

National News

1. Parliament Passes Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (Vande Mataram Bill)

- **Key Detail:** Both Houses of Parliament have cleared the **Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026**.
- **Core Objective:** The law grants **Vande Mataram** (India's National Song) equal legal protection and status against intentional disrespect as the National Anthem (Jana Gana Mana) under the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
- **Exam Relevance & Background:**
 - **Composer:** Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1875; later included in his 1882 novel Anandamath.
 - **First Sung:** By Rabindranath Tagore at the 1896 Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress (INC).
 - **Status:** Adopted as the National Song on January 24, 1950, by the Constituent Assembly of India.

2. Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 Passed

- **Key Detail:** The Rajya Sabha passed the amendment bill via voice vote following its clearance in the Lok Sabha.
- **Core Objective:** Imposes stringent non-bailable penalties, fine structures up to ₹1 crore, and minimum imprisonment terms for organized paper-leak syndicates, impersonation, and digital exam software tampering.
- **Key Mechanism:** Establishes a dedicated National Technical Advisory Committee for computer-based tests and fast-track courts for trial disposal.

International News

1. China Sets Up High-Altitude Drone Hub Near Mount Everest in Tibet

- **Key Detail:** China has established an advanced UAV and autonomous system research and deployment center near Mount Everest (Qomolangma region) in Tibet.
- **Core Objective:** To enhance surveillance, high-altitude logistics, border patrol efficiency, and extreme-weather operational capability along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

2. Escalation in West Asia & Maritime Security Operations

- **Key Detail:** Regional tensions spiked as security operations continued around the **Strait of Hormuz** and the **Red Sea**.
- **EU Operation ASPIDES:** The EU naval security task force deployed Italian frigate Bergamini to successfully escort commercial merchant vessels through high-risk Red Sea transit corridors.

Economics & Banking

Key Highlights from the RBI July 2026 Bulletin

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released its monthly state-of-the-economy bulletin highlighting resilient domestic fundamentals despite global volatility:

Indicator / Measure	Status / Value	Exam Significance
Retail Inflation (CPI)	4.4% (June 2026)	Driven by seasonal supply pressures in food/fuel.

Indicator / Measure	Status / Value	Exam Significance
Merchandise Exports	+15.9% (Q1 2026-27)	Demonstrate s strong export resilience.
Trade Partnership	India-UK CETA	Entered into force on July 15, 2026.
New Economic Indicator	Index of Services Production (ISP)	Launched by MoSPI to track formal service sector output.

Defense & Technology

India’s First Vande Bharat Freight Train Completes Successful Trial

- **Key Detail:** Indian Railways commenced trial runs for the first-ever **Vande Bharat Freight Train** (Cargo EMU), achieving a top speed of 145 km/h.
- **Operational Goal:** Designed to capture high-value, time-sensitive freight traffic, shifting freight share from road to rail, and reducing logistics costs under the National Logistics Policy (NLP).

Govt Schemes & MoUs

1. Launch of VB-G RAM G Scheme (Replacing MGNREGS)

- **Full Form:** Viksit Bharat – Gramin Rozgar Aur Aatmanirbharata Guaranteed Scheme.
- **Purpose:** Restructures the rural employment framework by replacing MGNREGS.

- **Core Features:**
 - Technology-enabled real-time attendance and geo-tagging.
 - Focus on climate-resilient water conservation assets and rural infrastructure.
 - Mandatory skill-upgrading modules integrated into 100-day employment cycles.

2. India-Romania Strategic Technology Agreement

- **Focus Area:** Strategic cooperation on cyber defense, emerging technological innovation, and artificial intelligence safety protocols.

Sports News

Commonwealth Games 2026 (Glasgow) Highlights

- **Historical Judo Gold Medals:** Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh created history by winning India's first-ever Commonwealth Games Gold Medals in Judo.
- **Decathlon History:** Tejaswin Shankar became the first Indian athlete to win a CWG medal in Decathlon.
- **Javelin Podium:** Neeraj Chopra secured Silver, while Yashvir Singh took Bronze in the Men's Javelin event.
- **Weightlifting:** Lovepreet Singh claimed Silver in the Men's 110kg+ category with a total lift of 388 kg.
- **Cricket Retirement:** Former Indian Test captain Ajinkya Rahane officially announced his retirement from all formats of international cricket.

Appointments & Awards

Stephen Fleming: Appointed as Head Coach for the England Test cricket team; **Joe Root** named Test Captain.

- **Vaibhav Sooryavanshi:** Named Vice-Captain of the East Zone squad for the upcoming Duleep Trophy tournament.

Important Days (August 1)

1. World Lung Cancer Day (August 1)

- **Objective:** Global awareness movement dedicated to educating people on lung cancer risk factors, early detection screening, and treatment advances.

2. World Wide Web Day (August 1)

- **Historical Context:** Commemorates the creation of the World Wide Web (WWW) in 1989 by Sir Tim Berners-Lee at CERN.

3. Muslim Women's Rights Day (India)

- **Significance:** Observed annually on August 1 across India to mark the enactment of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019, which declared the practice of Instant Triple Talaq (Talaq-e-Biddat) illegal and unconstitutional.

Art, Culture & Anniversaries

Death Anniversary: Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak (Aug 1, 1920)

"Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it!" — Lokmanya Tilak

- **Title:** Known as "Lokmanya" (Accepted by the people as leader); British author Valentine Chirol called him the "Father of the Indian Unrest".
- **Key Contributions:**
 - **Newspapers:** Kesari (in Marathi) and Mahratta (in English).
 - **Festivals:** Transformed private Ganesh Utsav (1893) and Shivaji Jayanti (1895) into grand public festivals to foster national unity.

- **Literary Works:** Gita Rahasya (written in Mandalay Jail) and The Arctic Home in the Vedas.
- **Institutions:** Co-founded the Deccan Education Society (1884) and Fergusson College, Pune.
- **Home Rule Movement:** Launched the Indian Home Rule League in April 1916 at Belgaum.

Birth Anniversary: Annabhau Sathe (Aug 1, 1920)

- **Profile:** Social reformer, Dalit writer, and prominent folk poet (Shahir) from Maharashtra.
- **Literary Legacy:** Authored 35 novels, including the famous novel **Fakira** (1959), which received the Maharashtra State Government award in 1961.

Practice Quiz (MCQs for Exams)

Q1. Which act is amended by the recently passed Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, to grant equal protection to the National Song 'Vande Mataram'?

- (A) The Constitution (First Amendment) Act, 1951
- (B) The Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971
- (C) The Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950
- (D) The Representation of the People Act, 1951

Correct Answer: (B)

Explanation: The Bill amends the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971 to give Vande Mataram equal protection against intentional disrespect alongside the National Anthem and National Flag.

India Today

Q2. What is the top speed achieved by India's first Vande Bharat Freight Train during its trial runs?

- (A) 110 km/h
- (B) 130 km/h
- (C) 145 km/h
- (D) 160 km/h

Correct Answer: (C)

Explanation: The trial run of India's first Vande Bharat Freight train reached a maximum speed of 145 km/h.

Indiatimes

Q3. Which new rural employment scheme has been introduced to replace MGNREGS?

- (A) PM-GKY
- (B) VB-G RAM G
- (C) PM-GRAMIN
- (D) Viksit Rozgar Yojana

Correct Answer: (B)

Explanation: The RBI Bulletin notes that the VB-G RAM G (Viksit Bharat – Gramin Rozgar Aur Aatmanirbharata Guaranteed) scheme has replaced MGNREGS with tech-enabled implementation.

The Policy Edge

Q4. Who among the following won India's first-ever Commonwealth Games Gold Medal in Judo?

- (A) Tejaswin Shankar
- (B) Lovepreet Singh
- (C) Asmita Dey
- (D) Yashvir Singh

Correct Answer: (C)

Explanation: Judokas Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh created history by winning India's first-

ever gold medals in Judo at the Commonwealth Games.

Indiatimes

Q5. Which newspaper was started by Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak in the Marathi language?

- (A) Mahratta
- (B) Kesari
- (C) Young India
- (D) Harijan

Correct Answer: (B)

Explanation: Lokmanya Tilak launched Kesari in Marathi and Mahratta in English in 1881 to spread nationalistic thoughts.

National News & Heritage

Q1. The Union Territory Administration of Ladakh recently notified 23 heritage sites as protected monuments. Which among the following is NOT one of the newly notified sites?

- [A] Maitreya Buddha Rock Carving at Shey
- [B] Tingmosgang Fort
- [C] Ancient Caves at Saspol
- [D] Hemis Monastery Main Courtyard

Answer: [D] Hemis Monastery Main Courtyard

Full Explanation: The Union Territory Administration of Ladakh notified 23 heritage sites as protected monuments to preserve the region's rich archaeological, cultural, and historic legacy.

Newly Protected Sites Include: The Petroglyph Site at Sharnos, Maitreya Buddha Rock Carving at Shey (near Sindhu Ghat), Tingmosgang Fort, Ancient Caves at Saspol, Petroglyph Sites at Domkhar, Lehdo, Alchi, Murgi, and Mangmore (Kargil), Stongday Gonpa, the Meditation Cave of Onpo, and Hunder Cave.



Hemis Monastery is already an established site maintained under distinct religious and monastic trusts and was not part of this specific 23-site notification batch.

Q2. IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre) released comprehensive guidelines regarding space debris management. What is the maximum acceptable casualty risk threshold set for planned re-entry of space objects into Earth's atmosphere?

- [A] Less than 1 in 1,000
- [B] Less than 1 in 5,000
- [C] Less than 1 in 10,000
- [D] Less than 1 in 50,000

Answer: [C] Less than 1 in 10,000

Full Explanation: IN-SPACe issued normative guidelines for the safe disposal and controlled re-entry of space assets to mitigate growing orbital space debris.

- **Key Rule:** Non-governmental entities and Indian operators conducting planned re-entries must ensure that the human casualty risk threshold stays below 1 in 10,000.
- **Authorization:** Foreign space entities executing re-entry operations through India must apply through an Indian-incorporated subsidiary or partner.
- **Insurance:** Operations require third-party liability coverage, with notification mandates ranging up to six months prior to execution.

International News & Alliances

Q3. In response to recurring maritime security threats in West Asian waterways, Saudi Arabia along with 13 other nations announced the formation of a Multinational Maritime Defence Alliance in Riyadh. Which key maritime

bottleneck is primary under its surveillance scope?

- [A] Strait of Malacca
- [B] Bab el-Mandeb Strait & Red Sea
- [C] Kerch Strait
- [D] Lombok Strait

Answer: [B] Bab el-Mandeb Strait & Red Sea

Full Explanation: Saudi Arabia hosted an international defence summit in Riyadh featuring military representatives from 43 countries and the European Union (EU).

- **Outcome:** A 14-nation Multinational Maritime Defence Alliance was established.
- **Objective:** Safeguard commercial shipping lines, guarantee freedom of navigation, and protect energy supply transit corridors operating through the Red Sea, Bab el-Mandeb Strait, and the Gulf of Aden.

Q4. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar raised India's concerns regarding maritime security attacks on commercial vessels in which vital strategic shipping passage in West Asia?

- [A] Suez Canal
- [B] Bosphorus Strait
- [C] Strait of Hormuz
- [D] Strait of Gibraltar

Answer: [C] Strait of Hormuz

Full Explanation: India's External Affairs Ministry communicated grave concern to international authorities, specifically calling for an end to targeting commercial cargo vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz.

- **Strategic Importance:** The Strait of Hormuz handles over 20% of global petroleum shipments. Unrest or drone/missile strikes along this maritime corridor directly

threaten India's energy security and commercial import costs.

Q5. India officially became the 123rd World Trade Organization (WTO) member to formalize acceptance of which major multilateral agreement?

- [A] Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)
- [B] Agreement on Agriculture (AoA)
- [C] Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies
- [D] Information Technology Agreement

Answer: [C] Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies

Full Explanation: India deposited its instrument of acceptance, making it the 123rd WTO member to ratify the landmark **Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies**.

- **Key Objective:** Prohibits government subsidies that contribute to Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, as well as fishing of overfished stocks, while safeguarding sovereign rights for sustainable small-scale fishing communities in developing nations.

Economics, Banking & Corporate Affairs

Q6. State-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) announced a significant reduction in the price of commercial LPG cylinders across major metropolitan cities. What is the quantum of price cut per 19-kg commercial cylinder in Delhi?

- [A] ₹105
- [B] ₹150
- [C] ₹202
- [D] ₹250

Answer: [C] ₹202

Full Explanation: Effective 1 August 2026, state OMCs reduced the price of 19-kg commercial LPG cylinders by **₹202 in Delhi** (bringing retail

prices down to ₹2,728) and by **₹209 in Kolkata** (down to ₹2,872.50).

- **Impact:** Offers direct cost relief to small commercial establishments, hotels, restaurants, and local businesses after months of global energy price volatility. Domestic cylinder prices remained unchanged.

Q7. According to the Hurun India & L'Oréal Paris Women Leadership and Wealth List 2026, who topped the 'Wealth Multipliers' category as India's leading corporate woman leader?

- [A] Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw
- [B] Roshni Nadar Malhotra
- [C] Falguni Nayar
- [D] Priya Nair

Answer: [B] Roshni Nadar Malhotra

Full Explanation: The Hurun India Women Leadership List featured 117 prominent women entrepreneurs and executives representing a cumulative valuation of ₹39 lakh crore.

- **Wealth Multipliers Leader:** Roshni Nadar Malhotra (44), Chairperson of HCL Technologies, topped the list with an enterprise net valuation of ₹2,84,120 crore.
- **Key Statistic:** 98 out of 117 women featured (84%) were self-made leaders.

Q8. Which consumer payment framework is being actively expanded by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to enable offline and low-value digital micropayments up to ₹500 without requiring network connectivity?

- [A] UPI Lite
- [B] Bharat BillPay Offline
- [C] AePS Direct
- [D] NACH Quick

Answer: [A] UPI Lite

Full Explanation: UPI Lite is an on-device wallet functionality designed by NPCI under RBI guidelines for small-value transactions.

- **Utility:** Operates without hitting the core banking system in real time, reducing transaction failure rates during peak loads and encouraging cashless adoption across small retail transactions.

Defense News

Q9. Air Marshal Sandeep Thareja has been officially appointed to succeed Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin in which premier military healthcare leadership post?

- [A] Director General Medical Services (Army)
- [B] Director General Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS)
- [C] Commandant, AFMC Pune
- [D] Chief Medical Officer, Integrated Defence Staff

Answer: [B] Director General Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS)

Full Explanation: The Government of India appointed Air Marshal Sandeep Thareja, SM, VSM & Bar, as the new Director General Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS).

- **Effective Date:** He will formally take charge upon the superannuation of Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin.
- **Background:** An alumnus of the Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC), Pune, he will oversee the tri-services medical infrastructure catering to the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Q10. What is the operational temperature threshold of the new 'Xtreme Weather Grade' (XWG) Diesel introduced by the Indian Army for vehicles deployed in high-altitude sub-zero regions?

- [A] Down to -25°C
- [B] Down to -30°C
- [C] Down to -42°C
- [D] Down to -55°C

Answer: [C] Down to -42°C

Full Explanation: The Indian Army officially launched the Xtreme Weather Grade (XWG) Diesel.

- **Technical Capability:** Conventional fuel undergoes paraffin wax crystallization at freezing temperatures, clogging filters. XWG Diesel complies with BS-VI and IS 1460:2025 standards and maintains fluid viscosity down to -42°C.
- **Deployment:** Critical for tactical mobility in regions like Eastern Ladakh, Siachen, and High-Altitude Northern Borders.

Q11. The Indian Navy took delivery of 'Nipun', its second indigenously built Diving Support Vessel (DSV). Which shipyard manufactured this specialized vessel?

- [A] Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL)
- [B] Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)
- [C] Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)
- [D] Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE)

Answer: [C] Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)

Full Explanation: INS Nipun was delivered to the Indian Navy by Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) in Visakhapatnam.

- **Features:** Achieves over 75% indigenous content. The vessel is equipped with deep-diving equipment, saturation chambers, and submarine rescue apparatus to support complex underwater operations.

Q12. India and Germany are finalizing Project-75I, a naval modernization program valued at



₹90,000 crore (€8 billion). What core technology will be integrated into these six conventional attack submarines?

- [A] Air-Independent Propulsion (AIP) Systems
- [B] Hypersonic Cruise Missile VLS
- [C] Nuclear Thermal Propulsion Reactors
- [D] Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch Systems

Answer: [A] Air-Independent Propulsion (AIP) Systems

Full Explanation: Project-75I involves the construction of 6 advanced conventional submarines in India via technology transfer between Germany's TKMS and Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders.

- **Key Technology:** Integration of Air-Independent Propulsion (AIP) allows conventional diesel-electric submarines to remain submerged for extended periods without surfacing to snorkel, enhancing stealth capabilities.

MoUs, Agreements & Collaborations

Q13. IIT Gandhinagar (IITGN) signed an MoU with the Indian AI Research Organisation (IAIRO) to collaborate primarily on which domain?

- [A] Joint AI Research Projects and Computational Infrastructure Development
- [B] Commercial Satellite Payload Design
- [C] Autonomous Deep-Sea Submersibles
- [D] Quantum Cryptography Standards

Answer: [A] Joint AI Research Projects and Computational Infrastructure Development

Full Explanation: IIT Gandhinagar and IAIRO entered into a strategic collaboration to advance indigenous Artificial Intelligence capability.

- **Scope:** Joint research initiatives, competitive grants, shared access to supercomputing

infrastructure, and developing domain-specific AI models tailored for national academic and industrial applications.

Q14. The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) teamed up with the Aviation Skill Sector Council (ASSC) to establish 75 Aviation & Drone Skill Centres (ASCs). Under which national vision is this launched?

- [A] PM-DEVINE
- [B] Viksit Bharat 2047 & Atmanirbhar Bharat
- [C] Stand-Up India
- [D] Mission Karmayogi

Answer: [B] Viksit Bharat 2047 & Atmanirbhar Bharat

Full Explanation: NSDC and ASSC launched 75 specialized Aviation & Drone Skill Centres across engineering colleges and private universities.

- **Training Scope:** Covers drone piloting, assembly line manufacturing, GIS mapping, AI data analytics, and maintenance to build a high-skill talent pool supporting Viksit Bharat 2047.

Government Schemes & Initiatives

Q15. Academic integration aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 enables students to earn and store skill-based credits through which centralized digital ecosystem?

- [A] National Credit Framework (NCrF) & Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)
- [B] SWAYAM Prabha Portal
- [C] DIKSHA Platform
- [D] SAMARTH ERP System

Answer: [A] National Credit Framework (NCrF) & Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)

Full Explanation: The National Credit Framework (NCrF), integrated with the

Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), operationalizes NEP 2020 by enabling seamless credit transfer across general education, vocational training, and experiential industry learning.

Q16. Which Union Ministry is the primary implementing agency for the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme, providing direct income support of ₹6,000 annually to landholding farmers?

- [A] Ministry of Rural Development
- [B] Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare
- [C] Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Answer: [B] Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare

Full Explanation: PM-KISAN is a Central Sector Scheme fully funded by the Government of India and implemented by the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare**.

- **Details:** Financial benefit of ₹6,000 per year is transferred in three equal quarterly installments of ₹2,000 directly into the bank accounts of landholding farmer families across the country.

Sports News

Q17. Who among the following young Indian sports icons was recognized as the youngest honouree (19 years old) on the Hurun India Women Leadership List 2026?

- [A] Sheetal Devi (Para-Archery)
- [B] Shafali Verma (Cricket)
- [C] Antim Panghal (Wrestling)
- [D] Esha Singh (Shooting)

Answer: [A] Sheetal Devi (Para-Archery)

Full Explanation: World champion para-archer **Sheetal Devi**, aged 19, was celebrated as the

youngest personality featured on the Hurun India Women Leadership List 2026.

- **Legacy:** Her achievements in international para-archery have brought global visibility to Indian sports accessibility and youth excellence.

Q18. Neeraj Chopra, India's Olympic Gold medalist, represents the country globally in which field event?

- [A] Shot Put
- [B] Javelin Throw
- [C] Triple Jump
- [D] Discus Throw

Answer: [B] Javelin Throw

Full Explanation: **Neeraj Chopra** is India's leading track and field athlete competing in the **Men's Javelin Throw**. He became the first Indian track and field athlete to win an Olympic Gold Medal (Tokyo 2020) and a World Athletics Championship Gold Medal.

Important Days & Anniversaries (1 August)

Q19. August 1 marks the start of which globally recognized health campaign week supported by WHO and UNICEF?

- [A] World Immunization Week
- [B] World Breastfeeding Week
- [C] World Patient Safety Week
- [D] World Nutrition Week

Answer: [B] World Breastfeeding Week

Full Explanation: **World Breastfeeding Week** is celebrated every year from **1 to 7 August** across more than 120 countries.

- **Background:** Commemorates the 1990 Innocenti Declaration signed by WHO and UNICEF to protect, promote, and support

breastfeeding as a fundamental foundation for child survival and health.

Q20. Every year on 1 August, India observes 'Muslim Women's Rights Day'. Which historic legislative event does this day commemorate?

- [A] Enactment of the Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act
- [B] Enactment of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019
- [C] Passage of the Uniform Civil Code Draft
- [D] Maintenance Rights under Section 125 CrPC

Answer: [B] Enactment of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019

Full Explanation: Muslim Women's Rights Day is observed annually on 1 August across India.

- **Significance:** Marks the passage of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019, which criminalized the practice of instant *Triple Talaq* (Talaq-e-Biddat), safeguarding constitutional rights for married Muslim women.

Q21. 1 August marks the death anniversary of which prominent freedom fighter, widely referred to as the 'Father of Indian Unrest'?

- [A] Lala Lajpat Rai
- [B] Gopal Krishna Gokhale
- [C] Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- [D] Bipin Chandra Pal

Answer: [C] Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak

Full Explanation: Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak passed away on 1 August 1920.

- **Legacy:** A key leader of the Indian independence movement, British colonial authorities called him the "Father of the Indian Unrest." He famously declared, "*Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it!*" He started two impactful newspapers—

Mahratta (English) and *Kesari* (Marathi)—and popularized the public celebration of Ganeshotsav and Shiv Jayanti.

Q22. Which social reformer and iconic Marathi writer, famous for his novel 'Fakira', was born on 1 August 1920?

- [A] Jyotirao Phule
- [B] Annabhau Sathe
- [C] Namdeo Dhasal
- [D] Baburao Bagul

Answer: [B] Annabhau Sathe

Full Explanation: Tukaram Bhaurao Sathe, popularly known as **Annabhau Sathe**, was born on 1 August 1920 in Wategaon, Maharashtra.

- **Contributions:** A social reformer, Marxist thinker, and writer, his works highlighted Dalit marginalized communities, working-class struggles, and folk art forms (*Powada* and *Tamasha*). His magnum opus novel '*Fakira*' won the State Government Award in 1961.

Q23. World Scout Scarf Day is celebrated annually on 1 August. What does wearing the scout scarf on this day represent?

- [A] First Scout Camp held at Brownsea Island in 1907
- [B] Formation of the United Nations
- [C] Foundation of the Red Cross
- [D] Death anniversary of Lord Baden-Powell

Answer: [A] First Scout Camp held at Brownsea Island in 1907

Full Explanation: World Scout Scarf Day (1 August) encourages active and former Scouts to wear their scout scarves in public. It commemorates the opening of the **first Scout Encampment at Brownsea Island in 1907**, organized by Lord Robert Baden-Powell,

marking the birth of the global Scouting movement.

Q24. World Wide Web (WWW) Day is observed globally on August 1 to honor the invention of the Web by Tim Berners-Lee in which research organization?

- [A] NASA
- [B] CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research)
- [C] MIT Lincoln Laboratory
- [D] Bell Labs

Answer: [B] CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research)

Full Explanation: World Wide Web Day on August 1 recognizes the invention of the Web by English computer scientist Sir Tim Berners-Lee in 1989 while working at CERN in Switzerland. It celebrates how free, open access to interconnected web pages transformed global communication and information access.

Art, Culture & Environment

Q25. The Petroglyph sites at Domkhar, Alchi, and Murgi, recently granted statutory protection, feature ancient rock carvings primarily illustrating which historical period in trans-Himalayan heritage?

- [A] Prehistoric hunter-gatherer art & early Buddhist iconography
- [B] Chola Maritime routes
- [C] Mughal court portraiture
- [D] Colonial trade maps

Answer: [A] Prehistoric hunter-gatherer art & early Buddhist iconography

Full Explanation: The rock petroglyphs found across Domkhar, Alchi, Lehdo, and Murgi in Ladakh represent prehistoric art forms depicting ibex, hunters, solar motifs, along with

early historic Buddhist inscriptions carved on riverine boulders along the Indus River basin.

Q26. Which autonomous body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change periodically publishes the 'Global Tiger Recovery Report'?

- [A] National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) / Global Tiger Forum (GTF)
- [B] Wildlife Institute of India (WII)
- [C] Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)
- [D] Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)

Answer: [A] National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) / Global Tiger Forum (GTF)

Full Explanation: The Global Tiger Forum (GTF), an intergovernmental international body working alongside national agencies like NTCA, releases progress assessments such as the Global Tiger Recovery Report to track wild tiger population trends and habitat protection across range countries.

Q27. Due to heavy monsoon inflows across Idukki district in Kerala, which dam's five spillway shutters were opened to discharge excess storage capacity into the Periyar river system?

- [A] Mullaperiyar Dam
- [B] Kallarkutty Dam
- [C] Idukki Arch Dam
- [D] Banasura Sagar Dam

Answer: [B] Kallarkutty Dam

Full Explanation: Officials opened all five shutters of the Kallarkutty Dam in Idukki, Kerala, following catchment rainfall that filled the reservoir to maximum capacity. Water was safely released into downstream reaches of the Muthirapuzha/Periyar river basins.

Books, Science & Awards

Q28. The non-fiction collection of essays titled 'Translating Myself and Others' explores cultural identity, language, and the art of translation. Who is the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of this book?

- [A] Arundhati Roy
- [B] Jhumpa Lahiri
- [C] Anita Desai
- [D] Kiran Desai

Answer: [B] Jhumpa Lahiri

Full Explanation: *Translating Myself and Others* is a book written by **Jhumpa Lahiri**. It reflects on her personal journey of writing in and translating Italian, analyzing how language shapes identity, literary translation, and cross-cultural literature.

Q29. China's short-range shoulder-fired surface-to-air defense platforms QW-12 and FN-16 fall into which weapon classification?

- [A] Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBM)
- [B] Man-Portable Air Defence Systems (MANPADS)
- [C] Anti-Submarine Heavy Torpedoes
- [D] Towed Howitzer Artillery

Answer: [B] Man-Portable Air Defence Systems (MANPADS)

Full Explanation: QW-12 and FN-16 are short-range, shoulder-fired **MANPADS**. They feature dual-band infrared/ultraviolet tracking designed to neutralize low-flying targets such as combat drones, helicopters, and low-altitude cruise missiles.

Q30. Consumer Price Index (CPI) combined is the primary benchmark used by the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee

(MPC) to measure which macroeconomic indicator?

- [A] Wholesale Inflation
- [B] Retail Inflation
- [C] Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Growth Rate
- [D] Fiscal Deficit ratio

Answer: [B] Retail Inflation

Full Explanation: Retail inflation in India is officially measured using the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**.

- **Institutional Role:** Under the Flexible Inflation Targeting (FIT) framework, the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) uses CPI to adjust key policy interest rates (such as the Repo Rate) to maintain price stability within a target band of 4% (+/- 2%).