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NATIONAL AFFAIRS & GOVERNANCE

PM MODI'S VISION OF VIKSIT BHARAT 2047

Why in News?

During his **Independence Day 2026** address, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** reiterated the vision of "**Viksit Bharat 2047**", aiming to transform India into a **developed nation by 2047**, when the country will celebrate **100 years of Independence**.

Key Facts

- **Vision:** Viksit Bharat by **2047**
- **Occasion:** 100 Years of India's Independence
- **Nuclear Energy Target:** **100 GW** by 2047
- **Commonwealth Games Target:** Host the **2030 Commonwealth Games**
- **Olympics Target:** Bid to host the **2036 Olympic Games**
- **Talent Hunt Programme:** For children aged **5–15 years**
- **Sports Motto:** "**Jo Khele, Woh Khile**"
- **Duration of PM's Independence Day Speech:** Approximately **75 minutes**

Exam Highlights

- ✓ **Viksit Bharat target year – 2047**
- ✓ **Nuclear Energy target – 100 GW by 2047**
- ✓ **India aims to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games**
- ✓ **India aims to host the 2036 Olympic Games**
- ✓ **Talent Hunt Programme for children aged 5–15 years**
- ✓ **Sports slogan – "Jo Khele, Woh Khile"**

GUJARAT BANS UNSTANDARDISED ANALOGUE DAIRY PRODUCTS

Why in News?

The **Gujarat Government** imposed a statewide ban on the **production, storage, transportation, distribution and sale of unstandardised analogue paneer, cheese and butter** under the **Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006**.

Key Facts

- **State:** Gujarat
- **Banned Products:** Analogue Paneer, Cheese & Butter
- **Law:** Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
- **Reason:** Consumer protection and quality control.
- **India's Largest Dairy Cooperative:** Amul
- **Amul Headquarters:** Anand, Gujarat

Exam Highlights

- ✓ State → Gujarat
- ✓ Act → Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
- ✓ Largest Dairy Cooperative → Amul
- ✓ Headquarters → Anand (Gujarat)

HARYANA SETS TWO GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS

Why in News?

Haryana created history during **Independence Day 2026** celebrations when a **Tiranga Yatra** in **Palwal** set two Guinness World Records.

Key Facts

- **State:** Haryana
- **Location:** Palwal
- **Occasion:** Independence Day 2026
- **Minister:** Gaurav Gautam (Sports & Youth Empowerment Minister)
- **National Flag Length:** 5 Kilometres
- **Flag Width:** 10 Feet
- **Distance Covered:** 6.5 Kilometres

Guinness World Records

- **Longest Mass March With Flag**
- **Most People in a Flag March** (*as mentioned in the source*)

Exam Highlights

- ✓ State → Haryana
- ✓ Place → Palwal

✓ Guinness World Records → 2

✓ Tiranga Length → 5 km

One-Liner Revision

- Haryana → 2 Guinness World Records
- Place → Palwal
- Tiranga Length → 5 km
- Width → 10 feet
- Occasion → Independence Day 2026

KERALA OFFICIALLY RENAMED AS 'KERALAM'

Why in News?

The state of **Kerala** was officially renamed "**Keralam**" under the **Kerala (Alteration of Name) Act, 2026**, effective from **25 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Old Name:** Kerala
- **New Name:** Keralam
- **Effective Date:** 25 August 2026
- **Act:** Kerala (Alteration of Name) Act, 2026
- **Constitutional Provision:** Article 3

Exam Highlights

✓ New Name → Keralam

✓ Effective Date → 25 August 2026

✓ Constitutional Provision → Article 3

TAMIL THAI VAZHTHU DECLARED THE FIRST SONG AT OFFICIAL EVENTS

Why in News?

The **Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly** unanimously passed a resolution on **10 August 2026**, making **Tamil Thai Vazhthu** the **first song** to be played at all official functions across the state.

Key Facts

- **State:** Tamil Nadu
- **Song:** Tamil Thai Vazhthu
- **Resolution Passed:** 10 August 2026
- **Applicable To:** Government departments, universities, educational institutions, PSUs and other public organisations.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ State → Tamil Nadu
- ✓ Song → Tamil Thai Vazhthu
- ✓ Effective at → All official functions

TAMIL NADU INCREASES MATERNITY LEAVE TO 365 DAYS

Why in News?

The **Tamil Nadu Government** announced **365 days of maternity leave** for women government employees having a **third child**.

Key Facts

- **State:** Tamil Nadu
- **Maternity Leave:** 365 days
- **Beneficiaries:** Women government employees with a third child
- **Announcement By:** Human Resources Management Minister **D. Sarathkumar**

Exam Highlights

- ✓ State → Tamil Nadu
- ✓ Maternity Leave → 365 Days
- ✓ Minister → D. Sarathkumar

NTA INTRODUCES FOUR-TIER QUESTION PAPER CHECKING SYSTEM

Why in News?

The **National Testing Agency (NTA)** has introduced a **four-tier question paper checking system** to improve the quality and accuracy of national-level examinations.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Organisation → NTA
- ✓ New System → Four-tier Question Paper Checking
- ✓ Security → CISF & Air-Gapped Systems

KANDA EXPRESS LAUNCHED TO CONTROL ONION PRICES

Why in News?

The **Union Government** launched **Kanda Express** on **24 August 2026** to transport onions from **Nashik (Maharashtra)** to major consumption centres to stabilize rising onion prices.

Key Facts

- **Launch Date:** 24 August 2026
- **Purpose:** Control rising onion prices
- **Origin:** Nashik, Maharashtra
- **Destinations:** Delhi, Chennai, Kochi and Guwahati
- **Procurement Agencies:** NAFED & NCCF
- **Onion Buffer Stock:** Around **1.2 lakh tonnes**

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Scheme → Kanda Express
- ✓ Origin → Nashik (Maharashtra)
- ✓ Agencies → NAFED & NCCF

Learn from someone who has already
achieved what you are preparing for.

NSG LAUNCHES FIRST MAHILA COMMANDO CONVERSION COURSE

Why in News?

The **National Security Guard (NSG)** launched its **first Mahila Commando Conversion Course** at its **Training Academy, Manesar (Haryana)**.

Key Facts

- **Organisation:** National Security Guard (NSG)

- **Location:** Manesar, Haryana
- **Duration:** 12 Weeks
- **Participants:** Women personnel from State Police Forces & CAPFs
- **Training Includes:**
 - Weapons Handling
 - Marksmanship
 - Hostage Rescue
 - Counter-Terror Operations

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Organisation → NSG
- ✓ Venue → Manesar, Haryana
- ✓ Duration → 12 Weeks

AMIT SHAH INAUGURATES GUJARAT GAURAV SAROVAR

Why in News?

Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** inaugurated **Gujarat Gaurav Sarovar** in Amreli, Gujarat.

Key Facts

- **Location:** Amreli, Gujarat
- **Area:** 21 Acres
- **Storage Capacity:** 400 Million Litres
- **Benefits:**
 - Agriculture
 - Drinking Water
 - Groundwater Recharge

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Location → Amreli
- ✓ Capacity → 400 Million Litres

MAHARASHTRA FREEDOM OF RELIGION ACT, 2026

Why in News?

President **Droupadi Murmu** gave assent to the **Maharashtra Freedom of Religion Act, 2026**.

Key Facts

- **State:** Maharashtra
- **President's Assent:** Droupadi Murmu
- **Purpose:** Prevent conversions through coercion, fraud, allurement or marriage promises.
- **Notice Required:** 60 Days prior notice to the District Magistrate.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ State → Maharashtra
- ✓ Prior Notice → 60 Days

SUPREME COURT STRENGTH INCREASED TO 38 JUDGES

Why in News?

Lok Sabha passed the **Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Earlier Strength:** 34 Judges
- **New Strength:** 38 Judges (Including CJI)
- **Purpose:** Reduce pendency of cases and improve judicial efficiency.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Supreme Court Judges → 38

Learn from someone who has already
achieved what you are preparing for.

SUPREME COURT EXTENDS THIRD-PARTY MOTOR INSURANCE PERIOD

Why in News?

The **Supreme Court** extended the compulsory third-party insurance period for new private vehicles.

Key Facts

- **Cars:** Increased from 3 Years to 4 Years
- **Two-Wheelers:** Increased from 5 Years to 6 Years

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Cars → 4 Years
- ✓ Two-Wheelers → 6 Years

CENTRE ON CREAMY LAYER FOR SC/ST

Why in News?

The Union Government informed the **Supreme Court** that the **Creamy Layer** principle should **not** apply to SCs and STs.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Government's Stand → Creamy Layer should **not** apply to SC/ST reservations.

INDIA CELEBRATES 80TH INDEPENDENCE DAY 2026

Why in News?

India celebrated its **80th Independence Day** on **15 August 2026** with the theme "**Yuva Shakti: Leading the Journey to Viksit Bharat @2047.**"

Key Facts

- **Date:** 15 August 2026
- **Occasion:** 80th Independence Day
- **Theme:** *Yuva Shakti: Leading the Journey to Viksit Bharat @2047*

Exam Highlights

- ✓ 80th Independence Day
- ✓ Theme → *Yuva Shakti: Leading the Journey to Viksit Bharat @2047*

TRIBUNALS REFORMS BILL, 2026 PASSED

Why in News?

Parliament passed the **Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026**.

Key Facts

- Establishes the proposed **National Tribunals Commission (NTC)**.

- The NTC will oversee **16 major tribunals**.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ National Tribunals Commission (NTC)
- ✓ Supervises 16 Tribunals

KERALA (ALTERATION OF NAME) BILL, 2026 PASSED

Why in News?

Parliament passed the **Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026**.

Key Facts

- The Bill paves the way for **Kerala** to be officially renamed **Keralam**.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Kerala → Keralam

SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL INJURED IN KIRPAN ATTACK

Why in News?

Shiromani Akali Dal President **Sukhbir Singh Badal** was injured in a **kirpan attack** on **13 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Location:** Gurdwara Mata Sahib Devan Ji Mugat, Nanded, Maharashtra
- **Date:** 13 August 2026

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Location → Nanded, Maharashtra

Learn from someone who has already
achieved what you are preparing for.

JAMMU & KASHMIR HIGH COURT BENCH APPROVED FOR LADAKH

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet approved the establishment of a **Jammu & Kashmir High Court Bench** in **Ladakh**.

Objective

- Improve access to justice for people in Ladakh.

SUPREME COURT REDUCES JUDICIAL PRACTICE REQUIREMENT

Why in News?

The **Supreme Court** reduced the mandatory practice requirement for **entry-level judicial service examinations**.

Key Facts

- **Earlier Requirement:** 3 Years
- **New Requirement:** 1 Year

Exam Highlights

✓ Practice Requirement → 1 Year

PARLIAMENT PASSES BANKERS' BOOK EVIDENCE BILL, 2026

Why in News?

Parliament passed the **Bankers' Book Evidence Bill, 2026**, replacing the **Bankers' Book Evidence Act, 1891**.

Key Facts

- Replaces the **Bankers' Book Evidence Act, 1891**.
- Gives **legal recognition** to **electronic and digital banking records** in court proceedings.

Exam Highlights

✓ Replaces → **Bankers' Book Evidence Act, 1891**

✓ Purpose → **Legal recognition to digital banking records**

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GOVERNMENT SCHEMES & INITIATIVES

CABINET APPROVES 'SAMUDRA MANTHAN' SCHEME

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet approved the **National Offshore Exploration Scheme – "Samudra Manthan"** to boost offshore oil and gas exploration and strengthen India's energy security.

Key Facts

- **Scheme:** Samudra Manthan
- **Approved By:** Union Cabinet
- **Total Outlay:** ₹84,084 Crore
- **Implementation Period:** FY 2026–27 to 2030–31
- **Objective:** Increase offshore oil & gas exploration and reduce import dependence.
- **Target:** Increase domestic oil & gas production from **62 MMTOE to 80 MMTOE**.
- **Hydrocarbon Resource Target:** **1.6 Billion TOE → 2.2 Billion TOE**

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Scheme → Samudra Manthan
 - ✓ Outlay → ₹84,084 Crore
 - ✓ Target → Offshore Oil & Gas Exploration
 - ✓ Production Target → 80 MMTOE
- from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

GOBARDHAN – NATIONAL CIRCULAR BIOENERGY SCHEME

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet approved the **GOBARDhan National Circular Bioenergy Scheme** to promote **Compressed Biogas (CBG)** production and convert organic waste into clean energy.

Key Facts

- **Scheme:** GOBARdhan
- **Total Outlay:** ₹23,731 Crore
- **Implementation:** FY 2026–27 to 2035–36
- **Objective:** Increase domestic **Compressed Biogas (CBG)** production.
- **Waste Used:** Agricultural residue, cattle dung, municipal organic waste and biomass.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Scheme → GOBARdhan
- ✓ Outlay → ₹23,731 Crore
- ✓ Focus → Compressed Biogas (CBG)

DELHI LAKSHMI YOJANA

Why in News?

The **Delhi Government** will launch the **Delhi Lakshmi Yojana** from **1 September 2026** to provide **₹2,500 per month** as financial assistance to eligible women.

Key Facts

- **Scheme:** Delhi Lakshmi Yojana
- **Launched By:** Delhi Government
- **Chief Minister:** Rekha Gupta
- **Launch Date:** 1 September 2026
- **Financial Assistance:** ₹2,500 per month
- **Eligible Age:** 21–60 years
- **Benefit Transfer:** Directly into beneficiaries' bank accounts.
- **Registrations:** More than 9.13 lakh
- **Completed Applications:** More than 6.52 lakh

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Scheme → Delhi Lakshmi Yojana
- ✓ State → Delhi
- ✓ Chief Minister → Rekha Gupta
- ✓ Monthly Assistance → ₹2,500

✓ Eligible Age → 21–60 Years

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA YUVA SASHAKTIKARAN YOJANA

Why in News?

The **Uttar Pradesh Cabinet** approved the distribution of **25 lakh tablets** under the **Swami Vivekananda Yuva Sashaktikaran Yojana**.

Key Facts

- **State:** Uttar Pradesh
- **Scheme:** Swami Vivekananda Yuva Sashaktikaran Yojana
- **Free Tablets:** 25 Lakh
- **Budget Allocation:** ₹2,374.60 Crore (2026–27)
- **Objective:** Promote digital education, skill development and employment opportunities.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ State → Uttar Pradesh
- ✓ Scheme → Swami Vivekananda Yuva Sashaktikaran Yojana
- ✓ Tablets → 25 Lakh

WEST BENGAL HOSTS ITS FIRST KAUSHAL MAHOTSAV

Why in News?

West Bengal organised its **first Kaushal Mahotsav** on **18 August 2026** at **Balurghat Stadium, Dakshin Dinajpur**.

Learn from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

Key Facts

- **State:** West Bengal
- **Venue:** Balurghat Stadium, Dakshin Dinajpur
- **Event:** First Kaushal Mahotsav
- **Organised By:** Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, NSDC and the State Government
- **Employment Opportunities:** Over 7,000

Exam Highlights

- ✓ State → West Bengal

✓ Venue → Balurghat

✓ Organising Agency → NSDC

HAR GHAR TIRANGA CAMPAIGN 2026

Why in News?

The **Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign 2026** was launched on **6 August 2026** by **Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** in New Delhi.

Key Facts

- **Campaign:** Har Ghar Tiranga 2026
- **Launched On:** 6 August 2026
- **Nationwide Celebration:** 9–17 August 2026
- **Launched By:** Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- **Theme:** 150th Anniversary of Vande Mataram
- **Special Initiative:** Suryapath Tiranga involving Indian Missions in **54 countries**
- **14 August:** Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

Exam Highlights

✓ Campaign → Har Ghar Tiranga 2026

✓ Nationwide Duration → 9–17 August 2026

✓ Theme → 150 Years of Vande Mataram

✓ Union Minister → Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

Learn from someone who has already
achieved what you are preparing for.

ECONOMY, BANKING & FINANCE

CHHATTISGARH BECOMES FIRST INLAND STATE TO EXPORT VALUE-ADDED TILAPIA

Why in News?

Chhattisgarh became **India's first inland state** to export **value-added Tilapia fish products** to the **United States**.

Key Facts

- **State:** Chhattisgarh
- **Achievement:** First inland state to export value-added Tilapia products.
- **Export Destination:** United States
- **Fish:** Tilapia (Freshwater Fish)
- **Scheme Mentioned:** Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

Exam Highlights

✓ First inland state → **Chhattisgarh**

✓ Export → Value-added Tilapia

✓ Destination → USA

✓ Tilapia → Freshwater Fish

'BANK IN A BOX' & SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTRE (SOC) LAUNCHED FOR URBAN COOPERATIVE BANKS

Learn from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

Why in News?

Union Home & Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched '**Bank in a Box**' and a dedicated **Security Operations Centre (SOC)** under the **Sahkar Nav-Kranti Programme** in **Mumbai** to strengthen Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs).

Key Facts

- **Launched By:** Amit Shah
- **Programme:** Sahkar Nav-Kranti
- **Location:** Mumbai
- **Beneficiaries:** Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs)

- **SOC:** Provides **24x7 Cybersecurity Monitoring**
- **MuleHunter:** Detects suspicious transactions and mule accounts.
- **NUCFDC Capital:** Nearly ₹306 Crore

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Launched by → Amit Shah
- ✓ Programme → Sahkar Nav-Kranti
- ✓ Cybersecurity Tool → Security Operations Centre (SOC)
- ✓ Fraud Detection Tool → MuleHunter

INDIA LAUNCHES E-SAMUDRA DIGITAL MARITIME PLATFORM

Why in News?

India launched **E-Samudra** on **8 August 2026**, a **single-window digital maritime governance platform** for the shipping sector.

Key Facts

- **Platform:** E-Samudra
- **Launch Date:** 8 August 2026
- **Purpose:** Single-window digital services for the maritime sector
- **Beneficiaries:** Seafarers, Shipping Companies, Ports and Maritime Stakeholders
- **India's Position:** **Second-largest supplier** of seafarers globally.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Platform → E-Samudra
- ✓ Launch Date → 8 August 2026
- ✓ India → World's **2nd-largest** seafarer supplier

FIRST SEA SHIPMENT OF GI-TAGGED MITHILA MAKHANA

Why in News?

India completed its **first sea shipment** of **GI-tagged Mithila Makhana** from **Bihar** to **Australia**.

Key Facts

- **Product:** GI-tagged Mithila Makhana
- **State:** Bihar
- **Origin:** Darbhanga
- **Destination:** Australia

Exam Highlights

✓ Product → Mithila Makhana

✓ State → Bihar

V.O. CHIDAMBARANAR PORT BECOMES INDIA'S FIRST SCOPE-2 EMISSION-FREE MAJOR PORT

Why in News?

V.O. Chidambaranar Port (Tamil Nadu) became India's **first major port** to achieve **Scope-2 Emission-Free** status.

Key Facts

- **Port:** V.O. Chidambaranar Port
- **State:** Tamil Nadu
- **Achievements:**
 - India's first **Scope-2 Emission-Free Major Port**
 - First major port to receive **ISO 50001:2018 Energy Management System Certification**

Exam Highlights

✓ First Scope-2 Emission-Free Major Port

✓ ISO 50001:2018 Certification

INDIA MAY BECOME A \$20 TRILLION ECONOMY BY 2036: EQUIRUS SECURITIES

Learn from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

Why in News?

Equirus Securities projected that India could become a **US\$20 trillion economy by 2036**.

Key Facts

- Target economy size → **US\$20 trillion**
- Target year → **2036**

Exam Highlights

✓ Projected Economy Size → **US\$20 Trillion**

✓ Target Year → **2036**

✓ Projection By → **Equirus Securities**



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & WORLD AFFAIRS

AAERI VERIFY LAUNCHED FOR INDIAN STUDENTS

Why in News?

e-Governance Division (eGD), MeitY, in partnership with **AAERI**, launched **AAERI Verify**, a digital verification platform for Indian students applying for higher education in Australia.

Key Facts

- **Platform:** AAERI Verify
- **Developed By:** eGD (MeitY) & AAERI
- **Launched At:** AAERI Annual Convention, New Delhi
- **Launch Date:** 7 August 2026
- **Integrated With:** DigiLocker
- **Purpose:** Paperless verification of academic, identity and financial documents.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Platform → AAERI Verify
- ✓ Integrated With → DigiLocker
- ✓ Ministry → MeitY

MASSACHUSETTS & BOSTON DECLARE 15 AUGUST AS INDIA DAY

Why in News?

The US State of **Massachusetts** and the **City of Boston** declared **15 August** as **India Day**.

Key Facts

- **Occasion:** India's 79th Independence Day
- **Country:** United States
- **Declared By:** Massachusetts & Boston

Exam Highlights

- ✓ India Day → 15 August

INDIA TO HOST THE 18TH BRICS SUMMIT

Why in News?

India will host the **18th BRICS Summit** on **12–13 September 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Venue:** Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

Exam Highlights

- ✓ 18th BRICS Summit
- ✓ Venue → Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

NAURU OFFICIALLY RENAMED AS REPUBLIC OF NAOERO

Why in News?

The Pacific island nation **Nauru** has officially adopted the name **Republic of Naoero**, restoring its indigenous spelling and pronunciation.

Key Facts

- **New Official Name:** Republic of Naoero
- **President:** David Adeang
- Name change approved by Parliament without a referendum.
- **International Country Code:** Changed from **NRU** to **NRO**.
- Citizens will now be known as **dei-Naoero**.
- The **United Nations, Australia, and New Zealand** have updated their official records.
- Naoero is located in the **South Pacific** and has a population of around **12,000**.
- The country gained independence in **1968**.
- The renaming aims to preserve indigenous identity and cultural heritage.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Old Name → Nauru
- ✓ New Name → Republic of Naoero
- ✓ President → David Adeang
- ✓ Independence → 1968

NATHAN THOMAS BECOMES WORLD'S YOUNGEST MALE PROFESSOR

Why in News?

Nathan Thomas, an American engineering instructor, became the **world's youngest male professor**, according to **Guinness World Records**.

Key Facts

- **Age at Appointment:** 18 years, 346 days
- **Institution:** Miami Dade College, USA
- Broke the previous record held by **Colin Maclaurin (Scotland)**.
- Entered college at the age of **10**.
- Completed Bachelor's and Master's degrees in **Electrical Engineering** with honours.
- Currently pursuing a **Juris Doctor (Law)** at the **University of Miami School of Law**.

Exam Highlights

✓ World's Youngest Male Professor → Nathan Thomas

✓ Institution → Miami Dade College

INDIA-UZBEKISTAN TARGET US\$3 BILLION BILATERAL TRADE

Why in News?

India and Uzbekistan have set a target to increase bilateral trade to **US\$3 billion** within the next **three years**.

Key Facts

- Announcement made during the **India-Uzbekistan Business Forum** held in **New Delhi** on **3 August 2026**.
- Both countries are exploring a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**.
- Bilateral trade crossed **US\$1.32 billion** after a **30% increase**.
- Indian exports reached **US\$1.15 billion**.
- Around **400 Indian companies** operate in Uzbekistan.
- Joint investment projects exceed **US\$5 billion**.

Exam Highlights

✓ Trade Target → US\$3 Billion

✓ Business Forum → New Delhi

✓ Proposed Agreement → Free Trade Agreement (FTA)

ABELARDO DE LA ESPRIELLA BECOMES PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA

Why in News?

Abelardo de la Espriella was sworn in as the **36th President of Colombia** on **7 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Country:** Colombia
- **President:** Abelardo de la Espriella
- **Term:** 2026–2030
- Succeeded **Gustavo Petro**.
- Won the presidential runoff with **49.66%** of the vote.
- Defeated **Iván Cepeda**, who secured **48.70%**.
- Swearing-in ceremony was held at **Santiago de Cali University, Cali**.
- Oath administered by **Senate President Honorio Henríquez**.
- Emphasised a strong stance against **drug trafficking**.

Exam Highlights

✓ President of Colombia → Abelardo de la Espriella

✓ Predecessor → Gustavo Petro

INDIA GIFTS PEACOCKS TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

Why in News?

India gifted **five young peacocks** to the **United Nations Office at Geneva** on **7 August 2026**, reviving a tradition started in **1981**.

Key Facts

- Total birds gifted: **5**
 - **4 Blue Indian Peafowl**
 - **1 White Male Peafowl**
- Scientific Name: **Pavo cristatus**
- **National Bird of India**
- Ceremony attended by:
 - **Arindam Bagchi** (India's Ambassador & Permanent Representative)
 - **Tatiana Valovaya** (Director-General, UN Geneva)
- Birds will initially stay at **Ariana Park** before moving across the UN campus.
- The tradition began when **Indira Gandhi** gifted a breeding pair in **1981**.

Exam Highlights

✓ National Bird → Indian Peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*)

✓ Location → UN Office, Geneva

✓ Tradition Started → 1981

COLOMBIA DECLARES NATIONAL EMERGENCY AFTER 7.4-MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE

Why in News?

Colombia declared a **National State of Emergency** after a **7.4-magnitude earthquake** struck the country's western region.

Key Facts

- **Magnitude:** 7.4
- **Epicentre:** Near **San José del Palmar**, Chocó
- Described as **Colombia's strongest earthquake of the 21st century**.
- The earthquake occurred at an **intermediate depth of about 107 km**.
- More than **100 people lost their lives**, while many others were injured or reported missing.
- Colombia lies within the **Pacific Ring of Fire**, making it highly prone to earthquakes.
- Major cities at seismic risk include:
 - Cali
 - Bogotá
 - Medellín

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Magnitude → 7.4
- ✓ Epicentre → San José del Palmar, Chocó
- ✓ Tectonic Zone → Pacific Ring of Fire

LEBANON ABOLISHES DEATH PENALTY

Why in News?

Lebanon's Parliament officially **abolished the death penalty** on **11 August 2026**, replacing capital punishment with **life imprisonment with aggravated hard labour**.

Key Facts

- **Country:** Lebanon
- **Date:** 11 August 2026
- Death penalty replaced with **life imprisonment with aggravated hard labour**.
- The law also commutes the sentences of prisoners currently on death row.
- It formally legalises Lebanon's **execution moratorium**, which had been in place since **17 January 2004**.
- Lebanon became the **first Middle Eastern country** to legally abolish capital punishment.
- It is also the **second member of the League of Arab States**, after **Djibouti**, to abolish the death penalty.
- Around **84–85 death-row prisoners** are expected to benefit.
- The **European Union (EU)** welcomed the decision as a major human rights milestone.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ First Middle Eastern country to abolish the death penalty
- ✓ Execution Moratorium → 17 January 2004
- ✓ Second Arab League country after **Djibouti**

RUSSIA IMPORTS GASOLINE FROM INDIA FOR THE FIRST TIME

Why in News?

Russia imported **gasoline from India** for the first time in **August 2026** due to disruptions in its domestic refining capacity.

Key Facts

- The first shipment was loaded from **Nayara Energy's Vadinar Refinery** in **Gujarat**.
- The cargo was transported through **Damietta Port, Egypt**.
- Russia faced fuel shortages after repeated attacks on its oil refineries.
- Moscow restricted gasoline and diesel exports to safeguard domestic fuel supplies.
- The development highlights India's growing role as a **global refining hub**.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ First Russian gasoline import from India
- ✓ Refinery → Vadinar, Gujarat
- ✓ Transit Port → Damietta, Egypt

JUSTICE D.Y. CHANDRACHUD APPOINTED AS ARBITRATOR BY RUSSIA

Why in News?

Russia appointed **former Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud** as its arbitrator in an international investment treaty dispute filed by **Ukraine's Oschadbank**.

Key Facts

- **Arbitrator:** Justice D.Y. Chandrachud
- The case is being heard under the **1998 Russia–Ukraine Investment Protection Agreement**.
- The three-member tribunal includes:
 - **D.Y. Chandrachud (India)**
 - **Stavros Brekoulakis (Greece)**
 - **Dyalá Jiménez (Costa Rica)** – Tribunal President
- Justice Chandrachud retired as **Chief Justice of India** on **10 November 2024**.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Arbitrator → Justice D.Y. Chandrachud

✓ Agreement → 1998 Russia–Ukraine Investment Protection Agreement

MIRZA FAKHRUL ISLAM ALAMGIR BECOMES BANGLADESH'S 23RD PRESIDENT

Why in News?

Senior **Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)** leader **Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir** was elected as the **23rd President of Bangladesh**.

Key Facts

- **Country:** Bangladesh
- **President:** Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir
- Elected with **255 parliamentary votes**.
- Defeated **Oli Ahmed**, who secured **88 votes**.
- It was Bangladesh's **first contested presidential election in 35 years**.
- Succeeded **Mohammed Shahabuddin**, who resigned due to health reasons.
- The election was supervised by **Chief Election Commissioner AMM Nasir Uddin**.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ 23rd President of Bangladesh → Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir
- ✓ First contested presidential election in 35 years

INDIA AND JAPAN STRENGTHEN DEFENCE & MARITIME COOPERATION

Why in News?

India and Japan agreed to expand **defence and maritime security cooperation** during talks held in **New Delhi** on **20 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- Defence Ministers:
 - **Rajnath Singh (India)**
 - **Shinjiro Koizumi (Japan)**
- Signed a **Memorandum of Arrangement (MoA) on Maritime Security Cooperation**.
- Both sides welcomed **Veer Guardian 26**, featuring the **first visit of Japanese fighter aircraft to India**.
- Agreed to expand **DRDO–ATLA** defence technology cooperation.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ MoA on Maritime Security Cooperation
- ✓ Veer Guardian 26

✓ DRDO–ATLA Cooperation

SINGAPORE LAUNCHES PROTOTYPE BIOLOGICAL DATA CENTRE

Why in News?

Singapore launched a **prototype biological data centre** at the **National University of Singapore (NUS)**, combining **living human neurons** with silicon hardware.

Key Facts

- **Location:** National University of Singapore (NUS)
- Developed at the **Centre for Life Sciences**.
- Uses **living human neurons** connected to silicon hardware.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Country → Singapore
- ✓ Institution → National University of Singapore (NUS)
- ✓ Technology → Biological Computing using Human Neurons

USA REMOVES SYRIA FROM STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM (SST) LIST

Why in News?

The **United States** removed **Syria** from its **State Sponsors of Terrorism (SST)** list on **24 August 2026**, ending a designation that had been in place since **29 December 1979**.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Syria removed from SST List → **24 August 2026**
- ✓ Remaining SST Countries → **Cuba, Iran, North Korea**

USA LAUNCHES 'OPERATION ECONOMIC OUTCAST' AGAINST IRAN

Why in News?

The **United States** launched **Operation Economic Outcast**, an economic pressure campaign targeting **Iran's revenue sources**.

Exam Highlights

✓ Operation Economic Outcast → **US economic pressure campaign against Iran**

2ND INDIA-NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE STRATEGIC DIALOGUE HELD

Why in News?

India and New Zealand held the **Second Defence Strategic Dialogue** in **Wellington** on **24 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Venue:** Wellington, New Zealand
- Co-chaired by:
 - **Amitabh Prasad** (India)
 - **Richard Schmidt** (New Zealand)
- Key discussion areas:
 - Maritime Security
 - Joint Military Training
 - Defence Cooperation
 - India-New Zealand Strategic Partnership Roadmap 2030
- Both countries reaffirmed support for a **Free, Open and Inclusive Indo-Pacific**.
- Discussions also covered joint exercises, defence exchanges and procurement cooperation.

Exam Highlights

✓ Venue → **Wellington**

✓ Roadmap → **India-New Zealand Strategic Partnership Roadmap 2030**

CHINA EXPANDS CONSTRUCTION IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

Why in News?

China has expanded construction around **Antelope Reef** in the disputed **Paracel Islands** of the **South China Sea**.

Key Facts

- Location: **Antelope Reef, Paracel Islands**
- China has carried out new land reclamation and infrastructure development.
- New facilities include port-related infrastructure and installations on nearby islets.
- China has controlled the **Paracel Islands** since **1974**.
- **Vietnam** also claims sovereignty over the islands.
- The developments have raised concerns over regional maritime security.

Exam Highlights

✓ Disputed Area → **Paracel Islands (South China Sea)**

✓ Claimants → **China and Vietnam**

INDIA CALLS FOR COMMUNITY-LED RANGELAND RESTORATION AT UNCCD COP17

Why in News?

India advocated **community-led rangeland restoration** during the **17th Conference of Parties (COP17)** of the **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**.

Key Facts

- Event: **UNCCD COP17**
- Venue: **Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**
- Represented by **Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav**.
- India stressed recognising **pastoralists** as custodians of rangeland ecosystems.
- Emphasised integrating **traditional knowledge** with **modern science**.
- Highlighted **Rajasthan's Orans (sacred groves)** as successful conservation models.
- Also showcased satellite-based degradation mapping and sustainable grazing practices.

Exam Highlights

✓ Event → **UNCCD COP17**

✓ Venue → **Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**

FLASH FLOOD DEVASTATES NEPAL'S RASUWA DISTRICT

Why in News?

A deadly **flash flood** struck **Rasuwa District, Nepal**, after an ice and rock avalanche triggered a sudden surge in the **Lhende Khola River**.

Key Facts

- **Country:** Nepal
- **Affected Area:** Rasuwa District
- **Cause:** **Ice and Rock Avalanche**
- **Rivers affected:**
 - Lhende Khola
 - Bhotekoshi
 - Trishuli
 - Narayani
- The floods damaged villages, roads and hydropower infrastructure.
- Experts linked the disaster to climate change, glacier melt and extreme Himalayan weather.
- India offered humanitarian assistance to Nepal following the disaster.

Exam Highlights

✓ Affected District → **Rasuwa (Nepal)**

✓ Cause → **Ice & Rock Avalanche**

✓ River → **Lhende Khola River**

INDIA-KUWAIT HOLD FIRST JOINT DEFENCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Why in News?

India and Kuwait held the **inaugural meeting of the Joint Defence Committee (JDC)** in **New Delhi** on **28 August 2026** to strengthen bilateral defence cooperation.

Key Facts

- **Venue:** New Delhi
- **Date:** 28 August 2026
- The committee will implement the **India-Kuwait Defence Cooperation Agreement**, signed during **PM Narendra Modi's visit to Kuwait (December 2024)**.

Exam Highlights

✓ Venue → **New Delhi**

✓ Agreement Signed → **December 2024**

TURKEY, PAKISTAN & SAUDI ARABIA SIGN MECCA JOINT DEFENCE AGREEMENT

Why in News?

Turkey, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia signed the **Mecca Joint Defence Agreement (MJDA)** on **7 August 2026** to establish a trilateral defence and security framework.

Key Facts

- Agreement:
 - **Mecca Joint Defence Agreement (MJDA)**
- Signed at:
 - **Al-Safa Palace, Makkah**
- Member countries:
 - Saudi Arabia
 - Türkiye
 - Pakistan
- Key provision:
 - An armed attack on one member will be treated as an attack on all members (similar to **NATO Article 5**).

- The agreement expands the **Saudi–Pakistan Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement (2025)**, with Türkiye joining in 2026.

Exam Highlights

✓ Agreement → **Mecca Joint Defence Agreement (MJDA)**

✓ Member Countries → **Saudi Arabia, Türkiye & Pakistan**

INDIA–JAPAN SIGN MARITIME SECURITY COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Why in News?

India and Japan signed a **Memorandum of Arrangement (MoA) on Maritime Security Cooperation** in New Delhi on **20 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Venue:** New Delhi
- Agreement between:
 - Indian Navy
 - Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF)
- The agreement supports a **Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)**.

Exam Highlights

✓ Agreement → **Memorandum of Arrangement on Maritime Security Cooperation**

✓ Partner Countries → **India & Japan**

✓ Theme → **Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)**

US ANNOUNCES PROPOSED OIL DEAL WITH VENEZUELA

Why in News?

Learn from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

US President **Donald Trump** announced a proposed oil agreement with **Venezuela**, calling it the "**biggest oil deal in world history**."

Key Facts

- The proposed deal would reportedly give the **United States majority control over 65 billion barrels of Venezuela's proven oil reserves**.
- US Secretary of State **Marco Rubio** said the agreement could attract nearly **US\$100 billion** in private investment.
- The deal aims to:
 - Strengthen **US–Venezuela relations**.
 - Help reduce **gasoline prices** in the United States.

- US companies are expected to participate in developing Venezuelan oil fields.
- The **Venezuelan government had not officially confirmed** the agreement at the time of the announcement.

Exam Highlights

✓ Country → Venezuela

✓ Oil Reserves Covered → 65 Billion Barrels

'AS SEEN ON NETFLIX' LAUNCHED ON INCREDIBLE INDIA PORTAL

Why in News?

The **Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Tourism, and Netflix India** launched the "As Seen on Netflix" section on the **Incredible India Portal** to promote film tourism.

Key Facts

- **Launch Date:** 5 August 2026
- **Launch Venue:** National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi
- The feature showcases:
 - Real-life destinations featured in Netflix films and series.
 - Indian culture, heritage, cuisine, festivals, and tourist attractions.
- The initiative coincides with **Netflix completing 10 years in India**.
- Implemented through a **non-commercial MoU**.
- **Incredible India Campaign** was launched in **2002**.

Exam Highlights

✓ Portal → Incredible India

✓ Campaign Launched → 2002

HOUSE OF
ASPIRANTS

Learn from someone who has already
achieved what you are preparing for.

DEFENCE & SECURITY

INDIA'S FIRST RNP CAT H HELICOPTER APPROACH PROCEDURE

Why in News?

HAL Airport, Bengaluru became **India's first airport** to operationalise the **RNP CAT H Helicopter Approach Procedure** on **7 August 2026**, enhancing helicopter navigation and operational safety.

Key Facts

- **Airport:** HAL Airport, Bengaluru
- **Achievement:** India's First Airport to operationalise **RNP CAT H Helicopter Approach Procedure**
- **Developed By:** Airports Authority of India (AAI)
- **Approved By:** Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)
- **Benefit:** Reduces helicopter approach time from **12 minutes to 4 minutes**

Exam Highlights

- ✓ First Airport → HAL Airport, Bengaluru
- ✓ Developed by → Airports Authority of India (AAI)
- ✓ Approved by → DGCA
- ✓ Approach Time → 12 minutes to 4 minutes

4TH TRI-SERVICES FUTURE WARFARE COURSE 2026

Why in News?

Learn from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

The **4th Tri-Services Future Warfare Course** commenced on **3 August 2026** at the **Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi**.

Key Facts

- **Venue:** Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
- **Date:** 3 August 2026
- Organised under:
 - **Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS)**
- Coordinated by:
 - **Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS)**
- **Duration:** 4 Weeks

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Venue → Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
- ✓ Coordinating Organisation → CENJOWS

INDIA SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FIRES AGNI-4 BALLISTIC MISSILE

Why in News?

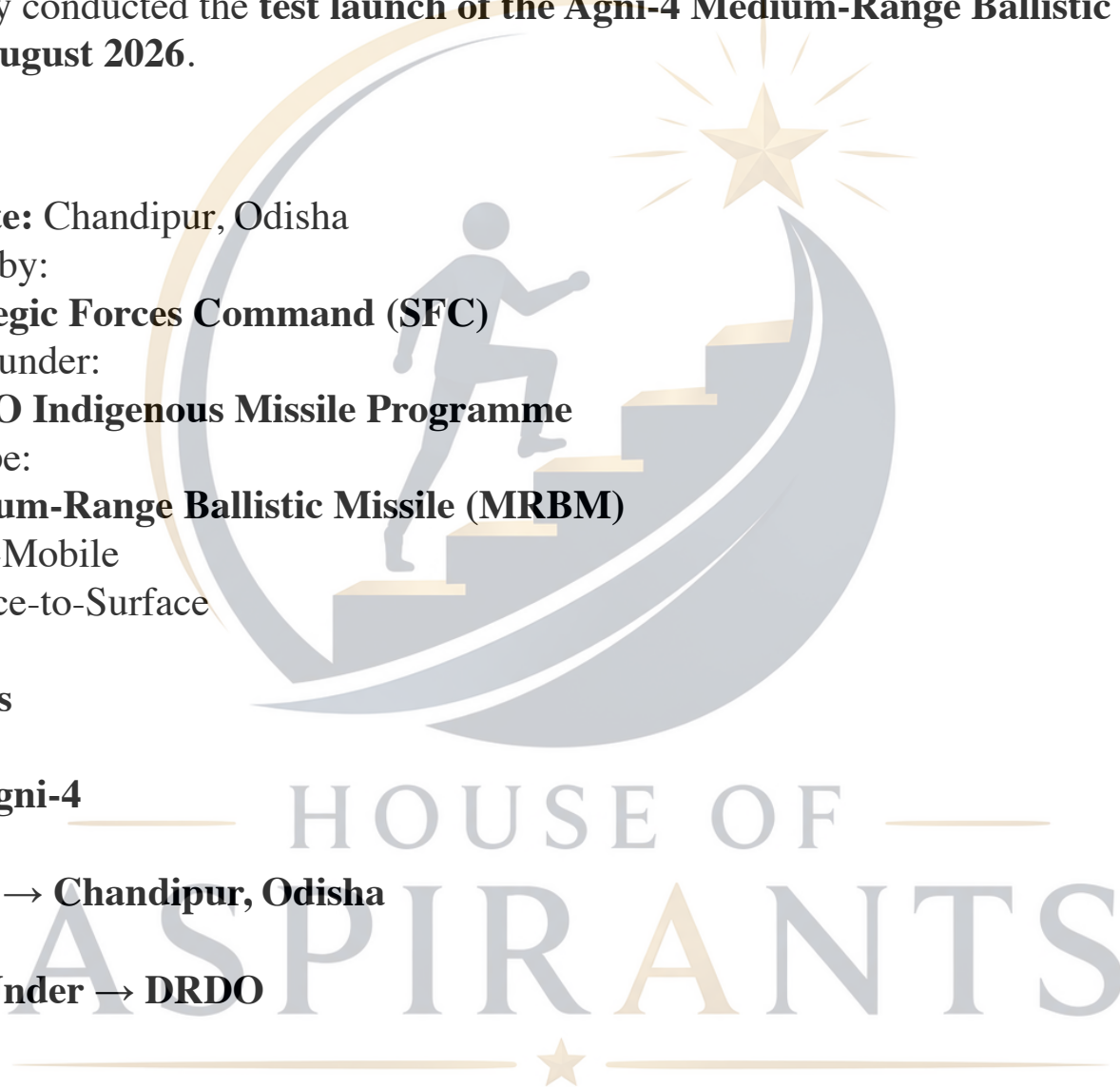
India successfully conducted the **test launch of the Agni-4 Medium-Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM)** on **6 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Launch Site:** Chandipur, Odisha
- Conducted by:
 - **Strategic Forces Command (SFC)**
- Developed under:
 - **DRDO Indigenous Missile Programme**
- Missile Type:
 - **Medium-Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM)**
 - Road-Mobile
 - Surface-to-Surface

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Missile → Agni-4
- ✓ Launch Site → Chandipur, Odisha
- ✓ Developed Under → DRDO



SQN LDR BHAWANA KANTH BECOMES FIRST WOMAN FIGHTER COMBAT LEADER

Why in News?

Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth became the **first woman fighter pilot in the Indian Air Force** to successfully complete the **Fighter Combat Leader (FCL) Course**.

Key Facts

- Training Institute:
 - **Tactical and Air Combat Development Establishment (TACDE), Gwalior**
- Course Duration:

- **20 Weeks**
- In **2019**, she became the **first Indian woman qualified for daytime fighter combat missions.**

Exam Highlights

✓ **First Woman Fighter Combat Leader → Sqn Ldr Bhawana Kanth**

✓ **Training Institute → TACDE, Gwalior**

EXERCISE TALISMAN SABRE 2027

Why in News?

Exercise Talisman Sabre 2027 will be held from **9–22 August 2027**.

Key Facts

- Duration:
 - **14 Days**
- Lead Countries:
 - Australia
 - United States
- Participating Nations:
 - Australia
 - USA
 - **24 Partner Countries**
- India will enhance its participation.
- The decision was welcomed during the **India–Australia Defence Ministers' Dialogue (1 June 2026)**.

Exam Highlights

✓ **Exercise → Talisman Sabre**

✓ **Lead Nations → Australia & USA**

Learn from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

HAL RESTARTS SU-30MKI PRODUCTION

Why in News?

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has restarted production of **Su-30MKI fighter aircraft** at its **Nashik facility**.

Key Facts

- Manufacturing Unit:
 - HAL, Nashik (Maharashtra)
- Total Aircraft:

- **12 Su-30MKI Fighters**
- Order Signed:
 - **December 2024**
- First Delivery:
 - **2027–28**
- Completion Target:
 - **2029**
- Earlier Production:
 - **222 Su-30MKI aircraft** manufactured under Russian licence.
- Indigenous Content:
 - **50%–62.6%**
- India is also planning a ₹60,000 crore Su-30MKI modernisation programme.

Exam Highlights

✓ Manufacturer → HAL

✓ Aircraft → Su-30MKI

EXERCISE UDARA SHAKTI 2026

Why in News?

The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** and the **Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF)** conducted the bilateral **Exercise Udara Shakti 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Date:** 10 August 2026
- **Venue:** Subang Air Base, Malaysia
- Duration:
 - **5 Days**
- Total Personnel:
 - **83**
- India deployed:
 - 4 Rafale Fighters
 - 2 C-17 Globemaster III Aircraft

Exam Highlights

✓ Exercise → Udara Shakti 2026

✓ Venue → Subang Air Base, Malaysia

8TH INDIA-US NAVY EOD EXERCISE 2026 CONCLUDES

Why in News?

The **8th India–US Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026** concluded on **14 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Venue:** Southern Naval Command, Kochi
- **Participating Countries:**
 - India
 - United States

Exam Highlights

- ✓ **Exercise → India–US Navy EOD Exercise**
- ✓ **Venue → Southern Naval Command, Kochi**

INDIAN ARMY CHIEF HONOURED BY NEPAL

- **Indian Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth** was conferred the **honorary rank of General of the Nepali Army** by **Nepal President Ram Chandra Paudel** during his official visit (17–19 August 2026).
- The tradition of awarding honorary ranks to each other's Army Chiefs has existed since **1950**.
- During the visit, he received a **Guard of Honour**, paid tribute at **Tundikhel**, and met **Nepal Army Chief General Ashok Raj Sigdel**.



Exam Points

- Indian Army Chief → **General Dhiraj Seth**
- Honorary Rank → **General of the Nepali Army**
- Tradition started → **1950**

EXERCISE MAITREE-XV 2026

- **15th edition** of the India–Thailand Joint Military Exercise.
- **Venue:** Vibhavadi Rangsit Camp, Surat Thani, Thailand.
- **Duration:** 18–31 August 2026.
- **Participants:** 85 personnel from each country.
- India was represented by the **9 Gorkha Rifles**, while Thailand was represented by the **3rd Battalion, 25th Infantry Brigade, 5th Division**.
- Focus areas included:
 - Counter-Insurgency (CI)
 - Counter-Terrorism (CT)
 - Jungle & Semi-Urban Warfare
 - UN Chapter VII Operations



Exam Points

- Exercise MAITREE-XV → **India & Thailand**
- Venue → **Surat Thani, Thailand**



- Indian Contingent → **9 Gorkha Rifles**

FIRST INDIGENOUS AK-203 ASSAULT RIFLE 'SHER'

- **Indo-Russian Rifles Private Limited (IRRPL)** successfully manufactured and test-fired the first fully indigenous **AK-203 assault rifle**, named **Sher**.
- **Manufacturing Facility:** Korwa, Amethi (Uttar Pradesh).
- Developed under **Make in India** and **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** initiatives.
- Production target:
 - **1 rifle every 100 seconds**
 - Around **6 lakh rifles** planned for the Indian Army.

Exam Points

- Indigenous AK-203 Name → **Sher**
- Manufactured by → **IRRPL**
- Manufacturing Unit → **Korwa, Amethi**

DRDO TESTS INDIGENOUS MILITARY COMBAT PARACHUTE SYSTEM (MCPS)

- DRDO successfully tested the **Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS)** at the **Nyoma-Mudh Drop Zone, Ladakh**.
- Developed by:
 - **ADRDE (Agra)**
 - **DEBEL**
- Key Features:
 - Compatible with **NavIC**
 - Improved steering control
 - Lower descent rate
 - Suitable for high-altitude airborne operations

Exam Points

- MCPS developed by → **ADRDE & DEBEL**
- Test Location → **Nyoma-Mudh, Ladakh**
- Navigation Support → **NavIC**

ROLLS-ROYCE OFFERS ENGINE TECHNOLOGY FOR AMCA

- **Rolls-Royce** offered India:
 - **100% Technology Transfer**
 - **Complete Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)**
- Purpose:
 - Joint development of the engine for India's **Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)**.
- Proposed Engine:
 - Initial thrust: **120+ kN**

- Future target: **145 kN**
- Competing Company:
 - **Safran (France)** in collaboration with **DRDO-GTRE**.

Exam Points

- Fighter Aircraft → **AMCA**
- Technology Offer → **Rolls-Royce**
- Competing Company → **Safran (France)**

INDIAN NAVY RECEIVES INDIGENOUS MULTI-PURPOSE VESSEL 'SAMARTHAK'

- The Indian Navy inducted **Samarthak**, its **first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV)** on **27 August 2026**.
- Built by **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** at **Kattupalli, Tamil Nadu**.
- Indigenous Content: **More than 75%**
- Roles:
 - Maritime Surveillance
 - Reconnaissance
 - Offshore Patrol
 - Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR)

Exam Points

- First Indigenous MPV → **Samarthak**
- Built by → **Larsen & Toubro**
- Shipyard → **Kattupalli, Tamil Nadu**

INDIAN ARMY SIGNS CONTRACT FOR JAVELIN ANTI-TANK MISSILE

- The Indian Army signed its **first contract** for the **FGM-148 Javelin Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM)**.
- Procurement Route:
 - **Foreign Military Sales (FMS)**
- Important Features:
 - Imaging Infrared (IIR) Seeker
 - Fire-and-Forget Capability
 - Top-Attack Mode
 - Tandem Warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour (ERA)

Exam Points

- Missile → **FGM-148 Javelin**
- Country of Origin → **United States**
- Procurement Route → **Foreign Military Sales (FMS)**
- Missile Type → **Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM)**

Quick Revision

Topic	Key Fact
General Dhiraj Seth	Honorary General of Nepali Army
Exercise MAITREE-XV	India–Thailand
AK-203	Sher
MCPS	DRDO (ADRDE & DEBEL)
AMCA Engine	Rolls-Royce offered 100% ToT
Samarthak	First Indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel
Javelin	US Anti-Tank Guided Missile



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & SPACE

NIELIT LAUNCHES CYBER KUSHTI 2026

Why in News?

NIELIT launched **CYBER KUSHTI 2026**, a **National Cybersecurity & AI Hackathon**, on **15 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Launched By:** NIELIT
- **Knowledge Partner:** CERT-In
- **Foundation Partner:** ISAC Foundation
- **Launch Date:** 15 August 2026
- **Final Venue:** New Delhi
- **Stages:**
 - Akhada – 15 September
 - Dangal – 24 September
 - Kesari Final – 9 October

Exam Highlights

- ✓ **Organiser** → NIELIT
- ✓ **Knowledge Partner** → CERT-In
- ✓ **Final** → New Delhi

JAGO AI ASSISTANT LAUNCHED

Why in News?

The **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** launched **Jago AI Assistant**, an AI-powered chatbot for information on tribal welfare schemes.

Key Facts

- **Launched By:** Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- **Platform:** Jago AI Assistant
- **Purpose:** Information on Tribal Welfare Schemes
- **Languages Available:** English & Hindi

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Ministry → Tribal Affairs
- ✓ Platform → Jago AI Assistant

IT RULES 2026 AMENDED

Why in News?

India amended the **IT Rules 2026** to strengthen regulation of online content.

Key Facts

- **Content Removal Time:** Reduced from **36 Hours to 3 Hours**
- **New Provisions:** AI-generated content & Deepfakes

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Content Removal → 3 Hours
- ✓ Covers → AI & Deepfakes

SKYROOT AEROSPACE SIGNS MULTI-LAUNCH AGREEMENT WITH HEX20

Why in News?

Indian space startup **Skyroot Aerospace** signed a **Multi-Launch Agreement** with **HEX20** for three dedicated space missions.

Key Facts

- Partner:
 - **Skyroot Aerospace**
 - **HEX20 (Thiruvananthapuram-based)**
- Missions:
 - Earth Observation
 - Payload Demonstration
- Launches will begin in **Q4 2027**.
- Launch vehicle:
 - **Vikram-series Rockets**
- **Vikram-1** successfully completed its maiden orbital flight on **18 July 2026** from **Sriharikota**.
- It became **India's first privately developed orbital-class launch vehicle** to place customer payloads into **Low Earth Orbit (LEO)**.
- Skyroot plans another **Vikram-1** mission in late 2026 and aims for **12 launches annually** in the future.

Exam Highlights

✓ **Company** → Skyroot Aerospace

✓ **Partner** → HEX20

✓ **Launch Vehicle** → Vikram-1

INDIAN ARMY INTRODUCES XTREME WEATHER GRADE DIESEL

Why in News?

The **Indian Army** introduced **Xtreme Weather Grade Diesel** for operations in extreme cold regions.

Key Facts

- Designed to operate at temperatures as low as **-42°C**.
- Developed in collaboration with **Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs)**.
- **BS-VI compliant** fuel.
- Prevents:
 - Fuel freezing
 - Fuel-line clogging
- Compatible with:
 - **T-90 Tanks**
 - **T-72 Tanks**
 - **BMP-2K Infantry Combat Vehicles**
 - **K-9 Vajra Howitzers**
- Supports military operations along:
 - **Line of Actual Control (LAC)**
 - **Line of Control (LoC)**
- High-altitude maintenance support available at:
 - **Nyoma**
 - **Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO)**

Exam Highlights

✓ **Operating Temperature** → -42°C

✓ **Fuel Standard** → BS-VI

✓ **Purpose** → High-altitude military operations

ALIBABA LAUNCHES QWEN3.8-MAX AI MODEL

- **Alibaba** launched its advanced AI model **Qwen3.8-Max** on **3 August 2026**.
- Key Features:
 - **2.4 trillion parameters**
 - **Mixture-of-Experts (MoE)** architecture

- Activates **95 billion parameters** per query
- Supports **text, images and videos (Multimodal AI)**
- **1 million-token context window**
- Available through **Alibaba Cloud Model Studio**.
- Designed for software engineering, document analysis and enterprise applications.



Exam Points

- AI Model → **Qwen3.8-Max**
- Company → **Alibaba**
- Architecture → **Mixture-of-Experts (MoE)**
- Context Window → **1 Million Tokens**

INDIA'S FIRST INDIGENOUS AFRICAN SWINE FEVER VACCINE

- **ICAR** developed India's **first indigenous African Swine Fever (ASF) vaccine**.
- Developed by **ICAR-NIHSAD, Bhopal**.
- Vaccine Type:
 - **Live Attenuated Genotype-II Vaccine**
 - Based on **MA-104 Cell Line**
- Recommended for pigs **above 8 weeks of age**.
- Administered as a **1 mL intramuscular dose**, followed by a booster after **14 days**.

Exam Points

- Vaccine Developed by → **ICAR-NIHSAD, Bhopal**
- Disease → **African Swine Fever (ASF)**
- Vaccine Type → **Live Attenuated Genotype-II**

INDIA'S FIRST TELOMERE-TO-TELOMERE GENOME OF PIGEONPEA

- **ICAR** developed India's first **fully annotated Telomere-to-Telomere (T2T) reference genome** of pigeonpea variety '**Asha**'.
- The genome has been accepted as a **global reference by NCBI**.
- It will support:
 - Molecular Breeding
 - Genome Editing
 - Climate-Resilient Crop Development
- Supports the **Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses**.

Exam Points

- Crop → **Pigeonpea (Variety: Asha)**
- Accepted by → **NCBI**
- Developed by → **ICAR**

SPACEX FALCON-9 ROCKET STAGE CRASHES ON THE MOON

- A spent **SpaceX Falcon-9 upper stage** is believed to have impacted the Moon near **Einstein Crater** on **5 August 2026**.



- Estimated Impact Speed:
 - **8,690 km/h**
- Scientists expect the impact to create a **new lunar crater**.
- The site may be studied by:
 - **NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO)**
 - **South Korea's Danuri Spacecraft**

Exam Points

- Rocket → **SpaceX Falcon-9**
- Impact Location → **Einstein Crater (Moon)**
- Observation Missions → **LRO & Danuri**

INDIAN-ORIGIN ASTRONAUT ANIL MENON COMPLETES FIRST SPACEWALK

- Indian-origin **NASA astronaut Anil Menon** completed his **first spacewalk** outside the **International Space Station (ISS)** on **6 August 2026**.
- Mission Details:
 - **US Spacewalk 96**
 - Duration: **6 Hours 27 Minutes**
- Worked with **Jessica Meir**.
- They installed hardware and electrical cables for the **Roll-Out Solar Array (ROSA)** system.

Exam Points

- Astronaut → **Anil Menon**
- Space Station → **ISS**
- Mission → **US Spacewalk 96**
- Spacewalk Duration → **6 Hours 27 Minutes**

IIT GUWAHATI DEVELOPS 'E-EYE' WATER TESTING DEVICE

- **IIT Guwahati** developed **E-Eye**, a portable and low-cost optical sensing device.
- Uses the **Beer-Lambert Law** to detect contaminants.
- Detects:
 - Arsenic
 - Lead
 - Iron
 - Chromium
 - Fluoride
 - *E. coli*
- Cost:
 - Device: **₹3,500**
 - Per Test: **Around ₹2**
- Research findings were published in the **IEEE Sensors Journal**.



Exam Points

- Device → **E-Eye**



- Developed by → **IIT Guwahati**
- Principle Used → **Beer-Lambert Law**
- Journal → **IEEE Sensors Journal**

Quick Revision

Topic	Key Fact
Qwen3.8-Max	Alibaba AI Model
ASF Vaccine	ICAR-NIHSAD, Bhopal
Pigeonpea Genome	Variety Asha
Falcon-9 Impact	Einstein Crater (Moon)
Anil Menon	First Spacewalk (ISS)
E-Eye	IIT Guwahati

PM MODI INAUGURATED PARAM PRAGYA AI SUPERCOMPUTER

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated **Param Pragma**, an **AI-powered High-Performance Supercomputing (HPC) facility**, at **IIT Delhi Sonipat Campus** on **8 August 2026**.
- The facility will support **Artificial Intelligence (AI), Data Science, Advanced Computing, and Interdisciplinary Research**.
- It was inaugurated during **IIT Delhi's 57th Convocation**.
- **Exam Point:** *Param Pragma* is an **AI-powered supercomputing facility** at **IIT Delhi (Sonipat Campus)**.

NASA INVITES ISRO TO JOIN MOON BASE PROGRAMME

- **NASA** invited **ISRO** to participate in its **Moon Base Programme** under the **Artemis Accords**.
- The invitation was discussed during the **9th India-US Civil Space Joint Working Group Meeting** held in **Bengaluru (5-6 August 2026)**.
- Discussions included:
 - Lunar cooperation
 - Scientific data sharing
 - US-India TRUST Initiative
- **Exam Point:** India signed the **Artemis Accords** in **June 2023**.

INDIAN-ORIGIN SCIENTIST STUDIES "BLACK HOLE STAR"

- Indian-origin astrophysicist **Dr. Rohan Naidu** published research on a rare cosmic object called a "**Black Hole Star**" in **Nature (August 2026)**.
- The object **MoM-BH-1** may contain a **black hole nearly 100,000 times the Sun's mass**.
- The study used the **James Webb Space Telescope (JWST)**.

- The discovery may explain the origin of some **early supermassive black holes** and JWST's mysterious "**Little Red Dots.**"
- **Exam Point:** Research published in **Nature** using **JWST**.

RISE IN H1N1 INFLUENZA CASES IN DELHI

- Delhi reported **1,449 H1N1 Influenza cases** by **12 August 2026**.
- **H1N1** is an **Influenza A virus** carrying **H1 and N1 surface proteins**.
- Symptoms include:
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Headache
 - Muscle pain
 - Fatigue
- High-risk groups:
 - Elderly
 - Children
 - Pregnant women
 - People with chronic illnesses
- **Exam Point:** **Oseltamivir** is used for early antiviral treatment, while **annual vaccination** provides protection.

S301 BECOMES THE FASTEST KNOWN STAR IN THE MILKY WAY

- Scientists identified **S301** as the **fastest star with a securely determined orbit** in the Milky Way.
- Speed: **~25,000 km/s** (about **8% of the speed of light**).
- It orbits **Sagittarius A***, the **supermassive black hole** at the centre of the Milky Way.
- Orbital period: **8.7 years**.
- Discovery published in **Nature**.
- **Exam Point:** **S301** is the fastest known orbiting star around **Sagittarius A***.

SOPHIE ADENOT BECOMES FIRST FRENCH WOMAN TO PERFORM A SPACEWALK

- **European Space Agency (ESA)** astronaut **Sophie Adenot** became the **first French woman** and **second European woman** to perform a spacewalk.
- She conducted **US Spacewalk-97** with **NASA astronaut Anil Menon** on **18 August 2026**.
- Duration: **6 hours 23 minutes**.
- Main task: Replace the **Space-to-Ground Antenna** on the ISS.
- **Exam Point:** **Sophie Adenot** is the **first French woman** to conduct a spacewalk.

CHINA TO LAUNCH CHANG'E-7 LUNAR MISSION

- China plans to launch the **Chang'e-7** mission on **24 August 2026**.
- Launch Site: **Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site, Hainan**.
- Launch Vehicle: **Long March-5 Y14 Rocket**.

- Mission Components:
 - Orbiter
 - Lander
 - Rover
 - Hopping Probe
- Objective:
 - Explore the Moon's **South Pole**
 - Search for **Water Ice** near **Shackleton Crater**
- **Exam Point:** **Chang'e-7** will explore the Moon's **South Pole**.

INDIA TO ESTABLISH BHARATIYA ANTARIKSHA STATION (BAS) BY 2035

- India plans to establish the **Bharatiya Antariksha Station (BAS)** by **2035**.
- Announcement made by **ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan** during the **3rd National Space Day** celebrations in **Ahmedabad**.
- The station will:
 - Support long-duration human space missions
 - Conduct scientific research
 - Test new space technologies
- The project builds on the **Gaganyaan Programme**.
- **Exam Point:** **Bharatiya Antariksha Station (BAS)** is targeted for **2035** and is based on technologies developed under **Gaganyaan**.

INDIA LAUNCHES FIRST INDIGENOUS NON-GMO POPCORN MAIZE HYBRID

- India launched its **first indigenous Non-GMO High-Expansion Popcorn Maize Hybrid**.
- It was launched by **Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan** at **Musunuru, Eluru district (Andhra Pradesh)** on **24 August 2026**.
- The hybrid aims to:
 - Reduce dependence on imported popcorn maize hybrid technology.
 - Strengthen domestic seed production.
 - Promote **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** in agriculture.
- Over **17,500 farmers** across **8 States**, covering nearly **40,000 acres**, are associated with the **Gourmet Popcornicaecosystem**.
-  **Exam Point:** India's **first indigenous Non-GMO popcorn maize hybrid** was launched in **Andhra Pradesh**.

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

DISCOVERY OF A NEW PLANT SPECIES

Why in News?

Scientists from the **CSIR–Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT)** discovered a new sunflower-family plant species named **Doronicum sanctum** in **Tawang district, Arunachal Pradesh**.

Key Facts

- **New Species:** *Doronicum sanctum*
- **Family:** Sunflower (Asteraceae)
- **Discovered By:** CSIR-IHBT
- **Location:** Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh

ASIA'S FIRST DESERT-THEMED DRIVE-THROUGH NIGHT SAFARI

Why in News?

The **Central Zoo Authority** approved **Asia's first desert-themed drive-through night safari and zoological park** in **Juna Deesa, Banaskantha district, Gujarat**.

Key Facts

- **State:** Gujarat
- **Location:** Juna Deesa, Banaskantha
- **Approved By:** Central Zoo Authority
- **Project Cost:** ₹542.14 Crore
- **Project Area:** 103 Hectares
- **Special Feature:** Asia's First Desert-Themed Drive-Through Night Safari

Exam Highlights

- ✓ First in Asia
- ✓ State → Gujarat
- ✓ District → Banaskantha
- ✓ Approved by → Central Zoo Authority

Learn from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

INDIA'S FIRST HIGH-ALTITUDE WILDLIFE SAFARI

Why in News?

Ladakh approved **India's first High-Altitude Wildlife Safari** to promote wildlife conservation and eco-tourism.

Key Facts

- **Location:** Ladakh
- **Achievement:** India's First High-Altitude Wildlife Safari
- **Chairperson:** Lieutenant Governor **Vinai Kumar Saxena**
- **Main Attraction:** Snow Leopard
- **Important Park:** Hemis National Park

Exam Highlights

- ✓ First High-Altitude Wildlife Safari → Ladakh
- ✓ Main Attraction → Snow Leopard
- ✓ National Park → Hemis National Park

FIRST BLACK-NECKED CRANE FESTIVAL HELD IN LADAKH

Why in News?

Ladakh hosted its **first Black-Necked Crane Festival** from **11–14 August 2026** to promote conservation of the rare Himalayan bird.

Key Facts

- **Festival:** Black-Necked Crane Festival
- **Location:** Ladakh
- **Duration:** 11–14 August 2026
- **Species:** Black-Necked Crane (*Grus nigricollis*)
- **IUCN Status:** Near Threatened
- **Key Indian Breeding Region:** Ladakh

Exam Highlights

- ✓ First Festival → Ladakh
- ✓ Species → Black-Necked Crane

✓ IUCN Status → Near Threatened

INDIA'S FIRST VIRTUAL ZOO EXPERIENCE

Why in News?

Indore inaugurated **India's first Virtual Zoo Experience** at **Kamala Nehru Prani Sangrahalaya** on **17 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **City:** Indore
- **Zoo:** Kamala Nehru Prani Sangrahalaya
- **Achievement:** India's First Virtual Zoo Experience
- **Project Cost:** ₹4.5 Crore
- **Developed Under:** Public-Private Partnership (PPP)

Exam Highlights

- ✓ First Virtual Zoo → Indore
- ✓ Zoo → Kamala Nehru Prani Sangrahalaya
- ✓ Cost → ₹4.5 Crore
- ✓ Model → Public-Private Partnership (PPP)

One-Liner Revision

- First Virtual Zoo → Indore
- Zoo → Kamala Nehru Prani Sangrahalaya
- Cost → ₹4.5 Crore
- PPP Model

HOUSE OF —
ASPIRANTS

Learn from someone who has already
achieved what you are preparing for.

PARICHA WEIR RECEIVES WORLD HERITAGE IRRIGATION STRUCTURE (WHIS) STATUS

Why in News?

The **140-year-old Parichha Weir** in **Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh**, was designated as a **World Heritage Irrigation Structure (WHIS)** on **13 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Location:** Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh
- **River:** Betwa River
- **Recognition:** World Heritage Irrigation Structure (WHIS)
- **Awarded By:** International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)
- **Construction Started:** 1881
- **Commissioned:** 1886

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Location → Jhansi
- ✓ River → Betwa
- ✓ Recognition → WHIS
- ✓ Awarding Body → ICID

INDIA LAUNCHES FIRST GUIDE TO GRASSLANDS AND OTHER OPEN NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS (ONES)

Why in News?

India launched its **first Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems (ONES)** during the **17th UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)** session in **Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**.

Key Facts

- **Guide:** Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems (ONES)
- **Launch Date:** 17 August 2026
- **Event:** 17th UNCCD Session
- **Location:** Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- **Launched By:** Environment Minister **Bhupender Yadav**
- **Covers:** Grasslands, Savannas, Deserts, Coastal Ecosystems and Rocky Plateaus.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ First Guide → ONES
- ✓ Event → 17th UNCCD
- ✓ Location → Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

GLAW LAKE BECOMES INDIA'S 101ST RAMSAR SITE

Why in News?

Glaw Lake in Arunachal Pradesh became **India's 101st Ramsar Site**.

Key Facts

- **State:** Arunachal Pradesh
- **Ramsar Site Number:** 101st
- **Date:** 3 August 2026
- **Special Fact:** First Ramsar Site in Arunachal Pradesh
- **Located In:** Kamlang Tiger Reserve & Wildlife Sanctuary

Exam Highlights

✓ 101st Ramsar Site → Glaw Lake

✓ State → Arunachal Pradesh

INDIA'S ASIATIC LION POPULATION RISES TO 891

Why in News?

India's Asiatic lion population increased to **891**.

Key Facts

- **Population (2025):** 891
- **Population (2015):** 523
- **Increase:** Nearly **70%**
- **Habitat:** Greater Gir, Gujarat

Exam Highlights

✓ Population → 891

✓ Habitat → Greater Gir, Gujarat

Learn from someone who has already
achieved what you are preparing for.

INFRASTRUCTURE & INDUSTRY

HINDALCO COMMISSIONS INDIA'S FIRST GREENFIELD SUPERFINE ATH PLANT

Why in News?

Hindalco Industries commissioned India's first Greenfield Superfine Precipitated Aluminium Trihydrate (PPT ATH) Plant at Belagavi, Karnataka.

Key Facts

- **Company:** Hindalco Industries
- **Location:** Belagavi, Karnataka
- **Achievement:** India's First Greenfield Superfine PPT ATH Plant
- **Initial Capacity:** 30,000 tonnes per year
- **Future Capacity:** 60,000 tonnes per year
- **Powered By:** 100% Renewable Energy (Solar, Wind & Biomass)

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Company → Hindalco Industries
- ✓ State → Karnataka
- ✓ First → Greenfield Superfine PPT ATH Plant
- ✓ Renewable Energy Based Plant

INDIA TARGETS 874 GW POWER CAPACITY BY 2031-32

Learn from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

Why in News?

India plans to increase its **installed power capacity** to **874 GW** by **2031-32**.

Key Facts

- **Target Capacity:** 874 GW
- **Current Capacity (June 2026):** 548.86 GW
- **Non-Fossil Share:** 54.18%

Exam Highlights

✓ Target → 874 GW

INDIA CROSSES 300 GW NON-FOSSIL FUEL CAPACITY

Why in News?

India crossed **300.50 GW** installed non-fossil fuel power capacity.

Key Facts

- **Total Capacity:** 300.50 GW
- **Solar:** 164.59 GW
- **Wind:** 58.14 GW
- **Hydropower:** 57.24 GW

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Non-Fossil Capacity → 300.50 GW
- ✓ Largest Share → Solar Energy

MUMBAI-AHMEDABAD BULLET TRAIN PROJECT

Why in News?

The **Mumbai–Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project** is progressing towards its expected launch in **August 2027**.

Key Facts

- **Length:** 508 km
- **Maximum Speed:** 320 km/h

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Corridor Length → 508 km
- ✓ Maximum Speed → 320 km/h

VIZHINJAM INTERNATIONAL SEAPORT BEGINS FULL EXIM OPERATIONS

Why in News?

Vizhinjam International Seaport commenced **full-fledged EXIM (Export-Import)** operations.

Key Facts

- The port has transformed from a **transshipment facility** into a **major international trade gateway**.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Vizhinjam Port → Full EXIM Operations

INDIA'S FIRST LARGE-SCALE BIOPOLYMER PLANT

Why in News?

India's first **large-scale biopolymer plant** is being established in **Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh**.

Key Facts

- **Location:** Kumbhi Sugar Unit, Lakhimpur Kheri
- **State:** Uttar Pradesh
- **Estimated Cost:** ₹3,080 crore

Exam Highlights

- ✓ First Large-Scale Biopolymer Plant
- ✓ State → Uttar Pradesh

SEBI LAUNCHES INCIDENT REPORTING PORTAL & CYBER SURAKSHA PORTAL

Why in News?

SEBI launched two new digital platforms to strengthen cybersecurity in India's securities market.

Key Facts

1. Incident Reporting Portal

- Enables structured and timely cyber incident reporting.
- Aligns with **Financial Stability Board (FSB)** reporting standards.

2. Cyber Suraksha Portal

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Regulator → **SEBI**
- ✓ New Portals →

- Incident Reporting Portal
- Cyber Suraksha Portal

INDIA & ADB SIGN \$230 MILLION LOAN AGREEMENT FOR CHENNAI WATER PROJECT

Why in News?

India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a **\$230 million loan agreement** for the **Chennai Climate-Resilient Water Security and Sewerage Project**.

Key Facts

- **Loan Amount:** US\$230 million
- **Funding Agency:** Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- **Project:** Chennai Climate-Resilient Water Security and Sewerage Project
- **Beneficiaries:** Around **4.5 million** people in Greater Chennai.
- **Supports:**
 - **AMRUT 2.0**
 - **Urban Challenge Fund**

Exam Highlights

✓ Loan Amount → **US\$230 Million**

✓ Funding Agency → **ADB**

UPI COMPLETES 10 YEARS

Why in News?

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) completed **10 years** on **25 August 2026**.

Key Facts

- Launched in **2016** by **NPCI** under the supervision of **RBI**.
- **741 banks** are connected with UPI.
- UPI accounts for nearly **84%** of India's digital payment transactions.
- Available in **11 countries**.

Exam Highlights

✓ Launched By → **NPCI**

✓ Regulated By → **RBI**

✓ Launch Year → **2016**

✓ Participating Banks → 741

GOOGLE TOPS INDIA'S MOST ATTRACTIVE EMPLOYER BRAND 2026

Why in News?

Google ranked first in the **Randstad Employer Brand Research 2026** as India's Most Attractive Employer.

Top 3 Employer Brands

Rank	Company
1	Google
2	Tata Group
3	Amazon

Exam Highlights

✓ Rank 1 → Google

✓ Survey → **Randstad Employer Brand Research 2026**



AWARDS, HONOURS & APPOINTMENTS

PUNJAB TOPS NITI AAYOG SCHOOL EDUCATION QUALITY INDEX 2026

Why in News?

Punjab secured the **1st position** in the **NITI Aayog School Education Quality Index (SEQI) 2026**, overtaking Kerala.

Key Facts

- **State Ranked First:** Punjab
- **Index:** School Education Quality Index (SEQI)
- **Released By:** NITI Aayog
- **Education Minister:** Harjot Singh Bains
- **Mission Samarth:** Covers 12 lakh students and 70,000 teachers annually.
- **AI introduced as a core subject:** Classes 1–12

Exam Highlights

✓ Punjab ranked 1st in SEQI 2026.

✓ Released by **NITI Aayog**.

✓ Education Minister – **Harjot Singh Bains**.

✓ AI introduced from **Class 1 to 12**.

SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AWARDS 2024–25

Why in News?

The **President of India** will confer the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards 2024–25** on **115 artists** for their outstanding contribution to the fields of **Music, Dance, Theatre and Traditional Performing Arts**.

Key Facts

- **Award Name:** Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards 2024–25
- **Presented By:** President of India

- **Total Awardees: 115**
- **Highest Honour: Sangeet Natak Akademi Ratna (Akademi Fellow)**
- **Presented By:** Sangeet Natak Akademi

About Sangeet Natak Akademi (*Exam Point of View*)

- **Established: 1953**
- **Headquarters: New Delhi**
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Culture
- **It is India's National Academy for Music, Dance and Drama.**

Important Awardees (2024)

Awardee	Category
T. S. Sathyavathi	Overall Contribution in Music
Voleti Rangamani	Overall Contribution in Dance
Shubhada Manohar Varadkar	Scholarship in Performing Arts (Dance)
Tapati Chowdhurie	Art Critique – Performing Arts
Sunanda Nair	Overseas – Dance (Mohiniattam)

Exam Highlights

- ✓ **115 artists** will receive the Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards.
- ✓ **Akademi Ratna** is the **highest honour** of the Sangeet Natak Akademi.
- ✓ **Sangeet Natak Akademi** was established in **1953**.
- ✓ Headquarters of the Akademi is **New Delhi**.
- ✓ It functions under the **Ministry of Culture**.

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PRESIDENT'S MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE (PSM) 2026

Why in News?

The **President's Medal for Distinguished Service (PSM) 2026** was awarded to police personnel across India for their distinguished and exemplary service.

Key Facts

- **Award Name:** President's Medal for Distinguished Service (PSM)
- **Field:** Police Service
- **Presented To:** Police personnel for distinguished service.

Punjab Awardee

State	Awardee	Rank
Punjab	Shri Baljit Singh	Inspector

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Punjab awardee – **Shri Baljit Singh**
- ✓ Rank – **Inspector**
- ✓ Award – **President's Medal for Distinguished Service (PSM)**

NATIONAL TEACHERS AWARD 2026

Why in News?

Shri Dinesh Kumar from **Punjab Government Victoria Girls Senior Secondary School, Patiala** was selected for the **National Teachers Award 2026**.

Key Facts

- **Award:** National Teachers Award 2026
- **Awardee (Punjab):** **Shri Dinesh Kumar**
- **School:** Punjab Government Victoria Girls Senior Secondary School
- **District:** Patiala

Exam Highlights

- ✓ Punjab Awardee – **Shri Dinesh Kumar**
- ✓ School – **Victoria Girls Senior Secondary School**
- ✓ District – **Patiala**

MONISHA CHAKRABORTY APPOINTED AS RBI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Why in News?

Monisha Chakraborty has been appointed as the **Executive Director (ED)** of the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**.

Key Facts

- **Organisation:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- **Post:** Executive Director (ED)
- **Appointee:** Monisha Chakraborty

Exam Highlights

✓ Monisha Chakraborty → **Executive Director, RBI**

DR. ANNAPURNI SUBRAMANIAM RECEIVES COSPAR VIKRAM SARABHAI MEDAL 2026

Why in News?

Indian astrophysicist **Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam** received the **COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026**.

Key Facts

- Award presented at the **46th COSPAR Scientific Assembly**.
- **Venue:** Florence, Italy
- **Date:** 3 August 2026
- She became:
 - **First Indian woman scientist** to receive the award.
 - **Fourth Indian** overall.
 - **Third woman globally**.
- The medal is jointly awarded by:
 - **COSPAR**
 - **ISRO**
- Presently serves as:
 - **Director, Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru**
- Recognised for research in:
 - Stellar populations
 - Star clusters
 - Galaxy evolution

Exam Highlights

✓ Award → **COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal**

✓ Institution → **Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru**

DEEPAK DHAR AWARDED 2026 DIRAC MEDAL

Why in News?

Indian theoretical physicist **Deepak Dhar** was named a recipient of the **2026 Dirac Medal**.

Key Facts

- Award announced by:
 - **Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)**
- **Announcement Date:** 8 August 2026
- **Venue:** Trieste, Italy
- **Dirac Medal** was established in **1985**.
- Prize Money:
 - **US\$5,000**

Exam Highlights

✓ Award → Dirac Medal 2026

✓ Awarding Body → ICTP

INDEPENDENCE DAY 2026 GALLANTRY & SERVICE MEDALS

Why in News?

The Government of India announced **Gallantry and Service Medals** for Police, Fire Services and other uniformed personnel on **Independence Day 2026**.

Key Facts

- **301 Gallantry Medals** awarded:
 - Police Personnel – **272**
 - Fire Service Personnel – **29**
- Region-wise Gallantry Awards:
 - Left Wing Extremism Areas – **197**
 - Jammu & Kashmir – **51**
 - Northeast – **12**
 - Other Regions – **41**
- Total personnel honoured:
 - **1,057**
- Additional Awards:
 - **President's Medal for Distinguished Service (PSM)** – **92**
 - **Medal for Meritorious Service (MSM)** – **664**

Exam Highlights

✓ Total Gallantry Medals → 301

✓ Total Personnel Honoured → 1,057

PAKISTAN ANNOUNCES NISHAN-E-IMTIAZ FOR TWO PARSI DOCTORS

Why in News?

Pakistan proposed conferring its highest civilian award, **Nishan-e-Imtiaz**, on two Mumbai-based Parsi doctors.

Key Facts

- Awardees:
 - **Dr. Jal Ratanji Patel**
 - **Dr. Jal Dhaybho-Koo**
- Both were associated with the medical examination of **Muhammad Ali Jinnah** in **1946**.
- They reportedly diagnosed Jinnah with terminal tuberculosis while maintaining medical confidentiality.
- The awards are expected to be presented in **March 2027**.
- **Nishan-e-Imtiaz** is Pakistan's **highest civilian honour**.

Exam Highlights

✓ Highest Civilian Award of Pakistan → **Nishan-e-Imtiaz**

KAZIAH LIZ MEJO CROWNED MISS UNIVERSE INDIA 2026

Why in News?

Kaziah Liz Mejo from **Kerala** won the **Miss Universe India 2026** title.

Key Facts

- **Date:** 23 August 2026
- **Venue:** Jaipur
- She was crowned by **Miss Universe India 2025 – Manika Vishwakarma**.
- She will represent India at the **75th Miss Universe Pageant in Puerto Rico** in **November 2026**.
- **First Runner-up:** Vaishnavi Gannesh (Miss International India 2026)

Exam Highlights

✓ Winner → **Kaziah Liz Mejo**

✓ State → **Kerala**

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ANURAG JAIN TAKES CHARGE AS NITI AAYOG CEO

Why in News?

Senior IAS officer **Anurag Jain** assumed charge as the **CEO of NITI Aayog**.

Exam Highlights

✓ CEO of NITI Aayog → **Anurag Jain**

BOOKS & PERSONALITIES

PM NARENDRA MODI RELEASES RAM NATH KOVIND'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** released former President **Ram Nath Kovind's** autobiography titled "**Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles.**"
-  **17** The book was released on **12 August 2026** at **Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.**
-  The autobiography highlights **Kovind's life journey, struggles, and public service.**
-  **Exam Point:** "**Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles**" is the autobiography of **Ram Nath Kovind.**

MOUNTAINEER NIRMAL "NIMS" PURJA PASSES AWAY

- **Renowned mountaineer Nirmal "Nims" Purja** died in an **avalanche** on **Broad Peak, Pakistan,** on **1 August 2026.**
-  He became famous for **Project Possible (2019)** by climbing **all 14 peaks** above **8,000 metres** in just **6 months and 6 days.**
-  His achievement was featured in the **Netflix documentary "14 Peaks: Nothing Is Impossible."**
-  **Exam Point:** **Nirmal Purja** held the record for climbing **all 14 eight-thousanders** in the shortest time.

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SPORTS

COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2026: INDIA FINISHES 4TH IN MEDAL TABLE

Why in News?

India delivered an outstanding performance at the **2026 Commonwealth Games** held in **Glasgow (Scotland)** by finishing **4th** in the overall medal standings. Despite the exclusion of sports like wrestling, badminton, shooting, table tennis and hockey, India secured **39 medals**.

KEY FACTS

- **Event:** Commonwealth Games 2026
- **Host City:** Glasgow, Scotland
- **India's Overall Rank:** 4th
- **Total Medals Won:** 39
 -  Gold – 13
 -  Silver – 17
 -  Bronze – 9
- **Most Successful Sport:** Boxing
- **Boxing Medal Count:** 10 (7 Gold, 3 Silver)
- India equalled **Scotland's** total medal tally (39) but finished ahead due to a higher number of silver medals.

TOP 10 MEDAL TABLE

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Australia	70	45	56	171
2	England	29	45	36	110
3	Canada	19	20	23	62
4	India	13	17	9	39
5	Scotland	13	9	17	39
6	New Zealand	10	14	12	36
7	Nigeria	10	7	7	24
8	Jamaica	10	4	5	19
9	Wales	9	10	12	31
10	Malaysia	8	3	5	16

INDIA'S MEDAL TALLY BY SPORT

Sport	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Boxing	7	3	0	10
Athletics	0	5	5	10
Weightlifting	1	6	1	8
Para Athletics	3	2	1	6
Judo	2	1	1	4
Para Powerlifting	0	0	1	1

EXAM HIGHLIGHTS

- India finished **4th** in the Commonwealth Games 2026.
- India won **39 medals** (13 Gold, 17 Silver & 9 Bronze).
- **Boxing** emerged as India's most successful sport with **10 medals**.
- India won the highest **7 Gold medals** in **Boxing**.
- **Mirabai Chanu** became the **first Indian woman to win three consecutive Commonwealth Games Gold medals**.
- **Asmita Dey** became **India's first Commonwealth Games Judo Champion**.
- **Gulveer Singh** became the **first Indian track & field athlete to win two individual medals in one Commonwealth Games**.
- **Tejaswin Shankar** became **India's first Commonwealth Games Decathlon medallist**.
- India's **Para Athletics contingent recorded its best-ever Commonwealth Games performance**.
- **Neeraj Chopra** won **Silver** in Men's Javelin Throw.

INDIA'S FIRST STATE-LEVEL SPORTS GENOMICS PROGRAMME

Why in News?

Gujarat launched **India's first State-Level Sports Genomics Programme** to improve athlete identification and high-performance training using genomics and sports science.

Learn from someone who has already achieved what you are preparing for.

Key Facts

- **State:** Gujarat
- **Achievement:** India's First State-Level Sports Genomics Programme
- **Implemented By:** Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre
- **Department:** Department of Science and Technology
- **Purpose:** Identify sporting talent through genomics.

Exam Highlights

✓ First State → Gujarat

✓ Programme → Sports Genomics Programme

✓ Implementing Agency → Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre

NATIONAL SPORTS TALENT HUNT FOR CHILDREN

Why in News?

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** announced a nationwide **Sports Talent Hunt** for children aged **5–15** years.

Key Facts

- **Age Group:** 5–15 years
- **Objective:** Identify athletes for India's proposed **2036 Olympic Games**.

Exam Highlights

✓ Age Group → 5–15 Years

✓ Target → 2036 Olympics

GUINNESS WORLD RECORD IN NEW JERSEY

Why in News?

India's **80th Independence Day** celebrations in **New Jersey (USA)** created a **Guinness World Record**.

Key Facts

- Record Category: **Largest Flagpole Number**
- Created using **more than 1,300 US flags** to form the number "**250**".

INDIA DOMINATES COMMONWEALTH TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Learn from someone who has already

- India won **4 out of 5 Gold Medals** at the **22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships**.
- **Gold Medal Winners:**
 - **Men's Singles:** Ankur Bhattacharjee
 - **Women's Singles:** Yashaswini Ghorpade
 - **Women's Doubles:** Sreeja Akula & Syndrela Das
 - **Mixed Doubles:** Manav Thakkar & Taneesha Kotecha
- **Men's Doubles Gold:** Malaysia (Shen Qi Wong & Javen Choong).
-  **Exam Point:** India won **4 Gold Medals** at the **22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships**.

INDIA FINISHES 4TH AT COMMONWEALTH GAMES GLASGOW 2026

- India finished **4th** in the medal tally with **39 medals**:
 - 🥇 Gold – 13
 - 🥈 Silver – 17
 - 🥉 Bronze – 9
- India competed with **122 athletes**.
- **Gulveer Singh** emerged as India's **double gold medallist**.
- **Boxing** contributed the highest medals with **7 Golds and 3 Silvers**.
- India also won its **first-ever Commonwealth Games Gold Medals in Judo**.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** India finished **4th** with **39 medals** at the **2026 Commonwealth Games**.

AHMEDABAD TO HOST COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2030

- **Ahmedabad** officially became the host city of the **2030 Commonwealth Games**.
- The **Commonwealth Games Flag and Host Baton** were handed over during the **Glasgow 2026 Closing Ceremony**.
- India will host the Commonwealth Games for the **second time** after **New Delhi (2010)**.
- India becomes the **second country after Australia** to host the Games twice.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** **2030 Commonwealth Games Host City – Ahmedabad (India)**.

FIH HOCKEY WORLD CUP 2026

- The **FIH Hockey World Cup 2026** will be hosted by **Belgium and the Netherlands** from **15–30 August 2026**.
- **India Men's Captain:** Harmanpreet Singh
- **India Women's Captain:** Salima Tete
- **Men's Group Opponents:** England, Pakistan, Wales
- **Women's Group Opponents:** China, England, South Africa
- Venues:
 - Wagener Hockey Stadium, Amstelveen
 - Belfius Hockey Arena, Wavre
- 📌 **Exam Point:** **Hosts – Belgium & Netherlands**.

TANZANIA GETS ITS FIRST ICC-APPROVED INTERNATIONAL CRICKET STADIUM

- ICC Chairman **Jay Shah** inaugurated the **Tanzania Cricket Arena** in **Dodoma** on **4 August 2026**.
- It is **Tanzania's first ICC-approved international cricket venue**.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** **Tanzania Cricket Arena (Dodoma)** is Tanzania's first ICC-approved international cricket stadium.

JOS BUTTLER BECOMES HIGHEST RUN-SCORER IN T20 CRICKET

- **England's Jos Buttler** became the **highest run-scorer in T20 cricket history**.

- He surpassed **Kieron Pollard's** previous record.
- Career Statistics:
 - **Runs:** 14,833
 - **Matches:** 522
 - **Centuries:** 9
 - **Half-centuries:** 106
- He achieved the milestone while playing for **Manchester Super Giants** in **The Hundred 2026**.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** **Jos Buttler** is the **highest run-scorer in T20 cricket history**, while **Chris Gayle** still holds the record for the **most T20 centuries (22)**.

ASIAN RAFTING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

- **Boleng (Siang district), Arunachal Pradesh** will host the **Asian Rafting Championships 2026**.
- 📅 **Date: 5–9 October 2026**
- 🌊 The championship will be held on the **Simang River**, a **Class III+** tributary of the **Siang River**.
- 🚣 Events include **Sprint, Raft Cross, and Slalom**, testing speed, teamwork, endurance, and technical skills.
- 🌿 The event aims to promote **adventure tourism, eco-tourism, and sports development** in the region.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** The **International Rafting Federation (IRF)** is the **global governing body** for competitive white-water rafting.

R PRAGGNANANDHAA WINS SAINT LOUIS RAPID & BLITZ 2026

- **Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa** won his **first Saint Louis Rapid & Blitz** title.
- 🏆 He scored **23.5 points** out of 36, finishing **1.5 points** ahead of **Javokhir Sindarov (Uzbekistan)**.
- 🤝 He secured the title with **one round remaining** after drawing against Sindarov.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** This is **Praggnanandhaa's maiden Saint Louis Rapid & Blitz** championship title.

SURAJ KUMAR CHAND CREATES SQUASH HISTORY

- **India's Suraj Kumar Chand** became the **first Indian** to win the **FISU World University Squash Championship**.
- 🥇 He defeated **Takács Benedek (Hungary)** **3–2** in the final.
- 🇮🇳 His victory earned **India's first-ever gold medal** in the championship.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** **Suraj Kumar Chand** is the **first Indian FISU World University Squash Champion**.

ASHISH YADAV WINS SILVER AT WORLD ATHLETICS U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS

- India's Ashish Yadav won the silver medal in the men's javelin throw at the World Athletics U20 Championships 2026.
- 📌 Venue: Eugene, Oregon (USA)
- 📏 Best Throw: 74.09 metres
- 🥇 Gold: Jan-Hendrik Heymans (South Africa) – 80.50 m
- 🥉 Bronze: Addison James (Dominica) – 73.89 m
- 📌 Exam Point: Ashish Yadav became India's first U20 silver medallist and second Indian U20 men's javelin medallist.

ARIHA PANGAMBAM WINS HISTORIC GOLD

- Ariha Pangambam (Manipur) became the first Indian to win a senior individual women's aerobic gymnastics gold medal at the Asian Championships.
- 📌 Venue: Tagaytay City, Philippines
- 🥇 Score: 19.100
 - Artistry: 8.650
 - Execution: 7.600
 - Difficulty: 2.850
- 📌 Exam Point: Ariha Pangambam won India's first senior Asian Championship gold in individual women's aerobic gymnastics.

RISHABH PANT CREATES TEST CRICKET HISTORY

- Rishabh Pant became the fastest batter to hit 100 sixes in Test cricket.
- 🏏 He reached the milestone in just 89 innings, surpassing Adam Gilchrist's record of 130 innings.
- 🇮🇳 Pant became the first Indian and fourth player overall to achieve the feat.
- 📌 Exam Point: Rishabh Pant is the fastest player to reach 100 Test sixes.

FIFA RELEASES 2027 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP SCHEDULE

- Brazil will host the 2027 FIFA Women's World Cup from 24 June to 25 July 2027.
- 🌐 The tournament will feature 32 national teams across 8 host cities.
- 🏟️ Maracanã Stadium (Rio de Janeiro) will host both the opening match and the final.
- 📌 Exam Point: The 2027 FIFA Women's World Cup will be the last edition with 32 teams before expanding to 48 teams in 2031.

RAVINDRA JADEJA REACHES HISTORIC WTC MILESTONE

- **Ravindra Jadeja** became the **first Indian and Asian cricketer** to play **50 World Test Championship (WTC) matches**.
-  **WTC Career:**
 - **Matches:** 50
 - **Runs:** 2,632
 - **Wickets:** 160
-  **Joe Root (England)** holds the overall record with **78 WTC matches**.
-  **Exam Point:** **Ravindra Jadeja** is the **first Indian and Asian player** to complete **50 WTC matches**.

EAST BENGAL WINS DURAND CUP 2026

- **East Bengal** defeated arch-rivals **Mohun Bagan 4–1** in the **Durand Cup 2026 Final**.
-  With this victory, East Bengal won its **17th Durand Cup title**, equalling **Mohun Bagan's** record.
-  **Edmund Lalrindika** starred with a **hat-trick**, while **Bipin Singh** scored the opening goal.
-  The win also avenged East Bengal's **0–1 defeat** to Mohun Bagan in the **2023 Durand Cup Final**.
-  **Exam Point:** **East Bengal and Mohun Bagan** have **17 Durand Cup titles** each.

R PRAGGNANANDHAA WINS GRAND CHESS TOUR 2026

- **Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa** became the **first Indian** to win the **Grand Chess Tour**.
-  He defeated **Fabiano Caruana (USA)** **15–13** in the final at the **Saint Louis Chess Club**.
-  He received a **USD 200,000** prize and qualified for the **2027 Grand Chess Tour**.
-  **Exam Point:** **R Praggnanandhaa** is the **first Indian Grand Chess Tour champion**.

INDIA FINISHES 8TH IN FIH MEN'S HOCKEY WORLD CUP 2026

- **India** finished **8th** in the **FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2026**.
-  **Belgium** defeated **India 4–3** in a **shootout** after a **3–3 draw** in regulation time.
-  **Harmanpreet Singh** scored **two goals**, while **Abhishek** scored one for India.
-  **Exam Point:** **Belgium** finished **7th**, while **India** finished **8th** in the tournament.

SPAIN AND GERMANY REACH FIH HOCKEY WORLD CUP FINAL

- **Spain** and **Germany** qualified for the **FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2026 Final**.
-  **Spain** defeated **Netherlands 4–3** in the semifinal.
-  **Germany** defeated **Argentina 2–1** in the other semifinal.

- ★ **José Bastera** scored a **hat-trick** for Spain.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** The **2026 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup Final** will be played between **Spain and Germany**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

WORLD ELEPHANT DAY 2026

Why in News?

On **World Elephant Day 2026**, it was highlighted that India is home to nearly **60%** of the world's wild Asian elephant population.

Key Facts

- India has nearly **60%** of the global wild Asian elephant population.
- According to **SAIEE (2021–25)**, India's elephant population is **22,446**.

Exam Highlights

- ✓ India → 60% of global wild Asian elephants
- ✓ Elephant Population → 22,446

HOUSE OF ASPIRANTS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY – 12 AUGUST

- Observed every year on **12 August**.
- 🌐 Celebrated by the **United Nations (UN)** to highlight the role of **young people in nation-building, education, employment, innovation, and sustainable development**.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** International Youth Day – 12 August.

PARTITION HORRORS REMEMBRANCE DAY (VIBHAJAN VIBHISHIKA SMRITI DIWAS) – 14 AUGUST

- Observed every year on **14 August**.
- 🇮🇳 Commemorates the **victims and hardships** faced during the **Partition of India in 1947**.
- The day honours those who lost their lives or were displaced and promotes **national unity and social harmony**.
- 📌 **Exam Point:** Partition Horrors Remembrance Day – 14 August.

WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY – 19 AUGUST

- Observed annually on **19 August**.
- 🌐 Honours **humanitarian workers** who risk or lose their lives while helping people affected by **conflicts, disasters, and emergencies**.
- It also raises awareness about the importance of **humanitarian assistance** worldwide.
- 📌 **Exam Point: World Humanitarian Day – 19 August.**

NATIONAL SPACE DAY (INDIA) – 23 AUGUST

- Celebrated every year on **23 August**.
- 🚀 Marks the successful **soft landing of Chandrayaan-3's Vikram Lander** near the Moon's south pole on **23 August 2023**.
- The day promotes **space science, innovation, and scientific awareness** among students and citizens.
- 📌 **Exam Point: National Space Day (India) – 23 August.**

NATIONAL SPORTS DAY (INDIA) – 29 AUGUST

- Celebrated every year on **29 August**.
- 🏑 Observed on the **birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand**, India's legendary hockey player.
- The day promotes **sports, fitness, and a healthy lifestyle**, and the **National Sports Awards** are presented on this occasion.
- 📌 **Exam Point: National Sports Day – 29 August (Birth Anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand).**

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