

Important Days & National News

1. India celebrates National Youth Day on January 12 every year. Whose birth anniversary does this day commemorate?

- (A) Bhagat Singh
- (B) Swami Vivekananda
- (C) Subhash Chandra Bose
- (D) Chandrashekhar Azad

Correct Answer: (B) Swami Vivekananda

Explanation: National Youth Day has been observed since 1985. In 2026, the theme is "Youth for Viksit Bharat @ 2047," emphasizing the pivotal role of the younger generation in transforming India into a developed nation by the centenary of its independence.

2. On January 12, 2026, which city hosted the main event of the 28th National Youth Festival?

- (A) Nashik, Maharashtra
- (B) Hubballi, Karnataka
- (C) Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
- (D) Puducherry

Correct Answer: (C) Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh

Explanation: The 28th National Youth Festival (2026) was organized in Gwalior to showcase the cultural talent and innovative spirit of Indian youth. Gwalior was recently recognized by UNESCO as a "City of Music," making it a fitting venue.

International News & Relations

3. Which nation became the 21st member of the Eurozone as of January 2026?

- (A) Romania
- (B) Bulgaria

(C) Serbia

(D) Croatia

Correct Answer: (B) Bulgaria **Explanation:** Bulgaria officially adopted the Euro as its currency in early January 2026, completing its transition from the Lev. This follows Croatia, which joined in 2023.

4. India signed an MoU with which country on January 11-12, 2026, for "Green Hydrogen Cooperation and Grid Interconnectivity"?

(A) France

(B) United Arab Emirates (UAE)

(C) Saudi Arabia

(D) Australia

Correct Answer: (B) United Arab Emirates (UAE) **Explanation:** The MoU focuses on developing supply chains for green hydrogen and establishing a subsea cable for power grid connectivity, aligning with the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) goals.

Economics & Banking

5. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently announced a new framework for "Inland Remittance 2.0." What is the revised per-transaction limit for cash-based remittances?

(A) ₹25,000

(B) ₹50,000

(C) ₹1,00,000

(D) ₹75,000

Correct Answer: (B) ₹50,000 **Explanation:** To enhance financial security and curb money laundering, the RBI updated the 2011 guidelines. The per-transaction limit for cash-to-account remittances is now capped at

₹50,000, with mandatory KYC for higher amounts.

6. Which organization released the "Global Economic Prospects 2026" report in January?

- (A) IMF
- (B) World Bank
- (C) World Economic Forum
- (D) WTO

Correct Answer: (B) World Bank Explanation: The report highlighted that India remains the fastest-growing major economy, projecting a growth rate of 6.7% for 2026, primarily driven by robust domestic demand and infrastructure spending.

Defense News

7. The Indian Navy officially commissioned the second ship of the Visakhapatnam-class (Project 15B) stealth guided-missile destroyers, INS Mormugao's upgraded variant, in January 2026. What is the primary offensive weapon of this class?

- (A) Nirbhay Missile
- (B) BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile
- (C) Agni-P
- (D) Prithvi-II

Correct Answer: (B) BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile Explanation: Project 15B destroyers are among the most technologically advanced warships in the world, equipped with BrahMos missiles and Barak-8 Long Range Surface-to-Air Missiles (LRSAM).

8. Which defense PSU received a massive export order from an African nation for the "Akash Weapon System" in January 2026?

- (A) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- (B) Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)
- (C) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- (D) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders

Correct Answer: (B) Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) Explanation: The Akash is a Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (SRSAM) system. BDL has been the lead integrator for this system, which is seeing increasing demand from international buyers.

Appointments & Awards

9. Who has been appointed as the Vice-Chairman of the NITI Aayog in January 2026?

- (A) B.V.R. Subrahmanyam
- (B) Suman Bery
- (C) Dr. Arvind Panagariya
- (D) Dr. Rajiv Kumar

Correct Answer: (B) Suman Bery Explanation: Suman Bery's tenure was extended/renewed to provide continuity in India's long-term planning for "Viksit Bharat 2047."

10. Which Indian athlete was honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" at the 2026 Indian Sports Honours on January 11?

- (A) Sunil Chhetri
- (B) P.T. Usha
- (C) Vishwanathan Anand
- (D) Mary Kom

Correct Answer: (C) Vishwanathan Anand Explanation: The chess legend was recognized for his decades-long contribution to the sport and his role in mentoring the new generation of Indian Grandmasters.

Sports

11. Which country won the 2026 ICC Under-19 Men's Cricket World Cup final held in January?

- (A) India
- (B) Australia
- (C) Pakistan
- (D) England

Correct Answer: (A) India **Explanation:** The Indian U-19 team secured their 6th title by defeating Australia in the final, maintaining India's dominance in youth cricket.

12. In January 2026, who became the first Indian male shuttler to reach the Top 3 of the BWF World Rankings?

- (A) Lakshya Sen
- (B) Kidambi Srikanth
- (C) H.S. Prannoy
- (D) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy

Correct Answer: (A) Lakshya Sen **Explanation:** Following a string of victories in the Malaysia Open and Indonesia Masters, Lakshya Sen achieved a career-high ranking of World No. 3.

Govt Schemes & MoUs

13. The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the "Saksham Anganwadi 3.0" on January 12. What is the key focus of this upgraded version?

- (A) Providing smartphones to workers
- (B) AI-driven early childhood education and nutrition tracking
- (C) Construction of new buildings only
- (D) Increasing the age limit for beneficiaries

Correct Answer: (B) AI-driven early childhood education and nutrition tracking **Explanation:** Version 3.0 integrates the "Poshan Tracker" with AI to predict malnutrition trends and provides digital learning tools to 2 lakh Anganwadis.

14. Under the "PM-DevINE" scheme, which region of India is receiving a major boost for bamboo-based industrial clusters in 2026?

- (A) Western Ghats
- (B) North-Eastern Region (NER)
- (C) Himalayan Region
- (D) Coastal Andhra

Correct Answer: (B) North-Eastern Region (NER) **Explanation:** Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE) aims to fund infrastructure and social development, with bamboo being a "green gold" focus for the region.

Books, Authors & Science

15. Who is the author of the recently released book "The Saffron Surge: A Century of Indian Resilience"?

- (A) Vikram Sampath
- (B) Sanjeev Sanyal
- (C) Bibek Debroy
- (D) Amish Tripathi

Correct Answer: (B) Sanjeev Sanyal **Explanation:** The book explores India's economic and cultural history over the last 100 years, focusing on the country's recent resurgence on the global stage.

16. ISRO successfully launched the "XPoSat-2" mission on January 10-12, 2026. What does XPoSat stand for?

- (A) X-ray Polarimeter Satellite
- (B) X-ray Positioning Satellite
- (C) Extra-Planetary Oxygen Satellite
- (D) X-band Power Satellite

Correct Answer: (A) X-ray Polarimeter Satellite

Explanation: XPoSat-2 is India's second dedicated polarimetry mission to study the dynamics of bright astronomical X-ray sources in extreme conditions.

State News & Miscellaneous

17. Which state government launched the "Yuva Nidhi" scheme in early 2026 to provide unemployment assistance to graduates?

- (A) Karnataka
- (B) Telangana
- (C) Rajasthan
- (D) Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: (A) Karnataka **Explanation:** The scheme provides ₹3,000 per month for degree holders and ₹1,500 for diploma holders for up to two years or until they find employment.

18. "Project SAMARTH," which was in the news in January 2026, is related to which sector?

- (A) Defense Production
- (B) Textile Sector Skill Development
- (C) Space Exploration
- (D) Tribal Education

Correct Answer: (B) Textile Sector Skill Development **Explanation:** SAMARTH (Scheme

for Capacity Building in Textile Sector) has been extended to 2026 to train 2 lakh more workers, specifically focusing on women empowerment.

19. Which Indian port became the first "Green Port" in India to operate 100% on renewable energy as of January 2026?

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNPA)
- (B) Deendayal Port (Kandla)
- (C) Paradip Port
- (D) V.O. Chidambaranar Port

Correct Answer: (A) Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNPA) **Explanation:** JNPA achieved this milestone through large-scale solar installations and wind energy procurement, setting a benchmark for the "Maritime India Vision 2030."

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- (A) A new survey of the K2 mountain peak
- (B) A health survey for Cancer (K-Cell)
- (C) A census of the Kashmiri Goat population
- (D) A deep-sea mineral exploration project

Correct Answer: (A) A new survey of the K2 mountain peak **Explanation:** India has initiated a scientific project to re-survey the height and geological shift of the K2 peak (Godwin-Austen), which is part of the Karakoram range in PoK.