1. National News

Union Cabinet Approves Extension of Stand-Up India Scheme

- **Details:** The Union Cabinet approved the extension of the **Stand-Up India Scheme** until **March 31, 2031**, with an allocation of ₹4,111 crore.
- **Background:** Originally launched in April 2016, the scheme facilitates bank loans ranging from **₹10 lakh to ₹1 crore** to at least one Scheduled Caste (SC) or Scheduled Tribe (ST) borrower and at least one woman borrower per bank branch for setting up greenfield enterprises.
- **Exam Relevance:** Target groups, loan brackets, and extension timeline are common questions in banking and SSC exams.

Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum in New Delhi

- **Details:** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the establishment of the **Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum** at the historic North and South Block Complex in New Delhi.
- **Financials:** Estimated project cost is **₹3,230 crore**, managed by the Ministry of Culture. It will highlight India's rich civilizational heritage spanning over 5,000 years, featuring "Adornment" as the theme for its initial gallery.

2. Economics and Banking

Moody's Raises India's FY27 GDP Forecast

- **Details:** Global rating agency **Moody's Ratings** revised India's real GDP growth forecast for the financial year **2026–27 (FY27) from 6.5% to 7.0%**.
- **Reasoning:** The upward revision is driven by resilient domestic consumption and robust public and private investment, though persistent inflation and global geopolitical risks remain watch factors.

Extension of CGFMU and PLI Schemes

- **Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units (CGFMU):** Extended until March 31, 2031, with a **₹5,000 crore corpus** to support micro-loans under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY).
- **PLI for Medical Devices:** The Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Promoting Domestic Manufacturing of Medical Devices (PLI-MD) has been extended until **FY36** with an outlay of **₹2,700 crore**.

3. International News

First BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting

- **Details:** The inaugural **BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting** was held in **Colombo, Sri Lanka**.
- **Key Outcomes:** Member states adopted a Joint Ministerial Statement alongside the **Revised BIMSTEC Plan of Action on Public Health (2026–2030)**, emphasizing disease surveillance, traditional medicine, and the 'One Health' framework.
- **Static Fact:** BIMSTEC stands for the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation.

4. Defense News

MoD Signs Contract for INS Betwa Upgrade

- **Details:** The Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a contract worth **₹498.58 crore** with **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)** for the normal refit and re-powering of **INS Betwa**.
- **About INS Betwa:** It is a Brahmaputra-class guided-missile frigate commissioned into the Indian Navy in July 2004. The upgrade

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will integrate a modernized weapon suite to boost operational combat readiness.

5. Appointments & Corporate News

- **Bahram Vakil:** Appointed as the new Chairman of **Tata Investment Corporation**, succeeding Noel Tata.
- **Sunil Chhetri:** Legendary Indian footballer Sunil Chhetri became the first male participant in the **FIFA Player Impact Programme 2026**.

6. Science, Tech & Environment

Discovery of New Deep-Sea Shark Species

- **Details:** Scientists from the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)** and the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (ICAR-CMFRI) identified Echinorhinus roinee (commonly known as the **Indian Bramble Shark**) as a distinct species native to the Indian Ocean after decades of misidentification.

7. Important Days & Themes

- **World Quality Week 2026:** Observed from **November 9 to 13, 2026**, focusing on the significance of quality management in driving sustainable economic growth and industrial standards.

8. State-Specific & Regional News

- **Odisha & Japan Partnership:** The Government of Odisha signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and a friendship agreement with Japan's **Tottori Prefectural Government** in Bhubaneswar to enhance technology exchange, skill development, and industrial investments.
- **Swachh Survekshan & Index Updates:** Goa secured the top spot in the **Access Equality Index 2026** (scoring 0.68), followed by Andhra Pradesh and Sikkim. Under Swachh Survekshan sanitation awards, Madhya Pradesh's Rewa emerged as the top clean riverfront city, and Puri (Odisha) ranked as the top clean coastal city.

Section 1: Economy, Banking & Government Schemes

Q1. According to the data released in November 2026, what was India's retail inflation (CPI) rate for October 2026?

A) 4.12%

B) 5.02%

C) 6.09%

D) 7.15%

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: India's Consumer Price Index (CPI) based retail inflation rose to **6.09%** in October 2026, with food inflation climbing to 8.94%. Under India's flexible inflation targeting framework, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is mandated to keep CPI inflation at 4% with a band of +/- 2% (2% to 6%).

Q2. The Union Cabinet approved the extension of the Stand-Up India Scheme until which year, along with an allocation of ₹4,111 crore?

A) 2028

B) 2030

C) 2031

D) 2035

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: The Union Cabinet approved the extension of the **Stand-Up India Scheme until 31 March 2031** with a total financial outlay of ₹4,111 crore to continue promoting entrepreneurship among women, Scheduled Castes (SC), and Scheduled Tribes (ST).

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Q3. Which municipal corporation made history in November 2026 by listing ₹200 crore municipal bonds on the National Stock Exchange (NSE), becoming the first from Bihar to do so?

A) Gaya Municipal Corporation

B) Patna Municipal Corporation

C) Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation

D) Bhagalpur Municipal Corporation

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: Patna Municipal Corporation successfully listed its ₹200 crore municipal bonds on the NSE (raising ₹199.99 crore against a base issue of ₹100 crore carrying a 9.20% annual coupon over 10 years), marking a historic milestone for urban infrastructure financing in Bihar.

Q4. What is the newly extended timeline for the Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Promoting Domestic Manufacturing of Medical Devices (PLI-MD)?

A) Financial Year 2030-31

B) Financial Year 2032-33

C) Financial Year 2035-36

D) Financial Year 2040-41

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: The Government of India extended the PLI scheme for Medical Devices (PLI-MD) until **Financial Year 2035-36 (FY36)** with an approved outlay of ₹2,700 crore to boost domestic medical tech manufacturing capabilities.

Q5. Moody's revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY27 to which of the following figures?

A) 6.5%

B) 6.8%

C) 7.0%

D) 7.3%

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: Rating agency **Moody's raised India's FY27 GDP growth forecast to 7%**, citing robust domestic consumption, sustained capital expenditure, and strong performance across industrial and service sectors.

Section 2: National & International News

Q6. Where was the 31st edition of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Partnership Summit inaugurated under the theme "Navigating the New World Order"?

A) New Delhi

B) Mumbai

C) Visakhapatnam

D) Bengaluru

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: The **31st CII Partnership Summit** was opened in **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**, bringing together global policymakers, industry leaders, and economic experts to deliberate on trade corridors and geopolitical economic shifts under the theme "Navigating the New World Order".

Q7. The Union Cabinet approved the development of the 'Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum' (YYBM) at an estimated cost of ₹3,230 crore in which historic complex?

A) Rashtrapati Bhavan Estate, New Delhi

B) North and South Block Complex, New Delhi

C) Old Parliament House Complex, New Delhi

D) Red Fort Complex, New Delhi

- **Answer: B**

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Explanation: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved setting up the **Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum (YYBM)** at the historic **North and South Block Complex in New Delhi**, designed to be one of the largest museums in the world showcasing India's 5,000-year civilizational history.

Q8. Which international organization released the Global TB Report 2026, highlighting that India's tuberculosis (TB) incidence and mortality rates are declining faster than the global average?

A) World Bank

B) World Health Organization (WHO)

C) UNICEF

D) Médecins Sans Frontières

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: The **WHO Global TB Report** noted positive trends in India's National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP), driven by rapid molecular diagnostics, active case finding via Ni-kshay, and shorter all-oral treatment regimens.

Q9. The First BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting was held in which city?

A) New Delhi, India

B) Dhaka, Bangladesh

C) Colombo, Sri Lanka

D) Bangkok, Thailand

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: The inaugural BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting was hosted in **Colombo, Sri Lanka**, where member states adopted the Revised BIMSTEC Plan of Action on Public Health (2026–2030) focusing on disease surveillance, digital health, and traditional medicine.

Q10. Which state's police force recently received the prestigious 'President's Colour', becoming the 16th state police force to earn this distinction?

A) Punjab Police

B) Uttarakhand Police

C) Gujarat Police

D) Kerala Police

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: The **Uttarakhand Police** received the President's Colour—the highest honor bestowed upon a military or police unit in recognition of exceptional service, gallantry, and professionalism.

Section 3: Defense, Science & Environment

Q11. The Indian Navy coordinated the fifth edition of the pan-India coastal defense exercise named:

A) Exercise Sea Vigil-26

B) Exercise Sagar Kavach

C) Exercise Poorvi Lehar

D) Exercise Tropex-26

- **Answer: A**

Explanation: The **Indian Navy coordinated "Sea Vigil-26"**, the 5th edition of the pan-India coastal defense exercise, spanning the entire coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) to test coastal security architecture.

Q12. Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and ICAR-CMFRI discovered Echinorhinus roinee, commonly known by what name, after it was misidentified for decades?

A) Indian Ocean Ghost Shark

B) Indian Bramble Shark

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C) Bengal Sawfish

D) Malabar Electric Ray

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: Researchers identified **Echinorhinus roinee** as the **Indian Bramble Shark**, a distinct deep-sea shark species native to the Indian Ocean that was historically misidentified as the Atlantic bramble shark.

Q13. India and Sri Lanka recently conducted their joint military exercise named:

A) Hand-in-Hand

B) Mitra Shakti

C) Surya Kiran

D) Yudh Abhyas

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: Mitra Shakti is the bilateral joint military exercise held between the Indian Army and the Sri Lankan Army designed to enhance interoperability in counter-terrorism and sub-conventional operations.

Q14. The Ministry of Defense signed a contract worth ₹498.58 crore with which shipyard for the major upgrade of INS Betwa?

A) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders

B) Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)

C) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE)

D) Goa Shipyard Limited

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: The Ministry of Defense signed a ₹498.58 crore contract with **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)** for the modernization and mid-life upgrade of the Brahmaputra-class guided-missile frigate INS Betwa.

Q15. Three beaches from which state received the international 'Blue Flag' certification for 2026–27 for high environmental and cleanliness standards?

A) Odisha

B) Goa

C) Maharashtra

D) Tamil Nadu

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: Three beaches in Maharashtra received the coveted international Blue Flag certification awarded by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), Denmark, for maintaining strict ecological, bathing water, and safety criteria.

Section 4: Appointments, Awards & Honours

Q16. Who won the prestigious Booker Prize 2026 for his novel The End of Everything, becoming the oldest winner in the prize's history?

A) Salman Rushdie

B) M. John Harrison

C) David Szalay

D) Paul Lynch

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: British author **M. John Harrison** won the **2026 Booker Prize** for The End of Everything at age 81, making him the oldest person to win the award for a work that also became the first science-fiction novel to claim the honor.

Q17. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of Tata Investment Corporation, succeeding Noel Tata?

A) T.V. Narendran

B) Bahram Vakil

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C) Natarajan Chandrasekaran

D) Adar Poonawalla

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: Bahram Vakil took over as the Chairman of Tata Investment Corporation, succeeding Noel Tata. (Note: T.V. Narendran was separately named Chairman of Tata International around the same period).

Q18. Which tech leader topped the Global Indians List 2026 for immense global corporate impact?

A) Satya Nadella

B) Sundar Pichai

C) Arvind Krishna

D) Shantanu Narayen

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: Alphabet and Google CEO **Sundar Pichai** topped the Global Indians List 2026 for his visionary leadership in emerging technologies, particularly artificial intelligence.

Q19. President Droupadi Murmu presented the National Sports Awards, recognizing outstanding achievements of athletes. Which sportsperson was among the prominent Arjuna Award winners?

A) Neeraj Chopra

B) Divya Deshmukh

C) R. Praggnanandhaa

D) Aman Sehrawat

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: President Droupadi Murmu presented the National Sports Awards, honoring exceptional athletes including chess star **Divya Deshmukh** and track-and-field athlete Tejaswin Shankar with the prestigious **Arjuna Award**.

Q20. Which aerospace scientist was honored by IISc for his pioneering guidance algorithms that directed the IM-1 Lunar Lander?

A) Dr. S. Somnath

B) Maruthi R. Akella

C) K. Radhakrishnan

D) G. Madhavan Nair

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: Maruthi R. Akella, a distinguished aerospace scientist, was honored by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for his advanced flight dynamics algorithms that successfully guided the historic IM-1 commercial lunar landing mission.

Section 5: Sports, Books, Important Days & Culture

Q21. Which Indian footballer became the first male participant to be inducted into the FIFA Player Impact Programme?

A) Gurpreet Singh Sandhu

B) Sunil Chhetri

C) Jeje Lalpekhlua

D) Sandesh Jhingan

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: Legendary Indian striker **Sunil Chhetri** was selected as the first male participant in the **FIFA Player Impact Programme**, highlighting his global legacy and off-pitch contributions to football governance and leadership.

Q22. India's U-19 cricket team defeated which nation by 8 wickets to secure a spot in the Under-19 Asia Cup Final held in Oman?

A) Pakistan

B) Sri Lanka

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C) Afghanistan

D) Bangladesh

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: India defeated **Afghanistan by 8 wickets** in Oman to storm into the Under-19 Asia Cup Final, powered by clinical batting and disciplined bowling performances.

Q23. The 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is scheduled to be held in Goa from November 20–28, 2026, under which core theme?

A) Cinema for Sustainable Future

B) Stories Without Borders

C) Creative Horizons in Motion

D) Digital Era of Filmmaking

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: The **57th IFFI in Goa** focuses on the theme **"Stories Without Borders"**, celebrating cross-cultural cinematic collaborations and global storytelling.

Q24. World Quality Week for the year 2026 was observed during which period?

A) November 1–5, 2026

B) November 9–13, 2026

C) November 14–20, 2026

D) November 22–26, 2026

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: World Quality Week 2026 was celebrated from **November 9 to November 13, 2026**, emphasizing the role of operational quality, compliance, and governance in organizational sustainability.

Q25. National Education Day in India is commemorated annually to mark the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad on which date?

A) November 5

B) November 11

C) November 14

D) November 21

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: National Education Day is celebrated every year on **November 11** to honor independent India's first Education Minister, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, and his monumental contributions to institution-building in education.

Section 6: Comprehensive State News, Schemes & Science

Q26. Which state government signed two MoUs and a friendship agreement with Japan's Tottori Prefectural Government to expand technology exchange and global business opportunities?

A) Gujarat

B) Maharashtra

C) Odisha

D) Karnataka

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: The **Government of Odisha** signed landmark MoUs and a friendship agreement with Japan's **Tottori Prefectural Government** at Lok Seva Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, to foster international trade, skill training, and technical cooperation.

Q27. The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) implemented Low Temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) plants across how many islands of Lakshadweep?

A) 4 islands

B) 6 islands

C) 8 islands

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D) 10 islands

- **Answer: C**

Explanation: NIOT successfully deployed LTTD-based clean drinking water desalination technology across **8 islands of Lakshadweep**, transforming freshwater availability using ocean temperature gradients.

Q28. Which prominent climate economist and Nobel Laureate passed away at the age of 85 in November 2026?

A) William Dawbney Nordhaus

B) Paul Romer

C) Oliver Hart

D) Richard Thaler

- **Answer: A**

Explanation: American Nobel Laureate and pioneer in environmental economics **William D. Nordhaus** passed away at 85. He was renowned for integrating climate change into economic macro-modeling (DICE/RICE models).

Q29. What is the name of the tropical system lined up as the designation for the upcoming Bay of Bengal cyclone as per regional naming conventions?

A) Dana

B) Akvan

C) Fengal

D) Asna

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: Akvan is the name lined up for the next cyclonic storm originating in the Bay of Bengal, based on the approved naming sequence provided by WMO/ESCAP member countries.

Q30. Archaeological excavations at Keeladi and Gottiprolu revealed ancient traces of what food components embedded in ancient pottery artifacts?

A) Silk residues and metals

B) Dairy and plant-food traces

C) Marine mammal bones

D) Fermented honey wine

- **Answer: B**

Explanation: Chemical and residue analyses of ancient pottery from **Keeladi and Gottiprolu** revealed preserved **ancient dairy and plant-food traces**, offering profound insights into the diet and culinary technology of early South Indian civilizations.

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