

## National & International News

1. The United Nations "BBNJ Treaty," which officially entered into force in January 2026, is primarily associated with which objective?

- A) Regulation of deep-sea mining in the Arctic
- B) Conservation of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdictions
- C) Prevention of plastic pollution in coastal waters
- D) Demarcation of maritime boundaries in the South China Sea

**Answer: B) Conservation of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdictions**

**Explanation:** Often called the "High Seas Treaty," this legally binding agreement under UNCLOS aims to protect the two-thirds of the ocean that lie outside national borders. It allows for the creation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in international waters to meet the global goal of protecting 30% of oceans by 2030.

2. Which international body celebrated its 80th anniversary on January 19, 2026, serving as the central platform for global economic and social policy coordination?

- A) UNESCO
- B) UN Security Council
- C) ECOSOC
- D) International Court of Justice

**Answer: C) ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council)**

**Explanation:** Established in 1946, ECOSOC is one of the six principal organs of the UN. It celebrated 80 years of coordinating the economic and social work of the UN and its specialized agencies, focusing heavily on the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## Economics & Banking

3. Which organization recently released the 4th edition of the "Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2024" in January 2026?

- A) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- B) NITI Aayog
- C) Reserve Bank of India
- D) Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)

**Answer: B) NITI Aayog**

**Explanation:** The EPI evaluates states and UTs across four pillars: Policy, Business Ecosystem, Export Ecosystem, and Export Performance. The 2026 report highlighted the significant progress made by coastal states like Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra in global trade integration.

4. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently proposed a "CBDC Interoperability" framework specifically for which international group to facilitate cross-border trade?

- A) G20
- B) ASEAN
- C) BRICS
- D) European Union

**Answer: C) BRICS**

**Explanation:** To reduce dependence on traditional settlement systems and boost "De-dollarization," the RBI proposed linking the Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) of BRICS nations. This would allow for real-time, low-cost cross-border payments for trade and tourism within the bloc.



## Defense & Technology

5. Who has been appointed as the new Director General (DG) of the Border Security Force (BSF) in January 2026?

- A) Shatrujeet Singh Kapoor
- B) Rakesh Aggarwal
- C) Praveen Kumar
- D) Nitin Agarwal

**Answer: C) Praveen Kumar**

**Explanation:** Praveen Kumar, a 1993-batch IPS officer, was appointed as the DG of BSF with a tenure until September 2030. Simultaneously, Shatrujeet Singh Kapoor was appointed as the DG of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

6. Which deep-learning tool was recently developed by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) to predict how proteins bind in the human body?

- A) BioPredict
- B) Disobind
- C) AlphaFold-Next
- D) ProteoLink

**Answer: B) Disobind**

**Explanation:** Developed by researchers at NCBS-TIFR Bengaluru, **Disobind** predicts how "intrinsically disordered proteins" (IDPs) bind to their partners. This is crucial for understanding cell signaling and developing drugs for complex diseases like cancer.

## Sports & Awards

7. Who was conferred with the Ashoka Chakra, India's highest peacetime gallantry award, on the 77th Republic Day (announced Jan 2026)?

- A) Major Priya Sharma
- B) Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla
- C) Wing Commander Rajiv Kothiyal
- D) Captain Abhilash Tomy

**Answer: B) Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla**

**Explanation:** He was honored for his exceptional bravery and professional excellence. Notably, he is also slated to be the first Indian to go to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of the Axiom-4 mission.

8. In January 2026, which Indian boxer officially joined the Asian Boxing Council as a prominent member?

- A) Mary Kom
- B) Vijender Singh
- C) Amit Panghal
- D) Nikhat Zareen

**Answer: B) Vijender Singh**

**Explanation:** India's first Olympic medalist in boxing, Vijender Singh, was inducted into the Asian Boxing Council to help promote professional boxing and support young athletes across the continent.

## Government Schemes & MoUs

9. The "Paripoorna Mediclaim Ayush Bima" scheme, launched in January 2026, provides additional health coverage for which group?

- A) Small and Marginal Farmers
- B) BPL families under Ayushman Bharat
- C) CGHS (Central Government Health Scheme) beneficiaries
- D) Unorganized sector gig workers

**Answer: C) CGHS beneficiaries**

**Explanation:** This scheme offers a sum insured of ₹10 lakh to ₹20 lakh specifically for AYUSH treatments and modern medical procedures, complementing the existing CGHS facilities with a cashless hospital network.

**10. India's first open-sea marine fish farming project was launched in January 2026 in which location?**

- A) Gulf of Kutch, Gujarat
- B) Chilika Lake, Odisha
- C) Andaman Sea (near North Bay)
- D) Palk Strait, Tamil Nadu

**Answer: C) Andaman Sea (near North Bay)**

**Explanation:** Launched under the "Blue Economy" initiative by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, this project aims to boost sustainable mariculture and fish exports using high-tech floating cages in deep waters.

## Books & Important Days

**11. Which state observes "Sonam Losar" as a public holiday on January 19, 2026?**

- A) Arunachal Pradesh
- B) Sikkim
- C) Himachal Pradesh
- D) Ladakh

**Answer: B) Sikkim**

**Explanation:** Sonam Losar is the Tibetan New Year celebrated by the Tamang community. It marks the start of the spring season and is celebrated with traditional dances, food, and prayers.

**12. Every year on January 19, Tripura celebrates "Kokborok Day." What does this day commemorate?**

- A) The birth of the first King of Tripura
- B) The recognition of Kokborok as an official state language in 1979
- C) The merger of Tripura with the Indian Union
- D) The start of the harvest season

**Answer: B) The recognition of Kokborok as an official state language in 1979**

**Explanation:** 2026 marks the 48th anniversary of Kokborok (a Tibeto-Burman language) being recognized as an official language of the state, celebrating the cultural identity of the Tripuri people.

## State-Specific News

**13. A 34.5-km elevated corridor project was approved in January 2026 to prevent animal deaths near which National Park?**

- A) Jim Corbett NP
- B) Kaziranga NP
- C) Gir National Park
- D) Bandipur NP

**Answer: B) Kaziranga NP**

**Explanation:** The corridor on NH-715 will allow animals to move safely beneath the highway during floods, drastically reducing roadkill incidents and improving connectivity in eastern Assam.

**14. Which state launched the "Mukhya Mantri Sehat Yojana" in early 2026 to provide free medical treatment up to ₹10 lakh per family?**

- A) Rajasthan

B) Uttar Pradesh

C) Punjab

D) Karnataka

**Answer: C) Punjab**

**Explanation:** The Punjab government launched this scheme to ensure quality healthcare for all residents, regardless of income level, through a vast network of empanelled private and government hospitals.

**15. India's first "Sleeper Vande Bharat" train was flagged off in January 2026 connecting which two cities?**

A) Delhi and Mumbai

B) Kolkata (Howrah) and Guwahati

C) Bengaluru and Chennai

D) Ahmedabad and Pune

**Answer: B) Kolkata (Howrah) and Guwahati**

**Explanation:** Flagged off from Malda, this 14-hour overnight service significantly improves connectivity between West Bengal and the Northeast, boosting trade and tourism.

## Environmental & Scientific News

**16. The "Second Range-wide Dolphin Survey" was launched in January 2026 from which location?**

A) Rishikesh, Uttarakhand

B) Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh

C) Patna, Bihar

D) Guwahati, Assam

**Answer: B) Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh**

**Explanation:** Under "Project Dolphin," this survey will cover the Ganga, Indus, and

Brahmaputra river systems to monitor the population and habitat health of these endangered aquatic mammals.

**17. "Root Wilt Disease," which caused significant damage to coconut palms in South India in early 2026, is caused by which agent?**

A) Fungus

B) Phytoplasma (Bacteria)

C) Virus

D) Protozoa

**Answer: B) Phytoplasma (Bacteria)**

**Explanation:** This non-fatal but debilitating disease reduces the productivity of coconut trees and has become a major concern for farmers in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka.

**18. A new genus of microscopic crustacean discovered in Indian waters in January 2026 was named *Indiaphonte bijoyi* in honor of which Indian scientist?**

A) C.N.R. Rao

B) S. Bijoy Nandan

C) M.S. Swaminathan

D) G.D. Agarwal

**Answer: B) S. Bijoy Nandan**

**Explanation:** The discovery of this new genus of marine copepod underscores India's rich marine biodiversity and the contribution of local scientists to global taxonomy.

**19. Which state officially declared the "Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary" as its first specialized Butterfly Sanctuary in January 2026?**

A) Karnataka

B) Kerala

C) Tamil Nadu

D) Goa

**Answer: B) Kerala**

**Explanation:** Located in Kannur district, Aralam is home to hundreds of rare butterfly species. The declaration aims to boost eco-tourism and dedicated conservation efforts for these pollinators.

**20. What is the theme for the World Economic Forum (WEF) Davos Summit held in January 2026?**

A) Cooperation in a Fragmented World

B) A Spirit of Dialogue

C) Rebuilding Trust

D) Shaping the Future

**Answer: B) A Spirit of Dialogue**

**Explanation:** The 2026 summit focused on geopolitics, AI, and climate change, emphasizing the need for open communication between global leaders to solve shared crises.

Murthy sir's

**Spardhaguru**

Spardhaguru India Private Limited

**Spardhaguru Skill Edge Aptitude Academy**

A Group of Spardhaguru India Private Limited

