

1. Important Days & Themes

A. International Day of Sign Languages – 23 September

- **Context:** The United Nations officially observes September 23 every year as the **International Day of Sign Languages** to promote the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of deaf people globally.
- **2026 Theme:** "Declaring Deaf People's Human Rights".
- **Key Milestones in 2026:**
 - **75th Anniversary** of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD), founded on September 23, 1951, in Rome, Italy.
 - **20th Anniversary** of the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).
- **Indian Context:** In India, the **Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC)**, New Delhi, functions as an autonomous body under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Exam-Oriented Practice Question:

Q1. Which statement regarding the International Day of Sign Languages is INCORRECT?

- A) It is observed annually on 23 September by the United Nations.
- B) The theme for 2026 is "Declaring Deaf People's Human Rights".
- C) The date commemorates the establishment of the World Health Organization (WHO).
- D) Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) operates under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Answer: C

Explanation: The date September 23 commemorates the foundation of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) in 1951, not the WHO.

B. Haifa Day – 23 September

- **Context:** India and Israel commemorate September 23 as **Haifa Day** to mark the 1918 Battle of Haifa during World War I.
- **Historical Significance:** Indian cavalry soldiers from the Jodhpur, Mysore, and Hyderabad Lancers (part of the 15th Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade) executed a brave cavalry charge that liberated the strategic port city of Haifa from Ottoman-German occupation.
- **Monuments:** The Teen Murti Memorial in New Delhi was renamed **Teen Murti Haifa Chowk** in 2018 in honor of the three princely state regiments.

2. International News

US, Denmark, and Greenland Sign Revised Arctic Defense Agreement

- **News Details:** The United States, the Kingdom of Denmark, and the Home Rule Government of Greenland signed a major tripartite accord updating their long-standing 1951 Defense Agreement regarding Greenland.
- **Strategic Significance:**
 - Enhances defense cooperation, early warning coverage, and maritime security infrastructure across the High North and Arctic Region.
 - Re-affirms Greenland's strategic role in transatlantic security (specifically Thule Air Base / Pituffik Space Base) amid



growing militarization of Arctic shipping lanes.

of India's target to reach 22,400 MW nuclear capacity by 2031-32.

Exam-Oriented Practice Question:

Q2. The updated Arctic Defense Agreement signed on 23 September 2026 modernizes a historic security pact originally established in which year?

- A) 1945
- B) 1951
- C) 1962
- D) 1991

Answer: B

Explanation: The new agreement enhances and amends the foundational 1951 Defense Agreement between the US, Denmark, and Greenland.

3. National News & Energy Infrastructure

Initial Fuel Loading (IFL) Begins at RAPP Unit-8 (Rawatbhata, Rajasthan)

- **Context:** Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) commenced **Initial Fuel Loading (IFL)** at Unit 8 of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project (RAPP) in Rawatbhata.
- **Technical Details:**
 - **Capacity:** 700 MWe (Megawatt Electric).
 - **Type:** Indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR).
 - **Moderator & Coolant:** Heavy Water (D_2O).
 - **Fuel:** Natural Uranium (UO_2).
- **Significance:** Marks a major step towards commercial commissioning, adding clean base-load power to the northern grid as part

Exam-Oriented Practice Question:

Q3. RAPP Unit-8, which began Initial Fuel Loading (IFL) in September 2026, uses which indigenous reactor technology?

- A) Fast Breeder Reactor (FBR)
- B) Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR)
- C) Boiling Water Reactor (BWR)
- D) High-Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactor (HTGR)

Answer: B

Explanation: RAPP Unit-8 is an indigenously developed 700 MWe Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR).

4. Economics & Banking News

A. RBI Revises REIT and InvIT Investment & Valuation Norms for AIFIs

- **Context:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued revised classification, valuation, and operational guidelines for investment portfolios of **All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs)** holding Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) and Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) units.
- **Key Provisions:**
 - AIFIs (NABARD, EXIM Bank, SIDBI, NHB, NaBFID) must follow standardized prudential mark-to-market valuation methodologies for quoted vs. unquoted trust units.
 - Aims to promote market liquidity and transparent capital alignment across institutional infrastructure financing.

B. Rating Agencies Upgrade India's FY27 GDP Forecast



- **S&P Global Ratings:** Raised India's FY27 real GDP growth forecast from 6.6% to **7.0%**.
- **Fitch Ratings:** Upgraded India's FY27 GDP forecast from 6.4% to **6.9%**.
- **Drivers:** Strong manufacturing output, robust Q1 performance, steady capital expenditure (CapEx), and resilient private consumption.

Exam-Oriented Practice Question:

Q4. S&P Global Ratings revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY27 to which percentage rate in September 2026?

- A) 6.5%
- B) 6.8%
- C) 7.0%
- D) 7.3%

Answer: C

Explanation: S&P Global Ratings upgraded India's FY27 GDP growth forecast to 7.0% from its earlier estimate of 6.6%.

5. Defense News

IAF to Host Multinational Air Exercise 'Tarang Shakti-26'

- **Context:** The Indian Air Force (IAF) is hosting the second edition of its flagship multinational exercise 'Tarang Shakti-26' at Air Force Station Jodhpur.
- **Participating Forces:** Around 40 nations, with key air forces including the US, France, Australia, Germany, Sri Lanka, UAE, and Bangladesh.
- **Objective:** Complex multi-domain air combat operations, tactical interoperability, aerial refueling practice, and strengthening strategic defense diplomacy.

6. MoUs & Space Cooperation

ISRO and European Space Agency (ESA) Extend Cooperation Till 2032

- **Context:** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the European Space Agency (ESA) formally renewed their joint space exploration framework agreement up to **2032**.
- **Key Projects Under Partnership:**
 - **Aditya-L1:** ESA ground station support (STRACK network) for solar observation.
 - **Proba-3:** ESA solar coronagraph mission launched via ISRO's PSLV.
 - **Chandrayaan-5 / LUPEX:** Deep space tracking, ground network telemetry, and payload collaborations for lunar south pole exploration.

Exam-Oriented Practice Question:

Q5. ISRO has extended its strategic bilateral space cooperation agreement till 2032 with which global space agency?

- A) NASA
- B) JAXA
- C) ESA
- D) Roscosmos

Answer: C

Explanation: ISRO and the European Space Agency (ESA) extended their institutional space cooperation framework through 2032 during the International Space Summit.

7. Sports News

Asian Games 2026 (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan) Highlights

- **Women's Cricket Gold:** India bagged its first Gold Medal of the 2026 Asian Games as the

Indian Women's Cricket Team defeated Sri Lanka by 147 runs in the final.

- **Weightlifting Milestone:** Olympic silver medalist **Mirabai Chanu** won her career-first Asian Games medal, securing **Silver** in the Women's 49kg weightlifting category with a cumulative lift of 198 kg.
 - This ended a **28-year medal drought** for Indian weightlifting at the Asian Games.

Exam-Oriented Practice Question:

Q6. Mirabai Chanu won a Silver medal at the Asian Games 2026 in which weightlifting weight category?

- A) 45 kg
- B) 49 kg
- C) 55 kg
- D) 59 kg

Answer: B

Explanation: Mirabai Chanu lifted a total of 198 kg to claim silver in the women's 49 kg weightlifting event.

8. Appointments & Resignations

- **Asad Alam Siam:** Appointed as Bangladesh's new High Commissioner (Envoy) to India, replacing his predecessor in New Delhi.
- **Rajat Sharma:** Unanimously re-elected as the President of the News Broadcasters and Digital Association (NBDA) for the term 2026-27.

9. Government Schemes & Public Health

National Viral Hepatitis Control Program (NVHCP) Target 2030

- **Context:** Union Health Ministry reaffirmed India's action plan to eliminate **Hepatitis B and C** as public health threats by **2030** in

alignment with WHO Sustainable Development Goal 3.3.

- **Key Pillars:**
 - Universal birth-dose Hepatitis B vaccination.
 - Free diagnostics and direct-acting antiviral (DAA) treatment at district health centers under NVHCP.

10. Art, Culture, Festivals & Anniversaries

A. Birth Anniversary of Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar' (23 September 1908)

- **Profile:** Celebrated Hindi poet, essayist, and freedom fighter, acclaimed as the "Rashtrakavi" (National Poet).
- **Notable Works:** Rashmirathi, Urvashi (won the Jnanpith Award in 1972), Sanskriti Ke Chaar Adhyay (Sahitya Akademi Award).

B. Martyrdom Day of Rao Tula Ram / Haryana Shaheedi Diwas (23 September)

- **Profile:** Rao Tula Ram (1825–1863) was a key chieftain and leader of the **1857 War of Indian Independence** in Haryana (Ahirwal region).
- **Commemoration:** Haryana observes September 23 as Shaheedi Diwas (Martyrdom Day) in honor of Rao Tula Ram and state freedom fighters.

National Affairs & Governance

Q1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 5th edition of SEMICON India 2026 in New Delhi. What is the central theme of this flagship semiconductor event?

(A) Semiconductor Resiliency: Powering Digital India

- (B) Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem
(C) Global Supply Chains: Fab to Assembly
(D) NextGen Electronics: Shaping the Quantum Future

• **Answer:** (B) Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Event Focus:** The 5th edition of SEMICON India 2026 was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in New Delhi to position India as a global hub for semiconductor design, manufacturing, and technology development.
- **Theme:** The theme for SEMICON India 2026 is "**Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem**", focusing on end-to-end integration from chip design to system manufacturing.
- **Key Announcements:** During the event, the Government announced the establishment of "**Odisha Silicon Valley**" at Naraj in Cuttack, alongside securing investment commitments worth approximately ₹1 lakh crore (~\$11-12 billion) under the **Semicon 2.0** initiative.

Q2. Under the newly notified Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026, which technology is being utilized to synchronize time legally across all commercial and technological infrastructure in India?

- (A) Atomic Frequency Standard & NavIC coupled with CERN-origin White Rabbit technology
(B) GPS-linked Network Time Protocol (NTP) servers
(C) INSAT-3DR Geostationary Synchronization Array
(D) ISRO Quantum Time Synchronization Grid

• **Answer:** (A) Atomic Frequency Standard & NavIC coupled with CERN-origin White Rabbit technology

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Policy Framework:** The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution notified the Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026, establishing Indian Standard Time (IST) as the uniform legal time reference across all commercial and digital transactions in India.
- **Technology Stack:** Precise time synchronization down to sub-nanoseconds is maintained by the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) using Atomic Clocks, India's NavIC satellite navigation system, and CERN-developed **White Rabbit (WR) Ethernet technology**.
- **Significance:** Essential for telecom 5G/6G networks, high-frequency stock trading, power grids, and cyber-defense, reducing reliance on foreign GPS time sources.

Q3. While considering constitutional safeguards regarding the National Anthem and National Song, which landmark Supreme Court precedent and constitutional articles were cited regarding the freedom of conscience?

- (A) Keshvananda Bharati v. State of Kerala – Articles 14 & 19
(B) Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala – Articles 25 & 26
(C) Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India – Articles 21 & 22
(D) S.R. Bommai v. Union of India – Articles 356 & 358

• **Answer:** (B) Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala – Articles 25 & 26

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Supreme Court Ruling:** A three-judge Bench headed by CJI Surya Kant heard petitions on national symbols and reaffirmed that while state authorities can promote national songs, individuals' fundamental rights to religious freedom and conscience cannot be violated.
- **Articles Involved:** Article 25 (Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice, and propagation of religion) and Article 26 (Freedom to manage religious affairs).
- **Precedent:** The Court relied on the historic 1986 **Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala** judgment, which protected students belonging to the Jehovah's Witnesses faith who stood respectfully during the National Anthem but chose not to sing due to conscientious religious beliefs.

Q4. The Election Commission of India (ECI) initiated a Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls across multiple States and UTs. In which state did this clean-up exercise originate?

- (A) Uttar Pradesh
- (B) Bihar
- (C) West Bengal
- (D) Maharashtra

- **Answer:** (B) Bihar
- **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Background:** The ECI launched the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) drive in June 2025 originating in **Bihar** to remove duplicate, deceased, and non-resident entries from voter databases.
- **Impact:** Over 13 crore non-eligible names have been reviewed/removed across 30 States and UTs to ensure free and fair voter rolls ahead of upcoming election cycles.
- **Constitutional Provision:** Conducted under Article 324 of the Indian Constitution,

which vests the superintendence, direction, and control of electoral rolls in the Election Commission.

International News

Q5. UN Secretary-General António Guterres delivered a key address at the 81st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York. Which global issue did he highlight as requiring an urgent multilateral governance framework?

- (A) Deep-sea mining treaties
- (B) Global Artificial Intelligence (AI) risk management
- (C) Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) exchange rates
- (D) Commercial space debris management

- **Answer:** (B) Global Artificial Intelligence (AI) risk management

- **Detailed Explanation:**

- **UNGA 81st Session:** Leaders gathered at the UN Headquarters in New York for the 81st session of the UN General Assembly.
- **Key Agenda:** UN Secretary-General António Guterres emphasized the urgent necessity of creating a **multilateral AI risk-management framework** to address ethical concerns, synthetic media risks, and autonomous weapon deployment.
- **Proposed Framework:** Urged member nations to establish an international scientific panel on AI modeled after the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change).

Q6. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the European Space Agency (ESA) formally extended their mutual space exploration cooperation agreement until which year?



(A) 2028

(B) 2030

(C) 2032

(D) 2035

• **Answer:** (C) 2032

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Agreement:** During the International Space Summit held in Paris, ISRO Chairman and ESA Director General extended their bilateral space framework till **2032**.
- **Joint Projects:** Key collaborative missions include tracking support for **Aditya-L1** solar observation, ground tracking for ESA's **Proba-3** solar coronagraph mission, and deep-space telemetry support for India's upcoming lunar sample return mission, **Chandrayaan-5**.

Q7. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar represented India at the 'Partners for Multilateralism, International Law, Peace and Prosperity (P4M)' Summit. What term did he use to describe the compounding global economic shocks?

(A) "3C" Crisis (Climate, Conflict, Debt)

(B) "4F" Crisis (Fuel, Food, Fertiliser, Finance)

(C) "5T" Challenge (Trade, Tech, Transport, Talent, Trust)

(D) "2P" Divide (Poverty, Polarization)

• **Answer:** (B) "4F" Crisis (Fuel, Food, Fertiliser, Finance)

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Context:** Speaking at the inaugural P4M Summit on the sidelines of international meetings, EAM S. Jaishankar addressed global south vulnerabilities.
- **The "4F" Crisis:** He highlighted the **Fuel, Food, Fertiliser, and Finance (4F)** crisis, caused by

geopolitical sanctions, supply chain breakdowns, and inflation, calling for unhindered supply routes and multilateral reform.

Q8. India and Uzbekistan upgraded their bilateral relationship to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. What is the target bilateral trade volume set by both nations for 2030?

(A) \$1 Billion

(B) \$3 Billion

(C) \$5 Billion

(D) \$10 Billion

• **Answer:** (C) \$5 Billion

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Strategic Upgrade:** India and Uzbekistan elevated ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership during high-level bilateral talks.
- **Key Deliverables:** Signed a long-term **uranium supply agreement** for India's civil nuclear power program, set a **\$5 billion bilateral trade target by 2030**, and agreed on expanding UPI-based digital payment interlinkages.

Economics & Banking

Q9. According to a joint report by Ernst & Young (EY) and the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) released under Semicon 2.0, India's semiconductor market is projected to reach what value by 2035?

(A) USD 100 Billion

(B) USD 150 Billion

(C) USD 200 Billion

(D) USD 300 Billion

• **Answer:** (C) USD 200 Billion



• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Report Title:** "Semicon India 2.0: From capacity creation to ecosystem leadership", jointly authored by EY and IESA.
- **Projections:** India's semiconductor domestic demand and export market will grow over threefold from nearly **USD 64 billion in 2026 to USD 200 billion by 2035.**
- **Growth Drivers:** High demand in automotive electronics, 5G/6G telecom gear, consumer IoT, and industrial automation under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM).

Q10. Which leading Indian fintech platform received initial regulatory approval from the Central Bank of the UAE to offer payment services and merchant acquiring solutions in the United Arab Emirates?

- (A) Paytm
- (B) PhonePe
- (C) Razorpay
- (D) BharatPe

• **Answer:** (B) PhonePe

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Approval Details:** PhonePe secured initial approval for a payment service provider license from the Central Bank of the UAE.
- **Strategic Goal:** Enables cross-border UPI integration, allowing Indian tourists and local merchants in the UAE to process real-time digital payments seamlessly, strengthening India-UAE financial technology ties.

Q11. The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) commenced Initial Fuel Loading (IFL) at Unit 8 of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project (RAPP). What is the capacity and reactor type of this unit?

- (A) 500 MWe Boiling Water Reactor (BWR)
- (B) 700 MWe Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR)
- (C) 1000 MWe Light Water Reactor (VVER)
- (D) 300 MWe Fast Breeder Reactor (FBR)

• **Answer:** (B) 700 MWe Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR)

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Location:** Unit 8 of RAPP is located at Rawatbhata in Chittorgarh district, Rajasthan.
- **Specifications:** It is a **700 MWe indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR)** designed by NPCIL, utilizing natural uranium as fuel and heavy water (D_2O) as moderator and coolant.
- **Milestone:** Initial Fuel Loading (IFL) is the final technical regulatory step before nuclear criticality and commercial grid synchronization.

Q12. According to official data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), what was India's real GDP growth rate for Q1 FY2026-27?

- (A) 6.8%
- (B) 7.2%
- (C) 7.8%
- (D) 8.1%

• **Answer:** (C) 7.8%

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Data:** India's real GDP registered a robust growth rate of **7.8%** in the first quarter (Q1) of FY2026-27, surpassing RBI's projection of 7.0%.
- **Sectors:** Strong double-digit performance in manufacturing, capital construction, and

service exports drove the economic expansion.

Defense News

Q13. Where is the 18th edition of the India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise 'NOMADIC ELEPHANT 2026' being conducted?

- (A) Umroi, Meghalaya
- (B) Foreign Training Node (FTN), Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand
- (C) Mahajan Field Firing Range, Rajasthan
- (D) Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

• **Answer:** (B) Foreign Training Node (FTN), Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Exercise Name:** 18th Edition of Joint Military Exercise 'NOMADIC ELEPHANT 2026'.
- **Location & Date:** Conducted at Foreign Training Node (FTN), Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand from September 21 to October 3, 2026.
- **Participants:** Indian Army contingent represented mainly by a battalion of the **Arunachal Scouts**, along with personnel from the Mongolian Armed Forces.
- **Focus:** Counter-terrorism in mountainous terrain, heliborne operations, drone/counter-drone tactics, and tactical interoperability under UN mandate.

Q14. The Indian Air Force (IAF) is hosting 'Tarang Shakti-26', the second edition of its largest multinational air exercise. At which air base is it taking place?

- (A) Air Force Station Ambala
- (B) Air Force Station Jodhpur
- (C) Air Force Station Jamnagar
- (D) Air Force Station Sullur

• **Answer:** (B) Air Force Station Jodhpur

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Exercise Details:** 'Tarang Shakti-26' is India's premier international air warfare exercise, bringing together ~40 air forces worldwide.
- **Venue:** Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
- **Key Participants:** Air fleets from India, USA, France, Germany, Australia, UAE, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh engage in Beyond-Visual-Range (BVR) combat, aerial refueling, and complex strike drills.

Q15. The Ministry of Defence signed a ₹586 crore contract with Accurate Industrial Controls Pvt Ltd (AICPL) to supply Auxiliary Power Units (APUs) for which Indian Army main battle tanks?

- (A) Arjun MK-1A
- (B) T-72 and T-90 Tanks
- (C) K9 Vajra-T
- (D) Zorawar Light Tanks

• **Answer:** (B) T-72 and T-90 Tanks

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Contract Scope:** Procurement of **3,257 Auxiliary Power Units (APUs)** worth ₹586 crore under Buy (Indian-IDDMM) category.
- **Breakdown:** 1,657 units for T-90 'Bhishma' tanks and 1,600 units for T-72 'Ajeya' tanks.
- **Operational Value:** APUs allow fire control systems and electronics to operate when the main tank engine is shut off, conserving fuel and extending main engine life during stationary deployment.

Government Schemes & MoUs

Q16. The Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY), implemented by the Ministry of Mines to support mining-affected

communities, completed how many years of implementation?

- (A) 5 Years
- (B) 8 Years
- (C) 11 Years
- (D) 15 Years

• **Answer:** (C) 11 Years

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Milestone:** PMKKKY completed 11 years since launch, surpassing 4.70 lakh completed projects worth over ₹1 lakh crore.
- **Funding Mechanism:** Funded through the District Mineral Foundation (DMF), where mine lease holders contribute a percentage of royalty.
- **Focus Areas:** 60% of DMF funds are earmarked for High Priority Areas: drinking water supply, environmental preservation, healthcare, education, and sanitation in mining districts.

Q17. Union Minister C R Patil (Ministry of Jal Shakti) launched 'Swachh Seva Aankalan' (SSA). What is the primary purpose of this digital self-assessment tool?

- (A) Monitoring urban municipal solid waste segregation
- (B) Evaluating rural sanitation service delivery under SBM-Grameen 2.0
- (C) Auditing industrial wastewater treatment plants
- (D) Mapping ground water contamination across river basins

• **Answer:** (B) Evaluating rural sanitation service delivery under SBM-Grameen 2.0

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Initiative:** Swachh Seva Aankalan (SSA) was developed by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS).
- **Function:** A digital framework enabling Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) to assess ODF Plus Model sustainability, liquid waste management, and asset maintenance.
- **Constitutional Link:** Aligns with the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act empowering Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

Q18. The Department of Youth Affairs launched the '100 Weeks Nasha Mukh Yuva Abhiyan' through which digital and volunteer platform?

- (A) PM-YUVAS
- (B) Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) and NSS
- (C) Yuva Shakti Kendra Portal
- (D) Skill India Digital Hub

• **Answer:** (B) Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) and NSS

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Campaign Launch:** Initiated via the nationwide Rashtriya Sankalp Samaroh on September 18, 2026, running a 100-week structured anti-drug youth campaign.
- **Implementation:** Executed through Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) youth network and National Service Scheme (NSS) volunteers targeting colleges and rural communities.

Q19. Under the latest phase of the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) Regional Connectivity Scheme, how many MoUs were signed with States/UTs for aerodrome development under Challenge Mode?

- (A) 11
- (B) 15
- (C) 21

(D) 31

• **Answer:** (C) 21

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Details:** The Ministry of Civil Aviation signed **21 MoUs** with various State Governments and UT Administrations.
- **Challenge Mode:** States compete to nominate unserved/underserved airstrips and helipads by offering free land, utility connections, and lowered VAT on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF).

Q20. What is the total financial outlay of the PARIVARTAN scheme aimed at replacing old commercial vehicles with cleaner alternatives in Delhi-NCR?

(A) ₹5,000 crore

(B) ₹7,500 crore

(C) ₹9,585 crore

(D) ₹12,000 crore

• **Answer:** (C) ₹9,585 crore

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Outlay:** ₹9,585 crore outlay involving 42 commercial banks/NBFCs and 15 vehicle manufacturers.
- **Objective:** Replace over 2 lakh aging BS-IV commercial vehicles in the National Capital Region (NCR) with BS-VI or Electric Vehicles (EVs) to curb winter air pollution.

Sports

Q21. The Indian Women's Cricket Team clinched India's first Gold Medal at the Asian Games 2026. Whom did they defeat in the final match?

(A) Pakistan

(B) Sri Lanka

(C) Bangladesh

(D) Australia

• **Answer:** (B) Sri Lanka

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Achievement:** Captained by Harmanpreet Kaur, the Indian Women's Cricket team won India's **1st Gold Medal** of the 2026 Asian Games.
- **Final Score:** India defeated **Sri Lanka** by a margin of 147 runs in a dominant performance.

Q22. Which country topped the medal leaderboard during the opening week of the Asian Games 2026?

(A) Japan

(B) South Korea

(C) China

(D) India

• **Answer:** (C) China

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Medal Tally Leader:** China maintained a commanding lead at the top of the medal standings with 45 total medals (including 27 Gold).
- **India's Tally:** India secured 7 medals early in the games (1 Gold, 4 Silver, 2 Bronze).

Appointments & Governance

Q23. Over 51,000 appointment letters were distributed across various Central Government Ministries and Departments during which edition of the National Rozgar Mela?

(A) 15th National Rozgar Mela

(B) 18th National Rozgar Mela

(C) 20th National Rozgar Mela

(D) 25th National Rozgar Mela

• **Answer:** (C) 20th National Rozgar Mela

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Event:** The 20th edition of National Rozgar Mela was conducted virtually across 45 locations nationwide.
- **Impact:** More than **51,000** fresh recruits received appointment letters for positions in the Ministry of Railways, Home Affairs, Financial Services, and Postal Department.

Awards & Honors

Q24. What is the official theme for the 6th National Pharmacovigilance Week (NPW) celebrated across Indian healthcare institutions?

- (A) Patient Safety First: Reporting Adverse Drug Reactions
- (B) Promoting Rational Use of Medicines through Pharmacovigilance – A Step Towards Safer Healthcare
- (C) Digital Innovation in Drug Safety and Clinical Trials
- (D) Global Standards in Vaccine Vigilance

- **Answer:** (B) Promoting Rational Use of Medicines through Pharmacovigilance – A Step Towards Safer Healthcare

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Observance:** Organized annually by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) and National Coordination Centre – Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI).
- **Theme:** "Promoting Rational Use of Medicines through Pharmacovigilance – A Step Towards Safer Healthcare".
- **Objective:** Encouraging healthcare professionals and patients to monitor and report Adverse Drug Reactions (ADRs).

Books & Authors

Q25. Which international bestselling novel released in September 2026 explores a historical fiction narrative inspired by 16th-century Irish sea captain Grace O'Malley?

- (A) The Pirate Queen by Ariel Lawhon
- (B) Threshing Day by Rebecca Yarros
- (C) Big Little Truths by Liane Moriarty
- (D) American Hagwon by Min Jin Lee

- **Answer:** (A) The Pirate Queen by Ariel Lawhon

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Book Title:** The Pirate Queen, authored by Ariel Lawhon.
- **Subject:** Depicts the life of **Grace O'Malley** (Granuaile), the famed 16th-century Irish noblewoman and sea captain who defied the Elizabethan regime.

Important Days (National & International)

Q26. International Day of Sign Languages is observed globally on 23 September. What historical milestone does this date commemorate?

- (A) Adoption of UN Resolution on Disability Rights
- (B) Establishment of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) in 1951
- (C) Creation of International Braille and Sign Code
- (D) First Global Conference on Inclusive Communication

- **Answer:** (B) Establishment of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) in 1951

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Date & Origin:** September 23 was designated by the UN General Assembly to commemorate the establishment of the **World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)** on 23 September 1951.
- **Purpose:** To raise awareness of the importance of sign language in full realization of human rights for deaf individuals.

Q27. The United Nations observes World Cleanup Day annually on 20 September. What is the theme for World Cleanup Day 2026?

- (A) Zero Waste for a Green Tomorrow
- (B) From Clean Plates to Clean Cities
- (C) Oceans Without Plastic
- (D) Clean Air, Sustainable Earth

• **Answer:** (B) From Clean Plates to Clean Cities

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Observance:** Formally recognized as an official UN calendar day.
- **2026 Theme:** "From Clean Plates to Clean Cities", highlighting food waste reduction, urban solid waste management, and community sanitation drives.

Q28. Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh virtually inaugurated India's 51st Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) at Sambalpur, Odisha. Which ministry oversees the operational deployment of DWRs?

- (A) Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)
- (B) Ministry of Science and Technology
- (C) Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)
- (D) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

• **Answer:** (A) Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Inauguration:** Dr. Jitendra Singh (MoS IC, Ministry of Earth Sciences) inaugurated the **51st Doppler Weather Radar** at Jamadarpali in Sambalpur, Odisha.
- **Function:** Operates under the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to provide early warning systems for severe weather, flash floods, and cyclones across Western Odisha.

Art, Culture & Environment

Q29. World Rhino Day is observed on 22 September. Which Indian state hosts nearly 80% of the world's total one-horned rhinoceros population?

- (A) West Bengal
- (B) Assam
- (C) Uttarakhand
- (D) Odisha

• **Answer:** (B) Assam

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Rhino Population Share:** Assam holds approximately **80% of the world's population** of the Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*).
- **Key Sanctuaries:** Kaziranga National Park, Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, and Orang National Park.
- **Conservation Status:** Listed as "Vulnerable" on the IUCN Red List; protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Birth & Death Anniversaries

Q30. September 23 is commemorated as 'Haryana Heroes' Martyrdom Day' (Haryana Shaheed Diwas). Whose death anniversary does this day mark?

- (A) Bhagat Singh
- (B) Rao Tula Ram
- (C) Lala Lajpat Rai
- (D) Udham Singh

• **Answer:** (B) Rao Tula Ram

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Historical Hero:** Rao Tula Ram (1825–1863) was a key leader and revolutionary in the First War of Indian Independence (1857) from Ahirwal/Rewari, Haryana.
- **Martyrdom:** He died in Kabul, Afghanistan on 23 September 1863 while attempting to secure foreign military aid against British colonial rule.
- **Commemoration:** Haryana commemorates 23 September as **Haryana Heroes' Martyrdom Day** in honor of his sacrifice and that of other martyrs from the state.
- **Literary Note:** September 23 also marks the birth anniversary of 'Rashtrakavi' **Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar'** (born 23 Sept 1908), author of landmark Hindi epic poems Urvashi and Rashmirathi.

