

Section 1: International News

Question 1

In March 2026, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar attended the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting with Partner Countries. In which country was this summit hosted? A) Germany

B) Italy

C) France

D) Japan

Correct Answer: C) France

Detailed Explanation:

External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Abbaye des-Vaux-de-Cernay, France, on March 26–27, 2026, following an invitation from the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Jean-Noël Barrot. The summit gathered G7 member nations and select partner countries to address critical global security and economic issues. During the sessions, India advocated for urgent institutional reforms in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to mirror contemporary geopolitical realities. India also raised structural bottlenecks affecting the Global South, emphasizing vulnerabilities related to food insecurity, fertilizer supplies, and volatile energy corridors.

Question 2

The 14th Ministerial Conference (MC-14) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) was convened in which of the following cities? A) Geneva, Switzerland

B) Yaoundé, Cameroon

C) Nairobi, Kenya

D) Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Correct Answer: B) Yaoundé, Cameroon

Detailed Explanation:

The World Trade Organization's 14th Ministerial Conference (MC-14) was hosted in Yaoundé, Cameroon. As the top decision-making body of the WTO, the Ministerial Conference brings together all members to negotiate trade agreements and review global trade frameworks. MC-14 focused heavily on resolving long-standing deadlocks regarding agricultural subsidies, public stockholding for food security purposes (a key priority for developing nations like India), and e-commerce customs duties moratoriums.

Question 3

The strategic maritime transit choke point "Bab-el-Mandeb Strait" has been a focal point of global security discussions. Which body of water does it directly connect to the Gulf of Aden? A) Persian Gulf

B) Red Sea

C) Mediterranean Sea

D) Oman Sea

Correct Answer: B) Red Sea

Detailed Explanation:

The Bab-el-Mandeb Strait is a highly strategic maritime corridor that connects the Red Sea (Northwest) to the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea (Southeast). It separates the Arabian Peninsula (Yemen) from the Horn of Africa (Djibouti and Eritrea). It serves as a vital economic bottleneck for global trade pipelines routing between Europe and Asia via the Suez Canal. Disruptions here directly escalate global shipping freight rates and insurance premiums, severely impacting import-reliant economies.

Question 4

In late March 2026, the global "Earth Hour" movement was observed worldwide. Which

international organization organizes this event annually? A) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

B) Conservation International

C) World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

D) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Correct Answer: C) World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

Detailed Explanation:

Earth Hour is an annual global grassroots environmental movement organized by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). Held on the last Saturday of March, the event encourages individuals, communities, and businesses to turn off non-essential electric lights for one hour (from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM local time) as a symbolic commitment to the planet and to raise awareness about climate change. The movement originally began as a lights-off event in Sydney, Australia, in 2007.

Section 2: National News

Question 5

The Chief Justice of India virtually inaugurated a state-of-the-art, climate-resilient District Court Complex in which high-altitude border district?

A) Kargil, Ladakh

B) Leh, Ladakh

C) Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh

D) Lahaul and Spiti, Himachal Pradesh

Correct Answer: A) Kargil, Ladakh

Detailed Explanation:

The Chief Justice of India virtually inaugurated the new District Court Complex at Kargil to drastically upgrade judicial infrastructure in the remote, high-altitude border terrain of Ladakh.

Due to extreme sub-zero weather conditions and difficult geographical terrain, physical accessibility has historically delayed judicial processes in the region. The new complex features green, climate-resilient architecture alongside integrated digital court systems, bringing legal services closer to rural and border populations.

Question 6

A new cryptic frog species named *Nyctibatrachus kali* (Kali Night Frog) was discovered in which Indian wildlife habitat? A) Periyar Tiger Reserve

B) Kali Tiger Reserve

C) Mudumalai National Park

D) Bandipur Tiger Reserve

Correct Answer: B) Kali Tiger Reserve

Detailed Explanation:

Biologists discovered a new frog species named *Nyctibatrachus kali* (commonly known as the Kali Night Frog) within the Kali Tiger Reserve, located in the Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka. It is classified as a cryptic species because its physical appearance closely mimics the *Nyctibatrachus kumbara* (Kumbara Night Frog), though it displays a completely distinct bioacoustic profile resembling wood-chopping sounds. It is endemic to the Western Ghats water streams.

Question 7

A newly discovered butterfly species named *Euthalia zubeengargi* has been documented in which North-Eastern state of India? A) Assam

B) Nagaland

C) Arunachal Pradesh

D) Meghalaya

Correct Answer: C) Arunachal Pradesh

Detailed Explanation:

Lepidopterists discovered a unique butterfly species named *Euthalia zubeengargi* in the pristine, semi-evergreen forests of Arunachal Pradesh. The species belongs to the *Euthalia* genus, which is widely distributed across South and Southeast Asia. This species thrives exclusively in deep, cool, and well-shaded forest canopies located at mid-altitudes between 600 to 750 meters above sea level, underscoring the delicate ecological health of the region.

Question 8

Which historical site in Rajasthan was officially renamed as "Abu Raj" by the state government following administrative orders in March 2026?

- A) Mount Abu
- B) Udaipur
- C) Chittorgarh
- D) Kumbhalgarh

Correct Answer: A) Mount Abu

Detailed Explanation:

The Government of Rajasthan issued a notification changing the administrative name of the famous hill station Mount Abu to "Abu Raj." The hill station, located in the Aravalli Range in the Sirohi district, holds deep geographical, historical, and religious significance (housing the famous Dilwara Jain Temples). The renaming aligns with historical cultural references to the region.

Section 3: Economics and Banking

Question 9

In its recent structural macroeconomic overhaul, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) revised

India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) base year to which of the following timelines? A) 2018–19

- B) 2020–21
- C) 2022–23
- D) 2024–25

Correct Answer: C) 2022–23

Detailed Explanation:

To capture post-pandemic economic shifts, structural changes, and modernized consumption data, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation updated India's GDP base year from 2011–12 to 2022–23. This overhaul integrates automated corporate filings, advanced GST data streams, and updated consumer expenditure statistics, giving policymakers a far more accurate representation of actual economic output, growth metrics, and industrial shifts.

Question 10

Under the revised GDP series framework, which specialized accounting framework has been formally integrated to measure real economic value addition more accurately? A) Single Indicator Deflation

- B) Double Deflation Method
- C) Headline Consumer Deflation
- D) Gross Value Amortization Method

Correct Answer: B) Double Deflation Method

Detailed Explanation:

The newly launched GDP series incorporates the "Double Deflation" methodology alongside integrated Supply and Use Tables (SUT). Double deflation requires deflating the value of gross output by the output price index, and deflating intermediate inputs by a separate input price index. This prevents input price volatility (like a

sudden drop or spike in global raw commodity costs) from distorting the real value-added figures of manufacturing, agricultural, and core secondary sectors.

Question 11

What alternative credit underwriting metric has been introduced to assess the financial creditworthiness of rural borrowers who lack traditional bank loan histories or CIBIL footprints? A) Rural Inflow Score (RIS)

B) Grameen Credit Score (GCS)

C) Agriculture Ledger Index (ALI)

D) Jan Dhan Credit Indicator (JDCI)

Correct Answer: B) Grameen Credit Score (GCS)

Detailed Explanation:

The Grameen Credit Score (GCS) has been institutionalized as an alternative credit-scoring model tailored specifically for rural micro-borrowers. Unlike traditional agencies (such as CIBIL or CRIF) that rely heavily on institutional loan repayment loops, the GCS evaluates non-traditional data markers like timely utility bill clearances, agricultural input purchases, crop yield cycles, and cooperative society transactions to open up formal banking credit access to unbanked rural populations.

Question 12

According to recent energy data, India has crossed a major clean energy milestone by ensuring that non-fossil fuel sources comprise over what percentage of its total installed power capacity? A) 40%

B) 45%

C) 51%

D) 60%

Correct Answer: C) 51%

Detailed Explanation:

India has crossed the 51% milestone for non-fossil fuel sources within its total installed electricity capacity, reaching approximately 263 Gigawatts (GW). With this leap, India achieved its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) pledge for 2030 five years ahead of schedule. However, because solar and wind are intermittent, coal remains the primary baseline driver, handling over 70% of actual power generation grid loads.

Section 4: Sports

Question 13

Who were conferred with the prestigious Hockey India Balbir Singh Sr. Award for Player of the Year (Men and Women categories respectively) during the recently held Annual Awards? A) Harmanpreet Singh and Savita Punia

B) Hardik Singh and Navneet Kaur

C) Sukhjeet Singh and Salima Tete

D) Abhishek Singh and Deepika Kumari

Correct Answer: B) Hardik Singh and Navneet Kaur

Detailed Explanation:

During the elite Hockey India Annual Awards, star midfielder Hardik Singh and versatile forward Navneet Kaur were named the Men's and Women's Players of the Year for 2025 respectively. They were decorated with the Hockey India Balbir Singh Sr. Award, which carries a cash prize of INR 20 Lakh each. The ceremony was attended by top government dignitaries, including Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Mansukh Mandaviya.

Question 14

Who was honored with the Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award carrying a cash prize of INR 25 Lakh at the Hockey India Awards? A) Zafar Iqbal

- B) Dhanraj Pillay
- C) Pargat Singh
- D) Gurbux Singh

Correct Answer: A) Zafar Iqbal

Detailed Explanation:

The prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Indian hockey legend Zafar Iqbal. The award recognizes his lifelong contributions to Indian sports, highlighted by his role in clinching the historic Gold Medal for India at the 1980 Moscow Olympics. The recognition features a citation and a cash award of INR 25 Lakh.

Question 15

Which state/union territory or institutional team secured the peak position in the final medal tally at the Khelo India Winter Games 2026? A) Jammu & Kashmir

- B) Ladakh
- C) Indian Army
- D) Himachal Pradesh

Correct Answer: C) Indian Army

Detailed Explanation:

The Indian Army winter sports contingent put up a dominant display to capture the top spot in the final medal tally at the Khelo India Winter Games 2026. The games, conducted across alpine centers in Gulmarg (J&K) and Leh (Ladakh), serve as India's premier multi-sport winter championship to identify domestic talent for international winter sports and winter Olympic disciplines.

Question 16

Which domestic cricket team clinched the historic Ranji Trophy title by winning their maiden final appearance after a long 67-year wait? A) Vidarbha

- B) Bengal
- C) Jammu & Kashmir
- D) Madhya Pradesh

Correct Answer: C) Jammu & Kashmir

Detailed Explanation:

In a historic milestone for domestic cricket, Jammu & Kashmir won its first-ever Ranji Trophy title, breaking a 67-year drought since entering India's premier first-class red-ball tournament. Their victory over seasoned opponents capped off a remarkable season driven by upgraded sports infrastructure and grassroots talent pipelines across the UT.

Section 5: Appointments

Question 17

Who has been appointed as the new Director-General of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), taking charge in May 2026? A) Tim Davie

- B) Matt Brittin
- C) Mark Thompson
- D) Tony Hall

Correct Answer: B) Matt Brittin

Detailed Explanation:

Matt Brittin has been appointed as the new Director-General of the BBC, stepping into the role after the resignation of Tim Davie. Brittin brings extensive digital expertise from his career at Google, where he served as the President of the Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) region. His primary mandate at the BBC

involves driving digital engineering shifts and maintaining global editorial integrity in a highly competitive broadcasting market.

Question 18

Who has been appointed to head the high-level committee constituted by the government to review and upgrade the DigiLocker regulatory and security framework? A) Ajay Sawhney

B) Rajeev Chandrasekhar

C) K. Krithivasan

D) Shaktikanta Das

Correct Answer: A) Ajay Sawhney

Detailed Explanation:

The Government of India appointed former IT Secretary Ajay Sawhney to lead a high-level expert advisory committee tasked with auditing and reforming the DigiLocker regulatory framework. The committee will focus on integrating advanced cryptographic protocols, standardizing digital identity documentation for cross-border interactions, and introducing strict cloud security parameters to handle scaling citizen loads.

Question 19

Who has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the judicial Manipur Violence Inquiry Commission? A) Justice Ajai Lamba

B) Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan

C) Justice U.U. Lalit

D) Justice Hemant Gupta

Correct Answer: B) Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan

Detailed Explanation:

Former Supreme Court Judge, Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan, has been appointed as the new

Chairperson of the Manipur Violence Inquiry Commission. The commission is legally mandated to investigate the root causes, sequence of events, and administrative responses surrounding regional ethnic conflicts, with an aim to formulate comprehensive security recommendations and institutional justice parameters.

Section 6: Awards and Honors

Question 20

Which Indian film secured a major global cinematic milestone by winning the top prize at the BAFTA Awards 2026? A) All We Imagine as Light

B) Boong

C) Kantara

D) The Elephant Whisperers

Correct Answer: B) Boong

Detailed Explanation:

In an outstanding achievement for Indian independent cinema, the Indian film *Boong* won a top award at the 2026 BAFTA Awards ceremony. The film garnered widespread international praise for its raw storytelling, nuanced performances, and deep cultural authenticity. The win highlights the growing global footprint and critical acclaim of regional Indian cinema on major international award stages.

Question 21

The Mangaluru International Airport was recently conferred with the global ASQ Award. Under which specific operational excellence category did it win? A) Best Airport Overall

B) Best Airport at Arrivals – Globally

C) Best Environmentally Sustainable Airport



D) Best Cargo Logistics Airport

Correct Answer: B) Best Airport at Arrivals – Globally

Detailed Explanation:

The Mangaluru International Airport (MIA) won the ASQ (Airport Service Quality) Award for "Best Airport at Arrivals – Globally." Handled by the Airports Council International (ACI), the ASQ awards represent the global gold standard for benchmarking passenger service, terminal cleanliness, immigration processing speed, and baggage delivery efficiency, placing MIA ahead of several large international aviation hubs.

Section 7: Science and Defense News

Question 22

The "PRISM-SG" digital portal was recently launched to modernize administrative procedures in which field? A) Space Launch Clearances

B) Defense Procurement & Inspection Cycles

C) Direct Tax Disputes Resolution

D) Environmental Impact Clearances

Correct Answer: B) Defense Procurement & Inspection Cycles

Detailed Explanation:

The PRISM-SG portal was introduced by defense authorities to streamline and digitize complex defense quality assurance and hardware testing clearances. By integrating stakeholders on an encrypted network, the digital platform aims to compress defense product inspection cycles from 12 months down to 3-4 months (a 70% reduction), directly boosting operational readiness and domestic military production under the *Aatmanirbhar Bharat* vision.

Question 23

The term "SRY Gene Screening," which was recently in the news, refers to an advanced genetic assay targeting which specific chromosomal mechanism? A) Cancer Drug Resistance

B) Male Sex Determination Switch

C) Plant Drought Tolerant Modification

D) Sickle Cell Anaemia Correction

Correct Answer: B) Male Sex Determination Switch

Detailed Explanation:

The SRY gene (Sex-determining Region Y) is located exclusively on the Y chromosome and acts as the genetic "master switch" for male sex determination in mammals by encoding the Testis-Determining Factor (TDF). If this gene is absent or mutated, the embryo naturally develops female reproductive structures by default. SRY Gene Screening has drawn widespread attention in genetic healthcare, clinical diagnostics, and international sports regulatory bodies establishing gender verification frameworks.

Question 24

India's domestic defense capabilities are being reinforced with deployment of the "Tunguska" air-defense platform. What unique tactical feature defines this system? A) It is a purely long-range hypersonic missile interceptor

B) It is a hybrid platform integrating twin 30 mm autocannons and surface-to-air missiles

C) It operates as an unmanned autonomous submarine chaser

D) It relies entirely on directed high-energy laser weapons

Correct Answer: B) It is a hybrid platform integrating twin 30 mm autocannons and surface-to-air missiles

Detailed Explanation:

The Tunguska air-defense system stands out because of its hybrid tactical setup, combining radar-guided anti-aircraft guns and surface-to-air missiles (SAM) on a single tracked armor chassis. It features twin 30 mm autocannons capable of firing up to 5,000 rounds per minute alongside eight 9M311 surface-to-air missiles. This enables it to engage close-range low-altitude threats like cruise missiles, drones, and attack helicopters simultaneously, providing reliable mobile point defense.

Question 25

The "Agnite" test, which was successfully executed recently, relates to which technology sector? A) Quantum Cryptography

- B) 3D-Printed Rocket Engines
- C) Deep Sea Mining Submersibles
- D) Solid-State Hydrogen Fuel Cells

Correct Answer: B) 3D-Printed Rocket Engines

Detailed Explanation:

The 'Agnite' propulsion test represents an important step forward for India's private aerospace engineering sector, focusing on the validation of advanced 3D-printed rocket engines. By using additive manufacturing techniques, engineers can print complex single-piece engine chambers, which removes multiple weld points, cuts down structural weight, and drastically shortens production timelines for commercial satellite launch vehicles.

Section 8: Government Schemes and MoUs

Question 26

The Ministry of Heavy Industries recently updated its EV policy by extending the subsidy timeline for Electric Two-Wheelers (e2w) until which specific target date? A) December 31, 2026

- B) July 31, 2026
- C) March 31, 2028
- D) October 31, 2027

Correct Answer: B) July 31, 2026

Detailed Explanation:

The Ministry of Heavy Industries issued an official directive amending its active Electric Vehicle demand incentive frameworks. Subsidies for Electric Two-Wheelers (e2w) have been extended until July 31, 2026, to keep market momentum steady. Meanwhile, incentives for cleaner commercial transport, such as E-Rickshaws and E-Carts, have been extended further until March 31, 2028, to support long-term green public transit adoption.

Question 27

Which state officially became the 12th in India to execute a comprehensive Reform-Linked MoU under the Rural Water Supply Framework of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0? A) Tripura

- B) Assam
- C) Meghalaya
- D) Manipur

Correct Answer: C) Meghalaya

Detailed Explanation:

Meghalaya signed a Reform-Linked Memorandum of Understanding under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0, making it the 12th state to join this advanced phase of water reforms. The agreement shifts focus from basic pipe

infrastructure layout to long-term operational sustainability. It decentralizes management by transferring operations to Gram Panchayats and Village Water & Sanitation Committees, and sets up strict institutional quality monitoring through District Water and Sanitation Missions.

Question 28

Tech Mahindra executed a strategic MoU with which premier Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) to build an advanced "3D Digital Twin" of its historical Gymkhana building? A) IIT Delhi

B) IIT Bombay

C) IIT Madras

D) IIT Kharagpur

Correct Answer: B) IIT Bombay

Detailed Explanation:

Tech Mahindra and IIT Bombay signed an MoU to develop a high-fidelity 3D Digital Twin of the institute's landmark Gymkhana building. The project leverages Spatial Computing, IoT sensor mapping, and AI architectures to create a live, virtual clone of the physical structure. This platform allows for predictive maintenance, real-time energy use tracking, and structural space optimization, providing a model for smart sustainable campus engineering.

Section 9: Important Days

Question 29

National Science Day 2026 was celebrated across India on February 28. What was the official theme chosen for this year's nationwide observances? A) Global Science for Global Wellbeing

B) Women in Science: Catalyzing Viksit Bharat

C) Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat

D) Science and Technology for Sustainable Future

Correct Answer: B) Women in Science: Catalyzing Viksit Bharat

Detailed Explanation:

National Science Day is celebrated annually on February 28 to honor the discovery of the Raman Effect by Sir C.V. Raman in 1928, an achievement that earned him the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930. The official theme for 2026 is "Women in Science: Catalyzing Viksit Bharat." This theme focuses on increasing female representation in leadership positions across STEM disciplines and recognizes women's impact on India's research and innovation landscape.

Question 30

National Safety Day is observed every year across India on March 4. Which organization institutionalized this day to raise awareness about safety protocols and reduce industrial accidents? A) NITI Aayog

B) National Safety Council (NSC)

C) Ministry of Labour and Employment

D) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

Correct Answer: B) National Safety Council (NSC)

Detailed Explanation:

National Safety Day is observed annually on March 4 to mark the foundation day of the National Safety Council (NSC), an autonomous, non-profit body set up by the Ministry of Labour and Employment. The day kicks off a week-long national campaign designed to renew commitments toward workplace safety, industrial accident prevention, road safety, and environmental health protocols across commercial sectors.