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English



Top Stories of The Day

- *Lok Sabha Passes IBC Amendment Bill 2025 to Strengthen Insolvency Resolution*
- *India Becomes Global Leader in IRCC Issuance Under Nagoya Protocol*
- *Sheetal Devi Named Para Archer of the Year 2025*
- *Former Suriname President Chandrikapersad Santokhi Passes Away at 67*
- *India's GDP Growth Projected at 6.5% in FY27 Amid Rising Crude Oil Prices*
- *Government Launches LEAF Initiative to Boost EV Charging Ecosystem*
- *Indian Air Force to Equip MiG-29 Jets with ASRAAM Missiles*
- *India Hosts Indian Ocean Naval Symposium Maritime Exercise in Kochi*
- *AI Tokens Emerge as Key Driver of Global AI Cost Competition*
- *India–Iran–Pakistan (IPI) Pipeline Project Fails Due to Security and Geopolitical Challenges*
- *Shipping 'Liberties Clause' Gains Importance Amid Global Maritime Risks*
- *Women's Reservation Bill Implementation Delayed Due to Census-Linked Formula*
- *Artemis II to Be First Crewed Lunar Mission Since 1972*
- *DGCA Signs MoU with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya to Strengthen Aviation Skill Development*

Lok Sabha passes Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2025



- The Lok Sabha passed the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2025 to address persistent challenges such as procedural delays and interpretational ambiguities in India's insolvency resolution framework. The Bill amends the existing Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, which is a key legislation governing corporate insolvency in India.

Key Provisions of the Amendment

- The amendment introduces a set of reforms aimed at improving efficiency and transparency in the insolvency process. It includes 12 amendments, most of which were recommended by a parliamentary Select Committee. Key provisions include the introduction of a creditor-initiated insolvency process and a structured out-of-court resolution mechanism with defined timelines. The Bill also proposes a group insolvency framework and a cross-border insolvency mechanism, aligning India with global practices. Additionally, the Committee of Creditors (CoC) is now required to record reasons for selecting resolution applicants, thereby enhancing accountability. Penalties ranging from ₹1 lakh to ₹2 crore have been introduced to deter frivolous or malicious applications.

Government's Perspective

- While presenting the Bill, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman emphasized that the IBC is not merely a debt recovery mechanism but a tool to revive stressed businesses and preserve economic value. The government highlighted the need to reduce litigation-induced delays and ensure faster resolution of insolvency cases.

Background of IBC

- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 was enacted to consolidate various insolvency laws and provide a time-bound resolution process, ideally within 180 days (extendable up to 330 days including litigation). It follows a creditor-in-control model and is implemented through institutions such as the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India and adjudicated by the National Company Law Tribunal.

Significance

- The amendment is expected to strengthen India's financial ecosystem by ensuring quicker resolution of stressed assets and improving recovery rates for creditors. It will enhance investor confidence and contribute to India's ranking in Ease of Doing Business. By introducing modern frameworks like cross-border insolvency, the reform aligns India's insolvency regime with international best practices.

Additional Key Facts

- IBC has helped recover over 50% of bad loans in some cases
- Total recoveries under IBC since 2016:
- Over ₹4 lakh crore

Regulatory bodies involved:

- Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)
- National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)
- Time limit for resolution:
- Maximum 330 days (including litigation)

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India Emerges Global Leader in Issuing IRCCs under Nagoya Protocol

Internationally Recognized Certificates of Compliance (IRCC)

(DATA AS PER NAGOYA PROTOCOL ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING CLEARING HOUSE)



Why in News

- India has emerged as the global leader in issuing Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance (IRCCs) under the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS).

Key Highlights

- India has issued 3,561 IRCCs out of 6,311 globally, accounting for over 56% share.
- Only 34 out of 142 countries registered on the ABS Clearing-House have issued IRCCs.
- India is followed by:
 - France (964)
 - Spain
 - Argentina
 - Panama
 - Kenya

What are IRCCs?

- IRCCs are official certificates issued under the Nagoya Protocol.
- They confirm:
 - Prior Informed Consent (PIC) has been obtained
 - Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT) are established

They ensure:

- Transparency
- Legal access to genetic resources
- Fair sharing of benefits

Nagoya Protocol – Key Facts

- Adopted in 2010 at Nagoya (Japan)
- Came into force in 2014
- Supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Objective:

- Fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources
- Promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use
- India's Institutional Framework (ABS Mechanism)

India's strong performance is due to effective implementation under:

- Biological Diversity Act, 2002
- Three-tier structure:
 - National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
 - State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs)
 - Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs)

Additional Facts:

- Over 2.76 lakh BMCs established for grassroots participation
- India issued the world's first IRCC in 2015
- Significance of India's Achievement
- Shows global leadership in biodiversity governance
- Strengthens compliance and transparency mechanisms
- Ensures benefit sharing with local communities
- Supports traditional knowledge protection
- Enhances India's role in international environmental agreements

Sheetal Devi Named 'Para Archer of the Year 2025

- India's para archer Sheetal Devi has been honoured with the 'Para Archer of the Year 2025' award by World Archery.

Key Highlights

- Sheetal Devi is a 19-year-old para archer from Jammu & Kashmir.
- She became the first and only female armless archer to win a gold medal at the World Para Archery Championships.
- She won gold in the women's compound individual event held in Gwangju, South Korea (2025).
- The award recognizes her outstanding performance and breakthrough season.

Sheetal Devi named 'Para Archer of the Year' by World Archery

**Major Achievements of Sheetal Devi**

- Gold medal – World Para Archery Championships 2025
- Bronze medal – Paris Paralympics 2024 (Mixed Team Event)
- Silver medals – Asian Para Games 2022 & Asian Championships 2023
- Completed a full set of medals (Gold, Silver, Bronze) at World Championships

Unique Features:

- Born with phocomelia (absence of arms)
- Uses feet, legs, and shoulder to shoot arrows
- Considered world's first female armless champion in archery

About World Archery:

- Formation: 4 September 1931
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- President: Greg Easton
- Organizes:
- World Archery Championships

- Olympic archery events

Additional Key Facts:

- Sheetal Devi is an Arjuna Award (2023) recipient
- She was previously awarded Best Women Para Archer (2023) by World Archery
- One of the youngest Indian Paralympic medalists
- Her journey is supported by initiatives like Indian Army's Rashtriya Rifles (Operation Sadbhavana)

Former Suriname President Chandrikapersad Santokhi Passes Away



- Former President of Suriname, Chandrikapersad Santokhi, passed away on 30 March 2026 at the age of 67.

Key Highlights

- PM Modi described Santokhi's death as an "irreparable loss" to both Suriname and the global Indian diaspora.
- He recalled Santokhi's role in strengthening India-Suriname relations and his deep affinity for Indian culture.
- Santokhi notably took oath in Sanskrit, reflecting his cultural connection with India.
- He served as the 9th President of Suriname (2020-2025).

About Chandrikapersad Santokhi

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- Born in 1959 in Lelydorp, Suriname
- Served as:
- President (2020–2025)
- Minister of Justice & Police (2005–2010)
- Police Commissioner
- Leader of the Progressive Reform Party
- Known by the nickname “Sheriff” for his strict law enforcement role

Major Contributions

- Led investigation into the 1982 “December killings” case and contributed to conviction of former President Dési Bouterse.
- Played a key role in economic reforms with IMF support during his presidency.
- Worked towards strengthening regional cooperation, including as Chairman of CARICOM (2022).

India–Suriname Relations

- Suriname has a significant Indian-origin population (Indian diaspora).
- Diplomatic relations established in 1976 (after Suriname’s independence in 1975).
- President Droupadi Murmu visited Suriname in 2023 marking 150 years of Indian arrival.
- Santokhi was awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman (2023).

India’s Economy Likely to Grow at 6.5% in FY27 Despite High Crude Prices



- According to a report by ICRA, India’s GDP growth is projected to moderate to 6.5% in

FY2026–27 (FY27) due to rising crude oil prices and global uncertainties.

Key Highlights

- India’s GDP growth expected at 6.5% in FY27, down from around 7.5–7.6% in FY26.
- The slowdown is mainly due to:
- High crude oil prices
- Energy supply concerns amid West Asia conflict
- Assumption: Average crude oil price around \$85 per barrel in FY27.
- Macroeconomic Concerns

Current Account Deficit (CAD) likely to widen:

- From ~1% (FY26) to 1.7% of GDP (FY27)
- Inflation risks expected to rise due to:
- Global energy supply disruptions
- Imported inflation (oil dependence)
- Consumer sentiment may weaken due to uncertainty and rising prices.

Monetary Policy Outlook

- Reserve Bank of India likely to:
- Pause policy rate changes for an extended period
- Continue liquidity management measures

Decision influenced by:

- Rising inflation risks
- Moderating growth
- Factors Supporting Growth (Positive Side)
- Despite challenges, some factors may sustain growth:

Strong domestic consumption

- Government capital expenditure push (infrastructure focus)
- Lower GST rates & policy support
- Stable agricultural performance

Why Crude Oil Matters for India?

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- India imports 85–90% of its crude oil requirement
- Higher oil prices lead to:
- Increased import bill
- Higher inflation
- Pressure on rupee & fiscal deficit

Additional Key Facts

- Every \$10 rise in crude oil prices can increase CAD by 30–40 basis points.
- Growth may fall further to ~6% if crude reaches extremely high levels (~\$130/barrel).
- India remains among the fastest-growing major economies globally despite moderation.

Government Launches LEAF to Strengthen EV Charging Ecosystem



Why in News?

- The Government of India has launched the Light Electric-Vehicle Acceleration Forum (LEAF) to accelerate the development of a robust and standardized electric vehicle (EV) charging ecosystem, particularly for light electric vehicles such as two-wheelers and three-wheelers.

About LEAF Initiative

- The LEAF initiative has been launched under the leadership of H. D. Kumaraswamy. It is an industry-led consortium that brings together key stakeholders including vehicle manufacturers, charging infrastructure providers, and technology companies. The primary aim is to create a collaborative platform to address

challenges in EV charging and ensure seamless growth of electric mobility in India.

Objectives and Key Features

- LEAF focuses on building an interoperable and efficient EV charging network across the country. It aims to improve charging reliability, accessibility, and user experience, thereby reducing range anxiety among users. A major technical aspect of the initiative is the promotion of the Light Electric Combined Charging System (LECCS), which allows both AC and DC charging using a standardized connector, ensuring compatibility across different EV models and charging stations.

Need for the Initiative

- India's EV ecosystem has been facing issues such as lack of standardization, fragmented infrastructure, and inconsistent charging experience. Since electric two-wheelers and three-wheelers form the largest share of EV adoption in India, a focused approach like LEAF is essential to streamline infrastructure and boost consumer confidence.

Government Support and Related Initiatives

- The LEAF initiative complements existing government efforts such as the FAME-II scheme (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles), which provides subsidies and incentives to promote EV adoption. It also aligns with India's broader commitments like achieving net-zero emissions by 2070 and reducing dependence on fossil fuel imports.

IAF's MiG-29 Fighter Jets to be Equipped with ASRAAM Missiles

Why in News?

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to equip its MiG-29 fighter jets with the advanced ASRAAM to enhance its close-combat air capabilities.



Key Highlights

- The integration of ASRAAM missiles will significantly improve the air-to-air combat capability of MiG-29 aircraft.
- The upgrade focuses on enhancing short-range combat effectiveness in modern warfare scenarios.
- It is part of India's broader efforts to modernise its ageing fighter fleet.

About ASRAAM Missile

- Full form: Advanced Short Range Air-to-Air Missile (ASRAAM)
- Developed by: MBDA
- Type: Infrared-guided, short-range air-to-air missile
- Range: Approximately 25 km+

Features:

- High speed (supersonic)
- "Fire-and-forget" capability
- Advanced imaging infrared seeker for high accuracy targeting

About MiG-29 Fighter Aircraft

- Origin: Developed by Mikoyan (Russia)
- Role: Air superiority fighter
- Inducted into IAF: 1980s
- Known for:
 - High manoeuvrability
 - Twin-engine design
 - Capability to operate in diverse combat conditions

Need for the Upgrade

- Changing nature of aerial warfare requires:
 - Faster reaction times
 - High-precision weapons
- Existing missile systems on MiG-29 are relatively outdated
- Enhances India's preparedness against regional security threats

Additional Key Facts:

- ASRAAM is already integrated with:
 - SEPECAT Jaguar (IAF fleet)
- India is also upgrading its air fleet with:
 - Rafale jets equipped with Meteor and SCALP missiles
- India focuses on Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence, but also uses strategic imports for advanced tech
- IAF operates under the Ministry of Defence, Government of India

India Hosts IONS Maritime Exercise in Kochi



- India recently hosted a key maritime exercise under the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) at the Maritime Warfare Centre, Southern Naval Command in Kochi, highlighting its growing role in maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

About the Exercise (IMEX TTX 2026)

- The exercise, known as the IONS Maritime Exercise (IMEX) Table-Top Exercise (TTX) 2026, was conducted by the Indian Navy. It is a simulated multinational exercise aimed at discussing and addressing evolving maritime

security challenges without actual deployment of forces.

- It brought together delegates and naval representatives from multiple IONS member countries, enhancing coordination and cooperation among participating navies.

Objectives of the Exercise

- The primary objective of the exercise was to address non-traditional maritime security threats in the Indian Ocean Region, such as:

Piracy

- Maritime terrorism
- Human trafficking
- Illegal fishing
- Disaster response and humanitarian assistance
- The exercise also focused on improving information sharing, interoperability, and coordinated response mechanisms among navies.

About Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)

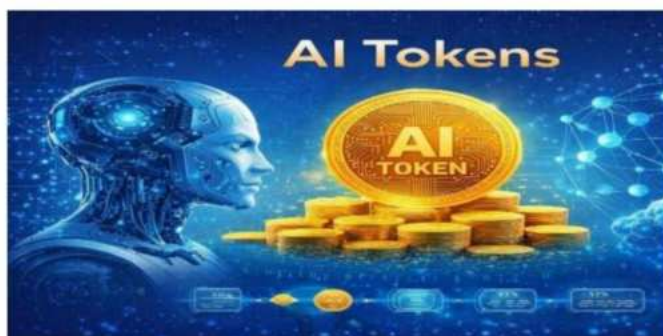
- Launched in 2008 by India
- A voluntary initiative for maritime cooperation among Indian Ocean littoral states
- Comprises 25 member nations grouped into sub-regions
- Aims to enhance:
 - Maritime security cooperation
 - Mutual trust and understanding
 - Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR)

Additional Key Facts

- India has assumed IONS Chairmanship for 2026–2028, after a gap of 16 years.
- The exercise aligns with India's maritime vision of SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region).
- The Indian Ocean Region is strategically important as it carries:
 - A major share of global trade

- Critical energy supply routes (Sea Lines of Communication – SLOCs)

AI Tokens Explained: Cost Driving Global Competition



What are AI tokens?

- AI tokens = smallest units of data that an AI reads and writes.
- They can be:
 - Words
 - Parts of words
 - Characters or code
- Example:
 - Sentence → “AI is powerful”
 - Tokens → “AI” | “is” | “powerful”
- Key idea:
 - AI does not understand full sentences directly — it works using tokens.

Why tokens are important

- Tokens are not just technical, they are also economic units.
- AI companies charge users based on number of tokens used.
- So:
 - More input (prompt) = more tokens
 - More output (response) = more tokens
 - → More cost

Conclusion:

- Tokens act like a “currency of AI”.

How AI pricing works

- AI services (like chatbots, APIs) are priced as:
- Cost per 1,000 or 1 million tokens
- This makes:
- Every question measurable
- Every response billable

Analogy:

- Electricity → units
- Internet → data usage
- AI → tokens

Why tokens matter in global competition

- Earlier competition = who has the best AI model
- Now competition = who provides cheapest tokens
- Because:
- AI usage is increasing rapidly
- Businesses use AI at large scale (agents, automation, coding)
- So:
- Lower token cost = more users + more adoption

Why China is winning the pricing race

Much cheaper token pricing

- Chinese AI models are:
- 10–20 times cheaper than US models in some cases

Efficient technology

- Use advanced architectures like:
- “Mixture-of-Experts”
- These reduce computing cost

Lower infrastructure cost

- Cheaper:
- Electricity
- Data centers
- Strong government support

Forced innovation

- Due to US restrictions on chips:
- China focused on efficiency instead of brute power

Rise of AI agents increases token demand

- New trend: AI agents (autonomous systems)
- They:
- Perform multi-step tasks
- Run continuously

Result:

- Massive increase in token consumption
- Cost becomes even more critical

China’s strategic advantage

- China is focusing on:
- High-volume usage
- Low-cost AI access
- This helps:
- Developers
- Startups
- Global adoption
- Chinese models are now:
- Leading in token usage globally

Big shift in AI industry

- Earlier:
- Quality and performance mattered most
- Now:
- Cost efficiency (per token) is becoming key
- → The race is shifting from:
- “Best AI” → “Most affordable AI”

Final takeaway

- AI tokens are the basic unit of AI usage and pricing, and China is gaining global advantage by making these tokens much cheaper.

India–Iran–Pakistan Pipeline (IPI): Why It Failed



Background (What was the project?)

- The Iran–Pakistan–India (IPI) pipeline was a proposed gas pipeline from Iran → Pakistan → India.
- Length: about 2,700+ km
- Aim:
- Supply cheap natural gas to India and Pakistan
- Reduce dependence on expensive LNG imports
- It was also called the “Peace Pipeline” because it could improve regional cooperation.

Why India was interested

- India needed:
- Cheap and steady energy supply
- Diversification from West Asia imports
- Pipeline could supply large volumes of gas daily for industries and power sector.

Why the project collapsed (Key Reasons)

Security concerns (Major reason)

- Pipeline had to pass through Pakistan (especially Balochistan)
- Issues:
- Terrorism
- Political instability
- India feared supply disruption or sabotage

India–Pakistan tensions

- Relations were not stable (e.g., Kargil conflict)
- Lack of trust made long-term cooperation risky

US pressure and sanctions on Iran

- US opposed the project due to Iran’s nuclear program
- Risk:
- Sanctions on countries investing in Iran
- This discouraged India from continuing the project

Pricing disputes

- India and Iran could not agree on:
- Gas pricing
- Transit fees via Pakistan
- This made the project economically uncertain

Strategic shift by India

- India later moved towards:
- TAPI pipeline (Turkmenistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan–India)
- Reason:
- More international support
- Less political risk compared to Iran

What is TAPI pipeline? (Alternative)

- Route: Turkmenistan → Afghanistan → Pakistan → India
- Goal:
- Bring gas from Central Asia
- However:
- Still facing delays due to security issues in Afghanistan

Current relevance (Why in news?)

- Ongoing West Asia crisis has:
- Highlighted India’s heavy dependence on imported energy
- Revived debate: Whether India should have continued with IPI

Final takeaway

- IPI pipeline failed mainly due to security risks, geopolitical tensions, US sanctions, and pricing disputes, leading India to shift towards alternative energy routes like TAPI.

Shipping “Liberties Clause”: Explained



What is the Liberties (Deviation) Clause?

- It is a rule in shipping contracts (bill of lading).
- It allows shipping companies to:
 - Change route
 - Delay journey
 - Deliver cargo at a different port
- Key idea: If the original route becomes unsafe or impractical, ships are legally allowed to deviate.

Where does this rule come from?

- It dates back to the 19th century
- At that time:
 - Ships faced piracy, war, and bad weather
 - So captains needed flexibility without breaking contracts

Why is this rule in news now?

- Due to the Iran war and tensions near the Strait of Hormuz
- Problems:
 - Attacks on ships
 - Military threats
 - Insurance risks
- As a result:
 - Shipping routes have become dangerous and uncertain

How does the clause work in practice?

- When invoked, shipping companies can:
 - Change route

- Avoid risky areas like war zones
- Delay shipment
- Wait until conditions improve
- Deliver at another port
- Instead of original destination
- This is considered legal fulfilment of contract

What happens to the cargo then?

- Once cargo is unloaded at a different port:
 - Responsibility shifts to the cargo owner (importer)
 - They must arrange:
 - Transport to final destination
 - Storage and handling
 - Customs clearance
 - Important: These costs were not included in the original price

What is the impact on businesses?

- Increased costs (extra logistics, storage)
- Delivery delays
- Supply chain disruptions
- In some cases:
 - Costs rise significantly per container

Why companies are using it more now?

- War risk in Gulf region
- Insurance becoming expensive or unavailable
- Routes like Hormuz becoming unsafe
- So: Companies use this clause to reduce risk and liability

Bigger global impact

- About 90% of global trade moves by sea
- So disruptions:
 - Affect global prices
 - Delay goods worldwide
 - Create supply chain instability

Final takeaway

- The liberties clause lets shipping firms legally change routes or ports during crises, shifting

extra costs and risks from companies to cargo owners.

Women's Reservation Bill: Govt Formula Explained



What is the Women's Reservation Bill?

- It is a law to reserve 33% seats for women in:
- Lok Sabha
- State Assemblies
- Aim:
- Increase women's participation in politics
- Improve gender equality in decision-making

Key issue: Why is it not implemented yet?

- The law has a special condition (govt formula):
- Reservation will start only after:

Next Census

- Then Delimitation (redrawing of constituencies)
- This creates a delay in implementation.

What is Delimitation? (Simple meaning)

- Delimitation = Redrawing boundaries of constituencies
- Done after census to reflect population changes

Why linked to the bill?

- Govt says it ensures:
- Fair distribution of reserved seats
- Increase in total seats if needed

Govt's "Formula" (Core idea)

- The government's approach is:
- First Census → Then Delimitation → Then Women's Reservation
- This ensures:
- Updated population data
- Proper seat allocation
- But it also means:
- Implementation is delayed by years

When will it likely be implemented?

- Census expected after 2026
- Then delimitation exercise
- So:
- Reservation may start around 2029 or later

Why is this formula controversial?

Delay concern

- Critics say:
- Govt is delaying implementation indirectly

No fixed timeline

- Census and delimitation dates are uncertain

Political concerns

- Delimitation may:
- Change seat distribution among states
- Affect political balance

Govt's justification

- Govt argues:
- Linking with delimitation ensures fair and scientific allocation
- More seats can be created → benefiting both men and women

New development (Important)

- Govt is now exploring:
- Delinking reservation from delimitation
- Possible idea:
- Temporary system (like lottery) to implement quota earlier

Other key features of the Bill

- 33% reservation includes SC/ST women
- Seats will rotate after each delimitation
- Reservation will last 15 years (can be extended)

Final takeaway

- The Women's Reservation Bill is delayed because the government has linked it to census and delimitation, though efforts are now being made to implement it earlier.

NASA Artemis II Mission: Explained



What is Artemis II?

- Artemis II is a mission by NASA to send humans around the Moon.
- It will be:
 - First crewed Moon mission since 1972
 - First human mission of the Artemis program
- Important:
 - It will NOT land on the Moon
 - It is a test mission for future landings

Main Objective

- To test:
 - Spacecraft systems
 - Life-support systems
 - Navigation and communication
- Goal:
 - Prepare for future missions like Moon landing (Artemis III) and Mars missions

Key Components

- Rocket
- Space Launch System (SLS)

- Most powerful rocket built by NASA
- Spacecraft
- Orion capsule
- Carries astronauts and brings them back safely

Crew

- Total 4 astronauts
- Includes:
 - NASA astronauts
 - One Canadian astronaut
- This shows international cooperation in space missions

Duration of Mission

- Around 10 days total journey

Step-by-Step Mission (How it will unfold)

- Step 1: Launch
 - Rocket launches from Kennedy Space Center (USA)
 - Orion enters Earth orbit
- Step 2: Earth Orbit Testing
 - Astronauts:
 - Check life-support systems
 - Test equipment
- Step 3: Travel to the Moon
 - A powerful burn (Trans-Lunar Injection) sends spacecraft toward Moon
- Step 4: Moon Flyby
 - Spacecraft:
 - Goes around the Moon
 - Travels to the far side
 - Uses Moon's gravity to return (called free-return trajectory)
- Step 5: Return Journey
 - Astronauts:
 - Perform experiments
 - Test systems in deep space
- Step 6: Re-entry and Splashdown
 - Capsule re-enters Earth at very high speed
 - Lands in Pacific Ocean
 - Recovered by rescue teams

Why this mission is important

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- First human mission beyond Earth orbit in decades
- Tests technology needed for:
 - Moon landing
 - Long-term Moon base
 - Future Mars missions
- Builds confidence for next missions

How it is different from Apollo missions

- Apollo:
 - Short-term Moon visits
 - Artemis:
 - Focus on long-term presence on Moon
 - Better technology and deeper space travel

Final takeaway

- Artemis II is a 10-day crewed Moon flyby mission to test systems and prepare for future human landing and deep-space exploration.

DGCA & Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya sign MoU to train youth in aviation sector (2026)



- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) to train youth in various domains of the aviation sector, aiming to build a skilled workforce for future aviation needs.

Focus areas of training:

- Aviation Engineering
- Aviation Management

Objective: Develop industry-ready professionals for the aviation sector

- Government Vision
- Supports India's push towards:
 - Aviation manufacturing ecosystem
 - Skilled manpower development

DGCA:

- Regulatory authority under Ministry of Civil Aviation
- Responsible for: Safety regulation, Licensing, Airworthiness standards
- Minister of Civil Aviation: Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu
- Director General: Faiz Ahmed Kidwai

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV):

- Located in Vadodara, Gujarat
- India's first university focused on: Transport, Logistics, Aviation
- Established: 2022
- Chancellor: Union Minister of Railways

Additional Key Facts:

- India is one of the fastest-growing aviation markets globally
- Government initiatives:
 - UDAN Scheme – regional connectivity
- India aims to become:
 - Global MRO hub
- GSV established under:
 - Central Universities Act (Amendment), 2022
- Aviation sector contributes significantly to:
 - GDP, tourism, and logistics growth

Lets Revise

- ❖ How many amendments are included in the IBC Amendment Bill, 2025? **12 amendments**
- ❖ Which country leads globally in issuing IRCCs under the Nagoya Protocol? **India**
- ❖ Who won the Para Archer of the Year 2025 award? **Sheetal Devi**
- ❖ Chandrikapersad Santokhi, who passed away recently, served as President of Suriname during which period? **2020–2025**
- ❖ Which agency projected India's GDP growth at 6.5% for FY27? **ICRA**
- ❖ LEAF, recently launched by Government of India, focuses on which category of vehicles? **Electric two-wheelers and three-wheelers**
- ❖ Which aircraft of IAF will be equipped with ASRAAM missiles? **MiG-29**
- ❖ Where was the IONS Maritime Exercise (IMEX TTX 2026) hosted? **Kochi**
- ❖ What are AI tokens? **The smallest units of text (words/parts/characters) that AI models process.**
- ❖ What is the standard pricing model in AI services? **Cost per 1,000 or 1 million tokens.**
- ❖ What is another name of the IPI pipeline? **The "Peace Pipeline".**
- ❖ What was the main objective of the IPI project? **To supply natural gas from Iran to India and Pakistan at affordable cost.**
- ❖ What is the Liberties Clause in shipping? **A contract provision allowing ships to change route, delay, or alter destination in emergencies.**

- ❖ In which document is the Liberties Clause usually found? **The bill of lading (shipping contract).**
- ❖ What is another name for the Liberties Clause? **Deviation Clause.**
- ❖ Why was the Liberties Clause originally introduced? **To provide flexibility to ships facing risks like war, piracy, and bad weather.**
- ❖ What is the main objective of the Women's Reservation Bill? **To reserve 33% seats for women in Parliament and State Assemblies.**
- ❖ What is the government's formula for implementation of Women's Reservation Bill? **Census → Delimitation → Reservation.**
- ❖ What is Artemis II? **A crewed Moon flyby mission by NASA under the Artemis programme.**
- ❖ What is the main objective of Artemis II? **To test spacecraft systems and human survival in deep space.**
- ❖ Name any two areas in which youth will be trained under the DGCA–Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya MoU? **Aviation Engineering and Aviation Management.**

Current affairs form the dynamic backbone of preparation for competitive examinations such as UPSC, SSC, and banking services. They bridge the gap between theoretical concepts and real-world developments, transforming static knowledge into practical understanding. In an age marked by rapid geopolitical changes, economic reforms, and policy innovations, a significant portion of these exams—often 30–35%—draws directly or indirectly from recent events.

Mastery of current affairs not only enhances scores but also cultivates analytical thinking, clarity of perspective, and decision-making skills—qualities indispensable for future administrators and professionals.


Key Dimensions of Importance

- **Syllabus Integration:** Current events seamlessly connect with core subjects like polity, economy, history, and geography. For instance, understanding constitutional provisions becomes more meaningful when linked to recent judicial reforms or landmark judgments.
- **Scoring Edge:** Many questions in prelims and mains are derived from contemporary developments. A well-prepared aspirant can secure quick and confident marks through accurate knowledge of high-yield topics from reliable news sources.
- **Interview Excellence:** In personality tests and interviews, panels evaluate awareness of pressing national and global issues—ranging from climate diplomacy to economic policy—requiring thoughtful, balanced responses.

As many toppers emphasize, current affairs are not a separate subject but the soul of exam preparation. Consistent engagement with credible sources like The Hindu, PIB releases, and Yojana magazine strengthens critical thinking and nurtures a well-rounded outlook, moving beyond rote memorization.

In a competitive landscape where millions aspire for limited opportunities, current affairs serve as a decisive differentiator. Adopting structured habits—daily news analysis, monthly revisions, and regular mock tests—empowers candidates to adapt confidently to evolving exam patterns. Ignoring this essential component is like navigating uncertain waters without direction—while mastering it ensures clarity, confidence, and a competitive advantage.

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