

Part 1: International News

Q1. In mid-April 2026, which strategic maritime choke point was officially declared "completely open" for commercial transit by Iran following the activation of the Israel-Lebanon ceasefire?

- [A] Bab-el-Mandeb Strait
- [B] Strait of Hormuz
- [C] Malacca Strait
- [D] Bosphorus Strait

Correct Answer: [B] Strait of Hormuz

- **Detailed Explanation:** Following the implementation of a 10-day ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi announced via the Ports and Maritime Organisation that the **Strait of Hormuz is completely open for commercial vessels**. The strategic corridor, which handles over 20% of the world's total petroleum liquids transit, had previously faced acute geopolitical tensions and operational route restrictions due to hostilities in West Asia.

Q2. A breakthrough 10-day ceasefire deal that took effect in mid-April 2026 was mediated significantly between which two nations to halt regional military escalations?

- [A] Israel and Syria
- [B] Israel and Iran
- [C] Israel and Lebanon
- [D] Yemen and Saudi Arabia

Correct Answer: [C] Israel and Lebanon

- **Detailed Explanation:** A historic 10-day ceasefire agreement between Israel and Lebanon went into operational effect on April 16-17, 2026. Facilitated heavily through modern diplomatic channels

involving United States security envoys, the ceasefire aimed to allow displaced civilians along the southern Lebanese border (near Sidon and Tyre) to return to their homes, acting as a crucial diplomatic window to prevent a broader multi-front war in West Asia.

Q3. The Amazon Rainforest, which was recently in the news due to regional environmental protection pacts, stretches across nine South American nations. Which country holds the single largest share (~60%) of this river basin ecosystem?

- [A] Peru
- [B] Colombia
- [C] Brazil
- [D] Venezuela

Correct Answer: [C] Brazil

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Amazon Rainforest spans the massive Amazon River Basin, which is the world's largest river by discharge volume. The forest cover stretches across nine South American sovereign nations (including Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, and Bolivia), but **approximately 60% of its dense ecological cover is located strictly within Brazil**. It remains a major talking point in international climate change conferences regarding carbon sequestration.

Part 2: National News

Q4. According to a landmark Gazette Notification issued by the Union Law Ministry, which historic legislative reform officially came into force on April 16-17, 2026?

- [A] Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) Code
- [B] The Women's Reservation Act, 2023

[C] The Digital Personal Data Protection Act

[D] One Nation, One Election Constitutional Amendment

Correct Answer: [B] The Women's Reservation Act, 2023

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Union Ministry of Law and Justice officially issued a Gazette Notification declaring that the **Women's Reservation Act, 2023 (Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam), came into operational force.** The act mandates a historic 33% (one-third) reservation for women in the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The notification paves the legal way for the upcoming delimitation exercise.

Q5. While discussing the fresh delimitation exercise in the Lok Sabha, the Prime Minister and Home Minister explicitly assured that the institutional share of parliamentary seats for which region will remain completely protected?

[A] North-Eastern States

[B] Southern States

[C] Union Territories

[D] Bordering Himalayan States

Correct Answer: [B] Southern States

- **Detailed Explanation:** Addressing concerns raised by several opposition benches regarding the post-women's quota implementation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah clarified in the Lok Sabha that the **proportional representation of Southern States will remain fully intact.** The upcoming delimitation formula will be structurally engineered to ensure that states with successful population control measures are

not penalized, while expanding the absolute number of seats across all state assemblies.

Q6. The Supreme Court of India led by Chief Justice Surya Kant disposed of a public interest litigation (PIL) regarding voting enforcement by making which fundamental observation?

[A] Voting must be made a penal, legally compulsory duty with fine structures

[B] Voters cannot be punished or arrested for choosing not to go to the polling booth

[C] Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) must match 100% with VVPAT slips

[D] Non-voters should have their financial credit scores reduced systematically

Correct Answer: [B] Voters cannot be punished or arrested for choosing not to go to the polling booth

- **Detailed Explanation:** Disposing of a petition filed by Ajay Goel seeking penal consequences for electors who abstain from voting, a Supreme Court Bench headed by CJI Surya Kant ruled that **voters cannot be punished, penalized, or arrested for exercising their choice to sit out on election day.** The apex court clarified that the ultimate decision whether to vote or not lies entirely with the individual elector's conscience, and a right to vote inherently carries the right to abstain from voting.

Q7. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) has proposed an amendment to digital safety parameters that seeks to introduce a new layer of content oversight. Which organizational entity is designed to review flagged content and recommend take-downs?

[A] Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)

[B] Inter-Departmental Committee

[C] National Content Regulation Council

[D] Digital Media Ombudsman Tribunal

Correct Answer: [B] Inter-Departmental Committee

- **Detailed Explanation:** Under recent proposed regulatory evaluations of the IT Rules framework, an **Inter-Departmental Committee led by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB)** is slated to review flagged online media materials. The committee will possess administrative authority to recommend actions such as an official apology, immediate text modification, or an outright platform-wide content take-down, mimicking parts of the previously withdrawn Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill.

Part 3: Economics and Banking

Q8. According to trade data released for the Financial Year 2025-26 (FY26), which country has replaced the United States to emerge as India's top trading partner with total bilateral trade reaching USD 151.1 billion?

[A] Russia

[B] Germany

[C] China

[D] United Arab Emirates

Correct Answer: [C] China

- **Detailed Explanation:** China officially reclaimed its position as India's top trading partner in FY25-26, ending the United States' four-year consecutive streak. Total bilateral trade between India and China peaked at **USD 151.1 billion**. While India's exports to China registered a massive surge of 36.66% to touch USD 19.47 billion, imports from China rose 16% to USD 131.63

billion, pushing India's trade deficit with China to a substantial USD 112.16 billion.

Q9. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued amended NBFC-Branch Authorisation Directions 2026 to enhance operational flexibility. Through which digital platform must NBFCs submit these compliance applications?

[A] UDGAM Portal

[B] PRAVAAH Portal

[C] MANI Application

[D] DAKSH System

Correct Answer: [B] PRAVAAH Portal

- **Detailed Explanation:** The RBI issued updated directions enabling greater decentralized operational flexibility for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). Under the amended guidelines, deposit-taking NBFCs meeting required net owned funds are allowed streamlined branch expansions, provided all regulatory applications and background data are formally processed through the RBI's specialized **PRAVAAH portal (Platform for Regulatory Application, Validation and Authorisation)**.

Q10. The concept of Memflation, which gained traction in economic analysis papers in April 2026, refers to a rapid and persistent rise in the prices of which specific commodity sector?

[A] Memory foam mattresses and luxury textiles

[B] Microchip and semiconductor memory units

[C] Meme-based digital cryptocurrencies

[D] Membrane-based water filtration machinery

Correct Answer: [B] Microchip and semiconductor memory units



- **Detailed Explanation:** Memflation is a newly popularized portmanteau in structural macroeconomics that describes a sustained, rapid inflationary price surge specifically targeting **semiconductor memory hardware (such as DRAM and NAND flash chips)**. Driven by the global explosion of Generative AI data centers, quantum computing nodes, and advanced auto-tech manufacturing, the supply-demand mismatch has caused tech-infrastructure costs to rise independently of traditional consumer baskets.

Q11. Which international financial institution recently upgraded India's economic growth projections, citing robust domestic demand, strong private consumption, and expanding government capital expenditure?

- [A] World Bank
- [B] International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- [C] Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- [D] New Development Bank (NDB)

Correct Answer: [C] Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- **Detailed Explanation:** The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** revised its macroeconomic growth figures for India upward, highlighting that the economy is well-positioned to expand significantly, potentially reaching 7.3% by FY28. The Manila-based multilateral bank attributed this resilience to steady manufacturing sector expansions, healthy urban demand, and sustained government infrastructure expenditure, though it cautioned against geopolitical risks in West Asia.

Part 4: Sports Governance and News

Q12. Indian Chess Grandmaster R. Vaishali achieved a monumental milestone in mid-April 2026. What was her major achievement?

- [A] Becoming the youngest ever FIDE World Chess Champion
- [B] Winning the FIDE Women's Candidates Tournament to qualify for the World Championship
- [C] Defeating Magnus Carlsen in a classical time control match
- [D] Winning the Tata Steel Chess India Blitz Trophy back-to-back

Correct Answer: [B] Winning the FIDE Women's Candidates Tournament to qualify for the World Championship

- **Detailed Explanation:** Indian Grandmaster **R. Vaishali won the high-stakes FIDE Women's Candidates Tournament**, marking a glorious chapter in Indian chess history. By securing this tournament victory, Vaishali has officially qualified to challenge the reigning five-time Women's World Champion, Ju Wenjun of China, in the upcoming **Women's World Chess Championship 2026**, cementing India's absolute dominance in global chess circuits alongside her brother R. Praggnanandhaa.

Q13. Which global IT major recently announced the appointment of Spanish tennis superstar Carlos Alcaraz as its Global Brand Ambassador to co-develop AI-driven match analytics platforms?

- [A] Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
- [B] Infosys
- [C] Wipro
- [D] HCLTech

Correct Answer: [B] Infosys

- **Detailed Explanation:** Infosys expanded its digital tennis ecosystem partnerships by appointing men's tennis world champion **Carlos Alcaraz** as its **Global Brand Ambassador**. This partnership leverages *Infosys Topaz*—an AI-first suite of technologies—to co-create customized, data-driven analytical tools for match strategy execution and real-time performance tracking, mirroring similar successful ambassador collaborations Infosys launched with Rafael Nadal and Iga Świątek.

Part 5: Appointments

Q14. Who made history in the Rajya Sabha on April 17, 2026, by becoming the first nominated member in Indian parliamentary history to achieve three consecutive terms as Deputy Chairman?

- [A] Harivansh Narayan Singh
- [B] Dr. Sonal Mansingh
- [C] Ranjan Gogoi
- [D] Ilaiyaraaja

Correct Answer: [A] Harivansh Narayan Singh

- **Detailed Explanation:** In an unprecedented milestone in Indian parliamentary history, **Harivansh Narayan Singh** was re-elected unopposed as the **Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha** for a historic third consecutive term as a nominated/selected face. The election reflected a rare cross-party political consensus, with top leadership from both the treasury and opposition benches praising his impartial, balanced conduct during highly complex legislative debates.

Q15. Time Magazine released its annual list of the 100 Most Influential People of 2026. Which public figure marked their 14th historic

appearance on this global list alongside Xi Jinping?

- [A] Narendra Modi
- [B] Donald Trump
- [C] Elon Musk
- [D] Joe Biden

Correct Answer: [B] Donald Trump

- **Detailed Explanation:** The *Time 100 Most Influential People of 2026* list featured major global political heavyweights. Notably, **Donald Trump** and **Xi Jinping** marked their 14th separate historical appearances in the "Leaders" category. Other prominent global figures included in the 2026 iteration were NASA Artemis II Commander Reid Wiseman, K-pop icon Jennie of Blackpink, and business moguls spanning technological frontiers.

Part 6: Awards and Honors

Q16. Botanist N. Alim Yusuf from the Malabar Botanical Garden and Institute for Plant Sciences recently won a prestigious National Award from which global conservation body?

- [A] International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- [B] World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- [C] United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- [D] Conservation International

Correct Answer: [B] World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

- **Detailed Explanation:** Indian botanist **N. Alim Yusuf** was conferred the **WWF National Award** in recognition of his innovative technological intervention in ecological conservation. Yusuf developed a specialized,

citizen-friendly mobile application capable of identifying and tracking nearly 100 invasive plant species (like *Senna spectabilis* and *Lantana camara*) across Kerala using geospatial mapping, assisting forest guards and local administrations in ecological restoration efforts.

Q17. The Raimona Bent-Toed Gecko (Cyrtodactylus raimonaensis), a newly discovered reptile species featured across international biodiversity journals in April 2026, was discovered in which Indian National Park?

- [A] Kaziranga National Park, Assam
- [B] Raimona National Park, Assam
- [C] Namdapha National Park, Arunachal Pradesh
- [D] Keibul Lamjao National Park, Manipur

Correct Answer: [B] Raimona National Park, Assam

- **Detailed Explanation:** A team of taxonomists discovered a new reptile species, named 'Cyrtodactylus raimonaensis' (commonly known as the Raimona bent-toed gecko). It was discovered within the protected boundaries of **Raimona National Park in Assam**. The peer-reviewed documentation was officially published in the international zoological journal *Zootaxa*, emphasizing the unique micro-habitats thriving within India's northeastern biodiversity hotspots.

Part 7: Defense News and Joint Ventures

Q18. Which Indian Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) finalized a massive USD 1 billion (approx. ₹8,870 crore) strategic mega-deal with US-based GE Aerospace to procure 113 F404 jet engines?

- [A] Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- [B] Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- [C] Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)
- [D] Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

Correct Answer: [B] Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)

- **Detailed Explanation:** To power the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk-1A fleet expansion program, **HAL finalized a landmark USD 1 billion deal with GE Aerospace for the procurement of 113 F404-GE-IN20 jet engines**. The contract ensures structural supply chain continuity, technical engineering assistance, and localized component assembly, boosting India's aerial combat defensive infrastructure.

Q19. A historic and comprehensive National Internal Security Joint Conference was organized in mid-April 2026 to coordinate unified strategies against hybrid warfare. Which forces participated in this apex coordination meet?

- [A] Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force exclusively
- [B] All Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) like CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP, and SSB alongside the Intelligence Bureau
- [C] National Security Guards (NSG) and MARCOS only
- [D] State Police Chiefs of Coastal States exclusively

Correct Answer: [B] All Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) like CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP, and SSB alongside the Intelligence Bureau

- **Detailed Explanation:** In a major move to streamline internal security paradigms, a

massive **Joint CAPF-IB Conference** was held. The gathering brought together the top operational leadership of the **CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP, and SSB** alongside the Intelligence Bureau and state police commands. The strategic framework focused on eliminating cross-border drug corridors, tracking sophisticated cyber warfare cells, and optimizing structural intelligence-sharing protocols.

Part 8: Government Schemes and Initiatives

Q20. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I) through the DPIIT notified the operationalization of the Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 (SI-FoF 2.0). What is the designated financial corpus of this scheme?

- [A] ₹5,000 crore
- [B] ₹10,000 crore
- [C] ₹15,000 crore
- [D] ₹25,000 crore

Correct Answer: [B] ₹10,000 crore

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) formally notified the launch of **Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 with a total corpus of ₹10,000 crore**. Managed via an expert Venture Capital Investment Committee (VCIC) and an Empowered Committee chaired by the DPIIT Secretary, the 2.0 iteration is structurally directed to prioritize funding for deep-tech research, indigenous manufacturing systems, and advanced clean-energy hardware startups.

Q21. The Ministry of Power and the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) have floated the Draft CAFE-3 Norms for public review. What is the

fundamental objective of CAFE standards in India?

- [A] Regulating the prices of imported crude oil blends
- [B] Mandating automobile manufacturers to meet specific fleet-wide fuel efficiency and CO2 emission targets
- [C] Incentivizing public transport usage via digital banking cashback
- [D] Standardizing charging ports for all commercial electric trucks

Correct Answer: [B] Mandating automobile manufacturers to meet specific fleet-wide fuel efficiency and CO2 emission targets

- **Detailed Explanation:** CAFE stands for **Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency**. The draft CAFE-3 norms introduced by the government propose a gradual tightening of automobile fleet emission standards, aiming to reduce average fleet emissions from **113 gCO₂/km in FY27 down to 78.9 gCO₂/km by FY32**. The draft moves from a purely punitive model to an incentive-driven model by introducing carbon credit trading mechanisms and flexible compliance channels through the BEE.

Part 9: Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs)

Q22. The Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoL&E) recently signed strategic MoUs with private sector giants like Porter and Gigin Technologies. Which national platform will integrate these entities to create over 30 lakh job avenues?

- [A] Shram Suvidha Portal
- [B] National Career Service (NCS) Portal
- [C] e-Shram Portal

[D] ASEEM Portal

Correct Answer: [B] National Career Service (NCS) Portal

- **Detailed Explanation:** To rapidly boost structured employment pathways, MoL&E signed milestone MoUs with logistics aggregator Porter and gig-platform Gigin Technologies to link directly with the National Career Service (NCS) portal. The partnership targets generating over 6 lakh job opportunities annually and more than 30 lakh opportunities by 2030, offering transparent and verified livelihood avenues for youth in delivery, driving, and tech-enabled blue-collar ecosystems.

Q23. A specialized MoU was signed between the Department of Posts (DoP) and the Prime Ministers' Museum and Library Society (PMML). What was the core purpose of this partnership?

- [A] Initiating drone-based passport delivery across rural posts
- [B] Commemorating and preserving India's democratic heritage through philatelic exhibitions and historical postage collectibles
- [C] Converting all post offices into digital public libraries
- [D] Securing ancient manuscripts using blockchain technology

Correct Answer: [B] Commemorating and preserving India's democratic heritage through philatelic exhibitions and historical postage collectibles

- **Detailed Explanation:** The DoP and PMML signed an MoU at the Teen Murti Estate in New Delhi to co-curate specialized national projects. On this occasion, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia inaugurated a special philatelic exhibition titled 'Ek Bharat,

Shreshtha Bharat: Celebrating India's Unity and Democracy through Postage Stamps'. Three distinct historical picture postcard sets were also released to mark the constitution and national legacies.

Part 10: Important Days and Conservation

Q24. World Hemophilia Day is observed globally on April 17 each year. What is the official international theme designated for the 2026 global awareness campaign?

- [A] "Access for All: Prevention of Bleeds as the Global Standard of Care"
- [B] "Diagnosis: First Step to Care"
- [C] "Equitable Access: Sustainable Therapeutics for Bleeding Disorders"
- [D] "Light It Up Red: Transforming Bleeding Care Globally"

Correct Answer: [B] "Diagnosis: First Step to Care"

- **Detailed Explanation:** World Hemophilia Day is observed annually on April 17 to honor the birth anniversary of Frank Schnabel, the founder of the World Federation of Hemophilia. The 2026 theme is "Diagnosis: First Step to Care", focusing extensively on bridging the diagnostic screening gaps in developing economies where thousands with inherited bleeding disorders remain undiagnosed, risking severe health complications. The global landmark campaign includes the famous "Light It Up Red" initiative.

Q25. The International Day for Street Children (IDSC) was observed globally on April 12, 2026. What was the designated theme for this year's advocacy?

- [A] "Education for Every Child on the Street"

- [B] "Protect, not Punish"
[C] "Safe Spaces, Bright Futures"
[D] "Inclusion Through Identity Legalities"

Correct Answer: [B] "Protect, not Punish"

- Detailed Explanation:** Observed annually on April 12, the International Day for Street Children raises awareness about human rights challenges faced by millions of unhoused children globally. The **2026 theme "Protect, not Punish"** acts as a human rights critique against local municipal legal frameworks that tend to criminalize or fine vagrancy and street scavenging instead of providing social safety nets and shelter.

Part 11: Art, Culture, and Festivals

Q26. The world-famous *Shahtoosh Wool*, which was recently highlighted under strict international customs enforcement reviews, is traditionally derived from the hair of which endangered animal?

- [A] Tibetan Antelope (Chiru)
[B] Kashmiri Pashmina Goat
[C] Angora Rabbit
[D] Wild Yak of Ladakh

Correct Answer: [A] Tibetan Antelope (Chiru)

- Detailed Explanation:** Shahtoosh wool is harvested by killing the Tibetan Antelope, biologically known as Chiru, which thrives across the high-altitude Tibetan plateau and Changthang regions. Because the animal must be poached to extract the fine underfleece, **trade in Shahtoosh is strictly banned globally under Appendix I of CITES since 1975** and is heavily penalized in India under **Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**. The item remains a high-priority

contraband check for customs enforcement worldwide.

Q27. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated India's first open-access public technology ecosystem focused on deep-tech computing infrastructure. In which city was this facility launched?

- [A] Visakhapatnam
[B] Tirupati
[C] Amaravati
[D] Vijayawada

Correct Answer: [C] Amaravati

- Detailed Explanation:** Marking a major milestone for India's domestic deep-tech ecosystem, the **Amaravati Quantum Reference Facility** was formally inaugurated in Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh. Built as an open-access public-private reference lab, it provides hardware components and cryptographic testing modules for Indian tech startups, research institutions, and defense tech designers to develop secure quantum communications networks.

Part 12: Historical Legacies and Anniversaries

Q28. April 17, 2026, marks the momentous 100th birth anniversary year of which iconic former Prime Minister of India, who was affectionately known as the "Young Turk" of Indian politics?

- [A] Chaudhary Charan Singh
[B] Chandra Shekhar
[C] Vishwanath Pratap Singh
[D] Inder Kumar Gujral

Correct Answer: [B] Chandra Shekhar



- Detailed Explanation:** Chandra Shekhar (April 17, 1927 – July 7, 2007) was remembered across the nation as his birth anniversary marked the beginning of his **100th birth year**. Born in Ibrahimpatti, Uttar Pradesh, he completed political studies at Allahabad University before joining the Socialist Movement under Acharya Narendra Dev. Known as a "Young Turk" for his fiery, conviction-based stands against political monopolies, he undertook a historic 4,260 km *Bharat Yatra* foot-march in 1983 and served as the **8th Prime Minister of India** from November 1990 to June 1991.

Q29. Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid a high-level governance visit to Uttarakhand on April 14-15 to review infrastructural development along which major greenfield highway asset that contains Asia's longest wildlife elevated corridors?

- [A] Char Dham All-Weather Highway
- [B] Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor
- [C] Rishikesh-Karnaprayag Highway
- [D] National Eastern Border Highway

Correct Answer: [B] Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor

- Detailed Explanation:** The Prime Minister inspected construction phases of the **Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor**. The greenfield expressway project features a **12 km-long continuous wildlife elevated section (one of the longest in Asia)**, alongside eight dedicated animal passages, two large elephant underpasses, and a specialized 370-meter eco-tunnel near the historic Daat Kali Temple, engineered specifically to prevent vehicular collisions with wild animals thriving in the Shivalik forest ranges.

Q30. Vietnam's leading industrial green manufacturing conglomerate finalized an absolute milestone single-state investment commitment worth ₹54,000 crore (USD 6.5 billion) over two years in which Indian state?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: [C] Maharashtra

- Detailed Explanation:** Aligning directly with the state's vision to scale into a USD 1 trillion economy, a massive **₹54,000 crore manufacturing investment commitment** was formalized between Vietnamese multi-sector entities and the Government of Maharashtra. The capital layout is directed at setting up green automotive units, localized battery gigafactories, and smart electronics supply chain infrastructure, marking one of the largest single foreign direct investment (FDI) layouts from a Southeast Asian nation into India.

Quick Reference Summary Table

Category	Key Topic / Entity	Core Takeaway for Competitive Exams
International	Strait of Hormuz	Iran reopened commercial transit following the Israel-Lebanon ceasefire.
National	Women's Quota Act	Women's Reservation Act, 2023

Category	Key Topic / Entity	Core Takeaway for Competitive Exams
		officially came into force via Gazette Notification.
Economics	Indo-China Trade FY26	China replaced the US as India's top trading partner with USD 151.1 billion trade.
Appointments	Rajya Sabha Deputy Chief	Harivansh Narayan Singh re-elected unopposed for a historic 3rd consecutive term .
Defense News	HAL Mega Deal	HAL finalized a USD 1 billion deal with GE Aerospace for 113 F404 jet engines .
Govt Schemes	SI-FoF 2.0	DPIIT notified Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 with a ₹10,000 crore corpus.
Art & Culture	Shahtoosh Contraband	Fine wool derived by poaching the Tibetan Antelope (Chiru) ;

Category	Key Topic / Entity	Core Takeaway for Competitive Exams
		banned under CITES Appendix I .
Anniversaries	Chandra Shekhar	April 17 marks the 100th birth year of India's 8th Prime Minister.

