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Ques: What is the name of the scheme launched by SEBI in 2025 to aid the settlement of violations related to the winding-up provisions of migrated Venture Capital Funds (VCFs)?

- A. VCF Resolution Scheme 2025
- B. Venture Capital Closure Scheme
- C. Venture Capital Fund Settlement Scheme 2025
- D. SEBI Fund Liquidation Plan
- E. Alternative Investment Regularisation Scheme

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) launched the Venture Capital Fund (VCF) Settlement Scheme 2025.
- Its Objective is to help resolve violations of winding-up provisions by migrated Venture Capital Funds (VCFs) that could not liquidate their investments after the Alternative Investment Funds (AIF) Regulations replaced VCF Regulations in 2012.
- Scheme Duration Starts from July 21, 2025 and Ends on January 19, 2026
- Application Fee : Non-refundable fee of Rs.25,000 + 18% GST
- Settlement Charges : Rs.1 lakh for delays up to 1 year in winding-up
- Additional Rs.50,000 for each extra year of delay (or part thereof)
- Slab-wise Additional Payment Based on unliquidated investment corpus, ranging from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.6 lakh

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Recent News Headlines Related to SEBI

- Mobikwik Securities Broking Private Limited (MSBPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of One Mobikwik Systems, has secured regulatory approval from SEBI
- SEBI took strict action against Jane Street, a US-based proprietary trading firm, for manipulating Bank Nifty expiry prices
- SEBI has approved the e-KYC Setu System, developed by NPCI in collaboration with UIDAI, for Aadhaar-based digital KYC.
- SEBI has introduced a secure platform called CeFCoM (Centralized Fee Collection Mechanism) to ensure that investors make payments only to SEBI-registered investment advisers and research analysts, reducing the risk of financial fraud and unauthorized collections
- SEBI has directed that NSE's weekly index derivatives contracts will now expire on Tuesday instead of the earlier Thursday
- National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) has received SEBI's approval to launch monthly electricity futures contracts
- SEBI introduced a comprehensive framework for the issuance and listing of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) debt securities, effective June 5, 2025
- SEBI is introducing a validated UPI handle "@valid" for investor-facing intermediaries such as brokers, research analysts, and investment advisors
- SEBI imposed a Rs.3 lakh penalty on Motilal Oswal Financial Services for violating stock brokers' regulations
- HDB Financial Services, a subsidiary of HDFC Bank, has received SEBI approval to launch an IPO worth Rs.12,500 crore, the largest NBFC IPO in India
- The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, in collaboration with SEBI, launched a new pilot initiative titled "NiveshakShivir"
- Jio BlackRock Asset Management (AMC) has received final approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to start its mutual fund business
- SEBI has barred the Managing Directors (MDs) of Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs) from being members of their audit committees to ensure independence and transparency in audits



Ques: UIDAI has urged parents to complete the Aadhaar biometric update for children in which age bracket, free of cost?

- A. 3 to 5 years
- B. 6 to 8 years
- C. 0 to 5 years
- D. 5 to 7 years
- E. 7 to 10 years

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- UIDAI (Unique Identification Authority of India) has made it mandatory to update Aadhaar biometrics when a child turns 5 years old.
- For children below 5 years, Aadhaar is issued without fingerprints and iris scan, only photo and demographic details are collected.
- The Mandatory Biometric Update (MBU) includes fingerprints, iris scan, and photograph.
- The update is free of cost if done between ages 5 and 7. After that, a nominal fee of ₹100 is charged.
- If not updated after 7 years, the child's Aadhaar may get deactivated.
- An updated Aadhaar is required for school admissions, entrance exams, DBT schemes, scholarships, etc.

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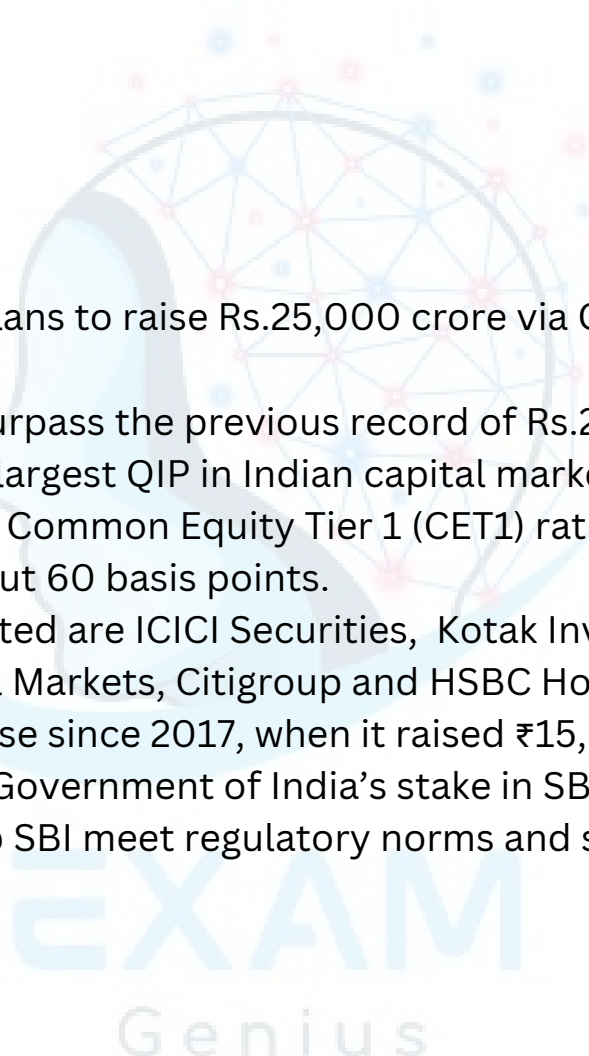
Ques: How much is SBI planning to raise via QIP route in FY26?

- A. Rs.10,000 crore
- B. Rs.15,000 crore
- C. Rs.22,560 crore
- D. Rs.25,000 crore
- E. Rs.30,000 crore

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- State Bank of India (SBI) plans to raise Rs.25,000 crore via Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP) in FY26.
- If successful, this would surpass the previous record of Rs.22,560 crore QIP by Coal India in 2015, making it the largest QIP in Indian capital markets.
- Purpose: To improve SBI's Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) ratio, currently at 10.81%, with plans to raise it by about 60 basis points.
- Investment Banks Shortlisted are ICICI Securities, Kotak Investment Banking, Morgan Stanley, SBI Capital Markets, Citigroup and HSBC Holdings Plc
- This is SBI's first equity raise since 2017, when it raised ₹15,000 crore.
- As of March 31, 2025, the Government of India's stake in SBI is 57.43%.
- The capital raised will help SBI meet regulatory norms and support future lending growth.





Recent News Headlines Related to SBI :

- According to a survey by SBI research, India accounted for around 6.7% of the incremental growth in the global economy in FY25, with the State Bank of India (SBI) alone responsible for 1.1% of the increase
- To support India's Net Zero 2070 goals, SBI launched a Solar Rooftop Programme aimed at solarising 4 million homes by FY2027
- The State Bank of India (SBI) has decided to classify the loan account of Reliance Communications Ltd (RCom) as "fraud" under RBI guidelines
- SBI inaugurated Global Trade Finance Centres in Kolkata and Hyderabad to boost domestic and international trade services
- In FY25, SBI reported a record profit of Rs.70,901 crore, maintaining its position as the most profitable Indian company for the third consecutive year
- For FY 2024-25, 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



Ques: Which company recently received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a Payment Aggregator for Cross-Border (PA-CB) transactions?

- A. Skydo
- B. BriskPe
- C. EximPe
- D. Pay10
- E. Worldline

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- EximPe has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a Payment Aggregator for Cross-Border (PA-CB) transactions.
- This approval is given under the Payments and Settlements Systems Act, 2007.
- The PA-CB license enables companies to facilitate digital payment services for export and import activities.
- Other players with in-principle PA-CB approval Skydo, BriskPe, PayPal, Wise
- Six companies have received a full PA-CB license so far : Adyen India, Amazon Pay India, Cashfree Payments, BillDesk, Pay10, Worldline ePayments India

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Ques: What is the name of the unified portal launched by NABARD to support rural tech start-ups?

- A. AgriTech Bharat
- B. KrishiConnect
- C. RuralTech CoLab
- D. NABARD Innovate
- E. GramTech Hub

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) launched RuralTech CoLab, a unified portal to boost rural tech start-ups.
- Its Purpose is to provide a platform for fintech, agritech, and digital partners to create inclusive and scalable solutions.
- Focus Areas are Agriculture, rural development, and rural financial services.
- The initiative will help integrate NABARD's grassroots network including SHGs, FPOs, NGOs, co-op banks, and rural institutions.
- The launch was part of NABARD's 44th Foundation Day celebrations in Chennai.
- NABARD also started a WhatsApp channel for market advisories and FPO-related updates.
- Chairman Shaji KV emphasized the focus on high-impact solutions and long-term sustainability in the rural tech ecosystem.





Recent News Headlines Related to launched Apps/portals

- The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) has launched a new dedicated portal: <https://grants.depwd.gov.in>
- The Government of India has recently added 7 products from Bihar to the e-NAM (National Agriculture Market) platform to promote online trading
- ATLAS (Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System) is an early warning system developed by the University of Hawaii and funded by NASA
- The Coal Ministry is launching a new initiative named RECLAIM, a structured community engagement and development framework for mine closure and repurposing
- C-FLOOD stands for Unified Flood Inundation Forecasting System, developed by C-DAC Pune, CWC, Department of Water Resources, and the Ministry of Jal Shakti
- RailOne is an all-in-one mobile application launched by Indian Railways to integrate key passenger services such as ticket booking (unreserved/platform), live train tracking, e-catering, grievance redressal, porter and taxi booking, etc
- The ECoR Yatra app, launched by the East Coast Railway, is an Android-based mobile application designed to serve as a digital guide for devotees attending the Rath Yatra in Puri, Odisha
- The Sugamya Bharat App (SBA) is a flagship initiative of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, launched in 2021
- The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has launched 'Pratibha Setu', a strategic platform to connect non-recommended but meritorious candidates with verified employers like ministries, PSUs, autonomous bodies, and private firms
- Swiggy has launched a new app called Crew to enter the premium lifestyle and travel concierge services segment
- The Directorate General of Taxpayer Services, Mumbai Zonal Unit (DGTS MZU) showcased "ATITHI", a mobile application developed for international travellers to pre-file customs declarations
- The Urban Development and Housing Department of the Government of Madhya Pradesh has launched 'E-Nagarpalika 2.0', a web-based single platform for all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in the state





Ques: Which Japanese bank recently increased its stake in Yes Bank to just under 25%?

- A. Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group
- B. Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC)
- C. Mizuho Bank
- D. Japan Post Bank
- E. Resona Holdings

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) of Japan has announced a fresh stake acquisition of 4.9% in Yes Bank for \$1.1 billion.
- This move will increase SMBC's total ownership in Yes Bank to just under 25%.
- Earlier, in May 2025, SMBC had agreed to acquire a 20% stake in Yes Bank for \$1.6 billion.
- The previous 20% deal involved purchasing a 13.19% stake from SBI and a 6.81% aggregate stake from other banks for Rs.13,483 crore at Rs.21.5 per share.
- The deal highlights SMBC's strategic interest in expanding its footprint in India's banking sector.

About YES Bank :

- Established : 2004
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO : Prashant Kumar
- Chairman : Rama Subramaniam Gandhi
- Tagline : Experience our Expertise

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Ques: What was the food inflation rate in India for June 2025 over June 2024 as per the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI)?

- A. -0.85%
- B. -0.92%
- C. -1.06%
- D. -1.22%
- E. 2.10%

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- According to the All India Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI), food inflation for June 2025 over June 2024 stood at -1.06% (Provisional).
- Rural food inflation: -0.92%
- Urban food inflation: -1.22%
- This is the lowest food inflation rate since January 2019, reflecting a sharp drop of 205 basis points from May 2025.
- The overall CPI (General) for June 2025 was 2.10%, showing a 72 basis point decline from May 2025 (2.82%).

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Ques: Which two financial groups have announced a joint venture to provide wealth management services to affluent individuals in Japan?

- A. SBI Holdings and Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group
- B. Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group and SBI Holdings
- C. State Bank of India and SoftBank Group
- D. Nomura Holdings and SBI Holdings
- E. Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group and Daiwa Securities

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG) and SBI Holdings announced a joint venture to offer wealth management services targeting affluent individuals in Japan.
- The JV plans to manage assets worth JPY 10 trillion (approx. USD 69 billion) within the next 5 years.
- According to the Daiwa Institute of Research, the percentage of Japanese households with financial assets of JPY 50 million (approx. USD 347,000) is expected to rise to 6.1% by FY 2035.
- The collaboration aims to capture this growing market by offering specialized wealth management solutions

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Recently signed banking agreements

- Liberty General Insurance and ACKO said they have become insurance partners for the American electric carmaker in India.
- Zomato has partnered with Tata Digital to launch a discount programme for Tata NeuCard users. The Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card (NeuCard) is a co-branded card issued by HDFC Bank and supported by Tata Digital
- CCIL-International Financial Services Centre Limited (CCIL IFSC) has signed an agreement with Standard Chartered Bank (SCB), to enable real-time settlement of USD transactions at Gujarat International Finance Technology (GIFT) City in Gandhinagar
- National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) signed an agreement with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to launch India's first weather derivatives, with an initial focus on rainfall-based derivative products
- Karur Vysya Bank Limited and Kshema General Insurance Limited, have entered a strategic bancassurance alliance to introduce 'Kshema Kisan Sathi'
- AU Small Finance Bank has entered into a strategic partnership with LIC to distribute life insurance products including term plans, endowment plans, pension, and annuity schemes
- Unified Lending Interface (ULI) is an API-based, consent-driven digital platform developed by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) in collaboration with the RBI to enhance India's digital credit infrastructure
- Equitas Small Finance Bank has entered into a bancassurance partnership with Edelweiss Life Insurance
- State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a strategic partnership with Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB) India to include the globally recognized Certified Financial Planner (CFP) certification in its employee development programs
- In order to introduce co-branded credit cards, Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) partnered strategically with SBI Cards and Payment Services Limited (SBI Card), a State Bank of India (SBI) subsidiary and one of India's top credit card issuers
- Prayoga Institute of Education Research has partnered with SBI Foundation and SBI Funds Management Pvt. Ltd. to expand its Kriya programme in 12 government schools in Raichur district, Karnataka
- Maruti Suzuki India has signed an MoU with Equitas Small Finance Bank, entering into a strategic vehicle financing partnership for customers.





Ques: Who has recently announced the prestigious Prime Minister Professorships aimed at fostering research and innovation in emerging institutions?

- A. University Grants Commission (UGC)
- B. Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)
- C. Ministry of Education
- D. Indian National Science Academy (INSA)
- E. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), the newly constituted body for funding scientific research, has announced the Prime Minister Professorships.
- Its Objective is to foster world-class research and innovation, especially in less-endowed state universities, by leveraging the expertise of eminent scientists, senior faculty, and accomplished industry professionals.
- Host Institutions are State universities qualified under Category A of the recently awarded PAIR program of ANRF.
- Tenure is Up to 5 years (performance-based). Age Limit is Superannuated on the date of application (no upper age limit)
- Selected Professors must relocate full-time to the host institution and actively contribute to enhancing research and innovation capabilities.

Eligibility:

- Superannuated faculty/scientists from reputed Indian institutions or private organizations
- Overseas scientists (NRIs, PIOs, OCIs)
- Industry professionals or experienced Professors of Practice with a distinguished research and innovation record





Funding Support:

- Fellowship of Rs. 30 lakh per annum
- Research grant of Rs. 24 lakh per annum (for consumables, domestic travel, contingencies, equipment, etc.)
- An additional Rs. 1 lakh overhead per year



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Ques: Who became the first Indian to visit the International Space Station (ISS)?

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

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- Shubhanshu Shukla became the first Indian to visit the International Space Station (ISS) during the Axiom-4 mission.
- He is also the second Indian to travel to space, after Rakesh Sharma (1984).
- The mission lasted 18 days, covered 288 orbits, and traveled 7.6 million miles around Earth.
- The Dragon Grace spacecraft undocked from the ISS on 15 July 2025 for return to Earth.
- ISRO funded Rs.550 crore for Shukla's mission and training, boosting preparations for Gaganyaan (2027).
- Re-entry involves facing 1,600°C temperatures, with parachutes deploying at 5.7 km and 2 km altitudes.
- Post-landing, the crew will undergo a 7-day rehabilitation program to adapt back to Earth's gravity.

The Axiom-4 crew included:

- Shubhanshu Shukla (India) – Group Captain
- Peggy Whitson (USA) – Commander
- Slawosz Uznanski-Wisniewski (Poland) – Mission Specialist
- Tibor Kapu (Hungary) – Mission Specialist





Ques: Which state emerged as the top performer in the National One District One Product (ODOP) Awards 2024?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Gujarat
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Maharashtra
- E. Tamil Nadu

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry organized the National ODOP Awards 2024 in New Delhi.
- This was the second edition of the ODOP Awards, honouring contributions in Handlooms, Handicraft, and Agriculture.
- The awards were given in three categories : Districts, States and Union Territories and Indian Missions Abroad (participated virtually)
- 34 winners were honoured out of 641 total applications received via the Rashtriya Puraskar Portal (April 1 – June 11, 2024).
- Andhra Pradesh emerged as the top performer, securing 10 awards, including 7 at the district level.

List of Awardees for ODOP Awards 2024 :

States/UTs

Category A:

- 1 Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh : Gold
- 2 Madhya Pradesh : Silver
- 3 Gujarat : Bronze





Category B :

- 1 Jammu and Kashmir : Gold
- 2 Sikkim : Silver
- 3 Meghalaya : Bronze

Indian Missions Abroad :

- High Commission of India, Singapore : Gold
- Consulate General of India, New York (United States of America, USA) : Silver
- Consulate General of India, Vancouver (Canada) : Bronze



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Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- Kalinga Ratna Award-2024 : Union Minister for Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
- literary award, 'Sarala Samman' : Shri Bijaya Nayak
- Poligras Magic Skill Award for Year 2024-25 : Indian Women's Hockey team forward player, Deepika Sehrawat
- International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 9001:2015 certification : Arthunkal police station in Alappuzha
- 'Hem Bahadur Malla Award 2080' : Kalyan Shrestha
- Chintha Raveendran Award for 2025 : Sarankumar Limbale
- 2025 United Nations Population Award (Individual Category) : Varsha Deshpande, a women's rights advocate from Satara, Maharashtra
- India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA) Industry Excellence Award 2025 under the category of State Leadership – Battery Manufacturing : Telangana
- 2025 PEN Pinter Prize : Leila Aboulela
- Namibia's highest civilian honour, the "Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis" : Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- 'Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross' highest civilian honour of Brazil : Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- 21st P. Kesavadev Awards : Shashi Tharoor and diabetologist Banshi Saboo
- NASA-NSS Space Settlement Design Contest 2025 : S.R.N. Mehta CBSE School in Kalaburagi, Karnataka
- Mental Health Award 2025 : Saima Wazed
- 'Key to the City of Buenos Aires' : Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- The Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago : Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- New York City honour : Radhanath Swami, a globally respected spiritual teacher and senior monk of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)
- National honour of Ghana - Officer of the Order of the Star of Ghana : Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi
- 'Dharma Chakravarti' : Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- Sankalp se Siddhi Infrastructure Honour' at the ET Edge Supply Chain Management Fest-2025 : Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)
- 2025 Shakti Bhatt Prize : Zara Chowdhary for her debut memoir 'The Lucky Ones'





Ques: Which Indian ministry has launched a campaign to display nutritional information about popular snacks to raise awareness about hidden sugars and fats?

- A. Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- B. Ministry of Education
- C. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D. Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- E. Ministry of AYUSH

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched a new campaign to promote nutritional transparency in popular snack foods.
- The initiative focuses on displaying information about hidden sugars, oils, and trans fats in everyday snacks, aiming to encourage healthier choices.
- The campaign was piloted at AIIMS Nagpur as a first step.
- According to a Lancet study, India may face a significant obesity crisis by 2050, with around 450 million Indians potentially becoming overweight or obese.
- India is projected to become the second-largest obese population in the world, after China, if preventive measures are not taken.

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News Headlines Related to Ministry :

- The National Young Chef Competition (NYCC), a statewide talent search intended to identify and develop India's future generation of culinary innovators, was started by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism.
- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has partnered with Birla Institute of Technology and Science Pilani (BITS Pilani) to launch an 8-week Professional Development Program in Cybersecurity
- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched and laid foundation stones for infrastructure and development projects worth over Rs.1,500 crore in Meghalaya
- PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development) is a national survey conducted by the Ministry of Education, assessed by NCERT
- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched the first Regional Process Lab (RPL) of the Aadi KARMAYOGI – National Mission for Responsive Governance in Bengaluru
- Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the ASMITA Weightlifting League at the Weightlifting Warriors Academy in Modinagar
- The Ministry of Mines conferred the Seven-Star Rating, the highest recognition for sustainable mining practices, to three mines in 2025
- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment implements the National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) Scheme
- Union Minister Jitendra Singh reaffirmed that India aims to expand its bioeconomy to \$300 billion by 2030
- The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (MIB) launched the “Kalaa Setu – Real-Time Language Tech for Bharat” Challenge under its WaveX Startup Accelerator Platform
- The Finance Ministry has extended the deadline to choose between Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) and National Pension System (NPS) to September 30, 2025, from the earlier deadline of June 30, 2025
- Dr. Jitendra Singh, the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy, and Space, opened a brand-new Tea Lounge called "Sahkar" and a cutting-edge digital studio called "Shrishti" at the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) headquarters



Ques: Which company has received a special exemption from investment guidelines to boost renewable energy capacity development?

- A. NTPC Limited
- B. NLC India Limited
- C. ONGC
- D. Power Grid Corporation
- E. GAIL India

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved a special exemption for NLC India Limited (NLCIL).
- This allows NLCIL to invest Rs.7,000 crore in its subsidiary, NLC India Renewables Limited (NIRL).
- NIRL can invest in projects directly or through joint ventures without prior approval.
- The exemption removes the 30% net worth ceiling for such investments. This gives NLCIL and NIRL more financial and operational freedom.
- The goal is to help NLCIL reach 10.11 GW renewable energy capacity by 2030.
- NLCIL plans to expand to 32 GW renewable capacity by 2047.

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Ques: What is the name of the new agriculture scheme approved by the Cabinet in 2025 with an annual outlay of Rs.24,000 crore?

- A. PM Krishi Samriddhi Yojana
- B. PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana
- C. PM Krishi Unnati Abhiyan
- D. PM Agro Development Scheme
- E. Krishi Kalyan Yojana

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- The Union Cabinet approved the PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDKY) with an annual outlay of Rs.24,000 crore for the period of 6 years.
- Increased adoption of crop diversity and sustainable farming methods, increased post-harvest storage at the panchayat and block levels, improved irrigation facilities, and easier access to long- and short-term loans are all goals of the scheme.
- In the Union Budget 2025–2026, the Finance Minister declared the introduction of PMDKY.
- The plan will be executed by combining 36 pre-existing plans.
- Inspired by Aspirational District Program which Begins in 2018, PMDKY is based on the Aspirational District Program (ADP).
- 100 districts will be covered under this scheme. The districts will be selected on the basis of three main parameters, low crop productivity, normal crop or cropping intensity and below average agricultural loan disbursal.
- These districts will be chosen by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, working with NABARD and the Department of Financial Services, using data analysis of land productivity, cropping intensity, and farm credit.





Recent News Headlines Related to Schemes

- Ladli Behna Scheme is a flagship women empowerment initiative of the Madhya Pradesh Government providing monthly financial aid to women
- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) launched the Sanchar Mitra Scheme to engage student volunteers as “Digital Ambassadors” (Sanchar Mitras)
- The Government of India has announced a Rs.1,345 crore subsidy scheme to promote rare earth magnet production
- The Assam Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, approved the Gaja Mitra Scheme to address human-elephant conflict
- The Assam Cabinet approved the Assam Goods and Services Tax (Reimbursement for Indigenous Bell Metal Industries) Scheme, 2025. The bell metal workers of Sarthebari will pay the GST, and their SGST amount will be reimbursed to them
- On 11th July 2025, the Government of India launched the first-ever incentive scheme for e-trucks under the PM E-DRIVE initiative, led by Heavy Industries Minister H. D. Kumaraswamy
- Punjab government launched the Mukhya Mantri Sehat Yojana, a universal health cover initiative. Under the scheme, every family in the state, regardless of income, will receive free and cashless medical treatment up to Rs.10 lakh per year
- The Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development (BIND) Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme aimed at providing financial support to Prasar Bharati (which includes All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD)).
- The CMPRATIGYA (Chief Minister – Promotion of Readiness, Awareness and Technical Insights for Guiding Youth Advancement) scheme was launched by Bihar CM Nitish Kumar
- Andhra Pradesh Launches ‘Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Vidyarthi Mitra Kits’ for providing schools kits to over 35 lakh school-going students free of cost.
- The Government of Andhra Pradesh launched the Digi Lakshmi Scheme under the Mission for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas (MEPMA)
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme, focusing on employment generation, employability, and social security
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme with a corpus of Rs. 1 lakh Crore





Ques: Which state recently introduced the Punjab Prevention of Offences Against Holy Scripture(s) Bill, 2025 to ensure stringent punishment for sacrilege?

- A. Haryana
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Punjab
- D. Uttar Pradesh
- E. Madhya Pradesh

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Punjab Cabinet approved the Punjab Prevention of Offences Against Holy Scripture(s) Bill, 2025, which was later introduced in the State Assembly.
- Purpose is to provide stringent punishment for sacrilege against sacred texts.
- The bill covers the desecration of Sri Guru Granth Sahib, Bhagavad Gita, Holy Bible, Quran Sharif, and other revered scriptures.
- This law aims to preserve communal harmony and respect for all religious beliefs by deterring acts of sacrilege.

Punishment:

- For committing sacrilege: 10 years to life imprisonment
- For attempting sacrilege: 3 to 5 years imprisonment





Ques: Which team won the 2025 Major League Cricket (MLC) title by defeating Washington Freedom?

- A. Seattle Orcas
- B. MI New York
- C. San Francisco Unicorns
- D. Texas Super Kings
- E. Los Angeles Knight Riders

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- MI New York clinched the 2025 Major League Cricket (MLC) title by defeating Washington Freedom by 5 runs in a thrilling final at Grand Prairie Stadium, Dallas.
- Major League Cricket (MLC) is the USA's top-tier T20 league, officially given List-A status by ICC in 2024.
- MI New York were also the inaugural champions in 2023, having defeated Seattle Orcas.
- Washington Freedom won the 2024 edition by beating San Francisco Unicorns.
- With this victory, the Mumbai Indians franchise group completed a hat-trick of titles in 2025—winning SA20, WPL (Women's Premier League), and now the MLC.
- Overall, this is the 13th major trophy for the Mumbai Indians group across leagues.

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Recent News headlines related to Sports

- ICC Men's and ICC Women's player of the month for June 2025 are Aiden Markram (South Africa) and Hayley Matthews (West Indies) respectively
- The inaugural Billiards Championships 2025 were held in Mauritius from July 2-6, 2025. Athletes from 36 Commonwealth nations participated, competing in Snooker, 10-Ball Pool, Heyball, and Blackball
- Hockey Jharkhand Clinch 5th Straight Sub-Junior Women's Title, defeated Odisha by 1-0. The final match was played at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh AstroTurf Hockey Stadium in Ranchi, Jharkhand
- 10th Junior National Rugby 7s Championship 2025. Bihar claimed the U18 Boys' title by defeating defending champions Odisha. Bihar also won the U18 Girls' title
- In Athletics, India's Ancy Sojan claimed third place in the women's long jump at the Lignano Meeting, a World Athletics Continental Tour Bronze event held in Italy.
- Chelsea (England) defeated Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) (France) 3-0 to win the FIFA Club World Cup 2025
- World No.1 Jannik Sinner won the Wimbledon 2025 Men's Singles Title, defeating two-time defending champion Carlos Alcaraz in the final
- On the final day of the Europe Qualifiers for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026, Italy and the Netherlands secured their spots. Italy qualified for the first time ever in T20 World Cup history, advancing based on their superior net run rate
- Iga Swiatek, world number 4, won her maiden Wimbledon title in 2025, defeating Amanda Anisimova with a dominant scoreline of 6-0, 6-0 in the final held in London
- The 23-year-old Harikrishnan is from Chennai Becomes India's 87th Grandmaster. India's 86th Grandmaster is L.R. Srihari while the 85th was P. Shyaamnikhil
- The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) has awarded India the hosting rights for two major shooting events : Combined World Cup in 2027 and Junior World Championships in 2028
- According to the Houlihan Lokey report, Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) became the most valuable IPL franchise in 2024, with a brand value of \$269 million
- Animesh Kujur became the first Indian sprinter to break the 10.20-second barrier in the Men's 100 metres, clocking 10.18 seconds at the Dromia International Sprints and Relays in Vari, Greece
- Indonesia will host the 2025 Artistic Gymnastics World Championships in Senayan, Jakarta, from October 19 to 25



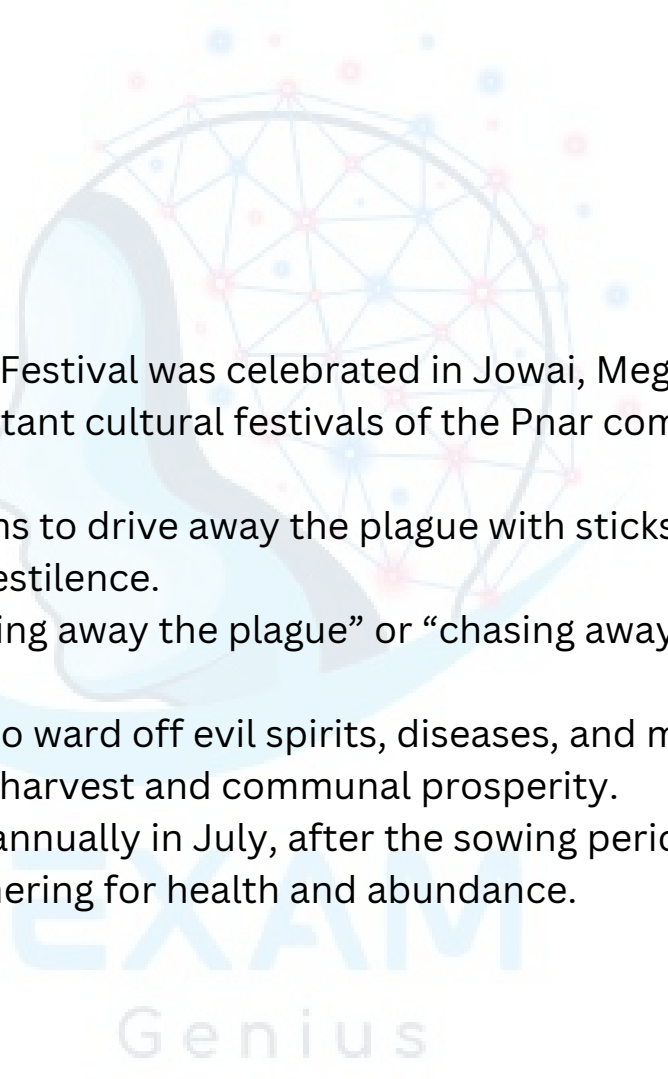
Ques: Where was the sacred Behdeinkhlam Festival recently celebrated?

- A. Shillong
- B. Tura
- C. Jowai
- D. Nongpoh
- E. Cherrapunji

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The sacred Behdeinkhlam Festival was celebrated in Jowai, Meghalaya.
- It is one of the most important cultural festivals of the Pnar community in Meghalaya.
- Meaning : "Beh Dien" means to drive away the plague with sticks and prayers. "Khlam" means plague or pestilence.
- Together, it refers to “driving away the plague” or “chasing away the demon of cholera”.
- The festival is performed to ward off evil spirits, diseases, and misfortune, and to invoke blessings for a good harvest and communal prosperity.
- The festival is celebrated annually in July, after the sowing period, marking a time of prayer and community gathering for health and abundance.





Recent News Headlines Related to Festivals & Fairs :

- Jagannath Rath Yatra : celebrated annually in Puri, Odisha, on the second day of the bright fortnight (Shukla Paksha) of the Odia month Ashadha
- Bonalu : Hindu folk festival celebrated primarily in Telangana, especially in Hyderabad, Secunderabad during the Ashada Masam (July–August) as a form of thanksgiving to Goddess Mahakali
- Kataragama Esala festival : commence in Sri Lanka with the flag hoisting ceremony.
- Ashadhi Bij : falls on the second day of Shukla paksha of Ashada month of Hindu calendar. It is associated with the beginning of rains in the Kutch region of Gujarat.
- Ambubachi Mela : held at the Kamakhya Temple in Guwahati, Assam
- ‘Beej Utsav’ (Seed Festival) : held in the tribal regions at the tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat for 4 Days
- Deva Snana Purnima ritual, also called Snana Yatra : Rath Yatra festivities in Puri
- Poson Poya festival : Sri Lanka is celebrating to mark the historic arrival of Buddhism over 2,000 years ago
- Lavender Festival 3rd Edition : Organized by CSIR – Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM) at Bhaderwah, J&K
- Strawberry Festival : Meghalaya
- Festival Garia and Borsho Boron Utsav 2025 : at Swami Vivekananda Maidan, Agartala, Tripura
- Defence Literature Festival ‘Kalam & Kavach 2.0’ : 2nd edition held at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
- Madhavpur Mela : in Madhavpur, Porbandar district, Gujarat to commemorates the divine union of Lord Krishna of Dwarka and Rukmani of Arunachal Pradesh
- Rongali Bihu, also called Bohag Bihu : celebrated in Assam in mid-April, marking the Assamese New Year
- Sarhul Festival : tribal festival celebrated by Adivasi communities in the Chhotanagpur region, especially in Jharkhand
- 37th edition of the Kathak Mahotsav 2025 : held in New Delhi, organized by Kathak Kendra
- Yaoshang Festival (the festival of Holi) : Manipur, begins on the full moon day of the Lamta month (February–March)



Ques: In which country did Reliance Consumer Products Limited (RCPL) launch the iconic Indian soft drink brand Campa in partnership with Chaudhary Group?

- A. Bangladesh
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Bhutan
- D. Nepal
- E. UAE

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- Reliance Consumer Products Limited (RCPL) launched the Campa soft drink in Nepal, marking the brand's first international expansion since being relaunched by Reliance in 2022.
- The launch was carried out through a strategic partnership with Nepal's Chaudhary Group, a leading diversified conglomerate.
- Campa is an iconic Indian beverage brand, originally popular in the 1970s and 80s, and was acquired and relaunched by Reliance in 2022.

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Ques: What is the name of the scheme launched by the Ministry of Power to promote the adoption of energy-efficient technologies in industries and MSMEs?

- A. Ujala Plus Scheme
- B. ADEETIE Scheme
- C. Green Energy India Program
- D. Urja Shakti Abhiyan
- E. Smart Energy Mission

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The ADEETIE scheme was launched by the Ministry of Power.
- It stands for "Assistance in Deploying Energy Efficient Technologies in Industries & Establishments."
- Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the scheme. The scheme focuses on helping MSMEs adopt energy-efficient technologies.
- It has a total budget of Rs.1,000 crore for three years from FY26 to FY28.
- Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) will implement the scheme.
- Micro and Small Enterprises will get a 5% interest subsidy. Medium Enterprises will get a 3% interest subsidy.
- The scheme also includes Rs.50 crore for energy audits. Rs.75 crore is allocated for technical support.
- An online ADEETIE portal has been launched for applications.

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India's Rankings in Different Indices

- 2024 Economic Impact Trends (EIR) Report was published by the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC), London : India (8th), USA (1st)
- FIFA rankings : Indian (133rd), Argentina (1st)
- 74th edition of the Statistical Review of World Energy 2025 was published by the London-based Energy Institute (EI) : India (4th), USA (1st)
- Geo Semi-Annual India FinTech Report (SEA TECH)-H1 2025, published by Tracxn Technologies Limited : India (3rd), United States (1st)
- world's most equal societies by World Bank : India (4th), Slovak Republic (1st)
- Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2025 : India (3rd), USA (1st)
- 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)



Ques: Which city topped the QS Best Student Cities 2026 Rankings?

- A. London
- B. Tokyo
- C. Seoul
- D. Paris
- E. New York

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- QS Best Student Cities 2026 was published by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), covering 160 cities globally.
- Seoul (South Korea) topped the list for the first time, with an overall score of 100.
- Mumbai was ranked 98th in the list.
- Delhi ranked 1st globally in affordability, scoring 96.5.
- Other Indian cities like Bengaluru (84.3) and Chennai (80.1) also ranked in the top 20 for affordability.

Rank of Top 5 Global Cities :

- 1 Seoul (South Korea)
- 2 Tokyo (Japan)
- 3 London (UK)
- 4 Munich (Germany)
- 5 Melbourne (Australia)

Indian Cities featured in the list :

- 98 Mumbai (Maharashtra)
- 104 New Delhi (Delhi)
- 108 Bangalore (Karnataka)
- 128 Chennai (Tamil Nadu)

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Ques: Which Indian state launched the country's first Roll-on/Roll-off (RoRo) ferry service on the Mandovi River?

- A. Kerala
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Gujarat
- E. Goa

Answer: Option E

Explanation :

- On the Mandavi River, Goa introduced the country's first RoRo (roll-on/roll-off) ferry service.
- Traveling between Choroo Island and Ribandar will be quicker and simpler with the new ferries, Gangotri and Dwarka.
- Each ferry can accommodate 30 to 40 two-wheelers, 15 vehicles, and up to 100 passengers.
- The ferries are twice as quick as the earlier vessels, with a top speed of 10 knots.
- Vijai Marine Shipyards designed the ferries, which will operate using the Built-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) concept.

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Recent News Headlines Related to First in India and world :

- Yakten, a village in Sikkim's Pakyong district, was officially inaugurated as India's first digital nomad village under Project 'Nomad Sikkim'
- India's first-ever water technology park, named 'Aqua Tech Park', was inaugurated at Bagibari in Sonapur, Assam by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma
- India's first-ever commercial hydrogen fuel cell bus service was launched in Leh, Ladakh, marking a major step toward sustainable transportation
- Gujarat has become the first state in India to support the Cruise Bharat Mission (CBM) by initiating the formulation of its Cruise Shipping Policy
- Vasant Vihar Dispensary at the SECL Headquarters, Bilaspur, was formally inaugurated as Coal India's first dispensary to be operated entirely by women.
- Nvidia became the first company to cross a \$4 trillion market valuation, marking a historic achievement in the tech and AI sectors
- Dholera Special Investment Region (Dholera SIR), located in Gujarat, is India's first greenfield smart industrial city under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project
- The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India (DFCCIL) inaugurated India's first private Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal near Surat, Gujarat
- Ananth Technologies Limited (ATL) is set to become India's first private company to offer satellite communication (satcom) services using an indigenously-built geostationary satellite
- Tamil Nadu has become the first state in India to integrate a predictive model into its TB elimination programme
- MapmyIndia has become the first company to integrate DIGIPIN, a 10-character alphanumeric digital address system developed by India Post, into its Mappls app
- Switzerland has approved Coartem Baby, the first-ever malaria treatment specifically designed for newborns and infants
- Ananth Technologies Limited is set to become India's 1st private company to offer satellite communication (satcom) services using a locally-built geostationary satellite to users across the country
- India's first Equine Disease-Free Compartment (EDFC) was established at the Remount Veterinary Corps (RVC) Centre & College, Meerut Cantonment, Uttar Pradesh



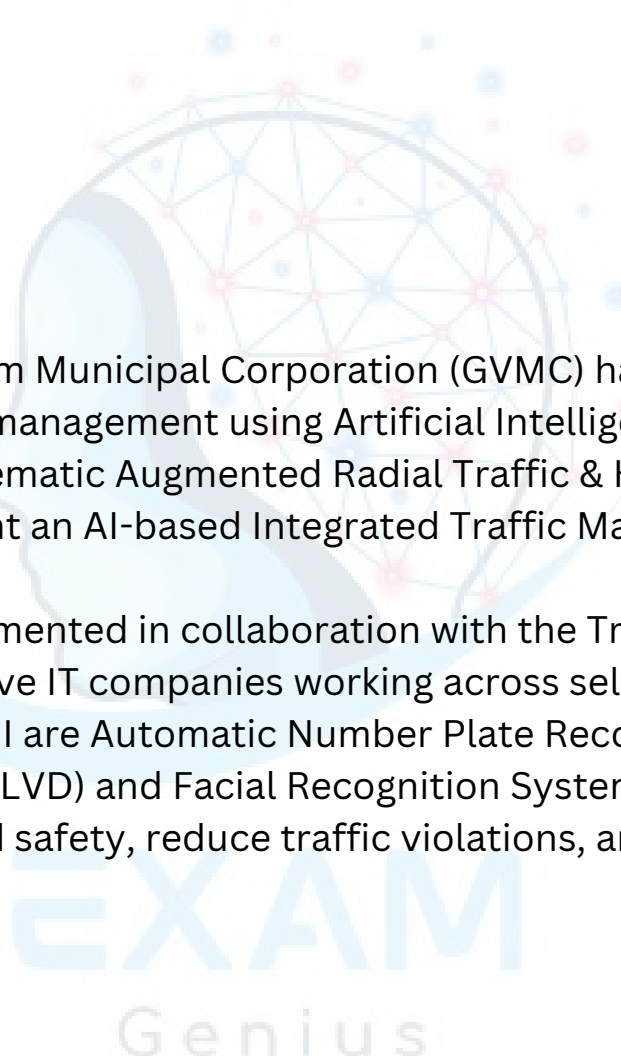
Ques: Which city recently launched Project SARTHI, an AI-based Smart Traffic Management System?

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Pune
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Chennai
- E. Visakhapatnam

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- The Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) has launched 'Project SARTHI' to improve traffic management using Artificial Intelligence.
- Full Form of SARTHI: Systematic Augmented Radial Traffic & Hoop Induction.
- Its Purpose is to implement an AI-based Integrated Traffic Management System (ITMS) in Visakhapatnam.
- The project is being implemented in collaboration with the Traffic Police Department and involves five IT companies working across selected city areas.
- Features of Project SARTHI are Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR), Red Light Violation Detection (RLVD) and Facial Recognition Systems (FRS)
- Its Goal is to enhance road safety, reduce traffic violations, and modernize traffic management in the city.





Ques: How many grassland bird species were recorded in Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve during the recent survey?

- A. 43
- B. 36
- C. 57
- D. 82
- E. 69

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- A survey conducted between March 18 and May 25 in Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve recorded 43 species of grassland birds.

Key species found:

Critically Endangered: Bengal Florican

Endangered: Finn's Weaver (locally known as Tukura Chorai), Swamp Grass Babbler

Vulnerable species: Black-breasted Parrotbill, Marsh Babbler, Swamp Francolin, and others.

- The Finn's Weaver was found successfully breeding, indicating healthy grasslands.
- Kaziranga now rivals Gujarat and Rajasthan's dry grasslands in bird diversity.
- Use of passive acoustic recorders helped detect shy and cryptic bird species, improving the survey's accuracy.
- Kaziranga is a 1,174 sq. km park, known for its rhinos, but it also hosts grasslands, wetlands, and forests, supporting rich biodiversity.





Ques: Who was Dr. Deepak Tilak, who recently passed away in Pune?

- A. Chancellor of Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth
- B. Renowned Sanskrit Scholar
- C. Former Governor of Maharashtra
- D. Freedom Fighter and Social Activist
- E. Eminent Economist

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Dr. Deepak Tilak, the great-grandson of Bal Gangadhar Tilak, passed away in Pune.
- He was the Chancellor of Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, a prominent educational institution in Pune.
- He received the Japanese Government's Foreign Minister's Commendation award for his contributions to the Japanese language and cultural exchange.
- Dr. Tilak also served as the editor and trustee of the Tilak Smarak Trust, which preserves the legacy of Lokmanya Tilak.
- Additionally, he was the editor of Kesari, the historic Marathi newspaper founded by Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

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IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

The Kanwar Yatra is an annual pilgrimage undertaken by Shiva devotees, known as Kanwariyas, primarily in North India. It is held in the Hindu month of Shravan (typically July–August).

A new species of diurnal gecko recorded from Assam has been named after the Brahmaputra River. The *Cnemaspis brahmaputra* found at Dirgheswari Temple on the northern bank of the river facing Guwahati is non-nocturnal.

Centre names Puneet Kumar Goel as Manipur's new Chief Secretary. Manipur is under President's Rule following ethnic Meitei-Kuki clashes in May 2023

Scientists at the Beijing Institute of Technology, China, developed the world's lightest brain controller weighing just 74 milligrams. In experiments, the bees responded to commands successfully 9 out of 10 times. Professor Zhao Jieliang led the project.

A groundbreaking MOU to expedite KYC verification for roughly 24.13 crore mutual fund folios, including 19.04 crore in Equity, Hybrid, and Solution-Oriented Schemes, was signed by the Department of Posts and the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) on June 30, 2025, marking a significant milestone.

Tiwai Island and Gola Rainforest in Sierra Leone have been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the country's first.

