

SEPTEMBER 2025

CURRENT AFFAIRS

- TOPIC WISE CURRENT AFFAIRS
- 150 QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE
- ANALYSIS OF IMPORTANT EVENTS



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PREFACE

This is our special edition of Current Affairs Magazine for various Central & State level Competitive Examinations, covering content from the month of September 2025.

The Magazine is divided into three sections:

Section 1: Topic Wise Current Affairs in Short

The first section is dedicated to Topic Wise Current Affairs with a short description to provide information about all major happenings this month.

Section 2: Practice Questions with Answers

The Second Section contains 150 Multiple Choice Questions based on daily current affairs.

Section 3: Detailed Analysis of important Event

The Third Section covers some major happenings in this month along with analysis. The content has been covered from various online & offline sources including reputed newspapers like The Hindu, Indian Express etc. All the news topics have been explained keeping in mind their underlying issues. Every issue has been covered comprehensively. Some of the information provided may not be directly relevant for the examination. As the content is very wide, we have only covered a limited set of issues. You can utilize it smartly along with Daily Study of News Papers as well as other sources.



INDEX

1. Important Days	Page 04
2. Agreements	Page 11
3. Appointments	Page 15
4. Awards	Page 18
5. Banking	Page 22
6. Books and Author	Page 24
7. Defence	Page 27
8. Economy	Page 32
9. International	Page 35
10. Miscellaneous	Page 47
11. National	Page 50
12. Obituaries	Page 55
13. Ranks & Reports	Page 58
14. Schemes & Committee	Page 62
15. Science & Technology	Page 66
16. Sports	Page 70
17. State	Page 74
18. Summits & Conferences	Page 79

Section 1

Topic Wise Current Affairs

Section 2

Question with Answers

- **QUESTIONS - Page 86**
- **ANSWERS - Page 98**

Section 3

Detailed Analysis of Events

1. Economics	Page 113
2. Environment & Diversity	Page 116
3. Governance	Page 123
4. History	Page 126
5. International Relations	Page 128
6. Polity	Page 131
7. Science, Tech, Art & Culture	Page 135
8. Security Issues	Page 142
9. Trivia	Page 146

SECTION 1

Topic Wise Current Affairs in Short



1: Important Days



National Nutrition Week (India) : 01 September :-

National Nutrition Week in India is observed every year from September 1 to September 7 to create awareness about the importance of nutrition and healthy eating habits for maintaining overall well-being. The observance was first introduced by the Food and Nutrition Board of the Government of India in 1982, with the aim of addressing widespread malnutrition, promoting balanced diets, and educating people on the role of nutrients in preventing lifestyle-related diseases. Over time, it has become an important annual campaign that highlights government initiatives, policies, and programs like Poshan Abhiyaan, which focus on combating malnutrition in children, women, and vulnerable groups.



World Coconut Day : 02 September :-

World Coconut Day is celebrated every year on September 2 to recognize the importance of the coconut tree, often called the "tree of life," for its immense nutritional, health, and economic value. The observance

was first introduced in 2009 by the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), an intergovernmental organization that works to promote sustainable coconut cultivation and trade among member countries. The date marks the foundation day of APCC, highlighting its role in encouraging coconut-based industries and improving farmers' livelihoods. The theme for World Coconut Day 2025 is "Uncovering Coconut's Power, Inspiring Global Action."



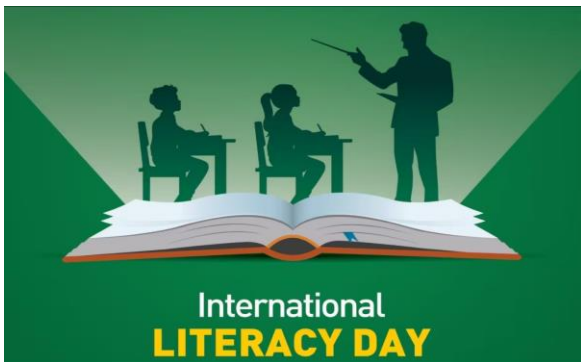
Teachers' Day (India) : 05 September :-

Teachers' Day in India is celebrated every year on 5 September to honor the contribution of teachers in shaping society and guiding students. The date marks the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, India's second President, who was also a respected philosopher and educationist. The day is significant as it highlights the role of teachers in nurturing values, knowledge, and character in students. Schools and institutions organize cultural activities, speeches, and events to express gratitude toward teachers.



International Day of Charity : 05 September :-

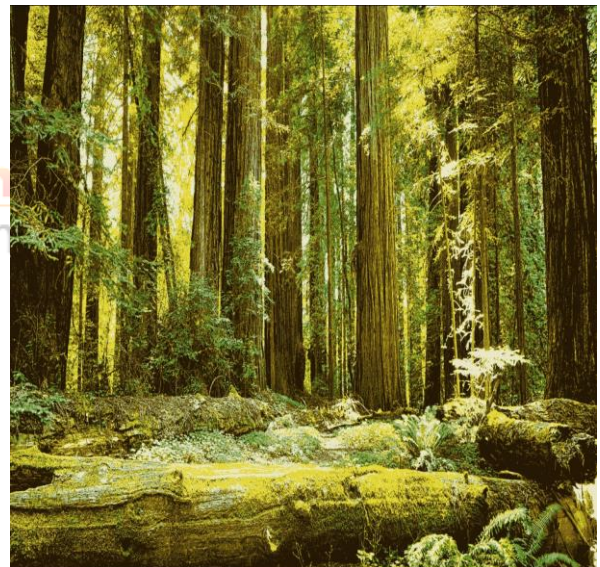
The International Day of Charity is observed on 5 September worldwide to promote charitable efforts and encourage people to help those in need. The date was chosen to commemorate the death anniversary of Mother Teresa, who dedicated her life to serving the poor and underprivileged. The United Nations declared this observance in 2012 to raise awareness about the importance of charity in addressing humanitarian crises, poverty reduction, and sustainable development. It serves as a reminder that small acts of kindness can make a global impact.

**International Literacy Day : 08 September :-**

International Literacy Day is observed every year on September 8, a day declared by UNESCO in 1966 to highlight the importance of literacy as a fundamental human right and a tool for empowerment. The observance originated from the World Conference of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy held in Tehran in 1965. Since then, the day has been used to draw attention to the progress made and the challenges that remain in ensuring quality education and literacy for all. The theme for the International Literacy Day 2025 is "Promoting literacy in the digital era".

**World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) : 10 September**

World Suicide Prevention Day is observed every year on 10 September to raise awareness about suicide as a global public health issue and to promote preventive action. The initiative was first launched in 2003 by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO). The day highlights the importance of mental health support, early intervention, and reducing stigma around seeking help. It serves as a reminder that suicide is preventable and communities, governments, and individuals can all play a role in saving lives. The theme for 2024 – 2026 'Changing the Narrative on Suicide'.

**National Forest Martyrs Day (India) : 11 September :-**

National Forest Martyrs Day is observed every year on 11 September in India to honor the sacrifice of those who laid down their lives while protecting the country's forests and wildlife. The day was first declared in 2013 to mark the tragic incident in 1730 at Khejarli village in Rajasthan, where over 360 Bishnoi community members, led by Amrita Devi, sacrificed their lives to save Khejri trees from being cut down on the orders of the then ruler. The observance highlights the importance of forest conservation, raises awareness about environmental protection, and pays tribute to foresters, guards, and activists who have died in the line of duty safeguarding natural resources.



International Chocolate Day : 13 September :-

International Chocolate Day is observed every year on September 13, coinciding with the birth anniversary of Milton S. Hershey, the American confectioner who founded the Hershey Chocolate Company in 1894. The day celebrates not only the universal love for chocolate but also its cultural, historical, and economic significance. Chocolate, originally derived from cacao beans used by ancient Mesoamerican civilizations, has evolved from a bitter ceremonial drink into one of the world's most cherished sweets. World Chocolate Day is observed on July 7 to mark the introduction of chocolate to Europe, while International Chocolate Day on September 13 honors Milton Hershey's birthday.



Hindi Diwas : 14 September :-

Hindi Diwas is observed every year on 14th September to mark the adoption of Hindi as one of India's official languages. On this date in 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India accepted Hindi, written in the Devanagari script, as the official language of the Union. The day is celebrated to acknowledge Hindi's role as a unifying medium of communication and to promote its use across administrative, educational, and cultural

spheres. Beyond linguistic pride, Hindi Diwas serves as a reminder of India's multilingual identity, encouraging respect for all languages while strengthening the role of Hindi in fostering national integration.



Engineer's Day (India) : 15 September :-

Engineer's Day in India is observed every year on 15th September to honor the birth anniversary of Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya (1861–1962), one of the country's most distinguished engineers and statesmen. He was instrumental in pioneering irrigation techniques, flood control systems, and modern infrastructure projects, earning him the Bharat Ratna in 1955. The day was first celebrated in 1968, and since then, it has become an occasion to recognize the contributions of engineers in nation-building.



International Day of Democracy : 15 September :-

The International Day of Democracy is observed on 15th September every year, following its proclamation by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007. The date commemorates the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Democracy by the Inter-Parliamentary Union in 1997, emphasizing the principles of freedom, human rights, and people's participation in governance.

The day serves as a reminder of the global struggle to uphold democratic values against challenges such as authoritarianism, disinformation, and suppression of dissent.



World Ozone Day : 16 September :-

World Ozone Day, officially known as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, is observed every year on September 16. The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed this day in 1994 to commemorate the signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in 1987, which became one of the most successful global environmental agreements. The day serves as a reminder of the importance of the ozone layer, which acts as a shield protecting life on Earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation. The 2025 theme is 'From Science to Global Action'.



World Patient Safety Day : 17 September :-

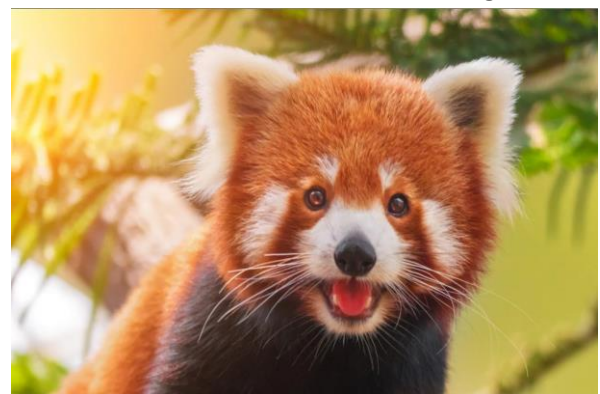
World Patient Safety Day is observed every year on 17 September to highlight the importance of making healthcare safer for patients worldwide. The World Health Organization (WHO) established this observance in 2019, following a resolution passed at the 72nd World Health Assembly, to create global awareness about the

need to minimize risks, errors, and harm in medical care. World Patient Safety Day 2025 theme is "Safe care for every newborn and every child" with the slogan "Patient safety from the start!".



World Bamboo Day : 18 September :-

World Bamboo Day is observed every year on 18 September to raise global awareness about the importance of bamboo as a sustainable and versatile resource. The day was officially established in 2009 during the 8th World Bamboo Congress held in Bangkok, Thailand, under the initiative of the World Bamboo Organization (WBO). Bamboo, often called "green gold," grows rapidly and can be harvested within a few years, making it a renewable resource that helps reduce deforestation. The theme for 2025 is: "Next Generation Bamboo: Solution, Innovation, and Design."



International Red Panda Day 2025 : 20 September :-

International Red Panda Day is observed every year on the third Saturday of September to raise awareness about the conservation of the endangered red panda species. In 2025, it falls on September 20. The day was initiated by the Red Panda Network in 2010 with the aim of educating people, especially children and youth, about

the importance of protecting red pandas and their fragile Himalayan habitat. These small, tree-dwelling mammals are classified as endangered due to habitat loss, deforestation, and poaching.



World Alzheimer's Day : 21 September :-

World Alzheimer's Day is observed every year on 21 September to raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. The day was first launched in 1994 by Alzheimer's Disease International (ADI) on the 10th anniversary of the organization. Alzheimer's is a progressive neurological disorder that impairs memory, thinking, and behavior, and it is one of the leading causes of disability among the elderly. The significance of this day lies in spreading awareness, reducing stigma, and encouraging early diagnosis and care. The World Alzheimer's Day 2025 theme is "Ask About Dementia. Ask About Alzheimer's".



International Day of Peace (UN) : 21 September :-

The International Day of Peace is celebrated annually on 21 September, as declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 1981, and later set as a fixed date in 2001. The day is devoted to strengthening the ideals of

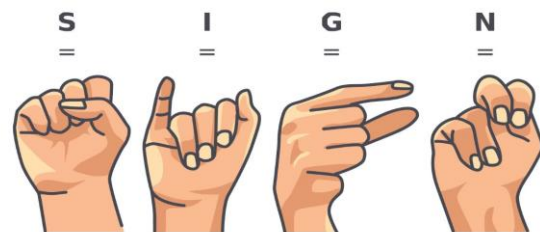
peace, both within and among nations, and is often marked by a 24-hour global ceasefire appeal in conflict zones. Its history is rooted in the UN's mission to prevent war and encourage dialogue, cooperation, and non-violence. The significance of this day lies in promoting harmony, tolerance, and respect for human rights across societies.



World Rhino Day : 22 September :-

World Rhino Day is observed every year on 22 September to raise awareness about the need to protect rhinoceroses, one of the planet's most threatened species. The day was first celebrated in 2010, initiated by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in South Africa, and soon gained international recognition after 2011, when environmentalist Lisa Jane Campbell helped globalize the campaign. The aim of the observance is to highlight the threats rhinos face, including poaching, habitat loss, and illegal wildlife trade, all of which have pushed several rhino species to the brink of extinction.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SIGN LANGUAGES



International Day of Sign Languages : 23 September :-

The International Day of Sign Languages is observed annually on September 23, highlighting the cultural and

linguistic identity of deaf people and sign language users worldwide. The day was first recognized by the United Nations in 2018, marking the anniversary of the World Federation of the Deaf's establishment in 1951. It emphasizes the need to preserve sign languages as a crucial means of communication and inclusion. The 2025 theme for International Day of Sign Languages is "No Human Rights Without Sign Language Rights".



World Pharmacists Day : 25 September :-

World Pharmacists Day is observed every year on September 25 to highlight the vital role that pharmacists play in improving global health. The day was first established by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) in 2009, during its council meeting in Istanbul, with the first celebration held in 2010. The date was chosen to mark the founding of FIP in 1912. The day recognizes pharmacists as key healthcare professionals who ensure safe access to medicines, provide expert advice on their proper use, and contribute to research, innovation, and health policy. "Think Health, Think Pharmacist" is the theme of World Pharmacists Day 2025.



Antyodaya Diwas : 25 September :-

Antyodaya Diwas is observed annually on September 25 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya (1916–1968), a visionary leader, thinker, and ideologue of integral humanism. The term "Antyodaya" translates to "upliftment of the last person," reflecting Upadhyaya's philosophy of inclusive growth where the poorest and most marginalized sections of society are prioritized in development efforts. The Government of India declared September 25 as Antyodaya Diwas in 2014 to honor his contributions. On this day, awareness campaigns, rural development programs, and initiatives for social welfare are launched to remind policymakers and citizens of the importance of reaching the unreached.



World Contraception Day : 26 September :-

World Contraception Day is observed every year on September 26 to raise awareness about safe and effective methods of contraception. The day was first launched in 2007 by a coalition of international NGOs and healthcare organizations to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies worldwide. Its central aim is to empower people, especially young individuals, to make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health. The theme for World Contraception Day 2025 is "A choice for all — agency, intention, access."



World Environmental Health Day : 26 September :-

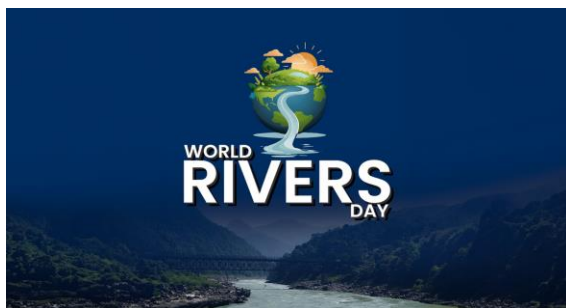
World Environmental Health Day is marked globally on September 26 each year to highlight the crucial

connection between environmental conditions and public health. The day was established in 2011 by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH). Its purpose is to raise awareness about the importance of clean water, safe food, waste management, and pollution control in preventing diseases and ensuring sustainable living. The observance emphasizes how environmental health professionals play a critical role in safeguarding communities against risks caused by climate change, industrialization, and poor sanitation. In 2025, the theme is "Clean Air, Healthy People."



World Tourism Day : 27 September :-

World Tourism Day is observed every year on 27 September to highlight the importance of tourism in fostering cultural exchange, economic growth, and sustainable development. The date was chosen by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in 1979, and the first celebration took place in 1980. The day coincides with the anniversary of the adoption of the UNWTO Statutes in 1970, which laid the foundation for global tourism cooperation. The World Tourism Day 2025 theme is "Tourism and Sustainable Transformation".



World Rivers Day 2025 : 28 September :-

World Rivers Day 2025 will be observed on Sunday, September 28, 2025. This annual event is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of September each year to highlight the importance of rivers and their conservation. The initiative was first started in 2005 by Canadian river conservationist Mark Angelo, building upon the success of British Columbia Rivers Day, which he had founded in 1980. The day emphasizes the role rivers play in sustaining ecosystems, supporting communities, and providing fresh water. It also raises awareness about threats such as pollution, over-extraction, and climate change, while encouraging communities to take action through river clean-ups, restoration projects, and advocacy for sustainable water management practices worldwide.



World Rabies Day : 28 September :-

World Rabies Day is marked every year on September 28, coinciding with the death anniversary of Louis Pasteur, the French scientist who developed the first rabies vaccine. Established in 2007 by the Global Alliance for Rabies Control in collaboration with international health organizations, the day seeks to raise awareness about rabies prevention, control, and elimination. Rabies remains a fatal but preventable viral disease, primarily transmitted to humans through dog bites. The significance of this day lies in promoting vaccination drives for pets, educating communities about early treatment after exposure, and supporting global efforts to achieve the goal of eliminating dog-mediated human rabies deaths by 2030. This year's World Rabies Day theme is: "Act now: You, Me, Community".



World Heart Day : 29 September :-

World Heart Day is observed every year on 29 September to raise global awareness about cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), their risk factors, and the importance of preventive measures for a healthy heart. It was first established in the year 2000 by the World Heart Federation (WHF), in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), with the aim of encouraging people worldwide to take charge of their heart health. Initially, the day was celebrated on the last Sunday of September, but from 2011 onwards, it has been fixed on 29 September each year. The World Heart Day 2025 theme is "Don't Miss a Beat".



International Translation Day : 30 September :-

International Translation Day is observed every year on 30 September to celebrate the work of translators, interpreters, and language professionals who bridge linguistic and cultural gaps across the world. The date was chosen in honor of St. Jerome, a Christian scholar and priest who translated most of the Bible into Latin and is considered the patron saint of translators. The International Federation of Translators (FIT) first promoted the day in 1991 to highlight the importance of translation in fostering global communication and understanding. The theme for International Translation Day 2025 is "Translation, shaping a future you can trust".

2: Agreements



Indian Railways and SBI Enhance Insurance Benefits for Employees :-

Indian Railways and the State Bank of India have signed an MoU to enhance insurance benefits for railway employees. The agreement increases accidental death coverage to ₹1 crore and provides natural death coverage of ₹10 lakh. The initiative aims to support

nearly 7 lakh railway employees, particularly frontline personnel. The MoU reflects a compassionate approach to employee welfare, ensuring financial security and peace of mind for railway workers. The enhanced benefits underscore the importance of employee-centric policies in public sector organizations.



India-Singapore to Strengthen Ties in Trade, Defence, and Technology :-

India and Singapore have outlined a comprehensive roadmap to enhance their strategic partnership, focusing on key areas such as trade, defence, digitalization, and healthcare. Following Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong's visit to India, both countries have agreed to deepen cooperation in economic development, skills training, and sustainable practices. Initiatives include reviewing trade agreements, supporting India's semiconductor industry, and expanding UPI-PayNow linkage. The collaboration aims to drive innovation, strengthen resilience, and contribute to regional stability, reflecting the shared values and mutual respect between the two nations.



India, Singapore Expand Cooperation in Advanced Manufacturing and Green Initiatives :-

India and Singapore have strengthened their strategic partnership by expanding cooperation in advanced manufacturing, green shipping, and civil nuclear energy. Following bilateral talks in New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Singaporean counterpart Lawrence Wong announced new collaborative efforts in skilling, digital technologies, and sustainable practices. The partnership aims to enhance economic ties, foster innovation, and address global challenges through joint initiatives. The leaders highlighted the significance of their relationship in promoting regional stability and economic growth, underscoring shared values and mutual respect.



Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis announced MoUs with HUDCO and NBCC :-

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced that the state government has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) and National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC). These agreements aim to accelerate housing, infrastructure, and urban development projects in the state. HUDCO's expertise in financing and NBCC's capabilities in large-scale construction are expected to help Maharashtra achieve its goals in affordable housing and urban renewal, particularly under schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.



India and ADB Sign \$126 Million Loan for Uttarakhand Tourism :-

India and the Asian Development Bank have signed a \$126.42 million loan agreement to promote sustainable tourism in Uttarakhand. The project focuses on the Tehri Lake region, aiming to assist over 87,000 residents and 2.7 million annual visitors. Key interventions include climate-resilient infrastructure and enhanced sanitation. The initiative aligns with Uttarakhand's goal of becoming

a diversified tourism destination, offering economic benefits and climate resilience, serving as a model for similar projects.



Tribal Affairs Ministry signed an agreement with Coal India Limited (CIL) to to Upgrade 76 Eklavya Schools :-

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has signed an agreement with Coal India Limited (CIL) to upgrade 76 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) across India. These schools are established to provide quality education to children from tribal communities, particularly in remote and underdeveloped regions. The collaboration aims to modernize facilities, enhance infrastructure, and improve learning resources so that tribal students can access better educational opportunities comparable to mainstream institutions. This step is seen as a significant move towards empowering tribal youth through education and skill development, thereby fostering social inclusion and long-term growth.



India and ILO Collaborate on Global Occupation Classification :-

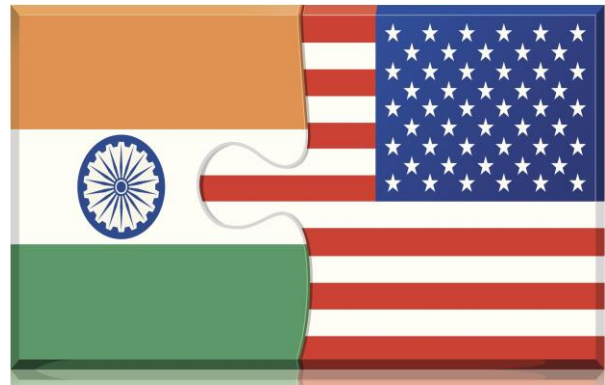
India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Labour Organisation to develop an International Reference Classification of Occupations. This collaboration aims to enhance global skill

comparability, providing Indian workers with greater integration into international labor markets. The initiative is part of India's broader efforts to formalize its economy and boost employment opportunities, aligning with the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana's goal of creating 3.5 crore jobs in the formal sector.



Trump Administration Approves First Ukraine Arms Aid Under New Agreement :-

The Trump administration has approved its first U.S. weapons aid packages for Ukraine under a new agreement with NATO allies. The initiative aims to bolster Ukraine with up to \$10 billion in weapons, amid ongoing Russian aggression. The aid includes critical air defense systems, highlighting the strategic importance of supporting Ukraine's defense capabilities. The move underscores renewed transatlantic cooperation and the complexities of managing geopolitical conflicts.



India and U.S. Officials Discuss Bilateral Trade Pact :-

A delegation from the U.S. Trade Representative's Office held talks with Indian officials to advance a bilateral trade agreement. The discussions in New Delhi were described as positive, with both sides emphasizing the importance of strengthening economic ties. The dialogue

aims to address market access and regulatory frameworks, reflecting India's strategic efforts to enhance trade relations with key global partners and support economic growth.



India and UAE to Jointly Develop Infrastructure Projects in Third Countries :-

India and the UAE are set to collaborate on developing infrastructure projects in third countries, focusing on sectors like mining and housing. This initiative, announced at the 13th meeting of the UAE-India High-Level Joint Task Force on Investments, combines India's technological expertise and skilled workforce with the UAE's investment capabilities. Union Minister Piyush Goyal emphasized the mutual support between the two nations, highlighting key sectors for trade expansion, including textiles, fisheries, and pharmaceuticals. The partnership aims to foster growth and open new avenues for collaboration, strengthening the strategic relationship between India and the UAE.



India and New Zealand Progress in Free Trade Agreement Talks :-

India and New Zealand have concluded the third round of negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in

Queenstown, marking progress in economic collaboration. The FTA aims to enhance bilateral trade, investment, and cooperation, with several chapters finalized. Bilateral trade between the two nations reached \$1.3 billion in FY 2024-25, showing significant growth. The agreement is expected to further accelerate trade and strengthen supply chains, benefiting both economies. The next round of negotiations is scheduled for October in New Delhi.



Saudi Arabia-Pakistan Defence Pact Raises Regional Stability Concerns :-

Saudi Arabia and Pakistan have signed a Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement, marking a significant development in regional security dynamics. The pact, signed by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, pledges mutual defense against aggression. The agreement builds on longstanding military cooperation and aims to strengthen joint deterrence. While the pact enhances bilateral ties, it raises questions about regional stability and its implications, particularly concerning India's strategic interests and the broader geopolitical landscape.



India and ADB Sign \$125 Million Loan Agreement for Assam :-

India and the Asian Development Bank have signed a \$125 million loan agreement to enhance urban services in Assam. The project aims to improve water supply, stormwater management, and urban governance. It reflects a significant step towards building sustainable cities and strengthening institutional capacity in Assam.



World Food India 2025: MoUs Worth ₹1 Lakh Crore Signed :-

World Food India 2025 has attracted investments over ₹1 lakh crore within the first two days, highlighting India's potential as a global food hub. The mega event in Bharat Mandapam focused on sustainability, technology, and international partnerships, with significant contributions from states like Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat. The event also hosted the Global Food Regulators Summit and the India International Seafood Show, aiming to harmonize food safety standards and showcase India's seafood export potential. This initiative

underscores India's commitment to transitioning from food security to nutrition security, enhancing global food trade partnerships.



India, Australia Sign MoU to Enhance Food Safety Cooperation :-

India and Australia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen bilateral cooperation in food safety. This agreement between the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and Australia's Department of Agriculture aims to share best practices and enhance regulatory frameworks. The collaboration will improve consumer safety and facilitate smoother trade flows. This MoU marks a significant step in the growing partnership between the two nations, focusing on aligning import procedures and technical collaboration to elevate food safety standards in both countries.

3: Appointments



IndusInd Bank appoints Pragati Gondhalekar as Head – Internal Audit, Senior Management Personnel :-

IndusInd Bank has appointed Pragati Gondhalekar as its new Head of Internal Audit and Senior Management Personnel. With this appointment, the bank strengthens its focus on governance, compliance, and risk management. Gondhalekar's expertise is expected to enhance the bank's internal audit framework and ensure stronger financial oversight. The move is part of the bank's broader strategy to maintain transparency, accountability, and adherence to regulatory standards in its operations.



Karnataka Bank appoints Raja B S as COO :-

Karnataka Bank has announced the appointment of Raja B S as its new Chief Operating Officer (COO). This appointment marks a key addition to the bank's leadership team as it continues to strengthen its operational efficiency and customer-focused services. Raja B S is expected to bring strategic vision and deep experience in banking operations to streamline processes, enhance digital initiatives, and improve overall performance. Such leadership appointments are crucial as Karnataka Bank aims to remain competitive in a rapidly evolving financial landscape.



David Lammy appointed UK Deputy PM :-

British Labour politician David Lammy has been appointed as the new Deputy Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, marking a significant milestone in his political career. Lammy, who has served as a Member of Parliament since 2000, is known for his outspoken stance on social justice, equality, and foreign policy issues. His appointment comes in the wake of Labour's return to power, where the leadership aims to bring in experienced and progressive voices to strengthen governance. As Deputy PM, Lammy will play a crucial role

in supporting the Prime Minister, coordinating cabinet functions, and shaping key policies.



Giridhar Parvatam appointed new director of CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru :-

Dr. Giridhar Parvatam has been appointed as the new Director of the CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysuru, one of India's premier institutes dedicated to food science and technology. With a strong background in biochemistry and food research, Dr. Parvatam is expected to guide the institute in advancing innovations in nutrition, food safety, and sustainable processing. His leadership comes at a crucial time when India is focusing on food security, value addition, and global competitiveness in agro-based industries.



CP Radhakrishnan Elected as Vice President of India :-

C.P. Radhakrishnan, the NDA nominee, has been elected as the Vice President of India, defeating Justice B. Sudarshan Reddy in the election. Radhakrishnan secured 452 first-preference votes, reflecting strong support across party lines. President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended their congratulations, highlighting Radhakrishnan's commitment to serving

society. His election marks a new chapter in India's leadership, with expectations for enriching parliamentary discourse.



AIFF set to appoint Rohatgi as League COO :-

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) is preparing to appoint Rohatgi as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of its league operations. This decision marks part of AIFF's ongoing reforms to strengthen the administration and professional management of Indian football leagues. The COO role will involve overseeing league planning, execution, and commercial development to enhance the domestic football ecosystem. Rohatgi's appointment is expected to bring in structured leadership, improve coordination with clubs, and align Indian football operations more closely with international standards.



IndusInd Bank names Viral Damania as CFO :-

IndusInd Bank has appointed Viral Damania as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Damania brings with him significant experience in finance, regulatory compliance, and banking operations, which will strengthen the bank's financial management and strategic growth initiatives. As CFO, he will oversee critical areas such as capital planning, risk management, and investor relations,

ensuring the bank's stability in a competitive sector. This appointment is viewed as a step towards reinforcing the bank's leadership team and aligning with its vision of expanding services and enhancing trust among stakeholders.



Sourav Ganguly Re-elected as President of Bengal Cricket :-

Sourav Ganguly has been re-elected unopposed as the President of the Cricket Association of Bengal. The former BCCI President returns to CAB, succeeding his brother Snehasish Ganguly. Ganguly's leadership is expected to bolster Bengal cricket's development, leveraging his extensive experience in cricket administration and his illustrious playing career.



Atul Jain appointed MD of VIP Industries :-

Atul Jain has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of VIP Industries Limited, one of India's leading luggage and travel accessories companies. His appointment reflects the company's strategy to strengthen its leadership team and enhance market presence. With years of experience in consumer-focused industries, Jain is expected to play a pivotal role in driving innovation, expanding the company's global reach, and

improving operational efficiency. VIP Industries, a household name in India, has been expanding its product range to meet evolving travel and lifestyle needs, and Jain's leadership is seen as a move to reinforce the company's position in a competitive industry.



BJP MLA Ganesh Gaonkar elected Goa Assembly Speaker :-

BJP legislator Ganesh Gaonkar has been elected as the Speaker of the Goa Legislative Assembly, a position that plays a crucial role in ensuring the smooth functioning of the House. The Speaker is responsible for maintaining decorum, conducting debates, and safeguarding the rights of both ruling and opposition members. Gaonkar's election comes at a time when the Assembly is dealing with key legislative and governance challenges. As a representative of the ruling party, his leadership will be important in balancing the interests of the government and upholding parliamentary traditions in Goa's democratic process.

4: Awards



Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya presents Rashtrapati Award certificates to Scouts, Guides, Rovers Rangers :-

Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya presented the prestigious Rashtrapati Award certificates to Scouts, Guides, Rovers, and Rangers at a special ceremony, recognizing their outstanding contributions in the fields of community service, discipline, and nation-building activities. The Rashtrapati Award is the highest recognition for members of the Bharat Scouts and Guides, honoring their leadership, social work, and dedication to values such as teamwork and patriotism. By awarding these certificates, the government highlights the importance of nurturing youth in volunteering and social responsibility.



NGO 'Educate Girls' wins Ramon Magsaysay Award 2025 :-

The India-based NGO 'Educate Girls' has been honored with the Ramon Magsaysay Award 2025, often regarded as Asia's Nobel Prize, for its transformative work in promoting education for girls in rural and underserved areas. Founded in 2007, the organization has worked tirelessly to improve enrollment, retention, and learning outcomes for girls, especially in states where dropout rates are high. The award recognizes its innovative community-based approaches, including mobilizing local volunteers to identify out-of-school girls and encouraging families to send them back to classrooms. Winning this prestigious award highlights the critical role of education in social empowerment.



Kolkata-based independent publisher Seagull Books wins 2025 Aficionado Award :-

Seagull Books, a renowned independent publishing house based in Kolkata, has won the prestigious 2025 Aficionado Award, which recognizes excellence in literary publishing and cultural contribution. Founded by Naveen Kishore in 1982, Seagull Books has gained global acclaim for publishing translated works, avant-garde literature, and world classics, making literature accessible beyond language boundaries. The award highlights the publisher's dedication to nurturing global voices and promoting intellectual discourse.



National Teachers' Awards 2025: 45 Teachers Honored Across India :-

The Ministry of Education has announced the recipients of the National Teachers' Awards 2025, with 45 teachers from different states and Union Territories being honored for their exemplary contribution to education. The award, presented annually on Teachers' Day (September 5), celebrates innovation in teaching methods, dedication to student welfare, and commitment to educational excellence. The selected teachers represent diverse backgrounds, including primary, secondary, and higher education levels. This recognition not only honors their hard work but also

serves to inspire other educators across the nation, reinforcing the importance of teaching as a nation-building profession.



Anuparna Roy becomes first Indian to win Best Director award in Orizzonti section at Venice Film Festival :-

Filmmaker Anuparna Roy has made history by becoming the first Indian to win the Best Director award in the Orizzonti (Horizons) section at the prestigious Venice Film Festival. The Orizzonti category is known for recognizing cutting-edge cinema that explores innovative storytelling and fresh perspectives. Roy's win is a proud moment for Indian cinema on the global stage, highlighting the growing recognition of diverse narratives from South Asia in international festivals. Her film stood out for its distinctive vision, artistic style, and powerful commentary, earning praise from both critics and audiences.



Venice Film Festival announces awards winners, including Chinese actor Xin Zhilei and Toni Servillo :-

The Venice Film Festival 2025 has announced its award winners, recognizing global cinematic talent. Chinese actress Xin Zhilei was honored for her outstanding performance, marking a significant moment for Asian cinema on the international stage. Italian actor Toni

Servillo, a celebrated figure in European cinema, also received a top acting award, reinforcing his reputation as one of the finest contemporary actors. The festival, one of the oldest and most prestigious in the world, continues to shape the global film landscape by celebrating diverse voices and groundbreaking storytelling across cultures.



Ariana Grande, Lady Gaga Win Big at MTV Video Music Awards :-

At the MTV Video Music Awards, Ariana Grande and Lady Gaga were among the top honorees, with Grande winning Video of the Year for 'Brighter Days Ahead.' Lady Gaga was named Artist of the Year, highlighting her influence in the music industry. The event celebrated artistic achievements and fan favorites, with notable performances and tributes, including a musical homage to late rocker Ozzy Osbourne. The awards underscore the cultural impact of these artists and the continued evolution of music as a form of expression and connection.



Indore, Jabalpur, Agra Surat Shine at Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards 2025 :-

The Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards 2025, held under India's National Clean Air Programme, recognized cities that have taken strong steps to improve air quality. In

Category 1 (cities with a population above 10 lakh), Indore secured the 1st position with a perfect score of 200, earning ₹1.5 crore for initiatives such as record-breaking tree plantation drives and clean public transport. Other categories also saw notable winners, including Amravati topping Category 2 (population 3–10 lakh) and Dewas leading Category 3 (below 3 lakh population).



Mohammed Siraj named ICC Men's Player of the Month for August 2025 :-

Indian fast bowler Mohammed Siraj has been named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for August 2025, a recognition of his outstanding performances on the international stage. Known for his fiery pace and ability to deliver under pressure, Siraj impressed with consistent wicket-taking spells during India's recent series, particularly in limited-overs formats. His ability to strike early and deliver breakthroughs made a decisive impact in India's victories. This award further cements his reputation as one of the leading fast bowlers in world cricket today, highlighting his growth and resilience since debuting for India in 2017.



BHU's Prof. Prashant Singh receives Young Scientist Award in Varanasi :-

Prof. Prashant Singh of Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi, has been honored with the prestigious Young Scientist Award for his outstanding research contributions. The award recognizes emerging researchers who have made impactful advances in their field at a relatively early stage in their career. Prof. Singh's work has brought attention to BHU's role as a hub of academic and scientific excellence. This recognition is not only a personal achievement for him but also a testament to BHU's commitment to fostering innovation, encouraging young talent, and promoting India's growing presence in global research.



Ousmane Dembele and Aitana Bonmati Win Ballon d'Or Awards :-

Ousmane Dembele of PSG and Aitana Bonmati of Barcelona have been awarded the Ballon d'Or for their exceptional performances. Dembele's contribution to PSG's Champions League victory highlights his growth under coach Luis Enrique. Bonmati's consistent excellence secures her third consecutive award, underscoring her impact in women's football.



President Murmu Presents National Film Awards, Honors Mohanlal :-

President Droupadi Murmu presided over the 71st National Film Awards ceremony, celebrating excellence in Indian cinema. Renowned actor Mohanlal received the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award for his versatile contributions to the industry. President Murmu emphasized the importance of women-centric films and the role of cinema in reflecting India's diverse culture. The awards highlight the power of storytelling in addressing societal issues and the potential for Indian cinema to achieve global recognition.



Diljit Dosanjh Nominated for International Emmy Award :-

Actor-singer Diljit Dosanjh has been nominated for the Best Performance by an Actor award at the 2025 International Emmy Awards for his role in 'Amar Singh Chamkila'. The Netflix biographical drama, directed by Imtiaz Ali, chronicles the life of the Dalit musician Chamkila, who gained fame in the 1980s. The film explores themes of caste, desire, and conservatism, with music composed by A.R. Rahman. Dosanjh's nomination highlights his international recognition and the film's impact in portraying important social themes. The awards will be held in New York City this November.

5: Banking



Japan Post Bank to launch digital yen in 2026 :-

Japan Post Bank, one of the largest financial institutions in the country, has announced its plan to launch a digital yen by 2026, aligning with Japan's broader efforts to adopt central bank digital currency (CBDC) frameworks. The initiative reflects growing global trends where nations are testing or introducing digital versions of their currencies to ensure secure, fast, and transparent transactions. By 2026, customers of Japan Post Bank will likely have access to a digital yen platform that enhances financial inclusion, reduces dependency on cash, and offers modern digital banking solutions. This move could reshape the Japanese financial ecosystem and strengthen the country's digital economy.



IDFC First Bank enables GST payment via UPI, cards, net banking :-

IDFC First Bank has introduced a facility that allows businesses and individuals to make their Goods and Services Tax (GST) payments conveniently using digital modes such as UPI, debit or credit cards, and internet

banking. This move is aimed at simplifying the tax payment process and ensuring faster compliance. It reflects the bank's focus on digital financial services and aligns with the government's vision of increasing digital transactions for taxation and financial management.



Axis Bank Launches Sparsh Week 2025 :-

Axis Bank has launched Sparsh Week 2025, an initiative aimed at deepening customer engagement and strengthening relationships. During this special week, the bank organizes interactive sessions, service awareness campaigns, and customer-centric activities across branches. The objective is to connect with customers, gather feedback, and showcase new banking products and services. Such initiatives reflect the bank's emphasis on customer satisfaction and highlight its commitment to delivering personalized financial experiences.



RBI fines Surat People's Bank Rs 18.30 lakh :-

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹18.30 lakh on Surat People's Cooperative

Bank Ltd. The fine was levied for non-compliance with regulatory norms and reflects the central bank's strict stance on ensuring financial discipline and adherence to rules among cooperative banks. While the penalty will not significantly impact the bank's financial stability, it serves as a reminder of the importance of robust governance, transparency, and compliance within India's cooperative banking sector.



Karur Vysya Bank Cuts Lending Rate :-

Karur Vysya Bank, a leading private sector bank headquartered in Tamil Nadu, has announced a reduction in its Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate (MCLR) by 0.05%, bringing the new one-year MCLR down to 8.80%. This cut is expected to lower borrowing costs for retail as well as corporate customers, especially benefitting home, personal, and business loan borrowers. By making credit more affordable, the bank aims to stimulate loan growth, support small and medium enterprises, and encourage consumer spending, which can further contribute to overall economic activity.



Bank of Baroda Unveils bob Aspire NRE Account For Future NRIs :-

Bank of Baroda has introduced the bob Aspire Non-Resident External (NRE) Savings Account, a specially designed product for Indians planning to move abroad for employment, higher studies, or long-term settlement. Unlike traditional NRE accounts, this one can be opened even before acquiring NRI status, ensuring a seamless transition once the account holder relocates overseas. The initiative is aimed at young professionals and students preparing for life abroad, providing them with an early start to manage finances globally while retaining the benefits of a trusted Indian banking system.



Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui to exit Kotak ahead of Yes Bank stake purchase :-

Japanese financial giant Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) has decided to exit its stake in Kotak Mahindra Bank as it prepares to purchase a stake in Yes Bank. The move marks a strategic realignment of the company's India investments, as it shifts focus from its long-standing relationship with Kotak to explore new growth opportunities with Yes Bank. This decision underscores the dynamic nature of foreign investment in India's banking sector, where global players seek to balance long-term partnerships with emerging opportunities in a rapidly evolving financial market.



Domestic Investors Set New Record in Equity Purchases for 2025 :-

Domestic institutional investors have purchased a record ₹5.3 lakh crore in equities in 2025, surpassing the total for 2024. Mutual funds led the surge with ₹3.65 lakh crore in purchases, buoyed by monthly SIP inflows exceeding ₹25,000 crore. Despite strong domestic inflows, analysts caution about emerging signs of a slowdown due to stagnant market returns and global headwinds. Meanwhile, foreign institutional investors remain net sellers, raising concerns about the sustainability of mutual fund inflows.



Jio Payments Bank launches 'Savings Pro' feature to auto-invest surplus funds :-

Jio Payments Bank has introduced a new feature called 'Savings Pro', which allows customers to automatically invest surplus funds from their savings account into short-term investment options. The facility is designed to help users maximize returns while keeping liquidity intact, enabling money that would otherwise remain idle to generate better value. By integrating savings and

investments seamlessly, this feature reflects the bank's push toward digital financial innovation and customer-centric services. It is also part of the growing trend in India's fintech ecosystem where banks and payment firms are offering smart, automated money management solutions.



ICICI Bank to clear cheques same day from October 4, 2025 :-

ICICI Bank has announced a new facility that will allow same-day clearing of cheques starting from October 4, 2025. This move aims to enhance customer convenience by speeding up financial transactions and reducing the waiting period for cheque settlements. It reflects the broader push in India's banking sector toward faster digital and paper-based transaction processing. The initiative will particularly benefit businesses and individuals who rely on quick access to funds, marking a significant upgrade in traditional banking services while complementing the country's growing digital payments ecosystem.

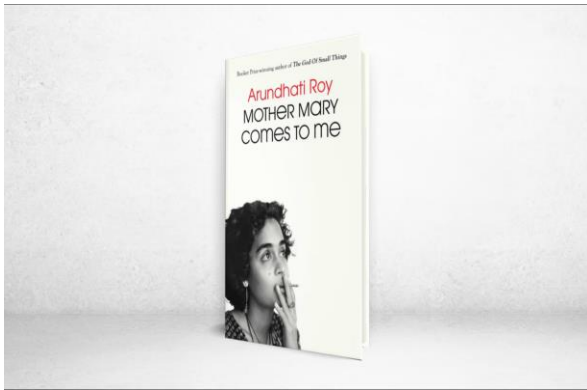
6: Books and Author



Book on Kannada community in Oman launched :-

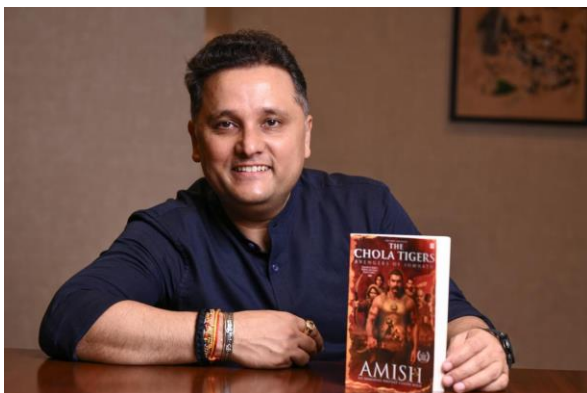
A significant new publication titled Beyond the Horizon – Indian Voices from Oman has been launched, offering a translated collection of Kannada experiential narratives from the Indian diaspora residing in Oman. The original Kannada anthology, titled Arabbar Nāḍinalli Kannadigaru ("Kannadigas in the Land of the Arabs"), was compiled by P. S. Ranganath. The English-language version was officially released on September 1, 2025, at the Samarathanam Trust Auditorium in HSR Layout,

Bengaluru. Edited by P. S. Ranganath himself, the translated collection endeavors to preserve and share the language, traditions, and personal journeys of this vibrant diaspora community.



Arundhati Roy's memoir "Mother Mary Comes to Me" launched in Kochi :-

Booker Prize-winning author Arundhati Roy has released her much-anticipated memoir Mother Mary Comes to Me in Kochi, Kerala. The work is a deeply personal narrative where she reflects on her life journey, her political engagements, and her literary career that began with the globally acclaimed novel The God of Small Things. The memoir blends elements of memory, history, and cultural commentary, offering readers insight into her inner world and the experiences that shaped her writing voice. The launch in Kochi holds significance as the city is tied to the cultural backdrop of much of her fiction, making it a fitting location for unveiling this new phase of her literary career.



Amish Tripathi launches his new book, "The Chola Tigers: The Avengers of Somnath" in Chennai :-

Renowned Indian author Amish Tripathi has launched his latest historical fiction novel titled The Chola Tigers: The

Avengers of Somnath in Chennai. The book explores the valor and legacy of the Chola dynasty, focusing on their role in avenging the attack on the Somnath temple. Known for his mythological and historical storytelling style, Amish brings together history, culture, and adventure in this new work. The launch in Chennai also highlights the connection of the Chola empire with Tamil heritage.



COAS General Upendra Dwivedi Launches Book 'Operation Sindoor' by Retd. Lt. Gen. KJS Dhillon :-

Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi unveiled the book titled "Operation Sindoor: The Untold Story of India's Deep Strikes Inside Pakistan", authored by retired Lieutenant General K.J.S. Dhillon, during an event in New Delhi. Dhillon, who has previously written about his military experiences, draws from his frontline role in counter-insurgency and border operations, making the book an important addition to Indian military literature. The launch underscores the Indian Army's emphasis on preserving narratives of national security and sacrifice for future generations.



A book titled "Hold On – Suicide Vaccination and First Aid Kit," by Dr. Pujitha Josyula Launched :-

A new book titled "Hold On – Suicide Vaccination and First Aid Kit", authored by Dr. Pujitha Josyula, has been launched, addressing the critical issue of suicide prevention. The book seeks to create awareness about mental health challenges and provides practical strategies for coping, intervention, and support. By framing suicide prevention in terms of a "vaccination" and "first aid kit," it emphasizes both proactive care and immediate response.



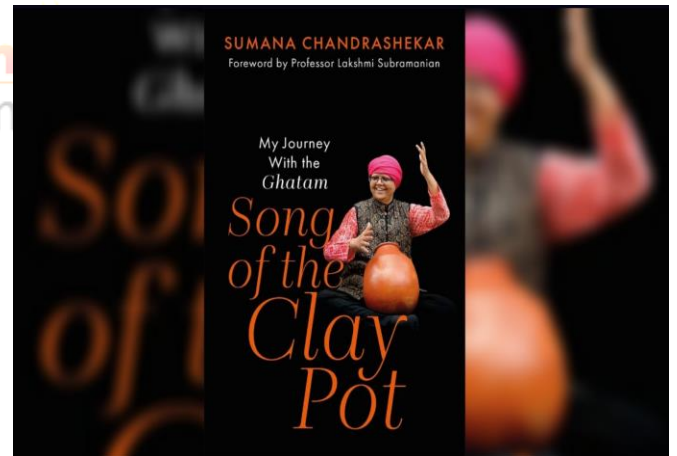
BJP plans special book launch and service drives ("Sewa Pakhwada") ahead of Modi's 75th birthday :-

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has announced a series of initiatives, including a special book release and service drives, to celebrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 75th birthday. Branded as "Sewa Pakhwada," the program will involve community service campaigns such as health camps, cleanliness drives, and awareness programs across the country. The book to be launched is expected to highlight Modi's political journey and achievements in governance. Party leaders believe these activities will not only pay tribute to the Prime Minister but also reinforce BJP's commitment to public service at the grassroots level.



A new book 'Writing for newspapers, radio and television' released by Sri Padmavati Mahila Viswa Vidyalayam (SPMVV) :-

Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (SPMVV) in Tirupati released a new book titled Writing for Newspapers, Radio and Television, authored by Prof. B.N. Neelima from the Department of Communication and Journalism. The book was formally launched at the university by Vice-Chancellor Prof. V. Uma, with Registrar Prof. N. Rajani also present at the event. Prof. Neelima's work serves as a practical guide for aspiring media professionals, covering the art of writing across newspapers, radio, and television. The publication reflects SPMVV's commitment to nurturing academic resources that bridge theory and practical application in journalism and mass communication.



Musician Sumana Chandrashekar unveiled 'Song of the Clay Pot', the first-ever book on ghatam :-

Renowned musician Sumana Chandrashekar has unveiled 'Song of the Clay Pot', recognized as the first-ever comprehensive book on the ghatam, a traditional South Indian percussion instrument. The book not only celebrates the history of the ghatam but also explores its making, playing techniques, and cultural significance within Carnatic music. It serves as both an academic and artistic contribution, aiming to preserve the legacy of this unique clay pot instrument for future generations. Chandrashekar, who is a noted ghatam artist herself, brings an insider's perspective to the subject, weaving together stories of practitioners, craftsmanship, and performance traditions.



Vector art book on Meenakshi Sundareshwarar Temple sculptures released :-

A new vector art book titled "The Sculptural Splendours of Meenakshi Temple" has been released in Madurai. The book is authored by K. G. R. M. Rathinabaskar, and it brings out delicate line drawings of the temple's sculptures, capturing both artistic detail and historical significance. The book focuses on the sculptures of the celebrated Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareshwarar Temple, illustrating the carvings with clarity using vector graphics.



Book on women's empowerment launched at MIER College :-

A book titled "Women and Empowerment: Achieving Sustainable Development Goal 5" was formally launched at MIER College of Education in Jammu. The publication, released by Springer Nature as part of its Sustainable Development Goals Series, highlights critical issues surrounding women's empowerment and gender equality in line with the UN's global agenda. The event reflected a collective call to action, situating women's empowerment as not just a right but an urgent necessity for sustainable development.



Vice President Releases Volumes of PM Modi's Speeches :-

Vice President CP Radhakrishnan released volumes of PM Modi's speeches, titled 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas.' The books cover key speeches and 'Mann Ki Baat' addresses, reflecting the government's inclusive vision. The release underscores PM Modi's contributions to India's development and leadership on global platforms.

7: Defence



Rajnath Singh Inaugurates Defence Test Facility in Noida :-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated a cutting-edge test facility in Noida, underlining India's commitment to self-reliance in defence technology. The facility, supported by the iDEX initiative, reflects India's emphasis on indigenous innovation. Singh highlighted 'Operation Sindoor' as a testament to the valor and

technological prowess of India's Armed Forces. The event showcased advancements in drone technology and the integration of unmanned systems in modern warfare. The facility aims to enhance India's defence capabilities and foster innovation through initiatives like iDEX and the Technology Development Fund.



IAF Chinooks Rescue 135 Pilgrims in Himachal During Manimahesh Yatra :-

In a concerted rescue operation, the Indian Air Force successfully airlifted 135 stranded devotees from Bharmour to Chamba in Himachal Pradesh during the ongoing Manimahesh Yatra. Utilizing Chinook helicopters, the IAF conducted multiple sorties amidst challenging weather conditions. The annual pilgrimage attracts numerous devotees to the Manimahesh Lake, and recent adverse weather had disrupted travel routes. The state government, with the help of security personnel, is ensuring the safe evacuation of pilgrims. Free bus services have been arranged for returning devotees, emphasizing the administration's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of all participants.



India and Singapore Strengthen Defence Ties :-

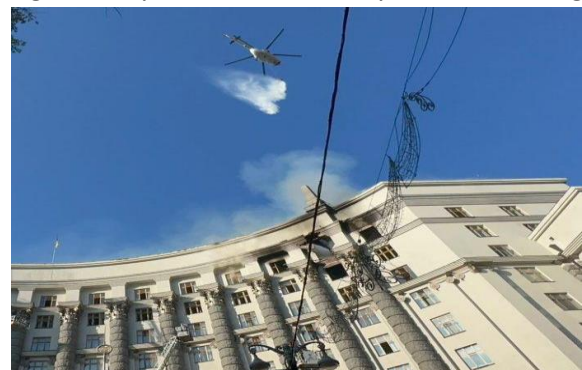
India and Singapore held the 16th Defence Working Group meeting, reinforcing their commitment to deepen

bilateral defence cooperation. The discussions, co-chaired by officials from both nations, reviewed the progress of previous dialogues and explored new avenues for collaboration. Key areas of focus included maritime security, defence technology, and multinational initiatives. This dialogue, marking 60 years of diplomatic relations, underscores Singapore's pivotal role in India's Act East policy, which aims to enhance strategic connectivity in the Asia-Pacific region.



DRDO Conclave in Lucknow Highlights MSME Role in Defence R :-

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) hosted a conclave at its Amausi campus in Lucknow, focusing on the engagement of MSMEs and start-ups in defence and production. The event aimed to bolster the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor, with over 100 representatives discussing skill development and technology transfer. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh praised the pivotal role of MSMEs in advancing Aatmanirbhar Bharat. The conclave reflects India's strategic push towards self-reliance in defence, highlighting the potential of MSMEs to contribute significantly to national security and economic growth.



Russia's Largest Air Attack on Ukraine Hits Government Building :-

In a major escalation, Russia launched its largest overnight air attack on Ukraine, setting the main government building in Kyiv on fire. The assault resulted in three fatalities, including an infant. Ukraine's Air Force reported the downing of 751 drones and four missiles. This attack marks a significant intensification in the ongoing conflict, highlighting the severe humanitarian impact. Ukrainian officials have called for increased international support, emphasizing the need for more weapons to counter Russian aggression. The incident underscores the urgent need for diplomatic efforts to address the escalating crisis.



IAF Conducts Airdrop Mission in J&K, Rescues 540 People in Himachal :-

The Indian Air Force's Western Air Command conducted a major humanitarian operation in the landslide-affected regions of Jammu Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. The operation involved airdropping essential supplies and rescuing 540 stranded individuals. Udhampur, one of the worst-hit regions, faced severe disruption due to heavy rains and landslides. The IAF's swift response highlights its commitment to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. This operation underscores the importance of coordinated efforts in addressing natural calamities and ensuring the safety and well-being of affected communities.



Terrorist Neutralized in Kulgam Encounter :-

Security forces eliminated a terrorist in the Guddar forest area of Kulgam, Jammu and Kashmir, following a joint operation by the Indian Army, J Police, and CRPF. The encounter was initiated based on specific intelligence inputs and resulted in injuries to a Junior Commissioned Officer. The operation underscores ongoing efforts to maintain security and counter terrorism in the region. Such operations are crucial in ensuring public safety and stabilizing the area, reflecting the commitment of Indian forces in combating insurgency and safeguarding national integrity.



India Issues Advisory Against Joining Russian Army Amid Ukraine War :-

India has issued an advisory cautioning its citizens against joining the Russian Army, following reports of Indians being recruited for combat roles in the ongoing Ukraine conflict. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)

highlighted the risks and dangers involved, emphasizing the need for extreme caution. The advisory followed engagements with Russian authorities to halt such practices and ensure the release of affected Indian nationals. The MEA reiterated its warning to avoid such offers due to the inherent dangers, urging citizens to stay away from military recruitment in Russia.



Rajnath Singh Flags Off All-Women Tri-Service Sailing Expedition :-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh flagged off 'Samudra Pradakshina', the world's first all-women tri-service sailing expedition, from Mumbai. The nine-month voyage involves ten officers from the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force, covering 26,000 nautical miles. The mission highlights India's commitment to Nari Shakti and Aatmanirbhar Bharat. The expedition will include port calls in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and South Africa, showcasing India's culture and military prowess globally.



Yudh Abhyas 2025: India-US Joint Military Exercise Concludes :-

The 21st edition of the India-US joint military exercise, Yudh Abhyas 2025, has successfully concluded in Alaska. The exercise involved extensive training in integrated operations under challenging sub-arctic conditions, enhancing interoperability between the Indian and US armies. The exercise, held since 2002, underscores the growing military collaboration between the two nations and their commitment to maintaining global peace and security.



Italy Deploys Navy Ship to Aid Gaza Flotilla After Drone Attack :-

An international aid flotilla en route to Gaza was attacked by drones in international waters near Greece, prompting Italy to send a navy ship for assistance. The flotilla, comprising 50 civilian boats, aims to break Israel's naval blockade on Gaza. Italy's Defense Minister condemned the attack, and the Italian frigate Fasan was dispatched for rescue operations. The Israeli government has criticized the flotilla, citing security concerns. The incident highlights the ongoing tensions in the region and the humanitarian efforts to support Gaza amidst geopolitical conflicts.



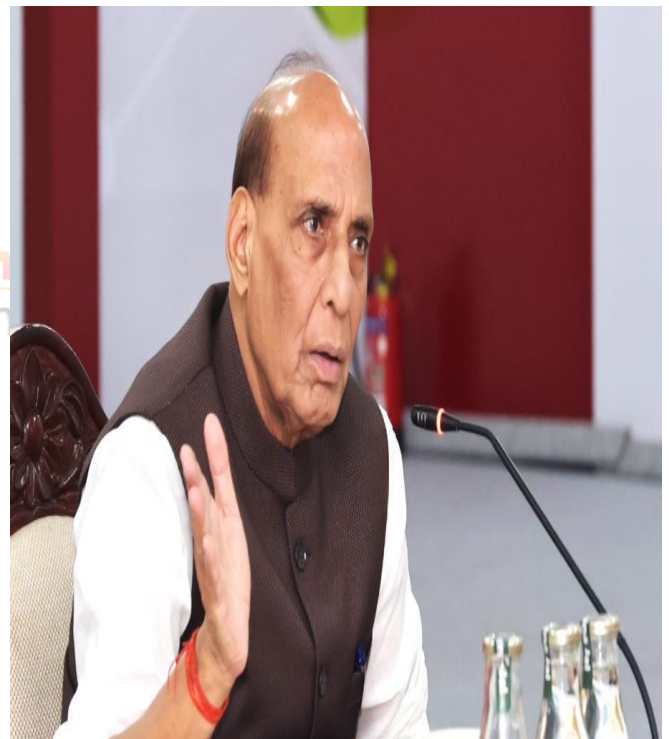
IAF Bids Farewell to Iconic MiG-21 Fighter Jet :-

After nearly six decades of service, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has retired its legendary MiG-21 fighter jet. The decommissioning ceremony took place at Chandigarh Air Force Station in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. Inducted in 1963, the MiG-21 was pivotal in multiple conflicts, including the 1971 Indo-Pak war. The aircraft played a significant role in India's air power, training generations of pilots. It underwent multiple upgrades over the years, maintaining its relevance in combat scenarios.



Indian Navy's First Training Squadron Visits Kenya :-

The Indian Navy's First Training Squadron, including INS Tir and INS Sujata, made a port call at Mombasa, Kenya. This visit is part of a long-range training deployment to strengthen maritime ties and capacity-building efforts with Kenya. The visit will feature professional exchanges, joint exercises, cultural exchanges, and community outreach initiatives. This deployment underscores India's commitment to fostering stronger maritime partnerships and promoting regional security and stability under the spirit of MAHASAGAR—Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.



Rajnath Singh to Inaugurate Ex-Servicemen Welfare Conclave :-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate the National Conclave on 'Viksit Bharat and Ex-Servicemen Welfare' on September 29. The event focuses on enhancing veterans' well-being and reintegration efforts, bringing together key stakeholders to discuss grassroots initiatives. A recognition ceremony will honor distinguished contributions to ex-servicemen welfare, aiming to empower veterans as vital contributors to India's vision of a developed nation.

8: Economy



India's GDP Growth Boosts Market Sentiment, Nifty and Sensex Rise :-

India's economy grew by 7.8% in the April-June quarter of FY25, bolstering investor confidence and leading to a positive opening for Nifty and Sensex. The growth rate surpasses last year's figures, highlighting the economy's resilience. The IT sector saw significant gains, while broader markets mirrored the positive trend. Despite global uncertainties, India's robust GDP figures offer a promising outlook, underscoring the country's economic potential and appeal to investors.



India Eyes Creation of Homegrown 'Big Four' Consulting Giants :-

India is ambitiously pursuing the creation of its own 'Big Four' consulting firms, aiming to rival global giants and strengthen national consulting capabilities. This initiative, discussed at the ICAI Dubai Chapter event, emphasizes the need for indigenous expertise amid rising revenues from foreign firms. The move is seen as a

strategic step to enhance India's global economic standing and ensure self-reliance in professional services. The vision aligns with India's broader goals of economic growth and innovation.



India's Services PMI surges to highest growth since 2010 :-

India's services sector saw its fastest growth in over 14 years, with the HSBC India Services PMI reaching 62.9 in August, up from 60.5 in July. The surge is attributed to significant improvements in demand and business activity, marking the steepest expansion since June 2010. The growth was driven by new orders, international sales, and robust job creation. Despite rising input costs, strong demand allowed companies to increase output prices. The broader private sector also experienced growth, reflecting a strong economic environment supported by domestic demand and job creation.



GST Reforms Slash Rates on Cancer Drugs and Medical Essentials :-

In a landmark decision, the GST Council has reduced the GST on 33 cancer drugs and rare medicines from 12% to 0%. This move is part of a broader effort to rationalize the tax structure, cutting the current slabs from four to two. The reforms also include reduced rates for life-saving drugs and medical devices, making essential healthcare more affordable. The changes reflect the government's commitment to easing healthcare costs and supporting the well-being of citizens.



GST Reforms: Small Cars and Two-Wheelers to Become Affordable :-

The GST Council's decision to reduce tax rates is set to make small cars and two-wheelers more affordable. The reform introduces a simplified tax structure, reducing GST on small cars to 18%, down from the previous 28%. This change is expected to provide a significant boost to the auto industry, particularly as the festive season approaches. The reforms aim to enhance consumer affordability and stimulate economic activity in the automotive sector.



GST Rate Cuts to Boost India's Blue Economy and Fisheries Sector :-

India's fisheries sector is set to benefit from the latest GST reforms, which reduce tax rates across the fisheries

value chain. The changes lower operational costs, enhance competitiveness, and support livelihoods for millions of fish farmers and stakeholders. With reduced GST rates on fish oils, fish products, and essential equipment, the sector can expect increased domestic consumption and stronger export performance. As a major contributor to India's Blue Economy, the fisheries industry plays a crucial role in national food security, rural employment, and foreign exchange earnings.



India's First Indigenous Telecom System Receives Certification :-

In a significant milestone for India's semiconductor ambitions, a locally developed telecom system has received TEC certification. IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced this breakthrough via social media, highlighting it as a landmark in India's 'Make in India' initiative. This development not only showcases India's growing capabilities in semiconductor design but also positions the nation as a credible player in the global telecom ecosystem. The system's certification is a step forward in India's effort to achieve technological self-reliance, especially in mature-node manufacturing.



India's UPI Integrates with UPU for Global Financial Inclusion :-

India has announced the integration of its Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with the Universal Postal Union (UPU) Interconnection Platform at the Universal Postal Congress in Dubai. This collaboration aims to revolutionize cross-border remittances by combining UPI's speed and affordability with the global reach of postal networks. The initiative is set to transform financial inclusion, enabling instant and low-cost money transfers worldwide. Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia highlighted India's commitment to building a connected and inclusive global postal system.



Centre Aims for 362.50 Million Tonne Foodgrain Target in 2025–26 :-

The Union government has set an ambitious foodgrain production target of 362.50 million tonnes for 2025–26. Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced the target during the National Agriculture Conference, emphasizing climate resilience and quality agro-inputs. The government plans to enhance productivity in pulses and oilseeds while ensuring timely disbursement of insurance benefits under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. The initiative underscores India's commitment to food security and agricultural sustainability.



PM Modi Discusses Green Growth with Danish Prime Minister :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks with Danish PM Mette Frederiksen, focusing on deepening the India–Denmark Green Strategic Partnership. Discussions included cooperation in trade, energy, and sustainable development. Denmark expressed support for an India–EU Free Trade Agreement, highlighting the strategic importance of Indo-European cooperation. The dialogue emphasizes India's commitment to green growth and sustainable international partnerships.



India's Sovereign Rating Upgraded to BBB+ by Japan's R&I :-

Japan's Rating and Investment Information, Inc. has upgraded India's long-term sovereign credit rating to 'BBB+' with a stable outlook. This marks India's third upgrade in 2025, reflecting strong macroeconomic fundamentals and sound fiscal management. The report highlights India's robust growth prospects, fiscal consolidation, and external stability. The upgrade underscores global confidence in India's economy, reinforcing its position as a dynamic and resilient economic powerhouse amidst global uncertainties.



India's Smartphone Exports Surge by 55% in First Five Months of FY26 :-

The India Cellular Electronics Association (ICEA) reported a significant increase in smartphone exports, countering recent claims of a decline. Exports in August 2025 rose by 39% compared to the previous year, with the US market showing a remarkable 193% growth. Overall exports in the first five months of FY26 reached approximately \$11.7 billion, marking a 55% increase. ICEA emphasizes that month-to-month data comparisons can be misleading due to sector-specific factors. This development highlights India's growing role in the global smartphone market and the impact of the PLI scheme on export performance.



India Achieves Record Foodgrain Production, Enhances Storage Infrastructure :-

India has achieved a record foodgrain production of 353.96 million tonnes in 2024-25, with significant contributions from wheat and rice. This milestone

underscores the resilience of Indian agriculture and the urgent need for improved storage infrastructure to prevent post-harvest losses. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) and state agencies manage extensive storage facilities to ensure food security. This achievement is crucial for stabilizing prices, supporting farmer incomes, and maintaining national food security.



RBI MPC Meeting Commences, Key Policy Rate Decision Awaited :-

The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has begun its three-day meeting to review economic conditions and decide on key policy rates. The outcome, to be announced on October 1, is highly anticipated as it will impact borrowing costs and economic activity in the country. Analysts expect the RBI to maintain the current policy rate, given the growth-inflation dynamics. The decision will be closely watched by markets, businesses, and policymakers.

9: International



US Restrictions Impact South Korean Chipmakers in China :-

The United States has revoked authorizations allowing Samsung and SK Hynix to receive American semiconductor manufacturing equipment in China. The companies now need licenses to purchase such equipment, affecting their operations. This move follows the 2022 restrictions on U.S. semiconductor equipment sales to China. The decision may benefit domestic Chinese equipment makers and competitors like Micron. The U.S. Commerce Department intends to allow existing facilities to operate but not expand. The change highlights the ongoing trade tensions between the U.S.

and China, impacting global semiconductor supply chains.



PM Modi and Zelenskyy Discuss Ukraine Conflict Resolution :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a telephonic conversation with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, discussing the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. PM Modi reiterated India's support for a peaceful resolution and assured Zelenskyy of India's commitment to assisting in peace efforts. The leaders reviewed bilateral ties and explored opportunities for deeper cooperation. This dialogue underscores India's diplomatic efforts to contribute to global peace and stability, highlighting the importance of dialogue in resolving international conflicts.



Israeli Strike in Yemen Kills Houthi Government Officials

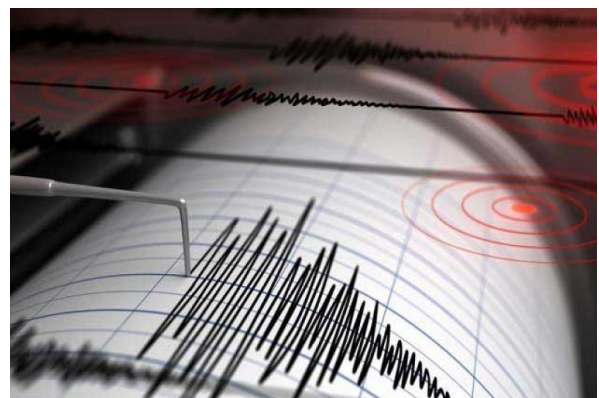
An Israeli airstrike in Yemen's capital, Sanaa, resulted in the death of the prime minister and several ministers of the Houthi-run government. The strike targeted senior officials, marking a significant escalation in the conflict. Israel claims the operation aimed at undermining Iran-aligned Houthi leadership. This incident highlights the ongoing regional tensions and the complex geopolitical

landscape in the Middle East, where proxy conflicts continue to pose challenges to peace and stability.



U.S. Bars Palestinian President from U.N. Amid Diplomatic Tensions :-

The United States has denied Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas a visa to attend the U.N. General Assembly, where several countries plan to recognize Palestine as a state. This decision has drawn criticism from European allies and highlights the complex geopolitical dynamics surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The U.S. justified the move citing security concerns and alleged failure by the Palestinian Authority to repudiate extremism. This development underscores the ongoing challenges in the Middle East peace process and the international community's divided stance on Palestinian statehood.



Afghanistan Earthquake Leaves Over 800 Dead, 2,800 Injured :-

A devastating earthquake measuring 6.0 magnitude struck eastern Afghanistan, resulting in the deaths of at least 800 people and injuring more than 2,800. The quake has razed villages in the Kunar province and caused significant damage to infrastructure, further

straining the nation's limited resources. Rescue operations are underway, with helicopters airlifting the wounded to safety. Afghanistan, prone to earthquakes due to its location on the Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates, has seen a tragic recurrence of such disasters, emphasizing the need for robust disaster management and international support.



Belgium to Recognize Palestinian State at UN General Assembly :-

Belgium announced its intention to recognize a Palestinian state at the upcoming UN General Assembly, joining countries like Australia, Britain, and France in supporting a two-state solution. The move, part of a joint initiative led by France and Saudi Arabia, aims to address the humanitarian situation in Gaza and condemn Israeli settlement expansion. Belgium also plans to impose sanctions on Israel, reflecting growing international pressure. The decision highlights the ongoing geopolitical tensions in the region and the global push for a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



Harvard Wins Legal Battle Against Trump Administration's Funding Cuts :-

A U.S. federal judge has ruled against the Trump administration's decision to terminate \$2.2 billion in

grants awarded to Harvard University. The court found the termination unlawful and a violation of free speech rights. The administration had accused Harvard of failing to address antisemitism, but the judge deemed the actions ideologically motivated. This ruling marks a significant victory for academic freedom and highlights ongoing tensions between educational institutions and government policies.



WHO Declares Mpox No Longer a Global Health Emergency :-

The World Health Organization has declared that the spread of mpox, formerly known as monkeypox, no longer constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. This decision follows sustained declines in cases and improved response capacity in affected regions. However, WHO emphasizes that ongoing vigilance is required, as flare-ups remain possible. This declaration marks a significant step in global health efforts, highlighting the need for continued surveillance and targeted interventions to protect vulnerable populations, particularly in Africa where the disease was most prevalent.



PM Modi Congratulates Jamaican PM on Third Term Win :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated Jamaican Prime Minister Andrew Holness on securing a third consecutive term. Holness's Jamaica Labour Party won a decisive victory, securing a majority in parliament. PM Modi expressed his eagerness to strengthen India-Jamaica relations, emphasizing cooperation and friendship. Holness's win is seen as a mandate for stability and progress in Jamaica, with a focus on addressing economic challenges and promoting development. The continued leadership of Holness is expected to enhance bilateral ties between India and Jamaica.



Afghanistan Hit by Aftershocks, UN Seeks Urgent Aid :-

Eastern Afghanistan has experienced powerful aftershocks, raising fears of further destruction following recent earthquakes. The humanitarian crisis has resulted in over 2,200 deaths, with survivors lacking basic amenities. The United Nations and other agencies are calling for urgent funds, medical supplies, and shelter. The situation highlights the need for international support and assistance to address the challenges faced by Afghanistan, which is already grappling with war, poverty, and limited aid following the Taliban takeover.



PM Modi Congratulates Guyana President on Election Victory :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Guyana's President Irfaan Ali on his recent election victory, emphasizing the strong historical ties between the two nations. India's relationship with Guyana is rooted in cultural and economic cooperation, with a significant Indian diaspora in Guyana maintaining close connections with their ancestral homeland. Both countries aim to strengthen bilateral relations through initiatives in economic cooperation, cultural exchange, and development projects. This diplomatic engagement highlights India's commitment to fostering partnerships within the Caribbean region.



Japan Revises Q2 GDP on Strong Consumer Spending :-

Japan's revised GDP data for the second quarter shows an annualized growth of 2.2%, driven by robust private consumption and inventory adjustments. Despite this positive outlook, U.S. tariffs and political uncertainty pose challenges ahead. Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's recent resignation adds to the uncertainty, potentially impacting economic policy. The revised figures underscore Japan's economic resilience, but analysts caution that external factors, including global trade dynamics, may influence future growth prospects.



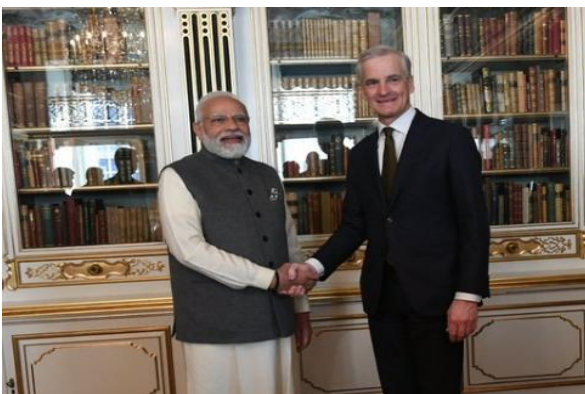
President Paudel Calls for Dialogue Amid Nepal's Gen Z Protests :-

Nepal's President Ram Chandra Paudel appealed for peaceful dialogue amid ongoing Gen Z protests following PM K.P. Sharma Oli's resignation. The unrest, triggered by a social media ban, led to violent clashes resulting in casualties. President Paudel emphasized resolving the crisis through negotiation, urging all parties to prevent further harm. The protests have raised significant concerns, with international advisories urging caution for travelers.



Nepal's Protests Result in 30 Deaths, Over 1,000 Injuries

Nepal's health ministry confirmed 30 deaths and over 1,000 injuries from Gen-Z-led protests demanding the lifting of a social media ban and greater transparency. The protests, driven by youth anger over corruption and job scarcity, saw clashes with security forces, resulting in live rounds and tear gas usage. The National Human Rights Commission condemned the excessive force and urged government accountability. The protests reflect deep-seated frustrations and highlight the challenges facing Nepal's government in addressing public discontent.



PM Modi Congratulates Norwegian PM Jonas Gahr Støre on Re-election :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Norway's PM Jonas Gahr Støre on his re-election, expressing confidence in strengthening India-Norway ties. Støre secured another term amid a tight race, with Labour Party's victory marking a win for progressive politics. His leadership faced challenges including economic concerns and political scandals. Modi highlighted the potential for enhanced collaboration across various sectors, reiterating India's commitment to fostering global partnerships. The re-election signifies continuity in Norway's political landscape and bilateral relations.



Philippines Protests China's Nature Reserve Plan in Disputed Shoal :-

The Philippines has formally protested China's plan to establish a nature reserve at Scarborough Shoal in the South China Sea. Manila argues that the move violates its territorial sovereignty and international law. The shoal, a rich fishing ground, is claimed by both nations. The Philippines urges China to comply with the 2016 international court ruling, which invalidated Beijing's sweeping territorial claims. This dispute highlights ongoing tensions over maritime rights in the region.



Nepal Sets March Elections After Appointing First Woman PM :-

Nepal's President dissolved parliament and announced fresh elections for March 5, 2026, following the appointment of Sushila Karki as the country's first woman interim Prime Minister. Karki, a former Chief Justice, is tasked with steering Nepal through this transitional phase, ensuring stability and preparing for the upcoming elections. Her leadership is seen as a consensus choice, supported by both protestors and political parties, reflecting the country's desire for democratic renewal and governance reforms.



UN Endorses Two-State Solution, Condemns Hamas :-

The United Nations General Assembly voted to endorse a declaration outlining steps towards a two-state solution between Israel and Palestine. The resolution condemns Hamas for its attacks on Israel and calls for the group's disarmament. It also criticizes Israel's actions in Gaza, highlighting the humanitarian crisis. The endorsement comes ahead of a meeting where several countries are expected to recognize a Palestinian state. The resolution reflects the international community's efforts to address long-standing conflicts and promote peace in the region.



Saudi Arabia Jewellery Exposition 2025 Showcases Global Talent :-

The Saudi Arabia Jewellery Exposition 2025, the Kingdom's first international B2B jewellery exhibition, is underway in Jeddah. Organized in collaboration with Indian and Saudi entities, the event features over 200 exhibitors and highlights investment opportunities in the Middle East's jewellery sector. The exposition aligns with Saudi Vision 2030 and India's Viksit Bharat 2047, promoting innovation, cooperation, and trade. It serves as a platform for showcasing global talent, fostering business networking, and exploring investment opportunities in the jewellery industry.



Trump vows national emergency in Washington, DC over ICE dispute :-

On September 15, 2025, U.S. President Donald Trump vows to declare national emergency in Washington, DC, following a dispute with the city's Mayor, Muriel Bowser, over non-cooperation with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The Mayor's refusal to provide information on individuals living in the city illegally prompted Trump's decision. Critics view this as federal overreach, adding tension after protests against the August deployment of National Guard troops in the capital.



Trump Files \$15 Billion Defamation Lawsuit Against Media Giants :-

President Donald Trump has filed a \$15 billion defamation lawsuit against the New York Times and Penguin Random House. The lawsuit alleges that false and defamatory content in articles and a book damaged his reputation and electoral prospects. Trump's legal actions highlight ongoing tensions between political figures and media outlets, raising questions about press freedom and the challenges of navigating public discourse in a polarized environment.



Trump Administration Targets Antifa as 'Terrorist Organization' :-

President Donald Trump has announced plans to designate the antifa movement as a terrorist organization, following the assassination of right-wing activist Charlie Kirk. This move, which critics view as a crackdown on political opponents, highlights ongoing tensions over political violence in the US. The administration's focus on left-wing groups has sparked debate over free speech and legal implications.



India-UAE Joint Task Force Explores New Avenues for Collaboration :-

The 13th meeting of the India-UAE High-Level Joint Task Force on Investments highlighted the growing economic

partnership between the two nations. Union Minister Piyush Goyal emphasized that India and the UAE are not competitors but mutual support systems fostering growth. A significant outcome of the meeting was the decision to jointly develop infrastructure projects in third countries, focusing on mining and housing. This initiative combines India's technological expertise and skilled workforce with the UAE's investment capabilities.



India-US Defence Cooperation Advances with High-Level Talks :-

India's Ambassador to the US, Vinay Kwatra, met with US Undersecretary of War for Policy Elbridge Colby at the Pentagon to discuss advancing defence cooperation. The meeting focused on reviewing the current agenda and charting actionable paths for future initiatives. This engagement follows the 21st edition of Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2025, an annual bilateral army drill held in Alaska, highlighting the growing military-to-military interaction between the two countries. The broader engagement reflects renewed momentum in India-US ties, underscoring the commitment to elevating defence collaboration and strengthening the Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership.



US Vetoes UN Resolution Demanding Ceasefire in Gaza

The United States vetoed a United Nations Security Council resolution demanding an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the lifting of restrictions on aid deliveries. The resolution, drafted by 10 elected council members, received 14 votes in favor. This marks the sixth US veto related to the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas. The US traditionally shields Israel at the UN, highlighting the complexity of diplomatic relations. The veto comes amid a catastrophic humanitarian situation in Gaza, with confirmed famine and ongoing military operations. The US stance underscores its strategic priorities and alliances in the region.



UN Allows Abbas Video Address After US Visa Denial :-

The United Nations General Assembly has voted to allow Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to address the assembly via video, following the US's refusal to grant him a visa. This decision, passed with 145 votes in favor, underlines tensions between the US and Palestine, related to non-compliance with the Oslo Accords. This event highlights the ongoing geopolitical challenges in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, emphasizing the global community's role in seeking diplomatic solutions.



India Re-elected to Universal Postal Union's Councils :-

India has been re-elected to the Council of Administration and the Postal Operations Council of the

Universal Postal Union. This re-election highlights India's leadership in postal reforms and digital transformation. With initiatives like DigiPIN and UPI-enabled remittances, India continues to strengthen global postal networks. This achievement underscores India's commitment to innovation and international cooperation in modernizing postal services, reinforcing its role as a key player in global postal governance.



Brazil to Lead Global Effort in Tropical Forest Conservation :-

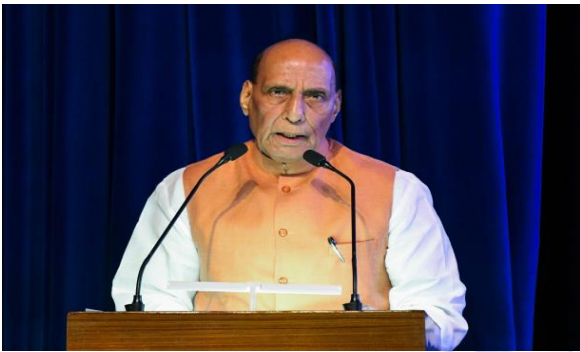
Brazil is set to become the first country to invest in the Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF), a multilateral fund aimed at conserving endangered forests. This initiative, to be announced at the U.N., seeks to attract \$125 billion in contributions, combining sovereign and private-sector funds. Brazil's investment aims to encourage other nations, including China, to contribute. The TFFF represents a significant shift in climate finance, emphasizing collaborative efforts to preserve tropical forests, which are vital for biodiversity and combating climate change.



Trump's H-1B Visa Fee Hike Raises Concerns in U.S. Tech Sector :-

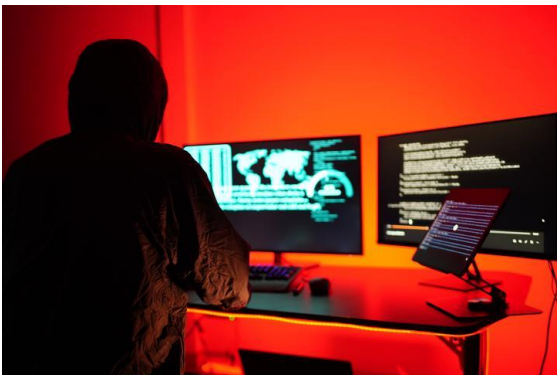
The Trump administration's decision to impose a \$100,000 annual fee on H-1B visas has sparked concern

in the U.S. tech industry, which relies heavily on skilled workers from India and China. Critics argue that the fee could deter global talent and increase operational costs for companies, particularly smaller tech firms. This move is part of Trump's broader immigration crackdown, aiming to prioritize American workers. The decision could impact U.S. competitiveness in the tech industry, prompting debate on its long-term economic implications.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to Visit Morocco for Strategic Talks :-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will visit Morocco on September 22-23, marking the first official visit by an Indian Defence Minister to the country. Singh will inaugurate Tata Advanced Systems Maroc's new manufacturing facility, marking a significant milestone for India's defence industry in Africa. The visit aims to strengthen defence cooperation and explore industrial collaboration. Both nations are expected to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance strategic ties, reflecting growing convergence between India and Morocco in defence and industry.



Cyberattack Disrupts Major European Airports, Causing Delays :-

A cyberattack on a service provider for check-in and boarding systems has disrupted operations at major European airports, including Heathrow and Brussels. The attack has rendered automated systems inoperable, forcing manual procedures and causing flight delays and cancellations. Airport operators have advised passengers to confirm their travel plans with airlines before heading to the airport. The cyberattack highlights vulnerabilities in aviation infrastructure and underscores the importance of bolstering cybersecurity measures to protect critical systems from such disruptions.



Rajnath Singh Emphasizes India's Secular Nature in Morocco :-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh highlighted India's secular values during his visit to Morocco, stating that India's actions against terrorism are based on deeds, not religion. Singh emphasized that India targets only those responsible for attacks, while maintaining its secular character. His remarks were made during an interaction with the Indian community in Rabat, where he was welcomed warmly. This visit marks the first-ever trip by an Indian Defence Minister to Morocco, aimed at strengthening defence and strategic cooperation between the two countries.



EAM Jaishankar Met U.S. Secretary of State in New York

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is set to meet U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio for bilateral discussions at the UN General Assembly. This is their first meeting since the imposition of 50% tariffs on Indian goods by the Trump administration. Jaishankar also met Philippine Foreign Secretary to discuss cooperation in the UN and Indo-Pacific region. The meetings underscore strengthening India-U.S. and India-Philippines ties, particularly in security and maritime cooperation.



Philippines Braces for Super Typhoon Ragasa :-

The Philippines has suspended work and classes as Super Typhoon Ragasa approaches northern Luzon, threatening destructive winds and heavy rain. With maximum sustained winds of 205 kph, the typhoon is expected to make landfall or pass the Babuyan Islands. Residents in low-lying areas are urged to evacuate. The storm is forecast to hit Hong Kong next, prompting preparations for what could be one of the strongest typhoons in years. Airlines have cancelled flights, and ports have suspended ferry services.



United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia Recognize Palestine :-

In a significant diplomatic shift, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia have formally recognized the State of Palestine at the United Nations General Assembly. This move aligns with over 140 countries that have extended recognition amid ongoing conflict in Gaza. The recognition comes following diplomatic efforts by Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, advocating for Palestinian self-determination. Israel criticized the announcements, warning they could undermine direct negotiations.



US Allies Recognize Palestinian State, Challenge Trump's Israel Policy :-

At the United Nations General Assembly, a significant diplomatic shift occurred as U.S. allies, including Britain, France, Canada, and Australia, recognized the state of Palestine. This move tests President Donald Trump's Middle East policy, as it comes amid ongoing conflict in Gaza. The recognition aims to support a two-state solution, although Trump remains steadfast in his support for Israel. The international community's frustration with the situation, coupled with Trump's reluctance to leverage U.S. influence over Israel, adds complexity to the peace process.



Super Typhoon Ragasa Devastates Eastern Taiwan, 14 Dead :-

Super Typhoon Ragasa has caused significant devastation in eastern Taiwan, resulting in 14 fatalities and 129 missing persons in Hualien County. The typhoon's impact, exacerbated by a barrier lake overflow, led to severe flooding and infrastructure damage. Rescue efforts are underway, with military support dispatched to the affected areas. The disaster highlights the vulnerability of regions prone to extreme weather events and the need for effective disaster preparedness and response strategies.



Iran Declares at UN: No Intentions to Build Nuclear Weapons :-

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian assured the UN General Assembly that Iran has no plans to develop nuclear weapons, amidst discussions on reimposing sanctions. The European powers, Britain, France, and Germany, initiated a process to reinstate sanctions, citing Iran's non-compliance with the 2015 nuclear deal. Pezeshkian accused these countries of acting at the behest of the U.S., while offering to engage in talks if sanctions are delayed. The situation underscores the geopolitical tensions surrounding Iran's nuclear ambitions and the efforts for diplomatic resolutions to ensure regional stability.



Curfew Declared in Madagascar Capital Amid Violent Protests :-

Madagascar's authorities have imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew in the capital Antananarivo following violent protests over power outages and water shortages. Demonstrators took to the streets demanding reliable essential services, leading to clashes with police and subsequent looting. The curfew aims to restore public order amid escalating tensions. Madagascar, facing economic hardships, has seen rising public frustration directed at the government. The curfew will remain in effect until the situation stabilizes, highlighting the need for urgent reforms to address the underlying issues of infrastructure and governance.



Trump Delays TikTok Ban Amid Sale Negotiations :-

U.S. President Donald Trump has signed an executive order delaying the ban on TikTok, pending the sale of its U.S. operations. The sale, valued at \$14 billion, involves U.S. and global investors. The delay allows for negotiations to secure TikTok's U.S. assets and meet national security requirements. The order mandates that TikTok's recommendation algorithm be monitored by U.S. security partners. The sale is part of broader efforts to address concerns over data privacy and foreign influence in tech companies operating in the U.S.



India Offers Expertise to Central America in Key Sectors

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has offered India's expertise in digital payment systems, IT, pharmaceuticals, and agriculture to Central American countries. Speaking at the India-SICA Foreign Ministers Meeting, Jaishankar highlighted the shared challenges of development and climate change, emphasizing collaboration for effective solutions. India aims to strengthen ties with the Central American Integration System (SICA) and promote sustainable development through technology and innovation, enhancing bilateral cooperation and contributing to a multipolar world order.



US Supreme Court Allows Trump to Withhold Foreign Aid :-

The US Supreme Court has allowed the Trump administration to withhold \$4 billion in foreign aid, siding with the President's 'America First' agenda. This decision raises questions about the President's authority to rescind funds appropriated by Congress. The aid, intended for foreign aid and democracy-promotion efforts, was blocked using a 'pocket rescission'. The Court's ruling highlights the ongoing debate over separation of powers and the executive's authority in foreign affairs. This decision may have significant implications for US foreign policy and its global humanitarian role.



India to Host World Seafood Congress 2026 in Chennai

India is set to host the World Seafood Congress (WSC) 2026 in Chennai, marking the first time the event will be held in the country. Organized by the Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, the Congress will focus on seafood trade, safety, innovation, and sustainability. The event aims to showcase India's seafood sector and attract international collaborations. India, ranked as the sixth-largest exporter of seafood, will use this opportunity to discuss sustainable practices and technologies.



India Walks Out of UNGA Amidst Pakistan's 'Terroristan' Admission :-

During the UN General Assembly, India walked out as Pakistan made contentious remarks, admitting to being 'Terroristan'. India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar highlighted Pakistan's role as a global terrorism epicenter. This prompted Pakistan to exercise the right of reply, inadvertently admitting its long-standing cross-border terrorism practices. India's Second Secretary Rentala Srinivas emphasized Pakistan's

reputation for terrorism, calling for international condemnation.



Israel and Syria Engage in Talks for Historic Security Pact

Israel and Syria have initiated high-stakes talks to negotiate a security pact, focusing on issues like the safety of the Druze community. The negotiations highlight Israel's firm stance on retaining strategic territories like the Golan Heights. However, regional dynamics, including Turkey's influence in Syria, present challenges. The talks reflect efforts to transition from conflict to peace, with significant geopolitical implications for the Middle East.



Typhoon Bualoi Causes Destruction in Vietnam, One Dead and 12 Missing :-

Typhoon Bualoi has made landfall in northern central Vietnam, causing significant damage and leaving one person dead and 12 fishermen missing. The storm brought heavy rains and high winds, leading to flooding and power outages. The government has evacuated thousands of residents, and flights have been disrupted. The typhoon highlights the vulnerability of coastal regions to extreme weather events and the need for robust disaster management strategies to mitigate the impact on affected communities.

10: Miscellaneous



Film Bazaar Announces \$20,000 Grants for Co-Production Market :-

The Waves Film Bazaar, South Asia's premier film market, has unveiled \$20,000 in cash grants for its Co-Production Market, set to take place in Goa alongside the International Film Festival of India. The grants aim to support filmmakers in securing artistic and financial backing for their projects. The event, now in its 19th

edition, continues to be a vital platform for Indian and South Asian filmmakers to connect with international industry professionals. This initiative reflects India's growing prominence in the global film industry.



Musical Voyage on Brahmaputra Celebrates Bhupen Hazarika's Legacy :-

To commemorate the birth centenary of Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, the Inland Waterways Authority of

India has launched 'Bistirna Parore: A Musical Voyage' on the Brahmaputra. This cultural tribute highlights Hazarika's contributions to music and humanity, featuring performances and events reflecting his vision of unity. The voyage spans from Sadiya to Dhubri, with stops showcasing traditional arts and video tributes. Hazarika's music, celebrated for its themes of justice and community, continues to inspire, reinforcing his legacy as a cultural icon.



Rajnath Singh Celebrates Navy Children School's Diamond Jubilee :-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh marked the Diamond Jubilee of Navy Children School (NCS) in Delhi, celebrating its contributions to education and character building. Singh emphasized the importance of discipline, service, and patriotism instilled by NCS in students. He encouraged students to dream with purpose and uphold national pride. The event included an interaction with students and the presentation of handcrafted tokens to the Minister. NCS's six decades of educational excellence were highlighted as a testament to the school's impact on nation-building.



"Modi Mahotsav 2025" conclave on 17 Sept to chart roadmap for growth, social justice, and sustainable development :-

A special event titled "Modi Mahotsav 2025" will be held on 17 September to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 75th birthday. The conclave will focus on long-term goals for India, including economic growth, social justice, and sustainability. The program is expected to feature leaders, policymakers, and scholars discussing the Prime Minister's vision and the policies needed to achieve it. Beyond celebratory significance, the conclave is designed as a platform to assess developmental progress and to shape strategies that align with India's ambition to emerge as a global leader by mid-century.



Top Maoist Leader Killed in Jharkhand Encounter :-

On September 15, 2025, a joint operation by police and security forces in Jharkhand's Hazaribagh district resulted in the death of three Maoists, including Sahadev Soren, a top leader with a ₹1 crore bounty. The encounter marks a significant success in the state's intensified anti-Maoist campaign. Security forces recovered three AK-47 rifles and continue to search for remaining Maoist operatives. This operation underscores the ongoing efforts to combat Maoist insurgency in India.



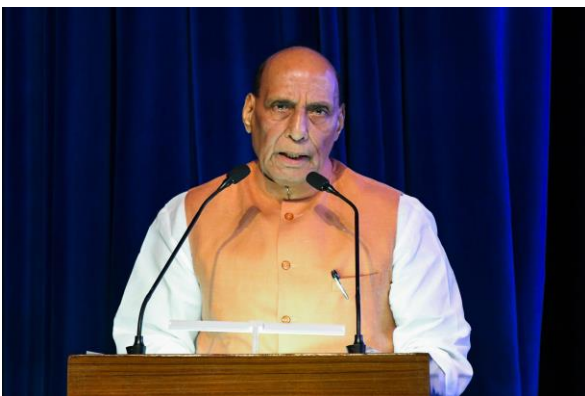
Amit Shah Inaugurates Veer Savarkar Sports Complex in Ahmedabad :-

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex in Ahmedabad, India's largest and most modern facility, on September 14, 2025. Built at a cost of ₹825 crore, the complex aligns with PM Modi's vision of enhancing sports infrastructure. The initiative highlights India's commitment to fostering a strong sporting culture and preparing athletes for international competitions, contributing to the nation's growth and pride in the global arena.



India Proposes Chhath Mahaparva for UNESCO Heritage List :-

India is advocating for the inclusion of Chhath Mahaparva in UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List, recognizing its cultural significance and ecological ethos. The Ministry of Culture's initiative seeks to preserve and promote the festival, celebrated across India and diaspora communities, emphasizing sustainability and community spirit. The proposal highlights India's commitment to safeguarding its intangible cultural heritage and fostering international cultural cooperation.



Rajnath Singh to Inaugurate Defence Plant in Morocco

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will visit Morocco to inaugurate Tata Advanced Systems' new manufacturing facility for Wheeled Armoured Platforms. This visit marks the first by an Indian Defence Minister to Morocco, aiming to strengthen strategic ties and defense cooperation. The new plant signifies India's growing defense manufacturing capabilities under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, enhancing India's global defense industry presence and fostering bilateral relations with North African nations.



WaveX Launches Incubation Centers for Media and Entertainment Startups :-

WaveX, under the Ministry of Information Broadcasting, has launched seven new incubation centers across India to support startups in the Media, Entertainment, AVGC, and XR sectors. Located in major cities, these centers offer cutting-edge facilities and mentorship, enabling startups to develop high-quality content. The initiative aims to foster innovation and growth in India's creative industries, providing opportunities for collaboration and investment in emerging technologies such as AI, AR, VR, and XR.



ICC Suspends USA Cricket Membership, Teams Still Eligible for Events :-

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has suspended USA Cricket's membership due to governance failures and reputational damage. Despite the suspension, U.S. national teams remain eligible to compete in ICC events

and the 2028 Olympics. The ICC will oversee the management of U.S. teams, ensuring support for players and high-performance programs. A Normalisation Committee will guide USA Cricket in meeting criteria for reinstatement, focusing on governance, operations, and standing within the cricket ecosystem.

11: National



Centre Urges States to Intensify Urban Cleanliness Efforts :-

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has called on states to accelerate urban cleanliness initiatives under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0. Emphasizing the importance of continuous efforts, the ministry highlighted the success of the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign, which transformed over 8 lakh neglected urban spots. Union Minister Manohar Lal reiterated that cleanliness is a lifelong mission, urging states to prioritize the identification and beautification of urban areas. The initiative aims to make significant strides in achieving visible cleanliness across urban India.



Department of Posts Suspends All Postal Services to US

The Department of Posts has suspended all postal services to the United States, citing regulatory changes and logistical challenges. The decision follows the US administration's withdrawal of duty-free exemptions for goods valued under \$800. This move impacts international postal shipments, affecting e-commerce and small businesses reliant on US trade. The suspension highlights the complexities of international trade regulations and the need for adaptive strategies in response to evolving global policies.



India airlifts 21 tonnes of earthquake aid to Kabul :-

India has sent 21 tonnes of earthquake relief materials to Kabul, including blankets, tents, hygiene kits, and essential medicines. The aid is part of India's commitment to supporting Afghanistan in the aftermath of a devastating earthquake that killed over 1,400 people. This gesture underscores India's solidarity with Afghanistan and highlights the importance of international cooperation in disaster relief. The Indian government has pledged to continue monitoring the situation and provide additional assistance as needed.



Bhutanese PM's Historic Visit to Ayodhya Dham :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed joy over Bhutanese PM Dasho Tshering Tobgay's visit to Ayodhya Dham, marking a historic first as he is the first foreign leader to visit the Ram Janmabhoomi temple. This visit symbolizes the deep cultural ties between India and Bhutan, highlighting the shared spiritual heritage. The Bhutanese PM's visit is part of his four-day tour to India, aimed at strengthening bilateral relations. This event underscores the importance of cultural diplomacy in fostering international friendships and enhancing India's soft power on the global stage.



Indian Railways Launches Apple Parcel Service from Kashmir to Delhi :-

Indian Railways has launched a daily parcel train service to transport apples from Kashmir to Delhi, starting September 13. This initiative supports Kashmiri apple growers by ensuring timely delivery to the Delhi market. The train, comprising eight parcel vans, will make the journey in less than 24 hours. This move is expected to boost the horticulture sector in Kashmir, streamline operations, and provide economic benefits to local farmers and traders.



Prime Minister launches "Gyan Bharatam" Portal during international conference to digitise India's manuscript heritage :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the "Gyan Bharatam" portal during an international conference in New Delhi, focusing on the digitisation and preservation of India's vast manuscript heritage. The platform will act as a central repository for ancient texts, rare documents, and cultural archives, making them accessible to scholars and the public worldwide. Experts see this initiative as part of India's broader effort to promote its intellectual traditions and cultural diplomacy. By digitising fragile manuscripts, the government also aims to safeguard them for future generations while fostering global academic collaborations.



PM Modi Inaugurates Commanders' Conference, Launches Projects in Bihar :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 16th Combined Commanders' Conference in Kolkata on September 15, 2025, a vital forum for India's security preparedness. Later, Modi launched multiple development projects worth ₹36,000 crore in Bihar, including the National Makhana Board and a thermal

power project in Bhagalpur. These initiatives aim to boost regional growth, enhance infrastructure, and promote economic resilience, reflecting the government's focus on holistic national development.



Supreme Court Upholds Modi Govt's Waqf Amendment Act 2025 :-

The Supreme Court has upheld the Narendra Modi government's Waqf Amendment Act 2025, which aims to streamline waqf property management and enhance transparency. The amendments address previous legal ambiguities, ensuring the rights of property owners while promoting minority welfare. This ruling affirms the government's commitment to equitable legislation and reflects the judiciary's support for constitutional reforms that balance religious practices with modern legal frameworks.



India's Geothermal Energy Policy 2025 Aims for Sustainable Transition :-

India has announced the National Policy on Geothermal Energy 2025, aiming to diversify its renewable energy sources and achieve the Net Zero 2070 target. This policy focuses on harnessing geothermal resources for power generation and direct applications like district heating

and agriculture. By promoting research and fostering collaboration across ministries, India seeks to establish geothermal energy as a cornerstone of its sustainable energy transition. The policy encourages innovation through hybrid geothermal-solar plants and retrofitting abandoned oil wells, aligning with India's broader renewable energy objectives.



India's Flexible Workspace Market Leads in Asia-Pacific :-

India has emerged as the largest flexible workspace market in the Asia-Pacific region, with 79.7 million square feet across major cities. The demand for flexible office spaces has surged, driven by enterprises seeking agility and cost efficiency. This growth is supported by the expansion of Global Capability Centres and the rise of managed office solutions. India's leadership in flexible workspaces reflects its adaptability and innovation in meeting modern business needs.



Consumer Affairs Dept Launches GST Grievance Redressal on Helpline :-

The Department of Consumer Affairs has launched a GST grievance redressal mechanism on the National Consumer Helpline (NCH). This initiative is part of the Next-Gen GST Reforms 2025, adding a dedicated GST category on the INGRAM portal to address consumer complaints related to revised GST charges. The helpline, accessible via multiple channels, aims to empower

consumers and promote participatory governance. This development is expected to strengthen compliance and ensure transparency in the implementation of GST reforms.



India's Craft Heritage Highlighted in PM Mementos e-Auction :-

The 7th edition of the Prime Minister's Mementos e-Auction showcases Gujarat's rich craft traditions. Featuring 86 special items, including Lippan art and Mata ni Pachedi textiles, the auction supports the Namami Gange Project. The collection reflects India's diverse artisanal heritage, promoting cultural appreciation and conservation.



Indian Railways Approves ₹443 Crore Rajpura–Mohali Rail Line :-

In a significant boost to Punjab's infrastructure, Indian Railways has sanctioned an 18-kilometer rail line connecting Rajpura to Mohali, costing ₹443 crore. Announced by Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, this project aims to enhance connectivity, reduce travel time, and stimulate economic growth in the region. The new line will link the Malwa region with Chandigarh, benefiting industries and facilitating access to pilgrimage

sites. This initiative is part of a broader effort to improve railway infrastructure in Punjab, with substantial investments planned.



Pralhad Joshi Launches Solar Training Program, Updates Solar Potential Report :-

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurated a Solar Cell and Module Manufacturing Training Program at the National Institute of Solar Energy, alongside the release of an updated Solar PV Potential Assessment report. These initiatives aim to advance India's renewable energy goals and support the nation's transition to clean energy. The training program will equip participants with essential skills, while the report provides insights into India's solar capacity, guiding policy and investment decisions.



सत्यमेव जयते

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Government of India

MoSPI Unveils AI Tools to Enhance Statistical Ecosystem

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has launched digital platforms and AI tools to enhance the statistical ecosystem in India. This initiative, announced at the 29th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organisations, includes a revamped website, the National Metadata Structure Portal, and the PAIMANA Portal for monitoring infrastructure projects. The AI-based applications aim to improve data collection, processing, and dissemination.

These tools are expected to set nationwide metadata standards, improve data governance, and create a foundation for AI-ready datasets, ultimately providing better resources for policymakers and researchers.



India to Host World Para Athletics Championships 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the World Para Athletics Championships 2025, highlighting India's role as a sporting and inclusive nation. The event, held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, welcomes 2,200 participants from 100 nations. PM Modi emphasized the significance of para athletes in strengthening India's identity as a rising sporting hub. The championships aim to foster inclusivity and showcase India's commitment to sports, underlining the country's growing prowess in hosting international sporting events.



GeM Launches Vigilance Awareness Campaign for Transparent Procurement :-

The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has launched a campaign during Vigilance Awareness Week to promote integrity and transparency in public procurement. The initiative aims to educate government buyers on best practices and empower sellers, particularly startups and small enterprises. GeM emphasizes security features and fair transactions, reinforcing its role as a trusted

procurement platform. The campaign seeks to create an inclusive and equitable marketplace, aligning with national efforts to enhance public procurement standards.



PM Modi Inaugurates Nationwide Indigenous 4G Network :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate India's fully indigenous 4G network, marking a significant milestone in the country's telecommunications sector. This Swadeshi 4G stack, developed with homegrown technology, will enhance connectivity for millions across regions, including remote areas. The network is future-ready and can be upgraded to 5G. This initiative aligns with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision, showcasing India's capability to develop and deploy advanced telecom infrastructure independently. It reflects the nation's journey towards technological self-reliance and aims to position India as a global leader in telecommunications.



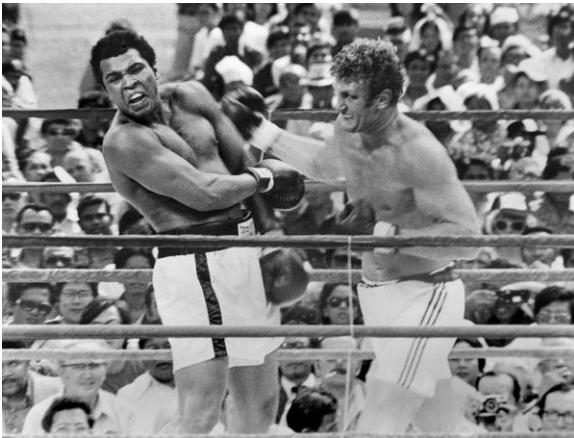
India Approves 10,000 New Medical Seats to Boost Healthcare :-

The Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Modi, approved 10,023 new medical seats to enhance healthcare access. With a Rs. 15,034 crore investment, the initiative aims to

address healthcare professional shortages, especially in rural areas. This expansion is part of a broader vision to create 75,000 new medical seats over five years,

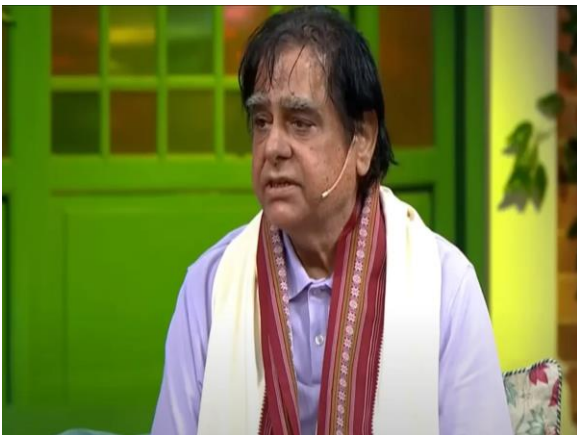
ensuring quality healthcare nationwide. The move aligns with India's commitment to universal health coverage, improving medical education infrastructure significantly.

12: Obituaries



Former Heavyweight Boxer Joe Bugner Passes Away at 75 :-

Joe Bugner, the former British and Commonwealth heavyweight boxing champion, has died at the age of 75 in Australia. Known for his bouts against legends like Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier, Bugner's career spanned over three decades with 69 wins. His matches against Ali in the 1970s are considered iconic in boxing history. Bugner later moved to Australia, where he continued his boxing career, winning the Australian heavyweight title in 1995. His passing marks the end of a storied career in the world of boxing.



Ramanand Sagar's son, cinematographer, director Prem Sagar passes away :-

Prem Sagar, son of the legendary filmmaker Ramanand Sagar, has passed away, leaving behind a legacy in Indian cinema and television. Known for his work as a cinematographer and director, Prem Sagar contributed to several notable projects under the Sagar Arts banner, which is celebrated for creating the iconic TV series Ramayan that became a cultural milestone in India during the 1980s. While Ramanand Sagar was the visionary behind many productions, Prem Sagar played a key role in technical direction and creative storytelling, supporting the family tradition of devotional cinema. His passing marks the end of an era for the Sagar family's contribution to Indian entertainment.



Italian fashion icon Giorgio Armani passes away at 91 :-

The global fashion industry is mourning the loss of Italian fashion legend Giorgio Armani, who passed away at the age of 91. Armani was a revolutionary designer who redefined modern fashion with his clean lines, elegant tailoring, and timeless designs that became a staple in both luxury fashion and Hollywood wardrobes. His brand, founded in 1975, grew into one of the world's most influential fashion houses, spanning clothing, accessories, fragrances, and home décor. Armani's passing marks the end of an era, as he was celebrated not only for his creativity but also for shaping the very identity of contemporary style.



Senior journalist Sankarshan Thakur passes away :-

Veteran journalist Sankarshan Thakur has passed away, leaving behind a legacy of impactful reporting on Indian politics and society. Known for his deep insights into Bihar's political landscape, he worked with leading national dailies and authored several books, including acclaimed political biographies. Thakur's writings were respected for their clarity, depth, and unbiased approach, particularly on the dynamics of regional politics and leadership in North India. His demise marks a major loss to the field of political journalism and literary reportage in India.



Senior BJD MLA and ex-Minister Rajendra Dholakia passes away at 69 :-

Veteran Biju Janata Dal (BJD) leader and former Odisha Minister Rajendra Dholakia has passed away at the age of 69. Representing the Nuapada constituency, Dholakia had a long political career and was known for his grassroots connect and contributions to rural development in western Odisha. During his tenure as Minister, he worked on issues related to local

governance and social welfare. His death marks the loss of an experienced leader in the BJD, leaving behind a legacy of dedicated public service. Tributes have poured in from colleagues and constituents who remember him for his simplicity and commitment to the people.



Veteran Congress leader PP Thankachan passes away :-

Veteran Congress leader and former Kerala minister P. P. Thankachan passed away at the age of 86 in Aluva, Ernakulam, after battling age-related ailments and a lung infection. Born in 1939, he entered public service early, becoming chairman of Perumbavoor Municipal Council at just 26. Over his long political career, he represented Perumbavoor in the Kerala Assembly for four consecutive terms and held several key posts, including Opposition Chief Whip, Speaker of the Assembly, and Agriculture Minister in A. K. Antony's cabinet. He also served as Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president and UDF convenor, shaping Congress politics in the state.



Former Meghalaya CM Lapang Passes Away at 91 :-

D.D. Lapang, former Chief Minister of Meghalaya, passed away in Shillong at the age of 91. Serving as CM on four occasions, Lapang was a prominent political figure known for his simplicity and consensus-building skills. His tenure focused on governance, development, and harmony in the state. Colleagues and citizens remember him for his dedication to public service and his role in shaping Meghalaya's political landscape. Tributes pour in from across the political spectrum, honoring his legacy of perseverance and leadership.



Oscar Winner Robert Redford Passes Away at 89 :-

Renowned actor and director Robert Redford has passed away at the age of 89. Redford, celebrated for his roles in classics such as 'Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid' and 'The Sting', was a pivotal figure in Hollywood, known for his support of independent cinema through the Sundance Institute. His legacy extends beyond acting, as he was a vocal advocate for environmental causes. Redford's contribution to cinema and his dedication to promoting independent filmmakers have left an indelible mark on the industry.



Nuclear scientist Shivram Bhoje passes away in Kolhapur at 83 :-

Eminent nuclear scientist Shivram Bhoje, a key architect of India's nuclear energy program, passed away at the age of 83 in Kolhapur, Maharashtra. He was instrumental in the design and development of the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) and played a pivotal role in advancing India's fast breeder reactor technology, which remains central to the country's three-stage nuclear power program. Over his long career, Bhoje worked at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) and later contributed as a scientific adviser, leaving behind a legacy of innovation and self-reliance in atomic energy.



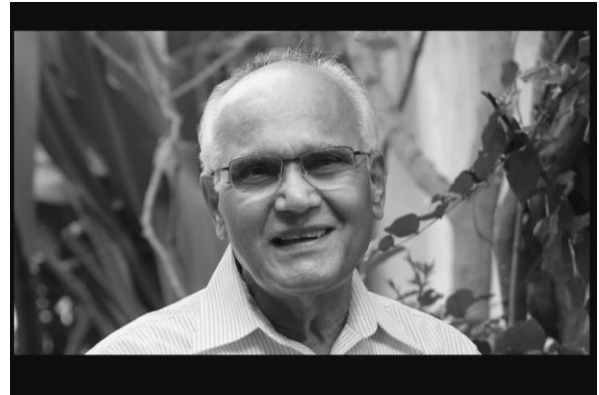
Tamil actor-comedian Robo Shankar passes away at 46

Popular Tamil actor and comedian Robo Shankar has passed away at the age of 46, leaving the South Indian film industry and his fans in shock. Known for his distinctive comic timing, mimicry, and vibrant screen presence, he carved a special place in Tamil cinema, television, and stage performances. Over the years, he appeared in several successful films and shows, earning appreciation not only for his humor but also for his ability to connect with audiences across age groups. His sudden demise is considered a big loss to the entertainment world, as he was among the few comedians who could seamlessly blend stand-up style humor with film acting.



Zubeen Garg Passes Away in Singapore Diving Accident

Acclaimed Assamese singer Zubeen Garg has tragically passed away following a scuba diving accident in Singapore. Known for his hit 'Ya Ali', Garg's sudden demise has shocked the music industry and fans alike. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his condolences, highlighting Garg's significant contributions to music. The incident has cast a pall over the North East India Festival, where Garg was scheduled to perform.



Renowned Kannada Author SL Bhyrappa passed away

Celebrated Kannada author SL Bhyrappa, has passed away in Bengaluru at the age of 94 recently. Bhyrappa, a Padma Bhushan awardee, was known for his profound contributions to Kannada literature through works like 'Parva' and 'Uttarakanda'. His literary legacy has deeply influenced Indian thought and culture, inspiring generations to engage with societal issues. Leaders across India, including Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy, paid tribute to Bhyrappa's impact on literature and his role in promoting Indian heritage and values.

13: Ranks & Reports



Aadhaar Authentication Transactions Surpass 221 Crore in August 2025 :-

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology reports that Aadhaar authentication transactions reached over 221 crore in August 2025, marking a significant increase from the previous year. This surge highlights Aadhaar's growing role in India's digital economy, facilitating effective welfare delivery and

voluntary services. The month also saw a record number of face authentication transactions, emphasizing the system's convenience and security. With over 150 entities utilizing Aadhaar for service delivery, its impact on improving customer experience and ease of doing business continues to grow.



India's Auto Retail Sector Shows Growth Despite Challenges :-

The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) reported a 2.84% year-on-year growth in India's auto retail sector for August. The growth was driven by segments like commercial vehicles and tractors, despite a decline in three-wheelers and construction equipment. Festive sentiment and the anticipation of GST 2.0 reforms are expected to boost sales further. However, excessive rainfall and supply issues posed challenges in some regions. The sector anticipates stronger demand with the upcoming festive season and GST reforms, highlighting the resilience of India's auto industry.



Fitch Upgrades India's GDP Forecast to 6.9% for FY26 :-

Fitch Ratings has revised India's GDP growth outlook for FY26 to 6.9%, up from 6.5%, citing strong domestic demand as the key driver. Despite external pressures like rising trade tensions with the US, India's economy showed robust performance with a 7.8% year-on-year growth in the second quarter of FY25. The report highlights the supportive role of strong real income dynamics and looser financial conditions in boosting consumer spending and investment. However, economic momentum may slow as the economy operates slightly above its potential.



World Bank Highlights Heat's Economic Toll on Bangladesh :-

A World Bank report reveals that rising temperatures cost Bangladesh \$1.8 billion in 2024, equivalent to 0.4% of its GDP. The report highlights the health and productivity losses due to heat-related conditions, with Dhaka being one of the most heat-affected cities globally. The findings call for urgent actions to mitigate climate impacts, including strengthening healthcare and expanding green urban spaces. The report underscores the need for international support to bolster Bangladesh's climate resilience.



Smriti Mandhana Tops ICC Women's ODI Batting Rankings :-

Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana has reclaimed the top spot in the ICC Women's ODI batting rankings, surpassing England's Nat Sciver-Brunt. Mandhana's impressive performance in the recent series against Australia, where she scored 58 runs in the opener, has been pivotal. Her rise to the top reflects her consistent form and significant contribution to Indian women's cricket. This achievement highlights India's growing prominence in international cricket.



IMF Endorses India's UPI as Global Digital Payment Benchmark :-

India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has gained international acclaim, particularly from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), as a model for digital payments. In their recent report, the IMF highlighted UPI's role in revolutionizing payment systems worldwide, acknowledging its ability to process over 20 billion transactions monthly. UPI's interoperable design, built on India's digital public infrastructure, has facilitated financial inclusion by enabling direct bank transfers.



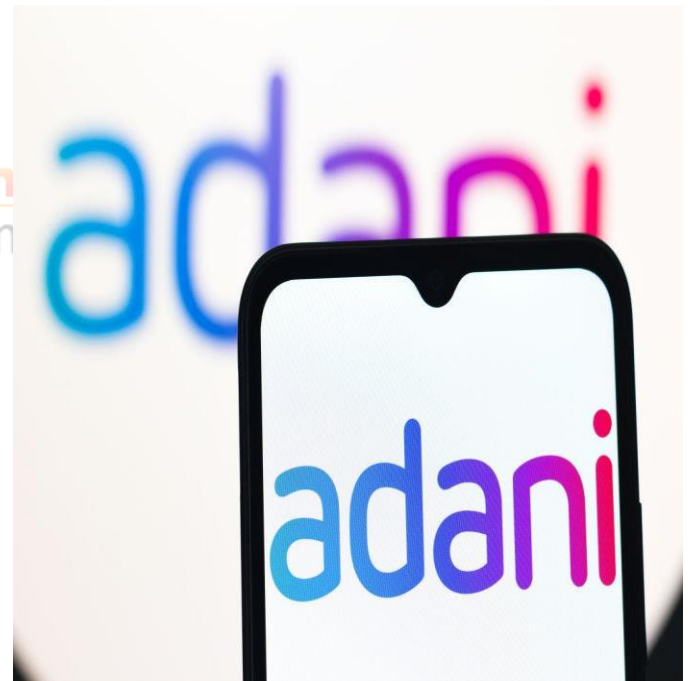
India's Air Travel Sector Sees Remarkable Growth :-

India's air travel sector has witnessed significant growth, with the number of air travelers doubling from 11 crore in 2014 to 25 crore in 2025. Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu highlighted this achievement during the launch of 'Yatri Sewa Diwas 2025.' The government's regional connectivity scheme, UDAN, has played a crucial role in making air travel accessible and affordable, transforming it from a luxury to a common mode of transport.



India's Premium Smartphone Market Set for 18% Growth This Festive Season :-

India's premium smartphone market is poised for an 18% growth in sales and a 24% rise in market value during the upcoming festive season, according to a report by CyberMedia Research. The super-premium segment (Rs 50,000–1,00,000) is expected to grow by 15%, while the uber-premium segment (Rs 1,00,000 and above) could see a remarkable 167% surge. This growth is driven by aspirational buyers, Gen Z, and millennials seeking powerful devices. The report highlights the role of premium chipsets like Snapdragon in delivering high-performance experiences.



SEBI Clears Adani Group of Allegations in Hindenburg Case :-

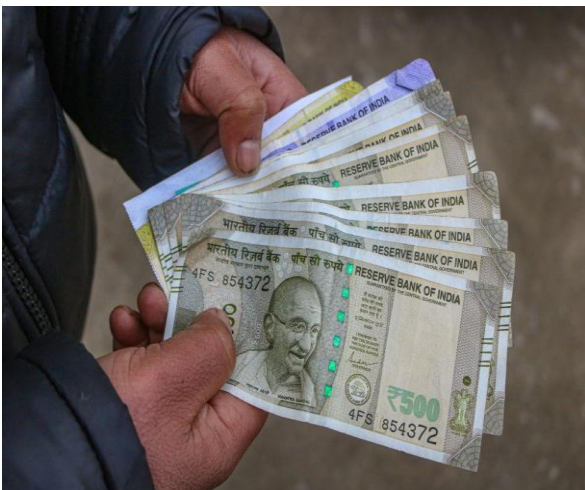
The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has cleared the Adani Group and its associated entities of all allegations made in the Hindenburg case, stating that the charges were not established. SEBI's investigation found that the alleged transactions were genuine business dealings and not fraudulent. The regulator noted no breach of Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements and rejected claims of concealed related party transactions. The case originated from a report by Hindenburg Research, accusing Adani of accounting

irregularities and stock manipulation. SEBI's findings bring closure to the allegations, reaffirming the group's compliance with regulatory norms.



India's Manufacturing Sector Drives Economic Growth :-

India's manufacturing sector is witnessing significant growth, contributing to the country's economic ascent. Between April and August 2025, exports rose by 6.18% YoY, with the sector poised to reach Rs. 87.57 lakh crore by FY26. Electronics, pharmaceuticals, automobiles, and textiles are key drivers of this growth. The government's initiatives, such as the PLI scheme, are bolstering manufacturing, positioning India as a global manufacturing hub and fostering economic resilience and competitiveness.



India's Tax Revenue Rises, Strengthening Fiscal Position

India's net direct tax collections have risen by 9.18% to over ₹10.82 lakh crore as of September 2025. This growth is attributed to a sharp decline in refunds, highlighting a robust fiscal performance. Non-corporate tax revenue saw a 13.67% increase, while corporate tax collections grew by 4.93%. The strong tax collections underscore India's fiscal health and macroeconomic stability, bolstering the government's ability to fund development initiatives and maintain fiscal discipline.



India Ranks Among Top Three Global Suppliers of Seafarers :-

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal announced that India is now among the top three global suppliers of trained seafarers, with a workforce exceeding three lakh. Speaking at the Indian Maritime University convocation, Sonowal highlighted the transformation of India's maritime sector under PM Modi's leadership. Indian ports have achieved world-class turnaround times and significant modernization. The Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 outlines a roadmap to strengthen port infrastructure and promote green shipping. These initiatives aim to generate millions of jobs, positioning India as a leader in the global maritime industry and the blue economy.

14: Schemes & Committees



Amit Shah Announces Teams to Assess Flood Damage in Northern India :-

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has announced the formation of Inter-Ministerial Central Teams to evaluate flood damage in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Uttarakhand. These regions have been severely affected by recent floods, causing loss of life and infrastructure damage. The teams will conduct on-the-ground assessments and review relief efforts to ensure effective disaster response. The initiative underscores the government's commitment to supporting affected communities and enhancing resilience against natural calamities.



GST Council meeting discusses rate rationalisation :-

The 56th meeting of the GST Council, chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, reviews proposed reductions on over 150 items. Aimed at creating transparency and reducing compliance burdens, the meeting considers a two-slab system: 5% for essential items, 18% standard rate, and 40% for sin goods. These reforms are expected to benefit small businesses and the

common man, aligning with Prime Minister Modi's vision of GST as a tool for economic relief and growth. The outcome could significantly impact India's economic landscape.



India's First Green Hydrogen Pilot Project Inaugurated :-

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated India's first port-based Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at VOC Port, Tamil Nadu. The project, costing ₹3.87 crore, marks a pivotal step in India's clean energy transition. It will power streetlights and EV charging stations, heralding a new era of sustainable development. Additionally, the foundation for a Green Methanol Bunkering Facility was laid, positioning VOC Port as a potential green bunkering hub. This initiative aligns with India's vision for sustainable maritime corridors and reflects its commitment to achieving net-zero emissions.



Delhi Government to Promote Ayurveda with Mobile Unit Launch :-

The Delhi government plans to launch a mobile unit to promote Ayurveda and holistic healthcare practices. Health Minister Pankaj Kumar Singh announced this

initiative during a meeting at Chaudhary Brahm Prakash Ayurved Charak Sansthan. The government aims to expand public access to traditional wellness techniques and Panchakarma therapies. This move aligns with the broader vision of integrating AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy) into mainstream healthcare, emphasizing Delhi's commitment to holistic wellness and preventive healthcare.



Sanchar Saathi App Surpasses 50 Lakh Downloads in India :-

The Sanchar Saathi app has reached over 50 lakh downloads since its launch in January 2025, playing a crucial role in combating mobile-related fraud. Developed by the Department of Telecommunications, the app provides robust security features, including the ability to block and trace lost devices. It also facilitates user reporting of suspicious communications, significantly enhancing mobile security across India. With its availability in multiple languages, the app exemplifies the government's commitment to digital safety and consumer protection in the face of rising cybercrime.



Five Years of Blue Revolution: PMMSY's Impact on Fisheries :-

The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) marks its fifth anniversary, transforming India's fisheries sector into an ecologically sustainable and economically

robust industry. With over ₹21,274 crore approved for fisheries development projects, the scheme has propelled India to the second-largest fish producer globally. Empowering stakeholders through digital platforms and financial aid, PMMSY has significantly boosted fish production and exports, reinforcing the government's commitment to sustainable fisheries.



Delhi to get ₹3,000 crore infrastructure boost under Seva Pakhwada for PM's birthday :-

Delhi will soon receive an infrastructure upgrade worth ₹3,000 crore as part of the "Seva Pakhwada" initiatives marking Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday. The funds are expected to be allocated for road widening, flyovers, public amenities, and improved transport facilities. Officials have highlighted that the projects aim to ease congestion and improve urban mobility for residents. The timing of the announcement reflects both a developmental push and a symbolic gesture tied to the Prime Minister's 75th birthday, underlining the government's focus on large-scale infrastructure development as a driver of growth.



PM Modi Launches 'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan' :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the 'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan' on September 17, 2025, as part of India's largest women and child health drive. The initiative, led by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Women and Child Development, will conduct health camps nationwide, focusing on screenings for non-communicable diseases and maternal health. The campaign aims to improve healthcare access and awareness, engaging multiple stakeholders for wide-reaching impact.



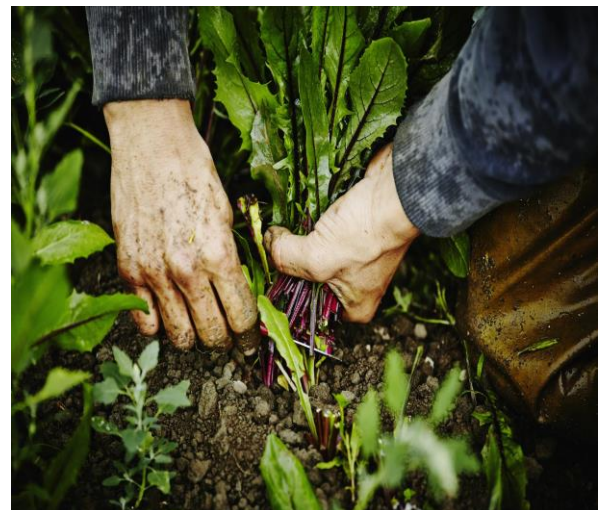
Bihar Announces Monthly Allowance for Unemployed Graduates :-

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has introduced a Rs 1,000 monthly allowance for unemployed graduates aged 20-25, as part of the state's 7 Nischay programme. This initiative aims to support skill training and competitive exam preparation, targeting one crore youth employment in the next five years. Graduates who are not studying, employed, or self-employed are eligible for this allowance for up to two years. This policy reflects the government's commitment to youth empowerment and job creation in both the public and private sectors.



MeitY Unveils Initiatives for India-AI Impact Summit 2026 :-

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) unveiled the logo and key initiatives for the India-AI Impact Summit 2026, marking a significant step in positioning India as a global hub for AI. The summit, set for February 2026, will be the first hosted by a Global South nation, focusing on ethical AI governance. The logo draws inspiration from the Ashoka Chakra, symbolizing India's constitutional values and AI's inclusive potential. The summit will also launch eight foundational AI model initiatives, aiming to create multilingual and domain-specific models for sectors like agriculture and healthcare.



Clean Plant Programme to Boost India's Horticulture Sector :-

The Union Cabinet has approved the Clean Plant Programme (CPP) to enhance the quality of India's horticulture sector by combating systemic pathogens in planting material. The initiative aims to establish nine

Clean Plant Centers across India, including three centers in Maharashtra, with an investment of around ₹300 crore. The programme seeks to produce approximately 8 crore disease-free seedlings annually, thereby improving yields, fruit quality, and shelf life. The CPP is expected to benefit farmers by reducing losses and dependence on imported plant material, aligning with India's environmental and plant health goals.



PM Modi Launches GST Bachat Utsav to Promote Swadeshi Products :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi urges citizens to support locally made products during the GST Bachat Utsav. Highlighting GST reforms, he emphasizes reduced household expenses and economic growth. The initiative aligns with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, promoting self-reliance and strengthening local manufacturing.



PM Modi Reviews Rs 65,000 Crore Projects at 49th PRAGATI Meeting :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 49th PRAGATI meeting, focusing on eight critical infrastructure projects worth over ₹65,000 crore across 15 States and Union Territories. The projects span sectors like Mines, Railways, and Water Resources, crucial for driving economic growth. PM Modi urged officials to adhere to timelines and resolve bottlenecks to avoid delays and cost overruns. He emphasized adopting a result-oriented approach for tangible benefits in public welfare. The meeting underscored the importance of the Centre-State collaboration to fast-track major projects and improve the ease of living and doing business. PRAGATI serves as a vital platform for ensuring time-bound delivery of key projects.



India's Initiative on Water Security Prioritizes Conservation :-

Union Ministers Shivraj Singh Chouhan and C.R. Patil launched the National Initiative on Water Security, emphasizing water conservation under MGNREGA. The initiative prioritizes water-related works in rural areas, aiming to boost groundwater recharge and ensure sustainable water management. The policy shift mandates significant fund allocation for water conservation, transforming it into a national mission. This move aligns with India's efforts to address water scarcity and promote long-term environmental sustainability.

15: Science & Technology



Gene-Edited Horses Stir Debate in Polo Community :-

The world's first gene-edited horses, created by Argentine company Kheiron Biotech, are sparking controversy in the polo community. Using CRISPR technology, the horses were designed to enhance muscle growth and improve speed. While cloning is accepted in polo, gene-editing faces resistance. The Argentine Polo Association has banned gene-edited horses from competition, citing concerns over preserving traditional breeding methods. The debate highlights the ethical and practical implications of genetic technology in sports, as the polo community grapples with the potential impact on their industry.



Common Heart Attack Drug May Increase Death Risk in Some Women :-

A recent study suggests that beta blockers, a common treatment for heart attacks, may increase death risk in some women. The research, presented at the European Society of Cardiology Congress, indicates that women

receiving beta blockers had higher adverse event rates compared to those not on the medication. The findings call for a reevaluation of treatment protocols, highlighting the importance of personalized medicine and gender-specific approaches in healthcare to ensure optimal patient outcomes.



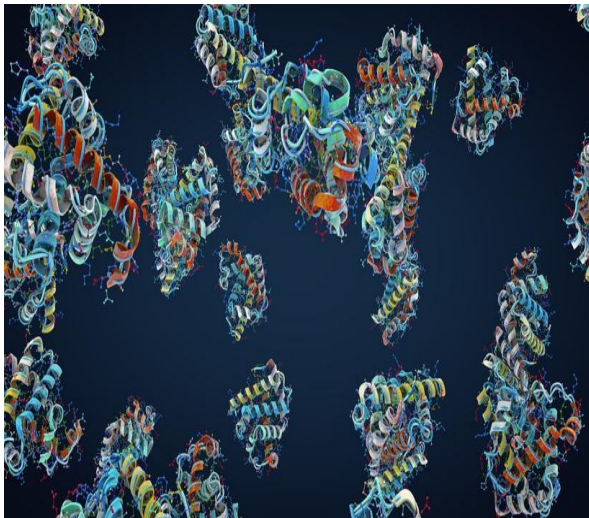
India Launches 'Adi Vaani' AI Translator for Tribal Languages :-

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched 'Adi Vaani', India's first AI-powered translator for tribal languages, aimed at preserving indigenous heritage and improving access to education and healthcare. Developed by IIT Delhi, the platform currently supports Santali, Bhili, Mundari, and Gondi, with more languages in development. This initiative aligns with national missions like Digital India and is expected to empower over 20 lakh tribal leaders, fostering inclusivity and knowledge-driven growth. The platform features a feedback system for continuous improvement through community participation.



PM Modi receives first made-in-India chips, marking milestone :-

India achieved a significant milestone in its semiconductor journey with the presentation of the first Made-in-India chips to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The chips, part of a pilot production line, were showcased at SEMICON India 2025, highlighting the country's rapid progress in semiconductor manufacturing. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw emphasized the importance of this achievement, reflecting India's commitment to becoming a global leader in the semiconductor industry. The event underscores India's strategic focus on innovation and self-reliance in technology.



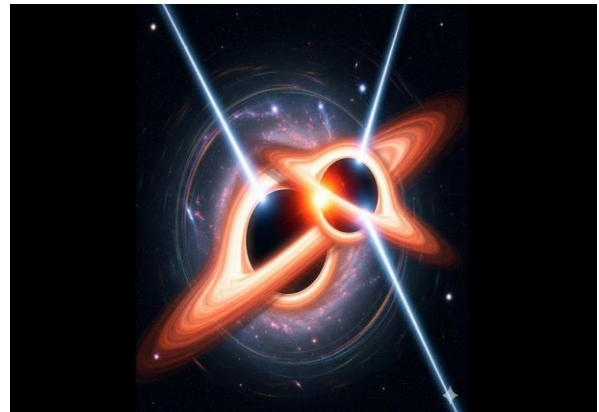
Indian Scientists Discover Protein p47's Role in Disease Treatment :-

Researchers at the S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences have uncovered a novel function of the protein p47, which acts as a mechanical chaperone, protecting cells from stress. This discovery has significant implications for treating diseases like heart muscle disorders and laminopathies, where protein stability is compromised. The study reveals that p47 enhances protein refolding under mechanical forces, suggesting potential therapeutic strategies targeting mechanical cofactors. This groundbreaking research expands the understanding of protein quality control and offers new avenues for addressing conditions linked to cellular mechanics.



ISRO inks pact with HAL for transfer of SSLV technology

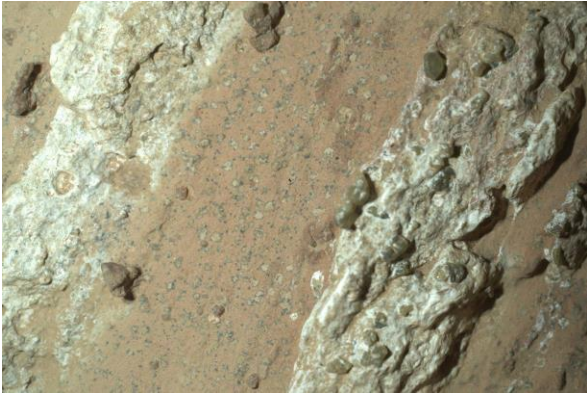
The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed an agreement with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the transfer of technology related to the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV). This pact will allow HAL to undertake production of SSLV, making satellite launches more commercially viable and accessible. SSLV is designed to provide cost-effective launches for small satellites, and by engaging HAL in production, ISRO is expanding private-sector participation in India's space sector, boosting the country's global competitiveness in satellite launch services.



Astronomers Achieve Best View Yet of Merging Black Holes :-

Astronomers have obtained the clearest view yet of two merging black holes, a significant event revealing the extreme configurations of space-time. Detected through gravitational waves, this event supports theories by Einstein and Hawking, with the collision occurring 1.3 billion light-years away. The merger released energy equivalent to three sun-sized stars, detected by LIGO.

observatories. This observation enhances understanding of black holes' fundamental properties, confirming Hawking's hypothesis on black hole surface area and further validating Einstein's relativity.



NASA Rover Finds Potential Signs of Ancient Life on Mars :-

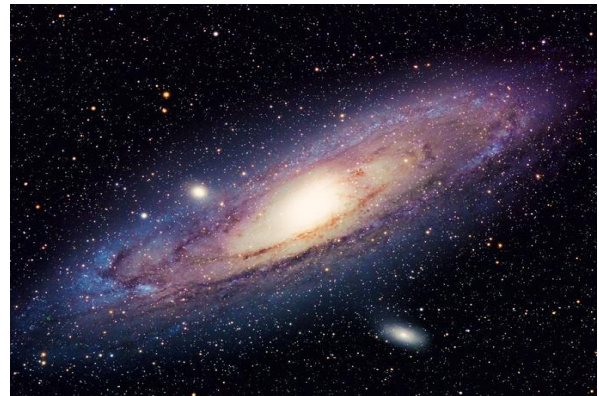
NASA's Perseverance rover discovered potential biosignatures in Martian rocks, suggesting ancient microbial life. The sample from Jezero Crater, a former lakebed, contains minerals like vivianite and greigite, which may indicate biological activity. While the findings are not definitive proof of life, they offer exciting possibilities for future research. The discovery fuels interest in Mars exploration and the potential for understanding life's existence beyond Earth.



WHO Endorses Weight-Loss Drugs for Obesity Treatment :-

The World Health Organization has recommended the use of weight-loss drugs, such as those developed by Novo Nordisk and Eli Lilly, for treating obesity in adults with a BMI of 30 or above. This endorsement is a pivotal step towards recognizing obesity as a chronic disease requiring comprehensive treatment. The WHO's

guidance aligns with ongoing efforts to establish global standards of care for obesity management.



Indian Scientists Map Milky Way's Dust Using Star Clusters :-

ARIES astronomers have mapped the Milky Way's cosmic dust using data from over 6,000 star clusters. The study reveals a wavy dust layer, known as the 'reddening plane,' providing insights into interstellar dust distribution. This research aids in understanding star formation regions and the galaxy's dynamic structure. The findings are expected to enhance future astronomical studies and contribute to a comprehensive three-dimensional map of the Milky Way.



Meta Launches Smart Glasses with Built-In Display :-

Meta has unveiled its first consumer-ready smart glasses with a built-in display, aiming to elevate the user experience with augmented reality features. Priced at \$799, these glasses integrate AI capabilities for enhanced communication and sensory improvement. This launch marks Meta's continued efforts to innovate in the AI and wearable technology space, despite facing scrutiny over privacy concerns.



Study Highlights Link Between Vascular Disease and Dementia :-

A recent study by researchers at the University of New Mexico has brought attention to the overlooked link between vascular disease and dementia risk. The study, published in the American Journal of Pathology, characterizes various forms of vascular dementia and identifies emerging contributors, such as nano- and microplastics found in human brains. These findings are significant as they suggest a need to revise current understanding of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease.



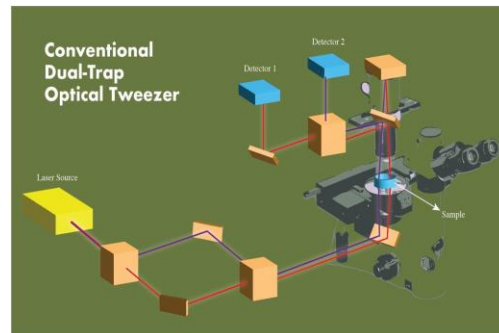
Alibaba Unveils Qwen3-Max AI Model with 1 Trillion Parameters :-

Alibaba has announced the launch of its largest AI language model, the Qwen3-Max, featuring over 1 trillion parameters. The model excels in code generation and autonomous agent capabilities, requiring fewer human prompts for decision-making. Alibaba's investment in AI infrastructure underscores its commitment to advancing AI capabilities and maintaining a competitive edge. The Qwen3-Max outperforms rivals in benchmarks, positioning Alibaba as a leader in AI development amid intensifying competition among Chinese tech firms.



Ancient Skull in China May Redefine Human Evolution Timeline :-

A recent analysis of an ancient skull found in China's Hubei Province suggests it belongs to an early branch of a sister lineage to Homo sapiens. The skull, dated between 940,000 and 1.1 million years old, may be the oldest-known member of a lineage that includes the Denisovans. This discovery could significantly impact the understanding of human evolution, suggesting an earlier divergence among human lineages. The skull's features differ from Homo erectus, indicating a complex evolutionary history involving interactions with Homo sapiens.



Indian Scientists Develop Advanced Dual-Trap Optical Tweezers :-

Researchers at the Raman Research Institute have developed a novel dual-trap optical tweezers system, enhancing research capabilities in biology, medicine, and nanoscience. This innovation offers a more precise tool for manipulating single biomolecules and small particles, overcoming limitations of traditional systems. The system's unique design eliminates signal interference and integrates with standard microscopy techniques. This breakthrough is expected to accelerate discoveries in neuroscience, drug development, and medical research, marking a significant advancement in making research tools more accessible to Indian scientists.

16: Sports



Badminton: Shi and Yamaguchi Win World Titles in Paris

In an exciting finale at the Badminton World Championships in Paris, China's Shi Yuqi claimed his maiden world title in men's singles, while Japan's Akane Yamaguchi secured her third world crown in women's singles. Shi's victory came after a tense match against defending champion Kunlavut Vitidsarn, while Yamaguchi triumphed smoothly over China's Chen Yufei. These achievements highlight the athletes' dedication and skill, contributing to the growing popularity and competitiveness of badminton on the global stage.



Djokovic Makes Grand Slam History with US Open Win

Novak Djokovic, at 38, continues to break records by reaching his 64th Grand Slam quarter-final at the US Open, becoming the oldest man to achieve this feat in a single season. His commanding victory over Jan-Lennard Struff keeps him on track for a record 25th major title. Despite personal sacrifices, including missing his daughter's birthday, Djokovic remains focused on his

career, showcasing his dedication and resilience. His performance highlights the competitive spirit and enduring legacy in the world of tennis.



Mitchell Starc Retires from T20 Internationals to Focus on Tests :-

Australian fast bowler Mitchell Starc has announced his retirement from T20 internationals to concentrate on Test and ODI cricket. Starc, Australia's leading T20 fast bowler with 79 wickets, aims to extend his career in longer formats, citing upcoming tours and World Cups. His decision comes as Australia prepares for the T20 World Cup, highlighting the challenges of managing player workload. Starc's retirement marks the end of an era for Australian T20 cricket, with the team relying on emerging talents to fill the gap.



Carlos Alcaraz Triumphs at US Open, Secures Second Title :-

Carlos Alcaraz claimed his second U.S. Open title, defeating Jannik Sinner in a thrilling final. The victory not

only reaffirms Alcaraz's dominance in men's tennis but also returns him to the top of the world rankings. His impressive performance, marked by strategic brilliance and athletic prowess, highlights the emergence of a new era in tennis. The match showcased the rivalry between Alcaraz and Sinner, with Alcaraz's win further solidifying his status as one of the sport's rising stars. This victory adds to his growing legacy and sets the stage for future Grand Slam successes.



Bihar CM announces ₹10 lakh award for each player of India men's hockey squad :-

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has announced a cash reward of ₹10 lakh for each player of the Indian men's hockey team following their recent international success. The gesture acknowledges the team's stellar performance and aims to motivate players to continue excelling in the sport. It also reflects the state's commitment to encouraging sports culture and supporting athletes who bring national pride. Such awards not only celebrate achievement but also serve as an inspiration for young players in Bihar and across India to pursue hockey with greater dedication.



ICC Unveils 'Will to Win' Campaign for Women's World Cup 2025 :-

The ICC has launched its 'Will to Win' campaign ahead of the Women's Cricket World Cup 2025, celebrating the spirit of determination and perseverance in women's cricket. The campaign film features star players like India's Smriti Mandhana and Harmanpreet Kaur, showcasing their journeys and aspirations. With the tournament returning to India after 12 years, the ICC aims to inspire audiences and further cement the legacy of women's cricket on the global stage.



Hu Kai claims fourth straight gold in men's 10m air pistol at ISSF World Cup in Ningbo :-

Chinese shooter Hu Kai continued his dominant streak by winning his fourth consecutive gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event at the ISSF World Cup held in Ningbo, China. His consistent performance has reinforced China's strong standing in international shooting competitions. Hu Kai's achievement not only highlights his personal excellence but also reflects the depth of training and investment in shooting sports in China, as the country prepares its athletes for future global tournaments and the Olympic Games.



India names 19-member contingent for World Athletics Championships 2025, led by Neeraj Chopra :-

India has finalized a 19-member squad for the World Athletics Championships 2025, with Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra leading the contingent. The team includes a mix of seasoned athletes and emerging talents across track and field events. Chopra's presence is expected to inspire confidence, especially as India looks to secure more medals on the global athletics stage. This announcement comes at a time when Indian sports are gaining international recognition, with athletics being positioned as a key discipline for the nation's Olympic aspirations.



South Africa Inflicts Heaviest Test Defeat on All Blacks :-

South Africa's rugby team delivered a historic 43-10 victory over New Zealand in Wellington, marking the All Blacks' heaviest test defeat. The Springboks overcame injuries to dominate the match, showcasing their resilience and strategic prowess. The victory, following a previous loss to New Zealand, highlights South Africa's strength in international rugby. The match underscores the intense competition in the Rugby Championship, with South Africa's performance enhancing its reputation as a leading rugby nation.



PM Modi Praises Indian Women's Team for Asia Cup Hockey Silver :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the Indian women's hockey team for securing a silver medal at the Women's Asia Cup Hockey Tournament in Hangzhou. Despite a valiant effort, India lost to China in the final. Modi lauded the team's determination and spirit, emphasizing their role in inspiring future athletes. This achievement underscores India's growing prowess in sports and the government's support for women's participation in international competitions.



PM Modi Congratulates Indian Boxers for World Championships Gold :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Indian boxers Minakshi and Jaismine Lamboriya on winning gold medals at the World Boxing Championships 2025 in Liverpool. Minakshi triumphed in the 48kg category, while Jaismine won in the 57kg category. Their victories highlight India's rising stature in international boxing, inspiring future athletes and reinforcing the nation's commitment to supporting sports and athletes on the global stage.



Meghana Sajjanar Wins Bronze at ISSF World Cup, India Finishes Fifth :-

Indian shooter Meghana Sajjanar clinched a bronze medal in the women's 10m air rifle event at the ISSF

World Cup in Ningbo, China. Competing in her first world final in eight years, Meghana's performance contributed to India's fifth-place finish in the tournament. Her achievement highlights India's growing presence in international shooting sports and the dedication of its athletes to excel on the global stage.



BCCI Welcomes Apollo Tyres as New Team India Sponsor :-

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced a landmark partnership with Apollo Tyres as the new lead sponsor of Team India. This strategic agreement, set to run until March 2028, will see the Apollo Tyres logo featured on the jerseys of both the men's and women's national cricket teams across all formats. This partnership is a significant step for Apollo Tyres, marking its first foray into Indian cricket, a sport that holds immense cultural significance in the country. BCCI officials highlighted that this collaboration underscores the trust and respect both entities command, while Apollo Tyres aims to leverage this association to enhance its brand presence globally.



India Shines at Speed Skating World Championships 2025 :-

India achieved a historic milestone at the 73rd Inline Speed Skating World Championships 2025 in Beidaihe, China, by winning five medals, including three Golds and two Bronzes. The Indian team secured an impressive 5th place overall among more than 40 nations. Anandkumar Velkumar made history by winning two Golds in the 1000m Sprint and 42,195m Marathon, marking India's first Senior medal at the event. Krish Sharma and Anish Raj also contributed with a Junior Gold and a Bronze respectively. Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya lauded the team's achievements, highlighting the growing prowess of Indian athletes on the global stage. The event showcased 42 competitions across Senior and Junior categories, with India's 20-member squad making the nation proud.



Europe Holds Off U.S. Challenge to Secure Ryder Cup Victory :-

Europe secured a dramatic victory in the Ryder Cup, defeating the U.S. with a final score of 15-13. The event took place at Bethpage Black in Long Island, where Europe's team, led by captain Luke Donald, displayed resilience against a fierce U.S. comeback. Ireland's Shane Lowry and England's Tyrrell Hatton were instrumental in clinching the win, marking Europe's 11th Ryder Cup triumph in the last 15 editions. The win highlights Europe's dominance in team golf and the intense rivalry between the two golfing powerhouses.



India Wins Ninth Asia Cup Amid Controversy Over Trophy Presentation :-

India clinched their ninth Asia Cup title with a five-wicket victory over Pakistan, but the win was overshadowed by controversy as the team was reportedly denied the tournament trophy. Captain Suryakumar Yadav expressed disappointment over the situation, which delayed the post-match presentation. Despite the chaos, the Indian team celebrated their hard-fought victory, showcasing their dominance in the tournament. The incident raises questions about cricket administration and the dynamics of sports diplomacy in the region.

17: State



IMD Forecasts Heavy Rainfall Across Gujarat, Issues Alerts :-

The India Meteorological Department has forecasted heavy rainfall across Gujarat, issuing alerts for several districts. An orange alert indicates very heavy rain in Chhota Udepur and Narmada on September 3. The monsoon has significantly replenished Gujarat's water reservoirs, easing water scarcity concerns. However, the potential for flooding and infrastructure damage necessitates caution and preparedness. Authorities are advising residents to stay informed and take necessary precautions as weather conditions evolve.



Yamuna Water Levels Surge, Causing Severe Waterlogging in Delhi :-

The Yamuna River's water levels in Delhi have surged, causing severe waterlogging and affecting several areas. Heavy rainfall has led to the river flowing above the danger level, prompting the relocation of residents in low-lying areas. The situation remains critical as rescue operations continue, with authorities working to manage traffic disruptions and prevent further flooding. The India Meteorological Department has forecasted additional rainfall, keeping the city on high alert.



Vaishnaw Inaugurates Lithium-Ion Battery Plant in Haryana :-

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated a lithium-ion battery manufacturing plant in Haryana, marking a significant step in India's journey toward self-reliance in electronics. The facility, established under the Electronics Manufacturing Cluster scheme, will produce 20 crore battery packs annually, catering to consumer electronics needs. This initiative aligns with the government's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, promoting domestic production of essential components like semiconductors and batteries. The plant is expected to create 5,000 jobs, further boosting India's position as a global hub for electronics manufacturing.



India's First Tesla Model Y Owner Promotes EV Awareness :-

Maharashtra Transport Minister Pratap Sarnaik became India's first official Tesla Model Y owner, highlighting the government's commitment to promoting electric vehicles (EVs). Sarnaik purchased the car to inspire the youth towards sustainable transportation. This milestone coincides with the opening of Tesla's first showroom in Mumbai. The event underscores

Maharashtra's focus on building a cleaner, greener future and aligns with India's broader push towards electric mobility and environmental sustainability.



Himachal Pradesh Achieves Full Literacy Status :-

Himachal Pradesh has been declared fully literate on International Literacy Day 2025, joining Tripura, Mizoram, Goa, and Ladakh. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan highlighted the significance of literacy in empowerment and self-reliance, noting India's literacy rate improvement to 80.9%. The ULLAS Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram has been pivotal in this achievement, enrolling over three crore learners. The milestone underscores the power of collective effort and the importance of digital and civic awareness in today's literacy initiatives.



Supreme Court Includes Aadhaar for Bihar Voter Registration :-

The Supreme Court has directed the Election Commission of India to accept Aadhaar as an identity document for voter registration in Bihar. This decision allows Aadhaar to be used as proof of identity, though not citizenship, during the Bihar Special Intensive Revision process. The Court's order facilitates the

inclusion of Aadhaar as the 12th identity document, addressing concerns raised by the Rashtriya Janata Dal. This move is seen as a step towards streamlining the voter registration process while ensuring authenticity and inclusivity.



Amit Shah Inaugurates Development Projects in Sanand, Gujarat :-

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated development projects worth ₹66 crore in Gujarat's Sanand constituency, emphasizing a roadmap for comprehensive growth under PM Modi's leadership. The projects focus on infrastructure enhancements in roads, water supply, healthcare, and afforestation. Shah highlighted plans for industrial growth, including chip manufacturing by Micron Technology, positioning Sanand as a key industrial hub. The initiative reflects a commitment to sustainable development, aiming to provide basic amenities to all villages by 2029.



Prime Minister Modi set to inaugurate Mizoram's first railway line — the Bairabi-Sairang corridor :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is preparing to inaugurate Mizoram's first-ever railway line, the Bairabi-Sairang corridor, which will bring the capital city Aizawl into the

national railway network. The 51-km line, built under challenging hilly terrain, is seen as a historic milestone for connectivity in the Northeast. It is expected to reduce transport costs, boost trade, and provide easier access for essential goods. Beyond economic benefits, the corridor is also being hailed as a symbol of integration, offering Mizoram direct railway connectivity with the rest of India for the first time.



Massive farmers' fair in Ramtek focuses on sustainable agriculture, organic farming and PMFME-led growth :-

Ramtek in Maharashtra is hosting a large-scale farmers' fair with the spotlight on sustainable agricultural practices and organic farming methods. The event brings together farmers, agri-experts, and policymakers to promote eco-friendly techniques and highlight government support schemes like the Prime Minister Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME). Demonstrations of modern equipment, value-addition methods, and organic certification opportunities are part of the fair. Organisers stress that the gathering is not only about technology transfer but also about motivating farmers to embrace sustainable practices that ensure long-term soil and crop health.



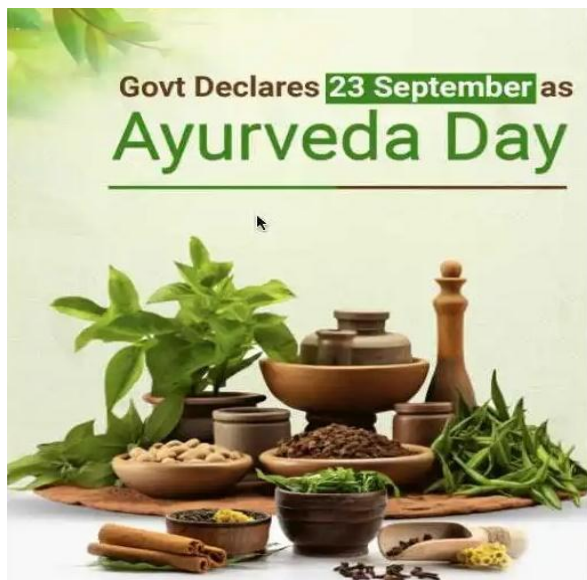
Ludhiana set for major road infrastructure upgrades with launch of three NHAI projects :-

Ludhiana, Punjab's industrial hub, is gearing up for significant improvements in connectivity with the launch of three new projects by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). These projects include construction and modernization of highways and bypass routes to ease traffic congestion and support the city's growing freight movement. Given Ludhiana's reputation as a manufacturing powerhouse, the new infrastructure is expected to reduce logistics costs, improve road safety, and stimulate trade flows. Authorities also believe it will boost industrial competitiveness, making it easier for businesses to connect with domestic and international markets.



PM Modi Inaugurates Mizoram Rail Line :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Bairabi-Sairang railway line in Mizoram, marking Aizawl's inclusion in India's railway network. The project, overcoming challenging terrain, aims to boost connectivity, tourism, and commerce in the Northeast. The inauguration included three new train services connecting Aizawl with major cities. PM Modi emphasized the railway's role as a transformative lifeline for Mizoram, enhancing access to markets and services, and creating employment opportunities. The event reflects India's focus on infrastructure development in the Northeast.



Goa to Host 10th Ayurveda Day with Global Focus :-

The 10th Ayurveda Day will be celebrated on September 23 at the All India Institute of Ayurveda in Goa, highlighting Ayurveda as a sustainable healthcare solution. This year's theme, 'Ayurveda for People Planet', aims to promote integrative health practices. The event marks a shift towards a fixed annual date for Ayurveda Day, moving away from Dhanvantari Jayanti. With global outreach and events planned across India, Ayurveda Day 2025 seeks to expand international recognition of Ayurveda's benefits for human health and environmental well-being.



PM Modi Inaugurates Bioethanol Plant, Lays Foundation for Polypropylene Unit in Assam :-

On September 14, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a bioethanol plant and laid the foundation for a polypropylene unit in Assam. These projects, worth ₹18,000 crore, aim to boost Assam's green energy sector and manufacturing capabilities. The bioethanol plant, using bamboo as feedstock, benefits local communities and supports India's renewable energy goals, while the

polypropylene unit enhances the state's industrial infrastructure.



Himachal Pradesh Faces Landslides Amid Excessive Rainfall :-

Himachal Pradesh continues to grapple with natural disasters as it records 46% more rainfall than normal this monsoon season. Landslides and flash floods have caused significant damage, prompting urgent relief measures. The government is prioritizing evacuations and infrastructure restoration, emphasizing the need for preparedness and resilience in the face of climate-related challenges. The situation underscores the impact of extreme weather events on vulnerable regions.



Cloudburst in Maharashtra's Jalgaon Affects Ten Villages :-

A cloudburst-like situation in Maharashtra's Jalgaon district has impacted ten villages, causing significant damage to homes and agricultural land. The disaster has led to the loss of livestock and disrupted power supply. Relief efforts are underway, with the State Disaster Response Force providing essential aid to affected families. The situation highlights the severe impact of extreme weather events on rural communities and the need for effective disaster management strategies.



PM Modi Inaugurates Development Projects Worth ₹50,000 Crore in Odisha :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for projects worth over ₹50,000 crore in Odisha. These projects span telecommunications, railways, education, healthcare, and rural housing, aiming to uplift marginalized communities. Key highlights include the launch of BSNL's indigenous 4G services and the expansion of educational institutions. The initiatives reflect the government's commitment to accelerating Odisha's progress, enhancing connectivity, and supporting sustainable development.



Bihar to Launch Seven New Trains, Including Amrit Bharat Express Services :-

Bihar is set to enhance its railway connectivity with the launch of seven new trains, including three Amrit Bharat Express services. These state-of-the-art trains aim to improve travel experiences, particularly between Bihar and major regions such as South India and Delhi. The expansion is expected to boost tourism, trade, and employment opportunities in the state. The initiative reflects the government's focus on modernizing rail infrastructure and supporting regional economic growth.

18: Summits & Conferences



India and China Discuss Bilateral Relations at SCO Summit :-

During the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin, Prime Minister Narendra Modi engaged in discussions with Chinese President Xi Jinping, focusing on enhancing India-China relations. The talks emphasized mutual trust, respect, and sensitivity as the foundation for progress. The leaders discussed border management and agreed on resuming the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and direct flights, signaling a positive trend in bilateral ties. The meeting, held amidst global economic tensions, underscores the strategic importance of cooperation between the two nations, which together represent 2.8 billion people.



German Foreign Minister Visits India to Strengthen Ties

German Foreign Minister Johann Wadepuhl is on a two-day visit to India, focusing on enhancing strategic bilateral relations. The visit includes meetings with Indian ministers on trade, security, and digital transformation. Wadepuhl's trip underscores the growing importance of Indo-German ties and shared

democratic values. Both countries aim to expand cooperation in areas like technology, innovation, and skilled workforce recruitment. The visit follows high-level engagements earlier this year, reflecting a commitment to deepening collaboration across multiple sectors.



Bhutan PM Tshering Tobgay visits India to strengthen bilateral ties :-

Bhutan Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay is on an official visit to India from September 3 to 6, accompanied by his spouse and Bhutan's Chief Abbot. The visit includes participating in the Consecration Ceremony of the Royal Bhutan Temple in Bihar and offering prayers at the Ram Janmabhoomi Temple in Ayodhya. This marks Tobgay's second visit to India this year, underscoring the close cooperation between the two countries. High-level meetings with Indian officials aim to further enhance the longstanding relationship built on trust and regular exchanges.



PM Modi participated in CEO roundtable at Semicon India-2025 :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi engage with global semiconductor CEOs at the Semicon India-2025 conference, aiming to position India as a hub for semiconductor manufacturing and innovation. The event will highlight advancements in the sector and explore strategic collaborations. India's semiconductor mission is backed by a significant Production-Linked Incentive scheme, focusing on reducing import dependence and fostering innovation. The conference reflects India's ambition to become a leader in the semiconductor industry, building a resilient and cutting-edge ecosystem.



Singapore PM Lawrence Wong visits India to strengthen ties :-

Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong is on a three-day visit to India, marking a milestone in the strategic partnership between the two nations. The visit includes high-level discussions with Indian leaders and the signing of agreements across finance, digital innovation, and more. This visit coincides with the 60th anniversary of India-Singapore diplomatic relations, underscoring the commitment to deepening ties. Both countries aim to enhance cooperation in key sectors, addressing contemporary challenges and building resilience.



PM Modi set to attend India Maritime Week in Mumbai

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in India Maritime Week 2025, delivering the keynote address at the Global Maritime CEO Forum. The event aims to showcase India's maritime strength, with participation from over 100 countries. Modi's presence underscores India's leadership in global maritime affairs, reflecting the country's commitment to becoming a trusted partner in the maritime industry. The event will highlight investment opportunities and advancements in maritime infrastructure and innovation.



Mauritius PM to Visit India to Enhance Strategic Partnership :-

Mauritius Prime Minister Navin Ramgoolam will undertake a state visit to India, marking his first overseas bilateral visit in his current term. Scheduled from September 9 to 16, the visit aims to bolster the 'Enhanced Strategic Partnership' between the two nations. PM Ramgoolam's itinerary includes meetings with President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with visits to Mumbai, Varanasi, Ayodhya, and Tirupati. This visit underscores the deep historical and cultural ties between India and Mauritius, highlighting their strategic importance in the Indian Ocean Region.



Pacific Islands Leaders Discuss Security and Climate Change :-

Leaders of Pacific Islands nations commenced a summit in the Solomon Islands, focusing on security and climate change. The 'Ocean of Peace' declaration aims to address rising US-China tensions and support Australia's bid to host the COP31 climate summit. The forum, excluding major donor partners due to regional diplomatic pressures, highlights the complex geopolitical landscape. Amidst these discussions, Australia seeks to fortify economic and security ties, underscoring the region's strategic importance and the collective effort to address climate challenges.



EAM Jaishankar Advocates Reforms at BRICS Summit :-

At the virtual BRICS Leaders' Summit, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar emphasized the need for stabilizing the global economy and reforming multilateral institutions. He highlighted the challenges posed by conflicts, climate crises, and economic volatility, particularly affecting the Global South. Jaishankar called for resilient supply chains, open trade, and democratized manufacturing. He also stressed the importance of addressing conflicts diplomatically and urged for climate action and justice.



Modi to Inaugurate Combined Commanders' Conference in Kolkata :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the Combined Commanders' Conference 2025 in Kolkata. The conference, themed 'Year of Reforms – Transforming for the Future,' will gather top civil and military leaders to discuss strategic reforms and operational preparedness. Key topics include institutional reforms, greater jointness, and technological modernization. Interactive sessions aim to incorporate grassroots perspectives into strategic planning, reinforcing the importance of inclusive engagement in shaping India's defense policies and military strategies.



PM Modi Discusses Strategic Partnership with Italian PM Giorgia Meloni :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Italian PM Giorgia Meloni reaffirmed their commitment to the India-Italy Strategic Partnership. During their conversation, they discussed regional and global issues, including the Ukraine conflict, and emphasized the importance of the AI Impact Summit. Modi thanked Meloni for Italy's support in concluding the India-EU trade agreement and promoting connectivity through the India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor.



PM Modi and Mauritius PM Ramgoolam Discuss Strategic Partnerships :-

Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Navinchandra Ramgoolam held talks in Varanasi to enhance the strategic partnership between India and Mauritius. Key agreements focus on infrastructure, healthcare, and maritime security. A special economic package supports projects like a new hospital and AYUSH Centre. The visit reinforces the civilisational ties and mutual aspirations of both nations, contributing to regional security and growth, particularly in the Indian Ocean Region.



India Launches SAJEX 2025 to Boost Jewellery Trade with Saudi Arabia :-

India has launched the Saudi Arabia Jewellery Exposition (SAJEX) 2025 in Jeddah to enhance trade ties with Saudi Arabia and the GCC. The event features over 200 exhibitors, showcasing India's expertise in diamonds and gold. With strong institutional backing, SAJEX aims to position Saudi Arabia as a regional hub in the global jewellery value chain. The expo underscores India's leadership in the gems and jewellery sector, strengthening bilateral economic partnerships.



Mangaluru to host Technovanza 2025 on Sept 24 under theme "Silicon Beach of India" :-

Mangaluru will host Technovanza 2025 on 24 September, celebrating the city's emerging reputation as the "Silicon Beach of India." The event will showcase innovations in information technology, startups, and research while also highlighting the coastal city's growing role in the digital economy. Industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and students are expected to participate in conferences, exhibitions, and workshops. Organisers hope that the event will position Mangaluru as a regional hub for technology and investment, bringing new opportunities for job creation and fostering collaboration between academia, industry, and government agencies.



India to Host 5th Coast Guard Global Summit in 2027 :-

India has been chosen to host the 5th Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS) in Chennai in 2027, coinciding with the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). The decision was unanimously made during the 4th CGGS in Rome, emphasizing the need for international maritime cooperation. The Chennai summit will include a fleet review and a seminar to address maritime challenges. The ICG aims to enhance interoperability and trust among global Coast Guards, reflecting India's growing role in international maritime security.



Union Minister Piyush Goyal to Attend UAE-India Investment Talks :-

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal is set to visit the UAE for high-level investment discussions, co-chairing the 13th meeting of the India-UAE Task Force on Investments. The agenda includes reviewing the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and exploring opportunities in maritime and space sectors. Goyal's visit underscores the strategic partnership between India and the UAE, which has seen significant growth in bilateral trade and investment.



Arab Nations Explore Formation of 'Arab NATO' for Regional Security :-

A recent summit in Qatar has reignited discussions among Arab and Muslim leaders about forming an 'Arab NATO'. The proposed military alliance aims to protect member countries from regional threats. The idea, supported by Egypt and Iran, emphasizes collective defense against aggression, akin to NATO's Article 5.

While the concept isn't new, recent events, such as Israeli airstrikes on Qatar, have intensified interest. The summit's outcome remains inconclusive, with leaders expressing unity but no binding commitments, leaving the proposal's future uncertain.



UN General Assembly Convenes Amid Global Conflicts :-

The 80th session of the UN General Assembly focuses on conflicts in Gaza and Ukraine. Key leaders, including Ukraine's President Zelensky, participate in discussions. France and Saudi Arabia push for Palestinian statehood, despite US opposition. The assembly highlights the critical need for international cooperation in addressing global crises, with India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar representing the country and engaging in strategic dialogues.



Nirmala Sitharaman to Inaugurate Kautilya Economic Conclave 2025 :-

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will inaugurate the Kautilya Economic Conclave 2025, focusing on 'Seeking Prosperity in Turbulent Times'. The event will gather global policymakers and economists to address contemporary economic challenges. Sessions will cover

AI, digital infrastructure, financial stability, and industrial policy. The conclave aims to blend India's growth aspirations with global perspectives, fostering solution-driven exchanges for economic prosperity.



Health Minister JP Nadda Inaugurates Global Food Regulators Summit :-

Union Health Minister JP Nadda inaugurated the Global Food Regulators Summit 2025, emphasizing the link between food, health, and well-being. Organized by FSSAI, the summit focuses on evolving food systems and food safety. Nadda highlighted the importance of reducing edible oil consumption and promoting healthy lifestyles. The summit features sessions on global regulatory harmonization and sustainable food systems, aiming to build safe and inclusive food systems worldwide.



World Food India 2025 Secures ₹1.02 Lakh Crore in Investment Commitments :-

The World Food India 2025 event concluded in New Delhi with investment commitments exceeding ₹1.02 lakh crore. Inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the summit featured global leaders and industry experts discussing the future of food processing. The event facilitated significant collaborations, including technology transfer and sustainable investments, reinforcing India's position as a global hub for food processing and innovation. This milestone is expected to drive growth and strengthen international partnerships in the sector.



Trump and Netanyahu Discuss Gaza Peace Proposal Amid Rising Tensions :-

U.S. President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu are set to discuss a Gaza peace proposal at the White House. The proposal aims to address the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas, with a focus on achieving a broader Middle East peace. The meeting comes as international pressure mounts for a resolution to the conflict, which has resulted in significant casualties and humanitarian challenges in Gaza. The outcome of these talks could have far-reaching implications for regional stability.

SECTION 2

Practice Questions with Answers



PRACTICE QUESTIONS

1) Which two countries recently elevated their partnership with a new Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation, focusing on defense, technology, and maritime security?

- A) India and South Korea
- B) India and Japan
- C) India and Australia
- D) India and France

2) Which mission will ISRO and JAXA jointly undertake to explore the Moon's south pole?

- A) Chandrayaan-4
- B) Mars Orbiter 2
- C) LUPEX (Chandrayaan-5)
- D) Astrosat-2

3) Which states emerged as top performers in the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2024?

- A) Kerala, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan
- B) Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Tripura
- C) Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Bihar, Gujarat
- D) Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Goa

4) Who was recently appointed as Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for India?

- A) Sanjay Malhotra
- B) Raghuram Rajan
- C) Urjit Patel
- D) Krishnamurthy V. Subramanian

5) Which states have led 2-wheeler electric vehicle (2W-EV) adoption due to offering financial subsidies?

- A) Northern and Eastern states
- B) Southern and Western states
- C) Central and Eastern states
- D) Northern and Central states

6) Which Indian warships, recently commissioned, underscore the Navy's commitment to self-reliance?

- A) INS Vikrant and INS Arihant
- B) INS Shivalik and INS Kamorta
- C) INS Himgiri and INS Udaygiri
- D) INS Viraat and INS Kavaratti

7) Which summit did PM Modi attend in China's Tianjin in August 2025?

- A) BRICS Summit
- B) G20 Summit
- C) SCO Summit
- D) East Asia Summit

8) What was a key outcome of PM Modi's Japan visit in August 2025 regarding human resource exchange?

- A) Establishment of a new embassy
- B) Action Plan for 5 lakh personnel exchange in five years
- C) Visa exemption for Indian tourists
- D) Launch of a new trade corridor

9) Which city will host the 19th edition of the Waves Film Bazaar, South Asia's premier film market, in November 2025?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Goa
- C) Bengaluru
- D) Kolkata

10) What is the main objective of the newly inaugurated National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (NCFL) in Assam?

- A) Promote digital literacy
- B) Counter cybercrime and border challenges
- C) Support e-commerce
- D) Train software developers

11) Which Indian cricketer recently received a letter of appreciation from PM Modi upon announcing his retirement from all forms of cricket?

- A) Ajinkya Rahane
- B) Cheteshwar Pujara
- C) Ravichandran Ashwin
- D) Shikhar Dhawan

12) What significant step did the Department of Posts take regarding postal services to the United States in August 2025?

- A) Reduced postage rates
- B) Launched a new express service
- C) Suspended all categories of mail
- D) Allowed duty-free shipments up to \$800

13) Who is fondly known as Bihar's 'Solar Didi' for transforming her village using solar-powered irrigation?

- A) Sunita Devi
- B) Devki
- C) Poonam Kumari
- D) Lalita Singh

14) Which significant diplomatic breakthrough occurred at the SCO Summit in Tianjin in August 2025?

- A) India and Pakistan signed a peace treaty
- B) India and China agreed on new patrolling protocols at the LAC
- C) BRICS announced a new currency
- D) India and Russia launched a joint space mission

15) Which Indian city was highlighted as a new hub for defence technology innovation with a state-of-the-art facility in August 2025?

- A) Hyderabad
- B) Bengaluru
- C) Noida
- D) Pune

16) Which Indian state recently declared the ongoing monsoon calamity as a 'state disaster' under the Disaster Management Act?

- A) Uttarakhand
- B) Assam
- C) Himachal Pradesh
- D) Kerala

17) What is the new accidental death insurance cover for Indian Railway employees with SBI salary accounts as per the latest MoU?

- A) ₹50 lakh
- B) ₹25 lakh
- C) ₹1 crore
- D) ₹10 lakh

18) Which technology is central to the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail project, as highlighted by recent India-Japan collaboration?

- A) Maglev trains
- B) E10 Shinkansen bullet trains
- C) Hyperloop pods
- D) Solar-powered trains

19) What is the key benefit of the Bihar Rajya Jeevika Nidhi Saakh Sahkari Sangh for women entrepreneurs in Bihar?

- A) Interest-free loans
- B) Access to international markets
- C) Larger loans at lower interest rates
- D) Free training programs

20) Which event Prime Minister Modi inaugurated in Delhi on September 2, 2025, to promote India's semiconductor ecosystem?

- A) Tech India Expo
- B) Semicon India 2025
- C) Digital India Week
- D) Nano Bharat Summit

21) Which country recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tata Electronics to strengthen India's semiconductor manufacturing ecosystem?

- A) Japan
- B) North Korea
- C) Germany
- D) South Korea

22) Who was recently appointed India's next Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates (UAE)?

- A) Sunjay Sudhir
- B) Randhir Jaiswal
- C) Deepak Mittal
- D) S. Jaishankar

23) Which Indian city hosted the pilot production of the first Made-in-India semiconductor chips presented to PM Modi in 2025?

- A) Bengaluru
- B) Dholera
- C) Mumbai
- D) Hyderabad

24) Who is the current Prime Minister of Singapore who arrived in India on a three-day official visit in September 2025?

- A) Lee Hsien Loong
- B) Lawrence Wong
- C) Tharman Shanmugaratnam
- D) Halimah Yacob



25) What is the primary focus of the Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) Order, 2025 notified by the Indian government?

- A) Strengthening border patrol
- B) Exempting specific categories from passport and visa rules
- C) Introducing new visa categories
- D) Increasing visa fees

26) Which major reform did the Indian government introduce to simplify the GST regime in September 2025?

- A) Reduced GST slabs to three rates
- B) Introduced only one GST rate
- C) Moved to a dual-rate structure of 5% and 18%
- D) Abolished GST for all consumer items

27) What key feature distinguishes the newly passed Income Tax Act, 2025 from previous tax laws in India?

- A) Increased tax rates for all slabs
- B) Introduction of 'Tax Year' replacing multiple terms
- C) Elimination of all digital asset taxation
- D) Abolishing faceless assessments

28) Which country was announced as the Partner Country for Gulfood 2026, strengthening its global agri-food leadership?

- A) Brazil
- B) India
- C) Australia
- D) United States

29) What initiative did the Indian Cabinet approve to increase recycling capacity for critical minerals?

- A) National E-Waste Disposal Policy
- B) ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme under NCMM
- C) Sustainable Mining Mission
- D) Critical Minerals Export Ban

30) According to recent research presented at the European Society of Cardiology Congress, which drug is now recommended over aspirin for preventing heart attacks and strokes in patients with coronary artery disease?

- A) Aspirin
- B) Warfarin
- C) Clopidogrel

D) Heparin

31) What is the new GST rate applicable to all varieties of popcorn according to the latest reforms?

- A) 0%
- B) 5%
- C) 12%
- D) 18%

32) Which sector is expected to benefit the most from the GST rate cuts on diesel engines, pumps, and aquaculture equipment?

- A) Textile
- B) Fisheries
- C) Aviation
- D) IT Services

33) Which major international fashion designer, known for revolutionising menswear, passed away at age 91 in September 2025?

- A) Donatella Versace
- B) Ralph Lauren
- C) Giorgio Armani
- D) Karl Lagerfeld

34) Which Indian state recently experienced severe floods affecting more than 1,600 villages and 1.75 lakh hectares of land?

- A) Bihar
- B) Punjab
- C) Assam
- D) Odisha

35) Which international event featured India's first-ever six women-led film delegation in 2025?

- A) Cannes Film Festival
- B) Berlin Film Festival
- C) Venice Film Festival
- D) Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF)

36) Which Indian state recently saw its Transport Minister become the first official owner of a Tesla Model Y, promoting electric vehicles?

- A) Karnataka
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Delhi
- D) Gujarat

37) In September 2025, which two countries held their 16th Defence Working Group meeting to enhance bilateral defense cooperation?

- A) India and France
- B) India and Russia
- C) India and Singapore
- D) India and Australia

38) Which sector is expected to benefit from GST reforms aiming for a \$350 billion market size by 2030 in India?

- A) Automobile
- B) Textiles
- C) Pharmaceuticals
- D) Information Technology

39) Which item has its GST reduced from 12-18% to 5% under the new GST reforms to boost rural livelihoods and traditional crafts?

- A) Mobile phones
- B) Handwoven carpets
- C) Automobiles
- D) Packaged snacks

40) What is a major benefit of the rationalized GST rates on dairy products, as approved in September 2025?

- A) Increased tax on milk producers
- B) Most dairy products now tax-exempt or at 5%
- C) GST raised to 12% on all dairy items
- D) Special GST rate for imported cheese

41) Which Indian port became the first to launch a port-based green hydrogen pilot project in September 2025?

- A) Kandla Port
- B) Mumbai Port
- C) V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port
- D) Paradip Port

42) In September 2025, which international event was deemed no longer a Public Health Emergency of International Concern by the WHO?

- A) COVID-19
- B) Ebola
- C) Mpox (Monkeypox)
- D) Polio

43) Which country's Prime Minister is scheduled to visit India in September 2025, reflecting strong maritime and cultural ties?

- A) Sri Lanka
- B) Mauritius
- C) Singapore
- D) Jamaica

44) What milestone did India achieve in the telecom sector in September 2025, as per IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw?

- A) World's first 6G network
- B) TEC certification for a telecom system using indigenous chips
- C) Launch of nationwide satellite internet
- D) First Indian quantum communication network

45) What did the Indian Air Force accomplish during humanitarian operations in J and Himachal Pradesh in September 2025?

- A) Rescued 540 people and airdropped food in disaster-affected areas
- B) Conducted airstrikes on terrorist camps
- C) Organized air shows for tourism promotion
- D) Supplied vaccines to remote villages

46) Who recently resigned as Japan's Prime Minister following back-to-back electoral defeats for the ruling party?

- A) Shinjiro Koizumi
- B) Sanae Takaichi
- C) Shigeru Ishiba
- D) Yoshihide Suga

47) What major disruption affected internet connectivity in Asia and the Middle East in September 2025?

- A) Cyberattack on data centers
- B) Satellite malfunction
- C) Undersea cable cuts in the Red Sea
- D) Power grid failure

48) Which country's Prime Minister visited Ayodhya Dham and became the first foreign head of government to pray at the Ram Janmabhoomi temple?

- A) Nepal
- B) Mauritius

- C) Bhutan
- D) Sri Lanka

49) Which country is set to host its first-ever T20I tri-series cricket tournament in November 2025?

- A) India
- B) Afghanistan
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Pakistan

50) Which Indian state's dams were placed on high alert due to heavy rainfall and high water levels in September 2025?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Assam
- C) Gujarat
- D) Kerala

51) Which Indian state was recently declared fully literate during International Literacy Day 2025 celebrations?

- A) Tripura
- B) Goa
- C) Himachal Pradesh
- D) Ladakh

52) What is the main objective of India's National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) launched in 2025?

- A) To promote organic farming
- B) To secure essential minerals for clean energy and manufacturing
- C) To boost textile exports
- D) To increase wheat production

53) Which Act, effective from April 1, 2026, replaces India's Income-tax Act of 1961 to simplify direct taxation?

- A) Direct Tax Code 2025
- B) Income Tax Simplification Act
- C) Income Tax Act, 2025
- D) Digital Taxation Act

54) As per the World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report 2025, what is India's current unemployment rate among G20 nations?

- A) 6%
- B) 4%
- C) 2%

- D) 8%

55) Which document has the Supreme Court recently allowed as the 12th proof of identity for voter list revision in Bihar?

- A) PAN Card
- B) Aadhaar Card
- C) Ration Card
- D) Driving Licence

56) Who was elected as the 15th Vice President of India in September 2025?

- A) Justice B Sudershan Reddy
- B) Jagdeep Dhankhar
- C) C.P. Radhakrishnan
- D) Ram Mohan Naidu

57) India showcased its rich handicrafts heritage in 2025 at which major international trade show?

- A) INDEX Saudi Arabia
- B) Dubai Expo
- C) Canton Fair
- D) Maison Objet Paris

58) Which Indian payment platform processed the highest number of UPI transactions in August 2025?

- A) Paytm
- B) Google Pay
- C) PhonePe
- D) CRED

59) Who is leading the Indian Army contingent for Exercise ZAPAD 2025 in Russia?

- A) Gorkha Regiment
- B) Sikh Regiment
- C) KUMAON Regiment
- D) Rajput Regiment

60) Which Indian app crossed 50 lakh downloads by August 2025 and is credited with combating telecom fraud?

- A) DigiLocker
- B) BHIM
- C) Sanchar Saathi
- D) mParivahan

61) Who recently inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for development projects worth around ₹66 crore in Sanand, Gujarat?

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Bhupendra Patel
- C) Amit Shah
- D) Nitin Gadkari

62) What is the focus of the technology transfer agreement recently signed between ISRO and HAL?

- A) Cryogenic engines
- B) Satellite navigation
- C) Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV)
- D) Human spaceflight

63) According to the DGHS directive, which professional group in India cannot use the 'Dr.' prefix?

- A) Dentists
- B) Physiotherapists
- C) Ayurveda practitioners
- D) Homoeopaths

64) Which two new species were discovered by Indian scientists in the Western Ghats, as reported in September 2025?

- A) Aspergillus niger and Aspergillus flavus
- B) Aspergillus dhakephalkarii and Aspergillus patriciawiltshireae
- C) Aspergillus oryzae and Aspergillus fumigatus
- D) Aspergillus japonicus and Aspergillus uvarum

65) Who inaugurated India's first overseas Atal Innovation Centre and where?

- A) Narendra Modi in Singapore
- B) Dharmendra Pradhan in Abu Dhabi
- C) S. Jaishankar in London
- D) Piyush Goyal in New York

66) Which country recently received a USD 680 million special economic package from India to support health, infrastructure, and maritime security?

- A) Bangladesh
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Mauritius
- D) Nepal

67) Who launched the Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP) at five more Indian airports in September 2025?

- A) Nirmala Sitharaman
- B) Amit Shah

- C) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- D) Dharmendra Pradhan

68) Which Indian state recently sent a special relief train to flood-affected Punjab and Chhattisgarh?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Gujarat
- C) West Bengal
- D) Karnataka

69) Who was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by US President Donald Trump in September 2025?

- A) John Coale
- B) Charlie Kirk
- C) Mike Lee
- D) JD Vance

70) What new educational initiative was launched by Dharmendra Pradhan in UAE CBSE schools on Teachers' Day 2025?

- A) Smart Classrooms
- B) Atal Tinkering Labs
- C) Digital India Curriculum
- D) Skill India Centres

71) Who was appointed as Nepal's first woman Prime Minister in September 2025 amid Gen Z-led protests?

- A) Bidya Devi Bhandari
- B) Sushila Karki
- C) KP Sharma Oli
- D) Pushpa Kamal Dahal

72) Which Indian state had projects worth over Rs 7,300 crore inaugurated by PM Modi in September 2025 to boost infrastructure and connectivity?

- A) Assam
- B) Nagaland
- C) Manipur
- D) Meghalaya

73) Which North-Eastern capital city was newly connected to the Indian railway network in September 2025?

- A) Agartala
- B) Imphal
- C) Aizawl
- D) Shillong

74) What is the theme for the 10th Ayurveda Day to be celebrated in Goa in 2025?

- A) Ayurveda for Modern Medicine
- B) Ayurveda and Global Wellness
- C) Ayurveda for People Planet
- D) Ayurveda: Ancient Roots, Modern Solutions

75) Which two countries are Partner Countries for World Food India 2025?

- A) USA and Japan
- B) New Zealand and Saudi Arabia
- C) Russia and Vietnam
- D) UAE and Singapore

76) What major energy project did Prime Minister Modi inaugurate in Assam in September 2025?

- A) Wind Power Plant
- B) Bioethanol Plant
- C) Hydroelectric Dam
- D) Solar Farm

77) Which recent reform did the Indian government implement to make small cars and two-wheelers more affordable?

- A) New emission norms
- B) GST rate reduction
- C) Subsidy on fuel
- D) Bank loan waivers

78) Minakshi and Jaismine Lamboriya won gold medals for India in which sports event in 2025?

- A) Wrestling World Championships
- B) ISSF Shooting World Cup
- C) World Boxing Championships
- D) Asian Games

79) Who will host the 5th Coast Guard Global Summit in 2027?

- A) Japan
- B) Italy
- C) India
- D) United Kingdom

80) Which Indian government campaign, starting September 17, 2025, focuses on women's health and wellness?

- A) Poshan Abhiyaan
- B) Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan

- C) Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
- D) Mission Indradhanush

81) Which major digital payment change was introduced by NPCI in September 2025 regarding UPI?

- A) Daily limit raised to ₹2 lakh for all users
- B) Per-transaction limit for P2M raised to ₹5 lakh
- C) Person-to-Person (P2P) limit increased to ₹5 lakh
- D) No limit on UPI transactions

82) Who was named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for August 2025?

- A) Matt Henry
- B) Jayden Seales
- C) Mohammed Siraj
- D) Jasprit Bumrah

83) What percentage of India's installed electricity capacity now comes from non-fossil fuel sources, as of September 2025?

- A) 30%
- B) 40%
- C) 50%
- D) 60%

84) Who assumed additional charge as the Governor of Maharashtra in September 2025?

- A) C.P. Radhakrishnan
- B) Nitish Kumar
- C) Acharya Devvrat
- D) Bhagat Singh Koshyari

85) What is the estimated economic impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on India by 2035, as per NITI Aayog?

- A) \$500 billion
- B) \$1 trillion
- C) \$2 trillion
- D) \$5 trillion

86) Which country did India recently surpass to become the world's third-largest automobile market?

- A) Germany
- B) United States
- C) Japan
- D) South Korea

87) With which international organization did India sign an MoU to enhance the global classification of occupations?

- A) World Bank
- B) ILO
- C) UNESCO
- D) IMF

88) Prime Minister Modi's recent conversation with Denmark's PM focused on which major partnership?

- A) Blue Economy Partnership
- B) Green Strategic Partnership
- C) Digital Health Alliance
- D) Defence Technology Initiative

89) Which Indian woman chess player defended her FIDE Women's Grand Swiss title in 2025?

- A) Koneru Humpy
- B) Divya Deshmukh
- C) Vaishali Rameshbabu
- D) Harika Dronavalli

90) Which initiative was launched by PM Modi in Madhya Pradesh to improve women and child health?

- A) Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana
- B) Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar
- C) Matru Vandana Abhiyan
- D) Poshan Shakti Kendra

91) Which major change will debut in the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections to enhance EVM ballot paper clarity?

- A) Use of biometric authentication
- B) Inclusion of QR codes
- C) Colour photographs of candidates
- D) Online voting option

92) What is the main objective of the Angikaar 2025 campaign under PMAY-Urban 2.0?

- A) Promote solar energy in rural India
- B) Accelerate urban housing delivery
- C) Develop urban transport systems
- D) Provide free health insurance

93) According to Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, with which country is India reviewing progress on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in September 2025?

- A) United States
- B) United Arab Emirates

- C) Australia
- D) Japan

94) What is the projected GDP growth rate for India in FY26 as per S&P Global's latest report?

- A) 4.5%
- B) 6.5%
- C) 7.8%
- D) 5.0%

95) Which major IT firm announced wage hikes for 80% of its workforce in 2025 amid AI-driven industry changes?

- A) Infosys
- B) Wipro
- C) Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
- D) HCL Technologies

96) Which Indian products recently saw a GST rate reduction to 5% as part of reforms aimed at boosting West Bengal's economy?

- A) Silk sarees and jute carpets
- B) Handmade paper and Mysore sandalwood
- C) Shantiniketan leather goods and Bankura terracotta
- D) Jaipur pottery and Banarasi silk

97) According to SEBI's latest order, what was the outcome of the investigation into the Adani Group regarding the Hindenburg case?

- A) Found guilty of market manipulation
- B) Fined for non-disclosure
- C) Cleared of all allegations
- D) Ordered to restructure debt

98) Which two countries have agreed to jointly develop infrastructure projects in third countries, as announced in Abu Dhabi in September 2025?

- A) India and Saudi Arabia
- B) India and the UAE
- C) India and Japan
- D) India and France

99) What recent reforms did the EPFO introduce to improve provident fund services for its members?

- A) Mandatory biometric verification
- B) Single-login access for all services
- C) Monthly interest payout
- D) Paper-based claim process

100) What is the estimated revenue growth rate for India's pharmaceutical industry in FY26, as per ICRA's latest outlook?

- A) 2-4%
- B) 5-6%
- C) 7-9%
- D) 10-12%

101) Which country recently upgraded India's sovereign credit rating to 'BBB+' (Stable) in September 2025?

- A) S&P Global
- B) Japan's R&I
- C) Moody's
- D) Morningstar DBRS

102) Who was recently re-elected to both the Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 2025?

- A) Indonesia
- B) India
- C) Brazil
- D) China

103) Which Indian city hosted the East Tech Symposium 2025, where CDS General Anil Chauhan emphasized AI's role in defence?

- A) Kolkata
- B) Delhi
- C) Ranchi
- D) Hyderabad

104) Which Indian organization swept the DUSU polls by winning the President, Secretary, and Joint Secretary posts in 2025?

- A) NSUI
- B) SFI
- C) ABVP
- D) AISA

105) Which Indian initiative, launched in 2018, aims to tackle malnutrition and celebrated its 8th edition in September 2025?

- A) PM Kisan
- B) Poshan Maah
- C) Skill India
- D) Swachh Bharat

106) Which country recently became the first to hold two exclusive contracts for exploring polymetallic sulphides (PMS) in the Indian Ocean's international seabed territory?

- A) China
- B) Brazil
- C) India
- D) Australia

107) What major development did Prime Minister Narendra Modi announce to revive India's maritime sector during the 'Samudra se Samridhi' event in Gujarat?

- A) Ban on foreign ships
- B) Recognition of large ships as infrastructure
- C) Privatization of all Indian ports
- D) Introduction of cruise-only ports

108) Brazil announced it will be the first to invest in which major global conservation fund?

- A) Green Climate Fund
- B) Amazon Protection Trust
- C) Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF)
- D) UN REDD Programme

109) Which country did Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh visit in September 2025 to inaugurate the first Indian defence manufacturing plant in Africa?

- A) Nigeria
- B) Morocco
- C) Kenya
- D) Egypt

110) What major change regarding H-1B visas was announced by the Trump administration in September 2025?

- A) Complete suspension of the program
- B) Lowering the annual cap
- C) Imposing a \$100,000 annual fee per visa
- D) Extending visa duration to 10 years

111) Who is set to become the next president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) as of September 2025?

- A) Jaydev Shah
- B) Rajeev Shukla
- C) Mithun Manhas

D) Raghuram Bhat

112) India's foreign exchange reserves recently crossed which landmark figure, according to RBI reports in September 2025?

- A) USD 600 billion
- B) USD 650 billion
- C) USD 700 billion
- D) USD 750 billion

113) Which major energy production target has India set for non-fossil capacity by the year 2030?

- A) 300 GW
- B) 400 GW
- C) 500 GW
- D) 600 GW

114) Which two Indian states did PM Modi visit on September 22, 2025, to launch key development projects?

- A) Gujarat and Maharashtra
- B) Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura
- C) Assam and Manipur
- D) West Bengal and Odisha

115) In September 2025, which two countries signed a landmark mutual defence pact with potential implications for India?

- A) Saudi Arabia and Iran
- B) Pakistan and China
- C) Saudi Arabia and Pakistan
- D) Iran and Turkey

116) What is the main objective of the GST Bachat Utsav, as highlighted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

- A) Increase import of foreign goods
- B) Encourage luxury spending
- C) Promote savings and Swadeshi products
- D) Raise tax rates on essentials

117) Which sector saw the highest individual growth among India's eight core industries in August 2025?

- A) Fertilizers
- B) Steel
- C) Crude Oil
- D) Natural Gas

118) Which Indian city recently hosted the unveiling of a global facility for advanced hair care and transplants?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Bengaluru
- C) Gurgaon
- D) Hyderabad

119) What is the main aim of the recently signed \$125 million ADB loan agreement for Assam?

- A) Expand rural highways
- B) Upgrade urban services and climate resilience
- C) Promote tea exports
- D) Fund new airports

120) Which event marks the first-ever display of Buddha's Holy Relics in Kalmykia, Russia?

- A) International Buddhist Forum 2025
- B) G20 Leaders' Summit
- C) BRICS Spiritual Meet
- D) Eurasian Cultural Festival

121) Which Indian state recently mourned the death of music legend Zubeen Garg, closing schools and colleges as a mark of respect?

- A) West Bengal
- B) Assam
- C) Kerala
- D) Odisha

122) As per the latest EPFO data for July 2025, which Indian state contributed the most to net payroll additions?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Karnataka
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Delhi

123) Which Indian scheme, recently completing seven years, is described as the world's largest health assurance initiative?

- A) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana
- B) Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY
- C) PM Kisan Samman Nidhi
- D) Atal Pension Yojana

124) Which nanomaterial, developed by Indian scientists, can stimulate neurons non-invasively for potential treatment of brain disorders?



- A) Graphene oxide
- B) Silicon carbide
- C) Graphitic carbon nitride (g-C₃N₄)
- D) Zinc oxide

125) Who was re-elected as President of the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) in September 2025?

- A) Snehasish Ganguly
- B) Jay Shah
- C) Sourav Ganguly
- D) Kapil Dev

126) Who was conferred the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2023 at the 71st National Film Awards?

- A) Amitabh Bachchan
- B) Rajinikanth
- C) Mohanlal
- D) Kamal Haasan

127) Which Indian minister launched the Solar PV training programme and released the updated solar potential report in September 2025?

- A) R. K. Singh
- B) Pralhad Joshi
- C) Piyush Goyal
- D) Bhupender Yadav

128) Which major international sports event is India hosting for the first time in September 2025?

- A) Asian Games
- B) World Para Athletics Championships
- C) Cricket World Cup
- D) Commonwealth Games

129) Which Indian defence manufacturer inaugurated a major facility in Morocco in September 2025?

- A) Bharat Electronics
- B) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- C) Tata Advanced Systems Limited
- D) Larsen & Toubro

130) Which ship, the second in the ASW-SWC series, is the Indian Navy set to commission on October 6, 2025?

- A) INS Kavaratti
- B) Androth
- C) INS Kamorta
- D) INS Shivalik

131) Which country recently announced a 39% year-on-year increase in smartphone exports for August 2025?

- A) China
- B) India
- C) Vietnam
- D) South Korea

132) Who became the first Indian to win a Senior medal at the Speed Skating World Championships 2025?

- A) Krish Sharma
- B) Anish Raj
- C) Anandkumar Velkumar
- D) Satya Kumar Yadav

133) What is the outlay of the recently approved package to boost India's shipbuilding and maritime sector?

- A) Rs. 24,736 crore
- B) Rs. 19,989 crore
- C) Rs. 69,725 crore
- D) Rs. 45,000 crore

134) Which global investment research firm recently upgraded Indian equities to 'overweight'?

- A) Morgan Stanley
- B) HSBC
- C) Goldman Sachs
- D) Barclays

135) Which Indian author, a recipient of Padma Bhushan, recently passed away at the age of 94?

- A) SL Bhyrappa
- B) U.R. Ananthamurthy
- C) C.N. Annadurai
- D) R.K. Narayan

136) What major initiative did the Indian government launch to prioritize water conservation in rural areas under MGNREGA?

- A) Jal Jeevan Abhiyan
- B) Mission Amrit Sarovar
- C) National Initiative on Water Security
- D) Namami Gange Programme

137) Which Indian athlete became the first male player from India to join Australia's Big Bash League (BBL) in 2025?

- A) Yuvraj Singh

- B) MS Dhoni
- C) Ravichandran Ashwin
- D) Virat Kohli

138) What is the main objective of Bihar's Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana launched on September 26, 2025?

- A) Provide free education to girls
- B) Promote women in politics
- C) Support women's self-employment
- D) Ensure free healthcare for women

139) Which Indian government initiative marked its 11th anniversary in September 2025, credited with boosting manufacturing and job creation?

- A) Skill India Mission
- B) Make in India
- C) Startup India
- D) Digital India

140) Which platform launched a Vigilance Awareness Week campaign to promote transparency in public procurement?

- A) eNAM
- B) GeM (Government e-Marketplace)
- C) UDAN
- D) BharatNet

141) What milestone did the Indian Air Force achieve on September 26, 2025, marking the end of an era in aviation history?

- A) Induction of Rafale jets
- B) Retirement of Jaguar
- C) Retirement of MiG-21
- D) Launch of Tejas Mk2

142) Which country recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with India to enhance cooperation in food safety?

- A) Russia
- B) Australia
- C) Japan
- D) United States

143) Who inaugurated the third Global Food Regulators Summit 2025, emphasizing the link between food and mental well-being?

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Sarbananda Sonowal
- C) JP Nadda
- D) Amit Shah

144) Which major telecom initiative is Prime Minister Modi set to launch, featuring nearly 98,000 new mobile towers nationwide?

- A) Digital India Express
- B) Swadeshi 4G Network
- C) BharatNet 2.0
- D) National Fiber Grid

145) Which Indian city recently hosted the 10th convocation ceremony of the Indian Maritime University, highlighting India's maritime achievements?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Kochi
- C) Chennai
- D) Visakhapatnam

146) Which Indian biosphere reserve was recently included in UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves in September 2025?

- A) Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve
- B) Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
- C) Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve
- D) Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve

147) With the addition of Gokul Jalashay and Udaipur Jheel in Bihar, what is the new total count of Ramsar sites in India as of September 2025?

- A) 81
- B) 93
- C) 100
- D) 87

148) Which country will host the World Seafood Congress for the first time in 2026?

- A) Malaysia
- B) India
- C) Australia
- D) Canada

149) In September 2025, the UN reimposed an arms embargo and sanctions on which country following accusations of violating a nuclear deal?

- A) North Korea

- B) Russia
- C) Iran
- D) Syria

- A) Amit Shah
- B) Nirmala Sitharaman
- C) Narendra Modi
- D) S. Jaishankar

150) Who will inaugurate the fourth edition of the Kautilya Economic Conclave (KEC 2025) in New Delhi?

ANSWERS

1) Correct Answer: B

India and Japan adopted a Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation. This agreement strengthens bilateral ties in defense, technology, and maritime security, reflecting their growing strategic role in the Indo-Pacific region. The pact highlights enhanced interoperability, military exercises, and technological collaboration. Such cooperation is central to regional peace and India's global security aspirations.

2) Correct Answer: C

ISRO and JAXA will collaborate on the Chandrayaan-5/LUPEX mission, announced in August 2025. The mission aims to study the moon's south pole, focusing on hidden resources like water ice. It marks a major milestone in India's lunar exploration. This partnership advances space science and cements India's role in international space cooperation.

3) Correct Answer: B

Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, and Tripura topped the SEEI 2024 released in August 2025. The index evaluates states on energy efficiency across sectors. Their leadership supports India's climate goals and energy transition. Recognizing such states helps promote best practices nationwide.

4) Correct Answer: C

Dr. Urjit Patel was appointed IMF Executive Director for India for three years in August 2025. Patel, a former RBI Governor, is renowned for his work on India's inflation-targeting framework. His appointment enhances India's voice in global financial governance. It reflects India's rising influence in international economic affairs.

5) Correct Answer: B

According to an RBI study in August 2025, Southern and Western states lead in 2W-EV adoption due to strong

financial assistance and supportive policies. These regions offer higher subsidies and better charging infrastructure. Such measures are crucial for India's EV and decarbonisation goals. Regional leadership accelerates national green mobility.

6) Correct Answer: C

INS Himgiri and INS Udaygiri, both equipped with advanced weaponry, were recently commissioned. These ships are symbols of India's domestic shipbuilding capabilities. Their induction demonstrates successful indigenisation in naval defence. Strengthening the Indian Navy boosts India's maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region.

7) Correct Answer: C

PM Modi attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Tianjin, China. India has been an SCO member since 2017 and held the presidency in 2022-23. The SCO Summit is crucial for regional security and cooperation. India's participation aids in strengthening ties with Eurasian countries.

8) Correct Answer: B

India and Japan agreed on an Action Plan for Human Resource Exchange, targeting over 500,000 personnel movement in five years. This initiative aims to deepen people-to-people, educational, and professional exchanges. It addresses Japan's skill needs and India's workforce potential. Such collaboration strengthens bilateral ties and economic growth.

9) Correct Answer: B

The 19th Waves Film Bazaar will be held in Goa from November 20-24, 2025. This event supports Indian and South Asian filmmakers and connects them with international industry professionals. The bazaar offers

cash grants for co-productions. It elevates India's role as a global content creation hub.

10) Correct Answer: B

The NCFL, inaugurated in Assam in August 2025, aims to counter cybercrime, narcotics trafficking, and border-related challenges. It serves all northeastern states and enhances police forensic capabilities. By supporting law enforcement, it strengthens regional and national security. This laboratory is vital for modern crime investigation.

11) Correct Answer: B

Cheteshwar Pujara announced his retirement on August 24, 2025. The context is PM Modi's letter recognizing Pujara's contributions to Indian cricket, especially in Tests. Pujara scored 7,195 Test runs and was crucial in India's historic 2018-19 series win in Australia. This highlights the government's support for sporting excellence and Indian cricket's global standing.

12) Correct Answer: C

The Department of Posts suspended all categories of mail to the USA on August 31, 2025. This was due to the US withdrawing the duty-free de minimis exemption, impacting postal logistics. The suspension affects Indian e-commerce exports and global postal regulations. Such developments influence trade and international business for India.

13) Correct Answer: B

Devki, from Muzaffarpur, Bihar, is known as 'Solar Didi.' She championed the use of solar pumps, enabling irrigation of over 40 acres and boosting farmers' incomes. Her initiative exemplifies grassroots innovation and supports India's push for renewable energy in rural development.

14) Correct Answer: B

India and China reached an agreement on patrolling protocols along the 3,500-km Line of Actual Control (LAC), easing a four-year border standoff. This diplomatic step was confirmed during the SCO Summit, marking progress in maintaining stability and peace in Asia.

15) Correct Answer: C

Noida emerged as a defence innovation hub after the inauguration of an advanced test facility by Defence

Minister Rajnath Singh. The facility supports indigenous development of drones and defence equipment, boosting India's technological prowess and self-reliance.

16) Correct Answer: C

Himachal Pradesh declared the current monsoon calamity a 'state disaster' under the Disaster Management Act in September 2025. The state has faced severe losses with over 326 deaths and damages exceeding ₹3,158 crore. This declaration activates additional relief measures and government support. It highlights the increasing impact of extreme weather on Indian states.

17) Correct Answer: C

The new MoU between Indian Railways and SBI, signed in September 2025, increases the accidental death insurance cover to ₹1 crore for railway employees with SBI salary accounts. This is a major enhancement from previous schemes. Nearly 7 lakh employees are set to benefit. It reflects a significant welfare measure for frontline government staff.

18) Correct Answer: B

The Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail project uses Japan's E10 Shinkansen bullet train technology. During PM Modi's Japan visit in August 2025, both countries agreed to collaborate on producing this advanced, earthquake-resistant train in India. The project will cut travel times and boost connectivity. It marks a milestone in India's infrastructure modernization.

19) Correct Answer: C

The Bihar Rajya Jeevika Nidhi Saakh Sahkari Sangh, launched in September 2025, provides larger loans at lower interest rates to women linked with Jeevika self-help groups. This reduces dependence on high-cost microfinance. The digital system ensures transparency and quick access. It empowers rural women and promotes economic inclusion.

20) Correct Answer: B

PM Modi inaugurated Semicon India 2025 in New Delhi on September 2. The flagship event aims to position India as a global semiconductor hub. It will feature industry leaders and focus on manufacturing, design, and

innovation. This is vital for India's technological self-reliance and economic growth.

21) Correct Answer: C

Merck, a leading German science and technology company, signed an MoU with Tata Electronics in September 2025. The partnership aims to advance India's semiconductor and electronics manufacturing capabilities. Merck will provide high-purity materials and technology for Tata's Fab in Dholera, Gujarat. This marks a major step for India's semiconductor mission and global value chain integration.

22) Correct Answer: C

Dr. Deepak Mittal, a 1998-batch IFS officer, was named India's next Ambassador to the UAE in September 2025. He previously served in the Prime Minister's Office and as Ambassador to Qatar. This appointment reflects the growing importance of India-UAE strategic relations, especially with over 3.5 million Indians in UAE.

23) Correct Answer: B

The first Made-in-India semiconductor chips were produced at the upcoming Fab in Dholera, Gujarat. The chips were presented to Prime Minister Modi during SEMICON India 2025. This achievement highlights India's rapid progress in semiconductor manufacturing and is crucial for its goal to become a global electronics hub.

24) Correct Answer: B

Lawrence Wong, Singapore's Prime Minister, made his first official visit to India in September 2025. The visit aimed to deepen bilateral cooperation across various sectors, marking 60 years of diplomatic relations. Singapore is a key partner in India's 'Act East' policy and strategic initiatives.

25) Correct Answer: B

The Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) Order, 2025 provides exemptions from passport, visa, and travel document requirements for certain groups like Indian armed forces on duty, citizens from Nepal and Bhutan, and persecuted minorities. This streamlines India's immigration regulations, supporting inclusivity and humanitarian commitments.

26) Correct Answer: C

On September 3, 2025, the government announced a dual-rate GST structure of 5% and 18%. This reform consolidated the existing four slabs, easing compliance. Daily essentials and some durables were moved to lower rates. The simplification is expected to boost affordability, consumption, and economic efficiency in India.

27) Correct Answer: B

The Income Tax Act, 2025, notified on September 3, 2025, introduces 'Tax Year' as a single concept. This replaces confusing terms like 'Assessment Year' and 'Previous Year.' The new Act emphasizes simplicity and clarity. Such reforms are expected to improve taxpayer compliance and reduce litigation in India.

28) Correct Answer: B

India was selected as the Partner Country for Gulfood 2026 on September 3, 2025. This recognizes India's growing role in global food security and agri-food exports. The partnership will give Indian exporters greater access to global markets. It reinforces India's reputation as a reliable international agri-food supplier.

29) Correct Answer: B

On September 3, 2025, the Cabinet approved a ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme under the National Critical Mineral Mission. The scheme aims to develop recycling capacity for extracting critical minerals from e-waste and batteries. It is projected to create 70,000 jobs and bolster India's supply chain resilience.

30) Correct Answer: C

Clopidogrel was found to be superior to aspirin for secondary prevention of heart attacks and strokes. The study, involving nearly 29,000 patients, showed a 14% lower risk of major events with clopidogrel. Side effects were similar between the drugs. This finding may influence global clinical guidelines, benefiting Indian patients.

31) Correct Answer: B

The GST Council has unified the tax rate on all popcorn to 5%. Previously, different types of popcorn attracted different rates. This uniformity ends confusion and legal disputes. The move simplifies taxation and benefits both consumers and businesses.

32) Correct Answer: B

GST on aquaculture inputs like diesel engines and pumps has been reduced to 5%. This will reduce operational costs for fish farmers. The fisheries sector, supporting over 3 crore livelihoods, gains a direct boost. It strengthens India's Blue Economy and export competitiveness.

33) Correct Answer: C

Giorgio Armani, the famed Italian designer, died in September 2025 at age 91. He was renowned for minimalist suits and transforming modern menswear. His brand became a global conglomerate over five decades. Armani's legacy influences fashion worldwide.

34) Correct Answer: B

Punjab suffered major floods in September 2025. Over 1,655 villages and 1.75 lakh hectares were affected, with Gurdaspur being the worst hit. The Union Agriculture Minister visited and assured central support. Floods have disrupted agriculture and livelihoods in the state.

35) Correct Answer: D

The Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2025 hosted India's first six women-led film delegation. The initiative was backed by the Ministry of Information Broadcasting. It spotlights Indian women filmmakers on a global stage. The move promotes gender equity and international collaboration.

36) Correct Answer: B

Maharashtra's Transport Minister Pratap Sarnaik became the first official Tesla Model Y owner in India in September 2025. His purchase coincided with the opening of Tesla's first showroom in Mumbai. This move aims to inspire EV adoption and reflects Maharashtra's commitment to sustainable transport. Promoting EVs is significant for India's climate goals and automotive industry.

37) Correct Answer: C

India and Singapore held the 16th Defence Working Group meeting in Singapore on September 4, 2025. The meeting reviewed progress in training, technology, and maritime security cooperation. Marking 60 years of diplomatic ties, this strengthens India's Act East policy and regional strategic engagement.

38) Correct Answer: B

The Indian textiles sector is projected to reach \$350 billion by 2030, aided by next-generation GST reforms. The reforms reduce costs, correct duty anomalies, and enhance global competitiveness. This supports employment and rural livelihoods, aligning with India's economic ambitions.

39) Correct Answer: B

GST on handwoven carpets and several handicraft items was reduced to 5% from higher rates. This benefits artisans and rural communities, supporting traditional Indian crafts and boosting exports from clusters like Bhadohi and Srinagar.

40) Correct Answer: B

Most dairy products are now either exempt from GST or taxed at 5%, effective September 22, 2025. This benefits rural farmers and consumers, reduces production costs, and enhances India's competitiveness as the world's largest milk producer.

41) Correct Answer: C

V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port in Tamil Nadu inaugurated the country's first port-based green hydrogen pilot project. The facility aims to power local infrastructure and EV charging. This milestone aligns with India's clean energy transition. It positions VOC Port as a key hub in green shipping and sustainability.

42) Correct Answer: C

The WHO announced that mpox (monkeypox) is no longer considered a global Public Health Emergency. This reflects a sustained decline in global cases and improved response capacity. The decision marks progress in international disease control. However, ongoing vigilance is required, especially in Africa.

43) Correct Answer: B

Mauritius Prime Minister Navin Ramgoolam will visit India from September 9 to 16, 2025. The visit strengthens the 'Enhanced Strategic Partnership' and underlines historical and cultural ties. Mauritius is a key maritime neighbor and partner in India's Vision MAHASAGAR. The visit will boost bilateral cooperation and regional security.

44) Correct Answer: B

A telecom system running on domestically manufactured chips received TEC certification. This marks India's progress in semiconductor self-reliance under 'Make in India.' Meeting TEC standards is crucial for quality and performance. The achievement enhances India's global standing in telecom technology.

45) Correct Answer: A

The IAF rescued 540 people in Himachal and airdropped 5.9 tonnes of food in Udhampur. The operation responded to landslides and floods. It showcased the IAF's disaster relief capabilities. Such actions are critical for saving lives during natural calamities in vulnerable regions.

46) Correct Answer: C

Shigeru Ishiba resigned as Japan's Prime Minister on September 8, 2025, after the Liberal Democratic Party suffered electoral setbacks. His resignation comes after just 11 months in office. The LDP-Komeito coalition lost its Upper House majority, prompting calls for accountability. This leadership change is significant amid Japan's ongoing economic and regional challenges.

47) Correct Answer: C

On September 7, 2025, undersea cable cuts in the Red Sea disrupted internet access across Asia and the Middle East. Vital cables like SMW4 and IMEWE were impacted, slowing services in countries including India. Such incidents highlight the fragility of global internet infrastructure and regional connectivity.

48) Correct Answer: C

Bhutan's Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay visited Ayodhya Dham on September 6, 2025, becoming the first foreign head of government to do so. His visit symbolizes growing India-Bhutan ties and international recognition of Ayodhya's cultural heritage.

49) Correct Answer: D

Pakistan will host its first T20I tri-series from November 17 to 29, 2025, with Sri Lanka and Afghanistan as participants. This event marks a milestone for Pakistan's cricket infrastructure and serves as preparation for the T20 World Cup.

50) Correct Answer: C

Gujarat had 123 of its dams on high alert due to heavy rainfall and high reservoir levels as of September 7, 2025. The IMD also warned fishermen to avoid the sea, highlighting the monsoon's impact on dam safety and disaster management.

51) Correct Answer: C

Himachal Pradesh was declared fully literate on International Literacy Day 2025. This achievement was announced by the Ministry of Education during a celebration in New Delhi. The state joined Tripura, Mizoram, Goa, and Ladakh in achieving full functional literacy. This milestone showcases India's progress towards universal literacy and highlights government initiatives like ULLAS in empowering citizens.

52) Correct Answer: B

The National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) aims to secure essential minerals needed for clean energy, advanced manufacturing, and defense technology. Launched in 2025, it focuses on domestic exploration, supply resilience, and recycling. This mission supports India's self-reliance in key sectors and aligns with Atmanirbhar Bharat ambitions.

53) Correct Answer: C

The Income Tax Act, 2025 replaces the Income-tax Act of 1961, effective April 1, 2026. This new legislation introduces simplicity, digital readiness, and a unified 'Tax Year' concept. It reflects India's move towards a transparent, efficient, and contemporary tax regime suitable for modern economic growth.

54) Correct Answer: C

India's unemployment rate is just 2%, the lowest among G20 countries, according to WEF's 2025 report. This figure was highlighted by Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya. It reflects robust job creation supported by various government schemes and India's rapid economic growth, strengthening India's position globally.

55) Correct Answer: B

The Supreme Court permitted Aadhaar to be used as the 12th identity document for Bihar voter list revisions. The order clarifies that Aadhaar can be submitted for voter inclusion but is not proof of citizenship. This move

simplifies voter registration and strengthens India's digital identification processes.

56) Correct Answer: C

C.P. Radhakrishnan was elected as the 15th Vice President of India on September 9, 2025. He defeated Justice B Sudershan Reddy, securing 452 first preference votes. Radhakrishnan brings decades of administrative and political experience, promising to strengthen constitutional values. This leadership change is significant for India's parliamentary democracy.

57) Correct Answer: A

India launched its pavilion at INDEX Saudi Arabia 2025 in Riyadh. The event, from September 9-11, highlighted India's handicrafts sector, which supports over 7 million artisans. This participation coincided with Saudi Arabia's Year of Handicrafts, boosting India's export potential and cultural diplomacy.

58) Correct Answer: C

PhonePe led UPI transaction volumes in August 2025, processing about 9.6 billion transactions. UPI crossed 20 billion transactions in a month for the first time, reflecting India's rapid digital payments adoption. PhonePe's dominance indicates strong fintech competition and market expansion.

59) Correct Answer: C

The KUMAON Regiment is leading the Indian Army team for Exercise ZAPAD 2025 in Russia. The exercise, held from September 10-16, aims to enhance multinational military cooperation. Such participation strengthens India's defense ties and operational readiness.

60) Correct Answer: C

Sanchar Saathi reached over 50 lakh downloads by August 2025. The app, launched by DoT, helps block lost or stolen phones and report telecom fraud. Its widespread adoption enhances digital security and user confidence in India's telecom sector.

61) Correct Answer: C

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for development projects in Sanand. This was done via video conferencing and is part of a major push for infrastructure and industrial growth under the Modi government. The projects address roads,

water, healthcare, and afforestation. This development is significant for Gujarat's economic transformation and for India's industrial ambitions.

62) Correct Answer: C

ISRO signed its 100th technology transfer agreement with HAL for SSLV production. The agreement enables HAL to independently manufacture Small Satellite Launch Vehicles. This supports India's commercial space ambitions and strengthens its space industry ecosystem, benefiting global small-satellite markets.

63) Correct Answer: B

The Directorate General of Health Services, in a letter dated September 9, 2025, clarified that physiotherapists cannot use the 'Dr.' prefix. The directive enforces the Indian Medical Degrees Act, 1916, and aims to prevent patient confusion and quackery. This maintains the integrity of medical titles in India.

64) Correct Answer: B

Researchers from the MACS-Agharkar Research Institute in Pune discovered *Aspergillus dhakephalkarii* and *Aspergillus patriciawiltshireae* in the Western Ghats. This was announced on September 10, 2025. These fungi add to the biodiversity of this hotspot and have significant biotechnological applications, highlighting India's scientific advances.

65) Correct Answer: B

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated India's first overseas Atal Innovation Centre at the IIT Delhi-Abu Dhabi campus. This initiative strengthens India-UAE educational ties and expands India's innovation ecosystem abroad, supporting bilateral cooperation in education and technology.

66) Correct Answer: C

India announced a USD 680 million special economic package for Mauritius on September 11, 2025. The package covers sectors like health, infrastructure, and maritime security. It includes projects such as hospitals, a veterinary school, and port redevelopment. This reflects India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy and strengthens bilateral ties with Mauritius.

67) Correct Answer: B

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the FTI-TTP at five additional airports on September 11, 2025. The programme aims to provide faster immigration clearance and enhance security. With this launch, FTI-TTP is now available at 13 airports across India. It demonstrates India's commitment to efficient border management and passenger convenience.

68) Correct Answer: B

Gujarat dispatched a special relief train to Punjab and Chhattisgarh on September 11, 2025. The aid included food, medicines, and essential supplies. This humanitarian gesture strengthens inter-state solidarity during natural calamities. Gujarat's response showcases effective disaster relief coordination in India.

69) Correct Answer: B

Charlie Kirk, a conservative activist, was posthumously named for the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Trump in September 2025. Kirk was killed in a shooting at Utah Valley University. The award is the highest civilian honor in the US. It underscores the impact of Kirk's activism on American youth.

70) Correct Answer: B

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) in UAE CBSE schools on Teachers' Day 2025. ATLs promote innovation, critical thinking, and problem-solving among students. This marks the extension of India's Atal Innovation Mission abroad. The initiative fosters global collaboration in education.

71) Correct Answer: B

Sushila Karki became Nepal's first woman Prime Minister on September 13, 2025. Her appointment followed the resignation of KP Sharma Oli amid violent Gen Z-led anti-graft protests. Karki, a former Chief Justice, was chosen as an interim consensus leader. This marks a historic milestone for gender representation and political transition in Nepal, with implications for regional stability and India-Nepal relations.

72) Correct Answer: C

Manipur saw the foundation for projects worth over Rs 7,300 crore laid by PM Modi in Churachandpur in September 2025. The projects aim to improve road, rail,

and air connectivity, as well as healthcare and socio-economic opportunities. This investment is part of a broader push for inclusive development in the Northeast, crucial for national integration and border security.

73) Correct Answer: C

Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram, was connected to the railway network with the inauguration of the Bairabi-Sairang rail line in September 2025. This ₹8,070 crore project features 45 tunnels and 143 bridges. The new connectivity is expected to boost trade, education, healthcare, and regional integration, reinforcing the government's Act East Policy.

74) Correct Answer: C

The 10th Ayurveda Day, to be held on September 23, 2025, in Goa, has the theme 'Ayurveda for People Planet'. The focus is on promoting Ayurveda as an integrative, sustainable healthcare system for human health and environmental well-being. This event supports India's global leadership in traditional medicine and health diplomacy.

75) Correct Answer: B

New Zealand and Saudi Arabia have been designated as Partner Countries for World Food India 2025, scheduled for September 25–28 in New Delhi. Their participation highlights strategic collaboration in food processing, technology, and trade, supporting India's aim to become a global food hub and enhance international partnerships.

76) Correct Answer: B

PM Modi inaugurated the Assam Bioethanol Plant in September 2025. The plant uses bamboo as feedstock, supporting green energy and benefiting tribal communities and bamboo farmers. This project is part of India's effort to boost renewable energy and reduce dependence on imported fuels. It highlights Assam's growing role in India's self-reliance journey.

77) Correct Answer: B

The government reduced GST on small cars and two-wheelers in September 2025. The GST on two-wheelers up to 350cc was cut from 28% to 18%, and on small cars to encourage mobility. This reform aims to benefit the

middle class, stimulate the auto sector, and improve affordability for millions of Indians.

78) Correct Answer: C

Minakshi and Jaismine Lamboriya secured gold medals for India at the 2025 World Boxing Championships held in Liverpool. Minakshi won in the 48kg category and Jaismine in the 57kg category. Their victories were lauded by PM Modi and are seen as inspiring achievements for Indian women athletes on the global stage.

79) Correct Answer: C

India will host the 5th Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS) in Chennai in 2027. The decision was made at the 4th CGGS in Rome. The Chennai summit will coincide with the Golden Jubilee of the Indian Coast Guard, providing a global platform for maritime cooperation and security discussions.

80) Correct Answer: B

The 'Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan' is a national women's health campaign beginning September 17, 2025. Led by the Ministry of Ayush and Health Ministry, it focuses on health promotion, screening, and awareness for women, including nutrition, lifestyle, and disease prevention, marking PM Modi's 75th birthday.

81) Correct Answer: B

From September 2025, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) increased the per-transaction cap for Person-to-Merchant (P2M) payments on UPI to ₹5 lakh. The daily aggregate limit was also enhanced to ₹10 lakh for verified merchants. This change is expected to promote seamless high-value digital payments, supporting India's digital economy growth.

82) Correct Answer: C

Indian fast bowler Mohammed Siraj won the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for August 2025. He earned this honor for his match-winning performance in the final Test against England at The Oval. Siraj took nine wickets in the match, helping India level the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy series. This recognition highlights his crucial role in Indian cricket.

83) Correct Answer: C

India has achieved 50% of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources, five years ahead of its target. This was confirmed by Union Minister Pralhad Joshi in September 2025. The milestone demonstrates India's commitment to renewable energy and climate goals. It positions India as a leader in sustainable development and climate action globally.

84) Correct Answer: C

Acharya Devvrat, the Governor of Gujarat, was sworn in as the additional Governor of Maharashtra on September 15, 2025. He succeeded C.P. Radhakrishnan, who resigned after becoming Vice President of India. Devvrat is an experienced administrator and educationist, known for promoting natural farming and social initiatives. His appointment ensures continuity in Maharashtra's governance.

85) Correct Answer: C

NITI Aayog estimates that AI could add nearly \$2 trillion to India's economy by 2035. This projection was highlighted at the launch of the 'AI for Viksit Bharat' roadmap. The adoption of AI across industries and R is expected to drive economic growth, create jobs, and help India achieve its aspirational GDP targets.

86) Correct Answer: C

India has overtaken Japan to become the world's third-largest automobile market as of September 2025. This development was highlighted by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari. India's rapid growth in exports, clean mobility, and infrastructure contributed to this milestone, signaling the nation's rising global manufacturing stature.

87) Correct Answer: B

India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in September 2025. The collaboration aims to develop the International Reference Classification of Occupations. This will improve global skill comparability and expand employment opportunities for Indian youth.

88) Correct Answer: B

The India–Denmark Green Strategic Partnership was reaffirmed during PM Modi's talk with Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen in September 2025. The

discussions included collaboration in sustainability, trade, and innovation. This partnership is vital for advancing green growth and clean technologies in both countries.

89) Correct Answer: C

Vaishali Rameshbabu retained her FIDE Women's Grand Swiss title in Samarkand, Uzbekistan in September 2025. She secured a spot in the 2026 Women's Candidates tournament. Her win marks a significant achievement for Indian women's chess and inspires young players nationwide.

90) Correct Answer: B

PM Modi launched the 'Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar' initiative in Madhya Pradesh in September 2025. The campaign focuses on preventive and curative health services for women and children. It is India's largest health outreach, aiming to enhance maternal and child health outcomes.

91) Correct Answer: C

The Election Commission announced EVM ballot papers will now feature colour photographs of candidates. This change debuts in Bihar's 2025 polls to aid easy identification. Larger serial numbers and standardized fonts also improve clarity. The move aims to boost transparency and voter convenience, especially for elderly and less literate voters.

92) Correct Answer: B

Angikaar 2025 is a nationwide outreach campaign under PMAY-Urban 2.0. Launched in September 2025, it seeks to fast-track application verification and completion of sanctioned urban homes. The campaign ensures eligible families receive permanent housing, supporting the government's 'Housing for All' goal in urban India.

93) Correct Answer: B

India and the UAE are reviewing CEPA progress during Piyush Goyal's visit on September 18–19, 2025. CEPA is described as India's fastest-growing FTA, significantly boosting exports. This bilateral partnership enhances trade, investments, and economic ties, highlighting the UAE's critical role in India's external trade landscape.

94) Correct Answer: B

S&P Global forecasts India's GDP growth at 6.5% for FY26. This projection highlights India's resilience amid global uncertainties. The strong growth is supported by reforms, infrastructure development, and increased global trade participation, maintaining India's position as the world's fastest-growing major economy.

95) Correct Answer: C

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) announced wage hikes for about 80% of its employees in August 2025. This comes amid sector restructuring and AI-driven changes. Despite automation pressures, TCS's move signals investment in talent, affirming India's IT sector's adaptability and continued global competitiveness.

96) Correct Answer: C

Recent GST reforms brought Shantiniketan leather goods and Bankura terracotta under the 5% slab. These changes, announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on September 18, 2025, are targeted at supporting Bengal's economy and artisans. Other products like Madhurkati matches and Darjeeling tea were also included. Such region-specific rate cuts can boost demand, promote local crafts, and create jobs.

97) Correct Answer: C

On September 18, 2025, SEBI cleared the Adani Group of all allegations in the Hindenburg case. The regulator found no violation of disclosure norms or fraudulent practices. The case, triggered by a 2023 US-based report, had led to significant market volatility. SEBI's decision provides regulatory clarity, stabilizing investor confidence in Indian capital markets.

98) Correct Answer: B

Union Minister Piyush Goyal announced on September 18, 2025, that India and the UAE will collaborate on infrastructure projects in third countries. This landmark decision leverages India's technical expertise and the UAE's investment strength. Such partnerships deepen economic ties and can boost India's role in global infrastructure development.

99) Correct Answer: B

EPFO launched reforms enabling all key services through a single login portal. Features like Passbook Lite and online Annexure K downloads were introduced. These

steps aim to enhance user experience, reduce grievances, and improve transparency for over 6 crore Indian employees.

100) Correct Answer: C

ICRA projects a 7-9% revenue growth for the Indian pharma sector in FY26, announced on September 18, 2025. The growth is driven by domestic and European markets, despite US challenges. This robust outlook reinforces the sector's resilience and its importance to India's economy and healthcare exports.

101) Correct Answer: B

Japan-based Rating and Investment Information, Inc. (R&I) upgraded India's rating to 'BBB+' in September 2025. This upgrade follows similar positive moves by other agencies, reflecting India's robust macroeconomic fundamentals. R&I cited strong domestic demand, fiscal consolidation, and external stability as reasons. The upgrade strengthens India's global credit profile and boosts investor confidence.

102) Correct Answer: B

India was re-elected to the Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC) of the UPU in September 2025. This highlights international trust in India's leadership in postal reforms and digital transformation. India has been a UPU member since 1876 and has contributed to global postal modernization. The re-election reinforces India's role in shaping the global postal sector.

103) Correct Answer: C

The East Tech Symposium 2025 was held in Ranchi, Jharkhand. CDS General Anil Chauhan highlighted the importance of AI and innovation for future warfare at this event. The symposium fosters collaboration between defence, industry, and academia for technological advancement. This underlines India's focus on defence modernization and self-reliance.

104) Correct Answer: C

The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) won the President, Secretary, and Joint Secretary posts in the 2025 Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) elections. This victory reflects ABVP's influence in student politics. Over 1.55 lakh students voted, with a focus on issues like

hostel shortage and campus safety. ABVP's win signifies shifting student political dynamics.

105) Correct Answer: B

Rashtriya Poshan Maah, launched in 2018, observed its 8th edition in September 2025. The campaign integrates nutrition, health, and education to combat malnutrition. It leverages technology, community engagement, and policy convergence for better outcomes. Poshan Maah aligns with India's goal of improving national health and human development.

106) Correct Answer: C

India secured a 15-year contract with the International Seabed Authority in September 2025 for PMS exploration in the Carlsberg Ridge. This makes India the only ISA member state with two such contracts, consolidating its leadership in deep-sea resource exploration and boosting its Blue Economy ambitions—a significant milestone for India's maritime strategy.

107) Correct Answer: B

PM Modi declared that large ships would be recognized as infrastructure during the event on September 20, 2025. This reform aims to ease financing for shipbuilding, reduce foreign dependence, and strengthen India's competitiveness—vital for India's vision of self-reliance and global maritime leadership.

108) Correct Answer: C

Brazil will invest in the Tropical Forests Forever Facility, a \$125 billion multilateral fund for forest conservation, as announced in September 2025. This move sets a benchmark for both developed and developing nations, aiming to unlock large-scale climate finance and promote global forest protection efforts.

109) Correct Answer: B

Rajnath Singh visited Morocco (September 22–23, 2025) to inaugurate Tata Advanced Systems Maroc's facility, marking India's first defence plant in Africa. This enhances bilateral strategic ties and supports the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiative in the defence sector.

110) Correct Answer: C

The Trump administration announced a \$100,000 fee per year for each H-1B visa, targeting tech workers (mainly from India). This is expected to impact global talent

mobility and the U.S. tech sector, with significant implications for Indian professionals.

111) Correct Answer: C

Mithun Manhas is the only nominee for BCCI president as of September 21, 2025. Manhas, a former Delhi captain, has a strong background in cricket administration and coaching. His appointment is expected to be formalised at the AGM on September 28. This leadership change is significant for Indian cricket governance.

112) Correct Answer: C

India's forex reserves surpassed USD 700 billion in the week ending September 12, 2025. The reserves, managed by RBI, are now enough to cover 11 months of imports. This marks the third straight weekly rise and highlights India's economic resilience. Robust reserves are vital for currency stability and global investor confidence.

113) Correct Answer: C

India targets 500 GW of non-fossil energy capacity by 2030, as stated by Union Minister Hardeep Puri in September 2025. This includes renewables like solar and wind. The goal aligns with India's push for energy security and climate commitments. Achieving this will make India a global leader in green energy.

114) Correct Answer: B

On September 22, 2025, PM Modi visited Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura. He inaugurated hydropower and infrastructure projects worth over Rs 5,100 crore. These initiatives focus on sustainable energy, tourism, and regional development. Such projects boost connectivity and socio-economic growth in Northeast India.

115) Correct Answer: C

Saudi Arabia and Pakistan signed a Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement in Riyadh on September 17, 2025. The pact commits each nation to defend the other in case of external aggression. It formalizes longstanding military cooperation between the two Islamic countries. India is monitoring its implications for regional security.

116) Correct Answer: C

GST Bachat Utsav, launched in September 2025, aims to increase household savings and support Indian-made

(Swadeshi) products. PM Modi emphasized reduced household expenses and promoted self-reliance. The initiative links tax reforms to economic growth and local manufacturing. It signifies the government's push for Atmanirbhar Bharat.

117) Correct Answer: B

Steel production surged by 14.2% in August 2025, leading core sector growth. This was driven by demand from infrastructure projects. The Index of Core Industries hit a 13-month high growth rate. Strong steel output signals revival in industrial and construction activity in India.

118) Correct Answer: C

Eugenix Hair Sciences unveiled its Global Facility in Gurgaon in September 2025. This center reflects India's leadership in modern hair transplant technology. The Gurgaon facility serves both domestic and international patients. It underscores India's growing reputation in medical innovation and health tourism.

119) Correct Answer: B

India and ADB signed a \$125 million loan in September 2025 to enhance urban livability and climate resilience in Assam. The project targets water supply, stormwater management, and improved urban governance. Investments include new water plants and drainage upgrades. It benefits 3.6 lakh urban residents and builds sustainable cities.

120) Correct Answer: A

India will display Buddha's Holy Relics at the 3rd International Buddhist Forum in Kalmykia, Russia, from September 24–28, 2025. This is the first such exposition in Europe's only Buddhist republic. The event strengthens spiritual ties and India's global soft power. It showcases India's Buddhist heritage internationally.

121) Correct Answer: B

Assam bid farewell to Zubeen Garg on September 23, 2025. The state closed schools and colleges, highlighting Garg's immense cultural influence. Garg's funeral drew thousands and was attended by top leaders. His legacy is significant for Assamese and Indian music.

122) Correct Answer: C

Maharashtra accounted for 20.47% of net payroll additions in July 2025. EPFO's growth highlights

employment and social security awareness. The state, along with others, drives over 60% of new enrollments, reflecting economic vibrancy and migration trends.

123) Correct Answer: B

Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY completed seven years in 2025. It offers financial protection and cashless healthcare to over 55 crore citizens. The scheme has reduced out-of-pocket expenses and is pivotal for India's universal health coverage goals.

124) Correct Answer: C

Graphitic carbon nitride (g-C₃N₄) interacts directly with neurons, as developed by Indian researchers. It encourages neuron growth and may treat neurodegenerative diseases without surgery. This breakthrough marks a new direction in neuroscience for India and globally.

125) Correct Answer: C

Sourav Ganguly was re-elected unopposed as CAB President in 2025. The former Indian captain previously held the post and also served as BCCI President. His leadership is key for Bengal and Indian cricket's future growth.

126) Correct Answer: C

Mohanlal received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award at the 71st National Film Awards on September 23, 2025. The President lauded his versatility and extraordinary contribution to Indian cinema. The award is the highest recognition in Indian film. This highlights the growing national and global stature of Indian artists.

127) Correct Answer: B

Pralhad Joshi, Minister of New Renewable Energy, launched the training and report on September 23, 2025. The programme aims to boost skilled manpower for India's solar sector. The updated report maps a feasible 3,343 GWp solar PV potential. This supports India's clean energy and net-zero commitments.

128) Correct Answer: B

India is hosting the World Para Athletics Championships for the first time, opening on September 25, 2025. Over 100 nations and 73 Indian para-athletes will participate. This highlights India's growing role as a destination for

global sporting events. It promotes inclusivity and international sports collaboration.

129) Correct Answer: C

Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) inaugurated a defence plant in Morocco on September 23, 2025. The facility produces the indigenously developed WhAP 8x8 vehicle. This marks the first such Indian defence plant in Africa. It strengthens India-Morocco ties and supports 'Make in India' globally.

130) Correct Answer: B

The Indian Navy will commission 'Androth', its second Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft, on October 6, 2025. Built with over 80% indigenous components, it boosts India's maritime self-reliance. The vessel enhances anti-submarine and coastal defence capabilities. This aligns with Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence.

131) Correct Answer: B

India's smartphone exports in August 2025 grew by 39% over the previous year. This was confirmed by the India Cellular Electronics Association, countering claims of a decline. The increase is attributed to growing exports to the US, which surged 148% in August. This highlights India's rising role as a global electronics manufacturing hub.

132) Correct Answer: C

Anandkumar Velkumar made history by winning India's first-ever Senior medal at the 73rd Inline Speed Skating World Championships 2025. He clinched two Golds and a Bronze, marking a milestone for Indian skating. The event was held in Beidaihe, China, from September 13–21. This achievement boosts India's standing in global sports.

133) Correct Answer: C

The Union Cabinet approved a comprehensive Rs. 69,725 crore package for shipbuilding and maritime sector. This includes financing, infrastructure, and policy reforms. The package aims to create jobs and expand domestic capacity. Strengthening the maritime sector supports trade, employment, and India's status as a leading maritime nation.

134) Correct Answer: B

HSBC Global Investment Research upgraded Indian equities to 'overweight' from 'neutral' on September 24, 2025. They cited strong domestic investor activity and supportive policies. Despite foreign outflows, Indian markets have outperformed peers. The upgrade signals growing international confidence in India's economic fundamentals.

135) Correct Answer: A

SL Bhyrappa, an eminent Kannada novelist and Padma Bhushan awardee, died at 94 in Bengaluru. He was known for works such as 'Parva' and 'Uttarakanda'. His novels have shaped Indian and Kannada literature. His passing is a significant loss to the literary world.

136) Correct Answer: C

The National Initiative on Water Security was launched on September 25, 2025. It mandates prioritizing water-related works under MGNREGA, with up to 65% funds allocated in water-stressed areas. This marks a shift towards preventive water management and is significant for India's long-term water security.

137) Correct Answer: C

Ravichandran Ashwin joined Sydney Thunder, making history as the first Indian male player in the BBL. This followed his retirement from international cricket and IPL, which previously restricted such participation. Ashwin's move is a milestone in Indian cricket, reflecting changing policies on global league participation.

138) Correct Answer: C

The scheme aims to empower women by giving seed capital for self-employment. PM Modi directly transferred ₹10,000 each to 75 lakh women. The initiative promotes economic self-reliance and entrepreneurship among women, marking a significant step in Bihar's women empowerment efforts.

139) Correct Answer: B

Make in India celebrated its 11th anniversary on September 25, 2025. Launched in 2014, it has spurred manufacturing, attracted FDI, and contributed to job creation. The initiative is central to India's economic growth and global manufacturing competitiveness.

140) Correct Answer: B

GeM launched the "GeM Ki Sunien, Satark Rahein, Zimmedar Banein" campaign during Vigilance Awareness Week 2025. The initiative promotes integrity and transparency in procurement, empowering startups, MSEs, and women entrepreneurs. GeM plays a vital role in inclusive growth and ethical governance.

141) Correct Answer: C

The Indian Air Force retired the MiG-21 fighter jet on September 26, 2025. The MiG-21 served for 63 years and played a vital role in wars and national defense. Its retirement closes a legendary chapter in Indian aviation. The event underscores India's evolving air power and modernization efforts.

142) Correct Answer: B

India and Australia signed a MoU on food safety in September 2025. This agreement focuses on knowledge sharing and regulatory alignment. It aims to boost consumer safety and smoothen trade between the two countries. The collaboration elevates food safety standards and strengthens bilateral ties.

143) Correct Answer: C

Union Health Minister JP Nadda inaugurated the third Global Food Regulators Summit 2025. The summit focused on the theme 'Evolving Food Systems – Yatha Annam Tatha Manah.' Nadda highlighted the role of food in physical and mental health. This underscores India's commitment to public health and food safety.

144) Correct Answer: B

Prime Minister Modi will launch the Swadeshi 4G network and install 98,000 mobile towers. This initiative, announced on September 27, 2025, ensures connectivity in remote areas. The network is 5G-ready, promoting digital inclusion. It strengthens India's telecom manufacturing and technological self-reliance.

145) Correct Answer: C

Chennai hosted the 10th convocation of the Indian Maritime University in September 2025. Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal praised India's maritime sector at the event. He noted India's ranking among the top three global suppliers of seafarers. The occasion underscores India's growing maritime strength and job creation.

146) Correct Answer: C

India's Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve in Himachal Pradesh joined UNESCO's World Network on September 27, 2025. This inclusion marks India's 13th entry in the prestigious global network. The Cold Desert area is vital for biodiversity and sustainable development. Its recognition strengthens India's global leadership in ecosystem conservation.

147) Correct Answer: B

India's tally of Ramsar sites rose to 93 in September 2025 with the inclusion of Gokul Jalashay and Udaipur Jheel in Bihar. Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance. This increase highlights India's commitment to wetland conservation and biodiversity. Such recognition boosts India's ecological standing globally.

148) Correct Answer: B

India will host the World Seafood Congress (WSC) 2026 in Chennai, as announced in September 2025. This is the first time WSC will be held in India. The event

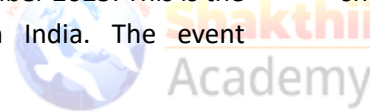
underscores India's growing role in global seafood trade and sustainable practices. It is significant for showcasing India's fisheries sector internationally.

149) Correct Answer: C

The UN reinstated arms embargoes and sanctions on Iran in September 2025. This action followed European accusations that Iran violated the 2015 nuclear deal. The move increases tensions in the Middle East and impacts global security. For India, this has implications on energy security and diplomatic relations.

150) Correct Answer: B

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will inaugurate Kautilya Economic Conclave 2025 on October 3 in New Delhi. The event gathers global economists and policymakers. It focuses on economic challenges and India's growth amidst global turbulence. Such forums shape India's economic policy and global engagement.



SECTION 3

Detailed Analysis of Important Events



Economics

GST Council approves two-rate tax slab effective September 22



Why in the News?

In its 56th meeting, the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council approved a two-rate structure with special category rates, effective 22 September 2025.

What is GST?

- Overview: A thorough, multi-phase indirect tax on products and services that is dependent on destination.
- Launch: Through the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act of 2016, it was introduced on July 1, 2017.
- "One Nation, One Tax" aims to lower cascading taxes, streamline compliance, and broaden the base.
- Prior to Structure: Initially, there are five slabs (0, 5, 12, 18, 28%) plus a luxury/sin goods cess.
- Exemptions: Essential goods including food, medicine, and education are exempt from GST, as are gasoline, alcohol, and electricity.

About GST Council:

- Constitutional Basis: Established by the Constitution (One Hundred and First

Amendment) Act, 2016 by the insertion of Article 279A.

- The Union Finance Minister is the chair, and all state finance and taxes ministers are also present.
- 75% weighted votes are needed for decisions; the center has a one-third weight and the states have a two-thirds weight.
- Meetings: Quarterly; to date, there have been over 55 meetings.
- It is a crucial fiscal federal organization that sets rates, exemptions, compliance, and dispute settlement.

New GST Rate Structure:



- Simplification: At the 56th GST Council meeting (Sept 2025), slabs reduced to two rates plus a special rate.
- Main Slabs: 5% and 18% apply on most goods and services.
- Special 40% Rate: Levied on sin goods (tobacco, pan masala, aerated drinks) and super-luxury items (large cars, yachts, private aircraft).
- Rate Reductions:
 - Daily-use items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, bicycles, kitchenware) now at 5%.
 - Cement down from 28% to 18%.

- Small cars, motorcycles <350cc, ACs, TVs, dishwashers shifted to 18%.
- Food staples (milk, paneer, rotis, chapatis, parathas) at 0%.
- Life-saving drugs, spectacles corrected to 0–5%.
- Inverted Duty Fix: Man-made fibre, yarn, fertilizers, acids, ammonia cut to 5%.
- Revenue Impact: Estimated loss of ₹48,000 crore, expected to be offset by higher compliance and buoyancy.

- Alignment of Policy: Associated with Digital India, Vocal for Local, Start-Up India, and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Key Features:

- Products that are targeted include processed foods, AYUSH products, organic foods, superfoods, GI-tagged goods, and goods derived from cattle.
- IoT-based cold chains, blockchain-enabled traceability, AI-based quality management, and agri-fintech solutions are examples of technology integration.
- The Acceleration Model is a three-month program designed to increase export readiness while guaranteeing adherence to global food safety and quality standards.
- Partnership Ecosystem: Working together with universities, industry associations, accelerators, state boards, IITs, and NITs.
- Scalability: Made to grow yearly, progressively expanding the number of startups it supports.

BHARATI Initiative



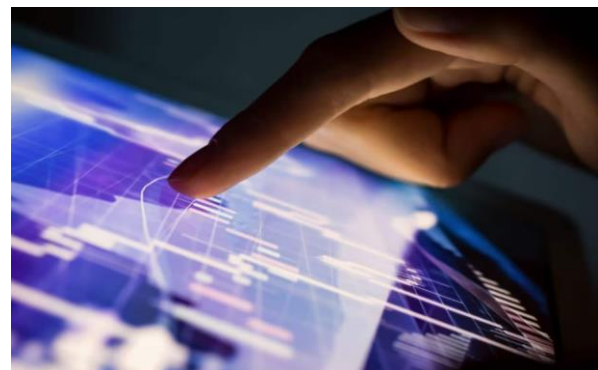
Why in the News?

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has launched the BHARATI initiative — Bharat's Hub for Agri-tech, Resilience, Advancement and Incubation for Export Enablement.

About BHARATI Initiative:

- Started in September 2025 by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, or APEDA.
- The goal is to empower and nurture 100 agri-tech and agri-food entrepreneurs so they are prepared for export.
- Goal: Assist APEDA in realizing its goal of exporting agri-food worth US\$50 billion (₹4.4 lakh crore) by 2030.
- Focus Areas: Innovation, incubation, export facilitation, and tackling issues such as sustainability, logistics, perishability, and quality compliance.

Launch of Bima Sugam Portal



Why in the News?

Bima Sugam, envisioned as the world's largest online marketplace for insurance, was officially launched by the Bima Sugam India Federation (BSIF) at the IRDAI headquarters in Hyderabad.

What is Bima Sugam?

- Overview: The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) launched the largest unified digital marketplace for insurance goods and services in the world.

- Coverage: Contains business, property, travel, health, life, and agricultural insurance.
- Function: Provides a uniform infrastructure for insurance purchase, renewal, management, and claims, much like the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- Stakeholders: Provides a unified platform for customers, banks, brokers, agents, intermediaries, and insurers.
- Governance: Run by the Bima Sugam India Federation (BSIF), with insurance companies contributing stock.
- Policy Objective: Contributes to India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and supports the country's 2047 Insurance for All vision.
- **Working:** The simplified way for a user on the platform would be as follows:
 - Registration: A valid ID or an Aadhaar-based KYC can be used to register.
 - Creation of an e-Bima Account: An integrated, safe insurance repository has been established.
 - Policy comparison and search: All registered insurance providers' products are provided with standardized data to make comparisons simple.
 - Purchase: Policies are available for digital purchase with safe payment methods and quick e-documentation.
 - Service: Policyholders can get real-time support and renew, update, port, or cancel their policies.
 - Claims: TPAs and insurance companies will use backend access to expedite verification and settlement; users can submit claims and monitor the process.

Key Features:

- Phased Rollout: Starts as a resource for advice and information, then progressively opens up full transactions.

- Low-Cost Model: Unlike private aggregators that depend on large commissions, this model has minimal user fees.
- Centralized database: Facilitates speedier product acceptance, policy comparison, and customer question resolution.
- Safe Digital storing: Offers strong security and compliance criteria for safe policy storing.
- All insurers are required to be participants of the inclusive ecosystem, which guarantees openness and equitable access.

Centre to simplify Quality Control Order (QCO) framework



Why in the News?

A NITI Aayog panel has proposed easing India's Quality Control Orders (QCOs) by simplifying certification, assessments, and inspections to support MSMEs amid domestic and global criticism.

About Quality Control Orders (QCOs):

- Overview: QCOs enforce Indian Standards for certain public-interest products (health, environment, security, fair trade) under the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Act, 2016.
- Mandatory versus voluntary: Under QCOs, manufacturers and importers are required to get a BIS license or Certificate of Conformity prior to production, imports, or sales, however BIS certification is typically optional.
- Standard Mark: To denote conformance, products under QCOs bear the ISI mark (or Hallmark for jewelry).

- Legal Support: BIS (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018 govern this; infractions are subject to fines or jail time.
- Through the Foreign Manufacturers Certification Scheme (FMCS), imports are equally applicable to foreign manufacturers.
- Coverage: Out of about 23,000 BIS standards, there are only 187 QCOs that cover 770 products; in the last three years, 84 QCOs covering 343 products have been produced.
- For instance, compressor and air conditioner QCOs (2023) increased compressor production from less than 2 million units (2021–2022) to 8 million units (2023–24); ACs' output increased to more than 12 million units.

Challenges Related to QCOs:

- High Costs: MSMEs are burdened by the inspections, paperwork, and assessments required for certification.
- Non-Tariff Barrier Issues: India's QCOs are said to surpass international standards by the US, EU, UK, and NZ. Even for chemicals, USTR (2025) identified BIS markings, necessitating site visits.
- Industry Pushback: Imports of less expensive raw materials and components are limited because MSMEs are afraid of inflationary costs.
- Limited Enforcement: Out of 23,000 standards, primarily related to steel, electronics, and chemicals, only 187 have been notified.

- Implementation Delays: Production and supply chains are disrupted by procedures, and license approvals take a while.
- Some MSMEs profit (for example, Birla Aircon's turnover increased from ₹7 crore to ₹42 crore following QCO on water coolers), while others refer to it as "malign intervention" (NITI Aayog VC Suman Berry).

Steps Taken by Government:

- **Digitisation:** Simplified certification covering 750+ products; licences granted in 30 days.
- **MSME Outreach:**
 - Jan Sunwai: Online open-house thrice weekly.
 - Manak Manthan: BIS field initiative for MSME support.
 - Regional Conferences: Led by Department of Consumer Affairs to resolve issues.
- Capacity Building: Of 50,753 BIS certifications, ~40,000 (~80%) issued to MSMEs; 24,625 voluntarily obtained for credibility/exports.
- Trade Readiness: Govt projects QCOs as tools to raise quality and global competitiveness.
- WTO Consistency: Justified if linked to health, safety, environment, deceptive trade, or security, in line with WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement.

Environment & Diversity

Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdictions (BBNJ) Agreement



Why in the News?

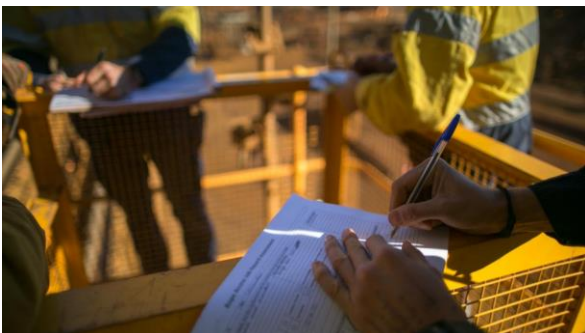
The Ministry of Earth Sciences has formed a 12-member committee led by SC lawyer Sanjay Upadhyay to draft a new national law safeguarding India's maritime and economic interests under the 2023 High Seas Treaty (BBNJ Agreement).

About the BBNJ (High Seas Treaty) Agreement:

- Overview: International treaty under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), focusing on biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (high seas).

- Objective: Conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in international waters (covering ~64% of the world's oceans).
- **Scope of Provisions:**
 - Establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in high seas.
 - Regulation of seabed mining and extractive activities.
 - Fair and equitable sharing of benefits from marine genetic resources.
 - Mandatory environmental impact assessments (EIAs) before major projects.
 - Use of both scientific and traditional knowledge, guided by the precautionary principle.
- **Relation to UNCLOS:** Would be the **third implementing agreement**, alongside:
 - 1994 Part XI Implementation Agreement (seabed mineral resources).
 - 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement (conservation of migratory fish stocks).
- **Adoption & Status:**
 - Agreed in March 2023, open for signature for 2 years from September 2023.
 - Enters into force 120 days after the 60th ratification (currently ratified by 55 countries).

Centre approves creation of 'Environment Auditors'



Why in the News?

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has introduced the Environment Audit Rules, 2025, creating an independent class of Environment Auditors.

Who are the Environment Auditors?

- Overview: Independent, certified professionals comparable to Chartered Accountants, but for environmental compliance.
- Accreditation: Certification and registration granted by the Environment Audit Designated Agency (EADA).
- **Responsibilities:**
 - Ensure compliance across environmental domains.
 - Conduct project audits and assess performance.
 - Collect and analyze environmental samples.
 - Verify self-reported project data.
 - Check conformity with environmental clearances and consents.
 - Calculate environmental compensation in case of violations.
 - Support implementation of Green Credit Registry, Ecomark Certification, and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) compliance.

About Environment Audit Rules, 2025:

- Introduced by: MoEFCC in August 2025.
- Purpose: Establishes independent auditors to assist Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), SPCBs, and Pollution Control Committees facing manpower/resource gaps.
- **Objectives:**
 - Strengthen monitoring and compliance.
 - Enhance transparency, accountability, credibility.
 - Promote sustainable governance and stakeholder trust.
- **Scope of Audits:** Covers compliance with Green Credit Rules, Ecomark Rules 2024, E-Waste Rules 2022, Plastic Waste Rules 2016, Battery Waste

Rules 2022, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980, Wild Life Protection Act 1972 and related rules.

- **Institutional Features:**

- EADA certifies, registers, and monitors auditors.
- Categories: *Certified Environment Auditor* (qualified) and *Registered Environment Auditor* (certified + authorised).

- **Certification Pathways:**

- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for experienced professionals.
- National Certification Examination (NCE) for new entrants.

- **Registration:** Valid for 5 years, renewable on review; requires technical proof and clean track record.

- **Oversight:** A Steering Committee (chaired by MoEFCC Additional Secretary) supervises; government retains powers to issue guidelines, resolve disputes, and order audits.

Environment, Forests, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) conducts an annual survey.

- **Goal:** Encourages healthy competition between cities and speeds up the adoption of air quality regulations.
- **Coverage:** 130 cities with populations of at least one million, three to ten lakh, and less than three lakh are included.
- **Cities were evaluated based on eight criteria,** including particulate matter (PM10/PM2.5) reduction, solid waste management, vehicle and industry emission control, road dust mitigation, public awareness, and construction and demolition waste disposal.
- **Methodology:** Makes use of a multi-level assessment that emphasizes both tangible results and activities taken on the ground.

Key Findings of SVS, 2025:



- **Top Performer:** After dropping to sixth place in 2024, Indore regained its top spot among cities with a population of one million or more. While Lucknow won the first edition in 2022, it also triumphed in 2023.
- **Additional Million-Plus Rankings:** Agra and Surat third, Jabalpur second, Navi Mumbai fourth, Kanpur fifth, Bhopal sixth, Allahabad seventh, Chandigarh eighth, Ahmedabad–Pune–Nagpur tenth, Varanasi and Raipur eleventh, Lucknow fifteenth, Hyderabad twenty-two, Mumbai twenty-five, Jaipur twenty-six, Delhi thirty-two,

Swachh Vayu Survekshan, 2025



Why in the News?

Indore, already recognized as the cleanest city in India, has topped the list of million-plus population cities in the Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2025.

About Swachh Vayu Survekshan (SVS), 2025:

- **Overview:** As part of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), the Ministry of

Bengaluru thirty-six, Kolkata thirty-eight, Chennai forty-one.

- Cities of 3–10 Lakh: Amravati, Jhansi and Moradabad together, and Alwar.
- Dewas, Parwanoo, and Angul are the top three cities under three lakh.
- Air Quality Data: In 2024–2025, Indore recorded PM10 levels of $83 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, which was marginally higher than the $82 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ recorded in 2017–18. Cities with lower PM10 values than Indore included Chennai ($58 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), Varanasi ($59 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), Bengaluru ($68 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), and Hyderabad ($81 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).
- Overall Trends: Since 2017–18, PM10 has decreased in 103 out of 130 cities. A 20% reduction was attained by 64 cities, and a 40% reduction was attained by 25 cities. Chennai was the sole metropolis to meet the national requirement of $\leq 60 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, with only 22 other cities meeting it ($58 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). Mumbai saw the largest drop of any metropolis (44%), followed by Delhi (15%), Chennai (12%), Bengaluru (26%), Hyderabad (26%), Kolkata (37%), and Hyderabad (26%).

BS-VII Emission Norms



Why in the News?

To align India's automobile sector with global standards, the government is planning to introduce BS VII emission norms by 2026-27.

About BS7 Norms:

- Overview: India's version of Euro 7 emission standards, which are meant to lower vehicle pollution and bring the country into line with international standards.
- Coverage: Equally applies to gasoline, diesel, hybrid, electric, vans, buses, trucks, and cars.
- On-Board Monitoring (OBM): A new technology that tracks engine gasses, NOx, ammonia, and PM emissions from tailpipes in real time.
- Non-Exhaust Regulation: First-ever control of tire microplastics and brake dust (PM).
- EV Standards: Reduces the usage of raw materials and increases consumer confidence by introducing battery safety, durability, and longevity indexes.
- Digital safeguards make sure cars stay inside emission limits and aren't tampered with.
- Testing Scope: Extends inspections beyond lab-based cycles to actual driving situations.

Key Differences: BS6 vs BS7

- On-Board Diagnostics (OBD) was used in BS6, whereas OBM was introduced in BS7 for direct emission monitoring.
- NOx Standards: BS7 establishes a universal 60 mg/km, but BS6 permits 60 mg/km for gasoline and 80 mg/km for diesel.
- Coverage: BS7 adds non-exhaust (brakes, tires) while BS6 solely regulates exhaust.
- EV Inclusion: BS7 controls battery life, safety, and replacement cycles; BS6 disregarded EVs.
- Testing: BS7 makes use of more extensive real-world scenarios, whereas BS6 relied on preset test cycles.
- Technology Push: BS7 forces automakers to use turbocharged direct-injection engines and sophisticated emission-control systems.
- Cost factor: Vehicles that comply with BS7 are more expensive; certain older models might be phased out.

History of Emission Norms in India:

Year / Period	Key Development
1991	Mass emission norms introduced for petrol vehicles.
1992	Mass emission norms introduced for diesel vehicles.
April 1995	Mandatory catalytic converters in new petrol cars in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai; unleaded petrol (ULP) introduced.
2000	Introduction of Euro I equivalent "India 2000" norms for passenger and commercial vehicles; stricter norms for two-wheelers.
2001	Euro II equivalent Bharat Stage II (BS II) norms introduced in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata.
August 2002	First Auto Fuel Policy announced, outlining emission and fuel roadmap up to 2010.
April 2005	Bharat Stage III (BS III) norms implemented in 13 metro cities; rest of India continued with BS II.
April 2010	Bharat Stage IV (BS IV) implemented in 13 metro cities; rest of India adopted BS III.
October 2014	BS IV extended to 20 more cities.
2013	Auto Fuel Policy 2025 submitted to MoPNG (Ministry of Petroleum &

	Natural Gas), outlining roadmap up to 2025.
April 2017	Nationwide implementation of BS IV.
April 2020	Direct leap to BS VI (skipping BS V) due to severe pollution in Delhi NCR.
Upcoming (BS VII)	To be aligned with Euro 7 standards: stricter norms, On-Board Monitoring (OBM), coverage of brake & tyre emissions, and EV battery standards.

In news: Cauvery River Dispute



Why in the News?

On the Cauvery dispute, Karnataka CM has said that water will be released to Tamil Nadu since the rainfall is adequate, while stressing the Mekedatu Dam's role in water balance and clean energy.

Cauvery River

- It originates in the Talakaveri, Brahmagiri range in Kodagu, Karnataka, and flows for around 800 kilometers across Tamil Nadu and Karnataka before emptying into the Bay of Bengal.
- The catchment area includes Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Puducherry, and Karnataka.
- Harangi, Hemavati, Kabini, Suvarnavathi, and Bhavani are the tributaries.

- Nature: An everlasting river that is nourished by both retreating and approaching monsoons.
- Protected Areas: Bandipur, Nagarhole, Cauvery WLS, Biligirirangan Hills, Pushpagiri, Muthathi, Ranganathittu, and Bhimeshwari.

About Cauvery Water Sharing Dispute:

- **Colonial Origins:** Madras Presidency vs. Mysore in 1892 marked the start of colonial origins, and the 50-year agreement ended in 1974.
- After independence, Karnataka's dam construction caused disputes in the 1960s and 1980s; the Supreme Court assigned the matter to the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT).
- Phase of Interim: Temporary orders were issued by the Cauvery River Authority (CRA, 1998).
- Tamil Nadu 419 TMC, Karnataka 270, Kerala 30, Puducherry won the 2013 CWDT Final Award. 7.
- Karnataka's Responsibility: Release 177.25 TMC to TN in typical years, which includes 123.14 TMC during the SW monsoon.
- Challenges: A "distress formula" is used when disputes intensify during weak monsoons.
- Legal Foundation: Seventh Schedule items 17 (State List) and 56 (Union List); Article 262, Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956.

About Mekedatu Dam Project:

- Location: Near Kanakapura, Karnataka, at the Cauvery–Arkavathi confluence, a deep gorge.
- Design: A balancing reservoir with a capacity of about 66 TMC.
- Goals: Produce 400 MW of hydropower, supply potable water to Bengaluru, and control flows to TN during dry spells.
- Importance: Karnataka claims that by guaranteeing controlled water release, it helps both states.
- Tamil Nadu is opposed, citing concerns about decreased downstream availability.
- Present Situation: Karnataka demands approval from the Center and TN before proceeding.

Pollution in Indian Rivers: CPCB Report, 2023



Why in the News?

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) released its latest assessment (2022–23) on the health of Indian rivers.

About Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB):

- **Summary:** Established in September 1974 as a statutory authority under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1974.
- **Increased authority:** Later granted authority under the 1981 Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act.
- **Function as umbrella:** Implements the Environment (Protection) Act of 1986 by acting as the technical branch of the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- **Principal Functions:**
 1. Control of water pollution: prevent, control, and mitigate pollution to make streams and wells cleaner throughout states; In charge of gathering, compiling, and sharing data through the National Water Quality Monitoring Program.
 2. control of air pollution: enhance air quality and reduce emissions; To ascertain present conditions and trends, run the National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP). Control industrial pollution and supply baseline information for town planning and industry siting.

3. Data management: Gathers, compiles, and distributes statistical and technical information about pollution of the air and water.

- **Key Initiatives and Programs:**

- NAMP: Monitors air quality and pollution trends.
- NAQI (National Air Quality Index): Offers real-time air quality data.
- GRAP (Graded Response Action Plan): Measures graded interventions based on severity of pollution.
- Clean Air Campaign: Awareness and enforcement measures for pollution reduction.

CPCB Assessment of Pollution in Indian Rivers:

Parameters & Definitions:

- **Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD):** It is the amount of dissolved oxygen needed by microbes to break down organic matter.
 - **Healthy river:** BOD <3 mg/L.
 - **Unfit for bathing:** BOD >3 mg/L.
- **Polluted River Stretch (PRS):** When two or more consecutive locations in a river exceed bathing criteria (BOD >3 mg/L).
- **Priority Classification (BOD levels):**
 1. Priority 1: >30 mg/L → Most polluted, urgent remediation.
 2. Priority 2: 20–30 mg/L.
 3. Priority 3: 10–20 mg/L.
 4. Priority 4: 6–10 mg/L.
 5. Priority 5: 3–6 mg/L → least polluted category but still polluted.

Key Findings of the Report:

- Unfit bathing locations: 807 (2023) vs 815 (2022), shows marginal dip.
- Polluted River Stretches (PRS): 296 stretches/locations across 271 rivers in 2023 vs 311 stretches in 279 rivers in 2022.
- State-wise PRS (2023):
 1. Maharashtra: 54 (highest).
 2. Kerala: 31.

3. Madhya Pradesh: 18.

4. Manipur: 18.

5. Karnataka: 14.

- Most polluted states by Priority 1 (2023): Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand (5 each).
- Most polluted states by Priority 1 (2022): Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh (6 each).

Commissioning of Oju Hydel Project



Why in the News?

The Union Environment Ministry has cleared the 2,220 MW Oju Hydroelectric Project on the Subansiri River in Taksing, Upper Subansiri district, near the China border.

About the Oju Hydroelectric Project:

- **Capacity & Location:** A 2,220 MW run-of-river hydro project on the Subansiri River at Taksing, Upper Subansiri district, Arunachal Pradesh, near the China border.
- **Infrastructure:**
 - Dam: 93 m high, 355 m long concrete gravity dam.
 - Tunnels: Two diversion tunnels, 14.17 km headrace tunnel.
 - Powerhouse: Underground, with 8 turbines of 231.25 MW each.
- **Hydrology:** Catchment area 9,827 sq. km; average annual yield 11,339 million cubic meters.

Significance of the Project:

- Upstream of projects like Niare, Naba, Nalo, Dengser, Upper & Lower Subansiri, and others, the largest hydro cascade in the Subansiri basin is essential for basin-wide energy planning.

- **Border Security:** By building infrastructure, India fortifies its strategic location close to the Chinese border.
- **Energy Security:** Supports renewable aims and lessens reliance on fossil fuels by providing clean power at about ₹5.65/kWh.

Subansiri River



- With a basin area of 32,640 square kilometers and a length of roughly 518 kilometers, it is the greatest tributary of the

Brahmaputra and is also known as the Gold River.

- Starting in Tibet's Lhuntse County, it travels through Arunachal Pradesh's Upper Subansiri district before entering India through the Miri Hills.
- The Lower Subansiri denotes its descent into the Assam Valley via the Lower Subansiri district, whilst the Upper Subansiri alludes to its Himalayan origin length.
- Rangandi, Dikrong, Kamle, Char Chu, and Tsari Chu are some of its important tributaries. It meets the Brahmaputra at Jamurighat/Majuli Island in Assam.
- In Tibet's Tsari region, the river holds cultural significance in addition to being well-known for its floods, rapids, and hydroelectric projects like the Lower Subansiri.

Governance

Recusal of Judges



Why in the News?

A Madhya Pradesh High Court judge has recused himself from hearing a petition in an alleged illegal mining case, saying that a MLA had "attempted to call him" to have a discussion regarding the matter.

About Recusal:

- **Overview:** Recusal is the act of a judge or official abstaining from a case due to conflict of interest or a possible perception of bias.
- **Legal Basis:**
 - There are no codified laws, but multiple Supreme Court rulings provide guiding principles.
 - In *Ranjit Thakur v. Union of India* (1987), SC held that the test of bias is the reasonableness of the apprehension in the mind of the affected party.
- **Grounds for Recusal:**
 - Prior personal/professional association with a party.
 - Having appeared for a party in the case earlier.
 - Ex parte communications with parties involved.

- Cases where a judge may be reviewing his own earlier judgment (e.g., SC appeals against HC orders delivered by the same judge earlier).
- Financial or personal interests (e.g., shareholding in a company party to the case).
- **Underlying Principle:** Rooted in the maxim “nemo iudex in causa sua” — no one should be a judge in their own cause.

Process of Recusal:

- **Judge’s Discretion:**
 - Decision usually rests with the judge’s **conscience and discretion**.
 - Judges may orally inform the parties, record it in the order, or sometimes recuse silently without explanation.
- **On Request:**
 - Lawyers or parties may request recusal; final decision still rests with the judge.
 - Some judges have recused even without conflict, merely to avoid doubt. Others refuse if no genuine bias exists.
- **Procedure:** Once recusal is declared, the case is placed before the **Chief Justice** for reassignment to another Bench.

Foreigners Tribunal (FT) can issue Arrest Warrants



Why in the News?

The Union Home Ministry empowered Foreigners Tribunals (FTs), especially in Assam, to detain suspected

illegal immigrants in designated camps, a power earlier exercised only through executive orders.

About Foreigners Tribunal (FT):

- **Nature:** Quasi-judicial bodies constituted under the Foreigners (Tribunal) Order, 1964, framed under the Foreigners Act, 1946.
- **Purpose:** Decide whether a person is a foreigner/illegal immigrant, especially in the context of Assam’s border migration issues.
- **Cases handled:**
 - References from border police against suspected foreigners.
 - Cases of “D” (doubtful) voters flagged by the Election Commission.
- **Composition:** Members drawn from retired judges, advocates, and civil servants with judicial experience; capped at 3 members per tribunal.
- **Functioning:**
 - FTs exercise powers of a civil court (summons, evidence, witness examination).
 - Required to dispose of cases within 60 days of reference.
 - Burden of proof lies on the individual to establish citizenship (Section 9, Foreigners Act).
- **Present Status:** About 100 FTs operational in Assam (expanded after NRC-2019). No FTs in other states, where suspected foreigners are tried in local courts.

New Provisions under the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025:

- The Foreigners (Tribunal) Order, 1964 has been replaced by the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025, which is a complete law.
- **Detention Authority:** Previously used through executive orders, FTs now have the authority to hold suspected illegal immigrants in designated transit camps for the first time.
- **Judicial Authority:**
 - Powers of a civil court under CPC, 1908.
 - Powers of a judicial magistrate (first class) under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 — including issuing arrest

warrants, ordering detention, and directing personal appearance.

- Ex-parte Orders: If the appellant files a review within 30 days, they may be overturned.
- Scope: Assam still has functional relevance even though it is applicable nationwide.
- Employment Restrictions: prohibits foreigners from working in critical industries without central government clearance, including defense, nuclear energy, petroleum, power, water supply, space, and human rights.
- Border Security Measures: Before ejecting unauthorized individuals, border guards and border forces will take their biometrics and demographic information.
- Reasons for Refusal of Stay: Foreign nationals who have been found guilty of crimes against humanity, terrorism, espionage, drug trafficking, organized crime, human trafficking, cybercrime, child abuse, or other offenses may be denied entrance or deported.
- Exemptions: Under a specific 2025 order, citizens of Tibet, Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka are exempt.

Criminal Defamation in India



Why in the News?

Justice M.M. Sundresh of the Supreme Court remarked that the time has come to decriminalise defamation, reflecting concern over its growing misuse.

Free Speech and Defamation: Constitutional Provisions

- Article 19(1)(a): Freedom of speech & expression.
- Article 19(2): Allows *reasonable restrictions* in the interests of:
 - Sovereignty & integrity of India.
 - Security of the State.
 - Friendly relations with foreign States.
 - Public order, decency or morality.
 - Contempt of court, defamation, or incitement to an offence.
- Article 21: Right to reputation is part of right to life (Subramanian Swamy v. UOI, 2016).

What is Criminal Defamation?

- **Overview:** Offence of harming a person's character, fame, or reputation with false and malicious statements.
- **Forms:**
 1. Libel: False defamatory statement in writing.
 2. Slander: False defamatory statement spoken orally.
- **Indian Context:** Both libel & slander are criminal offences if made publicly.
- **Earlier IPC Section 499:** Criminalised communication of false info harming reputation; punishment under IPC Section 500 – up to 2 years imprisonment.
- **Law under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023:**
 - Section 354(2) – punishment up to 2 years simple imprisonment, or fine, or both, or community service.
 - Section 356 – covers words, signs, or visible representations harming reputation.
- **Scope:** If a deceased person's family reputation is damaged, it applies to both individuals and businesses.
- False statements, reputational harm, communication to a third party, and intent or knowledge of impending harm are all essential components.

- Character of the Offence: Non-cognizable and bailable: an arrest warrant is necessary; bail is offered.
- Digital Extension: Addresses offensive content on websites, messaging apps, and social media.
- Exceptions and Defenses: truth in the public interest, fair criticism of public officials, court cases, public performances, and sincere warnings.

Judicial Pronouncements related to Defamation:

- The Supreme Court affirmed the legality of IPC Sections 499 and 500 in *Subramanian Swamy v. Union of India* (2016), ruling that criminal defamation is permissible under Article 19(2) limits and that reputation is a component of Article 21.
- In *Kaushal Kishore v. Union of India* (2017), the Supreme Court ruled that Article 19(2) did not impose any additional constraints on free speech.
- Section 66A of the IT Act was declared ambiguous and a violation of free speech by the Supreme Court in *Shreya Singhal v. Union of India* (2015).
- The court used the "reasonable person" test (Clapham omnibus norm) in the *Imran Pratapgarhi* case (March 2025), not the test of extremely sensitive people.
- Recent Stays: The Supreme Court emphasized that courts shouldn't be used as political vendettas by staying a number of cases, including those against Rahul Gandhi and Shashi Tharoor.

History

100 years of the Self-Respect Movement in Tamil Nadu



Why in the News?

This year marks the centenary of the Self-Respect Movement in Tamil Nadu, a transformative socio-political reform movement.

About Self-Respect Movement:

- Overview: Started in 1925 by E.V. Ramasamy Periyar in Tamil Nadu after his exit from the Indian National Congress.
- Aim: To challenge Brahminical dominance, caste hierarchy, patriarchy, and blind religious practices; to create a rational, egalitarian society.
- Methods:

- Promotion of Self-Respect Marriages (without priests or caste rituals).
- Advocacy of women's rights – widow remarriage, divorce, property rights, inter-caste marriage.
- Significance:
 - Laid the foundation of the Dravidian movement in Tamil Nadu.
 - Prioritized social reform over political independence.
 - Gave marginalized communities and women a platform for dignity and equality.

Who was E.V. Ramasamy Periyar?



- Overview: Erode Venkatappa Ramasamy (1879–1973), popularly known as Periyar or Thanthai Periyar (“Father Periyar”).
- Identity: Social reformer, rationalist, and political thinker; called the “Father of the Dravidian Movement.”
- **Key Roles:**
 - Led the Vaikom Satyagraha (1924-25) in Kerala against caste restrictions in temples, earning the title “Vaikom Hero.”
 - Founded the Self-Respect Movement (1925) and later Dravidar Kazhagam.
- **Ideology:**
 - Advocated rationalism, atheism, equality, and eradication of caste.
 - Strongly opposed gender inequality and social exploitation.
- **Legacy:** Inspired later Dravidian parties (DMK, AIADMK) and influenced Tamil Nadu’s policies on social justice, women’s rights, and education.

Sarnath and UNESCO Nomination



Why in the News?

ASI will install a revised plaque at Sarnath, crediting Babu Jagat Singh (1787–88) for uncovering its archaeological importance, rather than British archaeologists.

About Sarnath:

- Location: Near Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, at the confluence of the Ganga and Varuna rivers.
- Religious Importance: After enlightenment at Bodh Gaya, Gautama Buddha delivered the Dhammachakkappavattana Sutta (First Sermon) here in 528 BCE to five disciples, laying the foundation of the Sangha.
- **Key Monuments:**
 1. Dhamek Stupa (built c. 500 CE, 39 m high, 28 m diameter).
 2. Ashoka Pillar with Lion Capital (India’s national emblem) and Ashoka Chakra.
 3. Chaukhandi Stupa (Gupta era; octagonal tower added in Mughal period).
 4. Mulagandha Kuti Vihar with frescoes of Buddha’s life.
 5. Sarnath Archaeological Museum with the original Lion Capital and Buddhist sculptures.
- Archaeology: Buddhist activity predates Ashoka, as evidenced by excavations conducted over the past 200 years, such as B. R. Mani (2013–14).
- Holy Site: One of the Four Holy Places in Buddhism, along with Lumbini, Bodh Gaya, and Kushinagar.
- Historic Role: Under the sponsorship of the Mauryans, Kushans, and Guptas, Sarnath flourished by the 7th century CE, housing 30 monasteries and more than 3,000 monks.

Plaque Controversy and ASI Action:

- The current plaque acknowledges the excavations of Cunningham, Kittoe, Oertel, Marshall, Hargreaves, and Sahni after Mr. Duncan and Col. E. Mackenzie (1798) exposed Sarnath.
- Jagat Singh Claim: A descendant of Babu Jagat Singh, who was a member of the lineage of Benares ruler Chait Singh, petitioned ASI, claiming that he had discovered the remnants of Sarnath during a dig in 1787–1788.
- ASI's Reaction: A revised plaque will be erected shortly after ASI verified the revision. Many pre-1861 plaques, officials observed, exhibited British biases.

- Artifacts: A casket containing Buddha relics was discovered during Jagat Singh's excavation and is currently partially kept in the Asiatic Society in Kolkata.

Cultural Significance:

- After 27 years on the provisional list, the UNESCO nomination was formally submitted for the World Heritage List (2025–26 cycle).
- Policy Context: India portrays itself as the home of the Buddha and has recently sent out notices to halt international auctions of Buddhist artifacts.

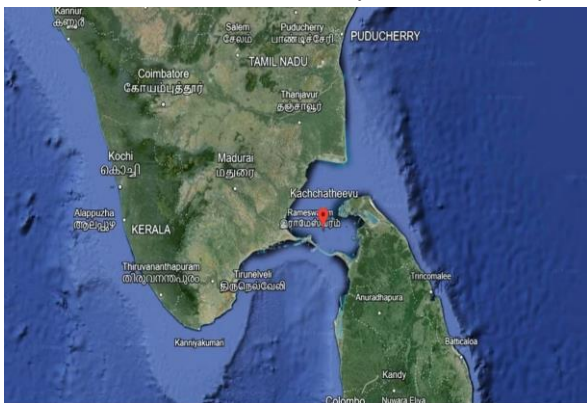
International Relations

Katchatheevu Island Dispute



Why in the News?

Sri Lankan President Dissanayake's visit to Katchatheevu Island, the first ever visit by a head of state, revived debates on the island's history and ownership.



About Katchatheevu Island:

- Overview: roughly 33 nautical miles from Jaffna, Sri Lanka, and near Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu, is this small, uninhabited island of roughly 285 acres in the Palk Strait.
- History: Initially ruled by the Raja of Ramnad (TN), it later became contentious under British control.

- Agreements: India (under the Indira Gandhi government) acknowledged Sri Lanka's sovereignty and ceded its traditional fishing rights with the 1974 and 1976 pacts.
- Religious Site: During a joint festival with no visa requirements, Indian and Sri Lankan fisherman visit this location every year to see St. Anthony's Catholic Shrine.
- Ecology: Supports maritime biodiversity and provides a resting place for fisherman, while being desolate and unstable.

Disputes around Katchatheevu:

- Fishing Conflicts: Because of the decreasing catch in Indian waters, Tamil Nadu fishermen frequently enter Sri Lankan waters, which frequently results in the Sri Lankan Navy making arrests.
- Problem with Bottom-Trawling: Indian trawlers engage in bottom-trawling, which is prohibited in Sri Lanka and harms marine ecosystems while escalating tensions.
- Political Demands: Retrieval of the island is a demand made by all TN political parties.
- National Politics: During elections, the issue frequently comes up again, with accusations that previous administrations "easily gave away" Katchatheevu.
- In 2013–14, India made it clear that no sovereign territory was given up because the island was contested and not entirely under its authority.
- The primary issue is not sovereignty, but rather the unsustainable bottom-trawling methods and the predicament Tamil Nadu fisherman are in.

US to update MTCR export control policies



Why in the News?

The United States is preparing to reinterpret the 1987 Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) to expand exports of heavy attack drones, like the MQ-9 Reaper, to partner countries.

About Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR):

- In order to stop the spread of missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) that may carry nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons, the G-7 nations (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States) formed the organization in 1987.
- Membership: India joined in 2016, and there are currently 35 member nations.
- Nature: A voluntary political agreement wherein members carry with export control regulations, rather than a treaty.
- Coverage:
 - **Category I items:** Complete missile/UAV systems with ≥ 500 kg payload and ≥ 300 km range, major subsystems, and production facilities (exports presumed denied).
 - **Category II items:** Less sensitive or dual-use components/technologies; exports subject to national discretion under strict licensing.
- **Purpose:** To limit missile proliferation while allowing peaceful space and aviation cooperation.

About the Recent Policy Change on MTCR:

- **US Reinterpretation (2025):**
 - The MQ-9 Reaper and other large unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) will be regarded as "aircraft" rather than missile systems.
 - The "strong presumption of denial" that previously prohibited their export under MTCR is eliminated as a result.
- **Objective:** To make the **US the leading drone supplier**, countering competition from **China, Israel, and Turkiye**.
- **Implications:**
 - Makes it possible for countries like Saudi Arabia, India, and allies in the Indo-Pacific region to purchase heavy attack drones through Foreign Military Sales (FMS).
 - US evaluations for end-use monitoring, tech security, human rights compliance, and regional stability are still in effect.
 - reduces obstacles for joint ventures and technological partnerships and promotes India-US space and defense cooperation.

WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies



Why in the News?

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies has entered into force on 15 September 2025, three years after adoption in June 2022.

What is the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies?

- **Nature:** First WTO treaty centred on environmental sustainability, designed to reduce harmful subsidies that drive illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and overfishing.
- **Core Prohibitions:**
 - Subsidies for IUU fishing vessels or operators.
 - Subsidies for fishing in overfished stocks, unless linked to recovery plans.
 - Subsidies for high-seas fishing in areas outside coastal state jurisdiction or Regional Fisheries Management Organizations.
- **Transparency:** Members are required to submit thorough information on fleets, catch amounts, subsidies, and fish stocks.
- **Transition Period:** Before complete implementation, emerging and least developed nations are given two years.
- **Phased Approach:** Initially referred to as "Fish One," "Fish Two" will address fleet subsidies and overcapacity.
- **Global Significance:** Supports Sustainable Development Goal 14.6, which aims to safeguard the world's fish stocks by doing away with detrimental subsidies.

India and this Agreement:

- **Position:** Despite having a sizable fishing community, India is among the lowest fisheries subsidizers, which is why it welcomed the treaty.
- **Equity Argument:** Based on the polluter pays concept and common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR), it was urged that industrial fishing nations and historical subsidizers assume higher responsibility.
- **Sector Context:** Millions of small-scale, traditional fishermen who depend on coastal resources dominate India's fisheries and demand equitable treatment.

Benefits for India:

- Curbing IUU fishing by foreign industrial fleets, protecting coastal livelihoods.
- Allowing space for stock-rebuilding subsidies tied to sustainability.
- Ensuring fair competition for Indian traditional fishers in global trade.

US revokes sanctions waiver on Chabahar Port



Why in the News?

The U.S. has ended the 2018 waiver that let India use Iran's Chabahar Port for Afghanistan's reconstruction, revoking it within 10 days.

About Chabahar Port:

- **Location:** Deep-water port near the mouth of the Strait of Hormuz on the Gulf of Oman in Iran's Sistan-Baluchistan province.
- The only port in Iran with direct access to the Indian Ocean is a distinctive feature.
- Mumbai is 786 nautical miles from Chabahar, and Kandla Port, Gujarat, is 550 nautical miles away.
- **Structure:** consists of the terminals for Shahid Kalantari and Shahid Beheshti.
- **Connectivity Potential:** It has the potential to develop into a significant commercial hub due to its location on the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) and close proximity to Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India.
- A multimodal route that connects the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean to the Caspian Sea via Iran

and then to northern Europe via Russia is known as the INSTC.

India's Engagements for Chabahar Port:

- Tripartite Agreement (2016): India's first international port project, the Shahid Beheshti terminal, was developed by Iran, Afghanistan, and India.
- Infrastructure Objectives: Construct a rail route to Zahedan and develop the port, avoiding Pakistan to reach Afghanistan and Central Asia.
- Current Events: A 10-year contract to run Shahid Beheshti was signed in May 2024 by India Ports Global Ltd (IPGL).
- India committed to a \$250 million credit line and \$120 million worth of equipment.

- Operations: India helped ship 2,000 tonnes of pulses and 2.5 million tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan by supplying six harbor cranes.

Implications of US Sanctions for India:

- Economic Setback: Endangers India's upcoming projects and investment of ₹200 crore.
- Loss of Connectivity: India's sole direct naval entry point to Afghanistan, Central Asia, and INSTC is cut off.
- Strategic Impact: Under the CPEC, India's defense against China's Gwadar Port in Pakistan is weakened.
- Tensions with Iran, a vital partner, and the United States, a significant trading partner, are at risk due to diplomatic strain.
- Operational Difficulties: Sanctions may restrict port activity by discouraging suppliers, insurers, and shippers.

Polity

Appointment of Vice Chancellors by Governor



Why in the News?

A recent controversy arose in Kerala, where the Governor (ex-officio Chancellor of State Universities) urged the Supreme Court to exclude the Chief Minister from the process of selecting Vice-Chancellors (VCs).

Who is the Vice-Chancellor?

- Role: Acts as the university's principal academic and executive officer.

- Functions: Assures adherence to Acts, Statutes, and Regulations; connects the academic and executive wings.
- Authority: Serves as the chair of important committees, including the Finance Committee, Academic Council, Executive Council, and Selection Committees.
- Features Highlighted: The emphasis of historical commissions (Radhakrishnan 1948, Kothari 1964–66, Gnanam 1990, Ramlal Parikh 1993) was on vision, integrity, academic excellence, and administrative skill.
- Significance: Preserves higher education's quality, relevance, and reform.

About the Role of Governor and President in

Universities:

1. State Universities:

1. Chancellor's Role: The Governor serves as ex-officio Chancellor, handling university affairs without consulting the State Cabinet.

2. The Chancellor selects Vice-Chancellors from a panel suggested by a Search-cum-Selection Committee in accordance with UGC Regulations, 2018.
3. Legal Supremacy: Under Article 254 of the Constitution, UGC principles take precedence over State laws in cases where they contradict.

2. Central Universities:

1. The Central Universities Act of 2009 designates the President of India as the Visitor.
2. A ceremonial leader chosen by the president is known as the chancellor.
3. VC Appointment: If the President is not happy with the panel that the Search Committee recommends, he or she may request a new panel.
4. Oversight Powers: The President has the authority to approve university inspections and investigations.

- Succession: Ranks second in order of precedence and first in line to become President.
- Membership: Is a member of Parliament, not directly elected by the people.

Qualifications:

- Citizenship: Must be a citizen of India.
- Age: Minimum 35 years.
- Office of Profit: Should not hold any.
- Parliamentary Eligibility: Must qualify for election to Rajya Sabha (unlike President, who must qualify for Lok Sabha) due to the VP's role in the Upper House.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Rajya Sabha Chairmanship: Presides over sessions and ensures order.
- Bill Classification: Refers money bills to the Lok Sabha Speaker.
- No Independent Powers: Has no executive or legislative powers unless acting as President.

Election Procedure:

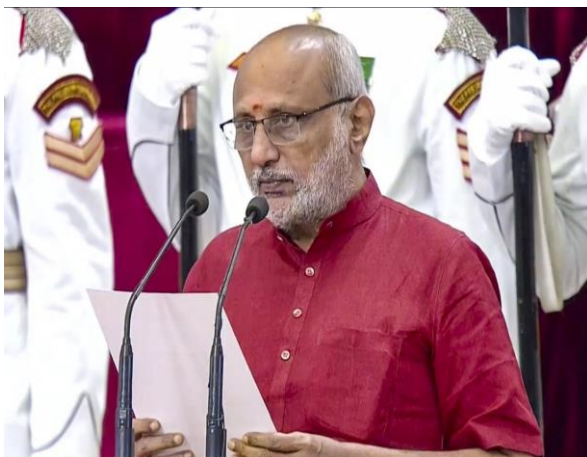
- Constitutional Basis: Governed by Article 66.
- Electoral College: Comprises 543 Lok Sabha MPs, 233 elected Rajya Sabha MPs, and 12 nominated Rajya Sabha members.
- Voting Method: *Proportional representation* by single transferable vote and secret ballot.
- No Whip Allowed: Parties cannot issue voting whips.
- Conduct: Managed by the Election Commission; Returning Officer is the Secretary-General of either House (on rotation).
- Winning Quota: Requires 50% of valid votes + 1; votes are transferred in rounds if no candidate secures majority in the first round.

Resignation and Removal:

Resignation

- Article 67(a): The vice president resigns and gives it to the president. The resignation becomes effective immediately upon acceptance and does not require parliamentary confirmation.
- Not Acting VP: There is no provision for an acting vice president in the Constitution.

Election of the Vice-President



Why in the News?

Thiru CP Radhakrishnan has been elected as Vice President of India.

About Vice-President (VP) of India:

- Position: Second-highest constitutional post; deputy to the President.
- Parliamentary Role: Serves as ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

- In the absence of the vice president, the deputy chairman of the Rajya Sabha, who is now Harivansh Narayan Singh, preside.
- For instance, after V.V. Giri and R. Venkataraman, Dhankhar, who assumed office in 2022, is only the third vice president in Indian history to leave office before serving out his entire term.

Removal

- Article 67(b): The Rajya Sabha notice period for removal is 14 days.
- A simple majority in the Lok Sabha and an effective majority in the Rajya Sabha are required for voting.
- No Grounds Listed: The Constitution makes no mention of any particular grounds for removal.
- Judicial Immunity: Article 122 prohibits courts from interrogating removal-related parliamentary procedures.
- Absence of precedent So yet, no vice president has been ousted.

Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPP)



Why in the News?

The Election Commission de-listed 474 Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPP) for not contesting polls in six years, as part of its electoral clean-up drive.

Delisting of Political Parties:

- **ECI's Powers:** Governed by Section 29A, RP Act, 1951.

- No explicit power with ECI to de-register a party once registered, except for fraud or anti-Constitutional allegiance.
- **Judicial Interpretation:**
 - INC vs Institute of Social Welfare (2002): SC ruled that ECI cannot de-register parties, only delist or declare inactive, which removes privileges but NOT their legal entity.

About Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs):

- Constitutional Right: Right to form political associations is guaranteed under Article 19(1)(c).
- Registration: RUPPs are political associations registered with the Election Commission of India (ECI) under Section 29A, Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- Not recognised: As either State or National parties because they have not secured the required vote share or seats in past elections.
- **Privileges & Benefits:**
 - Tax exemption under Section 13A, Income Tax Act, 1961.
 - Eligibility for common poll symbols during elections (under Symbols Order, 1968).
 - Can nominate up to 20 star campaigners.
- **Obligations:**
 - Must contest elections periodically.
 - File annual audit accounts and contribution reports.
 - Disclose donations above ₹20,000.
 - Ensure no donations above ₹2,000 are taken in cash.
- **Issues:** Many RUPPs exploit privileges without contesting elections, crowding out genuine contesting parties and confusing voters.

What are Recognised Political Parties?

- **Types:** Recognised parties are classified as National Parties or State Parties.
- **Privileges:**
 - Exclusive reserved symbols.
 - Free copies of electoral rolls.
 - Broadcasting time on Doordarshan/All India Radio.
 - Consultation rights with ECI in election matters.
- Recognition depends on vote share or seats won in Lok Sabha/Assembly elections.

Conditions for Recognition:

National Party	State Party
Secures 6% of valid votes in Lok Sabha/Assembly elections in any 4 or more states + wins 4 Lok Sabha seats.	Secures 6% of valid votes in the state Assembly election + wins 2 Assembly seats.
Wins 2% of Lok Sabha seats (currently 11 seats) from at least 3 states.	Secures 6% of valid votes in the state's Lok Sabha election + wins 1 Lok Sabha seat.
Recognised as a State Party in 4 or more states.	Wins 3% of Assembly seats or 3 seats (whichever is higher) in the state Assembly.
—	Wins 1 Lok Sabha seat for every 25 seats allotted to that state.
—	Secures 8% of total valid votes in the state's Assembly or Lok Sabha election (<i>added in 2011</i>).

Supreme Court cites Preamble to reject a plea



Why in the News?

The Supreme Court rejected a plea against a religious leader inaugurating Mysuru Dasara, reminding that the Preamble upholds secularism, liberty, equality, and fraternity as core ideals of unity.

Supreme Court's Observations:

- **Secular Character:** The Court reminded that the Preamble enshrines secularism, liberty, equality, and fraternity as unifying ideals.
- **State's Neutrality:** Dasara inauguration was a State event, not a private ritual. The State "maintains no religion of its own" (echoing M. Ismail Faruqui, 1994).
- **Key Precedents Recalled:**
 - Kesavananda Bharati (1973) & S.R. Bommai (1994): Secularism = basic feature of the Constitution.
 - R.C. Poudyal (1994): Even before "secular" was inserted (42nd Amendment, 1976), the Constitution upheld equal treatment of all faiths.
 - Dr. Balram Singh v. UOI (2024): State can intervene to curb religious practices impeding equality & development.

About the Preamble:

- **Nature:** Introductory statement; reflects philosophy, vision, and objectives.

- Origin: Based on Objectives Resolution (Nehru, 1946); adopted 1947.
- Declarations: India as Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic ensuring Justice, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.
- **Symbolism:**
 1. Source of Authority: "We, the People of India."
 2. Nature of State: Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic.

Amendment of the Preamble:

- **Permissible:** Supreme Court (Kesavananda Bharati, 1973) has held that Preamble is part of Constitution and can be amended without violating Basic Structure.
- **Only Amendment: 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976** (during Emergency).

- Added "Socialist" and "Secular" between Sovereign and Democratic.
- Added "Integrity" to Unity of the Nation.

Key Judicial Pronouncements:

- Berubari Union Case (1960): Preamble not a part of the Constitution; only a tool for interpretation.
- Kesavananda Bharati Case (1973): Overruled Berubari; Preamble is part of the Constitution, embodies basic structure but cannot override provisions.
- S.R. Bommai Case (1994): Secularism upheld as basic feature of the Constitution.
- LIC of India Case (1995): Reaffirmed Preamble as integral, but non-justiciable (not enforceable in court).

Science, Technology, Art & Culture

NASA-ESA Solar Orbiter Mission



Why in the News?

The NASA-ESA Solar Orbiter Mission has recently traced the origin of Solar Energetic Electrons (SEE), advancing knowledge of solar activity and space weather.

About NASA-ESA Solar Orbiter Mission:

- **Launch & Cost:** Joint ESA-NASA project valued at \$1.5 billion, launched from Cape Canaveral in February 2020 aboard an Atlas V.
- **Primary mission duration:** 2026, with the possibility of extension to 2030.

- Extremely eccentric orbit that eventually tilts to mirror the poles of the Sun, approaching 0.28 AU (within Mercury's orbit).
- **Payload:** 10 instruments, including remote sensing (spectroscopy, imaging) and in-situ (solar wind, magnetic fields, particles).
- **Firsts and Goals:** seeks to investigate the origin of the solar wind, the dynamics of the solar cycle, the origins of flares and CMEs, and their effects on the heliosphere and space weather. It is the first to image the polar poles.

What are Solar Energetic Electrons (SEE)?

- **What they are:** High-energy electron streams that are launched into space and move across the heliosphere.
- **Sources:** Originate from coronal mass ejections (CMEs), which are plasma + magnetic eruptions, and solar flares, which are abrupt surface bursts.
- **Trends:** Because of turbulence and scattering in the interplanetary medium, releases are frequently hours delayed.
- **Observations from Solar Orbiters:** 300+ bursts were detected between 2020 and 22; this was

the first time that SEE was directly linked to solar flares or CMEs.

Significance of the recent findings:

- Science: Describes how the Sun's particles accelerate.
- Space Weather: CMEs are the primary cause of severe weather events that impact communication, satellites, GPS, power grids, and the safety of astronauts.
- Practical Utility: Enhances early-warning and solar storm forecasting systems for infrastructure and human spaceflight.
- Long-Term Implications: Anticipated to transform solar physics and our ability to forecast interactions between the Sun and the Earth.

Vikram 32-Bit Processor



Why in the News?

Union Minister for Electronics & IT has presented PM with a memento containing the first 'Made in India' Vikram 32-bit Launch Vehicle Grade Processor (VIKRAM3201).

About Vikram 32-bit Processor (VIKRAM3201):

- Overview: VSSC-ISRO and Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL), Chandigarh, collaborated to produce India's first entirely domestic 32-bit space-grade microprocessor.
- Lineage: A descendant of the 16-bit VIKRAM1601 (used in ISRO launch vehicles since

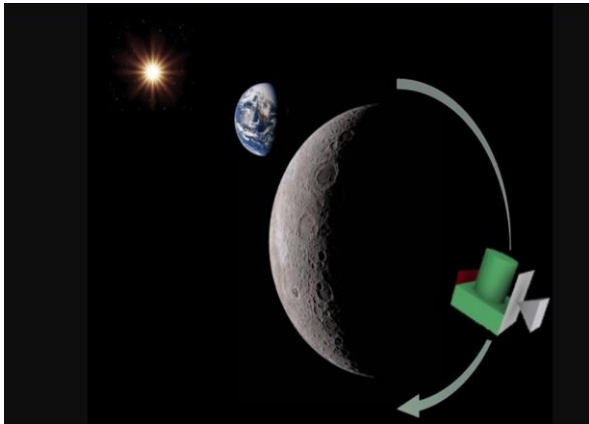
2009), this chip is intended for mission control, navigation, avionics, and guiding.

- Launch & Validation: Unveiled as a representation of India's independence in semiconductors at Semicon India 2025. verified in space using POEM-4 experiments during PSLV-C60 (2025).
- Applications: Mostly for space missions, but because of its tough dependability, it is also appropriate for defense, automotive, and energy systems.
- Policy Support: Created under the Design Linked Incentive (DLI) and India Semiconductor Mission programs, it reflects the policy's emphasis on domestic chip manufacture and design.

Key Technical Features:

- Trajectory precision requires a 32-bit architecture that supports 64-bit floating-point (IEEE754) and 16/32-bit fixed-point operations.
- Registers and Memory: Up to 4096M words of memory can be addressed using 32 registers, each of which is 32 bits wide.
- 152 instructions with microprogrammed control make up the instruction set, which allows for flexibility in aerospace calculations.
- Performance: Uses a single 3.3V supply, runs at 100 MHz, uses less than 500 mW of power, and has a quiescent current of less than 10 mA.
- Environmental Tolerance: Suitable for space and military environments, it operates between -55°C and +125°C.
- Interfaces: Two on-chip 1553B bus interfaces for avionics communication, 256 software interrupts, and four 32-bit timers are included.
- Software Compatibility: Ada language (aerospace standard) optimization; ISRO is working on C compiler support.
- Packaging and Fabrication: Constructed using a 180 nm CMOS process at SCL, Mohali, in a 181-pin ceramic PGA package.

PRATUSH Mission



Why in the News?

Raman Research Institute (RRI) has devised the Probing ReionizATIOn of the Universe using Signal from Hydrogen (PRATUSH) Telescope to study the “Cosmic Dawn” by detecting radio signals from neutral hydrogen gas.

About the PRATUSH Mission:

- **Developer:** The Raman Research Institute (RRI), a separate organization under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), in Bengaluru, created the design.
- **Principal Objective:** to detect the weak 21-cm radio signal from neutral hydrogen in order to investigate the Cosmic Dawn, the time when the first stars and galaxies created.
- **From the Moon, why?** Radio noise (such as FM broadcasts) and atmospheric aberrations cause these signals to be lost on Earth. The finest location for radio astronomy is the lunar far side since it is the quietest location in the inner Solar System.
- **Scientific Importance:** May provide hints regarding dark matter and basic physics, as well as how the early Universe evolved and how the earliest stars heated and ionized hydrogen gas.

Key Features:

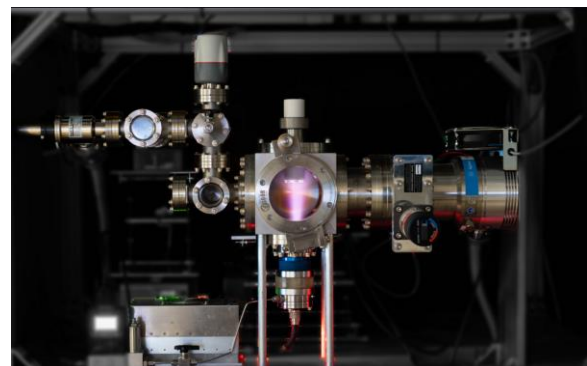
- **Compact Design:** Small, lightweight, low-power, and cost-effective – in line with the global trend of miniaturized space instruments.
- **Digital Receiver System:**

- Uses a single-board computer (like Raspberry Pi prototype).
- Equipped with FPGA (Field Programmable Gate Array) for high-speed radio data processing.

How it Works:

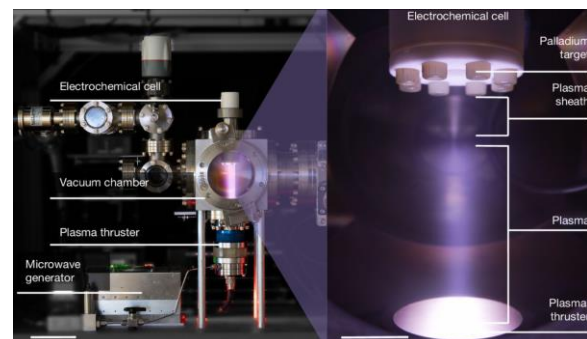
- Antenna collects faint hydrogen signals.
 - Analog receiver amplifies them.
 - Digital receiver + FPGA convert them into detailed spectral fingerprints of sky brightness.
- **Test Results:** Lab trials (352 hours) showed extremely low noise (few millikelvins), proving it can detect faint cosmic signals.
 - **SWaP Advantage:** Optimized for Size, Weight, and Power (SWaP), making it highly suitable for space deployment.

Thunderbird Reactor and Cold Fusion Research (2025)



Why in the News?

Cold fusion reaction, once dismissed after failed 1989 claims, is back in discussion as US-based researchers report neutron production from their small “Thunderbird Reactor.”



What is Cold Fusion Reaction?

- **Overview:** An alternative to conventional fusion, which requires extremely high heat (100 million °C or more), this method is suggested for achieving nuclear fusion at ambient temperature.
- **How it began:** Two chemists, Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann, claimed in 1989 that their experiment with water containing palladium produced more heat than is permitted by standard chemistry.
- **Issue:** The outcome could not be replicated by other researchers. There was no unambiguous proof of fusion products (such as helium or neutrons). The idea persisted even after the allegation was rejected.
- **Why there is still interest:** Cold fusion has the potential to produce inexpensive, clean, and infinite energy if it is proven. Low-Energy Nuclear Reactions (LENR) is the new name for this field of study.

About the Thunderbird Reactor (2025)

- **Inception:** Scientists led by Curtis Berlinguette, University of British Columbia, published in *Nature* (Aug 2025).
- **Why built:** Not to make electricity, but to test if chemistry can affect nuclear reactions.
- **How it works:**
 - Deuterium ions, a kind of hydrogen, are fired at a palladium metal target via a plasma thruster.
 - More deuterium is pushed into the palladium at the same time by an electrochemical cell.
 - This increases the likelihood of fusion by creating a very high density of deuterium inside the metal.
 - A neutron detector verifies the existence of fusion.

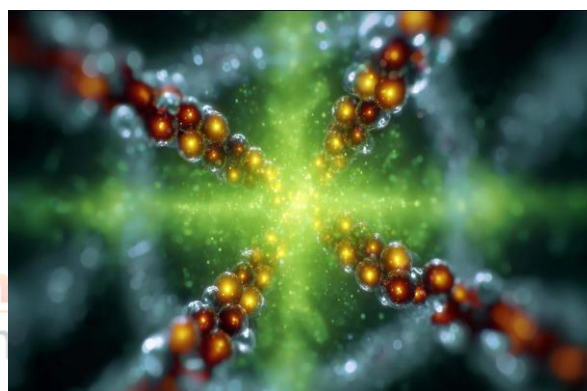
Key Findings:

- **Neutrons detected:** Approximately 130–140 neutrons per second were recorded when

deuterium ions struck palladium, which is significantly more than background levels.

- **Electrolysis boost:** The neutron count was further raised by electrolyzing more deuterium.
- **Energy output:** The reaction used 15 watts of electricity and only generated a minuscule amount of power (one billionth of a watt). No net energy gain as of yet.

RNA–Amino Acid Link clues to Origin of Life



Why in the News?

A recent study published in the *Nature* suggests that simple molecules called aminoacyl-thiols may have helped amino acids stick to RNA (ribonucleic acid) without enzymes, giving clues to how protein-making began on early Earth.

About the RNA–Amino Acid Link:

- **Finding:** Research revealed that simple prebiotic compounds called aminoacyl-thiols can directly bind amino acids to RNA (a process known as aminoacylation) without the need for enzymes.
- **Contemporary Parallel:** Aminoacyl-tRNA synthetases conduct this in cells nowadays before ribosomes assemble proteins. Because proteins are necessary for the synthesis of other proteins, this led to the "chicken-and-egg problem."
- **Chemical Mechanism:**
 - **Thioesters:** Enable amino acids to attach to RNA ("charging RNA").
 - **Thioacids:** Enable amino acids to link into **peptides**.

- **Robustness:** Works at neutral pH, across many amino acids, with unexpected selectivity for RNA despite other molecules being more reactive.

Significance for Origin of Life:

- The RNA World Hypothesis backs up the theory that, prior to the evolution of enzymes, RNA and amino acids interacted directly.
- **Chemical Advantage:** Explains RNA's pivotal role in the creation of life by demonstrating that it had a natural advantage under early Earth conditions.
- **Prebiotic plausibility:** Reactions took place even in cold, frozen pools that resembled early Earth, and aminoacyl-thiols could be formed from simple nitriles and thiols.
- According to the evolutionary pathway, life started with short peptides and then evolved control through RNA, which resulted in ribosomes and programmed protein synthesis.

'Blood Moon' and Lunar Eclipse



Why in the News?

Viewers across Asia, Australia, and parts of Africa witnessed a Blood Moon on 8th September, a spectacular form of total lunar eclipse visible.

About Lunar Eclipse:

- **Overview:** Happens when Earth comes between Sun and Moon, blocking sunlight from reaching the Moon.
- **Earth's Shadow:**
 - Umbra: Dark central shadow, causes total or partial eclipses.

- Penumbra: Outer shadow, causes faint dimming.

Types:

1. Total Eclipse: Moon passes fully through umbra.
2. Partial Eclipse: Only part of Moon enters umbra.
3. Penumbral Eclipse: Moon passes through penumbra with subtle darkening.

- **Frequency:** Occurs 2–4 times per year, visible from different regions.

Why lunar eclipse don't occur every month?

Because the Moon's orbit around the Earth is inclined by roughly 5 degrees in relation to the Earth's orbit around the Sun, lunar eclipses do not occur every month. Because of this tilt, often referred to as orbital inclination, the Moon frequently moves above or below Earth's shadow during a full moon, making the precise alignment needed for an eclipse impossible. Only when the Sun, Earth, and Moon are precisely aligned in a straight line can an eclipse take place.

What is Blood Moon?

- **Meaning:** Refers to the reddish glow of the Moon during a total lunar eclipse.
- **Cause:** Rayleigh scattering in Earth's atmosphere.
 - Short wavelengths (blue, violet) scatter away.
 - Longer wavelengths (red, orange) bend around Earth and light the Moon.
- **Colour Intensity:**
 - Presence of dust, aerosols, volcanic ash deepens the red shade.
 - Cleaner atmosphere produces a lighter red or orange.
- **Historical Insight:** Medieval records of Blood Moons helped identify volcanic eruptions between 1100–1300 CE, confirmed by a 2023 University of Geneva study.

Significance:

- Scientific: Assists in modeling planetary atmospheres and serves as a natural indication of dust, pollution, and atmospheric composition.
- Historical/Environmental: Offers proof of previous climate conditions and volcanic eruptions.
- Cultural: Although scientifically innocuous, associated with myths and superstitions.
- Public Engagement: A widely reported astronomical occurrence that promotes awareness and outreach about astronomy.

Neurogenesis in the Human Brain



Why in the News?

A recent study (2025, Science) found young neurons in the adult brain, challenging the old belief that Neurogenesis (neurons formation) occur only in childhood.

What is Neurogenesis?

- Overview: Stem or progenitor cells are used to form new neurons.
- Known to exist in mice, rats, and monkeys, it is also active throughout the development of children in humans.
- The role of the hippocampus It is thought that the dentate gyrus maintains neurogenesis throughout life, assisting with stress management, adaptability, and memory formation.

Key findings of the Study:

- Stockholm's Karolinska Institute conducted the study, which was published in Science in 2025.

- Study: 400,000 neurons from post-mortem hippocampal tissues from individuals ranging in age from newborns (less than a year) to 78 years were examined.
- Methodology: To find indications of new cells, single nucleus RNA sequencing was combined with machine learning.
- The presence of neural stem cells, progenitors, and immature neurons (neuroblasts) in both adult and adolescent brains was validated using RNAscope and Xenium imaging.

Why are the findings important?

- Evidence in Adults: There is compelling evidence that adult brains, not simply those of children, develop new neurons.
- Evolutionary insight: implies that neurogenesis is a trait shared by all mammals and not specific to any one species.
- Brain Functions: Describes the capacity to overwrite memories, memory flexibility, and stress tolerance.
- Therapeutic Potential: By promoting local progenitor cells, it creates the possibility of regenerative therapies for brain conditions like dementia, Parkinson's, and Alzheimer's.
- Lifestyle Link: Suggests that stress levels, social networks, and physical activity may affect an individual's neurogenesis.

Supreme Court Guidelines on DNA

Evidence in Criminal Cases



Why in the News?

The Supreme Court has issued guidelines in the Kattavellai @ Devakar v. State of Tamil Nadu Judgement to standardise DNA handling in criminal cases to prevent contamination and delays after evidence lapses in a major case.

Key Highlights of the Supreme Court Guidelines:

- Case Context: Robbery, homicide, and rape were all involved. The court noted the potential of contamination, loss of chain of custody, and delays in the submission of the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL).
- Need: Despite dispersed regulations, there are no consistent practices between states. The Supreme Court stepped in to ensure national uniformity because police and public order are on the State List.
- **Guidelines Issued:**
 - Samples must be appropriately packaged, labeled with FIR information, and signed by the investigating officer, medical officer, and witnesses.
 - Transportation: Within 48 hours, the Investigating Officer (IO) is required to deliver samples to FSL. Any delay's causes must be noted.
 - Keeping Pending Trial: Without the trial court's consent, packages cannot be opened or resealed.
 - Register of Chain of Custody: Preserved until acquittal or conviction. IO is in charge of elucidating errors.

Previous SC Observations on DNA Evidence:

- DNA is only dependable if laboratory processes are followed, according to Anil v. Maharashtra (2014).
- DNA was rejected in Manoj v. Madhya Pradesh (2022) because the recovery came from an open

place where there was a danger of contamination.

- In Rahul v. Delhi (2022), DNA was declared inadmissible following two months of detention by the police.
- According to Pattu Rajan v. Tamil Nadu (2019), the value of DNA is dependent on supporting evidence; its absence is not lethal.
- According to Sharda v. Dharmpal (2003), DNA test requests are legitimate and do not violate Article 21.
- According to Article 20(3), DNA is not self-incriminating in Das @ Anu v. Kerala (2022). In rape cases, collecting is permitted under Section 53A CrPC.

Back2Basics: DNA Profiling

- Overview: DNA fingerprinting, also known as DNA profiling, is a forensic method that uses unique DNA regions—mostly Short Tandem Repeats (STRs)—to identify individuals.
- How it works: Personal identity is based on the 0.1% variability in human DNA, which is 99.9% identical.
- Sources: Blood, semen, saliva, hair, bone, skin, and even "touch DNA" can all contain DNA.
- DNA markers are isolated, purified, amplified, visualized, and statistically compared as part of the procedure.
- Methods: mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and miniSTRs aid in limited or deteriorated material.
- Legal Status: In accordance with Section 45 of the Indian Evidence Act (currently Section 39 of the BSA 2023), treated as expert opinion. DNA is not substantial proof; it is corroborative.

Security Issues

Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) Order, 2025



Why in the News?

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has issued the Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) Order, 2025, notified under Section 33 of the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025.

What is Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025?

- **Enactment:** Passed by Parliament, effective 1 Sept 2025.
- **Objective:** Unifies scattered immigration laws into a single framework, balancing **national security, demographic protection, humanitarian obligations, and economic openness**.
- **Repeals:** Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920; Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939; Foreigners Act, 1946; Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Act, 2000.
- **Key Provisions:**
 - Unless they are exempt, all foreigners must arrive, remain, and depart with a valid passport and visa.
 - AI-powered monitoring, biometrics, and real-time agency coordination are all features of this digital system.
 - The following are new visa categories: Business Plus, Startup,

Investor, Digital Nomad, and Skilled Talent.

- Hotels, landlords, colleges, and hospitals are required to report foreign visitors, students, and patients.
- Special permissions are required for entry into protected or restricted regions, and mountaineering trips require prior authorization.
- **Penalties:** Up to **7 years imprisonment** and **₹10 lakh fine** for forged documents; detention centres allowed for illegal foreigners till deportation.
- **Institutions:**
 - **National Immigration Authority** for policy and central database.
 - **Bureau of Immigration**, led by Commissioner, for operations.

About Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) Order, 2025:

- **Summary:** Published on September 1, 2025, by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in accordance with Section 33 of the Immigration and Foreigners Act of 2025.
- The goal is to streamline regulations, facilitate regional transportation with Nepal and Bhutan, offer humanitarian aid to refugees and persecuted minorities, and give carriers legal certainty by combining previously dispersed exemptions.
- The Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Order of 2007 and the Registration of Foreigners (Exemption) Order of 1957 are replaced.
- **Exemptions:**
 - Indian Armed Forces members on duty and families using govt transport.
 - Indian citizens entering via Nepal/Bhutan borders.

- Nepal & Bhutan citizens (except if entering from China, Hong Kong, Macau, Pakistan).
- Tibetans registered with India, religious minorities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan (who entered before Dec 31, 2024), and Sri Lankan Tamils sheltered till Jan 9, 2015.
- Diplomats, visa-on-arrival nationals, foreign military personnel on goodwill or exercises.
- **Carriers' Liability:** Rail, road, air, sea operators exempted where forged documents need expert verification or ships/aircraft are diverted.

Technology Perspective and Capability Roadmap (TPCR-2025)



Why in the News?

The Ministry of Defence has released the Technology Perspective and Capability Roadmap 2025 (TPCR-2025), a 15-year blueprint for military preparedness and modernization.

About Technology Perspective and Capability Roadmap (TPCR-2025):

- **Overview:** The Ministry of Defense unveiled a strategic modernization plan to direct India's armed forces during the ensuing ten to fifteen years.
- **Covers tri-services** for multi-domain operations in cyberspace, the air, the sea, and the ground.
- **Industry Role:** Gives start-ups, MSMEs, and the defense sector precise guidelines on how to

concentrate on R&D, manufacturing, and innovation.

- **Alignment of Policy:** associated with Atmanirbhar Bharat, which strengthens domestic manufacturing and lessens reliance on imports.
- **Goal:** Maintain troops' resilience in a changing security environment, technical competitiveness, and readiness for new threats.

Key Features of TPCR-2025:

- **Enhancing nuclear command systems,** survivability infrastructure, radiation detection, decontamination units, and unmanned CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) vehicles are all examples of nuclear and CBRN preparedness.
- **Drones and Unmanned Systems:** creation of anti-drone EW bubbles, AI-enabled loitering weapons, and stealth drones with a range of 1,500 km and an altitude of 60,000 feet.
- **Advanced jammers, EW payloads, info-dominance systems, and preparedness for cyber and space warfare** are all examples of electronic and cyber warfare.
- **Service Modernization:**
 - **Army:** New tanks, light tanks, UAV-launched PGMs, electromagnetic weapons.
 - **Navy:** New destroyers, corvettes, mine vessels, nuclear-powered warships, third aircraft carrier.
 - **Air Force:** Stratospheric airships, long-range cruise missiles, hardened PGMs.
- **Implementation:** Regular industry-services consultations, engagement with MSMEs and start-ups, periodic updates.

Significance:

- Serves as a capability roadmap for long-term defence planning.
- Strengthens domestic defence ecosystem.
- Ensures future combat readiness in multi-domain operations.

Exercise Pacific Reach, 2025



Why in the News?

INS Nistar, the Navy's new indigenous Diving Support Vessel, made its maiden port call at Singapore to join the multinational Exercise Pacific Reach 2025.

About Exercise Pacific Reach:

- **Overview:** A biennial, multinational submarine rescue exercise initiated in 1996 (Asia-Pacific).
- **Objective:** Enhances cooperation, interoperability, and readiness in submarine rescue.
- **Pacific Reach 2025 (XPR-25):** 9th edition, hosted by Singapore.
- **Phases:**
 - Harbour Phase: Seminars, Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEE), medical symposium, cross-deck visits.
 - Sea Phase: Live submarine rescue drills, intervention ops, deep-water simulated emergencies, and Mass Evacuation Exercises (MASSEVEX).
- **Participation:** 40+ countries (participants + observers).

India's Participation:

- The mothership for the Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) is India's own Diving Support Vessel (DSV), INS Nistar.
- Participating in actual rescue exercises is the Submarine Rescue Unit (East).
- Significance: Establishes India as a regional leader in humanitarian submarine rescue and

displays 80% domestic capabilities (constructed by Hindustan Shipyard Ltd).

INS Nistar

- **Commissioning:** In July 2025, Visakhapatnam saw the commissioning of the first domestic DSV.
- **Design:** In keeping with Aatmanirbhar Bharat, 80% of the building's content is indigenous.
- **Capability:** Supports DSRV rescue operations up to 300 meters; furnished with helipads, medical facilities, subsea cranes, hyperbaric lifeboats, and ROVs.
- **Function:** Strengthens India's deep-sea rescue and marine safety framework by supplying endurance for extended operations.

Upgradation of Army Radars



Why in the News?

After Operation Sindoor and Pakistani drone incursions, the Army is upgrading air defence with **advanced radars to counter low-RCS (radar cross-section) drones** and other aerial threats along northern and western borders.

What are Radars?

- **About:** Radar stands for Radio Detection and Ranging; it uses radio waves to locate, track, and measure speed of objects.
- **Components:** Transmitter emits radio signals, receiver captures reflections.

- **Functions:** Measures direction, distance (via time delay), and velocity (via Doppler shift).
- **Types in air defence:**
 - **Surveillance radars:** Monitor airspace and detect aerial objects, not directly linked to weapons.
 - **Fire control radars:** Provide targeting data to guide anti-aircraft guns or missiles.

Current Indian Capabilities:

- **Indian Air Force:** Operates High-Power Radars and Medium-Power Radars for long-range, high-altitude threats such as jets, AWACS, and large transport aircraft.
 - For fire control, the Air Force employs systems like the 3D Central Acquisition Radar and Rajendra radar.
- **Indian Army:** Uses Low-Level Light-Weight Radars, designed to pick up low-flying, small radar cross-section objects like drones.
 - Upgraded Flycatcher and Air Defence Tactical Control Radar systems to aim weapons and manage local defence.

India's Air Defence Infrastructure:

- Missile systems: consists of the native Akash missile system and the Russian S-400.
- The Army's Akashteer system creates a real-time operational air picture by combining radars, sensors, air defense weapons, and communications.
- The Integrated Air Command and Control System (IACCS) of the IAF: Combines information from various assets to enable coordinated interception and detection.
- The mission The Integrated Air Defence Weapon System was recently tested by DRDO as part of the ongoing modernization effort at Sudarshan Chakra.

India's first overseas Defence Facility in Morocco



Why in the News?

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated Tata Advanced Systems' plant at Berrechid, Morocco—India's first overseas and Morocco's largest defence manufacturing facility.

About India's Morocco Defence Facility:

- **Developer:** Founded by Morocco's largest defense plant and India's first foreign defense manufacturing facility, Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL).
- **Scale and Capacity:** Covering 20,000 square meters, it can produce about 100 armored vehicles a year.
- **Product:** TASL and DRDO collaborated to build the Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP) 8x8.
- **Variants:** Infantry Fighting Vehicle, Ambulance, Command Post, Reconnaissance Vehicle, Armoured Personnel Carrier, and Mortar Carrier are examples of modular designs.
- **Operations:** In October 2025, the Royal Moroccan Army is expected to receive the first supplies.

Significance:

- India's defense strategy is extended from "Made in India" to "Made for the World" through strategic expansion.
- A diplomatic milestone was reached when an Indian defense minister visited Morocco for the first time, signifying deeper defense ties between Morocco and India.
- **Economic and Employment Boost:** 33% of components are sourced locally (to reach 50%); employment are created in Morocco.

- **Export Hub:** India's defense export footprint is increased by Morocco's location as a gateway to both Africa and Europe.

- **Security Role:** Makes India a reliable international supplier of armored vehicles and strengthens regional defense capabilities.

Trivia

Coconut Development Board (CDB)



Why in the News?

The World Coconut Day (2nd September) was recently celebrated by the Coconut Development Board (CDB).

About Coconut Development Board (CDB):

- **Establishment:** A statutory body under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, it was established on January 12, 1981.
- **Offices & Headquarters:** Regional offices in Bengaluru, Chennai, Guwahati, and Patna; headquarters in Kochi, Kerala.
- The mandate is to develop coconut production and use in an integrated manner, emphasizing product variety, processing, and productivity.
- **Functions:** Offers farmers and processors financial assistance and technical guidance; encourages the adoption of contemporary technologies, value addition, pricing and marketing strategies, and export promotion.
- **Welfare Schemes:** Puts into action initiatives aimed at farmers, such as Kera Suraksha and Coconut Palm Insurance Mission.

Coconut Cultivation in India

- Globally, India ranks third in terms of coconut production, accounting for roughly 31.45% of global production.

- **Production:** From a 23.33 lakh hectare area, India produced 153.29 lakh MT in 2023–2024.
- **Productivity:** One of the highest in the world, with an average of 9,871 nuts per hectare.
- **Leading States:** About 90% of production comes from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh. Karnataka has increased significantly, Kerala and TN are in the forefront, and AP provides about 8%.
- **Economic Value:** In 2022–2023, the sector accounted for ₹27,199.5 crore GVO and ₹30,795.6 crore GDP share.
- **Exports:** Copra, oil, coir, activated carbon, and value-added meals were among the coconut goods that India exported in 2022–2023 for a total of ₹3,554.23 crore (US \$452 million).
- **Employment Impact:** Provides employment for over 12 million people; 15,000+ coir industries employ close to 6 lakh people.

Himachal Pradesh declared to be 'Fully Literate'



Why in the News?

Himachal Pradesh was recently declared a 'fully literate' state, becoming the 5th State/UT after Goa, Ladakh, Mizoram, and Tripura.

Various Definitions of Literacy / Full Literacy:

- According to the Ministry of Education (MoE), literacy is the capacity to comprehend and read, write, and calculate. Digital and financial literacy are also essential life skills.
- Complete Literacy: At a 95% literacy rate, a State or Union Territory (UT) is deemed fully literate.
- India's 2011 Census: Literate people are those who can read and write in any language with comprehension and who are at least seven years old. Reading comprehension without writing is not considered literacy.
- The Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society (ULLAS) program was introduced in 2022. Here, literacy entails learning the fundamentals of reading, writing, and math in addition to practical understanding about time, money, and technology usage.
- The centrally supported New India Literacy Programme (NILP) is in line with NEP 2020. Achieving a verified literacy rate of at least 95% through examinations is considered complete literacy.

How is Literacy attained under ULLAS / NILP?

- Target Group: Door-to-door surveys or other state data are used to identify adults (15+) who did not complete formal education.
- Basic Training: Students receive instruction in reading, writing, and math up to the Class 3 level. They also learn how to use calendars, read time, handle cash and checks, and conduct secure online transactions.
- Delivery Method: Student volunteers and community workers can conduct training offline or via the ULLAS mobile app.
- Evaluation: Students take the 150-mark FLNAT (Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test), which is offered in regional languages.
- Certification: The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) certifies students as literate when they complete the FLNAT.

- Result: When recognized nonliterates pass the FLNAT and the literacy percentage above the 95% criteria, states and UTs are deemed "fully literate."

Expedition 'Samudra Pradakshina'**Why in the News?**

Defence Minister flagged off Samudra Pradakshina, the world's first tri-service all-women circumnavigation sailing mission, from the Gateway of India, Mumbai.

About Expedition 'Samudra Pradakshina':

- Overview: The world's first all-female tri-service circumnavigation sailing mission.
- Under the command of Lt. Col. Anuja Varudkar, the crew consisted of ten female officers from the Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- Vessel: 50-foot, locally-built IASV Triveni yacht in Puducherry.
- Route & Duration: Nine months, 26,000 nautical miles, two equatorial crossings, and a circumnavigation of Capes Leeuwin, Horn, and Good Hope.
- Port Calls: Cape Town, South Africa; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Lyttelton, New Zealand; Fremantle, Australia.
- The mission's goals are to develop marine diplomacy, advance Atmanirbhar Bharat, showcase Nari Shakti, encourage cooperative military cooperation, and carry out ocean research in collaboration with the National Institute of Oceanography.

Historic Precursors:

- In 1969, Sir Robin Knox-Johnston of the UK completed the first circumnavigation by himself without stopping.
- Indian solo circumnavigation first accomplished by Captain Dilip Donde (2009–10). Commander Abhilash Tomy made the first Indian solo circumnavigation without stopping from 2012 to 2013.
- Women-led Expeditions: The first all-female Indian Navy circumnavigation aboard the INSV Tarini was Navika Sagar Parikrama (2017–18). The second successful all-female naval circumnavigation aboard INSV Tarini was Navika Sagar Parikrama-II (2024–25).

7 Natural Heritage Sites from India added to UNESCO's Tentative List



Why in the News?

Seven natural heritage sites from India were added to UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites, raising India's tally from 62 to 69 places.

About the 7 newly added UNESCO Tentative List Sites:

Site	Detailed Facts
Deccan Traps (Panchgani & Mahabaleshwar, Maharashtra)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the world's largest volcanic provinces (~66 mya) • Basalt lava flows covering ~500,000 sq. km • Step-like "trap" topography, fossil beds, red

	bole layers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked to end-Cretaceous mass extinction • Part of Western Ghats; within Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary
St. Mary's Island Cluster (Udupi, Karnataka)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four islands in Arabian Sea near Udupi • Famous for hexagonal/polygonal rhyolitic lava columns (~85–88 mya) • Formed during breakup of India–Madagascar • Declared National Geo-heritage Monument (2016) • Rare acidic lava formations, unique in India
Meghalayan Age Caves (East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mawmluh Cave is type locality for Meghalayan Age (~4,200 years ago) • Records global drought event in late Holocene • Meghalaya has longest sandstone cave (Krem Puri – 24.5 km) • Karst systems preserve stalagmites, paleoclimate archives • Culturally significant to Khasi tribes; threatened by mining
Naga Hill Ophiolite (Nagaland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 km belt of uplifted oceanic crust & mantle rocks • Composed of gabbro, peridotite, basalt • Formed at supra-subduction / mid-ocean

	ridge zones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Later thrust onto Indian continental plate • Only major ophiolite exposure in India; National Geological Monument
Erra Matti Dibbalu (Red Sand Hills, Andhra Pradesh)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quaternary-age coastal red sand mounds (~12,000–18,500 years old) • Spread over 5 km near Visakhapatnam • Derived from ancient Khondalite rocks • Record climate shifts, sea-level oscillations, monsoon history • Mesolithic–Neolithic artefacts found; National Geo-heritage Monument
Tirumala Hills (Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Famous for Eparchaeon Unconformity (1.5 billion-year gap) • Boundary between Archaean gneiss & Proterozoic quartzites • Hosts Silathoranam natural arch, rare erosional landform • Hills rise to ~900 m; part of Cuddapah Basin • Combines geological, tectonic, and spiritual significance
Varkala Cliff (Kerala)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal cliff escarpment up to 80 m high • Exposes Mio-Pliocene Warkalli Formation (1.3–25 mya)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fossiliferous sedimentary rocks beside sea (rare in India) • Natural springs and aquifers emerge from cliff face • Declared National Geological Monument; major tourism hub (Papanasam Beach)
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UNESCO's Tentative List

- What it is: A list of the natural and cultural landmarks that a member nation intends to propose for potential World Heritage designation.
- Prior to being nominated, a site must remain on this list for a minimum of one year.
- Goal: Enables UNESCO to plan protection and evaluate Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).
- Not every location on the Tentative List is designated as a World Heritage Site.
- World Heritage Sites (WHS): Locations recognized for its OUV under the 1972 World Heritage Convention that are cultural, natural, or mixed.
- **Categories of WHS:**
 - Cultural: Temples, monuments, forts, archaeological remains.
 - Natural: National parks, caves, biodiversity zones.
 - Mixed: Sacred landscapes with both cultural and natural value.
- **10 Criteria for Selection:** A site must satisfy at least one of these:
 - Cultural (i–vi): Masterpiece of human genius; interchange of values; unique cultural testimony; outstanding architecture/landscape; example of settlement/land use; linked to events, traditions, or ideas of universal significance.

- Natural (vii–x): Exceptional natural beauty; example of Earth’s history; ecological or biological processes; key habitats for in-situ biodiversity conservation and threatened species.
- **India:** It is currently a member of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee (2021–2025 term); Has 42 World Heritage Sites (34 cultural, 7 natural, 1 mixed).





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