

**EXAM GENIUS**  
Presents  
**GENIUS**  
**CURRENT**  
**AFFAIRS**

**In English**  
**31 DEC 2025**



**India's No. 1 Platform for UPSC**  
**| SSC | BANK | RAILWAY Exam**

**Achieve Success with Exam Genius - Your Ultimate Guide to Reasoning Mastery !**



**Ques: The report titled “Rewiring GVCs in a Changing Global Economy” has been jointly published by which of the following institutions?**

- A) Asian Development Bank, World Trade Organization, World Economic Forum
- B) International Monetary Fund, World Bank, OECD
- C) United Nations, World Bank, WTO
- D) World Economic Forum, OECD, UNDP
- E) Asian Development Bank, IMF, World Bank

**Answer: Option A**

**Explanation:**

- The report is jointly published by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Trade Organization (WTO), and World Economic Forum (WEF).
- It focuses on Global Value Chains (GVCs), highlighting how globalization is being rewired due to technological changes, green transition, and shifting geopolitical conditions.
- GVCs account for 46.3% of global trade, slightly below the 2022 peak of 48%, showing resilience despite global challenges.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: What is the purpose of the centralized portal launched by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)?**

- A) To allow international UPI payments
- B) To track failed UPI transactions only
- C) To view, manage, and revoke UPI Autopay standing instructions from one platform
- D) To provide loans through UPI
- E) To increase UPI transaction charges

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- NPCI launched a centralized portal ([npci.org.in](http://npci.org.in)) to let users view, manage, and revoke all UPI Autopay standing instructions from a single platform.
- The initiative ensures consumer protection and transparency across the UPI ecosystem, requiring all banks and payment service providers to implement it by December 31, 2025.
- Rapid growth in recurring digital payments is evident, with the top 10 banks processing 926 million UPI Autopay transactions in November 2025, up from 530.5 million in November 2024.
- SBI processed the largest number of transactions (290 million), while Airtel Payments Bank recorded the fastest growth (25.6 million → 89.7 million in one year).

**About NPCI :**

- Established : 2008
- HQ : Mumbai
- MD & CEO : Dilip Asbe





**Ques: Which bank has partnered with Fyno to deploy a unified customer communication platform?**

- A) Kerala Grameena Bank
- B) Punjab National Bank
- C) Canara Bank
- D) Bank of Baroda
- E) Indian Bank

**Answer:** Option A

**Explanation:**

- **Fyno** has partnered with Kerala Grameena Bank (KGB) to implement a unified customer communication platform.
- The platform acts as an intelligent communications hub for banks, enabling centralized management, automation, and governance of all customer interactions.
- Key features include creating, managing, and updating communication templates consistently across the banking network.
- Fyno's CEO and Co-Founder is Aniketh Jain.

EXAM  
Genius





## Recently signed banking agreements

- Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Limited has entered into a strategic bancassurance partnership with Equitas Small Finance Bank to expand life insurance distribution through ESFB's branch network.
- BharatPe, in partnership with YES Bank, launched 'Pay Later with BharatPe', an instant Credit on UPI product powered by NPCI.
- Shriram Finance Limited (SFL) entered into a definitive agreement with MUFG Bank Limited for an investment of ₹39,618 crore (USD 4.4 billion).
- Central Bank of India has signed an MoU with State Bank of India (SBI) to establish a strategic partnership focused on enhancing leadership and institutional capabilities in project financing.
- HCL Technologies Limited announced a multi-year strategic partnership with ASN Bank, the Netherlands' fourth-largest retail bank, to modernize its digital operations and Information Technology architecture.
- Canara HSBC Life Insurance has entered into a bancassurance partnership with Equitas Small Finance Bank (ESFB) to expand life insurance penetration across India.





**Ques: Which company has launched the health insurance product “Galaxy Twin 360” for young adults?**

- A) Star Health Insurance
- B) HDFC ERGO Health Insurance
- C) Care Health Insurance
- D) ICICI Lombard Health Insurance
- E) Galaxy Health Insurance

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- Galaxy Health Insurance, promoted by V Jagannathan and TVS Group’s Venu Srinivasan, has launched the health insurance product “Galaxy Twin 360”.
- It is targeted at young adults aged 18–45 years.
- Available in three plans: Core, Max, and Ultra, the product provides IPD coverage, high-value OPD benefits, and wellness services.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: What change has SEBI made regarding eligibility for a Basic Services Demat Account (BSDA)?**

- A) Increased the BSDA holding limit to ₹20 lakh
- B) Included ZCZP bonds in valuation threshold
- C) Excluded ZCZP bonds and delisted securities from valuation threshold
- D) Abolished BSDA accounts altogether
- E) Made BSDA mandatory for all investors

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- SEBI has excluded Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP) bonds and delisted securities from the valuation threshold used to determine eligibility for a BSDA.
- Under the revised norms, the value of these bonds and delisted securities will not be counted when checking if an investor's holdings are within the ₹10 lakh BSDA limit.
- The changes come into effect from March 31, 2026, supporting small investors to continue availing BSDA benefits despite such holdings.
- BSDA is a simplified demat account introduced in 2012 to reduce maintenance charges for investors with relatively small portfolios.

EXAM  
Genius





## Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector:

- Canara ai1Pe has been launched by Canara Bank. It allows users to link savings or current accounts from any bank to make and receive UPI payments.
- Axis Bank Limited, a leading private sector lender in India, launched a new digital loan product called 'Digital Merchant Cash Advance Loans' for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
- The IndusInd Bank Jio-bp Mobility+ Credit Card was launched on 10 December 2025.
- South Indian Bank has launched the RuPay SIB Paytag, a contactless NFC-enabled payment sticker/device.
- IDFC First Bank has launched the 'IDFC First Global Savings Account' for Non-Resident Indians (NRIs).
- Axis Bank and Google Pay have jointly launched the 'Google Pay Flex Axis Bank Credit Card'.
- Google Launches 'Flex' Its First-Ever Credit Card in India on RuPay in collaboration with Axis Bank

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: India's first-ever national-level 'Organised Crime Network Database' (OCND) has been launched by which ministry to combat organised crime and terror-linked networks?**

- A) Ministry of Defence
- B) Ministry of Home Affairs
- C) Ministry of Law and Justice
- D) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- E) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- India's first national-level Organised Crime Network Database (OCND) was launched under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) by Union Minister Amit Shah.
- The database was unveiled during the 'Anti-Terror Conference-2025' held in New Delhi.
- OCND has been developed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in close coordination with State Police Forces and the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID).
- The purpose of OCND is to combat organised crime and terror-linked networks by providing a centralized platform for intelligence and investigation.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: Which senior advocates have been appointed as Additional Solicitors General (ASGs) for India in the Supreme Court of India?**

- A) Mukul Rohatgi, Harish Salve, and Tushar Mehta
- B) Kapil Sibal, Abhishek Manu Singhvi, and Mahesh Jethmalani
- C) Davinder Pal Singh, Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar, and Anil Kaushik
- D) Ranjit Kumar, Gopal Sankaranarayanan, and Siddharth Luthra
- E) C. Aryama Sundaram, P. Wilson, and Manan Kumar Mishra

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- Davinder Pal Singh, Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar, and Anil Kaushik have been appointed as Additional Solicitors General (ASGs) for India in the Supreme Court.
- Their tenure will be three years from the date of assuming office or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- ASGs assist the Attorney General of India and the Solicitor General in representing the Government of India in the Supreme Court and other courts.

EXAM  
Genius





## Recent News Headlines Related to SEBI

- SEBI has eased the re-KYC process for existing NRI clients by removing the requirement of being physically present in India during digital re-KYC.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved Groww as an Online Bond Platform Provider (OBPP).
- National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX) has received in-principle approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to launch a Mutual Fund transaction platform.
- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) received in-principle approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to register the Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust (RIIT) as an Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT).
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched the Past Risk and Return Verification Agency (PaRRVA) to prevent misleading claims related to past performance made by Research Analysts, Investment Advisors, and stock brokers in financial product advertisements.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) granted final approval to ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company (AMC), a Joint Venture(JV) between ICICI Bank and Prudential Corporation Holdings Limited, to launch its Rs 10,000 crore Initial Public Offering (IPO).

Genius





**Ques: Which Indian company delivered the first batch of indigenously developed Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP) 8×8 vehicles to the Royal Moroccan Army?**

- A) Bharat Electronics Limited
- B) Tata Advanced Systems Limited
- C) Larsen & Toubro
- D) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- E) Bharat Dynamics Limited

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) delivered the first batch of indigenously developed Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP) 8×8 vehicles to the Royal Moroccan Army (RMA).
- The WhAP (Kestrel) was jointly developed by DRDO and TASL under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make with Friends/Make for the World initiatives.
- A total of 150 WhAP vehicles, contracted in September 2024, will be delivered over three years.
- The WhAP production plant at Berrechid, Morocco, inaugurated in September 2025, is the first Indian private defence manufacturing facility in Africa.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: Losar Festival is celebrated as the New Year of which region?**

- A) Sikkim
- B) Arunachal Pradesh
- C) Ladakh
- D) Himachal Pradesh
- E) Uttarakhand

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- Losar is the traditional New Year festival of Ladakh, celebrated with devotion and joy.
- It is a major religious festival observed during winter, with prayers for prosperity, good harvest, and wealth.
- The festival involves lighting prayer lamps, illuminating monasteries, stupas, houses, and public places.
- Celebrations continue for nine days and include prayers, traditional dances, songs, and religious rituals.
- Special customs include preparing dough models of ibex, the Sun and the Moon, and sighting the first moon of the year on the third day.

EXAM  
Genius





## News Headlines Related to Ministry :

- The National Commission for Women (NCW), under the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD), launched the 'SHAKTI Scholars: NCW Young Research Fellowship' to promote policy-oriented research on women-related issues in India.
- Union Minister Amit Shah, from the Ministry of Home Affairs, convened a high-level meeting for the formation of a dedicated body called the Bureau of Port Security (BoPS).
- The Ministry of Textiles (MoT), in collaboration with the National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited (NICDC), held a stakeholder consultation in New Delhi to engage prospective developers for PM MITRA Parks.
- The Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) under Ministry of Textiles launched the nationwide rollout of the Chaupal Program in New Delhi during the National Handicrafts Week (8-14 December 2025) celebrations to empower handicraft artisans across India.
- Sikkim will host a special supercar rally from 12–15 December under the 'Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan' initiative of the Ministry of Defence.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: Which country will assume the chair of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) from January 1, 2026?**

- A) United Arab Emirates
- B) Botswana
- C) South Africa
- D) Belgium
- E) India

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- India will assume the chair of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) from January 1, 2026.
- KPCS is a global initiative to remove conflict diamonds from the supply chain.
- This will be the third time India has been elected as Chair, taking over from the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- In India, the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry serves as the nodal agency for KP.

**About Kimberley Process (KP):**

- Started: January 1, 2003
- HQ: Gaborone, Botswana
- Participants: 60 participants representing 86 countries (EU counted as one participant)
- Diamond Trade Coverage: Over 99% of global rough diamond trade
- Executive Secretary: Bojun Tang

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: Who became India's first World Chess Champion by winning the FIDE World Chess Championship 2000?**

- A) D. Gukesh
- B) Alexei Shirov
- C) Viswanathan Anand
- D) Garry Kasparov
- E) Anatoly Karpov

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- The FIDE World Chess Championship 2000 was held in New Delhi (India) and Tehran (Iran) in a knockout format with 100 players.
- In the final, Viswanathan Anand defeated Alexei Shirov to win the title.
- This victory made Anand the first Indian to be crowned World Chess Champion.
- Anand's historic win on December 24, 2000, is celebrated as one of India's greatest sporting achievements.

EXAM  
Genius





## Recent Appointment in different departments :

- **Archna Vyas** : New Gates Foundation country director for India
- **Saleem Ahmad** : Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) (replaced Sukhmal Chand Jain (Pradeep Gaur))
- **Shashwat Sharma** : Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bharti Airtel Limited.
- **Suresh Goyal** : 11th Director General of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). (replaced Poonam Gupta)
- **Raj Kumar Goyal** : Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of India (Replaced Heeralal Samariya)
- **Senior journalist Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty** : first woman President of the Press Club of India (replaced Umakant Lakhera)
- **B Sairam (CMD of Northern Coalfields Ltd)** : Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of Coal India Limited (CIL) (Replaced Sanoj Kumar Jha, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Coal (PM Prasad))

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: What is the primary objective of establishing the Maitri-II Research Station in Antarctica?**

- A) To promote Antarctic tourism
- B) To strengthen India's polar scientific research capability
- C) To set up a permanent military base
- D) To replace Bharati Research Station
- E) To conduct only climate diplomacy activities

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**

- India plans to replace the existing Maitri Research Station with a new Maitri-II Research Station in Antarctica.
- The main objective is to strengthen India's polar scientific research capability and maintain a long-term scientific presence in Antarctica.
- Maitri-II will serve as a state-of-the-art, year-round research hub for multidisciplinary studies in biology, earth sciences, glaciology, atmospheric sciences, climate studies, and long-term environmental monitoring.
- The project is approved by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, with ₹29.2 crore sanctioned for pre-investment activities like architectural design and DPR preparation.
- The station is now expected to be completed by 2032, with scientific operations commencing thereafter.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: Who won the IGU 124th Amateur Golf Championship of India?**

- A) Harman Sachdeva
- B) Jyoti Randhawa
- C) Anirban Lahiri
- D) Shubhankar Sharma
- E) Sukhman Singh

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- Sukhman Singh won the IGU 124th Amateur Golf Championship of India with an impressive performance at the historic Tollygunge Club.
- In the 36-hole matchplay final, he defeated Harman Sachdeva of Haryana.
- Earlier in the season, he also claimed the IGU Rajasthan Amateur Championship.
- The IGU Amateur Championship, first held in 1892, is recognised as the world's longest-running amateur matchplay golf tournament.

EXAM  
Genius





## Recent News Headlines Related to Festivals & Fairs :

**Charaichung Festival** : hosted on Majuli Island in Assam to revive awareness about Asia's first protected royal bird sanctuary.

• **Yomari Punhi** : Newari harvest festival celebrated in the Kathmandu Valley.

• **Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam 2025** : 3rd edition of the cultural music festival. The festival was organised by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Sangeet Natak Akademi.

• **Kambala** : traditional buffalo race festival celebrated annually after the harvest season. mainly observed in Karnataka's Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts, and Kerala's Kasargod district

• **International Gita Festival** : 10th edition was held at Kurukshetra, with Madhya Pradesh as the partner state

• **World Peace Prayer Festival** : 16-day festival, starting from 4th November 2025 in Thimphu, Bhutan

• **'Kartik Naach'** festival : 10-day-long traditional dance-drama celebrated at Patan Durbar Square, Lalitpur, Nepal, on the occasion of Kartik Purnima

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: According to BloombergNEF (BNEF), which position did India reclaim in the global wind market in 2025?**

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

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- As per BloombergNEF (BNEF), India reclaimed the third position in the global wind market in 2025 after a four-year gap.
- In 2025, India achieved its highest-ever annual wind power capacity additions.
- With this, India now ranks behind only China and the United States in the global wind energy market.
- The improved ranking is due to faster project commissioning and a revival in the wind energy sector.
- Previously, India had slipped in ranking because of slower capacity additions in prior years.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: Who has been appointed as the Chair of the Badminton World Federation (BWF) Athletes' Commission for the 2026–2029 term?**

- A) Saina Nehwal
- B) Greysia Polii
- C) Tai Tzu-ying
- D) Carolina Marin
- E) Pusarla Venkata (P.V.) Sindhu

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- Pusarla Venkata (P.V.) Sindhu, two-time Olympic medallist and 2019 World Champion, has been appointed as the Chair of the BWF Athletes' Commission.
- Her tenure will be for three years (2026–2029).
- She replaces Greysia Polii of Indonesia in this role.
- Debora Jille from the Netherlands has been appointed as the Deputy Chair for the same term.
- The BWF was established in 1934 with its headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

EXAM  
Genius





## Recent News headlines related to Sports

- Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, unveiled the logo, theme song, and mascot for the inaugural edition of the Khelo India Tribal Games (KITG).
- Alpine SG Pipers clinched the 3rd edition of the Global Chess League (GCL) 2025, also known as the Tech Mahindra Global Chess League 2025, by defeating two-time defending champions Triveni Continental Kings in the final held in Mumbai.
- The 12th edition of the ACC Men's Under-19 Asia Cup 2025 was hosted by the United Arab Emirates at the ICC Academy Ground and Sevens Stadium, Dubai.
- Smriti Mandhana became the first Indian batter to score more than 4,000 runs in Women's T20 Internationals.
- The 8th edition of the Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Tour 2025 featured a total of 29 tournaments and concluded with the season-ending HSBC BWF World Tour Finals 2025.
- The Asian Youth Para Games (APYG) 2025 was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- India's East Bengal Football Club won the inaugural South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Women's Club Championship 2025.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: NHPC recently declared the Commercial Operations Date (COD) of the first unit of which hydropower project?**

- A) Teesta-V Hydroelectric Project
- B) Dibang Multipurpose Project
- C) Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project
- D) Nathpa Jhakri Hydroelectric Project
- E) Lower Kopili Hydroelectric Project

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- NHPC Limited declared the Commercial Operations Date (COD) of Unit-2 (250 MW) of the Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project.
- The project has a total installed capacity of 2000 MW ( $8 \times 250$  MW), making it India's largest hydropower project.
- Located on the Subansiri River along the Arunachal Pradesh–Assam border, it is based on a Run-of-the-River scheme.
- The project will enhance renewable energy generation and grid resilience in North-East India, contributing to India's clean energy transition and Net Zero targets.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: Which startup has developed and deployed India's first fully indigenous 1.5-tesla (1.5T) MRI scanner?**

- A) Trivitron Healthcare
- B) Tata Medical Systems
- C) BPL Medical Technologies
- D) VoxelGrids
- E) Medha Servo Drives

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation:**

- VoxelGrids, a Zoho-backed startup, developed and deployed India's first fully indigenous 1.5T MRI scanner at the Chandrapur Cancer Care Foundation near Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- The project, led by founder Arjun Arunachalam, is the outcome of a 12-year mission to reduce India's dependence on imported MRI systems.
- Technology: Uses a helium-free "dry magnet" design, eliminating the need for expensive liquid helium.
- Cost & Efficiency: About 40% cheaper, more energy-efficient, and lighter than conventional MRI machines.
- The development was carried out under the National Biopharma Mission (NBM).

EXAM  
Genius





## Recent News Headlines Related to First in india and world :

- **AIIMS (All India Institute of Medical Sciences), New Delhi conducted India's first clinical trial of the Supernova Stent, an advanced stroke treatment device.**
- **German engineer Michaela Benthaus became the world's first wheelchair user to travel into space.**
- **GI-tagged Indi Lime from the Vijayapura district of Karnataka was exported to Oman for the first time on 19 December 2025.**
- **Madhya Pradesh has announced plans to develop India's first state-level, multi-national park Tiger Corridor in collaboration with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).**
- **The University of Patanjali, Haridwar has become India's first Yoga and Ayurveda focused 'Cluster Center' under the Gyan Bharatam Mission.**
- **The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched India's first 'wildlife-safe road' on a 2-kilometre ghat section of the 11.96-km Hiran–Sindoor stretch of NH-45 in Madhya Pradesh.**
- **Uttar Pradesh is set to create history by establishing India's first dedicated forest university.**





**Ques: India's first AI-driven Diabetic Retinopathy screening programme is anchored by which system?**

- A) MadhuNetrAI
- B) AyushNetrAI
- C) NayanAI
- D) DrishtiNet
- E) RetinaCare AI

**Answer: Option A**

**Explanation:**

- India's first AI-driven Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) screening programme was launched on 16 December 2025.
- The programme is anchored by MadhuNetrAI, developed by RPC, AIIMS.
- The system enables automated screening, grading, and triaging of retinal images captured via handheld fundus cameras.
- The initiative is a collaborative effort between Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS), AIIMS, and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- The pilot phase is being implemented at seven locations in India: Pune, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Dharamshala, Gaya, Jorhat, and Kochi.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: What is the name of India's first indigenously designed and built Pollution Control Vessel (PCV) inducted by the Indian Coast Guard?**

- A) Samudra Pratap
- B) Samudra Prachet
- C) INS Vikrant
- D) Varuna
- E) INS Arihant

**Answer: Option A**

**Explanation:**

- Samudra Pratap (Yard 1267) is India's first indigenously designed and built Pollution Control Vessel (PCV), formally inducted by the Indian Coast Guard at Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL).
- The vessel is 114.5 metres long, 16.5 metres wide, and has a displacement of 4,170 tonnes.
- It was built under a two-PCV project signed on 22 June 2021 between the Ministry of Defence and GSL.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: Which new airlines have received No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA)?**

- A) Akasa Air and FlyBig
- B) AI Hind Air and AirAsia India
- C) Shankh Air and Akasa Air
- D) FlyExpress and Akasa Air
- E) AI Hind Air and FlyExpress

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has granted No Objection Certificates (NOCs) to two new airlines: AI Hind Air and FlyExpress.
- These airlines join Shankh Air, which had already received its NOC earlier, and all three are expected to begin operations in 2026.
- Before starting operations, the newly approved airlines must obtain an Air Operator Certificate (AOC) from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- India's domestic aviation market is currently dominated by IndiGo and Air India Group (Tata-owned), together accounting for nearly 90% of total passenger traffic.

EXAM  
Genius





**Ques: What is the name of the newly discovered soil-dwelling micro-arthropod species found in the high-altitude regions of Sikkim, marking the first record of the genus Neelus in India?**

- A) Neelus himalayensis
- B) Neelus indicus
- C) Neelus sikkimensis
- D) Neelus altimontis
- E) Neelus orientalis

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) discovered a new soil-dwelling micro-arthropod species named Neelus sikkimensis in the high-altitude regions of Sikkim.
- This is the first record of the genus Neelus in India.
- The research was conducted by the Apterygota Section of ZSI, led by Dr. Guru Pada Mandal, with Kusumendra Kumar Suman as part of the team.
- With this discovery, the global species count under the genus Neelus has risen to eight.

EXAM  
Genius

