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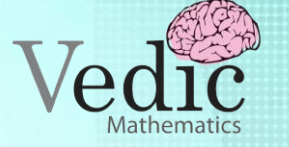
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National News

Vice-President Releases Commemorative Stamp Honouring Emperor Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar



A commemorative postage stamp was issued by the Vice-President of India, Shri C P Radhakrishnan, in the memory of Emperor Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar II (Suvaran Maran) on December 2025 at the Vice-President Enclave, New Delhi. The event was an extension of the Centre's prevailing initiative to recognize unsung rulers and cultural icons of Tamil Nadu, with continuous assurance by the government to preserve historical and cultural legacy.

Key Points:-

- Also known as Suvaran Maran
- Belonged to the Mutharaiyar dynasty, which ruled central Tamil Nadu between the 7th and 9th centuries CE
- Ruled from Tiruchirappalli for nearly four decades
- Considered one of the most distinguished rulers of early medieval South India





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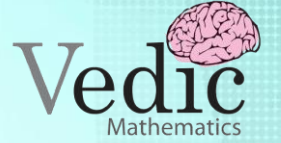
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National News

Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill, 2025



India's higher education system is among the largest in the world, yet it has long faced challenges such as overlapping regulators, inconsistent standards, and bureaucratic delays. To address these issues and align governance with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the Union Government has introduced the Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan (VBSA) Bill, 2025, which was listed in the Winter Session of Parliament.

Key points include:

- Better coordination among regulatory functions
- Clear and uniform academic standards
- A unified governance mechanism for higher education

International News

UNESCO Adds Endangered Traditional Arts and Crafts to Urgent Safeguarding List



UNESCO has inscribed the following endangered traditional arts and crafts on its List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding in a major step to help protect global cultural diversity. The decision underlines the life of cultural practices seriously threatened by modernization, migration, lack of participation by communities, or insufficient economic support.

Key Points:-

- The List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding is maintained by UNESCO to identify cultural practices that are at risk of disappearing.
- These include traditions related to music, dance, crafts, rituals, and oral knowledge.
- Once a cultural element is inscribed, it becomes eligible for international support, technical assistance, and

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funding, helping communities preserve and transmit their heritage.

Appointments

Press Club of India Elects Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty as Its First Woman President



A pathbreaking development for India's media scene, senior journalist Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty was elected as the first woman President of the Press Club of India. The declaration of results on December, 2025, marked a historic milestone in the annals of one of the most powerful journalist bodies of the country, and a step towards changing the trend of low gender representation in media leadership.

Sports

Shafali Verma Wins ICC Women's Player of the Month for November



Indian opener Shafali Verma has been awarded the ICC Women's Player of the Month for November. Which is marking her first ever Player of the Month honour. The recognition crowns a remarkable turnaround in her World Cup journey, as she had entered the squad as a late replacement for injured Pratika Rawal but went on to play a decisive role in India's historic Women's Cricket World Cup triumph.

Awards

MRF Tyres Bags 2025 FIA European Rally Championship Title

India's presence in global motorsport technology received a major boost as MRF Tyres clinched the 2025 FIA European Rally Championship (ERC) Teams Title. The prestigious award was presented at the FIA Awards Gala, marking another milestone for the Chennai based tyre manufacturer on the international stage.

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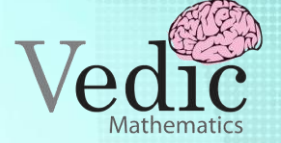
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This victory reinforces MRF's reputation as one of the few Indian companies to consistently compete and succeed in elite global motorsport championships, an area traditionally dominated by European and Japanese firms.

State News

Sand Mining restriction in Adichanallur



The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court ruled that sand mining is not allowed near the Adichanallur archaeological site or within the village. A Division Bench passed the order while disposing of a petition filed in 2016. The petition

related to alleged sand mining near the Adichanallur Iron-Age urn burial site in the Thoothukudi district. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is carrying out excavations at the fenced archaeological site.



DETAILED ANALYSIS OF RECENT CURRENT AFFAIRS: MULTIPLE CHOICE FORMAT

Q.1. The Maharashtra government has announced the abolition of which centuries-old rental system?

- A. Rent Control Act
- B. Pagdi System
- C. Leasehold System
- D. Slum Rehabilitation Scheme

1. B

The Maharashtra government has announced the abolition of the centuries-old "pagdi system," which was common in older buildings in Mumbai and other cities, leading to disputes between landlords and tenants and hindering redevelopment. The government will now eliminate this system with new rules to promote redevelopment.

Q.2. Maharashtra has launched the MahaCrimeOS AI platform in collaboration with whom?

- A. Google
- B. IBM
- C. Microsoft
- D. Amazon





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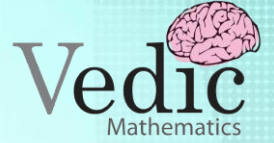
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2. C

The Maharashtra government has taken a major leap forward in AI-driven policing, partnering with Microsoft to build an advanced platform to modernize and accelerate cybercrime investigations across the state. The platform was launched by Microsoft Chairman and CEO Satya Nadella during the Microsoft AI Tour in Mumbai.

Q.3. RBI has recently relaxed the rules related to which banking facilities?

A. Fixed Deposits only

B. Savings Accounts

C. CC, Current Account and OD

D. Digital Wallets

3. C

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued its final directions on 'Maintenance of Cash Credit Accounts, Current Accounts and Overdraft Accounts by Banks.' These guidelines provide necessary relaxations while continuing with the principle-based regulatory framework, aimed at improving credit discipline and transparency.

Q.4. In which state will India's first power museum be built?

A. Bhopal

B. Chennai

C. Patna

D. Kolkata

4. C

The country's first power museum is being built on the Karbighia Thermal Power Station

campus in Patna, Bihar. Spread over 3 acres, the museum will preserve the heritage of the power sector, promote tourism, and foster educational and industrial research. The museum will showcase the evolution of power generation and distribution and will become a key attraction for Patna.

Q.5. In which state will the carbon credit scheme for farmers be launched?

A. Bihar

B. West Bengal

C. Kerala

D. Uttar Pradesh

5. D

A carbon credit scheme for farmers will be launched in Uttar Pradesh (UP), India, in collaboration with IIT-Roorkee. This will be India's first large-scale model, where farmers will earn income by storing carbon through agroforestry and planting trees. The pilot project will begin in Saharanpur and plans are to expand it across the state.

Q.6. China's trade surplus crossed which figure for the first time?

A. \$500 billion

B. \$750 billion

C. \$1 trillion

D. \$2 trillion

6. C

China's trade surplus surpassed the \$1 trillion mark for the first time, a historic milestone that reflects strong growth in China's exports and its





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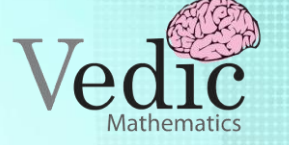
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increasing reliance on global markets, even as trade tensions with the US continue.

Q.7. Who hosted the 14th Men's Junior Hockey World Cup 2025?

- A. Delhi and Gurugram
- B. Chennai and Madurai
- C. Bengaluru and Mysore
- D. Bhubaneswar and Cuttack

7. B

The 14th edition of the FIH Men's Junior Hockey World Cup 2025 concluded on a high note in Chennai and Madurai, Tamil Nadu, with Germany crowned champions. The tournament took place at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium in Chennai and the Madurai International Hockey Stadium.

Q.8. The World Bank approved approximately \$600 million for which states for clean air programs?

- A. Punjab and Rajasthan
- B. Uttar Pradesh and Haryana
- C. Bihar and Jharkhand
- D. Delhi and NCR

8. B

The World Bank has approved approximately \$600 million (approximately Rs 4,993 crore) in funding for the Air Pollution Reduction and Clean Air Programme in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, aimed at improving air quality in these areas.

Q.9. SEBI has expanded the definition of "Strategic Investor" for whom?

- A. Mutual Funds only
- B. REITs and InvITs
- C. Hedge Funds
- D. NBFCs

9. B

SEBI has expanded the definition of "strategic investor" for REITs (real estate investment trusts) and InvITs (infrastructure investment trusts) to include qualified institutional buyers (QIBs) and certain FPIs such as pension funds, provident funds, insurance companies, large family trusts and some large NBFCs, thereby making it easier to raise capital and increase market share.

Q.10. In which city did JP Morgan Chase receive approval from the RBI to open a new branch?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Pune
- D. Gurugram

10. C

JPMorgan Chase & Co. is set to open a new branch in Pune, India, after receiving 'in-principle' approval from the Reserve Bank of India. This is the first new branch opening in India for the Wall Street bank in nearly a decade, marking a major move into the country's rapidly growing economy.





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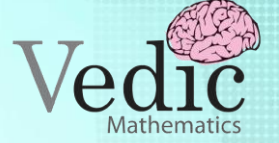
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Q.11. In which category was Boreendo, Pakistan, listed by UNESCO?

- A. World Heritage Site
- B. Tangible Cultural Heritage
- C. Intangible Cultural Heritage Worth Urgently Protecting
- D. Natural Heritage

11. C

UNESCO has added Pakistan's Boreendo to its "Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding" list, recognizing its cultural fragility and the need for urgent conservation efforts. The Boreendo is a round clay pot-flute that produces a soft, melodious, and breath-like sound, traditionally used in Sindh to accompany folk melodies, country songs, and winter parties. It originated in Katy Mir Muhammad Lund, Sindh, and its history is linked to the musical artifacts of Mohenjo-Daro, linking it to the ancient Indus Valley Civilization. The instrument is handmade from terracotta, a sun-dried and kiln-fired clay, making it an environmentally sustainable musical craft.

Q.12. Which advanced innovation has been developed by NIT Rourkela researchers?

- A. Quantum Computer
- B. Human-like AI Social Robot
- C. Space Engine
- D. Blockchain Voting System

12. B

In a major technology breakthrough, researchers at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Rourkela have created a

native AI robot that can converse like a human. The highlights of this NIT robotic system are that it understands everyday language, follows spoken commands, answers questions, and can engage in real-time conversations without being limited to pre-set responses.

Q.13. Which medal was awarded to Dinesh Khattak?

- A. Shaurya Chakra
- B. President's Police Medal
- C. Home Minister's Efficiency Medal
- D. Army Medal

13. C

Dinesh Khatak, a senior Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) officer from Haryana's Jind district, has been awarded the "Union Home Minister's Efficiency Medal" for his distinguished service, leadership, and discipline. The honor recognizes his long-standing contribution to the country's internal security and his successful operations in difficult terrain.

Q.14. In which sector did India launch its first indigenous hydrogen fuel cell passenger vessel?

- A. Aviation
- B. Road Transport
- C. Inland Water Transport
- D. Railways

14. C

India recently launched its first fully indigenous hydrogen fuel cell passenger vessel on the Ganges River in Varanasi. This is a major step





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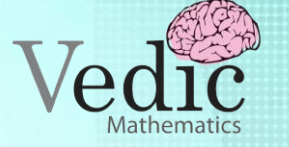
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towards clean, noise-free, and pollution-free water transport. It was flagged off by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and is now in commercial service.

Q.15. Who was named TIME Magazine's Person of the Year for 2025?

- A. Elon Musk
- B. Sam Altman
- C. Architect of Artificial Intelligence
- D. NASA AI Researcher

15. C

Time magazine chose the "Architects of AI" as its Person of the Year for 2025. The magazine described 2025 as the year when the potential of AI rapidly emerged and there is no turning back. Time said in a post on internet media that the architects of artificial intelligence are Time's Person of the Year for 2025 because they brought about the age of thinking machines, surprised and puzzled humans, transformed today and pushed the realm of possibility.



HISTORICAL AND TECHNICAL EVENTS OF 17TH DECEMBER 2025

1927 - Uttar Pradesh Automobile Association was established.



On December 1927, Uttar Pradesh Automobile Association was established. The aim of this association was to encourage the automobile industry in the state and provide a platform for its growth.

The association has played a vital role in effectively controlling the trade, services and policies of automobiles. This association still provides significant contribution in automobile related matters in Uttar Pradesh.

1919 - The American Meteorological Society was founded.

The American Meteorological Society was founded on December, 1919. Its purpose was to improve meteorology, weather change, and environmental studies.

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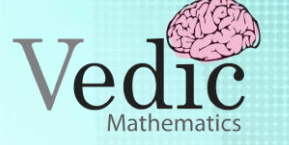
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This society is today one of the leading organizations for providing research, education, and expertise on weather and climate-related issues around the world.

1842 - The US recognized Hawaii as a province.



On December, 1842, the US recognized Hawaii as a province. Hawaii, which was previously an independent island nation, now became part of the US.

This decision of Hawaii was part of America's expansionist approach, which was moving it

towards strengthening its position in the Pacific region.

In 1959, Hawaii officially became the 50th state of the US.

1154 - King Henry II becomes King of England.



On December 1154, King Henry II becomes King of England. His reign leads to significant changes in England and France.

Henry II reformed the law and justice system and laid the foundation for a strong central administration in England.

His administrative policies transformed England into a powerful kingdom and his reign is considered an important time in the medieval politics of England.



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1958 - Sukumar Sen became the first Chief Election Commissioner of the Republic of India.

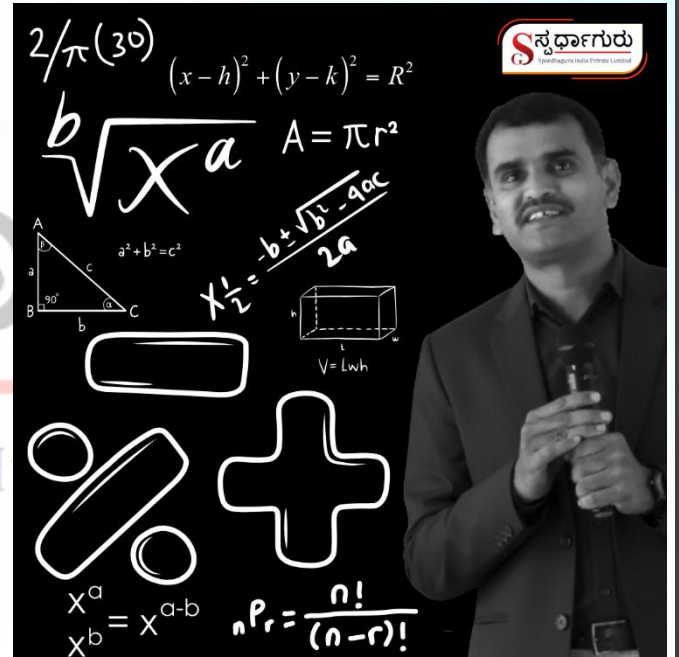


On December 1958, Sukumar Sen became the first Chief Election Commissioner of the Republic of India. He strengthened the Indian election system and streamlined the electoral process in the country. During his tenure, the first general election process was held in India, which was the largest election after independence. His contribution is considered important in Indian politics and under his guidance the Election Commission of India established itself as a model across the world.

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Best Wishes

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