



NATIONAL NEWS

Pariksha Pe Charcha 2026



Government of India is once again bringing back its much-anticipated annual programme — Pariksha Pe Charcha (PPC) 2026. This unique initiative, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, invites students, teachers, and parents to join a national dialogue on how to approach examinations with a positive and stress-free mindset. Scheduled for January 2026, this will be the 9th edition of the event, offering participants both recognition and practical strategies to succeed academically and emotionally.

Key Points:-

Pariksha Pe Charcha began in 2018 as a platform where the Prime Minister interacts directly with school students, educators, and parents to discuss common exam-related concerns.

The initiative promotes viewing exams as a celebration (Utsav) and focuses on confidence-building, emotional well-being, and holistic preparation.

NATIONAL NEWS

Amit Shah Inaugurates Banas Dairy's Bio-CNG Plant



On December 2025, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah inaugurated the newly constructed Bio-CNG and Fertilizer Plant by Banas Dairy and laid the foundation stone for a 150-ton powder plant in Vav-Tharad district, Gujarat. The event marks a major step under the ambitious White Revolution 2.0, envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to make India's dairy sector more sustainable, self-sufficient, and profitable through cooperative models.





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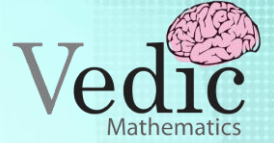
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Key Points: -

The newly inaugurated Bio-CNG and Fertilizer Plant is part of Banas Dairy's innovative circular economy initiative.

It will convert cow dung and other organic waste into renewable bio-fuel and organic manure, boosting both environmental sustainability and farmer incomes.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India-Russia 2025 State Visit



On December 2025, the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, paid a state visit to India for the 23rd Annual Bilateral Summit. The visit resulted in a comprehensive set of agreements and announcements that reflect the growing multi-dimensional partnership between the two countries. The outcomes signal a clear push toward long-term strategic

cooperation, moving beyond traditional areas like defence and energy into labour mobility, healthcare, maritime training, academia, media, and wildlife conservation.

Key Points of this relationship include:

Defence cooperation: India imports significant defence equipment from Russia.

Energy security: Russia is a major supplier of crude oil and fertilizers to India.

Space, nuclear, and science ties: Cooperation spans ISRO-Roscosmos and nuclear energy.

Trade & investment: Both nations aim to boost bilateral trade to \$50 billion by 2030.

APPOINTMENTS

Dr Renuka Iyer Appointed Chief Medical Officer of NCCN

Dr Renuka Iyer has been appointed as the new Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). Her appointment, effective from 26 February 2026, marks a major leadership transition at





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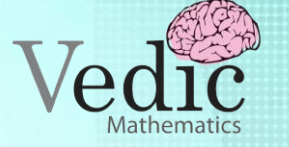
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the organisation known globally for its authoritative cancer treatment guidelines. Dr Iyer is a distinguished oncologist with over 20 years of experience in academic medicine, research, and clinical practice.

SPORTS

Rohit Sharma Became 4th Indian To Enter 20000 Runs Scored Club



On December, 2025, in a high-stakes ODI series decider against South Africa in Visakhapatnam, Rohit Sharma etched his name into cricketing history by becoming only the fourth Indian to surpass 20,000

international runs. The milestone came during a confident chase of 271 runs, showcasing the consistency, longevity, and class of one of India's most iconic batters.

BANKING/ECONOMY

Fino Payments Bank Becomes First to Receive RBI Nod to Transition into SFB



In a landmark development for India's banking sector, Fino Payments Bank has become the first payments bank to receive the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) in-principle approval to convert into a Small Finance Bank (SFB). This move, announced on December 2025, opens up new avenues for Fino to expand its operations beyond the limitations imposed on payments banks. The approval follows nearly two years after Fino submitted its application under the



RBI's 'on tap' licensing guidelines for SFBs.

STATE NEWS

Madras Medical College gets its first IPR cell



The Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST) has launched an Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) cell at Madras Medical College (MMC) to promote innovation in government medical institutions. This is the council's 41st IPR center in the state and the first in a medical college.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF RECENT CURRENT AFFAIRS: MULTIPLE CHOICE FORMAT

Q.1. Which partnership was strengthened by the recent India-Russia 2025 state visit?

- A. Strategic Military Pact
- B. Special & Privileged Strategic Partnership
- C. Global Maritime Alliance
- D. Eurasian Economic Partnership

1. B

The meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin at Hyderabad House has given a new direction to the India-Russia "Special and Privileged Partnership." The joint statement issued after the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit, chaired by the two leaders, and the press conference by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs made it clear that, in addition to strategic ties, promoting economic relations is now a priority for both countries.

Q.2. Which country recently became the first in the African region to eliminate onchocerciasis, also known as river blindness?

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A. Niger

B. Rwanda

C. Algeria

D. Ethiopia

2. A

Niger has become the first country in the African region to eliminate onchocerciasis, also known as river blindness. Niger is the fifth country in the world to have stopped transmission of the Onchocerca volvulus parasite. Other successful countries are Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, and Mexico in the Americas. The World Health Organization (WHO) has praised Niger's strong leadership and public health efforts.

Q.3. Recently, Fino Payments Bank became the first bank to receive approval from the RBI to convert into a—

A. Universal Bank

B. Small Finance Bank (SFB)

C. Regional Rural Bank

D. NBFC Bank

3. B

In a major step for India's banking sector, Fino Payments Bank has received in-principle approval from the Reserve

Bank of India (RBI) to convert into a small finance bank (SFB). Fino is the first payments bank to receive this approval. This approval comes nearly two years after Fino applied under the 'on tap' SFB licensing framework.

Q.4. How many transactions did India's retail digital rupee (CBDC) recently cross?

A. 50 million

B. 80 million

C. 120 million

D. 200 million

4. C

India's digital currency initiative has reached a major milestone. Retail Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), or digital rupee (e₹), transactions have exceeded 120 million, with a total transaction value of over ₹28,000 crore, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor T. Rabi Sankar said at a press conference following a meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee. This achievement demonstrates the RBI's progress in digital payment innovation.

Q.5. Netflix is recently acquiring Warner Bros. Discovery for -

A. \$52 billion





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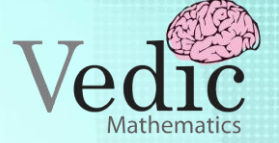
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B. \$60 billion

C. \$72 billion

D. \$85 billion

5. C

In a major shift in the global entertainment industry, Netflix has agreed to buy Warner Bros. Discovery's TV and film studios and its streaming platform. The \$72 billion deal will give Netflix control of iconic franchises like Harry Potter, Game of Thrones, and DC Comics, marking a major shift in Hollywood's power structure.

Q.6. Recently, the RBI raised India's FY26 GDP growth forecast to how much?

A. 6.8%

B. 7.0%

C. 7.1%

D. 7.3%

6. D

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised India's GDP growth forecast for FY2025-26 to 7.3% from 6.8%. The increase follows a strong second quarter performance and is seen as a reflection of domestic demand, policy reforms, and supportive macroeconomic conditions. The announcement follows the recent meeting of the Monetary Policy

Committee (MPC), which also included a 25 basis point repo rate cut – bringing the policy rate down to 5.25% – to support economic activity.

Q.7. Dr. Renuka Iyer was recently appointed Chief Medical Officer of which organization?

A. FDA

B. NCCN

C. WHO Technical Unit

D. Mayo Clinic Alliance

7. B

Dr. Renuka Iyer has been appointed the new Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). Her appointment will be effective February 26, 2026. This appointment marks a major leadership change for the organization, which is known worldwide for its trusted and standard-setting cancer treatment guidelines. Dr. Iyer is a renowned oncologist with over 20 years of experience in academic medicine, research, and clinical practice. She is particularly known for her work in the field of gastrointestinal cancer, especially rare tumors, and has made significant contributions to cancer treatment guidelines and medical education.





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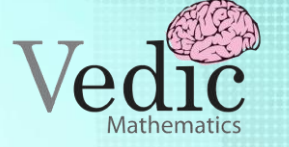
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Q.8. Recently, Roman Gofman was appointed the next head of which agency?

- A. CIA
 - B. Mossad
 - C. MI6
 - D. FSB
8. B

In a major overhaul of Israel's intelligence system, Major General Romen Gofman has been appointed the next director of the Mossad. He will assume office in June 2026. The decision was announced by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. This appointment is significant because it marks the first time a military officer without a traditional intelligence background will head the Mossad.

Q.9. Recently, Cristiano Ronaldo joined which AI company as an investor and brand ambassador?

- A. OpenAI
 - B. Anthropic
 - C. Perplexity AI
 - D. xAI
9. C

In a stunning combination of sports stardom and artificial intelligence, Cristiano Ronaldo has joined Perplexity, an emerging AI startup, as both an investor and brand ambassador. The five-time Ballon d'Or winner announced the collaboration, expressing his excitement about the technology igniting interest around the world. As part of the partnership, Ronaldo unveiled a special "Ronaldo Hub," a custom AI assistant designed for fans to relive his greatest moments, explore personal archives, and interactively engage with his life and career.

Q.10. How many indigenous technologies did DRDO recently hand over to the armed forces?

- A. 5
 - B. 6
 - C. 7
 - D. 10
10. C

In a major boost to India's defense capabilities, the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) handed over seven indigenous technologies to the Indian Armed Forces. These technologies were developed under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme, which aims to





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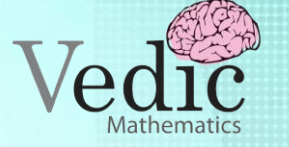
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encourage Indian industry—especially MSMEs and startups—to participate in defense innovation. During the same event, 12 new projects in the strategic, aerospace, naval, and electronic warfare (EW) sectors were also approved, demonstrating India's commitment to self-reliance in defense.

Q.11. Exercise Harimau Shakti 2025 is recently being conducted with which country?

- A. Indonesia
- B. Malaysia
- C. Thailand
- D. Philippines

11. B

Exercise Harimau Shakti 2025 is a joint military exercise between India and Malaysia, scheduled to take place at the Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan. It involves the Indian Army's Dogra Regiment and the Malaysian 25th Battalion. Its purpose is to practice sub-conventional operations under Chapter VII of the United Nations and focus on counter-terrorism scenarios.

Q.12. Where is the 20th session of UNESCO ICH 2025 being held recently?

- A. Mumbai

B. Jaipur

C. Red Fort, New Delhi

D. Bengaluru

12. C

India will host the 20th session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in New Delhi. UNESCO adopted the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage at its 32nd General Conference in Paris.

Q.13. Which Indian festival has recently been nominated for the UNESCO ICH list?

- A. Holi
- B. Diwali
- C. Durga Puja
- D. Baisakhi

13. B

India will host the 20th session of the Inter-Governmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) at the Red Fort in New Delhi. India has nominated Diwali – a festival of lights, brotherhood, compassion and togetherness – for UNESCO's Intangible Heritage List this year. Union Culture and Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said





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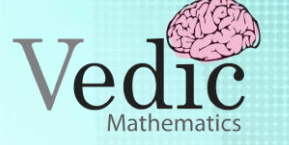
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the proposal, which was previously reviewed by independent evaluation bodies, will be discussed in the ongoing session and the government is confident of a positive outcome.

Q.14. Google's Gemini 3 'Deep Think' mode recently became available for what?

- A. All users
- B. Android basic users
- C. AI Ultra subscribers
- D. ChromeOS public users

14. C

Google has officially launched Gemini 3 Deep Think mode for its AI Ultra subscribers. This new mode comes with major improvements in reasoning, problem-solving, and complex analysis. It was previewed at the launch of Gemini 3 AI models last month and is now available in the Gemini app. Deep Think mode is specifically designed to solve complex mathematical, scientific reasoning, and logic-based problems. It provides more context-enabled and in-depth analytical support than previous Gemini models.

Q.15. Where was the Earth Summit 2025 recently inaugurated?

- A. Delhi
- B. Gandhinagar
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Lucknow

15. B

Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Earth Summit 2025 in Gandhinagar. Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Earth Summit 2025 on agriculture, rural technology and empowering humanity in Gandhinagar and also launched over 13 new services and products under the Sahakar Saarthi initiative.

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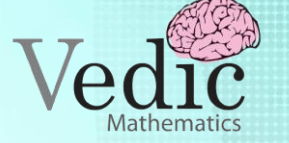
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HISTORICAL AND TECHNICAL EVENTS OF 5TH DECEMBER 2025

1687- The East India Company creates the Madras (now Tamil Nadu) Municipal Corporation.



Inaugurated as the Madras Corporation on 29 September 1688 under a royal charter issued by King James II of England in December 1687, it is the oldest municipal body in the Commonwealth outside Great Britain. It is the largest municipal corporation in Tamil Nadu with an area of 426 km.

It is headed by a mayor, who presides over 200 councillors, each of whom represents one of the city's 200 wards.

1946 - Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected the President of the Constituent Assembly of India.



On December 1946, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was appointed the President of the Indian Constituent Assembly. Earlier, Dr. Sachchidanand Sinha was elected as a temporary member of the Constituent Assembly, who presided over the first meeting of the Constituent Assembly held on 9 December 1946.

1946 – UNICEF is founded by the United Nations.





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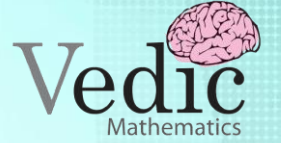
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The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), originally known as the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, was created on December 1946 by the United Nations General Assembly to provide emergency food and healthcare to children and mothers in countries devastated by World War II.

In 1953 it became a permanent part of the United Nations system, and the words "International" and "Emergency" were dropped from the organization's name, although it retained the original acronym "UNICEF".

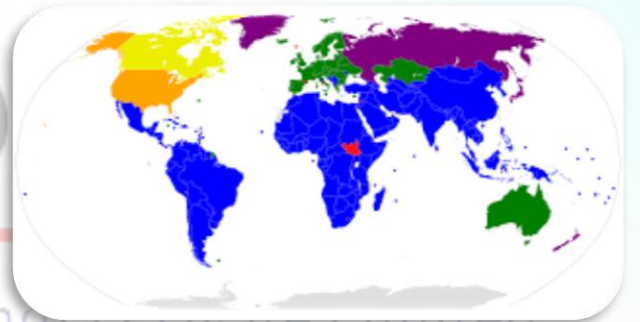
1983 - Chief Martial Law Administrator of Bangladesh Mohammad Ershad declared himself President.



Hussain Muhammad Ershad was a Bangladeshi military officer and politician who served as President of Bangladesh from 1982 to 1990.

He seized power as head of the army during a bloodless coup against President Abdus Sattar on 24 March 1982 (by imposing martial law and suspending the constitution). He declared himself President in 1983, and subsequently won the controversial 1986 Bangladeshi presidential election.

1997- Kyoto Protocol signed to reduce greenhouse gases.



The Kyoto Protocol is an international treaty adopted in 1997 aimed at reducing emissions of gases that contribute to global warming. The protocol called on 41 countries and the European Union to reduce emissions of six greenhouse gases by 5.2 percent below 1990 levels.

