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# **GENIUS CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**In English**



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**Ques: What was India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation rate in August 2025, marking its return to the positive zone after two months?**

- A. 0.13%
- B. 0.52%
- C. 0.85%
- D. 1.25%
- E. 2.05%

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- India's WPI-based inflation turned positive at 0.52% in August 2025 after being in the negative zone for two consecutive months.
- It was (-) 0.58% in July 2025 and (-) 0.13% in June 2025, indicating deflation in those months.
- In comparison, WPI-based inflation was 1.25% in August 2024.

**Recent WPI inflation trends:**

- March 2025 : 2.05%
- April 2025 : 0.85%
- May 2025 : 0.39%
- June 2025 : - 0.13%
- July 2025 : - 0.58%

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**Ques: PhonePe's Indus Appstore has recently crossed how many device installations?**

- A. 5 Crore
- B. 7 Crore
- C. 10 Crore
- D. 12 Crore
- E. 15 Crore

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- PhonePe's Indus Appstore, positioned as India's domestic alternative to Google Play Store and Apple App Store, has reached 10 Crore installations.
- This milestone was achieved through partnerships with smartphone brands like Xiaomi and Alcatel, which allowed the app store to come pre-installed on handsets.
- Indus Appstore distributes apps via authorised aggregators, ensuring security and trust for developers and users.
- With this growth, it has become a strong competitor in India's rapidly growing digital app ecosystem.

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## Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector:

- CRED has launched two co-branded credit cards with IndusInd Bank: an entry-level CRED IndusInd Bank RuPay Credit Card and an invite-only premium card called Sovereign.
- PhonePe Limited in collaboration with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) launched the Udyam Assist Platform (UAP) to promote digital-first Udyam generation
- South Indian Bank (SIB) launched a Digital Loan Against Mutual Funds (LAMF) facility
- PhonePe, a leading fintech company, has launched Loans Against Mutual Funds (LAMF) in partnership with DSP Finance, an NBFC backed by the DSP Group
- Using fixed deposits as security, Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SSFB) has launched a secured credit card that aims to improve loan accessibility
- Bank of Baroda (BoB) launched the 'bob Digi Udyam' platform, a fully digital, collateral-free lending scheme designed exclusively for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs)
- Jio Payments Bank's 'Savings Pro' account will automatically invest idle cash in customer accounts into overnight mutual funds to offer better returns
- TATA AIA Life Insurance Company Limited launched two innovative offerings 'Health Systematic Investment Plan (SIP)' and the 'Health Buddy' App in India
- Malaysia launched Ryt Bank, the world's first AI-powered bank developed by Malaysians for local users
- South Indian Bank has launched a new gold loan product called SIB Gold Xpress
- AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) has launched UPI services for its NRE and NRO account holders using foreign/international mobile numbers
- Bank of Maharashtra SBI Card Launched by Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) and SBI Cards & Payment Services Limited in Three variants -ELITE, PRIME, and SimplySAVE.
- According to people familiar with the matter, fintech unicorn CRED is working with IndusInd Bank to launch its first co-branded credit card.
- ICICI Bank will manage the online payment services for India's first barrier-less toll collection system
- ICICI Bank has increased the minimum average monthly balance (MAB) in metros & urban areas for new savings accounts from ₹10,000 to ₹50,000.





**Ques: India1 Payments has launched Paysis Payments to provide digital solutions for which sector?**

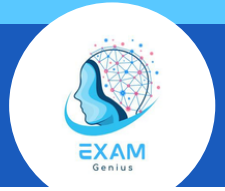
- A. Insurance sector
- B. Banks
- C. NBFCs
- D. Mutual Funds
- E. Fintech startups

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- India1 Payments, India's largest white label ATM operator, launched Paysis Payments, a wholly owned subsidiary, to enter the fintech sector.
- Paysis will provide digital payments and transaction processing solutions, focusing on small and mid-sized banks.
- It aims to deliver advanced switching and payment solutions, helping banks improve their digital infrastructure and customer services.
- With this launch, India1 Payments is expanding its services beyond ATMs to become a comprehensive fintech solutions provider.

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**Ques: The Central Government has extended the last date for eligible employees and past retirees under the National Pension System (NPS) to migrate to the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS). What is the deadline to exercise this option?**

- A. 15 September 2025
- B. 31 December 2025
- C. 31 October 2025
- D. 15 November 2025
- E. 30 September 2025

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- The Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) for eligible Central Government employees was recently notified by the Ministry of Finance.
- The government has extended a one-time option for Central Government employees who joined services between 01 April 2025 and 31 August 2025 and are currently under National Pension System (NPS) to migrate to UPS.
- This option must be exercised on or before 30 September 2025, which is also the cut-off date for other eligible categories under UPS.
- After this date, no further migration requests will be entertained.

**About PFRDA :**

- Established : 2003
- HQ : New Delhi
- Chairman : Sivasubramanian Ramann

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**Ques: ICICI Bank recently renewed its partnership with Amazon Pay for how many years for the co-branded “Amazon Pay ICICI Credit Card”?**

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

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- ICICI Bank has renewed its partnership with Amazon Pay for the co-branded Amazon Pay ICICI Credit Card for another seven years.
- This card, launched in 2018, has become India’s largest co-branded credit card with over 5 million users.
- As per RBI data (July 2025), ICICI Bank has over 18 million credit cards in force.
- ICICI Bank ranks as the third-largest credit card issuer in India, following HDFC Bank and State Bank of India (SBI).

**About ICICI Bank :**

- Established : 1994
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- CEO & MD : Sandeep Bakhshi
- Tagline : Hum Hai Na, Khayal Apka

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**Ques : As per the new NPCI guidelines, what is the revised daily UPI limit for Person-to-Merchant (P2M) transactions?**

- A. ₹1 lakh
- B. ₹2 lakh
- C. ₹5 lakh
- D. ₹10 lakh
- E. ₹6 lakh

**Answer : Option D**

**Explanation:**

- Effective 15 September 2025, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) increased the UPI daily limit for Person-to-Merchant (P2M) transactions to ₹10 lakh.
- Categories covered: capital markets, insurance, GeM (government e-Marketplace), credit card bill payments, loan collections, travel bookings, EMLs, and jewellery purchases.
- Capital markets & insurance: per transaction limit increased to ₹5 lakh (previously ₹2 lakh), daily cap ₹10 lakh.
- Credit card payments: per transaction limit now ₹5 lakh (earlier ₹2 lakh), daily cap ₹6 lakh.
- Jewellery purchases: per transaction limit remains ₹2 lakh, daily cap raised to ₹6 lakh.
- IPO bids: continue with a cap of ₹5 lakh.
- Person-to-Person (P2P) payments: unchanged at ₹1 lakh/day.
- This revision facilitates higher-value digital payments, especially in financial and retail sectors, while maintaining safety for individual P2P transfers.





**Ques: India's non-fossil fuel electricity generation capacity recently crossed which milestone, according to the New & Renewable Energy Minister Pralhad Joshi?**

- A. 150 GW
- B. 200 GW
- C. 500 GW
- D. 300 GW
- E. 250 GW

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- According to New & Renewable Energy Minister Pralhad Joshi, India's non-fossil fuel energy generation capacity has more than tripled, reaching the 250 GW level from 81 GW in 2014.
- By 2030, the nation wants to have 500 GW of renewable energy capacity.
- The minister went on to say that India is now a global leader in clean energy and that this accomplishment in solar, wind, hydro, bioenergy, and nuclear power solidifies our route to 500 GW by 2030.
- 123.13 GW of solar energy, 52.68 GW of wind energy, 55.22 GW of hydropower, 11.60 GW of biofuels, and 8.78 GW of nuclear energy make up the 250 GW of non-fossil fuel electricity generation capacity.

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## News Headlines Related to Ministry :

- The Ministry of Railways has announced that starting from 1 October 2025, Aadhaar authentication will be mandatory for booking general reserved tickets online through the IRCTC website or app during the first 15 minutes after the reservation window opens
- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) will conduct two nationally representative surveys from July 2026 to June 2027: the All-India Debt and Investment Survey (AIDIS) and the Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households
- Union Minister Pralhad Joshi launched a Rs 100-crore scheme for startups to support innovations in green hydrogen production. The scheme will provide up to Rs 5 crore per project for pilot projects
- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched the Beta Version of Adi Sanskriti at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, during the National Conference on Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan
- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has collaborated with Zomato and Uber to spread road safety awareness nationwide
- On International Literacy Day 2025, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced that India's literacy rate increased from 74% (2011) to 80.9% (2023-24)
- The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, launched a unique cultural initiative titled "Bistirna Parore: A Musical Voyage from Sadiya to Dhubri" to celebrate the birth centenary (100th birth anniversary) of Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhupen Hazarika
- Union Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya announced the mobilization of over 1,000 trained MY Bharat Aapda Mitras to assist in rescue operations in flood-affected areas of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh
- The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has formed a 12-member panel, led by Senior Advocate Sanjay Upadhyay, to draft a national law to protect India's interests in international waters, also called high seas
- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Inaugurates Campus Tank in New Delhi to Empower Youth
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah met and felicitated the CRPF, Chhattisgarh Police, DRG and Cobra jawans in New Delhi, who successfully carried out 'Operation Black Forest' on Karreguttalu hill, biggest anti - Naxal operation ever conducted on Karreguttalu hill





**Ques: India's largest and most technologically advanced sports complex, the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex, was inaugurated in which city?**

- A. Mumbai
- B. New Delhi
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Pune
- E. Ahmedabad

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex at Naranpura, Ahmedabad.
- The sports complex was built at a cost of ₹825 crore and is spread over 1,19,000 square meters.
- Key features include seven entry gates, parking for 900 vehicles, a 275-kilowatt solar power plant, and a 60 KLD sewage treatment plant.
- India's sports budget has grown significantly from ₹1,643 crore in 2014 to ₹5,300 crore in 2025.
- The venue aims to make India a top sports nation by 2047.

**Upcoming events:**

- World Police and Fire Games in 2029
- 13 international tournaments by 2036.





## Recent Headlines Related to Inauguration :

- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah inaugurated the FTI-TTP at five new airports — Lucknow, Thiruvananthapuram, Trichy, Kozhikode, and Amritsar — via video conferencing
- Ethiopia inaugurated the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) in September 2025, marking the launch of Africa's largest hydroelectric project
- Central Power Research Institute (CPRI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Power, Government of India, inaugurated its latest advanced Regional Testing Laboratory (RTL) at Nashik
- The Royal Bhutan Buddhist Temple was inaugurated in Rajgir, Bihar, by Bhutan Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay, Union Minister for Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju, and other representatives from both countries
- Union Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated India's first port-based Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the Bihar Rajya Jeevika Nidhi Saakh Sahkari Sangh Limited (BRJNSSSL), a new cooperative initiative focused on women empowerment
- Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated TDK Corporation's Advanced Technologies Lithium-ion (Li-ion) Battery Manufacturing Plant at Sohna, Haryana
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Aunta-Simaria Bridge in Bihar, an 8.15 km project on NH-31, featuring a 1.86 km six-lane bridge over the river Ganga
- A state-of-the-art space lab was inaugurated at Mechuka Government Higher Secondary School, Shi-Yomi district, Arunachal Pradesh
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate two major National Highway projects in Delhi worth ₹11,000 crore. Dwarka Expressway (Delhi section) and Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II), Alipur-Dichau Kalan stretch
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, has approved the establishment of 4 new semiconductor assembly and testing facilities in Punjab, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 184 newly constructed Type-VII multi-storey flats for Members of Parliament at Baba Kharak Singh Marg in New Delhi. The four towers are named Krishna, Godavari, Kosi, and Hooghly.





**Ques : What is the national food grain production target for India for the 2025-26 Rabi season?**

- A. 350 million tonnes
- B. 355 million tonnes
- C. 362.5 million tonnes
- D. 370 million tonnes
- E. 375 million tonnes

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- The Union Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Minister, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, announced that India's national food grain production target for the 2025-26 Rabi season is 362.5 million tonnes, which represents a 2.4% increase over the 2024-25 production level.
- The theme of the conference was "One Nation, One Agriculture, One Team", focusing on strengthening coordination and partnerships in agriculture.
- Special emphasis will be on pulses and oilseeds to enhance per-hectare productivity.
- The Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan will begin from 3rd October 2025, with over 2,000 teams of scientists visiting villages to guide farmers with timely knowledge and technology.

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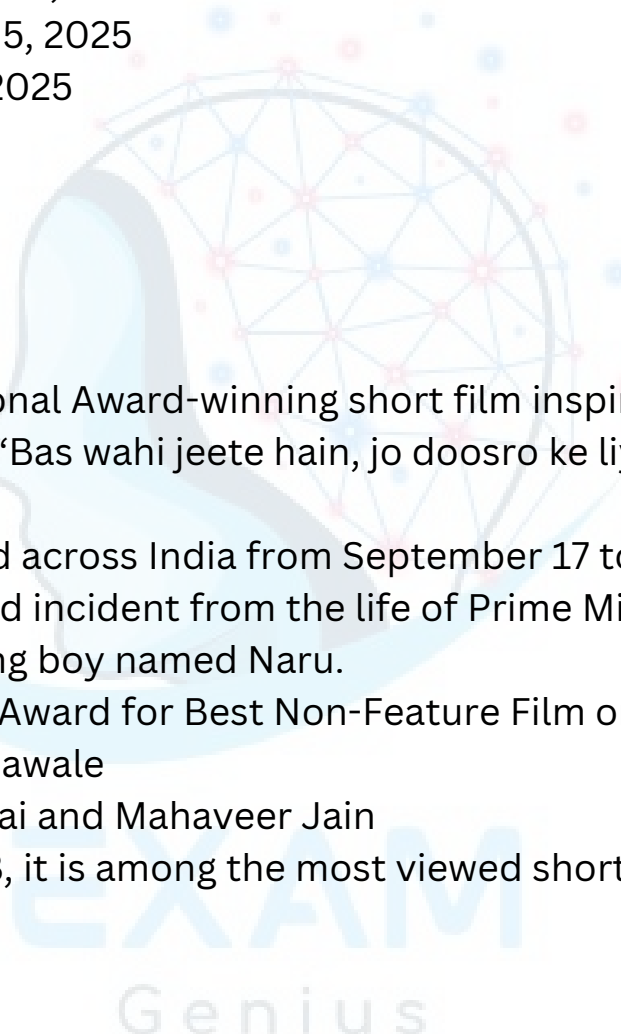
**Ques:** The National Award-winning film “Chalo Jeete Hain”, inspired by Swami Vivekananda’s philosophy, will have a special re-release in India during which dates?

- A. September 17 – October 2, 2025
- B. September 10 – September 25, 2025
- C. September 20 – October 10, 2025
- D. September 25 – October 5, 2025
- E. October 1 – October 15, 2025

**Answer: Option A**

**Explanation:**

- Chalo Jeete Hain is a National Award-winning short film inspired by Swami Vivekananda’s philosophy, “Bas wahi jeete hain, jo doosro ke liye jeete hain” (सिर्फ वही जीते हैं, जो दूसरों के लिए जीते हैं).
- The film will be re-released across India from September 17 to October 2, 2025.
- It is inspired by a childhood incident from the life of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and tells the story of a young boy named Naru.
- The film won the National Award for Best Non-Feature Film on Family Values.
- Directed by: Mangesh Hadawale
- Presented by: Aanand L. Rai and Mahaveer Jain
- Originally released in 2018, it is among the most viewed short films of that year.





## Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- 'Most Promising New Destination' award in the Responsible Tourism Awards category at BLTM 2025 : Gandikota, located in Andhra Pradesh
- Karnataka Ratna, the highest civilian award of the state : Dr. Vishnuvardhan and B Saroja Devi
- P V Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics : Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh
- Camel International Award : Younus Ahamed
- 76th Creative Arts Emmy Awards : Barack Obama for his narration in Netflix's five-part documentary series "Our Oceans"
- 82nd Venice International Film Festival, Best Director award : Anuparna Roy for her film 'Songs of Forgotten Trees'
- Prof. V.K. Gokak Award : Anand V. Patil
- Best KVK in the North Eastern Region : ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Wokha, Nagaland
- Miss Universe India 2025 : Manika Vishwakarma, a model from Ganganagar, Rajasthan
- 'Institution Building' and 'Best Inclusion Recruitment Programme' Awards Under Asia's Best Employer Brand Awards 2025 held in Singapore : Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC)
- Lalit Kala Akademi Award at the 64th National Exhibition of Art 2025 : Sculptor Premchandra Pukhrambam from Manipur's Kakching district for his wooden sculpture titled "Made Me Change"
- Lifetime Achievement Award at the 17th International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala (IDSFFK) : documentary filmmaker Rakesh Sharma
- Equator Prize 2025 : Bibi Fatima
- Apex Bank award for the 23rd time : South Canara District Central Cooperative (SCDCC) Bank
- International Architectural Award 2025 in the Transport Category : Terminal 2 (T2) of Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport, also known as Guwahati International Airport
- M.S. Swaminathan Award for Food and Peace : Dr. Arenare, a Nigerian scientist
- National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) award : Telangana
- 43rd Lokmanya Tilak National Award : Union Minister Nitin Gadkari





**Ques :** In Q1 FY26, which country emerged as the top source of FDI inflows into India?

- A. Singapore
- B. Mauritius
- C. United States (US)
- D. Cayman Islands
- E. Japan

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- In Q1 FY26, the United States (US) became the largest source of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into India with ₹48,104 crore, showing a 282% increase compared to last year.
  - Singapore ranked second with ₹39,284 crore.
  - Mauritius slipped to third place with ₹17,791 crore.
  - The surge in US investments was primarily due to Microsoft's \$3 billion (₹25,587 crore) investment in AI and cloud infrastructure.
  - Apple's new manufacturing facilities in Tamil Nadu and Bengaluru.
  - Overall, India's total FDI inflows rose 18% to ₹1.59 lakh crore in Q1 FY26.
- Additionally, Cayman Islands (₹5,790 crore, ↑268%) and Cyprus (₹9,514 crore, 2x increase) also showed notable growth in investments.
- This reflects growing global confidence in India's economic and political stability.

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**Ques: Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd (AHEL) recently announced plans to acquire what percentage stake in its subsidiary Apollo Health and Lifestyle Ltd (AHLL) from IFC and IFC EAF Apollo Investment Company?**

- A. 30.5%
- B. 28%
- C. 25%
- D. 35%
- E. 40%

**Answer: Option A**

**Explanation:**

- Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd (AHEL) will acquire a 30.5% stake in its subsidiary Apollo Health and Lifestyle Ltd (AHLL) from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and IFC EAF Apollo Investment Company.
- The deal is valued at ₹1,254 crore and involves the purchase of over 41.65 million equity shares.
- After the acquisition, AHEL's ownership in AHLL will increase to 99.42%, with the remaining 0.58% stake held under the Employee Stock Option Plan (ESOP) pool.

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**Ques: Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated a Sex Sorted Semen facility in Bihar. This facility has been established under which scheme?**

- A. National Dairy Plan
- B. Dairy Development Scheme
- C. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
- D. Rashtriya Gokul Mission
- E. National Livestock Mission

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Sex Sorted Semen facility at Semen Station, Purnea, Bihar, under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission.
- The facility has been built with Central assistance of ₹10 crore and has the capacity to produce 5 lakh doses per year.
- It will use indigenously developed 'Gausort' technology, launched earlier on 5th October 2024, in line with the vision of 'Make in India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.
- The Purnea semen station, established with Central assistance of ₹84.27 crore, is one of the largest government-run semen stations and the first of its kind for Eastern and North-Eastern states.
- It currently produces 50 lakh doses per annum, playing a crucial role in dairy sector development in the region.

**Purpose:**

- To provide sex-sorted semen at reasonable rates to farmers in Eastern and North-Eastern India.
- Sex-sorting technology ensures about 90% accuracy in producing female calves, reducing the economic burden on dairy farmers.



**Ques: Which state recently launched the ‘Anbu Karangal’ (Hands of Love) scheme to support orphaned children?**

- A. Kerala
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Karnataka
- D. Andhra Pradesh
- E. Telangana

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin launched the ‘Anbu Karangal’ (Hands of Love) scheme.
- Under this scheme, a monthly aid of ₹2,000 per child will be provided until the child completes school education or turns 18 years old.
- Phase 1 beneficiaries: 6,082 children who lost both parents, or one parent with the surviving parent unable to take care of them.
- The initiative aims to ensure financial stability and proper care for orphaned and vulnerable children in the state.

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## Recent News Headlines Related to Schemes

- The Union Government reopened the PLI scheme application window for White Goods (Air Conditioners and LED Lights) from September 15 to October 14, 2025
- Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has launched two major schemes – SPREE-2025 (Scheme for Promoting Registration of Employers and Employees) and Amnesty Scheme-2025
- Union Minister Manohar Lal launched “Angikaar 2025”, an initiative of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) to boost the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0)
- The Andhra Pradesh (AP) Cabinet, led by CM N Chandrababu Naidu, launched the Universal Health Insurance Scheme under a Hybrid Model by integrating Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) and Dr. NTR Vaidya Seva Trust
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, approved a ₹1,500 crore Incentive Scheme under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) to promote critical mineral recycling from secondary sources
- The Toda tribe of the Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu, is taking the lead in preserving their endangered language under SPPEL (Scheme for Protection and Preservation of Endangered Languages).
- The SIGHT Scheme (Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition) is part of the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM)
- Bihar Cabinet approved the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana in 2025 to empower women and promote entrepreneurship
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has extended the special registration drive for Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) till 15 August, 2025
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, approved restructuring and extension of the PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme till 31st March 2030
- The Government of India has sanctioned 23 chip-design projects under the Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme to strengthen semiconductor design capabilities
- The Made in India Label Scheme is a voluntary certification scheme that allows manufacturers to demonstrate their products are manufactured in India with good quality





**Ques : In August 2025, India's merchandise exports rose by how much?**

- A. 5.5%
- B. 6.7%
- C. 7.2%
- D. 10.1%
- E. 2.5%

**Answer : Option B**

**Explanation:**

- In August 2025, India's merchandise exports rose 6.7% to \$35.1 billion.
- Imports fell 10.1% to \$61.59 billion, indicating a possible slowdown in domestic economic activity.
- The trade deficit stood at \$26.5 billion, which is higher than the April–July average of \$23.7 billion but lower than August 2024's \$35.64 billion.
- During April–August 2025, overall goods exports grew by 2.5%.
- Exports to the US, India's largest export market, increased 7.2%, which was a 9-month low but still higher than the overall export growth rate.

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**Ques: ACME and Japan's IHI Corporation have signed an agreement to develop India's largest green ammonia project in which state?**

- A. Gujarat
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Odisha
- E. Karnataka

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- Cleantech business group ACME and Japan's heavy industry group IHI Corporation signed an agreement to develop India's largest green ammonia project.
- The project will be set up in Gopalpur, Odisha.
- An initial MoU was signed in 2023, and since then, major milestones have been achieved, including Formation of a joint venture partnership and IHI Corporation acquiring a 30% stake in ACME Clean Energy Private Limited.
- Once completed, the facility is expected to produce 0.4 million tonnes of green ammonia annually, supporting India's green energy transition.

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### Recent News Headlines Related to MoU and agreement:

- Israel Chemicals Limited has partnered with BioPrime AgriSolutions Private Limited to launch advanced soil and crop health solutions in India, leveraging BioPrime's Bionexus platform
- Adani Power Ltd. (APL) & Bihar State Power Generation Company Ltd. (BSPGCL) signed Power Supply Agreement (PSA) For supply of 2,400 MW of power from a greenfield ultra super critical plant to be set up at Pirpainti in Bhagalpur district of Bihar
- India has secured its second Polymetallic Sulphides (PMS) contract in 2025 with the International Seabed Authority (ISA) for the Carlsberg Ridge in the Indian Ocean
- The National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) Patna, under the Ministry of Textiles, signed an MoU with Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited (ABFRL) to empower rural women, especially members of self-help groups (Jeevika Didis), by providing industry-relevant training
- India signed a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) to boost trade, investment, and strategic cooperation
- Tata Consultancy Services signed a partnership agreement with French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission to accelerate innovation and industrialization of Physical Artificial Intelligence (AI)- powered solutions in France.
- India and Sri Lanka signed an MoU for the construction of a new Accident and Emergency (A&E) Unit at the District General Hospital, Mannar, Sri Lanka
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) signed a pact with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) to develop India's sovereign cloud ecosystem
- India and Mexico signed a MoU to strengthen and boost bilateral trade relations
- The Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council of India (GJEPC), in collaboration with the Consulate General of India in Jeddah, the Embassy of India in Riyadh, and the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, announced the launch of SAJEX 2025
- Coal India Limited and NSTFDC under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs signed an MoU to empower tribal students enrolled in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)
- National Co-operative Exports Limited (NCEL) and the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) signed MoU to forge a strategic partnership aimed at elevating India's cooperative-led agricultural exports.





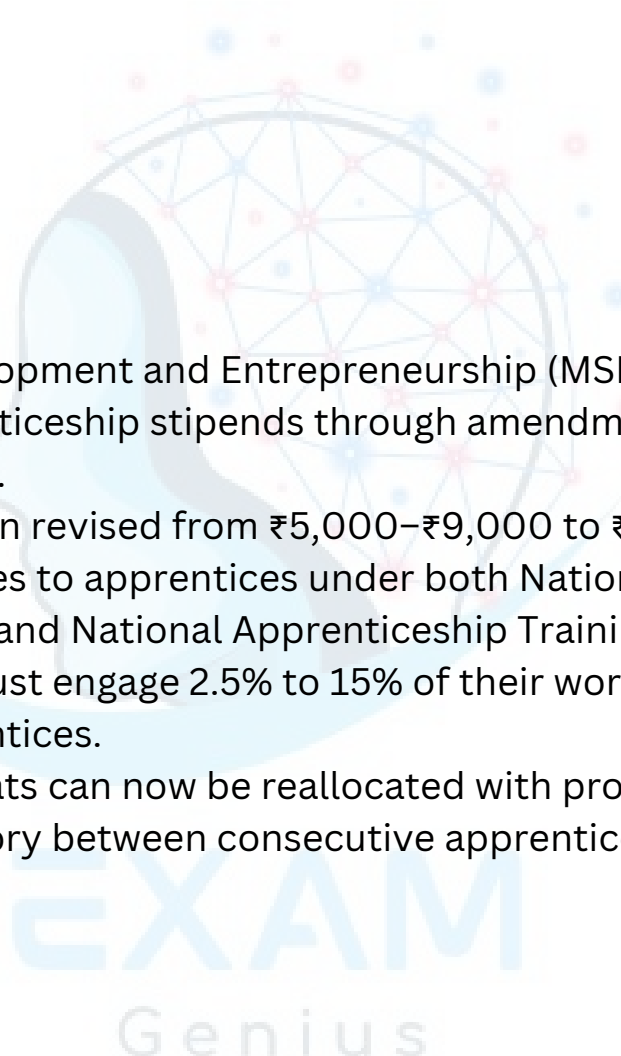
**Ques: According to the recent amendments to the Apprenticeship Rules, 1992, what is the new monthly stipend range for apprentices in India?**

- A. ₹5,000 – ₹9,000
- B. ₹6,000 – ₹10,000
- C. ₹6,800 – ₹12,300
- D. ₹7,000 – ₹11,500
- E. ₹6,500 – ₹12,000

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) notified an increase in monthly apprenticeship stipends through amendments to the Apprenticeship Rules, 1992.
- The stipend range has been revised from ₹5,000–₹9,000 to ₹6,800–₹12,300.
- This revised stipend applies to apprentices under both National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS)
- Eligible establishments must engage 2.5% to 15% of their workforce as apprentices, with a minimum of 5 apprentices.
- Vacant apprenticeship seats can now be reallocated with proper approvals.
- A one-year gap is mandatory between consecutive apprenticeship periods unless terminated early.





**Ques: The flagship initiative Mega Tinkering Day 2025 of Atal Innovation Mission recently entered the India Book of Records and Asia Book of Records for what achievement?**

- A. Launch of maximum number of startups in a single day
- B. Maximum number of students participating in a tinkering activity in a single day
- C. Largest innovation summit in India
- D. Maximum number of Atal Tinkering Labs inaugurated in one year
- E. First international collaboration under AIM

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to promote innovation and entrepreneurship across India.
- On August 12, 2025, a historic event called Mega Tinkering Day 2025 was organized, where 4,73,350 students from 9,467 Atal Tinkering Lab schools participated.
- The students designed innovative solutions for Swachh Bharat and created DIY vacuum cleaners through a live online instructional session.
- This event set a new record for the maximum number of students participating in a tinkering activity in a single day.
- The achievement was officially recognized by both the India Book of Records and the Asia Book of Records on September 15, 2025.
- This milestone highlights AIM's role as one of the world's largest grassroots innovation movements.

**About Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) :**

- Launched : 2016
- AIM 2.0 : 2024
- Allocated budget : Rs.2,750 crores for a period till 31st March 2028





## Recent News Headlines Related to Defence Exercise :

- From September 8–10, 2025, the Indian Army successfully carried out Exercise Siyom Prahar, a significant field training exercise designed to validate the use of drone technology in contemporary tactical operations.
- The Indian Armed Forces contingent comprising 65 personnel departed for Russia to participate in the multilateral joint military exercise ZAPAD 2025
- Sagarmatha Friendship-2025, a 10 days drill runs until 16 September 2025 in Kathmandu. It is a bilateral military exercise between Nepal and China, initiated in 2017.
- The Typhon Mid-Range Capability (MRC) missile system, also known as the Strategic Mid-Range Fires System (SMRF), will be temporarily deployed to Japan during the Resolute Dragon joint exercise
- Exercise Achook Prahar 2025 was conducted from August 25 to 28 in central Arunachal Pradesh. It involved troops from the Indian Army's Spear Corps and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
- Indian Army has conducted Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0 in the high-altitude Kameng region of Arunachal Pradesh, showcasing its preparedness for next-generation warfare in extreme Himalayan conditions.
- More than 700 personnel from the Indian Armed Forces and Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff will participate in the Multilateral Exercise 'BRIGHT STAR 2025' from 28 August to 10 September 2025
- Indonesia, along with the United States and allied nations, launched the annual military exercise Super Garuda Shield 2025
- The 14th edition of MAITREE, a bilateral military exercise between India and Thailand, will be held from 01–14 September 2025 at the Foreign Training Node, Umroi, Meghalaya
- Exercise Samanvay Shakti 2025 was inaugurated at Laipuli in Tinsukia district, Assam. It is a 10-day military-civil integration exercise initiated by the Indian Army in collaboration with Assam and Manipur state officials
- Exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield is an annual large-scale joint military exercise conducted by South Korea and the United States
- The 12th edition of Sri Lanka–India Naval Exercise (SLINEX-25) was held from 14–18 August 2025 in Colombo, Sri Lanka





**Ques: The joint air and naval exercise “Freedom Edge” was recently held at which location?**

- A. Okinawa, Japan
- B. Jeju Island, South Korea
- C. Guam, USA
- D. Busan, South Korea
- E. Yokosuka, Japan

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- The joint air and naval exercise “Freedom Edge” was held at Jeju Island, South Korea.
- It was conducted between the United States, South Korea, and Japan to enhance trilateral defense cooperation.
- This is the third round of the trilateral drills, with previous rounds held in June and November 2024.
- The exercise focuses on regional security, maritime coordination, and operational readiness amid increasing challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

EXAM  
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## IMPORTANT ONE - LINER Current Affairs

IIT Madras in collaboration with Guidance Tamil Nadu, launched 'INNOVATION-TN', India's first state-level start-up and innovation dashboard.

The proposed purchase of Jaiprakash Associates Limited by PNC Infratech Limited has been approved by the Competition Commission of India. The proposed combination involves PNC Infratech Limited (PNC Infratech/Acquirer) acquiring at least 95% and up to 100% of Jaiprakash Associates Limited (JAL).

Mizoram flagged-off state's 1st Rajdhani express, Sairang-Delhi Rajdhani Express, connecting Aizawl with Delhi.

ICC Men's player of the month for August 2025 is Mohammed Siraj (India) and ICC Women's player of the month for August 2025 is Orla Prendergast (Ireland)

As part of ongoing pan-India "Operation Weed Out", Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has seized 39.2 kg of hydroponic weed at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai

EXAM  
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