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Ques: The Union Finance Ministry has introduced a one-time switch facility allowing central government employees to move from which scheme to the National Pension System (NPS)?

- A. Employee Provident Fund (EPF)
- B. General Provident Fund (GPF)
- C. Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)
- D. Atal Pension Yojana (APY)
- E. Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS)

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Union Finance Ministry has introduced a one-time, one-way switch facility allowing central government employees to move from the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) to the National Pension System (NPS).
- Employees can switch anytime, but not later than one year before superannuation or three months before voluntary retirement.
- Employees facing disciplinary action, dismissal, or removal are not eligible.
- Once switched to NPS, employees will no longer receive assured UPS payouts, but the government's 4% differential contribution will be added to their individual NPS corpus.
- The last date to enroll in UPS is 30 September 2025.

About Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) :

- Upgraded from : Existing NPS, which was introduced on 1st January, 2004 by Atal Bihari Vajpayee government
- Contribution : The central government employees will be required to contribute 10% of their basic salary and Dearness Allowance (DA). The central government has increased its contribution from 14% (currently under NPS) to 18.5%.
- Adoption : Maharashtra was the 1st state, which has implemented UPS for its government employees with effective from March 2024





Ques: Which bank recorded the highest credit card spend in July 2025?

- A. State Bank of India (SBI)
- B. Punjab National Bank (PNB)
- C. ICICI Bank
- D. Yes Bank Limited
- E. HDFC Bank

Answer: Option E

Explanation :

- In July 2025, HDFC Bank recorded the highest credit card spend at ₹53,904 crore, with a 21.1% YoY growth.
- Per-card spend stood at ₹17,399, the lowest in five months, with a 5.1% YoY growth.

Other top banks by spend:

- ICICI Bank → ₹36,197 Cr (+4.6% YoY)
- SBI → ₹32,609 Cr (+21.1% YoY)
- Axis Bank → ₹22,815 Cr (+11% YoY)
- IndusInd Bank → ₹8,930 Cr (+10.9% YoY)

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Ques: Which official reviewed the performance of India Post and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) in New Delhi?

- A. Minister of Finance
- B. Minister of State for Communications
- C. Prime Minister of India
- D. Governor of RBI
- E. Minister of Electronics & IT

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, Minister of State for Communications, reviewed the performance of India Post and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) in New Delhi.
- IPPB achieved a net profit of ₹134 crore in the current financial year.
- It has a customer base exceeding 12 crore, annual revenues over ₹2,000 crore, and a CAGR of 60–70% over the past two years.
- IPPB is rapidly emerging as a key driver of financial inclusion and digital banking services across India.

About India Post Payments Bank Limited (IPPB) :

- Established : 2017
- HQ : New Delhi, Delhi
- CEO & MD : R. Viswesvaran
- Tagline : Your Bank at Your Doorstep

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Ques: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched the September 2025 round of which surveys to gauge consumer confidence?

- A. Both UCCS and RCCS
- B. Rural Consumer Confidence Survey (RCCS)
- C. Urban Consumer Confidence Survey (UCCS)
- D. Consumer Expenditure Survey
- E. Economic Outlook Survey

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The RBI has begun the September 2025 round of its Urban Consumer Confidence Survey (UCCS) and Rural Consumer Confidence Survey (RCCS), inviting households across the country.
- These surveys are conducted to gather public perceptions and expectations in both urban and rural areas.
- The urban survey will cover 19 cities, including Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna, Raipur, Ranchi, and Thiruvananthapuram.
- The survey captures urban households' views on the general economic situation, employment scenario, price levels, and their own income and spending behaviour.
- The rural survey will cover 31 states and union territories.

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Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has instructed Indian banks to tighten checks on funds indirectly flowing from Pakistan
- RBI granted 'in-principle' approval to Aditya Birla Capital Digital (ABCD), the digital arm of Aditya Birla Capital, on 20 August 2025
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC), Japan, to acquire up to 24.99% stake (voting rights) in Yes Bank
- RBI has announced premature redemption for 28 Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs) issued between May 2018 and March 2021
- According to RBI & NABARD, India has 1,457 Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs). Maharashtra (458) has the highest number, followed by Karnataka (250) and Gujarat (211).
- RBI survey revealed that foreign liabilities of India's mutual fund (MF) industry rose 19.9% in FY25, reaching \$30.5 billion
- RBI's Master Circular on Customer Service in Banks requires all customer-facing materials at branches of Scheduled Commercial Banks to be available in Hindi, English, and the concerned regional language
- RBI had set up a committee under Pushpak Bhattacharya to prepare a framework for Responsible and Ethical Enablement of Artificial Intelligence (FREE-AI).
- RBI will implement a new cheque clearance mechanism from October 4, 2025, reducing the settlement cycle from the current T+1 days (up to 2 working days) to just a few hours
- RBI granted Equirus Group a non-deposit taking NBFC license, enabling the launch of Equirus Finance.
- RBI has proposed that banks must settle deposit account claims of deceased customers within 15 calendar days from receipt of all required documents
- RBI released a draft circular proposing easier claim settlement after the death of an account holder, covering deposit accounts, lockers, and articles in safe custody.
- RBI introduced Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) for Treasury Bills and Auto-Bidding facility on its Retail Direct platform. SIP allows small, periodic investments in T-Bills instead of lump sums.
- RBI's final co-lending norms mandate that each entity in a Co-Lending Agreement (CLA) must retain at least 10% of individual loans in its own books



Ques: India will sign a pact with which UN-mandated body in September 2025 for exploration of critical minerals in the Indian Ocean?

- A. UNDP
- B. UNEP
- C. UNCTAD
- D. International Seabed Authority (ISA)
- E. UNESCO

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- India will sign a contract with the International Seabed Authority (ISA) in September 2025 to explore critical minerals such as cobalt, nickel, copper, and manganese in the northwest Indian Ocean.
- The exploration will focus on polymetallic sulphides (PMS) at Carlsberg Ridge (between Yemen & Maldives).
- Four sites have been identified under the Deep Ocean Mission for critical mineral exploration.
- These critical minerals are vital for renewable energy, EV batteries, defence, and green technologies.

India already holds two ISA contracts:

- 2002–2027: Polymetallic nodules (PMN) in Central Indian Ocean (nickel, copper, cobalt, manganese)
- 2016–2031: Polymetallic sulphides (PMS) in Indian Ocean ridge





Ques: The Indian Army is conducting the “Terrier Cyber Quest 2025” in collaboration with which institute to address defence and cybersecurity threats?

- A. IIT Madras
- B. IIT Delhi
- C. IISc Bangalore
- D. DRDO
- E. NIT Warangal

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Indian Army’s Territorial Army, in collaboration with IIT Madras, Indian Army Research Cell (IARC), and CyberPeace, is conducting the Indian Army Terrier Cyber Quest 2025, a national-level challenge to tackle real defence and cybersecurity threats.
- The event will be held in New Delhi.
- The competition aims to foster innovation and collaboration in advanced domains such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Quantum Computing, and Drone Technology.
- It features two key challenges focused on building stronger systems for India using AI and ML.

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Recent News Headlines Related to IITs

- The Rajya Sabha on (August 20, 2025) passed a bill to set up an IIM in Guwahati with the Union government providing a capital support of ₹555 crore over 5 years
- IIT Madras has developed India's first silicon photonics-based high-speed Quantum Random Number Generator (QRNG)
- Bihar's Road Construction Department has collaborated with IIT Delhi to develop an AI-powered bridge management system
- IIT Madras develops agriculture waste-based packaging materials to eliminate plastic use. The researchers cultivated fungi (mushroom) on agriculture and paper waste to derive the material
- The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru launched the BHARAT initiative as part of its Longevity India Program
- IIT Gandhinagar led archaeological research that discovered human presence in the Great Rann of Kutch dating back at least 5,000 years before the Harappan civilisation
- IIT Madras has signed a MOU with Grid Controller of India Limited (GRID-INDIA) under the Ministry of Power to enhance Tanzania's electrical grid infrastructure. The collaboration is based at IIT Madras Zanzibar, the institute's international campus in Tanzania.
- IIT Kharagpur and Singapore's Institute of Microelectronics (IME), under the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) Signed MOU at SEMICON Southeast Asia 2025 to collaborate on semiconductor research and talent development
- The Bharat Forecast System (BFS) is developed by Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune. It provides a 6 km resolution, which is the highest resolution in the world for weather forecasting
- IIT Delhi launched the 'Manasvi' mentorship programme in New Delhi to inspire high-school girls to pursue careers in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)
- The Delhi cabinet has approved five cloud-seeding trials to combat high pollution levels in the city. IIT Kanpur will lead the planning and execution of the project





Ques: As per Capitaline data, which company reported the highest net profit among India's unlisted companies in FY25?

- A. Reliance Jio
- B. NSE
- C. Tata Sons
- D. Reliance Retail
- E. Mahanadi Coalfield

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Tata Sons reported the highest net profit among unlisted companies in FY25 at ₹27,304 crore, despite a 23.7% YoY decline.
- Reliance Jio came second with ₹24,666 crore, showing 22.1% growth.
- NSE stood third with ₹10,981 crore, recording a 67.8% YoY growth.

Other top unlisted companies by profit include:

- Mahanadi Coalfield – ₹10,706 cr (↓ 8.8%)
- Reliance Retail – ₹9,963 cr (↑ 12.4%)
- Northern Coalfield – ₹9,530 cr (↑ 15.3%)
- NABARD – ₹7,628 cr (↑ 25.0%)

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India's Rankings in Different Indices

- World Competitiveness Ranking (WCR) is published by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD), Switzerland : India (41st), Switzerland (1st)
- Top 500 Global Brands List 2025 was published by TopBrand Union : Microsoft
- mid-2025 Numbeo Safety Index : India (67th), Abu Dhabi, UAE (1st)
- Fortune 100 Most Powerful People in Business List 2025 : Mukesh Ambani (56th), Jensen Huang (1st)
- Global AI City Index, 2025 Published by Counterpoint Research : Singapore (1st), Bengaluru (26th)
- India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI) 2024 was launched by NITI Aayog : Delhi, Maharashtra, and Chandigarh emerged as the top three performers overall
- The WATS 2024 report was published by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) : India (5th), USA (1st)
- 71st edition of the Fortune Global 500 List (2025) : Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) (88th), Walmart Inc. (1st)
- EduRank 2025 global list for Agricultural Sciences : Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) (93rd)
- July edition of Henley Passport Index 2025 Global Ranking Published by Henley & Partners (UK) : India (77th), Singapore (1st)
- Travel + Leisure Readers' 10 Favourite International Airports of 2025 List Published by Travel+Leisure : Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Maharashtra (9th), Istanbul Airport, Turkey (1st)
- Forbes' 2025 list of the 50 Richest Self-Made Women in world : Falguni Nayar, India (31), Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, India (32nd), Raefaela Aponte-Diamant, Switzerland (1st)
- Avendus Wealth-Hurun India U30 List 2025 is the 1st edition : Kaivalya Vohra (1st), Aadit Palicha (2nd)
- QS Best Student Cities 2026 was published by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) : Mumbai (Maharashtra) (98), Seoul (South Korea) (1st)
- 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)





Ques: Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) signed an MoU with which security force to enhance cooperation in training, research, and academic development related to national security?

- A. Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
- B. Border Security Force (BSF)
- C. Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
- D. Sahastra Seema Bal (SSB)
- E. Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU), a national university dedicated to national security and policing education under the Ministry of Home Affairs, signed an MoU with the Sahastra Seema Bal (SSB), Alwar (Rajasthan).
- The collaboration aims to foster cooperation in training, research, and academic development related to national security.
- RRU will provide academic inputs and advanced training to strengthen the operational capabilities of SSB.
- RRU, based in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, is dedicated to teaching, research, and training in policing, national security, law enforcement, correctional administration, and strategic studies.
- It offers diploma and degree certifications to personnel across various national security organizations.





RECENT LOANS AND AGREEMENTS :

- NaBFID (National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development) will raise \$1 billion from international markets in FY26
- Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) sanctioned a term loan of Rs. 199.70 crore to Surat Integrated Transportation Development Corporation Limited (SITCO) for developing India's first international standard Multi-Modal Transport Hub in Surat
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has invested USD 40 million in the "Global Supply Chain Support Fund", which is managed by Aavishkaar Capital
- India Exim Bank signed a \$40 million commercial credit line agreement with ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID)
- Bharat Earth Movers Limited secured its first overseas rail and metro contract worth USD 1 million from Malaysia for retrofitting and reconditioning its Mass Rapid Transit system.
- The International Finance Corporation (IFC) will invest \$150 million (about Rs.1,300 crore) as an anchor equity investment in the H-DREAM Fund (HDFC Capital Development of Real Estate Affordable and Mid-Income Fund).
- 38 Million euros loan Given by German Export Finance Bank to CEF Group, an Indian cleantech company for the construction of two CBG plants as part of CEF Group's wider plant to construct 22 such facilities across India
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has sanctioned a loan of Rs.975.26 crore for infrastructure development in nine industrial belts of Tripura
- BITS Pilani will invest a total of Rs.2,319 crore to expand its presence and academic offerings
- Interorient Navigation Co Limited and Danship & Partners Limited, two major shipping firms based in Cyprus, announced a Rs.10,000 crore investment in India's shipping industry in 2025
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) provide \$100 million loan to IIFL Home Finance Limited to help more low-income families in India get access to affordable housing
- The Green Climate Fund (GCF) has provided a USD 200 million loan (approximately Rs.17.07 billion) to support an Asian Development Bank (ADB)-led programme aimed at investing in high-impact and emerging clean energy sectors in India



Ques: What is the name of India's first indigenous Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) Autonomous Combat Aircraft unveiled under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative?

- A. DRDO Nishant
- B. HAL Tejas UAV
- C. FWD Kaal Bhairava
- D. Astra MALE
- E. Prahaar Drone

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- India unveiled its first indigenous MALE Autonomous Combat Aircraft in Bengaluru under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.
- The AI-powered aircraft is named FWD Kaal Bhairava and has already secured a \$30 million maiden export order from a South Asian country.
- Developed by Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace (FWDA), the system is inspired by Kaal Bhairava, the eternal guardian of time.
- The aircraft can fly up to 30 hours with an operational range of 3,000 kilometres.

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Recent News Headlines Related to First in India and world :

- OpenAI, the provider of ChatGPT, confirmed that it will open its first India office in New Delhi by late 2025
- The CISF has launched its first all-women commando unit to boost gender parity
- India's first urban ropeway is undergoing a three-month trial run in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- Suzlon Group has become the first Indian company from the energy sector to join the Renewable Energy 100 (RE100) Initiative
- Kerala has been declared India's first fully digitally literate state, marking the completion of Phase I of the Digi Kerala project
- Mumbai-based XED Executive Development Ltd, a global executive education provider, became the first company to file for an IPO at GIFT IFSC, Gujarat, targeting \$12 million
- For the first time in South-Central Railway (SCR) history, five key departments – Operations, Commercial, Finance, Security, and Medical – are being led by women officers
- Champa Raspeda, a student from Odisha's Malkangiri district, has made history by becoming the first member of the Didayi, a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG), to clear NEET 2025.
- India's first Hydrogen (H₂) powered train has cleared load tests under the Research Designs & Standards Organization (RDSO) at Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai
- NTPC Limited has become the 1st Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) in the Indian power sector to adopt a comprehensive Business Continuity Plan (BCP) aligned with International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 22301:2019, global standard for Business Continuity Management Systems (BCMS).
- India's first detachable solar panel system between railway tracks was put into service by Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW), situated in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, marking a significant advancement in green energy innovation, according to the Ministry of Railways (MoR)
- The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has become India's first railway zone to adopt compostable bio-plastic on trains



Ques: When was the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) launched?

- A. 15 August 2015
- B. 28 August 2014
- C. 2 October 2016
- D. 1 January 2015
- E. 28 August 2015

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- PMJDY was launched on 28 August 2014, becoming the world's largest financial inclusion initiative.
- As of mid-August 2025, 56.16 crore bank accounts have been opened with total deposits of ₹2.67 lakh crore.
- 56% of Jan Dhan accounts belong to women, promoting gender equality in financial access.
- Accounts grew from 14.72 crore (2015) to 56.16 crore (2025).
- PMJDY provides small accounts for those without legal documents, a free RuPay debit card with ₹2 lakh accident insurance, and overdraft facility up to ₹10,000.
- Accounts are linked to schemes like DBT, PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY, and MUDRA.
- Guinness World Record: Most bank accounts opened in one week = 18,096,130.

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Recent News Headlines Related to Schemes

- 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
- "One Freezone Passport," a new program launched by Dubai (United Arab Emirates (UAE)), enables businesses licensed in one free zone to expand operations into other free zones within the emirate without needing a second license.
- The Shakti Scheme was implemented by the Karnataka Government on June 11, 2023. It provides free bus travel for women across all state-run transport corporations
- West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee launched the Shramshree Scheme for migrant workers returning to Bengal after facing harassment in other states
- The SASCI scheme (Special Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure and Investment) was launched in FY21 with an initial allocation of ₹12,000 crore (COVID pandemic support)
- Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis launched the Garuda Drishti scheme at Police Bhavan, Nagpur. It is a social media monitoring and cyber-intelligence initiative
- The Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved the Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee-Chevening Uttar Pradesh State Government Scholarship Scheme.
- The BJP government in Chhattisgarh will relaunch the Congress-era 'Gothan' scheme under the new name 'Gaudham' to Reduce road & highway accidents caused by stray cattle by keeping them in Gaudham centres.
- The Union Cabinet approved ₹12,000 crore for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) in FY26





Ques: Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director (MD) of Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)?

- A. Ramesh Chand
- B. Akash Tripathi
- C. Alok Kumar
- D. Rajiv Gauba
- E. Ajay Mathur

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Akash Tripathi, a 1998-batch IAS officer, has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of SECI.
- His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- He will serve in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary.
- SECI is a state-owned company under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

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Recent Appointment in different departments :

- Teymur Abasgulyev, a senior executive from SOCAR Turkiye Enerji A.Ş. : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Nayara Energy (Replaced Sergey Denisov)
- Sajith Sivanandan : CEO of Tata Digital
- Former India captain Sourav Ganguly : Head Coach of Pretoria Capitals for the SA20 2026 season (Replaced England batter Jonathan Trott)
- Rajit Punhani (Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship) : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) (Replaced Ganji Kamala V. Rao)
- Sushil Kumar Lohani and D. Anandan : observers for the 17th Vice-Presidential Election
- Anish Dayal Singh : PM Modi's new Deputy NSA
- Ajay Singh : re-elected as President of Boxing Federation of India for third straight term
- Pramod Kumar (Uttar Pradesh) : Secretary General of
- Pon Baskaran (Tamil Nadu) : Treasurer of Boxing Federation of India
- Jaideep Gandhi : Vice President of the Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI)
- Srinivasan. K. Swamy : president of Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) for 2025-26
- H.E. Zeenat Kureshi : Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)-India Trade Commissioner
- Noel Tata : Director on the Tata Sons Board at the 107th Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- Chief operating officer of VI Abhijit Kishore : Chief executive officer of Vodafone Idea for Three years (Replaced Akshaya Moondra)
- Mir Mohammed Ali : Director in the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)
- IAS Pratyay Amrit : Bihar Chief Secretary (succeed Amrit Lal Meena)
- PB Balaji : CEO of Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover (JLR)
- Mrs. S. Radha Chauhan : Chairperson of the Capacity Building Commission in New Delhi
- Dr. A. Rajarajan : Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)
- IAS officer Shashi Prakash Goyal : Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh (succeeds Manoj Kumar Singh)
- KJ Patel : Managing Director of IFFCO (retirement of US Awasthi)





Ques: Which ministry invites nominations for the National Youth Award (NYA) 2024?

- A. Ministry of Education
- B. Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
- C. Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
- D. Ministry of Culture
- E. Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, invited nominations for the National Youth Award (NYA) 2024.
- The award aims to motivate young persons aged 15–29 years to achieve excellence in national development or social service.
- It is awarded in two categories: Individual and Organisation.
- Typically, up to 20 awards are given in the Individual category and up to 5 awards in the Organisation category each year.

Prize money:

- Individuals: Medal, certificate, and ₹1,00,000
- Voluntary youth organisations: Medal, certificate, and ₹3,00,000





Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- 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
- Guinness World Record for hosting the largest parent-teacher meeting (PTM) : Andhra Pradesh
- PATA Gold Award 2025 in the category of 'Most Engaging Social Media Campaign' : Kerala Tourism
- PEN Translates award : Hindi author Geetanjali Shree for her book Once Elephants Lived Here
- "Emerging Coastal and Heritage Award" by the U.S.-based International Tourism Conclave and Travel Awards (ITCTA) : Andhra Pradesh Tourism
- GP Birla Memorial Award 2025 : Dr. V. Narayanan, the current Chairman of ISRO and Secretary of the Department of Space
- Mrs Earth International 2025. : Vidhu Ishiqa





Ques: The Indian Armed Forces are participating in the multilateral exercise “BRIGHT STAR 2025” hosted by which country?

- A. Saudi Arabia
- B. Egypt
- C. United Arab Emirates
- D. United States
- E. Israel

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- 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.
- The participation demonstrates India’s commitment to regional peace, stability, and security, while enhancing jointness, interoperability, and cooperation with friendly foreign countries.
- Exercise Bright Star is a multilateral exercise hosted by Egypt in conjunction with the US since 1980, and is among the largest Tri-Service multilateral exercises in the region.
- The exercise is conducted biennially, with the last edition held in 2023.

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Recent News Headlines Related to Defence Exercise :

- 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
- The 21st edition of Yudh Abhyas (a joint military exercise between India and the U.S.) will be held in Alaska this month
- The Indian Navy and the Hellenic (Greek) Navy held a joint PASSEX (passing exercise) near the Mumbai coast in the Arabian Sea. The Western Naval Command deployed INS Tarkash to conduct a PASSEX exercise with the passing Hellenic Navy Ship HS Psara.
- Exercise Divya Drishti is a high-altitude technology demonstration conducted by the Indian Army in East Sikkim. It aimed to test advanced technologies that enhance battlefield awareness, real-time surveillance, and swift decision-making
- The Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) jointly organize the Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX), which is one of India's longest continuous maritime exercises
- Talisman Sabre 2025 is the 11th edition of a major bilateral military exercise led by Australia, started on July 13, 2025. It is the largest bilateral military drill between Australia and the United States, held biennially since 2005
- The Indian Army conducted a military exercise titled 'Prachand Shakti' in Meerut. It was organised by the Charging RAM Division at the Kharga Corps Field Training Area





Ques: Which team won the 134th edition of the Durand Cup 2025?

- A. Diamond Harbour FC
- B. North East United FC
- C. Mohun Bagan
- D. East Bengal
- E. Chennaiyin FC

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- North East United FC (NEUFC) retained the Durand Cup by defeating Diamond Harbour FC (DHFC) 6-1 in the final of the 134th edition, held at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (VYBK), Kolkata.
- NEUFC won the trophy and a monetary prize of ₹1.21 crore, the highest champion's purse in the history of Asia's oldest football tournament. The runner-up DHFC received ₹60 lakh.

Awards of Durand Cup 2025:

- Golden Player (Player of the Tournament): Alaaeddine Ajaraie (NEUFC)
- Golden Boot (Highest Scorer): Alaaeddine Ajaraie
- Golden Glove (Best Goalkeeper): Gurmeet Singh (NEUFC)

About Durand Cup :

- Started : 1888
- Number of teams : 24
- Organising body : Durand Football Tournament Society and AIFF
- Most successful team(s) : Mohun Bagan (17 titles)
- 2025 edition : 134th
- Venue : Imphal, Kokrajhar, Kolkata, Shillong and Jamshedpur
- Current champions : NorthEast United (2nd title)





Ques: From 27th August 2025, most Indian goods entering the US will attract what tariff rate under the Trump administration?

- A. 25%
- B. 30%
- C. 40%
- D. 50%
- E. 60%

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- From 27th August 2025, most Indian goods entering the US will attract a 50% tariff.
- The 50% tariff includes the 25% tariff announced in late July and an additional 25% “penalty” tariff announced in early August, targeting India’s purchases of Russian oil and defence imports from Moscow.
- Trade experts estimate that India’s merchandise exports to the US could drop by 40–45% in 2025–26 compared to the previous year.
- About 30% of exports (valued at \$27.6 billion in FY25) such as pharmaceuticals, electronics, and petroleum products remain duty-free.
- 4% of exports, mainly auto parts, face a 25% tariff.
- Competitors like Vietnam, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, and Pakistan could benefit from India’s potential export losses.
- The US accounts for 20% of India’s merchandise exports and 2% of GDP.
- Specific sectors impacted include marine exports (48% revenue from US), home textiles (60% exports to US), and carpets (50% exports to US).





Ques: India's Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited signed a framework agreement with which country's government to set up a new pharmaceutical manufacturing facility through a joint venture?

- A. Kenya
- B. South Africa
- C. Namibia
- D. Tanzania
- E. Zambia

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- India's Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited signed a framework agreement with the Government of Zambia (GRZ) to establish a pharmaceutical manufacturing facility and supply medicines for Zambia's national health programs.
- Akums will hold a 51% stake in the new joint venture company, while the Zambian state will hold the remaining 49% stake.
- The facility will manufacture general oral solids, liquids, injectables, and beta-lactam products.
- GRZ will procure medicines worth at least USD 50 million (₹425 crore) over 2026–27, supplied from Akums' facilities in India.
- Once established, the plant will also export medicines to neighboring African countries like Zimbabwe, Namibia, Botswana, Malawi, Tanzania, and Mozambique.





Ques: Recntly, which two Indian space start-ups launched satellites onboard SpaceX's Falcon-9 rocket from California?

- A. Agnikul & Skyroot
- B. Pixxel & Dhruva Space
- C. Bellatrix & Astrogate
- D. ISRO & Skyroot
- E. Pixxel & Bellatrix

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Pixxel Space launched 3 Firefly satellites, completing Phase-1 of its 6-satellite hyperspectral constellation for high-resolution Earth observation.
- Dhruva Space (Hyderabad-based) launched its first commercial satellite – LEAP-01, carrying payloads from Australia's Akula Tech and Esper Satellites, marking India's first hosted payload mission.
- Earlier in January 2025, Pixxel had launched 3 Firefly satellites. With all 6 Fireflies in orbit, Earth becomes a "living laboratory" for continuous planetary observation.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Veteran Communist Party of India (CPI) leader Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy, who passed away recently, held which key position in the CPI in 2012?

- A. President
- B. General Secretary
- C. Treasurer
- D. Vice President
- E. Organizing Secretary

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy, a veteran Communist Party of India (CPI) leader, actively engaged in student activism and was elected All India President of All India Students' Federation (AISF) in 1970.
- He was elected as Member of Parliament representing CPI from Nalgonda (Telangana) in 1998 and 2004.
- In 2012, he was elected as the General Secretary of the CPI.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who was awarded the 2025 Stockholm Water Prize during the 35th World Water Week held in Stockholm, Sweden?

- A. Prof. Veerabhadran Ramanathan
- B. Prof. Gunter Blochl
- C. Prof. Ashok Gadgil
- D. Prof. Claudia Tebaldi
- E. Prof. Upmanu Lall

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The 35th World Water Week 2025 was held from August 24 to 28 in Stockholm, Sweden, organized by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).
- Theme 2025: “Water for Climate Action”.
- The 2025 Stockholm Water Prize was awarded to Professor Gunter Blochl, a distinguished hydrologist from the Vienna University of Technology.

EXAM
Genius





Important days :

- August 1-7 (first week of August) : World Breastfeeding Week 2025 (Theme 2025 Prioritize Breastfeeding: Create Sustainable Support Systems")
- 1 August : World Lung Cancer Day (Theme 2025 Stronger Together: United for Lung Cancer Awareness)
- 1 August : World Wide Web Day (Theme 2025 Empowering the Future: Building an Inclusive, Safe, and Open Web)
- 1 August : World FinTech Day 2025 (Theme 2025 GFF Empowering Finance for a Better World, Powered by AI)
- 1 August : National Mountain Climbing Day
- 3rd August (first Sunday of August) : National Friendship Day (Theme 2025 Building Bridges: Celebrating Diversity, Solidarity, and a Culture of Peace)
- 3 August : Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day
- 3 August : 15th Indian organ donation day - Angdaan Jeevan Sanjeevani Abhiyaan
- 5 August : Article 370 abrogation
- 6 August : International Day of Awareness of the Special Development Needs and Challenges of Landlocked Developing Countries
- 6 August : Hiroshima Day
- 7 August : National Javelin Day
- 9 August : World Sanskrit Day
- 9 August : Nagasaki Day
- 9 August : World Tribal Day, also called World Indigenous Day (2025 Theme: "Indigenous Peoples and Artificial Intelligence – Defending Rights, Shaping the Future".)
- 10 August : World Lion Day 2025
- 10 August : World Biofuel Day
- 12 August : International Youth Day (Theme 2025 - Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond.)
- 12 August : World Elephant Day (2025 Theme - "Matriarchs & Memories")
- 12th - 26th August : World Photography Week
- 13 August : World Organ Donation Day (Theme 2025 Answering the Call)
- 13 August : International Left Handers Day 2025
- 27 August : World Lake Day (theme for 2025: "Lakes: the lifeblood of our planet.")

