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WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS DETAILED DIGEST

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1. NATIONAL & GOVERNANCE (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 01

NPPA Revises Maximum Retail Prices of 543 Anti-Cancer Medicine Brands

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (**NPPA**) issued a revised price list for 543 brands of anti-cancer medicines. The revised prices take effect on **9 November 2026**.

- Regulator: National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority.
- Administrative department: **Department of Pharmaceuticals**.
- Ministry: **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers**.
- Brands covered: 543 anti-cancer medicine brands.
- Effective date reported: **9 November 2026**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: NPPA is responsible for implementing drug-price controls, including relevant provisions under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order; Ministry: Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

PRAGATI Meeting Reviews Infrastructure and Welfare Projects

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 54th PRAGATI meeting on **28 October 2026** at Seva Teerth. The meeting reviewed infrastructure and welfare projects across 31 States and Union Territories, with a combined project value exceeding **₹16,000 crore**.

- Full form: Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation.
- Launch year: 2015.
- Platform: Digital governance and project-monitoring mechanism.
- Development support: National Informatics Centre (**NIC**).
- Review meeting: 54th edition, held on **28 October 2026**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Launch year: 2015; Full form: Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation.

GeM Samvad 2026 Highlights Procurement Reforms for MSEs

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

Government e Marketplace (GeM) and Laghu Udyog Bharati organised GeM Samvad 2026 on **28 October 2026** to discuss measures improving public procurement access for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs).

- Platform: Government e Marketplace.
- Launch year: 2016.
- Administrative ministry: **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.
- Purpose: Online procurement of goods and services by government departments and public sector organisations.
- Related mechanism: Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS).

Exam Pointer: Static GK: TReDS facilitates the financing or discounting of trade receivables, helping MSMEs manage cash flow; GeM is a government procurement platform, not a conventional retail e-commerce marketplace.

CBIC Implements Key GST Changes under Finance Act, 2026

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (**CBIC**) notified **1 November 2026** as the effective date for important Goods and Services Tax changes introduced through the Finance Act, 2026.

- Effective date: **1 November 2026**.
- Notification issued by: CBIC, under the **Department of Revenue**, **Ministry of Finance**.
- Relevant provisions include amended Sections 15(3)(b), 54(6) and 54(14).
- Eligible inverted duty structure claims can receive 90% provisional refund within 7 days, subject to conditions.
- The earlier **₹1,000** minimum refund restriction for tax paid on exported goods has been removed.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Effective date: 1 November 2026; Relevant provisions include amended Sections 15(3)(b), 54(6) and 54(14).

Department of Posts Releases Breast Cancer Awareness Stamps

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The **Department of Posts** released a special souvenir sheet containing two commemorative postage stamps and picture postcards on breast cancer awareness at Dak Bhawan, New Delhi, during International Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

- Stamp denominations: **₹25** and **₹50.**
- Released by: **Department of Posts**, **Ministry of Communications**.
- Jointly unveiled by Manisha Sinha and Punya Salila Srivastava.
- Technical support provided by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month is observed from 1 to **31 October**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Breast Cancer Awareness Month is observed from 1 to 31 October; Technical support provided by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Proposed Delhi–Guwahati High-Speed Rail Corridor via Siliguri

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The Government outlined a proposed **Delhi–Guwahati high-speed rail corridor** via Siliguri, covering approximately 1,500 km and linking northern India with the Northeast. The project was discussed in late October 2026.

- Proposed corridor: Delhi-Guwahati Northern Bullet Train Corridor.
- Approximate length: 1,500 km.
- Route includes Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, Ayodhya, Varanasi, Prayagraj, Patna and Siliguri.
- Approval was announced by Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.
- India's first bullet train corridor is the 508-km Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail project.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited was incorporated in 2016; the Mumbai–Ahmedabad High Speed Rail corridor is about 508 km long.

Rural Employment Grievance Rules Set Seven-Day Enquiry Period

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The **Ministry of Rural Development** notified the **VB–G RAM G Grievance Redressal Rules, 2026**, introducing a multilevel process with enquiries within seven working days and grievance resolution within 15 days, supported by digital tracking.

- Rules: **VB-G RAM** G Grievance Redressal Rules, 2026.
- Parent legislation: **VB-G RAM** G Act, 2025.
- Mechanism to operate at Gram Panchayat, Block and District levels.
- Investigation timeline: 7 working days from receipt of complaint.
- Final resolution timeline: 15 days.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Article 41 directs the State towards the right to work within its economic capacity; Gram Panchayats are institutions of rural local self-government.

Centre Notifies Bharatiya Vayuyan Niyam, 2026

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The Union Government notified the **Bharatiya Vayuyan Niyam, 2026**, updating India's civil aviation regulatory framework and associated safety, operational and licensing procedures under the Bharatiya Vayuyan Adhiniyam, 2024.

- New rules: Bharatiya Vayuyan Niyam, 2026.
- Previous rules: Aircraft Rules, 1937.
- Parent law: Bharatiya Vayuyan Adhiniyam, 2024.
- Notification date: **26 October 2026**.
- Effective date: **1 January 2027**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The Directorate General of Civil Aviation regulates civil aviation in India; its headquarters are in New Delhi.

Union Cabinet Approves Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (**PM VGSY**) in October 2026. The scheme is aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat and the Sixteenth Finance Commission period.

- Total outlay: **₹7,395.55 crore**.
- Implementation period: FY2026-27 to FY2030-31.
- Nodal ministry: **Ministry of Panchayati Raj**.
- Coverage: More than 2.55 lakh Panchayats and Traditional Local Bodies across States and Union Territories.
- Central share: **₹4,869.48 crore**; State share: **₹2,526.07 crore**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 added Part IX; the Eleventh Schedule lists 29 Panchayat subjects.

ESIC Extends New Amnesty Scheme 2025

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (**ESIC**) extended the New Amnesty Scheme 2025 by three months, until **31 December 2026**, retaining its existing terms and conditions.

- Organisation: Employees' State Insurance Corporation.
- Scheme: New Amnesty Scheme 2025.
- Extended deadline: **31 December 2026**.
- Original deadline: **30 September 2026**.
- Purpose: Settlement of eligible pending disputes under the **ESI** framework.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: ESIC administers the Employees' State Insurance framework, which provides social security and health-related benefits to eligible insured workers and their families; Organisation: Employees' State Insurance Corporation.

Ministry of Textiles Reopens PLI Scheme Round 4 Portal GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Ministry of Textiles** is reopening the application portal for Round 4 of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles from **1 November** to 31 December 2026.

- Application window: **1 November-31 December 2026**.
- Target sectors: Man-Made Fibre apparel, **MMF** fabrics and technical textiles.
- Revised turnover threshold for Part 2: **₹100 crore**, reduced from **₹200 crore**.
- Scheme extension: FY2033-34 for approved Round 4 applicants.
- Overall scheme outlay reported: **₹10,683 crore**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Overall scheme outlay reported: ₹10,683 crore; Application window: 1 November-31 December 2026.

₹1,000 Crore Margin Money Subsidy Released Under PMEGP GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises released **₹1,000 crore** in Margin Money subsidy under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) on **28 October 2026** in New Delhi.

- Scheme: Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme.
- Subsidy release: **₹1,000 crore**.
- New micro-enterprises supported by the release: 11,333.
- Associated project loans: **₹3,260 crore** in bank-sanctioned loans.
- National implementing agency: Khadi and Village Industries Commission (**KVIC**).

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Subsidy release: ₹1,000 crore; New micro-enterprises supported by the release: 11,333.

Bihar Museum Ranked Ninth Globally in 2026 Museum List REPORTS & INDICES

The **Bihar Museum** in Patna ranked ninth worldwide and first in Asia in the **Worth a Journey** travel guide's 2026 World's 100 Best Museums list, recognising its collections of Bihar's archaeological and cultural heritage.

- Museum: Bihar Museum.
- Location: Patna, Bihar.
- Reported Asian rank: First.
- Reported global rank: Ninth.
- Collection: Archaeological artefacts, sculptures, manuscripts, coins and exhibits spanning historical periods.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Patna is Bihar's capital; Bihar Museum opened to the public in 2015.

UN Report Highlights Deaths of Women and Girls in Armed Conflicts REPORTS & INDICES

The **United Nations** Secretary-General's 2026 report on **Women, Peace and Security** described the impact of armed conflict on women and girls in 2025, including an estimate of at least 25 women and girls killed daily.

- **UN** Security Council Resolution 1325: Adopted on **31 October 2000**.
- Agenda: Women, Peace and Security.
- Reported civilian deaths in 2025: More than 37,000.
- Verified conflict-related sexual violence cases: 9,788 in 2025.
- Women and girls near active conflicts: Approximately 750 million were reported to live within 50 kilometres of conflict areas.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Resolution 1325 is the key international framework connecting gender equality, peace and security; UN Security Council Resolution 1325: Adopted on 31 October 2000.

MoLE Constitutes Social Security Boards for Unorganised and Gig Workers GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The Ministry of Labour and Employment constituted National Social Security Boards for unorganised workers and gig and platform workers under the Code on Social Security, 2020, strengthening the statutory framework for planning and monitoring welfare schemes.

- Chairman: Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.
- Vice-Chairperson: Labour Secretary Dr. Chandra Bhushan Kumar.
- Tenure of the boards: Three years.
- The boards must meet at least three times every year.
- The Code on Social Security, 2020 came into effect on **21 November 2025**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The boards must meet at least three times every year; Tenure of the boards: Three years.

World Bank Highlights India's Rapid Decline in Extreme Poverty REPORTS & INDICES

The **World Bank**, in its report titled "India Poverty and Equity Brief: October 2026", reported that India's extreme poverty rate declined from 27.1% in 2011 to 2.6% in 2023, representing one of the world's fastest poverty reductions over the period.

- Extreme poverty rate: 27.1% in 2011 to 2.6% in 2023.
- Lower-middle-income poverty threshold: **USD 4.20** per day at 2021 Purchasing Power Parity.
- About 496 million people moved above the **USD 4.20** threshold.
- Share below the **LMIC** poverty line fell from 57.7% to 16.1%.
- Projected rate at this threshold: 14.2% in 2026 to 12.1% by 2028.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Extreme poverty rate: 27.1% in 2011 to 2.6% in 2023; Share below the LMIC poverty line fell from 57.7% to 16.1%.

EPFO Celebrates 74th Foundation Day and Launches New Services GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

On **1 November 2026**, Union Labour Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the 74th Foundation Day celebrations of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.

- Organisation: Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (**EPFO**).
- Foundation Day edition: 74th.
- Event included the Bhavishya Nidhi Awards 2026.
- **EPFO** functions under the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- **EPFO** introduced automatic settlement of eligible inoperative EPF accounts with balances up to **₹1,000.**

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi; EPFO functions under the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Sports Ministry Notifies NSSRW Scheme Guidelines GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** notified guidelines for the National Sports Scheme for Recognition and Welfare (NSSRW), a Central Sector Scheme effective from **1 October 2026**.

- Scheme: National Sports Scheme for Recognition and Welfare.
- Abbreviation: **NSSRW**.
- Period: 2026-31.
- Provides recognition through sports awards and incentives.
- Covers incentives for medal winners and coaches.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Period: 2026-31; Abbreviation: NSSRW.

QS Asia University Rankings 2027: University of Hong Kong Tops REPORTS & INDICES

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) released the **QS Asia University Rankings 2027**, placing the **University of Hong Kong** first. IIT Delhi was India's highest-ranked institution, in 66th place, among the universities evaluated across Asia.

- Rank 1: University of Hong Kong.
- Rank 2: Peking University.
- Rank 3: Tsinghua University.
- Total universities ranked: 1,722 across 26 higher-education systems.
- Mainland China had the highest representation with 448 universities, followed by India with 325.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Rank 2: Peking University; Rank 3: Tsinghua University.

Union Cabinet Approves ₹4,371.10 Crore VISTAR Scheme GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The Union Cabinet approved **VISTAR**, a **₹4,371.10 crore** Central Sector scheme for FY2026-27 to FY2030-31, to modernise official statistics, expand surveys, improve data interoperability and undertake the eighth Economic Census.

- Scheme: **VISTAR**.
- Full form: Viksit Bharat Initiative for Statistical Transformation, Analytics & Research.
- Outlay: **₹4,371.10 crore**.
- Implementation period: **FY** 2026-27 to **FY** 2030-31.
- Nodal ministry: **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: MoSPI stands for Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; the first Economic Census was conducted in 1977.

WHO Releases Climate Change and Health Technical Report REPORTS & INDICES

The **World Health Organization** released a technical report on **4 November 2026** assessing the benefits and costs of six priority interventions linking climate action with public health.

- Organisation: **WHO**.
- Priority interventions: 6.
- Potential deaths prevented annually: around 1.6 million.
- Potential CO2 reduction: around 17 billion tonnes.
- Estimated annual economic benefit: around **USD 4 trillion**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Organisation: WHO; Priority interventions: 6.

Cabinet Approves ₹14,500 Crore Grid-Scale Storage Funding GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The Union Cabinet approved **viability gap funding** of **₹14,500 crore** for 92 GWh of grid-scale energy storage during FY2026-27 to FY2030-31 to support renewable electricity integration and grid stability.

- Scheme outlay: **₹14,500 crore**.
- Target capacity: 92 GWh.
- Pumped Storage Projects: 60 GWh.
- Battery Energy Storage Systems: 30 GWh.
- Alternative storage technologies: 2 GWh.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: One gigawatt-hour (GWh) equals 1,000 megawatt-hours (MWh); pumped storage moves water between reservoirs to store electricity.

Cabinet Approves ₹2,814 Crore Critical Mineral Processing Scheme GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The Union Cabinet approved a **₹2,814 crore** capital-support scheme for FY2026-27 to FY2030-31 to develop four domestic lithium and nickel processing plants, strengthen battery-material supply chains and reduce import dependence.

- Total outlay: **₹2,814 crore**.
- Main minerals: Lithium and Nickel.
- Cobalt may be recovered as a by-product.
- Capital subsidy: 30% of eligible investment.
- Implementation period: Five years.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Lithium (Li) has atomic number 3; nickel (Ni) has atomic number 28.

Fast Track Special Courts Scheme Extended to March 2031 GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The Union Cabinet extended the **Fast Track Special Courts scheme** until **31 March 2031** with an outlay of ₹3,788.04 crore, supporting 850 courts for faster trial of rape and child sexual offence cases.

- Total outlay: **₹3,788.04 crore**.
- Central share: **₹2,353.15 crore**.
- State/**UT** share: **₹1,434.89 crore**.
- Functional courts proposed to rise from 779 to 850.
- Implemented by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: POCSO Act was enacted in 2012; Fast Track Special Courts scheme was launched on 2 October 2019.

Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan Launched for Senior Citizens GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

Union Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar launched the Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan on **4 November 2026** under the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana. The 5Cs are Connect, Converse, Co-create, Contribute and Continue.

- Campaign: Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan.
- Scheme: Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana.
- Launch date: **4 November 2026**.
- Ministry: Social Justice and Empowerment.
- Framework: 5C Model.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ministry: Social Justice and Empowerment; Framework: 5C Model.

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2. BANKING & FINANCE (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 02

SEBI and Bank of England Sign MoU on Clearing Corporations

BANKING & FINANCE

The **Securities and Exchange Board of India** (**SEBI**) and the Bank of England (BoE) signed an MoU in October 2026 to strengthen regulatory cooperation and information sharing concerning SEBI-recognised clearing corporations and Central Counterparties (CCPs).

- Indian regulator: **Securities and Exchange Board of India**.
- **UK** institution: Bank of England.
- Key concept: Central Counterparty (**CCP**).
- **SEBI** became a statutory body: 1992.
- The MoU provides a framework for cooperation on recognised clearing corporations.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: SEBI regulates India's securities market, while the Bank of England is the United Kingdom's central bank; Indian regulator: Securities and Exchange Board of India.

India Post and UTI Mutual Fund Expand Doorstep KYC Services

BANKING & FINANCE

India Post and **UTI** Mutual Fund signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in October 2026 to expand doorstep Know Your Customer (**KYC**) verification services across India, including remote and underserved locations.

- Partners: **Department of Posts** and **UTI** Asset Management Company.
- Service: Doorstep **KYC** verification for mutual fund investors.
- Department: India Post functions under the **Ministry of Communications**.
- **UTI AMC**: An asset management company registered with SEBI.
- India Post will use its extensive postal network and last-mile connectivity to facilitate physical verification.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: KYC is a customer-identification process used by financial institutions to verify identity and comply with regulatory requirements; Department: India Post functions under the Ministry of Communications.

Government Constitutes High-Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat

BANKING & FINANCE

The **Government of India** constituted a High-Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat under the chairmanship of Suresh N. Patel, former Central Vigilance Commissioner. The six-month committee will recommend structural, regulatory, institutional and legislative reforms for India's banking sector.

- Chairman: Suresh N. Patel, former Central Vigilance Commissioner.
- Tenure: Six months.
- Committee was announced in the Union Budget 2026-27.
- Members include **RBI** Deputy Governor Shirish Chandra Murmu, former Indian Bank **MD** & CEO Padmaja Chunduru and former RBI Deputy Governor N. S. Vishwanathan.
- Joint Secretary (Banking), Department of Financial Services, serves as Member Secretary.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Joint Secretary (Banking), Department of Financial Services, serves as Member Secretary; Tenure: Six months.

Upstox Receives SEBI Approval as Online Bond Platform Provider

BANKING & FINANCE

Upstox Securities Private Limited received approval from the **Securities and Exchange Board of India** (**SEBI**) to operate as an Online Bond Platform Provider, allowing the broking company to offer corporate bonds directly to investors.

- Regulator: **SEBI**.
- Registration category: Online Bond Platform Provider (**OBPP**).
- Corporate bond investments on the platform start from around **₹1,000.**
- Indicative returns mentioned range from 8% to 16%, depending on the security.
- Initial bond offerings are expected to include ratings from **AAA** to **BBB**-, subject to availability.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Regulator: SEBI; Registration category: Online Bond Platform Provider (OBPP).

YES BANK Launches 'YES vibez' Savings Account for Gen Z

BANKING & FINANCE

YES BANK launched the YES vibez Savings Account, a product designed for Gen Z customers aged 18 to 30 years, combining digital banking features with cashback and UPI-based rewards.

- Product: **YES** vibez Savings Account.
- Target age group: 18-30 years.
- Maximum annual debit-card cashback: Up to **₹12,000.**
- **UPI** merchant rewards: Up to **₹3,000.**
- Minimum average monthly balance: **₹25,000.**

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Target age group: 18-30 years; Product: YES vibez Savings Account.

RBI Simplifies Reporting of International Trade in Services BANKING & FINANCE

The **Reserve Bank of India** introduced relaxations to simplify foreign-exchange reporting requirements for export and import of services, reducing the compliance burden for service exporters.

- Regulator: **Reserve Bank of India**.
- Sector: International trade in services.
- Threshold reported for other service exporters: Up to **₹10 lakh**.
- **EDF**: Export Declaration Form.
- The measure concerns reporting requirements and is not a tax exemption.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Regulator: Reserve Bank of India; EDF: Export Declaration Form.

SEBI Allows REIT and InvIT Depository Receipts at GIFT City BANKING & FINANCE

The **Securities and Exchange Board of India** (**SEBI**) issued a framework enabling REITs and InvITs to issue Depository Receipts backed by their units and list them on exchanges operating at GIFT City.

- Regulator: **SEBI**.
- Instruments: **REIT** and InvIT-backed Depository Receipts.
- Permitted exchanges include India **INX** and **NSE** International Exchange.
- Fresh **DR** issues require at least 75% approval of votes cast by unitholders.
- InvIT **OFS** cooling-off period reduced from 12 weeks to 8 weeks for specified cases.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Regulator: SEBI; Instruments: REIT and InvIT-backed Depository Receipts.

IRDAI Introduces Four-Layer Motor Insurance Structure BANKING & FINANCE

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India directed general insurers to implement a new four-layer motor insurance structure for private cars and two-wheelers from **15 December 2026**.

- Effective from: **15 December 2026**.
- Applies to general insurers, excluding stand-alone health and specialised insurers.
- Insurers must disclose premium and coverage separately for each policy section.
- The structure is to be integrated with Bima Sugam.
- Specified share-transfer approval fee reduced from **₹50 lakh** to **₹10 lakh**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Effective from: 15 December 2026; The structure is to be integrated with Bima Sugam.

SEBI Partners with BHASHINI for Regional-Language Investor Services BANKING & FINANCE

On **3 November 2026**, **SEBI** signed an MoU with the Digital India BHASHINI Division to expand investor education, regulatory information and SEBI services in regional Indian languages.

- Regulator: **Securities and Exchange Board of India**.
- Technology partner: Digital India **BHASHINI** Division.
- **BHASHINI** operates under Digital India Corporation, MeitY.
- MoU signed by Amitabh Nag and Sandip Pradhan.
- Technology tools include **ASR**, **TTS**, machine translation and OCR.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Regulator: Securities and Exchange Board of India; MoU signed by Amitabh Nag and Sandip Pradhan.

RBI Constitutes Technical Consultative Committee for Financial Markets BANKING & FINANCE

The **Reserve Bank of India** constituted a Technical Consultative Committee for Financial Markets (**TCCFM**) chaired by Deputy Governor Rohit Jain to strengthen engagement with market participants.

- Committee: **TCCFM**.
- Chair: **RBI** Deputy Governor Rohit Jain.
- Focus: money markets, government securities, foreign exchange and derivatives.
- Purpose: consultation on policy and operational issues.
- Regulator: **Reserve Bank of India**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Regulator: Reserve Bank of India; Committee: TCCFM.

SEBI Relaxes FPI KYC Review and Proposes Startup Market Reforms BANKING & FINANCE

The **Securities and Exchange Board of India** updated KYC review arrangements for eligible foreign portfolio investors and formed a working group on startups, seeking simpler compliance and broader capital-market participation under separate regulatory initiatives.

- Working Group size: 18 members.
- Co-chairs: Srini Srinivasan and Prashanth Prakash.
- Framework under review: Innovators Growth Platform.
- Digital **KYC** changes effective from **3 December 2026**.
- **KYC** records must be uploaded to KRAs within 3 working days.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Working Group size: 18 members; Co-chairs: Srini Srinivasan and Prashanth Prakash.

NPCI Launches Technology Subsidiary NTSL BANKING & FINANCE

The National Payments Corporation of India launched **NPCI** Tech Solutions Limited, its fourth wholly owned subsidiary, and appointed Vishal Kanvaty as **MD** and CEO. NTSL will focus on AI, blockchain, digital financial infrastructure and GCC services.

- Subsidiary: **NPCI** Tech Solutions Limited.
- **MD** & **CEO**: Vishal Kanvaty.
- Subsidiary number: 4th wholly owned subsidiary.
- **NPCI** established: 2008.
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: NPCI established: 2008; Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.

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3. ECONOMY & BUSINESS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 03

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank Partners with One Planet Partners ECONOMY

Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank (SuMiTB) entered into a strategic partnership with India's One Planet Partners (**OPP**), acquiring a minority stake and planning a private equity fund focused on energy transition, mobility and manufacturing.

- Japanese partner: Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank.
- Indian partner: One Planet Partners.
- Proposed fund target: More than **₹3,000 crore**.
- First close: Planned for 2027.
- Investment focus: Energy transition, mobility and manufacturing.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Private equity generally invests in businesses outside public stock markets; a separately managed account operates under an investor-specific mandate.

India's GDP Growth Projected at 7.35% in Q2 FY2026-27 ECONOMY

The **Ministry of Finance**'s October 2026 Monthly Economic Review projected India's **GDP** growth at 7.35% for the second quarter of FY2026-27, covering July to September 2026.

- Source: **Ministry of Finance** Monthly Economic Review for October 2026.
- Projected **GDP** growth: 7.35% for Q2 FY2026-27.
- Previous-quarter growth cited: 7.8%.
- Difference: 45 basis points below the preceding quarter's cited rate.
- Projection method: Economic Division nowcasting model.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Previous-quarter growth cited: 7.8%; Projected GDP growth: 7.35% for Q2 FY2026-27.

ADB Approves USD 139.55 Million Loan for Puducherry Urban Development ECONOMY

The **Asian Development Bank** (ADB) approved a **USD 139.55 million** loan for the Puducherry Integrated Urban Livability Improvement Project (PIULIP), marking ADB's first engagement in the Union Territory of Puducherry.

- Loan amount: **USD 139.55 million**.
- Project: Puducherry Integrated Urban Livability Improvement Project.
- Water networks: 100 km to be upgraded and 80 km of new pipelines to be laid.
- Underground sewer network: 270 km of new lines plus rehabilitation of 80 km.
- Sewage treatment capacity: 50 million litres per day.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Loan amount: USD 139.55 million; Sewage treatment capacity: 50 million litres per day.

October 2026 GST Revenue Reaches ₹2.31 Lakh Crore ECONOMY

India's gross Goods and Services Tax collections for October 2026 reached **₹2.31 lakh crore**, growing **22.9% year-on-year** according to official provisional data released on 1 November 2026.

- Gross **GST** collection: **₹2,31,290 crore**.
- Year-on-year growth: 22.9%.
- Net **GST** collection: **₹2,03,356 crore**.
- Domestic **GST** revenue: Around **₹1.59 lakh** crore.
- **GST** revenue from imports: **₹72,246 crore**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: GST was introduced in India on 1 July 2017; the GST Council is established under Article 279A.

CCI Clears Major Transactions Across Banking, Energy and Other Sectors ECONOMY

The Competition Commission of India (**CCI**) approved several transactions across banking, food services, renewable energy, power infrastructure, fintech and telecommunications, including Kotak Mahindra Bank's acquisition of Deutsche Bank's Indian retail banking business.

- Regulator: Competition Commission of India.
- Banking deal: Kotak Mahindra Bank-Deutsche Bank India retail business.
- Power deal: Adani Energy Solutions-IntelliSmart.
- Reported IntelliSmart transaction value: **₹3,050 crore**.
- Telecom transaction included a 16.2% stake in Vodafone Group for Vega **SAS**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Regulator: Competition Commission of India; Power deal: Adani Energy Solutions-IntelliSmart.

India's Services PMI Rises to 55.8 in October 2026 ECONOMY

India's **HSBC** Services Purchasing Managers' Index increased from 55.2 in September to 55.8 in October 2026, reaching its highest level in four months. Growth was supported by stronger domestic demand and new business.

- October Services **PMI**: 55.8.
- September Services **PMI**: 55.2.
- Performance: Four-month high.
- Neutral **PMI** level: 50.
- A reading above 50 indicates expansion.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Neutral PMI level: 50; October Services PMI: 55.8.

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4. SUMMITS, MOUS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 04

Sports and Education Ministries Partner with UNESCO on Clean Sport SUMMITS & MOUS

The **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** and the **Ministry of Education** partnered with UNESCO on the "Sports Values in Every Classroom Toolkit" in October 2026. The initiative aims to integrate values associated with clean sport into education.

- Partners: **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**, **Ministry of Education** and UNESCO.
- Programme: Sports Values in Every Classroom Toolkit.
- Languages: Video modules in 13 Indian languages.
- Event: Clean Sport Conclave organised by **NADA** India.
- Core values: Respect, integrity and fairness.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNESCO is the United Nations agency concerned with education, science and culture; Core values: Respect, integrity and fairness.

CAIT and Nasscom Launch Tech Connect for Traders and MSMEs SUMMITS & MOUS

The Confederation of All India Traders (**CAIT**) and Nasscom signed an MoU on **30 October 2026** to launch the "Tech Connect for Traders and MSMEs - Accelerating Digital Transformation" programme.

- Partners: **CAIT** and Nasscom.
- Programme: Tech Connect for Traders and MSMEs.
- Training areas: Artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and digital marketing.
- Target group: Traders and micro, small and medium enterprises.
- Government representative mentioned: Minister of State Jitin Prasada.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: MSME stands for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; India's MSME Development Act was enacted in 2006.

India-Liechtenstein Relations: Hereditary Prince Alois Visits India INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Hereditary Prince Alois, the acting Head of State of Liechtenstein, visited India from 25 to **28 October 2026** at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The visit focused on strengthening bilateral engagement in trade, investment, science, technology, innovation and people-to-people exchanges.

- Visiting dignitary: Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein.
- Indian President: Droupadi Murmu.
- Indian Prime Minister: Narendra Modi.
- Agreement: India-European Free Trade Association Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (India-**EFTA TEPA**).
- **TEPA** entered into force: **1 October 2025**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Liechtenstein's capital is Vaduz; the EFTA members are Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

PM Modi Inaugurates Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo 2026 SUMMITS & MOUS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo 2026 on **2 November 2026** at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The four-day summit is being held from 2-**5 November 2026**.

- Venue: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- Dates: 2-**5 November 2026**.
- Theme: "Invest. Innovate. Inspire.".
- Participation: Representatives from more than 130 countries.
- Associated event: Ninth Assembly of the **International Solar Alliance**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi; Dates: 2-5 November 2026.

MoPR and CESL Partner to Build EV Infrastructure on Panchayat Land SUMMITS & MOUS

The **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** signed an MoU with Convergence Energy Services Limited (**CESL**) to establish electric-vehicle charging and battery-swapping infrastructure on Panchayat-owned land across India.

- Partner organisations: **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** and **CESL**.
- Infrastructure: **EV** charging stations and battery-swapping facilities.
- Target locations: Panchayat-owned land.
- **CESL** was incorporated in 2020.
- **CESL** is a wholly owned subsidiary of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (**EESL**).

Exam Pointer: Static GK: CESL was incorporated in 2020; Target locations: Panchayat-owned land.

UN Biodiversity COP17 Concludes in Yerevan, Armenia INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The seventeenth Conference of the Parties to the **Convention on Biological Diversity** met in Yerevan, Armenia, from 19 to 30 October 2026 to assess implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

- Conference: **CBD** COP17.
- Host city: Yerevan, Armenia.
- Theme: "Taking Action for Nature".
- India was represented by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav.
- COP18 host for 2028: Quito, Ecuador.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The Convention on Biological Diversity was opened for signature in 1992; its headquarters are in Montreal.

NITI Aayog and TEXMiN Join Hands on Critical Minerals SUMMITS & MOUS

NITI Aayog and TEXMiN, the Technology Innovation in Exploration & Mining Foundation, signed a Joint Statement of Intent to strengthen India's critical and strategic minerals ecosystem through indigenous technology, research and innovation.

- Partner institution: TEXMiN at **IIT** (**ISM**) Dhanbad.
- Agreement type: Joint Statement of Intent.
- Key areas include research, technology development, policy support and capacity building.
- National Symposium: Critical Minerals and Rare Earths 2026.
- **NITI** Aayog also launched an interactive India Science and Technology Scoreboard.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Agreement type: Joint Statement of Intent; Partner institution: TEXMiN at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad.

India Re-Elected ISA President for Third Consecutive Term INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

India was re-elected as President of the **International Solar Alliance** for a third consecutive term, while France was re-elected Co-President. The decision was announced during the ninth session of the **ISA**.

- President: India.
- Co-President: France.
- **ISA** initiative launched in 2015.
- Founding initiators: India and France.
- **ISA** promotes solar deployment, clean-energy investment and international cooperation.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The International Solar Alliance is headquartered in Gurugram; it was established through a framework agreement in 2016.

India and Kazakhstan Sign Extradition Treaty INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

India and Kazakhstan signed an extradition treaty on **3 November 2026** to strengthen legal cooperation against cross-border crime and terrorism. The treaty creates a formal mechanism for extraditing persons wanted for criminal prosecution or enforcement of sentences.

- Countries: India and Kazakhstan.
- Date: **3 November 2026**.
- Kazakhstan capital: Astana.
- Currency: Kazakhstani Tenge.
- Kazakhstan is the world's largest landlocked country.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Kazakhstan capital: Astana; Currency: Kazakhstani Tenge.

1st International Maize Conference 2026 Held in Hyderabad SUMMITS & MOUS

The first International Maize Conference was held from 2 to **4 November 2026** in Hyderabad under the theme "Maize Revolution for Food, Feed, Fodder, Fuel and Sustainability in the Changing World".

- Venue: Hyderabad, Telangana.
- Dates: 2-**4 November 2026**.
- Theme acronym: M4FS.
- India's maize production: about 55 million tonnes.
- Long-term target: about 75 million tonnes.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Hyderabad, Telangana; Theme acronym: M4FS.

Bahamas Joins International Solar Alliance as 116th Member INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

On **4 November 2026**, the Commonwealth of The Bahamas became the 116th member of the **International Solar Alliance** by submitting its Instrument of Accession during the ninth ISA Assembly session in New Delhi.

- New **ISA** member: The Bahamas.
- Membership number: 116th.
- Event: 9th Session of the **ISA** Assembly.
- Venue: New Delhi.
- The accession strengthens the Bahamas' participation in international solar-energy cooperation.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The International Solar Alliance was jointly launched by India and France in 2015; its headquarters are in Gurugram, Haryana.

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5. DEFENCE & SECURITY (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 05

IG Defence Signs MoU with Oman's MSA Global DEFENCE & SECURITY

Indian defence technology start-up **IG** Defence signed an MoU with Oman-based **MSA** Global LLC to explore the co-development and localisation of advanced defence systems for Oman and the wider Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region.

- Indian company: **IG** Defence.
- Omani partner: **MSA** Global **LLC**.
- Event mentioned: Second India-Oman Defence Industry Seminar in Muscat.
- Regional focus: Oman and the wider **GCC** region.
- Technology areas: Unmanned systems and counter-drone capabilities.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The GCC is a regional organisation of Gulf states; Unmanned Aerial Systems and counter-UAS technologies are increasingly important in surveillance, air defence and protection against hostile drones.

VISV-2026 Showcases India's Indigenous Defence Capabilities DEFENCE & SECURITY

Union Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth inaugurated **VISV-2026** — Vision, Innovation, Synergy, Values at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, under the theme "Showcasing Defence Capabilities, Strengthening Global Partnerships".

- Event: **VISV-2026**.
- Venue: Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi.
- Organisers: **DRDO** and the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (**CENJOWS**).
- **CENJOWS** was raised on **27 August 2007**.
- The event promoted indigenous defence technology, self-reliance and international partnerships.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi; Event: VISV-2026.

India Holds First BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise DEFENCE & SECURITY

India hosted the **first BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise** at Sri Vijaya Puram from 30 October to 3 November 2026, bringing seven member countries together for coordinated maritime engagement under the Andaman and Nicobar Command.

- The exercise ran from **30 October to 3 November 2026** at Sri Vijaya Puram.
- Venue: Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- Dates: **30 October**-**3 November 2026**.
- **BIMSTEC** has seven members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- Theme: "Shared Seas, Shared Security and Shared Prosperity".

Exam Pointer: Static GK: BIMSTEC was established on 6 June 1997; its Secretariat is in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Defence Ministry Signs ₹53,866.50 Crore Contracts for Eight Corvettes DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **Ministry of Defence** signed contracts worth **₹53,866.50 crore** on 2 November 2026 with GRSE and Goa Shipyard Limited to build eight indigenously designed Next-Generation Corvettes for the Indian Navy.

- Total ships: 8.
- Contract value: **₹53,866.50 crore**.
- **GRSE** headquarters: Kolkata; **GSL** headquarters: Vasco da Gama, Goa.
- It is the first project in which the ships will be indigenously designed by the Indian Navy and competitively constructed by DPSUs.
- The corvettes will carry advanced missiles, weapons and sensor suites.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: GRSE is based in Kolkata; Goa Shipyard Limited is based in Vasco da Gama, Goa.

INS Sahyadri Participates in India-South Korea Naval Exercise DEFENCE & SECURITY

Indian Navy warship **INS** Sahyadri participated in a bilateral naval exercise with the Republic of Korea Navy at Busan, South Korea. The exercise concluded on **29 October 2026**.

- Indian warship: **INS** Sahyadri.
- Partner country: South Korea.
- Venue: Busan.
- South Korean vessel: **ROKS** Munmu the Great.
- Exercise conclusion: **29 October 2026**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Busan; Indian warship: INS Sahyadri.

20th ADMM and 13th ADMM-Plus Held in the Philippines DEFENCE & SECURITY

The 20th **ASEAN** Defence Ministers' Meeting and 13th ADMM-Plus were held on 28 and **29 October 2026** in Cebu, Philippines, under the ASEAN 2026 theme "Navigating Our Future, Together".

- Venue: Cebu, Philippines.
- **ADMM** edition: 20th.
- **ADMM**-Plus edition: 13th.
- India represented by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- **ADMM**-Plus includes **ASEAN** and eight dialogue partners.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Cebu, Philippines; ADMM edition: 20th.

India and US Conduct Fifth Tiger Triumph Exercise DEFENCE & SECURITY

India and the United States conducted the **fifth Tiger Triumph** tri-service humanitarian assistance and disaster relief exercise in November 2026, strengthening interoperability among their armed forces in maritime and disaster-response operations.

- Exercise: Tiger Triumph 2026.
- Edition: 5th.
- Venue: Maritime Warfare Centre, Visakhapatnam.
- **NDRF** is participating for the first time.
- The exercise is being conducted in a Tabletop Exercise format.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Tiger Triumph is an India–US tri-service exercise; HADR means Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief.

DRDO Successfully Tests Pralay Quasi-Ballistic Missile DEFENCE & SECURITY

On **3 November 2026**, the Defence Research and Development Organisation successfully test-fired the Pralay surface-to-surface quasi-ballistic missile from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur, Odisha.

- Missile: Pralay.
- Type: Surface-to-surface quasi-ballistic missile.
- Operational range: 150-500 km.
- Maximum speed: Around Mach 5.
- Payload capability: Around 350-1,000 kg.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Missile: Pralay; Maximum speed: Around Mach 5.

Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit Unveils 'VAYU' Vision DEFENCE & SECURITY

Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, the 29th Chief of the Air Staff, introduced **VAYU** as the guiding vision for strengthening operational preparedness, self-reliance, innovation and jointness in the Indian Air Force.

- V: Vigilance, Victory and Readiness.
- A: Aatmanirbharta.
- Y: Yukti.
- U: Unity of Effort.
- **VAYU** emphasises high operational readiness across **IAF** formations.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: A: Aatmanirbharta; U: Unity of Effort.

India Targets ₹3 Lakh Crore Defence Production by 2029 DEFENCE & SECURITY

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced a target of raising India's annual defence production to **₹3 lakh** crore and defence exports to **₹50,000 crore** by 2029.

- Defence production target: **₹3 lakh** crore by 2029.
- Defence export target: **₹50,000 crore** annually.
- **FY** 2026-27 defence budget: **₹7.85 lakh** crore.
- Capital outlay: **₹2.19 lakh** crore.
- Defence production in 2025-26: Around **₹1.78 lakh** crore.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Capital outlay: ₹2.19 lakh crore; FY 2026-27 defence budget: ₹7.85 lakh crore.

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6. SCIENCE, TECH & SPACE (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 06

NASA Astronaut Anil Menon Conducts Spacewalk at the ISS SPACE

NASA astronaut Anil Menon conducted his fourth career spacewalk at the International Space Station (ISS) on **29 October 2026**. The activity was described as the 100th US spacewalk at the ISS.

- Astronaut: Anil Menon.
- Agency: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**).
- International partner mentioned: Canadian Space Agency astronaut Joshua Kutryk.
- Reported milestone: 100th **US** spacewalk at the **ISS**.
- Task described: Installation of a new roll-out solar array.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Astronaut: Anil Menon; Reported milestone: 100th US spacewalk at the ISS.

IN-SPACe Selects Six Companies for AI INSPIRED Space Grants SPACE

The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (**IN**-SPACe) selected six private space-sector companies for seed funding of up to **₹1 crore** each under its AI INSPIRED programme.

- Grant: Up to **₹1 crore** per selected company.
- Total programme outlay: Up to **₹6 crore**.
- Selected entities include Agnikul Cosmos, Digantara, **EON** Space Labs, OrbitAid Aerospace, Omnipresent Robot Technologies and TakeMeToSpace.
- **IN**-SPACe was established on **24 June 2020**.
- Headquarters: Ahmedabad, Gujarat; Chairman: Dr. Pawan Goenka.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IN-SPACe was established on 24 June 2020; Headquarters: Ahmedabad, Gujarat; Chairman: Dr. Pawan Goenka.

ISRO Successfully Launches NVS-03 Navigation Satellite SPACE

ISRO successfully launched **NVS-03** aboard GSLV-F18 from Sriharikota on 30 October 2026, placing the third second-generation NavIC navigation satellite in geosynchronous transfer orbit and strengthening India's regional satellite navigation capability.

- Satellite: **NVS-03**.
- Launch vehicle: **GSLV-F18**.
- Launch date: **30 October 2026**.
- Launch site: Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- **GSLV-F18** placed **NVS-03** into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: ISRO headquarters are in Bengaluru; NavIC stands for Navigation with Indian Constellation.

PM Narendra Modi Inaugurates ESTIC 2026 in New Delhi SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 2nd edition of the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave, **ESTIC** 2026, held from 27 to **29 October 2026** at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

- Event: Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (**ESTIC** 2026).
- Venue: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- Theme: "Creative Minds, Catalyzing Science, Empowering Technologies".
- Organised by: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (**CSIR**) in partnership with **CSIR-NIIST**.
- **CSIR** was founded in 1942 and is headquartered in New Delhi.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi; CSIR was founded in 1942 and is headquartered in New Delhi.

Kishtwar Gets India's 183rd Seismological Observatory SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated India's 183rd Seismological Observatory at Kishtwar, Jammu & Kashmir to strengthen real-time earthquake monitoring and disaster preparedness. The observatory uses advanced digital seismic equipment.

- Location: Kishtwar, Jammu & Kashmir.
- National network position: 183rd observatory.
- Nodal ministry: Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- Data centre: National Centre for Seismology, New Delhi.
- J&K now has observatories at Jammu, Srinagar, Udhampur and Kishtwar.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Location: Kishtwar, Jammu & Kashmir; Nodal ministry: Ministry of Earth Sciences.

MeitY Launches DEPA for AI Training Handbook SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** launched the Handbook on Data Empowerment and Protection Architecture for AI Training on **31 October 2026** in Bengaluru.

- **DEPA**: Data Empowerment and Protection Architecture.
- Developed by MeitY with iSPIRT Foundation.
- Launch location: Bengaluru.
- Core approach: "model travels to the data".
- **DEPA** is described as part of India's Digital Public Infrastructure approach.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Launch location: Bengaluru; Developed by MeitY with iSPIRT Foundation.

IndiaAI Mission Releases EKA-1, Dhir 2B and Dhir 5B SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The IndiaAI Mission under MeitY released three indigenous **AI** foundation models—**EKA-1**, Dhir 2B and Dhir 5B—developed under the IndiaAI Innovation Centre pillar. EKA-1 supports all 22 Scheduled Indian Languages and English.

- Models: **EKA-1**, Dhir 2B and Dhir 5B.
- **EKA-1** developer: Soket Labs.
- Dhir models developer: ZenteiQ.
- **EKA-1** parameters: 26.3 billion.
- **EKA-1** training corpus: approximately 7.5 trillion tokens.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: EKA-1 developer: Soket Labs; Dhir models developer: ZenteiQ.

TRAI Launches Network Anubhav Platform SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India launched the Network Anubhav Platform on **4 November 2026** to improve transparency in network quality and provide location-specific performance information.

- Platform: Network Anubhav.
- Regulator: **TRAI**.
- Launch date: **4 November 2026**.
- Uses data from MySpeed, MyCall and Independent Drive Tests.
- **TRAI** was established in 1997.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Regulator: TRAI; TRAI was established in 1997.

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7. ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 07

India Reports More Than 5.5 Lakh MTPA in Green Hydrogen-Equivalent Offtake Commitments ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

As of **29 October 2026**, Indian companies had signed 23 green hydrogen-equivalent offtake contracts covering 5,55,610 metric tonnes per annum (**MTPA**). ACME Group was reported to have signed green ammonia and green methanol supply agreements with Japanese companies.

- Reported contracted capacity: 5,55,610 **MTPA** of green hydrogen equivalent.
- Number of offtake contracts: 23.
- Share intended for international exports: More than 70%.
- Expected capital investment: Approximately **₹90,000 crore**.
- National Green Hydrogen Mission target: At least 5 million metric tonnes annually by 2030.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Expected capital investment: Approximately ₹90,000 crore; Number of offtake contracts: 23.

New Microscopic Land Snail Species Discovered in Maharashtra ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Researchers from the Thackeray Wildlife Foundation identified a microscopic land snail species named Dicharax tilariensis in the Tilari region of Kolhapur district, Maharashtra. The material describes the species as currently known only from this region.

- Scientific name: Dicharax tilariensis.
- Location: Tilari region, Kolhapur district, Maharashtra.
- Habitat: Moist soil, forest litter and decaying organic matter in semi-evergreen forests.
- Collection area: Near Swapnavel Point, close to Tilarinagar.
- Reported elevation: Approximately 700-800 metres above sea level.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: An endemic species is naturally restricted to a particular geographic area; The Western Ghats are an important biodiversity region, and discoveries of narrowly distributed species can highlight the need to conserve specialised habitats.

Manipur Launches BRICS Sustainable Lifestyle Week 2026 ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh launched **BRICS** Sustainable Lifestyle Week 2026 and a cyclothon in Imphal on **3 November 2026**. The campaign promotes environmentally responsible lifestyles.

- Campaign period: 1-**7 November 2026**.
- Venue: Imphal, Manipur.
- Linked initiative: Mission LiFE.
- Cyclothon participation: About 200 cyclists.
- Mission LiFE was introduced internationally at COP26.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Imphal, Manipur; Linked initiative: Mission LiFE.

Scientists Identify New Catfish Species in Manipur ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Researchers from Dhanamanjuri University identified a new freshwater catfish species named Exostoma nasibarbatum in the Bupal stream of Chandel district, Manipur, near the India-Myanmar border.

- Species: Exostoma nasibarbatum.
- Family: Sisoridae.
- Habitat temperature: about 12°C to 14°C.
- Findings published in the Journal of Natural History.
- The name refers to the species' elongated nasal barbels.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ichthyology is the study of fish; Manipur's capital is Imphal.

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8. APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 08

FICCI Appoints Vijay Sankar as President-Elect for 2026-27 APPOINTMENTS

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (**FICCI**) appointed Vijay Sankar, Chairman of The Sanmar Group, as its President-Elect for 2026-27 following a decision at its National Executive Committee Meeting.

- Appointee: Vijay Sankar.
- Organisation: Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- Current role reported: Senior Vice-President of **FICCI**.
- Business group: The Sanmar Group.
- Scheduled **FICCI** AGM and convention: 18-**19 November 2026**, New Delhi.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Organisation: Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry; Appointee: Vijay Sankar.

Jatin Kumar Nayak Appointed CMD of IREDA APPOINTMENTS

On **30 October 2026**, Jatin Kumar Nayak was appointed Chairman and Managing Director of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (**IREDA**), a Navratna CPSE under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

- Position: Chairman and Managing Director, **IREDA**.
- Appointee: Jatin Kumar Nayak.
- Appointment approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- He succeeded Dr. Bijay Kumar Mohanty, who held additional charge.
- Nayak earlier served as Executive Director (Finance) at **REC** Limited.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Appointee: Jatin Kumar Nayak; Position: Chairman and Managing Director, IREDA.

Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia Appointed Vice Chief of Air Staff APPOINTMENTS

Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia was appointed the next Vice Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force with effect from **1 November 2026**, succeeding Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit.

- New Vice Chief of Air Staff: Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia.
- Effective from: **1 November 2026**.
- Commissioned into the **IAF** fighter stream on **11 June** 1988.
- Awards: Vayu Sena Medal in 2008 and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2018.
- **IAF** was established on **8 October** 1932.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IAF was established on 8 October 1932; Effective from: 1 November 2026.

Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit Takes Charge as 29th Chief of Air Staff APPOINTMENTS

Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit assumed charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force on **31 October 2026**, succeeding Air Chief Marshal A. P. Singh.

- New Chief of Air Staff: Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit.
- Position: 29th Chief of the Air Staff.
- Assumed office: **31 October 2026**.
- Predecessor: Air Chief Marshal A. P. Singh.
- He is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Assumed office: 31 October 2026; Position: 29th Chief of the Air Staff.

Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal Takes Charge of Eastern Air Command APPOINTMENTS

On **1 November 2026**, Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal assumed charge as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Indian Air Force's Eastern Air Command. Deswal has more than 3,200 flying hours.

- New **AOC**-in-C: Air Marshal Mehtab Singh Deswal.
- Command: Eastern Air Command.
- Predecessor: Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia.
- Eastern Air Command headquarters: Upper Shillong, Meghalaya.
- He was part of the core team involved in induction of the Su-30K into the **IAF** in 1997.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Eastern Air Command headquarters: Upper Shillong, Meghalaya; Command: Eastern Air Command.

Dinesh V Ganvir Takes Charge as 55th Director General of GSI APPOINTMENTS

Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir assumed charge as the 55th Director General of the Geological Survey of India on **1 November 2026**. Ganvir joined **GSI** in 1994. He earlier served as Additional Director General and head of the Central Region.

- Appointee: Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir.
- Position: 55th Director General of **GSI**.
- **GSI** established: 1851.
- Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Administrative ministry: Ministry of Mines.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: GSI established: 1851; Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal.

Iliana Iotova Wins Bulgaria's Presidential Election APPOINTMENTS

Iliana Iotova won Bulgaria's presidential runoff on 1 November 2026, becoming its first woman elected president by popular vote, with about 57.6% of the vote. Her inauguration is scheduled for January 2027.

- President-elect: Iliana Iotova.
- Runoff date: **1 November 2026**.
- Vote share: About 57.6%.
- Opponent: Andrey Gyurov.
- Capital of Bulgaria: Sofia.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Bulgaria's capital is Sofia; its currency is the euro (adopted 2026).

Gopal Vittal Re-Elected GSMA Board Chair APPOINTMENTS

Gopal Vittal, Executive Vice-Chairman of Bharti Airtel, was re-elected Chair of the **GSMA** Board for the 2027-2028 term. Vittal has been associated with the **GSMA** Board for about a decade.

- Chair: Gopal Vittal.
- Organisation: **GSMA**.
- Term: 2027-2028.
- Company: Bharti Airtel.
- Sector: global mobile and telecom industry.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Organisation: GSMA; Term: 2027-2028.

Balaji Nuthalapadi Named Interim CEO of Equitas SFB APPOINTMENTS

Balaji Nuthalapadi was appointed Interim **CEO** of Equitas Small Finance Bank, subject to **Reserve Bank of India** approval. Nuthalapadi is a Whole-Time Director at the bank.

- Interim **CEO**: Balaji Nuthalapadi.
- Bank: Equitas Small Finance Bank.
- Former **CEO**: P. N. Vasudevan.
- Appointment approved on **3 November 2026**.
- Appointment remains subject to **RBI** approval.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Former CEO: P. N. Vasudevan; Interim CEO: Balaji Nuthalapadi.

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9. AWARDS, HONOURS & BOOKS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 09

Indian Pilot Smit Machchhar Receives UAE Order of Zayed II

AWARDS & HONOURS

The **United Arab Emirates** honoured Indian flydubai pilot **Captain Smit Machchhar** and fellow crew members with the First Class Order of Zayed II in October 2026, recognising their response to an in-flight security emergency in September.

- Honour: First Class Order of Zayed **II**.
- Recipient named: Captain Smit Machchhar and crew members.
- Airline: flydubai.
- Reported flight: FZ1073, Dubai to Tel Aviv.
- Emergency diversion destination: Tabuk, Saudi Arabia.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The United Arab Emirates comprises seven emirates; its capital is Abu Dhabi.

Five Books Shortlisted for the 2026 Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize

BOOKS & AUTHORS

The New India Foundation announced a five-book shortlist for the 2026 Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize on **28 October 2026**. The winner is scheduled to be announced at the Bangalore Literature Festival on **12 December 2026**.

- Award: Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay **NIF** Book Prize.
- Winner's prize: **₹15 lakh**.
- Shortlisted books: Five.
- Scheduled announcement: **12 December 2026**.
- Instituted: 2018.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize was instituted in 2018; it recognises non-fiction books about independent India.

Jantar Mantar Added as a Venue for India Biennale 2026

AWARDS & HONOURS

The **Ministry of Culture** added Jantar Mantar in Delhi as a venue for India Biennale 2026, a planned 108-day festival focused on art, architecture and design beginning on **4 December 2026**.

- Event: India Biennale 2026.
- Venue addition: Jantar Mantar, Delhi.
- Scheduled start: **4 December 2026**.
- Reported duration: 108 days.
- The festival is expected to use 19 venues across Delhi.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Jantar Mantar is important for questions on Indian astronomy, historical architecture and cultural heritage; Venue addition: Jantar Mantar, Delhi.

Prasar Bharati Engineer Wins ABU Broadcast Engineering Excellence Award 2026

AWARDS & HONOURS

Nongmaithem Nandakumar Singh, an engineer from Prasar Bharati, won the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union Broadcast Engineering Excellence Award 2026 for his contribution to broadcasting technology and innovation.

- Award: **ABU** Broadcast Engineering Excellence Award 2026.
- Winner: Nongmaithem Nandakumar Singh.
- **ABU** comprises around 224 broadcasting and media organisations across 66 countries.
- The 63rd **ABU** General Assembly was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Assembly dates: **30 October** to **3 November 2026**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: ABU comprises around 224 broadcasting and media organisations across 66 countries; Winner: Nongmaithem Nandakumar Singh.

Amit Shah Presents President's Colour to Chandigarh Police

AWARDS & HONOURS

Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the prestigious President's Colour to Chandigarh Police during its 60th Raising Day and Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Amit Shah also flagged off 141 new vehicles for policing and emergency response.

- Force: Chandigarh Police.
- Occasion: 60th Raising Day.
- Honour: President's Colour.
- Personnel strength: More than 6,000.
- Additional **AI**-enabled surveillance cameras provided: 2,152.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Force: Chandigarh Police; Occasion: 60th Raising Day.

Maythil Radhakrishnan Selected for 2026 Ezhuthachan Award AWARDS & HONOURS

Malayalam writer Maythil Radhakrishnan was selected for the 2026 Ezhuthachan Award on **1 November 2026**, coinciding with Kerala Piravi celebrations. The award is regarded as Kerala's highest literary honour.

- Award: Ezhuthachan Puraskaram.
- Recipient: Maythil Radhakrishnan.
- Cash prize: **₹5 lakh**.
- Named after: Thunchaththu Ramanujan Ezhuthachan.
- First recipient: Sooranad Kunjan Pillai in 1993.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: First recipient: Sooranad Kunjan Pillai in 1993; Cash prize: ₹5 lakh.

Coal Ministry Honours 50 Five-Star Rated Mines AWARDS & HONOURS

The Ministry of Coal held its Annual Star Rating Awards Ceremony at Raipur on **2 November 2026**, recognising 50 coal and lignite mines with Five-Star Ratings for **FY** 2024-25.

- Financial year evaluated: 2024-25.
- Five-Star rated mines: 50.
- Venue: Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- Opencast first-prize performers included **NCL** and **NTPC**.
- **SCCL** secured first prize in the underground category.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Raipur, Chhattisgarh; Financial year evaluated: 2024-25.

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10. SPORTS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 10

Uma Kashvi Becomes the Youngest Player Bought at a WPL Auction SPORTS

15-year-old Karnataka all-rounder Uma Kashvi became the youngest player purchased in Women's Premier League (WPL) auction history on **28 October 2026**. Delhi Capitals reportedly signed her for **₹10 lakh**.

- Player: Uma Kashvi.
- Age reported: 15 years and 202 days at the auction.
- Reported auction price: **₹10 lakh**.
- Skills: Right-arm off-spin and middle-order batting.
- She surpassed the previous age record held by Deeya Yadav.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The BCCI governs the WPL, which is India's major franchise-based women's T20 cricket league; Player: Uma Kashvi.

India Wins Men's and Women's Titles at Inaugural Commonwealth Kabaddi Championship SPORTS

India won both the men's and women's titles at the inaugural Commonwealth Kabaddi Championship 2026, held from 23 to **31 October 2026** at Veer Savarkar Sports Complex in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

- Venue: Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- Dates: 23-**31 October 2026**.
- Men's final: India defeated Sri Lanka 54-20.
- Women's final: India defeated Uganda 35-15.
- Theme: "One Breath. One Raid. One Commonwealth.".

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Ahmedabad, Gujarat; Dates: 23-31 October 2026.

Rahul Dravid and Saina Nehwal Nominated to 2030 CWG Organising Committee SPORTS

Former Indian cricket captain Rahul Dravid and Olympic medallist Saina Nehwal were nominated as athlete representatives to the proposed Organising Committee for the 2030 Commonwealth Games in Ahmedabad.

- Host city for 2030 **CWG**: Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- Athlete representatives: Rahul Dravid and Saina Nehwal.
- Proposed committee size: 12-15 members.
- Proposed number of sports: 15-17 disciplines.
- Commonwealth Games were first held in 1930 in Hamilton, Canada.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Host city for 2030 CWG: Ahmedabad, Gujarat; Commonwealth Games were first held in 1930 in Hamilton, Canada.

Manisha Bhanwala Wins Historic Women's World Wrestling Gold SPORTS

Indian wrestler **Manisha Bhanwala** won gold in the 59 kg division at the 2026 Senior World Wrestling Championships, becoming India's first female senior world champion after an 8–6 victory in the final.

- Champion: Manisha Bhanwala.
- Weight category: 59 kg.
- Final opponent: Abigail Elizabeth Nette of the **USA**.
- Final score: 8-6.
- India's women's medal tally: 4 medals.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Final score: 8-6; Weight category: 59 kg.

PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen Win HYLO Open 2026 Singles Titles SPORTS

Indian badminton players **PV Sindhu** and **Lakshya Sen** won the women's and men's singles titles respectively at the HYLO Open 2026 in Saarbrücken, Germany. These were two singles titles for India at the same international tournament.

- Tournament: **HYLO** Open 2026.
- Category: **BWF** Super 500.
- Venue: Saarbrücken, Germany.
- Women's champion: **PV** Sindhu.
- Men's champion: Lakshya Sen.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Saarbrücken, Germany; Category: BWF Super 500.

Kimi Antonelli Becomes Youngest Formula One World Champion SPORTS

Italian Mercedes driver **Andrea Kimi Antonelli** clinched the 2026 Formula One drivers' title after finishing third at the Mexico City Grand Prix on 1 November, becoming the sport's youngest world champion aged 20 years and 68 days.

- World champion: Andrea Kimi Antonelli.
- Team: Mercedes.
- Previous youngest champion: Sebastian Vettel.
- Mexico City **GP** winner: Max Verstappen.
- Antonelli broke Vettel's record of winning the title at 23 years and 134 days.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: FIA is the world governing body for motorsport; its headquarters are in Paris, France.

India Tops Tammer Boxing Tournament 2026 with 14 Medals SPORTS

India topped the medal standings at the 46th International Tammer Boxing Tournament in Tampere, Finland, winning 14 medals, including four gold, two silver and eight bronze.

- Venue: Tampere, Finland.
- Dates: **30 October-1 November 2026**.
- Total Indian medals: 14.
- Tournament established in 1977.
- Gold medallists included Aarti Dhariyal, Ankushita Boro, Arundhati Chaudhary and Pawan Bartwal.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Tampere, Finland; Tournament established in 1977.

India Wins Team Gold at ISSF World Shooting Championships SPORTS

India won the men's 50-metre pistol team gold at the **ISSF** World Shooting Championships 2026 in Doha, Qatar, through Ravinder Singh, Saurabh Chaudhary and Amanpreet Singh.

- Venue: Doha, Qatar.
- Event: Men's 50m Pistol Team.
- India's score: 1659-24x.
- Silver: China with 1648-26x.
- Bronze: South Korea with 1643-26x.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Venue: Doha, Qatar; India's score: 1659-24x.

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11. STATE AFFAIRS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 11

Sikkim Hosts Its First Himalayan Yak Festival STATE AFFAIRS

The first Himalayan Yak Festival commenced in Gnathang Valley, Sikkim, on **28 October 2026**. The state-level event aims to promote yak conservation, high-altitude tourism and sustainable livelihoods for pastoral communities.

- Festival location: Gnathang Valley, Sikkim.
- Organiser: Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Department, Government of Sikkim.
- Animal: Himalayan yak.
- The festival promotes yak conservation in the Himalayan region.
- It seeks to support high-altitude tourism and local economic activity.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Sikkim is home to Khangchendzonga National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site recognised for both natural and cultural values; Festival location: Gnathang Valley, Sikkim.

PM Modi Inaugurates Development Projects Worth Over ₹14,400 Crore in Gujarat STATE AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Gujarat from 30 to **31 October 2026** and inaugurated or laid foundation stones for infrastructure, agriculture, dairy and social-welfare projects worth more than **₹14,400 crore**.

- Visit period: 30-**31 October 2026**.
- Total project value: More than **₹14,400 crore**.
- Key locations: Banaskantha and Ekta Nagar, Gujarat.
- Bharat Bovine Breeding and Research Centre cost: **₹325 crore**.
- Ekta Nagar projects: 31 projects worth **₹426.71 crore**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Visit period: 30-31 October 2026; Total project value: More than ₹14,400 crore.

Assam Plans ₹600 Crore Proton Beam Therapy Centre STATE AFFAIRS

The **Government of Assam** signed an agreement to establish a **₹600 crore** proton beam therapy facility at Gauhati Medical College and Hospital, aiming to expand access to advanced cancer treatment in the public health system.

- Project cost: **₹600 crore**.
- Location: Gauhati Medical College and Hospital, Guwahati.
- **World Bank** financing: **₹315 crore**.
- Planned completion: Within three years.
- **GMCH** was established in 1960.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: GMCH was established in 1960; Location: Gauhati Medical College and Hospital, Guwahati.

Centre of Excellence Announced for Siri Cattle Conservation in Sikkim STATE AFFAIRS

Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh announced a Centre of Excellence for Siri cattle in Sikkim to conserve and improve the indigenous breed using modern reproductive technologies.

- Breed: Siri cattle.
- State: Sikkim.
- Technology highlighted: In Vitro Fertilisation (**IVF**).
- Associated initiative: White Revolution 2.0.
- Ministry: Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ministry: Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; State: Sikkim.

Prime Minister Opens Pune Metro Projects Worth ₹21,800 Crore STATE AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid foundation stones for **₹21,800 crore** of Pune Metro projects on 3 November 2026, including Line 3 between Hinjewadi and Shivajinagar and new Phase-II corridors.

- Total project value: Around **₹21,800 crore**.
- Pune Metro Line 3 length: Around 23 km.
- Phase-**II** estimated cost: Around **₹13,500 crore**.
- Line 3 connects Maan-Hinjewadi **IT** Park with District Court Metro station in Shivajinagar.
- Pune Metro Line 3 is also known as the Pink Line.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Pune is in Maharashtra; metro rail falls under urban transport infrastructure.

Bihar Becomes First State with Comprehensive Silt Management Policy STATE AFFAIRS

Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary highlighted the Bihar Water Sources Restoration and Silt Management Policy, 2026, making Bihar the first Indian state to formulate a comprehensive state-level silt management policy.

- Policy notified on: **17 September 2026**.
- State: Bihar.
- Core objectives: scientific desilting, flood management and restoration of water bodies.
- Implementation coordinated by Bihar's Road Construction Department with **NHAI** support.
- Related initiative: Nadi Sanjivani.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Implementation coordinated by Bihar's Road Construction Department with NHAI support; State: Bihar.

MSDE and Assam Partner to Establish Skill India International Centre STATE AFFAIRS

On **2 November 2026**, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship partnered with the Assam government to establish a Skill India International Centre and signed Letters of Intent for two **ITI** clusters under PM-SETU.

- Programme held in Guwahati, Assam.
- Focus sector: Tourism and Hospitality.
- **ITI** clusters identified at Jorhat and Tinsukia.
- Jorhat cluster supported by Numaligarh Refinery Limited.
- Tinsukia cluster supported by Oil India Limited.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Assam's capital is Dispur; ITI stands for Industrial Training Institute, which offers vocational skills training.

Soreng Becomes India's First Notified Organic Fisheries Cluster STATE AFFAIRS

Soreng district in Sikkim was declared India's first notified Organic Fisheries Cluster under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. The initiative seeks to minimise unnecessary use of antibiotics, pesticides and harmful chemicals.

- Location: Soreng district, Sikkim.
- Scheme: Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana.
- Announcement date: **2 November 2026**.
- Announced by Union Fisheries Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh.
- Focus: sustainable and chemical-free fish production.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Location: Soreng district, Sikkim; Announcement date: 2 November 2026.

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12. IMPORTANT DAYS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 12

World Savings Day 2026 IMPORTANT DAYS

World Savings Day, also known as World Thrift Day, is observed annually on **31 October** to promote saving, financial security and awareness of responsible money management.

- Date: **31 October**.
- Also known as: World Thrift Day.
- First observance: **31 October** 1924.
- Historical association: International Thrift Congress in Milan, Italy.
- The day promotes regular saving and household financial planning.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Savings Day was initiated at the 1924 International Thrift Congress in Milan; it is also called World Thrift Day.

World Cities Day 2026 Highlights Adequate Housing IMPORTANT DAYS

World Cities Day was marked on **31 October 2026** with the theme "Regenerating the City: Adequate Housing for All". The global observance in Fuzhou, China, focused on inclusive urban renewal.

- Date: **31 October**.
- **UN** General Assembly resolution: 68/239.
- First global observance: **31 October 2014**.
- Global host reported for 2026: Fuzhou, China.
- The **United Nations** General Assembly designated **31 October** as World Cities Day in 2013.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Cities Day was first observed in 2014; UNGA Resolution 68/239 established the observance.

National Unity Day Commemorates Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel IMPORTANT DAYS

National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) was observed on **31 October 2026** to mark the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and promote national integration, unity and public service.

- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was born on **31 October 1875** in Nadiad, Gujarat.
- The Government of India began observing National Unity Day in **2014**.
- Patel served as the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of independent India.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was India's first Deputy Prime Minister; the Statue of Unity is located in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat.

World Vegan Day 2026 - November 1 IMPORTANT DAYS

World Vegan Day is observed globally every year on **1 November** to promote veganism, animal welfare and awareness about a vegan lifestyle. The 2026 observance marked the 32nd anniversary of World Vegan Day.

- Observed annually: **1 November**.
- Established in: 1994.
- Founder of the observance: Louise Wallis, then Chair of The Vegan Society.
- The Vegan Society was founded in 1944.
- The term "vegan" was coined by Donald Watson.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: The Vegan Society was founded in the United Kingdom in 1944; Donald Watson coined the word vegan.

International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists 2026 IMPORTANT DAYS

The International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists was observed globally on **2 November 2026** to raise awareness about violence against journalists and promote accountability and freedom of expression.

- Observed annually: **2 November**.
- 2026 theme: "Threats Evolve. Impunity Endures.".
- **UNGA** resolution: A/**RES**/68/163.
- Resolution adopted: **18 December 2013**.
- First global observance: **2 November 2014**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNGA Resolution 68/163 proclaimed the day in 2013; it is observed annually on 2 November.

International Day for Biosphere Reserves 2026 - November 3 IMPORTANT DAYS

The International Day for Biosphere Reserves was observed on **3 November 2026** to highlight biodiversity conservation, sustainable development and the role of **UNESCO**-designated biosphere reserves.

- Date: **3 November**.
- **UN** agency: **UNESCO**.
- First observance: **3 November 2022**.
- **UNESCO MAB** Programme launched: 1971.
- India has 18 notified biosphere reserves.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNESCO launched the Man and the Biosphere Programme in 1971; the first International Day for Biosphere Reserves was observed in 2022.

World Tsunami Awareness Day Promotes Local Preparedness IMPORTANT DAYS

World Tsunami Awareness Day was observed on **5 November 2026** under the theme "Be Tsunami Ready: Resilience Starts With You", highlighting the role of early warnings and community-level preparedness.

- Date: **5 November**.
- 2026 theme: "Be Tsunami Ready: Resilience Starts With You".
- 2026 marks the 11th observance.
- **UNGA** Resolution: A/**RES**/70/203.
- First observed on **5 November 2016**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Tsunami Awareness Day was first observed in 2016; UNGA Resolution 70/203 proclaimed the observance.

UNESCO Observes Day Against School Violence and Bullying IMPORTANT DAYS

UNESCO observed the International Day against Violence and Bullying at School on **5 November 2026**, focusing on the theme "Every learner safe and well: From promise to practice" and preventing cyberbullying.

- Observed: First Thursday of November.
- 2026 date: **5 November**.
- Proclaimed by **UNESCO** in 2019.
- First observed in 2020.
- The day promotes safer schools and action against physical, psychological and online bullying.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNESCO headquarters are in Paris; the school-violence observance takes place on the first Thursday of November.

UN Marks International Day for Protecting Environment in War IMPORTANT DAYS

The **United Nations** observed the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict on **6 November 2026**, highlighting ecological damage and environmental security during armed conflicts.

- Date: **6 November**.
- 2026 marks the 25th annual observance.
- **UNGA** Resolution: A/**RES**/56/4.
- Resolution adopted: **5 November 2001**.
- First observance: **6 November 2002**.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNGA Resolution 56/4 was adopted on 5 November 2001; the first observance took place in 2002.

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13. WEEKLY REVISION QUIZ (MCQS)

Solve before checking the answer key

Q1. Which ministry is the nodal ministry for the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana?
A) Ministry of Rural Development
B) Ministry of Panchayati Raj
C) Ministry of Finance
D) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Q2. What is the total outlay approved for the VISTAR statistical modernisation scheme?
A) ₹4,371.10 crore
B) ₹2,814 crore
C) ₹3,788.04 crore
D) ₹14,500 crore

Q3. Which institution launched the NVS-03 navigation satellite in October 2026?
A) NASA
B) IN-SPACe
C) DRDO
D) ISRO

Q4. How many Next-Generation Corvettes are covered by the November 2026 defence contracts?
A) Six
B) Seven
C) Eight
D) Ten

Q5. Which international grouping held its first Maritime Security Exercise at Sri Vijaya Puram?
A) BIMSTEC
B) ASEAN
C) BRICS
D) SCO

Q6. What was the gross GST collection for October 2026?
A) ₹1.90 lakh crore
B) ₹2.03 lakh crore
C) ₹2.31 lakh crore
D) ₹2.75 lakh crore

Q7. Which country hosted COP17 of the Convention on Biological Diversity in October 2026?
A) Georgia
B) Armenia
C) Azerbaijan
D) Kazakhstan

Q8. Which city is the headquarters of the International Solar Alliance?
A) New Delhi
B) Mumbai
C) Bengaluru
D) Gurugram

Q9. Who became the youngest Formula One World Drivers' Champion in 2026?
A) Andrea Kimi Antonelli
B) Max Verstappen
C) George Russell
D) Charles Leclerc

Q10. Which Indian wrestler won historic 59 kg gold at the 2026 Senior World Championships?
A) Vinesh Phogat
B) Antim Panghal
C) Manisha Bhanwala
D) Sakshi Malik

Q11. Who was elected Bulgaria's first female president by popular vote in November 2026?
A) Mariya Gabriel
B) Iliana Iotova
C) Rosen Zhelyazkov
D) Ekaterina Zaharieva

Q12. What is the date of World Cities Day?
A) 30 October
B) 1 November
C) 2 November
D) 31 October

Q13. Which state hosts India's first notified Organic Fisheries Cluster at Soreng?
A) Sikkim
B) Assam
C) Manipur
D) Meghalaya

☐ **Q14. Which day is observed on 5 November to encourage preparation for tsunami hazards?**

A) World Environment Day
B) World Oceans Day
C) World Tsunami Awareness Day
D) International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

☐ **Q15. The ₹2,814 crore capital-support scheme focuses on processing which critical minerals?**

A) Copper and zinc
B) Lithium and nickel
C) Iron and manganese
D) Silver and gold

Answers & Explanations Key

Q1. [B] **Exp:** **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** administers the scheme, which carries a **₹7,395.55 crore** outlay.

Q2. [A] **Exp:** The Cabinet approved **VISTAR** with an outlay of **₹4,371.10 crore**.

Q3. [D] **Exp:** **ISRO** launched **NVS-03** aboard GSLV-F18 to augment NavIC.

Q4. [C] **Exp:** The **Indian Navy** will receive **eight** Next-Generation Corvettes under the contracts.

Q5. [A] **Exp:** The inaugural **BIMSTEC** maritime exercise was held from 30 October to 3 November 2026.

Q6. [C] **Exp:** Gross GST collections reached **₹2.31 lakh crore** in October 2026.

Q7. [B] **Exp:** **Armenia** hosted COP17 in Yerevan from 19 to 30 October 2026.

Q8. [D] **Exp:** The **International Solar Alliance** headquarters are in **Gurugram, Haryana**.

Q9. [A] **Exp:** **Kimi Antonelli** sealed the 2026 F1 title aged 20 years and 68 days.

Q10. [C] **Exp:** **Manisha Bhanwala** won the women's 59 kg title, becoming India's first female senior world champion.

Q11. [B] **Exp:** **Iliana Iotova** won Bulgaria's 2026 presidential runoff.

Q12. [D] **Exp:** **World Cities Day** is observed on **31 October** every year.

Q13. [A] **Exp:** The first notified Organic Fisheries Cluster is in **Soreng, Sikkim**.

Q14. [C] **Exp:** **World Tsunami Awareness Day** is observed annually on **5 November**.

Q15. [B] **Exp:** The scheme supports high-purity processing plants for **lithium** and **nickel**.

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