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National

MHA Extended CAA Registration Cut-Off Date Till December 31, 2024

In September 2025, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has extended the cut-off date for entry into India for applying under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (CAA), till **December 31, 2024**, from its previous cut-off date of December 31, 2014.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Extension of CAA Registration Cut-off Date
- **Extended by:** MHA
- **New Cut-Off Date:** December 31, 2024 (from December 31, 2014)
- **Act:** Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (CAA)
- **Purpose:** To grant Indian citizenship to non-Muslims who are facing persecution in their country
- **Countries Covered:** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan

About CAA Registration Cut-Off Extension 2024:

Eligibility Extension: This extension enables persecuted minorities, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians, from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan who entered India on or before December 31, 2024, to apply for Indian citizenship.

Document Exemption: Individuals from these communities who entered India without valid documents, or whose documents have expired, are exempted from the requirement of possessing a valid passport or visa.

Aim: This move aims to facilitate the legal settlement and integration of these individuals who fled religious persecution.

Highlights of 56th GST Council Meeting Held in New Delhi

The **56th** Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council meeting, chaired by Union Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman**, Ministry of Finance (MoF) was held from September 02 to September 03, 2025 at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan in New Delhi, Delhi.

- The GST Council has approved **Next-Gen GST reforms**, effective **September 22, 2025**, (except, tobacco and tobacco-related products as they will be specified by MoF) aimed at improving the lives of the common man and ensuring Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) for all, including small traders and businessman.

Approval of 2-Slab Structure: The GST council has unanimously approved a **two-tier** tax structure of **5% and 18%**, replacing the previous 4-tier rate structure of 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%.

Special Demerit Rate: Apart from the new tax structure, the council has also introduced an additional slab i.e. a special demerit rate of **40%** for select items, including tobacco and luxury items.

Revised GST Rates:

Food and Household Sector: GST rate for products like Ultra-High Temperature (UHT) milk, Pre-packaged and labelled chena or paneer, all the Indian breads have been revised down from **5%-18% to NIL**.

Education: The GST rate for most of the study essentials such as pencils & sharpeners, notebooks, exercise books, among others, reduced from 12% to 0%.

- Similarly, other items like geometry boxes, school cartons, trays, revised down from 12% to 5%.

Medical Sector: The GST rate for 33 life-saving drugs like Agalsidase Beta, Imiglucerase, Atezolizumab and many others; and diagnostic kits, reduced **from 12% to 0%**.

About Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council:

GST Council is a constitutional body introduced through **101st Amendment Act, 2016** in the constitution. It was constituted under **Article 279-A** of the constitution.

Chairperson- Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Ministry of Finance(MoF)

Arundhati Roy Launches Her Memoir ‘Mother Mary Comes to Me’ in Kerala

Arundhati Roy, an Indian author and activist, released her first Memoir titled “Mother Mary Comes to Me” at an event held at Mother Mary Hall of Saint (St). Teresa’s College, organized by Penguin Random House India, and DC Books, in Kochi, Kerala.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Release of Memoir
- **Name of Memoir:** “Mother Mary Comes to Me”
- **Where?** Kochi, Kerala
- **Author:** Arundhati Roy
- **Publisher:** Penguin Random House India and Hamish Hamilton
- **Booker Prize:** The God of Small Things (1997)

About the Memoir:

Publisher: The book has been published by **Penguin Random House India**, in collaboration with Hamish Hamilton.

Legacy of Mary Roy: The book describes the life and legacy of her mother, Mary Roy. She describes her as a brilliant and an independent woman who challenged patriarchal laws through the Mary Roy versus State of Kerala case in 1986.

About Arundhati Roy: Arundhati Roy’s first novel ‘The God of Small Things (1997) won the Booker Prize and became a bestseller. Her second novel ‘The Ministry of Utmost Happiness (2017)’ was longlisted for the Booker Prize..

- Her other works include The Algebra of Infinite Justice, War Talk, Listening to Grasshoppers, and Azadi.
- She has been awarded the Sydney Peace Prize in 2004 and Norman Mailer Prize for Distinguished Writing in 2011.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated SEMICON India 2025 in New Delhi; Unveils 'Vikram-32' Microprocessor

Prime Minister (PM) **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **4th** edition of **SEMICON India** at Yashobhoomi (India International Convention & Expo Centre) at New Delhi, Delhi.

- The event was held, under the theme "**Building the Next Semiconductor Powerhouse**" from September 2 to 4, 2025.

Highlights of SEMICON India 2025:

Organizer: The event was jointly organized by the India Semiconductor Mission (**ISM**), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (**MeitY**), and Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International (**SEMI**), the global semiconductor industry association.

Launch of Vikram-32 Microprocessor:

First Made-in-India Chip: During the event, Union Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, MeitY, Ministry of Railways (MoR), presented "**Vikram-32**", India's first indigenous 32-bit semiconductor microprocessor, to PM Narendra Modi,

Amazon Acquires Axio for USD 200 million to Expand Digital Lending Business in India

In September 2025, **Amazon India** has completed the acquisition of fintech company **Axio** (formerly Capital Float), securing approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This deal, estimated at around **USD 200 million** (Rs. 1,762 crore), marks one of Amazon's largest investments in India.

- The acquisition allows Amazon to expand into credit products and broaden its range of financial services.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Amazon's acquisition of Axio
- **Value of Deal:** Approx. USD 200 million (Rs. 1,762 crore)
- **Key Asset Gained:** NBFC license from RBI
- **Impact:** BNPL & loan services via Amazon Pay.

Highlights of the Acquisition:

Leadership Continuity: Founders Sashank Rishyasringa and Gaurav Hinduja will continue to lead Axio, which will function as a wholly-owned Amazon subsidiary. **NBFC License:** With this acquisition, Amazon India gains a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) license, enabling direct lending to consumers and small businesses in India.

Existing partnership: Axio has powered Amazon Pay's Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) services for six years; the acquisition formalizes and expands this partnership.

COAS General Upendra Dwivedi Launches Book 'Operation Sindoos' by Retd. Lt. Gen. K.J.S. Dhillon

General **Upendra Dwivedi**, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) of the Indian Army (IA), launched a book titled '**Operation Sindoos: The Untold Stories of India's Deep**

Strikes Inside Pakistan', authored by Lieutenant General Kanwal Jeet Singh (K.J.S) Dhillon (Retired), at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi, Delhi.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Launch of Book 'Operation Sindoor: The Untold Stories of India's Deep Strikes Inside Pakistan' 1
- **By Whom?** General Upendra Dwivedi, COAS
- **Author:** Lt. Gen. K.J.S. Dhillon (Retd.)
- **Where?** New Delhi, Delhi
- **Publisher:** Penguin Random House India

About the Book :

Publisher: The book has been published by **Penguin Random House India**.

Content: The book details India's military response, Operation Sindoor, to the **April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack**, offering insights into planning, execution, challenges, emotions, and strategic lessons, including aspects usually undisclosed due to uniform restrictions.

Significance: It highlights political clarity, strategic guidance, force application, narrative management, and international relations, while serving as a tribute to the IA's courage, professionalism, and whole-of-nation approach.

NBWL Approves Proposal to Integrate Matla, Raidighi, Ramganga with Sundarbans Tiger Reserve

The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC), chaired by Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, MoEFCC, approved the West Bengal(WB) government's proposal to integrate three forest ranges such as **Matla**, **Raidighi**, and **Ramganga** from the South 24 Parganas district of approximately 1,044.68 Square Kilometre (Sq. Km) into the **Sundarbans Tiger Reserve** (STR).

- With this move, the reserve areas increase to around 3,629.57 sq.km, making it India's **2nd** largest TR, following Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam TR (Andhra Pradesh, AP) with approximately 3,727.82 Sq Km.

Expansion of Sundarbans TR:

Better Management: The integration of the forest ranges, brings these tiger-inhabited areas under unified management, enabling better implementation of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) guidelines, efficient patrolling, and allocation of funds from the Government of India (GoI).

- It facilitates the designation of core or buffer zones for more structured conservation efforts.

Tiger Population: According to the latest census, the STR hosts an estimated 101 tigers: 80 within the current Tiger Reserve and 21 in the adjoining South 24 Parganas forests.

Recognition: In 1987, It was designated a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site(WHS).

In 1989, it was recognized as a Biosphere Reserve(BR) by UNESCO

Indian Railways Renamed Ahmednagar Railway Station as 'Ahilyanagar' in Maharashtra

Indian Railways(IR) officially renamed the Ahmednagar Railway Station of Pune Division in Maharashtra to **Ahilyanagar** as a tribute to Ahilyabai Holkar, the 18th-century Maratha queen renowned for her contributions to public welfare and governance.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Ahmednagar Railway Station renamed as Ahilyanagar
- **By Whom?** Indian Railways(IR)
- **Reason:** Tribute to Ahilyabai Holkar and alignment with district name
- **Station Code:** ANG (unchanged)

About Ahilyanagar Railway Station:

Approval: The renaming was implemented after the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) approved the proposal submitted by the Maharashtra government.

Background: This decision aligns with the Government of Maharashtra's move to rename Ahmednagar district as **Ahilyanagar district**.

Implementation: The new name Ahilyanagar will be reflected across all platforms, timetables, and signage, while the railway station code '**ANG**' will remain unchanged.

Mercedes-Benz Hurun India Wealth Report 2025: Maharashtra Topped India's Wealth Map with 1.78 Lakh Households

Hurun India in partnership with Mercedes-Benz released its latest 'Mercedes-Benz Hurun India Wealth Report and Luxury Consumer Survey 2025'. As per the Mercedes-Benz Hurun India Report 2025, **Maharashtra** has consolidated its position as **India's richest state** with **1.78 lakh** millionaire households, witnessing an increase of 194% since 2021.

- It is followed by **Delhi** (79,800); **Tamil Nadu, TN (72,600)**; **Karnataka** (68,800); and **Gujarat** (68,300) ranked at 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th position, respectively.

Key Findings:

Other Top 10 States: Uttar Pradesh (UP) (57,700, ranked at 6th spot); Telangana (51,700, ranked at 7th spot); West Bengal, WB (50,400, ranked at 8th spot); Rajasthan (33,100, ranked at 9th spot); and Haryana (30,500, ranked at 10th spot).

Top 10 States Representation: Cumulatively, the **top 10 states** in India account for **over 79%** of the millionaire families, attributed mainly by increasing GSDP and business formalization across technology, finance, and industrial sectors.

Millionaire Capital: Among Indian Cities, **Mumbai** (known as the financial capital of India), has emerged as the '**Millionaire Capital**' with 1.42 lakh millionaire households, followed by New Delhi, Delhi (68,200) and Bengaluru, Karnataka (31,600) ranked at 2nd and 3rd position, respectively.

Banking Preferences: As per the latest Luxury Consumer Survey 2025', conducted among

150 India millionaires, **HDFC Bank Limited** emerged as the most preferred Indian private bank and **Citibank** was voted as the top international private bank.

PM Narendra Modi Launched Bihar's Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana

Prime Minister (PM) **Narendra Modi** launched the 'Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana, an initiative of the Government of Bihar through video conferencing from New Delhi (Delhi).

- During the launch, he directly transferred **Rs 10,000 each** into the bank accounts of **75 lakh** women across Bihar, amounting to a total transfer of **Rs 7,500 crore**.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Launch of Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana
- **By Whom?** PM Narendra Modi (via video conferencing)
- **Financial Transfer:** Rs 10,000 each, total Rs 7,500 crore
- **Beneficiaries:** 75 lakh women (one woman per family)
- **Additional Support:** Up to Rs 2 lakh in later phases
- **Implementer:** Government of Bihar with support from SHGs
- **Focus Areas:** Agriculture, animal husbandry, tailoring, weaving, handicrafts, and other small-scale enterprises

Dignitaries: The launch event was attended virtually by Bihar Chief Minister (CM) **Nitish Kumar**, Deputy CMs **Samrat Choudhary** and **Vijay Kumar Sinha**, and was witnessed live by over **1 crore women** across the State.

About Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana:

Beneficiary: Empowering one woman from each family in Bihar by promoting self-employment, livelihood opportunities, and financial support to ensure economic independence, social upliftment, and Aatmanirbhar (self-reliant) women.

Financial Assistance: An initial transfer of **Rs. 10,000** via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), followed by performance-based assistance of up to **Rs. 2 lakh** in subsequent phases.

Sectors Covered: Agriculture, animal husbandry, handicrafts, tailoring, weaving, poultry farming, and other small enterprises.

Implementation: A community-driven model through Self-Help Groups (SHGs) resource persons, providing beneficiaries with skill training, market linkages via **Gramin Haat-Bazaars**, and financial integration through Bihar Jeevika Nidhi Credit Cooperative Society (**Jeevika Nidhi**).

Himachal Pradesh's cold desert biosphere reserve gets UNESCO tag

The **37th Session** of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (**UNESCO**) International Coordinating Council for the Man and the Biosphere (**MAB**) Programme was held in Paris, France.

- During this session, India's Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve (CDBR), **Himachal Pradesh** (HP) was included in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR).

India specific Key Highlights:

Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve: The Cold Desert becomes India's **13th** biosphere reserve to enter the UNESCO WNBR.

- The reserve spans 7,770 sq.km (square kilometre) across HP's **Lahaul-Spiti district**.

Ramsar Sites: India also added two new Ramsar sites from Bihar, **Gokul Jalashay** (448 hectare (ha)) in Buxar district and **Udaipur Jheel** (319 ha) in West Champaran district of Bihar.

- With 93 Ramsar sites spanning 13,60,719 ha, India is **1st in Asia** in terms of the number of sites and **3rd** in the world overall after the UK (176) and Mexico (144).

International

Overview of PM Narendra Modi's Visit to Japan from August 29 to 30, 2025

The Prime Minister (PM) of India, **Narendra Modi** undertook a two-day official visit to Japan from August 29 to 30 2025, at the invitation of **Shigeru Ishiba**, PM of Japan. This marked PM Modi's **8th** visit to Japan and 1st to attend the 15th India-Japan Annual Summit.

Key Highlights of the Visit:

India-Japan Economic Forum: PM Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shigeru Ishiba attended the India-Japan Economic Forum held in Tokyo, Japan. The forum was jointly organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Keidanren, Japan Business Federation.

15th India-Japan Annual Summit: PM Narendra Modi and Japanese PM Shigeru Ishiba attended the **15th India-Japan Annual Summit** held at Kantei (Japan), the official residence of Japanese PM.

- Both India and Japan have expanded their Special Strategic and Global Partnership with the signing of **13 MoUs** and other agreements covering human resource exchange, environment, digital technologies, space and cultural cooperation.

Investment: Japan has pledged to raise investments worth Japanese Yen (**JPY**) **10 trillion** (approximately USD 65 billion) into India over the next 10 years.

Gift: During his 2-day visit to Japan, PM Modi was gifted with a traditional **Daruma doll** by Rev Seishi Hirose, Chief Priest of the Shorinzan Daruma-ji temple, Takasaki Gunma in Tokyo, Japan.

- He presented a set of vintage precious stone bowls with silver chopsticks to his Japanese counterpart Ishiba.
- He also presented a Kashmiri **Pashmina Shawl** made from the soft undercoat of the **Changthangi goat** (found in Ladakh, India) in hand-painted papier mache box to the spouse of Japan's PM.

Overview of PM Modi's Visit to China from August 31 to September 01, 2025

After concluding his visit to Japan, Prime Minister (PM) of India, Narendra Modi undertook a 2-day official visit to China from **August 31 to September 01, 2025** as 2nd leg of his two-nation tour, at the invitation of **Xi Jinping**, President of China.

- PM Narendra Modi arrived in **Tianjin**, northern port city of China to attend the 25th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit. This marked his 1st official visit to China since 2018.

Key Highlights of PM Narendra Modi's Visit to China:

Attended 25th SCO Summit: He addressed the plenary session of the **25th** meeting of the Council of Heads of State (**CHS**) of the SCO held in **Tianjin**, highlighting India's efforts to strengthen cooperation within the SCO framework.

Bilateral Meetings: He also held bilateral meetings with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, and several other leaders, on the sidelines of the SCO Summit.

Highlights of 25th SCO Meetings:

SCO-CHS: China, 2025 Chair of the SCO, hosted the 25th meeting of the SCO-CHS was held from August 31 to September 1, 2025 at the Meijiang International Convention and Exhibition Center under the presidency of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

- **Theme:** ‘Upholding the Shanghai Spirit: SCO on the Move’.

New Dialogue Partner: The CHS of SCO member nations granted the status of SCO dialogue partner to **Laos People's Democratic Republic (PDR)**.

- Following the inclusion of Laos as dialogue partner, the SCO grouping now comprises 10 members and 17 partners.

Next Presidency: At the conclusion of SCO Summit, **Kyrgyzstan** assumed the SCO's rotating chairmanship for **2025-26**.

- Also, 26th SCO-CHS meeting will be held in **Bishkek**, the capital city of Kyrgyzstan, under the theme '25 Years of the SCO: together for a stable world, development, and prosperity'.
- While, **Pakistan** will hold the SCO's rotating chairmanship for 2026-27 and will host the 27th SCO-CHS meeting in its capital city, Islamabad.

Overview of Singapore PM Lawrence Wong's Visit to India from September 2 to 4, 2025

Prime Minister (PM) of Singapore **Lawrence Wong** was on a three-day official visit from September 2 to 4, 2025. He visited India for the first time, marking the **60th** anniversary of diplomatic relations between Singapore and India.

- On September 2, 2025, he arrived in India, along with senior ministers, including Vivian Balakrishnan, Jeffrey Siow, and Gan Siow Huang at the invitation of Prime Minister (PM) of India, Narendra Modi.

Highlights of Singapore PM Lawrence Wong's Visit to India:

Meeting : During the visit, Singaporean PM Lawrence Wong met PM Narendra Modi and President Droupadi Murmu in New Delhi(Delhi), focusing on trade, digitalization, sustainability, advanced manufacturing, healthcare, skills, and urban development.

Adoption of CSP: PM Narendra Modi and Singaporean PM Lawrence Wong adopted the “**Roadmap for the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP)**”, to enhance the strategic cooperation between India and Singapore

- The roadmap for CSP lays emphasis on **eight pillars** such as Economic Cooperation, Skill Development & Education, Digitalization and Innovation, Sustainability, Connectivity, Healthcare & Medicine, People-to-People & Cultural Exchange, and Defence & Security, to deepen bilateral relations.

Defence

India, Thailand Joint Military Exercise ‘Maitree 2025’ Begins in Umroi, Meghalaya

The 14th edition of the “Exercise Maitree”, a joint annual military exercise between the Indian Army (IA) and the Royal Thai Army (RTA) has begun at the Foreign Training Node (FTN) in Umroi, Meghalaya.

- The exercise, scheduled from September 1 to 14, 2025, is designed to enhance the operational capabilities of IA and RTA in counter-terrorism operation in semi-urban terrain.

Exam Hints:

- **Event?** Exercise Maitree 2025
- **When?** September 1-14, 2025
- **Where?** Umroi, Meghalaya
- **Armies:** Indian Army (IA) and the Royal Thai Army (RTA)
- **2025 Edition:** 14th
- **First Edition:** 2006
- **Purpose:** To enhance counter terrorism capabilities in semi-urban terrain

Background:

First edition: The exercise began in 2006, conducted alternatively by India and Thailand. **Maitree:** The word “Maitree” means “friendship” in Sanskrit and Thai languages, symbolizing the historical, cultural, and defence ties between India and Thailand.

Aim: The exercise aims to share best practices and improve tactical coordination in alignment with United Nations (UN) peacekeeping standards.

Previous Edition: The 13th edition took place at Fort Vachiraprakan in Tak Province of Thailand.

Exercise Maitree 2025:

Participation: The exercise features combined training of infantry components, with each side typically contributing 50 to 76 soldiers.

Objectives: The key objectives of the exercise are to focus on the counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency operations in semi-urban and jungle terrain, to enhance joint planning, decision-making, and execution of military operations.

- It also aims to reinforce cooperation in maintaining peace and security in the Indo-Pacific and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region.

Training Activities: The exercise comprises tactical drills such as establishing joint operation and surveillance centres, drones and counter-drone operations; Weapons training such as Close-quarter battle drills, live firing; Field Exercises such as Jungle warfare maneuvers; Mission Simulation, including Evacuation, hostage rescue, cordon-and-search operations.

Significance: India hosts the Exercise Maitree after 5 years since 2019.

About Meghalaya:

Chief Minister (CM) – Conrad Sangma

India-USA Joint Military Exercise ‘Yudh Abhyas 2025’ Begins in Alaska, USA

On 1 September 2025, the 21st edition of the India—the United States of America(USA) joint military exercise “Yudh Abhyas(YA-2025)” commenced at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, the USA.

- The exercise is scheduled to run until 14 September 2025.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** 21st edition India-USA Joint Military Exercise
- **Name of Exercise:** Yudh Abhyas 2025
- **When?** September 1-14, 2025 (14 days)
- **Where?** Fort Wainwright, Alaska, USA
- **Participants:**
- **India:** Contingent from battalion of Madras Regiment
- **USA :** 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment “Bobcats”, Arctic Wolves Brigade Combat Team, 11th Airborne Division
- **Objective:** Strengthen bilateral defence cooperation, multi-domain readiness, and UN peacekeeping capabilities

Background:

Overview: Yudh Abhyas is an annual bilateral military exercise conducted between the armies of India and the USA, which was first initiated in **2004**.

Location: The Yudh Abhyas exercise is held alternately between India and the USA.

Scope: The exercise is often conducted under Chapter VII of the United Nations(UN) **Charter**, focusing on missions such as counter-terrorism, peacekeeping, and humanitarian assistance.

Previous Edition: The last edition of Yudh Abhyas was conducted at the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.

About Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2025:

Participants: The Indian contingent comprises personnel from a battalion of the **Madras Regiment**.

- They will train with soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment “Bobcats” from the Arctic Wolves Brigade Combat Team, 11th Airborne Division of the USA Army.

Indian Air Force Retires MiG-21 Fighter Aircraft

The Indian Air Force (IAF) officially retired its iconic (Mikoyan-Gurevich) **MiG-21 fighter** jets in a grand decommissioning ceremony at the Chandigarh Air Force Station (known as 12 Wing, AF), Chandigarh.

- The Russian-origin supersonic jets, inducted in **1963**, served as the backbone of India's air power for more than **six decades (62 years)** marking the end of an era in Indian military aviation.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Farewell Ceremony for MiG-21 fighter jets
- **Ceremony Venue?** Sept 26, 2025 at Chandigarh Air Force Station
- **Induction Year:** 1963, (Russian-origin); over 870 aircraft inducted.
- **Indian Manufacturer:** Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- **Last Squadron:** No. 23 "Panthers"
- **Replacement Aircraft:** LCA Tejas Mk1A.
- **Wars Participated:** 1965 Indo-Pak War; 1971 India-Pakistan War; 1999 Kargil Conflict; 2019 Balakot airstrikes.

Farewell Ceremony Highlights:

Dignitaries: Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence (MoD), Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, and senior veterans were present.

Final Flypast: The last batch of MiG-21s from **No. 23 Squadron "Panthers"** performed a ceremonial flypast.

Final Sortie: Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh flew the final sortie in call sign *Badal 3*. Squadron Leader Priya Sharma, one of IAF's first female fighter pilots, became the last woman to fly the MiG-21. On landing, the jets were honoured with a water cannon salute.

Special Displays: The event featured a skydiving demonstration by IAF's elite Akash Ganga team from 8,000 feet.

About the MiG:

Legacy: Inducted in 1963, the MiG-21 was India's first supersonic fighter, with its maiden squadron the 28 Squadron at Chandigarh earning the nickname First Supersonics.

Operational Role: Over its lifetime, more than **870** MiG-21 aircraft were procured, many built by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (**HAL**).

Combat History: Played key roles in the **1965 Indo-Pak War**, the **1971 India-Pakistan War**, the **1999 Kargil Conflict**, and the **2019 Balakot airstrikes**.

Mixed Reputation: Known as the IAF's "workhorse", it also earned the nickname "**flying coffin**" due to accidents from aging fleets.

- More than 400 MiG-21s accidents took place, causing significant loss of life.

Future of the IAF Fleet

Replacement: The retired squadrons will be replaced by the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (**LCA**) **Tejas Mk1A**, with No. 23 Squadron being the first to transition.

Planned Acquisitions: Expansion includes Rafale fighters and the indigenous Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (**AMCA**) to modernize India's aerial defense.

Appointments or Resign/Retired

Gov Appoints T.C.A Kalyani as 29th CGA with Immediate Effect

Government of India (GoI) appointed **T.C.A Kalyani**, a 1991 batch Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) officer, as the **29th** Controller General of Accounts (CGA) in the Department of Expenditure (DoE), Ministry of Finance (MoF) with immediate effect.

- She succeeds **S.S. Dubey**, who retires on August 31, 2025, after serving in the role since March 2023.

About T.C.A Kalyani:

Key Ministries Served: T.C.A Kalyani has served in ministries, including the Ministry of Defence (MoD), the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) under the Ministry of Communications, the Ministry of Finance (MoF), the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE), the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (MoCF), the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB), and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Previous Role: Before assuming charge as CGA, She served as the Principal Chief Controller of Accounts (Pr. CCA) in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), overseeing the budgeting and accounting.

Contributions: Her expertise includes leading the Direct Benefit Transfer (**DBT**) rollout for farmers' fertilizer purchases, digital transformation of billing systems at Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (**MTNL**), and restructuring financial frameworks at the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (**FCIL**).

Skechers Signs Indian Cricketer Mohammad Siraj as its Brand Ambassador

Skechers USA Inc., the global athletic footwear and apparel powerhouse, signed **Mohammad Siraj**, an Indian cricketer, as its brand ambassador, with an aim to strengthen its expansion into Indian cricket.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Appointment of Brand ambassador
- **Who?** Mohammad Siraj
- **Brand:** Skechers
- **Purpose:** To strengthen its expansion into the Indian cricket
- **Other Appointment:** Suryakumar Yadav for Skyscanner

About Skechers Brand Ambassadors:

Campaigns: As part of the deal, Mohammad Siraj will appear wearing Skechers cricket sneakers in the cricket matches and in the marketing campaigns of Skechers.

Ambassadors: He joins the other cricketers, including Jasprit Bumrah, Ishan Kishan, and Yastika Bhatia as the brand ambassador of Skechers. The other Indian ambassadors include Kriti Sanon, Kartik Aaryan, Ananya Panday, and Sunil Chhetri.

Debut: He represented India in all formats, debuting in Twenty20 International (T20I) in 2017, One Day Internationals (ODIs) in 2019, and Tests in 2020.

- He surpassed Jasprit Bumrah(104 Wicket) to become India's leading pacer in away Test matches during the India-England Test series in August 2025.

Other Appointment: Skyscanner, a leading global travel search engine, has appointed Indian cricketer **Suryakumar 'SKY' Yadav** as its first-ever brand ambassador in India

Anutin Charnvirakul Elected as 32nd PM of Thailand

Anutin Charnvirakul, leader of Thailand's Bhumjaithai Party, was elected as Thailand's 32nd Prime Minister(PM), securing 311 votes in the 493-seat parliament and decisively defeating Chaikasem Nitisiri of the Pheu Thai Party.

- Following royal endorsement by King Maha Vajiralongkorn, he assumed office as PM at a ceremony held in Bangkok, Thailand.
- He succeeded **Paetongtarn Shinawatra** of the Pheu Thai Party, who was dismissed by the Constitutional Court on August 29, 2025, for ethics violations related to a phone call with Cambodia's Senate President during the July 2025 border conflict.

Exam Hints:

- **Whst?** Elected 32nd PM of Thailand
- **Who?** Anutin Charnvirakul
- **Party:** Bhumjaithai Party
- **Endorsed by?** King of Thailand Vajiralongkorn (King Rama X)
- **Succeeds:** Paetongtarn Shinawatra (Pheu Thai Party)

Election Outcome:

Election Majority: Anutin Charnvirakul was elected as PM with **311 votes**, surpassing the required **247-vote majority** in the 492-member House of Representatives.

Rival Outcome: His opponent, **Chaikasem Nitisiri** of the Pheu Thai Party, received 152 votes, while 27 members abstained from voting.

About Anutin Charnvirakul:

Profile: He is a practical politician popular in Thailand's rural northeast and is known for his role in cannabis law changes in 2022.

Business Career: He ran his family's construction business, Sino-Thai Engineering and Construction (STECON), before entering politics.

Political Career: His political journey began in 2000 when he served as an advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2005 and has since held several key positions.

SEBI Appointed 'Injeti Srinivas' as Chairperson of NSE

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) approved the appointment of **Injeti Srinivas**, retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer (1983 batch, Odisha cadre), as the **Chairperson of the Governing Board** of National Stock Exchange of India Limited (**NSE**).

- He succeeds **Girish Chandra Chaturvedi**, whose tenure was completed in 2024, filling the long-standing chairperson vacancy at NSE after nearly two years.
- The appointment comes at a crucial time as the exchange prepares for its long-awaited initial public offering (IPO).

About Injeti Srinivas:

Chairperson of IFSCA: He served as the founding Chairperson of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (**IFSCA**) from July 2020 to July 2023, where he played a key role in building it into a world-class unified regulator for international financial services.

Secretary of MoCA: As Union Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MoCA)(2017–2020), he played a pivotal role in implementing the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (**IBC**).

- He was an **ex-officio member of SEBI** during his tenure as Secretary, MoCA.

France President Emmanuel Macron Appoints Sébastien Lecornu as New PM

Emmanuel Macron, President of France, appointed Sébastien Lecornu, former Defence Minister, as new Prime Minister (**PM**), succeeding François Bayrou, who resigned following a failed confidence vote in the National Assembly.

- At 39, Sébastien Lecornu became the **youngest** person ever to assume the office of PM in France.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Appointment of PM of France
- **Appointer:** France President Emmanuel Macron
- **Prime Minister:** Sébastien Lecornu
- **Significance:** Youngest PM in French history.
- **Predecessor:** François Bayrou

About Sébastien Lecornu:

Early Political Roles: Sébastien Lecornu started his political career in 2002 by joining the Union for a Popular Movement (UMP). He was also the youngest government adviser under then-President Nicolas Sarkozy in 2008, appointed at the age of 22.

- From 2009 to 2012, he was an advisor to Bruno Le Maire, the then Minister of Agriculture.
- In 2014, he was elected Mayor of Vernon and became the President of the Eure Department Council from 2015 to 2017.

Ministry Roles: He served as Secretary of State for Ecological and Inclusive Transition (2017–2018), Minister for Local Authorities (2018–2020), Minister for the Overseas (2020–2022), and Minister of the Armed Forces (2022–2025).

Political Shift: He left the conservative Les Républicains party to join Macron's centrist movement in 2017 and later managed Macron's re-election campaign in 2022.

Awards: He has been honored as Knight of the Order of Agricultural Merit, Knight of the

Order of Arts and Letters, Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of Germany, and Commander of the National Order of the Lion.

About France:

President – Emmanuel Macron

Capital – Paris

Currency – Euro, EUR

Jonas Gahr Store Secured 2nd Consecutive Term as Norway's PM

Jonas Gahr Støre, the leader of Norway's ruling Labour Party, has secured a **2nd** consecutive term as Prime Minister (PM) of Norway, following the 2025 parliamentary elections held on September 8, 2025.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Election Results of PM of Norway
- **Winner:** Jonas Gahr Støre (Labour Party)
- **Re-elected:** 2nd time (previously served as PM from 2021-2025)
- **Defeated:** Sylvi Listhaug (Progress Party), Erna Solberg (Conservative Party)

Election Results:

Victory: The Labour party got **28.2%** of the total votes and 53 seats out of 169 seats, enabling his party to remain in power with the support from 4 other left-wing parties..

Other Parties Result: While, **Sylvi Listhaug**, candidate of Anti-Immigration Progress Party, finished at **2nd** position, securing almost 24% votes and 48 seats.

- Conservative Party leader and former Norway's PM, **Erna Solberg**, finished at the 3rd position, securing only 14.6% votes.

About Jonas Gahr Store:

Political Journey: Jonas Gahr Støre started as a special adviser and director-general in the PM's Office (1989–1997), served under several PMs, and joined the Labour Party in 1995.

WHO: He also worked as Chief of Staff under Norway's 1st Female PM, **Gro Harlem Brundtland** at the World Health Organisation (WHO) from 1998 to 2000.

Ministry Roles: He was appointed as Minister of Foreign Affairs in Jens Stoltenberg government (from 2005 to 2012).

- Later, he served as Minister of Health and Care Services of Norway, till 2013.

Leadership: In 2014, he became the Leader of the Labour Party and has represented Oslo in the Storting (Norwegian Parliament) since 2009.

PM: He was elected as the PM of Norway for the 1st time in October **2021**, after his Labour Party won the parliamentary elections, succeeding Erna Solberg (Conservative Party).

About Norway:

Capital- Oslo

Currency- Norwegian Krone (NOK)

C.P. Radhakrishnan Sworn in as 15th Vice President of India

Former Governor of Maharashtra Chandrapuram Ponnusamy (C.P.) Radhakrishnan has

officially sworn-in as the **15th** Vice President (VP) of India, 2nd highest constitutional office in India and Chairman of the Rajya Sabha (Upper House of the Parliament).

- President of India **Droupadi Murmu** administered the oath to him at a brief ceremony held in Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi, Delhi.
- C.P.Radhakrishnan succeeded **Jagdeep Dhankar**, who resigned from the post of VP on July 21, 2025 due to health issues.

Vice-Presidential Election:

Present Composition: The current composition of Electoral College is 781 due to 6 vacant seats in Rajya Sabha and 1 in Lok Sabha (Lower House of the Parliament).

Voter Turnout: As per Rajya Sabha Secretary General PC Mody, total **767** out of 781 Member of Parliaments (MPs) casted their votes, registering a total voter turnout of **98.2%**.

Election Result: On September 09 2025, **C.P. Radhakrishnan**, candidate of National Democratic Alliance (NDA), was elected as the 15th VP of India, securing **452 votes** against opposition alliance, Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (I.N.D.I.A.) candidate, former Supreme Court Judge **Buchireddy (B.) Sudershan Reddy**, who got 300 votes.

Former Chief Justice Sushila Karki Sworn-in as Nepal's Interim PM

Nepal's former Chief Justice (CJ) **Sushila Karki** was sworn in as Nepal's Interim Prime Minister (PM), becoming the first woman and first female CJ to hold the position.

- She took the oath of office administered by **Ramchandra Paudel**, President of Nepal, during a brief ceremony held at the Presidential Palace 'Sheetal Niwas' in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Appointment of Interim PM
- **Which Country:** Nepal
- **Who?** Sushila Karki, Nepal's former and 1st woman CJ
- **Predecessor:** K.P. Sharma Oli
- **Oath Administered by:** President Ramchandra Paudel
- **Where?** Presidential Palace 'Sheetal Niwas' in Kathmandu (Nepal)
- **Significance:** 1st woman ever to hold Nepal's PM post
- **Notable Position:** Former Chief Justice of Nepal (2016–2017)

Key Details of Appointment:

Reason: Her appointment came following weeks of GenZ-led protests over corruption and unemployment that forced her predecessor **KP Sharma Oli** to resign from the PM post.

General Elections: Following her swearing-in ceremony, the new interim government announced that fresh general elections will be held on March 05, 2026.

About Sushila Karki:

Judicial Experience: She has an extensive experience of 32 years in the judicial profession. She began her law practice in Biratnagar in 1979 and later, served as President of both the

Koshi Zonal Bar Association (between 1988 and 1990) and the Biratnagar Appellate Bar (from 2002 to 2004).

Previous Roles: She was appointed ad-hoc justice of the Supreme Court(SC) in 2009. In 2010, she was appointed as Permanent Justice in Nepal's Supreme Court.

Chief Justice: Karki has served as the **1st female CJ** of Nepal between 2016 and 2017.

Books: She authored two books named 'Nyay' which is her biographical book and 'Kara', a novel inspired by her own experience in jail during the People's Movement (1990).

Award: She has received various awards/accolades including Sambhav Kanoon Puraskar in **2004**, in recognition of her contributions in the judicial system of Nepal.

About Nepal:

President – Ramchandra Paudel

Capital- Kathmandu

Currency- Nepalese Rupee (NPR)

L Satya Srinivas appointed as India's ED of ADB

The Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC), headed by Prime Minister(PM) Narendra Modi, approved the appointment of **L Satya Srinivas**, special secretary of in the Department of Commerce(DoC) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I) as the India's Executive Director (**ED**) of Asian Development Bank (ADB), succeeding **Vikas Sheel**.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Appointment of India's ED of ADB
- **Who?** L Satya Srinivas (1991-batch IRS officer)
- **Post?** India's Executive Director (**ED**) to ADB
- **Replaces?** Vikas Sheel
- **Approved by?** ACC, chaired by PM Modi
- **Tenure?** Till 28 Feb 2026 (superannuation) + contract for 3 years

ADB Appointment Details:

Tenure: He will serve till the date of his **superannuation (i.e., 28.02.2026)** and thereafter on a contract basis for an overall period of three years from the date of assumption of charge of the post or until further orders.

Significance: His appointment breaks the usual dominance of Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers and economists as Executive Director at the ADB.

Representation: Along with India, he will also represent Bangladesh, Bhutan, Laos, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan on the ADB's board of directors.

About L Satya Srinivas:

Background: L Satya Srinivas is a 1991-batch Indian Revenue Service (**IRS**) officer.

Career: He has served in key roles in the MoC&I, focusing on trade, exports, and infrastructure development.

Negotiations: He served as the chief negotiator for the e-commerce trade deal with the European Union (EU) and led Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations with the United Kingdom (UK) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

India's Role in ADB:

Shareholder: Currently, India is **4th** largest shareholder and largest borrower of ADB, after

Japan, the United States of America(USA) and China.

Investments: As of April 2025, ADB committed a total of USD 59.5 billion Dollars in sovereign lending and USD 9.1 billion Dollars in non-sovereign investments to India.

About Asian Development Bank (ADB):

President -Masato Kanda

Headquarters– Metro Manila, Philippines

Established: 19, December , 1966

Members: 69 countries

Dr. Sima Sami Bahous undertakes Second term as ED of UN Women

Dr. Sima Sami Bahous has been reappointed for a second term as s Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director(**ED**) of United Nations(**UN**) **Women**, effective September 11, 2025. It was announced by UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

- Her second term begins as UN Women launches its Strategic Plan 2026–2029 to accelerate global gender equality and empower women worldwide.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Reappointment of Dr. Sima Sami Bahous
- **Position:** Under-Secretary-General and **ED** of UN Women
- **Effect from:** September 11, 2025
- **By?** UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres
- **Strategic Focus:** Launch of UN Women Strategic Plan 2026–2029

About Dr. Sima Sami Bahous:

Profile: Dr. Sima Bahous is a seasoned Jordanian diplomat and advocate for inclusive governance.

Her First Term: She was appointed as UN Women's third ED on September 30, 2021.

- During her first term, she achieved integration of gender equality into global policies and ensured women's issues remained central to peace, security, and sustainable development discussions.

Career: Before getting elected as a UN Women's ED, she was a permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations in New York

- She also worked as Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States at the United Nations Development Programme(UNDP) from 2012 to 2016
- Served as Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the Social Development Sector at the League of Arab States, from 2008 to 2012.
- Served in two ministerial posts in Jordan as President of the Higher Media Council from 2005 to 2008 and as Adviser to King Abdullah II from 2003 to 2005.

ACC approves New DGs for CISF and ITBP

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the proposal of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) for appointment of senior IPS officers **Praveer Ranjan** as Director General(DG) of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and **Praveen Kumar** as DG of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

Exam Hints:

- **What?** ACC Approval
- **Proposed by:** MoHA
- **Appointment 1:** Praveen Kumar (IPS), as DG of ITBP; **Tenure** – Sept 30, 2025 – Sept 30, 2030.
- **Appointment 2:** Praveer Ranjan (IPS), as DG of CISF; **Tenure** – Sept 30, 2025 – July 31, 2029.
- **Predecessors:** Rahul Rasgotra (ITBP), Rajwinder Singh Bhatti (CISF)

Key Appointments:

Appointment – 1

Praveen Kumar: A 1993-batch West Bengal cadre Indian Police Service (IPS) officer is appointed as **DG of ITBP**.

Appointment & Successor: He will assume charge on 30 September 2025 upon the superannuation of the incumbent **Rahul Rasgotra**, IPS.

- His tenure will extend until 30 September 2030.

Current Position: He presently serves as the Special Director, Intelligence Bureau (IB).

Appointment – 2

Praveer Ranjan: A 1993-batch IPS officer of AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram, and Union Territories) cadre, presently Special Director General (SDG) in CISF, is appointed as **DG of CISF**.

Tenure & Successor: He will take over from Rajwinder Singh Bhatti, IPS, on **30 September 2025** and serve until 31 July 2029.

Recent Achievements:

On the occasion of the **79th** Independence Day (August 15, 2025),

- CISF received 32 medals including 3 President's Medals for Distinguished Service (Police), 3 for Distinguished Service (Fire), 23 Medals for Meritorious Service (Police), and 3 for Meritorious Service (Fire).
- ITBP received 13 medals including 3 President's Medals for Distinguished Service (Police), 10 Medals for Meritorious Service (Police).

Justice Pavankumar Bhimappa Bajanthri Appointed as CJ of Patna HC

Justice Pavankumar Bhimappa Bajanthri was sworn in as the 46th Chief Justice (CJ) of the Patna High Court (HC), with the oath administered by Bihar Governor **Arif Mohammad Khan** at a ceremony held at Raj Bhavan, Patna, Bihar.

- He succeeds Justice **Vipul Manubhai Pancholi**, who was elevated to the Supreme Court on 29 August 2025.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Appointment of the new Chief Justice of Patna High Court.
- **Who?** Justice Pavankumar Bhimappa Bajanthri.
- **Oath Administered by:** Bihar Governor Arif Mohammad Khan
- **Appointed by:** President of India (Droupadi Murmu) under Article 217(1) of the Constitution
- **Collegium Recommendation:** Headed by CJI – B R Gavai
Successor: Justice Vipul Manubhai Pancholi

About the Appointment:

Constitution: The appointment was made by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, under **Article 217(1)** of the Constitution of India.

Collegium Recommendation: The Supreme Court (SC) Collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Bhushan Ramkrishna (B.R.) Gavai recommended his appointment on 11 September 2025.

About Justice Pavankumar Bhimappa Bajanthri:

Early Career: He is a distinguished Indian judge with over 30 years of experience, having started his legal practice at the Karnataka High Court in 1990.

Judicial Career: He was appointed as an Additional Judge of the Karnataka HC in 2015, served in the Punjab and Haryana HC, returned to Karnataka in 2018, and was later transferred to the Patna HC, taking oath as a Judge there on October 20, 2021.

Acting CJ of Patna HC: Prior to his appointment as CJ of Patna HC, he has been serving as the Acting CJ of the Patna HC since August 27, 2025.

ACC Extends Tenure of General Anil Chauhan as CDS & Secretary of DMA

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), chaired by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi, extended the tenure of **General Anil Chauhan** as Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and Secretary of Department of Military Affairs (DMA) under the Ministry of Defence (MoD), until **30th May 2026** or until further orders.

- This decision was sanctioned before his original term was scheduled to end on 30th September 2025.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Extension of appointment
- **Who?** General Anil Chauhan
- **Position:** Chief of Defense Staff (CDS) and Secretary of DMA (MoD)
- **Till?** 30 May 2026

About General Anil Chauhan:

Career: He was commissioned into the Indian Army (IA) in 1981. He has forged a distinguished career, serving in several key command and staff roles.

CDS: Since assuming office as CDS on 28 September 2022, he has strengthened tri-service integration and led major military reforms, including Integrated Theater Commands.

Awards: He was awarded with the Param Vishisht Seva Medal(PVSM) in 2020, Uttam Yudh Seva Medal(UYSM) in 2018, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal(AVSM) in 2015, Sena Medal(SM) in 2011 and Vishisht Seva Medal(VSM) in 2011 for his exemplary services to the Indian Army.

Centre extends tenure of R. Venkataramani as AGI till September 30,2027

The President of India and the Ministry of Law and Justice (MoL&J) have announced the re-appointment of Senior Advocate R.Venkataramani (75) as the Attorney General of India (AGI) for two more years , effective from October 1,2025 to September 30,2027.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Re -appointment of AGI
- **Who?** R.Venkataramani
- **Announced By?** President of India and MoL&J
- **Effective form?** October 1, 2025
- **Extended?** For two years, till September 30, 2027

About R. Venkataramani:

Term: He appointed as 16th AGI of India and his present three-year term is about to end on **September 30,2025**

Succession: R. Venkataramani succeeded veteran jurist **K.K. Venugopal** as the Attorney General (AG) on **September 30, 2022**. He entered the office the next day.

Career: Venkataramani was born in Pondicherry on April 13, 1950, He enrolled as a lawyer in 1977 with the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and joined the chambers of veteran lawyer P.P. Rao at the Supreme Court in 1979.

Law Commission of India: He was appointed as a member of the Law Commission of India in 2010, and again for a further term in 2013.

Author: He published a volume of his poems titled Roses Without Thorns last year. Besides, he has authored several books on constitutional law and the law of torts, and collaborated with the Supreme Court of India in publishing a book on Supreme Court Practice and Procedure and the Restatement of Indian Law relating to Public Interest Litigation.

About the Attorney General of India (AGI):

Constitutional Value: The Attorney General is the highest **law officer** of the Union Government (UG) and serves as its principal **legal advisor**. Appointed by the President under **Article 76(1)** of the Constitution, the Attorney General holds office during the President's pleasure on the recommendation of the Union Cabinet (UC).

- According to the article 76(4), There is no fixed tenure for the AGI
- Under article 88, the AG shall have the right to speak and take part in all the proceedings of Lok sabha and Rajya sabha including joint sitting of the Houses, and any committee of Parliament for which he is added as a member. He is not subjected to vote.

Mithun Manas Elected as 37th BCCI President

Mithun Manas, former Delhi Cricket Captain, was elected as the 37th President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) at its 94th Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- He succeeded former India all-rounder **Roger Binny**, who had stepped down in August 2025.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Election of BCCI President
- **Elected President:** Mithun Manas
- **Elected As:** 37th BCCI President
- **Succeeded:** Roger Binny
- **Vice-President:** Rajeev Shukla (Continues in position)
- **Secretary:** Devajit Saikia
- **Event:** 94th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of BCCI

About Mithun Manas:

Domestic Career: He played 157 First-Class, 130 List A and 91 T20 matches in his domestic career from 1997-98 to 2016-17.

Captaincy: He captained the Delhi team to a Ranji Trophy title during the 2007-08 season

Coaching and Administration: He served as an assistant coach for several high-profile Indian Premier League (IPL) franchises, including the Punjab Kings, Royal Challengers Bengaluru, and Gujarat Titans.

- He has worked as Director of Cricket for the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association.

Specialty: He is the third consecutive former cricketer to become BCCI president, after **Sourav Ganguly** and **Roger Binny**.

About Other Appointments:

The AGM also confirmed other office bearers and new appointments across various committees

Vice-President: **Rajeev Shukla** continues in his role, having served in an interim capacity after Binny's departure.

Secretary: Devajit Saikia (retained position)

Joint Secretary: Prabhatej Singh Bhatia

Treasurer: A. Raghuram Bhat (former Karnataka and India spinner)

Apex Council: Jaydev Shah, President of the Saurashtra Cricket Association, was elected as an Apex Council member.

Women's Premier League (WPL): Jayesh George, President of the Kerala Cricket Association, was elected as the Chairman of the WPL committee.

Women's Selection Committee: Former India batter Amita Sharma was appointed as the Chief Selector.

Honours/ Awards

Cognizant CEO Ravi Kumar Featured in 2025 TIME100 AI List of the World's Most Influential People in AI

New York (the United States of America, USA)-based **TIME**, a 102-year-old global media brand, released its third annual TIME100 AI list, recognising the 100 most influential individuals in the Artificial Intelligence (AI) landscape around the world. The list highlights Innovators, Leaders, Shapers, and Thinkers shaping AI's future.

- **Indian-origin Ravi Kumar Singisetti**, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **Cognizant Technology Solutions Corporation**, a Teaneck, New Jersey (USA)-based Information Technology (IT) Company, has been named to the 2025 TIME 100 AI list (under Leaders).

Note: The TIME100 AI list was first launched in **2023**, following the global recognition of AI after OpenAI released Chat Generative Pre-Trained Transformer (ChatGPT).

About Ravi Kumar Singisetti: Ravi Kumar Singisetti was appointed **CEO of Cognizant** in January **2023** and joined the board of directors for the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) in 2024.

Award: In 2025, he was honoured with the **Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award** (PBSA), the highest accolade awarded by the Government of India (GoI) for overseas Indians.

2025 TIME100 AI List

From the Past: Only 16 honourees from previous editions returned in 2025.

Educate Girls Becomes First Indian NGO to Win Ramon Magsaysay Award 2025

The Indian Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) Foundation to Educate Girls Globally (**FEGG**), popularly known as Educate Girls, was announced as one of the recipients of the **67th Ramon Magsaysay Award**, becoming the **first Indian** organisation to receive this prestigious honour.

- Educate Girls has been named for its commitment to addressing cultural stereotyping through the education of girls and young women.

About Educate Girls:

Overview: Educate Girls was founded in 2007 by **Safeena Husain** in Rajasthan.

Vision: It aims to achieve behavioural, social and economic transformation for all girls towards an India where all children have equal opportunities to access quality education.

2025 Ramon Magsaysay Awards winners:

Other 2025 Awardees: The other 2025 winners were **Shaahina Ali** from the Maldives for her environmental work and **Flaviano Antonio L. Villanueva** from the Philippines for his efforts to uplift the poor and marginalised.

Award Ceremony: The winners will be presented with their awards at the 67th Ramon Magsaysay Award Presentation Ceremonies at Metropolitan Theatre in Manila on November 7, 2025.

NIRF Rankings 2025: IIT-Madras Topped ‘Overall Category’ for 7th Consecutive Year

Union Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan**, Ministry of Education (MoE) released the **10th** edition of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) i.e. **NIRF Rankings 2025**, during a special event held at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, Delhi.

- As per the NIRF’s latest rankings, the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (**IIT-M**) has secured the top spot in the ‘overall category’ with an overall score of **87.31**, for the **7th** consecutive year (2019-2025).
- It is followed by Indian Institute of Science (**IISc**) **Bengaluru** and IIT-Bombay (**IIT-B**) ranked at **2nd** and **3rd** position, respectively.

Key Highlights:

States-wise Representation: Tamil Nadu (TN) **with 17 colleges**, emerged as the most represented state in this year’s rankings, followed by Karnataka (6), Maharashtra (11), Delhi (8), among others.

IITs Dominance: This year’s ranking in overall category is dominated by Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) as more than 4 IITs were featured among the top 10 including IIT-M, IIT-Delhi (IIT-D), IIT-Kanpur (IIT-K).

IIT-M Dominance: Apart from securing 1st position in overall category, IIT-M has also retained the top spot in ‘Engineering’ subject-domain category for the 10th consecutive year (2016-2025).

About Ministry of Education (MoE):

Union Minister- Dharmendra Pradhan (Lok Sabha Constituency- Sambalpur, Odisha)

Minister of State (MoS)- Jayant Chaudhary (Rajya Sabha- Uttar Pradesh, UP); Dr. Sukanta Majumdar (Constituency- Balurghat, West Bengal, WB)

Indian Filmmaker Anuparna Roy Won Best Film Director Award at 82nd Venice Film Festival

Indian filmmaker **Anuparna Roy** scripted history by winning the **Best Director** award in the ‘**Orizzonti**’ section at ‘**82nd** Venice International Film Festival’ held from August 27 to September 06, 2025, at Lido di Venezia in Italy.

- With this honor, she became the **first Indian woman** to win the award in this section.

Exam Hints:

- **Event:** Venice International Film Festival
- **Edition:** 82nd
- **Held:** Lido di Venezia in Italy.
- **Indian Filmmaker to win Award:** Anuparna Roy(1st Indian Women)
- **Category:** Best Director
- **Section:** Orizzonti
- **Name of Film:** ‘Songs of Forgotten Trees’,

Highlights of Venice Film Festival 2025:

Debut Feature: She received this award for her debut feature 'Songs of Forgotten Trees', which showcases the evolving relationship between two migrant women in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Presenter: The award, presented by Indian filmmaker Anurag Kashyap to Anuparna Roy, during the closing ceremony of the film festival.

Golden Lion Winner: American indie film Father Mother Sister Brother, directed by Jim Jarmusch, won the Golden Lion for Best Film.

Previous Milestone: Indian filmmaker **Mira Nair** won the Golden Lion for Best Film at the Venice Film Festival in 2001 for Monsoon Wedding.

Swachh Vayu Sarveshan Awards 2025: Indore Ranks First

Union Minister **Bhupender Yadav**, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), conferred best-performing cities under 'Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2025', a Clean Air Survey, was conducted in 130 cities under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). **Indore** (Madhya Pradesh, MP) is ranked as the best-performing city with a score of 200 in Category 1.

- The awards were conferred at the Sawchh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards & Wetland Cities Recognition Ceremony 2025, organized by MoEF&CC in New Delhi, Delhi.

Highlights of the Event:

Releases: During the event, the Ward-Level Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Guidelines and a Compendium of Best Practices under NCAP were released.

Wetland Recognition: During the event, Indore and Udaipur were recognised as Wetland Cities under the Ramsar Convention. Certificates from the Ramsar Secretariat were presented to the Mayors and District Collectors of these cities.

Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards 2025:

Recognition: The awards recognized **11 best-performing cities** across three categories from the 130 NCAP cities for exhibiting their commitment and innovation in advancing the mission of clean air.

Rankings: In the Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards 2025, Indore, Amravati, and Dewas secured 1st rank in their respective categories of cities with populations over 10 lakh, 3–10 lakh, and below 3 lakh.

- Out of the 11 cities, 3 cities are from MP, Uttar Pradesh (UP) (3), Himachal Pradesh (HP) (1), Gujarat (1), Rajasthan (1), Odisha (1), and Andhra Pradesh (AP) (1).
- Moradabad (UP) and Agra (UP) were awarded for the third time, Indore, Surat (Gujarat), Jhansi (UP), Dewas (MP), Parwanoo (HP), and Angul (Odisha) won for the second time. Alwar (Rajasthan) won for the first time.

Former PM Manmohan Singh Posthumously Conferred with P.V. Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics

Former Prime Minister (PM) and Renowned Economist, **Dr. Manmohan Singh**, has been posthumously conferred the **PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics** for his contributions to economic transformation and nation-building of India.

- The award was received by his wife, Gursharan Kaur, on his behalf, at a ceremony held in New Delhi, Delhi.

About Dr. Manmohan Singh:

Early Career: He held several positions such as Chief Economic Adviser from 1972 to 1976, Secretary of Ministry of Finance (MoF) from 1976 to 1980, 15th Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from 1982 to 1985.

- From 1985 to 1987, he served as the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, and Economic Adviser to PM from 1990 to 1991.

Economic Reforms:

As Finance Minister: From 1991 to 1996, during the PV Narasimha Rao government he introduced 1991 Economic Reforms such as Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization.

P.V. Narasimha Rao Memorial Award:

Commemoration: The P.V. Narasimha Rao Memorial Award is an honour instituted to commemorate former PM Pamulaparti Venkata (P.V.) Narasimha Rao, whose tenure was from 1991 to 1996.

- He is remembered as the “Father of Indian Economic Reforms”.

About P.V. Narasimha Rao Memorial Foundation (PVNMF):

President – K Ramachandra

Headquarters – Hyderabad, Telangana

Hindi Drama ‘Homebound’ Nominated for Oscar Awards 2026

Hindi-language drama ‘Homebound’ directed by **Neeraj Ghaywan** and produced by Karan Johar was selected as India’s official entry in the category- Best International Feature for the **98th Oscar Awards**.

- The Film Federation of India (FFI) announced India’s Oscar entry in Kolkata(WestBengal, WB), with N Chandra chairing a 14-member selection jury.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** India’s official entry for Oscars 2026 (Best International Feature).
- **Name of the Film:** Homebound(Hindi Drama)
- **Directed by:** Neeraj Ghaywan
- **Announced by:** Film Federation of India (FFI)
- **Accolades:** Premiered at Cannes 2025; Won Best Film and Best Director at IFFM 2025

About the Film:

Story Overview: Homebound is a Hindi-language drama inspired by Basharat Peer’s 2020 New York Times essay titled “Taking Amrit Home”.

- The film follows two friends from rural North India seeking police jobs to escape caste and communal barriers, depicting their foot journey from Surat(Gujarat) to Uttar Pradesh(UP) during the early COVID-19 lockdown.

Cast: The film features Ishaan Khatter, Vishal Jethwa, and Janhvi Kapoor.

Accolades: Homebound premiered at Cannes 2025 in the Un Certain Regard section, receiving a nine-minute standing ovation. It was named second runner-up in the People's Choice category at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF 2025) and won Best Film and Best Director at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM 2025).

Legendary Malayalam Actor and Padma Awardee Mohanlal to be Conferred Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2023

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) announced that Legendary Malayalam Actor and Padma Awardee **Mohanlal Viswanathan Nair** will be conferred with **Dadasaheb Phalke Award** for year **2023**, India's highest cinema honour.

- He will be the **55th recipient** of the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in recognition of his exceptional contribution to Indian cinema, becoming the second Malayalam film personality to receive it after filmmaker Adoor Gopalakrishnan in 2004.

Dadasaheb Phalke Award:

Formed in: It was instituted in **1969** by the Government of India (GoI) to commemorate the contribution of **Dhudiraj Govind Phalke** (Dada Saheb Phalke) to Indian cinema.

Father of Indian Cinema: Dhundiraj Govind Phalke, considered as the Father of Indian cinema, had directed India's 1st full-length feature film named "**Raja Harishchandra**" in 1913.

54th Recipient: In 2024, Veteran Indian Actor-turned-Politician and Padma Bhushan Awardee **Mithun Chakraborty** received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award (for 2022) as **54th** recipient.

69th Ballon d'Or: Dembele Won in Men's Category; Barcelona's Bonmatí Won Women's title for 3rd Consecutive Year

The **69th** edition of the **Ballon d'Or (2025)** award ceremony took place at the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris, France.

- Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) Forward Player, **Ousmane Dembele** has won the **2025 Men's Ballon d'Or** (Golden Ball Award), becoming the **6th** Frenchman to win the award after Raymond Kopa (1958), Michel Platini (1983-85), Jean-Pierre Papin (1991), Zinedine Zidane (1998) and Karim Benzema (2022).
- Barcelona and Spain midfielder **Aitana Bonmatí** made history by winning the Women's Ballon d'Or for the **third consecutive** year (2023–2025), becoming only the third footballer ever to achieve a three-peat after Michel Platini (1983–85) and Lionel Messi (2009–12).

Other Awardees:

Kopa Trophy: Barcelona's Lamine Yamal, became the 1st player to clinch the Men's Kopa Trophy twice.

- Barcelona Femeni's Vicky Lopez, won the inaugural women's Kopa Trophy against Michelle Agyemang.

Socrates Awards: This year's Socrates Award was conferred to the **Xana Foundation (Spain)**, instituted by Luis Enrique in the memory of his

daughter to support children with life-threatening diseases.

Club of the Year: PSG and Arsenal won the Men's and Women's Clubs of the Year title, respectively.

UK PM Keir Starmer Conferred the 'Living Bridge' Awards by IBG in London

Prime Minister (PM) of United Kingdom (UK), **Keir Starmer**, has been awarded the "**Living Bridge Award**" by the India Business Group (IBG) in recognition of his significant role in strengthening India-UK relations by advancing the India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA), during a ceremony at the House of Lords in London, UK.

- The Living Bridge Awards 2025, marking their fourth edition, was accepted by **Seema Malhotra**, Minister for the Indo-Pacific in the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), on behalf of PM Keir Starmer.

About Living Bridge Awards:

Presenter: The Living Bridge Awards are presented annually by the **IBG** to individuals and organizations, who have made significant contributions to strengthening the relationship between India and the UK, particularly in areas such as trade, investment, education, business, cultural, and social ties.

Recognition: It serves as a platform to recognize and celebrate those who act as bridges between India and the UK, facilitating closer ties.

2025 Awardee: Alongside UK PM Keir Starmer, the 2025 IBG Living Bridge Awards recognised several other individuals and organisations for their contributions to India-UK relations.

- The honourees include Grandhi Mallikarjuna Rao (**GMR Group**) for its impact on infrastructure and business; **G.P. Hinduja**, Chairperson of the Hinduja Group; **Bina Mehta**, Chair of Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler (KPMG), UK; and the University of Southampton for fostering academic and cultural ties between the two countries.

Kroll Report 2024: Virat Kohli Retains Tops Indian Celebrity Brand Rankings at USD 231.1 million

American global financial advisory firm, **Kroll** released the annual edition of report titled '**Kroll Celebrity Brand Valuation 2024**'. As per the report, Indian cricketer **Virat Kohli** has retained the top spot in 2024 with a brand value of **USD 231.1 million**, marking an increase of nearly 2% from USD 227.9 million in 2023.

- Renowned Indian Actor **Ranveer Singh** retained **2nd** position on the list and bollywood Star and Padma Shri Awardee **Shah Rukh Khan** continues to hold **3rd** spot for the 2nd consecutive year.

Key Findings:

Overall Brand Value: Cumulatively, India's top 25 celebrities including movie stars and sportspersons, accounted the brand value of **USD 2 billion** in 2024, marking an increase of **over 8.6%** compared to the last year.

Most Valued Female Celebrity: As per the latest rankings, famous Indian actor **Alia Bhatt**,

ranked at **4th** spot (increase from 3rd spot in 2023) with total brand valuation of **USD 116.4 million**, has emerged as the most valued female celebrity in the list. **Big Gainers:** Famous Indian Actress **Rashmika Mandanna** rank has significantly improved from 20th spot (in 2023) to 15th (in 2024), with overall brand valuation of USD 58.9 million.

- Similarly, the ranking of Indian Actress **Kriti Sanon**, co-founder of Skincare brand Hyphen, surged from 27th to 19th (USD 44.8 million); famous Indian Actress **Tamannah Bhatia** (USD 40.4 million) rose to rank 21st from 28th and Indian Cricketer **Jasprit Bumrah** (USD 38.1 million), from rank 41st to 22nd.

Debutant: For the 1st time, Indian Actress **Ananya Pandey** featured among the top 25 celebrities' list i.e. at 25th spot with total brand valuation of USD 35.2 million, up from 46th position in 2023.

Sports

India Tops 16th Asian Shooting Championship with 50 Gold Medals

The 16th Asian Shooting Championship was held from August 16 to 30, 2025, at the Shymkent Shooting Plaza in Shymkent, Kazakhstan. The competition featured **748 athletes** from **27 countries** across Asia participating in various shooting disciplines at senior and junior levels.

- India's contingent of 35 senior shooters and 129 junior athletes created history by topping the medal tally for the first time, winning a total of **99 medals**, including **50 gold, 26 silver, and 23 bronze**.
- The championship was organized by the Asian Shooting Confederation (ASC) in collaboration with the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) and the Kazakhstan Shooting Sport Federation.

Medal Tally – Top 5 Countries

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	India	50	26	23	99
2	Kazakhstan	21	24	25	70
3	China	15	17	5	37
4	Korea	12	21	22	55
5	Iran	3	6	8	17

Oscar Piastri Wins Dutch Grand Prix 2025

Australian Formula One (F1) driver **Oscar Piastri** (McLaren) secured victory at the 35th edition of the **Dutch Grand Prix 2025** held at Circuit Zandvoort, Netherlands. Piastri led all 72 laps, maintaining a consistent pace.

- The Dutch Grand Prix 2025 was the fifteenth round of the 2025 Formula One World Championship and Oscar Piastri secured his seventh victory of the season.
- Piastri extended his lead to 34 points over Norris with 9 races remaining in the season.

Exam Hints:

- **Event:** 2025 Dutch Grand Prix
- **Venue:** Zandvoort Circuit, Netherlands
- **Winner:** Oscar Piastri (Australia – Team McLaren)
- **Runner-up:** Max Verstappen (Red Bull, Netherlands)

Other Racing Highlights:

Podium Finish: Max Verstappen (Red Bull, Netherlands) secured second place on home soil, while Isack Hadjar (Racing Bulls, France), aged 20, achieved his maiden Formula One podium, finishing third consistently throughout.

Teammate Exit: McLaren teammate Lando Norris retired on Lap 65 due to engine failure caused by an oil leak while running second, ending the team's 1–2 dominance.

Ferrari Setbacks: Ferrari drivers Lewis Hamilton and Charles Leclerc retired after separate crashes. Hamilton hit the wall in Lap 23 during light rain, while Leclerc collided with Mercedes' Kimi Antonelli on Lap 53.

Top 3 Positions of F1 Dutch GP 2025:

Rank	Driver	Team
1	Oscar Piastri (Australia)	McLaren
2	Max Verstappen (Netherlands)	Red Bull Racing
3	Isack Hadjar (France)	Racing Bulls

29th BWF World Championships 2025 Held in Paris, France

The **29th edition** of the BWF (Badminton World Federation) World Championships 2025, officially known as the TotalEnergies BWF World Championships 2025, was held from **25th to 31st August 2025** at the Adidas Arena, Paris, France.

- This was the first time since 2010 that Paris hosted the championship. The tournament featured **383 competitors from 53 nations** and witnessed historic victories across categories.
- India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won a bronze medal in the men's doubles.

Event Overview:

Men's Singles: SHI Yu Qi of China won his first-ever World Championship crown, defeating defending champion Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand.

Women's Singles: Japan's Akane Yamaguchi clinched her third World Championship title, defeating China's CHEN Yu Fei.

Men's Doubles: South Korea's Kim Won Ho and Seo Seung Jae won their first Men's

Doubles World Championship title, defeating Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi of China.

Women's Doubles: **Liu Sheng Shu** and **Tan Ning** of China won their maiden world title by defeating Malaysia's Pearly Tan and Thinaah Muralitharan.

Mixed Doubles: **Chen Tang Jie** and **Toh Ee Wei** created history by defeating China's Jiang Zhenbang and Wei Yaxin.

India Tops Medal Tally at 2025 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships

The **30th Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships 2025**, which also included the 25th Commonwealth Senior Championships, concluded at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex, Ahmedabad, Gujarat from 24th to 30th August 2025.

- The championship was organised by the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF) with support from the Sports Authority of Gujarat and the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India.
- The event saw participation from 290 athletes across 30 Commonwealth nations in Senior, Junior, and Youth categories.

Highlights of 2025 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships:

India's Historic Medal Haul: India finished 1st on the medal tally with 40 medals – 27 Gold, 10 Silver, and 3 Bronze.

- Nigeria, New Zealand, Malaysia, and Samoa followed in the top five.

Key Indian Performances:

Mirabhai Chanu: The Tokyo 2020 Olympic silver medallist won gold in the Women's 48kg category, lifting a total of 193 kg

- Her victory secured direct qualification for the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland.

Koyel Bar: Won a gold medal in the Junior Women's 53kg category.

- She also earned the Best Lifter Trophy in the Youth Girls' section with an aggregate of 192 kg, setting a new Youth World Record.

Sairaj Pardeshi: Clinched the gold medal in the Junior Men's 88kg category.

Men's Hockey Asia Cup 2025: India Won and Qualifies for 2026 World Cup

The Indian men's hockey team clinched the 12th edition of the Men's Hockey Asia Cup title by defeating the defending champion **South Korea** (4-1) in the final held at the Bihar Sports University Hockey Stadium in Rajgir Sports Complex, Bihar.

- The victory marks India's **fourth** Asia Cup title and qualified for the 2026 International Hockey Federation (FIH) Men's Hockey World Cup to be co-hosted by the Netherlands and Belgium.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Men's Hockey Asia Cup 2025
- **Venue:** Bihar Sports University Hockey Stadium, Rajgir, Bihar

- **Edition:** 12th
- **Winner:** Indian men's hockey team
- **Runner:** South Korea
- **Final Score:** India 4–1 South Korea
- **India Qualification:** 2026 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup
- **Asia Cup Winners:** South Korea (5), India (4), Pakistan (3)

Highlights of Men's Hockey Asia Cup 2025:

Organiser: The tournament was organized by the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF).

Tournament: The Men's Hockey Asia Cup 2025 was held from August 29 to September 7, 2025.

Participants: India, South Korea, Malaysia, China, Japan, Bangladesh, Chinese Taipei and Kazakhstan.

India's Performance: Led by **Harmanpreet Singh**, India remained unbeaten in the tournament with five wins and one draw.

Final Result: India won the gold medal, while **South Korea** finished as the runner-up, securing the silver medal.

- **Malaysia** clinched the bronze medal by defeating China in the third-place playoff.

Note: Pakistan and Oman pulled out of the 2025 Men's Hockey Asia Cup citing security and financial concerns, and were replaced by Bangladesh and Kazakhstan.

Tournament Awards – Individual:

Awards	Player
Hero of the Tournament	Abhishek (India) – (6 Goals)
AHF Best Goalkeeper	Kim Jaehan (Korea)
Top Scorer	Anuar Akhimullah (Malaysia) – (12 Goals)
Player of the Final Match	Dilpreet Singh (India)

Hockey India Rewards:

Prize: Each Player of the winning team receives Rs. 3 lakhs, and the support staff receives Rs. 1.5 lakhs each

Men's Hockey Asia Cup Winners:

South Korea: 5-time title winners since the tournament inception (1994, 1999, 2009, 2013 and 2022)

India: 4-time winners (2003, 2007, 2017, 2025)

Pakistan: Clinched the title three times in 1982, 1985, and 1989.

About Asian Hockey Federation(AHF):

President – Dato' Fumio Ogura

Headquarters – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Established -1958

Carlos Alcaraz Won Men's Singles Title at US Open 2025; Sabalenka Won Women's Singles Title

The **145th Edition** of the United States (US) Open Tennis Championships 2025, also called the **US Open 2025**, is the fourth and final Grand Slam of 2025. The US Open 2025 was held from August 24, 2025, to September 7, 2025, on outdoor **hard courts** at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, New York City, United States of America (USA).

- Spain's **Carlos Alcaraz** (World no. 2) won the **Men's Singles**, defeating Italy's Jannik Sinner (World No. 1), the defending champion, in the finals held at Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York, USA.
- Belarusian tennis player **Aryna Sabalenka** (World no.1) won the **Women's Singles** by defeating the USA's Amanda Anisimova (World no.8).

US Open 2025:

Event: The tournament featured matches across 17 courts, including the Arthur Ashe Stadium, Louis Armstrong Stadium, and Grandstand.

Prize: The total prize money for the US Open 2025 is **USD 90 million** (20% higher than 2024), with the men's and women's singles champions earning **USD 5 million each**.

Men's Doubles Title:

Winner: Spain's **Marcel Granollers** and Argentina's **Horacio Zeballos** won the US Open 2025 Men's Doubles by defeating the United Kingdom's (UK) pair of Joe Salisbury and Neal Skupski

Women's Doubles Title:

Winners: Canada's **Gabriela Dabrowski** and New Zealand's **Erin Routliffe** won the US Open 2025 Women's Doubles by defeating the Czech Republic's Kateřina Siniaková and the USA's Taylor Townsend.

Mixed Doubles title:

Winners: Italian pair **Sara Errani and Andrea Vavassori** won the mixed doubles title by defeating Poland's Iga Świątek and Norway's Casper Ruud.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen Wins F1 2025 Italian GP Title

4-time World Champion **Max Verstappen**, Belgian-Dutch driver of Red Bull won the Formula **(F1) Italian Grand Prix(GP) 2025**, held at Autodromo Nazionale Monza in Monza, Italy.

- This marked his **3rd** victory of the F1 2025 season; previously, he won the Japanese GP (in April 2025) and Emilia Romagna GP (in May 2025) and also his career's overall **66th** victory.

Exam Hints:

- **Event:** 2025 Italian GP
- **Venue:** Monza, Italy
- **Winner:** Belgian-Dutch Max Verstappen (Red Bull)
- **Significance:** 3rd victory of F1 season 2025 and overall 66th victory
- **Broke World Record:** Michael Schumacher (1 hr, 14 mins, and 19.838 s)

Key Highlights:

Set New World Record: Max Verstappen completed the **53 laps** in 1 hour (hr), 13 minutes (mins) and 24.32 seconds (s), breaking former German F1 racer, **Michael Schumacher's** world record of 1 hr, 14 mins and 19.838 s (set in 2003).

Milestone: This victory was Verstappen's third win at Monza in the past four years, making him the first driver to win from pole position at the circuit since 2019.

Other Notable Winners: McLaren's championship leader **Lando Norris** secured **2nd** position by finishing the championship gap to 31 points.

- While, Australian F1 driver, **Oscar Piastri** (McLaren) secured 3rd position, which was his lowest finish since Canada GP (2019).
- Also, it was Piastri's **34th** consecutive points finish in a GP, marking the 3rd longest in the history of F1 race behind Verstappen (43) and Lewis Hamilton (48).

Top 3 Winners of Italian GP 2025:

Rank	Name of the Driver	Team	Country	Points
1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	The Netherlands	25
2	Lando Norris	McLaren	The United Kingdom(UK)	18
3	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	Australia	15

About 2025 Italian GP:

Circuit Length: The 2025 Italian GP took place over 53 laps with 5.793 kilometer (km) circuit length.

Official Name: The 95th edition of Italian GP is officially known as 'F1 Pirelli Gran Premio D'Italia 2025'.

CAFA Nations Cup 2025: Uzbekistan Crowned Champion; India Secures Bronze

The **2nd edition** of the **CAFA Nations Cup 2025**, the biennial men's football championship of Central Asia, was organized by the Central Asian Football Association (CAFA), was held from August 29 to September 8, 2025, across venues in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

- Hosts **Uzbekistan** defeated the defending champion **Iran** (1 – 0) in the finals to claim their first CAFA Nations Cup title.
- This tournament featured 8 teams, including 6 CAFA members and 2 invitees (India and Oman), with Iran as the defending champion.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** 2nd edition of CAFA Nations Cup 2025
- **Hosts:** Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- **Winner:** Uzbekistan
- **Runners-up:** Iran
- **Bronze Medal:** India (First-ever international win against Oman)
- **CAFA Members:** Afghanistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan

India's Historic Bronze Medal

Third-place: Indian national football team (led by Gurpreet Singh Sandhu), making its debut appearance in the CAFA Nations Cup, secured the **bronze medal** by defeating Oman 3-2 on penalties in a thrilling third-place play-off that ended 1–1.

India against Oman: The victory marked India's first-ever win over Oman in international football.

- India, ranked 133rd in FIFA rankings, stunned higher-ranked Oman (79th).

Note: India was announced as the guest team after Malaysia's withdrawal from the tournament.

Top 3 teams – CAFA Nations Cup 2025

Position	Team	FIFA Ranking
1	Uzbekistan (Gold)	55
2	Iran (Silver)	20
3	India (Bronze)	133

Rajgir Sports Academy Receives Asian Hockey Federation Affiliation

Rajgir Sports Academy, a part of the state-of-the-art Rajgir Sports Complex in Nalanda district, Bihar, has earned a prestigious affiliation with the Asian Hockey Federation (**AHF**), with the support of International Hockey Federation (**FIH**).

- The announcement was made by Tayyab Ikram, President, FIH, at an event titled “**Grassroots to Glory**” in Rajgir, Bihar.
- This recognition marks a major step in developing world-class hockey facilities and elevates Bihar as an emerging center for international hockey tournaments and athlete training in eastern India.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Rajgir Sports Academy received affiliation
- **Affiliated by:** The Asian Hockey Federation (AHF)
- **Support:** International Hockey Federation (FIH)
- **Location?** Nalanda district, Bihar
- **Announced by:** Tayyab Ikram, President, FIH

Rajgir Sports Academy: It is the first full-fledged sports academy in Bihar, situated on the 90-acre Rajgir Sports Complex in **Nalanda**, Bihar, offering facilities for 22 other sports additionally. It is developed alongside the Bihar Sports University at Rajgir.

- It trains athletes across more than 24 sports and has hosted major events such as the Women’s Asian Champions Trophy (2024), Khelo India Youth Games (2025), and the Men’s Asia Cup (2025).

Significance: With this move, the athletes and coaches can participate in training, certification, and grassroot development initiatives of AHF. It will receive technical support from the experts of AHF.

World Athletics Championships 2025 held in Tokyo, Japan

The **20th** Edition of the **World Athletics (WA) Championships** was held at the Japan National Stadium in Tokyo, Japan from September 13 to 21, 2025.

- This event marked the third time Japan hosted the championships following the 1991 and 2007 editions.

About the World Athletics Championships 2025:

Participants: 2,202 athletes from 198 nations competing across 49 events in athletics.

Qualification event: The 2025 World Athletics Relays, held in Guangzhou, China, served to qualify the top 14 relay teams for the Championships.

Next Edition: 21st **World Athletics Championships** will be held in Beijing, China in 2027.

Overall Result of WA Championships 2025:

Top Performer: The United States of America (USA) topped the medals tally with 26 medals: 16 gold, 5 silver, and 5 bronze.

- **Kenya** finished **second** with 11 medals: 7 gold, 2 silver, 2 bronze, and **Canada** to finish **third** with 3 gold, 1 silver, and 1 bronze medals. The host nation Japan won 2 bronze medals, ranking 40th.

Indian Performance:

High Jump: Sarvesh Anil Kushare finished 6th in men’s high jump final, clearing 2.28m (personal best).

- He became the first Indian high jumper to reach a final at the World Athletics Championships.

F1 Azerbaijan GP 2025: Max Verstappen secures fourth victory of 2025 F1 World Championship

Max Verstappen, a Belgian-Dutch driver representing Austria-based Red Bull Racing, won the 8th Edition of Formula one (F1) Azerbaijan Grand Prix (GP), officially known as Qatar Airways F1 Azerbaijan GP 2025, at the Baku City Circuit in Baku, **Azerbaijan**.

- Max Verstappen marks his **second** consecutive win in 2025 F1 World Championship and his **fourth** victory of this season (including Italian GP (September 2025), Emilia Romagna GP (May 2025) and Japanese GP (April 2025)).

Exam Hints:

- **Event:** F1 Azerbaijan GP 2025 – 8th Edition
- **Venue:** Baku City Circuit in Baku, Azerbaijan
- **Winner:** Max Verstappen (marks 6th career Grand Slam)
- **Significance:** Verstappen marks 6th career Grand Slam, equals with Lewis Hamilton (6), behind Jim Clark (8)
- **Runners:** George Russell (2nd), Carlos Sainz Jr. (3rd)

Race Highlights:

Grand Slam: Max Verstappen started from pole position and led all 51 laps, secured his **6th career Grand Slam** (achieving four criteria including pole, win, fastest lap, and leading every lap) for the first since the 2024 Bahrain Grand Prix.

- He equals the number of Grand Slams with **Lewis Hamilton (6)** for **second** position overall, behind only Jim Clark (8).

Other Podium Finishers: British racing driver **George Russell** (Mercedes) finished second, and Spanish F1 racer, **Carlos Sainz** (United Kingdom(UK)-based Williams-Mercedes) secured third, marking Williams' first podium since the 2021 Belgian Grand Prix.

Team World Clinches Laver Cup 2025 Against Team Europe

The **8th** Edition of the **Laver Cup 2025**, a men's tennis tournament between **Team Europe** (Players from Europe) and **Team World** (Players from outside Europe), held at the Chase Center, in San Francisco, United States of America (USA) from September 19 to 21, 2025.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Laver Cup 2025
- **Venue & Date:** Chase Center, San Francisco, USA., from September 19 to 21, 2025

- **Participants:** Team Europe (Players from Europe) and Team World (Players from outside Europe)
- **Winner:** Team World (3rd title in four years)
- **Top Performance:** Taylor Fritz wins over Alcaraz and Zverev
- **Team World Captain:** Andre Agassi (first title as captain)

Tournament Highlights:

Victory: Team World won **15-9** over Team Europe to clinch the title, marking the team's **third** title in four years.

Path to success: USA's **Taylor Fritz** (World no. 12) defeated the Carlos Alcaraz (World no. 1) of Spain, and then defeating Germany's Alexander Zverev (World no. 3) assured the team World's tournament win.

- Australia's Alex de Minaur contributed 7 points with singles and doubles victories.

Leadership: The win marked a successful debut for new Team World captain Andre Agassi (Former USA player).

- Yannick Noah (Former French Player) captained the Team Europe.

Note: The 2026 Laver Cup is scheduled to take place at the O2 Arena in London from September 25-27.

FIFA Unveils Trio of Mascots for 2026 World Cup

The Fédération Internationale de Football Association (**FIFA**) unveiled three official **mascots**: '**Clutch, Zayu and Maple**' for the **23rd FIFA World Cup** (2026), with each host country represented by a distinct character.

- The FIFA World Cup 2026 will be co-hosted by the United States, Mexico, and Canada from June 26 to July 19, 2026, marking the first time the tournament is held across three countries.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Mascots unveiled for 2026 FIFA World Cup
- **Hosts:** USA, Mexico, and Canada
- **Mascots:**
- Clutch (Bald Eagle – USA)
- Zayu (Jaguar – Mexico)
- Maple (Moose – Canada)

Mascots and Representation:

Clutch (Bald Eagle – USA): Plays as a **midfielder**, characterised as adventurous, optimistic, unifying, and fearless, known for lifting teammates.

Zayu (Jaguar – Mexico): Acts as a **striker**, agile, creative, and deeply tied to Mexican culture, embodying strength and cultural pride.

Maple (Moose – Canada): Serves as a **goalkeeper**, passionate about music and art, resilient, a connective traveller, and known for spectacular saves.

17th Asia Cup 2025 – India Wins Defeating Pakistan

India clinched the Asia Cup 2025 for a record-extending Ninth time, defeating Pakistan in the Finals held at Dubai International Stadium, Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

- The **17th** edition of the Asia Cup was set to host by India, but later it was shifted to UAE, with 11 matches being held in Dubai International Cricket Stadium and 8 matches held in Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium between September 9 to 28, 2025.

Highlights of Asia Cup 2025:

Participation: The tournament featured eight teams, with five full members of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC), with Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, and three teams (UAE, Oman, Hong Kong) which finished top three in 2024 ACC Men's Premier Cup.

Successful Team: With nine titles (seven ODI and two T20I), India becomes the most successful team in the history of tournament. Where Sri Lanka is the second most successful team with six titles and Pakistan have won two.

Awards & Prizes:

Tournament Champions: Team Indian earned a prize pool of **USD 300,000** (Approximately Rs. 2.6 Crores), a 50% increase from the 2023 edition.

About Asia Cup:

Inception Year– The Asia Cup cricket tournament commenced in **1984**, headquartered in UAE.

Next Edition: Scheduled to be held in **2027** and will be hosted by **Bangladesh**.

- Asia cup 2027 will be in the ODI format.

Obituary

Renowned Italian Fashion Designer Giorgio Armani Passed Away at 91

The Legendary Italian fashion designer and billionaire **Giorgio Armani** regarded as a trailblazer of contemporary elegance and one of the most influential figures in global style passed away at the age of **91** in Milan, Italy.

- Armani was widely referred to as ‘Re Giorgio’ or ‘King Giorgio’ for his modern style and elegance.

Exam Hints:

- **What?** Passing Away of Legendry Fashion Designer
- **Who?** Italian fashion designer Giorgio Armani
- **Born:** July, 1934
- **Founded Armani brand:** 1975

About Giorgio Armani:

Born: He was born on July 11, 1934 in Piacenza, a small town in northern Italy.

Founder of Armani brand: In 1975, he founded the luxury fashion brand ‘Armani’ in Milan, Italy, with his partner Sergio Galeotti.

Expansion of Armani Empire: His Company Armani expanded from fashion into an empire spanning sectors like beauty, fragrance, music, sport and even luxury hotels, bringing over **EUR 2 billion annually**.

UN's Goodwill Ambassador: Armani was appointed Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for the Refugees, in 2002 because of his support for public awareness and fundraising efforts for refugees during the Afghan refugee crisis the previous year.

Important Days with theme

World Coconut Day 2025 – September 2

World Coconut Day is observed every year on September 2 to highlight the importance of coconuts in agriculture, nutrition, and economic development.

- **2025 Theme:** “Uncovering Coconut’s Power, Inspiring Global Action.”

Background:

Origin: World Coconut Day is initiated by the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), an intergovernmental organization representing coconut-producing countries.

First Celebration: The first World Coconut Day was celebrated in **2009**.

Significance: September 2 marking the foundation day of the International Coconut Community (ICC), an intergovernmental organization of coconut-growing countries established in 1969 under the aegis of UNESCAP.

2025 Events: On September 2, 2025, Union Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare(MoAFW) virtually inaugurated the national-level World Coconut Day celebrations organized by the Coconut Development Board (CDB) at **Angamaly, Kerala**.

National Teachers' Day 2025 – September 5

National Teachers' Day is observed annually across India on 5 September to honours teachers for their dedication, hard work, and invaluable contribution to education and society.

- The day mark the birth anniversary of **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan** 1st Vice-President and 2nd President of India.

Background:

Presidency Tenure: Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan became the 2nd President of India in 1962, when his students sought permission to celebrate his birthday as a special day.

Suggestion : Instead of celebrating his birthday, he requested students to observe 5 September as Teachers' Day.

First Celebration: The Day was first celebrated on 5 September 1962.

2025 Events:

Ceremony: President **Droupadi Murmu** presented the National Teachers' Awards (NTA) 2025 to 81 teachers across India, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, Delhi, on September 5, 2025.

Award Details: Each award carries a Silver Medal, Certificate of Merit (CoM), and Rs. 50,000 cash prize.

Sand Art Tribute: Renowned sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik created a special sand sculpture at Puri Beach, Odisha, to pay tribute to former President Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan on the occasion of Teachers' Day.

International Day of Charity 2025 – September 5

The United Nations (UN) observes the **International Day of Charity** every year

on **September 5** to highlight the significance of charitable work and humanitarian efforts in tackling global social and economic challenges.

- The day commemorates the anniversary of the passing of **Mother Teresa**, also known as Saint Teresa of Calcutta, in 1997.
- The word “charity” comes from the Latin “caritas,” meaning love and caring for all.

Exam Hints:

- **Event:** International Day of Charity 2025
- **When?** September 5
- **Observed by:** United Nations (UN)
- **First Observance:** September 5, 2013
- **Major Awards:** Nobel Peace Prize(1979) ,Bharat Ratna(1980)

Background

Proclamation: In December 2012, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted Resolution A/RES/67/105, officially designating September 5 as the International Day of Charity.

First Global Observance: The day was celebrated for the first time worldwide on September 5, 2013.

Commemoration : The observance honors the anniversary of the passing of Mother Teresa, who died on September 5, 1997, at the age of 87 in Kolkata, West Bengal(WB).

Global Charitable Contributions: According to UN estimates, charitable donations worldwide amount to nearly **USD 2.7 trillion each year**.

About Mother Teresa:

Early Life : Born in 1910 in Uskup, Ottoman Empire (now Skopje, North Macedonia), Mother Teresa came to India in 1928 to serve the poor and destitute.

Missionaries of Charity: She became an Indian citizen in 1948 and founded the Missionaries of Charity in Kolkata in 1950.

- In 2016, Pope Francis canonized her as *Saint Teresa of Calcutta*.

Awards: She received the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1962, the Templeton Prize in 1973 as its first recipient, and the Balzan Prize in 1979.

She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for her service to suffering humanity and received the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour, in 1980.

Publications: During her lifetime, she authored several books, including *Best Gift is Love*, *My Life for the Poor*, and *Heart of Joy*.

International Literacy Day 2025- September 8

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)'s International Literacy Day (ILD), observed globally every year on 8 September to highlight the vital role of literacy in empowering individuals and fostering community and societal development.

- **2025 Theme:** “Promoting Literacy in the Digital Era.”

Background:

Origins: The idea of celebrating ILD was first proposed during the inaugural World Congress of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy, held in Tehran, Iran in **1965**.

Adoption: In **1966**, the **UNESCO** General Conference at its 14th session in Paris, France, adopted Resolution 14 C/1.441, officially proclaiming 8 September of every year as ILD.

First Observance: The first ILD was celebrated on **8 September 1967**.

2025 Events:

UNESCO Global Event :

Event: UNESCO hosted a global event in Paris, France, featuring discussions, panel sessions, and an awards ceremony for its International Literacy Prizes.

Conference: A global conference held on 8 September 2025 at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France.

ILD 2025 Celebration – India:

Event: Union Minister of State(MoS) **Jayant Chaudhary**, Ministry of Education(MoE),

Himalaya Diwas 2025 – September 9

Himalaya Diwas, or Himalaya Day, is observed annually across India on 9 September to highlight the significance of the Himalayan mountain range and its ecosystem.

- 9 September 2025 marks the **16th** edition of Himalaya Diwas.

Background:

First Observance: Himalaya Diwas was first observed in Uttarakhand in **2010** as an initiative of a group of environmentalists including Sunderlal Bahuguna, Anil Prakash Joshi, and Radha Behen.

Official Declaration: In 2014, **Harish Rawat**, then Chief Minister (CM) of Uttarakhand, officially declared 9 September as ‘Himalaya Diwas’.

- The first state-recognized observance of Himalaya Diwas was held on **9 September 2015**.

About the Himalayas:

Name: The name “Himalayas” comes from Sanskrit: “**Hima**” means snow and “**Alaya**” means dwelling, indicating the mountains are snow-covered.

Location: It is a spectacular mountain range located in the subtropical high-pressure belt of the Earth.

Hindi Diwas 2025 – September 14

Hindi Diwas, also known as Hindi Day, observed annually on **September 14**, marks the Constituent Assembly’s **1949** decision to adopt Hindi in the Devanagari script as one of the 22 official languages of India.

- September 14, 2025 marks the **76th** anniversary of Hindi’s adoption as an official language.

Background:

Proposal : At the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan in **1918**, **Mahatma Gandhi** proposed making Hindi the national language.

Declaration: In 1953, former Prime Minister(PM) **Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru** declared September 14 to be observed every year as Hindi Diwas.

- The day also marks the birth anniversary of Beohar Rajendra Simha.

2025 Events

Official Language Conference: Union Minister Amit Shah, MHA and Ministry of Cooperation attended the **5th All India Official Language Conference** in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, as the Chief Guest on the occasion of Hindi Diwas 2025.

Awards: Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented awards, including the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar, to government officials and organizations for outstanding promotion and use of Hindi.

Hindi Fortnight Celebration: The Ministry of Minority Affairs(MMA) is organizing Hindi Fortnight from September 14 to 30, 2025.

National Engineer's Day 2025 – September 15

National Engineer's Day is celebrated every year on September 15 in India to honor the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna **Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya**, remembered as **India's first engineer** for his great contributions to engineering and education.

Background:

Declaration: In **1968**, the Government of India (GoI) declared the birth anniversary of Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya to be observed as National Engineers' Day.

First Observance: The first National Engineers' Day was celebrated on September 15, **1968**.

About Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya:

Birth: Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya was born on 15th September **1861** in Karnataka.

Engineering Feats: He served as the chief engineer of the Krishna Raja Sagara (KRS) **Dam** in Mysore (now Mysuru, Karnataka), which created **Asia's largest reservoir** and transformed agriculture in Mandya, Karnataka.

- He is also remembered for his contributions to irrigation and water supply projects, including the **Khadakwasla Dam** in Pune, Maharashtra.

Award: In 1955, the GoI honoured him with the Bharat Ratna for his contributions in the field of engineering and his service to the nation.

- He was also awarded the title of Knight Commander of the British Indian Empire (KCIE), which gave him the honorific "Sir" before his name.

International Day of Democracy 2025 – September 15

The United Nations (UN's) **International Day of Democracy**(IDD) is observed globally on **15 September** to encourage governments to strengthen and uphold democracy.

- September 15, 2025 marks the **18th** edition of the IDD.

Theme:

2025 Theme: "From Voice to Action"

Focus: This year's theme emphasizes that democracy's strength lies in people's ability to

influence decisions through their voices, choices, and active participation.

Exam Hints:

- **Event:** International Day of Democracy 2025
- **When?** 15 September
- **2025 Theme:** “From Voice to Action”
- **Established By:** Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)
- **UN Adoption:** 8 November 2007 (UNGA Resolution A/RES/62/7)
- **First Observed:** 15 September 2008
- **2025 Event:** UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF) host an event in New York, the USA

International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer 2025 – 16 September

The United Nations (UN's) International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, or World Ozone Day (WOD) or Global Ozone Day, is annually observed across the globe on **16th September** to raise awareness about the significance of the ozone layer and the impact of its depletion, which contributes to global warming and climate change.

- 16th September 2025 marks the **31st** observance of the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

Theme:

The theme for International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer 2025 is “**From Science to Global Action.**”

Background:

UNGA Resolution: On 19 December 1994, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted resolution A/RES/49/114, declaring 16 September of every year as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

First Observation: The inaugural International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer was observed on 16 September 1995.

2025 Events in India:

MoEFCC Celebrates 31st World Ozone Day 2025

On 16 September 2025, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) organised the 31st World Ozone Day in New Delhi, Delhi. Bhupendra Yadav, MoEF&CC, announced that India became one of the first countries globally to implement a Cooling Action Plan.

- India has achieved a **67.5%** reduction in the production and use of HFCs.

International Day of Cardiology 2025 – September 16

The United Nations (UN) observes the International Day for Interventional Cardiology every year on 16th September to raise global awareness about Cardiovascular Diseases (CVDs) and the role of interventional cardiology procedures in their treatment.

- 16th September 2025 marks the 3rd International Day for Interventional Cardiology.

Exam Hints:

- **Event:** International Day for Interventional Cardiology 2025
- **When?** September 16
- **2025 edition:** 3
- **Purpose:** To raise global awareness about Cardiovascular Diseases (CVDs)
- **UNGA Resolution:** Declared on 2 Sept 2022 (A/RES/76/302)
- **First Observed:** 16 Sept 2023
- **Significance:** Marks the first coronary angioplasty (1977) by Dr. Andreas Roland Grünzig

Background:

UNGA Resolution: On 2nd September 2022, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted resolution A/RES/76/302, declaring 16th September of every year as the International Day for Interventional Cardiology.

- The resolution also invites the World Health Organization (WHO) to support and facilitate the implementation of this International Day.

International Day of Peace 2025 – September 21

The United Nations (UN's) International Day of Peace (IDP), observed every year across the globe on **September 21**, celebrates and promotes the principles of peace within and among all nations and peoples.

- September 21, 2025, marks the **26th** anniversary of the UN General Assembly (UNGA)'s adoption of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace.
- The IDP is symbolized by a **dove carrying an olive branch**. The dove signifies peace and freedom, while the olive branch has been a timeless emblem of peace since ancient times.
- **2025 Theme:** “Act Now for a Peaceful World”

Background:

Adoption: In 1981, the UNGA adopted **resolution A/RES/36/67**, declaring the **3rd Tuesday of September**, coinciding with the opening day of the UNGA regular sessions, as the IDP.

First Observation: The first IDP was observed on **21 September 1982** (the 3rd Tuesday of September 1982).

Resolution 2001: In 2001, the UNGA adopted resolution A/RES/55/282, designating **21 September** each year as the International Day of Peace, a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, honouring the cessation of hostilities for the day.

World Rhino Day 2025- September 22

World Rhino Day is observed globally on 22 September every year to raise awareness about rhinoceros species (*Rhinocerotidae*) and emphasize the urgent need for their conservation.

- There are only 5 species of rhinos left: Two in Africa (black and white) and three in Asia (Indian, Javan, and Sumatran). Some are critically endangered, with fewer than 70 Javan rhinos remaining.

History:

Origin: World Rhino Day was initiated in **2010** by the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) – South Africa.

Founders: World Rhino Day was initiated through the efforts of two dedicated women conservationists: **Lisa Jane Campbell** from Chishakwe Ranch, Zimbabwe, and **Rhishja Cota-Larson** from Saving Rhinos, United States of America (USA).

First Observance: The first official World Rhino Day was celebrated in 2011, and it has been observed annually on **22 September** since then.

Status of Rhinos in 2025:

Report: The ‘2025 State of the Rhino Report’ published by the International Rhino Foundation (IRF), indicates that rhino populations have remained stable, with no significant declines recorded over the past year.

Population Status: Rhino populations have stabilized at around **27,000 individuals** globally.

- India is currently home to **over 80%** of the world’s Greater One-Horned Rhino population.

National Ayurveda Day 2025 – September 23

National Ayurveda Day 2025 is observed across India on September 23 to raise awareness about Ayurveda’s role in preventing and treating a wide range of health issues.

- The 2025 observance marked the **10th** edition of National Ayurveda Day.
- **2025 Theme:** “Ayurveda for People and Planet”

Background:

Declaration: In 2016, the **Ministry of AYUSH** (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy) declared that **Dhanvantari Jayanti** would be observed as National Ayurveda Day to integrate Ayurveda into mainstream healthcare.

First Observance: The inaugural National Ayurveda Day was celebrated on 28th October **2016**.

Change of Date: Previously observed on **Dhanteras** (Kartik month), Ayurveda Day had a variable date each year.

- In May 2025, the Government of India (GoI) fixed **September 23** for the annual celebration of Ayurveda Day, a date that also coincides with the **autumnal equinox**, when day and night are nearly equal.

2025 Events:

Celebrations at CARI: On 23rd September 2025, the Central Ayurveda Research Institute (**CARI**), under the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of AYUSH, celebrated the 10th Ayurveda Day through nationwide outreach programmes in

New Delhi, Delhi.

Celebrations at AIIA: On 23rd September 2025, the Ministry of Ayush celebrated the 10th National Ayurveda Day at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), Goa.

World Maritime Day 2025 – September 25

The United Nations (UN) observes World Maritime Day (WMD) every year on the **last Thursday of September** to highlight the significance of maritime activities and acknowledge the maritime industry's contribution to global development.

- In 2025, WMD was observed on 25th September, 2025
- WMD 2024 was observed on 26th September 2024, and WMD 2026 will be observed on 25th September 2026

Theme:

2025 Theme: Our Ocean, Our Obligation, Our Opportunity

Focus: This year's theme emphasizes the ocean's vital role in supporting life, livelihoods, and the global economy.

Exam Hints:

- **Event:** World Maritime Day 2025
- **When?** September 25, 2025 (last Thursday of September)
- **2025 Theme:** *Our Ocean, Our Obligation, Our Opportunity*
- **First Observed:** 17 March 1978
- **Organizer:** International Maritime Organization (IMO)

Background:

First Celebration: WMD was first observed on 17th March **1978**, marking the entry into force of the IMO Convention in 1958.

Annual Observance: Since 1978, WMD has been celebrated globally on the last Thursday of September.

Organizer: The International Maritime Organization (IMO), a UN-specialized agency, leads the annual observance of WMD.

2025 Events:

Lighting Landmarks: IMO Headquarters and global landmarks will be illuminated in **blue** to promote this year's theme.

Special Screening: The IMO Headquarters hosted a screening of the film "Ocean with David Attenborough."

World Tourism Day 2025 – September 27

World Tourism Day (WTD) is observed globally on September 27 every year to raise awareness about tourism's social, cultural, political, and economic significance.

- The year 2025 marks the **45th** anniversary of the WTD

Theme 2025 & Focus:

Theme: “Tourism and Sustainable Transformation”.

- The theme emphasized structural transformation of the sector instead of minor adjustments.

Official host for WTD 2025: Melaka, Malaysia, where the **7th World Tourism Conference** will explore sustainable investment, inclusive tourism, and technology's role in transformation.

Background of World Tourism Day

Establishment: The United Nations World Tourism Organization (**UNWTO**), headquartered in Madrid, Spain, instituted WTD in 1980.

Reason: The date marks the adoption of the **UNWTO Statutes** on 27th September 1970, a milestone in global tourism governance.