the acquisition of 100% of the equity share capital of IntelliSmart Infrastructure Private Limited by Adani Energy Solutions Limited.
- The sellers in the IntelliSmart deal are the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) and Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL).
- Adani Energy Solutions is listed on BSE Limited and the National Stock Exchange of India Limited and works in power transmission, distribution and advanced metering.
- The CCI also allowed Aditya Birla Renewables Limited to buy 100% of Solenergi Power Private Limited from Shell Overseas Investment B.V.
- Solenergi Power is a holding company registered in Mauritius whose Indian arms generate electricity from solar and wind.

Regulator	Competition Commission of India (CCI)
First deal	100% of IntelliSmart Infrastructure Private Limited to Adani Energy Solutions Limited
Sellers, first deal	National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) and Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)
Second deal	100% of Solenergi Power Private Limited to Aditya Birla Renewables Limited
Seller, second deal	Shell Overseas Investment B.V.
Solenergi Power registered in	Mauritius
Date of approval	31 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cci-clears-power-sector-buyouts-by-adani-and-aditya-birla/

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CCI Clears Vega SAS Buy of 16.2% in Vodafone Group

31 October 2026 · Economy

The Competition Commission of India approved Vega SAS taking 16.2% of Vodafone Group, MIH Payments' stake in Navi and the Sapphire Foods merger into Devyani.

- The CCI approved the acquisition of 16.2% of the issued share capital of Vodafone Group PLC by Vega SAS, a wholly owned subsidiary of Maya SAS of France.
- Vodafone Group is a European and African telecom company and is present in India through Vodafone Idea Limited.
- MIH Payments Holdings B.V., an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Prosus N.V., was allowed to acquire shareholding in Navi Limited.
- Navi Limited is the holding company of the Navi Group, which offers financial products through a single customer facing mobile app.
- The CCI also cleared the merger of Sapphire Foods India Limited with and into Devyani International Limited; both run KFC and Pizza Hut outlets.

Regulator	Competition Commission of India (CCI)
Stake in Vodafone Group PLC	16.2% of issued share capital, to Vega SAS
Parent of Vega SAS	Maya SAS, a simplified joint-stock company of France
Vodafone's Indian presence	Vodafone Idea Limited
Navi Limited buyer	MIH Payments Holdings B.V., indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Prosus N.V.
Restaurant merger	Sapphire Foods India Limited with and into Devyani International Limited
Brands run by Devyani	KFC, Pizza Hut, and as exclusive franchisee Costa Coffee, New York Fries and Sanook Kitchen
Date of approval	31 October 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cci-clears-vega-sas-buy-of-162percent-in-vodafone-group/

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Amit Shah Flags Off Run for Unity, Sets 2029 Drug-Free Goal

31 October 2026 · National

Union Home Minister Amit Shah flagged off the Run for Unity in New Delhi on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas and set 31 December 2029 as the drug-free India deadline.

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah flagged off the Run for Unity in New Delhi on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- He administered the Unity Pledge and said a drug-free India is the first stage of a developed India, with a deadline of 31 December 2029.
- He said the country became free of Naxalism on 31 March this year and listed the removal of Article 370 and one tax system among recent milestones.
- Sardar Patel united hundreds of princely states in just 1,218 days after independence, giving India the map it has today.
- The Statue of Unity was conceived and its foundation laid by Narendra Modi when he was Chief Minister of Gujarat.

Event	Run for Unity, New Delhi, on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas
Flagged off by	Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation
Occasion	151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Drug-free India target	31 December 2029
Freed of Naxalism	31 March 2026
Integration of princely states	Completed in 1,218 days after independence
Dignitaries present	Delhi LG Taranjit Singh Sandhu, Mansukh Mandaviya, Delhi CM Rekha Gupta, Nityanand Rai, Bandi Sanjay Kumar

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/amit-shah-flags-off-run-for-unity-sets-2029-drug-free-goal/

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Ayush Ministry Promotes Yoga for Unity Under Yoga 365

31 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Ayush took up the message of Yoga for Unity on National Unity Day 2026, tying it to the Yoga 365 initiative for daily practice through the year.

- The Ministry of Ayush promoted the message of Yoga for Unity on National Unity Day 2026, the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- The campaign is integrated with Yoga 365, the ministry's initiative for yoga practice through the whole year.
- Prataprao Jadhav is the Union Minister of State with Independent Charge for Ayush and Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare.
- Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary of the Ministry of Ayush, linked Yoga 365 with making preventive healthcare part of everyday life.
- Yoga and Naturopathy institutions under the ministry are to hold community activities and collective yoga sessions across the country.

Campaign	Yoga for Unity
Ministry	Ministry of Ayush
Linked initiative	Yoga 365, for daily yoga through the year
Occasion	National Unity Day 2026, the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ayush	Prataprao Jadhav, also Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare
Secretary, Ministry of Ayush	Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha
Institutions involved	Yoga and Naturopathy institutions of the ministry across the country

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ayush-ministry-promotes-yoga-for-unity-under-yoga-365/

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MCA Ends Special Campaign 6.0 With 75 Cleanliness Drives

31 October 2026 · National

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs closed Special Campaign 6.0 after 75 cleanliness drives that freed 23,285 sq ft of office space and earned Rs 11,41,975.

- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs concluded its nationwide Special Campaign 6.0 on cleanliness after conducting 75 cleanliness campaigns.
- The drives freed 23,285 square feet of office space and generated revenue of Rs 11,41,975, of which Rs 5,22,000 came from e-waste.
- In record management the ministry reviewed, weeded and closed 3,658 physical files out of 9,309 items targeted for review.
- The ministry resolved 322 of 330 public grievances and cleared 342 of 435 public grievance appeals during the campaign.
- DARE and ICAR institutes also observed Special Campaign 6.0 with waste segregation, digitisation, plantation, free medical camps and felicitation of safaimitras.

Campaign	Special Campaign 6.0 on Swachhata (cleanliness)
Ministry reporting	Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)
Cleanliness campaigns	75
Office space freed	23,285 square feet
Revenue generated	Rs 11,41,975, including Rs 5,22,000 from e-waste
Files reviewed	3,658 physical files out of 9,309 items targeted
Grievances	322 of 330 resolved; 342 of 435 appeals cleared
Other participants	Department of Agricultural Research and Education and ICAR institutes

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mca-ends-special-campaign-60-with-75-cleanliness-drives/

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Om Birla Releases Stamp at Gayatri Parivar Centenary

31 October 2026 · National

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla released a commemorative postage stamp honouring Mata Bhagwati Devi at the Shatabdi Samaroh of the Gayatri Parivar in New Delhi.

- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla addressed the Shatabdi Samaroh 2026 organised by the Gayatri Parivar in New Delhi and released a commemorative postage stamp in honour of Mata Bhagwati Devi.
- The centenary marks 100 years of the birth of Mata Bhagwati Devi, of the Akhand Deepak and of the penance of Acharya Shriram Sharma.
- Birla said the Acharya spread spiritual consciousness through Akhand Jyoti and that his resolve was that we will change and the era will change.
- The Mahila Jagran Abhiyan was begun under the leadership of Mata Bhagwati Devi in 1975 for the awakening and empowerment of women.
- The Speaker lauded Dr Chinmaya Pandya for carrying Indian spiritual traditions abroad along with awareness of science and technology.

Event	Shatabdi Samaroh 2026, centenary celebration of the Gayatri Parivar
Venue	New Delhi
Addressed by	Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla
Released	Commemorative postage stamp in honour of Mata Bhagwati Devi
Centenary of	Birth of Mata Bhagwati Devi, the Akhand Deepak and the penance of Acharya Shriram Sharma, 100 years each
Mahila Jagran Abhiyan	Begun in 1975 under Mata Bhagwati Devi
Guiding resolve of the Acharya	We will change and the era will change

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/om-birla-releases-stamp-at-gayatri-parivar-centenary/

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Ashutosh Dixit Becomes 29th Chief of the Air Staff

31 October 2026 · Appointments

Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit took charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff on 31 October 2026, succeeding Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, who retired after 42 years.

- Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit took over as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force on 31 October 2026
- He succeeded Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, who retired the same day after 42 years of service, and was Vice Chief of the Air Staff before this
- An NDA alumnus, he was commissioned into the fighter stream on 6 December 1986 and has flown over 3,300 hours on the Mirage-2000, MiG variants and the Jaguar
- He worked on the Jaguar and MiG-27 upgrades and on the Initial and Final Operational Clearance of the LCA Mk-I Tejas
- He was Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee during Operation Sindoor

New Chief of the Air Staff	Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit PVSM AVSM VM VSM
Which chief in order	29th Chief of the Air Staff
Date of taking charge	31 October 2026
Predecessor	Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, retired after 42 years of service
Commissioned	6 December 1986, fighter stream
Flying experience	More than 3,300 hours, including the Mirage-2000, MiG variants and the Jaguar
Alma mater	National Defence Academy; National Defence College, New Delhi
Post held during Operation Sindoor	Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ashutosh-dixit-becomes-29th-chief-of-the-air-staff/

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First BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise in Bay of Bengal

31 October 2026 · Defence

The inaugural BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise runs from 30 October to 3 November 2026, bringing seven member states together in the Bay of Bengal region.

- The inaugural BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise is being conducted from 30 October to 3 November 2026, the grouping's first joint maritime security drill
- All seven BIMSTEC members take part: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand
- Its mottos are 'Translating Vision to Action' and 'Shared Seas, Shared Security and Shared Prosperity'; it builds on the 6th BIMSTEC Summit theme 'BIMSTEC: Prosperous, Resilient and Open'
- The exercise aims to raise interoperability, maritime domain awareness, coordination and the exchange of best practices in the Bay of Bengal
- It highlights the Andaman and Nicobar Command, India's first integrated tri-service command, and the islands' position astride key sea lanes

Exercise	Inaugural BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise
Dates	30 October to 3 November 2026
Participants	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand
Region	Bay of Bengal
Mottos	Translating Vision to Action; Shared Seas, Shared Security and Shared Prosperity
Summit it builds on	6th BIMSTEC Summit, theme 'BIMSTEC: Prosperous, Resilient and Open'
Command in focus	Andaman and Nicobar Command, India's first integrated tri-service command
Aims	Interoperability, maritime domain awareness, coordination mechanisms, exchange of best practices

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/first-bimstec-maritime-security-exercise-in-bay-of-bengal/

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Cotton Import Duty Exemption Extended to 31 December 2026

31 October 2026 · Economy

The Centre has extended the customs duty exemption on cotton imports by two months, up to 31 December 2026, to ease raw material supply for the textile industry.

- The Government of India has extended the customs duty exemption on cotton imports up to 31 December 2026
- It was notified by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, through Notification No. 35/2026-Customs dated 30 October 2026
- The earlier exemption was valid only until 31 October 2026, so the extension adds two months
- The aim is to augment cotton availability at competitive prices, support domestic manufacturing and MSMEs, and meet specialised cotton requirements
- The Ministry of Textiles welcomed the step, which seeks to balance industry needs with the interests of domestic cotton farmers

Decision	Customs duty exemption on cotton imports extended
New validity	Up to 31 December 2026
Earlier validity	Up to 31 October 2026
Length of extension	Two months
Notification	No. 35/2026-Customs dated 30 October 2026
Issued by	Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance
Ministry that welcomed it	Ministry of Textiles
Intended beneficiaries	Textile and apparel manufacturers, including MSMEs

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cotton-import-duty-exemption-extended-to-31-december-2026/

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IIPA's 72nd AGM: Membership Climbs to 11,611

31 October 2026 · National

At the 72nd Annual General Body Meeting of IIPA, Dr Jitendra Singh pushed nationwide outreach as membership of the public administration institute reached 11,611.

- The Indian Institute of Public Administration held its 72nd Annual General Body Meeting, addressed by Dr Jitendra Singh, Chairman of the IIPA Executive Council
- Vice President of India Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, who is the President of IIPA, was present at the meeting
- IIPA membership has reached 11,611, with greater participation by young professionals and recent graduates
- As on 31 March 2026 the institute had 26 Regional Branches and 43 Local Branches; it was established in 1954
- In 2025-26 IIPA completed 45 research projects with 13 ongoing, and conducted 130 training programmes, of which 35 were for State Government officials

Event	72nd Annual General Body Meeting of IIPA
Institute	Indian Institute of Public Administration, established in 1954
President of IIPA	Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, Vice President of India
Chairman, IIPA Executive Council	Dr Jitendra Singh
Membership	11,611
Branches as on 31 March 2026	26 Regional Branches and 43 Local Branches
Research in 2025-26	45 projects completed, 13 ongoing
Training in 2025-26	130 programmes, including 35 for State Government officials

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/iipas-72nd-agm-membership-climbs-to-11611/

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DoLR Reviews WDC-PMKSY 2.0 Watershed Works in Pune

31 October 2026 · Government Schemes

DoLR Secretary Dilip Kumar reviewed WDC-PMKSY 2.0 watershed works in Khed, Pune, and asked that 76 talukas of Maharashtra's drought belt be taken up on priority.

- DoLR Secretary Shri Dilip Kumar reviewed WDC-PMKSY 2.0 watershed works in Varude, Gulani and Wafgaon villages of Pune district on 30 October 2026
- WDC-PMKSY 2.0 is the Watershed Development Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, run by the Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development
- He asked villagers to maintain water harvesting structures so they stay functional for the next twenty years, citing Hiware Bazar as the model
- Of Maharashtra's 304 drought-affected talukas, 76 are covered under the scheme and were marked for faster work in view of El Nino conditions
- Structures seen include Continuous Contour Trenches, earthen and cement nala bunds, Kolhapuri-type weirs and ponds, built on the ridge-to-valley approach

Scheme	WDC-PMKSY 2.0, the Watershed Development Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana
Implementing department	Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development
Official who reviewed	Shri Dilip Kumar, Secretary, DoLR
Villages visited	Varude, Gulani and Wafgaon, Khed, Pune district, Maharashtra
Date of visit	30 October 2026
Review meeting	29 October 2026 at Yashada, Pune
Coverage in Maharashtra	76 talukas under the scheme out of 304 drought-affected talukas
Model village cited	Hiware Bazar

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dolr-reviews-wdc-pmksy-20-watershed-works-in-pune/

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MoHUA Workshop Charts Shared Roadmap for Clean Delhi

31 October 2026 · National

The Department of Capital Development under MoHUA held a workshop with Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban to build a shared roadmap for a cleaner national capital.

- The Department of Capital Development, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, held a workshop called 'Planning a Shared Roadmap for Clean Delhi' with Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban
- Ms D. Thara, Secretary of the Department of Capital Development, took part along with senior officials of NDMC, MCD, DDA and the ministry
- For the first time, functionaries from the top to the lowest level came on a common platform on Delhi's sanitation challenges
- The discussion turned on ten critical questions, covering a bin-less city, Garbage Vulnerable Points, public toilets and grievance redressal
- An online digital poll of participants identified the main challenges to cleanliness, and sanitary inspectors and supervisors were felicitated

Workshop	Planning a Shared Roadmap for Clean Delhi
Organised by	Department of Capital Development, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
In collaboration with	Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban
Secretary who addressed it	Ms D. Thara, Secretary, Department of Capital Development
Bodies represented	NDMC, MCD, DDA and MoHUA
Format	Interactive discussion on ten critical questions, plus an online digital poll
Key terms	Garbage Vulnerable Points (GVPs); bin-less city through door-to-door collection
Opening address	BK Hussain of the Brahma Kumaris

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mohua-workshop-charts-shared-roadmap-for-clean-delhi/

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NMMSS Application Date Extended to 15 November 2026

31 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Ministry of Education moved the NMMSS 2026-27 application date on the National Scholarship Portal to 15 November 2026, with verification dates also reset.

- The Ministry of Education extended the last date for NMMSS applications for 2026-27 to 15 November 2026
- L1 checking by the Institute Nodal Officer closes on 30 November 2026 and L2 checking by the District Nodal Officer on 15 December 2026
- Up to 30 October 2026 the National Scholarship Portal had 90,483 fresh and 1,99,531 renewal applications
- NMMSS gives one lakh fresh scholarships a year to Class IX students who clear a State or UT selection test
- The scholarship is Rs 12,000 a year by DBT; parental income must stay at or below Rs 3.50 lakh a year

Scheme	National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS)
Ministry	Ministry of Education
New last date to apply	15 November 2026, for the academic year 2026-27
L1 verification	Institute Nodal Officer, by 30 November 2026
L2 verification	District Nodal Officer, by 15 December 2026
Portal	National Scholarship Portal (NSP), open to applicants since 1 June 2026
Applications so far	90,483 fresh and 1,99,531 renewal, as on 30 October 2026
Fresh scholarships a year	One lakh, to Class IX students

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nmmss-application-date-extended-to-15-november-2026/

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CCI Clears Sapphire-Devyani Merger and Navi Stake Deal

31 October 2026 · Economy

The Competition Commission of India approved the merger of Sapphire Foods India into Devyani International and a stake buy in Navi Limited by MIH Payments.

- CCI approved the merger of Sapphire Foods India Limited with and into Devyani International Limited, along with related transactions
- Both Devyani and Sapphire run KFC and Pizza Hut franchise outlets in India, so the deal joins two players in the same business
- Devyani is also the exclusive Indian franchisee of Costa Coffee, New York Fries and Sanook Kitchen and runs homegrown brands
- CCI separately cleared the purchase of a certain shareholding in Navi Limited by MIH Payments Holdings B.V.
- MIH Payments Holdings B.V. is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Prosus N.V. and only holds investments

Regulator	Competition Commission of India (CCI)
First deal	Merger of Sapphire Foods India Limited with and into Devyani International Limited, plus related transactions
Surviving company	Devyani International Limited
Common brands	KFC and Pizza Hut franchise outlets, run by both companies
Devyani's exclusive franchises in India	Costa Coffee, New York Fries and Sanook Kitchen
Second deal	Acquisition of a certain shareholding in Navi Limited by MIH Payments Holdings B.V.
Acquirer's parent	Prosus N.V., of which MIH Payments Holdings B.V. is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary
What Navi Limited is	Holding company of the Navi Group, offering financial services through one consumer-facing mobile app

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/cci-clears-sapphire-devyani-merger-and-navi-stake-deal/

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MSME Hindi Panel Releases Udyami Mitra and Udyam Prabha

31 October 2026 · National

The MSME Ministry's Hindi Advisory Committee met in New Delhi under Jitan Ram Manjhi and released the magazines Udyami Mitra and NSIC's Udyam Prabha.

- The Hindi Advisory Committee of the MSME Ministry met on 28 October 2026 at the Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi
- Union MSME Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi chaired the meeting and Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje was the vice-chairperson
- The second issue of the ministry magazine Udyami Mitra and NSIC's magazine Udyam Prabha were released
- Secretary Bharat Khera told the meeting that the ministry won the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar for Hindi work in 2025-26
- Members sought Hindi workshops in South India, filling of official-language vacancies and documents in simple Hindi

Body	Hindi Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Date and venue	28 October 2026, Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi
Chairperson	Jitan Ram Manjhi, Union Minister for MSME
Vice-chairperson	Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State for MSME
Secretary present	Bharat Khera, Secretary, Ministry of MSME
Ministry's magazine released	Udyami Mitra, second issue
NSIC's magazine released	Udyam Prabha
Award mentioned	Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar to the ministry for Hindi work in 2025-26

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/msme-hindi-panel-releases-udyami-mitra-and-udyam-prabha/

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Special Campaign 6.0 Ends in Parliamentary Affairs Ministry

31 October 2026 · National

The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs wound up Special Campaign 6.0, run from 2 to 31 October 2026, weeding out old files and closing pending e-files.

- The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs concluded Special Campaign 6.0, conducted from 2 to 31 October 2026
- The campaign is steered by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)
- Of 134 physical files reviewed, 58 were weeded out; of 200 e-files reviewed, 117 were closed
- NeVA, the ministry's flagship initiative, supports paperless working of State Legislatures
- DARE and ICAR ran the same campaign in their institutes with waste segregation, e-waste management and medical camps

Campaign	Special Campaign 6.0 for Swachhata and reducing pendency
Period	2 to 31 October 2026
Steered by	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)
Physical files	134 marked for review, 58 weeded out
Electronic files	200 reviewed, 117 closed
Inspections led by	Secretary and Additional Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
Flagship platform	National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA), for paperless State Legislatures
Other platforms used	e-Office, e-HRMS, Consultative Committee Management System, Sub-ordinate Legislation Management System, OAMS, National Youth Parliament Portal

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/special-campaign-60-ends-in-parliamentary-affairs-ministry/

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Vice-President Attends Sardar Katha at Uprashtrapati Bhavan

31 October 2026 · National

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan attended Sardar Katha at Uprashtrapati Bhavan on Patel's 151st birth anniversary, narrated by Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna.

- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan attended Sardar Katha at Uprashtrapati Bhavan on 31 October 2026, Rashtriya Ekta Diwas
- The programme marked the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and was presented by Katha Vachika Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna
- Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Taranjit Singh Sandhu was among those who attended the programme
- The Vice-President recalled the integration of more than 550 princely states into the Indian Union after Partition
- He said Patel's spirit of unity is being channelled into the mission of Viksit Bharat @2047

Programme	Sardar Katha, at Uprashtrapati Bhavan
Date	31 October 2026, Rashtriya Ekta Diwas
Occasion	151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Attended by	Vice-President of India C. P. Radhakrishnan
Narrated by	Katha Vachika Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna
Also present	Taranjit Singh Sandhu, Lieutenant Governor of Delhi
Tributes earlier in the day	Sardar Patel Chowk, New Delhi, and Uprashtrapati Bhavan
Princely states recalled	More than 550, integrated into the Indian Union

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vice-president-attends-sardar-katha-at-uprashtrapati-bhavan/

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Centre Releases Rs 1,09,019 Crore Tax Devolution to States

31 October 2026 · Economy

The Union Government released an extra tax devolution instalment of Rs 1,09,019 crore to 28 state governments on 31 October 2026 before the festive season.

- The Union Government released Rs 1,09,019 crore to the states on 31 October 2026 as an additional instalment of tax devolution, over and above the regular monthly transfer.
- This was the second additional instalment of tax devolution released in the running financial year.
- The stated purposes were to help states meet festive-season spending and to let them speed up capital expenditure and development and welfare outlays.
- All 28 states received a share. Uttar Pradesh drew the largest amount and West Bengal received Rs 7,866 crore.
- The money is untied, so a state may spend it as its own budget decides.

Released by	Ministry of Finance, Union Government
Amount	Rs 1,09,019 crore
Date of release	31 October 2026
Which instalment	Second additional instalment of the financial year
Nature of transfer	Over and above the regular monthly tax devolution
Stated purposes	Festive-season spending, faster capital spending, development and welfare expenditure
States covered	28 states
Largest share	Uttar Pradesh

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/centre-releases-rs-109019-crore-tax-devolution-to-states/

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Know Your Vote Samvad Reaches 11,000 Youth in 62 Events

31 October 2026 · Government Schemes

MY Bharat held 62 editions of the Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad: Know Your Vote campaign across 16 states and union territories on 31 October 2026.

- MY Bharat held 62 editions of Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad: Know Your Vote on 31 October 2026 across 16 states and union territories, drawing over 11,000 youth.
- The campaign runs from 26 October 2026 to 5 November 2026 and aims to cover 500 universities, colleges and institutions nationwide.
- Counting this round, 158 Yuva Samvads have been held in 28 states and union territories, engaging about 32,000 youth and 158 Youth Icons.
- The drive promotes electoral awareness among first-time voters, covering voting rights, electoral procedure and civic duties.
- MY Bharat works under the Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; about 250 youth took the Loktantrik Pledge at Ferozepur.

Campaign	Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad: Know Your Vote
Organiser	Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), Department of Youth Affairs
Ministry	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
Programmes on 31 October 2026	62 editions in 16 states and union territories
Youth engaged that day	More than 11,000
Campaign period	26 October 2026 to 5 November 2026
Overall target	500 universities, colleges and institutions
Cumulative Samvads	158 across 28 states and union territories

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/know-your-vote-samvad-reaches-11000-youth-in-62-events/

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Vidyanjali CSR Meet for School Education Held in Gurugram

31 October 2026 · Government Schemes

The Department of School Education and Literacy held the National CSR Meet for school education through Vidyanjali at Gurugram in Haryana on 31 October 2026.

- The Department of School Education and Literacy held the National CSR Meet for school education through Vidyanjali at Gurugram, Haryana, on 31 October 2026.
- Vidyanjali is a DoSEL initiative that strengthens government and government-aided schools through community and private sector participation on a digital platform.
- Vidyanjali's CSR framework has two modules, the CSR Module and the Adopt-a-School Module.
- The CSR-State Interaction brought together companies, State Nodal Officers, DoSEL, the Programme Management Unit and the National Informatics Centre.
- Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Mizoram and Delhi presented their experience, and the State Bank of India and Bharti Airtel spoke in the technical sessions.

Event	National CSR Meet for School Education through Vidyanjali
Organiser	Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL)
Ministry	Ministry of Education
Venue	Gurugram, Haryana
Date	31 October 2026
What Vidyanjali is	School volunteer programme for government and government-aided schools, run on a digital platform
CSR framework modules	CSR Module and Adopt-a-School Module
Key session	CSR-State Interaction with State Nodal Officers, DoSEL, the Programme Management Unit and the National Informatics Centre

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/vidyanjali-csr-meet-for-school-education-held-in-gurugram/

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Delhi Logs Best October Air Quality in Eight Years at AQI 166

31 October 2026 · Environment

Delhi's average air quality index for October 2026 came in at 166, the capital's cleanest October in eight years, with 220 good to moderate days so far.

- Delhi's average AQI for October 2026 was 166, the lowest October figure in eight years and down from 223 in October 2025.
- The average AQI from 1 January to 31 October 2026 was 167, against 170 in the same period of 2025 and 201 in 2018.
- Average PM2.5 for 1 January to 29 October 2026 was 69 micrograms per cubic metre, while PM10 averaged 171 micrograms per cubic metre.
- Delhi had 220 'Good to Moderate' days (daily AQI under 200) in January-October 2026, the highest since 2018 apart from 2020, when there were 224.
- 'Poor to Severe+' days (daily AQI above 200) numbered 84, down from 104 in both 2025 and 2024; CAQM coordinates the clean-up across Delhi-NCR.

Month reported	October 2026
Delhi's October 2026 average AQI	166 (lowest for October in eight years)
October 2025 average AQI	223
Average AQI, 1 Jan to 31 Oct 2026	167
Average PM2.5, 1 Jan to 29 Oct 2026	69 micrograms per cubic metre
Average PM10, 1 Jan to 29 Oct 2026	171 micrograms per cubic metre
'Good to Moderate' days, Jan-Oct 2026	220
'Poor to Severe+' days, Jan-Oct 2026	84

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/delhi-logs-best-october-air-quality-in-eight-years-at-aqi-166/

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President Murmu Performs Dhwajarohan of Nashik Simhastha Kumbh

31 October 2026 · National

President Droupadi Murmu attended the Dhwajarohan of the Simhastha Maha Kumbh at Nashik on 31 October 2026 and called the 2027 fair a bridge to heritage.

- President Droupadi Murmu attended the Dhwaj Stambh Pujan, Dhwaja Pujan and Dhwajarohan of the Simhastha Maha Kumbh at Nashik, Maharashtra, on 31 October 2026.
- She said the Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Simhastha Maha Kumbh of 2027 would be a bridge joining India's ancient heritage to modern times.
- She named the four Kumbh venues: Haridwar on the Ganga, the Triveni Sangam at Prayagraj, Ujjain on the Shipra and Nashik on the Godavari.
- The President said drought has affected many people in several regions including Maharashtra, farmers most of all, and that the Centre and the state are extending support.
- She hoped the Nashik Maha Kumbh would set an outstanding standard of cleanliness and waste management through public participation.

Event	Dhwaj Stambh Pujan, Dhwaja Pujan and Dhwajarohan of the Simhastha Maha Kumbh
Who attended	President Droupadi Murmu
Place	Nashik, Maharashtra
Date	31 October 2026
Full name of the fair	Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Simhastha Maha Kumbh
River	Godavari
Year of the coming Maha Kumbh	2027
Other Kumbh venues named	Haridwar (Ganga), Prayagraj (Triveni Sangam), Ujjain (Shipra)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/president-murmu-performs-dhwajarohan-of-nashik-simhastha-kumbh/

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MY Bharat NSS Drives Mobilise 96,700 Youth Against Drug Abuse

31 October 2026 · Government Schemes

MY Bharat and NSS drew over 96,700 participants into cyclothons, walkathons and runs on 30-31 October 2026 under the Nasha Mukt Yuva Sankalp Abhiyan.

- MY Bharat and the National Service Scheme drew over 96,700 participants into cyclothons, walkathons and runs across India on 30 and 31 October 2026.
- The drive formed Week 7 of the 'Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat - 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan' of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- Events were held at more than 200 institutions under the second month's theme, 'Fit Youth, Addiction-Free Youth (Shakti evam Seva)'.
- Walkathons and runs of 3 to 5 km drew over 23,300 people, while cycle rallies of 10 to 15 km drew more than 8,000.
- Nearly 26,000 people took the collective Nasha Mukt Sankalp, and plogging drives drew more than 11,400 youth who handed segregated waste to civic bodies.

Campaign	Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat - 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan
Ministry	Youth Affairs and Sports
Organisers	MY Bharat and the National Service Scheme (NSS)
Week and dates	Week 7, on 30 and 31 October 2026
Month 2 theme	Fit Youth, Addiction-Free Youth (Shakti evam Seva)
Total participation	Over 96,700
Institutions covered	More than 200
Cycle rally and walkathon length	10 to 15 km and 3 to 5 km

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/my-bharat-nss-drives-mobilise-96700-youth-against-drug-abuse/

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1 November 2026

NVS-03 Completes First Orbit Manoeuvre of NavIC Mission

1 November 2026 · Science & Technology

ISRO's NVS-03, the third second-generation NavIC satellite, finished its first orbit-raising burn on 31 October 2026 and is headed for 111.75 degrees East.

- ISRO flew the GSLV-F18/NVS-03 mission on 30 October 2026 at 23:51 hours from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, placing the satellite in a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.
- The first orbit-raising burn, using the satellite's Liquid Apogee Motor, was completed on 31 October 2026 at 16:48 hours; the target slot is 111.75 degrees East.
- NVS-03 is the third of the five second-generation NavIC satellites (NVS-01 to NVS-05), and the mission was the 20th flight of the GSLV.
- The satellite transmits on the L1, L5 and S bands and carries an atomic clock built in India alongside procured clocks.
- NavIC, formerly the IRNSS, covers India and about 1,500 km beyond its boundary through an open Standard Positioning Service and an encrypted Restricted Service.

Mission	GSLV-F18 / NVS-03
Launch	30 October 2026 at 23:51 hours
Launch site	Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota
First orbit manoeuvre	31 October 2026 at 16:48 hours
Target orbital slot	111.75 degrees East
Place in series	Third of five second-generation NavIC satellites
GSLV flight number	20th flight of the GSLV
Satellite mass	About 2,250 kg

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/nvs-03-completes-first-orbit-manoeuvre-of-navic-mission/

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Coal Imports Decline 5.83% in August 2026 to 104.57 MT

1 November 2026 · Economy

India's coal imports fell 5.83% to 104.57 million tonnes in August 2026 from 111.05 MT a year earlier, trimming imports to 19.30% of coal consumption.

- India's total coal imports fell 5.83 per cent in August 2026 to 104.57 million tonnes from 111.05 MT in August 2025, a reduction of 6.48 MT.
- Power sector coal imports declined 6.39 per cent to 21.32 MT, while imported coal-based plants took in 0.98 per cent more at 18.31 MT.
- Coal imported for blending at domestic coal-based plants dropped the most, by 35.23 per cent, from 4.64 MT to 3 MT.
- The share of imported coal in total consumption fell from 21.20 per cent to 19.30 per cent, a decline of 1.90 percentage points.
- Coking coal imports, used by the steel industry, declined 4.18 per cent to 27.30 MT from 28.49 MT.

Total coal imports, August 2026	104.57 million tonnes
Total coal imports, August 2025	111.05 million tonnes
Overall decline	5.83 per cent, or 6.48 MT
Power sector imports	Down 6.39 per cent, from 22.77 MT to 21.32 MT
Imported coal-based plants	Up 0.98 per cent, from 18.13 MT to 18.31 MT
Blending at domestic coal-based plants	Down 35.23 per cent, from 4.64 MT to 3 MT
Share of imports in consumption	19.30 per cent, against 21.20 per cent
Coking coal imports	Down 4.18 per cent, from 28.49 MT to 27.30 MT

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/coal-imports-decline-583percent-in-august-2026-to-10457-mt/

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INS Trishul Calls at Souda Bay, Greece on Mediterranean Tour

1 November 2026 · Defence

Indian Naval Ship Trishul arrived at Souda Bay in Greece on 31 October 2026 during its Mediterranean deployment for engagements with the Hellenic Navy.

- Indian Naval Ship Trishul called at Souda Bay in Greece on 31 October 2026 during an ongoing deployment to the Mediterranean Sea.
- The crew is to engage with the Hellenic Navy, the navy of Greece, and with officials of the Indian Embassy in Athens.
- Planned engagements include professional discussions, cross-deck visits between the two sides and cultural exchanges.
- The crew is to be familiarised with facilities at Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay and the NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre (NMIOTC).
- The ship's crew will pay homage at the Souda Bay War Cemetery, and the vessel stays open to visitors during the port call.

Ship	Indian Naval Ship (INS) Trishul
Port of call	Souda Bay
Country	Greece
Date of arrival	31 October 2026
Deployment area	Mediterranean Sea
Partner navy	Hellenic Navy
Embassy engaged	Indian Embassy in Athens
Facilities to be visited	Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay and NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre (NMIOTC)

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/ins-trishul-calls-at-souda-bay-greece-on-mediterranean-tour/

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Star Rating Awards for Coal Mines to Be Held at Raipur

1 November 2026 · Awards & Honours

The Ministry of Coal will honour the best rated coal and lignite mines of assessment year 2024-25 at the Star Rating Awards in Raipur on 2 November 2026.

- The Ministry of Coal will hold the Star Rating Awards Ceremony for coal and lignite mines on 2 November 2026 at Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- Union Minister of Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy is the Chief Guest, Minister of State Satish Chandra Dubey the Guest of Honour and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai the Special Guest.
- Under the Star Rating Policy for Coal Mines, mines are graded on a scale running from five stars down to no star.
- Assessment and validation are carried out by reviewers appointed by the Coal Controller's Organisation.
- Mines that secured the highest star ratings for the assessment year 2024-25 will be felicitated at the ceremony.

Event	Star Rating Awards Ceremony for coal and lignite mines
Date	2 November 2026
Venue	Raipur, Chhattisgarh
Ministry	Ministry of Coal
Chief Guest	G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of Coal and Mines
Guest of Honour	Satish Chandra Dubey, Minister of State for Coal and Mines
Special Guest	Vishnu Deo Sai, Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh
Coal Secretary	Vikram Dev Dutt

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/star-rating-awards-for-coal-mines-to-be-held-at-raipur/

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State Foundation Day Marked by Haryana, Chhattisgarh and MP

1 November 2026 · Important Days

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the people of Haryana, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh on 1 November 2026, which is the State Foundation Day of all three.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended greetings to the people of Haryana, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh on their State Foundation Day on 1 November 2026.
- The message to Haryana spoke of the state's history, valour and cultural heritage, and of achievements in agriculture, sport, defence services, industry, education and startups.
- The Chhattisgarh message highlighted tribal culture, natural wealth, folk traditions and archaeological heritage, and development moving ahead as the roots of Naxalism are removed.
- The Madhya Pradesh message pointed to heritage sites of world renown and progress in agriculture, industry, tourism, education, infrastructure and innovation.
- Haryana was praised for athletes adding to the honour of the Tricolour and farmers strengthening the food security of the country.

Occasion	State Foundation Day
Date	1 November 2026
States greeted	Haryana, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh
Who extended greetings	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Haryana highlights	Agriculture, sport, defence services, industry, education and startups
Chhattisgarh highlights	Tribal culture, natural wealth, folk traditions and archaeological heritage
Madhya Pradesh highlights	Heritage sites of world renown, tourism, education, infrastructure and innovation
Mode of message	Posts on X

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/state-foundation-day-marked-by-haryana-chhattisgarh-and-mp/

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PMMSY Projects Worth Rs 375 Lakh for Sikkim Fisheries

1 November 2026 · Government Schemes

Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh will launch an SOP for organic fish farming and inaugurate PMMSY projects worth Rs 375 lakh in Sikkim on 2 and 3 November 2026.

- Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Rajiv Ranjan Singh is visiting Gangtok and Mangan districts of Sikkim on 2 and 3 November 2026.
- He is to launch a Standard Operating Procedure for organic fish farming and inaugurate projects worth Rs 375 lakh under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana.
- Kisan Credit Cards are to be given to fish farmers along with cheques under the Mukhya Mantri Matsya Utpadan Yojana (MMMUY).
- Under PMMSY, 34 fisheries production and processing clusters have been notified across the country, including organic fisheries clusters in Sikkim and Meghalaya.
- The visit falls under a structured mechanism for periodic visits by Union Ministers to the Northeastern Region to review programmes and collect field feedback.

Minister	Rajiv Ranjan Singh, also known as Lalan Singh
Portfolio	Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Visit	Gangtok and Mangan districts, Sikkim, on 2 and 3 November 2026
Projects to be inaugurated	Worth Rs 375 lakh under PMMSY
To be launched	Standard Operating Procedure for organic fish farming
Support to farmers	Kisan Credit Cards and cheques under Mukhya Mantri Matsya Utpadan Yojana (MMMUY)
Clusters notified under PMMSY	34 fisheries production and processing clusters across the country
Organic fisheries clusters	Sikkim and Meghalaya

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pmmsy-projects-worth-rs-375-lakh-for-sikkim-fisheries/

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National Organ Transplant Games 2026 Opened at Talkatora Stadium

1 November 2026 · National

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan inaugurated the National Organ Transplant Games 2026 at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi, calling organ donation a Mahadaan.

- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan inaugurated the National Organ Transplant Games 2026 at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi, on 1 November 2026.
- The Games were organised by the Renal Care Foundation, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital and NOTTO, which works under the Union Health Ministry.
- 570 transplant recipients and donors held Tadasana together, and the World Book of Records, New Delhi, certified it as the largest such gathering.
- The Vice-President brought out the 'Zindagi Dobara' calendar and honoured the medal winners of the World Transplant Games 2025 at Dresden, Germany.
- He called organ donation a Mahadaan and said one donor who has died can save as many as eight lives.

Event	National Organ Transplant Games 2026 (NOTG 2026)
Inaugurated by	Vice-President of India Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan
Date	1 November 2026
Venue	Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi
Organisers	Renal Care Foundation, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital and NOTTO
Nodal body	National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
World record	570 transplant recipients and donors holding Tadasana together
Record certified by	World Book of Records, New Delhi

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-organ-transplant-games-2026-opened-at-talkatora-stadium/

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President's Colour Conferred on Chandigarh Police on Diamond Jubilee

1 November 2026 · Awards & Honours

Union Home Minister Amit Shah handed the President's Colour to the Chandigarh Police at its Diamond Jubilee and inducted 141 new vehicles into the force.

- The President's Colour was conferred on the Chandigarh Police at its Diamond Jubilee on 1 November 2026, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah as chief guest.
- Chandigarh was made a Union Territory and the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana on 1 November 1966, and the force has policed the tri-city area since then.
- A force qualifies for the President's Colour only after more than fifteen years of service, judged on the discipline and dedication of its personnel.
- Chandigarh reports an 85 per cent conviction rate and an average of 140 days to convict, with online charge sheets in 7,590 of the 8,206 FIRs since 4 August 2024.
- 141 new vehicles joined the fleet on the day, and the force has won 145 medals at the All India Police Duty Meet, among them 35 gold.

Honour	President's Colour
Force	Chandigarh Police, on its Diamond Jubilee
Date	1 November 2026
Chief guest	Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation
Also present	Gulab Chand Kataria, Governor of Punjab and Administrator of Chandigarh
Eligibility	More than fifteen years of service by the force
Chandigarh made a Union Territory	1 November 1966, as joint capital of Punjab and Haryana
Conviction rate	85 per cent, with an average of 140 days to conviction

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/presidents-colour-conferred-on-chandigarh-police-on-diamond-jubilee/

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EPFO Marks 74th Foundation Day With WhatsApp Service Launch

1 November 2026 · Government Schemes

EPFO marked its 74th Foundation Day in New Delhi, where Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launched PF services on WhatsApp and automatic settlement of dues.

- The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation observed its 74th Foundation Day on 1 November 2026 at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.
- Union Labour and Employment Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, who chairs the Central Board of Trustees of the EPF, presided and launched the new services.
- EPFO services on WhatsApp let subscribers check their PF balance, last five transactions and passbook through the verified service.
- Aadhaar-verified inoperative accounts with balances up to Rs 1,000 will be settled automatically, helping about one lakh accounts holding some Rs 5 crore.
- EPFO holds a corpus of nearly Rs 32 lakh crore for over 8 crore members and 85 lakh pensioners, and settled claims in 2.57 days on average in October 2026.

Occasion	74th Foundation Day of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation
Date and venue	1 November 2026, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi
Presided by	Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Labour and Employment, Chairman of the Central Board of Trustees (EPF)
Central Provident Fund Commissioner	Ramesh Krishnamurthi
Ministry Secretary	Chandra Bhushan Kumar
First launch	EPFO services through WhatsApp: balance, last five transactions, passbook and PMVBRY help
Second launch	Automatic settlement of Aadhaar-verified inoperative accounts with balances up to Rs 1,000
Expected beneficiaries	About one lakh accounts holding roughly Rs 5 crore

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/epfo-marks-74th-foundation-day-with-whatsapp-service-launch/

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Dinesh V. Ganvir Takes Charge as 55th Director General of GSI

1 November 2026 · Appointments

Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir has taken charge as the 55th Director General of the Geological Survey of India, an attached office of the Ministry of Mines.

- Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir has assumed charge as the 55th Director General of the Geological Survey of India, an attached office of the Ministry of Mines.
- He joined GSI on 1 July 1994 after a master’s degree in geology from RTMNU University, Nagpur, and has served more than 32 years.
- He was earlier Additional Director General and Head of Department of the Central Region at Nagpur, with additional charge as National Mission Head-II.
- As National Mission Head-II he oversaw the handover of 359 Geological Reports and 377 Geological Memorandums and a five-fold rise in critical mineral investigation.
- His stated priorities are critical and strategic minerals, auction-ready blocks, mineral security, lower import dependence and offshore exploration.

Appointment	55th Director General, Geological Survey of India
Person	Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir
Parent ministry	Ministry of Mines, which GSI serves as an attached office
Joined GSI	1 July 1994
Education	Master's degree in geology, RTMNU University, Nagpur
Experience	More than 32 years, across the Central, North-Eastern and Northern Regions
Previous post	Additional Director General and Head of Department, Central Region, Nagpur; National Mission Head-II
Field work	Thematic mapping in the Western Bastar Craton; gold and diamond exploration in the Sakoli Fold Belt, Maharashtra

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/dinesh-v-ganvir-takes-charge-as-55th-director-general-of-gsi/

GK24.in

Coal India Turns 51 With Record 67.2 MT Output in October

1 November 2026 · Economy

Coal India marked its 51st Foundation Day on 1 November 2026 after posting its best-ever month, producing 67.2 MT of coal and supplying 70.3 MT in October.

- Coal India Limited, under the Ministry of Coal, completed 51 years on 1 November 2026 and has entered its 52nd year
- October 2026 brought its highest-ever output of 67.2 MT, beating 62.47 MT of October 2024
- Total despatch reached a peak of 70.3 MT and despatch to power stations a peak of 57.1 MT, each up 19 per cent year on year
- Daily rake loading for power plants averaged 310 rakes, ahead of the earlier best of 302.8 rakes a day in March 2025
- Set up on 1 November 1975 with 79 MT in year one, the miner produced 768 MT in 2025-26 and has a target of 815 MT for 2026-27

Company	Coal India Limited (CIL), Ministry of Coal
Occasion	51st Foundation Day, 1 November 2026
Set up on	1 November 1975
Record output, October 2026	67.2 MT (earlier best 62.47 MT, October 2024)
Record total despatch	70.3 MT (earlier best 69.4 MT, March 2026)
Record despatch to power	57.1 MT (earlier best 56.5 MT, May 2024)
Daily rake loading	310 rakes for the power sector, an all-time high
Growth	19 per cent year on year on output and despatch

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/coal-india-turns-51-with-record-672-mt-output-in-october/

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Bharat RE Summit 2026 to Open at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

1 November 2026 · Summits & Conferences

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will open the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit and Expo 2026 at Bharat Mandapam on 2 November, on the theme Invest. Innovate. Inspire.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit and Expo 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 2 November
- The four-day summit runs from 2 to 5 November 2026 on the theme 'Invest. Innovate. Inspire.'
- Over 130 countries and more than 40 Ministers are expected; nine Country Partners are Australia, Denmark, the European Union, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom
- Thirteen States and Union Territories will showcase their renewable energy potential and investment openings
- It is held alongside the 9th Session of the International Solar Alliance Assembly and the 4th International Conference on Green Hydrogen, with an Expo of over 400 exhibitors

Event	Bharat Renewable Energy Summit and Expo 2026 (Bharat RE 2026)
Inaugurated by	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Dates	2 to 5 November 2026, a four-day summit
Venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Theme	'Invest. Innovate. Inspire.'
Participation	Over 130 countries and more than 40 Ministers
Country Partners	Nine: Australia, Denmark, European Union, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom
States and UTs	Thirteen, including Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Odisha and West Bengal

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bharat-re-summit-2026-to-open-at-bharat-mandapam-new-delhi/

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Digi Yatra Begins International Trials at Seven Airports

1 November 2026 · Science & Technology

Digi Yatra has begun trials for international passengers at seven airports from November to December 2026, for Indian nationals holding e-passports.

- Digi Yatra has begun trials for international passengers at seven airports, running from November to December 2026
- The seven airports are Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Cochin, Mumbai, Chennai and Amritsar
- Eligible travellers are Indian nationals with e-passports flying on select international flights of Air India and IndiGo
- A passenger creates an e-passport based Verifiable Credential on the Digi Yatra app by scanning the MRZ, reading the chip over NFC and taking a selfie
- Digi Yatra has over 26.5 million users and more than 110 million journeys across 39 domestic airports, with 25 more airports planned by 2027

Facility	Digi Yatra, Ministry of Civil Aviation
What is new	First trials for international passengers
Trial period	November to December 2026
Airports	Seven - Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Cochin, Mumbai, Chennai, Amritsar
Who is eligible	Indian nationals holding e-passports on select international flights of Air India and IndiGo
Touchpoints	Terminal entry, Security Hold Area (SHA) and boarding gate
Credential	e-passport based Verifiable Credential (VC) created on the Digi Yatra app
Technology used	Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) scan and Near Field Communication (NFC) chip reading

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/digi-yatra-begins-international-trials-at-seven-airports/

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Kiren Rijiju Attends Raising of 108 Stupas in Bhutan

1 November 2026 · International

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju represented India at the raising and consecration of 108 stupas in Gelephu Mindfulness City, Bhutan, on 1 November 2026.

- Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju represented India at the raising and consecration of 108 stupas at Gelephu Mindfulness City, Bhutan, on 1 November 2026
- The ceremony was led by the King of Bhutan, whose own idea the project was
- Thousands of volunteers raised all 108 stupas in a single day, each 15 metres tall and 108 metres apart along an 11.7 km stretch beside the Aie (Mau) river near the Assam border
- Stupa No. 76 has been dedicated by the King to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his support to the project
- Rijiju visited Bhutan from 31 October to 2 November 2026 and met King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck and Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay

Event	Raising and consecration of 108 stupas, 1 November 2026
India represented by	Kiren Rijiju, Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs
Place	Gelephu Mindfulness City, Bhutan, near the border with Assam
Ceremony led by	The King of Bhutan, who conceived the project
Height of each stupa	15 metres
Spacing	108 metres apart
Stretch	11.7 kilometres along the Aie (Mau) river
Built in	A single day, by thousands of volunteers

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/kiren-rijiju-attends-raising-of-108-stupas-in-bhutan/

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President Murmu Attends Haryana Hirak Jayanti at Kurukshetra

1 November 2026 · State News

President Droupadi Murmu joined the 'Hirak Jayanti' celebration marking the 60th year of the formation of Haryana at Kurukshetra on 1 November 2026.

- President Droupadi Murmu attended the 'Hirak Jayanti' celebration on the 60th year of the formation of Haryana, at Kurukshetra on 1 November 2026
- She said people from Haryana have contributed in fields ranging from the freedom struggle to social change, democracy, literature and science
- She recalled that the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign was launched from Panipat in January 2015
- The President was happy that the sex ratio at birth in 2025 had risen compared with 2014, and said it should reach parity
- She praised the daughters of Haryana for their achievements at international championships and recalled that the State gave the world the message of the Gita

Occasion	'Hirak Jayanti' (diamond jubilee) celebration, 60th year of the formation of Haryana
Date	1 November 2026
Venue	Kurukshetra, Haryana
Attended by	President Droupadi Murmu
Campaign recalled	'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao'
Launched from	Panipat, in January 2015
Sex ratio at birth	Higher in 2025 than in 2014
Fields of contribution cited	Freedom struggle, social change, democracy, literature and science

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/president-murmu-attends-haryana-hirak-jayanti-at-kurukshetra/

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PAC Chairpersons Conference to Open in Thiruvananthapuram

1 November 2026 · National

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will open the Conference of Chairpersons of Public Accounts Committees at Thiruvananthapuram on 3 November 2026, on audit and accountability.

- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will inaugurate the Conference of Chairpersons of Public Accounts Committees at Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday, 3 November 2026
- The theme is 'Audit, Accountability and Good Governance - The Evolving Role of the PAC'
- The two-day conference ends on Wednesday, 4 November 2026, with a valedictory session addressed by the Speaker
- K. C. Venugopal, Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament, will deliver the welcome address at the inaugural session
- Keralam Chief Minister V. D. Satheesan, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh and Assembly Speaker Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan will grace the opening

Event	Conference of Chairpersons of Public Accounts Committees of Parliament and State/UT Legislatures
Inaugurated by	Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla
Date of inauguration	Tuesday, 3 November 2026
Venue	Thiruvananthapuram, Keralam
Theme	'Audit, Accountability and Good Governance - The Evolving Role of the PAC'
Duration	Two days, concluding on Wednesday, 4 November 2026
Chairperson, PAC of Parliament	K. C. Venugopal, who will deliver the welcome address
Chief Minister of Keralam	V. D. Satheesan

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/pac-chairpersons-conference-to-open-in-thiruvananthapuram/

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Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit Becomes 29th IAF Chief

1 November 2026 · Defence

Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit took over as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff on 1 November 2026 and set out 'VAYU' as the Air Force's guiding vision.

- Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit took charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force on 1 November 2026
- He paid homage at the National War Memorial and received a ceremonial Guard of Honour at Air Force Station New Delhi
- He unveiled 'VAYU' as his guiding vision: Vigilance, Victory and Readiness; Aatmanirbharta; Yukti; and Unity of Effort
- An Experimental Test Pilot and Qualified Flying Instructor, he has over 3,500 hours of flying experience
- He has earlier served as CISC at HQ IDS, AOC-in-C of Central Air Command and Vice Chief of the Air Staff

Who	Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, PVSM AVSM VM VSM
Appointment	29th Chief of the Air Staff, Indian Air Force
Date of taking over	1 November 2026
First acts of the day	Homage at the National War Memorial; Guard of Honour at Air Force Station New Delhi
Vision announced	'VAYU' - Vigilance, Victory and Readiness; Aatmanirbharta; Yukti; Unity of Effort
JAI stands for	Jointness, Aatmanirbharta and Innovation
Flying experience	More than 3,500 hours; Experimental Test Pilot and Qualified Flying Instructor
Earlier posts	CISC at HQ IDS, AOC-in-C Central Air Command, Vice Chief of the Air Staff

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/air-chief-marshal-ashutosh-dixit-becomes-29th-iaf-chief/

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Bengaluru-Mumbai Vande Bharat Sleeper Express Flagged Off

1 November 2026 · National

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw flagged off the SMVT Bengaluru-CSMT Mumbai Vande Bharat Sleeper Express on 1 November 2026, running six days a week.

- Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw flagged off the SMVT Bengaluru-CSMT Mumbai Vande Bharat Sleeper Express on 1 November 2026
- The train leaves Bengaluru at 19:45 and reaches Mumbai at 11:55 the next day; from Mumbai it leaves at 20:10 and reaches Bengaluru at 12:00
- It runs six days a week and halts at Anantapur, Guntakal, Raichur, Yadgir, Wadi, Kalaburagi, Solapur, Pune and Kalyan
- Vande Bharat Sleeper services started on the Howrah-Guwahati route in January 2026; the Varanasi-New Delhi sleeper was flagged off a day earlier
- Railway works worth about Rs 52,000 crore are under way in Karnataka, and accidents fell from 135 to 16 after Kavach was rolled out

Train	SMVT Bengaluru - CSMT Mumbai Vande Bharat Sleeper Express
Flagged off by	Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw
Date	1 November 2026
Also present	Pralhad Joshi, H. D. Kumaraswamy, V. Somanna, Shobha Karandlaje
Timings	Leaves Bengaluru 19:45, reaches Mumbai 11:55; leaves Mumbai 20:10, reaches Bengaluru 12:00
Frequency	Six days a week; no Monday service from Bengaluru, no Tuesday service from Mumbai
States covered	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra
First sleeper route	Howrah-Guwahati, January 2026

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/bengaluru-mumbai-vande-bharat-sleeper-express-flagged-off/

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Mehtab Singh Deswal Takes Over as Eastern Air Command Chief

1 November 2026 · Appointments

Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal took over as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Indian Air Force's Eastern Air Command on 1 November 2026.

- Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal, AVSM VM, assumed charge as AOC-in-C of Eastern Air Command on 1 November 2026
- He was commissioned as a fighter pilot in the flying branch of the Indian Air Force on 14 June 1989
- He has over 3,200 hours of flying on various fighter aircraft and is a qualified Pilot Attack Instructor
- He is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy and the National Defence College and served as Air Attache in Pakistan
- Before this appointment he was Senior Air Staff Officer at Headquarters South Western Air Command

Who	Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal, AVSM VM
Appointment	Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Air Command, Indian Air Force
Date	1 November 2026
Commissioned	14 June 1989, flying branch, as a fighter pilot
Flying experience	Over 3,200 hours on several fighter aircraft
Qualification	Pilot Attack Instructor; specialist in strike and air defence roles
Alma mater	National Defence Academy and National Defence College
Previous post	Senior Air Staff Officer, Headquarters South Western Air Command

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/mehtab-singh-deswal-takes-over-as-eastern-air-command-chief/

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Amit Shah Opens Chandigarh Projects Worth Rs 258 Crore

1 November 2026 · State News

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated and laid foundation stones for projects worth Rs 258 crore of the Chandigarh Administration on 1 November 2026.

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated and laid foundation stones for Chandigarh Administration projects worth Rs 258 crore on 1 November 2026
- The works cover education, healthcare, justice, administration, research and innovation
- A City-UT Bus Depot built at a cost of Rs 68 crore was inaugurated, along with Type-3 quarters for police personnel also costing Rs 68 crore
- Punjab Governor and Chandigarh Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria was present at the ceremony
- Chandigarh, Haryana and the Chandigarh Police all came into being on the same day in 1966, completing 60 years in 2026

Who	Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah
Where	Chandigarh
Date	1 November 2026
Value of projects	Rs 258 crore, inaugurated and foundation stones laid
Sectors	Education, healthcare, justice, administration, research and innovation
City-UT Bus Depot	Rs 68 crore
Police quarters	Type-3 residential quarters at Rs 68 crore
Administrator of Chandigarh	Gulab Chand Kataria, Governor of Punjab

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/amit-shah-opens-chandigarh-projects-worth-rs-258-crore/

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President Attends Swami Shraddhanand Martyrdom Centenary

1 November 2026 · Persons in News

President Droupadi Murmu attended the Balidan Shatabdi Samaroh marking 100 years of Swami Shraddhanand's martyrdom at Gurukul, Kurukshetra on 1 November 2026.

- President Droupadi Murmu attended the Balidan Shatabdi Samaroh of Swami Shraddhanand at Gurukul, Kurukshetra, Haryana on 1 November 2026
- The event marked the 100th year of his martyrdom and the President paid tribute to him
- His life moved from Munshiram to Mahatma Munshiram and then to Swami Shraddhanand, dedicated to the Vedas and social upliftment
- He spoke from the platform of the Jama Masjid in Delhi on mutual goodwill and national unity, and opposed untouchability
- He revived the Gurukul system, continuing the cause of Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati, founder of the Arya Samaj

Who attended	President of India Droupadi Murmu
Occasion	Balidan Shatabdi Samaroh of Swami Shraddhanand, 100th year of martyrdom
Venue	Gurukul, Kurukshetra, Haryana
Date	1 November 2026
Earlier names	Munshiram and then Mahatma Munshiram
Known for	Service of the Vedas, reviving the Gurukul system, opposing untouchability
Notable address	From the platform of the Jama Masjid, Delhi, on goodwill and national unity
Arya Samaj founder	Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/president-attends-swami-shraddhanand-martyrdom-centenary/

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National Zoological Park Marks 67th Foundation Day

1 November 2026 · Environment

The National Zoological Park, New Delhi marked its 67th Foundation Day on 1 November 2026 with a doodle activity and the 19th Sunday Bird Walk.

- The National Zoological Park, New Delhi marked its 67th Foundation Day on 1 November 2026 with a doodle activity for visitors
- About 1,500 visitors appreciated or took part in the activity, which was aimed especially at children and families
- The 19th edition of 'Sunday Bird Walk @ NZP' was held from 7:30 AM to 10:30 AM under ornithologist Dr. Paritosh Ahmed
- The 18 participants recorded 46 bird species and observed more than 500 individual birds
- Each bird walk is limited to 20 to 25 participants, with registration open from Monday to Friday on the website and the NZP Saathi app

Institution	National Zoological Park (NZP), New Delhi
Occasion	67th Foundation Day
Date	1 November 2026
Ministry	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Director	Dr. Sanjeet Kumar
Visitors in doodle activity	About 1,500
Bird walk	19th edition of 'Sunday Bird Walk @ NZP', 7:30 AM to 10:30 AM
Expert guide	Dr. Paritosh Ahmed, ornithologist

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/national-zoological-park-marks-67th-foundation-day/

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Gadkari Performs Bhoomipujan of Sindi Railway Logistics Park

1 November 2026 · National

Nitin Gadkari performed the bhoomipujan of the 150-acre Multi-Modal Logistics Park at Sindi Railway in Vidarbha on 1 November 2026 to lift exports.

- Nitin Gadkari performed the bhoomipujan of the Multi-Modal Logistics Park at Sindi Railway on 1 November 2026
- It is being developed by National Highways Logistics Management Limited, a special purpose vehicle of NHAI, along with the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority
- The park spreads over 150 acres near Sindi Railway station, on the Nagpur-Wardha district border
- Cotton, cotton lint, yarn, oranges and vegetables from Vidarbha will be exported through JNPA, and goods for Bangladesh will go via Haldia in Kolkata
- Freight per container is expected to fall from Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 1 lakh, and a customs office will come up at Sindi Railway

Project	Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP), Sindi Railway
Bhoomipujan performed by	Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari
Date	1 November 2026
Location	Sindi Railway, on the Nagpur-Wardha district border
Developers	National Highways Logistics Management Limited (an SPV of NHAI) with the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, through AMARA TRANZ Solution
Area	150 acres near Sindi Railway railway station
Goods to be exported	Cotton, cotton lint, yarn, textiles, oranges and vegetables of Vidarbha
Freight per container	Expected to drop from Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 1 lakh

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/gadkari-performs-bhoomipujan-of-sindi-railway-logistics-park/

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Khadi Diwali Fest-2026 Opens at Connaught Place in Delhi

1 November 2026 · Economy

KVIC Chairman Manoj Goel inaugurated the Khadi Diwali Fest-2026 at Palika Park, Connaught Place, New Delhi, on the theme 'Khadi-wali Diwali'.

- KVIC organised the 'Khadi Diwali Fest-2026' at NDMC Palika Park, Connaught Place, New Delhi, on the theme 'Khadi-wali Diwali'
- KVIC Chairman Manoj Goel inaugurated the fest as chief guest and also held a media interaction and a 'Diwali Milan'
- The fest, which began on 31 October, offers 20 per cent off on Khadi products and 10 per cent off on village industry products
- The sector's turnover crossed Rs 1.87 lakh crore in 2025-26 and it employs over 2.04 crore people; the target is Rs 2.51 lakh crore
- KVIC has launched a podcast named 'Baat Khadi Ki' to connect Gen-Z with Khadi, Vocal for Local and Viksit Bharat @ 2047

Event	'Khadi Diwali Fest-2026'
Theme	'Khadi-wali Diwali'
Organiser	Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)
Inaugurated by	KVIC Chairman Manoj Goel, as chief guest
Venue	NDMC Palika Park, Connaught Place, New Delhi, opposite Regal Cinema
Began on	31 October
Discounts	20 per cent on Khadi products, 10 per cent on village industry products
Sector turnover	Above Rs 1.87 lakh crore in the financial year 2025-26

Read online: gk24.in/current-affairs/khadi-diwali-fest-2026-opens-at-connaught-place-in-delhi/

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Practice MCQs

Answers and short explanations follow the questions.

1. Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, congratulated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, was re-elected President of which country?

(A) Argentina
(B) Brazil
(C) Chile
(D) Peru

2. How did the Prime Minister describe the India-Brazil relationship in his congratulatory message?

(A) A Comprehensive Economic Partnership
(B) A multifaceted Strategic Partnership
(C) A Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership
(D) A Civil Nuclear Partnership

3. In the message, whose shared priorities did the Prime Minister say India and Brazil would advance together?

(A) The G7
(B) The Global South
(C) The Commonwealth
(D) The European Union

4. Which body is organising the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC 2026)?

(A) Indian Council of Medical Research
(B) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
(C) Indian Space Research Organisation
(D) Department of Atomic Energy

5. Who was the Chief Guest at the ESTIC 2026 curtain raiser hosted by ICGEB New Delhi?

(A) Dr. Rajesh S. Gokhale, Secretary, DBT
(B) Dr. Ramesh V. Sonti, Director, ICGEB New Delhi
(C) Prof. Gobardhan Das, Member, NITI Aayog
(D) Dr. Dhananjay Kumar Tiwary, MD, BIRAC

6. How many thematic areas does ESTIC 2026 cover?

(A) 8
(B) 10
(C) 12
(D) 15

7. How many artificial recharge and storage structures have been constructed under the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative?

(A) Over 55 lakh
(B) Over 1.55 crore
(C) Over 2.43 crore
(D) Over 3.55 crore

8. Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain was launched on 22 March 2021, which is observed as which day?

(A) World Environment Day
(B) World Water Day
(C) World Wetlands Day
(D) World Earth Day

9. What do the 3Cs of the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative stand for?

(A) Community, CSR and Cost
(B) Catchment, Conservation and Convergence
(C) Citizen, Credit and Capacity
(D) Canal, Check dam and Culvert

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10. How much has the Union Budget 2026-27 allocated for AVGC Content Creator Labs?

(A) Rs 150 crore
(B) Rs 250 crore
(C) Rs 500 crore
(D) Rs 1,000 crore

11. Which of these is NOT one of the three forms of Extended Reality (XR)?

(A) Virtual Reality
(B) Augmented Reality
(C) Haptic Reality
(D) Mixed Reality

12. Which ministry constituted the AVGC Promotion Task Force in April 2022?

(A) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
(B) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
(C) Ministry of Communications
(D) Ministry of Culture

13. Which edition of the BRICS Parliamentary Forum is being held under India's BRICS Chairship?

(A) 10th
(B) 11th
(C) 12th
(D) 14th

14. Which of the following is NOT among the subjects the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum will discuss?

(A) Institutional resilience
(B) AI governance
(C) A common monetary union
(D) South-South cooperation

15. Which office does Shri Om Birla, who wrote on the role of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum, hold?

(A) Speaker of the Lok Sabha
(B) Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha
(C) Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
(D) Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha

16. How much support has the Technology Development Board sanctioned to Manastu Space Technologies under the RDI Fund?

(A) Rs 96 crore
(B) Rs 116 crore
(C) Rs 277.63 crore
(D) Rs 350 crore

17. The green propulsion system being developed by Manastu Space is built around which propellant?

(A) Hydrazine
(B) Liquid hydrogen
(C) Hydrogen peroxide with additives
(D) Kerosene with liquid oxygen

18. The project aims to advance the propulsion technology to which Technology Readiness Level?

(A) TRL 6
(B) TRL 7
(C) TRL 8
(D) TRL 9

19. Component II of the RELIEF initiative has been extended until which date?

(A) 31 December 2026
(B) 31 March 2027
(C) 30 September 2027
(D) 31 March 2028

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20. What percentage of risk coverage is offered under Component II of RELIEF?

(A) 75 per cent
(B) 80 per cent
(C) 90 per cent
(D) 95 per cent

21. Which of the following cargo categories is NOT covered under the RELIEF initiative?

(A) Full Container Load
(B) Less than Container Load
(C) Refrigerated or reefer containers
(D) Energy shipments

22. The 13th ADMM-Plus is being hosted by which country?

(A) Vietnam
(B) Indonesia
(C) Philippines
(D) Singapore

23. In which year did India become a dialogue partner of ASEAN?

(A) 1992
(B) 1995
(C) 2002
(D) 2010

24. India co-chairs the ADMM-Plus Experts Working Group on Counter-Terrorism along with which country?

(A) Thailand
(B) Malaysia
(C) Australia
(D) Japan

25. What is the theme of Mechanisation Technology Seminar 2.0 announced by Western Command?

(A) CHAKRA, Transforming Existing Platforms for Future Combat
(B) VAJRA, Mechanised Forces for a New Era
(C) PRALAY, Indigenous Armour for Tomorrow
(D) SHAKTI, Self-Reliance in Defence Manufacturing

26. Where will Mechanisation Technology Seminar 2.0 be held?

(A) Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
(B) Chandimandir Military Station
(C) Jhansi Military Station
(D) Pune Military Station

27. Which organisation is collaborating with Western Command for MTS 2.0?

(A) DRDO
(B) FICCI
(C) Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers
(D) Ordnance Factory Board

28. Which edition of the National Summit on Facilitating School-to-Work Transition is being organised by CBSE?

(A) Second
(B) Third
(C) Fourth
(D) Fifth

29. Recognition of skills across education systems, named as a priority at the summit, is to be achieved through which framework?

(A) National Skills Qualification Framework
(B) National Credit Framework
(C) National Curriculum Framework
(D) National Higher Education Qualification Framework

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30. Who is the Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy who addressed the summit?

(A) Dr. Mandeep Bhandari
(B) Shri T. K. Anil Kumar
(C) Shri Sanjay Kumar
(D) Shri Vineet Joshi

31. Who will deliver the 67th Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture?

(A) Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya
(B) Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan
(C) Dr. S. Jaishankar
(D) Shri Ajit Doval

32. The Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture series has been organised by Akashvani since which year?

(A) 1950
(B) 1955
(C) 1960
(D) 1975

33. Who delivered the inaugural lecture of the Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture series?

(A) Dr. Zakir Hussain
(B) Shri Morarji Desai
(C) Shri C. Rajagopalachari
(D) Dr. M. S. Swaminathan

34. Who chairs the Defence Acquisition Council, which cleared capital acquisition proposals worth about Rs 2.12 lakh crore on 26 October 2026?

(A) The Chief of Defence Staff
(B) The Defence Secretary
(C) The Raksha Mantri
(D) The National Security Adviser

35. The Active Offboard Decoy System (AODS), cleared along with other platforms in this round of approvals, is meant for which Service?

(A) The Indian Army
(B) The Indian Navy
(C) The Indian Air Force
(D) The Indian Coast Guard

36. Approximately what proportion of the procurement cleared in this meeting is to be sourced from Indian industry?

(A) About 52 per cent
(B) About 68 per cent
(C) About 82 per cent
(D) About 95 per cent

37. Which committee, chaired by the Cabinet Secretary, met on 26 October 2026 to review preparedness for the cyclone building over the Bay of Bengal?

(A) The National Disaster Management Authority
(B) The National Crisis Management Committee
(C) The National Executive Committee
(D) The Cabinet Committee on Security

38. Cyclonic storm Arnab was forecast to cross the coast between which two places?

(A) Puri and Paradip
(B) Bapatla and Visakhapatnam
(C) Chennai and Nellore
(D) Kakinada and Machilipatnam

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39. At landfall, what intensity and wind speed were forecast for cyclonic storm Arnab?

(A) Severe cyclonic storm, 90-100 kmph gusting to 110 kmph

(B) Very severe cyclonic storm, 115-125 kmph gusting to 140 kmph

(C) Extremely severe cyclonic storm, 170-180 kmph gusting to 200 kmph

(D) Cyclonic storm, 65-75 kmph gusting to 85 kmph

40. According to MoSPI's Flash Report for September 2026, how many ongoing central sector infrastructure projects are being monitored and at what cost?

(A) 1,853 projects worth Rs 37.56 lakh crore

(B) 1,320 projects worth Rs 20.07 lakh crore

(C) 780 projects worth Rs 17.73 lakh crore

(D) 1,073 projects worth Rs 11.04 lakh crore

41. Which Ministry accounts for the largest number of projects in the September 2026 Flash Report?

(A) Ministry of Railways

(B) Ministry of Power

(C) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

(D) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

42. In the Flash Report, which sector category records the highest ratio of cumulative expenditure to project cost?

(A) Energy

(B) Transport and Logistics

(C) Water and Sanitation

(D) Social and Commercial Infrastructure

43. In TRAI's recommendations released on 26 October 2026, what does the abbreviation ALTD stand for?

(A) Advanced Linear Television Dissemination

(B) Application-based Linear Television Distribution

(C) Audience Linked Television Data

(D) Addressable Local Television Delivery

44. Under which law has TRAI recommended that ALTD Service be made a distinct sub-category of Television Channel Distribution Services?

(A) The TRAI Act, 1997

(B) The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995

(C) The Telecommunications Act, 2023

(D) The Information Technology Act, 2000

45. What initial validity and entry fee has TRAI recommended for an ALTD authorisation?

(A) 10 years validity with a Rs 10 lakh entry fee

(B) 20 years validity with a Rs 1 lakh one-time entry fee

(C) 15 years validity with a Rs 5 lakh entry fee

(D) Perpetual validity with no fee at all

46. How many product catalogue listings does The AABHAR Collection on the Government e-Marketplace carry?

(A) 194 listings from 8 emporiums

(B) 294 listings from 10 emporiums

(C) 394 listings from 12 emporiums

(D) 494 listings from 15 emporiums

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47. Mrignayani and Poompuhar, two of the emporiums listed on the storefront, belong to which States respectively?

(A) Maharashtra and Karnataka
(B) Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu
(C) Gujarat and Kerala
(D) Jharkhand and Odisha

48. The products of The AABHAR Collection are drawn mainly from which two identification systems for distinctive regional goods?

(A) One District, One Product and Geographical Indication tags
(B) Agmark and Hallmark certification
(C) Startup India and Stand Up India registration
(D) Udyam registration and ISI marking

49. The first National SARAS Mela to be held outside Delhi-NCR is taking place at which venue?

(A) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
(B) Punnami Ghat, Vijayawada
(C) Marina Beach, Chennai
(D) Sabarmati Riverfront, Ahmedabad

50. Who is defined as a Lakhpati Didi?

(A) A woman who has taken a bank loan of at least Rs 1 lakh
(B) A woman of an SHG household with a sustainable annual household income of at least Rs 1 lakh
(C) A woman who has saved Rs 1 lakh in a self-help group account
(D) A woman whose enterprise has an annual turnover above Rs 1 crore

51. Which three bodies are named as supporting the National SARAS Mela 2026 along with the Andhra Pradesh government?

(A) SIDBI, NIFT and Khadi and Village Industries Commission
(B) NABARD, NIRDPR and Kudumbashree
(C) NITI Aayog, NSDC and SEWA
(D) RBI, NABARD and TRIFED

52. Special Campaign 6.0 for Swachhata and disposal of pending matters is being held during which period in 2026?

(A) 15 August to 15 September
(B) 2 October to 31 October
(C) 1 November to 30 November
(D) 2 September to 2 October

53. How much revenue did central public sector undertakings under the Ministry of Coal earn from scrap disposal under Special Campaign 6.0?

(A) About Rs 9.79 crore
(B) About Rs 24.22 crore
(C) About Rs 53.94 crore
(D) About Rs 65.66 crore

54. What area did Coal Ministry undertakings clean under Special Campaign 6.0, against a target of 101.80 lakh square feet?

(A) 88,171 square feet
(B) 130.16 lakh square feet
(C) 24,222 square feet
(D) 98.50 lakh square feet

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55. In which city did Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal attend the ministerial roundtable held on World Maritime Day?

(A) Seoul
(B) Busan
(C) Incheon
(D) Tokyo

56. Who is the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) who shared the World Maritime Day roundtable platform with Sarbananda Sonowal?

(A) Kitack Lim
(B) Arsenio Dominguez
(C) Moon Seong-hyeok
(D) Nam Jaeheon

57. The Korea Marine Equipment Association (KOMEA) is opening its first India office in which city?

(A) Chennai
(B) Kochi
(C) Mumbai
(D) Visakhapatnam

58. Which Service organises the SWAVLAMBAN seminar, whose fifth edition was held in New Delhi in October 2026?

(A) The Indian Army
(B) The Indian Air Force
(C) The Indian Navy
(D) The Indian Coast Guard

59. How many challenges issued by the Indian Navy under iDEX have drawn more than 4,000 proposals from start-ups and MSMEs?

(A) 129
(B) 229
(C) 329
(D) 429

60. Which roadmap did the Raksha Mantri ask for, to identify technologies serving both civil and military requirements?

(A) Positive Indigenisation Roadmap
(B) Dual Technology Roadmap
(C) Joint Capability Roadmap
(D) Strategic Supply Chain Roadmap

61. The new express train flagged off on 26 October 2026 runs between Jaipur (Khatipura), Tatanagar and which other station?

(A) Howrah
(B) Santragachi
(C) Kharagpur
(D) Jalpaiguri Road

62. How many stations in Jharkhand are being redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme?

(A) 47
(B) 52
(C) 57
(D) 67

63. According to the West Bengal Chief Minister, what is the state's railway budget allocation for 2026-27?

(A) Rs 4,380 crore
(B) Rs 7,500 crore
(C) Rs 14,205 crore
(D) Rs 75,000 crore

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64. How many service providers is the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to train in de-addiction services by March 2029?

(A) 5,000
(B) 10,000
(C) 20,000
(D) 50,000

65. Which institution will coordinate the capacity building programme for professionals in drug de-addiction services?

(A) NIMHANS, Bengaluru
(B) PGIMER, Chandigarh
(C) NDDTC, AIIMS, New Delhi
(D) Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi

66. Who unveiled the Vision Document on Narcotic Control: 2026-2029, under which this training mandate was given?

(A) The Union Health Minister
(B) The Union Home Minister
(C) The Union Social Justice Minister
(D) The Union Education Minister

67. Which rules has the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways amended to support E85 and E100 flex fuel vehicles?

(A) The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988
(B) The Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989
(C) The Environment Protection Rules, 1986
(D) The Energy Conservation Rules, 2001

68. E85 fuel contains up to what share of ethanol by volume?

(A) 20 per cent
(B) 50 per cent
(C) 85 per cent
(D) 100 per cent

69. Which two countries were cited as already making wide use of flex fuel technology?

(A) Brazil and the United States
(B) Germany and Japan
(C) China and South Korea
(D) Australia and Canada

70. ASUSE 2027-28 is proposed to be conducted over which period?

(A) January 2027 to December 2027
(B) April 2027 to March 2028
(C) July 2027 to June 2028
(D) October 2027 to September 2028

71. Which information will the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises capture for the first time?

(A) Use of digital payment instruments
(B) Gender-specific constraints faced by women entrepreneurs
(C) District-level estimates by participating States
(D) Presence of establishments on e-commerce marketplaces

72. At whose request were two questions added to identify handloom, power-loom and handicraft establishments?

(A) The Ministry of Textiles
(B) The Ministry of MSME
(C) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry
(D) The Ministry of Rural Development

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73. INS Trishul arrived at the port of Civitavecchia in which country?

(A) Spain
(B) Italy
(C) Greece
(D) France

74. With which Italian Navy ship did INS Trishul carry out a Passage Exercise?

(A) Carlo Margottini
(B) Giuseppe Garibaldi
(C) Andrea Doria
(D) Francesco Morosini

75. In which sea was INS Trishul on operational deployment when it made the port call?

(A) The Red Sea
(B) The Black Sea
(C) The Mediterranean Sea
(D) The Baltic Sea

76. Which edition of the Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML) is India hosting in New Delhi in October 2026?

(A) 59th
(B) 60th
(C) 61st
(D) 62nd

77. The International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML) is the governing committee of which international organisation?

(A) International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML)
(B) International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
(C) World Trade Organization (WTO)
(D) International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

78. What was the theme of the international seminar held at the opening of the CIML meeting in New Delhi?

(A) Measures for a Viksit Bharat
(B) Evolutions in Legal Metrology
(C) Standards for Fair Trade
(D) Metrology in the Digital Age

79. What is the theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026?

(A) Probity for Prosperity
(B) Vigilance for Viksit Bharat
(C) Say No to Corruption, Commit to the Nation
(D) Integrity Begins at Home

80. Vigilance Awareness Week is observed every year in the week that covers the birth anniversary of which leader?

(A) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar
(B) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(C) Lal Bahadur Shastri
(D) Jawaharlal Nehru

81. Who administered the Integrity Pledge at the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare at the start of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026?

(A) Anupriya Patel
(B) Prataprao Jadhav
(C) J. P. Nadda
(D) Punya Salila Srivastava

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82. The Vice-President addressed the Ruby Jubilee celebrations of which university in October 2026?

(A) Andhra University, Visakhapatnam

(B) Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada

(C) Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences, Tirupati

(D) Osmania University, Hyderabad

83. According to the Vice-President, how many medical colleges does India have at present?

(A) 387

(B) 648

(C) 846

(D) 1,046

84. By what percentage have postgraduate medical seats increased, as stated by the Vice-President?

(A) 172 per cent

(B) 177 per cent

(C) 140 per cent

(D) 186 per cent

85. Shilp Samagam Mela is organised by which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Textiles

(B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

(C) Ministry of Rural Development

(D) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

86. What does BHARAT-TULIP, promoted at the Shilp Samagam Mela, stand for?

(A) Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme

(B) Tribal Udyog Livelihood Investment Programme

(C) Textile Upgradation and Local Industry Promotion

(D) Training for Urban Livelihoods and Industrial Production

87. Where was the first Shilp Samagam Mela of the financial year 2026-27 held?

(A) Guwahati, Assam

(B) Mysuru, Karnataka

(C) Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

(D) Bhubaneswar, Odisha

88. The 'Nasha Mukt Yuva, Viksit Bharat Quiz' has been launched by which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

(B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

(C) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

(D) Ministry of Home Affairs

89. When was the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan launched?

(A) 2 October 2019

(B) 15 August 2020

(C) 26 January 2021

(D) 15 August 2022

90. In how many vulnerable districts was the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan initially launched?

(A) 112

(B) 272

(C) 372

(D) 500

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91. Who chaired the 328th meeting of the Executive Council of the Indian Institute of Public Administration?

(A) The Cabinet Secretary
(B) Dr. Jitendra Singh
(C) The Vice-President of India
(D) Prof. K. Chockalingam

92. The Paul H. Appleby 2026 award of the IIPA has been announced for which category of recipients?

(A) Serving district collectors
(B) Retired IAS officers
(C) University vice-chancellors
(D) Research scholars of the institute

93. In the IIPA Executive Council's discussion, ONOS stands for:

(A) One Nation One Subscription
(B) Open National Online Scholarship
(C) One Nation One Standard
(D) Official National Online Service

94. The India-Netherlands Business Forum of October 2026 was co-chaired by Piyush Goyal and which Dutch minister?

(A) Heleen Herbert, Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate
(B) Sjoerd Sjoerdsma, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation
(C) Arthur van Dijk, King's Commissioner of North Holland
(D) The Dutch Minister of Finance

95. Approximately how many participants took part in the India-Netherlands Business Forum?

(A) 100
(B) 150
(C) 200
(D) 300

96. Arthur van Dijk, whom the Union Commerce Minister met in the Netherlands, holds which office?

(A) King's Commissioner of the Province of North Holland
(B) Mayor of Amsterdam
(C) Dutch Ambassador to India
(D) Chair of the Senate Committee on European Affairs

97. Which ministry is the nodal ministry for the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana?

(A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
(B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(C) Ministry of Rural Development
(D) Ministry of Women and Child Development

98. How much grant-in-aid was released under the Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens for the quarter ending 30 September 2026?

(A) Rs 55.40 crore
(B) Rs 77.98 crore
(C) Rs 98.70 crore
(D) Rs 120.50 crore

99. India's population of senior citizens is projected to reach what level by 2036?

(A) 15 crore
(B) 19 crore
(C) 23 crore
(D) 28 crore

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100. Which department recognises startups under the Startup India initiative?

(A) NITI Aayog

(B) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

(C) Department of Economic Affairs

(D) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

101. How much foreign direct investment did India receive between FY 2014-15 and FY 2025-26?

(A) USD 313 billion

(B) USD 500 billion

(C) USD 843 billion

(D) USD 1,020 billion

102. How many central labour laws have been consolidated into the four Labour Codes?

(A) Nineteen

(B) Twenty-four

(C) Twenty-nine

(D) Thirty-four

103. How much did Union Budget 2026-27 allocate to the CCUS scheme over five years?

(A) Rs 5,000 crore

(B) Rs 10,000 crore

(C) Rs 20,000 crore

(D) Rs 50,000 crore

104. Which institute hosts India first integrated CCUS Field Laboratory?

(A) IIT Delhi

(B) IIT Bombay

(C) IIT Madras

(D) IISc Bengaluru

105. ESTIC-2026, held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, is organised by which body?

(A) ISRO

(B) DRDO

(C) CSIR

(D) ICMR

106. What is the theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026?

(A) Probity for Prosperity

(B) Vigilance for Viksit Bharat

(C) Integrity and Transparency

(D) Say No to Corruption

107. Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 is being observed during which period?

(A) 16 to 22 October 2026

(B) 26 October to 1 November 2026

(C) 31 October to 6 November 2026

(D) 1 to 7 November 2026

108. Which of the following is NOT one of the focus areas of the preventive vigilance campaign advised by the Commission?

(A) Disposal of pending complaints

(B) Contract management

(C) Recruitment of vigilance officers

(D) Digital initiatives

109. The two industrial settlements of October 2026 involved which bank?

(A) Bihar Gramin Bank

(B) Dakshin Bihar Gramin Bank

(C) Bihar State Co-operative Bank

(D) Central Bank of India

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110. What is the approximate total financial benefit from the two Bihar Gramin Bank settlements?

(A) Rs 10.52 crore
(B) Rs 67.17 crore
(C) Rs 77.69 crore
(D) Rs 92.40 crore

111. Which officer conciliated the Bihar Gramin Bank disputes?

(A) The Banking Ombudsman, Patna
(B) The Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Patna
(C) The Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Bihar
(D) The Industrial Tribunal, Patna

112. Which dam forms part of the Ken-Betwa Link Project reviewed by the Jal Shakti Ministry?

(A) Daudhan Dam
(B) Gandhi Sagar Dam
(C) Bansagar Dam
(D) Rajghat Dam

113. Who is the Union Minister for Jal Shakti who chaired the review of water resources projects?

(A) Shri Raj Bhushan Choudhary
(B) Shri C. R. Patil
(C) Shri Bhupender Yadav
(D) Shri Piyush Goyal

114. How many pilot clusters under M-CADWM were reviewed at the meeting?

(A) 15
(B) 25
(C) 35
(D) 45

115. Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 has entered the Guinness World Records in which category?

(A) Largest science exhibition
(B) Largest Innovation Solution Competition
(C) Largest coding lesson
(D) Largest robotics fair

116. How many project submissions were recorded in the Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025?

(A) 1,87,967
(B) 2,87,967
(C) 3,87,967
(D) 87,967

117. Along with the Atal Innovation Mission and NITI Aayog, which body collaborated with the Department of School Education and Literacy for the Viksit Bharat Buildathon?

(A) University Grants Commission
(B) All-India Council for Technical Education
(C) National Council of Educational Research and Training
(D) Central Board of Secondary Education

118. CBD COP-17, where India delivered its National Statement, was held in which city?

(A) Baku, Azerbaijan
(B) Yerevan, Armenia
(C) Tbilisi, Georgia
(D) Cali, Colombia

119. India's updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan translates the global framework into how many National Biodiversity Targets?

(A) 17 targets
(B) 23 targets
(C) 30 targets
(D) 42 targets

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120. As stated by India at CBD COP-17, how many Ramsar sites does the country have?

(A) 57
(B) 75
(C) 103
(D) 112

121. The advisory on 'Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces' focuses on how many key areas for action?

(A) Five
(B) Six
(C) Eight
(D) Ten

122. As cited by the NHRC, what was the participation of women in the labour force in September 2026?

(A) 24.6 per cent
(B) 34.6 per cent
(C) 41.2 per cent
(D) 48.5 per cent

123. Within what period has the NHRC sought an Action Taken Report on its advisory?

(A) One month
(B) Two months
(C) Six months
(D) One year

124. Special Campaign 6 for cleanliness and disposal of pending matters is guided by 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

125. How many physical files did the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas review under Special Campaign 6?

(A) 712
(B) 3,593
(C) 5,593
(D) 6,006

126. The National Handloom Development Corporation, highlighted for its work under Special Campaign 6, works under which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Textiles
(B) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
(C) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
(D) Ministry of Rural Development

127. ICAR-MGIFRI, which held a farmer programme under Khet Bachao Abhiyan 2026, is located at which place?

(A) Motihari, Bihar
(B) Samastipur, Bihar
(C) Ranchi, Jharkhand
(D) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

128. The ICAR-MGIFRI programme under Khet Bachao Abhiyan 2026 dealt with the sustainable management of which orchards?

(A) Apple and walnut
(B) Mango and litchi
(C) Grape and pomegranate
(D) Coconut and areca nut

129. Which approach to fertiliser use was recommended at the programme?

(A) A fixed dose for every orchard
(B) Nutrient management based on soil testing
(C) Stopping all mineral fertiliser at once
(D) Applying fertiliser only after harvest

130. What was the theme of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum held in New Delhi?

(A) Fostering Parliaments for People-Centric Development
(B) Parliaments for a Sustainable Planet
(C) Democracy, Dialogue and Development
(D) Strengthening the Global South Together

131. Which country assumes the BRICS chair for the year 2027, as announced at the valedictory session of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum?

(A) Brazil
(B) Russia
(C) China
(D) South Africa

132. The Joint Declaration of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum endorsed UN Security Council reform by referring to which paragraph of the New Delhi Declaration?

(A) Paragraph 13
(B) Paragraph 40
(C) Paragraph 24
(D) Paragraph 7

133. Exercise Garuda Shakti is a joint special forces exercise between India and which other country?

(A) Malaysia
(B) Indonesia
(C) Vietnam
(D) Thailand

134. Where is the 11th edition of Exercise Garuda Shakti being conducted?

(A) Banyuwangi, Indonesia
(B) Agra, India
(C) Jakarta, Indonesia
(D) Belagavi, India

135. Which Indian Army unit forms the Indian contingent in Exercise Garuda Shakti?

(A) The Gorkha Rifles
(B) The Rajputana Rifles
(C) The Parachute Regiment (Special Forces)
(D) The Assam Regiment

136. Who chaired the third formal meeting of the COP10 Bureau under the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport, held in New Delhi?

(A) Dr Mansukh Mandaviya
(B) Farid Gayibov
(C) Hari Ranjan Rao
(D) Gustavo Merino

137. How many tests did the National Anti-Doping Agency of India conduct in 2025-26?

(A) Over 3,000
(B) Over 5,000
(C) Over 7,000
(D) Over 12,000

138. The National Anti-Doping Act, 2022 and its 2025 Amendment came into force in which month and year?

(A) January 2026
(B) July 2026
(C) April 2025
(D) December 2022

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139. Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas is observed every year on which date?

(A) 9 August
(B) 15 November
(C) 1 November
(D) 26 November

140. Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas marks the birth anniversary of which tribal leader?

(A) Rani Durgavati
(B) Tilka Manjhi
(C) Bhagwan Birsa Munda
(D) Alluri Sitarama Raju

141. The Jan-HIT Portal, to be launched during Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada, has been developed with which body?

(A) ICMR
(B) CSIR-NBRI
(C) NITI Aayog
(D) IIT Delhi

142. The PM Vishwakarma Scheme, whose artisans took part in the BRICS Cultural Bazar, is implemented by which ministry?

(A) The Ministry of Textiles
(B) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
(C) The Ministry of Culture
(D) The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

143. Channapatna toys and Kinhal toys, shown by an artisan at the Cultural Bazar, belong to the craft traditions of which State?

(A) Karnataka
(B) Jharkhand
(C) Nagaland
(D) Madhya Pradesh

144. Which craft displayed at the BRICS Cultural Bazar was described as carrying a Geographical Indication tag?

(A) Dokra metal craft
(B) Jabalpur Stone Craft
(C) Kolhapuri chappals
(D) Naga crochet dolls

145. In which district did the All India Institute of Ayurveda conduct its community-based Ayurveda programme for elderly people?

(A) Gurugram, Haryana
(B) Faridabad, Haryana
(C) Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh
(D) Gautam Buddh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh

146. The All India Institute of Ayurveda is an autonomous institution under which Union Ministry?

(A) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
(B) The Ministry of Ayush
(C) The Ministry of Science and Technology
(D) The Ministry of Education

147. How did the total WHOQOL score change after the 60-day intervention in the first component of the AIIA project?

(A) From 292.0 to 326.3
(B) From 277.4 to 364.2
(C) From 326.3 to 364.2
(D) From 292.0 to 277.4

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148. According to TRAI's September 2026 data, what was India's overall tele-density counting machine-to-machine cellular connections?

(A) 85.41 per cent
(B) 92.12 per cent
(C) 95.52 per cent
(D) 99.05 per cent

149. What was the gap between urban and rural tele-density in India at the end of September 2026?

(A) Urban 155.85 per cent and rural 61.30 per cent
(B) Urban 147.47 per cent and rural 60.72 per cent
(C) Urban 89.09 per cent and rural 10.91 per cent
(D) Urban 59.05 per cent and rural 40.95 per cent

150. How many Mobile Number Portability requests were submitted in September 2026?

(A) 6.77 million
(B) 16.77 million
(C) 26.77 million
(D) 61.30 million

151. Within what distance of a national highway fee plaza must a vehicle owner live to be eligible for the Concessional Local Pass?

(A) 10 km
(B) 20 km
(C) 25 km
(D) 50 km

152. What is the annual charge for a Concessional Local Pass at a fee plaza located outside a municipal or local town area?

(A) Rs 1,000
(B) Rs 1,500
(C) Rs 3,000
(D) Rs 5,000

153. Under which Act were the rules creating the Concessional Local Pass notified?

(A) The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988
(B) The Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002
(C) The National Highways Act, 1956
(D) The National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988

154. How many Station Master vacancies has Indian Railways notified under CEN No. 08/2026?

(A) 1,065
(B) 1,265
(C) 1,562
(D) 2,165

155. Which Railway Recruitment Board has notified the highest number of Station Master vacancies?

(A) Chennai
(B) Jammu-Srinagar
(C) Mumbai
(D) Secunderabad

156. What change in recruitment policy has the Railway Board made for the post of Station Master?

(A) The post will be filled only by promotion from within the Railways
(B) The post will be notified separately from 2026 onwards
(C) The post will require a postgraduate degree
(D) The post will be recruited through a single zonal board

157. Which ships make up the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron that arrived at Colombo in October 2026?

(A) INS Vikrant, INS Vikramaditya and ICGS Samudra

(B) INS Tir, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi

(C) INS Shivalik, INS Kadmatt and ICGS Vajra

(D) INS Tarangini, INS Sudarshini and ICGS Abhinav

158. Which exercise did the Indian and Sri Lankan navies plan to conduct during this port call?

(A) SLINEX

(B) MILAN

(C) Passage Exercise (PASSEX)

(D) Garuda Shakti

159. What is the full form of MAHASAGAR, the vision with which this port call is aligned?

(A) Maritime Alliance for Harmony, Security and Growth in the Region

(B) Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

(C) Maritime Advancement for Shared Growth and Regional Resilience

(D) Mutual Assistance for Harbour Security and Growth Among Regions

160. Which department has launched the 6th edition of the National Startup Awards?

(A) NITI Aayog

(B) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

(C) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

(D) Department of Science and Technology

161. How many sectoral and special categories does National Startup Awards 6.0 carry?

(A) 12 sectoral and 4 special

(B) 15 sectoral and 3 special

(C) 20 sectoral and 3 special

(D) 24 sectoral and 2 special

162. Which award category has been introduced for the first time in National Startup Awards 6.0?

(A) Women-Led Startup of the Year

(B) North-East Startup Excellence

(C) Student Innovator or Aspiring Entrepreneur Award

(D) Rural Startup of the Year

163. At which event did Dr Jitendra Singh speak on India's potential in gene research?

(A) India International Science Festival

(B) Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026

(C) Indian Science Congress

(D) Global Bio-India Summit

164. Which capability did Dr Jitendra Singh ask India to build at home to reduce dependence on overseas suppliers?

(A) Gene synthesis

(B) Satellite launch services

(C) Semiconductor fabrication

(D) Vaccine cold-chain storage

165. According to Dr Jitendra Singh, which recently enacted law opens nuclear medicine research to private-sector participation?

(A) The Atomic Energy Act

(B) The SHANTI Act

(C) The BioE3 Act

(D) The National Research Foundation Act

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166. SIMBEX is a bilateral maritime exercise between India and which country?

(A) Malaysia
(B) Indonesia
(C) Singapore
(D) Thailand

167. Where did the sea phase of SIMBEX-2026 take place?

(A) Arabian Sea
(B) Bay of Bengal
(C) Andaman Sea
(D) Gulf of Mannar

168. Which Singapore Navy ship participated in SIMBEX-2026?

(A) RSS Formidable
(B) RSS Tenacious
(C) RSS Supreme
(D) RSS Steadfast

169. At which shipyard was the Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel Srishti launched?

(A) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai
(B) Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa
(C) Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi
(D) Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam

170. What does the name of the newly launched vessel Srishti mean in Sanskrit?

(A) Victory
(B) Ocean
(C) Creation
(D) Courage

171. Which of the following is NOT among the roles listed for the Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels?

(A) Maritime surveillance
(B) Ballistic missile defence
(C) Search and rescue
(D) Anti-piracy missions

172. Under which mission of the Ministry of Culture was the manuscript heritage MoU with the National Library of France signed?

(A) Gyan Bharatam Mission
(B) National Mission for Manuscripts
(C) Adopt a Heritage Mission
(D) Bharat Shared Repository Mission

173. Who signed the manuscript heritage MoU on behalf of the Government of India?

(A) Gilles Pecout, President of the BnF
(B) Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture
(C) The Director General of the National Archives of India
(D) The Librarian of the National Library, Kolkata

174. Which of the following is a focus of the India-France manuscript cooperation agreement?

(A) Joint production of feature films
(B) Exchange of museum antiquities for permanent display
(C) OCR and HTR tools for Indian scripts
(D) Construction of a new library building in Paris

175. The India-New Zealand Under-20 Rugby Series concluded at which venue?

(A) Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar
(B) Rajgir Sports Complex, Bihar
(C) Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi
(D) Sardar Patel Stadium, Ahmedabad

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176. Under which initiative was the India-New Zealand U20 Rugby Series organised?

(A) Khelo India Rising Stars
(B) Fit India Movement
(C) 100 Years of Unity through Sport
(D) Sports for All Partnership

177. Which was a first in the India-New Zealand Under-20 Rugby Series at Rajgir?

(A) A rugby match played under floodlights in India
(B) Two mixed-team matches with players of both nations on the same side
(C) The first rugby World Cup qualifier hosted by India
(D) The first women's rugby match played in Bihar

178. At which venue did the second ARISE Cities Forum open?

(A) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
(B) India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
(C) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
(D) Yashobhoomi, Dwarka

179. The Delhi Declaration adopted at the ARISE Cities Forum will be presented at which global meeting?

(A) COP31 in Antalya, Turkiye
(B) COP30 in Belem, Brazil
(C) The G20 Summit in Johannesburg
(D) The World Urban Forum in Cairo

180. Which new centre was launched on the first day of the ARISE Cities Forum 2026?

(A) Centre for Urban Water Security
(B) Centre for Sustainable Urban Mobility and Integrated Transportation
(C) Centre for Coastal Resilience Studies
(D) Centre for Municipal Finance Reform

181. Which country reaffirmed support for India's bid to win European Union recognition for its ship-recycling yards?

(A) South Korea
(B) Cyprus
(C) Greece
(D) Malta

182. By which year does India aim to become a globally competitive hub for shipbuilding, shipping and maritime services?

(A) 2030
(B) 2035
(C) 2040
(D) 2047

183. The proposed India Ship Technology Center is intended to serve as a national platform for which of the following?

(A) Ship design, research, testing and training
(B) Registration of foreign-flagged vessels
(C) Auctioning of port concessions
(D) Marine insurance and claims settlement

184. The cheetah KNG22, which died of firearm pellet injuries in October 2026, belonged to the reintroduced population of which national park?

(A) Bandhavgarh National Park
(B) Kuno National Park
(C) Gir National Park
(D) Panna National Park

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185. The central team deputed to investigate the death of the cheetah KNG22 is drawn from which two organisations?

(A) National Tiger Conservation Authority and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau
(B) National Board for Wildlife and Central Zoo Authority
(C) Zoological Survey of India and Wildlife Institute of India
(D) Central Pollution Control Board and National Green Tribunal

186. At which place was the injured Kuno cheetah given emergency surgery before it died?

(A) Bhopal
(B) Jabalpur
(C) Gwalior
(D) Sheopur

187. Who inaugurated the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026?

(A) The President of India
(B) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(C) Dr Jitendra Singh
(D) Prof. Ajay K. Sood

188. ESTIC 2026 is organised around how many core thematic priority domains?

(A) Eight
(B) Ten
(C) Twelve
(D) Fifteen

189. Which Nobel laureate delivered the ESTIC 2026 plenary talk on cryo-electron microscopy in target discovery and drug design?

(A) Sir Richard J. Roberts
(B) Prof. Joachim Frank
(C) Prof. Ajay K. Sood
(D) Dr Tessy Thomas

190. The 14th International Tourism Mart for the North Eastern Region is being held at which place?

(A) Gangtok, Sikkim
(B) Shillong, Meghalaya
(C) Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh
(D) Imphal, Manipur

191. The 43 international buyers expected at the 14th International Tourism Mart come from how many countries?

(A) 15
(B) 18
(C) 22
(D) 28

192. Which event is scheduled alongside the 14th International Tourism Mart and chaired by the Union Minister for Tourism and Culture?

(A) Regional Meeting of Tourism Ministers of the North Eastern States
(B) National Tourism Advisory Council meeting
(C) Meeting of the North Eastern Council
(D) Inter-State Council meeting on tourism

193. India signed the Terms of Reference to launch Preferential Trade Agreement negotiations with which country?

(A) Brazil
(B) Mexico
(C) Argentina
(D) Chile

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194. At which summit did the leaders of India and Mexico reach the understanding that led to these trade negotiations?

(A) BRICS Summit in South Africa
(B) G7 Summit in Canada
(C) G20 Summit in Brazil
(D) APEC Summit in Peru

195. Who led the Indian delegation during the signing of the Terms of Reference with Mexico?

(A) Foreign Secretary
(B) Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal
(C) Finance Secretary
(D) Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog

196. The Punah Bharan Mobile Application, launched to support groundwater recharge planning, was developed by which agency?

(A) NRSC
(B) BISAG-N
(C) NIC
(D) Survey of India

197. Within what radial distance does the Punah Bharan application help users identify potential artificial recharge zones?

(A) Up to 1 km
(B) Up to 3 km
(C) Up to 5 km
(D) Up to 10 km

198. Which set of geospatial datasets does the Punah Bharan platform use to identify potential recharge areas?

(A) Rainfall, groundwater levels, groundwater yield, slope and drainage
(B) Population, literacy, cropping pattern and road density
(C) Wind speed, humidity, solar radiation and air quality
(D) Forest cover, mineral deposits and seismic zones

199. Which body issued the advisory on the 'Protection of Human Rights of Female Inmates and their Children'?

(A) National Commission for Women
(B) National Human Rights Commission
(C) Bureau of Police Research and Development
(D) National Legal Services Authority

200. Within what period has the NHRC sought an Action Taken Report on its advisory for female inmates?

(A) One month
(B) Two months
(C) Six months
(D) One year

201. To how many Union Ministries was the NHRC advisory on female inmates addressed?

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

202. At which port did the DRI seize around 55,000 smuggled e-cigarettes in two operations?

(A) Jawaharlal Nehru Port
(B) Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata
(C) Deendayal Port, Kandla
(D) Paradip Port

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203. Under which law are electronic cigarettes and all Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems prohibited in India?

(A) Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2019

(B) Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003

(C) Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985

(D) Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940

204. What was the approximate value of the e-cigarettes seized at the Kolkata port on 24 October 2026?

(A) Rs 1.35 crore

(B) Rs 13.50 crore

(C) Rs 35 crore

(D) Rs 120 crore

205. What is the outlay approved by the Union Cabinet for the National Green Hydrogen Mission?

(A) Rs 8,240 crore

(B) Rs 17,490 crore

(C) Rs 19,744 crore

(D) Rs 24,500 crore

206. Under India's Green Hydrogen Standard, what is the maximum permitted emission for hydrogen to qualify as green?

(A) 2 kg of CO_2 equivalent per kg of hydrogen

(B) 5 kg of CO_2 equivalent per kg of hydrogen

(C) 9 kg of CO_2 equivalent per kg of hydrogen

(D) 12 kg of CO_2 equivalent per kg of hydrogen

207. Which of the following ports has been recognised as a green hydrogen hub by the MNRE?

(A) Mormugao Port

(B) Paradip Port

(C) Visakhapatnam Port

(D) Mumbai Port

208. Through which mission did India become the fourth country to demonstrate docking of two spacecraft in orbit?

(A) Gaganyaan

(B) SpaDeX

(C) Chandrayaan-3

(D) Aditya-L1

209. What is the approved outlay for the Next Generation Launch Vehicle cleared by the Union Cabinet?

(A) Rs 4,120 crore

(B) Rs 8,240 crore

(C) Rs 12,400 crore

(D) Rs 19,744 crore

210. India's space economy is targeted to reach what size, and by which year?

(A) US$20 billion by 2030

(B) US$44 billion by 2033

(C) US$60 billion by 2035

(D) US$100 billion by 2040

211. Which ministry launched the Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 4.0?

(A) Ministry of Education

(B) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

(C) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

(D) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

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212. For how many days does the Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 4.0 run?

(A) 30 days
(B) 45 days
(C) 60 days
(D) 90 days

213. On which day was the first Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign launched?

(A) World Health Day, 7 April 2022
(B) World No Tobacco Day, 31 May 2023
(C) Independence Day, 15 August 2024
(D) Gandhi Jayanti, 2 October 2025

214. India's proposed mega greenfield shipyard, discussed in Seoul, is to be built at which place?

(A) Kandla, Gujarat
(B) Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu
(C) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
(D) Paradip, Odisha

215. Which company has confirmed its intent to be the primary strategic investor in the Thoothukudi shipyard?

(A) Hyundai Motor India
(B) HD Korea Shipbuilding and Offshore Engineering
(C) Mitsui OSK Lines
(D) Cochin Shipyard Limited

216. How many vessels do India's public agencies plan to acquire in the coming years, as stated at the Seoul meeting?

(A) More than 100
(B) More than 250
(C) More than 400
(D) More than 900

217. The India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement came into force on which date?

(A) 1 April 2024
(B) 1 October 2025
(C) 7 October 2026
(D) 28 October 2026

218. How much FDI do the EFTA States aim to bring into India under TEPA, and over what period?

(A) 50 billion dollars over 10 years
(B) 75 billion dollars over 12 years
(C) 100 billion dollars over 15 years
(D) 150 billion dollars over 20 years

219. Which of the following is NOT a member of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA)?

(A) Switzerland
(B) Norway
(C) Liechtenstein
(D) Sweden

220. How many live reptiles did the DRI recover at Trichy International Airport?

(A) 27
(B) 35
(C) 45
(D) 55

221. Under which law were the two passengers carrying the reptiles arrested?

(A) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972
(B) The Customs Act, 1962
(C) The Biological Diversity Act, 2002
(D) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

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222. The passengers intercepted with the live reptiles at Trichy had arrived from which city?

(A) Kuala Lumpur
(B) Dubai
(C) Bangkok, via Colombo
(D) Singapore, via Male

223. How much revenue did SECL generate through scrap disposal under Special Campaign 6?

(A) About Rs 12.50 crore
(B) About Rs 26.17 crore
(C) About Rs 46.02 crore
(D) About Rs 72.00 crore

224. SECL, which surpassed its Special Campaign 6 targets, is a subsidiary of which company?

(A) NTPC Limited
(B) Coal India Limited
(C) NMDC Limited
(D) Steel Authority of India Limited

225. In which two states did SECL carry out its Special Campaign 6 activities?

(A) Jharkhand and Odisha
(B) Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh
(C) West Bengal and Jharkhand
(D) Maharashtra and Telangana

226. Khet Bachao Abhiyan - Rabi 2026 is being held during which period?

(A) 1 September to 15 October
(B) 22 October to 30 November
(C) 1 November to 31 December
(D) 15 December to 31 January

227. Which concept is being put into practice through Khet Bachao Abhiyan?

(A) Land to Lab
(B) Lab to Land
(C) Farm to Fork
(D) Seed to Shelf

228. Which Krishi Vigyan Kendra is running the Khet Bachao Abhiyan programmes in rural Delhi?

(A) KVK Ujwa
(B) KVK Narela
(C) KVK Najafgarh
(D) KVK Palam

229. By how many percentage points did the Union Cabinet raise Dearness Allowance in its decision of 28 October 2026?

(A) 2 per cent
(B) 3 per cent
(C) 4 per cent
(D) 5 per cent

230. From which date does the revised Dearness Allowance rate apply?

(A) 1 January 2026
(B) 1 April 2026
(C) 1 July 2026
(D) 1 October 2026

231. What is the combined annual burden on the exchequer from the Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief revision?

(A) 7,540.20 crore rupees
(B) 10,016.10 crore rupees
(C) 12,480.75 crore rupees
(D) 15,220.50 crore rupees

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232. What is the total outlay of the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana approved by the Union Cabinet?

(A) 4,869.48 crore rupees
(B) 7,395.55 crore rupees
(C) 2,526.07 crore rupees
(D) 10,000 crore rupees

233. PM VGSY is approved for a period that is co-terminus with the award period of which body?

(A) The 8th Central Pay Commission
(B) The Sixteenth Finance Commission
(C) The Fifteenth Finance Commission
(D) NITI Aayog's governing council

234. In how many Indian languages is the PANCHAM communication platform available?

(A) 11
(B) 13
(C) 17
(D) 22

235. What is the budgetary outlay of the Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme approved by the Union Cabinet?

(A) 8,891 crore rupees
(B) 10,000 crore rupees
(C) 7,395 crore rupees
(D) 12,500 crore rupees

236. Under CMPS, India's annual container manufacturing capacity is targeted to rise to how much?

(A) 2.5 lakh TEUs
(B) 5 lakh TEUs
(C) 7.5 lakh TEUs
(D) 10 lakh TEUs

237. What rate of interest subvention is offered on eligible term loans under the scheme?

(A) 2 per cent a year
(B) 3 per cent a year
(C) 5 per cent a year
(D) 6 per cent a year

238. What was the growth rate of India's Index of Industrial Production in September 2026?

(A) 4.9 per cent
(B) 6.7 per cent
(C) 8.0 per cent
(D) 11.2 per cent

239. Which sector recorded the fastest growth in the Index of Industrial Production for September 2026?

(A) Manufacturing
(B) Mining and quarrying
(C) Electricity and gas supply
(D) Water supply, sewerage and waste management

240. What is the base year currently used for compiling the Index of Industrial Production?

(A) 2011-12 equal to 100
(B) 2017-18 equal to 100
(C) 2022-23 equal to 100
(D) 2024-25 equal to 100

241. In how many Indian languages will the video modules of the Sports Values in Every Classroom Toolkit be available?

(A) 8
(B) 13
(C) 17
(D) 22

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242. At which event was the Memorandum of Understanding on sports values exchanged?

(A) The Clean Sport Conclave of NADA India
(B) The Khelo India Youth Games
(C) The National Sports Awards ceremony
(D) The Asian Para Games

243. Which three values does the toolkit seek to embed in schoolchildren?

(A) Discipline, obedience and strength
(B) Respect, integrity and fairness
(C) Courage, teamwork and endurance
(D) Excellence, friendship and respect

244. The 13th ADMM-Plus, on whose margins Rajnath Singh held bilateral talks, was hosted by which country?

(A) Indonesia
(B) The Philippines
(C) Vietnam
(D) Malaysia

245. Who is the Japanese Minister of Defense that Rajnath Singh met at Cebu?

(A) Shinjiro Koizumi
(B) Pete Hegseth
(C) Tim Curtis
(D) Hambardzum Matevosyan

246. Which framework between India and the United States did the two ministers review at the meeting?

(A) A five-year defence technology pact
(B) The 10-year India-US Defence Framework
(C) The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework
(D) A 20-year strategic partnership treaty

247. What is the total outlay of the Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme approved by the Union Cabinet?

(A) Rs 1,130 crore
(B) Rs 1,500 crore
(C) Rs 1,856.67 crore
(D) Rs 2,500 crore

248. The Sports Goods Manufacturing Zones under the new scheme will be developed by convergence with which of the following?

(A) The BHAVYA Scheme and NICDC Industrial Parks
(B) The PM Gati Shakti corridors only
(C) Special Economic Zones alone
(D) Khelo India stadium projects

249. Which budget announced the Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme?

(A) Union Budget 2023-24
(B) Union Budget 2024-25
(C) Union Budget 2025-26
(D) Union Budget 2026-27

250. Which Indian Navy ship arrived at Busan in October 2026 for the bilateral exercise with the Republic of Korea Navy?

(A) INS Shivalik
(B) INS Sahyadri
(C) INS Kolkata
(D) INS Vikrant

251. INS Sahyadri will carry out coordinated maritime activities at sea with which Republic of Korea Navy ship?

(A) ROKS Sejong the Great
(B) ROKS Dokdo
(C) ROKS Munmu the Great
(D) ROKS Chungmugong Yi Sun-sin

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252. INS Sahyadri is best described as:

(A) A diesel-electric submarine

(B) An indigenously designed and built guided missile stealth frigate

(C) An aircraft carrier

(D) An offshore patrol vessel

253. CBD COP-17, where India released four publications on biodiversity, was held in which city?

(A) Yerevan

(B) Baku

(C) Tbilisi

(D) Astana

254. Which of the following was NOT among the four publications India released at the CBD COP-17 side event?

(A) Guidelines for the Designation of India's Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures

(B) The 5th National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

(C) India State of Forest Report

(D) India's ABS Success Story

255. At the side event, the Union Environment Minister described which instrument as the basis for fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources?

(A) The Cartagena Protocol

(B) The Nagoya Protocol

(C) The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

(D) The Paris Agreement

256. Under Part 2 of the PLI Scheme for Textiles, the minimum turnover criterion has been reduced to:

(A) 50 crore rupees

(B) 100 crore rupees

(C) 200 crore rupees

(D) 300 crore rupees

257. The application portal for Round 4 of the PLI Scheme for Textiles will remain open during which period?

(A) 1 October to 30 November 2026

(B) 1 November to 31 December 2026

(C) 1 December 2026 to 31 January 2027

(D) 1 November 2026 to 31 March 2027

258. For applicants approved under Round 4, the tenure of the PLI Scheme for Textiles has been extended up to which financial year?

(A) 2029-30

(B) 2030-31

(C) 2031-32

(D) 2033-34

259. For how many brands of anti-cancer medicines has NPPA released revised maximum retail prices?

(A) 137 brands

(B) 543 brands

(C) 755 brands

(D) 326 brands

260. From which date must the revised maximum retail prices of the 543 anti-cancer medicine brands be charged?

(A) 17 October 2026

(B) 27 October 2026

(C) 1 November 2026

(D) 9 November 2026

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261. Under which ministry does the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority function?

(A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
(B) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
(C) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
(D) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

262. Under which title has Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 been entered in the Guinness World Records?

(A) Largest Science Exhibition
(B) Largest Innovation Solution Competition
(C) Largest School Quiz
(D) Largest Student Hackathon

263. How many project submissions did Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 receive?

(A) 1,87,967
(B) 2,87,967
(C) 3,87,967
(D) 2,78,967

264. Which of the following partnered the Ministry of Education in conducting Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025?

(A) Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog and AICTE
(B) ISRO and CSIR
(C) DRDO and UGC
(D) NCERT and NIT Council

265. How much grant-in-aid has the Centre released to 755 projects under the Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens?

(A) Rs 55.98 crore
(B) Rs 77.98 crore
(C) Rs 97.78 crore
(D) Rs 107.98 crore

266. Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana subsumed and expanded which earlier plan?

(A) National Action Plan for Senior Citizens
(B) National Social Assistance Programme
(C) National Policy on Older Persons
(D) Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme

267. By which year is India's senior citizen population projected to reach about 23 crore?

(A) 2030
(B) 2036
(C) 2041
(D) 2047

268. What was India's installed electricity capacity as on 30 September 2026, as stated at Singapore International Energy Week 2026?

(A) 458.9 GW
(B) 508.9 GW
(C) 558.9 GW
(D) 608.9 GW

269. With which of these did the Indian Minister NOT hold a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of SIEW 2026?

(A) Bhutan
(B) Japan
(C) IRENA
(D) IEA

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270. What is the capacity of the Punatsangchhu-I hydroelectric project in Bhutan, reviewed during the talks?

(A) 720 MW
(B) 1020 MW
(C) 1200 MW
(D) 1500 MW

271. Which committee of the European Parliament sent the delegation received by the Vice-President of India?

(A) Committee on International Trade
(B) Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)
(C) Committee on Budgets
(D) Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

272. How did the Vice-President describe the proposed India-EU Free Trade Agreement?

(A) The deal of the century
(B) Mother of all deals
(C) The bridge of two continents
(D) The partnership of equals

273. Negotiations on India's association with which European Union programme were said to have concluded?

(A) Erasmus Plus
(B) Copernicus
(C) Horizon Europe
(D) Galileo

274. Till which date has the ESIC New Amnesty Scheme, 2025 been extended?

(A) 30 September 2026
(B) 31 December 2026
(C) 31 March 2027
(D) 30 June 2027

275. Court cases filed up to which date are eligible for settlement under the New Amnesty Scheme, 2025?

(A) 31 March 2024
(B) 31 March 2025
(C) 30 September 2025
(D) 31 December 2025

276. Under the scheme, an employer who has already paid the dues can have a pending case withdrawn on paying what share of the disputed damages?

(A) 5%
(B) 10%
(C) 25%
(D) 50%

277. In which city was the 13th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) held?

(A) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
(B) Cebu, Philippines
(C) Jakarta, Indonesia
(D) Hanoi, Vietnam

278. What is the theme of the 13th ADMM-Plus addressed by the Raksha Mantri?

(A) Shared Seas, Shared Future
(B) Youth, Peace and Security
(C) Navigating Our Future, Together
(D) Peace Through Partnership

279. India co-chairs the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Counter-Terrorism with which country?

(A) Malaysia
(B) Singapore
(C) Thailand
(D) Australia

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280. Which rabi crop has been given the highest absolute increase in Minimum Support Price for Marketing Season 2027-28?

(A) Wheat
(B) Safflower
(C) Lentil (masur)
(D) Gram

281. Which body recommends the Minimum Support Prices announced by the Union Government?

(A) NITI Aayog
(B) Food Corporation of India
(C) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices
(D) National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation

282. How much is estimated to be paid to farmers for rabi produce in Marketing Season 2027-28?

(A) Rs 45,500 crore
(B) Rs 68,300 crore
(C) Rs 90,962 crore
(D) Rs 1.25 lakh crore

283. Technology innovation hubs under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems have been set up at how many academic institutions?

(A) 15
(B) 20
(C) 25
(D) 30

284. ESTIC 2026, where the session on autonomous systems and robotics was held, was organised at which venue?

(A) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
(B) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
(C) Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
(D) Science City, Kolkata

285. Who said at ESTIC 2026 that physical AI is as much a systems engineering challenge as an artificial intelligence one?

(A) Prof. Umesh V. Waghmare, Secretary, DST
(B) Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Member, NITI Aayog
(C) Prof. P. Rajalakshmi, IIT Hyderabad
(D) Shri Jalaj A. Dani, Addverb Technologies

286. In the wake of which cyclone did the Union Home Minister speak to the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Odisha and Chhattisgarh?

(A) Cyclone Montha
(B) Cyclone Arnab
(C) Cyclone Dana
(D) Cyclone Remal

287. Which of the following was NOT among the states or Union Territory whose Chief Minister the Home Minister spoke to after Cyclone Arnab?

(A) Odisha
(B) Chhattisgarh
(C) Tamil Nadu
(D) Puducherry

288. What does IMCT, the team to be sent to the areas hit by Cyclone Arnab, stand for?

(A) Inter-Ministerial Central Team
(B) Integrated Monitoring and Control Team
(C) Inter-Ministerial Coordination Team
(D) India Meteorological Central Team

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289. What was the total green hydrogen offtake commitment signed by Indian companies as of October 2026?

(A) 3,55,610 MTPA
(B) 4,55,610 MTPA
(C) 5,55,610 MTPA
(D) 6,55,610 MTPA

290. What is the initial outlay approved for the National Green Hydrogen Mission?

(A) Rs 8,000 crore
(B) Rs 19,744 crore
(C) Rs 10,371 crore
(D) Rs 90,000 crore

291. Which Indian company signed a long-term green ammonia supply agreement worth over USD 3 billion with Samsung C&T of South Korea?

(A) ACME Group
(B) AM Green
(C) Reliance Industries Limited
(D) Larsen & Toubro

292. How many government departments had adopted MeghRaj 2.0 by September 2026?

(A) 1,230
(B) 2,330
(C) 3,230
(D) 4,330

293. What is the approved outlay of the IndiaAI Mission?

(A) Rs 7,500 crore
(B) Rs 10,371.92 crore
(C) Rs 19,744 crore
(D) Rs 25,000 crore

294. Which platform was migrated to an Indian cloud operated by Yotta Data Services, as reported in February 2026?

(A) DigiLocker
(B) MyGov
(C) Digital India BHASHINI
(D) National Scholarship Portal

295. Who chairs the Ganga Flood Control Board?

(A) The Prime Minister
(B) The Union Minister of Jal Shakti
(C) The Chairman of the Ganga Flood Control Commission
(D) A Member of NITI Aayog

296. When was the Ganga Flood Control Board constituted by the Government of India?

(A) 18 April 1972
(B) 18 April 1976
(C) 15 August 1972
(D) 26 January 1980

297. The Punah Bharan Mobile App launched at the 19th Ganga Flood Control Board meeting serves which purpose?

(A) Forecasting cyclones along the eastern coast
(B) Scientifically identifying sites for artificial groundwater recharge
(C) Registering complaints about drinking water supply
(D) Tracking the cleaning of the Ganga's tributaries

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298. How many workers will benefit from the two Memorandums of Settlement signed at UltraTech, Bathinda?

(A) 117
(B) 217
(C) 317
(D) 417

299. With which two trade unions were the settlements at UltraTech, Bathinda concluded?

(A) BMS and INTUC
(B) CITU and AITUC
(C) HMS and SEWA
(D) INTUC and AITUC

300. Under which ministry does the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) function?

(A) Ministry of Labour and Employment
(B) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
(C) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
(D) Ministry of Heavy Industries

301. How much revenue did the Textile Committee generate through scrap disposal under Special Campaign 6.0?

(A) Rs 2,38,444
(B) Rs 3,48,444
(C) Rs 4,38,444
(D) Rs 5,48,444

302. What is the duration of Special Campaign 6.0?

(A) 1 to 30 September 2026
(B) 2 to 31 October 2026
(C) 2 to 23 October 2026
(D) 1 to 31 December 2026

303. The Textile Committee, whose achievements were highlighted under Special Campaign 6.0, functions under which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Textiles
(B) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
(C) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
(D) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

304. Ayushman Vay Vandana gives health cover to citizens of which minimum age?

(A) 60 years
(B) 65 years
(C) 70 years
(D) 75 years

305. Which procedure has been availed most often under Ayushman Vay Vandana in its first two years?

(A) Total knee replacement
(B) Cataract surgery
(C) Chronic haemodialysis
(D) Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty

306. Which body implements the Ayushman Vay Vandana initiative?

(A) NITI Aayog
(B) Indian Council of Medical Research
(C) National Health Authority
(D) Central Government Health Scheme

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307. At which forum was the Delhi Declaration on Local Action for Global Climate Goals adopted?

(A) ARISE Cities Forum 2026
(B) World Urban Forum
(C) India Habitat Summit
(D) Global Mayors Assembly

308. What was the theme of the ARISE Cities Forum 2026?

(A) Cities for Climate Justice
(B) From Bharat to Antalya - Commit. Implement. Deliver.
(C) Local Action, Global Goals
(D) Resilient Cities, Resilient Planet

309. In which city will COP31 be held, as mentioned in the Delhi Declaration 2026?

(A) Belem, Brazil
(B) Baku, Azerbaijan
(C) Antalya, Turkiye
(D) Dubai, United Arab Emirates

310. Which ministry releases the Index of Services Production?

(A) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
(B) Ministry of Finance
(C) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
(D) Reserve Bank of India

311. What is the base year of the Index of Services Production released for August 2026?

(A) 2011-12
(B) 2017-18
(C) 2024-25
(D) 2026-27

312. Which sub-sector recorded the fastest growth in August 2026 over August 2025 in the Index of Services Production?

(A) Retail trade
(B) Banking
(C) Real estate
(D) Accommodation and food

313. According to Piyush Goyal, what is the aggregate GDP of the economies opened by India's nine trade agreements?

(A) USD 25 trillion
(B) USD 40 trillion
(C) USD 60 trillion
(D) USD 85 trillion

314. What target has been set for India's space economy, according to the Commerce and Industry Minister?

(A) USD 20 billion by 2030
(B) USD 44 billion by 2033
(C) USD 60 billion by 2035
(D) USD 100 billion by 2040

315. What share of India's installed electricity capacity comes from green and renewable sources, as stated by Piyush Goyal?

(A) 40 per cent
(B) 50 per cent
(C) 60 per cent
(D) 75 per cent

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316. Which department coordinates the Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters?

(A) Department of Personnel and Training

(B) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances

(C) Department of Defence Research and Development

(D) Department of Expenditure

317. Where is the shredded paper from DRDO's weeded-out files sent?

(A) Khadi and Village Industries Commission

(B) National Archives of India

(C) Central Pollution Control Board

(D) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

318. How much revenue did DRDO generate from the eco-friendly disposal of scrap and obsolete hardware under Special Campaign 6.0?

(A) Rs 12 lakh

(B) Rs 35 lakh

(C) Rs 60 lakh

(D) Rs 1.2 crore

319. Which body has taken suo motu cognizance of the reported parading of three persons by police in Kolkata?

(A) National Commission for Women

(B) National Human Rights Commission

(C) Supreme Court of India

(D) National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

320. To whom did the NHRC issue its notice in this matter, and within what time was a report sought?

(A) Chief Secretary of West Bengal, within one month

(B) Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, within two weeks

(C) Director General of Police, West Bengal, within ten days

(D) District Magistrate, Kolkata, within three weeks

321. What reason was given for bringing the three arrested men to the locality, according to the media report?

(A) Reconstruction of the crime scene

(B) A court-ordered identification parade

(C) Recovery of stolen property

(D) A medical examination

322. The regional Shram Samvad programme on the Labour Codes held on 28 October 2026 took place in which city?

(A) Lucknow

(B) Kanpur

(C) Noida

(D) Varanasi

323. Which two schemes formed the subject of the third and fourth technical sessions at the Kanpur Shram Samvad?

(A) Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan

(B) Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and Ayushman Bharat

(C) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana and the National Pension System

(D) Atal Pension Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana

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324. Which documents prepared by the Ministry of Labour and Employment were distributed to participants at Shram Samvad?

(A) Handbook of Compliance for Employers and a Compilation of Frequently Asked Questions

(B) Annual Report on Labour Welfare and a Wage Code Manual

(C) Employment Outlook Survey and a Social Security Atlas

(D) Industrial Relations Digest and an Inspection Checklist

325. Which edition of the NCDC General Council meeting was held in New Delhi in October 2026?

(A) 83rd

(B) 90th

(C) 93rd

(D) 95th

326. Which Union Minister chairs the General Council of the National Cooperative Development Corporation?

(A) The Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

(B) The Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation

(C) The Minister of Finance

(D) The Minister of Rural Development

327. What net profit did NCDC record in FY 2025-26, as reported to its General Council?

(A) Rs 975 crore

(B) Rs 1,475 crore

(C) Rs 2,475 crore

(D) Rs 3,475 crore

328. Who chairs the Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority (RCNCA)?

(A) The Union Home Minister

(B) The Union Minister of Jal Shakti

(C) The Chief Minister of Gujarat

(D) The Attorney General for India

329. Which four States are parties to the Memorandum of Agreement adopted by the RCNCA?

(A) Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra

(B) Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Goa

(C) Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana

(D) Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Gujarat

330. On which date was the Memorandum of Agreement among the Narmada party States signed?

(A) 7 July 2026

(B) 27 October 2026

(C) 14 August 2026

(D) 1 April 2026

331. Which ministry organised the National Workshop on 'Enhancing Coastal Resilience through Adaptive Strategies'?

(A) Ministry of Jal Shakti

(B) Ministry of Earth Sciences

(C) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

(D) Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

332. In which three States is the GCF-ECRICC project being implemented?

(A) Gujarat, Kerala and Tamil Nadu

(B) Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha

(C) West Bengal, Odisha and Tamil Nadu

(D) Goa, Karnataka and Kerala

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333. Which mission did the MoEFCC Secretary describe as the fulcrum for coastal resilience?

(A) National Coastal Mission
(B) National Mission on Himalayan Studies
(C) National Water Mission
(D) National Mission for Green India

334. INS Trishul concluded a port call at Civitavecchia, which lies in which country?

(A) Greece
(B) Italy
(C) Spain
(D) France

335. In which sea was INS Trishul deployed when it made the Civitavecchia port call?

(A) Arabian Sea
(B) Mediterranean Sea
(C) Baltic Sea
(D) South China Sea

336. Which Italian Navy aircraft carrier did the crew of INS Trishul visit at Civitavecchia?

(A) ITS Garibaldi
(B) ITS Cavour
(C) ITS Trieste
(D) ITS Andrea Doria

337. At how many railway stations was Rail Jan Samvaad organised on 22 October 2026?

(A) 3,884
(B) 4,884
(C) 5,884
(D) 6,884

338. Rail Jan Samvaad was held to collect passenger feedback mainly on which of the following?

(A) Fare revision and ticket pricing
(B) Cleanliness, passenger amenities and service delivery
(C) New railway line surveys
(D) Recruitment and vacancies

339. Who is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Railway Board who interacted with stakeholders at New Delhi during Rail Jan Samvaad?

(A) Jaya Verma Sinha
(B) Satish Kumar
(C) V. K. Tripathi
(D) Suneet Sharma

340. Which regulator conducts the Independent Drive Test to assess mobile network quality?

(A) TRAI
(B) SEBI
(C) BIS
(D) FSSAI

341. TRAI's Independent Drive Test released in October 2026 covered which area of Gujarat?

(A) Saurashtra, including Rajkot and Jamnagar
(B) Kachchh, including Gandhidham and Bhuj
(C) South Gujarat, including Surat and Valsad
(D) Central Gujarat, including Vadodara and Anand

342. Which of the following is NOT a voice parameter measured in TRAI's Independent Drive Test?

(A) Call Setup Success Rate
(B) Drop Call Rate
(C) Mean Opinion Score for speech quality
(D) Average revenue per user

343. Which institution organises the AyushTech Innovate: National Open Ayurveda AI Challenge?

(A) Techfest, IIT Bombay
(B) Techfest, IIT Delhi
(C) Kshitij, IIT Kharagpur
(D) Shaastra, IIT Madras

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344. AyurParam, on which the national Ayurveda AI challenge is built, is best described as which of the following?

(A) An Ayurvedic drug licensing portal of the Ministry of Ayush

(B) An open-source Ayurveda large language model from IIT Bombay

(C) A seed-funding scheme for Ayurveda startups

(D) An intellectual property rights facility for Ayurveda

345. AIIA-iCAINE, which celebrated its sixth Foundation Day, is recognised as which of the following?

(A) India's first private Ayurveda incubator

(B) India's first public-sector Ayurveda business incubator

(C) The oldest Ayurveda research council in India

(D) The first Ayurveda incubator run by an engineering institute

346. Which ministry organises the Shilp Samagam Mela?

(A) Ministry of Textiles

(B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

(C) Ministry of Culture

(D) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

347. In the initiative BHARAT-TULIP, what does TULIP stand for?

(A) Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme

(B) Tribal Upliftment and Livelihood Improvement Plan

(C) Textile Upgradation and Local Industry Programme

(D) Training for Urban Livelihood and Industrial Progress

348. The Shilp Samagam Mela that concluded in Guwahati was the second edition of the series for 2026-27. Where was the opening edition held?

(A) Mysuru, Karnataka

(B) Bhubaneswar, Odisha

(C) Jaipur, Rajasthan

(D) Nagpur, Maharashtra

349. The 'Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad: Know Your Vote' campaign is organised by which body?

(A) National Service Scheme

(B) Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)

(C) National Youth Council of India

(D) Bharat Scouts and Guides

350. How many universities, colleges and institutions is the 'Know Your Vote' campaign of MY Bharat meant to cover?

(A) 250

(B) 500

(C) 750

(D) 1,000

351. Which pledge is administered to participants at the Yuva Samvad programmes of MY Bharat?

(A) Loktantrik Pledge

(B) Swachhata Pledge

(C) Ekta Pledge

(D) Matdata Shapath

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352. Where is the 14th International Tourism Mart being held?

(A) Shillong, Meghalaya
(B) Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh
(C) Gangtok, Sikkim
(D) Guwahati, Assam

353. How many international buyers from how many countries are taking part in the 14th International Tourism Mart?

(A) 32 buyers from 18 countries
(B) 43 buyers from 22 countries
(C) 81 buyers from 16 countries
(D) 42 buyers from 14 countries

354. Domestic tourist visits to the eight north eastern states rose from 95.65 lakh in 2019 to what figure in 2025?

(A) 1.21 crore
(B) 1.35 crore
(C) 1.51 crore
(D) 1.84 crore

355. According to Piyush Goyal, India's concluded and ongoing trade agreements would give it preferential market access to roughly what share of global GDP?

(A) 52 per cent
(B) 64 per cent
(C) 76 per cent
(D) 88 per cent

356. The Motupalli Abhaya Shasana, recalled by Piyush Goyal as an early charter assuring traders of stability, was issued in 1244 by which ruler?

(A) Krishnadevaraya of Vijayanagara
(B) Ganapati Deva of the Kakatiya dynasty
(C) Rajaraja Chola I
(D) Prataparudra II of Warangal

357. Which textile park did Piyush Goyal describe as the first fully functional PM MITRA park?

(A) Kakatiya Mega Textile Park, Warangal
(B) Zaheerabad Industrial Smart City
(C) Navi Mumbai Integrated Textile Park
(D) Amravati Mega Textile Park

358. Which body was empowered by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs to decide procedural issues and allow deviations in strategic disinvestment, and so fixed the best offer round for IDBI Bank?

(A) The Securities and Exchange Board of India
(B) The Core Group of Secretaries on Disinvestment
(C) The Reserve Bank of India
(D) The Department of Financial Services

359. IDBI Bank changed from a government owned to a government controlled banking company in which year, after LIC acquired majority stakes?

(A) 2015
(B) 2017
(C) 2019
(D) 2021

360. By how much did the bid discovered price rise after the disputed tax demands were indemnified?

(A) Rs 627 crore
(B) Rs 1,450 crore
(C) Rs 3,917 crore
(D) Rs 5,280 crore

361. How much dividend did the National Small Industries Corporation present to the Government of India for the financial year 2025-26?

(A) Rs 29.40 crore
(B) Rs 47.76 crore
(C) Rs 112.50 crore
(D) Rs 159 crore

362. Under which category of public sector enterprise is the National Small Industries Corporation classified?

(A) Maharatna
(B) Navratna
(C) Schedule 'A' Mini Ratna
(D) Schedule 'C' undertaking

363. What profit after tax did NSIC report for the financial year 2025-26?

(A) Rs 84 crore
(B) Rs 159 crore
(C) Rs 376 crore
(D) Rs 1,205 crore

364. Who inaugurated the new Academic Building of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration in New Delhi?

(A) The Union Minister for Education
(B) The Union Minister for Skill Development
(C) The Vice-President of India
(D) The Minister of State for Education

365. How much has been made available in soft loans for higher education under the PM Vidyalaxmi Scheme, as stated at the NIEPA function?

(A) Rs 10,000 crore
(B) Rs 35,000 crore
(C) Rs 60,000 crore
(D) Rs 1,20,000 crore

366. Which of the following is a stated role of NIEPA under the National Education Policy 2020?

(A) Conducting the national entrance examinations for higher education
(B) Monitoring the policy's implementation and working with state governments on the challenges
(C) Accrediting universities and awarding them grades
(D) Printing and distributing school textbooks across the states

367. The National Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers and Gig and Platform Workers has been constituted under which law?

(A) Code on Wages
(B) Industrial Relations Code
(C) Code on Social Security
(D) Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code

368. Who presides over the newly notified National Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers and Gig and Platform Workers?

(A) The Prime Minister
(B) The Union Minister for Labour and Employment
(C) The Union Finance Minister
(D) The Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Employment

369. How many times in a year must the National Social Security Board meet, at the minimum?

(A) Once
(B) Twice
(C) Thrice
(D) Six times

370. How much public investment has the Government of India committed to the fisheries sector since 2015?

(A) Rs 29,272 crore
(B) Rs 39,272 crore
(C) Rs 49,272 crore
(D) Rs 3,393 crore

371. How many Fisheries Farmer Producer Organizations (FFPOs) has the Department of Fisheries supported the formation of?

(A) 1,195
(B) 2,195
(C) 5,500
(D) 15,900

372. Under PMMSY, how many women beneficiaries have been covered by the projects approved over the last five years?

(A) More than 1.28 lakh
(B) More than 2.28 lakh
(C) More than 74.66 lakh
(D) More than 15,900

373. In which state are the Holy Relics of Lord Buddha being exposed for public veneration from 31 October 2026?

(A) Sikkim
(B) Arunachal Pradesh
(C) Himachal Pradesh
(D) Mizoram

374. The Piprahwa relics of Lord Buddha were excavated from a site in which present-day district of Uttar Pradesh?

(A) Kushinagar
(B) Siddharthnagar
(C) Shravasti
(D) Gorakhpur

375. Where is the international conference on 'Buddhism: Dissemination in the Himalayan Region and Beyond' being held on 2 November 2026?

(A) Golden Pagoda, Namsai
(B) Kalawangpo Convention Hall, Tawang
(C) TGL Monastery, Bomdila
(D) National Museum, New Delhi

376. Which ships make up the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron that departed Colombo on 29 October 2026?

(A) INS Vikrant, INS Vikramaditya and ICGS Samudra
(B) INS Tir, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi
(C) INS Tabar, INS Trikand and ICGS Vikram
(D) INS Shivalik, INS Kadmatt and ICGS Abhinav

377. What is the full form of MAHASAGAR, the vision mentioned in connection with the Indian Navy's visit to Sri Lanka?

(A) Maritime Alliance for Harbour Access, Security and Growth Across Regions
(B) Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions
(C) Mutual Assistance for Humanitarian Aid, Security and Growth of All Regions
(D) Maritime Harmony and Shared Action for Growth Across Regions

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378. Sea trainees of the First Training Squadron visited which Sri Lankan institution during the Colombo port call?

(A) Naval and Maritime Academy, Trincomalee
(B) Kotelawala Defence University, Colombo
(C) Naval Dockyard, Galle
(D) Maritime Training Centre, Jaffna

379. In which district of Uttar Pradesh did the DRI bust a clandestine synthetic drug manufacturing laboratory?

(A) Jhansi
(B) Jalaun
(C) Hamirpur
(D) Banda

380. Which finished narcotic drug was recovered during the follow-up search at the residence of an accused?

(A) Heroin
(B) Methaqualone
(C) Mephedrone
(D) Ketamine

381. Under which law were the two persons connected with the clandestine laboratory arrested?

(A) Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985
(B) Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002
(C) Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967
(D) Customs Act, 1962

382. In how many cities and districts will the fifth nationwide Digital Life Certificate campaign hold camps?

(A) 1000
(B) 1500
(C) 2000
(D) 2500

383. How many digital life certificates is DLC Campaign 5 meant to generate through face authentication?

(A) 50 lakh
(B) 1.50 crore
(C) 2.30 crore
(D) 3 crore

384. Which department conducts the nationwide Digital Life Certificate campaign for pensioners?

(A) Department of Posts
(B) Department of Financial Services
(C) Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare
(D) Department of Telecommunications

385. Where was the 19th session of the India-BLEU Joint Economic Commission held?

(A) Brussels
(B) New Delhi
(C) Luxembourg
(D) Antwerp

386. In the India-BLEU Joint Economic Commission, what does the abbreviation BLEU stand for?

(A) Baltic and Levant Economic Union
(B) Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union
(C) Belarus-Lithuania Economic Union
(D) Benelux Labour and Enterprise Union

387. Who co-chaired the 19th India-BLEU Joint Economic Commission on behalf of India?

(A) The Foreign Secretary
(B) The Finance Secretary
(C) Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal
(D) The Commerce and Industry Minister

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388. Which city will host the CGIAR Science and Partnership Week in April 2027?

(A) Nairobi
(B) Hyderabad
(C) New Delhi
(D) Rome

389. Where was the first edition of the CGIAR Science Week held?

(A) Nairobi, Kenya
(B) Cairo, Egypt
(C) Lusaka, Zambia
(D) Kampala, Uganda

390. Who is the Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, who also serves as Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education?

(A) Dr Himanshu Pathak
(B) Dr Ismahane Elouafi
(C) Dr M L Jat
(D) Dr Trilochan Mohapatra

391. From where was the 24th instalment of the PM-KISAN scheme released on 30 October 2026?

(A) Banaskantha, Gujarat
(B) Nagpur, Maharashtra
(C) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
(D) Dindigul, Tamil Nadu

392. How much money was transferred to farmers under the 24th instalment of PM-KISAN?

(A) About Rs 11,200 crore
(B) About Rs 18,690 crore
(C) About Rs 25,400 crore
(D) About Rs 31,500 crore

393. What financial outlay has been approved for continuing the PM-KISAN scheme from 2026-27 to 2030-31?

(A) Rs 3.15 lakh crore
(B) Rs 4.64 lakh crore
(C) Rs 60,000 crore
(D) Rs 2.40 lakh crore

394. Development projects of what value were launched at Banaskantha in Gujarat on 30 October 2026?

(A) More than Rs 6,500 crore
(B) More than Rs 14,000 crore
(C) More than Rs 21,000 crore
(D) More than Rs 35,000 crore

395. The new research centre at Banaskantha is the country's first dedicated facility for which breed?

(A) Sahiwal cattle
(B) Kankrej cattle
(C) Murrah buffalo
(D) Jaffarabadi buffalo

396. Which of the following was flagged off at the Banaskantha event on 30 October 2026?

(A) Ahmedabad-Varanasi Sabarmati Express
(B) Ahmedabad-Mumbai Vande Bharat Express
(C) Mehsana-Jaipur Superfast Express
(D) Surat-Delhi Tejas Express

397. In which state is the Gandhigram Rural Institute, which marked its Golden Jubilee and 39th convocation on 30 October 2026, located?

(A) Kerala
(B) Karnataka
(C) Tamil Nadu
(D) Andhra Pradesh

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398. Which former ISRO aerospace scientist received an honorary doctorate at the 39th convocation of Gandhigram Rural Institute?

(A) S. Nambi Narayanan
(B) K. Sivan
(C) S. Somanath
(D) G. Madhavan Nair

399. Which book was released by the Vice-President at the Gandhigram Rural Institute event?

(A) Rural India at Seventy
(B) Inclusivity of India's Ageing Population
(C) Gandhian Thought and Modern India
(D) Villages of a Developed Nation

400. Which body released the draft Guidelines on Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Telecommunication Networks on 30 October 2026?

(A) NITI Aayog
(B) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
(C) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
(D) Department of Telecommunications

401. On how many guiding sutras or principles are the India AI Governance Guidelines anchored?

(A) Five
(B) Six
(C) Seven
(D) Nine

402. By which date were stakeholders asked to send written comments on the TRAI draft on AI in telecom?

(A) 15 November 2026
(B) 27 November 2026
(C) 10 December 2026
(D) 31 December 2026

403. TRAI's independent drive test whose findings were released on 30 October 2026 was conducted in which licensed service area?

(A) Himachal Pradesh
(B) Jammu and Kashmir
(C) Punjab
(D) Rajasthan

404. Which operator recorded the highest average download speed on the Leh city drive route?

(A) Airtel
(B) BSNL
(C) Reliance Jio
(D) Vodafone Idea

405. Which of the following is not a parameter assessed in a TRAI independent drive test?

(A) Call Setup Success Rate
(B) Mean Opinion Score for speech quality
(C) Average revenue per user
(D) Data download and upload throughput

406. The TRAI drive test released on 30 October 2026 covering Hyderabad and Adoni-Mantralayam belonged to which licensed service area?

(A) Telangana
(B) Andhra Pradesh
(C) Karnataka
(D) Tamil Nadu

407. How long was the drive test route covered across Adoni, Mantralayam and nearby areas?

(A) 63 km
(B) 121.5 km
(C) 201.8 km
(D) 396.3 km

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408. Which operator recorded the highest average download speed on the Adoni-Mantralayam route?

(A) Airtel
(B) BSNL
(C) Reliance Jio
(D) Vodafone Idea

409. Under the utilisation agreement signed for Tamil Nadu, how many villages are to be given connectivity on a demand basis?

(A) 2,767 villages
(B) 4,767 villages
(C) 5,767 villages
(D) 3,476 villages

410. Digital Bharat Nidhi, one of the parties to the Tamil Nadu BharatNet agreement, is the renamed form of which fund?

(A) Universal Service Obligation Fund
(B) National Investment and Infrastructure Fund
(C) Telecom Technology Development Fund
(D) National Broadband Mission Fund

411. On which date did the Union Cabinet approve the Amended BharatNet Programme?

(A) 4 August 2021
(B) 15 August 2022
(C) 4 August 2023
(D) 1 April 2019

412. Which agency seized 50 kg of methamphetamine in Mizoram and Assam in October 2026?

(A) Narcotics Control Bureau
(B) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence
(C) Central Bureau of Investigation
(D) National Investigation Agency

413. The 50 kg of methamphetamine recovered in the two operations was made up of which quantities?

(A) 25 kg of tablets and 25 kg of crystal meth
(B) 35 kg of tablets and 15 kg of crystal meth
(C) 30 kg of tablets and 20 kg of crystal meth
(D) 40 kg of tablets and 10 kg of crystal meth

414. Which force gave operational assistance in both the interceptions?

(A) Border Security Force
(B) Central Reserve Police Force
(C) Indo-Tibetan Border Police
(D) Assam Rifles

415. What do the four letters of VISV-2026 stand for?

(A) Vision, Industry, Strength, Valour
(B) Vision, Innovation, Synergy, Values
(C) Victory, Innovation, Science, Vision
(D) Vision, Integration, Security, Valour

416. The compendium of DRDO products released at the event was brought out in which languages?

(A) Russian, German and Japanese
(B) Arabic, Spanish and French
(C) Arabic, Portuguese and Russian
(D) French, German and Korean

417. Which organisation partnered DRDO in organising VISV-2026?

(A) Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers
(B) Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses
(C) Centre for Joint Warfare Studies
(D) National Defence College

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418. What is the theme of the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave 2026?

(A) Science for Self-Reliance, Innovation for All

(B) Creative Minds, Catalysing Science, Empowering Society

(C) Young Minds, New Science, New India

(D) Research to Reality, Science to Society

419. Which DRDO laboratory developed the Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuits and Infrared Focal Plane Arrays displayed at the conclave?

(A) Solid State Physics Laboratory, Delhi

(B) Defence Electronics Research Laboratory, Hyderabad

(C) Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad

(D) Instruments Research and Development Establishment, Dehradun

420. Infrared Focal Plane Arrays developed by DRDO perform which function in a tactical missile?

(A) They provide thrust in the boost phase

(B) They encrypt the data link to the launch platform

(C) They act as sensing elements for detecting and tracking the target

(D) They generate electrical power for onboard systems

421. In the name of CAQM's new command centre, what does PAVAN stand for?

(A) Pollution Alert and Vigilance Agency Network

(B) Platform for Air quality Vigilance and Analytics for NCR

(C) Programme for Air Ventilation and Atmospheric Nowcasting

(D) Platform for Ambient Verification and Air Numbers

422. How many continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations feed data into the PAVAN platform?

(A) 88

(B) 96

(C) 111

(D) 134

423. On which principle does the PAVAN Integrated Command and Control Centre operate?

(A) Detect, Analyse, Act

(B) Measure, Report, Verify

(C) Monitor, Warn, Penalise

(D) Observe, Forecast, Inform

424. What were the total receipts of the Government of India up to September 2026?

(A) Rs 12,76,088 crore

(B) Rs 18,35,422 crore

(C) Rs 25,49,835 crore

(D) Rs 18,95,288 crore

425. How much was transferred to state governments as devolution of the share of taxes up to September 2026?

(A) Rs 4,80,732 crore

(B) Rs 6,54,547 crore

(C) Rs 6,99,409 crore

(D) Rs 6,46,010 crore

426. Total expenditure up to September 2026 was what share of the budget estimate for the year?

(A) 41.2 per cent

(B) 44.9 per cent

(C) 47.7 per cent

(D) 52.6 per cent

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427. Of the commercial coal mines allotted since 2020, how many are producing, according to the Ministry of Coal?

(A) 25 of 137
(B) 37 of 125
(C) 52 of 137
(D) 25 of 90

428. How much coal did India produce in the financial year 2025-26?

(A) 778 million tonnes
(B) 893 million tonnes
(C) 1,041 million tonnes
(D) 1,250 million tonnes

429. Under current policies, NITI Aayog projects India's coal demand by 2050 at what level?

(A) Over 1.5 billion tonnes
(B) Over 2.6 billion tonnes
(C) Over 3.4 billion tonnes
(D) Over 4.2 billion tonnes

430. Who has been appointed Chairman of the High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat?

(A) Shirish Chandra Murmu
(B) Suresh N. Patel
(C) Padmaja Chunduru
(D) N. S. Vishwanathan

431. What is the tenure of the High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat?

(A) Three months
(B) Six months
(C) One year
(D) Two years

432. Besides the Priority Sector Lending framework, which scheme has the committee been asked to review?

(A) Lead Bank Scheme
(B) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
(C) Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana
(D) Stand Up India Scheme

433. Who has been appointed Vice Chief of the Air Staff with effect from 1 November 2026?

(A) Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
(B) Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia
(C) Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh
(D) Air Marshal Sujeet Pushpakar

434. Which command was Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia heading before this appointment?

(A) Western Air Command
(B) Southern Air Command
(C) Eastern Air Command
(D) Training Command

435. Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit takes charge as which Chief of the Air Staff?

(A) 27th
(B) 28th
(C) 29th
(D) 30th

436. Which attraction has become the first in the United Arab Emirates to accept UPI for e-commerce bookings?

(A) Museum of the Future
(B) At the Top, Burj Khalifa
(C) Dubai Frame
(D) Ferrari World Abu Dhabi

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437. Which country is set to become the eleventh where UPI is accepted?

(A) Kazakhstan
(B) Uzbekistan
(C) Indonesia
(D) Oman

438. Which payment institution partnered to enable UPI at Resorts World Sentosa?

(A) NEOPAY
(B) Emaar Entertainment
(C) FOMO Pay
(D) Liquid Group

439. At which port did INS Tarkash arrive during its Southern Indian Ocean deployment?

(A) Victoria, Seychelles
(B) Port Louis, Mauritius
(C) Male, Maldives
(D) Mombasa, Kenya

440. Aapravasi Diwas in Mauritius commemorates the arrival of the first indentured labourers from India in which year?

(A) 1810
(B) 1834
(C) 1857
(D) 1901

441. What does the acronym MAHASAGAR stand for in the context of India's maritime outlook?

(A) Maritime Alliance for Harbour Access, Security and Regional Growth
(B) Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions
(C) Maritime Assistance and Humanitarian Action for Secure and Green Areas
(D) Multilateral Harbour and Sea Guard Agreement for Regions

442. Where was the 14th International Tourism Mart held?

(A) Shillong, Meghalaya
(B) Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh
(C) Guwahati, Assam
(D) Gangtok, Sikkim

443. How many business-to-business meetings were held at the 14th International Tourism Mart?

(A) 980
(B) 1250
(C) 1580
(D) 2100

444. Which mission, presented to the tourism ministers, focuses on redistributing tourism demand to lesser-known destinations?

(A) Swadesh Darshan 2.0
(B) Dekho Apna Desh 2.0
(C) PRASHAD Scheme
(D) Incredible India 3.0

445. Which cyclone's damage led the Department of Telecommunications to keep Intra-Circle Roaming operational across districts of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha?

(A) Cyclone Montha
(B) Cyclone Arnab
(C) Cyclone Remal
(D) Cyclone Dana

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446. What does the Intra-Circle Roaming (ICR) arrangement allow a mobile subscriber to do?

(A) Make all calls free of charge anywhere in India

(B) Connect to another operator's network within the same telecom circle

(C) Use a satellite phone without a separate licence

(D) Change the mobile number without changing the SIM card

447. In which State did overall telecom network availability reach 99.18 percent after Cyclone Arnab, with eleven Cell on Wheels deployed?

(A) Odisha

(B) Tamil Nadu

(C) Andhra Pradesh

(D) West Bengal

448. Which open network runs the DigiDukaan initiative that digitises kirana stores as buyers?

(A) Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)

(B) Government e-Marketplace (GeM)

(C) National Payments Corporation of India

(D) Open Credit Enablement Network

449. How many retailers and brands had ONDC DigiDukaan connected, as reported at the Bharat Commerce Chintan Shivir?

(A) Over 12,000 retailers with more than 300 brands

(B) Over 21,000 retailers with more than 450 brands

(C) Over 45,000 retailers with more than 800 brands

(D) Over 16,000 retailers with more than 250 brands

450. Which department convened the Bharat Commerce Chintan Shivir along with ONDC?

(A) Department of Consumer Affairs

(B) Department of Revenue

(C) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

(D) Department of Food and Public Distribution

451. Where were the commemorative postage stamps on breast cancer awareness released?

(A) Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi

(B) Dak Bhawan, New Delhi

(C) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

(D) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

452. How many screenings for oral, breast and cervical cancers have been conducted in all under the NP-NCD programme?

(A) 49.02 crore

(B) 22.90 crore

(C) 86.97 crore

(D) 14.05 crore

453. Who released the commemorative stamps on breast cancer awareness for the Department of Posts?

(A) Dr. Pushp Lata, Additional Director General

(B) Punya Salila Srivastava, Union Health Secretary

(C) Manisha Sinha, Director General Postal Services

(D) The Union Minister of Communications

454. Under which department does the Survey of India, organiser of the geospatial transformation workshop, function?

(A) Department of Space

(B) Department of Science and Technology

(C) Department of Land Resources

(D) Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

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455. Which three-word formula did Dr. Jitendra Singh describe as the way forward for the geospatial sector?

(A) Reform, perform and transform
(B) Enable, invest and adopt
(C) Survey, map and share
(D) Measure, monitor and manage

456. Who is the Surveyor General of India, who spoke at the workshop on geospatial transformation?

(A) Prof. Umesh V. Waghmare
(B) Srikant Sastri
(C) S. K. Sinha
(D) Dr. Pushp Lata

457. The Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak is announced every year on the birth anniversary of which leader?

(A) Mahatma Gandhi
(B) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(C) Dr B. R. Ambedkar
(D) Lal Bahadur Shastri

458. How many personnel have been awarded the Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak for the year 2026?

(A) 390
(B) 450
(C) 490
(D) 590

459. Which ministry instituted the Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak through a notification dated 1 February 2024?

(A) Ministry of Defence
(B) Ministry of Home Affairs
(C) Ministry of Cooperation
(D) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

460. India's social protection coverage, which stood at 19% in 2015, has risen to what level in 2026?

(A) 48.4%
(B) 58.4%
(C) 68.4%
(D) 78.4%

461. In September 2026, the wage ceiling for mandatory EPFO coverage was raised to which level?

(A) Rs 15,000 per month
(B) Rs 21,000 per month
(C) Rs 25,000 per month
(D) Rs 30,000 per month

462. Which scheme has been revised from the National Social Assistance Programme in October 2026?

(A) Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan
(B) Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana
(C) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana
(D) Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana

463. How many road works have been approved for Mizoram under PMGSY-IV, Batch-1 of 2026-27?

(A) 35
(B) 40
(C) 45
(D) 55

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464. What is the total estimated cost of the road works approved for Mizoram under PMGSY-IV?

(A) Rs 510.40 crore
(B) Rs 610.40 crore
(C) Rs 710.40 crore
(D) Rs 810.40 crore

465. How many habitations in Mizoram will get all-weather road connectivity for the first time under the new PMGSY-IV approval?

(A) 28
(B) 38
(C) 48
(D) 58

466. Which launch vehicle carried the NVS-03 navigation satellite?

(A) PSLV-C61
(B) GSLV-F18
(C) LVM3-M5
(D) SSLV-D4

467. NVS-03 has been launched to strengthen which Indian system?

(A) GAGAN
(B) Bhuvan
(C) NavIC
(D) Antrix

468. Which organisation carried out the launch of GSLV-F18 with NVS-03?

(A) DRDO
(B) ISRO
(C) HAL
(D) BEL

469. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is observed every year on which date?

(A) 2 October
(B) 31 October
(C) 26 November
(D) 14 April

470. The year 2026 marked which birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel?

(A) 148th
(B) 150th
(C) 151st
(D) 152nd

471. Who administered the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas pledge at Kartavya Bhawan-1 in New Delhi in 2026?

(A) The Union Home Minister
(B) The Union Health Minister
(C) The Union Education Minister
(D) The Union Rural Development Minister

472. Under which theme has the Ministry of Panchayati Raj run the People's Plan Campaign since 2018?

(A) Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas
(B) Sabki Yojana, Sabka Vikas
(C) Mera Gaon, Mera Gaurav
(D) Gaon Chalo, Yojana Banao

473. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj signed an MoU for EV charging and battery swapping stations on Panchayat land with which organisation?

(A) NTPC Limited
(B) Convergence Energy Services Limited
(C) Indian Oil Corporation Limited
(D) Rural Electrification Corporation

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474. How much has the Sixteenth Finance Commission recommended as grants for Panchayati Raj Institutions and rural local bodies for its award period?

(A) Rs 2,36,805 crore
(B) Rs 3,80,000 crore
(C) Rs 4,35,236 crore
(D) Rs 5,12,400 crore

475. Bharat Parv 2026, where the Prime Minister visited the CCIC pavilion, is being held at which place?

(A) Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat
(B) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
(C) Gandhinagar, Gujarat
(D) Red Fort, New Delhi

476. The Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Ltd (CCIC) works under which ministry?

(A) Ministry of Culture
(B) Ministry of Textiles
(C) Ministry of Tourism
(D) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

477. Until which date is the CCIC exhibition at Bharat Parv open to visitors?

(A) 31 October 2026
(B) 5 November 2026
(C) 15 November 2026
(D) 26 November 2026

478. Which company received CCI approval to acquire 100% of the equity share capital of IntelliSmart Infrastructure Private Limited?

(A) Aditya Birla Renewables Limited
(B) Adani Energy Solutions Limited
(C) Energy Efficiency Services Limited
(D) Shell Overseas Investment B.V.

479. From whom is Aditya Birla Renewables Limited acquiring 100% of the issued share capital of Solenergi Power Private Limited?

(A) National Investment and Infrastructure Fund
(B) Energy Efficiency Services Limited
(C) Shell Overseas Investment B.V.
(D) Adani Energy Solutions Limited

480. In which country is Solenergi Power Private Limited, the target of the Aditya Birla Renewables deal, registered?

(A) Mauritius
(B) Singapore
(C) Netherlands
(D) France

481. What share of the issued share capital of Vodafone Group PLC will Vega SAS acquire with CCI approval?

(A) 9.9%
(B) 16.2%
(C) 26%
(D) 51%

482. MIH Payments Holdings B.V., cleared to acquire shareholding in Navi Limited, is a subsidiary of which company?

(A) Prosus N.V.
(B) Maya SAS
(C) Shell Overseas Investment B.V.
(D) Devyani International Limited

483. The CCI has approved the merger of Sapphire Foods India Limited with and into which company?

(A) Navi Limited
(B) Vodafone Idea Limited
(C) Devyani International Limited
(D) Maya SAS

484. By which date has the government set the target of making India completely free from drugs?

(A) 31 December 2027
(B) 31 December 2029
(C) 15 August 2030
(D) 31 March 2028

485. According to the Union Home Minister, in how many days after independence did Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel create an undivided India by integrating the princely states?

(A) 562 days
(B) 1,218 days
(C) 1,947 days
(D) 2,100 days

486. Who flagged off the Run for Unity held in New Delhi on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026?

(A) The Prime Minister
(B) The Union Home Minister
(C) The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi
(D) The Chief Minister of Delhi

487. The Yoga for Unity message promoted on National Unity Day 2026 has been integrated with which initiative?

(A) Fit India Movement
(B) Yoga 365
(C) Eat Right India
(D) Khelo India

488. Which ministry carried the Yoga for Unity campaign on the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel?

(A) Ministry of Home Affairs
(B) Ministry of Ayush
(C) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
(D) Ministry of Culture

489. Who is the Secretary of the Ministry of Ayush quoted on the Yoga for Unity and Yoga 365 campaign?

(A) Prataprao Jadhav
(B) Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha
(C) Punya Salila Srivastava
(D) Rajiv Bahl

490. How many cleanliness campaigns did the Ministry of Corporate Affairs conduct under Special Campaign 6.0?

(A) 45
(B) 60
(C) 75
(D) 100

491. How much office space was freed by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs under Special Campaign 6.0?

(A) 12,500 square feet
(B) 23,285 square feet
(C) 33,285 square feet
(D) 45,000 square feet

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492. How many public grievances did the Ministry of Corporate Affairs resolve during Special Campaign 6.0?

(A) 322 out of 330
(B) 330 out of 342
(C) 342 out of 435
(D) 435 out of 500

493. Who released the commemorative postage stamp in honour of Mata Bhagwati Devi at the Gayatri Parivar centenary celebration in New Delhi?

(A) The President of India
(B) The Lok Sabha Speaker
(C) The Vice-President
(D) The Minister of Culture

494. Under the leadership of Mata Bhagwati Devi, the Mahila Jagran Abhiyan was launched in which year?

(A) 1958
(B) 1975
(C) 1986
(D) 1990

495. The resolve we will change and the era will change is associated with which personality honoured at the Shatabdi Samaroh 2026?

(A) Acharya Shriram Sharma
(B) Mata Bhagwati Devi
(C) Dr Chinmaya Pandya
(D) Om Birla

496. Who assumed charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force?

(A) Air Chief Marshal AP Singh
(B) Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
(C) Air Marshal Narmdeshwar Tiwari
(D) Air Marshal Jeetendra Mishra

497. How many hours of flying experience does the new Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, have?

(A) Over 1,300 hours
(B) Over 2,300 hours
(C) Over 3,300 hours
(D) Over 5,300 hours

498. Which post did Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit hold during Operation Sindoor?

(A) Vice Chief of the Air Staff
(B) Deputy Chief of the Air Staff
(C) Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Central Air Command
(D) Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee

499. The inaugural BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise, held from 30 October to 3 November 2026, focuses on which maritime region?

(A) Arabian Sea
(B) Bay of Bengal
(C) Gulf of Aden
(D) South China Sea

500. Which of the following countries is NOT a member of BIMSTEC taking part in the inaugural Maritime Security Exercise?

(A) Bhutan
(B) Nepal
(C) Maldives
(D) Thailand

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501. Which is India's first integrated tri-service command, whose role the inaugural BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise highlights?

(A) Strategic Forces Command
(B) Andaman and Nicobar Command
(C) Western Naval Command
(D) Central Air Command

502. Up to which date has the Government of India extended the customs duty exemption on cotton imports?

(A) 31 October 2026
(B) 30 November 2026
(C) 31 December 2026
(D) 31 March 2027

503. Which department notified the extension of the customs duty exemption on cotton imports?

(A) Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance
(B) Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
(C) Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(D) Office of the Textile Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles

504. By how long was the existing customs duty exemption on cotton imports extended?

(A) One month
(B) Two months
(C) Six months
(D) One year

505. Who is the President of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, in whose presence its 72nd Annual General Body Meeting was addressed?

(A) The President of India
(B) The Vice President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan
(C) Dr Jitendra Singh
(D) The Cabinet Secretary

506. What is the membership of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, as stated at its 72nd Annual General Body Meeting?

(A) 9,611
(B) 10,116
(C) 11,611
(D) 16,111

507. In which year was the Indian Institute of Public Administration established?

(A) 1947
(B) 1950
(C) 1954
(D) 1959

508. WDC-PMKSY 2.0, under which watershed works were reviewed in Pune district, is implemented by which department?

(A) Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development
(B) Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Jal Shakti
(C) Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(D) Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation

509. Which village was held up as the model that the Khed Project villages should follow in becoming water-secure and self-reliant?

(A) Ralegan Siddhi
(B) Hiware Bazar
(C) Punsari
(D) Dharnai

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510. How many talukas of Maharashtra are covered under WDC-PMKSY, out of the state's 304 drought-affected talukas?

(A) 47 talukas
(B) 76 talukas
(C) 104 talukas
(D) 150 talukas

511. The workshop 'Planning a Shared Roadmap for Clean Delhi' was organised by which department, in collaboration with Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban?

(A) Department of Capital Development, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
(B) Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti
(C) Department of Urban Development, Government of Delhi
(D) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances

512. In the context of urban sanitation discussed at the Clean Delhi workshop, what does the abbreviation GVP stand for?

(A) Garbage Vulnerable Points
(B) Green Verification Protocol
(C) Gross Vehicle Parking
(D) Garbage Volume Projection

513. Which of the following bodies was represented at the Clean Delhi workshop by senior officials?

(A) Only the Municipal Corporation of Delhi
(B) NDMC, MCD and DDA
(C) Only the New Delhi Municipal Council
(D) Delhi Jal Board and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation

514. What is the extended last date for submitting applications under the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme for the academic year 2026-27?

(A) 31 October 2026
(B) 15 November 2026
(C) 30 November 2026
(D) 15 December 2026

515. How much does a student selected under NMMSS receive every year?

(A) Rs 6,000
(B) Rs 10,000
(C) Rs 12,000
(D) Rs 15,000

516. What is the ceiling on parental income for a student applying under NMMSS?

(A) Rs 2.50 lakh a year
(B) Rs 3.00 lakh a year
(C) Rs 3.50 lakh a year
(D) Rs 4.50 lakh a year

517. Sapphire Foods India Limited has been cleared by the CCI to merge with and into which company?

(A) Jubilant FoodWorks Limited
(B) Devyani International Limited
(C) Westlife Foodworld Limited
(D) Barbeque Nation Hospitality Limited

518. Which two franchise brands are run in India by both Devyani International and Sapphire Foods?

(A) Domino's Pizza and Subway
(B) KFC and Pizza Hut
(C) McDonald's and Burger King
(D) Starbucks and Taco Bell

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519. MIH Payments Holdings B.V., which has received CCI approval to acquire a shareholding in Navi Limited, is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of which company?

(A) Prosus N.V.
(B) SoftBank Group Corp.
(C) Alibaba Group Holding
(D) Temasek Holdings

520. Who chaired the meeting of the Hindi Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises?

(A) Jitan Ram Manjhi
(B) Shobha Karandlaje
(C) Bharat Khera
(D) Piyush Goyal

521. Udyam Prabha, one of the two magazines released at the meeting, is published by which organisation?

(A) National Small Industries Corporation
(B) Small Industries Development Bank of India
(C) Khadi and Village Industries Commission
(D) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

522. Which award did the Ministry of MSME receive for outstanding work in Hindi in 2025-26, as reported to the committee?

(A) Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar
(B) Rajbhasha Gaurav Puraskar
(C) Hindi Sewa Samman
(D) Rashtrabhasha Ratna Puraskar

523. Which department steers Special Campaign 6.0 for institutionalising Swachhata and reducing pendency in government offices?

(A) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
(B) Department of Personnel and Training
(C) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
(D) Department of Expenditure

524. Over which period in 2026 was Special Campaign 6.0 conducted?

(A) 1 to 15 September
(B) 2 to 31 August
(C) 2 to 31 October
(D) 1 to 30 November

525. How many e-files did the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs close under Special Campaign 6.0?

(A) 58
(B) 117
(C) 134
(D) 200

526. Who presented the Sardar Katha attended by the Vice-President at Uprashtrapati Bhavan?

(A) Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna
(B) Sudha Murty
(C) Dr Kiran Bedi
(D) Chitra Mudgal

527. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas on 31 October 2026 marked which birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel?

(A) 148th
(B) 150th
(C) 151st
(D) 152nd

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528. According to the Vice-President's address, how many princely states had to be integrated into the Indian Union at the time of Independence?

(A) More than 350
(B) More than 450
(C) More than 550
(D) More than 650

529. How much did the Union Government release to the states as an additional instalment of tax devolution on 31 October 2026?

(A) Rs 89,086 crore
(B) Rs 1,09,019 crore
(C) Rs 1,78,173 crore
(D) Rs 2,09,019 crore

530. The tax devolution of Rs 1,09,019 crore released on 31 October 2026 was which additional instalment of that kind in the financial year?

(A) The first
(B) The second
(C) The third
(D) The fourth

531. Which state received the largest share of the tax devolution released by the Centre on 31 October 2026?

(A) Maharashtra
(B) Bihar
(C) Uttar Pradesh
(D) Madhya Pradesh

532. The Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad: Know Your Vote campaign is organised by which body?

(A) The Election Commission of India
(B) Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)
(C) The National Youth Council
(D) The University Grants Commission

533. How many universities, colleges and institutions does the Know Your Vote campaign aim to cover?

(A) 250
(B) 500
(C) 750
(D) 1,000

534. Counting the latest round, how many Yuva Samvads have been held and about how many youth have they engaged?

(A) 62 Samvads and about 11,000 youth
(B) 116 Samvads and about 24,000 youth
(C) 158 Samvads and about 32,000 youth
(D) 200 Samvads and about 40,000 youth

535. Vidyanjali, the school volunteer programme, is an initiative of which department?

(A) The Department of Higher Education
(B) The Department of School Education and Literacy
(C) The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
(D) The Department of Youth Affairs

536. Which two modules form the CSR framework of Vidyanjali?

(A) The CSR Module and the Adopt-a-School Module
(B) The Volunteer Module and the Donation Module
(C) The School Grant Module and the Teacher Support Module
(D) The Community Module and the Asset Transfer Module

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537. At the National CSR Meet for school education, which state presented on the role of community participation under Vidyanjali?

(A) Andhra Pradesh
(B) Karnataka
(C) Mizoram
(D) Delhi

538. What was Delhi's monthly average Air Quality Index for October 2026?

(A) 143
(B) 166
(C) 189
(D) 223

539. How many 'Good to Moderate' air quality days did Delhi record between January and October 2026?

(A) 200 days
(B) 206 days
(C) 220 days
(D) 224 days

540. What was Delhi's average PM2.5 concentration between 1 January and 29 October 2026?

(A) 69 micrograms per cubic metre
(B) 72 micrograms per cubic metre
(C) 83 micrograms per cubic metre
(D) 93 micrograms per cubic metre

541. The Simhastha Maha Kumbh at Nashik is held on the banks of which river?

(A) Ganga
(B) Shipra
(C) Godavari
(D) Narmada

542. Who attended the Dhwaj Stambh Pujan, Dhwaja Pujan and Dhwajarohan ceremony of the Simhastha Maha Kumbh at Nashik?

(A) The Prime Minister
(B) The President
(C) The Vice-President
(D) The Governor of Maharashtra

543. The President expressed confidence about the Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Simhastha Maha Kumbh of which year?

(A) 2026
(B) 2027
(C) 2028
(D) 2030

544. Under which campaign did MY Bharat and the NSS hold nationwide cyclothons and walkathons on 30-31 October 2026?

(A) Fit India Freedom Run
(B) Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat - 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan
(C) Swachh Bharat Mission - Urban
(D) Khelo India Yuva Abhiyan

545. How many participants in all did the Week 7 cyclothons, walkathons and runs draw?

(A) Over 23,300
(B) More than 11,800
(C) Over 96,700
(D) Nearly 26,000

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546. What was the theme for the second month of the Nasha Mukt Yuva campaign, under which the Week 7 events were held?

(A) Fit Youth, Addiction-Free Youth (Shakti evam Seva)
(B) Swachh Yuva, Swasth Bharat
(C) Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat
(D) Nasha Mukt Gaon, Samarth Bharat

547. From which launch centre was the GSLV-F18/NVS-03 mission flown?

(A) Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Thiruvananthapuram
(B) Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota
(C) U R Rao Satellite Centre, Bengaluru
(D) Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad

548. NVS-03 is which satellite of the second-generation NavIC series?

(A) First
(B) Second
(C) Third
(D) Fifth

549. At which orbital slot is NVS-03 to be stationed?

(A) 83 degrees East
(B) 93.5 degrees East
(C) 111.75 degrees East
(D) 55 degrees East

550. By what percentage did India's total coal imports decline in August 2026 over August 2025?

(A) 4.18 per cent
(B) 5.83 per cent
(C) 6.39 per cent
(D) 35.23 per cent

551. What was the volume of India’s total coal imports in August 2026?

(A) 111.05 million tonnes
(B) 104.57 million tonnes
(C) 27.30 million tonnes
(D) 21.32 million tonnes

552. What was the share of imported coal in India’s total coal consumption in August 2026?

(A) 21.20 per cent
(B) 19.30 per cent
(C) 18.31 per cent
(D) 1.90 per cent

553. Which Indian Navy ship called at Souda Bay in Greece on 31 October 2026?

(A) INS Trishul
(B) INS Tabar
(C) INS Trikand
(D) INS Teg

554. Souda Bay, where INS Trishul made a port call, is located in which country?

(A) Italy
(B) Greece
(C) Cyprus
(D) Egypt

555. The Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre at Souda Bay, whose facilities the crew of INS Trishul is to see, is run by which organisation?

(A) European Union
(B) NATO
(C) United Nations
(D) Indian Ocean Naval Symposium

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556. In which city is the Ministry of Coal holding its Star Rating Awards Ceremony for coal and lignite mines?

(A) Raipur
(B) Ranchi
(C) Bhubaneswar
(D) Nagpur

557. Under the Star Rating Policy for Coal Mines, reviewers who assess and validate the performance of mines are appointed by which body?

(A) NITI Aayog
(B) Coal Controller's Organisation
(C) Coal India Limited
(D) Central Pollution Control Board

558. Mines achieving the highest star ratings for which assessment year will be felicitated at the ceremony?

(A) 2021-22
(B) 2022-23
(C) 2023-24
(D) 2024-25

559. Haryana, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh observe their State Foundation Day on which date?

(A) 1 October
(B) 1 November
(C) 15 November
(D) 1 May

560. In his foundation day message, which state did the Prime Minister describe as advancing on development while the roots of Naxalism are being removed?

(A) Jharkhand
(B) Odisha
(C) Chhattisgarh
(D) Telangana

561. Which state was described in its foundation day message as a land of proud heritage and striking natural beauty with heritage sites of world renown?

(A) Madhya Pradesh
(B) Haryana
(C) Chhattisgarh
(D) Rajasthan

562. Projects worth how much are to be inaugurated under PMMSY during the Union Minister’s visit to Sikkim?

(A) Rs 275 lakh
(B) Rs 375 lakh
(C) Rs 475 lakh
(D) Rs 575 lakh

563. How many fisheries production and processing clusters have been notified across the country under PMMSY?

(A) 24
(B) 30
(C) 34
(D) 44

564. Organic fisheries clusters under PMMSY have been notified in which two states?

(A) Sikkim and Meghalaya
(B) Assam and Tripura
(C) Sikkim and Manipur
(D) Nagaland and Meghalaya

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565. At which venue were the National Organ Transplant Games 2026 inaugurated?

(A) Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi
(B) Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi
(C) Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi
(D) Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi

566. How many transplant recipients and donors held the Tadasana posture together to set a world record at the National Organ Transplant Games?

(A) 370
(B) 470
(C) 570
(D) 670

567. Which body, working under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, was among the organisers of the National Organ Transplant Games 2026?

(A) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
(B) National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO)
(C) National Health Authority (NHA)
(D) Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)

568. Which police force was conferred the President's Colour on its Diamond Jubilee on 1 November 2026?

(A) Punjab Police
(B) Haryana Police
(C) Chandigarh Police
(D) Delhi Police

569. A police force becomes eligible for the President's Colour after how much service?

(A) More than 5 years
(B) More than 15 years
(C) More than 25 years
(D) More than 50 years

570. In which year was Chandigarh made a Union Territory and the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana?

(A) 1956
(B) 1961
(C) 1966
(D) 1971

571. Which Foundation Day did the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation celebrate on 1 November 2026?

(A) 72nd
(B) 73rd
(C) 74th
(D) 75th

572. Inoperative EPF accounts with balances up to which amount will now be settled automatically?

(A) Rs 500
(B) Rs 1,000
(C) Rs 5,000
(D) Rs 10,000

573. What was EPFO's average claim settlement time in October 2026?

(A) 7.5 days
(B) 5.2 days
(C) 3.9 days
(D) 2.57 days

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574. Who has assumed charge as the 55th Director General of the Geological Survey of India?

(A) Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir
(B) Prajith Kumar M. V.
(C) Chandra Bhushan Kumar
(D) Ramesh Krishnamurthi

575. The Geological Survey of India is an attached office of which Union ministry?

(A) Ministry of Earth Sciences
(B) Ministry of Coal
(C) Ministry of Mines
(D) Ministry of Science and Technology

576. In which year did Dinesh V. Ganvir join the Geological Survey of India?

(A) 1988
(B) 1991
(C) 1994
(D) 1999

577. What was Coal India's highest-ever monthly coal production, recorded in October 2026?

(A) 57.1 MT
(B) 62.47 MT
(C) 67.2 MT
(D) 70.3 MT

578. Coal India Limited was established on which date?

(A) 1 November 1975
(B) 1 November 1973
(C) 1 April 1975
(D) 15 August 1976

579. What production target has been set for Coal India for 2026-27?

(A) 768 MT
(B) 800 MT
(C) 815 MT
(D) 850 MT

580. What is the theme of the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit and Expo 2026?

(A) 'Invest. Innovate. Inspire.'
(B) 'Energy for All'
(C) 'One Sun, One World, One Grid'
(D) 'Green Growth, Global Good'

581. Bharat RE 2026 is being held alongside which session of the International Solar Alliance Assembly?

(A) 7th Session
(B) 8th Session
(C) 9th Session
(D) 11th Session

582. How many States and Union Territories will showcase their renewable energy potential at Bharat RE 2026?

(A) Nine
(B) Eleven
(C) Thirteen
(D) Fifteen

583. At how many airports has Digi Yatra started trials for international passengers?

(A) Five
(B) Seven
(C) Nine
(D) Thirteen

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584. During the international trial, Digi Yatra is open to passengers flying on select international flights of which airlines?

(A) Air India and IndiGo
(B) Air India and SpiceJet
(C) IndiGo and Akasa Air
(D) Air India Express and Vistara

585. How many journeys has Digi Yatra enabled across domestic airports so far?

(A) More than 26.5 million
(B) More than 39 million
(C) More than 110 million
(D) More than 150 million

586. In which city of Bhutan were 108 stupas raised and consecrated on 1 November 2026?

(A) Thimphu
(B) Paro
(C) Gelephu Mindfulness City
(D) Punakha

587. What is the height of each of the stupas raised at Gelephu Mindfulness City?

(A) 11 metres
(B) 15 metres
(C) 76 metres
(D) 108 metres

588. Which stupa in the project has been dedicated to Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

(A) Stupa No. 1
(B) Stupa No. 15
(C) Stupa No. 76
(D) Stupa No. 108

589. The 'Hirak Jayanti' celebration attended by President Droupadi Murmu at Kurukshetra marked which milestone for Haryana?

(A) 50th year of its formation
(B) 60th year of its formation
(C) 75th year of its formation
(D) 25th year of its formation

590. From which city of Haryana was the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign launched, as recalled by the President?

(A) Kurukshetra
(B) Panipat
(C) Rohtak
(D) Gurugram

591. Which improvement in Haryana did the President note while speaking on women's empowerment?

(A) A rise in the sex ratio at birth in 2025 compared with 2014
(B) A fall in the female literacy gap to zero
(C) The highest female work participation rate in the country
(D) Full enrolment of girls in higher education

592. Where is the Conference of Chairpersons of Public Accounts Committees of Parliament and State/UT Legislatures being held?

(A) New Delhi
(B) Thiruvananthapuram
(C) Kochi
(D) Jaipur

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593. What is the theme of the Conference of Chairpersons of Public Accounts Committees?

(A) 'Audit, Accountability and Good Governance - The Evolving Role of the PAC'
(B) 'Strengthening Parliamentary Democracy'
(C) 'Fiscal Federalism and the States'
(D) 'Transparency in Public Expenditure'

594. Who is the Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament, delivering the welcome address at the conference?

(A) Om Birla
(B) Harivansh
(C) K. C. Venugopal
(D) K. N. Balagopal

595. Who assumed charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force on 1 November 2026?

(A) Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
(B) Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal
(C) Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh
(D) Air Marshal Sanjeet Kumar

596. In the 'VAYU' vision announced by the new Chief of the Air Staff, what does the letter 'Y' stand for?

(A) Yudh
(B) Yukti
(C) Yojana
(D) Yatra

597. The 'Unity of Effort' pillar of the VAYU vision is linked to the national vision of JAI. What does JAI stand for?

(A) Jointness, Aatmanirbharta and Innovation
(B) Jawan, Agniveer and Infrastructure
(C) Jointness, Agility and Integration
(D) Jal, Akash and Imarat

598. The Vande Bharat Sleeper Express flagged off on 1 November 2026 connects Bengaluru with which city?

(A) Chennai
(B) Hyderabad
(C) Mumbai
(D) Mangaluru

599. On which corridor did Vande Bharat Sleeper services first begin?

(A) Varanasi-New Delhi
(B) Howrah-Guwahati
(C) Bengaluru-Mumbai
(D) Pune-Kalyan

600. According to Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, the roll-out of the Kavach protection system brought accident numbers down from 135 to which figure?

(A) 16
(B) 36
(C) 52
(D) 73

601. Who assumed charge as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Air Command on 1 November 2026?

(A) Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal
(B) Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
(C) Air Marshal Paritosh Ahmed
(D) Air Marshal Dinesh Ganvir

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602. In which year was Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal commissioned into the flying branch of the Indian Air Force?

(A) 1985
(B) 1989
(C) 1993
(D) 1997

603. Which appointment did Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal hold immediately before taking over Eastern Air Command?

(A) Vice Chief of the Air Staff
(B) Senior Air Staff Officer at Headquarters South Western Air Command
(C) Air Attache at the Embassy of India in Pakistan
(D) Director General (Weapon Systems) at Air Headquarters

604. Projects of the Chandigarh Administration inaugurated by the Union Home Minister on 1 November 2026 are worth how much?

(A) Rs 158 crore
(B) Rs 258 crore
(C) Rs 358 crore
(D) Rs 458 crore

605. Who holds the office of Administrator of the Union Territory of Chandigarh, as seen at this function?

(A) The Governor of Haryana
(B) The Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court
(C) The Governor of Punjab
(D) The Union Home Secretary

606. Which of these came into existence on 1 November 1966, as recalled at the Chandigarh function?

(A) Chandigarh, Haryana and the Chandigarh Police
(B) Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and the Punjab Police
(C) Delhi, Haryana and the Delhi Police
(D) Chandigarh, Punjab and the Border Security Force

607. The Balidan Shatabdi Samaroh attended by President Droupadi Murmu at Kurukshetra marked the martyrdom centenary of which reformer?

(A) Swami Vivekananda
(B) Swami Shraddhanand
(C) Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati
(D) Swami Sahajanand

608. By what name was Swami Shraddhanand known earlier in his life?

(A) Munshiram
(B) Mulshankar
(C) Narendranath
(D) Gadadhar

609. Whose cause of reviving the ancient Aryan system of education did Swami Shraddhanand carry forward?

(A) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
(B) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
(C) Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati
(D) Jyotiba Phule

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610. Which Foundation Day did the National Zoological Park, New Delhi, mark on 1 November 2026?

(A) 57th
(B) 60th
(C) 67th
(D) 75th

611. How many bird species were recorded during the 19th Sunday Bird Walk at the National Zoological Park?

(A) 26
(B) 36
(C) 46
(D) 56

612. Through which mobile application is registration for the Sunday Bird Walk at the zoo made available?

(A) NZP Saathi
(B) Van Mitra
(C) Bird Sathi
(D) Prani Mitra

613. At which place was the bhoomipujan of a Multi-Modal Logistics Park performed on 1 November 2026?

(A) Sindi Railway, on the Nagpur-Wardha district border
(B) Jalna, in the Marathwada region
(C) Bhusawal, in the Jalgaon district
(D) Hingoli, in central Maharashtra

614. Which agency, along with the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, is developing the Multi-Modal Logistics Park at Sindi Railway?

(A) Container Corporation of India
(B) National Highways Logistics Management Limited
(C) Indian Port Rail and Ropeway Corporation
(D) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited

615. What saving in the cost of moving one container is expected from the Sindi Railway project?

(A) From Rs 2 lakh to Rs 1.5 lakh
(B) From Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 1 lakh
(C) From Rs 1 lakh to Rs 60,000
(D) From Rs 3 lakh to Rs 2 lakh

616. What is the theme of the 'Khadi Diwali Fest-2026' organised in New Delhi?

(A) 'Khadi for Nation, Khadi for Fashion'
(B) 'Khadi-wali Diwali'
(C) 'Swadeshi Diwali, Sashakt Bharat'
(D) 'Har Ghar Khadi'

617. According to the KVIC Chairman, what was the turnover of the Khadi and village industries sector in the financial year 2025-26?

(A) More than Rs 1.55 lakh crore
(B) More than Rs 1.87 lakh crore
(C) More than Rs 2.51 lakh crore
(D) More than Rs 95,000 crore

618. Which podcast has the Khadi and Village Industries Commission launched to connect Gen-Z with Khadi?

(A) 'Baat Khadi Ki'
(B) 'Charkha Samvad'
(C) 'Swadeshi Swar'
(D) 'Khadi Katha'

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Answer key

1.	**B**	**Brazil** – Mr. Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva won the presidential election in Brazil, and the Prime Minister of India sent him his heartiest congratulations on 26 October 2026, calling the result a remarkable re-election victory.
2.	**B**	**A multifaceted Strategic Partnership** – The Prime Minister said he looked forward to working closely with President Lula to further deepen and expand the multifaceted India-Brazil Strategic Partnership, and that phrase is the one the message itself uses for the relationship.
3.	**B**	**The Global South** – The Prime Minister wrote that the two nations would continue to strengthen their cooperation across diverse sectors, advance the shared priorities of the Global South, and work towards a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable world.
4.	**B**	**Council of Scientific and Industrial Research** – ESTIC 2026 is a flagship national platform organised by CSIR under the guidance of the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, and it is scheduled for 27 to 29 October 2026 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.
5.	**C**	**Prof. Gobardhan Das, Member, NITI Aayog** – He graced the curtain raiser as Chief Guest, spoke of India's growing scientific capabilities and the potential of biotechnology to drive national development, and cited the development of COVID-19 vaccines as an instance of basic biological research leading...
6.	**C**	**12** – The conclave covers twelve key thematic areas, which include System and Synthetic Biology, advanced manufacturing, energy technologies, artificial intelligence, semiconductors and advanced healthcare, and the whole exercise is tied to the vision of Viksit Bha...
7.	**B**	**Over 1.55 crore** – That is the total number of artificial recharge and storage structures built under the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative taken as a whole.
8.	**B**	**World Water Day** – Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain was launched on 22 March 2021, which falls on World Water Day, and its guiding slogan was 'Catch the Rain, Where It Falls, When It Falls'.
9.	**A**	**Community, CSR and Cost** – Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari 1.0, which ran from 1 April 2024 to 31 May 2025, followed these three principles while strengthening public participation in water conservation, and it also mobilised convergence with running government schemes to speed the work up.
10.	**B**	**Rs 250 crore** – The allocation is meant to set up Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics Content Creator Labs in 15,000 secondary schools and 500 colleges across the country, and the Indian Institute of Creative Technologies in Mumbai will plan, coordinate and implemen...
11.	**C**	**Haptic Reality** – The correct answer is Haptic Reality, which is not a recognised form of Extended Reality.
12.	**B**	**Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** – It constituted the AVGC Promotion Task Force in April 2022, bringing together industry, academia and Government, and guided it by three principles: public-private collaboration, inter-ministerial convergence and an integrated approach to the sector.
13.	**C**	**12th** – The Forum in question is the twelfth edition of the BRICS Parliamentary Forum, and the Lok Sabha Speaker has written about the part it plays in strengthening parliamentary dialogue and cooperation among the grouping's member and partner countries.
14.	**C**	**A common monetary union** – The correct answer is a common monetary union, which is not on this Forum's agenda.
15.	**A**	**Speaker of the Lok Sabha** – Shri Om Birla is the Lok Sabha Speaker, and it was in that capacity that he wrote on the Forum's role in strengthening parliamentary dialogue and cooperation among BRICS member and partner countries, with the agenda of institutional resilience, AI governance,...

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16. **B** **Rs 116 crore** – The Technology Development Board, which functions under the Department of Science and Technology, signed an agreement with Manastu Space Technologies Private Limited of Navi Mumbai for financial support of Rs 116 crore drawn from the Research Development and...

17. **C** **Hydrogen peroxide with additives** – The system is described as a green propulsion solution that uses a hydrogen peroxide based propellant with additives, supported by an integrated engine and catalyst assembly that includes an ultra-high-temperature ceramic catalyst meant to survive demanding c...

18. **D** **TRL 9** – The programme is meant to carry the propulsion technology from Technology Readiness Level six, where a system has been proved in a relevant environment, up to Technology Readiness Level nine, where it is flight proven and ready for wider operational use, thro...

19. **B** **31 March 2027** – The Department of Commerce has carried forward the timelines of Component II of RELIEF, the time-bound intervention that sits under the Export Promotion Mission, up to the close of March 2027, and the change was notified through Notification No. 37/2026-27 is...

20. **D** **95 per cent** – Component II of the initiative is designed to push exporters towards taking cover from the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India for their coming shipments to the notified regions, and the inducement it offers is risk coverage at the level of ninety fi...

21. **D** **Energy shipments** – The cover under the initiative extends to three kinds of cargo, namely Full Container Load, Less than Container Load and refrigerated or reefer containers, and consignments of energy are specifically kept outside it.

22. **C** **Philippines** – The thirteenth edition of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus is being held at Cebu in the Philippines, which also holds the chair of the forum for the current year, and the Indian delegation to it is being led by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh.

23. **A** **1992** – India entered the ASEAN framework as a dialogue partner in that year, and the relationship has since widened into the defence domain through the ADMM-Plus mechanism.

24. **B** **Malaysia** – Within the ADMM-Plus construct India is co-chairing the Experts Working Group on Counter-Terrorism jointly with Malaysia for the cycle that runs from 2024 to 2027.

25. **A** **CHAKRA, Transforming Existing Platforms for Future Combat** – The seminar carries exactly this theme, and the phrase itself captures the idea behind the whole exercise, namely that equipment already held by the Army should be reworked into advanced and future-ready combat systems rather than simply replaced.

26. **B** **Chandimandir Military Station** – The correct answer is Chandimandir Military Station, which is the headquarters station of Western Command and the chosen venue for the two-day seminar in December 2026.

27. **C** **Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers** – The correct answer is the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers, usually written as SIDM, which is partnering Western Command both for the curtain raiser and for the seminar in December.

28. **C** **Fourth** – The Central Board of Secondary Education, in association with the Sahodaya School Complexes of Delhi and the National Capital Region, is holding the fourth National Summit on Facilitating School-to-Work Transition in New Delhi across two days, the twenty sixt...

29. **B** **National Credit Framework** – Of the four priorities set out at the summit by the Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy, the third is the recognition of skills across education systems, and the instrument named for it is the National Credit Framework.

30. **B** **Shri T. K. Anil Kumar** – The correct answer is Shri T. K. Anil Kumar, who spoke at the summit as Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy and laid out its four priorities, calling for a seamless transition from school education into higher education, skilling and...

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31.	**B**	**Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan** – The correct answer is Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and of Rural Development, who is to deliver the sixty seventh lecture in the series at the Rang Bhawan Auditorium of Akashvani in New Delhi.
32.	**B**	**1955** – Akashvani has organised the annual Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Lecture from that year onwards, in memory of independent India's first Deputy Prime Minister, who also held the Information and Broadcasting portfolio and is remembered as the architect of national i...
33.	**C**	**Shri C. Rajagopalachari** – The correct answer is Shri C. Rajagopalachari, a recipient of the Bharat Ratna and the first Governor General of independent India, who delivered the very first lecture of the series.
34.	**C**	**The Raksha Mantri** – The Defence Acquisition Council that met on 26 October 2026 was chaired by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, and it accorded Acceptance of Necessity to capital acquisition proposals of the three Services at an estimated cost of about Rs 2,12,000 crore.
35.	**B**	**The Indian Navy** – In this round of clearances the Navy was approved to procure the Active Offboard Decoy System, which raises the credibility of anti-missile defence, especially against the modern anti-ship missiles that an adversary may use, and along with it other major nava...
36.	**C**	**About 82 per cent** – Of the total Acceptances of Necessity accorded in this meeting, roughly 82 per cent of the procurement is to be made from Indian industry, which places the clearance squarely within the drive for self-reliance in defence production.
37.	**B**	**The National Crisis Management Committee** – Cabinet Secretary Dr. T. V. Somanathan chaired its meeting to review how prepared the Centre and the coastal States were for the approaching cyclone, with Chief Secretaries of the affected States, the Union Home Secretary and the heads of the NDRF, the IMD an...
38.	**B**	**Bapatla and Visakhapatnam** – The India Meteorological Department told the Committee that the storm would travel west-north-westwards and then turn north-westwards, crossing the Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts between these two points as a very severe cyclonic storm by the forenoon of 28...
39.	**B**	**Very severe cyclonic storm, 115-125 kmph gusting to 140 kmph** – The correct answer is a very severe cyclonic storm with maximum sustained winds of 115-125 kmph gusting to 140 kmph.
40.	**A**	**1,853 projects worth Rs 37.56 lakh crore** – That is the headline figure of the Monthly Flash Report for September 2026, covering projects of Rs 150 crore and above spread over 17 central Ministries and Departments and tracked on the PAIMANA platform.
41.	**C**	**Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** – It carries 974 of the monitored projects, which is a little over half of the total count, with a revised cost of Rs 9.46 lakh crore, or about a quarter of the overall cost.
42.	**C**	**Water and Sanitation** – The correct answer is Water and Sanitation, whose expenditure stands at 70.81 per cent of its project cost, the best among the harmonised list categories.
43.	**B**	**Application-based Linear Television Distribution** – TRAI adopted this label because the services it examined aggregate scheduled linear television channels and deliver them to viewers over the public internet or other IP-based networks through apps, websites or similar interfaces, whether the app comes pre-loa...
44.	**C**	**The Telecommunications Act, 2023** – TRAI recommends that ALTD Service be introduced as a distinct sub-category under Television Channel Distribution Services within the broadcasting authorisation framework created under Section 3(1)(a) of that Act, with the detailed terms notified as Rules unde...
45.	**B**	**20 years validity with a Rs 1 lakh one-time entry fee** – The correct answer is 20 years, renewable for successive periods of 10 years, with a one-time entry fee of Rs 1 lakh.

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46.	**B**	**294 listings from 10 emporiums** – The storefront draws its catalogue from ten State and Central handloom and handicraft emporiums, among them COTTAGE of the Central Cottage Industries Emporium, KHADI INDIA of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Garvi Gurjari of Gujarat, Himcrafts of...
47.	**B**	**Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu** – Among the ten emporiums whose catalogues make up the collection, Mrignayani is the emporium of Madhya Pradesh and Poompuhar that of Tamil Nadu.
48.	**A**	**One District, One Product and Geographical Indication tags** – The storefront was built around products associated with the ODOP initiative and goods carrying a GI tag, so that a government buyer looking for a gift also ends up supporting a recognised craft cluster.
49.	**B**	**Punnami Ghat, Vijayawada** – The Ministry of Rural Development is holding the Mela there with the State government and with support from NABARD, NIRDPR and Kudumbashree, and this is the first National SARAS Mela to move out of Delhi-NCR.
50.	**B**	**A woman of an SHG household with a sustainable annual household income of at least Rs 1 lakh** – The correct answer is a woman of a self-help group household with a sustainable annual household income of at least Rs 1 lakh.
51.	**B**	**NABARD, NIRDPR and Kudumbashree** – The Mela is an initiative of the Ministry of Rural Development in collaboration with the Government of Andhra Pradesh, with these three lending support.
52.	**B**	**2 October to 31 October** – The sixth edition of the Centre's special campaign on cleanliness in government offices and the clearing of pending matters began on 2 October 2026 and ends on 31 October 2026, with the targets fixed earlier in a preparatory phase.
53.	**C**	**About Rs 53.94 crore** – Coal ministry undertakings disposed of 16,158 metric tonnes of scrap, well above the 10,909 tonnes they had projected, and the sale of that material brought the exchequer roughly Rs 53.94 crore, the largest such figure reported by any ministry that day.
54.	**B**	**130.16 lakh square feet** – The undertakings cleaned 1,696 sites against the 1,565 sites first identified, and the area covered came to 130.16 lakh square feet, comfortably past the 101.80 lakh square feet they had set as the target.
55.	**B**	**Busan** – The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways took part in the high-level government roundtable on World Maritime Day in Busan, South Korea, and used the same visit to meet the Korean marine equipment industry.
56.	**B**	**Arsenio Dominguez** – He was on the roundtable platform with the Indian Minister, who called IMO conventions an operational lighthouse for shipping at a time of geopolitical instability, piracy and disruption in the Red Sea, protecting seafarers, trade and supply chains.
57.	**C**	**Mumbai** – KOMEA, the Korea Marine Equipment Association, will open its first office in India in Mumbai on 30 October, a step the Indian and Korean governments welcomed in April under VOYAGES, their framework for cooperation in shipbuilding, shipping and maritime logist...
58.	**C**	**The Indian Navy** – SWAVLAMBAN is the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar, and the Indian Navy organises it in collaboration with the Defence Innovation Organisation and the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers.
59.	**B**	**229** – The Raksha Mantri said that start-ups and micro, small and medium enterprises had submitted more than 4,000 proposals against 229 challenges issued by the Indian Navy under the Innovations for Defence Excellence scheme, which he treated as a measure of both t...
60.	**B**	**Dual Technology Roadmap** – Speaking at the seminar, the Raksha Mantri said indigenisation needed a broader approach and asked for such a roadmap to identify and prioritise technologies that can serve civilian as well as military needs, including those required for civil and military sh...

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61.	**B**	**Santragachi** – The service is named the Jaipur (Khatipura)-Tatanagar-Santragachi Express, and it was flagged off by the Union Railway Minister, who joined through video conferencing, together with the Chief Minister of West Bengal.
62.	**C**	**57** – While flagging off the new express train, the Railway Minister said that this many stations in Jharkhand are being rebuilt under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, and that work has already been finished at several of them, among them Godda, Govindpur Road, Loh...
63.	**C**	**Rs 14,205 crore** – Chief Minister Shri Suvendu Adhikari, speaking at the flagging-off ceremony, said the annual average railway allocation for West Bengal during the years from 2009 to 2014 was Rs 4,380 crore, and that it has risen to the figure in option C for the current year.
64.	**B**	**10,000** – Under the Vision Document on Narcotic Control for the period 2026 to 2029, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been entrusted with building the capacity of this many service providers, including medical and allied healthcare personnel engaged in de-...
65.	**C**	**NDDTC, AIIMS, New Delhi** – The correct answer is the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre, AIIMS, New Delhi.
66.	**B**	**The Union Home Minister** – Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, unveiled the Vision Document on Narcotic Control for 2026 to 2029 in June 2026.
67.	**B**	**The Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989** – The Ministry notified amendments to these rules so that vehicles capable of running on E85 and other high ethanol fuels can be certified and brought into use.
68.	**C**	**85 per cent** – E85 is a blend of petrol and ethanol in which ethanol forms up to that share by volume.
69.	**A**	**Brazil and the United States** – While explaining the amendment, the Ministry noted that flex fuel technology is already in use in these countries, where vehicles are built to operate on a range of ethanol and petrol blends drawn from a single fuel tank.
70.	**B**	**April 2027 to March 2028** – The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has proposed moving the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises from the calendar-year cycle it has followed so far to the financial year, so that its reference period matches that of other en...
71.	**B**	**Gender-specific constraints faced by women entrepreneurs** – The revised schedule introduces, for the first time, questions on the constraints women face in operating and managing their establishments, to build an evidence base on the factors affecting female-led enterprises in the unincorporated sector.
72.	**A**	**The Ministry of Textiles** – The statistics ministry stated that these two questions were added at that Ministry's request, so that establishments engaged in handloom, power-loom and handicraft work can be identified within the survey frame.
73.	**B**	**Italy** – Civitavecchia is an Italian port, and the Indian Naval Ship Trishul arrived there in the course of its ongoing operational deployment to the Mediterranean Sea.
74.	**A**	**Carlo Margottini** – The Indian Naval Ship Trishul conducted a Passage Exercise with this Italian Naval Ship just before it entered harbour at Civitavecchia.
75.	**C**	**The Mediterranean Sea** – The ship's visit to the Italian port of Civitavecchia came during its continuing operational deployment to that sea, and the Passage Exercise with the Italian Naval Ship Carlo Margottini was held in the same waters shortly before the ship entered harbour.
76.	**C**	**61st** – India is hosting the 61st Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology at New Delhi, and the sittings run from 26 to 28 October 2026.

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77.	**A**	**International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML)** – CIML is the committee of the OIML, and the meeting in New Delhi brings together delegates, officials and technical experts from member countries to take forward cooperation on measurement standards, protection of consumers and fair trade.
78.	**B**	**Evolutions in Legal Metrology** – The programme in New Delhi began with an international seminar on that theme, and the first session of the committee followed it.
79.	**A**	**Probity for Prosperity** – The theme set for the week is 'Satyanishtha se Samriddhi', which the government renders in English as Probity for Prosperity, and it treats honesty, integrity and openness as the pillars that hold up good governance and public trust in institutions.
80.	**B**	**Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** – The week is deliberately placed around his birthday, which falls on 31 October, and that is why this year's observance runs from 26 October to 1 November 2026 rather than on fixed calendar dates.
81.	**C**	**J. P. Nadda** – The correct answer is J. P. Nadda, the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, who read out the Integrity Pledge to senior officers at Kartavya Bhawan-1 in New Delhi.
82.	**B**	**Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada** – Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan addressed its 40th anniversary, called the Ruby Jubilee, in Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh, released a souvenir on the university's forty-year journey and asked its researchers to aim for global recognition in medical science.
83.	**C**	**846** – The Vice-President said the number of medical colleges in the country has more than doubled, rising to 846 at present.
84.	**B**	**177 per cent** – Postgraduate seats have risen by 177 per cent, from about 31,000 earlier to more than 86,000 now.
85.	**B**	**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – The correct answer is the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which runs the Shilp Samagam Mela to give marketing support to artisans and beneficiaries attached to its three national corporations.
86.	**A**	**Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme** – BHARAT-TULIP is the programme through which the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment helps artisans of its target groups sell their products, both at physical outlets and on e-commerce platforms, so that a craftsperson is not limited to buyers who walk...
87.	**B**	**Mysuru, Karnataka** – The correct answer is Mysuru, Karnataka, where the first mela of the series for the financial year was held at the Dasara Exhibition Grounds and concluded on 19 October 2026.
88.	**B**	**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – The correct answer is the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which runs the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan and has opened this quiz under it.
89.	**B**	**15 August 2020** – The campaign was launched on that date to reduce the demand for drugs through preventive education, awareness, treatment, rehabilitation and community participation, and it is now in its seventh year.
90.	**B**	**272** – The campaign was first taken up in 272 districts picked out as the most vulnerable to substance use, and it was later widened to cover every district in the country, which is why the present coverage is often quoted as nationwide.
91.	**B**	**Dr. Jitendra Singh** – The correct answer is Dr. Jitendra Singh, who presided as Chairman of the IIPA.
92.	**B**	**Retired IAS officers** – The Paul H. Appleby 2026 award was announced for three of them, S. S. Kshatriya, D. P. Tiwari and B. R. Sharma.

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93. **A** **One Nation One Subscription** – The council recorded its thanks to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the scheme, under which the institute's faculty will be able to reach a wider pool of journals, research papers, books, project reports and other academic publications than a single instituti...

94. **B** **Sjoerd Sjoerdsma, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation** – He holds the Dutch portfolio of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, and he chaired the India-Netherlands Business Forum jointly with India's Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal during the visit of 26 October 2026.

95. **C** **200** – The India-Netherlands Business Forum held during the engagements of 26 October 2026 drew roughly that many participants, and the gathering was made up largely of leading representatives of Indian and Dutch companies rather than of officials alone.

96. **A** **King's Commissioner of the Province of North Holland** – Arthur van Dijk holds that provincial office, through which the Dutch crown is represented in North Holland, and he was among the leaders Piyush Goyal met in the Netherlands on 26 October 2026.

97. **B** **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – It is the nodal ministry for the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana and handles policy formulation, funding, monitoring and overall implementation through its Department of Social Justice and Empowerment.

98. **B** **Rs 77.98 crore** – That is the amount released as grant-in-aid to 755 projects under the Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens, a component of the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana, for the quarter that ended on 30 September 2026 in financial year 2026-27.

99. **C** **23 crore** – India had 10.38 crore people aged 60 and above at the Census of 2011, split into 5.11 crore men and 5.27 crore women, and the elderly population is projected to rise to 23 crore by 2036.

100. **B** **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade** – The correct answer is the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, which works under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and has recognised 2,50,046 startups reporting over 25.42 lakh jobs.

101. **C** **USD 843 billion** – India drew that much foreign direct investment over the twelve financial years from FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26, which is 169 per cent more than in the twelve years before it.

102. **C** **Twenty-nine** – Twenty-nine central labour laws have been merged into four Labour Codes, and the exercise came with a set of threshold changes that are easy to ask about.

103. **C** **Rs 20,000 crore** – The scheme for carbon capture, utilisation and storage was announced in February 2026 and the Ministry of Finance set aside that sum over five years for five industrial sectors, namely power, steel, cement, refineries and chemicals.

104. **B** **IIT Bombay** – The first integrated CCUS Field Laboratory was inaugurated there in May 2026 and brings capture, utilisation and permanent geological storage together on one pilot scale platform.

105. **C** **CSIR** – It is organising the second edition of the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave, ESTIC-2026, from 27 to 29 October 2026 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, on the theme Creative Minds, Catalyzing Science, Empowering Technologies.

106. **A** **Probity for Prosperity** – The correct answer is Probity for Prosperity, given in Hindi as Satyanishtha se Samriddhi.

107. **B** **26 October to 1 November 2026** – The Central Vigilance Commission is observing the week across those seven days, and the integrity pledge was administered to the Commission officers and staff on 27 October 2026 at Satarkata Bhawan in New Delhi.

108. **C** **Recruitment of vigilance officers** – The correct answer is recruitment of vigilance officers, which is not among the prescribed focus areas.

109. **A** **Bihar Gramin Bank** – Two disputes between its management and its employees organisations were settled on 22 and 23 October 2026 through the conciliation efforts of the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Patna, working under the Office of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Centr...

110. **C** **Rs 77.69 crore** – The correct answer is Rs 77.69 crore, the figure for both settlements taken together, covering more than 10,900 employees of the bank.

111. **B** **The Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Patna** – The correct answer is the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Patna, who functions under the Office of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) in the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

112. **A** **Daudhan Dam** – In the review chaired by Union Jal Shakti Minister Shri C. R. Patil, the status of the Ken-Betwa Link Project was taken up, and the discussion covered the link canal and the Daudhan Dam.

113. **B** **Shri C. R. Patil** – The correct answer is Shri C. R. Patil, the Union Minister for Jal Shakti, who chaired the review meeting with the heads of department of the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

114. **C** **35** – The review took up the implementation status of 35 pilot clusters under the programme for Modernisation of Command Area Development and Water Management, which is abbreviated as M-CADWM.

115. **B** **Largest Innovation Solution Competition** – The Ministry of Education announced that the Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 had been certified by Guinness World Records under exactly this category, on the strength of 2,87,967 project entries sent in by school pupils from across the country through the Idea...

116. **B** **2,87,967** – This is the count of project submissions the Buildathon received from schools across India, taking the Idea Track and the Prototype Track together, and it is the figure on which the Guinness World Records certification as the Largest Innovation Solution Compe...

117. **B** **All-India Council for Technical Education** – The Buildathon was organised by the Department of School Education and Literacy in collaboration with the Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and AICTE, whose chairman Prof. T. G. Sitharam is among those attending the felicitation ceremony.

118. **B** **Yerevan, Armenia** – The 17th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity met at Yerevan, and the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change thanked the Government of Armenia for hosting the seventeenth meeting of the Convention.

119. **B** **23 targets** – India's minister told the High-Level Segment that the country's updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan converts the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework into 23 National Biodiversity Targets, and that progress against them is measure...

120. **C** **103** – In its National Statement India listed its conservation network as 1,134 Protected Areas, 103 Ramsar sites, 57 Biodiversity Heritage Sites and 18 Biosphere Reserves, of which 13 belong to the Man and the Biosphere network of UNESCO.

121. **C** **Eight** – The National Human Rights Commission built its advisory around eight areas of action: raising awareness about women's safety and sexual harassment, infrastructure, encouraging bystander intervention, the role of the police, support for survivors, cybercrime a...

122. **B** **34.6 per cent** – The commission quoted the Periodic Labour Force Participation Survey to show that women's participation in the labour force stood at this level in September 2026, and set it beside the roughly 4.4 lakh cases of crimes against women in the latest report of the...

123. **B** **Two months** – The commission urged all the authorities concerned to implement the recommendations in the advisory and to furnish an Action Taken Report within two months, so that it stays informed about the progress made.

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124. **B** **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** – Ministries run Special Campaign 6 under its guidance, and it has set up the web portal on which each ministry uploads progress so that the drive can be monitored centrally.

125. **C** **5,593** – The ministry completed the review of every physical file it had identified for the purpose, and that total was 5,593, one of the parameters it reported as fully finished in the progress up to 25 October 2026.

126. **A** **Ministry of Textiles** – The ministry highlighted the contribution of the National Handloom Development Corporation Limited at Noida, whose offices held cleanliness drives, competitions and a tree plantation under Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam between 2 and 23 October 2026.

127. **A** **Motihari, Bihar** – The ICAR-Mahatma Gandhi Integrated Farming Research Institute is situated at Motihari and functions under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education; it organised the farmer awareness and field interaction programme at Kothia Hariram village in the…

128. **B** **Mango and litchi** – The programme was built around balanced fertilisation, soil health, nutrient recycling, crop diversification and the sustainable management of mango and litchi orchards, and the institute described its aim as strengthening climate-resilient livelihoods in the…

129. **B** **Nutrient management based on soil testing** – The scientist leading the session explained that fertiliser applied indiscriminately pushes up the cost of cultivation and causes nutrient imbalances, whereas application decided by soil-test results, the requirement of the crop and the condition of the orcha…

130. **A** **Fostering Parliaments for People-Centric Development** – The Forum was organised on this theme, and the deliberations over the two days followed it closely: delegates discussed people-centric development, strong democratic institutions, cooperation between parliaments, and the responsible use of digital technology…

131. **C** **China** – At the close of the Forum the Lok Sabha Speaker handed over the chairship of the BRICS Parliamentary Forum to China, which takes the BRICS chair for the year 2027, and expressed confidence that cooperation would continue to flourish under its leadership.

132. **A** **Paragraph 13** – Reaffirming the consensus of the New Delhi Declaration, the member parliaments issued an explicit endorsement of UN Security Council reform with a reference to Paragraph 13 of that declaration, the aim being to make global governance more representative of th…

133. **B** **Indonesia** – Garuda Shakti is the joint special forces exercise of India and Indonesia, and its eleventh edition commenced at Banyuwangi in Indonesia, with the Indian side represented by the Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) and the host side by the Indonesian Special F…

134. **A** **Banyuwangi, Indonesia** – The eleventh edition of the India-Indonesia joint special forces exercise commenced at Banyuwangi and is being conducted from 27 October to 06 November 2026, which means this edition is being hosted by Indonesia rather than India.

135. **C** **The Parachute Regiment (Special Forces)** – The Indian contingent at the eleventh edition of Garuda Shakti comprises troops of this regiment, while the Indonesian contingent is made up of personnel from the Indonesian Special Forces.

136. **A** **Dr Mansukh Mandaviya** – The correct answer is Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, the Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, who chaired the third formal meeting of the COP10 Bureau as well as the fourth formal meeting of the Fund's Approval Committee for 2026-27.

137. **C** **Over 7,000** – The Union Sports Minister told the Bureau that during 2025-26 the National Anti-Doping Agency of India carried out over 7,000 tests along with more than 350 education and awareness sessions that reached 27,000 participants, and that the agency concentrated on…

138. **B** **July 2026** – The Union Sports Minister said that India had strengthened its legal and institutional framework through the National Anti-Doping Act, 2022 and its 2025 Amendment, and that both of them

came into force in July 2026.

139. **B** **15 November** – The day falls on the birth anniversary of Dharti Aaba Bhagwan Birsa Munda, and the Government of India designated it as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas in 2021.

140. **C** **Bhagwan Birsa Munda** – The Government designated 15 November as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas in 2021 to commemorate his birth anniversary, and his 150th birth anniversary was observed as Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh in 2024-25 with over 28 national events, more than 2 lakh activities and above...

141. **A** **ICMR** – The Jan-HIT Portal, which stands for Janjatiya Health Intelligence and Technology, has been developed with ICMR and is described as the country's first platform for tribe-disaggregated health data, covering 20 States.

142. **B** **The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** – The artisans and craftspeople who displayed their work at the Cultural Bazar are beneficiaries of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme of this ministry, and the stall at the Parliament House Complex was set up in the scheme's name.

143. **A** **Karnataka** – The artisan Deepu S from Karnataka specialises in traditional Channapatna toys and Kinhal toys, both of which reflect that State's toy-making heritage; under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme he received a toolkit, completed skill training and was onboarded on an e-c...

144. **B** **Jabalpur Stone Craft** – Anurag Sahu of Madhya Pradesh practises this GI-tagged craft, carving marble statues, pooja articles, souvenirs and home decor items from New Bhedaghat Marble of Jabalpur, and under the scheme he was onboarded on two e-commerce platforms to take his products...

145. **B** **Faridabad, Haryana** – The project was titled "Community-Based Ayurveda Intervention for Promotion of Physical and Mental Health in Elderly Population of Faridabad District, Haryana State", and under the institute's Public Health Initiative it screened 5,594 people in the sixty to...

146. **B** **The Ministry of Ayush** – The All India Institute of Ayurveda in New Delhi is an autonomous institution under this Ministry, and it works on Ayurveda through education, research, clinical services and public health initiatives.

147. **A** **From 292.0 to 326.3** – In the first component of the project a sixty-day intervention raised the total score on the World Health Organization Quality of Life assessment by that margin, and improvements were also recorded in all six parameters used to assess Agnibala, along with a g...

148. **C** **95.52 per cent** – The correct answer is 95.52 per cent, the overall tele-density of the country when machine-to-machine cellular connections are included in the count.

149. **A** **Urban 155.85 per cent and rural 61.30 per cent** – The correct answer is urban 155.85 per cent and rural 61.30 per cent, the total tele-density figures counting both wireless and wireline connections.

150. **B** **16.77 million** – Mobile Number Portability lets a subscriber shift to another operator while keeping the same number, and that many requests were filed with service providers during the month.

151. **B** **20 km** – The pass is offered to owners of non-commercial vehicles whose residence lies within a 20 km range of the fee plaza they use, and who hold a valid and working FASTag.

152. **B** **Rs 1,500** – The charge is set by where the plaza stands: a plaza outside a municipal or local town area costs that much for a year, while a plaza inside those limits costs twice as much.

153. **C** **The National Highways Act, 1956** – The amendment creating the pass has been issued as the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2026, framed under powers that this Act confers on the Central Government, and the fee rules that govern tolling on n...

154. **B** **1,265** – That is the board-wise total of Station Master vacancies notified under Centralised Employment Notice No. 08/2026, spread over the various Railway Recruitment Boards and zones of Indian Railways.

155. **C** **Mumbai** – The correct answer is Mumbai, whose Railway Recruitment Board carries 177 of the posts, the largest share of any board in this round.

156. **B** **The post will be notified separately from 2026 onwards** – The correct answer is that the post will be notified separately from 2026 onwards.

157. **B** **INS Tir, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi** – These three vessels sailed as the First Training Squadron on this deployment and entered Colombo harbour, where the Sri Lanka Navy welcomed them with a ceremonial reception and a naval band.

158. **C** **Passage Exercise (PASSEX)** – A Passage Exercise is the short exercise two navies run when their ships are in company, usually as one of them sails on after a harbour visit, and it lets crews practise manoeuvring, communication and formation keeping together.

159. **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.

160. **B** **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade** – The correct answer is the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, known as DPIIT, which works under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and runs the Startup India initiative.

161. **C** **20 sectoral and 3 special** – The twenty sectoral categories span fields from agriculture and food systems to deep technology, clean energy, financial services, healthcare, logistics and tourism, while the three special categories are Women-Led Startups, startups from the North-Eastern Re...

162. **C** **Student Innovator or Aspiring Entrepreneur Award** – It has been added in this edition to build a habit of innovation among school and college students, and it is open to students across all 36 States and Union Territories, with a total prize pool of Rs 25 lakh spread over four sub-categories.

163. **B** **Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026** – The correct answer is the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave, or ESTIC 2026, held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

164. **A** **Gene synthesis** – The Minister said that relying on suppliers abroad for specialised research inputs creates difficulties for Indian scientists in terms of time, access and the continuity of their work, and that building this capability within the country would let researchers...

165. **B** **The SHANTI Act** – Speaking about advances in nuclear medicine, the Minister referred to provisions in this recently enacted law that allow private players into nuclear medicine research, and said such steps can create openings for further research and for industry involvement...

166. **C** **Singapore** – SIMBEX is short for Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise, and it is conducted between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy.

167. **B** **Bay of Bengal** – SIMBEX-2026 was run in two stages.

168. **C** **RSS Supreme** – The Republic of Singapore Navy sent RSS Supreme, a Formidable-class stealth frigate, and the ship carried an embarked SH-70B helicopter during the exercise.

169. **B** **Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa** – Yard 1283, named Srishti, was launched there on 27 October 2026 in the presence of the Secretary (Defence Finance) and senior officers of the Indian Navy and the Ministry of Defence.

170. **C** **Creation** – The Ministry of Defence explained that ships of this class take their names from India's rich heritage, and that Srishti means creation, or the act of creating, in Sanskrit.

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171. **B** **Ballistic missile defence** – The roles set out for these vessels are maritime surveillance, search and rescue, protection of offshore assets such as installations at sea, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and anti-piracy missions.

172. **A** **Gyan Bharatam Mission** – The agreement between the Ministry of Culture and the Bibliotheque nationale de France was signed in Paris on 26 October 2026 under this mission, which is the Ministry's flagship initiative for India's manuscript heritage.

173. **B** **Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture** – He signed and exchanged the Memorandum of Understanding in Paris on 26 October 2026 with Gilles Pecout, President of the Bibliotheque nationale de France.

174. **C** **OCR and HTR tools for Indian scripts** – The agreement provides for an exchange of expertise in digitisation and preservation technologies, cataloguing standards, optical character recognition and handwritten text recognition tools for Indian scripts, digital humanities and manuscript conservation.

175. **B** **Rajgir Sports Complex, Bihar** – The series was played there under the 100 Years of Unity through Sport initiative, which marks a century of sporting ties between India and New Zealand, and the closing day was attended by the Chief Minister of Bihar and the Union Minister of State for Youth...

176. **C** **100 Years of Unity through Sport** – The series at Rajgir formed part of this initiative, which marks a century of sporting ties between India and New Zealand and uses sport to strengthen cultural and diplomatic links between the two countries.

177. **B** **Two mixed-team matches with players of both nations on the same side** – The programme had four Rugby Sevens matches in all, and two of them were mixed-team fixtures in which national players from India and New Zealand played alongside one another as teammates rather than as opponents.

178. **B** **India Habitat Centre, New Delhi** – The two-day forum opened there on 27 October 2026 and is organised by ICLEI South Asia with the National Institute of Urban Affairs, with support from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

179. **A** **COP31 in Antalya, Turkiye** – The Delhi Declaration on Local Action for Global Climate Goals 2026 is the outcome document of the forum, and it will be adopted on 28 October 2026 before being carried to the climate conference at Antalya.

180. **B** **Centre for Sustainable Urban Mobility and Integrated Transportation** – The correct answer is the Centre for Sustainable Urban Mobility and Integrated Transportation, which goes by the short name SUMMIT.

181. **B** **Cyprus** – Its Shipping Deputy Minister, Marina Hadjimanolis, met the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, at Busan and repeated her country's backing for India's effort to secure European Union recognition for eligible Indian ship-recycl...

182. **D** **2047** – The aim set out during the Busan meetings is to make India a globally competitive hub for shipbuilding, shipping and maritime services by that year, which also marks a century of independence.

183. **A** **Ship design, research, testing and training** – During the meeting with the President of the Korea Marine Equipment Research Institute, the minister described the centre as a national platform for exactly these functions, adding that testing and certification carried out within India, with Korean technical...

184. **B** **Kuno National Park** – The male cheetah carrying the code KNG22 was a 19-month-old offspring of the female Nirva and was part of the reintroduced cheetah population of Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.

185. **A** **National Tiger Conservation Authority and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau** – The correct answer is the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.

186. **B** **Jabalpur** – After the cheetah KNG22 was found injured in the Morena territorial forests, the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department rescued it the same day and took it to the veterinary facility at Jabalpur, where it received intensive veterinary care and emergency surgery; fi...

187. **B** **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** – He inaugurated ESTIC 2026 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on the conclave's opening day and used his address to ask scientists, researchers and young innovators for outcomes that are concrete, measurable and able to be scaled, within an operating horizon of t...

188. **C** **Twelve** – Prof. Ajay K. Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, described the 12 core thematic priority domains around which the conclave is built, and called for closer alignment of research, industry and policy across them.

189. **B** **Prof. Joachim Frank** – The correct answer is Prof. Joachim Frank of Columbia University, who received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2017.

190. **C** **Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh** – The Ministry of Tourism is holding the 14th International Tourism Mart from 29 to 31 October 2026 at Hotel Vivanta in Tawang, together with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and the other North Eastern States.

191. **C** **22** – The Mart at Tawang is expected to see participation from 43 international buyers representing 22 countries, among them Japan, Australia, Bhutan, Russia, Singapore, Germany, Thailand, South Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States.

192. **A** **Regional Meeting of Tourism Ministers of the North Eastern States** – The correct answer is the Regional Meeting of Tourism Ministers of the North Eastern States.

193. **B** **Mexico** – The Terms of Reference signed on 28 October 2026 formally launch negotiations for a Preferential Trade Agreement between India and Mexico, and they lay down the framework, scope, modalities and roadmap that the negotiators will follow.

194. **B** **G7 Summit in Canada** – The Prime Minister of India and the President of Mexico met on the sidelines of that summit in June 2025 and agreed to strengthen and deepen the partnership between the two countries; the Terms of Reference signed later are the direct result of that understan...

195. **B** **Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal** – The discussions on bilateral relations and on widening trade and investment flows were held during his visit, and the Mexican side was represented by Luis Rosendo Gutierrez Romano, Undersecretary of Foreign Trade, who took part on behalf of Secretary of Econo...

196. **B** **BISAG-N** – The correct answer is BISAG-N. The application was developed by BISAG-N in collaboration with the National Water Mission under the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in the Ministry of Jal Shakti, and it was launched by th...

197. **B** **Up to 3 km** – The application allows a user to identify potential artificial recharge zones within a radial distance of up to three kilometres from a chosen point, and then to explore which recharge structures would suit the conditions prevailing there.

198. **A** **Rainfall, groundwater levels, groundwater yield, slope and drainage** – These are the geospatial layers the platform works on to mark out areas where water can usefully be sent back into the ground and to plan the right interventions there.

199. **B** **National Human Rights Commission** – The Commission addressed the advisory to nine Union Ministries, to the Chief Secretaries and Administrators of all States and Union Territories, and to their Directors General of Police, and it has asked them to report back on implementation.

200. **B** **Two months** – The Commission urged all the authorities concerned to implement the recommendations contained in the advisory and to furnish an Action Taken Report within that period, so that it stays informed of the progress being made.

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201. **C** **Nine** – The advisory went to nine Union Ministries, and alongside them to the Chief Secretaries and Administrators of all States and Union Territories as well as their Directors General of Police, because the subjects it covers run across prisons, health, women and c…

202. **B** **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata** – Officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence intercepted two containers of a Nepal-bound transshipment consignment there and recovered about 55,000 e-cigarettes, mis-declared as water glass and ceramic mugs, worth roughly Rs 13.50 crore.

203. **A** **Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2019** – This law bans the production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement of electronic cigarettes and of every Electronic Nicotine Delivery System, and it was enacted in the interest of public health and to protect p…

204. **B** **Rs 13.50 crore** – Around 55,000 e-cigarettes were seized together with the cover cargo, and this was the value placed on them, with the first container holding 40,000 devices of one brand and the second about 15,000 of several others.

205. **C** **Rs 19,744 crore** – The Union Cabinet approved the Mission in January 2023 with that outlay, and set the goal of making India a global hub for green hydrogen and its derivatives, with production capacity of at least 5 MMT a year by 2030.

206. **A** **2 kg of CO2 equivalent per kg of hydrogen** – The correct answer is 2 kg of CO2 equivalent per kg of hydrogen.

207. **B** **Paradip Port** – The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has recognised three ports as green hydrogen hubs, namely Deendayal Port at Kandla in Gujarat, V.O. Chidambaranar Port at Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu and Paradip Port in Odisha, so that production, consumption and infrastr…

208. **B** **SpaDeX** – Its two satellites docked for the first time on 16 January 2025, then repeated the manoeuvre with full autonomy from an inter-satellite distance of 15 m on 20 April 2025, and the following day power was transferred between the docked spacecraft.

209. **B** **Rs 8,240 crore** – The Union Cabinet approved the development of the vehicle in September 2024, and the amount covers development costs, three developmental flights, the essential facilities, programme management and the launch campaign.

210. **B** **US$44 billion by 2033** – This is the target set by the Department of Space, and emerging technologies such as reusable launch vehicles, air-breathing propulsion, electric propulsion and in-space docking are expected to support that growth.

211. **B** **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** – The fourth edition of the Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign is a drive of that ministry, and it was launched on 28 October 2026 by Minister of State Shri Prataprao Jadhav at ABVIMS and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital in New Delhi.

212. **C** **60 days** – The fourth edition is a 60-day nationwide campaign, the same length the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has used for the drive each year since 2023.

213. **B** **World No Tobacco Day, 31 May 2023** – The first Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign was launched that day, timed to coincide with the observance, and it laid the base for a focused national effort against tobacco use among young people.

214. **B** **Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu** – Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal met HD Hyundai Chairman Chung Ki-sun in Seoul and discussed the next steps for the greenfield shipyard proposed there.

215. **B** **HD Korea Shipbuilding and Offshore Engineering** – The correct answer is HD Korea Shipbuilding and Offshore Engineering, known as HD KSOE, which is the shipbuilding arm of HD Hyundai.

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216. **C** **More than 400** – Speaking about demand within the country, Sarbananda Sonowal said the domestic market is booming and that public agencies are looking to acquire more than four hundred vessels in the years ahead.

217. **B** **1 October 2025** – The India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement entered into force on that date, a point Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal made while calling on Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein.

218. **C** **100 billion dollars over 15 years** – That is the investment aim written into the India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement, and it is paired with the facilitation of a million direct jobs in India.

219. **D** **Sweden** – The correct answer is Sweden, which is not a member of the European Free Trade Association.

220. **C** **45** – The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, acting with the Air Intelligence Unit at Trichy, foiled an attempt to bring that many live reptiles into India through Trichy International Airport.

221. **B** **The Customs Act, 1962** – The reptiles were seized and the two Indian passengers were arrested by the Air Intelligence Unit at Trichy under the provisions of that Act, because the offence was the illegal import of goods, here live wildlife, across a customs frontier.

222. **C** **Bangkok, via Colombo** – Officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence acted on specific intelligence and intercepted two Indian passengers who reached Trichy International Airport on that routing on 26 October 2026.

223. **B** **About Rs 26.17 crore** – South Eastern Coalfields Limited disposed of four thousand six hundred and two metric tonnes of scrap under Special Campaign 6, well above the target of three thousand three hundred metric tonnes, and that disposal earned the company revenue of roughly this a...

224. **B** **Coal India Limited** – South Eastern Coalfields Limited is one of its subsidiaries and works under the Ministry of Coal, with establishments spread across Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh and its headquarters at Bilaspur.

225. **B** **Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh** – South Eastern Coalfields Limited has its establishments in these two states and carried out its cleanliness, scrap disposal, space optimisation and record management work there under Special Campaign 6.

226. **B** **22 October to 30 November** – The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare is holding Khet Bachao Abhiyan - Rabi 2026 across the country over these weeks, working through its two departments.

227. **B** **Lab to Land** – Under the campaign agricultural scientists travel to farmers' fields to share the newest scientific techniques, research-based knowledge and practical information that can improve farming practice and productivity, which is exactly what the expression describ...

228. **A** **KVK Ujwa** – The Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Ujwa in Delhi is conducting the special awareness programmes in villages of rural Delhi as part of Khet Bachao Abhiyan - Rabi 2026, from 22 October to 30 November 2026.

229. **B** **3 per cent** – The Cabinet cleared an additional instalment of Dearness Allowance for serving employees and Dearness Relief for pensioners representing a rise of three percentage points over the rates already being paid.

230. **C** **1 July 2026** – The Cabinet approved the release of the additional instalment with effect from that date, which is why the employees and pensioners covered by the order also become entitled to arrears for the months that have already passed between the effective date and the...

231. **B** **10,016.10 crore rupees** – This is the figure the Cabinet put on the combined effect of the higher Dearness Allowance for employees and the higher Dearness Relief for pensioners, counted for a full year.

232. **B** **7,395.55 crore rupees** – The correct answer is 7,395.55 crore rupees, which is the full outlay of the scheme across its five-year term.

233. **B** **The Sixteenth Finance Commission** – The scheme has been sanctioned for the years from 2026-27 to 2030-31, and the Cabinet decision states plainly that this term is co-terminus with that commission's period.

234. **C** **17** – PANCHAM is described in the Cabinet decision as an artificial-intelligence enabled, multilingual, two-way communication platform working in seventeen Indian languages, and the scheme will use it to explain central programmes to villagers in language they actu...

235. **B** **10,000 crore rupees** – The correct answer is 10,000 crore rupees, the full outlay sanctioned for the scheme and available up to the financial year 2039-40.

236. **C** **7.5 lakh TEUs** – The scheme envisages raising annual domestic container manufacturing capacity by roughly ten times, up to that level.

237. **B** **3 per cent a year** – The Interest Subvention Assistance component, for which 859 crore rupees has been provided, lowers the interest cost on eligible term loans by three percentage points a year.

238. **B** **6.7 per cent** – The correct answer is 6.7 per cent, the year on year growth recorded by the quick estimates for September 2026.

239. **C** **Electricity and gas supply** – The correct answer is electricity and gas supply, which grew at the fastest rate among the four sectors that make up the index.

240. **C** **2022-23 equal to 100** – The correct answer is 2022-23 equal to 100, the base on which the index and the use-based indices are now compiled.

241. **B** **13** – The toolkit's video modules are to be made available in thirteen Indian languages so that the material can reach students in different parts of the country rather than only those comfortable in English or Hindi.

242. **A** **The Clean Sport Conclave of NADA India** – The correct answer is the Clean Sport Conclave of NADA India, the National Anti-Doping Agency's gathering at which the three parties exchanged the understanding.

243. **B** **Respect, integrity and fairness** – These are the three values that the UNESCO official named at the conclave as the ones the toolkit carries into education and sport, and they are to be taught through classroom activity rather than only on the playing field.

244. **B** **The Philippines** – The correct answer is the Philippines, with the meeting held in the city of Cebu.

245. **A** **Shinjiro Koizumi** – The two ministers welcomed the steady progress in bilateral defence cooperation since they last met in August, and reviewed work on mine countermeasures, the prospect of joint development in naval shipbuilding and design, and cooperation between the two air f...

246. **B** **The 10-year India-US Defence Framework** – The correct answer is the 10-year India-US Defence Framework, whose progress the two sides reviewed along with the broader Major Defence Partnership.

247. **C** **Rs 1,856.67 crore** – The Cabinet decision fixes this amount as the total outlay of the scheme and sets its life from the year 2026 to the financial year 2033-34.

248. **A** **The BHAVYA Scheme and NICDC Industrial Parks** – The scheme avoids building industrial land afresh and instead plugs the proposed Sports Goods Manufacturing Zones into infrastructure that these two already provide, so that makers, suppliers, testing facilities, design and prototyping centres and ancillary e...

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249. **D** **Union Budget 2026-27** – The announcement came in that budget and the Cabinet approval that followed gave the scheme its outlay, its components and its life span, which runs from 2026 to the financial year 2033-34.

250. **B** **INS Sahyadri** – The ship that entered Busan Naval Harbour in the Republic of Korea for the India-Republic of Korea Navy bilateral exercise is INS Sahyadri, a guided missile stealth frigate that was designed and built in India.

251. **C** **ROKS Munmu the Great** – The exercise is arranged in two parts.

252. **B** **An indigenously designed and built guided missile stealth frigate** – The correct answer is an indigenously designed and built guided missile stealth frigate.

253. **A** **Yerevan** – The correct answer is Yerevan, the capital of Armenia, which hosted the 17th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

254. **C** **India State of Forest Report** – The correct answer is India State of Forest Report, which was not part of this release.

255. **B** **The Nagoya Protocol** – Speaking on Access and Benefit Sharing, the minister said this protocol provides the basis for sharing fairly and equitably the benefits that arise when genetic resources are used, and he pressed for the principle to be converted into procedures that are work...

256. **B** **100 crore rupees** – The ministry has halved the entry bar under Part 2 of the scheme so that micro, small and medium enterprises and mid-sized manufacturing units can take part, where earlier the requirement kept them out.

257. **B** **1 November to 31 December 2026** – The Ministry of Textiles has set a two-month window in which the online portal will accept fresh applications under Round 4, and eligible companies have been asked to apply within that period in keeping with the scheme guidelines.

258. **D** **2033-34** – The extension is deliberately limited to companies approved under Round 4, and the reason given is practical: a manufacturer entering now needs a longer investment and operational horizon to build a plant and then scale up its capacity, which a shorter tenure...

259. **B** **543 brands** – The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has published a list of 543 brands of anti-cancer medicines with their revised maximum retail prices, and those rates have to be charged from 9 November 2026.

260. **D** **9 November 2026** – The correct answer is 9 November 2026, the date from which the revised maximum retail prices become effective for the 543 brands on the published list.

261. **C** **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers** – NPPA works under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, which is one of the departments of that ministry, and it is the body that fixed the revised maximum retail prices for anti-cancer medicine brands effective from 9 November 2026.

262. **B** **Largest Innovation Solution Competition** – The Guinness World Records certification for Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 was given under exactly this title, and it rests on the 2,87,967 project submissions that school students sent in under the Idea and Prototype tracks.

263. **B** **2,87,967** – This is the number of project submissions recorded across the Idea Track and the Prototype Track, and it is the figure on which the Guinness World Records certification as the largest innovation solution competition rests.

264. **A** **Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog and AICTE** – The correct answer is the Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog and the All-India Council for Technical Education.

265. **B** **Rs 77.98 crore** – This amount has been released as grant-in-aid to 755 projects running under the Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens, which is a component of the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana, and it

covers the quarter that ended on 30 September 2026 in the financial year 20...

266. **A** **National Action Plan for Senior Citizens** – Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana was launched in 2021 and it took in that earlier plan, widened its scope and brought a number of separate measures for older persons under a single umbrella scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

267. **B** **2036** – The projection of about 23 crore senior citizens by that year is the reason given for strengthening institutional machinery and community participation under Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana.

268. **C** **558.9 GW** – This was the installed electricity capacity of the country as on 30 September 2026, and of it about 308 GW, or roughly 55 per cent, came from non-fossil sources.

269. **B** **Japan** – Four bilateral meetings were held on the margins of the week, and Japan was not among them.

270. **C** **1200 MW** – Punatsangchhu-I is the project of that size, and the two ministers noted that dam work there has moved steadily since concreting resumed in April 2026.

271. **B** **Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)** – The correct answer is the Committee on Foreign Affairs, which goes by the short form AFET.

272. **B** **Mother of all deals** – The Vice-President used this phrase for the proposed Free Trade Agreement between India and the European Union, expressed the hope that it would be signed within this year, and asked the visiting members for the support of the European Parliament in bringing...

273. **C** **Horizon Europe** – The correct answer is Horizon Europe, the research and innovation programme of the European Union.

274. **B** **31 December 2026** – The Employees' State Insurance Corporation began running the New Amnesty Scheme, 2025 from 1 October 2025, and the window was originally set to shut on 30 September 2026.

275. **B** **31 March 2025** – Eligibility under the New Amnesty Scheme, 2025 is decided by the date on which the litigation began: only those court cases instituted up to 31 March 2025 may be taken up for settlement under it.

276. **B** **10%** – One of the three reliefs built into the New Amnesty Scheme, 2025 is meant for employers who have already cleared the contribution dues demanded of them but whose cases are still being heard.

277. **B** **Cebu, Philippines** – The thirteenth edition of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus was hosted at Cebu in the Philippines, and Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh addressed it there on 29 October 2026, speaking on collective regional security, counter-terrorism and maritime cooperat...

278. **C** **Navigating Our Future, Together** – This was the theme of the thirteenth ADMM-Plus, and the Defence Minister said it sits well with India's foreign and defence policy thinking as well as the civilisational sentiment 'Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah', the wish that all beings be happy.

279. **A** **Malaysia** – The Raksha Mantri said counter-terrorism continues to be an important field of cooperation under the ADMM-Plus framework, and that India and Malaysia are co-chairing the Experts' Working Group on Counter-Terrorism for the cycle that runs from 2024 to 2027.

280. **B** **Safflower** – Its support price was raised by the largest rupee amount among the mandated rabi crops, Rs 675 a quintal, when the rates for Rabi Marketing Season 2027-28 were cleared on 30 September 2026.

281. **C** **Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices** – Minimum Support Prices are declared every year for 22 mandated crops on the recommendations of this commission, which also takes into account the views of state governments and central ministries and departments.

282. **C** **Rs 90,962 crore** – When the higher support prices for all mandated rabi crops of Marketing Season 2027-28 were approved on 30 September 2026, the payment to farmers was estimated at that figure for 324 lakh metric tonnes of produce.

283. **C** **25** – The Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology told the session on autonomous systems at the conclave that technology innovation hubs under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems have been established at twenty-five leadin...

284. **B** **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi** – The Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave of 2026, in short ESTIC 2026, was held there from the twenty-seventh to the twenty-ninth of October 2026, bringing together people from science, technology, research and industry to discuss emerging tec...

285. **B** **Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Member, NITI Aayog** – Speaking at the session, he said physical artificial intelligence is not merely an artificial intelligence problem but also a systems engineering problem, since an intelligent physical system works only when reliable sensors, efficient actuators, real-time co...

286. **B** **Cyclone Arnab** – It was after this cyclone that the Union Minister of Home Affairs and of Cooperation, Amit Shah, telephoned the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Odisha and Chhattisgarh and assured the three states and the Union Territory of every assistance to...

287. **C** **Tamil Nadu** – The Home Minister spoke to the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Chhattisgarh and of the Union Territory of Puducherry, so options A, B and D were all on the list and Tamil Nadu was not.

288. **A** **Inter-Ministerial Central Team** – The Home Minister said such teams would be sent soon after Cyclone Arnab to assess the impact of the disaster and to determine the further assistance the affected states and the Union Territory require.

289. **C** **5,55,610 MTPA** – The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy placed the firm and signed green hydrogen offtake commitments of Indian companies at this level as of October 2026, which is the largest such order book anywhere in the world and works out to roughly 11 per cent of the...

290. **B** **Rs 19,744 crore** – The Cabinet approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission with this initial outlay, which runs up to the year 2029-30.

291. **C** **Reliance Industries Limited** – Its long-term supply and purchase agreement with Samsung C&T Corporation of South Korea is valued at more than USD 3 billion, making it one of the largest green ammonia offtake contracts in the world, and deliveries under it are expected to begin by 2028.

292. **B** **2,330** – MeghRaj 2.0, the second generation of the Government of India's national cloud computing initiative, had been adopted by that many government departments by September 2026.

293. **B** **Rs 10,371.92 crore** – The IndiaAI Mission was approved with this outlay and its purpose is to widen access to computing power for artificial intelligence work.

294. **C** **Digital India BHASHINI** – The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology reported in February 2026 that the BHASHINI language platform had been moved to an Indian cloud operated by Yotta Data Services, which keeps its language datasets, AI models and citizen interactions withi...

295. **B** **The Union Minister of Jal Shakti** – The Ganga Flood Control Board is chaired by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti, and its 19th meeting was accordingly presided over by C. R. Patil at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on 27 October 2026.

296. **A** **18 April 1972** – The Government of India set up the Ganga Flood Control Board on this date so that measures against floods, bank erosion and drainage problems in the Ganga Basin could be planned and implemented in a coordinated way instead of being left to individual states.

297. **B** **Scientifically identifying sites for artificial groundwater recharge** – The Punah Bharan Mobile App, released by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti at the 19th meeting of the Ganga Flood Control Board, is designed to help select suitable locations for artificial recharge work on scientific grounds, so that recharge structures are p...

298. **B** **217** – The two Memorandums of Settlement signed on 14 October 2026 between the management of UltraTech, Bathinda and the workers' unions are expected to extend financial benefits of approximately Rs 3.36 crore to this many workers over the next five years.

299. **B** **CITU and AITUC** – The correct answer is CITU and AITUC, that is the Centre of Indian Trade Unions and the All India Trade Union Congress.

300. **A** **Ministry of Labour and Employment** – The office of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) works under this ministry, and the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central) at Jalandhar, whose conciliation produced the settlements at UltraTech, Bathinda, functions under that office.

301. **C** **Rs 4,38,444** – The Ministry of Textiles reported that the Textile Committee earned this amount by undertaking extensive scrap disposal during Special Campaign 6.0.

302. **B** **2 to 31 October 2026** – Special Campaign 6.0 is being undertaken across government offices during this period, with its attention fixed on institutional cleanliness, efficient management of records, the disposal of matters left pending and the promotion of sustainable working practi...

303. **A** **Ministry of Textiles** – It was this ministry that highlighted the Textile Committee's work under Special Campaign 6.0 and that has asked its attached offices, subordinate organisations and associated institutions to take part in the drive and sustain the practices built up during it.

304. **C** **70 years** – Ayushman Vay Vandana covers every Indian citizen who has completed 70 years of age, and it does so irrespective of income or social standing.

305. **B** **Cataract surgery** – By number of treatments it tops the list with 4.71 lakh procedures, close to 20.1 per cent of everything sanctioned under the scheme, and that volume points to how much untreated eye disease older people were living with before the cover arrived.

306. **C** **National Health Authority** – The NHA runs Ayushman Vay Vandana for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and its Chief Executive, Dr. Sunil Kumar Barnwal, spoke on the second anniversary, saying older citizens should be able to reach healthcare with dignity and security and that mon...

307. **A** **ARISE Cities Forum 2026** – Its second edition was held on 27 and 28 October 2026 at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi, organised by ICLEI South Asia along with the National Institute of Urban Affairs and supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

308. **B** **From Bharat to Antalya - Commit. Implement. Deliver.** – Implement.

309. **C** **Antalya, Turkiye** – The Delhi Declaration 2026 was written to travel from New Delhi to COP31 at Antalya, and the forum's theme, From Bharat to Antalya, was built around that journey.

310. **C** **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** – MoSPI compiles and publishes the Index of Services Production, and it released the figures for August 2026 covering 19 broad sub-sectors on the base year 2024-25.

311. **C** **2024-25** – Every reading in the Index of Services Production is measured against output in that base year, so a sub-sector standing above the base-year level has grown since then and one standing below it has not recovered to where it was.

312. **A** **Retail trade** – The correct answer is retail trade, which expanded faster than any other sub-sector over August 2025 and also carried the second highest index reading in the series.

313. **C** **USD 60 trillion** – The Commerce and Industry Minister said the nine free trade and bilateral agreements concluded by the government have opened preferential market opportunities in economies whose combined output comes to that figure.

314. **B** **USD 44 billion by 2033** – Piyush Goyal said India's space economy was valued at USD 8.4 billion at the time of his address and had the potential to reach USD 44 billion by that year, a prospect he linked to the

opening of the space sector to private participation.

315. **C** **60 per cent** – The Minister said that green and renewable sources now make up that share of India's installed electricity capacity, while adding that coal remains necessary for energy security and for keeping power affordable.

316. **B** **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** – The correct answer is the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, usually shortened to DARPG.

317. **A** **Khadi and Village Industries Commission** – Under Special Campaign 6.0 the files that DRDO has earmarked for weeding out, about 20,000 of them, are being disposed of in line with record retention schedules, and the paper left after shredding is handed to KVIC so that it can be recycled instead of being...

318. **B** **Rs 35 lakh** – The clearing of obsolete equipment, redundant furniture and scrap material from DRDO campuses, the residential complexes attached to them and the research testing ranges was carried out in an environment-friendly manner, and the disposal brought in that amoun...

319. **B** **National Human Rights Commission** – The Commission acted on its own motion on a media report that the police had walked three men through a Kolkata locality in a semi-nude state with ropes tied round their waists, and it issued a notice to the Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, seeking a detailed...

320. **B** **Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, within two weeks** – Having taken cognizance of the news report on its own motion, the Commission served the notice on the head of the city police and fixed a fortnight as the period for a detailed report on the matter.

321. **A** **Reconstruction of the crime scene** – The report said the police brought the three arrested men, the girl's father, her maternal uncle and the uncle's friend, back to the same neighbourhood and made them walk shirtless and barefoot for more than 100 metres, purportedly for that purpose.

322. **B** **Kanpur** – The programme was held at IIA Bhavan in the Dadanagar Industrial Area of Kanpur, and was organised jointly by the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Labour Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

323. **A** **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan** – The correct answer is the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PMVBRY) and the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM) scheme.

324. **A** **Handbook of Compliance for Employers and a Compilation of Frequently Asked Questions** – The correct answer is the Handbook of Compliance for Employers and the Compilation of Frequently Asked Questions.

325. **C** **93rd** – The General Council of the National Cooperative Development Corporation met for the 93rd time on 29 October 2026 at the Corporation's head office in New Delhi, with Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah in the chair.

326. **B** **The Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation** – Amit Shah holds both portfolios and took the chair at the 93rd General Council sitting on 29 October 2026 in New Delhi.

327. **B** **Rs 1,475 crore** – The accounts laid before the 93rd General Council meeting put the Corporation's net profit for FY 2025-26 at Rs 1,475 crore, alongside a loan recovery rate of 99.84 per cent and net non-performing assets of zero.

328. **B** **The Union Minister of Jal Shakti** – C. R. Paatil holds that office and is Chairman of the RCNCA; he presided over its 15th meeting on 27 October 2026, held through video conferencing.

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329. **A** **Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra** – These are the four party States to the Narmada arrangement, and their Chief Ministers took part in the 15th RCNCA meeting: Bhupendra Patel, Mohan Yadav, Bhajan Lal Sharma and Devendra Fadnavis respectively.

330. **A** **7 July 2026** – On that day, at New Delhi, the four party States signed the Memorandum of Agreement in the presence of the Union Home and Cooperation Minister and the Union Minister of Jal Shakti.

331. **C** **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** – It held the workshop in New Delhi on 29 and 30 October 2026 under the Green Climate Fund project known as GCF-ECRICC, and its Secretary, Narendra Bhooshan, addressed the opening session.

332. **B** **Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha** – Progress under the project in these three States, and the chance of replicating or scaling up what has worked, was presented at the workshop in the welcome address.

333. **A** **National Coastal Mission** – Narendra Bhooshan, Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, said at the inaugural session that this mission would work as the fulcrum for coastal resilience and adaptive intervention, building on what the GCF-ECRICC project has pro...

334. **B** **Italy** – Civitavecchia is an Italian port, and INS Trishul finished its call there on 28 October 2026 as part of a continuing operational deployment in the Mediterranean Sea.

335. **B** **Mediterranean Sea** – The port call at Civitavecchia was part of the ship's ongoing operational deployment in that sea, and once the visit ended on 28 October 2026 the frigate proceeded to the next phase of the same deployment.

336. **B** **ITS Cavour** – The frigate's crew went aboard this Italian aircraft carrier while both ships were at Civitavecchia, and the visit gave officers and sailors of the two navies a chance to compare professional practice and exchange experience at sea.

337. **C** **5,884** – Indian Railways held Rail Jan Samvaad on 22 October 2026 at that many stations across the country, so that staff could speak to passengers at the station itself and take their feedback and suggestions on cleanliness, passenger amenities and service delivery.

338. **B** **Cleanliness, passenger amenities and service delivery** – Those three were the stated subjects on which Indian Railways sought feedback and suggestions from passengers at 5,884 stations on 22 October 2026.

339. **B** **Satish Kumar** – As Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Railway Board he took part in Rail Jan Samvaad at New Delhi on 22 October 2026 and met stakeholders there, while the Secretary of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances attended the same p...

340. **A** **TRAI** – It conducts Independent Drive Tests to check, on the ground, the real-time quality of voice and data services offered by telecom service providers, and publishes the findings so that consumers know what to expect and operators have reason to improve.

341. **B** **Kachchh, including Gandhidham and Bhuj** – The drive test also covered the highway running from Bhuj to Bhachau, and all of it lay within the Gujarat licensed service area.

342. **D** **Average revenue per user** – That is a commercial measure of what an operator earns from each subscriber, and it has no place in a drive test, which looks only at the quality of service experienced on the ground.

343. **A** **Techfest, IIT Bombay** – The challenge is organised by Techfest of IIT Bombay in collaboration with the Ministry of Ayush and the All India Institute of Ayurveda, and it was launched at the sixth Foundation Day of the institute's incubation centre AIIA-iCAINE.

344. **B** **An open-source Ayurveda large language model from IIT Bombay** – The correct answer is an open-source Ayurveda large language model from IIT Bombay.

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345. **B** **India's first public-sector Ayurveda business incubator** – AIIA-iCAINE was established on 29 October 2021 under the mandate of the Ministry of Ayush at the All India Institute of Ayurveda in New Delhi, and it supports Ayurveda-based products, services and enterprises through mentorship, capacity building, institution...

346. **B** **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** – The fair is organised by that Ministry to give traditional craftspeople a platform to display their heritage, build direct links with customers and strengthen their socio-economic self-reliance.

347. **A** **Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme** – BHARAT-TULIP was a key focus of the Shilp Samagam Mela held at Guwahati, and its work is to open market access for artisans through physical outlets as well as e-commerce platforms, so that inherited skills reach the channels where buyers shop today.

348. **A** **Mysuru, Karnataka** – The Guwahati fair was described as the second event in the Shilp Samagam series for the financial year 2026-27, following the opening edition at Mysuru in Karnataka, which concluded on 19 October.

349. **B** **Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)** – The campaign is run by MY Bharat, which functions under the Department of Youth Affairs in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, and its purpose is to spread electoral awareness among young people, especially first-time voters, so that they take part in t...

350. **B** **500** – The nationwide campaign is being conducted across 500 universities, colleges and institutions and runs from 26 October to 5 November 2026.

351. **A** **Loktantrik Pledge** – The campaign features this pledge along with a 'Know Your Vote' online quiz to build awareness of electoral processes and democratic values, and the pledge was administered at sittings such as the one in West Kameng in Arunachal Pradesh, where a question-and-...

352. **B** **Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh** – The fourteenth edition of the International Tourism Mart began at Tawang on 29 October 2026 and runs for three days until 31 October.

353. **B** **43 buyers from 22 countries** – Speaking to the press at Tawang, the Union Minister for Tourism and Culture said the fourteenth edition had brought together 43 international buyers drawn from 22 countries, and he described this as the highest international buyer participation the mart has e...

354. **C** **1.51 crore** – At the inauguration of the mart the Union Tourism Minister gave the growth of tourism in the region in plain numbers: domestic tourist visits to the eight north eastern states stood at 95.65 lakh in 2019 and reached 1.51 crore in 2025, which works out to a ri...

355. **C** **76 per cent** – Speaking at the curtain raiser of the Invest Telangana Global Summit, the Commerce and Industry Minister built the figure up step by step.

356. **B** **Ganapati Deva of the Kakatiya dynasty** – While speaking about Telangana's long trading tradition, the minister recalled the Motupalli Abhaya Shasana, a maritime charter issued in 1244 by the Kakatiya ruler Ganapati Deva, which promoted stability and predictability in trade.

357. **A** **Kakatiya Mega Textile Park, Warangal** – Listing projects launched or supported in Telangana, the minister referred to this park in Warangal and described it as the first fully functional PM MITRA park in the country.

358. **B** **The Core Group of Secretaries on Disinvestment** – The correct answer is the Core Group of Secretaries on Disinvestment, usually written as the CGD.

359. **C** **2019** – The clarification notes that IDBI was a government owned banking company until that year and became a government controlled banking company once LIC acquired majority stakes in it.

360. **C** **Rs 3,917 crore** – The asset valuer added value for the disputed tax demands, and those demands were indemnified because the qualified bidders had asked for it in common, the purpose being to nudge the offer upwards.

361. **B** **Rs 47.76 crore** – The Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the corporation, Dr Subhransu Sekhar Acharya, presented a dividend of that amount on 28 October 2026 to the Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Jitan Ram Manjhi, and the Minister of State, Shobha Karan…

362. **C** **Schedule 'A' Mini Ratna** – The National Small Industries Corporation Limited is described as a Schedule 'A' Mini Ratna company, and it functions under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, whose two ministers received its dividend for the year.

363. **B** **Rs 159 crore** – While presenting the dividend, the Chairman-cum-Managing Director set out the corporation's results for the year: revenue of Rs 3,767 crore and profit after tax of Rs 159 crore, describing both as robust growth over the previous financial year.

364. **A** **The Union Minister for Education** – He opened the new Academic Building and the Main Entrance Gate of the institute in New Delhi and said the building would allow it to scale up the programmes it runs nationally and internationally while strengthening its academic and research capabilities.

365. **C** **Rs 60,000 crore** – Speaking at the inauguration of the institute's new academic building, the Union Education Minister referred to the PM Vidyalaxmi Scheme and said it had facilitated soft loans of that amount for higher education.

366. **B** **Monitoring the policy's implementation and working with state governments on the challenges** – The correct answer is monitoring the policy's implementation and working with state governments on the challenges.

367. **C** **Code on Social Security** – When the Ministry of Labour and Employment notified the constitution of the National Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers and Gig and Platform Workers, it stated that the Board stands established under the statutory framework of the Code on Social Se…

368. **B** **The Union Minister for Labour and Employment** – The notification says plainly that the Board will be presided over by the Union Minister holding the Labour and Employment portfolio, which places political responsibility for the welfare of unorganised, gig and platform workers at the top of the body itself.

369. **C** **Thrice** – The notification fixes a floor rather than a ceiling: the National Social Security Boards shall meet at least three times in any year, and the way business is transacted at those sittings is to follow the rules of procedure that the Central Government prescri…

370. **B** **Rs 39,272 crore** – The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying stated that public investment in the sector has been stepped up sharply since 2015, and that this sum has been committed through five instruments taken together: the Blue Revolution Scheme, the Fisherie…

371. **B** **2,195** – These producer organisations let small fishers and fish farmers get past the handicaps of scale, capital and market access by pooling their output and their resources, and by taking part together in processing, branding and marketing.

372. **A** **More than 1.28 lakh** – The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana has, over the last five years, cleared projects worth more than Rs 4,155 crore for women in fisheries, of which the central share comes to Rs 1,572 crore, and these have reached more than 1.28 lakh women beneficiaries.

373. **B** **Arunachal Pradesh** – The Ministry of Culture is holding the exposition of the Holy Relics of Shakyamuni Buddha in that state from 31 October to 21 November 2026, at three centres of Buddhist faith: Tawang Monastery, the TGL Monastery Lower Gompa in Bomdila and the Golden Pagoda a…

374. **B** **Siddharthnagar** – Piprahwa lies in Siddharthnagar district and is associated with ancient Kapilavastu and the Shakya clan of Lord Buddha.

375. **B** **Kalawangpo Convention Hall, Tawang** – The International Buddhist Confederation and the Government of Arunachal Pradesh are holding the conference there on 2 November 2026, bringing together monks, scholars and delegates from India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Malaysia, Indonesia and Germany around…

376. **B** **INS Tir, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi** – These three ships form the First Training Squadron, shortened to 1TS, which carries sea trainees of the Indian Navy and sailed from Colombo on 29 October 2026 at the end of its port call.

377. **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.

378. **A** **Naval and Maritime Academy, Trincomalee** – Sea trainees of the squadron went to this academy and met their Sri Lankan counterparts, and cadets of the academy later came aboard the Indian ships to see the training facilities the squadron carries.

379. **B** **Jalaun** – The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence found the secret laboratory in a remote village of Jalaun district in Uttar Pradesh and raided it in the early hours of 29 October 2026, with the state Anti-Terrorist Squad giving operational help.

380. **B** **Methaqualone** – Searches at the residential premises of one of the accused produced around 15.4 kg of finished methaqualone along with about 153 kg of chemicals and a machine used in the manufacturing process.

381. **A** **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985** – The correct answer is the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, usually called the NDPS Act.

382. **C** **2000** – The Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare will open camps in 2000 cities and districts during the fifth nationwide Digital Life Certificate campaign, which runs from 1 to 30 November 2026.

383. **B** **1.50 crore** – The campaign carries two numbers that are easy to confuse.

384. **C** **Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare** – The correct answer is the Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare, which sits in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

385. **C** **Luxembourg** – The nineteenth session of the Joint Economic Commission between India and the Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union met in Luxembourg on 29 October 2026, and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry announced the outcome the next day.

386. **B** **Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union** – The union ties the two neighbouring countries into one economic arrangement, and India engages with them jointly through a Joint Economic Commission whose nineteenth session met in Luxembourg on 29 October 2026.

387. **C** **Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal** – He led the Indian side at the session in Luxembourg on 29 October 2026 and shared the chair with Filip Vanden Bulcke, Director-General for Geo-Economy and Economic Diplomacy in Belgium, and Henri Schumacher, Secretary General of the Luxembourg Ministry of For…

388. **C** **New Delhi** – CGIAR and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research announced on 30 October 2026 that the capital will host the CGIAR Science and Partnership Week from 12 to 17 April 2027, with more than 5,000 delegates expected.

389. **A** **Nairobi, Kenya** – The first CGIAR Science Week took place there in April 2025, and CGIAR used the occasion to launch its present research portfolio.

390. **C** **Dr M L Jat** – The correct answer is Dr M L Jat, who is Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Director General of ICAR.

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391. **A** **Banaskantha, Gujarat** – The twenty-fourth instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi was released from Banaskantha in Gujarat, and from there more than Rs 18,690 crore moved into the accounts of over 9.34 crore farmer families through Direct Benefit Transfer.

392. **B** **About Rs 18,690 crore** – That amount was credited in the twenty-fourth instalment to more than 9.34 crore eligible farmer families, all of it routed through the Direct Benefit Transfer system into Aadhaar-seeded bank accounts.

393. **A** **Rs 3.15 lakh crore** – The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the scheme from 2026-27 to 2030-31 in July 2026 with that outlay, which secures assured income support for landholding farmer families for a further five-year stretch.

394. **B** **More than Rs 14,000 crore** – Foundation stones were laid, inaugurations were made and projects were dedicated to the nation at Banaskantha for that combined value, and the list ran from a dairy research centre and two bio-CNG plants to two train services, metro rail extensions, a highway…

395. **B** **Kankrej cattle** – The research centre at Banaskantha works under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission on the conservation and scientific breeding of indigenous animals, and it is the first facility of its kind in the country for the Kankrej breed.

396. **A** **Ahmedabad-Varanasi Sabarmati Express** – Two train services were started from the Banaskantha event, this express and the Mehsana-Becharaji-Sabarmati MEMU service, while foundation stones were laid the same day for extensions of the Ahmedabad Metro towards GIFT City and the airport, and the Ahmedaba…

397. **C** **Tamil Nadu** – The Gandhigram Rural Institute, a deemed to be university, stands at Dindigul in Tamil Nadu, and it was there that the Golden Jubilee celebrations and the thirty-ninth convocation were held with the Vice-President as chief guest.

398. **A** **S. Nambi Narayanan** – The correct answer is S. Nambi Narayanan, described as a former senior aerospace scientist of the Indian Space Research Organisation.

399. **B** **Inclusivity of India's Ageing Population** – The Vice-President released this book at the Golden Jubilee celebrations and also unveiled a Golden Jubilee commemorative postage stamp along with a postal cover, marking the completion of fifty years by the institution as a deemed to be university.

400. **B** **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India** – The regulator, which works under the Ministry of Communications, placed the draft on its own website and invited written comments from stakeholders so that artificial intelligence is applied in a consistent and responsible way across telecom networks and serv…

401. **C** **Seven** – The India AI Governance Guidelines, released by the Government of India in February 2026, rest on seven guiding sutras: Trust is the Foundation, People First, Innovation over Restraint, Fairness and Equity, Accountability, Understandable by Design, and Safety…

402. **B** **27 November 2026** – TRAI invited written comments from stakeholders up to that date, preferably in electronic form, addressed to the Advisor for Networks, Spectrum and Licensing, Akhilesh Kumar Trivedi, who is also the officer to be approached for clarification.

403. **B** **Jammu and Kashmir** – The drive test covered Leh and the routes around it, including the stretches towards Nubra Valley and Pangong and the road from Sakti to Sangam, and these fall in that service area for telecom licensing purposes.

404. **C** **Reliance Jio** – On the Leh city drive route the average download speed was recorded as 267.13 Mbps for Reliance Jio on its 5G network, ahead of 121.65 Mbps for Airtel on 5G and 8 Mbps for BSNL on 4G.

405. **C** **Average revenue per user** – A drive test measures service quality on the ground, not the commercial performance of an operator, so revenue per subscriber has no place in it.

406. **B** **Andhra Pradesh** – Both legs of the drive test, the city drive around Hyderabad and the longer stretch across Adoni, Mantralayam and nearby areas in Kurnool district, were reported under that service area, and the work was supervised by the regional office of the regulator at H...

407. **C** **201.8 km** – That stretch in Kurnool district, taking in Adoni, Mantralayam and the areas around them, was driven on 17 and 18 September 2026 with six hotspot locations along the way.

408. **C** **Reliance Jio** – The correct answer is Reliance Jio, whose average download speed on that route was 209.11 Mbps.

409. **B** **4,767 villages** – The utilisation agreement signed at Sanchar Bhawan in New Delhi carries two separate commitments for Tamil Nadu: subsidy support for more than five lakh fibre connections reaching rural homes, and connectivity on a demand basis for 4,767 villages so that the...

410. **A** **Universal Service Obligation Fund** – Digital Bharat Nidhi is that fund under a new name.

411. **C** **4 August 2023** – The Union Cabinet approved the Amended BharatNet Programme on that day, with the stated aim of upgrading, consolidating and expanding the BharatNet network already laid, so that every gram panchayat and, on a demand basis, every village gets robust and future...

412. **B** **Directorate of Revenue Intelligence** – The agency, which functions under the Ministry of Finance, carried out two intelligence-led operations one after the other in Mizoram and Assam and recovered 50 kg of methamphetamine, partly as tablets and partly as crystal meth, with the operational help of...

413. **C** **30 kg of tablets and 20 kg of crystal meth** – The correct answer is 30 kg of tablets and 20 kg of crystal meth.

414. **D** **Assam Rifles** – In both interceptions, the one outside Aizawl on 29 October 2026 and the one at Dholai on 30 October 2026, officers of the revenue intelligence wing worked with the Assam Rifles, which is the force deployed along the stretch of the international boundary thro...

415. **B** **Vision, Innovation, Synergy, Values** – The Minister of State for Defence described these as the four pillars of the event while inaugurating it at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi.

416. **B** **Arabic, Spanish and French** – The Minister of State for Defence released a foreign-language compendium of DRDO products in these three languages so that partner nations which do not work in English can follow India's defence offerings and engage with Indian agencies more easily.

417. **C** **Centre for Joint Warfare Studies** – The correct answer is the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies, usually written as CENJOWS.

418. **B** **Creative Minds, Catalysing Science, Empowering Society** – The conclave was held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from 27 to 29 October 2026 and was inaugurated by the Prime Minister.

419. **A** **Solid State Physics Laboratory, Delhi** – The correct answer is the Solid State Physics Laboratory, Delhi, usually written as SSPL.

420. **C** **They act as sensing elements for detecting and tracking the target** – The correct answer is that they act as sensing elements for detecting and tracking the target.

421. **B** **Platform for Air quality Vigilance and Analytics for NCR** – The correct answer is Platform for Air quality Vigilance and Analytics for NCR.

422. **C** **111** – The platform integrates readings from 111 continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations that are operational across Delhi and the national capital region, installed by the Central Pollution Control Board, the India Meteorological Department and the state...

423. **A** **Detect, Analyse, Act** – The minister explained that the centre works on this principle, bringing data from many agencies onto a common platform for real-time and historical study of pollution levels,

identification of sources, assessment of trends and tracking of compliance in the f...

424. **B** **Rs 18,35,422 crore** – The correct answer is Rs 18,35,422 crore, which works out to 50.3 per cent of the budget estimate of total receipts for the year.

425. **C** **Rs 6,99,409 crore** – The monthly accounts record that this sum was transferred to the state governments as devolution of their share of central taxes during the first half of the financial year, and that it was Rs 67,658 crore higher than the amount devolved in the corresponding...

426. **C** **47.7 per cent** – Total expenditure in the first six months of the financial year was Rs 25,49,835 crore, and that is 47.7 per cent of the corresponding budget estimate.

427. **A** **25 of 137** – The ministry said at its consultation in Goa that of the commercial mines allotted since the reform framework came in, only a small fraction has reached production, and the Coal Secretary described an allotted but idle block as capacity the country has set as...

428. **C** **1,041 million tonnes** – This was the output quoted at the consultation, where officials also pointed out that coal still generates more than 70 per cent of the country's electricity, which is why idle blocks matter so much.

429. **B** **Over 2.6 billion tonnes** – The projection quoted at the consultation shows demand rising from about 1.25 billion tonnes in 2025 to more than 2.6 billion tonnes by 2050 if present policies continue, and staying above 1.8 billion tonnes even along a net zero path, because steel, cement a...

430. **B** **Suresh N. Patel** – He is a former Central Vigilance Commissioner, and the Government has named him Chairman of the newly constituted High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat, the panel that will recommend structural, institutional, regulatory and legislative reform of...

431. **B** **Six months** – The Government fixed that period when it constituted the panel, which means the committee must finish its review of banking practices, prudential norms, regulatory frameworks and capital needs and submit its recommendations within half a year.

432. **A** **Lead Bank Scheme** – One head of the terms of reference asks the committee to review the Priority Sector Lending framework together with the Lead Bank Scheme, and to judge how relevant, effective and well coordinated the two remain in promoting inclusive, balanced and data-driven...

433. **B** **Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia** – The Ministry of Defence announced that this officer, decorated with the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and the Vayu Sena Medal, takes over as Vice Chief of the Air Staff, the second-ranking appointment in the Indian Air Force.

434. **C** **Eastern Air Command** – Air Marshal Walia was serving as its Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief when he was named Vice Chief of the Air Staff, and his link with this command runs deeper still, because he had earlier been its Senior Air Staff Officer before rising to lead it.

435. **C** **29th** – Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, who was holding the appointment of Vice Chief of the Air Staff, assumes charge as the head of the Indian Air Force on 31 October 2026, and it is his elevation that creates the vacancy filled by Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia a da...

436. **B** **At the Top, Burj Khalifa** – The correct answer is At the Top, Burj Khalifa, the observation experience at the tower in Dubai.

437. **B** **Uzbekistan** – A commercial agreement to bring UPI to that country was announced on 30 August 2026, during the visit of the Prime Minister of India to Uzbekistan, which places it next in line after the ten countries where the payment system already works.

438. **C** **FOMO Pay** – The correct answer is FOMO Pay, a leading payment institution in Singapore, with which NPCI International Payments Limited worked to extend UPI acceptance to Resorts World Sentosa.

439. **B** **Port Louis, Mauritius** – The frigate arrived there on 30 October 2026 while on an operational deployment to the Southern Indian Ocean Region, and the call is intended to strengthen naval cooperation through professional interactions, joint activities and cultural exchanges with the M...

440. **B** **1834** – The first batch of indentured labourers from India stepped ashore at Aapravasi Ghat in Port Louis on 2 November of that year, and Mauritius has marked the date every year since; the observance in 2026 is the 192nd.

441. **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.

442. **B** **Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh** – The Ministry of Tourism organised the Mart there with the state government and the other North Eastern states, and the edition brought the event back to the town after thirteen years, the second edition having been held at the same place in 2013.

443. **C** **1580** – The structured business-to-business meetings were the commercial heart of the Mart, bringing buyers and sellers face to face so that new tourism itineraries could be designed, commercial partnerships established and products of the North Eastern states promot...

444. **B** **Dekho Apna Desh 2.0** – The presentation made to the regional meeting of North Eastern tourism ministers described it as the Mission for Redistribution of Tourism Demand and Promotion of Lesser-Known Destinations, whose purpose is to promote places that are ready to receive visitors...

445. **B** **Cyclone Arnab** – It came ashore along the coast of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, and the heavy rainfall, flash floods, tree falls and power infrastructure damage that followed disrupted telecom services in parts of both States and the adjoining regions.

446. **B** **Connect to another operator's network within the same telecom circle** – The correct answer is connect to another operator's network within the same telecom circle.

447. **C** **Andhra Pradesh** – Overall telecom network availability in the State was reported at 99.18 percent, and among the districts the cyclone hit hardest the figure stood at 98.5 per cent in West Godavari and 91.96 per cent in Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema.

448. **A** **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)** – DigiDukaan is ONDC's effort to build digital infrastructure for India's general trade in retail by digitising kirana shops as buyers, while strengthening rather than replacing the existing distributor network.

449. **B** **Over 21,000 retailers with more than 450 brands** – That is the reach of DigiDukaan across Hyderabad, Jaipur and Mumbai, and it marks a rise from over 12,000 retailers in the previous quarter.

450. **C** **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade** – The correct answer is the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, known as DPIIT.

451. **B** **Dak Bhawan, New Delhi** – The correct answer is Dak Bhawan, New Delhi, the headquarters of the Department of Posts.

452. **C** **86.97 crore** – Under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, that is the total of screenings carried out across the country for oral, breast and cervical cancers.

453. **C** **Manisha Sinha, Director General Postal Services** – She released the souvenir sheet of two commemorative stamps on breast cancer awareness at Dak Bhawan, New Delhi, in the presence of Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava and other senior officials of both ministries.

454. **B** **Department of Science and Technology** – The workshop on Government and Industry Synergy for Geospatial Transformation, held in New Delhi on the theme of co-creating the geospatial economy for Viksit Bharat 2047, was organised by the Survey of India under that department.

455. **B** **Enable, invest and adopt** – Speaking on industry's role in taking the sector forward, the Minister explained each word: enabling is meant to build confidence, investing is meant to develop capability, and adopting geospatial solutions is what generates economic growth.

456. **C** **S. K. Sinha** – As Surveyor General of India he thanked Dr. Jitendra Singh for his guidance in advancing geospatial reforms, said the National Geospatial Policy 2022 had laid the foundation for an open, innovation-driven ecosystem, and added that government, industry and aca...

457. **B** **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** – The Ministry of Home Affairs announces this medal on 31 October every year, and that date is observed as the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

458. **C** **490** – The Ministry of Home Affairs conferred the Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak for the year 2026 on 490 personnel drawn from the police forces of various states and Union Territories, from the Central Armed Police Forces and from the Central Police Organisatio...

459. **B** **Ministry of Home Affairs** – The medal was brought into existence by a notification of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, dated 1 February 2024, and the same ministry announces the recipients and publishes the list on its website.

460. **C** **68.4%** – Social protection coverage in India has moved up from 19% in 2015 to 68.4% in 2026, and this widening has brought more than one billion people inside the social protection framework.

461. **C** **Rs 25,000 per month** – The ceiling had last been revised in September 2014, when it was moved from Rs 6,500 to Rs 15,000 a month, and the approval granted in September 2026 took it to Rs 25,000.

462. **B** **Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana** – It has been revised from the existing National Social Assistance Programme in October 2026 and will continue from 2026-27 to 2030-31.

463. **C** **45** – The Ministry of Rural Development has approved 45 road works for Mizoram in Batch-1 of the financial year 2026-27 under the fourth phase of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

464. **C** **Rs 710.40 crore** – That is the total estimated cost of the 45 road works, covering 509.54 km, cleared for Mizoram under PMGSY-IV in Batch-1 of the financial year 2026-27.

465. **C** **48** – The 45 road works approved for Mizoram, totalling 509.54 km, are intended to provide all-weather road connectivity to 48 habitations that have not had such a link before.

466. **B** **GSLV-F18** – The mission in the news was the successful flight of GSLV-F18, which carried the NVS-03 navigation satellite, and the Prime Minister congratulated the scientists and engineers of ISRO on it.

467. **C** **NavIC** – The mission was described as an important step towards strengthening NavIC, which is India's indigenous satellite navigation system, and NVS-03 was said to carry enhanced capabilities that will support navigation services for citizens.

468. **B** **ISRO** – The congratulations were addressed to the scientists and engineers of ISRO, the organisation that carried out the launch of GSLV-F18 with NVS-03 and that builds and operates the satellites of the NavIC constellation.

469. **B** **31 October** – Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, called National Unity Day in English, is kept on this date every year to honour the legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, whose birth anniversary falls on it, and in 2026 the observance coincided with his 151st birth anniversary.

470. **C** **151st** – The President paid floral tributes to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on his 151st birth anniversary at Rashtrapati Bhavan on 31 October 2026, so that is the number attached to this year's observance.

471. **B** **The Union Health Minister** – J. P. Nadda, the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, administered the pledge to officers and officials of both the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers at a ceremony held at Kartavya Bhawan-1 in New Del...

472. **B** **Sabki Yojana, Sabka Vikas** – The Secretary of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj said at the workshop that the People's Plan Campaign has been run by the Ministry since 2018 under this theme, and that it has grown into a framework for preparing Gram, Block and District Panchayat Development...

473. **B** **Convergence Energy Services Limited** – The correct answer is Convergence Energy Services Limited, known as CESL, a wholly owned subsidiary of Energy Efficiency Services Limited which comes under the Ministry of Power.

474. **C** **Rs 4,35,236 crore** – The Secretary of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj told the workshop that the Sixteenth Finance Commission has recommended total grants of this amount for duly constituted Panchayati Raj Institutions and rural local bodies in all 28 states for the award period 2...

475. **A** **Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat** – The Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India is taking part in Bharat Parv 2026 at Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, and the Prime Minister visited its pavilion there on 30 October 2026.

476. **B** **Ministry of Textiles** – CCIC is described as a Government of India enterprise under that ministry, and its work is to market the handloom and handicraft products of Indian artisans and weavers, giving them better access to buyers at home and abroad.

477. **C** **15 November 2026** – The exhibition at Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, in Gujarat stays open to visitors till that date, which means the display continues for more than a fortnight after the Prime Minister's visit to the pavilion on 30 October 2026.

478. **B** **Adani Energy Solutions Limited** – The Competition Commission of India cleared its purchase of the entire equity share capital of IntelliSmart Infrastructure Private Limited, a company that works in advanced metering infrastructure for electricity and also puts up smart gas meters.

479. **C** **Shell Overseas Investment B.V.** – The correct answer is Shell Overseas Investment B.V. The Competition Commission of India approved the sale by that firm of the whole issued share capital of Solenergi Power Private Limited to Aditya Birla Renewables Limited.

480. **A** **Mauritius** – Solenergi Power Private Limited is described as a holding company registered in Mauritius with no business of its own apart from holding investments, and its link with India runs through certain downstream holding entities and through firms that generate elec...

481. **B** **16.2%** – The Competition Commission of India approved the acquisition of that share of the issued share capital of Vodafone Group PLC by Vega SAS, a holding company wholly owned by Maya SAS, a simplified joint-stock company incorporated under the laws of France.

482. **A** **Prosus N.V.** – The correct answer is Prosus N.V. MIH Payments Holdings B.V. is an indirect and wholly owned subsidiary of Prosus N.V., and by itself it does no business other than holding investments in portfolio companies that have activities in India.

483. **C** **Devyani International Limited** – The Competition Commission of India cleared the merger of Sapphire Foods India Limited with and into Devyani International Limited along with certain related transactions.

484. **B** **31 December 2029** – Speaking after flagging off the Run for Unity in New Delhi on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah, said a target has been set to free the country from drugs completely by that date, and that the creation of a d...

485. **B** **1,218 days** – In his address at the Run for Unity the Home Minister said that when India became independent the world believed the country would fall apart, and that Sardar Patel did in just that many days what many thought impossible, joining numerous princely states and...

486. **B** **The Union Home Minister** – Amit Shah, who holds the Home Affairs portfolio along with the Ministry of Cooperation, flagged off the Run for Unity in New Delhi on the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and also administered the Unity Pledge to citizens on the occasion.

487. **B** **Yoga 365** – The Ministry of Ayush promoted Yoga for Unity on National Unity Day 2026 and folded the effort into Yoga 365, its initiative that asks citizens to practise yoga on every day of the year instead of on a single occasion.

488. **B** **Ministry of Ayush** – The ministry promoted the message of Yoga for Unity on National Unity Day, which falls on the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and spoke of the part yoga plays in national integration, social harmony and collective well being.

489. **B** **Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha** – As Secretary in the Ministry of Ayush he said that yoga offers a simple and accessible means of improving physical and mental well being while building a sense of connection among individuals and communities, and that the Yoga 365 initiative encourages practi...

490. **C** **75** – The Ministry of Corporate Affairs said it had fully achieved its target by conducting that many cleanliness campaigns across the country under Special Campaign 6.0, the sixth edition of the drive.

491. **B** **23,285 square feet** – The ministry reported that its 75 cleanliness drives under Special Campaign 6.0 released that much office space and at the same time generated revenue of Rs 11,41,975, with Rs 5,22,000 of it earned from electronic waste made up of information technology goods...

492. **A** **322 out of 330** – The ministry said it stayed highly responsive in handling public grievances and settled that many of the grievances it received.

493. **B** **The Lok Sabha Speaker** – Om Birla, who holds that office, attended the Shatabdi Samaroh organised by the Gayatri Parivar in New Delhi, paid tribute to Acharya Shriram Sharma and Mata Bhagwati Devi, and released the commemorative postage stamp brought out in her honour.

494. **B** **1975** – The Lok Sabha Speaker said that the campaign for the awakening of women begun in that year under the leadership of Mata Bhagwati Devi was a far sighted effort which inspired women to recognise their own capability and to take an active part in the building of...

495. **A** **Acharya Shriram Sharma** – The Lok Sabha Speaker said that the Acharya spread the light of spiritual consciousness across the country through Akhand Jyoti and inspired people with the ideals of building the individual, the family, society and the nation, and that his inspiring resolve...

496. **B** **Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit** – He took charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force on 31 October 2026, moving up from the post of Vice Chief of the Air Staff.

497. **C** **Over 3,300 hours** – The new Chief of the Air Staff has flown for more than 3,300 hours across a wide spread of aircraft, among them the Mirage-2000, a number of MiG variants, the Jaguar and several transport types.

498. **D** **Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee** – The correct answer is Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee.

499. **B** **Bay of Bengal** – BIMSTEC is the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation, and its first maritime security exercise is aimed at security, stability and prosperity in that bay.

500. **C** **Maldives** – The exercise brings together the seven BIMSTEC member states, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand, and the Maldives is not among them.

501. **B** **Andaman and Nicobar Command** – The correct answer is the Andaman and Nicobar Command, usually written as ANC.

502. **C** **31 December 2026** – The exemption from customs duty on cotton brought into the country now runs up to the end of December.

503. **A** **Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance** – Customs duty is a tax, so changes to it are notified by the revenue side of the Finance Ministry, in this case through a customs notification dated the end of

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October.

504. **B** **Two months** – The exemption in force was available until the end of October, and the amendment carries it to the end of December, which adds exactly two months to the window.

505. **B** **The Vice President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan** – The correct answer is the Vice President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, who holds the office of President of the Indian Institute of Public Administration and was present when the 72nd Annual General Body Meeting was addressed.

506. **C** **11,611** – The institute's membership has reached that figure, and the minister pointed out that the membership framework has been broadened so that younger professionals and recent graduates can join.

507. **C** **1954** – Speaking at the 72nd Annual General Body Meeting, the minister traced the institute's journey from its establishment in that year, recalling the legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and the role of the civil services in nation building.

508. **A** **Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development** – The correct answer is the Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development.

509. **B** **Hiware Bazar** – The Secretary of the Department of Land Resources asked that villages under the Khed Project in Pune district be transformed into water-secure and self-reliant communities along those lines.

510. **B** **76 talukas** – At the review meeting held at Yashada in Pune, the Secretary of the Department of Land Resources stressed the need to speed up works in the 76 talukas that the scheme covers among the state's 304 drought-affected talukas, with El Nino conditions in view.

511. **A** **Department of Capital Development, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** – The correct answer is the Department of Capital Development in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

512. **A** **Garbage Vulnerable Points** – These are the spots in a city where waste keeps accumulating however often it is cleared, and tackling such recurring points was one of the ten critical questions the workshop was built around, along with measures to stop littering and to keep waste out of wa...

513. **B** **NDMC, MCD and DDA** – The correct answer is NDMC, MCD and DDA, that is the New Delhi Municipal Council, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the Delhi Development Authority, whose senior officials took part along with officers of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

514. **B** **15 November 2026** – The Ministry of Education pushed the closing date for NMMSS applications for the academic year 2026-27 to this day so that eligible students get more time on the National Scholarship Portal and the officers concerned can finish their checks on schedule.

515. **C** **Rs 12,000** – A student picked under the scheme and studying in a state government school, a government-aided school or a school run by a local self government is paid this sum each year, and the money reaches the student's own bank account through Direct Benefit Transfer,...

516. **C** **Rs 3.50 lakh a year** – The scheme is aimed at able students from economically weaker homes, so the income of the applicant's parents must not cross this limit.

517. **B** **Devyani International Limited** – The Competition Commission of India approved the merger of Sapphire Foods India Limited with and into Devyani International Limited, along with certain related transactions placed before it as one proposed combination.

518. **B** **KFC and Pizza Hut** – Both companies operate franchise outlets of these two brands in India, and that overlap is the reason a merger between them is a matter for competition review rather than a routine corporate step.

519. **A** **Prosus N.V.** – The correct answer is Prosus N.V. The Commission's clearance notes that the acquirer, MIH Payments Holdings B.V., is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Prosus N.V., and that the acquirer itself

carries on no business activity beyond holding investments in...

520. **A** **Jitan Ram Manjhi** – The correct answer is Jitan Ram Manjhi, the Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, who presided over the committee's meeting at the Dr Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.

521. **A** **National Small Industries Corporation** – The correct answer is the National Small Industries Corporation, usually written as NSIC, which brings out the magazine Udyam Prabha.

522. **A** **Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar** – The Secretary of the ministry, Bharat Khera, informed the Hindi Advisory Committee that the ministry had been honoured with this award for its outstanding work in Hindi in 2025-26.

523. **A** **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** – The correct answer is the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, written in short as DARPG.

524. **C** **2 to 31 October** – The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs took part in the campaign through this window and wound up its participation at the end of the month, announcing what had been done.

525. **B** **117** – The ministry reviewed 200 electronic files during the campaign and closed 117 of them.

526. **A** **Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna** – The correct answer is Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna, described as the Katha Vachika who presented the narration.

527. **C** **151st** – Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, or National Unity Day, falls on 31 October because that is the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and in 2026 the country marked his 151st.

528. **C** **More than 550** – Recalling the position in 1947, the Vice-President said Partition had left the country in uncertainty and that this many princely states had to be brought into the Indian Union, a task Sardar Patel completed through determination, persuasion, administrative a...

529. **B** **Rs 1,09,019 crore** – On 31 October 2026 the Union Finance Ministry passed this sum to the state governments as an additional instalment of tax devolution, that is, a transfer made over and above the share of central taxes the states already receive every month.

530. **B** **The second** – The release of Rs 1,09,019 crore made on 31 October 2026 was described as the second additional instalment of tax devolution in the running financial year, which means one such extra transfer had already gone out earlier in the same year.

531. **C** **Uttar Pradesh** – The state-wise statement issued with the release shows Uttar Pradesh drawing the largest amount out of the Rs 1,09,019 crore distributed among all 28 states on 31 October 2026.

532. **B** **Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)** – The correct answer is Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), which functions under the Department of Youth Affairs in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

533. **B** **500** – The nationwide Know Your Vote campaign, which began on 26 October 2026 and runs until 5 November 2026, is meant to reach 500 universities, colleges and institutions across the country.

534. **C** **158 Samvads and about 32,000 youth** – With the latest round of programmes added in, a total of 158 Yuva Samvads have been conducted across 28 states and union territories, engaging roughly 32,000 young people and 158 Youth Icons.

535. **B** **The Department of School Education and Literacy** – The correct answer is the Department of School Education and Literacy, known as DoSEL, which works under the Union Ministry of Education.

536. **A** **The CSR Module and the Adopt-a-School Module** – These two make up the corporate social responsibility side of Vidyanjali and allow an organisation to take up a requirement a school has itself identified and to contribute towards that school's development.

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537. **C** **Mizoram** – The correct answer is Mizoram, which spoke on the part played by community participation in the working of Vidyanjali at the National CSR Meet held in Gurugram, Haryana, on 31 October 2026.

538. **B** **166** – The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change put Delhi's monthly average Air Quality Index for October 2026 at 166, the lowest average the capital has recorded for the month of October in the past eight years.

539. **C** **220 days** – In the ten months from January to October 2026 the capital counted 220 days whose daily average stayed below 200 on the index, which is the band described as 'Good to Moderate'.

540. **A** **69 micrograms per cubic metre** – For the stretch from 1 January to 29 October 2026 the average concentration of fine particulate matter, PM2.5, in Delhi's air worked out to 69 micrograms per cubic metre, the lowest of the years compared.

541. **C** **Godavari** – While speaking at Nashik the President set out the four great Kumbh gatherings of the country along with the waters each belongs to, and the Nashik fair is the one held on the banks of the Godavari.

542. **B** **The President** – It was the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, who graced the Dhwaj Stambh Pujan, the Dhwaja Pujan and the Dhwajarohan of the Simhastha Maha Kumbh at Nashik in Maharashtra, and who went on to address a public programme the same day.

543. **B** **2027** – Speaking at the flag ceremony, the President said she was confident that the Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Simhastha Maha Kumbh of 2027 would act as a bridge joining the country's ancient heritage to modern times, and she hoped it would give the younger generation an...

544. **B** **Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat - 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan** – The correct answer is Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat - 100 Week Sankalp Abhiyan.

545. **C** **Over 96,700** – That was the overall participation recorded for the Week 7 activities held on 30 and 31 October 2026 at more than 200 institutions across the country.

546. **A** **Fit Youth, Addiction-Free Youth (Shakti evam Seva)** – This was the theme fixed for the campaign's second month, and the cyclothons, walkathons, runs and allied activities of Week 7 were organised under it.

547. **B** **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota** – The navigation satellite NVS-03 rode to orbit on the GSLV-F18 vehicle, which lifted off from Sriharikota on 30 October 2026 at 23:51 hours, and the rocket placed the spacecraft in a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit as intended.

548. **C** **Third** – The second-generation series of navigation satellites runs from NVS-01 to NVS-05, and NVS-03 is the third of those five spacecraft to be launched.

549. **C** **111.75 degrees East** – After the launch vehicle released NVS-03 into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit, the spacecraft began a series of burns meant to lift it into its working geosynchronous position, and the slot assigned to it is 111.75 degrees East.

550. **B** **5.83 per cent** – Total coal imports came down from 111.05 million tonnes in August 2025 to 104.57 million tonnes in August 2026, a reduction of 6.48 million tonnes, which works out to a fall of 5.83 per cent.

551. **B** **104.57 million tonnes** – This was the total quantity of coal India imported during August 2026, lower by 6.48 million tonnes than the same month of the previous year.

552. **B** **19.30 per cent** – Imported coal accounted for this share of all the coal India consumed during August 2026, which marks a reduced reliance on foreign supplies for the month.

553. **A** **INS Trishul** – Indian Naval Ship Trishul is the vessel that arrived at Souda Bay in Greece on 31 October 2026, in the course of a deployment that was already under way in the Mediterranean Sea.

554. **B** **Greece** – Souda Bay is the Greek port where Indian Naval Ship Trishul called on 31 October 2026 while deployed in the Mediterranean Sea.

555. **B** **NATO** – The establishment at Souda Bay is the NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre, usually written as NMIOTC, and the crew of Indian Naval Ship Trishul is to be familiarised with its facilities during the port call, along with those of Naval Suppor...

556. **A** **Raipur** – The Star Rating Awards Ceremony for coal and lignite mines is being held at Raipur in Chhattisgarh on 2 November 2026, and the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Vishnu Deo Sai, is the Special Guest at the function, which fits the choice of the state capital as...

557. **B** **Coal Controller's Organisation** – Under the Star Rating Policy for Coal Mines, a mine does not award itself a grade.

558. **D** **2024-25** – The mines to be honoured at the Star Rating Awards Ceremony in Raipur are those that secured the highest star ratings for the assessment year 2024-25, after their performance was assessed and validated by reviewers appointed for the purpose.

559. **B** **1 November** – All three states, Haryana, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, mark their State Foundation Day on this date, and in 2026 the Prime Minister sent a separate message of greeting to the people of each of them on the day.

560. **C** **Chhattisgarh** – The message for the foundation day of Chhattisgarh said it was heartening to see the state move ahead with renewed momentum on the path of development even as the roots of Naxalism were being eradicated, and the same message spoke of the state's tribal cultur...

561. **A** **Madhya Pradesh** – Its foundation day message called the state a land of glorious heritage, rich culture and stunning natural beauty, and said its world renowned heritage sites make its historical identity grander, before going on to note contributions in agriculture, industry,...

562. **B** **Rs 375 lakh** – Projects of this value are to be inaugurated under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana during the visit of the Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying to the Gangtok and Mangan districts of Sikkim on 2 and 3 November 2026.

563. **C** **34** – Under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, this many fisheries production and processing clusters have been notified across the country, and among them are organic fisheries clusters in Sikkim and Meghalaya.

564. **A** **Sikkim and Meghalaya** – Among the fisheries production and processing clusters notified under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, the organic fisheries clusters are in these two states, which is also why a Standard Operating Procedure for organic fish farming is being launched...

565. **B** **Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi** – The Vice-President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, opened the National Organ Transplant Games 2026 at Talkatora Stadium in the capital, where transplant recipients, living donors and the families of donors who had died came together.

566. **C** **570** – At the Games a record attempt was made in which 570 transplant recipients and organ donors held the Tadasana posture at the same time, and the World Book of Records, New Delhi, gave the organisers a certificate for the largest gathering of transplant recipien...

567. **B** **National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO)** – The Games were put together by the Renal Care Foundation, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital and NOTTO, which functions under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and the Vice-President congratulated all three for the initiative.

568. **C** **Chandigarh Police** – The honour was conferred on the force on 1 November 2026, the day Chandigarh marks its foundation day, at a ceremony held for the Diamond Jubilee of the force.

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569. **B** **More than 15 years** – At the Chandigarh ceremony the Union Home Minister explained that the President’s Colour is granted to a force in recognition of service beyond fifteen years, with the discipline and the dedication of its personnel taken into account before the honour is give…

570. **C** **1966** – On 1 November 1966 Chandigarh was constituted as a Union Territory and designated the joint capital of both Punjab and Haryana, which is why the city observes its foundation day on that date and why the police force celebrated its Diamond Jubilee alongside it.

571. **C** **74th** – EPFO observed its 74th Foundation Day at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi, marking a journey of seventy-four years from a statutory provident fund body, founded on a commitment of 1952, to one of the leading social security institutions in t…

572. **B** **Rs 1,000** – Under the scheme launched on the Foundation Day, subscribers holding Aadhaar-verified inoperative EPF accounts with balances up to one thousand rupees need not file an individual claim at all; EPFO will begin settlement on its own after the prescribed identit…

573. **D** **2.57 days** – The Foundation Day function showcased the effect of the technological overhaul carried out through the CITES 2.01 platform, and the sharpest measure of it was the fall in the average time taken to settle a claim, which stood at 2.57 days in October 2026.

574. **A** **Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir** – He has assumed charge as the 55th Director General of the Geological Survey of India, which works as an attached office of the Ministry of Mines, bringing more than three decades of experience in geological investigation, mineral exploration, engineering geol…

575. **C** **Ministry of Mines** – The Geological Survey of India is described as an attached office of the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, and it is in that ministry’s mandate that the new Director General placed his priorities: integrated geoscientific investigation, advanced mineral…

576. **C** **1994** – Ganvir joined the Geological Survey of India on 1 July 1994, after completing his postgraduate degree in geology from RTMNU University in Nagpur, and his service of more than 32 years follows from that date.

577. **C** **67.2 MT** – In October 2026 Coal India mined more coal in a month than ever before, and the figure stood at 67.2 MT.

578. **A** **1 November 1975** – The miner marked its 51st Foundation Day on 1 November 2026, which places its establishment exactly fifty-one years earlier, and it has now stepped into its 52nd year of service.

579. **C** **815 MT** – That is the quantity of coal the company has been asked to mine in 2026-27.

580. **A** **'Invest. Innovate. Inspire.'** – Innovate.

581. **C** **9th Session** – Three gatherings share the same dates and venue: Bharat RE 2026 itself, the 9th Session of the International Solar Alliance Assembly, and the 4th International Conference on Green Hydrogen.

582. **C** **Thirteen** – The States and Union Territories putting their renewable energy strengths, investment openings and manufacturing capability on display are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, U…

583. **B** **Seven** – The airports taking part are Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Cochin, Mumbai, Chennai and Amritsar, and the trials there run from November to December 2026.

584. **A** **Air India and IndiGo** – Only these two carriers' selected international services are covered while the trial lasts, and the traveller must also be an Indian national holding an electronic passport.

585. **C** **More than 110 million** – These have been made across 39 domestic airports where the service is already running for domestic airlines.

586. **C** **Gelephu Mindfulness City** – The correct answer is Gelephu Mindfulness City, the new city being built in Bhutan close to the border with Assam.

587. **B** **15 metres** – Three measurements are reported together and a question usually tests whether they have been kept apart.

588. **C** **Stupa No. 76** – The correct answer is Stupa No. 76, dedicated by the King of Bhutan to the Prime Minister of India for his commitment and steady support to Gelephu Mindfulness City.

589. **B** **60th year of its formation** – Hirak Jayanti means diamond jubilee, and a diamond jubilee marks sixty years, which is the clue a candidate can use even without recalling the news.

590. **B** **Panipat** – The correct answer is Panipat, and the campaign was launched from there in January 2015.

591. **A** **A rise in the sex ratio at birth in 2025 compared with 2014** – The correct answer is a rise in the sex ratio at birth in 2025 compared with 2014.

592. **B** **Thiruvananthapuram** – The correct answer is Thiruvananthapuram, the capital of Keralam, where the Lok Sabha Speaker will inaugurate the conference on Tuesday, 3 November 2026.

593. **A** **'Audit, Accountability and Good Governance - The Evolving Role of the PAC'** – The correct answer is 'Audit, Accountability and Good Governance - The Evolving Role of the PAC'.

594. **C** **K. C. Venugopal** – The correct answer is K. C. Venugopal, Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament, who will deliver the welcome address at the inaugural session.

595. **A** **Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit** – He took over as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force on 1 November 2026, marking the start of his tenure with a wreath-laying at the National War Memorial and a ceremonial Guard of Honour at Air Force Station New Delhi.

596. **B** **Yukti** – The guiding theme has four pillars, one for each letter.

597. **A** **Jointness, Aatmanirbharta and Innovation** – While setting out the fourth pillar of his vision, the Chief of the Air Staff said that stronger jointness with the Army, the Navy and national agencies would be pursued in keeping with the national vision of JAI, whose three words are Jointness, Aatmanirbhar...

598. **C** **Mumbai** – The Union Railway Minister flagged off the service between SMVT Bengaluru and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus in Mumbai, joining the country's hub of information technology and startups with its financial and commercial capital.

599. **B** **Howrah-Guwahati** – The correct answer is Howrah-Guwahati, where the sleeper version of the Vande Bharat train entered service in January 2026.

600. **A** **16** – While speaking at the flag-off, the Union Minister said that spending on railway infrastructure had produced both expansion and better safety, and that the number of accidents had dropped from one hundred and thirty-five to sixteen after the Kavach train prot...

601. **A** **Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal** – The correct answer is Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal, who holds the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and the Vayu Sena Medal.

602. **B** **1989** – He joined the flying branch of the Indian Air Force as a fighter pilot on the fourteenth of June that year, which means a career of more than three and a half decades before taking over a command.

603. **B** **Senior Air Staff Officer at Headquarters South Western Air Command** – The correct answer is Senior Air Staff Officer at Headquarters South Western Air Command.

604. **B** **Rs 258 crore** – The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation inaugurated some projects of the Chandigarh Administration and laid the foundation stones of others, and the combined value of the works was given as two hundred and fifty eight crore rupees.

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605. **C** **The Governor of Punjab** – Gulab Chand Kataria, who is the Governor of Punjab, was described as the Administrator of Chandigarh and was present when the projects were inaugurated and their foundation stones laid.

606. **A** **Chandigarh, Haryana and the Chandigarh Police** – Speaking at the ceremony, the Union Home Minister recalled that on this very day in 1966 the city of Chandigarh was established, the state of Haryana was formed and the Chandigarh Police came into being, and he added that the force received the President's Co...

607. **B** **Swami Shraddhanand** – The President attended the observance of the hundredth year of his martyrdom at Gurukul in Kurukshetra, Haryana, and paid tribute to him.

608. **A** **Munshiram** – The President described his life as a journey from Munshiram to Mahatma Munshiram and finally to Swami Shraddhanand, and called that progression deeply inspiring.

609. **C** **Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati** – The correct answer is Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati, the founder of the Arya Samaj.

610. **C** **67th** – The park, which comes under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, observed its sixty-seventh Foundation Day with a doodle activity for visitors that about one thousand five hundred people joined or admired, aimed in particular at children an...

611. **C** **46** – During the nineteenth edition of the walk, held from half past seven in the morning until half past ten, the eighteen participants recorded forty-six species of birds and observed more than five hundred individual birds in the area set aside for the activity.

612. **A** **NZP Saathi** – The registration link for the walk is put up on the official website of the National Zoological Park and on this mobile application.

613. **A** **Sindi Railway, on the Nagpur-Wardha district border** – Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari performed the bhoomipujan there, and the park is being developed over 150 acres of land close to the Sindi Railway railway station.

614. **B** **National Highways Logistics Management Limited** – The correct answer is National Highways Logistics Management Limited, usually written as NHLML.

615. **B** **From Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 1 lakh** – The dry port at Sindi Railway will let cotton, cotton lint, textiles and oranges of Vidarbha travel to Bangladesh through Haldia in Kolkata instead of being hauled to Mumbai first, and this shorter journey is what brings the freight for one container down to...

616. **B** **'Khadi-wali Diwali'** – The Khadi and Village Industries Commission held the fest under this theme at NDMC Palika Park, Connaught Place, New Delhi, opposite Regal Cinema, and KVIC Chairman Manoj Goel inaugurated it as chief guest.

617. **B** **More than Rs 1.87 lakh crore** – Speaking to media representatives at the fest, KVIC Chairman Manoj Goel said the sector's turnover had crossed that mark in the financial year 2025-26, and that the sector gives work to more than 2.04 crore people.

618. **A** **'Baat Khadi Ki'** – KVIC started this podcast to carry the Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 and the 'Vocal for Local' initiative to younger listeners, and it takes up the legacy of Khadi, modern fashion, innovation and enterprise among the young.

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