THE DAILY GK DOSE

Jennifer Barreto of Puerto Rico wins Miss Universe 2026



- Jennifer Barreto of Puerto Rico was crowned Miss Universe 2026 at the 75th edition of the international beauty pageant.
- Puerto Rico secured its sixth Miss Universe crown with Jennifer Barreto's victory.
- The Dominican Republic's Melissa Núñez was named the first runner-up, while Venezuela's Clara Vegas secured another top position.

West Bengal Cabinet Approves Renaming State to Paschim Banga



- The proposal aims to replace the existing English name West Bengal with Paschim Banga, aligning it with the state's Bengali name.
- A Bill for changing the name of a state can be introduced in Parliament only on the recommendation of the President.
- Under Article 3 of Indian Constitution, Parliament has the power to alter the name of a state.

Pratibha Parkar Appointed as India's Ambassador to Nicaragua

- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced that Pratibha Parkar has been concurrently accredited as India's next Ambassador to the Republic of Nicaragua.
- She is currently serving as India's Ambassador to Panama.
- India has established an IT Training Centre in Managua, the capital of Nicaragua.

Muhammad Zeeshan Ali to Become Pakistan's First Astronaut in Space



- Muhammad Zeeshan Ali became first Pakistani astronaut to travel into Low Earth Orbit (LEO) aboard China's Shenzhou-24 spacecraft.
- He travelled as a Payload Specialist alongside Chinese astronauts Tang Hongbo (Commander) and Wu Yi (Flight Engineer).
- The mission launched from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre, China, on 25 November 2026.

India to Establish Offshore IIT Campus in Nepal

- India will establish an offshore campus of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Nepal as part of its educational and technological cooperation with the neighbouring country.
- This will be India's third offshore IIT campus after the existing campuses in Zanzibar, Tanzania, and Abu Dhabi, UAE.
- IIT Madras established its offshore campus in Zanzibar in 2023, while IIT Delhi established its campus in Abu Dhabi in 2024.

India, Nepal to hold 20th edition of joint military exercise Suryakiran



- The 20th edition of the India-Nepal joint military exercise SURYAKIRAN is being conducted at the Nepali Army Battle School, Saljhandi, Rupandehi district, Nepal, between the Indian Army and the Nepali Army.
- The 2026 edition carries the theme "Two Nations. One Mission. An Enduring Bond."
- The previous, 19th edition (2025), was held at Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.

ASEAN-India Maritime Conclave 2026 Held in Visakhapatnam



- The conclave was organised by the India Foundation in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- It was attended by representatives and delegations from all 11 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.
- The headquarters of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is located in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Vantara Signs 10-Year Wildlife Pact with Madagascar



- Vantara, an animal rescue, rehabilitation and conservation organisation founded by Anant Ambani, has signed a 10-year, non-exclusive Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Madagascar's Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD).
- Vivaan Karani is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Vantara.
- Madagascar is an island country located in the Indian Ocean, off southeastern coast of Africa.

RBI – IMPORTANT FACTS

Established: 1 April 1935

Headquarters: Mumbai

First HQ: Kolkata

Nationalised: 1 January 1949

First Governor: Sir Osborne Smith

First Indian Governor: C. D. Deshmukh

Current Governor (2026): Sanjay Malhotra (26th)

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY? 25-11-2026 / WEDNESDAY

The Ministry of Rural Development is launching the 5th edition of Nayi Chetna – Pahal Badlav Ki on 25 November 2026, coinciding with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.