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Ques : Which act provides the legislative framework for Asset Reconstruction Companies in India?

- (a) Banking Regulation Act, 1949
- (b) SARFAESI Act, 2002
- (c) Companies Act, 2013
- (d) RBI Act, 1934
- (e) Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- RBI has updated instructions for settling dues owed by borrowers to Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) under the Master Direction- Reserve Bank of India (Asset Reconstruction Companies), 2024.
- The amended instructions were published through a circular under Sections 9 and 12 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 (54 of 2002).
- Borrowers with more than 1 crore outstanding dues would have their proposal reviewed by an Independent Advisory Committee (IAC) before settlement.
- Borrowers with outstanding dues of Rs 1 crore or less might get settlement approval from a non-acquisition officer.

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### Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- The RBI has revealed the names of the members of the Standing External Advisory Committee (SEAC), which will evaluate applications for Universal Banks and Small Finance Banks. The SEAC's tenure will be three years.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has published the list of Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) in the Upper Layer (UL) category under Scale-Based Regulation (SBR) for FY24-25.
- RBI in cooperation with the government, has proposed amendments to the existing Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) regulations to encourage cross-border transactions in the Indian rupee (INR) and local / national currencies.
- RBI has instructed banks and other regulated entities (REs) to use the '1600xx' phone numbering series exclusively for making transactional calls to customers.
- HSBC India, the Indian arm of London-based HSBC, has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to open 20 branches in 20 cities.
- The RBI will conduct daily Variable-Rate Repo (VRR) auctions until further notice. This measure will increase banking liquidity amid the deficit.
- The RBI has implemented new credit reporting rules. Lenders are now required to update credit bureau information every 15 days, rather than monthly. This directive went into force on January 1, 2025.
- The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub and IIMA Ventures have launched Swanari TechSprint 3.0, a program targeted at fostering women-centric financial firms in India.
- The RBI lifted the supervisory restrictions imposed on two non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) – Asirvad Micro Finance Limited and DMI Finance Private Limited.
- The Reserve Bank announced the winners of its 3rd Global Hackathon, themed 'Zero Financial Frauds' and 'Being Divyang Friendly'.
- The RBI has declared that the interest rate for RBI Floating Rate Savings Bonds (Taxable) FRSB 2020 (T) will stay at 8.05% from January 1 to June 30, 2025.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lifted business restrictions on Arohan Financial Services Limited, a microfinance institution situated in Kolkata (West Bengal), after the lender implemented remedial steps and committed to fair loan pricing.
- HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector lender, has received the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval to acquire up to a 9.5% stake in Kotak Mahindra Bank, AU Small Finance Bank, and Capital Small Finance Bank.
- The Reserve Bank of India has approved a voluntary merger between The National Co-operative Bank Ltd., Bangalore (Karnataka) and Cosmos Co-operative Bank Limited (Maharashtra).





Ques : Which General Insurance Company Launches CyberEdge a Comprehensive Cyber Insurance Solution for Indian Businesses ?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) TATA AIG General Insurance Company
- (e) PNB MetLife India Insurance

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- TATA AIG General Insurance Company has launched CyberEdge, a cutting-edge cyber insurance product aimed at protecting Indian enterprises from the growing threat of cyberattacks.
- The policy caters to organizations of all sizes, providing financial and operational support in areas such as forensic investigations, legal fees, data recovery, extortion payments, and business interruption losses.
- With the cyber insurance business quickly developing, TATA AIG hopes to gain a 25% market share within five years.
- The announcement comes in reaction to the worrisome rise in cyber events; a Prahar analysis found 79 million cyberattacks in India in 2023, with a projected increase to 1 trillion every year by 2033.

About Tata AIG General Insurance Company :

- Established : 2001
- HQ : Mumbai
- MD & CEO : Neelesh Garg





## Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- Policybazaar.ae, the UAE's premier online insurance marketplace, has launched PB Advantage, a game-changing project that aims to reinvent the health insurance experience in the UAE
- Shriram Life Insurance has established Shriram Life Sunishchit Laabh, a non-participating individual savings plan that offers guaranteed returns of up to 668% of the total premium paid.
- Cybersecurity Hackathon 2024-25 1st Edition Launched by Punjab National Bank (PNB). The Theme is "Code Against Malware". Winners will receive prizes worth up to Rs 11 lakhs and have the opportunity to implement their solutions in live environments with PNB.
- Bank of Baroda has launched "bob Liquid Fixed Deposits" as an alternative to regular fixed deposits (FDs). The bob Liquid FD allows you flexible deposit amounts starting at Rs.5,000 (with no maximum deposit amount), duration options ranging from 12 to 60 months, and partial withdrawals in multiples of Rs.1,000
- IDBI Bank has launched a new fixed deposit scheme, 'IDBI Chiranjeevi-Super Senior Citizen FD,' for customers aged 80 and above.
- Bank of Baroda (BoB) will open AI-powered customer service and full-fledged branches in Prayagraj, including forex transaction facilities, to better serve visitors.
- Groww Mutual Fund, an asset management company, introduced the Groww Nifty India Railways PSU Index Fund and ETF.
- RenewBuy, an online insurance company, has launched the RenewBuy Smart Term Plan under its RB Proprietary line.
- Mirae Asset Investment Managers (India) Pvt. Ltd. has established the Mirae Asset Smallcap Fund, an open-ended equity plan that focuses primarily on smallcap stocks.
- Go Digit-Life Insurance Limited (Digit-Life), a major new-age digital insurer, has introduced its first individual pure-term life insurance policy, "Digit Glow Term Life Insurance."
- IndiaBonds.com, a SEBI-registered Stock Broker (Debt Segment) and licensed Online Bond website Provider (OBPP), now offers Digital Fixed Deposits (FDs) on its website.





Ques : What type of service will Skydo Technologies provide under the RBI authorization?

- (a) Domestic fund transfers
- (b) International credit ratings
- (c) Cross-border payment aggregation
- (d) Cryptocurrency trading
- (e) Digital wallet services

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Skydo Technologies, a cross-border payments startup, has been granted in-principle authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to function as a Payment Aggregator-Cross Border entity.
- Skydo presently handles over 12,000 exporters in India and processes over \$250 million in annual export payments.
- Skydo has received Payment Service Provider (PSP) clearance from Amazon, allowing it to process payments for exporters participating in the Global Selling program.

### **Criteria for payment aggregator-cross border (PA-CB) licence :**

- In October 2023, the RBI released a circular mandating minimum net worth standards for non-banks operating as PA-CBs.
- Applicants must have a net worth of Rs 15 crore at the time of application and Rs 25 crore by March 31, 2026, as per the regulations.
- New non-banks must have a net value of Rs 25 crore by the end of the third financial year after authorization.







Ques : When was the Paris Agreement on climate change originally adopted?

- (a) 2012
- (b) 2013
- (c) 2014
- (d) 2015
- (e) 2016

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Following Donald Trump's inauguration for his second term as President, the United States will withdraw from the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement.
- Trump had already withdrawn the United States out of the Paris Agreement during his first term, but his successor, Joe Biden, rejoined four years later.
- The Paris Agreement, signed in 2015, is a global agreement aimed at keeping global warming to far below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, with efforts to restrict the increase to 1.5°C.
- The pact encourages countries to establish and meet their own emission-reduction objectives, known as Nationally Determined Contributions.
- The United States is the second-largest source of greenhouse gas emissions. Its decision to extract, consume, and export additional fossil fuels may nullify even this 2% reduction.





Ques : Which Edition of World Future Skills Index 2025 Published by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) ?

- (a) 1st
- (b) 2nd
- (c) 3rd
- (d) 4th
- (e) 5th

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- World Future Skills Index 2025 Edition 1st Edition Published by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS).
- It use 4 Indicators : Skills fit, Academic readiness, Future of work and Economic transformation
- India ranked 25th globally with a score of 76.6, indicating it as a "future skills contender."
- The USA ranks first with a score of 97.6, followed by the UK (97.1) and Germany (94.6).
- G7 countries scored 68.3, highlighting India's need for further investment and innovation in sustainable practices.

Ranking of top 5 countries :

- 1 USA
- 2 UK
- 3 Germany
- 4 Australia
- 5 Canada
- 25 India

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## India's Rankings in Different Indices

- HSBC Hurun Global Indians List 2024 Published by Hurun : Satya Nadella, CEO of Microsoft (Top)
- Annual India Fintech Report 2024 Published by Tracxn Technologies Limited : India (3rd), United States of America (USA) (1st)
- Henley Passport Index 2025 Published by Henley : India (85th), Singapore (top)
- ThreatLandscape Report 2024 Published by CloudSEK : India (2nd), United States (top)
- Global Aging Index Published by National University of Singapore (NUS) & Columbia University : India (123rd), Switzerland (top)
- Hurun India Top 200 Self-Made Entrepreneurs of the Millennia 2024 Published by Hurun India & IDFC FIRST Private Banking : Kaivalya Vohra (Zepto) (Youngest), Ashok Soota (Happiest Minds Technologies) (Oldest)
- Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) 2024 Published by World Economic Forum (WEF) : India (39th), United States (Top)
- 2025 QS Sustainability Rankings Published by QS Rankings : IIT Delhi (171), University of Toronto (Canada) (top)
- SBTi commitments by Indian companies Published by ICRA ESG Ratings Limited : India (6th), United Kingdom (UK) (top)
- "world's worst airlines" in the 2024 AirHelp Score survey : IndiGo (103rd), Brussels Airlines (top)
- Interdisciplinary Science Rankings (ISR) 2025 Published by Times Higher Education (THE) : Anna University in Chennai (Tamil Nadu, TN) (42nd), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (USA) (top)

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Ques : Which edition of Jaipur Literature Festival to begin from January 30 ?

- (a) 12th
- (b) 14th
- (c) 16th
- (d) 18th
- (e) 20th

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- The 18th edition of the Jaipur Literature Festival, the world's largest literary event, will take place from January 30 to February 3, 2025.
- The coveted Kanhaiya Lal Sethia Award for Poetry, which will be presented to eminent Hindi poet Badri Narayan, is one of the festival's highlights. He received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2022 for his collection Tumdi ke Shabd.
- The 2025 edition will also focus on the theme "Fractured World," featuring sessions on current geopolitics, war, and conflict, as well as topics such as theater, dance, music, cinema, sports, food, and climate change.

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Recent News Headlines Related to Festivals & Fairs :

- Avaniyapuram Jallikattu Festival : Avaniyapuram village, near the Sri Bathrakaliamman Temple, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. 1,100 bulls and 900 bull-tamers participate.
- Thalai Pongal : the first day of the Tamil month, is a significant harvest festival
- Gaan Ngai celebration : Kabui/Rongmei Naga group in Manipur
- Elephant and Tourism Festival 18th Edition : Held at Baghmara Intermediate Community Forest near the renowned Chitwan National Park, Sauraha, Chitwan, Nepal
- Kagyad Dance event : Sikkim at Gangtok's Tsuklakhang Palace
- Ladakhi Losar : Celebrated in Ladakh to mark the New Year according to the Tibetan calendar
- Viraasat Sari Festival 2024 : 3rd Edition Hosted by Ministry of Textiles at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi
- Eaglenest Bird Festival : Arunachal Pradesh in Kellong and Thongre village, West Kameng District
- International Gita Mahotsav : Kurukshetra, Haryana
- Asthalakshmi Mahotsav : New Delhi, It will focus on India's eight north-eastern states
- Cherry Blossom Festival : Shillong, Meghalaya
- Hornbill Festival : Nagaland
- Bodoland Mohotsav : celebration of the Bodo language in Delhi (theme is 'Peace and Harmony for Prosperous Bharat')
- Jauljibi Mela : Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand
- Igas Bagwal (also known as Budhi Diwali or Harbodhni Ekadashi) : Uttarakhand
- Bali Padyami festival (Bali Pratipada) : Karnataka





Ques : Which government department has entered into an alliance with Apna for a talent hunt to equip startups with skilled manpower?

- (a) Department of Higher Education
- (b) Department of Official Language
- (c) Department of Fertilizers
- (d) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- (e) Department of Consumer Affairs

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and Apna, the country's jobs and professional networking platform, have formed an alliance to conduct a talent search to provide DPIIT-registered startups with highly skilled personnel, thereby creating new job opportunities for unemployed youth.
- The agreement, which was formalized through MoU, provides a monetary value of Rs 2000 per entity registered on the Bharat Startup Registry (Bhaskar) platform in recruiting credits on Apna's platform for each of the 7,000,000 entities. This is now scheduled to be worth Rs 140 crore.
- India presently has approximately 1.59 lakh firms recognized by the DPIIT, and by January 15, 2025, it will have firmly established itself as the world's third-largest startup ecosystem.
- According to official data, this thriving ecosystem, led by over 100 unicorns, is continuing to reinvent innovation and entrepreneurship on a global scale.





Recent News Headlines Related to MoU and agreement :

- The Government of Odisha's Electronics and IT Department and Singapore's Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN) have signed a MOU to establish a Global Competency Centre in Bhubaneswar to foster FinTech collaboration, with a focus on developing inclusive and sustainable InsureTech and related areas.
- International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) and the Adani Group Collaborate to ensure that nearly one lakh people are provided with nutritious meals daily during the 45-day spiritual gathering at Maha Kumbh Mela. ISKCON has set up a large-scale kitchen at Harshvardhan Marg.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian signed a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Treaty for 20 years at Moscow. The agreement seeks to enhance trade and economic ties, with bilateral trade having risen by 15.5% to \$3.77 billion between January and October 2024
- Government of Uttarakhand and Icelandic company Verkis Consulting Engineers (Verkis) signed an MOU for geothermal exploration and development in Uttarakhand. Under the agreement, feasibility studies for these projects will be funded by the Government of Iceland
- Amazon has inked a deal to acquire fintech loan start-up Axio, formerly Capital Float, for around \$190-200 million.
- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and ITC Limited signed MOU to accelerate startup growth and technological advancement besides creation of viable market opportunities for startups across the country.
- India and Spain have signed two MOU to promote and expand their bilateral relations. These agreements prioritized sports collaboration and sustainable urban development. both countries agreed to mark 2026 as the "Year of Culture, Tourism, and Artificial Intelligence (AI)"
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) Signed MoU to explore collaboration in the area of New and Renewable Energy (NRE) sector
- India has signed an agreement with Saudi Arabia for Hajj 2025, finalising a quota of 1,75,025 pilgrims. Union Minister for Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju signed the deal in Jeddah with Saudi Minister for Hajj and Umrah Tawfiq Bin Fawzan Al Rabiah.
- Mongolia & India Signed an Mining Partnership. In the areas of geology and exploration, aiming to enhance resource security and diversify supply chains.





Ques : Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar started in which year ?

- (a) 2015
- (b) 2016
- (c) 2018
- (d) 2019
- (e) 2020

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) Honored with Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2025 under Institutional Category.
- Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar Started in 2019 and Sponsored by Government of India
- It is Awarded on January 23, the birth anniversary of freedom fighter Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.
- Prize under Institution Category is Cash prize of Rs.51 lakh (US\$59,000) and a certificate
- Prize under Individual Category is Cash prize of ₹5 lakh (US\$5,800) and a certificate
- 2024 winner is 60 Parachute Field Hospital, Uttar Pradesh (Institutional)

About INCOIS :

- Established : 1999
- HQ : Hyderabad, Telangana
- Chairman : Dr. M. Ravichandran







Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- Gates-Cambridge Impact Prize 2025 : Prof. Urbasi Sinha
- Singapore's highest honor for non-citizens, the Honorary Citizen Award : Tarun Das, former Director General of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- 'Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award' : Eminent director Aparna Sen
- Blue Flag certification : Kappad beach in Kozhikode and Chal beach in Kannur in Kerala
- Best javelin thrower of 2024 by American publication Track and Fields News : India's Neeraj Chopra
- India's 1st and world's 3rd airport to receive the prestigious Level 5 Accreditation : Mumbai (Maharashtra)-based Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA)
- Padmapani Lifetime Achievement Award : Sai Paranjpye for her contributions to both Indian cinema and Marathi literature
- Gangadhar National Award for Poetry 2023 : Odia poet Prativa Satpathy
- Bahrain's prestigious 'Medal of Efficiency' (First Class) by King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa : Dr. Ravi Pillai
- "Great Place to Work" certification for January 2025-2026 : Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)
- SKOCH Award : Maharashtra government's initiative 'Shasan Aplya Dari' ('Government at Your Doorstep')
- 34th Vyas Samman for 2024 : Hindi writer Suryabala for Her novel "Kaun Des Ko Vasi: Venu Ki Diary" which was published in 2018
- Prestigious "Gold Award" in the State Energy Conservation Award 2024 : RINL, the corporate entity of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant
- Royal honors 'knighthood' and 'damehood' by King Charles III : Oscar award winning filmmaker Christopher Nolan and his wife, Emma Thomas
- Pandit Swapan Chaudhuri : Rashtriya Tansen Samman 2023
- Sanand Nyas Sanstha from Indore : Raja Mansingh Tomar Samman 2023
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi : Kuwait's highest civilian honour, the Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer





Ques : Who has been elected as the president of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) for 2025?

- (a) Rajesh Verma
- (b) Dhananjay Shukla
- (c) Meena Gupta
- (d) Ankit Srivastava
- (e) Piyush Sharma

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) has elected Dhananjay Shukla as its president for 2025. Dhananjay Shukla was the vice-president of the ICSI for 2024 .
- He is a commerce and law graduate, a fellow of ICSI, and a practicing company secretary in Gurugram.
- Pawan G Chandak, on the other hand, has been appointed as the vice president, with a background in labor laws and welfare.

About Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) :

- Established : 1968
- Act : Company Secretaries Act 1980
- HQ : New Delhi
- Administered by : Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs





Recent Appointment in different departments :

- Robert Jerard Ravi : Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)
- Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya : Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court (Replaced Justice Vibhu Bakhru)
- Justice Alok Aradhe : Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court (Replaced Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya)
- Marco Rubio : 72nd US Secretary of State
- Nripendra Mishra : Chairperson of Executive Council of the Prime Ministers Museum and Library Society
- Vineet Joshi : Secretary of the Department of Higher Education under the Ministry of Education
- K Vinod Chandran : Chief Justice of Supreme Court
- Ajit Kumar Mohanty : Chairman of the reformed Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)
- Devajit Saikia : New secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)
- Prabhtej Singh Bhatia : Treasurer of the Indian Cricket Board
- Brijendra Pratap Singh : Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of National Aluminium Company (NALCO)
- B. N. Srikrishna : Chairperson of Equal's newly formed Advisory Board
- Tuhin Kanta Pandey : Secretary, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance
- Dr. V Narayanan : chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- Bahadur Singh Sagoo : President of the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) (Replaced Adille Sumariwalla)
- Mike Johnson, a Republican from Louisiana : Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives
- Devajit Saikia : Chief Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)





Ques : What is the approved Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Raw Jute (TD-3 grade) for the 2025-26 marketing season?

- (a) Rs. 5,450 per quintal
- (b) Rs. 5,650 per quintal
- (c) Rs. 5,000 per quintal
- (d) Rs. 5,750 per quintal
- (e) Rs. 5,450 per quintal

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for Raw Jute for the marketing season 2025-26.
- The MSP for raw jute (TD-3 grade) has been set at Rs.5,650/- per quintal for the 2025-26 season. This would result in a return of 66.8% over the all-India weighted average cost of production.
- The authorized MSP for raw jute for the marketing season 2025-26 is consistent with the premise of setting MSP at at least 1.5 times the all-India weighted average cost of production, as announced by the government in the Budget 2018-19.
- The MSP of raw jute for the marketing season 2025-26 has increased by Rs.315/- per quintal over the previous marketing season 2024-25.
- The Government of India increased the MSP of raw jute from Rs.2400/- per quintal in 2014-15 to Rs.5,650/- per quintal in 2025-26, representing a 2.35-fold increase.





Ques : The 1st International Olympic Research Conference is set to be hosted in which state ?

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Vidarbha
- (d) Gujarat
- (e) Hyderabad

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- India's bid to host the 2036 Olympics has taken a crucial step ahead, with officials from the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and experts from various sectors gathering in Gujarat for a critical four-day event.
- The event will take conducted at Gandhinagar's Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) campus.
- This seminar, conducted in partnership with the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, focuses on establishing strategies and new business models to build long-term sports infrastructure, which is critical for presenting India as a strong contender to host the famous global event.

Themes :

1. 2036 Vision: Pathway to Become an Olympic Host
2. Global Best Practices in Olympic City Selection and Urban Legacy
3. Financing the Future: Economic Models for Hosting Olympics
4. Greening the Games: Sustainability in Indian Olympic Plan
5. Gender Equity and Inclusion in Sports







## Recent News Headlines Related to Summits / conference

- The third National Mining Ministers Conference concluded in Konark, Odisha, with an emphasis on vital minerals mining. Rajasthan received the prize for excellent contribution to organizing the most auctions in 2023-24.
- Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Labour and Employment, Youth Affairs, and Sports, has opened a two-day international symposium on "Formalization and Social Security Coverage for Workers in the Informal Sector: Challenges and Innovations" in New Delhi.
- During the first-ever corporate round-table conference in New Delhi, Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya invited corporations to adopt one sport with the goal of boosting the Indian sports ecosystem in preparation for the 2036 Olympic Games.
- Om Birla, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, has opened the 85th All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC) in Patna.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025,' the country's largest mobility expo, at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Summit in France. The event will focus on five key themes: public interest in AI, the future of work, innovation and culture, trust in AI, and global AI governance.
- India will host the 28th Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers Conference (CSPOC) in 2026. The seminar will center on the application of artificial intelligence and social media in parliamentary processes.
- Over the next five years, a total of Rs 50,000 crore would be invested in infrastructure along national waterways. According to the announcement, the investment ideas were announced during the Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC) meeting in Kohora, Kaziranga.
- Ajit Doval, the country's national security adviser, and Raja Dato Nushirwan Bin Zainal Abidin, the director general of the National Security Council of Malaysia in New Delhi, co-chaired the first India-Malaysia Security Dialogue.
- The latest edition of Asia's largest biannual air show and aviation exhibition, Aero India 2025, will take place at the Air Force Station, Yelahanka in Bengaluru, Karnataka. The 15th edition of the Aero India show.
- The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD Convention 2025) will be place in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, beginning January 8th. The theme of this three-day convention is "The Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat”.







Ques : Who has been given the additional charge of Director General, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)?

- (a) Kuldeep Singh
- (b) Amrit Mohan Prasad
- (c) Rakesh Asthana
- (d) Sujoy Lal Thaosen
- (e) Sanjay Arora

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- The Central government has assigned Amrit Mohan Prasad, Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), the additional responsibility of Director General, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).
- Prasad was given the job months after BCAS DG Zulfiqar Hasan departed on October 31, last year.
- Prasad, a 1989-batch IPS officer from the Odisha cadre, has been assigned the extra charge for six months from November 1, 2024, or until the regular incumbent joins or further directives are issued, whichever comes first.
- BCAS is India's regulating authority for civil aviation security, having been reorganised as an autonomous department within the Ministry of Civil Aviation on April 1, 1987.





Ques : Who has been appointed as the Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF)?

- (a) Rakesh Sharma
- (b) Anil Deshmukh
- (c) Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal
- (d) Rajendra Prasad Singh
- (e) Deepak Verma

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal has been named Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF).
- The 1994-Batch IPS officer from the Tamil Nadu cadre would serve as Additional Director-General of Police, BSF, for four years.
- Mr Aggarwal formerly served as Commissioner of Police in Chennai, where he oversaw the Operations, Enforcement Bureau, and Armed Police divisions, launching a number of initiatives such as Drive Against Drugs and Kaaval Karangal. He has also created a number of police welfare projects.

About BSF :

- Established : 1st December 1965
- HQ : New Delhi
- Director : Daljit Singh Chaudhary





Recent Defence related appointments :

- Gyanendra Pratap Singh : Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
- Air Commodore Debakinandan Sahu : Command of the Base Repair Depot (BRD) at Tughlakabad (Air Commodore Rishi Seth)
- Air Marshal Jeetendra Mishra : Chief of the Indian Air Force's Western Air Command ( Replaced Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha )
- Vitul Kumar : Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) (Replaced Anish Dayal Singh)
- Jared Isaacman : NASA Chief to Oversee Moon Missions
- Valdecy Urquiza (Brazil) : Secretary-General of the International Criminal Police Organisation INTERPOL
- Rajesh Kumar Singh : Defence Secretary at South Block
- Surgeon Vice Admiral Kavita Sahai : Director General Medical Services (Navy)
- Paramesh Sivamani : 26th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG)
- Air Marshal SP Dharkar : Vice Chief of Air Staff
- IPS Nalin Prabhat : Director General of Police (DGP) of Jammu and Kashmir (Replaced R.R. Swain)
- Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin : first female officer as Director General of Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS)
- Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh : Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF) (succeed Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari)
- Nikhat Zareen (boxer) : Telangana Police as a Deputy Superintendent of Police (Special Police)
- Amrit Mohan Prasad : Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal
- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit : Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) of Central Air Command
- Air Marshal Tejinder Singh : Deputy Chief of the Indian Air Force
- Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar : Director General of Project Seabird





Ques : Discovery of a Rare Umamaheshwara Sculpture is in which state ?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Uttarakhand
- (d) Haryana
- (e) Maharashtra

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- A historical item, an Umamaheshwara metal sculpture, has been discovered in Taggunje, Ajri village, Kundapura taluk, Udupi district, Karnataka.
- This sculpture, produced in the 17th century with a 12th-century style, combines Shaiva Shaktha and Naga worship traditions.

About the sculpture :

- Panchaloha, a five-metal sculpture, is a masterwork of religious art and culture.
- The image represents Lord Shiva sitting on a lotus platform with Parvati (Uma) on his lap, surrounded by Ganesha, Shanmukha, and Nandi.
- The sculpture's base contained two lines in Kannada writing from the 17th century.

About Karnataka :

- Capital : Bangalore
- CM : Siddaramaiah
- Governor : Thawar Chand Gehlot





Ques : Which state government has signed 54 MoUs worth 15.70 lakh crore rupees during the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting 2025 in Davos ?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Uttarakhand
- (d) Haryana
- (e) Maharashtra

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- During the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting 2025 in Davos, the Maharashtra government signed 54 MOU totaling 15.70 lakh crore rupees.
- These agreements are estimated to create around 16 lakh jobs across a variety of sectors. One of the important agreements is with MSN Holdings Ltd, which intends to develop an advanced lithium battery and cell manufacturing facility under the state's 'Ultra Mega facility' initiative.
- The project, which will cost 14,652 crore rupees, seeks to create 8,760 direct and indirect jobs, with a focus on developing the Vidarbha region.
- The largest MoU was signed with Reliance Group, which has committed 3.05 lakh crore rupees to investments in petrochemicals, polyester, renewable energy, bioenergy, green hydrogen, retail, telecommunications, data centers, hospitality, and real estate.
- The WEF Annual Meeting 2025, scheduled from January 20 to 24 in Davos, Switzerland, is themed "Collaboration for the Intelligent Age."





Ques : Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti, also known as 'Parakram Diwas' or Courage Day, is celebrated annually on which day ?

- (a) 20 January
- (b) 21 January
- (c) 22 January
- (d) 23 January
- (e) 24 January

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti, also known as 'Parakram Diwas' or Courage Day, is observed annually on January 23 to commemorate one of India's most notable liberation fighters, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Subhas Chandra Bose was born 128 years ago this year.
- Theme 2025 Netaji: Courage, Determination and Patriotism
- From creating and directing the Indian National Army to forming alliances against the British during World War II, Netaji was a pivotal role in laying the groundwork for the contemporary Indian state.
- Subhas Chandra Bose was born on January 23, 1897, in Cuttack, Odisha, as the ninth child of Janakinath Bose and Prabhavati Devi. Growing up, he was an excellent student who earned his BA in Philosophy from Presidency College in Calcutta (now Kolkata).







### Important days :

- 27 December : International Day of Epidemic Preparedness
- 29 December : International Cello Day
- 1 January : Global Family Day (Theme 2025: Let's Start the Year With Love, Unity, and Appreciation)
- 2 January : World Introvert Day (Theme 2025: Finding peace and calm in a noisy world)
- 2 January : 67th Foundation Day of Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)
- 3 January : International Mind-Body Wellness Day
- 4 January : World Braille Day
- 5 January : National Bird Day (Theme 2025: Protecting Our Birds, Protecting Our Future)
- 6 January : World Day of War Orphans
- 6 January : Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) celebrated its 78th Foundation Day
- 8 January : Earth's Rotation Day
- 9 January : NRI or Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
- 10 January : World Hindi Day, also known as 'Vishwa Hindi Diwas' (Theme 2025: A Global Voice of Unity and Cultural Pride)
- 12 January : National Youth Day (Theme 2025: Youth for a Sustainable Future: Shaping the Nation with Resilience and Responsibility)
- 14 January : 9th Armed Forces Veterans' Day 2025 ( Celebrates to Commemorates The retirement of Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa on January 14, 1953)
- 15 January : Indian Army Day (Theme 2025: Samarth Bharat, Saksham Sena (Capable India, Empowered Army))
- 16 January : National Startup Day
- 11 to 17 January : National Road Safety Week 2025
- January 18 to February 17 : National Road Safety Month 2025 (Theme 2025 Sadak Suraksha Jeevan Raksha)
- 20 January : National Penguin Awareness Day
- 21 January : Northeastern states of Manipur, Meghalaya, and Tripura celebrate Statehood Day





IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

Flamingo Festival 2025 Held at Andhra Pradesh. It calls to protect the rich biodiversity of the region, specifically in Pulicat Lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary.

JSW Group and Maharashtra government Signed MOU to invest Rs.3 lakh crore across various sectors in Maharashtra, including in the naxal-infested Gadchiroli. The commitment aligns with Maharashtra's 'Green Maharashtra' mission.

Ms. Usha, became the first Indian-American and Hindu Second Lady after her husband J.D. was sworn in as the 50th Vice-President of the U.S.

Pangsau Pass International Festival (PPIF) 2025 Held at Nampong, Arunachal Pradesh on 3rd week of January. It Celebrates the region's cultural heritage and its historical significance during World War II.

Reliance Power has appointed Neeraj Parakh as Chief Executive Officer. His appointment is effective for a period of three years.

Nigeria's inclusion brings the total number of BRICS partner countries to nine, joining Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Thailand, Uganda, and Uzbekistan.

Book Wild Fictions Authored by Amitav Ghosh and Published by Fourth Estate India. In 2019 he was the 1st English-language writer to receive the '54th Jnanpith Award'.

