

# EXAM GENIUS

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# ***GENIUS CURRENT AFFAIRS***

**In English**

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**Ques: Which bank launched a \$500 million syndicated social term loan facility for women's empowerment in 2026?**

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

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- State Bank of India (SBI) launched a \$500 million syndicated social term loan facility focused on women's empowerment initiatives.
- The announcement was made on the occasion of International Women's Day 2026.
- The financing includes a greenshoe option and aims to accelerate social impact through ESG-focused funding.

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## Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector:

- One 97 Communications Limited, the parent company of Paytm, has launched Paytm Silver on the Paytm app. The minimum investment starts from ₹20. The silver is sourced from MMTC-PAMP India Private Limited
- Jio Finance Platform and Service Limited (JFPSL) launched the 'Finsider' app for early access program featuring Agentic Artificial Intelligence(AI)
- ICICI Prudential Pension Funds Management Company Limited has launched India's first Swasthya Scheme — "ICICI PF NPS Swasthya Equity Plus" under the National Pension System (NPS).
- PhonePe has launched an AI-powered natural language search feature built on Microsoft Foundry. The new tool allows users to navigate, pay, recharge, and track transactions using simple voice or text commands.
- PhonePe has introduced biometric authentication for Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions.
- 'IndiGo Axis Bank Credit Card' and 'IndiGo Axis Bank Premium Credit Card' Launched by Axis Bank & IndiGo





**Ques: Which Public Sector Bank became the first in India to align its Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) framework with ISO 31000:2018?**

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

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) observed Risk Awareness Day on 2 March 2026, reaffirming its commitment to strengthening enterprise-wide risk awareness.
- On this occasion, IOB became the first Public Sector Bank in India to align its Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) framework with ISO 31000:2018, a globally recognized standard for effective risk management.
- The step aims to enhance risk governance, strengthen decision-making, and build a robust risk management culture across the bank.

**About Indian Overseas Bank:**

- Established: 1937
- Headquarters: Chennai
- MD & CEO: Ajay Kumar Srivastava
- Tagline: Good People to Grow With





**Ques: The National Climate Stack Innovation Challenge with a top prize of ₹15 lakh was launched by which organisation?**

- A) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- B) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- C) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- D) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- E) NITI Aayog

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) launched the National Climate Stack Innovation Challenge to promote AI/ML-based climate solutions for rural India.
- The initiative is launched in collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Dalberg Advisors.
- The challenge aims to develop open-source tools for climate hazard forecasting to support agriculture and rural livelihoods.

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**Ques: Who has been appointed as the next Supreme Leader of Iran after Ayatollah Ali Khamenei?**

- A) Hassan Rouhani
- B) Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf
- C) Ali Larijani
- D) Ebrahim Raisi
- E) Mojtaba Hosseini Khamenei

**Answer: Option E**

**Explanation:**

- Mojtaba Hosseini Khamenei, the second-eldest son of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, has been appointed as the new Supreme Leader of Iran.
- He was selected by the Assembly of Experts, an 88-member clerical body responsible for choosing and supervising Iran's Supreme Leader.
- The appointment came after the death of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who had served as Iran's Supreme Leader since 1989.
- Mojtaba Khamenei is considered a mid-ranking cleric with strong ties to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and has long been seen as an influential figure within Iran's political establishment.

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## Recent Appointment in different departments :

- **Dr. Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi** : Drugs Controller General of India (Extended for 1 year from 1st march 2026)
- **South Korean filmmaker Park Chan-wook** : jury president for the 79th edition of the Cannes Film Festival
- **Baroruchi Mishra** : CEO of Hindustan Oil Exploration Company
- **Saba Shawl** : First Kashmiri woman to head (Superintendent) Central Jail Srinagar, Which is a high security correctional facility in Jammu and Kashmir
- **Alois Zwinggi** : Interim President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the World Economic Forum (WEF) (replaced Børge Brende of Norway)
- **Alireza Araf** : Iran's Supreme Leader (Replaced Ayatollah Ali Khamenei (since 1989))
- **Deepak Gupta** : Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of GAIL (India) Limited (replaced Sandeep Kumar Gupta)
- **Senior bureaucrat Nidhi Chibber** : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NITI Aayog





**Ques: Which city entered the Guinness World Records by planting over 2.5 lakh saplings in one hour in March 2026?**

- A) Lucknow
- B) Ahmedabad
- C) Indore
- D) Varanasi
- E) Bhopal

**Answer: Option D**

**Explanation | व्याख्या:**

- Varanasi, the parliamentary constituency of Narendra Modi, entered the Guinness World Records by planting over 2.5 lakh saplings within one hour.
- The plantation drive was organised by the Varanasi Municipal Corporation on 1 March 2026, with participation from over 20,000 residents.
- The plantation was carried out in the Domari area along the Ganga River riverfront, where an urban forest project named Namu Van is being developed.
- Around 2.51 lakh saplings were planted in 60 minutes using the Miyawaki Method, which promotes dense plantation of native species for faster forest growth.
- This surpassed China's previous record of 1.53 lakh saplings planted in one hour.





## Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- **GSMA Lifetime Achievement Award : Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder and Chairman of Bharti Enterprises**
- **Award of Merit at the 2025 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation : Our Lady of Grace Cathedral, located in Papydy village, Vasai in Maharashtra**
- **“Business Leader of the Year” award : Karan Adani**
- **FIPI Award 2025 for ‘Oil & Gas Production Company of the Year’ : Oil India Limited**
- **Chang–Crandall Humanitarian Award 2026 : Dr. Haripriya Aravind and Dr. R. Venkatesh from Puducherry**
- **Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025 : Paradip Port Authority (PPA), Odisha**
- **22nd Upendra Nath Brahma ‘Soldier of Humanity’ Award 2025 : Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, the Queen Mother of Bhutan**
- **Global Teacher Prize 2026 : Rouble Nagi, an Indian teacher and social activist**





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- B) Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf
- C) Ali Larijani
- D) Ebrahim Raisi
- E) Mojtaba Hosseini Khamenei

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- The appointment came after the death of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who had served as Iran's Supreme Leader since 1989.
- Mojtaba Khamenei is considered a mid-ranking cleric with strong ties to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and has long been seen as an influential figure within Iran's political establishment.

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**Ques: Which team won the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026?**

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

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- India national cricket team won the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 by defeating the New Zealand national cricket team by 96 runs in the final.
- Sanju Samson was named Player of the Tournament and credited Sachin Tendulkar for his guidance and support.
- With this victory, India won its third T20 World Cup title after 2007 and 2024.
- Overall, it became India's fifth Cricket World Cup title – 2 ODI (1983, 2011) and 3 T20 (2007, 2024, 2026).

**Static Fact:**

- Governing body – International Cricket Council (ICC)
- Founded – 1909
- Headquarters – Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- Chairman – Jay Shah





## Recent News headlines related to Sports

- The prestigious Indian Air Force (IAF) Cup and Eastern Air Command (EAC) Cup horse races were organised on 25 February 2026 at the Royal Calcutta Turf Club. The Royal Calcutta Turf Club was established in 1847 and was granted the title “Royal” in 1912.
- The India women's national cricket team has been nominated for the Laureus World Team of the Year Award 2026, one of the most prestigious global sports honours.
- Argentine tennis player Tomás Martín Etcheverry won his first ATP Tour title by clinching the ATP 500 Rio Open 2026 held in Brazil. He defeated Chile’s Alejandro Tabilo in the final
- Jammu and Kashmir created history by winning their maiden Ranji Trophy title in the 2025–26 season.
- The Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games were held in northern Italy from February 6 to 22, 2026.
- India scored 256/4 against Zimbabwe in Chennai, its highest-ever total in T20 World Cup history.





**Ques: Pakyong Airport, the only airport in Sikkim, is set to be renamed after which freedom fighter?**

- A) Trilochan Pokhrel
- B) Tashi Namgyal
- C) Kazi Lhendup Dorjee
- D) Palden Thondup Namgyal
- E) Bhimsen Gurung

**Answer: Option A**

**Explanation:**

- Prem Singh Tamang, Chief Minister of Sikkim, announced that Pakyong Airport will be renamed after freedom fighter Trilochan Pokhrel.
- Trilochan Pokhrel was popularly known as “Gandhi Pokhrel” because he was deeply influenced by the ideology of Mahatma Gandhi.
- He is regarded as Sikkim’s first freedom activist and actively participated in major national movements such as the Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement, and Quit India Movement.
- Pakyong Airport is located about 30 km from Gangtok and was inaugurated on 24 September 2018 by Narendra Modi.
- The airport is strategically important in the Himalayan region as it improves tourism, trade, and regional connectivity in Sikkim.





**Ques: Which state government announced a ban on social media use for children below 16 years?**

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

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- The Karnataka Government announced a ban on the use of social media for children below 16 years of age.
- The initiative aims to protect children from the negative impacts of excessive mobile and social media usage.
- The Andhra Pradesh Government also proposed restricting social media access for children below 13 years.

**About Karnataka:**

- Capital – Bengaluru
- Chief Minister – Siddaramaiah
- Governor – Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Statehood Day – 1 November 1956





**Ques: The ASMITA Women's Sports League, aimed at promoting women's participation in sports, stands for:**

- A) Action for Sports Movement Inspiring Talent and Achievement
- B) Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action
- C) Association for Sports Management and International Training for Athletes
- D) All Sports Mission for Inclusion, Talent and Advancement
- E) Active Sports Movement Inspiring Talent and Achievement

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- Raksha Nikhil Khadse, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, announced a special edition of the ASMITA Women's Sports League in New Delhi.
- The initiative has been organised to mark International Women's Day on 8 March 2026.
- ASMITA stands for "Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action."
- The competitions will be held across 250 locations in three age categories:
  - Under 13 years
  - 13 to 18 years
  - 18 years and above
- Athletics events include 100 metres, 200 metres and 400 metres races.





**Ques: The Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Act in India was enacted in which year?**

- A) 2000
- B) 2003
- C) 2005
- D) 2010
- E) 2015

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- The Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 was enacted to promote exports, attract investment, and generate employment in India.
- The Act is administered by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Recently, the Government of India constituted a 17-member committee to review and recommend reforms in the SEZ policy to enhance export competitiveness.
- The committee includes officials from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), NITI Aayog, and Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- The committee will examine alignment of SEZs with export-promotion schemes like EOU (Export Oriented Unit), EPCG (Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme), MOOWR (Manufacture and Other Operations in Warehouse Regulations), AA (Advance Authorisation), and DFIA (Duty Free Import Authorisation).
- SEZ exports grew by 7.37% to \$172.27 billion in FY 2024-25, with 276 operational SEZs and about 6,279 units across India.

**Static Facts :**

- First SEZ in India – Kandla Special Economic Zone (1965)
- Operational SEZs in India – 276
- SEZ exports in FY 2024-25 – \$172.27 billion (7.37% growth)





**Ques: Which Indian company has been named an official partner for World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development (WED) 2026?**

- A) Adani Group
- B) Tata Power
- C) Reliance Industries
- D) NTPC Limited
- E) JSW Energy

**Answer: Option A**

**Explanation:**

- Adani Group has been named an official partner for the World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development 2026.
- The international observance is recognised by UNESCO and delivered by the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO).
- A key focus of this partnership is the Khavda Renewable Energy Park being developed by Adani Green Energy Limited in the Kutch region of Gujarat.
- The project is being built across 538 sq km of barren land and aims to achieve 30 GW capacity by 2029, making it the world's largest power plant across all energy sources.
- Currently, more than 7 GW renewable capacity has already been operationalised.
- The theme for WED 2026 is "Smart engineering for a sustainable future through innovation and digitalisation."





**Ques: India registered the highest T20 total at which stadium?**

- A) Wankhede Stadium
- B) Eden Gardens
- C) Narendra Modi Stadium
- D) Arun Jaitley Stadium
- E) M. Chinnaswamy Stadium

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- The India national cricket team scored 255/5, the highest-ever T20 total recorded at the Narendra Modi Stadium.
- During the match, Jimmy Neesham took three wickets in the 16th over, attempting to slow India's scoring.
- This total also became the third-highest team score in a ICC Men's T20 World Cup match.

**Static Facts:**

- Governing body – International Cricket Council (ICC)
- Founded – 1909
- Headquarters – Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- Chairman – Jay Shah





**Ques: Jio Finance Platform and Service Limited (JFPSL) has launched which new mobile app for AI-driven financial services?**

- A) FinTrack
- B) Finsider
- C) JioMoney Plus
- D) FinAssist
- E) WealthMate

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- Jio Finance Platform and Service Limited (JFPSL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Jio Financial Services Limited (JFSL), has launched a new mobile app called Finsider.
- The company has also introduced an early access programme allowing selected users to test the app and provide feedback before its full-scale rollout.
- The app offers AI-driven personalisation powered by Agentic AI and neural networks to deliver customised financial services.
- It also functions as a multi-product financial marketplace and includes automated liquidity management features for users.
- According to Hitesh Sethia, Managing Director and CEO of JFSL, the platform aims to enhance digital financial experiences using advanced AI technologies.





**Ques:** According to the Hurun Global Rich List 2026, how many new billionaires were added in India in 2026?

- A) 32
- B) 45
- C) 57
- D) 68
- E) 75

**Answer: Option C**

**Explanation:**

- According to the Hurun Global Rich List 2026, India added 57 new billionaires, taking the total number of billionaires to 308.
- India became the third-largest country for billionaires, after China and the United States.
- The total wealth of Indian billionaires reached about ₹112 lakh crore, with an average wealth of ₹36,570 crore per billionaire.
- Many of the new billionaires emerged from sectors such as healthcare, auto components, energy, and financial services.

**Top 5 Richest Indians (Hurun List 2026):**

1. Mukesh Ambani & Family – ₹9.8 lakh crore
2. Gautam Adani & Family – ₹7.5 lakh crore
3. Roshni Nadar Malhotra & Family – ₹3.2 lakh crore
4. Cyrus S. Poonawalla & Family – ₹3 lakh crore
5. Kumar Mangalam Birla & Family – ₹2.5 lakh crore

**Static Facts :**

- Total Billionaires in India (2026): 308
- New Billionaires in 2026: 57
- India's Global Rank: 3rd
- Top Countries: 1st – China, 2nd – United States





**Ques: Renowned Bengali novelist Mani Shankar Mukhopadhyay, popularly known by which pen name, passed away recently?**

- A) Bibhutibhushan
- B) Shankar
- C) Sunil
- D) Parashuram
- E) Shirshendu

**Answer: Option B**

**Explanation:**

- Renowned Bengali novelist Mani Shankar Mukhopadhyay, popularly known by his pen name “Shankar”, passed away recently.
- He began his career as a clerk at the Calcutta High Court under the last British barrister Noel Barwell.
- His first novel Kato Ajanare (1955) was based on his experiences at the High Court.
- He received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2021 for his autobiographical memoir Eka Eka Ekashi.
- He also served as the Sheriff of Kolkata in 2019 and was honoured with Bankim Puraskar and Banga Bibhushan, one of the highest civilian honours of West Bengal.

**Notable Works :**

- Chowringhee (1962) – Adapted into a famous film (1968) starring Uttam Kumar.
- Seemabaddha – Adapted into a film by Satyajit Ray as part of the Calcutta Trilogy.
- Jana Aranya – Also adapted by Satyajit Ray.
- Maan Samman – Adapted into the Hindi film Sheesha by Basu Chatterjee.
- Achena Ajana Vivekananda – A well-known biographical work on Swami Vivekananda.





## IMPORTANT ONE - LINER Current Affairs

**Government Proposes Merger of IRCON International Limited with Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) (Acquirer)**

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has provided USD 100 million funding to Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited (MOHFL). Around 10% of the proceeds will be utilised to finance the construction of green-certified residential housing units under the green housing initiative.

Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers J. P. Nadda stated that a ₹13,000 crore budgetary provision for Bio-Pharma SHAKTI and three dedicated chemical parks is a strategic investment in India's future. The initiative aims to increase India's share in the global chemical sector to 5–6% by 2030 and achieve a \$1 trillion turnover by 2040.

The United Nations approved the first carbon credits under the global carbon market involving a project in Myanmar coordinated with Republic of Korea. The credits are issued under the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM) established under Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement.

The Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates unveiled the world's first Sovereign Financial Cloud Services Infrastructure (SFCSI) to strengthen the country's financial digital infrastructure.

