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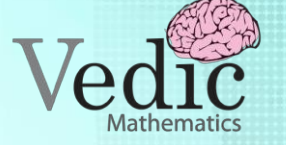
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National News

Major National News in India on September 19, 2025

Supreme Court's Stance on Secularism: The Supreme Court dismissed a petition seeking to prevent a "Muslim" Booker Prize winner, Banu Mushtaq, from inaugurating the Mysuru Dasara festivities. The court's bench reminded the petitioner about the Preamble of the Indian Constitution, which enshrines secularism and liberty of thought.

H-1B Visa Fee Hike and Impact on Indian Professionals: Following the U.S. proclamation of a \$100,000 annual fee for H-1B visas, the Indian government and industry bodies expressed concerns. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) noted that it would have a significant impact on Indian professionals and technology companies, and the government is examining the implications.

Two Assam Rifles Personnel Killed in Manipur: Two Assam Rifles jawans were killed and five others were injured in an ambush by suspected insurgents in the Nambol area of Manipur. The banned Peoples Liberation Army (PLA) is suspected to be behind the attack.

India and U.S. to Intensify Trade Deal Efforts: Officials from India and the United States met to discuss a trade agreement. The MEA stated that both countries have decided to "intensify efforts" to reach an early and mutually beneficial conclusion to the ongoing negotiations.

GST Reforms and Economic Impact: Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman stated that due to GST reforms set to come into effect, an estimated ₹2 lakh crore will be in the hands of the people, which is expected to boost domestic consumption. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) reported that under the new GST 2.0 structure, more than 75% of rural monthly expenditure will face a nil or 5% tax rate.

Tragedy in Singapore: Popular Assamese singer Zubeen Garg passed away in Singapore at the age of 52 while scuba diving.

CBI Files Charge Sheet Against Anil Ambani and Others: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) filed a charge sheet against Anil Ambani and others for alleged fraudulent transactions involving Reliance Commercial Finance Limited, Reliance Home Finance Limited, and Yes Bank.

India Hosts IEC General Meeting 2025: India hosted the 89th General Meeting of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) in New Delhi. The event brought together over 2,000 global experts to discuss international electrotechnical standards that promote sustainability and innovation. India was also designated as the Global Secretariat for Standardization in Low Voltage Direct Current (LVDC).

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MCQS

1. On what grounds did the Supreme Court of India dismiss the petition to prevent a "Muslim" Booker Prize winner from inaugurating the Mysuru Dasara festivities?

- a) The court deemed the petition politically motivated.
- b) The court cited a prior agreement with the petitioner.

c) The court upheld the principles of secularism and liberty of thought as enshrined in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution.

d) The court ruled that the inauguration was a matter for the state government to decide.

Answer: c) The court upheld the principles of secularism and liberty of thought as enshrined in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution. The news report states that the Supreme Court bench reminded the petitioner about the Preamble of the Indian Constitution, which enshrines secularism and liberty of thought, while dismissing the plea.

2. What is the suspected group behind the ambush in Manipur that killed two Assam Rifles personnel?

- a) A local militia.
- b) The banned Peoples Liberation Army (PLA).
- c) A separatist group from a neighboring country.
- d) Unidentified armed villagers.

Answer: b) The banned Peoples Liberation Army (PLA).

The news explicitly mentions that the banned Peoples Liberation Army (PLA) is suspected to be responsible for the attack on the Assam Rifles personnel in Manipur.

3. What is the estimated amount of money that will be in the hands of the people due to the new GST reforms, according to the Union Finance Minister?

- a) ₹2,000 crore
- b) ₹20,000 crore
- c) ₹1 lakh crore
- d) ₹2 lakh crore

Answer: d) ₹2 lakh crore





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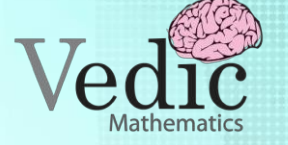
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As per the statement from Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, the GST reforms are expected to put an estimated ₹2 lakh crore in the hands of the public, which is projected to boost domestic consumption.

4. In which city did India host the 89th General Meeting of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)?

- a) Mumbai
- b) Bengaluru
- c) Chennai
- d) New Delhi

Answer: d) New Delhi

The news report states that India hosted the 89th General Meeting of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) in New Delhi.

5. For what alleged fraudulent transactions did the CBI file a charge sheet against Anil Ambani and others?

- a) Transactions involving Reliance Retail and HDFC Bank.
- b) Transactions involving Reliance Jio and SBI.
- c) Transactions involving Reliance Commercial Finance Limited, Reliance Home Finance Limited, and Yes Bank.
- d) Transactions involving Reliance Industries and ICICI Bank.

Answer: c) Transactions involving Reliance Commercial Finance Limited, Reliance Home Finance Limited, and Yes Bank.

The report specifies that the CBI filed a charge sheet against Anil Ambani and others for alleged fraudulent transactions involving Reliance Commercial Finance Limited, Reliance Home Finance Limited, and Yes Bank.

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