

National & International Important Days & Anniversaries

- **Vimukta Diwas (Denotified Tribes Day in India) – August 31**
- **Context:** Observed annually on August 31 across India to commemorate the repeal of the draconian colonial Criminal Tribes Act (CTA) of 1871.
- **Key Facts:** On August 31, 1952, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's government formally denotified over 150 communities that had been arbitrarily classified as "hereditary criminals" under British rule.
- **Birth Anniversary of Amrita Pritam – August 31**
- **Context:** Marks the 107th birth anniversary of Amrita Pritam (born August 31, 1919, in Gujranwala).
- **Key Honors:** First woman to win the Sahitya Akademi Award (1956 for *Sunehade*), Bharatiya Jnanpith Award (1981 for *Kagaz Te Canvas*), and Padma Vibhushan (2004).
- **Notable Works:** *Pinjar* (adapted into a feature film) and the iconic Partition poem *Ajj Aakhaan Waris Shah Nu*.
- **Malaysia Independence Day (Hari Merdeka) – August 31**
- **Context:** Marks the 1957 declaration of independence of the Federation of Malaya from British rule at Stadium Merdeka, Kuala Lumpur.

Defense News

- **Indian Army Signs \$93 Million Deal for US Javelin ATGMs**
- **Procurement:** Indian Army signed a Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) with the United States via Foreign Military Sales

(FMS) for nearly 100 **FGM-148 Javelin** Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) systems.

- **Manufacturer:** Jointly manufactured by Raytheon and Lockheed Martin.
- **Key Specs:** Top-attack capability, fire-and-forget infrared guidance, designed to penetrate explosive reactive armor (ERA).
- **Commissioning of INS Nipun**
- **Details:** Indian Navy commissioned its second indigenously designed and built Nistar-class Diving Support Vessel (DSV), **INS Nipun**, at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.
- **Decommissioning of Fast Patrol Vessels**
- **Details:** Indian Coast Guard (ICG) decommissioned two Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs), *Meera Behn* and *Subhadra Kumari Chauhan*, after decades of service.

International Relations & Diplomacy

- **India-Uzbekistan Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**
- **Outcome:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Tashkent resulted in elevating bilateral relations to a **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**.
- **Civilian Honor:** President Shavkat Mirziyoyev conferred Uzbekistan's highest state award, the **Oliy Darajali Do'stlik** (Order of Highest Friendship), upon PM Modi.
- **Strategic Focus:** Cooperation on the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), Chabahar Port transit routes, and the joint military exercise **DUSTLIK**.

National News, MoUs & Government Initiatives

- Establishment of Mediation Council of India (MCI)
 - Notification:** Department of Legal Affairs under the Ministry of Law & Justice notified the establishment of the **Mediation Council of India (MCI)** headquartered in New Delhi.
 - Objective:** Formed under the Mediation Act to institutionalize domestic and international mediation and reduce judicial backlog.
- CISF and Drone Federation of India (DFI) Partnership
 - MoU Details:** CISF signed an MoU with DFI to establish a **Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Drone & Counter-Drone Systems** at the Recruit Training Centre (RTC) in Behror, Rajasthan.

Economics & Banking News

Indicator / Event	Key Data / Details	Exam Significance
Rail Infrastructure Financing	Indian Railways introduced the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) for 6 freight lines	First-ever public-private partnership (PPP) hybrid annuity model for Indian rail freight
Mutual Fund Industry AUM	Domestic Mutual Fund Assets Under Managemen	Highlights sustained domestic retail capital

Indicator / Event	Key Data / Details	Exam Significance
	t crossed ₹72 Lakh Crore	inflows via SIPs
Legal Metrology Rules	Ministry notified Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026	Standardize s IST (UTC+5:30) sync across financial and telecom networks

Exam-Oriented Practice Questions (MCQs)

Q1. The Indian Army signed a \$93 million Foreign Military Sales (FMS) contract to procure which anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) system?

- (a) Spike MR
(b) FGM-148 Javelin
(c) TOW 2B
(d) NLAW

- Answer: (b) FGM-148 Javelin**
- Explanation:** The Indian Army finalized an LOA with the US Government to acquire FGM-148 Javelin ATGMs manufactured by Raytheon and Lockheed Martin.

Q2. Vimukta Diwas is observed every year on August 31 in India to commemorate which historic event?

- (a) The enactment of the Forest Rights Act
(b) The abolition of the Zamindari system
(c) The repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act of 1871
(d) The launch of the Bhoodan Movement



- **Answer: (c) The repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act of 1871**
- **Explanation:** On August 31, 1952, the colonial-era Criminal Tribes Act was repealed, liberating denotified nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes.

Q3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was recently conferred with which country's highest honor, the 'Oliy Darajali Do'stlik'?

- (a) Kazakhstan
- (b) Uzbekistan
- (c) Kyrgyzstan
- (d) Tajikistan

• **Answer: (b) Uzbekistan**

- **Explanation:** President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of Uzbekistan awarded the *Oliy Darajali Do'stlik* (Order of Highest Friendship) to PM Modi during his state visit to Tashkent.

Q4. The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) partnered with the Drone Federation of India to set up a Centre of Excellence in drone systems at which location?

- (a) Behror, Rajasthan
- (b) Hyderabad, Telangana
- (c) Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Pune, Maharashtra

• **Answer: (a) Behror, Rajasthan**

- **Explanation:** The MoU transforms CISF's Recruit Training Centre (RTC) in Behror, Rajasthan, into a Centre of Excellence for drone and counter-drone technologies.

1. Defence News

Q1. In August 2026, the Indian Army signed a Foreign Military Sales (FMS) deal worth USD 93 million with which country to procure FGM-148

Javelin Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) systems?

- (A) France
- (B) Russia
- (C) United States of America
- (D) Israel

Answer: (C) United States of America

Detailed Explanation: The Indian Army (IA) formally signed a Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) with the United States of America under the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) route. The USD 93 million agreement covers the procurement of nearly 100 FGM-148 Javelin Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) systems. The Javelin is a man-portable, fire-and-forget ATGM equipped with automatic infrared guidance, allowing operators to take cover immediately after launch. This deal also paves the way for future co-production of missile components in India through an earlier arrangement between Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) and the Javelin Joint Venture.

2. MoUs & Industrial Summits

Q2. Which city hosted the 10th edition of the Taiwan-India Industrial Collaboration Summit in August 2026, co-hosted by FICCI and CNFI?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Bengaluru
- (C) Hyderabad
- (D) Chennai

Answer: (B) Bengaluru

Detailed Explanation: The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), in partnership with Taiwan's Chinese National Federation of Industries (CNFI), organized the 10th Taiwan-India Industrial Collaboration Summit in Bengaluru, Karnataka. Over 200



leaders from industry, government, and academia participated, resulting in the signing of 6 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs). These agreements focus on security surveillance, digital audio-video technology, networking, resource recycling, and public finance cooperation, expected to yield business opportunities exceeding NT\$1 billion (USD 31.6 million).

3. Education & Art/Culture

Q3. Banaras Hindu University (BHU) signed two MoUs with which organization to host the 'Banaras Biennale 2026' and launch the E2EE Career Lounge?

- (A) NITI Aayog
- (B) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- (C) ASSOCHAM
- (D) University Grants Commission (UGC)

Answer: (B) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

AffairsCloud.com

Detailed Explanation: Banaras Hindu University (BHU) partnered with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) through two strategic MoUs signed in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The first MoU aims to organize the 'Banaras Biennale 2026', a major cultural event celebrating art, heritage, and regional aesthetics. The second MoU establishes the E2EE (Education to Employability and Entrepreneurship) Career Lounge at BHU. This initiative bridges academia and industry by equipping students with job-ready skills, mentorship, and startup incubation support.

4. Science & Telecommunications

Q4. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) signed a 5-year agreement with C-DOT to

set up a state-of-the-art End-to-End Optical Network Testbed at which location?

- (A) Bengaluru
- (B) New Delhi
- (C) Pune
- (D) Hyderabad

Answer: (B) New Delhi

Detailed Explanation: The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, inked a 5-year project agreement with the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) to establish an End-to-End Optical Network Testbed at the C-DOT campus in New Delhi. Funded directly by DoT, this testbed will facilitate research, testing, and validation of next-generation optical communication hardware, quantum key distribution (QKD) systems, and high-speed broadband infrastructure, advancing India's indigenous telecom technology stack.

5. Internal Security & Drone Technology

Q5. The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) signed an MoU with the Drone Federation of India (DFI) to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) at which training center?

- (A) RTC Arakkonam, Tamil Nadu
- (B) RTC Behror, Rajasthan
- (C) RTC Bhilai, Chhattisgarh
- (D) RTC Barwaha, Madhya Pradesh

Answer: (B) RTC Behror, Rajasthan

Detailed Explanation: To counter emerging aerial security challenges near vital installations, the CISF partnered with the Drone Federation of India (DFI) in New Delhi. Under this MoU, CISF's Recruit Training Centre (RTC) in Behror, Rajasthan, will be developed into a specialized Centre of Excellence (CoE) for drone



and counter-drone systems under Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) guidelines. The CoE will train security personnel in drone detection, anti-drone radar operation, and rogue drone neutralization.

6. Governance & Legal Reforms

Q6. The Ministry of Law and Justice established the "Mediation Council of India (MCI)" under Section 31 of which legislation?

- (A) Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996
- (B) Commercial Courts Act, 2015
- (C) Mediation Act, 2023
- (D) Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987

Answer: (C) Mediation Act, 2023

Detailed Explanation: The Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice, issued statutory notification S.O. 4781(E) establishing the "Mediation Council of India (MCI)" with headquarters in New Delhi. Formed under Section 31(1) of the Mediation Act, 2023, MCI functions as a body corporate with perpetual succession. The Council is tasked with registering mediators, recognizing mediation service providers, enforcing training standards, and maintaining an electronic depository of mediated settlement agreements to reduce pendency in Indian courts.

7. International Defence Cooperation

Q7. India formally secured dialogue partner status in which 6th-generation fighter jet development program in August 2026?

- (A) FCAS (Future Combat Air System)
- (B) Global Combat Air Program (GCAP)
- (C) F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program
- (D) Su-75 Checkmate Project

Answer: (B) Global Combat Air Program (GCAP)

Detailed Explanation: India formally attained dialogue partner status in the Global Combat Air Program (GCAP). Originally launched by the UK, Japan, and Italy, GCAP aims to operationalize a stealthy, software-driven 6th-generation fighter aircraft by 2035 equipped with advanced AI, sensor fusion, and uncrewed loyal wingman systems. Dialogue partner status grants Indian defence scientists and air force planners technical exposure to international stealth aviation advances.

8. Naval & Maritime Affairs

Q8. Which two Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) were decommissioned by the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) in August 2026 after decades of service?

- (A) Varad and Chand Bibi
- (B) Meera Behn and Subhadra Kumari Chauhan
- (C) Annie Besant and Sarojini Naidu
- (D) Rajshree and Rajatarangini

Answer: (B) Meera Behn and Subhadra Kumari Chauhan

Detailed Explanation: The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) formally decommissioned two of its operational Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs)—ICGS Meera Behn and ICGS Subhadra Kumari Chauhan. Named after prominent historical women figures, these vessels provided coastal surveillance, search and rescue (SAR), anti-poaching, and maritime interdiction missions along India's peninsular coastline for over two decades.

9. Military Technology

Q9. China successfully tested a stealth-coated variant of which anti-ship cruise missile in late August 2026?

- (A) YJ-12B
- (B) YJ-18A
- (C) DF-21D



(D) CJ-10

Answer: (B) YJ-18A

Detailed Explanation: China's People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) flight-tested a modified, radar-absorbent stealth-coated variant of the YJ-18A anti-ship cruise missile. The YJ-18A is a dual-stage missile that cruises subsonic over long distances before accelerating to supersonic speeds ($M \approx 2.5$ to 3.0) during its terminal flight phase. The new radar-absorbent coating significantly decreases its radar cross-section (RCS), reducing missile defense interception windows.

10. Environment & Biodiversity

Q10. What is Gangaichthys indonepalicus, discovered in the Indo-Gangetic Basin near the India-Nepal border?

- (A) A new subterranean earthworm eel
- (B) A deep-sea bioluminescent squid
- (C) A high-altitude Himalayan frog
- (D) A freshwater stingray species

Answer: (A) A new subterranean earthworm eel

Detailed Explanation: Scientists described Gangaichthys indonepalicus, the first subterranean (stygobitic) fish ever documented from the Gangetic Basin. Measuring about 4 cm long, this miniature earthworm eel belongs to the family Chaudhuriidae. Adapted to subterranean darkness inside alluvial groundwater aquifers, it features a translucent unpigmented body, reduced eyes covered by skin, and an absence of ribs. The discovery was initially triggered by a social media video showing the translucent creature emerging from a borewell in Bihar.

11. Armed Forces Operations

Q12. Indian Army Aviation pilots successfully carried out a high-altitude casualty evacuation at 18,600 feet near which mountain massif?

- (A) Saltoro Kangri
- (B) Nun Kun massif
- (C) Kanchenjunga
- (D) Kamet Peak

Answer: (B) Nun Kun massif

Detailed Explanation: Demonstrating extreme high-altitude flying capabilities, Indian Army Aviation pilots executed a life-saving casualty evacuation from an elevation of 18,600 feet near the steep slopes of the Nun Kun massif in the Himalayas. Operating near the physical ceiling of rotary-wing aircraft in harsh weather conditions and fading daylight, pilots jettisoned non-essential onboard equipment and carried minimal fuel to maximize the helicopter's lift capacity.

12. International Relations & Diplomacy

Q12. Prime Minister Narendra Modi began his Central Asia tour on August 31, 2026, visiting Tashkent before attending the SCO Summit in which country?

- (A) Kazakhstan
- (B) Tajikistan
- (C) Kyrgyzstan
- (D) Turkmenistan

Answer: (C) Kyrgyzstan

Detailed Explanation: Prime Minister Narendra Modi commenced a four-day diplomatic tour of Central Asia starting in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, where he held bilateral discussions with President Shavkat Mirziyoyev on trade, energy, health, and defence. Subsequently, PM Modi traveled to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)



Council of Heads of State Summit on August 31 – September 1, 2026.

13. International Observances

Q13. What is the theme of the International Day for People of African Descent observed by the United Nations on 31 August 2026?

- (A) Justice and Global Equity
- (B) Expanding the Human Rights of People of African Descent
- (C) Cultural Pride and Reparations
- (D) Inclusion in the Modern Economy

Answer: (B) Expanding the Human Rights of People of African Descent

Detailed Explanation: Established by the UN General Assembly in 2020, the International Day for People of African Descent is celebrated annually on August 31. The 2026 theme is "Expanding the Human Rights of People of African Descent", marking the framework of the Second International Decade for People of African Descent (2025–2034). Discussions focus on reparatory justice, combating systemic racism, returning stolen cultural artifacts, and safeguarding economic and civil rights.

14. Global Health Awareness

Q14. International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD), aimed at reducing drug-related fatalities and eliminating stigma, is observed globally on which date?

- (A) 29 August
- (B) 30 August
- (C) 31 August
- (D) 1 September

Answer: (C) 31 August

Detailed Explanation: Held every year on August 31, International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) is the world's largest annual campaign

to end overdose, remember without stigma those who have died, and acknowledge the grief of family and friends. The day promotes evidence-based harm reduction strategies, public access to naloxone (opioid reversal agent), and stigma-free treatment support systems globally.

15. World History & National Days

Q15. 'Hari Merdeka', celebrated on August 31, marks the Independence Day of which nation?

- (A) Indonesia
- (B) Malaysia
- (C) Singapore
- (D) Brunei

Answer: (B) Malaysia

Detailed Explanation: Hari Merdeka (Independence Day) is celebrated every year on August 31 to honor the Federation of Malaya's official declaration of independence from British colonial rule in 1957 at Merdeka Stadium, Kuala Lumpur. It is celebrated with national parades, cultural showcases, and royal ceremonies across Malaysia.

16. National Schemes & MSMEs

Q16. National Small Industry Day is observed annually in India on which date to recognize the contribution of MSMEs?

- (A) 28 August
- (B) 29 August
- (C) 30 August
- (D) 31 August

Answer: (C) 30 August

Detailed Explanation: In India, National Small Industry Day is celebrated on 30 August every year. The observance traces back to August 30, 2000, when a comprehensive policy package was unveiled for small-scale industries (SSIs).



Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) contribute roughly 30% of India's GDP, nearly 45% of total manufacturing output, and over 40% of exports.

17. Sports & National Days

Q17. What was the official slogan for the National Sports Day 2026 celebrations in India held around August 29?

- (A) Khelo India, Jeeto India
- (B) Tribute, Play and Move
- (C) Fitness for All, Sports for Life
- (D) Run India Run

Answer: (B) Tribute, Play and Move

Detailed Explanation: National Sports Day is celebrated across India on August 29 to commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand. For 2026, nationwide sporting events, youth tournaments, and Fit India fitness campaigns were conducted under the central slogan "Tribute, Play and Move" to promote physical well-being and honor Indian sporting icons.

18. Economics & Commerce

Q18. The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) requested government restrictions on exports of which commodity following a ~60% domestic price surge?

- (A) Raw Silk
- (B) Cotton Yarn
- (C) Synthetic Polyester
- (D) Jute Fiber

Answer: (B) Cotton Yarn

Detailed Explanation: The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) urged the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Textiles to regulate cotton-yarn exports. Domestic cotton yarn prices spiked by nearly 60%—rising from

approximately ₹250/kg in early 2026 to around ₹400/kg—driven partly by international supply realignments and US sanctions on Xinjiang cotton. AEPC requested export checks to safeguard Indian garment exporters' competitiveness.

19. Global Economy & Immigration

Q19. The US administration proposed an additional fee of how much per H-1B visa application under proposed immigration law changes?

- (A) \$10,000
- (B) \$50,500
- (C) \$103,265
- (D) \$25,000

Answer: (C) \$103,265

Detailed Explanation: In global policy news, a proposal announced by US President Donald Trump seeks to introduce an additional fee of \$103,265 on every H-1B visa application, including petitions under the 20,000 advanced-degree exemption cap. Under the proposed framework, sponsoring employers would be mandatory payers at the time of filing, significantly increasing recruitment costs for foreign skilled workers in IT and technology sectors.

20. Sports & Domestic Cricket

Q20. Who became the 15-year-old cricketer to briefly captain the East Zone team during the Duleep Trophy semi-final match after Ishan Kishan got injured?

- (A) Musheer Khan
- (B) Vaibhav Sooryavanshi
- (C) Angkrish Raghuvanshi
- (D) Ayush Mhatre

Answer: (B) Vaibhav Sooryavanshi



Detailed Explanation: During the Duleep Trophy semi-final between East Zone and Central Zone in Bengaluru, 15-year-old batting prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi took over leadership duties for East Zone in the 19th over after regular captain Ishan Kishan sustained an on-field injury. Sooryavanshi gained prominence as one of the youngest players to lead a first-class zonal unit temporarily.

21. International Football

Q21. Lionel Messi reached joint-second place on the all-time recorded free-kick goals chart after scoring 4 goals for Inter Miami against which team?

- (A) LA Galaxy
- (B) CF Montreal
- (C) New York Red Bulls
- (D) Seattle Sounders

Answer: (B) CF Montreal

Detailed Explanation: Inter Miami captain Lionel Messi delivered a 4-goal performance leading his side to a 7-1 victory over CF Montreal in Major League Soccer (MLS). The performance placed Messi tied for 2nd spot on the all-time official list of most recorded direct free-kick goals scored in competitive football history.

22. Science & Astronomy

Q22. The August 28, 2026 Deep Partial Lunar Eclipse (Chandra Grahan), reaching 96.3% umbral coverage, occurred in which astrological zodiac sign (Rashi)?

- (A) Karka Rashi (Cancer)
- (B) Kumbha Rashi (Aquarius)
- (C) Simha Rashi (Leo)
- (D) Mesha Rashi (Aries)

Answer: (B) Kumbha Rashi (Aquarius)

Detailed Explanation: A deep partial lunar eclipse occurred on August 28, 2026, coinciding with Raksha Bandhan. NASA data indicated that about 96.3% of the Moon entered Earth's dark central umbral shadow, creating a copper-red appearance. According to Vedic astronomical positions, the eclipse occurred in Kumbha Rashi (Aquarius) under Shatabhisha Nakshatra. While visible across North/South America, Europe, and Africa, it occurred below the horizon in India.

23. International Disaster Relief

Q23. Severe flash flooding in Nepal in late August 2026 led UNICEF to issue an urgent appeal for humanitarian aid for how many affected children?

- (A) 5,000
- (B) 17,000
- (C) 50,000
- (D) 100,000

Answer: (B) 17,000

Detailed Explanation: Torrential monsoon rainfall triggered severe flash flooding and landslides across Nepal, taking over 780 lives. UNICEF reported that at least 17,000 children require urgent humanitarian assistance due to destroyed water sanitation networks, disease outbreaks, and damaged school infrastructure (18 schools destroyed, 20 damaged).

24. Appointments & Governance

Q24. Where is the headquarters of the newly established statutory body "Mediation Council of India" located?

- (A) Mumbai
- (B) Bengaluru
- (C) Delhi
- (D) Kolkata

Answer: (C) Delhi

Detailed Explanation: As notified by the Ministry of Law and Justice on August 27, 2026, the statutory Mediation Council of India (MCI) has its head office established at Delhi. The Council serves as the regulatory cornerstone for domestic and international commercial mediation practice in India.

25. Awards & Governance

Q25. Why was the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) ineligible for the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar (First Prize) in 2025-26?

(A) It failed to submit official reports

(B) It won the award for two consecutive years prior (2023-24 & 2024-25)

(C) It was replaced by NITI Aayog

(D) It opted out of national awards

Answer: (B) It won the award for two consecutive years prior (2023-24 & 2024-25)

Detailed Explanation: Under official Rajbhasha Award rules, any government department or ministry that wins the first prize ('Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar') for two consecutive financial years becomes ineligible for competition in the immediately following year. Having won 1st position in both 2023-24 and 2024-25, DARPG was rendered ineligible for nomination in 2025-26.

26. Defence Reforms

Q26. What primary change was introduced by the Ministry of Defence in late August 2026 regarding the OGEL framework?

(A) Complete ban on private defense manufacturing

(B) Simplification of Open General Export Licence (OGEL) and Defence Export SOPs

(C) Mandatory nationalization of defense startups

(D) Mandatory dual-use licensing for all civilian equipment

Answer: (B) Simplification of Open General Export Licence (OGEL) and Defence Export SOPs

Detailed Explanation: To boost indigenous defence manufacturing under Make in India and hit export targets, the Ministry of Defence rolled out procedural reforms to simplify the Defence Export Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and Open General Export Licence (OGEL) frameworks. These reforms streamline export authorizations, allowing defense firms quicker access to global markets.

27. Bilateral MoUs

Q27. In addition to technology MoUs, India signed an MoU with Taiwan in August 2026 focusing on cooperation in which sector?

(A) Deep-sea Mining

(B) Public Finance Cooperation

(C) Agricultural Seed Technology

(D) Nuclear Fusion Research

Answer: (B) Public Finance Cooperation

AffairsCloud.com

Detailed Explanation: During the 10th Taiwan-India Industrial Collaboration Summit, alongside commercial technology MoUs, India and Taiwan signed a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Public Finance Cooperation. This agreement provides a framework for structural exchange on tax policies, public expenditure auditing, financial inclusion models, and digital treasury management systems.



28. Art & Culture

Q28. The 'Banaras Biennale 2026', announced in late August 2026, will be held in which ancient city known for its cultural heritage on the banks of the Ganges?

- (A) Haridwar
- (B) Prayagraj
- (C) Varanasi
- (D) Patna

Answer: (C) Varanasi

Detailed Explanation: The 'Banaras Biennale 2026' will take place in Varanasi (Banaras), Uttar Pradesh. Conceptualized by BHU in collaboration with CII, the Biennale serves as an international platform to showcase traditional craft, temple architecture, Indian classical music, weaving techniques (Banarasi silk), and contemporary visual arts.

29. Sports History & Anniversaries

Q29. Major Dhyan Chand, whose birth anniversary is commemorated on National Sports Day, won Olympic Gold medals for Indian Hockey in which years?

- (A) 1920, 1924, 1928
- (B) 1928, 1932, 1936
- (C) 1936, 1948, 1952
- (D) 1952, 1956, 1960

Answer: (B) 1928, 1932, 1936

Detailed Explanation: Major Dhyan Chand (29 August 1905 – 3 December 1979) was instrumental in securing three consecutive Olympic gold medals for British India in field hockey: Amsterdam 1928, Los Angeles 1932, and Berlin 1936. Known as "The Wizard" for his ball control, his birth anniversary was designated as India's National Sports Day in 2012.

30. Science & Technology Institutions

Q30. Which telecom R&D center under the Ministry of Communications developed the technology for the End-to-End Optical Network Testbed?

- (A) CDAC
- (B) C-DOT
- (C) SAMEER
- (D) ISRO

Answer: (B) C-DOT

Detailed Explanation: The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) is the premier autonomous R&D institution of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, Government of India. Established in 1984, C-DOT designs indigenous telecom solutions including rural switches, optical transmission systems, 5G/6G core networks, and the new End-to-End Optical Testbed in New Delhi.

