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Ques: From which date are bank loans to the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for on-lending to cooperative societies eligible for Priority Sector Lending (PSL) classification?

- A) 1 April 2025
- B) 1 July 2025
- C) 19 January 2026
- D) 1 April 2026
- E) 26 January 2026

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India, in consultation with the Government of India, announced that loans sanctioned by banks to the National Cooperative Development Corporation for on-lending to cooperative societies will be eligible for Priority Sector Lending classification with effect from 19 January 2026.
- This PSL classification applies to banks other than Regional Rural Banks, Urban Cooperative Banks, Small Finance Banks, and Local Area Banks.
- Urban Cooperative Banks have been permitted to open new branches, and their housing loan limit has been enhanced from 10% to 25% of total loans and advances.
- The Banking Regulation Act has been amended to increase the tenure of directors of Cooperative Banks from 8 years to 10 years.
- The National Urban Co-operative Finance and Development Corporation Limited has been established as an umbrella organisation for Urban Cooperative Banks to provide IT infrastructure and operational support.
- A Shared Services Entity named Sahakar Sarthi has been set up to provide technological services to Rural Cooperative Banks, and these banks have been included under the Integrated Ombudsman Scheme of RBI.





Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has tightened lending norms for capital market intermediaries, including stock and commodity brokers involved in proprietary trading.
- The Reserve Bank of India has granted final approval to affiliates of Bain Capital to acquire joint control and up to 41.66% stake in Kerala-based Manappuram Finance.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has restored the use of Default Loss Guarantees (DLGs) for non-bank lenders, reversing its curbs imposed in May 2025.
- As per the master directions issued by Reserve Bank of India, the maximum permissible cap for a Default Loss Guarantee (DLG) is limited to 5% of the loan portfolio.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued draft guidelines in February 2026 to streamline the Lead Bank Scheme (LBS) with a focus on improving credit flow in rural and semi-urban areas.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed banks to extend aggregate exposure up to 20% of their eligible capital base for acquisition (M&A) financing, increased from the earlier proposed 10%.





Ques: RBI has deferred implementation of Unique Transaction Identifier (UTI) for OTC derivatives till which date?

- A) January 1, 2026
- B) July 1, 2026
- C) January 1, 2027
- D) March 31, 2027
- E) December 31, 2026

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has deferred the implementation of the Unique Transaction Identifier (UTI) for all Over-the-Counter (OTC) derivatives to January 1, 2027.
- The UTI system will help regulators obtain a comprehensive view of the OTC derivatives market and enhance transparency.
- The mandate will apply to transactions entered into on or after January 1, 2027.
- Currently, OTC transactions are reported to the Trade Repository managed by Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL-TR).
- Covered instruments include rupee interest rate derivatives, forward contracts in government securities, foreign currency derivatives, foreign currency interest rate derivatives, and credit derivatives.





Ques: DBS Bank Limited partnered with Visa to pilot agent-initiated payments under which innovative payment framework?

- A) Visa Secure Pay
- B) Visa Token Service
- C) Visa Intelligent Commerce (VIC)
- D) Visa Direct
- E) Visa PayWave AI

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- DBS Bank Limited, Southeast Asia's largest lender, entered into a strategic partnership with Visa to pilot agent-initiated payments under Visa Intelligent Commerce (VIC).
- With this initiative, DBS became the first issuer in the Asia-Pacific region to operationalise real-world agentic commerce use cases.
- Visa Intelligent Commerce (VIC) is a payment framework that enables AI agents to securely initiate and complete transactions on behalf of consumers.
- Under the pilot, AI agents completed food and beverage purchases using DBS/POSB credit and debit cards, with payments processed through secure, issuer-approved flows.
- Explicit customer consent was maintained throughout the transactions.





Ques: What is FiMI launched by NPCI?

- A) A new UPI payment app
- B) A blockchain-based settlement system
- C) A domain-specific AI language model for payments
- D) A new digital wallet
- E) A credit scoring platform

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) launched FiMI (Finance Model for India) at the India–AI Impact Summit 2026.
- FiMI is a domain-specific language model built specifically for India's payments ecosystem.
- Developed in-house by NPCI, it addresses limitations of general-purpose LLMs in high-scale, high-trust payment workflows.
- FiMI currently powers NPCI's UPI Help Assistant, an AI-powered conversational support system for UPI users.
- It supports transaction dispute handling, mandate lifecycle management, and regulatory queries.
- The assistant currently supports English, Hindi, Telugu, and Bengali.





Ques: Which entity received RBI approval to acquire up to 9.95% stake in eight Indian banks?

- A) HDFC Asset Management Company
- B) SBI Mutual Fund
- C) ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company
- D) Axis Asset Management Company
- E) Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company, along with group entities of ICICI Bank, received approval from the Reserve Bank of India to acquire up to 9.95% of the paid-up share capital or voting rights in eight Indian banks.
- The banks covered under this approval are Bandhan Bank, City Union Bank, Equitas Small Finance Bank, Federal Bank, IDFC First Bank, HDFC Bank, Karur Vysya Bank, and RBL Bank.
- The approval is valid for one year and requires completion of major shareholding within this period.
- The aggregate holding must remain below 9.95% at all times.
- If the stake falls below 5% and is later increased again, fresh approval from RBI will be mandatory.





Ques: What is the minimum FD amount required to obtain IDFC First Bank's Hello Cashback Credit Card?

- A) ₹5,000
- B) ₹10,000
- C) ₹15,000
- D) ₹25,000
- E) ₹50,000

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- IDFC First Bank has launched the Hello Cashback Credit Card, an FD-backed credit card.
- The card is aimed at first-time users and customers with no credit history.
- Customers need to open a minimum FD of ₹10,000 to get the card.
- The credit limit is 100% of the FD amount.
- The card is issued on the RuPay network.
- Founded: October 2015 | Headquarters: Mumbai | CEO: V. Vaidyanathan.

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Recently signed banking agreements

- Indian Army and IDFC FIRST Bank have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide specialised banking services and enhanced insurance benefits to serving and retired Army personnel.
- Tripura Gramin Bank (TGB), in collaboration with its sponsor bank Punjab National Bank (PNB), launched a co-branded RuPay credit card.
- Equitas Small Finance Bank (Equitas SFB) signed a strategic bancassurance partnership with Bharti AXA Life Insurance, backed by Bharti Enterprises and France's AXA, to expand the reach of life insurance across India.
- Central Bank of India (CBI) has signed a distribution agreement with HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited.
- The Department of Posts (DoP), Ministry of Communications, Government of India, signed an agreement with Stock Holding Services Limited (SSL) to promote access to regulated capital market services for citizens across the country.
- SMFG India Credit (SMICC) has partnered with Google Pay to offer collateral-free personal loans to users across India.





Ques: What was India's factory-gate inflation (Wholesale Price Index – WPI) in January 2026, as per data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry?

- A) 0.95%
- B) 1.25%
- C) 1.81%
- D) 2.40%
- E) 3.20%

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- India's factory-gate inflation, measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), rose to 1.81% in January 2026, marking a 10-month high.
- The data was released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- The rise in WPI inflation was mainly driven by:
 - Pickup in food prices
 - Sharp increase in core inflation
- Food inflation increased to 1.4% in January 2026, after remaining flat on a year-on-year basis in December 2025.
- Core inflation (excluding food and fuel) rose sharply to 3.2% in January 2026.
- The current WPI base year is 2011–12, and the upcoming GDP series with base year 2022–23 will continue to use the existing WPI as deflators.

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Ques: India is conducting a joint in-situ air exercise with which country's air force?

- A) Vietnam
- B) Indonesia
- C) Thailand
- D) Malaysia
- E) Philippines

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Royal Thai Air Force are conducting a joint in-situ air exercise to enhance operational coordination and interoperability.
- The exercise focuses on testing how well different aircraft systems and pilots coordinate and communicate during real missions.
- It also aims to strengthen the defence partnership between India and Thailand.
- An “in-situ” exercise means training is conducted in real-world operational locations rather than simulators or isolated bases.

About Thailand:

- Capital: Bangkok
- Prime Minister: Anutin Charnvirakul
- Currency: Thai Baht





Ques: In PM Modi's MANAV Vision for AI, what does 'N' stand for?

- A) Neutral Systems
- B) National Sovereignty
- C) New Technology
- D) Network Governance
- E) Natural Intelligence

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Narendra Modi unveiled India's comprehensive "MANAV Vision" for Artificial Intelligence at the India AI Impact Summit 2026.
- The vision promotes a human-centric, ethical, accountable and inclusive AI framework.
- M – Moral & Ethical Systems: AI should be guided by ethical principles.
- A – Accountable Governance: Transparent rules and strong oversight mechanisms.
- N – National Sovereignty: "Whose data, his right" – data ownership and sovereignty.
- A – Accessible & Inclusive: AI should empower all, not create monopolies.
- V – Valid & Legitimate: AI systems must be lawful and verifiable.
- The Prime Minister emphasized that welfare and happiness of all should be the benchmark for AI development.





Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector:

- **BOBCARD Limited**, the credit card arm of Bank of Baroda, introduced a Braille-enabled version of its Premier Credit Card at an event held in Manipal, Karnataka.
- **Axis Bank** launched “Rooftop Solar Finance”, a dedicated financing product to help Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) adopt solar energy systems on commercial rooftops.
- **Amazon Pay** has launched fixed deposit (FD) services on its fintech app as part of its expansion into fixed-income assets.
- **Canara Bank** will use NPCI BHIM Services’ (NBSL) bank plugins to offer Unified Payments Interface (UPI) services on its banking payments app, Canara ai1Pe.
- **PhonePe Payment Gateway (PhonePe PG)** has launched ‘PhonePe PG Bolt’ for Visa and Mastercard credit and debit card transactions.
- **Axis Finance Limited (AFL)**, a wholly owned subsidiary of Axis Bank Limited, launched the ‘Axis Finance Vyapar Business Loan’.





Ques: India has become the world's second-largest active installed base of smartphones, ranking just behind which country?

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

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- India has officially become the second-largest active installed base of smartphones in the world, standing just behind China.
- India currently has over 740 million active smartphones in use.
- This indicates that more than half of India's population of about 1.45 billion people actively uses a smartphone.
- Indian users retain their smartphones for around 42 months on average, which is slightly lower than the global average of 47 months.
- This shows that Indian consumers typically upgrade their smartphones roughly every 3.5 years.

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Ques: Where was the 23rd edition of BioAsia 2026 held?

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

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The 23rd edition of BioAsia 2026 was held in Hyderabad, Telangana at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC).
- The summit was inaugurated by Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.
- BioAsia is an annual international life sciences conference hosted by the Government of Telangana.
- Theme: “TechBio Unleashed – AI, Automation, and Revolutionary Changes in Life Sciences.”
- Focus areas included use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in drug discovery, automation in biotechnology & healthcare innovation, and strengthening global collaboration in the life sciences sector.

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Recent News Headlines Related to Summits / conference

- Galgotias University was asked to vacate its stall at the India AI Impact Summit 2026 on February 18, 2026.
- The National Conference on Safety of Women at Workplace (SHe-Box) is being organised by the Ministry of Women and Child Development on 14 February 2026 at Vigyan Bhawan.
- The high-level CSR Conclave was organised by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- PLASTINDIA 2026, one of the world's largest plastics exhibitions, was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- The World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2025 was organized to make India a global hub of content creation and promote the "Orange Economy", which integrates content, creativity, and culture into economic growth.
- The Conference of Chief Wildlife Wardens of Tiger Range States and Field Directors of Tiger Reserves was held in Alwar, Rajasthan.





Ques: Dubai-based telecom company du has partnered with Datawave Networks Limited to invest in which submarine cable system creating a direct East–West digital corridor?

- A) SEA-ME-WE 6 Cable System
- B) Asia-Africa-Europe (AAE-1) Cable
- C) Singapore-India-Gulf (SING) Cable System
- D) India-Europe Express (IEX) Cable
- E) Bay of Bengal Gateway (BBG) Cable

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Dubai-based telecom and digital services provider du (Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company) entered into a strategic partnership with Datawave Networks Limited to land and invest in the Singapore–India–Gulf (SING) submarine cable system.
- The SING cable system will connect Kalba (UAE), Muscat (Oman), Mumbai and Chennai (India), Kedah (Malaysia), and Singapore, establishing a direct East–West digital corridor.
- The design, manufacture, and deployment of the cable will be carried out by SubCom, which is owned by Cerberus Capital Management.
- The financing agreement for the project was signed in January 2026, and the cable system is targeted to be Ready for Service (RFS) by 2030.





Ques: Who developed the Ol Chiki script for the Santhali language?

- A) Birsa Munda
- B) Pandit Raghunath Murmu
- C) Jaipal Singh Munda
- D) Raghunandan Prasad
- E) Shibu Soren

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the Centenary Celebration of the Ol Chiki script in New Delhi.
- On the occasion, she released a commemorative coin and a postage stamp marking 100 years of the script.
- Ol Chiki script was developed in 1925 by Pandit Raghunath Murmu specifically for the Santhali language.
- The script consists of 30 letters, designed to accurately represent Santhali phonetics.
- Santhali language was included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution in 2003.
- Ol Chiki is the official script of the Santhali language, widely spoken in Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Assam, and Bihar.
- Recently, the President also released the Constitution of India in Santhali language, written in the Ol Chiki script.





Recent News Headlines Related to MoU and agreement:

- The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, signed a landmark MoU with Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU).
- Indian Institute of Technology ,Madras Research Park, in partnership with Unicorn India Ventures, launched a 'IITM-Unicorn Frontier Fund I' , a venture capital fund, worth Rs.600 crores to support deeptechnology startups in India. It plans to invest in over 25 startups and will allocate about 60% for initial investments and 40% for follow-on funding.
- Indian National Science Academy and National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote collaborative activities in science communication and evidence-based science policy research.
- India and France amended the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) to boost bilateral trade and investments.
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd. (GRSE) and Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Kolkata to form a strategic consortium for executing a large-scale national shipbuilding programme.





Ques: Where was the two-day International Conference on Dam Safety (ICDS) 2026, held on 13–14 February 2026, concluded?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Hyderabad
- C) Bengaluru
- D) Chennai
- E) Pune

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The two-day International Conference on Dam Safety (ICDS) 2026 concluded in Bengaluru on 13–14 February 2026.
- The inaugural and plenary sessions highlighted India's evolving dam safety framework under the Dam Safety Act, 2021 and the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP).
- Key themes of the conference included climate resilience in dam operations, coordinated reservoir management, institutional capacity building, and strengthening regulatory oversight.

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Ques: As per DGCA's proposed amendments, airlines can directly impose a flying ban for up to how many days on unruly passengers?

- A) 7 days
- B) 15 days
- C) 30 days
- D) 45 days
- E) 60 days

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has proposed stricter norms to deal with unruly passengers.
- Airlines may be allowed to directly impose a flying ban of up to 30 days without referring the matter to an independent committee.
- Proposed amendments are under the Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) provisions.
- Disruptive acts include smoking onboard, consuming alcohol on domestic flights, tampering with emergency exits, engaging in protests or sloganeering, and unruly behaviour due to intoxication.
- Airlines must inform DGCA about bans and maintain a passenger database.
- However, such passengers will not automatically be added to the official No-Fly List.





Ques: 'White Revolution 2.0', recently launched by the Ministry of Cooperation, aims to increase milk procurement by dairy cooperatives to what level by 2028–29?

- A) 850 lakh kg per day
- B) 900 lakh kg per day
- C) 950 lakh kg per day
- D) 1,007 lakh kg per day
- E) 1,200 lakh kg per day

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Union Minister Amit Shah informed the Lok Sabha that the Ministry of Cooperation has launched a cooperative-led initiative called White Revolution 2.0.
- Under this initiative, the target is to increase milk procurement by dairy cooperatives by 50% over the next five years, from 660 lakh kg per day to 1,007 lakh kg per day by 2028–29.
- White Revolution 2.0 focuses on four priority areas: women's empowerment, enhancing local milk production, strengthening dairy infrastructure, and boosting dairy exports.
- The initiative aims to empower women milk farmers by strengthening women-led dairy institutions and Self-Help Group (SHG) linkages.
- It also includes setting up and strengthening around 1.20 lakh new and existing cooperative institutions and increasing India's share in global milk production from one-fourth to one-third by 2030.
- Activities under White Revolution 2.0 are funded through the National Dairy Development Programme 2.0 under the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.





Recent News Headlines Related to Defence Exercise :

- The 13th edition of India–Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR commenced at Missamari, Assam.
- The 17th edition of the trilateral Coast Guard exercise ‘DOSTI 17’ was held at Malé, Maldives.
- The Indian Army conducted its first-ever two-day joint Military–Civil Fusion exercise named ‘Sanjha Shakti’.
- Exercise Avialndra-2025 Held in India between Indian Air Force (IAF) & Russian Federation Aerospace Force (RFASF). Aircraft participated are Su-30 MKI, Tejas, IL-78 aircraft, and Mi-17 helicopters. It is Started in 2014.
- Exercise Ektah 2025 8th Edition Held at Maldives between Indian Navy and the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF). It is Started in 2017.
- Exercise DESERT CYCLONE 2025 is the 2nd edition of the joint army exercise between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- The 8th edition of Exercise Garuda, a bilateral air exercise between India and France, concluded in France on 27th November 2025.





Ques: Which city will host the 2027 AI Impact Summit?

- A) Zurich
- B) Geneva
- C) Bern
- D) Paris
- E) Vienna

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Guy Parmelin, President of Switzerland, announced that the 2027 AI Impact Summit will be held in Geneva.
- He emphasized the need for good global governance of AI, ensuring it is not controlled by a few “big powers.”
- Parmelin met Narendra Modi for bilateral talks on AI innovation, multilateral cooperation, and trade ties.
- Discussions included the India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) concluded in 2024.
- He called for smaller countries to organise together and build AI infrastructure.
- The summit will focus on international legal aspects of AI governance.
- The UAE will host the 2028 AI Summit after Geneva.





Ques: Where was the 13th edition of Exercise MILAN-2026 inaugurated?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Kochi
- C) Chennai
- D) Visakhapatnam
- E) Port Blair

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 13th edition of Exercise MILAN-2026 at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- MILAN is a premier multilateral naval exercise hosted by the Indian Navy.
- 74 nations are participating, making it the largest and most inclusive edition so far.
- The exercise is being conducted under the Eastern Naval Command at Visakhapatnam.
- Aim: To enhance interoperability among navies, strengthen professional competence, and deepen maritime cooperation.
- MILAN has evolved from a regional initiative to a prominent global naval engagement platform.
- The exercise promotes mutual trust, coordinated responses, and maritime security cooperation.
- Theme of MILAN-2026: “Camaraderie, Cooperation and Coordination.”





Ques: Which company's 2-nanometer (2nm) semiconductor chip design was launched by Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw?

- A) Qualcomm
- B) Nvidia
- C) Intel
- D) AMD
- E) Samsung

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, along with Karnataka Industries Minister M. B. Patil, inaugurated a world-class electronics manufacturing facility of Zetwerk Electronics at KIADB Hi-Tech, Bengaluru.
- During the event, he also launched Qualcomm's 2-nanometer (2nm) semiconductor chip design.
- "Nm" refers to the size of transistors. A smaller size (2nm vs 7nm) allows more transistors to fit on a chip, resulting in faster performance and lower power consumption.
- The 2nm chip is specifically designed for advanced AI computing, high-end smartphones, and edge devices.





Ques: Where was the 1st Meeting of BRICS Sherpas held, which was chaired by India's BRICS Sherpa Sudhakar Dalela?

- A) Beijing, China
- B) Moscow, Russia
- C) Brasília, Brazil
- D) New Delhi, India
- E) Cape Town, South Africa

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The 1st Meeting of BRICS Sherpas was held in New Delhi.
- The meeting was chaired by India's BRICS Sherpa Sudhakar Dalela, Secretary (Economic Relations).
- This was the first edition of the BRICS Sherpas' meeting under India's leadership.
- The theme of the meeting was "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation, and Sustainability."

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Ques: How many villages are covered under Vibrant Villages Programme–II (VVP–II)?

- A) 1,500
- B) 1,800
- C) 1,954
- D) 2,100
- E) 2,500

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched Vibrant Villages Programme–II (VVP–II) in Nathanpur village, Assam at a cost of ₹6,839 crore.
- Under VVP–II, nearly ₹6,900 crore will be spent covering 1,954 villages across 334 blocks in 17 States.
- In Assam alone, the scheme covers 9 districts, 26 blocks and 140 villages.
- States covered include Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam.
- The programme focuses on border villages adjoining international borders, improving infrastructure, connectivity, security and welfare saturation.
- Programme aims to prevent migration from border areas and strengthen national security.
- VVP–II is an expansion of the original Vibrant Villages Programme (launched in 2023) which initially focused on villages along the China border.





Ques: Where was the first CM Shri School inaugurated under Delhi's AI-driven model?

- A) Rohini
- B) Lajpat Nagar
- C) Sarojini Nagar
- D) Dwarka
- E) Karol Bagh

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Rekha Gupta inaugurated the first CM Shri School at Sarojini Nagar.
- Foundation laid for 75 such schools across Delhi.
- The model is AI-driven and focuses on modern digital learning infrastructure.
- The event was attended by Dharmendra Pradhan.
- The project targets students from economically weaker, lower and middle-income families.
- Aim is to provide facilities comparable to top private schools.

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Ques: Who from Puducherry won the Chang–Crandall Humanitarian Award 2026 for exceptional contributions in cataract blindness prevention and visual disability care?

- A) Dr. Aravind Prasad & Dr. Meena Rao
- B) Dr. Haripriya Aravind & Dr. R. Venkatesh
- C) Dr. V. Shanmugam & Dr. K. Ramesh
- D) Dr. R. Venkatesan & Dr. Harini Devi
- E) Dr. S. Balakrishnan & Dr. N. Kavitha

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Dr. Haripriya Aravind and Dr. R. Venkatesh from Puducherry won the Chang–Crandall Humanitarian Award 2026.
- They were honoured for their exceptional contributions in cataract blindness prevention and visual disability care.
- The award was presented at the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) Foundation conference.
- The conference was held in Washington DC, United States of America.
- The Chang–Crandall Humanitarian Award carries a prize money of USD 100,000.

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Ques: VoicERA, recently launched at the India AI Impact Summit 2026, is related to which field?

- A) Quantum Computing
- B) Blockchain Governance
- C) Voice AI Stack
- D) Satellite Communication
- E) Cyber Warfare

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) unveiled VoicERA, an open-source, end-to-end Voice AI stack.
- It was launched at the India AI Impact Summit 2026.
- Initiative led by the Digital India BHASHINI Division under Digital India Corporation.
- VoicERA is deployed on the BHASHINI National Language Infrastructure.
- It provides a national execution layer for multilingual Voice & Language AI.
- Platform is open, modular, interoperable, cloud-deployable & on-premise ready.
- Supports real-time speech systems, conversational AI & multilingual telephony.
- Enables voice-enabled citizen services in areas like agriculture, education, grievance redressal & scheme discovery.





Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- **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
- **"Ramoji Excellence Award 2025"** in the category of Excellence in Journalism : Jaideep Hardikar, a senior journalist and researcher
- **2026 Crafoord Prize in Geosciences** : Veerabhadran Ramanathan, an 82-year-old Indian-origin climate scientist
- **'Great Place to Work' certification for the period February 2026 to February 2027** : Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)
- **Wiley Research Heroes Prize 2025** : Dr. Chandrakant Lahariya
- **President's Police Colour Award (Nishaan)** : Sikkim Police
- **Padmapani Award** : Renowned music maestro Ilaiyaraaja
- **SKOCH Award-2025** : Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) for its Cell Broadcast Solution (CBS)
- **Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society (RAS)** : US-based Indian-origin astronomer Professor Shrinivas Kulkarni
- **Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar** : Chandana Sinha, an officer of the Railway Protection Force (RPF)

