



Exam Genius

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WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

11 - 17 JAN 2026

2ND WEEK OF JANUARY

150+ MCQ
with detailed
explanation



- Banking & finance
- National
- International
- Sports





Ques: Which bank launched 'The Fortuna Wave' as its refreshed brand identity to signal modernization and future-readiness?

- A) South Indian Bank
- B) Federal Bank Limited
- C) Bandhan Bank
- D) Yes Bank
- E) IDFC First Bank

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Federal Bank Limited launched 'The Fortuna Wave', a refreshed brand identity, in Mumbai in the presence of Vidya Balan, the bank's brand ambassador.
- The new identity reflects the bank's transformation from a locally trusted institution into a national player with a growing global presence.

About Federal Bank:

- Established: 1931
- Headquarters: Kochi, Kerala
- MD & CEO: KVS Manian
- Tagline: Your Perfect Banking Partner

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Ques: Which public sector bank was the most penalised by RBI in FY25 by value?

- A) Canara Bank
- B) Indian Bank
- C) State Bank of India
- D) Bank of India
- E) Punjab National Bank

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- In FY25, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed monetary penalties totaling about ₹8.78 crore on Public Sector Banks (PSBs) for regulatory and compliance violations.
- State Bank of India (SBI) was the most penalised PSB, with a penalty of ₹1.72 crore.
- The penalty on SBI was mainly due to non-compliance with Priority Sector Lending (PSL) norms and deposit account regulations.
- Other PSBs penalised include Canara Bank (₹1.63 crore), Indian Bank (₹1.61 crore), Bank of India (₹1 crore), and Union Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank, Bank of Baroda, Bank of Maharashtra, and Punjab National Bank (₹29.60 lakh to ₹63.60 lakh).
- RBI imposes such penalties to ensure regulatory compliance and strengthen banking discipline.

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Ques: Till which date is the Special Revival Campaign launched by LIC for reviving lapsed individual policies valid?

- A) 31 December 2025
- B) 31 March 2026
- C) 2 March 2026
- D) 30 June 2026
- E) 1 January 2026

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) launched a Special Revival Campaign to revive lapsed individual policies.
- The campaign is valid from 1 January 2026 to 2 March 2026.
- Policies can be revived within five years from the date of the first unpaid premium.
- Maximum late fee concession is ₹5,000.

- **Concession details:**
 - Up to ₹1 lakh premium: up to ₹3,000
 - ₹1,00,001 to ₹3 lakh: up to ₹4,000
 - ₹3,00,001 and above: up to ₹5,000
- Micro-insurance plans get 100% late fee concession.





Ques: Which private sector bank faced the highest monetary penalty by value in CY25?

- A) HDFC Bank
- B) ICICI Bank
- C) Axis Bank
- D) Jammu & Kashmir Bank
- E) Yes Bank

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- In FY25 / CY25, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed monetary penalties totalling about ₹16.28 crore on private sector banks for regulatory and compliance violations.
- Jammu & Kashmir Bank faced the highest single monetary penalty by value among private sector banks.
- RBI imposed a penalty of ₹3.31 crore on Jammu & Kashmir Bank in March 2025.
- The violations were related to loan-related deficiencies and non-compliance with customer protection norms.
- Hence, Jammu & Kashmir Bank emerged as the most penalised private sector bank by value in CY25.

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Ques: Which regulator notified the phased rollout of revised net worth and liquid net worth requirements for existing Merchant Bankers through amendments to the 1992 regulations?

- A) RBI
- B) SEBI
- C) IRDAI
- D) PFRDA
- E) MCA

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- SEBI amended the SEBI (Merchant Bankers) Regulations, 1992 through the SEBI (Merchant Bankers) (Amendment) Regulations, 2025.
-
- **Net worth requirement:**
 - Category-I: ₹25 crore by 02 Jan 2027; ₹50 crore by 02 Jan 2028
 - Category-II: ₹7.5 crore by 02 Jan 2027; ₹10 crore by 02 Jan 2028
- **Liquid Net Worth (LNW):**
 - Category-I: ₹6.25 crore (2027); ₹12.5 crore (2028)
 - Category-II: ₹1.875 crore (2027); ₹2.5 crore (2028)
 -
- Underwriting limit capped at 20× LNW, comprising unencumbered liquid assets (cash, bank deposits, G-Secs, select MF units).
- Minimum revenue over 3 years mandated: ₹25 crore (Category-I) and ₹5 crore (Category-II); non-compliance may lead to cancellation of registration.
- • Independent compliance officer to be appointed by 03 April 2026; principal officers need 5 years' market experience with one-year compliance window.
- • Core merchant banking activities cannot be outsourced and existing arrangements must be unwound by 03 April 2026.
- • MBs cannot manage issues where connected persons hold over 0.1% equity or shares exceeding ₹10 lakh (whichever is lower).





Ques: Which State recorded the highest growth in own tax revenue (excluding Union taxes) during April–November FY26?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Uttar Pradesh
- D) Karnataka
- E) Tamil Nadu

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- As per data released by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG), Karnataka recorded the highest growth rate in States' own tax revenue during April–November FY26, excluding the share of Union taxes.
- Karnataka was followed by Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh in terms of growth rate, though in absolute tax collection Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh remain ahead of Karnataka.
- The growth in tax revenue was influenced by post-GST rate rationalisation, which particularly impacted SGST collections.
- In capital expenditure (capex), Gujarat emerged as the leading State, followed by Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- Several States are increasing capital expenditure aggressively to strengthen infrastructure in line with the Centre's push, while keeping fiscal deficits within recommended limits.

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Ques: Which bank integrated the RBI's Central Bank Digital Currency (Digital Rupee – e₹) into its online merchant payment platform SmartGateway?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) ICICI Bank
- C) Axis Bank
- D) HDFC Bank
- E) Punjab National Bank

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- HDFC Bank included the Digital Rupee (e₹), the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), into their online merchant payment platform, SmartGateway.
- As a result, in addition to current payment methods like UPI, cards, and net banking, SmartGateway merchants may now take payments using the Digital Rupee at no transaction fee.

About HDFC Bank:

- Established: August 1994
- HQ: Mumbai
- MD & CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Tagline: We Understand Your World

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Ques: Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB) has partnered with which fintech company to strengthen its UPI acquiring and issuing capabilities?

- A) TechFini
- B) Razorpay
- C) PayU
- D) PhonePe
- E) NPCI

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Tamilnad Mercantile Bank has entered into a strategic partnership with TechFini to enhance its UPI acquiring and issuing capabilities.
- Under the collaboration, TechFini will act as the Technology Service Provider for TMB and manage UPI switching through its TechFini UPI Switch.

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Ques: Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of HSBC Private Bank?

- A) Jane Fraser
- B) Ida Liu
- C) Alison Rose
- D) Nuno Matos
- E) Georges Elhedery

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

Ida Liu has been appointed as the CEO of HSBC Private Bank.

Before joining HSBC, she served as Global Head of Citi Private Bank since 2007.

HSBC Private Bank is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, and its Chairman is Peter Widmer.

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Ques: Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)?

- A) Abhishek Dev
- B) Sanjay Agarwal
- C) Rajesh Bhushan
- D) Alka Upadhyaya
- E) Manoj Ahuja

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Abhishek Dev has been appointed as the Chairman of APEDA with a one-year extension; he first assumed the role in July 2023.

APEDA was established in 1985 and is headquartered in New Delhi.

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Ques: Which organisation enabled online ticket booking for over 170 centrally protected monuments and museums through the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)?

- A) Ministry of Tourism
- B) India Tourism Development Corporation
- C) National Monuments Authority
- D) National Museum, Delhi
- E) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), under the Ministry of Culture, enabled online ticket booking for 170+ centrally protected monuments and museums via ONDC.

Visitors booking through ONDC-enabled apps receive discounts of ₹5 (Indian visitors) and ₹50 (foreign nationals).

Tickets are available on platforms such as Highway Delite, Pelocal (WhatsApp-based), and Abhee by Monde; more apps are being integrated.

About ASI:

Established: 1861

Headquarters: New Delhi

Director General: Yadubir Singh Rawat





Ques: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has partnered with which Japanese company to enter the ethane shipping business through joint ventures?

- A) Mitsui OSK Lines
- B) Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha
- C) Nippon Yusen Kaisha
- D) Japan Marine United
- E) Sumitomo Corporation

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

ONGC has partnered with Japanese shipping company Mitsui OSK Lines (MOL) to enter the ethane shipping business through two joint ventures.

The JVs—Bharat Ethane One IFSC Private Limited and Bharat Ethane Two IFSC Private Limited—are registered in GIFT City, Gandhinagar, with 50:50 ownership between ONGC and MOL.

Very Large Ethane Carriers (VLECs) will transport ethane from the USA to India to meet the feedstock needs of ONGC Petro Additions Limited (OPaL).

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Ques: Which athlete recently launched his own athlete management firm 'Vel Sports'?

- A) Bajrang Punia
- B) Abhinav Bindra
- C) Neeraj Chopra
- D) PV Sindhu
- E) Rohit Sharma

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Two-time Olympic medalist javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra has launched his own athlete management firm, Vel Sports, after ending a decade-long association with JSW Sports.

This move marks his transition from athlete to entrepreneur and mentor.

Through Vel Sports, he aims to guide young Indian athletes in career management and provide global exposure.

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Ques: Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)?

- A) Dr. D. K. Shukla
- B) R. K. Sinha
- C) S. K. Jain
- D) Anil Kakodkar
- E) A. K. Balasubrahmanian

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

A. K. Balasubrahmanian has been appointed as the Chairman of AERB for a three-year tenure, succeeding Dr. D. K. Shukla.

AERB was established in 1983 and is headquartered in Mumbai.

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Ques: Which country is planning to ban social media platforms for children under 15 from the 2026 academic year?

- A) France
- B) Germany
- C) Italy
- D) Spain
- E) Australia

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

The French government plans to ban social media access for children below 15 starting the 2026 academic year.

President Emmanuel Macron has strongly supported this move.

The proposal is inspired by Australia's ban on social media for under-16s.

The aim is to protect children's mental health, safety, and well-being, addressing online addiction, cyberbullying, and harmful content.

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Ques: Which state has announced the Tamil Nadu Assured Pension Scheme (TAPS) to provide OPS-equivalent post-retirement benefits while retaining a contributory structure?

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

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Tamil Nadu Assured Pension Scheme (TAPS) was announced by CM M. K. Stalin for state employees and teachers.

It provides assured post-retirement income equivalent to the old pension scheme (OPS) while maintaining a contributory system.

Employees contribute 10% of their basic pay; the state bears the additional financial liability.

Pension benefit under TAPS equals 50% of the last-drawn basic pay.

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Ques: Which AI-powered tool was demonstrated live by the Digital India BHASHINI Division at the 10th TiE Global Summit – Rajasthan Chapter?

- A) BhashaSetu
- B) Anuvaadini
- C) VaaniAI
- D) DigiVaani
- E) Shrutlekh

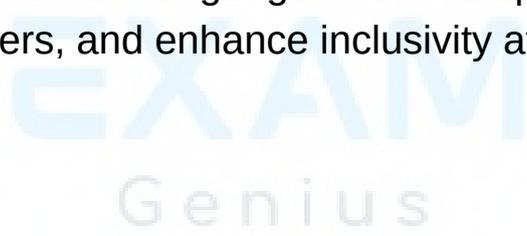
Answer: Option E

Explanation:

The Digital India BHASHINI Division (under MeitY) demonstrated Shrutlekh, an AI-powered speech-to-text and multilingual translation tool, at the 10th TiE Global Summit – Rajasthan Chapter.

Shrutlekh enabled real-time speech recognition, transcription, and English–Hindi translation using Auto Language Detection (ALD) during key sessions.

The demonstration showcased how language AI can adapt to multiple languages, reduce communication barriers, and enhance inclusivity at public forums.





Ques: Which organisation awarded a AAA (Stable) rating to NHAI's Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust (RIIT)?

- A) CRISIL
- B) ICRA
- C) CARE Ratings
- D) Fitch Ratings
- E) Moody's

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

NHAI's Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust (RIIT) received a AAA (Stable) rating for its long-term bank facilities from CARE Ratings.

AAA indicates the highest creditworthiness with very low default risk; 'Stable' outlook means the rating is expected to remain unchanged in the near to medium term.

CARE Ratings highlighted NHAI's strong backing, experience, credibility, and proven track record in the roads and highways sector.

RIIT is approved by SEBI as a Public Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) and NHAI has monetised road assets worth ~₹1.43 lakh crore.

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Ques: What type of weapon system is the 'Taimoor' missile recently tested by the Pakistan Air Force?

- A) Surface-to-Surface Ballistic Missile
- B) Surface-to-Air Missile
- C) Hypersonic Glide Vehicle
- D) Anti-Tank Guided Missile
- E) Air-Launched Cruise Missile

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

Taimoor is an Air-Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) tested by the Pakistan Air Force from Rawalpindi.

It has a range of 600 km and carries a conventional warhead.

Capable of striking land and sea targets, it uses advanced navigation and guidance systems and follows a very low-altitude flight profile.

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Ques: Which ministry has set up the Live Events Development Cell (LEDC) to boost India's concert and live entertainment economy?

- A) Ministry of Culture
- B) Ministry of Tourism
- C) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- D) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- E) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) has established the Live Events Development Cell (LEDC) to strengthen India's concert and live entertainment sector.

Constituted in July 2025 under Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, LEDC aims to streamline approvals, permissions, and inter-departmental coordination for large-scale live events.

The initiative targets positioning India as a leading global destination for live events by 2030.

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Ques: By which year does India aim to double its silk value chain to ₹1.10 lakh crore?

- A) 2026
- B) 2027
- C) 2028
- D) 2030
- E) 2035

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

India's silk value chain, currently around ₹55,000 crore, is targeted to double to ₹1.10 lakh crore by 2030.

Announced by the Central Silk Board (CSB) under the Ministry of Textiles.

India produces ~41,121 metric tonnes of raw silk annually (70% mulberry; rest eri, tasar, muga).

Production is projected to rise to ~54,000 metric tonnes by 2030 through expanded cultivation, improved productivity, and mechanisation.

Over the past five years, 50+ new districts were added, increasing silk-producing districts to ~476.

Government initiatives such as the Silk Samagra Scheme are supporting sectoral growth, while silk exports stood at ₹2,300 crore last fiscal and are expected to exceed ₹2,500 crore in FY26.





Ques: What is the maximum dividend payout cap proposed for commercial banks, small finance banks and payments banks under the revised framework?

- A) 60% of net profit
- B) 70% of net profit
- C) 75% of net profit
- D) 80% of net profit
- E) No upper limit

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Under the proposed framework, dividend payouts are capped at 75% of net profit for commercial banks, small finance banks and payments banks.
- Regional rural banks and local area banks will be allowed to distribute dividends up to 80% of net profit.
- Banks incorporated in India must report positive adjusted profit after tax for the relevant period to be eligible for dividend payout.
- Foreign banks operating through branches must have positive profit after tax from Indian operations to remit earnings to their head offices.
- The proposed directions apply to commercial banks, small finance banks, payments banks, regional rural banks and local area banks.
- The revised directions also cover all commercial banks, including State Bank of India and foreign banks operating in India through branches.
- Eligible foreign banks can remit profits to their head offices without prior RBI approval, subject to audited accounts and continued compliance with capital requirements.





Ques: What is the purpose of the Supervisory Data Quality Index (sDQI) created by the Reserve Bank of India?

- A) To assess profitability of banks
- B) To measure data quality in regulatory returns
- C) To rank banks based on customer service
- D) To evaluate credit growth
- E) To monitor monetary transmission

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India created the Supervisory Data Quality Index (sDQI) to measure the quality of data submitted by banks.
- The index evaluates data quality based on accuracy, timeliness, completeness, and consistency in regulatory returns.
- RBI reported that the sDQI score of Scheduled Commercial Banks improved to 90.7 in the September 2025 quarter from 89.9 in April–June 2025.
- Among bank groups, Small Finance Banks recorded the highest sDQI score of 91.5, followed by Public Sector Banks at 91.1.
- Private Sector Banks (90.6) and Foreign Banks (90.4) remained in the “good” category.
- In September 2025, no Scheduled Commercial Bank scored below 80, indicating overall improvement in data quality.
- As per sDQI grading: less than 70 indicates “major concerns”, 70–80 “needs improvement”, 80–90 “acceptable”, and above 90 “good”.
- The sDQI currently covers 87 Scheduled Commercial Banks and assesses returns related to asset quality, liquidity, risk-based supervision, and capital adequacy.





Ques: Which bank has introduced the 'Safety Centre' feature on its mobile banking app to enhance protection against digital fraud?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) ICICI Bank
- C) HDFC Bank
- D) Axis Bank
- E) Punjab National Bank

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Axis Bank has introduced a new feature called 'Safety Centre' on its mobile banking app to strengthen customer protection against digital fraud.
- The initiative aims to provide customers with greater control over digital banking security and fraud prevention.

About Axis Bank:

- Established: 1993
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman: Rakesh Makhija
- MD & CEO: Amitabh Chaudhary
- Tagline: Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi





Ques: How many Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) had their Certificate of Registration (CoR) cancelled by the RBI during December 2025, including voluntary surrenders?

- A) 35
- B) 45
- C) 50
- D) 51
- E) 55

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India cancelled the Certificate of Registration of 35 NBFCs for non-compliance with regulatory requirements.
- These cancellations were effective between December 9 and December 31, 2025.
- Additionally, 16 NBFCs voluntarily surrendered their Certificate of Registration to the RBI.
- This brought the total number of cancelled registrations to 51 NBFCs.
- RBI exercised its powers under Section 45-IA(6) of the RBI Act, 1934.

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Ques: Which state government launched a new financial assistance scheme for Udasin Bhakats to preserve cultural and religious heritage?

- A) West Bengal
- B) Odisha
- C) Assam
- D) Tripura
- E) Manipur

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Assam government launched a new financial assistance scheme for Udasin Bhakats.
- Udasin Bhakats are celibate Vaishnavite monks devoted to spiritual practice, worship, and preservation of the Udasin satra system founded by 15th-century saint Srimanta Sankardeva.
- The term “Bhakat” means devotee or disciple, while “Udasin” refers to detachment from worldly life in pursuit of spirituality.
- The scheme aims to ensure the welfare of Bhakats and support the preservation of Assam’s cultural and religious heritage.
- Under the scheme, each eligible Udasin Bhakat receives monthly financial assistance of ₹1,500 directly into their bank account.
- Around 620 Udasin Bhakats have been identified as beneficiaries across Assam.

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Ques: Which of the following books is written by Arundhati Roy?

- A) Midnight's Children
- B) Mother Mary Comes to Me
- C) A Suitable Boy
- D) The Inheritance of Loss
- E) Train to Pakistan

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Arundhati Roy is a renowned Indian author, essayist, and social activist.
- Mother Mary Comes to Me is a collection of essays reflecting her views on politics, society, resistance, and justice.
- Her debut novel The God of Small Things (1997) won the Booker Prize and brought her international recognition.
- The Ministry of Utmost Happiness (2017) is her second novel, focusing on identity, conflict, and marginalized voices.
- Azadi: Freedom. Fascism. Fiction. (2020) is a non-fiction work discussing democracy, dissent, and freedom in contemporary India.

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Ques: Which state police ranked first in the second edition of the national Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) 2.0 rankings released by the NCRB?

- A) Haryana Police
- B) Assam Police
- C) Uttar Pradesh Police
- D) Uttarakhand Police
- E) Delhi Police

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Uttarakhand Police ranked first in the second edition of ICJS 2.0 rankings with a score of 93.46.
- The rankings were released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).
- Haryana Police secured second place with a score of 93.41, followed by Assam with 93.16.
- ICJS is a digital platform that integrates police, courts, prosecution, prisons, forensic laboratories, and fingerprint and crime databases to strengthen the criminal justice system.

EXAM
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Ques: Mount Bur Ni Telong volcano, recently in news, is located in which country?

- A) Philippines
- B) Japan
- C) Indonesia
- D) Papua New Guinea
- E) Chile

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Indonesian authorities raised the alert level of Mount Bur Ni Telong volcano to the second-highest level due to increased volcanic activity.
- The alert upgrade followed a series of recorded volcanic earthquakes in the region.
- Mount Bur Ni Telong is located in Aceh province, Indonesia's westernmost province.
- Authorities are closely monitoring seismic and volcanic activity to assess the risk of a possible eruption.
- Indonesia lies on the Pacific Ring of Fire, making it prone to frequent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

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Ques: Where is the Indian Navy planning to establish a new naval detachment to strengthen its maritime posture in the northern Bay of Bengal?

- A) Haldia
- B) Visakhapatnam
- C) Paradip
- D) Digha
- E) Port Blair

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Indian Navy has begun preparatory work to establish a new naval detachment at Haldia to strengthen its maritime posture in the northern Bay of Bengal.
- The new facility will function as a detachment for small warships.
- Operating directly from the Bay of Bengal will help naval units avoid the long transit through the Hooghly River.
- This will enable faster deployment and improved response during contingencies.

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Ques: What is the name of the modern warfare force created by the Indian Army to integrate drone technology and enhance combat capabilities?

- A) Garud Force
- B) Rudra Force
- C) Bhairav
- D) Shakti Corps
- E) Vajra Battalion

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Indian Army has created a modern warfare force named Bhairav to enhance combat capabilities through integration of drone technology and a pool of over one lakh trained drone operators.
- Bhairav aims to bridge the operational gap between Para Special Forces and regular Infantry battalions.
- It enables special operations from tactical to operational depth.
- Around 15 Bhairav battalions have already been raised and deployed across formations along both borders.
- The Army plans to raise about 25 more Bhairav battalions in the near future.
- These battalions will make their first public appearance at the Indian Army Day Parade on 15 January 2026 in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

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Ques: Who is the author of the book “India Unlimited: Reclaiming the Lost Glory”?

- A) Amartya Sen
- B) Raghuram Rajan
- C) Arvind Panagariya
- D) Bibek Debroy
- E) Jagdish Bhagwati

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- India Unlimited: Reclaiming the Lost Glory is written by renowned economist Dr. Arvind Panagariya, former Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog.
- The book discusses India’s economic journey and critically evaluates the Nehruvian development model.
- It critiques state-led, inward-looking economic policies adopted in the early decades after Independence.
- The book argues that excessive regulation, import substitution, and public sector dominance slowed India’s growth.
- It strongly supports market-oriented reforms, globalization, and private sector participation.
- The book links post-1991 economic reforms with faster growth and deeper global integration.

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Ques: Which organisation has achieved record production of General and non-AC coaches while significantly improving passenger safety and affordability in recent years?

- A) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- B) Indian Railways
- C) Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India (DFCCIL)
- D) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)
- E) National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL)

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Indian Railways has achieved record production of General and non-AC coaches equipped with modern, passenger-friendly facilities to meet rising demand at affordable fares.
- For 2025–26, the production plan includes 4,838 new LHB General and Non-AC coaches, with a target of 4,802 LHB coaches for 2026–27.
- Over 43,000 special train trips were operated, including services for Maha Kumbh, Holi, Summer Specials, and Chhath Puja.
- Indian Railways has identified 76 stations nationwide for developing passenger holding areas following the success of the Yatri Suvidha Kendra at New Delhi Railway Station.
- Passenger safety remains a top priority, with 84% of safety-related funds already utilised under GBS outlays for 2025–26.
- Consequential train accidents have reduced sharply from 135 in 2014–15 to 11 in 2025–26 (up to November 2025).
- The safety budget has nearly tripled to ₹1,16,470 crore, and fog safety devices increased from 90 in 2014 to 25,939 in 2025.
- Amrit Bharat Express trains, fully non-AC with Sleeper and General Class coaches, offer quality travel at affordable fares; 13 new services were introduced in 2025, taking the total to 30.
- Two Namo Bharat Rapid Rail services are operational between Bhuj–Ahmedabad and Jaynagar–Patna, enhancing high-frequency regional connectivity.





Ques: Which city has been ranked as the best city for women in India in 2025 according to the “Top Cities for Women in India 2025” report?

- A) Chennai
- B) Pune
- C) Hyderabad
- D) Bengaluru
- E) Mumbai

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The “Top Cities for Women in India 2025” report was published by Chennai-based workplace inclusion firm Avtar.
- The report evaluated 125 cities across India.
- Bengaluru ranked first as the best city for women in India in 2025.
- Bengaluru topped the list with a City Inclusion Score (CIS) of 53.29.
- It was followed by Chennai (49.86), Pune (46.27), Hyderabad (46.04), and Mumbai (44.49).

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Ques: Who is the author of “Another Day in Landour: Looking Out from My Window”?

- A) R.K. Narayan
- B) Ruskin Bond
- C) Amitav Ghosh
- D) Khushwant Singh
- E) Arundhati Roy

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Another Day in Landour: Looking Out from My Window is written by Ruskin Bond.
- The work captures simple everyday moments and the quiet beauty of life in Landour.
- It highlights the theme of “Life’s Magic Moments,” finding joy in small and often unnoticed experiences.
- The piece celebrates nature, solitude, memory, and careful observation.
- Ruskin Bond’s writing style is known for its simplicity, lyrical tone, and deeply personal touch.

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Ques: Which year has been declared by the United Nations as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists?

- A) 2024
- B) 2025
- C) 2026
- D) 2027
- E) 2029

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The United Nations, under the leadership of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), has declared 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP 2026).
- The initiative was led by Mongolia, with FAO acting as the lead agency.
- The UN General Assembly officially adopted the resolution on March 15, 2022.
- The declaration aims to raise global awareness about the importance of rangelands and pastoralist communities for food security, biodiversity, and sustainable livelihoods.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which organisation celebrated its 79th Foundation Day on 6 January 2026 with the launch of key initiatives in New Delhi?

- A) Quality Council of India (QCI)
- B) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
- C) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- D) National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)
- E) Directorate of Weights and Measures

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

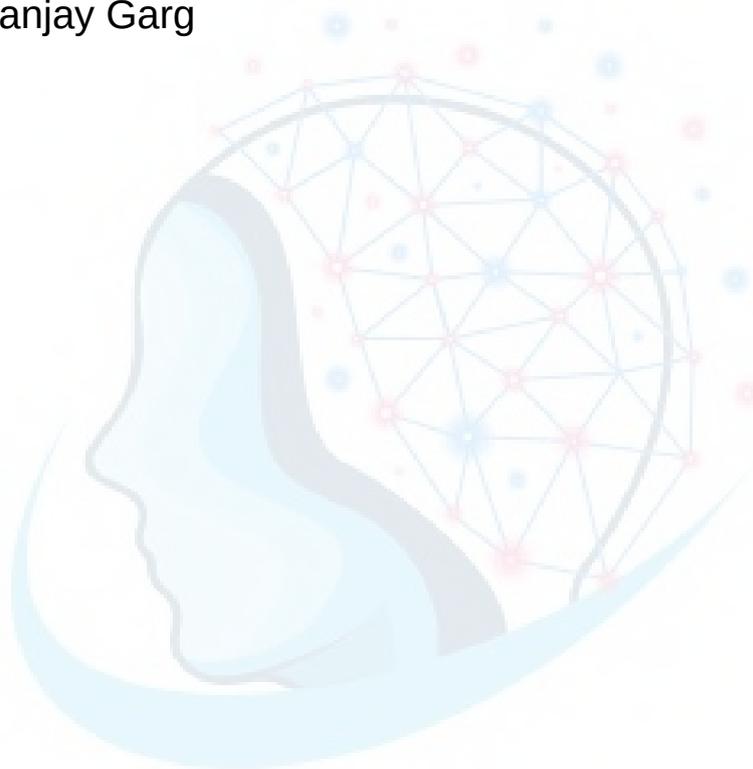
- The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) celebrated its 79th Foundation Day on 6 January 2026 in New Delhi with the launch and release of several key initiatives.
- BIS is India's National Standards Body under the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.
- BIS continues to strengthen India's quality and standards ecosystem through innovation, digital transformation, and inclusive outreach.
- With over 23,300 Indian Standards in force, BIS plays a crucial role in ensuring safety, reliability, and global competitiveness of products and services across sectors.
- To support MSMEs, BIS offers concessions in the Annual Minimum Marking Fee: 80% for Micro, 50% for Small, and 20% for Medium Enterprises.
- "SHINE – Standards Help Inform & Nurture Empowered Women" is a new BIS scheme that places women at the center of India's quality journey. The scheme empowers women through structured training, partnerships with NGOs and SHGs, and locally delivered practical programmes.
- Shri Amandeep Singh (DGM, Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.) has been conferred the prestigious 1906 IEC Award.
- He was honoured for his exceptional contributions to the development of IEC Working Groups, drawing from his experience in Indian UHV transmission line engineering.





About Bureau of Indian Standards :

- Established : 1987
- HQ : New Delhi
- Director : General Sanjay Garg



EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which team created seven partnerships of 50 or more runs in a single innings during the fifth Ashes Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground?

- A) England
- B) India
- C) South Africa
- D) Australia
- E) New Zealand

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Australia produced a historic performance on Day 3 of the fifth Ashes Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground.
- The Australian team created seven partnerships of 50 or more runs in a single innings.
- This was an unprecedented achievement in Ashes cricket and only the second such instance in the 134-year history of Test cricket.
- The only other occurrence was in 2007, when India achieved seven such partnerships at The Oval during Rahul Dravid's captaincy era.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who is the author of the books “The Circle of Life”, “How to Be Happy with Who You Are” and “The Magic of the Lost Earrings”?

- A) Arundhati Roy
- B) Jhumpa Lahiri
- C) Sudha Murty
- D) Anita Desai
- E) Kiran Desai

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- All three books are authored by renowned Indian writer Sudha Murty.
- The Circle of Life explores life lessons and values.
- How to Be Happy with Who You Are focuses on self-acceptance, values, and inner happiness.
- The Magic of the Lost Earrings is a children-friendly story highlighting moral lessons and simplicity.
- Sudha Murty is known for her simple storytelling style, moral values, and strong social themes.
- She is also the former Chairperson of the Infosys Foundation.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which condition was removed to help deep-tech startups avail financial assistance under DSIR's Industrial Research and Development Promotion Programme?

- A) Mandatory turnover limit
- B) Compulsory private funding requirement
- C) Mandatory 3-year existence condition
- D) Compulsory incubation under a government institute
- E) Export-oriented business condition

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh announced the removal of the mandatory 3-year existence condition for deep-tech startups.
- This allows deep-tech startups to avail financial assistance of up to ₹1 crore under DSIR's Industrial Research and Development Promotion Programme.
- The move aims to strengthen innovation and entrepreneurship in India by supporting newer startups at an early stage.
- Alongside, four new initiatives, including the PRISM Network Platform "TePP Outreach cum Cluster Innovation Centre (TOCIC) Innovator Pulse", were launched to enhance innovation pipelines for individuals, startups, and MSMEs.
 - Creative India 2025 was launched under the PRISM scheme to promote entrepreneurship.
- The DSIR Disaster Management Plan was unveiled to enhance preparedness and resilience.
- An agreement under the Technology Development and Utilisation Programme for Women was signed to establish a Skill Satellite Centre at Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, in partnership with NIT Raipur.
- Transfer of Technology agreements were also signed for technologies developed under the Common Research and Technology Development Hubs Programme supported to CSIR-CEERI, Pilani, to strengthen MSME-focused R&D infrastructure.





Ques: Which day is observed on 8 January to commemorate the historic experiment that demonstrated the Earth's rotation?

- A) World Astronomy Day
- B) Earth Science Day
- C) Space Science Day
- D) World Physics Day
- E) Earth's Rotation Day

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Earth's Rotation Day is observed every year on 8 January.
- The day commemorates French physicist Léon Foucault's historic pendulum experiment conducted in 1851.
- Foucault's experiment was the first public demonstration proving that the Earth rotates on its axis.
- 8 January 2026 marks the 175th anniversary of Foucault's landmark demonstration.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which entity launched the 'Axis Finance Vyapar Business Loan', a collateral-free credit solution for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in India?

- A) Axis Bank Limited
- B) Axis Finance Limited
- C) State Bank of India
- D) SIDBI
- E) NABARD

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Axis Finance Limited (AFL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Axis Bank Limited, launched the 'Axis Finance Vyapar Business Loan'.
- The loan is a collateral-free credit solution designed for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) across semi-urban and rural markets in India.
- The product offers collateral-free loans up to Rs 10 lakh with flexible repayment tenures.
- In addition, Axis Bank also launched the Safety Centre on its mobile banking application to enhance digital banking security for customers.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What is the purpose of the Capital Gains Account Scheme (CGAS) authorised by the Government of India?

- A) To provide short-term loans to taxpayers
- B) To deposit unutilised long-term capital gains and claim tax exemption
- C) To promote savings among non-residents
- D) To invest capital gains directly in equity markets
- E) To replace existing capital gains tax provisions

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Capital Gains Account Scheme (CGAS) is authorised by the Government of India to help taxpayers manage uninvested long-term capital gains or sale proceeds of specified capital assets.
- The scheme allows taxpayers to deposit such uninvested amounts in a designated bank account.
- By depositing under CGAS, taxpayers can earn interest, claim tax exemption, and plan reinvestment for a period of up to three years.
- From 1 January 2026, the scheme is applicable to Resident Individuals and Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs).
- CGAS accounts can be opened at ICICI Bank branches, excluding rural branches, as per the scheme rules.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: According to the IRDAI Annual Report 2024–25, what does the rise in Unfair Business Practices (UFBP) grievances indicate in India’s insurance sector?

- A) Improvement in customer awareness
- B) Decline in insurance penetration
- C) Rising concerns related to mis-selling
- D) Reduction in total insurance policies
- E) Increase in global insurance density

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) released its Annual Report for 2024–25 highlighting trends in grievances, penetration, and density.
- Mis-selling refers to the sale of insurance products without proper disclosure of terms and conditions, product features, or suitability to customer needs.
- Such practices lead to higher premiums, frequent policy lapses, and erosion of customer trust.
- Total grievances related to life insurers remained almost unchanged at 1,20,726 in 2023–24 and 1,20,429 in 2024–25.
- However, UFBP-related grievances increased from 23,335 in 2023–24 to 26,667 in 2024–25.
- The share of UFBP grievances rose from 19.33 percent in FY24 to 22.14 percent in FY25, indicating growing mis-selling concerns.





Ques: What is the objective and implementation framework of the Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme in India?

- A) To promote semiconductor manufacturing fabs only
- B) To support imported semiconductor designs
- C) To build a strong fabless semiconductor ecosystem through design support and incentives
- D) To regulate foreign investment in electronics
- E) To provide tax relief to electronics retailers

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme aims to build a strong fabless semiconductor ecosystem in India by encouraging indigenous semiconductor design capabilities.
- The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- DLI Scheme is a key component of the Semicon India Programme.
- Under the scheme, beneficiaries are provided with financial incentives along with access to advanced semiconductor design infrastructure.
- Start-ups are eligible for both financial incentives and design infrastructure support, as defined under the DPIIT notification dated 19 February 2019.
- MSMEs are also eligible for financial incentives and design infrastructure support, as per the Ministry of MSME notification dated 1 June 2020.





Ques: Which organisation organised the BHARATI Startup Challenge during IndusFood 2026 to promote innovation in the agri-export sector?

- A) APEDA
- B) FSSAI
- C) NABARD
- D) Spices Board of India
- E) Agricultural Marketing Board

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, participated in IndusFood 2026.
- During the event, APEDA organised the BHARATI Startup Challenge to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in the agricultural and processed food export sector.
- The initiative aims to support export-ready startups through mentorship, market access, and policy facilitation.
- Selected startups will receive international exposure through participation in Gulfood (Dubai) and BIOFACH (Germany), helping them explore global markets and strengthen India's agri-export ecosystem.





Ques: Which ministry has launched the portal 'PANKHUDI' to strengthen CSR and partnership initiatives for women and child development?

- A) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- B) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- C) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- D) Ministry of Rural Development
- E) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The portal 'PANKHUDI' was launched by Union Minister Annapurna Devi under the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD).
- The launch took place in Delhi.
- The objective of the portal is to strengthen Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and partnership initiatives focused on women and child development.
- PANKHUDI acts as a single unified platform for individuals, Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), NGOs, corporates, and government agencies to collaborate and contribute.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: From which international climate-related framework has the United States announced its withdrawal as part of exiting multiple international organisations?

- A) Kyoto Protocol
- B) International Solar Alliance
- C) UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- D) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- E) Green Climate Fund

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The United States has announced its withdrawal from 66 international organisations, marking a major escalation in its retreat from multilateral global cooperation.
- This decision followed a comprehensive review of U.S. participation and funding in various international bodies, especially those associated with the United Nations system.
- As part of this process, the U.S. administration has also withdrawn from the India–France-led International Solar Alliance.
- A key exit announced by the United States is from the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- The UNFCCC was adopted in 1992 and serves as the foundational treaty for the Paris Agreement on climate change.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What is the name of the Aadhaar mascot launched by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to simplify public understanding of Aadhaar services?

- A) Udai
- B) Aarav
- C) Aadi
- D) Bharat
- E) Setu

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched a new Aadhaar mascot as a resident-facing communication companion.
- The Aadhaar mascot is named Udai, aimed at making Aadhaar-related information more relatable and people-friendly.
- Udai will help simplify communication related to Aadhaar services such as updates, authentication, offline verification, selective sharing of information, adoption of new technologies, and responsible usage.
- Arun Gokul from Thrissur, Kerala won the first prize in the Aadhaar mascot design competition.
- Idris Dawaiwala from Pune, Maharashtra and Krishna Sharma from Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh secured the second and third prizes respectively in the design competition.
- Riya Jain from Bhopal won the first prize in the Aadhaar mascot name competition.





Ques: Who became the first Indian to stand on the Dakar Rally podium in the Cars category during Dakar Rally 2026?

- A) C.S. Santosh
- B) Gaurav Gill
- C) Arjun Maini
- D) Karun Chandhok
- E) Sanjay Takale

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Sanjay Takale delivered a historic performance at the Dakar Rally 2026, marking a milestone in Indian motorsport history.
- He finished 1st in the High Average Speed category under Group H3.
- Sanjay Takale secured the 35th position overall in the Cars category during the Prologue Stage.
- He became the first Indian to stand on the Dakar podium in the Cars category on Day 1 of the rally.
- This achievement is considered a historic feat for India in global motorsport events like the Dakar Rally.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: With which company did the Indian Army sign an Emergency Procurement contract for the Suryastra rocket launcher system?

- A) Bharat Dynamics Limited
- B) NIBE Limited
- C) Larsen & Toubro
- D) Tata Advanced Systems
- E) Solar Industries India

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Indian Army signed an Emergency Procurement contract worth Rs. 293 crores with NIBE Limited for the procurement of the Suryastra rocket launcher system.
- Suryastra is India's first indigenously developed, multi-calibre, long-range, precision-guided rocket launcher system.
- The system is being produced in collaboration with Israel's Elbit Systems, adapted from the Israeli PULS technology.
- It can strike targets at a range of about 150–300 kilometres with very high accuracy.
- Emergency Procurement contracts allow the armed forces to quickly acquire critical equipment for urgent operational needs, with simplified procedures and fast delivery timelines.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Why is India planning to lift restrictions on Chinese companies bidding for government contracts?

- A) As part of a cautious recalibration of economic ties amid easing border tensions
- B) Due to pressure from domestic industry
- C) To comply with WTO rulings
- D) To privatise public procurement
- E) To replace domestic suppliers

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- India is set to lift five-year-old restrictions on Chinese companies bidding for government contracts, signalling a cautious recalibration of economic relations with China.
- The move comes amid easing tensions along the India–China border.
- The proposed policy change is being led by the Ministry of Finance.
- If implemented, the move could reopen access to public procurement projects worth an estimated \$700–750 billion.
- The restrictions were originally imposed in 2020 after a deadly military clash along the India–China border.
- A high-level committee headed by former Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba reviewed the existing policy framework.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which district in India is set to become the country's first Bio-Happy District?

- A) Ziro district, Arunachal Pradesh
- B) Tawang district, Arunachal Pradesh
- C) Keyi Panyor district, Arunachal Pradesh
- D) East Siang district, Arunachal Pradesh
- E) Longding district, Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The newly formed Keyi Panyor district in Arunachal Pradesh is set to become India's first Bio-Happy District, integrating biodiversity conservation with human well-being.
- The initiative revives the concept of "Biohappiness", originally coined by legendary agricultural scientist M. S. Swaminathan.
- The project aims to create a sustainable development model rooted in ecology, livelihoods, public health, and community well-being.
- The initiative is being implemented by the M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation in collaboration with the district administration.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What is the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) implemented by the European Union?

- A) A subsidy scheme for green industries
- B) A carbon tax on domestic industries only
- C) A carbon-related levy on imports from countries with weaker climate policies
- D) A global climate fund managed by the EU
- E) A trade agreement to reduce tariffs on clean energy goods

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The European Union has implemented the world's first carbon tax on imports through the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), fully effective from January 1, 2026.
- CBAM imposes a carbon-related levy on imports of certain carbon-intensive products, such as steel, from countries with less stringent climate policies.
- Although introduced in 2023, CBAM moved from a transitional phase to full enforcement by 2026.
- The main objective is to prevent carbon leakage by discouraging companies from shifting production to countries with weaker environmental regulations.
- Sectors covered under CBAM include cement, aluminium, fertilisers, iron and steel, hydrogen, and electricity.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What is the name of the first-of-its-kind national digital land governance portal launched under the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme?

- A) Dharani
- B) e-Dharohar
- C) Bhu-Setu
- D) Bhoomi Portal
- E) Land Stack

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Union Minister of State Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, Ministry of Rural Development, launched the Land Stack portal, a first-of-its-kind national digital land governance initiative.
- The portal was launched in pilot locations in the Union Territory of Chandigarh and the state of Tamil Nadu.
- It marks a major step towards modernising land administration under the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP).
- Through the Land Stack portal, users can access property details, ownership information, deed records, encumbrance details, and litigation status for each land parcel.
- The portal also covers areas traditionally classified as villages in Chandigarh, providing access to hadbast, khewat, mustil, and khasra numbers.
- Along with the portal, the Glossary of Revenue Terms (GoRT) was released by the Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development.
- The glossary has been prepared in collaboration with the Centre of Excellence in Land Administration and Management at Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration, Pune.
- GoRT helps people understand land-related revenue terms in vernacular languages, Hindi, English, and Roman scripts.
- The Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP) is a Central Sector Scheme aimed at digitising land records to improve transparency, accessibility, and accuracy.
- The programme was revamped and renamed in 2016 from the earlier National Land Records Modernisation Programme and is fully funded by the Central Government.





Ques: Which country has become the first in the world to commercially produce bio-bitumen for use in road construction?

- A) India
- B) Germany
- C) United States
- D) Japan
- E) China

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- India has become the first country in the world to commercially produce bio-bitumen for road construction.
- The announcement was made by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari at the CSIR Technology Transfer Ceremony in New Delhi.
- The development was led by the CSIR–Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP), Dehradun, over five years, scaling laboratory prototypes to commercial viability through pilot plants.
- Successful trials, including a 100-metre test stretch on the Jorabat–Shillong Expressway in Meghalaya, confirmed that bio-bitumen meets required performance standards.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Nyaya Setu Legal Service, recently launched, is associated with which platform and ministry?

- A) Telegram – Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Web Portal – Ministry of Electronics & IT
- C) WhatsApp – Ministry of Law and Justice
- D) Mobile App – Ministry of Social Justice
- E) SMS Service – Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Nyaya Setu Legal Service was launched on 1 January 2026 by the Ministry of Law and Justice.
- It is a WhatsApp-based legal service/chatbot designed to promote Ease of Justice through digital access.
- Nyaya Setu provides free expert legal assistance to citizens through a unified digital interface after mobile verification.
- The service integrates with existing legal aid mechanisms such as Tele-Law, Nyaya Bandhu, and Legal Services Authorities.
- It helps users understand available legal aid and advisory options, including benefits under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Genius





Ques: The Indian Air Force recently marked the 25th anniversary of the maiden flight of which indigenously developed aircraft?

- A) Sukhoi Su-30MKI
- B) Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)
- C) Mirage 2000
- D) AMCA
- E) Jaguar

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Indian Air Force marked the 25th anniversary of the maiden flight of the indigenously developed Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA).
- The LCA programme was initiated in 1983 to develop an indigenous fighter aircraft to replace the IAF's obsolete fleet.
- The Tejas LCA made its maiden flight on 4 January 2001, flown by Wing Commander Rajiv Kothiyal from HAL airport in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- In late 2025, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) secured an order for 97 additional Tejas Mk-1A jets worth over ₹62,370 crore.
- In May 2025, VEM Technologies delivered the first centre fuselage assembly for LCA Tejas Mk-1A to HAL in Hyderabad, Telangana, followed by a second assembly in September 2025.

Genius





Ques: What is the scale and composition of the Indian government's newly unveiled three-year PPP project pipeline?

- A) 500 projects worth ₹10 lakh crore, only Central projects
- B) 700 projects worth ₹15 lakh crore, mostly State projects
- C) 1,000 projects worth ₹25 lakh crore, fully private projects
- D) 900 projects worth ₹20 lakh crore, only State projects
- E) 852 projects worth over ₹17 lakh crore, involving Centre and States/UTs

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- The Government of India has unveiled a three-year Public-Private Partnership (PPP) project pipeline covering 852 infrastructure projects for FY26 to FY28.
- The combined estimated cost of these projects is over ₹17 lakh crore (approx. US\$ 206 billion).
- Of the 852 projects, 232 are Central government projects worth ₹13.15 lakh crore.
- The remaining 620 projects, worth about ₹3.84 lakh crore, will be undertaken by State governments and Union Territories.
- The pipeline reflects a coordinated Centre–State approach to accelerate infrastructure development through the PPP mode.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Galaxy frog, recently in news for its disappearance from certain areas, is endemic to which region of India?

- A) Western Ghats
- B) Indo-Gangetic Plains
- C) Eastern Himalayas
- D) Deccan Plateau
- E) Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Galaxy frog (*Melanobatrachus indicus*) is endemic to the Western Ghats of south-western India.
- It is the only known species of its genus.
- The species is mainly found in high-altitude evergreen forests and shola forests.
- It is terrestrial, associated with leaf litter, rocks, and ground cover in moist evergreen tropical forests.
- Recent studies report declines due to increased photo-tourism.
- The IUCN conservation status of the Galaxy frog is Vulnerable.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which Union Minister inaugurated Asia's first National Environmental Standard Laboratory designed for pollution monitoring device calibration?

- A) Dr. Jitendra Singh
- B) Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani
- C) Bhupender Yadav
- D) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- E) Rajiv Gauba

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh (Ministry of Science and Technology) inaugurated the National Environmental Standard Laboratory and the National Primary Standard Facility for Solar Cell Calibration.
- This is Asia's first and the world's second pollution monitoring facility after the UK.
- The laboratory is designed to test, calibrate, and certify air pollution monitoring devices.
- It will support regulators, industries, and startups for reliable performance testing of systems like CAAQMS and OCEMS.
- For particulate matter (PM) testing, only Germany has a comparable facility apart from India.
- CAAQMS is a fixed, automated station that continuously measures ambient (outdoor) air quality in cities and industrial areas.
- OCEMS is a real-time monitoring system installed at industrial stacks and chimneys to continuously measure pollutants released by industries.





Ques: How many Indian states will participate in the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting 2026 at Davos?

- A) 6
- B) 8
- C) 10
- D) 12
- E) 15

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- 10 Indian states will be represented at the WEF Annual Meeting 2026 in Davos, Switzerland.
- Among these, 5 states will be represented by Chief Ministers and 2 states by Deputy Chief Ministers.
- Four Union Ministers will attend, including Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Ashwini Vaishnaw, along with Pralhad Joshi and K. Ram Mohan Naidu.
- Prominent Indian business leaders, including N. Chandrasekaran and Mukesh Ambani, as well as representatives from major PSUs and private companies, are expected to attend.
- The delegation aims to promote investments, exports, and global partnerships.





Ques: Former World Billiards Champion Manoj Kothari, who recently passed away, was honoured with which national sports award in 2005?

- A) Arjuna Award
- B) Major Dhyan Chand Award
- C) Dronacharya Award
- D) Padma Shri
- E) Khel Ratna Award

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Former World Billiards Champion and chief national coach Manoj Kothari passed away recently.
- In 2005, he was honoured with the Major Dhyan Chand Award for his outstanding contribution to sports.
- He won his first IBSF World Billiards Championship title in 1990 and the World Doubles Billiards Championship in 1997 with Ian Williamson.
- Post-retirement, he served as national coach of the Indian billiards team from 2011.
- He was a 16-time State Champion and in 2025 received a Lifetime Achievement Award from IBSF.
- He was also honoured by the Government of West Bengal with the Kriraguru Samman, and the Calcutta Sports Journalists Club conferred upon him a Lifetime Achievement Award.





Ques: Senior Indian National Congress leader Suresh Kalmadi, who recently passed away, served as Minister of State in which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Defence
- B) Ministry of Civil Aviation
- C) Ministry of Railways
- D) Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs
- E) Ministry of External Affairs

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister of State Suresh Kalmadi passed away recently.
- He served as Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways from 1995 to 1996.
- Kalmadi was a pilot in the Indian Air Force (1964–1974) and became a Rajya Sabha member in 1982, later representing Pune in the Lok Sabha multiple times.
- He served as President of the Indian Olympic Association (1996–2012) and was appointed Life President in 2016.
- He chaired the 2010 Commonwealth Games Organising Committee and was President of the Asian Athletics Association (2000–2013), later becoming its Life President.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.



EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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)





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





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.

Genius





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.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which company recently launched 'PhonePe PG Bolt' for Visa and Mastercard transactions to provide secure and efficient in-app payments?

- A) Paytm
- B) PhonePe Payment Gateway (PhonePe PG)
- C) Razorpay
- D) Cashfree
- E) Google Pay

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- PhonePe Payment Gateway (PhonePe PG) has launched 'PhonePe PG Bolt' for Visa and Mastercard credit and debit card transactions.
- The solution uses device tokenization to provide a secure and efficient in-app checkout experience for users and merchant partners.
- By replacing sensitive card details with secure tokens, the system eliminates the need for CVV entry during subsequent transactions on the same device, simplifying the payment journey.

About PhonePe:

- Established: 2015
- Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka
- CEO: Sameer Nigam





Ques: According to the First Advance Estimates (FAE) released by NSO, what is the projected real GDP growth rate of India for FY2025–26?

- A) 6.5%
- B) 6.8%
- C) 7.0%
- D) 7.4%
- E) 8.0%

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The National Statistics Office (NSO), under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), released the First Advance Estimates (FAE) of GDP for FY2025–26 at constant (2011–12) and current prices.
- As per the estimates, real GDP growth for FY26 is projected at 7.4%, higher than 6.5% recorded in FY25.
- Real GDP at constant prices is estimated at ₹201.90 lakh crore in FY26, compared to ₹187.97 lakh crore in FY25.
- Nominal GDP growth is estimated at 8% in FY26, lower than 10.4% in FY25, with nominal GDP at current prices pegged at ₹357.14 lakh crore in FY26, up from ₹330.68 lakh crore in FY25.





Ques: Which bank won multiple awards including Best AI and ML Adoption, Best Fintech and DPI Adoption, and Best IT Risk Management at the 21st Annual Banking Technology Awards 2025?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) HDFC Bank
- C) ICICI Bank
- D) Bank of Baroda
- E) Axis Bank

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Bank of Baroda emerged as the winner of multiple awards at the 21st Annual Banking Technology Awards 2025.
- The bank won awards for Best AI and ML Adoption, Best Fintech and DPI Adoption, Best IT Risk Management, and Best Tech Talent.
- Bank of Baroda also received a Special Mention in the category of Best Technology Bank.
- The awards were received by Dr Debadatta Chand, Managing Director & CEO, and Shri Sanjay V. Mudaliar, Executive Director of Bank of Baroda.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What is the Ways and Means Advances (WMA) limit fixed by the RBI for the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD)?

- A) ₹750 crore
- B) ₹820 crore
- C) ₹890 crore
- D) ₹950 crore
- E) ₹1,000 crore

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has fixed the WMA limit for the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) at ₹890 crore.
- The revised WMA limit is effective from January 09, 2026, to manage temporary mismatches in receipts and payments.
- With this revision, the aggregate WMA limit for all State Governments and Union Territories has increased to ₹61,008 crore from ₹60,118 crore.
- The highest WMA limits among states are Uttar Pradesh (₹6,519 crore), Maharashtra (₹6,139 crore), and Tamil Nadu (₹4,582 crore).
- The interest rate on WMA is linked to the RBI repo rate, and overdrafts beyond the WMA limit attract an interest rate 2 percentage points above the repo rate.





Ques: What was India's retail inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), in December 2025, and what was the average CPI inflation for the year 2025?

- A) 1.33% in December; 2.2% average in 2025
- B) 2.5% in December; 3.0% average in 2025
- C) 1.0% in December; 1.8% average in 2025
- D) 1.8% in December; 2.5% average in 2025
- E) 2.2% in December; 1.33% average in 2025

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- India's retail inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), increased to 1.33% in December 2025, marking a three-month high.
- The average CPI-based inflation for the year 2025 was 2.2%, the lowest in 12 years.
- The data was released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

EXAM
Genius





Ques: According to ISRO's Dust Experiment (DEX) study, how frequently does an interplanetary dust particle enter the Earth's atmosphere?

- A) One every 100 seconds
- B) One every 500 seconds
- C) One every 1,000 seconds
- D) One every 5,000 seconds
- E) One every 10,000 seconds

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- According to ISRO's first Dust Experiment (DEX), approximately one interplanetary dust particle enters the Earth's atmosphere every 1,000 seconds.
- The Dust Experiment (DEX) is a 3-kilogram instrument developed by ISRO.
- DEX was flown aboard the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM) of the PSLV-C58 XPoSat mission on January 1, 2024, at an altitude of 350 km.
- The 140-degree wide-view detector recorded orbital debris (dust) impact signals between January 1 and February 9, 2024.
- DEX was built by the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad, and is the first-of-its-kind instrument designed to detect hyper-velocity dust particles.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which country has invited India and Australia to a G7 finance ministers' meeting on securing critical minerals supply chains?

- A) United Kingdom
- B) Japan
- C) United States
- D) Canada
- E) Germany

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The United States has invited India and Australia to participate in a G7 finance ministers' meeting focused on securing critical minerals supply chains.
- The discussions are being hosted in Washington amid concerns over excessive dependence on China for minerals vital to defence, technology, and clean energy transitions.
- Australia has signed an agreement with the US to counter China's dominance, outlining an \$8.5 billion project pipeline and the use of strategic reserves of rare earths and lithium.
- According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), China dominates global refining of critical minerals, processing 47% to 87% of copper, lithium, cobalt, graphite, and rare earth elements.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which initiative did the Department of Posts launch in collaboration with the Ministry of Rural Development and the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to enhance logistics and financial services for rural citizens, farmers, and Self-Help Groups (SHGs)?

- A) Dak Sewa, Jan Sewa
- B) Digital India Initiative
- C) PM-KISAN Scheme
- D) Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan
- E) Bharat Net Program

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Department of Posts signed MoUs with the Ministry of Rural Development (DAY-NRLM) and the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to establish a national logistics mechanism for rural citizens, farmers, and SHGs.
- The initiative “Dak Sewa, Jan Sewa” aims to expand financial, digital, and logistics services for SHGs and rural households.
- It supports women and rural entrepreneurs while accelerating rural development and financial inclusion.
- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) will provide doorstep banking, digital tools like tablets and PoS machines, train SHG women as Business Correspondents, and issue certificates to SHGs.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which initiative, launched jointly by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (OPSA) and the Observer Research Foundation, aims to bring together scientists, diplomats, policymakers, and industry leaders in New Delhi?

- A) Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative (Raisina SDI)
- B) India Science Conclave
- C) National Innovation and Science Forum
- D) Science-Policy Dialogue India
- E) Raisina Technology Summit

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative (Raisina SDI) 2026 was launched jointly by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (OPSA) to the Government of India and the Observer Research Foundation.
- The inaugural edition was launched during a meeting at OPSA's office in New Delhi.
- Raisina SDI will be held alongside the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi.
- The initiative aims to bring together scientists, diplomats, policymakers, and industry leaders through high-level sessions and expert roundtables.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: By when does India plan to introduce Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V) communication technology nationwide to help reduce road accidents?

- A) End of 2025
- B) Mid of 2026
- C) End of 2026
- D) End of 2027
- E) End of 2028

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- India plans to introduce Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V) communication technology nationwide by the end of 2026.
- The initiative is led by the Government of India to reduce road accidents by enabling direct vehicle-to-vehicle communication without relying on mobile or internet networks.
- V2V technology allows real-time signal exchange through a dedicated communication device installed in vehicles.
- The system provides 360-degree awareness of surrounding traffic conditions.
- The project is estimated to cost around ₹5,000 crore and will be implemented through phased notifications by the end of 2026.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who was awarded the 2026 IEEE Medal of Honor, the highest recognition by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)?

- A) Jensen Huang
- B) Sundar Pichai
- C) Elon Musk
- D) Satya Nadella
- E) Ginni Rometty

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Jensen Huang, CEO of NVIDIA, was awarded the 2026 IEEE Medal of Honor, the highest recognition from IEEE.
- The IEEE Medal of Honor, established in 1917, is awarded annually for exceptional contributions to electrical, electronics, and computer engineering.
- The 2026 award includes a USD 2 million cash prize, marking the second consecutive year IEEE has attached a monetary award to this honor.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which Union Minister announced the launch of India Post's new services 'Speed Post 24' and 'Speed Post 48'?

- A) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- B) Jyotiraditya M. Scindia
- C) Nitin Gadkari
- D) Piyush Goyal
- E) Rajnath Singh

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Union Minister for Communications Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia announced the launch of India Post's new services—Speed Post 24 and Speed Post 48.
- The announcement was made during a programme held at Pichor in Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh.
- Speed Post 24 ensures delivery within 24 hours, while Speed Post 48 delivers consignments within 48 hours.
- The first phase will cover over 1,000 PIN codes, with further expansion planned on a quarterly basis based on route performance.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: When will the 53rd edition of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2026 be held?

- A) 10–18 January 2026
- B) 5–12 January 2026
- C) 15–23 January 2026
- D) 12–20 January 2026
- E) 8–16 January 2026

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The 53rd edition of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2026 will be held from 10 to 18 January 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- Qatar is the Guest of Honour country, and Spain is the Focus Country for this edition.
- The fair is organised by the National Book Trust, India under the Ministry of Education, Government of India.
- ITPO is the co-organiser and venue partner of the fair.
- The theme of the 2026 edition is “Indian Military History: Valour and Wisdom @ 75.”

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which country has formally expressed support for India's aspiration to become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)?

- A) Brazil
- B) Peru
- C) Argentina
- D) Mexico
- E) Chile

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Chile has formally expressed its support for India's aspiration to become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).
- Chile stated that India can play a stabilising role in global affairs.
- Chile's Ambassador to India, Juan Angulo, emphasised the need for comprehensive reforms in the multilateral system.
- At present, the UNSC has five permanent members with veto powers.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which Indian Navy unit recently began its Long-Range Training Deployment (LRTD) to Southeast Asia as part of the 110th Integrated Officers' Training Course?

- A) First Training Squadron (1TS)
- B) Eastern Naval Command
- C) Western Fleet
- D) Southern Naval Squadron
- E) Coast Guard Training Wing

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The First Training Squadron (1TS) of the Indian Navy has begun its Long-Range Training Deployment (LRTD) to Southeast Asia under the 110th Integrated Officers' Training Course.
- LRTD is a specialised naval training mission involving extended voyages across long distances, often entering foreign waters.
- The deployment includes Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard vessels such as INS Tir, INS Shardul, INS Sujata, and ICGS Sarathi.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Where was the 125th Foundation Day of the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) celebrated on 7 January 2026?

- A) Ranchi, Jharkhand
- B) Dhanbad, Jharkhand
- C) Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- D) New Delhi
- E) Kolkata, West Bengal

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) celebrated its 125th Foundation Day on 7 January 2026 at its headquarters in Dhanbad, Jharkhand.
- The programme was attended by the Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, as the chief guest.
- Separately, the Ministry of Mines is organising the National Mineral Chintan Shivir 2026 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, to be inaugurated by Union Minister Shri G. Kishan Reddy.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which veteran BJP leader and former Union Minister of State for Communications, elected three times from Silchar, recently passed away?

- A) Kabindra Purkayastha
- B) Murli Manohar Joshi
- C) Ravi Shankar Prasad
- D) Arun Jaitley
- E) Ananth Kumar

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Veteran BJP leader Kabindra Purkayastha, former Union Minister of State for Communications, recently passed away.
- He was elected three times as MP from Silchar in 1991, 1998, and 2009.
- He served as Union Minister of State for Communications during 1998–1999 under Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which former Indian hockey player and Olympian, who was part of the gold medal-winning team at the 1980 Moscow Olympics, recently passed away?

- A) Balbir Singh Sr.
- B) Zafar Iqbal
- C) Davinder Singh Garcha
- D) Mohammad Shahid
- E) Ajit Pal Singh

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Former Indian hockey player and Olympian Davinder Singh Garcha passed away at the age of 73 in Jalandhar, Punjab.
- He was a member of the Indian men's hockey team that won the gold medal at the 1980 Moscow Olympics.
- In 2021, the Government of India honoured him with the Major Dhyan Chand Award, the country's highest lifetime achievement award in sports, recognising his exceptional contribution to Indian hockey.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: On which date is World Hindi Day (Vishwa Hindi Diwas) observed, and what does it commemorate?

- A) 10 January
- B) 14 January
- C) 14 September
- D) 10 February
- E) 26 January

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- World Hindi Day (Vishwa Hindi Diwas) is observed on 10 January every year.
- It commemorates the first use of Hindi in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1949 and the first World Hindi Conference held in Nagpur in 1975.
- In India, Hindi Diwas is observed separately on 14 September.
- Fiji is the only country outside India where Hindi is an official language, alongside English and Fijian.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: National Youth Day (Rashtriya Yuva Divas), observed on 12 January, commemorates the birth anniversary of which great Indian spiritual leader?

- A) Mahatma Gandhi
- B) Swami Dayanand Saraswati
- C) Swami Vivekananda
- D) Rabindranath Tagore
- E) Sri Aurobindo

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- National Youth Day, also called Rashtriya Yuva Divas and Vivekananda Jayanti, is observed on 12 January every year.
- The day marks the 163rd birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, one of India's greatest spiritual leaders and youth icons.
- It was first celebrated on 12 January 1985 following a Government of India decision.
- In 2026, the Department of Youth Affairs organised the 2nd edition of the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD 2026) from 9 to 12 January at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: According to the World Gold Council, India became the world's _____ largest holder of gold Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in 2025.

- A) 4th
- B) 5th
- C) 6th
- D) 7th
- E) 8th

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Domestic gold ETF holdings in India increased by 65% to reach 95 tonnes in 2025.
- Due to this rise, India became the 6th largest holder of gold ETFs globally, improving from 8th position in 2024.
- According to the World Gold Council, India's gold ETF holdings were 57.5 tonnes in 2024.
- Net inflows into Indian gold ETFs rose sharply to \$4.4 billion in 2025 from \$1.3 billion in 2024.
- India also emerged as the third-largest gold ETF market globally, after the United States and China.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which bank became the first Regional Rural Bank (RRB) in India to introduce a fully solar-powered mobile ATM van?

- A) Tripura Gramin Bank
- B) Uttar Bihar Gramin Bank
- C) Assam Gramin Vikash Bank
- D) Kerala Gramin Bank
- E) Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Tripura Gramin Bank (TGB) became the first Regional Rural Bank in India to introduce a fully solar-powered mobile ATM van.
- The solar-powered ATM van is named “TGB on Wheels.”
- The initiative aims to deliver banking services to remote and underserved areas using renewable energy.
- The project was formally inaugurated in July 2023 during the visit of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to Tripura.
- The initiative was launched with support from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
- Currently, Tripura Gramin Bank operates three solar-powered ATM vans in the state.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What was India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI) based inflation rate in December, according to recent data?

- A) -0.32%
- B) 0.50%
- C) 0.83%
- D) 1.20%
- E) 2.00%

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- India's WPI inflation for December stood at 0.83% .
- In November, India's WPI-based inflation was -0.32% .
- This indicates a rise in wholesale inflation from negative territory in November to positive levels in December.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: India and Germany signed an agreement to strengthen cooperation in which sector, and where was the agreement signed?

- A) Postal and Logistics – Ahmedabad
- B) Education – New Delhi
- C) Defence – Berlin
- D) Renewable Energy – Mumbai
- E) Digital Infrastructure – Frankfurt

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- India and Germany signed an agreement to strengthen cooperation in postal and logistics services.
- The agreement was signed in Ahmedabad.
- It was signed during the visit of Friedrich Merz, the Federal Chancellor of Germany.
- The objective is to build efficient, sustainable, and globally competitive logistics networks connecting India with international markets.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which state launched the ‘Swachh Jal Abhiyan’ to ensure safe drinking water, and what is the key objective of the campaign?

- A) Rajasthan – Rainwater harvesting
- B) Uttar Pradesh – River cleaning
- C) Madhya Pradesh – Zero tolerance for contaminated drinking water
- D) Gujarat – Desalination plants
- E) Chhattisgarh – Groundwater recharge

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav launched the ‘Swachh Jal Abhiyan’.
- It is a state-wide, technology-driven clean water campaign.
- The objective is to ensure zero tolerance for contaminated drinking water through monitoring, grievance redressal, and accountability.
- The campaign is being conducted in two phases:
 - Phase I: 10 January 2026 to 28 February 2026
 - Phase II: 1 March 2026 to 31 May 2026
- Weekly ‘Jal Sunwai’ hearings will be conducted every Tuesday.
- Citizens can register and track complaints through the CM Helpline (181).

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which organisation achieved an “Excellent” rating with a score of 97.36 in the MoU performance evaluation with the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy for FY 2024–25?

- A) NTPC Limited
- B) Power Grid Corporation of India
- C) Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd. (SECI)
- D) Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)
- E) NHPC Limited

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd. (SECI) secured an “Excellent” rating in the MoU performance evaluation with the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) for FY 2024–25.
- SECI achieved a high score of 97.36 out of 100, reflecting strong operational and strategic performance.
- SECI is a Navratna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- It functions as a key nodal agency for expanding renewable energy capacity in India.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Why did the Government of India revoke the Quality Control Order on Flux Cored Solder Wire?

- A) To reduce import duties
- B) BIS certification is no longer mandatory
- C) Product is banned in India
- D) Low domestic demand
- E) Environmental concerns

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Government of India revoked the Quality Control Order on Flux Cored Solder Wire.
- After the revocation, compulsory Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification is no longer required for this product.
- Earlier, the Flux Cored Solder Wire (Quality Control) Order, 2023 mandated compliance with Indian Standard IS 1921:2005 and BIS marking.
- The decision removes mandatory quality certification requirements for manufacturers, importers, and sellers.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who conferred the 70th Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar (AVRSP) and unveiled the “52 weeks, 52 reforms” roadmap for Indian Railways in 2026?

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Piyush Goyal
- C) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- D) Nitin Gadkari
- E) Dharmendra Pradhan

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw conferred the 70th Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar (AVRSP).
- He honoured 100 railway officers and employees and awarded 26 shields to top-performing railway zones.
- AVRSP is one of the highest service awards of Indian Railways, recognising exemplary service and innovation.
- During the event, Ashwini Vaishnaw unveiled the “52 weeks, 52 reforms” roadmap for 2026.
- The roadmap aims to implement one major reform every week to improve customer service, maintenance, and quality in management.

Six Core Resolutions :

- Push for systemic reforms and accountability.
- Adoption of technology, innovation, AI, and advanced signalling.
- Upgrade maintenance standards for long-term safety.
- Uncompromising focus on safety by reducing consequential accidents.
- Transform training and talent development within one year via mandatory upskilling and digital tools.
- Eradicate colonial mindset and empower younger officers.





Ques: Who inaugurated Indusfood 2026, Asia's premier global Food and Beverage (F&B) sourcing and trade show?

- A) Chirag Paswan
- B) Piyush Goyal
- C) Dharmendra Pradhan
- D) Narendra Singh Tomar
- E) Ashwini Vaishnaw

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Indusfood 2026 is Asia's premier global Food and Beverage (F&B) sourcing and trade show.
- The event was inaugurated by Union Minister Chirag Paswan, Minister of Food Processing Industries.
- Indusfood 2026 was the 9th edition of the event.
- It was held at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
- The event was organised by the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI).
- More than 2,200 exhibitors from over 30 countries and 15,000+ buyers from 120+ countries participated.
- Two new pavilions were introduced: Pet Food & Animal Nutrition and Cookware & Kitchenware.
- An MoU was signed between KEZAD (UAE) and TPCI for the India-UAE Food Corridor during the event.





Ques: On which national highway corridor did NHA create four Guinness World Records for continuous laying of Bituminous Concrete in January 2026?

- A) Delhi–Mumbai Expressway
- B) Amritsar–Jamnagar Economic Corridor
- C) Bengaluru–Chennai Expressway
- D) Bengaluru–Kadapa–Vijayawada Economic Corridor (NH-544G)
- E) Lucknow–Kanpur Expressway

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHA), along with concessionaire M/s Rajpath Infracon Private Limited, created four Guinness World Records on the Bengaluru–Kadapa–Vijayawada Economic Corridor of NH-544G.
- On 6 January 2026, two records were created near Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh.
- The first record was for the longest continuous laying of Bituminous Concrete, covering 28.89 lane km (3-lane wide, 9.63 km long stretch) within 24 hours.
- The second record was for the continuous laying of the highest quantity of Bituminous Concrete, totaling 10,655 metric tonnes in 24 hours.
- Two additional Guinness World Records were created on 11 January 2026.
- These included continuous laying of 57,500 metric tonnes of Bituminous Concrete and continuous paving of 156 lane km (3-lane wide, 52 km long stretch), surpassing the previous world record of 84.4 lane km.
- These record-setting achievements were executed across Package-2 and Package-3 of the corridor.
- The 343 km long, access-controlled, six-lane Bengaluru–Kadapa–Vijayawada Economic Corridor has been designed for safe, high-speed, and scenic travel.





Ques: Which organisation successfully tested India's indigenous third-generation Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM), and where was the test conducted?

- A) HAL – Pokhran
- B) BEL – Hyderabad
- C) ISRO – Sriharikota
- D) Indian Army – Leh
- E) DRDO – KK Ranges, Ahilya Nagar

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- India successfully conducted the flight test of its indigenous third-generation Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM).
- The test was carried out by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- The trial was conducted at the KK Ranges in Ahilya Nagar, Maharashtra.
- MPATGM is a third-generation “fire and forget” anti-tank guided missile.
- The missile has been developed by DRDO's Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad.
- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) are the development-cum-production partners of the MPATGM.

EXAM
Genius





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EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which Australian cricketer announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket ahead of the T20 World Cup 2026?

- A) Meg Lanning
- B) Ellyse Perry
- C) Alyssa Healy
- D) Beth Mooney
- E) Ashleigh Gardner

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Australia Women's cricket team captain Alyssa Healy announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket ahead of the T20 World Cup 2026.
- The 35-year-old had a remarkable T20I career spanning nearly 15 years, scoring 3054 runs at an impressive strike rate of 129.79.
- She made her international debut in February 2010 and went on to become a six-time T20 World Cup winner.
- She also won the ODI World Cup in 2013 and 2022 with Australia.
- Her records include the highest individual score in an ODI World Cup final (170 vs England, 2022).
- She also holds the record for the highest individual score in a women's T20I (148* vs Sri Lanka, 2019).
- Alyssa Healy has the most dismissals in T20 internationals by any player (men or women), with 126 dismissals.





Ques: What is the name of the new digital platform launched by the Indian Army to transform logistics management and enable data-driven decision-making?

- A) Logistics Command System (LCS)
- B) Integrated Defence Logistics Portal (IDLIP)
- C) Depot Integration Management Edition (DIME)
- D) Army Logistics Analytics Platform (ALAP)
- E) Digital Supply Chain System (DSCS)

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Indian Army has launched Depot Integration Management Edition (DIME), a new digital platform aimed at transforming logistics management.
- The platform will help commanders take faster, more informed, and data-driven decisions by integrating logistics-related information.
- DIME has been jointly developed by the Indian Army and the Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics (BISAG-N).
- BISAG-N functions under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What is India's rank in the Henley Passport Index 2026, and how many destinations can Indian passport holders access without a prior visa?

- A) 85th rank – 31 destinations
- B) 80th rank – 55 destinations
- C) 75th rank – 60 destinations
- D) 90th rank – 45 destinations
- E) 98th rank – 37 destinations

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- According to the Henley Passport Index 2026, India is ranked 80th globally.
- The index is published by Henley & Partners, a global citizenship and residence advisory firm.
- Indian passport holders enjoy visa-free, visa-on-arrival, or e-visa access to 55 destinations worldwide.
- India improved its position from 85th rank in 2025 to 80th in 2026.
- Algeria, India, and Niger are jointly ranked 80th, each with a score of 55.
- The 2026 edition evaluates 277 countries and territories, including sovereign states, regions, and special administrative zones.
- For comparison, Pakistan is ranked 98th with access to 31 countries, and Bangladesh is 95th with access to 37 destinations.
- Singapore tops the index with access to 192 destinations, while Afghanistan ranks last at 101st with access to just 24 destinations.

Ranking of top 5 & Last countries:

- 1 Singapore - 192 Destinations
- 2 Japan, South Korea – 188 Destinations
- 3 Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland - 186 Destinations
- 4 Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway - 185 Destinations





5 Hungary, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, United Arab Emirates - 184 Destinations
80 India - 55 Destinations
101 Afghanistan – 24 Destinations



EXAM
Genius





Ques: India unveiled the logo and website for which international grouping's presidency in 2026?

- A) BRICS
- B) SCO
- C) G20
- D) ASEAN
- E) QUAD

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- India officially prepared for its BRICS Presidency 2026 by unveiling the logo and a dedicated website.
- The announcement was made by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.
- India will assume the BRICS presidency as BRICS completes 20 years in 2026.
- The theme for India's BRICS Presidency is "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability."
- The BRICS 2026 logo symbolizes unity in diversity, with petals incorporating the colours of all BRICS member countries.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: India will host the 28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC) at which place, and who will chair the conference?

- A) Mumbai – Rajya Sabha Chairman
- B) New Delhi – Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla
- C) Bengaluru – Vice President of India
- D) Chennai – Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister
- E) Hyderabad – Chief Justice of India

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- India will host the 28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC).
- The conference will be held in New Delhi.
- Speakers and Presiding Officers from over 60 Commonwealth countries will participate.
- The conference will be chaired by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.
- The 27th edition of the conference was hosted by Uganda in January 2024.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Till which date has NHAI extended its 'Clean Toilet Picture Challenge' to improve cleanliness at toilet facilities along National Highways?

- A) 31 March 2026
- B) 30 April 2026
- C) 31 May 2026
- D) 30 June 2026
- E) 31 December 2026

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has extended its citizen-centric initiative, the 'Clean Toilet Picture Challenge', till 30 June 2026 to enhance cleanliness and user experience at toilet facilities along National Highways.
- Under the extended campaign, clean toilet pictures shared by National Highway users will be assessed daily, and eligible claims will be processed in a time-bound manner.
- The FASTag recharge reward will be credited to the linked vehicle registration number (VRN) within five days of validation, ensuring transparency and responsiveness.
- The initiative was originally launched in September 2025 to encourage users to report unclean toilet facilities at toll plazas on National Highways.
- The initiative received an enthusiastic response, with around 350 commuters reporting unclean toilets, and about 265 eligible entries rewarded with FASTag recharges.
- The initiative is open to all National Highway commuters, who can participate by uploading clear, geo-tagged, and time-stamped photographs through the latest version of the Rajmargyatra mobile application.
- Each eligible vehicle registration number reporting an instance of an unclean toilet will receive a reward of ₹1,000 in the form of a FASTag recharge.





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- The initiative was originally launched in September 2025 to encourage users to report unclean toilet facilities at toll plazas on National Highways.
- The voiceovers for these films were recorded by participants of Voicebox, a skilling initiative by Netflix in collaboration with the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC).
- The start-ups were discovered and supported through Manthan, a national digital backbone platform that identifies, curates, and connects high-impact innovations with scaling opportunities.
- The eight showcased start-ups include NeoMotion, Blind Vision Foundation, Healthcare Global Enterprises (Innaumation), Innogle, CultYvate, WeVOIS Labs, Greengine Environmental Technologies, and LCB Fertilizers, covering areas such as disability solutions, healthcare, agriculture, waste management, climate action, and the blue economy.





=Ques : Who has been appointed as President and Vice Chairman of Meta, as announced recently?

- A) Mark Zuckerberg
- B) Nick Clegg
- C) Susan Li
- D) Sheryl Sandberg
- E) Dina Powell McCormick

Answer: Option E

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- Meta has appointed Dina Powell McCormick as its President and Vice Chairman.
- Dina Powell McCormick is a former adviser to former US President Donald Trump.
- Her appointment strengthens Meta's leadership with extensive experience in government, policy, and global affairs.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which Indian Army officer won the United Nations Secretary-General's Award 2025 for Gender-Inclusive Peacekeeping?

- A) Captain Anshuman Singh
- B) Major Swathi Shantha Kumar
- C) Lt Col Priya Jha
- D) Major Neha Sharma
- E) Colonel Ritu Singh

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Indian Army officer Major Swathi Shantha Kumar won the UN Secretary-General's Award 2025.
- The award was presented by UN Secretary-General António Guterres.
- She received it for her service with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).
- Major Swathi emerged as the global winner in the Gender Category.
- Her award-winning project was titled "Equal Partners, Lasting Peace," focusing on promoting gender-inclusive peacekeeping practices.

EXAM
Genius

