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Ques: Who has recently been appointed as a Whole-Time Member of SEBI?

- A) Ananth Narayan
- B) K.V.R. Murty
- C) T. Rabi Sankar
- D) Ajay Tyagi
- E) Shaktikanta Das

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Government of India has appointed K. V. R. Murty, a former official of the Ministry of Defence, as a Whole-Time Member (WTM) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India.
- With this appointment, the SEBI board strength has increased to nine members, strengthening the functioning of India's capital market regulator.
- K. V. R. Murty replaces Ananth Narayan, whose tenure as SEBI whole-time member ended earlier.

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Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- CFO Ketan Merchant : MD of Fino Payments Bank
- Vinay Tonse : MD and CEO of Yes Bank
- Dan Bailey : President of Jio Platforms Limited
- Hitesh Rameshchandra Joshi : Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re) (replaced Ramaswamy Narayanan)
- Rajan Bajaj : Chief executive officer (CEO) and managing director Slice Small Finance Bank (Replaced Satish Kumar Kalra)
- Sanjay Agarwal : Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of AU Small Finance Bank
- R. Vijay Anandh : Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of City Union Bank Limited (CUB). (replaced Dr. N. Kamakodi)
- Vinay Muralidhar Tonse : Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of YES Bank





Ques: Which bank launched the “bob Women Sapphire Savings Account” for women customers?

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

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Bank of Baroda launched a special savings account for women called “bob Women Sapphire Savings Account.”
- The account is designed to provide banking benefits along with healthcare and lifestyle privileges for women customers.
- It offers ₹10 lakh cancer care coverage for women aged 18 to 60 years.

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Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector:

- PhonePe Limited launched the RuPay “On-The-Go” Card, a National Common Mobility Card (NCCM) designed for contactless payments across public transport systems in India.
- Yes Bank launched a specialised salary account named “YES Essence Women’s Salary Account” aimed at supporting the financial and lifestyle needs of working women ahead of International Women’s Day (March 8).
- L&T Finance Ltd, a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC), launched the “Spoorthi” programme to support women entrepreneurs.
- 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.
- 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)





Ques: Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of HDFC ERGO General Insurance?

- A) Parthanil Ghosh
- B) Anuj Tyagi
- C) Keki Mistry
- D) Sashidhar Jagdishan
- E) Ritesh Kumar

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Parthanil Ghosh has been appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of HDFC ERGO General Insurance.
- He will succeed Anuj Tyagi, the current MD and CEO of the company.
- HDFC ERGO General Insurance is one of India's leading private sector general insurance companies.

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Ques: Retail inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose to 3.21% in February 2026, which is the highest in how many months?

- A) 6 months
- B) 9 months
- C) 10 months
- D) 11 months
- E) 12 months

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Retail inflation based on the Consumer Price Index increased to 3.21% in February 2026.
- It rose by 47 basis points from 2.74% in January 2026.
- This level marks an 11-month high in retail inflation.
- The inflation calculation is based on the base year 2024.

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Ques: The 6th edition of Digital Payments Awareness Week (DPAW) 2026 was observed during which dates?

- A) 1–5 March 2026
- B) 5–9 March 2026
- C) 12–16 March 2026
- D) 9–13 March 2026
- E) 15–19 March 2026

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The 6th edition of Digital Payments Awareness Week 2026 was observed from 9–13 March 2026.
- As part of this initiative, Sanjay Malhotra, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, launched the pilot programme titled “Awareness Program on Digital Payments.”
- The pilot programme will be conducted in Maharashtra in partnership with CSC e-Governance Services India Limited.
- The initiative will organise in-person awareness programmes for 10 lakh participants in rural and semi-urban areas through Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs).
- The RBI also launched a multi-media awareness campaign “Thoda Dhyan Se” to encourage users to stay alert while making digital payments and online transactions.





Ques: Who has been indicated as the likely successor to Nitish Kumar as the next Chief Minister of Bihar?

- A) Tejashwi Yadav
- B) Samrat Choudhary
- C) Sushil Kumar Modi
- D) Chirag Paswan
- E) Nityanand Rai

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Nitish Kumar, the Chief Minister of Bihar, hinted that Deputy Chief Minister and BJP MLA Samrat Choudhary may succeed him as the next Chief Minister of the state.
- During a public event in Saharsa, Nitish Kumar publicly expressed support for Samrat Choudhary and asked people to raise their hands in his support.
- The announcement came after Nitish Kumar filed nomination for the Rajya Sabha elections, indicating a possible transition in Bihar's leadership.

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Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) revised the Counterparty Credit Risk (CCR) framework to align it with Basel III international banking norms.
- Reserve Bank of India has issued revised prudential norms for dividend payouts by commercial banks, which will come into effect from FY27.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued the NBFC–Miscellaneous Amendment Directions, 2026 to support the functioning of National Urban Co-operative Finance and Development Corporation Ltd. (NUCFDC) as the Umbrella Organisation (UO) for Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs). These special provisions will remain effective until 31 March 2029, unless modified, withdrawn, or extended by the Reserve Bank of India.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) purchased ₹50,000 crore worth of Government Securities (G-Secs) through Open Market Operations (OMO) to increase liquidity in the banking system.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed a compensation framework for small-value fraudulent digital banking transactions up to ₹50,000.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved SBI Mutual Fund to acquire an aggregate holding of up to 9.99% in private sector lender Bandhan Bank.





Ques: The Indian Orchid Festival 2026, recently in news, concluded in which state?

- A) Sikkim
- B) Arunachal Pradesh
- C) Meghalaya
- D) Manipur
- E) Nagaland

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Indian Orchid Festival 2026 concluded in Pakyong district of Sikkim.
- The festival was organised by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research – National Research Centre for Orchids (ICAR-NRCO).
- The theme of the festival was “Orchids for Beauty & Prosperity.”

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Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President :

- Prime Minister of Nepal : Balendra Shah, popularly known as “Balen”
- Supreme Leader of Iran : Mojtaba Hosseini Khamenei
- President of Peru : Jose Maria Balcazar
- Prime Minister of the Netherlands : Rob Arnoldus Adrianus Jetten
- 8th Prime Minister of Barbados : Mia Mottley
- Prime Minister of Thailand : Anutin Charnvirakul
- Prime Minister of Bangladesh : Tarique Rahman, chairman of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)
- Prime Minister of Yemen : Yemen’s Foreign Minister Shaya Mohsen Zindani (replaced Salem bin Breik)
- President of Uganda : Yoweri Museveni
- Interim President of Venezuela : Delcy Rodríguez
- 38th President of Chile : José Antonio Kast of Chile’s Republican Party (Replaced Gabriel Boric)





Ques: The FIFA World Cup 2026, recently in news after Iran announced its withdrawal, will be jointly hosted by which three countries?

- A) United States, Mexico, Brazil
- B) United States, Canada, Mexico
- C) Spain, Portugal, Morocco
- D) Canada, Brazil, Argentina
- E) Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The FIFA World Cup 2026 will be jointly hosted by the United States, Canada, and Mexico.
- Iran announced its withdrawal from the tournament.
- FIFA (International Federation of Association Football) was founded on 21 May 1904 and is headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland.
- FIFA currently has 211 member associations, and its president is Gianni Infantino.
- **Upcoming FIFA World Cup hosts:**
 - 2030: Morocco, Portugal, Spain
 - 2034: Saudi Arabia
- The FIFA Women's World Cup 2027 will be hosted by Brazil.





Recent News Headlines Related to Festivals & Fairs :

- The National Arogya Fair 2026 was held at Shegaon in Buldhana district of Maharashtra.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami virtually inaugurated the Khadi Holi Festival organised by the Kalash Sangeet Kala Samiti in Champawat (Kumaon region).
- Herath Poshte, or "Congratulations on Herath," is the traditional greeting for the Kashmiri Pandit celebration of Maha Shivaratri (Herath) in Jammu and Kashmir, celebrated on Phalgun Krishna Paksha Trayodashi.
- 'Spituk Gustor' : two-day annual monastic festival has begun at Spituk Monastery in Ladakh
- Dhanu Yatra : 11-day open-air theatre festival held annually in Bargarh, Odisha, depicting the mythological story of Lord Krishna and King Kansa.
- Losar : traditional New Year festival of Ladakh, celebrated with devotion and joy.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami virtually inaugurated the Khadi Holi Festival organised by the Kalash Sangeet Kala Samiti in Champawat (Kumaon region).





Ques: Which country recently became the first in the Americas to eliminate leprosy as a public health problem?

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

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Chile has officially become the first country in the Americas and the second country globally to eliminate Leprosy as a public health problem, as verified by the World Health Organization.
- The achievement reflects Chile's strong public health system, improved disease surveillance, and early treatment programmes.
- Eliminating leprosy as a public health issue means the prevalence rate has fallen below the WHO threshold, so the disease is no longer considered a major public health concern.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) was established on 7 April 1948 and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.





Recent News headlines related to Sports

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced a cash reward of ₹131 crore for the entire Indian squad after its third title victory at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026.
- George Russell of the Mercedes-AMG Petronas F1 Team won the Australian Grand Prix 2026. It marked the opening race of the Formula One World Championship 2026 season.
- Indian cricket star Smriti Mandhana has achieved a unique milestone after becoming the first cricketer to receive her own Barbie doll. The Barbie doll dedicated to Smriti Mandhana has been created by Mattel as part of its initiative to celebrate trailblazing women across the world.
- The first Khelo India Tribal Games (KITG) 2026 will be held from 25 March to 6 April 2026 in Chhattisgarh.
- The India national deaf cricket team defeated the Sri Lanka national deaf cricket team by six wickets to win the inaugural Deaf Asia Cup T20 tournament in Cuttack.
- International Cricket Council (ICC) announced the Team of the Tournament for the 2026 ICC Men's T20 World Cup.





Ques: The Orunodoi 3.0 Scheme, recently in news, has been implemented by which state government?

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

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The Orunodoi 3.0 Scheme has been implemented by the Assam Government.
- Under this scheme, ₹79,000 each has been transferred to around 40 lakh women beneficiaries.
- The scheme aims to provide financial assistance to poor households, with a special focus on women empowerment.

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Recent News Headlines Related to First in India and World :

- V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority has become the first port in India to launch the Digital Twin initiative for port management.
- International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) launched its first Sangam Infrastructure Innovation Center at the India Systems Development Lab (ISDL) campus in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Telangana will recruit its first-ever batch of women firefighters under newly introduced recruitment rules.
- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone for India's first river lighthouses.
- The total project length of India's first underwater Road-cum-Rail tunnel is 33.7 km.
- The Kerala State Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, approved India's first comprehensive graphene policy.
- World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen won the 2026 FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championship.
- Rekha Gupta inaugurated the first CM Shri School at Sarojini Nagar.





Ques: The Sheshnaag-150, recently in news, is related to which of the following defence technologies?

- A) Ballistic Missile
- B) Swarming Attack Drone
- C) Submarine-Launched Missile
- D) Fighter Aircraft
- E) Anti-Tank Guided Missile

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Sheshnaag-150 is a long-range swarming attack drone being developed to enhance India's unmanned warfare capabilities.
- The drone is being developed by Newspace Research Technologies, a defence startup based in Bengaluru.
- It represents India's effort to build cost-effective and flexible unmanned combat systems similar to those used in modern conflicts.
- Platforms such as Shahed-136 of Iran and the LUCAS unmanned aerial vehicle of the United States show how low-cost drones can create major battlefield impact.
- Each drone can carry 25–40 kg warheads, capable of damaging infrastructure or military assets.





Recent News Headlines Related to Schemes

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the European Space Agency (ESA) signed a new agreement to strengthen cooperation in Earth observation missions. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) was established on 15 August 1969.
- Google and Bharti Airtel announced a partnership on 1 March 2026 to enhance user protection against spam, phishing, and financial fraud messages. The initiative focuses on Rich Communication Services (RCS) chats available through the Google Messages app used on most Android smartphones.
- President Droupadi Murmu dedicated four welfare schemes in New Delhi aimed at strengthening women empowerment and promoting social and economic inclusion of women. These are Lakhpati Bitiya Scheme, Saheli Pink Smart Card, Meri Poonji Mera Adhikaar and Free LPG Cylinder Scheme
- The Jal Jeevan Mission has been extended by the Union Cabinet of India until December 2028.
- Punjab Government, led by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), has announced a monthly financial assistance scheme for women. scheme named "Mukh Mantri Mawan Dhian Satikar Yojana", ₹1,000 permonth will be directly transferred





Ques: The “Right to Die with Dignity” is derived from which Article of the Indian Constitution?

- A) Article 14
- B) Article 19
- C) Article 21
- D) Article 32
- E) Article 44

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The “Right to Die with Dignity” is derived from Article 21 of the Constitution of India, which guarantees the Right to Life and Personal Liberty.
- The Supreme Court of India allowed passive euthanasia for a 32-year-old man who had been in a permanent vegetative state for over 12 years, marking an important practical implementation of this principle.
- The bench of Justice J. B. Pardiwala and Justice K. V. Viswanathan permitted withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment, including clinically assisted nutrition and hydration.
- This ruling reinforces that the Right to Life under Article 21 also includes the right to die with dignity in certain circumstances.
- Landmark reference: Aruna Shanbaug Case (2011) recognized passive euthanasia; later the Supreme Court legalized the Living Will in 2018.





Ques: The “Nirbhaya Nisha” initiative, aimed at improving women’s safety during night travel, was launched by which state police?

- A) Tamil Nadu Police
- B) Karnataka Police
- C) Maharashtra Police
- D) Telangana Police
- E) Kerala Police

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- The Kerala Police launched the Nirbhaya Nisha initiative to enhance women’s safety during night travel across Kerala.
- The initiative provides rapid police assistance between 9 PM and 5 AM.
- Women can seek help through the 112 Emergency Helpline.

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Ques: India's Lakshya Sen finished runner-up at the All England Open Badminton Championships 2026, losing the Men's Singles final to which player?

- A) Viktor Axelsen
- B) Anthony Sinisuka Ginting
- C) Kodai Naraoka
- D) Lin Chun-Yi
- E) Anders Antonsen

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Lakshya Sen finished runner-up at the All England Open Badminton Championships 2026.
- He lost the Men's Singles final to Lin Chun-Yi of Chinese Taipei.
- The tournament was held in Birmingham, United Kingdom.

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Ques: Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2026 was held at which venue?

- A) Las Vegas Convention Center, USA
- B) Messe Berlin, Germany
- C) Dubai World Trade Centre, UAE
- D) Marina Bay Sands, Singapore
- E) Fira Barcelona Gran Via, Spain

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Mobile World Congress 2026 was held at Fira Barcelona Gran Via in Barcelona, Spain.
- The theme of the event was “The IQ Era.”
- The event was organised by the Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA).
- Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia, Union Minister from India’s Ministry of Communications, represented India at the event.
- During the event, he launched the TJ1600-D3 Hyper-scalable Data Center Interconnect (DCI) Platform developed by Tejas Networks Limited, a Bengaluru-based company.

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Ques: Which organisation implements the mandatory hallmarking of gold jewellery in India?

- A) Reserve Bank of India
- B) Bureau of Indian Standards
- C) Ministry of Commerce
- D) Geological Survey of India
- E) Ministry of Finance

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Mandatory hallmarking of gold jewellery in India is implemented by the Bureau of Indian Standards.
- The Government of India added seven more districts in the 6th phase of mandatory hallmarking under the Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts (Amendment) Order, 2026.
- These districts include Rupnagar in Punjab, Banda in Uttar Pradesh, and Beed in Maharashtra, along with four others.
- With this expansion, mandatory hallmarking now covers 380 districts across India.
- Since 2021, more than 60 crore gold items have been hallmarked with HUID (Hallmark Unique Identification), a 6-digit alphanumeric code used to verify the authenticity of gold jewellery.
- The authenticity of hallmark jewellery can be verified using the BIS CARE mobile application.
- The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is responsible for implementing mandatory hallmarking of gold jewellery and artefacts in India.
- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Established in 1986 and Headquarters in New Delhi.





Ques: Prof. Hermann Kulke, who recently passed away, was a renowned historian and Indologist known for his research on the history and Jagannath traditions of which Indian state?

- A) Odisha
- B) West Bengal
- C) Tamil Nadu
- D) Karnataka
- E) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Hermann Kulke, a renowned German Indologist and historian, recently passed away.
- He was widely known for his extensive research on the history, culture, and Jagannath tradition of Odisha.
- He was honoured with the Padma Shri in 2010 for his contributions to historical studies and Indology.

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IMPORTANT ONE - LINER Current Affairs

The Gujarat Government launched the “Lake and Air Watch” initiative to improve lake health and air quality across cities in the state. The programme has an estimated budget of ₹210 crore.

The Government of India invoked the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to safeguard the supply of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and natural gas amid rising geopolitical tensions in West Asia. To avoid potential domestic shortages, the government decided to exercise powers under Sections 3 and 5 of the Act. A 25-day booking window has been mandated for fresh LPG cylinder bookings to prevent hoarding.

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy successfully conducted four in-flight release trials of the indigenous ADC-150 (Air Droppable Container). The trials were conducted using the Boeing P-8I Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft.

The AVATAAR Amphibious Drone (2026) has been developed by AquaAirX Autonomous Systems, an Indian deep-tech startup. AVATAAR stands for Amphibious Vehicle for Autonomous Tactical Aerial & Aquatic Reconnaissance. It is India’s first amphibious drone capable of operating both in the air and underwater.

Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CMR Green Technologies Ltd. The agreement aims to set up a zinc alloy manufacturing facility at Zinc Park in Rajasthan.

