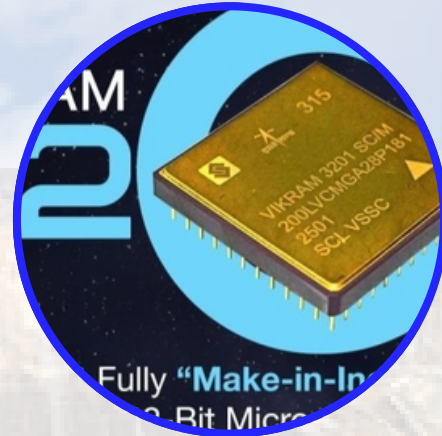


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MONTHLY MAGAZINE



LENSE (Latest Events and News Analysis Series)



FEATURS

- ✓ Day wise analysis
- ✓ Classes in YouTube
- ✓ Mains & Prelims Oriented
- ✓ Monthly Coverage
- ✓ Analysis through MCQS
- ✓ Exam -Focused Presentation

- ✓ GST 2.0
- ✓ Election of vice president
- ✓ Dadasaheb Phalke Award
- ✓ SCO Summit 2025
- ✓ COP30 in Brazil
- ✓ India -Nepal Policy

INDEX

1 Sept (Monday).....1-3

1. Kudremukh Township Land
2. 'Annapoorna Scheme'
3. Kolhapuri Footwear

2 Sept(Tuesday)3-9

4. Afghanistan Earthquake
5. SCO Summit 2025
6. Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0
7. Chandrayaan-3
8. INS Tamala and INS Surat

3 Sept (Wednesday)9-13

9. Governors Cannot Stall State Bills: SC.
10. GST Council Agenda
11. Mauritania's Coast
12. Air Quality Life Index - 2025
13. Typhon Missile System
14. India's Semiconductor Push

4 Sept (Thursday)14-17

15. Reservation: 85% Quota
16. Painted Stork carcass
17. Exercise MAITREE-XIV
18. Bharati initiative
19. Vikram 3201 – First fully indigenous 32-bit

5 Sept (Friday)17-22

20. Ravi River
21. Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)
22. Malacca Straits
23. Solar Orbiter Mission
24. Niveshak Didi Initiative
25. Incentive Scheme to Promote Critical Mineral Recycling

6 Sept (Saturday)23-27

26. Landslide in Darfur Region of Sudan.
27. Flood in Punjab
28. Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary

29. India's Technology Perspective and Capability Roadmap (TPCR-2025)

30. Mahi River floods

8 Sept (Monday)27-31

31. Papua New Guinea's 50th Independence
32. Total Lunar eclipse
33. KAPAS Kisan app
34. Angikaar 2025 campaign
35. Taiwan strait

9 Sept (Tuesday)31-35

36. India-China: Border Settlement
37. Kalika Mata Temple
38. Yedshi Ramling Ghat Wildlife Sanctuary
39. Himalayan Brown Bear

10 Sept (Wednesday).....35-41

40. Tribal Rights Issue
41. C.P. Radhakrishnan Elected 17th Vice-President of India;
42. Protection of Personality Rights
43. China Tightens Grip on Rare Earth Market
44. Deciphering Harappan Script
45. Apatani Tribal Women

11 Sept (Thursday)41-46

46. Himachal Declared 'Fully Literate' State'
47. Indo-Bhutan River Commission
48. "Adi Sanskriti" digital platform.
49. ISRO Signs Technology Transfer Agreement with HAL for SSLV Production
50. Iskander-K Missile Strike

12 Sept (Friday)46-50

51. India Must Reset Nepal Policy
52. India's Vultures:
53. Nanomaterial-Based Wound-Healing Pad
54. First Case of Melioidosis
55. Development of Bonda Tribe
56. 'Karnataka Ratna'

13 Sept (Saturday)50-53

- 57. NASA Rover
- 58. Iskander-K Missile Strike
- 59. India International Tea Convention 2025
- 60. Langkhun Festival
- 61. Hellfire Missile

15th sept (Monday)54-55

- 62. Yakshagana – Tribute to Kondadakuli Ramachandra Hegde
- 63. Citizens Petition

16th Sept (Tuesday)55-65

- 64. SC stays ‘arbitrary’ Waqf changes, but upholds Act
- 65. Aadhaar is part of statute, can be used by voters, says SC
- 66. Pink Tax
- 67. Amid an export surge, trade deficit comes down by 54%
- 68. Safety review of Char Dham project
- 69. India secures ISA license to explore Indian Ocean for polymetallic nodules
- 70. Plans for a second indigenous cheetah population in Madhya Pradesh
- 71. Zircon (Tsirkon) Hypersonic Cruise Missile
- 72. INS Trikand
- 73. INS Androth

17th sept (Wednesday).....65-73

- 74. GST 2.0
- 75. Lake Natron
- 76. Upper Krishna Project (UKP) Phase III
- 77. India Signs MoU with ILO
- 78. Rare Red Coral Kukri Snake
- 79. ASI Revises Sarnath Plaque.
- 80. INS Nistar participates in Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 in Singapore

- 81. PM lays foundation stone for Polypropylene Plant at Numaligarh Refinery, Assam

18 Sept (Thursday)73-76

- 82. EVMstoCarryColourPhotosofCandidates
- 83. BimaSugam:SingleDigitalMarketplaceforInsurance
- 84. Frontier50Initiative-NITIAayog
- 85. PennaRiverfloodrescueinNellore,AndhraPradesh
- 86. EUunveilsnewstrategicagendatodeeppentieswithIndia
- 87. MajorEmittersDelayUpdatedNDCSubmissionsAheadofCOP30inBrazil
- 88. BirhorTribeinJharkhandtogetelectricityafter8decades
- 89. Hand, Foot, and Mouth Diseases spreading in Delhi-NCR

19 Sept (Friday)76-78

- 90. Chabahar Port project
- 91. Global Innovation Index 2025
- 92. India’s first PM MITRA Park in Madhya Pradesh

20th Sept (Saturday)78-79

- 93. Banu Musthaq Dasara opening

22th sept 2025 (Monday).....81-87

- 94. The problem with low inflation
- 95. H-1B visa
- 96. Britain, Canada & Australia recognise Palestine; Netanyahu rejects move
- 97. Sawalkote dam
- 98. New Deep-Sea Coral
- 99. Achanakmar Tiger Reserve
- 100. Anand Marriage Act
- 101. IAF’s iconic MiG-21 fighter
- 102. Exercise Amogh Fury
- 103. Dadasaheb Phalke Award2023—Mohanlal

23th sept 2025 (Tuesday).....87-90

- 104. Panagariya
- 105. Indian Navy’s First Training Squadron
- 106. Lactifluus khasianus: New Mushroom

107. Project Vijayak
24th sept 2025 (Wednesday)).....90-95

- 108. EC Introduces E-Sign
- 109. Almatti Dam Dispute
- 110. Barren Island
- 111. Bonnet Macaque (Macaca radiata)
- 112. Clean Plant Programme (CPP)
- 113. Adi Yuva Fellowship & Adi Karmayogi
Volunteers Programme
- 114. Govt to Roll Out e-NAM 2.0 to Boost
Inter-State Trade

25th sept 2025 (Thursday)).....95-99

- 115. Tripura Sundari Temple, Udaipur
- 116. S.L. Bhyrappa Passes Away
- 117. Betla National Park
- 118. Doddasaggere Botanical Garden
- 119. SPARSH

26 Sept (Friday)99-103

- 120. Sixth Schedule Demand-Ladak
- 121. BRICS Grain Exchange
- 122. Agni-Prime missile
- 123. Apterichtus kanniyakumari
- 124. Sujalam Bharat Summit

27TH SEPT 2025 (Saturday)103-107

- 125. Venkataramani -Attorney General
- 126. Trump announces 100% tariff
- 127. AFSPA Extended in Parts of Manipur,
- 128. Devbhoomi awarded with special GI
Tag
- 129. National Geoscience Awards 2024
- 130. Pallikaranai Marshland

29th sept 2025 (Monday)).....107-111

- 131. Oju Hydel Project
- 132. CAG Report on States' Macro-Fiscal
Heal
- 133. Two new Ramsar Sites in Biha
- 134. Amrabad Tiger Reserve

135. Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Initiative

30th sept 2025 (Tuesday)).....111-115

- 136. Kerala Assembly opposes EC's Special
Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls
- 137. AstroSat
- 138. Yellow-tailed Ashy Skimmer
- 139. Lachipora Wildlife Sanctuary
- 140. Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve
- 141. Agri-Stack Scheme

SPORTS NEWS.....116-118

- 142. India Wins Mixed Team Gold in 10m Air
Rifle at ISSF Junior World Cup
- 143. ISSF Junior World Cup
- 144. World Para Athletics Championships
- 145. India Wins Asia Cup
- 146. Smriti Mandhana regains world No. 1
spot in ICC Women's ODI Batting Rankings

1 Sept (Monday)

1. Kudremukh Township Land Transfer to Forest Dept & Opposition to Sandur Mining
2. Launch of 'Annapoorna Scheme' for Sanitation Workers
3. Kolhapuri Footwear Makers Seek PRADA's Support

1) **Locals oppose KIOCL's decision to hand over Kudremukh township to forest dept**

Mining operations began in Kudremukh in 1977, and a township was built there for employees. Over 6,000 employees and their families once lived there.

Why in News: Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd (KIOCL) has decided to hand over 282 acres of Kudremukh Township land in Chikkamagaluru district to the Forest Department.



Q) Consider the following statements:

1. Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd (KIOCL) plans to transfer land in Chikkamagaluru to the Forest Department to fulfil a condition under the **Devadari mining lease**.
2. Kudremukh mining was **shut down in 2005** by the Karnataka High Court due to violations of mining lease terms.
3. The National Mineral Policy (2019) emphasizes sustainable mining and rehabilitation of affected communities.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only. Devadari iron ore mining lease in Bellary district

Statement 2 is incorrect – The **Supreme Court**, not the Karnataka High Court, ordered the closure of Kudremukh mining in 2005 on ecological grounds.

2) Launch of 'Annapoorna Scheme' for Sanitation Workers

Why in News : The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has launched the 'Annapoorna Scheme', claimed as the first-of-its-kind initiative in India.

Q) Consider the following statements:



1. The 'Annapoorna Scheme' launched by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) aims to provide direct financial assistance for daily breakfast to sanitation workers.
2. Each sanitation worker receives ₹1,500 per month through smart cards powered by Axis Bank.
3. The scheme currently covers both direct and contract sanitation workers employed by BWSSB.
4. The initiative has been described as a step toward creating a "smart city with a humane touch."

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 3 statements only
- (b) 2 statements only
- (c) None of the above
- (d) All four statements are correct

Answer: (a) 3 statements only (1, 2 and 4)

- **Statement 3:** Incorrect – The initial phase covers only 700+ direct BWSSB workers, excluding around 3,000 contract workers.

3) Kolhapuri Footwear Makers Seek PRADA's Support

Karnataka Kolhapuri footwear makers seek PRADA's support

* 'Most of the production of Kolhapuri footwear happens in Karnataka, while most of the sale is in Maharashtra. They are named after the city they are sold in, not made in'

© RISHIKESH BAHADUR DESAI



Why in News: Italian luxury fashion house PRADA faced criticism for allegedly "copying" the design of Kolhapuri chappals, a traditional handcrafted leather footwear from Karnataka & Maharashtra.

Q) Consider the following statements:

1. Kolhapuri chappals are traditional handcrafted leather footwear mainly produced in Athani (Belagavi, Karnataka) and Kolhapur (Maharashtra).
2. PRADA designers visited both Athani and Kolhapur to interact with artisans after allegations of design appropriation.
3. Karnataka was the first state to send a legal notice to PRADA regarding alleged design copying.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only

Statement 2: Incorrect – PRADA designers **visited only Kolhapur**, Maharashtra, not Athani.

Q) Following the PRADA-Kolhapuri chappal controversy, artisans in Karnataka are seeking which of the following benefits?

Global fashion giant Prada acknowledges Kolhapuri inspiration

After a controversy, the fashion brand says it recognises the cultural significance of traditional Indian craftsmanship; the Maharashtra business body decides to patent Kolhapuri chappals for protection from infringement; artisans rejoice but also say that the brand should do more to help their trade

1. **Training centers** and **skill development programs**.
2. **Scholarships for artisans** and their families.
3. **Remunerative prices** and global branding opportunities.
4. Exclusive **collaboration with PRADA** without involvement of other states.

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only

2 Sept(Tuesday)

- 1) **Afghanistan Earthquake** Kills Over 800, Injures 2,800
- 2) India–Russia Shoulder to Shoulder at **SCO Summit 2025**
- 3) Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0
- 4) **Chandrayaan-3: ISRO Issues Announcement of Opportunity (AO) for Scientific Analysis**
- 5) **INS Tamala and INS Surat** Conclude Port Call at Jeddah

1) **Over 800 killed, 2,800 injured as strong quake devastates Afghanistan: Taliban**

More than 800 people have been killed and 2,800 injured in the **6.0-magnitude** earthquake that hit Afghanistan late Sunday.

Why in News: Afghanistan was struck by a powerful earthquake **of magnitude 6** in the eastern provinces of **Kunar and Nangarhar**, killing over 800 people and injuring nearly 2,800. The quake has worsened the already fragile humanitarian and economic situation in the **Taliban-ruled country**.



Q) Consider the following types of earthquakes and their causes:

1. **Tectonic Earthquakes** – caused by **movement of lithospheric** plates along fault lines.
2. **Volcanic Earthquakes** – **triggered by volcanic activity** and **magma movement**.
3. **Collapse Earthquakes** – caused by collapse of underground structures like **caves or mines**.
4. **Explosion Earthquakes** – result from **nuclear tests** or large-scale industrial blasts.

Which of the above correctly matches the type of earthquake with its cause?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- (d) 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q. With reference to earthquakes in India, consider the following examples:

1. **2001 Bhuj earthquake** – Tectonic earthquake
2. **Kolar Gold Fields collapse** – Collapse earthquake
3. **1998 Pokhran-II tests** – Volcanic earthquake
4. **Mount St. Helens eruption (USA)** – Volcanic earthquake

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 2 statements are correct
- (b) Only 3 statements are correct
- (c) Only 1 statements is correct
- (d) Only 2 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Pokhran-II was an explosion earthquake, not volcanic (1, 2 and 4)

Q) Consider the following statements regarding earthquakes:

1. Earthquakes are **sudden vibrations of the Earth's** surface caused by release of energy along fault lines.
2. Magnitude of earthquakes is measured by the **Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI)** scale.
3. **Richter Scale** and Moment **Magnitude Scale (Mw)** measure the energy released in an earthquake.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only MMI measures intensity, not magnitude.

2) India–Russia Shoulder to Shoulder at SCO Summit 2025

Why in News: Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the 25th SCO Summit in Tianjin, China. The meeting took place amid US–India trade tensions over Russian oil imports and highlighted the strength of the India–Russia partnership.



Q) Consider the following statements about the recent India–Russia bilateral meeting at the summit:

1. The main focus areas of discussion were economic, financial, and energy cooperation.
2. Prime Minister Modi urged President Putin to find a peaceful resolution to the Ukraine conflict.
3. President Putin declined to attend the upcoming SCO Summit in India (Dec 2025).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Q) With reference to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and the recent developments during the 2025 Summit, consider the following statements:

1. The SCO was founded in 2001 with the objective of promoting regional security, economic cooperation, and counter-terrorism.
2. India and Pakistan became full members of the SCO in 2017.
3. The 23rd SCO Summit in 2025 is being hosted by India.
4. The 2025 SCO Declaration on Terrorism condemned all forms of terrorism, rejected double standards, and specifically mentioned the Pahalgam terror attack (April 2025), which was also signed by Pakistan and China.
5. The declaration was adopted during the G20 Summit in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

Answer: (b) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only

Statement 5 is incorrect because the declaration was part of the SCO Summit, not the G20 Summit.

3) Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0

Why in News: The Indian Army recently conducted Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0 in the high-altitude **Kameng region of Arunachal Pradesh**, focusing on next-generation warfare capabilities.

INDIAN ARMY TESTS COMBAT READINESS IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH



THE INDIAN ARMY WRAPPED UP EXERCISE YUDH KAUSHAL 3.0 IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH'S KAMENG REGION ON AUGUST 30-31. TROOPS PROVED THEIR STRENGTH IN COLD, RUGGED TERRAIN USING DRONES, PRECISION WEAPONS, AND NEW ASHNI PLATOONS.

THE DRILL ALSO SPOTLIGHTED LOCAL DEFENCE INDUSTRY SUPPORT.

Q) Consider the following statements about the recent Indian Army exercise conducted in the Kameng region of Arunachal Pradesh:

1. The exercise was conducted by the Indian Army in a high-altitude area.
2. It focused on **integrating advanced technologies such as drones, precision strikes**, and real-time target acquisition.
3. It involved naval coordination to test underwater warfare readiness.
4. The exercise validated India's preparedness for high-altitude and extreme climate operations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 4 only. The exercise was conducted by the Indian Army in the **Kameng region**, showcasing high-altitude combat readiness using drones and precision strikes. It did not include underwater naval operations.

4) Chandrayaan-3: ISRO Issues Announcement of Opportunity (AO) for Scientific Analysis

Why in News: ISRO has issued an Announcement of Opportunity (AO) inviting India's scientific community (outside ISRO/Department of Space) to propose projects for scientific analysis and utilisation of Chandrayaan-3 mission data.

Q) Consider the following statements regarding eligibility and proposal conditions for ISRO's Chandrayaan-3 AO:

1. Only faculty and researchers from recognised Indian institutions are eligible.
2. The Principal Investigator (PI) must have at least 4 years of service remaining before superannuation.
3. Each project must be completed within a period of 5 years.
4. Multiple Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs) are allowed in one proposal.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- Only 2 statements are correct
- Only 3 statements are correct
- Only 1 statement is correct
- All 4 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 3 statements are correct. Statements 1, 2, and 4 are correct. Statement 3 is incorrect — the project must be completed within 3 years, not 5.

Q) With reference to India's Chandrayaan missions, consider the following statements:

- Chandrayaan-1 was launched using the GSLV Mk-III rocket.
- Chandrayaan-2 included an orbiter, lander, and rover; however, only the orbiter remains functional.
- Chandrayaan-3 did not carry an orbiter and successfully landed near the Moon's south pole.
- Chandrayaan-1 discovered water molecules on the Moon.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- Only 2 statements are correct
- Only 3 statements are correct
- Only 1 statement is correct
- All 4 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 3 statements are correct

- Statement 1 is incorrect — Chandrayaan-1 was launched by **PSLV-C11**, not GSLV Mk-III. Statements 2, 3, and 4 are correct.

Q) Consider the following pairs regarding India's Chandrayaan missions:

Mission	Key Achievement
1) Chandrayaan-1	Discovery of water molecules on the Moon
2) Chandrayaan-2	First successful lunar landing near the south pole
3) Chandrayaan-3	Confirmation of sulphur, oxygen, and other elements at the lunar south pole

AFTER LANDING

Vikram lander deploys its solar panels

After midnight, rover rolled on to Moon

Health of instruments on the lander and rover to be checked

Rover's movement on Moon surface to begin

Lander and rover to start sending data



OVER THE MOON

CHANDRAYAAN-1

Launch Date | October 2008

Payload | An orbiter and a Moon impact probe

Result | Successful

CHANDRAYAAN-2

Launch Date | July 22, 2019

Landing Date | September 6, 2019

Payloads | Orbiter, lander, rover

Result | Orbiter in Moon's orbit, lander crashed minutes before touchdown

CHANDRAYAAN-3

Launch Date | July 14, 2023

Landing Date | August 23, 2023

Payloads | Propulsion module, lander, rover

Status | Lander soft-lands on Moon, Pragyan rover deployed



Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only

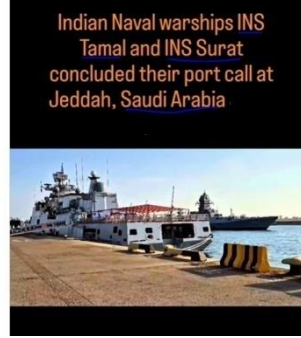
- (c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only

- Chandrayaan-2's lander failed to land successfully in 2019, so pair 2 is incorrect. Chandrayaan-3 achieved the first successful landing near the lunar south pole.

5) INS Tamala and INS Surat Conclude Port Call at Jeddah

Why in News: The Indian Navy warships **INS Tamala** and **INS Surat** concluded their port call at **Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**, with a passage exercise alongside the **Royal Saudi Naval Forces (RSNF)** corvette HMS Jazan. This visit highlighted growing India–Saudi Arabia defence cooperation.



Q) With reference to *INS Tamala*, consider the following statements:

- It is an **Astradharini-class torpedo** recovery vessel.
- It was commissioned in 2016 and is based at the Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam.
- It plays a key role in recovering operational torpedoes used in real combat.
- The vessel enhances India's naval weapon testing and development capability.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only 2 statements are correct
(b) Only 3 statements are correct
(c) Only 1 statement is correct
(d) All 4 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 3 statements are correct. Statements 1, 2, and 4 are correct. Statement 3 is incorrect — *INS Tamala* recovers *practice* torpedoes, not combat ones.

Q) With reference to *INS Surat* and India's naval modernization, consider the following statements:

- INS Surat* is a Visakhapatnam-class (Project 15B) guided missile destroyer built under *Make in India*.
- It was launched in May 2022 by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL), Mumbai.
- It is India's largest ever destroyer, equipped with BrahMos missiles, advanced radar, and stealth features.
- The ship is part of India's *Look East Policy* to enhance cooperation with ASEAN countries.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- Only 2 statements are correct
- Only 3 statements are correct
- Only 1 statement is correct
- All 4 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 3 statements are correct. Statements 1, 2, and 3 are correct. Statement 4 is incorrect — the visit aligns with India's *Look West Policy*, not *Look East Policy*.

3 Sept (Wednesday)

- Governors Cannot Stall State Bills: SC.**
- Sweeping Tax Cuts on GST Council Agenda
- Migrant Boat Tragedy off Mauritania's Coast
- Air Quality Life Index - 2025 Environment & Ecology**
- Typhon Missile System
- India's Semiconductor Push

1) Governors Cannot Stall State Bills: SC.

Why in News: A Presidential Reference Bench of the Supreme Court, headed by **CJI B.R. Gavai**, observed that **Governors cannot indefinitely withhold assent to Bills passed by State legislatures.**

Q) Consider the following options available to a Governor under Article 200 when a Bill is presented:

- Give assent to the Bill.
- Withhold assent to the Bill indefinitely.
- Return the Bill (if not a Money Bill) for reconsideration by the Legislature.
- Reserve the Bill for the President's consideration.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- Only 2 statements are correct
- Only 3 statements are correct
- Only 4 statements are correct
- All 4 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 3 statements are correct

- Statement 2 is incorrect — the Governor **cannot withhold assent indefinitely.**
- Statements 1, 3, and 4 are correct — these are the constitutional options under Article 200.

Governors cannot sit over Bills endlessly, say Supreme Court judges

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai and Justices Vikram Nath and P.S. Narasimha separately remark that Governors could neither delay the wisdom of the legislature indefinitely nor impede the functioning of the Constitution; Tamil Nadu and West Bengal seek collaboration, not combat, among high offices

Updated - September 03, 2023 06:41 am IST - NEW DELHI



KRISHNAKANT RAJAGOPAL



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A Presidential Reference Bench headed by Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai hears arguments on September 2, 2023. Photo: YouTube/@SupremeCourtOfIndia - 1959

- **Article 201:** If reserved for President, assent/withholding rests with the President.

Q) Judicial Precedents on Governor's Discretion

Consider the following judicial interpretations regarding the Governor's assent to Bills:

1. **Purushothaman Nambudiri vs Kerala (1962)** — Governor cannot delay assent indefinitely.
2. **Shamsher Singh vs Punjab (1974)** — Governor must act on aid and advice of Council of Ministers, except in discretionary cases.
3. Governors have absolute discretion in all matters of Bill assent.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1 statement is correct
- (b) Only 2 statements are correct
- (c) Only 3 statements are correct
- (d) None of the statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 2 statements are correct

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct.
- Statement 3 is incorrect — absolute discretion was **rejected by the Supreme Court**.

2) Sweeping Tax Cuts on GST Council Agenda

Why in News: The 56th GST Council meeting has proposed a major restructuring of GST slabs, likely reducing tax rates for essential items while increasing taxes on sin and luxury goods

Q) Proposed GST Restructuring (2025)

Consider the following statements regarding the **56th GST Council proposal**:

1. The Council proposed moving from multiple GST slabs to a **two-tier structure of 5% and 18%**.
2. Certain essential items like **milk products, bread, and dates** are likely to see GST reduction from 5% to Nil.
3. Coal, lignite, and luxury items like **small cars and air conditioners** may see a **tax decreased**.
4. Apparel costing above ₹2,500 may see GST reduction from 18% to 12%.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



- (a) Only 1 statement is correct
- (b) Only 2 statements are correct
- (c) Only 3 statements are correct
- (d) All 4 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 2 statements are correct

- Statements 1, and 2 are correct.
- Statement 3 is incorrect — sin/luxury items like coal and lignite are proposed for **higher GST (up to 40%)**.
- Statement 4 is **incorrect** — GST on apparel above ₹2,500 is **likely to increase from 12% to 18%**, not decrease.

3) Migrant Boat Tragedy off Mauritania's Coast



Why in News: A migrant boat sank off the coast of **Mauritania (Northwest Africa)**, leaving at least 49 people dead and around 100 missing.



4) Air Quality Life Index - 2025 Environment & Ecology

Why in News: The Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) 2025 Report, released by the Energy Policy Institute (EPIC) at the **University of Chicago**, highlights that air pollution is India's most severe health threat, cutting average life expectancy by 3.5 years. Delhi-NCR remains the worst affected, with a potential life expectancy loss of 8.2 years.



Q) Consider the following statements regarding the AQLI 2025 report:

1. The AQLI measures the impact of **particulate pollution (PM2.5)** on life expectancy.
2. India's average life expectancy is reduced by **3.5 years** due to air pollution.
3. Delhi-NCR faces the highest life expectancy loss of **8.2 years** among Indian regions.
4. Only 10% of Indians live in areas exceeding **India's national air quality standard**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1 and 2 statements are correct
- (b) Only 1, 2, and 3 statements are correct
- (c) Only 3 and 4 statements are correct
- (d) All 4 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 1, 2, and 3 statements are correct

1. Statement 4 is incorrect — **46% of Indians** live in areas exceeding India's own standards, not just 10%
2. **AQLI** -Developed by Michael Greenstone and Energy Policy Institute (EPIC), University of Chicago.

Q) Consider the following statements:

1. **Air pollution in India reduces life expectancy** more than unsafe water and sanitation combined.
2. Nearly half of India's population lives in areas exceeding **national PM2.5 limits**.
3. The Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) uses **PM10 data** to estimate life expectancy loss.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1 and 2 statements are correct
- (b) Only 2 and 3 statements are correct
- (c) Only 1 and 3 statements are correct
- (d) All 3 statements are correct

Answer: (a) Only 1 and 2 statements are correct. Statement 3 is incorrect — **AQLI** specifically uses **PM2.5 data**, not PM10

- **Major Pollutants: PM2.5 & PM10 (particulate matter)** – can enter lungs & bloodstream. • **NOx (Nitrogen Oxides)** – vehicular emissions. • **SO₂ (Sulphur Dioxide)** – coal-based industries, power plants. • **CO (Carbon Monoxide)** – incomplete combustion. • **O₃ (Tropospheric Ozone)** – secondary pollutant from sunlight + vehicular/industrial gases. • **Lead, VOCs, Black Carbon** – industrial & vehicular sources.

5) Typhon Missile System

Why in News: The U.S. and Japan announced the temporary deployment of the Typhon intermediate-range missile system in Japan as part of a joint military exercise, marking a significant shift in Indo-Pacific security dynamics.



Q) Consider the following statements about the Typhon Missile System:

1. It is also known as the **Mid-Range Capability (MRC) system**.
2. Developed by **Lockheed Martin (U.S.)**, it is a **road-mobile, surface-to-surface missile system**.
3. It can launch **SM-6 missiles** (range beyond 320 km) and **Tomahawk cruise missiles** (deep-strike up to 1,500 km).
4. A full battery includes **6 launchers, command post, and reload/support vehicles**.



5. It supports **precision strike on land and maritime targets**, and is effective for **sea denial missions**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 3 statements are correct
(b) Only 4 statements are correct
(c) None of the above are correct
(d) All 5 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 4 statements are correct (1, 2, 3, and 5)

Statement 4: Incorrect — There is **no official connection to India-U.S. missile cooperation**; the exercise focuses on U.S.-Japan strategic collaboration.

6) India's Semiconductor Push

Semiconductor push: India hosts **20% of world's chip design engineers**; consumption set to cross **\$120 billion by 2030**

Q) Consider the following statements:

1. Semiconductors are materials whose **conductivity lies between conductors and insulators**.
2. Common semiconductor materials include **Silicon, Gallium Arsenide, and Germanium**.
3. Logic chips include **CPUs and GPUs**, which provide processing power.
4. Taiwan's **TSMC** accounts for about **60% of the global memory chip market**.
5. India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), launched in 2021 under **MeitY**, aims to develop a sustainable **semiconductor and display ecosystem in India**.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 3 statements are correct
(b) Only 4 statements are correct
(c) None of the above statements are correct
(d) All 5 statements are correct

Answer: (b) Only 4 statements are correct (1, 2, 3, and 5)

- India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)
- **Launched in December 2021 under the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY).**
- **Aim:** Develop a sustainable semiconductor and display ecosystem in India.
- Offers financial incentives, design-linked schemes, and infrastructure support.
- **Aligned with Atmanirbhar Bharat and Digital India initiatives.**

4 Sept (Thursday)

- 1) Reservation: 85% Quota Promise & Creamy Layer for SC/STs
- 2) Painted Stork carcass
- 3) Exercise MAITREE-XIV: India–Thailand Joint Military Drill
- 4) **Bharati initiative**
- 5) Vikram 3201 – First fully indigenous 32-bit

1) Reservation: 85% Quota Promise & Creamy Layer for SC/STs

Why in News: Tejashwi Yadav (Leader of Opposition, Bihar) announced that their alliance would increase reservation to 85% if voted to power. The Supreme Court has issued notice to the Union government on a petition demanding a 'creamy layer' system for SC/ST reservations, similar to OBCs

A Brief History of Backward Classes Reservations in India:

- The constitutional term for Other Backward Classes or OBC is **Socially and Economically Backward Classes or SEBC**.
- The benchmark for OBC affirmative action is 'class' and not 'caste'.

1955: First Backward Classes Commission Report (Kaka Kalekar Commission) recommended caste enumeration in the 1961 census.

1980: Janata Party government-appointed Second Backward Classes Commission (Mandal Commission) submitted its report.

Commission extrapolated the OBC population to 52% from the last caste census from 1931.

1989: V P Singh government implements Mandal Commission Report.

1992: In the Indra Sawhney Case, the SC introduces the concept of creamy layer to exclude well-off among OBCs from the ambit of quota.

Sub-categorisation of OBCs in states:

1972: Karnataka CM Devraj Urs appoints Havanur Commission, its report formed the basis for the sub-categorisation of OBCs.

1977: Bihar CM Karpuri Thakur implements Mungeri Lal Commission report to divide OBCs into two categories: extremely backward classes (EBCs), and backward classes

2002: Former UP CM Rajnath Singh appoints Hukum Singh committee to earmark 5% OBC quota for Yadavs and 14% for Most Backward Classes

What is sub-categorisation of OBC?

- Creating sub-groups of backward castes within the OBC category.
- The objective is to ensure equitable distribution of the quota pie between haves and have-nots or the backward and most backward classes.

Sub-categorisation in the central OBCs list:

2017: The Modi government appoints a commission headed by Justice G Rohini to examine the sub-categorisation of OBCs



Terms of reference of the Rohini Commission:

- i. To examine the inequitable distribution of reservation benefits among OBCs in the Central List.
- ii. To work out the mechanism, criteria, norms and parameters in a scientific approach
- iii. To identify the respective castes and classify them into their respective sub-categories

2023: Rohini Commission submits its report to the President of India.

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the evolution and framework of reservation in India:

1. The Poona Pact of 1932 between Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar laid the foundation for political reservation for the Depressed Classes, later recognized as Scheduled Castes.
2. In **Indra Sawhney v. Union of India** (1992), the Supreme Court upheld the 27% OBC reservation and introduced the concept of the 'creamy layer'.
3. **Articles 30 and 32** of the Constitution provide for **reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Parliament and State Legislatures respectively.**

How many of the above statements are **correct**?

- A) Only two
- B) Only three
- C) All four
- D) Only one

Answer: A) Only two (1, and 2). **Articles 330 and 332**

- **Article 335:** SC/ST claims in services to be consistent with efficiency.
- **Article 338 & 338 B:** National Commissions for SCs and OBCs.

Q) Consider the following constitutional provisions and match them correctly:

Article	Provision
16(4A)	Special provisions for SCs, STs, and OBCs in education
338	Reservation in promotions for SCs and STs
103rd Amendment	National Commission for Scheduled Castes
15(4)	10% EWS quota

Select the correct code:

- A) 15(4)-I, 16(4A)-II, 338-III, 103rd-IV
 B) 15(4)-II, 16(4A)-I, 338-III, 103rd-IV
 C) 15(4)-I, 16(4A)-II, 338-III, 103rd-IV
 D) 15(4)-III, 16(4A)-IV, 338-I, 103rd-II

Answer: C) 15(4)-I, 16(4A)-II, 338-III, 103rd-IV

2) Painted Stork carcass.

Why in News: The National Zoological Park, New Delhi, has stepped up surveillance and biosecurity measures after the carcass of a migratory Painted Stork was found near a pond and another stork was detected sick in the water bird aviary. About Painted Stork



3) Exercise MAITREE-XIV: India–Thailand Joint Military Drill

Why in News: The 14th edition of Exercise MAITREE (MAITREE XIV) between the Indian Army and the Royal Thai Army commenced at Joint Training Node (JTN), Umroi, Meghalaya with a grand opening ceremony.



Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Exercise MAITREE-XIV (2025):

- It is a **bilateral joint military exercise** between the Indian Army and the Royal Thai Army.
- The **14th edition (2025)** of Exercise Maitree was held at the **Joint Training Node (JTN), Umroi, Meghalaya**.
- The **Indian Army's Madras Regiment** participated in this edition.
- The exercise focused on **maritime operations and naval coordination** in the Indian Ocean Region.

How many of the above statements are **correct**?

- A) Only two
B) Only three
C) All four
D) Only one

Answer: B) Only three

(Statements 1, 2, and 3 are correct; Statement 4 is incorrect — focus was on **counter-terrorism in semi-urban terrain**, not maritime ops)

4) BHARATI Initiative

Why in News: The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) launched the BHARATI initiative, aimed at empowering agri-food and agri-tech startups to boost India's agri-exports and promote innovation in food processing and technology.



Q) Consider the following statements regarding the BHARATI Initiative launched by APEDA (2025):

1. The BHARATI initiative aims to support **100 agri-food and agri-tech startups** through a structured incubation and acceleration programme.
2. The term **BHARATI** stands for *Bharat's Hub for Agritech, Resilience, Advancement and Incubation for Export Enablement*. **Export Goal:** Contribute to APEDA's vision of achieving **\$50 billion agri-food exports by 2030**.
3. It is implemented by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (**MPEDA**) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
4. Its primary objective is to promote **domestic food retail expansion** rather than exports.

How many of the above statements are **correct**?

- A) Only two
B) Only three
C) All four
D) Only one

Answer: A) Only two (Statements 1, and 2 are correct)

- Statement 3 – Incorrect: **It is implemented by APEDA, not MPEDA**. Statement 4 is incorrect — it focuses on **agri-exports**, not domestic retail.)
- **APEDA started in 1986**, with the Act being passed in December 1985 and coming into effect on February 13, 1986

3) Vikram 3201 – First fully indigenous 32-bit

Why in News: India unveiled its first fully indigenous **32-bit microprocessor** – **Vikram 3201** at the **Semicon India 2025** conference. This is a landmark step in India's self-reliance in semiconductor and space technology.

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Vikram 3201 microprocessor (2025):

1. Vikram 3201 is India's **first fully indigenous 32-bit microprocessor**, developed by the **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**.
2. It was **fabricated at the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL)**, Chandigarh.
3. The processor is primarily designed for **aerospace and space mission applications**.
4. It supports **64-bit floating-point operations** and is compatible with the **Ada programming language**.
5. It replaces the **Vikram 1601**, which was a 32-bit processor used since 2010.

How many of the above statements are **correct**?

- A) Only two
- B) Only three
- C) Only four
- D) All five

Answer: C) Only four

- **Statement 5 – Incorrect:** Vikram 1601 was a **16-bit** processor (not 32-bit) used since **2009**, not 2010.



5 Sept (Friday)

- 1) **Ravi** washes away 30 km of Indo-Pak border fence
- 2) Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)
- 3) Singapore backs India on patrolling Malacca Straits
- 4) Solar Orbiter Mission
- 5) Niveshak Didi Initiative
- 6) Incentive Scheme to Promote Critical Mineral Recycling

1) **Ravi** washes away 30 km of Indo-Pak border fence

Why in News: Heavy flooding of the Ravi river in Punjab has damaged nearly 30 km of **border fencing along the Indo-Pak**

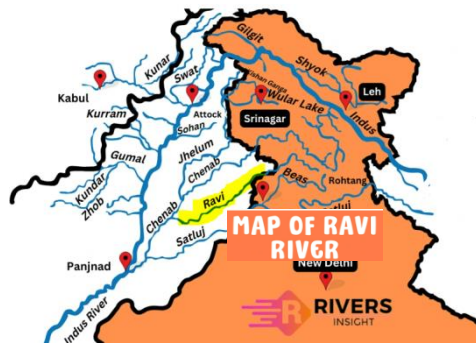


frontier. This has led to breaches in embankments, submergence of BSF posts, and temporary security

Q) Where does the Ravi river originate?

- A) Bara Banghal, Himachal Pradesh
- B) Chamba, Himachal Pradesh
- C) Pathankot, Punjab
- D) Lahore, Pakistan

Answer: A) Bara Banghal, Himachal Pradesh



Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Ravi River:

1. The Ravi River was known as *Hydraotes* to the ancient Greeks.
2. The river's waters are allocated to India under the **Indus Waters Treaty (1962)**.
3. Its important tributaries include **Budhil, Siawa, Nai, Seul, Baira, Tanttari, and Ujh**.
4. The Ravi joins the **Beas River** before entering Pakistan.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A) 1, and 3 only
- B) 2 and 4 only
- C) 1, 3, and 4 only
- D) All four

Answer: A) 1, and 3 only

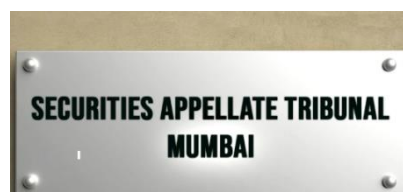
- Under the **Indus Waters Treaty (1960)**, Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej are allocated for India's use.
- The Ravi does *not* join the Beas; instead, it flows independently into Pakistan and joins the Chenab River.

Note: Indus river System

Main left-bank tributaries	Right-bank tributaries
Trick to Learn tributaries	
"Indu Just Changed Rags to BagS" Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, Satluj.	"Silly Girls Have Keen Knowledge Gaining Zeal" Shook, Gilgit, Hunza, Kabul, Kuram, Gomai, Zhob.

2) Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)

Why in news: US-based trading firm Jane Street Group on Wednesday filed an appeal in the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) against the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) in



the alleged market manipulation case

Q) Which of the following correctly describes the **composition** of the Securities Appellate Tribunal?

- A) Chief Justice of India + 2 technical members
- B) Presiding Officer + Judicial Members + Technical Members
- C) Chairperson + Finance Secretary
- D) SEBI Chairperson + RBI Governor

Answer: B) Presiding Officer + Judicial Members + Technical Members

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the **legal and constitutional provisions** related to the **Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)**:

1. Article 323B of the Constitution empowers Parliament to establish tribunals, including the SAT.
2. The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) has been established under the **SEBI Act, 1992**.
3. The **Companies Act, 2013** directly governs the functioning of SAT.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All three

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

- The Companies Act, 2013, relates to company law and investor protection but does **not directly govern** SAT's functioning.



SEBI	
Chairman	Tuhin Kanta Pandey
Headquarters	Mumbai
Type	Statutory body under the SEBI Act, 1992
Nature	Quasi-judicial body
Objective	To hear appeals against orders of: SEBI or adjudicating officer under SEBI Act

3) Singapore backs India on patrolling Malacca Straits

Why in News: Singapore has extended support to India's plan for patrolling the Malacca Straits, deepening Indo-Pacific maritime cooperation. Both countries also signed agreements on green energy exports and advanced defence technology

Singapore backs India's plan to patrol Malacca Strait

The two countries will deepen defence technology cooperation in emerging areas such as "quantum computing, AI, automation and unmanned vessels", a joint statement said





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partnerships.

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IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO &AAO/RFO

Q) Consider the following statements:

1. The **Malacca Straits** lie between Malaysia and India.
2. It connects the Indian Ocean with the South China Sea.
3. It carries about 40% of global trade.

Which of the statements are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All three



Answer: C) 2 and 3 only Malacca Straits lie between Malaysia and Indonesia.

- Connects Indian Ocean with the **South China Sea and Pacific Ocean**

3) Solar Orbiter Mission

Why in News: Singapore has extended support to India's plan for patrolling the Malacca Straits, deepening Indo-Pacific maritime cooperation. Both countries also signed agreements on green energy exports and advanced defence technology partnerships.



Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Solar Orbiter Mission:

1. The Solar Orbiter Mission is a joint initiative of the **European Space Agency (ESA) and NASA**.
2. The mission's main objective is to study the **Sun's polar regions and the heliosphere**.
3. It was **launched in 2020** and carries instruments to observe solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs).
4. The mission primarily focuses on studying Earth's magnetosphere.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A) only 3 statements are correct
- B) only 2 statements are correct
- C) None of the above
- D) All four

Answer: A) only 3 statements are correct (1, 2 and 3)

- Statement 4 is incorrect — the Solar Orbiter studies the **Sun and heliosphere**, not Earth's magnetosphere.
- **Solar flares** (sudden energy release on Sun's surface), **Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs)** – huge bursts of plasma & magnetic field.
- **Recent Findings (2020–2022):** Solar Orbiter observed 300+ bursts of SEEs; one type linked to intense flares, another to CMEs.

Q) India's Aditya-L1 mission (2023):

1. Aditya-L1 is India's first solar observatory mission designed to study the Sun's corona and solar emissions.
2. The mission monitors space weather caused by solar flares, coronal mass ejections (CMEs), and solar wind.
3. Aditya-L1 is positioned at the **Lagrange Point 1 (L1)** between the Earth and the Sun.
4. The mission was launched in collaboration with NASA from the Moon's orbit.



Which of the statements are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 2 and 4 only
- C) 1 and 4 only
- D) All four

Answer: A) 1, 2 and 3 only

Statement 4 is incorrect — Aditya-L1 is an **ISRO-only mission** and not launched from the Moon's orbit.

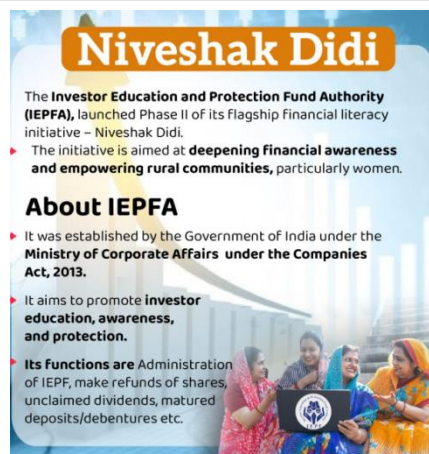
4) Niveshak Didi Initiative

Why in News: The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, launched Phase II of its flagship financial literacy initiative – **Niveshak Didi** – at Hyderabad, focusing on rural women.

Q) The "Women for Women" ideology in Niveshak Didi means:

- A) Only men can train women in financial literacy
- B) Rural women feel more comfortable discussing financial queries with female trainers
- C) Women receive loans without training
- D) Women are encouraged to invest in male-led enterprises

Answer: B) Rural women feel more comfortable discussing financial queries with female trainers



Q) Which of the following are focus areas of the Niveshak Didi program?

1. Urban real estate planning
2. Insurance & investments
3. Prevention of fraud & government financial schemes

4. Banking basics & savings

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 2, 3 and 4 only
- C) 1 and 4 only
- D) All four

Answer: A) 2, 3 and 4 only

6) Incentive Scheme to Promote Critical Mineral Recycling

Why in News: The Union Cabinet has approved a ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme to promote recycling capacity for critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, and rare earths from e-waste and other secondary sources.



Q) The National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) incentive scheme:

- A) FY 2024–25 to FY 2029–30, ₹1,000 crore outlay
- B) FY 2025–26 to FY 2030–31, ₹1,500 crore outlay
- C) FY 2023–24 to FY 2028–29, ₹2,000 crore outlay
- D) FY 2025–26 to FY 2031–32, ₹1,200 crore outlay

Answer: B) FY 2025–26 to FY 2030–31, ₹1,500 crore outlay

Q) Which of the following are eligible feedstocks under the scheme?

- 1. E-waste
- 2. Lithium-ion battery scrap
- 3. Industrial scrap
- 4. Natural ores

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 2, 3 and 4 only
- D) All four

Answer: A) 1, 2 and 3 only

6 Sept (Saturday)

- 1) Landslide in Darfur Region of Sudan.
- 2) Flood in Punjab
- 3) Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary to be Declared Tiger Reserve
- 4) India's Technology Perspective and Capability Roadmap (TPCR-2025)
- 5) Five workers feared dead as Mahi River floods

Landslide in Sudan's Darfur wipes out village, killing more than 1,000 people

The village in the Marrah Mountains was "completely levelled to the ground" and left with only one survivor

1)

Why in News: A landslide struck a remote mountain village in Darfur (Sudan), burying several houses and causing casualties. The incident highlights the vulnerability of Sudan's conflict-affected and disaster prone regions

Q) Consider the following statements about Sudan:

1. Sudan is the **third-largest country** in Africa.
2. It has a coastline on **the Red Sea**.
3. The **Nile River** and its tributaries drain most parts of the country.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 2 Statements are correct
- B) None of the above
- C) 3 Statements are correct
- D) Only 1 Statements is correct



Answer: C) 3 Statements are correct (1, 2, and 3). Sudan is Africa's 3rd largest country, bordered by the Red Sea, and drained by the Nile system.

- Borders the Sahara Desert (north) and extends towards West African forests & Congo River basin (south).
- Sudan borders the **Red Sea** to the **east** and **Libya & Chad** to the west

Q) The Jabal Marrah mountain in Sudan is significant because:

1. It is the **highest point** in Sudan.
2. It is a **Fold mountain** range.
3. It lies in the **Darfur region**.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2, and 3
- D) 1 and 3 only



Answer: D) 1 and 3.

- Jabal Marrah (Darfur) is a **volcanic mountain** and Sudan's highest point

- **Khartoum**, the **capital of Sudan**, lies at the confluence of the Blue Nile and White Nile rivers and has a semi-arid Sahel-type climate.

2) Flood in Punjab

Why in News: Punjab is facing one of its worst floods in recent memory. **21 districts** have been declared flood-hit, with more than 3.8 lakh people affected, 11.7 lakh hectares of farmland damaged, and over 43 deaths reported

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Punjab Floods of 2025:

1. The floods affected over 21 districts of Punjab, with Gurdaspur, Amritsar, and Ferozepur among the worst hit.
2. The major rivers draining Punjab — **Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej** — originate from the **Aravalli Hills** and flow westward into Haryana before joining the Yamuna.
3. **Punjab's fertile alluvial plains**, fed by perennial rivers and irrigation canals, make it one of India's leading producers of wheat and rice.
4. Heavy monsoon rainfall in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir contributed to the flooding in Punjab's plains.
5. Over 10 lakh hectares of agricultural land were reported to be damaged during the 2025 floods.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 4 Statements are correct
- B) 3 Statements are correct
- C) None of the above
- D) All Statements are correct

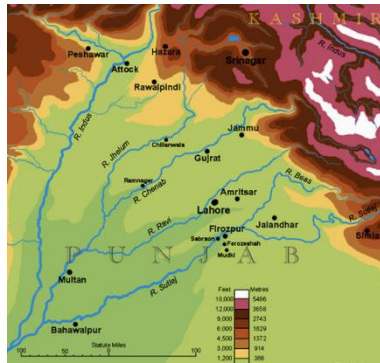
Answer: A) 4 Statements are correct (1, 3, 4, and 5 only)

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the name 'Punjab':

1. The term *Punjab* is derived from two **Sanskrit words** meaning "land of rivers."
2. **Ibn Battuta** was the first traveler to refer to this region as Punjab in the **14th century**.
3. The **Greeks** referred to Punjab as *Pentapotamia*, meaning "land of five rivers."
4. During the **medieval period**, it was known as the **Province of Lahore** under the **Mughals**.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A) One only
- B) Two only
- C) Three only
- D) All four



Answer: C) Three only

- The term *Punjab* is derived from **Persian words** — *Panj* (five) and *Āb* (water), meaning “land of five rivers,” not from Sanskrit.

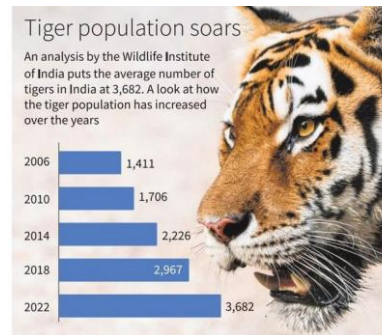
3) Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary to be Declared Tiger Reserve

Why in News: Odisha's Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary, located near the **Hirakud Dam** in Bargarh district, is set to be declared India's newest tiger reserve.



Q) Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary:

- It is located close to the **Hirakud Dam**, which is the **longest earthen dam** in the world.
- Veer Surendra Sai** led his rebellion against the British from a base within the sanctuary.
- The sanctuary primarily consists of **evergreen forest and alpine meadows**.
- Chousingha** (four-horned antelope) and **gaurs** are among the species found in this sanctuary.



How many of the above statements are correct?

- A) Only one
- B) Only two
- C) Only three
- D) All four

Answer: B) Only two (2,3)

- It is located close to the **Hirakud Dam**. The sanctuary consists mainly of **dry deciduous forests**, not evergreen or alpine meadows (which occur at much higher altitudes).
- Bor Tiger Reserve** in Maharashtra is the smallest in the country. The largest tiger reserve in India is the **NagarjunaSagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve**, located in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
- Hirakud Dam** is built across the **Mahanadi River**, Sambalpur in the state of Odisha in India. It is the longest earthen dam in the world

Technology Perspective Capability Roadmap (TPCR) 2025 unveiled by Ministry of Defense

4) Posted 06 Sep 2025

Why in News: India has released the Technology Perspective and Capability Roadmap (TPCR-2025), a 15-year blueprint for military preparedness, focusing on nuclear deterrence, drone warfare, loitering munitions, and counter-drone technologies.

Q) With reference to the Technology Perspective and Capability Roadmap (TPCR-2025), consider the following statements:

1. It is a **15-year defence capability planning document** guiding India's future military acquisitions.
2. It focuses on areas such as **nuclear deterrence, drone warfare, and loitering munitions.**
3. It is prepared by **NITI Aayog** under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: a) 1 and 2 only. TPCR-2025 is a **defence roadmap** prepared by the **Ministry of Defence**, not NITI Aayog. It **aligns with Atmanirbhar Bharat** and **focuses on future military technologies.**

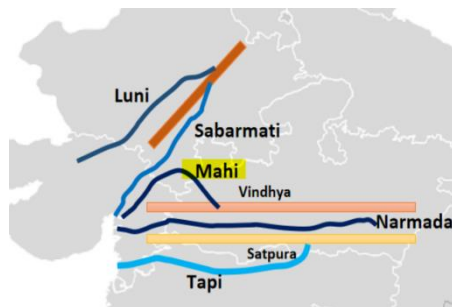
5) Mahisagar hydropower plant tragedy: Five bodies recovered, Ajanta Energy booked for negligence

AEPL has announced a compensation of Rs 25 lakh to be awarded to the families of the deceased workers

Why in News: A tragic accident occurred at the **Dolatpura Hydropower Plant** in Lunawada, Mahisagar district, Gujarat, when sudden water release **from Kadana Dam** **flooded** the facility, trapping 15 maintenance workers. Five workers are feared dead.

Q) With reference to the recent Dolatpura Hydropower Plant incident in Gujarat (2025), consider the following statements:

1. The incident occurred due to a sudden release of water from the **Kadana Dam** built on the Mahi River.
2. The **Kadana Dam** is located in **Mahisagar district** of Gujarat and is used for hydropower generation, irrigation, and flood control.
3. The **Mahi River** originates from the Aravalli Hills in Rajasthan.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only

- c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: a) 1 and 2 only. The Mahi River originates from the **Vindhya Range** in **Madhya Pradesh**, not the Aravalli Hills.

Feature	Kadana Dam	Mahi Bajaj Sagar Dam
Location	Mahisagar district, Gujarat	Rajasthan
Purpose	Multipurpose, Hydropower	Irrigation & Hydropower
River	Mahi	Mahi

- The Mahi River is the only river in India that crosses the Tropic of Cancer twice.**

8 Sept (Monday)

- 1) Papua New Guinea's 50th Independence
- 2) Total Lunar eclipse
- 3) KAPAS Kisan app
- 4) Angikaar 2025 campaign
- 5) Taiwan strait

1)

Papua New Guinea celebrates journey to **independence, 50 years after parting with Australia**

By Papua New Guinea correspondent Marian Faa, Theekla Gunga and Lincoln Rothall in Port Moresby

Why in News: As part of Papua New Guinea's 50th Independence Day celebrations, the **Indian Navy Band** participated in the grand

Military Tattoo held at Port Moresby.

Q) Consider the following statements about Papua New Guinea:

1. It shares land borders with Indonesia and maritime borders with Australia and the Solomon Islands.
2. Its capital, Port Moresby, lies along the Coral Sea coast.
3. It is a landlocked country located in the Pacific Ring of Fire.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only





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- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: a) 1 and 2 only

Papua New Guinea is **not landlocked**; it is surrounded by seas and located in the **Pacific Ring of Fire**, making it prone to earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

2) Total Lunar eclipse

Why in news: Millions of people across Asia and Europe are witness a total lunar eclipse that turned the moon blood red.

Q) Which of the following statements regarding a **Lunar Eclipse is/are correct?**

1. It occurs when the **Moon moves into the Earth's shadow.**
2. A lunar eclipse can take place **only during a Full Moon.**
3. During a total lunar eclipse, the **Moon appears reddish (Blood Moon)** due to the refraction of sunlight through the Earth's atmosphere.
4. It occurs when the **New Moon** comes between the Earth and the Sun.

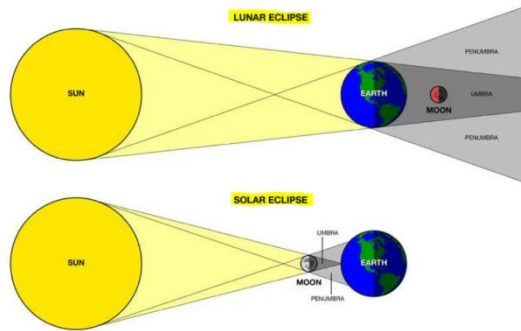
Total lunar eclipse enthralls skywatchers; clouds play spoilsport

The total eclipse phase began at 11.01 p.m. and is expected to last 82 minutes; the partial phase will end at 1.26 a.m. and the eclipse will conclude at 2.25 a.m. on September 8

Updated - September 08, 2025 01:21 am IST - New Delhi

PTI

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Penumbra: Lighter, Partial shading
Umbra: Darkest, Total shading

Options:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: A

A lunar eclipse happens when the **Earth is between the Sun and the Moon** (Full Moon phase), and red light refracted through Earth's atmosphere makes the Moon appear reddish.

Q) Which of the following statements regarding a **Total Solar Eclipse is/are correct?**

1. It occurs when the **Earth comes between the Sun and the Moon.**
2. The Moon completely **covers the disk of the Sun**, and only the **Sun's corona** is visible.
3. It is called **totality** because the Moon covers the Sun's entire disk.
4. It occurs only when the **Earth moves into the Moon's umbra.**

How many of the above statements are correct;

- A. Only 1 statement is correct
- B. Only 2 statements are correct

- C. Only 3 statements are correct
D. None of the above

Answer: B (2,3)

- It occurs when the **New Moon comes between the Sun and the Earth.**
- During a **total solar eclipse**, the Moon completely blocks the bright surface of the Sun, revealing only the **corona** (outer atmosphere)
- The Earth doesn't move into the Moon's shadow. **The Moon's shadow moves across the Earth's surface.**

3) KAPAS Kisan app

Why in News: Recently, the **Union Minister of Textiles** launched a new mobile application **Kapas Kisan app**. It is developed by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI).



Q) Recently, the **Union Minister of Textiles** launched the '**Kapas Kisan App**'.

With reference to this app, consider the following statements:

1. The app has been developed by the **Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)** under the **Ministry of Farmers welfare.**
2. It enables farmers to register and sell their cotton produce under the **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** scheme.
3. It allows farmers to track payments and schedule their slots digitally, enhancing transparency in the procurement process.
4. The headquarters of the Cotton Corporation of India is located in **Hyderabad.**

How many of the above statements correct?

- A. Only 3 statement are correct
B. Only 1 statement is correct
C. None of the above
D. All of the above



Answer: A. (2,3,4)

4) Angikaar 2025 campaign

Why in News: The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has launched Angikaar, a campaign for behavioural change.

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the “Angikaar” campaign launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs:



1. It is a social behaviour change campaign focusing on issues like water and energy conservation, waste management, sanitation, health, and tree plantation.
2. The campaign is targeted only at beneficiaries of under-construction houses under **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – PMAY (U)**.
3. Angikaar aims to converge with other schemes like Ujjwala (for gas connections) and Ayushman Bharat (for health insurance).
4. The campaign was launched on 2nd October 2019 and concluded on 10th December 2019.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 3, and 4 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: B. 1, 3, and 4 only

- Statement 2 is incorrect because it targets beneficiaries of **completed houses** under PMAY (U), not under-construction houses.

5)

China criticises Australia, Canada warships in **Taiwan Strait**

(Chinese) troops remain on high alert at all times, resolutely safeguarding national sovereignty and security and regional peace and stability, says Senior Colonel Shi Yi

Why in News: China said that its military monitored the passage of **Australian and**

Canadian warships through the **Taiwan Strait**, criticising their presence in the sensitive waterway as "causing trouble".

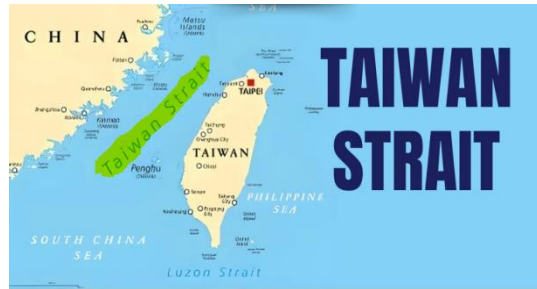
Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Taiwan Strait:

1. The **Taiwan Strait** separates **continental Asia** and the **island of Taiwan** and extends from the South China Sea to the East China Sea.
2. Its average width is 180 km, while the narrowest part is 130 km wide.
3. It is a **deep-water strait** with an average depth of about 4900 ft.
4. Kinmen and Matsu islands are located off the Fujian coast of China.

5. Penghu (Pescadores) Island is the largest and most populous island in the Taiwan Strait.

How many of the above statements correct?

- A. Only 3 statement are correct
B. Only 1 statement is correct
C. Only 4 statement are correct
D. All of the above



Answer: C (1, 2, 4, and 5)

- Statement 3 is incorrect; the strait is **relatively shallow** with an average depth of **490 ft**, not 4900 ft.

9 Sept (Tuesday)

- 1) India-China: The Need for a Border Settlement
- 2) Pavagadh Kalika Mata Temple in Gujarat
- 3) Yedshi Ramling Ghat Wildlife Sanctuary
- 4) Himalayan Brown Bear

- 1) **Why in News:** India and China aim for a **border settlement based on the 2005 Political Parameters agreement**, focusing on the Sikkim Tibet boundary and improved border management.

THE HINDU

India-China: the need for a border settlement

Special Representatives were appointed by both nations, proposed by Prime Minister Vajpayee, solely for the purpose of settling the border issue. However, even now, a decade later, the boundary remains as indeterminate as ever

The two sides are trying to establish a mutually acceptable framework through Special Representatives

(SRs) amid continued military deployments along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Q) Which of the following wrongly matches the developments in India-China relations?

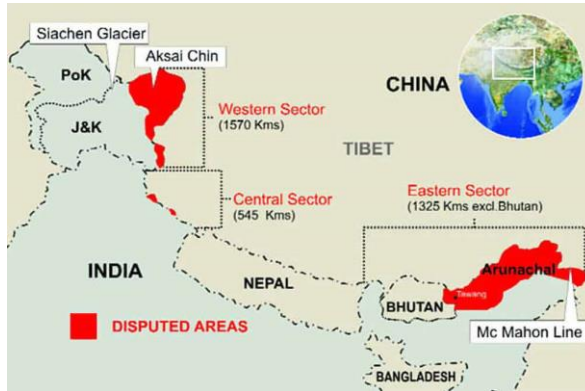
- A) 1979 – Neharu’s visit initiated normalization of relations
B) 2003 – Appointment of Special Representatives for boundary talks
C) 2005 – Signing of the “Political Parameters and Guiding Principles” Agreement
D) All of the above

Answer:A)

The normalization of India-China ties began with **Atal Bihari Vajpayee’s visit in 1979** — the first after the 1962 war.

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the 2005 India-China Political Parameters Agreement and the current border situation:

1. The 2005 Agreement emphasized that the settlement should consider overall **bilateral relations and not only technical border issues**.
2. Both nations must **safeguard their strategic interests** while finalizing a settlement.
3. China's insistence on India conceding Tawang has facilitated the signing of the final agreement.
4. Despite efforts, military deployments along the **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** continue, incurring high operational costs.



How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only 3 statements are correct
- B. Only 1 statement is correct
- C. Only 4 statements are correct
- D. All of the above

Answer: A. Only 3 statements are correct (1,2,4)

- Statement 3 is incorrect because China's insistence on Tawang has **hindered**, not facilitated, the final agreement.
- **Line of Actual Control (LAC):** De facto border between India and China.
- **Aksai Chin:** Disputed territory, administered by China, claimed by India. **Special Representatives (SRs):** Appointed envoys to negotiate border issues.

Q) Which of the following correctly explains the **difference between the Johnson Line and the Macartney–MacDonald Line?**

- A) Johnson Line placed Aksai Chin under Chinese control, while the Macartney–MacDonald Line placed it under Indian control.
- B) Both lines placed Aksai Chin within China's boundaries.
- C) Johnson Line placed Aksai Chin within India's (then J&K's) boundaries, while the Macartney–MacDonald Line placed it under China's control.
- D) Johnson Line and Macartney–MacDonald Line both coincide with the current Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Answer: C)

- **Johnson Line (1865):** Proposed by the British, extended India's territory up to the **Kunlun Mountains**, including **Aksai Chin**. **Macartney–MacDonald Line (1890s):** Suggested that **Aksai Chin** be under **Chinese control**.
- India supports the **Johnson Line**, while China supports the **Macartney–MacDonald Line** as the legitimate boundary.

1. India and Israel Sign Bilateral Investment Treaty

Why in News: Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich visited India amidst the Gaza conflict. He met Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** and **Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal**. Both nations **signed a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)** to boost economic.



Q) Consider the following statements regarding the recent India-Israel Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) and economic engagement:

1. The new BIT replaces the 1996 India–Israel Bilateral Investment Agreement.
2. **Israel becomes the first OECD member** to sign a strategic BIT with India under India's new model BIT framework.
3. The BIT aims to provide legal protection and promotion of investments only for Indian investors in Israel.
4. Israel is considering opening a Finance Ministry representation office in India.
5. India-Israel bilateral trade includes defense, diamonds, chemicals, and agriculture sectors.

How many of the above statements are correct?

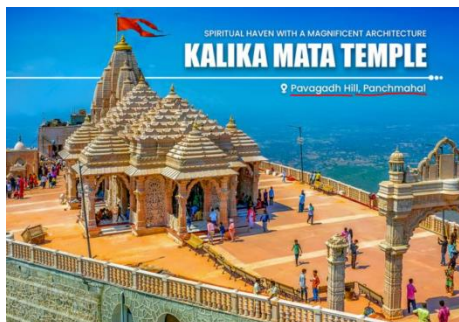
- A. Only 3 statements are correct
- B. Only 4 statements are correct
- C. Only 2 statements are correct
- D. All of the above

Answer: B. Only 4 statements are correct (1,2,4 and 5)

- Statement 3 is incorrect because the BIT **provides legal protection and promotion of investments for investors of both countries**, not only Indian investors.
- **OECD** = Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

1. Pavagadh Kalika Mata Temple in Gujarat

Why in News: Six persons were killed after the cable wire of a ropeway meant for material transport snapped, causing a cable car to crash near the **Kalika Mata Temple**, Pavagadh (Panchmahal District, Gujarat).



Q) Which of the following is a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Gujarat?

- A. Pavagadh Kalika Mata Temple
- B. Rani ki Vav, Patan

- C. Historic City of Ahmedabad
- D. Dholavira, Kutch
- E. All of the above

Answer: E. All of the above

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the history and architecture of Pavagadh Kalika Mata Temple:

1. The temple's origins are traced to the 10th–11th centuries, and the **Mahakali idol was installed in the 12th century.**
2. The temple was renovated under **Solanki Rajputs** and later became a cultural center under **Sultan Mahmud Begada.**
3. The temple represents **medieval Hindu temple architecture**, constructed mainly of **stone with intricate carvings and domes.**
4. The **black stone idol of Mahakali** is completely above ground and visible to devotees.
5. Modern additions include a ropeway and other pilgrimage facilities while preserving the sacred ambiance.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only 3 statements are correct
- B. Only 4 statements are correct
- C. All 5 statements are correct
- D. Only 2 statements are correct



Answer: B. Only 4 statements are correct

- Statement 4 is incorrect; the black stone idol of Mahakali has its **upper part visible**, while the **lower part is underground**

2. Yedshi Ramling Ghat Wildlife Sanctuary

Why in News: A young male tiger recently travelled 450 km from **Vidarbha** to settle in **Yedshi Ramling Ghat Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra** — the first big cat to inhabit the area in decades.



Q) Which of the following statements about Yedshi Ramling Ghat Wildlife Sanctuary is Wrong?

- A. It is located in **Osmanabad District, Madhya Pradesh**, and was established in 1997.
- B. It lies in the Balaghat mountain range of the Sahyadri Hills and covers about 22.38 sq. km.
- C. The sanctuary houses the ancient **Ramling Temple** dedicated to Lord Shiva and nearby sites linked to Ramayana legends.
- D. All of the above

Answer: A. Location: Osmanabad District, Maharashtra

3. Himalayan Brown Bear

Why in News: A rare sighting of a Himalayan brown bear with its family was reported in Nelong and Jadung Valleys of **Gangotri National Park, Uttarakhand**, sparking excitement among conservationists and wildlife officials.



Q) Which of the following statements about Gangotri National Park is correct?

- A. It is located in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand.
- B. The Bhagirathi River originates from the Gaumukh Glacier inside the park.
- C. It was established in 1972 under the Wildlife Protection Act.
- D. It lies in the Nilgiri Hills of the Western Ghats.

Answer: B. The Bhagirathi River originates from the Gaumukh Glacier inside the park.

- The park is located in **Uttarkashi District**, not Pithoragarh.
- The park was **established in 1989**, not in 1972 (the Wildlife Protection Act year).
- Gangotri National Park lies in the **Uttarakhand**, not in the **Nilgiri Hills** of the Western Ghats

Q) Which of the following statements about the Himalayan Brown Bear is correct?

- A. It is found mainly in the **Western Ghats** region of India.
- B. Its scientific name is *Ursus arctos isabellinus* and it is one of the **oldest brown bear lineages**.
- C. It is a carnivorous species found only in the Arctic region.
- D. It is commonly known as the "Sloth Bear" in Himalayan regions.

Correct Answer: B

- The Himalayan Brown Bear is found in **high-altitude Himalayan regions**, not in the Western Ghats.
- It inhabits **Himalayan alpine and subalpine zones**, not the Arctic.
- The **Sloth Bear (*Melursus ursinus*)** is a different species found in **lowland forests**, not in the Himalayas.

10 Sept (Wednesday)

1. Centre Seeks **Factual Report on Tribal Rights Issue** in Great Nicobar Island Project
2. C.P. Radhakrishnan Elected 17th Vice-President of India; Opposition Falls Short
3. Aishwarya Rai Bachchan Moves Delhi HC to **Protect Personality Rights**
4. **China** Tightens Grip on **Rare Earth Market**
5. Culture Ministry to Hold Meet on Deciphering Harappan Script
6. Apatani Tribal Women of Ziro Valley, Arunachal Pradesh.

1) Union government seeks 'factual report' on forest rights complaint concerning Nicobar project

Tribal Affairs Ministry has written to the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Islands seeking report on a complaint that the administration falsely certified completing identification and settlement of forest rights

Updated - September 10, 2025 02:25 am IST - New Delhi

Why in News: The Union government has sought a **factual report from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands** administration following a complaint by the **Tribal Council of Little and Great Nicobar**. The complaint alleges that forest rights under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 were not settled before diverting around 13,000 hectares of forest land for the ₹81,000-crore

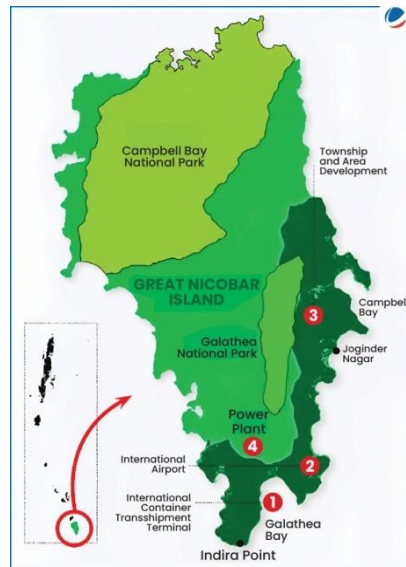
Q) Which of the following rights are granted under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006?

1. Right to hold and live in forest land for habitation and self-cultivation.
2. Right to protect and conserve community forest resources.
3. Right to mine major minerals within forest land.
4. Right to use and collect minor forest produce.

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
- B. 1, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: A. 1, 2 and 4 only



- FRA grants rights over **habitation, minor forest produce, and community forest conservation**, but **not mineral extraction rights**

Q) Which of the following statements regarding the **Andaman & Nicobar Islands** is/are **correct**?

- The **Andaman & Nicobar** islands are a Union Territory of India located in the Arabian Sea.
- They are administered by a **Lieutenant Governor** appointed by the **President of India**.
- The **Protection of Aboriginal Tribes Act, 1956** safeguards the rights of indigenous communities like the **Nicobarese and Shompens**.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only
- All of the above

Answer: C. 2 and 3 only Andaman & Nicobar islands located in Bay of Bengal comprising over **500 islands**.

- Article 239** of the Constitution designates the **President to administer each UT**, with the **Lieutenant Governor** acting on the President's behalf

2) C.P. Radhakrishnan Elected 17th Vice-President of India; Opposition Falls Short

Why in News: Maharashtra Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan was elected the **17th Vice-President of India** by margin of 152 votes.

C.P. Radhakrishnan elected Vice-President of India

The NDA candidate got 625 first preferential votes against the Opposition's joint candidate Justice B. Sudershan Reddy who got 300 votes; 15 votes were found to be invalid and at least 14 MPs abstained

Updated - September 11, 2023 10:47 am IST - NEW DELHI

1 READ LATER



Q) Which of the following statements about the election of the **Vice-President of India** is/are **correct**?

- The Vice-President is elected by members of both Houses of Parliament, including nominated members.
- The minimum age required to contest for Vice-President is 30 years.
- The election is held using the single transferable vote system with proportional representation.
- A candidate's nomination must be signed by at least 10 proposers and 20 seconders.
- In case of vacancy of the President, the Vice-President acts as the Prime minister until a new Prime minister is elected.

How many of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 3 statements only
- (b) 2 statements only
- (c) None of the above
- (d) 1 statement only

Answer: d

- The minimum age required **35 years**
- A candidate's nomination must be signed by at least 20 proposers and 20 seconders.
- Only members of the **Electoral College** for the Vice-President election (i.e., all MPs of **Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, including nominated members**) can act as **proposers or seconders**.
- **Minimum 20 proposers**: MPs who formally propose the candidate.
- **Minimum 20 seconders**: MPs who formally support the proposal.
- **Election of vice-president Article-66.**

Q) The Vice-President of India acts as Chairman of which of the following?

- A. Lok Sabha
- B. Rajya Sabha
- C. Joint Session of Parliament
- D. Supreme Court

Answer: B

- **A is wrong** – Lok Sabha has its own Speaker.
- **C is wrong** – Joint Sessions are presided over by the Speaker of Lok Sabha, not the Vice-President.
- **D is wrong** – The Vice-President has no role in the judiciary.

3) Aishwarya Rai Bachchan Moves Delhi HC to Protect Personality Rights

Why in News: Actor Aishwarya Rai Bachchan has approached the Delhi High Court seeking protection of her personality rights and to restrain online platforms from illegally using her name, images, and circulating AI-generated pornographic content.

Q)The constitutional basis for protection of privacy in India was established in:

- A. Article 19
- B. Article 14
- C. Article 21
- D. Article 32

Answer: C

Constitution of India – Article 21, Justice K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India (2017)

4) China Tightens Grip on Rare Earth Market

Why in News: China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology has introduced new interim measures to control rare earth mining and processing. This move strengthens China's dominance in the global rare earth market, impacting supply chains for high-tech and defense industries worldwide.



Q) Consider the following statements regarding China's dominance in the global Rare Earth Elements (REE) market:

1. China holds nearly 50% of the world's rare earth reserves and contributes over 60% of global REE production.
2. It controls around 92% of global rare earth refining capacity and has recently imposed export restrictions on seven rare earth elements.
3. India imports over 75% of its rare earth requirements from China.
4. Rare earth elements such as neodymium and dysprosium are vital for clean energy technologies, defense equipment, and high-tech manufacturing.



Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2, 3, and 4 only
- C. 1, 2, 3, and 4
- D. 1 and 4 only

Answer: C — All statements are correct.

5) Culture Ministry to Hold Meet on Deciphering Harappan Script

What was the Harappan language? Culture Ministry to hold meet on script

Archaeologists, a cancer specialist, an aerospace engineer among those who will present their findings. While a few of the papers claim that the underlying language of the script is Sanskrit, some claim it to be a Dravidian language, and some link it to specific tribal languages.

Why in News: The Union Ministry of Culture, through the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), is hosting an international conference from 11–13 September 2025 in New Delhi to discuss attempts to decipher the Harappan (Indus Valley) script.

Q) Which of the following statements are correct regarding the Harappan Script and related research?

1. The Harappan script is largely pictographic and remains



undeciphered.

2. Some scholars link the script to Proto-Dravidian languages.
3. Several sealings from Lothal provide insights into Harappan religious rituals only.
4. A bilingual object has already been found, confirming the language of the script.

Options:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 3, and 4 only

Answer: (a)

- The Harappan script is pictographic and undeciphered.
- Dravidian hypothesis links it to Proto-Dravidian languages.
- Lothal sealings reveal trade and commerce, not just religion.
- No bilingual object confirming language has yet been found.

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Harappan Civilization:

1. The Mature **Harappan period** is generally dated between **2600 BCE and 1900 BCE**.
2. The cities of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro were located on the banks of the river **Saraswati**.
3. The civilization is known for its **grid-pattern urban planning** and advanced drainage systems.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

Options:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2, and 3

Correct Answer: (b)

- Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro were on **Ravi** and **Indus** rivers respectively, not Saraswati.

6) Apatani Tribal Women of Ziro Valley, Arunachal Pradesh.

Why in News: Apatani tribal women of Arunachal Pradesh's Ziro Valley are in news for their distinctive facial tattoos and **wooden nose plugs** (Yaping Hullo). Though the practice was banned in the 1970s, older women in the community still carry these cultural markers.

Q) Consider the following statements about the Apatani Tribe of Arunachal Pradesh:

1. They reside in **Ziro Valley** and speak a **Tani language**.
2. Their traditional belief system includes worship of Sun and Moon.
3. Women traditionally had facial tattoos (Tippei) and wore wooden nose plugs (Yaping Hullo).
4. The tattooing and nose plug customs are still widely practiced among young women.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 3 statements only
- (b) 2 statements only
- (c) None of the above
- (d) 1 statement only



Answer: (a)

- Statement 4 is **wrong** — Tattooing and nose plugs were banned in the 1970s and now exist **only among elderly women**.
- Festivals:
- **Dree** – prayers for bumper harvest & prosperity of humankind.
- **Myoko** – celebrates friendship, similar to modern Friendship Day.
- **Yapung and Murung** – other significant cultural festivals.

Year of Discovery	IVC Site	Location	Excavated By
1921	Harappa	Punjab, Pakistan	Daya Ram Sahni (ASI)
1922	Mohenjo-Daro	Sindh, Pakistan	R.D. Banerji (ASI)
1955	Lothal	Gujarat, India	Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
1963	Rakhigarhi	Haryana, India	Dr. Amarendra Nath (ASI)
1968	Dholavira	Kutch, Gujarat, India	Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

11 Sept (Thursday)

1. Himachal Declared '**Fully Literate**' State'
2. Mamata Banerjee Demands **Indo-Bhutan River Commission**
3. "**Adi Sanskriti**" digital platform.
4. **ISRO Signs Technology Transfer Agreement with HAL for SSLV Production**
5. **Iskander-K Missile Strike**

1) Himachal Declared 'Fully Literate' State

Why in News: Himachal Pradesh has been declared the fifth 'fully literate' state in India after Goa, Mizoram, Tripura, and Ladakh under the Ministry of Education's ULLAS program. This means that nearly all adults identified as non-literate in the state have cleared the Functional Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT).

Pradesh has been declared the fifth 'fully literate' state in India after Goa, Mizoram, Tripura, and Ladakh under the Ministry of Education's ULLAS program. This means that nearly all adults identified as non-literate in the state have cleared the Functional Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT).

Himachal Pradesh becomes 'fully literate State'

CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu says the literacy rate in Himachal reached 99.30%, which is higher than the national benchmark of 95% with the hill State ranking first in student-teacher ratio

THE HINDU

Q) With reference to the "ULLAS – Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society" programme, consider the following statements:

1. It was launched by the Ministry of Education in 2022 to achieve 100% adult literacy by 2030. **Goal: 100% literacy by 2030 (in line with SDG-4 and NEP 2020).**
2. It aims to provide literacy, numeracy, and critical life skills to adults aged 15 years and above who missed formal schooling.
3. Under the programme, literacy certificates are issued by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

- Certificates are issued by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), not NCERT.
- **SDG-4 (2030 Agenda)** – Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, promote lifelong learning.
- **ULLAS** a Government of India initiative that aims to impart foundational literacy, numeracy, and life skills to adults aged 15 and above

Q) With reference to literacy trends in India, consider the following statements:

1. India's overall literacy rate increased from about 18% in 1951 to over 65% in 2001.
2. As per the 2011 Census, Kerala recorded the highest literacy rate among all Indian states.
3. The literacy rate of females in 2001 exceeded that of males.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 3 statements are correct

Census Years	Persons	Male	Females	Male-Female gap in litera
1951	18.33	27.16	8.86	18.3
1961	28.3	40.4	15.35	25.05
1971	34.45	45.96	21.97	23.98
1981	43.57	56.38	29.76	26.62
1991	52.21	64.13	39.29	24.84
2001	64.83	75.26	53.67	21.59
2011	74.04	82.14	65.46	16.68

Source: State literacy P: 102

Literacy Rate in India from 1951 to 2011



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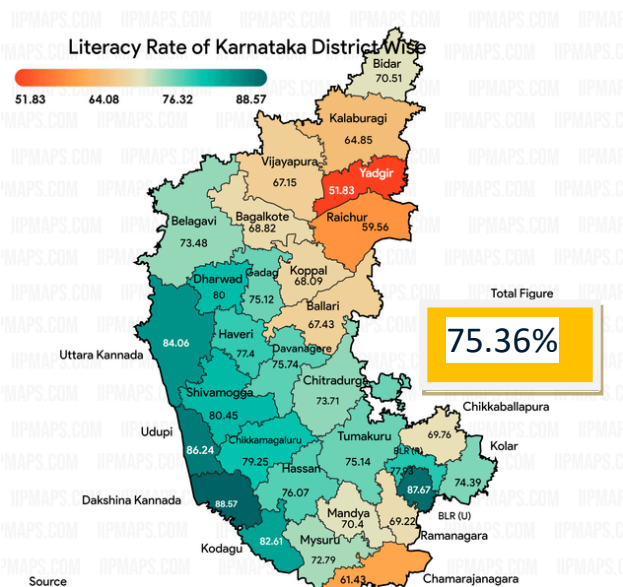
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IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO &AAO/RFO

- (b) only 2 statements
- (c) None of the above
- (d) only 1 statement

Answer: (b) only 2 statements (1 and 2)

- **Census 2011: National literacy rate 74%.**
- According to the 2011 Census of India, Kerala had the highest literacy rate among the states, at 94%. **Jains** are the most literate community in India.



- The total literacy rate of Karnataka is 75.36%
- Also the male literacy rate is 82.47% and the female literacy rate is 68.08% in Karnataka.

2) Mamata Banerjee Demands Indo-Bhutan River Commission

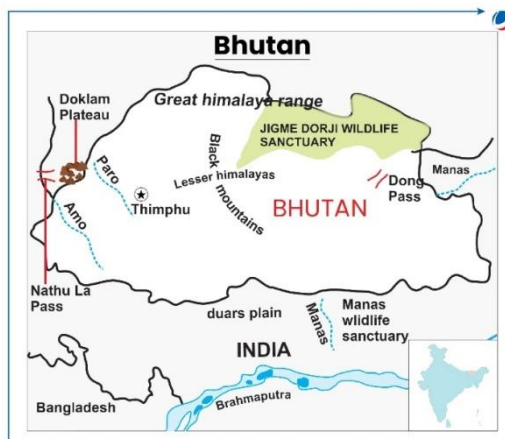
Why in News: West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee demanded the establishment of an Indo-Bhutan River Commission with West Bengal as a member.

Q) With reference to India-Bhutan water cooperation, consider the following statements:

1. India and Bhutan share several transboundary rivers, including the **Manas, Sankosh, and Raidak.**
2. The Joint Group of Experts (JGE) between the two countries deals primarily with hydropower generation projects.
3. Bhutan provides real-time rainfall and river data to India to help in flood forecasting during the monsoon.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only



- (c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only. The JGE focuses on **flood management**, not hydropower. Bhutan shares **real-time hydrological data** to assist India in flood forecasting, especially in Assam and Bengal.

Q) With reference to the India–Bhutan boundary, consider the following statements:

1. The India–Bhutan border is primarily defined by the **Himalayan mountain ranges**.
 2. Bhutan shares its border with four Indian states — **Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal, and Meghalaya**.
 3. The border is fenced along most of its length to prevent illegal movement. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3



Answer: (a) 1 only.

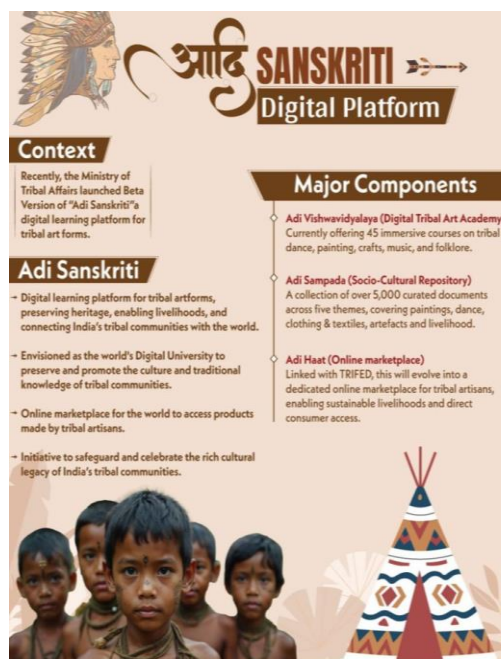
- The India–Bhutan border (≈699 km) runs along the Himalayas with **no significant fencing**, as both nations rely on natural terrain and friendly diplomatic cooperation for border management.
- Several treaties, including the **1949 Treaty of Friendship** and its **updated version in 2007**, govern the bilateral relationship and border agreements between India and Bhutan.

3) “Adi Sanskriti” digital platform.

Why in News: The Union Tribal Affairs Ministry has launched the beta version of “**Adi Sanskriti**”, a digital platform aimed at preserving and promoting the culture, knowledge, and artforms of tribal communities.

) With reference to the recently launched “Adi Sanskriti” platform by the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to become the world’s first digital university dedicated to tribal art and heritage.



2. The “**Adi Sampada**” component serves as a digital marketplace for tribal artisans.
3. The platform seeks to digitally preserve tribal knowledge, culture, and artforms.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 3 statements are correct
- (b) only 1 statement
- (c) None of the above
- (d) only 2 statements

Answer: d) only 2 statements (1 and 3 only)

- “**Adi Sanskriti**” includes three key components — **Adi Vishwavidyalaya** (Digital Tribal Art Academy), **Adi Sampada** (Socio-Cultural Repository), and **Adi Haat** (Digital Marketplace): Online platform for tribal artisans to **sell their products directly to consumers**, promoting economic empowerment.
- **National Tribal Policy, 2006** (Promotion of tribal culture and economic development).

4) ISRO Signs Technology Transfer Agreement with HAL for SSLV Production

Why in News: ISRO signed a formal agreement with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the transfer of technology (ToT) to produce **Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV)**. It marks the 100th technology transfer agreement facilitated by IN-SPACe.

Q) With reference to the recent ISRO–HAL agreement for the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV), consider the following statements:

1. The agreement marks the 100th technology transfer facilitated by IN-SPACe under the Department of Space.
2. The SSLV is designed to launch payloads of up to 500 kg into Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
3. HAL will manufacture SSLVs independently for domestic use only after receiving ISRO’s prior clearance for every launch.
4. The SSLV aims to make India a cost-competitive hub in the small satellite launch market.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only



	PSLV	GSLV	SSLV
Feature	PSLV	GSLV	SSLV
First Launch	1993	2001	2022
Payload Capacity	~1,750 kg to LEO	~2,500 kg to GTO, ~5,000 kg to LEO	~500 kg to LEO
Main Use	Small satellites or remote sensing	Communication, weather satellites in GTO	Small satellites, start-up & commercial launches
Fuel Type	Solid + liquid stages	Solid + liquid + cryogenic upper stage	Polar & Sun-synchronous orbits
Notable Features	Polar & Sun-synchronous orbits	Indigenous cryogenic engine (CE-7.5)	Higher cost due to cryogenics
Major Achievements	Incubator for ISAT launches	Chandrayaan-2 GSAT launches	Designed to tap smallsat global market
Launch Cost	Low-cost (\$15-20 million)	Ultra-low cost (~\$4-6 million)	Ultra-low cost (\$4-6 million)

- HAL will produce SSLVs **independently** (not restricted to domestic use) after acquiring full know-how from ISRO within 24 months.
- The project's **strategic aim** is to position India as a **cost-effective global hub** for small satellite launches.

5) Exercise ZAPAD 2025

Why in News: An Indian Armed Forces contingent departed for the Mulino Training Ground, Nizhniy, Russia to participate in the multilateral joint military exercise ZAPAD 2025.

Type: Multilateral joint military exercise.

- **Location:** Mulino Training Ground, Nizhniy, Russia.

Indian Participation (2025):

- **65 personnel:** 57 from the Army, 7 from the Air Force , 1 from the Navy

Indian Armed Forces to participate in Russia's **Multilateral Military Exercise 'ZAPAD 2025'**



12 Sept (Friday)

1. **India Must Reset Nepal Policy** Amid Political Transition
2. India's Vultures: Nature's Pandemic Guardians
3. JNTBGRI Develops Nanomaterial-Based Wound-Healing Pad Using Red Ivy Plant
4. First Case of Melioidosis Confirmed in Turakapalem Village, Andhra Pradesh
5. Odisha Governor Calls for Comprehensive Development of Bonda Tribe
6. Karnataka Cabinet Posthumously Confers '**Karnataka Ratna**' on Vishnuvardhan and B. Saroja Devi

1. India Must Reset Nepal Policy Amid Political Transition

Why in News: Following **political protests in Nepal** and the **resignation of Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli**, India has an opportunity to reset its Nepal policy, focusing on engagement with new leadership and enhancing economic interdependence.

Q) Arrange the Indian states that share borders with Nepal from west to east:

- (a) Uttarakhand → Uttar Pradesh → Bihar → West Bengal → Sikkim
- (b) Uttarakhand → Uttar Pradesh → Bihar → Sikkim → West Bengal
- (c) Uttarakhand → Uttar Pradesh → Bihar → West Bengal → Bhutan
- (d) Uttarakhand → Himachal Pradesh → Uttar Pradesh → Bihar → Sikkim



Answer: (b)

Q) The famous **Kalapani–Lipulekh–Limpiyadhura** territorial dispute between India and Nepal lies in which Indian state?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Uttarakhand
- (c) Sikkim
- (d) Bihar

Answer: (b)



- Dispute over the origin of the **Kali River** — India identifies it near **Kalapani**, while **Nepal** claims **Limpiyadhura**.
- The dispute centers on the **Lipulekh–Limpiyadhura–Kalapani** region, where both sides claim the origin point of the Kali River.
- The **Treaty of Sugauli (1816)** formally ended the **Anglo-Nepalese War** and fixed Nepal's boundaries with British India. The **Kali River** was identified as the boundary between Nepal and India in the treaty, but its exact origin remains disputed.

2) India's Vultures: Nature's Pandemic Guardians

Why **vultures** matter for **preventing pandemics** | Explained

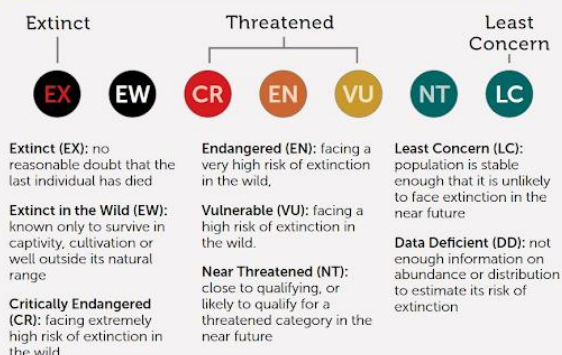
How do vultures reduce the risk of disease spillover? What does their decline mean for public health? Why is protecting vultures cheaper than fighting outbreaks? Can communities be frontline actors in their protection?

Why in News: Vultures in India, once numbering over 40 million, have declined by more than 95% due to **diclofenac use**, raising ecological and public health concerns. Their conservation is now being linked to pandemic preparedness as they prevent zoonotic spillovers by efficiently **removing carcasses**.

Q) Which of the following statements are correct with respect to vultures in India?

1. Vultures play a vital ecological role by efficiently **scavenging animal carcasses** and **thereby help prevent the spread of diseases** in the environment.
2. The **Eurasian Griffon** is classified as '**Least Concern**' by the IUCN, whereas the **Indian White-rumped Vulture**, **Long-billed Vulture**, and **Slender-billed Vulture** are listed as '**Critically Endangered**'.
3. Pollination of tropical forest trees is a primary ecological service performed by the **Himalayan Griffon** and **Cinereous Vulture** in India.
4. **Diclofenac toxicity** in livestock is the primary cause of the dramatic population decline of several Indian vulture species.

THE RED LIST CATEGORIES



Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- A) 1, 2 and 4 only
B) 1 and 4 only
C) 2, 3 and 4 only
D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A) 1, 2 and 4 only



3) JNTBGRI Develops Nanomaterial-Based Wound-Healing Pad Using Red Ivy Plant

Researchers tap into **wound-healing property of red ivy plant**

They develop a multi-layered wound pad with acteoside molecule derived from the plant as the key ingredient

Why in News: Researchers at the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden & Research Institute (JNTBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram, have developed a **multifunctional wound-healing pad** using the **red ivy plant (Strobilanthes alternata)** and nanomaterials, which can accelerate wound recovery and enhance infection control.

4) First Case of Melioidosis Confirmed in Turakapalem Village, Andhra Pradesh

Why in News: Health authorities recently confirmed a case of melioidosis in Andhra Pradesh, highlighting the risks posed by this infectious disease, especially during the rainy season.

Q) Which of the following statements about Melioidosis is/are correct?

- It is caused by the environmental **Gram-negative** bacterium ***Burkholderia pseudomallei***.
- Most cases occur during the **dry season**, accounting for 75–85% of infections.
- The disease is **endemic to regions** including **Southeast Asia, Northern Australia**, and the **Indian subcontinent**.
- Diabetes and chronic kidney disease are known risk factors for Melioidosis.



Select the correct answer:

- A) Only 1 statement is correct
B) Only 2 statements are correct
C) Only 3 statements are correct
D) All 4 statements are correct

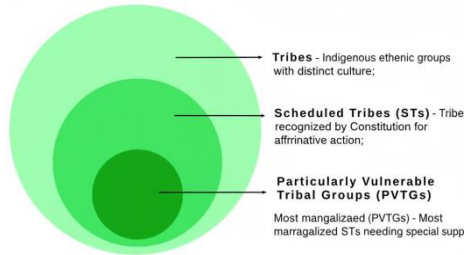
answer: C) Only 3 statements are correct statement 2 is incorrect because 75–85% of cases occur during the rainy (not dry) season

5) Odisha Governor Calls for Comprehensive Development of Bonda Tribe

Why in News: The **Odisha Governor** recently emphasized the need for the comprehensive development of **Bondaghati**, home to the **Bonda tribe**, a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).

Q) Which of the following statements about the Bonda tribe is/are correct?

- 1) The Bonda tribe is classified as a **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)** and is found exclusively in **Malkangiri district, Odisha**.
- 2) **They speak Remo**, an **Austroasiatic language**, which is distinct from mainstream Indian languages.
- 3) The tribe mostly practices settled urban agriculture and has high **literacy rates above 70%**.
- 4) Their religious belief is animistic, involving **do not worship nature and do not follow ancestral spirits**.



Choose the correct answer:

- A) Only 1 statement is correct
- B) Only 2 statements are correct
- C) Only 3 statements are correct
- D) All 4 statements are correct

Answer: B) Only 2 statements are correct. Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect as they do **worship nature and do follow ancestral spirits** and while animistic beliefs are common. The tribe's **literacy is very low at 6%**, and they mainly follow subsistence agriculture.

6) Karnataka Cabinet Posthumously Confers 'Karnataka Ratna' on Vishnuvardhan and B. Saroja Devi

Karnataka Rathna for Vishnuvardhan, Sarojadevi

The Cabinet also decided to recommend to the Centre to confer **Bharat Ratna** posthumously on Kannada literary icon **Kuppalli Venkatappa Puttappa**

Updated - September 12, 2025 07:48 am IST - Bengaluru

Why in News: The Karnataka Cabinet recently decided to confer the State's highest civilian

award — **Karnataka Ratna** posthumously on popular Kannada film actors **Vishnuvardhan** and **B. Saroja Devi** for their contribution to the arts.

Q) Which of the following statements about the Karnataka Ratna award is/are correct?

- 1) The Karnataka Ratna is the **second highest** civilian award of Karnataka state and was instituted in 1992.

- 2) The award is conferred **annually** to multiple personalities in various **fields like arts, literature, and social service.**
- 3) The award consists of a **Silver medal** weighing **50 grams**, a citation, a memento, and a shawl.
- 4) The total number of recipients of this award till date is **15.**

Choose the correct answer:

- A) Only 1 and 3 statements are correct
- B) Only 2 and 4 statements are correct
- C) Only 3 and 4 statements are correct
- D) Only 1 statement is correct

Answer: D) Only 1 statement is correct (2)

- **Highest civilian award of Karnataka state, Instituted in 1992.**
- Can be conferred posthumously or to living personalities.
- Award features a **gold medal of 50 grams** and a citation. •
- Recipients (Total – **12 till date**)



Vishnuvardhan, B Saroja Devi to be conferred with **Karnataka Ratna award** posthumously

13 Sept(Saturday)

1. **NASA Rover Finds Potential Signs of Ancient Life in Martian Rocks**
2. **Iskander-K Missile Strike**
3. **India International Tea Convention 2025**
4. **Tiwa Community Celebrates Langkhun Festival in Assam**
5. **Hellfire Missile**

1) NASA Rover Finds Potential Signs of Ancient Life in Martian Rocks

Why in News: NASA's Perseverance rover has detected potential biosignatures in rock samples from Mars' Jezero Crater. The minerals found (vivianite, greigite) may have formed due to microbial activity, but scientists caution they could also form abiotically.



Q) Which of the following minerals detected by NASA's Perseverance rover in Mars' Jezero Crater are considered potential biosignatures indicating possible ancient microbial activity?

- A) Vivianite and Greigite

- B) Hematite and Magnetite
- C) Quartz and Calcite
- D) Pyrite and Chalcopyrite

Answer: A) Vivianite and Greigite.

- **Vivianite (iron phosphate)** and **greigite (iron sulfide)** detected by Perseverance may have formed due to microbial activity, although abiotic formation is also possible.

Q) The Perseverance rover, which landed in the Jezero Crater on Mars, has the primary scientific goal to:

- A) Search for current signs of life only.
- B) Study the Martian atmosphere for weather patterns.
- C) Seek signs of ancient microbial life and prepare for future human exploration.
- D) Extract water from the Martian soil for supply

Answer: C) . Perseverance rover is equipped to collect samples to search for ancient microbial life and to help prepare for potential human missions to Mars

2) Iskander-K Missile Strike

Why in News: Russia struck Ukraine's Cabinet building with an **Iskander-K** cruise missile, highlighting the use of advanced tactical missile systems in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Q) The countries with which Russia shares its land border does not include.

- 1) Poland
- 2) Sweden
- 3) Bulgaria
- 4) Latvia

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- 1) 1 and 4 only
- 2) 2 and 3 only
- 3) 1, 2 and 3
- 4) 2 only



Answer: 2 and 3 only. Russia does not share a land border with Sweden or Bulgaria, but it does with Poland and Latvia.

Q) The countries with which Ukraine shares its land border does not include:

- 1) Belarus
- 2) Slovakia
- 3) Czech Republic
- 4) Hungary

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- 1) 1 and 2 only
- 2) 2 and 3 only
- 3) 3 only
- 4) 1 and 4 only



Answer: 3 only. Ukraine shares its border with Belarus, Slovakia, and Hungary, but not with the Czech Republic

3) India International Tea Convention 2025



**INDIA
INTERNATIONAL
TEA
CONVENTION**
Brewing Connections
18-20 September 2025
Grand Hyatt Bolgatty, Kerala

Why in News: The United Planters Association of Southern India and the Tea Board India are organising the eighth edition of the India

International Tea Convention in Kochi from 18–20 September 2025, focusing on innovation, automation, digitisation, and sustainable practices in the tea sector.

Q) Which of the following statements regarding the eighth edition of the India International Tea Convention 2025 is/are correct?

- 1) The convention was jointly organized by the United Planters Association of Southern India (UPASI) and **Tea Board India in Kochi.**
- 2) The **main theme** of the convention was **“Innovating the Tea Ecosystem for Tomorrow,” focusing on automation, digitisation, and sustainable practices.**
- 3) Only tea growers and processors were invited to participate in the convention.
- 4) The convention aimed to promote knowledge exchange, adoption of innovation, and modernization of the Indian tea industry.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2 and 4 only
- D) All 4 statements are correct

Answer: C) 1, 2 and 4 only. Statement 3 is incorrect because the convention included not just growers and processors but also exporters, **researchers, policymakers,** and

4) Tiwa Community Celebrates Langkhun Festival in Assam

Why in News: Tiwa tribesmen recently celebrated the **Langkhun festival** in Umsowai village of Karbi Anglong district, Assam. The festival is a socio-religious event where the community prays for a good Rabi crop season.



Q) Which of the following statements regarding the Langkhun Festival and the Tiwa tribe is/are correct?

- 1) **Langkhun Festival** is a socio-religious event celebrated by the Tiwa community in Assam, involving prayers for a good harvest in the upcoming Rabi crop season.
- 2) The **Tiwa tribe**, also known as **Lalung**, resides only in the hill districts of Assam.
- 3) The Tiwa society follows a **matrilineal system** of marriage called "**Kobea Liwa**."
- 4) Cultural events such as music and dance are integral to the Langkhun festival.

Choose the correct answer:

- A) Only 1 and 3 statements are correct
- B) Only 1,3 and 4 statements are correct
- C) Only 3 and 4 statements are correct
- D) Only 1 statement is correct

Answer: B) 1, 3 and 4

Statement 2 is incorrect because the Tiwa tribe resides in both hill districts (Karbi Anglong, Assam, and Meghalaya) and plains (southern bank of Brahmaputra Valley

5) Hellfire Missile

Why in News: A video reportedly showing a **US Hellfire missile** bouncing harmlessly off an unidentified flying object (UFO) off the coast of Yemen has sparked discussions about missile testing and aerial engagements.



- **Developed by the** US beginning in 1972 to counter Soviet armor formations.
- Precision striking power against tanks, bunkers, structures, and helicopters.
- **Length:** 1.63–1.75 m; **Diameter:** 0.178 m; **Weight:** 45–48.5 kg.
- **Range:** 7–11 km
- **Payload:** 8–11 kg.

15th sept (Monday)

1. Comprehensive Documentation of Yakshagana – Tribute to Kondadakuli Ramachandra Hegde
2. Citizens Petition: Bringing Panchayat Areas under Karnataka Town and Country Planning (KTCP) Act, 1961

1. Comprehensive Documentation of Yakshagana – Tribute to Kondadakuli Ramachandra Hegde

Why in News: It aims to record, preserve, and share every aspect of Yakshagana – an important folk theatre form of Karnataka.

Q1) Who is being honoured in the recent comprehensive documentation of Yakshagana?

- A) Dr. V. K. Krishna Menon
- B) K. K. Hebbar
- C) Kondadakuli Ramachandra Hegde
- D) B. V. Karanth

Answer:

C) Kondadakuli Ramachandra Hegde

Q) Yakshagana is a traditional theatre form of which Indian state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Kerala
- C) Karnataka
- D) Maharashtra

Answer: C) Karnataka

2. Citizens Petition: Bringing Panchayat Areas under Karnataka Town and Country Planning (KTCP) Act, 1961

Citizens petition Karnataka government to bring panchayat areas under Town Planning Act; cite corruption, unregulated growth

The petition argues that the exclusion of areas governed by gram panchayats from the ambit of the Act has created a statutory gap, leading to unregulated growth, corruption, and lack of accountability in rural and semi-urban regions.

Updated - September 15, 2025 01:13 pm IST - Bengaluru

Why in News: A group of citizens from various Karnataka districts has petitioned the state government to include panchayat-administered areas under the Karnataka Town and Country Planning (KTCP) Act, 1961, citing rampant unregulated growth, corruption, and a lack of accountability in rural and semi-urban areas due to a statutory gap in current town planning laws

Q1) Which of the following is a reason given in the citizens' petition to bring panchayat areas under the KTCP Act, 1961?

- A) To allow panchayats to levy new taxes not envisaged under Panchayat Raj laws.
- B) To regulate unplanned/unauthorized construction in panchayat limits, which currently fall outside KTCP controls.
- C) To transfer all urban planning powers from municipal bodies to Gram Panchayats.
- D) To repeal the Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act, 1993.

Answer:B)

Q2) Under the Constitution of India, which Article allows citizens to move the Supreme Court directly for enforcement of Fundamental Rights (often used through Public Interest Litigation)?

- A) Article 32
- B) Article 226
- C) Article 136
- D) Article 368

Answer: A

16th Sept (Tuesday)

1. SC stays 'arbitrary' Waqf changes, but upholds Act
2. Aadhaar is part of statute, can be used by voters, says SC
3. Pink Tax
4. Amid an export surge, trade deficit comes down by 54%
5. Safety review of Char Dham project
6. India secures ISA license to explore Indian Ocean for polymetallic nodules
7. Plans for a second indigenous cheetah population in Madhya Pradesh
8. Zircon (Tsirkon) Hypersonic Cruise Missile
9. INS Trikand
10. INS Androth

1. SC stays 'arbitrary' Waqf changes, but upholds Act

Why in News : The Supreme Court stayed provisions of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 related to Collector's powers and non-Muslim representation in Waqf Boards, drawing responses from both government and opposition

Q1) Which one of the following statements correctly describes the Supreme Court's interim order on the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025?



- A) The entire Waqf Amendment Act has been stayed by the Supreme Court until final adjudication.
- B) The Supreme Court upheld all provisions of the Waqf Amendment Act without any modifications.
- C) Certain key provisions like "5-year practising Islam" requirement have been stayed for want of rules, while the rest of the Act continues to operate.
- D) The Supreme Court struck down the deletion of "waqf by user" clause as arbitrary

Answer: C)

Q2) Which of the following statements about Waqf is/are correct?

- 1. It refers to the irrevocable dedication of property by a Muslim for religious, pious, or charitable purposes.
- 2. The Waqf Board is a constitutional body to administer such properties.
- 3. The Central Waqf Council functions under the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

Options:

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 2 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 3 only

Q3) As per the Supreme Court's recent directions regarding the composition of Waqf institutions, which of the following is correct?

- A) Central Waqf Council – maximum 4 non-Muslim members out of 20;
State Waqf Boards – maximum 3 non-Muslim members out of 11.
- B) Central Waqf Council – maximum 3 non-Muslim members out of 20;
State Waqf Boards – maximum 4 non-Muslim members out of 11.
- C) Central Waqf Council – maximum 2 non-Muslim members out of 15;
State Waqf Boards – maximum 3 non-Muslim members out of 9.

- D) Central Waqf Council – maximum 5 non-Muslim members out of 25;
State Waqf Boards – maximum 4 non-Muslim members out of 12.

**Answer: A) Central Waqf Council – maximum 4 non-Muslim members out of 20;
State Waqf Boards – maximum 3 non-Muslim members out of 11.**

2) Aadhaar is part of statute, can be used by voters, says SC

Why in News : The Supreme Court affirmed that Aadhaar is part of the statute governing the right to vote and can be used by voters for verification during electoral roll revisions.

Q1) Recently, the Supreme Court said Aadhaar can be used by voters. Consider the following:



1. Aadhaar is now backed by a law passed by Parliament.
2. It is compulsory for all voters to link Aadhaar with their voter ID.
3. Voters can choose whether or not to use Aadhaar for voting purposes.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A) 1 only
B) 1 and 3 only
C) 2 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

Q2) Which of the following statements about Aadhaar is/are correct?

1. Aadhaar is a 12-digit unique identity number issued by the UIDAI.
2. Aadhaar is conclusive proof of Indian citizenship.
3. Aadhaar can be used as identity and residence proof.

Options:

- A) 1 only
B) 1 and 3 only
C) 2 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

Q3) Which of the following correctly describes the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)?

- A) A constitutional body under the Ministry of Home Affairs
B) A statutory authority under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology

- C) An executive committee of the NITI Aayog
D) A department of the Reserve Bank of India

Answer: B)

3) Pink Tax

Why in News: The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) has ruled that companies must follow fair pricing policies and avoid gender-based price discrimination, bringing attention to the issue of the "Pink Tax" in India.

Pink Tax: The Real Cost of Gender-Based Pricing



Q1) In the context of the term "Pink Tax", which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It refers to the extra amount women are charged for certain products or services marketed specifically to them.
2. Pink Tax is an official tax levied by the government on women's products.
3. The concept highlights gender-based pricing differences in the market.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

Article 15 -It prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth

Q2) Which of the following is a key feature of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 relevant to unfair trade practices like differential pricing?

- A) It provides for protection of consumers against unfair trade practices.
B) It imposes a special tax on goods marketed to women.
C) It fixes prices for all essential goods in the market.
D) It only regulates government-run stores and services.

Answer: A) It provides for protection of consumers against unfair trade practices.

4) Amid an export surge, trade deficit comes down by 54%

Why in News : India's trade deficit shrank by 54% to \$9.9 billion in August 2025, driven by export growth and reduced imports.

Surging merchandise exports, falling imports cut India's August trade deficit by half

India's total exports increased to \$69.2 billion in August 2025, up 9.3% over its level in August last year.

Published - September 15, 2025 09:03 pm IST - NEW DELHI

THE HINDU BUREAU

Q1) If a country's trade deficit decreases by 54%, what does it usually mean?

- A) The country is importing more than before.
- B) The country's exports have grown or imports have reduced.
- C) The country has stopped trading with other countries.
- D) The country's currency value has fallen by 54%.

Answer: B) The country's exports have grown or imports have reduced.

Q2) Which of the following pairs of terms and their correct meanings is/are correctly matched?

- 1. **Revenue Deficit** – Excess of revenue expenditure over revenue receipts of the government.
- 2. **Fiscal Deficit** – Total borrowing requirement of the government, i.e., excess of total expenditure (revenue + capital) over total receipts (excluding borrowings).
- 3. **Primary Deficit** – Fiscal deficit minus interest payments.
- 4. **Trade Deficit** – Excess of imports over exports in goods and services.

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3 only
- C) 2, 3 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

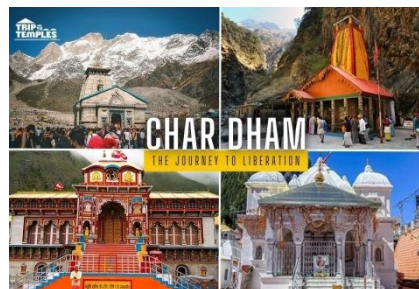
Q3) A sharp decline in India's trade deficit is most likely to lead to which of the following?

- A) Higher inflation and weaker rupee
- B) Pressure on foreign exchange reserves
- C) Macroeconomic stability and support for the rupee
- D) Increase in current account deficit

Answer: C) Macroeconomic stability and support for the rupee

5) Safety review of Char Dham project

Why in News: Experts appointed by the Supreme Court raised environmental concerns about the Char Dham project and suggested reassessment and modified DPRs to avoid landslide risks and large-scale tree felling in Uttarakhand's eco-sensitive zones.



Q1) Which of the following statements about the Char Dham Project is/are correct?

1. It is an all-weather road project connecting Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath in Uttarakhand.
2. It was initially approved in 2016 with an estimated cost of over ₹12,000 crore.
3. The project is being implemented by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

Options:

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3
- D) 2 and 3 only

Answer: C) 1, 2 and 3



Q2) Which of the following is a key environmental concern associated with the Char Dham Project?

- A) Over-extraction of groundwater for irrigation
- B) Uniform road widening without slope-specific assessments, causing slope destabilization
- C) Air pollution from thermal power plants in nearby areas
- D) Large-scale mining of river sand in the Ganga basin

Answer: B) Uniform road widening without slope-specific assessments, causing slope destabilization

Q3) The Bhagirathi Eco-Sensitive Zone is significant in the context of the Char Dham Project because:

- A) It restricts any human activity in the entire Uttarkashi district.
- B) It mandates road design to prioritize ecological safety and localized slope protection measures.
- C) It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site prohibiting construction of roads.
- D) It allows only ropeway transport to the Char Dham shrines.

Answer: B) It mandates road design to prioritize ecological safety and localized slope protection measures

6) India secures ISA license to explore Indian Ocean for polymetallic nodules

Why in News: India has obtained a contract from the International Seabed Authority (ISA) to explore the Carlsberg Ridge in the northwest Indian Ocean for polymetallic sulphur nodules, which are rich in



critical minerals such as manganese, cobalt, nickel, and copper

Q1) Which of the following is correct regarding India's agreement with the International Seabed Authority (ISA) in 2025?

- A) It is India's first global licence for exploring **polymetallic nodules** in the Carlsberg Ridge.
- B) It is a pact to regulate fishing rights in the Indian Ocean.
- C) It allows India to mine coal deposits in the Arabian Sea.
- D) It is a bilateral treaty between India and Oman.

Answer: A) It is India's first global licence for exploring polymetallic nodules in the Carlsberg Ridge. ISA is an **intergovernmental body** established under **UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea), 1982**. **Headquartered in Kingston, Jamaica**

Q2) Polymetallic nodules, found on the deep ocean floor, are primarily rich in which of the following minerals?

- 1. Manganese
- 2. Cobalt
- 3. Nickel
- 4. Copper

Options:

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- D) 2 and 4 only

Answer: C) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q3) Which of the following statements about the Carlsberg Ridge is/are correct?

- 1. It is located in the Arabian Sea and the northwestern Indian Ocean.
- 2. It forms the boundary between the Indian and Arabian tectonic plates.
- 3. It is part of the mid-ocean ridge system in the Indian Ocean.

Options:

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 2 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3
- D) 1 only

Answer: C) 1, 2 and 3

7) Plans for a second indigenous cheetah population in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News: Madhya Pradesh plans to introduce a female cheetah into Gandhisagar Sanctuary to establish a second indigenous population, complementing the existing cheetah population in Kuno National Park.

Q) Which of the following statements about Gandhisagar Sanctuary is/are correct?

1. It is located on the **Madhya Pradesh–Rajasthan** border.
2. It has been identified as the **second site in India for establishing a viable cheetah population** after Kuno National Park.

Options:

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) Both 1 and 2

Q2) The scientific name and IUCN conservation status of the cheetah proposed to be introduced at Gandhisagar Sanctuary are:

- A) *Panthera pardus* – Endangered
- B) *Acinonyx jubatus* – Vulnerable
- C) *Panthera tigris* – Endangered
- D) *Acinonyx jubatus venaticus* – Critically Endangered

Answer: B) Cheetah Scientific Name: *Acinonyx jubatus* – Vulnerable

Q3) Match the following IUCN conservation status terms with their correct descriptions:

Term	Description
1) Vulnerable	a) A species facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future
2) Endangered	b) A species no longer found in the wild but surviving in captivity
3) Critically Endangered	c) A species facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild
4) Extinct in the Wild	d) A species facing a high risk of extinction in the wild
5) Extinct	e) A species where no individuals are alive anywhere

Options:

- A) 1–d, 2–c, 3–a, 4–b, 5–e
- B) 1–c, 2–d, 3–b, 4–a, 5–e
- C) 1–d, 2–a, 3–c, 4–b, 5–e
- D) 1–b, 2–d, 3–a, 4–c, 5–e

Answer: A) 1-d, 2-c, 3-a, 4-b, 5-e

8) Zircon (Tsirkon) Hypersonic Cruise Missile

Why in News : Russia recently announced that it had fired a Zircon (Tsirkon) hypersonic cruise missile at a target in the Barents Sea.



10) The Zircon (Tsirkon) missile, recently in news, has been developed by which country?

- A. United States
- B. Russia
- C. China
- D. Israel

Answer: B. Russia

- The **Zircon missile** is designed to be launched from **both surface ships and nuclear submarines**, enhancing the operational flexibility of Russia's naval forces.

9) INS Trikand

Why in News : The maiden bilateral maritime exercise between India and Greece was recently steered by INS Trikand, which called at Salamis Bay, Greece, during its deployment to the Mediterranean Sea



Q1) Which of the following statements about INS Trikand is/are correct?

1. It is a Talwar-class guided-missile frigate of the Indian Navy.
2. It was built by Yantar Shipyard in Kaliningrad, Russia.
3. It operates under the Western Naval Command of the Indian Navy.

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

Q2) INS Trikand was commissioned into the Indian Navy in:

- A) 2010 at Mumbai
- B) 2013 at Kaliningrad, Russia

- C) 2016 at Kochi
D) 2018 at Visakhapatnam

Answer: B) 2013 at Kaliningrad, Russia

Q3) During its recent deployment to the Mediterranean Sea, which of the following activities was undertaken by INS Trikand?

- A) Participated in the maiden **India–Greece bilateral maritime exercise** at Salamis Bay
B) Commissioned a new Indian naval base in Cyprus
C) Conducted an anti-piracy patrol near the Gulf of Aden
D) Carried out disaster relief operations along the coast of Turkey

Answer: A) Participated in the maiden India–Greece bilateral maritime exercise at Salamis Bay

10) INS Androth

Why in News : The Indian Navy has recently received INS Androth, the second indigenously built anti-submarine warfare shallow watercraft (ASW-SWC), constructed by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata.



Q1) Which of the following statements about INS Androth is/are correct?

1. It is the second indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC).
2. It was constructed by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata.
3. It is named after an island in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Q2) What is the significance of INS Androth for India's defence sector?

- A) It is the first nuclear-powered submarine built entirely in India.
B) It showcases over 80% indigenous content, promoting **Atmanirbhar Bharat** in defence shipbuilding.
C) It is the first Indian naval ship to use imported propulsion systems.
D) It is designed exclusively for deep-sea scientific research.

Answer: B) It showcases over 80% indigenous content, promoting Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence shipbuilding.

Q3) INS Androth belongs to which of the following categories of Indian naval vessels?

- A) Offshore Patrol Vessel – part of the Samarth-class
- B) Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft – second of eight ships being built by GRSE
- C) Landing Platform Dock – part of the Jalashwa-class
- D) Guided Missile Destroyer – part of the Visakhapatnam-class

Answer: B) Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft – second of eight ships being built by GRSE

17th sept (Wednesday)

1. GST 2.0: Drug **Re-labelling** Not Mandatory for Existing Stocks
2. **Tanzania** halts large-scale soda ash mining project at Lake Natron
3. Karnataka Clears Land Acquisition for **Upper Krishna Project (UKP)** Phase III
4. **India Signs MoU with ILO** to Enhance Global Job Opportunities for Youth
5. **Rare Red Coral Kukri** Snake sighted near Pilibhit Tiger Reserve after 89 years
6. ASI Revises **Sarnath Plaque**, Crediting Local Ruler for Site's Discovery Ahead of UNESCO Nomination
7. **INS Nistar** participates in Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 in Singapore
8. PM lays foundation stone for Polypropylene Plant at **Numaligarh Refinery**, Assam

1) GST 2.0: Drug Re-labelling Not Mandatory for Existing Stocks

Why in News: The Ministry of Finance clarified that under GST 2.0, re-labelling of drugs and medical devices issued before September 22, 2025, is not mandatory, though revised Maximum Retail Price (MRP) lists must be issued to dealers and retailers.

GST 2.0: Drug re-labeling not required for stocks already in market

The companies must issue a revised or supplementary price list in Form V/VI to dealers, retailers, State Drug Controllers, and the government once the new batches are out after the revised GST implementation.



Q1) Which of the following correctly reflects the Ministry of Finance clarification regarding GST 2.0 on drugs and medical devices (September 2025)?

- A) Re-labelling of drugs issued before 22 September 2025 is mandatory for all manufacturers.
- B) Re-labelling of drugs issued before 22 September 2025 is **not mandatory**, but revised MRP lists must be provided to dealers/retailers.
- C) Drugs manufactured before 22 September 2025 are exempt from GST.
- D) Only imported drugs are exempt from re-labelling norms.

Answer: B) Re-labelling of drugs issued before 22 September 2025 is not mandatory, but revised MRP lists must be provided to dealers/retailers.

Q2) From 22 September 2025, delivery services via online platforms such as Zomato and Swiggy attract:

- A) 5% GST with input tax credit (ITC)
- B) 18% GST on delivery charges
- C) 12% GST on total food value
- D) No GST if the order value is less than ₹500

Answer: B) 18% GST on delivery charges

Q3) GST 2.0, beauty and physical well-being services are taxed at:

- A) 5% GST without input tax credit, with an option to pay 18% with ITC
- B) 5% GST without input tax credit, and **no option** to charge 18% with ITC
- C) 18% GST with compulsory ITC
- D) 12% GST with partial ITC

Answer: B) 5% GST without input tax credit, and no option to charge 18% with ITC

Q4) Which of the following constitutional amendments inserted provisions for Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India?

- A) 95th Amendment Act, 2009
- B) 101st Amendment Act, 2016
- C) 103rd Amendment Act, 2019
- D) 99th Amendment Act, 2014

Answer: B) 101st Amendment Act, 2016

Q5) With reference to the GST Council, consider the following statements:

1. It is chaired by the Union Finance Minister.
2. Its recommendations are binding on the Union and the States.
3. It includes the Union Minister of State for Finance and the Finance Ministers of all States/UTs with legislatures.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 2 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3
- D) 1 only

Answer: A) 1 and 3 only

Q6) Which of the following are features of the GST system in India?

1. It is a destination-based indirect tax.
2. It subsumed most indirect taxes like excise duty, service tax, VAT, etc.
3. It is levied only by the Union Government.

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

2) Tanzania halts large-scale soda ash mining project at Lake Natron

Why in News: The Government of Tanzania has halted a proposed large-scale soda ash mining project at Lake Natron, a critical habitat for Lesser Flamingos, due to environmental concerns.

Q1) Which of the following statements best describes the ecological link between Lake Natron (Tanzania) and wetlands in India regarding Lesser Flamingos?

- A) Lake Natron is the only site where Lesser Flamingos breed, and large flocks migrate to India's Rann of Kutch, Sewri mudflats, and Sambhar Lake for feeding.
- B) Both Lake Natron and Indian wetlands are breeding grounds for Lesser Flamingos.
- C) Lesser Flamingos breed in India and migrate to Tanzania during winter.
- D) Tanzania's Lake Natron supports Greater Flamingos, while India supports only Lesser Flamingos.

Tanzania halts soda ash mining to save world's Lesser Flamingos

Tanzania's stand at Lake Natron is part of a wider story: across Africa, governments are weighing short-term industrial gains against long-term ecological health



Answer: A) Lake Natron is the only site where Lesser Flamingos breed, and large flocks migrate to India's Rann of Kutch, Sewri mudflats, and Sambhar Lake for feeding.

Q2) Which of the following statements about Lake Natron is/are correct?

1. It is a salt lake located on the Tanzania–Kenya border.
2. It forms part of the Eastern Rift Valley.
3. It is fed mainly by the Ewaso Ng'iro River originating in Kenya.

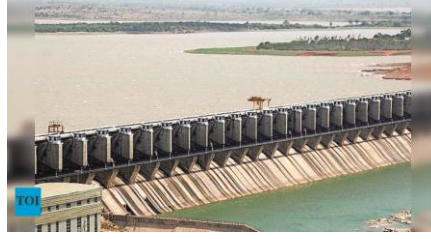
Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3
- D) 1 only

Answer: C) 1, 2 and 3

3) Karnataka Clears Land Acquisition for Upper Krishna Project (UKP) Phase III

Why in News: The Karnataka Cabinet approved land acquisition for Upper Krishna Project (UKP) Phase III, enabling the raising of the Almatti Dam's height from 519.16 m to 524.256 m



Q1) With reference to the Upper Krishna Project (UKP) Phase III, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to raise the height of the **Almatti Dam** across the Krishna River in Karnataka from 519.16 m to 524.256 m.
2. The project is intended to enhance irrigation potential in drought-prone districts such as Bijapur, Bagalkot, Raichur, Koppal, and Gulbarga.
3. The Almatti Dam and its operations are governed by the awards of the **Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT I & II)**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

Q2) Which set of districts will mainly benefit from the Upper Krishna Project Phase III after raising the Almatti Dam height?

- A) Mysuru, Mandya, Tumakuru, Hassan
- B) Bijapur, Bagalkot, Raichur, Koppal, Gulbarga
- C) Belagavi, Dharwad, Ballari, Shivamogga
- D) Chitradurga, Davanagere, Udupi, Kodagu

Answer: B) Bijapur, Bagalkot, Raichur, Koppal, Gulbarga

Q3) Which of the following dams belong to the Upper Krishna Project in Karnataka?

- A) Almatti Dam and Narayanpur (Basavasagar) Dam
- B) Srisailem Dam and Nagarjuna Sagar Dam
- C) Tungabhadra Dam and Almatti Dam
- D) Almatti Dam and Srisailem Dam

Answer: A) Almatti Dam and Narayanpur (Basavasagar) Dam

4) India Signs MoU with ILO to Enhance Global Job Opportunities for Youth

Why in News: India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Labour



Organization (ILO) to advance the International Reference

Q1) With reference to the MoU signed between India and the International Labour Organization (ILO) in September 2025, which of the following statements are correct?

1. The MoU aims to develop an **International Reference Classification of Occupations**, to standardize and compare job roles by skills and qualification levels.
2. It includes pilot studies in sectors like green, digital and care.
3. It was signed in Geneva, and India is funding a two-year feasibility study (2025-2027) for this.
4. It obligates all Indian states to immediately align their occupational classification systems with the new international standard.

Options:

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A) 1, 2 and 3 only

Q2) With reference to the International Labour Organization (ILO), consider the following statements:

1. It is a **specialized agency of the United Nations**, created in **1919** as part of the Treaty of Versailles after World War I.
2. Its **headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland**.
3. It works on a **tripartite structure**, bringing together governments, employers, and workers.
4. At present, it has **187 member States** and aims to promote **decent work, social justice, and international labour standards**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 1, 3 and 4 only
- C) 2, 3 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

5) Rare Red Coral Kukri Snake sighted near Pilibhit Tiger Reserve after 89 years

Why in News: A rare Red Coral Kukri Snake (*Oligodon kheriensis*), last reported in 1936, was recently found trapped in a net in a village field near **Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR)**, Uttar Pradesh



Q1) With reference to the recently rediscovered Red Coral Kukri Snake (*Oligodon kheriensis*), consider the following statements:

1. It is a non-venomous, nocturnal, fossorial snake named after its kukri-shaped curved teeth.
2. Its known distribution includes the Himalayan foothills of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Sikkim, western Assam, and parts of Nepal.
3. It is listed under **Schedule IV** of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
4. It is an arboreal species mostly found in mangrove forests.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
B) 1, 3 and 4 only
C) 2 and 4 only
D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A) 1, 2 and 3 only

Q2) Consider the following statements about Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR):

1. It is located in **Uttar Pradesh**, along the India–Nepal border, and forms part of the **Terai Arc Landscape**.
2. The **Gomti River** originates in this reserve; other rivers include Sharda, Chuka, and Mala Khannot.
3. The reserve hosts dense **sal forests**, tall alluvial grasslands, swamps, and savannahs shaped by riverine floods.
4. The **Sharda Sagar Dam**, about 22 km long, lies on its boundary.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 3 only
B) 1, 2 and 4 only
C) 1, 2, 3 and 4
D) 2 and 4 only

Answer: C) 1, 2, 3 and 4

6) ASI Revises Sarnath Plaque, Crediting Local Ruler for Site's Discovery Ahead of UNESCO Nomination

Why in News: The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is set to revise the plaque at Sarnath, crediting

Babu Jagat Singh's family for recognizing the site's archaeological importance in 1787-88. This challenges the British-centric narrative that credits Mr. Duncan and Col. E. Mackenzie (1798) and comes ahead of India's nomination of Sarnath for the UNESCO World Heritage List (2025-26).

As India Pushes For UNESCO Tag For Sarnath, ASI To Revise Plaque Credit From British To Local Ruler's Family: Report

Q1) With reference to Sarnath Plaque, recently in the news, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has decided to revise the plaque at the site, crediting **Babu Jagat Singh's family** for recognizing its archaeological importance in 1787–88.
2. It is located near **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**, and is associated with Buddha's first sermon.
3. Sarnath has also been nominated by India for the **UNESCO World Heritage List (2025–26)** and contains the **Ashoka Pillar**, part of India's National Emblem.
4. The site has connections not only with Buddhism but also with **Jainism**.



Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2 and 4 only
- C) 2, 3 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q2) With reference to the Ashoka Pillar at Sarnath, consider the following statements:

1. The Lion Capital of the Ashoka Pillar at Sarnath was adopted as the **National Emblem of India** in 1950.
2. The pillar at Sarnath contains inscriptions related to **Buddha's first sermon** and the **Dhammachakra** (Wheel of Dharma).
3. All Ashokan pillars were originally made of sandstone from the quarries of **Chunar**, Uttar Pradesh.
4. The pillar at Sarnath has both Buddhist and Jain symbols engraved on its shaft.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 3 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B) 1, 2 and 3 only

7) INS Nistar participates in Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 in Singapore

Why in News: Indian Navy's latest indigenously designed Diving Support Vessel (DSV) INS Nistar is participating in the multinational Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 in Singapore, focusing on submarine rescue and deep-sea operations.

Q1) With reference to INS Nistar, consider the following statements:

1. It is an indigenously designed Diving Support Vessel (DSV) of the Indian Navy.

2. It was commissioned in July 2025 and built by Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam.
3. It functions as a mothership for Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicles (DSRV).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

Q2) Exercise Pacific Reach 2025, recently in the news, is best described as:

- A) A trilateral naval exercise between India, Japan, and Australia focused on humanitarian assistance.
- B) A biennial multinational exercise in Singapore focusing on submarine rescue and deep-sea operations with Participation of 40+ nations.
- C) An annual maritime patrol exercise conducted in the South China Sea.
- D) A UN-led programme on deep-sea resource mapping in the Pacific Ocean.

Answer: B)

8) PM lays foundation stone for Polypropylene Plant at Numaligarh Refinery, Assam

Why in News: The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for a Polypropylene (PP) plant at Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL), Golaghat, Assam, to boost India's petrochemical capacity and reduce import dependence. About Polypropylene (PP)



Q1) With reference to Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL), consider the following statements:

1. It is located at Golaghat in Assam and is popularly called the "Assam Accord Refinery."
2. NRL is a key public sector undertaking (PSU) in the North-East region of India.
3. It is expanding into petrochemical production through the establishment of a Polypropylene plant.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1, 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

Q2) Polypropylene (PP), recently in the news, is:

- A) A naturally occurring biopolymer derived from bamboo fibres.
- B) A thermoplastic polymer produced by addition polymerization of propylene, belonging to the polyolefin family.
- C) A type of synthetic rubber used mainly in automobile tyres.
- D) A metal-alloy used for electrical contacts.

Answer: B) A thermoplastic polymer produced by addition polymerization of propylene, belonging to the polyolefin family.

Q3) Which of the following is/are properties and applications of Polypropylene (PP)?

- 1. Low density and lightweight material.
- 2. Resistant to chemicals and high heat.
- 3. Commonly used in packaging, medical products, cleaning equipment, and electrical insulation.
- 4. Completely non-flammable and non-recyclable.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 2 and 4 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

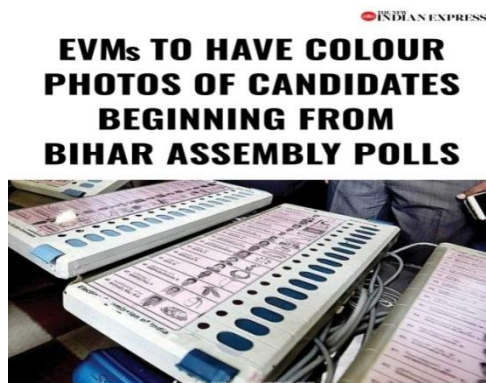
Answer: A) 1, 2 and 3 only

18th Sept (Thursday)

- 1. EVMs to Carry Colour Photos of Candidates
- 2. Bima Sugam: Single Digital Marketplace for Insurance
- 3. Frontier 50 Initiative - **NITI Aayog**
- 4. **Penna River** flood rescue in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh
- 5. EU unveils **new strategic agenda** to deepen ties with India
- 6. Major Emitters Delay Updated NDC Submissions Ahead of **COP30 in Brazil**
- 7. **Birhor Tribe** in Jharkhand to get electricity after 8 decades
- 8. Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease spreading in Delhi-NCR

1. EVMs to Carry Colour Photos of Candidates

Why in News: The Election Commission of India (ECI) has mandated **colour photographs of candidates on Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs)** starting with the **Bihar elections**, to enhance clarity and voter recognition.



EVMs TO HAVE COLOUR PHOTOS OF CANDIDATES BEGINNING FROM BIHAR ASSEMBLY POLLS

Q1. Under which provision of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961 were the guidelines regarding the design of ballot papers on Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) revised?

- A. Section 33A
- B. Section 49B
- C. Section 61A
- D. Section 39

Answer: B. Section 49B

Explanation: Section 49B of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, specifically deals with the ballot paper design guidelines on EVMs.

Q2. Consider the following statements about the introduction and adoption of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in India:

- 1. The first limited use of EVMs took place in Kerala in 1982.
- 2. They were formally adopted nationwide in the 2004 Lok Sabha elections.
- 3. VVPAT was introduced in 2013 and implemented nationwide in 2019.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. 1 and 3 only

Answer: C. 1, 2 and 3

Explanation: EVMs were first tested in Kerala in 1982 (limited use), officially adopted in the 2004 Lok Sabha elections, and VVPAT was introduced in 2013, with universal adoption in the 2019 elections.

Q3. Which of the following is/are correct about the capacity and manufacturing of EVMs in India?

- 1. A single EVM can record up to 2000 votes.
- 2. It can cater to a maximum of 64 candidates by linking up to 4 Ballot Units (BUs).
- 3. The manufacturing of EVMs is done by two public sector undertakings — Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL) and Electronics Corporation of India Ltd. (ECIL).

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3

Explanation: An EVM can record up to 2000 votes, handle 64 candidates (16 per BU × 4 BUs), and is manufactured only by BEL and ECIL, both PSUs.

2. Bima Sugam: Single Digital Marketplace for Insurance

Why in news IRDAI has launched **Bima Sugam**, a unified digital insurance marketplace, marking the first step toward India's **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)** for insurance.

Q1. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) was established in which year as a statutory body?

- A. 1995

- B. 1999
- C. 2000
- D. 2002

Answer: C. 2000

Explanation: IRDA was created under the IRDA Act, 1999, and became a statutory body in April 2000.

3. Penna River flood rescue in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh



- Major tributaries: Chitravati, Papagni, Cheyyeru, Kunderu
- Also known as: Pennar, Pinakini, Penneru.

EU unveils new strategic agenda with India, but cites Russia rider

By Rezaul H Laskar

Published on: Sept 18, 2025 01:46 am IST

Win iPhone 16

The "New Strategic EU-India Agenda" is expected to be endorsed by the bloc's 27 member states by the year-end

4. EU unveils new strategic agenda to deepen ties with India

Why in News: The European Union released a document titled "A New Strategic EU-India Agenda", outlining plans to upgrade ties in trade, technology, defence, security, and climate. However, the EU also warned that India's military exercises with Russia and its purchase of Russian oil pose challenges to deeper cooperation.

5) Major Emitters Delay Updated NDC Submissions Ahead of COP30 in Brazil

Why in News : Ahead of the 30th Conference of Parties (COP30) to be held in Belem, Brazil, only 29 out of 195 countries have submitted their updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), reflecting slow progress in global climate commitments.

- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs): Voluntary national climate action plans submitted under the Paris Agreement (2015).
- COP30 (2025, Brazil): Expected to focus on implementation of commitments rather than new headline pledges.

Q1. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted in:

- A. 1972, Stockholm Conference
- B. 1987, Montreal Protocol
- C. 1992, Rio Earth Summit
- D. 1997, Kyoto Protocol

Answer: C. 1992, Rio Earth Summit

Explanation: UNFCCC was opened for signature at the Rio Earth Summit (UNCED) in 1992 and came into force in 1994.

Q2. Consider the following statements:

1. UNFCCC is a legally binding treaty that commits parties to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
2. The principle of "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR)" is enshrined in the UNFCCC.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B. 2 only

Explanation: UNFCCC is not legally binding in terms of emission reduction targets; it only sets a framework. CBDR is a core principle under UNFCCC.



6) Birhor Tribe in Jharkhand to get electricity after 8 decades

Why in News: Around 550 residents of Fulwariya hamlet in Koderma district, mostly belonging to the Birhor tribe (a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group – PVTG), will soon receive electricity supply for the first time in nearly 80 years.

Q) As of 2023, how many PVTGs are recognized in India?

- A. 50
- B. 75
- C. 82
- D. 101

Answer: B. 75

Explanation: There are 75 PVTGs spread across 18 States and Union Territories.

Q. Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease (HFMD) is caused by which type of pathogen?

- A. Bacteria
- B. Virus
- C. Fungus
- D. Protozoa

Cases of Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease in Delhi: How can parents protect their kids? A doctor explains

Children below the age of 5 are the most vulnerable due to their still-developing immune systems.

Answer: B. Virus

HFMD is a viral disease, most commonly caused by *Coxsackievirus A16* and *Enterovirus 71*

19 Sept (Friday)

1. U.S. revokes India's waiver for Chabahar Port project
2. Global Innovation Index 2025
3. PM lays foundation stone of India's first PM MITRA Park in Madhya Pradesh

1) U.S. revokes India's waiver for Chabahar Port project

• **Global Innovation Index 2025**

According to WIPO's **Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025**, global R&D growth has slowed, and India has risen to **38th rank among 139 economies**, up from 81st in 2015



2) PM lays foundation stone of India's first PM MITRA Park in Madhya Pradesh



Prime Minister's Office

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi lays foundation stone, inaugurates development works in Dhar, Madhya Pradesh

Why in News: The Prime Minister inaugurated the foundation stone of the country's **first Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park** in Dhar District, Madhya Pradesh.



Q. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks Scheme, consider the following statements:

- Under the scheme, **Karnataka** has been allotted a PM MITRA Park at **Kalaburagi (Gulbarga)**.
- The scheme aims to strengthen India's textile sector by providing world-class infrastructure across the textile value chain.
- The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of commerce & Industries

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, and 2 only

Answer: D. 1, 2

- The **PM MITRA Scheme (2021)** was launched to establish **7 Mega Textile Parks** across India.

- One of them is in **Kalaburagi district, Karnataka.**
- It will have plug-and-play facilities, common processing, testing, training centres, and integrated logistics.
- The scheme is fully under the **Ministry of Textiles.**

20th Sept (Saturday)

- 1) Banu Musthaq Dasara opening

Supreme Court cites **Preamble to reject** plea against **Banu Mushtaq opening** Dasara in Mysuru

Bench cites secular ideals, says State event cannot exclude dignitary on religious grounds; Karnataka High Court order upheld

Updated - September 20, 2025 01:00 am IST

Q. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Banu Mushtaq ?

1. *Heart Lamp* is the first Kannada-language book to win the International Booker Prize.
2. The book comprises 12 short stories focusing on the lives of Muslim women in southern India.
3. Banu Mushtaq's work was translated into English by Deepa Bhashti.
4. The International Booker Prize 2025 was awarded to Mushtaq and Bhashti at the ceremony held in New York.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 1, 2, and 4 only
- C. 2, 3, and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer: A. 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- The International Booker Prize 2025 was awarded at a ceremony held in London, not New York.

Q. Who was the first Indian author to win the International Booker Prize?

- A. Arundhati Roy
- B. Salman Rushdie

C. Geetanjali Shree

D. Banu Mushtaq

Answer: C. Geetanjali Shree

Explanation: Geetanjali Shree's *Tomb of Sand* (Ret Samadhi) became the first book originally written in an Indian language (Hindi) to win the International Booker Prize in 2022.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Mysuru Dasara 2024 inauguration:

1. The festival was inaugurated on October 3, 2024.
2. The inauguration took place atop Chamundi Hill, the site of Chamundeshwari Temple.
3. The ceremony was led by Karnataka's Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.
4. The renowned scholar and writer Dr. Hampa Nagarajaiah (Hampana) performed the inauguration.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 1, 2, and 3 only
C. 1, 2, and 4 only
D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer: C. 1, 2, and 4

Explanation:

- The festival was inaugurated by Dr. Hampa Nagarajaiah (Hampana), not by the Chief Minister.
- The inauguration took place on Chamundi Hill, during Vrishchika Lagna, marking the official start of Mysuru Dasara 2024.
- Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar attended as dignitaries but did not lead the inauguration.

22th sept 2025 (Monday)

1. The problem with low inflation
2. **H-1B visa** hike poorly thought out, says visiting U.S. lawmaker Ami Bera
3. Britain, Canada & Australia recognise Palestine; Netanyahu rejects move
4. **Sawalkote dam**: Panel to weigh green nod for Chenab project
5. Iridogorgia Chewbacca: New **Deep-Sea Coral** Discovered
6. **Achanakmar Tiger Reserve**
7. Sikh marriage registration: SC directs states to frame rules under **Anand Marriage Act**
8. IAF's iconic **MiG-21 fighter** to fly into sunset after six decades of service
9. **Exercise Amogh Fury**
10. **Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2023 – Mohanlal**

1) The problem with low inflation, Source: The Indian Express, September 22, 2025.

Why in News : Retail inflation (CPI) in August 2025 fell to **2.07%**, while **WPI inflation** was unexpectedly low inflation has created challenges for the government's fiscal arithmetic, GDP growth lags behind expectations, hurting tax revenues and budget targets.

Q1) With reference to the recent fall in India's retail and wholesale inflation rates, consider the following statements:

1. Retail inflation (CPI) in August 2025 fell to **2.07%**, while Wholesale Price Index (WPI) in August 2025 fell to **0.52%**.
2. Very low inflation can adversely affect the government's **fiscal arithmetic** by lowering GDP growth.
3. Lower nominal GDP growth reduces expected **tax revenues**, making it harder to meet targets.
4. While moderate inflation supports fiscal health, persistently high inflation always impedes GDP growth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
B) 2 and 4 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A) 1, 2 and 3 only

2) H-1B visa hike poorly thought out, says visiting U.S. lawmaker Ami Bera

Why in News: U.S. lawmaker **Ami Bera** criticized the new **\$100,000 H-1B visa fee**, war would strain India-U.S. ties and harm American companies

Q2) Which statement best describes the global context of Palestine recognition?

1. **Around 140 countries** have recognized Palestine.
2. India is among the countries that recognized Palestine early (1988).
3. Israel supports Palestine's UN membership.

Select the correct answer:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

3) Sawalkote dam: Panel to weigh green nod for Chenab project

Why in News: The **Sawalkote dam** project (1,865 MW) on the **Chenab River** in

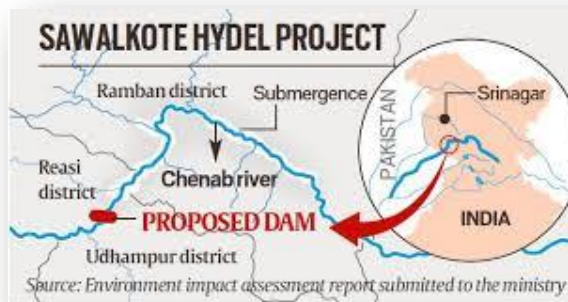
Jammu & Kashmir, being **developed by NHPC**, is under review for environmental clearance by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC).

EXCLUSIVE: With **Indus Waters Treaty** on hold, Centre panel to weigh clearance for **Sawalkote dam on Chenab** this week

The upcoming Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) meeting is particularly significant for the project, with the panel set to decide whether to recommend clearance without cumulative impact and carrying capacity studies (CIA and CCS).

Q1) Consider the following statements about the Sawalkote Hydropower Project:

1. It is located on the **Chenab River** in Jammu & Kashmir.
2. With a planned capacity of **1,865 MW**, it is among the largest proposed hydropower projects on a western river of the Indus basin.
3. The project is being developed by the **National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC)**.
4. It is situated on the Jhelum River, which is also part of the Indus system.



Which of the above statements is/are correct?

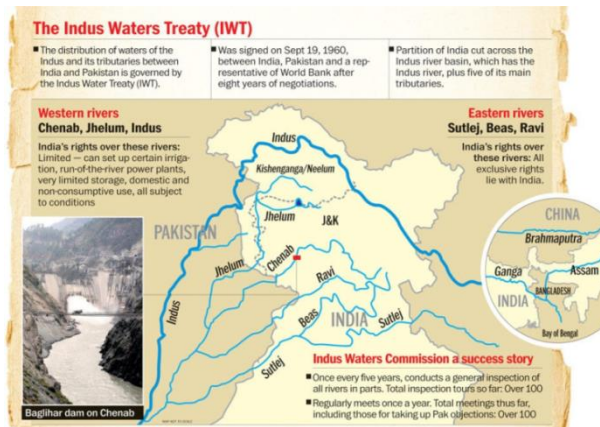
Options:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only

Q2) Consider the following statements:

1. The Chenab River originates from **Bara Lacha Pass** in Himachal Pradesh and flows through Jammu & Kashmir into Pakistan.
2. Under the **Indus Waters Treaty (1960)**, the Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej were allocated to India, while the Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab were allocated to Pakistan.
3. India is completely barred from using the waters of the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab).



Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only (3- India can use western rivers for non-consumptive uses like hydropower).

5) Iridogorgia Chewbacca: New Deep-Sea Coral Discovered

Why in News : Scientists have discovered a new species of deep-sea coral, named Iridogorgia Chewbacca, due to its hairy-looking branches resembling the Star Wars character “Chewbacca”.



Q) Recently, the species Iridogorgia Chewbacca was in the news. It refers to:

- A newly discovered giant bamboo species in Northeast India
- A new deep-sea coral species named after a Star Wars character
- A rare fossil of prehistoric marine reptiles in the Arctic
- A genetically modified algae used in biofuel production

Answer: B) A new deep-sea coral species named after a Star Wars character

6) Achanakmar Tiger Reserve

Why in News: Officials reported that tigress **Jhumri** played a key role in reviving the tiger population in **Achanakmar Tiger Reserve (ATR)**, Chhattisgarh.

Jhumri's journey: How one tigress helped revival of big cat numbers at Achanakmar Tiger Reserve

Today, ATR's tiger population is thriving, up to 18 – 10 adults and eight cubs — from the five recorded in 2022. According to officials, much of this is down to conservation efforts, spurred on since Jhumri's arrival.

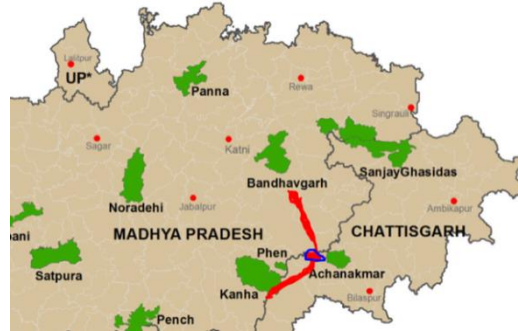
Q) In the context of Indian Tiger Reserves, consider the following statements about Achanakmar (ATR)

1. It is located in **Chhattisgarh** and is connected via a tiger corridor with Kanha and Bandhavgarh reserves in Madhya Pradesh.
2. The **Maniyari River** flows through ATR and serves as its ecological lifeline.
3. The reserve is home to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) like the Baigas, along with Gonds and Yadavs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3



Q) Why was Tigress Jhumri in news recently?

- A. She was relocated from Kanha Tiger Reserve to Chhattisgarh under the NTCA program.
- B. She played a key role in **reviving the tiger population** in **Achanakmar Tiger Reserve**.
- C. She was the first radio-collared tigress in Central India.
- D. She was translocated to Satkosia Tiger Reserve in Odisha.

Answer: B

Q) Assertion (A): The corridor around Achanakmar Tiger Reserve is ecologically important.

Reason (R): It connects Kanha and Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserves, enabling dispersal and gene flow among tiger populations.

Options:

- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C. A is true, but R is false.
- D. A is false, but R is true.

Answer: A

7) Sikh marriage registration: SC directs states to frame rules under Anand Marriage Act

Why in News : The Supreme Court directed **17 states and 8 Union Territories** to frame rules within four months for registering **Sikh marriages under the Anand Marriage Act, 1909**. The order seeks to close the gap in implementation but does not resolve larger legal issues



like divorce and matrimonial disputes for Sikhs.

Q1) With reference to the Anand Marriage Act, 1909 and its 2012 Amendment, consider the following statements:

1. The **original Act of 1909** recognized **Sikh marriages** but did not provide for their registration.
2. **The 2012 Amendment** inserted **Section 6**, mandating states to frame rules for registration of Sikh marriages.
3. The Supreme Court recently directed states and UTs to implement these provisions within a fixed timeline.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

8) IAF's iconic MiG-21 fighter to fly into sunset after six decades of service

Why in News: The Indian Air Force (IAF) **will retire** its **MiG-21 fighter** jets on September 26, 2025, after nearly 60 years of service.

After 60 years, IAF's MiG-21 to retire in Chandigarh; Squadron Leader Priya Sharma to fly iconic jet into its sunset tomorrow

Ajay Sura / TNN / Updated: Sep 25, 2025, 10:29 IST

Squadron Leader Priya Sharma, the **seventh woman fighter pilot** commissioned in 2014, will be the last woman to fly the MiG-21 as the IAF bids farewell to the iconic aircraft.

Q1. With reference to the MiG-21 fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force, consider the following statements:

1. It was inducted in 1963 as **India's first supersonic fighter aircraft**.
2. It played a role in the **1965 and 1971 Indo-Pak wars** as well as the 1999 Kargil conflict.
3. More than 700 aircraft were inducted, many of which were assembled or produced by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
4. It participated in missions such as **Operation Sindoor** and the **Balakot airstrikes (2019)**.



How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) All four
- (d) Only one

Answer: (c) All four

Q2. Consider the following pairs related to MiG-21 in Indian military history:

1. 2019 – Group Captain **Abhinandan Varthaman** shot down a Pakistani F-16 using a MiG-21 Bison.
2. 2019 – Mirage 2000 jets were used for the Balakot airstrikes.
3. 1984 – MiG-21 was used in Operation Meghdoot for capturing the Siachen Glacier.

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

9) Exercise Amogh Fury “Indian Army conducts Exercise Amogh Fury in Rajasthan”

Indian Army holds firepower exercise 'Amogh Fury' in Rajasthan desert

The **Sapta Shakti Command** of the Indian Army conducted the 'AMOGH FURY' Integrated Fire Power Exercise at the **Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan**. The drill showcased seamless coordination of combat arms using contemporary technologies.

Why in News: The Indian Army recently conducted a major Integrated Firepower Exercise codenamed 'Amogh Fury' at the **Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan**.

Q1. With reference to the Integrated Firepower Exercise 'Amogh Fury', consider the following statements:

1. It was conducted by the **Sapta Shakti** Command of the Indian Army.
2. It was held at **the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in the Thar Desert, Rajasthan**.
3. Its objective was to test operational readiness and demonstrate preparedness for multi-domain operations.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (c) All three

10) Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2023 – Mohanlal Source, “Mohanlal to receive Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2023”

Why in News: The Government of India announced that **Shri Mohanlal** will be conferred with the **Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2023**, India's highest honor in cinema.



Q1) With reference to the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, consider the following statements:

1. It was instituted in **1969** to commemorate the birth centenary of **Dadasaheb Phalke**.

2. The first recipient was **Devika Rani**, popularly called the “**First Lady of Indian Cinema**”.
3. The award comprises a Swarna Kamal medallion, a shawl, and a **cash prize of ₹10 lakh**.
4. It is presented by the Prime Minister of India.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) All four
- (d) Only one

Answer: (b) Only three, It is presented by the **President of India**

Q2. Consider the following pairs related to Indian cinema:

1. **Mohanlal** – Recipient of **Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2023**
2. Dadasaheb Phalke – Directed **Raja Harishchandra** (1913), **India’s first full-length feature film**
3. Devika Ram – First recipient of the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1969

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) 1 only

Answer: (c) 1, and 2 First recipient Devika Rani

23th sept 2025 (Tuesday)

1. Panagariya: Elections every 4-5 months makes Centre hesitant to adopt reforms
2. Indian Navy’s First Training Squadron Concludes Port Visit to **Mozambique**
3. **Lactifluus khasianus**: **New Mushroom Species Discovered in Meghalaya**

- 1) **Panagariya: Elections every 4-5 months makes Centre hesitant to adopt reforms.**

Why in News : Arvind Panagariya, Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission, told a Parliamentary panel that frequent elections hinder reforms and delay policymaking, citing disruptions caused by the Model Code of Conduct (MCC).

Q1. With reference to the observations made by Arvind Panagariya, Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission, consider the following statements:

1. He stated that frequent elections every 4–5 months hinder reforms due to repeated enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC).

- The MCC is issued by the Election Commission of India and restricts government from announcing new policies or schemes once enforced.
- The 16th Finance Commission is mandated to recommend the framework for simultaneous elections in India.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Answer: (b) Only two

(Statement 3 is incorrect → Finance Commission's role is **revenue-sharing & fiscal matters**, not elections).

Q2. Consider the following pairs regarding the Parliamentary Panel on Simultaneous Elections (2024):

- Formation year – December 2024
- Chairperson – **P. P. Chaudhary**
- Task – Examine draft bills and proposals for **"One Nation, One Election"**

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

2)



NATIONAL

Indian Navy Strengthens Ties With Mozambique Navy During Port Call Of First Training Squadron At Maputo.

tripurastarnews30 · © September 21, 2025 · 2 min read

Why in News : The **Indian Navy's First Training Squadron** (INS Tir, INS Shardul, INS Sujata, and ICGS Sarathi) concluded its four-day port visit to **Maputo, Mozambique**.

Q1) With reference to the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS), consider the following statements:

- It comprises **INS Tir, INS Shardul, INS Sujata, and ICGS Sarathi**.
- The squadron is primarily responsible for combat operations in the Indian Ocean Region.
- It conducts long-range training cruises, including foreign port visits for goodwill and maritime diplomacy.

4. It provides practical training to naval cadets and officers in seamanship, navigation, and operational tasks.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1, 3 and 4 only
B) 1 and 2 only
C) 2, 3 and 4 only
D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A) 1, 3 and 4 only. **Location: Southern Africa**, lies in Southern & Eastern Hemispheres. • Coastline: Bounded by the Indian Ocean to the east. **Mozambique Channel** separates it from Madagascar, Comoros, and Mayotte.

Q2) Match the following ships of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron with their primary roles:

List I – Ship	List II – Role
A. INS Tir	1. Training Ship for cadets
B. INS Shardul	2. Tank Landing Ship (Logistics & Amphibious Ops)
C. INS Sujata	3. Offshore Patrol Vessel
D. ICGS Sarathi	4. Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel

Select the correct code:

- A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
B) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
C) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4
D) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

Answer: A) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

3) Lactifluus khasianus: New Mushroom Species Discovered in Meghalaya

Why in News : A new species of edible mushroom, **Lactifluus khasianus**, has been formally described by researchers. It was already known to **Khasi tribal communities** as "**Tit iongnah**."



Q) The species Lactifluus khasianus, recently discovered in Meghalaya, is significant because:

- A) It is the first carnivorous fungus recorded in India.
B) It is an edible mushroom locally known as **Tit iongnah** by Khasi tribes.
C) It is the first fungus found to produce natural antibiotics.
D) It is a genetically modified mushroom developed for higher yield.

Answer: B) It is an edible mushroom locally known as *Tit iongnah* by Khasi tribes.

4) Project Vijayak: 15th Raising Day Celebrated at Kargil

Why in News : The Border Roads Organisation's (BRO) **Project Vijayak** celebrated its 15th Raising Day at Kargil, Ladakh.



Q) With reference to Project Vijayak, recently in news, consider the following statements:

1. It was launched by the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** in 2010.
2. It is named after **Operation Vijay (1999 Kargil War)** to mark its strategic importance.
3. Its objective is to improve road connectivity in **Kargil and Zaskar**, areas earlier under **Project Himank**.
4. It is jointly implemented by BRO and the Indian Army Corps of Engineers.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
 - B) 2 and 4 only
 - C) 1 and 3 only
 - D) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Answer: A) 1, 2 and 3 only**

24th sept 2025 (Wednesday)

1. EC Introduces **E-Sign** Feature to Strengthen Voter List Integrity
2. **Almatti Dam Dispute** Escalates Between Telangana and Karnataka
3. Barren Island Volcanic Activity Noticed in Andaman & Nicobar Islands
4. **Bonnet Macaque** (*Macaca radiata*)
5. **Clean Plant Programme (CPP)** - Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
6. **Adi Yuva Fellowship & Adi Karmayogi Volunteers Programme** - Ministry of Tribal Affairs
7. Govt to Roll Out **e-NAM 2.0** to Boost Inter-State Trade

1) EC Introduces E-Sign Feature to Strengthen Voter List Integrity

Why in News: The Election Commission of India (EC) has introduced a mandatory e-sign process via Aadhaar OTP for Form 6, 7, and 8 submissions to prevent fraudulent deletions and ensure the integrity of voter lists.

Q1)Assertion (A): The Election Commission of India has introduced an Aadhaar-based e-sign

Election Commission launches e-sign feature for addition, deletion, and correction of voter names

Applicants should confirm their identity using Aadhaar-linked phone numbers

Updated - September 24, 2025 09:00 am IST - NEW DELHI

THE HINDU BUREAU

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feature for voter list applications.

Reason (R): This aims to prevent fraudulent deletions and ensure accuracy in the electoral rolls.

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true, but R is false.
- (d) A is false, but R is true.

Answer: (a)

Q2) Which of the following forms related to voter registration are covered under the new mandatory e-sign process?

- 1. Form 6 – New voter registration
- 2. Form 7 – Objection to inclusion of name
- 3. Form 8 – Correction of entries

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

2) Almatti Dam Dispute Escalates Between Telangana and Karnataka

Why in News: Karnataka's decision to raise the height of the **Almatti Dam** has reignited tensions with Telangana over Krishna River water sharing, impacting irrigation and regional politics. Telangana plans to take the matter to the Supreme Court.



Q) The recent dispute between Telangana and Karnataka over the Almatti Dam involves which of the following?

- 1. Karnataka's decision to raise the dam height, impacting Krishna River water sharing.
- 2. **Almatti Dam** being part of the **Upper Krishna Project**.
- 3. The Supreme Court capping the Full Reservoir Level (FRL) at 519.6 m.
- 4. Karnataka citing the 2013 KWDT-II Award in support of raising the dam height.

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- C) 1, 2, 3, and 4
- D) 2 and 4 only

Answer: C) 1, 2, 3, and 4

3) Smog-Eating Photocatalytic Coatings Study in Delhi

Why in News: The Delhi government announced a time-bound study on “smog-eating” photocatalytic coatings to combat air pollution in the city.

Q) In the context of Delhi’s study on “Smog-Eating Photocatalytic Coatings”, consider the following statements:

- 1) These coatings primarily use **titanium dioxide (TiO₂)** as the active material.
- 2) They work through a process called **photocatalysis**, where light energy helps neutralise harmful gases.
- 3) Such coatings are incompatible with traditional construction materials, hence used only on glass surfaces.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

4) Barren Island Volcanic Activity Noticed in Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Why in News: Minor volcanic eruptions were observed twice within eight days at **Barren Island**, the **only active volcano in the Indian subcontinent**.

Q1. With reference to Barren Island, consider the following statements:

1. It is the only active volcano in the Indian subcontinent.
2. It is located in the **Arabian Sea**, about **138 km** from Kochi.
3. It was formed above the subduction zone of the Indian Plate and the Burmese Plate.



- ◆ **Location:** Situated in the **Andaman Sea**, **Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India**.
- ◆ **138 km Northeast of Port Blair.**
- ◆ **Status:** India's **only active volcano**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only Active: Erupts frequently (e.g., Barren Island, Mt. Etna).

Dormant: Has not erupted for a long time but may erupt again (e.g., Mt. Kilimanjaro).

Extinct: Not expected to erupt again (e.g., Mt. Poba in Myanmar).

5) Bonnet Macaque (*Macaca radiata*)

Why in News: The Bonnet Macaque, a diurnal primate species found only in Peninsular India, has been classified as **Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List** due to threats from habitat loss, human-animal conflict, and exploitation.



1) The natural habitat of the Bonnet Macaque is confined to:

- A) Himalayan foothills
- B) Peninsular India
- C) Northeastern India and Myanmar
- D) Western Ghats and Sri Lanka

Answer: B) Peninsular India

6) Clean Plant Programme (CPP) - Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers

Why in News: The Union Cabinet (Aug 2024) approved the **Clean Plant Programme (CPP)** with ₹1,765.67 crore, including an **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** loan of \$98 million, to ensure **virus-free planting material for major fruit crops**.

Q) The Clean Plant Programme (CPP), approved by the Union Cabinet, is a significant initiative in India's horticulture sector. Which of the following statements about CPP is/are correct?



1. It aims to **ensure virus-free, healthy planting material** for major fruit crops.
2. It is a joint initiative of the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare** and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), with a total outlay of ₹1,765.67 crore, including an ADB loan of \$98 million.
3. Its primary objective is to **enhance farmers' productivity** and profitability while boosting India's global horticulture competitiveness.

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

7) Adi Yuva Fellowship & Adi Karmayogi Volunteers Programme

Why in News: The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in partnership with the United Nations in India, launched the **Adi Yuva Fellowship** and the **Adi Karmayogi Volunteers Programme** under the **Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan** to empower tribal youth and enhance last-mile service delivery in tribal regions.

Q) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs recently launched the Adi Yuva Fellowship and Adi Karmayogi Volunteers Programme under the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The programmes aim to **empower tribal youth** and enhance last-mile service delivery in tribal regions.
2. The Adi Yuva Fellowship, **supported by the United Nations in India**, focuses on structured learning, mentorship, and career development.
3. Both programmes are implemented exclusively by state governments without international collaboration.

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only.

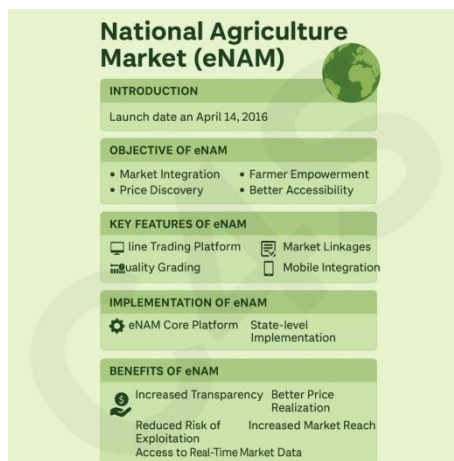


8) Govt to Roll Out e-NAM 2.0 to Boost Inter-State Trade

Why in News: The Government of India is planning to launch a **revamped e-NAM 2.0** platform to strengthen **inter-state and inter-mandi** agricultural trade and **reduce food wastage**, thereby ensuring better price realisation for farmers.

Q) The Government of India is planning to launch the revamped e-NAM 2.0 platform. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. **e-NAM 2.0** aims to strengthen **inter-state and inter-mandi agricultural trade**, reduce food wastage, and ensure better price realization for farmers.
2. The original e-NAM platform was launched in **April 2016** by the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare** and currently covers **1,522 mandis across 27 States/UTs**.
3. Till FY24, the total trade value on the platform was **₹4.47 lakh crore**, but inter-



state trade constituted only about 0.02% of it.

4. e-NAM exclusively allows trade in cereals and pulses, excluding horticultural commodities.

Options:

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- B) 1 and 4 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A) 1, 2 and 3 only

25th sept 2025 (Thursday)

1. PM inaugurates new infrastructure and beautification works at **Tripura Sundari Temple**, Udaipur
2. Kannada Writer & Saraswati Samman Awardee S.L. Bhyrappa Passes Away
3. AI-enabled Nature Experience Centre to be set up at Betla National Park
4. Doddasaggere Botanical Garden Development in Tumakuru
5. SPARSH resolves 87% of legacy pension discrepancies

1)

PM Modi inaugurates newly developed infrastructure, beautification works at **Tripura Sundari Temple**

Narendra Modi offered puja in accordance with rituals at the 523-year-old temple founded by Maharaja **Dhanya Manikya**; during the rituals, **tribal devotees presented traditional Kirtan**

at the Tripura Sundari Temple complex in **Udaipur, Tripura**.

Q) Recently, the Prime Minister inaugurated the newly developed infrastructure and beautification works at the Tripura Sundari Temple. Consider the following statements:

1. The temple is located in Udaipur, Tripura, and the state's name is believed to have been derived from **Goddess Tripura Sundari**.
2. The temple was established in 1501 A.D. by **Maharaja Dhanya Manikya of the Tripura Kingdom**.
3. It is one of the **51 Shakti Peethas** in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Why in News :The Prime Minister of India inaugurated newly developed infrastructure and beautification works



- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d) 1, 2 and 3

2)Kannada Writer & Saraswati Samman Awardee S.L. Bhyrappa Passes Away

Why in News : Renowned Kannada writer and Saraswati Samman awardee S.L. Bhyrappa passed away in Bengaluru at the age of 94.

With reference to the recently deceased Kannada writer S.L. Bhyrappa, consider the following statements:

1. He was a recipient of the **Saraswati Samman**.
2. He was born in Santheshivara, **Hassan district** of Karnataka.
3. He served as a **professor of philosophy** in Gujarat, Delhi, and Mysuru.
4. He authored **Uttarakanda** (2017), a retelling of the Ramayana from **Sita's perspective**, before his retirement.
5. His works such as **Parva, Vamshavriksha, and Gruhabhanga** are regarded as classics, with many adapted into films and serials.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only three
- b) Only four
- c) All five
- d) Only two

Answer: c) All five

Awards & Recognition

• Padma Bhushan (2016) – India's third-highest civilian award.
• Saraswati Samman (2010) for his novel Mandra .
• Sahitya Akademi Award (1978) for Parva .
• Sahitya Akademi Fellowship (2015) – highest literary honour of Sahitya Akademi.
• Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award , Karnataka Sahitya Academy Award, and multiple state honours.
• Widely regarded as one of the most influential voices in modern Kannada literature.

3) AI-enabled Nature Experience Centre to be set up at Betla National Park

Why in News: A first-of-its-kind AI-enabled nature experience centre is set to be developed at **Betla National Park, Jharkhand**.

Q1. Recently, a first-of-its-kind **AI-enabled Nature Experience Centre** is set to be established at **Betla National Park**. Consider the following statements:



1. Betla National Park is located in the **Chota Nagpur Plateau, Latehar district of Jharkhand**.
2. It is the only National Park of Jharkhand, notified in 1986.
3. It forms the core area of **Palamau Tiger Reserve**, one of the first reserves included under **Project Tiger**.
4. The **Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary** is a part of this park.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 Flowed through by **North Koel River**; creates monsoon waterfalls.

Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 – legal framework for National Parks & Tiger Reserves.

Q2. With reference to **Betla National Park**, consider the following:

1. It lies in the **Indo-Malayan biogeographic realm** and is flowed through by the North Koel River.
2. It is known for bird species such as **Malabar Pied Hornbill** and **Indian Pitta**.
3. The forests of the park range from tropical wet **evergreen to alpine**, with sal, bamboo, mahua, and semal as dominant vegetation.
4. Indigenous tribes like the **Oraon** and **Munda** have lived in and around this park for centuries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

4) Doddasaggere Botanical Garden Development in Tumakuru

Why in News : A botanical park being developed at **Doddasaggere in Tumakuru district**, Karnataka, recorded a rise in bird species (**from 35 in 2021 to 75 in 2025**), showcasing its ecological success.

Doddasaggere botanical garden in Karnataka sees rise in number of species, including near-threatened and rare ones

Doddasaggere Botanical Garden, planned to be developed on 228 acres, would be the second biggest botanical garden in Karnataka, and the third biggest in India

Q) Consider the following statements about Doddasaggere Botanical Park, recently in news for its ecological success:

1. It is located in **Tumakuru district, Karnataka**.
2. The park is spread over **228 acres**, making it the **second largest botanical park in Karnataka** after Lal Bagh, Bengaluru, and the **third largest in India**.
3. It is planned and managed by the **Horticulture Department of Karnataka**.
4. Currently, around **120 acres** of the park have been developed.
5. The number of bird species in the park has increased from **5 in 2021 to 10 in 2025**, indicating ecological success.

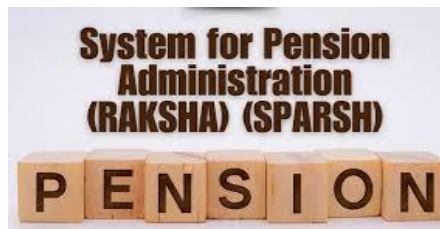
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- c) 1, 2, 3, 4 only
- d) 1, 3 and 5 only

Answer: c) 1, 2, 3, 4

5) SPARSH resolves 87% of legacy pension discrepancies

Why in News : The **System for Pension Administration – Raksha (SPARSH)** has successfully resolved 5.60 lakh out of 6.43 lakh legacy discrepancies (87%) in defence pensions.



Consider the following statements about SPARSH

1. SPARSH is an initiative of the **Ministry of Defence, Government of India**.
2. It is the **world's largest pension system** for defence personnel.
3. Its objective is to provide **end-to-end pension sanction and disbursement** for the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force) and Defence Civilians.
4. The system is administered by the **Defence Accounts Department** through the **Principal Controller of Defence Accounts (Pensions), Prayagraj**.

5. As of September 2025, SPARSH has resolved **87% of legacy pension discrepancies**, i.e., 5.60 lakh out of 6.43 lakh cases.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- d) 2, 3 and 5 only

Answer: c) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

26 Sept (Friday)

- 1. **Ladakh Violence** over Statehood & **Sixth Schedule Demand**
- 2. PM Modi, Russian Deputy PM discuss **BRICS Grain Exchange** and agriculture trade
- 3. DRDO successfully tests **Agni-Prime missile** from rail-based launcher
- 4. **Apterichtus kanniyakumari**
- 5. Central Water Commission Workshop under **Sujalam Bharat Summit**

1) **Ladakh Violence over Statehood & Sixth Schedule Demand**

Why in News: Ladakh witnessed one of its worst episodes of violence in decades, as protestors **demanded statehood** and **inclusion** under the **Sixth Schedule** of the Constitution to **safeguard tribal rights, land, and cultural identity**.



Q1) Recent violence in Ladakh was triggered by demands for:

- A. Union Territory status and enhanced tourism facilities
- B. Statehood and **inclusion** under the **Sixth Schedule** to safeguard tribal rights, land, and cultural identity
- C. Special economic zones and industrial development
- D. Direct representation in the Rajya Sabha

Answer: B. Protestors demanded **statehood for Ladakh** and inclusion under the **Sixth Schedule**, which provides protection for tribal areas and their governance.

Q2) Which of the following statements about the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution is correct?

- A. It applies to all Union Territories including Ladakh.
- B. It provides **special provisions for administration of tribal areas** and is currently

applicable **only to Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.**

C. It was introduced in 1975 to promote industrial development in tribal areas.

D. It is based on the recommendations of the **Sarkaria Commission.**

Answer: B. Came into effect in **1950** under **Articles 244(2) and 275(1).**

Recommendations were made by the **Bordoloi Committee**, not the Sarkaria Commission.

2) PM Modi, Russian Deputy PM discuss BRICS Grain Exchange and agriculture trade

Why in News : Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Russian Deputy PM **Dmitry Patrushev** during World Food India 2025 and discussed: **BRICS Grain Exchange (Proposed)**

India, Russia discuss BRICS grain exchange plan to boost agriculture trade ties

"Discussed ways to strengthen our win-win cooperation in agriculture, fertilizers and food processing," says Modi after meeting Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Patrushev

Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in>



Q1) During World Food India 2025, PM Narendra Modi met the Russian Deputy PM to discuss the proposed BRICS Grain Exchange. What is the primary objective of this initiative?

A. To create a common digital currency for BRICS countries

B. To establish a common **agricultural food exchange platform** to enhance transparency, reduce price volatility, and boost intra-BRICS agricultural trade

C. To set uniform tariffs on agricultural exports globally

D. To replace the existing WTO framework for grain trade

Answer: B

Q2) Which of the following statements about BRICS is/are correct?

- BRICS was founded in **2009** with the first summit held at **Yekaterinburg, Russia.**
- Its members account for **approximately 42% of the world population** and **~27% of global GDP (2024 est.).**
- Key institutions include the **New Development Bank (NDB), Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), BRICS Pay,** and the proposed Grain Exchange.
- India has never hosted a BRICS Summit.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. 1, 2, and 3 only

B. 1 and 4 only

C. 2 and 4 only

D. All of the above

Answer: A

India's role: Hosted BRICS Summit in 2012, 2016, and 2021. Members: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (joined in 2010), and **BRICS+ expansions in 2024** (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Egypt, Iran, Ethiopia).

Q3) Consider the following statements regarding the 2025 BRICS Summit:

1. The **17th BRICS Summit** was held in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**.
2. It was the first summit to include the **BRICS+ members** (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Egypt, Iran, and Ethiopia).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C. Both 1 and 2

3) DRDO successfully tests Agni-Prime missile from rail-based launcher

Why in News :he Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) successfully conducted the first test of the **Agni-Prime Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM)** from a **rail-based mobile launcher**, enhancing India's rapid deployment and strategic deterrence capabilities.

Q) Recently, the DRDO and SFC successfully tested the Agni-Prime missile from a rail-based launcher. Which of the following statements about Agni-Prime is/are correct?

1. It is a next-generation Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM).
2. Its strike range is between **1,000 – 2,000 km**.
3. It cannot carry nuclear warheads.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only. First-ever test from a rail-based mobile launcher.

4) Apterichtuskanniyakumari.

Why in News: Researchers from the **National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR)** have discovered a new species of **finless snake eel off the Colachel coast in Tamil Nadu** and named it **Apterichtuskanniyakumari**.

Q) Recently, a new species named *Apterichtus kanniyakumari* was discovered off the Colachel coast of Tamil Nadu. With reference to this species, consider the following statements:

New species of **finless snake eel** named after **Kanniyakumari**

The species belonging to the genus *Apterichtus* and discovered off the Colachel coast has been named after **Kanniyakumari** to honour the district's cultural, linguistic, historical and geographical significance.

Updated - September 14, 2024 07:01 pm (IST) - ANI/PTI/PTV

SHANKARI NIVEDITRIN 8

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ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO &AAO/RFO

1. It belongs to the family Ophichthidae, commonly known as **snake eels**.
2. It was discovered by the **National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBGR)**.
3. It is characterised by a **golden-yellow body** with pale white ventral side of the head and distinctive black blotches.
4. **Molecular analysis (CO1 gene)** confirmed its close relation with *Apterichtus nanjilnaduensis*.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

5)Central Water Commission Workshop under Sujalam Bharat Summit 2025

Why in News: The Central Water Commission (CWC) under the **Ministry of Jal Shakti** organised a virtual workshop on “Technology for Efficient Water Management” as part of the **Sujalam Bharat Summit 2025**.

Q) Consider the following statements about the Sujalam Bharat Initiative:

1. It is led by the **Ministry of Jal Shakti** and coordinated by **NITI Aayog**.
2. It focuses on **water management, sanitation, and sustainability**.
3. It aims to integrate **grassroots perspectives** into national policy-making.
4. It is exclusively a programme for **drinking water supply to urban areas**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer: A. 1, 2, and 3 only Focuses on **water management, sanitation, sustainability,** and incorporates **local/grassroots perspectives**.

Q) Which of the following are functions of the Central Water Commission (CWC)?

1. Formulates and coordinates schemes for **flood control, irrigation, drinking water, navigation, and hydropower**.
2. Conducts investigations, construction, and implementation of **water projects**.



3. Regulates **private sector water pricing** across India.

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

27TH SEPT 2025 (Saturday)

1. **Venkataramani** reappointed as Attorney General for 2 years
2. Trump announces **100% tariff on import of patented pharma products**
3. **AFSPA Extended in Parts** of Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, and Nagaland for Six Months
4. Traditional Products of **Devbhoomi** awarded with special **GI Tag**
5. **National Geoscience Awards 2024**
6. **Pallikaranai Marshland**: NGT Halts Construction Activities

1)

R. Venkataramani re-appointed as Attorney General

The President is pleased to re-appoint Shri R Venkataramani, Senior Advocate, as Attorney General for India for a further period of **two years** with effect from 01.10.2025, a notification read.

effective October 1, 2025, after the completion of his existing term.

Why in News : R. Venkataramani has been reappointed as the **Attorney General (AG)** of India for a fresh **two-year term**,

Q) In September 2022, the Attorney General of India was succeeded by a new appointee. Which of the following correctly indicates the predecessor and successor?

- A. Predecessor: Soli Sorabjee – Successor: Mukul Rohatgi
- B. Predecessor: K. K. Venugopal – Successor: R. Venkataramani
- C. Predecessor: Mukul Rohatgi – Successor: Gopal Subramaniam
- D. Predecessor: Gopal Subramaniam – Successor: K. K. Venugopal

Answer: B

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Attorney General of India (AG) and the recent developments:

1. The AG is the **highest law officer** of India, established under **Article 76** of the Constitution.
2. R. Venkataramani was first appointed AG on 30 September 2022 and reappointed for a **fresh two-year term** effective 1 October 2025.
3. The AG is appointed by the **President of India** and holds office **during the pleasure of the President**; there is **no fixed term**.

4. To be eligible as AG, one must be an **Indian citizen** and qualified to be appointed as a **Supreme Court judge**, with at least **5 years as a High Court judge** or 10 years as a High Court advocate.
5. There is a **mandatory retirement age of 65** for the AG.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
- B. 1, 2, and 5 only
- C. 2, 3, and 5 only
- D. All statements (1–5)

Answer: A. 1, 2, 3, and 4 only. Tenure: No fixed term

2) Trump announces 100% tariff on import of patented pharma products

Why in News : US President Donald Trump announced a 100% tariff on imported branded or patented pharmaceutical products, effective October 1, 2025, raising concerns for Indian pharma exports and government PLI-linked schemes.



Q) The US tariffs on pharmaceutical products announced in 2025 may significantly impact India because:

- A. India's exports constitute **40% of total pharma exports to the US**.
- B. India produces 90% of the US domestic pharmaceuticals.
- C. Indian pharma companies have no PLI-linked schemes.
- D. India imports all raw materials for pharma from the US.

Answer: A. India's exports constitute **40% of total pharma exports to the US**, **Tariff:** Tax on imports to protect domestic industry.

- **100% tariff** → Patented / branded pharma products
- **50% tariff** → Kitchen cabinets & bathroom vanities
- **25% tariff** → Heavy trucks

3) AFSPA Extended in Parts of Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, and Nagaland for Six Months.

Why in News: The Union Home Ministry has extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) for six months in specified areas of **Manipur, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh** due to **continuing insurgency** and security concerns.

AFSPA extended in parts of Manipur, Arunachal and Nagaland for another six months

In Manipur, AFSPA has been extended in the whole State, except in jurisdictions of 13 police stations in five valley districts

Updated - September 26, 2023 8:56 pm IST - New Delhi

THE HINDU BUREAU

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Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act – AFSPA:

1. AFSPA was enacted in **1958**, initially for the **Naga Hills**, and later extended to other northeastern states.
2. It empowers the armed forces to use **deadly force** against those violating prohibitory orders.
3. It allows the armed forces to **arrest without warrant** and **search premises without warrant** in disturbed areas.
4. Armed forces personnel enjoy **immunity from prosecution** without prior sanction of the **State Government**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
B. 1, 2, and 4 only
C. 1, 2, and 3, 4
D. 2, 3, and 4 only

Answer: A. 1, 2, and 3 only

4) Traditional Products of Devbhoomi awarded with special GI Tag

Why in News : Nine traditional products from Uttarakhand (Devbhoomi), including Bhotia Daan carpets and Nainital Moombatti candles, have been awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, enhancing market recognition and supporting local artisans.

Q) Which of the following traditional products from Uttarakhand (Devbhoomi) have been recently awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag?

- A. Bhotia Daan Carpets, Thulma Blankets, Bithchu Buti Products, Likhai Wood Carvings, Nainital Moombatti Candles, Ringaal Crafts, Rangwali Pichora Shawls, Aipan Artwork, Chamoli Ramaan Masks, Tamta Copper Products
B. Darjeeling Tea, Kanchipuram Silk, Basmati Rice
C. Pashmina Shawls, Banarasi Sarees, Madhubani Paintings
D. All of the above

Answer: A.

Q) Consider the following statements about Geographical Indications (GI) in India:

1. GI is a sign used on products that have a **specific geographical origin** and possess qualities or reputation due to that origin.
2. The **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999** provides the legal basis for GI in India.
3. The **Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trademarks under DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry** administers GI registration.
4. The main objectives of GI tags are to **protect traditional knowledge, prevent misuse, and boost the local economy**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
- C. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5
- D. 2, 3, and 5 only

Answer: C. 1, 2, 3, 4,

5) National Geoscience Awards 2024

Why in News : The President of India will confer the prestigious **National Geoscience Awards (NGA) 2024** at a function to be held at the **Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi**



Q) Consider the following statements about the National Geoscience Awards (NGA):

1. The awards were **instituted in 1966** by the **Ministry of Mines**, Government of India.
2. Originally, they were called **National Mineral Awards** and were **renamed National Geoscience Awards in 2009**.
3. They are conferred for outstanding contributions in the field of **geosciences**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2, and 3
- D. 2 and 3 only

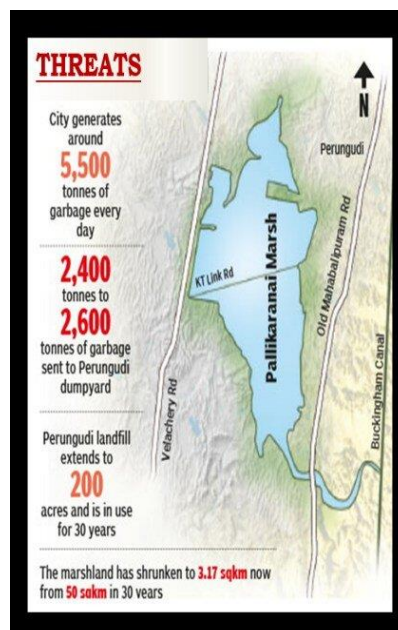
Answer: C. 1, 2, and 3

6) Pallikaranai Marshland: NGT Halts Construction Activities.

Why in News : The Southern Bench of the **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** has ordered a halt on all construction activity within one kilometre of the **Pallikaranai Marshland** until a comprehensive scientific study is conducted to assess its ecological sensitivity.

Q) Consider the following statements about Pallikaranai Marshland and the recent NGT order:

1. It is a **freshwater marsh** and partly **saline wetland** located about **20 km south of Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.
2. The **NGT (Southern Bench)** has ordered a halt to all construction activities within **one kilometre** of the marshland.



3. The halt will remain until a **comprehensive scientific study** is conducted to assess **ecological sensitivity**.
4. The marshland acts as an **aquatic buffer** for flood-prone areas in **Chennai and Chengalpattu districts**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 1, 2, 3, and 4
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. 1 and 3 only

Answer: B. 1, 2, 3, and 4

29th sept 2025 (Monday)

1. **Oju Hydel Project** gets Expert Panel Clearance
2. CAG Report on States' **Macro-Fiscal Heal**
3. **Two new Ramsar Sites** in Bihar: Gokul Jalashaya& Udaipur Jheel
4. **Amrabad Tiger Reserve**
5. **Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Initiative – Ministry of Jal Shakti**

1. **Oju Hydel Project gets Expert Panel Clearance**

Expert committee **nod for 2,200-MW Oju hydel project near China border**

The Oju project is proposed on the **Subansiri river**, 5 km downstream of Redi village of Taksing block in Upper Subansiri district, and it will be developed by Oju Subansiri Hydro Power Corporation Pvt Ltd

Why in News ? An expert panel of the Union Environment Ministry has recommended environmental clearance for the **2,220 MW Oju hydroelectric project** on the **Subansiri River** in Arunachal Pradesh, near the China border.

Q) Oju Hydroelectric Project, recently in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is located in **Arunachal Pradesh** on the **Subansiri River**, a **right bank tributary of the Brahmaputra**.
2. The project has been proposed as a run-of-the-river scheme with daily peaking capability.
3. It is being developed by **Oju Subansiri Hydro Power Corporation Pvt. Ltd.**



Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3. The Brahmaputra River is considered the **lifeline of Assam**.

State/Region	Relation with Brahmaputra River
Origin	Tibet (China)– Chemayungdung Glacier near Mount Kailash
Namcha Barwa (Tibet)	Major Turn – Takes a sharp U-turn (the Great Bend) around Namcha Barwa to enter India Enters Arunachal Pradesh(India) as Siang/Dihang
Tributaries	Trick to Learn tributaries (Silly Kids Make Super Tasty James Tea) Right bank tributaries: Subansiri, Kameng, Manas, Sankosh, , Torsa Jaldhaka, and Teesta. (Daring Lions Dance Boldly, by Kicking Little New Pizzas) Left bank tributaries: Dibang, Lohit, Dhansiri, Burhi Dihing, Kolang, Lhasa, Nyang, and Parlung Zangbo(China)

2) CAG Report on States' Macro-Fiscal Heal.

Why in News ? The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) released a decadal analysis of Indian states' macro-fiscal health, highlighting stark disparities in revenue sources, debt burdens, and welfare spending.

Q1. With reference to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), consider the following statements:

1. The CAG is established under **Article 148** of the Indian Constitution.
2. The CAG is **appointed by the President** of India for a fixed tenure of 5 years.
3. The removal procedure of the CAG is similar to that of a judge of the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: b) 1 and 3 only(Tenure is 6 years or until 65 years of age)

Q2. The recent CAG report (2025) on Indian states' macro-fiscal health highlights which of the following aspects?

1. Disparities in revenue sources among states.
2. Rising debt burdens of states.

3. Patterns of welfare spending.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d) 1, 2 and 3

3) Two new Ramsar Sites in Bihar: Gokul Jalashaya & Udaipur Jheel

Why in News: Recently, two wetlands from Bihar — **Gokul Jalashaya (Buxar)** and **Udaipur Jheel (West Champaran)** — have been designated as Ramsar Sites of International Importance.

Q. consider the following statements:

- 1. **Gokul Jalashaya, located in Buxar, is an oxbow lake** influenced by the flood pulses of the Ganga and also acts as a **buffer** against floods for nearby villages.
- 2. **Udaipur Jheel, situated in West Champaran, is connected with the Gandak River** system and supports diverse aquatic biodiversity.
- 3. Both wetlands are used by local communities for fishing, irrigation, and farming.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

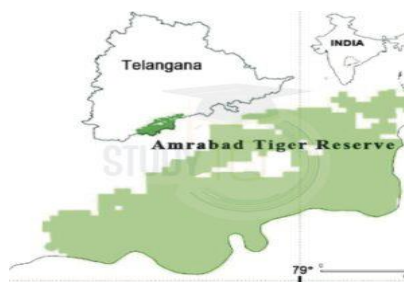
Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

4) Amrabad Tiger Reserve

Why in News? A 54-kilometre-long elevated road bridge has been proposed to pass through the Nallamala forests in **Amrabad Tiger Reserve (ATR), Telangana**. It is expected to be the first-of-its kind model in India to balance wildlife conservation and transport connectivity.

Q) With reference to the Amrabad Tiger Reserve,

Gokul Jalashay (Buxar) and Udaipur Jheel (West Champaran) in Bihar have been designated as new Ramsar Sites, raising India's total to 93 sites covering 1,360,719 hectares. Both wetlands are oxbow lakes. Bihar now has five Ramsar sites.



recently in news, consider the following statements:

1. It is located in the **Nallamala Hills** of the Eastern Ghats, **Telangana**.
2. The reserve was carved out of the **Nagarjunasagar–Srisaillam** Tiger Reserve after the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in 2014.
3. The Krishna River flows through the reserve, feeding into Srisaillam and Nagarjunasagar dams.
4. The reserve is home to the Chenchu tribe, a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2, 3 and 4 only
C) 1, 2 and 3 only
D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q) Match the following tiger reserves with their states:

Tiger Reserve	State
(a) Amrabad	1. Telangana
(b) Satkosia	2. Odisha
(c) Dudhwa	3.. West Bengal
(d) Buxa	4. Uttar Pradesh

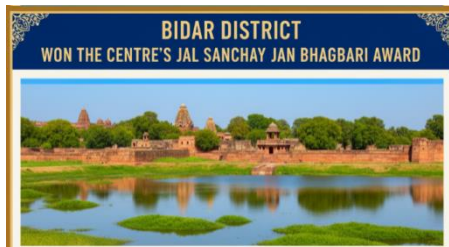
Correct option:

- A) a–1, b–2, c–4, d–3
B) a–2, b–1, c–4, d–3
C) a–3, b–4, c–1, d–2
D) a–1, b–3, c–2, d–4

Answer: A) a–1, b–2, c–4, d–3. Project Tiger (1973) – conservation of tiger population.

5) Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Initiative – Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Why in News? Bidar district of Karnataka has been declared a winner of the **Centre's Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Award**, given to top-performing districts under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: **Catch the Rain campaign**.



Q1) The Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Initiative (2024) was launched by which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- B) Ministry of Jal Shakti
- C) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare
- D) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Answer: B) Ministry of Jal Shakti

Q3)Assertion (A): Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Initiative focuses on enhancing groundwater recharge through borewell recharge, aquifer recharge, and rainwater harvesting.

Reason (R): The initiative aims at ensuring people's participation in water conservation through a whole-of-society approach.

- a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
- b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- c) A is true, R is false
- d) A is false, R is true

Answer: a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A

30th sept 2025 (Tuesday)

1. Kerala Assembly opposes EC's Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls
2. **AstroSat** completes 10 years of operation
3. **Yellow-tailedAshy Skimmer** Recorded for the First Time in Delhi
4. **Closure of Gypsum Mining** Units near Lachipora Wildlife Sanctuary
5. Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve included in UNESCO's WNBR
6. **Agri-Stack Scheme** - Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare

passes unanimous resolution

1.

Kerala Legislative Assembly asks **Election Commission of India** to desist from actions that can 'potentially harm people's rights'

Why in News : The Kerala Assembly passed a unanimous resolution urging the Election Commission (EC) to desist from conducting the **Special Intensive Revision** (SIR) of electoral rolls, citing concerns over potential adverse impacts on minority communities, SC/STs, women, poor families, and overseas electors.

Q)With reference to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of Electoral Rolls, consider the following statements:

1. It is conducted by the **Election Commission of India** to thoroughly **update and verify** electoral rolls.
2. It involves **door-to-door verification** and use of previous electoral rolls as the base.

3. The Kerala Assembly has raised concerns that SIR may disproportionately affect minority communities, SC/STs, women, and poor families.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d) 1, 2 and 3

Article 324: Vests the superintendence, direction, and control of elections in the Election Commission. **Article 326:** Elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies are based on adult suffrage.

Q. With reference to the Election Commission of India, consider the following statements:

- It is a constitutional body established under **Article 324** of the Constitution.
- It consists of the **Chief Election Commissioner** and two other Election Commissioners.
- The Chief Election Commissioner **can be removed** from office in the same manner as a Supreme Court judge.

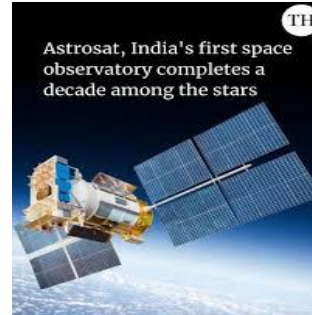
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d) 1, 2 and 3

2) AstroSat completes 10 years of operation

Why in News : AstroSat, India's first dedicated Space Astronomy Observatory, has completed a decade of successful operation since its launch on 28 September 2015.



Q. With reference to AstroSat, consider the following statements:

- It is India's first multi-wavelength space astronomy mission.
- It was launched in 2015 by **PSLV-C30** from **Satish Dhawan Space Centre**.
- It is managed by **ISRO's Mission Operations Complex (MOX)** at Bengaluru.
- Its designed mission life was 10 years, but it is still operational.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 4 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: a) 1, 2 and 3 only (Designed life was 5 years, not 10 years)

3) Yellow-tailed Ashy Skimmer Recorded for the First Time in Delhi

Why in News: During a recent **dragonfly** survey at the **Yamuna Biodiversity Park**, Delhi, the **Yellow-tailed Ashy Skimmer** (*Potamarcha congener*) was recorded for the first time in the city.



Which of the following are common names of the Yellow-tailed Ashy Skimmer (*Potamarcha congener*)?

1. Common Chaser
2. Swampwatcher
3. Blue Darner
4. Pond Skater

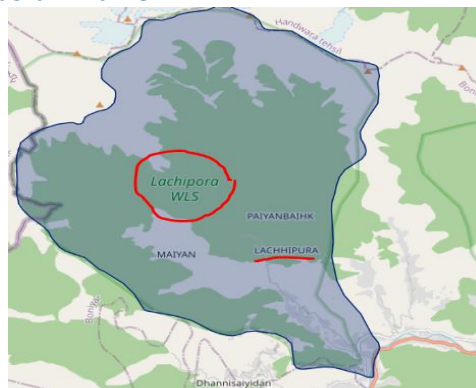
Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: a) 1 and 2 only Distribution: South Asia, Southeast Asia, Oceania (India, Indonesia, China, Vietnam, Australia, etc.).

4) Closure of Gypsum Mining Units near Lachipora Wildlife

Why in News: The District Magistrate of Baramulla ordered the immediate closure of 14 gypsum mining units operating within the prohibited 1-km radius of **Lachipora Wildlife Sanctuary** in Jammu & Kashmir.



Q) With reference to the Lachipora Wildlife Sanctuary, consider the following

statements:

1. It is located in **Baramulla district** of Jammu & Kashmir, on the banks of **Jhelum River**.
2. The sanctuary was established in 1987.
3. Its primary purpose is to protect the endangered **Markhor**(wild goat with **twisted horns**).
4. Its flora includes Deodar, Himalayan white pine, and Persian walnut.



Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

5) Agri-Stack Scheme - Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare

Why in News: The Uttar Pradesh government issued a stern warning to district magistrates, stating that strict action will be taken against officials failing to complete farmer registration under the Agri-Stack Scheme within the given timeframe.

Q) With reference to the Agri-Stack Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is implemented by the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare** in collaboration with State Revenue and Agriculture departments.
2. Its core idea is to integrate **farmer data, land records, and scheme benefits** into a centralized digital platform.
3. It is a physical infrastructure project to improve rural roads for agricultural marketing.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a) 1 and 2 only

Q. The Agri-Stack Scheme primarily aims to:

- a) Provide a digital foundation for Indian agriculture to enable data-centric services and farmer empowerment.
- b) Replace traditional irrigation methods with automated systems.
- c) Establish cold storage chains in rural areas.
- d) Subsidize fertilizer and seed procurement for farmers.

Answer: a)



6) Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve included in UNESCO's

Why in News : The Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve (CDBR) in Himachal Pradesh has been included in the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR). With this, India now has 13 biosphere reserves in WNBR. About Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve (CDBR)

Q)With reference to the Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve (CDBR) in Himachal Pradesh, consider the following statements:

1. It was declared a **Biosphere Reserve in 2009**.
2. It is located in the Trans-Himalayan region of **Lahaul-Spiti district**.
3. Its terrain includes alpine lakes, glacial valleys, and high-altitude cold deserts.
4. It covers areas such as Pin Valley National Park and Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

1. India Wins Mixed Team Gold in 10m Air Rifle at ISSF Junior World Cup

At the ISSF Junior World Cup 2025 in New Delhi, India's mixed team of **Isha Taksale** and **Himanshu** won the gold medal in the **10m Air Rifle** event on September 30. They defeated their compatriots Shambhavi Kshirsagar and Naraen Pranav in a thrilling all-Indian final.



2. ISSF Junior World Cup

The 2025 ISSF Junior World Cup is the annual edition of the ISSF Junior World Cup in the Olympic shooting events, governed by the International Shooting Sport Federation

Location: Leg 1 → Suhl, Germany

Leg 2 → New Delhi, India























SL.no	Athlete(s)	Event	Medal
1	Shambhavi Shravan Kshirsagar	Women's 10m Air Rifle	Gold
2	Kanak	Women's 10m Air Pistol	Gold
3	Tejaswini	Women's 25m Pistol	Gold
4	Adriyan Karmakar	Men's 50m Rifle Prone	Silver
5	Ojasvi Thakur	Women's 10m Air Rifle	Silver
6	Khyaty Chaudhary / Naraen Pranav Vanitha Suresh	10m Air Rifle Mixed Team	Silver
7	Raiza Dhillon	Women's Skeet	Silver
8	Naraen Pranav Vanitha Suresh	Men's 10m Air Rifle	Bronze
9	Adriyan Karmakar	Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions	Bronze
10	Mukesh Nelavalli	Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol	Bronze
11	Shambhavi Shravan Kshirsagar / Himanshu	10m Air Rifle Mixed Team	Bronze

3. World Para Athletics Championships

- India finished with the best-ever tally at the World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi, bagging 22 medals -- six gold, nine silver, seven bronze.

Gender	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Male	5	6	5	16
Female	1	4	1	6
Total	6	9	7	22



Medal	Name	Event
 Gold	• Shailesh Kumar	• Men's High Jump
 Gold	• Rinku Hooda	• Men's Javelin Throw
 Gold	• Sandip Sanjay Sargar	• Men's Javelin Throw
 Gold	• Sumit Antil	• Men's Javelin Throw
 Gold	• Simran Sharma	• Women's 100m
 Gold	• Nishad Kumar	• Men's High Jump
 Silver	• Deepthi Jeevanji	• Women's 400m
 Silver	• Simran Sharma	• Women's 200m
 Silver	• Sundar Singh Gurjar	• Men's Javelin Throw
 Silver	• Yogesh Kathuniya	• Men's Discus Throw
 Silver	• Sandeep Chaudhary	• Men's Javelin Throw
 Silver	• Dharambir Nain	• Men's Club Throw
 Silver	• Ekta Bhyan	• Women's Club Throw
 Silver	• Preeti Pal	• Women's 100m
 Silver	• Navdeep	• Men's Javelin Throw
 Bronze	• Varun Singh Bhati	• Men's High Jump
 Bronze	• Atul Kaushik	• Men's Discus Throw
 Bronze	• Preeti Pal	• Women's 200m
 Bronze	• Pardeep Kumar	• Men's Discus Throw
 Bronze	• Praveen Kumar	• Men's High Jump
 Bronze	• Soman Rana	• Men's Shot Put
 Bronze	• Sandeep	• Men's 200m

4. India Wins Asia Cup, President Murmu Hails the Team; PM Modi Says Operation Sindoor on the Game Field

India beat Pakistan by five wickets to win their **ninth Asia Cup** at the **Dubai International Cricket Stadium**

in **Dubai**, UAE, with **Tilak Varma** taking them with an unbeaten innings that proved decisive in the tournament's dramatic conclusion. The victory extended India's perfect record against Pakistan in this tournament, having defeated them in all three encounters, including group stage and Super Four matches on September 14 and September 21, respectively

MAN OF THE MATCH IN ASIA CUP FINALS			
YEAR	FORMAT	PLAYER	TEAM
1984	ODI	SURINDER KHANNA	INDIA
1986	ODI	JAVED MIADAD	PAKISTAN
1988	ODI	NAVJOT SIDHU	INDIA
1990-91	ODI	MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN	INDIA
1995	ODI	MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN	INDIA
1997	ODI	MARVAN ATAPATTU	SRI LANKA
2000	ODI	MOIN KHAN	PAKISTAN
2004	ODI	MARVAN ATAPATTU	SRI LANKA
2008	ODI	AJANTHA MENDIS	SRI LANKA
2010	ODI	DINESH KARTHIK	INDIA
2012	ODI	SHAHID AFRIDI	PAKISTAN
2014	ODI	LASTH MALINGA	SRI LANKA
2016	T20I	SHIKHAR DHAWAN	INDIA
2018	ODI	LITON DAS	BANGLADESH
2022	T20I	BHANUKA RAJAPAKSHA	SRI LANKA
2023	ODI	MOHAMMAD SIRAJ	INDIA
2025	T20I	TILAK VERMA	INDIA

Operation Sindoor on games field, India wins: PM Modi on Asia Cup final

PM Modi said on X, "Operation Sindoor on the games field. Outcome is the same - India wins! Congrats to our cricketers."

Updated: September 21, 2025 04:54 am IST - New Delhi

PM

READ LATER



5. Smriti Mandhana regains world No. 1 spot in ICC Women's ODI Batting Rankings



Team India **vice-captain Smriti Mandhana** has reclaimed the top spot in the latest ICC Women's Cricket ODI batting rankings. The opening batter dethroned England skipper Nat Sciver-Brunt after a fine half-century against Australia in the series opener on Sunday. Mandhana notched up 58 off 63 deliveries in the first ODI of the three-match series at New Chandigarh. For her knock at the top of the order, Mandhana received seven rating points

and now stands four points ahead of the England captain. This comes as a positive for Team India as they gear up for the 13th edition of the ICC Women's World Cup.

The Current Affairs Monthly Magazine provides a comprehensive and exam-oriented compilation of national and international events, presented in a structured and easy-to-understand format. Each edition ensures day-wise analysis of key developments, supported by YouTube classes for better conceptual clarity. The magazine effectively integrates both Prelims and Mains perspectives, making it highly relevant for aspirants of competitive exams. Its unique feature, MCQ-based analysis, helps in quick revision and self-assessment. The content is concise, authentic, and regularly updated to reflect the latest issues. The exam-focused presentation style ensures that learners can easily link static and dynamic portions of the syllabus. Overall, it serves as a one-stop resource for aspirants seeking holistic preparation and conceptual clarity in current affairs.

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