

Part 1: International News & Global Indices

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Energy Transition Index (ETI) 2026 released by the World Economic Forum (WEF):

1. India has jumped 2 places to secure the 70th spot in the index.
2. Sweden has topped the index, followed closely by Finland and Denmark. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
B) 2 only
C) Both 1 and 2
D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: The World Economic Forum (WEF) released its annual report titled "*Energy Transition Index (ETI 2026): Insight Report June 2026*". India jumped 2 spots to rank **70th** with an overall score of 54.9 (up by 1.9% over 2025), making it one of the top gainers globally. Sweden topped the ETI 2026 with a score of 75.3, with Finland in 2nd and Denmark in 3rd.

Q2. The Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER) 2026, released by Startup Genome, ranks which Indian city at the 15th spot globally?

- A) Mumbai
B) New Delhi
C) Bengaluru
D) Hyderabad

Answer: C) Bengaluru

Explanation: According to the *Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER) 2026* released by Startup Genome in partnership with the Global

Entrepreneurship Network, Bengaluru (Karnataka) retained its status as India's premier tech hub, ranking **15th** among the top 40 global startup ecosystems. Silicon Valley (USA), New York City (USA), and London (UK) held the top three spots respectively.

Q3. In the newly released QS World University Rankings 2027, which institution emerged as India's highest-ranked university?

- A) IISc Bengaluru
B) IIT Bombay
C) IIT Delhi
D) IIT Madras

Answer: C) IIT Delhi

Explanation: In the QS World University Rankings 2027 released by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) in June 2026, **IIT Delhi** emerged as India's leading institution, jumping five places to rank **118th** globally. Globally, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT, USA) retained the 1st position for the 15th consecutive year, followed jointly by Imperial College London and Stanford University at 2nd.

Q4. Which country proposed a global target at the Bonn Climate Change Conference 2026 to meet at least one-third (35%) of global energy needs through electricity by 2035?

- A) Germany
B) Türkiye
C) India
D) Brazil

Answer: B) Türkiye

Explanation: At the mid-year Bonn Climate Change Conference (SB64) in Germany, **Türkiye** (as part of its upcoming climate agenda) proposed a global target of elevating electricity's share in final energy demand to **35% by 2035** (up from just over 20% currently).

This is intended to accelerate deep decarbonization through mass electrification of transport, cooling, and industry.

Part 2: National News & Judiciary

Q5. In a landmark judgment on June 19, 2026, the Supreme Court of India declared the right to walk on demarcated and well-maintained footpaths as a fundamental right under which Article of the Constitution?

- A) Article 14
- B) Article 19
- C) Article 21
- D) Article 300A

Answer: C) Article 21

Explanation: A Supreme Court bench comprising Justice P.S. Narasimha held that the freedom to walk on demarcated and well-maintained footpaths is an extension of the **Right to Life and Personal Liberty (Article 21)**. The apex court ruled that this right overrides the privilege of motorized vehicles. The case stemmed from the tragic death of a five-year-old child crushed by a truck while walking to school.

Q6. The National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) has approved plans to develop four new 'Namo' cities. These cities will be named in alignment with which transport system?

- A) Vande Bharat Express
- B) Namo Bharat RRTS Train
- C) Amrit Bharat Express
- D) Metro Neo

Answer: B) Namo Bharat RRTS Train

Explanation: The NCRPB has approved the development of 4 new satellite 'Namo' cities in the Delhi-NCR zone. To foster urban decentralization, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) directed states to

submit proposals via a challenge mode. The name "Namo cities" is chosen to align specifically with the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) train, **Namo Bharat**, which will connect these urban clusters.

Q7. The Delhi High Court recently upheld the central government's proactive decision to invoke Section 69A of the IT Act to temporarily ban which platform due to leaks regarding the NEET-UG re-examination?

- A) WhatsApp
- B) Telegram
- C) Signal
- D) X (formerly Twitter)

Answer: B) Telegram

Explanation: On June 19, 2026, the Delhi High Court (Justice Tejas Karia) rejected an appeal by **Telegram**, upholding the Union Government's proactive decision to place a temporary ban on the app under **Section 69A of the Information Technology Act**. The ban was deemed a necessary, non-disproportionate safety mechanism to prevent cheating and the leakage of material ahead of the NEET-UG re-examination scheduled for June 21, 2026.

Q8. To prevent the legal profession from facing a 'brain drain', the Supreme Court has directed all State Bar Councils to establish which of the following?

- A) Advocates Welfare Corpus Fund
- B) First-Generation Litigation Grant
- C) Young Lawyers' Professional Assistance Fund
- D) Junior Advocates Stipend Scheme

Answer: C) Young Lawyers' Professional Assistance Fund

Explanation: A Supreme Court bench led by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant directed the

creation of the "Young Lawyers' Professional Assistance Fund" across all states. The Court flagged that severe financial hardships during initial years force bright, first-generation, and economically backward lawyers to abandon active litigation for corporate career stability, causing an institutional brain drain.

Part 3: Banking, Economics & Portals

Q9. The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs launched two new portals in June 2026. What are they?

- A) CyberShield Portal & CyberSuraksha Module
- B) Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) & Money Restoration Module (MRM)
- C) CyberCop Portal & Inter-Bank Fraud Ledger
- D) Citizen Financial Safety Portal & Asset Recovery System

Answer: B) Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) & Money Restoration Module (MRM)

Explanation: The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) launched the GRM and MRM portals. These tools provide real-time, seamless digital operational coordination between police forces, law enforcement agencies, and the banking network. The *Money Restoration Module (MRM)* is specifically designed to quickly freeze and restore defrauded funds to victims before cybercriminals can siphon them out of the formal banking system.

Q10. Union Minister Pralhad Joshi launched the Green Hydrogen Certification Portal of India (GHCI Portal). Which Union Ministry administers this initiative?

- A) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- B) Ministry of Power

C) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)

D) Ministry of Science and Technology

Answer: C) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)

Explanation: Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, heading the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), launched the GHCI (Green Hydrogen Certification of India) Portal during a national workshop in New Delhi. The portal ensures transparent third-party verification, carbon intensity calculations, and regulatory compliance under the National Green Hydrogen Mission. It is slated to go completely live on July 1, 2026, post-security audit.

Q11. Which premier Indian public procurement platform signed an MoU with Common Service Centre (CSC-SPV) in June 2026 to scale up procurement access at the grassroots level?

- A) Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP)
- B) Government e-Marketplace (GeM)
- C) Trade Receivables Discounting System (TreDS)
- D) National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC)

Answer: B) Government e-Marketplace (GeM)

Explanation: The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry signed an MoU with CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (CSC-SPV). This partnership integrates GeM services into rural Common Service Centres, allowing village-level entrepreneurs, local artisans, and small SHGs to easily register and bid for government procurement orders.

Q12. The National Stock Exchange (NSE) recently expanded its sectoral tracking index by introducing 11 new indices. Which of the

following is NOT one of the newly introduced indices?

- A) Nifty Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC)
- B) Nifty Hospitals
- C) Nifty Artificial Intelligence
- D) Nifty Housing Finance

Answer: C) Nifty Artificial Intelligence

Explanation: India's NSE introduced 11 new thematic and sectoral indices to help fund managers benchmark niche industries efficiently. The list includes Nifty Power, Capital Goods, Telecommunications, Construction, Consumer Services, Commercial & Transport Services, Retail, Hospitals, NBFC, Housing Finance, and Insurance. *Nifty Artificial Intelligence* was not part of this roll-out.

Part 4: Defense News, Agreements & MoUs

Q13. The Indian Navy is set to receive 12 sets of completely indigenous 1.25 MW Gas Turbine Generators. These will be installed aboard which class of stealth guided-missile destroyers?

- A) Visakhapatnam-class
- B) Kolkata-class
- C) Rajput-class
- D) Nilgiri-class

Answer: B) Kolkata-class

Explanation: To boost self-reliance (*Aatmanirbharta*), the Indian Navy finalized an acquisition pipeline for **12 sets of indigenous 1.25 MW Gas Turbine Generators**. These advanced backup and auxiliary power units will be retrofitted onto the frontline **Kolkata-class** stealth guided-missile destroyers, replacing older imported power generation components.

Q14. Jeh Aerospace Private Limited signed a multi-year, multi-million-dollar agreement with the US-based Solestra Group to establish a dedicated Global Manufacturing Centre (GMC) in which Indian city?

- A) Bengaluru
- B) Chennai
- C) Hyderabad
- D) Pune

Answer: C) Hyderabad

Explanation: Aerospace manufacturing startup **Jeh Aerospace** inked a major multi-year international production deal with the **Solestra Group (USA)**. Under this pact, a state-of-the-art **Global Manufacturing Centre (GMC)** will be set up at Jeh Aerospace's industrial facility in **Hyderabad, Telangana**, focusing on manufacturing aero-structures and precision components for defense and commercial aviation.

Q15. During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's official visit to France in June 2026, which strategic blueprint was adopted to boost bilateral innovation over the next decade?

- A) India-France Horizon 2047
- B) India-France Innovation Roadmap 2030
- C) Indo-French Digital Partnership 2035
- D) Paris-Delhi Strategic Tech Convergence

Answer: B) India-France Innovation Roadmap 2030

Explanation: PM Modi's 6-day visit to France yielded 13 landmark outcomes, the focal point being the formal adoption of the **India-France Innovation Roadmap 2030**. This bilateral roadmap establishes joint working frameworks for AI governance, deep tech acceleration, quantum supercomputing research, and the



physical expansion of UPI across commercial networks in France.

Part 5: Government Schemes & Summits

Q16. Union Minister Pralhad Joshi launched an advanced technology initiative at Bharat Mandapam to streamline foodgrain storage monitoring via AI. What is the name of this system?

- A) PM-Gharana Warehousing System
- B) Smart Warehousing System
- C) Annapurna Digital Bhandar
- D) E-Sanchay Grain Portal

Answer: B) Smart Warehousing System

Explanation: Administered by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, the **Smart Warehousing System** utilizes Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things (IoT) sensors to track real-time warehouse conditions. It minimizes vehicle Turnaround Time (TAT) for foodgrain dispatch, prevents grain spoiling via moisture sensors, and mitigates storage losses across Food Corporation of India (FCI) silos.

Q17. The 16th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting concluded with the unanimous adoption of which declaration under India's BRICS Presidency?

- A) New Delhi Resolution on Agro-Ecology
- B) Indore Declaration
- C) Bhopal Sustainable Farming Pact
- D) Pune Action Plan on Food Security

Answer: B) Indore Declaration

Explanation: Held under India's BRICS Presidency in **Indore, Madhya Pradesh**, the 16th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting concluded with the adoption of the **Indore Declaration**. The

declaration focuses on the theme "*Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation, and Sustainability*" and sets up 4 new collaborative platforms to share climatological farming tech and pool data among Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

Q18. The Government of India has constituted a Search-cum-Selection Committee chaired by Cabinet Secretary Dr. T.V. Somanathan to recommend appointments for which newly mandated apex regulatory body?

- A) National Anti-Doping Agency Board
- B) National Sports Board (NSB)
- C) Khelo India Apex Executive Council
- D) Indian Olympic Regulatory Authority

Answer: B) National Sports Board (NSB)

Explanation: To cleanse sports administration in the country, the Central Government set up a panel under **Cabinet Secretary Dr. T.V. Somanathan** to choose members for the **National Sports Board (NSB)**. The NSB is a statutory apex regulatory body created under the milestone *National Sports Governance Act, 2025* to regulate financial, ethical, and election transparency across all National Sports Federations (NSFs).

Part 6: Sports, Appointments & Awards

Q19. Olympic Champion Neeraj Chopra finished 4th at the Doha Diamond League 2026. What was his best throw recorded at the event?

- A) 89.94 m
- B) 88.10 m
- C) 85.69 m
- D) 87.55 m

Answer: C) 85.69 m

Explanation: In the **Doha Diamond League 2026** athletic meet, Indian javelin icon Neeraj Chopra finished **fourth** with a maximum distance throw of **85.69 meters**. The event was won by Sri Lankan athlete Pathirage, who delivered a standout performance.

Q20. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was recently conferred with "The Order of the White Double Cross (1st Class)". This is the highest national honor of which country?

- A) France
- B) Slovakia
- C) Austria
- D) Bhutan

Answer: B) Slovakia

Explanation: During his extended European diplomatic tour in June 2026, PM Narendra Modi visited Bratislava, where he was formally conferred with "**The Order of the White Double Cross (1st Class)**". This is the **highest civil and state honor of Slovakia**, presented to him by Slovakian President Peter Pellegrini for boosting Central European-Indian bilateral ties.

Q21. Parimal Nathwani was recently elected as a Member of Parliament (MP) to the Lok Sabha from Jharkhand following cross-voting dynamics. Which corporate group is he prominently associated with?

- A) Adani Group
- B) Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)
- C) Tata Sons
- D) Aditya Birla Group

Answer: B) Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)

Explanation: Parimal Nathwani, a senior executive and Corporate Affairs Director at **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)**, won a highly anticipated, closely contested parliamentary seat from Jharkhand as an independent backed

by regional alliances, drawing headlines due to multi-party cross-voting.

Part 7: Science, Technology & Environment

Q22. Consider the following statements regarding Helium-3, which was recently highlighted in space exploration and energy debates:

1. It is a rare, non-radioactive isotope of helium that possesses one fewer neutron than regular helium.
2. The Earth has abundant natural open-source deposits of Helium-3, making its mining extremely cost-effective. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A) 1 only

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct: **Helium-3** has 2 protons and 1 neutron (regular Helium-4 has 2 neutrons). It is non-radioactive and an ideal fuel source for clean nuclear fusion. Statement 2 is incorrect: It is **extremely rare on Earth**; almost all current domestic supply is synthetically harvested from decaying tritium in nuclear stockpiles. Its abundance on the Moon's surface is what drives the current international lunar rush.

Q23. Which space company won a prestigious NASA Mars exploration payload delivery contract under the institutional leadership of Eric Schmidt?

- A) SpaceX
- B) Blue Origin
- C) Relativity Space

D) Rocket Lab

Answer: C) Relativity Space

Explanation: Relativity Space, known for pioneer 3D-printed rocket structures, won a specialized **NASA Mars payload contract** to assist in transport design configurations. The company's board and strategic direction are currently guided under the leadership of former Google CEO Eric Schmidt.

Q24. Which project is recognized as India's largest operational floating solar energy project?

- A) Ramagundam Solar Plant (Telangana)
- B) Omkareshwar Solar Project (Madhya Pradesh)
- C) Kayamkulam Floating Solar (Kerala)
- D) Rihand Dam Solar Ring (Uttar Pradesh)

Answer: B) Omkareshwar Solar Project (Madhya Pradesh)

Explanation: Built on the Narmada River, the **Omkareshwar Floating Solar Project (600 MW)** in Madhya Pradesh is **India's largest** floating solar installation. Ramagundam (100 MW) in Telangana holds historical significance as India's first large-scale *operational* floating solar plant. These statistics were updated during clean energy compliance indexing at the Bonn Climate Conference.

Part 8: Art, Culture, Festivals & Geography

Q25. A traditional Pune eatery recently gained national attention from the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) for its historical preservation of a vanishing Kashmiri culinary tradition. Which tradition is it?

- A) Wazwan feast preparation
- B) Noon Chai and Tsot baking

C) Kahwa brewing styles

D) Harissa and winter slow-cooking

Answer: A) Wazwan feast preparation

Explanation: A cultural heritage profile published in June 2026 detailed how a historic establishment in Pune is keeping alive the multi-course **Wazwan culinary art**. Wazwan is a traditional Kashmiri pride celebration involving detailed meat preparations, historically cooked by master chefs known as *Vastas*.

Q26. Which geographic strait was in the news on June 19, 2026, due to Iran issuing new transit forms and naval mine warnings monitored by the UK Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO)?

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

Answer: C) Strait of Hormuz

Explanation: The **Strait of Hormuz**, a critical maritime chokepoint between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman through which a fifth of the world's oil passes, was in the news due to shifting Iranian regulatory transit forms and security updates monitored by the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) following regional ceasefire negotiations.

Part 9: Books, Authors & Historic Days

Q27. June 18, 2026, marked which global observance, coinciding with the 7th anniversary of the UN Strategy and Plan of Action?

- A) International Day for Countering Hate Speech
- B) World Desertification and Drought Day
- C) International Day of Family Remittances

D) Global Day of Parent Education

Answer: A) International Day for Countering Hate Speech

Explanation: June 18, 2026, marked the **5th official observance of the International Day for Countering Hate Speech**. This day also aligns with the 7th anniversary of the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech, which was originally rolled out by the UN on June 18, 2019.

Q28. World Refugee Day is observed globally on June 20. Which international body originally established this day to honor the resilience of refugees worldwide?

- A) Amnesty International
- B) United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)
- C) Human Rights Watch
- D) World Bank Group

Answer: B) United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

Explanation: World Refugee Day is held annually on **June 20**. It was officially designated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) under Resolution 55/76 to recognize the strength, courage, and resilience of people forced to flee their home countries to escape conflict or persecution.

Q29. A prominent book tracking the sociological shift in art therapies titled "Pop-up Books: Satire, Therapy, and the Art of Paper Engineering" was reviewed in literary columns on June 19, 2026. What is the central focus of this book?

- A) Digital illustration methods
- B) The history of comics in Europe
- C) Movable books used as cognitive and psychological therapy tools for adults
- D) Ancient origami roots in East Asia

Answer: C) Movable books used as cognitive and psychological therapy tools for adults

Explanation: The book explores how structural paper engineering and **pop-up literature** have expanded beyond children's entertainment to serve as interactive tools for adult psychological therapy, cognitive alignment, and underground political satire.

Part 10: Historic Anniversaries

Q30. June 18–20 marks the historical remembrance of the passage of the First Constitutional Amendment Act of India. In which year was this pathbreaking amendment passed?

- A) 1950
- B) 1951
- C) 1952
- D) 1955

Answer: B) 1951

Explanation: The **First Constitutional Amendment Act** was enacted in **1951** under Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. It introduced the **Ninth Schedule** to protect land reform laws from judicial review and placed "reasonable restrictions" on the right to freedom of speech and expression (Article 19(2)), a foundational topic frequently analyzed in modern UPSC polity papers.