

NDA Full-Year Compendium

13 Sep 2025 to 15 Aug 2026

Compiled from in-window PIB press releases · 273 items



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How to use this digest

- Each entry is a **ready-to-revise note**: the **headline fact** an NDA 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 (41)

• **PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PM-DDKY)**

Body: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; converges 36 sub-schemes across 11 ministries.
Detail: Launched 11 Oct 2025 at Pusa, New Delhi; outlay Rs 24,000 crore per year; covers 100 low-productivity districts, one per district selected on low yield, low cropping intensity and low credit disbursement.
Lineage: Announced in Budget 2025-26; modelled on the Aspirational Districts Programme.
Exam hook: PM-DDKY = 100 districts, agriculture. Do not confuse with the Aspirational Districts Programme (112 districts, NITI Aayog).
 PIB 2177834 · 2025-10-11

• **Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses (Dalhan Mission)**

Body: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; procurement by NAFED and NCCF.
Detail: Cabinet approval 01 Oct 2025; outlay Rs 11,440 crore for 2025-26 to 2030-31; targets 350 lakh tonnes pulses and 310 lakh hectares by 2030-31; 88 lakh free seed kits; 1,000 processing units.
Lineage: 100 per cent procurement of Tur, Urad and Masoor for four years under the Price Support Scheme of PM-AASHA; seed tracking via the SATHI portal.
Exam hook: The three pulses assured full procurement are Tur, Urad, Masoor - not gram or moong. India is the world's largest producer and consumer of pulses.
 PIB 2173547 · 2025-10-01

• **PM Viksit Bharat Rojgar Yojana (PMVBRY)**

Body: Ministry of Labour and Employment; routed through EPFO.
Detail: The Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) scheme; outlay Rs 99,446 crore; targets over 3.5 crore jobs; covers jobs created 01 Aug 2025 to 31 Jul 2027.
Lineage: Part A pays first-time employees one month's EPF wage up to Rs 15,000 in two instalments; Part B pays employers up to Rs 3,000 per month per added employee. Successor to the Covid-era Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (2020).
Exam hook: PMVBRY is the ELI scheme under Labour, not a skilling scheme; the second instalment needs a Financial Literacy Programme.
 PIB 2206145 · 2025-12-18

• **Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan (tribal governance)**

Body: Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
Detail: Launched by the PM from Dhar, Madhya Pradesh on 17 Sep 2025; billed as the world's largest tribal grassroots leadership mission - 11 crore tribal citizens, 1 lakh villages, 30 States/UTs, 550 districts, 3,000 blocks, 20 lakh trained Adi Karmayogis.
Lineage: Part of Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh (15 Nov 2024 to 15 Nov 2025); includes Adi Sewa Parv (17 Sep to 2 Oct 2025), an Adi Sewa Kendra per village and the AI language-bridge Adi Vaani App.
Exam hook: Adi Karmayogi = Tribal Affairs, launched from Dhar (MP); village plans are called Tribal Village Vision 2030.
 PIB 2167790 · 2025-09-17

• **Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnet (REPM) scheme**

Body: Ministry of Heavy Industries.
Detail: Cabinet approval 26 Nov 2025; outlay Rs 7,280 crore - Rs 6,450 crore sales-linked incentive, Rs 750 crore capital subsidy and the balance for programme administration; creates 6,000 MTPA capacity split among five beneficiaries of 1,200 MTPA each.
Lineage: India's first integrated REPM manufacturing push; scheme runs 7 years including a 2-year gestation period.
Exam hook: REPMs feed EVs, wind power, electronics, aerospace and defence; the scheme sits with Heavy Industries, not Mines or MNRE.
 PIB 2194684 · 2025-11-26

• **Urban Challenge Fund (UCF)**

Body: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
Detail: Cabinet approval 14 Feb 2026; central assistance Rs 1 lakh crore covering 25 per cent of project cost with a minimum 50 per cent raised from the market, unlocking about Rs 4 lakh crore of urban investment.
Lineage: Gives effect to Budget 2025-26; three verticals - Cities as Growth Hubs, Creative Redevelopment of Cities, Water and Sanitation; separate Rs 5,000 crore corpus to make 4,223 cities creditworthy.
Exam hook: Challenge-mode, market-linked finance replacing grant funding; the three verticals are the which-is-NOT list.
 PIB 2227986 · 2026-02-14

• **Sampoornata Abhiyan 2.0 (NITI Aayog)**

Body: NITI Aayog, under the Aspirational Districts and Blocks Programme.
Detail: Launched 28 Jan 2026, a 3-month campaign to 14 Apr 2026; saturates 5 key performance indicators in Aspirational Districts and 6 KPIs in Aspirational Blocks, covering 112 Aspirational Districts and 513 Aspirational Blocks.
Lineage: Builds on the first Sampoornata Abhiyan of 2024; the Aspirational Districts Programme itself began in 2018.
Exam hook: Numbers to pin - 112 districts, 513 blocks; KPIs are 5 for districts, 6 for blocks, and both lists are health, nutrition, school-toilet and cattle-vaccination indicators.
 PIB 2219753 · 2026-01-28

• **PM Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA / DAJGUA)**

Body: Ministry of Tribal Affairs, with 17 line ministries converging.
Detail: Covers 63,843 tribal-majority villages in 549 districts and 2,911 blocks across 30 States/UTs, reaching over 5 crore tribal people; runs FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29.
Lineage: Launched as Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) on 02 Oct 2024; village cut-offs are 500-plus population with 50 per cent ST in plains, 250 in hill and North-Eastern States, and 100 in Left-Wing-Extremism districts.
Exam hook: PMJUGA and DAJGUA are the same scheme under two names; do not confuse with PM JANMAN, which targets only Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.
 PIB 2198849 · 2025-12-04

• **Green Hydrogen Hubs at three major ports**

Body: Recognised by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy under the National Green Hydrogen Mission; ports under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
Detail: The three ports named on 10 Oct 2025 are Deendayal (Gujarat), V.O. Chidambaranar (Tamil Nadu) and Paradip (Odisha); recognition under Component B2 carries no direct funding but unlocks other central and state incentives.
Lineage: Revised guidelines for Hydrogen Valley Innovation Clusters and Green Hydrogen Hubs were issued 27 Jun 2025; the Mission supports the Net Zero by 2070 goal.
Exam hook: The three hub ports are Deendayal, V.O. Chidambaranar, Paradip - a ready which-is-NOT. Deendayal Port was formerly Kandla; V.O. Chidambaranar was formerly Tuticorin.
 PIB 2177591 · 2025-10-10

• Rashtriya Gokul Mission (indigenous bovine breeds)

Body: Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

Detail: Runs the **Nationwide Artificial Insemination Programme - 14.56 crore** inseminations, **5.62 crore** farmers; unified genomic chips **Gau Chip** for indigenous cattle and **Mahish Chip** for buffaloes, with **75,000** animals genotyped; AI technicians are called **MAITRI (39,810)** trained).

Lineage: Indigenous **sex-sorted semen** technology cut the cost per dose from **Rs 800 to Rs 250** and gives up to **90 per cent** female calves; the North-East's first bovine **IVF laboratory** opened at **Guwahati, Assam** on **11 Oct 2025**.

Exam hook: **Gau Chip** = cattle, **Mahish Chip** = buffalo; RGM is about **indigenous breeds**, and progress is tracked on the **Bharat Pashudhan** portal of the National Digital Livestock Mission.

PIB 2204568 · 2025-12-16

• National Livestock Mission (NLM) components

Body: Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying; the flagship arm is the **NLM Entrepreneurship Development Programme (NLM-EDP)**.

Detail: NLM-EDP gives a **50 per cent capital subsidy up to Rs 50 lakh** for breeding farms and fodder value-addition units; applications run fully online through **nlm.udyamimitra.in**.

Lineage: Carries a **Sub-Mission on Feed and Fodder Development** since **2014-15**; in **2024** it was widened to include **camel, horse, donkey and mule** breeding for the first time. Livestock Insurance now takes a flat **15 per cent** farmer premium share.

Exam hook: Poultry, sheep, goat, pig and the newly added **equines and camels** are in; **cattle and buffalo breed improvement** is NOT under NLM - that sits with the **Rashtriya Gokul Mission**.

PIB 2226360 · 2026-02-11

• Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP)

Body: Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

Detail: Three named components - the **National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP)**, **Mobile Veterinary Units (MVUs)** and **Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD)**; **4,019** MVUs run in **29 States/UTs** on the free helpline **1962**, treating **245.05 lakh** animals.

Lineage: NADCP was launched in **2019** as the world's largest programme to eliminate **Foot and Mouth Disease and Brucellosis by 2030**; over **125.75 crore** FMD vaccinations done, extended to pastoral **sheep and goats** in **2025**.

Exam hook: The animal-ambulance toll-free number is **1962**; NADCP targets **FMD plus Brucellosis** - not Avian Influenza or PPR.

PIB 2212290 · 2026-01-07

• PM JI-VAN Yojana (advanced biofuels)

Body: Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Detail: Full form is **JaiV Indhan - Vatavaran Anukool fasal awashesh Nivaran**; notified **2019** and amended **2024** to fund commercial and demonstration advanced-biofuel plants using **lignocellulosic biomass**.

Lineage: The flagship **2G ethanol** plant runs on **paddy straw at Panipat, Haryana (IOCL)**; a **bamboo-based 2G biorefinery** operates at **Numaligarh, Assam**; IOCL also runs a **3G** plant at Panipat on refinery off-gas.

Exam hook: JI-VAN sits with **Petroleum and Natural Gas**, not MNRE; it targets **second-generation** biofuel from crop residue, supporting the **Ethanol Blended Petrol** programme.

PIB 2198765 · 2025-12-04

• PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

Body: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy; applications through the scheme's **National Portal**, subsidy paid as Central Financial Assistance.

Detail: Launched **February 2024**; by **Dec 2025** it had **20.85 lakh** rooftop-solar installations benefiting **26.14 lakh households**, with **Rs 14,771 crore** released as CFA. **Gujarat** leads on installations, followed by **Maharashtra** and **Uttar Pradesh**.

Lineage: Target is **1 crore households**, projected to generate about **1,000 billion units** and avoid **720 million tonnes** of CO₂ over the systems' **25-year** life.

Exam hook: It is a **rooftop solar** scheme for **grid-connected residential** consumers under **MNRE** - do not confuse it with **PM-KUSUM** (solar pumps, Agriculture-linked).

PIB 2222476 · 2026-02-03

• PM MITRA Parks (textiles)

Body: Ministry of Textiles.

Detail: Full form **PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel**; **7 parks**, outlay **Rs 4,445 crore** up to **2027-28**; sites are **Virudhunagar, Warangal, Navsari, Kalaburagi, Dhar, Lucknow and Amravati**.

Lineage: The PM laid the foundation stone of the **Dhar, Madhya Pradesh** park on **17 Sep 2025**; investment MoUs worth over **Rs 27,434 crore** signed.

Exam hook: Seven parks in seven **different States** - a ready which-is-NOT. Inspired by the **5F vision**: Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign.

PIB 2208051 · 2025-12-24

• PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY)

Body: Ministry of Food Processing Industries - a **Central Sector** scheme.

Detail: Cabinet on **31 Jul 2025** cleared **Rs 6,520 crore** for the 15th Finance Commission cycle, including **Rs 1,000 crore** for **50 multi-product food irradiation units** and **100 NABL-accredited food testing labs**.

Lineage: Began with **Rs 6,000 crore** for **2016-20**; components include **Mega Food Parks, Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure, Agro-Processing Clusters** and **Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure**.

Exam hook: The abbreviation **PMKSY** is shared by two schemes - **Kisan SAMPADA (Food Processing)** and **Krishi Sinchayee (Jal Shakti, irrigation)**. Read the expansion, not the acronym.

PIB 2212769 · 2026-01-09

• PMFME Scheme (micro food processing)

Body: Ministry of Food Processing Industries - a **Centrally Sponsored** scheme.

Detail: Full form **PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises**; outlay **Rs 10,000 crore**, target **2 lakh enterprises**; built on the **One District One Product (ODOP)** approach with credit-linked subsidy and seed capital to SHG members.

Lineage: Launched **June 2020** under **Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan** as India's **first-ever** scheme dedicated to micro food processing units; extended to **FY 2025-26**.

Exam hook: **PMFME** is the **ODOP** scheme and is **Centrally Sponsored**, while **PM Kisan SAMPADA** is **Central Sector** - both sit under the same ministry.

PIB 2212769 · 2026-01-09

• PM Vishwakarma Scheme (artisans)

Body: Ministry of MSME, jointly with Skill Development and Finance.

Detail: Covers artisans and craftspeople of **18 traditional trades** who work with hand and tools; the **30 lakh** beneficiary registration target was met **within two years**; **10.57 lakh** modern toolkits delivered and **Rs 2,257 crore** in collateral-free concessional loans sanctioned during **2025**.

Lineage: Launched **17 Sep 2023**, on **Vishwakarma Jayanti**; support runs skill training, then toolkit incentive, then credit, then digital and marketing support.

Exam hook: The nodal ministry is **MSME**, not Textiles or Culture; the qualifying figure is **18 trades** - blacksmith, carpenter, potter, boat maker, barber and the like.

PIB 2209712 · 2025-12-30

• Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen Phase II

Body: Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti - a **Centrally Sponsored** scheme.

Detail: Phase II outlay is over **Rs 1.40 lakh crore**; four components - **ODF Sustainability, Solid Waste Management, Liquid Waste Management** and **Visual Cleanliness**; **4.89 lakh** villages are **ODF Plus (Model)**.

Lineage: **SBM(G)** launched **02 Oct 2014**; India declared **ODF on 02 Oct 2019**, Mahatma Gandhi's **150th** birth anniversary; **Phase II** began in **2020**. Biogas work runs under **GOBARdhan**.

Exam hook: Phase I = **toilets/ODF**; Phase II = **ODF Plus and waste management**. The 2025 campaign was **Swachhata Hi Seva** with the slogan **Ek Din, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath**.

PIB 2210554 · 2026-01-01

• PM-ABHIM (the fourth pillar of Ayushman Bharat)

Body: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; converges with the **National Health Mission (2005)** and rests on the **National Health Policy 2017**.

Detail: PM-ABHIM = Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission, launched 25 Oct 2021, outlay Rs 64,180 crore for 2021-26; it builds **Block Public Health Units, Integrated Public Health Labs** (one per district) and **Critical Care Hospital Blocks**.

Lineage: Ayushman Bharat (2018) has four pillars - AB-PMJAY, Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, ABDM and PM-ABHIM; PM-ABHIM is the newest of the four.

Exam hook: which is NOT a pillar of Ayushman Bharat; **Critical Care Blocks** go only to districts above **five lakh** population; expand ABHIM + its outlay.

PIB 2182105 · 2025-10-24

• eSanjeevani (national telemedicine service)

Body: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; an AI Clinical Decision Support System (CDSS) was integrated into it from April 2023.

Detail: 44.9 crore teleconsultations through more than 2.2 lakh registered healthcare providers - the world's largest telemedicine service in primary healthcare; delivered free at Ayushman Arogya Mandirs.

Lineage: it sits inside the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) stack, which by Feb 2026 had 85.9 crore ABHA accounts linked to 87.8 crore health records.

Exam hook: eSanjeevani is integrated with ABDM and is run by MoHFW, not MeitY; keep it apart from U-WIN, the immunisation portal.

PIB 2228733 · 2026-02-16

• U-WIN immunisation portal

Body: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP).

Detail: 11.12 crore children and 3.78 crore pregnant women registered by 8 Feb 2026; every vaccination yields a downloadable QR-code certificate; 29.42 crore SMS reminders went out in 2025.

Lineage: Mission Indradhanush, launched 25 Dec 2014 under the UIP, is the catch-up campaign for missed and partly vaccinated children; U-WIN does for routine immunisation what CoWIN did for COVID.

Exam hook: U-WIN is integrated with ABDM, the POSHAN Tracker and SAFEVAC - a ready 'which is NOT integrated' item; U-WIN = routine immunisation, CoWIN = COVID.

PIB 2227422 · 2026-02-13

• ULLAS / New India Literacy Programme

Body: Ministry of Education, Department of School Education and Literacy - a Centrally Sponsored Scheme running since 2022-23.

Detail: the New India Literacy Programme (NILP), branded ULLAS - Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram; ULLAS = Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society; it targets non-literates aged 15 years and above.

Lineage: framed in pursuance of NEP 2020; 3.36 crore learners have sat the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT), about 2.29 crore of them women, with a pass rate above 90%.

Exam hook: expand ULLAS; the age bar is 15 and above, not 18; the ministry is Education, not Skill Development; the test is the FLNAT.

PIB 2291033 · 2026-07-29

• Jal Jeevan Mission at 7 years - tap coverage 16.7% to 82%

Body: Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Detail: rural tap coverage 16.72% (3.23 crore homes, 2019) to 82.24% (15.91 crore); 2.04 lakh villages Har Ghar Jal-certified; standard 55 lpcd of BIS:10500-quality water via Functional Household Tap Connections; extended to Dec 2028; JJM 2.0 shifts to service delivery on reform-linked state MoUs..

Lineage: launched 15 Aug 2019; completed 7 years on 15 Aug 2026.

Exam hook: JJM = rural taps (Jal Shakti) vs AMRUT = urban water (MoHUA); launch date / current coverage.

PIB 2299487 · 2026-08-14

• VB-G RAM G Act 2025 in force 1 July 2026 - MGNREGA repealed

Body: Ministry of Rural Development.

Law: Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025 (VB-G RAM G), commenced nationwide 1 Jul 2026, repealing MGNREGA, 2005.

Detail: guarantee raised to 125 days/year (vs 100); wage floor Rs 300/day; FY2026-27 allocation Rs 95,692 crore; first instalment Rs 25,863 crore released 5 Jul 2026; Gram Panchayat is the central pillar..

Exam hook: full form is Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin); it replaces MGNREGA - a surviving MGNREGA or 100 days is wrong; two-statement 125 days + repeal.

PIB 2279660 · 2026-07-01

• PMBJP - 19,200+ Jan Aushadhi Kendras

Body: PMBI (Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

Detail: Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana sells generics 50-90% cheaper; kendras grew from 84 (2014) to 19,200+ (2026), North East from 1 to 417, UP tops with 4,042; 8th Janaushadhi Diwas on 7 Mar 2026, preceded by a week-long Saptah; nutraceuticals push.

Lineage: started 2008, renamed 2015-16.

Exam hook: which ministry runs PMBJP - Pharmaceuticals Department, not MoHFW; Janaushadhi Diwas is 7 March.

PIB 2236418 · 2026-03-07

• Modified UDAN approved; Viksit UDAN launched

Body: Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Detail: Cabinet approved Modified UDAN on 25 Mar 2026 - outlay Rs 28,840 crore over 10 years; PM launched the next phase 'Viksit UDAN' at Jodhpur, 4 Jul 2026; new phase targets 100 airports from unserved airstrips and 200 helipads, VGF Rs 10,043 crore.

Lineage: UDAN = Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik, the Regional Connectivity Scheme launched Oct 2016; original scheme operationalised 669 routes, 95 airports.

Exam hook: UDAN began 2016 - Modified UDAN is a continuation, not a new scheme; two-statement full form + launch year.

PIB 2245096 · 2026-03-25

• AVYAY - the senior-citizens umbrella and its four flagships

Body: Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJE).

Detail: 21 Jul 2026 answer on Atal Vayo Abhyudaya Yojana (AVYAY) - Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY), free assistive devices for eligible seniors, has given 49.81 lakh devices to 9.23 lakh seniors; national helpline Elderline 14567 in 32 States/UTs (8 AM-8 PM); 734 senior-citizen homes under IPSrC; SAGE (Seniorcare Ageing Growth Engine) portal seeds elder-care startups.

Exam hook: 14567 = elders (not 14490 / 181); RVY serves senior citizens, Divyangjan get ADIP; which scheme is NOT under AVYAY.

PIB 2287164 · 2026-07-21

• PMMVY - Rs 5,000 first child, Rs 6,000 second girl child

Body: Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD) - in the Samarthya vertical of Mission Shakti since 1 Apr 2022.

Detail: Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) maternity benefit - Rs 5,000 for the first living child, Rs 6,000 for the second child only if a girl; instalments cut from 3 to 2; 9 Jun 2026 review: 4.27 crore beneficiaries paid, Rs 20,150 crore disbursed.

Lineage: launched 2017.

Exam hook: the second-child benefit is girl-child-conditional - Rs 6,000 for any second child is wrong; amounts + the girl-child condition.

PIB 2270668 · 2026-06-09

• Beti Bachao Beti Padhao - three ministries, SRB 929

Body: joint initiative of MWCD + Health (MoHFW) + Education (MoE), with MWCD as nodal ministry.

Detail: 11-year review (13 Jun 2026) - Sex Ratio at Birth up from 918 (2014-15) to 929 (2024-25); girls' secondary enrolment 80.2%.

Lineage: launched 22 Jan 2015, responding to the declining Child Sex Ratio.

Exam hook: BBBP has three partner ministries - naming MWCD alone (or adding Rural Development) breaks the two-statement item; SRB trend.

PIB 2272391 · 2026-06-13

• **PM MUDRA Yojana at 11: Rs 40 lakh crore milestone**

Body: Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance.
Detail: PMMY completed 11 years on 8 Apr 2026 - over 57 crore loans worth Rs 40.07 lakh crore, about 60% of accounts held by women; collateral-free loans to non-corporate, non-farm micro units in four slabs - Shishu, Kishor, Tarun, TarunPlus (up to Rs 20 lakh).
Lineage: launched 8 Apr 2015, motto "Funding the Unfunded"; TarunPlus (2024) raised the ceiling from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh.
Exam hook: the old Rs 10 lakh cap is the standard wrong option; category-limit match / current loan ceiling.
 PIB 2249942 · 2026-04-08

• **Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 + Poshan Tracker**

Body: Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD).
Detail: Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 merges Anganwadi Services + POSHAN Abhiyaan (8 Mar 2018) + Scheme for Adolescent Girls; 2 lakh centres becoming Saksham Anganwadis; a 6-service package; Poshan Tracker app launched Mar 2021.
Lineage: Poshan 2.0 dates from 2021; POSHAN Abhiyaan (2018) is a component inside it.
Exam hook: the two names are not interchangeable; which three schemes merged into Poshan 2.0.
 PIB 2245910 · 2026-03-27

• **PMAY-Gramin - assistance amounts and selection base**

Body: Ministry of Rural Development; milestones, 6.18 lakh houses sanctioned for UP (Jun).
Detail: unit assistance Rs 1.20 lakh (plain) / Rs 1.30 lakh (hilly/NE/IAP); beneficiaries drawn from the SECC-2011 + Awaas+ lists.
Lineage: PMAY-G launched 2016, restructuring the Indira Awas Yojana.
Exam hook: PMAY-G (Rural Development) vs PMAY-U 2.0 (Housing and Urban Affairs) - ministry and assistance figures differ; two-statement predecessor scheme + selection database.
 PIB 2261411 · 2026-05-15

• **Kisan Credit Card: 7.72 crore cards, Rs 5 lakh MISS limit**

Body: NABARD-designed, delivered through scheduled commercial banks, RRBs and cooperative banks.
Detail: 7.72 crore operative KCCs with about Rs 10.2 lakh crore outstanding; under the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) the loan limit is now Rs 5 lakh, collateral-free up to Rs 2 lakh.
Lineage: Kisan Credit Card launched 1998 on the R.V. Gupta committee's design for short-term farm credit; extended to animal husbandry and fisheries in 2019.
Exam hook: MISS subsidises interest on short-term credit - KCC is a loan product, not a DBT grant like PM-KISAN; KCC launch year / the new Rs 5 lakh limit.
 PIB 2238004 · 2026-03-11

• **PM POSHAN - Ministry of Education school meal**

Body: Ministry of Education; norms released May 2026, fortified-food substitution answers July 2026.
Detail: PM POSHAN = PM Poshan Shakti Nirman - one hot cooked meal for Bal Vatika to Class 8 in government and aided schools, about 11 crore children.
Lineage: renamed 2021 from the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (traces to 1995; the Supreme Court made it a right in 2001).
Exam hook: which ministry runs PM POSHAN - Education, while Anganwadi nutrition (Poshan 2.0) is WCD.
 PIB 2265621 · 2026-05-26

• **PM-JANMAN - the 75-PVTG saturation mission**

Body: Ministry of Tribal Affairs plus 9 line ministries.
Detail: PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) saturates basic facilities - housing, roads, water, power - for the 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs); progress detailed across Mar-Aug 2026 releases and Parliament answers.
Lineage: launched on Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, 15 Nov 2023, from Khunti, Jharkhand.
Exam hook: PM-JANMAN = only 75 PVTGs, while DAJGUA/PM-JUGA covers all ST-majority villages via 17 ministries - swapped target groups are the standard wrong option; which mission targets PVTGs; launch venue/date.
 PIB 2236972 · 2026-03-09

• **PM RAHAT - cashless golden-hour care for crash victims**

Body: Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH); pushed nationwide by a stakeholder review on 26 Feb 2026.
Law: rides on the cashless-treatment mandate of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act 2019.
Detail: PM RAHAT = Road Accident victims' Hospitalization and Assured Treatment; cashless treatment through a designated hospital network, integrated with the ERSS 112 helpline so victims reach care within the golden hour (about half of crash deaths are preventable with first-hour admission); 'Rah-Veer' is the Good-Samaritan reward scheme alongside.
Lineage: launched by the PM on 13 Feb 2026.
Exam hook: expand RAHAT; which helpline integrates; a MoRTH scheme, not Ayushman Bharat, though hospitals overlap.
 PIB 2233219 · 2026-02-26

• **SVAMITVA - 3.18 crore property cards by drone survey**

Body: Ministry of Panchayati Raj, a Central Sector Scheme; survey by drones with the Survey of India.
Detail: SVAMITVA = Survey of Villages And Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas; maps inhabited (abadi) rural land to issue legal Property Cards; about 3.18 crore property cards issued, per the Panchayati Raj 12-year review (Jun 2026).
Lineage: launched 24 Apr 2020, on National Panchayati Raj Day.
Exam hook: launch day + what land is surveyed - abadi (inhabited) land only, not farmland; parent is Panchayati Raj, not Rural Development.
 PIB 2244931 · 2026-04-24

• **NSAP - the pension scheme that belongs to Rural Development**

Body: Ministry of Rural Development.
Detail: National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) pays BPL old-aged, widows and disabled persons - Old Age (IGNOAPS), Widow and Disability pensions plus a family benefit; a Jul 2026 answer put 3 crore+ central beneficiaries, about 9 crore including state-funded pensions, with state top-ups pushing average pensions near Rs 1,100/month in several states.
Lineage: central pension rates last revised in 2012.
Exam hook: which ministry runs NSAP + last revision year - it is MoRD's, not Social Justice's, the single most-missed welfare pairing; benefits are for BPL households only.
 PIB 2287305 · 2026-07-21

• **DAY-NRLM and the 6-crore Lakhpati Didi target**

Body: Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD).
Detail: Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission has mobilised about 10 crore women into SHGs; a Lakhpati Didi is an SHG woman earning at least Rs 1 lakh a year; the target is 6 crore Lakhpati Didis.
Lineage: target raised from 3 crore to 6 crore.
Exam hook: definition of Lakhpati Didi + target number - the Rs 1 lakh threshold is annual, and the scheme is MoRD's, not MWCD's.
 PIB 2229724 · 2026-02-18

• **PM-YASASVI umbrella for OBC, EBC, DNT students**

Body: Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
Detail: PM-YASASVI = PM Young Achievers Scholarship Award Scheme for Vibrant India, for OBC, EBC and DNT students; four components - Pre-Matric, Post-Matric, Top Class Schools, Top Class Colleges - detailed in a Jul 2026 Lok Sabha answer, with success stories recurring in Aug.
Exam hook: which category is NOT covered - it excludes SC/ST, who have separate Post-Matric schemes; and it is an umbrella of four schemes, not one scholarship.
 PIB 2287626 · 2026-07-22

Welfare (4)

• **Ayushman Vay Vandana Yojana (seniors 70-plus)**

Body: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; implemented through the National Health Authority under AB-PMJAY.
Detail: Free cover of Rs 5 lakh per year for all citizens aged 70 years and above regardless of income; covers about 6 crore senior citizens in 4.5 crore families; over 93 lakh Vay Vandana cards issued by Dec 2025.
Lineage: Announced as an October 2024 expansion of AB-PMJAY, which itself covers 12 crore families in the bottom 40 per cent of the population.
Exam hook: The 70-plus cover is income-independent and is an additional top-up, not a replacement of the family's PMJAY cover.
 PIB 2203007 · 2025-12-12

• SHRESHTA (SC residential education)

Body: Department of Social Justice and Empowerment; entrance test conducted by the NTA.

Detail: Full form Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas; Mode-I picks 3,000 SC students a year via the National Entrance Test for SHRESHTA (NETS) for Class 9 and 11; Mode-II funds NGO schools and hostels.

Lineage: For 2025-26, 2,915 SC students were admitted to 151 private residential schools, with Rs 79.37 crore of fees reimbursed.

Exam hook: SHRESHTA is for Scheduled Caste students in service-deficient SC-dominant areas; entry is at Classes 9 and 11 only, through a test run by the NTA.

PIB 2209488 · 2025-12-29

• National Commission for Women, 34th Foundation Day

Body: The NCW functions under the Ministry of Women and Child Development; its Chairperson is Vijaya Rahatkar.

Law: A statutory body created by the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.

Detail: Marked its 34th Foundation Day on 30 Jan 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on the theme 'Swasthya hi Sashaktikaran'.

Exam hook: The Act is of 1990 but the Commission was constituted in 1992 - which is why 2026 is only its 34th year; NCW is statutory, unlike NITI Aayog, which is an executive body.

PIB 2221065 · 2026-01-30

• West Bengal - 36th and last to join PM-JAY

Body: NHA MoU - on 8 Jun 2026 West Bengal became the 36th State/UT to implement AB PM-JAY, completing nationwide adoption; about 1.43 crore families added.

Detail: PM-JAY launched September 2018, the world's largest government-funded health assurance at Rs 5 lakh per family per year; 12 crore treatments worth Rs 1.82 lakh crore so far; out-of-pocket spend down from 64.6% to 43.4%; portability lets migrants use any empanelled hospital.

Lineage: late joiners in order - Odisha and Delhi (2025), West Bengal last (2026).

Exam hook: which State joined last.

PIB 2270375 · 2026-06-08

Polity/Bodies (42)

• 16th Finance Commission report (2026-31)

Body: Sixteenth Finance Commission chaired by Dr Arvind Panagariya; members Annie George Mathew, Manoj Panda, T. Rabi Sankar, Soumyakanti Ghosh; Secretary Ritvik Pandey.

Law: constituted by the President under Article 280(1); the report is laid in Parliament under Article 281.

Detail: report handed to President Droupadi Murmu on 17 Nov 2025; award period is the five years from 1 April 2026 to 2030-31.

Exam hook: Art 280 = Finance Commission, Art 281 = laying its report; who chairs the 16th FC; the award starts 2026-27, not 2025-26.

PIB 2190975 · 2025-11-17

• Devolution held at 41 per cent (16th FC accepted)

Body: Union Finance Ministry; announced by Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget 2026-27 on 1 Feb 2026.

Detail: the vertical share of central tax devolution to States is retained at 41 per cent; Rs 1.4 lakh crore given as Finance Commission Grants for FY 2026-27, covering rural and urban local body and disaster management grants.

Lineage: the 15th FC had trimmed the share from 42 to 41 per cent after Jammu and Kashmir became a Union Territory.

Exam hook: vertical share is Union-to-States; the split among States is the horizontal share. The number is 41, not 42.

PIB 2221390 · 2026-02-01

• 8th Central Pay Commission - Terms of Reference

Body: Union Cabinet approved the ToR on 28 Oct 2025; the CPC is a temporary body of one Chairperson, one part-time Member and one Member-Secretary.

Detail: it must report within 18 months of constitution and may send interim reports; formation was announced in January 2025.

Lineage: pay commissions are set up roughly every ten years; effect of the 8th CPC normally expected from 01.01.2026.

Exam hook: a Central Pay Commission is neither constitutional nor statutory - unlike the Finance Commission under Art 280; the 18-month reporting window.

PIB 2183289 · 2025-10-28

• Justice Surya Kant sworn in as Chief Justice of India

Body: sworn in before President Droupadi Murmu at the Ganatantra Mandap, Rashtrapati Bhavan, on 24 Nov 2025.

Law: appointed by warrant of the President, signed 30 Oct 2025; notification issued by the Department of Justice.

Detail: born 10 Feb 1962 at village Petwar, Hisar, Haryana; youngest Advocate General of Haryana (2000); Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court (2018); Supreme Court judge from 24 May 2019.

Lineage: he had been Executive Chairman of NALSA since 14 May 2025.

Exam hook: warrant signed 30 October, oath taken 24 November - the appointment date and oath date differ.

PIB 2193402 · 2025-11-24

• Census of India 2027 (Cabinet scheme approved)

Body: Union Cabinet approved on 12 Dec 2025; conducted by the Registrar General of India under the Home Ministry.

Detail: cost Rs 11,718.24 crore; two phases - Houselisting and Housing Census, April to September 2026 and Population Enumeration, February 2027; about 30 lakh field functionaries.

Lineage: India's first digital census; the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs decided on 30 April 2025 to add caste enumeration.

Exam hook: caste data is captured in Population Enumeration (Phase 2), not houselisting; the monitoring portal is CMMS; snow-bound areas enumerate in September 2026.

PIB 2202983 · 2025-12-12

• SHANTI Act, 2025 (nuclear energy law)

Body: Department of Atomic Energy; Bill tabled by Dr Jitendra Singh and passed by both Houses on 18 Dec 2025.

Law: Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Act, Act No. 39 of 2025; it consolidates the Atomic Energy Act, 1962.

Detail: permits limited private participation under regulatory oversight and gives statutory recognition to the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB); backs the 100 GW nuclear by 2047 goal.

Exam hook: the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 (no-fault liability) is a separate law; SHANTI succeeds the 1962 Act, not the 1948 one.

PIB 2206598 · 2025-12-19

• Parliament 2025 - 39 Bills passed, 40 Acts enacted

Body: Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs Year-End Review; the Legislative Department counted 40 Acts enacted in 2025.

Detail: 39 Bills were passed by both Houses during 2025 while 40 Acts were enacted, the counts differing because an Act is dated from assent, not passage; 34 Bills introduced in Lok Sabha; the Sixth Session of the 18th Lok Sabha (Winter Session) ran 01 to 19 Dec 2025.

Lineage: 2 Ordinances were promulgated under Article 123 and 20 Regulations issued under Article 240, all Ordinances relating to Manipur GST.

Exam hook: Art 123 = President's Ordinance; Art 240 = President's Regulations for Union Territories - the pair is the standard trap.

PIB 2211578 · 2026-01-05

• Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill and the Joint Committees

Body: Bills referred by Parliament during 2025, listed in the Parliamentary Affairs Year-End Review.

Law: constitutional amendment procedure rests on Article 368.

Detail: sent to Joint Committees - the Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill, 2024 on simultaneous elections, the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025 and the Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill, 2025.

Exam hook: a Select Committee took the IBC (Amendment) and Jan Vishwas Bills, while the Securities Markets Code Bill went to the Standing Committee on Finance - match the Bill to the committee type.

PIB 2211578 · 2026-01-05

• **CEC appointment under the 2023 Act - Gyanesh Kumar**

Body: Election Commission of India; a Search Committee chaired by the Minister of State (I/C) Law and Justice shortlists and a Selection Committee chaired by the Prime Minister recommends.

Law: Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023 (49 of 2023) - Search Committee under Section 6, Selection Committee under Section 7.

Detail: Gyanesh Kumar replaced Rajiv Kumar, who demitted office on 18 Feb 2025; Dr Vivek Joshi was named Election Commissioner; both joined on 19 Feb 2025.

Exam hook: this was the first CEC appointment under the 2023 Act; the ECI itself rests on Article 324 - the Act governs only appointment.

PIB 2212168 · 2026-01-07

• **Vice-Presidential election 2025 - C. P. Radhakrishnan**

Body: conducted by the Election Commission of India; the result was notified by the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice.

Law: the casual vacancy was filled under Article 68(2) of the Constitution.

Detail: Jagdeep Dhankhar, the 14th Vice-President, resigned with effect from 21 July 2025; C. P. Radhakrishnan was notified as elected on 9 September 2025.

Exam hook: Art 68(1) covers the routine election before a term expires, 68(2) a mid-term vacancy - and a VP elected in a casual vacancy gets a full five-year term, not the leftover.

PIB 2212168 · 2026-01-07

• **Constitution of India released in Santhali**

Body: brought out by the Official Language Wing, Legislative Department; released by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan on 25 Dec 2025 with Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan present.

Law: Santhali is an Eighth Schedule language, added by the 92nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003.

Detail: through 2025 the Constitution, updated to the 106th Amendment, was published in Assamese, Bodo, Kannada, Kashmiri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Santhali and Telugu.

Exam hook: the 92nd Amendment added Bodo, Dogri, Maithili and Santhali, taking the Eighth Schedule to 22 languages.

PIB 2212168 · 2026-01-07

• **Central Information Commission - new CIC and eight Commissioners**

Body: Central Information Commission, under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Law: Right to Information Act, 2005.

Detail: Raj Kumar Goyal assumed office as Chief Information Commissioner on 15 Dec 2025 and the same day administered the oath to eight new Information Commissioners, among them Jaya Varma Sinha and Swagat Das.

Exam hook: the CIC is a statutory body created by the RTI Act, 2005, not a constitutional one; the Chief Information Commissioner swears in the other Commissioners.

PIB 2204238 · 2025-12-15

• **Central Vigilance Commission - Praveen Vashista sworn in**

Body: Central Vigilance Commission; Praveen Vashista, an IPS officer of the 1991 Bihar cadre, took oath as Vigilance Commissioner on 16 Jan 2026.

Law: Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 - appointed by presidential warrant under Section 4(1), oath under Section 5(3).

Detail: the Act provides for a Central Vigilance Commissioner and two Vigilance Commissioners; the tenure is four years or until the age of 65, whichever is earlier.

Exam hook: the CVC became statutory only in 2003 - it began as a 1964 executive resolution on the Santhanam Committee's recommendation.

PIB 2215352 · 2026-01-16

• **Disaster Management (Amendment) Act, 2025**

Body: Ministry of Home Affairs; the High-Level Committee that clears NDRF and NDMF assistance was given statutory status by this amendment.

Law: Act No. 10 of 2025, amending the Disaster Management Act, 2005, and inserting Section 41A.

Detail: Section 41A lets State Governments set up an Urban Disaster Management Authority (UDMA) in State capitals and Municipal Corporation cities, excluding Delhi and Chandigarh; a National Disaster Database is also mandated.

Lineage: Karnataka is so far the only State to have constituted a UDMA, for the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.

Exam hook: UDMA's are constituted by State Governments, not the NDMA; the new section is 41A; Delhi and Chandigarh are the carve-outs.

PIB 2226438 · 2026-02-11

• **National Sports Governance Act, 2025 comes into force**

Body: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; the Act creates the National Sports Board and the National Sports Tribunal.

Law: Act No. 25 of 2025, gazetted 18 Aug 2025; select provisions were brought into force from 1 January 2026.

Detail: the notified sections cover National Sports Bodies - the National Olympic Committee, National Paralympic Committee, National Sports Federations and Regional Sports Federations - and the Board and Tribunal.

Lineage: a Search-cum-Selection Committee chaired by the Cabinet Secretary, notified 8 Jan 2026, recommends the Board's Chairperson and two Members.

Exam hook: the Board grants recognition to sports bodies while the Tribunal settles disputes; the selection panel is chaired by the Cabinet Secretary, not the Sports Minister.

PIB 2210321 · 2025-12-31

• **UMEED portal for Waqf properties**

Body: Ministry of Minority Affairs; the central portal was launched on 6 June 2025 for Waqf Boards and Mutawallis.

Law: the Waqf Act, 1995 was renamed the UMEED Act - Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development by the 2025 amendment, in force from 8 April 2025.

Detail: the six-month upload window closed on 6 Dec 2025 with 5,17,082 properties initiated; 2.42 lakh came in November alone against just 11 in June.

Exam hook: what UMEED expands to and which ministry runs it; a Mutawalli who missed the deadline goes to the Waqf Tribunal.

PIB 2201122 · 2025-12-09

• **Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, Bihar**

Body: Election Commission of India, worked through CEO Bihar, 38 District Election Officers, 243 Electoral Registration Officers and about 1 lakh Booth Level Officers.

Law: carried out in line with Article 326 - adult suffrage for every citizen of 18 years and above.

Detail: the SIR ran 24 June to 30 September 2025; electors fell from 7.89 crore to a final roll of about 7.42 crore, with 21.53 lakh eligible voters added through Form 6.

Lineage: Bihar was the first SIR State; the ECI ordered SIR in further States and revised the schedule through Nov-Dec 2025.

Exam hook: the ECI motto here - no eligible voter left out, no ineligible voter included; Form 6 = fresh enrolment.

PIB 2173316 · 2025-09-30

• **16th National Voters' Day (25 January 2026)**

Body: Election Commission of India; President Droupadi Murmu presided as chief guest, with CEC Gyanesh Kumar and Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi.

Detail: theme 'My India, My Vote', tagline 'Citizen at the Heart of Indian Democracy'; the President hands EPICs to newly enrolled young electors and presents the Best Electoral Practices Awards.

Lineage: National Voters' Day marks 25 January 1950, the day the Election Commission of India was set up; 2026 was the 16th edition.

Exam hook: 25 January, not 26 January; EPIC = Electors Photo Identity Card.

PIB 2218104 · 2026-01-24

• GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) launched

Body: launched by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi on 24 Sep 2025; Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra is the President of GSTAT.

Law: the appellate tier provided for under the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.

Detail: a specialised nationwide forum for indirect-tax dispute resolution; a GSTAT e-Courts Portal was unveiled for online filing, case tracking and virtual hearings.

Exam hook: GSTAT hears appeals; do not confuse it with the GST Council, the Article 279A body chaired by the Union Finance Minister.

PIB 2170932 · 2025-09-24

• Supreme Court judges' asset declarations made public

Body: the Full Court of the Supreme Court of India, by a resolution of 1 April 2025; stated in Rajya Sabha by Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal.

Detail: statements of assets of Supreme Court judges, including the Chief Justice of India, are now mandatorily uploaded on the Supreme Court website; declarations are made on assuming office and on any substantial acquisition.

Lineage: the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill, 2010 lapsed when the 15th Lok Sabha was dissolved.

Exam hook: this came by judicial self-regulation, not by statute; complaints against SC judges go to the CJI under the in-house procedure.

PIB 2202161 · 2025-12-11

• Capacity Building Commission and Mission Karmayogi

Body: Capacity Building Commission, under the Department of Personnel and Training, drives Mission Karmayogi, the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building.

Detail: MoUs with 14 States/UTs in 2025 took the total to 28; over 8.5 lakh officials trained under the Rashtriya Karmayogi Large Scale Jan Seva Programme; accreditation framework NSCSTI 2.0 launched.

Lineage: an Advanced Faculty Development Programme aims to train 600 faculty members by 2027.

Exam hook: the CBC is an executive body under DoPT, not a constitutional one like the UPSC (Article 315); Mission Karmayogi's learning platform is iGOT Karmayogi.

PIB 2208111 · 2025-12-24

• Harivansh re-elected Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha

Body: Rajya Sabha; felicitated by the Chairman, Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan, who is Vice-President of India and ex-officio Chairman.

Law: Article 89(2) - the Rajya Sabha chooses a Deputy Chairman from among its own members; Article 89(1) makes the Vice-President the Chairman.

Detail: Shri Harivansh elected unopposed on 17 Apr 2026 - his third term in the office, a rare distinction.

Exam hook: the Deputy Chairman is ELECTED by Rajya Sabha members, while the Chairman is not - the VP is chosen by an electoral college of both Houses; the Lok Sabha's counterpart post rests on Article 93.

PIB 2252976 · 2026-04-17

• Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai - Chief Justice, Patna High Court

Body: appointed by the President of India in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, on the Law Ministry's notification.

Law: Article 217(1) of the Constitution governs appointment of High Court judges, including the Chief Justice.

Detail: Smt Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, a judge of the Sikkim High Court, appointed Chief Justice of the Patna High Court w.e.f. 5 Jun 2026, on the retirement of Justice Sangam Kumar Sahoo on 4 Jun 2026.

Exam hook: High Court judges - Article 217, retirement at 62; Supreme Court judges - Article 124, retirement at 65; judge transfers are Article 222.

PIB 2268096 · 2026-06-02

• NITI Aayog gets two new full-time Members

Body: NITI Aayog, chaired ex-officio by the Prime Minister.

Detail: Dr R. Balasubramaniam and Dr Joram Aniya appointed full-time Members of NITI Aayog, announced 2 May 2026.

Lineage: NITI = National Institution for Transforming India; it replaced the Planning Commission on 1 January 2015, created by a Cabinet resolution.

Exam hook: NITI Aayog is NEITHER constitutional NOR statutory - it is an executive-resolution think tank; its Governing Council carries all Chief Ministers and Lieutenant Governors; the PM is Chairperson, not the Vice-Chairperson.

PIB 2257591 · 2026-05-02

• FCRA 2.0 Portal and e-OCI Card launched

Body: Ministry of Home Affairs; launched by Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah in New Delhi.

Law: the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 governs foreign contributions received by Indian entities.

Detail: FCRA 2.0 Portal and the e-OCI Card launched on 30 Jun 2026; the e-OCI benefits over 50 lakh OCI cardholders, and FCRA 2.0 ends physical document submission while enabling real-time monitoring of foreign contributions.

Exam hook: FCRA and OCI are MHA subjects, not Ministry of External Affairs or Finance - the standard wrong option is to hand FCRA to the Finance Ministry.

PIB 2279410 · 2026-06-30

• President's Colour conferred on NDRF

Body: National Disaster Response Force (NDRF); ceremony at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, with the Union Home Minister as chief guest.

Law: NDRF is raised under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, and functions under the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

Detail: President's Colour conferred on NDRF, marked 14 May 2026, about 20 years after it was raised; motto 'Aapda Seva Sadaiv Sarvatra'; credited with saving over 1.5 lakh lives and evacuating over 9 lakh people.

Exam hook: NDRF the FORCE (Disaster Management Act 2005, under NDMA) is not the National Disaster Response FUND - identical acronym, different thing; the state counterpart is SDRF.

PIB 2260946 · 2026-05-14

• Eight constitutional amendments in twelve years - the official list

Body: listed in a Lok Sabha reply of 25 July 2026.

Law: amendment procedure sits in Article 368.

Detail: the eight in twelve years - 99th (NJAC, 2014), 100th (India-Bangladesh boundary, 2015), 101st (GST, 2016), 102nd (NCBC, 2018), 103rd (EWS, 2019), 104th (SC/ST reservation extension, 2019), 105th (states' OBC lists, 2021), 106th (women's reservation, 2023); the 106th (Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam) awaits delimitation for effect.

Exam hook: the 99th was struck down by the SC in the NJAC judgment (2015) - enacted yet inoperative; a 'which pair is wrongly matched' option loves this list.

PIB 2289474 · 2026-07-25

• Delimitation Bill and Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026

Body: Home Minister's Lok Sabha reply, Apr 2026.

Law: delimitation rests on Articles 81, 82, 170; seats frozen by the 42nd Amendment (1976), extended by the 84th (2001) till the first Census after 2026.

Detail: Delimitation Bill 2026 and Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill 2026 - Lok Sabha seats proposed to rise from 543 to about 816; the package operationalises the women's reservation (106th Amendment).

Exam hook: Delimitation Commission orders are final and non-justiciable; the freeze-extender is the 84th, NOT the 44th; which amendment froze seats + new seat total.

PIB 2253186 · 2026-04-17

• National Panchayati Raj Day and the e-Panchayat suite

Body: Ministry of Panchayati Raj; RGSA-backed digital tools showcased.

Law: 24 Apr marks the 73rd Constitutional Amendment in force, 1993 - Part IX, Art 243.

Detail: 24 Apr 2026 National Panchayati Raj Day; the 12-year review (15 Jun) reported 4.10 crore elected representatives/functionaries trained; suite - eGramSwaraj, Meri Panchayat, AuditOnline, Gram Manchitra, SabhaSaar (AI Gram Sabha transcripts, 23 languages).

Lineage: RGSA introduced 2018-19, revamped 2022-23.

Exam hook: 73rd (Panchayats, 1993) vs 74th (Municipalities) - date-pairing them is the classic trick; which Article/Amendment backs Panchayati Raj Day.

PIB 2255182 · 2026-04-24

• Samvidhan Hatya Diwas - 50 years of the Emergency

Body: Culture Ministry, through CCRT.

Law: the 1975 proclamation was made under Article 352 on grounds of 'internal disturbance'.

Detail: Samvidhan Hatya Diwas commemorated 25 June 2026, marking 50 years of the 1975 Emergency; the observance was notified in 2024 to mark every 25 June.

Exam hook: the 44th Amendment (1978) replaced 'internal disturbance' with 'armed rebellion' and added safeguards (written Cabinet advice) - post-1978 an identical Emergency is impossible; date-year pair.

PIB 2278042 · 2026-06-25

- NCBC - Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti takes over as Chairperson**
Body: NCBC under the **Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**; **Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti** assumed charge as **Chairperson w.e.f. 18 March 2026**.
Law: **constitutional status under Article 338B**, granted by the **102nd Amendment Act 2018**, which also inserted **Art 342A** on **Socially and Educationally Backward Classes**; NCBC advises on the **central OBC list**.
Lineage: before 2018 NCBC was only **statutory** - the **1993 Act**, post-**Indra Sawhney**.
Exam hook: which amendment made NCBC constitutional; **Art 338B (NCBC) vs Art 338 (NCSC) vs 338A (NCST)**.
PIB 2245969 · 2026-03-27
- Telecom Act 2023 authorisation regime goes live**
Body: **DoT** - Department of Telecommunications.
Law: the **Telecommunications Act, 2023**, which **replaced the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 and the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1933**; '**authorisation**' **replaces the licence** as its core concept.
Detail: online applications for **service authorisations** opened with rules notified **23 Jun 2026**; existing licences migrate via the **Telecom eServices Portal** (25 Jun 2026).
Exam hook: the **TRAI Act 1997 survives** - the 2023 Act did not repeal it, though options list it among the repealed laws; which colonial laws were replaced.
PIB 2277786 · 2026-06-25
- Census 2027 Phase I - Houselisting rolls across states**
Body: **RGI** - Registrar General of India, under **MHA**.
Law: **Census Act 1948**.
Detail: by mid-June 2026 **23 states/UTs had completed Phase I (Houselisting & Housing Census)**; field work began in **Himachal on 16 June**, while **self-enumeration** (portal se.census.gov.in, with an **SE ID**) ran in **Kerala and Nagaland**; population-count reference date **1 March 2027, 1 October 2026** for snow-bound areas.
Lineage: Census 2027 is India's **first digital census** and the first with **caste enumeration**.
Exam hook: Phase I lists **houses, not people** - population enumeration is **Phase II (Feb 2027)**; 'Census 2026' is the wrong label.
PIB 2273506 · 2026-06-16
- Rajya Sabha biennial elections 2026 - 27 seats**
Body: **ECI** announced the polls, Jun 2026.
Law: **Rajya Sabha under Article 80** - max **250 (238 elected + 12 nominated)**, actual **245**; elected by MLAs via **proportional representation by single transferable vote**; **one-third retire every 2 years**.
Detail: **27 Rajya Sabha seats - 24 biennial across 10 states** plus byes in **Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Odisha** - and **Legislative Council MLA-quota seats in Bihar (9+1) and Karnataka (7)**.
Exam hook: **RS is permanent - never dissolved**; **Legislative Councils (Art 171)** are state chambers, a separate election; **Art 80 numbers + election method**.
PIB 2267512 · 2026-06-01
- Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026**
Law: amends **Section 3, Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act 1971**; passed in the Monsoon Session 2026.
Detail: extends anthem-grade protection to the **National Song 'Vande Mataram'** against wilful disruption of its singing; the 1971 Act until now covered the **National Anthem, the flag and the Constitution**.
Lineage: **Constituent Assembly, 24 January 1950 - Dr Rajendra Prasad** accorded **Vande Mataram** equal status with **Jana Gana Mana**; Independence Day 2026 theme '**150 Years of Vande Mataram**'.
Exam hook: what the amendment adds / it enters by **amendment, not a fresh Act** / the 24 Jan 1950 pin.
PIB 2291781 · 2026-07-30

- Tribunal Reforms Bill 2026 - National Tribunals Commission**
Law: **Tribunal Reforms Bill 2026**, passed by Parliament in **Aug 2026**; reworks the **Tribunal Reforms Act 2021**.
Detail: creates a **judiciary-led National Tribunals Commission** to select tribunal members and oversee their functioning; aim - cut executive discretion over **appointments and tenure**.
Lineage: forced by the Supreme Court in **Madras Bar Association v Union of India**, decided **19 Nov 2025**, which struck down provisions of the 2021 Act and directed an independent commission.
Exam hook: which case forced the law / what the Commission does / the 2021 Act **abolished** several appellate tribunals and the 2026 law reforms administration, it does NOT revive them.
PIB 2298157 · 2026-08-12
- CBFC - Shashi Shekhar Vempati appointed Chairperson**
Body: **CBFC** under the **I&B Ministry** (Information & Broadcasting).
Law: statutory under the **Cinematograph Act 1952**; age-based **UA 7+/13+/16+** certificate markers came from the **2023 amendment**.
Detail: **Shashi Shekhar Vempati** (ex-**Prasar Bharati** CEO) appointed Chairperson for **3 years from 6 May 2026**, filling the seat **Prasoon Joshi** vacated; the same framework powered 2026 anti-piracy blocking of **7,393 URLs including 4,996 Telegram channels**.
Exam hook: which Act governs **CBFC** + the new **UA categories** / **CBFC certifies** films, it does not censor or ban - banning powers sit elsewhere.
PIB 2258356 · 2026-05-06
- Ninth Schedule - Karnataka Reservation Act inclusion deferred**
Body: Centre's reply in **Lok Sabha, 25 July 2026**.
Law: the **Ninth Schedule** was created by the **First Amendment (1951)**, with **Article 31B** shielding listed laws from fundamental-rights challenge.
Detail: inclusion of the **Karnataka SC/ST Reservation Act 2022** - providing **56% reservation** - stands **deferred**, the Act being **sub judice** before the Karnataka High Court.
Exam hook: two-statement - which amendment created it + the **I.R. Coelho (2007)** rule that laws inserted **after 24 April 1973** face basic-structure review, so the shield is no longer absolute.
PIB 2289463 · 2026-07-25
- 'Kerala' to 'Keralam' - Cabinet clears the renaming route**
Body: Union Cabinet, 24 Feb 2026, acting on the Kerala Assembly's unanimous resolution of 24 Jun 2024.
Law: proviso to **Article 3** - the President refers the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 to the State Assembly for views; Parliament then passes it by simple majority, amending the First Schedule.
Detail: 'Keralam' is the Malayalam name of the State; Kerala Piravi 1 Nov 1956.
Exam hook: renaming needs a parliamentary law under Arts 3-4, NOT an Art 368 amendment; the Assembly gives views only, consent not required - two-statement on procedure + schedule amended.
PIB 2232093 · 2026-02-24
- Supreme Court gets five judges in one day, incl. Justice V. Mohana from the Bar**
Body: President, on the collegium's advice, 1 June 2026.
Law: **Article 124(2)**; sanctioned strength **34 (CJI + 33)** under the 2019 Act, later raised by the SC (Number of Judges) Amendment Ordinance 2026.
Detail: five Supreme Court judges appointed in one day - four HC Chief Justices (Sheel Nagu, Shree Chandrashekhara, Sanjeev Sachdeva, Arun Palli) plus senior advocate **V. Mohana** from the Bar.
Lineage: direct-from-Bar women are rare - **Indu Malhotra (2018)** was the first; Mohana took the Bar route, not the HC route.
Exam hook: which article; who came from the Bar.
PIB 2267354 · 2026-06-01
- ECI's first All India Media Conference; 95-crore electorate**
Body: Election Commission of India (ECI); CEC **Gyanesh Kumar**, with ECs **Sandhu** and **Joshi** appointed under the CEC and Other ECs (Appointment) Act 2023.
Detail: first All India Media Conference, 17 July 2026, 380+ media persons; the roll of nearly 95 crore electors called a living document audited by 12 lakh BLOs and 15 lakh BLAs; ECI's training arm **IIIDEM** marked its 15th Foundation Day.
Exam hook: **BLO = ECI's booth-level officer vs BLA = a party appointee** - swapping them is the trap; first-ever event; electorate size; the 2023 Act.
PIB 2285961 · 2026-07-17

• Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means)

Amendment Act, 2026

Body: piloted by DoPT; the PM separately named an exam-reforms task force under Nandan Nilekani (26 July).

Law: Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Act, 2026 - passed LS 29 July, RS 30 July 2026, amending the parent Act of 2024.

Detail: investigation within 2 months, trial within 3 months, state-designated Special Fast Track Courts, Special Task Forces, higher penalties, appeal to a High Court Division Bench.

Exam hook: the parent anti-paper-leak Act is of 2024 and 2026 only amends it - Bill-vs-parent-Act confusion; timelines two-statement; who heads the task force.

PIB 2292127 · 2026-07-30

Economy (16)

• Export Promotion Mission (EPM)

Body: Department of Commerce; implementing agency is the **Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)**.

Detail: Cabinet approval 12 Nov 2025; outlay **Rs 25,060 crore** for FY 2025-26 to FY 2030-31; two sub-schemes - **NIRYAT PROTSAHAN** (trade finance, interest subvention, credit guarantees) and **NIRYAT DISHA** (branding, quality, logistics, trade fairs).

Lineage: Announced in **Budget 2025-26**; subsumes the **Interest Equalisation Scheme (IES)** and **Market Access Initiative (MAI)**.

Exam hook: The two named sub-schemes are **Niryat Protsahan** (money) and **Niryat Disha** (market readiness); implementing arm is **DGFT**, not EXIM Bank.

PIB 2189381 · 2025-11-12

• Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0

Body: DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Detail: Cabinet approval 14 Feb 2026; corpus **Rs 10,000 crore**, targeted at **deep tech**, tech-driven innovative manufacturing and early-growth-stage startups beyond metros.

Lineage: FFS 1.0 launched 2016 with the same **Rs 10,000 crore**, fully committed to **145 Alternative Investment Funds**, which invested over **Rs 25,500 crore** in more than **1,370 startups**.

Exam hook: The Fund of Funds does **not** invest in startups directly - it invests in **SEBI-registered AIFs**, which then fund startups. Nodal department is **DPIIT**.

PIB 2227988 · 2026-02-14

• Union Budget 2026-27 (first from Kartavya Bhawan)

Body: Presented in Parliament by Union Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** on 1 Feb 2026.

Detail: The **first Budget prepared in Kartavya Bhawan**; framed around 3 **kartavyas** - growth, capacity building, and **Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas**; total expenditure **Rs 53.5 lakh crore**.

Lineage: **Fiscal deficit 4.3 per cent of GDP** (BE 2026-27) against **4.4 per cent** in RE 2025-26; public capital expenditure raised to **Rs 12.2 lakh crore**.

Exam hook: New names to match - **Biopharma SHAKTI** (Rs 10,000 crore), **India Semiconductor Mission 2.0**, **Khelo India Mission**, and **Rare Earth Corridors** for Odisha, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu.

PIB 2221455 · 2026-02-01

• Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025 (four nominees)

Body: **Ministry of Finance**; the Act was notified 15 April 2025, and its nomination provisions took effect from 1 Nov 2025.

Law: 19 amendments across five statutes - **RBI Act 1934**, **Banking Regulation Act 1949**, **SBI Act 1955**, and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Acts of 1970 and 1980.

Detail: A depositor may now name **up to four nominees**, either simultaneously with percentage shares totalling **100 per cent**, or successively; lockers and safe-custody articles permit **successive nomination only**.

Lineage: 'Substantial interest' threshold raised from the **1968 limit of Rs 5 lakh to Rs 2 crore**; co-operative bank director tenure raised **8 to 10 years**; unclaimed amounts move to the **IEPF**.

Exam hook: The cap is **four**, not two; and only **deposit accounts** allow simultaneous nomination.

PIB 2181734 · 2025-10-23

• Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha Bill, 2025 (100 pc FDI in insurance)

Body: **Ministry of Finance**; passed by Parliament on 17 Dec 2025.

Law: Amends three statutes - the **Insurance Act 1938**, the **LIC Act 1956** and the **IRDA Act 1999**.

Detail: Permits **up to 100 per cent FDI** in insurance companies; the **Net Owned Fund** requirement for **foreign reinsurance branches** is cut from **Rs 5,000 crore to Rs 1,000 crore**.

Lineage: Sets up a **Policyholders' Education and Protection Fund**; prior-approval limit for share-capital transfer raised from **1 to 5 per cent**; **IRDAI** gains power to disgorge wrongful gains.

Exam hook: **100 per cent FDI**, up from the earlier **74 per cent** cap; the regulator here is **IRDAI**, not SEBI or the RBI.

PIB 2206011 · 2025-12-18

• Base-year revision of GDP, IIP and CPI

Body: **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**, guided by **Technical Advisory Committees / Expert Groups** drawn from academia, Centre, States and the **RBI**.

Detail: Proposed new base year is **2022-23 for GDP and IIP**, and **2024 for CPI**; new series scheduled - **CPI 12 Feb 2026**, **GDP 27 Feb 2026**, **IIP May 2026**.

Lineage: Weights drawn from the **PLFS**, the **Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES)** and **ASUSE**; GDP and CPI follow the **IMF's Special Data Dissemination Standards (SDDS)**.

Exam hook: Two different base years - **2022-23 for GDP and IIP** but **2024 for CPI**; options give all three a single common base year.

PIB 2226269 · 2026-02-11

• Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2024

Body: Released by **NITI Aayog** on 14 Jan 2026; this is the **4th edition**, the first having been published in **August 2020**.

Detail: Large-State leaders in order - **Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh; Uttarakhand** topped the Small States, North-Eastern States and UTs group.

Lineage: Built on **4 pillars, 13 sub-pillars and 70 indicators**; States graded **Leaders, Challengers and Aspirers**; anchored to a **USD 1 trillion merchandise export target by 2030**.

Exam hook: EPI is a **NITI Aayog** index topped by **Maharashtra**; do not swap it with **LEADS**, the logistics index of the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.

PIB 2214514 · 2026-01-14

• GI tags by state (Uttar Pradesh leads with 81)

Body: **DPIIT**, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, through the **Geographical Indications Registry at Chennai**.

Law: **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999**; GIs are protected internationally under the **Paris Convention**.

Detail: as of **December 2025**, **Uttar Pradesh leads with 81 GI-tagged products**, followed by **Tamil Nadu (76)** and **Maharashtra (55)**; India has **800+** registered GIs, **607** of them granted since **2014**.

Exam hook: **Darjeeling Tea (West Bengal)** was India's first GI; by category **handicrafts (445)** dwarf agricultural (251), food (66), manufactured (64) and **natural goods (only 5)**.

PIB 2294126 · 2026-08-04

• Nine Years of GST - the consolidated fact-sheet

Body: **GST Council** (GST 2.0 cleared at the **56th Council**); **GSTN** is **50:50 Centre-State owned**.

Law: GST from 1 Jul 2017 under the **101st Constitutional Amendment**; subsumed **17 taxes and 13 cesses**; destination-based consumption tax.

Detail: taxpayers up from **66.5 lakh (2017) to 1.65 crore**; FY26 gross collections about **Rs 22.27 lakh crore**; GST 2.0 (from 22 Sep 2025) left two main slabs - **5% and 18%** - plus **40%** on luxury/sin goods.

Exam hook: which levy is **NOT** subsumed - alcohol for human consumption is **outside** GST and five petroleum goods await Council notification ('outside' vs 'zero-rated').

PIB 2279318 · 2026-06-30

• Income-tax Act, 2025 in force from 1 April 2026

Body: **CBDT** - statutory under the **Central Boards of Revenue Act 1963**; notified the **Income-tax Rules 2026** on 20 March 2026.

Law: **Income-tax Act 2025** in force 1 April 2026, replacing the six-decade-old **1961 Act**; passed 12 Aug 2025, assent 21 Aug 2025; an **Income-Tax (Amendment) Ordinance 2026** was later replaced by an Act in the Monsoon Session.

Detail: simplifies language and structure **without changing tax policy or slabs**.

Exam hook: two-statement - effective date + what changed; it replaces the **1961 Act**, not the **1922 Act**, and simplification is **NOT** a tax-rate change.

PIB 2248005 · 2026-04-01

• WTO MC-14 held at Yaounde, Cameroon

Body: WTO - established 1995, HQ Geneva; the **Ministerial Conference** is its **highest decision-making body**, meeting about every two years.

Detail: **14th Ministerial Conference (MC-14)** held 26-29 Mar 2026 at Yaounde under Cameroon's chairmanship; Goyal met EU Trade Commissioner Maros Sefcovic on the sidelines.

Lineage: MC-13 Abu Dhabi (2024); MC-12 Geneva (2022) adopted the **Fisheries Subsidies Agreement**.

Exam hook: match Ministerial Conference number to host city - Yaounde (MC-14) vs Abu Dhabi (MC-13) vs **Nairobi (MC-10, 2015)**; Cameroon, not Kenya, hosted 2026.

PIB 2245162 · 2026-03-25

• UPI at 10: Rs 314 lakh crore in FY26

Body: NPCI (incorporated 2008) - the RBI-IBA umbrella non-profit that operates UPI; **RBI regulates**.

Law: authorised under the **Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007**.

Detail: **UPI completed 10 years** (launched 11 Apr 2016): FY 2025-26 logged **24,162 crore transactions worth Rs 314 lakh crore**; **55.49 crore users** by Jun 2026; about **49% of global real-time payments**; IMF calls UPI the world's largest retail fast-payment system.

Exam hook: who runs UPI + its launch year - NPCI **operates**, RBI **regulates**; NPCI is neither a bank nor a regulator.

PIB 2257087 · 2026-04-30

• India world's No.1 ship recycler in 2025

Body: UNCTAD - source of the ranking.

Law: India's **Recycling of Ships Act, 2019**, aligning it with the **Hong Kong Convention**, in force since **Jun 2025**.

Detail: India topped global ship recycling in 2025 with a **35.4% share** (up from **30.1%**), recycling **2.99 million GT** - the **MIV 2030 target achieved 5 years early** (22 Jun 2026); hub is **Alang-Sosiya, Gujarat**, the world's largest ship-breaking yard.

Exam hook: India's share + which report - the rank is from the UNCTAD report, not IMO or Lloyd's.

PIB 2276739 · 2026-06-22

• India's FTA network reaches nine agreements

Body: **MoC&I** - Ministry of Commerce & Industry, 6 Mar 2026.

Detail: India's **FTA network reached nine agreements spanning 38 countries**; newest are **India-EU** (27 Jan 2026) and the **US interim framework** (07 Feb 2026).

Lineage: Mauritius **CECPA** (2021), UAE **CEPA** (2022), Australia **ECTA** (2022), **EFTA TEPA** (signed 2024, in force Oct 2025), UK **CETA** (Jul 2025), Oman **CEPA** (Dec 2025), NZ (Dec 2025), EU (Jan 2026), US interim (Feb 2026); **EFTA = Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland**, with a **USD 100 bn** investment pledge.

Exam hook: acronym-partner mismatch - **ECTA=Australia**, **TEPA=EFTA**, **CECPA=Mauritius**, **CETA=UK**, **CEPA=UAE/Oman/Japan/Korea**.

PIB 2236134 · 2026-03-06

• SEBI's 38th Foundation Day and 'Mission Jagrook'

Body: SEBI - securities market regulator, HQ Mumbai; the Finance Minister spoke at its **38th Foundation Day**, 25 Apr 2026, Mumbai.

Law: SEBI **constituted 12 Apr 1988**, made statutory by the **SEBI Act, 1992**; mandate - protect investors, develop and regulate the securities market.

Detail: launch of '**Mission Jagrook**', a nationwide investor-awareness drive; FM also pushed SEBI on **cybersecurity** and action against unregistered **fin-fluencers**.

Exam hook: **1988 vs 1992** - constituted year vs statutory year; name the investor-awareness mission.

PIB 2255490 · 2026-04-25

• New WPI series (base 2022-23) and first Producer Price Indices

Body: **DPIIT** - its Office of the Economic Adviser compiles the **WPI**; released 15 Jun 2026.

Detail: **revised WPI**, base 2022-23, plus the first **Producer Price Indices** - **Output PPI**, **Input PPI** and **Service PPI for 7 services** (banking, insurance, railways, telecom, etc.); basket items up **697 to 957**; solar, wind and nuclear power added under Electricity.

Lineage: on the old series, **April 2026 WPI inflation had spiked to 8.3%** on Fuel & Power; WPI to be **phased out for PPI in 5 years**, per IMF-aligned practice.

Exam hook: WPI carries **no services** - the new **Service PPI** is what covers them; WPI-to-PPI transition + new base year.

PIB 2272872 · 2026-06-15

• BRO's overseas projects (project-to-country match)

Body: **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)**, under the **Ministry of Defence**.

Detail: **Project DANTAK**, BRO's Bhutan mission since **1961**, built **Paro and Yonphula airports**; in **Afghanistan** BRO built the **218 km Delaram-Zaranj Highway (Route 606)**, Afghanistan's road to **Iran** and **Chabahar port**.

Lineage: the **160 km India-Myanmar Friendship Road (Moreh-Tamu-Kalewa)** opened **2001**; BRO also rebuilt the **Farkhor and Ayni air bases in Tajikistan**.

Exam hook: match project to country - **DANTAK = Bhutan**, **Delaram-Zaranj = Afghanistan**, **Friendship Road = Myanmar**, **Farkhor and Ayni = Tajikistan**.

PIB 2215957 · 2026-01-19

• Timor-Leste joins ASEAN (22nd ASEAN-India Summit)

Body: **22nd ASEAN-India Summit**, held 26 Oct 2025 at **Kuala Lumpur**; PM Modi joined virtually; **Malaysia** chaired ASEAN on the theme '**Inclusivity and Sustainability**'.

Detail: **Timor-Leste became the 11th member of ASEAN** and sat at its first ASEAN-India Summit as a full member; ASEAN adopted the **ASEAN Community Vision 2045**.

Lineage: India-ASEAN ties are a **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**; their trade pact is **AITIGA**, under review.

Exam hook: ASEAN now has **11 members**, Timor-Leste the newest;

India is a dialogue partner, NOT an ASEAN member; 2026 was declared the **ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation**.

PIB 2182724 · 2025-10-26

• G20 Summit 2025 (Johannesburg)

Body: hosted by **South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa**; PM Modi's **12th G20 Summit**.

Detail: the **first G20 Leaders' Summit ever held in Africa** -

Johannesburg, 22-23 Nov 2025; India proposed **six ideas**, including a **G20 Africa Skills Multiplier** and a **G20 Global Healthcare Response Team**.

Lineage: it capped **four consecutive Global South presidencies** - **Indonesia, India (2023), Brazil, South Africa**; the **African Union** became a permanent G20 member under India's **2023** presidency.

Exam hook: which continent hosted its first G20 - **Africa**; the **IBSA** leaders' meeting on the sidelines has only **India, Brazil and South Africa**.

PIB 2193046 · 2025-11-22

• India chairs International IDEA (2026)

Body: **CEC Gyanesh Kumar**, for the **Election Commission of India**.

Detail: he assumed the **Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for the year 2026** at **Stockholm, Sweden**, on 3 Dec 2025; **Mauritius and Mexico** are the Vice-Chairs.

Lineage: **International IDEA = International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance**, **35 member countries**, seated at **Stockholm**; India is a **founding member**.

Exam hook: India chairs the **Council of Member States for one year**, it does not head the Secretariat; expand IDEA; name the **two Vice-Chairs**.

PIB 2198520 · 2025-12-03

• India re-elected to the IMO Council (2026-27)

Body: **International Maritime Organization (IMO)**, headquartered in **London**; India's campaign run by the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways**.

Detail: re-elected in **Category B** - the **10 states with the largest interest in international seaborne trade** - with **154 of 169 valid votes**, the **highest tally in the category**, on 28 Nov 2025.

Lineage: the vote was at the **34th IMO Assembly**; the Council has **40 elected members across three categories** and is IMO's executive body between Assemblies.

Exam hook: the term is the **2026-27 biennium**; **Category B is the seaborne-trade category**, distinct from Categories A and C.

PIB 2196103 · 2025-11-28

• India re-elected to the ICAO Council (2025-28)

Body: International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), a UN specialised agency headquartered at Montreal.

Detail: India re-elected to **Part II** of the Council - states making the **largest contribution to international air-navigation facilities** - on **27 Sep 2025** at the **42nd ICAO Assembly**, for the **2025-28** term.

Lineage: India is a **founding member** - it signed the **Chicago Convention in 1944**, ICAO came into being in **1947**, and India has sat on the Council continuously since; the **36-member** Council is chosen by the **193** parties to the **Chicago Convention**; the Assembly meets **every three years**.

Exam hook: ICAO uses **Parts I, II and III**, the IMO uses **Categories A, B and C**; India was also re-elected to the **UPU's Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council** at the **28th Universal Postal Congress, Dubai**.

PIB 2173064 · 2025-09-30

• India's BRICS Chairmanship 2026

Body: India in the chair; PM Modi met **BRICS NSAs and senior security officials in New Delhi on 23 Jun**; working groups ran all year.

Detail: India holds the **BRICS Chairmanship for 2026**, taking over from Brazil; stated focus - the **Global South** and practical cooperation.

Lineage: **Brazil chaired BRICS 2025 (Rio Summit)**; the grouping has expanded - **Ethiopia** in the earlier intake, **Indonesia in 2025**.

Exam hook: the Leaders' Summit under India's chairship had **not yet been held by 15 Aug 2026**; two-statement: 2025 chair + 2026 chair.

PIB 2264402 · 2026-05-22

• Indian War Memorial inaugurated in Seoul

Body: Raksha Mantri **Rajnath Singh** with **ROK's Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs**.

Detail: **Indian War Memorial inaugurated in Seoul, 21 May 2026**; it commemorates India's **60 Parachute Field Ambulance**, the medical unit deployed under the UN flag (**1950-53**).

Lineage: India's Korean War contribution was **medical, not combat**.

Exam hook: country trap - the memorial is in **Seoul (South Korea)**; unit number **60**, not **50**; which Indian unit is commemorated in Seoul.

PIB 2263556 · 2026-05-21

• India at the G7 Summit, Evian (France), 16-18 Jun

Body: PM Modi at the **G7 Summit Outreach, Evian, France, 16-18 Jun 2026**.

Detail: spoke in sessions on rebuilding international solidarity, balanced-shared-sustainable growth, and a **safe, rapid AI rollout**; sideline bilaterals with the **US President**, UK PM **Keir Starmer**, Canada's **Carney**, UAE President **Sheikh Mohamed**, Germany's **Chancellor**, and the **European Council and Commission presidents**.

Lineage: India is **not a G7 member** - it attends as an invited outreach partner.

Exam hook: host trap - **France (Evian)** hosted G7 2026; India sat in outreach sessions, not at the core table; G7 2026 host + India's status.

PIB 2273799 · 2026-06-16

• India-GCC FTA: Terms of Reference + Joint Statement

Body: Ministry of Commerce & Industry - signed by **Piyush Goyal**; counterpart the **Gulf Cooperation Council**.

Detail: **Terms of Reference (ToR) for an India-GCC FTA signed 5 Feb 2026**, Joint Statement on **24 Feb**; GCC established **1981**, HQ **Riyadh**, exactly **6 members** - **Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain**.

Exam hook: member-list trap - **Iraq, Yemen and Jordan are NOT GCC members**; a **ToR is not a concluded FTA**.

PIB 2232327 · 2026-02-24

• IIM Bangalore campus at Singhasari SEZ, Indonesia

Body: Ministry of Education / **IIM Bangalore** - announced **7 Jul 2026** during the PM's Indonesia visit (President **Prabowo Subianto**).

Detail: IIM Bangalore's **first international campus**, at **Singhasari SEZ, Malang**; Phase 1 executive education, Phase 2 degree programmes; curriculum spans **five areas** including **AI and Healthcare Management**. **Lineage:** joins **IIM Ahmedabad (Dubai)**, **IIT Delhi (Abu Dhabi)** and **IIT Madras (Zanzibar - the first IIT abroad)**.

Exam hook: IIM-B goes to **Indonesia**, IIM-A is the **Dubai** one - options swap the two; match institute to overseas campus country.

PIB 2281935 · 2026-07-07

• Exercise Garuda-25 (India-France air)

Body: Indian Air Force with the **French Air and Space Force**.

Detail: **8th edition**, concluded **27 Nov 2025** at **Air Base 118, Mont-de-Marsan, France**; IAF flew **Su-30 MKI** fighters with **IL-78** air-to-air refuellers and **C-17 Globemaster III** transports.

Lineage: Largest IAF international air training engagement of 2025; previous edition **Garuda-VII at Jodhpur, 2022**.

Exam hook: **Garuda = France**, air force. Do not swap with **Garuda Shakti = Indonesia**, special forces.

PIB 2198620 · 2025-12-04

• Exercise Garuda Shakti-X (India-Indonesia special forces)

Body: Indian Army **Parachute Regiment (Special Forces)** with **Indonesian Special Forces**.

Detail: **10th edition, 03-12 Dec 2025**, at the **Special Forces Training School, Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh**; sniping, heliborne operations, counter-UAS and loiter-munition drills in semi-mountainous terrain.

Exam hook: **Garuda Shakti = Indonesia**, land special forces. **Samudra Shakti** is the India-Indonesia **naval drill**; plain **Garuda** is **France**, air.

PIB 2198755 · 2025-12-04

• Exercise Mitra Shakti XI (India-Sri Lanka)

Body: Indian Army **Rajput Regiment** with the **Sri Lanka Army Gajaba Regiment**; air elements from both air forces.

Detail: **11th edition, 10-23 Nov 2025**, at the **Foreign Training Node, Belagavi, Karnataka**; **170** Indian and **135** Sri Lankan personnel; sub-conventional operations under a **UN Chapter VII** mandate.

Exam hook: **Mitra Shakti = Sri Lanka**, army, Belagavi. The India-Sri Lanka **naval exercise** is **SLINEX**; the trilateral coast guard one is **Dosti**.

PIB 2188370 · 2025-11-10

• Exercise Suryakiran XIX (India-Nepal)

Body: Indian Army **Assam Regiment** with the **Nepal Army Devi Datta Regiment**.

Detail: **19th edition, 25 Nov - 08 Dec 2025**, at **Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand**; **334** personnel from each side; jungle warfare, counter-terror operations in mountains, HADR, drone-based ISR.

Exam hook: **Suryakiran = Nepal**. Pithoragarh is the venue trap - the same node hosted **Dustlik**, which is **Uzbekistan**. Match the name to the partner, not the venue.

PIB 2194129 · 2025-11-25

• Exercise Ekuverin-14 (India-Maldives)

Body: Indian Army **Garhwal Rifles** battalion with the **Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF)**.

Detail: **14th edition, 02-15 Dec 2025**, at **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**; **45** personnel per side; counter-insurgency across jungle, semi-urban and coastal terrain.

Lineage: Held **alternately in both countries since 2009**; **Ekuverin** means **Friends in Dhivehi**.

Exam hook: **Ekuverin = Maldives**, army. The India-Maldives **naval-coastal drill** is **Ekatha**; the India-Maldives-Sri Lanka coast guard trilateral is **Dosti**.

PIB 2197611 · 2025-12-02

• Exercise Harimau Shakti-2025 (India-Malaysia)

Body: Indian Army **Dogra Regiment** with the **25th Battalion, Royal Malaysian Army**.

Detail: **5th edition, 05-18 Dec 2025**, at the **Mahajan Field Firing Range, Rajasthan**; cordon-search-and-destroy and heliborne counter-terror drills under a **UN mandate**.

Exam hook: **Harimau Shakti = Malaysia** (harimau = tiger). Venue trap - the same Mahajan range in Rajasthan hosted **Ajeya Warrior-25** with the **UK** three weeks earlier.

PIB 2199345 · 2025-12-05

• Exercise Ajeya Warrior-25 (India-UK army)

Body: Indian Army **Sikh Regiment** with the **British Army**.

Detail: **8th edition, 17-30 Nov 2025**, at the **Foreign Training Node, Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan**; **240** personnel split equally; counter-terrorism in **semi-urban** terrain with brigade-level joint planning. **Lineage:** Held **biennially since 2011**.

Exam hook: **Ajeya Warrior = UK**, army. **Konkan** is the India-UK **navy exercise**, **Indradhanush** the **air force** one, **Konkan Shakti** the tri-service one.

PIB 2190881 · 2025-11-17

• Exercise Desert Cyclone-II (India-UAE)

Body: Indian Army **Mechanised Infantry Regiment** battalion with the **UAE Land Forces 53 Mechanised Infantry Battalion**.
Detail: 2nd edition, 18-30 Dec 2025, at Abu Dhabi, UAE; 45 personnel per side; fighting in built-up areas, heliborne operations, UAS and counter-UAS integration.
Lineage: The first edition was hosted in **Rajasthan in January 2024**.
Exam hook: Desert Cyclone = UAE, army. **Desert Eagle** is the India-UAE air exercise; **Desert Knight** adds France.
 PIB 2205132 · 2025-12-17

• Exercise Khanjar-XIII (India-Kyrgyzstan special forces)

Body: Indian Army **Parachute Regiment (Special Forces)** with Kyrgyzstan's **ILBRIS Special Forces Brigade**.
Detail: 13th edition, 04-17 Feb 2026, at Missamari, Assam; 20 personnel each side; sniping, complex building intervention, mountain craft.
Lineage: Annual, hosted **alternately**; the previous edition was in **Kyrgyzstan, March 2025**.
Exam hook: Khanjar = **Kyrgyzstan**. Do not swap with **Dustlik** = **Uzbekistan** or **Kazind** = **Kazakhstan**.
 PIB 2223244 · 2026-02-04

• Exercise Konkan-25 (India-UK navy)

Body: Indian Navy with the **UK Royal Navy**.
Detail: 05-12 Oct 2025 off India's western seaboard; India fielded the **INS Vikrant** carrier battle group, the UK its **Carrier Strike Group led by HMS Prince of Wales**, with Norwegian and Japanese assets attached.
Lineage: Bilateral series running **over two decades**; framed under **India-UK Vision 2035**.
Exam hook: Konkan = **UK, navy**. **Konkan Shakti** is the **tri-service** India-UK exercise; **Ajeya Warrior** is the army one.
 PIB 2175054 · 2025-10-05

• Exercise Samudra Shakti-2025 (India-Indonesia navy)

Body: Indian Navy **Eastern Naval Command** with the **Indonesian Navy**.
Detail: 5th edition, 14-17 Oct 2025, hosted at **Visakhapatnam**; India fielded **INS Kavaratti**, an ASW corvette, against Indonesia's corvette **KRI John Lie**; VBSS, air defence and weapon-firing drills.
Exam hook: Samudra Shakti = **Indonesia, navy**, hosted in India. The India-Indonesia **army special forces** drill is **Garuda Shakti**; the coordinated patrol is **IND-INDO CORPAT**.
 PIB 2179326 · 2025-10-15

• Exercise Malabar-2025 (Guam)

Body: Multilateral naval exercise of the **Quad navies** - India, **USA, Japan, Australia**.
Detail: Held at **Guam** in the **Northern Pacific**, Nov 2025; India fielded **INS Sahyadri**, an indigenous **Shivalik-class** stealth frigate; harbour phase plus a sea phase of anti-submarine warfare drills.
Lineage: Began **1992** as an **India-US bilateral**; **Japan** became permanent in **2015**, **Australia** joined in **2020**.
Exam hook: Malabar is **multilateral**, not bilateral, and was hosted **outside India** in 2025. **Konkan** (UK), **JAIMEX** (Japan) and **Varuna** (France) are the bilateral ones.
 PIB 2188052 · 2025-11-09

• Tri-Services Exercise Trishul (TSE-2025)

Body: Indian Navy as lead service with the Army's **Southern Command** and the IAF's **South Western Air Command**; **Indian Coast Guard** and **BSF** also took part.
Detail: Held **early Nov 2025** across the **creek and desert sectors of Rajasthan and Gujarat**, with amphibious operations in the **North Arabian Sea**; **Western Naval Command** led.
Exam hook: Trishul = India-only **tri-service**, no foreign partner - the classic which-is-NOT trap, like **Sea Vigil**. Do not read a bilateral partner into it.
 PIB 2189935 · 2025-11-14

• Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 (submarine rescue, XPR-25)

Body: Indian Navy **Submarine Rescue Unit (East)** embarked on **INS Nistar**, India's first indigenous **Diving Support Vessel**.
Detail: 15-25 Sep 2025, hosted by the **Republic of Singapore Navy**, over **40 nations** taking part; India's **DSRV Tiger X** made its **maiden dive outside the Indian Ocean Region** on 23 Sep 2025.
Lineage: Sea phase in the **South China Sea** included Pacific Reach's **first three-asset (R3) rescue drill**.
Exam hook: Pacific Reach = **submarine rescue**, hosted by **Singapore**. **DSRV** is India's **Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle**; the mother ship was **INS Nistar**, not a warship.
 PIB 2173604 · 2025-10-01

• Maiden India-Republic of Korea navy bilateral exercise

Body: Indian Navy with the **Republic of Korea Navy (RoKN)**.
Detail: **Inaugural edition**, Oct 2025, at **Busan Naval Harbour, South Korea**; **INS Sahyadri** exercised with **ROKS Gyeongnam** during the sea phase, as part of a deployment to the **South China Sea**.
Lineage: 2025 also saw India's **maiden bilateral maritime exercise with Greece**, concluded **18 Sep 2025** in the **Mediterranean** with **INS Trikanth** at **Salamis Naval Base**.
Exam hook: Two **first-ever** naval bilaterals in one year - **South Korea** (Busan, **INS Sahyadri**) and **Greece** (Mediterranean, **INS Trikanth**). Match ship to partner.
 PIB 2179047 · 2025-10-14

• IAF-Royal Thai Air Force in-situ exercise

Body: Indian Air Force with the **Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF)**.
Detail: 09-12 Feb 2026 over the **Indian Ocean Region**; IAF flew **Su-30 MKI** with **IL-78** tankers and **AWACS** from bases in the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**, against RTAF **SAAB Gripen** jets flying from Thailand.
Exam hook: India-Thailand air engagement, framed under **Act East**. The India-Thailand **army** exercise is **Maitree**; the naval coordinated patrol is **Indo-Thai CORPAT**.
 PIB 2227536 · 2026-02-13

• Indian Navy takes first-ever command of CTF 154

Body: **Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)**, the **47-nation** coalition; India took over **Combined Task Force (CTF) 154**.
Detail: Change of command **11 Feb 2026** at **CMF Headquarters, Manama, Bahrain**; **Cmde Milind M Mokashi** took over from an **Italian** Navy officer; CTF 154 does **training and capacity building**.
Lineage: CMF's other task forces - **CTF 150** maritime security, **CTF 151** counter-piracy, **CTF 152** Arabian Gulf, **CTF 153** Red Sea.
Exam hook: India's first-ever command of a CMF task force is **CTF 154** = **training**, not **CTF 151** = **counter-piracy**.
 PIB 2226776 · 2026-02-12

• Operation Sagar Bandhu (HADR to Sri Lanka)

Body: Indian Navy, with Search-and-Rescue and **HADR** support after **Cyclone Ditwah**.
Detail: By **08 Dec 2025** the Navy had sent **INS Gharial** and **LCUs 51, 54 and 57** with **1,000 tonnes** of stores to **Colombo and Trincomalee**.
Lineage: **INS Vikrant**, **INS Udaygiri** and **INS Sukanya** had rendered the earlier heliborne relief.
Exam hook: Sagar Bandhu = **Sri Lanka**, cyclone **Ditwah**, 2025. Do not confuse with **Operation Brahma** (Myanmar earthquake) or **Operation Karuna** (Myanmar cyclone).
 PIB 2200316 · 2025-12-08

• Sagar Maitri-5 mission (INS Sagardhwani)

Body: **Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL)**, Kochi - a **DRDO** lab - with the Indian Navy.
Detail: **INS Sagardhwani** was flagged off from **Southern Naval Command, Kochi** on **17 Jan 2026**; the mission covers **eight Indian Ocean Rim countries** - Oman, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Myanmar.
Lineage: Retraces the route of **INS Kistna** from the **International Indian Ocean Expedition, 1962-65**; aligned to the **MAHASAGAR** vision; scientific arm is **MAITRI**.
Exam hook: **Sagardhwani** belongs to **NPOL/DRDO**, not to a warship fleet; Sagar Maitri is **ocean research**, not a naval exercise.
 PIB 2215791 · 2026-01-18

• INS Mahe commissioned (first Mahe-class ASW-SWC)

Body: Built by **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)**, Kochi; joined **Western Naval Command**.
Detail: Commissioned **24 Nov 2025** at **Naval Dockyard, Mumbai**; **lead ship of eight** in her class, over **80% indigenous content**; crest carries the **Urumi**, the flexible sword of **Kalaripayattu**; motto **Silent Hunters**.
Lineage: Named after the coastal town of **Mahe** on the **Malabar Coast**; the ceremony was presided over by the **Chief of the Army Staff**, not a naval chief.
Exam hook: **Mahe class** = **Cochin Shipyard**. The other ASW-SWC line, led by **Arnala** and **Androth**, is built by **GRSE, Kolkata** - the shipyard is the trap.
 PIB 2193558 · 2025-11-24

• INS Androth commissioned (second ASW-SWC)

Body: Built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata; joined Eastern Naval Command.
Detail: Commissioned 06 Oct 2025 at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam; second Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft; 77 m long, over 80% indigenous, driven by three waterjet propulsion systems.
Lineage: Named after Androth, the northernmost island of the Lakshadweep group.
Exam hook: Androth = GRSE, Kolkata, commissioned in Visakhapatnam; Mahe = Cochin Shipyard, commissioned in Mumbai. Both are ASW-SWC - separate them by yard and coast.
 PIB 2175480 · 2025-10-06

• INS Ikshak commissioned (third Survey Vessel Large)

Body: Built by GRSE, Kolkata; commissioned by the Chief of the Naval Staff.
Detail: Commissioned 06 Nov 2025 at Naval Base, Kochi; third of the Survey Vessel (Large) class; dual-role - hydrographic survey plus HADR or hospital-ship duty; first SVL designed with dedicated women's accommodation.
Exam hook: Ikshak = survey/hydrographic, not a combatant. Its sister survey vessels are Sandhayak and Nirdeshak; Sagardhwani is a DRDO/NPOL research ship, a different family.
 PIB 2187178 · 2025-11-06

• ICGS Samudra Pratap commissioned (first indigenous Pollution Control Vessel)

Body: Indian Coast Guard; built by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL).
Detail: Commissioned 05 Jan 2026 in Goa by the Raksha Mantri; India's first indigenously designed Pollution Control Vessel, the largest ship in the ICG fleet, over 60% indigenous.
Lineage: In a first for a frontline ICG ship, women officers were appointed to her complement.
Exam hook: Samudra Pratap = ICG, pollution control, GSL-built - not a Navy warship. Roles: pollution response, fire-fighting, maritime safety.
 PIB 2211397 · 2026-01-05

• INAS 335 'The Ospreys' commissioned (MH-60R squadron)

Body: Indian Navy air squadron under Western Naval Command.
Detail: Commissioned 17 Dec 2025 at INS Hansa, Goa by the Chief of the Naval Staff; the second naval air squadron flying the MH-60R, an all-weather ASW, anti-surface warfare, SAR and MEDEVAC helicopter.
Lineage: The first MH-60R squadron was commissioned at Kochi in March 2024.
Exam hook: MH-60R Seahawk comes from the USA. INAS 335 is based at Goa (INS Hansa), the earlier squadron at Kochi - do not swap the bases.
 PIB 2205534 · 2025-12-17

• Agni-Prime launched from a rail-based mobile launcher

Body: DRDO with the Strategic Forces Command (SFC).
Detail: Launched 24 Sep 2025 in a full operational scenario; Agni-Prime (Agni-P) is an intermediate-range missile designed for up to 2,000 km; a first-of-its-kind firing from a rail-based mobile launcher.
Lineage: The road-mobile Agni-P was already inducted after earlier flight trials.
Exam hook: This test put India among the few nations with a canisterised launch system fired from a rail network. User is the SFC, not the Army or IAF.
 PIB 2170979 · 2025-09-25

• Agni-3 IRBM test-fired

Body: Tested under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command (SFC).
Detail: Agni-3, an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile, was successfully test-fired on 06 Feb 2026 from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha; all operational and technical parameters were validated.
Exam hook: Agni-3 = IRBM, launched from Chandipur, user SFC. Within the family, Agni-P is the newer intermediate-range entrant and Agni-5 the intercontinental-class one - the range tier is the trap.
 PIB 2224636 · 2026-02-06

• Pralay missile salvo launch

Body: Developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad of DRDO; production partners Bharat Dynamics Ltd and Bharat Electronics Ltd.
Detail: Two Pralay missiles fired in salvo from one launcher on 31 Dec 2025 off the Odisha coast, tracked by ITR, Chandipur; these were user evaluation trials for the IAF and Army.
Lineage: Pralay is an indigenous solid-propellant quasi-ballistic missile able to carry multiple warhead types.
Exam hook: Pralay = quasi-ballistic, a surface-to-surface tactical missile - not a cruise missile like BrahMos and not an air-defence missile like Akash.
 PIB 2210128 · 2025-12-31

• Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR-120) maiden test

Body: Designed by the Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) with the High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL).
Detail: Maiden flight test on 29 Dec 2025 at ITR, Chandipur; the rocket was tested to its maximum range of 120 km and hit the target with precision.
Lineage: Fired from the in-service Pinaka launcher, proving that Pinaka variants of different ranges can share one launcher.
Exam hook: Pinaka is a multi-barrel rocket launcher system, not a missile; the 120 km guided rocket is the long-range variant, well above the original Pinaka Mk-I.
 PIB 2209588 · 2025-12-29

• Director General, NCC (Lt Gen Virendra Vats)

Body: National Cadet Corps, under the Ministry of Defence.
Detail: Lt Gen Virendra Vats took over as DG NCC on 01 Oct 2025, succeeding Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh; commissioned into 19 KUMAON in 1988; earlier Commandant, Defence Services Staff College, Wellington.
Lineage: NCC raised in 1948; motto Unity and Discipline; cadet strength being expanded to 20 lakh across 28 States and 8 UTs.
Exam hook: NCC sits under MoD, not the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Puneet Sagar Abhiyan is an NCC campaign.
 PIB 2173448 · 2025-10-01

• Republic Day 2026 gallantry awards (Armed Forces)

Body: Approved by President Droupadi Murmu on the eve of the 77th Republic Day.
Detail: 70 gallantry awards (six posthumous) plus 301 distinguished-service decorations; break-up 1 Ashoka Chakra, 3 Kirti Chakras, 13 Shaurya Chakras, 44 Sena Medals (Gallantry), 6 Nao Sena Medals, 2 Vayu Sena Medals.
Lineage: The lone Ashoka Chakra went to Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla (IAF); Shaurya Chakras to Navy circumnavigators Lt Cdr Dilna K and Lt Cdr Roopa A.
Exam hook: Peacetime order of precedence is Ashoka Chakra, then Kirti Chakra, then Shaurya Chakra; their wartime equivalents are Param Vir Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra and Vir Chakra.
 PIB 2218540 · 2026-01-25

• 97 LCA Mk1A contract (HAL, Rs 62,370 crore)

Body: Ministry of Defence with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), for the Indian Air Force.
Detail: Signed 25 Sep 2025 for over Rs 62,370 crore - 97 LCA Mk1A, made up of 68 fighters and 29 twin-seaters; indigenous content over 64%; deliveries start 2027-28 and run six years.
Lineage: Follows the previous LCA Mk1A contract of January 2021, with 67 additional items added; category Buy (Indian-IDDM) under DAP 2020.
Exam hook: Carries the indigenous UTTAM AESA radar and Swayam Raksha Kavach; Tejas is designed by ADA and built by HAL - the engine is imported GE F404.
 PIB 2171108 · 2025-09-25

• DRDO system code names (2025 round-up)

Body: DRDO laboratories, with Indian industry as production partners.
Detail: Anant Shastra is the Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM) system; Ashwini is a Low Level Transportable Radar; Gaurav is a Long Range Glide Bomb; BOSS is the Border Surveillance System.
Lineage: Other systems cleared or trialled in 2025 include Astra Mk-II BVRAAM, AEW&C Mk-1A, IADWS and NAG Mk-2 (Tracked).
Exam hook: Match name to type - Anant Shastra is surface-to-air, Pralay is surface-to-surface, Rudram-2 is air-to-surface and MPATGM is anti-tank.
 PIB 2210663 · 2026-01-01

• **BSF Diamond Jubilee (Bhuj, Nov 2025)**

Body: Border Security Force, a CAPF under the Ministry of Home Affairs; Director General Daljit Singh Chawdhary.

Detail: Diamond Jubilee (60 years) celebrated at Bhuj, Gujarat on 21 Nov 2025 by Home Minister Amit Shah; a commemorative postage stamp was released and the General Chaudhary, Maharana Pratap and Ashwini Kumar Trophies awarded.

Lineage: BSF raised on 01 December 1965 after the 1965 war; 2,013 BSF personnel have made the supreme sacrifice; over 18,000 kg of drugs seized in 2025.

Exam hook: BSF guards the Pakistan and Bangladesh borders; the China border is ITBP and the Nepal and Bhutan borders are SSB - one force per border, do not swap.

PIB 2192508 · 2025-11-21

• **New-model Sainik School, Mehsana (Gujarat)**

Body: Sainik Schools Society, Ministry of Defence; this school inaugurated by Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah.

Detail: Shri Motibhai R. Chaudhary Sagar Sainik School (MRCSSS) at Mehsana, Gujarat, inaugurated 13 Nov 2025, promoted by the Doodhsagar Dairy cooperative.

Lineage: Part of the plan for 100 new Sainik Schools in public-private partnership (PPP) mode, running alongside the older Society-run Sainik Schools.

Exam hook: Sainik Schools come under MoD, while Rashtriya Military Schools are run by the Army; India's first all-girls Sainik School is Samvid Gurukulam, Vrindavan (Uttar Pradesh).

PIB 2189731 · 2025-11-13

• **Exercise Dharma Guardian 2026 (India-Japan army)**

Body: Indian Army with the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF).

Detail: 7th edition, at the Foreign Training Node, Chaubattia, Uttarakhand, 24 Feb to 9 Mar 2026; 120 personnel each side; Indian troops from the Ladakh Scouts, Japanese from the 32nd Infantry Regiment.

Lineage: annual, held alternately in India and Japan; theme is joint operations in a semi-urban environment.

Exam hook: Dharma Guardian = JAPAN, army. Do not swap with Vajra Prahar (USA) or Mitra Shakti (Sri Lanka); the venue is Chaubattia, not Pithoragarh - that is Dustlik with Uzbekistan.

PIB 2232191 · 2026-02-24

• **Exercise Vajra Prahar 2026 (India-US special forces)**

Body: Indian Army Special Forces with the US Army Green Berets.

Detail: 16th edition, at the Special Forces Training School, Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh, 24 Feb to 16 Mar 2026; 45 Indian and 12 US personnel; focus on special operations in mountainous terrain.

Lineage: previous edition at the Orchard Combat Training Centre, Idaho, USA (Nov 2024) - the venue alternates between the two countries.

Exam hook: Vajra Prahar = USA, SPECIAL FORCES; the India-US ARMY exercise is Yudh Abhyas, and the air one is Cope India - three different India-US drills.

PIB 2232288 · 2026-02-24

• **Exercise Lamitiye-2026 (India-Seychelles)**

Body: Indian Armed Forces with the Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF).

Detail: 11th edition, at the Seychelles Defence Academy, 9 to 20 Mar 2026; 'Lamitiye' means 'Friendship' in Creole; Indian side led by the Assam Regiment, joined by INS Trikand and a C-130 aircraft.

Lineage: biennial, held in Seychelles since 2001; this was the first Lamitiye with all three Indian services taking part.

Exam hook: Lamitiye = SEYCHELLES, and it is held in Seychelles, not alternately; the India-Maldives drill is Ekuverin, the India-Sri Lanka one Mitra Shakti.

PIB 2236791 · 2026-03-09

• **Exercise Cyclone-IV (India-Egypt special forces)**

Body: Indian Army Special Forces with Egyptian special forces.

Detail: 4th edition, held at Anshas, Egypt, 9 to 17 Apr 2026; 25 Indian Special Forces personnel; training set in desert and semi-desert terrain.

Lineage: the previous (3rd) edition was hosted in India - Cyclone alternates between the two countries.

Exam hook: Cyclone = EGYPT, a SPECIAL FORCES drill - not to be confused with Desert Cyclone, which is India-UAE; both carry 'Cyclone' and both are desert exercises.

PIB 2250186 · 2026-04-08

• **Exercise Dustlik 2026 (India-Uzbekistan)**

Body: Indian Armed Forces with the Uzbekistan Army and Air Force.

Detail: 7th edition, at the Gurumsaray Field Training Area, Namangan, Uzbekistan, 12 to 25 Apr 2026; Indian contingent of 60 - 45 Army from the Mahar Regiment plus 15 IAF; semi-mountainous terrain.

Lineage: annual, alternating; the 6th edition was at the Foreign Training Node, Aundh (Pune), Apr 2025; an earlier edition was hosted at Pithoragarh.

Exam hook: Dustlik = UZBEKISTAN; the venue flips each year, so match the EDITION to the venue - Aundh 2025, Namangan 2026.

PIB 2251300 · 2026-04-12

• **Exercise PRAGATI 2026 (multilateral, Umroi)**

Body: Indian Army; opened by Maj Gen Sunil Sheoran, ADG Infantry; two-week drill on counter-terrorism in semi-mountainous and jungle terrain.

Detail: PRAGATI = Partnership of Regional Armies for Growth and Transformation in the Indian Ocean Region; held at Umroi Military Station, Meghalaya, 20 to 30 May 2026, with 12 partner nations - Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

Exam hook: PRAGATI is MULTILATERAL, not bilateral, and is an Indian Ocean Region grouping - remember the 12-nation count and the venue Umroi, Meghalaya.

PIB 2263122 · 2026-05-20

• **INS Anjadip commissioned (Arnala-class ASW-SWC)**

Body: Indian Navy; built by GRSE, Kolkata with L&T Shipbuilding, Kattupalli; commissioned by Adm Dinesh K Tripathi, CNS.

Detail: INS Anjadip, an Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), commissioned at Chennai Port, 27 Feb 2026; 77 m, 1,400 tonnes, over 80% indigenous, nicknamed the 'Dolphin Hunter'.

Lineage: joins INS Arnala and INS Androth in the GRSE-built Arnala-class series; named after Anjadip island off the Karwar coast; based under the Tamil Nadu and Puducherry Naval Area.

Exam hook: an ASW-SWC is a shallow-water littoral craft, NOT a frigate - do not group it with the Project 17A Nilgiri-class; GRSE-built but commissioned at CHENNAI, not Kolkata.

PIB 2233666 · 2026-02-27

• **INS Malvan commissioned (2nd Mahe-class ASW-SWC)**

Body: Indian Navy; built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi; commissioned by Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, Chief of the Air Staff.

Detail: INS Malvan commissioned at Karwar, 22 Jul 2026 - the 2nd of 8 Mahe-class ASW-SWCs from CSL and the 6th of 16 ASW-SWCs the Navy will take; over 80% indigenous.

Lineage: named after Malvan, Maharashtra, tied to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's maritime legacy; crest carries the 'Bagh Nakha' (Tiger's Claw), motto 'Silent Claws'.

Exam hook: 16 ASW-SWCs split across two yards - CSL Kochi builds the Mahe class, GRSE Kolkata the Arnala class; an IAF chief commissioned a NAVY ship here.

PIB 2287788 · 2026-07-22

• **'Kusha' Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile maiden test**

Body: DRDO - the missiles, radars and command-and-control centre all built by DRDO labs with industry partners; a capability held by only a handful of nations.

Detail: maiden flight-test of the 'Kusha' Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, off the Odisha coast, on 23 Jul 2026; it intercepted an electronic target simulating a high-speed, high-altitude aerial threat.

Exam hook: Kusha = LONG-range SAM; do not swap with Akash (medium-range), QRSAM (quick-reaction) or VSHORADS (very short-range) - the DRDO air-defence family is a classic match-the-range question.

PIB 2288526 · 2026-07-23

• **Maj Abhilasha Barak - UN Military Gender Advocate 2026**

Body: Indian Army officer serving with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Detail: Major Abhilasha Barak conferred the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award, announced 7 Jun 2026; she serves as Engagement Team Commander and Gender Focal Point in UNIFIL.

Lineage: she was the first woman officer of the Indian Army to join the Army Aviation Corps as a combat aviator (2022).

Exam hook: the award is a United Nations peacekeeping honour, not an Indian gallantry award; the mission is UNIFIL, in LEBANON - not UNMISS (South Sudan) or MONUSCO (DR Congo).

PIB 2269987 · 2026-06-07

- **Chairman DRDO / Secretary DDR&D (Rajesh Kumar Singh)**
Body: DRDO sits under the **Department of Defence R&D (DDR&D)**, Ministry of Defence; the office is titled **Secretary, DDR&D and Chairman, DRDO**.
Detail: From **June 2026** the office is held by **Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh**, styled **Defence Secretary and Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman, DRDO** - the DRDO chair carried **together with the Defence Secretary's post**.
Lineage: he followed **Dr Samir V. Kamat**, a **metallurgist** who was Chairman from **2022** and was last named in the post in **May 2026**; DRDO was raised in **1958**.
Exam hook: in 2026 the DRDO chief is a **serving civil servant holding dual charge**, not a career DRDO scientist; DRDO Foundation Day stays **01 January**.
PIB 2272374 · 2026-06-13
- **Women cadets at the NDA (state-wise leaders)**
Body: **National Defence Academy (NDA)**, Khadakwasla; women's entry follows the **Supreme Court's 2021 order**, the first women joining in **2022**.
Detail: as of **March 2025**, **Haryana** sends the **most women cadets to the NDA** with **35**, followed by **Uttar Pradesh (28)** and **Rajasthan (13)**; **158** women cadets had joined the Academy by early **2026**.
Lineage: the **Army** raised its annual women-cadet intake from **80 to 144** vacancies in **2024**, an **80%** rise; the **Air Force** holds **6 NDA vacancies per course** - 2 Flying, 2 Ground Duty (Tech), 2 Ground Duty (Non-Tech) - up to **2027**.
Exam hook: **Haryana is first**, not Punjab or Uttarakhand; women officers across the armed forces number about **11,000** - do not confuse that with the **158 NDA women cadets**.
PIB 2236551 · 2026-03-08
- **INS Mahendragiri commissioned - 6th P-17A in 1.5 years**
Body: Indian Navy; built by MDL (Mazagon Dock, Mumbai), commissioned with the **Raksha Mantri** presiding.
Detail: stealth frigate **INS Mahendragiri** commissioned into the **Eastern Fleet at Visakhapatnam, 11 Jul 2026** - the **6th Project 17A frigate** inducted in about **1.5 years** (delivered by MDL on **30 Apr 2026**); about **6,670 t**, **28 knots**, **BrahMos-capable**, **75%+ indigenous**.
Lineage: P-17A induction order - **Nilgiri (Jan 2025)**, **Udaygiri and Himgiri (Aug 2025)**, **Taragiri (Apr 2026)**, **Dunagiri (Jun 2026)**, **Mahendragiri (Jul 2026)**.
Exam hook: MDL Mumbai build but **EASTERN Fleet basing**; sister **Dunagiri** was **GRSE-built and PM-commissioned at Kolkata**; sequence/count of P-17A commissionings.
PIB 2283586 · 2026-07-11
- **First NDA women cadets commissioned - 17 officers**
Body: **National Defence Academy (NDA)**, Khadakwasla; commissioning by the service academies - **IMA Dehradun**, **AFA Dundigal**, **INA Ezhimala**.
Law: women first JOINED NDA in **Aug 2022** after the **Supreme Court's 2021 orders**.
Detail: the **FIRST** batch of NDA-trained women - **17 cadets of the 148th Course** - commissioned **May-Jun 2026**: **9 Army (IMA POP, 13 Jun)**, reviewed by the President), **5 IAF (AFA, 217 Course CGP, 13 Jun)**, **3 Navy (INA, 28 May)**.
Exam hook: the **17 women split 9-5-3** across **Army-IAF-Navy**; AFA's parade also had **37 women among 231 total cadets** - do not conflate the two figures; commissioning follows service-academy pre-commission training, not directly from NDA.
PIB 2272587 · 2026-06-13
- **iDEX and ADITI schemes - the innovation pair**
Body: Ministry of Defence - the **Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO)** runs iDEX.
Detail: **iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence, 2018)** had engaged **676 start-ups/MSMEs** and signed **551 design-and-development contracts** by **Mar 2026**; outlay **Rs 498.78 crore (2021-26)**.
Lineage: **ADITI (Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX)** is its deep-tech add-on, outlay **Rs 750 crore (2023-26)**.
Exam hook: **ADITI sits UNDER the iDEX umbrella** - not a separate ministry scheme; funding flows via **DIO, not DRDO**; two-statement iDEX parent body + ADITI outlay.
PIB 2273854 · 2026-06-17
- **INS Taragiri commissioned - Project 17A frigate**
Body: Indian Navy; built by **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MDL)**, **Mumbai**; designed by the Navy's **Warship Design Bureau**.
Detail: stealth frigate **INS Taragiri (Project 17A)** commissioned at **Visakhapatnam on 03 Apr 2026**; about **6,670 tonnes**, armed with **BrahMos** and **MRSAM**, **75%+ indigenous**.
Lineage: P-17A = **Nilgiri-class**, **7 frigates**, follow-on to the **Shivalik-class (P-17)**, split **4 MDL + 3 GRSE**; lead ship **Nilgiri** was **Jan 2025**.
Exam hook: 2026 commissioning order - **Taragiri (Apr)**, **Dunagiri (Jun)**, **Mahendragiri (Jul)**; P-17A class name and shipyard split.
PIB 2248799 · 2026-04-03
- **Operation Southern Readiness 26-2 with CMF at Kochi**
Body: Indian Navy at **Southern Naval Command, Kochi**, with the **Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)** - a **40+ nation** partnership.
Detail: **Operation Southern Readiness 26-2**, a **4-day multinational maritime-security TRAINING** engagement, **20-23 Jul 2026**, run under the **Indian Navy-led Combined Task Force 154 (CTF 154)**, CMF's dedicated Training Task Force; modules on maritime law, counter-narcotics, boarding, damage control.
Exam hook: despite the name it is a **training event, not a combat operation**; **CTF 154 (training)** differs from CMF's **counter-piracy/narcotics task forces (150/151)**; which CMF task force does India lead.
PIB 2285282 · 2026-07-16
- **Independence Day 2026 gallantry list - 78 awards, 89 MiD**
Body: **President of India** approves; the list covers the **Defence Forces and CAPFs (Ministry of Defence / MHA)**.
Detail: announced on the eve of the **80th Independence Day (14 Aug 2026)** - **78 Gallantry awards** (13 posthumous) and **89 Mention-in-Despatches**; headline break-up **9 Kirti Chakras** (7 posthumous), **19 Shaurya Chakras**, **36 Sena Medals (Gallantry)**.
Exam hook: totals + which is NOT a gallantry medal - **Mention-in-Despatches is a recognition, not a medal** in the gallantry ladder; **Sena Medal** exists in both gallantry and distinguished-service variants.
PIB 2299540 · 2026-08-14
- **International Fleet Review 2026 at Visakhapatnam - 'United Through Oceans'**
Body: Indian Navy; reviewed by **President Droupadi Murmu** as **Supreme Commander**.
Detail: **International Fleet Review (IFR) 2026** off **Visakhapatnam, 18 Feb 2026**; navies of **70+ countries**; theme '**United Through Oceans**'; ran alongside **Exercise MILAN 2026** in the same port.
Lineage: an IFR gathers **FOREIGN navies** for review by the President; India's earlier IFRs **2001 (Mumbai)** and **2016 (Visakhapatnam)** - 2026 is **Visakhapatnam's second**.
Exam hook: match event-city-theme / which city hosted IFR twice; **IFR (international, occasional) vs President's Fleet Review (only Indian ships, once per President's tenure)**; **MILAN is the multilateral EXERCISE, IFR is the REVIEW**.
PIB 2229534 · 2026-02-18
- **IMEX TTX 2026 - India takes IONS chair 2026-28**
Body: **IONS = Indian Ocean Naval Symposium**, launched by India in **2008**; venue **Maritime Warfare Centre, Southern Naval Command, Kochi**.
Detail: **IONS Maritime Exercise (IMEX) 2026 table-top exercise, 27 Mar 2026**, with **12 member navies** - participants included **Bangladesh, France, Kenya, Tanzania, Timor-Leste**.
Lineage: India assumes the **IONS Chairmanship for 2026-28**, after a **16-year gap**.
Exam hook: two-statement IONS full form + India's chairmanship cycle; **IONS (navies' forum, 2008) vs IORA (governments' association)** are different bodies, and **IMEX is IONS's own exercise**.
PIB 2246627 · 2026-03-29

• **Exercise PITCH BLACK 2026 - IAF Rafales at Darwin**

Body: Indian Air Force (IAF) with the **Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF)**.

Detail: Exercise Pitch Black 2026, 20 Jul-07 Aug, at RAAF Base Darwin, Australia; IAF fielded Rafale fighters with C-17

Globemaster-III and IL-78 refuellers; Large Force Employment drills.

Lineage: RAAF's premier biennial multinational air combat exercise, named for its emphasis on NIGHT flying; IAF took part in 2018, 2022 and 2024.

Exam hook: Pitch Black = Australia (air) vs AUSTRALIND (Army) vs AUSINDEX (Navy) - match Australia exercises to service.

PIB 2286254 · 2026-07-19

• **'Samudra Pradakshina' - all-women tri-service circumnavigation**

Body: Ministry of Defence - tri-service expedition, flagged in by the Raksha Mantri (RM).

Detail: India's first tri-service all-women circumnavigation; 9 women officers aboard IASV Triveni (an Indian ARMY sailing vessel) sailed 314 days and about 25,500 nautical miles, out of Mumbai 11 Sep 2025, back 22 Jul 2026; rounded the Three Great Capes - Leeuwin, Horn, Good Hope.

Exam hook: Samudra Pradakshina (tri-service, IASV Triveni) vs Navika Sagar Parikrama II (Navy, INSV Tarini, two officers) - match expedition to vessel and composition.

PIB 2287716 · 2026-07-22

• **DAC clears Rs 2.38 lakh crore AoNs (Mar 2026)**

Body: Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) - MoD's apex capital-procurement body, chaired by the Raksha Mantri.

Detail: on 27 Mar 2026 accorded AoNs worth about Rs 2.38 lakh crore - Army: Air Defence Tracked System, Dhanush guns, armour-piercing tank ammo; IAF: Medium Transport Aircraft, S-400 LR-SAM, Remotely Piloted Strike Aircraft.

Lineage: AoN (Acceptance of Necessity) is only the in-principle FIRST stage, not a contract.

Exam hook: which item is NOT in the Mar 2026 DAC list; Dhanush = indigenous 155mm towed howitzer ('desi Bofors') vs S-400 = Russian import AoN.

PIB 2246125 · 2026-03-27

• **H125 helicopter Final Assembly Line at Vemagal - Tata-Airbus**

Body: Tata Advanced Systems with Airbus; inaugurated virtually from Mumbai by PM Modi and French President Macron.

Detail: Final Assembly Line (FAL) for the Airbus H125 light utility helicopter at Vemagal, Karnataka, inaugurated 17 Feb 2026 - India's first PRIVATE-sector helicopter FAL; H125 is a civil single-engine helicopter, assembled in India for India and export.

Lineage: follows the Tata-Airbus C-295 transport aircraft plant at Vadodara.

Exam hook: H125 (Airbus civil helicopter, Tata FAL, Karnataka) vs LUH (HAL's indigenous Light Utility Helicopter) vs C-295 (transport plane, Gujarat) - match aircraft-partner-place; first private helicopter FAL.

PIB 2229395 · 2026-02-17

• **Ex-Agniveer quota in CAPFs - 50 percent of Constable(GD) vacancies**

Body: MHA - a dedicated Ex-Agniveer wing coordinates progression (Lok Sabha reply, 21 Jul 2026).

Detail: Ex-Agniveer category created for Constable (General Duty)/Rifleman recruitment in CAPFs and Assam Rifles - 50% of vacancies reserved, 3-year upper-age relaxation (5 years for the first batch), exemption from PST, PET and the written exam.

Lineage: under Agnipath (2022), up to 25% of each batch is retained in the regular armed forces after 4 years.

Exam hook: the 50% CAPF quota is an MHA provision for EX-Agniveers, distinct from the 25% retention within the military; two-statement on quota percentage + exemptions.

PIB 2287043 · 2026-07-21

• **Exercise KHAAN QUEST 2026 - 23rd iteration, Mongolia**

Body: Indian Army contingent - 40 personnel, Jat Regiment; hosted by Mongolia, multilateral peacekeeping exercise.

Detail: KHAAN QUEST, 20 Jun-03 Jul 2026, Five Hills Training Area, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia - the 23rd iteration; trains contingents for UN Chapter VII peace support - checkpoints, cordon-and-search, casualty evacuation, counter-IED.

Lineage: began 2003 as a US-Mongolia bilateral, multilateral since 2006.

Exam hook: Khaan Quest (multilateral, Mongolia-hosted) vs Nomadic Elephant (the India-Mongolia BILATERAL exercise) - both in Mongolia. PIB 2274656 · 2026-06-18

• **Netra AEW&C gets Final Operational Clearance**

Body: DRDO - built by its CABS (Centre for Air Borne Systems); certificate handed to the IAF at Bengaluru.

Detail: Final Operational Clearance (FOC) for the indigenous 'Netra' AEW&C granted 25 Jun 2026; Netra = Airborne Early Warning & Control radar aircraft on an Embraer jet; used in Balakot and Op Sindoor.

Lineage: IOC came in 2017.

Exam hook: Netra (DRDO radar on Embraer) vs the IAF's Phalcon AWACS (Israeli radar on IL-76); FOC 2026 vs IOC 2017; two-statement on developer + IOC/FOC years.

PIB 2277899 · 2026-06-25

• **Exercise MILAN 2026 - 74 countries at Visakhapatnam**

Body: Indian Navy - hosted by Eastern Naval Command at Visakhapatnam.

Detail: Exercise MILAN 2026, Feb 2026, the Navy's premier multilateral naval exercise - 74 countries; harbour phase + sea phase; closing ceremony aboard INS Vikrant, alongside an International Fleet Review; billed 'Maritime Mahakumbh', aligned to the MAHASAGAR vision (evolution of SAGAR).

Lineage: began 1995 at Port Blair; now biennial.

Exam hook: MILAN is India-HOSTED multilateral - not RIMPAC (US-hosted), not TROPEX (all-Indian theatre-level exercise); two-statement on host city + participating count.

PIB 2230212 · 2026-02-19

• **VAdm Vineet McCarty - 20th C-in-C Andaman & Nicobar Command**

Body: Andaman & Nicobar Command (ANC) - created 2001, India's ONLY tri-service operational command; HQ at Sri Vijaya Puram (Port Blair, renamed 2024).

Detail: Vice Admiral Vineet McCarty took over as 20th

Commander-in-Chief on 01 Jun 2026; came from tri-service posts at HQ IDS; was 10th Commandant, Indian Naval Academy.

Exam hook: ANC is the only tri-service OPERATIONAL command, while Strategic Forces Command is tri-service but FUNCTIONAL; two-statement on ANC's uniqueness + its HQ city.

PIB 2267569 · 2026-06-01

• **Scramjet combustor 1,200-second test, DRDL**

Body: DRDO - DRDL (Defence Research & Development Laboratory), Hyderabad; Scramjet Connect Pipe Test facility.

Detail: actively-cooled full-scale scramjet combustor run for over 1,200 seconds on 9 May 2026; burns indigenous endothermic liquid hydrocarbon fuel.

Lineage: builds on a 700+ second run of Jan 2026 - a GROUND test, not a missile flight-test.

Exam hook: scramjet = supersonic-combustion ramjet, the air-breathing engine for hypersonic (Mach 5+) cruise missiles; two-statement on definition + hypersonic link.

PIB 2259482 · 2026-05-09

• **PM tri-commissioning at Kolkata: Dunagiri, Sanshodhak, Agray**

Body: GRSE-built, designed by the Warship Design Bureau; tri-commissioning by PM Modi at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, 21 Jun 2026.

Detail: THREE ships commissioned together - stealth frigate INS Dunagiri (5th P-17A), survey vessel INS Sanshodhak (4th and final SVL) and INS Agray (Arnala-class ASW-SWC); 75%+ indigenous, 200+ MSMEs; date coincided with World Hydrography Day and Yoga Day.

Lineage: Sanshodhak completes the 4-ship Sandhayak-class survey programme (Sandhayak, Nirdeshak, Ikshak earlier); the eight-ship Arnala class is Arnala, Androth, Anjadip, Amini, Abhay, Agray, Akshay, Ajay.

Exam hook: match Dunagiri/Sanshodhak/Agray to ship type - three DIFFERENT ship types, one yard (GRSE), one ceremony.

PIB 2276015 · 2026-06-21

• **India-US Navy EOD Exercise - 8th edition at Kochi**

Body: Indian Navy with the US Navy - Southern Naval Command, Kochi.

Detail: Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026, the 8th edition, 10-14 Aug 2026; format: Subject Matter Expert Exchanges, cross-training and scenario drills between specialist diving/EOD teams. **Lineage:** the two navies have held joint Salvage and EOD exercises since 2005.

Exam hook: which is the specialist India-US diving/EOD series - separate from the headline set **Malabar** (Navy), **Yudh Abhyas** (Army), **Cope India** (Air Force), **Tiger Triumph** (tri-service).

PIB 2296842 · 2026-08-09

• **Cadet Training Ship 'Krishna' launched at L&T Kattupalli**

Body: L&T shipyard, Kattupalli (Chennai) - indigenously designed and built by L&T for the Indian Navy.

Detail: Krishna (Yard 18003), first of 3 Cadet Training Ships (CTS), launched 16 Feb 2026 by Mrs Anupama Chauhan in the presence of CDS **Gen Anil Chauhan**; delivery to the Navy due end-2026; the class gives **officer cadets - including women - and cadets of friendly foreign countries** their first sea training.

Exam hook: which yard launched Krishna; builder + role - a dedicated cadet TRAINING ship class, not the sail training ships **INS Sudarshini/Tarangini** and not the sailor-entry training base **INS Chilka**.

PIB 2228944 · 2026-02-17

• **Exercise VAYU SHAKTI 2026 at Pokhran**

Body: IAF firepower demonstration, witnessed by the **President - Supreme Commander** of the Armed Forces.

Detail: Vayu Shakti 2026 held 27 Feb 2026 at Pokhran range, Jaisalmer (Rajasthan); platforms included **Tejas, Rafale, Jaguar, Mirage-2000, Su-30 MKI, Apache, Chinook** and **LCH**, with **Akash** and **SpyDer** air-defence systems; the President also flew in the indigenous **LCH Prachand**.

Lineage: previous edition **Vayu Shakti-2024, 17 Feb 2024** at the same range; 2026 was the **first** edition flown to a single defined operational storyline.

Exam hook: Vayu Shakti (IAF firepower display at Pokhran) vs **Gagan Shakti** (IAF's pan-India operational exercise) - match exercise to service / venue.

PIB 2233778 · 2026-02-27

• **Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani (Retd) appointed CDS**

Body: Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) - doubles as **Secretary, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)** and Permanent Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee.

Detail: Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani (Retd) appointed the next CDS (announced 09 May 2026), succeeding **Gen Anil Chauhan**, whose tenure ended 30 May 2026; Subramani was earlier **Vice Chief of Army Staff**, from the **Garhwal Rifles**.

Lineage: post created Jan 2020; first CDS **Gen Bipin Rawat**.

Exam hook: CDS is the single-point military ADVISER heading DMA - NOT in the operational chain of command of the services; two-statement on CDS office functions + succession.

PIB 2259242 · 2026-05-09

• **Admiral Krishna Swaminathan - 27th Chief of the Naval Staff**

Body: Indian Navy - Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS).

Detail: Admiral Krishna Swaminathan assumed charge as 27th CNS on 31 May 2026, succeeding **Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi**; a **Communication and Electronic Warfare specialist**; commanded aircraft carrier **INS Vikramaditya** and the Western Fleet, was FOC-in-C **Western Naval Command** and earlier Vice Chief of Naval Staff; NDA Khadakwasla alumnus, commissioned 1987.

Exam hook: who is the 27th CNS and whom did he succeed; announced the same day (09 May) as the CDS pick - Swaminathan = Navy chief, Raja Subramani = CDS.

PIB 2267227 · 2026-05-31

• **Gen Dhiraj Seth takes over as Chief of the Army Staff**

Body: Indian Army - Chief of the Army Staff (COAS).

Detail: Gen Dhiraj Seth took over w.e.f. 30 Jun 2026 (appointment announced 13 Jun), succeeding **Gen Upendra Dwivedi** on superannuation; NDA Khadakwasla alumnus, commissioned into the **Armoured Corps** (Dec 1986); commanded the **Sudarshan Chakra Corps** (strike corps) and - rare distinction - TWO Army Commands (South Western and Southern); Vice Chief from Apr 2026.

Lineage: predecessor Dwivedi's tenure is tied to **Op Sindoor** and **Op Snow Leopard**.

Exam hook: new COAS - parent arm is the **Armoured Corps, not Infantry**; career chain **VCOAS (Apr)** then **COAS (Jun)**; name the predecessor.

PIB 2272460 · 2026-06-13

• **SAIL's DMR-249A steel in the 21 Jun warship trio**

Body: SAIL - Maharatna CPSE under the **Ministry of Steel**; special plates rolled at **Bokaro, Bhilai and Rourkela**.

Detail: supplied the entire 5,700 tonnes of **DMR-249A defence-grade steel** for **INS Dunagiri, INS Agray** and **INS Sanshodhak** - the trio the PM commissioned on 21 Jun 2026 at **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata**.

Lineage: **DMR-249A** is the indigenous warship-grade steel also used in **INS Vikrant**.

Exam hook: which steel grade / which PSU made it - warship steel comes from the STEEL ministry's SAIL, not from a defence PSU.

PIB 2277522 · 2026-06-24

• **Agni-1 SRBM training launch by SFC**

Body: Strategic Forces Command (SFC) - tri-service, under the **Nuclear Command Authority (NCA)**; missile developed by **DRDO**.

Detail: **Agni-1** surface-to-surface SRBM, ~700-900 km - the **SHORTEST-range Agni**; user **training launch 22 May 2026** from **Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha**.

Exam hook: Agni-1 is an SRBM, not an IRBM; SFC conducts user launches, **DRDO** the developmental ones; match Agni variant to range class.

PIB 2264317 · 2026-05-22

Environment (28)

• **Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation (Indore, Udaipur)**

Body: MoEFCC; accreditation conferred under the **Ramsar Convention**.

Detail: **Indore (Madhya Pradesh)** and **Udaipur (Rajasthan)** became India's first Ramsar-accredited Wetland Cities, in January 2025.

Lineage: At Ramsar CoP-15, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 23-31 July 2025, India moved its **first resolution since joining in 1982** - '**Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles for the Wise Use of Wetlands**' - adopted 30 July 2025.

Exam hook: Wetland City is a **CITY** tag, separate from the Ramsar Site list (India's 96 sites at end-2025 - highest in Asia). India nominated **three** cities - **Indore, Bhopal, Udaipur** - and only **Indore and Udaipur** were accredited; **Bhopal was NOT**.

PIB 2210100 · 2025-12-31

• **Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve (UNESCO WNBDR)**

Body: Inscribed at the 37th session of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere International Coordinating Council (MAB-ICC) on 27 September 2025.

Detail: Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve, Himachal Pradesh entered the **World Network of Biosphere Reserves**, raising India's UNESCO-listed count to 13.

Lineage: India has 18 notified Biosphere Reserves covering about 91,425 sq km; only 13 carry UNESCO recognition. Funding is 60:40 Centre-State, 90:10 for North Eastern and Himalayan states.

Exam hook: 18 notified vs 13 UNESCO-listed - the two counts differ. Cold Desert is in **Himachal Pradesh**, not Ladakh.

PIB 2172428 · 2025-09-27

• **FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2025 (India 9th)**

Body: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); GFRA 2025 released at Bali on 22 October 2025.

Detail: India rises to 9th globally in total forest area (from 10th), holds 3rd in annual net forest gain, and ranks 5th among global carbon sinks, its forests removing 150 Mt of CO₂ per year (2021-25).

Lineage: World forest area is about 4.14 billion hectares = 32% of land; five countries - Russia, Brazil, Canada, USA, China - hold 54% of it. India holds about 2%.

Exam hook: GFRA is FAO's global report; ISFR is India's own biennial report by the Forest Survey of India. Do not swap the two.

PIB 2182269 · 2025-10-24

• **India State of Forest Report 2023 (forest cover rankings)**

Body: Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun; published biennially, latest edition ISFR 2023.

Detail: Forest cover 7,15,343 sq km = 21.76% of geographical area; forest plus tree cover 25.17% (tree cover 3.41%). Largest forest cover by area: 1 Madhya Pradesh 77,073 sq km, 2 Arunachal Pradesh 65,882, 3 Chhattisgarh 55,812.

Lineage: Cumulative gain of 4.83% in forest and tree cover since 2013; mangrove cover about 4,992 sq km; India has 106 national parks and 573 wildlife sanctuaries.

Exam hook: MP leads by AREA - a percentage-of-area question has a different answer. Mangroves concentrate in Andaman and Nicobar, Gujarat, Maharashtra and West Bengal.

PIB 2182269 · 2025-10-24

• **First national Snow Leopard census (718)**

Body: MoEFCC; International Snow Leopard Day is 23 October.

Detail: India's first-ever Snow Leopard census recorded 718 individuals across the Indian Himalayas, of which Ladakh alone holds 477.

Lineage: Marked with the #23for23 campaign - 23 minutes of physical activity - run worldwide by the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Programme (GSLEP) and the Snow Leopard Trust.

Exam hook: 718 in India, 477 of them in Ladakh, and it was the FIRST such census. Snow Leopard Day = 23 October.

PIB 2182000 · 2025-10-23

• **Asiatic Lion population 891 (Gir, Gujarat)**

Body: MoEFCC written reply in the Rajya Sabha; estimation by the Government of Gujarat.

Detail: Asiatic Lion numbers rose to 891 in 2025 from 674 in 2020; lions have colonised notified forest areas, river corridors and revenue wastelands outside Gir.

Lineage: Barda Wildlife Sanctuary has been developed as the lion's second home; a Hi-Tech Monitoring Unit at Sasan-Gir, set up 2019, does radio-telemetry tracking.

Exam hook: 891 in 2025 vs 674 in 2020. The Asiatic lion's only wild range is Gujarat's Greater Gir landscape; the second site, Barda, is also in Gujarat.

PIB 2223755 · 2026-02-05

• **Eco-Sensitive Zones and Protected Area network**

Body: MoEFCC; ESZs are notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Detail: 353 final ESZ notifications covering 496 Protected Areas now stand issued, against only 23 ESZs over 25 Protected Areas till 2014.

Lineage: Protected Areas rose to 1,134 in 2025 from 745 in 2014;

Community Reserves rose to 309 from 48.

Exam hook: An ESZ is a regulated buffer AROUND a Protected Area, not a category of Protected Area itself; it restricts development while permitting local livelihoods.

PIB 2210100 · 2025-12-31

• **UNEA-7 wildfire resolution (moved by India)**

Body: United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7), the governing body of UNEP, met at Nairobi, Kenya, 8-12 December 2025.

Detail: India's resolution 'Strengthening the Global Management of Wildfires' was adopted on 12 December 2025 with wide member-state support.

Lineage: UNEP's report 'Spreading Like Wildfire' projects wildfires rising 14% by 2030, 30% by 2050 and 50% by 2100; the Global Fire Management Hub was set up by FAO and UNEP in 2023.

Exam hook: UNEA sits at Nairobi (UNEP headquarters). India moved a second resolution the same year at Ramsar CoP-15 - two India-led resolutions, two different conventions.

PIB 2203299 · 2025-12-12

• **Global environment summits 2025 (venue table)**

Detail: UNFCCC COP-30 - Belem, Brazil, 10-21 Nov 2025; CITES CoP-20 - Samarkand, Uzbekistan, Nov-Dec 2025; Minamata Convention COP-6 (mercury) - Geneva, Nov 2025.

Body: India's CITES delegation was led by the Director General of Forests and CITES Management Authority of India.

Lineage: UNEA-7 - Nairobi, Dec 2025; Ramsar CoP-15 - Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, July 2025; G20 Environment Ministers - Cape Town, South Africa, Sept 2025.

Exam hook: COP-30 = climate, Belem. Do not swap with CBD COP-16 (biodiversity, Rome) or CITES CoP-20 (wildlife trade, Samarkand).

PIB 2210100 · 2025-12-31

• **India crosses 500 GW installed power capacity**

Body: Ministry of Power with MNRE; figures as on 30 September 2025.

Detail: Total installed electricity capacity reached 500.89 GW. Non-fossil sources (renewables, hydro, nuclear) = 256.09 GW, over 51%; fossil 244.80 GW. Within renewables: solar 127.33 GW, wind 53.12 GW.

Lineage: On 29 July 2025 renewables met a record 51.5% of that day's 203 GW demand. By end-2025 non-fossil capacity stood at 266.78 GW (solar 135.81 GW, wind 54.51 GW).

Exam hook: The COP-26 Panchamrit pledge of 50% non-fossil capacity by 2030 was met five years early. The 500 GW crossed is TOTAL capacity; the 2030 target of 500 GW is NON-FOSSIL only.

PIB 2183866 · 2025-10-29

• **Aravalli mining ban and Green Wall**

Body: MoEFCC directions to States; Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) tasked with the science.

Detail: Complete ban on the grant of any NEW mining lease across the entire Aravalli range, from Gujarat to the National Capital Region; ICFRE to prepare a Management Plan for Sustainable Mining (MPSM) and mark further no-mining zones.

Lineage: The Aravalli Green Wall initiative targets restoration of 6.31 million hectares across Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana and Delhi, phased 2025-2034; about 36,025 ha restored in 2025.

Exam hook: The Aravallis span Gujarat to Delhi across four States/UTs; the ban covers new leases only - existing mines continue under stricter safeguards.

PIB 2208234 · 2025-12-24

• **National Red List Assessment (IUCN Congress, Abu Dhabi)**

Body: MoEFCC; nodal agencies are the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and the Botanical Survey of India (BSI).

Detail: India launched its National Red List Roadmap, Vision 2025-2030, at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Abu Dhabi, 09 October 2025; goal is National Red Data Books for flora and fauna by 2030.

Lineage: Aligns with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework; rests on the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, amended 2022 to cover CITES-listed species.

Exam hook: India is one of 17 megadiverse countries and holds 4 of the world's 36 biodiversity hotspots - Himalaya, Western Ghats, Indo-Burma and Sundaland - on just 2.4% of global land.

PIB 2176948 · 2025-10-09

• **Cyclone Montha (Bay of Bengal, Oct 2025)**

Body: India Meteorological Department (IMD); preparedness chaired by the Cabinet Secretary in the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC).

Detail: IMD tracked Montha to cross the Andhra Pradesh coast between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam, near Kakinada, on the night of 28 October 2025 as a severe cyclonic storm, winds 90-100 kmph gusting to 110 kmph.

Lineage: Alerts covered Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry; NDRF and SDRF teams were pre-positioned. A second storm, Cyclone Ditwah, hit Sri Lanka and Tamil Nadu in late November 2025.

Exam hook: Montha = Bay of Bengal, Andhra Pradesh landfall; Ditwah = Sri Lanka. Both are North Indian Ocean names from the IMD-coordinated regional naming list.

PIB 2183339 · 2025-10-28

• **Second rangewide dolphin estimation (Project Dolphin)**

Body: MoEFCC under **Project Dolphin**; coordinated by the **Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun**, with WWF-India, Aaranyak and Wildlife Trust of India.

Detail: Round two was **flagged off from Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh, on 17 January 2026**; **Phase 1** covers the **Ganga from Bijnor to Ganga Sagar plus the Indus**, **Phase 2** the **Brahmaputra, Sundarbans and Odisha**.

Lineage: The first survey (2021-23) estimated about **6,327 riverine dolphins**, with **Uttar Pradesh and Bihar** holding the largest numbers. **Exam hook:** Round 2 adds a **third species - the Irrawaddy dolphin** - to the **Ganges River Dolphin** and **Indus River Dolphin**; hydrophones give underwater acoustic monitoring.

PIB 2215575 · 2026-01-17

• **Cyclone naming in the North Indian Ocean (IMD as RSMC)**

Body: The **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** acts as **RSMC New Delhi** - one of only **five Regional Specialised Meteorological Centres** set up under the **WMO Tropical Cyclone Programme**.

Detail: the standing name list is contributed by the **13 member countries** of the **ESCAP/WMO Panel on Tropical Cyclones** - Bangladesh, India, Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UAE and Yemen.

Lineage: each member supplies **13 names**; **IMD** draws them in **sequence** for the **North Indian Ocean** - the **Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea** - and a name is **never reused**; **IMD** is also one of **6 ICAO Tropical Cyclone Advisory Centres**.

Exam hook: **Nisarga, Gati, Nivar, Tauktae, Yaas** - and the newer **Montha and Ditwah** - are all **cyclones**; the regional list is run by **IMD**, not by the **NDMA** or the **INCOIS**.

PIB 2198356 · 2025-12-03

• **Renewable capacity 288.58 GW - non-fossil 297.36 GW**

Body: Ministry of New & Renewable Energy - **Rajya Sabha** reply, **21 Jul 2026**.

Detail: RE capacity **288.58 GW on 30 Jun 2026** - solar **162.15**, wind **57.44**, hydro **57.24**, bio **11.75 GW**; **non-fossil total 297.36 GW**, adding **8.78 GW nuclear**.

Lineage: up from **76.38 GW in 2014**; **USD 45.72 bn FDI** into RE since 2014; targets **500 GW non-fossil by 2030**, net-zero **2070**.

Exam hook: 'renewable' (288.58) vs 'non-fossil' (297.36, which adds **nuclear**); largest RE source by capacity = **solar**.

PIB 2287149 · 2026-07-21

• **Desertification Day 2026 - Bonn Challenge 21.76 of 26 million ha**

Body: UNCCD observance - **World Day to Combat Desertification, 17 Jun**.

Detail: India reported **21.76 million ha** under restoration against its **26 million ha by 2030 Bonn Challenge** pledge; the **Aravalli Green Wall** beat its 2025-26 targets; **ISRO-SAC Atlas: 29.77%** of India degraded; 2026 theme '**Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore.**'; 2026 also the **International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists**.

Lineage: **UNCCD COP14** was hosted by **India (New Delhi, 2019)**.

Exam hook: **UNCCD** (land, 1994) is one of three **Rio Conventions** with **UNFCCC** and **CBD** - options swap their subjects; Bonn pledge / 2026 theme.

PIB 2273884 · 2026-06-17

• **Project Cheetah - 53 cheetahs; Botswana becomes third source country**

Body: MoEFCC **Project Cheetah** at **Kuno NP, Madhya Pradesh**.

Detail: population **53 (33 Indian-born)** by Mar 2026; **9 cheetahs from Botswana** - the third source country - released **28 Feb 2026**; President **Murmu** visited **Kuno NP (21 Jun 2026)**; **Project Cheetah Annual Report (Sep 2024-Dec 2025)** released **28 Jun**.

Lineage: founders came from **Namibia (Sep 2022)** and **South Africa (Feb 2023)**; second site **Gandhisagar WLS (MP)**; future sites **Banni grasslands (Gujarat)** and **Nauradehi WLS (MP)**.

Exam hook: **Kuno** and **Gandhisagar** are both **Madhya Pradesh**, **Banni** is **Gujarat** - 'which state' options rotate these; match source country to year.

PIB 2262834 · 2026-05-19

• **India's 100th Ramsar site - Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary (Surha Tal), Ballia, UP**

Body: MoEFCC designation announced on **World Environment Day, 5 Jun 2026**.

Law: **Ramsar Convention** signed **1971 at Ramsar, Iran**; India a party since **1 Feb 1982**.

Detail: **Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary (Surha Tal), Ballia, Uttar Pradesh** = India's **100th Ramsar site**; **Shekha Jheel (UP)** was the **99th**; network grew from **26 sites (2014) to 100 (2026)**; both UP sanctuaries lie on the **Central Asian Flyway**.

Exam hook: **Ramsar SITES** are not **Ramsar 'Wetland Cities'** - **Indore and Udaipur** were India's first accredited cities; match site to state.

PIB 2269189 · 2026-06-05

• **Global Tiger Day 2026 - 3,682 tigers, 58 reserves, 70% of world total**

Body: **NTCA - Global Tiger Day (29 Jul)** event; **NTCA Eco-tourism** webpage launched.

Detail: **3,682 tigers** (**All India Tiger Estimation 2022**) across **58 tiger reserves** on ~**2.56%** of India's area - nearly **70%** of the world's wild tigers.

Lineage: day originates from the **St Petersburg Tiger Summit, Nov 2010 (13 range countries, TX2 goal)**; tiger = **National Animal** since **1972**; **Project Tiger 1973**.

Exam hook: extinct subspecies are **Bali, Javan, Caspian - Sumatran survives**; India's share of wild tigers.

PIB 2290935 · 2026-07-29

• **International Big Cat Alliance - 1st Summit set for New Delhi**

Body: MoEFCC - launched the **IBCA website and logo (6 May 2026)** and announced the **1st IBCA Summit, 1-2 Jun 2026, New Delhi**; **HQ in India**, **DG S.P. Yadav**.

Detail: the **International Big Cat Alliance** treaty covers **7 big cats** - tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, cheetah, jaguar, puma.

Lineage: launched by **PM Modi in Apr 2023**, marking **50 years of Project Tiger**.

Exam hook: only **5 of the 7 occur in India** - **jaguar and puma** are American; a 'which big cat is NOT found in India' natural.

PIB 2258491 · 2026-05-06

• **Ken-Betwa link - first project of the interlinking plan**

Body: reviewed in the PM's **PRAGATI** meeting, **27 May 2026** (**Jal Shakti / NWDA** project).

Detail: the **Ken-Betwa Link** joins **Ken (MP)** to **Betwa (UP)** via the **Daudhan Dam**, serving **Bundelkhand** - the only **National Perspective Plan** interlinking project in execution; **Daudhan Dam** partly sits inside **Panna Tiger Reserve** (conditional clearance); foundation laid **Dec 2024**. **Lineage:** **NPP (1980)** lists **30 links - 16 peninsular, 14 Himalayan**.

Exam hook: **Ken** and **Betwa** are **Yamuna tributaries** and **Ken** flows **MP to UP** - direction / tributary statements are the usual traps; first interlinking project under **NPP**.

PIB 2266065 · 2026-05-27

• **Glaw Lake (Kamlang Tiger Reserve) - 101st Ramsar site, Arunachal's FIRST**

Body: MoEFCC - designated **3 Aug 2026**.

Law: **Ramsar** designation; wetlands are regulated under MoEFCC's **Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules 2017**.

Detail: **Glaw Lake**, a perennial-stream-fed freshwater lake inside **Kamlang Tiger Reserve & Wildlife Sanctuary** (Eastern Himalaya), is India's **101st Ramsar site** and **Arunachal Pradesh's first**; site + catchment hold **150+ tree species and 49 orchid species**.

Exam hook: **Arunachal's** first Ramsar site is **Glaw Lake**, not **Sela** or **Tawang lakes**; the **100th** was **Surha Tal (UP)** - do not swap the two milestones.

PIB 2294036 · 2026-08-03

• Project GIB - captive stock reaches 94 Great Indian Bustards

Body: MoEFCC with the Wildlife Institute of India and the Rajasthan Forest Department - conservation-breeding centres at **Jaisalmer, Rajasthan**.

Law: the **Great Indian Bustard (GIB)**, *Ardeotis nigriceps*, is **Critically Endangered** and on **Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, WPA 1972**.

Detail: by **14 Jun 2026** the programme had hatched **26 chicks** in its **4th year - 18 by artificial insemination** - lifting captive stock to **94**; **3 wild chicks** hatched through the egg-exchange 'jumpstart'; State bird of Rajasthan (**Godawan**).

Exam hook: GIB survives mainly in the **Thar (Rajasthan)**, not the Deccan grasslands options; the **lesser florican** is a different bustard; captive numbers / breeding-centre state.

PIB 2272725 · 2026-06-14

• International Solar Alliance - 125 member and signatory countries

Body: **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** - the **first treaty-based intergovernmental organisation headquartered in India**; HQ **Gurugram**.

Lineage: launched by **India and France at COP21, Paris (2015)**.

Detail: Foundation Day (**Mar 2026**) marked **125 member/signatory countries**; runs **One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG)**; membership now open beyond the tropics.

Exam hook: ISA HQ Gurugram vs **CDRI (Delhi)** vs **IBCA (India)** - India-based bodies get swapped; launch venue + HQ.

PIB 2238741 · 2026-03-12

• Delhi-Dehradun corridor - Asia's longest elevated wildlife corridor

Body: **NHAI** with the **Wildlife Institute of India (WII, Dehradun)**.

Detail: Apr 2026 study found mitigation works on the **Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor** - underpasses and a **12 km elevated stretch over the Rajaji landscape** - effective for tigers, elephants and hornbills; the flyover is billed **Asia's longest elevated wildlife corridor**.

Lineage: parallels the **Kaziranga** elevated-corridor plan (**Rs 6,950 crore**).

Exam hook: **Rajaji NP** (Uttarakhand, elephants) vs **Corbett** - the corridor skirts Rajaji; Kaziranga's project is separate and in **Assam**; on which highway is Asia's longest elevated wildlife corridor.

PIB 2250714 · 2026-04-10

• Great Nicobar Project - ecology of Galathea Bay

Law: clearances under the **Forest (Conservation) Act** and **CRZ** norms.

Detail: the **Great Nicobar** holistic project - transshipment port, airport, township, power - citing about **166.1 sq km** forest diversion with compensatory afforestation; **Galathea Bay** is the **leatherback-turtle** nesting site, and the **Nicobar megapode** plus the **Shompen (PVTG)** and **Nicobarese** peoples are the ecological/tribal stakes.

Exam hook: leatherback = **largest sea turtle**, nests at Galathea - Olive Ridleys mass-nest at **Odisha's Gahirmatha**, a classic swap; "Galathea Bay is famous for -".

PIB 2257323 · 2026-05-01

• Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan - 14 Northeast landscapes

Detail: on **International Clouded Leopard Day (4 Aug)** India released a **Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan (GoI-GEF-UNDP)** identifying **14 priority landscapes across Northeast India**; the species was also added to the **Species Recovery Programme (IDWH)**; the clouded leopard is the **State animal of Meghalaya**, **IUCN Vulnerable**.

Lineage: plan released at the **91st NBWL Standing Committee**; monitoring via camera traps, eDNA and **M-STrIPES**.

Exam hook: clouded leopard (NE forests) vs **snow leopard** (trans-Himalaya) - habitat swap is the classic wrong option; CAP for which cat covers 14 NE landscapes.

PIB 2294168 · 2026-08-04

• CMS-03 / GSAT-7R (LVM3-M5 launch)

Body: **ISRO** for the **Indian Navy**; built by the Department of Space.

Detail: Launched **02 Nov 2025** from **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota** aboard **LVM3-M5**; about **4,400 kg**, the **heaviest communication satellite** ever placed in **Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit** from Indian soil.

Lineage: **Fifth operational LVM3 flight**; the mission also achieved the **first in-space restart** of the indigenous **C25 cryogenic upper stage (CE-20 engine)**.

Exam hook: **CMS-03** is **GSAT-7R**, a **Navy** satellite for Indian Ocean maritime domain awareness. Heaviest to **GTO** only - the heaviest overall from Indian soil is **BlueBird Block-2**.

PIB 2185397 · 2025-11-02

• BlueBird Block-2 (LVM3-M6 commercial launch)

Body: **ISRO** flying for **NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)**, the commercial arm of the Department of Space.

Detail: Launched **24 Dec 2025**; placed **BlueBird Block-2** of **AST SpaceMobile, USA** into **low Earth orbit** - the **heaviest satellite ever launched from Indian soil**.

Lineage: **Third fully commercial LVM3 mission**; the constellation beams broadband **direct to ordinary smartphones** without special handsets.

Exam hook: The customer is **American**, the rocket **Indian**. Orbit is **LEO**, not **GTO**; the heaviest **GTO** satellite from India is **CMS-03**.

PIB 2208090 · 2025-12-24

• NISAR (ISRO-NASA radar satellite)

Body: **ISRO** and **NASA** - their **first jointly developed satellite**.

Detail: Launched **30 Jul 2025** on **GSLV-F16** from **Sriharikota**; weighs **2,392 kg**; world's first **dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar** - **NASA's L-band** plus **ISRO's S-band** sharing a **12 m unfurlable mesh antenna**.

Lineage: Sanctioned **27 May 2015**, so a **decade** to launch; mission life **5 years**, global repeat coverage every **12 days**.

Exam hook: **NISAR** flew on **GSLV**, not **PSLV**. Its partner is **NASA (USA)** - **JAXA (Japan)** is the partner on **Chandrayaan-5**, not here.

PIB 2198276 · 2025-12-03

• SpaDeX (space docking) and POEM-4

Body: **ISRO** Space Docking Experiment.

Detail: Two spacecraft launched by **PSLV-C60** on **30 Dec 2024** into a **474 km circular orbit**; they **docked on 16 Jan 2025**, making India the **fourth nation** to demonstrate docking in space.

Lineage: Docked again **20 Apr 2025**; **power transfer** between the two satellites completed **21 Apr 2025**, along with undocking and **circumnavigation**.

Exam hook: The same **PSLV-C60** fourth stage became **POEM-4**, which crossed **1,000 orbits** and carried **CROPS**, the module that germinated **cowpea** seeds in orbit.

PIB 2205387 · 2025-12-17

• Chandrayaan-4 and Chandrayaan-5 (LUPEX)

Body: **ISRO**; **Chandrayaan-5** is a joint mission with **JAXA** of Japan.

Detail: **Chandrayaan-4** is a **lunar sample return** mission planned for 2027, landing in the Moon's **south polar region**, about **84 to 86 degrees south**, near **Permanently Shadowed Regions** where water ice may lie.

Lineage: **Chandrayaan-5 / LUPEX** pairs an **ISRO-built lander** with a **JAXA-built rover**, launched on **JAXA's rocket**.

Exam hook: **JAXA** is on **Chandrayaan-5 only** - there is **no JAXA** role in **Chandrayaan-4**. Sample return is **C-4**; the rover partnership is **C-5**.

PIB 2202454 · 2025-12-11

• Space Vision 2047 (NGLV and new launch pads)

Body: **Department of Space**, Government of India.

Detail: Targets the **Bharatiya Antariksh Station by 2035** and an **Indian landing on the Moon by 2040**; approved projects include **Chandrayaan-4**, **Chandrayaan-5/LUPEX**, a **Venus Orbiter Mission** and the **Next Generation Launch Vehicle**.

Lineage: The heaviest vehicle flying today, **LVM3**, lifts about **10 tonnes** to **LEO** and **4.2 tonnes** to **GTO**; **NGLV** is designed for **30 tonnes** to **LEO**, with a partly reusable **14-tonne** variant.

Exam hook: Two new pads approved - a **Third Launch Pad** at **Sriharikota** for **NGLV** (financial nod **21 Mar 2025**, completion **March 2029**) and an **SSLV complex** at **Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu**.

PIB 2205291 · 2025-12-17

• **Shubhanshu Shukla (Axiom-4, first Indian on ISS)**

Body: ISRO Gaganyatri flying with Axiom Space, NASA and ESA.
Detail: Launched 25 Jun 2025 on a SpaceX Dragon; an 18-day stay aboard the International Space Station made him the first Indian to reach the ISS.

Lineage: He completed seven microgravity experiments designed by Indian institutions and coordinated by ISRO's Human Space Flight Centre.

Exam hook: Axiom-4 was a commercial ISS mission, not Gaganyaan. Rakesh Sharma (1984, Soviet Soyuz T-11) remains the first Indian in space.

PIB 2205387 · 2025-12-17

• **ASHVINI JV and Mahi Banswara NPP (Rajasthan)**

Body: ASHVINI, the NPCIL-NTPC joint venture under the Department of Atomic Energy.

Detail: the PM laid the foundation stone on 25 Sep 2025 for the 4-unit Mahi Banswara Nuclear Power Project, Rajasthan - four 700 MWe indigenous PHWRs, to be deployed by ASHVINI.

Lineage: RAPP-7 (Rawatbhata, Rajasthan), the 3rd indigenous 700 MWe PHWR of 16 sanctioned, entered commercial operation 15 Apr 2025; NPCIL hit a record 56,681 million units in FY 2024-25, its first year above 50 billion units.

Exam hook: ASHVINI = NPCIL + NTPC, not NPCIL + NHPC; Mahi Banswara is in Rajasthan and its reactors are PHWRs, not fast breeders.

PIB 2201302 · 2025-12-10

• **ANEEL thorium fuel for PHWRs**

Body: NTPC with CCTE, explored under the Department of Atomic Energy.

Law: any such partnership must sit inside the SHANTI Act, which also gave the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) statutory status.

Detail: ANEEL is a thorium-based fuel being explored for use in India's PHWR fleet; natural uranium oxide fuel continues in the current PHWRs.

Lineage: thorium is the fuel of Stage 3 of India's 3-stage programme, reached via Stage 2 Fast Breeder Reactors; India runs a closed fuel cycle with reprocessing of spent fuel.

Exam hook: ANEEL is a FUEL, not a reactor or a plant; AERB became statutory only under the SHANTI Act.

PIB 2226337 · 2026-02-11

• **Bio-Bitumen via Pyrolysis (farm residue to roads)**

Body: jointly developed by CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI), New Delhi and CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP), Dehradun.

Detail: rice straw is pelletised and pyrolysed into bio-oil, then blended to replace 20-30% of conventional bitumen; the technology was formally transferred to industry on 07 Jan 2026.

Lineage: a 100-metre trial stretch is already laid on the Jorabat-Shillong Expressway (NH-40), Meghalaya; India imports about half its bitumen, so the replacement potential is put at Rs 25,000-30,000 crore a year.

Exam hook: two CSIR labs - CRRI (roads) plus IIP (petroleum); feedstock is crop stubble and the trial road is in Meghalaya.

PIB 2212118 · 2026-01-07

• **NexCAR19 CAR-T therapy (ImmunoACT)**

Body: ImmunoACT, an IIT Bombay spin-off incubated at SINE, supported by DBT and BIRAC.

Detail: NexCAR19 is India's first indigenous CAR-T cell cancer therapy and the world's first humanised CAR-T developed in India, used against B-cell blood cancers such as acute lymphocytic leukaemia; the PM gifted it to the nation at ESTIC 2025.

Lineage: trials ran at ACTREC, Tata Memorial Centre under the National Biopharma Mission; DBT's BioE3 biomanufacturing arm funded a 200-litre GMP lentiviral vector platform.

Exam hook: CAR-T is a cell and gene therapy - India's first living drug - not a vaccine or a chemotherapy molecule; the funders are DBT and BIRAC.

PIB 2186651 · 2025-11-05

• **QSIP chip and 500-km QKD link (QNu Labs)**

Body: QNu Labs, Bengaluru - one of 8 startups backed by the National Quantum Mission (NQM) of DST.

Detail: QSIP = Quantum Random Number Generator System in Package, India's own quantum security chip, presented to the PM at ESTIC 2025; the same firm ran India's first Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) network, over 500 km of existing optical fibre.

Lineage: the QKD test-bed ran on fibre in the Rajasthan Sector engineered by the Indian Army's Southern Command Signals, funded through I-Hub Quantum Technology Foundation, an NM-ICPS hub hosted at IISER Pune.

Exam hook: QSIP is a QRNG chip (certified randomness), not the QKD link itself; NQM and NM-ICPS both sit under DST.

PIB 2186652 · 2025-11-05

• **Nafithromycin (indigenous antibiotic)**

Body: developed by Wockhardt; the India Phase-III study was part-funded by BIRAC, a Section-8 public sector enterprise of the Department of Biotechnology.

Detail: Nafithromycin is a novel macrolide for Community Acquired Bacterial Pneumonia (CABP); CDSCO granted marketing authorisation for Nafithromycin Tablets 400 mg for adults aged 18 and above.

Lineage: presented as India's first indigenous antibiotic; DBT with the WHO country office drew up an Indian Priority Pathogen List, and CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow runs antibiotic-discovery projects.

Exam hook: the approving regulator is CDSCO, not ICMR; the class is macrolide and the target is pneumonia (CABP), not tuberculosis.

PIB 2226280 · 2026-02-11

• **Indigenous 4G stack (C-DOT, Tejas, TCS)**

Body: Department of Telecommunications; the stack was built by C-DOT with Tejas Networks and TCS, and deployed by BSNL.

Detail: India became only the 5th country in the world to develop its own indigenous 4G stack; 5G now covers 99.9% of districts on 5.08 lakh 5G base stations, and internet connections crossed 100 crore to reach 100.29 crore.

Lineage: National Broadband Mission (NBM) 2.0 was launched 17 Jan 2025; the PM launched the Bharat 6G Vision in March 2023, targeting 6G leadership by 2030.

Exam hook: the 4G stack is C-DOT + Tejas + TCS with BSNL as deployer - C-DOT is DoT's own telecom R&D centre, not a private firm.

PIB 2206477 · 2025-12-19

• **World's first Cu-Cl nuclear hydrogen plant at Kalpakkam**

Body: Department of Atomic Energy; process technology from BARC, Mumbai, plant built and run by IGCAR, Kalpakkam; inaugurated by Dr Ajit Kumar Mohanty, Secretary DAE and Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission.

Detail: the world's first hydrogen production facility using the Copper-Chlorine (Cu-Cl) thermochemical cycle, driven by nuclear process heat from the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR), inaugurated 26 Jun 2026.

Lineage: FBTR is India's only operating fast reactor research facility; the plant extends the three-stage nuclear programme beyond electricity into clean hydrogen.

Exam hook: the reactor is the FBTR at Kalpakkam, not the PFBR; the cycle is Copper-Chlorine, not electrolysis - and the technology was developed by BARC, hosted by IGCAR.

PIB 2278309 · 2026-06-26

• **First indigenous Expendable Turbo Jet Engine (350 kg thrust)**

Body: designed by DRDO's Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE), Bengaluru; manufactured and assembled by industry partner Azad Engineering, Hyderabad.

Detail: India's first indigenous Expendable Turbo Jet Engine of the 350 kg thrust class was realised and delivered to GTRE on 22 Jul 2026; jet-engine technology is mastered by only a handful of nations.

Lineage: GTRE is the same DRDO laboratory behind the Kaveri aero-engine programme.

Exam hook: match the engine to the lab - GTRE, under DRDO, not HAL and not ISRO; 'expendable' means a single-use engine, not a reusable fighter powerplant.

PIB 2288576 · 2026-07-23

• **Chairman ISRO / Secretary, Department of Space (V. Narayanan)**

Body: ISRO works under the **Department of Space**, which reports directly to the **Prime Minister**; the Space portfolio is held by **MoS (Independent Charge) Dr Jitendra Singh**.

Detail: Dr V. Narayanan is **Chairman, ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space** - the **11th** ISRO Chairman; a **liquid and cryogenic propulsion specialist** who earlier headed the **Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC)**.

Lineage: he took charge in **January 2025** from **Dr S. Somanath**, the **10th** Chairman; the first head of the Indian space programme was **Vikram Sarabhai**.

Exam hook: the ISRO Chairman is **also Secretary, Department of Space** - a different post from **Chairman, IN-SPACe (Dr Pawan Goenka)**;

Somanath = **10th**, Narayanan = **11th**.

PIB 2208090 · 2025-12-24

• **Kavach 4.0 nationwide sanction wave**

Body: Indian Railways.

Detail: Kavach = **indigenous Automatic Train Protection (ATP)** - prevents **Signal Passing at Danger (SPAD)**, auto-applies brakes, controls overspeed; rollout rides an **LTE communication backbone**.

Lineage: **Version 4.0** sanctioned across divisions - Ahmedabad **Rs 140 cr/598 route-km**, Ambala **Rs 201 cr**, East Coast **Rs 270 cr/631 km**, Northern **Rs 206 cr/680 km**, Izzatnagar **Rs 295 cr/660 km**.

Exam hook: Kavach protects against **SPAD/collision** - it is **not** an anti-derailment or fog-vision device; what Kavach does + current version.

PIB 2272922 · 2026-06-15

• **IndiaAI Mission - sovereign models and 1.1-EFLOPS compute**

Body: MeitY runs the **IndiaAI Mission** (approved 7 Mar 2024, **Rs 10,371.92 crore**).

Detail: backing **20 indigenous foundation models (12 large multimodal + 8 small language)** - Sarvam's **105-billion-parameter** model, BharatGen's **Param2-17B** - plus a **1.1-EFLOPS** AI supercomputer at **NIC Shastri Park, Delhi**.

Lineage: pillars include **Compute (15 empanelled providers, 93.18 lakh GPU-hours sanctioned)**, **58 approved AI Centres of Excellence**, and **Safe-and-Trusted-AI** projects.

Exam hook: IndiaAI sits under **MeitY**, not **DST**; model IP stays with the startups, not the government; mission ministry + outlay + model counts.

PIB 2295477 · 2026-08-06

• **Bharatiya Antariksh Station - 5 modules, operational by 2035**

Detail: India's space station **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)** will have **five modules**; development and launch of the first module **BAS-01** stands approved, with operationalisation targeted by **2035**.

Lineage: BAS rides on the **Gaganyaan follow-on programme** (same **Rs 20,193 crore, 8-mission** envelope); the long-term goal pairs with an **Indian crewed Moon landing by 2040** under **Space Vision 2047**.

Exam hook: **2035 = space STATION, 2040 = Indian on the MOON** - the two Amrit Kaal space dates are routinely swapped; module count + target year.

PIB 2294771 · 2026-08-05

• **National Quantum Mission - 1,000-km link and 4 T-Hubs**

Body: **NQM (National Quantum Mission)** under the Department of Science & Technology; **four Thematic Hubs** - Computing (led by **IISc Bengaluru**), Communication, Sensing and Metrology, Materials and Devices.

Detail: **1,000-km secure quantum communication** link achieved within **3 years** of launch; T-Hubs run **14 Technical Groups** and back **17 quantum startups**.

Lineage: approved **2023**, outlay about **Rs 6,003 crore (2023-31)**.

Exam hook: number of T-Hubs (**FOUR**, not the **25** hubs of **NM-ICPS**) + which institute leads the computing hub; **QKD** secures key exchange, it is not faster internet.

PIB 2250162 · 2026-04-08

• **Vikram-1 / Mission Aagaman - India's first private orbital launch**

Body: **Skyroot Aerospace**, enabled by **IN-SPACe**; founders **Pawan Kumar Chandana and Bharath Daka**.

Detail: **Vikram-1 ('Mission Aagaman')** reached **Low Earth Orbit** from **Sriharikota** on **18 Jul 2026** - **first orbital launch by an Indian private company** from Indian soil; about **22 m** tall, **350 kg** to **LEO**; India's first all-carbon-composite orbital rocket, fully **3D-printed liquid engine** in the Orbital Adjustment Module.

Lineage: **Vikram-S (2022, Mission Prarambh)** and Agnikul's **Agnibaan (2024)** were **SUB-orbital**.

Exam hook: first-private-orbital - company + mission name; sub-orbital vs **ORBITAL**.

PIB 2286087 · 2026-07-18

• **India's first hydrogen fuel cell trainset**

Body: Ministry of Railways.

Detail: India's **first hydrogen fuel cell trainset** - about **2,600-passenger** capacity, **75 kmph**, slated for the **Jind-Sonipat section, Haryana**; power is generated **onboard** from hydrogen and oxygen, so it needs **no overhead wire**, and the only by-product is **water vapour**.

Lineage: world's **first** hydrogen train = Germany's **Coradia iLint (2018)**; India's claim is scale/capacity.

Exam hook: two-statement - by-product + planned section; first vs largest.

PIB 2285240 · 2026-07-16

• **Gaganyaan roadmap - Vyommitra flight in Q4 2026**

Body: ISRO / Department of Space; stated in the **Rajya Sabha** by **Dr Jitendra Singh**.

Detail: first **uncrewed Gaganyaan mission carrying half-humanoid Vyommitra targeted Q4 2026**; two more uncrewed flights and the first crewed mission by **2027**; launcher is the human-rated **HLVM3**; **TV-D1** abort test and **two Integrated Air Drop Tests** complete; partners - **ESA** (ground network), **Australia** (crew recovery), **France-CNES** (flight surgeons), **Russia-Roscosmos** (training, crew seat).

Lineage: Cabinet approved **Rs 20,193 crore for 8 missions (Sep 2024)**.

Exam hook: match partner country to Gaganyaan role; **Vyommitra flies on the UNCREWED mission**, not as a crew member of the crewed flight.

PIB 2295557 · 2026-08-06

• **PFBR Kalpakkam attains first criticality**

Body: operated by **BHAVINI**, designed by **IGCAR**.

Detail: the **500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR)** at **Kalpakkam** attained **first criticality on 6 Apr 2026** - India's first commercial fast reactor, making India the **2nd country after Russia** to run one at commercial scale; Uranium-Plutonium **MOX fuel** with a **U-238 blanket breeding Pu-239**; about **90 percent** indigenous content.

Lineage: starts **Stage II** of the three-stage nuclear programme.

Exam hook: two-statement - operator + fuel/stage; operator is **BHAVINI**, not **NPICIL**; thorium/U-233 belongs to Stage III, not the current core.

PIB 2249537 · 2026-04-07

• **Pigeonpea 'Asha' - India's first T2T reference genome**

Body: **ICAR** - work at **ICAR-National Institute for Plant Biotechnology**.

Detail: India's **first fully annotated telomere-to-telomere (T2T) reference genome**, for pigeonpea (arhar/tur) variety '**Asha**', now approved as the crop's **global reference genome (Aug 2026)**; assembly spans **752.65 million base pairs** across all **11 chromosomes**, enabling climate-resilient, high-yield pulse breeding.

Lineage: the same institute published the **world's first pulse-crop draft genome (pigeonpea, 2011)**.

Exam hook: which crop got India's first T2T genome; **T2T = gapless end-to-end chromosome assembly**, not gene editing, and pigeonpea is a **PULSE, not an oilseed**.

PIB 2294441 · 2026-08-04

• **Qdenga - India's first approved dengue vaccine**

Body: **CDSO** granted the marketing authorisation (**21 Jul 2026**); supports the **National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases Control** programme.

Law: CDSO acts under the **Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940**.

Detail: **Qdenga (Takeda, Japan; manufactured in Germany)** is **India's first dengue vaccine** - for ages **4-60**, two doses at **0 and 3 months**; live attenuated **tetravalent** recombinant vaccine on a **dengue-2 backbone**; already approved in **42 countries** and **WHO-prequalified**.

Exam hook: which vaccine; imported vs indigenous - Qdenga is **imported**, India's own candidate **DengiAll** is still in trials; approval is by **CDSO, not ICMR**.

PIB 2286883 · 2026-07-21

• **'India Chip Limited' - HCL-Foxconn plant breaks ground in UP**

Body: Cabinet-approved in May 2025 as the sixth unit under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM).

Detail: PM Modi joined by VC (21 Feb 2026) the groundbreaking of India Chip Limited - the HCL-Foxconn semiconductor JV - in Uttar Pradesh, with HCL's Roshni Nadar present; it is a display-driver chip plant near Jewar (YEIDA region, close to the Noida International Airport), capacity about 20,000 wafers a month.

Exam hook: JV partners + state; which ISM unit number; match company-product-state - display-driver chips, not memory (Micron) and not a full logic fab (Tata-PSMC at Dholera).

PIB 2231304 · 2026-02-21

• **GSI gets its first woman Director General**

Body: Geological Survey of India (GSI) under the Ministry of Mines - founded 1851, HQ Kolkata; maps India's geology and mineral resources.

Detail: Smt Varsha Ashok Aglawe took charge as the 54th Director General (31 Jul 2026), the first woman to head GSI since its founding in 1851; a palaeontology-palynology specialist who reported a new dinosaur nesting site in Central India.

Exam hook: first-woman-head + parent ministry - MINES, not MoES (which owns IMD/INCOIS), and GSI is not the Survey of India (Dept of S-and-T, maps).

PIB 2292720 · 2026-07-31

• **Deep Ocean Mission - Matsya-6000 trials and 4 hydrothermal vents**

Body: Ministry of Earth Sciences; NIOT Chennai builds the submersible (crewed programme named Samudrayaan), CMLRE Kochi does the biology, new research vessel contracted to GRSE Kolkata.

Detail: submersible MATSYA-6000 finished crewed wet-harbour trials at Kattupalli near Chennai; Indian expeditions discovered 4 hydrothermal vent fields on the Central and Southwest Indian Ridges; DOM has 6 verticals; CMLRE documented 201 deep-sea species (43 possibly new); an Advanced Marine Station for Ocean Biology is coming up at Nemmeli, Chennai.

Lineage: Deep Ocean Mission launched 2021.

Exam hook: ministry + submersible-name pairing - MoES, not the Ministry of Fisheries and not ISRO's DoS.

PIB 2294734 · 2026-08-05

• **'Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra' WhatsApp AI advisory**

Body: ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (IIOR), Hyderabad, with NSRI Indore, IIGR Junagadh and IIRMR Bharatpur.

Detail: 'Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra' - India's first nationwide WhatsApp-based AI advisory for oilseed farmers; 24x7, free, all Indian languages, no app needed; pushed for kharif 2026.

Lineage: launched 6 Feb 2026 at the National Oilseeds Conference.

Exam hook: which institute built the chatbot - IIOR is at Hyderabad; covers oilseeds only (groundnut, mustard, soybean, sunflower, sesame, niger), not all crops.

PIB 2271749 · 2026-06-11

• **Aditya-L1 - first CME-onset spectroscopy; NOT a space-weather mission**

Body: ISRO; the government formally states Aditya-L1 is a solar physics mission, NOT a space-weather mission.

Detail: first-ever spectroscopic signatures of CME onset - the onset of a Coronal Mass Ejection; iron-fluorescence analysis across 47 X-class flares of Solar Cycle 25; studies solar wind, corona and the interplanetary magnetic field.

Lineage: India's first solar observatory, launched on PSLV (2023) into a halo orbit around the Sun-Earth L1 point for a continuous solar view.

Exam hook: solar physics vs space weather is a ready-made true/false - two-statement on orbit point + mission category.

PIB 2288304 · 2026-07-23

• **Adi Vaani - AI translation platform for tribal languages**

Body: Ministry of Tribal Affairs; built by an IIT Delhi-led team.

Detail: Adi Vaani - India's first AI-powered tribal-language translation and preservation platform, promoted through 2026; Phase-1 covers Santali, Bhili, Mundari, Gondi.

Exam hook: Adi Vaani = AI translator vs TribeX (Jul 2026) = digital learning platform for tribal arts vs Adi Sanskriti = digital culture repository - three near-identical names; match platform to function.

PIB 2238967 · 2026-03-12

• **SkyCast: India's first aviation weather system at IGI**

Body: Mission Mausam, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).

Detail: India's first 'SkyCast' integrated aviation weather system, inaugurated at IGI Airport, Delhi on 29 May 2026, one of only a handful of such systems deployed worldwide; next site Jewar; combines radar wind profiler, fog aerosol spectrometer and lidar ceilometer to profile the atmosphere up to 3 km for fog-smart operations.

Exam hook: a MoES/Mission Mausam system, not a DGCA or AAI product - parent-body trap; first installed at which airport, under which mission.

PIB 2266638 · 2026-05-29

• **VIHAAN chip - DLI startup's first-pass silicon on VEGA core**

Body: MeitY's Design Linked Incentive (DLI) scheme backs Chennai fabless startup Aheesa Digital Innovations.

Detail: first-pass silicon success with 'VIHAAN', a broadband networking SoC built on the indigenous VEGA microprocessor core - taped out on Republic Day, validated by Independence Day 2026; DLI-backed firms have raised over USD 100 million and logged 35 tape-outs.

Lineage: VEGA is C-DAC's indigenous RISC-V processor family.

Exam hook: VEGA (C-DAC) vs SHAKTI (IIT Madras) - both RISC-V, different developers; match chip - startup - underlying processor.

PIB 2299883 · 2026-08-15

Infra (8)

• **Brahmaputra road-cum-rail tunnel (Assam)**

Body: Approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by the Prime Minister, and announced 14 Feb 2026; EPC mode.

Detail: India's first underwater road-cum-rail tunnel and the second in the world - a 15.79 km twin-tube TBM crossing beneath the Brahmaputra, inside a 33.7 km greenfield corridor costing Rs 18,662 crore.

Lineage: Links Gohpur on NH-15 to Numaligarh on NH-715 in Assam, replacing a 240 km, six-hour detour that runs past Kaziranga National Park.

Exam hook: First in India, second in the world for a combined road-and-rail underwater tunnel; the river is the Brahmaputra and the State is Assam, not Bengal.

PIB 2227981 · 2026-02-14

• **Adampur Airport renamed (Punjab)**

Body: Prime Minister's Office; the new name was unveiled by the Prime Minister on 1 Feb 2026 during a visit to Punjab.

Detail: Adampur Airport becomes 'Shri Guru Ravidass Maharaj Ji Airport, Adampur', timed to the 649th birth anniversary of Sant Guru Ravidas.

Lineage: The same visit opened the terminal building at Halwara Airport in Ludhiana district, Punjab - a civil enclave beside an Indian Air Force station, with a runway sized for A320-class aircraft.

Exam hook: Old name to new name - Adampur becomes Shri Guru Ravidass Maharaj Ji Airport; both airports are in Punjab, with Halwara serving Ludhiana.

PIB 2221124 · 2026-01-31

• **Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA)**

Body: Phase 1 inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 8 Oct 2025; developed on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

Detail: India's largest greenfield airport project, built at about Rs 19,650 crore over 1,160 hectares; it is Mumbai's second international airport and will eventually handle 90 million passengers a year.

Lineage: The same day dedicated Mumbai Metro Line 3, the Aqua Line - the city's first fully underground metro, 33.5 km from Cuffe Parade to Aarey JVLR, 27 stations, over Rs 37,270 crore.

Exam hook: NMIA is the greenfield second airport of Mumbai, Maharashtra; the underground corridor is Line 3 (Aqua), not Line 1 or the Mumbai Monorail.

PIB 2176402 · 2025-10-08

• India's landmark tunnels (superlatives)

Detail: Atal Tunnel - 9.02 km, under the Pir Panjal, bypassing Rohtang in Himachal Pradesh, built by the BRO; recognised as the world's longest highway tunnel above 10,000 feet.

Lineage: Sonamarg (Z-Morh) Tunnel - 12 km, Jammu and Kashmir, Rs 2,700 crore, NATM; Tunnel T50 - 12.77 km, Khari to Sumber on the USBRL; Sela Tunnel - 13,000 ft, Tezpur-Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh. **Exam hook:** Zojila becomes India's longest road tunnel and Asia's longest bi-directional tunnel only on completion in 2028 - the present superlatives belong to Atal and to the Z-Morh/Sonamarg tunnel.

PIB 2214471 · 2026-01-14

• Bharatmala Pariyojana (components)

Body: Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH);

Bharatmala Phase-I was approved by the CCEA in October 2017.

Detail: Its components are Economic Corridors, Inter-Corridor and Feeder Roads, National Corridors, Expressways, Border and International Connectivity Roads, Coastal and Port Connectivity Roads plus the subsumed NHDP - 26,425 km in all.

Lineage: National Highways now span 1,46,560 km, up from 91,287 km in 2014, on the world's second-largest road network; 35 Multimodal Logistics Parks are planned under Bharatmala.

Exam hook: NHDP is subsumed inside Bharatmala, but SARDP-NE and the LWE roads programme are separate flagship schemes; ropeways fall under Parvatmala, and the renamed Good Samaritan scheme is 'Rah-Veer' (Rs 25,000 reward).

PIB 2209837 · 2025-12-30

• Jammu-Srinagar direct rail link via USBRL

Body: USBRL (Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link), dedicated by the PM on 6 Jun 2025.

Detail: the Srinagar-Katra Vande Bharat was extended to Jammu Tawi on 30 Apr 2026 = first-ever direct Jammu-Kashmir passenger train; coaches raised 8 to 20; on this line Chenab bridge is the world's highest railway arch bridge (359 m above the river) and Anji is India's first cable-stayed rail bridge.

Exam hook: match bridge to type - Chenab (arch) vs Anji Khad (cable-stayed) - and the USBRL full form.

PIB 2257073 · 2026-04-30

• Namo Bharat RRTS corridor fully operational

Body: NCRTC, a JV of the Centre with Delhi/UP/Rajasthan/Haryana.

Detail: India's first Regional Rapid Transit System - the 82.15-km

Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Nam Bharat corridor (incl. 23-km Meerut Metro) - fully operational since Feb 2026; 3.8 crore riders, 99% punctuality.

Lineage: Phase-1 corridors are Delhi-Meerut, Delhi-Gurugram-Alwar and Delhi-Panipat.

Exam hook: first RRTS corridor connects which cities; Nam Bharat (RRTS train) vs Vande Bharat (express) vs Amrit Bharat (budget LHB) - the classic name-swap.

PIB 2295676 · 2026-08-06

• India's first riverine lighthouses - Brahmaputra (NW-2)

Body: DGLL (Directorate General of Lighthouses & Lightships), under MoPSW; foundation laid Mar 2026 by Sarbananda Sonowal.

Detail: India's first riverine lighthouses, on the Brahmaputra along National Waterway-2 (NW-2 = Brahmaputra, Sadiya-Dhubri stretch).

Lineage: NW-1 = Ganga (Haldia-Prayagraj); NW-3 = Kerala's West Coast Canal.

Exam hook: NW-1 vs NW-2 - options pin the first riverine lighthouses on the Ganga; match National Waterway to river.

PIB 2235574 · 2026-03-05

Culture/Sport (15)

• Deepavali on UNESCO ICH list (India's 16th element)

Body: Dossier prepared by the Ministry of Culture through the Sangeet Natak Akademi, India's nodal agency for intangible cultural heritage.

Detail: Inscribed 10 Dec 2025 on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, taking India from 15 elements to 16.

Lineage: Adopted at the 20th session of the Intergovernmental Committee, hosted by India at the Red Fort, New Delhi, 8-13 Dec 2025; earlier entries Garba of Gujarat (2023) and Durga Puja in Kolkata (2021).

Exam hook: This is the ICH Representative List, NOT the World Heritage List. India's next nomination is Chhath Mahaparv, for the 2026-27 cycle; only one nomination is allowed per two-year cycle.

PIB 2201320 · 2025-12-10

• Maratha Military Landscapes (India's 44th World Heritage Site)

Body: Nominated by the Ministry of Culture with the Archaeological Survey of India as nodal agency for the World Heritage Convention.

Detail: Inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List at the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee as India's 44th property; a serial group of 12 forts.

Lineage: India now ranks 6th globally and 2nd in Asia-Pacific by number of World Heritage Sites; the advisory body ICOMOS had filed a negative report before India lobbied member states.

Exam hook: Not all 12 forts are Maharashtra's - Gingee (Senji) Fort is in Tamil Nadu. World Heritage List is for tangible sites; Deepavali and Garba sit on the separate ICH list.

PIB 2201396 · 2025-12-10

• Seven natural sites added to UNESCO Tentative List

Body: Compiled and submitted by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), the nodal agency for the World Heritage Convention on India's behalf.

Detail: Announced 18 Sep 2025; India's Tentative List rose from 62 to 69 properties, made up of 49 cultural, 17 natural and 3 mixed sites.

Lineage: The seven are Deccan Traps (Maharashtra), St. Mary's Island (Karnataka), Meghalayan Age Caves (Meghalaya), Naga Hill Ophiolite (Nagaland), Erra Matti Dibbalu and Tirumala Hills (Andhra Pradesh), Varkala Cliffs (Kerala).

Exam hook: A Tentative List entry is only a prerequisite for nomination, not an inscription. Mawmluh Cave in Meghalaya is the global reference point for the Meghalayan Age.

PIB 2168105 · 2025-09-18

• Lucknow named UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy

Body: Designation under the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN); welcomed by the Prime Minister on 1 Nov 2025.

Detail: Lucknow recognised as a City of Gastronomy for its Awadhi culinary tradition - India's second city in that UCCN field.

Lineage: Hyderabad (2019) was India's first UNESCO City of Gastronomy; other Indian UCCN members include Jaipur (crafts and folk art), Varanasi and Gwalior (music), Chennai (music), Mumbai (film) and Kozhikode (literature).

Exam hook: The Creative Cities Network is a separate UNESCO programme from the World Heritage and Intangible Cultural Heritage lists. Gastronomy is one of seven UCCN creative fields.

PIB 2185121 · 2025-11-01

• Republic Day Parade 2026 (best tableaux and contingents)

Body: Judged by three panels constituted by the Ministry of Defence; a parallel Popular Choice award was decided by an online poll on the MyGov portal.

Detail: Best marching contingent among the three Services - Indian Navy; among CAPFs and auxiliary forces - Delhi Police. Best State/UT tableau - Maharashtra (Ganeshotsav), ahead of Jammu and Kashmir and Kerala.

Lineage: Best Ministry/Department tableau - Ministry of Culture (Vande Mataram). This was the 77th Republic Day, with 17 State/UT and 13 Ministry tableaux on Kartavya Path.

Exam hook: The MyGov Popular Choice winners are different - Assam Regiment, CRPF, Gujarat, and the Department of School Education and Literacy.

PIB 2219846 · 2026-01-28

• Padma Awards 2026

Body: Announced by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 25 Jan 2026; conferred by the President at Rashtrapati Bhavan, usually around March-April.

Detail: 131 awards (2 duo cases counted as one) - 5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan, 113 Padma Shri; 19 women, 16 posthumous, 6 foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI.

Lineage: Padma Vibhushan went to Dharmendra Singh Deol (Art, posthumous), K T Thomas, N Rajam (violin), P Narayanan and V S Achuthanandan (posthumous).

Exam hook: Rank order is Padma Vibhushan > Padma Bhushan > Padma Shri, all below Bharat Ratna. Rohit Sharma and Harmanpreet Kaur received Padma Shri; Mammooty, Alka Yagnik, Uday Kotak and Vijay Amritraj received Padma Bhushan.

PIB 2218547 · 2026-01-25

• **Vande Mataram 150 years (national song)**

Body: Year-long commemoration run by the **Ministry of Culture**, inaugurated by the PM at the **Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi**, on **7 Nov 2025** and running to **7 Nov 2026**.

Detail: Composed by **Bankim Chandra Chatterjee** (1838-1894) and first published on **7 Nov 1875** in the Bengali journal **Bangadarshan**; later woven into his novel **Anandamath** (1882).

Lineage: First sung by **Rabindranath Tagore** at the **1896 Calcutta session** of the Congress; adopted as the **National Song** by the **Constituent Assembly in 1950**; **Bhikaji Cama's** 1907 Stuttgart flag carried its words. **Exam hook:** **National Song** (Vande Mataram) is not the **National Anthem** (Jana Gana Mana). It became a political slogan on **7 Aug 1905**, the year of the **Partition of Bengal**.

PIB 2186984 · 2025-11-06

• **Pandit Chhannulal Mishra (obituary, Banaras gharana)**

Detail: Hindustani classical vocalist of the **Banaras gharana** and a **Padma Vibhushan** awardee; died **2 Oct 2025**, marked by a Prime Ministerial condolence message.

Lineage: Master of **khayal** and of the semi-classical **thumri, kajri** and **chaiti** repertoire of Kashi; his **Holi** renditions at **Manikarnika Ghat** were signature; he was a proposer of the PM's **2014 Varanasi** nomination. **Exam hook:** Vocalist-to-gharana pairing: **Chhannulal Mishra = Banaras**. Do not swap with **Birju Maharaj = Lucknow** kathak gharana or **Bhimsen Joshi = Kirana** gharana.

PIB 2174144 · 2025-10-02

• **ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 (India champions)**

Detail: India beat **South Africa** in the final on **2 Nov 2025** at the **DY Patil Stadium, Navi Mumbai** - India's **first** ICC Women's ODI World Cup title. Captain: **Harmanpreet Kaur**.

Lineage: India had been **runners-up twice**, in **2005** and **2017**; the **2025** edition was co-hosted by **India and Sri Lanka**. The champions called on **President Droupadi Murmu** on **6 Nov 2025**.

Exam hook: This is the **ODI Women's World Cup**, not the **T20 World Cup**. India also won the **inaugural Blind Women's T20 World Cup** and the women's **Kabaddi World Cup 2025**.

PIB 2185674 · 2025-11-03

• **Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar 2025 (national science awards)**

Body: **Ministry of Science & Technology**; nominations run through the **awards.gov.in** portal and are screened by a committee chaired by the **Principal Scientific Adviser**.

Detail: **Vigyan Ratna 2025** went **posthumously** to astrophysicist **Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar**; the **Vigyan Team** award went to the **CSIR Aroma Mission** team behind the lavender '**Purple Revolution**'; **24** awardees in all.

Lineage: **four categories** - **Vigyan Ratna** (lifetime), **Vigyan Shri** (distinguished), **Vigyan Yuva-Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar** (age **45** and under), **Vigyan Team** (three or more) - across **13 domains**; this was the **2nd** edition.

Exam hook: President **Droupadi Murmu** conferred them at **Rashtrapati Bhavan** on **23 Dec 2025**; **Vigyan Yuva** carries the **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar name**, so the old SSB Prize and Vigyan Yuva are now the **same** award.

PIB 2207860 · 2025-12-23

• **CWG 2030 - centenary Games in Ahmedabad**

Body: **Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF)**, which awards the Games; Ahmedabad's award was confirmed in **mid-2026**.

Detail: **2030 Commonwealth Games in Ahmedabad** - the centenary edition; rowing, absent since **CWG 1986**, may return in 2030.

Lineage: first British Empire Games **1930, Hamilton, Canada** - so 2030 marks **100 years**; India's calendar - Asian Games **2026 (Aichi-Nagoya)**, LA Olympics **2028**, 2036 Olympic bid.

Exam hook: **CWG 2026 = Glasgow** vs **CWG 2030 = Ahmedabad** - reversing the hosts is the obvious wrong option; match edition to host city.

PIB 2283122 · 2026-07-10

• **CWG Glasgow 2026 - India's 39 medals, 13 gold**

Body: Indian contingent at the **Commonwealth Games 2026, Glasgow** (**23 Jul - 2 Aug**).

Detail: **39 medals including 13 gold**; **Mirabai Chanu** opened the account with her **3rd consecutive CWG gold**; the **Army contingent alone took 16 medals (8 gold)**.

Lineage: India's **19th CWG appearance**, a run begun **1934**; a slimmed Glasgow programme cut **hockey, badminton and shooting**, concentrating Indian medals in weightlifting, boxing, judo, athletics.

Exam hook: **39/13 at GLASGOW 2026** vs **61/22 at Birmingham 2022** - a smaller Games, so raw tallies mislead; **Neeraj Chopra took javelin SILVER here, not gold** - the standard wrong option.

PIB 2293569 · 2026-08-03

• **72nd National Film Awards (2024) - 'Article 370' best film**

Body: **Ministry of I&B** (Information & Broadcasting); **72nd National Film Awards** for **2024**, announced **18 Jul 2026**.

Detail: Best Feature '**Article 370**'; Best Actress **Yami Gautam**; Best Actor **SHARED** by **Mammootty ('Bramayugam')** and **Kartik Aaryan ('Chandu Champion')**; Best Debut Director **Randeep Hooda ('Swatantrya Veer Savarkar')**; Best Non-Feature '**Bhangaar**'.

Lineage: Best Feature carries the **Swarna Kamal** and **Rs 3,00,000**.

Exam hook: the 2026 announcement covers films of **2024** - the year-lag is the standard trick, and Best Actor was shared; which film/actor won at the **72nd NFA**.

PIB 2286143 · 2026-07-18

• **Sarnath inscribed - India's 45th World Heritage Site**

Body: **World Heritage Committee**, **48th session**, **Busan** (South Korea); inscribed **25 Jul 2026**.

Detail: '**Ancient Buddhist Site of Sarnath**' (Varanasi, UP) - India's **45th** WHS; serial property of **2 parts** - **Chaukhandi Stupa** + archaeological remains (**Dhamekh** and **Dharmarajika** stupas, **Ashokan pillar**); site of Buddha's **first sermon (Dharmachakra Pravartana)**; tally **45 = 37 cultural + 7 natural + 1 mixed**.

Lineage: the **44th** site (2025) was **Maratha Military Landscapes**; the only mixed site remains **Khangchendzonga NP**; Sarnath's old names - **Rishipatana / Mrigadava**.

Exam hook: which number / which session city.

PIB 2289399 · 2026-07-25

• **Asha Bhosle passes away - Parliament obituary**

Body: **Ministry of I&B** confers the **Dadasaheb Phalke Award**, India's **highest cinema honour** (instituted **1969**).

Detail: legendary playback singer **Asha Bhosle** passed away in **Apr 2026**; both Houses of **Parliament** made obituary references; honours included the **Padma Vibhushan**, the **Dadasaheb Phalke Award** and **National Film Awards**.

Exam hook: the Phalke Award comes from **I&B**, not the **Ministry of Culture**; do not confuse it with the private '**Phalke Excellence**' events - which body gives it.

PIB 2252580 · 2026-04-16