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In English



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Ques : What is the minimum loan amount under NABARD's Green Lending Facility for FY26?

- A. Rs.10 crore
- B. Rs.25 crore
- C. Rs.50 crore
- D. Rs.100 crore
- E. Rs.500 crore

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) will provide Rs.10,000 crore in loans during FY 2025–26 under its Green Lending Facility.
- This funding will be directed towards projects aligned with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), covering Ethanol plants and Electric vehicles (EVs)
- Other eco-friendly and sustainable infrastructure initiatives is the minimum loan amount per project under this scheme is Rs.100 crore.
- Eligible borrowers include Central and State governments, government agencies, and private sector entities.
- As per Deputy MD Ajay Kumar Sood, this facility was initially launched in FY25 and is being scaled up in FY26.

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RECENT LOANS AND AGREEMENTS :

- NTPC Limited secured a USD 750 million loan via External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) for financing capital expenditure and renewable energy projects
- CreditAccess Grameen (CA Grameen), India's largest NBFC-MFI, secured a USD 100 million loan via External Commercial Borrowing (ECB)
- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) raised Rs.2,005.90 crore via Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP)
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a \$109.97 million (Rs.927 crore) results-based loan to Gujarat
- Adani Airports Holdings Limited (AAHL), a subsidiary of Adani Enterprises, has raised \$750 million (6250 crore) through External Commercial Borrowings (ECB)
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) President Masato Kanda announced that ADB is ready to provide up to \$4.5 billion annually in sovereign lending to India
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has committed up to \$10 billion over 5 years for India's urban transformation, including metro expansions
- Vivriti Asset Management (VAM) Secured USD 20 Million from Vienna (Austria)-based Development Bank of Austria (OeEB) for its Vivriti India Retail Assets Fund (VIRAF), bolstering the fund's capital base to USD 165 million
- Bank of Maharashtra has sanctioned Rs.1500 crore to the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA)
- Uttarakhand secures Rs 1910 crore urban development funding from European Investment Bank (EIB) to enhance urban infrastructure development across four cities (Pithoragarh, Sitarganj, Rudrapur, and Kashipur) in Uttarakhand
- A loan of \$85.4 million has been authorized by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to finance essential industrial infrastructure in Tripura's nine industrial complexes
- As of December 31, 2024, the Asian Development Bank has committed \$59.5 billion in loans to India overall, up from \$55.3 billion in 2023
- Argentina and the International Monetary Fund inked a \$20 billion, 48-month Extended Fund Facility agreement
- National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) has provided a loan of Rs.1,787 crore to BluPine Energy Private Limited to optimize financial structuring, enhance operational efficiency, and fuel portfolio expansion
- India and Japan have signed credit agreements totaling 191.736 billion Japanese yen for six projects through Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) to India





Ques : What is India's rank in global FDI inflows in 2024 as per UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2025?

- A. 12
- B. 14
- C. 15
- D. 16
- E. 18

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- As per UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2025, India ranked 15th in the world in terms of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows for the year 2024, improving one spot from the previous year.
- FDI inflows remained stable at \$27.6 billion, almost the same as in 2023.
- India retained its 4th position globally in greenfield project announcements, showing continued investor interest in new projects.
- However, India dropped to 5th place in international project finance deals (97 deals in 2024 vs. 123 in 2023).
- India is also among the few developing nations receiving over 30% of its FDI in renewable energy and infrastructure, signaling a green investment shift.

Top 5 FDI recipient countries in 2024:

- USA – \$279 billion
- Singapore – \$68 billion
- Hong Kong – \$62 billion
- China – \$61 billion
- Netherlands – \$54 billion





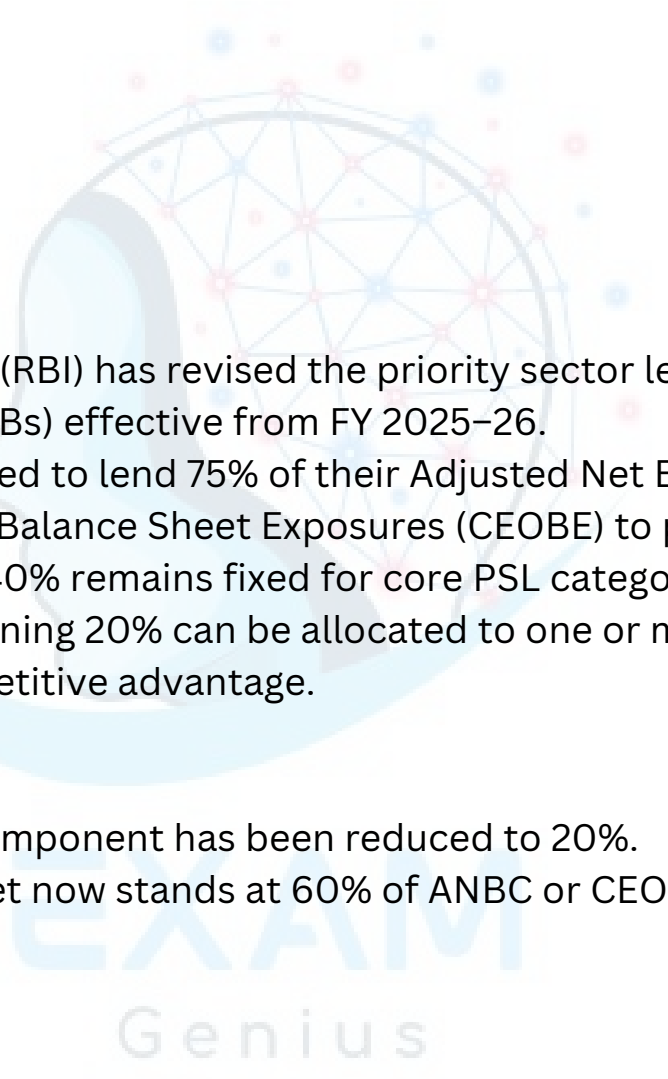
Ques: What is the new priority sector lending (PSL) requirement for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) as per RBI's updated guidelines for FY 2025–26 onward?

- A. 40% of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC)
- B. 75% of total lending
- C. 60% of ANBC or CEOBE, whichever is higher
- D. 50% of total advances
- E. None of the above

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised the priority sector lending (PSL) norms for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) effective from FY 2025–26.
- Earlier, SFBs were mandated to lend 75% of their Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or Credit Equivalent of Off-Balance Sheet Exposures (CEOBE) to priority sectors.
- Out of the revised 60% , 40% remains fixed for core PSL categories (like agriculture, MSMEs, etc.) and The remaining 20% can be allocated to one or more sub-sectors where the bank has a competitive advantage.
- Under the revised norms:
 - The additional 35% PSL component has been reduced to 20%.
 - Thus, the overall PSL target now stands at 60% of ANBC or CEOBE, whichever is higher.





Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- RBI has revised the agency commission structure for banks managing government-related transactions such as revenue receipts, pension disbursements, and other payments.
- RBI discontinued its daily Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auctions due to a liquidity surplus of Rs. 2.75 to Rs. 3 lakh crore in the banking system, exceeding 1% of Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL), effective from 11 June 2025.
- On June 16, 2025, RBI Deputy Governor T. Rabi Sankar inaugurated the new Regional Office of the Reserve Bank of India in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
- Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), in collaboration with RBI and banks, launched a pilot project to digitise legacy user consents
- RBI has issued draft guidelines for Rupee Interest Rate Derivatives (IRD) to keep the regulatory framework in line with evolving market dynamics
- RBI plans to re-issue sovereign green bonds (SGrBs) during the upcoming government securities (G-Secs) auction on June 13, 2025
- RBI has allowed STRIPS (Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities) for State Government Securities (SGS)
- RBI has extended the deadline for low-risk individual customers to update their KYC (Know Your Customer) details
- RBI has reduced the qualifying asset threshold for Non-Banking Financial Companies – Microfinance Institutions (NBFC-MFIs) from 75% to 60% to provide a boost to the sector
- RBI will discontinue daily Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auctions from June 12, 2025, as the liquidity surplus in the banking system has significantly improved
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) published data in June 2025 indicating that bank deposit growth in India decreased to 10.6% YoY in FY25, the fiscal year 2024–2025, from 13% in FY24
- Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd (SPMCIL) delivered 3.4 tonnes of refined gold to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) during FY25
- RBI has rejected the application of Annapurna Finance for a Universal Bank Licence
- RBI has increased the Loan-to-Value (LTV) ratio for gold jewellery-backed loans up to Rs.2.5 lakh to 85%.
- In the 55th meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) held from June 4 to 6, 2025, RBI reduced the Policy Repo Rate by 50 basis points to 5.50%.





Ques : What is the new asset provisioning requirement mandated by RBI for under-construction project finance loans, effective from Oct 1, 2025?

- A. 5%
- B. 0.4%
- C. 2.5%
- D. 1%
- E. 1.5%

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has eased project funding norms, especially for under-construction loans, to support infrastructure financing and reduce liquidity stress on banks.
- Effective from October 1, 2025, the standard asset provisioning requirement has been reduced to 1% from the earlier proposed 5% for general under-construction project finance loans.
- For under-construction commercial real estate (CRE), the provisioning will be 1.25%. Once the project becomes operational, provisioning rates will be 1% for CRE, 0.75% for CRE-RH (Residential Housing) and 0.40% for other projects.
- This phased approach is aimed at encouraging project finance by making capital requirements more flexible as risk reduces post-completion.
- The reform is expected to boost infrastructure lending and ease cash flow pressure on financial institutions.

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Ques : According to RBI's latest circular, what is the maximum amount allowed for advance remittance for importing shipping vessels without a bank guarantee or LC?

- A. USD 10 million
- B. USD 25 million
- C. USD 50 million
- D. USD 100 million
- E. USD 5 million

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has amended the Master Direction – Import of Goods and Services, originally issued on January 1, 2016.
- Under the new circular, Authorised Dealer Category-I (AD Cat-I) banks are now allowed to permit advance remittances for shipping vessel imports.
- The major relaxation is Importers can send advance remittance up to USD 50 million. No requirement for bank guarantee or an unconditional, irrevocable standby Letter of Credit (LC).
- This move aims to ease international trade and boost the shipping industry.
- The circular is issued under Section 10(4) and Section 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999.

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Ques: Which Indian universities were ranked in the global top 100 of the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2025 for sustainability?

- A. Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, LPU, JSS Academy, and Shoolini University
- B. IIT Delhi, IISc Bangalore, Amity University, and BITS Pilani
- C. Delhi University, Anna University, Shiv Nadar University, and Ashoka University
- D. JNU, BHU, SRM University, and Christ University
- E. None of the above

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- In the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2025, four Indian universities were placed in the global top 100 for their contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham was ranked 41st, and Lovely Professional University (LPU) was placed at 48th.
- JSS Academy of Higher Education and Shoolini University were jointly ranked 96th.
- A total of 135 Indian institutions participated, but only these four made it to the top 100.
- The rankings evaluate universities based on performance indicators such as research, outreach, and campus operations related to SDGs like SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy and SDG 6 & Lifelong Learning: Water sustainability and education access
- Notably, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham scored 100/100 in lifelong learning and water sustainability metrics.
- Western Sydney University (Australia) retained its top global rank for the fourth consecutive year.





India's Rankings in Different Indices

- Global Energy Transition Index (ETI) 2025 published by the World Economic Forum (WEF) : India (71st)
- “Women in Politics: 2025” report : India (174th)
- Global Gender Gap Report Edition 19th Published by World Economic Forum (WEF) : India (131st), Iceland (1st)
- 2025 Global Data Center Market Comparison report : Mumbai (6th), Virginia, United States of America (USA) (1st)
- Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2025 : India (10th), Denmark (4th)
- World’s Wealthiest Cities Report 2025 4th Edition Published by Henley & Partners : New York City, USA (1st), Mumbai, India (27th)
- Forbes' 2025 list of the world’s highest-paid athletes : Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal) : Soccer
- 2025 Kantar BrandZ report : Apple (1st), TCS (45th)
- World Press Freedom Index 2025 was published by Reporters Without Borders (RSF) : India (151th), Norway (1st)
- Human Development Index (HDI) 2023 : India (130th)
- 2nd edition of the 2025 CareEdge State Rankings was published by CareEdge Ratings : Maharashtra (top) Gujarat (2nd)
- Asia University Rankings 2025 published by Times Higher Education (THE) : Indian Institute of Science (IISc) (38th), Tsinghua University (China) (1st)
- According to Newsweek and Statista's "World's Best Hospitals 2025" : All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Aiims) in New Delhi (97th)
- World’s busiest airports in 2024 Published by Airports Council International (ACI) : Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) in Delhi (9th), Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (United States) (1st)
- Report Automotive Industry: Powering India’s Participation in Global Value Chains 2nd Edition Published by National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) : India (4th), China (1st)
- Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) baseline report 1st Edition Published by Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) : Gujarat (top)
- World’s Best Airport for 2025 : Singapore Changi Airport (1st), Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), or Delhi International Airport (32nd)





Ques : What is the name of the mascot unveiled for the 2025 World Para Athletics Championships?

- A. Veeraj
- B. Viraaj
- C. Vijay
- D. Ankur
- E. Gajraj

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- The 12th edition of the World Para Athletics Championships will be held in New Delhi from September 27 to October 5, 2025 – for the first time in India.
- The event will feature 186 medal events with athletes from over 100 countries.
- The official mascot "Viraaj" is a young elephant with a blade prosthesis, symbolizing strength, inclusion, and determination.
- The championship is being organized by the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI).
- The venue, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, is being relaid and upgraded in preparation for the tournament.

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Ques: Which country will host the 10th ICC Women's T20 World Cup in 2026?

- A. India
- B. Australia
- C. South Africa
- D. England
- E. New Zealand

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The 10th ICC Women's T20 World Cup will be held in 2026 and will be hosted by England.
- This edition will be the biggest ever, with 12 teams participating (set to expand to 16 teams from 2030).
- The ICC Women's T20 World Cup was first held in 2009.
- New Zealand is the current champion, having won their first title.

About ICC Women's T20 World Cup :

- Most successful : Australia (6 titles)
- India hosted in : 2016
- 2026 edition : 10th 2026 host England (Semi-finals- The Oval Cricket Stadium. , Final - Lords Cricket Stadium, London)
- Seven Venues : Headingley, Edgbaston, Old Trafford, The Oval, Bristol County Ground, and Lord's





Recent News headlines related to Sports

- The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) organized the Munich leg of the Rifle/Pistol and Shotgun World Cup 2025 in Munich, Germany
- George Russell, representing Germany-based Mercedes, clinched his first Formula One (F1) Grand Prix victory of the 2025 season by winning the 63rd edition of the Canadian Grand Prix
- The Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu (HUTN), officially announced that it will host the inaugural edition of the Hockey India Masters Cup for men (40+ age group) and women (35+ age group) from June 18 to 27 at the Mayor Radhakrishnan hockey stadium
- For the first time in six years, India's opener Smriti Mandhana has reclaimed the top spot in the ICC ODI rankings, overtaking South Africa's Laura Wolvaardt, who dropped 19 rating points.
- Ankita Raina, partnering with France's Alice Robbe, won the doubles title at the ITF \$40,000 tournament in Guimaraes, Portugal
- Hillang Yajik from Arunachal Pradesh won 1 gold and 1 silver medal at the 15th South Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championships 2025 in Thimphu, Bhutan
- Nishant Dev, an Indian boxer, won his second professional fight against Josue Silva by a majority decision of 60-54 in a Super Welterweight match at Madison Square Garden Theatre in New York.
- U Mumba defeated Jaipur Patriots 8-4 in Ahmedabad to win the Ultimate Table Tennis Season 6 title
- South Africa clinched the ICC World Test Championship 2025 title by defeating defending champions Australia in the final held at Lord's, London
- Wimbledon's prize money has risen to a record 53.5 million pounds (about \$73 million) and the singles champions will each earn three million pounds (\$4 million)
- The 2025 Taiwan Athletics Open, part of the World Athletics Continental Tour Bronze (Category C), was held at Taipei Municipal Stadium in Taipei City, Taiwan
- Priyanka Goswami won gold in the women's 10km race at the Austrian Racewalking Championships in Innsbruck
- Anahat Singh, India's top-ranked women's squash player, won two awards at the PSA Awards 2024-25 : Women's Challenger Player of the Season, and Women's Young Player of the Season (shared with Amina Orfi of Egypt)





Ques: Which US-made bomb is designed to destroy deeply buried nuclear sites and can only be deployed by the B-2 Spirit stealth bomber?

- A. GBU-43/B MOAB
- B. GBU-12 Paveway II
- C. GBU-57A/B Massive Ordnance Penetrator
- D. AGM-114 Hellfire
- E. None of the above

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The GBU-57A/B Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP), also known as a "bunker buster", is a 30,000-pound (13,600 kg) precision-guided bomb developed by the United States.
- It is designed to penetrate up to 200 feet (61 meters) of reinforced concrete or rock before detonation, making it effective against deeply buried nuclear sites or military bunkers.
- The bomb is 6.6 meters long and features a hardened steel casing and a specialised delayed-fuse system for deep penetration.
- The only aircraft capable of deploying the GBU-57 is the B-2 Spirit stealth bomber, developed by Northrop Grumman.
- The B-2 has a range of up to 11,500 miles (18,500 km) with aerial refueling and can carry two GBU-57 bombs.
- As tensions rise in the Middle East, this bomb has come into focus as one of the few capable of striking Iran's fortified nuclear facilities.





Ques: According to the Global Liveability Index 2025 published by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), which city was ranked as the most liveable in the world?

- A. Vienna, Austria
- B. Zurich, Switzerland
- C. Copenhagen, Denmark
- D. Melbourne, Australia
- E. None of the above

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Global Liveability Index 2025 is published by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).
- It ranks 173 cities across the world based on factors like stability, healthcare, culture, environment, education, and infrastructure.
- In the 2025 edition, Copenhagen (Denmark) was ranked as the most liveable city, ending Vienna's three-year reign at the top.
- No Indian city featured in the top 10 liveable cities of the world in this year's rankings.
- The average global liveability score remained unchanged from the previous year at 76.1 out of 100.

Ranking of top 5 cities in Global Liveability Index 2025 :

- 1 Copenhagen (Denmark) : 98.0
- 2 Vienna (Austria) : 97.1
- 3 Zurich (Switzerland) : 97.1
- 4 Melbourne (Australia) : 97.0
- 5 Geneva (Switzerland) : 96.8
- 173 Damascus (Syria) : 30.7





Ques : Who is likely to be appointed as India's next High Commissioner to Canada?

- A. Vinay Mohan Kwatra
- B. Dinesh K Patnaik
- C. Taranjit Singh Sandhu
- D. Harsh Vardhan Shringla
- E. Sanjay Verma

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- Dinesh K Patnaik is a senior Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer from the 1990 batch.
- He is currently serving as India's Ambassador to Spain.
- He is likely to be appointed as India's High Commissioner to Canada, amid diplomatic efforts to rebuild relations between the two nations.
- India-Canada ties had been strained following the killing of a Sikh separatist in 2023.
- As part of normalization efforts, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Canadian PM Mark Carney have agreed to take constructive steps toward restoring diplomatic stability.

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Recently appointed ambassador:

- Aliawati Longkumer : Ambassador to North Korea from India
- Anurag Bhushan : Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Sweden (Replaced Tanmaya Lal)
- Jitender Pal Singh : Ambassador to Israel (Replaced Sanjeev Kumar Singla)
- Dr Shankar Prasad Sharma : Nepal's Ambassador to India
- Dr Netra Prasad Timsina : Ambassador of Nepal to Malaysia
- Dinesh Bhatia : India's next Ambassador to Brazil
- Dr. Nina Malhotra : Ambassador of India to Sweden
- Senior diplomat Aishath Azeema : Maldivian envoy to India (Replaced Ibrahim Shaheeb)
- Ajit Vinayak Gupte : Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany
- Sanjeev Kumar Singla : Ambassador to France
- Xu Feihong : Ambassador to India of China
- Faisal bin Saud Al-Mejfel : Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Syria
- Swati Vijay Kulkarni : India's next Ambassador to Algeria
- R. Ravindra : Country's next envoy to Iceland
- Arun Goel : India's next ambassador to the Republic of Croatia
- Parvathaneni Harish : India's next Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York
- B Vanlalvawna : Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia

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Ques: According to the OECD's Global Drought Outlook Report, what percentage of the world's land is facing increasingly frequent and severe droughts?

- A. 20%
- B. 30%
- C. 40%
- D. 50%
- E. None of the above

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recently released the Global Drought Outlook Report, highlighting the growing threat of droughts worldwide.

Key findings of the report include:

- 40% of the world's land area is increasingly experiencing frequent and severe droughts.
- The economic cost of an average drought is projected to rise by 3% to 7.5% annually.
- By 2035, there is a minimum 35% projected increase in drought-related economic losses.
- Since 1980, 37% of global land has seen significant soil moisture loss, and groundwater levels are declining in many regions.
- Although droughts make up only 6% of natural disasters globally, they are responsible for 34% of disaster-related deaths, disproportionately affecting regions like Sub-Saharan Africa.
- The report not only highlights impacts but also offers policy solutions to Improve drought risk management, Enhance resilience in ecosystems and agriculture and Adapt to a drier climate future





Ques: What is the name of India's new hypersonic missile developed under DRDO's Project Vishnu?

- A. Agni Prime
- B. Shaurya II
- C. BrahMos II
- D. Nirbhay-X
- E. ETLDHCM

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- India is developing the Extended Trajectory-Long Duration Hypersonic Cruise Missile (ETLDHCM) under DRDO's Project Vishnu, marking a significant leap in defence technology.
- The missile can fly at hypersonic speeds of up to Mach 8 (approximately 11,000 km/h), allowing rapid response and deep strike capability.
- It has a range of 1,500 km and is capable of carrying conventional or nuclear warheads weighing between 1,000 and 2,000 kg.
- This next-gen missile strengthens India's strategic deterrence and long-range precision strike capabilities.

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Recent News Headlines Related to DRDO

- DRDO is developing three variants of the Kusha air defence system – M1, M2, and M3. Among them, Kusha M3 will have the longest range, capable of intercepting threats at more than 400 km
- DRDO has inaugurated the Quantum Technology Research Centre (QTRC) spearheaded by the Solid State Physics Laboratory (SSPL) and is aligned with India's National Quantum Mission.
- The Defence Materials Stores and Research & Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur, a laboratory under DRDO, has successfully developed a nanoporous multilayered polymeric membrane designed for high-pressure seawater desalination
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the DRDO Missile Test Range at Nagayalanka, Krishna district, Andhra Pradesh, with an investment of around Rs 1,460 crore
- The Multi-Influence Ground Mine (MIGM) is an advanced underwater naval mine developed by DRDO, led by the Naval Science & Technological Laboratory, Visakhapatnam
- DRDO successfully conducted maiden flight trials of the Stratospheric Airship Platform at the Sheopur trial site in Madhya Pradesh
- DRDO successfully conducted release trials of the Long-Range Glide Bomb (LRGB) 'Gaurav' from a Su-30 MKI aircraft
- The DRDO successfully test-fired the Vertically Launched Short-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VLSRSAM) for the Indian Navy
- DRDO successfully tested an indigenous life support system for Tejas light combat aircraft pilots at high altitude.
- The Indian Navy, in partnership with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), successfully tested the indigenously designed Naval Anti-Ship Missile - Short Range (NASM-SR)
- The DRDO has completed user trials for its HIMKAVACH multi-layer apparel system in extreme cold temperatures.
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), a defence PSU, formally handed over the "Jaldoot" Unmanned Surface Vessel (USV) to DRDO's Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL) in Visakhapatnam after successful trials.



Ques : Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) signed a Rs.511 crore deal with which organization to build Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLVs)?

- A. DRDO
- B. BARC
- C. ISRO
- D. BEL
- E. IN-SPACe

Answer: C

Explanation :

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has signed a Rs.511 crore Transfer of Technology (ToT) deal with ISRO to manufacture and operate Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLVs).
- The SSLV is a three-stage launch vehicle developed by ISRO to carry satellites under 500 kg to Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
- The deal was announced by IN-SPACe, after HAL emerged as the highest bidder among three shortlisted companies.
- Under this deal HAL will receive ISRO's assistance for the first two years to build at least two SSLV rockets. After that, HAL will independently operate SSLV missions.
- The Government of India will bear liability for SSLVs manufactured by HAL, in accordance with international norms.

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Recent News Headlines Related to ISRO

- ISRO and the Department of Space's Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) collaborated with the Astronautical Society of India to successfully test a model rocket launcher system with a payload in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) & Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) signed MOU to transform the bank's transaction reconciliation processes. TCS will deploy its AI-powered solution TCS BaNCS™ for Reconciliations
- During ISRO's 101st mission, conducted using the reliable Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), a malfunction occurred in the third stage of the rocket
- ISRO & Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST) Signed MoU for the 'Framework Memorandum of Understanding(MoU) on Cooperation in Space Medicine'
- ISRO used satellite technology under its CROP (Comprehensive Remote Sensing Observation on Crop Progress) project to monitor wheat crop conditions during the Rabi season
- ISRO has indigenously developed a Stellite-based nozzle divergent to replace imported Columbium in the fourth stage of the PSLV
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL), Chandigarh, have jointly developed two 32-bit microprocessors—Vikram 3201 and Kalpana 3201
- IIT Madras and ISRO have developed an indigenous microprocessor for space applications that can be utilized in command and control systems as well as other vital operations in space
- ISRO unveiled the latest edition of the Finite Element Analysis of Structures (FEAST) software during the 8th National Finite Element Developers' Meeting at the IIT Hyderabad
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched its new generation satellite, NVS-02, from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F15) carried the NVS-02
- ISRO successfully grew black-eyed pea seeds in orbit using its Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies (CROPS). The CROPS project studies plant growth in space.





Ques: Which British football icon was formally awarded a Knighthood by King Charles III?

- A. Gary Lineker
- B. Wayne Rooney
- C. Steven Gerrard
- D. David Beckham
- E. Harry Kane

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- David Robert Joseph Beckham, the legendary British footballer, was formally conferred a Knighthood by King Charles III.
- Other notable recipients of knighthood in the same honours list include actor Gary Oldman and musician Roger Daltrey.
- The UK government's honours list is officially approved by the monarch.
- Upon receiving a knighthood, a man is granted the title "Sir", and his wife may use the courtesy title "Lady" before her surname, provided she adopts his surname.

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Ques: Where was the first Indian epigraphical reference to Halley's Comet discovered?

- A. Brihadeeswarar Temple, Tamil Nadu
- B. Mallikarjunaswamy Temple, Srisailam
- C. Konark Sun Temple, Odisha
- D. Virupaksha Temple, Hampi
- E. None of the above

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The first Indian epigraphical reference to Halley's Comet was found in a 1456 CE copper plate inscription at the Mallikarjunaswamy Temple in Srisailam, Andhra Pradesh.
- The inscription, from the Vijayanagara period, is written in Sanskrit using the Nagari script.
- It mentions the appearance of a comet and meteor shower, matching the historical record of Halley's Comet in 1456 CE.
- The grant was made by Vijayanagara ruler Mallikarjuna on June 28, 1456 CE (Śaka 1378, Āshāḍha ba. 11) to a Vedic scholar named Limgaṇarya.
- The grant was given to mitigate the calamity believed to be caused by the comet.
- The donated village was named Simgapura, located in Kelajhasima of Hastinavati Vemṭhe.
- Although comets (dhūmaketus) are mentioned in ancient texts, this is the first known inscriptional evidence of Halley's Comet in Indian history.





Recent News Headlines Related to First in India and world :

- The Bihar State Election Commission has announced the launch of an Android-based mobile e-voting system, making Bihar the first state in India to adopt such a technology-driven approach to voting
- The First Assembly of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) was hosted by India in New Delhi, under the conservation vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- The Cherrapunji Eastern Craft Gin has become the first alcohol label from the northeastern region of India to be exported
- AviList is the world's first unified global checklist of bird species, officially launched to standardize bird taxonomy globally
- TM2Space Technologies Private Limited announced its plan to launch India's first thinking 'data compute' satellite, an Artificial Intelligence powered orbiter, aboard the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle of the Indian Space Research Organisation by September 2025.
- India's first underwater museum and artificial coral reef is being developed around the decommissioned warship INS Guldar, near Nivati Rocks at Vengurla in Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra
- Ola's AI company Krutrim launched Kruti, claimed to be India's first agentic AI assistant, which goes beyond traditional chatbot functions
- DFCC Bank PLC, based in Colombo, Sri Lanka, became the first foreign corporate entity to list Green Bonds worth LKR 2.5 billion on the National Stock Exchange – International Exchange (NSE IX) at GIFT IFSC, Gujarat
- S&P Global Ratings Singapore Ltd became the first foreign credit rating agency to receive approval from the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to operate in GIFT City, Gujarat
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Anji Khad Bridge, India's 1st cable-stayed rail bridge
- Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) became the first civic body in India to list a green municipal bond on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)
- India's first e-waste recycling park is being developed in Holambi Kalan, North Delhi, as announced by Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa



Ques: Which Indian institution ranked highest in the QS World University Rankings 2026?

- A. IIT Bombay
- B. IISc Bangalore
- C. IIT Kanpur
- D. IIT Delhi
- E. IIT Kharagpur

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- In the QS World University Rankings 2026, IIT Delhi ranked 123rd, making it the highest-ranked Indian institution for the first time in eight years.
- It made a significant leap, improving its rank by 27 positions from 150 in 2025.
- In contrast, IIT Bombay, which usually held the top Indian spot, fell to 129th from 118th last year.
- Globally, MIT secured the 1st rank for the 14th consecutive year, followed by Imperial College London, Stanford, Oxford, and Harvard.
- Other Indian institutions in the top national 10 include IIT Kharagpur (215), IIT Kanpur (222), IIT Guwahati (334), and IIT Roorkee (339).

Ranking of QS World University Rankings 2026 :

- 1 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- 2 Imperial College London
- 3 Stanford University
- 4 University of Oxford
- 5 Harvard University
- 6 University of Cambridge





Ques : Who is heading the newly formed panel to reduce dependency on coaching centres and review competitive exams?

- A. Subhas Sarkar
- B. Vineet Joshi
- C. Dharmendra Pradhan
- D. Sanjay Kumar
- E. Rajesh Verma

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- The Union Education Ministry has set up a high-level committee to address the rising dependency on coaching centres and improve the fairness and effectiveness of competitive exams.
- The panel is headed by Vineet Joshi, the Higher Education Secretary.
- The panel includes members from CBSE, NCERT, IITs, NITs, and principals from Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, and a private school.

Its objectives include:

- Reviewing competitive entrance tests.
- Addressing issues related to dummy schools.
- Evaluating the impact of misleading advertisements by coaching centres.
- Studying gaps in school education like critical thinking, analytical skills, and creativity.
- Recommending reforms to enhance career counselling and promote multiple career pathways.





Ques: Who was the Padma Shri awardee known as ‘Aranya Rishi’ who passed away at the age of 93 in 2025?

- A. Salim Ali
- B. Valmik Thapar
- C. M. K. Ranjitsinh
- D. Maruti Chitampalli
- E. None of the above

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Maruti Chitampalli, renowned environmentalist and wildlife expert, passed away at the age of 93 in Solapur, Maharashtra.
- Fondly known as ‘Aranya Rishi’, he dedicated his life to forests, wildlife, and conservation literature.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri on April 30, 2025, for his contributions.
- Chitampalli served in the Forest Department for 36 years and authored several important works.
- His personal diaries inspired scientific publications such as : ‘Pakshikosha’ – Encyclopedia of Birds, ‘Pashukosha’ – Encyclopedia of Animals and ‘Matsyakosha’ – Encyclopedia of Fish

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What is the International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice and what does it signify?

- A. Day marking lunar eclipses in both hemispheres
- B. Longest night in Northern Hemisphere
- C. Day when Earth is closest to the Moon
- D. Longest day and shortest night in Northern Hemisphere
- E. None of the above

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- 21st June is observed as the International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice.
- The word Solstice comes from Latin, meaning "stalled sun".
- It is a natural astronomical event that occurs twice every year, once in summer and once in winter, in each hemisphere.
- On 21st June, the Northern Hemisphere experiences the longest day and shortest night of the year.
- This is because the Sun shines directly overhead on the Tropic of Cancer (23.5° North), and the North Pole is tilted towards the Sun, while the South Pole is tilted away.
- The Earth's axis, which is always tilted at 23.5 degrees, is responsible for this phenomenon.
- In contrast, Equinoxes occur twice a year when the Earth's axis is perpendicular to the Sun's rays, resulting in nearly equal day and night across the globe.
- The Vernal (Spring) Equinox occurs around March 20 or 21, and the Autumnal Equinox around September 22 or 23 in the Northern Hemisphere.





Important days :

- 1 June : Global Day of Parents 2025 (Theme 2025 Raising Parents)
- 1 June : World Milk Day (theme for 2025 is: "Let's Celebrate The Power of Dairy")
- 1 June : Global Day of Parents (Theme : Raising Parents)
- 3 June : World Bicycle Day 2025
- 4 June : 43rd International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
- 5 June : International Day for the Fight against Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
- 5 June : World Environment Day (Theme 2025 : Putting an End to Plastic Pollution)
- 6 June : UN Russian Language Day 2025
- 6 June : World Pest Day (theme for 2025 was: "Guardians of Health: Professional Pest Management for a Safer World")
- 7 June : 7th World Food Safety Day 2025 (Theme 2025 Food safety: science in action)
- 8 June : World Oceans Day (theme "Wonder: Sustaining what sustains us.")
- 8 June : World Brain Tumor Day (Theme 2025 Brain Health for All Ages)
- 9 June : World Accreditation Day (Theme, "Accreditation: Empowering Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)")
- 9 June : 77th International Archives Day 2025 (Theme 2025 #ArchivesAreAccessible-Archives for Everyone)
- 9 to 13 June : International Archives Week
- 10 June : International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations (THEME 2025 : The Imperative of Dialogue among Civilizations in a Changing World)
- 11 June : International Day of Play (THEME : Choose play – every day!)
- 12 June : 26th World Day Against Child Labour (Theme: "Progress is clear, but there's more to do: let's speed up efforts!")
- 12 June : Russia Day (birthday of modern Russia)
- 13 June : International Albinism Awareness Day (theme for 2025 is "Demanding our rights: Protect our skin, Preserve our lives")
- 14 June : World Blood Donor Day (WBDD) (Theme for 2025 is: "Give blood, give hope: together we save lives.")
- 15 June : World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (2025 Theme: Addressing Abuse of Older Adults in Long Term Care Facilities: Through Data and Action)