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# **GENIUS CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**In English**



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**Ques : Who has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of IFCI Ltd for a three-year term?**

- a) Rajiv Kumar
- b) Rahul Bhave
- c) Sanjeev Kaushik
- d) Arvind Subramanian
- e) N. S. Vishwanathan

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Rahul Bhave has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of IFCI Ltd by the Government of India for a period of three years. His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- Prior to this, he served as Deputy Managing Director at IFCI Ltd and has over 25 years of experience in the banking sector.
- He also held the position of Executive Director at the National Housing Bank.
- IFCI Ltd, established in 1948, is India's first development financial institution and plays a crucial role in promoting industrial and infrastructure development.
- Bhave's leadership comes at a time when a major restructuring is planned, including the consolidation of IFCI Group with entities such as StockHolding Corporation of India Ltd.

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### Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- Deena Mehta : reappointed as Additional Director in the function of Independent Director of Fino Payments Bank
- Mythili Balasubramanian : Interim Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company (EARC)
- Indranil Bhattacharyya : Executive Director (ED) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- Atul Kumar Goel : Chief Executive (CE) of The Indian Banks' Association
- Sumant Kathpalia : reappointment as Managing Director and CEO of Indusind Bank for one year
- Ajit Ratnakar Joshi : Executive Director (ED), in charge of the Department of Statistics and Information Management and the Department of Financial Stability
- Narendra Agrawal : president and head of branch banking and retail liabilities of RBL bank
- T S Pari : chief operating officer (COO) of RBL bank
- Santosh Agarwal : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paisabazaar (Replaced Naveen Kukreja, co-founder of Paisabazaar)
- Neeraj Tripathi : Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Paisabazaar (Replaced Vivek Audichya)
- Dorababu Daparti : SBI Life Insurance Company's Deputy Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
- Finance Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey : Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for a three-year term
- Shahrukh Todiwala : MD, CEO of Kotak Mahindra Prime, a subsidiary of Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB)
- Prabdev Singh (P.D.) Singh : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of India's operation of Standard Chartered of India based in Mumbai (Replaced Zarin Daruwala)
- JP Morgan : CEO for Standard Chartered (StanC) in India





**Ques : SEBI has extended the suspension of derivatives trading in how many agricultural commodities till March 2026?**

- (a) 5
- (b) 6
- (c) 7
- (d) 8
- (e) 9

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation :**

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has extended the suspension of derivatives trading in seven agricultural commodities until March 31, 2026.
- This decision aims to control price volatility in the market and ensure stable prices for essential agricultural products.
- The commodities under suspension include wheat, moong, paddy (non-basmati), chana, crude palm oil, mustard seeds & derivatives, and soybean & derivatives.
- The initial suspension began on December 19, 2021, and has been extended multiple times – now continuing through March 2026.
- SEBI's move reflects ongoing efforts to manage inflation and safeguard the interests of consumers and farmers.

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### Recent News Headlines Related to SEBI

- Paytm Money Limited, a subsidiary of One 97 Communications Limited (OCL), has been registered as a Research Analyst (RA) by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) under the 2014 Regulations
- The SEBI has reduced the minimum investment requirement for Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP) instruments on the SSE from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1,000
- The SEBI introduced Specialised Investment Funds (SIFs) to bridge the gap between mutual funds and portfolio management services
- The SEBI has decreased the timescale for completing rights issues from 126 days to 23 days.
- SEBI has collaborated with DigiLocker, a government-backed digital document storage platform, to address the issue of unclaimed assets and enhance investor protection
- SEBI's total income climbed 48% year-on-year to Rs.2,075 crore in 2023-24, owing to higher earnings from fees and subscriptions.
- SEBI, the market regulator, has permitted all non-banking financial businesses (NBFCs), including home finance companies, to participate in security receipts issued by Asset Reconstruction businesses (ARCs), in an effort to encourage investment in the bad loans industry.
- SEBI, the market regulator, has developed a centralized database portal named as Bond Central portal for corporate bonds in an effort to offer a single, reliable source of information on such instruments.
- SEBI imposed a total penalty of Rs 5.05 crore on Indian Clearing Corporation (ICCL), a wholly owned subsidiary of the BSE, for alleged violations of cyber security and system auditing standards.
- SEBI, the capital markets regulator, has imposed penalties totaling Rs 50 lakh on three foreign portfolio investors for breaching the short-term investment restrictions in debt securities. fined Nexpect Ltd and AIRD Investment Commercial LLC Rs 20 lakh apiece, while imposing a Rs 10 lakh penalty on Aviator Global Investment Fund.





**Ques : Which Singapore-based firm has NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) partnered with to enable UPI payments in Singapore?**

- a) PayNow
- b) Razorpay
- c) HitPay
- d) GrabPay
- e) FinPay

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation :**

- NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has teamed with HitPay, a Singapore-based full-stack payments infrastructure provider, to enable UPI payments in Singapore.
- Indian travelers can now pay using UPI QR codes at over 12,000 merchants in Singapore, marking NIPL's second partnership in the country after launching UPI-PayNow for cross-border transactions in 2023.
- In January 2025, NIPL teamed with Magnati, a Middle East-based payment system provider, to extend QR-based UPI merchant payments in the UAE.
- UPI presently operates in Singapore, Maldives, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Bhutan, Nepal, UAE, and Canada.

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### Recently signed banking agreements

- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has signed MOU with YES BANK. This alliance strives to promote innovation and provide critical support to product startups, innovators, and entrepreneurs
- Paytm has teamed with Mumbai-based SBI Mutual Fund, a subsidiary of State Bank of India (SBI), to create the JanNivesh Rs.250 Systematic Investment Plan (SIP)
- 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
- 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
- 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.





**Ques : What is the primary objective of the \$150 million agreement between ADB and Shriram Finance?**

- a) Promoting Startups
- b) Supporting MSME and EV Financing
- c) Enhancing Digital Banking
- d) Funding Infrastructure Development
- e) Increasing Investment in Agriculture

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Shriram Finance Limited have signed a \$150 million loan agreement to promote financial inclusion in India.
- The funding is directed towards micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), with a focus on women entrepreneurs and underserved states.
- A portion of the loan will also be used to finance low-emission commercial electric vehicles (EVs), supporting green mobility.
- The partnership aims to boost sustainable business models and contribute to inclusive economic growth.

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**Ques : According to the RBI's remittance survey, which group of countries contributed over 50% of India's remittances in FY 2023-24?**

- a) Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries
- b) BRICS nations
- c) European Union countries
- d) Advanced Economies (USA, Singapore, Canada, Australia)
- e) SAARC countries

**Answer : Option D**

**Explanation :**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released a paper titled 'Changing Dynamics of India's Remittances: Insights from the Sixth Round of India's Remittances Survey' in their monthly bulletin.
- According to the RBI survey, advanced economies (AEs) including the USA, Singapore, Canada, and Australia accounted for over 50% of India's remittances in FY24.
- According to the RBI report, MTOs received 73.5% of total remittances digitally in FY24.
- Total Remittances Received in FY24 is USD 118.7 billion (in 2023-24)
- Top source countries for India's remittances in FY24 are USA (27.7%) and UAE (19.2%)
- Share of Other Countries are United Kingdom (10.8%), Singapore (6.6%), Canada (3.8%), and Australia (2.3%)
- The combined share of GCC countries such as: UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain stood at 38% in FY24
- State-wise distribution are Maharashtra (20.5%), Kerala (19.7%), Tamil Nadu (10.4%), Telangana (8.1%) and Karnataka (7.7%)
- Increase in India's share to international migrants is 18.5 million (in 2024)





### Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved a revision in ATM interchange fees, which will take effect from May 1. The fee for financial transactions has been increased from Rs.17 to Rs.19, and for non-financial transactions from Rs.6 to Rs.7
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the interest rate for the Government of India Floating Rate Bond 2033 (GOI FRB 2033) as 7.81% per annum for the period from March 22, 2025, to September 21, 2025
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has held its Annual Conference of RBI Ombudsmen in Mumbai. The conference's theme was "Transforming Grievance Redress: The AI Advantage"
- Since mid-January, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has pumped more than Rs. 5 lakh crore into the banking system through bond purchases, FX swaps, and early-April maturity repos.
- 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 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





**Ques : Which initiative was launched by RBI in 2023 to help users search unclaimed deposits?**

- a) Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)
- b) UDGAM Portal
- c) DigiLocker for Banking
- d) Jan Dhan Seva Kendra
- e) Depositor Awareness Yojana

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Public Sector Banks (PSBs) have transferred over Rs.45,000 crore of unclaimed deposits to the Depositor Education and Awareness (DEA) Fund between FY 2019-20 and FY 2024-25 (up to December 31, 2024).
- Unclaimed deposits are defined as savings/current accounts or term deposits that have been inactive or unclaimed for 10 years.
- These funds are transferred to the DEA Fund managed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- Depositors or their legal heirs can approach the concerned bank to claim these funds, and the bank can seek reimbursement from the RBI.
- In 2023, RBI launched the UDGAM portal to provide a centralized platform for users to search for their unclaimed deposits across multiple banks.

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**Ques : Who has been honoured with the Knight's Cross of the Order of Dannebrog for strengthening Indo-Danish business ties?**

- a) Natarajan Chandrasekaran
- b) Anand Mahindra
- c) Vijay Sankar
- d) Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw
- e) Adar Poonawalla

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation :**

- Vijay Sankar, Chairman of the Chennai-based Sanmar Group, received the Knight's Cross of the Order of Dannebrog, a distinguished Danish honour.
- The award was conferred by His Majesty the King of Denmark, Frederik André Henrik Christian, in recognition of Sankar's role in enhancing business relations between India and Denmark.
- It was presented by the Ambassador of Denmark to India, Rasmus Abildgaard Kristensen.
- The Order of Dannebrog is one of Denmark's highest civilian awards, given for outstanding service in fields such as business, science, arts, or public service.

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

- 2025 Stockholm Water Prize : Austrian hydrologist Gunter Blösch
- Sangita Kalanidhi award 2025 : Renowned violinist R.K. Shriramkumar
- Maharashtra Bhushan : Veteran sculptor Ram Sutar
- 2025 Holberg Prize : Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak
- iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence) Award : Atima Corporation Private Limited for developing the VEER Electric Tactical All-Terrain Vehicle (E-TATV)
- Air Service Quality (ASQ) award : Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport (KIAB)
- ACM A.M. Turing Award, often referred to as the "Nobel Prize of Computing" : Dr. Andrew Barto from the USA and Richard S. Sutton from Canada
- 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)





**Ques : What is the primary objective of the MoU signed between Vi and the West Bengal government?**

- a) Providing financial support to startups in Bengal
- b) Accelerating digital transformation for MSMEs
- c) Expanding 5G services in the state
- d) Providing export support to large industries
- e) Formulating a new policy for e-commerce platforms

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Vodafone Idea (Vi) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the West Bengal State Export Promotion Society (WBSEPS).
- The objective of the MoU is to accelerate the digital transformation of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in West Bengal.
- This initiative will help MSMEs adopt digital tools and technologies to enhance operational efficiency and expand market access.
- The collaboration is expected to play a crucial role in empowering MSMEs to become more competitive and technologically equipped.

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**Ques : What is the quantity of GI-tagged jaggery that was exported to Bangladesh?**

- a) 10 MT
- b) 20 MT
- c) 25 MT
- d) 30 MT
- e) 50 MT

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- GI-tagged jaggery from Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh—known for its premium sugarcane—has been flagged off for export to Bangladesh.
- A consignment of 30 metric tons (MT) was sent, marking the start of direct jaggery exports from western UP via Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs).
- The jaggery from Muzaffarnagar and Shamli is in high demand globally due to its superior quality.
- Brijnandan Agro FPC, established in 2023 with 545 members (including two women directors), is leading the exports.
- The company also exports sugarcane products, Basmati rice, and pulses, with members trained by BEDF to meet global standards.

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**Ques : ‘SECL Ke Sushrut’ is the first and only CSR scheme from any coal PSU under the Ministry of Coal to be listed on which of the following platforms?**

- a) MyGov Portal
- b) NITI Aayog CSR Dashboard
- c) Digital India Portal
- d) Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Portal
- e) BharatNet Platform

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), a Coal India subsidiary, has made history with its CSR initiative ‘SECL Ke Sushrut’ becoming the first and only coal PSU CSR scheme listed on the Government of India’s Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) portal.
- Launched in 2023, the initiative offers free NEET coaching to 40 deserving and underprivileged students from coal belt areas in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.
- In its inaugural batch, 39 out of 40 students cleared NEET 2024, and 11 secured MBBS admissions, reflecting the program’s success.
- The scheme highlights SECL’s commitment to educational empowerment under the Ministry of Coal’s CSR efforts.

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### Recent News Headlines Related to launched Apps/portals

- Geological Survey of India (GSI) celebrated its 175th Foundation Day and During the event, Union minister G. Kishan Reddy, launched two significant digital initiatives: the Field Data Acquisition Application (App) and the Geo-heritage App 'Bhuvirasat'
- The government has launched a new Aadhaar Governance Portal (<http://swik.meity.gov.in>) to streamline the approval procedure for Aadhaar authentication requests.
- The Maharashtra government has created the MAITRI 2.0 Portal to streamline the investment process and eliminate administrative and procedural bottlenecks
- The Government of India has taken considerable initiatives to improve the Haj pilgrimage experience, including the introduction of the 'Haj Suvidha App' and extensive healthcare services for Indian pilgrims, with a special emphasis on the elderly
- The Ministry of Railways has launched 'SwaRail', a new superapp. The app allows quick access to services like as reserved and unreserved ticket bookings, platform and parcel bookings, train queries, PNR inquiries, RailMadad assistance, and more.
- 'Samman Sanjeevani' app Launched by Haryana Cabinet Minister Shruti Choudhry. Its aimed at enhancing the efficiency of the 'Mahila Evam Kishori Samman Yojana'. which is designed to provide essential services to BPL (Below Poverty Line) women and girls between the ages of 10 and 45, particularly sanitary napkins.
- Building on DigiLocker's success, the government has launched 'Entity Locker,' a new digital platform designed to simplify the management and verification of corporate and organizational records
- Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan app Launched by Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defense (MoD). This app includes detailed information of 77 battlefield sites.
- The Karnataka Forest Department plans to implement the "Garudakshi" online FIR system to tackle forest and wildlife crimes.
- Swiggy has introduced a new standalone food delivery app called 'Snacc by Swiggy'. Snacc is a 15-minute food delivery app that serves short snacks and meals, comparable to Zepto's Zepto Café.
- NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) has developed EmpowHER Biz - Sapno Ki Udaan in collaboration with New Shop, India's largest 24/7 convenience shop chain, as part of its Award to Reward (ATR) program.





**Ques : Which state is Set to Introduce a More Stringent Anti-Conversion Law ?**

- (a) Tripura
- (b) Jammu and Kashmir
- (c) Nagaland
- (d) Bihar
- (e) Chhattisgarh

**Answer :** Option E

**Explanation :**

- The Chhattisgarh government, led by Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, plans to enact a stricter anti-conversion law to prevent illegal religious conversions in the state.
- Home Minister Vijay Sharma has announced that a new law will be introduced to prevent conversions through coercion, inducements, or "faith healing" gatherings.

**About Chhattisgarh :**

- Capital : Raipur
- CM : Vishnu Deo Sai
- Governor : Ramen Deka

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**Ques : Which company has become the world's most valuable steel firm by market cap?**

- A) ArcelorMittal
- B) Nucor Corp
- C) JSW Steel
- D) Tata Steel
- E) Nippon Steel

**Answer : Option C**

**Explanation :**

- JSW Steel, led by Sajjan Jindal, has become the world's most valuable steel company by market capitalization, reaching \$30.5 billion.
- It surpassed major global players like Nucor Corp (market cap \$29.4 billion) and ArcelorMittal (\$26.9 billion).
- This milestone reflects the strong performance of Indian steel firms despite global challenges like weak demand and trade tariffs.
- JSW Steel aims to boost its production capacity to 43 million tons by 2027 and 51 million tons by 2030 to meet increasing domestic demand.

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**Ques : Which country has received Mizoram's first-ever export of Anthurium flowers?**

- (a) Netherland
- (b) Mauritius
- (c) Moldova
- (d) Singapore
- (e) UAE

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- Mizoram sent its first cargo of Anthurium flowers to Singapore, marking an important milestone in the state's floriculture industry.
- The shipment contained 1,024 Anthurium cut flowers weighing 70 kg, obtained from the Zo Anthurium Growers Cooperative Society in Aizawl and exported by IVC Agrovet Pvt. Ltd.
- Anthurium is one of the most important flowers grown in Mizoram, boosting local economic activity and mostly benefiting farmers, notably women.
- The flower's cultivation has become a source of income and empowerment for local populations. Mizoram also hosts the annual "Anthurium Festival," which promotes tourism while highlighting the flower's beauty and ornamental significance.

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**Ques : Anuj Kumar Singh has been appointed as Joint Secretary (Director level) in which of the following organisations?**

- a) Ministry of Railways
- b) Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
- c) NITI Aayog
- d) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
- e) Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

**Answer :** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Anuj Kumar Singh (IRSEE) has been appointed as a Joint Secretary (Director level) in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Delhi.
- The appointment was made under the Central Staffing Scheme for a period of five years or until further orders, whichever occurs first.
- Singh is an IRSEE officer from the 2009 batch. The Ministry of Railways recommended his selection for Central deputation.

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### Recent Appointment in different departments :

- Ajay Seth : Finance Secretary of India (succeeds Tuhin K. Pandey)
- Kirsty Coventry : first woman and African President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC)
- Rajivnayan Rahulkumar Bajaj : reappointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Bajaj Auto
- Lip-Bu Tan : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Intel Corporation
- Dr. Shivkumar Kalyanaraman : CEO of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)
- 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)





**Ques : C-DOT Partners With which IIT To Develop AI-Powered Chatbot For Disaster Communication ?**

- (a) IIT Guwahati
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Madras
- (d) IIT Indore
- (e) IIT Roorkee

**Answer : Option B**

**Explanation :**

- India's Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) has signed an agreement with IIT Delhi to develop an advanced generative AI-based chatbot.
- The chatbot will enhance customer support during disaster early warning and emergency scenarios.
- This initiative supports India's goal of strengthening disaster preparedness with real-time, multilingual assistance for disaster managers, first responders, and affected communities.
- The AI chatbot will incorporate Natural Language Processing (NLP), Text-To-Speech (TTS), Speech-to-Text (STT), and imaging technologies to ensure smooth communication during crises.

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### Recent News Headlines Related to IITs

- IIT Guwahati has developed India's first VR Metaverse, "Gyandhara", for PM SHRI Schools in collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Assam Government's Department of Education
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has inked a MOU with IIT Dharwad, to boost industry-academia collaboration in advanced technologies
- Indian Bank has announced a Cyber Security & FinTech hackathon in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, set for April 2025
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Indian Institute of Technology Indore (IIT-I) collaborate to launch 'AgriHub'
- The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), the premier Telecom R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), GoI, has signed an agreement with IIT Mandi, in collaboration with IIT Jammu, for the development of "Wideband Spectrum-Sensor ASIC-Chip, for Enhancing Spectrum Utilization".
- IIT-Madras has successfully commissioned Asia's largest shallow wave basin at its Discovery campus at Thaiyur.
- IIT Madras, has worked with the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on a project to increase the efficiency and efficacy of the agricultural extension system through digitization.
- IIT Madras has completed a 410-meter Hyperloop test track, marking a big step forward in India's pursuit of futuristic transportation solutions.
- Hyundai Motor Group has partnered with three IITs to build a joint research system in the domains of batteries and electrification, involving a USD 7 million investment over five years.
- IIT Guwahati will host the 10th India International Science Festival (IISF) 2024 from November 30 to December 3.
- Samsung R&D Institute, Noida (SRI-Noida) has signed a MOU with the famed Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay).
- IIT Madras and ISRO Collaborate to create a Centre of Excellence focused on research in 'Fluid and Thermal Sciences'. ISRO will provide seed funding of Rs 1.84 Crore to establish this center.





**Ques : What is the name of the incubation program launched by C-DOT to foster innovation in telecom and IT?**

- a) Pragati
- b) Tejas
- c) Nipun
- d) Udaan
- e) Samarth

**Answer : Option E**

**Explanation :**

- The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), a telecom research and development centre, has introduced the first cohort of its incubation program “Samarth” to encourage innovation in telecommunications and Information Technology.
- To effectively implement the program, C-DOT has partnered with the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), based in New Delhi and operating under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- The program will be conducted in a hybrid format, combining online and offline modes. Each cohort will include 18 startups, and two such cohorts will be run for six months each, accommodating a total of 36 startups.
- Selected startups will be provided funding support of up to Rs.5 lakh, six-month access to office space at the C-DOT campus, use of advanced lab facilities for research and development, and an opportunity for collaboration under the C-DOT Collaborative Research Program.





**Ques : What is the name of the mascot for the 2nd Khelo India Para Games (KIPG) 2025?**

- a) Arogya
- b) Chetak
- c) Ujjwala
- d) Sparsh
- e) Parakram

**Answer :** Option C

**Explanation:**

- Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) unveiled the mascot, logo, and anthem for the 2nd Khelo India Para Games (KIPG 2025) at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Complex in New Delhi.
- During the event, Union Minister of State (MoS) Raksha Nikhil Khadse, MYAS, revealed the KIPG 2025 mascot, 'Ujjwala', which is inspired by the Delhi house sparrow.
- The logo for KIPG 2025 was jointly launched by Devendra Jhajaria, President of the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), and Sminu Jindal, creator of Svayam.
- The logo depicts an athlete in orange, green, and blue, representing movement, inclusivity, and advancement.
- The logo features the words 'Khelo India' and 'Para Games 2025' in blue or white to represent strength, with orange highlights.
- The bilingual tagline 'Champions Beyond Limits'/'Hauslon ki Udaan' reflects the resilience of para-athletes.
- The anthem for the Para Games is "khelega khelega mera India, jeetega mera India" (my India will play, my India will play).

**About KIPG 2025 :**

- Started : December 2023
- 1st edition host : New Delhi
- 2025 edition : 2nd
- Venues : JawaharLal Stadium, Indira Gandhi Arena, and Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range, in New Delhi
- Organised by : Sports Authority of India (SAI)







- Sports : 6 para-sports fields: para-archery, para-badminton, paraathletics, para powerlifting, para shooting, and para table tennis



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### Recent News headlines related to Sports

- Lando Norris of McLaren won the 2025 Australian Grand Prix, the season's first race at Albert Park, by 0.811 seconds, securing his fifth career victory. Max Verstappen of Red Bull finished second
- India will host the 11th Asian Swimming Championship at the Naranpura Sports Complex in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has officially approved boxing for inclusion in the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics after a unanimous vote
- 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
- 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
- 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
- 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.
- 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





**Ques : Who launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain – 2025 campaign?**

- a) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- b) Bhupender Yadav
- c) Mansukh Mandaviya
- d) C.R. Patil
- e) Nitin Gadkari

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- On World Water Day, Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil launched the country-wide Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain - 2025 in Panchkula, Haryana.
- This program is being launched in partnership with the Ministry of Jal Shakti, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, and the Government of Haryana.
- The Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign aims to promote water conservation and management through community participation and innovative solutions.
- He also e-launched the 'Mukhyamantri Jal Sanchay Yojana' and the Water Resources Atlas for Haryana, both of which help with scientific water management.
- In addition, Haryana showcased innovative water management initiatives such as community sanitation complexes, liquid waste management systems, the Gobar Dhan project, and a solid waste treatment shed.
- Aside from that, he launched the 'Jal-Jungle-Jan: Ek Prakritik Bandhan Abhiyan', which promotes the ecological interdependence between rivers, springs, and forests.





**Ques : World Water Day is observed every year on which day ?**

- (a) 19 March
- (b) 20 March
- (c) 21 March
- (d) 22 March
- (e) 23 March

**Answer :** Option D

**Explanation :**

- Every year on March 22, World Water Day is commemorated to highlight the importance of sustainable water management and conservation.
- Theme 2025: Glacier Preservation
- World Water Day was initially proposed during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992.
- In 1993, the United Nations General Assembly designated March 22nd as World Water Day to highlight the importance of freshwater and promote sustainable water resource management.

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**Ques : World Meteorological Day is observed every year on which day ?**

- (a) 19 March
- (b) 20 March
- (c) 21 March
- (d) 22 March
- (e) 23 March

**Answer :** Option E

**Explanation :**

- Every year on March 23, the world celebrates World Meteorological Day to highlight meteorology's importance in weather forecasting, climate monitoring, and disaster risk reduction.
- Theme 2025: Closing the Early Warning Gap Together
- On March 23, 1950, the United Nations established the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) as a specialized organization.
- The World Meteorological Organization's objective is to promote global collaboration in climate research, hydrology, and meteorology. In 1961, the first World Meteorological Day was observed.

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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)
- 15 March : International Day to Combat Islamophobia
- 16 March : National Vaccination Day 2025

