

JULY 2026

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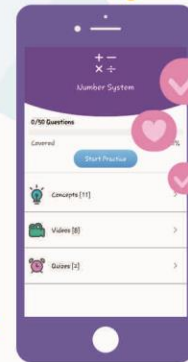
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ARTICLES

India Crowned Men's U18 Hockey Asia Cup 2026 Champions

After a 9-year wait, the Indian Men's Under-18 hockey team reclaimed continental glory by lifting the **Men's U18 Hockey Asia Cup 2026** trophy in dominant fashion. Here's everything you need to know about the tournament, key players, awards, and India's road to victory.



1. Tournament Overview

- **Event:** 2026 Men's Hockey U18 Asia Cup
- **Dates:** Concluded on **6 June 2026**
- **Host City:** Kakamigahara, Japan
- **Venue:** Kawasaki Heavy Industries Hockey Stadium
- **Participating Teams:** 9 teams
- **Edition:** India won their **3rd title**, making them the most successful team in U18 Asia Cup history

Final Standings

Rank	Team	Medal
1	India	Champions
2	Japan	Runners -up
3	Pakistan	Third Place

2. Star Players & Individual Awards

Key Performers for India

- **Ashish Tani Purti:** The forward was India's hero with a **hat-trick in the final**. He finished the tournament with an incredible **13 goals**, winning the **Golden Boot**.
- **Ketan Kushwaha:** Captain of the team, he scored a crucial goal in the final and led from the front.

Squad Note: Six players from **Madhya Pradesh's Men's Hockey Academy** were part of the championship-winning squad.

Individual Dominance: India "completely dominated the individual tournament honours" through standout performances.

3. Prize Money & Rewards

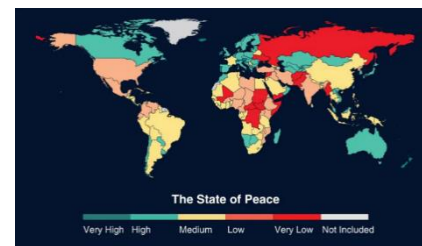
To recognize the achievement, **Hockey India** announced cash awards:

- **₹3 lakh** for each player of the gold medal-winning team
- **₹1.5 lakh** for each member of the support staff

This reward celebrates the team's "splendid accomplishment" and "exceptional skill and teamwork".

Global Peace Index (GPI) 2026

The **2026 Global Peace Index (GPI)**, published by the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), marks the 20th edition of this influential report. It provides a comprehensive analysis of the state of global peace across 163 independent states and territories, representing 99.7% of the world's population.



Key Findings and Global Trends

The 2026 findings paint a sobering picture, highlighting a world in the midst of a significant geopolitical shift.

- **12 Consecutive Years of Deterioration:** Global peacefulness has declined for the 12th year in a row. The average level of country peacefulness deteriorated by 0.7% over the past year.
- **The "Great Fragmentation":** This year's report identifies a profound geopolitical era characterized by the "Great Fragmentation." This shift is driven by the waning influence of traditional European powers and the rising assertiveness of middle-power nations, such as Indonesia, Türkiye, Mexico, and the United Arab Emirates.
- **Record-High Conflict:** The number of active state-based conflicts is at its highest point since the end of World War II. Internationalized intrastate conflicts—where domestic conflicts involve external nations—have surged by over 175% since 2010.
- **Technological Warfare:** The report highlights a "rapid technological revolution" in warfare. Drones have become a defining weapon, with attacks rising approximately 11,500% between 2018 and 2025. Additionally, the emergence of AI in combat decisions—where machines can make life-and-death choices faster than humans—poses significant ethical and regulatory challenges that current international frameworks are struggling to address.
- **Forced Displacement:** The number of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) remains at a staggering 117 million as of 2025.

Rankings: Most and Least Peaceful Countries

The index evaluates 23 indicators across three primary domains: **Ongoing Conflict, Safety and Security**, and **Militarization**.

Top 10 Most Peaceful Countries (2026)

- **Iceland** (19th consecutive year at #1)
- **New Zealand**
- **Switzerland**
- **Slovenia**
- **Ireland**
- **Austria**
- **Portugal**
- **Singapore**
- **Finland**
- **Japan**

Supreme Court Declares Right to Walk on Safe Footpaths a Fundamental Right

In a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court of India has reaffirmed that the right to walk safely on demarcated footpaths is a **fundamental right** protected by the Constitution. The Court held that pedestrians are entitled to safe, accessible, and unobstructed footpaths, and that this right takes precedence over the convenience of motor vehicles.



Constitutional Basis

The Court linked the right to walk safely with:

- **Article 21** – Right to Life and Personal Liberty.
- **Article 19(1)(d)** – Freedom to move freely throughout the territory of India.

According to the judgment, walking is not merely a mode of transport but an essential aspect of human dignity, personal liberty, and freedom of movement. Therefore, the State has a constitutional obligation to ensure that citizens can move safely on foot.

What the Court Said

The Supreme Court observed that:

- The fundamental right of citizens to walk on demarcated footpaths must be protected.
- Pedestrian rights should be given priority over motorized traffic where necessary.
- Public authorities have a duty to create, maintain, and safeguard footpaths.
- The absence of safe pedestrian infrastructure can amount to a violation of constitutional rights.

The Bench also emphasized that urban development authorities, municipal corporations, municipalities, and panchayats are responsible for ensuring safe pedestrian infrastructure.

Call for a Legal Framework

The Court noted the need for a comprehensive statutory framework that would:

- Recognize the right to walk on safe footpaths.
- Define responsibilities of government agencies.
- Provide remedies when pedestrian rights are violated.
- Ensure accountability for failure to maintain pedestrian infrastructure.

It reportedly urged the Union Government to consider legislation requiring properly demarcated footpaths on roads across the country.

Inaugural Indian Athletics Awards 2025: Celebrating Excellence

The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) hosted its inaugural **Indian Athletics Awards** in New Delhi, a landmark event established to honor the athletes, coaches, officials, and institutions driving the growth of the sport across the nation.



Top Honors: Athletes of the Year

- Best Male Athlete of the Year: Neeraj Chopra**
 The Olympic gold medalist and two-time Olympic medalist cemented his position as India's top track and field athlete. Despite a back injury before the 2025 World Championships in Tokyo, he showed great resilience. His standout achievement was making history as the first Indian to cross 90 metres, with a 90.23m throw at the Doha Diamond League.
- Best Female Athlete of the Year: Parul Chaudhary**
 The decorated steeplechase and distance runner had a standout season, winning gold in both the 3000m steeplechase and 5000m at the Asian Championships, strengthening her status as a top Indian middle- and long-distance athlete.

Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients

A poignant highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Awards to legends who have shaped the trajectory of Indian sports:

- PT Usha:** The legendary sprinter and current President of the Indian Olympic Association was honored for her decades of contribution to athletics and her ongoing commitment to athlete development.
- Gurbachan Singh Randhawa:** Former Asian Games decathlon champion.
- Bahadur Singh Chauhan:** Former national athletics coach.
- Anju Bobby George:** World Championships long jump bronze medallist.

Recognizing Rising Stars and Contributors

Category	Winners
Best Male Athlete of the Year	Neeraj Chopra
Best Female Athlete of the Year	Parul Chaudhary
Best Emerging Male Athlete	Shahnavaz Khan

Best Emerging Female Athlete	Pooja Singh
Best Coach of the Year	Parveer Singh
Best Technical Official	Dr. Kuldeep Singh
Best State Association	Tamil Nadu Athletics Association

French Open 2026: Winners List

The 2026 French Open (Roland-Garros) concluded on June 7, 2026, marking a historic tournament filled with first-time Grand Slam champions and notable milestones. Alexander Zverev secured his long-awaited maiden major title in the men's singles, while 19-year-old Mirra Andreeva captured the women's singles trophy.



Category	Champion(s)	Runner(s)-up	Score
Men's Singles	Alexander Zverev	Flavio Cobolli	6–1, 4–6, 6–4, 6–7, 6–1
Women's Singles	Mirra Andreeva	Maja Chwalińska	6–3, 6–2
Men's Doubles	M. Granollers / H. Zeballos	H. Heliövaara / H. Patten	6–4, 6–2
Women's Doubles	K. Siniaková / T. Townsend	A. Danilina / A. Krunic	6–2, 7–5
Mixed Doubles	S. Errani / A. Vavassori	G. Dabrowski / E. King	4–6, 6–3, 10–4

Men's Singles: A Maiden Grand Slam for Zverev

- Alexander Zverev won his maiden Grand Slam title by defeating Flavio Cobolli in a thrilling five-set French Open final. The victory also made him the first German man to win the French Open since 1937.

Women's Singles: The Arrival of Mirra Andreeva

- Mirra Andreeva claimed her first Grand Slam title by defeating Maja Chwalińska 6–3, 6–2 in the final. At just 19, she became the youngest French Open women's champion since 1992.

Men's Doubles: Granollers and Zeballos Defend Crown

- Marcel Granollers and Horacio Zeballos successfully defended their French Open men's doubles title, defeating Harri Heliövaara and Henry Patten 6–4, 6–2 in the final. The unbeaten run earned them their third Grand Slam title as a team.

Women's Doubles: A New Powerhouse Partnership

- Kateřina Siniaková and Taylor Townsend won their first French Open title as a team, defeating Anna Danilina and Aleksandra Krunic 6–2, 7–5 in the final. The victory gave Siniaková her fourth Roland-Garros women's doubles title and marked Townsend's first French Open crown.

NATIONAL NEWS



JUNE 2026

India's 7th Regional Meteorological Centre Inaugurated in Jammu

- **Regional Coverage and Scope:** The new RMC in Jammu will act as a dedicated hub for Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, and Himachal Pradesh. By centralizing operations for these states and union territories, the IMD aims to provide highly localized, district-level forecasts and specialized weather services tailored to the diverse terrain of the northwestern Himalayas.
- **Disaster Management and Early Warning:** The centre is equipped to provide advanced "nowcast" services, including warnings up to three hours in advance for flash floods, cloudbursts, avalanches, heavy snowfall, and landslides.
- **Expansion of Network:** The inauguration coincides with a broader push to strengthen scientific infrastructure. The Minister noted that there are now 50 Doppler Weather Radars operational across India, with plans to add 50 more in the coming years.

Kerala Launches India's First Judiciary-Integrated Wildlife Offence System

- **Pioneering Digital Integration:** The Kerala Forest Department has officially launched the "Hostile Activity Watch Kernel" (HAWK) system, marking India's first fully digitized and judiciary-integrated wildlife offence management platform.

By establishing a direct link via an Application Programming Interface (API) with the District Court Management System, the state has effectively eliminated the need for physical paperwork in environmental crime prosecution.

- **Enhanced Transparency & Real-Time Tracking:** Because all data entries are permanent and immutable, the system significantly improves institutional accountability and curbs the potential for corruption during the judicial process.
- **Advanced Ecological Intelligence:** By mapping geographic hotspots and crime seasonality, the system enables the forest department to deploy its enforcement resources more strategically and effectively.

Footnotes: Kerala's CM: V. D. Satheesan, Governor: Rajendra Arlekar, Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

G S Malik appointed as the new DGP of Gujarat

- **Official Elevation & Background:** The Gujarat Home Department officially appointed 1993-batch IPS officer Gyanender Singh Malik as the new Director General of Police (DGP) on June 6, 2026. Before his elevation to the state's top police post, Malik served with distinction as the Commissioner of Police for Ahmedabad City.
- **Strategic Vision for Policing:** Upon taking charge, Malik emphasized a modernized approach to law enforcement, prioritizing the extensive use of technology and digital surveillance. He intends to

expand the CCTV camera network across major cities in the state to enhance crime prevention, detection, and investigation efficiency.

- **Focus on Key Security Challenges:** Malik has identified the rising menace of drug trafficking, cybercrime, and traffic management as the primary focus areas of his administration. His leadership will also be immediately tested by major upcoming security challenges, most notably the management and protection of the Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra in Ahmedabad.

Footnotes: Gujarat's CM: Bhupendrabhai Patel, Governor: Acharya Devvrat, Capital: Gandhinagar

UP Launches 'Project Ganga' to Bring High-Speed Internet to Rural Areas

- **Objective and Reach:** The project aims to provide high-speed fiber-based broadband connectivity to approximately 20 lakh households across the state. It will initially roll out in 21 districts, with the ultimate goal of reaching all 57,000 Gram Panchayats and 8,000 Nyaya Panchayats.
- **Empowerment Model:** The initiative will develop a network of 8,000 to 10,000 local youth as Digital Service Providers (DSPs) to establish and manage fiber broadband networks in their communities. This model prioritizes entrepreneurship, with a specific target of ensuring 50% participation from women.

Union Home Minister launched Land Port Management System 'VINIMAY'



- **Digital Transformation of Borders:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah recently inaugurated 'VINIMAY,' a state-of-the-art digital platform designed to modernize and streamline operations across India's land ports. This initiative aims to replace manual processes with a unified electronic system, significantly reducing paperwork by approximately 90 percent.
- **Integrated Efficiency:** The system acts as a single electronic window for cargo and passenger processing, facilitating seamless coordination between customs, immigration, and border guarding forces. By integrating with national platforms like ICEGATE and ULIP, it is expected to reduce truck waiting times at borders by 40 to 60 percent.
- **Strategic Security and Trade:** Developed by the LPAI, VINIMAY supports the "Smart Borders" initiative by enhancing real-time data exchange and automated security monitoring.

Varanasi becomes first city under Easy Connect model for international travel

- **Pioneering Seamless Connectivity:** Varanasi has

become the first city to launch 'Easy Connect' flights, a new initiative under the Government of India's hub-and-spoke aviation model. This service, operated by Air India starting June 25, 2026, aims to significantly simplify international travel for passengers from Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.

- **Streamlined Transit Procedures:** The model allows travelers to complete their baggage check-in and international immigration formalities directly at their originating airport. By doing so, passengers can bypass the need to collect or re-check luggage at major hubs like Delhi, ensuring a much smoother and faster transit experience.
- **Global Network Integration:** The designated flight from Varanasi connects seamlessly to 17 international destinations, including cities across Europe, Southeast Asia, and West Asia, within a four-hour window at the Delhi hub.

Meta-Reliance Partner to Develop 168 MW AI-Enabled Data Centre in Jamnagar

- **Strategic Infrastructure Project:** Meta and Reliance Industries have signed a landmark agreement to develop a 168 MW AI-enabled data centre in Jamnagar, Gujarat. This facility marks Meta's first "built-to-suit" data centre in India, specifically designed to scale its global AI infrastructure and support compute-intensive workloads.
- **Sustainability and Technology:** The data centre will be powered entirely by renewable energy and utilizes desalinated seawater for cooling, underscoring a commitment to environmentally conscious operations. Reliance

will provide comprehensive end-to-end services, including design, construction, and utility management.

- **Expansion of Partnership:** This project significantly deepens the long-standing strategic collaboration between the two companies, which began with Meta's 2020 investment in Jio Platforms. By shifting focus from software to critical physical infrastructure, the partnership aims to position India as a major global hub for hyperscale AI computing and digital innovation.

ICAR Launches Oilseeds Kisan Mitra AI Advisory via WhatsApp

- **Multilingual Digital Support:** The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has introduced 'Oilseeds Kisan Mitra,' a 24/7 AI-powered chatbot designed to provide instant, scientific agricultural advice. Farmers can access this service directly through WhatsApp in multiple Indian regional languages without needing to download any additional applications.
- **Comprehensive Crop Guidance:** Developed by the ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (IIOR), the platform offers expert guidance on the entire crop cycle for major oilseeds like groundnut, soybean, mustard, and sunflower. It covers essential topics such as seed selection, agronomic practices, pest and disease management, and post-harvest operations.
- **Bridging the Research Gap:** The initiative aims to enhance domestic oilseed production by connecting farmers to a verified scientific knowledge base synthesized from several premier ICAR institutes.

MAY 2026

IIM Bangalore emerged as the top business school in India

- **Global Dominance in Executive Education:** In the QS Executive MBA Rankings 2026, IIM Bangalore emerged as the top-ranked business school in India, securing the 64th position globally. Notably, it remains the only Indian institution to feature in the prestigious global top 100 for this category.
- **Academic and Subject-Specific Leadership:** According to the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026, IIMB is ranked 29th globally for Business and Management Studies. This reflects high scores in academic reputation (\$78.9\$) and employer reputation (\$80.9\$), placing it significantly ahead of most regional competitors in those specific metrics.

India's First MLFF Tolling System Launched in Gujarat

- **Location and Scale:** The system was successfully operationalized at the Chorayasi Toll Plaza on the Surat-Bharuch section of NH-48 in Gujarat. On its very first day of implementation, approximately 41,500 vehicles passed through the plaza without stopping.
- **New Payment & Penalty Rules:** To support this "stop-free" movement, the Ministry has introduced a 72-hour grace period. If a FASTag has insufficient balance, an E-Notice is issued; if the toll is paid within 72 hours, only the normal fee applies.

Footnotes: Gujarat's CM: Bhupendrabhai Patel, Governor:

Acharya Devvrat, Capital: Gandhinagar

India Sets Guinness Record with Largest Underwater Tricolour

- **Unprecedented Scale and Location:** The record-breaking Tricolour measured an immense \$60\$ metres by \$40\$ metres. The unfurling took place beneath the turquoise waters of the iconic Radhanagar Beach on Swaraj Dweep (formerly Havelock Island), a site frequently ranked among the world's best beaches.
- **Massive Collaborative Effort:** The operation involved a team of 223 divers, including personnel from the Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, Andaman and Nicobar Police, and the Forest Department, alongside private scuba divers. Notably, the Lieutenant Governor of the islands, Admiral (Retd.) D.K. Joshi, was a member of the diving team that executed the mission.
- **Strategic Objective:** Beyond the record, the initiative was designed to promote the Andaman and Nicobar Islands as a premier global destination for scuba diving and adventure tourism.

Karnataka Launches India's first State-led CoE for Space Tech

- **First-of-its-Kind Collaboration:** Launched on May 1, 2026, the CoESpaceTech Foundation in Bengaluru is India's first state-led Centre of Excellence for space technology. It is established by the Karnataka government through the Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS) in collaboration with the Satcom Industry Association of India (SIA-India).

- **Global Tech & Research Partnerships:** To accelerate cutting-edge development, the CoE signed multiple high-profile MoUs on launch day, partnering with Dassault Systèmes (for advanced simulation and software tools), Manipal Academy of Higher Education.

Footnotes: Karnataka's CM: Siddaramaiah, Capital: Bengaluru, Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

India's Private Sector Launches 'Mission Drishti' Earth Observation Satellite

- **India's Largest Privately Built Satellite:** Weighing approximately 190 kg, Mission Drishti is the largest privately developed Earth observation satellite in Indian history.
- **World's First OptoSAR Technology:** Drishti is the first satellite globally to feature SyncFusedOptoSAR technology. It overcomes the limits of traditional imaging. It can capture highly detailed, intuitive color photos while simultaneously using radar to peer through thick clouds, monsoonal rain, and pitch darkness.

Union Minister Launches 'Cell Broadcast System' For Disaster Warnings

- **Indigenous Collaboration:** The system was developed entirely indigenously by the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), working in close collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Superior "No-Network-Lag" Technology:** It sends localized,

near-real-time messages simultaneously to all active mobile devices connected to targeted cell towers, operating seamlessly even without cellular data or active internet connections.

time field observations, bottlenecks, and policy recommendations directly via their mobile devices.

Footnotes: NITI Aayog's **Chairperson:** Narendra Modi, **HQ:** New Delhi, **Estd:** 2015

Indian journalists win prestigious US Award

- **The Prestigious Honor:** Indian journalists Anand RK (illustrator) and Suparna Sharma (investigative journalist) won the 2026 Pulitzer Prize—one of the highest honors in global journalism.
- **The Award-Winning Work:** They won in the Illustrated Reporting and Commentary category for their collaborative Bloomberg report titled "trAPPed."
- **The Subject Matter:** Their work used a powerful blend of visuals and words to expose the growing global threat of cybercrime, specifically detailing the harrowing "digital arrest" and financial extortion of a Lucknow-based neurologist.

NITI Aayog Launches Central Prabhari Officer Portal

- **Primary Objective:** Launched by NITI Aayog CEO Nidhi Chhibber on May 5, 2026, the portal aims to strengthen real-time governance, improve stakeholder coordination, and accelerate last-mile delivery under the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) and Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP).
- **Real-Time Field Reporting:** The platform acts as a digital interface allowing Central Prabhari Officers to submit real-

NSE Launches Electronic Gold Receipts in Gold Market

- **The Launch:** The National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) officially introduced Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) as a new trading segment on May 4, 2026, to digitize and formalize India's fragmented gold market.
- **How It Works:** EGRs are dematerialized, digital securities representing real, physical gold stored in SEBI-accredited vaults. Held directly in investors' demat accounts, they can be traded on the exchange like stocks, with the flexibility to convert the digital receipts back into physical gold.
- **Key Benefits:** Designed to enhance transparent price discovery and build trust, the system allows for trading in smaller denominations. This opens up secure gold investment to retail investors, jewellers, refiners, and institutional traders alike, while eliminating storage and purity concerns.

Footnotes: NSE's **MD & CEO:** Ashishkumar Chauhan, **HQ:** Mumbai, **Estd:** 1992

Chief Minister of Assam Himanta Sarma resigns

- **Paving Way for New Government:** The resignation follows the conclusion of the 2026 Assam Assembly elections,

where the BJP-led NDA secured a historic third consecutive victory with a landslide 102 seats in the 126-member assembly.

- **Upcoming Government Formation:** The BJP has appointed central observers (including J.P. Nadda) to oversee the election of the legislature party leader; the new government's oath-taking ceremony is expected to take place after May 11, 2026.

Footnotes: Assam's **Governor:** Lakshman Acharya, **CM:** Himanta Biswa Sarma, **Capital:** Dispur

NLC India Signs Nuclear Agreement with EDF France



- **Technology & Innovation:** The partnership involves a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) to explore the development of advanced nuclear technologies, specifically focusing on European Pressurized Reactors (EPR) and SMRs.
- **Strategic Diversification:** This marks a major shift for NLC India, traditionally known for lignite mining and thermal power. Simultaneously, the company announced it is shelving its ₹4,400-crore lignite-to-methanol project to focus on large-scale, sustainable energy like nuclear power.

APRIL 2026

India begins first fully digital Census 2027

- **First-Ever Digital Census:** This is the first time in India's history that the census is being conducted entirely through digital means. Over 3 million enumerators will collect and submit data directly via mobile applications on smartphones, replacing the traditional paper-based system. This shift is expected to enable near real-time data processing and faster publication of results.
- **Introduction of Self-Enumeration:** For the first time, citizens have the option of self-enumeration. Through a dedicated online portal (available in 16 languages), individuals can fill in their own household details before an enumerator visits.

India approves IBC Amendment Bill 2026

- **Creditor-Initiated Insolvency (CIIRP):** The Bill introduces a new "out-of-court" mechanism called the Creditor-Initiated Insolvency Resolution Process. Unlike the standard process, CIIRP allows specified financial creditors to start resolution proceedings with a faster 150-day timeline.
- **Group & Cross-Border Insolvency:** For the first time, the law provides a formal framework to handle Group Insolvency, allowing interconnected companies within a corporate conglomerate to be resolved together rather than through fragmented, individual cases.

PM Modi launches Kaynes Semiconductor Plant in Gujarat

- **₹3,300 Crore Strategic Investment:** Developed by KaynesSemicon (a subsidiary of Kaynes Technology), the plant was built with an investment of ₹3,300 crore at Sanand GIDC. It is the second major semiconductor unit to become operational in India, following the Micron plant which began production exactly one month prior on February 28, 2026.
- **"Make in India, Make for the World":** Highlighting India's transition into its "Techade," the Prime Minister noted that a significant portion of the chips produced at this facility are already earmarked for export to global markets.

Indian Navy inducts stealth frigate INS Dunagiri

- **Fifth of the Nilgiri-Class (Project 17A):** INS Dunagiri is the fifth of seven advanced stealth frigates being built under Project 17A. It is a "reincarnation" of the erstwhile Leander-class frigate of the same name that served from 1977 to 2010. This new version represents a generational leap in design, featuring significantly improved stealth shaping, reduced radar signatures, and advanced automation.
- **Record Efficiency & Indigenization:** In a boost to Aatmanirbharta, the ship has 75% indigenous content, involving over 200 Indian MSMEs.

AP Science City signs MoU with CSIRNISCPR

- **Strengthening STI Policy & Communication:** The partnership aims to bridge the gap between complex scientific research and public understanding. It focuses on STI policy research to promote

evidence-based policymaking in Andhra Pradesh.

- **Capacity Building & Mentorship:** A core component of the agreement is the organization of joint training programs, workshops, and masterclasses.

Punjab govt to build glass bridge over Sutlej Lake

- **North India's First Glass Skywalk:** The proposed bridge will be the first of its kind in North India, designed to offer a "floating" experience over the serene waters of the Nangal Dam lake.
- **Rapid Construction Timeline:** The Chief Minister announced that the project is expected to be completed within six months. This fast-track development is part of a larger ₹75 crore package for Nangal, which includes a new "Centre of Excellence" for skill development (named after Kargil martyr Captain Amol Kalia) and a 500-seat auditorium at the local School of Eminence.

Amaravati declared permanent capital of Andhra Pradesh

- **Statutory Legal Status:** Parliament passed the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026, which officially grants Amaravati statutory recognition as the sole and permanent capital. This ends years of legal and political ambiguity by specifically naming Amaravati in the central law that bifurcated the state in 2014.
- **End of the "Three-Capital" Model:** This federal legislation effectively overrides and settles the previous "Three-Capital" proposal (which sought to split functions between Visakhapatnam, Amaravati, and Kurnool).

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

JUNE 2026

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung Nominates Han Seong-sook as PM

- **Background and Expertise:** Han Seong-sook, the current Minister of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and Startups, is a former CEO of the internet giant Naver. Her background in the technology sector is intended to help the administration navigate the transition toward an artificial intelligence-driven economy.
- **Governmental Significance:** If confirmed by the National Assembly, Han will become the first female Prime Minister of the Lee administration. Furthermore, she would hold the distinction of being South Korea's second female Prime Minister, following Han Myeong-sook, who served nearly two decades ago.
- **Strategic Reshuffle:** The nomination follows the resignation of current Prime Minister Kim Min-seok, who is stepping down to pursue the leadership of the ruling Democratic Party. This transition occurs as the Lee administration marks its first anniversary since taking office in June 2025.

Canada Sets Guinness World Record with Giant 12,800-Square-Metre Flag

- **Record-Breaking Dimensions:** The flag measures 160 metres long by 80 metres wide, covering a total area of 12,800 square metres, which is roughly

equivalent to the size of two football fields. It weighs approximately 3,400 pounds and was manufactured from a special weather-resistant fabric by the Vancouver-based company, Blast Media Print.

- **Strategic Installation and Timing:** The flag was spread across "The Cut," a prominent ski run on Grouse Mountain, to ensure visibility from across Metro Vancouver, the air, and surrounding regions. It was intentionally installed in June 2026 to welcome international visitors and demonstrate support for Team Canada during the FIFA World Cup.
- **Public & Regulatory Reception:** While the project has generated significant local pride and interest, its display has sparked debate regarding flag etiquette because it touches the ground, which some guidelines advise against.

Elon Musk Becomes World's First Trillionaire After SpaceX IPO

- **Record-Breaking Market Debut:** SpaceX's IPO raised approximately \$75 billion, making it the largest public offering in history and comfortably surpassing the previous benchmark set by Saudi Aramco in 2019. The company's shares, trading under the ticker symbol SPCX, opened at \$150 and closed at \$160.95 on their first day, cementing a market valuation that exceeded \$2 trillion.

- **Impact on Musk's Personal Wealth:** As the largest shareholder of SpaceX, owning roughly 42% of the equity, the post-IPO surge in share price pushed Musk's estimated net worth past the \$1 trillion mark. His fortune is primarily derived from this significant stake in SpaceX, combined with his existing holdings in Tesla and other ventures like xAI and X (formerly Twitter).
- **Economic & Social Implications:** Musk's rise to billionaire status has sparked intense global discourse regarding extreme wealth inequality and the influence of tech oligarchs in the modern era.

PM Narendra Modi Receives Slovakia's Highest National Award

- **Recognition of Diplomatic Ties:** The award was conferred by Slovak President Peter Pellegrini in recognition of the Prime Minister's exceptional contributions to strengthening the bilateral partnership between India and Slovakia. It reflects the growing depth of cooperation in areas such as trade, technology, and strategic affairs.
- **A Milestone Achievement:** This prestigious recognition marks the 33rd international honour bestowed upon Prime Minister Modi by a foreign nation. Furthermore, this visit is historic as he is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Slovakia since the country gained its independence.

UK Announces Social Media Ban for U-16 Users



- **Scope of the Social Media Ban:** The ban will apply to major platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Snapchat, and YouTube. Essential messaging services like WhatsApp and Signal will remain accessible, as the government intends to protect children's ability to communicate safely with friends and family.
- **Targeting Harmful Online Features:** Beyond a general social media ban, the government is implementing strict regulations to protect users under 18 from "high-risk" digital interactions. These measures will restrict features like livestreaming and the ability for strangers to contact children on gaming or social platforms.
- **Timeline & Enforcement:** The government plans to present the new regulations to Parliament before the end of 2026, with full implementation expected by Spring 2027. Tech companies failing to comply with the new age-verification requirements will face significant financial penalties for violating the safety standards.

Sarvam AI Becomes India's 130th Unicorn After Raising USD 234 Million

- **Significant Funding:** Sarvam AI successfully raised \$234 million in the first close of its Series B funding round. This massive capital injection was spearheaded by HCL Tech, which committed \$150 million to become a lead strategic investor.
- **Strategic Collaboration:** The partnership with HCLTech aims to integrate Sarvam's sovereign AI research with the IT giant's

global enterprise reach. This collaboration focuses on building secure, scalable, and responsible AI solutions tailored for governments and large-scale industries.

Navi Mumbai & Guwahati Airports named World's Most Beautiful Airports 2026

- **Architectural Inspiration:** The airport's Terminal 1 features a distinctive lotus-inspired design that symbolizes purity and renewal. This aesthetic choice aims to reflect India's vision as a modern global economic powerhouse while offering a futuristic visual appeal.
- **Cultural & Biophilic Design:** Terminal 2 is guided by the biophilic elegance of the "Bamboo Orchid," which honors the rich biodiversity of Northeast India. The structure utilizes bamboo-inspired elements and organic shapes to create a space that feels deeply connected to the region's natural landscapes.
- **Sustainability Focus:** The design emphasizes environmental responsibility through the use of passive daylighting and sustainable materials. Large open spaces and fluid ceiling patterns, which trace the rhythms of the Brahmaputra River, enhance both the aesthetic beauty and the operational efficiency of the terminal.

ISRO-DAE Develop Artificial Heating System for 200-Day Lunar Lander Life

- **Mechanism of Survival:** The heating system utilizes Radioisotope Heater Units (RHUs), which generate continuous heat through the natural radioactive decay of specific isotopes. Unlike solar panels, which are ineffective during the two-week-long lunar night, these heaters provide a reliable, constant thermal source

to protect delicate electronics and batteries from freezing.

- **Overcoming the "Lunar Night" Challenge:** Previous missions like Chandrayaan-3 relied on solar power, which resulted in the lander losing function once the sun set and temperatures dropped drastically. By maintaining critical component temperatures, these heaters allow the spacecraft to remain operational through multiple lunar day-night cycles, drastically increasing mission duration.
- **Strategic Collaboration:** This project combines ISRO's advanced space engineering capabilities with the DAE's specialized knowledge in nuclear and thermal technology. Successfully scaling this technology is considered a pivotal milestone for India, enabling long-term scientific experiments and paving the way for more complex interplanetary exploration.

India Rises to 5th Spot in QS World University Rankings 2027

- **Rise to 5th Most Represented System:** India has achieved the rank of the world's fifth most represented higher education system. This milestone follows a remarkable 271% growth in representation since 2017, moving from 14 institutions to 52.
- **Broad-Based Academic Excellence:** The progress is no longer limited to elite engineering schools; 13 non-IIT institutions achieved their highest-ever rankings this year. This signifies a more systemic improvement across public and private universities throughout 19 states and union territories.
- **Strengthened Research & Employability:** Indian universities are gaining global recognition for their research output and graduate value. Specifically, 11 institutions now rank among the world's top 100 for research impact.

MAY 2026

India Retains No. 1 Spot in World T20I Rankings

- **Sustained Dominance:** India leads the rankings with 275 rating points, sitting 13 points clear of second-placed England (262) and third-placed Australia (258).
- **World Cup Success:** This top ranking follows India's historic achievement earlier in 2026, where they became the first team to successfully defend their T20 World Cup title, defeating New Zealand in the final to claim a record third trophy.
- **Ranking Calculations:** The updated rankings now assign a 100% weightage to matches played since May 2025 and a 50% weightage to matches from the previous two years, reflecting India's consistent performance across both bilateral series and major tournaments.

South Korea Introduces First Humanoid Robot Monk Gabi

- **Participation in Sacred Rituals:** Standing 130 cm tall and dressed in traditional grey-and-brown monastic robes, Gabi participated in a formal "precept ceremony." It bowed to senior monks, received a 108-bead rosary, and was assigned a Dharma name derived from the Korean word for "mercy" and Siddhartha.
- **The AI Five Precepts:** Instead of the traditional human vows, Gabi pledged to follow a specialized "AI version" of the Five Precepts. These include respecting and not harming life, not damaging other robots or items, obeying humans, avoiding deceptive behavior, and practicing energy conservation (not over-charging).

- **Addressing the Monk Shortage:** Temple officials introduced Gabi as part of a strategic effort to use technology to connect with younger generations and to address the growing shortage of human monks in South Korea's religious institutions.

Footnotes: South Korea's PM: Kim Min-seok, **President:** Lee Jae Myung, **Capital:** Seoul

Bulgaria parliament approves Rumen Radev as new PM

- **President to PM:** Former President Rumen Radev was approved by the Bulgarian parliament as the new Prime Minister after his "Progressive Bulgaria" party won the snap elections.
- **Ending Instability:** His appointment marks a significant turning point, ending years of political deadlock and frequent elections (eight in five years) in Bulgaria.
- **Policy Focus:** Radev's cabinet aims to dismantle "the oligarchic model," accelerate economic development, and manage the country's transition after joining the eurozone on January 1, 2026.

Footnotes: Bulgaria's President: Iliana Iotova, **PM:** Rumen Radev, **Capital:** Sofia

Prashant Pise appointed as next Ambassador of India to Sultanate of Oman

- **Seasoned Diplomat:** Prashant Pise is a 1995-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer. Before this appointment, he served as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs,

specifically handling Emigration Policy and Welfare matters.

- **Extensive Regional Expertise:** He has a wealth of experience in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, having previously served as the Ambassador of India to Iraq and Tunisia. His earlier diplomatic career also included postings in Egypt, Libya, and London.
- **Succession in Muscat:** He will succeed Amit Narang (who completed his tenure in late 2025/early 2026) and takes over from the interim leadership in Muscat to further strengthen the India-Oman strategic partnership, particularly in maritime security and trade.

Singapore Foreign Affairs Minister Vivian Balakrishnan received highest accolade

- **Recognition of Long-term Service:** The award recognizes Dr. Balakrishnan's more than two decades of steadfast partnership with the Labour Movement. Since 2001, he has served as an advisor to multiple unions across diverse sectors, including oil and petrochemicals, integrated resorts, and the teaching profession.
- **Advocacy for Workers' Welfare:** He was lauded for his "quiet resolve" and principled approach to industrial relations. Key achievements noted include supporting workers through major transitions at Shell, advocating for responsible employment during divestments, and initiating the Progressive Wage Model for cleaners in 2014.

Dr Vinod J Bahade appointed as next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Colombia

- **New Role:** Dr. Vinod J. Bahade, a career diplomat of the 2007 batch of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS), has been officially appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Colombia.
- **Current Transition:** He is currently serving as a Minister at the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in Geneva. He is expected to take up the new assignment in Bogotá shortly.
- **Bilateral Focus:** His appointment comes at a time when India and Colombia are looking to strengthen ties in sectors such as energy, information technology, and pharmaceuticals, marking a strategic move to enhance India's diplomatic footprint in Latin America.

Harvansh Chawla appointed as Chairman of BRICS CCI

- **Transition from BRICS CCI:** Dr. Chawla stepped down as the Chairman of the BRICS CCI to take on this broader mandate. His move signifies a shift from a focus solely on BRICS+ nations to a more expansive global economic framework.
- **Expanded Global Mandate:** Under his leadership, BRISEC (which is recognized by NITI Aayog) aims to facilitate trade and investment across a wider range of international markets

and economic corridors, moving beyond traditional regional blocs to include both emerging and developed economies.

- **Strategic Objectives:** His chairmanship will focus on strengthening cross-border trade opportunities, fostering innovation across key sectors, and facilitating high-level policy dialogues to enable smoother global business engagement and sustainable growth.

Footnotes: BRICS's Chairman: Narendra Modi, **Estd:** 2009

C Sugandh Rajaram appointed as India's Ambassador to Peru

- **Current Profile:** A 2001-batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS), he is currently serving as a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- **Previous Assignment:** Before his current role in New Delhi, he served as the High Commissioner of India to Ghana, where he was instrumental in strengthening bilateral and economic ties.
- **Significance:** His appointment comes at a time when India is looking to expand its footprint in Latin America, particularly in sectors like mining, pharmaceuticals, and digital infrastructure.

Footnotes: Peru's PM: Luis Arroyo Sanchez, **President:** Jose Maria Balcasar, **Capital:** Lima

Kevin Warsh appointed as Governor of the Federal Reserve by the US

- **Extensive Experience:** Warsh previously served on the Federal

Reserve Board from 2006 to 2011, making him one of the youngest governors in history. His return brings deep institutional knowledge, particularly regarding crisis management and financial market stability.

- **Strategic Role:** His appointment is seen as a move to bridge the gap between Wall Street and Washington. Having served as an advisor during the 2008 financial crisis, he is expected to play a lead role in navigating current global economic uncertainties and modernizing the Fed's communication with the public.

Footnotes: US's President: Donald Trump, **Chief Justice:** John Roberts, **Capital:** Washington, D.C.

Yoweri Museveni Sworn In for Seventh Term as Uganda President

- **Four Decades of Power:** The 81-year-old leader, who first took office in 1986, extended his 40-year rule by another five-year term. He remains one of Africa's longest-serving non-royal heads of state, having previously removed constitutional age and term limits to stay in office.
- **Controversial Landslide Victory:** Museveni was declared the winner of the January 2026 elections with 71.65% of the vote. His main challenger, Bobi Wine (Robert Kyagulanyi), secured 24.72% but disputed the results, alleging widespread fraud, intimidation, and an internet blackout during the polls.

APRIL 2026

Japan launches world's first freightonly Shinkansen

- **High-Speed Logistics:** Launched on March 23, 2026, by East Japan Railway Co. (JR East), this is the world's first dedicated freight-only bullet train. Reaching speeds of 275 kmph, it operates on the Tohoku Shinkansen line between Morioka and Tokyo, covering the distance in approximately 3–4 hours.
- **Repurposed Design:** The service uses converted E3 series trains, which were formerly passenger carriages. All 394 seats across seven cars were removed to accommodate up to 1,000 cargo boxes (approx. 17.4 tonnes). The interiors feature reinforced flooring and specialized securing systems to handle high-value, time-sensitive goods like semiconductors, medical supplies, and fresh seafood.

Mongolia elects Uchral NyamOsor as PM

- **Political Ascent:** Uchral Nyam-Osor—the Chairman of the ruling Mongolian People's Party (MPP)—became the 33rd Prime Minister of Mongolia. He was confirmed by the State Great Khural (Parliament) with a strong majority of 88 votes from the 107 lawmakers present.
- **A Reformist Background:** Previously the Minister of Digital Development and Communications, Uchral is known for his "digital-first" approach to governance. He gained prominence for leading transparency reforms and is notably the first Mongolian PM to have had a previous career as a popular hip-hop artist.
- **Mission of Stability:** His immediate mandate is to manage economic pressures, streamline Soviet-era regulatory systems, and restore investor confidence through

a newly proposed coalition government with the opposition Hun Party.

Singapore Changi tops Skytrax Airport Awards 2026

- **Global Top 3 Rankings:** Singapore Changi Airport was named the "World's Best Airport," followed by Incheon International Airport (Seoul, South Korea) at 2nd place and Tokyo Haneda Airport (Japan) at 3rd. Notably, Doha's Hamad International Airport dropped out of the top rankings this year due to regional disruptions.
- **Performance of Indian Airports:** Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport maintained its lead in the region, ranking 28th globally (up from 32nd) and winning "Best Airport in India & South Asia."

Myanmar elects Min Aung Hlaing as President

- **Consolidation of Power:** The election formalizes Min Aung Hlaing's control over the state, five years after he led the 2021 coup. To assume the presidency, he officially stepped down as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, appointing his loyalist, Ye Win Oo, as the new military head.
- **A "Sham" Transition:** The vote took place in a parliament dominated by the military-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) and appointed military legislators. Most international observers and opposition groups have dismissed the process as a "sham" designed to provide a veneer of civilian legitimacy to continued military rule.

India, South Korea Sign Pact to Boost Skill Development in Shipbuilding Sector

- **Project Objective:** Titled "Support the Establishment of Development Strategies and to Build a Foundation for Skilled and Professional Talents," the pact aims to bridge the skill gap in India's marine engineering sector using South Korea's global expertise.
- **Strategic Vision:** The initiative is a core part of the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, which seeks to position India as a top global shipbuilding hub and drive "Atmanirbhar" (self-reliant) maritime growth.
- **Proposed Infrastructure:** Both nations are in final discussions to establish a 'Shipbuilding Workforce Development and Technology Cooperation Center' in India to provide industry-specific vocational training and boost technical productivity.

Vietnam elects Communist Party chief To Lam as President

- **Dual Leadership:** On April 7, 2026, Vietnam's National Assembly elected To Lam as the State President for the 2026–2031 term. He will simultaneously continue to serve as the General Secretary of the Communist Party, consolidating the country's two most powerful roles.
- **Unanimous Election:** Lam was the sole nominee and received 99% of the vote (495 out of 495 delegates present) during the first session of the 16th National Assembly in Hanoi.
- **Economic Vision:** Upon taking his oath, he emphasized a "new era" for Vietnam, aiming to transform the nation into an upper-middle-income country by 2030 and a high-income developed country by 2045 through administrative reforms and modernization.



G.K. ONE LINER

NATIONAL NEWS

- What was the total value of UPI transactions recorded in May 2026?
₹29.90 Trillion
- What is the name of India's new AI chatbot launched for citizen grievances?
Samadhan Didi
- On which products did the Centre notify export levies?
Petrol, Diesel, and ATF
- Which mission was launched by Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia?
Mission Senhjori
- Which university became the first private varsity to launch the IndiaAI Data Lab?
Chandigarh University
- Which bird sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh became India's 100th Ramsar Site?
Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary
- Which foreign university announced the establishment of its first Indian campus in Bengaluru?
University of Liverpool
- Where was India's 7th Regional Meteorological Centre inaugurated?
Jammu
- Which state launched India's first judiciary-integrated wildlife offence system?
Kerala
- Who was appointed as the new DGP of Gujarat?
G. S. Malik
- What is the name of Uttar Pradesh's initiative to bring high-speed internet to rural areas?
Project Ganga
- Which land port management system was launched by the Union Home Minister?
VINIMAY
- Which city became the first under the Easy Connect model for international travel?
Varanasi
- Which two companies partnered to develop a 168 MW AI-enabled data centre in Jamnagar?
Meta and Reliance
- Which AI advisory service was launched by ICAR via WhatsApp?
Oilseeds Kisaan Mitra AI Advisory
- Which institution signed MoU with BSNL for nextgeneration telecom technologies?
IIT Kanpur
- Which state will introduce the Women Farmers Empowerment Bill?
Maharashtra
- Which port emerged as India's top container port in 2025?
JNPA
- Which IIT developed the ArsenSafe device for rapid water testing?
IIT Bhubaneswar
- Who was nominated as Prime Minister by South Korean President Lee Jae Myung?
Han Seong-sook
- Which three traditional products from Jharkhand recently received the GI tag?
Bhagaiya Silk, Munda Jewellery, and Bamboo Craft
- Till which date did the Centre block access to Telegram?
June 22
- What is the name of the indigenous AI video model launched by Avataar.ai under the IndiaAI Mission?
Varya
- Which traditional musical instrument of Tripura received GI Tag recognition?

Sarinda

- What is the name of India's first Nuclear Engineering Design Centre?

CODENE

- Which Indian city was ranked as the second-best AI-native cluster in Asia?

Bengaluru

- What did the Supreme Court declare as a Fundamental Right regarding public infrastructure?

Right to Walk on Safe Footpaths

- Which Indian city was ranked as the second-best AI-native cluster in Asia?

Bengaluru

- Which fundamental right did the Supreme Court declare regarding pedestrians?

The Right to Walk on Safe Footpaths

- What was India's rank in the WEF Energy Transition Index 2026?

70th

- Which animal became the world's oldest known living land animal?

Jonathan the Tortoise

- Which public sector company was granted Navratna status by the Government of India?

Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL)

- Which new economic indicator is India set to launch to measure the services sector?

Index of Services Production

- In which state was the Northeast's largest organic spice processing unit inaugurated?

Meghalaya

- Which ministry announced the Haj Policy 2027?

Ministry of Minority Affairs

- What is the name of the CBI's latest operation launched to combat digital arrest fraud?

Operation Chakra-VI

- Which portal was jointly launched by the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Delhi International Airport to simplify passenger travel?

Air Suvidha 2.0

- What world-first hydrogen production facility has India launched?

The world's first nuclear process heat-based hydrogen production facility

- Who is set to launch the Bharat Taxi initiative in Gujarat?

Union Home Minister Amit Shah

INTERNATIONAL

- Who was named in Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia 2026?

Bhavitha Mandava

- Which country overtook India as the world's sixth-largest stock market?

South Korea

- What is the name of Microsoft's AI-designed quantum chip unveiled in 2026?

Majorana 2

- Which football star won the Princess of Asturias Sports Award?

Lionel Messi

- Which actor received a knighthood from King Charles III and became "Sir"?

Idris Elba

- What rank did India achieve among the world's most digitalised economies?

5th

- Which organization earned a Guinness World Records title?

MY Bharat

- Who was elected as the 81st President of the UN General Assembly (UNGA)?

Rahman (Bangladesh Foreign Minister)

- Which Cambodian bank partnered with NPCI to bring UPI payments to Cambodia?

ACLEDA Bank

- Who was appointed India's Ambassador to Côte d'Ivoire?

Lakshmanan Ramesh Babu

- What is the name of NASA's historic Moon mission scheduled for 2027?

Artemis III

- Who was appointed India's Ambassador to the Republic of Turkiye?

Rudra Gaurav

- What rank did Sri Lanka achieve in the Global Peace Index?

67th

- At what rate is India expected to grow in FY27?

6.6%

- Who took charge as India's High Commissioner to Bangladesh?

Dinesh Trivedi

- Which country set a Guinness World Record with a giant 12,800-square-metre national flag?

Canada

- Who became the world's first trillionaire following the SpaceX IPO?

Elon Musk

- Which Indian Prime Minister received Slovakia's highest national award?

Narendra Modi

- Which country announced a social media ban for users under the age of 16?

United Kingdom

- Which AI startup became India's 130th Unicorn after raising USD 234 million?

Sarvam AI

- Which two Indian airports were named the World's Most Beautiful Airports 2026?

Navi Mumbai Airport and Guwahati Airport

- Which organizations jointly developed an artificial heating system to extend lunar lander life to 200 days?

ISRO and DAE

- What rank did India achieve in the QS World University Rankings 2027?

5th

- Which country became the world's top ship recycling nation in 2025?

India

- Who was appointed as India's Ambassador to the Slovak Republic?

Vishvas Vidu Sapkal

- Which European country is set to get its first traditional Hindu temple built with Indian stones?

France

- Which Indian jurist was elected as a Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)?

Justice Neeru Chadha

- In which country was the world's tallest statue of

Lionel Messi unveiled as a historic tribute?

Argentina

- Who was appointed as India's Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde?

Prem Chand

- Who has been reappointed as the Solicitor General of India?

Tushar Mehta

- Which Indian diplomat was accredited as the High Commissioner of India to Samoa?

Muanpui Saiawi

- Which neighbouring country joined the India-led International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)?

Bangladesh

- Which country's LineShine supercomputer emerged as the world's most powerful supercomputer?

China

BANKING & FINANCE

- Who was appointed as the MD & CEO of Canara Bank?

Brajesh Kumar Singh

- Who was appointed as the Chief Vigilance Officer of Bank of India?

Shri Lalit Taneja

- Who was appointed as Executive Director at the World Bank?

Neelkanth Mishra

- Which RBI Deputy Governor received a two-year extension?

Swaminathan Janakiraman

- Who was named Director on the RBI Board from the Department of Financial Services?

Sanjay Lohiya

- Which bank was recognized as the 'Best Tech Emerging Business Bank' in 2026?

CBI

- Who was appointed Executive Director of AU Small Finance Bank?

Vivek Tripathi

- Whose term as Chairman of HDFC Bank was extended?

Keki Mistry

- Which bank received the Golden Peacock Award for Excellence in AI?

Indian Bank

- Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of UCO Bank?

Rajendra Kumar Saboo

- Which regulatory framework did the RBI issue in 2026 to govern the Trade Receivables Discounting System?

Master Direction on Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) 2026

- Which cross-border payments platform

secured registration in Canada?

Skydo

NEW APPOINTMENTS

- Who was appointed as the new CMD of HCL?

Anupam Misra

- Which institution partnered with Galgotias University to expand financial education?

NISM (National Institute of Securities Markets)

- Who received additional charge as CEO of the AI Mission?

Saurabh Vijay

- Which life insurance company partnered with West Bengal Gramin Bank?

Canara HSBC Life Insurance

- Which senior advocate was appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India?

V. Mohana

- Who was appointed as the new Chairman of CBSE?

- Lokhande Prashant Sitaram

- Who was appointed as India's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia?

Vipul

- Who was appointed as the Secretary of CBSE, replacing Himanshu Gupta?

Varun Bhardwaj

- Who took charge as the MD & CEO of Protean eGov Technologies?

Ajay Rajan

- Who was appointed as the Chief
- Justice of the Patna High Court?

Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai

- Who was appointed as the new Managing Director of IGL?

K Shanker

- Who took charge as CEO of the IndiaAI Mission?

Saurabh Vijay

- Who was appointed Director of NAARM?

Raman Meenakshi Sundaram

- Who was elected President of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan?

Banwarilal Purohit

- Who was appointed CEO of the Delhi Jal Board?

S. S. Yadav

- Who was appointed Director (Finance) at IRCTC?

Rajneesh Narain

- Who was appointed as Inspector General in the NIA?

Amit P Javalgi

- Who was named the Brand Ambassador of the TG20 League?

Vijay Deverakonda

- Who was appointed as Inspector General in the SSB?

Meenu Choudhary

- Which former SAIL Chairman joined Hindustan Zinc Ltd. as CEO?

Amarendu Prakash

- Who was appointed as Vice President of the FATF?

Vivek Aggarwal

- Who was appointed as CMD of GIC Re by the Department of Financial Services?

Hitesh Rameshchandra Joshi

- Who was appointed as Chairperson of the NSC?

Dr. Saibal Chattopadhyay

- Who has been appointed as the Vice President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)?

Vivek Aggarwal

- Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of GIC Re by the Department of Financial Services (DFS)?

Hitesh Rameshchandra Joshi

- Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the National Statistical Commission (NSC)?

Dr. Saibal Chattopadhyay

- Who has been appointed as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of Ladakh?

Anand Jain

- Which organization signed an MoU with

NCAER to establish the Centre for Economics of Transportation?

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)

- Who has been reappointed as the Solicitor General of India?

Tushar Mehta

- Who has been appointed as the Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Armed Police, in Tamil Nadu?

Dr. R. Dhinakaran

- Who has been appointed as the Global Head of WhatsApp at Meta?

Kunal Shah

- Who will succeed Tapan Kumar Deka as the Chief of the Intelligence Bureau (IB)?

Mahesh Dixit

OBITUARIES

- Which renowned singer passed away recently?

Suman Kalyanpur

- Which Oscar-winning Star Wars editor passed away at the age of 80?

Marcia Lucas

- Which former Lok Sabha Secretary and constitutional expert passed away recently?

Subhash C. Kashyap

- Which National Award-winning Malayalam actor passed away?

Salim Kumar

- Which National Award-winning film director passed away?

Bharathi Rajaa

- Which former Asian Games gold medallist reportedly passed away at the age of 49?

Jaspal Rana

- Which Thai Princess and UN Goodwill Ambassador passed away recently?

Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol

- Which renowned Mand folk singer passed away?

Gavri Devi

- Which former Vice Chief of Army Staff passed away recently?

Lt Gen Vijay Oberoi

- Which Padma Shri awardee and renowned Buddhist scholar passed away recently?

Robert A.F. Thurman

AWARDS

- Which Tamil Nadu farmer was honoured as the FAO Soil Farmer Hero?

Valluvan

- Which award was presented by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal to DPA?

Sagar Aankalan Award

- Which organization won the 2026 Food Planet Prize?

APCNF

- Which bank won the Gold Award at the Finacle Innovation Awards 2026?

J&K Bank

- Which Indian Army officer won two major awards at the USA Army CGSOC?

Major Prabhat Mishra

- Which index won the Gold Award at the National eGovernance Awards 2026?

Panchayat Advancement Index

- Which initiative won the Silver Award at the National Awards for e-Governance 2026?

e-Jagriti

- Which food-led metabolic recovery system won the Rashtriya Ratna Samman 2026?

GRASA

- Which Indian-origin scientist received the EMBO Gold Medal 2026?

Gautam Dey

- Which renowned material scientist was honoured with the Padma Shri award?

Dr Krishnamurthy Balasubramanian

- Which company won the Circular Economy Award?

ELIQUO HYDROK

- Who was awarded the Sword of Honour and President's Gold Medal?

Lt Vishal Kumar

- Which BPCL refinery won the 'Leadership in Future-Ready Refining Award'?

Kochi Refinery

- Which BPCL refinery won the 'Leadership in Future-Ready Refining Award'?

BPCL's Kochi Refinery

- Who became the first Indian-origin recipient of the Wolf Prize in Physics?

Jainendra Jain

- Which Indian warship-building company was conferred Navratna status?

Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE)

- Which company won the Kalinga CSR Excellence Award 2025 at EEC 2026?

NBCC India

- Which former India cricket captain was conferred with the Padma Shri?

Rohit Sharma

- Which public sector company was granted Navratna status by the Government of India?

Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL)

- Who was honored with the Best Female Athlete of the Year award?

Parul Chaudhary

- Which Indian sports administrator was conferred with the Lifetime Achievement Award?

P. T. Usha

- Who was honored with the Global Prestige Award as the President of the BCA?

Harsh Vardhan

- Which world chess champion was conferred the SJFI Gold Medal?

Viswanathan Anand

SPORTS

- Who won India's first gold medal at the Asian U-20 Athletics Championships?

Mogali Venkatram

- Which Indian badminton duo won the Singapore Open 2026 title?

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty

- Which Indian wicketkeeper-batter announced retirement from international cricket?

KS Bharat

- How many medals did India's women wrestlers win at the U-17 Asian Wrestling Championships 2026?

10 Medals

- Which Sri Lankan athlete set a new national record in the javelin throw?

Rumesh Tharanga

- Who became the first Indian to win the Norway Chess 2026 title?

R. Praggnanandhaa

- Who won the 2026 Women's Asian Individual Chess Championship?

Savitha Shri Baskar

- Who won the Monaco Grand Prix 2026?

Kimi Antonelli

- Who won the Norway Chess Women 2026 title?

Bibisara Assaubayeva

- Who clinched gold medals at the Ulaanbaatar Open 2026?

Sagar and Kajal Dhochak

- Which country topped the World Yogasana Championship 2026 medal tally?

India

- At which stadium did the FIFA World Cup 2026 kick off?

Estadio Azteca

- Which Indian wicket-keeper announced retirement from international cricket?

K. S. Bharat

- Which company won Double Gold at SFWSC 2026?

DeVANS GianChand

- Which former New Zealand captain announced retirement from international cricket?

Kane Williamson

- Which Indian archery duo won gold in the recurve mixed team event?

Dhiraj Bommadevara and Kumkum Mohod

- Who won the Russia Grand Sand Master Cup 2026?

Sudarsan Pattnaik

- Which Formula One driver won his first race with Ferrari in Barcelona?

Lewis Hamilton

- Which Indian cricketer was the only sportsperson featured in TIME's 100 Most Influential People of 2026?

Smriti Mandhana

- Which Indian hockey player completed 200 international caps?

Neha Goyal

- Which football legend equaled Miroslav Klose as FIFA World Cup's joint highest goalscorer?

Lionel Messi

- Who scored a triple century in the Bihar Cricket Tournament?

Akshara Gupta

- Which Indian cricketer became the joint-highest wicket-taker for India?

Deepthi Sharma

- At which position did Neeraj Chopra finish in the 2026 Doha Diamond League?

Fourth

- Which country won the gold medal in the women's relay event at

the Asian Relays Championships?

India

- Which country won the FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup held in Auckland?

India

- Who was named the Best Male Athlete of the Year 2025?

Neeraj Chopra

- Who became the first cricketer in history to play 200 Women's T20 Internationals?

Harmanpreet Kaur

- Which footballer became the first player to score in six FIFA World Cups?

Cristiano Ronaldo

- Who was appointed as the Head of Vision 2028 and Fast Bowling Coach by the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB)?

Ashok Dinda

- Which team did India defeat by 5 wickets in the Women's T20 World Cup?

Bangladesh

- Which country's football association was suspended by FIFA over governance violations?

Nepal (All Nepal Football Association)

DEFENCE

- Who took charge as the 27th Chief of Naval Staff?
Admiral Krishna Swaminathan
- Who took charge as the CNS of West?
Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan
- Who was named as the 27th Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)?
General N.S. Raja Subramani
- What is the name of the indigenous missile successfully flight-tested by India?
RudraM-II
- Who was appointed as the next Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force?
Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
- Who was appointed as the Chief of the Army?
Lt. General Dhiraj Seth
- What major change was introduced by the Indian Army regarding personnel attire?
New Uniform Code
- How many Peacekeeper jet-powered kamikaze drones did the Indian Army receive from SMPP?
106
- Which indigenous vehicle was inducted by the Indian Coast Guard in Goa?
Air Cushion Vehicle
- In which state did the Indian Coast Guard induct an indigenous Air Cushion Vehicle (ACV)?
Goa
- What is the name of the first indigenous hovercraft inducted into the Indian Coast Guard?
H-561

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS



JUNE 2026

Major Prabhat Mishra of IA Wins Two Major Awards at USA Army CGSOC

- **Dual Academic Honors:** During the graduation ceremony for the Command and General Staff Officer Course (CGSOC) held in early June 2026, Major Mishra was awarded the Birrer-Brookes Award for his "Outstanding Master of Military Arts and Science Thesis" and the General Douglas MacArthur Military Leadership Writing Award.
- **Highly Competitive Environment:** The awards were presented to Major Mishra from a graduating class of 951 officers. This cohort included military personnel from the United States as well as 120 international military students representing 92 different countries, highlighting the global scale of his academic achievement.
- **Strategic Significance:** Major Mishra's success underscores the growing professional cooperation, defense interoperability, and strong educational exchange between the armed forces of India and the United States.

Panchayat Advancement Index Wins Gold Award at National e-Governance Awards 2026

- **Prestige and Recognition:** The Ministry of Panchayati Raj's flagship "Panchayat Advancement Index" (PAI) has been selected for the prestigious Gold Award at the National Awards for e-Governance 2026. This honor is awarded under Category VII, which recognizes excellence in digital

transformation through the use of data analytics in digital platforms.

- **Objective and Framework:** As India's first comprehensive, data-driven framework, the PAI assesses and ranks the performance of over 2.6 lakh Gram Panchayats. It evaluates these rural bodies across nine critical themes of the Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) using 150 indicators and 230 specific data points.
- **Award Presentation:** The award, which includes a trophy, a citation, and a ₹10 lakh cash incentive, will be officially conferred during the 29th National Conference on e-Governance. The event is scheduled to take place on July 1–2, 2026, in Jaipur, Rajasthan, focusing on the theme of "Viksit Bharat 2047: AI-Enabled, Data-Driven and Secure Digital Governance."

e-Jagriti Wins Silver Award at National Awards for e-Governance 2026

- **Recognition & Category:** The platform received the Silver Award under the "Government Process Re-engineering by Use of Technology for Digital Transformation" category. This prestigious recognition from the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances highlights its success in modernizing consumer grievance redressal.
- **System Consolidation & Efficiency:** Launched on January 1, 2025, e-Jagriti consolidated four fragmented legacy systems—OCMS, e-Daakhil, NCDRC CMS, and CONFONET—into a single AI-enabled, paperless interface. This transformation has been highly effective, facilitating the filing of

over 2.29 lakh cases and achieving an impressive disposal rate of 90.75 percent.

- **Enhanced Accessibility & Citizen-Centricity:** The platform has significantly improved access to justice by enabling virtual hearings as the default mode and allowing Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) to file complaints without returning to India.

India's First Food-Led Metabolic Recovery System 'GRASA' Won Rashtriya Ratna Samman 2026

- **Recognition of Innovation:** The award, presented at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, recognizes GRASA's unique approach to addressing metabolic health through clinical nutrition rather than traditional supplements. This honor highlights the startup's success in leveraging food science, fermentation, and millet-based diets to restore gut microbiome and improve metabolic stability.
- **Clinical Impact & Methodology:** GRASA utilizes a 72-hour natural fermentation process to create everyday foods like millet flour and sourdough bread that break down anti-nutrients and reduce chronic inflammation. Their clinical outcomes have been documented in peer-reviewed journals, with over 87% of their 500+ clients reporting measurable improvements in energy and digestion within just 30 days.
- **Ecosystem and Scientific Validation:** The startup operates as the precision nutrition arm of MediCAPS and was incubated within the Innovation Development Council (IDC) India's COSMINNOX ecosystem. This award validates a comprehensive model where food science, clinical research, and startup incubation work.

Indian-Origin Scientist Gautam Dey Bags EMBO Gold Medal 2026

- **Prestigious Recognition:** The European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) has awarded its prestigious 2026 Gold Medal to Gautam Dey, a group leader at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Germany. This annual honor recognizes exceptional researchers in the early stages of their independent careers for their outstanding contributions to the life sciences in Europe.
- **Groundbreaking Research:** Dr. Dey is being celebrated for his pioneering work on the evolutionary origins of nuclear organization and cell division. His laboratory utilizes a unique combination of comparative cell biology, experimental evolution, and genomics to investigate how key cellular processes have diversified across eukaryotes over billions of years.
- **Academic Journey:** An Indian-origin scientist, Dr. Dey completed his early education at the University of Delhi and the National Centre for Biological Sciences in Bangalore.

Renowned Scientist Dr Krishnamurthy Balasubramanian Honoured With Padma Shri

- **Advancement in Defence & Space Technology:** He has played a pivotal role in strengthening India's strategic capabilities through research in advanced materials. His work includes the development of critical components for cryogenic

engines and various defence-related projects.

- **Innovation in Biomedical & Material Engineering:** Beyond aerospace, he has contributed extensively to the development of prosthetic implants and medical devices. His research has also spurred metallurgical innovations that are vital for modern industrial and health applications.
- **Focus on Future Technologies & Sustainability:** He is currently spearheading research into electric mobility solutions and the production of rare earth magnets. These efforts align with the national goal of becoming a global hub for sustainable technology and advanced manufacturing.

ELIQUO HYDROK won the Circular Economy Award

- **Recognition of ELOVAC® Technology:** The award specifically honors the company's ELOVAC® technology, which effectively recovers value from sludge treatment processes. This system provides a practical and measurable way for operators to improve plant performance while significantly reducing waste.
- **Environmental & Operational Benefits:** The technology captures methane that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere, helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, it enables the recovery of struvite crystals, which can be repurposed as a bioavailable fertilizer, effectively closing the resource loop.
- **Commitment to Sustainability:** This national recognition underscores ELIQUO

HYDROK's ambition to be a leader in the water and energy-from-waste sectors. By focusing on circular economy principles, the company continues to help its clients operate more resiliently and sustainably for the future.

Lt Vishal Kumar Awarded Sword of Honour & President's Gold Medal



- **Recognition of Excellence:** The "Sword of Honour" is awarded to the best all-round cadet, while the President's Gold Medal is presented to the individual who secures the first position in the overall order of merit. These accolades reflect his outstanding leadership, physical fitness, and professional competence throughout his training.
- **Inspirational Background:** Lieutenant Kumar is the son of a retired Sepoy from the 4 Bihar Regiment, making his success a poignant story of merit and dedication. He is the first person in his family to be commissioned as an officer, serving as a powerful inspiration for defense aspirants across the country.
- **Structured Military Journey:** His foundation was built at the Rashtriya Military School (RMS) in Chail, followed by rigorous training at the National Defence Academy (NDA) and the IMA. He is now set to join the 4 Garhwal Rifles, carrying forward the values of discipline and service instilled throughout his formative years.

MAY 2026

Soma Mandal Wins South Asia Title at Cambridge Teacher Awards 2026

- **Climate Change Advocacy:** She was recognized for her exceptional work in integrating climate education into the school curriculum, empowering her students to become active participants in environmental sustainability and the global fight against climate change.
- **Highly Competitive Selection:** Soma Mandal was chosen as one of only nine regional winners worldwide from a massive pool of over 12,000 nominations spanning 126 countries.
- **Global Recognition & Rewards:** As a regional winner, she receives a trophy and £500 worth of books for her classroom. Additionally, her name will be featured on a "Thank You" page in new Cambridge University Press textbooks releasing in November 2026.

BEL Wins 4th Edition of the Free Journal & CareEdge Annual Report Awards

- **Top Recognition:** Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) was declared the "Winner" in the Aerospace & Defence category at the ceremony held in Mumbai on May 6, 2026.
- **Award Criteria:** The awards recognize Indian companies across various sectors for excellence in annual reporting, transparency, and stakeholder accountability, encouraging higher standards of corporate disclosure.

- **Corporate Milestone:** The award was received by BEL's senior management (AGM Finance and Deputy Company Secretary), highlighting the company's commitment to robust governance and clear financial communication.

BPCL Kochi Refinery Wins IMC RBNQA Award 2026

- **Recognition of Quality Excellence:** The RBNQ award is considered one of India's most rigorous and prestigious quality awards, modeled after the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award of the USA. It recognizes organizations that demonstrate world-class standards in operational efficiency and business results.
- **Sustainability and Innovation:** The award highlights Kochi Refinery's successful integration of the Propylene Derivative Petrochemical Project (PDPP) and its commitment to "Net Zero" targets through green hydrogen initiatives and energy-efficient refining processes.

President Droupadi Murmu conferred National Florence Nightingale Awards 2026

- **Recognition of 15 Awardees:** A total of 15 nursing professionals from across the country were honored this year. The awardees included Registered Nurses, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANM), and Lady Health Visitors. Notable recipients included Sub Inspector Kulwinder Parhi (Ladakh), Poonam Verma (Chandigarh), Dr. Sharwan Kumar Dhaka (Delhi), and Maj Gen Lissamma P.V. (Indian Army).
- **Award Components and History:** Instituted in 1973 by

the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, these are the highest national honors for nursing. Each award consists of a Certificate of Merit, a Medal, and a cash prize of ₹1,00,000. They recognize meritorious services that exemplify compassion, dedication, and clinical excellence.

- **Theme and Significance:** The awards were presented on the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. This year's ceremony highlighted the theme "Our Nurses. Our Future."

Dr. Thiyam Suresh Literary Lifetime Achievement Award 2026 Conferred on AK Sheram

- **Recipient:** The award was conferred on AK Sheram, a prominent Manipuri writer based in Bangladesh. He is widely recognized for his immense contribution to Manipuri literature and for bridging the cultural gap between Manipuri communities in India and Bangladesh.

Senior boxing coach Ganesh Purohit was felicitated with Lifetime Achievement Award

- **Award Organizer & Specific Moniker:** The Lifetime Achievement Award—formally designated as the Jeevan Gaurav Award—was conferred during the 3rd Bhau Kane Memorial Outstanding Coach Award ceremony. The prestigious event was organized jointly by the Navmaharashtra Krida Mandal (NMKM) and the Chaitanya Sports, Yoga and Cultural Foundation in Nagpur, Maharashtra.

- **Prize Elements & Event Details:** The recognition carried a substantial cash prize of ₹1 lakh (₹100,000) along with a special memento, a ceremonial shawl, and a coconut. The presentation took place at the Shikshak Sahakari Bank Auditorium on May 14, 2026, marking the birth anniversary of the legendary sports organizer Bhau Kane.
- **Distinguished Background & Mentorship Track Record:** The 70-year-old veteran is an alumnus of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose National Institute of Sports (NSNIS, Patiala), graduating with his coaching diploma back in 1986.

Chandrayaan-3 honored with AIAA Goddard Astronautics Award 2026

- **Highest AIAA Honor:** The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) presented its highest astronautics honor to ISRO for the Chandrayaan-3 mission during the ASCEND conference in Washington, D.C.
- **Historic Achievement Recognized:** The award directly recognizes India's historic August 23, 2023 achievement as the first nation to successfully execute a soft landing near the Moon's challenging south polar region.
- **Scientific Contribution:** The citation honors the mission for significantly deepening global scientific understanding of the Moon and providing critical resource and soil data to support future human lunar exploration.

Taiwan Travelogue Wins International Booker Prize 2026

- **Historic Double Milestone:** Awarded on May 19, 2026, at London's Tate Modern, Taiwan Travelogue made history as the

first-ever book originally written in Mandarin Chinese, and the first by a Taiwanese author (Yáng Shuāng-zī), to win the prestigious prize.

- **The Narrative & Themes:** Set in 1938 during the Japanese colonial rule of Taiwan, the novel uses an experimental, metafictional format (disguised as a rediscovered Japanese travel journal) to follow a Japanese author and her local female interpreter on a culinary tour.
- **Prize Distribution & Publisher Success:** The £50,000 prize money will be split equally between the author and the translator, Lin King. The victory also marks an impressive consecutive win for the independent publisher And Other Stories, which also published the 2025 winner (Heart Lamp).

Two Indian-Origin Scientists Conferred South Africa's Highest Civilian Honour

- **Prestigious Recognition:** On May 20, 2026, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa conferred the Order of Mapungubwe—the country's highest civilian honour—upon internationally renowned public health scientists Professor Salim Abdool Karim and Professor Keertan Dheda.
- **Categories of Honour:** Professor Salim Abdool Karim was awarded the Order of Mapungubwe in Gold for his monumental research into HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis epidemiology, as well as his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Indian Violin Maestro Dr. N. Rajam conferred with

Padma Vibhushan



- **Pioneering "Gayaki Ang":** Dr. N. Rajam is widely celebrated for revolutionizing violin performance by developing the "Gayaki Ang" style, which allows the violin to replicate the nuances and emotional depth of human vocal music.
- **Prestigious Milestone:** Conferred on May 25, 2026, by President Droupadi Murmu, this award adds to her distinguished career, having already been honored with the Padma Shri (1984) and Padma Bhushan (2004).
- **Academic and Musical Legacy:** Beyond her performance career, she served as a professor and Dean of the Faculty of Performing Arts at BHU, mentoring generations of musicians while bridging Hindustani and Carnatic classical traditions.

BPCL's Kochi Refinery wins 'Leadership in Future-Ready Refining Award'

- **Focus on Digital and Future-Ready Operations:** BPCL's Kochi Refinery has been actively investing in "future-ready" capabilities by integrating Artificial Intelligence, advanced machine learning, and cloud-native digital solutions. These initiatives aim to transform the complex into an intelligent energy facility capable of navigating a complex and volatile global energy market.
- **Commitment to Sustainability & Energy Transition:** The refinery continues to gain recognition for its dedication to responsible growth and environmental stewardship.

APRIL 2026

Jupally Krishna Rao receives World Peace Grand Prize

- **Prestigious Recognition:** Telangana's Minister for Tourism, Culture, and Archaeology, Jupally Krishna Rao, was conferred with the "Grand Prize for Contribution to World Peace" on March 27, 2026. The award was presented by the International Interchange Development Association (IIDA) during the International Buddhist Peace Conference held in Hyderabad.
- **Focus on Buddhist Heritage:** The award recognizes Rao's significant efforts in preserving spiritual heritage and promoting international cultural exchange. He has been a key driver in developing Buddhavanam (Nagarjuna Sagar) into a global center for Buddhist learning and a "World Peace Centre."

Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay selected for Saraswati Samman

- **Prestigious Honor:** Eminent Bengali writer Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay has been selected for the 35th Saraswati Samman (2025). Instituted by the K.K. Birla Foundation in 1991, it is one of India's highest literary awards, carrying a cash prize of ₹15 lakh, a citation, and a plaque.
- **Award-Winning Work:** He is being recognized for his 2020 novel "Hara Parvati Katha." The book is noted for reinterpreting Indian mythology through a modern lens, blending spiritual depth with contemporary social and environmental themes through the journey of the deities Shiva and Parvati.
- **Prolific Literary Career:** Born in 1956 in Kolkata, Mukhopadhyay is a highly decorated author with a body of work including nine novels and 11 short story collections.

PAN Health wins Excellence in Manufacturing Award

- **Manufacturing Scale & Location:** PAN Health operates India's largest manufacturing facility for disposable personal hygiene products. The state-of-the-art facility is spread across 30 acres (700,000 sq. ft.) in Rajkot, Gujarat, and has an annual production capacity of over 3.7 billion units.
- **Key Portfolio Brands:** The company is a leading player in the disposable hygiene segment with three flagship brands: Little Angel (baby care), Liberty (adult care), and Everteen (women's hygiene). The award recognizes their excellence in maintaining international quality standards across these eight product categories.
- **Strategic Alignment:** Established in 2017, the company follows the philosophy of "Make in India, Made for India and the World."

Ranveer Singh won Best Actor at the Screen Awards 2026 in Dhurandhar

- **Dominance at the Awards:** Dhurandhar: The Revenge emerged as the biggest winner of the night, bagging a total of 14 awards. While the film won for Best Actor (Ranveer Singh) and Best Director (Aditya Dhar), the title of Best Film went to the Oscar-nominated gritty drama, Homebound.
- **A Box Office Juggernaut:** Released on March 19, 2026, the film has become a historic success, surpassing the ₹1,000 crore mark in net collections in India. It is currently the highest-grossing Indian film of 2026 and the fourth-highest-grossing Indian film of all time globally, with earnings exceeding ₹1,600 crore.
- **Complex Character Portrayal:** In this sequel to the 2025 hit

Dhurandhar, Ranveer Singh plays a dual-identity role as Hamza Ali Mazari / Jaskirat Singh Ranghi.

MCL's Keshav Rao Wins Professional CSR Person of the Year 2026

- **Top Recognition:** Shri Keshav Rao, Director (Human Resources) of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL), was honored with the "Professional CSR Person of the Year 2026" award on April 6, 2026.
- **The Conclave:** The accolade was presented during the State CSR Corporate Awards & Conclave, recognizing his exemplary leadership in driving impactful Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and HR initiatives.

GAIL Executive Shri A. K. Tripathi Conferred CIDC Vishwakarma Achievement Award 2026

- **Award Category & Event:** The honor was conferred during the 17th CIDC Vishwakarma Awards held in New Delhi in March/April 2026. Shri Tripathi received the "Achievement Award for Public Officer" for his exceptional contribution to the growth of India's construction and infrastructure sector.
- **Infrastructure Impact:** The award recognizes his leadership in executing large-scale energy infrastructure, notably the commissioning of over 1,600 km of pipelines in the 2025–26 fiscal year and the management of projects worth approximately ₹18,900 crore.
- **Engineering Excellence:** Under his guidance, GAIL successfully implemented complex engineering feats, including the Dabhol–Breakwater project and high-difficulty Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) river crossings.



NEW APPOINTMENTS

JUNE 2026

UIDAI CEO Saurabh Vijay took Charge as CEO of IndiaAI Mission

- **Dual Leadership Role:** A 1998-batch IAS officer of the Maharashtra cadre, Saurabh Vijay, currently serving as the CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), will now lead the IndiaAI Mission alongside his existing responsibilities.
- **Context of the Appointment:** The position had been vacant following the reassignment of the former IndiaAI Mission CEO, Abhishek Singh, to the post of Director General of the National Testing Agency (NTA).
- **Mission Objectives:** Under the current leadership transition, the IndiaAI Mission continues to focus on its core pillars: building world-class sovereign computing infrastructure in multilingual AI foundational models, and providing research and development support to startups and academic institutions.

Raman Sundaram and Meenakshi appointed Director of NAARM

- **Professional Background:** Dr. Sundaram is a renowned scientist specializing in crop biotechnology, rice genetics, and molecular breeding. Before his current appointment at NAARM, he served as the Director of the ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (ICAR-IIRR) from 2021 to May 2026.

- **Academic and Research Excellence:** Throughout his distinguished career, he has published over 160 research papers and contributed to significant agricultural innovations, such as the development of the "Improved Samba Mahsuri" rice variety. He is also a fellow of several prestigious scientific bodies, including the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS) and the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI).
- **Current Leadership Role:** As the Director of ICAR-NAARM, he oversees capacity-building initiatives and research management programs for the agricultural sector. He is also actively involved in mentoring agricultural stakeholders, including workshops for input dealers to promote science-based nutrient management for farmers.

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Elects Banwarilal Purohit as President

- **Leadership Transition:** Banwarilal Purohit succeeds Surendralal Mehta, who resigned from the presidency due to health reasons after serving the institution for over two decades. The committee formally expressed deep appreciation for Mehta's distinguished service and leadership during his long tenure.
- **Professional Background:** Purohit, a former parliamentarian and veteran administrator, brings extensive experience to the role, having previously served as the Governor of Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Assam, and Meghalaya. His long-standing commitment to education and social development is well-aligned with

the Bhavan's mission of promoting Indian culture and values.

- **Organizational Continuity:** Alongside Purohit's appointment, the institution elected finance industry veteran Deepak Parekh as its new Vice-President. Having served as a Trustee and executive member for over 22 years, Purohit's transition into the presidency is expected to provide steady leadership for the organization's network of educational and cultural institutions.

Indraprastha Gas Limited appoints Kumar Shanker as New MD

- Kumar Shanker has officially taken charge as the Managing Director of IGL, succeeding Kamal Kishore Chatiwal. Mr. Chatiwal has been repatriated to the company's parent organization, GAIL (India) Ltd, following the completion of a three-year tenure.
- Mr. Shanker is a chemical engineer from BITS Pilani and brings over three decades of extensive experience in the oil and gas sector. Prior to this role, he served as the Managing Director of Maharashtra Natural Gas Ltd (MNGL), where he was instrumental in its growth into one of India's top five city gas distributors.
- Throughout his career at GAIL, he has held diverse roles across multiple states and business verticals, including gas processing, petrochemicals, and project management. Notably, he played a significant role in advancing regulatory reforms in the Indian natural gas sector.

S S Yadav appointed CEO Delhi Jal Board

- **New Leadership Appointment:** Dr. Sajjan Singh Yadav, a 1995-batch IAS officer of the AGMUT cadre, was officially appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) on June 9, 2026. This appointment comes as part of a significant administrative shuffle within the Delhi government's key utility departments.
- **Expanded Administrative Responsibilities:** In addition to his role as CEO of the Delhi Jal Board, Dr. Yadav has been assigned the rank of Additional Chief Secretary. He will also concurrently hold the additional charges of Additional Chief Secretary (Industries) and Chairperson of the Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC).
- **Transition of Power:** Dr. Yadav steps into this role following the recent transition of his predecessor, Kaushal Raj Sharma, who was appointed as Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi in April 2026. This move is viewed as a strategic placement of a senior officer to oversee critical infrastructure and industrial development projects in the capital.

Rajneesh Narain appointed as Director of Finance at IRCTC

- **Formal Appointment and Tenure:** Rajneesh Narain has taken charge on an immediate absorption basis. He is slated to serve in this role until his superannuation on June 30, 2030.
- **Previous Leadership Experience:** Prior to joining IRCTC, Rajneesh Narain served as the Director (Finance) at Northern Coalfields

Limited (NCL). He brings over 26 years of extensive experience in the coal sector, with deep expertise in corporate accounting, fund management, and major infrastructure financial closure.

- **Strategic Role in IRCTC:** His appointment follows a recommendation by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) earlier this year, where he was selected from a pool of eight candidates. He is expected to leverage his financial acumen to steer IRCTC's budgetary control and strategic planning as the company continues to expand its tourism and catering operations.

Footnotes: IRCTC's Chairman & MD: Sanjay Kumar Jain, HQ: New Delhi, Estd: 1999

Amit P Javalgi appointed as Inspector General in NIA

- **Role and Deputation:** Amit P. Javalgi has been appointed to the position of Inspector General at the NIA on a deputation basis. This move integrates his long-standing expertise into the central agency's framework to strengthen its national-level investigative operations.
- **Professional Background:** A 2006-batch IPS officer of the West Bengal cadre, Javalgi has served in various capacities across the country. Before this appointment, he gained national recognition for his innovative "e-Malkhana" project, which digitized evidence management in police stations using barcode technology.
- **Track Record of Excellence:** His previous work in modernizing police administration and enhancing procedural transparency earned him the National e-Governance Award.

His transition to the NIA is seen as a strategic deployment of an officer known for leveraging technology to solve complex administrative and legal challenges.

Footnotes: NIA's DG: Rakesh Aggarwal, HQ: New Delhi, Estd: 2009

Vijay Deverakonda Named Ambassador Of TG20 League

- **Promoting Grassroots Talent:** As the face of the tournament, Vijay Deverakonda will play a key role in promoting the league's primary objective: identifying and nurturing budding cricketers from the various districts of Telangana. He has expressed his enthusiasm for providing a professional platform where young players can showcase their skills and gain national recognition.
- **Star-Studded Launch:** The event is set for a grand opening on June 21, featuring a live concert by National Award-winning music composer S. Thaman. The league has already garnered significant attention by attracting prominent domestic players, such as Mohammed Siraj and Tilak Varma, reinforcing the tournament's stature and commitment to quality cricket.
- **League Structure and Scale:** The inaugural season features eight franchises competing in 32 matches over 21 days at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad. The tournament follows a professional format similar to the IPL, ensuring a high-energy entertainment experience for fans with double-header matches and live broadcasts on JioStar.

MAY 2026

Filmmaker Ashutosh Gowariker Named Festival Director for 57th IFFI

- **A Historic Legacy Continues:** Gowariker succeeds acclaimed filmmaker Shekhar Kapur (who led the 55th and 56th editions). His appointment is a full-circle moment, as he first attended the festival as a participant in 1984 and most recently served as the Jury President for International Cinema in 2024.
- **Strengthening Global Outreach:** As Festival Director, Gowariker will lead the 57th edition scheduled for November 20–28, 2026, in Goa. His role involves curating a diverse global cinematic experience, fostering international collaborations, and overseeing the "WAVES" Film Bazaar.
- **Focus on Evolution:** The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting selected Gowariker to bridge IFFI's 74-year history (founded in 1952) with modern cinematic technologies and storytelling.

Prasoon Joshi appointed as Prasar Bharati Chairman

- **Transition of Leadership:** Prasoon Joshi succeeds retired bureaucrat Navneet Kumar Sehgal, who resigned from the position in December 2025. His appointment fills a critical leadership vacuum in India's public service broadcaster, which oversees both Doordarshan and Akashvani (All India Radio).
- **Diverse Professional Expertise:** Joshi brings a unique blend of experience to the role, having served as the Chairperson of the Central Board of Film

Certification (CBFC) since 2017. He is also a globally recognized figure in advertising, formerly serving as the CEO of McCann World Group India and Chairman of McCann World Group Asia Pacific.

- **Vision for Digital Transformation:** The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, led by Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, emphasized that Joshi's "creative spirit" is expected to revitalize Prasar Bharati.

Footnotes: Prasar Bharati Previous Chairman: Dr. A. Surya Prakash, HQ: New Delhi, Estd: 1997

C. Joseph Vijay, actor-turned-politician & founder of TVK, became Tamil Nadu's CM

- **Historic Disruption of Dravidian Duopoly:** TVK's stellar debut disrupted nearly half a century of bipolar political dominance held by the DMK and AIADMK. By securing 108 seats (emerging as the single largest party) and capturing a massive 34.9% vote share, Vijay positioned himself to become the state's first non-DMK, non-AIADMK Chief Minister since 1967.
- **Dual-Constituency Victory:** In a major personal and political statement, Vijay contested and won from two separate assembly seats—Perambur in Chennai and Tiruchirappalli (East).
- **Navigating a Hung Assembly to Form Government:** Because the 234-member assembly requires a simple majority of 118 seats to form a government, TVK fell just short of the magic number on its own.

Footnotes: TN's Previous CM: M. K. Stalin, **Capital:** Chennai, **Governor:** Rajendra Arlekar

R. Balasubramaniam & Joram Aniya Appointed Full-Time Members of NITI Aayog

- **Distinguished Governance & Grassroots Expertise:** Dr. R. Balasubramaniam is a highly regarded public policy expert, physician, and founder of the Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM) and the public policy think tank GRAAM. He has served as a member of the Capacity Building Commission (driving the digital civil service training initiative Mission Karmayogi) and brings deep-rooted expertise in state capacity building, institutional reform, and grassroots development.
- **Historic Northeast Representation:** Dr. Joram Aniya's appointment marks a historic milestone as she is the first person from Arunachal Pradesh to be named a full-time member of India's premier policy think tank.
- **Completion of a Revamped Core Think Tank:** These two appointments expand NITI Aayog's team of full-time members to seven. They join the newly reconstituted board strengthening the think tank's interdisciplinary approach.

Om Birla Reconstitutes Parliamentary Committees for 2026–27

- **Committee on Estimates:** BJP MP Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal was reappointed as Chairperson. This crucial panel, composed of 30 members exclusively from the Lok Sabha, reports on what economies, organizational improvements, or administrative reforms can be effected.

- **Committee on Public Undertakings (COPU):** BJP MP Bajjayant Jay Panda will continue to head this 22-member committee (15 from Lok Sabha and 7 from Rajya Sabha) to review the working and efficiency of public sector undertakings (PSUs).
- **Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:** BJP MP Faggan Singh Kulaste was reappointed as the Chairperson of this 30-member committee (20 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha) to monitor the implementation of constitutional safeguards for vulnerable communities.

Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw Names Claire Mazumdar as Future Successor of Biocon

- **The Succession Announcement:** Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, the founder and chairperson of Biocon, has formally named her 37-year-old niece, Claire Mazumdar, as her future successor to lead the biotechnology giant into its next phase of AI-driven and innovation-led growth.
- **A Highly Qualified Successor:** Claire Mazumdar is a distinguished scientist-entrepreneur holding a PhD in cancer biology from Stanford and a degree from MIT. She has already proved her corporate leadership as the founder and CEO of Bicara Therapeutics, a NASDAQ-listed oncology biotech firm (incubated by Biocon) with a market valuation exceeding \$1.5 billion.
- **Gradual, Planned Transition:** The handoff will be highly structured and gradual over the next few years. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw clarified that she is not "hanging up her boots"

immediately, and Claire will systematically transition into the role—moving from director to vice-chair, and eventually to chairperson—to ensure long-term leadership stability.

Footnotes: Biocon's Executive Chairperson: Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, **HQ:** Bengaluru, **Estd:** 1978

Kumar Mangalam Birla appointed Non-Executive Chairman of Vodafone Idea Limited

- **Return to Leadership:** Kumar Mangalam Birla returns to the position of Chairman after a five-year hiatus. He previously stepped down in 2021 during a period of extreme financial stress for the company; his return is seen as a move to bolster investor and lender confidence.
- **Board Restructuring:** He replaces Ravinder Takkar, who has stepped down from the Chairman's role but will continue to serve the company as the Non-Executive Vice Chairman. Both appointments were disclosed in regulatory filings to the NSE and BSE.

Footnotes: Vodafone Idea's CEO: Abhijit Kishore, **HQ:** Gandhinagar, **Estd:** 2018

Shashi Shekhar Vempati appointed as Chairperson of CBFC



- **Succession of Prasoon Joshi:** Vempati succeeds renowned lyricist and screenwriter Prasoon Joshi, who stepped down from the CBFC after being elevated to

the position of Chairman of Prasar Bharati.

- **Technocratic Background:** An alumnus of IIT Bombay and former CEO of Prasar Bharati (2017–2022), Vempati is recognized as a "technocrat-administrator." His appointment signals a move toward integrating modern technology and digital governance into the film certification process.
- **Tenure and Scope:** He has been appointed for a period of three years. He takes charge at a time when the CBFC is navigating complex regulatory challenges involving evolving content standards across both theatrical and digital ecosystems.

Footnotes: CBFC's Chairperson: Shashi Shekhar Vempati, **HQ:** Mumbai, **Estd:** 1951

Meenu Choudhary appointed as Inspector General in SSB

- **New Role as Inspector General:** Meenu Choudhary, a 2000-batch IPS officer of the AGMUT cadre, has been appointed as the Inspector General (IG) in the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). This high-level appointment was approved by the Competent Authority on June 18, 2026.
- **Deployment on Deputation:** She will serve in this role on a central deputation basis, transitioning from her previous responsibilities to join the SSB leadership team. The Ministry of Home Affairs has requested that she be relieved immediately to assume her new duties.
- **Strategic Administrative Move:** Her posting is part of a broader set of recent bureaucratic appointments announced by the Centre to fill existing vacancies across various central armed police forces. This move is expected to bolster the operational and administrative capabilities of the SSB, one of India's vital border-guarding organizations.

APRIL 2026

Dr Thomas Pucadyil appointed Director of BRIC-NCCS



- **Expertise in Cell Biology:** Dr. Pucadyil is a world-renowned molecular biologist and biochemist specializing in membrane biochemistry and vesicular transport. His research specifically focuses on how cell membranes undergo regulated fission to form organelles—a process critical to understanding cellular health and disease mechanisms.
- **Transition from IISER Pune:** Prior to this appointment, Dr. Pucadyil served as a Professor and Chair of Biology at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune. He takes over the leadership mantle from Dr. Manisha Inamdar, who had been serving as the interim director since the superannuation of the previous additional director in late 2025.
- **Highly Decorated Career:** He is a recipient of the prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize (2018), India's highest multidisciplinary science award. He is also an International Research Scholar of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and a Fellow of both the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the Indian Academy of Sciences (IAS).

Senior Bureaucrat Vir Vikram Yadav appointed New Aviation Body Chief

- **New Leadership at DGCA:** Vir Vikram Yadav, a 1996-batch IAS officer of the Odisha cadre, has been appointed as the Director General of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). He

replaces Faiz Ahmed Kidwai, who has been moved to the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).

- **Transition from Environment Ministry:** Prior to this appointment, Yadav served as the Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. He also held additional charge as the Chairman of the CPCB.
- **Critical Sector Challenges:** Yadav takes charge at a time when the aviation sector is facing intense scrutiny following major safety incidents in 2025 and operational disruptions at major carriers like IndiGo. His immediate focus is expected to be on strengthening regulatory oversight, pilot rest norms, and air safety standards.

IndiGo appoints William Walsh as New CEO

- **Global Aviation Heavyweight:** William Walsh is a veteran with over four decades of experience. He is currently the Director General of the International Air Transport Association (IATA). He previously served as the CEO of British Airways and was the founding CEO of International Airlines Group (IAG).
- **Succession Timeline:** Walsh succeeds Pieter Elbers, who resigned on March 10, 2026. While the appointment is immediate, Walsh will officially join IndiGo by August 3, 2026, following the completion of his tenure at IATA on July 31.
- **Strategic Mandate:** His appointment comes at a critical time as India's largest airline navigates operational challenges, including a major flight cancellation crisis in late 2025 related to new pilot duty norms.

IAS Chanchal Kumar Takes Charge as I&B Secretary

- **Cadre and Background:** Chanchal Kumar is a 1992-batch IAS officer of the Bihar cadre. He holds a strong academic

background with B.Tech and M.Tech degrees from IIT Kanpur and a Ph.D. in Economics from Patna University.

- **Direct Role Swap:** His appointment was part of a major bureaucratic reshuffle by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC). He swapped positions with Sanjay Jaju (1992-batch, Telangana cadre); while Kumar moved from the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) to I&B, Jaju took over as the new Secretary of DoNER.
- **Diverse Administrative Experience:** Prior to this role, he served in high-level positions including Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Managing Director of the NHIDCL (National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd), and Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister of Bihar.

Ashwini Bhide Becomes First Woman BMC Commissioner

- **Historic Appointment:** Ashwini Bhide, a 1995-batch IAS officer of the Maharashtra cadre, is the first woman to lead the BMC, which is India's richest civic body. She succeeded Bhushan Gagrani following his retirement.
- **"Metro Woman" of Mumbai:** She earned this nickname for her pivotal role as the Managing Director of the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC), where she spearheaded the execution of the Mumbai Metro Line 3 (Aqua Line)—the city's first underground metro corridor.
- **Extensive Civic Experience:** Before this top role, she served as the Additional Municipal Commissioner in the BMC (2020–2024), where she was instrumental in managing the COVID-19 pandemic response and overseeing the Mumbai Coastal Road Project.



JUNE 2026

India Win 6th SAFF Women's Championship Title 2026

- **Dominant Performance:** India had a flawless campaign, winning all four of their matches throughout the tournament. They showcased clinical form in front of the goal, scoring a total of 18 goals while conceding only one in the entire competition.
- **Historic Significance:** This victory marked India's return to the top of South Asian women's football for the first time since 2019, ending a seven-year wait. The final also served as a fitting farewell for veteran player Dangmei Grace, who announced her retirement from international football after winning her third SAFF title.
- **Strategic Qualification:** By securing this championship, the Indian women's football team has significantly boosted their FIFA world ranking and secured an automatic qualification spot for the upcoming 2027 AFC Women's Asian Cup qualifiers.

Savitha Shri Baskar wins 2026 Women's Asian Individual Chess Championship

- **Tournament Performance:** Competing as the sixth seed in a field of over 100 players from 17 countries, Savitha finished at the top of the standings with 7.5 points out of 9 rounds. She narrowly edged out Uzbekistan's Afruza Khamdamova on tie-breaks to claim the gold.
- **World Cup Qualification:** By winning this continental crown, Savitha has earned a direct qualification spot for the 2027 FIDE Women's World Cup,

further solidifying her trajectory in the international chess circuit.

- **National Milestone:** This victory marks India's 13th Women's Asian Championship title. Savitha's success adds to India's dominant record in the tournament, where the nation has now secured the title in three of the last four editions.

Kimi Antonelli Wins Monaco Grand Prix 2026

- **Record-Breaking Performance:** With this win, Antonelli became the youngest driver in history to win the prestigious Monaco Grand Prix. This victory also extended his winning streak to five consecutive races, a dominant run that has widened his lead in the 2026 Drivers' Championship standings to 66 points.
- **Tactical Resilience:** The race was held under challenging conditions, including a long delay caused by track surface damage which led to a red-flag period. Despite the pressure and an uncertain restart, Antonelli maintained his composure and control from the front of the grid to secure the win ahead of Lewis Hamilton.
- **Significance of the Venue:** Winning in Monaco is considered one of the highest honors in motorsport. Antonelli's ability to navigate the tight, narrow streets of Monte Carlo while managing safety car periods and multiple restarts underscored his transition from a rookie talent to a championship contender in his debut season with Mercedes.

Bibisara Assaubayeva Wins Norway Chess Women 2026 Title

- Bibisara Assaubayeva secured the Norway Chess Women 2026

title with a standout performance that left her competitors behind. She entered the penultimate round as the sole leader and officially clinched the championship with a draw in her ninth-round classical game against defending champion Anna Muzychuk. Her final tally of 16.5 points across the elite event solidified her status as the clear winner.

- **Making her debut in this prestigious tournament,** the 22-year-old grandmaster from Kazakhstan displayed exceptional preparation throughout the competition. She defeated several world-class opponents, including the reigning five-time Women's World Chess Champion, Ju Wenjun.
- **For her remarkable first-place finish,** Assaubayeva earned a prize of 700,000 Norwegian kroner, equivalent to approximately US\$74,821. Beyond the financial reward, her stellar run in Oslo earned her 15.2 rating points, propelling her to fifth place in the live world rankings for women.

Zverev clinches Maiden Grand Slam title at French Open

- **Historic Breakthrough in Paris:** German tennis star Alexander Zverev finally secured his first-ever Grand Slam title at the 2026 French Open on June 7, 2026. Playing in his fourth major final, the 29-year-old defeated Italian challenger Flavio Cobolli in a dramatic five-set encounter that ended with a score of 6-1, 4-6, 6-4, 6-7, 6-1.
- **Overcoming Past Adversity:** Zverev's win was a deeply emotional moment, coming on the same Court Philippe-Chatrier where he had previously suffered a severe ankle injury four years prior.

MAY 2026

Marta Kostyuk Wins Madrid Open 2026

- **Career Milestone:** Kostyuk defeated world No. 8 Mirra Andreeva in straight sets (\$6\$–\$3\$, \$7\$–\$5\$) to claim her first-ever WTA 1000 title. This victory marked her third career WTA title and her second consecutive tournament win, following her triumph in Rouen just a week earlier.
- **Rankings Surge:** On the back of an 11-match winning streak on clay, the 23-year-old Ukrainian is set to jump from world No. 23 to a career-high ranking of No. 15. This leap establishes her as a top contender for the upcoming French Open.
- **A "Giant-Slayer" Run:** Entering the tournament as the 26th seed, Kostyuk's path to the trophy was impressive. She defeated high-ranking opponents including world No. 5 Jessica Pegula and saved two set points in the final against Andreeva before sealing the match and celebrating with her signature backflip.

MP's pole vaulter Kuldeep Kumar breaks national record

- **New National Milestone:** The 21-year-old cleared a height of \$5.41\$ metres on his first attempt. This performance surpassed the previous national record of \$5.40\$ metres set last year by his training partner, Dev Kumar Meena.
- **Dual Record Breakthrough:** In addition to the overall national record, Kuldeep's jump also shattered the national indoor record of \$5.30\$ metres, which had been set only two months

earlier (March 2026) by Reegan G of Tamil Nadu.

- **Triumph Over Adversity:** This record comes just months after a widely reported incident in January 2026, where Kuldeep and Dev Meena were forced off a train at Panvel station by a TTE for carrying their specialized poles.

Footnotes: MP's CM: Mohan Yadav, Governor: Mangubhai C. Patel, Capital: Bhopal

India's young boxers shine at Asian U15 & U17 Championships 2026

- **The Venue:** The prestigious continental youth tournament is being held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, featuring top young talent from across Asia in both the Under-15 and Under-17 categories.
- **U-15 Standout Performers:** India's Under-15 boxers showed incredible dominance, with Nongpoknganba Meitei Oina (46kg) and Parshant (49kg) registering clean 5:0 victories over Kazakh opponents, while Mohd Yasser (58kg) secured a swift, first-round RSC (Referee Stops Contest) win over Kyrgyzstan's Akbarzhan Nabitdzhanov.
- **U-17 Dominant Campaigns:** In the Under-17 division, the Indian boys continued the winning momentum with Pal Nivesh (54kg) securing a dominant 5:0 win, and Lakshay Phogat (75kg) delivering a commanding first-round RSC victory.

Apaar Saxena Earns International Master Title

- **Achievement:** 10-year-old Apaar Saxena has officially earned the International Master (IM) title, making him one of the youngest

players in chess history to achieve this milestone.

- **Final Norm:** He secured his third and final IM norm at the Mesa Chess Open in Arizona, surpassing the required FIDE rating threshold of 2400.
- **Historic Pace:** By earning the title at such a young age, he joins an elite group of prodigies and is now on a direct path toward breaking the record for the world's youngest Grandmaster.

Faustino Oro become second youngest GM in chess history

- **Historic Feat:** 12-year-old Argentine prodigy Faustino Oro achieved the title of Grandmaster (GM) at the Sardinia International Chess Festival in Italy.
- **The Record:** At 12 years, 6 months, and 26 days, he became the second-youngest GM ever, trailing only US player Abhimanyu Mishra.
- **Undefeated Run:** He secured his final GM norm by remaining unbeaten in the tournament, drawing his final round against elite Russian GM Ian Nepomniachtchi.

Neeru & Vivaan win bronze in trap mixed team event

- **ISSF World Cup:** The Indian pair of Neeru Dhanda and Vivaan Kapoor won the bronze medal in the trap mixed team event at the ISSF World Cup in Almaty, Kazakhstan.
- **Performance:** They matched the score of the top Italian pair in the final but settled for bronze based on their qualification ranking.
- **Milestone:** This marks India's second medal in this specific

Olympic shooting event since it was officially added to the program.

India's Gyaneshwari Yadav bags silver & bronze in Weightlifting

- **Double Medal Haul:** Competing in the women's 53kg category, Gyaneshwari won two medals: a Silver in the snatch section (lifting 88kg) and an Overall Bronze with a total combined lift of 194kg.
- **Narrow Margin:** She missed out on the overall silver medal by a whisker, finishing just 1kg behind Vietnam's Hoai Huong Nguyen (195kg), while China's Jinlan Zhao secured the gold with a dominant 216kg.
- **CWG 2026 Qualifier:** This championship serves as a crucial qualifying event for the 2026 Commonwealth Games. Gyaneshwari's success, following Komal Kohar's bronze earlier in the week, significantly boosts India's standing in the continental rankings.

Virat Kohli slams record 9th IPL century

- **Undisputed Century Record:** With this unbeaten 105 off 60 balls*, Kohli became the first player in history to hit nine IPL centuries. He further extended his lead over Jos Buttler (7) and Chris Gayle (6), solidifying his status as the most prolific centurion in the tournament's history.
- **The Ultimate "Chase Master" Comeback:** Coming into the match following two consecutive ducks, Kohli orchestrated a successful chase of 193. This was his 10th T20 century overall, and the victory propelled RCB to the top of the IPL 2026 points table.

India's Ajith clinches double bronze at Asian

Senior Weightlifting Championships

- **Double Bronze Finish:** Competing in the men's 71kg category, Ajith secured a bronze medal in the Clean & Jerk section and another bronze in the Overall standings. Separate medals are awarded for Snatch, Clean & Jerk, and the total combined lift in continental championships.
- **Performance Metrics:** He registered a total lift of 314kg, which included a 140kg Snatch and a strong 174kg in the Clean & Jerk. He narrowly edged out Uzbekistan's Matrasulov Khusinboy by a single kilogram to claim his spot on the overall podium.

Aparna Dahiya secures Gold medal at the 11th Sanda World Cup

- **Dominant Performance:** Aparna clinched the gold medal in the women's 52kg category. She defeated the reigning world champion, Thi Phuong Nga Ngo of Vietnam, in a decisive straight-sets victory during the final.
- **A Historic "First":** This was India's first gold medal at the 11th edition of the Sanda World Cup. The tournament, which began on May 12, features only the top-ranked fighters from the previous World Wushu Championships, making it one of the most elite competitions in the sport.
- **Redemption Victory:** The win served as personal redemption for Aparna; she had previously lost to the same Vietnamese opponent in the finals of the 2025 World Wushu Championships in Brazil, where she had settled for silver.

Harjinder Kaur wins bronze at Asian Weightlifting Championships

- **Progressive Lifting Breakdown:** In the snatch event, Harjinder secured the bronze on her final attempt. She opened with a smooth lift of 93 kg, suffered a failed second attempt at 96 kg, but showed immense grit to successfully clear 96 kg on her third and final try.
- **Narrow Miss for Overall Podium:** In the clean and jerk section, she registered three flawless consecutive lifts of 115 kg, 118 kg, and 121 kg. This gave her an overall total of 217 kg, leaving her agonizingly close—just 2 kg short—of Japan's Yui Miyagoe (219 kg), who took the overall bronze.
- **Competing Against a World Record Field:** The 69 kg category was historically dominated by North Korea's Song Kuk Hyang, who won gold with a massive total of 263 kg. Song's clean and jerk lift of 151 kg broke both the IWF World Record and the Asian Record.

India's Neeraj Chopra finishes fourth at 2026 Doha Diamond League

- **Successful Return to Competition:** Competing for the first time since September 2025, Neeraj Chopra made his comeback following a lengthy recovery from a back injury. He recorded a best throw of 85.69 metres in his third attempt, placing fourth in a highly competitive field.
- **Securing Commonwealth Games Qualification:** Despite missing the podium, Neeraj successfully cleared the Athletics Federation of India's (AFI) qualification standard of 82.61 metres for the upcoming Commonwealth Games. He achieved this mark with his second attempt of 82.77 metres, officially cementing his spot for the event in Glasgow.
- **Performance Context in a Star-Studded Field:** The event was won by Sri Lankan athlete Rumesch Pathirage, who continued his dominant season with a throw of 88.68 metres.

APRIL 2026

Kimi Antonelli wins Japanese Grand Prix 2026

- **Youngest Championship Leader:** By winning the Japanese Grand Prix on March 29, 2026, 19-year-old Mercedes driver Kimi Antonelli became the youngest driver in Formula 1 history to lead the World Drivers' Championship.
- **Strategic Masterclass:** Despite a slow start from pole position, Antonelli secured his second consecutive victory of the season (after China). He capitalized on a Safety Car on Lap 22 (caused by Ollie Bearman's crash) to pit from the provisional lead and re-emerge in P1, eventually finishing 13.7 seconds ahead of Oscar Piastri.
- **Historic F1 Milestone:** Antonelli's victory marked the 500th win from pole position in the history of the F1 World Championship, dating back to the first-ever race in 1950. He now heads the 2026 standings ahead of teammates and rivals like George Russell and Max Verstappen.

Sunil Narine becomes most capped overseas IPL player

- **Surpassing a Legend:** Narine achieved this feat during KKR's IPL 2026 opener against Mumbai Indians at the Wankhede Stadium. By stepping onto the field, he earned his 190th IPL cap, officially overtaking former Mumbai Indians icon Kieron Pollard, who held the record with 189 appearances.
- **Unparalleled Franchise Loyalty:** Much like Pollard, Narine's record is defined by singular loyalty; he has played all 190 matches for the Kolkata Knight Riders. Since his debut in 2012, he has been a cornerstone of the franchise, playing a pivotal role in their three title-winning campaigns (2012, 2014, and 2024).
- **Elite "Firsts" and All-Round Impact:** Narine remains the only player in IPL history to be named Most Valuable Player (MVP) three

times (2012, 2018, and 2024). Entering the 2026 season, he also holds the unique record of being the first player to achieve a "double" of 500 runs and 15 wickets in a single season.

Anahat Singh & Abhay Singh named ASF Players of the Year

- **Individual Top Honours:** Abhay Singh was named the ASF Men's Player of the Year 2025 (Dato Alex Lee Award), while Anahat Singh secured the ASF Girls' Player of the Year 2025. This marks the first time since 2022 (Saurav Ghosal and Joshna Chinappa) that Indian players have swept these top continental awards.
- **Youngest to Top 20:** 18-year-old Anahat Singh recently became the youngest Asian woman ever to enter the world's top 20 rankings, surpassing the long-standing record held by Malaysian legend Nicol David. Both Anahat (World No. 20) and Abhay (World No. 25) also recently clinched the Indian Open 2026 titles in their respective categories.
- **Team of the Year:** The Indian Boys' Team was recognized as the ASF Men's Team of the Year following their bronze medal finish at the World Junior Team Championships 2025 in Egypt.

Shyam Sunder Swami wins bronze in para archery



- **Podium Finish:** Shyam Sunder Swami clinched the bronze medal by defeating his opponent in a closely contested third-place play-off. This victory adds to India's growing tally in international para-archery and reaffirms his position

as a top-tier competitor in the compound event.

- **Ranking Points:** This performance is significant for the World Rankings, providing crucial points that will influence seedings for upcoming major tournaments, including the 2026 Asian Para Games.
- **Consistent Excellence:** Hailing from Rajasthan, Swami continues his streak of international success. His bronze win in Dubai follows a series of strong performances on the world stage.

Gurung & Shrestha win NNIPA awards

- **Top Honors for Gurung and Shrestha:** Karate star Arika Gurung and table tennis player Santoo Shrestha were crowned the "Best of the Best" Female and Male Athletes, respectively. Shrestha was recognized for his historic feat as the first Nepali table tennis player to qualify for the Olympics, while Gurung was honored for her multiple international medals, including silver at the World Karate 1 Youth League.
- **Historic Venue:** For the first time in its 20-edition history, the awards ceremony was hosted outside the Kathmandu Valley. The event took place at the Chandeshwari Temple premises in Banepa Municipality to promote sports culture across different regions of Nepal.
- **Wide Recognition and Prizes:** The "Best of the Best" winners each received a cash prize of NPR 100,000. In total, 26 athletes from different sports were recognized as the best in their respective disciplines, while Abhishek Baral (Taekwondo) and Swastika Tiruwa (Boxing) were named the "Talented Players of the Year."

BANKING NEWS



JUNE 2026

RBI Deputy Governor Swaminathan Janakiraman Gets Two-Year Extension



- **Effective Date and Duration:** The extension is effective from June 26, 2026, for a period of two years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. He was originally appointed to the position on June 26, 2023, for a three-year term, during which he succeeded M.K. Jain.
- **Key Responsibilities:** As the senior-most Deputy Governor, Janakiraman oversees critical departments within the central bank, including Supervision, Inspection, Consumer Education and Protection, Financial Inclusion, and Human Resource Management.
- **Background:** Prior to joining the RBI as a Deputy Governor, he spent nearly three and a half decades at the State Bank of India (SBI), where he served in various leadership capacities, including as Managing Director.

DFS Secretary Sanjay Lohiya named director on RBI

- **Strategic Appointment:** The Government of India has

officially nominated Sanjay Lohiya, Secretary of the Department of Financial Services (DFS), as a Director on the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This appointment, effective from June 11, 2026, reinforces the coordination between the Ministry of Finance and the central bank on critical monetary and regulatory matters.

- **Dual Responsibility:** In addition to his new role at the RBI, Mr. Lohiya has also been appointed as a director on the Central Board of the State Bank of India (SBI). He succeeds former DFS Secretary M. Nagaraju, who retired from government service last month after completing his tenure.
- **Administrative Background:** A 1994-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Assam-Meghalaya cadre, Mr. Lohiya assumed charge as the DFS Secretary on June 1, 2026. He brings extensive experience to these board positions, having previously served in key roles within the Ministry of Mines and the Prime Minister's Office.

Footnotes: RBI's Governor: Sanjay Malhotra, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1935

CBI Recognized as 'Best Tech Emerging Business Bank' in 2026

- **Recognition of Innovation:** The award celebrates the bank's strategic shift toward technology-led growth and its ability to implement future-ready banking solutions. It specifically recognizes their efforts in driving digital innovation to better serve emerging business sectors.

- **Leadership Commitment:** Senior bank officials, including Deputy General Manager S. K. Sahoo, received the award on behalf of the organization. The accolade underscores the bank's internal push to modernize infrastructure and adopt cutting-edge financial technologies.
- **Focus on Transformation:** The honor serves as an official validation of the bank's ongoing digital transformation journey. By prioritizing automated and efficient systems, the Central Bank of India aims to remain competitive in an increasingly tech-driven financial ecosystem.

Footnotes: CBI's MD & CEO: Kalyan Kumar, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1911

Vivek Tripathi appointed Executive Director of AU Small Finance Bank

- **Role and Tenure:** Vivek Tripathi has been appointed to the board as an Executive Director and Whole-Time Director for a tenure of three years. This elevation is part of the bank's structured succession planning to ensure leadership depth and long-term institutional stability.
- **Professional Background:** Having been associated with AU Small Finance Bank since 2014, Tripathi previously served as the Chief Credit Officer. His career spans over two decades in the financial services sector, including prior roles at ICICI Bank, Reliance Capital, and the Aditya Birla Group.
- **Strategic Contribution:** Tripathi is recognized for his pivotal role in institutionalizing robust risk management and governance frameworks. His expertise in credit policy, underwriting, and portfolio management has been instrumental in enhancing the bank's balance sheet resilience.

MAY 2026

Citi Bank India Appoints Raj Rathi as Head of Mergers & Acquisitions

- **Background of High-Growth Leadership:** Rathi brings over 15 years of investment banking, M&A, and advisory experience to Citi. He joins the firm from Dream Sports (the parent company of Dream11), where he served as Head of Strategy and Corporate Development, leading key partnerships and deploying approximately \$150 million across strategic inorganic investments.
- **Expanded Strategic Mandate:** Based in Mumbai, Rathi will not only lead Citi's M&A franchise in India but will also assume sector coverage responsibility for high-growth areas, specifically Digital Infrastructure, Electronic Manufacturing Services (EMS), and select B2B commerce companies.
- **Pivotal Timing for Citi's Advisory Franchise:** His appointment comes as Citi aims to solidify its position as a leading financial advisor in the region. The firm recently advised on several major transactions in India, including the 100% stake sale of Royal Challengers Sports Private Limited for United Spirits and the 49% stake sale in Haier India for the Haier Group.

Footnotes: CBI's CEO: K Balasubramanian, HQ: Mumbai, Estd:1902

BOI appoints Canara Bank's Nabin Kumar Dash as CVO

- **The Appointment:** Shri Nabin Kumar Dash, currently serving as the Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of Canara Bank, has been

given the additional charge as the CVO of the Bank of India (BOI), effective May 1, 2026.

- **Reason for Transition:** The appointment follows the superannuation of BOI's previous CVO, Shri Vishnu Kumar Gupta, who retired on April 30, 2026.
- **Tenure and Purpose:** This interim, transitional arrangement will remain in place for up to three months, until a full-time CVO is appointed, or until further orders—whichever comes first. This ensures continuity in BOI's governance, risk management, and vigilance operations.

Footnotes: BOI's MD & CEO: Rajneesh Karnatak, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1906

Central Bank of India Signs MoU with NBCC

- **The Agreement:** The Central Bank of India signed an MoU with the state-run Navratna firm NBCC (India) Limited on May 5, 2026, for the planning, design, and construction of its new Regional Office building in Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Expanding Infrastructure:** This collaboration is a strategic step aimed at bolstering the public sector bank's corporate infrastructure, improving administrative efficiency, and expanding its operational capabilities in Andhra Pradesh and the surrounding regions.
- **Key Signatories:** The agreement was formally executed by E. Venkateswara Rao (Regional Head of the bank's Vijayawada Regional Office) alongside P. S. Rao (Executive Director, NBCC) and Rajaram (General Manager, NBCC), in the presence of M. Pichayya (Zonal Head of the bank's Hyderabad Zone).

Footnotes: CBI's MD & CEO: Kalyan Kumar, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1911

IDBI Bank Partners with IIT Madras to Launch I2SSL Lab

- **Focus Areas:** The lab will focus on three key technical verticals—Cryptography, Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT), and Secure Systems Engineering—to develop advanced solutions for secure digital banking infrastructure.
- **Industry-Wide Impact:** While led by a banking partnership, the research aims to develop and deploy security solutions for multiple critical sectors beyond finance, including healthcare, aerospace, and telecommunications, with a specific focus on mobile technology security.
- **Research & Commercialization:** The initiative is designed to create market-ready Intellectual Properties (IPs). It will work on developing hardware firewalls, secure point-of-sale (PoS) devices, and automated tools for detecting "Zero-Day Vulnerabilities" in mobile applications.

Footnotes: IDBI Bank's MD & CEO: Rakesh Sharma, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1964

RBI & ECB renew cooperation framework with updated MoU in Basel

- **New MoU in Basel:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the European Central Bank (ECB) signed an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on May 10, 2026, on the sidelines of the BIS meetings in Basel.

- **Market Recognition:** A key focus is helping Indian clearing corporations gain formal recognition from the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA), reducing friction in cross-border transactions.
- **Scope of Pact:** The agreement replaces a 2015 framework and expands cooperation to include policy dialogues, technical exchanges, and seminars on central banking.

Footnotes: RBI's Governor: Sanjay Malhotra, **HQ:** Mumbai, **Estd:** 1935

DMRC partners with Airtel Payments Bank to launch Rupay NCMC cards

- **Interoperable "One Nation, One Card" Vision:** These open-loop cards allow commuters to pay for travel across multiple transit systems nationwide, including metros and buses, using a single card. This is a major upgrade from the traditional DMRC-issued smart cards, which were restricted to the Delhi Metro network.
- **Flexible Card Options:** The partnership introduces two types of co-branded cards: Debit Cards and PPI-MTS (Prepaid Payment Instrument for Mass Transit Systems). These cards will be made available at all DMRC stations within 10 days of the launch.
- **Digital Convenience & Discounts:** Users can recharge their cards digitally via the DMRC or Airtel apps, reducing physical queues. Additionally, commuters using these NCMC cards continue to benefit from DMRC's existing fare incentives, such as a 10% discount during peak hours and a 20% discount during non-peak hours.

Indian Bank appoints Samir Kumar as Nominee Director

- **Government Representation:** Samir Kumar, a 1995-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, has been appointed as a Nominee Director by the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance. His role is to ensure alignment between the bank's operations and the government's financial policies.
- **Professional Background:** He currently serves as a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance. With extensive experience in public administration and financial governance, he brings high-level expertise in policy implementation and regulatory oversight to the board.

Footnotes: Indian Bank's MD & CEO: Binod Kumar, **HQ:** Chennai, **Estd:** 1907

India's PSBs Achieve Record Profit for 4th Consecutive Year

- **Record-Breaking Profitability:** The aggregate net profit grew by 11.1% year-on-year, reaching an all-time high of ₹1.98 lakh crore. This surge was driven by robust credit growth (15.7%) and a significant increase in total business, which crossed ₹283 lakh crore.
- **Historic Low NPAs:** Asset quality reached its best level in years. The Gross NPA (Non-Performing Assets) ratio dropped to 1.93%, while the Net NPA ratio fell to a record low of 0.39%. This drastic reduction reflects stricter credit discipline and more effective recovery mechanisms.
- **Strong Capital Buffers:** PSBs have significantly strengthened

their financial resilience, maintaining an aggregate Capital to Risk (Weighted) Assets Ratio (CRAR) of 16.6%. All 12 public sector banks also maintained a Provisioning Coverage Ratio (PCR) above 90%, ensuring they are well-protected against future risks.

RBI Cancels Sarvodaya Co-operative Bank Licence

- **Financial Insolvency:** The RBI revoked the license because the bank lacked adequate capital and viable earning prospects. The regulator stated that the bank's current financial position made it impossible for it to repay its depositors in full, and continuing operations would have been prejudicial to public interest.
- **Cessation of Operations:** With the cancellation, the bank is strictly prohibited from conducting any "banking" business. This includes the immediate halt of accepting fresh deposits and the processing of withdrawals or repayments.

Chairman Keki Mistry's Term at HDFC Bank Extended

- **Extension Details:** The extension is effective until September 18, 2026. This tenure will conclude on that date or upon the appointment of a regular part-time chairman, whichever occurs earlier.
- **Purpose of the Move:** This is a stopgap arrangement to ensure leadership stability while the bank continues its structured search for a permanent, full-time chairman.
- **Context of the Appointment:** Keki Mistry has been serving in this interim role since March 18, 2026, following the resignation of the Atanu Chakraborty, who stepped down citing concerns over the bank's internal practices.

APRIL 2026

Central Bank of India Signs Landmark MoU with EPFO

- **National Salary Account Hub:** The Central Bank of India will now serve as the primary banker for opening and managing salary accounts for EPFO employees across all its offices in India. This move centralizes their banking, which was previously fragmented across various institutions.
- **Enhanced Employee Benefits:** Beyond standard banking, the MoU provides EPFO staff with exclusive benefits, including comprehensive insurance coverage, preferential loan rates, and specialized digital banking services tailored to their needs.
- **Operational Efficiency:** By using a single national public sector bank, the EPFO aims to eliminate delays in salary disbursements and streamline financial reconciliation across its massive nationwide network, ensuring "same-day" salary credits for all staff.

Footnotes: CBI's Executive Director: Praveen Sood, HQ: New Delhi

Vinay Tonse Takes Charge as MD & CEO of YES Bank

- **Appointment Details:** Vinay Muralidhar Tonse officially took charge as the MD & CEO of YES Bank on April 6, 2026, for a tenure of three years. He succeeds Prashant Kumar, who completed his term on April 5.
- **SBI Veteran:** Tonse brings nearly four decades of experience from the State Bank of India (SBI), where he most recently served as Managing Director (Retail Business & Operations). He also previously served as the MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Fund.
- **Strategic Focus:** His appointment, approved by the RBI, is seen as a

shift for YES Bank from "stabilization" to "growth and expansion," specifically focusing on strengthening retail banking and the bank's digital platform.

Footnotes: YES Bank's Previous MD: Prashant Kumar, HQ: Mumbai, Founded: 2004

BoB Launches AI-based 'bob SAMVAD' Platform

- **Multilingual Support (22 Languages):** Developed entirely in-house, the platform uses AI-driven speech and language technology to provide real-time, two-way translation across 22 Indian languages. This is designed to eliminate language barriers between customers and branch staff.
- **Dual-Mode Interaction:** At service counters, customers can either speak or type their queries in their preferred local language. The system instantly translates the input into the staff member's language (and vice-versa) as text on a screen, with an optional voice-to-speech mode for better accessibility.
- **Phased Deployment:** The initial rollout covers 250 branches across five linguistically diverse states: Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Maharashtra. Following this pilot phase, the bank plans a large-scale deployment across its entire national network.

Footnotes: BoB's MD & CEO: Debadatta Chand, HQ: Vadodara, Estd: 1908

Canara Bank appoints Hardeep Singh Ahluwalia as MD & CEO



- **Interim Leadership Role:** Effective January 1, 2026, Hardeep Singh Ahluwalia took over as the Interim MD & CEO of Canara Bank. He succeeded K. Satyanarayana Raju, who retired on December 31, 2025.
- **Recent Tenure Extension:** Originally appointed for three months, his additional charge was recently extended by the Government of India through June 30, 2026, ensuring leadership stability during the transition.
- **Extensive Banking Background:** A career banker with over 30 years of experience, Ahluwalia previously served as the bank's Executive Director. His background includes a start as an Agricultural Field Officer in 1992 and significant leadership roles at Indian Bank (formerly Allahabad Bank), including international exposure in Hong Kong.

Footnotes: Canara Bank's Previous MD & CEO: K. Satyanarayana Raju, HQ: Bengaluru, Estd: 1906

UCO Bank appoints Rajeev Gupta as Chief Risk Officer

- **Appointment Details:** Kolkata-based public sector lender UCO Bank has appointed Rajeev Gupta as its new Chief Risk Officer (CRO), with the appointment taking effect on April 14, 2026.
- **Succession:** Gupta, previously a General Manager within the bank, succeeds Shashi Kant Kumar, who has been reassigned to a new role as the Zonal Head in Mumbai.
- **Experience & Profile:** With over 29 years of experience in domestic and international banking, Gupta's background spans risk management, treasury, and core banking; he holds an MBA in Finance and is a Certified Associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers (CAIIB).

Footnotes: UCO Bank's MD & CEO: Ashwani Kumar, HQ: Kolkata, Estd: 1943

DEFENCE & TECHNOLOGY



JUNE 2026

Lt. General Dhiraj Seth appointed as Chief of the Army

- **Current Professional Role:** Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth is currently serving as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff, an appointment he has held since April 1, 2026. His elevation to the top post follows a distinguished tenure in this crucial administrative and strategic position at Army Headquarters.
- **Extensive Command Experience:** Throughout his career spanning nearly four decades, he has commanded forces in diverse environments, including an Armoured Regiment in the desert and a Counter-Insurgency Force in Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Academic & Strategic Background:** An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, he was commissioned into the Armoured Corps in December 1986. Beyond his foundational training, he has furthered his expertise through the Higher Command Course, the National Defence College, and the prestigious Command and Staff Course in Paris.

Indian Army Introduces New Uniform Code

- **Incorporation of Indigenous Attire:** The new regulations officially introduce the traditional, closed-neck Bandi jacket as authorized formal civil attire for officers. This jacket can be worn over a full-sleeved shirt

with formal trousers, reflecting the Army's effort to align military traditions with contemporary Indian values.

- **Removal of Colonial-Era Symbols and Practices:** The Army has phased out several remnants of the British era, such as the use of the term "Royal" in dress-related nomenclature and the mandatory use of ceremonial pouch belts in certain mess dresses.
- **Standardization and Modernization of Daily Wear:** A new standardized winter uniform (Dress 3B), featuring an Angola shirt and a battle jacket, has been introduced for all ranks, with a full transition planned by June 2029.

Indian Army Receives 106 Peacekeeper Jet-Powered Kamikaze Drones from SMPP

- **High-Speed Strike Capability:** These drones are engineered for deep-strike missions, boasting a top speed of 450 km/h and an operational range of 180 kilometers. This allows the Army to neutralize critical high-value targets, such as command centers, radar installations, and logistics hubs, from a safe standoff distance.
- **Precision in Contested Environments:** The system is specifically designed to function in contested electromagnetic environments, maintaining mission accuracy despite hostile electronic warfare like jamming and spoofing. During trials, the drone demonstrated exceptional

precision with a "Circular Error Probable" (CEP) of less than 5 meters.

- **Indigenous Manufacturing Milestone:** Completed within a rapid six-month timeframe, the delivery underscores a successful push toward Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) in defense. The project fills a vital operational gap between conventional artillery and long-range missile systems, with SMPP already proposing an enhanced variant for future consideration.

Indian Coast Guard Inducts Indigenous Air Cushion Vehicle in Goa

- **Boost to Indigenous Defence Manufacturing:** The induction of the first indigenous Air Cushion Vehicle (ACV), designated H-561, marks a significant milestone for the "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" (Self-Reliant India) initiative. It is the first hovercraft built by a private Indian shipyard, Chowgule & Company, highlighting the growing sophistication of the nation's maritime industrial base.
- **Enhanced Operational Versatility:** Designed to operate on both land and water, the hovercraft can navigate challenging terrains such as mudflats, marshlands, and shallow coastal waters where conventional vessels cannot reach. This unique capability is critical for coastal surveillance, search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, and disaster relief operations.

MAY 2026

Indian Army Leaves for India-Cambodia Joint Exercise CINBAX-II 2026



- **Venue and Scale:** The exercise is being held from May 4 to May 17, 2026, at the Techo Sen Phnom Thom Mreas Royal Cambodian Air Force Training Centre (Camp Basil) in Kampong Speu Province, Cambodia. The Indian contingent consists of 120 personnel, primarily from the Maratha Light Infantry Regiment, while the Royal Cambodian Army has deployed 160 personnel.
- **Focus on Sub-Conventional Operations:** Conducted under the framework of Chapter VII of the UN Mandate, the training focuses on company-level operations in sub-conventional and semi-urban environments. It is specifically aligned with the dynamics of Counter-Terrorism (CT) operations encountered by peacekeeping forces during UN missions.
- **Specialized Skill Training:** The drill includes advanced tactical exercises such as drone operations, mortar handling, and sniper tactics. The primary objective is to enhance interoperability, share best practices, and strengthen the growing strategic defense cooperation between the two nations.

Lieutenant General N S Raja Subramani

appointed new Chief of Defence Staff

- **Succession:** The Government appointed Lieutenant General N S Raja Subramani (Retd) as India's next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), succeeding General Anil Chauhan.
- **Timeline:** He is set to take charge on May 30, 2026, after General Chauhan completes his tenure.
- **Strategic Experience:** A graduate of the NDA and IMA, he previously served as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff and currently serves as a Military Adviser in the National Security Council Secretariat.

Indian Coast Guard Commissions Indigenous FPV 'ICGS ACHAL'

- **Make in India Milestone:** ICGS Achal is the first in a series of eight FPVs designed and built entirely indigenously by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL). It reflects the "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" initiative, featuring nearly 70% indigenous content in its construction and machinery.
- **Advanced Capabilities:** This 50-meter-long vessel is equipped with state-of-the-art navigation and communication equipment, including a 30mm CRN-91 Naval Gun and advanced sensors. It is designed to achieve a maximum speed of 33 knots, making it highly effective for high-speed interceptions.
- **Operational Role:** The vessel will be primarily deployed for Coastal Surveillance, Anti-Smuggling, Anti-Poaching, and Search and Rescue (SAR) operations. It will operate under the administrative and operational control of the Commander, Coast Guard Region (West).

Indian Army Inducts Indigenous ULPGM and AGNIKAA VTOL-1 Kamikaze Drone

- **Capabilities of ULPGM:** The UAV-Launched Precision Guided Munition (ULPGM) is India's first indigenous loitering munition in its category. It features an Imaging Infrared (IIR) seeker for day-and-night precision, a strike range of 2.5 km, and a 2 kg warhead with an accuracy of one meter (Circular Error Probable).
- **Features of AGNIKAA VTOL-1:** This is India's first First-Person View (FPV) kamikaze drone in its class. It is designed for vertical take-off and landing (VTOL), making it ideal for rugged terrain and confined urban spaces. It has a 5 km range, 30-minute endurance, and a 5-meter lethality radius against personnel and soft-skinned vehicles.
- **Operational Resilience:** Both systems have been rigorously tested for high-altitude performance and resilience in GPS-denied and electronic warfare (EW) environments.

India's first privately manufactured military aircraft Airbus C-295

- **Historical First for Indian Private Sector:** It marks the first time a complete military aircraft is being manufactured and assembled in India by a private company—Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)—breaking the long-standing monopoly of state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- **Production Split & Facility:** Out of the 56 aircraft ordered under the ₹21,935-crore deal, 16

are delivered directly from Spain in a "fly-away" condition, while the remaining 40 aircraft are being fully manufactured at the newly established Tata-Airbus Final Assembly Line (FAL) in Vadodara, Gujarat.

- **Role & Indigenization:** The C-295 is a new-generation tactical transport aircraft with a 9.5-tonne payload capacity introduced to replace the Indian Air Force's ageing Avro HS-748 fleet. It significantly boosts the Make in India initiative, featuring an indigenous Electronic Warfare Suite and sourcing up to 75% of its structural components locally.

Indian Army Inducts Indigenous ULPGM & AGNIKAA VTOL-1 Drones

- **Procurement Framework & Delivery Command:** Both cutting-edge combat systems were fast-tracked and acquired under the Emergency Procurement (EP-6) program. They were officially handed over in Hyderabad to officials from the Army's Western Command following rigorous live precision-strike, electronic warfare (EW), and high-altitude trials.
- **ULPGM Technical Capabilities:** Co-developed by the DRDO and Adani Defence & Aerospace, the UAV-Launched Precision Guided Munition (ULPGM) is India's first indigenous system in its category. Launched from a mother UAV with an operational radius of 20 km, the munition itself has a standalone strike range of 2.5 km.
- **AGNIKAA VTOL-1 Tactical Profile:** Described as India's first indigenous First-Person View (FPV) kamikaze drone in its class, the AGNIKAA VTOL-1 is designed specifically as an anti-personnel precision platform for

urban combat and confined spaces. It operates efficiently within a 5 km range, boasts a top speed of 60 km/h, and maintains a 30-minute flight endurance.

DRDO Successfully Tests Indigenous ULPGM-V3 Missile

- **Dual Combat Modes & Purpose:** The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Launched Precision Guided Missile (ULPGM)-V3 was successfully tested in both Air-to-Ground and Air-to-Air modes at the DRDO test range near Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Key Technological Features:** The missile features a 10-kilometer extended range and utilizes a high-definition, dual-channel seeker enabling highly precise day and night operations.
- **Nodal Development & Mass Production Readiness:** Developed by the Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad as the nodal laboratory alongside other DRDO labs, the project heavily involved Indian MSMEs.

Squadron Leader Saanya Becomes IAF's 1st Woman Cat-A Flying Instructor

- **Pinnacle of Flight Instruction:** By earning the Category-A Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI) qualification, Squadron Leader Saanya achieved the absolute highest instructional tier a military pilot can attain in India.
- **A Historic Gender Milestone:** Her achievement marks the first time in the 93-year history of the IAF that a woman officer has broken through to this elite instructional ranking. Trained as an accomplished transport pilot, her certification follows intensive schooling at the prestigious

Flying Instructors School (FIS) at Air Force Station Tambaram near Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

- **Stellar Career Trajectory:** Commissioned into the Flying Branch of the IAF on June 20, 2015 (from the 42 Short Service Commission Flying Pilot Course), her progression reflects consistent excellence. She was promoted to Flight Lieutenant in 2017 and Squadron Leader in 2021 before being formally felicitated for this historic milestone by Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh.

Multilateral Exercise Pragati 2026 Commences At Umroi



- **The Event:** PRAGATI 2026, a prominent two-week multilateral military exercise, commenced on May 20, 2026, at the Umroi Military Station in Meghalaya. Hosted by the Indian Army, it brings together armed forces from 13 nations in total (India and 12 friendly partner countries, including Bhutan, Malaysia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam).
- **Core Focus & Framework:** The acronym PRAGATI stands for "Partnership of Regional Armies for Growth and Transformation in the Indian Ocean Region." Conducted in a spirit of mutual respect, the drill specifically focuses on tactical-level drills and joint counter-terrorism operations across challenging semi-mountainous and jungle terrains.

APRIL 2026

IAF to equip MiG29 with ASRAAM missiles

- **Significant Range Boost:** The ASRAAM (Advanced Short Range Air-to-Air Missile) will replace the Soviet-era R-73 missile. It offers an engagement range of over 25 km, effectively doubling the 10–15 km reach of the legacy system.
- **Advanced Combat Tech:** Developed by MBDA, the ASRAAM is a "fire-and-forget" heat-seeking missile. It can travel at speeds exceeding Mach 3 and features Lock-On After Launch (LOAL) capability, allowing pilots to engage agile targets with high precision in close-combat dogfights.
- **Standardization & Indigenization:** The IAF is standardizing the ASRAAM across multiple platforms, including the LCA Tejas, Sukhoi Su-30MKI, and Jaguar. Under the "Make in India" initiative, Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has partnered with MBDA to assemble and test these missiles at a facility in Hyderabad.

Launch of NGOPV 'Shachi'

- **First of the NGOPV Class:** Shachi is the first of 11 Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels (NGOPVs) being built for the Indian Navy. The project is a joint effort between two shipyards: Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), which is building seven vessels, and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), building the remaining four.
- **High Indigenous Content:** In line with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, the vessel features approximately 76% indigenous content. This includes the ship's design, advanced engineering systems, and critical equipment sourced entirely from the Indian defense industry.

- **Multipurpose Operational Role:** These ships are designed for diverse missions, including anti-piracy, counter-infiltration, search and rescue (SAR), and the protection of offshore assets. Notably, they are equipped with modular payloads for mine warfare and have a helipad capable of hosting multi-role helicopters or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs).

INS Dunagiri delivered to Indian Navy

- **Project 17A Milestone:** 'Dunagiri' (Yard 3023) is the fifth ship of the Nilgiri-class (Project 17A) and the second built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata. It is a follow-on to the Shivalik-class frigates, featuring improved stealth, advanced weapons, and upgraded sensor suites.
- **Technological Prowess:** The warship is equipped with state-of-the-art systems, including BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles, MFSTAR (radar), and MRSAM (air defence). It is powered by a CODOG (Combined Diesel or Gas) propulsion system, allowing for high-speed multi-dimensional operations across air, surface, and sub-surface domains.
- **Aatmanirbharta (Self-Reliance):** The frigate boasts approximately 75% indigenous content, involving over 200 Indian MSMEs. Notably, the construction period was compressed to 80 months, demonstrating India's maturing expertise in advanced "Integrated Construction" methodologies.

Lt Gen Sandeep Jain takes charge of Southern Command

- **Succession and Background:** Lt Gen Sandeep Jain succeeds Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth, who has moved on to become the Vice Chief of the Army Staff. An alumnus of the National Defence Academy (NDA), Lt Gen Jain was

commissioned into the MAHAR Regiment in June 1988 and has nearly four decades of distinguished service.

- **Operational Expertise:** He brings extensive experience from diverse environments, having previously commanded an Infantry Battalion in the UN Mission in South Sudan, a Counter Insurgency Force, and a Pivot Corps in the Northern Command. He also served as the Chief of Staff at the Southern Command headquarters prior to this promotion.
- **Strategic Priorities:** Upon taking charge, he emphasized a focus on operational readiness across the Southern Command's vast geography (including deserts, coastlines, and island territories).

Lt Gen Pushendra Pal Singh leads Western Command



- **Transition from Vice Chief:** Prior to this appointment, Lt Gen Singh served as the 48th Vice Chief of the Army Staff (VCOAS). He succeeds Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar, who superannuated on March 31, 2026.
- **Special Forces Expertise:** He is a highly decorated officer from the Parachute Regiment (Special Forces), commissioned in 1987. His extensive operational background includes participation in Operation Pawan (Sri Lanka), Operation Meghdoot (Siachen), and counter-insurgency operations. He is currently the third Special Forces officer to lead the Western Command in its history.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

(1-5): In each of the questions given below, a statement has been given with a blank. Some words have been given in the options following the statement. Choose the most appropriate word that could fit in the statement to make it contextually meaningful and grammatically correct.

1. The professor's lecture, though dense and theoretical, was surprisingly _____, illuminating complex concepts with clarity and nuance.

- (A) obscure (B) didactic
(C) esoteric (D) lucid
(E) banal

2. While the proposal seemed innovative on the surface, a deeper analysis revealed several _____ flaws that undermined its feasibility.

- (A) latent (B) inherent
(C) negligible (D) conspicuous
(E) transient

3. The sudden economic downturn led to a _____ in consumer spending, severely impacting small businesses across the region.

- (A) surge (B) plummet
(C) fluctuation (D) stabilization
(E) rebound

4. Despite years of intensive research, scientists have yet to _____ a definitive cure for the rare genetic disorder.

- (A) devise (B) discard
(C) conceal (D) dismantle
(E) undermine

5. The artist's early works were celebrated for their raw emotional power, but his later pieces were criticized as _____ and self-indulgent.

- (A) evocative (B) Innovative
(C) visceral (D) poignant
(E) maudlin

(6-8): In each question below, four words printed in bold type are given. These are numbered (A), (B), (C) and (D). One of these words printed in bold might either be wrongly spelt or inappropriate in the context of the sentence. Find out the word

that is inappropriate or wrongly spelt, if any. The number of the word is your answer. If the words printed in bold are correctly spelt and appropriate in the context of the sentence then mark (E), i.e. 'All Correct', as your answer.

6. The manager's (A) **temperament** was well-suited for (B) **negotiation**, but his (C) **incessant** need to micromanage often (D) **undermined** his credibility.

- (A) temperament (B) negotiation
(C) incessant (D) undermined
(E) All are Correct

7. Although the presentation was (A) **coherent**, the speaker failed to (B) **articulate** his main point with (C) **conviction**, which led to (D) **ambiguous** conclusions.

- (A) coherent (B) articulate
(C) conviction (D) ambiguous
(E) All are correct

8. The lawyer presented his argument with (A) **precision**, backed by (B) **compelling** evidence and a (C) **thorough** understanding of the law, which left a strong (D) **impression** on the jury.

- (A) precision (B) compelling
(C) thorough (D) impression
(E) All are correct

(9-13): In each of the following questions, a sentence has been divided into five parts (A), (B), (C), (D), and (E). One of these parts contains a grammatical or contextual error. Find out which part has an error and mark it as your answer.

9. The panel of judges (A) / have reviewed all submissions (B) / and will announce the winners (C) / after the final round of (D) / evaluations concludes tomorrow. (E)

- (A) C (B) A (C) E (D) B
(E) D

10. The speaker concluded her address (A) / with a powerful message (B) / that underlined the necessity (C) / for collective actions to combat (D) / climate change and its impacts. (E)

- (A) D (B) E
(C) B (D) C
(E) A

11. Despite the new regulations, (A) / many companies continue (B) / to operate without obtaining (C) / the mandatory licenses which is (D) / required by law. (E)

- (A) D (B) C
(C) B (D) E
(E) A

12. If the proposals would have been (A) / evaluated objectively, several viable options (B) / could have been implemented (C) / to address the concerns (D) / raised by stakeholders. (E)

- (A) A (B) B
(C) C (D) D
(E) E

13. The chairman assured the press (A) / that the organization remain committed (B) / to transparency and accountability, (C) / regardless of the outcome (D) / of the ongoing investigation.(E)

- (A) E (B) A
(C) B (D) D
(E) C

(14-18): In the following questions two columns are given containing three sentences/phrases each. In the first column, sentences/phrases are A, B and C and in the second column the sentences/phrases are D, E and F. A sentence/phrase from the first column may or may not connect with another sentence/phrase from the second column to make a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. Each question has five options, four of which display the sequence(s) in which the sentences/phrases can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. If none of the options given forms a correct sentence after combination, mark (E), I.e. "None of these" as your answer.

14.

Column 1	Column 2
A. The committee expressed concern	D. the accused was at the scene of the crime.
B. The CEO announced confidently	E. be launched during the winter festival.
C. The witnesses testified that	F. over the recent drop in sales figures.

- (A) Both A-F and C-D (B) Only C-D

- (C) Both A-E and B-F (D) Both B-F and C-D
(E) None of these

15.

Column 1	Column 2
A. While the proposal seemed promising,	D. about the potential long-term impacts of inflation.
B. The economist warned	E. the experimental results contradicted previous theories.
C. The scientist hypothesized	F. it lacked sufficient evidence to gain approval.

- (A) Only B-F (B) Both C-F and A-E
(C) Both A-F and B-D (D) B-E, C-D and A-F
(E) None of these

16.

Column 1	Column 2
A. Despite the heavy rain,	D. the event was postponed.
B. Since the report was inaccurate,	E. the CEO approved the new plan.
C. Although the meeting was scheduled early,	F. few attended the conference.

- (A) Only A-D (B) Both B-E & C - F
(C) Only C-F (D) Only A-E
(E) None of these

17.

Column 1	Column 2
A. The architect proposed	D. the budget for the new infrastructure project.
B. The researcher emphasized	E. the integration of sustainable materials in construction.
C. The board approved	F. the significance of early childhood education.

- (A) Only A-E (B) Both B-D and C-E
(C) Both B-E and A-F (D) A-E, B-F and C-D
(E) None of these

18.

Column 1	Column 2
A. The committee submitted its findings to the board last week	D. attracting widespread attention on social media.
B. The documentary received critical acclaim after its release	E. prompting a review of internal policies.
C. The warehouse remained closed for inspection over two days	F. they were commended for their adherence to regulations

- (A) Only C - F (B) C-F and B-D
(C) Only A - E (D) A-E and B-D
(E) None of these

(19-25): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

In the early 2000s, a small coastal village faced a dilemma. Its traditional fishing industry, passed down through generations, had begun to falter. Climate change and overfishing had drastically reduced the fish population in the surrounding waters. As a result, many families found themselves struggling to survive.

Instead of abandoning their way of life, the community chose innovation. A local teacher, who had studied marine biology in university, suggested the creation of a sustainable aquaculture project. The village pooled its limited resources to build a series of floating fish farms in deeper waters. This shift allowed them to cultivate fish in controlled environments, monitor breeding patterns, and reduce environmental strain on natural fish stocks.

Over time, their efforts bore fruit. The quality of the fish improved, local incomes stabilised, and the village even became a model for similar communities across the region. Moreover, the project attracted the attention of environmental NGOs, which offered support and funding for further expansion.

What began as a desperate attempt to survive became a pioneering success in sustainable development. The community proved that resilience, when paired with knowledge and cooperation, could transform crisis into opportunity.

19. What was the main problem faced by the village?

- (A) Lack of education among villagers
- (B) The teacher's decision to leave the village
- (C) Decline of the traditional fishing industry
- (D) Conflict with environmental NGOs
- (E) Increasing urban migration

20. What role did the local teacher play in the community's transformation?

- (A) Organized a protest against the government
- (B) Introduced aquaculture as a sustainable solution
- (C) Helped villagers migrate to urban centers
- (D) Trained fishermen to become farmers
- (E) Applied for government aid on behalf of the village

21. Which of the following best describes the villagers' response to the crisis?

- (A) Defiant and aggressive
- (B) Passive and regretful
- (C) Adaptive and collaborative
- (D) Fearful and dependent
- (E) Uninterested and indifferent

22. What is the tone of the passage?

- (A) Ironic
- (B) Nostalgic
- (C) Critical
- (D) Optimistic
- (E) Sarcastic

23. What does the word "resilience" most nearly mean?

- (A) Fragility
- (B) Endurance
- (C) Hostility
- (D) Hesitation
- (E) Luxury

24. Why did environmental NGOs get involved with the village project?

- (A) To remove the villagers from protected waters
- (B) To commercialize the fish on a large scale
- (C) Because the village became a model for sustainability
- (D) To introduce genetically modified species
- (E) To prevent them from using aquaculture methods

25. What is the opposite of the word "falter" (first paragraph)? (Antonym)

- (A) Struggle
- (B) Increase
- (C) Stabilize
- (D) Strengthen
- (E) Thrive

(26-30): In each of the questions below, a sentence is given with two blanks. Identify the correct pair of words that fits in the sentence to make it grammatically and contextually correct.

26. Her tone during the meeting was deliberately _____, intended to _____ any attempt at debate.

- (A) conciliatory – encourage
- (B) hostile – diffuse
- (C) dismissive – provoke
- (D) assertive – incite
- (E) authoritarian – preempt

27. The scientist's theory, though initially _____, has gained _____ as subsequent studies confirmed its predictions.

- (A) controversial – scrutiny
- (B) obscure – traction
- (C) ridiculed – opposition
- (D) acclaimed – criticism
- (E) simplistic – doubt

28. While the candidate's speech was outwardly _____, it subtly _____ deep societal divisions.

- (A) inclusive – bridged
- (B) aggressive – healed
- (C) neutral – exacerbated
- (D) divisive – concealed
- (E) transparent – eliminated

29. The company's new policy, though advertised as a step toward transparency, was essentially a _____ effort to _____ scrutiny.

- (A) genuine – enhance
- (B) strategic – invite
- (C) cosmetic – deflect
- (D) noble – avoid
- (E) reluctant – encourage

30. The novelist's prose, at once _____ and _____, evokes a sense of both wonder and melancholy.

- (A) abstract – convoluted
- (B) lyrical – haunting
- (C) blunt – optimistic
- (D) mechanical – precise
- (E) ambiguous – cheerful

(31-37): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

In the age of relentless innovation, where technological marvels are lauded and productivity is revered, it becomes increasingly vital to question the true cost of progress. The 21st century has witnessed unprecedented advancement — artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and automation have transformed industries and redefined human capability. Yet, beneath this sheen of advancement lies a disconcerting paradox: while we race toward the future, the fundamental quality of human life is not necessarily improving for all.

One might argue that modern technology has alleviated physical burdens and streamlined daily tasks. But in doing so, it has also cultivated a culture of immediacy, where patience is obsolete and convenience is king. This shift has fostered a sense of disconnection — not only from others but also from oneself. Social media, designed to connect, has often contributed to feelings of alienation and inadequacy. The workplace, though more efficient, is

increasingly devoid of meaning, with many employees trapped in roles that feel transactional rather than purposeful.

Moreover, the environmental toll of progress cannot be ignored. The same industries that offer us convenience and speed are often the largest contributors to ecological degradation. In our pursuit of "more", we have destabilised the very ecosystems that sustain us. There is a growing awareness that progress, if not guided by wisdom, can be as destructive as it is creative.

In light of these complexities, the notion of progress must be re-evaluated. Rather than measuring advancement solely in terms of output, speed, or innovation, perhaps we ought to consider metrics of well-being, sustainability, and equity. True progress, it seems, is not merely a matter of moving forward — but knowing where, why, and at what cost we are going.

31. According to the passage, what paradox does the author highlight?

- (A) Innovation makes people less intelligent
- (B) Technology connects us but also isolates us
- (C) Environmental damage is irreversible
- (D) Social media reduces global productivity
- (E) Progress guarantees equal well-being for all

32. Which of the following best captures the author's tone?

- (A) Celebratory and hopeful
- (B) Cautionary and reflective
- (C) Indifferent and neutral
- (D) Optimistic and enthusiastic
- (E) Hostile and critical

33. The author suggests that workplaces today are:

- (A) Fulfilling and stable
- (B) Chaotic and disorganized
- (C) Transactional and lacking purpose
- (D) Isolated but creative
- (E) Traditional yet productive

34. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to "lauded" as used in the passage:

- (A) ignored
- (B) feared
- (C) criticized
- (D) praised
- (E) studied

35. Which statement would the author most likely agree with?

- (A) Technological advancements always result in happiness.
- (B) Humans must resist all forms of innovation.
- (C) We must balance progress with introspection and ethics.
- (D) Environmentalism is a barrier to growth.
- (E) Convenience is more important than connection.

36. Choose the word that is opposite in meaning to "obsolete" as used in the passage:

- (A) outdated
- (B) rare
- (C) current
- (D) abandoned
- (E) fragile

37. What does the author propose as a new way to evaluate progress?

- (A) Speed and cost-effectiveness
- (B) Innovation and productivity
- (C) Sustainability and equity
- (D) Social media popularity
- (E) Market share and profits

(38-40): In the sentences, four words are in bold and numbered from A to D, which are the possible pairs to be interchanged.

Choose the pair(s) of words that need(s) to be interchanged to make the sentence grammatically correct and meaningful.

38. The minister delivered a **inspired** (A) speech filled with **apprehensive** (B) that left the audience both **vigorous** (C) and **gratitude** (D) about the upcoming reforms.

- (A) Only B – D
- (B) Only A – C
- (C) Both A – B & C – D
- (D) Both A – C & B – D
- (E) No interchange required

39. The scientist's **hypothesis** (A) was supported by empirical **evidence** (B), but her **scepticism** (C) remained due to a lack of **conclusive** (D) data.

- (A) Only B – D
- (B) Only A – C
- (C) Both B – D & C – D
- (D) Only A – D
- (E) No interchange required

40. The government's new **access** (A) aims to **eradicate** (B) poverty by increasing **initiative** (C) to education and **allocate** (D) funds more efficiently.

- (A) A – C
- (B) B – D
- (C) C – D
- (D) A – B

(E) No interchange required

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

(41-44): What approximate value should come in the place of (?) in the following questions?

41. $1439 \div 16 \times 14.99 + \sqrt{228} = ?$

- (A) 1315
- (B) 1365
- (C) 1215
- (D) 1465
- (E) 1265

42. $(11.92)^2 + (16.01)^2 = ?^2 \times (3.85)^2$

- (A) 15
- (B) 2
- (C) 4
- (D) 55
- (E) 5

43. $(19.97\% \text{ of } 781) + ? + (30\% \text{ of } 87) = 252$

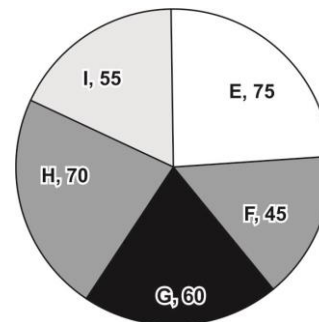
- (A) 40
- (B) 50
- (C) 25
- (D) 70
- (E) 80

44. $820.01 \div 21 \times 2.99 + ? = 240$

- (A) 105
- (B) 173
- (C) 123
- (D) 234
- (E) 143

(45-49): Read the following instructions carefully and answer the following questions.

The pie chart given below shows the number of the average number of total boxes sold by five shops: E, F, G, H, and I on two days i.e., Monday and Tuesday.



45. If $\frac{7}{15}$ th of the boxes sold in shop E are grapes boxes, and out of them 30% are green grapes boxes, then find the number of black grapes boxes sold in shop E. (Only green and black color grape boxes are sold in shop E)

- (A) 50
- (B) 49
- (C) 54
- (D) 45
- (E) 65

46. If the ratio of the number of boxes sold on Monday and Tuesday from shops H and I are 3:4 and 2:9, respectively, then find the approximate percentage of the number of boxes sold on Monday when compared to Tuesday.
- (A) 28.66% (B) 47.05%
(C) 38.46% (D) 35.26%
(E) 33.33%
47. Out of the total number of boxes sold on Monday and Tuesday from shops F and G, the number of boxes sold on Tuesday from G is x , and on Monday 300% of x , and from shop F on Monday is $(x+10)$, on Tuesday is $(x+20)$, then find the number of boxes sold on Monday from both shops.
- (A) 130 (B) 120
(C) 100 (D) 140
(E) 150
48. Out of the total number of boxes sold from shops H and I, only 40% and 60% of them were grapes boxes and rest are orange boxes, then find the number of orange boxes sold on Monday and Tuesday from both shops.
- (A) 112 (B) 100
(C) 145 (D) 136
(E) 128
49. In shop A, the number of boxes sold on Monday is equal to 50% of the total number of boxes sold from shop H on both days, and the difference between the number of boxes sold from E and I on both days is half of the boxes sold from A on Tuesday. Then find the ratio of boxes from Monday and Tuesday from shop A.
- (A) 4:5 (B) 3:7
(C) 7:9 (D) 7:8
(E) 11:7
50. A sum of money doubles itself at compound interest in 12 years. In how many years will it become 8 times?
- (A) 20 (B) 24 (C) 36 (D) 48
(E) 18
51. Ratio between the investment of A to C is 2:3, where B invest 25% more than that of A, time period which they invest is x , $(x+2)$, and $(x-6)$ months respectively. If the profit share of A is Rs.4800 and the total profit is Rs.14,100. Find the value of $2x$.
- (A) 17 (B) 16
(C) 12 (D) 14
(E) 19
52. Meena bought three varieties of wheat, she mixed 25 kg of wheat costing Rs.56 per kg, 10 kg of wheat costing Rs. x per kg and 45 kg of wheat costing Rs.48 per kg. If she makes a profit of 25% on selling the mixture for Rs.5450, then find the value of x ?
- (A) 72 (B) 54
(C) 36 (D) 80
(E) None of these
53. Average of the present age of the father, mother and son is 29 years and $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the age of the mother before 3 years is 4 years less than the present age of the son and the sum of the present ages of mother and son is 7 years more than the present age of father. Find the present age of father.
- (A) 38 years (B) 45 years
(C) 35 years (D) 40 years
(E) None of these
54. A shopkeeper sold a chain at x % discount on the marked price, which is equal to Rs. 42000. Find the value of x , if he gets neither gain nor loss and the selling price of the chain is Rs. 35700?
- (A) 20 (B) 15
(C) 18 (D) 12
(E) None of these
55. Two boats P and Q which is 136 km apart start moving from point A to B respectively. The speed of boat P is ' U ' km/hr and the speed of boat Q is ' $U+4$ ' km/hr and the speed of the current is ' s ' km/hr, if they cross each other in 4 hours, then find the time taken by boat P to cover 120 km in still water.
- (A) 10 hours (B) 8 hours
(C) 5 hours (D) 6 hours
(E) 7 hours
56. P, Q and R together can complete a work in $\frac{90}{11}$ days and Q is twice efficient than P and Q is 3 times efficient than R. Find the time taken by P and R together to complete the work.
- (A) 18 days (B) 15 days
(C) 30 days (D) 12 days
(E) None of these

57. Reetika melted some number of coins having diameter 4cm and 0.8 cm thick to form a right circular cylinder of height 32 cm and base diameter 12 cm. Find the number of coins melted by Reetika in this process.

- (A) 560 (B) 360 (C) 340 (D) 460
(E) 550

58. Ramesh covers 378 km in 'T' hour at the speed of 'Y' km/hr, whereas Ritesh covers the same distance in (T-4)hours at the speed of (Y+6) km/hr, then what is the time taken by Ritesh cover 108 km.

- (A) 2 hours (B) 4 hours (C) 3 hours (D) 5 hours
(E) 6 hours

59. The sum of the first number and second number is 23, and the square of the first number is 69 less than the square of the second number, what result will come if we add the square of the second number with the cube of the first number.

- (A) 1169 (B) 1230 (C) 1450 (D) 1569
(E) 1180

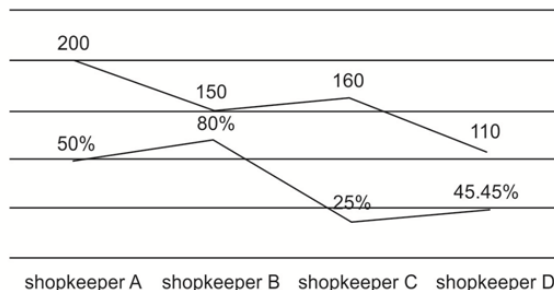
60. A jar contains 1000 litres of juice. 20% of the juice is taken out and replaced with water. If this process is repeated n more times, then the amount of juice left in the resultant mixture becomes 640 litres. Find the value of n.

- (A) 4 (B) 2 (C) 3 (D) 5
(E) 1

(61-65): Study the following information carefully and answer the following questions.

Given below line graph shows the total quantity (in kg) of fruits (Dry+Fresh) sold by four different shopkeepers namely A, B, C and D. It is also given that the percentage of dry fruits sold out of the total quantity (in kg) of fruits sold.

—Total quantity (in kg) of fruits sold —Percentage of dry fruits sold



Note:

i). Total quantity of fruits sold = Total quantity of dry fruits sold + Total quantity of fresh fruits sold

ii). Selling price of per kg of dry fruits and the selling price of per kg of fresh fruits sold by all the shopkeepers is the same.

61. Out of the total quantity fruits sold by B and C, 70% and 1/4th are apples respectively, and the remaining fruits are oranges and bananas. If the ratio between the total quantity of oranges and bananas sold by B and C is 2:1 and 3:1 respectively, then find the total quantity of bananas sold by B and C.

- (A) 90kg (B) 100kg
(C) 45kg (D) 55kg
(E) 35kg

62. 1/4th of the total quantity of dry fruits sold by C is what percent of the 50% of fresh fruits sold by A?

- (A) 20% (B) 25%
(C) 10% (D) 30%
(E) 50%

63. If the selling price of per kg of dry fruits is Rs.100 and the selling price of per kg of fresh fruits is Rs.120, then find the difference between the total selling price made by A and D after selling all the fruits.

- (A) Rs.7600 (B) Rs.8900
(C) Rs.9800 (D) Rs.6700
(E) Rs.8800

64. If the ratio between the quantity of dry fruits sold by B and E is 5:3, and the average quantity of fruits sold by B and E is 160kg. Find the 1/7th of the quantity of fresh fruits sold by E.

- (A) 16kg (B) 10kg
(C) 32kg (D) 22kg
(E) 14kg

65. Total quantity of fruits sold by K is 20% less than that of A, ratio between dry fruits to fresh fruits sold by K is 2:3, find the ratio between the quantity of dry fruits sold by B to K.

- (A) 15:8 (B) 11:5
(C) 3:5 (D) 1:7
(E) 8:15

(66-70): Study the following information carefully and answer the questions.

Different types of people bought cutlet and veg roll in four different shops namely P, Q, R, and S. The total number of cutlet and veg roll in shop Q is 580. The number of veg roll in shop P is 200 which is 20 more than that of Q. The number of cutlet in shop R is 20% less than the veg roll in shop P. The number of veg roll in S is 20% less than the number of cutlet in shop Q. The total number of veg roll in all shops is 1030. The number of veg roll in Q is twice that of cutlet in shop S and the total number of cutlet in shop P and S is 310.

66. Find the ratio of the number of veg rolls in shop R to the number of cutlet in shop P and R.

- (A) 33:38 (B) 38:31
(C) 41:49 (D) 11:19
(E) 23:29

67. The number chicken roll in shop P is 45% more than the number of cutlet in shop R. The ratio of the chicken roll in shop R and P is 3:8. Find the number of chicken roll in shop R.

- (A) 80 (B) 77 (C) 87 (D) 90
(E) 50

68. Find the difference between the total number of veg roll in shop P and S together and the number of cutlet in shop Q.

- (A) 100 (B) 120 (C) 180 (D) 220
(E) 200

69. In shop R, 30% of the veg roll is unsold, and the price of the veg roll is Rs. 50 per roll. Find the overall revenue generated.

- (A) Rs. 11550 (B) Rs. 12390
(C) Rs. 14500 (D) Rs. 10500
(E) Rs. 14000

70. The number of cutlet in shop R is what percentage more or less than the number of veg roll in shop P.

- (A) 25% (B) 20%
(C) 15% (D) 10%
(E) 34%

REASONING ABILITY

(71-75): Study the following information carefully and answer the given questions

Nine persons - H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O and P are showing three different emotions viz., Angry, Kind and Loyal. At least two persons but not more than four persons are showing the same emotion.

Both I and P are showing the same emotion but not showing angry. Both K and H are showing the same emotion but don't show the same emotion as I. K doesn't show loyal. M shows the same emotion as neither P nor H. Either J or L shows kind. J doesn't show the same emotion as M and H. The number of persons showing Kind is one more than the number of persons showing angry. Neither O nor N shows the same emotion as M. O doesn't show the same emotion as J.

71. Who among the following person shows angry?

- I). M
II). K
III). O
IV). L

- (A) Only I (B) Only I and IV
(C) Only II and III (D) Only III
(E) Only II

72. Which of the following statement is true as per the given arrangement?

- (A) Both M and L are showing different emotions
(B) Both K and J are showing the same emotion
(C) M shows angry
(D) I and N are showing the same emotion
(E) None is true

73. If K is related to O and N is related to I in a certain way. Then, who among the following person is related to L?

- (A) J (B) M
(C) P (D) O
(E) H

74. Who among the following pair of persons are showing the same emotions?

- (A) JO (B) IN
(C) HO (D) Both a and b
(E) Both b and c

75. Four of the following five are alike in a certain way based on the given arrangement and thus form a group. Which one of the following does not belong to the group?

- (A) L (B) P
(C) J (D) N
(E) I

(76-80): Study the following information carefully and answer the given questions.

Seven persons – L, M, N, O, P, Q and R are learning different languages on seven different days starting from Monday to Sunday of the same week. Each person likes different languages viz. French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Italian, Bengali and Hindi. Only one person learns each day.

R learns four days before the one who likes Italian. Only two persons learn between R and the one who likes French. P learns immediately before the one who learns French. The number of persons learning before P is three less than the number of persons learning after the one who likes Russian. The one who likes Arabic learns two days after O. As many persons learn after O as before the one who likes Spanish. Only three persons learn between L and the one who likes Hindi. N neither likes Arabic nor Spanish. Q learns one of the days after the one who likes Bengali but before M. Q doesn't learn on Thursday.

76. If L's friend Z learns another language on the immediately following day of L, then Z learns on ___ day and on the same day as___.

- (A) Sunday, R (B) Tuesday, N
(C) Wednesday, P (D) Friday, O
(E) Monday, Q

77. Who among the following person learns immediately after the one who likes French?

- (A) The one who likes Russian
(B) Q
(C) P
(D) The one who likes Italian
(E) M

78. Who among the following person doesn't learn after Thursday?

- A). The one who likes Bengali

B). L

C). The one who likes Hindi

- (A) Only A
(B) Only B and C
(C) Only A and B
(D) Only A and C
(E) All A, B and C

79. How many days between the days in which R and the one who likes Arabic learn the language?

- (A) Three (B) Two
(C) Four (D) One
(E) Five

80. Which of the following statements is/are true as per the given arrangement?

- (A) Q likes Italian
(B) The one who likes Arabic learns on Sunday
(C) P doesn't learn on Wednesday
(D) Both b and c
(E) Both a and b

(81-85): Study the following information carefully and answer the given questions

Eight persons - G, H, I, J, K, L, M and N are sitting around a square table in such a way that four of them are sitting at the corners while four of them are sitting in the middle of the sides and all of them are facing towards the centre. They like different zodiac such as Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio and Pisces.

G does not sit at the corner of the table and sits adjacent to the one who likes Virgo, who faces N. N sits second to the right of I, who sits immediate left of the one who likes Aries. G likes neither Pisces nor Taurus. Only three persons sit between I and K, who sits immediate left of the one who likes Scorpio. The one who likes Libra sits immediate right of the one who likes Pisces, who faces M. As many persons sit between H and J as between J and L. The one who likes Gemini faces the one who likes Leo. H neither likes Taurus nor sits adjacent to the one who likes Gemini.

81. As many persons sit between M and N as between H and ___.

- (A) K (B) G (C) N (D) I
(E) L

82. Who among the following person is not sitting at the corner of the table?

- (A) K
- (B) The one who likes Taurus
- (C) N
- (D) The one who likes Virgo
- (E) I

83. Who among the following person likes Taurus?

- (A) The one who faces J
- (B) M
- (C) The one who sits immediate left of I
- (D) I
- (E) H

84. M likes which of the following zodiac sign?

- (A) Virgo
- (B) Aries
- (C) Pisces
- (D) Libra
- (E) Scorpio

85. How many persons sit between N and G, when counted from the right of G?

- (A) No one
- (B) One
- (C) Two
- (D) Four
- (E) Three

(86-88): Study the following information carefully and answer the given questions

R is the granddaughter of A, who is married. E is the sister-in-law of M. S is the son-in-law of F. L is the only nephew of O. U is the only grandson of B, who doesn't have any siblings. M is the daughter-in-law of A. L doesn't have any children. B is the father-in-law of M. F is neither married to A nor M.

86. How many male members are in the family?

- (A) Three
- (B) Two
- (C) Four
- (D) Five
- (E) Cannot be determined

87. If O is the maternal uncle of L, then how is O related to B?

- (A) Sister
- (B) Brother
- (C) Sister-in-law
- (D) Brother-in-law
- (E) Father

88. In which of the following options the first persons is the father-in-law of the second person?

- (A) E B
- (B) A L
- (C) B F
- (D) O U
- (E) R L

(89-93): Study the following information carefully and answer the given questions

Eight persons - A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H are having the inspection on two different dates either 7 or 22 of four different months viz., January, April, June and August of the same year. Only one person has the inspection on each date and only two persons have the inspection in each month.

C has the inspection on an even numbered date of the month having only 30 days. Only two persons have the inspection between C and G. H has the inspection three persons before D. D has the inspection on an even even numbered date. A has the inspection two months before H. As many persons have the inspection between G and A as between C and F. B has the inspection before E, who does not have the inspection on an odd numbered date.

89. Which of the following month and date does F has the inspection?

- (A) August 22
- (B) August 7
- (C) April 7
- (D) April 22
- (E) January 22

90. Four of the following five are alike in a certain way based on the given arrangement and thus form a group. Which one of the following doesn't belong to the group?

- (A) BD
- (B) EA
- (C) GH
- (D) AC
- (E) HF

91. How many persons have the inspection before H?

- (A) One
- (B) Five
- (C) Two
- (D) Four
- (E) Three

92. Who among the following person has the inspection on April 7?

- (A) The one who has the inspection immediately after E
- (B) D
- (C) B
- (D) F
- (E) The one who has the inspection two persons before A

93. As many persons have the inspection before G as after ____

- (A) B (B) C
(C) D (D) E
(E) A

(94-98): Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below.

Fourteen persons are sitting in two parallel rows facing towards each other such that P, Q, R, S, T, U and V are sitting in row 1 facing towards North while E, F, G, H, I, J and K are sitting in row 2 facing towards South, but not necessarily in the same order.

T sits third to the right of S where neither of them sits at the ends. The one who faces T sits second to the left of G. Only one person sits between G and H. The one who faces H sits second to the left of R. Only two persons sit between P and R where P does not sit at the extreme left end of the row. K sits immediate right of I. Only two persons sit between I and E. The one who sits immediate left of F faces the one who sits immediate right of Q. U is not an immediate neighbor of R. J doesn't sit at any of the ends.

94. Who among the following person faces the one who sits immediate right of U?

- (A) H
(B) The one who sits fifth to the left of F
(C) G
(D) The one who sits third to the right of I
(E) J

95. Who among the following persons sit at the extreme ends of the row?

- (A) I and S (B) H and P
(C) F and R (D) K and Q
(E) J and R

96. How many persons sit to the right of H?

- (A) No one
(B) As many persons sit between V and Q
(C) As many persons sit between R and U
(D) As many persons sit between K and E
(E) None of these

97. Four of the following five are alike in a certain way as per the given arrangement and hence form a group. Find the one who does not belong to that group.

- (A) R and I (B) S and J
(C) F and Q (D) G and U
(E) P and H

98. If F is related to S and K is related to R in a certain way, then who among the following person is related to P?

- (A) The one who sits opposite to T
(B) K
(C) The one who sits adjacent to F
(D) E
(E) The one who sits second to the right of H

99. How many such pairs of letters are there in the word "CERTIFICATE" (both forward and backward directions) each of which has as many letters between them in the word as in the English alphabetical series?

- (A) One (B) Two
(C) Three (D) More than three
(E) None

100. If in the number "978321457683", all the prime digits are increased by one and the remaining digits are decreased by one, then what is the sum of the all the digits which are repeated more than once in the new arrangement(also consider repeating digits)?











- (A) 32 (B) 48
(C) 28 (D) 52
(E) 24

ANSWER KEY

1. (D)	2. (B)	3. (B)	4. (A)	5. (E)	6. (C)	7. (D)	8. (E)	9. (D)	10. (A)
11. (A)	12. (A)	13. (C)	14. (A)	15. (C)	16. (C)	17. (D)	18. (D)	19. (C)	20. (B)
21. (C)	22. (D)	23. (B)	24. (C)	25. (E)	26. (E)	27. (B)	28. (C)	29. (C)	30. (B)
31. (B)	32. (B)	33. (C)	34. (D)	35. (C)	36. (C)	37. (C)	38. (A)	39. (E)	40. (A)
41. (B)	42. (E)	43. (D)	44. (C)	45. (B)	46. (B)	47. (A)	48. (E)	49. (D)	50. (C)
51. (B)	52. (D)	53. (D)	54. (B)	55. (B)	56. (A)	57. (B)	58. (B)	59. (A)	60. (E)
61. (C)	62. (A)	63. (C)	64. (E)	65. (A)	66. (A)	67. (C)	68. (B)	69. (A)	70. (B)
71. (C)	72. (D)	73. (B)	74. (E)	75. (A)	76. (C)	77. (D)	78. (C)	79. (E)	80. (B)
81. (E)	82. (B)	83. (C)	84. (A)	85. (D)	86. (E)	87. (D)	88. (C)	89. (B)	90. (A)
91. (D)	92. (A)	93. (B)	94. (D)	95. (C)	96. (B)	97. (E)	98. (E)	99. (B)	100. (D)

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