



# ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

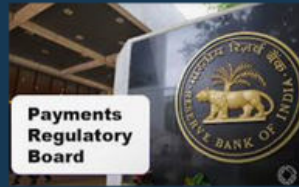
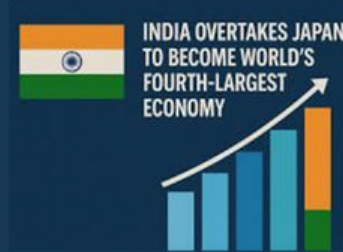
IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VA/AO/PDO

MONTHLY MAGAZINE

MAY-2025

## NEWS - INSHORTS

- **Banu Mushtaq** received International Booker Prize for 2025, **Heart Lamp** is the first-ever Kannada work to receive the award.
- Prime Minister of India inaugurated the **Rising North East Summit 2025** hosted by the ministry of Development of the North-Eastern Region (**DoNER**).
- **India** has surpassed Japan to become **4th largest** economy worldwide.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) notified the Payments Regulatory Board Regulations, 2025, under Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- As per the RBI, India achieves **highest ever exports**
- The Defence Minister inaugurated the **Brahmos Aerospace Testing Facility** in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- US President has unveiled an ambitious missile defence system named as **Golden Dome**.
- India has successfully test-fired an indigenously developed anti-drone system, **Bhargavastra**.



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## May 2025 CURRENT AFFAIRS

### 1. World Press Freedom Index 2025

- Published by - Reporters without Borders
- India ranked 151st out of 180 countries this year .
- India had ranked 159th in 2024 and 161st in 2023
- Index ranked Eritrea at the bottom most and **Norway topped the list.**

2. In winning the International Booker Prize for 2025, **Banu Mushtaq** has scripted history on several counts. Her book **Heart Lamp**, translated from the Kannada by **Deepa Bhashthi**, is the first collection of short stories to be awarded the £50,000 prize, and it's the first time Kannada has been honoured.



**Heart Lamp is the first-ever Kannada work to receive the award.**

It is the first short story collection ever to win the International Booker Prize

It is only the second Indian title to take home the award after Geetanjali Shree's Tomb of Sand in 2022.

### 3. CHINA PAKISTAN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR (CPEC)

The foreign ministers of China, Pakistan and Afghanistan agreed to extend the China Pakistan Economic Corridor to Afghanistan.

CPEC is the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) launched in 2015.



- It is the link between the Silk Road Economic Belt and the Maritime Silk Road.
- The projects under the CPEC mainly relate to energy and infrastructure.
- The 3000 kilometres of roads, railways and pipelines are intended to transport oil and gas from Pakistan's Gwadar Port to Kashgar City in north western China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR).

#### **4. CONCERNS RAISED BY INDIA OVER IMF'S LENDING TO PAKISTAN**

International Monetary Fund's (IMF's) Executive Board completed the first review of Pakistan's economic reform program supported by the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) Arrangement.

- IMF allowed the disbursement of around \$1 billion (Special Drawing Rights (SDR) 760 million) under EFF.

It also approved lending of US\$1.4 billion (SDR 1 billion) under the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF) lending program.

- India criticized the approval of the lending and abstained from the voting process.

#### **5. NEW DEVELOPMENT BANK**

- Algeria became 9th member of NDB.

##### **About NDB**

Headquarters: Shanghai, China

- Genesis: 2015 by Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) countries.
- Purpose: It is a multilateral development bank for mobilising resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in emerging markets and developing countries (EMDCs).
- Members: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Bangladesh, UAE, Egypt, Algeria. o The membership is open to members of the United Nations, including both borrowing and non-borrowing members (Article 2 of the NDB).

Capital and Shareholding: Out of the initial authorized capital of \$100 Billion, all 5 founding members have an equal share totaling \$50 Billion.

#### **6. NORTHEAST AS 'FRONTRUNNER OF GROWTH'**

Recently, Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Rising **North East Summit 2025** hosted by the Ministry of Development of the North-Eastern Region (**DoNER**).

Highlighting the importance of Northeast India's strategic location, Prime Minister also gave the Vision of EAST (Empower, Act, Strengthen, and Transform) as a policy framework for Northeast.



Prime Minister, while describing the region's eight States as '**Ashta Lakshmis**' (eight forms of Goddess Lakshmi), listed the bio-economy, bamboo, tea production, petroleum, sports and eco-tourism as some of the areas where the region is an emerging hub.

## 7. REVAMPED PERIODIC LABOUR FORCE SURVEY (PLFS)

National Statistics Office (NSO) has revamped Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) from January 2025.

Conducting agency: National Statistics Office (NSO)

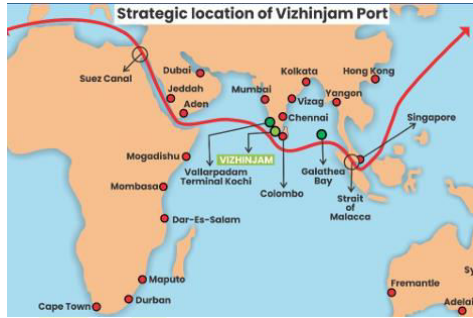
- Ministry: Introduced in 2017 by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

## 8. VIZHINJAM INTERNATIONAL SEAPORT

Recently, Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Vizhinjam International Transshipment Deepwater Multipurpose Seaport in Kerala.

About Vizhinjam International Seaport.

- It is **India's First Deep-Water Container** Transshipment Port. This ambitious project is taken up by Government of Kerala.
- Purpose: It is designed primarily to cater container transshipment besides multi-purpose and break bulk cargo.
- Developmental model: The port is being currently developed in landlord model with a Public Private Partnership (PPP) component on a Design, Build, Finance, Operate, and Transfer (DBFOT) basis.



## 9. NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY BOARD

A report was placed in the Parliament by the Standing Committee on Coal Mines and Steel reviewing the implementation of the DMF Fund and the **Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY)** in India.

### District Mineral Foundation (DMF)

Enactment: Created in 2015, via an amendment to the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957

Concept: The DMF is a non-profit statutory 'Fund' for every Indian district affected by mining related operations. It is set up as a non-profit trust.

## 10. INDIA OVERTAKES JAPAN TO BECOME 4TH LARGEST ECONOMY

As per the recent World Economic Outlook of the IMF, India has surpassed Japan to become 4th



largest economy worldwide. As per the recent World Economic Outlook of the IMF, India has surpassed Japan to become 4th largest economy worldwide. Key drivers for India's Economic Leap

Structural: Urbanization and rising aspirations leading to rise in per capita income and lifestyle consumption, demographic **dividend (India's current median age is ~29 years)**, strong domestic demand (private consumption contributes nearly 70% to GDP), etc.

- **Policy:** Taxation and business reforms (implementation of GST, IBC, Corporate Tax cuts, etc.), push for infrastructure (National Infrastructure Pipeline, PM Gati Shakti, etc.), Atmanirbhar Bharat and Production-linked incentive, etc.

- **Technological:** Digital Public Infrastructure (UPI, JAM Trinity, etc.), strong global demand for Indian IT, software exports, and consulting services, etc.

- **External and global factors:** Increased FDI inflows, Global supply chain rebalancing with strategies like 'China Plus One' and Supply Chain Resilience Initiative, etc.

## 11. US HOUSE APPROVES 3.5% OUTWARD REMITTANCE TAX

US House Approves '**One, Big, Beautiful Bill**' with 3.5% outward remittance tax provision

- Called the '**Excise tax on remittance transfers**', the newly proposed provision will be effective from January 1, 2026.

### Remittances

- Definition: The movement of funds from the country of work back to a home country is known as remittances.

In 2023, remittances back to home countries totalled about \$656 billion.

- India got 14.3% of global remittances in 2024 (its highest ever). Key highlights of the Bill

- **Remittance tax (excise tax) will apply only to non-US citizens and US citizens are exempted.**

Affected groups include Visa holders (H-1B, F-1), Green card holders, etc.

- The bill reduced the Outward remittance tax from 5% (which was previously proposed) to 3.5%.



## 12. ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT FUNDS (AIFs)

RBI has revised the rules for investment in Alternative Investment Funds.

### About AIFs



- Any fund incorporated in India which is a privately pooled investment vehicle which collects funds from sophisticated investors, whether Indian or foreign, for investing it in accordance with a defined investment policy for the benefit of its investors.

- AIFs are regulated by the SEBI, as per the SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012.

### Categories of AIFs

- **Category I AIF:** Invest in start-ups, early-stage ventures or sectors considered socially or economically beneficial. E.g. Venture Capital Funds, Angel funds, SME Funds, Infrastructure Funds

- **Category II AIF:** They do not use leverage or debts other than to cover their day-to-day operational expenses. E.g. Private Equity Funds, Debt Funds, Real Estate Funds.

- **Category III AIF:** It may use leverage including through investment in listed or unlisted derivatives. E.g. Hedge Funds, Private investment in public equity (PIPE).

### 13.PREDATORY PRICING

Recently, Competition Commission of India has notified the Cost Regulations, 2025 providing new definitions to curb predatory pricing.

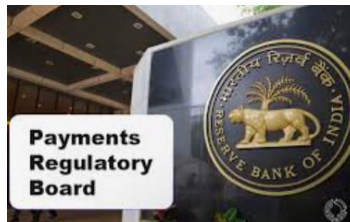
#### About Predatory Pricing

- Definition: The sale of goods or provision of services at a price below the cost with a view to reduce competition or eliminate competitors.

### 14.PAYMENTS REGULATORY BOARD

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) notified the Payments Regulatory Board Regulations, 2025, under Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

- These regulations replace the earlier Board for Regulation and Supervision of Payment and Settlement Systems Regulations, 2008. About Payments Regulatory Board



#### Composition

- Chairperson: RBI Governor
- Ex-officio Members: Deputy Governor in charge of payment systems, 1 RBI-nominated officer.
- 3 members nominated by Central Government.

- Board may also invite experts from fields like payments, IT, cybersecurity, law etc.
- Tenure of Members: Government-nominated members will have a fixed tenure of 4 years and no re-nomination is allowed.
- Meetings: At least twice a year.
- Quorum: Minimum of 3 members, including Chairperson or Deputy Governor.
- Decisions: by majority vote. In case of a tie, Chairperson has a casting vote.

## 15. OPINION TRADING PLATFORMS

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has cautioned investors against dealing with opinion trading platform.

### About Opinion trading platforms

- Concept: These platforms allow participants to earn money by investing in their predictions on any sports, political, weather, or crypto events,
  - o Participants can bet on any event based on their predictions.
  - o If the predictions are correct, a participant makes money, and in case the prediction goes wrong they lose.
- Legal Status: **Not regulated by SEBI** because the items being traded are not classified as securities under Indian law.
- Economy: These platforms have registered transaction volumes of over Rs 50,000 crore a year with a user base of more than 5 crore people.



## 16. INDIA ACHIEVES HIGHEST EVER EXPORTS

As per the RBI, India's total exports (Merchandise + Services) have reached \$824.9 billion in 2024-25 rising by 6.01 % from \$778.1 billion in 2023-24.

- This is despite global slowdown triggered by trade disruptions due to Red Sea crisis, Ukraine war, drought in Panama Canal, increase in Non-Tariff Measures, rising energy prices etc. Key data and trends

- **Merchandise Exports:** Have marginally increased to US\$437.4 billion, from US\$437.1 billion in 2023-24.
- **Services Exports:** Reached a historic high of US\$387.5 billion in 2024-25, up 13.6% from US\$341.1 billion in 2023-24.



o Key sectors included telecommunications, computer and information services, transport, travel, and financial services.

## 17. INDIAN INSTITUTE OF CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

Indian Institute of Creative Technology (IICT) has been launched by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in collaboration with FICCI and CII. About IICT:

- It will serve as a National Centre of Excellence (NcoE) dedicated exclusively to Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR) sector.
  - o Extended Reality (XR) technologies blend physical and digital worlds e.g. Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), and Mixed Reality (MR).
- It will follow same template as IITs and IIMs in India to transform itself into a massive world-class education and training hub for students who aspire to be professionals in AVGC-XR sector.

## 18. BRAHMOS AEROSPACE TESTING FACILITY

The Defence Minister recently inaugurated the Brahmos Aerospace Testing Facility in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Alongside the testing facility, a **Brahmos missile** production unit was also inaugurated.

- These units are part of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor and are expected to play a critical role in missile testing, assembly, and production.



## 19. GOLDEN DOME

US President has unveiled an ambitious missile defence system named as Golden Dome.

### About Golden Dome

- The Golden Dome is a ground- and space-based missile defence system designed to protect all of the U.S.A.
- It will be a multi-layered defence system against hypersonic and cruise missile threats, integrating space-based interceptors and advanced tracking technologies.
  - o The Dome will detect, track and stop missiles at multiple stages of flight, potentially destroying them before takeoff or intercepting them in mid-air.





## 20. FINANCIAL FRAUD RISK INDICATOR

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has introduced a Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI) to combat mobile based cyber fraud.

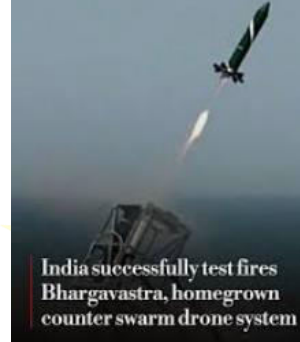
The Indicator allows for swift, targeted, and collaborative action against suspected frauds in both telecom and financial domains.

## 21. BHARGAVA STRA

India has successfully test-fired an indigenously developed anti-drone system, Bhargavastra.

### About Bhargavastra

- It is a low-cost, 'hard kill' anti-drone system designed to neutralize threats from drone swarms.
- Developed By: Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited (SDAL),
- Key Features o Two-layer security system: > Layer 1: Unguided micro-rockets with a 20m lethal radius for swarm drones > Layer 2: Guided micro-missiles for precision strikes



## 22. MULTI-INFLUENCE GROUND MINE (MIGM)

The Indian Navy and DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) successfully tested the indigenously developed MIGM. About MIGM

- Advanced underwater naval mine designed to enhance the Indian Navy's capabilities against modern stealth ships and submarines.
- Designed and Developed by: **Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL)** under DRDO.
- **Features:** It uses multiple sensors to detect acoustic, magnetic, and pressure signals from marine vessels.

o It has built-in electronics with processors to process data and trigger appropriate actions. o It is deployable from ships, submarines etc.

## 23. IGla-S

Indian Army received new Russian Igla-S missiles to counter drones, choppers, jets.

### About Igla-S

- It is a man-portable, shoulder-launched surface-to-air missile (SAM) system



designed for mobile ground units operating in high-threat environments o It is an improved version of Very Short Range Air Defence Systems (VSHORADS).

## 24. OPERATION HAWK

CBI launched Operation Hawk to crack down on global cybercrime networks involved in online child sexual exploitation.

- The operation follows Operation CARBON (2021) and Operation Megh Chakra (2022) to track suspects and dismantle such networks with international links.

## 25. GLOBAL METHANE TRACKER 2025

Global Methane Tracker 2025 has been released by the International Energy Agency (IEA). Methane (greenhouse gas) is responsible for around **30 % of the rise in global temperatures** since the Industrial Revolution.



## 26. ASIATIC LION POPULATION INCREASES IN GUJARAT

Asiatic Lion population increases from 674 to 891 in 5 years according to the Lion Census (2025).

There has been an increase in the number and distribution area of Asiatic Lions (also outside Gir National Park), exemplifying the success of **'Project Lion.'**

- The census conducted (**every 5 years**) by the Gujarat Forest Department.

About Asiatic Lion (Panthera leo persica)

- Habitat: Grasslands, savannas, dense scrub, and open woodlands.
- o Concentrated in the Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary (Gujarat).
- o Barda Wildlife Sanctuary has emerged as a "second home" for lions.
- IUCN Status: Vulnerable.
- Listed in Schedule I and IV of Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972, in Appendix I of CITES.



## 27. LADAKH'S SNOW LEOPARD POPULATION

Study by Ladakh's Department of Wildlife Protection has estimated 477 snow leopards in Ladakh.

- Ladakh has one of the **world's highest densities of Snow Leopard**, representing 68% of India's species population.

## Conservation status:

- o IUCN Red List: Vulnerable.
- o CITES Appendix I and CMS Appendix I
- o Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

## 28. OPERATION OLIVIA

Operation Olivia has shielded over 8-lakh olive Ridley turtles on Odisha's Gahirmatha coast.

### Operation Olivia

- Initiated: In 1980s, by the Indian Coast Guard & It is conducted every year from November to May.
- The operation focuses on: **Gahirmatha Beach, Rushikulya River Mouth, and Devi River Mouth.**
- These coastal zones witness the arrival of over 800,000 Olive Ridley turtles annually for mass nesting called arribada.



### About Olive Ridley Turtles:

IUCN Status: Vulnerable; CITES: Appendix I.

## 29. TSARAP CHU CONSERVATION RESERVE

State Government of Himachal Pradesh notified Tsarap Chu Conservation Reserve (India's largest) in Spiti Valley.

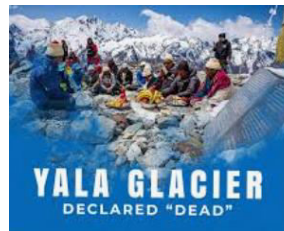


### About Tsarap Chu

- It is the location for the confluence of the Unam River and Charap Nala.
- It is bounded by the UT of Ladakh to the north, the Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary extending up to Malang Nala and Lungar Lungpa to the east, Kabjima Nala to the south and Chandratat Wildlife Sanctuary to the west.
- It is particularly known for the snow leopard, often called the 'ghost of the mountains'.

## 30. YALA GLACIER DECLARED DEAD

Glaciologists and local communities mourned the loss of Nepal's Yala glacier after it has shrunk by 66% since the 1970s, making it among Nepal's first likely to be declared dead.



## Glacier Funeral

- It is a symbolic ceremony held to mark rapid disappearance of glaciers due to climate change.
- Other major glaciers declared dead: Pizol Glacier, Switzerland (2019); Clark Glacier, US (2020); Ayoloco glacier, Mexico (2021); etc.
- The world's first funeral was held for Okjokull glacier in Iceland in 2019.

## 31.WORLD'S FIRST COMMERCIAL-SCALE E-METHANOL PLANT OPERATIONALISED IN DENMARK

E-methanol offers a viable path for reducing emissions in hard-to-abate sectors such as shipping and chemical manufacturing.

- It is a low-carbon energy produced by combining green hydrogen with captured carbon dioxide.



## 32.RIMES

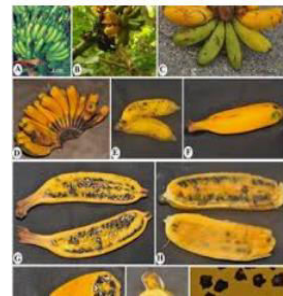
Declaration on Disaster Preparedness has been adopted at the 4th Ministerial Conference of **Regional Integrated Multi Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES)**, held in Colombo, Sri Lanka. About Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES), 2009

- It is an intergovernmental body that provides early warning services, disaster risk reduction strategies, and capacity building to its Member States. o It evolved from the efforts of countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, in the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, to establish a regional early warning system.
- Membership: It has 22 member states and 26 collaborating states.
- It operates from its regional early warning center located at Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand.

## 33. BANANA MUSA INDANDAMANENSIS

An infructescence of about 4.2 metres has been recorded in a species of wild banana *Musa indandamanensis*, making it the longest infructescence recorded in bananas.

- Infructescence is a group or cluster of fruits arranged on an axis/stem that is composed of a main stalk, and often having a complex arrangement of branches.



## About Musa indandamanensis

- Discovery: First recorded from a remote tropical forest near Krishna Nala reserve forest in the Andaman and Nicobar islands in 2012.

## 34.HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2025

The United Nations Development Programme released its Human Development Report 2025 which appreciated India for its progress in human development but also warned about rising inequality, particularly significant income and gender disparities.

India's rank in HDI improved from 133 in 2022 to 130 out of 193 countries in 2023.

## 35. URBAN POVERTY

Odisha government launched a collaborative initiative 'SAHAYOG' to facilitate access to government welfare schemes for the urban poor.

### About SAHAYOG initiative

- Aim: To improve the living standards of the economically backward through various government schemes.

Urban population nearly doubled from 17.29% (1951) to 31.16% (2011), growing from 62 million to 377 million people.

- Extreme poverty in urban centres reduced from 10.7% (2011-12) to 1.1% (2022-23).

## 36.MIZORAM ACHIEVES FULL FUNCTIONAL LITERACY

Recently, the Chief Minister of Mizoram officially declared Mizoram a fully literate state, making it the first state in India to achieve full functional literacy.

- Mizoram crossed above 95% literacy rate (98.20% as per the PLFS Survey 2023-24).
- Goa has become the second state to achieve full functional literacy.

## 37.TRACHOMA

India was awarded the Certificate of Elimination of Trachoma as a Public Health Problem by the World Health Organisation (WHO).





- India was declared the 3rd (after Nepal and Myanmar) Southeast Asian region country to have eliminated Trachoma in 2024.

### About Trachoma

- Cause: It is an eye disease caused by the bacterium Chlamydia trachomatis. o It is categorized as a Neglected Tropical Disease by the WHO.

### 38. KARNI MATA TEMPLE

Prime Minister visits Karni Mata temple in Rajasthan.

### About Karni Mata Temple

- Located in Bikaner district, Rajasthan.
- Dedicated to Karni Mata, believe is an incarnation of Goddess Durga.
- Establishment: Rao Jaitasi built this temple, to commemorate the victory of Bikaner King over the Mughal King Kumaran.
- Religious Sect: The temple belongs to Shakta Sampradaya.
- Unique Feature: In the whole world this is a unique temple where thousands of rats freely move out. o Despite the presence of the rats in great numbers, there was no incidence of plague at all.

### 39. MAJOR DHYAN CHAND KHEL RATNA AWARD

Satwicksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty received the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award. The badminton pair reached the No. 1 rank in Badminton World Federation rankings in 2023 & clinched Asian Games gold medal in Hangzhou.

### About Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- Objective: To recognize the most outstanding performance by a sportsperson over the preceding 4 years.
- Award: ₹25 lakh cash prize, Medal and a certificate of honour.

### 40. PULITZER PRIZE

The New York Times won four Pulitzer Prizes and The New Yorker three for journalism in 2024.

### About Pulitzer Prize

Pulitzer Prizes were established by Joseph Pulitzer, a Hungarian-American journalist and newspaper publisher, who left money to Columbia University upon his death in 1911.



## 41. ATAL PENSION YOJANA

Atal Pension Yojana (APY) completed 10 years.

Ministry: Ministry of Finance

- Launched in: 2015
- **Implementing agency:** Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) under the National Pension System (NPS).
- Type: Central Sector Scheme
- Eligibility:

o APY is open to all bank account holders in the age group of 18 to 40 years who are not income tax payers. o All eligible family members can join scheme.

- Benefits: o Guaranteed Monthly Pension: Lifelong pension between ₹1,000 to ₹5,000 from age 60 until death.

## 42. PRADHAN MANTRI JEEVAN JYOTI BIMA YOJANA

Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana completed 10 years.

### Features:

Ministry: Ministry of Finance

- Type: central Sector Scheme
- Nature: Life insurance scheme ( life cover up to age 55)
- Premium rate: Rs. 436 per annum. It will be auto-debited in one instalment.

## 43. PRADHAN MANTRI SURAKSHA BIMA YOJANA

Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana completed 10 years.

### Features

Ministry: Ministry of Finance

- Type: Central Sector Scheme
- Eligibility: Citizen (including NRIs) in the age group 18 to 70 years
- Premium rate: ₹ 20 per annum per member
- Enrolment period: The cover shall be for one-year period stretching from 1st June to 31st May

## **44. SHAKTI (SCHEME FOR HARNESSING AND ALLOCATING KOYALA TRANSPARENTLY IN INDIA) POLICY**

### **About Shakti Policy:**

- Introduced in: 2017
- Ministry Involved: Ministry of Coal
- Implemented by: Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)
- Supply of coal to thermal power plants was earlier governed by New Coal Distribution Policy, 2007 (NCDP). o Coal under these policies is supplied as per the commercial terms and conditions of the Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) executed between the coal companies and the power plants.

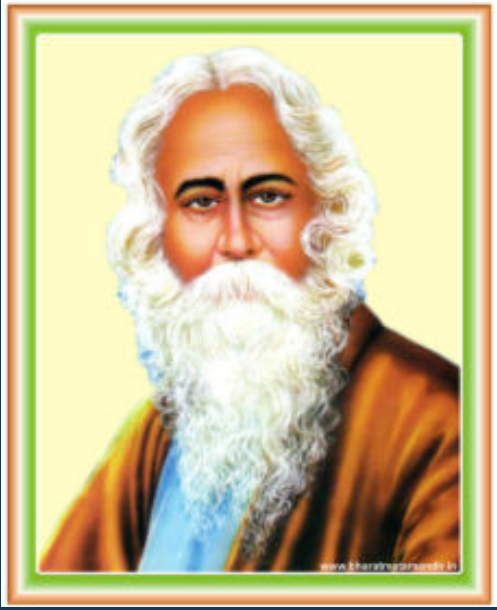




# ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

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## Indian writer and philosopher



**Rabindranath Tagore** (7 May 1861– 7 August 1941) was a renowned Indian poet, philosopher, artist, and Nobel laureate. Born in Kolkata (then Calcutta), he was a key figure of the Bengal Renaissance and a pioneer in modern Indian literature. Tagore wrote in Bengali and English and is best known for "**Gitanjali**" (Song Offerings), a collection of poems for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913—becoming the first non-European to receive the honor.

Tagore composed the national anthems of India (**Jana Gana Mana**) and Bangladesh (Amar Shonar Bangla), and inspired the national anthem of Sri Lanka. He was a social reformer, educationist, and founder of Visva-Bharati University in Santiniketan, which promoted holistic and global learning.

His works include poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and essays, and he strongly opposed colonial rule while promoting universal humanism and cultural unity. Tagore's legacy continues to influence literature, music (**Rabindra Sangeet**), art, and Indian nationalism.

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