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# **GENIUS CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**In English**



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**Ques : What is the primary objective of the MoU signed between RBI and Bank of Mauritius?**

- (a) Facilitating the use of local currencies for cross-border transactions
- (b) Promoting cryptocurrency exchanges between the two nations
- (c) Setting up a new international payment system
- (d) Creating a common currency for the SAARC region
- (e) None of the above

**Answer :** Option A

**Explanation :**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Bank of Mauritius (BOM) have signed an MoU to promote the use of Indian Rupee (INR) and Mauritian Rupee (MUR) for cross-border transactions.
- The agreement aims to reduce dependence on third-party currencies like the US Dollar in bilateral trade and investment.
- This initiative will facilitate smoother trade settlements and enhance economic cooperation between India and Mauritius.
- The move aligns with India's de-dollarization efforts, encouraging local currency usage in international trade.

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### Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved BRISKPE as a Payment Aggregator – Cross Border (PA-CB) for import and export transactions in India
- The RBI and National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE) have started nationwide programs to promote financial literacy
- Kuhoo Finance Private Limited, a fintech platform specializing in student loans, has received a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will shortly produce Rs.100 and Rs.200 banknotes in the Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series, with the signature of the newly appointed Governor, Shri Sanjay Malhotra
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set the final redemption price for Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs) maturing on March 17, 2025, at Rs.8,624 per unit
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been awarded the Digital Transformation Award 2025 by Central Banking, London, UK, for its innovative digital initiatives
- The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) has launched DesignShaala™, an initiative that promotes financial innovation through Human-Centered Design (HCD)
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the establishment of an on-tap cohort focused on climate change risks and sustainable finance under its regulatory sandbox initiative
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched the 5th Digital Payments Awareness Week (DPAW), a campaign to raise awareness about the importance of digital transactions and ensure their safe use
- The Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) chaired by Swaminathan J, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, held its 29th meeting in Ahmedabad to assess credit flows to the MSME sector
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reported that 98.18% of the Rs.2,000 banknotes in circulation have been returned to the banking system, leaving only Rs.6,471 crore for the public
- On March 5th, 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced open market purchases of government assets and USD/INR swaps totaling Rs 1.9 lakh crore to boost banking liquidity
- In February 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced the quarterly House Price Index (HPI) for the December quarter of 2024-25. The All-India HPI increased by 3.1% for the third quarter of the Financial Year 2024-25 (Q3 FY25)





**Ques : Who published the Report on Trends and Progress of Housing in India, 2024 ?**

- (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- (b) State Bank of India (SBI)
- (c) NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)
- (d) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
- (e) National Housing Bank (NHB)

**Answer : Option E**

**Explanation :**

- Report on Trends and Progress of Housing in India, 2024 Published by National Housing Bank (NHB)
- As of September 30, 2024, individual house loans were Rs 33.53 lakh crore, up 14% from the same period last year.
- As of September 30, 2024, the Middle-Income Group (MIG) accounted for 44% of all housing loans.
- The Economically Weaker Section & Lower Income Group (EWS & LIG) accounted for 39% of outstanding individual housing loans, followed by the Higher Income Group (HIG) with 17%.
- Finance is distributed regionally as follows: Southern (35%), Western (30%), Northern (28%), Eastern (5.4%), and North Eastern States (0.68%).
- Banks make up 81% of housing loans, with Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) accounting for 19%.
- In the first half of FY25 (April-September), individual home loan disbursements totaled Rs 4.10 lakh crore, compared to Rs 9.07 lakh crore in FY24 (ending March 31, 2024).
- In the September 2024 quarter, the Housing Price Index (NHB-RESIDEX) increased by 6.8% compared to the previous year.
- Housing loans (as a percentage of GDP) have climbed from 6.60% in 2011-12 to 11.29% in 2023-24.
- Green buildings: Only 5% are classified as green.
- NHB released this report in accordance with provision of Section 42 of NHB Act 1987.





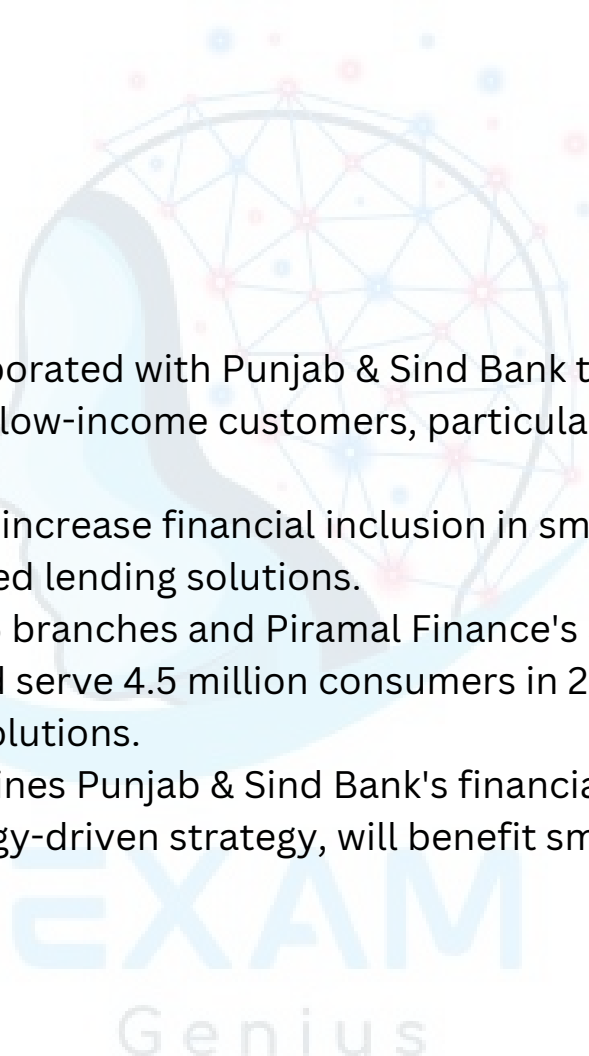
**Ques : Piramal Finance has partnered with which bank to Expand Credit Access for middle and low-income borrowers ?**

- (a) Karnataka Bank
- (b) Central Bank of India
- (c) Indian Overseas Bank
- (d) Union Bank of India
- (e) Punjab & Sind Bank

**Answer:** Option E

**Explanation :**

- Piramal Finance has collaborated with Punjab & Sind Bank to make loans more affordable for medium and low-income customers, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas.
- This collaboration aims to increase financial inclusion in smaller cities by offering inexpensive and personalized lending solutions.
- Punjab & Sind Bank's 1,575 branches and Piramal Finance's 514+ branches, which cover 13,000 pin codes and serve 4.5 million consumers in 26 states, will collaborate to provide better lending solutions.
- The program, which combines Punjab & Sind Bank's financial experience with Piramal Finance's technology-driven strategy, will benefit small enterprises (MSMEs) and home loan seekers.





### Recently signed banking agreements

- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) Regional Office has signed a MoU with J&K Grameen Bank to promote and finance 2,000 Joint Liability Groups
- CCAvenue, Infibeam Avenues Ltd's premier payment gateway, has teamed with The Sutex Co-operative Bank Ltd to improve the bank's online banking services.
- HDFC Bank Limited, the Indian Army's Directorate of Indian Army Veterans (DIAV), and Common Service Centres Academy (under CSC e-Governance Services India Limited) have renewed their MoU to expand Project NAMAN
- Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Limited ("Canara HSBC Life Insurance") has teamed up with GIC Housing Finance Limited ("GICHF") to offer credit life insurance options to house loan borrowers
- The Bank of India (BOI) has signed MoU with the Indian Army (IA) to provide the 'Rakshak Salary Package' to Army personnel, veterans, and Agniveers recruited through the Agnipath Scheme in New Delhi
- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and the Federal Bank have struck an agreement to provide financial assistance to micro, small, and medium-sized firms (MSMEs).
- Magma General Insurance Limited (Magma) has formed a strategic relationship with Hyundai India Insurance Broking Pvt. Ltd. (HIIB) to improve motor insurance accessibility throughout the country.
- City Union Bank Ltd, a historic private sector bank, has teamed with Chennai Super Kings (CSK) to establish a co-branded credit card.

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**Ques : Which bank has partnered with Sunrisers Hyderabad as their exclusive banking partner?**

- (a) City Union Bank
- (b) Indian Overseas Bank
- (c) Bank of India
- (d) Karnataka Bank
- (e) CSB Bank

**Answer :** Option A

**Explanation :**

- City Union Bank (CUB) has become the exclusive banking partner of Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH).
- The bank will offer customized financial services and exclusive benefits to SRH fans, players, and staff.
- CUB aims to enhance brand visibility through sports partnerships.
- The partnership will help in expanding its customer base among cricket fans. Special offers and banking services will be tailored for SRH members.
- Boosts customer engagement and loyalty among cricket enthusiasts. Provides financial benefits to SRH fans and stakeholders.

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**Ques : Which organization is responsible for administering the ADB Frontier Seed (Pacific) technical assistance program?**

- (a) World Bank
- (b) IMF
- (c) Asian Development Bank
- (d) United Nations
- (e) WTO

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation :**

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has launched the Frontier Seed (Pacific) technical assistance (TA) program to support SMEs in Pacific developing member countries (DMCs).
- This initiative aims to identify and fund SMEs that have the potential to transform or create local industries, fostering sustainable and inclusive economic growth.
- The program will provide financial assistance to SMEs, helping them expand and drive industrial transformation in the Pacific region.
- By strengthening economic resilience in developing countries, ADB seeks to promote long-term stability and growth in the region.

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**Ques : Recently, which bank has started accepting deposits under the Senior Citizens' Savings Scheme (SCSS)?**

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) IDFC First Bank
- (c) Dhanlaxmi Bank
- (d) RBL Bank
- (e) Yes Bank

**Answer : Option A**

**Explanation :**

- HDFC Bank, one of India's top private banks, will now accept deposits under the Senior Citizens' Savings Scheme (SCSS). This scheme, run by the Government of India, is designed to help elderly individuals save money securely.
- As an agency bank, HDFC Bank will assist the government by accepting SCSS deposits and offering smooth services to customers. Eligible individuals can visit any HDFC Bank branch to apply for the scheme.
- As of March 17, 2025, the SCSS offers an interest rate of 8.2% per year, fixed by the government for the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025.
- This scheme is open to individuals aged 60 and above. People who have retired at or after 55 years of age can also apply. Additionally, retired Defence personnel can join the scheme after turning 50.
- Investments in SCSS qualify for tax benefits under Section 80C of the Income Tax Act. The scheme provides interest payments every three months and has a lock-in period of five years, with the option to extend it by three years multiple times. The government may update the interest rate from time to time.





**Ques : IIFL Finance established in which year ?**

- (a) 1980
- (b) 1985
- (c) 1990
- (d) 1995
- (e) 1999

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- On Women's Day, IIFL Finance, one of India's leading non-banking financial organizations, rebranded seven existing branches as 'Shakti' branches, staffed entirely by women.
- The seven renamed branches are spread across Delhi National Capital Region and Mumbai Metropolitan Region.

**About IIFL Finance :**

- **Established :** 1995
- **HQ :** Mumbai
- **Chairman :** Nirmal Jain

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### Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- Tata AIA Life Insurance has introduced the Tata AIA Shubh Flexi Income Plan, a non-linked, participating life insurance savings plan
- YES Bank Ltd, a private sector lender, has introduced a GST payment facility to improve its digital banking services
- Avanse Financial Services Ltd. (Avanse) has launched 'SWALAKSH', a specialised education loan tailored for female students aspiring to study abroad
- SheTARA campaign Launched by Star Health Insurance at Tamil Nadu. Its aim is to promote preventive healthcare among women while also encouraging more women to join as insurance agents
- Axis Bank has become the first Indian bank to carry out an aircraft finance transaction through its International Banking Unit (IBU) at GIFT City IFSC
- Bank of Baroda (BoB) is the first public sector bank to offer the 'bob Global Women Non-Resident External (NRE) and Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) Savings Account' for female NRIs
- PhonePe has launched the 'insuring HEROES' campaign in honor of International Women's Day
- Project HAKK (Hawai Anubhavi Kalyan Kendra-Serving those who have served) Launched By HDFC Bank Limited
- HDFC Bank Limited was the first domestic bank to trade 5 kg of gold at the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) in GIFT City, Gujarat.
- Paytm, owned by One 97 Communications, now offers a technology that allows brokerage apps to freeze cash directly in users' bank accounts using its Unified Payments Interface (UPI). The feature uses the NPCI infrastructure

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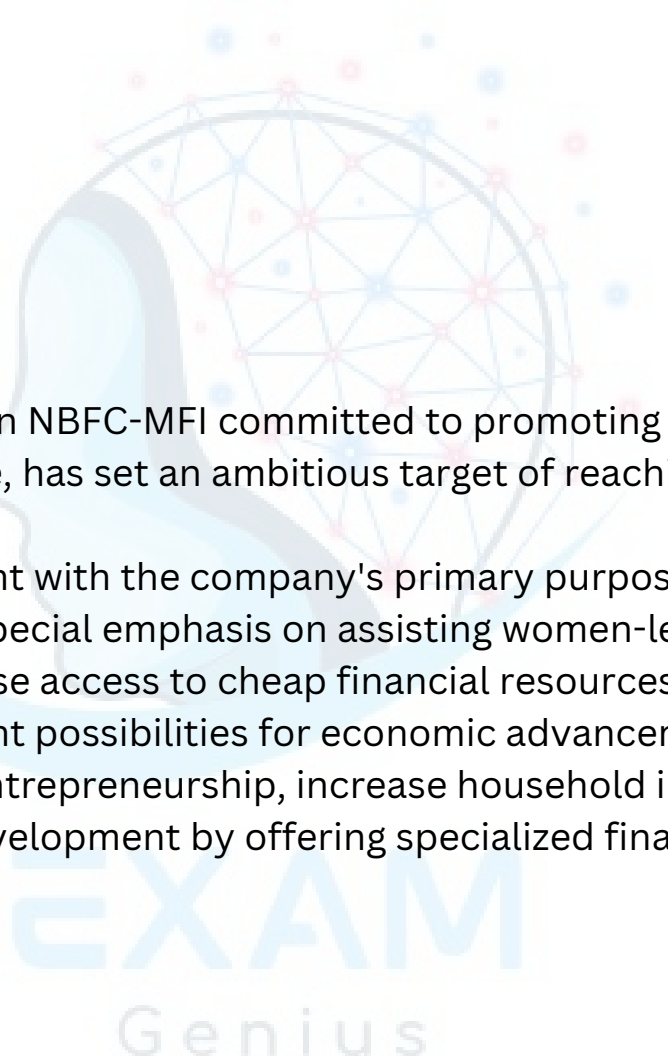
**Ques : SATYA MicroCapital Ltd, a NBFC-MFI committed to promoting entrepreneurship and financial independence, has unveiled an ambitious goal of reaching 10 million households by \_\_.**

- (a) 2026
- (b) 2027
- (c) 2028
- (d) 2029
- (e) 2030

**Answer : Option E**

**Explanation :**

- SATYA MicroCapital Ltd, an NBFC-MFI committed to promoting entrepreneurship and financial independence, has set an ambitious target of reaching 10 million families by 2030.
- This milestone is consistent with the company's primary purpose of fostering financial inclusion, with a special emphasis on assisting women-led businesses.
- This effort seeks to increase access to cheap financial resources, thereby providing poor families with consistent possibilities for economic advancement.
- SATYA aims to promote entrepreneurship, increase household incomes, and contribute to long-term development by offering specialized financial solutions such as microloans.





**Ques : What is the primary objective of SEBI's partnership with DigiLocker?**

- (a) To promote digital banking
- (b) To reduce unclaimed assets in the securities market
- (c) To regulate stock trading
- (d) To provide insurance for investors
- (e) None of these

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- SEBI has collaborated with DigiLocker, a government-backed digital document storage platform, to address the issue of unclaimed assets and enhance investor protection.
- This partnership allows investors to store and access their demat and mutual fund holdings in DigiLocker, ensuring easy management of financial documents.
- Investors can also add nominees, who will receive SMS and email notifications in case of the investor's demise, simplifying the transmission of assets.
- SEBI has directed AMCs, RTAs, and depositories to integrate with DigiLocker, while KRAs will provide information on deceased investors.
- The initiative aims to reduce unclaimed assets by resolving issues related to dormant accounts, missing bank details, and complex asset transmission procedures

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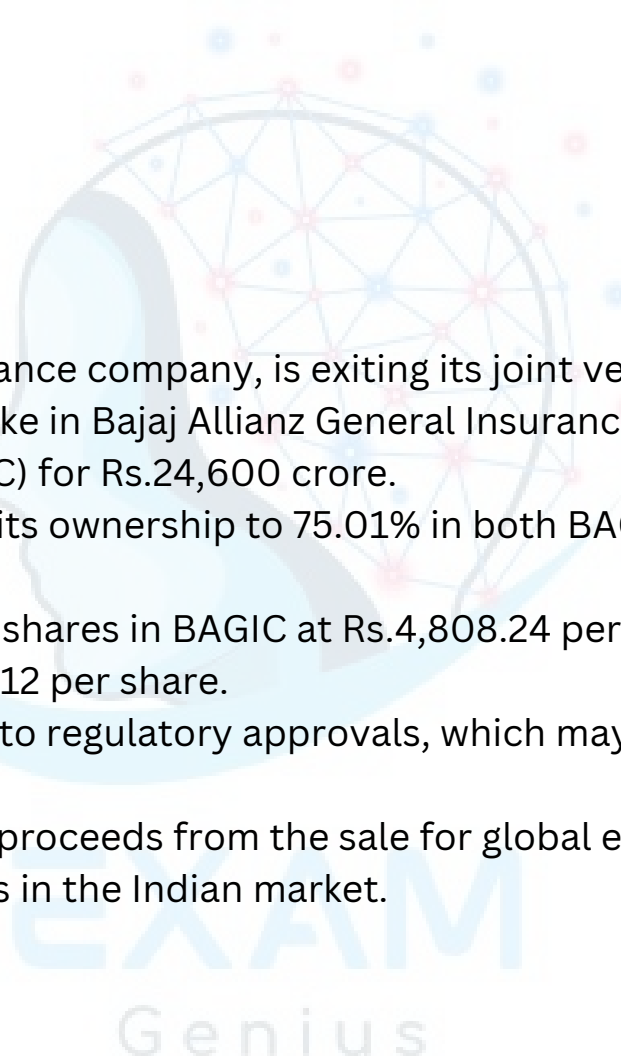
**Ques : How much stake is Allianz selling in Bajaj Allianz General and Life Insurance JVs?**

- (a) 51%
- (b) 49%
- (c) 26%
- (d) 75.06%
- (e) 19.95%

**Answer : Option C**

**Explanation :**

- Allianz SE, a German insurance company, is exiting its joint ventures with Bajaj Group by selling its 26% stake in Bajaj Allianz General Insurance (BAGIC) and Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance (BALIC) for Rs.24,600 crore.
- Bajaj Finserv will increase its ownership to 75.01% in both BAGIC and BALIC, making it the majority stakeholder.
- Allianz will sell 11.13 crore shares in BAGIC at Rs.4,808.24 per share and 15.2 crore shares in BALIC at Rs.2,654.12 per share.
- The transaction is subject to regulatory approvals, which may take a few months to be finalized.
- Allianz plans to utilize the proceeds from the sale for global expansion and exploring new opportunities in the Indian market.







**Ques : How much loan amount was written off by scheduled commercial banks between FY15 and FY24?**

- (a) Rs.10 lakh crore
- (b) Rs.12 lakh crore
- (c) Rs.14 lakh crore
- (d) Rs.16 lakh crore
- (e) Rs.18 lakh crore

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- Scheduled commercial banks wrote off over Rs.16 lakh crore worth of loans between FY15 and FY24, reflecting a significant financial adjustment in the banking sector.
- The trend of loan write-offs has seen a sharp rise, increasing from Rs.59,000 crore in FY15 to Rs.1.71 lakh crore in FY24, indicating growing non-performing assets (NPAs).
- Large industries and the services sector accounted for Rs.9.26 lakh crore, which is 57% of the total write-offs, highlighting their substantial contribution to the NPA burden.
- Various recovery measures have been implemented, including legal actions through Debt Recovery Tribunals, the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, and the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code.
- Governance challenges persist in the banking sector, with 12 public sector banks having board vacancies and 40% of director positions remaining unfilled, potentially affecting decision-making and oversight.





**Ques : Which edition of the Kabaddi World Cup 2025 being held in England ?**

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

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- The second edition of the Kabaddi World Cup 2025 begins in England. The Indian men's team will begin their campaign against Italy in Wolverhampton.
- The competition will last seven days and feature more than 60 matches in Birmingham, Coventry, Walsall, and Wolverhampton, all in the West Midlands region of the United Kingdom.
- The men's competition will begin with ten teams divided into two equal groups: A and B. India will compete in Group B, alongside Italy, Scotland, Wales, and China.
- In contrast, the women's competition will have six teams divided into two groups: D and E. India will compete in Group D, alongside Wales and Poland.
- In the inaugural edition, hosted by Malaysia in 2019, India won both the men's and women's titles. Also, this is the first time the Kabaddi World Cup has been held outside of Asia.
- Furthermore, this Kabaddi World Cup differs from those organized by the International Kabaddi Federation (IKF), whose previous editions have all been held in India.





### Recent News headlines related to Sports

- Hockey Jharkhand won the title after defeating defending champions Hockey Haryana in the final of the 15th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2025
- Hockey India honored the 1975 Indian hockey team, which won the Hockey World Cup in Kuala Lumpur, with the Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award at the 7th Hockey India Annual Awards
- The fifth edition of India's major winter sports event, the Khelo India Winter Games 2025, held its second leg in Gulmarg on March 9-12. The Indian Army won the most medals, with seven golds, five silvers, and six bronze
- Axar Patel, an all-rounder from India, has been named captain of the Delhi Capitals for the 2017 IPL season, replacing KL Rahul, a senior player who has recently joined the squad
- Shubman Gill of India earned the ICC Men's Player of the Month award, while Alana King of Australia took the ICC Women's Player of the Month title
- The World Para Athletics Grand Prix (WPA GP) 2025 will begin at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi. Praveen Kumar, Navdeep Singh, and Dharambir, who won gold medals at the Paris 2024 Paralympics, will lead the Indian delegation
- Mumbai Indians (MI) clinched their second Women's Premier League (WPL) title by defeating Delhi Capitals (DC) by 8 runs in the final
- England batsman Harry Brook has withdrawn from the Indian Premier League (IPL) for the second consecutive year, risking a potential twoyear ban under IPL regulations. He need to focus on preparations for England's upcoming series as the reason for his decision
- The Indian women's Kabaddi team won the '6th Edition of Asian Women's Kabaddi Championship championship', defeating Iran's team 32-25 in the final in Tehran, Iran.
- The 2026 FIFA World Cup, hosted by the US, Canada, and Mexico, will not include Russia, Pakistan, and Congo owing to individual controversies
- Rohit Sharma became the second-most successful Indian skipper after winning his second ICC title





**Ques : Who has been appointed as the CEO of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)?**

- a) Dr. Abhay Karandikar
- b) Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar
- c) Dr. Shivkumar Kalyanaraman
- d) Dr. K. Radhakrishnan
- e) Dr. Vijay Raghavan

**Answer : Option C**

**Explanation :**

- Dr. Shivkumar Kalyanaraman has taken over as CEO of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF).
- Previously, Professor Abhay Karandikar, Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), served as acting CEO. He officially handed up the job to Dr. Shivkumar.
- Dr. Shivkumar was previously the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Microsoft's Energy Industry in Asia.
- According to the guidelines of the National Education Policy (NEP), the ANRF would serve as the country's top body for providing high-level strategic direction to scientific research.

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### Recent Appointment in different departments :

- **N Ganapathy Subramaniam** : board of directors of Tata Communications
- **Arun Mammen** : Chairman of the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA)
- **Amitava Mukherjee** : Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of NMDC Limited
- **Dr Himanshu Pathak** : Director General (DG) of International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
- **Justice Joymalya Bagchi** : judge of the Calcutta High Court Appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court
- **Takashi Nakajima** : President & CEO of Honda Cars India (Replaced Takuya Tsumura)
- **Vikas Kaushal** : Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL)
- **Rajeev Shukla** : Vice-President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), will represent India as an Executive Board Member on the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) Board
- **Dr. Anju Rathi Rana** : Secretary of the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice
- **Ajay Bhadoo** : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Government e Marketplace (GeM)
- **Christian Stocker** : as Austria's chancellor
- **Suresh Khanna** : Convenor of the Group of Ministers (GoM) on revenue mobilisation for natural calamities
- **Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth** : additional charge of the post of Secretary, Department of Revenue
- **Senior Advocate Manan Kumar Mishra** : re-elected as head of the Bar Council of India (BCI)
- **Suman Kumar** : Indian Oil Corporation's Director (Planning & Business Development)
- **Friedrich Merz** : Germany's next chancellor (Replaced Olaf Scholz)





**Ques : The ACM A.M. Turing Award is often referred to as the:**

- a) Fields Medal of mathematics
- b) Nobel Prize of Computing
- c) Pulitzer Prize of Technology
- d) Booker Prize of Artificial Intelligence
- e) Abel Prize of Computer Science

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- The 2024 ACM A.M. Turing Award, often referred to as the "Nobel Prize of Computing," has been awarded to Dr. Andrew Barto from the USA and Richard S. Sutton from Canada.
- The award comes with a prize of USD 1 million, sponsored by Google Inc. It is presented by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), based in New York, USA.
- Both Andrew Barto and Richard Sutton are known for their contributions to artificial intelligence and co-authored the book Reinforcement Learning: An Introduction in 1998.

**About ACM A.M. Turing Award :**

- **Started** : 1966
- **Given to** : Computer scientists and engineers for creating systems and theoretical foundations important for the advancement of Information Technology (IT)
- **Last winner** : Israeli mathematician and computer scientist Avi Wigderson







### Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- **Ramsar Award for 'Wetland Wise Use'** : Dr. Jayshree Vencatesan, co-founder of Care Earth Trust
- **2026 World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) Award** : Suman Chakraborty in Engineering and Computer Sciences (CS) for Developing Low-Cost Medical Diagnostic Solutions
- **The Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean by Mauritius** : Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- **Lifetime Achievement Award for Hospitality and Education award** : Dr. Suborno Bose, Chairman of the International Institute of Hotel Management (IIHM)
- **EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2024** : Nithin Kamath, Founder and CEO of Zerodha
- **Lifetime Achievement Award** : K.V. Kamath, Chairman of Jio Financial Services Limited
- **Special Jury Award** : S. Somanath, former Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- **'Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados'** : Pabitra Margherita received on behalf of Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- **Nominated for the coveted Laureus World Sports Award 2025 in the comeback of the year category** : Rishabh Pant
- **ISO 22301:2019 Business Continuity Management System (BCMS) certification** from the British Standards Institution (BSI) : Bank of Baroda
- **2025 Pritzker Architecture Prize** : Liu Jiakun, a Chinese architect and educator
- **Jay Shah** : prestigious Icon of Excellence award at the 14th Forbes India Leadership Awards (FILA 2025)
- **National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards** : 1. Vaidya Tara Chand Sharma 2. Vaidya Maya Ram Uniyal 3. Vaidya Sameer Govind Jamadagni
- **"Sarvashrestha Suraksha Puraskar (Golden Trophy)" in 'Service Sector' category** : Goa's Manohar International Airport (GOX), also known as Mopa Airport





**Ques : Which Indian IT companies have partnered with Nvidia to develop AI solutions?**

- (a) Infosys, Wipro, and TCS
- (b) Wipro, Tech Mahindra, and L&T Technology Services
- (c) HCL, TCS, and Tech Mahindra
- (d) Cognizant, Wipro, and HCL
- (e) Accenture, Infosys, and L&T

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Nvidia has partnered with Wipro, Tech Mahindra, and L&T Technology Services to develop advanced AI solutions across various industries.
- The announcement was made at Nvidia's GPU Technology Conference (GTC) in California.
- These AI solutions aim to enhance healthcare, public services, and rail safety through automation and efficiency improvements.
- Tech Mahindra introduced an AI-driven pharmacovigilance (PV) solution for better drug safety management.
- Wipro launched Agentic AI services, leveraging Nvidia AI enterprise tools to optimize workforce and data management.
- L&T Technology Services (LTS) unveiled TrackEi, an AI-based railway track inspection system built on Nvidia's Jetson platform.
- The collaboration is expected to reduce human intervention in safety and compliance processes, boosting AI-driven industrial transformation in India.





**Ques : What is the total revised outlay for the Rashtriya Gokul Mission approved by the Cabinet?**

- (a) Rs.1400 Crore
- (b) Rs.2400 Crore
- (c) Rs.3400 Crore
- (d) Rs.2000 Crore
- (e) Rs.2600 Crore

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation :**

- The Union Cabinet has approved an increased budget for the Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM), raising the total outlay to Rs.3,400 crore.
- An additional Rs.1,000 crore has been allocated for the mission for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- The objective of the scheme is to promote indigenous cattle breeds and enhance livestock productivity in India.
- New initiatives under the scheme include providing financial incentives to farmers for purchasing high-genetic-quality cattle.
- A one-time assistance of 35% will be given for setting up heifer rearing centers to support livestock development.

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**Ques : What is the purpose of the MoU signed between India and Qatar?**

- (a) Cooperation in the field of oil and gas
- (b) Strengthening financial and economic cooperation
- (c) Enhancing defense and security collaboration
- (d) Promoting cultural exchange programs
- (e) Developing a free trade agreement (FTA)

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- The Indian government approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for financial and commercial cooperation between India and Qatar after the fact.
- The MoU was signed on February 18, 2025, during the visit of Qatar's Amir Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani to India.
- The MoU aims to improve collaboration on economic policy, funding, public-private partnerships, and investment.

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### Recent News Headlines Related to MoU and agreement :

- Jio Platforms, led by Mukesh Ambani, has partnered with SpaceX to bring Starlink's internet services to India. However, the deal depends on SpaceX getting approval to sell Starlink in the country. Partnership aims to explore ways to expand internet services for consumers and businesses
- The Central Council for scientific in Homoeopathy (CCRH), New Delhi, and Adamas University, Kolkata, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote academic and scientific collaboration in the field of homoeopathy
- The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Government of Assam signed a historic MOU under the BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment) policy with the goal of accelerating high-performance biomanufacturing and building a sustainable biotechnology ecosystem in Assam
- India's Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and Armenia's Center of Drug and Medical Technology Expertise (CDMTE) Sign MoU to strengthen collaboration in diplomatic training and exchange programs. It focuses on cooperation in regulating medical products to ensure their quality and safety
- National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) and the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) inked a substantial MoU to establish a cutting-edge Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) & Government of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Signed MoU to enhance river cruise tourism on three National Waterways in J&K. they are River Chenab (NW-26), River Jhelum (NW-49), and River Ravi (NW-84) out of the 111 recognized national waterways in India.
- Coal India Limited (CIL) has inked an MoU with Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (IIT-H) for establishing a Centre of Clean Coal Energy and Net Zero (CLEANZ) at Hyderabad
- The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and Sustain Plus, a Bangalore-based NGO, have collaborated to launch a large-scale circular dairy scheme that would install 10,000 biogas plants in 15 Indian states, including Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Bihar
- DPIIT and Mercedes-Benz India Private Limited have inked an agreement to strengthen India's industrial ecosystem, improve road safety, and promote environmental sustainability.





**Ques : Which cricketer led India Masters clinched the inaugural International Masters League T20 title beating Brian Lara's West Indies Masters at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium in Raipur ?**

- (a) Rahul Dravid
- (b) MS Dhoni
- (c) Sachin Tendulkar
- (d) Sunil Gavaskar
- (e) Anil Kumble

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation :**

- In cricket, Sachin Tendulkar led India Masters to the inaugural International Masters League T20 title, defeating Brian Lara's West Indies Masters by six wickets at Raipur's Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium.
- After deciding to bat first, the West Indies Masters were restricted to 148 for 7 thanks to Vinay Kumar and Shahbaz Nadeem's wicket-taking spells.
- In response, India Masters won in 17.1 overs thanks to Ambati Rayudu's 74 from 50 balls, and he was named Player of the Match.
- Shane Watson won the Elevated Most Sixes of the Season accolade, while Kumar Sangakkara received the Masterstroke of the Season award.

EXAM  
Genius







**Ques : Which sport was recently approved by the IOC board for inclusion in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics?**

- (a) Tennis
- (b) Shotput
- (c) Badminton
- (d) Boxing
- (e) Archery

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) executive board has approved the inclusion of boxing in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, ensuring the sport's continuity in the Games.
- This decision comes after World Boxing received recognition, effectively replacing the International Boxing Association (IBA), which faced governance and integrity concerns.
- The final confirmation of boxing's inclusion will take place at the IOC Session scheduled from March 18 to 21, where the executive board's decision will be ratified.
- Initially, boxing was not part of the 2028 Olympics due to issues with the IBA, which led to its exclusion from the list of approved sports.
- The approval marks a crucial step in restoring boxing as a key Olympic sport, reinforcing the sport's future in international multi-sport competitions.

Genius





**Ques : What is the total investment approved for the JNPA connectivity Greenfield Highway?**

- (a) Rs.1500 Crore
- (b) Rs.2500 Crore
- (c) Rs.3500 Crore
- (d) Rs.4500 Crore
- (e) Rs.5500 Crore

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the construction of a six-lane, access-controlled greenfield highway to improve connectivity between JNPA Port and Chowk in Maharashtra.
- The project, covering a length of 29.219 km, will be developed under the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) mode with an investment of Rs.4,500 crore.
- The highway will enhance logistics efficiency by reducing congestion and travel time between JNPA Port and major highways.
- Two tunnels through the Sahyadri Hills will facilitate the smooth movement of commercial vehicles.
- It will also provide better connectivity to the Mumbai-Pune Expressway and NH-48, supporting regional trade and transport infrastructure.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques : How much has Standard Chartered raised through its first social bond?**

- (a) 1 billion euros
- (b) 2 billion euros
- (c) 3 billion euros
- (d) 4 billion euros
- (e) 5 billion euros

**Answer :** Option A

**Explanation :**

- Standard Chartered issued its first social bond, raising 1 billion euros (about ₹9,400 crore) to assist sustainable development projects in emerging markets, including India.
- StanChart said in a statement on Friday that the 8-year bond will primarily assist lending to small and medium-sized firms (SMEs), enabling access to credit, contributing to job creation, and empowering and developing women-owned SMEs.
- Approximately 50% of the total would be set aside for India's sustainable projects. The top five nations where StanChart's social assets are located are India (57%), Malaysia (10%), Bangladesh (6%), Mainland China (5%), and Nepal (4%).

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques : In which category was Ramakanta Rath honored with the Padma Bhushan award?**

- a) Literature and Education
- b) Public Administration
- c) Social Work
- d) Science and Technology
- e) Journalism

**Answer : Option A**

**Explanation :**

- Padma Bhushan Ramakanta Rath, one of the most celebrated modernist poets in Odia language, died at the age of 91.
- Ramakanta Rath, an IAS officer from the 1957 batch, was also Odisha's Chief Secretary and held various critical positions in the Union Government.
- His poetic compositions, known for their depth and insight, include the renowned poem 'Sri Radha', among others. His writings have been translated into English and several Indian languages.
- In 2006, Ramakanta Rath received the Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian award, as well as numerous other prestigious literary accolades, in appreciation of his extraordinary contributions to writing.
- He also served as president of India's Sahitya Akademi from 1998 to 2003.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques : Which companies have partnered for R&D in digitalization of the manufacturing sector?**

- (a) Reliance, TCS, Nokia
- (b) Airtel, Volvo, Ericsson
- (c) Infosys, Siemens, Huawei
- (d) Jio, Samsung, Bosch
- (e) IBM, Tesla, Cisco

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Bharti Airtel, Ericsson, and Volvo Group have partnered to advance research in extended reality (XR), digital twin technology, and artificial intelligence (AI) to drive digitalization in the manufacturing sector.
- The collaboration will leverage 5G and 5G Advanced technologies to enhance industrial operations, workforce training, and automation processes.
- Research activities will take place at Volvo Group's factory and R&D centre in Bengaluru, focusing on real-time XR applications to improve productivity and efficiency.
- Experts from Airtel, Volvo, and Ericsson believe that 5G and XR technologies will play a crucial role in industrial digital transformation, enabling smarter and more connected manufacturing ecosystems.
- This initiative is expected to accelerate Industry 4.0 adoption by integrating AI-driven solutions with next-generation connectivity for optimized operations.





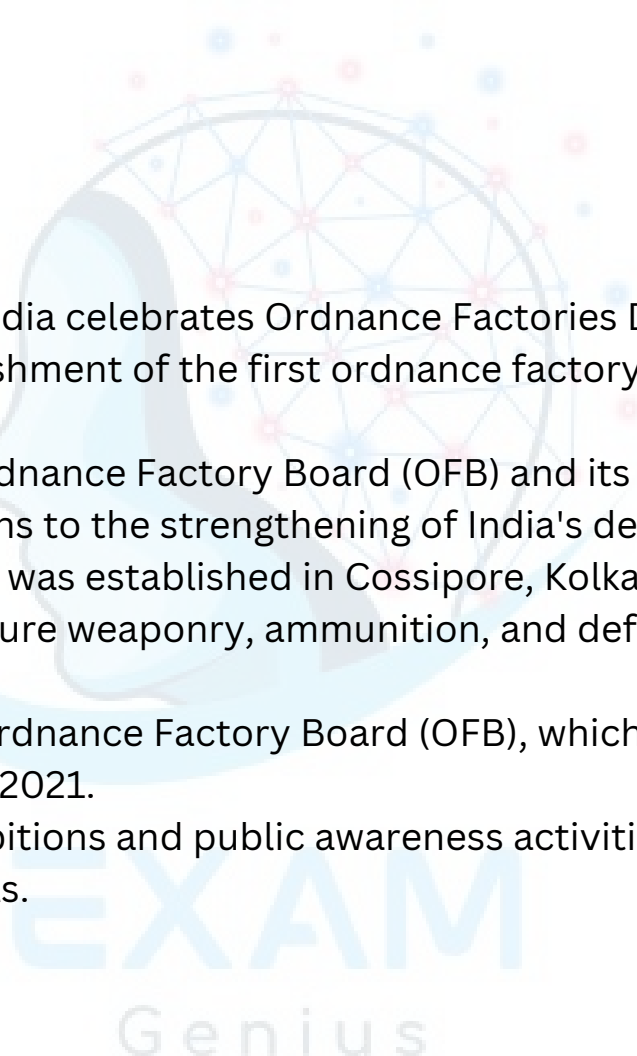
**Ques : National Ordnance Factories Day Observed annually on which day ?**

- (a) 17 March
- (b) 18 March
- (c) 19 March
- (d) 20 March
- (e) 21 March

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Every year on March 18, India celebrates Ordnance Factories Day, which commemorates the establishment of the first ordnance factory in Cossipore, Kolkata, in 1801.
- The day recognizes the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) and its network of manufacturers' contributions to the strengthening of India's defense sector.
- The first ordnance factory was established in Cossipore, Kolkata, in 1801.
- Its purpose is to manufacture weaponry, ammunition, and defense equipment for the Indian Armed Forces.
- Managed initially by the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), which was then reformed into seven defense PSUs in 2021.
- Celebrations include exhibitions and public awareness activities highlighting defense manufacturing skills.







### Important days :

- **1 March** : World Seagrass Day (Theme 2025 Harnessing Seagrass' Carbon Sequestration Potential Against the Climate Crisis)
- **1 March** : Zero Discrimination Day (Theme 2025: We Stand Together)
- **1 March** : World Civil Defence Day (Theme 2025 Civil Defence, Guarantee of Security for the Population)
- **3 March** : World Wildlife Day (Theme 2025: Wildlife Conservation Finance: Investing in People and the Planet)
- **3 March** : World Hearing Day (Theme 2025 – Changing mindsets: empower yourself to make ear and hearing care a reality for all)
- **4 March** : National Safety Day (Theme 2025 - Safety and well-being are crucial for Viksit Bharat (Developed India))
- **4 March** : 6th World Engineering Day 2025 (Theme 2025 Unleashing the power of engineers to advance the Sustainable Development Goals)
- **5 March** : International Day for Disarmament and Nonproliferation Awareness
- **6 March** : National Dentist's Day 2025
- **7 March** : 7th Jan Aushadhi Diwas 2025
- **1st to 7th March** : Jan Aushadhi Diwas Week
- **8 March** : International Women's Day (IWD) (Theme 2025: For All Women and Girls: Rights, Equality, and Empowerment)
- **4 to 10 March** : 54th National Safety Week 2025 (Theme 2025 Safety & Well-being Crucial for Viksit Bharat)
- **10 March** : International Day of Women Judges
- **10 March** : CISF Raising Day
- **11 March** : 135th Foundation Day of National Archives of India (NAI)
- **12 March** (Second Wednesday of March) : No Smoking Day 2025
- **13 March** (2nd Thursday of March) : World Kidney Day (WKD) (Theme 2025 : Are Your Kidneys OK? Detect Early, Protect Kidney Health)
- **14 March** : Pi Day
- **14 March** : World Sleep Day (Theme 2025: Make Sleep Health a Priority)
- **15 March** : World Consumer Rights Day (Theme 2025: A Just Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles)





### IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cards to Mauritius' Prime Minister Navin Ramgoolam and his wife. Earlier in the day, PM Modi also handed OCI cards to Mauritius' President Dharambeer Gokhool and First Lady Vrinda Gokhool. The OCI card allows holders to live, work, and study in India without a visa.

Microsoft India Development Centre (IDC) at Sector-145, Noida and Sify Data Center at Gautam Buddha Nagar's Sector 132 Inaugurated by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

Indian athletes finished their outstanding campaign at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Turin, Italy, with 33 medals, including 8 gold, 18 silver, and 7 bronze. This was the 12th edition of the Special Olympics Winter Games, which took place after an eight-year delay.

Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the maiden edition of Fit India Carnival in Delhi. The Fit India Carnival is a three-day fitness and wellness festival that strives to promote a healthy and active lifestyle

The Competition Commission of India has approved Hindustan Unilever Limited's (HUL) acquisition of Uprising Science Private Limited. As part of the deal, HUL will acquire a 90.5% stake in Uprising Science initially. The remaining 9.5% stake will be acquired within two years after the transaction is completed.

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