

1. International News & Relations

Strategic Dialogue & Visit: Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk's Official Visit to India

- **Context:** Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk concluded his high-level visit to New Delhi and Bengaluru alongside Minister of Finance & Economy Andrzej Domański and a 100-member CEO delegation.
- **Key Highlights:**
 - Bilateral trade discussions focused on quantum technology, defense cooperation, AI integration, and the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
 - Poland, the 6th largest economy in the European Union, crossed the **\$1 trillion nominal GDP** milestone in 2026.
 - Major institutional MoUs were signed between **IIIT-Bangalore** and Poland's **AGH University of Krakow** to collaborate on AI and quantum tech research.
- **Static GK Connection:** Capital of Poland: Warsaw | Currency: Polish Złoty (PLN).

Practice Question 1: Which university in Poland signed an MoU with IIIT-Bangalore during Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk's visit to India in October 2026 to collaborate on AI and Quantum Technologies?

- (a) Jagiellonian University
- (b) Warsaw University of Technology
- (c) AGH University of Krakow
- (d) University of Wrocław

Answer: (c) AGH University of Krakow

2. National News & Governance

J&K Accession Day (79th Anniversary)

- **Context:** On October 26, 2026, Jammu & Kashmir observed its **79th Accession Day**.

- **Historical Background:** Maharaja Hari Singh signed the historic Instrument of Accession on **October 26, 1947**, acceding the princely state of Jammu & Kashmir to the Dominion of India. This paved the way for the Indian Army's historic airlift to Srinagar on October 27 (observed annually as Infantry Day).

Urban Governance Reform: NITI Aayog Report

- **Context:** Member of NITI Aayog, Rajiv Gauba, addressed the Second National Urban Conclave based on the report "Moving Towards Effective City Governance".
- **Key Recommendations:** Advocated for directly elected Mayors with guaranteed 5-year terms and fiscal autonomy to strengthen urban local bodies under the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act.

3. Economics, Banking & Finance

RBI Revised Leverage Ratio Framework under Basel III

- **Context:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) published updated operational guidelines for leverage ratios to preserve financial stability.
- **Mandated Ratios:**
 - **Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs):** 4.0%
 - **Global Systemically Important Banks (G-SIB branches in India):** 3.5% + applicable G-SIB buffer
 - **Other Commercial Banks:** 3.5%

C-DAC & Bank of India Partnership

- **Context:** Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), under MeitY, inked a strategic agreement with Bank of India (BOI).
- **Objective:** Integration of Next-Gen Quantum Computing solutions, post-quantum



cryptography, and advanced cybersecurity protocols into core banking systems.

Practice Question 2: Under the RBI's updated Basel III leverage ratio guidelines announced in October 2026, what is the mandatory leverage ratio for Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs)?

- (a) 3.0%
- (b) 3.5%
- (c) 4.0%
- (d) 4.5%

Answer: (c) 4.0%

4. Defense & Military Exercises

Civil Defence Master Trainers Initiative (MHA & Indian Army)

- **Context:** The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), in collaboration with the Indian Army, launched a joint training initiative.
- **Details:** 600 Civil Defence Master Trainers across 12 States and UTs are being trained in disaster response, NBC (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical) preparedness, and community security management in Phase 1.

DRDO Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) Milestone

- **Context:** DRDO successfully demonstrated real-time Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) over operational fiber networks at the Proof and Experimental Establishment (PXE), Chandipur.

5. Sports & Tournaments

Asian Para Games 2026 Concludes

- **Context:** The Asian Para Games 2026 concluded with India registering its best-ever performance in the tournament's history.

Key Metrics:

- **Total Medals:** 114 Medals (Surpassing the 111-medal mark set at Hangzhou).
- **Leaderboard:** India finished 4th overall (Behind China, Japan, and South Korea).
- **Top Performing Discipline:** Para Athletics (contributing 60+ medals).
- **Star Performers:** Pramod Bhagat (Parabadminton - 2 Golds).

Indian Men's Cricket Milestone

- **Context:** India became the first men's cricket team to log **200 outright T20 International victories**, reaching the mark during their 300th T20I match.

Practice Question 3: India recorded its highest-ever tally of 114 medals at which major international multi-sport event concluding in October 2026?

- (a) Commonwealth Games 2026
- (b) Asian Para Games 2026
- (c) World University Games 2026
- (d) Asian Games 2026

Answer: (b) Asian Para Games 2026

6. Appointments & Resignations

- **Major Abhilasha Barak:** Honored as the recipient of the **UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award** for her operational excellence during her deployment with the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

7. Awards & Honors

28th Charles Correa Gold Medal

- **Winner:** Radhakrishnan M.S. (Student at SEED APJ Abdul Kalam School of Environmental Design, Kochi).



- **Project Title:** "Energy Commons: Reimagining Energy Infrastructure as a Place for Civic Engagement".
- **Awarding Body:** Charles Correa Foundation (CCF).

Oskar Klein Medal 2026

- **Laureate:** Prof. Ashoke Sen became the first Indian physicist to win the prestigious Oskar Klein Medal awarded by Stockholm University and the Nobel Committee for Physics.

8. Government Schemes & State Initiatives

NMMS 2.0 Mobile App

- **Context:** Minister of Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the upgraded National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS 2.0) app.
- **Purpose:** Ensures geo-tagged, real-time attendance verification and transparent wage distribution for workers under rural employment schemes.

NLC India - IPICOL ₹37,000 Crore Odisha Projects

- **Context:** NLC India Limited (NLCIL) signed MoUs with IPICOL (Odisha) worth ₹37,000 Crore.
- **Projects Included:**
 1. 3,200 MW (4 × 800 MW) Ultra-Supercritical Thermal Power Plant (₹35,000 Cr).
 2. Beach sand mineral processing plant & coal gasification units.

9. Science, Environment & Ecology

IUCN Status Upgrade for Asiatic Lion

- **Context:** The IUCN Red List updated the conservation status of the **Asiatic Lion (Panthera leo persica)** from Critically Endangered to **Endangered** following steady population recovery in Gujarat's Gir Landscape.

New Species Discovery

- **Discovery:** A blind, eyeless troglobitic freshwater snail was discovered in the subterranean cave ecosystems of Yunnan Province, China.

10. Important Days & Observances

Date	Observance	Theme / Significance
October 24–31	Global Media & Information Literacy Week 2026	Promoted by UNESCO to enhance digital literacy and critical thinking against misinformation.
October 26	J&K Accession Day	Commemorates the signing of the Instrument of Accession in 1947.
October 24	World Polio Day	Global awareness drive to eradicate wild poliovirus types.

11. Art, Culture, Festivals & Anniversaries

Shilp Samagam Mela 2026

- **Host City:** Guwahati, Assam.
- **Organizing Ministry:** Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

- **Objective:** Providing market linkage for artisans belonging to Scheduled Castes, OBCs, and Divyangjan beneficiaries.

Birth & Death Anniversaries (26 October Focus)

- **Maharaja Hari Singh (1895–1961):** Remembered on Accession Day as the signatory of J&K's accession to India.
- **Ashfaqulla Khan (Born 22 Oct 1900 / Remembered in Oct Week):** Key revolutionary in the Kakori Train Action (1925) alongside Ram Prasad Bismil.

Section 1: National & International News, Governance & Polity

Q1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) new Data Centre and Cybersecurity Training Institute in which city?

- A) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- B) New Delhi
- C) Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- D) Bengaluru, Karnataka

- **Correct Answer: C) Bhubaneswar, Odisha**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the RBI's new Data Centre and Cybersecurity Training Institute in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, built at an estimated cost of ₹169 crore. This state-of-the-art facility is designed to strengthen the security of digital financial systems, enhance data management, and build expert capacities to detect, prevent, and respond to cyber threats within the financial sector.

Q2. President Droupadi Murmu recently gave her assent to the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA) Bill 2026, which was passed by the legislative assembly of which state?

- A) Manipur

B) Nagaland

Saachi Baat

C) Mizoram

D) Meghalaya

- **Correct Answer: B) Nagaland**

- **Detailed Explanation:** President Droupadi Murmu gave her assent to the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA) Bill 2026, which had been passed unanimously by the Nagaland Legislative Assembly. This landmark legislation aims to address regional developmental disparities and aspirations of the eastern districts of Nagaland by establishing an autonomous administrative authority.

Q3. The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum was held in October 2026 in which city?

- A) Moscow, Russia
- B) Beijing, China
- C) New Delhi, India
- D) Brasilia, Brazil

- **Correct Answer: C) New Delhi, India**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum took place in the Parliament House Complex, New Delhi, hosted by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. Delegations from member and partner countries gathered to deliberate on parliamentary cooperation, multilateralism, and sustainable global economic growth.

Q4. The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) tasked which institution with coordinating the activities of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) in India?

- A) GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (GBPNIHE), Almora



- B) Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun
C) Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun
D) Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur

- **Correct Answer: A) GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (GBPNIHE), Almora**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The MoEFCC designated Almora-based GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (GBPNIHE) as the nodal agency to coordinate ICIMOD activities in India. The partnership focuses on addressing climate change impacts, ecosystem stability, and sustainable livelihoods across the fragile Hindu Kush Himalaya region.

Q5. The International Criminal Court (ICC) unsealed arrest warrants against senior officials of which entity concerning the gender-based persecution of women and girls?

- A) Myanmar Military Junta
B) Taliban (Afghanistan)
C) Boko Haram (Nigeria)
D) Al-Shabaab (Somalia)

- **Correct Answer: B) Taliban (Afghanistan)**
- **Detailed Explanation:** In October 2026, the International Criminal Court unsealed four arrest warrants targeting senior Taliban leadership over systemic gender-based persecution and human rights violations against women and girls in Afghanistan.

Section 2: Economy, Banking & Government Schemes

Q6. Which state cabinet recently cleared the Green Hydrogen Policy 2026, aiming for 1 lakh tonnes of annual production by 2031?

- A) Gujarat
B) Bihar
C) Maharashtra
D) Karnataka

- **Correct Answer: B) Bihar**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The Bihar Cabinet cleared the Green Hydrogen Policy 2026, targeting an annual production of 1 lakh tonnes by 2031 with an anticipated investment of around ₹16,000 crore. The state also approved a major farm-feeder solarisation plan to bolster green energy adoption in agriculture.

Q7. How many unique digital identity cards for farmers had been created by the Union Agriculture Ministry by late October 2026?

- A) 5 crore
B) 8 crore
C) 11 crore
D) 15 crore

- **Correct Answer: C) 11 crore**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The Union Agriculture Ministry successfully generated 11 crore unique digital identity cards for farmers across India, streamlining access to institutional credit, direct benefit transfers (DBT), and agricultural advisory services.

Q8. The National Biodiversity Authority disbursed Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) funds to how many State Biodiversity Boards and UT Biodiversity Councils?

- A) 21 State Boards and 1 UT Council
B) 27 State Boards and 2 UT Biodiversity Councils
C) 28 State Boards and 5 UT Councils
D) 25 State Boards and 3 UT Councils

- **Correct Answer: B) 27 State Boards and 2 UT Biodiversity Councils**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The National Biodiversity Authority distributed ₹1.04 crore in ABS funds among 27 State Biodiversity Boards and 2 UT Councils. The money was collected from commercial entities utilizing bio-resources (such as millets and rice varieties) for research and commercial product development.

Section 3: Defense & Internal Security

Q9. The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) launched which major multi-state operation to dismantle transnational drug trafficking networks in Northeast India?

- A) Operation Vajra
- B) Operation Trident
- C) Operation Clean North-East
- D) Operation Hawk

- **Correct Answer: B) Operation Trident**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The NCB executed 'Operation Trident', deploying 38 teams simultaneously across Assam, Mizoram, and Manipur. The coordinated strikes froze 1,424 bank accounts and uncovered massive hawala channels, dealing a severe blow to narcotics cartels operating in the Northeast.

Q10. The Air Force Day Aerial Display-2026 was conducted under the theme "Wings over Ganges" at which historical location?

- A) Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh
- B) Patna, Bihar
- C) Namohat, Varanasi
- D) Haridwar, Uttarakhand

- **Correct Answer: C) Namohat, Varanasi**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The Indian Air Force marked its 94th anniversary celebrations

with a spectacular aerial display at Namohat, Varanasi, themed "Wings over Ganges", showcasing advanced fighter aircraft and aerobatic prowess.

Q11. The Indian Navy commenced trials of the Rafale Marine fighter aircraft at the Shore Based Test Facility in Goa to validate operations for which indigenous aircraft carrier?

- A) INS Vikrant
- B) INS Vikramaditya
- C) INS Vishal
- D) INS Arihant

- **Correct Answer: A) INS Vikrant**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The Indian Navy started rigorous integration trials of the Rafale Marine jet at its Goa test facility to adapt the aircraft for ski-jump deck operations aboard India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant.

Q12. The Border Security Force (BSF) apprehended four Pakistani fishermen along with their boat in which sensitive border region of Gujarat?

- A) Rann of Kutch Wildlife Sanctuary
- B) Sir Creek area
- C) Lakhpat Coast
- D) Jakhau Port

- **Correct Answer: B) Sir Creek area**
- **Detailed Explanation:** BSF units apprehended four Pakistani nationals who crossed over into Indian territorial waters within the marshy Sir Creek area of Kutch, Gujarat, while illegally catching crabs.

Section 4: Awards, Honors, Books & Authors

Q13. Professor Ashoke Sen made history by becoming the first Indian physicist to receive

which prestigious international award for 2026?

- A) Dirac Medal
- B) fundamental Physics Prize
- C) Oskar Klein Medal
- D) Wolf Prize in Physics

- **Correct Answer: C) Oskar Klein Medal**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Renowned theoretical physicist Professor Ashoke Sen was awarded the 2026 Oskar Klein Medal by Stockholm University and the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, recognizing his pioneering contributions to string theory and quantum field theory.

Q14. Who received the prestigious 47th Sarala Puraskar for his poetry collection 'Bishwas De Pruthwi'?

- A) Dr Ashutosh Parida
- B) Pratibha Satpathy
- C) Sitakant Mahapatra
- D) Ramakanta Rath

- **Correct Answer: A) Dr Ashutosh Parida**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Eminent Odia poet Dr Ashutosh Parida was honored with the 47th Sarala Puraskar for his acclaimed poetry book 'Bishwas De Pruthwi' at a ceremony in Bhubaneswar. The award carries a cash prize of ₹7 lakh and a copper plaque.

Section 5: Science, Environment & Health

Q15. Which state's disaster response force became India's first to receive the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System certification?

- A) Himachal Pradesh SDRF
- B) Uttarakhand SDRF
- C) Kerala SDRF

D) Odisha SDRF

- **Correct Answer: B) Uttarakhand SDRF**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The Uttarakhand State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) achieved the distinction of becoming India's first disaster mitigation and rescue force to be awarded ISO 9001:2015 certification for operational standardisation and training excellence.

Q16. Osbeckia assamensis, a newly discovered pink-flowering plant species, was found in the grasslands of which protected area?

- A) Kaziranga National Park
- B) Manas National Park
- C) Dibru-Saikhowa National Park
- D) Namdapha National Park

- **Correct Answer: B) Manas National Park**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Botanists discovered Osbeckia assamensis, a new pink-flowering plant belonging to the Melastomataceae family, within the grassland ecosystem of Manas National Park in Assam.

Q17. A recent study published in The Lancet Global Health highlighted clinical findings concerning melioidosis, an infectious disease caused by which pathogen?

- A) Burkholderia pseudomallei
- B) Vibrio cholerae
- C) Yersinia pestis
- D) Streptococcus pneumoniae

- **Correct Answer: A) Burkholderia pseudomallei**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Melioidosis is a severe tropical infectious disease caused by the environmental Gram-negative bacterium Burkholderia pseudomallei. A multi-centre Indian study revealed high seasonal

vulnerability during monsoon and post-monsoon periods.

Q18. Amid a 2026 outbreak, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced the launch of the first clinical trial for a Bundibugyo vaccine in which country?

- A) Uganda
- B) Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
- C) Rwanda
- D) Sudan
- **Correct Answer: B) Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Health authorities in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) commenced clinical trials for the Bundibugyo Ebola strain vaccine under WHO guidance to curb active regional flare-ups.

Section 6: Geography, Infrastructure & Regional Issues

Q19. The Saidongar-1 Pumped Storage Project, which recently faced environmental protests over massive tree felling, is located in which district of Maharashtra?

- A) Pune
- B) Raigad
- C) Nashik
- D) Ratnagiri
- **Correct Answer: B) Raigad**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Torrent Power's Saidongar-1 Pumped Storage Project in Maharashtra's Raigad district drew strong opposition from environmental activists and local groups due to large-scale clearance of trees affecting the Pej river basin.

Q20. The Central government deployed Rapid Action Force (RAF) companies to Arunachal

Pradesh following violent protests opposing which major infrastructure undertaking?

- A) Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project
- B) Siang Upper Multipurpose Project
- C) Dibang Multipurpose Project
- D) Kameng Hydro Power Plant
- **Correct Answer: B) Siang Upper Multipurpose Project**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Protests in Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh, against the proposed 11,200-MW Siang Upper Multipurpose Project led the Centre to deploy CRPF Rapid Action Force units to maintain public order.

Section 7: Legal, Judicial & State Current Affairs

Q21. The Madras High Court clarified that life convicts in Tamil Nadu can take their 40 days of annual ordinary leave in how many instalments?

- A) Single block
- B) Two instalments
- C) Three instalments
- D) Four instalments
- **Correct Answer: B) Two instalments**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Interpreting Rule 22(2)(c) of the Tamil Nadu Suspension of Sentence Rules, 1982, the Madras High Court ruled that the term "spell" for ordinary leave must be construed as "instalment", permitting life convicts to split their 40 days annual leave into two parts.

Q22. A special MP-MLA court in Sultanpur acquitted Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in a defamation case linked to remarks made in 2018 against which prominent leader?

- A) Narendra Modi

- B) Yogi Adityanath
C) Amit Shah
D) J. P. Nadda

- **Correct Answer: C) Amit Shah**
- **Detailed Explanation:** A special MP-MLA court in Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh, acquitted Rahul Gandhi in a defamation suit filed by a local BJP leader over comments made against then-BJP national president Amit Shah during the 2018 elections.

Q23. Which state public service commission postponed its 72nd Combined Competitive Examination (Prelims) until further notice?

- A) Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (UPPSC)
B) Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC)
C) Jharkhand Public Service Commission (JPSC)
D) Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC)

- **Correct Answer: B) Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC)**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The BPSC postponed its 72nd Combined Competitive Examination (Prelims) citing administrative reasons, keeping over a thousand vacancies on hold temporarily.

Q24. The total revised vacancy count for the BSSC Inter Level (10+2) recruitment examination stands at approximately how many posts?

- A) 15,200
B) 20,400
C) 26,426
D) 32,100

- **Correct Answer: C) 26,426**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The Bihar Staff Selection Commission (BSSC) revised its

Inter Level (10+2) recruitment cycle vacancies upward to 26,426 posts, widening opportunities for aspirants across administrative departments.

Section 8: Culture, Sports, Media & Anniversaries

Q25. The 10th-anniversary edition of the Bollywood Music Project, which made headlines after an artist's set was cut short due to curfew regulations, was held in which city?

- A) New Delhi
B) Mumbai
C) Bengaluru
D) Pune

- **Correct Answer: B) Mumbai**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The 10th-anniversary Bollywood Music Project in Mumbai faced controversy after singer Shilpa Rao's performance was abruptly halted due to local noise-curfew compliance issues.

Q26. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated an Arvind Limited garment manufacturing facility in late October 2026, which has trained over 300 women workers, located in which city?

- A) Surat, Gujarat
B) Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu
C) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
D) Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh

- **Correct Answer: C) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Boosting local manufacturing and women's employment in eastern Uttar Pradesh, PM Modi inaugurated a garment manufacturing unit by Arvind Limited in Varanasi.

Q27. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio broadcast program 'Mann Ki Baat', which

featured discussions on traditional farming and river revival in Uttarakhand, completed how many years of broadcast in October 2026?

- A) 10 Years
- B) 12 Years
- C) 15 Years
- D) 8 Years

- **Correct Answer: B) 12 Years**
- **Detailed Explanation:** PM Modi's outreach address 'Mann Ki Baat' completed 12 successful years of broadcasting, emphasizing civic duty, rural innovation, and the "Vocal for Local" campaign ahead of festive seasons.

Q28. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued cyclone alerts over the Bay of Bengal in late October 2026, warning coastal regions of which states?

- A) Maharashtra and Goa
- B) Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and West Bengal
- C) Kerala and Tamil Nadu
- D) Gujarat and Daman

- **Correct Answer: B) Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and West Bengal**
- **Detailed Explanation:** The IMD tracked a developing cyclonic depression over the Bay of Bengal, issuing heavy rainfall red alerts for vulnerable coastal tracts across Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and West Bengal.

Q29. Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal traveled to which country to pitch India's expanding maritime and shipbuilding opportunities to international industry leaders?

- A) Japan
- B) South Korea
- C) Singapore

D) Vietnam

- **Correct Answer: B) South Korea**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Union Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal visited South Korea to invite Korean shipbuilding conglomerates and maritime investors to partner with India's expanding shipyard infrastructure.

Q30. Police forces in which state arrested 13 individuals following an attack on a traditional Bihu cultural troupe during a Durga Puja idol immersion procession?

- A) West Bengal
- B) Assam
- C) Tripura
- D) Meghalaya

- **Correct Answer: B) Assam**
- **Detailed Explanation:** Assam Police arrested 13 individuals following communal tensions and an attack on a Bihu cultural troupe during a Durga Puja immersion procession in Sribhumi district, prompting strict condemnation and orders for prompt legal action from Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.