

Part 1: International News

Q1. On April 18, 2026, which critical maritime waterway saw a sudden reversal of an opening pledge, with Iran's Revolutionary Guard (IRGC) firing upon commercial tankers?

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

Correct Answer: [B] Strait of Hormuz

- **Detailed Explanation:** Just a day after indicating that the waterway would be open following regional ceasefire discussions, Iran completely reversed course on **Saturday, April 18, 2026**, reimposing strict operational restrictions on the **Strait of Hormuz**. The IRGC gunboats fired upon a commercial tanker 37 km northeast of Oman without radio warning, forcing at least two Indian-flagged supertankers carrying Iraqi crude oil to immediately reverse their courses.

Q2. US President Donald Trump signed a landmark Executive Order on April 18, 2026, allocating at least \$50 million specifically to advance research into which sector?

- [A] Small modular nuclear reactors for rural grids
- [B] Quantum-encrypted communication arrays for veterans
- [C] Psychedelic drugs for treating serious mental illnesses
- [D] Hydrogen fuel-cell cells for commercial aviation

Correct Answer: [C] Psychedelic drugs for treating serious mental illnesses

- **Detailed Explanation:** On April 18, 2026, the White House issued a major Executive Order titled *"Accelerating Medical Treatments for Serious Mental Illness"*. Under this directive, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, through the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), is mandated to allocate at least **\$50 million to partner with State governments to advance research into psychedelic drugs** to treat serious mental illnesses and treatment-resistant PTSD, particularly for military veterans.

Q3. The "Pax Silica partnership," which made headlines in international trade agreements in April 2026, is a US-led security initiative primarily signed by which country to develop a 4,000-acre tech hub?

- [A] Vietnam
- [B] India
- [C] Philippines
- [D] Taiwan

Correct Answer: [C] Philippines

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Philippines formally entered the Pax Silica partnership, a US-led technological and geopolitical initiative designed to secure supply chains for semiconductors, artificial intelligence, and critical minerals. As part of this strategic architecture, a **4,000-acre specialized industrial hub** is being developed in Luzon dedicated to chip manufacturing and mineral processing to de-risk dependencies on concentrated regional ecosystems.

Part 2: National News

Q4. Following the dramatic legislative defeat of the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill in the Lok Sabha, the Prime Minister announced a nationwide public address. What was the objective of this bill?

[A] Implementing simultaneous elections across India (One Nation, One Election)

[B] Immediate implementation of the 33% Women's Reservation in Legislatures from 2029

[C] Setting up a National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) 2.0

[D] Granting full statehood to the National Capital Territory of Delhi

Correct Answer: [B] Immediate implementation of the 33% Women's Reservation in Legislatures from 2029

- **Detailed Explanation:** A major political standoff escalated on April 17–18, 2026, after the **Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill was defeated in the Lok Sabha** due to lack of the required two-thirds special majority. The bill aimed to institutionalize the formal schedule of the 33% women's quota starting from 2029 alongside a seat expansion. Following its defeat, the Prime Minister scheduled a special national address to break down the legislative gridlock and discuss the future of the delimitation roadmap.

Q5. Which state's school education board (PSEB) officially announced the introduction of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Robotics as mandatory formal courses starting from the 2026 academic session?

[A] Punjab

[B] Haryana

[C] Maharashtra

[D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: [A] Punjab

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Punjab School Education Board (PSEB) made a major structural policy update by introducing

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Robotics as new courses for the ongoing academic session. The initiative aims to align school-level technical skill benchmarks with modern economic requirements, moving students toward future-tech literacy from middle school onwards.

Q6. A well-known social media singer with over 13 lakh subscribers was arrested by the police in Nuh (Haryana) on April 18, 2026. What was the explicit charge?

[A] Copyright infringement of folk music archives

[B] Creating financial deepfakes using generative voice AI

[C] Promoting and glorifying gun culture on social media

[D] Tax evasion on foreign digital streaming revenues

Correct Answer: [C] Promoting and glorifying gun culture on social media

- **Detailed Explanation:** Enforcing a strict state-wide crackdown against the weaponization of public media platforms, the Haryana Police arrested a popular digital singer in Nuh. The individual, possessing over 13 lakh subscribers on YouTube, was booked under relevant provisions for **promoting and glorifying gun culture, violence, and illegal weapon usage through digital music videos**, violating directives aimed at public safety.

Q7. The Kankaria Coaching Depot has achieved the historic distinction of becoming India's first railway facility to attain a completely "water-neutral" status. Which railway zone does this facility belong to?

[A] Western Railway

[B] Northern Railway

[C] Southern Railway

[D] Central Railway

Correct Answer: [A] Western Railway

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Kankaria Coaching Depot (Ahmedabad), under the Western Railway zone, became the first railway facility in India to achieve **100% water-neutral status**. The facility conserves approximately 1.60 lakh litres of water daily (totaling 5.84 crore litres annually) by deploying an advanced ecological phytoremediation model, plant-based natural wetlands, multi-stage treatment, and UV sterilization to recycle an equivalent volume of water to what it consumes.

Part 3: Economics and Banking

Q8. The Union Cabinet approved the creation of the Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMI Pool) to safeguard domestic shipping from global geopolitical disruptions. What is the value of the sovereign guarantee backed by the government?

[A] ₹5,000 crore

[B] ₹8,500 crore

[C] ₹12,980 crore

[D] ₹20,000 crore

Correct Answer: [C] ₹12,980 crore

- **Detailed Explanation:** Amid escalating shipping risks in maritime bottlenecks like the Red Sea and the Strait of Hormuz, the Union Cabinet approved the setup of the **Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMI Pool) with a sovereign guarantee of ₹12,980 crore**. This pool will guarantee continuous, affordable marine war-risk insurance

protection for Indian-flagged vessels and cargo, insulating domestic exporters from prohibitive premium hikes levied by international insurance syndicates.

Q9. According to the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) April 2026 World Economic Outlook, India's global GDP ranking transitioned to which position due to currency valuation dynamics?

[A] 3rd Position

[B] 4th Position

[C] 5th Position

[D] 6th Position

Correct Answer: [D] 6th Position

- **Detailed Explanation:** In its latest April 2026 World Economic Outlook, the IMF reported that India's global nominal GDP ranking adjusted slightly from **4th to 6th position**, with an estimated GDP of USD 3.92 trillion. Despite maintaining leading real growth rates in domestic terms, the intense depreciation of the Indian Rupee (INR) against the US Dollar (USD) reduced the absolute dollar-denominated conversion value, placing India temporarily behind Japan (USD 4.4 trillion) and the United Kingdom (USD 4.1 trillion).

Q10. The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) cleared a major structural push for the "SHANTI Act," sending a crucial policy file for inter-ministerial consultation. What is the focus of this policy?

[A] Complete privatization of atomic energy mining sites

[B] Introducing a formal Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) framework in the nuclear power sector

[C] Setting up a national nuclear waste registry



[D] Decommissioning old thermal plants using isotope technology

Correct Answer: [B] Introducing a formal Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) framework in the nuclear power sector

- **Detailed Explanation:** In a historic shift for India's clean energy funding ecosystem, the Atomic Energy Commission cleared a specialized FDI policy framework under the proposed SHANTI Act. Sent for inter-ministerial reviews on April 18, 2026, the policy aims to legally open up specific verticals of the domestic nuclear energy generation sector to foreign direct investment and private corporate partnerships to rapidly scale up clean base-load energy capacities.

Q11. Based on wealth indexing data released in mid-April 2026, who overtook Mukesh Ambani to reclaim the spot of India's and Asia's wealthiest individual?

- [A] Gautam Adani
- [B] Shiv Nadar
- [C] Radhakishan Damani
- [D] Dilip Shanghvi

Correct Answer: [A] Gautam Adani

- **Detailed Explanation:** In mid-April 2026, Gautam Adani overtook Mukesh Ambani in global wealth metrics, with a recorded net worth of USD 92.6 billion compared to Ambani's USD 90.8 billion. The transition was driven by heavy institutional capital inflows and stock market gains across Adani Group's infrastructure, green energy, and ports business verticals, signaling strong global investor appetite for core asset expansion in India.

Part 4: Sports Governance and News

Q12. The high-profile 2026 NBA Playoffs, one of the world's most-watched professional basketball postseason tournaments, officially commenced on which date?

- [A] April 15, 2026
- [B] April 18, 2026
- [C] April 20, 2026
- [D] May 01, 2026

Correct Answer: [B] April 18, 2026

- **Detailed Explanation:** The 2026 National Basketball Association (NBA) Playoffs formally commenced on April 18, 2026. Following the conclusion of the high-intensity Play-In tournament, the final bracket of 16 top-tier professional teams from the Eastern and Western conferences entered the multi-round elimination matches to contest the Larry O'Brien Championship Trophy.

Q13. The Indian Army's Regiment of Artillery recently flagged off its historic first-ever blue water sailing expedition. What is the name of this expedition?

- [A] Samudra Sankalp
- [B] Jal Tarang 2026
- [C] Samudra Sahas
- [D] Sagar Parikrama II

Correct Answer: [C] Samudra Sahas

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Indian Army's Regiment of Artillery successfully flagged off 'Samudra Sahas', its inaugural blue-water sailing expedition from Marve, Mumbai. Supported operationally by the Indian Navy and Coast Guard, the expedition tests

extreme high-seas seamanship, coordination, and mental endurance under varying wind speeds, symbolizing the multi-domain operational readiness of Indian military branches.

Part 5: Appointments

Q14. In Bihar's political governance architecture, who were recently sworn in as the dual Deputy Chief Ministers (Dy CM) of the state following an executive cabinet reshuffle?

- [A] Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha
- [B] Vijay Kumar Choudhary and Bijendra Prasad Yadav
- [C] Tejashwi Yadav and Abdul Bari Siddiqui
- [D] Nitish Kumar and Chirag Paswan

Correct Answer: [B] Vijay Kumar Choudhary and Bijendra Prasad Yadav

- **Detailed Explanation:** Following a strategic alignment of internal legislative frameworks and a cabinet portfolio update in Bihar, veteran leaders **Vijay Kumar Choudhary and Bijendra Prasad Yadav** were formally sworn in as the new Deputy Chief Ministers of the state, taking charge of key administrative planning, finance, and energy portfolios to drive state infrastructure development.

Q15. Senior banking veteran Deepak Parekh made a prominent policy statement on April 18, which was widely discussed in economic forums. What was his core recommendation?

- [A] Reducing the number of public sector banks to just three through immediate mergers
- [B] Granting greater operational freedom to commercial banks and systematically raising the sector's FDI limits
- [C] Replacing the physical currency system entirely with CBDC by 2028

[D] Eliminating the concept of non-performing asset (NPA) provisioning for MSMEs

Correct Answer: [B] Granting greater operational freedom to commercial banks and systematically raising the sector's FDI limits

- **Detailed Explanation:** Speaking at an institutional banking forum on April 18, 2026, corporate icon **Deepak Parekh** advocated for giving commercial banking boards significantly higher operational freedom. He strongly recommended raising the sector's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) caps, noting that robust private and global capital induction is essential to deepen India's financial credit delivery systems and support the growing scale of corporate infrastructure lending.

Part 6: Awards and Honors

Q16. Versatile Indian actor Sayani Gupta was recently honored with the prestigious South Asian Person of the Year 2026 award. Which global institution conferred this honor?

- [A] Oxford University South Asian Society
- [B] Harvard University South Asian Association (SAA)
- [C] London School of Economics (LSE)
- [D] United Nations Cultural Fellowship

Correct Answer: [B] Harvard University South Asian Association (SAA)

- **Detailed Explanation:** Acclaimed actor **Sayani Gupta** was named the 'South Asian Person of the Year 2026' by the Harvard University South Asian Association in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The annual award honors South Asian trailblazers who make impactful, progressive, and globally recognized contributions to the fields of arts,

alternative cinema, culture, and public interest discourse.

Q17. Nishita Yogesh Antarkar was recently crowned with a unique title at a specialized cultural ceremony in Mumbai on April 17-18. What is the title?

- [A] Miss India Eco-Tourism 2026
- [B] Miss Sake India 2026
- [C] National Cultural Heritage Ambassador
- [D] Khadi Fashion Icon of the Year

Correct Answer: [B] Miss Sake India 2026

- **Detailed Explanation:** At a cultural ceremony organized in Mumbai by Hirohama India, Nishita Yogesh Antarkar was awarded the Miss Sake India 2026 title. Moving far beyond conventional beauty pageants, this specialized international framework focuses on fostering bilateral cultural exchanges, tourism linkages, and agricultural diplomacy between India and Japan by promoting the traditional Japanese sake brewery heritage.

Part 7: Defense News

Q18. The Technology Development Board (TDB) signed a milestone defense technology agreement with Casey Aviation Pvt Ltd to develop the BE-JTO project. What technology does BE-JTO focus on?

- [A] Autonomous underwater stealth drones
- [B] Boost Electric Jump Take-Off hybrid propulsion systems for aircraft
- [C] Anti-satellite kinetic interceptor shields
- [D] Laser-guided hypersonic cruise missile fins

Correct Answer: [B] Boost Electric Jump Take-Off hybrid propulsion systems for aircraft

- **Detailed Explanation:** Under the Department of Science & Technology, the TDB signed an agreement with Gurugram-based Casey Aviation to indigenously design and manufacture the Boost Electric Jump Take-Off (BE-JTO) hybrid propulsion project. Developed in engineering collaboration with the UK's ARC Aerosystems, this cutting-edge defense-industrial project aims to deliver vertical takeoff capabilities for mid-sized aircraft, enhancing tactical logistics in remote border terrains.

Q19. A major logistics disruption occurred at the Pune Civil Airport on April 17-18, affecting dozens of commercial flights. What was the cause of this disruption?

- [A] A sudden strike by the civil air traffic controllers' guild
- [B] An Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft developing a technical snag on the shared runway
- [C] Severe flooding of the main terminal due to unseasonal rain
- [D] Cyber-attacks compromising the digital baggage check-in servers

Correct Answer: [B] An Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft developing a technical snag on the shared runway

- **Detailed Explanation:** Since the Pune Airport operates as a civil enclave within the Indian Air Force's Lohegaon Air Force Station, civil and military aircraft share the primary runway assets. On April 17-18, 2026, an IAF fighter jet asset developed a sudden technical snag directly on the runway during a routine training exercise, completely halting civilian operations for several hours and causing widespread flight delays and diversions.

Part 8: Government Schemes and Initiatives

Q20. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry announced the expansion of the *RELIEF Scheme* to include Egypt and Jordan. What does *RELIEF* stand for, and what is its primary focus?

- [A] Rural Employment and Local Industrial Economic Fund; focusing on artisan training
- [B] Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation; focusing on insurance and credit support for MSME exporters
- [C] Regional Infrastructure Loan and Energy Funding; focusing on cross-border grids
- [D] Radical Economic Liberation and Investment Enhancement Framework

Correct Answer: [B] Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation; focusing on insurance and credit support for MSME exporters

- **Detailed Explanation:** To protect Indian small and medium businesses from escalating maritime transport costs, the government expanded the **RELIEF (Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation) Scheme** to encompass exports bound for Egypt and Jordan. The scheme provides eligible **MSME exporters with financial risk mitigation cushions, partial freight cost reimbursements, and specialized export credit insurance lines** to keep Indian goods competitive despite shipping detours around Africa.

Q21. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) entered a new digital governance era by launching two specialized mobile applications named *MyLIC* and *Super Sales Saathi*. What is the name of the underlying technology platform driving these apps?

- [A] DIVE (Digital Innovation and Value Enhancement)
- [B] PRAGATI Platform
- [C] UTKARSH 2.0
- [D] DIGI-LIFE Engine

Correct Answer: [A] DIVE (Digital Innovation and Value Enhancement)

- **Detailed Explanation:** Unveiled by the Secretary of the Department of Financial Services (DFS), M. Nagaraju, **LIC launched the 'MyLIC' app (for policyholders) and 'Super Sales Saathi' (to support field agents)**. Both applications are architected on LIC's **DIVE (Digital Innovation and Value Enhancement) technology transformation platform**, which aims to modernize the insurance giant's core systems into a paperless, cloud-native, and AI-assisted financial ecosystem.

Part 9: Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs)

Q22. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) signed a high-level MoU to curb cyber fraud. What key mechanism was established through this agreement?

- [A] A mandatory biometric verification system for all stock market investors
- [B] A two-way intelligence pipeline via DoT's Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP) to link telecom profiles with financial surveillance
- [C] An automatic blocking system for all international VoIP calls
- [D] A unified digital currency token to process stock trades

Correct Answer: [B] A two-way intelligence pipeline via DoT's Digital Intelligence Platform

(DIP) to link telecom profiles with financial surveillance

- **Detailed Explanation:** To tackle the rising menace of mule accounts, digital arrest scams, and stock market impersonation frauds, DoT and SEBI signed a historic MoU establishing a real-time intelligence pipeline via the Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP). This allows SEBI to provide instant alerts regarding telecom resources linked to suspicious financial activities, enabling telecom operators to block fraudulent phone connections and devices across India within minutes.

Q23. The National Logistics Development Strategy Limited (NLDSL) signed an MoU with which state government to completely digitize its logistics ecosystem through the Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP)?

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

Correct Answer: [D] Maharashtra

- **Detailed Explanation:** During a specialized state workshop held in Mumbai, NLDSL signed an MoU with the Government of Maharashtra to integrate the Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP). This integration enables the state's industrial networks, MSMEs, and ports to utilize real-time cargo visibility, streamlined digital documentation, and data-driven supply chain tracking, directly reducing operational overheads and lowering logistics costs as a percentage of state GDP.

Part 10: Important Days and Conservation

Q24. World Heritage Day is observed globally on April 18. What is the official international theme designated by UNESCO and ICOMOS for the 2026 global preservation campaign?

- [A] "Heritage Changes: Climate and Resilience"
- [B] "Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures"
- [C] "Emergency Response for Living Heritage in Contexts of Conflicts and Disasters"
- [D] "Shared Cultures, Shared Heritage, Shared Responsibility"

Correct Answer: [C] "Emergency Response for Living Heritage in Contexts of Conflicts and Disasters"

- **Detailed Explanation:** World Heritage Day (International Day for Monuments and Sites) is celebrated on April 18. The 2026 theme is "Emergency Response for Living Heritage in Contexts of Conflicts and Disasters", selected by UNESCO and ICOMOS to highlight the escalating risks that regional geopolitical military conflicts, extreme climate events, and natural disasters pose to vulnerable living cultural traditions, indigenous knowledge systems, and historical monuments worldwide.

Q25. Environmental scientists reported a major ecological development in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) in mid-April 2026. What was this development?

- [A] The sudden nesting of Olive Ridley turtles along Marine Drive
- [B] The delayed arrival of lakhs of migratory Greater and Lesser Flamingos
- [C] Complete disappearance of mangrove cover due to oil spills

[D] Discovery of a new endemic species of marine dolphin

Correct Answer: [B] The delayed arrival of lakhs of migratory Greater and Lesser Flamingos

- **Detailed Explanation:** In mid-April 2026, lakhs of migratory flamingos arrived across the wetlands of Navi Mumbai, Thane Creek, and the MMR, several months later than their conventional winter schedule. Ecological experts noted that shifting weather patterns, unseasonal rainfall distribution across their breeding grounds in the Rann of Kutch, and changing water salinity thresholds caused this rare change in their migratory timeline.

Part 11: Art, Culture, and Festivals

Q26. India and Germany unveiled a special, artistically crafted commemorative logo on April 17-18, 2026. What historic milestone does this logo mark?

- [A] 50 years of space science cooperation
- [B] 75 years of formal diplomatic relations
- [C] 100 years of bilateral trade agreements
- [D] 25 years of cultural student exchange programs

Correct Answer: [B] 75 years of formal diplomatic relations

- **Detailed Explanation:** India and Germany unveiled a commemorative logo marking 75 years of enduring diplomatic relations (established formally in 1951). The logo features a blend of national symbols representing cooperation, economic synergy, and shared democratic values. It will be used across a series of high-level bilateral summits, technology forums, and cultural expositions scheduled throughout 2026.

Q27. The historic Jallianwala Bagh Massacre occurred during which major regional harvest festival of Punjab, a historical fact widely referenced during its national anniversary refreshers?

- [A] Lohri
- [B] Baisakhi
- [C] Hola Mohalla
- [D] Karva Chauth

Correct Answer: [B] Baisakhi

- **Detailed Explanation:** The horrific Jallianwala Bagh Massacre took place on April 13, 1919, which coincided with the holy harvest festival day of Baisakhi. Thousands of unarmed common citizens, including women and children, had gathered peacefully at the enclosed park in Amritsar to celebrate the festival and protest the repressive Rowlatt Act when Brigadier-General Reginald Dyer ordered troops to block the exits and open fire on the crowd, cementing a tragic turning point in India's freedom struggle.

Part 2: Historical Legacies and Anniversaries

Q28. April 17–18 marks the official launch of the 100th birth anniversary year celebrations of former Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar. Which of the following social initiatives did he famously undertake in 1983 to connect with grassroots Indian society?

- [A] A 10,000 km nationwide rail rally named 'Jan Janata Express'
- [B] A 4,260 km padayatra (foot-march) from Kanyakumari to Rajghat (New Delhi)
- [C] Setting up the first network of rural community radio stations

[D] Launching the 'Total Revolution' movement from Patna law college

Correct Answer: [B] A 4,260 km padayatra (foot-march) from Kanyakumari to Rajghat (New Delhi)

- **Detailed Explanation:** Former Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar (1927–2007) was honored across administrative circles as his birth anniversary marked the **beginning of his 100th birth year**. Affectionately called the "Young Turk" for his fearless, non-conformist political stances, he famously undertook a historic **4,260 km walk from Kanyakumari to Rajghat between January and June 1983** to understand grassroots public grievances. He later established nearly 15 Bharat Yatra Centres across India to train youth in social work.

Q29. India officially communicated a major global environmental decision to the UNFCCC, which was formally highlighted by the Foreign Ministry on April 17-18, 2026. What was this decision?

[A] Withdrawing its bid to host the UN Climate Summit COP33 in 2028

[B] Pledging to achieve Net-Zero carbon emissions early by 2050

[C] Imposing a complete national ban on all coal-fired power plants by 2030

[D] Withdrawing completely from the Paris Climate Agreement

Correct Answer: [A] Withdrawing its bid to host the UN Climate Summit COP33 in 2028

- **Detailed Explanation:** In a significant shift in environmental diplomacy, **India officially withdrew its bid to host the UN Climate Summit COP33 in 2028**. The decision, formally communicated to the UNFCCC secretariat and highlighted in mid-April

2026, followed a thorough review of massive international event commitments and logistics timelines scheduled for that year. The Ministry of External Affairs reiterated that India remains fully dedicated to its domestic climate goals and renewable energy targets.

Q30. The Supreme Court of India issued a crucial legal clarification protecting women's rights under Section 7(3) of the Dowry Prohibition Act. What did the apex court rule?

[A] Any wedding gift worth more than ₹50,000 will be treated as automated dowry

[B] A bride or her family who gave dowry under intense pressure/coercion cannot be penalized for admitting it when filing a harassment complaint

[C] Both the giver and taker of dowry must receive identical mandatory prison sentences without bail

[D] Online registration of all wedding expenditures is mandatory to get a marriage certificate

Correct Answer: [B] A bride or her family who gave dowry under intense pressure/coercion cannot be penalized for admitting it when filing a harassment complaint

- **Detailed Explanation:** In a progressive legal judgment, the Supreme Court ruled that **if a bride or her family gave dowry under intense pressure, threats, or extortion and later filed a formal complaint of harassment, they cannot be prosecuted or penalized for admitting to giving it**. The Bench clarified that Section 7(3) of the Dowry Prohibition Act provides explicit statutory protection to the victims, ensuring that the law supports aggrieved women rather than turning into an instrument of double jeopardy against them.

Quick Reference Summary Table

| Category | Key Topic / Entity | Core Takeaway for Competitive Exams |
|---------------|--------------------|---|
| International | Strait of Hormuz | Iran reversed course, closing the strategic trade channel to commercial shipping. |
| International | US Executive Order | President Trump allocated \$50 million for psychedelic drug mental health research. |
| National | 131st Amendment | The Women's Reservation Bill faced a legislative defeat in the Lok Sabha. |
| Banking / Eco | BMI Pool (Cabinet) | Formed domestic maritime insurance pool with a ₹12,980 crore sovereign guarantee. |
| Economics | IMF GDP Rankings | India adjusted to 6th position globally in USD terms due to Rupee depreciation. |

| Category | Key Topic / Entity | Core Takeaway for Competitive Exams |
|---------------|----------------------|---|
| Defense News | TDB & Casey Aviation | Partnered to indigenously develop BE-JTO hybrid propulsion systems. |
| Govt Schemes | LIC Digital Platform | Launched MyLIC and Super Sales Saathi apps powered by the DIVE platform. |
| Anniversaries | PM Chandra Shekhar | Centenary celebrations began honoring his legacy and his 1983 Bharat Yatra. |