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Presents

# **GENIUS CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**In English**



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**Ques : How much total incentive has the government approved for banks under the UPI incentive scheme for FY 2024-25?**

- a) Rs.1,000 crore
- b) Rs.1,500 crore
- c) Rs.2,000 crore
- d) Rs.3,631 crore
- e) Rs.5,000 crore

**Answer : Option B**

**Explanation :**

- The Union Cabinet has approved a Rs.1,500 crore incentive scheme for FY 2024-25 to encourage UPI transactions below Rs.2,000.
- Under this scheme, banks will get a 0.15% incentive per eligible transaction, with one-fifth of it based on their infrastructure performance.
- The incentive is specifically aimed at small merchants and does not apply to payments above Rs.2,000.
- The initiative supports wider UPI adoption since UPI does not levy merchant fees like card-based transactions.
- In FY 2023-24, Rs.3,631 crore was disbursed to banks as UPI incentives, more than the combined total of the previous two years.
- The government aims to achieve Rs.20,000 crore in UPI transaction volume in FY 2024-25.

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**Ques : Which company has won two Gold Awards at the SKOCH Awards 2025?**

- a) Bandhan Bank
- b) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- c) Muthoot Microfin
- d) Equitas Microfinance
- e) Spandana Sphoorty

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation :**

- Muthoot Microfin, a pioneering microfinance institution dedicated to helping female entrepreneurs, won a spectacular double triumph at the SKOCH Awards 2025, receiving two coveted Gold Awards.
- The awards were awarded to Sadaf Sayeed, CEO of Muthoot Microfin, by Sameer Kochhar, Chairman of SKOCH Group, and Gursharan Dhanjal, Vice-Chairman of SKOCH Group, at a ceremony in New Delhi.

**The company received recognition for its competence in digital financial inclusion and insurance solutions, winning :**

- **Corporate Excellence** - "Best Customer Application on Digital Financial Inclusion" for its pioneering Mahila Mitra program.
- **BFSI Award** - "Best Insurance Scheme" for its Griha Raksha Insurance Scheme, which has insured 2.66 million people, demonstrating Muthoot Microfin's dedication to financial stability and social empowerment.





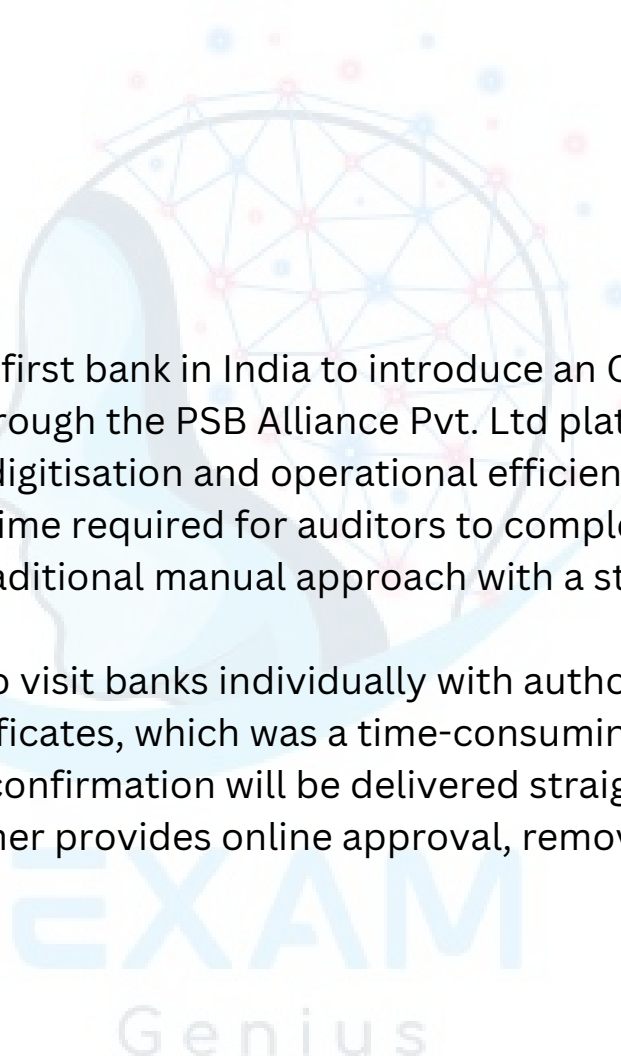
**Ques : Which bank has become the first in India to launch an Online Digital Balance Confirmation Certificate?**

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) Karnataka Bank
- (c) Bank of baroda
- (d) Canara Bank
- (e) Bank of Maharashtra

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- Canara Bank has been the first bank in India to introduce an Online Digital Balance Confirmation Certificate through the PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd platform, marking a significant step forward in digitisation and operational efficiency.
- This effort minimizes the time required for auditors to complete the auditing process by replacing the traditional manual approach with a streamlined digital alternative.
- Previously, auditors had to visit banks individually with authority letters to get Balance Confirmation Certificates, which was a time-consuming procedure.
- With this digital solution, confirmation will be delivered straight to auditors via the web portal after the customer provides online approval, removing the need for manual interaction.





## Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance

### Sector :

- 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
- 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
- Poonawalla Fincorp Limited has launched a new digital personal loan product called "PL Prime Digital 24x7" for salaried professionals



**Ques : How much stake will Bain Capital acquire in Manappuram Finance initially?**

- (a) 10%
- (b) 12%
- (c) 16%
- (d) 18%
- (e) 20%

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- Bain Capital will initially acquire an 18% stake in Manappuram Finance Ltd for Rs.4,385 crore through preferential allotment of equity and warrants.
- The shares will be issued at Rs.236 per share, which is a 30% premium over the 6-month average trading price.
- This deal triggers a mandatory open offer for an additional 26% stake at the same price.
- Depending on the open offer subscription, Bain Capital's total stake could go up to 41.7%.
- The investment aims to support Manappuram's growth, digital transformation, and operational efficiency.

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**Ques : What was the total issuance of Certificates of Deposits (CDs) by banks in FY25 (up to March 7, 2025)?**

- a) Rs.7.89 lakh crore
- b) Rs.9.25 lakh crore
- c) Rs.10.58 lakh crore
- d) Rs.12.10 lakh crore
- e) Rs.11.75 lakh crore

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation :**

- Banks' Certificate of Deposits (CDs) issuances reached Rs.10.58 lakh crore in FY25 up to March 7, 2025.
- This marks a 34% increase compared to Rs.7.89 lakh crore in FY24.
- The surge in CD issuances is due to a credit growth of 12% outpacing deposit growth of 10.6% as of February 21, 2025.
- To bridge the credit-deposit gap, banks have increased their dependence on short-term borrowings through CDs.
- CD rates also rose by 17 basis points from 7.47% to 7.64% between February 3 and March 18, 2025.
- This indicates rising short-term borrowing costs for banks.
- Tight liquidity conditions have been caused by RBI's forex interventions, high credit growth, and FPI outflows.

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**Ques : What was the total bilateral trade value between India and New Zealand in 2023-24?**

- a) \$1.2 billion
- b) \$873 million
- c) \$650 million
- d) \$990 million
- e) \$735 million

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- During New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon's current visit, India and New Zealand committed to increase collaboration in digital payments as well as bilateral commerce and investment.
- India's merchandise exports to New Zealand totaled \$535 million in 2023-24, with imports of \$335.07 million, for a total trade value of \$873 million.
- The country is only the 59th greatest source of historical foreign direct investment in India, with inward investments totaling \$87.2 million since 2000.
- Both leaders also praised the signing of the Authorised Economic Operators Mutual Recognition Arrangement, which is part of the Customs Cooperation Arrangement inked in 2024 and will make it easier to transfer goods between the two nations.
- After amending the bilateral air services agreement, both parties agreed to encourage their carriers to start direct (non-stop) flights between the two nations.

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

- Nvidia has partnered with Wipro, Tech Mahindra, and L&T Technology Services to develop advanced AI solutions across various industries
- The Indian government approved MoU for financial and commercial cooperation between India and Qatar after the fact
- 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
- 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.





**Ques : The Varuna naval exercise is a bilateral engagement between India and which country?**

- a) United States
- b) Japan
- c) Australia
- d) France
- e) United Kingdom

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- The Indian and French navies are preparing to deepen their maritime partnership with the 23rd edition of Varuna 2025, which will take place from March 19 to 22, 2025.
- This long-standing exercise, which began in 2001, remains a cornerstone of cooperation between the two countries, demonstrating their commitment to improving naval interoperability and operational synergy in the Indo-Pacific area.
- The drill, which will take place in the Arabian Sea, will involve an impressive fleet of naval assets, including the Indian Navy's aircraft carrier INS Vikrant and the French Navy's nuclear-powered carrier Charles de Gaulle.
- VARUNA 2025 will include advanced air defense drills and fighter exercises, such as realistic air-to-air combat between the French Rafale-M and Indian MiG-29K, to help develop tactical and operational skills.

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## Recent News Headlines Related to Defence

### Exercise :

- Exercise BONGOSAGAR 4th Edition and 'Coordinated Patrol' (CORPAT) 6th Edition Held at Designated maritime areas of the Bay of Bengal between India-Bangladesh (Navy) at Designated maritime areas of the Bay of Bengal
- The 12th edition of India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR-XII is scheduled to take place in Kyrgyzstan from March 10 to March 23, 2025
- Exercise Sea Dragon 2025 5th Edition held at Guam coast in the western Pacific Ocean. It is held between United States Navy, Indian Navy, Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force, Royal Australian Air Force, and the Republic of Korea Navy and hosted by United States Navy
- Russia, China, and Iran plan to conduct combined naval exercises in the Indian Ocean later this month. The "Security Belt-2025" exercises will take conducted near Iran's port of Chabahar.
- The Indian Air Force conducted an integrated Tri-Service Special Forces exercise known as Exercise Desert Hunt 2025 at Air Force Station Jodhpur.
- Exercise Sagar Kavach 3rd Edition Held at State Coastal Security Operation Centre (SCSOC) at Headquarters Coast Guard District No. 8, Haldia, West Bengal. It is Coordinated by Kolkata based Coast Guard Region (North East)
- Multilateral Naval Exercise Komodo 5th Edition Held at Benoa Port in Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia. Theme 2025 Maritime Partnership for Peace and Stability
- Jal-Thal-Raksha 2025 Held at Bet Dwarka, Gujarat and Organised by Indian Army. 11 Ahmedabad and 31 Jamnagar Army units, as well as the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Marine Police Participate in it
- From February 25 to March 9, the Indian Army will conduct the sixth edition of Exercise Dharma Guardian alongside the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) atop Mount Fuji in Japan
- In the Eastern Theater, the Indian Army and Air Force collaborated to undertake a comprehensive training exercise known as EX Winged Raiders
- Exercise Cyclone 2025 3rd Edition Held at Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan between India-Egypt Joint Special Forces





**Ques : What is India's rank in the World Happiness Report 2025?**

- (a) 117
- (b) 118
- (c) 119
- (d) 120
- (e) 121

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- India's happiness score improved from 4.054 (2021–23) to 4.389 (2022–24), leading to a jump in rank from 126th to 118th among 147 countries.
- Despite Pakistan having a higher score of 4.768, its rank dropped from 108th to 109th.
- The World Happiness Report uses Gallup World Poll data where people rate their lives from 0 to 10, and the ranking is based on a 3-year average.
- Key factors include GDP per capita, life expectancy, social support, freedom, generosity, and corruption perception.
- Among neighbors, Nepal showed the biggest improvement (+0.71), while India's score has declined by -0.58 over time.

**Ranking of top 5 and last countries :**

- 1 Finland
- 2 Denmark
- 3 Iceland
- 4 Sweden
- 5 Netherlands
- 118 India
- 147 Afghanistan

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### India's Rankings in Different Indices

- World Air Quality Report 2024 7th Edition Published by Switzerland based air quality technology company IQAir : India (5th), Chad (1st)
- Trends in International Arms Transfers, 2024 Published by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) : Ukraine (top Importer), USA (Exporter)
- Report YouGov India Value Rankings 2025 Published by YouGov India : Amul (3rd), Amazon (1st)
- Report 2025 Glass-Ceiling Index Published by The Economist (London) : Sweden (1st)
- Report IT Services 25 2025 Published by Brand Finance : TCS Limited (4th Consecutive Year), India (2nd), Accenture plc (7th Consecutive year), USA (1st)
- Busiest Airports by Seats according to International Air Transport Association (IATA) : Indira Gandhi International Airport, India (8th), Dubai International Airport, UAE (top)
- World Reputation Rankings 2025 Published by Times Higher Education (THE) : Harvard University, USA (1st)
- Forbes' Women Billionaire List Published by Forbes : Alice Walton \$112.5 billion (top)
- FutureBrand Index 2024 Published by FutureBrand : Samsung (South Korea) (1st), RIL (India) (2nd)
- 2024 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 ranking : Reliance Industries (1st)
- Asia's 20 richest families Published by Bloomberg : Ambani family (tops)
- Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) for 2024 30th Edition Published by Transparency International : India (96th), Denmark (1st)
- Logistics Performance Index (LPI), 2023 Published by World Bank : India (22nd), Singapore (1st)







**Ques : Which state government replaced the 'Rs' symbol with 'Ru' in the budget 2025-2026 ?**

- (a) Ladakh
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Odisha

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Tamil Nadu chief minister MK Stalin said his government replaced the 'Rs' symbol with 'Ru' in the budget 2025-2026 to demonstrate DMK's commitment to the language issue.
- The Tamil Nadu government has replaced the rupee sign with 'Ru,' the first letter of 'Rubaai', which represents the national currency in the vernacular language.
- D Udaya Kumar, a design professional, created the rupee (₹) symbol for a contest in 2009. He currently leads the IIT Guwahati design department.
- During Pranab Mukherjee's tenure as Union Finance Minister under Manmohan Singh, the symbol he developed was approved countrywide in 2010.

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**Ques : Between 2015 and 2024, how many foreign satellites has India launched?**

- (a) 197
- (b) 245
- (c) 258
- (d) 393
- (e) 300

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- Between 2015 and 2024, India generated USD 143 million in foreign exchange revenue by launching 393 satellites from 34 countries, making it a worldwide space leader.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched satellites using PSLV, LVM3, and SSLV launch vehicles.
- This success has enhanced India's standing in the global space economy and prepared the path for future ambitious missions such as Gaganyaan and Bharatiya Antariksha Station, scheduled for 2035.
- There were 393 foreign satellites launched, with 232 in the US, 83 in the UK, 19 in Singapore, 8 in Canada, 5 in Korea, 4 in Luxemburg, 4 in Germany, 3 in Belgium, 3 in Finland, 3 in France, 2 in Switzerland, 2 in the Netherlands, 2 in Japan, 2 in Israel, 2 in Spain, 1 in Australia, 1 in the UAE, and 1 in Austria.
- Three Indian customer satellites were launched commercially.
- Space collaboration agreements have been inked with 61 countries and five multilateral organizations.
- Total Fund - 272 Million Euro = 296 Million USD , Total – 439 Million USD







**Ques : Where has India's first PPP-based green waste processing plant been launched?**

- (a) Guwahati
- (b) Indore
- (c) Agra
- (d) Ranchi
- (e) New Delhi

**Answer :** option B

**Explanation :**

- Indore, Madhya Pradesh, has become the first city in India to launch a green waste processing plant under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.
- This project is part of the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U), promoting sustainable waste management practices.
- The plant, built over 55,000 square feet in Bicholi Hapsi, will process green waste like wood and branches to produce eco-friendly wood pellets.
- These pellets will serve as a cleaner alternative to coal, contributing to energy conservation and pollution reduction.
- This first-of-its-kind initiative sets an example for other Indian cities to adopt eco-conscious waste-to-energy solutions.

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### Recent News Headlines Related to First in India and world :

- Ola Electric, India's largest electric vehicle company, has made history by becoming the first two-wheeler automotive electric vehicle (EV) manufacturer in India to receive incentives under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Automotive and Auto Components
- India's first commercial semiconductor fabrication unit Total investment is Rs 91,000 crore with capacity of 50,000 wafer starts per month (WSPM)
- Tata Motors, India's largest commercial vehicle maker, has launched the first-ever testing of hydrogen-powered heavy-duty trucks, marking a significant step toward India's goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070
- The Jammu and Kashmir Police registered the first e-FIR at Police Station Khrew, a crucial step towards digital policing.
- The GoI authorized the Rs 42,000 crore Arunachal Frontier Highway project, becoming India's first large-scale road project
- India's first riverine dolphin estimation research found 6,327 dolphins over 28 rivers in eight states. Uttar Pradesh had the largest total, followed by Bihar, West Bengal, and Assam
- Pixxel, a Bengaluru-based business, has launched India's first private hyperspectral satellite constellation through its Firefly project, making history.
- Amazon introduced the prototype of Ocelot, their first quantum computing chip developed in-house. Amazon's Ocelot chip aims to improve hardware efficiency
- Uttar Pradesh (UP) Assembly made history by becoming the first legislative body in India to implement a translation facility. This new service will permit discussions in Awadhi, Braj, Bhojpuri, Bundelkhand, and English
- Microsoft unveiled its first quantum processor. The Majorana 1 chip is powered by a novel Topological Core design.
- India has established its first zoo-based biobank at the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZP) in Darjeeling, West Bengal, advancing wildlife conservation efforts
- India's first Road Train Inaugurated by Union Minister, Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways at Nagpur, Maharashtra
- Madhya Pradesh has introduced India's first designated Global Capability Centers (GCC) Policy 2025, marking a significant economic milestone





**Ques : Which edition of QS World University Rankings by Subject Published by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) ?**

- (a) 11th
- (b) 12th
- (c) 13th
- (d) 14th
- (e) 15th

**Answer : Option E**

**Explanation :**

- QS World University Rankings by Subject Edition 15th Published by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)
- For the first time, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) (Indian School of Mines, ISM) Dhanbad ranked 20th in the Engineering - Mineral and Mining subject area, surpassing other Indian universities.
- The 2025 edition ranks 55 disciplines across five categories: Arts & Humanities, Engineering & Technology, Life Sciences & Medicine, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences & Management.
- US universities dominated 32 academic specialties, with Harvard University leading in 15 and MIT (USA) in 11.
- The 2025 rankings comprised 79 Indian institutions with 533 entrants, a 25.7% increase from the previous year's 69 institutions and 424 entries (2024).
- Despite minor reductions, 9 Indian universities are rated in the top 50 globally in the QS topic rankings for 2025.
- India ranks 12th globally for the number of overall entries and 5th in new entries, following China, the US, the UK, and Korea.

**Ranking of top 3 universities in each categories :**

**Arts & Humanities :**

- 1 Harvard University, USA
- 2 University of Oxford, UK
- 3 University of Cambridge, UK





### **Engineering & Technology :**

- 1 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA
- 2 University of Oxford, UK
- 3 Stanford University, UK

### **Life Sciences & Medicine :**

- 1 Harvard University, USA
- 2 University of Oxford, UK
- 3 Johns Hopkins University, USA

### **Natural Sciences :**

- 1 Harvard University, USA
- 2 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
- 3 University of Oxford, UK

### **Social Sciences & Management :**

- 1 Harvard University, USA
- 2 University of Oxford, UK
- 3 Stanford University, USA

### **Ranking of Indian Universities :**

- 20 Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad
- 28 IIT Bombay (IITB)
- 45 IIT Kharagpur (IITK)
- 26 IIT Delhi (IITD)
- 50 IIT Bombay (IITB)
- 27 Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA)
- 40 IIM Bangalore (IIB)
- 31 IIT Madras (IITM)
- 29 Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)





**Ques : Which state recently initiated scientific coal mining after almost a decade of ban on rat-hole coal mining imposed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT)?**

- (a) Assam
- (b) Meghalaya
- (c) Tripura
- (d) Manipur
- (e) Arunachal Pradesh

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Following the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) nearly decade-long prohibition on rat-hole coal mining, Meghalaya began scientific coal mining.
- Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma virtually inaugurated the first scientific coal mining block at Saryngkham-A, located in the Byndihati area of East Jaintia Hills district.
- Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma virtually inaugurated the first scientific coal mining block at Saryngkham-A, located in the Byndihati area of East Jaintia Hills district.

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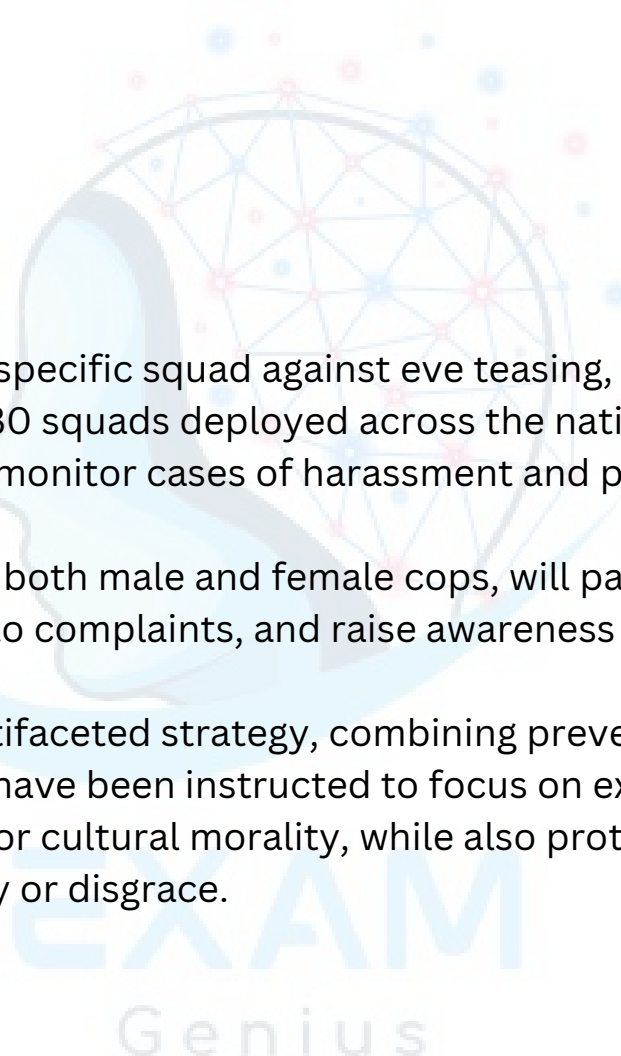
**Ques : What is the name of the newly launched anti-eve teasing squad by Delhi Police?**

- a) Nirbhaya Force
- b) Mahila Suraksha Dal
- c) Raksha Squad
- d) Shishtachar
- e) Veerangana

**Answer : Option D**

**Explanation :**

- Delhi Police has formed a specific squad against eve teasing, known as 'Shishtachar,' with at least 30 squads deployed across the national capital, particularly in hotspots, to monitor cases of harassment and protect women's safety in public places.
- These squads, made up of both male and female cops, will patrol high-risk locations, respond quickly to complaints, and raise awareness about harassment legislation.
- The campaign takes a multifaceted strategy, combining prevention, intervention, and victim aid. The squads have been instructed to focus on executing the law without imposing personal or cultural morality, while also protecting victims from unnecessary public scrutiny or disgrace.





**Ques : Stuart Young to be sworn in as new Prime Minister of which country ?**

- (a) Guyana
- (b) Mauritius
- (c) Trinidad and Tobago
- (d) Fiji
- (e) Suriname

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation :**

- Stuart Young, Trinidad and Tobago's next Prime Minister, will be sworn in during a ceremony at the President's House in St. Ann's.
- Mr Young is now the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries. He will follow outgoing Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley, who made his final public appearance at the People's National Movement (PNM) Special Convention.

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### Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President :

- **Mark Carney** : Prime Minister of Canada (Replaced Justin Trudeau)
- **65th President of Uruguay** : Yamandú Orsi (Replaced Luis Lacalle Pou)
- **President of Greece** : Constantine Tassoulas (Replaced Katerina Sakellariopoulou, Greece's first female president)
- **Prime Minister of Vanuatu** : Jotham Napat (Replaced Charlot Salwai)
- **Interim President of Romania** : Ilie Bolojan ( Replaced Klaus Iohannis )
- **Prime Minister of Lebanon** : Nawaf Salam (Replaced Najib Mikati)
- **Prime minister of Belgium** : Bart De Wever
- **Interim President of Syria** : Ahmed alSharaa (Replaced Bashar al-Assad)
- **President of Belarus** : Alexander Lukashenko
- **Prime minister of Ireland** : Micheal Martin
- **47th President of the United States** : Donald Trump for Second Term
- **President of Croatia** : Zoran Milanovic
- **President of Venezuela** : Nicolas Maduro
- **President of Lebanon** : Joseph Aoun
- **Prime Minister of Iceland** : Kristrun Frostadottir (Replaced Bjarni Benediktsson)
- **President of Moldova** : Ms Maia Sandu
- **President of Tonga** : Aisake Valu Eke
- **President of Georgia** : Mikheil Kavelashvili

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**Ques : Where is the newly approved Brownfield Ammonia-Urea Complex by the Union Cabinet to be established?**

- a) Paradeep, Odisha
- b) Namrup, Assam
- c) Panipat, Haryana
- d) Bhatinda, Punjab
- e) Haldia, West Bengal

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- The Union Cabinet has approved a new Brownfield Ammonia-Urea Complex at Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) in Namrup, Assam, with an annual production capacity of 12.7 lakh metric tonnes (LMT).
- The project will be performed under a Joint Venture (JV) with a 70:30 Debt-Equity ratio at a cost of ₹10,601.40 crore, following the New Investment Policy, 2012 and its 2014 revisions. The completion timetable is 48 months
- National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) has been granted an 18% equity participation, which exceeds the guidelines set by the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE), and the project will be overseen by an Inter-Ministerial Committee.
- The Government of Assam owns 40% of the equity, BVFCL owns 11%, National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) and Oil India Limited (OIL) each own 18%, and Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Limited (HURL) owns 13%.
- The project intends to increase domestic urea production, benefiting North-East India, Bihar, West Bengal, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, and Jharkhand, while also improving energy efficiency and creating job opportunities.





**Ques : Who has inaugurated the India Innovation Summit – Pioneering Solutions to End TB?**

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya
- (c) Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- (d) Anupriya Patel
- (e) Narendra Modi

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Anupriya Patel, has opened the India Innovation Summit - Pioneering Solutions to End Tuberculosis at the Bharat Mandapam Convention Centre.
- The Department of Health Research-Indian Council of Medical Research (DHR-ICMR) and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's Central TB Division (CTD) collaborated to organize the Summit. The conference intends to accelerate India's efforts toward TB elimination by 2025.
- The Program is consistently working toward its aim of eliminating tuberculosis by 2025. The number of missing cases has been reduced from 15 lakh in 2015 to 2.5 lakh by 2023.
- The program was able to notify 25.5 lakh tuberculosis and 26.07 lakh cases in 2023 and 2024, the highest ever.
- A shorter and safer oral Bedaquiline-containing drug resistant TB treatment regimen has been implemented throughout all states/UTs, increasing treatment success rates for drug-resistant TB patients from 68% in 2020 to 75% by 2022.





### Recent News Headlines Related to Summits / conference

- Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025 Held at Fira Gran Via in Barcelona, Spain.
- India and Chile had their first joint working group (JWG) meeting on agriculture virtually
- The 353rd Governing Body meeting of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) took place in Geneva, Switzerland
- Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced a \$1 billion fund for the creative economy as part of the World Audio-Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2025
- The Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (BWUE), under the National Water Mission (NWM) and the Ministry of Jal Shakti, collaborated with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) to organize the Water Sustainability Conference 2025, focusing on Industrial Water Use Efficiency
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 10th edition of the Raisina Dialogue, India's premier conference on geopolitics and geo-economics
- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) exhibited India's agricultural and processed food excellence at the 39th edition of AAHAR 2025, hosted by the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi
- The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, launched the second edition of Vividhta Ka Amrit Mahotsav at Rashtrapati Bhavan

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques : The International Day to Combat Islamophobia is observed annually on which day ?**

- (a) 15 March
- (b) 16 March
- (c) 18 March
- (d) 19 March
- (e) 20 March

**Answer : Option A**

**Explanation :**

- The International Day to Combat Islamophobia is observed annually on March 15.
- The United Nations established this day in 2022 to address and raise awareness of Islamophobia, prejudice, and violence against Muslims around the world.
- In reaction to the 2019 Christchurch mosque attacks in New Zealand, which murdered 51 people, the UN General Assembly recognized March 15 as International Day to Combat Islamophobia.
- The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution sponsored by 60 Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member states designating March 15 as International Day to Combat Islamophobia.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques : World Oral Health Day is celebrated annually on which day ?**

- (a) 15 March
- (b) 16 March
- (c) 18 March
- (d) 19 March
- (e) 20 March

**Answer : Option E**

**Explanation :**

- World Oral Health Day is observed each year on March 20 to raise awareness about the importance of oral hygiene, dental care, and general oral health.
- Theme 2025: "A Happy Mouth is...A Happy Mind."
- The day encourages people to practice healthy dental practices and emphasizes the importance of oral health to overall well-being.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques : World Sparrow Day is observed annually on which day ?**

- (a) 15 March
- (b) 16 March
- (c) 18 March
- (d) 19 March
- (e) 20 March

**Answer : Option E**

**Explanation :**

- World Sparrow Day is marked yearly on March 20 to raise awareness about sparrow populations in decline and the need for conservation efforts.
- Theme 2025: A tribute to nature's tiny messengers.
- The first observation occurred in 2010 to emphasize the issues that sparrows confront as a result of urbanization, habitat loss, pollution, and radiation from cell towers.

EXAM  
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### 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** : International Day of Action for Rivers (Theme 2025 Our Rivers, Our Future)
- **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)
- **18 March** : National Ordnance Factories Day





### IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

Former Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has been handed over to the International Criminal Court (ICC) after his arrest on charges of crimes against humanity related to his deadly anti-drug crackdown.

‘No Money for Terror’ (NMFT) Conference 4th Edition Held at Munich, Germany. Indian Delegation Lead by Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai. Previous Conferences in France (Paris, 2018), Australia (2019) and India (2022)

Amazon, Alphabet’s Google, and Meta Platforms signed to support the global initiative to triple nuclear energy capacity by 2050.

Patanjali Ayurved Limited (PAL) and Dharampal Satyapal Group Limited (DS Group) have jointly acquired a 98% stake in Magma HDI General Insurance Company Limited, a subsidiary of Adar Poonawalla-owned Sanoti Properties LLP, for Rs 4,500 crore.

Bengaluru’s Kempegowda International Airport (KIAB) has been honored with the Air Service Quality (ASQ) award for the third consecutive year.

Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited (TAFE) has selected Lakshmi Venu as its Vice Chairman. Lakshmi has played an important role in our leadership team and on the TAFE Board.

EXAM  
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