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Ques: The Reserve Bank of India imposed a penalty of ₹231.80 lakh on which bank for non-compliance with disclosure norms?

- A) Paytm Payments Bank
- B) Jio Payments Bank
- C) India Post Payments Bank
- D) Fino Payments Bank
- E) Airtel Payments Bank

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a penalty of ₹231.80 lakh on Airtel Payments Bank Limited.
- The penalty was due to non-compliance with guidelines related to disclosure in financial statements.
- RBI found that the bank failed to disclose certain customer complaints in its annual financial statements for FY 2024–25.

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Recent Penalties imposed on Banks:

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed monetary penalties on Union Bank of India (₹95.40 lakh), Central Bank of India (₹63.60 lakh), Bank of India (₹58.50 lakh), and Pine Labs (₹3.10 lakh).
- The RBI imposed a ₹31.8 lakh penalty on HSBC.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a penalty of ₹3.10 lakh on Cashfree Payments India Private Limited. The key issue was an impermissible debit from an escrow account. An escrow account is a temporary account where customer funds are kept securely before being transferred to merchants.
- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of 2.70 lakh on Manappuram Finance Limited. The penalty was imposed for noncompliance with RBI guidelines on compensation of Key Managerial Personnel (KMP).
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹11.50 lakh on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited for non-compliance with certain directions issued by RBI on 'Fair Practices Code' and 'Internal Ombudsman for Regulated Entities'.





Ques: For which period has the Government kept interest rates unchanged for small savings schemes like PPF and Sukanya Samriddhi?

- A) January–March 2026
- B) April–June 2026
- C) July–September 2026
- D) October–December 2026
- E) Full Year 2026

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Government has maintained interest rates for twelve small savings schemes for the April–June 2026 quarter.
- This marks the ninth consecutive quarter with no change in interest rates.
- The schemes include popular instruments like Public Provident Fund (PPF) and Sukanya Samriddhi Account.

Interest Rates of Small Savings Schemes (April–June 2026):

- Post Office Savings Deposit : 4.0%
- 1-Year Time Deposit : 6.9%
- 2-Year Time Deposit : 7.0%
- 3-Year Time Deposit : 7.1%
- 5-Year Time Deposit : 7.5%
- 5-Year Recurring Deposit : 6.7%
- Senior Citizen Savings Scheme : 8.2%
- Monthly Income Account Scheme : 7.4%
- National Savings Certificate : 7.7%
- Public Provident Fund (PPF) : 7.1%
- Kisan Vikas Patra : 7.5% (matures in 115 months)
- Sukanya Samriddhi Account : 8.2%





About Small Savings Schemes:

- Regulated by : Government of India (Ministry of Finance)
- Review Frequency : Quarterly
- Objective : Encourage savings and provide secure investment options



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Ques: Moody's Investors Service has applied to establish a branch in which location to strengthen India's offshore financial ecosystem?

- A) Mumbai
- B) GIFT City
- C) Bengaluru
- D) Hyderabad
- E) Chennai

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Moody's Investors Service has applied to establish a branch in GIFT City to strengthen India's position as a global offshore financial centre.
- The application has been filed under the IFSCA (Capital Market Intermediaries) Regulations, 2025.
- The proposed entity will undertake credit rating and related financial activities.
- S&P Global Ratings has already received registration from IFSCA to operate in the IFSC.
- Among domestic agencies, CARE Ratings (CareEdge) was the first to set up a base in GIFT IFSC through its subsidiary in October 2024.
- Moody's is one of the "Big Three" global credit rating agencies along with S&P Global Ratings and Fitch Ratings.

About GIFT City (IFSC):

- Full Form : Gujarat International Finance Tec-City
- Location : Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- Regulator : International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)
- Purpose : Develop India as a global financial services hub





Ques: According to ICRA, what is the projected GDP growth rate of India for FY 2026–27?

- A) 5.5%
- B) 6.0%
- C) 6.5%
- D) 7.0%
- E) 7.6%

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- ICRA has projected that India's GDP growth will moderate to 6.5% in FY 2026–27.
- This is lower than the 7.6% growth estimated for the current financial year.
- The moderation indicates a gradual slowdown in economic growth.

About ICRA Limited:

- Founded: 1991
- Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana
- Type: Credit Rating Agency
- Function: Provides credit ratings, research, and risk assessment services

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Ques: India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) growth rate in February 2026 stood at what percentage?

- A) 4.5%
- B) 5.0%
- C) 5.8%
- D) 6.0%
- E) 5.2%

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- India's industrial growth, measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), rose to 5.2% in February 2026.
- This shows a slight increase from 5.1% recorded in January 2026.
- The growth was driven by strong performance in the manufacturing sector.
- Manufacturing sector output growth accelerated to 6% in February 2026.
- The data was released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

About Index of Industrial Production (IIP):

- Measures: Industrial output in sectors like manufacturing, mining, and electricity
- Base Year: 2011–12
- Released by: NSO (Ministry of Statistics)
- Frequency: Monthly





Ques: India signed a working arrangement on aviation manufacturing and safety standards with which organization?

- A) NATO
- B) European Union
- C) ASEAN
- D) World Bank
- E) IMF

Answer: Option B

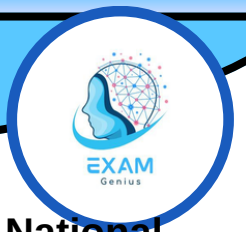
Explanation:

- The Government of India signed a working arrangement with the European Union to strengthen aviation manufacturing and safety standards.
- The agreement was signed ahead of the EU–South Asia Aviation Partnership workshop held in New Delhi.
- The pact was exchanged between the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).
- It will support projects such as the assembly of Airbus Helicopters H125/AS350 in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

About European Union (EU):

- Formed : 1993 (after Maastricht Treaty)
- Membership : 27 countries
- Headquarters : Brussels, Belgium
- President of European Council : Antonio Costa
- President of European Commission : Ursula von der Leyen





Ques: Who has recently assumed charge as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)?

- A) Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti
- B) Hansraj Gangaram Ahir
- C) Smriti Irani
- D) Meenakshi Lekhi
- E) Anupriya Patel

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

- Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti has assumed charge as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC).
 - She succeeded Hansraj Gangaram Ahir.
 - The announcement was made by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- About National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC):
- Type: Constitutional Body
 - Ministry: Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
 - Established: 1993 (as a statutory body)
 - Constitutional Status: Granted in 2018 through 102nd Constitutional Amendment (Article 338B)
 - Headquarters: New Delhi

c





Recent Appointment in different departments :

- **Matt Brittin** : Director-General of BBC (Replaced Tim Davie)
- **Kiran Mani** who is the former CEO of JioStar : Managing Director for Asia-Pacific (APAC) of OpenAI
- **Arun Mammen** : re-elected as the Chairman of the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA)
- **Sanjay Chatterjee** : Director General of ATMA
- **Shantanu Narayen** : Adobe CEO
- **Chief Superintendent of Kaiga Generating Station Units 3 and 4 in Karnataka** : R.M. Nachammai
- **Rahul Bhatia** : interim CEO of IndiGo (Replaced Pieter Elbers)
- **Dr. Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi** : Drugs Controller General of India (Extended for 1 year from 1st march 2026)
- **South Korean filmmaker Park Chan-wook** : jury president for the 79th edition of the Cannes Film Festival





Ques: The Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTC) signed an MoU with which organization to develop Delhi as a media hub?

- A) Doordarshan
- B) Prasar Bharati
- C) Press Trust of India
- D) Film Division of India
- E) NFDC

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Prasar Bharati.
- The objective of the agreement is to develop Delhi as a major media and entertainment hub in India.

About Prasar Bharati:

- Formed: 23 November 1997
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Ministry: Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- Role: Public Service Broadcaster (Doordarshan and All India Radio)





Recent News Headlines Related to MoU and agreement:

- National Commission for Women partnered with Truecaller to launch a digital safety initiative for women.
- Digital India BHASHINI Division and Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority signed an MoU under the “BHASHINI for Seva-Sanchalan” initiative.
- The Indian Army signed an MoU with the Ladakh Forest Department. The agreement was signed on World Wildlife Day (3 March 2026). Its objective is to protect iconic species like the Snow Leopard and other Himalayan wildlife, promoting sustainable development in border regions.
- Navratna defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with RRP Group to explore opportunities in advanced defence and technology sectors.
- India and Vietnam signed agreement to Enhanced cooperation in tribal and ethnic development following a high-level ministerial meeting held in New Delhi





Ques: India's first hydrogen-powered train will operate on which route?

- A) Delhi–Agra
- B) Mumbai–Pune
- C) Jind–Sonipat
- D) Chennai–Bengaluru
- E) Jaipur–Udaipur

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- India's first hydrogen-powered trainset successfully completed oscillation trials, marking a major step toward sustainable transportation.
- The milestone was confirmed by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.
- The trial was conducted by the Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) for safety and performance validation.
- India will now join countries like Germany, Japan, and China that operate hydrogen-powered trains.
- The train will operate on the Jind–Sonipat route in Haryana.
- It has been developed by the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai, entirely within India.
- During trials, the train covered 20 km with a maximum speed of 70 km/h.

Key Features of India's Hydrogen Train

- World's longest hydrogen train with 10 coaches
- Power output: 2400 kW (two power cars of 1200 kW each)
- Zero carbon emissions — emits only water vapour





Recent News Headlines Related to First in india and world :

- Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd has operationalised India's first Port of Refuge to assist ships in distress.
- Japan has introduced the world's first freight-only Shinkansen (bullet train) to enable fast and efficient cargo transport.
- Andhra Pradesh is set to start India's first major private-sector gold mine since Independence at Jonnagiri.
- India's first LPG ATM has been launched by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).
- Rajasthan Royals has been acquired by a consortium led by US-based entrepreneur Kal Somani.
- A consortium led by Aditya Birla Group and Times of India Group has agreed to acquire Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB).
- The Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) will host the historic 150th anniversary Test match between Australia and England in March 2027.





Ques: According to Morning Consult, what is the approval rating of Narendra Modi, making him the world's most popular global leader?

- A) 62%
- B) 65%
- C) 68%
- D) 70%
- E) 75%

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Narendra Modi remains the world's most popular global leader with an approval rating of 68%, according to Morning Consult.
- He recorded a disapproval rating of 26%, while 6% respondents were undecided.
- The ratings are based on a trailing seven-day simple moving average of public opinion among adults in each country surveyed.
- Earlier in 2026, he became the first global leader to cross 100 million followers on Instagram.

Top 5 Leaders (Approval Ratings):

1. Narendra Modi – 68%
2. Guy Parmelin – 62%
3. Lee Jae-myung – 62%
4. Andrej Babiš – 57%
5. Javier Milei – 56%





Ques: Who won the Miami Open 2026 Men's Singles title?

- A) Novak Djokovic
- B) Jannik Sinner
- C) Roger Federer
- D) Carlos Alcaraz
- E) Daniil Medvedev

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Jannik Sinner won the Miami Open 2026 Men's Singles title by defeating Jiri Lehecka 6–4, 6–4 in the final.
- The Italian star completed the historic “Sunshine Double” by winning both Indian Wells and Miami Open in the same season.
- He achieved this feat without dropping a single set in both tournaments.
- Sinner became the first player since Roger Federer (2017) to win both tournaments back-to-back.
- He joined an elite group of players including Novak Djokovic, Andre Agassi, and Pete Sampras.

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Recent News headlines related to Sports

- Aryna Sabalenka clinched her second consecutive Miami Open title by defeating Coco Gauff in the final.
- Kimi Antonelli of Mercedes clinched victory at the Japanese Grand Prix held at Suzuka.
- The International Olympic Committee approved a new policy titled 'Protection of the Female (Women's) Category in Olympic Sport'.
- Virat Kohli became the first batter in Indian Premier League history to cross 4,000 runs in run chases.
- Arundhati Reddy won the ICC Player of the Month award (Women) for her performance in the T20I series in Australia.
- Sahibzada Farhan won the Men's ICC Player of the Month award.
- Japan won their third AFC Women's Asian Cup title by defeating host Australia in the final.
- Anahat Singh won the Women's Singles title at the Indian Open Squash tournament held in Mumbai.
- Fanny Utagushmaninde became the youngest centurion in Women's T20 Internationals.





Ques: The United Nations task force to address disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz will be led by whom?

- A) António Guterres
- B) Kristalina Georgieva
- C) Tedros Adhanom
- D) Jorge Moreira da Silva
- E) Ajay Banga

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- UN Secretary-General António Guterres announced the formation of a task force to address disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz amid the West Asia crisis.
- The task force will be led by Jorge Moreira da Silva.
- The initiative aims to ensure stability in global energy supply and maritime routes.

About United Nations (UN):

- Established: 24 October 1945
- Headquarters: New York, USA
- Membership: 193 member states
- Secretary-General: António Guterres (9th, Portugal)





Ques: Who received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the International Film Festival of Delhi 2026?

- A) Chiranjeevi
- B) Nagarjuna
- C) Mohanlal
- D) Nandamuri Balakrishna
- E) Kamal Haasan

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Veteran Telugu actor Nandamuri Balakrishna received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the International Film Festival of Delhi 2026.
- The award was presented by Rekha Gupta.
- During the festival, his film “Bhagavanth Kesari”, directed by Anil Ravipudi, was screened.
- The film had earlier won the Best Telugu Film award at the 71st National Film Awards.
- Nandamuri Balakrishna was also awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2025, India’s third-highest civilian honour.





Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- **35th Saraswati Samman (2025) : Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, an eminent Bengali writer**
- **France's prestigious Legion of Honour (Commandeur rank) : Jawed Ashraf, former Ambassador of India to France and Chairman of the India Trade Promotion Organisation**
- **Lifetime Achievement Award at IFFD 2026 : Nandamuri Balakrishna (Padma Bhushan (2025))**
- **"Women Empowerment Trailblazer Award" : Kalpana Soren**
- **2026 Stockholm Water Prize : Kaveh Madani, Director of the United Nations University Institute for Water Environment and Health**
- **KISS Humanitarian Award 2025 : Nita Ambani**
- **Mark Lynton History Prize 2026 : Historian William Dalrymple**
- **Women Empowerment Award for Art and Culture at House of Commons, UK : Renowned Indian actress Rituparna Sengupta**





Ques: Indonesia has banned social media use for children below which age?

- A) 14 years
- B) 15 years
- C) 17 years
- D) 16 years
- E) 21 years

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Indonesia has banned social media use for children under 16 years.
- Indonesia follows Australia, which became the first country in December to impose such a restriction for under-16 users.
- The move aims to protect children from online risks and promote safer digital environments.

About Indonesia:

- Capital: Jakarta
- Currency: Rupiah
- President: Prabowo Subianto

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Ques: The National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCB) signed an MoU with which company to boost skill development in the construction sector?

- A) ACC Limited
- B) Ambuja Cement
- C) UltraTech Cement
- D) Dalmia Bharat
- E) Shree Cement

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UltraTech Cement Limited.
- The aim is to boost skill development in the construction sector.
- The initiative will provide training and certification programmes for civil engineers, contractors, workers, and masons over the next 3–5 years.
- The programme aligns with the Skill India Mission launched in 2015.

About Skill India Mission:

- Launched: 2015
- Launched by: Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- Objective: Provide skill training and enhance employability





Ques: The International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members is observed on which date?

- A) 21 March
- B) 24 March
- C) 25 March
- D) 27 March
- E) 30 March

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- The International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members is observed every year on 25 March.
- The day honours UN staff members who have been detained, abducted, or have gone missing while performing their duties.
- Since the establishment of the United Nations in 1945, many staff members have lost their lives in peacekeeping and humanitarian missions.

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Important days :Important days :

- 1 March : Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) celebrated its 79th Foundation Day as Khanij Diwas
- 1 March : Zero Discrimination Day (theme for 2026 was “People First”)
- 1 March : World Seagrass Day
- 3 March : World Hearing Day (theme for 2026 is “From communities to classrooms: hearing care for all children.”)
- 4 March : 18th World Day of Fight Against Sexual Exploitation 2026 (Started in 2009)
- 4 March : National Safety Day 2026 (Theme 2026 Engage, Educate & Empower People to Enhance Safety)
- 7 March : Jan Aushadhi Diwas
- 8 March : International Women's Day (Theme "Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls.")
- 10 March : CISF Raising Day
- 10 March : 5th International Day of Women Judges (Theme 2026 Women Judges on the Bench and Beyond: Protecting Access to Justice)
- 11 March (second Wednesday of March) : No Smoking Day 2026
- 12 March (second Thursday of March) : World Kidney Day (theme for 2026 was “Kidney Health for All: Caring for People, Protecting the Planet.”)
- 14 March : Pi Day & International Day of Mathematics (Theme 2026 Mathematics and Hope)
- 14 March : 29th International Day of Action for Rivers Theme 2026 Protect Rivers, Protect People
- 15 March : International Day to Combat Islamophobia
- 15 March : World Consumer Rights Day (theme focuses on “Safe Products, Confident Consumers.”)
- 16 March : National Vaccination Day (commemorates the launch of the Pulse Polio Programme in 1995)
- 18 March : 9th Global Recycling Day 2026 (Theme 2026 Don't Think Waste – Think Opportunity)
- 20 March : International Day of Happiness (theme for 2026 is “Caring and Sharing”.) (first observed in 2013)

