

National News

1. CCEA Approves ₹8,970 Crore Guwahati-Tezpur Highway Corridor

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the development of a 135.87-km, four-lane access-controlled corridor on National Highway 15 (NH-15) connecting Guwahati and Tezpur in Assam.

- **Project Cost:** ₹8,970.20 crore.
- **Objective:** Enhances connectivity across the Brahmaputra valley, drastically reduces transit time, and boosts trade corridors in the North-East region.

2. Milestone Achievement in India's Solar Power Sector

India's domestic solar power capacity expanded to **162.15 GW by mid-2026**, registering a 57-fold capacity increase since 2014.

PMF IAS

- **Global Ranking:** India surpassed Japan to become the world's **3rd largest solar power producer** (generating over 108,000 GWh) and stands as the **2nd largest growth market** globally.
- **Domestic Manufacturing:** Module manufacturing capacity reached **172 GW**, driven by the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.
- **LCOE Efficiency:** Utility-scale solar electricity cost dropped to **\$35 per MWh** in India, compared to the global average of \$44 per MWh.

International News

1. JWST Discovers Ancient Hydrated Minerals on Neptune's Moons

The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) detected magnesium-rich phyllosilicates (hydrated minerals) on Neptune's inner moons (Larissa and Galatea) and surrounding ring structures.

- **Significance:** Because these small moons lack the mass to maintain internal heat for liquid water interaction, scientists conclude these fragments originated from an ancient disrupted moon system prior to the gravitational capture of Triton.

2. 81st Commemoration of Nagasaki Day

On August 9, 2026, the global community observed the 81st anniversary of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, Japan, at the Peace Statue Plaza in Nagasaki Peace Park.

- **Background:** The atomic bomb code-named "Fat Man" was dropped on Nagasaki by the United States on August 9, 1945, three days after the bombing of Hiroshima ("Little Boy").

Economics & Banking

1. RBI Expands Upper-Layer NBFCs to 17 for FY27

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) published its scale-based regulation (SBR) list identifying **17 Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)** in the Upper Layer (UL) for FY2026-27.

- **New Entrants:** Four public-sector infrastructure NBFCs were added:
 1. Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Ltd.
 2. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) Ltd.
 3. Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) Ltd.
 4. Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) Ltd.

- **Retained Status:** Tata Sons Pvt. Ltd. remains in the Upper Layer.

2. Standard Chartered Bank Receives GIFT City Wealth Management Approval

Standard Chartered Bank obtained regulatory approval from the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to offer wealth management products and services through its branch at GIFT City (Gandhinagar, Gujarat).

- **Context:** Standard Chartered was the first foreign bank to begin operations in GIFT City IFSC in 2020.

3. Indian Bank Credit Outreach & Portal Launch

On its 120th Foundation Day celebrations, Indian Bank launched its **Unified MSME Portal**, enabling paperless, in-principle loan approvals within 30 minutes.

- The bank sanctioned nearly ₹500 crore in MSME loans during its Delhi outreach program.

Defense News

1. Sqn Ldr Bhawana Kanth Becomes First Female Fighter Combat Leader (FCL)

Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth became the first woman fighter pilot in the Indian Air Force (IAF) to successfully complete the elite **Fighter Combat Leader (FCL)** course from the Tactics and Air Combat Development Establishment (TACDE), Gwalior.

- **Context:** TACDE represents the IAF's counterpart to the "Top Gun" school; only 1% of fighter pilots qualify for this 20-week intensive combat program.

2. Successful Test-Firing of Agni-4 Missile

India successfully conducted a training launch of the **Agni-4** Medium-Range Ballistic Missile

(MRBM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha.

- **Specifications:** Surface-to-surface missile with a operational range of approximately 4,000 km, powered by a two-stage solid propellant engine system.

3. INS Sunayna Maritime Surveillance Deployment

Naval Offshore Patrol Vessel **INS Sunayna** arrived at Port Victoria, Seychelles, to undertake joint Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) surveillance in the Western Indian Ocean under India's SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) doctrine.

Government Schemes & MoUs

1. Cabinet Approves ₹23,731 Crore GOBARdhan Scheme Outlay

The Union Cabinet formally sanctioned an expanded budget of **₹23,731 crore** for the **Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBARdhan)** initiative.

- **Objective:** Converts organic waste, agricultural residue, and cattle dung into Compressed Biogas (CBG) and Bio-CNG to accelerate rural waste-to-wealth conversion and promote circular economics.

2. First Commercial Large-Format Additive Manufacturing Facility MoU

Lohia Aerospace Systems (LASPL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Israel's Massivit to set up India's first commercial large-format 3D printing / additive manufacturing unit in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

- **Investment:** USD 8 to 10 million.

Awards & Honors

Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak Awarded to 12 Rat Miners

The Union Government conferred the prestigious **Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak** on 12 rat-hole miners for their heroic role in successfully rescuing 41 trapped workers during the November 2023 Silkyara Tunnel collapse in Uttarakhand.

- About the Award:** Instituted in 1961, Jeevan Raksha Padak awards honor extraordinary human courage in saving lives during mining incidents, natural disasters, or accidents.

Appointments & Resignations

- Jharkhand Public Service Commission (JPSC) Resignations:** Following allegations regarding exam irregularities, three members of JPSC (Ajeeta Bhattacharya, Anima Hansda, and Jamal Ahmad) resigned; Governor Santosh Kumar Gangwar formally accepted their resignations.

Important Days (National & International)

Date	Event / Observance	Key Significance
09 August	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	Established by UNGA in 1994 to protect indigenous rights, land sovereignty, and traditional knowledge.
09 August	Nagasaki Day	Commemorates the victims of the 1945 atomic bombing on Nagasaki.
08-09 August	Quit India Movement	Marks Mahatma Gandhi's historic call for "Do or Die" (<i>Karo ya Maro</i>) at

Date	Event / Observance	Key Significance
	Day (August Kranti Diwas)	Gowalia Tank Maidan, Mumbai, in 1942.

Art & Culture & Anniversaries

- Ansupa Lake (Odisha):** Added to the official list of Ramsar Sites (Wetlands of International Importance), highlighting Odisha's freshwater wetland preservation.
- August Kranti Din:** Commemorated nationally to honor the freedom fighters of the 1942 Quit India struggle.

Practice Questions (Exam Quiz)

Q1. Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth recently became the first woman fighter pilot to complete the Fighter Combat Leader (FCL) course at which establishment?

- (A) Air Force Academy, Dundigal
- (B) TACDE, Gwalior
- (C) College of Air Warfare, Secunderabad
- (D) ASTE, Bengaluru

Answer: (B) TACDE, Gwalior

Q2. What is the overall financial outlay approved by the Union Cabinet for the Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBARdhan) scheme?

- (A) ₹12,500 crore
- (B) ₹18,900 crore
- (C) ₹23,731 crore
- (D) ₹28,450 crore

Answer: (C) ₹23,731 crore

Q3. Which of the following public sector NBFCs was newly included in the RBI's Upper Layer (UL) list for FY 2026-27?

- (A) NABARD
- (B) Power Finance Corporation (PFC)
- (C) SIDBI
- (D) EXIM Bank

Answer: (B) Power Finance Corporation (PFC)

Q4. The Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak was recently conferred upon 12 individuals associated with which major operation?

- (A) Operation Kaveri
- (B) Silkyara Tunnel Rescue Operation
- (C) Operation Ganga
- (D) Wayanad Landslide Rescue Operation

Answer: (B) Silkyara Tunnel Rescue Operation

Category 1: Defense & Security News

Q1. Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth recently made history by becoming the first female fighter pilot of the Indian Air Force (IAF) to complete which elite operational course at TACDE, Gwalior?

- [A] Fighter Combat Leader (FCL) course
- [B] Weapons System Operator (WSO) course
- [C] Experimental Test Pilot Course (ETPC)
- [D] Flying Instructor Course (FIC)

Correct Answer: [A] Fighter Combat Leader (FCL) course

Detailed Explanation:

Context: Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first female fighter pilot in the Indian Air Force to graduate from the prestigious 20-week **Fighter Combat Leader (FCL)** course conducted at the Tactics and Air Combat Development

Establishment (TACDE) in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.

Key Details: FCL is often referred to as the IAF's equivalent of the US Navy's "Top Gun" school. Only about top 1% of fighter pilots are selected for this demanding tactical course.

Background: Bhawana Kanth, hailing from Darbhanga (Bihar), was commissioned into the IAF in June 2016 as part of the first batch of female fighter pilots alongside Avani Chaturvedi and Mohana Singh. She has operational experience flying the MiG-21 Bison and Su-30 MKI aircraft.

Q2. India successfully conducted the flight testing of which Intermediate/Medium-Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) from Chandipur, Odisha in August 2026?

- [A] Agni-I
- [B] Agni-II
- [C] Agni-III
- [D] Agni-IV

Correct Answer: [D] Agni-IV

Detailed Explanation:

Context: Strategic Forces Command (SFC), along with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), successfully test-fired the **Agni-IV** nuclear-capable ballistic missile from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha.

Technical Specs: Agni-IV is a two-stage, solid-fueled surface-to-surface ballistic missile with a strike range of approximately **4,000 km**.

Significance: It incorporates advanced avionics, composite rocket motors, and a high-accuracy Ring Laser Gyro-based Inertial Navigation System (RINS) to validate weapon systems reliability and military operational readiness.

Q3. India has initiated preliminary discussions to explore participation in which France-led international defense partnership for developing 6th-generation fighter aircraft?

- [A] Global Combat Air Programme (GCAP)
- [B] Future Combat Air System (FCAS)
- [C] Tempest System Framework
- [D] Next Generation Air Dominance (NGAD)

Correct Answer: [B] Future Combat Air System (FCAS)

Detailed Explanation:

Context: The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence recommended establishing a long-term roadmap for 6th-generation aerial combat capabilities, prompting India to explore participation in international consortiums like **FCAS (Future Combat Air System)** led by France and Germany.

Global Alliances: Globally, two major 6th-gen programs exist:

1. **FCAS** (France, Germany, Spain)
2. **GCAP** (UK, Japan, Italy)

Domestic Alignment: This exploratory engagement works parallel to India's indigenous 5th-generation **AMCA (Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft)** program, ensuring technological deterrence in modern air warfare.

Q4. Which Indian private defense/aerospace enterprise signed an MoU with Massivit to introduce large-format 3D-printing technology for manufacturing UAVs and aircraft components?

- [A] Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL)
- [B] Lead Intelligent Aerospace Private Limited (LASPL)
- [C] Dynamatic Technologies
- [D] Bharat Forge Defense Division

Correct Answer: [B] Lead Intelligent Aerospace Private Limited (LASPL)

Detailed Explanation:

Context: LASPL entered into an agreement with global technology firm Massivit to deploy industrial-grade 3D-printing systems for rapid prototyping and manufacturing of aerospace structures, molds, and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) components in India.

Impact: The additive manufacturing platform reduces traditional production cycles by up to **90%**, supporting cost-effective indigenous manufacturing under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative in defense.

Category 2: Economics, Banking & Finance

Q5. In August 2026, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) expanded the Upper-Layer (UL) list of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) for FY27 to 17 entities. Which of the following was NEWLY added to this list?

- [A] Tata Sons Private Limited
- [B] Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Limited
- [C] Bajaj Finance Limited
- [D] Muthoot Finance Limited

Correct Answer: [B] Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Limited

Detailed Explanation:

Context: Under its Scale-Based Regulation (SBR) framework for NBFCs, the RBI identified **17 entities** in the Upper-Layer (UL) for FY 2026-27.

New Entrants: Government-backed financial institutions added this year include **REC Limited, Power Finance Corporation (PFC), Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC), and HUDCO.**



Regulatory Implications: Upper-Layer NBFCs are subject to enhanced regulatory requirements, capital adequacy ratios, board composition guidelines, and bank-like prudential norms. Tata Sons was retained in the list.

Q6. Following the parliamentary passage of the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, what key clarification did the Union Ministry of Finance issue regarding Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions?

[A] Convenience fees will be charged for peer-to-peer (P2P) transfers above ₹2,000

[B] UPI transactions will remain completely free of cost for citizens

[C] A mandatory 1.5% Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) applies to all QR transactions

[D] Public sector bank accounts will be charged a monthly digital transaction maintenance fee

Correct Answer: [B] UPI transactions will remain completely free of cost for citizens

Detailed Explanation:

Context: The Ministry of Finance clarified that retail citizens will continue to use UPI free of charge.

Merchant Discount Rate (MDR): Any future nominal MDR consideration will strictly apply only to select commercial merchant transactions above a specific high-value threshold, preserving financial inclusion for retail end-users.

Q7. Which public sector bank launched a Unified Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Portal during its 120th Foundation Day Credit Outreach Programme in August 2026?

[A] Bank of Baroda

[B] Indian Bank

[C] Canara Bank

[D] Punjab National Bank

Correct Answer: [B] Indian Bank

Detailed Explanation:

Context: Indian Bank celebrated its 120th Foundation Day by holding a nationwide credit outreach campaign and releasing a unified digital platform dedicated to MSME lending.

Outreach Target: During the event, the bank sanctioned over ₹500 crore in loans to small and medium enterprises.

Static Linkage: Indian Bank was founded on August 15, 1907, with headquarters in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

Q8. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the mandatory compliance deadline for the operational guidelines regarding Loan Recovery Norms (Fair Practices Code) to which date?

[A] October 1, 2026

[B] December 1, 2026

[C] January 1, 2027

[D] March 31, 2027

Correct Answer: [C] January 1, 2027

Detailed Explanation:

Context: To allow Regulated Entities (REs)—including commercial banks, NBFCs, and co-operative banks—sufficient time to adjust operational workflows and IT systems, the RBI extended the loan recovery compliance deadline to **January 1, 2027**.

Key Mandate: The norms restrict harsh recovery tactics, mandate strict timing windows for communication with borrowers, prohibit harassment, and introduce formal conduct codes for third-party recovery agents.

Q9. According to recent renewable energy economic data, India recorded a Levelised Cost of Electricity (LCOE) of \$35 per MWh for utility-

scale solar energy. How does this compare to the global average?

- [A] Higher than the global average of \$30 per MWh
- [B] Equal to the global average of \$35 per MWh
- [C] Below the global average of \$44 per MWh
- [D] Double the global average of \$17.5 per MWh

Correct Answer: [C] Below the global average of \$44 per MWh

Detailed Explanation:

Data: India achieved a levelised solar energy cost of **\$35/MWh**, significantly lower than the global benchmark of **\$44/MWh**.

Economic Shield: Highly competitive LCOE insulates the Indian macro-economy from global fuel price volatility and accelerates industrial decarbonization.

Category 3: Government Schemes, Energy & MoUs

Q10. What is the total financial outlay approved by the Union Cabinet for the Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBARdhan) scheme?

- [A] ₹12,500 crore
- [B] ₹18,970 crore
- [C] ₹23,731 crore
- [D] ₹32,100 crore

Correct Answer: [C] ₹23,731 crore

Detailed Explanation:

Context: The Cabinet approved the GOBARdhan scheme with a budget outlay of **₹23,731 crore** to transform cattle dung, agricultural crop residue, and organic waste into Biogas and Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG).

Objectives: Supports circular economy goals, promotes rural sanitation under Swachh Bharat

Mission (Grameen Phase II), and generates additional income for farmers.

Q11. Which government initiative specifically funds 5,000 MW of floating solar photovoltaic capacity integrated with Energy Storage Systems (ESS) on existing water bodies?

- [A] Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana
- [B] PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana
- [C] PM-KUSUM Scheme
- [D] Green Energy Corridor Project

Correct Answer: [A] Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana

Detailed Explanation:

Context: PM Surya Sarovar Yojana focuses on deploying **5,000 MW** of floating solar PV panels combined with battery storage systems on public water bodies.

Advantages: Avoids extensive land acquisition disputes, reduces water evaporation losses in reservoirs, and meets peak electrical grid loads efficiently.

Q12. Under the 'Model Solar Village Initiative' launched by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), what central financial grant is sanctioned to one selected revenue village per district?

- [A] ₹25 Lakh
- [B] ₹50 Lakh
- [C] ₹1 Crore
- [D] ₹2.5 Crore

Correct Answer: [C] ₹1 Crore

Detailed Explanation:

Concept: The Model Solar Village Initiative awards a central financial assistance grant of **₹1 crore** to one revenue village per district across India.

Goal: To set up distributed rooftop solar systems, solar streetlights, and solar pumps, turning chosen villages into self-sustaining, zero-carbon power hubs.

Q13. In August 2026 statistics, India became the world's 3rd largest producer of solar electricity, surpassing which country?

- [A] Germany
- [B] Japan
- [C] United States
- [D] Brazil

Correct Answer: [B] Japan

Detailed Explanation:

Milestone: India overtook Japan to become the 3rd largest solar power producer globally, generating over 108,000 GWh of solar energy annually.

Growth Stat: India stands as the world's 2nd largest solar growth market (after adding 37 GW in a single year, surpassing the USA).

Q14. The flagship international textile exhibition "Bharat Tex 2026" was organized around which strategic policy vision?

- [A] 3-E Strategy (Ecology, Economy, Employment)
- [B] 5F Vision (Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign)
- [C] 4P Framework (Public, Private, People, Progress)
- [D] 5S Model (Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, Sustain)

Correct Answer: [B] 5F Vision (Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign)

Detailed Explanation:

Context: Bharat Tex 2026 was organized by the Bharat Tex Trade Federation (BTTF) supported by the Ministry of Textiles.

Vision: It revolves around Prime Minister Narendra Modi's **5F Vision:** Farm to Fibre, Fibre to Factory, Factory to Fashion, Fashion to Foreign, representing the complete end-to-end textile supply chain.

Category 4: Awards & Honors

Q15. Union Minister conferred the Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak on 12 rat-hole miners in recognition of their life-saving acts during which major rescue mission?

- [A] Silkyara Tunnel Rescue Operation, Uttarakhand
- [B] Wayanad Landslide Rescue Operation, Kerala
- [C] Chamoli Flash Flood Rescue, Uttarakhand
- [D] Rayagada Train Accident Rescue, Odisha

Correct Answer: [A] Silkyara Tunnel Rescue Operation, Uttarakhand

Detailed Explanation:

Awardees: 12 rat-hole miners were conferred the **Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak** for their extraordinary bravery in manually drilling through debris to rescue 41 trapped workers in November 2023 at the Silkyara-Barkot tunnel in Uttarkashi.

About the Award: Instituted in 1961, Jeevan Raksha Padak awards are given for meritorious acts of saving human lives in events like mine collapses, drownings, fires, and natural disasters.

Q16. As per the Celebrity Brand Valuation study, who retained the rank as the most valued female celebrity in India?

- [A] Deepika Padukone

[B] Alia Bhatt

[C] Priyanka Chopra

[D] Katrina Kaif

Correct Answer: [B] Alia Bhatt

Detailed Explanation:

Valuation Highlights: Alia Bhatt emerged as India's most valued female celebrity brand, followed closely by Deepika Padukone.

Cricket Legend: Bharat Ratna recipient Sachin Tendulkar maintained a spot in the Top 5 overall celebrity rankings, rising to 4th rank.

Q17. The Jeevan Raksha Padak award series, awarded by the Government of India for conspicuous bravery in saving lives, was instituted in which year?

[A] 1950

[B] 1954

[C] 1961

[D] 1971

Correct Answer: [C] 1961

Detailed Explanation:

Background: The Jeevan Raksha Padak series was instituted on September 30, 1961.

Categories: It includes three tiers:

1. Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak (for conspicuous courage in saving life under circumstances of grave hazard)
2. Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak
3. Jeevan Raksha Padak

Category 5: Science, Technology, Environment & Culture

Q18. What is the "Magellanic Bridge", recently highlighted in astronomical observations?

[A] A dark matter bridge connecting the Milky Way with Andromeda

[B] A stream of gas and stars connecting the Large and Small Magellanic Clouds

[C] A solar wind channel between Jupiter and its moons

[D] A newly discovered exoplanetary belt near Alpha Centauri

Correct Answer: [B] A stream of gas and stars connecting the Large and Small Magellanic Clouds

Detailed Explanation:

Astrophysics: The **Magellanic Bridge** is an intergalactic stream of neutral hydrogen gas and stars spanning between the Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC) and Small Magellanic Cloud (SMC).

Origin: It formed approximately 200 million years ago due to tidal gravitational forces when the LMC and SMC passed close to each other.

Q19. Research under the Indian Human Microbiome Initiative revealed that dairy-consuming Trans-Himalayan communities display higher levels of which beneficial gut bacteria?

[A] Agathobacter

[B] Bifidobacterium

[C] Segatella

[D] Helicobacter

Correct Answer: [B] Bifidobacterium

Detailed Explanation:

Findings: Studies across tribal and regional populations found that dairy-consuming Trans-Himalayan communities possess enhanced gut microbial diversity with higher abundance of **Bifidobacterium**.

Implication: Highlights that gut health varies by geography, diet, and traditional food habits,

emphasizing the need for India-specific microbiome research.

Q20. Subatomic particles that pass through matter almost without interaction (~100 billion passing through a human finger every second) are nicknamed "ghost particles". What are they called?

- [A] Positrons
- [B] Neutrinos
- [C] Gluons
- [D] Tachyons

Correct Answer: [B] Neutrinos

Detailed Explanation:

Nature: Neutrinos are subatomic particles with near-zero mass and no electrical charge. They interact weakly with normal matter, earning the moniker "ghost particles".

Detection: The IceCube Neutrino Observatory in Antarctica is the world's largest gigaton neutrino detector. Neutrinos are monitored to detect nuclear reactions and nuclear fuel activities.

Q21. NASA's Voyager 2 spacecraft in 1989 first discovered a famous high-pressure atmospheric storm known as the "Great Dark Spot" on which planet?

- [A] Saturn
- [B] Uranus
- [C] Neptune
- [D] Jupiter

Correct Answer: [C] Neptune

Detailed Explanation:

Astronomical Fact: The Great Dark Spot was an anti-cyclonic storm system observed on Neptune by NASA's Voyager 2 probe during its 1989 flyby.

Neptune Highlights: Neptune is the 8th and farthest planet from the Sun, categorized as an "Ice Giant" with 16 known moons (the largest being Triton).

Category 6: Important Days & Anniversaries

Q22. On August 9, 2026, India observed which anniversary of the historic Quit India Movement (August Kranti Din)?

- [A] 75th
- [B] 80th
- [C] 84th
- [D] 88th

Correct Answer: [C] 84th

Detailed Explanation:

Historical Event: On August 8, 1942, Mahatma Gandhi launched the Quit India Movement at Mumbai's Gowalia Tank Maidan (now August Kranti Maidan) giving the iconic slogan "Do or Die".

August Kranti Din: Following mass arrests of leadership on August 9, 1942, nationwide civil protests erupted. August 9, 2026 marks its 84th anniversary.

Q23. What is the official United Nations theme for the 'International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples' observed on August 9, 2026?

- [A] "Indigenous Youth as Agents of Change for Self-Determination"
- [B] "Honouring Indigenous Midwives: Safeguarding Life and Well-being"
- [C] "Preserving Indigenous Languages and Indigenous Knowledge"
- [D] "Indigenous Peoples, Climate Resilience, and Biodiversity"

Correct Answer: [B] "Honouring Indigenous Midwives: Safeguarding Life and Well-being"

Detailed Explanation:

UN Day: Observed annually on **August 9** pursuant to UN General Assembly Resolution 49/214 passed in December 1994. It marks the date of the first meeting of the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations in 1982.

2026 Focus: The 2026 theme honors Indigenous midwives as custodians of maternal healthcare, traditional wisdom, and community welfare.

Q24. August 9 is internationally observed as 'Nagasaki Day'. In 2026, Japan commemorated which anniversary of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki?

- [A] 75th
- [B] 80th
- [C] 81st
- [D] 85th

Correct Answer: [C] 81st

Detailed Explanation:

- **History:** On **August 9, 1945**, three days after the Hiroshima attack, the United States dropped a plutonium atomic bomb nicknamed "Fat Man" on Nagasaki, Japan.

2026 Commemoration: August 9, 2026 marks the **81st anniversary**. Annual memorial services take place at the Peace Statue Plaza in Nagasaki Peace Park to promote global nuclear disarmament.

Q25. Lok Sabha Speaker paid floral tributes in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan on the birth anniversary of Dr. G.S. Dhillon. What position did Dr. Dhillon hold in Indian parliamentary history?

- [A] Chief Election Commissioner of India
- [B] Speaker of the Lok Sabha

[C] Comptroller and Auditor General of India

[D] Union Law Minister

Correct Answer: [B] Speaker of the Lok Sabha

Detailed Explanation:

Biography: Dr. Gurdial Singh Dhillon was a distinguished freedom fighter, diplomat, and former Speaker of the Lok Sabha (serving during the 5th Lok Sabha).

Event: Tributes were paid to him in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan (Old Parliament Building) on his birth anniversary.

Q26. National Handloom Day is celebrated annually across India on August 7 to commemorate which historic freedom movement launched in 1905?

- [A] Non-Cooperation Movement
- [B] Swadeshi Movement
- [C] Civil Disobedience Movement
- [D] Quit India Movement

Correct Answer: [B] Swadeshi Movement

Detailed Explanation:

Context: August 7 was designated as National Handloom Day by the Government of India in 2015.

History: It commemorates the **Swadeshi Movement**, formally launched on August 7, 1905, at the Calcutta Town Hall to boycott foreign goods and promote domestic handloom products.

Category 7: Books & Authors, Polity & International Affairs

Q27. The book titled "Fractured Communities: Adivasi Histories and the Politics of Power" was authored by which personality?

- [A] Ramachandra Guha
- [B] Umar Khalid

[C] Arundhati Roy

[D] Harsh Mander

Correct Answer: [B] Umar Khalid

Detailed Explanation:

Context: The book titled "Fractured Communities: Adivasi Histories and the Politics of Power" was authored by former JNU scholar Umar Khalid.

Focus: The book examines socio-political structures, land rights, and historical narratives regarding indigenous Adivasi communities in India.

Q28. The 'Safeguarding Healthy Internet Environments for Little Digital-Natives (SHIELD) Bill' was introduced in the Lok Sabha as a Private Member's Bill by which MP?

[A] Shashi Tharoor

[B] Baijayant Panda

[C] Tejasvi Surya

[D] Manish Tewari

Correct Answer: [B] Baijayant Panda

Detailed Explanation:

Legislative Proposal: BJP MP Baijayant Panda listed the SHIELD Bill in the Lok Sabha.

Objective: The bill proposes age verification restrictions and social media safety controls for children under 13 to 16 years of age to protect minors online.

Q29. In Commonwealth Games (CWG) sports history, in which year and edition did India make its debut participation?

[A] 1st Edition, 1930 (Hamilton, Canada)

[B] 2nd Edition, 1934 (London, UK)

[C] 3rd Edition, 1938 (Sydney, Australia)

[D] 4th Edition, 1950 (Auckland, New Zealand)

Correct Answer: [B] 2nd Edition, 1934 (London, UK)

Detailed Explanation:

CWG Facts: India debuted at the 2nd Commonwealth Games in 1934 held in London, United Kingdom.

Hosting: India hosted the Commonwealth Games once, in New Delhi in 2010. 74 Commonwealth Games Associations currently participate.

Q30. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) consists of 15 member states. How many permanent members (holding veto power) serve on the UNSC?

[A] 3

[B] 5

[C] 7

[D] 10

Correct Answer: [B] 5

Detailed Explanation:

Structure: UNSC consists of 15 members: 5 permanent members (P5)—China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States—and 10 non-permanent members elected for two-year terms.

Function: P5 members hold veto power over substantive resolutions, and the council bears primary responsibility under the UN Charter for maintaining global peace and security.