

Part 1: International & National News

Q1. India has been elected to a major leadership role at the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for the first time during the Plenary meeting held in Paris. Who has been appointed as the Vice-President of the FATF representing India?

- [A] T. V. Somanathan
- [B] Vivek Aggarwal
- [C] Bimal N. Patel
- [D] Sanjay Kumar Malhotra

Correct Answer: [B] Vivek Aggarwal

Detailed Explanation: In June 2026, India secured a landmark diplomatic victory by being elected as the Vice-President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for the first time. Vivek Aggarwal, an IAS officer currently serving as Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, has been appointed to this post. The FATF is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog established in 1989 by the G7.

Q2. Which country has launched the 'Turquoise Nexus Initiative' ahead of its presidency of the COP31 Climate Summit to integrate food security and climate adaptation?

- [A] India
- [B] Turkey
- [C] France
- [D] Germany

Correct Answer: [B] Turkey

Detailed Explanation: Turkey has officially launched the *Turquoise Nexus Initiative* as part of its diplomatic push ahead of its upcoming COP31 Presidency. The core objective of this initiative is to assist developing nations in integrating food security, water management,

and climate adaptation strategies seamlessly into their updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Q3. Which international declaration was recently signed by 15 nations in June 2026 to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and protect marine ecosystems?

- [A] Indore Declaration
- [B] Mombasa Declaration
- [C] Nairobi Protocol
- [D] Paris Marine Accord

Correct Answer: [B] Mombasa Declaration

Detailed Explanation: The *Mombasa Declaration* was formally adopted by 15 countries in June 2026. Named after the coastal city of Mombasa in Kenya, the declaration creates a unified operational framework to combat illegal fishing, sharing real-time maritime intelligence to save vulnerable marine ecosystems in the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas.

Q4. Which country's cabinet recently approved a pioneering child online safety resolution setting 15 years as the strict minimum age for creating and operating personal social media accounts?

- [A] United Kingdom
- [B] United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- [C] Saudi Arabia
- [D] Singapore

Correct Answer: [B] United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Detailed Explanation: The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Cabinet approved a sweeping federal resolution establishing 15 years as the absolute minimum legal age for an individual to open or run a personal social media account. The initiative falls under their national cyber

welfare project aimed at strengthening child online safety and mitigating digital exploitation.

Q5. During the Indian Prime Minister's bilateral visits to Europe in June 2026, India elevated its diplomatic ties with which country to a "Comprehensive Partnership"?

- [A] Slovakia
- [B] France
- [C] Italy
- [D] Germany

Correct Answer: [A] Slovakia

Detailed Explanation: A primary outcome of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's European tour was the formal elevation of India-Slovakia bilateral ties to a *Comprehensive Partnership*. The move includes establishing a Joint Working Group (JWG) on Counter-Terrorism, initiating a formal Consular Dialogue mechanism, and setting up an ICCR Chair in AI at the Technical University of Kosice.

Q6. The "Hunger Hotspots Report (June–November 2026)" which warns of severe, acute food insecurity worsening across 13 global hotspots, was jointly released by which organizations?

- [A] World Bank & UNICEF
- [B] FAO & World Food Programme (WFP)
- [C] UNDP & International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- [D] World Health Organization & World Bank

Correct Answer: [B] FAO & World Food Programme (WFP)

Detailed Explanation: The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UN World Food Programme (WFP) issued a stark warnings in their joint *Hunger Hotspots Report*. It identifies 13 severe zones—with Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria, Yemen, and Palestine marked

at the highest famine risk level due to armed conflicts, extreme climate shocks, and crashing aid infrastructure.

Part 2: Economics, Banking & Corporate Affairs

Q7. According to the World Economic Forum's Energy Transition Index (ETI 2026) report released in June 2026, what is India's rank?

- [A] 67th
- [B] 70th
- [C] 72nd
- [D] 75th

Correct Answer: [B] 70th

Detailed Explanation: In the World Economic Forum's (WEF) *Energy Transition Index 2026*, India climbed two places to capture the 70th spot globally, scoring 54.9 points. The report commended India for accelerating its domestic renewable energy expansions, although balancing energy equity and grid stability amidst rising demand remains a key structural challenge.

Q8. Which multilateral banking institution signed a USD 10 million financing package with Schoolnet India Limited (SIL) to expand digital education infrastructure across 1,000 government schools?

- [A] World Bank
- [B] Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- [C] New Development Bank (NDB)
- [D] Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

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

Detailed Explanation: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) finalized a USD 10 million private-sector financing package with Schoolnet India

Limited (SIL). The project will install advanced computer labs across 1,000 government schools, set up over 58,000 smart digital classrooms, and structurally upskill 56,000 teachers. Part of the fund includes co-financing via the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) backed LEAP 2 fund.

Q9. Axis Bank Limited has signed a major agreement to establish a Rs 100 Crore Industry Research, Technology, and Innovation Park at which university's campus?

- [A] IIT Madras
- [B] BITS Pilani (Hyderabad Campus)
- [C] IISc Bangalore
- [D] IIT Bombay

Correct Answer: [B] BITS Pilani (Hyderabad Campus)

Detailed Explanation: Axis Bank partnered with the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani to construct the *Axis Bank-BITS Industry Research, Technology and Innovation Park* at the university's Hyderabad campus. Backed by a Rs 100 crore investment, it will act as an incubator focusing on banking technology, FinTech, and enterprise AI models.

Q10. In the recently updated framework of the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation data released in June 2026, the base year was updated to which period?

- [A] 2011-12
- [B] 2018-19
- [C] 2022-23
- [D] 2024-25

Correct Answer: [C] 2022-23

Detailed Explanation: India's producer-level inflation metric, the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), underwent a structural revision. The base year was modernized from 2011-12 to

2022-23. Furthermore, the basket of items expanded from 697 to 957 items. Notably, commodities like crude petroleum and natural gas were reclassified from "Primary Articles" into the "Fuel and Power" group to match international accounting practices.

Q11. Which premier open-source blockchain enterprise platform was launched by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in June 2026 to enhance secure, decentralized ledger transactions?

- [A] Drunix
- [B] Krypto-Pay
- [C] BharatChain
- [D] Ledger-X

Correct Answer: [A] Drunix

Detailed Explanation: The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) introduced an enterprise-grade, open-source blockchain architecture named *Drunix*. Built as a highly enhanced fork of the open-source Hyperledger Fabric, Drunix is engineered to scale automated tokenized transactions, smart asset settlements, and improve data inter-operability across core commercial banks.

Part 3: Government Schemes, Portals & Initiatives

Q12. The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs launched two new systems in June 2026 to streamline online banking frauds. What are their names?

- [A] CyberShield and DhanRakshak
- [B] Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) & Money Restoration Module (MRM)
- [C] National Cyber Safe Portal & Fraud Tracker
- [D] e-Kuber Block & Cyber Cop Module

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

Detailed Explanation: To mitigate escalating financial cyber frauds, the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the MHA deployed two modules: the Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) and the Money Restoration Module (MRM). These systems bypass standard jurisdictional delays, putting police desks and commercial banking networks on a unified interface to instantly freeze and recover stolen funds from mule accounts.

Q13. Union Minister Pralhad Joshi launched a breakthrough "Smart Warehousing System" to automate foodgrain storage monitoring via AI and IoT. This system was deployed at which state/UT?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] New Delhi
- [C] Uttar Pradesh
- [D] Punjab

Correct Answer: [B] New Delhi

Detailed Explanation: Union Minister Pralhad Joshi (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution) officially debuted the *Smart Warehousing System* at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. This stands as one of the largest public sector deployments of integrated Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things (IoT). It features automated FASTag logistics tracking, ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) gate entry, and automated moisture/temperature sensors inside grain stockpiles.

Q14. Under the newly structural layout of the "Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY)", what fiscal incentive does 'Part A' provide to first-time formal employees registered under EPFO?

- [A] Monthly wage subsidy of ₹5,000 for one year
- [B] One-month EPF wage up to ₹15,000 in two installments
- [C] Direct cash credit of ₹25,000 upon joining
- [D] Complete income tax exemption for three years

Correct Answer: [B] One-month EPF wage up to ₹15,000 in two installments

Detailed Explanation: The *Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY)* is designed to drive employment generation. Part A directly supports first-time formal sector employees (with a salary ceiling of ₹1 lakh/month) by providing a one-month EPF wage subsidy up to ₹15,000, disbursed transparently in two installments. Part B incentivizes employers by providing up to ₹3,000/month per new employee for 2 to 4 years.

Q15. Government e-Marketplace (GeM) signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which entity to integrate rural and semi-urban last-mile entrepreneurs into public procurement?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] Common Service Centre (CSC) e-Governance Services
- [C] National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC)
- [D] NABARD

Correct Answer: [B] Common Service Centre (CSC) e-Governance Services

Detailed Explanation: The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) signed an MoU with Common Service Centre (CSC) e-Governance Services India Limited. This allows Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) running rural CSC kiosks to assist local artisans, self-help groups, and

micro-enterprises in registering directly onto the GeM portal, thereby giving them seamless access to multi-crore government procurement bids.

Part 4: Appointments, Awards, Honors & Leadership

Q16. Who has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the National Statistical Commission (NSC) in June 2026?

- [A] Dr. Saibal Chattopadhyay
- [B] Prof. R. Vaidyanathan
- [C] Dr. T.V. Somanathan
- [D] Dr. Arvind Subramanian

Correct Answer: [A] Dr. Saibal Chattopadhyay

Detailed Explanation: Renowned statistician and academician Dr. Saibal Chattopadhyay was formally appointed as the Chairperson of the National Statistical Commission (NSC). The NSC is an autonomous apex body constituted to reduce data collection errors and elevate the standard of statistical systems across various socio-economic ministries in India.

Q17. Indian jurist Bimal N. Patel has been elected as a Judge to which prominent judicial body for the 2026–2035 term?

- [A] International Court of Justice (ICJ)
- [B] International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)
- [C] Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)
- [D] International Criminal Court (ICC)

Correct Answer: [B] International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)

Detailed Explanation: Dr. Bimal N. Patel won a decisive diplomatic election at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, securing 115 votes out of 168 to be elected as a Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

(ITLOS) for the 10-year term stretching from 2026 to 2035. He will officially succeed Judge Neeru Chadha on October 1, 2026.

Q18. The Government of India constituted a high-level Search-cum-Selection Committee to recommend the first chairperson and executive members of the newly proposed National Sports Board (NSB). Who is heading this committee?

- [A] Anurag Thakur
- [B] Dr. T.V. Somanathan
- [C] PT Usha
- [D] Rajiv Gauba

Correct Answer: [B] Dr. T.V. Somanathan

Detailed Explanation: The Central Government established a high-powered Search-cum-Selection Committee chaired by Cabinet Secretary Dr. T.V. Somanathan. The panel's mandate is to vet and nominate top administrative and athletic leaders to form the maiden batch of the National Sports Board (NSB), a body mandated under the landmark National Sports Governance Act.

Part 5: Defence, Space & Science News

Q19. The Indian Navy commissioned three major indigenously built frontline platforms simultaneously at a ceremony in Kolkata. Which of the following is NOT one of those three platforms?

- [A] INS Dunagiri
- [B] INS Sanshodhak
- [C] INS Agray
- [D] INS Vagir

Correct Answer: [D] INS Vagir

Detailed Explanation: On June 20, 2026, the Indian Navy executed a massive indigenous induction by commissioning three frontline warships built by GRSE in Kolkata: INS Dunagiri (a Project-17A Nilgiri-class advanced stealth frigate), INS Sanshodhak (the 4th Survey Vessel Large), and INS Agray (the 4th Arnala-class anti-submarine warfare shallow watercraft). INS Vagir is a Kalvari-class submarine commissioned earlier.

Q20. India's premier space observatory AstroSat recently detected a rare and brief cosmic flash of X-rays known as a Fast X-ray Transient (FXT). What is the official scientific designation given to this transient?

- [A] FXT-2026A
- [B] XT-190630
- [C] Astro-X2026
- [D] CZTI-Transient-1

Correct Answer: [B] XT-190630

Detailed Explanation: India's dedicated multi-wavelength space telescope, AstroSat, recorded a milestone discovery by identifying a rare Fast X-ray Transient (FXT) designated as *XT-190630*. Discovered primarily using the satellite's Cadmium Zinc Telluride Imager (CZTI) instrument, this represents deep cosmic eruptions caused by neutron star mergers or extreme black hole activities.

Q21. Which high-altitude facility has been selected as the primary operational hub for the newly launched Bharat Climate Observation Network (BCON) to benchmark Earth System Models?

- [A] Devasthal Campus (Uttarakhand)
- [B] Hanle Observatory (Ladakh)
- [C] Mauna Kea Station
- [D] Kodaikanal Solar Observatory

Correct Answer: [A] Devasthal Campus (Uttarakhand)

Detailed Explanation: The *Bharat Climate Observation Network (BCON)* was launched with its primary baseline node situated at the high-altitude, pristine Devasthal campus in Uttarakhand. The atmospheric data gathered here will provide critical validation parameters required for enhancing the accuracy of India's first indigenous climate projection system, the IITM Earth System Model (ESM).

Q22. Scientists recently discovered a new species of aphid wasp in the Kozhikode district of Kerala. What specific name has been given to this insect to honor the region?

- [A] Spilomena malabarica
- [B] Vespa keralensis
- [C] Apis kozhikodea
- [D] Spilomena indica

Correct Answer: [A] Spilomena malabarica

Detailed Explanation: Entomologists operating in the Western Ghats discovered a unique wasp species, christened *Spilomena malabarica*. The species name directly pays tribute to the historic Malabar region of Kerala. Belonging to the aphid wasp family, these micro-insects act as vital bio-control agents by naturally preying on destructive agricultural plant pests.

Part 6: Important Days, Themes & Anniversaries

Q23. What is the official global theme for the 12th International Day of Yoga, celebrated worldwide on June 21, 2026?

- [A] Yoga for Humanity
- [B] Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam
- [C] Yoga for Healthy Ageing
- [D] Yoga for Mental Wellness

Correct Answer: [C] Yoga for Healthy Ageing

Detailed Explanation: June 21, 2026, marked the global celebration of the 12th International Day of Yoga (IDY). The official UN theme for this year is "Yoga for Healthy Ageing", shedding special light on how routine yogic discipline aids geriatric mental wellness and physiological vitality. Prime Minister Modi led the primary national mass demonstration at Kolkata's iconic Red Road.

Q24. June 21 is globally celebrated as World Hydrography Day. Which international body partners annually to host this day to highlight the safety of maritime navigation?

- [A] International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- [B] International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)
- [C] UNESCO-IOC
- [D] International Whaling Commission

Correct Answer: [B] International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)

Detailed Explanation: World Hydrography Day is observed annually on June 21. Spearheaded by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), the day underlines the importance of hydrographic surveying and marine cartography in securing deep-sea global trade routes, maritime navigation safety, and coastal defense mappings.

Q25. June 21, 2026, marks the birth anniversary of which legendary Indian cinema icon and musical maestro, celebrated extensively across the nation for setting the foundations of modern playback singing?

- [A] K. L. Saigal
- [B] Rahul Dev Burman
- [C] Mukesh
- [D] Mohammed Rafi

Correct Answer: [A] K. L. Saigal

Detailed Explanation: Kundan Lal Saigal (K.L. Saigal), widely revered as the first authentic superstar of Hindi cinema and a legendary classical-semi-classical singer, had his birth anniversary celebrated on June 21. His iconic baritone voice and acting in classics like *Devdas* (1935) laid down the structural template for generations of future Indian playback musical icons.

Part 7: Art, Culture, Festivals & Tribes

Q26. During the G7 Summit and recent state visits, the Indian Prime Minister employed cultural diplomacy by gifting traditional classical texts. Which medical/scientific heritage texts were formally gifted to the Slovakian Parliament Speaker?

- [A] Charaka Samhita and Sushruta Samhita
- [B] Arthashastra and Nitishastra
- [C] Upanishads and Rigveda
- [D] Madhava Nidana and Ashtanga Hridayam

Correct Answer: [A] Charaka Samhita and Sushruta Samhita

Detailed Explanation: To emphasize India's deep scientific and intellectual history, fine-bound editions of the *Charaka Samhita* and *Sushruta Samhita*—the foundational treatises of Ayurveda and ancient surgical methods—were presented to the Slovak Parliament Speaker Richard Raš. This move was part of an expansive cultural diplomacy push showcasing India's indigenous knowledge systems.

Q27. A magnificent 'Pochampally Silk Stole' was recently presented as a state gift to the spouse of the French President. The Pochampally weaving style is an iconic GI-tagged handloom heritage of which Indian state?

- [A] Andhra Pradesh
- [B] Telangana
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: [B] Telangana

Detailed Explanation: The Pochampally silk stole is a pride of Bhoodan Pochampally in Telangana. It is world-renowned for its intricate *Ikat* resist-dyeing technique, where complex geometric patterns are dyed into yarns prior to weaving. It holds a Geographical Indication (GI) status and represents the absolute pinnacle of Indian handloom legacy.

Q28. The 'Dongria Kondh' tribe, which was recently featured in national news regarding their traditional "Podu" shifting cultivation practices, primarily inhabits which Indian state?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Odisha
- [C] Chhattisgarh
- [D] Jharkhand

Correct Answer: [B] Odisha

Detailed Explanation: The Dongria Kondh are a particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) residing primarily in the Niyamgiri hill ranges of Rayagada and Kalahandi districts in Odisha. They have been in the news due to multi-stakeholder ecological reviews concerning *Podu*, their indigenous form of slash-and-burn/shifting agro-forestry cultivation, which they worship as an intrinsic cultural link to mother nature.

Q29. The Ministry of Culture released a comprehensive digital resource book on the provisions of the PoSH Act, 2013, translated seamlessly into how many official scheduled Indian languages?

- [A] 12 languages

- [B] 18 languages
- [C] 22 languages
- [D] 15 languages

Correct Answer: [C] 22 languages

Detailed Explanation: In an initiative to democratize legal awareness regarding women's safety at workplaces, the central government published an all-inclusive guide clarifying the legal rights under the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) Act, 2013. To ensure grass-roots outreach, the handbook was translated and distributed in all 22 official languages listed under the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Q30. The "Indore Declaration", which was unanimously adopted during a major international conclave in June 2026, established four collaborative platforms dedicated to which sector?

- [A] Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)
- [B] Agricultural Cooperation among BRICS Nations
- [C] Cyber Security Frameworks
- [D] Renewable Energy Grid Interconnection

Correct Answer: [B] Agricultural Cooperation among BRICS Nations

Detailed Explanation: The BRICS ministerial assembly held in Indore culminated in the historic adoption of the *BRICS Indore Declaration*. This agreement formally establishes four massive multilateral platforms: the Network of Centres of Excellence on Agroecology, the Network on Digital Agriculture, the Global Forum on Farmers' Rights, and the BRICS AGRIN framework to foster collaborative agricultural science and global food security.