1. International News

- **India's Priorities for 2028–29 UNSC Bid:**
  - Details: India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, officially outlined India's core focus areas—specifically Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Maritime Security—for its bid for a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council (UNSC) for the 2028–29 term.
  - Exam Takeaway: What are India's focal themes for its upcoming UNSC non-permanent bid? AI and Maritime Security.
- Christine Lagarde Resigns Early as ECB President:
  - Details: European Central Bank (ECB) President Christine Lagarde announced her early resignation, effective February 7, 2027, to transition into broader international political and global governance roles.

2. National News

- **Supreme Court Directs RBI on Digital Arrest Fraud:**
  - Details: The Supreme Court of India directed the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to establish strict regulatory mechanisms to counter the surging threat of "digital arrest" cyber frauds, placing a strong emphasis on securing full financial compensation for victims.
- High-Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat:
  - Details: The Government of India constituted a High-Level Committee headed by former Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) Suresh N. Patel to draft structural and regulatory frameworks to modernize India's banking ecosystem in line with the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision.
- Jantar Mantar Included in India Biennale 2026:
  - Details: The Ministry of Culture added the historical Jantar Mantar in Central Delhi as a prominent venue for the India Biennale 2026, a 108-day nationwide festival celebrating architecture, design, and art.

3. Economics & Banking News

- **Union Cabinet Approves ₹10,000 Crore Container Manufacturing Scheme:**
  - Details: The Union Cabinet approved the Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS) with an outlay of ₹10,000 crore to create a self-reliant, globally competitive container manufacturing ecosystem in India, featuring Interest Subvention Assistance (ISA).
- Finance Ministry Notifies GST Amendments (Effective Nov 1, 2026):
  - Details: Important amendments under the Finance Act, 2026 regarding post-supply discounts, provisional GST refunds under the Inverted Duty Structure (IDS), and export refunds were notified to take effect from November 1, 2026, benefiting FMCG and retail sectors.
- SEBI and Bank of England Sign MoU:
  - Details: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Bank of England signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance regulatory cooperation, information-sharing, and supervision regarding Clearing Corporations and Central Counterparties (CCPs).

4. Defense News

- Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia Appointed Vice Chief of Air Staff:

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- Details: Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia was named the next Vice Chief of the Air Staff, succeeding Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit effective November 1, 2026.
- Air Marshal Vikram Gaur Appointed to DMA:
- Details: Air Marshal Vikram Gaur took charge as Additional Secretary in the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) under the Ministry of Defence, marking a notable milestone as an IAF officer holding this critical post.

5. Appointments

- Suresh N. Patel: Appointed as Chairman of the High-Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat.
- Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia: Appointed as the new Vice Chief of Air Staff.
- Air Marshal Vikram Gaur: Appointed as Additional Secretary in the Department of Military Affairs (DMA).

6. Sports News

- Harry Kane & Alexia Putellas Claim Ballon d'Or 2026:
- Details: England captain Harry Kane won the prestigious men's Ballon d'Or for the first time after a phenomenal season scoring 73 goals for club and country (Bayern Munich), becoming the first Englishman to win it in 25 years. Spain's Alexia Putellas clinched the Women's Ballon d'Or for a record-extending third time.
- Manisha Bhanwala Creates History at World Wrestling Championships:
- Details: Indian wrestler Manisha Bhanwala scripted history by winning the gold medal in the 59 kg freestyle category at the Senior World Wrestling Championships.

7. Awards & Honors

- **Ballon d'Or 2026 Winners**:
- Men's Category: Harry Kane (England / Bayern Munich).
- Women's Category: Alexia Putellas (Spain / Barcelona / London City Lionesses).
- Gerd Müller Trophy: Charlyn Corral (Mexico / Pachuca) won the women's Gerd Müller goalscoring award.

8. Government Schemes & MoUs

- Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS): Backed by a ₹10,000 crore outlay to boost domestic container output.
- SEBI & Bank of England MoU: Signed for cross-border financial clearing cooperation and data sharing.
- Tamil Nadu BharatNet Agreement: Partnered under the Amended BharatNet Programme via TANFINET to hook up over 4,767 villages with high-speed rural fiber.

9. Important Days & Anniversaries

- World Stroke Day: Observed globally on October 29 to drive critical awareness around stroke prevention, early symptom detection, and emergency treatment pathways.

International News

Q1. India recently outlined its core priority areas for its non-permanent seat bid on the UN Security Council (UNSC) for the 2028–29 term. What are these primary focus areas?

- (A) Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Space Safety
- (B) Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Maritime Security

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- (C) Green Energy Transition and Biodiversity Conservation
- (D) Global Public Health and Digital Currency Regulation
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** India's Permanent Representative to the UN outlined Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Maritime Security as the core focal areas for India's upcoming bid for a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council for 2028–29.

Q2. Who serves as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations who announced the UNSC bid priorities?

- (A) Ruchira Kamboj
- (B) T. S. Tirumurti
- (C) Harish Parvathaneni
- (D) Syed Akbaruddin
- **Answer: (C)**
- **Explanation:** Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni is India's Permanent Representative to the UN.

Q3. European Central Bank (ECB) President Christine Lagarde announced her early resignation effective on which date?

- (A) December 31, 2026
- (B) February 7, 2027
- (C) March 31, 2027
- (D) January 1, 2027
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Christine Lagarde announced her early resignation effective February 7, 2027, to transition into broader international political and global governance roles.

Q4. Which international financial institution signed an MoU with SEBI in October 2026 regarding supervisory cooperation for Central Counterparties?

- (A) Bank of England
- (B) European Central Bank
- (C) Federal Reserve (USA)
- (D) Bank of Japan
- **Answer: (A)**
- **Explanation:** SEBI and the Bank of England signed a landmark MoU to enhance regulatory cooperation, supervision, and information-sharing regarding Clearing Corporations and Central Counterparties (CCPs).

National News & Governance

Q5. The Supreme Court of India recently directed which regulatory body to establish strict mechanisms to counter "digital arrest" cyber frauds?

- (A) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- (B) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- (C) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
- (D) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI)
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** The Supreme Court directed the RBI to put strict regulatory systems in place to combat digital arrest cyber scams and ensure full financial compensation for victims.

Q6. Who has been appointed as the head of the High-Level Committee constituted by the Government of India to modernize the banking sector for *Viksit Bharat*?

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- (A) N. K. Singh
- (B) Suresh N. Patel
- (C) T. V. Somanathan
- (D) Amitabh Kant
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Former Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) Suresh N. Patel heads the High-Level Committee on Banking tasked with drafting structural and regulatory frameworks for *Viksit Bharat 2047*.

Q7. Which iconic monument in Central Delhi was included as a prominent venue for the India Biennale 2026?

- (A) Red Fort
- (B) Qutub Minar
- (C) Jantar Mantar
- (D) Humayun's Tomb
- **Answer: (C)**
- **Explanation:** The Ministry of Culture added the historical Jantar Mantar in Central Delhi as a key venue for the India Biennale 2026, a 108-day nationwide festival celebrating architecture, design, and art.

Q8. Under the Amended BharatNet Programme, which state recently partnered via TANFINET to connect over 4,767 villages with high-speed rural fiber?

- (A) Kerala
- (B) Tamil Nadu
- (C) Karnataka
- (D) Andhra Pradesh
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Tamil Nadu partnered under the BharatNet Programme through TANFINET to expand high-speed rural fiber connectivity to remote villages.

Economics & Banking News

Q9. What is the total financial outlay approved by the Union Cabinet for the Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS)?

- (A) ₹5,000 crore
- (B) ₹10,000 crore
- (C) ₹15,000 crore
- (D) ₹20,000 crore
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** The Union Cabinet approved the CMPS with an outlay of ₹10,000 crore to create a self-reliant, globally competitive container manufacturing ecosystem in India.

Q10. The Finance Ministry notified important GST amendments under the Finance Act, 2026, which take effect from which date?

- (A) November 1, 2026
- (B) December 1, 2026
- (C) January 1, 2027
- (D) April 1, 2027
- **Answer: (A)**
- **Explanation:** GST amendments regarding post-supply discounts, provisional refunds under the Inverted Duty Structure (IDS), and export refunds take effect on November 1, 2026.

Q11. Which financial assistance mechanism is featured in the Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS) to support domestic manufacturers?

- (A) Viability Gap Funding (VGF)
- (B) Interest Subvention Assistance (ISA)

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- (C) Production Linked Incentive (PLI) direct grants only
- (D) Export Credit Guarantee Support (ECGS)
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** The CMPS features Interest Subvention Assistance (ISA) to foster a globally competitive domestic shipping container manufacturing sector.

Q12. The recent SEBI-Bank of England MoU primarily focuses on supervisory cooperation regarding which entities?

- (A) Mutual Funds and Alternative Investment Funds
- (B) Clearing Corporations and Central Counterparties (CCPs)
- (C) Insurance and Pension Funds
- (D) Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs)
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** The MoU enhances cross-border regulatory cooperation specifically concerning Clearing Corporations and Central Counterparties (CCPs).

Defense News

Q13. Who has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of the Air Staff, effective November 1, 2026?

- (A) Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
- (B) Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia
- (C) Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh
- (D) Air Marshal Vikram Gaur
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia took charge as the new Vice Chief of the Air Staff, succeeding Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit.

Q14. Air Marshal Vikram Gaur was appointed as Additional Secretary in which vital department under the Ministry of Defence?

- (A) Department of Military Affairs (DMA)
- (B) Department of Defence Production
- (C) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- (D) Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare
- **Answer: (A)**
- **Explanation:** Air Marshal Vikram Gaur assumed charge as Additional Secretary in the Department of Military Affairs (DMA).

Q15. Whom did Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia succeed as the Vice Chief of the Air Staff?

- (A) Air Chief Marshal R. K. S. Bhadauria
- (B) Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
- (C) Air Marshal V. R. Chaudhari
- (D) Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia succeeded Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit effective November 1, 2026.

Appointments

Q16. Who has been named the Chairman of the High-Level Committee on Banking for *Viksit Bharat*?

- (A) Suresh N. Patel
- (B) Shaktikanta Das
- (C) K. V. Kamath
- (D) Urijit Patel

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- **Answer: (A)**
- **Explanation:** Former CVC Suresh N. Patel chairs the committee formed to modernize India's banking sector.

Q17. Which IAF officer was appointed as Additional Secretary in the Department of Military Affairs (DMA)?

- (A) Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia
- (B) Air Marshal Vikram Gaur
- (C) Air Marshal AP Singh
- (D) Air Marshal B. S. Dhanoa
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Air Marshal Vikram Gaur was appointed as Additional Secretary in the DMA under the Ministry of Defence.

Q18. Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni serves in which key diplomatic position for India?

- (A) Ambassador to the United States
- (B) Permanent Representative to the United Nations
- (C) High Commissioner to the United Kingdom
- (D) Ambassador to France
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni serves as India's Permanent Representative to the UN.

Q19. Who is the outgoing ECB President whose early resignation was announced for February 2027?

- (A) Mario Draghi
- (B) Jean-Claude Trichet
- (C) Christine Lagarde
- (D) Luis de Guindos
- **Answer: (C)**
- **Explanation:** Christine Lagarde announced her early resignation from the European Central Bank.

Sports News

Q20. Who won the men's Ballon d'Or 2026, becoming the first Englishman to win it in 25 years?

- (A) Jude Bellingham
- (B) Harry Kane
- (C) Phil Foden
- (D) Bukayo Saka
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Bayern Munich striker and England captain Harry Kane won the men's Ballon d'Or 2026 after scoring 73 goals for club and country.

Q21. Who clinched the Women's Ballon d'Or 2026 for a record-extending third time?

- (A) Aitana Bonmatí
- (B) Alexia Putellas
- (C) Sam Kerr
- (D) Lucy Bronze
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Spain's Alexia Putellas won her third Women's Ballon d'Or title.

Q22. Manisha Bhanwala recently made headlines by winning the gold medal at the Senior World Wrestling Championships in which weight category?

- (A) 53 kg freestyle
- (B) 57 kg freestyle
- (C) 59 kg freestyle
- (D) 62 kg freestyle
- **Answer: (C)**

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- **Explanation:** Indian wrestler Manisha Bhanwala scripted history by winning the gold medal in the 59 kg freestyle category at the Senior World Wrestling Championships.

Q23. Which player won the Gerd Müller Trophy for the women's top goalscorer at the 2026 Ballon d'Or ceremony?

- (A) Alexia Putellas
- (B) Charlyn Corral
- (C) Jenni Hermoso
- (D) Salma Paralluelo
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Mexico's Charlyn Corral won the Gerd Müller Trophy in the women's category.

Awards, Government Schemes & Important Days

Q24. What is the primary objective of the Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS)?

- (A) To subsidize electric vehicle battery imports
- (B) To build a self-reliant, globally competitive container manufacturing ecosystem in India
- (C) To promote semiconductor fabrication units across coastal states
- (D) To establish deep-water transshipment ports
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** CMPS aims to build domestic capacity in cargo container manufacturing to reduce import dependence.

Q25. The India Biennale 2026 is a nationwide festival celebrating which fields?

- (A) Agriculture and Rural Development
- (B) Architecture, Design, and Art
- (C) Classical Music and Folk Dance
- (D) Space Technology and Robotics
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** India Biennale 2026 is a 108-day nationwide festival celebrating architecture, design, and art across India, featuring venues like Jantar Mantar.

Q26. Which football club does Harry Kane play for, where he scored 73 goals in the lead-up to the 2026 Ballon d'Or?

- (A) Real Madrid
- (B) Bayern Munich
- (C) Manchester City
- (D) Paris Saint-Germain
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** Harry Kane plays as a star striker for German club Bayern Munich.

Q27. World Stroke Day is observed globally every year on which date to raise awareness about stroke prevention?

- (A) October 25
- (B) October 27
- (C) October 29
- (D) October 31
- **Answer: (C)**
- **Explanation:** World Stroke Day is observed annually on October 29 to drive awareness around stroke prevention and emergency care pathways.

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Q28. What was the total goal tally achieved across club and country by Harry Kane that earned him the 2026 Ballon d'Or?

- (A) 55 goals
- (B) 65 goals
- (C) 73 goals
- (D) 81 goals
- **Answer: (C)**
- **Explanation:** Harry Kane scored a phenomenal 73 goals for club and country during the season.

Q29. The High-Level Committee on Banking chaired by Suresh N. Patel aligns its structural reforms with which national vision?

- (A) Atmanirbhar Bharat 2030
- (B) Viksit Bharat 2047
- (C) Digital India 2035
- (D) Amrit Kaal 2050
- **Answer: (B)**
- **Explanation:** The committee aims to modernize India's banking ecosystem in line with the *Viksit Bharat 2047* vision.

Q30. Which country does Charlyn Corral, winner of the women's Gerd Müller Trophy at the 2026 Ballon d'Or, represent?

- (A) Spain
- (B) Brazil
- (C) Mexico
- (D) Argentina
- **Answer: (C)**
- **Explanation:** Charlyn Corral is a prominent footballer representing Mexico and playing for Pachuca.

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