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Ques: What was the amount of penalty imposed by SEBI on BSE for lapses in information access and regulatory supervision?

- A. Rs.10 lakh
- B. Rs.15 lakh
- C. Rs.20 lakh
- D. Rs.25 lakh
- E. Rs.50 lakh

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) imposed a Rs.25 lakh fine on BSE Ltd for regulatory violations between February 2021 and September 2022.
- BSE allowed paid subscribers and listing teams to access price-sensitive information before it was made public, violating norms of equal access.
- SEBI also cited lapses in supervising broker activities, such as unaudited client code modifications and lack of annual error-account audits.
- A time-gap mechanism to fix the access issue was introduced only after SEBI's intervention.
- SEBI has asked BSE to pay the penalty within 45 days.

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Recent Penalties imposed on Banks :

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a Rs.29.60 lakh penalty on Fino Payments Bank
- SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) imposed a fine of Rs.25 lakh on MCX, India's largest commodity exchange
- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs.63.6 lakh on Union Bank of India for violating provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and failing to comply with guidelines related to credit flow to agriculture, particularly in providing collateral-free agricultural loans
- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) imposed a Rs.1 crore penalty on Acko General Insurance
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a Rs.50 lakh penalty on Deutsche Bank AG, India on May 13, 2025
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a penalty of Rs.29.60 lakh on Yes Bank Limited on May 16, 2025
- In May 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) penalised State Bank of India (SBI) and Jana Small Finance Bank for non-compliance with regulatory norms. SBI was fined Rs.1.72 crore for failing to comply with certain RBI directions
- Jana Small Finance Bank was fined Rs.1 crore for contravening provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949
- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of Rs.31.80 lakh on IDBI Bank Limited on April 30, 2025, for non-compliance with regulatory directions
- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of Rs.61.40 lakh on Bank of Baroda on April 29, 2025, for non-compliance with directions related to financial services, customer service, and deposit interest rates
- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of Rs.31.80 lakh on Bank of Maharashtra on April 30, 2025, for non-compliance with regulatory KYC norms





Ques: What is the name of the innovation challenge launched by HDFC Life in collaboration with IIT Bombay and SINE to promote tech-driven solutions in the insurance sector?

- A. LifeTech Vision
- B. HDFC Life InsUReka
- C. Innovate Insurance
- D. Smart Insure Challenge
- E. FutureSecure Hackathon

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited, in collaboration with the Society for Innovation & Entrepreneurship (SINE) and IIT Bombay, has launched HDFC Life InsUReka, an innovation challenge.
- The challenge aims to promote sustainable and industry-wide innovation by inviting startups from across India.
- It seeks to co-create transformative, technology-driven solutions addressing real-world challenges in the life insurance industry.

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Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has launched a State-wise Health Insurance Policy, which is customized based on regional treatment costs, local medical infrastructure, and common diseases
- Through its business unit Intellect Global Consumer Banking (iGCB), First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB), the biggest bank in the United Arab Emirates, successfully deployed the eMACH.ai Lending platform created by Chennai-based Intellect Design Arena Limited
- NACH 3.0 (National Automated Clearing House) is being launched by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in the first week of July 2025
- South Indian Bank has launched E-Kiosk and E-Kanika facilities at Uttara Guruvayurappan Temple in New Delhi
- India's first Cyber-Security Operation Centre (C-SOC) named "Sahakar Suraksha" has been launched by the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSC Bank) in Vashi, Navi Mumbai
- Poonawalla Fincorp Limited, promoted by the Cyrus Poonawalla Group, has launched 'Business Loan 24/7', a first-of-its-kind fully digital loan product for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
- Scapia Federal Credit Card Launched by Scapia (a Bengaluru-based travel fintech startup) & Federal Bank
- SBM ZET Credit Card Launched by ZET (Bengaluru) & State Bank of Mauritius (SBM) Bank (India). The card can be secured by opening an FD with SBM Bank, starting from Rs.5,000
- Indian Bank has launched new NRE Savings Account variants specifically for NRIs, bundled with premium debit cards – INDD'Elite, IND Premium, and IND Plus
- Axis Bank super.money Credit Card Launched by Axis Bank Limited & super.money (a fintech platform backed by Bengaluru based Flipkart)
- HDFC Bank has launched Biz+ Current Accounts, a reimagined suite of current account products tailored for Indian businesses
- Indian Bank launched two new fixed deposit (FD) schemes – IND SECURE (444 days) and IND GREEN (555 days) – with effect from May 8, 2025
- Union Bank of India (UBI) launched the 'Union Wellness Deposit', an innovative retail term deposit scheme
- Canara Bank has launched 'CANARA TruEdge', a specialized and feature-rich suite of Current and Savings Accounts



Ques: Which insurance company has been fined Rs.1 crore by IRDAI for corporate governance violations in 2025?

- A. HDFC Life Insurance
- B. LIC
- C. Edelweiss Life Insurance
- D. SBI Life Insurance
- E. Max Life Insurance

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) imposed a fine of Rs.1 crore on Edelweiss Life Insurance for violating corporate governance norms.
- The violations include failure to collect mandatory bank details from policyholders where premiums exceeded Rs.10,000, and non-compliance with outsourcing due diligence.
- IRDAI rejected the insurer's claim that bank account information was optional and emphasized full regulatory responsibility lies with the insurer.
- Moving forward, the insurer must mandatorily capture complete bank account details in proposal forms.

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Ques: Which international institution has approved a USD 426 million loan for the Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Program?

- A. Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- B. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- C. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
- D. New Development Bank (NDB)
- E. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), part of the World Bank Group, approved a loan of USD 426 million for the Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Program.
- The loan aims to enhance water security and resilience for over four million residents of Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- The loan has a maturity period of 20 years with a 5-year grace period.
- Additionally, the World Bank also approved a USD 150 million loan for the Tamil Nadu Women Employment and Safety (TNWES) programme, with a 25-year maturity and a 5-year grace period.

About World Bank :

- Established : 1944
- HQ : Washington DC
- Members : 189
- World Bank Group : 5 (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA and ICSID)
- President : Ajay banga

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RECENT LOANS AND AGREEMENTS :

- 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
- 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



Ques: Which bank recently enabled UPI payment facility for its NRI customers using international mobile numbers?

- A. SBI
- B. HDFC Bank
- C. ICICI Bank
- D. Axis Bank
- E. IDFC FIRST Bank

Answer: Option E

Explanation :

- IDFC FIRST Bank has launched UPI payment services for NRIs using international mobile numbers linked to their NRE or NRO accounts via the bank's mobile app.
- This facility is currently available in 12 countries: Australia, Canada, France, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, UAE, UK, and USA.
- NRIs can now use QR codes, UPI IDs, or mobile numbers for instant rupee-based transactions within India.
- This move aims to provide equal ease, speed, and security to NRI customers as enjoyed by domestic users.

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Ques: From which date will the call money market operate till 7 p.m. as per RBI's new announcement?

- A. 1 April 2025
- B. 1 July 2025
- C. 1 August 2025
- D. 1 January 2026
- E. 31 March 2025

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended call money market hours by 2 hours, now operating from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM.
- The change will come into effect from 1 July 2025.
- The call money market is accessible only to banks and standalone primary dealers (SPDs) participating in the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF).
- Market repo and TREP timings will also be extended to 4:00 PM from 1 August 2025, but timings for G-Secs, forex, and derivatives will remain unchanged.
- This is based on recommendations of the Radha Shyam Ratho Committee.

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Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- RBI has scheduled a 7-day Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) auction of Rs.1 lakh crore on June 27, 2025 to absorb surplus liquidity in the banking system
- To address the rising issue of digital payment frauds, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is collaborating with major public and private sector banks to build a new platform named DPIP (Digital Payment Intelligence Platform)
- RBI has revised the priority sector lending (PSL) norms for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) effective from FY 2025–26
- RBI has eased project funding norms, especially for under-construction loans, to support infrastructure financing and reduce liquidity stress on banks
- RBI has amended the Master Direction – Import of Goods and Services, originally issued on January 1, 2016
- 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



Ques: Who has been appointed as the new President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) during its 10th Annual Meeting in Beijing?

- A. Zou Jiayi
- B. Jin Liqun
- C. Yi Gang
- D. Liu Kun
- E. Wang Qishan

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Zou Jiayi, former Vice Finance Minister of China, was appointed as the new President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) during the bank's 10th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors held in Beijing.
- She succeeds Jin Liqun and will serve a five-year term.
- China is the largest shareholder in the AIIB with 26.54% voting shares, followed by India (7.58%), Russia (5.9%), and Germany (4.1%).
- The AIIB is a multilateral development bank focused on supporting infrastructure development in Asia and beyond.

About Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank :

- Established : 16 January 2016
- HQ : Beijing, China
- Members : 110 member states





Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- Anuj Pandey : Chief Executive Officer of UGRO Capital Limited
- K. Paul Thomas : Chairperson of Sa-Dhan
- Anuradha Thakur : Member of the Board of SEBI (replacing Ajay Seth)
- Pralay Mondal : MD & CEO of CSB Bank Limited for a term of 3 years
- Sandeep Batra : extension term as Executive Director (ED) of ICICI Bank
- Prashant Kumar : six-month extension as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Yes Bank
- Sumit Madan : Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Axis Max Life Insurance
- R Doraiswamy : CEO and MD of LIC
- Sat Pal Bhanoo : additional charge of CEO & MD of LIC
- Shri T. Rabi Sankar : part-time member of the 16th Finance Commission (XVIFC)
- K. Prathapa Reddy : Chairman of Telangana Grameena Bank (TGB) (replacing Y. Sobha)
- Stefan Schaffer : Chief Executive officer (CEO) of Deutsche Bank India (Replaced Dilipkumar Khandelwal)
- Swarup Kumar Saha : Managing Director and CEO of Punjab & Sind Bank
- Raman Aggarwal : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC) - Representative body of NBFCs
- Mauritanian economist Sidi Ould Tah : 9th President of the African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Asheesh Pandey : Managing Director and CEO of Union Bank of India (UBI)
- Prashant Thakker : Head of Citigroup Inc. corporate bank for South- and Southeast Asia
- Dinesh Pant and Ratnakar Patnaik : Managing Directors (MDs) of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)
- Parameswaran Iyer : Interim Executive Director (ED) to represent India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka at the International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Sanjay Joshi : Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of Oriental Insurance Company Limited (OICL)
- Dr. Poonam Gupta : Deputy Governor of RBI





Ques: Which company raised USD 1 billion through India's first investment-grade private bond issuance in the airport sector?

- A. GMR Airports Limited
- B. Adani Airports Holdings Limited
- C. Delhi International Airport Limited
- D. Tata Group Airports
- E. Larsen & Toubro Airports

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- Adani Airports Holdings Limited (AAHL) raised USD 1 billion through a project finance structure for its subsidiary, Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL).
- The deal included the issuance of USD 750 million investment-grade notes maturing in July 2029, and a provision to raise an additional USD 250 million.
- This marks India's first investment-grade rated private bond issuance in the airport sector.
- The project aligns with MIAL's sustainability targets, including its goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2029.

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Ques: What is the estimated cost of Phase-II of the Pune Metro Rail Project approved by the Union Cabinet?

- A. Rs.2,950 crore
- B. Rs.3,120 crore
- C. Rs.3,626.24 crore
- D. Rs.4,010 crore
- E. Rs.3,850 crore

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved Phase-II of the Pune Metro Rail Project.
- The project will consist of two elevated corridors : Corridor 2A: Vanaz to Chandani Chowk and Corridor 2B: Ramwadi to Wagholi/Vitthalwadi
- Total length: 12.75 km, with 13 stations, to be completed in 4 years.
- The estimated cost is Rs.3,626.24 crore, to be equally shared by the Centre, Maharashtra Government, and external agencies.
- This project will serve IT hubs, educational zones, and reduce traffic on roads like Paud Road and Nagar Road.
- Expected ridership is projected to grow from 0.96 lakh in 2027 to 3.49 lakh by 2057.
- It will be implemented by Maha-Metro (Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Ltd).

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Ques: Who is the author of the book “History That India Ignored”, recently unveiled by Union Minister Jitendra Singh?

- A. Rajat Sharma
- B. Prem Prakash
- C. Arun Shourie
- D. Shekhar Gupta
- E. M.J. Akbar

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- Union Minister of State for Science and Technology (Independent Charge), Jitendra Singh, unveiled the book “History That India Ignored”.
- The book is authored by Prem Prakash, Chairman of Asian News International (ANI) and a veteran journalist.
- It explores the lesser-known aspects of India’s freedom struggle, using archival documents, eyewitness accounts, and chronological analysis to shed light on overlooked events in history.

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Recent News Headlines Related to Books :

- 'New World: 21st Century Global Order in India' : senior BJP leader Ram Madhav
- "Zan! Zendegi! Azadi!" (Woman! Life! Freedom!) : Chowra Makaremi
- "Varalaru Koorum Tamil Nattu Kaasugal (Coins that Speak Tamil Nadu History) : Thangam Thennarasu, Minister for Finance, Tamil Nadu and Arumuga Sitharaman, a noted numismatic researcher
- A Different Kind of Power : Jacinda Kate Laurell Ardern
- "The Stars Light the Way" : Sucheta Raj Khanna
- India's Finance Ministers III: Different Strokes (1998–2014) : A.K. Bhattacharya's
- Guardians of Heritage : Senthilkumar Chandrasekaran
- "Karnad Kaleidoscope" : Muralidhara Khajane
- 'Modi's Niti Shastra: The World's His Oyster : Senior Advocate Dr. Adish C. Aggarwala
- "Will India Get Rich Before it Turns 100?" : Prosenjit Datta
- Portrait of a Genius : Jayanta Bhuyan
- "The Man Who Became Cinema: Dilip Kumar" : Ashok Chopra
- 'Story of Schisms and Isms – Kerala from the Twilight of Monarchy to the Present' : R. Mohan, a former IRS officer
- "Kashmir Insurgency – Deconstructing the State Response Revisiting 1989–90" : Colonel Yoginder Kandhari (Retd.), an Indian Army(IA) veteran
- "Life's Magic Moments" : Ruskin Bond
- "India: 5000 Years of History on the Subcontinent" : Audrey Truschke
- 'Revolution in Banking: Wheels of India's Growth Story' : Nirmal Bansal and Suneel Gupta
- "The Great Conciliator: Lal Bahadur Shastri and the Transformation of India" : Sanjeev Chopra
- "Indira Gandhi and the Years That Transformed India" : Srinath Raghavan
- Test Cricket: A History : Tim Wigmore
- "Original Sin" : Jake Tapper and Alex Thompson
- 'Tested : The Remarkable Power of Resolve' : Australian Cricket Captain Patrick James Cummins
- "The Diary of a Cricketer's Wife: A Very Unusual Memoir" : Puja Pujara, the wife of renowned Indian cricketer Cheteshwar Pujara





Ques: Where will the South Asia regional centre of the International Potato Center (CIP) be established?

- A. Patna, Bihar
- B. Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
- C. Singna, Agra, Uttar Pradesh
- D. Ranchi, Jharkhand
- E. Kolkata, West Bengal

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of the CIP South Asia Regional Centre (CSARC) at Singna village, Agra district, Uttar Pradesh.
- The total project cost is Rs.171 crore, with India contributing Rs.111 crore and the remaining Rs.60 crore by the Peru-based International Potato Center (CIP).
- The centre aims to benefit farmers in India and South Asia through enhanced productivity, food security, farmer income, innovation, and job creation in the potato and sweet potato sectors.
- India is currently the second-largest producer and consumer of potatoes globally.

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Ques: Which category award did India receive at the 2025 Bloomberg Philanthropies Awards for Global Tobacco Control?

- A. M Category – Monitor tobacco use
- B. P Category – Protect from tobacco smoke
- C. W Category – Warn about the dangers
- D. O Category – Offer help to quit tobacco use
- E. E Category – Enforce bans on advertising

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- India received the 2025 Bloomberg Philanthropies Global Tobacco Control Award under the 'O' category, which stands for "Offer help to quit tobacco use"—part of the WHO MPOWER policy package.
- The award was presented to the National Tobacco Control Cell, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, at the World Conference on Tobacco Control held in Dublin, Ireland.
- India was one of six countries honored, along with Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, Philippines, and Ukraine.
- The event also saw the release of the WHO Global Tobacco Epidemic 2025 Report, supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

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Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- ‘Special Mention Award’ at the Digital Payments Award 2024–25 : India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)
- Knighthood by King Charles III : David Robert Joseph Beckham
- Skytrax’s World Airline Awards 2025 : Qatar Airways
- Jury Award for Best Commissioned Film at the Annecy International Animation Festival 2025 : "Desi Oon", created by renowned Indian animation filmmaker Shri Suresh Eriyat
- ‘The Champion of Digital Media Awards South Asia 2025’ : The Hindu
- James Beard Awards : Vijay Kumar
- Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) honour : Leena Nair
- Srimanta Sankardeva Award by Government of Assam : Dr. Sonal Mansingh
- Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III is the highest civilian honour of Republic of Cyprus : Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- Leopard award at this year’s Locarno Film Festival : American filmmaker Alexander Payne
- India’s shooter Sift Kaur Samra secure a bronze medal in the women’s 50m rifle 3 positions event at the ISSF World Cup 2025 in Munich, Germany.
- Dostoevsky Star Award conferred by the Russian House : Javed Akhtar became the first Indian writer
- United Nations Sasakawa Award 2025 : Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director General of the India Meteorological Department (IMD)
- Global Leadership Award from the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) : Kumar Mangalam Birla
- Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award : Tamil scholar Thayammal Aravanan
- 72nd Miss World 2025 : Miss Thailand, Opal Suchata Chuangsri
- Global Indian of the Year 2025 : Jagadish “Jaggi” Vasudev, widely known as Sadhguru by the Canada India Foundation (CIF)
- Companion of the Order of Fiji, the highest civilian honour in Fiji : Sumeet Tappoo
- Asian Athletics Leadership Gold Pin : Adille J. Sumariwalla
- International Booker Prize 2025 : Banu Mushtaq for her short story collection ‘Heart Lamp’
- 2024 Crawford Fund Medal : Kadambot Siddique





Ques: Who became the second wicketkeeper in Test history to score centuries in both innings of a Test match?

- A. MS Dhoni
- B. Rishabh Pant
- C. Andy Flower
- D. Jonny Bairstow
- E. BJ Watling

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- Rishabh Pant created history at Headingley in the first Test against England by becoming only the second wicketkeeper in Test cricket history to score centuries in both innings of a match.
- He joined Andy Flower of Zimbabwe, the only other wicketkeeper to achieve this rare feat.
- Pant reached his second century off 129 balls, showcasing resilience and strokeplay.
- He also became the first Indian batter to score two centuries in a single Test match on English soil.

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Recent records in Cricket :

- Jasprit Bumrah : became the first Asian bowler to claim 150 Test wickets in SENA countries (South Africa, England, New Zealand, and Australia).
- Jos Buttler : surpassed Ireland's Paul Stirling to become the fourth-highest run-scorer in T20 Internationals, with 3678 runs
- Virat Kohli : playing for Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), became the first cricketer to score 9000 T20 runs for a single franchise
- Joe Root : fastest cricketer to reach 13,000 Test runs in terms of matches played during a four-day Test against Zimbabwe at Trent Bridge, Nottingham
- Rohit Sharma : After Virat Kohli, he was the only other Indian hitter to reach the milestone of 12,000 T20 runs
- Virat Kohli : 100th T20 half-century while playing for Royal Challengers Bengaluru against Rajasthan Royals at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium
- M.S. Dhoni : first player in IPL history to record 200 fielding dismissals
- Virat Kohli : highest run-scorer in Indian Premier League (IPL) history and the only player to cross the 8000-run mark and also became the first player to hit 1000 boundaries in IPL
- Virat Kohli : first Indian and fifth cricketer overall to reach 13,000 runs in T20 cricket
- Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma : Break Yuvraj Singh's Record for Most ICC Final
- Virat Kohli : He played his 300th One Day International (ODI) match against New Zealand in Dubai
- Virat Kohli : fastest hitter to achieve 14,000 runs in one-day internationals
- Rohit Sharma : second fastest batter after compatriot Virat Kohli to complete 11,000 runs in One-day Internationals
- Babar Azam : joint-fastest hitter to reach 6000 ODI runs
- Dinesh Karthik : highest run-scorer in T20 cricket
- Smriti Mandhana : the first Indian woman to score 10 ODI century and Scored a century in just 70 balls





Ques: Axiom Space has recently signed an agreement with which Indian company to explore space cooperation?

- A. Skyroot Aerospace
- B. DRDO
- C. ISRO
- D. Agnikul Cosmos
- E. IN-SPACe

Answer: Option A

Explanation :

- Axiom Space, the U.S.-based private company behind Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) featuring Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla, has signed an agreement with Hyderabad-based Skyroot Aerospace.
- The partnership aims to enhance access to Low Earth Orbit (LEO) and boost India-US space cooperation.
- Skyroot Aerospace, known for launching Vikram-S in 2022, is preparing to launch its first orbital-class rocket Vikram-1.
- Skyroot is among the first Indian private space firms to sign an MoU with ISRO, contributing to India's growing private space sector.

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Ques: Who won the gold medal in the Women's Individual Compound event at the Archery Asia Cup 2025 Stage 2 held in Singapore?

- A. Jyothi Surekha Vennam
- B. Aditi Swami
- C. Tejal Rajendra Salve
- D. Avneet Kaur
- E. Sushma Barla

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Archery Asia Cup 2025 Stage 2 was held in Singapore and is part of a three-leg continental series organized by World Archery Asia.
- Tejal Rajendra Salve clinched the gold medal in the Women's Individual Compound event.
- Kushal Dalal also secured gold in the Men's Individual Compound event, contributing to India's overall medal tally.
- India topped the medal table with a total of 9 medals (2 Gold, 6 Silver, 1 Bronze).

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Ques: Who became the first Indian to reach the International Space Station (ISS) in 2025?

- A. Rakesh Sharma
- B. Gaganyaan Commander
- C. Shubhanshu Shukla
- D. Kalpana Chawla
- E. Sunita Williams

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, a 39-year-old Indian Air Force fighter pilot, became the first Indian to reach the ISS on 26 June 2025 as part of the Axiom-4 mission.
- The mission launched aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Florida.
- He is part of a 4-member international crew including Peggy Whitson (USA), Slawosz Uznanski (Poland), and Tibor Kapu (Hungary).
- Shukla is conducting 25 experiments related to human physiology, agriculture, and material science.
- This marks India's return to human spaceflight after 41 years, since Rakesh Sharma's mission in 1984.
- The mission supports India's future goals under the Gaganyaan program and enhances private sector participation in global space research.





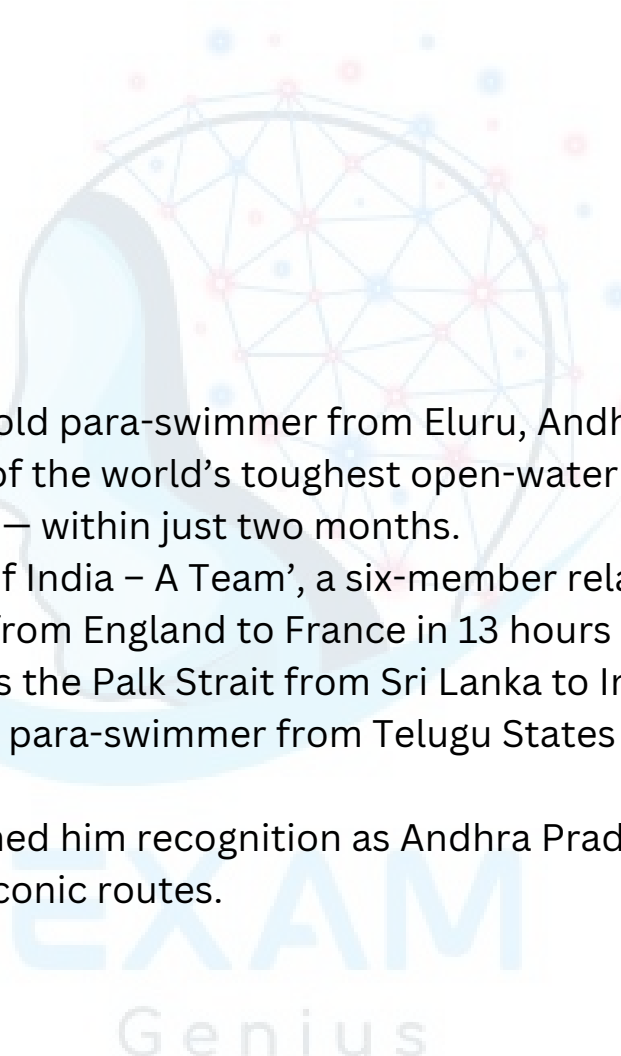
Ques: Who has become the first para-swimmer from Andhra Pradesh to conquer both the English Channel and the Palk Strait?

- A. Anand Raj
- B. Arjun Rao
- C. Karthik Reddy
- D. Veerendra Nath
- E. Balaga Ganesh

Answer: Option E

Explanation :

- Balaga Ganesh, a 38-year-old para-swimmer from Eluru, Andhra Pradesh, made history by completing two of the world's toughest open-water swims – the English Channel and the Palk Strait – within just two months.
- He was part of the 'Pride of India – A Team', a six-member relay group that crossed the 34 km English Channel from England to France in 13 hours and 37 minutes.
- He also swam 28 km across the Palk Strait from Sri Lanka to India in 10 hours and 30 minutes, becoming the first para-swimmer from Telugu States to accomplish this feat.
- This achievement has earned him recognition as Andhra Pradesh's first para-swimmer to conquer both iconic routes.





Ques: What is India's rank in the Global Peace Index (GPI) 2025 released by the Institute for Economics and Peace?

- A. 99th
- B. 108th
- C. 115th
- D. 124th
- E. 139th

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The 10th edition of the Global Peace Index 2025 was released by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) and covered 163 countries, representing 99.7% of the world population.
- India ranked 115th with a GPI score of 2.229, showing a 0.58% improvement in peacefulness compared to the previous year.
- Iceland retained its top spot as the most peaceful country, followed by Austria, New Zealand, and Switzerland.
- The report measures peace across three domains : Societal Safety and Security, Ongoing Domestic and International Conflict and Degree of Militarisation
- South Asia saw the largest deterioration in peace, especially in Bangladesh and Pakistan, while Afghanistan remains the least peaceful in the region.
- This year marks the 13th decline in global peace over the last 17 years.

Global Peace Index rankings :

- 1 Iceland
- 2 Ireland
- 3 New Zealand
- 4 Austria
- 115 India
- 162 Ukraine
- 163 Russia





According to the Global Terrorism Index 2025, terrorism remains a persistent global threat. Pakistan is among the countries where terrorist activities have increased since 2007.

Global Terrorism Index 2025 rankings :

1. Burkina Faso
2. Pakistan
3. Syria
4. Mali
14. India
49. China



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India's Rankings in Different Indices

- 2025 SDG Index : India (99th), Finland (1st)
- QS World University Rankings 2026 : Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (1st), IIT Delhi (123rd)
- Global Liveability Index 2025 is published by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) : Copenhagen (Denmark) (1st)
- 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)



Ques: As per the Coffee Board of India, what was the percentage growth in India's coffee exports in FY 2025–26 so far?

- A. 18%
- B. 40%
- C. 25%
- D. 10%
- E. 32%

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Coffee Board of India reported a 25% growth in coffee exports for FY 2025–26 so far.
- This follows a strong 40.2% growth during FY 2023–24, when exports reached USD 1803 million (Rs.15,292 crore), up from USD 1286 million (Rs.10,645 crore) in FY23.
- Europe remains the top destination for Indian coffee, with key importers including Italy, Germany, Belgium, Middle East countries, South Korea, and Japan.
- India is the world's 7th largest coffee producer, contributing 3.5% of global output and ranks 5th in global exports with a 5% share.
- Major coffee-producing states in India are Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, with annual production around 3.6 lakh tonnes.

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Ques: Which state will host the 5th Khelo India University Games in November 2025?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Gujarat
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Rajasthan
- E. Madhya Pradesh

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- The 5th edition of the Khelo India University Games will be hosted for the first time in Rajasthan in November 2025.
- Poornima University, Jaipur will serve as the host, and Rajasthan University, Jaipur will be the co-host.
- Over 4,000 athletes from 200 universities across the country are expected to participate.
- The games will be for the Under-25 age category and will be broadcast live on national TV and OTT platforms.
- Chandigarh University had won the team championships at KIUG 2024, co-hosted by Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Nagaland and Tripura.

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Ques: Which company will supply the world's first malaria vaccine RTS,S along with GSK during 2026–2030?

- A. Serum Institute of India
- B. Zydus Cadila
- C. Bharat Biotech
- D. Panacea Biotech
- E. Biocon

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- Bharat Biotech International Ltd (BBIL) and GSK will jointly supply the world's first malaria vaccine (RTS,S) to the global alliance Gavi between 2026–2030.
- Although developed by GSK, the vaccine's technology was transferred to Bharat Biotech.
- Bharat Biotech has invested \$200 million and plans to reduce the price to under \$5 per dose by 2028.
- The vaccine will be distributed in 12 endemic African nations under Gavi's initiative.
- Gavi supports malaria control in 20 African countries, which bear over 70% of the global malaria burden.

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Ques: NATO members recently agreed to increase their defence spending goal to what percentage of GDP by 2035?

- A. 2%
- B. 3.5%
- C. 4%
- D. 5%
- E. 6%

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- NATO countries have agreed to raise their defence spending to 5% of GDP by 2035, a significant increase from the previous 2% goal set in 2014.
- The revised target includes 3.5% on core defence (troops, arms, weapons) and 1.5% on broader security (cybersecurity, infrastructure, pipeline protection)
- The decision was driven by heightened security concerns, including : Ongoing Russia–Ukraine war and Fear of US troop withdrawal from Europe in a future Trump presidency
- The EU has allowed a yearly 1.5% GDP rise in defence spending, even if deficits exceed 3%, and set up a €150 billion arms fund for joint defence projects.

EXAM
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Ques: What centenary event is PM Modi inaugurating at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi?

- A. Vaikom Satyagraha Centenary
- B. Gandhi–Ambedkar Dialogue Centenary
- C. Gandhi–Narayana Guru Dialogue Centenary
- D. Kerala Renaissance Centenary
- E. Advaita Philosophy Conference

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the centenary celebration of the historic dialogue between Mahatma Gandhi and Sree Narayana Guru at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The event commemorates 100 years since their historic meeting on March 12, 1925, at Sivagiri Madhom, Kerala, during Gandhi's visit in the backdrop of the Vaikom Satyagraha.
- Sree Narayana Guru (1856–1928), a saint and social reformer from Kerala, strongly opposed untouchability and caste discrimination, and his work greatly influenced Kerala's socio-political movements.
- His teachings promoted equality, non-violence, and inspired leaders like Mahatma Gandhi.
- He also authored key works like Advaita Deepika, Atmavilasam, Daiva Dasakam, and Brahma Vidya Panchakam.





Ques: Bihar's first nuclear power plant will be based on which advanced technology as per the New Nuclear Energy Mission?

- A. Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor
- B. Small Modular Reactor
- C. Boiling Water Reactor
- D. Fast Breeder Reactor
- E. Gas Cooled Reactor

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- Under the New Nuclear Energy Mission, Bihar will establish its first nuclear power plant based on Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technology.
- SMRs are advanced, safer, and flexible alternatives to traditional large-scale nuclear reactors and are especially suitable for smaller power grids.
- The Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar confirmed the approval of Bihar's proposal for setting up this facility.
- This move aims to enhance power reliability, support industrial growth, and provide a long-term sustainable energy solution.
- In addition, the Centre approved a 1,000 MW battery storage project in Bihar with Rs.18 lakh per MW viability gap funding.

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Ques: Who was the visionary founder of FedEx Corporation who recently passed away?

- A. James E. Casey
- B. Frederick W. Smith
- C. Fred Smith Sr.
- D. Thomas J. Watson
- E. Jeff Bezos

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Frederick W. Smith, the founder of FedEx Corporation, passed away recently.
- He launched Federal Express in 1973 with just 14 Dassault Falcon jets.
- Under his leadership, FedEx became a global logistics giant, handling nearly USD 2 trillion worth of goods annually across 220+ countries and territories, with 17 million shipments per business day.
- Smith stepped down as CEO in March 2022 but remained Executive Chairman of FedEx Corporation.

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IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is an intergovernmental organization representing the collective voice of the Muslim world. It was established on 25 September 1969 in Rabat, Morocco, following the Al-Aqsa incident. India recently rejected references made by the OIC during its meeting in Istanbul

RazorpayX Corporate Cards Launched by Razorpay, Mastercard, RBL Bank, and YES Bank. Startups can avail credit limits of up to Rs 2 crore without collateral, easing financial constraints

The Ministry of Civil Aviation, in collaboration with the State Government of Maharashtra, Pawan Hans and FICCI, organized the 7th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit in Pune.

The International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) has formally recognized a brand-new blood group system known as "Gwada negative," which was discovered by France's national blood organization, the French Blood Establishment (EFS).

A well-known Indian businessman recently passed away from a bee sting, which sparked concerns about abrupt heart attacks in healthy adults and uncommon allergic reactions known as Kounis Syndrome. It is categorized as an acute coronary syndrome (ACS) variant.

