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Ques: Which company has received a ₹1,000 crore, 10-year ATM cash outsourcing contract from SBI?

- A) Hitachi Payments
- B) FIS Global
- C) CMS Info Systems Ltd
- D) NCR Corporation
- E) AGS Transact

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- State Bank of India (SBI) awarded a ₹1,000 crore, 10-year cash outsourcing contract to CMS Info Systems Ltd.
- This is the first direct large cash outsourcing contract awarded by a PSU bank.
- The contract covers 5,000 SBI-owned ATMs across India, including managed services, improved cash efficiency, and higher ATM uptime.
- CMS Info Systems is a leading company in ATM management and cash logistics services in India.

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Ques: According to the RBI's draft amendments, what is the minimum cooling-off period required for a director who has completed 10 years of continuous tenure on the board of a co-operative bank before being eligible for re-appointment to the same bank?

- A) One year
- B) Two years
- C) Three years
- D) Five years
- E) No cooling-off period

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- As per RBI's draft amendments, a director who completes 10 years of continuous tenure on the board of a UCB, State Co-operative Bank, or Central Co-operative Bank can be re-appointed to the same bank only after a minimum cooling-off period of three years.
- During this period, the director cannot hold any role in the bank other than as a regular member or customer.
- The rule does not prevent the director from being appointed on the board of another co-operative bank.
- RBI counts total board tenure across UCBs, State, and Central Co-operative Banks, including periods before any interruption of less than three years, for calculating continuous tenure.

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Recent News Headlines Related to SBI :

- India's largest lender, the State Bank of India, will facilitate bilateral trade settlements between India and Israel in Indian rupees.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has extended a loan of €150 million (approximately ₹1,360 crore) to Germany's KfW Development Bank.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched YONO 2.0, the upgraded version of its digital banking platform "You Only Need One (YONO)".
- SBI Ventures, promoted by State Bank of India, plans to raise ₹2,000 crore for its third climate-focused fund to invest in startups.
- SBI report states that implementing the four labour codes—Code on Wages (2019), Industrial Relations Code (2020), Code on Social Security (2020), and Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code (2020)—may create 77 lakh jobs and boost consumption by ₹75,000 crore.
- SBI's Economic Research Department (ERD) has projected India's real GDP growth at 7.5% in Q2 FY26, with potential for an upside.

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Ques: Which company has received a contract from India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) to launch a comprehensive digital investment platform for its customers across India?

- A) Choice Wealth Private Limited
- B) CAMS Investor Services
- C) Karvy Fintech
- D) Zerodha Broking Limited
- E) HDFC Securities

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Choice Wealth Private Limited has been awarded a contract by India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) to launch a comprehensive digital investment platform.
- The platform will enable IPPB customers across India to seamlessly access formal financial investment services.
- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), established in 2017, operates with the tagline “Your Bank at Your Doorstep” and is headquartered in New Delhi.

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Ques: Who became Karnataka's longest-serving Chief Minister in January 2026?

- A) B.S. Yediyurappa
- B) D. Devaraj Urs
- C) Siddaramaiah
- D) S.M. Krishna
- E) H.D. Kumaraswamy

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Siddaramaiah, a 78-year-old Congress leader, became Karnataka's longest-serving Chief Minister on 7 January 2026.
- He completed 7 years and 240 days as Chief Minister, surpassing the previous record of D. Devaraj Urs (7 years 239 days).
- Siddaramaiah is the first Chief Minister from the Kuruba community, Karnataka's third-largest social group, and is known for his AHINDA politics (focusing on Minorities, Backward Classes, and Dalits).
- He has presented a record 16 State Budgets, the highest by any Karnataka CM.

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Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has created the Supervisory Data Quality Index (sDQI) to measure the quality of data submitted by banks.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cancelled the Certificate of Registration (CoR) of 35 NBFCs for non-compliance with regulatory requirements.
- The first meeting of the Payments Regulatory Board (PRB) was held in Mumbai under the chairmanship of RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra.
- Reserve Bank of India granted final authorisation to BRISKPE to operate as a Payment Aggregator-Cross Border (PA-CB) under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 enabling it to facilitate both inward and outward payment flows.
- The Reserve Bank of India proposed adding podcasts to its communication toolkit to widely disseminate information of public interest.
- The RBI has eased capital adequacy norms for Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) lending to high-quality infrastructure projects through Amendment Directions, 2026.
- The Handbook of Statistics on Indian States 2024–25 (10th Edition) has been published by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).





Ques: Who inaugurated the National Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Data Management System (NIDMS) and what is its primary purpose?

- A) Defence Minister – Military modernisation
- B) Union Home Minister Amit Shah – Strengthening counter-terrorism and counter-IED capabilities
- C) NSA – Cyber security enhancement
- D) NSG DG – Training of commandos
- E) IT Minister – Digital governance

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the National Improvised Explosive Device Data Management System (NIDMS) of the National Security Guard (NSG).
- Located at the NSG garrison in Manesar, Gurugram, Haryana, the platform aims to strengthen India's counter-terrorism and counter-IED capabilities through post-blast investigations and evidence-based prosecution.
- NIDMS acts as a central repository of all bomb explosion incidents in India from 1999 to the present.
- The AI-enabled platform identifies patterns, trends, signature linkages, and modus operandi related to explosives and electronic circuits used in IEDs.
- The platform is accessible to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), Anti-Terrorism Squads (ATS), State Police Forces, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), and other central investigation and intelligence agencies.
- NIDMS supports the 'One Nation, One Data (ONOD) Repository' vision and is integrated with the Interoperable Criminal Justice System-2 (ICJS-2) under the 'One Data–One Entry' principle.
- Through ICJS-2, it is linked with CCTNS, e-Courts, e-Prisons, e-Prosecution, e-Forensics and the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS), enhancing national security coordination.
- The National Security Guard (NSG), popularly known as the 'Black Cats', was established in 1984 as India's elite counter-terrorism and anti-hijacking force.





- NSG headquarters is located at Manesar, Gurugram, Haryana; its motto is Sarvatra Sarvottam Suraksha (Omnipresent Omnipotent Security).
- The Director General of NSG is Brighu Srinivasan, with regional hubs in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and Ayodhya, supported by the National Bomb Data Centre.



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Ques: The Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) has signed an MoU with which institution to collaborate on advanced telecom technologies and global standardisation?

- A) IIT Delhi
 - B) IIT Bombay
 - C) IIT Madras
 - D) IIT Kanpur
 - E) IISc Bengaluru
- Answer: Option D

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- The Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), the technical arm of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IIT Kanpur.
- The collaboration focuses on joint studies, research, and technical contributions in advanced telecom technologies and global standardisation activities.
- Key areas include 6G, AI in Telecom, Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs), IoT, Digital Twin, Metaverse, and Quantum Communication.
- The partnership aims to develop India-specific standards and testing frameworks for emerging and future communication technologies.
- The MoU also strengthens India's participation and leadership in global standard-setting bodies such as ITU-T, ITU-R, 3GPP, and other international forums.

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About Telecommunications Engineering Centre :

- Established : 1991
- HQ : New Delhi
- Senior Deputy General : Syed Tausif Abbas





Ques: Under the proposed change, what will be the new short-term loan limit for Kisan Credit Card (KCC) holders?

- A) ₹4 lakh
- B) ₹3 lakh
- C) ₹5 lakh
- D) ₹6 lakh
- E) ₹2 lakh

Answer: Option C

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- The government plans to increase the short-term loan limit for KCC holders from ₹3 lakh to ₹5 lakh, likely effective from FY27.
- This benefit will cover over 77 million (7.7 crore) KCC holders across India.
- Under the current Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS), farmers can avail loans up to ₹3 lakh at 7% interest, with 3% subvention for prompt repayment, reducing the effective rate to 4%.
- The increase aims to meet higher working capital needs of farmers due to rising input costs and strengthen agricultural credit flow.

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Ques: Which Indian Olympian and Asian Games gold medalist middle-distance runner has announced his retirement from competitive athletics after a 15-year international career?

- A) Mohammed Afsal
- B) Ajay Kumar Saroj
- C) Sriram Singh
- D) Tintu Lukka
- E) Jinson Johnson

Answer: Option E

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- Jinson Johnson, Olympian and Asian Games gold medalist, announced his retirement from competitive middle-distance running after a 15-year international career.
- He represented India in the 800 metres event at the 2016 Rio Olympics.
- Jinson Johnson became the first Indian male runner to qualify for the Olympic 800m since Sriram Singh in 1980.
- His career includes distinguished performances at Asian Games and other international competitions, making him one of India's leading middle-distance athletes.

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Ques: Where are the 2nd Khelo India Beach Games being held?

- A) Marina Beach, Chennai
- B) Kovalam Beach, Kerala
- C) Ghoghla Beach, Diu
- D) Calangute Beach, Goa
- E) Juhu Beach, Mumbai

Answer: Option C

Explanation | व्याख्या

:

- The 2nd Khelo India Beach Games are being held at Ghoghla Beach, Diu, from 5th to 10th January 2026.
- Organised by the UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, with technical supervision by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and national sports federations.
- Mascot: 'Pearl', a lively dolphin, welcomed athletes and stakeholders.
- Participants: Over 2,100 athletes competing in 8 beach sports, including 6 medal disciplines: Beach Soccer, Beach Volleyball, Beach Sepak Takraw, Beach Kabaddi, Pencak Silat, and Open Water Swimming.
- Non-medal events: Mallakhamb and Tug of War.
- The games support PM Modi's vision of promoting a strong sports culture in India.

Medal Tally of top 5 States or Union Territories (UTs):

- 1 Karnataka - Gold (3), Silver (2), Bronze (6), Total (11)
- 2 Tamil Nadu - Gold (3), Silver (2), Bronze (3), Total (8)
- 3 Manipur - Gold (3), Silver (2), Bronze (2), Total (7)
- 4 Madhya Pradesh - Gold (3), Silver (1), Bronze (1), Total (5)
- 5 Haryana - Gold (2), Silver (4), Bronze (2), Total (8)





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Recent Headlines Related to Inauguration :

- Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh from the Ministry of Science and Technology inaugurated the National Environmental Standard Laboratory and the National Primary Standard Facility for Solar Cell Calibration.
- Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh (Lalan Singh) inaugurated the Smart Green Aquaculture Farm and India's first commercial-scale tropical RAS-based Rainbow Trout Aquaculture Farm and Research Institute in Kandukur Mandal, Ranga Reddy district, Telangana.
- Lakshman Prasad Acharya, Governor of Assam, inaugurated Sanskaar Shaala, also known as Shankar Shaala, at the Lohia Lions Auditorium in Guwahati.
- India inaugurated its first government hospital-based AI clinic at the Government Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS) in Kasna, Greater Noida.
- Union Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the redeveloped Batadrava Than at Borduwa village in Nagaon district, Assam.
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the Jyoti-Bishnu International Art Centre in Guwahati, Assam.

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Ques: Which Australian cricketer announced his retirement from international cricket after playing his final Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground?

- A) David Warner
- B) Steve Smith
- C) Mitchell Starc
- D) Marnus Labuschagne
- E) Usman Khawaja

Answer: Option E

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- Usman Tariq Khawaja, Pakistan-born Australian cricketer, announced his retirement from international cricket after the fifth and final Ashes Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground.
- The match marked his 88th and final Test appearance for Australia.
- Khawaja is Australia's first Muslim Test cricketer and made his international debut against England in the final Test of the 2010–11 Ashes series.
- In his Test career, he scored 6206 runs in 87 matches across 157 innings.
- In ODIs, he accumulated 1554 runs in 40 matches for Australia.

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Ques: The world's tallest Shiva Lingam, to be installed in January 2026, is located at which place?

- A) Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh
- B) Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu
- C) Kaithwalia, East Champaran, Bihar
- D) Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh
- E) Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu

Answer: Option C

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- A 33-ft-long, 210-tonne Shiva Lingam, carved from a single black granite rock transported from Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu, is being installed at the Virat Ramayan Mandir in Kaithwalia, East Champaran, Bihar.
- Once installed, it will stand 51 feet high from ground level, surpassing the current largest Shivling in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, marking a historic milestone.
- The Virat Ramayan Mandir complex spans 125 acres, featuring a 270-foot-tall main structure, 18 towers, and 22 temples, with an estimated cost of ₹500 crore.

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Ques: Where was India's first fully paperless district judiciary virtually inaugurated by the Chief Justice of India Surya Kant?

- A) Ernakulam, Kerala
- B) Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- C) Thrissur, Kerala
- D) Kozhikode, Kerala
- E) Kalpetta, Wayanad, Kerala

Answer: Option E

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- India's first fully paperless district judiciary was virtually inaugurated at Kalpetta in Wayanad district, Kerala.
- The initiative was inaugurated by the Chief Justice of India, Justice Surya Kant.
- This marks the first time an entire district court system has shifted to end-to-end digital functioning, with all courts in Kalpetta operating exclusively in digital mode.
- Justice Vikram Nath, Chairperson of the Supreme Court eCommittee, called it a citizen-centric reform bringing justice closer to the people.

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Recent News Headlines Related to MoU and agreement

- The Indian Army signed an Emergency Procurement contract worth Rs.293 crores with NIBE Limited for the procurement of the Suryastra rocket launcher system.
- The Oil and Natural Gas Corporation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation under Ministry of Tribal Affairs in New Delhi to strengthen Eklavya Model Residential Schools through Rs 28 crore Corporate Social Responsibility funding.
- Supreme Court of India (SCI) & Supreme Court of Bhutan(SCB) signed MOU to facilitate the exchange of young legal professionals and strengthen judicial cooperation between the two nations, in New Delhi
- ONGC has partnered with Japanese shipping company Mitsui OSK Lines (MOL) to set up two joint ventures for entering the ethane shipping business, with backing from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management.
- India and Bangladesh initiated joint water measurement on the Ganga and Padma rivers as the 30-year Ganges Water Sharing Treaty entered its final year.

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Ques: Which CPSE may become India's first railway Maharatna?

- A) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited
- B) IRCON International
- C) Indian Railway Finance Corporation
- D) RITES Limited
- E) CONCOR

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC), currently a Navratna CPSE, is close to being upgraded to Maharatna status, making it the first railway CPSE to achieve this recognition.
- This upgrade will give IRFC greater financial and operational autonomy, allowing it to invest up to ₹5,000 crore or 15% of its net worth in a single project without government approval.

• Eligibility for Maharatna includes:

- Average annual turnover > ₹25,000 crore (last 3 years)
- Net worth > ₹15,000 crore
- Net profit after tax > ₹5,000 crore
- Significant international presence.

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Ques: Which organisation secured an “Excellent” rating with a score of 96.42 for its performance under the Memorandum of Understanding for FY 2024–25?

- A) Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)
- B) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)
- C) Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)
- D) Power Finance Corporation (PFC)
- E) Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)

Answer: Option A

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- IREDA (Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency), under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), secured an “Excellent” rating for FY 2024–25 with a high score of 96.42.
- This marks the fifth consecutive year IREDA has achieved an Excellent rating, reflecting consistent operational efficiency and strengthened governance.
- In comparison, IREDA had scored only 45.83 (Fair rating) in FY 2019–20, showing a significant improvement over the years.
- The performance highlights IREDA’s key role in India’s renewable energy financing ecosystem.

About IREDA :

- Established : 1987
- HQ : New Delhi
- CMD : Pradip Kumar Das

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Ques: Which supercomputing system has been launched by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) as a major addition to India's high-performance computing network?

- A) Param Shakti
- B) Param Ganga
- C) Param Siddhi
- D) Param Yuva
- E) Param Ananta

Answer: Option A

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- Param Shakti, a 3.1-petaflop supercomputing system, has been launched by MeitY as a major addition to India's high-performance computing network.
- It is entirely developed and manufactured in India, enhancing indigenous high-performance computing capabilities.
- The system is built using C-DAC's RUDRA series of servers and runs on an open-source software stack, including AlmaLinux and system software developed domestically by C-DAC.
- Param Shakti strengthens India's ability to perform advanced computational tasks in research, AI, climate modeling, and scientific simulations.

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Ques: Who released 55 literary works in classical Indian languages along with a Tirukkural Sign Language series?

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Amit Shah
- C) Dharmendra Pradhan
- D) M. Venkaiah Naidu
- E) Ramesh Pokhriyal

Answer: Option C

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan released 55 literary works representing India's classical languages, including Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, and Odia.
- 41 books were developed by the Centres of Excellence for Classical Languages under the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL).
- Additionally, 13 books and a Tirukkural Sign Language series were released by the Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT).
- The Tirukkural is a classical Tamil text authored by Thiruvalluvar.
- The Minister highlighted that all Indian languages are national languages that connect and unite society.
- The government is promoting education in Indian languages, including teaching up to Class 5 in the mother tongue.
- Engineering and medical courses are also being developed in Indian languages.





Recently Retired Players :

- **Mohit Sharma (India) : Retirement from all formats of cricket**
- **Andre Russell (Jamaica) : Retirement from IPL cricket**
- **Kane Williamson (New Zealand) : retired from Twenty20 internationals**
- **Amit Mishra : Retirement from international cricket**
- **Asif Ali (Pakistan) : Retirement from international cricket**
- **Mitchell Starc (Australia) : Retirement from T20 International cricket**
- **Ravichandran Ashwin : India's legendary off-spinner, officially retired from the IPL**
- **Cheteshwar Pujara : Retirement from all forms of cricket**
- **Andre Russell (West Indies) : Retirement from international cricket**
- **Lalit Kumar Upadhyay : Retirement from international hockey**
- **Piyush Pramod Chawla : Retirement from all formats of professional cricket**

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Ques: How many Indian films were included in the list of feature films eligible for the Best Picture category at the 98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026)?

- A) Three
- B) Four
- C) Five
- D) Six
- E) Seven

Answer: Option C

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- Five Indian films—Kantara: A Legend – Chapter 1, Tanvi The Great, Mahavatar Narsimha, Tourist Family, and Sister Midnight—were included in the list of 201 feature films eligible for the Best Picture category at the 98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026).
- The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) released the eligibility list.
- To qualify, films needed a 10-theatre theatrical run in the U.S. within 45 days of their release in 2025.
- Films also had to submit a RAISE (Representation and Inclusion Standards Entry) form and meet at least two out of four inclusion standards.
- The 98th Academy Awards ceremony will take place on 15 March 2026 at Dolby Theatre, Los Angeles, California, USA.

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Ques: Who is the author of the book 'Agni Sarassulo Vikasinchina Kamalam Droupadi Murmu' (Lotus Blooming in the Fire of Coals), recently released at Andhra University?

- A) Y. Lakshmi Prasad
- B) K. Chandrashekar Rao
- C) R. Ramesh
- D) P. Chidambaram
- E) N. Gopaldaswami

Answer: Option A

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- The book 'Agni Sarassulo Vikasinchina Kamalam Droupadi Murmu' (Lotus Blooming in the Fire of Coals) is authored by former MP Y. Lakshmi Prasad.
- It was released at Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- The book was uniquely unveiled by Lakshamma, a woman sanitation worker who cleans the roads at Andhra University.
- The work highlights the life and journey of Droupadi Murmu, presenting her story as a symbol of resilience and inspiration.

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Ques: Which Indian airline became the 5th Indian member of the International Air Transport Association (IATA)?

- A) Vistara
- B) Alliance Air
- C) TruJet
- D) Go First
- E) Akasa Air

Answer: Option E

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- Akasa Air has become the 5th Indian airline to join the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the global trade association for the airline industry.
- The other four Indian IATA members are Air India, Air India Express, IndiGo, and SpiceJet.
- IATA promotes safe, reliable, secure, and economical air transport worldwide.
- Founded in 2020 by Vinay Dube and the late investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, Akasa Air is India's youngest airline.
- Currently, the airline connects 26 domestic and 6 international destinations, enhancing India's aviation connectivity.

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Recent News headlines related to Sports

- Venus Williams (45) has been awarded a wildcard entry to the Australian Open.
- Hockey India has appointed Sjoerd Marijne as the chief coach of the Indian women's hockey team.
- The 27th edition of the FIDE World Rapid and Blitz Chess Championship 2025 was held at the Sports and Events Complex, Qatar University, Doha, Qatar.
- Indian women's cricket achieved a major milestone as Deepti Sharma became the highest wicket-taker in Women's T20 International cricket.
- Sonam Yeshey of Bhutan created history by becoming the first bowler ever to take eight wickets in a men's T20 International match.
- Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU), located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, will host eight sporting disciplines of the World Police and Fire Games (WPFG) 2029.
- Surya Charishma Tamiri from Andhra Pradesh won the Women's Singles crown at the 87th Senior National Badminton Championships held in Vijayawada.
- Virat Kohli became the fastest to score 16,000 runs in List-A cricket, achieving the milestone in just 330 innings.

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Ques: Where was the two-day National Textiles Ministers' Conference held and under which scheme were MoUs signed to support evidence-based policymaking in the textile sector?

- A) Jaipur – SAMARTH Scheme
- B) New Delhi – PM MITRA Scheme
- C) Guwahati – Tex-RAMPS Scheme
- D) Surat – TUFS Scheme
- E) Chennai – SILK Samagra Scheme

Answer: Option C

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- The two-day National Textiles Ministers' Conference was held in Guwahati, Assam, bringing together Textile Ministers and senior officials from States and Union Territories to discuss India's textile sector roadmap.
- The conference was organized by the Ministry of Textiles under the theme "India's Textiles: Weaving Growth, Heritage & Innovation."
- As part of promoting evidence-based policymaking, the Ministry signed MoUs with 15 States.
- These MoUs were signed under the Tex-RAMPS (Textiles focused Research, Assessment, Monitoring, Planning And Start-Up) scheme, aimed at strengthening research and policy planning in the textile sector.

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News Headlines Related to Ministry :

- Nyaya Setu Legal Service was launched on 1 January 2026 by the Ministry of Law and Justice.
- Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh from the Ministry of Science & Technology announced the removal of the mandatory 3-year existence condition for deep-tech startups.
- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), the IndiaAI Mission, the Government of Assam and IIT Guwahati are hosting a two-day Working Group Meeting in “Human Capital” at the IIT Guwahati campus
- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) has set up the Live Events Development Cell (LEDC) to promote and strengthen India’s concert and live entertainment economy.
- The Ministry of Textiles extended the deadline for submission of fresh applications under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles to March 31, 2026, from December 31, 2025.
- The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) has proposed assigning an Aadhaar-like unique identification number to EV batteries.

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Ques: Who was Madhav Dhananjaya Gadgil, recently in news for his passing, and which major contribution is he best known for?

- A) Ecologist – Western Ghats conservation & Indian ecology
- B) Economist – Planning Commission reforms
- C) Space scientist – Indian space missions
- D) Physicist – Nuclear research
- E) Medical researcher – Public health reforms

Answer: Option A

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- Madhav Dhananjaya Gadgil was a renowned ecologist, scholar, and conservationist, widely regarded as the father of modern Indian ecology.
- He joined the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru in the 1960s and made significant contributions to ecological research.
- In 2010, he was appointed Chairman of the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, popularly known as the Gadgil Commission, focusing on sustainable development and conservation in the Western Ghats.
- He played a key role in creating India's first Biosphere Reserve – Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, and contributed to framing the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.
- Gadgil also served on the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and chaired international bodies like the Science and Technology Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- He was awarded the Padma Shri (1981) in Civil Service and the Padma Bhushan (2006) in Science and Engineering.
- His international recognitions include the United Nations Champion of the Earth Award (2024), Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement (2015), Harvard Centennial Medal (2002), and Vikram Sarabhai Award (1990).





Ques: Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD), also known as Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day, is observed on which date to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's return from South Africa to India?

- A) 8 January
- B) 9 January
- C) 10 January
- D) 12 January
- E) 15 January

Answer: Option B

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is observed every year on 9 January.
- It commemorates Mahatma Gandhi's return from South Africa to India in 1915.
- PBD was first celebrated in 2003, and since 2015, it is observed biennially.
- The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention was held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, in January 2025 with the theme "Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat (Developed India)."
- The 19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention is scheduled to be held in 2027.

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Important days :

- 14 December : International Day Against Colonialism in All Its Forms and Manifestations 2025
- 14 December : National Energy Conservation Day
- 14 – 20 December : National Energy Conservation Week 2025
- 16 December : Vijay Diwas
- 17 December : 22nd International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers 2025 (Started in 2003)
- 18 December : 52nd Arabic Language Day (Theme 2025 Innovative Pathways for Arabic: Policies and Practices for a More Inclusive Linguistic Future) (Started in 2012)
- 18 December : 25th International Migrants Day (Theme 2025 My Great Story: Cultures and Development) (Started in 2000)
- 18 December : National Minority Rights Day
- 20 December : International Human Solidarity Day 2025 (Theme 2025 Solidarity for Sustainable Development: Uniting Communities for a Shared Future)
- 20 December : Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) observes its Raising Day
- 21 December : World Basketball Day 2025 (Started in 2023)
- 21 December : 2nd World Meditation Day (1st - 2024)
- 22 December : National Mathematics Day 2025 (Commemorates Birth date (138th) of Srinivasa Ramanujan, born in 1887)
- 22 December : National Mathematics Day
- 23 December : National Farmer's Day
- 24 December : National Consumer Day (theme "Efficient and Speedy Disposal through Digital Justice.")





- 25 December : 12th Good Governance Day (theme “Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore (Governance Towards Villages)”)
- 19th to 25th December : Good Governance Week
- 26 December : 4th Veer Bal Diwas
- 27 December : 6th International Day of Epidemic Preparedness 2025 (Started in 2020)
- 1 January : Global Family Day (Started in 2000)
- 2 January : World Introvert Day (Theme 2026 Quietly Changing Tomorrow)
- 3 January : International Mind-Body Wellness Day
- 4 January : World Braille Day (Started in 2018)
- 5 January : National Bird Day (started in 2002)
- 6 January : World Day of War Orphans (Started in 1995)
- 6 January : 9th National Siddha Day (“Siddha for Global Health.”)
- 8 January : Earth’s Rotation Day

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