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Ques: What was the theme of the 11th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog?

- A) Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas
- B) Digital India for New India
- C) Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat@2047
- D) Atmanirbhar Bharat through Innovation
- E) Green Growth for Sustainable Future

Answer: C) Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat@2047

Explanation:

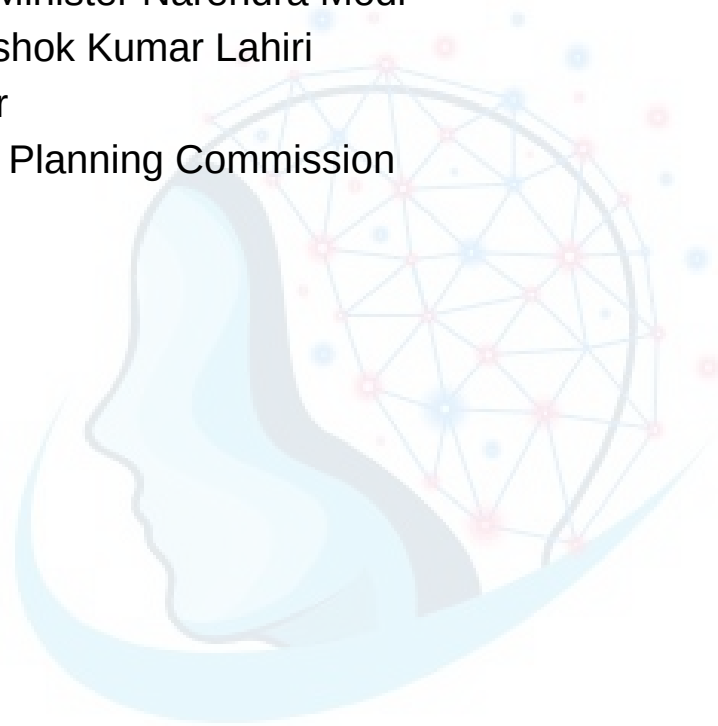
- The 11th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog was held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi.
- The theme of the meeting was “Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat@2047.”
- The meeting was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Chief Ministers, Lieutenant Governors, and Administrators representing 28 States and 5 Union Territories participated.
- The Prime Minister emphasized cooperative federalism for achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047.
- He also called for increasing the number of Lakhpati Didis from 3 crore to 6 crore. He also called for increasing the number of Lakhpati Didis from 3 crore to 6 crore.
- The Prime Minister stressed the importance of One District One Product (ODOP) and export-oriented development strategies.
- States were advised to tackle challenges such as drug abuse and cyber fraud through awareness and preventive measures.
- He highlighted the need for district-level monitoring and focused 100-day and 5-year targets for achieving Viksit Bharat@2047.





Static Facts:

- NITI Aayog Established – 1 January 2015
- Headquarters – New Delhi
- Chairperson – Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- Vice Chairperson – Ashok Kumar Lahiri
- CEO – Nidhi Chhibber
- Replaced Institution – Planning Commission



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Ques: Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) recently raised JPY 91.9 billion (approximately USD 625 million) through which type of loan?

- A) Samurai Loan
- B) Syndicated Loan
- C) Masala Loan
- D) Green Bond
- E) External Commercial Borrowing

Answer: A) Samurai Loan

Explanation:

- Reliance Industries Limited (Reliance Industries Limited) raised JPY 91.9 billion (\approx USD 625 million) through a Samurai Loan.
- This is the largest Samurai Loan ever raised by an Indian corporate.
- It is also the third-largest Samurai borrowing by an Asian corporate.
- A Samurai Loan is a Japanese Yen-denominated cross-border syndicated loan provided by Japanese lenders to a non-Japanese borrower.
- The transaction involved participation from 10 Japanese and Taiwanese banks.
- RIL also secured USD 600 million equivalent financing backed by Japan's export credit agency NEXI (Nippon Export and Investment Insurance).





RECENT LOANS AND AGREEMENTS :

- State-owned helicopter operator Pawan Hans Ltd is likely to receive a Centre-backed loan of approximately ₹500 crore.
- International Finance Corporation (IFC) has committed \$50 million to Hygenco Green Energies.
- International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private-sector arm of the World Bank Group, has committed USD 50 million to Hygenco Green Energies.
- The National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC) has revised the loan limit for large Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) from ₹300 crore to ₹1,000 crore under CGSMFI 2.0.
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) launched a new USD 10 billion financing facility named the “Energy, Food Security and Economic Resilience Facility (EFSERF).”
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) strengthened its partnership with India in 2025 by committing more than USD 5 billion.





Ques: The newly launched cross-border remittance mechanism links India's UPI with which country's payment interface?

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

Answer: D) Nepal

Explanation:

- India and Nepal have launched a peer-to-peer (P2P) cross-border remittance mechanism.
- The initiative connects India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with Nepal's National Payments Interface (NPI).
- It enables seamless, secure, and real-time money transfers between citizens of both countries.
- Users can send and receive money directly via mobile banking apps and digital wallets.
- The UPI–NPI integration strengthens bilateral digital financial connectivity between India and Nepal.





Ques: To what percentage has Axis Bank increased its stake in Axis Max Life Insurance after making an additional investment of up to ₹380 crore?

- A) 18.99%
- B) 19.02%
- C) 19.50%
- D) 19.99%
- E) 20.50%

Answer: D) 19.99%

Explanation:

- Axis Bank has increased its stake in Axis Max Life Insurance to 19.99%.
- The bank made an additional investment of up to ₹380 crore for this stake enhancement.
- Earlier, Axis Bank's shareholding stood at 19.02%.
- The shareholding includes Axis Bank along with its subsidiaries Axis Securities Ltd. and Axis Capital Ltd.
- This investment strengthens Axis Bank's strategic presence in the life insurance sector.

Static Fact:

- Axis Bank Founded – 3 December 1993





Ques: What is the objective of the newly released BIS standard IS 20201:2026?

- A) To promote export of hybrid seeds
- B) To regulate fertilizer pricing
- C) To provide a management framework for Community Seed Banks and conserve indigenous crop varieties
- D) To increase pesticide production
- E) To promote genetically modified crops

Answer: C) To provide a management framework for Community Seed Banks and conserve indigenous crop varieties

Explanation:

- The Bureau of Indian Standards (Bureau of Indian Standards) released the standard IS 20201:2026 – Community Seed Bank Management: Requirements.
- It provides a comprehensive management framework for Community Seed Banks (CSBs) across India.
- The main objective is to conserve indigenous crop varieties and strengthen agricultural resilience to climate change.
- Traditional seed varieties support traits like drought tolerance, disease resistance, and high nutritional value.
- The standard also promotes agricultural biodiversity conservation in India.
- It aligns with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger).





Ques: What amount of dividend cheque for FY 2025-26 was handed over by State Bank of India (SBI) to the Government of India?

- A) ₹7,813 crore
- B) ₹8,813 crore
- C) ₹9,813 crore
- D) ₹10,813 crore
- E) ₹11,813 crore

Answer: B) ₹8,813 crore

Explanation:

- The State Bank of India (State Bank of India) handed over a dividend cheque of ₹8,813 crore for FY 2025–26 to the Government of India.
- The cheque was presented to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- It was handed over by SBI Chairman C. S. Setty.
- Earlier, SBI declared a dividend of ₹17.35 per equity share for the year ended March 31, 2026.
- The Government of India holds around 55% stake in SBI, making it the largest shareholder.
- SBI reported a net profit of ₹80,032 crore in FY26, showing a 12.88% year-on-year growth.
- The bank's overall business crossed ₹109 trillion during FY26.





Recent News Headlines Related to SBI :

- State Bank of India (SBI) handed over a dividend cheque of 8,813 crore for Financial Year 2025-26 to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. The Government of India is the largest shareholder in SBI, holding approximately 55% stake in the bank.
- SBI Mutual Fund increased its stake in Bandhan Bank and now holds more than 5% of the bank's paid-up share capital.
- The Government of India selected SBI Ventures as the fund manager for the ₹20,000-crore Maritime Investment Fund (MIF).
- State Bank of India Executive Committee of the Central Board approved a proposal to raise up to US\$ 2 Billion during FY 2026-27.
- SBI Cards and Payment Services sold a stressed credit card receivables pool worth around ₹1,800 crore to Integro Finserv.
- According to an SBI Research report, the economy is projected to grow by 6.6 per cent in the fiscal year 2026-27. The report also estimates real GDP growth at nearly 7.2 per cent in the fourth quarter of the last fiscal year.





Ques: What was the theme of the SAPLING (South Asian Policy Leadership for Improved Nutrition and Growth) Dialogue 2026 held in Ahmedabad, Gujarat?

- A) Food Security and Climate Resilience in South Asia
- B) Sustainable Agriculture for a Healthy Future
- C) Unlocking Value: Advancing Food Processing for Employment Generation and Sustainable Growth in South Asia
- D) Digital Transformation of Agriculture and Food Systems
- E) Nutrition for All: Strengthening Regional Food Networks

Answer: C) Unlocking Value: Advancing Food Processing for Employment Generation and Sustainable Growth in South Asia

Explanation:

- The SAPLING (SAPLING Dialogue 2026) concluded successfully in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- The event was addressed by Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Chirag Paswan.
- It was jointly organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) and the World Bank Group.
- The theme of the dialogue was “Unlocking Value: Advancing Food Processing for Employment Generation and Sustainable Growth in South Asia.”
- The event focused on strengthening food processing, employment generation, and sustainable growth across South Asia.





Recent News Headlines Related to Summits / conference

- India assumed the BRICS Chairship on 1 January 2026 with the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability."
- External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar co-chaired the 8th India-Indonesia Joint Commission Meeting with Indonesian Foreign Minister Sugiono.
- The first in-person technical meeting of the BRICS Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Working Group has begun in Puri under India's BRICS Presidency.
- India will host the 2nd BRICS Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 4–5 June 2026.
- Upcoming 4th India-Nordic Summit will be hosted by Finland.
- The Quad countries launched the Critical Minerals Initiative during the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in New Delhi.
- The 68th Session of the Governing Body Meeting (GBM) of the Asian Productivity Organization (APO) concluded at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.





Ques: What is the estimated horticulture production in India for 2025–26 as per the Second Advance Estimates?

- A) 3,307 lakh tonnes
- B) 3,508 lakh tonnes
- C) 3,778 lakh tonnes
- D) 3,901 lakh tonnes
- E) 4,120 lakh tonnes

Answer: C) 3,778 lakh tonnes

Explanation:

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has projected India's horticulture production at 3,778 lakh tonnes for 2025–26.
- This shows an increase of 70.39 lakh tonnes compared to 2024–25.
- According to the Second Advance Estimates (2025–26), horticulture cultivation area is expected to reach 301.51 lakh hectares.
- Fruit production is estimated to exceed 1,214 lakh tonnes.
- Onion production is expected to cross 307 lakh tonnes.
- Flower production is estimated to be over 45 lakh tonnes.
- Growth is also expected in vegetables, spices, aromatic, and medicinal crops.





Ques: Who led the Indian delegation at the 114th International Labour Conference (ILC) held in Geneva, Switzerland?

- A) Mansukh Mandaviya
- B) Nirmala Sitharaman
- C) Bhupender Yadav
- D) Chirag Paswan
- E) Shobha Karandlaje

Answer: E) Shobha Karandlaje

Explanation:

- Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment and MSME Shobha Karandlaje led the Indian delegation at the 114th International Labour Conference (ILC) in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The International Labour Conference (International Labour Conference) is the supreme decision-making body of the International Labour Organization (ILO).
- It is often referred to as the “International Parliament of Labour.”
- The conference brings together representatives of governments, employers, and workers to discuss global labour issues and set international labour standards.
- India’s participation reflects its commitment to decent work, social justice, and inclusive labour policies.





Ques: Which company will implement India's first large-scale solar power project with an integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) on defence land?

- A) NHPC Limited
- B) SJVN Limited
- C) REC Limited
- D) Power Grid Corporation
- E) NTPC Limited

Answer: E) NTPC Limited

Explanation:

- The Ministry of Defence has approved a 250 MW Solar Power Project with Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh.
- The project will be developed on around 850 acres of vacant defence land.
- It is India's first large-scale solar project with integrated BESS on defence land.
- The project will be implemented by NTPC Limited.
- The initiative aims to promote clean energy generation, efficient land use, and energy security.

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Recent News Headlines Related to First in india and world :

- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) facilitated India's first-ever export of botanical-infused ready-to-cook millet functional foods to New Zealand.
- Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri and Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari launched India's first flex-fuel passenger vehicle, WagonR, in New Delhi.
- A Yellow-throated Marten has been recorded for the first time in Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, Assam.
- India's first DORIS Ground Beacon has been established at IIT Kanpur.
- Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated India's first SkyCast System at Indira Gandhi International Airport.
- Vijayawada-based startup Red Balloon Aerospace launched India's first indigenous commercial super-pressure stratospheric balloon named "VISTA".
- Kerala became the first Indian state to create a dedicated Artificial Intelligence portfolio at the cabinet level under the new United Democratic Front government. The newly created Artificial Intelligence portfolio has been assigned to P. K. Kunhalikutty as part of the cabinet restructuring.





Ques: What was the value of India's agricultural exports recorded in FY 2024–25?

- A) USD 41.9 Billion
- B) USD 45.5 Billion
- C) USD 48.2 Billion
- D) USD 51.9 Billion
- E) USD 55.0 Billion

Answer: D) USD 51.9 Billion

Explanation:

- India recorded agricultural exports worth USD 51.9 billion in FY 2024–25.
- Agricultural exports increased by 37% compared to 2013–14.
- Processed food exports crossed USD 10 billion in FY25.
- Seafood exports grew by 139% over the last decade.
- India is currently the world's second-largest tea exporter.
- The growth reflects rising global demand for Indian agricultural and food products and improved farmer income initiatives.

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Ques: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new terminal building of which airport during his visit to Daman?

- A) Diu Airport
- B) Veer Savarkar Airport
- C) Surat Airport
- D) NAMO Airport
- E) Rajkot Airport

Answer: D) NAMO Airport

Explanation:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new terminal building of NAMO Airport during his visit to Daman.
- He also dedicated the NAMO Hospital to the nation in Daman.
- The projects aim to strengthen healthcare infrastructure and improve air connectivity in the Union Territory.
- These developments are expected to boost tourism, trade, and regional development.
- Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu were merged into a single Union Territory on 26 January 2020.





Ques: In which city did EY launch India's first AI Experience Centre?

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

Answer: C) Bengaluru

Explanation:

- Ernst & Young (EY) launched India's first AI Experience Centre through its Global Delivery Services (GDS).
- The centre, named ey.ai Centre for Reimagination (CFR), is located in Bengaluru.
- It is designed to provide an immersive client experience using Artificial Intelligence technologies.
- The centre helps organizations navigate AI adoption and digital transformation journeys.
- It showcases how emerging technologies can reshape industries, workforces, and business decisions.
- EY has also announced a USD 1.4 billion investment in AI initiatives and set up an AI Factory (Centre of Excellence) in India.





Ques: Meta and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) have partnered to develop a 168 MW AI-enabled data centre in which city of Gujarat?

- A) Ahmedabad
- B) Surat
- C) Vadodara
- D) Rajkot
- E) Jamnagar

Answer: E) Jamnagar

Explanation:

- Meta and Reliance Industries Limited (Reliance Industries Limited) have partnered to develop a 168 MW AI-enabled data centre in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- The project is expected to be completed within two years.
- It will be India's first Built-to-Suit (BTS) data centre for Meta.
- A BTS data centre is designed specifically to meet the requirements of a single client.
- The facility will support advanced AI infrastructure and large-scale computing needs, including generative AI workloads.

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Recent News Headlines Related to MoU and agreement:

- Government of Himachal Pradesh (HP) & United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed MOU to strengthen climate-resilient development, environmental sustainability, biodiversity conservation, and inclusive growth across the state
- The Government of Telangana and Germany's State of Thuringia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation in key sectors such as Technology, Skill Development & Training, Start-ups and Life Sciences
- Fairwood Nuclear Pvt. Ltd. (India) and SK Securities Co. Ltd. (South Korea) have signed a strategic collaboration agreement to support the development and financing of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and Micro Modular Reactors (MMRs) in India.
- The Ministry of Jal Shakti and ISRO signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen the use of satellite technology and space-based applications for water resource management in India.





Ques: 'Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra' has been developed by which institution?

- A) ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
- B) ICAR-NDRI, Karnal
- C) ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (ICAR-IIOR), Hyderabad
- D) ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar
- E) ICAR-IISR, Lucknow

Answer: C) ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (ICAR-IIOR), Hyderabad

Explanation:

- 'Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra' is India's first nationwide WhatsApp-based AI advisory service for oilseed farmers.
- It has been developed by the ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (ICAR-IIOR), Hyderabad.
- The service provides free, instant, and research-based advisory support to farmers.
- It covers crops like groundnut, mustard, sesame, sunflower, soybean, niger, and other oilseeds.
- It was launched during the National Oilseeds Conference 2026 held in New Delhi.
- The initiative aims to improve productivity, crop management, and farmer income using AI-based digital tools.





Ques: Which veteran Tamil filmmaker, popularly known as the "Father of Rural Cinema in Tamil Nadu," recently passed away?

- A) K. Balachander
- B) Mani Ratnam
- C) Bharathiraja
- D) Shankar
- E) Bala

Answer: C) Bharathiraja

Explanation:

- Veteran Tamil filmmaker Bharathiraja passed away recently.
- He is widely known as the “Father of Rural Cinema in Tamil Nadu.”
- He brought rural life, village culture, and realistic storytelling into mainstream Tamil cinema.
- His films focused on village-based narratives and ordinary people’s lives, giving Tamil cinema a new direction.
- In 2004, he was honoured with the Padma Shri, India’s fourth-highest civilian award.
- His contribution is considered highly significant in introducing realism and rural themes to Indian cinema.





IMPORTANT ONE - LINER Current Affairs

India's leading IT services company Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has secured a multi-year, multi-million euro transformation and managed services contract from Canada Life, a global life insurance and pensions provider.

Central Government has notified two new Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Puducherry to promote industrial development, investment, exports and employment generation. Location: Karasur Village, Villianur Taluk, Puducherry

The President has approved the merger of REC Ltd with Power Finance Corporation. In March 2019, state-owned PFC completed the acquisition of the government's majority stake of 52.63 per cent in REC Ltd for Rs 14,500 crore.

Viyona Fintech India, an NPCI-certified Technology Service Provider, received certification as a Biller Operating Unit (BOU) under the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) operated by NPCI Bharat BillPay Limited.

