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CURRENT AFFAIRS

JULY 2026

Han Seong-sook Nominated as South Korea's
New Prime Minister

West Bengal Launches 'Annapurna Yojana'
for Women's Empowerment



Shri D.K. Shivakumar Sworn In as
Karnataka's 18th Chief Minister

India Successfully Tests Long Range Land
Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM)

For SSC CGL, CHSL and other Competitive Exams

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Ancient 3,200-Year-Old Settlement Was Unearthed in Jharkhand's Hazaribag



- Archaeologists discovered evidence of a nearly 3,200-year-old human settlement in the Mohane river basin of Chauparan block, Hazaribag, indicating continuous habitation since the Chalcolithic period.
- Excavations at Dehar, Sohra, Mangarh and Hathinder villages uncovered ancient pottery, tools, buried structures and other cultural artefacts.
- Researchers from IIT-ISM Dhanbad and Visva-Bharati University used Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) technology to detect underground structures extending over 100 feet.
- The site yielded Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW), which is associated with the early historic period of the Indian subcontinent.
- Archaeologists recovered Buddhist and Hindu sculptures of Buddha, Tara, Vishnu, Brahma and Ganesha, indicating long-term religious continuity in the region.

Centre Constituted a High-Level Committee to Study Demographic Changes



- The Central Government constituted a High-Level Committee on Demographic Change to examine demographic shifts caused by illegal infiltration and other unnatural causes across India.
- The committee is chaired by retired Supreme Court judge Justice Prakash Prabhakar Naolekar.
- Its members include the Census Commissioner, former IAS officer Durga Shankar Mishra, former IPS officer Balaji Srivastava and economist Shamika Ravi.
- The panel will study abnormal population shifts among religious and social communities and recommend policy, administrative and legal measures.
- The committee has been tasked with suggesting mechanisms for the identification, detention and deportation of illegal immigrants in a legal and time-bound manner.

Static GK

- The Ministry of Home Affairs handles border management, internal security and citizenship matters.
- Census operations in India are conducted under the Census Act, 1948.
- India's first Census was conducted in 1872, while the first synchronous census took place in 1881.
- The Registrar General and Census Commissioner functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Indian Railways Launched the AI-Powered CHIRAG Centre in Hyderabad



- Indian Railways inaugurated the Centre for HR Information Systems, Research and Analytics in

Governance (CHIRAG) at Moula-Ali, Hyderabad, under the South Central Railway.

- CHIRAG was established as a national centre of excellence to modernise human resource management through Artificial Intelligence, data analytics and digital governance tools.
- The centre will support workforce planning, HR policy formulation, predictive analytics, training management and inter-departmental integration across Indian Railways.
- Advanced technologies such as AI, machine learning and analytics will enhance employee services, administrative efficiency and evidence-based decision-making.
- CHIRAG will provide digital training infrastructure, including modern computer laboratories and research facilities for railway personnel.
- Indian Railways plans to fully operationalise the centre by 2028 as part of its Digital India and smart governance initiatives.

Static GK

- The Railway Board functions under the Ministry of Railways.
- The headquarters of South Central Railway is located in Secunderabad.

Oil India Discovered a New Gas-Bearing Zone in Rajasthan's Dandewala Field



- Oil India Limited discovered a new natural gas-bearing zone in the Dandewala Field of Jaisalmer District.
- The discovery was made in the shallower Sanu Formation, marking the first successful gas flow from this geological layer in the field.
- The exploration well was drilled to a depth of nearly 950 metres and recorded an average gas flow of about 25,000 Standard Cubic Metres per Day (SCMD).

- Preliminary estimates indicated around 75 Million Standard Cubic Metres (MMSCM) of gas resources in the newly identified zone.
- The gas contained lower carbon dioxide content, indicating better fuel quality and commercial viability.
- The discovery is expected to boost hydrocarbon exploration and production activities in western Rajasthan's sedimentary basin.

Static GK

- Oil India Limited is a Maharatna Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- The Jaisalmer Basin is an important onshore hydrocarbon-producing region in India.
- SCMD stands for Standard Cubic Metres per Day, a unit used to measure gas flow rates.
- MMSCM means Million Standard Cubic Metres, a unit used to estimate gas reserves.

Government Launched the PM-AJAY Portal and Mobile App for SC Welfare Delivery



- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the PM-AJAY Portal and PM-AJAY Mobile App to strengthen monitoring and implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY).
- The digital platform aims to ensure real-time tracking, transparency, faster fund flow and efficient beneficiary management for Scheduled Caste welfare programmes.
- The portal integrates village development projects, skill development programmes and income-generating initiatives under a single digital framework.
- State governments and district authorities can upload progress reports, geo-tagged assets, beneficiary data and utilisation certificates through the system.

- The mobile app will help field officials conduct inspections, verify projects and monitor implementation remotely.
- PM-AJAY focuses on reducing poverty among Scheduled Castes through socio-economic development, infrastructure creation and livelihood support, in line with the Digital India initiative.

Static GK

- PM-AJAY was launched in 2021 by merging earlier Scheduled Caste welfare schemes.
- The headquarters of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is located in New Delhi.
- B. R. Ambedkar is known as the chief architect of the Indian Constitution.
- Article 46 of the Indian Constitution promotes the educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- The Digital India Programme was launched in 2015.

Adani Green Commissioned the World's Largest Single-Location BESS Outside China at Khavda



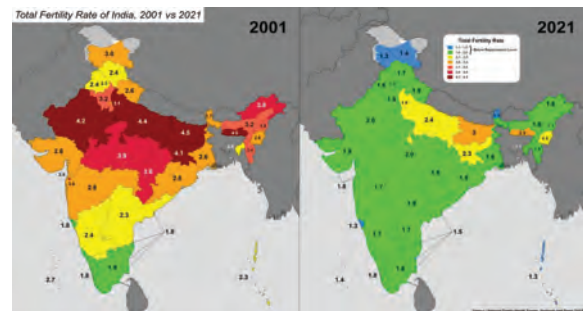
- Adani Green Energy Limited commissioned a cumulative 3.37 GWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Khavda, Gujarat, making it the world's largest single-location battery storage deployment outside China.
- The project included an additional 1.37 GWh capacity commissioned in March 2026, raising the total operational BESS capacity at Khavda to 3.37 GWh.
- The BESS is designed to enhance grid stability, store surplus renewable energy and supply electricity during peak demand periods for round-the-clock clean power.
- The storage facility can power nearly one million homes for a full day and support peak electricity demand in cities such as Indore and Chandigarh.

- Khavda is part of AGEL's 30 GW renewable energy park in Kutch, Gujarat, targeted for completion by 2029, with around 9.9 GW already operational.
- AGEL plans to add more than 10 GWh of battery storage capacity in FY27 and expand it to 50 GWh over the next five years.

Static GK

- BESS stands for Battery Energy Storage System.
- Khavda is located in Kutch District near the India-Pakistan border.
- India has set a target of achieving Net Zero carbon emissions by 2070.

India's Total Fertility Rate Fell Below the Replacement Level



- India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) declined to 1.9 in 2024, falling below the replacement fertility level of 2.1 children per woman, according to the Sample Registration System (SRS).
- Bihar recorded the highest TFR at 2.9, while Delhi recorded the lowest at 1.2.
- Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand remained above the replacement level, while Tamil Nadu, Kerala and West Bengal each recorded a TFR of 1.3.
- Rural India recorded a TFR of 2.1, compared to 1.5 in urban areas.
- The working-age population (15–59 years) constituted 66.4% of India's population in 2024.
- The share of the elderly population (60 years and above) increased to 9.7%, with Kerala recording the highest elderly population share at 15%.

Static GK

- The replacement fertility level is 2.1 children per woman.
- The Sample Registration System (SRS) is one of India's key sources of demographic data.

- The National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5) covered the period 2019–21.
- India's working-age population is defined as the 15–59 age group.
- In official demographic data, the elderly population refers to persons aged 60 years and above.

Supreme Court Recognised Trauma Care as a Right Under Article 21



- The Supreme Court of India declared access to trauma care an integral part of the Right to Life under Article 21 of the Constitution on 26 May 2026 in the SaveLIFE Foundation case.
- The Court directed time-bound reforms in emergency medical response, ambulance services, trauma registries and trauma data management systems.
- It ordered the integration of emergency helplines 100, 101, 102, 108, 1033 and 1091 into the single national emergency number 112 within three months.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was directed to issue guidelines for a national trauma registry, while states and Union Territories must establish State Trauma Registries.
- The Court mandated GPS-enabled ambulances compliant with the National Ambulance Code and integrated with helpline 112.
- States and Union Territories were directed to create grievance redressal systems for Good Samaritans and implement the Cashless Treatment of Road Accident Victims Scheme, 2025 (PM RAHAT) within three months.
- The Supreme Court retained continuing oversight and sought action-taken reports from all states and Union Territories.

Static GK

- Article 21 protects the Right to Life and Personal Liberty.

- 112 is India's single emergency number for integrated response services.
- The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides the legal framework for road transport and traffic regulation in India.
- Good Samaritan rules in India provide protection to persons who assist road accident victims.

Chenab–Beas River-Link Project Was Approved in Himachal Pradesh



- The Central Government approved the Chenab–Beas Link Tunnel Project in Himachal Pradesh with an estimated cost of ₹2,352 crore.
- The project proposed an 8.7-km tunnel to divert surplus water from the Chenab basin to the Beas river system for better water utilisation.
- Phase I included construction of a 19-metre-high barrage on the Chandra River near Koksar village in the Lahaul Valley.
- The project was assigned to NHPC and was expected to facilitate nearly 4,000 MW of additional hydropower generation in Himachal Pradesh.
- The project gained importance in the context of the Indus river system and India's river-linking infrastructure initiatives.

Static GK

- Chenab is one of the western rivers of the Indus river system.
- Beas is a tributary of the Sutlej River and flows through Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.
- NHPC (National Hydroelectric Power Corporation) is a central public sector enterprise engaged in hydropower development.
- The Indus Waters Treaty was signed between India and Pakistan in 1960.
- River-linking projects are associated with inter-basin water transfer and irrigation planning.

India Reached 100 Ramsar Sites with Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary



- India achieved a major milestone when the Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary (Surha Tal) in Uttar Pradesh became the 100th Ramsar Site, announced on World Environment Day 2026.
- The designation under the Ramsar Convention strengthened India's commitment to wetland conservation and biodiversity protection.
- The site is located in Ballia district, Uttar Pradesh, and serves as an important habitat for migratory and resident bird species.
- The wetland supported ecological balance by maintaining aquatic biodiversity and providing breeding and feeding grounds for birds.
- The achievement marked India's growing global leadership in wetland conservation and sustainable ecosystem management.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi appreciated the recognition and highlighted India's commitment to protecting ecologically sensitive ecosystems.

Static GK

- The Ramsar Convention (1971) is an international treaty for the conservation and wise use of wetlands.
- Ramsar Sites are wetlands of international importance for biodiversity conservation and migratory bird habitats.
- After this inclusion, India reached a total of 100 Ramsar Sites, distributed across multiple states.

India Launched E85 Fuel to Promote Clean Energy and Reduce Oil Imports

- India launched E85 fuel, a blend containing 85% ethanol and 15% petrol, to reduce crude oil imports and support clean mobility.
- The initiative was launched by the Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on World Environment Day 2026.



- E85 fuel was designed for Flex-Fuel Vehicles (FFVs) that can run on varying ethanol-petrol blends.
- The rollout initially began at 48–50 fuel stations across Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Pune, and Nagpur in a phased manner.
- The programme aimed to strengthen energy security, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase farmers' income through ethanol production.
- E85 fuel offered a price advantage of around ₹20 per litre lower than E20 petrol, encouraging adoption of cleaner fuels.
- Ethanol used in E85 was produced from agricultural sources such as sugarcane, maize, rice, and biomass residues.

India Inaugurated 7th Regional Meteorological Centre in Jammu



- India inaugurated its 7th Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC) in Jammu on 5 June 2026, strengthening regional weather forecasting and disaster warning systems.
- The centre was inaugurated by Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh and aimed to improve localized forecasting for the Himalayan region.
- The Jammu RMC will serve Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, and Himachal Pradesh, covering high-risk areas prone to extreme weather events.

- The centre provided services such as district-level forecasts, avalanche warnings, flash-flood alerts, cloudburst warnings, and landslide warnings.
- It supported sectors like tourism, agriculture, disaster management, hydropower projects, and security forces operating in high-altitude regions.
- The initiative strengthened India's early-warning system under the modernization efforts of the meteorological infrastructure.
- Regional Meteorological Centres operate under the India Meteorological Department, which functions under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands Recorded India's Lowest Fertility Rate in NFHS-6



- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands recorded India's lowest Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 0.9 in NFHS-6, according to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- The fertility rate declined from 1.4 in NFHS-4 to 1.3 in NFHS-5 and further to 0.9 in NFHS-6.
- The recorded TFR remained far below the replacement level fertility rate of 2.1, indicating that the population may not replace itself without migration.
- The share of children below 5 years of age declined from 5.3% to 3.7% between NFHS-5 and NFHS-6.
- The proportion of children below 15 years of age decreased from 20.8% to 17.5%.
- The population aged 60 years and above increased from 11% to 12.6%, indicating a growing ageing population.
- The survey highlighted a shrinking younger population, which could affect future workforce availability and economic productivity.
- Health authorities attributed the decline in fertility to a preference for smaller families, wider use of family-planning methods, higher female education, and improved economic conditions.

Static GK

- NFHS (National Family Health Survey) is conducted under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- Replacement Level Fertility is generally considered to be 2.1 children per woman.
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands is a Union Territory of India with its capital at Port Blair.

MHA Notified Immigration and Foreigners (Amendment) Rules, 2026



- The Ministry of Home Affairs notified the Immigration and Foreigners (Amendment) Rules, 2026 to further refine the framework introduced under the 2025 Rules.
- The amendments focused on registration timelines for foreign nationals and a more streamlined appeals mechanism.
- The revised rules aimed to improve compliance, transparency, and efficiency in managing foreigners residing or travelling in India.
- The rules continued to link registration requirements with visa conditions and duration of stay while emphasizing timely reporting.
- The government strengthened digital platforms and electronic processes for faster registration and monitoring of foreign nationals.

Ladakh Received India's First Model Border Village Under the Vibrant Villages Programme



- Ladakh became the first region in India to develop a Model Border Village under the Vibrant Villages Programme.
- The initiative focused on improving road connectivity, housing, digital access, and basic services in strategically located border settlements.
- The project aimed to curb migration from border areas while promoting tourism, local employment, and sustainable development.
- The programme integrated security priorities with development goals to strengthen civilian presence and resilience along India's northern border with China.
- The initiative is being implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs in coordination with the Ladakh administration and central agencies.

Static GK

- Ladakh became a Union Territory on 31 October 2019 after the reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Ladakh shares international borders with China (Aksai Chin) and Pakistan (Gilgit-Baltistan region).

A Rare Caracal Was Rediscovered in Kuno National Park



- A rare Caracal was sighted in Kuno National Park during a wildlife survey conducted on 6 June 2026.
- The animal was captured on a camera trap, providing confirmed photographic evidence of its presence in the region.
- The sighting was considered the first recorded observation of a caracal in the Kuno landscape after several decades.
- The discovery highlighted the ecological significance of Kuno National Park, which is also the centre of India's cheetah reintroduction programme.
- Caracals are medium-sized wild cats known for their distinctive black ear tufts, agility, and ability to hunt birds in mid-air.

- The species mainly inhabits dry grasslands, scrub forests, and semi-arid ecosystems.

Static GK

- The scientific name of the caracal is *Caracal caracal*.
- Globally, the caracal is classified as Least Concern by the IUCN, though its population in India is extremely limited.
- Kuno National Park became the primary site for the reintroduction of African cheetahs into India in 2022.
- Madhya Pradesh is known as the "Tiger State of India."

Reliance Industries and Meta Partnered to Build India's First AI-Enabled Hyperscale Data Centre



- Reliance Industries and Meta partnered to develop a 168 MW AI-enabled hyperscale data centre in Jamnagar.
- The facility will be Meta's first built-to-suit data centre in India and is expected to be completed within two years.
- Meta will lease capacity from the data centre to support its growing AI, cloud computing, and data processing requirements.
- The project is expected to strengthen India's position as a global AI infrastructure hub and attract further technology investments.
- Jamnagar was selected due to its renewable energy availability, desalinated water resources, submarine cable connectivity, and Jio's fiber network.
- The data centre will operate using renewable energy and seawater-based cooling systems, reducing freshwater use and carbon emissions.
- Reliance Industries will manage the facility's design, development, power supply, connectivity, operations, and maintenance.

- A hyperscale data centre is a large facility designed to support massive cloud computing and AI workloads.

ASI Documented Ancient Inscriptions in the Nallamala Tiger Reserve



- The Epigraphy Branch of the Archaeological Survey of India documented and copied 25 ancient inscriptions in the Nallamala Tiger Reserve on 13 June 2026.
- The inscriptions span nearly 1,400 years, from the 2nd century CE to the 16th century CE, and were written in Telugu, Kannada, Prakrit, and Brahmi script.
- The survey recorded inscriptions linked to the Satavahana, Eastern Chalukya, Reddy, Kalyani Chalukya, Potapi Chola, Kakatiya, and Vijayanagara periods.
- Among the discoveries were rare Satavahana inscriptions written in Prakrit language and Brahmi script.
- Ancient rock art was identified near Alatom on the banks of the Krishna River within the reserve.
- The rock art includes megalithic and early historic paintings and is estimated to date to around 1500 BCE.

Static GK

- The Archaeological Survey of India was established in 1861.
- Brahmi is one of the earliest scripts used in the Indian subcontinent.
- Nallamala Tiger Reserve lies in the Eastern Ghats and extends across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

India Set a Target of 155 GW Wind Energy Capacity by 2035

- India set a target of 155 GW of installed wind energy capacity by 2035, with an interim target of 100 GW by 2030.



- India's installed wind energy capacity exceeded 56.1 GW as of 15 June 2026.
- India remained the world's fourth-largest wind energy market by installed capacity.
- The country added 6.1 GW of new wind capacity in FY 2025–26, recording a 46% year-on-year increase.
- The government launched the WT-MARUT (Wind Turbine Materials and Resources Utility Tracker) Portal as India's first digital platform for wind energy supply-chain management.
- The policy prioritised domestic manufacturing and local sourcing of wind turbine components.

India Extended the Tenure of the Ravi-Beas and Krishna Water Tribunals



- The Government of India extended the tenure of the Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal and the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT-II) by one year through gazette notifications issued on 15 June 2026.
- The Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal, constituted in April 1986, adjudicates water-sharing disputes among Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan.
- The Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal, formed in April 2004, deals with disputes among Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Telangana.

- KWDT-II received an extension until 31 July 2027.
- Both tribunals function under the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956.

Static GK

- Water is a State List subject under Entry 17 of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
- The Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) Canal dispute is linked to Ravi-Beas water sharing.

Allahabad High Court Upheld a Juvenile's Right to Be Forgotten



- The Allahabad High Court ruled that a conviction recorded during juvenile age cannot be used as a legal barrier to passport issuance.
- The Court treated the juvenile "right to be forgotten" under Section 24 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 as an absolute right.
- The case involved the rejection of a passport application based on a criminal case registered when the applicant was a minor.
- The Court quashed the passport rejection order and directed authorities to reconsider the application without relying on the juvenile conviction.
- The judgment linked the right to travel abroad with personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Static GK

- Section 24 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 deals with the effect of juvenile convictions and protection of future prospects.
- Article 21 of the Constitution protects life and personal liberty.
- The Passports Act, 1967 governs passport issuance in India.

PM Narendra Modi Became India's Longest-Serving Elected Prime Minister



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi became India's longest-serving elected Prime Minister in uninterrupted tenure on 10 June 2026.
- He completed 4,399 consecutive days in office, surpassing Jawaharlal Nehru, who served 4,398 days as an elected Prime Minister.
- Modi assumed office on 26 May 2014 and secured consecutive victories in the 2014, 2019, and 2024 Lok Sabha elections.
- He became the first non-Congress leader to win three consecutive general elections and serve a third successive term as Prime Minister.
- His tenure saw major initiatives in digital infrastructure, welfare delivery, financial inclusion, infrastructure development, and global diplomacy.

Static GK

- The Prime Minister is appointed by the President under Article 75 of the Constitution.
- The official residence of the Prime Minister is 7 Lok Kalyan Marg, New Delhi.
- Indira Gandhi remains India's longest-serving woman Prime Minister.

India Targeted Elimination of Sickle Cell Anaemia by 2047



- India set a target to eliminate Sickle Cell Anaemia by 2047 under the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission.
- The mission was launched on 1 July 2023 from Shahdol District in Madhya Pradesh.
- The mission operates under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with support from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- The programme focuses on screening, diagnosis, genetic counselling, prevention, and holistic management of the disease.
- By June 2026, more than 7 crore people aged 0–40 years had been screened under the mission.
- The mission is being implemented across 17 states, with special focus on tribal areas where the disease burden is higher.
- The initiative emerged as one of the largest genetic disease screening programmes in the world.

Static GK

- Sickle Cell Anaemia is an inherited blood disorder caused by abnormal haemoglobin called Haemoglobin S.
- The disease is inherited through an autosomal recessive pattern.
- Sickle-shaped red blood cells reduce the efficiency of oxygen transport in the body.

NHAI Launched Rajasthan's First Barrier-Free Tolling System



- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) launched Rajasthan's first Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) tolling system at Daulatpura Toll Plaza on the Delhi–Jaipur section of NH-48.
- The MLFF system enabled barrier-free toll collection, allowing vehicles to pass through toll points without stopping and reducing travel time and congestion.
- The system integrated Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology with FASTag-based electronic toll collection for automated toll deduction.
- The initiative improved traffic flow, enhanced fuel efficiency, reduced vehicle emissions, and provided a smoother travel experience for commuters.
- NHAI announced plans to convert Shahjahanpur Toll Plaza and Manoharpur Toll Plaza into MLFF-based tolling facilities in the future.

Static GK

- FASTag is a prepaid electronic toll collection system operated using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.
- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) functions under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

PM Modi Laid the Foundation Stone of India's First Commercial-Scale Coal-to-Ammonium Nitrate Project



- Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of India's first commercial-scale coal-to-ammonium nitrate project at Lakhanpur, Jharsuguda district, Odisha.
- The project is being developed by Bharat Coal Gasification and Chemicals Limited (BCGCL), a joint venture of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and Coal India Limited.
- The plant will produce 2,000 tonnes of ammonium nitrate per day, helping reduce India's dependence on imported industrial chemicals.
- The project will use coal gasification technology, which converts coal into syngas (synthesis gas) for

producing chemicals such as ammonium nitrate, methanol, urea, and synthetic natural gas.

Static GK

- Coal gasification is the process of converting coal into syngas, primarily consisting of hydrogen and carbon monoxide.
- India is the second-largest producer and consumer of coal in the world and possesses the fifth-largest coal reserves globally.

UGC Approved Foreign University Campuses in India



- The University Grants Commission (UGC) implemented regulations notified on 8 November 2023 allowing foreign universities to establish branch campuses in India.
- As of June 2026, five universities received Letters of Approval to set up campuses in India: University of Southampton, University of Liverpool, University of Bristol, University of York, and University of New South Wales.
- The UGC also issued 10 Letters of Intent to foreign higher educational institutions from the United Kingdom, United States, Australia, and Italy.
- The initiative supported the internationalisation goals of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and aimed to make global education more affordable within India.

Static GK

- The University Grants Commission (UGC) is a statutory body established under the University Grants Commission Act, 1956.
- Foreign university campuses in India are regulated under the UGC (Setting Up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations, 2023.

Haldia Seaport Was Designated as an Immigration Post



- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) designated Haldia Seaport in West Bengal as an immigration post in June 2026.
- Haldia became India's 41st seaport immigration post, enabling immigration clearance for international passengers and crew.
- The Haldia Dock Complex, located in Purba Medinipur district, was built in 1968 and started international operations in 1977.
- The port was developed to reduce traffic pressure on Kolkata Port and serves as an important riverine port on the Hooghly estuary.

Static GK

- Immigration posts in India function under the Immigration Act, 1983 and are administered by the Bureau of Immigration under the MHA.
- Dahej, Sikka, and Tuna Tekra in Gujarat were designated as immigration posts in May 2026.

Centre Revised FCRA Rules for NGOs



- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs amended the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 2011 through a gazette notification issued on 22 June 2026.
- Applicants seeking FCRA registration or renewal must now select their objectives and operational

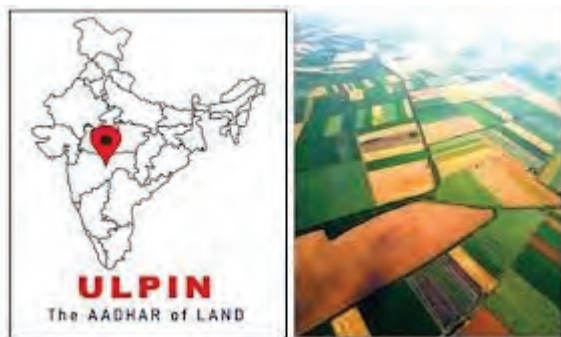
areas from a predefined list and specify the States/ Union Territories where they will operate.

- Applicants must disclose details of their social media accounts during the registration or renewal process.
- Organisations receiving foreign funds through intermediary remittance channels or Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) must identify the ultimate donor as the original source of the contribution.
- The revised rules introduced an additional fee of ₹300 for each extra State or purpose included in an application.
- Associations having foreign nationals (except Persons of Indian Origin) as key office-bearers or functionaries generally became ineligible for FCRA registration or prior approval, unless specifically exempted by the government.
- To retain or renew FCRA registration, an organisation must spend at least ₹10 lakh of foreign contribution on its declared activities during the previous two financial years.
- Organisations registered before 2026 received one year to inform the government about the specific purposes and States they wished to retain on their registration certificates.
- The definition of “key functionary” was expanded to include company directors, partners, trustees, the Karta of a Hindu Undivided Family (HUF), and other persons controlling the management of an association.

Static GK

- The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 (FCRA) regulates the receipt, utilisation, and transfer of foreign contributions in India.
- The FCRA is administered by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Bhu-Aadhaar for Land Records



- The Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN), also known as Bhu-Aadhaar, was introduced as a 14-digit alphanumeric code to provide every land parcel with a unique digital identity.
- More than 36 crore land parcels across 29 States and Union Territories received ULPINs by November 2025 under India's land records modernisation programme.
- ULPIN is a georeferenced identifier that links land records with geographical coordinates, helping improve accuracy, transparency, and digital record management.
- Bhu-Aadhaar forms part of the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP), a Central Sector Scheme launched in 2016.
- The Ministry of Finance extended DILRMP up to 2025–26 with a total outlay of ₹875 crore.
- Delhi announced the issuance of ULPINs for all land parcels, while Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh also expanded implementation using drone surveys and geospatial mapping technologies.

Static GK

- Land is a State Subject under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
- Survey of India is a key agency for land mapping and geospatial surveys.

India's First Private Gold Mine Began Commercial Operations



- The Jonnagiri Gold Mine located in Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh, began commercial operations on 24 June 2026.
- Operated by Geomysore Services India Pvt Ltd, it became India's only operational private-sector primary gold mine since Independence.
- The project covers nearly 598 hectares and involved an investment of around ₹405 crore.

- Trial production started in May 2026, while full commercial operations commenced in June 2026.
 - Gold production is estimated at around 400 kg during 2026–27, with annual output expected to increase to 1,000 kg and eventually 2 tonnes after expansion.
 - The project is expected to create about 700 direct jobs, with more than 80% of employees coming from local communities.
- The Andhra Pradesh Government is expected to receive a 4% royalty on gold production.
 - Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated the commercial operations and laid the foundation stone for the second unit of the project.

Chapter 2

International Affairs

Kevin Warsh Took Charge as the New Federal Reserve Chair



- Kevin Warsh was sworn in as the 17th Chair of the Federal Reserve on 22 May 2026, succeeding Jerome Powell after the completion of his second term.
- Warsh pledged to lead a reform-oriented Federal Reserve focused on controlling inflation, strengthening economic stability and maintaining institutional credibility.
- He previously served as a Federal Reserve Governor from 2006 to 2011 and played an important role during the Global Financial Crisis of 2008.
- Warsh is known for his hawkish stance on inflation and assumed office amid rising inflation, high fuel prices and geopolitical uncertainty linked to the Iran conflict.

Static GK

- The Federal Reserve was established in 1913 and serves as the central banking system of the United States.
- Its headquarters is the Eccles Building in Washington, D.C..

Malaysia Enforced Social Media Ban for Under-16 Users

- Malaysia began enforcing a rule from 1 June 2026 that barred children below 16 years from owning social media accounts on major digital platforms.
- The regulation required platforms with at least 8 million users in Malaysia to implement age-verification systems during account registration.



- Users below 16 years were required to be identified through official documents such as identity cards or passports for verification.
- The rule covered major platforms including Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube, with non-compliant companies facing penalties of up to 10 million Malaysian ringgit.
- The measure was implemented under the Online Safety Act 2025 to strengthen child protection and address online risks such as cyberbullying, scams, and child exploitation.
- A grace period was provided for platforms to complete age-verification systems, while parents faced no penalties if children bypassed the restrictions.

Static GK

- Malaysia is a federal constitutional monarchy in Southeast Asia.
- The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) is the country's communications and multimedia regulator.
- The Online Safety Act 2025 came into force on 1 January 2026.
- Cyberbullying, financial scams, and child sexual abuse are major concerns addressed by online safety regulations.

India Signed BrahMos Missile Deal with Vietnam

- India signed a BrahMos missile export deal with Vietnam, while negotiations with Indonesia reached

the final stage, boosting India's defence exports and strategic presence in ASEAN.



- Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh announced the development during the Shangri-La Dialogue held in Singapore.
- The Vietnam agreement strengthened defence cooperation between India and Vietnam and reflected growing security collaboration in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Indonesia moved closer to becoming another ASEAN nation to acquire the BrahMos missile system, with discussions nearing completion.
- The Philippines remained the first foreign buyer of BrahMos after signing a \$375 million deal in 2022.

Static GK

- BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile jointly developed by India and Russia.
- The missile can be launched from land, sea, and air platforms and is known for its high speed, precision, and long-range strike capability.
- BrahMos Aerospace is the joint venture responsible for developing the missile system.

Khalilur Rahman Was Elected President of the 81st UN General Assembly Session



- Khalilur Rahman was elected President of the 81st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) after defeating Cyprus candidate Andreas Kakouris.

- He secured 99 votes against 91 votes, with a total of 190 votes cast, and will assume office on 8 September 2026.
- The presidency follows the UN regional rotation system, under which the 81st session belongs to the Asia-Pacific Group.
- His priorities include peace and security, SDGs acceleration, climate action, human rights promotion, governance of emerging technologies, and UN reforms.
- The session is expected to focus on major global issues, including conflicts, climate change, sustainable development goals, and UN institutional reforms.
- The theme of the 81st UNGA session is "Restoring Trust, Managing Transformation: A United Nations that Delivers for All."
- The presidency coincides with the process of selecting the next UN Secretary-General after the term of António Guterres ends in 2026.

Static GK

- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.
- The President of the UNGA is elected annually and presides over the sessions of the General Assembly.
- The UN headquarters is located in New York City.

UN General Assembly Elected Five New Non-Permanent Members to UNSC



- The United Nations General Assembly elected Austria, Kyrgyzstan, Portugal, Trinidad and Tobago, and Zimbabwe as non-permanent members of the UN Security Council for the 2027–2028 term.
- Their two-year term will begin on 1 January 2027, replacing outgoing members at the end of 2026.
- The elections were held at the UN Headquarters in New York City, where member states voted to fill five non-permanent seats.

- Kyrgyzstan won its first-ever Security Council seat after defeating the Philippines with a strong majority in the Asia-Pacific group.
- Portugal and Austria secured seats from the Western European and Others Group, while Zimbabwe and Trinidad and Tobago represented Africa and Latin America respectively.
- The UN Security Council is responsible for maintaining international peace and security through sanctions, peacekeeping missions, and conflict resolution.

Static GK

- The UN Security Council has 15 members, including 5 permanent members (P5): United States, United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China.
- The P5 members hold veto power over substantive resolutions.
- Non-permanent members are elected for two-year terms by the UN General Assembly.

PM Modi Received Slovakia's Order of the White Double Cross



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Slovakia in June 2026 during the second leg of a three-nation European tour.
- The visit marked the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Slovakia since its independence in 1993.
- He received the Order of the White Double Cross (First Class), Slovakia's highest state decoration, in Bratislava.
- PM Modi held talks with Peter Pellegrini and Robert Fico in Bratislava.
- India and Slovakia discussed cooperation in trade, investment, innovation, automobile manufacturing, railway development, and defence.
- The visit followed recent high-level exchanges, including the visit of President Droupadi Murmu to Slovakia in April 2025.

Static GK

- Bratislava is the capital and largest city of Slovakia.
- Slovakia is a landlocked country in Central Europe.
- Slovakia became independent in 1993 after the dissolution of Czechoslovakia.

Han Seong-sook Was Nominated as South Korea's Next Prime Minister



- President Lee Jae-myung nominated Han Seong-sook as South Korea's next Prime Minister on 7 June 2026.
- Han Seong-sook currently serves as the Minister for SMEs and Startups and is known for promoting innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Her nomination requires approval from the 300-member National Assembly before she can assume office.
- If confirmed, she will become South Korea's second female Prime Minister and the first woman to hold the post in nearly two decades.
- Before entering politics, she served as CEO of Naver.

Static GK

- Seoul is the capital of South Korea.
- South Korea has a unicameral National Assembly with 300 members.

Elon Musk Became the World's First Trillionaire



- Elon Musk became the world's first trillionaire on paper in June 2026 following the IPO of SpaceX.
- SpaceX raised USD 75 billion, making it the largest IPO in history, and debuted with a valuation of about USD 1.77 trillion.
- The company was listed on the Nasdaq under the ticker symbol SPCX.
- Strong investor demand pushed SpaceX's market capitalization above USD 2 trillion after listing.
- Musk's wealth exceeded USD 1 trillion due to his holdings in SpaceX and other ventures.
- SpaceX operates in reusable rockets, Starlink satellite internet, space transportation, and AI infrastructure.

Static GK

- SpaceX was founded in 2002 by Elon Musk.
- The New York Stock Exchange is the world's largest stock exchange by market capitalization.

Uzbekistan Became the First Central Asian Member of the New Development Bank



- Uzbekistan officially became the 10th member and the first Central Asian shareholder of the New Development Bank (NDB) on 5 June 2026 after completing all accession procedures.
- The accession marked a significant expansion of the BRICS-backed multilateral development bank.
- President Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed the law approving Uzbekistan's accession to the NDB on 21 May 2026.
- Since its establishment, the NDB has approved 139 projects worth nearly US\$43 billion across sectors such as transport, renewable energy, water management, urban development, and social infrastructure.

Static GK

- The New Development Bank (NDB) was established by the BRICS countries—Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

- The idea of establishing the NDB was proposed during the BRICS Summit 2012 in New Delhi, and the agreement was signed at the BRICS Summit 2014 in Fortaleza.
- The NDB started operations on 21 July 2015 and is headquartered in Shanghai.
- Membership of the NDB is open to all members of the United Nations.
- As of June 2026, the NDB's members were Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Algeria, and Uzbekistan.

Jonathan Became the World's Oldest Known Land Animal



- Jonathan, a Seychelles giant tortoise living on Saint Helena, was officially recognized by Guinness World Records as the world's oldest known living land animal and the oldest recorded turtle/tortoise.
- Jonathan's age was estimated at 194 years, with his birth traced to around 1832.
- He spent his life in Saint Helena, a British Overseas Territory located in the South Atlantic Ocean.
- Jonathan was born during the reign of William IV of the United Kingdom.

IAEA Signalled Inspections of Iran's Nuclear Sites



- The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) indicated on 24 June 2026 that inspections of Iranian nuclear facilities could resume under a proposed agreement between the United States and Iran.
- IAEA Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi stated that inspections would be part of efforts to monitor Iran's nuclear programme following recent tensions.
- The inspections are expected to focus on major Iranian nuclear facilities at Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan.
- According to earlier IAEA reports, Iran possessed more than 400 kg of uranium enriched to 60% purity, which is much higher than levels normally used for civilian nuclear power generation.
- The proposed arrangement includes downblending, a process that reduces the enrichment level of uranium stockpiles.

Static GK

- The IAEA was established in 1957 and is headquartered in Vienna.
- IAEA safeguards are based on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The European Union Joined the Pax Silica Initiative



- The European Union agreed to join Pax Silica, a U.S.-led initiative focused on AI supply chains, semiconductor security, and technology cooperation.
- The initiative was launched by the United States in December 2025, and the EU formally approved its accession on 3 June 2026.
- Pax Silica aims to strengthen cooperation in areas such as artificial intelligence, semiconductors, critical minerals, energy resources, computing infrastructure, and export controls.
- The European Commission secured assurances that the initiative would remain a non-binding political

framework and would not affect the EU's regulatory independence.

- Existing members included India, Japan, South Korea, Australia, the United Kingdom, Greece, Finland, Sweden, Germany, and the Netherlands.
- Jacob Helberg, U.S. Under Secretary of State, is regarded as the chief architect of the initiative.

Static GK

- The first Pax Silica AI Manufacturing Hub was launched in May 2026 in the Luzon Economic Security Zone.
- Pax Silica focuses on building secure and resilient global supply chains for advanced AI technologies.

Keir Starmer Resigned as UK Prime Minister



- Keir Starmer resigned as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and leader of the Labour Party in June 2026.
- He informed King Charles III of his decision and agreed to continue as caretaker Prime Minister until a new Labour leader is elected.
- Starmer led the Labour Party to a historic general election victory in 2024, ending 14 years of Conservative rule in the UK.
- His government initially received strong public support for promises of economic recovery, public service reform, and political stability.
- Growing economic challenges, concerns over public services, and internal divisions within the Labour Party weakened his political position.
- Disagreements within Labour over policy priorities, spending plans, and electoral strategy increased pressure on his leadership.
- Labour will hold a leadership contest to choose Starmer's successor, who is expected to become the next Prime Minister if the party retains its parliamentary majority.

SpaceX Became the World's Fifth Most Valuable Company



- On 16 June 2026, SpaceX became the world's fifth most valuable company, surpassing Amazon in valuation.
- SpaceX's valuation reached approximately USD 415 billion following a share sale and tender offer.
- The company ranked behind Microsoft, NVIDIA, Apple, and Alphabet in overall corporate valuation.
- Founded in 2002 by Elon Musk, SpaceX revolutionized the commercial space industry through reusable rocket technology and cost-effective launch services.
- Key revenue sources include the Falcon 9 launch programme, Starship development, government contracts, and the Starlink service.

Static GK

- SpaceX Headquarters: Hawthorne
- First reusable orbital-class rocket to successfully land: Falcon 9 (2015)
- Starlink is the world's largest satellite constellation.

Chapter 3

State Affairs

Andhra Pradesh Launched the 'Farm to Home' Model for Direct Agri Marketing



- Andhra Pradesh directed officials to implement the “Farm to Home” model to supply fresh agricultural produce directly from farmers to consumers without middlemen.
- The initiative aims to provide better prices to farmers while ensuring affordable access to fresh vegetables, fruits and other farm products for consumers.
- The model focuses on reducing post-harvest losses, transportation costs and exploitation by intermediaries in agricultural markets.
- It also promotes chemical-free and quality farm produce while improving farmers’ income through direct market access.

Static GK

- The capital of Andhra Pradesh is Amaravati.
- S. Abdul Nazeer is the Governor of Andhra Pradesh.
- Rythu Bazaar was first introduced in undivided Andhra Pradesh in 1999.

Sikkim Became India's Fifth Fully Literate State

- Sikkim was declared India's fifth fully literate state after achieving a literacy rate above the benchmark set under the ULLAS–Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram.
- The declaration followed a statewide assessment confirming near-universal adult literacy through education outreach and adult learning initiatives.



- The achievement resulted from coordinated efforts of the state education department, local bodies and community volunteers under literacy missions.
- Key focus areas included adult literacy classes, foundational reading, writing and numeracy skills, along with digital literacy training for rural populations.
- Sikkim joined Goa, Tripura, Mizoram and Kerala among India's fully literate states.
- The literacy mission emphasized inclusive education for women, tribal communities and remote Himalayan regions and aligned with the vision of National Education Policy 2020.

Static GK

- Sikkim became India's 22nd state in 1975.
- The capital of Sikkim is Gangtok.
- The ULLAS scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Education.
- Kerala became India's first fully literate state in 1991.

West Bengal Launched the Annapurna Yojana for Women Empowerment



- West Bengal launched the Annapurna Yojana from 1 June 2026 to provide direct cash assistance to eligible women and strengthen household financial security.
- The scheme aims to promote women empowerment through regular income support for economically weaker families in both rural and urban areas.
- Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced the initiative as part of the state's expanded social protection framework.
- The programme will be implemented through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system to ensure transparency, reduce leakages and enable faster fund delivery.
- Beneficiaries are expected to include low-income households, self-help group members and vulnerable women without stable sources of income.

Static GK

- The capital of West Bengal is Kolkata.
- C. V. Ananda Bose is the Governor of West Bengal.
- The Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system was launched in India in 2013.
- Self Help Groups (SHGs) are promoted under DAY-NRLM for women empowerment.
- West Bengal is one of India's leading tea-producing states and is famous for Darjeeling Tea.

Kerala Launched Project Zero Against Corruption



- Kerala launched Project Zero on 26 May 2026 as a state-wide anti-corruption initiative targeting bribery, cyber crimes and corruption in government service delivery.
- The programme aims to strengthen vigilance measures, encourage public participation and use technology to improve anti-corruption investigations and governance.
- Citizens were encouraged to report corruption directly to the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau through a confidential complaint mechanism.

- The initiative provides protection for whistleblowers and covers both physical bribery and digital graft carried out through online systems and transactions.
- Project Zero also seeks to update the Vigilance Manual and improve administrative oversight, transparency and case disposal processes.
- The programme was launched by Ramesh Chennithala.

Static GK

- The Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau is the specialised agency in Kerala for vigilance and corruption-related complaints.
- Bribery is a form of corruption involving the offering, giving, receiving or soliciting of an undue advantage.
- Cyber crimes are offences committed using computers, networks or digital devices.
- Vigilance manuals are official documents that guide procedures in anti-corruption and disciplinary matters.

Assam Assembly Passed the Uniform Civil Code Bill



- The Assam Legislative Assembly passed the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill by voice vote on 27 May 2026 after it was introduced on 25 May 2026.
- The Bill was moved by Atul Bora on behalf of Himanta Biswa Sarma.
- The legislation applies to marriage, divorce, succession and live-in relationships irrespective of religion and bans polygamy in the state.
- It mandates registration of marriages, divorces and live-in relationships, with live-in relationships requiring registration within one month.
- The Bill excludes Scheduled Tribes residing in Assam and provides a savings clause for existing polygamous marriages solemnised before its enforcement.

- The legislation proposes to repeal the Assam Compulsory Registration of Muslim Marriages and Divorces Act, 2024.
- Assam became the third state after Uttarakhand and Gujarat to pass a UCC Bill and the first state in Northeast India to do so.

Static GK

- Article 44 of the Constitution of India mentions the Uniform Civil Code under the Directive Principles of State Policy.
- Marriage, divorce, succession and live-in relationships are subjects of civil law in India.
- Polygamy refers to a marriage system in which a person has more than one spouse at the same time.

DK Shivakumar Took Oath as Karnataka's 18th Chief Minister



- D. K. Shivakumar took oath as the 18th Chief Minister of Karnataka on 3 June 2026, completing the Congress party's power-sharing arrangement in the state.
- He succeeded Siddaramaiah under the leadership transition formula adopted by the Congress government.
- G. Parameshwara took oath as the Deputy Chief Minister, while 13 ministers were inducted into the new state cabinet.
- The oath of office and secrecy was administered by Thaawarchand Gehlot at Lok Bhavan, Bengaluru.
- After stepping down as Chief Minister, Siddaramaiah became a member of the Congress Working Committee, the highest decision-making body of the Congress party.

Mission Senehjori Was Launched to Promote Assam's Muga Silk

- Jyotiraditya M. Scindia launched Mission Senehjori, a ₹396–411 crore initiative to transform Assam's Muga silk into a globally recognized luxury textile brand.



- The mission was launched by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region in collaboration with the Government of Assam, the Central Silk Board, and the Ministry of Textiles.
- The programme aims to strengthen the entire Muga silk value chain through improved cultivation, reeling infrastructure, branding, GI authentication, digital traceability, export promotion, and tourism development.
- The mission covers major Muga-producing districts of Assam and seeks to improve livelihoods for more than 2.6 lakh families associated with the silk sector.
- Key targets by 2028 include the establishment of modern reeling units, formation of 30 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), regeneration of 5,000 hectares of host plants, and expansion of annual Muga silk exports.
- The initiative also proposes a Muga Silk Trail, a Silk Tourism Park, and annual Muga Utsav festivals to promote silk tourism and Assam's cultural heritage.

Static GK

- Muga silk is produced exclusively in Assam and is known for its natural golden colour and exceptional durability.
- Muga silk is India's first GI-tagged silk product.
- Assam produces around 90% of the world's Muga silk.

West Bengal Joined Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY Scheme 2026



- West Bengal joined the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) in 2026 through an MoU with the National Health Authority (NHA).
- West Bengal became the 36th State/UT to implement Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY in 2026, expanding nationwide health coverage.
- The state implemented the scheme through a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Health Authority (NHA).
- The scheme provided health cover of up to ₹5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary hospitalisation.
- The scheme enabled cashless treatment at empanelled public and private hospitals across India.
- The scheme ensured nationwide portability of healthcare benefits for beneficiaries, including migrant populations.
- The scheme reduced out-of-pocket expenditure on major medical treatments and improved access to quality healthcare services.

Static GK

- Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) launched in 2018.
- It was implemented by the National Health Authority under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- It is the world's largest publicly funded health assurance scheme.

Uttar Pradesh Launched 'Project Ganga' to Expand Rural Internet Connectivity



- Uttar Pradesh launched Project Ganga to provide high-speed internet connectivity to approximately 20 lakh rural families and bridge the digital divide.
- The project was launched by Yogi Adityanath in Lucknow.

- The initiative aims to create 8,000–10,000 Digital Service Providers (DSPs) and generate over one lakh direct and indirect jobs.
- Project Ganga will promote digital education, telemedicine, e-governance, and rural entrepreneurship through last-mile internet connectivity.
- The first phase will cover 21 districts of Uttar Pradesh, with gradual expansion to other regions.
- Hinduja Group, through OneOTT Entertainment Limited, will serve as the project's knowledge partner and implementation enabler.
- Eligible youth can access interest-free loans up to ₹5 lakh under the CM Yuva Scheme to establish Digital Service Provider businesses.
- The project targets strong gender inclusion, with around 50% of beneficiaries expected to be women.

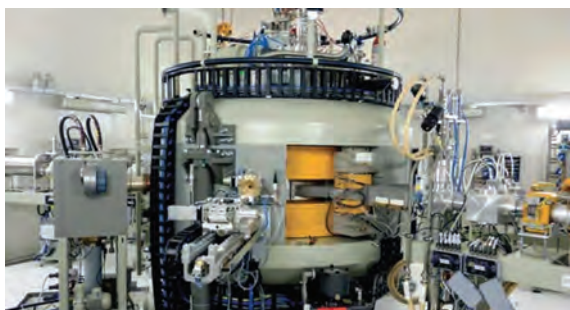
Odisha Announced Free Education from KG to PG



- Odisha announced a policy on 12 June 2026 to provide free education from Kindergarten to Postgraduate level in all government educational institutions.
- The scheme extended free education beyond Class 10 to cover higher secondary, undergraduate, and postgraduate studies.
- The proposed policy is expected to benefit more than 10 lakh students across the state.
- The scheme will apply only to government institutions and not to private educational institutions.
- Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi announced the initiative during a review of the government's two-year tenure.
- The state also planned to recruit 45,000 additional teachers over the next three years and establish four new universities.
- Odisha continued implementing the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and planned to set

up Godabarish Mishra Adarsha Primary Schools in every panchayat.

Maharashtra Approved High-Energy Medical Cyclotron Project



- The Maharashtra Cabinet approved the High-Energy Medical Cyclotron Project (HEMCP) in Nagpur with an estimated investment of ₹300 crore.
- The project was developed as a Radiopharmaceutical Innovation Hub to strengthen cancer diagnosis and treatment facilities in Central India.
- The facility was planned to produce radioisotopes locally, reducing dependence on major centres such as Mumbai and Hyderabad.
- The project was funded jointly by the Medical Education Department and the Industry Department, with ₹150 crore contributed by each department.
- Nagpur was selected due to its strategic central location, enabling services within an approximate 500-km radius across parts of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh.
- A 30-hectare site at Bhansoli (Kinhli), Hingna Taluka, was allotted for the project.
- The facility was expected to support institutions such as Government Medical College (GMC), National Cancer Institute (NCI), and AIIMS Nagpur.
- The project was implemented through Mahacare using a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) under the Companies Act, 2013.
- Until the SPV was formed, a steering committee headed by Shrikar Pardeshi, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, was assigned to oversee implementation.

Static GK

- A cyclotron is a type of particle accelerator used to produce radioactive isotopes for PET scans, nuclear medicine, medical research, and targeted cancer therapy.
- Radioisotopes have a short half-life, making local production important for timely medical use.

Rare Four-Sided Buddha Parinirvana Pillar Discovered in Adilabad



- A rare four-sided Buddha Parinirvana Pillar was discovered in Adilabad district of Telangana, drawing significant attention from archaeologists and historians.
- The artifact is considered important because depictions of Buddha's Parinirvana—the state of final liberation attained after death—are relatively uncommon in pillar form, particularly on all four sides.
- The discovery provides valuable insights into the spread of Buddhism, regional artistic traditions, and ancient cultural exchanges in the Deccan region.
- Archaeological findings such as this contribute to understanding India's rich religious and cultural heritage.
- The pillar may help researchers trace historical trade routes, monastic networks, and artistic influences that shaped Buddhist traditions across the Indian subcontinent.

Static GK

- Parinirvana refers to Buddha's final liberation after death.
- Gautama Buddha attained enlightenment at Bodhi Gaya.

- Buddhism originated in ancient India.
- Telangana was formed on 2 June 2014.

Tripura's Traditional 'Sarinda' Received Geographical Indication (GI) Tag



- In June 2026, Tripura's traditional tribal musical instrument 'Sarinda' was granted the Geographical Indication (GI) Tag, recognizing its unique cultural heritage and craftsmanship associated with the state.
- The Sarinda is a traditional stringed folk instrument widely used by indigenous communities of Tripura, particularly in folk music, storytelling, and cultural performances.

- The GI registration was granted under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999, providing legal protection against unauthorized use and imitation of the instrument.
- The recognition is expected to boost the livelihoods of local artisans, preserve indigenous musical traditions, promote cultural tourism, and enhance market opportunities for traditional handicrafts.
- With this addition, Tripura continues to expand its portfolio of GI-tagged products, strengthening the preservation and promotion of the state's rich tribal heritage and traditional knowledge systems.

Static GK

- GI Registry of India: Headquarters – Chennai; functions under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act: Enacted in 1999; came into force in 2003.
- Capital of Tripura: Agartala.
- First GI-tagged product of India: Darjeeling Tea (registered in 2004–05).

Chapter 4

Business and Economy

RBI Tightened Governance Norms for Urban Co-operative Banks



- The Reserve Bank of India issued the RBI Urban Co-operative Banks Governance Amendment Directions, 2026 to strengthen governance standards and prevent misuse of board tenure rules in Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs).
- The amendment followed changes under the Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025, which increased the maximum continuous tenure of UCB directors from 8 years to 10 years.
- RBI observed that some directors briefly resigned and re-entered boards to bypass tenure limits, prompting the introduction of stricter rules.
- The new directions introduced a mandatory 3-year cooling-off period after completing 10 years of continuous service on the same UCB board.
- The reforms aimed to enhance transparency, accountability, professionalism and risk governance in the cooperative banking sector.

Static GK

- Urban Co-operative Banks are regulated under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- UCBs operate under dual regulation by the Reserve Bank of India and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies (RCS).

Taiwan Overtook India to Become the World's 5th Largest Stock Market

- Taiwan surpassed India in total stock market capitalization in May 2026, becoming the world's fifth-largest equity market.



- According to Bloomberg data, Taiwan's market capitalization reached nearly \$4.95 trillion, slightly ahead of India's \$4.92 trillion.
- Taiwan ranked behind the United States, China, Japan and Hong Kong in global stock market value.
- The rise was driven mainly by the strong rally in Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), the world's largest contract chipmaker.
- TSMC benefited from growing global demand for artificial intelligence chips and advanced semiconductor technologies.
- The company accounts for around 42% of Taiwan's benchmark stock index, reflecting the market's heavy concentration in the technology sector.

Static GK

- The largest stock exchange in Taiwan is the Taiwan Stock Exchange (TWSE), located in Taipei.
- Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC) was founded in 1987 and is headquartered in Hsinchu.
- India's two major stock exchanges are the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and the National Stock Exchange (NSE).
- The capital of Taiwan is Taipei, and its currency is the New Taiwan Dollar (TWD).

Supreme Court Upheld 28% GST on Online Gaming

- The Supreme Court of India upheld the retrospective levy of 28% GST on online gaming companies on 27 May 2026.



- A bench comprising Justice J.B. Pardiwala and Justice R. Mahadevan ruled that online gaming platforms are taxable actionable claims when a monetary stake is placed.
- The Court held that the August 2023 amendments introducing the 28% GST on online money gaming were clarificatory and applied retrospectively.
- It rejected the distinction between games of skill and games of chance for GST purposes when real-money stakes are involved.
- The judgment stated that online gaming, casinos and turf clubs can fall within betting and gambling for taxation under GST law.
- The Court set aside the Karnataka High Court ruling in favour of Gameskraft Technologies and reinstated a GST show-cause notice of about ₹21,000 crore against the company.
- The ruling affects online gaming firms, casinos and turf clubs, with potential tax exposure estimated at nearly ₹1.5 trillion.

Static GK

- Article 246A empowers Parliament and State Legislatures to make laws on GST.
- GST came into force in India on 1 July 2017.
- Actionable claims are recognised under the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.
- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is an indirect tax levied on the supply of goods and services in India.

Meesho and BSE Launched Project Shikhar for MSMEs



- Meesho and BSE launched Project Shikhar to help MSMEs and high-performing e-commerce sellers access capital markets and prepare for public listing.
- The initiative was launched through an MoU to facilitate the listing of eligible businesses on the BSE SME Platform.
- Project Shikhar aims to support the transition of promising small businesses from privately owned enterprises to publicly listed companies.
- The programme will provide guidance on entity restructuring, compliance, regulatory requirements, corporate governance, and listing procedures.
- The initiative seeks to improve MSMEs' access to long-term growth capital and simplify the process of entering India's capital markets.

Static GK

- MSME stands for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
- The BSE SME Platform was established to help small and medium enterprises raise capital through stock market listings with simplified requirements.
- BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange) is Asia's oldest stock exchange and is headquartered in Mumbai.

India's Seafood Exports Reached a Record High in FY 2025-26



- India recorded its highest-ever seafood exports in FY 2025-26, exporting 19.72 lakh metric tonnes of marine products worth ₹73,890 crore (USD 8.46 billion).
- According to the Marine Products Export Development Authority, strong global demand helped India achieve record export volume and value despite global economic challenges.
- Frozen shrimp remained the largest export item, contributing ₹49,038 crore (USD 5.62 billion) and accounting for 66.5% of total export earnings.
- The United States remained India's largest seafood market by value, while China remained the largest destination by quantity.

- Exports of dried seafood, frozen fish, squid, cuttlefish, surimi, fishmeal, and fish oil also registered notable growth during the year.
- The European Union, Southeast Asia, Japan, and the Middle East continued to be important markets for Indian seafood exports.
- Major export hubs included Visakhapatnam, Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Kochi, Kolkata, and Chennai.

Static GK

- MPEDA (Marine Products Export Development Authority) functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- MPEDA was established in 1972 and is headquartered in Kochi.
- Frozen shrimp is India's largest seafood export product.

Neelkanth Mishra Appointed India's Executive Director at the World Bank



- The Government of India appointed Neelkanth Mishra as India's next Executive Director at the World Bank headquartered in Washington, D.C.
- He will serve a three-year term and represent the South Asian constituency comprising India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka.
- The appointment approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet replaced Parameswaran Iyer, whose tenure was extended for transition purposes.
- Neelkanth Mishra was a leading economist and Chief Economist at Axis Bank before his appointment and brought extensive experience in economic policy and global financial markets.
- He previously worked with Credit Suisse for nearly two decades, where he served as Managing Director and Co-Head of Equity Strategy for Asia-Pacific.

- He also served on key government and regulatory bodies including the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), UIDAI, and TRAI.

Static GK

- The World Bank Group is headquartered in Washington, D.C., United States.
- The World Bank Executive Directors represent member countries and constituencies on the Board that oversees global development financing and policy decisions.
- India is part of a constituency at the World Bank that includes Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka.

India Slipped to Seventh in Global Market Capitalization Rankings

South Korea overtakes India as world's sixth largest equity market

Country	Market value in \$ trillion
1. U.S.	79.1
2. China	65.1
3. Japan	5.9
4. Hong Kong	7.6
5. Taiwan	5.5
6. South Korea	5.0
7. India	4.85

Note: As of 11 Jun, 16:11, June-2, 2026; India data as of last place
Source: BSE, Taiwan Stock Exchange, KRX, Data compiled by iGEG

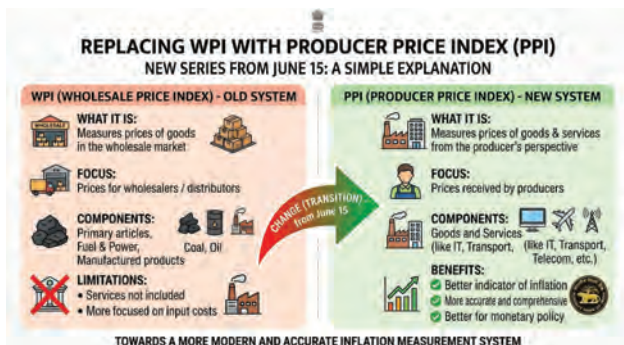
- India slipped to the 7th position globally in stock market capitalization after being overtaken by South Korea.
- The combined market value of South Korean listed companies crossed \$5 trillion, surpassing India's market capitalization of about \$4.85 trillion.
- South Korea's rise was driven by the AI-led semiconductor boom, which benefited major technology companies such as Samsung Electronics and SK Hynix.
- India's decline in ranking was attributed to persistent foreign portfolio investor outflows, weak corporate earnings growth, and limited exposure to AI-focused companies.
- Foreign investors withdrew more than \$26 billion from Indian equities in 2026, affecting market valuations and investor sentiment.

Static GK

- The world's largest stock market is the United States, with a market capitalization exceeding \$79 trillion.
- India's major stock exchanges are the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and the BSE.

- MSCI is a leading provider of global stock market indices used by investors worldwide.

Govt to Replace WPI with Producer Price Index; New Series from June 15



- The Government of India will introduce a Producer Price Index (PPI) and a revised Wholesale Price Index (WPI) series from 15 June 2026, marking a major reform in inflation measurement.
- The base year for WPI has been updated from 2011-12 to 2022-23 to better reflect the current structure of the economy.
- PPI will gradually replace WPI over the next five years, after which WPI is expected to be discontinued.
- Unlike WPI, the new PPI will cover both goods and services, providing a more comprehensive measure of producer-level inflation.
- The PPI framework will include Output PPI, Input PPI, and Services PPI, helping track price changes across different stages of production.
- Initially, Services PPI will cover seven sectors: banking, insurance, securities transactions, pension fund management, railways, air passenger transport, and telecom.
- The reform aligns India's statistical system with international best practices and recommendations of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Static GK

- WPI (Wholesale Price Index) measures changes in prices of goods at the wholesale level and is compiled by the Office of Economic Adviser, DPIIT.
- PPI (Producer Price Index) measures prices received by producers and includes both goods and services, making it a broader inflation indicator.
- CPI (Consumer Price Index) is the inflation measure used by the Reserve Bank of India for monetary policy decisions.

KABIL Secured Five Lithium Blocks in Argentina



- Khanij Bidesh India Limited secured five lithium blocks in Catamarca Province for deep exploration of brine lithium.
- The project covers about 15,703 hectares within the Lithium Triangle, one of the world's richest lithium-bearing regions.
- KABIL received environmental clearance from Argentina in April 2026 for drilling and exploration activities.
- India plans to invest around ₹200 crore in the project and establish a local office in Catamarca.
- KABIL is a joint venture of NALCO, Hindustan Copper Limited, and Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited.

Static GK

- KABIL was established in 2019 under the Ministry of Mines.
- The Lithium Triangle consists of Argentina, Chile, and Bolivia.

Net Direct Tax Collections Rose 14.6% in FY27



- India's net direct tax collections rose by 14.64% year-on-year to ₹5.21 trillion as of 17 June 2026, compared to ₹4.5 trillion during the corresponding period of FY26.

- Gross direct tax collections increased by 12.46% to ₹6.1 trillion, up from ₹5.4 trillion in the same period of the previous financial year.
- The government issued tax refunds worth ₹89,025.71 crore, registering a marginal increase of 1.19% over the previous year.
- The growth in tax collections was driven by strong corporate profitability, higher advance tax payments, improved tax compliance, continued formalisation of the economy, and stable income growth.

Static GK

- Net direct tax collections represent total direct tax revenue after deducting refunds issued to taxpayers.
- Direct taxes include corporate tax and non-corporate taxes paid by individuals, HUFs, partnership firms, AOPs, BOIs, local authorities, and other entities.
- The Income Tax Department functions under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

RBI Revised Kisan Credit Card Norms



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued the final revised Kisan Credit Card (KCC) framework on 19 June 2026, and the new norms will come into effect from 1 January 2027.
- The revised framework standardised crop seasons at 12 months for short-duration crops and 18 months for long-duration crops to align with banks' Income Recognition and Asset Classification (IRAC) norms.
- Banks continued to waive collateral security and margin requirements for agricultural and allied activity loans up to ₹2 lakh per borrower.
- The RBI allowed the voluntary pledging of gold and silver as collateral for agricultural loans up to ₹2 lakh without treating it as a violation of collateral-free lending guidelines.
- For KCC loans above ₹2 lakh, collateral and margin requirements will be determined by banks according to their credit policies and RBI guidelines.
- Marginal farmers holding up to one hectare of land became eligible for a flexible credit limit ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹50,000, based on bank assessment.

- KCC loans sanctioned before 1 January 2027 will continue under the existing guidelines until maturity or renewal.

Static GK

- The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme provides short-term institutional credit for crop production, post-harvest expenses, and allied agricultural activities.
- IRAC (Income Recognition and Asset Classification) norms are used by banks to classify loan assets as standard, sub-standard, doubtful, or loss assets.
- In India, marginal farmers are generally defined as farmers holding up to one hectare of cultivable land.

CPCL Became India's 28th Navratna CPSE



- Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL) was upgraded to Navratna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) status, becoming India's 28th Navratna company.
- CPCL operates under the administrative control of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and is engaged in petroleum refining and related activities.
- Navratna status provides greater financial and operational autonomy, enabling companies to make investments, form joint ventures, and undertake expansion projects with reduced government intervention.
- The classification is granted to high-performing CPSEs based on specific performance criteria.
- The upgrade is expected to strengthen CPCL's competitiveness, improve decision-making flexibility, and support India's energy security objectives.

Static GK

- Maharatna is the highest CPSE category.
- Navratna status was introduced in 1997.
- The Department of Public Enterprises evaluates CPSEs.

Chapter 5

Science and Technology



Scientists Discovered a Fuel-Saving Earth-to-Moon Route



- An international team of scientists discovered a new fuel-efficient route from Earth to the Moon using advanced computational modelling and gravitational dynamics.
- The study was published in the journal *Astrodynamics* and involved researchers from University of São Paulo and University of Coimbra.
- Researchers simulated nearly 30 million Earth-to-Moon trajectories using the Theory of Functional Connections (TFC), a mathematical framework for simplifying orbital calculations.
- The newly identified route reduced fuel consumption by about 58.8 metres per second compared to existing low-cost lunar transfer paths.
- The route used a hidden gravitational pathway near the L1 Lagrange Point instead of approaching the Moon from the Earth-facing side.
- The discovery could lower future lunar mission costs, increase payload capacity and improve deep-space mission planning for agencies such as NASA and private space companies.

Static GK

- The L1 Lagrange Point is one of five equilibrium points in a two-body gravitational system.
- The Artemis programme aims to return humans to the Moon and establish long-term lunar exploration infrastructure.

India Emerged as Asia-Pacific's Second Largest Data Centre Hub



- India ranked second in the Asia-Pacific region in operational data centre capacity, with nearly 1.6 GW of live capacity as of 27 May 2026.
- The achievement reflected India's growing role as a hub for cloud computing, artificial intelligence, digital payments, e-commerce and data localisation services.
- Major data centre clusters emerged in Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Pune and Noida due to strong connectivity and rising enterprise demand.
- Industry reports highlighted that increasing internet penetration, 5G expansion, digital governance initiatives and AI adoption are driving investments in hyperscale data centres.
- The sector attracted major investments from companies such as AdaniConneX, Yotta Data Services, CtrlS Datacenters, NTT DATA and ST Telemedia Global Data Centres.

Static GK

- A data centre is a facility used to store, process and manage digital data and computing systems.
- Mumbai is India's largest data centre market.
- The Digital India Programme was launched in 2015.
- 1 Gigawatt (GW) equals 1,000 Megawatts (MW).

Three Chinese Astronauts Returned to Earth After a Record 210-Day Space Mission



- Three Chinese astronauts of the Shenzhou-21 returned safely to Earth on 29 May 2026 after spending 210 days in orbit, marking the longest single-crew mission aboard China's space station.
- The crew comprised Zhang Lu, Wu Fei and Zhang Hongzhang, who completed their mission aboard the Tiangong Space Station.
- The astronauts landed at the Dongfeng landing site in Inner Mongolia and were reported to be in good health.
- The mission began on 31 October 2025 with a launch from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center aboard a Long March-2F rocket.
- During their stay, the crew conducted scientific experiments in microgravity physics, life sciences, aerospace medicine and advanced space technologies.
- The Shenzhou-21 crew was replaced by the Shenzhou-23 team, which arrived at Tiangong on 24 May 2026.

Static GK

- Tiangong Space Station means "Heavenly Palace" and is China's permanently inhabited modular space station.
- The China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) manages China's human spaceflight programme.
- The Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center is located in the Gobi Desert of northwestern China.
- Shenzhou means "Divine Vessel" and is China's crewed spacecraft series.

Indian Scientists Discovered the Ancient 'Loktak Protocluster' of Galaxies

- Researchers from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics discovered a massive ancient galaxy grouping named

the Loktak Protocluster, which formed nearly 12.6 billion years ago in the early universe.



- A protocluster is an early-stage collection of galaxies that gradually evolves into a giant galaxy cluster over billions of years.
- Scientists described the Loktak Protocluster as a "city of galaxies" due to its dense concentration of young, rapidly star-forming galaxies.
- The discovery provides important insights into the formation of cosmic structures shortly after the Big Bang.
- Researchers stated that the protocluster existed when the universe was only about 1.2 billion years old.
- The finding may improve understanding of dark matter distribution, galaxy evolution and large-scale cosmic networks.
- The protocluster was named after Loktak Lake, the largest freshwater lake in Northeast India.

Static GK

- Loktak Lake is famous for its floating islands known as Phumdis.
- The headquarters of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics is located in Bengaluru.
- The universe is estimated to be around 13.8 billion years old.
- AstroSat is India's first dedicated multi-wavelength space observatory launched by Indian Space Research Organisation.

Netrasemi Launched the Indigenous A2000 Edge AI Chip

- Netrasemi launched its flagship A2000 Edge AI System-on-Chip (SoC) after successfully completing the critical silicon bring-up stage in May 2026.
- The A2000 is among India's first domestically designed AI/ML chips for real-time, on-device artificial intelligence processing.

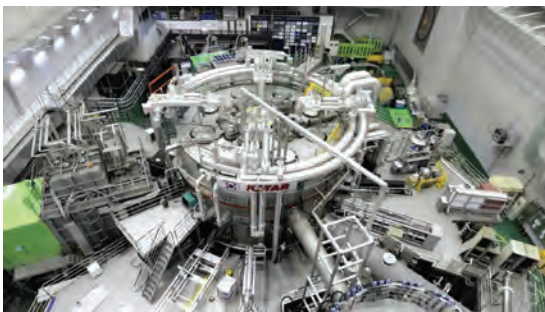


- Fabricated using a 12-nanometre process, the chip is designed for smart cameras, surveillance systems, robotics, drones, intelligent video gateways and industrial automation.
- The chipset integrates Netrasemi's in-house Neural Processing Unit (NPU), Vision Processing Unit (VPU), Image Signal Processor (ISP) and security engines.
- The A2000 enables edge AI computing by processing AI workloads locally without relying on cloud infrastructure.
- Netrasemi is backed by Zoho Corporation and has raised around ₹125 crore from investors, including Unicorn India Ventures.

Static GK

- A System-on-Chip (SoC) integrates multiple computing components onto a single semiconductor chip.
- Edge AI enables data processing directly on devices instead of relying on remote cloud servers.
- TSMC stands for Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), the world's largest contract chip manufacturer.
- Kerala is emerging as a major hub for India's semiconductor and deep-tech startup ecosystem.

KSTAR Achieved a 102-Second High-Confinement Plasma Milestone

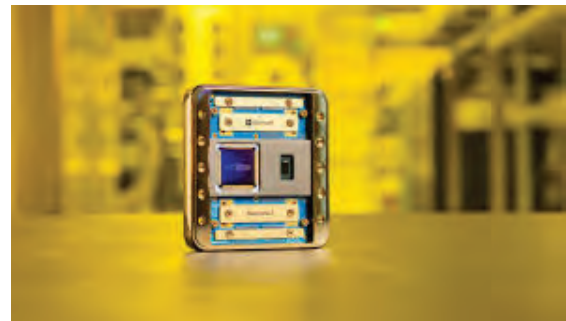


- KSTAR(Korea Superconducting Tokamak Advanced Research) achieved a major fusion research milestone by sustaining high-confinement (H-mode) plasma for 102 seconds during experiments conducted between December 2023 and February 2024.
- The achievement marked a significant improvement in plasma stability, which is essential for developing practical nuclear fusion energy.
- KSTAR was designed to replicate the Sun's energy-generation process by using magnetic confinement of ultra-hot plasma exceeding 100 million°C.
- The experiment focused on improving internal transport barriers and reducing energy loss during long-duration plasma operation.
- The milestone built upon earlier KSTAR records, including 30-second high-temperature plasma operation.
- The research was led by the Korea Institute of Fusion Energy in collaboration with international partners.

Static GK

- KSTAR is located in Daejeon.
- ITER in France is the world's largest international fusion experiment under construction.
- Nuclear fusion is considered a potential clean and virtually limitless source of energy.

Microsoft Unveiled the AI-Designed Majorana 2 Quantum Chip



- Microsoft unveiled Majorana 2, a next-generation quantum computing chip designed with the assistance of artificial intelligence.
- The chip is based on topological qubits, which are expected to be more stable and less error-prone than conventional qubits.
- Majorana 2 uses a new class of materials called topoconductors to create and control Majorana particles for quantum computation.

- AI tools helped researchers discover and optimize material combinations, reducing the time required for quantum hardware development.
- The development supports Microsoft's goal of building quantum systems capable of supporting millions of qubits for solving complex scientific and industrial problems.

Static GK

- Microsoft was founded in 1975 by Bill Gates and Paul Allen.
- Microsoft is headquartered in Redmond.
- A qubit (quantum bit) is the basic unit of quantum information.
- The Majorana particle is named after Ettore Majorana.
- The National Quantum Mission was approved in 2023 with an outlay of ₹6,003.65 crore.

NASA Announced the Artemis III Crew for the 2027 Moon Mission



- NASA announced the four-member Artemis III crew for a major test mission scheduled for 2027 under the Artemis program.
- The prime crew includes Randy Bresnik (Commander), Luca Parmitano (Pilot), Andre Douglas, and Frank Rubio as Mission Specialists, with Bob Hines as the backup crew member.
- The mission will test spacecraft rendezvous, docking operations, crew transfer procedures, navigation systems, and lunar lander integration for future Moon missions.
- The Orion spacecraft will launch aboard the Space Launch System from Kennedy Space Center.
- Artemis III will conduct docking demonstrations with lunar lander pathfinders developed by Blue Origin and SpaceX.
- The mission will mark the first time an astronaut from the European Space Agency (ESA) is assigned to an Artemis mission, with Luca Parmitano serving as pilot.
- NASA plans to use the Artemis program to establish a sustainable human presence on the Moon and prepare for future human missions to Mars.

Static GK

- The Artemis Program aims to return humans to the Moon and support future Mars exploration.
- The first planned mission to the Moon's South Pole is Artemis IV (2028).
- The European Service Module provides propulsion, power, air, and water for the Orion spacecraft.
- Frank Rubio holds the record for the longest single-duration spaceflight by an American astronaut at 371 days.

Amit Shah Launched LPMS 'VINIMAY' for Smart Border Management



- Amit Shah launched the Land Port Management System (LPMS) 'VINIMAY' in New Delhi on 9 June 2026 to modernize border management.
- The digital platform integrates cargo, vehicle, passenger, and inter-agency operations on a single interface for real-time coordination.
- LPMS connects key agencies including CBIC, BSF, DGFT, UIDAI, ICEGATE, ULIP, and motor vehicle systems.
- The system is expected to reduce paperwork by around 90%, cut truck waiting times by 40–60%, and lower gate processing times by 22–35%.
- The platform supports India's Smart Border Strategy by improving security, trade facilitation, surveillance, and cross-border connectivity.
- India currently has 15 operational land ports, and the government plans to develop 11 additional land ports in the next two to three years.
- Land port trade increased from ₹5,000 crore in 2014 to ₹83,000 crore in 2026, reflecting significant growth in cross-border commerce.

Static GK

- The Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) was established in 2010 under the Land Ports Authority of India Act, 2010.
- LPAI functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The headquarters of LPAI is located in New Delhi.
- LPAI is responsible for managing land ports, facilitating border trade, and enhancing cross-border connectivity.

India Tested the Long-Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM)



- The Defence Research and Development Organisation successfully tested the indigenously developed Long-Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) on 15 June 2026 from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island.
- The missile is designed as a long-range precision-strike weapon for the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- The test validated the missile's propulsion, guidance, navigation, control, and warhead delivery systems, and all mission objectives were achieved.

- The missile has an estimated range of 1,000–1,500 km and was developed entirely in India.
- The system draws on technologies developed under the Nirbhay programme, with contributions from multiple DRDO laboratories and Indian industry partners.

Static GK

- Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island is a major missile testing facility off the Odisha coast.
- A cruise missile is a guided missile that flies at low altitude along a pre-programmed path to its target.

Indian Army Departed for Exercise KHAAN QUEST 2026



- An Indian Army contingent departed for Exercise KHAAN QUEST 2026, scheduled from 20 June to 3 July 2026 at the Five Hills Training Area, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- The Indian contingent consists of 40 personnel, including troops from a battalion of the JAT Regiment and personnel from various Arms and Services of the Indian Army.
- The exercise focused on enhancing interoperability, coordination, and operational effectiveness among participating armed forces in a multinational environment.

Static GK

- Exercise KHAAN QUEST is a multinational military exercise hosted annually by Mongolia with a focus on peacekeeping and peace support operations.
- The exercise began in 2003 as a bilateral exercise between Mongolia and the United States and expanded into a multinational exercise in 2006.
- KHAAN QUEST 2026 marked the 23rd edition of the exercise.
- Ulaanbaatar is the capital of Mongolia.

Indian Coast Guard Inducted First Indigenous Hovercraft H-561



- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) inducted H-561, the country's first indigenously built Air Cushion Vehicle (ACV), on 18 June 2026.
- The hovercraft was developed by Chowgule & Company Private Limited at its shipbuilding facility in Goa under the Make in India initiative.
- H-561 became the first of six hovercraft ordered by the Indian Coast Guard to strengthen coastal surveillance and rapid response capabilities.
- The hovercraft was designed for high-speed operations, multi-terrain mobility, and enhanced access to difficult coastal areas.
- The induction strengthened the Coast Guard's capabilities in coastal security, maritime surveillance, search and rescue operations, and disaster response.
- Hovercraft can operate over shallow waters, mudflats, sandy beaches, marshlands, estuaries, and coastal wetlands, where conventional vessels face limitations.

US Approved Support Package for India's Apache and M777 Systems



- The United States approved a US\$482.2 million support package for India's AH-64E Apache attack helicopters and M777A2 Ultra-Light Howitzers.
- The package covers maintenance, spare parts, repair services, training, technical assistance, and depot-level support for equipment already in service with the Indian Armed Forces.
- Support for the AH-64E Apache fleet was valued at US\$198.2 million, while support for the M777A2 howitzers was valued at about US\$230 million.

- The package aimed to strengthen operational readiness and defence cooperation between India and the United States.

Static GK

- The AH-64E Apache is a twin-engine attack helicopter developed by Boeing.
- The M777A2 is a 155 mm ultra-light towed howitzer known for its titanium construction.

Chapter 7

Appointments



Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar Became the 48th Vice Chief of Naval Staff



- Ajay Kochhar assumed charge as the 48th Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS) on 29 May 2026.
- He succeeded Sanjay Vatsayan, who was appointed as the next Chief of the Western Naval Command.
- An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Pune, he was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 1 July 1988.
- Vice Admiral Kochhar is a specialist in Gunnery and Missile Systems and has served in several command, operational and staff appointments during his 37-year naval career.
- Before this appointment, he served as Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command.
- He played a key role in strengthening naval readiness and forward deployment during Operation Sindoor.
- He has received the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM), Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) and Nao Sena Medal (NM) for distinguished service.

Static GK

- The Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS) is the second-highest-ranking officer in the Indian Navy after the Chief of the Naval Staff.
- The headquarters of the Indian Navy is located in New Delhi.
- Dinesh K. Tripathi is the current Chief of Naval Staff.
- The Andaman and Nicobar Command is India's first and only integrated tri-services theatre command.

- The National Defence Academy is located at Khadakwasla, Pune, Maharashtra.

Hari Babu Kambhampati Took Oath as the 27th Governor of Odisha



- Hari Babu Kambhampati took oath as the 27th Governor of Odisha on 3 January 2025 at Raj Bhavan in Bhubaneswar.
- The oath of office was administered by Chakradhari Sharan Singh, and Kambhampati succeeded Raghubar Das after his resignation.
- President Droupadi Murmu appointed him as Governor of Odisha on 24 December 2024.
- Before assuming office, he visited the Shree Jagannath Temple, one of the Char Dham pilgrimage sites dedicated to Lord Jagannath.
- Kambhampati earlier served as the Governor of Mizoram.

Static GK

- The Governor is the constitutional head of a state under Article 153 of the Constitution of India.
- The Governor is appointed by the President of India under Article 155 and holds office under Article 156.
- The oath of office of a Governor is prescribed under Article 159 of the Constitution of India.
- Raj Bhavan in Bhubaneswar is the official residence of the Governor of Odisha.

- Odisha became a separate state on 1 April 1936 and was earlier known as Orissa.

General NS Raja Subramani Assumed Charge as Chief of Defence Staff



- NS Raja Subramani assumed charge as India's new Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) on 31 May 2026, succeeding Anil Chauhan.
- With over 40 years of military experience, he became the country's highest-ranking military officer and principal military adviser to the Government of India.
- As CDS, he will lead defence reforms, strengthen integration among the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and enhance joint military operations.
- Before becoming CDS, he served as Military Advisor at the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS), Vice Chief of Army Staff (2024–25), and General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Central Command (2023–24).
- He is known for his extensive operational experience and expertise in security matters related to Pakistan and China.

Static GK

- The Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) is the principal military adviser to the Government of India and promotes coordination among the three armed services.
- The post of CDS was created in 2019, and Bipin Rawat was the first CDS of India.

Admiral Krishna Swaminathan Assumed Charge as 27th Chief of the Naval Staff

- Admiral Krishna Swaminathan assumed charge as the 27th Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) of the Indian Navy.



- He succeeded Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi after the completion of his tenure.
- Before his appointment, Admiral Swaminathan served as the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff and held several important operational, staff, and training assignments.
- He is a specialist in communication and electronic warfare and has commanded frontline warships and major naval formations.
- His appointment came at a time when the Indian Navy focused on maritime security, indigenous warship construction, force modernization, and Indo-Pacific presence.

Static GK

- Indian Navy is one of the three branches of the Indian Armed Forces.
- Navy Day is observed on 4 December to commemorate Operation Trident.
- The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.
- Naval Headquarters is located in New Delhi.
- The Indian Navy's motto is "Sham No Varunah" (May the Lord of the Oceans be auspicious unto us).

Lokhande Prashant Sitaram Was Appointed CBSE Chairperson



- Lokhande Prashant Sitaram, a 2001-batch AGMUT cadre IAS officer, was appointed as the new Chairperson of CBSE by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- He succeeded Rahul Singh, who was appointed as Additional Secretary in the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- Varun Bhardwaj, a 2008-batch Indian Information Service (IIS) officer, was appointed as the new Secretary of CBSE and will serve until 19 September 2027 under the Central Staffing Scheme.
- He replaced Himanshu Gupta, who was repatriated to his parent cadre under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The appointments came amid scrutiny of the On-Screen Marking (OSM) system, following complaints regarding evaluation discrepancies, technical glitches, and delays in verification.
- The Central Government also ordered an inquiry into the procurement and implementation of the OSM system.

Static GK

- CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education) was established in 1929.
- CBSE functions under the Ministry of Education.
- CBSE conducts the Class 10 and Class 12 Board Examinations and is one of the world's largest school education boards.

UIDAI CEO Saurabh Vijay Assumed Charge as CEO of IndiaAI Mission



- Saurabh Vijay, CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India, assumed charge as the CEO of the IndiaAI Mission, marking a key leadership change in India's AI ecosystem.
- Sudeep Shrivastava, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, assumed

charge as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the IndiaAI Mission.

- The leadership change came as the ₹10,372 crore IndiaAI Mission accelerated efforts in AI infrastructure, indigenous AI models, and innovation.
- Saurabh Vijay is a 1998-batch IAS officer (Maharashtra cadre) and an IIT Delhi graduate with experience in governance and public finance.
- The IndiaAI Mission aimed to strengthen India's position in artificial intelligence through research, computing infrastructure, and startup support.

Static GK

- The IndiaAI Mission was launched in March 2024 by the Government of India.
- The mission is implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- The total approved outlay of the mission is ₹10,372 crore.

India Appointed Dinesh Trivedi as High Commissioner to Bangladesh



- India appointed Dinesh Trivedi as the new High Commissioner to Bangladesh, and he assumed charge in Dhaka on 12 June 2026.
- He became the first political appointee to a South Asian ambassadorial post in more than three decades.
- President Droupadi Murmu presented him with the Letters of Credence on 5 June 2026.
- Dinesh Trivedi previously served as Union Railway Minister and joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in 2021 after leaving the Trinamool Congress.
- He succeeded Pranay Verma, who was reassigned as India's Ambassador to Belgium and the European Union.
- Before taking charge, he held discussions with Upendra Dwivedi on defence cooperation, border security, and military engagement.

Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth Was Appointed as the Chief of Army Staff



- Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth was appointed as the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) on 13 June 2026.
- He is scheduled to assume office on 30 June 2026 after the retirement of General Upendra Dwivedi, with a tenure expected until 31 August 2028.
- Lt Gen Seth served as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff from 1 April 2026 before his appointment as COAS.
- He was commissioned into the Armoured Corps in December 1986 after graduating from the National Defence Academy.
- He commanded the South Western Command and Southern Command, along with an armoured regiment and a counter-insurgency force in Jammu and Kashmir.

Government Appointed New National Statistical Commission Leadership



- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the appointment of a new Chairperson and three Members of the National Statistical Commission (NSC) on 17 June 2026.

- Dr. Saibal Chattopadhyay, former Director of Indian Institute of Management Calcutta, was appointed as the Chairperson of the NSC.
- Prof. Shubhabrata Das of Indian Institute of Management Bangalore was appointed as a Member of the Commission.
- Shri Satyendra Bahadur Singh, a retired Indian Statistical Service (ISS) officer of the 1987 batch, was appointed as a Member.
- Dr. Madhavan Mukund, Director of Chennai Mathematical Institute, was appointed as a Member of the Commission.

Static GK

- The National Statistical Commission (NSC) was established in 2005 as the apex advisory body for India's official statistical system.
- The NSC is responsible for evolving, monitoring, and enforcing statistical standards and priorities across the country.

Vivek Aggarwal Was Elected FATF Vice President



- Vivek Aggarwal, a 1994-batch IAS officer of the Madhya Pradesh cadre, was elected Vice President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) on 19 June 2026 in Paris.
- He became the first Indian official to hold the Vice Presidency of the FATF.
- Vivek Aggarwal was appointed to serve a one-year term from July 2026 to June 2027.
- He succeeded Giles Thomson of the United Kingdom as FATF Vice President.
- Aggarwal currently serves as Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, and previously headed India's delegation to the FATF and served as Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND).

Static GK

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 by the G7 countries.
- FATF develops global standards to combat money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing.
- FATF is headquartered in Paris.
- FATF publishes the Grey List and Black List for jurisdictions with strategic deficiencies in anti-money laundering and counter-terror financing systems.
- The Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) functions under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

Bimal Patel Was Elected as Judge of ITLOS



- Bimal Patel was elected as a Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS).
- Bimal Patel was serving as Vice-Chancellor of Rashtriya Raksha University, Professor of Public International Law, Member of the United Nations International Law Commission, and Member of India's National Security Advisory Board.
- India already holds an important position in ITLOS through Neeru Chadha, who serves as the tribunal's Vice President.

Static GK

- The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) is an independent judicial body established under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), 1982.

- ITLOS adjudicates disputes related to maritime boundaries, navigation rights, fisheries, marine environmental protection, marine scientific research, and release of detained vessels and crews.
- ITLOS consists of 21 independent judges elected by States Parties to UNCLOS.
- The headquarters of ITLOS is located in Hamburg.
- The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is often referred to as the "Constitution of the Oceans."

Centre Reappointed Tushar Mehta as Solicitor General



- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) reappointed Tushar Mehta as the Solicitor General of India for a further three-year term on 20 June 2026.
- His new term begins on 1 July 2026, extending his tenure as the Union Government's second-highest law officer.
- Tushar Mehta first assumed office as Solicitor General in October 2018.
- The ACC also reappointed Vikramjit Banerjee, K.M. Nataraj, Suryaprakash V. Raju, N. Venkataraman, and Aishwarya Bhati as Additional Solicitors General for the Supreme Court for three years.
- The tenure of Chetan Sharma as Additional Solicitor General for the Delhi High Court was extended by six months from 1 July 2026.

Static GK

- The Solicitor General of India is the second-highest law officer of the Government of India after the Attorney General for India.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approves appointments to several senior positions in the Union Government.



AYUSHEXCIL and Spices Board Signed an MoU to Promote Ayush Products Globally



- The Ayush Export Promotion Council (AYUSHEXCIL) and the Spices Board of India signed an MoU to strengthen the global promotion of Ayush products and medicinal spices.
- The agreement was signed by Anurag Sharma and M. S. Manivannan.
- Union Minister of Ayush Prataprao Jadhav described the partnership as a major step toward promoting Ayurveda, medicinal plants and Indian spices worldwide.

- The collaboration focuses on export promotion, quality assurance, standardisation, research, innovation and international market development of herbal and spice-based wellness products.
- Both organisations will jointly conduct trade fairs, branding campaigns, buyer-seller meets and promotional activities in global markets.
- The proposed “Spice and Heal” initiative aims to position India as a global hub for holistic healthcare and natural wellness solutions while benefiting exporters, MSMEs, startups, farmers and women entrepreneurs.

Static GK

- AYUSH stands for Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy.
- The Spices Board of India functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Kerala is popularly known as the “Spice Garden of India.”

Chapter 9

Summits

Dr. S. Jaishankar Participated in the EU Foreign Ministers' Gymnich Meeting



- S. Jaishankar attended the informal EU Foreign Ministers' Gymnich Meeting held in Cyprus in May 2026.
- The meeting focused on strengthening cooperation between India and the European Union in trade, connectivity, security, technology and geopolitical stability.
- Jaishankar highlighted India's commitment to a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific and called for stronger collaboration with Europe on global challenges.
- Discussions covered regional conflicts, energy security, maritime cooperation, counter-terrorism and resilient supply chains.
- India's participation reflected its growing diplomatic engagement with European countries amid evolving global strategic dynamics.
- The Gymnich format enables informal and strategic discussions among foreign ministers without formal legislative decisions.

Static GK

- The capital of Cyprus is Nicosia.
- The currency of Cyprus is the Euro.
- The headquarters of the European Union is in Brussels.
- The term "Gymnich" originated from Schloss Gymnich Castle, where the first informal EU foreign ministers' meeting was held in 1974.

- Ursula von der Leyen is the President of the European Commission.

India's First National AI and Digital Water Summit Was Announced in Bengaluru



- India's first National AI and Digital Water Summit, titled the National AI Summit on Water 2026, was scheduled to be hosted in Bengaluru on 27 May 2026 by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) and Elets Technomedia Pvt. Ltd.
- The summit focused on AI-enabled smart operations, digital twins, water-loss management, energy optimisation, data governance, ethical AI and cybersecurity in urban water management.
- BWSSB showcased digital initiatives such as SCADA deployment, GIS mapping, IoT-enabled tanker tracking and smart metering platforms.
- The event highlighted BWSSB's Five Panchasutras framework, which includes artificial intelligence, data-driven governance, smart infrastructure, sustainable investments and climate-resilient water security.
- More than 400 stakeholders from policy, technology, research and industry sectors were expected to participate in the summit.
- The summit was to be inaugurated by Siddaramaiah and D. K. Shivakumar.
- BWSSB also planned to establish an integrated AI-powered command centre for water and sewage management at Shimsha Bhavan in Jayanagar.

Static GK

- SCADA stands for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition.
- GIS stands for Geographic Information System.

Bonn Climate Conference 2026 Witnessed a Call for Higher Adaptation Finance



- The Global Climate and Health Alliance (GCHA) urged governments at the Bonn Climate Conference 2026 (SB64) to increase public adaptation finance to at least \$120 billion annually by 2035.
- Health advocates argued that the current adaptation finance target remained insufficient to address growing climate-related risks and protect vulnerable populations.
- The alliance emphasized that increased funding is necessary for public health systems, water and sanitation infrastructure, disaster preparedness, food security, and emergency healthcare services.
- The 64th Sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB64) took place in Bonn from 8–18 June 2026 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- The conference served as a mid-year negotiating platform and helped prepare discussions for COP31 to be held in Antalya.
- The alliance also called on developed countries to present clear roadmaps for transitioning away from fossil fuels and aligning with the 1.5°C global warming goal.
- Negotiators discussed the concept of a Just Transition, focusing on workforce reskilling, social protection, capacity building, technical assistance, and international cooperation.
- The alliance demanded stronger action on Loss and Damage Finance, noting that current pledges

exceeded \$800 million, while actual annual needs amount to several billion dollars.

Static GK

- The UNFCCC was adopted in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.
- Bonn is the headquarters of the UNFCCC Secretariat.
- COP stands for Conference of the Parties, the main decision-making body of the UNFCCC.
- The 1.5°C target refers to limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels under the Paris Agreement.

PM Narendra Modi Attended 2026 G7 Leaders' Summit Held in Évian, France



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 52nd G7 Leaders' Summit held at Évian-les-Bains, France, from 15–17 June 2026, on the invitation of French President Emmanuel Macron; France held the rotating G7 Presidency for 2026.
- During the summit, PM Modi participated in the high-level session themed “Forging New Partnerships and Rebuilding International Solidarity”, where leaders of G7 countries, partner nations, and representatives of the World Bank and African Development Bank discussed global cooperation, sustainability, economic resilience, and development priorities.
- Addressing the session on “Promoting Balanced, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth for the Benefit of All,” PM Modi emphasized strengthening international financial institutions, improving economic resilience for developing nations, and enhancing connectivity among Africa, Latin America, and Pacific Island countries.
- PM Modi proposed the International Mobilization Partnership for Accelerating Connectivity and Trade (IMPACT) initiative, envisaging a framework combining G7 capital, India's talent, and Global South

ownership to accelerate connectivity, trade, and sustainable development.

Static GK

- G7 Members: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, and United States.

- G7 Origin: Established in 1975 as the Group of Six (G6); Canada joined in 1976, forming the G7.
- World Bank Headquarters: Washington, D.C., USA.
- African Development Bank (AfDB) Headquarters: Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

MoH&FW Released the 10th National Health Accounts Estimates for FY 2022–23



- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare released the 10th National Health Accounts (NHA) Estimates for 2022–23, prepared by the National Health Accounts Technical Secretariat under the National Health Systems Resource Centre.
- The report followed the internationally accepted System of Health Accounts (SHA) 2011 framework for measuring health expenditure.
- Government Health Expenditure increased from ₹1.30 lakh crore in 2013–14 to ₹3.85 lakh crore in 2022–23, while its share of GDP rose from 1.15% to 1.43%.
- The government's share in Total Health Expenditure increased from 28.6% to 43.7%, reflecting stronger public investment in healthcare.
- Out-of-Pocket Expenditure declined from 64.2% to 43.4%, reducing the financial burden on households.
- Social Security Expenditure on healthcare increased from 6% to 9.9%, supported by schemes such as Ayushman Bharat–PM Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).
- Government spending on primary healthcare increased from ₹0.5 lakh crore to ₹1.4 lakh crore between 2013–14 and 2022–23.

Static GK

- NHA estimates are released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- The SHA-2011 framework was developed by the World Health Organization, Organisation for

Economic Co-operation and Development and Eurostat.

- Ayushman Bharat–PM Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) is India's flagship public health insurance programme.

India Ranked 4th in AI Performance and 5th in the Digital Economy



- India ranked 4th globally in Artificial Intelligence (AI) performance and improved from 8th to 5th position in digital economy rankings in the State of India's Digital Economy 2026 report.
- The report was released by the ICRIER-Prosus Centre for Internet and Digital Economy and assessed AI performance, digital trade, talent and digital adoption indicators.
- India stood behind the United States, China and Singapore in AI performance and ranked ahead of several developed economies in key AI metrics.
- India possesses the world's second-largest AI talent pool and ranked first in AI skill penetration on LinkedIn, while placing second globally in AI talent growth during 2019–2025.
- India generated about US\$328 billion in digitally delivered trade, including software exports, IT services and cloud-based solutions.
- Developing countries accounted for 72% of global AI users, with India and China together contributing nearly two-fifths of the total.

- The report noted a net outflow of AI authors and inventors from India in 2025, highlighting talent retention challenges.

Static GK

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) enables computer systems to perform tasks such as learning, reasoning and pattern recognition.
- The AI Index is an annual publication associated with Stanford University that tracks global AI trends, talent and investment.
- LinkedIn is widely used for studies on digital skills and labour-market trends.
- Digitally delivered trade includes services such as software, cloud computing and online business services.

SIPRI Report 2026 Showed India's Nuclear Arsenal Reaching 190 Warheads



- According to the SIPRI Yearbook 2026, India's nuclear arsenal increased to 190 warheads, compared to Pakistan's 170 warheads.
- The report noted that both India and Pakistan continued to modernize and expand their nuclear capabilities during 2025.
- India increasingly focused on developing long-range missile systems to address evolving strategic and security challenges.
- SIPRI observed that India's nuclear planning increasingly considered China alongside its traditional security concerns with Pakistan.
- The report highlighted the growing importance of long-range missiles, armed drones, AI-enabled military platforms, cyber warfare, and advanced surveillance systems in regional security.
- India's defence expenditure reached about USD 92.1 billion in 2025, registering an 8.9% increase over the previous year.

- India ranked as the world's 5th-largest military spender and accounted for 8.2% of global arms imports during 2021–25.

Static GK

- SIPRI stands for Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, which was established in 1966 and is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.
- SIPRI publishes the annual SIPRI Yearbook covering military expenditure, nuclear forces, arms transfers, arms control, and global security developments.

JNPA Emerged as India's Top Container Port in CPPI 2025



- The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) ranked 22nd globally in the Container Port Performance Index (CPPI) 2025, making it India's highest-performing container port.
- JNPA improved by one position from the previous ranking and continued to lead India in container handling efficiency and operational performance.
- Among Indian ports, Pipavav Port ranked 28th, Mundra Port ranked 30th, and Visakhapatnam Port ranked 104th.
- Pipavav Port became India's highest-ranked private container port by overtaking Mundra Port in the latest rankings.
- The CPPI evaluates ports based on vessel turnaround time, cargo handling speed, port efficiency, and overall logistics performance.
- Fuzhou Port secured the 1st position globally, followed by Dalian Port and Port of Salalah.

Static GK

- The Container Port Performance Index (CPPI) is jointly published by the World Bank and S&P Global Market Intelligence.
- JNPA is located at Nhava Sheva, Maharashtra and is India's largest container port.

India Became the World's Third-Largest Domestic Aviation Market



- According to OAG (Official Airline Guide), India became the world's third-largest domestic aviation market in April 2024, surpassing Brazil and Indonesia.
- India's domestic airline capacity reached 15.6 million seats in April 2024.
- The United States and China remained the two largest domestic aviation markets.
- India ranked fifth globally in the overall aviation market, including both domestic and international traffic.
- India moved from fifth place to third place in the domestic aviation market over the last decade.
- India recorded an average annual domestic airline capacity growth rate of 6.9% between 2014 and 2024.
- Low-cost carriers (LCCs) accounted for 78.4% of India's domestic airline capacity in April 2024, the highest among the top five markets.
- IndiGo increased its share of India's domestic capacity from 32% in 2014 to 62% in April 2024.
- The number of operational airports in India increased from 74 in 2014 to 164 in 2025.
- India's aviation market is projected to grow from USD 16.24 billion in 2025 to USD 45.59 billion by 2034, at a CAGR of 11.72%.

India Retained the Fifth Position in Global Military Spending

- India remained the world's fifth-largest military spender in 2025 with defence expenditure of \$92.1 billion, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).
- India ranked behind the United States, China, Russia, and Germany in military expenditure.



- Defence spending increased by 8.9% compared to 2024.
- India was the second-largest importer of major arms during 2021–25, accounting for 8.2% of global arms imports.
- India's arms imports declined slightly compared to the 2016–20 period.

Static GK

- SIPRI was established in 1966.
- The United States remained the world's largest military spender in 2025.

India Fell to 127th Rank in the Global Peace Index 2026



- The Global Peace Index (GPI) 2026 ranked India 127th among 163 countries and territories, down from 115th in 2025.

- India recorded an overall score of 2.409, with peacefulness declining by about 2.9% compared to the previous year.
- The index evaluates peace using 23 indicators across societal safety and security, ongoing conflict, and militarisation.
- Iceland remained the world's most peaceful country for the 19th consecutive year.
- The report noted that active state-based conflicts reached their highest level since World War II, contributing to a global decline in peace.
- The index was released by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP).

Static GK

- The Global Peace Index was first launched in 2007.
- The Institute for Economics and Peace is headquartered in Sydney, Australia.

Moody's Flagged Risks in India's Water Management Framework



- Moody's Ratings flagged India's water management framework as fragmented and inflexible, highlighting risks related to water governance, fiscal stress, and credit quality.
- The report noted that state governments hold primary responsibility for water management, irrigation, and drinking water supply under India's federal structure.
- It observed that agriculture consumes about 80% of India's freshwater, while limited pricing reforms and subsidies reduce flexibility in water allocation.
- The assessment highlighted challenges from groundwater depletion, aging infrastructure, heat stress, floods, and monsoon variability.
- Rising demand from data centres, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, industry, and urbanisation was identified as an additional pressure on water resources.
- Moody's warned that prolonged water shortages could increase public expenditure, disrupt economic activity, and create fiscal and credit risks.

Static GK

- Water is primarily a State Subject under the State List (Entry 17) of the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
- Agriculture is the largest consumer of freshwater in India.

India Climbed to 70th Position in WEF Energy Transition Index 2026



- In June 2026, the World Economic Forum released the Energy Transition Index (ETI) 2026: Insight Report, assessing countries on energy security, sustainability, and equity.
- India improved its ranking by two places, moving to 70th position with an overall score of 54.9.
- The score represented a 1.9% increase over its 2025 performance, making India one of the notable gainers in the index.
- The report highlighted India's progress in expanding renewable energy capacity, strengthening grid infrastructure, and improving energy access.
- Rapid growth in solar power installations, policy support for clean energy, and investments in green technologies contributed to the improvement.
- India was recognized for balancing economic growth with energy transition goals despite rising energy demand.
- The index evaluates both current energy system performance and long-term readiness for a clean-energy transition.

Static GK Facts

- The World Economic Forum (WEF) is headquartered in Cologny.
- The annual WEF meeting is held in Davos.
- India has set a target of achieving Net Zero emissions by 2070.
- The International Solar Alliance (ISA) was jointly launched by India and France in 2015.

Gurindervir Singh Became the Fastest Indian Sprinter with a Record-Breaking 10.09s Run



- Gurindervir Singh clocked 10.09 seconds in the men's 100m final at the National Federation Cup Athletics Championships in Ranchi to become the fastest Indian ever.
- He became the first Indian athlete to break the 10.10-second barrier in the 100 metres event.
- Gurindervir reclaimed the national record from Animesh Kujur, who had earlier recorded 10.15 seconds during the same competition.
- The 25-year-old Punjab sprinter achieved the feat at Birsa Munda Stadium and registered Asia's second-fastest 100m time of the 2026 season.
- He trained under coach James Hillier at the Reliance Foundation High-Performance Centre and had earlier held the national indoor 60m record.

Static GK

- The 100 metres is regarded as the premier sprint event in athletics.
- The current men's world record of 9.58 seconds is held by Usain Bolt, set at the 2009 World Championships in Berlin.

India Secured a Historic Five-Medal Finish at the IAU 24-Hour Championships

- India won five medals at the IAU 24-Hour Asia and Oceania Championships 2026 held in Hirosaki, marking a historic performance in the endurance event.
- Amar Singh Devanda won the individual gold medal by covering 282.881 km in 24 hours.



- Geeno Antony and Saurav Kumar Ranjan secured silver and bronze respectively, completing a clean sweep of the men's individual podium.
- The Indian men's team won team gold with a combined distance of 815.833 km.
- India's women's team added another medal by securing bronze in the team category.

Static GK

- The headquarters of the International Association of Ultrarunners is in Monaco.
- Ultramarathon races are longer than the standard 42.195 km marathon distance.
- Hirosaki City is located in Aomori Prefecture.
- India hosted the 2022 IAU 24H Asia and Oceania Championships in Bengaluru.

Satwik-Chirag Won Singapore Open 2026 Men's Doubles Title



- Indian badminton pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won the Singapore Open 2026 men's doubles title, becoming the first Indian doubles pair to win the tournament.

- The Indian duo defeated Indonesia's Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Shohibul Fikri in the final by 18-21, 21-17, 21-16.
- The victory ended their two-year BWF World Tour title drought, with their previous title coming at the Thailand Open 2024.
- The Singapore Open triumph became their ninth BWF World Tour title and only India's second BWF World Tour victory of 2026.
- The title strengthened India's growing reputation in international badminton, especially in the doubles category.

ICC Suspended Cricket Canada Membership



- The International Cricket Council suspended the membership of Cricket Canada with immediate effect due to serious governance and membership-obligation breaches.
- The decision was taken during an ICC Board meeting held in Ahmedabad and followed concerns over governance irregularities, administrative misconduct, and allegations related to match manipulation.
- Despite the suspension, Canada's men's and women's national teams remained eligible to participate in ICC tournaments and international competitions.
- The ICC stated that financial support to Cricket Canada would continue under ICC supervision and would be used only for approved national team and cricket-development programs.
- Cricket Canada must implement governance reforms, improve financial transparency, ensure institutional stability, and meet ICC compliance requirements before reinstatement.

Static GK

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) is the global governing body of cricket.
- ICC headquarters is located in Dubai.
- Canada is an Associate Member of the ICC.

FIFA World Cup 2026 Mascots Unveiled



- The 2026 FIFA World Cup mascots were unveiled for the tournament jointly hosted by Canada, Mexico, and the United States, highlighting the culture and identity of the three host nations.
- The mascots introduced were Maple (Canada), Zayu (Mexico), and Clutch (USA), representing unity and diversity of the host countries.
- Maple, the mascot of Canada, represented a moose symbolizing resilience, creativity, and Canadian identity.
- Zayu, the mascot of Mexico, represented a jaguar symbolizing strength, cultural heritage, and the rich traditions of Mexico.
- Clutch, the mascot of the United States, represented a bald eagle symbolizing leadership, courage, and national pride.
- The mascots aimed to enhance fan engagement, global branding, and cultural representation for the FIFA World Cup 2026.

Static GK

- The FIFA World Cup 2026 is jointly hosted by Canada, Mexico, and the United States.
- FIFA World Cup mascots are official characters introduced to promote cultural identity and global marketing of the tournament.

RCB Retained the IPL Title with a Victory over GT



- Royal Challengers Bengaluru defeated Gujarat Titans by 5 wickets in the IPL final to retain the title.
- RCB successfully chased the target with a balanced batting performance and maintained composure during the closing overs.
- The top order provided a steady start, while the middle order contributed crucial runs to secure the victory.
- The win strengthened RCB's position as one of the most consistent teams in recent IPL seasons.
- The final showcased high-intensity T20 cricket, effective captaincy, and strong fielding performances from both teams.

Static GK

- Indian Premier League was founded in 2008 by the Board of Control for Cricket in India.
- IPL is a franchise-based T20 cricket league featuring domestic and international players.
- The tournament consists of a league stage, playoffs, and a final.
- The Orange Cap is awarded to the highest run-scorer, while the Purple Cap is awarded to the highest wicket-taker.

KS Bharat Retired from International Cricket at 32



- Kona Srikar Bharat announced his retirement from international cricket on 4 June 2026 at the age of 32.
- The wicketkeeper-batter represented India in 7 Test matches between 2023 and 2024 after making his debut against Australia national cricket team in Nagpur in February 2023.
- Bharat scored 221 Test runs at an average of 20.09, with a highest score of 44.
- As a wicketkeeper, he recorded 18 catches and 1 stumping in his Test career.

- He was a member of India's squad for the 2023 ICC World Test Championship Final against Australia at The Oval.

Static GK

- KS Bharat is the first wicketkeeper-batter in Ranji Trophy history to score a triple century (308 runs).
- He hails from Visakhapatnam and played domestic cricket for Andhra.
- Bharat received Test Cap No. 305 for India on his debut in 2023.
- Ranji Trophy was launched in 1934 and is named after Ranjitsinhji.

Praggnanandhaa Became the First Indian to Win Norway Chess 2026



- R Praggnanandhaa became the first Indian to win the prestigious Norway Chess title on 6 June 2026.
- The 20-year-old secured the championship by defeating Vincent Keymer in the final round held in Oslo.
- Praggnanandhaa finished with 18 points after winning four consecutive classical games.
- He outperformed leading players including Magnus Carlsen, Wesley So, and Alireza Firouzja.
- The victory came on Magnus Carlsen's home turf, making it a landmark achievement for Indian chess.

Static GK

- Norway Chess is one of the world's most prestigious chess tournaments.
- Praggnanandhaa became a Grandmaster in 2018 at the age of 12 years.
- He won a gold medal with Team India at the 2024 Chess Olympiad.

India Clinched a Record Sixth SAFF Women's Championship Title



- India women's national football team defeated Bangladesh women's national football team 3-1 in the final of the SAFF Women's Championship 2026 held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.
- The victory gave India a record sixth SAFF Women's Championship title and ended a seven-year wait for the trophy.
- India took the lead through Pyari Xaxa, while Bangladesh equalised through Ritu Porna Chakma before halftime.
- Second-half goals from Sanfida Nongrum and Lynda Kom Serto secured the championship.
- India remained unbeaten throughout the tournament and showcased strong attacking and defensive performances.

Static GK

- SAFF stands for South Asian Football Federation.
- The headquarters of the South Asian Football Federation is in Dhaka.
- The governing body of football in India is the All India Football Federation (AIFF).
- The 2026 SAFF Women's Championship was hosted in Goa.

Savitha Shri Baskar Won the 2026 Women's Asian Chess Championship

- Savitha Shri Baskar won the 2026 Women's Asian Individual Chess Championship held in Ulaanbaatar.
- The Chennai-based player scored 7.5 points from 9 rounds to secure the continental title.
- She finished level on points with Afruza Khamdamova but won the championship through a superior tie-break score.



- Song Yuxin won the bronze medal with 6.5 points.
- The victory earned Savitha a place in the 2027 FIDE Women's World Cup.
- India secured its 13th Women's Asian Championship title, reinforcing its strength in Asian women's chess.

Static GK

- FIDE is the governing body of world chess.
- Ulaanbaatar is the capital of Mongolia.
- Savitha Shri Baskar earned the Woman Grandmaster (WGM) title in 2023 and the International Master (IM) title in 2025.

India Topped the Medal Table at the Inaugural World Yogasana Championship 2026

1 st WORLD YOGASANA C'SHIP 2026				
FINAL RESULTS				
RANK	COUNTRY	Gold	Silver	Brass
1	INDIA	102	9	3
2	JAPAN	3	3	5
3	ARGENTINA	2	3	0
4	SINGAPORE	2	2	3
5	NEPAL	1	36	15
6	UZBEKISTAN	1	13	11
7	ZAMBIA	1	5	8
8	INDONESIA	1	2	4
9	RUSSIA	1	1	2
10	UNITED STATES	1	0	4
				TOTAL
				114
				11
				05
				07
				52
				25
				14
				07
				04
				05

- India emerged as the champion at the inaugural World Yogasana Championship 2026, finishing first in the medal tally with 114 medals, including 102 gold, 9 silver, and 3 bronze medals.
- The championship was held from 4–8 June 2026 at the EKA Arena in Ahmedabad.
- The World Yogasana Championship 2026 was the inaugural edition of the global Yogasana competition.
- A total of 522 athletes from 79 countries participated.
- India dominated the competition across multiple age groups and disciplines, finishing far ahead of all other participating nations.
- Japan secured second place with 11 medals (3 gold, 3 silver, 5 bronze), while Argentina finished third.
- Nabila Barraza emerged as the most successful individual competitor of the championship.
- Nepal finished fifth in the medal tally but won 52 medals (1 gold, 36 silver, 15 bronze), making it the second-most successful nation by total medals.
- The competition featured categories such as Traditional Yogasana, Artistic Single, Artistic Pair, Artistic Group, Rhythmic Pair, and specialized events testing flexibility, balance, endurance, and posture control.

The 125th Edition of the French Open Was Held in France



- The 125th French Open was held from 24 May to 7 June 2026 at Stade Roland Garros, France.
- The tournament was the second Grand Slam event of the 2026 tennis season.
- Carlos Alcaraz successfully defended the men's singles title.
- Aryna Sabalenka won the women's singles title.
- The championship was played on the famous clay courts of Roland-Garros.

Static GK

- The French Open is the only Grand Slam played on clay courts.
- The other Grand Slam tournaments are the Australian Open, Wimbledon Championships, and US Open.

Kane Williamson Retired from International Cricket



- Kane Williamson announced his retirement from international cricket in June 2026, ending a distinguished 16-year career.
- He represented New Zealand in 378 international matches across Tests, ODIs, and T20Is.
- Williamson made his international debut in 2010 and became one of New Zealand's most successful captains and batters.
- Under his leadership, New Zealand reached the finals of the 2015 and 2019 ICC Cricket World Cups.

Indian Women's Hockey Team Won FIH Nations Cup 2026



- India defeated New Zealand 2–0 in the final in June 2026 to win the FIH Women's Nations Cup 2026.
- With this victory, India earned promotion to the FIH Pro League, the highest annual international hockey competition.

- India won its second FIH Nations Cup title, having also won the inaugural edition in 2022.
- Navneet Kaur opened the scoring in the 4th minute from a penalty corner.
- Sunelita Toppo doubled India's lead in the 15th minute by deflecting a drag flick from Deepika.
- India remained unbeaten throughout the tournament, showcasing strong attacking and defensive performances.

Static GK

- FIH stands for Fédération Internationale de Hockey (International Hockey Federation).
- The FIH Pro League is the premier annual international hockey competition featuring the world's top-ranked teams.



Indian Students Won the Earth Prize 2026 with Plas-Stick Innovation



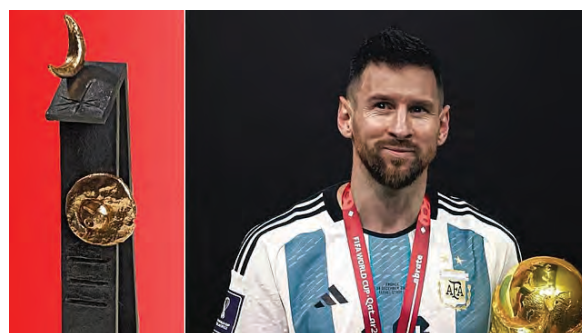
- Indian students Vivaan Chhawchharia, Ariana Agarwal, and Avyana Mehta won the The Earth Prize 2026 for developing Plas-Stick, a biodegradable solution that removes microplastics from water.
- The trio became the first team from India to win the global Earth Prize competition.
- Plas-Stick is made from tamarind seed powder and works by binding microplastic particles into larger clumps, which can then be removed from water.
- The innovation provides a low-cost, scalable, and environmentally friendly method for tackling microplastic contamination, especially in rural and underserved communities.
- The idea emerged after the students observed concerns about unsafe drinking water and microplastic pollution during a visit to a rural community.
- The winners were selected through global public voting, in which around 23,000 people participated from across the world.

Static GK

- The Earth Prize is an international environmental competition that encourages students to develop solutions for challenges such as pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss.
- Microplastics are tiny plastic particles, generally less than 5 millimetres in size, that contaminate water, soil, and food chains.

- Tamarind seeds are an agricultural by-product and are widely available in India.

Lionel Messi Received the Princess of Asturias Sports Award 2026



- Lionel Messi received the 2026 Princess of Asturias Award for Sports, becoming the first individual footballer to win this prestigious honour.
- The award recognized his extraordinary sporting achievements, leadership, humility, professionalism, and charitable contributions to society.
- The Princess of Asturias Awards are among Spain's most prestigious international honours and recognize individuals and organizations for outstanding contributions in various fields.
- The award jury, led by Teresa Perales, praised Messi's positive influence both on and off the field.
- Messi received the news while training with the Argentina national football team ahead of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
- Messi's major achievements include winning the 2022 FIFA World Cup, Copa América titles in 2021 and 2024, the 2008 Olympic gold medal, and a record 8 Ballon d'Or awards.

Static GK

- The Princess of Asturias Awards are presented annually in Spain.
- The awards recognize excellence in fields such as Sports, Arts, Literature, Social Sciences, International Cooperation, and Scientific Research.

- Lionel Messi is widely regarded as one of the greatest footballers in history and captained Argentina national football team to the 2022 FIFA World Cup title.

Panchayat Advancement Index Won Gold Award at National e-Governance Awards 2026



- The Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) won the Gold Award at the National e-Governance Awards 2026, recognizing its role in data-driven rural governance.
- The index was developed by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to evaluate the performance of over 2.6 lakh Gram Panchayats across India.
- PAI was recognized under the category of Digital Transformation through Data Analytics in governance systems.
- The award highlighted the use of analytics, transparency, and evidence-based decision-making in strengthening local governance.
- The Gold Award included a trophy, citation, and cash prize of ₹10 lakh.
- The award ceremony was scheduled during the 29th National Conference on e-Governance 2026 in Jaipur, Rajasthan, jointly organized by DARPG and MeitY.

Static GK

- The National e-Governance Awards are among India's top recognitions for excellence in digital governance and public service delivery.
- The 2026 conference theme was "Viksit Bharat 2047: AI-Enabled, Data-Driven and Secure Digital Governance."

- PAI is India's first large-scale framework to evaluate Gram Panchayat performance using data analytics.

Sudarsan Pattnaik Won Russia Grand Sand Master Cup 2026



- Indian sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik won the Russia Grand Sand Master Cup 2026 on 12-13 June 2026 at the II International Festival of Sand Sculpture in Russia.
- He became the first Indian to receive this prestigious award at the international sand sculpture festival.
- Pattnaik created a three-metre-tall sand sculpture highlighting climate change and global warming, promoting environmental protection and sustainable living.
- The festival brought together 12 sand sculptors from different countries, and the international jury selected his work unanimously.
- The award recognized his contribution to sand art and his efforts to spread social and environmental awareness through artistic expression.

Static GK

- Sudarsan Pattnaik is a recipient of the Padma Shri, India's fourth-highest civilian award.
- The Kaliningrad Region is a Russian exclave located on the Baltic Sea.

Gautam Dey Won the EMBO Gold Medal 2026



- Indian-origin scientist Gautam Dey received the EMBO Gold Medal 2026 for outstanding contributions to molecular biology.
- He serves as a Group Leader at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory in Heidelberg, Germany.
- His research focuses on the evolution of nuclear organization, cell division, and eukaryotic cell evolution.
- His work combines evolutionary biology, genetics, and advanced imaging techniques to study the emergence of complex cellular structures.
- The EMBO Gold Medal recognises exceptional young researchers for major achievements in life sciences.

Static GK

- The European Molecular Biology Organization was founded in 1964.
- The European Molecular Biology Laboratory is headquartered in Heidelberg, Germany.

Jainendra K. Jain Won the Wolf Prize in Physics



- Jainendra K. Jain became the first Indian-origin physicist to receive the Wolf Prize in Physics.
- He received the award for discovering composite fermions, a breakthrough that explained the fractional quantum Hall effect and transformed research in condensed matter physics.
- Jain proposed the theory of composite fermions in 1989 while working as a postdoctoral researcher at Yale University.
- His theory provided a unified explanation for unusual fractional electrical conductivity observed in strong magnetic fields and led to the prediction of the Jain sequences (Jain states).
- The discovery influenced research in quantum physics, topological matter, quantum computing, qubits, and advanced semiconductor technologies.
- Jain was born in Sambhar, Rajasthan, earned his Master's degree from Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, completed his PhD at Stony Brook University, and currently serves as a professor at Pennsylvania State University.

Static GK

- The Wolf Prize was established in 1978 by the Wolf Foundation and is considered one of the world's most prestigious scientific awards.
- The Wolf Prize in Physics is often regarded as a precursor to the Nobel Prize in Physics.
- The fractional quantum Hall effect is a quantum phenomenon observed in two-dimensional electron systems under extremely strong magnetic fields.

Chapter 13

Government Schemes

Government Released Draft Rules of VB-G RAM G Act for Public Consultation

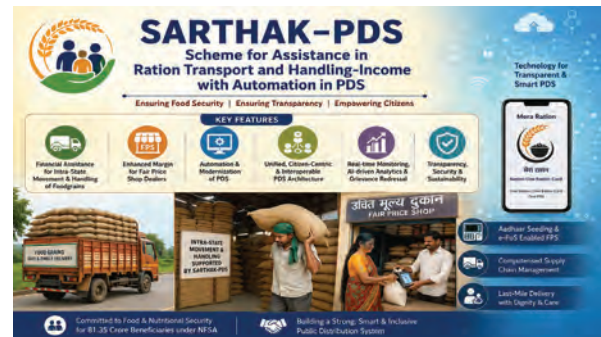


- The Union Ministry of Rural Development released draft rules under the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025 (VB-G RAM G) for public consultation before its nationwide rollout from 1 July 2026.
- The new framework replaced MGNREGA and increased the statutory rural employment guarantee from 100 days to 125 days per year.
- The draft rules outlined provisions related to transition, grievance redressal, wage payments, administrative expenses, unemployment allowance and governance mechanisms.
- The framework introduced a National Level Steering Committee and a Central Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Council to strengthen monitoring and policy coordination.
- Existing e-KYC verified MGNREGA job cards remained temporarily valid during the transition period to ensure uninterrupted benefits for workers.

Static GK

- MGNREGA was enacted in 2005 as India's first rights-based rural employment law.
- The Ministry of Rural Development is the nodal ministry for implementing rural livelihood and employment schemes in India.

Union Cabinet Approved the ₹25,530 Crore SARTHAK-PDS Scheme



- The Union Cabinet approved the Scheme for Assistance in Ration Transport and Handling-Income with Automation in PDS (SARTHAK-PDS) on 27 May 2026 to strengthen India's Public Distribution System (PDS).
- The scheme will be implemented from April 2026 to March 2031 with a total central outlay of ₹25,530 crore.
- SARTHAK-PDS aims to modernise food grain transportation, handling operations and digital infrastructure across the ration distribution network in states and Union Territories.
- The initiative focuses on end-to-end automation, transparency and efficiency in the delivery of subsidised food grains under the National Food Security Act (NFSA).
- Funds will support the transport of food grains from Food Corporation of India depots to Fair Price Shops and the deployment of digital tracking and monitoring systems.
- The scheme seeks to reduce leakages, pilferage and operational delays while ensuring timely ration delivery to beneficiaries.

Static GK

- The Public Distribution System (PDS) distributes essential food items at subsidised rates.

- The National Food Security Act, 2013 was enacted in 2013.
- The Food Corporation of India was established in 1965.
- The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution oversees PDS operations.

Government Launched PMRC Scheme 2026



- The Ministry of Education launched the Prime Minister Research Chair (PMRC) Scheme 2026 to attract accomplished Indian-origin researchers, scientists, technologists, and innovators from around the world.
- The scheme aims to strengthen India's research, development, and innovation ecosystem by connecting global experts with premier Indian higher education and research institutions.
- It seeks to promote world-class research, enhance international collaboration, and support innovation in 13 priority sectors important for national development.
- The initiative focuses on leveraging the expertise of the Indian diaspora to improve India's global competitiveness in science and technology.
- The scheme also supports the goals of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat through knowledge-driven growth and technological advancement.



Renowned Urdu Poet Bashir Badr Passed Away at 91



- Bashir Badr, one of India's most celebrated Urdu poets, passed away at the age of 91 after a prolonged age-related illness.
- He was widely known for bringing simplicity, emotion and modern expression to Urdu poetry, helping popularise ghazals among younger generations.
- Born in Ayodhya, Bashir Badr gained national recognition through his poetry collections, literary gatherings and mushairas in India and abroad.
- He received prestigious honours, including the Padma Shri and the Sahitya Akademi Award, for his contribution to Urdu literature.
- His poetry frequently explored themes of love, separation, human emotions, social harmony and philosophical reflections.

Static GK

- Urdu is one of the 22 scheduled languages of India.
- The Padma Shri is India's fourth-highest civilian award.
- The headquarters of the Sahitya Akademi is located in New Delhi.

Former CCI Chairman Dhanendra Kumar Died in a Delhi Fire

- Dhanendra Kumar died on 28 May 2026 after a fire broke out at his residence in Hauz Khas Enclave, South Delhi.



- He was a retired 1968-batch IAS officer of the Haryana cadre and also served as Executive Director at the World Bank.
- The fire occurred late on 27 May 2026 and was brought under control by firefighters, police personnel and local residents.
- Preliminary investigations linked the incident to the indoor unit of an air-conditioner, and authorities found no evidence of foul play.
- Dhanendra Kumar was admitted to the AIIMS Trauma Centre due to severe smoke inhalation and later succumbed to his injuries.
- His son, Gourav Kumar, suffered smoke inhalation while attempting a rescue and remained in stable condition.
- Dhanendra Kumar served as the first Chairman of the Competition Commission of India after it became operational in 2009.

Static GK

- The Competition Commission of India is a statutory body established under the Competition Act, 2002.
- The CCI became operational in 2009.
- Dhanendra Kumar was the first Chairman of the CCI.
- The Indian Administrative Service (IAS) is India's premier civil service and includes state cadres such as the Haryana cadre.
- The World Bank is headquartered in Washington, D.C.

Veteran Playback Singer Suman Kalyanpur Died at 89



- Suman Kalyanpur died on 31 May 2026 at the age of 89 due to age-related ailments at her residence in Mumbai.
- She was a renowned playback singer whose career spanned more than six decades across Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Kannada and Assamese film industries.
- Suman Kalyanpur was widely known for popular songs such as Aajkal Tere Mere Pyar Ke Charche and Na Na Karte Pyar Tumhin Se.
- She received the Padma Bhushan in 2023 for her distinguished contribution to Indian music.
- Her last rites were scheduled to be held on 1 June 2026 at the Pawan Hans crematorium in Mumbai.

Static GK

- Suman Kalyanpur was known for playback singing in Hindi and Marathi cinema.
- She also sang in Bengali, Kannada and Assamese languages.
- The Padma Bhushan is India's third-highest civilian award and was instituted in 1954.
- Pawan Hans crematorium is located in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Bharathiraja Passed Away at the Age of 84



- Veteran filmmaker Bharathiraja passed away on 10 June 2026 in Chennai at the age of 84.
- Born as Chinnasamy in Theni in 1941, he became one of the most influential figures in Indian cinema.
- He transformed Tamil cinema by shifting film production from studio sets to real village locations, highlighting rural life and culture.
- His debut film 16 Vayathinile is regarded as a landmark in Tamil cinema.
- Popularly known as "Iyakkunar Imayam", he directed more than 40 films across Tamil, Telugu, and Hindi cinema.
- His notable films include Alaigal Oivathillai, Mudhal Mariyathai, and Karuthamma.
- He received the Padma Shri in 2004 and won six National Film Awards.

Gavri Devi Passed Away at the Age of 98



- Renowned Rajasthani Mand folk singer Gavri Devi passed away on 11 June 2026 at her residence in Pali, Rajasthan, at the age of 98.
- She was born in Koran village of Barmer district and remained associated with Mand singing for nearly eight decades.
- Gavri Devi earned recognition for preserving and promoting Mand, one of Rajasthan's oldest folk music traditions.
- Her popular folk songs included "More Bole Re", which contributed to the popularity of Mand music across the country.
- Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot expressed condolences on her demise.
- Her death marked the loss of a prominent figure in Rajasthan's folk music heritage.

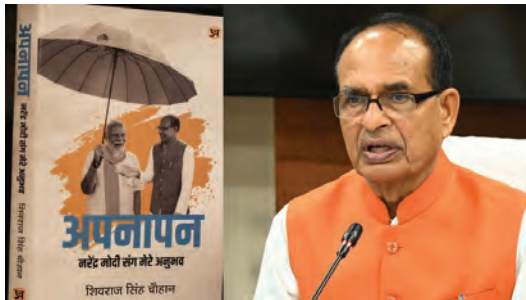
François Englert Died at the Age of 93



- Belgian theoretical physicist François Englert died in 2026 at the age of 93.
- Englert shared the 2013 Nobel Prize in Physics with Peter Higgs for their work on the mechanism that explains how elementary particles acquire mass.

- In 1964, Englert and Robert Brout published a groundbreaking paper on spontaneous symmetry breaking, while Peter Higgs independently developed a similar theory.
- Their work became known as the Brout–Englert–Higgs (BEH) mechanism, which later became a key component of the Standard Model of Particle Physics.
- The theory predicted the existence of the Higgs boson, which was experimentally confirmed in 2012 at CERN through experiments at the Large Hadron Collider.
- The Standard Model explains elementary particles and three fundamental forces—electromagnetic, weak, and strong interactions.
- CERN is located near Geneva.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan Released Apnapan Highlighting His Journey with PM Modi



- Shivraj Singh Chouhan released his book Apnapan on 26 May 2026 at the NASC Complex, highlighting his long association with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The book recounts Chouhan's personal experiences, organisational journey and governance insights gained while working with Modi for more than three decades.
- The release ceremony was attended by former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu and former Prime Minister H. D. Deve Gowda.
- The narrative revisits the Ekta Yatra, during which Chouhan and Modi worked together in the BJP's organisational expansion.

Static GK

- NASC Complex is located in Pusa, New Delhi.
- Shivraj Singh Chouhan served as the longest-serving Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.
- The Ekta Yatra was led by Murli Manohar Joshi in 1991.
- Narendra Modi became India's Prime Minister in 2014.

Vice President Released Agatthiyar – The Unifier in New Delhi



- Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan released the book Agatthiyar – The Unifier at Uprashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.
- He stated that India's unity is an ancient civilisational reality nurtured over thousands of years by sages and enlightened thinkers.
- The book highlights the legacy of Agatthiyar and his role in strengthening India's cultural and spiritual unity.
- The Vice President described sages and rishis as the true architects of national integration and called Agatthiyar a symbol of unity between different regions of Bharat.
- He praised Kalaimagal for publishing the book and noted its contribution to preserving Tamil literature, culture, and heritage for more than 95 years.

Chapter 16

Important Days



World Turtle Day 2026 Was Observed on 23 May



- World Turtle Day 2026 was observed on 23 May to raise awareness about the protection of turtles, tortoises and their declining habitats.
- The annual observance was founded in 2000 by American Tortoise Rescue to promote conservation, rescue efforts and responsible treatment of turtle species worldwide.
- The 2026 theme, “I Love Turtle,” encouraged participation in habitat protection, beach clean-up activities and anti-poaching campaigns.
- Environmental groups highlighted threats to turtles from plastic pollution, illegal wildlife trade, habitat destruction, climate change and fishing-net entanglement.
- Scientists noted that turtles have existed for over 200 million years and play an important role in maintaining marine and freshwater ecosystems.

Static GK

- World Turtle Day is celebrated annually on 23 May.
- India is home to several endangered turtle species, including the Olive Ridley Turtle, Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle and Hawksbill Turtle, which are protected under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers Was Observed on 29 May 2026

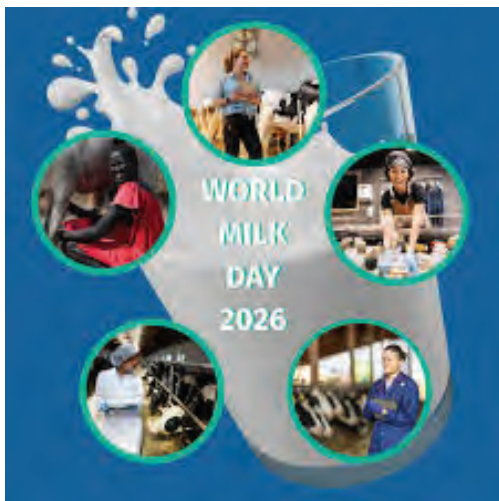


- The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers was observed globally on 29 May 2026 to honour the service and sacrifice of UN peacekeepers serving in conflict zones worldwide.
- The day commemorated the establishment of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), which was launched on 29 May 1948.
- The 2026 theme highlighted the contributions of peacekeepers to peace, security, humanitarian assistance and civilian protection.
- Since 1948, more than two million peacekeepers have served in over 70 UN peacekeeping missions across the world.

Static GK

- The United Nations was established on 24 October 1945.
- The UN headquarters is located in New York City.
- The United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) operates in the Middle East and is the UN's oldest peacekeeping mission.
- The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to UN Peacekeeping Forces in 1988.
- India's first participation in a UN peacekeeping mission was in Korea in 1950.

World Milk Day 2026 Was Observed on 1 June



- World Milk Day 2026 was observed on 1 June to recognize the importance of milk as a global food and the contribution of the dairy sector to nutrition, livelihoods, and economic development.
- The observance highlighted the role of the dairy industry in supporting food security and rural economies worldwide.
- The theme for World Milk Day 2026 was “Celebrating Women Farmers.”
- The theme recognized the vital contributions of women in dairy farming, animal care, milk production, and rural entrepreneurship.
- The day continued to promote awareness about the significance of milk and dairy products across the world.

Static GK

- World Milk Day was established in 2001 by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- India is the world’s largest producer of milk.
- Operation Flood was launched in 1970.
- National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is headquartered in Anand.
- Verghese Kurien is known as the Father of the White Revolution in India.

Telangana Formation Day Was Observed on 2 June

- Telangana Formation Day was observed on 2 June 2026 to commemorate the creation of Telangana as a separate state on 2 June 2014.



- Telangana became India’s 29th state, marking the culmination of a decades-long movement for separate statehood.
- The 2026 observance marked the 12th anniversary of the state’s formation.
- Celebrations included flag hoisting, parades, tributes to Telangana martyrs, cultural performances, and public events across the state.
- The main official ceremony was held in Hyderabad, where state leaders reviewed achievements and future development goals.
- The day honored the sacrifices of people who participated in the Telangana movement for political, economic, and cultural recognition.

Static GK

- Telangana was officially formed on 2 June 2014 and became India’s 29th state.
- Capital of Telangana: Hyderabad.
- The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 paved the way for Telangana’s creation.
- K. Chandrashekar Rao became the first Chief Minister of the state.

World Environment Day 2026 Was Observed on 5 June



- World Environment Day 2026 was observed on 5 June 2026 under the leadership of the United Nations Environment Programme to promote global environmental awareness and action.

- The theme for 2026 was “Inspired by Nature: For Climate. For Our Future.”, with the campaign driven by the global call-to-action #NowForClimate.
- Azerbaijan hosted the global celebrations, with the main events taking place in Baku.
- The theme emphasized climate action, ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation, pollution reduction, and the adoption of sustainable lifestyles.
- The campaign promoted nature-based solutions such as forest restoration, wetland conservation, mangrove protection, sustainable agriculture, and biodiversity conservation.
- The observance highlighted major environmental challenges including climate change, plastic pollution, biodiversity loss, deforestation, air pollution, water stress, ocean degradation, and unsustainable consumption.

Static GK

- World Environment Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972 following the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.
- The first World Environment Day was celebrated on 5 June 1973.
- UNEP is headquartered in Nairobi.
- World Environment Day is observed annually on 5 June.

World Oceans Day 2026 Was Observed on 8 June



- World Oceans Day 2026 was observed on 8 June to raise awareness about the importance of oceans in sustaining life on Earth.
- The theme for 2026 was “Reimagine: Beyond the World We Know, a New Relationship with Our Ocean.”
- The theme encouraged people to view oceans as ecosystems that require conservation, restoration,

and sustainable management rather than mere resources for exploitation.

- Oceans were highlighted as covering more than 70% of Earth’s surface and producing at least 50% of the world’s oxygen.
- Oceans were recognized as a major source of food, supporting biodiversity, regulating climate, facilitating global trade, and sustaining millions of livelihoods.
- The observance drew attention to major threats such as overfishing, plastic pollution, ocean acidification, coral reef destruction, rising sea temperatures, and biodiversity loss.
- Global estimates indicated that nearly 90% of large fish populations declined, while around 50% of coral reefs were destroyed.
- The concept of World Oceans Day was proposed during the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- The United Nations General Assembly officially designated 8 June as World Oceans Day through Resolution 63/111 on 5 December 2008.
- The day remained closely linked to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, which focuses on conserving and sustainably using oceans, seas, and marine resources.
- The observance highlighted that ocean acidity increased by about 26% since the Industrial Revolution, emphasizing the need for stronger conservation efforts.

World Oceans Day 2026 Was Observed on 8 June



- World Oceans Day 2026 was observed on 8 June to promote awareness about ocean conservation and sustainable use of marine resources.
- The observance highlighted the role of oceans in regulating climate, supporting biodiversity, and sustaining livelihoods.
- The day was officially recognized by the United Nations in 2008 and has been celebrated globally since 2009.
- Oceans cover nearly 71% of Earth's surface and produce around 50% of the oxygen humans breathe.
- Oceans also absorb a significant share of global carbon emissions, helping to mitigate climate change.

World Day Against Child Labour 2026 Was Observed on 12 June



- World Day Against Child Labour was observed on 12 June 2026 to promote global action against child labour and child exploitation.
- The 2026 theme was “Red Card to Child Labour: Fair Play for Children, Decent Work for Adults.”
- The observance highlighted the importance of quality education, social protection, and decent livelihoods for families.
- The day was launched by the International Labour Organization in 2002.
- Around 138 million children remain engaged in child labour globally, including nearly 54 million in hazardous work.
- The initiative supports SDG Target 8.7, which aims to eliminate child labour in all forms.

Static GK

- The International Labour Organization was founded in 1919 and became a UN specialized agency in 1946.

Global Wind Day 2026 Was Observed on 15 June



- Global Wind Day 2026 was observed on 15 June 2026 to promote wind energy and renewable power.
- The observance was organised by WindEurope and the Global Wind Energy Council.
- India hosted the Global Wind Day 2026 Conference in Goa under the theme “Wind Energy: From Ambition to Acceleration.”
- The global theme for 2026 was “Our wind, our community.”
- India ranked 4th globally in installed wind power capacity, which increased from 21.04 GW in 2014 to 56.09 GW in March 2026.
- An additional 28 GW of wind power capacity remained under implementation in India.
- Wind energy is projected to meet 9% of global electricity demand by 2030.

World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought: 17 June



- World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2026 was observed globally on 17 June 2026 to raise awareness about land degradation, desertification, drought resilience, and sustainable land management.
- The observance is led by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and highlights the need to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) while supporting climate action, biodiversity conservation, and food security.
- Desertification affects billions of people worldwide, with degraded land reducing agricultural productivity, threatening livelihoods, increasing water stress, and accelerating climate-related vulnerabilities.

Static GK

- World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought: Observed annually on 17 June since 1995.
- The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification was adopted in 1994 and entered into force in 1996.
- UNCCD Headquarters: Bonn.

World Crocodile Day 2026: 17 June



- World Crocodile Day is observed annually on 17 June to raise awareness about crocodile conservation worldwide.
- The day highlights threats such as habitat destruction, illegal hunting, pollution, and climate change affecting crocodilian species.
- Conservation organizations, zoos, wildlife authorities, and researchers conduct awareness and protection campaigns.
- India is home to three crocodilian species: Mugger Crocodile, Saltwater Crocodile, and Gharial.
- The observance promotes biodiversity conservation and protection of wetland ecosystems critical for crocodile survival.

Static GK

- Gharial Scientific Name – *Gavialis gangeticus*
- Gharial Conservation Centre – National Chambal Sanctuary
- Saltwater Crocodile Largest Population in India – Bhitarkanika National Park, Odisha
- IUCN Status of Gharial – Critically Endangered

World Refugee Day: 20 June



- World Refugee Day is observed annually on 20 June to honor refugees worldwide and raise awareness about their challenges and rights.
- Established by the United Nations, the day recognizes the courage and resilience of people forced to flee their homes due to conflict, persecution, violence, or natural disasters.
- The observance highlights the importance of international cooperation in protecting displaced populations and ensuring access to education, healthcare, employment, and legal rights.
- Refugee issues remain a major global humanitarian concern, with millions displaced across various regions.
- The day also emphasizes the role of governments, international organizations, and civil society in supporting refugee integration and humanitarian assistance.

Static GK

- UNHCR is the UN Refugee Agency.
- UNHCR was established in 1950.
- UN headquarters is in New York.

International Day of Yoga: 21 June 2026

- International Day of Yoga was celebrated worldwide on 21 June 2026.



- Narendra Modi led the 12th International Day of Yoga celebrations at Red Road, Kolkata.
- The theme of International Day of Yoga 2026 was “Yoga for Healthy Ageing.”
- The event included a mass yoga session attended by thousands of participants and synchronised yoga programmes across Kolkata.
- More than 210 Indian Missions abroad and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) organized Yoga Day programmes at nearly 2,500 locations worldwide.
- The Ministry of Ayush coordinated national efforts for the celebration and promotion of yoga.

Static GK

- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared 21 June as the International Day of Yoga in 2014.
- The first International Day of Yoga was observed on 21 June 2015.
- 21 June is the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere.

United Nations Public Service Day: 23 June



- United Nations Public Service Day was observed on 23 June 2026 to recognize the contribution of public servants and public institutions in improving people's lives.
- The observance highlighted the role of government officials, healthcare workers, educators, law enforcement personnel, and other public servants in delivering essential public services.
- The day promoted excellence, innovation, transparency, accountability, and citizen-centric governance in public administration.
- The theme of the 2026 Forum was “Transforming Public Institutions: Advancing Innovation, Participation, and Inclusion.”
- The United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA) recognized innovative public service initiatives that improved governance and public administration worldwide.

Static GK

- UNPSA was established in 2003.
- UNPSA is regarded as the highest international recognition in public service.
- The awards honor public institutions and organizations, not individual public servants.