

## National & International News

1. Which organization launched the "Responsible Nations Index" on January 14, 2026?

- (A) World Economic Forum
- (B) World Intellectual Foundation
- (C) Transparency International
- (D) United Nations Development Programme

**Correct Answer: (B) World Intellectual Foundation**

**Explanation:** The World Intellectual Foundation launched the Responsible Nations Index covering 154 countries. It measures nations based on their accountability to global norms, environmental commitments, and internal governance.

2. Which country announced a visa-free transit facility for Indian passport holders in January 2026?

- (A) France
- (B) Germany
- (C) USA
- (D) Japan

**Correct Answer: (B) Germany**

**Explanation:** During the German Chancellor's visit to India, Germany announced visa-free transit for Indians to promote business and academic exchanges. This coincided with the celebration of 75 years of diplomatic relations between the two nations.

3. The 38th India-France Strategic Dialogue was held on January 14, 2026. Who led the Indian delegation?

- (A) S. Jaishankar

- (B) Ajit Doval
- (C) Rajnath Singh
- (D) Vinay Mohan Kwatra

**Correct Answer: (B) Ajit Doval**

**Explanation:** National Security Advisor Ajit Doval led the Indian side. The dialogue reaffirmed the strategic partnership, focusing on defense, space, and cybersecurity cooperation.

## Economics & Banking

4. Which institution introduced India's first fully solar-powered mobile ATM van named "TGB on Wheels"?

- (A) State Bank of India
- (B) NABARD
- (C) Tripura Gramin Bank
- (D) Punjab National Bank

**Correct Answer: (C) Tripura Gramin Bank**

**Explanation:** Supported by NABARD, Tripura Gramin Bank (TGB) launched the country's first solar-powered mobile ATM to provide banking services in remote rural areas sustainably.

5. The expert committee constituted by PFRDA to explore "Assured Pension Payouts" under the National Pension System (NPS) is chaired by:

- (A) Urjit Patel
- (B) M. S. Sahoo
- (C) Viral Acharya
- (D) Madhabi Puri Buch

**Correct Answer: (B) M. S. Sahoo**

**Explanation:** The 15-member committee chaired by former IBBI Chairman M. S. Sahoo

was tasked with designing products that offer a guaranteed minimum return to address market-linked uncertainty in NPS.

6. According to recent data, what was India's total fish production in FY 2024–25?

- (A) 95.79 lakh tonnes
- (B) 150.25 lakh tonnes
- (C) 197.75 lakh tonnes
- (D) 210.50 lakh tonnes

**Correct Answer: (C) 197.75 lakh tonnes**

**Explanation:** The Ministry of Fisheries reported that production doubled over the last decade, growing 106% since 2013-14. India is now the world's 2nd largest fish producer.

## Defense & Science

7. The "Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile" (MPATGM), which successfully completed trials in January 2026, is developed by:

- (A) ISRO
- (B) HAL
- (C) DRDO
- (D) Bharat Dynamics Limited

**Correct Answer: (C) DRDO**

**Explanation:** MPATGM is a third-generation, indigenous "fire-and-forget" missile featuring top-attack capability and an Imaging Infrared (IIR) seeker for day/night operations.

8. Which Indian mountaineer successfully summited Mount Aconcagua (South America) in January 2026 with the support of HAL?

- (A) Anshul Kothari
- (B) Aritra Roy

(C) Arjun Vajpai

(D) Malavath Poorna

**Correct Answer: (B) Aritra Roy**

**Explanation:** Aritra Roy reached the summit of Mount Aconcagua (6,961m), the highest peak outside Asia, marking the fourth milestone in his "Seven Summits" challenge.

## Appointments & Awards

9. Who has been appointed as the Chair of the UN Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters for 2026–27?

- (A) Ruchira Kamboj
- (B) D.B. Venkatesh Varma
- (C) Syed Akbaruddin
- (D) Harsh Vardhan Shringla

**Correct Answer: (B) D.B. Venkatesh Varma**

**Explanation:** This marks the first time an Indian diplomat has been chosen to lead this prestigious UN advisory body on disarmament matters.

10. Who was appointed as the Director of the reactivated National Olympic Academy (NOA) in January 2026?

- (A) P.T. Usha
- (B) Gagan Narang
- (C) Abhinav Bindra
- (D) Anju Bobby George

**Correct Answer: (B) Gagan Narang**

**Explanation:** While P.T. Usha serves as the President of the NOA, Olympic medalist Gagan Narang was appointed as the Director to lead education and development initiatives.

## Sports

11. Which state government signed an MoU with Hockey India to host the Women's 2026 FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers?

- (A) Odisha
- (B) Telangana
- (C) Haryana
- (D) Karnataka

**Correct Answer: (B) Telangana**

**Explanation:** The Telangana government and Hockey India officially partnered to host the prestigious qualifiers in Hyderabad.

12. Who became the second-highest run-scorer in international cricket history in January 2026, surpassing Kumar Sangakkara?

- (A) Rohit Sharma
- (B) Virat Kohli
- (C) Joe Root
- (D) Kane Williamson

**Correct Answer: (B) Virat Kohli**

**Explanation:** Virat Kohli surpassed Sangakkara's tally of 28,016 runs to sit second only to Sachin Tendulkar (34,357 runs) in all-time international scoring.

## Govt Schemes & MoUs

13. Which state government inaugurated 81 new "Ayushman Arogya Mandirs" on January 14, 2026?

- (A) Uttar Pradesh
- (B) Delhi
- (C) Maharashtra

(D) Gujarat

**Correct Answer: (B) Delhi**

**Explanation:** The Delhi government inaugurated these mandirs (formerly Health and Wellness Centers) to provide primary healthcare services to citizens.

14. IndiaAI Mission signed an MoU with UPDESCO to build the largest state-level AI skilling ecosystem in which state?

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

**Correct Answer: (C) Uttar Pradesh**

**Explanation:** The partnership aims to build AI labs at NIELIT centers (Lucknow, Gorakhpur) to provide advanced technology training to the youth.

## Books, Authors & Science

15. "BHASHINI Samudaye," recently in the news, is an initiative aimed at:

- (A) Cleaning the Ganges
- (B) Strengthening India's Language AI ecosystem
- (C) Tribal health awareness
- (D) Maritime security

**Correct Answer: (B) Strengthening India's Language AI ecosystem**

**Explanation:** Under the National Language Translation Mission, BHASHINI aims to provide digital services in all Indian languages using AI.

16. Which organization established the "National Environmental Standard Laboratory" (NESL) in New Delhi in January 2026?

- (A) NITI Aayog
- (B) CSIR-NPL
- (C) Ministry of Environment
- (D) TERI

**Correct Answer: (B) CSIR-NPL**

**Explanation:** The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL) established NESL to standardize environmental monitoring equipment.

## Environment & Miscellaneous

17. Bannerghatta National Park (BNP), which was recently in the news regarding its Eco-Sensitive Zone, is located in which state?

- (A) Kerala
- (B) Tamil Nadu
- (C) Karnataka
- (D) Andhra Pradesh

**Correct Answer: (C) Karnataka**

**Explanation:** Located near Bengaluru, BNP is a key habitat for elephants and tigers. A recent recommendation suggested restoring its original 2016 ESZ extent to protect its biodiversity.

18. The "Bhadrakali inscription," recently protected by the Gujarat Archaeology Department, confirms the history of which temple?

- (A) Dwarkadhish Temple
- (B) Somnath Temple

- (C) Modhera Sun Temple
- (D) Ambaji Temple

**Correct Answer: (B) Somnath Temple**

**Explanation:** The 12th-century inscription records the temple's construction history across four Yugas and lists royal patrons like King Bhimdev Solanki.

19. What is the theme of the "National Sports Governance Rules, 2026," recently introduced by the Sports Ministry?

- (A) Atmanirbhar Sports
- (B) 50% Women Quota in Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOMs)
- (C) One State One Sport
- (D) Digital Sports Governance

**Correct Answer: (B) 50% Women Quota in Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOMs)**

**Explanation:** The new rules mandate that 50% of the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOMs) in National Sports Federations must be women.

20. Makar Sankranti, celebrated on January 14, 2026, is known as "Poush Sankranti" in which state?

- (A) Gujarat
- (B) Punjab
- (C) West Bengal
- (D) Assam

**Correct Answer: (C) West Bengal**

**Explanation:** While it is Makar Sankranti in most of India and Uttarayan in Gujarat, it is celebrated as Poush Sankranti in West Bengal, marked by the preparation of traditional sweets like *Pitha*.