



Exam Genius

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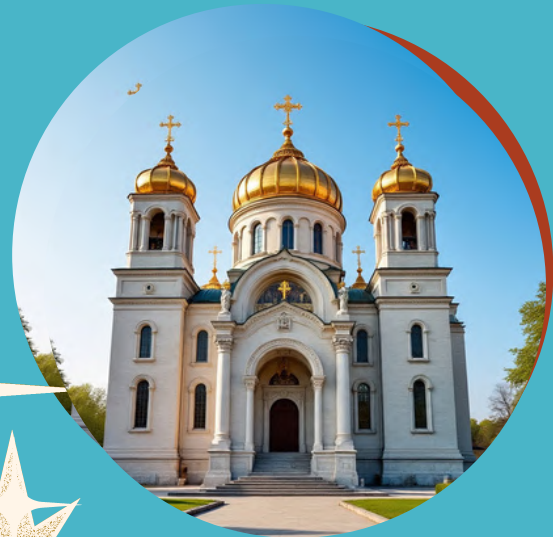


WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

1 - 7 FEB 2026

1ST WEEK OF FEBRUARY

150+ MCQ
with detailed
explanation



- Banking & finance
- National
- International
- Sports





Ques: Why has the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposed changes to the framework for calculating banks' net foreign exchange (FX) exposure and capital requirements?

- A) To align India's FX risk norms with global standards and ensure uniformity
- B) To promote higher foreign currency lending
- C) To reduce banks' capital burden on FX exposure
- D) To exempt small banks from FX risk regulations
- E) To postpone implementation of FX risk norms indefinitely

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The RBI has proposed changes to the framework for calculating banks' net foreign exchange (FX) exposure and the associated capital requirements.
- The objective is to align India's FX risk norms with global standards prescribed by the Basel Committee and ensure uniform implementation across all regulated entities.
- Under the proposed framework, banks will be required to maintain a minimum capital charge of 9% on their net open foreign exchange positions.
- The RBI has invited public feedback on these proposals.
- The proposed changes are expected to come into effect from 1 April 2027.

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Ques: What key insight was revealed by SEBI's survey on Indian households' participation in the securities market?

- A) More than 50% households actively invest in equities and bonds
- B) Awareness and participation levels are almost equal
- C) Only about 9.5% of Indian households participate despite higher awareness
- D) Rural households have higher participation than urban households
- E) Participation is highest in complex instruments like derivatives and AIFs

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- A SEBI survey revealed that out of 33.72 crore Indian households, only 3.21 crore households (9.5%) invest in securities such as equities, mutual funds, and corporate bonds.
- Although 63% households (around 21.3 crore) are aware of at least one market-linked product, actual participation remains very low at 9.5%.
- The survey was conducted by Kantar between May and July 2025, covering over 90,000 households across 400 cities and 1,000 villages.
- Nearly 30.51 crore households remain outside the securities market, highlighting significant under-penetration despite strong market growth over the past decade.
- Awareness is highest for mutual funds (53%) and ETFs (49%), while participation in complex instruments like corporate bonds, derivatives, REITs, InvITs, and AIFs is extremely limited.
- Urban households show higher awareness (74%) compared to rural households (56%), reflecting clear geographic disparities.





Ques: What is the key objective of the newly launched Aadhaar App dedicated to the nation?

- A) To replace physical Aadhaar cards completely
- B) To provide a secure, convenient and privacy-first digital identity platform
- C) To enable only biometric authentication for all services
- D) To store Aadhaar numbers with service providers
- E) To limit Aadhaar usage to government services only

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The new Aadhaar App has been developed by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) as a next-generation mobile application.
- Its objective is to provide Aadhaar Number Holders with a secure, convenient and privacy-first way to carry, share, show and verify their digital identity.
- The app supports real-life use cases such as hotel check-ins via QR code scanning, optional face verification, age verification, hospital admissions, and verification of gig workers.
- Advanced features include face verification for proof of presence, one-click biometric lock/unlock, viewing authentication history, and a QR-based contact card.
- The app allows management of up to five Aadhaar profiles on one device under the concept of “One Family – One App” and enables mobile number updates along with address updates.
- It ensures data minimisation by sharing only digitally signed verifiable credentials and not storing Aadhaar numbers with verifiers, in line with the DPDP Act.





Ques: Who has been appointed as the Managing Director & CEO of Fino Payments Bank for a tenure of three years till May 01, 2029?

- A) Rajesh Kumar
- B) Deepak Mehta
- C) Anil Sharma
- D) Sanjay Malhotra
- E) Rishi Gupta

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Mr. Rishi Gupta has been appointed as the Managing Director & CEO of Fino Payments Bank for a tenure of three years until May 01, 2029.
- Fino Payments Bank has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for conversion into a Small Finance Bank, becoming the first among payments banks to receive such approval.
- Fino Payments Bank was established in 2015 and its headquarters is located in Navi Mumbai.
- The tagline of Fino Payments Bank is “Qadar Aapki Mehnat Ki”.

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Ques: Why did the Department of Posts (DoP) sign an agreement with Stock Holding Services Limited (SSL)?

- A) To introduce postal savings bonds
- B) To promote access to regulated capital market services for citizens
- C) To privatize selected post offices
- D) To replace banks with post offices for all investments
- E) To launch a new digital currency platform

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- 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.
- India Post, with its nationwide network of over 1.65 lakh post offices, including strong presence in rural and remote areas, plays a key role in extending financial services to underserved populations.
- Under the agreement, citizens can access SSL's services through digital utilities such as onboarding links and QR codes available on official platforms and selected post offices.
- The services include opening demat and trading accounts, investing in mutual funds, participating in IPOs, and accessing other permitted investment products.

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Ques: What is the significance of Microsoft introducing the 'Maia 200' AI chip?

- A) It marks Microsoft's entry into consumer smartphone processors
- B) It replaces all third-party AI chips used by Microsoft immediately
- C) It is Microsoft's first AI chip launched in 2026
- D) It is designed exclusively for gaming consoles
- E) It strengthens Microsoft's push to build an integrated AI ecosystem

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Microsoft has introduced the second generation of its in-house artificial intelligence processor, named 'Maia 200', along with a new suite of AI-focused software tools.
- The launch strengthens Microsoft's strategy to build an integrated AI ecosystem across hardware and software.
- Maia 200 builds on Microsoft's first Maia AI chip, which was initially introduced in 2023.
- The Maia 200 AI chip is manufactured by Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC).
- It uses advanced 3-nanometer (nm) process technology and incorporates high-bandwidth memory for improved AI performance.

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Ques: At which two major international theatre festivals will the Brazilian production Passado Presente Zenturo make its international debut in 2026?

- A) Edinburgh Festival & Cannes Theatre Festival
- B) Bharat Rang Mahotsav (India) & GITIS FEST (Russia)
- C) Avignon Festival & Tokyo Theatre Festival
- D) Berlin Theatre Festival & Sydney Arts Festival
- E) Shanghai Theatre Festival & Seoul Drama Festival

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Brazilian theatre production Passado Presente Zenturo will make its international debut in 2026.
- It will represent Brazil at the 25th Bharat Rang Mahotsav in India, organized by the National School of Drama (NSD).
- The production will be performed in Bengaluru on February 5, 2026, and New Delhi on February 7, 2026.
- Additionally, it will represent Brazil at the 5th GITIS FEST in Moscow, Russia, scheduled for April 2026.

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Ques: What is the objective of NITI Aayog's 'Sampoornata Abhiyan 2.0'?

- A) To launch a long-term infrastructure development programme
- B) To achieve saturation of key development indicators in Aspirational Districts and Blocks
- C) To provide direct financial assistance to all districts
- D) To replace the Aspirational Districts Programme
- E) To conduct a nationwide population census

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- NITI Aayog has launched 'Sampoornata Abhiyan 2.0', a three-month nationwide campaign aimed at achieving saturation of key development indicators in Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks.
- The campaign will be conducted from January 28 to April 14, 2026, and builds upon the outcomes of the first Sampoornata Abhiyan conducted in 2024.
- Under Sampoornata Abhiyan 2.0, five Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be saturated in Aspirational Districts and six KPIs in Aspirational Blocks.
- The initiative covers 112 Aspirational Districts and 513 Aspirational Blocks under the Aspirational Districts and Blocks Programme.

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Ques: Why is the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) planning to reduce its total debt below ₹2 lakh crore by March 2026?

- A) To increase fresh borrowing for new projects
- B) To comply with RBI banking regulations
- C) To improve financial sustainability by cutting borrowing and interest costs
- D) To transfer debt to state governments
- E) To privatize national highways

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- NHAI aims to reduce its total debt to below ₹2 lakh crore by the end of March 2026.
- NHAI's debt had peaked at ₹3.5 lakh crore in 2021–22.
- As of 31 December 2025, the outstanding debt stood at ₹2,35,947 crore.
- No fresh borrowing since 2023 led to a 32% reduction in debt.
- NHAI prepaid loans worth ₹86,000 crore, including ₹50,000 crore to the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF).
- Renegotiation of bank loans reduced interest rates by 80 basis points, saving over ₹3,500 crore in the last two years.

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Ques: Which state launched Raj-UNNATI to monitor development projects?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Karnataka
- C) Gujarat
- D) Rajasthan
- E) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Rajasthan has launched Raj-UNNATI, a state-level digital governance platform inspired by the Government of India's PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation) model.
- With this initiative, Rajasthan has become the first Indian state to replicate the PRAGATI governance framework at the regional level.
- PRAGATI is an e-governance and monitoring platform initiated by the Government of India in 2014.
- The platform is designed to monitor key infrastructure and development projects in real time.
- It integrates technology, administration, and coordination to reduce delays in public service delivery.

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Ques: What was the main objective of the Federated Intelligence Hackathon organized by the National Health Authority (NHA)?

- A) To promote commercial AI startups in healthcare
- B) To develop Digital Public Goods (DPGs) for Health Artificial Intelligence
- C) To create a centralized national health data repository
- D) To train doctors in clinical AI applications
- E) To replace existing health IT systems

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The National Health Authority (NHA) organized a Federated Intelligence Hackathon at IIT Kanpur.
- The hackathon focused on developing Digital Public Goods (DPGs) for Health AI.
- It was organized in collaboration with the National Institute for Research in Digital Health and Data Science (NIRDHDS) and IIT Kanpur.
- Key objectives included promoting responsible and ethical AI, privacy-preserving innovation, and federated AI frameworks.
- Federated AI enables data to remain local while only models are shared, enhancing privacy, security, and interoperability.

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Ques: Where was the Bharat Electricity Summit 2026 held?

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

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Bharat Electricity Summit 2026 was held at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi.
- The summit was inaugurated by Union Power Minister Manohar Lal.
- The theme of the summit was “Electrifying Growth. Empowering Sustainability. Connecting Globally.”

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Ques: ONGC and Reliance Industries signed an agreement to share deepwater offshore resources primarily in which region?

- A) Mumbai High Basin
- B) Cauvery Basin
- C) Krishna Godavari Basin
- D) Assam–Arakan Basin
- E) Cambay Basin

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- ONGC and Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) signed an agreement to share resources for deepwater offshore exploration and production operations.
- The collaboration is focused mainly on India's East Coast, particularly the Krishna Godavari (KG) Basin, and also includes the Andaman offshore region.
- The agreement aims at cost optimisation, faster execution, and better utilisation of high-value assets in complex deepwater projects.
- Shared resources include drilling rigs, marine vessels, pipelines, processing facilities, logistics, and specialised subsea equipment.

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Ques: Where will one of the new World Economic Forum centres for the Fourth Industrial Revolution be established in India?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Telangana
- C) Karnataka
- D) Gujarat
- E) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- The World Economic Forum (WEF) will establish five new centres for the Fourth Industrial Revolution globally.
- One of these new centres will be set up in Andhra Pradesh, India.
- The other centres will be established in France, the United Kingdom, and the United Arab Emirates.
- These centres will focus on artificial intelligence (AI), frontier technologies, energy transition, and cyber resilience.
- This will be the third Fourth Industrial Revolution centre in India after Mumbai and Telangana.

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Ques: Why were the Jeevan Raksha Padak Series of Awards-2025 approved by the President of India?

- A) For courage and selfless life-saving acts
- B) For outstanding achievements in sports
- C) For excellence in public administration
- D) For contributions to literature and culture
- E) For service in disaster management planning

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- President of India Droupadi Murmu approved the conferment of the Jeevan Raksha Padak Series of Awards-2025 on 30 individuals for their courage and selfless life-saving acts.
- The awards are given in three categories: Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak (6 awardees), Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak (6 awardees), and Jeevan Raksha Padak (18 awardees).
- Six individuals were honoured posthumously.
- The Jeevan Raksha Padak was instituted in 1961 to recognise acts of bravery in saving human lives.
- The awards include a medal, a certificate, and a one-time monetary allowance of ₹2 lakh, ₹1.5 lakh, and ₹1 lakh respectively.

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Ques: Why is the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) and CAYEIT significant?

- A) It aims to promote Ayurvedic tourism only
- B) It focuses on traditional medicine exports
- C) It seeks to promote research, technology transfer and innovation in Ayurveda
- D) It replaces existing AYUSH institutions
- E) It is limited to undergraduate education

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), under the Ministry of AYUSH, signed an MoU with the Centre for Ayurveda Education, Innovation & Technology (CAYEIT).
- The partnership is a significant milestone in the field of digital health within the Ayurvedic sector.
- The MoU aims to foster cutting-edge research, technology transfer, and innovative educational frameworks in Ayurveda.
- AIIA was established in 2015, headquartered in New Delhi, and is led by Director Dr. Pradeep Kumar Prajapati.

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Ques: Why did UNESCO announce an emergency assistance package for Vietnam?

- A) Due to earthquake damage to heritage sites
- B) Due to flooding caused by river overflow
- C) Due to severe damage caused by multiple typhoons
- D) Due to armed conflict affecting education
- E) Due to volcanic eruptions

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- UNESCO announced an emergency assistance package of USD 740,000 to protect cultural heritage and education in Vietnam after severe damage from typhoons.
- The damage was caused by three major typhoons — Wipha, Bualoi, and Matmo — leading to hundreds of deaths and destruction of hundreds of thousands of homes.
- Cultural heritage sites and educational infrastructure were heavily affected.
- UNESCO's support focuses on World Heritage Sites like Hue and Hoi An, including technical damage assessments, emergency protection, conservation planning, and restoration, in coordination with Vietnam's Ministry of Culture.

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Ques: Who was Sir William Mark Tully, who recently passed away at the age of 90?

- A) Former editor of The Times of India
- B) Veteran journalist and former BBC Bureau Chief in India
- C) British diplomat to India
- D) Former Director General of Doordarshan
- E) Author and former Indian Information Service officer

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Sir William Mark Tully was a veteran journalist and renowned broadcaster, widely known as the BBC's 'voice of India'.
- He served as the Bureau Chief of BBC, New Delhi for 22 years, shaping international reporting on India.
- He received the Padma Shri in 1992 and Padma Bhushan in 2005 for his contributions to Literature and Education.
- In 2002, he was knighted (KBE) by the British government for his exceptional services to journalism.

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Ques: When is the 3rd International Day of Clean Energy observed and what is its theme for 2026?

- A) 24 January – Renewable Energy for Future
- B) 25 January – Sustainable Power for All
- C) 26 January – Clean Energy for People and Planet
- D) 28 January – Energy Transition for Growth
- E) 1 February – Green Energy for Climate Action

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The 3rd International Day of Clean Energy is observed on 26 January.
- The theme for 2026 is “Clean Energy for People and Planet.”
- First observed in 2023, the day emphasizes clean energy’s role in combating climate change, promoting sustainable development, and ensuring energy access for all.

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Ques: What is the maximum timeline prescribed by RBI for banks to take credit decisions on loans up to ₹25 lakh for Micro and Small Enterprises?

- A) 7 working days
- B) 10 working days
- C) 14 working days
- D) 21 working days
- E) 30 working days

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- As per RBI (informed by DFS), for loans up to ₹25 lakh to Micro and Small Enterprises, banks must take credit decisions within 14 working days.
- For loans above ₹25 lakh, timelines will follow board-approved sanction time norms of banks.
- Banks are required to prominently display MSME credit-related information, timelines, and indicative document checklists on their websites.
Committee on MSME chaired by RBI along with SLBCs.
- The credit guarantee cover for MSEs has been enhanced from ₹5 crore to ₹10 crore with effect from 01.04.2025 under CGS.

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Ques: Which bank has received RBI approval to open a branch at the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in GIFT City, Gujarat?

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

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Punjab & Sind Bank has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to open a branch at the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- GIFT City IFSC is India's premier international financial hub, created to facilitate cross-border financial transactions.
- It provides a world-class ecosystem for international trade finance, offshore banking, and capital market activities.

About Punjab & Sind Bank:

- Established: 1908
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- MD & CEO: Swarup Kumar Saha
- Tagline: Where service is a way of life





Ques: As per the revised World Bank International Poverty Line, what was India's extreme poverty rate in 2022–23?

- A) 3.1%
- B) 4.5%
- C) 5.3%
- D) 12.9%
- E) 23.9%

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The World Bank revised the International Poverty Line (IPL) from USD 2.15 to USD 3.00 per day based on 2021 Purchasing Power Parity (PPP).
- The revision reflects changes in global price levels and consumption patterns.
- According to the revised IPL, India's extreme poverty rate in 2022–23 stood at 5.3%.
- India's lower-middle-income poverty rate in 2022–23 was estimated at 23.9%.

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Ques: In which locations will the pilot project of CBDC-based “digital food currency” under the free ration scheme be rolled out?

- A) Chandigarh, Puducherry and three districts of Gujarat
- B) Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai
- C) Gujarat and Rajasthan only
- D) All Union Territories of India
- E) Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Government of India will roll out a pilot project for Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), also called “digital food currency”, under the free ration scheme.
- The pilot will be implemented in Chandigarh, Puducherry, and three districts of Gujarat.
- Beneficiaries will receive monthly digital food coupons directly into an RBI-enabled digital wallet on their mobile phones.
- Coupons can be redeemed at ration shops by scanning the QR code of the shop owner to obtain free foodgrains.
- A soft launch was earlier conducted in Ahmedabad with 25 beneficiaries.
- The next phase will cover Anand, Sabarmati and Dahod districts of Gujarat.

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Ques: Who has issued draft guidelines on resolution plans for borrowers affected by natural disasters?

- A) Ministry of Finance
- B) National Disaster Management Authority
- C) State Governments
- D) NITI Aayog
- E) Reserve Bank of India

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued draft guidelines for banks and other regulated entities on resolution plans during natural disasters.
- The framework will be applicable from April 1, and RBI has invited public and stakeholder feedback until February 17.
- The proposed framework requires banks to proactively plan for natural calamities while framing their credit policies instead of relying on ad hoc relief measures.
- Banks will need to assess climate risks in advance and prepare pre-defined resolution mechanisms.
- RBI clarified that only standard borrowers are eligible for relief.
- Borrowers who have not defaulted for more than 30 days at the time of the disaster will qualify for relief.

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Ques: At the end of December 2025, India's fiscal deficit stood at what percentage of the FY26 Budget Estimate?

- A) 48.0%
- B) 50.2%
- C) 52.8%
- D) 54.5%
- E) 56.7%

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- At the end of December 2025, India's fiscal deficit stood at ₹8.55 lakh crore, which was 54.5% of the FY26 Budget Estimate.
- This level was lower than the 56.7% of the annual target recorded during the same period in the previous year.
- The improvement in the fiscal position was driven by stronger tax revenues and a fiscal surplus recorded in December.
- Gross tax revenues rose by 32.3% in December, taking overall growth during April–December to 8.5%.
- Slower growth in capital expenditure also helped contain the fiscal deficit.
- The government has targeted limiting the full-year FY26 fiscal deficit to 4.4% of GDP.

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Ques: Who is set to become the first woman Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra?

- A) Supriya Sule
- B) Sunetra Pawar
- C) Pankaja Munde
- D) Rohini Khadse
- E) Amruta Fadnavis

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Sunetra Pawar is set to become the first woman Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- She is the wife of senior Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Ajit Pawar.
- The decision was taken unanimously by the NCP leadership.
- With this appointment, she will become the first woman to hold the post of Deputy Chief Minister in Maharashtra.

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Ques: As on January 24, 2026, what percentage of rural households have tap water supply under Jal Jeevan Mission?

- A) 65%
- B) 72%
- C) 75%
- D) 81.56%
- E) 90%

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) has been implemented since August 2019 to provide potable tap water to every rural household.
- At the launch of the Mission, only about 17% rural households had tap water connections.
- As reported by States and Union Territories, around 12.56 crore additional rural households were provided tap water connections till January 24, 2026.
- As on January 24, 2026, out of 19.36 crore rural households, more than 15.79 crore households had tap water supply, covering 81.56%.
- Water is a State subject, and implementation is carried out by respective States and Union Territories.

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Ques: Which cricketer has been provisionally banned by the International Cricket Council (ICC) under its Anti-Corruption Code?

- A) Shai Hope
- B) Nicholas Pooran
- C) David Warner
- D) Aaron Jones
- E) Jason Holder

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has provisionally banned USA batter Aaron Jones from all formats of cricket under its Anti-Corruption Code.
- He faces five charges related to alleged breaches under both the ICC and Cricket West Indies (CWI) anti-corruption codes.
- Aaron Jones has been given 14 days from 28 January 2026 to submit a formal response to the charges.
- Due to the suspension, he is ineligible for selection in the 2026 ICC Men's T20 World Cup starting on 7 February 2026.

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Ques: Which PSU secured the 'Great Place to Work' certification for the third consecutive year (2026–27)?

- A) BHEL
- B) ONGC
- C) GAIL
- D) NTPC
- E) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) secured the 'Great Place to Work' certification for the period February 2026 to February 2027 for the third consecutive year.
- SAIL is a Maharatna Public Sector Undertaking and India's largest public sector steel producer under the Ministry of Steel.
- The certification was awarded after a company-wide assessment by the Great Place to Work Institute, India.
- SAIL showed a significant improvement in its TRUST INDEX© score, reflecting a strong workplace culture.
- The recognition highlights SAIL's transparent, performance-driven HR practices and employee initiatives such as 'SAIL DARPAN'.

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Ques: How many tableaux participated in the 77th Republic Day Parade 2026 on Kartavya Path?

- A) 25 tableaux
- B) 27 tableaux
- C) 28 tableaux
- D) 30 tableaux
- E) 32 tableaux

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- A total of 30 tableaux rolled down Kartavya Path during the 77th Republic Day Parade 2026.
- These included 17 tableaux from States and Union Territories and 13 tableaux from Ministries, Departments and Services.
- The overall theme revolved around “Svatantrata Ka Mantra – Vande Mataram” and “Samridhi Ka Mantra – Aatmanirbhar Bharat”.
- Winners are selected by an expert jury constituted by the Ministry of Defence.
- A Popular Choice Award is also given based on public voting through MyGov and SMS-based systems.

Official Awards (Judges’ Panel) :

- Best Marching Contingent (Services) (1st) - Indian Navy
- Best Marching Contingent (CAPF / Auxiliary Forces) (1st) - Delhi Police
- Best Tableau (States/UTs) (1st) - Maharashtra (Ganeshotsav: A Symbol of Aatmanirbharta)
- Best Tableau (States/UTs) (2nd) - Jammu & Kashmir (Handicrafts and Folk Dances of J&K)
- Best Tableau (States/UTs) (3rd) - Kerala (Water Metro & 100% Digital Literacy)
- Best Tableau (Central Ministries) - Ministry of Culture (Vande Mataram – The Soul Cry of a Nation)
- Special Prize - Central Public Works Department (CPWD) (Vande Mataram – Commemoration of 150 Years)
- Best Cultural Performance - Vande Mataram: The Eternal Resonance of India (Dance Presentation)



Popular Choice Awards (MyGov Public Voting) :

- Best Marching Contingent (Services) (1st) - Assam Regiment
- Best Marching Contingent (CAPF / Auxiliary Forces) (1st) - CRPF
- Best Tableau (States/UTs) (1st) - Gujarat (4th Consecutive Year) (Mantra of Swadeshi – Self-Reliance – Freedom)
- Best Tableau (States/UTs) (2nd) - Uttar Pradesh (Culture of Bundelkhand)
- Best Tableau (States/UTs) (3rd) - Rajasthan (Golden Touch of the Desert: Bikaner Gold Art) (Usta Art)
- Best Tableau (Central Ministries) - Dept. of School Education & Literacy (National Education Policy 2020)

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Ques: Which of the following personalities will be honoured with the Uttar Pradesh Gaurav Samman 2026 during Uttar Pradesh Day 2026?

- A) Wing Commander Shubhanshu Shukla
- B) Alakh Pandey
- C) Dr Hariom Panwar
- D) Rashmi Arya
- E) All of the above

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- The Uttar Pradesh Government will honour five distinguished personalities with the Uttar Pradesh Gaurav Samman during Uttar Pradesh Day 2026.
- The award recognises outstanding contributions in diverse fields and honours individuals who have brought pride to Uttar Pradesh.

Awardees – Uttar Pradesh Gaurav Samman 2026:

- Wing Commander Shubhanshu Shukla – Space Science
- Alakh Pandey – Education
- Dr Hariom Panwar – Literature & Education
- Rashmi Arya – Women Empowerment
- Dr Sudhanshu Singh – Agriculture

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Ques: The recently completed 100 m long 'Make in India' steel bridge is associated with which project?

- A) Delhi–Meerut RRTS
- B) Mumbai–Nagpur Samruddhi Expressway
- C) Mumbai–Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project
- D) Ahmedabad Metro Phase-II
- E) Dedicated Freight Corridor

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- A 100-metre-long 'Make in India' steel bridge has been successfully completed in Ahmedabad district for the Mumbai–Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project.
- This is the 13th steel bridge completed in Gujarat out of a total of 17 steel bridges planned in the state.
- The bridge has been constructed over an underground metro tunnel connecting Kalupur and Shahpur metro stations.
- To avoid load transfer to the metro tunnel, the span length was increased to about 100 metres and redesigned as a Steel Truss Bridge.
- The bridge was assembled at a height of 16.5 metres on temporary trestles and later placed on permanent supports.
- The project strengthens high-speed rail connectivity while ensuring the safety of existing urban transport infrastructure.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which organisation has been formally designated as a terrorist organisation by the European Union, marking a major escalation in its policy towards Iran?

- A) Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)
- B) Hamas
- C) Hezbollah
- D) Al-Qaeda
- E) Houthis

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The European Union (EU) has formally designated Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist organisation.
- This decision marks a sharp escalation in EU policy towards Tehran.
- The IRGC was established after the 1979 Islamic Revolution to safeguard Iran's clerical (theocratic) system.
- Under EU law, the IRGC is now placed in the same legal terrorism category as al-Qaeda and ISIS, despite being a state-linked military force.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Coking Coal has been notified as a Critical and Strategic Mineral under which Act?

- A) Coal Mines Act, 1973
- B) MMDR Act, 1957
- C) Environment Protection Act, 1986
- D) National Steel Policy, 2017
- E) Mines Act, 1952

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Government of India has notified Coking Coal as a Critical and Strategic Mineral under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act).
- This move supports Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047 by strengthening domestic mineral security.
- India has about 37.37 billion tonnes of coking coal, mainly in Jharkhand, with reserves in Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, and Chhattisgarh.
- Despite domestic availability, nearly 95% of the steel sector's coking coal requirement is met through imports.
- Declaring coking coal as critical will enable faster approvals, promote ease of doing business, accelerate exploration and mining, reduce import dependence, and support the National Steel Policy.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: The PM SVANidhi Credit Card launched by the Prime Minister aims to provide formal credit access to which group?

- A) Small farmers
- B) Self-help group members
- C) Street vendors
- D) MSME owners
- E) Gig workers

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The PM SVANidhi Credit Card is designed to provide easy and formal credit access to street vendors.
- Eligibility: Street vendors who have successfully repaid the second tranche under the PM SVANidhi Scheme and are eligible for the third tranche.
- Credit Features:
 - Type: RuPay retail (personal) credit card
 - Credit Limit: ₹30,000
 - Facility: Revolving credit (amount can be reused after repayment)
- Objectives: Promote financial inclusion, reduce dependence on informal moneylenders, encourage digital transactions and credit discipline, and support small livelihoods.

About PM SVANidhi Scheme | PM SVANidhi योजना के बारे में:

- PM SVANidhi stands for Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi.
- It was launched in 2020 as a Central Sector Scheme to provide affordable working capital loans to street vendors affected by the COVID-19 lockdown.
- The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and the Department of Financial Services (DFS).





Ques: INOXGFL Group signed MoUs worth ₹17,000 crore to invest in the renewable energy sector with which state governments?

- A) Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan
- B) Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Kerala
- C) Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
- D) Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh
- E) Odisha, West Bengal and Bihar

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- INOXGFL Group signed three MoUs worth ₹17,000 crore to invest in the renewable energy sector.
- The agreements were signed with the state governments of Uttar Pradesh, Assam, and Kerala.
- The MoUs were signed at the World Economic Forum (WEF) Summit in Davos, Switzerland.

• State-wise Investment:

- Uttar Pradesh: ₹10,500 crore
- Assam & Kerala: ₹6,500 crore combined





Ques: What is India's Global Innovation Index (GII) rank in 2025?

- A) 66th
- B) 55th
- C) 45th
- D) 38th
- E) 30th

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- India's GII rank improved to 38th in 2025 from 66th in 2019, reflecting steady progress in innovation performance.
- The improvement highlights advances in innovation ecosystems, research, and technological capabilities.
- Initiatives like the India Semiconductor Mission, approving 10 semiconductor manufacturing and packaging projects across 6 states with an investment of about ₹1.60 lakh crore, support this growth.
- The combined progress shows India's focus on innovation-driven and technology-led development.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Why did the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) sign a five-year MoU with the Chief Wildlife Warden of Jharkhand?

- A) To promote eco-tourism in Jharkhand
- B) To conserve critically endangered vulture species
- C) To establish new wildlife sanctuaries
- D) To conduct a nationwide bird census
- E) To promote commercial bird breeding

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- BNHS signed a five-year MoU with Jharkhand's Chief Wildlife Warden to strengthen conservation of critically endangered vulture species in the state.
- The MoU focuses on scientific breeding, monitoring, capacity-building, and long-term protection of vultures.
- The two critically endangered species covered are the Oriental White-backed Vulture and the Long-billed Vulture.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Cashless Treatment for Road Accident Victims Scheme, 2025 has been notified under which provision of the Motor Vehicles Act?

- A) Section 146 of Motor Vehicles Act
- B) Section 159 of Motor Vehicles Act
- C) Section 162 of Motor Vehicles Act
- D) Section 164 of Motor Vehicles Act
- E) Section 166 of Motor Vehicles Act

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The scheme has been notified under Section 162 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.
- It provides cashless medical treatment up to ₹1.5 lakh per victim for a maximum of 7 days from the date of the accident.
- All road accident victims are eligible, regardless of the type of road or vehicle involved.
- Stabilisation treatment is provided for 24 hours in non-life-threatening cases and 48 hours in life-threatening cases.
- Implementation is through the integration of eDAR (electronic Detailed Accident Report) and TMS 2.0 platforms.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which district became the first in India to implement online property tax collection through the SAMARTH Panchayat portal?

- A) Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- B) Durg, Chhattisgarh
- C) Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh
- D) Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh
- E) Bastar, Chhattisgarh

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Dhamtari district, Chhattisgarh, became the first district in India to implement online property tax collection via the SAMARTH Panchayat portal.
- The initiative was launched on January 29, 2026, at Saankra Gram Panchayat in Nagri block.
- The system has been rolled out across nearly 400 gram panchayats in the district, digitizing property tax collection and making it more efficient and transparent.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: From which date will the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026 come into effect?

- A) 1 January 2026
- B) 1 March 2026
- C) 1 April 2026
- D) 15 April 2026
- E) 1 July 2026

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026 have been notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and will come into effect from 1 April 2026.
- The rules integrate Circular Economy principles and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).
- Four-stream segregation of solid waste at the source is now mandatory.
- Non-compliance will attract environmental compensation under the 'Polluter Pays' principle.
- Penalties include violations like operating without registration, false reporting, and improper waste management.
- The rules also introduce graded development criteria for solid waste processing and disposal facilities to facilitate faster land allocation.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: In Agriculture Year 2024–25, which sector recorded higher production in India?

- A) Foodgrains
- B) Pulses
- C) Oilseeds
- D) Horticulture
- E) Cotton

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- In Agriculture Year 2024–25, India's foodgrain production is estimated at 357.7 million tonnes (MT).
- Horticulture production reached 362.08 MT, surpassing foodgrain output.
- The increase in foodgrains is due to a good monsoon and higher production of rice, wheat, maize, and coarse cereals.
- This shows diversification in Indian agriculture, with horticulture emerging as a key driver of agricultural growth.
- Horticulture contributes about 33% of agricultural Gross Value Added (GVA).

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which organisation launched the ACASA-India digital platform while reviewing 15 years of the NICRA programme?

- A) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- B) NITI Aayog
- C) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- D) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- E) Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- ICAR reviewed the 15-year progress of the National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) programme and launched the ACASA-India digital platform.
- The initiative was highlighted during a workshop organised by ICAR and the Borlaug Institute for South Asia (BISA).
- The platform aims to enhance the climate resilience of Indian agriculture, focusing on droughts, floods, heat stress, cyclones, and rainfed farming systems.
- NICRA covers 200+ locations across 151 climate-vulnerable districts.
- M L Jat, DG of ICAR and Secretary, DARE, played a key role in this initiative.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which state presented India's first elderly budget linking local body funds to the senior citizen population?

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

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Kerala presented India's first-ever budget exclusively focused on senior citizens.
- The budget links local body fund allocation with the proportion of senior citizens in the population.
- The aim is to strengthen healthcare, social security, and elderly care infrastructure at the grassroots level.
- Kerala has one of the highest proportions of elderly population in India, making age-responsive budgeting crucial.
- This initiative aligns with Kerala's focus on inclusive governance and effective management of demographic transition.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Where is the Beating Retreat ceremony usually held in India?

- A) Vijay Chowk, New Delhi
- B) Rajpath, New Delhi
- C) Red Fort, New Delhi
- D) India Gate, New Delhi
- E) Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Beating Retreat ceremony marks the formal conclusion of India's Republic Day celebrations.
- It features synchronized musical performances by the bands of the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- In India, it is held three days after Republic Day, on 29 January.
- The ceremony is traditionally held at Vijay Chowk, New Delhi.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which day is observed on 27 January to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust?

- A) International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- B) World Peace Day
- C) International Human Rights Day
- D) International Justice Day
- E) World Refugee Day

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- 27 January is observed as the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, commemorating the victims of the Holocaust.
- The day was established in 2006 following a United Nations General Assembly resolution.
- The 2026 theme is: *“Holocaust Remembrance for Dignity and Human Rights.”*
- The observance honours the memory of millions of Holocaust victims and promotes human dignity, tolerance, and human rights.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: After the proposed merger of Union Bank of India and Bank of India, what will be the overall ranking of the combined entity in India?

- A) Largest bank
- B) Second-largest bank
- C) Third-largest bank
- D) Fourth-largest bank
- E) Fifth-largest bank

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The initial merger process between Union Bank of India and Bank of India has begun and may be completed by the end of the calendar year.
- The Government of India aims to merge smaller public sector banks with larger ones to reduce the number of PSU banks from 12 to about 4–5.
- The merger would create one of India's largest public sector lenders with an expanded balance sheet, branch network, and customer base.
- The combined entity is expected to become the second-largest PSU bank with assets of about ₹25.4 lakh crore in FY25.
- Overall, it would be the third-largest bank in India after State Bank of India (SBI) and HDFC Bank.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which bank has launched India's first savings account linked to 100% of the RBI Repo rate?

- A) AU Small Finance Bank
- B) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- C) Jana Small Finance Bank
- D) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- E) Slice Small Finance Bank

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Slice Small Finance Bank (Slice SFB) has introduced three new financial products.
- These include a Digital Savings Account linked to the RBI Repo rate, a UPI-integrated credit card, and digital Fixed Deposits (FDs).
- Slice launched India's first savings account linked to 100% of the Repo rate of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- Interest on the savings account is calculated and credited daily, allowing real-time growth of money.
- The digital Fixed Deposits offer interest rates of up to 7.25% per annum.
- These FDs are insured up to ₹5 lakh by the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC).
- The card offers up to 3% cashback, a "Slice in 3" no-cost EMI feature on purchases above ₹2,000, and weekly rewards through Slice Sparks.

About Slice Small Finance Bank :

- Established : 2016
- HQ : Guwahati, Assam
- CEO Rajan Bajaj





Ques: The Reinsurance Advisory Committee (RAC) has been reconstituted by which regulatory body?

- A) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- B) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- C) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
- D) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)
- E) Ministry of Finance

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Reinsurance Advisory Committee (RAC) has been reconstituted by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
- The committee has been reconstituted for a period of three years.
- It has been constituted under Section 101B of the Insurance Act, 1938.
- The RAC is chaired by A.V. Girija Kumar, former Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Oriental Insurance Company Limited (OICL).
- Aruna Bowrampet, Deputy General Manager (Reinsurance), IRDAI, serves as the Secretary of the committee.
- The objective of the RAC is to strengthen IRDAI's advisory support on reinsurance-related matters.

About IRDAI :

ESTD : 1999

HQ : Hyderabad

Chairman : Ajay Seth





Ques: Which company recently received the Payment Aggregator–Physical (PA-P) licence from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- A) Paytm Payments Services
- B) Razorpay
- C) Paysharp
- D) PhonePe
- E) BharatPe

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Paysharp has received the Payment Aggregator–Physical (PA-P) licence from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The licence enables Paysharp to operate as a physical (offline) payment aggregator.
- This approval will help the company enhance its payment service offerings.
- Earlier, in August 2024, Paysharp had received the Payment Aggregator–Online (PA-O) licence.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: State Bank of India (SBI) has launched CHAKRA for what primary purpose?

- A) Promoting digital retail banking
- B) Financing MSMEs only
- C) Financing sunrise sectors critical to India's economic transformation
- D) Strengthening agricultural credit
- E) Expanding overseas banking operations

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched CHAKRA, a Centre of Excellence (CoE).
- CHAKRA aims to finance sunrise sectors that are critical to India's economic transformation.
- The combined potential investment in these sunrise sectors is estimated at around ₹100 trillion over the next five years.
- SBI has estimated a lendable opportunity of about ₹20–22 trillion in these sectors during the same period.
- SBI has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with 21 financial institutions.
- Under these MoUs, project finance teams of partner institutions will work alongside the SBI team at CHAKRA.
- This collaboration will enable capacity building and co-financing of projects.

EXAM
Genius





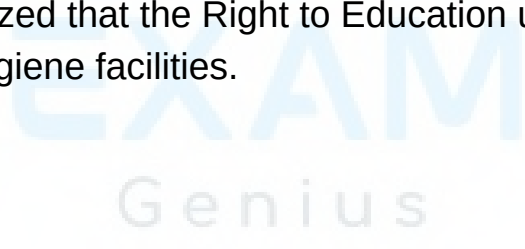
Ques: The Supreme Court has linked menstrual health and access to Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) in schools with which Constitutional Article?

- A) Article 14
- B) Article 15
- C) Article 19
- D) Article 21
- E) Article 32

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The Supreme Court held that the right to menstrual health and access to Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) in schools is part of the fundamental right to life and dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution.
- The Court observed that lack of menstrual hygiene facilities exposes girls to stigma, humiliation, and discrimination.
- Denial of MHM facilities violates the right to privacy, bodily autonomy, and equal participation in education.
- The Supreme Court directed all States and Union Territories to ensure free access to sanitary napkins in both government and private schools.
- The judgment also emphasized that the Right to Education under Article 21A includes access to basic menstrual hygiene facilities.





Ques: Who won the 2026 Australian Open Women's Singles title?

- A) Aryna Sabalenka
- B) Iga Świątek
- C) Jessica Pegula
- D) Coco Gauff
- E) Elena Rybakina

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Kazakhstan's Elena Rybakina won the 2026 Australian Open Women's Singles title.
- She defeated World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka in a three-set final held in Melbourne.
- Rybakina maintained composure under extreme heat conditions to secure the victory.
- This was her second Grand Slam title.
- She had earlier won her first Grand Slam title at Wimbledon four years ago.
- Following this win, Elena Rybakina rose to World No. 3 in the WTA rankings.
- The Australian Open is one of the four Grand Slam tournaments and is played on hard courts in Melbourne.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: In which month did UPI record its highest-ever transaction volume of about 21.6 billion?

- A) October 2025
- B) November 2025
- C) August 2025
- D) September 2025
- E) December 2025

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- UPI transaction volume reached a record 21.6 billion in December 2025, the highest ever recorded.
- This surpassed the previous record of 20.47 billion transactions in November 2025.
- The total value of UPI transactions in December 2025 rose to around ₹28 lakh crore.
- This value exceeded the earlier peak of about ₹27.3 lakh crore recorded in October 2025.
- The growth reflects increased digital payment adoption, festive spending, and expansion of the UPI ecosystem.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who holds the record for presenting the highest number of Union Budgets in India?

- A) Manmohan Singh
- B) Yashwant Sinha
- C) Nirmala Sitharaman
- D) Morarji Desai
- E) P. Chidambaram

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Former Prime Minister Morarji Desai holds the record for presenting the highest number of Union Budgets in India.
- He presented a total of 10 Union Budgets, which remains the all-time record.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has presented eight consecutive Union Budgets since 2019 and is set to present her ninth.
- With her ninth Budget, she moves closer to Morarji Desai's long-standing record.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)?

- A) Dr. D.K. Sunil
- B) Kota Ravi
- C) R. Madhavan
- D) Sanjay Seth
- E) Vinay Dube

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Kota Ravi has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- He has replaced Dr. D.K. Sunil in this position.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) was established on 22 December 1940.
- The headquarters of HAL is located in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Under the India–EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA), what has India agreed regarding European Union (EU) banks?

- A) Complete removal of banking restrictions
- B) Allowing unlimited branch expansion
- C) Allowing EU banks to open up to 15 branches over four years
- D) Permitting only representative offices
- E) Restricting operations to metro cities

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- India has agreed to allow European Union (EU) banks to open up to 15 branches over a four-year period under the India–EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
- European banks currently operating in India include Deutsche Bank, BNP Paribas, and Societe Generale.
- Under the FTA, India allows 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) in the insurance sector.
- India also permits 74% FDI in banking services under the agreement.
- The agreement provides for a general review by a joint committee within five years of its entry into force.
- Subsequent reviews will be conducted every five years, allowing recalibration based on trade and investment flows.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: National Shipbuilding & Heavy Industries Park (NSHIP), recently in news, has been established at which location?

- A) Kochi, Kerala
- B) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- C) Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu
- D) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- E) Paradip, Odisha

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Government of India, in collaboration with the Government of Tamil Nadu, has established the National Shipbuilding & Heavy Industries Park (NSHIP).
- NSHIP has been set up in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu.
- NSHIP is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).
- The SPV is a Joint Venture between V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority (VOC Port) and the State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT).
- Both partners hold an equal 50% stake in the SPV.
- It is the first SPV formed under the Shipbuilding Development Scheme (SbDS).
- The Shipbuilding Development Scheme (SbDS) was launched under a ₹69,725 crore maritime package in October 2025.
- Under SbDS, ₹19,989 crore has been allocated to enhance domestic shipbuilding capacity.
- The scheme aims to boost India's shipbuilding capacity to 4.5 million Gross Tonnage (GT) per year by 2047.
- The expansion will be achieved through infrastructure and technology upgrades.





Ques: Which two wetlands were recently added to India's list of Ramsar Sites?

- A) Sultanpur & Harike
- B) Patna Bird Sanctuary & Chhari-Dhand
- C) Keoladeo & Sambhar
- D) Bhoj Wetland & Wular
- E) Chilika & Pulicat

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- India has added Patna Bird Sanctuary (Etah, Uttar Pradesh) and Chhari-Dhand (Kutch, Gujarat) to its Ramsar Sites list.
- With this inclusion, India's total number of Ramsar Sites has increased to 98.
- The addition strengthens India's position in Asia in wetland conservation.
- These wetlands provide critical habitats for migratory birds.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: The 6th National Crop Nutrition Summit was organised by which association?

- A) Fertilizer Association of India
- B) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- C) Indian Micro-Fertilizers Manufacturers Association
- D) National Seeds Corporation
- E) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The 6th edition of the National Crop Nutrition Summit was held in Mumbai.
- The summit was organised by the Indian Micro-Fertilizers Manufacturers Association.
- The summit was inaugurated by Jayakumar Jitendrasinh Rawal, Minister of Marketing & Protocol, Government of Maharashtra.
- P. K. Singh, Agriculture Commissioner of India, attended the event as the Guest of Honour.
- The theme of the summit was “Converge, Collaborate & Co-create”.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: The 6th edition of the Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG) 2026 was inaugurated where?

- A) Gulmarg, Jammu & Kashmir
- B) Nawang Dorjan Stobdan (NDS) Stadium, Leh
- C) Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
- D) Auli, Uttarakhand
- E) Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The 6th edition of the Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG) 2026 was inaugurated on 20 January 2026.
- The inauguration was done by Lieutenant Governor Kavinder Gupta.
- The event was held at the Nawang Dorjan Stobdan (NDS) Stadium in Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh.
- In the medal tally, Haryana topped the chart with 5 Gold, 1 Silver, and 2 Bronze medals.
- Ladakh secured second position with 2 Gold, 5 Silver, and 4 Bronze medals.
- Maharashtra finished third with 2 Gold, 3 Silver, and 2 Bronze medals.
- Khelo India Winter Games 2026 is conducted in two phases.
- Phase 1 (Ice Sports) was held in Leh and has been completed.
- Phase 2 (Snow Sports) will be held in Gulmarg, Jammu & Kashmir.
- Phase 1 disciplines include Ice Hockey and Ice Skating. Figure Skating was introduced for the first time in KIWG 2026.
- Phase 2 disciplines include Alpine Skiing, Nordic Skiing, Ski Mountaineering, and Snowboarding.
- Players from 21 States and Union Territories are participating in ice sporting events.
- The mascot of Khelo India Winter Games 2026 is “Sheen-E-She (Shan)” — the Snow Leopard.
- The Snow Leopard symbolizes resilience, agility, and the Himalayan legacy.





Ques: Who has been nominated as the next Chair of the US Federal Reserve?

- A) Jerome Powell
- B) Janet Yellen
- C) Kevin Warsh
- D) Ben Bernanke
- E) Lael Brainard

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- US President Donald Trump has nominated Kevin Warsh as the next Chair of the Federal Reserve.
- Kevin Warsh will succeed Jerome Powell, whose term as Federal Reserve Chair ends in May.
- Kevin Warsh is a former Federal Reserve Governor and has earlier served on the Fed's Board of Governors.
- The nomination concludes a closely watched search for the next US central bank chief.
- Donald Trump has frequently criticized Jerome Powell for not cutting interest rates aggressively.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: PAIMANA portal, recently in news, has been launched by which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Finance
- B) Ministry of Home Affairs
- C) NITI Aayog
- D) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
- E) Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI)

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- PAIMANA stands for Project Assessment, Infrastructure Monitoring & Analytics for Nation-building.
- The PAIMANA portal has been launched by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- The portal is designed to monitor Central Sector Infrastructure Projects with a cost of ₹150 crore and above.
- PAIMANA replaces the earlier Online Computerised Monitoring System (OCMS-2006).
- About 60% of project data flows automatically from Central Ministries and Departments.
- The portal covers ongoing infrastructure projects with revised costs of ₹150 crore and above.





Ques: The 'Samvad Samaroh' organised to honour WaSH Warriors was conducted by which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- B) Ministry of Rural Development
- C) Ministry of Jal Shakti
- D) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- E) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Ministry of Jal Shakti organised a 'Samvad Samaroh' and recognition programme in New Delhi.
- The programme was organised to honour WaSH Warriors.
- WaSH Warriors are grassroots leaders who have made outstanding contributions in water supply, sanitation, and hygiene.
- A total of 58 WaSH Warriors were recognised during the event.
- These WaSH Warriors represented various States and Union Territories.
- The recognition was given under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and related rural water and sanitation initiatives.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: How many cancer-related drugs were exempted from Basic Customs Duty (BCD) in the Union Budget 2026–27?

- A) 10
- B) 12
- C) 15
- D) 17
- E) 20

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- In the Union Budget 2026–27, the Central Government exempted Basic Customs Duty on 17 drugs and medicines used for cancer treatment.
- The announcement was made by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman while presenting the Budget in the Lok Sabha.
- The measure aims to reduce treatment costs and provide financial relief to cancer patients.
- Additionally, customs duty on dutiable goods imported for personal use was reduced from 20% to 10%.
- Seven more rare diseases were added to the list eligible for import duty exemption on medicines and Food for Special Medical Purposes (FSMP).





Ques: Biopharma Shakti was proposed in the Union Budget 2026–27 with what objective?

- A) To promote traditional medicine exports
- B) To develop India as a global biopharma manufacturing hub
- C) To regulate drug pricing
- D) To expand health insurance coverage
- E) To strengthen medical tourism

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed the 'Biopharma Shakti' initiative in the Union Budget 2026–27.
- The scheme has a total outlay of ₹10,000 crore.
- Its primary objective is to develop India as a global biopharma manufacturing hub.
- The initiative focuses on strengthening biopharmaceutical research, innovation, and large-scale manufacturing capacity.
- Biopharma Shakti aligns with the vision of Viksit Bharat and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

EXAM
Genius





xQues: Biopharma Shakti was proposed in the Union Budget 2026–27 with what objective?

- A) To promote traditional medicine exports
- B) To develop India as a global biopharma manufacturing hub
- C) To regulate drug pricing
- D) To expand health insurance coverage
- E) To strengthen medical tourism

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed the 'Biopharma Shakti' initiative in the Union Budget 2026–27.
- The scheme has a total outlay of ₹10,000 crore.
- Its primary objective is to develop India as a global biopharma manufacturing hub.
- The initiative focuses on strengthening biopharmaceutical research, innovation, and large-scale manufacturing capacity.
- Biopharma Shakti aligns with the vision of Viksit Bharat and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

EXAM
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Ques: How many high-speed rail corridors were announced in the Union Budget 2026–27?

केंद्रीय बजट 2026–27 में कितने हाई-स्पीड रेल कॉरिडोर की घोषणा की गई?

- A) 5
- B) 6
- C) 7
- D) 8
- E) 10

Answer: Option C

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- In the Union Budget 2026–27, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the development of seven high-speed rail corridors.
- केंद्रीय बजट 2026–27 में वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने 7 हाई-स्पीड रेल कॉरिडोर विकसित करने की घोषणा की।
- The objective is to promote environmentally sustainable passenger transport and reduce carbon emissions.
- इसका उद्देश्य पर्यावरण-अनुकूल यात्री परिवहन को बढ़ावा देना और कार्बन उत्सर्जन कम करना है।
- These corridors will act as growth connectors between major cities and improve inter-city connectivity.
- ये कॉरिडोर प्रमुख शहरों के बीच विकास कनेक्टर के रूप में कार्य करेंगे और कनेक्टिविटी बेहतर करेंगे।
- Proposed routes include Mumbai–Pune, Pune–Hyderabad, Hyderabad–Bengaluru, Hyderabad–Chennai, Chennai–Bengaluru, Delhi–Varanasi, and Varanasi–Siliguri.
- प्रस्तावित मार्गों में मुंबई–पुणे, पुणे–हैदराबाद, हैदराबाद–बेंगलुरु, हैदराबाद–चेन्नई, चेन्नई–बेंगलुरु, दिल्ली–वाराणसी और वाराणसी–सिलीगुड़ी शामिल हैं।





Ques: India has signed an agreement with which technology firm for the procurement of the V-BAT Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)?

V-BAT मानव रहित विमान प्रणाली (UAS) की खरीद के लिए भारत ने किस तकनीकी कंपनी के साथ समझौता किया है?

- A) Lockheed Martin / लॉकहीड मार्टिन
- B) Boeing Defence / बोइंग डिफेंस
- C) Shield AI / शील्ड एआई
- D) Northrop Grumman / नॉर्थ्रॉप ग्रुमन
- E) Raytheon Technologies / रेथियॉन टेक्नोलॉजीज

Answer: Option C

Explanation | व्याख्या:

- India has signed an agreement with the technology firm Shield AI.
- भारत ने तकनीकी कंपनी शील्ड एआई के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं।
- The objective of the agreement is the procurement of the V-BAT Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS).
- इस समझौते का उद्देश्य V-BAT मानव रहित विमान प्रणाली (UAS) की खरीद है।
- JSW Defence Private Limited has begun construction of a manufacturing unit for the production of V-BAT.
- JSW डिफेंस प्राइवेट लिमिटेड ने V-BAT के उत्पादन हेतु एक विनिर्माण इकाई का निर्माण शुरू किया है।
- The project involves an investment of USD 90 million.
- इस परियोजना में 90 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर का निवेश शामिल है।
- The manufacturing unit is being set up at the Electronic Manufacturing Clusters (EMC), Maheshwaram near Hyderabad, Telangana.
- यह विनिर्माण इकाई हैदराबाद (तेलंगाना) के पास महेश्वरम स्थित इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मैन्युफैक्चरिंग क्लस्टर (EMC) में स्थापित की जा रही है।





Ques: Why is 30 January observed as Martyrs' Day (Shaheed Diwas) in India?

- A) Formation of Indian National Congress
- B) Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi
- C) Death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi
- D) Quit India Movement launch
- E) Adoption of Indian Constitution

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- 30 January is observed as Martyrs' Day, also known as Sarvodaya Day or Shaheed Diwas.
- The day commemorates the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi on 30 January 1948.
- Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated by Nathuram Godse at Birla House (now Gandhi Smriti), New Delhi.
- In 2026, India observed the 78th death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

EXAM
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Ques: Under the revised Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) rules, what is the new TCS rate on education and medical remittances above ₹10 lakh?

- A) 1%
- B) 2%
- C) 5%
- D) 10%
- E) 20%

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Union Budget rationalised Tax Collected at Source (TCS) on outward remittances under RBI's Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS).
- TCS on education and medical remittances above ₹10 lakh has been reduced from 5% to 2%.
- The reduction will ease liquidity pressure and ensure more funds directly reach students and patients abroad.
- Lower TCS will reduce cash blockage at the point of remittance.
- TCS on overseas tour packages has also been rationalised to a flat 2%.
- Earlier, overseas tour remittances attracted 5% TCS below ₹10 lakh and 20% above ₹10 lakh.
- In November 2025, total outward remittances under LRS stood at \$1,937 million, showing a decline from October.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Under Union Budget 2026–27, what is the revised Tax Collected at Source (TCS) rate on overseas tour packages?

- A) 5%
- B) 10%
- C) 20%
- D) 2%
- E) 1%

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Under the Union Budget 2026–27, interest awarded by the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal (MACT) to a natural person has been exempted from income tax.
- The TCS rate on overseas tour packages has been reduced from 5%/20% to 2% without any minimum amount threshold.
- Under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS), the TCS rate for education and medical purposes has also been reduced from 5% to 2%.
- The time limit for revising income tax returns has been extended from 31 December to 31 March with a nominal fee.
- ITR-1 and ITR-2 filers can continue filing returns till 31 July, while non-audit business cases and trusts are allowed time till 31 August.
- These measures aim to simplify compliance and enhance ease of living for taxpayers.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: In which city did the State Bank of India launch a Global Trade Finance Centre (GTFC) to strengthen its trade finance and global banking operations?

- A) Kolkata
- B) New Delhi
- C) Chennai
- D) Mumbai
- E) Bengaluru

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- State Bank of India, India's largest Public Sector Bank, launched a Global Trade Finance Centre to strengthen its trade finance and global banking operations.
- The GTFC was launched in Kolkata.
- In July 2025, SBI launched two specialized GTFCs in Kolkata and Hyderabad on the occasion of its 70th anniversary.
- The GTFC uses advanced technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Blockchain.
- The initiative marks a shift from traditional paper-based trade finance systems to digital processes.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What was the total value of UPI transactions in January, as per NPCI data?

- A) ₹27.97 lakh crore
- B) ₹25.40 lakh crore
- C) ₹28.33 lakh crore
- D) ₹30.10 lakh crore
- E) ₹21.75 lakh crore

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- As per data released by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), UPI transaction value touched a record high of ₹28.33 lakh crore in January.
- The total number of UPI transactions in January stood at 2,170 crore.
- In December, the UPI transaction value was ₹27.97 lakh crore, showing a sharp rise in January.
- Month-on-month growth in UPI transaction value was recorded at 21%.
- Average daily UPI transactions during January were around 70 crore.
- The average daily transaction value stood at about ₹91,400 crore.
- In January 2026, UPI transactions recorded a year-on-year growth of 28% in value terms.
- NPCI noted that the growth momentum of UPI continues to strengthen with increasing adoption of digital payments.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What is the annual financing commitment under the new Country Partnership Framework (CPF) announced by the Government of India and the World Bank Group?

- A) USD 3–5 billion
- B) USD 5–7 billion
- C) USD 6–8 billion
- D) USD 10–12 billion
- E) USD 8–10 billion

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- The Government of India and the World Bank Group announced a new Country Partnership Framework to accelerate job creation in both urban and rural areas.
- The framework includes an annual financing commitment of USD 8–10 billion for the next five years.
- The new CPF came into effect from the beginning of January 2026.
- The framework aligns with India's "Viksit Bharat" vision of becoming a developed nation by 2047.
- The World Bank was established in 1944 and is headquartered in Washington D.C.
- The World Bank has 189 member countries.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: From which date will the Income Tax Act, 2025 come into effect?

- A) 1st January 2026
- B) 1st April 2025
- C) 1st April 2026
- D) 1st July 2026
- E) 31st March 2026

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Income Tax Act, 2025 will come into force from 1st April 2026.
- The Finance Minister announced that simplified Income Tax Rules and Forms will be notified soon.
- Tax forms have been redesigned to make compliance easier for common taxpayers.
- The timeline for filing Income Tax Returns has been extended.
- ITR-1 and ITR-2 filers can file returns till 31st July.
- Non-audit business cases and trusts will be allowed to file returns till 31st August.
- The fiscal deficit for FY 2026–27 is estimated at 4.3% of GDP, lower than 4.4% in the current fiscal year.
- No deduction will be allowed on interest expenditure related to dividend income or mutual fund income.
- These provisions aim to improve ease of compliance and enhance ease of living for taxpayers.





Ques: Which port will host the 150 Tonnes Per Day e-Methanol plant proposed by Assam Petro-Chemicals Limited?

- A) Mumbai Port
- B) Paradip Port
- C) Kandla Port
- D) Visakhapatnam Port
- E) Kochi Port

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Assam Petro-Chemicals Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Deendayal Port Authority to establish a 150 TPD e-Methanol plant at Kandla Port, Gujarat.
- The project involves a capital investment of over ₹1,200 crore.
- E-Methanol is produced using green hydrogen and captured carbon dioxide, powered by renewable electricity.
- The fuel serves as a clean alternative for marine and industrial use, especially in sectors where electrification is difficult.
- The e-Methanol will supply vessels operating along the Singapore–Rotterdam corridor and position Kandla Port as a green fuel hub.

About Assam:

- Capital: Dispur
- Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma
- Governor: Lakshman Acharya

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Where was the second India–Arab Foreign Ministers’ Meeting held in January 2026?

- A) Riyadh
- B) Manama
- C) Abu Dhabi
- D) New Delhi
- E) Cairo

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The second India–Arab Foreign Ministers’ Meeting was held on 31 January 2026 in New Delhi.
- The meeting was co-chaired by India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- Foreign Ministers of Arab League member countries and the Secretary-General of the Arab League participated in the meeting.
- Representatives from all 22 Arab countries took part in the event.
- This was the first India–Arab Foreign Ministers’ Meeting hosted by India in New Delhi.
- The meeting was held after a gap of 10 years; the first such meeting was held in Bahrain in 2016.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: By how much did the allocation for the Union Education Ministry increase in the latest Union Budget?

- A) 8.5%
- B) 10.2%
- C) 12.6%
- D) 14.21%
- E) 18.0%

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Allocation for the Union Education Ministry increased by 14.21% to about ₹1.39 lakh crore in the Union Budget.
- Major boost has been given to school education, skilling, and employability-linked programmes.
- Allocation for the Samagra Shiksha scheme has increased significantly.
- Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) received around ₹600 crore more than the revised estimates.
- Allocation for Atal Tinkering Labs increased sharply from ₹500 crore to ₹3,200 crore.
- PM Poshan Scheme allocation rose by about ₹2,150 crore.
- Budget for the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship increased by 62% to about ₹3,885.8 crore.
- Focus is on PM Skill India, employability enhancement, and upgrading ITIs.
- Announcement made to establish five university townships near industrial and logistics corridors.

- Proposal to create Content Creator Labs in 15,000 schools and 500 colleges for the AVGC sector.
- TCS on foreign education has been reduced from 5% to 2%.
- A high-powered panel will study pathways from education to employment, including AI integration in curricula.





Ques: Which organisation signed an MoU with the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board to establish a Women Entrepreneurs' Industrial Park?

- A) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- B) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
- C) FICCI Ladies Organisation (FICCI-FLO)
- D) National Federation of Indian Women Entrepreneurs
- E) ASSOCHAM Women's Council

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry Ladies Organisation (FICCI-FLO).
- The MoU aims to establish a Women Entrepreneurs' Industrial Park in Andhra Pradesh.
- The industrial park will cater exclusively to women entrepreneurs who are members of FICCI-FLO.
- The initiative seeks to promote financial self-reliance among women, generate employment, nurture local talent, and reduce regional industrial disparities.
- The project aligns with Andhra Pradesh's 'One Family, One Entrepreneur' vision.
- It also complements the state's plan to establish 175 MSME parks across all assembly constituencies.

About Andhra Pradesh :

- Capital : Amaravati
- CM : N.Chandrababu Naidu
- Governor : S. Abdul Nazeer





Ques: What is the main objective of the SHE Mart initiative?

- A) Promote urban women entrepreneurship
- B) Provide subsidies to SHGs only
- C) Shift rural women from SHGs to enterprise ownership
- D) Expand welfare schemes for women
- E) Promote exports by women-led firms

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The SHE Mart initiative aims to move rural women from Self Help Groups (SHGs) to enterprise ownership.
- The initiative was announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget.
- SHE Marts will be established as community-owned retail outlets at the cluster level.
- It builds upon the success of the Lakhpati Didi Programme.
- The focus is on women-centric economic participation rather than welfare-based support.
- The initiative supports formalisation and scaling up of women-led enterprises and livelihoods.
- Existing schemes such as SHG networks, DAY-NRLM and Lakhpati Didi initiatives will be leveraged.
- Experts view SHE Mart as a structural instrument for inclusive rural economic growth.

EXAM
Genius





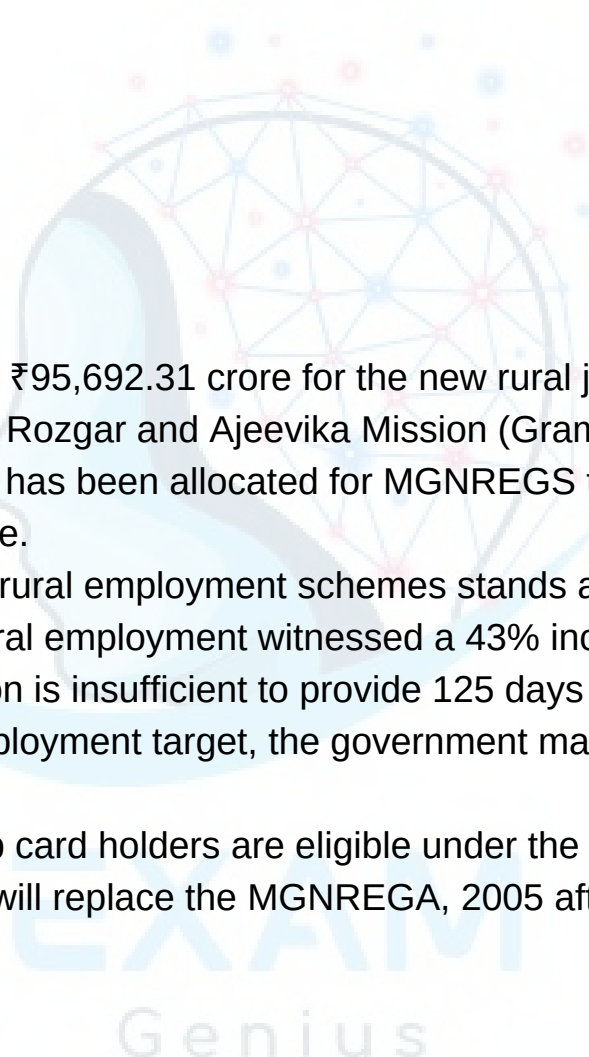
Ques: How much allocation has been made for the new rural jobs scheme under the Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025?

- A) ₹75,000 crore
- B) ₹85,000 crore
- C) ₹95,692 crore
- D) ₹1.25 lakh crore
- E) ₹2.3 lakh crore

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Union Budget allocated ₹95,692.31 crore for the new rural jobs scheme under the Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025.
- An additional ₹30,000 crore has been allocated for MGNREGS to clear pending liabilities and meet ongoing expenditure.
- The total allocation for both rural employment schemes stands at ₹1,25,692.31 crore.
- The budget allocation for rural employment witnessed a 43% increase.
- Experts believe the allocation is insufficient to provide 125 days of work to all workers.
- To achieve the 125-day employment target, the government may require around ₹2.3 lakh crore.
- Around 8.65 crore active job card holders are eligible under the scheme.
- The new VB-G RAM G Act will replace the MGNREGA, 2005 after it is officially notified.





Ques: Who became the first artist to win a major Grammy with a song entirely in Spanish?

- A) Shakira
- B) Bad Bunny
- C) Rosalía
- D) J Balvin
- E) Ricky Martin

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The 68th Annual Grammy Awards were held in Los Angeles and witnessed several historic achievements.
- Puerto Rican musician Bad Bunny won three Grammy Awards, including Album of the Year, Best Música Urbana Album, and Global Music Performance.
- Bad Bunny became the first artist to win a major Grammy with a song entirely in Spanish.
- The Dalai Lama, at the age of 90, won the Grammy for Best Audio Book, Narration & Storytelling Recording for his album “Meditations: The Reflections of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.”
- K-Pop created history as the song “Golden” from the animated film K-Pop Demon Hunters became the first-ever K-Pop song to win a Grammy Award.
- Indian artists like Anoushka Shankar and Siddhant Bhatia were nominated but did not win.
- Other major winners included Billie Eilish (Song of the Year – Wildflower), Kendrick Lamar feat. SZA (Record of the Year – Luther), and Olivia Dean (Best New Artist).





Ques: India's first Artificial Intelligence-enabled university pilot has been launched at which university?

- A) Banaras Hindu University
- B) Jawaharlal Nehru University
- C) Aligarh Muslim University
- D) Chaudhary Charan Singh University
- E) Delhi University

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Union Minister of State Jayant Chaudhary announced India's first AI-enabled university pilot.
- The pilot has been launched at Chaudhary Charan Singh University (CCSU), Meerut.
- The initiative has been developed in collaboration with Google Cloud.
- Advanced AI tools will be integrated across teaching, learning, administration, and employability.
- The model is designed to be scalable for universities across India.
- Google has pledged a grant of ₹85 crore (around USD 10 million) to Wadhvani AI.
- The grant will support AI integration in national platforms such as SWAYAM and POSHAN Tracker.

EXAM
Genius





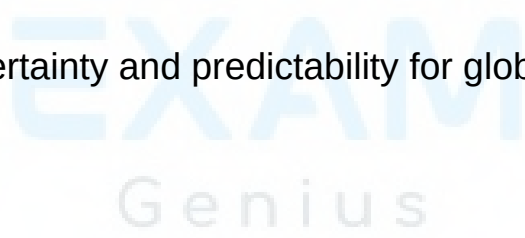
Ques: The tax holiday for IFSC units in GIFT City has been extended to how many years?

- A) 20 years
- B) 15 years
- C) 18 years
- D) 10 years
- E) 25 years

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Union Budget has extended the tax holiday for IFSC (GIFT City) units from 10 years to 20 years.
- Under Section 80LA of the Income Tax Act, eligible IFSC units are entitled to 100% tax deduction on specified incomes.
- Earlier, the deduction was available for 10 consecutive years out of 15 years.
- Now, the deduction will be available for 20 consecutive years out of 25 years.
- After the expiry of the deduction period, business income will be taxed at a concessional rate of 15%.
- The move aims to enhance the global competitiveness of GIFT City as an international financial services hub.
- It also provides long-term certainty and predictability for global investors and financial institutions.





Ques: Who launched the voice-based accounting app 'Pilloo AI' in Andhra Pradesh?

- A) Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy
- B) K. Chandrashekar Rao
- C) N. Chandrababu Naidu
- D) Pinarayi Vijayan
- E) M. K. Stalin

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu launched Pilloo AI, a next-generation voice-based billing and accounting application.
- Pilloo AI has been designed to empower small and medium business owners (SMEs).
- The app enables users to generate invoices using simple voice commands.
- Users can easily record sales transactions and payments through the app.
- Pilloo AI assists in tracking expenses, receivables, and payables in real time.
- No formal accounting knowledge is required to operate the application.
- The launch aligns with Andhra Pradesh's broader push towards digital governance and MSME support.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Mukhyamantri Gramotthan Yojana (MGY) was launched by the Chief Minister of which state?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Maharashtra
- E) Haryana

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Mukhyamantri Gramotthan Yojana (MGY) was launched by Bhupendra Patel, the Chief Minister of Gujarat.
- The scheme was launched from Bhadran in Anand district of Gujarat.
- The objective of the scheme is to provide urban-equivalent facilities in rural areas.
- In the first phase, 114 villages functioning as Taluka headquarters will be developed with modern amenities.
- The scheme aims to strengthen rural infrastructure and improve the quality of life.

About Gujarat:

- Capital: Gandhinagar
- Chief Minister: Bhupendra Patel
- Governor: Acharya Devvrat

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which airport will become India's first to operate hydrogen fuel cell electric buses for passenger transportation?

- A) Indira Gandhi International Airport
- B) Kempegowda International Airport
- C) Cochin International Airport
- D) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport
- E) Rajiv Gandhi International Airport

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) will become India's first airport to operate hydrogen fuel cell electric buses for passenger transportation.
- The initiative supports green mobility and aims to promote carbon-neutral transportation at airports.
- A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed between CIAL and the Kerala Hydrogen Valley Innovation Cluster Foundation for this project.
- The project aligns with India's National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- Cochin International Airport is already globally recognised as the world's first fully solar-powered airport.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Adampur Airport in Punjab has been renamed after which personality?

- A) Shri Guru Ravidas Maharaj Ji
- B) Guru Gobind Singh Ji
- C) Guru Nanak Dev Ji
- D) Sant Kabir Das
- E) Swami Vivekananda

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi renamed Adampur Airport in Jalandhar district of Punjab as Shri Guru Ravidas Maharaj Ji Airport.
- The announcement was made on the occasion of Sant Ravidas Jayanti.
- Guru Ravidas was a revered saint, poet, and social reformer.
- The renaming aims to honour the social and spiritual contributions of Guru Ravidas.
- On the same occasion, the Prime Minister virtually inaugurated the civil terminal building at Halwara Airport, Ludhiana.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which country's grant assistance was increased by 74 percent by India in the Union Budget FY27?

- A) Nepal
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Bhutan
- D) Afghanistan
- E) Bangladesh

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- India has increased grant assistance to Bangladesh by 74 percent in the Union Budget for FY27.
- Grant allocation to Bangladesh has been raised to ₹60 crore from ₹34.48 crore in FY26 (Revised Estimates).
- At the same time, India has discontinued grant funding for Iran's Chabahar Port in FY27.
- The decision has been influenced by US tariff pressures and the risk of secondary sanctions on countries supporting Iran's infrastructure projects.
- India had earlier provided ₹400 crore to Chabahar Port in FY25, with another ₹400 crore promised for FY26.
- Among India's aid recipients, Bhutan continues to receive the highest grant allocation at ₹2,288 crore in FY27.
- Grants to Sri Lanka (33 percent increase) and Seychelles (27 percent increase) have also been enhanced.
- Overall, India's grants and loans to foreign governments in FY27 stand at ₹8,792 crore, reflecting a 27 percent decline from FY26.





Ques: Which aircraft was involved in the air accident at Baramati while operating the Mumbai–Baramati sector?

- A) Falcon 2000
- B) Cessna Citation XLS
- C) Gulfstream G280
- D) Embraer Phenom 300
- E) Learjet 45

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- A Learjet 45 aircraft operated by M/s VSR Ventures Pvt. Ltd., with registration VT-SSK, was involved in an air accident at Baramati.
- The aircraft was operating a flight on the Mumbai–Baramati sector at the time of the incident.
- There were a total of 05 persons on board, including 02 crew members.
- The passengers included Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Ajit Pawar.
- Baramati is an uncontrolled airfield, where traffic information is provided by instructors or pilots of Flying Training Organisations (FTOs).

EXAM
Genius





Ques: “Kattam” Kanjeevaram silk saree, recently in news, has received GI tag from which state?

- A) Karnataka
- B) Andhra Pradesh
- C) Telangana
- D) Kerala

E) Tamil Nadu

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- “Kattam” Kanjeevaram (Kanchipuram) silk saree has been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- The GI tag has been awarded to Tamil Nadu for this traditional handwoven saree.
- The term “Kattam” refers to a checkered or square pattern, which is the defining design feature of this saree.
- Kanjeevaram silk sarees are renowned for high-quality mulberry silk, rich zari work, and long-lasting durability.
- The GI tag helps protect traditional craftsmanship and prevents misuse of the regional name.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and GeoInformatics (BISAG-N) signed an MoU with which company to develop quantum-resilient cybersecurity solutions?

- A) Tata Advanced Systems
- B) Infosys
- C) Tech Mahindra
- D) Bharat Electronics Limited
- E) QNu Labs Private Limited

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and GeoInformatics (BISAG-N), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with QNu Labs Private Limited.
- The collaboration aims to develop and deploy quantum-resilient cybersecurity solutions.
- Under the MoU, 'Vedic Kavach', an indigenous cryptographic software developed by BISAG-N, will be integrated with QNu Labs' quantum hardware and secure infrastructure platforms.
- The initiative will strengthen India's capabilities in quantum-safe communication and cybersecurity.





Ques: Kerala has been selected for setting up a Dedicated Rare Earth Corridor along with which other states?

- A) Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan
- B) Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu
- C) Karnataka, Telangana, Goa
- D) Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal
- E) Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Kerala has been selected along with Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Tamil Nadu for setting up Dedicated Rare Earth Corridors.
- The proposal was part of Kerala's Union Budget wish list and also featured in the State Budget 2026–27.
- Kerala sought ₹1,000 crore for corridor infrastructure, technology acquisition and related development.
- The corridor aims to promote mining, processing, research and manufacturing of rare earth minerals.
- Kerala's coastline has abundant rare earth elements such as thorium and scandium, crucial for space, defence, energy, aviation and EV sectors.
- The proposed corridor will link Vizhinjam International Seaport with Chavara (Kollam), where KMML is located.
- Kerala expects ₹42,000 crore investment and generation of around 50,000 jobs through this initiative.
- ₹100 crore has been earmarked to set up a Rare Earth Critical Minerals Mission with KMML, KELTRON and NFTDC.
- The project aims to reduce India's dependence on imported rare-earth magnets.





Ques: Who won the Squash on Fire Open by defeating England's top seed Georgina Kennedy?

- A) Joshna Chinappa
- B) Anahat Singh
- C) Dipika Pallikal
- D) Nour El Sherbini
- E) Saurav Ghosal

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Indian squash player Anahat Singh defeated England's top seed Georgina Kennedy to win the Squash on Fire Open held in Washington.
- The victory earned Anahat Singh her maiden PSA Bronze-level title.
- It is the biggest title of her professional career so far.
- The Squash on Fire Open was her 15th PSA Tour title in just 26 tournaments.
- In the men's final, Egypt's Mohamed ElShorbagy defeated England's Declan James.
- With this win, Mohamed ElShorbagy secured his 52nd PSA Tour title.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who won the Tata Steel Chess Tournament 2026 (Masters)?

- A) Magnus Carlsen
- B) Fabiano Caruana
- C) Nodirbek Abdusattorov
- D) Ding Liren
- E) Anish Giri

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Uzbek Grandmaster Nodirbek Abdusattorov won the Tata Steel Chess Tournament 2026 (Masters).
- He secured the title after 13 rounds of elite-level competition.
- The tournament was held in Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands.
- This was Abdusattorov's first Tata Steel Masters title, achieved on his fourth attempt.
- The 2026 edition was the 88th edition of the Tata Steel Chess Tournament.
- Due to its prestige and long history, the event is often called the "Wimbledon of Chess".

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Where will the Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour approved under PMMSY be developed?

- A) Mayabunder
- B) Campbell Bay
- C) Port Blair
- D) Diglipur
- E) Havelock Island

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Department of Fisheries approved the development of a Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Mayabunder in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- The project cost is ₹199.24 crore with 100% Central Financial Assistance under PMMSY.
- The Andaman & Nicobar Islands have a vast marine resource base with a 6 lakh sq. km Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).
- The region has an estimated 60,000 MT of tuna and tuna-like species.
- India's fish production increased from 96 lakh tonnes (2013–14) to 197.75 lakh tonnes (2024–25).
- Seafood export value has reached ₹62,408 crore, covering 350+ products exported to nearly 130 countries.
- The Mayabunder harbour project will help unlock fisheries potential and support India's ₹1 lakh crore seafood export target by 2030–31.
- Under PMMSY, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands have received total fisheries investment of ₹5,573.02 lakh for infrastructure and livelihood support.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Where will the Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour approved under PMMSY be developed?

- A) Mayabunder
- B) Campbell Bay
- C) Port Blair
- D) Diglipur
- E) Havelock Island

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has approved the development of a Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Mayabunder in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- The project will be implemented under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) with 100% Central Financial Assistance.
- The estimated cost of the project is ₹199.24 crore.
- Andaman & Nicobar Islands have a vast marine resource base with an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of about 6 lakh sq. km.
- The region has an estimated potential of around 60,000 metric tonnes of tuna and tuna-like species.
- The project aims to strengthen fisheries infrastructure, boost fish production, enhance exports, and support India's target of ₹1 lakh crore seafood exports by 2030–31.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What forest cover target has Himachal Pradesh set to achieve by 2030?

- A) 25%
- B) 27%
- C) 29.5%
- D) 31%
- E) 33%

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The Himachal Pradesh government has set a target to increase the state's forest cover to 31% by 2030.
- Currently, the forest cover in Himachal Pradesh stands at 29.5%.
- Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has directed the Forest Department to prepare a comprehensive and sustainable roadmap to achieve this target.
- The plan emphasizes sustainable forest management and long-term ecological balance.
- Community participation has been identified as a key element in forest protection and conservation.
- The decision has been taken in view of increasing environmental and climate-related challenges.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which institution secured the first position in the National Awards for Model Youth Gram Sabha in the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya category?

- A) JNV Una, Himachal Pradesh
- B) JNV Ukhrul-I, Manipur
- C) JNV Kannur, Kerala
- D) JNV Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh
- E) JNV Hirli, Odisha

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, conferred the National Awards to winners of the Model Youth Gram Sabha.
- In the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya category, JNV Una, Himachal Pradesh secured the first position and received ₹1 crore as prize money.
- JNV Kannur, Kerala secured the second position with a prize of ₹75 lakh.
- JNV Ukhrul-I, Manipur secured the third position and received ₹50 lakh.
- In the Eklavya Model Residential School category, EMRS Kosambuda, Chhattisgarh secured first position and won ₹1 crore.
- EMRS Hirli, Odisha and EMRS Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh secured second and third positions with prize money of ₹75 lakh and ₹50 lakh respectively.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which institution will act as the host institution for the high-level Committee formed to review the functioning of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in Tamil Nadu?

- A) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mumbai
- B) National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd, New Delhi
- C) ICAR–National Research Centre for Banana, Tiruchirappalli
- D) Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
- E) Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium, Hyderabad

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare formed a high-level Committee to review and strengthen the functioning of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in Tamil Nadu.
- The Committee includes representatives from NABARD, NAFED, Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium, ICAR institutions, FPOs, NGOs and officials from the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- ICAR–National Research Centre for Banana (NRCB), Tiruchirappalli, along with Krishi Vigyan Kendras through ICAR–Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes, Hyderabad, will act as the host institution.
- The host institution will provide logistical and secretarial support to the Committee.
- The initiative is part of the Government of India's effort to strengthen FPOs, following the achievement of the target of establishing 10,000 FPOs under the national scheme.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who won the maiden BWF Super 300 title at the Thailand Masters 2025?

- A) Devika Sihag
- B) Saina Nehwal
- C) P.V. Sindhu
- D) Goh Jin Wei
- E) Ashmita Chaliha

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Young Indian shuttler Devika Sihag won her maiden BWF Super 300 women's singles title at the Thailand Masters 2025.
- She secured the title after Malaysia's Goh Jin Wei retired mid-match due to injury in the final.
- At the time of retirement, Devika Sihag was leading 21–8, 6–3.
- The Thailand Masters is a USD 250,000 prize money tournament on the BWF circuit.
- Devika Sihag is 20 years old and hails from Haryana.
- With this victory, she became only the third Indian woman to win a Super 300 women's singles title.
- The other Indian players to have achieved this feat are P.V. Sindhu and Saina Nehwal.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: With which organisation did NITI Aayog sign a Statement of Intent to promote digital literacy and financial inclusion across Aspirational Blocks?

- A) National Skill Development Corporation
- B) Digital India Corporation
- C) National Institute of Information Technology Foundation
- D) Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- E) Indian Institute of Information Technology

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent with the National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT) Foundation.
- The initiative aims to promote digital literacy, financial inclusion, and skill development across Aspirational Blocks.
- Individuals will be trained in basic and advanced digital skills to access online platforms, government services, and digital tools.
- The programme focuses on improving awareness of banking, insurance, and other financial services among underserved communities.
- It supports inclusive development and digital empowerment at the grassroots level.

About NITI Aayog :

- Established : January 1, 2015
- HQ : New Delhi
- CEO : BVR Subrahmanyam

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which fund was announced to provide equity support for creating 'champion' MSMEs?

- A) SME Growth Fund
- B) Self-Reliant India Fund
- C) Startup India Fund
- D) MSME Credit Fund
- E) Production Linked Fund

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- The Union Budget announced a three-pronged strategy to help MSMEs grow as "champions".
- A ₹10,000 crore SME Growth Fund will provide equity support to create future MSME champions.
- Liquidity support to MSMEs will be strengthened through the Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS).
- TReDS has been mandated as the transaction settlement platform for all CPSE purchases from MSMEs.
- Government e-Marketplace (GeM) will be integrated with TReDS to enhance information sharing and access to financing.
- A credit guarantee mechanism through CGTMSE will be introduced for invoice discounting.
- Asset-backed securities based on TReDS receivables will be launched to develop a secondary market.
- The third pillar focuses on providing professional support to MSMEs through 'Corporate Mitras'.





Ques: When was the 73rd World Leprosy Day observed in 2026?

- A) 30 January
- B) 25 January
- C) 28 January
- D) Last Sunday of February
- E) First Sunday of January

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- World Leprosy Day is observed on the last Sunday of January every year.
- In 2026, the last Sunday of January fell on 25 January.
- Hence, the 73rd World Leprosy Day was observed on 25 January 2026.
- The theme for World Leprosy Day 2026 was “Leprosy is curable, the real challenge is stigma.”
- In India, National Leprosy Day is observed separately on 30 January every year.
- This date coincides with the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Up to what level is the Government of India considering raising the FDI limit in Public Sector Banks (PSBs)?

- A) 26%
- B) 40%
- C) 49%
- D) 51%
- E) 74%

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Union Government is considering raising the FDI limit in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) from 20% to 49%.
- The proposal aims to strengthen the capital base of state-run banks and make them more competitive with private sector banks.
- Inter-ministerial consultations are currently underway regarding this proposal.
- The move was confirmed by Financial Services Secretary M. Nagaraju.
- At present, private banks are allowed up to 49% FDI, while PSBs remain capped at 20%.
- Higher FDI can help PSBs raise capital, expand lending capacity, and manage larger risks.
- The government believes India needs 3–4 globally large banks; currently, only SBI and HDFC Bank figure among the world's top lenders.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which bank has signed a distribution agreement with HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited to offer its Mutual Fund products to customers?

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

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Central Bank of India (CBI) has signed a distribution agreement with HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited.
- Under this partnership, CBI will offer HSBC AMC's Mutual Fund products to its customers.
- The offerings include equity, debt, and hybrid mutual fund schemes.
- These mutual fund products will be accessible through CBI's branches as well as its digital platforms.

About Central Bank of India:

- Established: 1911
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- MD & CEO: Kalyan Kumar
- Tagline: Central to you since 1911





Ques: Who has been approved by RBI as the Managing Director (MD) & CEO of YES Bank?

- A) Prashant Kumar
- B) Ravneet Gill
- C) Vinay Muralidhar Tonse
- D) Shaktikanta Das
- E) Amitabh Chaudhry

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Vinay Muralidhar Tonse as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of YES Bank.
- The appointment has been approved for a term of three years.
- YES Bank is a private sector bank with its headquarters in Mumbai.
- As per banking regulations, RBI approval is mandatory for the appointment of MD & CEO of banks.
- The approval highlights RBI's supervisory role in ensuring fit and proper management of banks.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which country's central bank approved the first USD-backed stablecoin named USDU?

- A) United States
- B) United Kingdom
- C) United Arab Emirates
- D) Singapore
- E) Switzerland

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has approved the country's first USD-backed stablecoin.
- The stablecoin is named USDU.
- USDU has been approved under the Payment Token Services Regulation framework of the UAE Central Bank.
- The approval marks a significant step toward regulating digital assets and payment tokens in the UAE.
- USDU is issued and managed by Universal Digital Intl Limited.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: AI India Impact Summit 2026 has been curated around which three core pillars?

- A) Economy, Ethics, Environment
- B) People, Policy, Performance
- C) Planet, Policy, Progress
- D) People, Planet, Progress
- E) Innovation, Inclusion, Impact

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- The AI India Impact Summit 2026 has been curated around three core pillars — People, Planet and Progress.
- This information was shared by Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY).
- The People pillar focuses on AI for social good, skill development, and human-centric innovation.
- The Planet pillar highlights the role of AI in sustainability, climate action, and environmental protection.
- The Progress pillar emphasizes economic growth, digital transformation, and technological leadership through AI.
- Overall, the summit aligns with India's vision of responsible, ethical, and scalable adoption of Artificial Intelligence.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which ministry launched the “Survey Module” and “Waqf Property Lease Module” on the UMEED Central Portal?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- C) Ministry of Minority Affairs
- D) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- E) Ministry of Law and Justice

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Ministry of Minority Affairs launched the Survey Module and Waqf Property Lease Module on the UMEED Central Portal.
- The Survey Module provides a digital framework for capturing, managing, and updating data related to surveys of Waqf properties.
- The Waqf Property Lease Management Module enables end-to-end digital management of leasing-related information of Waqf properties.
- The UMEED Central Portal was inaugurated on 6 June 2025.
- It functions as a centralised digital platform for real-time uploading, verification, and monitoring of Waqf properties.
- The portal operates under the Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development Act, 1995.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who has been awarded the 2026 Crafoord Prize in Geosciences, often referred to as the “Nobel Prize of Geosciences”?

- A) Sunita Narain
- B) Raghunath Mashelkar
- C) Veerabhadran Ramanathan
- D) M. S. Swaminathan
- E) Rajendra Pachauri

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Veerabhadran Ramanathan, an 82-year-old Indian-origin climate scientist, has been awarded the 2026 Crafoord Prize in Geosciences.
- The Crafoord Prize is often referred to as the “Nobel Prize of Geosciences.”
- The award is presented by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.
- The same academy also awards the Nobel Prizes in Physics, Chemistry, and Economic Sciences.
- Ramanathan is globally renowned for his pioneering research on climate change, particularly on greenhouse gases, aerosols, and atmospheric science.
- His scientific work has significantly influenced global climate policy and environmental awareness.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: What decision did the Government of India take regarding Central Excise Duty on unmanufactured tobacco, effective February 1, 2026?

- A) Increased excise duty to 28% on all unmanufactured tobacco
- B) Withdrawn 18% excise duty on unbranded, non-retail unmanufactured tobacco
- C) Withdrawn excise duty on all forms of tobacco
- D) Reduced excise duty to 5% on branded tobacco
- E) Introduced a new cess on tobacco refuse

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Government of India withdrew the 18% Central Excise Duty on unmanufactured tobacco or tobacco refuse that is cleared without a brand name and not packed for retail sale.
- The decision is effective from February 1, 2026.
- Earlier, all unmanufactured tobacco cleared from factories or warehouses attracted 18% excise duty.
- Other forms of unmanufactured tobacco, such as branded or retail-packaged tobacco, will continue to attract 18% excise duty.
- The move aims to provide relief to certain segments of the tobacco trade while maintaining taxation on branded retail products.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who has been sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Manipur after the end of President's Rule?

- A) N. Biren Singh
- B) Nemcha Kipgen
- C) Losii Dikho
- D) Yumnam Khemchand Singh
- E) Ajay Kumar Bhalla

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- President's Rule in Manipur has ended with the formation of a BJP-led NDA government.
- Yumnam Khemchand Singh has been sworn in as the Chief Minister of Manipur.
- The oath of office was administered by Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla.
- Khemchand Singh is the second Chief Minister of Manipur since the 2022 Assembly elections.
- President's Rule was imposed on February 13, 2025, following the resignation of former CM N. Biren Singh amid ethnic unrest.
- Nemcha Kipgen (BJP) and Losii Dikho (Naga People's Front) were sworn in as Deputy Chief Ministers.
- Two additional MLAs were sworn in as Cabinet Ministers.
- The new CM stated that peace, development, and growth would be his top priorities.





Ques: Which organization announced India's first-ever National Household Income Survey (NHIS) and the Annual Survey of Incorporated Service Sector Enterprises (ASISSE), to be conducted from April 2026?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) Reserve Bank of India
- C) National Statistical Office
- D) Ministry of Finance
- E) Economic Advisory Council to PM

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The National Statistical Office (NSO) announced plans to conduct India's first-ever National Household Income Survey (NHIS) and the Annual Survey of Incorporated Service Sector Enterprises (ASISSE).
- Both surveys will run for one year starting April 2026.
- The announcement was made during the two-day All-India Workshop of Trainers held in Chennai.
- NHIS and ASISSE will be conducted digitally using Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI).
- The surveys will cover all of India, except hard-to-access villages in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- NHIS will collect detailed data on household income, living conditions, and income distribution.
- It will enable regional and household-level comparisons and support policy formulation.
- The data will help analyze poverty, inequality, and economic behaviour more accurately than expenditure-based surveys alone.

Annual Survey of Incorporated Service Sector Enterprises (ASISSE) | ASISSE :

- ASISSE covers the incorporated services sector using GSTN data.
- It provides state- and industry-level estimates of GVA, capital formation, employment, and emoluments.



- The survey improves measurement of the services sector's contribution to GDP and national accounts.
- ASISSE includes data on:
 - Output and value added
 - Employment and wages
 - Operating expenses and profits
 - Capital formation and assets
 - Industry-wise and region-wise performance



EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which hydropower project was discussed by India and Bhutan for commercial optimisation of power output?

- A) Mangdechhu Project
- B) Tala Hydroelectric Project
- C) Punatsangchhu-I Project
- D) Punatsangchhu-II Project
- E) Kholongchhu Project

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- India and Bhutan agreed to strengthen cooperation in the power sector.
- Bhutan's Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Lyonpo Gem Tshering, met India's Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.
- Discussions focused on the commercial optimisation of power output from the Punatsangchhu-II Hydroelectric Project.
- The installed capacity of the Punatsangchhu-II project is 1020 MW.
- The initiative highlights India–Bhutan cooperation in hydropower development and cross-border electricity trade.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Haven-1, the world's first private space station, is scheduled to be launched aboard which rocket?

- A) Ariane-6
- B) New Glenn
- C) Falcon Heavy
- D) Falcon 9
- E) Gaganyaan-LVM3

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Haven-1 will become the world's first private space station, scheduled for launch in 2027.
- It is being developed by Vast, a US-based private space company.
- The space station will be launched aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.
- Haven-1 is designed to support commercial astronauts, private missions, and scientific research in Low-Earth Orbit (LEO).
- The station will provide crew habitation, research facilities, and docking capability for visiting spacecraft.
- Haven-1 will act as a precursor to larger commercial space stations in the future.
- The project aligns with NASA's plan to transition from the International Space Station (ISS) to commercially operated space stations.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Indian Railways operationalised India's first-ever LNG–diesel dual-fuel DEMU train at which location?

- A) Varanasi
- B) New Delhi
- C) Chennai
- D) Ahmedabad
- E) Pune

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Indian Railways successfully operationalised the country's first-ever LNG–diesel dual-fuel DEMU train.
- The train was launched at the Sabarmati Integrated Coaching Depot, Ahmedabad.
- The dual-fuel system uses Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to replace around 40% of conventional diesel consumption without affecting performance.
- The project involved retrofitting the Driving Power Cars (DPCs) of a 1,400 HP DEMU rake with an advanced dual-fuel system.
- Each DPC is equipped with a 2,200-litre LNG tank.
- A fully refilled LNG tank allows the train to cover approximately 2,200 km.
- The initiative supports energy efficiency, cost reduction, and lower carbon emissions in rail transport.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which organisation flagged off SAKSHAM 2026 to promote fuel conservation and judicious use of petroleum products?

- A) IOCL
- B) BPCL
- C) GAIL
- D) HPCL
- E) ONGC

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) flagged off SAKSHAM 2026, an awareness campaign focused on fuel conservation and judicious use of petroleum products.
- The initiative is organised in collaboration with major oil and gas PSUs such as IOCL, BPCL, GAIL, ONGC, OIL, and IGL.
- SAKSHAM 2026 is being held under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- The event will continue till February 15 at Laxmi Nagar.
- Activities under the campaign include panel discussions, walkathon, and quiz competitions.
- Around 300 school students participated in the walkathon along with senior oil and gas officials.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Under Project Cheetah, how many cheetahs is Madhya Pradesh planning to bring from Botswana by the end of February?

- A) 4
- B) 6
- C) 8
- D) 10
- E) 12

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The Madhya Pradesh government has announced plans to bring 8 cheetahs from Botswana by the end of February.
- This initiative is part of Project Cheetah, which aims to restore and reintroduce cheetahs in India after their extinction from the country.
- Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav discussed this plan with Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav in New Delhi.
- The cheetahs brought from Botswana are expected to be housed in designated cheetah habitats in Madhya Pradesh.
- The move strengthens India's efforts in wildlife conservation and biodiversity restoration.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which defence public sector undertaking (DPSU) has been granted Miniratna Category-I status with approval from Defence Minister Rajnath Singh?

- A) Yantra India Limited
- B) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- C) Bharat Electronics Limited
- D) Bharat Dynamics Limited
- E) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved the grant of Miniratna Category-I status to Yantra India Limited (YIL).
- Yantra India Limited is a Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSU).
- YIL is one of the seven DPSUs formed after the corporatization of the Ordnance Factory Board in October 2021.
- Miniratna Category-I status allows the company's Board to incur capital expenditure up to ₹500 crore without prior government approval.
- This status enhances the operational and financial autonomy of the company.

About Yantra India Limited:

- Established: 1 October 2021
- Headquarters: Nagpur, Maharashtra
- CMD: Gurudatt Ray





Ques: How many major trade agreements has India signed or concluded over the last six years to expand its global trade footprint?

- A) 5
- B) 6
- C) 7
- D) 9
- E) 11

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Over the last six years, India has signed or concluded 9 major trade agreements, significantly expanding its global trade footprint.
- These agreements aim to improve market access, boost exports, and deepen economic partnerships with key global regions.
- Upcoming and recent agreements include the India–US Trade Deal (2026), India–EU Free Trade Agreement (2026), India–New Zealand FTA (2025), India–Oman CEPA (2025), and India–UK CETA (2025).

• Recently concluded trade deals include:

- India–EFTA TEPA (2024)
- India–Australia ECTA (2022)
- India–UAE CEPA (2022)
- India–Mauritius CECPA (2021)

- These trade agreements reflect India’s strategic push toward trade-led growth and greater global economic integration.





Ques: Indian Oil Corporation Limited signed a Letter of Intent with which airline to explore the future supply of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) at Wings India 2026?

- A) IndiGo
- B) Air India
- C) Vistara
- D) Akasa Air
- E) SpiceJet

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) with Akasa Air.
- The agreement aims to jointly explore the future supply of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF).
- The LoI was signed during Wings India 2026 held in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) is a low-carbon alternative to conventional jet fuel.
- SAF helps significantly reduce lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions from aviation.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Apple has launched an education hub in Bengaluru in partnership with which institution?

- A) IIT Bengaluru
- B) IISc Bengaluru
- C) Manipal Academy of Higher Education
- D) Amity University
- E) Tata Institute of Social Sciences

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Apple has launched a new education hub in Bengaluru in collaboration with the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE).
- The education hub will start offering new courses from March.
- The initiative focuses on skill-building and training for people across Apple's supply chain in India.
- Courses will cover digital literacy, Swift coding, robotics, automation technology, and smart manufacturing.
- Apple is also expanding training programs at more than 25 supplier sites across India.
- This initiative is part of Apple's \$50 million global Supplier Employee Development Fund aimed at enhancing career growth and skills.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Apple has launched an education hub in Bengaluru in partnership with which institution?

- A) IIT Bengaluru
- B) IISc Bengaluru
- C) Manipal Academy of Higher Education
- D) Amity University
- E) Tata Institute of Social Sciences

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Apple has launched a new education hub in Bengaluru in collaboration with the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE).
- The education hub will begin offering new courses from March.
- The initiative aims to expand skill-building and training programs for people across Apple's supply chain in India.
- Courses will focus on digital literacy, Swift coding, robotics, automation technology, and smart manufacturing.
- Apple is also expanding training programs at more than 25 supplier sites across India.
- This initiative is part of Apple's \$50 million global Supplier Employee Development Fund, aimed at enhancing skills and career growth opportunities for supplier employees.

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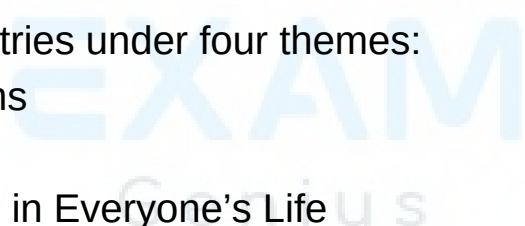
Ques: Which public sector enterprise launched the national creative challenge “SAIL-eBRATION: Steel Built India, SAIL Built Trust” in collaboration with MyGov in January 2026?

- A) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited
- B) Tata Steel
- C) NMDC Limited
- D) National Aluminium Company
- E) Steel Authority of India Limited

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) launched the national creative challenge “SAIL-eBRATION: Steel Built India, SAIL Built Trust”.
- The initiative was launched in collaboration with MyGov, the Government of India’s citizen engagement platform.
- The challenge was launched in January 2026.
- It aims to highlight SAIL’s contribution to nation-building and public trust through creative public participation.
- Participants can submit entries under four themes:
 - Building India’s Big Dreams
 - Shield & Star
 - There’s a Little Bit of SAIL in Everyone’s Life
 - Products Everywhere





Ques: What percentage share of central taxes for States has been recommended by the 16th Finance Commission?

- A) 40%
- B) 41%
- C) 42%
- D) 45%
- E) 50%

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The 16th Finance Commission has recommended retaining the States' share in central taxes at 41%, the same as the 15th Finance Commission.
- The report of the 16th Finance Commission was tabled in Parliament on Budget Day.
- The Commission upheld the principle of equitable redistribution of resources, with special focus on poorer and less-developed States.
- Although the tax devolution formula parameters were revised, there was no major change in the overall share of States.
- A new horizontal criterion was introduced to reward a State's contribution to the overall economy, ensuring balance between equity and performance.

EXAM
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Ques: Which country has proposed banning social media access for children under 16 years of age?

- A) France
- B) Denmark
- C) Spain
- D) Portugal
- E) Germany

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Spain has proposed banning access to social media platforms for children below 16 years of age.
- The announcement was made under the leadership of Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez.
- The move aims to protect children from online safety risks and harmful digital content.
- Social media companies will be required to implement strong age-verification mechanisms.
- The proposal is expected to be approved by Spain's Council of Ministers and incorporated into an existing draft bill under parliamentary discussion.
- The revised bill will explicitly prohibit minors from registering on social media platforms.
- Spain's proposal is part of a broader European effort to regulate children's online activities.





Ques: Which state has emerged as the largest contributor to India's Renewable Energy (RE) capacity, accounting for 16.50% of the total installed capacity?

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

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Gujarat has emerged as the largest contributor to India's Renewable Energy (RE) capacity.
- The state has a cumulative installed renewable energy capacity of 42.583 Gigawatt (GW).
- Gujarat accounts for 16.50% of India's total installed Renewable Energy capacity.
- The state ranks first in total installed RE capacity in the country.
- Gujarat also ranks first in wind power capacity with 14,820.94 MW.
- It stands second in solar power capacity with 25,529.40 MW.
- Gujarat is the leading state in rooftop solar installations in India.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Who is the author of the book Four Stars of Destiny, which is in news for its insights into India's military leadership?

- A) Major General V.K. Singh
- B) General Bipin Rawat
- C) General M.M. Naravane
- D) Lt Gen Manoj Mukund Naravane
- E) Ajit Doval

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Four Stars of Destiny is authored by General M.M. Naravane, former Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) of India.
- The book offers detailed insights into India's military leadership, strategic decision-making, and civil–military relations.
- It reflects on the experiences and perspectives of top military leadership in India.
- Their mention has triggered debates on military accountability, intelligence transparency, and civil–military oversight in India.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Which state ranked first in the implementation of the PESA Act, 1996, according to the PESA State Performance Rankings 2024–25?

- A) Madhya Pradesh
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Maharashtra
- E) Chhattisgarh

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Maharashtra ranked first in the implementation of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA).
- The PESA State Performance Rankings 2024–25 were released by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- The rankings assess states on parameters such as devolution of powers, functioning of Gram Sabhas, rule-making under PESA, and institutional support.
- Maharashtra's top position reflects effective empowerment of tribal Gram Sabhas and strong implementation of self-governance provisions in Scheduled Areas.
- Among the 10 states with Fifth Schedule Areas, Maharashtra secured the 1st position in PESA implementation.
- Maharashtra was followed by Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh.

PESA State Performance Categories 2024-25 :

- Front Runner – Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh
- Performer – Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Telangana
- Aspirant – Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat
- Beginner – Odisha, Jharkhand





About PESA Act, 1996 | PESA अधिनियम के बारे में :

- PESA (Provisions of the Panchayats – Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 is a landmark law enabling self-governance for tribal communities.
- It was enacted on 24 December 1996, based on the recommendations of the Bhuria Committee (1995).
- Objective: To extend the 73rd Constitutional Amendment (Panchayati Raj) to Fifth Schedule Areas while protecting tribal traditions.
- The Fifth Schedule deals with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes (except Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram).



EXAM
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Ques: Which airport operator became the world's first to fully deploy Wi-Fi 7 technology across its entire national airport network?

- A) Dubai Airports
- B) Singapore Changi Airport Group
- C) Heathrow Airport Holdings
- D) Oman Airports
- E) Qatar Airways Group

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Oman Airports became the world's first airport operator to fully deploy Wi-Fi 7 technology across its entire national airport network.
- The deployment covers all airports operated by Oman Airports, including Muscat International Airport.
- The milestone was achieved through a strategic partnership with Huawei.
- Wi-Fi 7 offers ultra-high speeds of up to 46 Gbps, nearly five times faster than Wi-Fi 6E.
- The technology ensures very low latency, especially beneficial in high-density areas like check-in halls and departure lounges.
- The network is managed using Huawei's AI-driven iMaster NCE-Campus platform.
- This system has reduced network troubleshooting time from around 12 hours to just a few minutes, improving operational efficiency and passenger experience.

EXAM
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Ques: How many households have benefited under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana as of December 2025?

- A) 1.5 million
- B) 2.0 million
- C) 2.6 million
- D) 3.5 million
- E) 5.0 million

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana has benefited over 2.6 million (26 lakh) households across India.
- The data was shared with Parliament and is updated as of December 2025.
- The scheme provides central financial assistance of ₹14,771.82 crore.
- It promotes rooftop solar installations for households.
- The main objective is to reduce electricity bills and encourage the use of clean and renewable energy.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Exercise 'KHANJAR' is a joint special forces exercise conducted between which two countries?

- A) India – Kazakhstan
- B) India – Uzbekistan
- C) India – Kyrgyzstan
- D) India – Tajikistan
- E) India – Mongolia

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Exercise KHANJAR is a joint special forces exercise conducted between India and Kyrgyzstan.
- The 13th edition of the India–Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR commenced at Missamari, Assam.
- The exercise is being held from 04 to 17 February 2026.
- It is an annual bilateral military exercise conducted alternately in India and Kyrgyzstan.
- The Indian Army contingent is from the Parachute Regiment (Special Forces), while Kyrgyzstan is represented by the ILBRIS Special Forces Brigade.
- The exercise focuses on counter-terrorism operations, urban and mountainous warfare, including sniping and complex building intervention.
- It aims to strengthen bilateral defence cooperation and enhance regional peace, stability, and security.





Ques: February 1 is observed as which important day in India?

- A) Indian Navy Day
- B) Indian Coast Guard Day
- C) Raising Day of the Indian Coast Guard
- D) National Maritime Day
- E) Defence Services Day

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- February 1 is observed as the Raising Day of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).
- In 2026, India celebrated the 50th Raising Day of the Indian Coast Guard.
- The Indian Coast Guard was established in 1979.
- It was formally inaugurated on 19 August 1978.
- The inauguration was done by the then Prime Minister Morarji Desai.
- The Indian Coast Guard plays a crucial role in maritime security, coastal surveillance, and search and rescue operations.

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