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# **GENIUS CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**In English**



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**Ques: Which UAE-based bank became the first to get approval for opening an IBU in GIFT City, Gujarat?**

- A. Emirates NBD
- B. Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank
- C. Mashreq Bank
- D. Dubai Islamic Bank
- E. First Abu Dhabi Bank

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation :**

- Mashreq Bank, headquartered in the UAE, has received in-principle approval to establish an International Financial Services Centre Banking Unit (IBU) in GIFT City, Gujarat.
- It is the first UAE-based bank to achieve this milestone, further strengthening India-UAE financial ties.
- The bank's GIFT City branch is expected to be operational by Q4 of 2025, enhancing cross-border banking and investment services in the region.

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**Ques: When was the State Bank of India (SBI) established following the nationalization of the Imperial Bank?**

- A. 1950
- B. 1952
- C. 1955
- D. 1960
- E. 1965

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- State Bank of India (SBI) was established on July 1, 1955, following the nationalization of the Imperial Bank of India under the State Bank of India Act.
- The Imperial Bank was itself formed in 1921 by the merger of Bank of Bengal (1806), Bank of Bombay (1840), and Bank of Madras (1843).
- In 2025, SBI celebrated its 70th anniversary, marking a major milestone in India's financial history.
- SBI is now a Fortune 500 company with an asset base of ₹61 trillion and a presence in 29 countries.
- For FY25, SBI reported a net profit of Rs.70,901 crore, and paid a dividend of Rs.8,076.84 crore to the Government of India.

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## Recent News Headlines Related to SBI :

- For FY 2024–25, State Bank of India (SBI) paid a dividend of Rs.8,076.84 crore to the central government
- SBI Life Insurance Company Limited and Vidyaniti LLP have jointly acquired a 4.25% stake in the National Highways Infra Trust (NHIT) for Rs.1,100.61 crore
- State Bank of India (SBI) reported a net profit of USD 9.2 billion (Rs.77,561 crore) in FY 2024–25
- The State Bank of India (SBI) has launched two major initiatives—‘Next LEAP’ and ‘SuPer SBI: Great to Greater’—aimed at employee engagement and skill development
- According to the State Bank of India (SBI), India's retail inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), is expected to remain below 3% in Q1 FY26 (April to June 2025)
- The State Bank of India (SBI) has announced a final dividend of Rs.15.90 per equity share for the financial year ending March 31, 2025
- The State Bank of India (SBI) will deploy ‘Grahak Mitras’ at 4,500 branches (which is 20% of its total 22,740 branches) to promote alternative banking channels
- A report by SBI projects India's retail inflation to remain between 3.9% and 4.0% in the first half (April–September) of FY 2025-26
- State Bank of India (SBI) has officially ended its special Amrit Kalash Fixed Deposit scheme from April 1, 2025
- Citi and the State Bank of India (SBI) have jointly announced a \$295 million social loan facility
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the State Bank of India (SBI) have signed MoU to boost rural development in Assam
- The State Bank of India's (SBI) Tokyo branch has provided a loan of JPY 26 billion (Rs 1,476 crore) to the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA)
- State Bank of India (SBI), which holds a 30% share in India's ATM network with over 65,000 ATMs, earned Rs.331 crore in fees from ATM withdrawals in FY24
- The State Bank of India (SBI) has raised \$1 billion through a dollar-denominated syndicated loan, making it the largest such loan from India in 2025
- SBI Mutual Fund has introduced two new investment options centred around India's public sector banking sector are SBI BSE PSU Bank Index Fund and SBI BSE PSU Bank ETF



**Ques: What was the total value of India's external debt at the end of March 2025, as reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?**

- A. USD 668.8 billion
- B. USD 700.5 billion
- C. USD 736.3 billion
- D. USD 601.9 billion
- E. USD 134.5 billion

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- According to the RBI, India's external debt rose by 10% to USD 736.3 billion at the end of March 2025, up from USD 668.8 billion in March 2024.
- The external debt-to-GDP ratio increased from 18.5% to 19.1% over the same period.
- The long-term external debt stood at USD 601.9 billion, while short-term debt was USD 134.5 billion.

**Composition of external debt:**

- US Dollar: 54.2%
- Indian Rupee: 31.1%
- Yen: 6.2%
- SDR: 4.6%
- Euro: 3.2%

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## Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued new guidelines to tighten the security of Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS) transactions and reduce fraud risks
- Panaji (Goa) based Instifi has received Certificate of Authorization (COA), a final authorization from RBI to operate as a licensed online Payment Aggregator (PA) under the Payments and Settlement Systems (PSS) Act, 2007
- As per the June 2025 bulletin of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), India has emerged as the top destination in the Global South for Greenfield investments in the digital economy
- RBI has extended call money market hours by 2 hours, now operating from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM
- 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





**Ques: What is the name of the CBI-led operation launched to crack down on mule bank accounts related to cybercrime and digital arrest scams?**

- A. Operation Cyber Net
- B. Operation Chakra V
- C. Operation Black Web
- D. Operation MuleHunter
- E. Operation Safe Bank

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation :**

- The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has launched Operation Chakra V across five states — Rajasthan, Delhi, Haryana, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh — to combat cybercrimes and digital arrest scams involving mule bank accounts.
- Approximately 8.5 lakh mule accounts were found to be opened to launder extorted money through cyber fraud.
- The operation covered 42 locations and 700 bank branches.
- To further assist in identifying such accounts, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has initiated MuleHunter.ai, an AI/ML-based system developed by the RBI Innovation Hub (RBIH).

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## Recent News Headlines Related to Operations :

- Operation Deep Manifest : Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) launched to crack down on the illegal routing of Pakistani-origin goods via third countries like Dubai, violating India's import policy
- Operation Midnight Hammer : U.S. military executing airstrikes on three key Iranian nuclear sites—Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan using B-2 stealth bombers and long-range missiles
- Operation Sindhu : launched by the Government of India in June 2025 to evacuate Indian nationals stranded in Iran due to escalating tensions with Israel
- Operation True Promise 3 : Iran launched for escalating military strikes on Israel for the third consecutive day
- Operation Rising Lion : Israel launched an air operation on 13th June 2025, targeting Iran's nuclear and military infrastructure
- Operation Secure : a global cybercrime crackdown led by Interpol from January to April 2025
- Operation Olivia : annual conservation initiative by the Indian Coast Guard in collaboration with the Odisha Forest Department to protect the Olive Ridley turtles during their nesting period from December to May
- Operation Black Forest : conducted in Kurraguttalu Hills on the Chhattisgarh–Telangana border is one of India's largest anti-Naxal operations, 31 Maoists were killed
- Operation Gideon Chariots : Israel launched to pressure Hamas into releasing the remaining hostages
- Operation Keller : The Indian Army launched a counter-terrorism operation in Shoekal Keller, Shopian, Jammu & Kashmir
- Operation Bunyan al-Marsus : launched by Pakistan against India in response to India's Operation Sindoor conducted on May 7, 2025
- Operation Sindoor : by the Indian Armed Forces post-midnight in retaliation to the terrorist attack on April 22, 2025, in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir
- Operation Tikka : to foil an infiltration attempt along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Baramulla district
- Operation Brahma : to assist victims of the earthquake in Myanmar
- Operation Dronagiri : to showcase how geospatial technologies can enhance citizens' quality of life and ease of doing business



**Ques: As per the latest Indian Railways proposal, how many hours before departure will reservation charts now be prepared?**

- A. 2 Hours
- B. 4 Hours
- C. 6 Hours
- D. 8 Hours
- E. 10 Hours

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation :**

- Indian Railways has approved the proposal to prepare reservation charts 8 hours before train departure, replacing the earlier timeline of 4 hours.
- For trains departing before 2:00 PM, charts will be prepared the previous day at 9:00 PM.
- This change aims to help waitlisted passengers by giving them earlier updates and time for alternative travel arrangements.
- Additionally, the upgraded Passenger Reservation System (PRS) will handle 1.5 lakh bookings per minute and enhance enquiry capacity to over 40 lakh per minute, offering a multilingual and inclusive user experience for passengers including Divyangjan, students, and patients.

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**Ques: What is the name of the annual festival in Puri, Odisha, that marks the ceremonial journey of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra, and Goddess Subhadra to the Gundicha Temple?**

- A. Chariot Utsav
- B. Jagannath Rath Yatra
- C. Ashadha Festival
- D. Gundicha Mela
- E. Subhadra Parikrama

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation :**

- Jagannath Rath Yatra is a world-famous Hindu festival celebrated annually in Puri, Odisha, on the second day of the bright fortnight (Shukla Paksha) of the Odia month Ashadha.
- It marks the symbolic journey of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra, and Goddess Subhadra from the Jagannath Temple to their aunt's temple in Gundicha, around 3 km away.
- The deities are carried on three huge, decorated wooden chariots, pulled by millions of devotees on Bada Danda (Grand Road) during the Pahandi ritual.
- The tradition dates back to the 12th century, during the reign of King Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva, though references indicate its ancient origins.
- The festival is also known as the Festival of Chariots.





**Ques: What is India's global rank in milk, egg, and meat production as per 2023–24 data?**

- A. 1st in Milk, 3rd in Eggs, 4th in Meat
- B. 2nd in Milk, 1st in Eggs, 4th in Meat
- C. 1st in Milk, 2nd in Eggs, 4th in Meat
- D. 1st in Milk, 2nd in Eggs, 5th in Meat
- E. 1st in Milk, 1st in Eggs, 3rd in Meat

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation :**

- In 2023–24, India produced 239.3 million tonnes of milk, ranking 1st globally.
- It produced 142.8 billion eggs, earning 2nd rank globally.
- With 10.25 million tonnes of meat, India stood at the 4th global rank.
- These achievements highlight India's strength in the global livestock sector, supported by the ongoing 21st Livestock Census for better policy planning.

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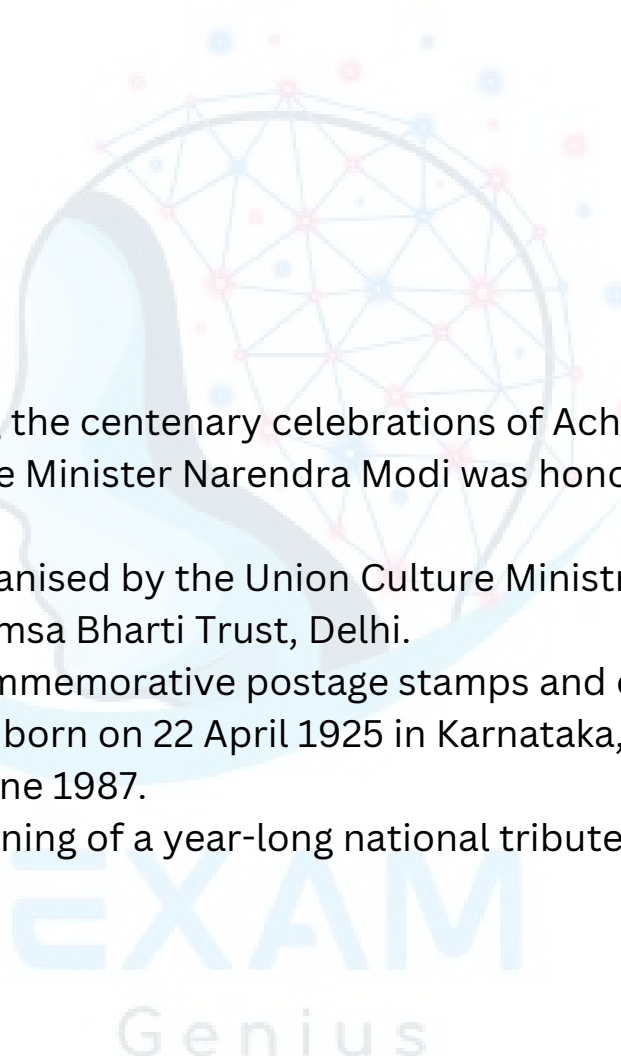
**Ques: Which title was conferred upon PM Narendra Modi during the centenary celebrations of Jain saint Acharya Vidyanand Ji Maharaj?**

- A. Dharma Chakravarti
- B. Ahimsa Ratna
- C. Dharma Samrat
- D. Sant Shiromani
- E. Jain Shiromani

**Answer: Option A**

**Explanation:**

- On 28th June 2025, during the centenary celebrations of Acharya Shri 108 Vidyanand Ji Maharaj, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with the title 'Dharma Chakravarti'.
- The celebrations were organised by the Union Culture Ministry in association with the Bhagwan Mahaveer Ahimsa Bharti Trust, Delhi.
- PM Modi also released commemorative postage stamps and coins on the occasion.
- Acharya Vidyanand Ji was born on 22 April 1925 in Karnataka, and he received the title of 'Acharya' on 28th June 1987.
- The event marks the beginning of a year-long national tribute to the revered Jain saint.





**Ques: Which fossil park in Uttar Pradesh was added to the UNESCO Tentative List of World Heritage Sites in 2025?**

- A. Ghughua Fossil Park
- B. Mandla Fossil Park
- C. Salkhan Fossils Park
- D. Dudhwa National Fossil Reserve
- E. Amarkantak Fossil Site

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- Salkhan Fossils Park, also known as Sonbhadra Fossils Park, located in Salkhan village, Sonbhadra district, Uttar Pradesh, has been added to the UNESCO Tentative List of World Heritage Sites in 2025.
- The park spans an area of approximately 25 hectares and is situated within the Kaimoor Wildlife Sanctuary (KWLS).
- The fossils found here are estimated to be up to 1.4 billion years old, making the site significant from a geological and evolutionary perspective.
- As of June 2025, India has 43 sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, and 1 Mixed) and 63 sites on the Tentative List.

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**Ques: According to SDG progress data, what was India's renewable energy share in total installed electricity generation in 2024-25?**

- A. 16.02%
- B. 19.08%
- C. 21.67%
- D. 22.13%
- E. 20.75%

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- As per SDG progress indicators, India's renewable energy share in total installed electricity generation increased from 16.02% in 2015-16 to 22.13% in 2024-25.
- This growth reflects the country's strong commitment to sustainable energy and reducing dependence on fossil fuels.
- It aligns with India's climate goals and efforts to expand clean power infrastructure in line with international sustainability targets.

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**Ques: Which Indian chess player became the top-ranked Indian after winning the UzChess Cup Masters 2025?**

- A. Viswanathan Anand
- B. Arjun Erigaisi
- C. Gukesh D
- D. R Praggnanandhaa
- E. Nihal Sarin

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa became India's top-ranked chess player in live FIDE ratings after winning the UzChess Cup Masters 2025.
- With a live rating of 2778.3, he rose to World No. 4, marking his highest career ranking to date.
- He surpassed other Indian players and moved up three positions in the global rankings.
- The top 3 global players are Magnus Carlsen (2839.2), Hikaru Nakamura (2807.0), and Fabiano Caruana (2784.2).
- This is Praggnanandhaa's third title of the year, following victories at the Tata Steel Chess Tournament and the Grand Chess Tour Superbet Classic in Romania.

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## Recent News headlines related to Sports

- India won three gold medals at the 2nd Asian Squash Doubles Championships 2025, held at Arena Emas, Kuching, Malaysia
- The All India Chess Federation (AICF) launched the Top National Players Stipend Scheme (TNPSS) to provide financial support and foster the development of young chess talent across India
- The Indian Under-17 Women's Wrestling Team clinched the overall championship title at the U-17 Asian Wrestling Championships 2025, held in Vung Tau, Vietnam
- As per the new ICC rules effective from the 2025–27 World Test Championship (WTC) cycle, the Stop Clock Rule requires the fielding side to be ready within 60 seconds after an over ends
- The International Tennis Federation (ITF) announced Shrivalli Bhamidipaty as the winner of the Billie Jean King Cup Heart Award for the Asia-Oceania zone
- 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
- The 5th edition of the Khelo India University Games will be hosted for the first time in Rajasthan in November 2025
- 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
- Indian shuttlers won 27 medals at the Asian ParaBadminton Championship 2025 in Thailand. India's haul included four gold medals, 10 silver medals, and 13 bronze medals
- Neeraj Chopra won the Ostrava Golden Spike meet with a throw of 85.29 metres
- The Poznań Open 2025 tennis tournament in Poland will see India's Vijay Sundar Prashanth and his Spanish partner Sergio Martos Gornes win the doubles championship. The clay courts at the Park Tenisowy Olimpia served as the venue for the Poznań Open, an ATP Challenger 100 tennis competition.
- The Oklahoma City Thunder have won the 2025 NBA title, beating the Indiana Pacers 103-91 in Game 7.
- Spaniard Carlos Alcaraz defeated Czech Jiri Lehecka in the final at Queen's Club





**Ques : Which state forms Trust to Oversee Construction of Grand Janaki Temple ?**

- A. Bihar
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. West Bengal
- D. Punjab
- E. Himachal Pradesh

**Answer: Option A**

**Explanation :**

- To supervise the building of a magnificent temple devoted to Maa Janaki (Goddess Sita) in Punaura Dham in the Sitamarhi district, the Bihar government has formed a nine-member trust.
- According to examples like the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, this project seeks to turn the area, which is traditionally thought to be the birthplace of Sita, into a significant spiritual and tourist destination.

**About Composition of the Trust :**

- Chairperson : Chief Secretary of Bihar
- Vice-Chairperson : Development Commissioner
- Secretary : District Magistrate of Sitamarhi
- Treasurer : Deputy Development Commissioner (DDC), Sitamarhi





**Ques: What was the objective of Operation Bihali conducted in Udhampur, Jammu & Kashmir?**

- A. To rescue civilians trapped in floods
- B. To seize illegal arms from insurgents
- C. To neutralize Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorists
- D. To provide humanitarian aid to border villages
- E. To dismantle drug trafficking networks

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation :**

- Operation Bihali was a counter-terror operation conducted in Udhampur district, Jammu & Kashmir, targeting Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorists.
- The operation was jointly launched by the Indian Army's Para Commandos and J&K Police, under the operational command of the White Knight Corps.
- Its objective was to intercept and eliminate four JeM terrorists, based on 12 months of surveillance, thus preventing potential cross-border terror attacks.
- During the operation, one terrorist was neutralized and three others were cornered in the Basantgarh area.

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**Ques: Where has the National Turmeric Board recently established its headquarters?**

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Nagpur
- C. Nizamabad
- D. Vijayawada
- E. Warangal

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- The National Turmeric Board Headquarters has been established in Nizamabad, Telangana, and was inaugurated by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- The board aims to promote research and development in turmeric varieties and cultivation technologies.
- Nizamabad is one of India's largest turmeric-producing regions, and the board's formation was a key election promise by BJP MP Arvind Dharmapuri.
- The official logo of the board was also unveiled during the inauguration.

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**Ques: As per MoRTH's draft rules, from which date will it be mandatory for all two-wheelers manufactured in India to be equipped with Anti-Lock Braking System (ABS)?**

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

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has issued draft rules making it mandatory for all two-wheelers manufactured on or after January 1, 2026, to be fitted with Anti-Lock Braking System (ABS).
- Additionally, manufacturers must provide two BIS-certified protective helmets at the time of purchase.
- This move aims to enhance road safety, as nearly 44% of road accident deaths in 2022 were due to two-wheeler accidents, accounting for approximately 75,000 fatalities.
- However, this regulation may lead to a slight increase in the cost of two-wheelers.

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## News Headlines Related to Ministry :

- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has proposed a new color scheme for number plates of hydrogen-powered vehicles
- Ministry of Minority Affairs conducted a one-day biometric authentication drive for beneficiaries of the Jiyo Parsi scheme in Mumbai. The Jiyo Parsi scheme, a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, comprises three key components: Medical Assistance, Health of the Community and Advocacy
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the "Safai Apnao, Bimaari Bhagao (SABB)" campaign under Swachh Bharat Mission–Urban 2.0
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India organised a “Cyber Security Awareness Workshop” at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.
- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has enabled WhatsApp integration with the MY Bharat platform. The WhatsApp chatbot is now live on the MY Bharat Portal and can be reached directly via WhatsApp (7289001515)
- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has announced that India will conduct its first comprehensive Household Income Survey in 2026
- The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of the CIP South Asia Regional Centre (CSARC) at Singna village, Agra district, Uttar Pradesh
- Ministry of Defence placed an order for 450 Nagastra-1R loitering munitions (suicide drones) with Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited. The Rs. 158 crore contract aims to boost the Indian Army’s precision-strike capabilities.
- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has launched the Rs.2.3 crore ‘Innovative Projects Start-up Challenge’ focused on Rooftop Solar (RTS) and Distributed Renewable Energy (DRE) technologies
- NAVYA (Nurturing Aspirations through Vocational Training for Young Adolescent Girls) is a pilot initiative jointly launched by Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) and Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) on 24th June 2025 in Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh
- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has partnered with IIM Ahmedabad to launch a Training of Trainers (ToT) program focused on the generation of Own Source Revenue (OSR) by Gram Panchayats
- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has announced that the base year for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) will be updated to 2024





**Ques: As per the SDG National Indicator Framework, how many start-ups were recognised under Start-up India in 2024?**

- A. 453
- B. 10,125
- C. 22,174
- D. 34,293
- E. 15,000

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- Under the Start-up India initiative, the number of recognised start-ups rose dramatically from 453 in 2016 to 34,293 in 2024.
- This surge highlights the success of various government policies aimed at promoting entrepreneurship, innovation, and improving the ease of doing business in India.
- It also reflects India's growing strength as a global startup hub, aligned with SDG goals for inclusive economic growth and innovation.

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**Ques: Which country has won the bid to host the 2029 World Police & Fire Games (WPFPG)?**

- A. United States
- B. Australia
- C. United Kingdom
- D. Canada
- E. India

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation :**

- India has won the bid to host the prestigious 2029 World Police & Fire Games (WPFPG) after a successful presentation to the WPFPG Federation in Birmingham, USA.
- The event will be held across Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, and Ekta Nagar in the state of Gujarat.
- WPFPG is one of the largest multi-sport events globally, featuring participation from police, firefighters, and first responders representing over 70 countries.
- This marks a significant moment for India in terms of international sports diplomacy and event hosting.

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**Ques: By what percentage has India reduced its GDP emission intensity in 2020 compared to 2005 levels?**

- A. 22%
- B. 28%
- C. 30%
- D. 36%
- E. 40%

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- As per government data, India achieved a 36% reduction in the emission intensity of its GDP by the year 2020 compared to the base year 2005.
- This achievement highlights India's progress toward building a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy, in line with its global commitments under the Paris Agreement.
- Emission intensity refers to the amount of greenhouse gases emitted per unit of GDP — a lower value indicates greater efficiency and sustainability in economic growth.

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**Ques: As per the SDG – National Indicator Framework 2025, what percentage of India's population is covered by social protection systems in 2025?**

- A. 22.0%
- B. 48.8%
- C. 64.3%
- D. 54.6%
- E. 24.4%

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- According to the SDG – National Indicator Framework 2025, social protection coverage in India has significantly improved from 22% in 2016 to 64.3% in 2025.
- This includes protections for children, elderly, unemployed, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, and workplace injury victims.
- The increase reflects a major expansion of welfare schemes and a stronger social safety net for vulnerable sections of the population.

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**Ques: Which teams won the women's title in the inaugural edition of the Hockey India Masters Cup 2025?**

- A. Hockey Punjab (Women)
- B. Hockey Association of Odisha (Women)
- C. Hockey Odisha (Women)
- D. Hockey Maharashtra (Women)
- E. Hockey Karnataka (Women)

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation :**

- The inaugural edition of the Hockey India Masters Cup 2025 was held at Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- The tournament was conducted for men aged above 40 and women above 35.
- A total of 12 men's teams and 8 women's teams participated.
- Hockey Association of Odisha defeated Hockey Punjab 1-0 to win the women's title.
- Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu beat Hockey Maharashtra 5-0 to win the men's title.

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**Ques: As per SDG 2025 data, what is the Gross Value Added (GVA) in agriculture per worker in 2024-25?**

- A. Rs.87,646
- B. Rs.78,837
- C. Rs.71,402
- D. Rs.94,110
- E. Rs.61,247

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- According to SDG progress indicators, Gross Value Added (GVA) in the agriculture sector per worker has grown steadily, reaching Rs.94,110 in FY25.
- This is a rise from Rs.61,247 in FY16 and Rs.87,646 in FY23, reflecting improved agricultural productivity and income levels.
- This growth also supports national goals focused on increasing rural incomes and promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

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**Ques: Where does India rank in the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2025?**

- A. First
- B. Second
- C. Third
- D. Fourth
- E. Fifth

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation :**

- India ranks third in the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2025 with a total of 64 unicorns, reflecting its rising global startup footprint.
- The United States ranks first with 758 unicorns, followed by China in second with 343.
- India's top unicorn hubs are Bengaluru (#7 globally), followed by Mumbai (#22) and Gurugram (#27).
- Major Indian unicorns in 2025 include Zerodha (\$8.2B), Dream11 (\$8B), and Razorpay (\$7.5B).
- The term "unicorn" refers to privately held startups valued at over \$1 billion, a term coined by Aileen Lee in 2013.

**Ranking of unicorns with the total No. of Unicorns in 2025 :**

1. USA - 758 Unicorns
2. China - 343 Unicorns
3. India - 64 Unicorns
4. UK - 61 Unicorns
5. Germany - 36 Unicorns





## India's Rankings in Different Indices

- 10th edition of the Global Peace Index 2025 was released by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) : India (115th), Iceland (1st)
- 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)
- 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)





**Ques: According to the National Indicator Framework, what was India's forest cover as a percentage of total geographical area in 2023?**

- A. 21.34%
- B. 21.56%
- C. 21.76%
- D. 22.10%
- E. 22.35%

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- As per the National Indicator Framework (NIF), India's forest cover increased to 21.76% of its total geographic area in 2023, up from 21.34% in 2015.
- This reflects steady improvement in forest conservation, afforestation, and reforestation efforts.
- The rise supports climate change mitigation, biodiversity preservation, and overall ecological sustainability, aligning with India's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: According to the SDG National Indicator Framework 2025, what percentage of rural population had access to improved drinking water sources in 2024-25?**

- A. 94.57%
- B. 98.56%
- C. 99.25%
- D. 99.62%
- E. 95.98%

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- As per the SDG National Indicator Framework 2025, access to improved drinking water sources in rural India rose significantly to 99.62% in FY25, from 94.57% in FY16.
- Key milestones include 95.98% in 2018-19, 98.56% in 2020-21, and 99.25% in 2022-23.
- This marks a major step toward universal safe drinking water access and is aligned with India's SDG commitments under the Jal Jeevan Mission and other rural development schemes.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: What is commemorated on June 30 as per the United Nations declaration?**

- A. International Space Day
- B. World Meteor Impact Day
- C. International Asteroid Day
- D. Planetary Defense Day
- E. Tunguska Memorial Day

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- International Asteroid Day is observed annually on 30th June, as declared by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2016.
- The date marks the anniversary of the Tunguska event—a large asteroid explosion over Siberia, Russia, on 30 June 1908.
- In 2024, the UN also proclaimed 2029 as the International Year of Asteroid Awareness and Planetary Defence.
- Notably, on 13 April 2029, asteroid 99942 Apophis will pass safely at a distance of about 32,000 km from Earth.

EXAM  
Genius





### Important days :

- 16 June : International Day of Family Remittances (2025 Theme: Family-Oriented Policies for Sustainable Development: Towards the Second World Summit for Social Development)
- 17 June : World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (THEME : Restore the land. Unlock the opportunities)
- 17 June : World Crocodile Day 2025 (Theme 2025 Connecting crocodiles and communities)
- 18 June : International Day for Countering Hate (THEME : Hate Speech and Artificial Intelligence)
- 18 June : Sustainable Gastronomy Day
- 18 June : World Autistic Pride Day 2025 (Theme 2025 Unapologetically Autistic)
- 16–22 June : Sustainable Gastronomy Week
- 19 June : Juneteenth, commemorating the end of slavery in the United States.
- 19 June : World Sickle Cell Awareness Day (theme for 2025 is "Global Action, Local Impact: Empowering Communities for Effective Self-Advocacy.")
- 19 June : World Sauntering Day
- 19 June (third Thursday of June) : World Kidney Cancer Day (Theme : Show your kidneys some love)
- 19 June : International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict (THEME: Breaking the Cycle, Healing the Scars: Addressing the Intergenerational Effects of ConflictRelated Sexual Violence)
- 20 June : World Refugee Day (2025 theme is "Solidarity with Refugees")
- 21 June : International Day of Yoga (2025 Theme: Yoga for One Earth, One Health)
- 21 June : World Hydrography Day 2025 (Theme 2025 Seabed Mapping: Enabling Ocean Action)
- 21 June : International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice
- 22 June : World Rainforest Day
- 23 June : United Nations Public Service Day (Theme 2025 Five Years to 2030: Accelerating Public Service Delivery for a Sustainable Future)
- 23 June : International Widows' Day
- 23 June : International Olympic Day (Theme 2025 Let's Move?) (first Olympic Day was celebrated on 23 June 1948.)



## IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

A recent addition to UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites is the Salkhan Fossil Park. It is situated in the state of Uttar Pradesh and is also referred to as Sonbhadra Fossils Park.

The 23rd Colonel of the Regiment of Garhwal Rifles is now Lieutenant General Dinesh Singh Rana, Commander-in-Chief, Andaman and Nicobar Command, Indian Army. Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani, the Vice Chief of the Army Staff, is succeeded by him.

Traditional Kolhapuri chappal makers in India have objected to luxury brand Prada's 2026 collection, stating that it is an illegal replica of their heritage footwear design. Received Geographical Indication (GI) status in 2019.

The Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs has introduced the “Adi Karmyogi” initiative for strengthening the delivery of tribal welfare schemes by training and inspiring a new generation of dedicated implementers.

The world's fastest man, Usain Bolt, has been officially recognized as a Guinness World Records (GWR) icon, celebrating his extraordinary achievements in athletics. The move marks Guinness' 70th anniversary

