

Important Days & Themes

- **World Teachers' Day (October 5):** Observed globally to recognize the contribution of educators and address challenges within the profession. The date commemorates the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO recommendation concerning the status of teachers.
- **2026 Theme:** "Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession, advancing its status and shaping our futures".

National News & Govt Schemes

- **Next-Gen GST Reforms:** The GST Council is considering a major proposal to remove arrest powers under the GST regime to ease compliance for MSMEs and curb "tax terrorism". Rate rationalization is also heavily on the agenda to lower taxes on mass-consumption goods and correct inverted duty structures.
- **3D-Printed Rural Houses (PMAY-G):** Andhra Pradesh is set to pilot India's first national-level project to construct rural houses using 3D Concrete Printing (3DCP) under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin.
- **National Coastal Mission (NCM) 2.0:** The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched guidelines for NCM 2.0. To be implemented from 2025–26 to 2030–31, it aims to strengthen coastal resilience and unlock the economic potential of India's Blue Economy.
- **First Free-Space QKD Link:** QNu Labs, BISAG-N, and IIT Gandhinagar successfully demonstrated India's first free-space Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) link, safely transmitting quantum keys over 5.56 km.

- **Centres of Excellence in Classical Languages:** The Ministry of Education formally approved five Centres of Excellence to preserve and promote India's newly recognized classical languages.

International News

- **153rd Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly:** A high-level Indian Parliamentary Delegation, led by Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh, departed for Arusha, Tanzania, to participate in the IPU assembly.
- **US Defence Deployments:** As the US-Iran conflict enters its eighth month, the US announced the deployment of a third aircraft carrier strike group and up to 10,000 additional troops to the Middle East.

Economics & Banking

- **FDI Reaches 5-Year High:** India's net Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) rose to US\$ 7.35 billion in July 2026, marking the highest inflow since May 2021. Major receiving sectors include communication, financial services, and computer services.
- **India's First Blue Bond:** Sagarmala Finance Corporation Ltd. (SMFCL) launched India's first blue bond to raise ₹600 crore. The 10-year bond will exclusively finance marine and water-related sustainability projects, including greenfield ports and coastal roads.
- **RoDTEP Scheme Extended:** The Department of Commerce extended the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) Scheme up to December 31, 2026, to support domestic exporters in international markets.

Appointments

- **HDFC Bank MD & CEO:** The RBI approved the appointment of Anup Bagchi (currently MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance)



as the new MD & CEO of HDFC Bank, effective October 27, 2026, for a three-year tenure.

- **Judge at ITLOS:** Indian jurist Bimal N. Patel took the oath as a Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in Hamburg, Germany. He secured a nine-year term.

Defense & Security

- **Akash Air Defence System Exports:** As of October 2026, India has successfully exported the indigenous short-range surface-to-air Akash missile system to Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.



DRDO's Akash Missile System Specifications.
Source: PMF IAS

- **HAL–SkyPulse MoU:** Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and SkyPulse Solutions signed a ₹2,491 crore Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a proposed commercial helicopter programme.

C4S Courses

Sports

- **Asian Games 2026 (Nagoya, Japan):** India concluded its campaign in fourth position with a total of 85 medals (21 Gold, 27 Silver, 37 Bronze). China topped the table with 341 medals.
 - **Notable Wins:** Lovlina Borgohain won gold in the women's 75 kg boxing category, becoming the first Indian woman boxer to reach back-to-back Asian Games finals. Sunil Kumar won bronze in the 87 kg Greco-Roman wrestling event.
- **India's 99th Chess Grandmaster:** Rathanvel of Tamil Nadu crossed the required 2,500 Elo rating during the Guwahati Smart City International Open 2026 to officially become India's 99th Grandmaster.

Art & Culture, Environment

- **Ramappa Temple Conservation:** Heritage activists are protesting the proposed PVNR opencast coal mine in Telangana, warning that it poses severe structural threats to the UNESCO-listed Ramappa Temple and the adjacent Ramappa Lake.



UNESCO World Heritage Site: Ramappa Temple.
Source: Tour My India

- **Great Indian Bustard Release:** The Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change released two captive-bred male Great Indian Bustards (GIBs) into the



wild at Sam in the Desert National Park (DNP), Jaisalmer, boosting local conservation efforts.

- **Muziris Heritage Project:** Kerala Chief Minister V.D. Satheesan announced the expansion of the Muziris Heritage Project, integrating water taxis and kayaks to elevate global historical tourism.

Awards & Honors

- **Skytrax World Airline Awards 2026:** Singapore Airlines was named the World's Best Airline. Air India became the highest-ranked Indian airline at 57th globally, while IndiGo ranked 61st and won Best Low-Cost Airline in India & South Asia.

Section 1: International News

Q1. On October 5, 2026, UNESCO hosted the global observance of World Teachers' Day in Paris. Which international body jointly adopted the landmark 1966 Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers commemorated on this day?

- A) International Labour Organization (ILO)
- B) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- C) World Health (WHO)
- D) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- **Correct Answer:** A) International Labour Organization (ILO)

- **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually on October 5. The 2026 observance marks the **60th milestone anniversary** of the 1966 Joint ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.
- **Key Details:** The 1966 Recommendation set international benchmarks regarding

rights, responsibilities, initial education, continuing training, employment, and learning conditions for teachers.

- **Significance:** Convened by UNESCO, ILO, UNICEF, and Education International, the global event highlights pressing issues such as professional autonomy, workload, remuneration, and the global shortage of nearly 44 million primary and secondary teachers.

Q2. India and Russia are accelerating maritime logistics via the Eastern Maritime Corridor (EMC). Which two major ports are connected by this strategic shipping route?

- A) Vladivostok and Chennai
- B) St. Petersburg and Mumbai
- C) Murmansk and Cochin
- D) Vladivostok and Visakhapatnam

- **Correct Answer:** A) Vladivostok and Chennai

- **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** High-level bilateral discussions in October 2026 emphasized operationalizing the **Eastern Maritime Corridor (EMC)** to boost Indo-Russian trade efficiency.
- **Key Details:** EMC links **Chennai Port (India)** with **Vladivostok Port (Russia)** through the Sea of Japan, South China Sea, and Malacca Strait.
- **Exam Relevance:** EMC reduces the transit distance between East Coast India and Far East Russia to ~5,600 nautical miles (approx. 10–12 days), down from 8,675 nautical miles (28–30 days) via the traditional Suez Canal route.

Q3. Which nation hosted the high-level Sustainable Digital Infrastructure & AI Energy

Summit in October 2026 to address the carbon footprint of AI data centers?

A) France

B) United Arab Emirates (UAE)

C) Japan

D) Singapore

• **Correct Answer: B) United Arab Emirates (UAE)**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** The UAE hosted international delegates in October 2026 to address energy consumption trends driven by hyper-scale AI server clusters.
- **Key Details:** The summit introduced framework agreements for green data centers powered by nuclear and solar energy, aligning with the UAE's Net Zero 2050 Strategic Initiative.
- **UPSC/SSC Tip:** India and UAE signed multiple MoUs under the Green Hydrogen and Digital Infrastructure Partnership to support grid-connected sustainable energy projects.

◦ **Context:** UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath confirmed the official restoration of the name **Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi**.

◦ **Historical Background:** Originally named Sant Ravidas Nagar in 1994, it was later reverted to Bhadohi in 2014. The updated official designation integrates both identities.

◦ **Economic Fact:** Bhadohi is known as the "Carpet City of India" and hosts the largest hand-knotted carpet manufacturing hub in South Asia, holding a prominent Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

Q5. Under the 'Amarajeevi Jaladhara' programme highlighted in state administrative developments, what primary infrastructure deliverable is being targeted?

A) Solarizing agricultural deep-borewell pumps

B) Extending functional household tap connections to 27 lakh families

C) Interlinking sub-basin tributaries for flood control

D) Desalination plant setup across coastal urban centers

• **Correct Answer: B) Extending functional household tap connections to 27 lakh families**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

◦ **Context:** October 2026 state updates highlighted the expansion of the **Amarajeevi Jaladhara Programme**.

◦ **Key Targets:** The initiative aims to provide treated, piped drinking water tap connections to **27 lakh additional families**, supplementing national goals under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

◦ **Exam Context:** Named after freedom fighter Potti Sreeramulu ('Amarajeevi'),

Section 2: National News

Q4. The Uttar Pradesh Government officially approved the renaming of Bhadohi district in October 2026. What is the updated official title of the district?

A) Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi

B) Maharishi Valmiki Nagar

C) Gautam Buddha Nagar

D) Prayagraj Dehat

• **Correct Answer: A) Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

the programme focuses on addressing chronic fluorosis and water scarcity in drought-prone regions.

Q6. Under Article 324 of the Constitution and the Election Commission Act, 2023, who selects the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs)?

- A) Chief Justice of India acting as sole authority
- B) Selection Committee comprising the PM, a Union Cabinet Minister, and the Leader of Opposition/Largest Party in Lok Sabha
- C) Full Bench of the Supreme Court of India
- D) Rajya Sabha Chairman along with the Law Minister

- **Correct Answer: B) Selection Committee comprising the PM, a Union Cabinet Minister, and the Leader of Opposition/Largest Party in Lok Sabha**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Petitions regarding administrative governance under Article 324 came up before the Supreme Court of India in early October 2026.
- **Legal Provision:** Under The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, appointments are made by the President on the recommendation of a 3-member Selection Committee:
 1. Prime Minister (Chairperson)
 2. Leader of Opposition or Leader of the largest opposition party in Lok Sabha
 3. Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister
- **Tenure:** CEC and ECs hold office for 6 years or until reaching 65 years of age, whichever is earlier.

Section 3: Economics & Banking

Q7. According to official data released by the Ministry of Finance, what was the gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection recorded for September 2026?

- A) ₹1.85 Lakh Crore
- B) ₹2.04 Lakh Crore
- C) ₹2.25 Lakh Crore
- D) ₹1.68 Lakh Crore

- **Correct Answer: B) ₹2.04 Lakh Crore**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** India's gross GST revenue for September 2026 reached **₹2,03,521 crore (~₹2.04 Lakh Crore)**, reflecting a 14.7% Year-on-Year (YoY) growth.

◦ **Key Components:**

- Gross Domestic GST Revenue: ₹1,37,996 crore (+10.1%)
- GST from Imports: ₹65,525 crore (+25.9%)
- Net GST Collections (post refunds): Jumps 18.1% to ₹1.76 Lakh Crore.

- **Exam Takeaway:** Cumulative gross GST collections for April–September 2026 reached **₹12.46 lakh crore** (+11.6% YoY).

Q8. What is the current policy Repo Rate set by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)?

- A) 6.00%
- B) 6.25%
- C) 6.50%
- D) 6.75%

- **Correct Answer: C) 6.50%**

• **Detailed Explanation:**



- **Context:** In its Monetary Policy statement, the RBI MPC retained the benchmark **Repo Rate at 6.50%**.
- **Associated Key Policy Rates:**
 - **Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate:** 6.25%
 - **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate:** 6.75%
 - **Bank Rate:** 6.75%
 - **Reverse Repo Rate (Fixed):** 3.35%
- **Policy Stance:** Focuses on 'Withdrawal of Accommodation' to align inflation with the target rate of 4% (+/- 2%) while supporting economic growth.

Q9. Under the RBI's mandatory Digital Lending Architecture guidelines, how must loan disbursements and repayments strictly flow?

- A) Through a pooled escrow account operated by Loan Service Providers (LSPs)
 - B) Directly between the bank account of the Regulated Entity (RE) and the borrower
 - C) Via third-party payment gateway aggregators
 - D) Through peer-to-peer (P2P) clearing houses
- **Correct Answer: B) Directly between the bank account of the Regulated Entity (RE) and the borrower**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** RBI enforcement checks on Fintechs and DLAs enforce strict compliance with regulatory framework rules.
- **Core Regulation:** All financial transactions (disbursements and repayments) must occur **directly between the borrower's verified bank account and the Regulated Entity (RE)** (Banks/NBFCs) without pass-through via third-party LSP accounts.

- **Purpose:** Prevents illegal fees, unauthorized data collection, and predatory lending practices by unregulated digital apps.

Section 4: Sports

Q10. Which nation is hosting the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 tournament?

- A) Australia
- B) England
- C) India
- D) South Africa

• **Correct Answer: B) England**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** The 10th edition of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup is hosted by England & Wales in 2026.
- **Expanded Format:** The 2026 edition features **12 participating teams** (expanded from 10 in previous editions), competing across major venues including Lord's, The Oval, and Edgbaston.
- **Exam Context:** The inaugural Women's T20 World Cup was held in England in 2009.

Q11. The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) governs Olympic shooting events globally. Where is the permanent headquarters of the ISSF located?

- A) Lausanne, Switzerland
- B) Munich, Germany
- C) Vienna, Austria
- D) Monaco

• **Correct Answer: B) Munich, Germany**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Indian shooters participated in international qualification events for rifle, pistol, and shotgun disciplines on the ISSF calendar.



○ **Static GK Details:**

- **ISSF Founded:** 1907
- **Headquarters:** Munich, Germany
- **Presidency:** Luciano Rossi
- **Disciplines:** Rifle, Pistol, and Shotgun events across 10m, 25m, 50m, Trap, and Skeet.

Q12. Who serves as the President of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), which oversees the World Table Tennis Championships and continental events?

- A) Petra Sörling
- B) Thomas Bach
- C) Gianni Infantino
- D) Kirsty Coventry

• **Correct Answer:** A) Petra Sörling

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** India hosted major Asian Table Tennis circuit events in late 2026 under ITTF supervision.
- **Key Personality:** Petra Sörling (Sweden) became the first female President of the ITTF upon her election in 2021.
- **Headquarters:** Lausanne, Switzerland (founded in 1926).

Section 5: Appointments & Resignations

Q13. Who assumed charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in October 2026?

- A) Narendra Bhooshan
- B) T.V. Somanathan
- C) Govind Mohan
- D) Vikram Misri

• **Correct Answer:** A) Narendra Bhooshan

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Senior IAS officer **Narendra Bhooshan** formally assumed charge as Secretary, MoEFCC.

- **Role:** Heads central administrative policy execution across environmental conservation, forest management, biodiversity protection, and India's international climate pledges (Panchamrit targets under COP).

○ **Other Notable Bureaucratic Appointments:**

- **Cabinet Secretary:** T.V. Somanathan
- **Home Secretary:** Govind Mohan
- **Foreign Secretary:** Vikram Misri

Q14. Who was appointed as the Chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)?

- A) Mandeep K. Bhandari
- B) Nidhi Chhibber
- C) Sanjay Kumar
- D) Rahul Himalian

• **Correct Answer:** A) Mandeep K. Bhandari

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Senior bureaucrat **Mandeep K. Bhandari** was appointed to head the CBSE.
- **Organization:** CBSE is a national-level board of education in India for public and private schools, controlled and managed by the Ministry of Education.
- **Key Mandate:** Oversees implementation of national educational frameworks, national entrance tests (via NTA coordination), and curriculum reforms aligned with NEP 2020.

Q15. Who was given additional charge as the Chairperson of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)?

- A) Jayanti Prasad
- B) Ravi Mital
- C) Navrang Saini
- D) Satya Pal Kumar

• **Correct Answer: A) Jayanti Prasad**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Jayanti Prasad took additional charge as IBBI Chairperson.
- **IBBI Details:** Established on October 1, 2016 under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016.
- **Functions:** Regulates insolvency professionals, insolvency professional agencies, and information utilities while enforcing corporate insolvency resolution processes (CIRP) and liquidation.

Section 6: Awards & Honors

Q16. On October 5, 2026, the Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, and Georg Nagel. What was their pioneering breakthrough?

- A) Discoveries concerning light-gated ion channels and optogenetics
- B) Discovery of microRNA and its role in gene regulation
- C) Development of nucleoside base modifications for mRNA vaccines
- D) Discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch

• **Correct Answer: A) Discoveries concerning light-gated ion channels and optogenetics**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Breaking News (Oct 5, 2026):** Karl Deisseroth (USA), Peter Hegemann (Germany), and Georg Nagel (Germany)

won the **2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine**.

- **Scientific Breakthrough:** Their discoveries of light-sensitive algal proteins (channelrhodopsins) enabled the creation of **Optogenetics** — a revolutionary technique allowing scientists to turn specific nerve cells on or off using precise flashes of light.
- **Impact:** Transformed neuroscience by permitting targeted mapping of brain circuits related to Parkinson's disease, depression, addiction, and vision loss restoration.

Q17. The prestigious UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development is awarded biennially during World Teachers' Day. Where is this award ceremony organized?

- A) UNESCO Headquarters, Paris
- B) UN Headquarters, New York
- C) Geneva, Switzerland
- D) Abu Dhabi, UAE

• **Correct Answer: A) UNESCO Headquarters, Paris**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** The **9th UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development** was presented during the World Teachers' Day ceremony at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on October 5, 2026.
- **About the Prize:** Created in 2008 and funded by Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum of Dubai, the \$300,000 prize rewards outstanding initiatives that improve teaching performance and pedagogical practices globally.

Q18. Sattriya dance, recognized as one of India's classical dances by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in the year 2000, originated in which state?

- A) Assam
- B) Manipur
- C) Odisha
- D) Kerala

• **Correct Answer: A) Assam**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Cultural heritage honors and classical dance awards highlighted the preservation of regional art forms.
- **Origin:** Created in the 15th century AD by the legendary Vaishnavite saint and social reformer **Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankaradeva** as a medium for propagation of the Ekasarana Dharma.
- **Key Feature:** Traditionally performed in Sattras (monasteries). It was formally recognized as a Classical Dance form of India by Sangeet Natak Akademi in November 2000.

- **Participation:** Features air assets including the US **F-35 Lightning II**, IAF Su-30MKI, Rafale, and Tejas, operating alongside participating air forces from Australia, USA, UAE, France, Germany, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh.

Q20. The 18th edition of the India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise 'NOMADIC ELEPHANT 2026' was held at which location in India?

- A) Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand
- B) Umroi, Meghalaya
- C) Foreign Training Node, Mahajan
- D) Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh

• **Correct Answer: A) Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** The 18th edition of **NOMADIC ELEPHANT** concluded at the Foreign Training Node in **Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand**.
- **Frequency & Hosting:** Conducted annually, alternating between India and Mongolia.
- **Scope:** Focuses on counter-terrorism operations under UN mandate in mountainous terrain, counter-drone operations, cyber security drills, and special heliborne tactics.

Q21. Exercise 'Yudh Abhyas 2026' represents the 22nd edition of the joint bilateral military exercise between India and which partner nation?

- A) United States
- B) Japan
- C) Australia
- D) United Kingdom

• **Correct Answer: A) United States**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

Section 7: Defense News

Q19. The Indian Air Force (IAF) is hosting its premier multinational air exercise, 'Tarang Shakti 2026' (Sept 26 - Oct 12, 2026). Where is the operational phase being conducted?

- A) Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- B) Air Force Station Sulur, Tamil Nadu
- C) Air Force Station Jamnagar, Gujarat
- D) Air Force Station Hasimara, West Bengal

• **Correct Answer: A) Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Exercise **Tarang Shakti 2026** is underway at **Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan**.
- **Theme:** "Power in Partnership".

- **Context:** The 22nd edition of **Exercise Yudh Abhyas** between the Indian Army and the US Army featured joint combat drills.
- **Focus Areas:** Operational integration of long-range precision fires, counter-unmanned aerial systems (C-UAS), combined arms tactics, and tactical-level joint operations in complex terrain.

Section 8: Govt Schemes & MoUs

Q22. Under the Union Government's 'PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana', what is the maximum monthly free electricity capacity targeted for beneficiary households?

- A) Up to 150 Units
- B) Up to 300 Units
- C) Up to 500 Units
- D) Up to 200 Units

• **Correct Answer: B) Up to 300 Units**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Review metrics of PM-Surya Ghar scheme highlight nationwide residential solar rooftop adoption.
- **Financial Outlay:** Total budget of ₹75,021 Crore targeting 1 crore households.
- **Subsidy Structure:**
 - 60% of system cost for 2 kW systems.
 - 40% of additional system cost for systems between 2 kW and 3 kW capacity.
 - Provides up to 300 units of free electricity per month per eligible household.

Q23. Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL) signed an MoU for deep-exploration and mining of Lithium blocks with which South American nation?

- A) Argentina
- B) Chile

C) Bolivia

D) Brazil

• **Correct Answer: A) Argentina**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** India's critical mineral security roadmap saw momentum via KABIL agreements.
- **Details:** Joint venture company KABIL (under Ministry of Mines) secured exploration and mining rights for 5 lithium brine blocks in Catamarca province, Argentina.
- **Strategic Relevance:** Argentina forms part of the "Lithium Triangle" (along with Chile and Bolivia), holding over half of the world's identified lithium reserves essential for EV battery manufacturing.

Q24. The PM-DevINE (Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region) is a 100% Central Sector Scheme. Which Nodal Ministry administers it?

- A) Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER)
- B) Ministry of Home Affairs
- C) Ministry of Rural Development
- D) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

• **Correct Answer: A) Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER)**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Scheme Overview:** Announced in the Union Budget, **PM-DevINE** addresses infrastructure gaps and livelihood projects in the North Eastern states.
- **Funding:** 100% Central Government funding (outlay of ₹6,600 crore for 2022-23 to 2025-26).

- **Implementation:** Executed through MDoNER, North Eastern Council (NEC), and state implementation agencies without duplicating existing departmental projects.

Section 9: Important Days (National & International)

Q25. What is the official global UNESCO theme for World Teachers' Day 2026 (October 5)?

- A) "Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession, advancing its status and shaping our futures"
- B) "The teachers we need for the education we want"
- C) "Valuing teacher voices: towards a new social contract for education"
- D) "Teachers at the heart of education recovery"

- **Correct Answer:** A) "Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession, advancing its status and shaping our futures"

• Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** October 5 is observed worldwide as World Teachers' Day.
- **2026 Theme:** "Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession, advancing its status and shaping our futures."
- **Historical Context:** Commemorates the adoption of the 1966 UNESCO/ILO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.

Q26. The International Day of Older Persons is observed globally on October 1 every year. Which UN specialized agency leads the 'Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021-2030)'?

- A) World Health Organization (WHO)
- B) UNESCO

- C) United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- D) International Labour Organization (ILO)

- **Correct Answer:** A) World Health Organization (WHO)

• Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** October 1 is designated as the **International Day of Older Persons** by UNGA Resolution 45/106 (passed in 1990).
- **Decade Initiative:** The **UN Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030)** is led by the **WHO** in collaboration with UN agencies to foster age-friendly environments, combat ageism, and align integrated primary healthcare systems.

Section 10: Art, Culture & Festivals

Q27. The famous floral festival 'Bathukamma', celebrated in October in Telangana, is primarily dedicated to worshipping which deity?

- A) Goddess Maha Gauri / Parvati
- B) Goddess Lakshmi
- C) Goddess Saraswati
- D) Goddess Sita

- **Correct Answer:** A) Goddess Maha Gauri / Parvati

• Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Bathukamma is a 9-day floral festival celebrated by women in Telangana during the monsoon-to-autumn transition (coinciding with Navratri).
- **Meaning:** "Bathukamma" translates to "Mother Goddess Come Alive", representing Goddess Parvati/Maha Gauri.
- **Tradition:** Concentric stacks of seasonal wildflowers with unique medicinal properties (Gunugu, Tangedu, Banti, Chamanthi) are arranged in conical

structures and immersed in water bodies on Saddula Bathukamma.

Q28. Mysuru Dasara is celebrated as the State Festival (Nada Habba) of Karnataka. Which sacred idol is placed inside the 750-kg golden howdah during the famous 'Jamboo Savari' procession?

- A) Goddess Chamundeshwari
- B) Goddess Bhuvaneshwari
- C) Lord Shiva
- D) Goddess Sharadamba

• **Correct Answer:** A) Goddess Chamundeshwari

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Mysuru Dasara culminates on Vijayadashami with the grand procession called **Jamboo Savari**.
- **Key Feature:** The idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari (slayer of demon Mahishasura) is carried inside a **750 kg golden howdah** (Chinna Bangarada Ambari) mounted on a decorated lead elephant, starting from Mysuru Palace to Bannimantap.

Section 11: Books, Authors & Anniversaries

Q29. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's birth anniversary on October 15 is commemorated as World Students' Day. Which of the following acclaimed books was authored by Dr. Kalam?

- A) Ignited Minds
- B) The Discovery of India
- C) An Uncertain Glory
- D) My Experiments with Truth

• **Correct Answer:** A) Ignited Minds

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** October literary events honor national authors and visionaries.
- **Author Profile:** Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam (11th President of India, known as the "Missile Man of India").
- **Notable Books:** Ignited Minds, Wings of Fire (Autobiography), India 2020, Target 3 Billion, and Turning Points.
- **World Students' Day:** October 15 is designated by the United Nations to honor his contributions as a scientist, teacher, and mentor.

Q30. October 2 is observed globally as the International Day of Non-Violence to mark the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. In which year did the UN General Assembly adopt the resolution establishing this day?

- A) 2007
- B) 2001
- C) 1995
- D) 2014

• **Correct Answer:** A) 2007

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** October 2 commemorates the birth anniversary of **Mahatma Gandhi** (and former PM Lal Bahadur Shastri).
- **UN Resolution:** UNGA Resolution 61/271 was unanimously passed on **June 15, 2007**, establishing October 2 as the **International Day of Non-Violence**.
- **Lal Bahadur Shastri Note:** Shastri Ji was India's 2nd Prime Minister, who gave the slogan "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan" during the 1965 war and signed the Tashkent Declaration in 1966.