

NDA Monthly Compendium

NDA April 2026

Compiled from in-window PIB press releases · 86 items



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How to use this digest

- Each entry is a **ready-to-revise note**: the **headline fact** an examiner would pin, with the static context (full form, year, ministry/body, related facts) built around it.
- Bold** marks the load-bearing detail to memorise.
- Tap any **PIB** link at the foot of an entry to open the original press release and verify or go deeper.
- Entries are grouped by theme; every figure is drawn from in-window PIB press releases.

Schemes (1)

- Urban Challenge Fund — operational guidelines launched**
Detail: Operational Guidelines for the Urban Challenge Fund launched by Union Minister Manohar Lal.
Body: Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
Detail: Rs 1 lakh crore fund (announced Union Budget 2025-26) to develop 'Cities as Growth Hubs', creative redevelopment, and water/sanitation infrastructure.
Exam hook: Urban Challenge Fund = Rs 1 lakh cr, a Budget 2025-26 announcement under MoHUA.
 PIB 2252186 · 2026-04-15

Welfare (1)

- World Health Day (7 April)**
Body: WHO; observed in India by MoHFW (Min. J.P. Nadda)
Detail: World Health Day observed 7 April 2026; India's focus on preventive and promotive healthcare
Lineage: Marks WHO's founding day (7 April 1948); first observed 1950
Exam hook: 7 April = WHO foundation day; WHO HQ at Geneva, Switzerland
 PIB 2249602 · 2026-04-07

Polity/Bodies (13)

- Census 2027 begins (Houselisting phase)**
Body: Office of Registrar General & Census Commissioner, MHA
Detail: Census 2027 rollout began with Houselisting and Housing Operations (HLO); first-ever digital data capture + Self-Enumeration; President Droupadi Murmu was first to self-enumerate
Law: Conducted under the Census Act, 1948
Exam hook: First digital + self-enumeration census; reference dates differ (snow-bound areas Oct 2026, rest Mar 2027); also India's first caste-enumerated census since 1931
 PIB 2248021 · 2026-04-01
- Jan Vishwas (Amendment) Bill, 2026 passed**
Body: Passed by both Houses of Parliament; piloted across ministries (health sector provisions via MoHFW)
Detail: Decriminalises minor offences and rationalises compliance to boost Ease of Doing Business; introduces adjudication mechanisms to cut litigation
Lineage: Successor to the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023
Exam hook: 'Jan Vishwas' = decriminalisation of minor/technical offences; 2026 is the second such Bill
 PIB 2248831 · 2026-04-03
- FIU-IND & I4C sign MoU on cyber/financial crime**
Body: Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND, Dept. of Revenue) & Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) (MHA)
Detail: MoU for information sharing to combat cyber fraud, protect digital transactions, aid asset recovery.
Exam hook: FIU-IND → Ministry of Finance (under FATF framework); I4C → Ministry of Home Affairs.
 PIB 2250459 · 2026-04-09
- President at Rashtriya Raksha University convocation**
Body: President Droupadi Murmu; **Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU)**, Lavad, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
Detail: RRU is an **Institution of National Importance** (Ministry of Home Affairs) for police/security/strategic studies; President flagged AI, cyber-security, defence self-reliance.
Exam hook: RRU is at **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**, under **MHA**, an Institution of National Importance.
 PIB 2251954 · 2026-04-14
- AI Governance & Economic Group (AIGEG) constituted**
Detail: MeitY constituted the AI Governance and Economic Group (AIGEG) — apex high-level inter-ministerial body for India's AI governance policy.
Body: Chaired by Union Minister (Electronics & IT) Ashwini Vaishnaw; Vice-Chair MoS Jitin Prasada.
Lineage: Gives effect to India's AI Governance Guidelines + Economic Survey recommendation for a coordinating authority.
Exam hook: AIGEG = the apex steering body; it is ADVISED by the TPEC (don't reverse the hierarchy).
 PIB 2252739 · 2026-04-16
- Technology & Policy Expert Committee (TPEC) constituted**
Detail: MeitY constituted the Technology and Policy Expert Committee (TPEC), a standing expert advisory body for AI governance.
Body: Chaired by the Secretary, MeitY; advises the AIGEG.
Detail: Provides technical/legal/policy expertise on AI regulation and India's positions in international AI forums.
Exam hook: TPEC = advisory/expert committee under the Secretary; AIGEG = the apex group under the Minister.
 PIB 2253322 · 2026-04-18
- Delimitation Bill & 131st Constitution Amendment Bill**
Detail: Lok Sabha discussed the Delimitation Bill, 2026, the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, and the Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026; replied to by Home Minister Amit Shah.
Body: Ministry of Home Affairs / Parliament.
Law: Delimitation relates to Articles 82 & 170 (readjustment of constituencies after a census).
Exam hook: Note the amendment number — Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026 — linked to delimitation.
 PIB 2253186 · 2026-04-17
- Census 2027 — houselisting field operations begin**
Detail: Field operations for the Houselisting & Housing Census began in Andaman & Nicobar, Goa, Karnataka, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Odisha, Sikkim and the NDMC/Delhi Cantonment area.
Body: Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, Ministry of Home Affairs.
Lineage: First Census since 2011; Census 2027 will be India's first DIGITAL census and the first to capture caste data.
Exam hook: Houselisting (Phase 1) precedes Population Enumeration (Phase 2); conducted under the Census Act, 1948.
 PIB 2252332 · 2026-04-15
- 18th Civil Services Day (21 April)**
Detail: 18th Civil Services Day observed 21 Apr 2026; Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan addressed civil servants; PM Excellence Awards presented.
Body: DARPG, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions.
Lineage: 21 April marks Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 1947 address to the first batch of civil servants ('steel frame of India').
Exam hook: Civil Services Day = 21 April, commemorating Patel's address to probationers.
 PIB 2253780 · 2026-04-20

• **Obituary — Mohsina Kidwai (veteran parliamentarian)**

Detail: Former Union Minister and Rajya Sabha MP Mohsina Kidwai passed away 8 Apr 2026, aged 94 (born 1 Jan 1932, Banda, UP); Rajya Sabha obituary reference made 16 Apr.

Detail: Represented Chhattisgarh in Rajya Sabha (2004-10, 2010-16); held several Union portfolios; six-decade political career.

Exam hook: A veteran Congress-era Union Minister; served in four different legislatures.

PIB 2252580 · 2026-04-16

• **NITI Aayog reconstituted — A.K. Lahiri Vice-Chairman**

Body: NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India); Chairperson = PM; replaced Planning Commission on 1 Jan 2015.

Detail: NITI Aayog reconstituted; Shri Ashok Kumar Lahiri appointed VICE-CHAIRMAN; new Full-Time Members: Rajiv Gauba, Prof. K.V. Raju, Prof. Gobardhan Das, Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Dr M. Srinivas.

Exam hook: NITI Aayog is an executive resolution body (NOT constitutional/statutory); Vice-Chairman holds Cabinet rank; new VC = A.K. Lahiri.

PIB 2255594 · 2026-04-25

• **Census 2027 — India's first digital census**

Body: Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, MHA; Census Act, 1948 (Census a Union subject, 7th Schedule entry 69).

Detail: Census 2027 = India's FIRST digital (mobile-based) census; 16th Census overall, 8th since Independence; Rs 11,718.24 cr outlay; reference date 00:00 hrs 1 March 2027; Phase-I houselisting Apr–Sep 2026, Phase-II population enumeration Feb 2027; caste enumeration included (CCPA decision 30 Apr 2025).

Exam hook: Reference moment = 1 Mar 2027; first census to enumerate caste beyond SC/ST since 1931; Section 15 = data confidentiality.

PIB 2255461 · 2026-04-25

• **Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) 2.0 Report released**

Body: Ministry of Panchayati Raj; released on National Panchayati Raj Day (24 Apr 2026), for FY 2023–24.

Detail: India's first nationwide data-driven GP-performance index; 150 indicators / 230 data points across 9 LSDG themes; 97.3% participation; 3,635 GPs = 'Front Runners' (Grade A); 5 grades Achiever(A+)→Beginner(D). West Bengal did not onboard.

Exam hook: PAI maps to Localization of SDGs (LSDGs); National Panchayati Raj Day = 24 April (commemorates 73rd CAA, 1992).

PIB 2256616 · 2026-04-29

Economy (7)

• **GeM crosses Rs 18.4 lakh crore GMV**

Body: Government e Marketplace (GeM), Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Detail: Cumulative Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) reached Rs 18.4 lakh crore; crossed Rs 5 lakh crore GMV in FY 2025-26 alone; rising participation of MSEs, women-led firms, startups

Lineage: GeM launched 2016 to replace DGS&D

Exam hook: GeM = public procurement portal (2016); distinguish from ONDC (private retail)

PIB 2249335 · 2026-04-06

• **CPI inflation — March 2026 (new base 2024=100)**

Body: Min. of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI / NSO)

Detail: Retail CPI inflation (Mar 2026) = **3.40%** (provisional) on the **new base year 2024=100**; rural 3.63%, urban 3.11%; food (CFPI) 3.87%.

Lineage: Base-year revised from 2012=100 to **2024=100**.

Exam hook: New CPI base = **2024=100**; CPI compiled by NSO/MoSPI (WPI is by DPIIT).

PIB 2251519 · 2026-04-13

• **India 3rd in global Renewable Energy installed capacity**

Body: Min. of New & Renewable Energy (Pralhad Joshi); data from IRENA – Renewable Energy Statistics 2026

Detail: India ranks **3rd globally** in RE installed capacity (surpassing **Brazil**); non-fossil capacity addition **55.3 GW** in FY 2025–26.

Exam hook: Source = IRENA (HQ Abu Dhabi); India moved ahead of **Brazil** to **3rd**. China & US ahead.

PIB 2250039 · 2026-04-08

• **NITI report — 'From Borrowers to Builders'**

Body: NITI Aayog (with WEP, TransUnion CIBIL, MicroSave)

Detail: 2nd edition report on women & credit; women hold a **Rs 76 lakh crore credit portfolio** = **26%** of total system credit.

Exam hook: Report title 'From Borrowers to Builders'; women = **26%** of system credit. WEP = Women Entrepreneurship Platform (NITI).

PIB 2249957 · 2026-04-08

• **Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMI) approved**

Detail: Union Cabinet approved the 'Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool' (BMI) with a sovereign guarantee of Rs 12,980 cr; underwriting capacity ~Rs 950 cr.

Body: Ministry of Finance; covers Indian-flagged/controlled vessels and vessels to/from India.

Detail: Covers all maritime risks — Hull & Machinery, Cargo, P&I (Protection & Indemnity) and War risk; cuts dependence on the International Group of P&I Clubs.

Exam hook: It is a domestic insurance POOL backed by a sovereign guarantee (Rs 12,980 cr) — purpose = sanctions/geopolitical resilience for shipping.

PIB 2253243 · 2026-04-18

• **India-ROK Shipbuilding & Maritime Logistics framework**

Detail: India and ROK signed a Comprehensive Framework for Partnership in Shipbuilding, Shipping and Maritime Logistics during President Lee's visit.

Body: PMO / Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways.

Detail: Part of a wider outcome package including MoUs on Ports, Steel supply chain, MSMEs, and an 'India-Korea Digital Bridge'.

Exam hook: South Korea is a global shipbuilding leader; this framework targets India's shipbuilding capacity build-up.

PIB 2253976 · 2026-04-20

• **India 4th globally in wind energy (56.1 GW)**

Body: Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE).

Detail: India added 6.1 GW wind capacity in 2025–26; total over 56.1 GW installed; India ranks 4th globally in wind power.

Exam hook: Wind rank = 4th (after China, USA, Germany); overall renewables target = 500 GW non-fossil by 2030.

PIB 2254626 · 2026-04-22

IR/Diplomacy (8)

• **India–Mozambique 5th Joint Defence Working Group**

Body: Ministry of Defence; held 1-2 Apr 2026 at Maputo, Mozambique

Detail: 5th JDWG meeting — covered military exchanges, joint training, maritime domain awareness and defence equipment supply

Exam hook: Venue = Maputo (capital of Mozambique); India runs anti-piracy patrols off the Mozambique Channel

PIB 2248512 · 2026-04-02

• **Russia First Deputy PM Manturov meets PM Modi**

Body: PMO; Denis Manturov (First Deputy PM of Russia) called on PM Modi, 02 Apr 2026

Detail: Reviewed trade, fertilizers, connectivity, people-to-people ties; follow-up to President Putin's Dec 2025 India visit (annual summit)

Exam hook: India–Russia hold an Annual Summit; recall Putin's Dec 2025 Delhi visit as the latest

PIB 2248584 · 2026-04-02

• **India–Australia ECTA completes four years**

Body: Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Detail: Ind-Aus ECTA (Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement) signed 02 Apr 2022; bilateral trade reached USD 24.1 billion in 2024-25; Australia grants zero duty on all Indian exports from 2026

Exam hook: ECTA is an interim/early-harvest deal preceding the broader CECA; signed 2022, in force Dec 2022

PIB 2248223 · 2026-04-02

• ROK President Lee Jae Myung — State Visit to India

Detail: State Visit of Republic of Korea (ROK) President H.E. Lee Jae Myung to India; hosted by the President of India; bilateral summit with PM Modi (20 Apr 2026).

Detail: Key outcomes — Joint Strategic Vision for the India-ROK Special Strategic Partnership; Comprehensive Framework on Shipbuilding/Shipping/Maritime Logistics; Joint Statements on Sustainability and on Energy Resource Security; decision to resume CEPA upgrade negotiations; ROK to join the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI).

Exam hook: India-ROK ties = 'Special Strategic Partnership'; the trade pact under upgrade is the CEPA (not an FTA by name).

PIB 2253753 · 2026-04-20

• Raksha Mantri visit to Germany (Berlin)

Detail: Raksha Mantri (Defence Minister) undertook a 3-day visit to Germany; addressed German Parliamentarians in Berlin, calling for deeper India-Germany defence-industrial partnerships.

Body: Ministry of Defence.

Exam hook: Tie the bilateral to defence-industrial cooperation; venue = Berlin.

PIB 2254345 · 2026-04-21

• Austrian Chancellor Stocker — visit to India

Detail: Federal Chancellor of Austria Dr. Christian Stocker visited India; called on the President; joint press statement with PM Modi; India-Austria Business Forum and Joint Economic Commission advanced.

Body: PMO / Ministry of External Affairs.

Exam hook: Note the visiting dignitary's title — Federal CHANCELLOR (head of government) of Austria, Christian Stocker.

PIB 2252562 · 2026-04-16

• India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement signed

Body: Ministry of Commerce & Industry; signed by Piyush Goyal & NZ Trade Minister Todd McClay.

Detail: India–NZ FTA signed 27 Apr 2026; negotiations announced 16 Mar 2025, concluded in a RECORD 9 months (fastest Indian FTA); eliminates duty on 100% of Indian exports; USD 20 bn NZ investment over 15 yrs; India protects dairy/agriculture; new 5,000-visa skilled pathway. NZ = India's 2nd-largest Oceania trade partner.

Exam hook: Fastest-concluded Indian FTA (9 months); India shielded DAIRY; first NZ Post-Study-Work-Visa annex with any country.

PIB 2255963 · 2026-04-27

• SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting, Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)

Body: Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO); Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh led Indian delegation.

Detail: India at SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; RM invoked Operation Sindoor on cross-border terrorism; held bilaterals with Kyrgyz, Kazakh & Belarusian counterparts.

Exam hook: SCO HQ = Beijing; 2025 chair/host = China; Kyrgyzstan capital = Bishkek; India full SCO member since 2017.

PIB 2256148 · 2026-04-28

Defence (25)

• INS Taragiri commissioned

Body: Indian Navy / MoD; built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL), Mumbai

Detail: 4th stealth frigate of Project 17A (Nilgiri class); commissioned at Visakhapatnam on 03 Apr 2026; displacement ~6,670 tonnes; indigenous warship-grade steel by SAIL

Lineage: P-17A follows P-17 Shivalik class; sister ships Nilgiri, Himgiri, Udaygiri

Exam hook: Trap on class (Project 17A / Nilgiri class, NOT 15B) and builder (MDL); 'Taragiri' is a Nilgiri-class name revived

PIB 2248799 · 2026-04-03

• Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth — Vice Chief of Army Staff

Body: Indian Army / MoD

Detail: Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth assumed appointment of Vice Chief of the Army Staff (VCOAS) on 01 Apr 2026; NDA Khadakwasla alumnus, commissioned into Armoured Corps (Dec 1986)

Exam hook: VCOAS is second-in-command to the COAS (Chief of Army Staff); distinct from Deputy Chief

PIB 2247620 · 2026-04-01

• Army Command changes (3 GsOC-in-C)

Body: Indian Army / MoD; same-day assumption 01 Apr 2026

Detail: Lt Gen Pushpendra Pal Singh — Western Command (HQ Chandimandir); Lt Gen Sandeep Jain — Southern Command (HQ Pune); Lt Gen VMB Krishnan — Eastern Command (HQ Kolkata)

Exam hook: Match Command → HQ city; Army has 7 commands (6 operational + ARTRAC, Shimla)

PIB 2247806 · 2026-04-01

• IOS SAGAR flagged off (INS Sunayna)

Body: Indian Navy / MoD; flagged off from Mumbai by RRM Sanjay Seth, 02 Apr 2026

Detail: Offshore Patrol Vessel INS Sunayna deployed as Indian Ocean Ship (IOS) SAGAR with multinational crew from India + 16 Friendly Foreign Countries; first port call at Male, Maldives (06 Apr)

Lineage: IOS SAGAR aligns with India's SAGAR vision (Security and Growth for All in the Region)

Exam hook: SAGAR = Security And Growth for All in the Region (2015); ship is INS Sunayna (OPV)

PIB 2248586 · 2026-04-02

• Defence exports record FY 2025-26

Body: Ministry of Defence

Detail: Defence exports hit all-time high Rs 38,424 crore in FY 2025-26, up 62.66% over Rs 23,622 crore; DPSUs contributed 54.84%, private sector 45.16%

Exam hook: Remember the round figure ~Rs 38,400 crore and the ~63% jump; goal is Rs 50,000 cr exports by 2029

PIB 2248124 · 2026-04-02

• Large Cavitation Tunnel at NSTL

Body: Foundation stone laid by RM Rajnath Singh, 03 Apr 2026, at Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), a DRDO lab in Visakhapatnam

Detail: Large Cavitation Tunnel (LCT) — a hydrodynamic/acoustic test facility to design and validate naval propellers and underwater systems indigenously

Exam hook: NSTL is a DRDO laboratory (naval systems), located at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

PIB 2248898 · 2026-04-03

• Tri-Service Seminar 'Ran Samwad'

Body: Indian Armed Forces (tri-service) / MoD; venue Air Force Training Command, Bengaluru (09-10 Apr 2026)

Detail: Theme — 'Multi Domain Operations: An Imperative for Addressing Conventional and Irregular Threats'; domains covered: land, air, sea, cyber, space, cognitive

Exam hook: 'Ran Samwad' is a seminar (not a military exercise);

tri-service = Army+Navy+Air Force

PIB 2249422 · 2026-04-06

• Sainik School inaugurated at Sindhanur

Body: Sainik Schools Society (MoD) under PPP mode

Detail: Shri Krishna Devaraya Sainik School inaugurated at Sindhanur, Raichur district, Karnataka (04 Apr 2026)

Exam hook: Named after Krishnadevaraya (Vijayanagara empire ruler); 100 new Sainik Schools planned in PPP mode

PIB 2249006 · 2026-04-04

• Exercise CYCLONE-IV (India–Egypt)

Body: Indian Army (Special Forces) · Ministry of Defence

Detail: 4th edition of India–Egypt joint Special Forces exercise; held at Anshas, Egypt, 09–17 Apr 2026; 25 SF personnel; desert/semi-desert warfare interoperability.

Lineage: Previous (3rd) edition held in India.

Exam hook: CYCLONE = India–EGYPT (Army Special Forces). Don't confuse with Bright Star (US–Egypt) or India–Uzbekistan DUSTLIK.

PIB 2250186 · 2026-04-08

• Exercise DUSTLIK (India–Uzbekistan)

Body: Indian Army (MAHAR Regiment) + IAF · Ministry of Defence

Detail: 7th edition of India–Uzbekistan joint military exercise; Gurumsaray FTA, Namangan, Uzbekistan, 12–25 Apr 2026; semi-mountainous terrain, counter-terror drills.

Lineage: Held alternately in India/Uzbekistan; last edition at Aundh (Pune), Apr 2025.

Exam hook: DUSTLIK = India–UZBEKISTAN, yearly/alternating.

PIB 2251300 · 2026-04-12

• IOS SAGAR (INS Sunayna) at Maldives

Body: Indian Navy · Ministry of Defence
Detail: Indian Ocean Ship SAGAR (INS Sunayna) departed Malé after PASSEX with MNDF Coast Guard Ship Ghazee; reinforces India–Maldives maritime partnership.
Lineage: IOS SAGAR is a SAGAR-vision deployment (mixed multinational crew).
Exam hook: INS Sunayna sails as the 'Indian Ocean Ship SAGAR'; partner here = Maldives (MNDF). PASSEX = Passage Exercise.
 PIB 2250514 · 2026-04-09

• Ran Samwad 2026 — tri-service MDO seminar

Body: HQ Integrated Defence Staff (IDS); hosted at Air Force training estab., Bengaluru
Detail: 2nd edition of tri-service strategic seminar on Multi-Domain Operations (MDO), 09–10 Apr 2026; CNS reaffirmed target of a 200-plus ship Navy by 2035.
Exam hook: Ran Samwad = tri-service seminar on MDO; venue Bengaluru; 2nd edition. Note the '200+ ship Navy by 2035' figure.
 PIB 2250618 · 2026-04-09

• Indian Navy Commanders' Conference 2026 (1st ed.)

Body: Indian Navy · Ministry of Defence
Detail: First edition of the Navy's biannual Commanders' Conference, Nausena Bhawan, New Delhi, 14–16 Apr 2026; apex review amid West Asia/Straits of Hormuz deployments.
Exam hook: First edition, held at Nausena Bhawan (Navy HQ), New Delhi; biannual apex conference.
 PIB 2251233 · 2026-04-12

• Vietnam — Gen Phan Van Giang appointment

Body: Ministry of Defence (Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh)
Detail: RM congratulated Gen Phan Van Giang on becoming Deputy PM & Minister of National Defence of Vietnam; India–Vietnam are Comprehensive Strategic Partners.
Exam hook: New Vietnam Defence Minister & Deputy PM = Phan Van Giang.
 PIB 2250329 · 2026-04-09

• Tribute to Kargil hero Col Sonam Wangchuk, MVC

Body: Ministry of Defence (Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh)
Detail: RM paid tribute on the passing of Col Sonam Wangchuk (Retd), Maha Vir Chakra — a 1999 Kargil war hero from Ladakh.
Exam hook: Maha Vir Chakra = 2nd-highest wartime gallantry award (after Param Vir Chakra); awardee here = Col Sonam Wangchuk (Kargil 1999).
 PIB 2250859 · 2026-04-10

• TRAWL Assembly contracts for T-72/T-90 tanks

Detail: MoD signed ~Rs 975 cr contracts with BEML and Electro Pneumatics & Hydraulics (India) for DRDO-developed TRAWL Assembly for T-72/T-90 tanks — a minefield-breaching system creating Vehicle Safe Lanes.
Body: Ministry of Defence; DRDO design; Buy (Indian-IDD) category.
Exam hook: TRAWL = minefield-breaching/mine-plough for tanks (T-72/T-90), a DRDO design built by BEML — not a missile or a tank itself.
 PIB 2254141 · 2026-04-21

• IOS SAGAR — INS Sunayna deployment (IOR)

Detail: Indian Ocean Ship (IOS) SAGAR — INS Sunayna with a multinational crew from 16 Friendly Foreign Countries — made port calls at Phuket (Thailand) and Jakarta (Indonesia) this week; flagged off from Mumbai 02 Apr 2026.
Body: Indian Navy; under the MAHASAGAR vision (Mutual & Holistic Advancement for Security And growth Across Regions); India is current Chair of IONS.
Detail: Port-call route: Malé, Phuket, Jakarta, Singapore, Yangon, Chittagong, Colombo.
Exam hook: MAHASAGAR is the successor vision to SAGAR; INS Sunayna is the IOS SAGAR platform — note it is an Indian Navy OPV.
 PIB 2252298 · 2026-04-15

• DSC A 23 — fourth Diving Support Craft launched

Detail: DSC A 23 (Yard 328), 4th of five Diving Support Craft, launched 19 Apr 2026 at Titagarh, Kolkata by M/s Titagarh Rail Systems Ltd (TRSL) for the Indian Navy.
Detail: 30 m catamaran-hull, ~380-ton displacement; 70% indigenous content; built to Indian Register of Shipping rules; model-tested at NSTL, Visakhapatnam.
Exam hook: Builder is Titagarh Rail Systems (Kolkata), role = diving support/salvage/underwater inspection — not a warship or submarine.
 PIB 2253708 · 2026-04-20

• Army & Navy Commanders' Conferences 2026

Detail: Army Commanders' Conference concluded in New Delhi (17 Apr 2026); the FIRST EDITION of the Naval Commanders' Conference 2026 was held at Nausena Bhawan, New Delhi (15–17 Apr).
Body: Ministry of Defence / Indian Army & Indian Navy.
Exam hook: 'First edition' tag attaches to the Naval Commanders' Conference at the new Nausena Bhawan HQ.
 PIB 2252126 · 2026-04-15

• NASM-SR maiden salvo launch (DRDO + Navy)

Body: DRDO (Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad) + Indian Navy; range work at ITR Chandipur.
Detail: Maiden SALVO launch of Naval Anti-Ship Missile–Short Range (NASM-SR) — two missiles fired in quick succession from a Navy HELICOPTER off Odisha coast, Bay of Bengal; first salvo of an air-launched anti-ship missile; solid booster + long-burn sustainer, fibre-optic-gyro INS, jet-vane control; demonstrated waterline-hit capability.
Exam hook: NASM-SR = air-launched anti-ship (helicopter), NOT surface/sub; salvo = same platform, two missiles; lab = Research Centre Imarat.
 PIB 2256722 · 2026-04-29

• DRDO Advanced Armoured Platforms (Tracked & Wheeled)

Body: DRDO Vehicles Research & Development Establishment (VRDE), unveiled at Ahilyanagar (formerly Ahmednagar), Maharashtra by DRDO Chairman Dr Samir V Kamat.
Detail: Tracked + wheeled platforms with indigenous 30 mm CREWLESS turret + 7.62 mm PKT, ATGM-capable; STANAG Level 4 & 5 protection; amphibious via hydro-jets; 65% indigenous content (target 90%). Made by TATA Advanced Systems + Bharat Forge.
Exam hook: Developer = VRDE; venue Ahilyanagar; STANAG 4/5 = blast/ballistic protection standard.
 PIB 2255538 · 2026-04-25

• IN–SLN DIVEX 2026 (India–Sri Lanka diving exercise)

Body: Indian Navy + Sri Lanka Navy; under MAHASAGAR vision.
Detail: 4th edition of bilateral DIVING exercise IN–SLN DIVEX, Colombo, 21–28 Apr 2026; India fielded INS Nireekshak (Diving Support & Submarine Rescue Vessel); mixed-gas dives over WW-era wrecks SS Worcester & SS Perseus; dives beyond 55 m. Two BHISM 'Aarogya Maitri' health cubes handed over.
Exam hook: DIVEX = with SRI LANKA (not a land exercise); INS Nireekshak = submarine-rescue/diving-support vessel; MAHASAGAR = Mutual & Holistic Advancement for Security And growth Across Regions.
 PIB 2256710 · 2026-04-29

• INS Sudarshini — maiden Indian Navy visit to Canary Islands

Body: Indian Navy Sail Training Ship INS Sudarshini, deployment 'Lokayan 26'.
Detail: First-ever Indian naval ship visit to the Canary Islands (Las Palmas, Spain), 23 Apr 2026; sailed from Kochi Jan 2026 via Oman, Egypt, Malta, France, Morocco; bound for trans-Atlantic 'Sail 250' events for USA's 250th Independence Day. Theme: Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.
Exam hook: Sudarshini = SAIL TRAINING ship; deployment name = Lokayan 26; first Indian ship to Canary Islands.
 PIB 2255252 · 2026-04-24

• Project DANTAK (BRO) — 66th Raising Day in Bhutan

Body: Border Roads Organisation (BRO); ceremony at Thimphu, Bhutan.
Detail: Project DANTAK marked 66th Raising Day (estd April 1961, ~65 yrs of service in Bhutan); built Bhutan's first motorable road, East–West Highway (Trashigang–Thimphu), Paro & Yongphula airports; >1,500 km road laid.
Exam hook: DANTAK operates in BHUTAN (BRO's oldest foreign project); Project Vartak/Himank/Setuk are other BRO projects — don't confuse.
 PIB 2255292 · 2026-04-24

• 11th India–Egypt Joint Defence Committee, Cairo

Body: Ministry of Defence (India) + Egypt; meeting in Cairo.
Detail: 11th Joint Defence Committee (JDC) meeting; builds on the India–Egypt defence-cooperation MoU signed Sept 2022; agreed to expand scope/complexity of military exercises and defence-production collaboration.
Exam hook: India–Egypt air exercise = 'Cyclone'; bilateral defence framework = Joint Defence Committee.
 PIB 2254773 · 2026-04-23

Environment (5)

• First wild cheetah birth to Indian-born female at Kuno

Body: Min. of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (Bhupender Yadav)
Detail: Indian-born female **KGPI12** (cub of Gamini, aged 25 months) birthed **four cubs in the wild at Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh** — first wild birth by an **India-born** cheetah since reintroduction began 2022.
Lineage: Project Cheetah launched Sep 2022 (Namibian/South African cheetahs at Kuno).
Exam hook: Kuno NP is in **Madhya Pradesh**; 'first India-BORN female' wild litter (not first-ever wild litter).
 PIB 2251144 · 2026-04-11

• World Earth Day 2026 — theme

Detail: World Earth Day observed 22 Apr; 2026 theme 'Our Power, Our Planet'.
Lineage: Earth Day first observed in 1970; coordinated globally by EARTHDAY.ORG.
Exam hook: Match the year to its theme — 2026 = 'Our Power, Our Planet' (a clean-energy/renewables focus).
 PIB 2254023 · 2026-04-21

• Shahtoosh trader convicted — landmark wildlife case

Detail: Landmark conviction of a Shahtoosh trader after a 17-year case.
Body: Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change / Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.
Law: Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 — Shahtoosh comes from the Tibetan antelope (Chiru), a Schedule I species; trade is banned.
Exam hook: Shahtoosh = Chiru (Tibetan antelope) wool — a Schedule I / CITES Appendix I animal; do not confuse with Pashmina (from goats, legal).
 PIB 2252139 · 2026-04-15

• Shekha Jheel — India's 99th Ramsar site

Body: Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change; Minister Bhupender Yadav; under Ramsar Convention (1971, Iran).
Detail: Shekha Jheel Bird Sanctuary, Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh) designated India's 99th Ramsar site; raises UP's tally to 12 (most in India); a stopover on the Central Asian Flyway for Bar-headed Goose, Painted Stork.
Exam hook: 99th Ramsar site; UP now joint-most Ramsar sites; Ramsar = wetlands of international importance (signed Ramsar, Iran, 1971).
 PIB 2254357 · 2026-04-22

• MoEFCC–NBA grassroots biodiversity project (TN & Meghalaya)

Body: MoEFCC + National Biodiversity Authority (NBA, statutory body under Biological Diversity Act, 2002; HQ Chennai).
Detail: 5-year project to strengthen grassroots biodiversity governance via Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) and People's Biodiversity Registers in Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya.
Exam hook: NBA = statutory, HQ Chennai; BMCs operate at local-body level under Biological Diversity Act, 2002.
 PIB 2255611 · 2026-04-26

Sci/Tech (13)

• PFBR Kalpakkam attains first criticality

Body: BHAVINI / Dept. of Atomic Energy; sited at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu; regulator AERB cleared it
Detail: 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) achieved first criticality on 06 Apr 2026; sodium-cooled, uses uranium-plutonium mixed oxide (MOX) fuel; launches Stage-2 of India's 3-stage nuclear programme
Lineage: Designed by IGCAR; builds on Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) at Kalpakkam
Exam hook: PFBR = Stage 2 (uses thorium blanket to breed U-233 for Stage 3); operator is BHAVINI, not NPCIL
 PIB 2249537 · 2026-04-07

• GSI concludes Field Season 2025-26

Body: Geological Survey of India (GSI), Ministry of Mines
Detail: GSI wrapped Field Season 2025-26 with gains in critical-mineral exploration, resource assessment and geohazard mitigation; roadmap for FS 2026-27 unveiled
Lineage: GSI founded 1851; HQ Kolkata
Exam hook: GSI is under Ministry of Mines (not Earth Sciences); HQ Kolkata, est. 1851
 PIB 2248494 · 2026-04-02

• YUVIKA space programme — 1,320 students

Body: ISRO / Department of Space; Min. Dr. Jitendra Singh (Lok Sabha reply)
Detail: YUVIKA (Yuva Vigyani Karyakram) — ISRO's 'Young Scientist Programme' to expose school students to space science; 1,320 students benefited to date
Lineage: Launched 2019
Exam hook: YUVIKA = Yuva Vigyani Karyakram, an ISRO outreach for school students (2019)
 PIB 2247868 · 2026-04-01

• BCAS–RRU aviation-security testing centre

Body: Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) + Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU), Min. of Civil Aviation; MoU 06 Apr 2026
Detail: Establishes India's first indigenous testing centre for aviation security equipment (Atmanirbharta push)
Exam hook: BCAS is the regulator for civil aviation security; RRU is a defence/security university at Gandhinagar, Gujarat (Institute of National Importance)
 PIB 2249474 · 2026-04-06

• Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) milestone

Body: Dept. of Atomic Energy / IGCAR · Min. of Science & Technology (Dr Jitendra Singh at VAKTAVYA 2026)
Detail: Indigenous **PFBR** (500 MWe, Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu) uses **plutonium fuel with liquid-sodium coolant**; Stage-2 of India's 3-stage programme; paves way for **thorium-based reactors**.
Lineage: Built by BHAVINI; 3-stage programme conceived by **Homi Bhabha**.
Exam hook: PFBR coolant = **liquid sodium**; fuel = plutonium; site = **Kalpakkam**; bridges to thorium (Stage-3).
 PIB 2250889 · 2026-04-10

• National Quantum Mission — 1,000-km QKD

Body: Dept. of Science & Technology (DST); tech by startup **QNu Labs**
Detail: **1,000-km quantum key distribution (QKD)** network demonstrated — among world's longest; mission target is **2,000 km over 8 years**; NQM launched **Oct 2024**; supported startups now 17.
Exam hook: NQM = **Rs 6,003 cr (2023)** mission under DST; 8-yr target **2,000 km**; this milestone = **1,000 km** (QNu Labs). QKD ≠ classical encryption.
 PIB 2250162 · 2026-04-08

• NITI Aayog — 'Ease of Doing R&D in India' reports

Body: NITI Aayog
Detail: Two reports — 'Ease of Doing R&D in India' + a Survey Report; based on a **9-month** exercise with 400+ institutional leaders and 850+ scientists; aims at a friction-free research ecosystem.
Exam hook: Released by **NITI Aayog** (not ANRF); flagship aim = ease R&D regulatory/admin friction.
 PIB 2250965 · 2026-04-10

• PFBR attains first criticality (Kalpakkam)

Detail: India's 500-MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu attained first criticality on 6 Apr 2026; flagged in Rajya Sabha on 16 Apr.
Body: Designed by IGCAR; built by BHAVINI (Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidhut Nigam Ltd); under Dept of Atomic Energy.
Lineage: Marks India's entry into Stage 2 of the 3-stage nuclear programme — Stage 1 = natural-U PHWRs (Plutonium by-product); Stage 2 = Pu-fuelled Fast Breeder Reactors; Stage 3 = Thorium-Uranium reactors. A breeder makes more fuel than it consumes.
Exam hook: PFBR is sodium-cooled, sited at Kalpakkam (NOT Tarapur); IGCAR designs, BHAVINI operates — don't swap them.
 PIB 2252594 · 2026-04-16

• India's first chip fab notified — Dholera (Tata)

Detail: Govt notified India's FIRST chip fabrication plant — a Tata Semiconductor Manufacturing Pvt Ltd SEZ at Dholera, Gujarat (66.166 ha; ~Rs 91,000 cr; ~21,000 jobs); notified 9 Apr 2026.

Body: Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Board of Approval for SEZs); under India Semiconductor Mission.

Lineage: Micron's ATMP unit at Sanand, Gujarat (Rs 13,000 cr) was an earlier semiconductor SEZ.

Exam hook: Dholera = first FAB (front-end fabrication); Sanand (Micron) = assembly/test/packaging — fab vs ATMP is the trap.

PIB 2252649 · 2026-04-16

• India's first 3D semiconductor packaging unit — Odisha

Detail: Foundation stone for India's FIRST advanced 3D (glass-substrate) semiconductor packaging unit laid at Info Valley, Bhubaneswar, Odisha (Khordha dist); promoted by 3D Glass Solutions (USA) via HIPSP; ~Rs 1,943 cr.

Body: Ministry of Electronics & IT; under India Semiconductor Mission.

Detail: Odisha is the only state to host both a compound-semiconductor fab AND the first 3D glass packaging facility.

Exam hook: Odisha = first 3D glass-substrate PACKAGING; Dholera = first FAB — different milestones.

PIB 2253549 · 2026-04-19

• SHANTI Act, 2025 — 100 GW nuclear PPP workshop

Detail: Workshop on the SHANTI Act, 2025 to enable India's 100 GW nuclear-power roadmap through public-private partnership.

Law: SHANTI = Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Act, passed Dec 2025; opens the civil nuclear sector to private/all players.

Exam hook: SHANTI Act (2025) is the law that liberalised civil nuclear entry; target = 100 GW nuclear capacity.

PIB 2253013 · 2026-04-17

• Space labs in universities; India GII rank 39

Body: Dept of Space / IN-SPACe (Chairman Dr Pawan Goenka); Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh.

Detail: Plan to set up SPACE LABORATORIES in universities/colleges — 7 labs in first phase — covering satellite manufacturing, launch-vehicle systems, space cybersecurity, tied to IN-SPACe Technical Centre, Ahmedabad. Separately: India's Global Innovation Index rank improved from 81 to 39.

Exam hook: IN-SPACe = single-window space regulator/promoter under DoS; HQ Ahmedabad; current GII rank 39.

PIB 2255657 · 2026-04-26

• Indigenous Silicon Photonics solutions launched (ISM)

Body: India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) / MeitY; centre at IIT Madras.

Detail: Indigenously developed silicon-photonics technology solutions launched, incl. a Universal PPIC (Photonic-Programmable IC) Test Engine — an automated characterisation platform for photonic chips.

Exam hook: ISM = India Semiconductor Mission under MeitY (Digital India Corporation); silicon photonics = light-based chips.

PIB 2255322 · 2026-04-24

Infra (13)

• Major Ports handle 915 MT cargo in FY 2025-26

Body: Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

Detail: India's Major Ports collectively handled 915 Million Tonnes of cargo in FY 2025-26, +7.06% YoY, surpassing target; framed under Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047

Exam hook: India has 12 Major Ports (governed by Centre); the rest are non-major/State ports

PIB 2249113 · 2026-04-05

• National Maritime Day (5 April)

Body: PMO / Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways

Detail: National Maritime Day observed on 5 April; PM recalled India's maritime heritage

Lineage: Marks the maiden voyage of SS Loyalty (first Indian-owned ship of The Scindia Steam Navigation Co.) from Mumbai to London on 5 April 1919; first observed 1964

Exam hook: Date = 5 April; commemorates SS Loyalty's 1919 voyage

PIB 2249114 · 2026-04-05

• Delhi–Dehradun Economic Corridor inaugurated

Body: NHAI · Min. of Road Transport & Highways (PM Modi inaugurated)

Detail: Access-controlled Delhi–Dehradun Expressway; cuts Delhi–Dehradun travel time sharply; includes Asia's longest elevated wildlife corridor through Rajaji reserve area.

Exam hook: Connects Delhi to Dehradun (Uttarakhand); coincided with Uttarakhand entering its 26th year (formed 2000).

PIB 2251855 · 2026-04-14

• Cabinet approves Jaipur Metro Phase-2

Body: Union Cabinet · implemented by Rajasthan Metro Rail Corp. Ltd (RMRL), a 50:50 Centre–State JV

Detail: 41 km North–South corridor (Prahladpura–Todi Mod), 36 stations, cost Rs 13,037.66 cr; serves Jaipur Airport, SMS Hospital, Sitapura.

Exam hook: Jaipur Metro Phase-2 = 41 km / 36 stations; agency RMRL (50:50 GoI–Rajasthan).

PIB 2250040 · 2026-04-08

• World Homoeopathy Day 2026 (Apr 10)

Body: Ministry of AYUSH (Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy)

Detail: Observed 10 April, birth anniversary of founder Dr Samuel Hahnemann; 2026 theme: 'Homoeopathy for Sustainable Health'; homoeopathy entered India in 1810.

Exam hook: Date 10 Apr; founder Hahnemann (Organon of Medicine); 2026 theme = 'Homoeopathy for Sustainable Health'.

PIB 2250363 · 2026-04-09

• Singer Asha Bhosle's passing

Body: Tributes from President/PM/LS Speaker/HM

Detail: Legendary playback singer Asha Bhosle passed away; one of India's most-recorded vocalists; Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2000) and Padma Vibhushan (2008) awardee.

Exam hook: Asha Bhosle — Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2000, Padma Vibhushan 2008; sister of Lata Mangeshkar.

PIB 2251254 · 2026-04-12

• Foundation Day of Khalsa Panth & Baisakhi

Body: Greetings by Union Home Minister (Amit Shah)

Detail: Marks the establishment of the Khalsa Panth by Guru Gobind Singh (10th Sikh Guru) at Anandpur Sahib in 1699; coincides with Baisakhi (harvest festival, 13–14 Apr).

Exam hook: Khalsa founded 1699 by Guru Gobind Singh; Baisakhi marks Punjab's harvest & Sikh New Year.

PIB 2251801 · 2026-04-14

• 200th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule

Body: Government of India (commemoration launched at Dr Ambedkar International Centre)

Detail: Two-year nationwide commemoration of Jyotirao (Jyotiba) Phule's 200th birth anniversary, 11 Apr 2026 – 11 Apr 2028.

Lineage: Phule (b. 11 Apr 1827) founded the Satyashodhak Samaj (1873); social reformer for women's & caste equality.

Exam hook: Phule born 11 April 1827; founded Satyashodhak Samaj; commemoration runs to 2028.

PIB 2251208 · 2026-04-11

• Obituary — Asha Bhosle (legendary playback singer)

Detail: Playback singer Asha Bhosle passed away 12 Apr 2026, aged 92 (born 8 Sep 1933, Sangli, Maharashtra); mourned via Rajya Sabha obituary reference.

Detail: Honours included the Padma Vibhushan, Dadasaheb Phalke Award and National Film Award; career spanning eight decades across multiple languages.

Exam hook: Asha Bhosle — Dadasaheb Phalke awardee and Padma Vibhushan; sister of Lata Mangeshkar.

PIB 2252580 · 2026-04-16

• Ganga Expressway inaugurated (594 km, Hardoi UP)

Body: UP Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA); inaugurated by PM Modi at Hardoi.

Detail: 594-km access-controlled greenfield GANGA EXPRESSWAY inaugurated 29 Apr 2026; UP's/ India's longest green-corridor expressway; spans 12 districts (Meerut → Prayagraj); built in <5 years.

Exam hook: Ganga Expressway = Meerut to Prayagraj, ~594 km, UP's LONGEST expressway; implementing body = UPEIDA.

PIB 2256590 · 2026-04-29

• Jammu–Srinagar direct rail; Vande Bharat extended to Jammu Tawi

Body: Ministry of Railways; Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw flagged off.
Detail: Jammu directly linked to Kashmir by passenger train for the FIRST time — Srinagar–Katra Vande Bharat extended to Jammu Tawi (8→20 coaches), 30 Apr 2026. Enabled by USBRL incl. Chenab Rail Bridge (world's highest railway arch bridge, 359 m above riverbed) and Anji Khad (India's first cable-stayed rail bridge).
Exam hook: Chenab Bridge = world's HIGHEST railway bridge (over Chenab, Reasi, J&K); Anji Khad = India's first cable-stayed RAIL bridge; line = USBRL.

PIB 2257073 · 2026-04-30

• Sacred Exposition of Holy Relics of Tathagata Buddha (Ladakh)

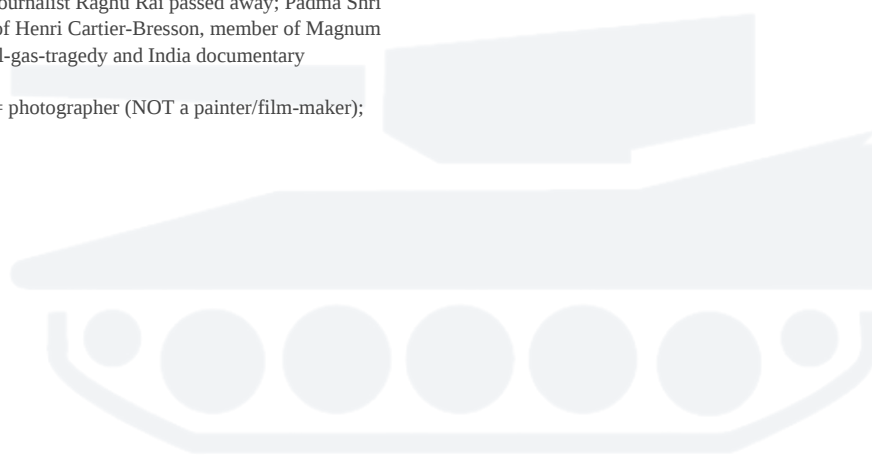
Body: Ministry of Culture (International Buddhist Confederation); relics taken to Leh, Ladakh.
Detail: Sacred exposition of the Holy Relics of Lord Buddha (Kapilavastu relics) in Ladakh; received with ceremonial guard of honour by Ladakh Police; part of India's Buddhist-heritage soft-power diplomacy.
Exam hook: Buddha's relics curated by IBC under Ministry of Culture; Kapilavastu relics normally housed at National Museum, Delhi.

PIB 2257009 · 2026-04-30

• Raghu Rai passes away — PM condoles

Body: PMO condolence; field = photography.
Detail: Renowned photojournalist Raghu Rai passed away; Padma Shri (1971) awardee, protege of Henri Cartier-Bresson, member of Magnum Photos; known for Bhopal-gas-tragedy and India documentary photography.
Exam hook: Raghu Rai = photographer (NOT a painter/film-maker); Padma Shri 1971.

PIB 2255754 · 2026-04-26



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