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FOR WB GOVT EXAM

Miscellaneous, Clerkship & Police

OCTOBER 2026



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1.1. Awards & Honours

Ballon d'Or 2026



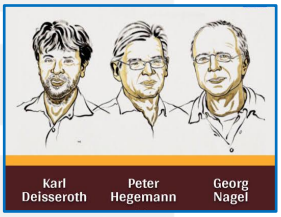
- **Winner:** England captain **Harry Kane** won the prestigious men's Ballon d'Or award, first Englishman to claim the honor in 25 years.
- **Alexia Putellas** won the women's Ballon d'Or for the third time.
- Kopa Trophy went to **Lamine Yamal**; Yashin Trophy went to **Emiliano Martínez.**

About Ballon d'Or



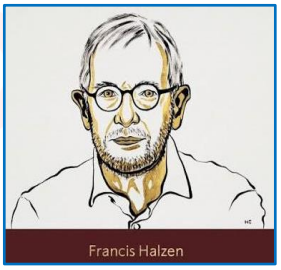
- **Established:** 1956 by France Football magazine; an annual award recognising outstanding football performance.
- **First Recipient:** Stanley Matthews (England), in 1956.

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2026



- Awarded jointly to **Karl Deisseroth**, **Peter Hegemann**, and **Georg Nagel** for their pioneer discoveries on **light-gated ion channels and the development of optogenetics**.
- Nobel Assembly at **Karolinska Institutet** decides Medicine prize.

Nobel Prize in Physics 2026



- **2026 Winner:** The Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to **Francis Halzen**.
  - **His Work:** He won for his decisive contributions to the **IceCube Neutrino Observatory** and the discovery of high-energy cosmic neutrinos.
  - **Awarding Body:** The prize is presented annually by **The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences**.

Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2026



- **2026 Winners:** The 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded jointly to **Henri B. Kagan** and **Kenso Soai**.
  - **Their Work:** They were recognized for their discovery of **non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis**, which explains how molecular mirror-image asymmetry (homochirality) emerges.
  - **Awarding Body:** The prize is officially awarded by the **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences**.

Nobel Prize in Literature 2026

- **2026 Winner:** The Canadian poet and essayist **Anne Carson** won the Nobel Prize in Literature.



- **Her Work:** She was recognized for her bold, inventive literary oeuvre that creates new forms by engaging with classical traditions.
- **Awarding Body:** The prize is officially presented and chosen by the **Swedish Academy**.

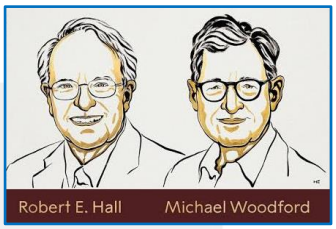
Nobel Peace Prize 2026



- **2026 Winner: Navanethem "Navi" Pillay**, a South African jurist of Indian origin, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
  - **Her Work:** She was honored for her lifetime commitment to promoting peace, international law, and human rights.
  - **Awarding Body:** The prize is presented by the **Norwegian Nobel Committee** based in Oslo, Norway.

Nobel Prize in Economics 2026

- **Winners of this year (2026): Robert E. Hall** and **Michael Woodford** won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.
  - **Their work:** They were awarded for their groundbreaking research on the **microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation**.
  - **Awarding institution:** The prize is officially conferred by the **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences**.



Nobel Prize



- **Origin:** Established by the 1895 will of Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel and first awarded in **1901** to honor those conferring the greatest benefit to humankind.
- Presented every December 10
- The Nobel Prize was first awarded in the year **1901** in Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace. Only Nobel Prize on Economics was first awarded in **1969**.

Category	Winner(s) (2026)	Country/Inst.	Field of Discovery / Contribution
Medicine	Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann & Georg Nagel	USA / Germany	Discoveries concerning light-gated ion channels and optogenetics
Physics	Francis Halzen	USA / Belgium	Decisive contributions to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory and the discovery of high-energy cosmic neutrinos
Chemistry	Henri B. Kagan & Kenso Soai	France / Japan	Discovery of non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis
Literature	Anne Carson	Canada	Bold and inventive oeuvre creating new forms for contemporary literature in dialogue with classical tradition
Peace	Navanethem "Navi" Pillay	South Africa	Lifelong efforts to promote peace, defend human rights, and uphold international law

Economics	Robert E. Hall & Michael Woodford	USA	Microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilization

Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2026

- **Recipient:** Veteran actor **Anant Nag** was conferred with India's highest film honour, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award.
  - **Conferred By:** Presented by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, at the 72nd National Film Awards ceremony held on September 22, 2026, in Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat.



About Dadasaheb Phalke Award

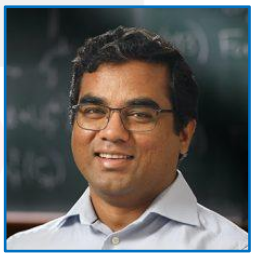


- **Dadasaheb Phalke Award:** Instituted in 1969; India's highest honour in cinema for outstanding contribution to Indian cinema.
- **First Recipient:** Devika Rani.
- **Latest Awardee (2024):** Anant Nag, presented the award on 22 September 2026.

France's Legion of Honour 2026

- **Recipient: Sunil Bharti Mittal** announced to receive France's highest civilian honour on October 12, 2026.
  - Recognized for fostering global telecommunications growth and India-France trade partnerships.
  - Becomes one of the prominent Indian business leaders conferred with the Grand Officer grade.

SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2026



- **Recipient:** Indian mathematician **Mahesh Kakde** awarded the 2026 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize on October 7, 2026. For his contributions to algebraic number theory.

About SASTRA Ramanujan Prize



- **Established:** 2005; awarded annually by the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) and the International Mathematical Union (IMU).
- **Objective:** Recognise outstanding mathematical research by researchers under 45 years from developing countries.
- **2026 Awardee:** Mahesh Kakde (Indi(a) for contributions to algebraic number theory.
- **Honored for outstanding contributions to number theory and the Main Conjecture of Iwasawa Theory.**
- **Carries a cash prize of $10,000 for mathematicians under the age of 32.**

Oskar Klein Medal 2026



- **Recipient:** Theoretical physicist **Ashoke Sen** won the Oskar Klein Medal on October 24, 2026.
  - First Indian physicist to receive the prestigious Swedish honor in theoretical physics.
  - Awarded for seminal work on string field theory and black hole entropy microstates.

About Oskar Klein Medal



- **Established:** 1988; awarded by Stockholm University.
- **Objective:** Recognise outstanding contributions to theoretical physics.
- **Notable Recipients:** Edward Witten, Juan Maldacena and Ashoke Sen — prominent theoretical physicists and contributors to string theory.

UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year 2026

- **Recipient: Major Abhilasha Barak** of the Indian Army received the UN award in October 2026.
  - Honored for exemplary peacekeeping service with UNIFIL in Lebanon conflict zones.

Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2026

- **Winner: Oscar Whitfield** won the prestigious global title announced on October 14, 2026.
  - Awarded by London's Natural History Museum for an extraordinary natural habitat action shot.
  - Selected among over 50,000 international photo entries.

FAO Strawberry Farming Excellence Award 2026

- **Recipient:** Mizoram farmer **Mari ZT Lalrithangi** honored by the UN FAO on October 16, 2026.
  - Recognized under the global '100 Women Heroes' initiative for sustainable high-altitude farming.
  - Transformed local rural economies through organic strawberry cultivation.



Princess of Asturias Award for Sports 2026

- **Recipient:** Football icon **Lionel Messi** honored with the 2026 Princess of Asturias Award on October 24, 2026. Lionel Mess
  - Recognized for his legendary sports career and global philanthropic work through his foundation.
  - This award is conferred annually in Oviedo, Spain, across major humanitarian and cultural categories.



Dr Bhupen Hazarika National Award 2026

- **Recipient:** Legendary playback singer **Usha Mangeshkar** named recipient of the inaugural national award on October 24, 2026.
  - Honored for her lifelong contribution to Indian playback singing and folk music preservation.

Israel's Presidential Award for Civilian Heroism 2026

- **Recipient:** Indian commercial pilot **Smit Machchhar** selected for the civilian bravery award on October 9, 2026.



- Recognized for saving passenger lives during a mid-air emergency situation.
- Also conferred the **Vishisht Gujarat Garima Award** on October 1, 2026.

65th National Exhibition of Art Awards 2026

- **Event:** President Droupadi Murmu presented Lalit Kala Akademi National Awards on October 22, 2026.
  - 20 contemporary visual artists conferred awards for excellence in sculpture, painting, and graphic art.
  - Organized by Lalit Kala Akademi to promote fine arts excellence across India.

About Lalit Kala Akademi

- **Established:** 5 August 1954; registered in 1957 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi; under the Ministry of Culture.
- **Objective:** Promote and preserve Indian visual arts, including painting, sculpture, folk and tribal art.

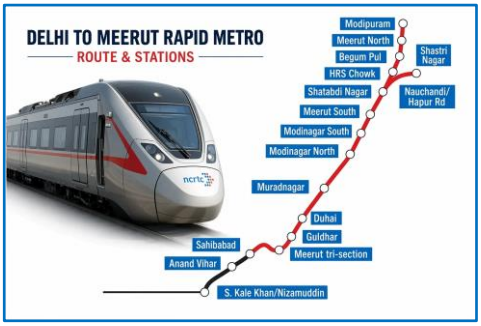
Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar (2024-25)

- **Announcement:** Sangeet Natak Akademi selected 106 young artists for the Yuva Puraskar on October 19, 2026.
  - Recognizes outstanding talent aged below 40 across music, dance, theatre, and puppetry.
  - Aims to encourage emerging performing artists across diverse regional traditions.

About Sangeet Natak Akademi

- **Established:** 1953; India's National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama.
- **Headquarters:** Rabindra Bhavan, Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi.
- **Objective:** Preserve, promote and document India's performing arts, including music, dance and drama.

Best Passenger Service Award (UMI 2026)



- **Winner: Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat Rapid Rail Corridor** won the top service award on October 27, 2026.
  - Conferred during the 19th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference in New Delhi.

G-Mark Global Design Award 2026

- **Winner:** Shabari Naturals won the prestigious international design award on October 26, 2026.
  - Honored for eco-friendly, tribal-inspired sustainable product packaging design.

28th Charles Correa Gold Medal 2026

- **Winner:** Architecture student from Kochi won the prestigious gold medal on October 23, 2026.

- Awarded for an innovative sustainable urban housing design project.

Karnataka Janapada Award 2026

- **Recipient:** Veteran folk artist **Devadas Chimakode** selected for the state honor on October 22, 2026.
  - Recognized for lifetime dedication to preserving traditional Karnataka folk music and oral theater.

Practice Questions

1. Who won the prestigious men's Ballon d'Or award for 2026?

(a) Lionel Messi
(b) Harry Kane
(c) Lamine Yamal
(d) Emiliano Martínez

Answer: (b) Harry Kane

2. Which Indian mathematician was awarded the 2026 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize?

(a) Ashoke Sen
(b) Mahesh Kakde
(c) C. V. Raman
(d) Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar

Answer: (b) Mahesh Kakde

3. Who became the first Indian physicist to receive the prestigious Swedish Oskar Klein Medal in theoretical physics?

(a) Dr. Vivek Bhasin
(b) Ashoke Sen
(c) Francis Halzen
(d) Har Gobind Khorana

Answer: (b) Ashoke Sen

4. Who won the women's Ballon d'Or for the third time in 2026?

(a) Aitana Bonmatí
(b) Alexia Putellas
(c) Sam Kerr
(d) Megan Rapinoe

Answer: (b) Alexia Putellas

5. Who was awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly with Peter Hegemann and Georg Nagel?

(a) Francis Halzen
(b) Karl Deisseroth
(c) Henri B. Kagan
(d) Robert E. Hall

Answer: (b) Karl Deisseroth

6. Who received the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics for his decisive contributions to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory?

(a) Kenso Soai
(b) Francis Halzen
(c) Michael Woodford
(d) Karl Deisseroth

Answer: (b) Francis Halzen

7. The 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded jointly to Henri B. Kagan and Kenso Soai for their work on what?

(a) Lithium-ion batteries

(b) Non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis

(c) CRISPR gene editing technology

(d) Quantum dot synthesis

Answer: (b) Non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis

8. Who won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Literature?

(a) Anne Carson (b) Jon Fosse

(c) Annie Ernaux (d) Abdulrazak Gurnah

Answer: (a) Anne Carson

9. Navanethem "Navi" Pillay, who won the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize, is a jurist originating from which country?

(a) India (b) South Africa

(c) Kenya (d) Nigeria

Answer: (b) South Africa

10. Who won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences alongside Michael Woodford?

(a) Robert E. Hall (b) Abhijit Banerjee

(c) Amartya Sen (d) Richard Thaler

Answer: (a) Robert E. Hall

1.2. Appointments & Persons in News

National



- **Anup Kumar Saha:** Approved by the RBI as the next MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank, effective January 1, 2027.
- **Mahesh Muralidhar Pai:** Appointed as MD & CEO of South Indian Bank with RBI approval effective October 1, 2026.
- **Lavanya R Mundayur:** Appointed as Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CM(d) of New India Assurance Company Limited (NIACL).
- **Anup Bagchi:** Appointed MD & CEO of HDFC Bank, becoming the first external candidate to lead the bank.
- **Siddhartha Mishra:** Appointed MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company Limited.
- **Sudhakar Malli:** Appointed Executive Director (E(d) at the RBI, overseeing the Department of Supervision.
- **Judicial Appointments:** The Ministry of Law and Justice notified the appointment of High Court Chief Justices Sunita Agarwal, Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya, and Aparesh Kumar Singh as Supreme Court Judges.



- **Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit:** Appointed as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force, effective October 31, 2026.
- **Prof. Achyuta Samanta:** Elected as the first President of the Indian UniSport Federation (IUSF).
- **Subhas Chandra Lal Das:** Appointed as part-time Chairperson of the

Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSI(b) for a three-year term.

- **Parvinder Awana Appointed Chairperson of BCCI Junior Selection Committee:** Appointed as the Chairperson of the Junior Cricket Committee by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), alongside members Krishna Das, Rakesh Patel, and N. Arjun Yadav.
- **Sunil Kumar Appointed Next ONGC Chairman:** Appointed as the Chairman of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for a three-year term beginning on or after 7 December 2026, succeeding Arun Singh.



- **Deepak Reddy Named CEO-Designate of Bajaj General Insurance:** Named CEO-designate of Bajaj General Insurance effective 1 January 2027, subject to regulatory approval, succeeding current CEO Tapan Singhel.
- **Sajjan Singh Yadav Appointed Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir:** Appointed as the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir by the Ministry of Home Affairs, effective 1 November 2026.
- **Four Ministers Inducted into Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet:** Ali Muhammad Sagar, Shameema Firdous, Mir Saifullah, and Altaf Kaloo were inducted into the J&K cabinet under Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, with the oath administered by the Lieutenant Governor on 27 October 2026.
- **Harish Parvathaneni in News as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations:** Serving as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, noted as an important diplomatic representative for international affairs.
- **Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak Recommended for Gujarat High Court:** Recommended for judicial appointment to the Gujarat High Court in late October 2026.
- **Ajay Sharma and Vaibhav Anant Sugdare Approved as Bombay High Court Judges:** Approved and reported as judges of the Bombay High Court in late October 2026.

International



- **Edward Rukidi Kijanangoma:** Crowned as the 13th King (Omukama) of the Tooro Kingdom in Uganda at the Karuziika Palace.
- **Fatima Ezzahra El Mansouri:** Appointed as the Prime Minister of Morocco by King Mohammed VI, becoming the country's first woman PM.
- **Rajeshwari Kumari:** Elected as a member of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Athletes Commission representing South Asia for the 2026–2030 term.
- **Dr. T. M. Balakrishnan Nair:** Elected as Chair of UNESCO's IOC Sub-Commission for the Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO).

Practice Questions

1. Who has been appointed as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force, effective October 31, 2026?

(a) Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
(b) Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
(c) Air Marshal Arun Singh
(d) Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh

Answer: (a) Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit

2. **Who was appointed as the MD & CEO of HDFC Bank, marking the first time an external candidate was chosen to lead the bank?**

(a) Anup Kumar Saha
(b) Mahesh Muralidhar Pai
(c) Siddhartha Mishra
(d) Anup Bagchi

Answer: (d) Anup Bagchi

3. **Subhas Chandra Lal Das has been appointed for a three-year term as the part-time Chairperson of which regulatory organization?**

(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
(b) Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)
(c) New India Assurance Company Limited (NIACL)
(d) Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

Answer: (b) Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)

4. **Who was appointed as the Chairperson of the BCCI Junior Selection Committee?**

(a) Rakesh Patel
(b) Parvinder Awana
(c) Krishna Das
(d) N. Arjun Yadav

Answer: (b) Parvinder Awana

5. **Who made history by becoming the first female Prime Minister of Morocco after being appointed by King Mohammed VI?**

(a) Reema Nanavaty
(b) Rajeshwari Kumari
(c) Fatima Ezzahra El Mansouri
(d) Navi Pillay

Answer: (c) Fatima Ezzahra El Mansouri

6. **Who was appointed as the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir effective November 1, 2026?**

(a) Sajjan Singh Yadav
(b) Sudhakar Malli
(c) Sunil Kumar
(d) Deepak Reddy

Answer: (a) Sajjan Singh Yadav

1.3. Government schemes

- **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP):** The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the programme for five years (2026–27 to 2030–31) to provide social assistance to eligible elderly individuals, widows, and persons with disabilities.



  - **Commencement:** August 15, 1995.
  - **Moto:** To provide financial assistance and basic social protection to vulnerable groups (elderly individuals, widows, and persons with disabilities) in alignment with the Directive Principles of State Policy.

- **Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY):** Completed one year, focusing on improving agricultural productivity, irrigation, crop diversification, and credit access in selected districts.



- **Commencement:** Completed one year of implementation (launched around October 2025).
- **Moto:** To improve agricultural productivity, irrigation, crop diversification, and credit access in selected districts.
- **People's Plan Campaign 2026–27 (Sabki Yojana, Sabka Vikas):** Launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to promote participatory planning and prepare Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) for 2027–28.
- **GOBARdhan Scheme:** Featured in current affairs for promoting the conversion of cattle dung and organic waste into compressed biogas (CBG) and clean energy under the circular economy.
  - **Commencement:** 30 April 2018
  - **Motto:** "Waste to Wealth" — convert organic waste into clean energy and organic manure.



- **PM-SETU Scheme:** Approved five strategic investment plans worth ₹1,194.92 crore to modernise Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) across Maharashtra, Odisha, and Jammu & Kashmir.
- **Starting Date:** Approved strategic investment plans worth ₹1,194.92 crore in October 2026.
- **Motive:** To modernise Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) across Maharashtra, Odisha, and Jammu & Kashmir.
- **RELIEF Initiative:** Component II of the Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation was extended until March 31, 2027, providing enhanced credit-risk coverage to Indian exporters.
- **JOSH Initiative:** Highlighted in connection with India's tuberculosis-control efforts under the TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan.
- **VB-G RAM G:** The Ministry of Rural Development notified 375 permissible works to support rural development and employment-related public works.



- **National Coastal Mission 2.0:** Focused on coastal conservation, protection of marine ecosystems, and sustainable development of coastal areas.
- **Green Energy Corridor Phase III:** Aims to strengthen electricity transmission infrastructure for the seamless integration of renewable energy into the national power grid.

Practice Questions

1. **The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) for which five-year period?**

   (a) 2024–25 to 2028–29
   (b) 2025–26 to 2029–30
   (c) 2026–27 to 2030–31
   (d) 2027–28 to 2031–32

   Answer: (c) 2026–27 to 2030–31

2. **Under the PM-SETU Scheme, strategic investment plans worth ₹1,194.92 crore were sanctioned to upgrade which of the following institutions?**

   (a) Primary Health Centres
   (b) Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)
   (c) Krishi Vigyan Kendras
   (d) Anganwadi Centres

   Answer: (b) Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)

3. **What is the primary focus of the GOBARdhan Scheme highlighted in recent circular economy initiatives?**

   (a) Providing direct cash assistance to rural dairy farmers
   (b) Converting cattle dung and organic waste into compressed biogas (CBG) and clean energy
   (c) Mandating solar panels on all agricultural irrigation pumps
   (d) Subsidizing organic fertilizer imports for cereal crops

   Answer: (b) Converting cattle dung and organic waste into compressed biogas (CBG) and clean energy

4. **Component II of the RELIEF Initiative, extended until March 31, 2027, provides what benefit?**

   (a) Subsidized diesel for deep-sea fishing trawlers
   (b) Enhanced credit-risk coverage for Indian exporters
   (c) Interest waivers on delayed farm equipment loans
   (d) Emergency drought insurance for pulses and oilseeds

   Answer: (b) Enhanced credit-risk coverage for Indian exporters

5. **The People's Plan Campaign 2026–27 ('Sabki Yojana, Sabka Vikas') was rolled out by which Union Ministry?**

   (a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
   (b) Ministry of Panchayati Raj
   (c) Ministry of Rural Development
   (d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

   Answer: (b) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

6. **The Ministry of Rural Development notified 375 permissible public works under which scheme?**

   (a) VB-G RAM G
   (b) PM-SETU
   (c) PMDDKY
   (d) JOSH Initiative

   Answer: (a) VB-G RAM G

1.4. Sports

- **Asian Games 2026:** Held in Aichi Prefecture and Nagoya, Japan; China topped the medal tally with 341 medals, while India finished 4th with 85 medals (21 gold, 27 silver, 37 bronze).
    - **First Held:** New Delhi, India.
    - **Commenced:** 1951.
    - **Frequency:** Every four years.



- **2026 Bahrain Grand Prix:** Won by Red Bull's Max Verstappen at the Sepang International Circuit in Malaysia, marking his first win of the season and 72nd career victory.
- **IOA & KSOC MoU:** The Indian Olympic Association and the Korean Sport and Olympic Committee signed an agreement during the Asian Games to strengthen sports cooperation.
- **2026 Singapore Grand Prix:** Max Verstappen secured his first Singapore GP win and Red Bull Racing's second victory of the 2026 season at the Marina Bay Street Circuit.
- **Kisan Cricket League:** Launched by Prasar Bharati and In-Dot Sports to identify rural and semi-urban cricketing and singing talent through digital auditions and AI-enabled screening.
- **Putul Sonowal:** Won a bronze medal in the men's singles category at the World Bowls Champion of Champions in Barham, Australia, securing India's first-ever medal at the event.
- **Punam Raut:** Announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket, concluding a distinguished career spanning 2009 to 2021.
- **Cricket:** India secured a 3-0 clean sweep against New Zealand in the T20I series, capped by a record chase in Wellington featuring a 38-ball century by **Abhishek Sharma**. In women's cricket, India defeated Zimbabwe 2-1 in the ODI series led by centuries from **Harmanpreet Kaur** and **Deepti Sharma**.
- **Asian Para Games 2026:** Concluding in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, India finished fourth with a record 114 medals (30 gold, 35 silver, 49 bronze), including a gold in the compound mixed-team archery event by Sheetal Devi and Toman Kumar.
- **Table Tennis: Yashaswini Ghorpade** and **Harmeet Desai** won a historic mixed-doubles medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships in Tashkent, ending a 72-year drought for India in the event.



- **Badminton: P.V. Sindhu** finished as the women's singles runner-up at the French Open 2026 in Paris after narrowly losing the final to South Korea's An Se-young.
- **Weightlifting:** Ahmedabad, Gujarat, was officially awarded the hosting rights for the 2029 Senior World Weightlifting Championships, marking the first time India will host the tournament.
- **Football:** Real Madrid defeated Barcelona 2–1 in El Clásico, during which **Kylian Mbappé** scored his 100th goal for Real Madrid.

- **Boxing & Administration:** Indian boxer Aditya won gold in the 55 kg category at the World Under-19 Championships in Montenegro, defeating Russia's Islam Magomedov. Meanwhile, the Punjab and Haryana High Court directed the Boxing Federation of India to hold its proposed general meeting in abeyance.

Practice Questions

1. At the Asian Games 2026 held in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, what was India's position on the medal tally and its total medal count?

(a) 3rd with 95 medals
(b) 4th with 85 medals
(c) 5th with 114 medals
(d) 4th with 107 medals

Answer: (b) 4th with 85 medals

2. Which Indian lawn bowls player won a historic bronze medal in the men's singles category at the World Bowls Champion of Champions in Barham, Australia?

(a) Harmeet Desai
(b) Putul Sonowal
(c) Toman Kumar
(d) Aditya

Answer: (b) Putul Sonowal

3. In which city and state will the 2029 Senior World Weightlifting Championships be held, marking India's first time hosting the event?

(a) Bhubaneswar, Odisha
(b) New Delhi, Delhi
(c) Ahmedabad, Gujarat
(d) Pune, Maharashtra

Answer: (c) Ahmedabad, Gujarat

4. Which Indian table tennis pair secured a historic mixed-doubles medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships in Tashkent, ending a 72-year medal drought?

(a) Yashaswini Ghorpade and Harmeet Desai
(b) Manika Batra and Sharath Kamal
(c) Sreeja Akula and Sathiyan Gnanasekaran
(d) Diya Chitale and Manush Shah

Answer: (a) Yashaswini Ghorpade and Harmeet Desai

5. Which Indian cricketer announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket in October 2026?

(a) Mithali Raj
(b) Punam Raut
(c) Jhulan Goswami
(d) Veda Krishnamurthy

Answer: (b) Punam Raut

6. Indian archers Sheetal Devi and Toman Kumar won gold in which event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

(a) Recurve Men's Team
(b) Compound Mixed Team
(c) Recurve Mixed Team
(d) Compound Women's Doubles

Answer: (b) Compound Mixed Team

1.5. Science, Space & Technology

Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) Criticality

- **Milestone:** India's indigenous 500 MW PFBR achieved first criticality at Kalpakkam.
  - Inaugurated and highlighted by PM Narendra Modi during ESTIC 2026 in New Delhi.
  - Marks crucial 2nd Stage of India's three-stage nuclear power program using plutonium-uranium fuel.

ESTIC 2026 Science Conclave

- **Event:** 2nd edition of Emerging Science, Technology & Innovation Conclave held October 27–29, 2026.
  - **Venue:** Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, hosted by Department of Space / ISRO and DST.
  - Unveiled roadmap for Bharatiya Antariksh Station and next-generation space technologies.

SpaDeX Space Docking Breakthrough

- **Achievement:** ISRO highlighted SpaDeX success positioning India as 4th nation with autonomous space docking.
  - Reported during ESTIC 2026 backgrounder on October 28, 2026.
  - Critical milestone for future space station assembly and lunar sample return missions.



Integrated Atmospheric Laboratory (AATAL)

- **Launch:** Inaugurated in Delhi-NCR in October 2026 for real-time air pollution chemistry research.
  - Linked with IITM's AIRWISE system for predictive emission source apportionment.
  - Provides high-precision monitoring of toxic aerosol particles.

6th CoE for 6G & Quantum Technology

- **MoU:** C-DOT signed agreement with IIT-BHU to establish 6th Center of Excellence in October 2026.
  - Focuses on advanced 6G quantum communications and optical network security.
  - Funded under Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) scheme.

AI-Powered AVNI Application Launch

- **Developer:** IIT Ropar launched 'AVNI' AI-powered application on October 13, 2026.
  - Designed for real-time agricultural crop disease detection and soil moisture mapping.
  - Helps farmers optimize irrigation and pesticide usage.



Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026

- **Cabinet Approval:** Bihar State Cabinet approved comprehensive Green Hydrogen Policy on October 13, 2026.
  - Offers capital subsidies and land allocation for green ammonia production units.
  - Aims to establish Bihar as a regional clean energy hub.

Next-Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV) Specifications

- **Update:** ISRO released technical architecture for NGLV 'Soorya' during ESTIC 2026.



- Features modular design with reusable liquid-oxygen/methane propulsion stages.
- Capable of delivering 30-tonne payload to Low Earth Orbit.

Supercomputer 'PARAM Rudra' Deployment

- **Installation:** C-DAC commissioned PARAM Rudra supercomputer at weather research facility in October 2026.
  - Delivers 3 Petaflops processing power for climate modeling and molecular simulation.
  - Strengthens National Supercomputing Mission infrastructure.



Indigenous Cryogenic Engine CE-20 Test

- **Test Fire:** ISRO successfully completed long-duration hot test of CE-20 engine at Mahendragiri in October 2026.
  - Validated enhanced thrust capability for upcoming heavy-lift Gaganyaan missions.
  - Ensures complete engine reliability under vacuum operational conditions.

Quantum Key Distribution (QK(d) Field Trial

- **Milestone:** DRDO and ISRO achieved multi-node quantum network link over 150 km fiber line in October 2026.
  - Demonstrated ultra-secure military communications immune to quantum hacking.
  - Paves way for national quantum communication backbone.

Gaganyaan Crew Escape System Abort Test

- **Test:** ISRO completed static firing of crew escape motor at Sriharikota in October 2026.
  - Verified high-altitude trajectory escape safety parameters for astronaut module.
  - Prepares platform for uncrewed orbital flight trials.



India's First Bio-Manufacturing Hub

- **Inauguration:** DBT inaugurated bio-foundry facility for microbial strain engineering in October 2026.
  - Accelerates production of bioplastics, enzymes, and synthetic biofuels.
  - Supports BioE3 policy implementation across biotechnology sector.

National Cybersecurity Operations Center (NCO(c) AI System

- **Rollout:** MeitY launched AI threat-hunting bot system across critical infrastructure in October 2026.
  - Detects zero-day malware attacks on national power grids and banking servers.
  - Provides automated real-time incident response.



Electric Propulsion Satellite Test

- **Achievement:** ISRO successfully validated indigenous Hall-effect electric thruster in orbit in October 2026.
  - Reduces propellant mass required for communication satellite station-keeping.
  - Extends satellite operational lifespan by over five years.

Autonomous Navigational Robot 'NAVBOT'



- **Unveiling:** IIT Madras unveiled autonomous deep-sea exploration underwater robot in October 2026.
  - Equipped with sonar imaging and robotic arm for deep-ocean mineral mapping.
  - Supports Samudrayaan Deep Ocean Mission goals.

Solar Observatory Aditya-L1 Science Data Release

- **Data Release:** ISRO released first comprehensive solar flare plasma dataset from Aditya-L1 in October 2026.
  - Provides insights into Coronal Mass Ejections (CME) dynamics.
  - Assists global space weather forecasting modeling.

Semiconductor Chip Packaging Facility

- **Foundation:** Foundation stone laid for India's 1st commercial OSAT semiconductor facility in October 2026.
  - Located in Sanand, Gujarat, designed for high-density chip assembly.
  - Boosts domestic supply chain self-reliance.

Hybrid Renewable Energy Microgrid Controller

- **Innovation:** CSIR-NIIST developed AI microgrid controller for remote Himalayan villages in October 2026.
  - Seamlessly balances solar, hydro, and battery storage power supplies.
  - Ensures round-the-clock electrification in extreme climate conditions.

Humanoid Robot 'Vyommitra' Flight Integration



- **Update:** ISRO finalized final sensory calibration for **Vyommitra** humanoid in October 2026.
  - Scheduled to fly onboard the upcoming uncrewed **Gaganyaan G1** mission.
  - Monitors life support systems and panel switch controls inside crew module.

Deep-Tech Startup Incubation Grant

- **Sanction:** Department of Science & Technology announced ₹500 crore seed grant in October 2026.
  - Supports 100 deep-tech startups working on photonics, robotics, and advanced materials.
  - Fosters commercialization of academic research innovations.

Practice Questions

1. What is the name of India's indigenous 500 MW reactor that achieved its first criticality at Kalpakkam, marking the 2nd Stage of India's nuclear program?

(a) Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR)

(b) Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR)

(c) Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR)

(d) Kakrapar Atomic Power Reactor

Answer: (b) Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR)

2. **Which IIT developed the 'AVNI' AI-powered application for real-time agricultural crop disease detection and soil moisture mapping?**

(a) IIT Bombay
(b) IIT Madras
(c) IIT Ropa
(d) IIT Kharagpur

Answer: (c) IIT Ropar

3. **What is the name of ISRO's Next-Generation Launch Vehicle whose technical architecture was released during ESTIC 2026?**

(a) Gaganyaan-1
(b) Soorya
(c) Pushpak
(d) Vikram-S

Answer: (b) Soorya

4. **C-DAC commissioned which supercomputer at a weather research facility in October 2026, delivering 3 Petaflops processing power?**

(a) PARAM Siddhi-AI
(b) PARAM Brahma
(c) PARAM Rudra
(d) PARAM Ishan

Answer: (c) PARAM Rudra

5. **MeitY launched which AI-backed system across critical infrastructure in October 2026 to detect zero-day malware attacks?**

(a) AI Threat-Hunting Bot System (National Cybersecurity Operations Center)
(b) Cyber Kavach AI
(c) Vajra Cyber Guard
(d) NetSurakshit AI

Answer: (a) AI Threat-Hunting Bot System (National Cybersecurity Operations Center)

6. **What is the name of the autonomous deep-sea exploration underwater robot unveiled by IIT Madras in October 2026?**

(a) Samudra-1
(b) NAVBOT
(c) Varuna-X
(d) Jaltarang

Answer: (b) NAVBOT

7. **Which state cabinet approved a comprehensive Green Hydrogen Policy offering capital subsidies and land allocation in October 2026?**

(a) Maharashtra
(b) Bihar
(c) Gujarat
(d) Karnataka

Answer: (b) Bihar

1.6. Summits

- **12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum:** Held in New Delhi (26–27 October 2026); adopted the New Delhi Joint Declaration on terrorism, AI, and global governance; chairship for 2027 passes to China.



About BRICS

Established: 2006; first BRIC Summit held in 2009.

- **Members (11):** Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, UAE, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia.
- **Headquarters:** No permanent headquarters or secretariat; India holds the BRICS presidency in 2026.

- **12th ESTIC 2026:** Inaugurated by PM Modi in New Delhi (27–29 October 2026); focused on emerging technologies and featuring deep-tech startup stalls.
- **1st BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting:** Held in India (14 October 2026); adopted the Delhi Declaration to strengthen regional cooperation against terrorism and technology misuse.

About BIMSTEC

Established: 1997;

- **Full form:** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).
- **Members (7):** Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- **Headquarters:** BIMSTEC Secretariat, Dhaka, Bangladesh (established in 2014).

- **G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting:** Held on 2 October 2026; focused on international trade and food security, agreeing to oppose the weaponisation of food.
- **World Health Summit 2026:** Held in Berlin, Germany (11–13 October 2026); focused on global health systems, medical innovation, and emergency resilience.

Practice Questions

1. Where was the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum held in October 2026?

(a) Moscow (b) New Delhi

(c) Beijing (d) Johannesburg

Answer: (b) New Delhi

2. Which country will take over the chairship of the BRICS Parliamentary Forum in 2027?

(a) Brazil (b) South Africa

(c) China (d) India

Answer: (c) China

3. What major declaration was adopted during the 1st BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting held in India?

(a) Dhaka Declaration (b) Bangkok Protocol

(c) Delhi Declaration (d) Colombo Resolution

Answer: (c) Delhi Declaration

4. Where are the headquarters of the BIMSTEC organization situated?

(a) New Delhi, India
(b) Colombo, Sri Lanka
(c) Dhaka, Bangladesh
(d) Bangkok, Thailand

Answer: (c) Dhaka, Bangladesh

5. The World Health Summit 2026 was organized in which global city?

(a) Geneva, Switzerland
(b) Berlin, Germany
(c) London, United Kingdom
(d) Paris, France

Answer: (b) Berlin, Germany

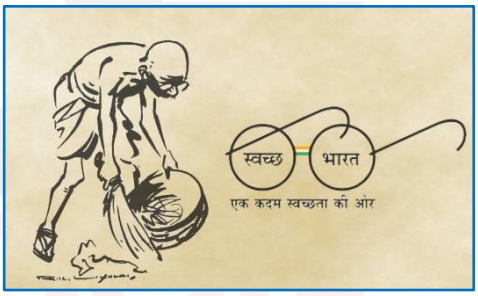
6. What was the central focus of the G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting held on October 2, 2026?

(a) Establishing common digital currency reserves
(b) International trade and food security, opposing the weaponisation of food
(c) Standardizing carbon border adjustment tariffs
(d) Banning subsidies on maritime shipping fuels

Answer: (b) International trade and food security, opposing the weaponisation of food

1.7. Books, Authors & Important Days

Gandhi Jayanti & Swachh Bharat Diwas



- **Observed:** Observed across India on October 2, 2026, marking 157th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- **Theme:** "Swachhata Hi Seva: Cleanliness as a Way of Life".
- Nationwide cleanliness drives organized alongside Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti tributes.

World Teachers' Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed globally on October 5, 2026, by UNESCO and international education bodies.
- **Theme:** "Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education".
- Honored educator contributions to global learning recovery and digital literacy.

World Cotton Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 7, 2026, highlighting sustainable cotton production.
- **Theme:** "Cotton for Good: Sustainable Textiles for global prosperity".
- Ministry of Textiles organized national expo on Kasturi Cotton India brand.

Indian Air Force (IAF) 94th Day



- **Observed:** Celebrated on October 8, 2026, with major air display at air force stations.
- **Motto:** "Touch the Sky with Glory".
- Showcased indigenous Tejas fighters and Netra AEW&C aircraft operational readiness.

World Mental Health Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 10, 2026, under WHO leadership.
- **Theme:** "Mental Health in the Workplace: Prioritizing Well-being".

- Promoted Tele-MANAS helpline awareness and mental healthcare access across institutions.

International Day of the Girl Child 2026



- **Observed:** Observed on October 11, 2026, globally.
- **Theme:** "Girls' Vision for the Future: Empowered Leadership".
- Government highlighted Beti Bachao Beti Padhao milestone achievements.

World Disaster Risk Reduction Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 13, 2026, under UN Disaster Risk Reduction guidelines.
- **Theme:** "Empowering the Next Generation for a Resilient Future".
- NDMA organized disaster preparedness drills across coastal districts.

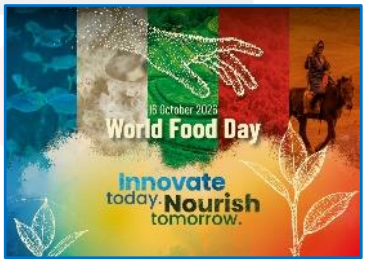
World Standards Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 14, 2026, led by BIS and ISO.
- **Theme:** "Shared Vision for a Better World: Industry 4.0 Standards".
- Highlighted quality compliance for manufactured green products.

World Student's Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 15, 2026, commemorating birth anniversary of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
- **Theme:** "Fostering Innovation and Youth Curiosity".
- Schools hosted science exhibitions and innovation competitions.

World Food Day 2026



- **Observed:** Observed on October 16, 2026, under UN FAO guidance.
- **Theme:** "Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow".
- ICAR highlighted climate-resilient crop varieties and biofortified grains.

International Day for Eradication of Poverty 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 17, 2026, globally.
- **Theme:** "Ending Social and Institutional Maltreatment for Just Societies".
- NITI Aayog presented multidimensional poverty reduction progress metrics.

World Polio Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed globally on October 24, 2026.
- **Theme:** "A Campaign to Make History: End Polio Worldwide".
- Reaffirmed global pulse polio surveillance and immunization commitment.

United Nations Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 24, 2026, marking 81st UN Charter anniversary.
- EAM S. Jaishankar reaffirmed India's commitment to multilateralism and UN reforms.
- Emphasized global south representation in multilateral councils.

World Development Information Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 24, 2026, alongside UN Day.
- Focuses on leveraging information technology for sustainable development goals.
- Promotes open data initiatives for public welfare.

Infantry Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed by Indian Army on October 27, 2026.
- Commemorates 1947 landing of 1st Battalion of Sikh Regiment at Srinagar airfield.
- Tributes paid to brave soldiers at National War Memorial, New Delhi.

National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 31, 2026, marking 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- PM Narendra Modi led 'Run for Unity' and parade at Statue of Unity, Kevadia.
- Reaffirmed national integration and territorial integrity resolve.

72nd National Wildlife Week (2–8 October 2026)

- **Observed:** Observed across Indian national parks and reserves from October 2–8, 2026.
- **Theme:** "Connecting Habitats, Thriving Wildlife".
- Focused on eco-corridors and community-led wildlife protection.

Book Release: 'The Indian Century: Economic Resurgence'

- **Author:** Written by prominent economist **C. B. Rao** and released in New Delhi in October 2026.
- Analyzes India's path toward becoming $10 trillion economy.
- Details structural reforms in manufacturing and digital public infrastructure.

Book Release: 'Diplomacy in a Multipolar World'

- **Author:** Authored by former diplomat **Hariom Singh Sisodia** and **Dr. Shriji** and published in October 2026.
- Explores India's strategic autonomy policy amidst shifting global alliances.
- Provides deep case studies on Eurasian and Indo-Pacific security.

Book Release: 'Wings of Green Energy'

- **Author:** Authored by clean energy innovator and launched in October 2026.
- Chronicles India's rapid solar and wind power expansion.
- Focuses on decentralization of renewable power grids.

Book Release: 'Voices of Silent Forests'

- **Author:** Authored by **Liisi Lendorav** acclaimed wildlife conservationist in October 2026.
- Documents successful tiger and elephant corridor protection initiatives in India.
- Advocates community-led biodiversity conservation models.

Practice Questions

1. What was the theme of World Teachers' Day 2026 observed on October 5, 2026?

(a) Mental Health in the Workplace: Prioritizing Well-being

(b) Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education

(c) Fostering Innovation and Youth Curiosity

(d) Building Sustainable Care and Support Systems

Answer: (b) Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education

2. Who authored the book titled 'The Indian Century: Economic Resurgence' released in New Delhi in October 2026?

(a) Hariom Singh Sisodia
(b) C. B. Rao
(c) Liisi Lendorav
(d) Dr. Shriji

Answer: (b) C. B. Rao

3. The 157th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi was observed across India on October 2, 2026, under which theme?

(a) Cleanliness as a Way of Life
(b) Swachhata Hi Seva: Cleanliness as a Way of Life
(c) Mahatma's Vision: Clean India, Green India
(d) Community Cleanliness and Nation Building

Answer: (b) Swachhata Hi Seva: Cleanliness as a Way of Life

4. What was the motto of the Indian Air Force celebrated during its 94th Day on October 8, 2026?

(a) Service Before Self
(b) Touch the Sky with Glory
(c) Always Vigilant
(d) Courage and Valour

Answer: (b) Touch the Sky with Glory

5. What was the theme of World Mental Health Day observed on October 10, 2026?

(a) Mental Health is a Universal Human Right
(b) Mental Health in the Workplace: Prioritizing Well-being
(c) Young Minds in a Changing World
(d) Access to Mental Healthcare for All

Answer: (b) Mental Health in the Workplace: Prioritizing Well-being

6. What was the theme of World Food Day observed on October 16, 2026, under UN FAO guidance?

(a) Leave No One Behind
(b) Water is Life, Water is Food
(c) Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow
(d) Safe Food Today for a Healthy Tomorrow

Answer: (c) Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow

7. Infantry Day was observed by the Indian Army on October 27, 2026, to commemorate the 1947 landing of which regiment at Srinagar airfield?

(a) 1st Battalion of the Sikh Regiment
(b) 2nd Battalion of the Madras Regiment
(c) Para Regiment
(d) 4th Battalion of the Kumaon Regiment

Answer: (a) 1st Battalion of the Sikh Regiment

8. National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) 2026 marked the 151st birth anniversary of which leader?

(a) Mahatma Gandhi
(b) Subhas Chandra Bose
(c) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(d) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

Answer: (c) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

9. Who authored the book 'Diplomacy in a Multipolar World' published in October 2026?

(a) C. B. Rao
(b) Hariom Singh Sisodia and Dr. Shriji
(c) Liisi Lendorav
(d) Karl Deisseroth

Answer: (b) Hariom Singh Sisodia and Dr. Shriji

10. Who authored the book 'Voices of Silent Forests' focusing on tiger and elephant corridor protection?

(a) C. B. Rao
(b) Hariom Singh Sisodia
(c) Liisi Lendorav
(d) Anne Carson

Answer: (c) Liisi Lendorav

1.8. Miscellaneous

- **India's Eight Core Industries Record Strong Growth:** India's eight core industries recorded 7.9% growth in September 2026, according to a report released in October.
- **India's Economic Activity Improves in October:** The preliminary Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) indicated that Indian private-sector business activity grew at its fastest pace in four months.
- **RBI Raises the Repo Rate to 5.50%:** The Reserve Bank of India raised the policy repo rate by 25 basis points in October 2026 and shifted its stance to calibrated tightening.
- **UNEP Releases Emissions Gap Report 2026:** The report warned that current global climate policies could lead to approximately 2.8°C of warming, highlighting the urgent need to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions.
- **India Adds Three Sites to UNESCO's Tentative List:** Sirpur, the Karst-mud-volcano complex of Baratang, and the Andaman subduction volcanoes were reported as additions, bringing India's tentative-list total to 81 sites.
- **India Records a Major Milestone in Farmer Identification:** The number of Farmer IDs crossed 11 crore, according to the October 2026 current-affairs roundup.



- **India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement Comes into Force:** The agreement took effect on 20 October 2026, providing duty-free access to New Zealand for 100% of Indian exports.
- **Ladakh Bench of the High Court Inaugurated at Leh:** Chief Justice of India Justice Surya Kant inaugurated the Ladakh Bench of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on 19 October 2026.
- **Cyclone Arnab Makes Landfall in Andhra Pradesh:** On 28 October 2026, Cyclone Arnab crossed the Andhra Pradesh coast, triggering heavy rainfall, strong winds and evacuations across Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.
- **India's Private-Sector Employment Growth Slows:** Despite stronger business activity in October, employment growth nearly stalled, according to the preliminary PMI survey.

- **India–US Trade Negotiations Remain in Focus:** Bilateral discussions on trade, tariffs and market access continued during October 2026.
- **India's Economic Growth Faces Inflation Risks:** The RBI highlighted risks arising from geopolitical tensions in West Asia, energy prices, supply-chain disruptions and El Niño conditions.
- **India Expands Its Judicial Infrastructure in Ladakh:** The inauguration of the Ladakh High Court Bench aims to make judicial services more accessible to residents of remote areas.

Practice Questions

1. **According to government data released in October 2026, what was the growth rate recorded by India's eight core infrastructure industries for September 2026?**

   (a) 5.4% (b) 6.8%

   (c) 7.9% (d) 8.3%

   Answer: (c) 7.9%

2. **In October 2026, the Reserve Bank of India raised the benchmark repo rate to which level?**

   (a) 5.25% (b) 5.50%

   (c) 6.00% (d) 6.25%

   Answer: (b) 5.50%

3. **Three new Indian sites were added to UNESCO's Tentative List in October 2026: Sirpur, the Karst-mud-volcano complex of Baratang, and what third site?**

   (a) Lonar Meteorite Crater (b) Andaman subduction volcanoes

   (c) Gandikota Grand Canyon (d) St. Mary's Island Columnar Basalt

   Answer: (b) Andaman subduction volcanoes

4. **What milestone did India reach in its national farmer digital identity project in October 2026?**

   (a) Crossed 5 crore Farmer IDs (b) Crossed 8 crore Farmer IDs

   (c) Crossed 11 crore Farmer IDs (d) Crossed 15 crore Farmer IDs

   Answer: (c) Crossed 11 crore Farmer IDs

5. **The free trade agreement that entered into force on October 20, 2026, provided 100% duty-free access for Indian exports to which country?**

   (a) Australia (b) United Kingdom

   (c) New Zealand (d) Oman

   Answer: (c) New Zealand

6. **Chief Justice of India Justice Surya Kant inaugurated the new High Court Bench for Ladakh in which location on October 19, 2026?**

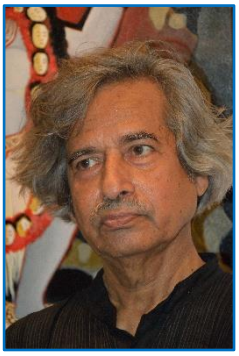
   (a) Kargil (b) Leh

   (c) Diskit (d) Dras

   Answer: (b) Leh

1.9. West Bengal Specific Current Affairs

Demise of Legendary Painter Jogen Chowdhury



- **Obituary:** Renowned Indian painter, master line-artist, and former MP **Jogen Chowdhury** passed away at 87 in Kolkata.
  - Famous for ink, pastel, and watercolor works influenced by traditional Bengali alpana floor art.
  - Recipient of Padma Bhushan and Kalidas Samman; alumnus of Kolkata's GCAC and Paris École des Beaux-Arts.

Mahalaya Celebrations Across West Bengal

- **Event:** Observed with solemnity and dawn recitation of Mahishasuramardini across West Bengal on October 13, 2026.
  - Marked formal end of Pitru Paksha and beginning of Devi Paksha / Durga Puja festivities.
  - Lakhs performed Tarpan rituals along Hooghly river banks and water bodies.

GRSE Kolkata Launches Warship 'Srishti'



- **Launch:** Next-Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Srishti' (Yard 1283) launched by GRSE Kolkata in October 2026.
  - Engineered to boost maritime surveillance and EEZ patrolling along eastern seaboard.
  - Demonstrates Kolkata's warship design and shipbuilding excellence under Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Durga Puja Carnival 2026 on Red Road

- **Event:** West Bengal government hosted grand Durga Puja Carnival on Red Road, Kolkata, in October 2026.
  - Showcased top UNESCO-recognized community puja idols with traditional cultural processions.
  - Attended by foreign diplomats, international tourists, and lakhs of spectators.

Kolkata Metro East-West Line Extension Trial

- **Trial Run:** Kolkata Metro Railway successfully conducted trial run on extended Howrah-Sealdah stretch in October 2026.
  - Validates sub-river tunnel automatic train signaling systems under Hooghly river.
  - Prepares commercial passenger services connecting major railway hubs.

Durgapur Steel Plant Green Hydrogen Unit

- **Commissioning:** SAIL commissioned pilot green hydrogen injection unit at Durgapur Steel Plant in October 2026.
  - Aims to reduce carbon intensity in blast furnace steelmaking.
  - Pioneers clean steel manufacturing in Eastern India.

Teesta Stage-III Flood Protection Grant

- **Sanction:** State government approved ₹450 crore river bank embankment strengthening project in October 2026.
  - Protects low-lying villages in Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar from flash floods.
  - Includes modern geo-synthetic river wall construction.

Kolkata Port (SMPK) Record Container Handling

- **Milestone:** Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata achieved record monthly container throughput in October 2026.
  - Driven by increased coastal trade and transshipment cargo to Nepal and Bhutan.
  - Strengthens Kolkata's status as Eastern India's primary maritime gateway.

Sundarbans Mangrove Afforestation Campaign

- **Launch:** West Bengal Forest Department planted 5 million mangrove saplings in Sundarbans in October 2026.
  - Aims to restore coastal bio-shields damaged by tropical cyclones.
  - Involves local women self-help groups in sapling nursery management.

West Bengal Rural Craft Hub Festival



- **Expo:** Micro & Small Scale Enterprises Department organized artisan fair at Eco Park Kolkata in October 2026.
  - Promoted Dokra metal craft, Wooden Dolls of Natungram, and Muslin textiles.
  - Facilitated direct export linkages for rural handicraft clusters.

IIT Kharagpur AI Medical Imaging Innovation

- **Research:** IIT Kharagpur researchers developed low-cost AI tool for early oral cancer detection in October 2026.
  - Trained on non-invasive thermal camera imaging for rural healthcare clinics.
  - Provides fast diagnostic screening across primary healthcare centers.

Darjeeling Tea GI Protection Cell Activation

- **Initiative:** Tea Board of India established specialized anti-counterfeiting GI cell in Kolkata in October 2026.
  - Protects authentic Darjeeling Tea trademark against fake global blending.
  - Ensures premium export pricing for North Bengal tea estates.

Biswa Bangla Handloom Expo 2026

- **Exhibition:** State Handloom Expo inaugurated at Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan, Kolkata, in October 2026.
  - Showcased traditional Baluchari, Jamdani, and Santipuri sarees.
  - Generated record direct sales for weaver cooperative societies.

Purulia Pumped Storage Project Expansion



- **Approval:** West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company approved 900 MW expansion in October 2026.
  - Enhances grid stability during peak evening power demand hours.
  - Supports integration of solar power into state electrical grid.

Kolkata Literary Meet 2026 Curtain-Raiser

- **Announcement:** Organizers released international author line-up for upcoming festival in October 2026.

- Focuses on Bengali translation works and modern South Asian literature.
- Attracts global literary scholars and critics.

Asansol Industrial Park Infrastructure Upgrade

- **Grant:** WBIDC sanctioned ₹200 Crore for road and power infrastructure upgrade in Asansol in October 2026.
  - Attracts heavy manufacturing and foundry unit investments.
  - Generates direct industrial employment in Paschim Bardhaman.

Shantiniketan World Heritage Conservation Plan

- **Report:** Visva-Bharati and ASI submitted comprehensive heritage preservation masterplan in October 2026.
  - Focuses on restoring Rabindranath Tagore's historic mud structures and murals.
  - Ensures strict adherence to UNESCO World Heritage guidelines.

North Bengal Silk Park Inco-Operation

- **Inauguration:** Sericulture department inaugurated modern silk processing unit in Malda in October 2026.
  - Provides automated yarn reeling machinery for Mulberry silk farmers.
  - Boosts raw silk production and weaver incomes.

Kolkata Urban Eco-Park Biodiversity Zone

- **Opening:** New butterfly park and urban bird sanctuary inaugurated in Rajarhat HIDCO area in October 2026.
  - Features indigenous host plants for over 80 butterfly species.
  - Enhances green cover and eco-tourism in New Town Kolkata.



Hooghly Riverfront Heritage Walkway Extension

- **Project:** Kolkata Municipal Corporation completed 4 km riverfront heritage beautification in October 2026.
  - Connects historic ghats with modern pedestrian walkways and LED lighting.
  - Promotes cultural heritage tourism along the Hooghly.

WBSEDCL Solar Rooftop Net Metering Drive

- **Policy:** State power utility simplified online net-metering approvals for residential solar in October 2026.
  - Targeting 50,000 rooftop solar installations across Kolkata and Howrah.
  - Promotes clean renewable power adoption in urban homes.

Practice Questions

1. Which legendary painter, master line-artist, and former MP passed away at the age of 87 in Kolkata in October 2026?

(a) Jogen Chowdhury
(b) Rabindranath Tagore
(c) Jamini Roy
(d) Abanindranath Tagore

Answer: (a) Jogen Chowdhury

2. **Which warship was launched by GRSE Kolkata in October 2026 as the fourth Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel under the program?**

(a) INS Nilgiri
(b) INS Kamorta
(c) Srishti
(d) INS Vikrant

Answer: (c) Srishti

3. **Which state government approved a ₹450 crore river bank embankment strengthening project for the Teesta Stage-III flood protection in October 2026?**

(a) Sikkim Government
(b) West Bengal State Government
(c) Assam Government
(d) Bihar Government

Answer: (b) West Bengal State Government

4. **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata (SMPK) achieved a record monthly container throughput in October 2026, driven by increased trade with which neighboring countries?**

(a) Bangladesh and Myanmar
(b) Nepal and Bhutan
(c) Sri Lanka and Maldives
(d) Pakistan and Afghanistan

Answer: (b) Nepal and Bhutan

5. **The West Bengal Forest Department planted how many mangrove saplings in the Sundarbans in October 2026?**

(a) 1 million
(b) 3 million
(c) 5 million
(d) 10 million

Answer: (c) 5 million

6. **Which institution developed a low-cost AI tool for early oral cancer detection using non-invasive thermal camera imaging in October 2026?**

(a) IIT Kharagpur
(b) IIT Madras
(c) IIT Bombay
(d) Jadavpur University

Answer: (a) IIT Kharagpur

7. **The Tea Board of India established a specialized anti-counterfeiting GI cell in Kolkata in October 2026 to protect which product?**

(a) Assam CTC Tea
(b) Darjeeling Tea
(c) Nilgiri Green Tea
(d) Kangra Tea

Answer: (b) Darjeeling Tea

8. **What financial upgrade was sanctioned by WBIDC for the Asansol Industrial Park in October 2026?**

(a) ₹100 crore
(b) ₹150 crore
(c) ₹200 crore
(d) ₹500 crore

Answer: (c) ₹200 crore

9. **Visva-Bharati and ASI submitted a comprehensive heritage preservation masterplan in October 2026 for which site?**

(a) Shantiniketan
(b) Victoria Memorial
(c) Marble Palace
(d) Indian Museum

Answer: (a) Shantiniketan

10. Where was the modern silk processing unit inaugurated by the sericulture department in North Bengal in October 2026?

(a) Siliguri
(b) Malda
(c) Cooch Behar
(d) Alipurduar

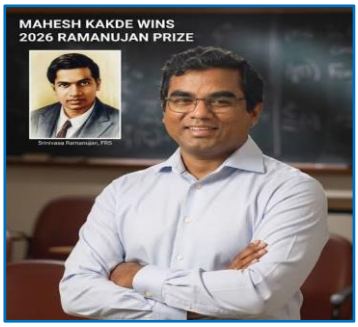
Answer: (b) Malda

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2.1. Awards and Honours

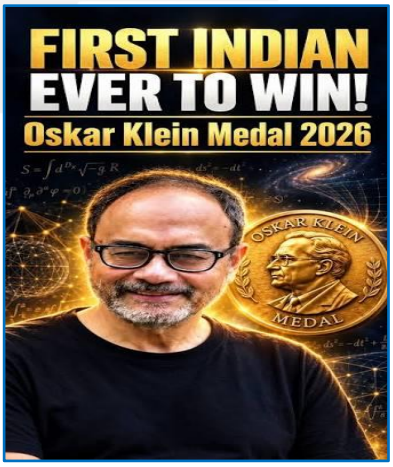
National



- **65th National Exhibition of Art:** The Lalit Kala Akademi announced 20 awards in September 2026 in New Delhi, recognizing artists such as Chandra Shekhar Sain and Gopal Chandra Naskar.
- **2026 Ramanujan Prize for Mathematics:** Mahesh Kakde from IISc Bengaluru won the award for his work in algebraic number theory, becoming the 5th Indian to receive this honor.

Ramanujan Prize
Established Year: 2005
Field: Mathematics (algebraic number theory)
Given by: Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP).

- **Israel's Presidential Award for Civilian Heroism:** Announced for Indian Captain Smit Machchhar for his bravery in preventing a potential catastrophe and saving 174 passengers and crew members.



- **Hillary Rodham Clinton Award:** Received by Indian social worker and Padma Shri awardee Reema Nanavaty for her contributions to women's economic empowerment, peace, and security.
- **Global Finance's World's Best Consumer Bank 2026 Award:** Won by the State Bank of India (SBI) for the second consecutive year, alongside the Best Bank in India 2026 award.
- **Ashoke Sen Wins the Oskar Klein Medal 2026:** Awarded to Indian theoretical physicist Professor Ashoke Sen, making him the first Indian to receive this prestigious medal for his contributions to string theory and theoretical physics.

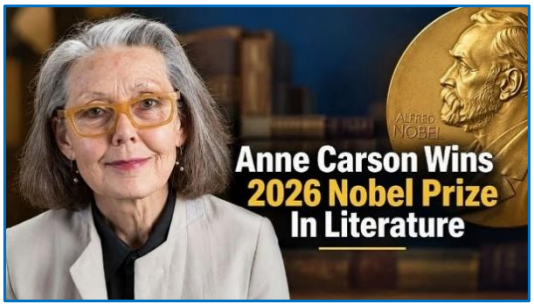


- **Shabari Naturals Wins the G-Mark Global Design Award:** Recognized for its packaging inspired by traditional tribal art, associated with a Maharashtra government initiative.
- **Indian Pilot Smit Machchhar Honoured by the UAE:** Captain Smit Machchhar and fellow flydubai crew members were awarded the First Class Order of Zayed II by the United Arab Emirates for their courage in protecting passengers during an in-flightincident.

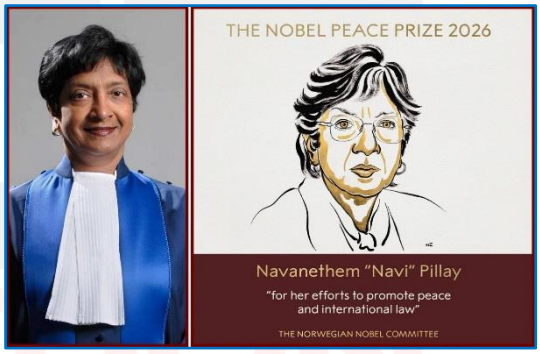
International



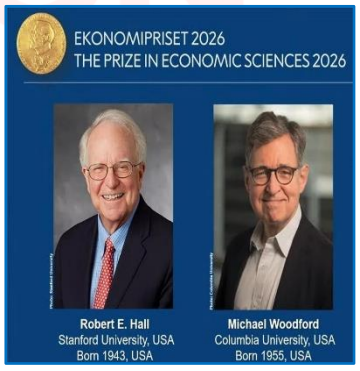
- **2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry:** Awarded to French chemist **Henri Boris Kagan** and Japanese chemist **Kenso Soai** for discovering nonlinear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis.



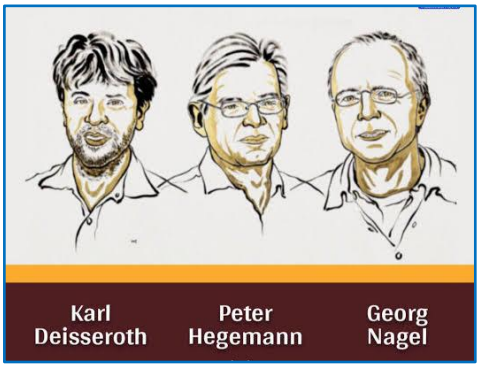
- **2026 Nobel Prize in Literature:** Awarded to Canadian poet and essayist **Anne Carson** for her bold and inventive literary works in dialogue with the classical tradition.



- **2026 Nobel Peace Prize:** Awarded to South African jurist **Navanethem "Navi" Pillay** for her efforts to promote peace and international law.



- **2026 Nobel Prize in Economics:** Awarded to American economists **Robert E. Hall** and **Michael Woodford** for their microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation.



- **Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2026:** Awarded jointly to **Karl Deisseroth**, **Peter Hegemann**, and **Georg Nagel** for their pioneer discoveries on **light-gated ion channels and the development of optogenetics**.

- **Nobel Prize in Physics 2026:** Awarded to **Francis Halzen** for his decisive contributions to the **IceCube Neutrino Observatory** and the discovery of high-energy cosmic neutrinos.



Nobel prize



Origin: Established by the 1895 will of Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel and first awarded in **1901** to honor those conferring the greatest benefit to humankind.

Categories: Conferred annually across six fields: Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace, and Economic Sciences (**instituted in 1968**).

Venues: Presented every December 10 (Nobel's death anniversary) in Stockholm, Sweden, with the Peace Prize awarded separately in Oslo, Norway.

- **Lionel Messi Receives the Princess of Asturias Award for Sports:** Awarded to Argentine footballer Lionel Messi at the Campoamor Theatre in Oviedo, Spain.



- **International Criminal Court Receives the Sakharov Prize:** The International Criminal Court and its officials were awarded the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought 2026, as announced by European Parliament President Roberta Metsola.
- **70th Ballon d'Or Awards Announced:** Hosted at the London Palladium in the United Kingdom, recognizing winners including **Harry Kane** (Men's Ballon d'Or), **Alexia Putellas** (Women's Ballon d'Or), Lamine Yamal (Men's Kopa Trophy), Vicky López (Women's Kopa Trophy), and Bukayo Saka (Socrates Award).



- **Bukayo Saka Wins the 2026 Socrates Award:** Awarded to English footballer Bukayo Saka to recognize his humanitarian and charitable contributions through football.

Practice Questions

1. Who was awarded the 2026 Ramanujan Prize for Mathematics for their work in algebraic number theory?

(a) Ashoke Sen
(b) Mahesh Kakde
(c) Gopal Chandra Naskar
(d) Chandra Shekhar Sain

Answer: (b) Mahesh Kakde

2. **For which major contribution was Indian theoretical physicist Professor Ashoke Sen awarded the Oskar Klein Medal 2026?**

(a) Contributions to algebraic number theory

(b) Discovery of autocatalysis in organic synthesis

(c) Contributions to string theory and theoretical physics

(d) Formulation of macroeconomic stabilisation models

Answer: (c) Contributions to string theory and theoretical physics

3. **Which Indian bank received the 'World's Best Consumer Bank 2026' award from Global Finance for the second consecutive year?**

(a) HDFC Bank (b) ICICI Bank

(c) State Bank of India (SBI) (d) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Answer: (c) State Bank of India (SBI)

4. **Indian pilot Smit Machchhar was conferred Israel's Presidential Award for Civilian Heroism and the UAE's First Class Order of Zayed II for which incident?**

(a) Safely landing a commercial aircraft during an in-flight crisis saving 174 passengers and crew

(b) Establishing the first civilian aviation academy in the Middle East

(c) Conducting emergency evacuation flights during international armed conflict

(d) Pioneering sustainable aviation fuel operations across Gulf routes

Answer: (a) Safely landing a commercial aircraft during an in-flight crisis saving 174 passengers and crew

5. **Who won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Literature?**

(a) Kenso Soai (b) Anne Carson

(c) Navanethem 'Navi' Pillay (d) Reema Nanavaty

Answer: (b) Anne Carson

6. **At the 70th Ballon d'Or awards held at the London Palladium, who won the Men's Ballon d'Or and Women's Ballon d'Or respectively?**

(a) Bukayo Saka and Alexia Putellas (b) Kylian Mbappé and Vicky López

(c) Harry Kane and Alexia Putellas (d) Lionel Messi and Vicky López

Answer: (c) Harry Kane and Alexia Putellas

2.2. Appointments & Persons in News

National



- **Anup Kumar Saha:** Approved by the RBI as the next MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank, effective January 1, 2027.
- **Mahesh Muralidhar Pai:** Appointed as MD & CEO of South Indian Bank with RBI approval effective October 1, 2026.
- **Lavanya R Mundayur:** Appointed as Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CM(d) of New India Assurance Company Limited (NIACL).
- **Anup Bagchi:** Appointed MD & CEO of HDFC Bank, becoming the first external candidate to lead the bank.



- **Siddhartha Mishra:** Appointed MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company Limited.
- **Sudhakar Malli:** Appointed Executive Director (E(d) at the RBI, overseeing the Department of Supervision.
- **Judicial Appointments:** The Ministry of Law and Justice notified the appointment of High Court Chief Justices Sunita Agarwal, Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya, and Aparesh Kumar Singh as Supreme Court Judges.
- **Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit:** Appointed as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force, effective October 31, 2026.
- **Prof. Achyuta Samanta:** Elected as the first President of the Indian UniSport Federation (IUSF).
- **Subhas Chandra Lal Das:** Appointed as part-time Chairperson of the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSI(b) for a three-year term.
- **Parvinder Awana Appointed Chairperson of BCCI Junior Selection Committee:** Appointed as the Chairperson of the Junior Cricket Committee by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), alongside members Krishna Das, Rakesh Patel, and N. Arjun Yadav.



- **Sunil Kumar Appointed Next ONGC Chairman:** Appointed as the Chairman of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for a three-year term beginning on or after 7 December 2026, succeeding Arun Singh.
- **Deepak Reddy Named CEO-Designate of Bajaj General Insurance:** Named CEO-designate of Bajaj General Insurance effective 1 January 2027, subject to regulatory approval, succeeding current CEO Tapan Singhel.
- **Sajjan Singh Yadav Appointed Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir:** Appointed as the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir by the Ministry of Home Affairs, effective 1 November 2026.
- **Four Ministers Inducted into Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet:** Ali Muhammad Sagar, Shameema Firdous, Mir Saifullah, and Altaf Kaloo were inducted into the J&K cabinet under Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, with the oath administered by the Lieutenant Governor on 27 October 2026.
- **Harish Parvathaneni in News as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations:** Serving as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, noted as an important diplomatic representative for international affairs.
- **Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak Recommended for Gujarat High Court:** Recommended for judicial appointment to the Gujarat High Court in late October 2026.
- **Ajay Sharma and Vaibhav Anant Sugdare Approved as Bombay High Court Judges:** Approved and reported as judges of the Bombay High Court in late October 2026.

International



- **Edward Rukidi Kijanangoma:** Crowned as the 13th King (Omukama) of the Tooro Kingdom in Uganda at the Karuziika Palace.
- **Fatima Ezzahra El Mansouri:** Appointed as the Prime Minister of Morocco by King Mohammed VI, becoming the country's first woman PM.

- **Rajeshwari Kumari:** Elected as a member of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Athletes Commission representing South Asia for the 2026–2030 term.
- **Dr. T. M. Balakrishnan Nair:** Elected as Chair of UNESCO's IOC Sub-Commission for the Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO).

Practice Questions

1. Who has been appointed as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force, effective October 31, 2026?

(a) Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
(b) Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
(c) Air Marshal Arun Singh
(d) Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh

Answer: (a) Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit

2. Who was appointed as the MD & CEO of HDFC Bank, marking the first time an external candidate was chosen to lead the bank?

(a) Anup Kumar Saha
(b) Mahesh Muralidhar Pai
(c) Siddhartha Mishra
(d) Anup Bagchi

Answer: (d) Anup Bagchi

3. Subhas Chandra Lal Das has been appointed for a three-year term as the part-time Chairperson of which regulatory organization?

(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
(b) Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)
(c) New India Assurance Company Limited (NIACL)
(d) Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

Answer: (b) Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)

4. Who was appointed as the Chairperson of the BCCI Junior Selection Committee?

(a) Rakesh Patel
(b) Parvinder Awana
(c) Krishna Das
(d) N. Arjun Yadav

Answer: (b) Parvinder Awana

5. Who made history by becoming the first female Prime Minister of Morocco after being appointed by King Mohammed VI?

(a) Reema Nanavaty
(b) Rajeshwari Kumari
(c) Fatima Ezzahra El Mansouri
(d) Navi Pillay

Answer: (c) Fatima Ezzahra El Mansouri

6. Who was appointed as the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir effective November 1, 2026?

(a) Sajjan Singh Yadav
(b) Sudhakar Malli
(c) Sunil Kumar
(d) Deepak Reddy

Answer: (a) Sajjan Singh Yadav

2.3. Government schemes

- **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP):** The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the programme for five years (2026-27 to 2030-31) to provide social assistance to eligible elderly individuals, widows, and persons with disabilities.

  About National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

  Commencement: August 15, 1995.

  - **Moto:** To provide financial assistance and basic social protection to vulnerable groups (elderly individuals, widows, and persons with disabilities) in alignment with the Directive Principles of State Policy.



- **Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY):** On October 2026, The Scheme completed one year, focusing on improving agricultural productivity, irrigation, crop diversification, and credit access in selected districts.

  About PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojna

  - **Commencement:** Completed one year of implementation (launched around October 2025).
  - **Moto:** To improve agricultural productivity, irrigation, crop diversification, and credit access in selected districts.



- **People's Plan Campaign 2026–27 (Sabki Yojana, Sabka Vikas):** The Ministry of Panchayati Raj launched the People's Plan Campaign 2026-27 (Sabki Yojana, Sabka Vikas) on 2 October 2026 (Gandhi Jayanti) to prepare participatory and evidence-based Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) for the financial year 2027–28.
- **GOBARdhan Scheme:** On 1 October 2026, Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched the revamped GOBARdhan Scheme, with a total outlay of ₹23,731 crore for 2026-27 to 2035-36, to promote Compressed Biogas (CBG) production through assured demand, stable pricing, financial assistance and waste-to-wealth initiatives under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

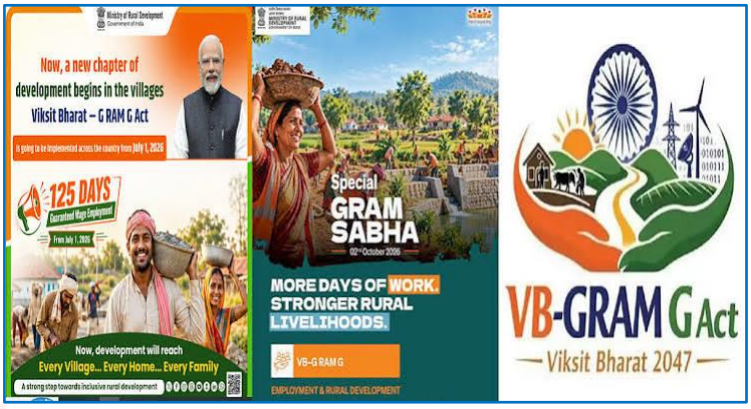
  About GOBARDHAN SCHEME

  - **Commencement:** 30 April 2018
  - **Motto:** "Waste to Wealth" — convert organic waste into clean energy and organic manure.



- **PM-SETU Scheme:** In October 2026, the PM-SETU (Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs) scheme marked its first anniversary, with 850 Government Industrial Training Institutes identified and 14 ITI clusters approved, to modernise vocational training through industry partnerships under the ₹60,000 crore scheme.

- Approved five strategic investment plans worth ₹1,194.92 crore to modernise Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) across Maharashtra, Odisha, and Jammu & Kashmir.
- **Starting Date:** Approved strategic investment plans worth ₹1,194.92 crore in October 2026.
- **Motive:** To modernise Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) across Maharashtra, Odisha, and Jammu & Kashmir.
- **RELIEF Initiative:** Component II of the Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation was extended until March 31, 2027, providing enhanced credit-risk coverage to Indian exporters.
- **JOSH Initiative:** Highlighted in connection with India's tuberculosis-control efforts under the TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan.



- **VB-G RAM G:** The Ministry of Rural Development notified 375 permissible works to support rural development and employment-related public works.
- **National Coastal Mission 2.0:** Focused on coastal conservation, protection of marine ecosystems, and sustainable development of coastal areas.
- **Green Energy Corridor Phase III:** Aims to strengthen electricity transmission infrastructure for the seamless integration of renewable energy into the national power grid.

Practice Questions

1. The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) for which five-year period?

(a) 2024–25 to 2028–29
(b) 2025–26 to 2029–30
(c) 2026–27 to 2030–31
(d) 2027–28 to 2031–32

Answer: (c) 2026–27 to 2030–31

2. Under the PM-SETU Scheme, strategic investment plans worth ₹1,194.92 crore were sanctioned to upgrade which of the following institutions?

(a) Primary Health Centres
(b) Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)
(c) Krishi Vigyan Kendras
(d) Anganwadi Centres

Answer: (b) Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)

3. What is the primary focus of the GOBARdhan Scheme highlighted in recent circular economy initiatives?

(a) Providing direct cash assistance to rural dairy farmers
(b) Converting cattle dung and organic waste into compressed biogas (CBG) and clean energy
(c) Mandating solar panels on all agricultural irrigation pumps
(d) Subsidizing organic fertilizer imports for cereal crops

Answer: (b) Converting cattle dung and organic waste into compressed biogas (CBG) and clean energy

4. **Component II of the RELIEF Initiative, extended until March 31, 2027, provides what benefit?**

   (a) Subsidized diesel for deep-sea fishing trawlers

   (b) Enhanced credit-risk coverage for Indian exporters

   (c) Interest waivers on delayed farm equipment loans

   (d) Emergency drought insurance for pulses and oilseeds

   Answer: (b) Enhanced credit-risk coverage for Indian exporters

5. **The People's Plan Campaign 2026–27 ('Sabki Yojana, Sabka Vikas') was rolled out by which Union Ministry?**

   (a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

   (b) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

   (c) Ministry of Rural Development

   (d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

   Answer: (b) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

6. **The Ministry of Rural Development notified 375 permissible public works under which scheme?**

   (a) VB-G RAM G

   (b) PM-SETU

   (c) PMDDKY

   (d) JOSH Initiative

   Answer: (a) VB-G RAM G

2.4. Sports

- **Asian Games 2026:** Held in Aichi Prefecture and Nagoya, Japan; China topped the medal tally with 341 medals, while India finished 4th with 85 medals (21 gold, 27 silver, 37 bronze).

  About Asian Games

  - **First Held:** New Delhi, India.
  - **Commenced:** 1951.
  - **Frequency:** Every four years.



- **2026 Bahrain Grand Prix:** Won by Red Bull's Max Verstappen at the Sepang International Circuit in Malaysia, marking his first win of the season and 72nd career victory.
- **IOA & KSOC MoU:** The Indian Olympic Association and the Korean Sport and Olympic Committee signed an agreement during the Asian Games to strengthen sports cooperation.
- **2026 Singapore Grand Prix:** Max Verstappen secured his first Singapore GP win and Red Bull Racing's second victory of the 2026 season at the Marina Bay Street Circuit.
- **Kisan Cricket League:** Launched by Prasar Bharati and In-Dot Sports to identify rural and semi-urban cricketing and singing talent through digital auditions and AI-enabled screening.

- **Putul Sonowal:** Won a bronze medal in the men's singles category at the World Bowls Champion of Champions in Barham, Australia, securing India's first-ever medal at the event.
- **Punam Raut:** Announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket, concluding a distinguished career spanning 2009 to 2021.
- **Cricket:** India secured a 3-0 clean sweep against New Zealand in the T20I series, capped by a record chase in Wellington featuring a 38-ball century by **Abhishek Sharma**. In women's cricket, India defeated Zimbabwe 2-1 in the ODI series led by centuries from **Harmanpreet Kaur** and **Deepti Sharma.**
- **Asian Para Games 2026:** Concluding in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, India finished fourth with a record 114 medals (30 gold, 35 silver, 49 bronze), including a gold in the compound mixed-team archery event by Sheetal Devi and Toman Kumar.
- **Table Tennis:** Yashaswini Ghorpade and Harmeet Desai won a historic mixed-doubles medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships in Tashkent, ending a 72-year drought for India in the event.



- **Badminton: P.V. Sindhu** finished as the women's singles runner-up at the French Open 2026 in Paris after narrowly losing the final to South Korea's An Se-young.
- **Weightlifting:** Ahmedabad, Gujarat, was officially awarded the hosting rights for the 2029 Senior World Weightlifting Championships, marking the first time India will host the tournament.
- **Football:** Real Madrid defeated Barcelona 2–1 in El Clásico, during which **Kylian Mbappé** scored his 100th goal for Real Madrid.
- **Boxing & Administration:** Indian boxer Aditya won gold in the 55 kg category at the World Under-19 Championships in Montenegro, defeating Russia's Islam Magomedov. Meanwhile, the Punjab and Haryana High Court directed the Boxing Federation of India to hold its proposed general meeting in abeyance.

Practice Questions

1. At the Asian Games 2026 held in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, what was India's position on the medal tally and its total medal count?

(a) 3rd with 95 medals
(b) 4th with 85 medals
(c) 5th with 114 medals
(d) 4th with 107 medals

Answer: (b) 4th with 85 medals

2. Which Indian lawn bowls player won a historic bronze medal in the men's singles category at the World Bowls Champion of Champions in Barham, Australia?

(a) Harmeet Desai
(b) Putul Sonowal
(c) Toman Kumar
(d) Aditya

Answer: (b) Putul Sonowal

3. **In which city and state will the 2029 Senior World Weightlifting Championships be held, marking India's first time hosting the event?**

   (a) Bhubaneswar, Odisha (b) New Delhi, Delhi

   (c) Ahmedabad, Gujarat (d) Pune, Maharashtra

   Answer: (c) Ahmedabad, Gujarat

4. **Which Indian table tennis pair secured a historic mixed-doubles medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships in Tashkent, ending a 72-year medal drought?**

   (a) Yashaswini Ghorpade and Harmeet Desai (b) Manika Batra and Sharath Kamal

   (c) Sreeja Akula and Sathiyan Gnanasekaran (d) Diya Chitale and Manush Shah

   Answer: (a) Yashaswini Ghorpade and Harmeet Desai

5. **Which Indian cricketer announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket in October 2026?**

   (a) Mithali Raj (b) Punam Raut

   (c) Jhulan Goswami (d) Veda Krishnamurthy

   Answer: (b) Punam Raut

6. **Indian archers Sheetal Devi and Toman Kumar won gold in which event at the Asian Para Games 2026?**

   (a) Recurve Men's Team (b) Compound Mixed Team

   (c) Recurve Mixed Team (d) Compound Women's Doubles

   Answer: (b) Compound Mixed Team

2.5. Science & Technology

- **FWDA & Keydef Partnership:** India's Flying Wedge Defence & Aerospace partnered with Portugal's Keydef to manufacture **Kaal Bhairava autonomous UAVs** and YAMA swarm interceptor drones in Portugal.
- **SpaceX Transporter-18 Mission:** Launched 130 payloads into LEO, including Google's Project Suncatcher MVP experiment to build a full orbital data centre.
- **DRDO Kaveri Dry Engine:** Successfully completed high-altitude test facility evaluations and flight trials in Russia for the Ghatak UCAV.

About DRDO

- **DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation):** Established in 1958, headquartered in New Delhi.
- **Objective:** Develop indigenous defence technologies, weapons and equipment for India's armed forces.

- **QNu Labs & BISAG-N:** Demonstrated India's first 5.56 km free-space Quantum Key Distribution link between BISAG-N and IIT Gandhinagar.

- **Fleet Support Ship 'Surya':** Launched as the first of five FSSs at Hindustan Shipyard Limited in Visakhapatnam to replenish Indian Navy warships.
- **EyeROV TROUT Delivery:** Kochi-based EyeROV delivered India's first indigenously built military-grade underwater ROV systems to the Indian Navy.
- **INS Shreyas Launched:** GRSE launched the 3rd Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel for the Indian Navy in Kolkata.
- **INS Mangrol Commissioned:** The 3rd Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft was commissioned at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.
- **ICG Inducts ALH MK-III:** The Indian Coast Guard inducted an indigenous Advanced Light Helicopter into Coast Guard Region (West) in Maharashtra.
- **DRDO QKD Platform Test:** Configured and tested on the live military network at Chandipur, Odisha, to secure artillery and armoured weapon trials.
- **SDAL Nagastra-1R Delivery:** Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited delivered 450 indigenously developed loitering munitions to the Indian Army.
- **INS Samarthak Commissioned:** India's first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel was commissioned at the INS Kadamba Naval Base in Karwar, Karnataka.
- **ISRO Gaganyaan Tests:** Successfully completed Crew Module and Service Module separation tests at VSSC ahead of the uncrewed G1 mission.



About ISRO

- **ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation):** Established in 1969, headquartered in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- **Objective:** Develop indigenous space technology for satellite communication, Earth observation, navigation and space exploration.

- **Skyroot Aerospace & Reflect Orbital:** Signed a two-launch contract for Vikram rockets to support on-demand sunlight at night.
- **Japan's MMX Mission:** JAXA launched an uncrewed spacecraft to collect and return samples from Phobos, a moon of Mars.
- **Pakistan Fatah-II Missile:** Successfully test-fired the extended-range variant of the surface-to-surface missile with advanced navigation and avionics.
- **DRDO Portable ELINT System:** Initiated development of man-portable Electronic Intelligence modules to detect, intercept, and analyse enemy radar signals.
- **DRDO Aviation Gun System:** Shortlisted SSS Defence and Kalyani Group to develop India's first indigenous 20 mm aviation gun and turret system.
- **NASA Perseverance Rover:** Set a new extraterrestrial driving record by covering 45.22 km on Mars through advanced autonomous navigation.

Practice Questions

1. **With which Portuguese aerospace firm did India's Flying Wedge Defence & Aerospace partner to manufacture Kaal Bhairava UAVs and YAMA swarm drones?**
   (a) Embraer Portugal
   (b) Keydef
   (c) Tekever
   (d) CEiiA
   Answer: (b) Keydef
2. **SpaceX's Transporter-18 mission carried Google's experimental 'Project Suncatcher' payload into orbit. What is the objective of this project?**
   (a) Generating space-based solar power beamed via microwaves
   (b) Evaluating concepts for building an orbital data centre
   (c) Tracking marine debris using infrared sensors
   (d) Providing satellite broadband to trans-polar flights
   Answer: (b) Evaluating concepts for building an orbital data centre
3. **India's first 5.56 km free-space Quantum Key Distribution (QK(d) link was successfully demonstrated between which two institutions?**
   (a) IIT Delhi and DRDO HQ
   (b) BISAG-N and IIT Gandhinagar
   (c) VSSC and ISRO Satellite Centre
   (d) TIFR Mumbai and BARC
   Answer: (b) BISAG-N and IIT Gandhinagar
4. **What is the name of the first Fleet Support Ship (FSS) launched at Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam, to replenish naval warships at sea?**
   (a) INS Samarthak
   (b) INS Mangrol
   (c) Surya
   (d) INS Shreyas
   Answer: (c) Surya
5. **Which private defense entity delivered 450 indigenously developed 'Nagastra-1R' loitering munitions to the Indian Army?**
   (a) Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited (SDAL)
   (b) Kalyani Strategic Systems
   (c) Flying Wedge Defence & Aerospace
   (d) SSS Defence
   Answer: (a) Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited (SDAL)
6. **What is the primary scientific objective of the Martian Moons eXploration (MMX) mission launched by Japan's space agency (JAXA)?**
   (a) Establishing a surface base on Deimos
   (b) Collecting and returning samples from Phobos
   (c) Orbiting Olympus Mons to analyze atmospheric gas composition
   (d) Searching for subsurface water-ice deposits at Mars' South Pole
   Answer: (b) Collecting and returning samples from Phobos

2.6. Summits



- **12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum:** Held in New Delhi (26–27 October 2026); adopted the New Delhi Joint Declaration on terrorism, AI, and global governance; chairship for 2027 passes to China.

  About BRICS

  - **Established:** 2006; first BRIC Summit held in 2009.
  - **Members (11):** Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, UAE, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia.
  - **Headquarters:** No permanent headquarters or secretariat; India holds the BRICS presidency in 2026.

- **12th ESTIC 2026:** Inaugurated by PM Modi in New Delhi (27–29 October 2026); focused on emerging technologies and featuring deep-tech startup stalls.

- **1st BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting:** Held in India (14 October 2026); adopted the Delhi Declaration to strengthen regional cooperation against terrorism and technology misuse.

  About BIMSTEC

  - **Established:** 1997;
  - **Full form:** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).
  - **Members (7):** Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
  - **Headquarters:** BIMSTEC Secretariat, Dhaka, Bangladesh (established in 2014).

- **G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting:** Held on 2 October 2026; focused on international trade and food security, agreeing to oppose the weaponisation of food.
- **World Health Summit 2026:** Held in Berlin, Germany (11–13 October 2026); focused on global health systems, medical innovation, and emergency resilience.

Practice Questions

1. Where was the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum held in October 2026?

(a) Moscow

(b) New Delhi

(c) Beijing

(d) Johannesburg

Answer: (b) New Delhi

2. **Which country will take over the chairship of the BRICS Parliamentary Forum in 2027?**

   (a) Brazil

   (b) South Africa

   (c) China

   (d) India

   Answer: (c) China

3. **What major declaration was adopted during the 1st BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting held in India?**

   (a) Dhaka Declaration

   (b) Bangkok Protocol

   (c) Delhi Declaration

   (d) Colombo Resolution

   Answer: (c) Delhi Declaration

4. **Where are the headquarters of the BIMSTEC organization situated?**

   (a) New Delhi, India

   (b) Colombo, Sri Lanka

   (c) Dhaka, Bangladesh

   (d) Bangkok, Thailand

   Answer: (c) Dhaka, Bangladesh

5. **The World Health Summit 2026 was organized in which global city?**

   (a) Geneva, Switzerland

   (b) Berlin, Germany

   (c) London, United Kingdom

   (d) Paris, France

   Answer: (b) Berlin, Germany

6. **What was the central focus of the G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting held on October 2, 2026?**

   (a) Establishing common digital currency reserves

   (b) International trade and food security, opposing the weaponisation of food

   (c) Standardizing carbon border adjustment tariffs

   (d) Banning subsidies on maritime shipping fuels

   Answer: (b) International trade and food security, opposing the weaponisation of food

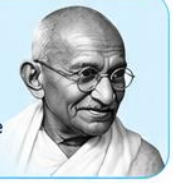
2.7. Books and Authors

- **The Evolution of TV News in India: From Doordarshan to Digital Disruption – An Insider's Account:** Released by Surya Prakash at the IIC, New Delhi; authored by Harsaran Bir Kaur Pandey and published by Om Books International.

Important Days

IMPORTANT OBSERVANCES OCTOBER 2026

1 International Day of Non-Violence 2026
(October 2)
Marked the 157th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the 20th observance honoring peace and non-violence.



2 World Animal Day 2026
(October 4)
101st anniversary observed under the theme "See the World Through Their Eyes" to highlight animal welfare.



3 National Wildlife Week 2026
(October 2–8)
India's 72nd observance held under the theme "Connecting Habitats, Thriving Wildlife" for biodiversity conservation.



4 World Teachers' Day 2026
(October 5)
Honored the vital contributions of teachers in education and shaping future generations.



5 Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2026
(October 1–31)
Global campaign under the theme "Every story is unique, every journey matters" to promote early detection and care.



6 Indian Air Force Day 2026
(October 8)
94th anniversary commemorated under the theme "Indian Air Force – Infallible, Impervious and Precise."



7 World Post Day 2026
(October 9)
Marked the establishment of the UPU under the theme "World Post Day: One Postal Network, Infinite Possibilities."



8 National Postal Week 2026
(October 9–15)
Highlighted India Post's role in socio-economic development through postal, financial, and digital services.

India Post

9 World Mental Health Day 2026
(October 10)
Observed globally under the theme "Lived Experiences Heard: Real Voices, Real Change" to mobilize support for well-being.



10 World Egg Day 2026
(October 9)
Highlighted the nutritional benefits of eggs under the theme "Protein that Powers and Protects."



11 World Day Against the Death Penalty 2026
(October 10)
24th observance held under the theme "Stories for Life" to promote the abolition of capital punishment.



12 International Day of the Girl Child 2026
(October 11)
Observed under the theme "End Child Marriage and Invest in Girls' Rights!" to promote girls' empowerment.



13 International Day of Rural Women 2026
(October 15)
Honored rural women under the theme "Rural Women Farmers Caring for Mother Nature."



14 International Day of the Intangible Cultural Heritage 2026
(October 17)
3rd observance dedicated to safeguarding living cultural heritage.



15 World Menopause Day 2026
(October 18)
Observed under the theme "Chronic Pain At Midlife" to raise awareness of women's health options.



16 National Solidarity Day 2026
(October 20)
Honored soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the 1962 Sino-Indian War.



Practice Questions

1. **Who authored the book 'The Evolution of TV News in India: From Doordarshan to Digital Disruption – An Insider's Account'?**

   (a) A. Surya Prakash
   (b) Harsaran Bir Kaur Pandey
   (c) Prannoy Roy
   (d) Shekhar Gupta

   Answer: (b) Harsaran Bir Kaur Pandey

2. **The 94th Indian Air Force Day celebrated on October 8, 2026, was commemorated under which official theme?**

   (a) Air Power Beyond Boundaries
   (b) Indian Air Force – Infallible, Impervious and Precise
   (c) Touch the Sky with Glory
   (d) Potent, Precise and Reliable

   Answer: (b) Indian Air Force – Infallible, Impervious and Precise

3. **What was the theme for World Mental Health Day observed on October 10, 2026?**

   (a) Mental Health is a Universal Human Right
   (b) Making Mental Health and Well-Being for All a Global Priority
   (c) Lived Experiences Heard: Real Voices, Real Change
   (d) Mind Over Matter: Breaking the Stigma

   Answer: (c) Lived Experiences Heard: Real Voices, Real Change

4. **Which date is observed as National Solidarity Day in India to honor soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the 1962 Sino-Indian War?**

   (a) October 15
   (b) October 20
   (c) October 24
   (d) October 27

   Answer: (b) October 20

5. **What was the global campaign theme for International Day of the Girl Child on October 11, 2026?**

   (a) Invest in Girls' Rights: Our Leadership, Our Well-being
   (b) End Child Marriage and Invest in Girls' Rights!
   (c) Digital Generation, Our Generation
   (d) Girls Deserve Equity and Education

   Answer: (b) End Child Marriage and Invest in Girls' Rights!

6. **What theme was adopted for the 72nd observance of National Wildlife Week (October 2–8, 2026) in India?**

   (a) Roar for Wildlife
   (b) Connecting Habitats, Thriving Wildlife
   (c) Forest and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet
   (d) Recovering Key Species for Ecosystem Restoration

   Answer: (b) Connecting Habitats, Thriving Wildlife

2.8. Miscellaneous

- **India's Eight Core Industries Record Strong Growth:** India's eight core industries recorded 7.9% growth in September 2026, according to a report released in October.
- **India's Economic Activity Improves in October:** The preliminary Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) indicated that Indian private-sector business activity grew at its fastest pace in four months.
- **RBI Raises the Repo Rate to 5.50%:** The Reserve Bank of India raised the policy repo rate by 25 basis points in October 2026 and shifted its stance to calibrated tightening.
- **UNEP Releases Emissions Gap Report 2026:** The report warned that current global climate policies could lead to approximately 2.8°C of warming, highlighting the urgent need to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions.
- **India Adds Three Sites to UNESCO's Tentative List: Sirpur**, the **Karst-mud-volcano complex of Baratang**, and the **Andaman subduction volcanoes** were reported as additions, bringing India's tentative-list total to 81 sites.



- **India Records a Major Milestone in Farmer Identification:** The number of Farmer IDs crossed 11 crore, according to the October 2026 current-affairs roundup.
- **India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement Comes into Force:** The agreement took effect on 20 October 2026, providing duty-free access to New Zealand for 100% of Indian exports.
- **Ladakh Bench of the High Court Inaugurated at Leh:** Chief Justice of India Justice Surya Kant inaugurated the Ladakh Bench of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on 19 October 2026.
- **Cyclone Arnab Makes Landfall in Andhra Pradesh:** On 28 October 2026, Cyclone Arnab crossed the Andhra Pradesh coast, triggering heavy rainfall, strong winds and evacuations across Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.
- **India's Private-Sector Employment Growth Slows:** Despite stronger business activity in October, employment growth nearly stalled, according to the preliminary PMI survey.
- **India–US Trade Negotiations Remain in Focus:** Bilateral discussions on trade, tariffs and market access continued during October 2026.
- **India's Economic Growth Faces Inflation Risks:** The RBI highlighted risks arising from geopolitical tensions in West Asia, energy prices, supply-chain disruptions and El Niño conditions.
- **India Expands Its Judicial Infrastructure in Ladakh:** The inauguration of the Ladakh High Court Bench aims to make judicial services more accessible to residents of remote areas.

Practice Questions

1. According to government data released in October 2026, what was the growth rate recorded by India's eight core infrastructure industries for September 2026?

(a) 5.4%
(b) 6.8%
(c) 7.9%
(d) 8.3%

Answer: (c) 7.9%

2. **In October 2026, the Reserve Bank of India raised the benchmark repo rate to which level?**

(a) 5.25% (b) 5.50%

(c) 6.00% (d) 6.25%

Answer: (b) 5.50%

3. **Three new Indian sites were added to UNESCO's Tentative List in October 2026: Sirpur, the Karst-mud-volcano complex of Baratang, and what third site?**

(a) Lonar Meteorite Crater (b) Andaman subduction volcanoes

(c) Gandikota Grand Canyon (d) St. Mary's Island Columnar Basalt

Answer: (b) Andaman subduction volcanoes

4. **What milestone did India reach in its national farmer digital identity project in October 2026?**

(a) Crossed 5 crore Farmer IDs (b) Crossed 8 crore Farmer IDs

(c) Crossed 11 crore Farmer IDs (d) Crossed 15 crore Farmer IDs

Answer: (c) Crossed 11 crore Farmer IDs

5. **The free trade agreement that entered into force on October 20, 2026, provided 100% duty-free access for Indian exports to which country?**

(a) Australia (b) United Kingdom

(c) New Zealand (d) Oman

Answer: (c) New Zealand

6. **Chief Justice of India Justice Surya Kant inaugurated the new High Court Bench for Ladakh in which location on October 19, 2026?**

(a) Kargil (b) Leh

(c) Diskit (d) Dras

Answer: (b) Leh

2.9. Defence Current Affairs



- **Defence Acquisition Council (26 October 2026):** Approved defence procurement proposals worth ₹2.12 lakh crore, with approximately 82% sourcing from domestic industry.
- **K-9 Vajra Howitzers:** Approved procurement of 335 indigenous 155 mm self-propelled howitzers worth ₹20,000 crore for high-altitude deployment.
- **GSAT-7C Satellite:** The Ministry of Defence signed a ₹2,563 crore contract with NewSpace India Limited for the Indian Air Force's dedicated communication satellite.
- **Varunastra Torpedoes:** A ₹1,543 crore contract was signed with Bharat Dynamics Limited for heavyweight anti-submarine torpedoes.
- **INS Samarthak:** Commissioned into the Indian Navy on 16 October 2026 as an indigenous multi-purpose vessel.

- **HAL Koraput:** Delivered its 2,000th aero-engine on 6 October 2026.
- Land Warfare Doctrine 2026: Released by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on 23 October 2026, focusing on artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, cyber security and multi-domain warfare.
- **Exercise GARUDA SHAKTI 2026:** The 11th India–Indonesia joint special forces exercise commenced in Indonesia on 27 October 2026.
- **Exercise AUSTRAHIND 2026:** The India–Australia joint army exercise began in Thiruvananthapuram on 19 October 2026.
- **SIMBEX 2026:** The 33rd Singapore–India Maritime Bilateral Exercise was held at Visakhapatnam.
- **India–South Korea Naval Exercise:** INS Sahyadri arrived at Busan, South Korea, on 26 October 2026, for bilateral naval drills.
- **India–United States Defence Relations:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth at the ADMM-Plus meeting in the Philippines.







Practice Questions

1. What was the total value of defence procurement proposals approved by the Defence Acquisition Council (DA(c) on 26 October 2026?

(a) ₹1.54 lakh crore
(b) ₹2.12 lakh crore
(c) ₹2,563 crore
(d) ₹20,000 crore

Answer: (b) ₹2.12 lakh crore

2. Which organization signed a ₹2,563 crore contract with the Ministry of Defence for the Indian Air Force's GSAT-7C communication satellite?

(a) Bharat Dynamics Limited
(b) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
(c) NewSpace India Limited
(d) Defence Research and Development Organisation

Answer: (c) NewSpace India Limited

3. The Defence Minister released the 'Land Warfare Doctrine 2026' on 23 October 2026. Who is the current Defence Minister of India?

(a) Pete Hegseth
(b) Rajnath Singh
(c) Samarthak Singh
(d) S. Jaishankar

Answer: (b) Rajnath Singh

4. **Where was the 11th edition of the India–Indonesia joint special forces exercise 'GARUDA SHAKTI 2026' commenced?**

(a) Thiruvananthapuram (b) Visakhapatnam

(c) Busan (d) Indonesia

Answer: (d) Indonesia

5. **INS Samarthak, an indigenous multi-purpose vessel, was commissioned into which branch of the Indian Armed Forces on 16 October 2026?**

(a) Indian Air Force (b) Indian Army

(c) Indian Navy (d) Indian Coast Guard

Answer: (c) Indian Navy

6. **Where was the India–Australia joint army exercise 'AUSTRAHIND 2026' held?**

(a) Visakhapatnam (b) Thiruvananthapuram

(c) Koraput (d) Busan

Answer: (b) Thiruvananthapuram

2.10. West Bengal Specific Current affairs

- **Bhagini Nivedita Scheme Announced:** The state government announced financial assistance of ₹50,000, payable in three instalments, for unmarried women pursuing higher education.
- **Monthly Allowance of Karmabandhus Increased:** The monthly allowance for Karmabandhus was raised from ₹5,000 to ₹8,000.
- **Food Allowance for SC/ST Hostel Students Increased:** The food allowance for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students living in government hostels was increased from ₹1,800 to ₹3,300.
- **West Bengal Introduces Emergency Helpline 112:** The state moved towards using 112 as a single emergency response number for police assistance.
- **Madrasah Service Commission Merger Proposed:** The state Cabinet approved a proposal to merge the Madrasah Service Commission with the West Bengal School Service Commission, subject to the required legislation.
- **Special Investigation Team Formed After Kolkata Durga Puja Tragedy:** A special team was constituted to investigate the crowd crush at the Chorbagan Durga Puja pandal on 17 October.
- **₹6,000 Crore Phenol–Acetone Plant Opens at Haldia:** Adperma, a subsidiary of Haldia Petrochemicals, opened a major phenol and acetone manufacturing plant in Purba Medinipur district.
- **₹508.66 Crore Approved for National Highways in West Bengal:** Funding was announced for strengthening and selective widening of sections of NH-14 and NH-114 in Birbhum district.
- **₹1,200 Crore Development Plan Announced for the Sundarbans:** A development plan for the Sundarbans was announced, with the Muriganga bridge project expected to improve access to Gangasagar.
- **Four Regional Airports Proposed Under UDAN:** An agreement was reported for regional airport development at Chhara in Purulia, Kalaikunda in Paschim Medinipur, Balurghat in Dakshin Dinajpur and Hasimara in Alipurduar.
- **Kolkata to Host India Energy Week 2027:** Kolkata was announced as the host city for the fifth India Energy Week, scheduled for 28–31 January 2027.

- **Jaipur–Tatanagar–Santragachi Express Flagged Off:** A weekly train service connecting Khatipura near Jaipur, Tatanagar and Santragachi was flagged off in October.
- **First Tigress Released in Buxa Tiger Reserve:** On 2 October, a tigress named T138 was translocated from Valmiki Tiger Reserve in Bihar to Buxa Tiger Reserve in Alipurduar district as part of the tiger reintroduction programme.



- **Buxa Tigress Enters Assam's Raimona National Park:** The radio-collared tigress crossed the Sankosh River and entered Raimona National Park in Assam, highlighting wildlife movement across state boundaries.
- **Kolkata Scientists Develop a Metal-Free Catalyst for Zinc–Air Batteries:** Researchers associated with the S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences in Kolkata helped develop an organic porous catalyst that achieved approximately 96% of the performance of commercial platinum in the reported test.
- **Sundarbans Community Teams Receive Human–Tiger Conflict Training:** On 24 October, 33 Primary Response Team members from Kultali block, including 10 women, received training in tiger tracking, conflict mitigation and human–wildlife coexistence.
- **19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention to Be Held in Kolkata:** The convention is scheduled for 7–9 January 2027, with the West Bengal government participating in its organisation.
- **Forest Rights Act Regional Review Conference Held in Kolkata:** The Ministry of Tribal Affairs held its second regional review conference on 9 October to discuss implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006, with participation from eight states.
- **GRSE Kolkata Launches Naval Patrol Vessel 'Shreyas':** Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers launched the Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel Shreyas (Yard 3040) for the Indian Navy on 10 October.
- **Eminent Painter Jogen Chowdhury Passes Away:** The noted artist and former Rajya Sabha member died in Kolkata on 25 October at the age of 87.
- **Cyclone Arnab Triggers Weather Alerts in West Bengal:** The India Meteorological Department issued alerts for rain, thunderstorms and gusty winds across several districts, including Kolkata, Howrah, North and South 24 Parganas, and the Midnapore districts.
- **High Court Upholds West Bengal Board of Auqaf's Authority Over Baish Hazari Estate:** A reported Calcutta High Court ruling concerning the historic estate in Malda and Dinajpur was among the significant legal developments of late October.

Practice Questions

1. Under the newly announced Bhagini Nivedita Scheme in West Bengal, what financial grant is provided to unmarried women pursuing higher education?

(a) ₹25,000 in two instalments
(b) ₹40,000 in four instalments
(c) ₹50,000 in three instalments
(d) ₹60,000 in lump sum

Answer: (c) ₹50,000 in three instalments

2. What is the revised monthly honorarium/allowance for Karmabandhus approved by the West Bengal government?

(a) Raised from ₹3,000 to ₹6,000
(b) Raised from ₹5,000 to ₹8,000
(c) Raised from ₹4,500 to ₹7,500
(d) Raised from ₹6,000 to ₹10,000

Answer: (b) Raised from ₹5,000 to ₹8,000

3. As part of the tiger reintroduction initiative, from which sanctuary was tigress T138 translocated to Buxa Tiger Reserve in West Bengal?

(a) Valmiki Tiger Reserve (Bihar)
(b) Manas National Park (Assam)
(c) Palamau Tiger Reserve (Jharkhand)
(d) Kaziranga National Park (Assam)

Answer: (a) Valmiki Tiger Reserve (Bihar)

4. Haldia Petrochemicals subsidiary Adperma inaugurated a ₹6,000 crore manufacturing unit for which chemical products?

(a) Methanol and Formaldehyde
(b) Phenol and Acetone
(c) Ethylene and Polypropylene
(d) Urea and Ammonia

Answer: (b) Phenol and Acetone

5. Which city in West Bengal was announced as the host venue for both the 19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention and the 5th India Energy Week 2027?

(a) Siliguri
(b) Durgapur
(c) Kolkata
(d) Asansol

Answer: (c) Kolkata

6. Renowned painter and former Rajya Sabha MP Jogen Chowdhury, who passed away in Kolkata at age 87 in late October 2026, was prominently associated with which field?

(a) Classical Indian vocal music
(b) Contemporary Indian painting and visual arts
(c) Bengali theatre direction
(d) Literary fiction and poetry

Answer: (b) Contemporary Indian painting and visual arts

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3.1. Awards & Honours

Ballon d'Or 2026



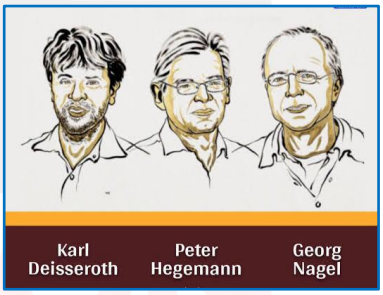
- **Winner:** England captain **Harry Kane** won the prestigious men's Ballon d'Or award, first Englishman to claim the honor in 25 years.
- **Alexia Putellas** won the women's Ballon d'Or for the third time.
- Kopa Trophy (Best Footballer under 21) went to **Lamine Yamal**; Yashin Trophy (Best Goalkeeper) went to **Emiliano Martínez**.

About Ballon d'Or



- **Established:** 1956 by France Football magazine; an annual award recognising outstanding football performance.
- **First Recipient: Stanley Matthews** (England), in 1956.

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2026



- Awarded jointly to **Karl Deisseroth**, **Peter Hegemann**, and **Georg Nagel** for their pioneer discoveries on **light-gated ion channels and the development of optogenetics**.
- Nobel Assembly at **Karolinska Institute** decides Medicine prize.
- **Har Gobind Khorana (1968):** Awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his interpretation of the **genetic code** and its function in **protein synthesis** (born in undivided India, later became a US citizen).

Nobel Prize in Physics 2026



- **2026 Winner:** The Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to **Francis Halzen**.
- **His Work:** He won for his decisive contributions to the **IceCube Neutrino Observatory** and the discovery of high-energy cosmic neutrinos.
- **Awarding Body:** The prize is presented annually by **The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences**.
- **Winners from India: Sir C. V. Raman** won it in **1930** for discovering the **Raman Effect**, and Indian-born astrophysicist **Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar** won it in **1983** for his work on stellar evolution.



Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2026

- **2026 Winners:** The 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded jointly to **Henri B. Kagan** and **Kenso Soai**.

- **Their Work:** They were recognized for their discovery of **non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis**, which explains how molecular mirror-image asymmetry (homochirality) emerges.
- **Awarding Body:** The prize is officially awarded by the **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences**.
- **Winner from India:** The only Indian-born scientist to win this award is **Venkatraman Ramakrishnan** in the year 2009.

Nobel Prize in Literature 2026

- **2026 Winner:** The Canadian poet and essayist **Anne Carson** won the Nobel Prize in Literature.
- **Her Work:** She was recognized for her bold, inventive literary oeuvre that creates new forms by engaging with classical traditions.
- **Awarding Body:** The prize is officially presented and chosen by the **Swedish Academy**.
- **Winner from India: Rabindranath Tagore** won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913 for his collection of poems titled Gitanjali.


Anne Carson

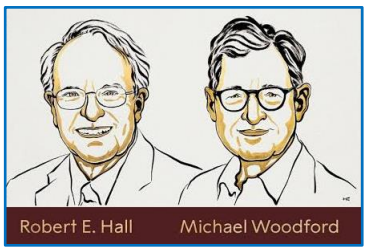
Nobel Peace Prize 2026

- **2026 Winner: Navanethem "Navi" Pillay**, a South African jurist of Indian origin, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
- **Her Work:** She was honored for her lifetime commitment to promoting peace, international law, and human rights.
- **Awarding Body:** The prize is presented by the **Norwegian Nobel Committee** based in Oslo, Norway.
- **Winners from India: Mother Teresa** (1979) and **Kailash Satyarthi** (2014) are the two Indian citizens who have received this honor


Navanethem "Navi" Pillay

Nobel Prize in Economics 2026

- **Winners of this year (2026): Robert E. Hall** and **Michael Woodford** won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.
- **Their work:** They were awarded for their groundbreaking research on the **microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation**.
- **Awarding institution:** The prize is officially conferred by the **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences**.
- **Laureates from India: Amartya Sen** won it in 1998 for welfare economics, and Indian-born **Abhijit Banerjee** won it in 2019 for alleviating global poverty.


Robert E. Hall Michael Woodford

Category	Winner(s) (2026)	Country/Inst.	Field of Discovery / Contribution
Medicine	Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann & Georg Nagel	USA / Germany	Discoveries concerning light-gated ion channels and optogenetics

Physics	Francis Halzen	USA / Belgium	Decisive contributions to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory and the discovery of high-energy cosmic neutrinos
Chemistry	Henri B. Kagan & Kenso Soai	France / Japan	Discovery of non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis
Literature	Anne Carson	Canada	Bold and inventive oeuvre creating new forms for contemporary literature in dialogue with classical tradition
Peace	Navanethem "Navi" Pillay	South Africa	Lifelong efforts to promote peace, defend human rights, and uphold international law
Economics	Robert E. Hall & Michael Woodford	USA	Microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilization

About Nobel Prize



- **Origin:** Established by the 1895 will of Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel and **first awarded in 1901** to honor those conferring the greatest benefit to humankind.
- Presented every year on **December 10**
- The Nobel Prize was first awarded in the year **1901** in Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace. Only Nobel Prize on Economics was first awarded in **1969**.

Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2026



- **Recipient:** Veteran actor **Anant Nag** was conferred with India's highest film honour, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award.
- **Conferred By:** Presented by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, at the 72nd National Film Awards ceremony held on September 22, 2026, in Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat.

About Dadasaheb Phalke Award

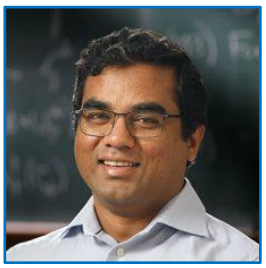


- **Dadasaheb Phalke Award:** Instituted in 1969; India's highest honour in cinema for outstanding contribution to Indian cinema.
- **First Recipient:** Devika Rani.
- **Prize Details:** Comprises a Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus) medallion, a cash prize of ₹10 lakh, and a traditional shawl.
- **Statutory Significance:** First instituted in 1969 in honour of Dadasaheb Phalke, widely regarded as the father of Indian cinema.

France's Legion of Honour 2026

- **Recipient: Sunil Bharti Mittal** announced to receive France's highest civilian honour on October 12, 2026.
  - ➢ Recognized for fostering global telecommunications growth and India-France trade partnerships.
  - ➢ Becomes one of the prominent Indian business leaders conferred with the Grand Officer grade.

SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2026



- **Recipient:** Indian mathematician **Mahesh Kakde** awarded the 2026 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize on October 7, 2026. For his contributions to algebraic number theory.

  About SASTRA Ramanujan Prize



  - **Established:** 2005; awarded annually by the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) and the International Mathematical Union (IMU).
  - **Objective:** Recognise outstanding mathematical research by researchers under 45 years from developing countries.
  - **2026 Awardee:** Mahesh Kakde (Indi(a) for contributions to algebraic number theory.
  - **Honored for outstanding contributions to number theory and the Main Conjecture of Iwasawa Theory.**
    Carries a cash prize of $10,000 for mathematicians under the age of 32.

Oskar Klein Medal 2026



- **Recipient:** Theoretical physicist **Ashoke Sen** won the Oskar Klein Medal on October 24, 2026.
  - ➢ First Indian physicist to receive the prestigious Swedish honor in theoretical physics.
  - ➢ Awarded for seminal work on string field theory and black hole entropy microstates.

About Oskar Klein Medal



- **Established:** 1988; awarded by Stockholm University.
- **Objective:** Recognise outstanding contributions to theoretical physics.
- **Notable Recipients:** Edward Witten, Juan Maldacena and Ashoke Sen — prominent theoretical physicists and contributors to string theory.

UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year 2026

- **Recipient: Major Abhilasha Barak** of the Indian Army received the UN award in October 2026.
  - ➢ Honored for exemplary peacekeeping service with UNIFIL in Lebanon conflict zones.

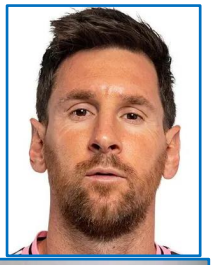
Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2026

- **Winner: Oscar Whitfield** won the prestigious global title announced on October 14, 2026.
  - ➢ Awarded by London's Natural History Museum for an extraordinary natural habitat action shot.

FAO Strawberry Farming Excellence Award 2026

- **Recipient:** Mizoram farmer **Mari ZT Lalrithangi** honored by the UN FAO on October 16, 2026.
  - ➢ Recognized under the global '100 Women Heroes' initiative for sustainable high-altitude farming.
  - ➢ Transformed local rural economies through organic strawberry cultivation.

Princess of Asturias Award for Sports 2026



- **Recipient:** Football icon **Lionel Messi** honored with the 2026 Princess of Asturias Award on October 24, 2026. Lionel Mess
  - ➢ Recognized for his legendary sports career and global philanthropic work through his foundation.

Dr Bhupen Hazarika National Award 2026



- **Recipient:** Legendary playback singer **Usha Mangeshkar** named recipient of the inaugural national award on October 24, 2026.
  - ➢ Honored for her lifelong contribution to Indian playback singing and folk music preservation.
  - ➢ Instituted to celebrate socio-cultural unity through Indian performing arts.

Israel's Presidential Award for Civilian Heroism 2026



- **Recipient:** Indian commercial pilot **Smit Machchhar** selected for the civilian bravery award on October 9, 2026.
- ➢ Recognized for saving passenger lives during a mid-air emergency situation.
- ➢ Also conferred the **Vishisht Gujarat Garima Award** on October 1, 2026.

65th National Exhibition of Art Awards 2026



- **Event:** President Droupadi Murmu presented Lalit Kala Akademi National Awards on October 22, 2026.
- ➢ 20 contemporary visual artists conferred awards for excellence in sculpture, painting, and graphic art.
- ➢ Organized by Lalit Kala Akademi to promote fine arts excellence across India.

About Lalit Kala Akademi

- **Established:** 5 August 1954; registered in 1957 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi; under the Ministry of Culture.
- **Objective:** Promote and preserve Indian visual arts, including painting, sculpture, folk and tribal art.

Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar (2024-25)

- **Announcement:** Sangeet Natak Akademi selected 106 young artists for the Yuva Puraskar on October 19, 2026.
  - ➢ Recognizes outstanding talent aged below 40 across music, dance, theatre, and puppetry.

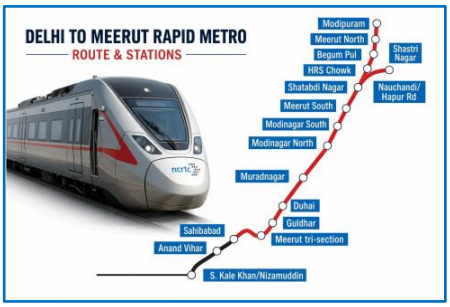
About Sangeet Natak Akademi

- **Established:** 1953; India's National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama.
- **Headquarters:** Rabindra Bhavan, Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi.

संगीत नाटक अकादेमी Sangeet Natak Akademi
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC, DANCE AND DRAMA

- **Objective:** Preserve, promote and document India's performing arts, including music, dance and drama.

Best Passenger Service Award (UMI 2026)



- **Winner: Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat Rapid Rail Corridor** won the top service award on October 27, 2026.
  - ➢ Conferred during the 19th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference in New Delhi.
- **Shabari Naturals:** Featured in current affairs for winning the prestigious G-Mark Global Design Award (Japan) for its eco-friendly, sustainable packaging that integrates traditional tribal art forms—such as Warli, Gond, and Chitrakathi—into modern commercial markets.

28th Charles Correa Gold Medal 2026

- **Winner:** Architecture student from Kochi won the prestigious gold medal on October 23, 2026.

Karnataka Janapada Award 2026

- **Recipient:** Veteran folk artist **Devadas Chimakode** selected for the state honor on October 22, 2026.
  - ➢ Recognized for lifetime dedication to preserving traditional Karnataka folk music and oral theater.

Practice Questions

1. Who won the prestigious men's Ballon d'Or award for 2026?

(a) Lionel Messi
(b) Harry Kane
(c) Lamine Yamal
(d) Emiliano Martínez

Answer: (b) Harry Kane

2. Which Indian mathematician was awarded the 2026 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize?

(a) Ashoke Sen
(b) Mahesh Kakde
(c) C. V. Raman
(d) Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar

Answer: (b) Mahesh Kakde

3. Who became the first Indian physicist to receive the prestigious Swedish Oskar Klein Medal in theoretical physics?

(a) Dr. Vivek Bhasin
(b) Ashoke Sen
(c) Francis Halzen
(d) Har Gobind Khorana

Answer: (b) Ashoke Sen

4. Who won the women's Ballon d'Or for the third time in 2026?

(a) Aitana Bonmatí
(b) Alexia Putellas
(c) Sam Kerr
(d) Megan Rapinoe

Answer: (b) Alexia Putellas

5. Who was awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly with Peter Hegemann and Georg Nagel?

(a) Francis Halzen
(b) Karl Deisseroth
(c) Henri B. Kagan
(d) Robert E. Hall

Answer: (b) Karl Deisseroth

6. **Who received the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics for his decisive contributions to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory?**

(a) Kenso Soai
(b) Francis Halzen
(c) Michael Woodford
(d) Karl Deisseroth

Answer: (b) Francis Halzen

7. **The 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded jointly to Henri B. Kagan and Kenso Soai for their work on what?**

(a) Lithium-ion batteries
(b) Non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis
(c) CRISPR gene editing technology
(d) Quantum dot synthesis

Answer: (b) Non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis

8. **Who won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Literature?**

(a) Anne Carson
(b) Jon Fosse
(c) Annie Ernaux
(d) Abdulrazak Gurnah

Answer: (a) Anne Carson

9. **Navanethem "Navi" Pillay, who won the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize, is a jurist originating from which country?**

(a) India
(b) South Africa
(c) Kenya
(d) Nigeria

Answer: (b) South Africa

10. **Who won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences alongside Michael Woodford?**

(a) Robert E. Hall
(b) Abhijit Banerjee
(c) Amartya Sen
(d) Richard Thaler

Answer: (a) Robert E. Hall

3.2. Appointments & Persons in News

29th Chief of the Air Staff (IAF)



- **Appointment: Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit** appointed as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff on October 31, 2026.
  - Succeeds Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari upon completion of his tenure.

Supreme Court of India Judicial Elevation

- **Appointees: Justices Sunita Agarwal**, **Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya**, and **Aparesh Kumar Singh** elevated to Supreme Court.
  - Sworn in during October 2026, restoring Supreme Court strength to full sanctioned capacity of 34 judges.

6 State Governors Reshuffle & Appointments

- **Notification:** President of India announced fresh Governor appointments and transfers on October 12, 2026.
- **Karnataka:** Dr Sudha Yadav appointed as Governor of Karnataka.
- **Tamil Nadu:** Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar transferred as Governor of Tamil Nadu.
- **Keralam:** Om Prakash Mathur appointed as Governor of Keralam.
- **Other States:** Braj Mohan Ram (Odisha), Dr Dhal Singh Bisen (Uttarakhand), Dushyant Gautam (Sikkim).



FSIB Part-time Chairperson

- **Appointment: Subhas Chandra Lal Das** appointed part-time Chairperson of Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB).
  - Approved for a three-year tenure in October 2026.

ONGC Next Chairman Selection



- **Designation: Sunil Kumar** selected as the next Chairman and Managing Director of ONGC in October 2026.
  - Scheduled to formally assume charge in December 2026.

Press Council of India (PCI) Reconstitution

- **Induction:** 13 working-journalist members inducted into PCI in October 2026.
  - Fills all vacant journalist seats to restore full statutory operational capacity.
  - Aims to strengthen media self-regulation and journalistic ethics standards nationwide.

UNESCO IOC Indian Ocean Regional Panel Chair



- **Election: Dr T. M. Balakrishnan Nair (Director, INCOIS)** elected Chair of the UNESCO IOC regional panel.
  - Reported in October 2026 to lead regional oceanographic research and Tsunami warning systems.

First President of Indian UniSport Federation

- **Appointment: Prof. Achyuta Samanta** elected as inaugural President of Indian UniSport Federation in October 2026.
  - Tasked with governing university-level sports development and international representation.
  - Focuses on aligning sports infrastructure with Khelo India University Games.

Supreme Court Collegium High Court Recommendations

- **Decision:** SC Collegium approved appointment of 9 judges on October 26, 2026.
  - Recommended 7 advocates for Madhya Pradesh High Court and 2 for Bombay High Court.

Director General of Railway Protection Force (RPF)



- **Appointment:** Senior IPS officer **Sonali Mishraappointed** as Director General of RPF in October 2026.
  - Mandated to step up passenger security and AI-driven railway surveillance.

Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)

- **Tenure Extension:** CBDT Chairman **Ravi Agrawal** granted operational policy extension in October 2026.
  - Focuses on rolling out automated tax assessment systems and dispute resolution schemes.

India's Ambassador to UNESCO

- **Diplomatic Post:** Senior diplomat **Vishal V. Sharma** appointed as India's Permanent Representative to UNESCO in Paris.
  - Assumed charge in October 2026 ahead of World Heritage Committee sessions.

Managing Director of State Bank of India (SBI)

- **Executive Elevation:** Financial Services Institutions Bureau recommended **Ravi Ranjan** new Managing Director for SBI.
  - Approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet in October 2026.

Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog Advisory Board

- **Induction:** Leading macroeconomist **B.V.R. Subrahmanyam** inducted into NITI Aayog's policy planning council in October 2026.
  - Appointed to spearhead national employment generation frameworks.

Director General of Indian Coast Guard (ICG)

- **Command:** New Director General **Paramesh Sivamani** took command of the Indian Coast Guard in October 2026.
  - Initiated enhanced maritime surveillance along Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ).

Chairperson of Competition Commission of India (CCI)

- **Policy Action:** CCI Chairperson **Ravneet Kaur** chaired high-level anti-trust regulation assembly in October 2026.
  - Notified revised merger and acquisition control thresholds for digital markets.

Director of National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)

- **Appointment: Lt. Gen. N. S. Raja Subramani** inducted into NSCS in October 2026.
  - Tasked with cyber security intelligence synthesis and critical infrastructure protection.

President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Executive Panel

- **Leadership:** Industry veteran **Sanjiv Puri** took over CII National Council Task Force in October 2026.
  - Pushes for manufacturing sector regulatory reforms and green transition investment.

Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)

- **Tenure:** Senior nuclear scientist **Dr. Vivek Bhasin** took charge as BARC Director in October 2026.
  - Spearheading advanced reactor research and medical radioisotope production.

Managing Director of Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)

- **Appointment:** Clean energy executive **Akash Tripathi** assumed MD post at SECI in October 2026.
  - Mandated to execute 50 GW annual renewable energy bidding targets.

Director General of Civil Aviation (DGC(a) Chief

- **Supervision:** DGCA Chief **Vikram Dev Dutt** issued updated flight crew fatigue management guidelines in October 2026.
  - Ensures strict aviation safety compliance across commercial airlines.

Practice Questions

1. Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit was appointed as the _____ Chief of the Air Staff (IAF) in October 2026.

(a) 25th (b) 27th

(c) 29th (d) 31st

Answer: (c) 29th

2. **Who was appointed as the Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in October 2026?**

(a) Sonali Mishra (b) Ravneet Kaur

(c) Abhilasha Barak (d) Neeru Dhanda

Answer: (a) Sonali Mishra

3. **Who was appointed part-time Chairperson of the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSI(b) in October 2026?**

(a) Subhas Chandra Lal Das (b) Sunil Kumar

(c) Ravi Agrawal (d) Akash Tripathi

Answer: (a) Subhas Chandra Lal Das

4. **Who was selected as the next Chairman and Managing Director of ONGC in October 2026?**

(a) Subhas Chandra Lal Das (b) Sunil Kumar

(c) Vikram Dev Dutt (d) Paramesh Sivamani

Answer: (b) Sunil Kumar

5. **Who was elected Chair of the UNESCO IOC Indian Ocean Regional Panel in October 2026?**

(a) Dr. T. M. Balakrishnan Nair (b) Prof. Achyuta Samanta

(c) Dr. Vivek Bhasin (d) B.V.R. Subrahmanyam

Answer: (a) Dr. T. M. Balakrishnan Nair

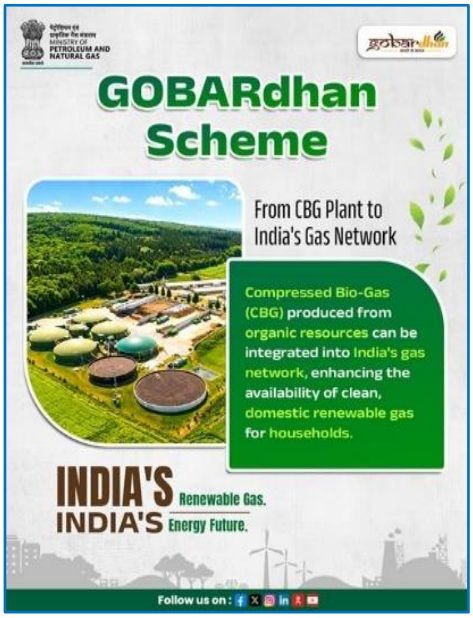
6. **Who was elected as the inaugural President of the Indian UniSport Federation in October 2026?**

(a) Prof. Achyuta Samanta (b) Sanjiv Puri

(c) Ravneet Kaur (d) Lt. Gen. N. S. Raja Subramani

Answer: (a) Prof. Achyuta Samanta

3.3. Government Schemes, Policies & Welfare Initiatives

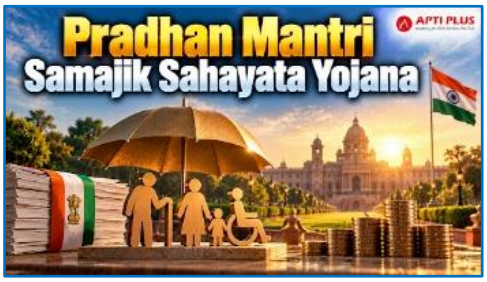


- **GOBARdhan Scheme:** Featured in current affairs for promoting the conversion of cattle dung and organic waste into compressed biogas (CBG) and clean energy under the circular economy.
  - **Commencement:** 30 April 2018
  - **Motto:** "Waste to Wealth" — convert organic waste into clean energy and organic manure.

SME Growth Fund (SGF)

- **Approval:** Union Cabinet approved ₹10,000 crore government commitment towards SGF on October 6, 2026.
  - ➢ Provides equity capital support to high-growth Small and Medium Enterprises across India.

Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana (PMSSY)



- **Restructuring:** National Social Assistance Programme approved for continuation through 2030-31 with ₹53,428 crore outlay.
  - Formally renamed Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana on October 14, 2026.

Special Financial Inclusion Saturation Campaign

- **Timeline:** Nationwide registration drive announced to run from October 21 to December 31, 2026.
  - Drives saturation for PMJJBY, PMSBY, Atal Pension Yojana, and PM Jan Dhan Account reactivations.

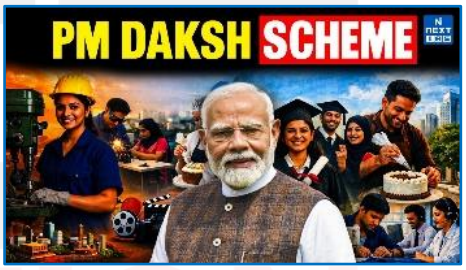
Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority (ITLA)

- **Approval:** Cabinet approved establishment of ITLA as a Special Purpose Vehicle on October 6, 2026.
  - Serves as apex planning body for National Transport Master Plan.

Gujarat Uniform Civil Code (UC(c) Act 2026

- **Notification:** Gujarat UCC Act 2026 officially notified following presidential assent in October 2026.
  - Gujarat becomes 2nd Indian state after Uttarakhand to implement a Uniform Civil Code.

PM-DAKSH Integration into PMKVY



- **Policy Report:** Government confirmed PM-DAKSH fully subsumed under PMKVY on October 22, 2026.
  - Consolidates skill development programs for backward classes and marginalized youth.

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY 2.0)

- **Rollout:** New training batches for 70,000 rural youth initiated in October 2026.
  - Offers placement-linked technical skills training in high-growth manufacturing sectors.

PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE)

- **Implementation:** Phased subsidies activated across EV charging hubs in October 2026.
  - Accelerates adoption of electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, and e-buses.

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana 2.0 (PMMSY 2.0)

- **Expansion:** Deep-sea fishing fleet modernization package approved in October 2026.
  - Provides financial assistance for satellite navigation equipment and cold chain transport.
  - Boosts marine fish production and export earnings.

National Green Hydrogen Mission Deployment

- **Pilot Grant:** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy allocated ₹1,200 crore pilot project funds in October 2026.
  - Focuses on green hydrogen integration in steel production and heavy mobility.

Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY Senior Citizen Coverage Expansion

- **Rollout:** Health insurance expansion for all senior citizens aged 70 and above activated in October 2026.
  - Provides ₹5 lakh annual free health cover regardless of family income level.

➢ Special Vay Vandana enrollment cards issued nationwide.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0)

- **Sanction:** Central sanction committee approved 4.5 lakh affordable homes on October 18, 2026.



National Semiconductor Mission Phase-II Guidelines

- **Policy:** Cabinet released revised financial incentives framework for fabless design startups in October 2026.

Agri-SURE Innovation Fund Activation

- **Launch:** NABARD activated ₹750 crore Agri-SURE blend fund in October 2026.

➢ Invests in agritech startups developing AI soil testing and drone spraying tools.

Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana Scale-Up



- **Milestone:** Over 1 million traditional artisans certified with skill badges by October 2026.

➢ Disbursed collateral-free enterprise development loans at 5% subsidized interest.

Mission Mausam Aviation Weather Grid

- **Launch:** Ministry of Earth Sciences launched high-resolution Doppler radar grid in October 2026.
  - ➢ Provides real-time microclimate weather forecasting for aviation and agriculture.

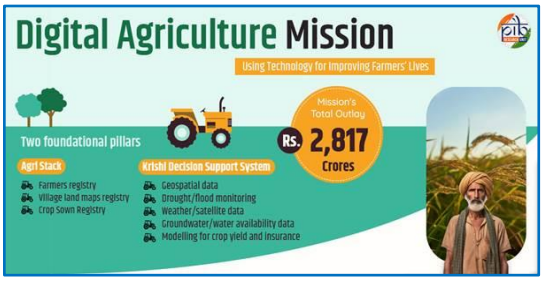
Pradhan Mantri POSHAN Kitchen Modernization Scheme

- **Directive:** Central grant sanctioned for solar-powered modular kitchens in rural schools in October 2026.
  - ➢ Ensures hygienic, energy-efficient meal preparation for PM POSHAN beneficiaries.

National Critical Mineral Mission Framework

- **Approval:** Cabinet approved ₹4,000 crore exploration incentive policy in October 2026.
  - ➢ Supports domestic mining and processing of lithium, cobalt, and rare earth elements.
  - ➢ Secures supply chains for EV battery and defense manufacturing.

Digital Agriculture Mission (DAM) Unified Portal



- **Portal:** AgriStack unified farmer registry portal went live across 15 states in October 2026.
  - ➢ Issues unique Digital Farmer IDs for seamless scheme benefit delivery.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana Phase-IV (PMGSY-IV)

- **Guidelines:** Cabinet approved road construction standards connecting 25,000 remote habitations in October 2026.
  - ➢ Focuses on all-weather durable asphalt roads in hilly and border districts.

Practice Questions

1. What is the total financial outlay of the integrated GOBARdhan Central Sector Scheme approved for FY 2026–27 to FY 2035–36?

(a) ₹10,000 crore
(b) ₹23,731 crore
(c) ₹53,428 crore
(d) ₹7,844 crore

Answer: (b) ₹23,731 crore

2. **Which state became the second Indian state after Uttarakhand to implement a Uniform Civil Code (UC(c) following the notification of its UCC Act in October 2026?**

(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Gujarat

(c) Goa (d) Assam

Answer: (b) Gujarat

3. **What is the name of the central scheme renamed from the National Social Assistance Programme with an outlay of ₹53,428 crore?**

(a) Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana (PMSSY)

(b) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi

(c) Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana

(d) Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan

Answer: (a) Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana (PMSSY)

4. **The special Financial Inclusion Saturation Campaign is scheduled to run from October 21 to which date in 2026?**

(a) November 30, 2026 (b) December 31, 2026

(c) January 26, 2027 (d) March 31, 2027

Answer: (b) December 31, 2026

5. **Which body was approved by the Cabinet as a Special Purpose Vehicle to serve as the apex planning body for the National Transport Master Plan?**

(a) Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority (ITLA)

(b) National Logistics Management Board

(c) Unified Transport Infrastructure Council

(d) National Transit Planning Agency

Answer: (a) Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority (ITL(a)

6. **Which scheme was fully subsumed under PMKVY on October 22, 2026, to consolidate skill development for backward classes?**

(a) PM-DAKSH (b) PM-UDAY

(c) PM-Vikas (d) PM-Kaushal

Answer: (a) PM-DAKSH

7. **What is the annual free health coverage amount provided to all senior citizens aged 70 and above under the expanded Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY?**

(a) ₹2 lakh (b) ₹5 lakh

(c) ₹10 lakh (d) ₹15 lakh

Answer: (b) ₹5 lakh

8. **NABARD activated the ₹750 crore Agri-SURE blend fund in October 2026 to invest in what?**

(a) Large-scale fertilizer factories

(b) Agritech startups developing AI soil testing and drone spraying tools

(c) Rural cold-chain highway logistics

(d) Export-import shipping docks

Answer: (b) Agritech startups developing AI soil testing and drone spraying tools

9. **By October 2026, how many traditional artisans were certified with skill badges under the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana scale-up?**

(a) Over 500,000 (b) Over 1 million

(c) Over 2 million (d) Over 5 million

Answer: (b) Over 1 million

10. **Which ministry launched the high-resolution Doppler radar grid under 'Mission Mausam' in October 2026?**

(a) Ministry of Agriculture

(b) Ministry of Earth Sciences

(c) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

(d) Ministry of Science and Technology

Answer: (b) Ministry of Earth Sciences

3.4. Sports & Games

20th Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Concludes



- **Dates:** Held from September 19 to October 4, 2026, in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.
  - **India's Tally:** India finished 4th overall with 85 medals (21 Gold, 27 Silver, 37 Bronze).
  - **Flag Bearers:** Manu Bhaker and Pawan Sehrawat led the opening ceremony; Neeru Dhanda carried flag at closing.
  - **Historic Highlights:** Double gold in Men's and Women's Hockey; clean sweep double gold in Cricket and Kabaddi.

WBL World Billiards Championship 2026

- **Champion:** Pankaj Advani won his 29th career world title in Great Wyrley, England, in October 2026.
  - Defeated England's Robert Hall 1,906–1,206 in the final match.

ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Championship 2026

- **Performance:** Indian shooting contingent clinched top medals in 10m Air Rifle events in October 2026.
  - Secured vital Olympic quota positions for international championship events.

SIMBEX-2026 Bilateral Naval Exercise



- **Edition:** 33rd Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise concluded at Visakhapatnam on October 26, 2026.
  - Sea phase conducted in Bay of Bengal with INS Neelgiri and INS Kamorta stealth frigates.

Asian Games 2026 Trap Shooting Record

- **Record:** Indian shooter Neeru Dhanda ended 48-year wait for Asian Games individual trap gold on October 3, 2026.
  - Set a new Asian record alongside Kynan Chenai in the mixed trap shooting event.

Asian Games Recurve Archery Individual Gold

- **Milestone:** Kumkum Anil Mohod became the first Indian woman to win individual recurve gold at Asian Games.
  - Clinched victory on October 3, 2026, during the final archer showdowns in Nagoya.

BWF Super 750 Denmark Open 2026

- **Performance:** Indian badminton stars reached men's doubles finals in Odense in October 2026.
  - Secured vital BWF World Tour ranking points for season-end finals.

Women's T20 World Cup 2026 Highlights

- **Tournament:** Global T20 championship concluded intense group stages in October 2026.
  - Showcased record broadcast viewership and stadium crowds.

Irani Trophy Cricket Tournament 2026



- **Champion:** Rest of India won the Irani Cup 2026 match held in October 2026.
  - Defeated the reigning Ranji Trophy champions in a decisive multi-day contest.

World Junior Chess Championship 2026

- **Medal:** Indian Grandmaster secured silver medal in the open category in October 2026.
  - Maintained unbeaten streak across 11 classical rounds against international prodigies.

Asian Table Tennis Championships 2026

- **Medal:** Indian women's team won historic bronze medal in October 2026.
  - Defeated top-seeded regional opponents in tense quarterfinal clash.

ISSF World Cup Finals 2026

- **Host:** New Delhi hosted elite rifle and pistol shooters in October 2026.
  - Indian shooters bagged multiple gold medals in 25m Rapid Fire Pistol.

Ultimate Kho Kho Season 3

- **Tournament:** Season 3 of Ultimate Kho Kho franchised league kicked off in October 2026.
  - Introduced real-time AI biometric tracking for player agility analytics.

ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Title

- **Winner:** 16-year-old Indian tennis player won singles title in October 2026.
  - Clinched victory at international hardcourt tournament in New Delhi.
  - Boosted ITF junior ranking into global top 50.

Asian Youth Athletics Championships 2026

- **Tally:** India secured 18 medals including 6 Gold at regional athletics track meet in October 2026.
  - Dominated middle-distance running and javelin throw events.

World Weightlifting Championships 2026

- **Medal:** Indian lifter won silver medal in women's 49kg category in October 2026.
  - Successfully lifted total 198kg across snatch and clean-and-jerk.

National Games 2026 Preparations

- **Announcement:** Indian Olympic Association finalized venue infrastructure plans in October 2026.
  - Scheduled multi-sport events across state-of-the-art regional complexes.

Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) Season 13 Draft

- **Event:** Player auctions for PKL Season 13 completed in October 2026.
  - ➢ Record bids recorded for top raiders and defensive specialists.

World Rowing Championships 2026

- **Performance:** Indian coxless four crew qualified for finals in October 2026.
  - ➢ Clocked personal best timing in challenging open water conditions.

Asian Para Games Preparations 2026

- **Contingent:** Paralympic Committee of India announced 150-member team in October 2026.
  - ➢ Specialized training camps conducted across SAI centers of excellence.

World Boxing Council (WB(c) Asia Championship

- **Title:** Indian professional boxer retained WBC Asia Super Middleweight title in October 2026.
  - ➢ Secured knockout victory in the 7th round of headline bout.

Practice Questions

1. **How many medals did India win to finish 4th overall at the 20th Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya 2026?**

   (a) 75 medals (b) 85 medals
   (c) 95 medals (d) 105 medals

   Answer: (b) 85 medals

2. **Who won his 29th career world title by winning the WBL World Billiards Championship 2026 in Great Wyrley, England?**

   (a) Robert Hall (b) Pankaj Advani
   (c) Sourav Kothari (d) Geet Sethi

   Answer: (b) Pankaj Advani

3. **In the 33rd Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX-2026) held at Visakhapatnam, which stealth frigates participated in the sea phase?**

   (a) INS Shivalik and INS Sahyadri
   (b) INS Kolkata and INS Kochi
   (c) INS Neelgiri and INS Kamorta
   (d) INS Visakhapatnam and INS Mormugao

   Answer: (c) INS Neelgiri and INS Kamorta

4. **Which Indian shooter ended a 48-year wait for an Asian Games individual trap gold medal on October 3, 2026?**

   (a) Manu Bhaker (b) Neeru Dhanda
   (c) Esha Singh (d) Sift Kaur Samra

   Answer: (b) Neeru Dhanda

5. **Who became the first Indian woman to win an individual recurve gold medal in archery at the Asian Games?**

(a) Deepika Kumari
(b) Kumkum Anil Mohod
(c) Ankita Bhakat
(d) Bhajan Kaur

Answer: (b) Kumkum Anil Mohod

6. **Which team won the Irani Cup (Irani Trophy Cricket Tournament) match held in October 2026?**

(a) Mumbai
(b) Rest of India
(c) Saurashtra
(d) Vidarbha

Answer: (b) Rest of India

3.5. Science, Space & Technology

Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) Criticality

- **Milestone:** India's indigenous 500 MW PFBR achieved first criticality at Kalpakkam.
  - Inaugurated and highlighted by PM Narendra Modi during ESTIC 2026 in New Delhi.

ESTIC 2026 Science Conclave

- **Event:** 2nd edition of Emerging Science, Technology & Innovation Conclave held October 27–29, 2026.
  - **Venue:** Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, hosted by Department of Space / ISRO and DST.

SpaDeX Space Docking Breakthrough



- **Achievement:** ISRO highlighted SpaDeX success positioning India as 4th nation with autonomous space docking.
  - Reported during ESTIC 2026 backgrounder on October 28, 2026.

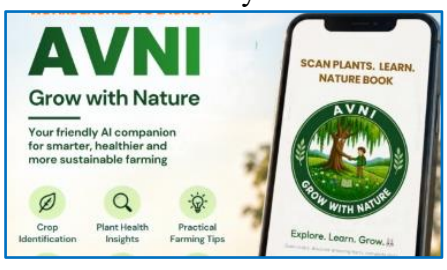
Integrated Atmospheric Laboratory (AATAL)

- **Launch:** Inaugurated in Delhi-NCR in October 2026 for real-time air pollution chemistry research.
  - Linked with IITM's AIRWISE system for predictive emission source apportionment.

6th CoE for 6G & Quantum Technology

- **MoU:** C-DOT signed agreement with IIT-BHU to establish 6th Center of Excellence in October 2026.
  - Focuses on advanced 6G quantum communications and optical network security.

AI-Powered AVNI Application Launch



- **Developer:** IIT Ropar launched 'AVNI' AI-powered application on October 13, 2026.
  - Designed for real-time agricultural crop disease detection and soil moisture mapping.

Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026

- **Cabinet Approval:** Bihar State Cabinet approved comprehensive Green Hydrogen Policy on October 13, 2026.
  - Offers capital subsidies and land allocation for green ammonia production units.

Next-Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV) Specifications



- **Update:** ISRO released technical architecture for NGLV 'Soorya' during ESTIC 2026.
  - ➢ Features modular design with reusable liquid-oxygen/methane propulsion stages.

Supercomputer 'PARAM Rudra' Deployment



- **Installation:** C-DAC commissioned PARAM Rudra supercomputer at weather research facility in October 2026.
  - ➢ Delivers 3 Petaflops processing power for climate modeling and molecular simulation.

Indigenous Cryogenic Engine CE-20 Test

- **Test Fire:** ISRO successfully completed long-duration hot test of CE-20 engine at Mahendragiri in October 2026.
  - ➢ Validated enhanced thrust capability for upcoming heavy-lift Gaganyaan missions.

Quantum Key Distribution (QK(d) Field Trial

- **Milestone:** DRDO and ISRO achieved multi-node quantum network link over 150 km fiber line in October 2026.
  - ➢ Demonstrated ultra-secure military communications immune to quantum hacking.



Gaganyaan Crew Escape System Abort Test

- **Test:** ISRO completed static firing of crew escape motor at Sriharikota in October 2026.
  - ➢ Verified high-altitude trajectory escape safety parameters for astronaut module.

India's First Bio-Manufacturing Hub

- **Inauguration:** DBT inaugurated bio-foundry facility for microbial strain engineering in October 2026.
  - ➢ Accelerates production of bioplastics, enzymes, and synthetic biofuels.
  - ➢ Supports BioE3 policy implementation across biotechnology sector.

National Cybersecurity Operations Center (NCOC) AI System



- **Rollout:** MeitY launched AI threat-hunting bot system across critical infrastructure in October 2026.

➢ Detects zero-day malware attacks on national power grids and banking servers.

Electric Propulsion Satellite Test

- **Achievement:** ISRO successfully validated indigenous Hall-effect electric thruster in orbit in October 2026.
  - ➢ Reduces propellant mass required for communication satellite station-keeping.

Autonomous Navigational Robot 'NAVBOT'



- **Unveiling:** IIT Madras unveiled autonomous deep-sea exploration underwater robot in October 2026.
  - ➢ Equipped with sonar imaging and robotic arm for deep-ocean mineral mapping.

➢ Supports Samudrayaan Deep Ocean Mission goals.

Solar Observatory Aditya-L1 Science Data Release

- **Data Release:** ISRO released first comprehensive solar flare plasma dataset from Aditya-L1 in October 2026.
  ➢ Provides insights into Coronal Mass Ejections (CME) dynamics.

Semiconductor Chip Packaging Facility

- **Foundation:** Foundation stone laid for India's 1st commercial OSAT semiconductor facility in October 2026.
  ➢ Located in Sanand, Gujarat, designed for high-density chip assembly.

Hybrid Renewable Energy Microgrid Controller

- **Innovation:** CSIR-NIIST developed AI microgrid controller for remote Himalayan villages in October 2026.
  ➢ Seamlessly balances solar, hydro, and battery storage power supplies.



Humanoid Robot 'Vyommitra' Flight Integration

- **Update:** ISRO finalized final sensory calibration for **Vyommitra** humanoid in October 2026.
- Scheduled to fly onboard the upcoming uncrewed **Gaganyaan G1** mission.

Deep-Tech Startup Incubation Grant

- **Sanction:** Department of Science & Technology announced ₹500 crore seed grant in October 2026.
  ➢ Supports 100 deep-tech startups working on photonics, robotics, and advanced materials.

Practice Questions

1. What is the name of India's indigenous 500 MW reactor that achieved its first criticality at Kalpakkam, marking the 2nd Stage of India's nuclear program?

(a) Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR)
(b) Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR)
(c) Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR)
(d) Kakrapar Atomic Power Reactor

Answer: (b) Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR)

2. Which IIT developed the 'AVNI' AI-powered application for real-time agricultural crop disease detection and soil moisture mapping?

(a) IIT Bombay
(b) IIT Madras
(c) IIT Ropar
(d) IIT Kharagpur

Answer: (c) IIT Ropar

3. What is the name of ISRO's Next-Generation Launch Vehicle whose technical architecture was released during ESTIC 2026?

(a) Gaganyaan-1
(b) Soorya
(c) Pushpak
(d) Vikram-S

Answer: (b) Soorya

4. C-DAC commissioned which supercomputer at a weather research facility in October 2026, delivering 3 Petaflops processing power?

(a) PARAM Siddhi-AI
(b) PARAM Brahma

(c) PARAM Rudra (d) PARAM Ishan

Answer: (c) PARAM Rudra

5. **MeitY launched which AI-backed system across critical infrastructure in October 2026 to detect zero-day malware attacks?**

(a) AI Threat-Hunting Bot System (National Cybersecurity Operations Center)

(b) Cyber Kavach AI

(c) Vajra Cyber Guard

(d) NetSurakshit AI

Answer: (a) AI Threat-Hunting Bot System (National Cybersecurity Operations Center)

6. **What is the name of the autonomous deep-sea exploration underwater robot unveiled by IIT Madras in October 2026?**

(a) Samudra-1 (b) NAVBOT

(c) Varuna-X (d) Jaltarang

Answer: (b) NAVBOT

7. **Which state cabinet approved a comprehensive Green Hydrogen Policy offering capital subsidies and land allocation in October 2026?**

(a) Maharashtra (b) Bihar

(c) Gujarat (d) Karnataka

Answer: (b) Bihar

3.6. Summits, Bills & International Affairs

12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum 2026

- **Dates & Venue:** Held on October 26–27, 2026, at Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi.
  - **Theme:** "Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development".
  - Chaired by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla; handed chairship to China for 2027.

First BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting

- **Host:** India hosted inaugural meeting in New Delhi on October 13, 2026.
  - Chaired by Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** with all seven member nations participating.
  - Adopted Delhi Declaration to combat transnational cybercrime, human trafficking, and narco-trafficking.

7th Agrivoltaics World Conference 2026

- **Event:** India hosted the global conference in New Delhi on October 23, 2026.
  - Brought together international scientists and energy planners to combine solar power with agriculture.

India-Liechtenstein Bilateral Summit

- **Delegation:** President **Droupadi Murmu** received Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein in New Delhi in October 2026.
  - Discussed rollout of 2024 India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement.

19th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2026



- **Venue:** Organized by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in New Delhi on October 25–27, 2026.
  - **Theme:** "Green and Intelligent Urban Transport Infrastructure".

UN General Assembly 81st Session Debates

- **Deliberations:** Indian delegation presented global south priorities at UN Headquarters in October 2026.
  - Called for equitable climate finance commitments and reformed multilateralism.

India-ASEAN Cyber Security Dialogue 2026

- **Meeting:** 5th India-ASEAN dialogue held in Singapore in October 2026.
  - Focused on critical information infrastructure protection and ransomware threat sharing.

WTO General Council Meeting 2026

- **Stand:** India strongly defended public stockholding for food security in Geneva in October 2026.
  - Urged permanent solution on food reserves for developing nations.

ISA 7th General Assembly 2026

- **Host:** International Solar Alliance held 7th Assembly in New Delhi in October 2026.
  - Approved flagship funding mechanism 'Global Solar Facility' expansion in Africa.

India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FT(a) Round

- **Negotiations:** Delegation-level talks held in London in October 2026.
  - Resolved key mobility and professional service access clauses.

Global Anti-Money Laundering (FATF) Plenary



- **Outcome:** FATF plenary session evaluated mutual evaluation reports in Paris in October 2026.
  - Commended India's effective anti-money laundering and counter-terror financing frameworks.

G20 Sherpa Track Planning Meeting

- **Gathering:** Delegates met in October 2026 to review multilateral economic commitments.
  - Focused on sustainable debt restructuring for low-income economies.

India-Japan 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue Preparations

- **Talks:** Foreign and defense secretaries held preliminary consultations in Tokyo in October 2026.
  - Reviewed Indo-Pacific maritime security cooperation and defense equipment transfer.

Bhopal International Water Summit 2026

- **Conclave:** Hosted by Ministry of Jal Shakti in Bhopal in October 2026.
  - Deliberated groundwater recharge tech and river basin management.

SCO Trade and Economic Ministers Meeting

- **Participation:** India participated virtually in the SCO ministerial session in October 2026.
  - Advocated enhanced regional supply chain connectivity and national currency trade settlement.

India-EU Trade & Technology Council (TTC)



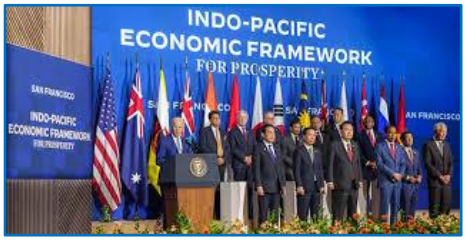
- **Working Group:** Joint meeting held in Brussels in October 2026.

➢ Agreed on standards for trustworthy AI regulation and semiconductor supply chain resilience.

Third Global Maritime India Summit (GMIS) Follow-Up

- **Review:** Ministry of Ports reviewed ₹10 lakh crore MoU implementation progress in October 2026.

Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) Ministerial



- **Meeting:** Pillar II Supply Chain Council met in October 2026.
  - ➢ Activated early warning system for critical electronic supply disruption.

International Energy Agency (IE(a) Ministerial Consultation

- **Dialogue:** India participated in critical mineral security consultation in Paris in October 2026.
  - ➢ Highlighted global clean energy transition equity and affordable technology transfer.

India-Africa Defence Ministers' Conclave Review

- **Consultation:** Defense ministry held security assessment with African military attaches in October 2026.
  - ➢ Expanded maritime domain awareness cooperation along Western Indian Ocean.

National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMH(c) International Forum

- International maritime archaeology summit held at Lothal, Gujarat, in October 2026.
  - ➢ Showcased ancient Indian seafaring heritage to international delegates.

Practice Questions

1. Which Delhi-NCR rapid rail corridor won the 'Best Passenger Service Award' during the 19th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference?

(a) Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat Rapid Rail Corridor

(b) Delhi-Panipat Rapid Rail

(c) Delhi-Alwar Rapid Rail

(d) Delhi-Agra Rapid Rail

Answer: (a) Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat Rapid Rail Corridor

2. Where was the inaugural BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting hosted in October 2026?

(a) Mumbai (b) New Delhi

(c) Colombo (d) Dhaka

Answer: (b) New Delhi

3. Where was the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum 2026 held on October 26–27, 2026?

(a) Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi (b) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

(c) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (d) Kazan, Russia

Answer: (a) Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi

4. Who chaired the inaugural BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting held in New Delhi on October 13, 2026?

(a) Prime Minister Narendra Modi (b) External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar

(c) Home Minister Amit Shah (d) National Security Advisor Ajit Doval

Answer: (c) Home Minister Amit Shah

5. What was the theme of the 19th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2026?

(a) Sustainable Transit for Smart Cities

(b) Green and Intelligent Urban Transport Infrastructure

(c) Future Mobility and Digital Integration

(d) Urban Development & Mobility Nexus

Answer: (b) Green and Intelligent Urban Transport Infrastructure

6. Which international alliance held its 7th General Assembly in New Delhi in October 2026 and approved the expansion of the 'Global Solar Facility'?

(a) International Solar Alliance (ISA)

(b) Global Renewable Energy Partnership

(c) Clean Energy Ministerial

(d) World Energy Council

Answer: (a) International Solar Alliance (ISA)

7. Which city hosted the 7th Agrivoltaics World Conference 2026 on October 23, 2026?

(a) Mumbai (b) New Delhi

(c) Bengaluru (d) Hyderabad

Answer: (b) New Delhi

8. The 5th India-ASEAN Cyber Security Dialogue 2026 was held in which city?

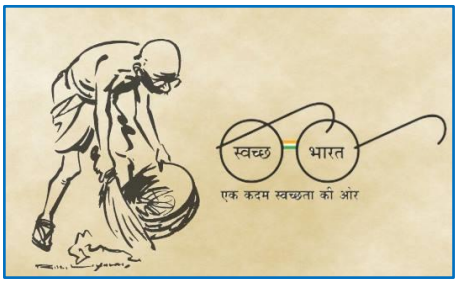
(a) New Delhi (b) Jakarta

(c) Singapore (d) Bangkok

Answer: (c) Singapore

3.7. Books, Authors & Important Days

Gandhi Jayanti & Swachh Bharat Diwas



- **Observed:** Observed across India on October 2, 2026, marking 157th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
  - **Theme:** "Swachhata Hi Seva: Cleanliness as a Way of Life".
  - Nationwide cleanliness drives organized alongside Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti tributes.

World Teachers' Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed globally on October 5, 2026, by UNESCO and international education bodies.
  - **Theme:** "Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education".
  - Honored educator contributions to global learning recovery and digital literacy.

World Cotton Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 7, 2026, highlighting sustainable cotton production.
  - **Theme:** "Cotton for Good: Sustainable Textiles for global prosperity".
  - Ministry of Textiles organized national expo on Kasturi Cotton India brand.

Indian Air Force (IAF) 94th Day



- **Observed:** Celebrated on October 8, 2026, with major air display at air force stations.
  - **Motto:** "Touch the Sky with Glory".
  - Showcased indigenous Tejas fighters and Netra AEW&C aircraft operational readiness.

World Mental Health Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 10, 2026, under WHO leadership.
  - **Theme:** "Mental Health in the Workplace: Prioritizing Well-being".
  - Promoted Tele-MANAS helpline awareness and mental healthcare access across institutions.

International Day of the Girl Child 2026



- **Observed:** Observed on October 11, 2026, globally.
  - **Theme:** "Girls' Vision for the Future: Empowered Leadership".
  - Government highlighted Beti Bachao Beti Padhao milestone achievements.

World Disaster Risk Reduction Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 13, 2026, under UN Disaster Risk Reduction guidelines.
  - **Theme:** "Empowering the Next Generation for a Resilient Future".
  - NDMA organized disaster preparedness drills across coastal districts.

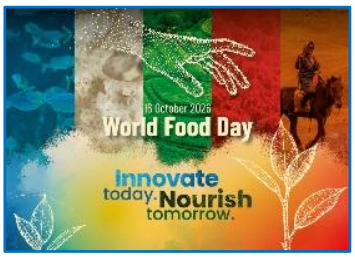
World Standards Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 14, 2026, led by BIS and ISO.
  - **Theme:** "Shared Vision for a Better World: Industry 4.0 Standards".
  - Highlighted quality compliance for manufactured green products.

World Student's Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 15, 2026, commemorating birth anniversary of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
  - **Theme:** "Fostering Innovation and Youth Curiosity".
  - Schools hosted science exhibitions and innovation competitions.

World Food Day 2026



- **Observed:** Observed on October 16, 2026, under UN FAO guidance.
  - **Theme:** "Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow".
  - ICAR highlighted climate-resilient crop varieties and biofortified grains.

International Day for Eradication of Poverty 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 17, 2026, globally.
  - **Theme:** "Ending Social and Institutional Maltreatment for Just Societies".
  - NITI Aayog presented multidimensional poverty reduction progress metrics.

World Polio Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed globally on October 24, 2026.
  - **Theme:** "A Campaign to Make History: End Polio Worldwide".
  - Reaffirmed global pulse polio surveillance and immunization commitment.

United Nations Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 24, 2026, marking 81st UN Charter anniversary.
  - EAM S. Jaishankar reaffirmed India's commitment to multilateralism and UN reforms.
  - Emphasized global south representation in multilateral councils.

World Development Information Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 24, 2026, alongside UN Day.
  - Focuses on leveraging information technology for sustainable development goals.
  - Promotes open data initiatives for public welfare.

Infantry Day 2026

- **Observed:** Observed by Indian Army on October 27, 2026.
  - Commemorates 1947 landing of 1st Battalion of Sikh Regiment at Srinagar airfield.
  - Tributes paid to brave soldiers at National War Memorial, New Delhi.

National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) 2026

- **Observed:** Observed on October 31, 2026, marking 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
  - PM Narendra Modi led 'Run for Unity' and parade at Statue of Unity, Kevadia.
  - Reaffirmed national integration and territorial integrity resolve.

72nd National Wildlife Week (2–8 October 2026)

- **Observed:** Observed across Indian national parks and reserves from October 2–8, 2026.
  - **Theme:** "Connecting Habitats, Thriving Wildlife".
  - Focused on eco-corridors and community-led wildlife protection.

Book Release: 'The Indian Century: Economic Resurgence'

- **Author:** Written by prominent economist **C. B. Rao** and released in New Delhi in October 2026.
  - Analyzes India's path toward becoming $10 trillion economy.

Book Release: 'Diplomacy in a Multipolar World'

- **Author:** Authored by former diplomat **Hariom Singh Sisodia** and **Dr. Shriji** and published in October 2026.
  - Explores India's strategic autonomy policy amidst shifting global alliances.

Book Release: 'Wings of Green Energy'

- **Author:** Authored by clean energy innovator and launched in October 2026.
  - Chronicles India's rapid solar and wind power expansion.

Book Release: 'Voices of Silent Forests'

- **Author:** Authored by **Liisi Lendorav** acclaimed wildlife conservationist in October 2026.
  - Documents successful tiger and elephant corridor protection initiatives in India.

Practice Questions

1. What was the theme of World Teachers' Day 2026 observed on October 5, 2026?

(a) Mental Health in the Workplace: Prioritizing Well-being

(b) Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education

(c) Fostering Innovation and Youth Curiosity

(d) Building Sustainable Care and Support Systems

Answer: (b) Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education

2. Who authored the book titled 'The Indian Century: Economic Resurgence' released in New Delhi in October 2026?

(a) Hariom Singh Sisodia
(b) C. B. Rao
(c) Liisi Lendorav
(d) Dr. Shriji

Answer: (b) C. B. Rao

3. The 157th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi was observed across India on October 2, 2026, under which theme?

(a) Cleanliness as a Way of Life
(b) Swachhata Hi Seva: Cleanliness as a Way of Life
(c) Mahatma's Vision: Clean India, Green India
(d) Community Cleanliness and Nation Building

Answer: (b) Swachhata Hi Seva: Cleanliness as a Way of Life

4. What was the motto of the Indian Air Force celebrated during its 94th Day on October 8, 2026?

(a) Service Before Self
(b) Touch the Sky with Glory
(c) Always Vigilant
(d) Courage and Valour

Answer: (b) Touch the Sky with Glory

5. What was the theme of World Mental Health Day observed on October 10, 2026?

(a) Mental Health is a Universal Human Right
(b) Mental Health in the Workplace: Prioritizing Well-being
(c) Young Minds in a Changing World
(d) Access to Mental Healthcare for All

Answer: (b) Mental Health in the Workplace: Prioritizing Well-being

6. What was the theme of World Food Day observed on October 16, 2026, under UN FAO guidance?

(a) Leave No One Behind
(b) Water is Life, Water is Food
(c) Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow
(d) Safe Food Today for a Healthy Tomorrow

Answer: (c) Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow

7. Infantry Day was observed by the Indian Army on October 27, 2026, to commemorate the 1947 landing of which regiment at Srinagar airfield?

(a) 1st Battalion of the Sikh Regiment
(b) 2nd Battalion of the Madras Regiment
(c) Para Regiment
(d) 4th Battalion of the Kumaon Regiment

Answer: (a) 1st Battalion of the Sikh Regiment

8. National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) 2026 marked the 151st birth anniversary of which leader?

(a) Mahatma Gandhi
(b) Subhas Chandra Bose
(c) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(d) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

Answer: (c) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

9. Who authored the book 'Diplomacy in a Multipolar World' published in October 2026?

(a) C. B. Rao
(b) Hariom Singh Sisodia and Dr. Shriji
(c) Liisi Lendorav
(d) Karl Deisseroth

Answer: (b) Hariom Singh Sisodia and Dr. Shriji

10. Who authored the book 'Voices of Silent Forests' focusing on tiger and elephant corridor protection?

(a) C. B. Rao
(b) Hariom Singh Sisodia
(c) Liisi Lendorav
(d) Anne Carson

Answer: (c) Liisi Lendorav

3.8. Miscellaneous

UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List Additions

- **Additions:** Three Indian sites added to UNESCO Tentative List on October 21, 2026.
- Karst Mud-Volcano Complex of Baratang & Andaman Subduction Volcanoes (A&N Islands).
- Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape (Chhattisgarh).

India's First Petroglyph Conservation Park

- **Inauguration:** PM Narendra Modi inaugurated park at Sindhu Ghat, Leh, Ladakh in October 2026.
- Part of ₹3,350 crore development package for Ladakh.
- Preserves thousands of prehistoric rock carvings along the Indus river.

Trade Margin Cap on Non-Scheduled Anti-Cancer Drugs

- **Policy:** Union Health Ministry capped trade margins at 30% of MRP in October 2026.
- Yields estimated ₹2,500 crore annual savings for oncology patients.

Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat Rapid Transit Extension

- **Operationalization:** New 12 km section of Namo Bharat corridor opened to public in October 2026.
- Features automated ticketing and high-speed commuter train operations.
- Cuts travel time between Delhi and Meerut significantly.

National Waterways Cargo Volume Record

- **Milestone:** Inland Waterways Authority reported record 15 million tonnes monthly cargo in October 2026.
- Driven by bulk commodity transit along NW-1 (Gang(a) and NW-2 (Brahmaputra).

Vande Bharat Express Sleeper Version Unveiling



- **Unveiling:** Indian Railways unveiled 1st production model of Vande Bharat Sleeper train in October 2026.
- Designed for long-distance overnight routes with 160 km/h operational speed capability.

Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) Discovery

- **Discovery:** Astronomers using Pune's GMRT detected ultra-rare radio galaxy ring in October 2026.
- Located 2.5 billion light-years away from Earth.

National Turmeric Board Headquarters Inauguration

- **Inauguration:** Headquarters officially established in Nizamabad, Telangana, in October 2026.
- Focuses on boosting turmeric exports, quality control, and farmer value realization.
- Aims for $1 billion Indian turmeric exports by 2030.

First Hydro-Powered Data Center in Himalayas

- **Commissioning:** India's 1st 100% hydro-powered green data center commissioned in Himachal Pradesh in October 2026.
- Utilizes natural mountain cooling and zero-carbon hydro energy.
- Sets benchmark for **green computing infrastructure**.

Deepest Underground Metro Station Completion



- **Achievement:** Underground engineering work completed for Howrah Metro station at 33 meters depth in October 2026.
- Connects seamless multimodal transit with Howrah Railway Junction.

National Tribal Art & Craft Expo 'Aadi Mahotsav'

- **Expo:** TRIFED organized mega national tribal trade fair in New Delhi in October 2026.
- Featured over 300 tribal artisans showcasing organic produce and handlooms.

Cyber Crime Helpline 1930 AI Upgrade

- **Upgrade:** Home Ministry integrated voice AI bot into 1930 financial fraud helpline in October 2026.
- Enables instant lien marking on fraudulent bank accounts within golden hour.

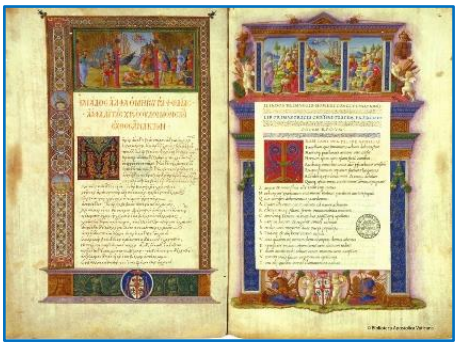
India's First Floating Solar Agriculture Feeder



- **Project:** Commissioned on irrigation reservoir in Maharashtra in October 2026.
- Provides 10 MW dedicated day-time solar power for agricultural pump sets.

National Green Building Rating Certification

- **Milestone:** IGBC announced India crossed 11 billion sq ft certified green building footprint in October 2026.
- Ranks India among top global leaders in sustainable building design.



Geographical Indication (GI) Tag Allocations

- **Tag Grants:** GI Registry granted GI tags to 5 regional products in October 2026.
- Includes traditional handicrafts and indigenous agricultural crops.

National Digital Library Rare Manuscripts Digitization

- **Project:** IIT Kharagpur team completed digitization of 50,000 ancient palm-leaf manuscripts in October 2026.
- Made accessible online with AI translation optical character recognition.

Central Vista Knowledge Center Opening

- **Opening:** Public digital archive center opened at Kartavya Path in October 2026.

- Displays interactive exhibits on India's constitutional history and freedom struggle.

Brahmaputra Dredging and Navigation Project

- **Launch:** IWAI deployed high-capacity capital dredgers on NW-2 in Assam in October 2026.
- Ensures year-round 2.5-meter draft depth for cargo vessels.

National Organic Food Expo 2026

- **Event:** Ministry of Food Processing Industry hosted 3-day organic food fair in October 2026.
- Connected certified organic farmers directly with global retail exporters.

India's First Zero-Waste Railway Station

- **Certification:** Indian Railways certified 1st station achieving complete waste recycling in October 2026.
- Processes 100% solid waste via on-site composting and plastic shredding units.

National Bamboo Mission Innovation Center

- **Inauguration:** Bamboo structural engineering research lab established in Guwahati in October 2026.
- Develops eco-friendly bamboo composite building materials for disaster relief housing.

Practice Questions

1. Which three Indian sites were added to the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List on October 21, 2026?

(a) Taj Mahal, Red Fort, Qutub Minar

(b) Karst Mud-Volcano Complex of Baratang & Andaman Subduction Volcanoes, Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape, and one other site

(c) Sundarbans, Kaziranga, Manas

(d) Ellora, Ajanta, Elephanta

Answer: (b) Karst Mud-Volcano Complex of Baratang & Andaman Subduction Volcanoes, Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape, and one other site

2. Where was India's First Petroglyph Conservation Park inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in October 2026?

(a) Leh, Ladakh

(b) Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir

(c) Spiti Valley, Himachal Pradesh

(d) Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: (a) Leh, Ladakh

3. What trade margin cap was placed by the Union Health Ministry on non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs in October 2026?

(a) 20% of MRP

(b) 30% of MRP

(c) 40% of MRP

(d) 50% of MRP

Answer: (b) 30% of MRP

4. Where was the National Turmeric Board Headquarters officially established in October 2026?

(a) Erode, Tamil Nadu

(b) Nizamabad, Telangana

(c) Sangli, Maharashtra

(d) Duggirala, Andhra Pradesh

Answer: (b) Nizamabad, Telangana

5. India's first 100% hydro-powered green data center was commissioned in October 2026 in which state?

(a) Uttarakhand (b) Himachal Pradesh

(c) Sikkim (d) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: (b) Himachal Pradesh

6. What depth was achieved for the completion of the underground engineering work of the Howrah Metro station in October 2026?

(a) 20 meters (b) 25 meters

(c) 33 meters (d) 45 meters

Answer: (c) 33 meters

7. What is the name of the AI voice bot integrated into the 1930 financial fraud helpline by the Home Ministry in October 2026?

(a) Voice AI Bot (Cyber Crime Helpline 1930)

(b) Cyber Sahayak AI

(c) Fraud Shield Voice Bot

(d) 1930 Cyber Sentinel

Answer: (a) Voice AI Bot (Cyber Crime Helpline 1930)

8. What milestone did the Indian Green Building Council (IGB(c) announce in October 2026 regarding certified green buildings?

(a) Crossed 5 billion sq ft (b) Crossed 8 billion sq ft

(c) Crossed 11 billion sq ft (d) Crossed 15 billion sq ft

Answer: (c) Crossed 11 billion sq ft

9. How many ancient palm-leaf manuscripts were digitized by the IIT Kharagpur team as part of the National Digital Library project in October 2026?

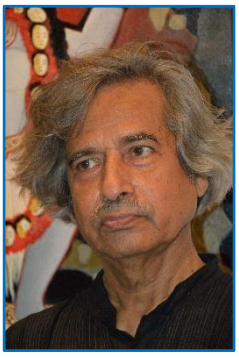
(a) 10,000 (b) 25,000

(c) 50,000 (d) 100,000

Answer: (c) 50,000

3.9. West Bengal Specific Current Affairs

Demise of Legendary Painter Jogen Chowdhury



- **Obituary:** Renowned Indian painter, master line-artist, and former MP **Jogen Chowdhury** passed away at 87 in Kolkata.
  - ➢ Famous for ink, pastel, and watercolor works influenced by traditional Bengali alpana floor art.
  - ➢ Recipient of **Padma Bhushan** and **Kalidas Samman**; alumnus of Kolkata's GCAC and Paris École des Beaux-Arts.

Mahalaya Celebrations Across West Bengal

- **Event:** Observed with solemnity and dawn recitation of Mahishasuramardini across West Bengal on October 13, 2026.
  - ➢ Marked formal end of Pitru Paksha and beginning of Devi Paksha / Durga Puja festivities.

- Lakhs performed Tarpan rituals along Hooghly river banks and water bodies.

GRSE Kolkata Launches Warship 'Srishti'



- **Launch:** Next-Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Srishti' (Yard 1283) launched by GRSE Kolkata in October 2026.
  - Engineered to boost maritime surveillance and EEZ patrolling along eastern seaboard.
  - Demonstrates Kolkata's warship design and shipbuilding excellence under Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Durga Puja Carnival 2026 on Red Road

- **Event:** West Bengal government hosted grand Durga Puja Carnival on Red Road, Kolkata, in October 2026.
  - Showcased top UNESCO-recognized community puja idols with traditional cultural processions.

Kolkata Metro East-West Line Extension Trial

- **Trial Run:** Kolkata Metro Railway successfully conducted trial run on extended Howrah-Sealdah stretch in October 2026.
  - Validates sub-river tunnel automatic train signaling systems under Hooghly river.

Durgapur Steel Plant Green Hydrogen Unit

- **Commissioning:** SAIL commissioned pilot green hydrogen injection unit at Durgapur Steel Plant in October 2026.
  - Aims to reduce carbon intensity in blast furnace steelmaking.

Teesta Stage-III Flood Protection Grant

- **Sanction:** State government approved ₹450 crore river bank embankment strengthening project in October 2026.
  - Protects low-lying villages in Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar from flash floods.

Kolkata Port (SMPK) Record Container Handling

- **Milestone:** Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata achieved record monthly container throughput in October 2026.
  - Driven by increased coastal trade and transshipment cargo to Nepal and Bhutan.

Sundarbans Mangrove Afforestation Campaign

- **Launch:** West Bengal Forest Department planted 5 million mangrove saplings in Sundarbans in October 2026.
  - Aims to restore coastal bio-shields damaged by tropical cyclones.
  - Involves local women self-help groups in sapling nursery management.

West Bengal Rural Craft Hub Festival



- **Expo:** Micro & Small Scale Enterprises Department organized artisan fair at Eco Park Kolkata in October 2026.
  - Promoted Dokra metal craft, Wooden Dolls of Natungram, and Muslin textiles.

IIT Kharagpur AI Medical Imaging Innovation

- **Research:** IIT Kharagpur researchers developed low-cost AI tool for early oral cancer detection in October 2026.
  - Trained on non-invasive thermal camera imaging for rural healthcare clinics.

Darjeeling Tea GI Protection Cell Activation

- **Initiative:** Tea Board of India established specialized anti-counterfeiting GI cell in Kolkata in October 2026.
  - ➢ Protects authentic Darjeeling Tea trademark against fake global blending.

Biswa Bangla Handloom Expo 2026

- **Exhibition:** State Handloom Expo inaugurated at Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan, Kolkata, in October 2026.
  - ➢ Showcased traditional Baluchari, Jamdani, and Santipuri sarees.

Purulia Pumped Storage Project Expansion

- **Approval:** West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company approved 900 MW expansion in October 2026.
  - ➢ Enhances grid stability during peak evening power demand hours.



Kolkata Literary Meet 2026 Curtain-Raiser

- **Announcement:** Organizers released international author line-up for upcoming festival in October 2026.
  - ➢ Focuses on Bengali translation works and modern South Asian literature.

Asansol Industrial Park Infrastructure Upgrade

- **Grant:** WBIDC sanctioned ₹200 crore for road and power infrastructure upgrade in Asansol in October 2026.
- Attracts heavy manufacturing and foundry unit investments.
  - ➢ Generates direct industrial employment in Paschim Bardhaman.

Shantiniketan World Heritage Conservation Plan

- **Report:** Visva-Bharati and ASI submitted comprehensive heritage preservation masterplan in October 2026.
  - ➢ Focuses on restoring Rabindranath Tagore's historic mud structures and murals.
  - ➢ Ensures strict adherence to UNESCO World Heritage guidelines.

North Bengal Silk Park Inco-Operation

- **Inauguration:** Sericulture department inaugurated modern silk processing unit in Malda in October 2026.
  - ➢ Provides automated yarn reeling machinery for Mulberry silk farmers.
  - ➢ Boosts raw silk production and weaver incomes.

Kolkata Urban Eco-Park Biodiversity Zone

- **Opening:** New butterfly park and urban bird sanctuary inaugurated in Rajarhat HIDCO area in October 2026.
  - ➢ Features indigenous host plants for over 80 butterfly species.
  - ➢ Enhances green cover and eco-tourism in New Town Kolkata.

Hooghly Riverfront Heritage Walkway Extension

- **Project:** Kolkata Municipal Corporation completed 4 km riverfront heritage beautification in October 2026.
  - ➢ Connects historic ghats with modern pedestrian walkways and LED lighting.
  - ➢ Promotes cultural heritage tourism along the Hooghly.



WBSEDCL Solar Rooftop Net Metering Drive

- **Policy:** State power utility simplified online net-metering approvals for residential solar in October 2026.
  - ➢ Targeting 50,000 rooftop solar installations across Kolkata and Howrah.
  - ➢ Promotes clean renewable power adoption in urban homes.

Practice Questions

1. Which legendary painter, master line-artist, and former MP passed away at the age of 87 in Kolkata in October 2026?

(a) Jogen Chowdhury
(b) Rabindranath Tagore
(c) Jamini Roy
(d) Abanindranath Tagore

Answer: (a) Jogen Chowdhury

2. Which warship was launched by GRSE Kolkata in October 2026 as the fourth Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel under the program?

(a) INS Nilgiri
(b) INS Kamorta
(c) Srishti
(d) INS Vikrant

Answer: (c) Srishti

3. Which state government approved a ₹450 crore river bank embankment strengthening project for the Teesta Stage-III flood protection in October 2026?

(a) Sikkim Government
(b) West Bengal State Government
(c) Assam Government
(d) Bihar Government

Answer: (b) West Bengal State Government

4. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata (SMPK) achieved a record monthly container throughput in October 2026, driven by increased trade with which neighboring countries?

(a) Bangladesh and Myanmar
(b) Nepal and Bhutan
(c) Sri Lanka and Maldives
(d) Pakistan and Afghanistan

Answer: (b) Nepal and Bhutan

5. The West Bengal Forest Department planted how many mangrove saplings in the Sundarbans in October 2026?

(a) 1 million
(b) 3 million
(c) 5 million
(d) 10 million

Answer: (c) 5 million

6. Which institution developed a low-cost AI tool for early oral cancer detection using non-invasive thermal camera imaging in October 2026?

(a) IIT Kharagpur
(b) IIT Madras
(c) IIT Bombay
(d) Jadavpur University

Answer: (a) IIT Kharagpur

7. The Tea Board of India established a specialized anti-counterfeiting GI cell in Kolkata in October 2026 to protect which product?

(a) Assam CTC Tea
(b) Darjeeling Tea

(c) Nilgiri Green Tea (d) Kangra Tea

Answer: (b) Darjeeling Tea

8. **What financial upgrade was sanctioned by WBIDC for the Asansol Industrial Park in October 2026?**

(a) ₹100 crore (b) ₹150 crore

(c) ₹200 crore (d) ₹500 crore

Answer: (c) ₹200 crore

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