

Part 1: National & International Defense News

Q1. The Government of India has recently issued a formal Letter of Request (LoR) to France for an estimated ₹3.25 lakh crore deal. Which defense asset is being acquired through this government-to-government transaction?

- A) 26 Rafale-M Marine Fighters
- B) 114 Rafale Fighter Jets for the IAF
- C) 6 Scorpene-class Submarines
- D) 40 Mirage-2000 Upgraded Jets

Correct Answer: B) 114 Rafale Fighter Jets for the IAF

- **Detailed Explanation:** In June 2026, the Government of India officially issued a Letter of Request (LoR) to the Government of France to fast-track the acquisition of 114 multi-role fighter aircraft (MRFA) for the Indian Air Force under a massive government-to-government framework worth approximately ₹3.25 lakh crore.
- **Key Nuance:** To support the 'Make in India' initiative, the deal structures production such that out of the 114 jets, around 94 aircraft are proposed to be manufactured natively in India by French aerospace major Dassault Aviation in a joint venture partnership with a local Indian strategic manufacturing partner. This move serves to urgently address the IAF's dropping squadron strengths.

Q2. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) recently conducted successful testing of the "RudraM-II" missile. Which classification best fits this indigenous weapon system?

- A) Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)

B) High-speed Air-to-Surface Anti-Radiation Missile

C) Next-generation Beyond-Visual-Range Air-to-Air Missile

D) Short-range Surface-to-Air Defense Missile

Correct Answer: B) High-speed Air-to-Surface Anti-Radiation Missile

- **Detailed Explanation:** RudraM-II is an advanced, high-speed, indigenously developed Air-to-Surface anti-radiation missile designed by DRDO to be launched from frontline Indian Air Force fighter aircraft (such as the Su-30 MKI).
- **Strategic Purpose:** Its primary mission is SEAD (Suppression of Enemy Air Defences). It detects, tracks, and neutralizes enemy ground-based radars, tracking networks, and surface-to-air missile (SAM) command posts by homing directly onto their emitting radio frequencies. It is slated to replace aging Russian-origin Kh-31 missiles with significantly enhanced range and electronic counter-countermeasure capabilities.

Q3. Which country's military forces, alongside Israel, were officially added to a global United Nations conflict-zone violation blacklist in June 2026?

- A) Russia
- B) Myanmar
- C) Sudan
- D) Iran

Correct Answer: A) Russia

- **Detailed Explanation:** In an escalation of diplomatic and humanitarian tracking, the United Nations updated its global conflict-zone violation and protection blacklist to formally index both Israel and Russia for

severe violations occurring within conflict zones.

- **Context:** The decision reflects deep systemic assessments by the UN Secretary-General's office tracking accountability and civilian safety protocols within current active military operations.

Part 2: National & State Affairs

Q4. "Mission Senehjori", launched in June 2026 by the Union Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) in collaboration with the state of Assam, is a cluster-based initiative designed to preserve and scale up which specific product?

- A) Assam Orthodoxy CTC Tea
- B) Golden Muga Silk
- C) Joha Aromatic Rice
- D) Boka Saul (Mud Rice)

Correct Answer: B) Golden Muga Silk

- **Detailed Explanation:** Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia (MDoNER) along with Assam CM Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma launched 'Mission Senehjori'. This cluster-based intervention is specifically engineered to establish an absolute Unique Selling Proposition (USP) for Assam's legendary Muga Silk.
- **Impact:** The scheme funnels investments into technological upgrades for native silkworm rearers, introduces structured geographical mapping, and sets up high-efficiency production hubs to combat quality degradation and global counterfeit textiles.

Q5. In June 2026, which private educational institution became the first private university in India to establish a dedicated "IndiaAI Data Lab" in direct corporate collaboration with Intel India?

- A) Amity University, Noida
- B) BITS Pilani, Hyderabad
- C) Chandigarh University, Punjab
- D) SRM Institute of Science, Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: C) Chandigarh University, Punjab

- **Detailed Explanation:** Chandigarh University (located in Ajitgarh, Punjab) created a major academic precedent by becoming India's first private university to establish a state-of-the-art **IndiaAI Data Lab** in a joint ecosystem partnership with Intel India.

- **Objective:** The lab intends to drastically enhance student employability and technical research capabilities by providing open-access computing resources and advanced sandboxes tailored for Data Science, complex AI engineering, and multilingual Large Language Models (LLMs).

Q6. The Government of Mizoram has launched the "Khet Bachao Abhiyan" state campaign in June 2026. What is the central environmental and agricultural objective of this drive?

- A) Subsidizing localized drone-driven pesticide irrigation
- B) Mitigating nutrient imbalances caused by traditional Jhum (slash-and-burn) cultivation
- C) Constructing mandatory solar fences to prevent animal-human crop conflicts
- D) Enforcing zero-tillage organic wheat production across valleys

Correct Answer: B) Mitigating nutrient imbalances caused by traditional Jhum (slash-and-burn) cultivation

- **Detailed Explanation:** Shifting cultivation, or *Jhum*, remains a core socio-agricultural

practice across the Northeast, but its shortening cycles have severely degraded topsoil health in Mizoram.

- **The Campaign:** The 'Khet Bachao Abhiyan' (Save the Fields Campaign) directly steps in to counter massive soil nutrient loss and chemical fertilizer imbalances. It promotes multi-cropping alternatives, soil health card updates, and localized composting to move farmers away from aggressive hill-burning practices.

Q7. The historic hill fort of Karnala, which was recently in the national spotlight due to illegal eco-sensitive deforestation disputes, is located in which district of Maharashtra?

- A) Pune District
- B) Raigad District
- C) Ratnagiri District
- D) Satara District

Correct Answer: B) Raigad District

- **Detailed Explanation:** Over 60 hectares of forest land surrounding Karnala Fort (also locally referred to as Funnel Hill) near Uran came into intense environmental focus due to unauthorized tree clearing.
- **Historical & Ecological Context:** Karnala Fort is a historic monument located inside the bounds of the **Karnala Bird Sanctuary** in the Raigad District of Maharashtra. Historically constructed prior to 1400 CE under the Devagiri Yadavs and later controlled by the Tughlaqs and Marathas, it strategically commands the ancient Bor Pass trade route connecting the Konkan coast to the Deccan interior.

Part 3: International News

Q8. In June 2026, India signed a landmark operational agreement establishing its first

phase of an interoperable, two-way cross-border QR payment linkage with which Southeast Asian country?

- A) Vietnam
- B) Cambodia
- C) Laos
- D) Indonesia

Correct Answer: B) Cambodia

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the National Bank of Cambodia (NBC) officially operationalized the first cross-border QR-code payment architecture between the two nations in Phnom Penh.
- **How it Works:** Indian travelers can now seamlessly use native UPI-enabled applications to instantly scan and settle retail transactions across 4.5 million **KHQR-enabled merchants** in Cambodia. Conversely, Cambodian citizens will gain reciprocal access to use their local digital wallets across India's merchant UPI network.

Q9. As of June 2026, which of the following countries is officially recognized as the newest (21st) member of the Eurozone currency bloc, despite several other EU members maintaining strict financial independence?

- A) Croatia
- B) Bulgaria
- C) Czech Republic
- D) Sweden

Correct Answer: B) Bulgaria

- **Detailed Explanation:** In the structural timeline of European integration, Bulgaria's long-term compliance with convergence

criteria culminated in its entry as the 21st official nation utilizing the Euro currency.

- **Important Distinction:** Several EU member states like the Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Sweden deliberately exercise opt-outs or choose to operate their sovereign currencies to maintain absolute monetary and interest-rate independence from the European Central Bank (ECB).

Q10. A massive, prehistoric marine fossil recently re-examined using modern deep-scanning technology has officially confirmed the identity of a terrifying apex predator named "Tylosaurus rex". Which geological domain did this creature dominate?

- A) The Tethys Ocean floor
- B) The Prehistoric Western Interior Seaway
- C) The ancient Panthalassa Superocean
- D) The Arctic Mesozoic Basin

Correct Answer: B) The Prehistoric Western Interior Seaway

- **Detailed Explanation:** Paleontological research published in early June 2026 detailed the classification of *Tylosaurus rex*, a massive species of Mosasaur (an extinct group of large marine reptiles).
- **Significance:** Re-examination of historic fossil discoveries using modern tomographic scanning proved that this massive apex predator ruled the **Western Interior Seaway**—the ancient body of water that split North America into two distinct landmasses during the Late Cretaceous period.

Part 4: Economics & Banking

Q11. Which major financial services firm partnered with YES Bank in June 2026 to launch

a dedicated Credit-on-UPI consumer solution named "Flex"?

- A) PhonePe
- B) BharatPe
- C) Paytm
- D) CRED

Correct Answer: B) BharatPe

- **Detailed Explanation:** FinTech leader BharatPe rolled out its new consumer line "BharatPe Flex", a dedicated Credit-on-UPI service powered entirely on the backend architecture of YES Bank.
- **Mechanism:** The solution gives eligible retail consumers an instant, pre-approved digital credit limit linked directly to their existing UPI IDs. Users can make day-to-day point-of-sale transactions under a "Pay now. Settle later" framework, accelerating the integration of short-term credit options into standard Indian retail payments.

Q12. In a major macroeconomic reform, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) announced a complete overhaul of the Wholesale Price Index (WPI). What is the newly designated base year replacing the old 2011-12 series?

- A) FY 2019-20
- B) FY 2020-21
- C) FY 2022-23
- D) FY 2024-25

Correct Answer: C) FY 2022-23

- **Detailed Explanation:** To better capture true industrial costs and structural market variations, DPIIT will formally switch the WPI base year series from 2011-12 to **FY 2022-23**.

- **Key Features:** The revamped data basket incorporates contemporary economic components such as solar power generation, wind energy, nuclear electricity, and modern technological commodities. Furthermore, the government has initialized a 5-year transition plan running to 2031 where WPI and the Producer Price Index (PPI) will release simultaneously to let businesses transition long-term indexing clauses smoothly.

Q13. According to data tracked for the closing of Financial Year 2025–26, India's seafood exports surged to an all-time record high of USD 8.46 billion. Which specific item maintained a dominating stance, accounting for over 66% of the total export earnings?

- A) Dried Ribbon Fish
- B) Frozen Squid and Cuttlefish
- C) Frozen Shrimp
- D) Chilled Pomfret

Correct Answer: C) Frozen Shrimp

- **Detailed Explanation:** India's Blue Economy achieved major milestones with total seafood exports reaching **USD 8.46 billion**.
- **Core Driver:** Within this massive export basket, **Frozen Shrimp** remained the absolute engine of growth, accounting for 7,92,647 Metric Tons of volume and generating USD 5.62 billion (66.52%) of the total value. The primary cultivation varieties driving this global leadership are *vannamei* (whiteleg shrimp) and Black Tiger shrimp, routed primarily via ports like Visakhapatnam, JNPT, and Kochi.

Q14. Global banking giant Citigroup (Citi) organized its signature investor conclave, the "Citi India Conference," on June 4, 2026, to channel global capital flows. Who is the current

Chair and CEO of Citigroup who met Prime Minister Modi to align corporate strategies?

- A) Jane Fraser
- B) Karen Lynch
- C) Julie Sweet
- D) Mary Barra

Correct Answer: A) Jane Fraser

- **Detailed Explanation:** Citigroup Chair and CEO Jane Fraser held a high-level strategic summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 4, 2026, timing with the ongoing Citi India Conference hosting over 1,500 international institutional clients.

- **Discussion Core:** The meetings focused heavily on accelerating overseas foreign direct investment (FDI) frameworks into Indian green hydrogen setups, commercial solar grid scaling, and establishing guardrails for leveraging artificial intelligence within macroeconomic regulatory systems to achieve the broader vision of *Viksit Bharat 2047*.

Part 5: Government Schemes & Initiatives

Q15. The Department of Higher Education (DoHE) under the Ministry of Education officially opened applications for the "PMRC Scheme 2026". What is the foundational objective of this flagship scheme?

- A) Distributing monthly stipends to rural engineering dropouts
- B) Attracting accomplished global Indian-origin researchers and scientists back into India's innovation ecosystem
- C) Setting up mandatory vocational AI centers inside state government schools

D) Funding short-term overseas management degrees for civil servants

Correct Answer: B) Attracting accomplished global Indian-origin researchers and scientists back into India's innovation ecosystem

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Prime Minister Research Chair (PMRC) Scheme 2026 is designed as a strategic countermeasure against brain drain.
- **Execution:** It invites top-tier scientists, computational engineers, technologists, and researchers of Indian origin working at elite foreign institutions to occupy dedicated, highly-funded Research Chairs at premier Indian universities (IITs, IISc, Central Universities). This helps infuse global institutional knowledge straight into native deep-tech and clinical research projects.

Q16. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has announced the "VYOMA Innovation Challenge". This initiative is strategically centered on developing solutions for which specific sector?

- A) Reusable satellite launch vehicle design
- B) Open-source, multilingual, and voice-first AI systems
- C) Blockchain networks for tracking agricultural land records
- D) Deep-sea drone mapping of polymetallic nodules

Correct Answer: B) Open-source, multilingual, and voice-first AI systems

- **Detailed Explanation:** The challenge was launched by the Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD) operating under MeitY.
- **The Technology:** The VYOMA Innovation Challenge is fundamentally structured around "Sunno Sutra", an open-source,

multilingual, voice-first handheld AI reference device showcased during the IndiaAI Impact Summit. The challenge incentivizes startups to create accessible, localized voice tools so that non-literate or regional language-dependent citizens can easily tap into public digital governance resources without needing text literacy.

Q17. The central government scheme "PM-SETU", which recently cleared its very first mega strategic infrastructure package, operates primarily to solve bottlenecks in which sector?

- A) Cross-border river navigation canals
- B) Skill infrastructure and specialized industrial workforce scaling
- C) High-speed optical fiber links for gram panchayats
- D) Port-led direct container rail corridors

Correct Answer: B) Skill infrastructure and specialized industrial workforce scaling

- **Detailed Explanation:** The PM-SETU Scheme hit a significant implementation milestone by greenlighting its first phase of strategic skill infrastructure projects.
- **Objective:** The scheme directly bridges the wide quality chasm existing between theoretical technical education and current on-ground industrial assembly requirements by creating modern, multi-sectoral technical training complexes located within major Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

Q18. According to the recent June 2026 analytical brief published by NITI Aayog regarding the "India Semiconductor Mission" (ISM), which critical baseline infrastructure reality was highlighted concerning domestic manufacturing?

A) India has achieved complete raw component self-sufficiency in Lithography lasers

B) India does not yet possess a single operational commercial semiconductor fabrication unit (Fab)

C) Domestic automotive demand for basic microchips has fallen by 30%

D) The entire ₹76,000 crore mission corpus has shifted to funding soft software design tools

Correct Answer: B) India does not yet possess a single operational commercial semiconductor fabrication unit (Fab)

• **Detailed Explanation:** NITI Aayog's comprehensive report evaluated the progress of the ₹76,000 crore India Semiconductor Mission (ISM). It highlighted that despite massive investment approvals and global joint-venture signings, India **does not yet have an actively operational commercial wafer manufacturing fab unit.**

• **Strategic Stance:** The document emphasizes that the local industrial ecosystem remains dependent on raw material imports from places like Taiwan and Japan. It recommends focusing heavily on Advanced Packaging (ATMP units) and building sovereign chip architectures to offset severe geopolitical supply-chain risks before full-scale commercial fabs go live.

Part 6: Science, Technology & Environment

Q19. According to the global "Connect, Harness, Innovate, Protect and Sustain" (CHIPS) Artificial Intelligence Index report released in June 2026, what is India's global rank in terms of its total concentration of AI users and digital talent ecosystems?

A) 1st Globally

B) 4th Globally

C) 12th Globally

D) 20th Globally

Correct Answer: B) 4th Globally

• **Detailed Explanation:** The comprehensive CHIPS Index for Artificial Intelligence evaluated global readiness across talent density, innovation velocity, and policy protections.

• **Rankings Context:** India ranked 4th globally, positioned directly behind the top three powerhouses: the United States, China, and Singapore. The index highlighted that India accounts for an astonishing **19.9% of total global AI users** and possesses the second-largest absolute concentration of engineering talent specializing in neural network deployment.

Q20. A landmark environmental conservation ruling by the Supreme Court of India directed the absolute removal of all illegal commercial encroachments within the "Agasthyamalai Ecological Landscape". Which of the following protected areas is NOT a part of this Biosphere Reserve?

A) Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary

B) Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary

C) Eravikulam National Park

D) Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve

Correct Answer: C) Eravikulam National Park

• **Detailed Explanation:** The Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve spans across the southern Western Ghats covering parts of Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

• **Sanctuary Composition:** It contains key protected areas like the Shendurney, Peppara, and Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuaries

along with the core Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve. **Eravikulam National Park is situated further north** in the Idukki district of Kerala (famous for protecting the Nilgiri Tahr) and is not topologically classified inside the Agasthyamalai ecological boundary.

Q21. Marine biologists conducting baseline climate vulnerability surveys in June 2026 discovered a massive, uniquely resilient coral colony spanning 4,250 square meters called the "Potato Patch". Where is this resilient *Pavona clavus* colony located?

- A) The Great Barrier Reef, Australia
- B) The Lakshadweep Archipelago, India
- C) The Galapagos Marine Reserve
- D) The Andaman and Nicobar Basin

Correct Answer: C) The Galapagos Marine Reserve

- **Detailed Explanation:** Known as the *Pavona clavus* colony (and colloquially dubbed the "Potato Patch" due to its specific structural formation), this massive coral network covers over 4,250 square meters.
- **Why it Matters:** Despite decades of rising sea-surface temperatures caused by global warming and periodic El Niño thermal spikes, mapping confirmed that **58.47% of its tissue remains completely alive and resilient**. This makes it a critical genetic baseline for understanding how marine ecosystems can adapt to climate change.

Q22. The Indian government is planning to introduce a mandatory clean-energy policy blending mandate by the end of this year for which chemical isomer to optimize diesel efficiency and lower carbon footprints?

- A) Methanol

- B) Isobutanol
- C) Isopropyl Alcohol
- D) Glycerol

Correct Answer: B) Isobutanol

- **Detailed Explanation:** Isobutanol ($C_4H_{10}O$) is a clean-burning four-carbon alcohol isomer.
- **Advantage Over Ethanol:** Unlike traditional ethanol, which is highly hygroscopic (meaning it absorbs water easily and corrodes standard pipelines), **isobutanol is significantly less corrosive and can be seamlessly moved using India's existing fuel logistics infrastructure**. This makes it an ideal blending candidate to run alongside standard diesel supplies without damaging vehicle engines.

Part 7: Appointments & Awards

Q23. Who has been appointed as the Special Envoy on Climate Change and Multilateral Environmental Agreements by the United Nations Secretary-General in June 2026, bringing over four decades of diplomatic expertise?

- A) Dr. Khalilur Rahman
- B) Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
- C) Amandeep Singh Gill
- D) Michelle Bachelet

Correct Answer: A) Dr. Khalilur Rahman

- **Detailed Explanation:** Dr. Khalilur Rahman has been selected to spearhead a UN multilateral environmental task force amidst shifting global carbon market policies. His extensive, four-decade background in managing delicate international negotiations will prove

essential for enforcing carbon emission targets across developing economic zones.

Q24. Which Indian farmer from Tamil Nadu was officially honored by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as the global "Soil Farmer Hero" in June 2026?

- A) Subhash Palekar
- B) S. Ramakrishnan
- C) Marimuthu Yoganathan
- D) G. Ranganathan (associated with the Cauvery Calling initiative)

Correct Answer: D) G. Ranganathan (associated with the Cauvery Calling initiative)

- **Detailed Explanation:** The UN FAO (headquartered in Rome, Italy) awarded its prestigious global "Soil Farmer Hero" title to a progressive farmer from Tamil Nadu linked with the long-term *Cauvery Calling* soil restoration initiative.
- **The Achievement:** Ranganathan successfully demonstrated that by utilizing tree-based agriculture, he managed to substantially raise organic carbon indices within his soil, cut standard irrigation water requirements down to a fraction of traditional limits, and successfully withstand consecutive drought cycles.

Part 8: Sports, Books & Authors

Q25. India's premier Grandmaster Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa registered a stunning classical chess victory over which absolute world champion during the Norway Chess Tournament in early June 2026?

- A) Ding Liren
- B) Magnus Carlsen
- C) Hikaru Nakamura

D) Fabiano Caruana

Correct Answer: B) Magnus Carlsen

- **Detailed Explanation:** Pragganandhaa achieved a historic chess milestone during the classical rounds of the high-stakes Norway Chess Tournament by defeating World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen on his own home turf. The match showcased deep endgame precision, further cementing the rising dominance of India's teenage prodigies on the international stage.

Q26. The biographical book titled "The Resilient Architect of Modern Banking", tracking systemic policy shifts, structural digital currency transitions, and the history of financial safety nets, details the life of which prominent banking personality?

- A) Raghuram Rajan
- B) Dr. Urjit Patel
- C) Shaktikanta Das
- D) Maidavolu Narasimham

Correct Answer: C) Shaktikanta Das

- **Detailed Explanation:** Released in mid-2026, this biographical chronicle focuses on the tenure and strategic financial crises managed by Shaktikanta Das during his transformative term leading the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It maps the historic rollout of UPI globally, the baseline strategy behind launching the Digital Rupee (e₹), and the management of inflation indexes through global supply shocks.

Part 9: Art, Culture, Festivals & Historic Milestones

Q27. Which ancient Indian city is officially designated to host the 2nd BRICS Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting in June 2026 to

showcase India's tangible and intangible heritage?

- A) Hampi, Karnataka
- B) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- C) Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu
- D) Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh

Correct Answer: B) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

- **Detailed Explanation:** Varanasi (Kashi), widely celebrated as one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cultural centers, has been chosen to host the **2nd BRICS Culture Working Group Meeting**.
- **Focus Area:** The summit coordinates cultural preservation strategies, combats illegal artifact trafficking, and leverages creative industries to support sustainable economic growth across BRICS member nations.

Q28. The indigenous tribal community of the Bhils recently gathered in Madhya Pradesh's Jhabua district to revive the historic "Halma Tradition". What is the focal objective of this community-led festival?

- A) Enacting stylized martial sword dances to celebrate harvest seasons
- B) Voluntary community mobilization for ecological restoration and water-body rejuvenation
- C) Commemorating ancient trade pacts via large-scale pottery exchanges
- D) Performing nocturnal solar invocations during planetary alignments

Correct Answer: B) Voluntary community mobilization for ecological restoration and water-body rejuvenation

- **Detailed Explanation:** The Halma Tradition is a deeply respected cultural practice belonging to the Bhil tribe of Central India.
- **Modern Relevance:** When a community member or village faces severe resource constraints (like dried-up stepwells or barren village hillsides), the entire community pools its voluntary labor without any financial expectations. In Borpada village, this ancient custom was revived to clean public wells, dig contour trenches to capture rainwater, and plant native trees on parched hillsides.

Part 10: Important Days & Anniversaries

Q29. June 4 is globally recognized by the United Nations as which important international awareness day?

- A) World Environment Day
- B) International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
- C) Global Day of Parents
- D) International Day for Biological Diversity

Correct Answer: B) International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

- **Detailed Explanation:** Established originally in 1982 to address the vulnerabilities of children affected by the Lebanon conflict, **June 4** is observed every year as the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression.
- **Mandate:** The UN uses this day to reaffirm its commitment to protecting the fundamental rights of children globally, especially against emotional, physical, and mental abuse inside active cross-border war zones.

- (Note: World Environment Day is celebrated immediately following this on June 5).

Q30. The national music industry observed the passing anniversary of the legendary playback icon Suman Kalyanpur in early June. Suman Kalyanpur was highly revered for her legendary contributions to which creative era?

- A) The early classical Dhrupad revival period
- B) The Golden Era of Indian Hindi and Marathi playback cinema music
- C) The modern Indian Indie-pop fusion wave
- D) Classical Carnatic instrumental orchestration

Correct Answer: B) The Golden Era of Indian Hindi and Marathi playback cinema music

- **Detailed Explanation:** Suman Kalyanpur was an indispensable voice throughout the **Golden Era of Indian playback music** during the 1960s and 70s.
- **Legacy:** Singing alongside greats like Mohammad Rafi and Lata Mangeshkar, she lent her soulful voice to hundreds of immortal classical compositions across Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, and Punjabi cinema. Her structural control over semi-classical compositions remains a core educational reference point for upcoming vocalists.

