

1. National News & Government Initiatives

PM Modi Inaugurates Projects Worth ₹17,900 Crore in Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka

- **Inauguration in Andhra Pradesh:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicated projects worth over **₹17,900 crore** spanning aviation, semiconductors, renewable energy, and power transmission.
- **Key Semiconductor Project:** Foundation stone laid for the **₹2,500 crore ASIP Technologies Pvt. Ltd. Semiconductor Project** at Tarluvada, Visakhapatnam.
- **Viveka Smaraka (Mysuru, Karnataka):** In Mysuru, the Prime Minister inaugurated the **Swami Vivekananda Cultural Youth Centre (Viveka Smaraka)**, built to commemorate Swami Vivekananda's historic visit to Mysuru in November 1892.

'Kapas Kanti' Mission & 'Kapas Darshan' Bulletin Launched

- **Event:** The 56th Foundation Day of the Cotton Corporation of India Limited (CCI) was held in Chhatrapati Sambhaginagar, Maharashtra.
- **Key Launches:** Union Minister of Textiles Giriraj Singh launched the **'Kapas Darshan' Bulletin** and unveiled the implementation roadmap for the **₹5,659-crore Cotton Productivity Mission-Kapas Kanti** aimed at climate-smart cultivation and improving cotton yield.
- **MoUs Signed:** CCI signed four Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) focused on cotton quality enhancement, digital traceability, sustainability, and market access.

NITI Aayog Report on India's School Education System

- **Report Title:** School Education System in India: Temporal Analysis and Policy Roadmap for Quality Enhancement (based on UDISE+ data from 2014–15 to 2024–25).
- **Key Finding:** India lost nearly **94,000 government schools** over a decade—dropping from 11.07 lakh (2014–15) to 10.13 lakh (2024–25).
- **Reason:** NITI Aayog highlighted that this drop reflects a structural consolidation, school rationalization, and mergers under Samagra Shiksha to improve resource allocation and educational quality rather than reducing access.
- **Private Sector Growth:** Private unaided recognized schools expanded from 2.88 lakh to 3.39 lakh during the same 10-year period.

2. Economics, Banking & Corporate News

Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026 Tabled in Lok Sabha

- **Legislation Reform:** Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced the **Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026** in the Lok Sabha.
- **Objective:** Repeals and replaces the pre-independence **Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891**.
- **Key Provision:** Provides legal admissibility to bank records maintained in physical, electronic, digital, virtual, or cloud-based formats in court proceedings. It introduces standardized digital signature authentications and creates a technology-neutral framework.

REC & PFC Sign ₹26,850 Crore Financing Agreement

- Project Details:** REC Limited and Power Finance Corporation (PFC) signed a joint loan agreement worth **₹26,850 crore** for the expansion of the **2,400 MW Meja Thermal Power Project**.
- Financial Structure:** Total project cost is **₹38,357.81 crore**. The debt funding is split equally (50:50 ratio) between REC (Lead Financier) and PFC.

SBI Research GDP & Inflation Forecast

- Q1 GDP Growth:** SBI Economic Research Department's Prelude to MPC Meeting report projects India's GDP growth at around **7%** for Q1 FY27.
- Inflation Outlook:** CPI inflation for FY27 is projected at **5%**, staying within the Reserve Bank of India's target band of 2%–6%.

3. Union Cabinet Approvals & Schemes

Scheme Name	Approved Outlay	Core Objective / Sector
Samudra Manthan Scheme	₹84,084 Crore	Boost offshore oil & natural gas exploration in India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
Expanded Khelo India Scheme	₹36,441 Crore	Comprehensive sports development, grassroots identification & assistance to National Sports

Scheme Name	Approved Outlay	Core Objective / Sector
		Federations (ANSFs)
Cotton Productivity Mission (Kapas Kanti)	₹5,659 Crore	Enhancing cotton yield, quality, and climate-resilient farming techniques
PM-SSY Floating Solar Projects	₹5,070 Crore	Deployment of floating solar photovoltaic projects across major reservoirs

4. Sports News

India Concludes 2026 Commonwealth Games (Glasgow)

- Overall Standings:** India finished in **4th position** on the medal table with **39 medals** (13 Gold, 17 Silver, 9 Bronze). Australia topped the standings with 171 medals.
- Boxing Revolution:** India achieved its best-ever boxing haul in CWG history, securing **7 Gold medals** out of 10 total boxing medals.
- Key Achievements:**
 - Mirabai Chanu** won her 3rd consecutive Commonwealth Games Gold medal in Weightlifting.
 - Tejaswin Shankar** won India's first-ever Decathlon medal at CWG (Bronze).
 - Gulveer Singh** became the first Indian track athlete to win two medals at a single CWG edition (Silver in 10,000m, Bronze in 5,000m).

- **Neeraj Chopra** secured Silver in the Men's Javelin Throw.

World Junior Squash Championship 2026

- **Felicitations:** Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya felicitated the Indian contingent in New Delhi.
- **Gold Medallist:** **Anahat Singh** won the individual Gold medal.
- **Team Bronze:** Indian Men's Junior Team (Aryaveer Dewan, Yusha Nafees, and Gurveer Singh) clinched the Bronze medal.

5. Environment, Important Days & Culture

- **Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan (CAP):** On International Clouded Leopard Day (August 04), the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched India's first dedicated Action Plan for the protection of the clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*).
- **World Breastfeeding Week (August 1-7, 2026):** Organized by WABA, WHO, and UNICEF.
 - **2026 Theme:** "Breastfeeding for a sustainable start in life: strengthen what works".
- **Indian Organ Donation Day (August 03):** Observed to honor India's first successful deceased donor organ transplant carried out on August 3, 1994, at AIIMS Delhi.

Practice MCQs for Upcoming Exams (UPSC / SSC / Banking / Railways)

Question 1 (Banking / Economics)

Which pre-independence Act is being replaced by the Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026, introduced in the Lok Sabha?

- A) Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1881

- B) Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891
- C) Indian Evidence Act, 1872
- D) Banking Regulation Act, 1949

Correct Answer: B) Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891

Explanation: The Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026 replaces the 1891 legislation to grant explicit legal recognition and admissibility to electronic, digital, and cloud-based bank records in court proceedings.

Question 2 (Government Schemes & Agriculture)

What is the approved financial outlay for the newly launched Cotton Productivity Mission – 'Kapas Kanti'?

- A) ₹2,500 Crore
- B) ₹3,850 Crore
- C) ₹5,659 Crore
- D) ₹17,900 Crore

Correct Answer: C) ₹5,659 Crore

Explanation: Unveiled during the 56th Foundation Day of the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), the ₹5,659-crore Kapas Kanti mission focuses on boosting cotton productivity and adopting climate-smart farming.

Question 3 (Sports)

How many Gold medals did India win at the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow?

- A) 9
- B) 13
- C) 17
- D) 39

Correct Answer: B) 13

Explanation: India finished 4th in the overall medal tally with 39 total medals, comprising 13

Gold, 17 Silver, and 9 Bronze medals. Seven of the 13 gold medals were secured by Indian boxers.

Question 4 (Reports & Policy)

According to the NITI Aayog report based on UDISE+ data (2014-15 to 2024-25), what primary factor led to the reduction of nearly 94,000 government schools in India?

- A) Complete privatization of basic education
- B) Widespread closure due to lack of teachers
- C) Infrastructure consolidation and school mergers under Samagra Shiksha
- D) Conversion of government primary schools into higher secondary colleges

Correct Answer: C) Infrastructure consolidation and school mergers under Samagra Shiksha

Explanation: NITI Aayog clarified that the reduction from 11.07 lakh to 10.13 lakh schools was primarily due to rationalizing under-enrolled institutions and merging nearby schools to optimize educational quality and infrastructure.

Catholic Connect

Question 5 (Important Days & Themes)

What is the theme for World Breastfeeding Week 2026 (August 1-7)?

- A) Protect Breastfeeding: A Shared Responsibility
- B) Enable Breastfeeding: Making a difference for working parents
- C) Breastfeeding for a sustainable start in life: strengthen what works
- D) Step Up for Breastfeeding: Educate and Support

Correct Answer: C) Breastfeeding for a sustainable start in life: strengthen what works

Explanation: Coordinated by WABA, WHO, and UNICEF, World Breastfeeding Week 2026 focuses on building sustainable support systems under the official theme.

Q1. Where did Prime Minister Narendra Modi lay the foundation stone for the ₹2,500-crore ASIP Semiconductor Project?

- (A) Sri City
- (B) Visakhapatnam
- (C) Vijayawada
- (D) Amaravati

Answer: (B) Visakhapatnam

Explanation: The project was launched at Tarluvada, Visakhapatnam, alongside other infrastructure works.

Q2. What is the total outlay approved by the Union Cabinet for the offshore oil and gas exploration scheme 'Samudra Manthan'?

- (A) ₹50,000 crore
- (B) ₹65,000 crore
- (C) ₹84,000 crore
- (D) ₹1,00,000 crore

Answer: (C) ₹84,000 crore

Explanation: The Samudra Manthan scheme promotes deepwater and ultra-deepwater exploration across offshore basins.

Q3. Which high-altitude lake in Arunachal Pradesh was designated as India's 101st Ramsar Site?

- (A) Tsomgo Lake
- (B) Sangetsar Lake
- (C) Glaw Lake
- (D) Menmecho Lake

Answer: (C) Glaw Lake



Explanation: Glaw Lake, located in the Kamlang Tiger Reserve of Lohit district, Arunachal Pradesh, is India's 101st Ramsar site.

Q4. Who assumed charge as the Deputy Chief of Naval Staff (DCNS) of the Indian Navy on August 1, 2026?

- (A) Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti
- (B) Vice Admiral AN Pramod
- (C) Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi
- (D) Vice Admiral Sanjay Jjit Singh

Answer: (B) Vice Admiral AN Pramod

Explanation: Vice Admiral AN Pramod succeeded Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti following his retirement.

Q5. What is the primary objective of the draft rules introduced by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for Two-Wheeled Ambulances?

- (A) Transporting heavy medical machinery
- (B) Replacing four-wheeled ICU ambulances entirely
- (C) Rapid first-responder emergency care in congested urban and narrow areas
- (D) Airlifting patients to regional super-specialty hospitals

Answer: (C) Rapid first-responder emergency care in congested urban and narrow areas

Explanation: Two-wheeled ambulances enable quick navigation through dense traffic with essential life-support equipment.

Q6. Which financial institution is acting as the lead financier for the ₹26,850 crore debt facility for the 2,400 MW Meja Thermal Power expansion?

- (A) Power Finance Corporation (PFC)
- (B) State Bank of India (SBI)

- (C) REC Limited
- (D) Punjab National Bank (PNB)

Answer: (C) REC Limited

Explanation: REC Limited leads the financing, sharing the ₹26,850 crore debt on a 50:50 basis with PFC.

Q7. What is the total financial outlay for the 'Cotton Productivity Mission – Kapas Kanti'?

- (A) ₹2,500 crore
- (B) ₹4,200 crore
- (C) ₹5,659 crore
- (D) ₹7,500 crore

Answer: (C) ₹5,659 crore

Explanation: Union Minister Giriraj Singh launched the ₹5,659-crore Kapas Kanti mission during CCI's 56th Foundation Day.

Q8. Who became the first Indian woman cyclist to qualify for the Tour de France Femmes?

- (A) Deborah Herold
- (B) Harshita Jakhar
- (C) Esow Alben
- (D) Triyasha Paul

Answer: (B) Harshita Jakhar

Explanation: Harshita Jakhar secured qualification for the Tour de France Femmes.

Q9. What is the official theme for World Breastfeeding Week 2026?

- (A) Step Up for Breastfeeding: Educate and Support
- (B) Enable Breastfeeding: Making a Difference for Working Parents
- (C) Breastfeeding for a sustainable start in life: strengthen what works
- (D) Protect Breastfeeding: A Shared Responsibility

Answer: (C) Breastfeeding for a sustainable start in life: strengthen what works

Explanation: World Breastfeeding Week (Aug 1-7) focuses on sustainable early-life healthcare.

Q10. President Droupadi Murmu unveiled the statue of freedom fighter Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das in which city?

- (A) Bhubaneswar
- (B) Cuttack
- (C) New Delhi
- (D) Kolkata

Answer: (C) New Delhi

Explanation: The statue was unveiled at Gopabandhu Smruti Bhawan in New Delhi.

Q11. According to the SBI Research Report, what is the projected GDP growth rate for India in Q1 FY27?

- (A) 6.5%
- (B) 6.8%
- (C) 7.0%
- (D) 7.4%

Answer: (C) 7.0%

Explanation: The report projected Q1 FY27 GDP growth at 7.0% based on high-frequency economic indicators.

Q12. Which city has been selected to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Glasgow
- (C) Ahmedabad
- (D) Birmingham

Answer: (C) Ahmedabad

Explanation: Ahmedabad was designated to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games.

Q13. On which date is Indian Organ Donation Day (IODD) commemorated annually?

- (A) July 28
- (B) August 3
- (C) August 12
- (D) August 15

Answer: (B) August 3

Explanation: Indian Organ Donation Day commemorates India's first successful deceased donor organ transplant conducted on August 3, 1994.

Q14. What is the length of the 'Drug-Free Youth Campaign' launched by Prime Minister Modi under Viksit Bharat?

- (A) 50 Weeks
- (B) 75 Weeks
- (C) 100 Weeks
- (D) 150 Weeks

Answer: (C) 100 Weeks

Explanation: The campaign runs for 100 weeks to combat substance abuse among youth.

Q15. Under which initiative will voluntary and confidential drug testing be offered to incoming higher education students?

- (A) UGC Prevention Policy 2025
- (B) NCB Vision Document on Narcotics Control 2026-29
- (C) National Health Mission Phase-III
- (D) NITI Aayog Youth Health Framework

Answer: (B) NCB Vision Document on Narcotics Control 2026-29

Explanation: The Department of Higher Education and NCB initiated voluntary screening at IITs and IIMs.

Q16. What bulletin was launched by the Ministry of Textiles on the Cotton Corporation of India's 56th Foundation Day?

- (A) Cotton World
- (B) Kapas Darshan
- (C) Resham Patrika
- (D) Fiber India

Answer: (B) Kapas Darshan

Explanation: The *Kapas Darshan* bulletin was introduced to disseminate cotton farming updates.

Q17. A drone attack targeting a civil court headquarters occurred in North Darfur State in which nation?

- (A) Yemen
- (B) Sudan
- (C) Somalia
- (D) Ethiopia

Answer: (B) Sudan

Explanation: The strike occurred in Al-Zawiya Gara village, North Darfur, Sudan.

Q18. The proposed PM Surya Sarovar Yojana focuses primarily on which form of renewable energy generation?

- (A) Off-grid rooftop solar
- (B) Floating solar projects with integrated energy storage
- (C) Concentrated solar thermal towers
- (D) Solar-powered agricultural microgrids

Answer: (B) Floating solar projects with integrated energy storage

Explanation: The scheme promotes floating solar installations on water bodies combined with storage units.

Q19. What is the total sanctioned capacity of the expansion project at the Meja Thermal Power Plant in Uttar Pradesh?

- (A) 1,200 MW
- (B) 1,800 MW
- (C) 2,400 MW
- (D) 3,200 MW

Answer: (C) 2,400 MW

Explanation: The joint REC-PFC loan backs a 2,400 MW capacity expansion.

Q20. What is the target CPI inflation rate projected by SBI Research for the entire fiscal year FY27?

- (A) 3.5%
- (B) 4.2%
- (C) 5.0%
- (D) 6.1%

Answer: (C) 5.0%

Explanation: SBI Research projected full-year FY27 inflation at 5.0%, within the RBI's 2%–6% target band.

Q21. The Indian Navy's all-women crew completed a 25,000-nautical-mile voyage on board which vessel?

- (A) INSV Tarini
- (B) INSV Mhadei
- (C) INSV Triveni
- (D) INSV Kaveri

Answer: (C) INSV Triveni

Explanation: President Murmu hosted the crew of Triveni following their global circumnavigation.

Q22. Which state recorded the highest number of AICTE-approved technical institution closures over the past three years?

- (A) Tamil Nadu
- (B) Uttar Pradesh
- (C) Maharashtra
- (D) Gujarat

Answer: (C) Maharashtra

Explanation: Government data revealed Maharashtra recorded the highest number of closures among technical institutions.

Q23. Which non-state armed group claimed responsibility for a drone strike on Saudi Arabia's Najran Airport?

- (A) Hamas
- (B) Hezbollah
- (C) Houthi Rebels
- (D) Al-Shabaab

Answer: (C) Houthi Rebels

Explanation: Yemen's Houthi group claimed the strike on Najran Airport amid West Asian security tensions.

Q24. In which city was the 56th Foundation Day of the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) celebrated?

- (A) Ahmedabad
- (B) Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar
- (C) Coimbatore
- (D) Surat

Answer: (B) Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar

Explanation: The event took place in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, Maharashtra.

Q25. Which international organizations partner with WABA to coordinate World Breastfeeding Week annually?

- (A) UNDP and UNESCO
- (B) WHO and UNICEF

- (C) UNEP and FAO
- (D) ILO and UNHCR

Answer: (B) WHO and UNICEF

Explanation: World Breastfeeding Week is organized by WABA in partnership with WHO and UNICEF.

Q26. What primary sector does the ASIP Technologies unit in Visakhapatnam serve?

- (A) Textile Manufacturing
- (B) Semiconductor Packaging and Testing
- (C) Automobile Assembly
- (D) Renewable Wind Equipment

Answer: (B) Semiconductor Packaging and Testing

Explanation: The ₹2,500 crore project strengthens domestic semiconductor infrastructure.

Q27. Glaw Lake, India's 101st Ramsar site, is located within which protected wildlife area?

- (A) Namdapha National Park
- (B) Kamlang Tiger Reserve
- (C) Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary
- (D) Mouling National Park

Answer: (B) Kamlang Tiger Reserve

Explanation: Glaw Lake lies within the Kamlang Tiger Reserve in Lohit District, Arunachal Pradesh.

Q28. What key regulatory clarity did the Government issue regarding E20 petrol blend usage?

- (A) E20 requires mandatory engine replacements
- (B) E20 petrol has no adverse impact on motor vehicle insurance claims

(C) E20 blend is restricted to commercial trucks only

(D) E20 blend incurs an additional 10% road tax surcharge

Answer: (B) E20 petrol has no adverse impact on motor vehicle insurance claims

Explanation: The government clarified that E20 fuel usage does not invalidate vehicle insurance policies.

Q29. Which National Highway projects were included in the ₹1,880 crore development push in Andhra Pradesh?

(A) NH-44 and NH-16

(B) NH-365BG, NH-67, and NH-565

(C) NH-66 and NH-48

(D) NH-27 and NH-52

Answer: (B) NH-365BG, NH-67, and NH-565

Explanation: Foundation stones were laid for expanding sections of NH-365BG, NH-67, and NH-565.

Q30. Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das, whose statue was recently unveiled, was a freedom fighter from which state?

(A) West Bengal

(B) Odisha

(C) Jharkhand

(D) Bihar

Answer: (B) Odisha

Explanation: Gopabandhu Das was a social reformer, journalist, and freedom fighter from Odisha.