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To succeed in any competitive examination, you need strong internal motivation. No one can force you to prepare & work hard. Your passion for excellence, ability to learn and expert's guidance can certainly determine your success in a top level competitive examination.



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Students are today enlightened and focused. They know what they are up to. They need just a ray of guidance. I feel I have accomplished the reason of my existence on this earth. Proud to be that faint ray of guidance, proud to be a reason of smile on certain lips, proud to be your teacher, friend and guide.

Jayakrishnan Ramachandran

Apr-2025



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Important Personalities

- Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the Ratan Tata Endowment Foundation (RTEF)? **N Chandrasekaran**
- Who has been appointed as the new chairman of SEBI for a three-year term? **Tuhin Kanta Pandey**
- Who is the European Commission President involved in the India-EU FTA discussions? **Ursula von der Leyen**
- Who has been appointed as Levi's global ambassador, becoming the first Punjabi artist to achieve this milestone? **Diljit Dosanjh**
- Who has been appointed as the Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) on March 1, 2025? **Dr. Mayank Sharma**
- Who has been appointed as the new Executive Director of RBI? **Dr. Ajit Ratnakar Joshi**

01 March

Zero Discrimination Day

INCEPTION: 2013
EDITION: 11th
1ST CELEBRATED: 2014 (By UN)
2025 THEME:
We stand together



Importance

In 2014, the UN first celebrated this day to spread the idea of Zero Discrimination after UNAIDS launched its Zero Discrimination Campaign on World AIDS Day in December 2013. A day which is universal in nature and does not confine itself to HIV or health related themes and aims to highlight issues related to discrimination.

Motto

To promote equality before the law and in practice throughout all of the member countries of the UN.

Organisation Involved

UN & UNAIDS

Note

• Discrimination and gender inequality remain a huge barrier for women and girls with a serious impact on the AIDS response.

- Who has been re-elected as the Chairman of the Bar Council of India (BCI) for the seventh consecutive term? **Manan Kumar Mishra**
- Who has been elected as the new President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ)? **Judge Yuji Iwasawa**
- Who was recently sworn in as the President of Uruguay? **Yamandu Orsi**
- Which department did Dr. Ajit Ratnakar Joshi serve as Principal Adviser before his appointment as RBI Executive Director? **Department of Statistics and Information Management (DSIM).**
- Which two departments will Dr. Ajit Ratnakar Joshi oversee as RBI's Executive Director? **Department of Statistics and Information Management (DSIM) and Financial Stability Department.**
- Who has been appointed as the CEO of G6 Hospitality by OYO? **Sonal Sinha**
- Who has been appointed as the first woman Secretary of the Department of Legal Affairs? **Dr. Anju Rathi Rana**
- Who has been appointed as the Executive Board Member of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC), replacing Jay Shah? **Rajeev Shukla**
- Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) in 2024? **Vikas Kaushal**
- Who has been appointed as the new President and CEO of Honda Cars India, effective April 1, 2025? **Takashi Nakajima**
- Who has been inducted into the WPL Committee after being elected as the BCCI Honorary Joint Secretary? **Rohan Desai**
- Who has been appointed as the new leader of Canada's Liberal Party and the next Prime Minister? **Mark Carney**
- Who has been named as one of the Most Admired BFSI Professionals of 2025? **CA Krishnan R**
- Who has been appointed as the Chairman of Tata Communications Board in 2024? **N Ganapathy Subramaniam**

- Who has been appointed as the new Chief of the General Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces? **Major General Andrii Hnatov**
- Who has been sworn in as a Supreme Court judge and is set to become the Chief Justice of India in 2031? **Justice Joymalya Bagchi**
- Who has been appointed as the CEO of Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)? **Shivkumar Kalyanaraman.**
- Who has been appointed as the Vice Chancellor of Kathmandu University, Nepal? **Dr. Achyut Prasad Wagle**
- Who became the first female president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 2025? **Kirsty Coventry**
- Who became Namibia's first female president in 2025? **Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah**
- Who has been appointed as the Joint Secretary (Director level) in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Delhi? **Anuj Kumar Singh**
- Who will succeed Kaku Nakhate as Bank of America's India country executive? **Vikram Sahu.**
- Who has been elected as the Chairman of the GSMA Board of Directors until 2026? **Gopal Vittal**
- Who has been appointed as the Chief Justice of Orissa High Court in 2025? **Justice Harish Tandon**
- Who has been appointed as India's new Finance Secretary in March 2025? **Ajay Seth**
- Who has been given the additional charge of REC CMD after Vivek Kumar Dewangan's tenure ended? **Parminder Chopra**
- Who was the renowned Gujarati poet and essayist who passed away at the age of 85 in 2025? **Anil Joshi**
- Name the Renowned chess grandmaster, who passed away recently? **Boris Spassky**
- Uttam Mohanty, who recently passed away, was associated with which regional film industry? **Odia**
- Who was the legendary Mumbai cricketer and left-arm spinner who passed away at the age of 84 in 2024? **Padmakar Shivalkar**
- Former Odisha Cabinet Minister Ananta Das, who recently passed away, was associated with which political party? **Biju Janata Dal (BJD)**
- Ananta Das, who passed away at the age of 85, was a four-time MLA from which constituency? **Bhogarai**

01 March

World Civil Defence Day



Importance

To commemorate the establishment of ICDO Constitution which came into force as an intergovernmental organization in 1972.

Motto

To bring attention of the world public to the vital importance of Civil Protection and pay tribute to the efforts and sacrifices of the national services responsible for the fight against disasters.

ICDO

FORMERLY: ASSOCIATION OF GENEVA ZONES

- ICDO was created in 1931 in Paris by French Surgeon-General George Saint-Paul.
- The organization was recognized by the French Parliament in June 1955 and in 1972 it achieved status of intergovernmental organization.
- Today 50 countries are the members of ICDO.

Note

1st March has been chosen to mark the 'CONSTITUENT' status to the organisation.

- Who was the former Indian all-rounder who passed away at the age of 83 in the United States? **Syed Abid Ali**
- Dr. Debendra Pradhan, who recently passed away, was the father of which current Union Minister? **Dharmendra Pradhan.**
- Who was the former boxing legend, known as "Big George," who recently passed away at the age of 76? **George Foreman**
- Who was the Samsung Electronics co-CEO that passed away due to cardiac arrest at the age of 63? **Han Jong-Hee**
- Who is the chairperson of the Joint Committee of Parliament (JCP) that reviewed the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024? **Jagdambika Pal.**

National & International News

- Which Indian state became the first to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC)? **Uttarakhand**
- From which year will CBSE conduct Class 10 board exams twice a year? **2026**
- How many amendments to the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024, were approved by the Union Cabinet? **14 amendments.**
- Where was the first e-FIR registered in Jammu and Kashmir? **Awantipora.**
- Who is the Chief Minister of Mizoram who inaugurated the WEP Mizoram Chapter? **Lalduhoma**
- In which city was the 'Visa Fraud Ton Bacho' campaign launched? **Jalandhar, Punjab**
- What is the name of the newly launched consortium of public sector companies aimed at expanding India's global maritime presence? **Bharat Ports Global**

03 March

World Wildlife Day

INCEPTION: 2015

EDITION: 12th

2025 THEME:

Wildlife Conservation Finance:
Investing in People and Planet



Importance

To mark the day of signature of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1973.

Motto

To celebrate and raise awareness of the world's wild fauna and flora and recognized the important role of CITES in ensuring that international trade does not threaten the survival of species.

Note

The year 2020, known as a "biodiversity super year", will host several major global events that place biodiversity at the forefront of the global sustainable development agenda.

- From which academic year will Telugu be a compulsory subject in Telangana schools? **2025-26.**
- Up to which class has Telugu been made a compulsory subject in Telangana schools? **Class 10.**
- Which organization cited the International Monetary Fund's data on India's economic ranking? **NITI Aayog**
- Where has NITI Aayog launched Northeast India's first Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP)? **Mizoram**
- Which organization under Bharat Ports Global is responsible for port operations, including Iran's Chabahar Port? **India Ports Global (IPGL)**
- Which state became the first in India to introduce a Green Budget? **Rajasthan**
- Which state has become the first in India to grant gratuity benefits to ASHA workers? **Andhra Pradesh.**
- Which ministry launched the Model Women-Friendly Gram Panchayat initiative on International Women's Day 2025? **Ministry of Panchayati Raj**
- The Union Cabinet has approved the revision of the Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP) with an outlay of how much for 2024-26? **₹3,880 crore**
- Odisha became the third state after which two states to introduce a WhatsApp-based citizen service delivery model? **Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra**
- Karnataka renamed Bangalore City University in honor of which former Prime Minister? **Dr. Manmohan Singh**
- Which university launched India's first full-degree M.A. in India Studies? **O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU)**
- Which state launched 'Project Hifazat' to enhance the safety of women and children in 2025? **Punjab**
- Which national park in Madhya Pradesh was recently declared India's 58th Tiger Reserve? **Madhav National Park**
- How many Tiger Reserves are there in Madhya Pradesh after the addition of Madhav National Park? **9**
- Which state has the highest number of Tiger Reserves in India? **Madhya Pradesh**
- Which act does the Railways (Amendment) Bill 2024 seek to amend? **Railways Act, 1989.**

- What safety device has been introduced by Indian Railways to prevent collisions? **"KAVACH"**
- Which international conference on power sector was inaugurated by Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal in March 2025? **GRIDCON 2025**
- What is the main objective of the Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025? **To regulate immigration and manage foreign nationals in India**
- Which university in Telangana was renamed after Suravaram Pratap Reddy? **Potti Sriramulu Telugu University.**
- When was the Fit India Movement launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi? **August 29, 2019**
- Which state became the first in India to introduce sign language in its Legislative Assembly? **Punjab**
- Which Indian state became the first to establish a Senior Citizens Commission? **Kerala**
- Where was the second ASEAN Future Forum 2025 held? **Hanoi, Vietnam.**
- Which country launched the 'Visa Fraud Ton Bacho' awareness campaign in Punjab? **United Kingdom (UK)**
- Which country's membership was reinstated in the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in 2024? **Syria**
- Which country is leading the initiative for the Caspian-Europe Green Energy Corridor? **Hungary**
- Who is the Prime Minister of New Zealand who recently visited India to discuss trade relations? **Christopher Luxon**
- Which Indian organization sent a delegation to Sri Lanka to collaborate on automobile industry development? **Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM)**
- Which country reopened its embassy in Damascus, Syria, after 13 years? **Germany**

04 March

National Safety Day



INCEPTION: 1972
EDITION: 53rd
BY: National safety Council 1966
2025 THEME:
Safety & Well-being Crucial for
Viksit Bharat

Importance

To mark the establishment of National safety Council in 1966.

Motto

It is observed to highlight the importance of Safety in all spheres of life so as to prevent mishaps and accidents resulting out of neglect or lack of awareness.

What is SHE culture?

To take Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) movement to different parts of the country.



The only thing standing between you and outrageous success is continuous progress.

Dan Waldschmidt

Important Projects & Schemes

- Which agency is funding the Japan-UNHCR project for displaced Afghans? **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**
- Which ministry is developing the Universal Pension Scheme to provide voluntary pension benefits to all Indian citizens? **The Labour Ministry**
- Which scheme was launched by the Mizoram government to support young entrepreneurs? **'Bana Kaih' (Handholding) scheme**
- Scheme under the Power Distribution Sector Improvement Project? **2025**
- How much is the total investment approved by the Union Cabinet for ropeway projects in Uttarakhand? **₹6,811 crore.**
- What is the length and cost of the Sonprayag to Kedarnath ropeway project? **12.9 km, ₹4,081 crore.**
- Which new component has been added to the LHDCP scheme for providing affordable veterinary medicines? **Pashu Aushadhi**

08 March

International Women's Day

INCEPTION: 1910
EDITION: 50th
1ST CELEBRATED: 1911
2025 THEME:
For ALL women and girls: Rights, Equality, Empowerment.

Importance

A proposal by German revolutionary Clara Zetkin at the 1910 International Socialist Woman's Conference to honor the day annually in memory of working women.

Motto

To highlight the achievements recognised by women without regard to divisions.

Note

- The UN began celebrating International Women's Day in the International Women's Year, 1975.
- This day aimed to help nations worldwide eliminate discrimination against women. It also focused on helping women gain full and equal participation in global development.



- Which Indian state is introducing the Circular Economy Incentive Scheme? **Rajasthan**
- How much financial support will MSMEs and startups receive under Rajasthan's Circular Economy Incentive Scheme? **Up to ₹2 crore**
- In which year was the Setu Bharatam Scheme launched to eliminate railway crossings on national highways? **2016**
- In which year did Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited (MePDCL) introduce the OTS
- Which government has launched the 'Mahila Samridhi Scheme' to provide financial assistance to women? **Delhi government**
- How much monthly financial assistance will eligible women receive under the Mahila Samridhi Scheme? **₹2,500 per month**
- What is the minimum and maximum age limit for women to be eligible for the Mahila Samridhi Scheme? **18 to 60 years**
- What is the name of the initiative launched by HDFC Bank to support Indian Air Force veterans? **Project HAKK (Hawai Anubhavi Kalyan Kendra)**
- Who launched the mobile app for the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme (PMIS)? **Nirmala Sitharaman.**
- What authentication method does the PMIS app use for registration? **Aadhaar face authentication.**
- Which state launched the 'Rajiv Yuva Vikasam' scheme to promote self-employment for youth? **Telangana**
- How much financial assistance is provided under the 'Rajiv Yuva Vikasam' scheme for self-employment units? **Up to ₹3 lakh.**
- Which state launched the 'Suposhit Mumbai Abhiyan' and Urban Child Development Centre Scheme to reduce malnutrition in urban areas? **Maharashtra**
- Which state launched the Universal Healthcare Scheme to provide cashless and paperless healthcare coverage? **Mizoram**
- What is the outlay of the incentive scheme approved by the Union Cabinet to promote low-value BHIM-UPI transactions for FY 2024-25? **₹1,500 crore**

Banking & Economy

- What is the total budget allocation for the Indian Coast Guard for FY 2025-26? **₹9,676 crore**
- By what percentage has the Indian Coast Guard budget increased for FY 2025-26? **26.6%**
- How much funding has Japan allocated for the new project supporting Afghan refugees? **\$6 million**
- Which regulatory body imposed a ₹5.05 crore fine on ICCL for cybersecurity and audit lapses? **SEBI**
- ICCL, which was fined by SEBI, is a wholly owned subsidiary of which stock exchange? **BSE**
- How many new branches has the RBI permitted Muthoot Finance to open? **115 branches.**
- Who was the first woman to lead SEBI? **Madhabi Puri Buch**
- What is the estimated real GDP growth for FY 2024-25 as per MoSPI? **6.5%.**
- What is the name of the centralized database portal for corporate bonds launched by SEBI? **Bond Central**
- Which country agreed to provide a \$2.8 billion loan to Ukraine for defence purposes? **United Kingdom**
- What is the name of the co-branded credit card introduced by CUB and CSK? **Passion Credit Card**
- Which two Indian Railway CPSEs were recently upgraded to Navratna status by the Centre? **IRCTC and IRFC.**
- Which two financial institutions were penalized by the RBI for regulatory violations? **HSBC and IIFL**
- What percentage increase has China announced for its 2024 defence budget? **7.2%**
- What is the total defence budget of China for 2024? **1.78 trillion yuan (\$245.65 billion)**
- Which Indian insurance company has been ranked as the third strongest insurance brand globally in the Brand Finance Insurance 100 (2025) report? **Life Insurance Corporation of India**
- How much penalty did RBI impose on Visionary Financepeer Pvt. Ltd. for regulatory non-compliance? **₹16.6 lakh**
- Which bank, in collaboration with the Indian Army and CSC Academy, expanded Project NAMAN to 26 DIAV locations? **HDFC Bank**
- Which Indian public sector bank launched the first specialised savings account for women NRIs? **Bank of Baroda**
- Which two companies have formed a joint venture to manufacture trainer aircraft in Hisar? **Sakthi and Diamond**
- What is the projected GDP growth rate of India for FY25 according to the OECD? **6.4%.**
- What is the projected GDP growth rate of India for FY26 as per the OECD report? **6.6%.**

10 March

CISF Raising Day

EDITION: 56th



The CISF provides security cover to 300 industrial units, government infrastructure projects and facilities and establishments located all over India.

Importance

To mark the establishment of CISF on 10 March 1969.

Governing Body

Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

Parent Agency

Central Armed Police Forces.

Note

CISF was subsequently made an armed force of the Republic of India by another Act of Parliament passed on 15 June 1983.

- How much health coverage does the Ayushman Bharat scheme provide per family per year? **₹5 lakh.**
- What is the projected GDP growth rate of India for FY25 according to S&P Global? **6.7%**
- What is S&P Global Ratings' projected GDP growth rate for India in FY26? **6.5%**
- According to S&P Global Ratings, by how many basis points might the Reserve Bank of India reduce interest rates in the current cycle? **75 to 100 basis points**
- Which three insurers have been designated as Critical Financial Insurers (CFIs) for 2024-25 by IRDAI? **LIC, New India Assurance, and GIC Re**

- Which technological features are integrated into the BAANKNET portal launched by Finance Ministry to ensure a secure auction process? **Automated KYC tools and secure payment gateways.**

14 March

International Day of Action for Rivers

EDITION: 28th
2025 THEME:
Our Rivers, our Future



Importance

The International Day of Action for Rivers is a day to celebrate victories such as dam removal and river restoration.

Motto

To educate one another about the threats facing our rivers, and learn about better water and energy solutions.

Background

The International Day of Action Against Dams and For Rivers, Water and Life was adopted by the participants of the first International Meeting of People Affected by Dams, March 1997 in Curitiba Brazil.

- Which two countries have agreed on an economic deal framework, including rare earth mineral extraction? **Ukraine and the United States**
- Which country has partnered with UNHCR to support displaced Afghans? **Japan**
- Which state has partnered with NSE to enhance BFSI skills among youth? **Assam**
- Assam became the fourth state to collaborate with NSE after which three states? **Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, and Chhattisgarh**
- Which organization has partnered with DPIIT to provide mentorship, infrastructure support, and funding opportunities to fintech startups? **Paytm (One97 Communications Ltd.)**
- Which Indian automotive company signed an MoU with IDC to explore the feasibility of a CKD vehicle assembly facility in South Africa? **Mahindra South Africa**
- Which state government is signing an MoU with 'Youth for Jobs' organization to generate employment for divyangs? **Maharashtra**
- Which Flipkart-backed fintech firm recently acquired checkout financing platform BharatX in an all-cash deal? **Super.money**
- Which state government partnered with Meta to launch WhatsApp-based citizen services? **Maharashtra government.**
- By when do India and the EU aim to finalize the Free Trade Agreement (FTA)? **2025**
- Which bank has partnered with Chennai Super Kings (CSK) to launch a cricket-themed credit card? **City Union Bank (CUB)**
- Which two countries signed an MoU to cooperate in the WASH sector? **India and Nepal**
- What are the key areas of collaboration under the India-Nepal MoU in the WASH sector? **Capacity building, technology & knowledge transfer, and groundwater management**
- Which state signed an MoU with Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for energy projects? **Rajasthan**
- What is the total capacity of the thermal power project under the MoU between Rajasthan and SCCL? **1600 MW**
- Which Indian institute recently signed an MoU with APEC – Antwerp/Flanders Port Training Center, Belgium, to enhance academic collaboration in international trade and logistics? **IIFT**
- Which two states are set to sign an agreement for the Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project? **Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.**
- Which state hosted the Gujarat Semiconnect Conference 2025, where MoUs worth over ₹1.04 lakh crore were signed to boost the semiconductor industry? **Gujarat**
- Which domestic semiconductor company has partnered with Infineon Technologies to boost India's power chip manufacturing? **CDIL Semiconductors**
- Which two financial institutions have signed an MoU to enhance MSME financing in India? **SIDBI and Federal Bank.**
- Which company did OYO acquire from Blackstone Real Estate? **G6 Hospitality**
- Which Navratna Defence PSU recently secured orders worth ₹577 crore, taking its total orders for FY 2024-25 to ₹13,724 crore? **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)**

- Which state government signed an MoU with Meta to launch a WhatsApp Chatbot for public services in 2025? **Odisha**
- Which company partnered with the Odisha government to introduce WhatsApp-based citizen services? **Meta**
- Which country has India partnered with to set up a Joint Economic Commission (JEC) for strengthening bilateral trade and investment? **Ireland**
- Which government department signed an MoU with Mercedes-Benz India to promote innovation, sustainability, and road safety? **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**
- With which country has India signed an MoU for cooperation in medical products regulation and diplomatic training? **Armenia**.
- Which company has partnered with Youth4Jobs to empower women sellers with disabilities? **Amazon**
- Which Indian telecom company has signed a deal with SpaceX to bring Starlink to India? **Airtel**
- Which two countries have finalized a peace agreement to end their nearly 40-year conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh? **Armenia and Azerbaijan**
- How many agreements were signed between India and New Zealand during their recent bilateral talks? **Five agreements.**
- Which government department partnered with WhatsApp to combat digital frauds and cyber threats? **Department of Telecommunications (DoT).**
- Which two central banks signed an MoU to promote the use of local currencies for cross-border transactions? **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Bank of Mauritius (BOM).**
- Which indigenous GenAI company has partnered with UIDAI to enhance Aadhaar services? **Sarvam AI.**
- Which institutions signed an MoU to enhance mental health support for military personnel and their families? **AFMS and NIMHANS**
- Which foundation is set to sign an MoU with the India AI Mission for AI solutions in key sectors? **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**
- Which two countries will settle bilateral trade in their local currencies of INR and MVR? **India and Maldives**
- Which regulatory body partnered with DigiLocker to address unclaimed financial assets? **SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India)**
- Which bank partnered with DPIIT to strengthen India's startup ecosystem? **YES BANK**
- Which airline is nearing a \$32.7 billion deal with Boeing and GE Aerospace? **Korean Air**
- With which countries, Competition Commission of India (CCI) has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to enhance cooperation in competition law enforcement? **Egypt, Mauritius, Japan, Brazil, Canada, Australia, the European Commission, and the United States Department of Justice.**
- Which two countries signed a Letter of Intent to establish a Green and Digital Shipping Corridor focusing on digitalization and decarbonization? **India and Singapore.**

15 March

World Consumer Rights Day

2025 THEME:
A just transition to sustainable lifestyles



Importance

This day was inspired by U.S. President John F. Kennedy, who sent a special message to the US Congress on 15th March 1962, to address the issue of consumer rights.

Motto

To raise global awareness about consumer rights and needs.

Fact

- Ralph Nader is considered the father of the modern day consumer movement.
- Which is stated as the right to be fully informed about the performance and quality of all goods and services.
- The right to free choice of goods and services.

Awards & Recognitions

- How many total Gallantry and Service Medals were awarded to Indian Coast Guard personnel? **32 medals**
- How many President's Tatrakshak Medals for Distinguished Service were conferred to Indian Coast Guard personnel? **6**
- Who won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress at the 97th Academy Awards? **Zoe Saldña for Emilia Pérez**
- Which actor won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actor at the 97th Academy Awards? **Kieran Culkin for A Real Pain**

18 March

Ordnance Factory Day



Importance

To mark the establishment of India's oldest Ordnance Factory at Cossipore of Kolkata on 18th March 1802.

Note

- Ordnance Factories Board is engaged in research, development, production, testing, marketing and logistics of a comprehensive product range in the areas of air, land and sea systems.
- Ordnance factories are divided into five operating divisions, depending upon the type of the main products/technologies employed. These are:
 1. Ammunition and Explosives (A&E)
 2. Weapons, Vehicles & Equipment (WV&E)
 3. Materials and Components (M&C)
 4. Armoured Vehicles (AV)
 5. Ordnance Equipment Group of Factories (OEF)

Facts Behind

- OFB is the world's largest government-operated production organisation, and the oldest organisation run by the Government of India.
- Ordnance Factories Del is popularly known as 'Fourth Arm of Defence' after Navy, Air force & Army.

- Who received the SAG Life Achievement Award in 2025? **Jane Fonda**
- Which film won the award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture at SAG Awards 2025? **"Conclave"**
- Which Nobel laureate's autobiography titled Diyaslai was discussed at IGNC? **Kailash Satyarthi**
- Which film won the Oscars for Best Sound and Best Visual Effects at the 97th Academy Awards? **Dune: Part Two**
- Who was conferred with the Icon of Excellence award at FILA 2025? **Jay Shah**
- Who received the 'Lifetime Achievement in Hospitality and Education Through Technology' award at the Vibrant Bharat Global Summit 2025? **Dr. Suborno Bose.**
- Which country honored PM Narendra Modi with the 'Honorary Order of Freedom' award for his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic? **Barbados**
- Which film won the Best Picture award at the IIFA Awards 2025? **Laapataa Ladies**
- Which organization won the Digital Transformation Award 2025 for its initiatives Pravaah and Sarthi? **Reserve Bank of India**
- Which former India captains were conferred with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Mumbai Cricket Association in 2025? **Dilip Vengsarkar and Diana Edulji**
- Who won the 2025 Stockholm Water Prize for his contributions to flood risk reduction and water resource management? **Günter Blöschl**
- Who has been awarded the Jnanpith Award, India's highest literary honour, in 2025? **Vinod Kumar Shukla**
- Who received the 'Consular of the Year' award from the Honorary Consular Corps Diplomatie-India (HCCD)? **Madhusudan Agrawal**
- Who has been awarded the Sangita Kalanidhi by the Music Academy in 2025? **RK Shriramkumar**

Sports

- Which country won the Men's Bilateral T20 Cricket Series for the Blind 2025? **India**
- Who will step down as England's white-ball captain after the Champions Trophy 2025? **Jos Buttler**
- Who won the men's doubles title at the Chile Open 2025? **Rithvik Choudary Bollipalli (India) and Nicolás Barrientos (Colombia)**
- Which Argentine pair did Rithvik Choudary Bollipalli and Nicolás Barrientos defeat in the Chile Open 2025 final? **Maximo Gonzalez and Andres Molteni**
- Who won the men's doubles title at the 2025 Dubai Tennis Championships? **Yuki Bhambri (India) and Alexei Popyrin (Australia)**
- Who was Yuki Bhambri's partner in winning the men's doubles title at the 2025 Dubai Tennis Championships? **Alexei Popyrin (Australia)**
- Who won the Bengaluru Open 2025 ATP Challenger singles title? **Brandon Holt (USA)**
- Brandon Holt, who won the Bengaluru Open 2025 singles title, belongs to which country? **USA**
- Who became the first American player to win the Bengaluru Open title? **Brandon Holt**
- Who won the Bengaluru Open 2025 doubles title? **Anirudh Chandrasekar (India) and Ray Ho (Chinese Taipei)**
- Which international football body lifted the suspension on the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF)? **FIFA**
- When did FIFA impose a suspension on the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF)? **February 5, 2024**
- Who became the first Indian woman to cross the 16-metre mark in indoor shot put? **Krishna Jayasankar**
- Name the Australian cricketer, who has officially retired from One-Day Internationals (ODIs) after Australia's exit from the Champions Trophy? **Steve Smith**
- Who became the No. 1 ODI all-rounder in the ICC rankings after the ICC Champions Trophy 2025? **Azmatullah Omarzai**
- Which Indian all-rounder jumped 17 spots to reach 13th place in the ICC ODI rankings? **Axar Patel**
- Who retained the No. 1 position in the ICC ODI batting rankings after the ICC Champions Trophy 2025? **Shubman Gill**
- Who recently announced retirement from ODI cricket while continuing to play Test cricket for Bangladesh? **Mushfiquar Rahim**
- Which Indian table tennis legend is set to retire after the WTT Star Contender event in Chennai? **A. Sharath Kamal**
- Who won the FIDE World Junior Chess Championship 2025? **Pranav Venkatesh**

20 March

International Day of Happiness

INCEPTION: 2012
EDITION: 15th
1ST CELEBRATED: 2015
FOUNDER: Jayme Illien



Importance

To mark the adoption of Happiness Resolution by UNGA on 20 Mar 2012.

Motto

To spread the belief that the happiness, wellbeing, and freedom of all life on earth is the ultimate purpose of every human being, nation, and society.

Facts Behind

The initiative to declare a day of happiness came from Bhutan – a country whose citizens are considered to be some of the happiest people in the world.

- Pranav Venkatesh became the fourth Indian to win which chess title in 2025? **World Junior Chess Championship**
- Who won the Prague Masters 2025 chess tournament? **Aravindh Chithambaram**
- Which team did India defeat to win its record third ICC Champions Trophy title? **New Zealand**
- Who was named Player of the Match in the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 final? **Rohit Sharma**

- Who won the Player of the Series award in the ICC Champions Trophy 2025? **Rachin Ravindra**
- How many times has India won the ICC Champions Trophy? **Three times (2002, 2013, 2025)**
- Who won the ATP Kigali Challenger doubles title in 2025? **Siddhant Bantia and Alexander Donski**

21 March

International Day of Forests

EDITION: 13th

2025 THEME:

Forests and Food

It has been celebrated around the world for 30 years to remind people of the importance of forests and the many benefits we gain from them.

Importance

To mark the adoption of resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on November 28, 2012.

Motto

To raise awareness of the importance of forests to people and their vital role in poverty eradication, environmental sustainability and food security.

Note

World Forestry Day established by the States Member of Conference of the Agriculture and Food organization with the help of the voting for creating it.



- Which country won the 6th Asian Women's Kabaddi Championship title in 2025? **India**
- India defeated which country in the final to win the 5th Asian Women's Kabaddi Championship title? **Iran**
- What is the new name of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) announced on Commonwealth Day 2025? **Commonwealth Sport**
- Who won the gold medal in the SL3 category at the Spanish Para Badminton International 2025? **Kumar Nitesh**
- Which team won the Women's Premier League (WPL) 2024 title? **Mumbai Indians**
- Who won the Hockey India Balbir Singh Senior Player of the Year Award in the men's and women's categories for 2024? **Harmanpreet Singh (Men) and Savita Punia (Women)**
- Which Indian duo won the W35 Nonthaburi Women's Doubles title in Thailand? **Vaidehi Chaudhary and Rashmika Bhamidipaty**

- Which country topped the medal tally at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2024 with 95 medals? **India**
- Who won his maiden ATP Masters 1000 title at Indian Wells 2024? **Jack Draper**
- Which player did Jack Draper defeat in the Indian Wells 2024 final? **Holger Rune**
- Who won the 2025 Australian Grand Prix? **Lando Norris**
- Who won the inaugural International Masters League (IML) 2025 title? **India Masters**
- Who captained India Masters to victory in IML 2025? **Sachin Tendulkar**
- Who won the 15th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2025? **Hockey Jharkhand**
- Which sport was approved for inclusion in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics by the IOC? **Boxing**
- Who won the 51st edition of The Players Championship in a three-hole playoff? **Rory McIlroy**
- What is the name of the mascot launched for the Khelo India Para Games 2025? **Ujjwala**
- How many medals did India win at the Special Olympics World Winter Games 2025? **33 medals (8 Gold, 18 Silver, and 7 Bronze)**
- Which Indian state will host the 11th Asian Swimming Championship in 2025? **Gujarat**
- Which Indian state is hosting the ISTAF Sepak Takraw 2025 World Cup for the first time? **Bihar**
- Which country became the first non-host team to qualify for the 2026 FIFA World Cup? **Japan**
- Who won the gold medal in the women's discus throw at the Indian Open Throws Competition 2025? **Seema**
- Who won the 2025 Chinese GP Sprint, securing their first victory with Ferrari? **Lewis Hamilton**
- Who won the first gold medal in athletics at the Khelo India Para Games (KIPG) 2025? **Ramesh Shanguman**
- Which country won both the Men's and Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025 held in England? **India**
- Who became the first athlete to break a national record at the Khelo India Para Games 2025? **Jaspreet Kaur**
- Who won the bronze medal in the Women's Vault final at the FIG World Cup 2025 in Antalya, Turkey? **Pranati Nayak**

Science & Technology

- What key resource is included in the Ukraine-US economic deal framework? **Rare earth minerals**
- From which test range was India's short-range anti-ship missile (NASM-SR) successfully tested? **Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur**
- What is the launch platform used for testing India's NASM-SR missile? **Seaking helicopter**
- Which communication platform will Microsoft focus on after retiring Skype? **Microsoft Teams.**
- When is Skype set to be retired by Microsoft? **May 5, 2025.**
- Which scientific discovery is commemorated on National Science Day? **The 'Raman Effect' discovered by Sir C.V. Raman.**
- Where is Adani Green developing India's largest solar-wind hybrid renewable cluster? **Rajasthan**
- Which DRDO lab successfully conducted high-altitude trials of the Indigenous ILSS for LCA Tejas? **Defence Bio-Engineering & Electro Medical Laboratory (DEBEL)**
- At what maximum altitude was the Indigenous ILSS successfully tested for LCA Tejas? **50,000 feet Above Mean Sea Level**
- Which South Korean drugmaker recently received USFDA approval for an allergic asthma biosimilar? **Celltrion**
- Where did ISRO conduct the flight acceptance hot test of the cryogenic engine for the LVM3-M6 mission? **ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu**
- Which country has launched the largest student-built satellite constellation into space? **Israel**
- Which city launched India's first PPP-based green waste processing plant under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban? **Indore.**
- Where is the ₹10,600 crore Brownfield Ammonia-Urea Complex approved by the Union Cabinet being set up? **Namrup, Assam**
- What is the range of the 155mm/52-calibre advanced towed artillery gun system (Atags) approved under the ₹7,000-crore deal? **48 km**
- How many bio-safety laboratories (BSL) has the Central Government approved under the scheme for managing epidemics and national calamities? **165**
- What is the name of America's sixth-generation fighter jet unveiled by President Donald Trump? **F-47**
- Which organization launched the Samarth Incubation Programme to promote startups in the telecom and IT sectors? **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)**

22 March

World Water Day

INCEPTION: 1993
EDITION: 33rd
2025 THEME:
Glacier Preservation

Importance

To mark the adoption of resolution by UNGA on 22 December 1992 to declared World Day for Water, to be observed starting in 1993.

Motto

As a means of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources.

Agenda

The UN's Sustainable Development Goal 6 aims to "ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all" by the year 2030.

Coordinated by

UN-Water – the UN's inter-agency in collaboration mechanism for all freshwater related issues - in collaboration with governments and partners.



23 March

World Meteorological Day

INCEPTION: 1961
EDITION: 65th
2025 THEME:
Closing the Early Warning Gap Together.

Importance

To mark the establishment of World Meteorological Organization on 23 March 1950.

Note

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is an intergovernmental organization with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, and is a member of the United Nations Development Group.



Miscellaneous

- What is India's rank among the world's top economies in 2025? **5th position**
- In which year did Microsoft acquire Skype? **2011.**
- What is the theme of National Science Day 2025? **"Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science & Innovation for Viksit Bharat."**
- When is National Science Day celebrated in India? **February 28.**
- Which city recorded the worst air quality globally with an AQI of 304, as per IQAir rankings? **Dhaka, Bangladesh**
- Which judge resigned from the ICJ presidency to become the Prime Minister of Lebanon? **Nawaf Salam**
- In which city is the International Court of Justice (ICJ) headquartered? **The Hague, Netherlands**
- When was the International Court of Justice (ICJ) established? **1945**
- What is the current FIH world ranking of the Indian men's hockey team as of March 2025? **5th.**
- Under LHDPC, which programme focuses on eradicating major livestock diseases like Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis? **National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP)**
- Who resigned as the CEO and Executive Director of Britannia Industries on March 5, 2024? **Rajneet Singh Kohli.**
- What is the rank of India in terms of High Net-Worth Individuals (HNWIs) as per the Knight Frank Global Wealth Report? **India**
- Which three countries rank ahead of India in terms of High Net-Worth Individuals (HNWIs) as per the Knight Frank Global Wealth Report? **United States, China, and Japan**
- What is the duration of the newly launched M.A. in India Studies by Jindal India Institute? **One year**
- Which country topped the Glass-Ceiling Index 2025 as the best country for working women? **France**
- Where is the 12th edition of the India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR-XII being held? **Kyrgyzstan**
- According to the IQAir 2023 report, what is India's rank in the World Air Quality Index? **5th**
- Garimella Balakrishna Prasad was famous for which type of music? **Carnatic music**
- Deb Mukherjee was associated with which industry? **Bollywood**
- Where is the 12th edition of the India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise Khanjar 2024 being conducted? **Tokmok**
- What is the name of Meta's safety campaign against online scams extended by DoT and WhatsApp? **Scam Se Bacho.**
- What is the name of the joint naval exercise conducted by India and France in the Arabian Sea? **Varuna-2025.**
- Which company launched India's largest 'Skill and Employ' initiative to strengthen the future workforce? **Adani Group**
- What will be Nakhate's role after stepping down as country executive? **She will continue as CEO of Bank of America NA, focusing on client relationships in India.**
- Which literary institution launched the book 'Santvibhuti Pramukh Swami Maharaj' on the life and teachings of Pramukh Swami Maharaj? **Sahitya Akademi**
- What is the name of the first-ever India-Africa multilateral maritime exercise? **AIKEYME**
- Which two countries are co-hosting the AIKEYME naval exercise in 2025? **India and Tanzania**
- How many African nations are participating in the AIKEYME naval exercise along with India? **10 nations**
- Where will the AIKEYME naval exercise be conducted in April 2025? **Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania**

Important Days of the Month

Day	Observed/Celebrated As	Motto/Importance
01- Apr	Utkal Diwas/Odisha day	To embark the formation of the state(Odisha) as a separate state out of Bihar and Odisha province on 1 April 1936
02- Apr	World Autism Awareness Day	To put a spotlight on the hurdles that people with autism face every day.
04- Apr	International Day for Mine Awareness	To spread awareness about the threat caused by landmines to the safety, health and lives of civilian populations
05- Apr	National Maritime day	Propelling Indian Maritime to Net Zero
07- Apr	World Health day	Healthy beginnings, hopeful futures
10- Apr	World Homeopathy day	Homeopathy- Roadmap for Integrative Medicine
11- Apr	National Safe Motherhood Day	To raise awareness about the proper healthcare of women and maternity facilities to pregnant and lactating women.
17- Apr	World Haemophilia Day	Access for all: Women and girls bleed too
18- Apr	International Day for Monuments and Sites	HERITAGE CHANGES
19- Apr	World Liver Day	To spread awareness about liver related disease
21- Apr	Civil Service Day	To commemorate the day when 1st Home Minister of Independent India addressed the Administrative Services Officers in 1947.
22- Apr	Earth Day	Our Power, Our Planet
23- Apr	World Book & Copyright Day	To pay a worldwide tribute to books and authors and to encourage people to discover the pleasure of reading.
24- Apr	National Panchayati Day	On this day the 73rd Constitution Amendment Act, 1992 came into force
25- Apr	World Malaria Day	Ready to Beat Malaria
26- Apr	World Intellectual Property Day	IP and music: Feel the beat of IP
28- Apr	World Day for Safety and Health at work	To honour the memory of victims of occupational accidents and diseases
29- Apr	International Dance Day	To mark the birth anniversary of Jean-Georges Noverre (1727–1810), the creator of modern ballet.
30- Apr	Ayushman Bharat Diwas	To mark the rollout of India's most affordable medical Scheme, i.e. Ayushman Bharat Programme.

Let's Recap

- What was the theme of the 2025 Republic Day Parade, and how many tableaux were displayed? **"Swarnim Bharat: Virasat aur Vikas," and 31 tableaux were displayed.**
- What is the minimum assured monthly pension under the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)? **₹10,000.**
- Which player did Jannik Sinner defeat to win the 2025 Australian Open men's singles final? **Alexander Zverev.**
- Who won the women's doubles title at the 2025 Australian Open? **Taylor Townsend (USA) and Kateřina Siniaková (Czech Republic).**
- Who was appointed as the next U.S. Defence Secretary after a 50-50 Senate vote, with Vice President JD Vance breaking the tie? **Pete Hegseth**
- Who won the ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Year 2024 award? **Jasprit Bumrah.**
- Which Indian cricketer won the ICC Men's T20 Cricketer of the Year 2024? **Arshdeep Singh.**
- Which cricketer won the ICC Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year 2024 award? **Gerhard Erasmus.**
- Who won the ICC Umpire of the Year 2024 award? **Richard Illingworth.**
- When did India and Oman formally launch CEPA negotiations? **November 2023**
- What amount of liquidity is the RBI injecting into the banking system through its latest measures? **₹1.1 lakh crore.**
- Which company has partnered with the Government of India for the 38th National Games 2025 to promote sustainability through the use of recycled materials? **Attero**
- Where will Asia's first international Hyperloop competition, organized by IIT Madras, be held in 2025? **IIT Madras's Discovery Campus in Thaiyur, near Chennai.**
- Who is stepping down as the CEO of Paytm Payments Services Limited (PPSL)? **Nakul Jain.**
- Which rocket was used to launch the NVS-02 satellite on May 29, 2024? **GSLV-F15**
- Recently, ISRO successfully launched the NVS-02 satellite aboard the GSLV-F15 rocket from Sriharikota, In context to same, Which satellite is NVS-02 replacing in the NavIC system? **IRNSS-1E**
- Christine Carla Kangaloo is the President of which country, who recently received the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA)? **Trinidad and Tobago**
- In which Indian city was the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention 2025 held? **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**
- Geoff Allardice, who recently resigned from his role from ICC, in which year was appointed as the permanent CEO of ICC? **2021**
- Jasprit Bumrah became the fifth Indian to win the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy. Who was the first Indian to receive this award? **Rahul Dravid (2004)**
- Which country does Amelia Kerr, ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year 2024, represent? **New Zealand**
- Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Sony Group Corp., effective April 1? **Hiroki Totoki**
- What is the value of the National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM) approved by the Cabinet to promote exploration of critical minerals in India and offshore locations? **Rs 16,300 crore.**

24 March

World Tuberculosis (TB) Day

2025 THEME:

Yes! We Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver



World TB Day is a day to educate the public about the impact of TB around the world.

Importance

This day marks the day in 1882 when Dr Robert Koch announced that he had discovered the bacterium that causes TB, which opened the way towards diagnosing and curing this disease.

Motto

To raise public awareness about the devastating health, social and economic consequences of TB, and to step up efforts to end the global TB epidemic.

Facts Behind

Each day, over 4000 people lose their lives to TB and close to 30,000 people fall ill with this preventable and curable disease.

About TB

TB is an infectious bacterial disease caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis, which most commonly affects the lungs. It is transmitted from person to person via droplets from the throat and lungs of people with the disease.

- Who won the ICC Emerging Men's Cricketer of the Year 2024 award? **Kamindu Mendis.**

- What is the name of the revised Quality Control Order notified by the government to promote high-quality solar photovoltaic products? **Solar Systems, Devices, and Components Goods Order, 2025.**
- Who was named Player of the Tournament in the Women's HIL 2023? **Jyoti (JSW Soorma Hockey Club).**
- What was the theme of Uttar Pradesh's winning tableau at the Republic Day Parade 2025? **'Mahakumbh 2025 – Swarnim Bharat: Virasat aur Vikas'**
- What was the theme of Tripura's tableau at the Republic Day Parade 2025? **'Eternal Reverence: The Worship of 14 Deities in Tripura – Kharchi Puja'**
- What was the theme of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs' winning tableau? **'Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh'**
- Which department and dance group received a Special Prize for 75 years of the Constitution of India? **Central Public Works Department and 'Jayati Jai Mamah Bharatam' Dance Group**
- Which northeastern state's tableau was selected for the Republic Day Parade 2025? **Tripura**
- For which subject will the 'Chief Minister Tripura (Manik Saha) Gold Medal' be awarded by King George's Medical University (KGMU), Lucknow? **Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery**
- With which company did GRSE sign an MoU to collaborate on underwater weapons technology? **Apollo Micro Systems Ltd (AMS)**
- What is the name of the new regional bloc formed by Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger? **Alliance of Sahel States (AES)**
- What is the name of the scheme approved by the government to boost MSME manufacturing? **Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme (MCGS)**
- What percentage of loan guarantee does the Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme provide for MSMEs? **60%**
- Who has been appointed as Syria's interim president following Bashar al-Assad's ouster? **Ahmed al-Sharaa**
- What is the name of the web-based portal developed by Sebi for reporting technical glitches by stock exchanges and MILs? **iSPOT (Integrated Sebi Portal for Technical Glitches).**
- Which is the first African country to eliminate onchocerciasis as recognized by WHO? **Niger**
- Which South Korean biopharmaceutical company received US FDA approval for its biosimilar Avtozma? **Celltrion**
- Which state won the highest number of medals in weightlifting on Day 1 of the 38th National Games? **Maharashtra (6 Medals)**
- Who was recently inducted into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame? **Christina Matthews**
- Which two companies have partnered to develop India's largest green ammonia plant in Odisha? **Avaada Group and Casale**
- What was India's real GDP growth in FY 2024-25 according to the Economic Survey 2025? **6.4%**
- What was the retail inflation rate for India in FY 2024-25 according to the Economic Survey 2025? **4.9% (April-December 2024).**
- What is the total export value for India in FY 2025 as per the Economic Survey 2025? **USD 602.6 billion.**
- How much direct tax revenue is expected to be forgone due to the new tax structure in Budget 2025? **Approximately ₹1 lakh crore**
- What is the revised annual TDS limit on rental income as per Budget 2025? **Raised from ₹2.40 lakh to ₹6 lakh annually.**

27 March

World Theatre Day

INCEPTION: 1961
EDITION: 66th
1ST CELEBRATED:
1962 ("Theatre of Nations" season in Paris).

Importance

This day is a celebration for those who can see the value and importance of the art form "theatre".

Motto

To generate awareness about the importance of theatre arts, how they played an important role in the field of entertainment and the changes that theatre brings in the life.

By

International Theatre Institute (ITI).

Facts Behind

The first World Theatre Day Message was written by Jean Cocteau in 1962.



- What is the maximum loan amount offered under the new Budget 2025 scheme for women and SC/ST entrepreneurs? **Up to ₹2 crore.**
- How many districts will be covered under the PM Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana? **100 districts.**
- Which institute will be established in Bihar as per Budget 2025-26? **National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Management.**
- How much will be provided for interest-free loans to states for infrastructure development? **₹1.5 lakh crore**
- What is the enhanced budget outlay for the Jal Jeevan Mission? **100% coverage**
- How much funding is provided under SWAMIH 2.0 for affordable housing? **₹15,000 crore**
- What insurance scheme will cover 10 million gig economy workers? **PM Jan Arogya Yojana**
- What is the target nuclear power capacity for India by 2047? **100 GW**
- How many fellowships were announced for tech research at IIT and IISc? **10,000**
- Which two acts will be amended to attract private sector investment in nuclear energy? **Atomic Energy Act, Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act**
- What clean energy process generates power through the splitting of uranium atoms? **Fission**
- How many life-saving drugs will be exempt from basic customs duty in Budget 2025? **36**
- What customs duty exemption was given to Trastuzumab Deruxtecan, Osimertinib, and Durvalumab? **Reduced to nil from 10%**
- For how many years has the customs duty exemption on inputs for ship manufacturing been extended? **10 years**
- On how many critical minerals will import duties be removed according to Budget 2025? **12**
- How many new destinations will the modified UDAN scheme connect in the next 10 years? **120**
- Which state will benefit from the development of greenfield airports under the UDAN scheme? **Bihar**
- What is the proposed budget for the UDAN scheme in 2025-26? **₹530 crore**
- How much has been allocated to the defence sector in Union Budget 2025? **₹4,91,732 crore**
- Which four wetlands have been recently designated as Ramsar sites in India? **Sakkarakottai Bird Sanctuary (TN), Therthangal Bird Sanctuary (TN), Khecheopalri Wetland (Sikkim), Udhwa Lake (Jharkhand)**
- What is the rank of India in terms of the highest number of Ramsar sites globally? **Third**
- Which team won the inaugural World Pickleball League (WPL)? **Bengaluru Jawans**
- Who won the Tata Steel Masters 2025 chess tournament? **R Praggnanandhaa**
- Which Indian player became the highest-ranked in FIDE after defeating Gukesh in Tata Steel Masters 2025? **Arjun Erigaisi**

2nd Thursday of March

World Kidney Day

INCEPTION: 2006
EDITION: 20th

2025 THEME:

Kidney health for all: Advancing equitable access to care and optimal medication practice.

Motto

To raise awareness of the importance of our kidneys to our overall health and to reduce the frequency and impact of kidney disease and its associated health problems worldwide.

Note

World Kidney Day is a joint initiative of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and the International Federation of Kidney Foundations (IFKF).

Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme

ROLLED OUT IN 2016

Motto:

To provide important life-saving procedure close to the community and also for reducing impoverishment on account of out of pocket expenditure for patients.



- Which industries will be promoted under the National Manufacturing Mission? **Solar PV cells, EV batteries, motors, electrolyzers, wind turbines, and high-voltage transmission equipment.**
- Which three pulses are the focus of the Atmanirbharta in Pulses mission? **Tur, Urad, and Masoor.**
- From which countries does India primarily import pulses? **Myanmar, Australia, Russia, Canada, and African countries.**
- How many National Centres of Excellence for Skilling will be established in Budget 2025? **Five**

- What was Ashi Chouksey's score when she set the new national record in the 50m rifle 3 positions event? **598 points**
- Who was honored with the Col. C.K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award by the BCCI in 2025? **Sachin Tendulkar**
- Who won the silver medal and set a new national record in the Men's 60m Hurdles at the European Outdoor Championships? **Tejas Shirse.**
- Who won the 2025 Allan Border Medal and Belinda Clarke Award at the Australian Cricket Awards? **Travis Head and Annabel Sutherland**
- Who won the 2025 Pebble Beach Pro-Am golf tournament? **Rory McIlroy**
- What is the name of the joint military exercise between India and the Maldives? **Ekuverin**
- Where are the 38th National Games being held? **Uttarakhand**
- Who won the gold medal in the women's 87+ kg weightlifting category at the 38th National Games? **Mehak Sharma**
- Who won the gold medal in the men's 10m pistol event at the 38th National Games? **Jonathan Anthony**
- Who won the gold medal in the men's squash final at the 38th National Games? **Velavan Senthilkumar**
- Who won the Grammy Award for the album 'Triveni' in the Best New Age, Ambient, or Chant Album category? **Chandrika Tandon**
- Which artist won her first Grammy for the album 'Short and Sweet'? **Sabrina Carpenter**
- Who made history as the third woman to win Best Rap Album at the 2025 Grammy Awards? **Doechii**
- What three new domestically developed satellites did Iran unveil on National Space Technology Day? **Navak-1, Pars-2, and an upgraded Pars-1**
- What is the weight of the Iran's New Homegrown Navak-1 satellite? **Approximately 34 kg.**
- Name the former German President and IMF Chief, who passed away recently? **Horst Koehler**
- Who has resigned as Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) of BharatPe to pursue an entrepreneurial venture in the consumer brands space? **Parth Joshi**
- Which mountain in New Zealand was granted legal personhood, now officially recognized by its Māori name? **Taranaki Maunga**
- Which other two natural features in New Zealand have been granted legal personhood before Taranaki Maunga? **Te Urewera National Park (2014) and Whanganui River (2017)**
- How much will South Korea invest in materials and parts technologies this year to enhance global competitiveness? **1.18 trillion won (\$809.3 million)**
- Which Taiwanese actress, best known for her role in Meteor Garden, passed away at the age of 48? **Barbie Hsu**
- How many sub-categories does the Ayush Visa have? **Four**
- Where was the Ayush Medical Value Travel Summit 2024 held? **Mumbai**
- Where will Russia deploy its Oreshnik hypersonic missile systems? **Belarus**
- How will SEBI ensure transparency in algo trading? **By mandating unique order tracking IDs for all algo trades.**
- Which AI model powers 'myShakti'? **DeepSeek's open-source AI model.**
- Who inaugurated the 'Bikashita Gaon Bikashita Odisha' (BGBO) scheme? **Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi**
- Which US university has collaborated with Anurag University to enhance global education accessibility? **Arizona State University (ASU)**
- Who inaugurated the 1-MW Green Hydrogen Plant in Himachal Pradesh? **Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu**
- What is the total cost of the 1-MW Green Hydrogen Plant in Himachal Pradesh? **₹9.04 crore**
- Who won the Gold medal in the women's 10-metre air pistol event at the 38th National Games? **Suruchi from Haryana**
- Who won the Gold medal in the women's K-1 slalom event at the 38th National Games? **Nagidi Gayatri from Andhra Pradesh**
- Who has been appointed as the Director in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG)? **Sagar Singh Kalsi**
- What is the main goal of Laos and IFAD's collaboration? **To enhance rural livelihoods, modernize agriculture, and improve food security.**
- Why did the US stop funding UNRWA? **The US alleged that some UNRWA employees participated in Hamas' October 7, 2023 attack on southern Israel.**
- Who was the father of Prince Rahim Aga Khan V? **Prince Karim Aga Khan IV.**
- By how many basis points did the RBI cut the repo rate in its latest monetary policy decision? **25 basis points (bps).**
- How much is the total worth of the defence contracts signed by the Ministry of Defence for the Pinaka rocket system ammunition? **₹10,147 crore.**
- What type of transactions will the new AFA requirement apply to? **Cross-border Card Not Present (CNP) transactions.**
- Do the U.S. and Israel recognize the ICC's jurisdiction? **No**

- Which companies are manufacturing the PSLV under NSIL's contract? **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Larsen & Toubro (L&T).**
- Who became the fifth Indian bowler to take 600 international wickets? **Ravindra Jadeja.**
- Which Indian bowler has taken the most international wickets? **Anil Kumble (953 wickets).**
- How much prize money did the winners (Andhra Pradesh) receive in the Nagesh Trophy 2024-25? **₹1,25,000 + Trophy**
- Which movement was Kameshwar Choupal a key leader of? **The Ram Janmabhoomi movement.**
- Who won the gold medal in the women's 75kg boxing category at the 38th National Games? **Lovlina Borgohain**
- Where is the 38th edition of the National Games being held? **Uttarakhand**
- When was the FIFA-appointed Normalisation Committee set up for Pakistan football? **June 2019.**
- Which U.S.-made fighter jets did Ukraine receive from the Netherlands? **F-16 fighters**
- Which three schemes have been integrated under the revamped Skill India Programme? **PMKVY 4.0, PM-NAPS, and JSS**
- Which emerging technologies are covered under PMKVY 4.0 for skill development? **AI, 5G, cybersecurity, green hydrogen, and drone technology**
- How many districts in India will receive specialized training sessions under the Amazon-DGFT collaboration? **47 districts**
- Which bill has been approved by the Union Cabinet to simplify tax laws by reducing sections and making compliance easier? **The new Income-Tax Bill.**
- Which biennial naval exercise is being conducted by the Indian Navy in the Indian Ocean Region in 2025 to enhance joint operational readiness? **TROPEX-25 (Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise)**
- Where is the joint military exercise 'Cyclone 2025' between India and Egypt being conducted? **Mahajan Field Firing Range, Rajasthan.**
- Which Indian Army unit is participating in the 'Cyclone 2025' exercise? **The Parachute Regiment (Special Forces).**
- Who is inaugurating the IAS-DARPG India Conference 2025? **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh.**
- Where is Asia's biggest Aero India show being held? **Yelahanka Air Force Base, Bengaluru.**
- With which company has the Ministry of Defence signed a contract for 28 EON-51 systems? **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).**
- Which Sri Lankan cricketer retired from international cricket after his 100th Test? **Dimuth Karunaratne.**
- Which countries signed an MoU for the HydroNepal Project? **Nepal and France.**
- Where is the BIMSTEC Digital Conclave 2025 being held? **Colombo, Sri Lanka.**
- Who resigned as Manipur's Chief Minister after 21 months of crisis? **N. Biren Singh.**
- Which domain will be exclusively available for Indian banks? **'bank.in'**
- Who inaugurated India's first indigenous Automated Biomedical Waste Treatment Plant, "Srijanam"? **Dr. Jitendra Singh**
- Which organizations collaborated to unveil India's Vehicle-Mounted Counter-Drone System at Aero India 2025? **Adani Defence & Aerospace and DRDO**
- Pankaj Advani secured his 36th national title by winning which championship? **Indian Snooker Championship**
- Jil Teichmann won the 2025 Mumbai Open by defeating which player in the final? **Mananchaya Sawangkaew**
- Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Nokia, effective April 1, 2025? **Justin Hotard**
- What is India's rank in the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2024? **96th**
- Under which agreement was the India-EFTA Desk launched to enhance trade and investment? **India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA).**
- Which country's president, Klaus Iohannis, resigned amid political turmoil in 2025? **Romania.**
- What is the new name of Ajmer's King Edward Memorial after its renaming in 2025? **Maharishi Dayanand Vishrant Grih.**
- Which state's cabinet approved amendments to its Disaster Management Authority Rules in 2025? **Maharashtra.**
- Which bank recently had its RBI-imposed business restrictions lifted after implementing corrective measures? **Kotak Mahindra Bank**
- Who has been appointed as Romania's interim President after Klaus Iohannis' resignation? **Ilie Bolojan.**
- By which year is China's deep-sea research facility in the South China Sea expected to be operational? **2030.**
- Which country recently signed 10 MoUs with India in the fields of technology, nuclear energy, and innovation? **France**
- Which Maharatna company signed an MoU with Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL) for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)? **ONGC**

- Which Indian state is set to launch the Clean Mobility Policy 2025-2030, targeting ₹50,000 crore investments and 1 lakh jobs? **Karnataka**
- What is the primary focus of the partnership between Tata Elxsi and Garuda Aerospace? **Designing and engineering indigenous UAV technologies**
- Why did Adani Green exit the Sri Lanka wind power project? **Because of financial viability issues and renegotiation requests by the Sri Lankan government**
- Which brand replaced Thums Up as the co-presenter for IPL 2025? **Campa Cola**
- Who was awarded the 2024 Hurun Industry Achievement Award for Financial Solutions Innovation? **Dr. Raj P Narayanam**
- What is the primary objective of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Saab and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)? **To manufacture the Electronic Warfare Land Laser Warning System-310 (LWS-310) in India.**
- Which state improved its rank from 15th to 5th in the latest Panchayat Devolution Index? **Uttar Pradesh.**
- Who has been appointed as the Administrator of New India Cooperative Bank by RBI? **Mr. Shreekanth, former Chief General Manager of SBI.**
- Where was the Ayushman Bharat Vay Vandana Scheme recently launched? **Puducherry**
- What is the age eligibility for the Ayushman Bharat Vay Vandana Scheme? **70 years and above**
- Which Indian athlete broke the 17-year-old national record in the indoor men's 3000m event? **Gulveer Singh**
- What is the total prize pool for the 2025 ICC Champions Trophy? **\$4.5 million USD**
- How much prize money will the winners of the 2025 ICC Champions Trophy receive? **\$2.24 million USD**
- Which state government launched the 'Lakshapati Didi Sahayika Yojana' to provide financial support for Community Support Staff (CSS)? **Odisha**
- The MoU between ANRF and the US National Science Foundation focuses on joint research in which emerging technologies? **Semiconductors, connected vehicles, machine learning, next-gen telecommunications, intelligent transportation systems, and future biomanufacturing.**
- Which two countries recently discussed cooperation in critical minerals, exploration, and mining, focusing on securing essential resources? **India and Sri Lanka.**
- Where will the BRICS Summit 2025 be held? **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.**
- Which Indian bank received RBI approval to open its first international branch at GIFT City? **Bank of Maharashtra (BoM).**
- Which three countries discussed security scenarios in the Indo-Pacific and North Korea at the Munich Security Conference 2025? **The United States, Japan, and South Korea.**
- What are the key areas of cooperation under the India-US TRUST initiative and IMEC framework? **Critical minerals, advanced materials, pharmaceuticals, economic corridors, and connectivity infrastructure.**
- Who has been appointed as the new Chief Election Commissioner of India? **Gyanesh Kumar**
- Who appoints the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners under the 2023 Act? **The President of India**
- Which Indian minister announced the MoUs at the India-Qatar Business Forum? **Piyush Goyal**
- Which major testing phase did Matsya-6000 recently complete? **Wet testing at the harbour**
- Which ministry is responsible for the development of Matsya-6000? **Ministry of Earth Sciences**
- Under which mission is Matsya-6000 being developed? **Deep Ocean Mission**
- What is the world's largest propellant mixer developed by India for solid rocket motors? **10-tonne propellant mixer**
- Which institute collaborated with ISRO to develop the 10-tonne propellant mixer? **Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI), Bengaluru**
- What is the maximum loan amount under the Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs? **Up to Rs. 100 crore.**
- What is the increased amount allocated for capital expenditure in the Union Budget 2025-26? **Rs. 16 lakh crore.**
- Where was the statue of Tamil poet Thiruvalluvar unveiled to commemorate the 75th anniversary of India-Philippines diplomatic relations? **Gullas College of Medicine in Cebu, Philippines.**
- What is the projected GDP growth for India in Q3 FY2025 as per ICRA? **6.4%**
- Which pilot program was launched by the Centre to modernize land records? **National Geospatial Knowledge-based Land Survey-Naksha**
- Which technology is used in the Naksha program for land record management? **Geospatial technology**
- Which ministry signed an MoU with APNA to boost job opportunities? **Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE)**
- How much did India-UAE bilateral trade increase to in FY 2023-24 under CEPA? **\$83.7 billion**
- Which two states are likely to sign an MoU to boost the bamboo industry and entrepreneurial activities? **Maharashtra and Tripura.**

- Which new facility has Irdai introduced for insurance premium payments via UPI? **Bima Applications Supported by Blocked Amount (Bima-ASBA).**
- What is SBI's projected GDP growth rate for India in Q3 of FY 2024-25? **6.2-6.3%**
- Which country recently signed an MoU with India to strengthen cooperation in lithium exploration and mining? **Argentina**
- Which Indian defense shipbuilding company showcased indigenous Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) and Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) at NAVDEX 2025? **Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL)**
- In collaboration with which university has the Haryana government established the Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Crop Post-Harvest Management and Cold Chain? **University of Birmingham**
- Who won the gold medal in the men's F57 Shot Put event at the National Para Athletics Championships 2025? **Soman Rana**
- During which military exercise did Iran showcase its new weaponry? **"Great Prophet 19" exercise.**
- Which short-range tactical ballistic missile was unveiled by Iran? **Fat'h-360.**
- India recently released the third tranche of Nu 2.5 billion (Rs 250 crore) to which country under the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP)? **Bhutan**
- Which Indian biologist has been named in Time Magazine's 'Women of the Year 2025' list? **Purnima Devi Barman**
- Which company signed a ₹1,220 crore contract with the Defence Ministry for advanced radios? **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)**
- Which defense force will receive 149 Software Defined Radios under the recent contract with BEL? **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)**
- Which Indian organization is responsible for training Sri Lankan civil service officers under the MoU? **National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG)**
- Who won his 14th Asian Snooker Championship gold in Doha? **Pankaj Advani**
- Who has been appointed as the 9th Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)? **Kash Patel**
- How much is the Defence Ministry's contract worth for procuring 1,868 Rough Terrain Fork Lift Trucks (RTFLT)? **₹697.35 crore**
- Which country became the second in the world after China to introduce Electronic Personnel License (EPL) for pilots? **India**
- Which country introduced an online visa application system for students, including Indians? **Germany**
- Which country is India collaborating with for the advancement of 5G and telecom networks? **UK**
- What is the purpose of the world's largest vertical mixer developed by ISRO? **To aid in the mixing of raw materials for rocket propellants**
- What is the new tenure period for B.V.R. Subrahmanyam as NITI Aayog CEO? **Until February 24, 2026**
- Who won the Memory League World Championship 2025 by memorizing 80 numbers in 13.50 seconds and 30 images in 8.40 seconds? **Vishvaa Rajakumar**
- Who resigned as the CEO of Upflex India recently? **Pratyush Pandey**
- Who has been appointed as Principal Secretary-2 to PM Narendra Modi? **Former RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das.**
- Who will be the Guest of Honour at Mauritius' 57th National Day celebrations? **Prime Minister Narendra Modi.**
- Which Taiwan-based company is investing \$500 million in India under the Make in India initiative? **Delta Electronics.**
- Which regulatory body imposed a ₹10 lakh penalty on Axis Securities? **SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India).**
- Who won the Rio Open 2024 men's singles title? – **Sebastian Baez**
- How many ATP titles has Sebastian Baez won after his victory at the Rio Open 2024? – **Seven**
- During which tournament did Virat Kohli achieve the 14,000 ODI runs milestone? – **Champions Trophy 2025**
- Who held the record for the fastest to 14,000 ODI runs before Virat Kohli? – **Sachin Tendulkar (350 innings)**
- Who won the German national election in 2025? **Friedrich Merz's conservative Union bloc.**
- What is the maximum withdrawal limit per depositor allowed by RBI for New India Co-operative Bank? **₹25,000**
- Which team won the Indian Super League (ISL) League Winners' title in 2025? **Mohun Bagan Super Giant.**
- Which two countries have recently agreed to enhance military cooperation to counter China's assertiveness? **Japan and the Philippines.**
- Which state government increased the financial aid under the NaMo Shetkari Mahasnanan Nidhi Yojana (NSMNY) from ₹6,000 to ₹9,000 annually? **Maharashtra**
- Which FMCG company recently rebranded itself as AWL Agri Business Limited? **Adani Wilmar**

Quick Bytes

- Canara HSBC Life Insurance Partners with GIC Housing Finance for Home
- Vantage Wins 'Best Global Broker' at Money Expo Mexico 2025
- Dr. Shivkumar Kalyanaraman Appointed CEO of ANRF
- RBI and Bank of Mauritius Sign MoU to Promote Trade in Local Currencies
- Bajaj Auto Reappoints Rajiv Bajaj, Invests ₹1,500 Crore in Credit Arm
- Ayushmann Khurrana Named 'Fit India Icon' by Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya
- Jasprit Bumrah Joins Skechers as Brand Ambassador, Strengthening Its Presence in Cricket
- Krishnamachari Srikanth Named Goodwill Ambassador of VISION 2020 India to Combat Avoidable Blindness
- VARUNA 2025: Strengthening India-France Naval Cooperation
- India's Free Speech Ranking: A global survey by The Future of Free Speech ranked India 24th out of 33 countries in its Free Speech Index (score: 62.6).
- Indian Long-Distance Runner Archana Jadhav Banned for Four Years Over Doping Violation
- Stuart Young Sworn in as Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago
- India's GDP to Reach \$5.7 Trillion, Becoming Third Largest by 2028: Morgan Stanley
- Dr. Lakshmi Venu Appointed as Vice Chairman of TAFE
- Dr. Shivkumar Kalyanaraman Appointed as CEO of Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)
- Intel Appoints Lip-Bu Tan as CEO: A New Era for Semiconductor Leadership
- Telangana Government Launches 'Rajiv Yuva Vikasam' Scheme to Boost Self-Employment
- India Sends \$1M Machinery to Boost Suriname's Agriculture
- World Happiness Report 2025: India Ranked 118th
- Indian Railways, IIT Madras Partnered for Hyperloop R&D
- SEBI Partners with DigiLocker to Reduce Unclaimed Assets
- Cabinet Approves Incentive Scheme for Low-Value BHIM-UPI Transactions
- Trump Uses Alien Enemies Act to Speed Up Deportations
- Brandon Holt Wins Bengaluru Open 2025 Title
- Dr Mayank Sharma, took charge as Controller General of Defence Accounts on March 1, 2025.
- Vidarbha Wins Third Ranji Trophy Title with Dominant Victory
- British PM Keir Starmer unveiled a £1.6 billion (\$2 billion) deal for Ukraine to buy 5,000 air-defense missiles.
- Ajay Seth assigned additional charge as Revenue Secretary
- India's Rithvik Bollipalli and Colombia's Nicolas Barrientos won the Chile Open 2025 men's doubles title in Santiago.
- Anant Ambani's Vantara Wins 'Prani Mitra' National Award
- Sarbananda Sonowal Unveils 'One Nation-One Port' Initiative
- Senior Advocate Manan Kumar Mishra Re-Elected as Chairman of Bar Council of India
- Himmat Shah, Renowned Indian Artist, Passes Away at Age of 92
- Russian Chess Grandmaster Boris Spassky Passes Away at 88
- Uttarakhand Launches Mukhyamantri Ekal Mahila Swarozgar Yojana
- Padmakar Shivalkar, the Legendary Mumbai Spinner, Passed Away
- Manan Kumar Mishra Re-Elected as BCI Chairman for 7th Term
- Jay Shah Wins Icon of Excellence at FILA 2025
- The government granted Navratna status to IRFC and IRCTC, both key CPSEs under the Ministry of Railways.
- Dr. Dinesh Shahra Receives Lifetime Achievement Award from HBTU
- Firefly Aerospace's Blue Ghost Mission 1 landed upright on the Moon on March 2, 2025, marking the second private lunar landing.
- India and Nepal signed an MoU to enhance cooperation in the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector, focusing on water access and sanitation.
- Trump signed an order making English the official language of the US, allowing federal agencies to decide on multilingual services.
- PM Modi inaugurated Vantara, an animal rescue and rehabilitation center in Jamnagar, Gujarat, focusing on wildlife conservation.

- Christian Stocker Becomes Austrian Chancellor with New Coalition
- Yamandú Orsi Sworn in as Uruguay's President
- Levi's Appoints Diljit Dosanjh as Global Ambassador
- Crisil Forecasts India's GDP Growth at 6.5% for FY26, Predicts Repo Rate Cut
- Ron Draper, the oldest living Test cricketer, passed away at 98 years and 63 days on February 25, 2025, in Gqeberha.
- Padmakar Shivalkar: The Unsung Hero of Indian Cricket Passes Away at 84
- Ajay Bhadoo Appointed CEO of Government e Marketplace (GeM)
- DRDO Conducts High-Altitude Trial of Integrated Life Support System for Tejas Aircraft
- Sharath Kamal to Retire from Table Tennis
- Dr. Suborno Bose Honored for Revolutionizing Hospitality Education
- PM Modi conferred 'Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados'
- PhonePe Launches 'Insuring HEROES' Campaign for International Women's Day 2025
- Anju Rathi Rana Appointed As The First Woman Law Secretary
- HDFC Bank Signs MoU with Indian Air Force and CSC Academy; Launches Project HAKK
- SIDBI and Federal Bank Partner to Strengthen MSME Financing
- India Ranks 4th in Global Wealth Rankings: Knight Frank's Wealth Report 2025
- Mushfiqur Rahim Announces Retirement from ODIs After Champions Trophy Exit
- Fred Stolle, A Tennis Legend Passes Away at 86
- Punjab Launches 'Project Hifazat' to Strengthen Women and Child Safety
- Assam Names Electronics City After Ratan Tata
- Eyal Zamir Appointed as Israel's New Military Chief Amid Ongoing Conflict
- DPIIT and Mercedes-Benz India Sign MoU to Boost Manufacturing, Road Safety, and Sustainability
- Rajeev Shukla Replaces Jay Shah in ACC Leadership
- Pakistan Becomes Second-Most Terrorism-Affected Country in 2024
- AGNIT Semiconductors Wins IESA Technovation Startup Award
- Amitava Mukherjee Appointed as NMDC CMD
- Govt Allocates ₹10,300 Crore for IndiaAI Mission
- PhonePe Launches 'Insuring HEROES' Campaign for Women
- INDIA- KYRGYZSTAN JOINT SPECIAL FORCES EXERCISE KHANJAR-XII
- Madhav National Park Declared as India's 58th Tiger Reserve
- Mark Carney Appointed as Canada's New Liberal Party Leader and Prime Minister
- Saina Nehwal Joins Naarica as Strategic Investor & Brand Ambassador
- Razorpay Expands into Singapore to Revolutionize Digital Payments
- Bank of Baroda Launches 'bob Global Women NRE & NRO Savings Account' for Women NRIs
- SBI Launches Collateral-Free Digital SME Loan for Women Entrepreneurs
- Vikas Kaushal Appointed as HPCL CMD
- HDFC Bank, Indian Army, and CSC Academy Expand Project NAMAN
- Amul Ranked as the 3rd Most Valued Brand in India – YouGov India Value Rankings 2025
- Sunil Chhetri's Return to the Indian National Team at 40
- Former Minister and Senior BJD Leader Ananta Das Passes Away at 85
- Deepti Sharma Climbs to 5th in ICC Women's All-rounders Rankings
- Assam Government to Launch Its Own Satellite 'ASSAMSAT'
- India Signs \$248 Million Deal with Russia for Advanced Battle Tank Engines
- Culmination of Indian Navy's Theatre Level Operational Exercise (TROPEX) 2025
- Takashi Nakajima Appointed as the New President & CEO of Honda Cars India
- Commonwealth Games Federation Rebrands as 'Commonwealth Sport' on Commonwealth Day 2025
- Legendary Classical Singer Garimella Balakrishna Prasad Passes Away at 76
- Atul Kumar Goel Assumes Charge as Chief Executive of the Indian Banks' Association (IBA)
- India-Bangladesh Conduct CORPAT and BONGOSAGAR In Bay of Bengal
- Airtel announced an agreement with SpaceX to bring Starlink's high-speed internet services to its customers in India.
- ICICI Bank Appoints Kamal Wali as Head of Security Operations
- ACM A.M. Turing Award 2024: Andrew Barto and Richard Sutton Honored for Reinforcement Learning

- Jayshree Vencatesan: First Indian to Receive Ramsar Award for Wetland Wise Use
- Muthoot Microfin Wins Double Gold at SKOCH Awards 2025
- ICC Player of the Month Awards for February 2025: Shubman Gill and Alana King Shine
- NASA's Revolutionary Missions: SPHEREx and PUNCH Set to Redefine Space Exploration
- RSS Pracharak Dr. Shankar Rao Tatwawadi Passes Away
- Veteran Actor-Filmmaker Deb Mukherjee Passes Away
- LIC, New India Assurance, GIC Re Retain D-SIIs Status for 2024-25
- RBI Wins Digital Transformation Award 2025 for Pravaah and Sarthi Initiatives
- Moody's Projects India's GDP Growth to Exceed 6.5% in FY 2025-26
- Arun Mammen Elected as Chairman of ATMA
- N Ganapathy Subramaniam Appointed as Chairman of Tata Communications
- India Successfully Tests Astra BVRAAM from LCA Tejas AF MK1 Prototype
- India Tops Medal Tally at World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2025 in New Delhi
- NASA's SPHEREx Space Telescope Launches to Map the Universe's Cosmic Glow
- Former Indian All-Rounder Syed Abid Ali Passes Away at 83
- Renowned Odia Poet Ramakanta Rath Passes Away at 90
- Mumbai Indians Win 2nd WPL Title, Beat Delhi Capitals by 8 Runs
- Prasara Bharati Wins Hockey India Jaman Lal Sharma Award 2024
- Mark Carney Sworn in as Canada's PM
- Amit Shah Inaugurates Lachit Barphukan Police Academy in Assam
- Armenia and Azerbaijan Finalize Peace Treaty to End 40-Year Conflict
- Adar Poonawalla Sells Magma Insurance Stake to Patanjali Ayurved and DS Group for ₹4,500 Crore
- India – New Zealand Announce Launch of FTA Negotiations
- BEL Signs ₹2,906 Crore Deal with MoD for Indigenous LLTR (Ashwini) Radar
- Hockey Jharkhand Crowned 15th Hockey India Senior Women National Champion
- Maharana Pratap's Descendant Arvind Singh Mewar Dies at 81
- Veteran Tamil Actor-Comedian Bindu Ghosh Passes Away at 76
- Renowned Odia Poet Ramakanta Rath Passes Away
- Friedrich Merz Ascends as Germany's New Chancellor
- N Chandrasekaran Appointed as Chairman of Ratan Tata Endowment Foundation
- SBI Cuts India's FY25 GDP Growth Forecast to 6.3%
- Unilever CEO Hein Schumacher Steps Down, Fernandez Named Successor
- Tamal, India's Last Imported Warship, Set for June Commissioning
- RBI Raises Small Loan Limit for UCBs to ₹3 Crore
- TRIFED Partners with NIFT and HPMC to Boost Tribal Entrepreneurship
- NASA and SpaceX to Launch Athena to Moon
- Raj Kamal Jha Wins Banaras Lit Fest Award 2025
- Tuhin Kanta Pandey Appointed as 11th SEBI Chairperson
- SBI Life Appoints Dorababu Daparti as Deputy CEO
- Flipkart-Backed super.money Acquires BharatX for Growth
- SIDBI Signs MoU with Tata Capital Limited to Strengthen MSME Financing
- Hollywood Legend Gene Hackman Passes Away at 95

True success
requires sacrifice.

Rick Riordan

The Three-Language Formula Debate: Tamil Nadu vs. Centre Over NEP 2020

The three-language formula is an educational policy in India that recommends students learn three languages:

1. Regional Language: The official language of the state or the mother tongue.
2. Hindi: The official language of the central government.
3. English: A global lingua franca.

This policy aims to promote multilingualism and national integration by encouraging proficiency in regional, national, and international languages.

Tamil Nadu's Opposition:

Tamil Nadu has historically opposed the three-language formula, perceiving it as an attempt to impose Hindi on non-Hindi-speaking states. The state's resistance dates back to the 1930s and intensified in the 1960s during the anti-Hindi imposition agitations. In 1968, under Chief Minister C.N. Annadurai, Tamil Nadu formally adopted a two-language policy, mandating only Tamil and English in schools, deliberately excluding Hindi. This stance remains unchanged, making Tamil Nadu the only state that has never implemented the three-language formula.



Current Dispute with the Central Government:

The introduction of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 by the central government has reignited the debate over the three-language formula. The NEP recommends the adoption of the three-language formula nationwide, which Tamil Nadu perceives as a renewed effort to impose Hindi. The state's Chief Minister, M.K. Stalin, has criticized this move,

labeling it as "Hindi colonialism" and asserting that Tamil Nadu will not tolerate such imposition.

NEP 2020 & Three-Language Formula

- Students must learn three languages, with two being Indian languages.
- No language (including Hindi) is mandatory; states choose the languages.
- Regional languages are encouraged as a medium of instruction.
- Multilingualism is promoted in higher education and through digital tools.
- Tamil Nadu opposes it, fearing indirect Hindi imposition.
- The policy aims for flexibility but faces resistance from non-Hindi states.

Consequences of the Standoff:

The central government has responded to Tamil Nadu's refusal to implement the three-language formula by withholding funds under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, a program aimed at universalizing school education. This financial pressure underscores the escalating tensions between the state and the central government over language policy.

Core of the Dispute:

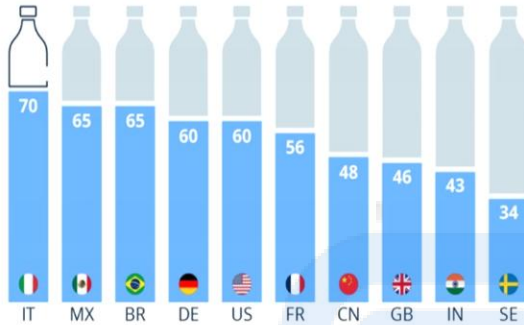
At its heart, the conflict revolves around issues of linguistic identity, cultural preservation, and federal autonomy. Tamil Nadu's refusal to implement key aspects of NEP 2020, particularly the three-language formula, has resulted in the Centre withholding Rs 573 crore in central education assistance under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). According to policy rules states must comply with NEP guidelines to receive SSA funding, of which 60 per cent is provided by the Centre to states like Tamil Nadu.

This enduring dispute highlights the complexities inherent in India's linguistic diversity and the challenges of formulating policies that respect regional identities while promoting national unity.

Infographics

How Popular Is Bottled Water?

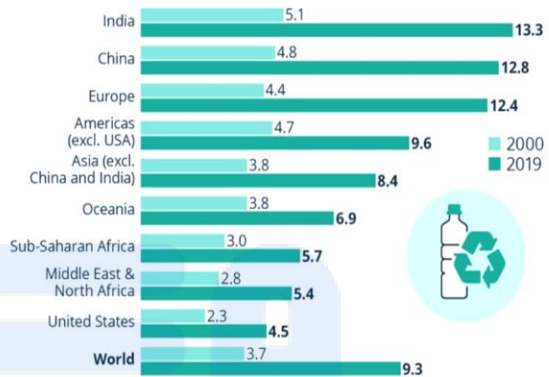
Share of respondents who say they regularly drink bottled water in selected countries (in %)



2,000 - 10,000 respondents (18 - 64 y/o) per country surveyed Jan. - Dec. 2024
Source: Statista Consumer Insights

India and China Spearhead Modest Gains in Plastic Recycling

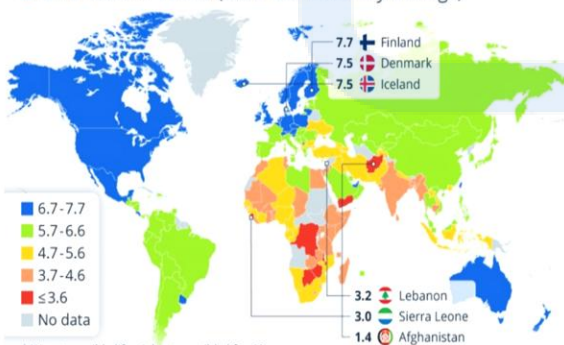
Share of plastic waste that is recycled (in percent)



Source: OECD via Our World in Data

Where People Are (Un)Happiest With Their Lives

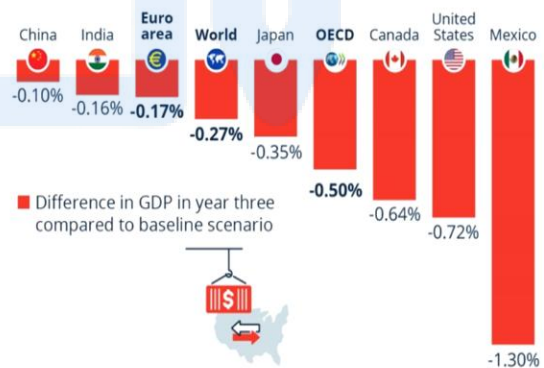
Assessment of the quality of respondents' own life on a scale of 1 to 10 (2022-2024 country average)



* Worst possible life=1, best possible life=10
1,000+ respondents (15+ y/o) surveyed per year and country
Source: Gallup World Happiness Report

No One Wins in a Trade War

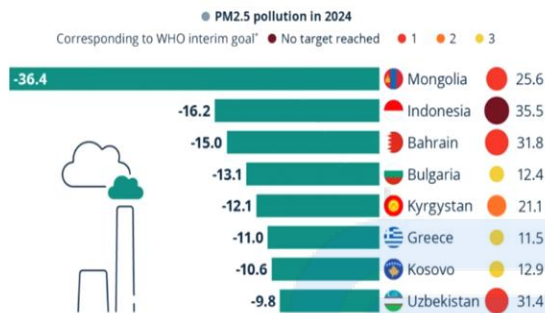
Estimated impact of a 10-percent tariff increase on all non-commodity imports to and from the U.S. in year 3



Source: OECD

The Countries Improving Air Quality Most

Countries with the largest post-pandemic decreases in annual average PM2.5 particle air pollution (in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

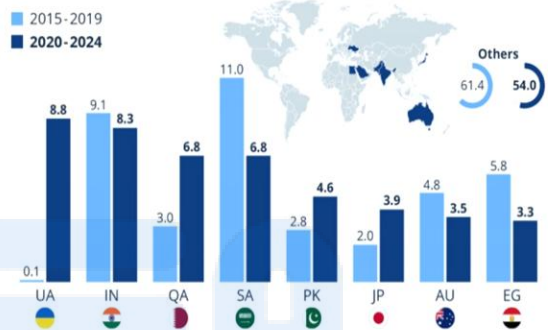


Decrease 2019 to 2024. Complete data for 93 countries/territories

* Goals in the order 1 to 4, gradually arriving at target of annual average PM2.5 level of 5 or below
Sources: IQAir, WHO

Ukraine Is Now the World's Biggest Arms Importer

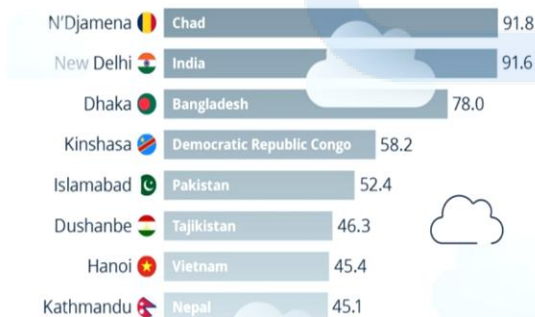
Share of global imports of major conventional weapons systems and components (in %)*



* Aircraft, armored vehicles, artillery (100mm+ caliber), radar systems, air defense, etc.
Source: SIPRI

The World's Most Polluted Capital Cities

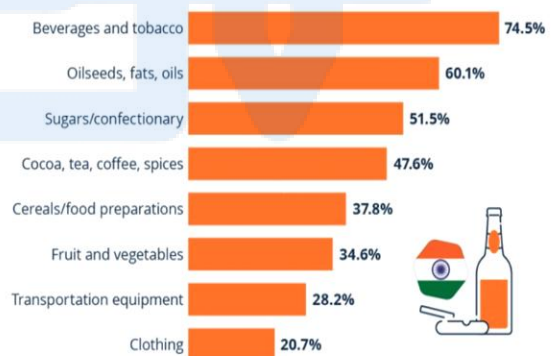
National capitals with the highest average annual PM2.5 concentration in 2024 (in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ of air)



Source: IQAir

India's Protectionary Tariffs

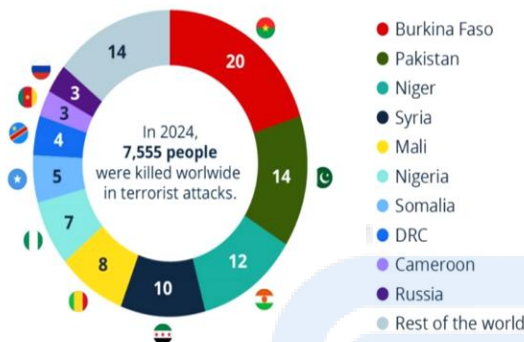
Average applied duties for selected imports to India by most favored nations* in 2023



* Applies to most WTO members not covered under free trade agreements
Source: World Trade Organization

The Sahel Is the Global Epicenter of Terrorism

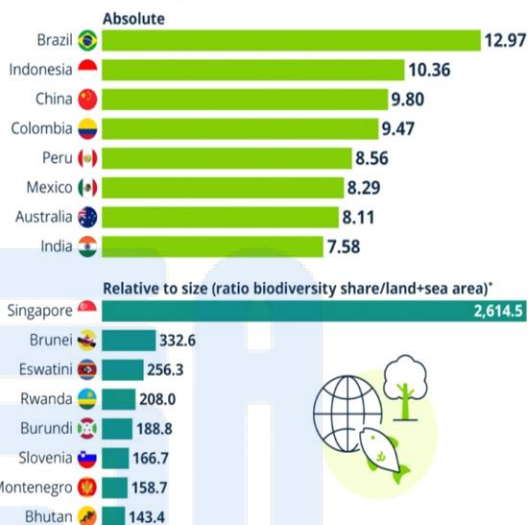
Share of deaths from terrorism in 2024, by country (in %)



Source: Institute for Economics & Peace

The World's Most Biodiverse Countries

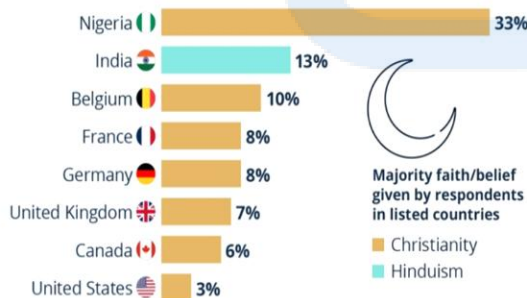
Countries home to the largest shares of the world's animal and plant species (in percent)



* Only includes countries with at least 1 percent of global species
As of Dec. 2023. Does not include insects, invertebrates, non-vascular plants, microorganisms
Source: World Rainforests

Muslim Minorities Around the World

Share of respondents identifying as Muslims in selected countries with non-Muslim majority faiths/beliefs



2,000-60,000 adults (18-64 y/o) surveyed per country Jan.-Dec. 2024;
Nigeria and Belgium Apr. 2023-Mar. 2024
Source: Statista Consumer Insights

The World's Largest Producers of Dates

Total production of dates by the top 8 producing countries in 2023 (in million tonnes)



Source: FAO



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