

National Space Day was observed across India on August 23–24, 2026, commemorating the historic soft landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the lunar South Pole on August 23, 2023. Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with 20 leading Indian space startups to mark the occasion.

International News

- **27th Session of India-Russia IRIGC-TEC:** External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Moscow on August 23–24, 2026, to hold wide-ranging talks with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov. Bilateral trade between the two nations reached an estimated \$73 billion in FY26, with Russia accounting for nearly 38% of India's crude oil imports.
- **25th Round of India-China SR Talks:** National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval met Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing for the 25th Special Representative (SR) level meeting to negotiate boundary resolutions and border management ahead of the BRICS Leaders' Summit.
- **35th Independence Day of Ukraine:** Ukraine marked its 35th anniversary of independence on August 24, 2026, celebrating its 1991 declaration of independence following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

National News & Environment

- **Supreme Court Directives on Elephant Corridors:** A Supreme Court Bench led by Chief Justice Surya Kant directed the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) to conduct a fresh national survey of elephant corridors. The Court prohibited coercive measures like

fireballs and spikes used to divert elephant movement.

- **Kaziranga ESZ & Mining Violation:** The Central Empowered Committee (CEC) censured state authorities regarding illegal mining activities in the Karbi Anglong Elephant Reserve near Kaziranga National Park, emphasizing threats to Asian elephant migration routes.

Economics & Banking

- **₹62,500 Crore Mobile & Electronics Manufacturing Scheme:** The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched an expanded framework replacing the former PLI-LSEM scheme, aiming to elevate India's global smartphone market export share from 6% to 15% by 2030.
- **WDFC 1.3 km Double-Stack Freight Operation:** Indian Railways deployed its first 1.3-km-long double-stack container train carrying 360 TEUs from JNPT (Mumbai) to Varnama (Vadodara) along the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor.
- **GSTAT Filing Review:** GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) President Justice (Retd) Sanjaya Kumar Mishra reported 74,758 e-appeals registered on the new portal, against an anticipated caseload of 2.5 lakh cases.

Sports News

- **BRICS Sports Ministers' Meeting:** Hosted in Visakhapatnam under India's 2026 BRICS Chairship, ending with the adoption of the BRICS Sports Joint Declaration to foster youth development, adaptive sports, and sports tech.
- **Cricket Updates:** Indian batsman Devdutt Padikkal registered his second Test century in Colombo against Sri Lanka. Leg-spinner



Karn Sharma announced his retirement from all formats of international and domestic cricket.

Defense News

- **Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC):** The Indian Navy advanced the induction phase of its Mahe-class ASW-SWC vessels (including INS Mangrol) built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), boasting over 80% indigenous content.

Govt Schemes, MoUs & Initiatives

- **NSDC & AWS Cloud & AI Skilling Initiative:** The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), in partnership with Cultus Education and Amazon Web Services (AWS), launched a national training drive targeting high-demand capabilities in Cloud Computing and Generative AI.

Art, Culture & Important Days

- **'India Pharma Archives' Launch:** Minister of State for Health Anupriya Patel launched a public digital history portal developed by IIM Ahmedabad and the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA), documenting 125 years of Indian pharmaceutical development.
- **August 23–24:** National Space Day (India).
- **August 24:** Ukraine Independence Day.
- **August 23:** UNESCO International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition.

Practice Exam Questions (MCQs)

Q1. Under India's 2026 BRICS Chairship, where was the BRICS Sports Ministers' Meeting held that resulted in the adoption of the BRICS Sports Joint Declaration?

- (A) Bengaluru
- (B) Visakhapatnam
- (C) New Delhi
- (D) Indore

Answer: (B) Visakhapatnam

Explanation: The meeting was held in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, focusing on youth engagement, sports tech, and para-sports cooperation among member nations.

Q2. The Supreme Court of India recently banned which of the following practices regarding elephant corridor management?

- (A) Radio-collaring wild tuskers
- (B) Construction of elevated railway lines
- (C) Use of fireballs and spikes to divert elephant movement
- (D) Drone-based corridor surveillance

Answer: (C) Use of fireballs and spikes to divert elephant movement

Explanation: A CJI Surya Kant-led bench mandated a fresh survey of all 33 Indian elephant reserves across 14 states while strictly prohibiting violent or coercive measures like spikes or fireballs.

National Affairs & Science & Technology

Question 1: On 23–24 August 2026, India observed its 3rd National Space Day. What historic event does this day commemorate?

- A) Successful launch of Mangalyaan (Mars Orbiter Mission)
- B) Soft landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the Moon's South Pole
- C) Launch of India's first human spaceflight Gaganyaan abort test

D) Deployment of the Astrosat space telescope

• **Correct Answer: B) Soft landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the Moon's South Pole**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared August 23 as National Space Day to celebrate the historic soft landing of the Chandrayaan-3 lander (Vikram) and rover (Pragyan) near the lunar south pole on 23 August 2023. The year 2026 marks the 3rd edition of National Space Day.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Mangalyaan was launched on 5 November 2013 and inserted into Martian orbit on 24 September 2014.
- **Option C is Incorrect:** The TV-D1 test flight for Gaganyaan was conducted on 21 October 2023.
- **Option D is Incorrect:** Astrosat, India's first dedicated multi-wavelength space observatory, was launched on 28 September 2015.

Question 2: Under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model for Earth Observation satellite constellations, which agency serves as the primary single-window regulator for private sector participation in India?

- A) NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)
- B) Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe)
- C) Antrix Corporation Limited
- D) Defence Space Agency (DSA)

• **Correct Answer: B) Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe)**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** IN-SPACe (headquartered in Ahmedabad) is an

autonomous single-window nodal agency under the Department of Space. It promotes, enables, and authorizes non-government entities (NGEs) to undertake space activities, including the satellite constellation PPP model.

- **Option A is Incorrect:** NSIL is the commercial arm of ISRO responsible for commercial satellite launches and infrastructure building.
- **Option C is Incorrect:** Antrix Corporation Limited is the legacy corporate arm of the Department of Space (established 1992).
- **Option D is Incorrect:** DSA is a tri-service military agency focused on space warfare and satellite asset security.

Question 3: Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has enhanced its electronics manufacturing incentive scheme with a budget of ₹62,500 crore. What target global smartphone market share does India aim to capture by 2030?

- A) 8%
- B) 10%
- C) 15%
- D) 25%

• **Correct Answer: C) 15%**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option C is Correct:** The enhanced ₹62,500 crore scheme aims to scale India's share in the global smartphone market from ~6% (in 2026) to 15% by 2030, building upon the initial Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.
- **Options A & B are Incorrect:** 8% and 10% represent interim benchmarks set during the 2022–2025 growth phases.

- **Option D is Incorrect:** 25% is the broader target for overall domestic component localization across electronics by 2035.

Question 4: Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated 7 major infrastructure projects worth ₹427.80 crore at which major port in Odisha?

- A) Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (Kolkata)
- B) Paradip Port
- C) Visakhapatnam Port
- D) V.O. Chidambaranar Port (Thoothukudi)

• **Correct Answer: B) Paradip Port**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** Sarbananda Sonowal (Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways) inaugurated 7 key projects worth ₹427.80 crore at Paradip Port Authority (PPA) in Odisha, alongside signing concession agreements for three mechanization projects valued at ₹1,580.36 crore.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Kolkata Port is located in West Bengal.
- **Option C is Incorrect:** Visakhapatnam Port is located in Andhra Pradesh.
- **Option D is Incorrect:** V.O. Chidambaranar Port is situated in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu.

Sports & Accreditations

Question 5: The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) announced the creation of the National Coach Accreditation Board (NCAB). Who chaired the task force recommending this board?

- A) Rahul Dravid
- B) Abhinav Bindra
- C) Pullela Gopichand
- D) Mary Kom

• **Correct Answer: C) Pullela Gopichand**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option C is Correct:** Chief National Badminton Coach Pullela Gopichand headed the expert task force that recommended establishing the National Coach Accreditation Board (NCAB) to standardize coaching, grading, and certification in India.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Rahul Dravid chaired committees on NCA grassroots cricket development.
- **Options B & D are Incorrect:** Abhinav Bindra and Mary Kom served on Olympic athlete welfare panels and TOPS committees.

Question 6: Who won the historical first-ever gold medal for India in Judo (Women's 48 kg category) at the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow?

- A) Sushila Devi Likmabam
- B) Asmita Dey
- C) Tulika Maan
- D) Garima Choudhary

• **Correct Answer: B) Asmita Dey**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** Indian judoka Asmita Dey won the gold medal in the women's 48 kg category at the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, becoming the first Indian judoka to win CWG gold.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Sushila Devi won silver medals in Judo at the 2014 and 2022 Commonwealth Games.
- **Option C is Incorrect:** Tulika Maan won silver in the +78 kg Judo event at CWG 2022.
- **Option D is Incorrect:** Garima Choudhary was India's sole judoka at the 2012 London Olympics.

International Relations & MoUs

Question 7: External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Moscow to co-chair which session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission (IRIGC-TEC)?

- A) 20th Session
- B) 25th Session
- C) 27th Session
- D) 30th Session

• **Correct Answer: C) 27th Session**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option C is Correct:** Dr. S. Jaishankar co-chaired the 27th Session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation.
- **Options A, B & D are Incorrect:** The 26th session took place in New Delhi; the 27th session convenes in Moscow.

Question 8: In August 2026, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) signed a 5-year Government-to-Government (G2G) petroleum supply pact with which Indian Ocean nation?

- A) Maldives
- B) Mauritius
- C) Seychelles
- D) Sri Lanka

• **Correct Answer: B) Mauritius**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** India signed two agreements with Mauritius, including a 5-year petroleum supply agreement executed by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to secure energy supplies under India's SAGAR policy.

- **Option A is Incorrect:** Maldives signed maritime safety MoUs, not a 5-year G2G fuel contract.
- **Options C & D are Incorrect:** Seychelles and Sri Lanka receive line-of-credit fuel support rather than this specific 5-year G2G pact.

Question 9: India and Singapore exchanged Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) in August 2026 to deepen cooperation primarily across which three sectors?

- A) Defense, Agriculture, and Shipping
- B) Semiconductors, Digital Payments, and Green Energy
- C) Space Tech, Civil Aviation, and Mining
- D) Pharmaceuticals, Heavy Machinery, and Textiles

• **Correct Answer: B) Semiconductors, Digital Payments, and Green Energy**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** The India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) outcome targeted semiconductor supply chains, UPI-PayNow cross-border integration, and green hydrogen energy ecosystems.
- **Options A, C & D are Incorrect:** These represent general trade areas, whereas the August 2026 signed MoUs focused specifically on tech, fintech, and clean energy.

Economics & Banking

Question 10: Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$230 million loan agreement with India to upgrade urban infrastructure in which state/city?

- A) Metro expansion in Bengaluru
- B) Water supply and sanitation in Chennai
- C) Solar park grid in Gujarat

D) Industrial corridor in Maharashtra

• **Correct Answer: B) Water supply and sanitation in Chennai**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved \$230 million to modernize water distribution networks, storm-water drainage, and climate-resilient sanitation infrastructure across Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Bengaluru Metro phase funding is led by JICA and EIB.
- **Options C & D are Incorrect:** These belong to distinct ADB loans for state highways and power distribution.

Question 11: Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) updated the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP 2023) to enable which payment operational change?

- A) Total duty waiver on luxury imports
- B) Flexibility for Indian exporters to invoice trade in Indian Rupee (INR)
- C) Mandatory crypto-currency invoicing for IT services
- D) Removal of export promotion schemes

• **Correct Answer: B) Flexibility for Indian exporters to invoice trade in Indian Rupee (INR)**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** DGFT aligned FTP 2023 provisions with RBI's FEMA regulations, giving exporters operational flexibility to invoice sales in Indian Rupee (INR) via Vostro accounts.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Tariff duty adjustments are made through customs notifications, not FTP trade invoicing updates.

- **Option C is Incorrect:** Crypto-settlements remain unauthorized by the RBI.
- **Option D is Incorrect:** Export incentive schemes like Advance Authorization remain operational under FTP 2023.

Defense News

Question 12: Launched under the 8 Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) project, INS Mangrol belongs to which warship class?

- A) Nilgiri-class Frigate
- B) Mahe-class ASW-SWC
- C) Kalvari-class Submarine
- D) Visakhapatnam-class Destroyer

• **Correct Answer: B) Mahe-class ASW-SWC**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** INS Mangrol is part of the Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) and GRSE with over 80% indigenous content.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Nilgiri-class (Project 17A) comprises stealth frigates.
- **Option C is Incorrect:** Kalvari-class (Project 75) comprises Scorpene-design attack submarines.
- **Option D is Incorrect:** Visakhapatnam-class (Project 15B) consists of guided-missile destroyers.

Question 13: Where is the Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL), DRDO's premier laboratory for underwater weapons and torpedoes, located?

- A) Kochi, Kerala
- B) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- C) Chennai, Tamil Nadu

D) Karwar, Karnataka

• **Correct Answer: B) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** Established in 1969, NSTL Visakhapatnam specializes in torpedo systems (like Shyena, Varunastra) and torpedo defence systems (like Maareech).
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Kochi hosts NPOL (Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory).
- **Option C is Incorrect:** Chennai hosts CVRDE (Combat Vehicles Research & Development Establishment).
- **Option D is Incorrect:** Karwar houses the INS Kadamba naval base.

International News & Important Days

Question 14: Which sovereign nation marked the 35th anniversary of its Independence on 24 August 2026, commemorating its 1991 declaration from the USSR?

- A) Poland
- B) Ukraine
- C) Kazakhstan
- D) Belarus

• **Correct Answer: B) Ukraine**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** Ukraine declared independence from the Soviet Union on 24 August 1991 and observes its National Independence Day annually on 24 August (35th anniversary in 2026).
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Poland was a Warsaw Pact member state, not a Soviet republic.
- **Option C is Incorrect:** Kazakhstan declared independence on 16 December 1991.

- **Option D is Incorrect:** Belarus marks its official Independence Day on 3 July.

Question 15: Which country introduced a bill in August 2026 seeking to ban social media usage for children under 16 years of age?

- A) Australia
- B) New Zealand
- C) France
- D) United Kingdom

• **Correct Answer: B) New Zealand**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** New Zealand's government coalition introduced a parliamentary bill setting a minimum legal age threshold of 16 for social media usage.
- **Options A, C & D are Incorrect:** While these nations have discussed digital age limits, New Zealand introduced this specific legislation on 24 August 2026.

Question 16: China scheduled its Chang'e-7 lunar south pole mission launch using which heavy-lift rocket from the Wenchang Launch Site?

- A) Falcon Heavy
- B) Long March 5 (CZ-5)
- C) Ariane 6
- D) PSLV-C58

• **Correct Answer: B) Long March 5 (CZ-5)**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** China's Chang'e-7 lunar south pole mission was mounted on the Long March 5 (CZ-5) heavy carrier rocket from Hainan's Wenchang facility.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Falcon Heavy is operated by American private space firm SpaceX.



- **Option C is Incorrect:** Ariane 6 is the heavy launch system of the European Space Agency (ESA).
- **Option D is Incorrect:** PSLV is India's polar satellite launch vehicle operated by ISRO.

Government Schemes & Initiatives

Question 17: Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) launched the National Campaign on Entrepreneurship-II under which flagship scheme?

- A) PM-KISAN
- B) DAY-NRLM (Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission)
- C) PMFME Scheme
- D) MGNREGA

- **Correct Answer: B) DAY-NRLM (Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission)**
- **Detailed Explanation:**
 - **Option B is Correct:** MoRD launched the National Campaign on Entrepreneurship-II under DAY-NRLM to promote Self-Help Group (SHG) nano-entrepreneurs across rural districts.
 - **Option A is Incorrect:** PM-KISAN provides direct income transfers to farmer families.
 - **Option C is Incorrect:** PMFME is implemented by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
 - **Option D is Incorrect:** MGNREGA focuses on rural wage employment guarantees.

Question 18: What is the subsidized retail price per kg fixed by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs for releasing buffer onion stocks in August 2026?

- A) ₹20 per kg
- B) ₹35 per kg

- C) ₹50 per kg
- D) ₹65 per kg

- **Correct Answer: B) ₹35 per kg**
- **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** The Union Government began releasing buffer stock onions at a subsidized rate of ₹35 per kg in major consuming centers via NCCF and NAFED outlets.
- **Options A, C & D are Incorrect:** Rates outside the official market intervention price set by the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Art, Culture & Festivals

Question 19: Which classical Indian Raga family is traditionally associated with the monsoon season (Varsha Ritu)?

- A) Raga Bhairavi
- B) Raga Malhar
- C) Raga Yaman
- D) Raga Darbari

- **Correct Answer: B) Raga Malhar**
- **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** Raga Malhar (and variants like Megh Malhar, Miyan ki Malhar created by 16th-century musician Tansen) is associated with rain and monsoon celebrations.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Raga Bhairavi is performed at the end of music concerts, typically during morning hours.
- **Option C is Incorrect:** Raga Yaman is an evening raga belonging to Kalyan thaat.
- **Option D is Incorrect:** Raga Darbari Kanada is a late-night raga created by Tansen for royal court settings.

Question 20: The 10-day festival of 'Ganeshotsav' begins on which tithi of the Hindu lunar month of Bhadrapada?

- A) Pratipada
- B) Chaturthi (Shukla Paksha)
- C) Ekadashi
- D) Purnima

• **Correct Answer: B) Chaturthi (Shukla Paksha)**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** Ganesh Chaturthi begins on Shukla Paksha Chaturthi of Bhadrapada month (August/September), marking the rebirth celebration of Lord Ganesha over 10 days.
- **Option A is Incorrect:** Pratipada marks the commencement of Navratri.
- **Option C is Incorrect:** Ekadashi is dedicated to Lord Vishnu fasts.
- **Option D is Incorrect:** Purnima marks the full moon day ending the bright fortnight.

Space Landmarks & History

Question 21: What is the official name designated for the Chandrayaan-3 landing point on the Moon?

- A) Tiranga Point
- B) Shiv Shakti Point
- C) Jawahar Point
- D) Vikram Sthal

• **Correct Answer: B) Shiv Shakti Point**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option B is Correct:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi named the Chandrayaan-3 lunar south pole landing site "Shiv Shakti Point".

- **Option A is Incorrect:** "Tiranga Point" is the site where Chandrayaan-2's lander made impact in 2019.
- **Option C is Incorrect:** "Jawahar Point" is where Chandrayaan-1's Moon Impact Probe landed in 2008.
- **Option D is Incorrect:** Vikram Sthal is an informal generic descriptor.

Appointments & Leadership

Question 22: Who currently serves as the Director General of the Sports Authority of India (SAI)?

- A) Hari Ranjan Rao
- B) Kalyan Chaubey
- C) PT Usha
- D) Mansukh Mandaviya

• **Correct Answer: A) Hari Ranjan Rao**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

- **Option A is Correct:** Senior IAS officer Hari Ranjan Rao serves as Director General of SAI, which convened its 63rd Governing Body Meeting in New Delhi.
- **Option B is Incorrect:** Kalyan Chaubey is President of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).
- **Option C is Incorrect:** PT Usha is President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
- **Option D is Incorrect:** Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya is the Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports.

Question 23: Which Public Sector Undertaking executed the ₹12.18 crore Paradip Port administrative building project inaugurated in August 2026?

- A) Engineers India Limited (EIL)
- B) NBCC (India) Limited

C) RITES Limited

D) IRCON International

• **Correct Answer: B) NBCC (India) Limited**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

○ **Option B is Correct:** NBCC (India) Ltd (formerly National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited) executed the upgraded administrative complex project at Paradip Port.

○ **Option A is Incorrect:** EIL focuses primarily on petrochemical and refinery design.

○ **Options C & D are Incorrect:** RITES and IRCON handle rail and transport infrastructure projects.

Health & Legal Provisions

Question 24: In August 2026, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) issued a clarification regarding seasonal influenza in India stating that:

A) A mutated H5N1 avian strain was detected in humans

B) No new H1N1 strain has been detected and there is no cause for panic

C) Nationwide lockdowns are required for respiratory viruses

D) H1N1 has been eradicated in India

• **Correct Answer: B) No new H1N1 strain has been detected and there is no cause for panic**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

○ **Option B is Correct:** ICMR confirmed regular seasonal influenza variation was present and refuted rumors of any new mutant H1N1 strain.

○ **Options A, C & D are Incorrect:** Unsubstantiated claims rejected by the public health advisory.

Question 25: Under which updated legal code are FIRs for criminal offenses (e.g., outraging religious feelings or property damage) registered in India?

A) Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860

B) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023

C) Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973

D) Public Order Act

• **Correct Answer: B) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

○ **Option B is Correct:** Effective 1 July 2024, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) replaced the colonial-era Indian Penal Code (IPC) for criminal proceedings across India.

○ **Option A is Incorrect:** The IPC was repealed and replaced by BNS.

○ **Option C is Incorrect:** CrPC was replaced by Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

○ **Option D is Incorrect:** Refers to state-level administrative acts.

Ecology & Bilateral Trade

Question 26: The Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve, where forest teams intensified tiger tracking operations in August 2026, spans across which three states?

A) Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka

B) Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana

C) Kerala, Karnataka, and Goa

D) Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Goa

• **Correct Answer: A) Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka**

• **Detailed Explanation:**

○ **Option A is Correct:** The Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve (a UNESCO-designated reserve) sits

at the tri-junction of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka in the Western Ghats.

Options B, C & D are Incorrect: Incorrect state groupings; Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Goa, and Maharashtra do not border the core Nilgiris ecosystem.

Question 27: Russia was India's largest crude oil supplier in FY26, accounting for approximately what percentage of total crude imports?

- A) 12%
- B) 25%
- C) 38%
- D) 65%

Correct Answer: C) 38%

Detailed Explanation: Option C is Correct: Russian crude oil accounted for ~38% of India's total crude oil imports in FY26.

Options A & B are Incorrect: Historical pre-2022 import shares were under 2%.

Option D is Incorrect: Exaggerated metric.

Question 28: What was the total India-Russia bilateral trade volume recorded in FY26?

- A) \$30 Billion
- B) \$50 Billion
- C) \$73 Billion
- D) \$100 Billion

Correct Answer: C) \$73 Billion

Detailed Explanation: Option C is Correct: Bilateral trade between India and Russia reached ~\$73 billion in FY26, driven by crude oil, fertilizers, and defense spares.

Options A, B & D are Incorrect: \$100 billion is the target set for 2030; \$73 billion is the recorded FY26 total.

Question 29: Legendary court musician Tansen, credited with creating rain-inducing ragas like Miyan ki Malhar, served in the court of which Mughal Emperor?

- A) Babur
- B) Akbar
- C) Shah Jahan
- D) Aurangzeb

Correct Answer: B) Akbar

Detailed Explanation: Option B is Correct: Mian Tansen was one of the Navratnas (Nine Gems) in the court of Mughal Emperor Akbar (16th century).

Options A, C & D are Incorrect: Tansen's active period fell within Akbar's reign (1556–1605).

Question 30: Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi chaired a meeting in August 2026 to review academic and examination processes for which board?

- A) ICSE
- B) CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education)
- C) NIOS
- D) State Board Consortium

• **Correct Answer: B) CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education)**

• **Detailed Explanation: Option B is Correct:** Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi reviewed academic reforms, exam transparency, and student support mechanisms for CBSE.

○ **Options A, C & D are Incorrect:** The review specifically covered CBSE under the Department of School Education and Literacy.

History & Education Policy

