

Samyak Current Affairs

Monthly Magazine

May 2026

(Energy + Defence Technology Special Issue)

► INTERNATIONAL ► NATIONAL ► RAJASTHAN



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2027

GRAM
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CURRENT AFFAIRS

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MONTHLY SUMMARY

- ✦ Between which countries has the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS) come into effect? **India and Russia**
- ✦ Which personalities of Indian origin have been included in Time Magazine's list of the world's 100 influential people? **Sundar Pichai, Ranbir Kapoor and Vikas Khanna**
- ✦ Which airport of the world has been declared the world's best airport for the 14th time? **Changi Airport of Singapore**
- ✦ Which country has approved a bill brought for mining in glacier areas? **Argentina**
- ✦ Which country has become the 13th member of the US-led Pax Silica group? **Philippines**
- ✦ According to the International Energy Agency, in the year 2026, which country has the world's largest reserves of rare minerals? **China, 48.9% of the global share**
- ✦ Which country has approved the Tobacco and Vapes Bill, after which people born on or after 1 January, 2009 will never be able to buy tobacco products? **Britain**
- ✦ Which department or institution has approved the Arogya Van Project? **National Highways Authority of India, Ministry of Transport and Highways**
- ✦ The report named From Borrowers to Builders: Women and India's Evolving Credit Market has been released by whom? **NITI Aayog**
- ✦ The clinical laboratory of which institution has been granted ISO 15189:2022 accreditation for both biochemistry and haematology? **Central Ayurveda Research Institute, Bengaluru**
- ✦ Which railway depot has become India's first completely 'water neutral' railway depot? **Kankaria Coaching Depot, Ahmedabad**
- ✦ Where has the foundation stone of the country's first advanced 3D semiconductor packaging unit been laid? **Info Valley, Bhubaneswar, Odisha**
- ✦ Recently, the Office of the Development Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles and the National Institute of Fashion Technology released a collection of Indian traditional handloom and modern design by what name? **Vishva Sutra**
- ✦ Where has India's first pod taxi project been inaugurated? **Mumbai**
- ✦ Recently, Shekha Lake Bird Sanctuary has been given the status of a Ramsar site. Where is it located? **In Aligarh district, Uttar Pradesh**
- ✦ Which city of India has been included in the first edition of the 20 Cities Towards Zero Waste initiative? **Varkala city, Kerala**
- ✦ Where will the country's first Petroglyph Conservation Park be built? **Ladakh**
- ✦ Where will the country's first private sector nuclear power be established? **Sirmaur, Rewa, Madhya Pradesh**
- ✦ At which airport of India has the facility of completely contactless travel, biometric verification, been provided to international passengers? **Kempegowda International Airport**
- ✦ The Government of India has issued notification for Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 of how much amount? **₹10,000 crore**
- ✦ Where is India's first coal gasification project proposed? **Lakhanpur, Odisha**
- ✦ On which date did the Union Cabinet establish National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL)? **1 April, 2026**
- ✦ According to the IMF, what is India's position in the global economy ranking? **Sixth**

- ✳ Which country is India's largest trading partner in the financial year 2025-26? **China, 151.1 billion dollars**
- ✳ Which is India's third Arihant-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, which has recently been launched? **INS Aridaman**
- ✳ Who has completed the country's first intra-city drone delivery trial? **FedEx and IIT Madras**
- ✳ Which spacecraft was used in the Artemis-2 Mission? **Orion spacecraft**
- ✳ Where has ISRO conducted the MITRA Mission? **Leh, Ladakh**
- ✳ Which two institutions have been notified by the National Biodiversity Authority as new designated repositories? **Referral Centre Bhavsagar, Kochi and Microbial Culture Collection and National Collection of Fungal Cultures, Pune**
- ✳ Which dengue vaccine has been approved by the Subject Expert Committee under the Drugs Controller General of India? **'Qdenga' (TAK-003)**
- ✳ When did the 500 MW Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor located at Kalpakkam achieve criticality for the first time? **On 6 April, 2026**
- ✳ Who is the first bowler in the world to take nine wickets in one innings of a T-20 International match? **Laura Cardoso, Brazil**
- ✳ Who is the youngest player to score a century in the history of Women's T-20 International cricket? **Fanny Utagushmaninde**
- ✳ Which Indian shooters won the gold medal in the 10 metre Air Pistol Mixed Team event with a score of 487.7 in the ISSF World Cup-2026? **Palak Gulia and Mukesh Nelavalli**
- ✳ Which Indian created history by winning the silver medal in the men's singles event at the Badminton Asia Championship-2026? **Ayush Shetty**
- ✳ Where was the first edition of Khelo India Tribal Games (KITG) 2026 organised? **In Chhattisgarh**
- ✳ The World Volleyball Federation cancelled the recognition of the Volleyball Federation of which country with immediate effect, citing violation of legal and administrative standards? **India**
- ✳ Recently, who has been honoured with the M.S. Swaminathan Award-2024-25? **Dr. C. H. Srinivasa Rao**
- ✳ Who has been selected as the Leading Women Cricketer in the World in Wisden Cricketers' Almanack Awards-2026? **Deepti Sharma, India**
- ✳ Whom has World Archery selected as the Best Para Archer of the year 2025? **Sheetal Devi**
- ✳ Recently, who has been appointed as India's new High Commissioner to Bangladesh? **Dinesh Trivedi**
- ✳ Recently, who has been elected as the Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha for the third time? **Harivansh Narayan Singh**
- ✳ Who is the first woman to be appointed as Chief of Army in Australia? **Susan Coyle**
- ✳ Whom has the Ministry of Home Affairs made the brand ambassador of 'Census 2027'? **Sudarshan Patnaik**
- ✳ When and where was the World Border Security Congress 2026 organised? **From 14-16 April, 2026 in Vienna, Austria**
- ✳ Where was the Advanced Agriculture Festival organised with the goal of implementing the resolve of developed farming-prosperous farmer? **Raisen, Madhya Pradesh**
- ✳ Recently, under which military exercise did the Indian Army demonstrate its modern military strength at Pokhran Field Firing Range on 9 April, 2026? **Brahmastra Exercise**
- ✳ What was the theme of World Earth Day-2026 organised on 22 April? **"Our Power, Our Planet"**
- ✳ Recently, the painting 'Yashoda and Krishna' has made the record of being the most expensive work of Indian art so far. Who was its painter? **Raja Ravi Varma**


- ❖ RIICO has given the status of general industrial area to the RIICO Leather Complex located where? **Manpura Macheri, Chandwaji**
- ❖ Who has been honoured with the “National Road Safety Excellence Award 2026” by the All India Federation of Motor Vehicles Department Technical Officers Association? **Dinesh Singh**
- ❖ The World Bank has approved a loan project of how much amount for better road connectivity in Rajasthan? **225 million dollars**
- ❖ Work Se Wellness Tak initiative is an initiative of which institution? **RIICO**
- ❖ To whom has the Wild Animal Friend Award-2026 been given? **Darshan Kumar Menaria**
- ❖ When will the Global Rajasthan Agritech Meet (GRAM)-2026 be organised? **From 23 to 25 May, 2026**
- ❖ Who has been honoured with the prestigious ‘Danish Siddiqui Journalism Award 2026’ for the investigative report exposing corruption in MLA development fund expenditure in Rajasthan? **Avadhesh Akodia**
- ❖ Which person has been honoured with the ‘Rajasthan Samrasta Gaurav Award’ by the International Samrasta Manch? **Dr. Rajesh Jain Kala**
- ❖ The State Government has given consent to make which village a completely organic village? **Sahajsar village**
- ❖ Recently, who has been appointed as the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog? **Ashok Kumar Lahiri**
- ❖ Recently, which personality has been inducted into the ‘International Hall of Fame’ of the US Army War College of America? **Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi**

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Essay Competition



Topic of the Essay-

“Women Representation in the Indian Governance System – Diverse Dimensions and Challenges.”



“Eco-Tourism in Rajasthan: A Bridge between Conservation of Cultural Heritage and Economic Upliftment.”



Necessary Conditions and Instructions for the Essay Competition-

- Essay writing should be completely original; copied or AI-generated content will not be accepted.
- Follow the prescribed word limit — 600 words approximately.
- Pay attention to the correctness of grammar, spelling, and punctuation marks in the essay.
- Use only verified and accurate data or historical facts in the essay.
- Submit the essay before the prescribed last date and time.
- Essays can be sent only through the following mediums-
 - ✉ Mail- samyakcurrentaffairs@samyakias.com
 - 📍 Local Address- An Institute For Civil Services, Near Riddhi- Siddhi, Jaipur
- Along with the essay, the participant must send his/her passport-size photograph, official name, and address.



Awards-

- The photographs of the participants securing the first three positions in the competition will be given space in the next month's current affairs magazine and the issue of the concerned month will be sent to their prescribed address.

1

RAJASTHAN AFFAIRS

Speaker Shri Devnani constituted various committees for the year 2026-27 in the Sixteenth Rajasthan Legislative Assembly-

- Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani has nominated members and chairpersons in various committees of the Legislative Assembly for the year 2026-27.

Committee	Chairperson
Public Accounts Committee	Shri Tikaram Jolly
Estimates Committee ‘A’	Shri Sandeep Sharma
Estimates Committee ‘B’	Shri Babu Singh Rathore
Committee on Public Undertakings	Shri Kalicharan Saraf
Rules Committee	Shri Vasudev Devnani
Questions and References Committee	Shri Rajendra Pareek
Committee on Welfare of Women and Children	Smt. Kalpana Devi
Committee on Welfare of Backward Classes	Shri Narendra Budania
Scheduled Caste Welfare Committee	Shri Ramesh Khinchi
Scheduled Tribe Welfare Committee	Shri Phool Singh Meena
Library and Government Assurances Committee	Shri Harisingh Rawat
Petitions and Ethics Committee	Shri Kailash Chand Verma
Privileges and Subordinate Legislation Committee	Shri Jitendra Kumar Gothwal
Committee on Welfare of Minorities and Environment	Shri Kesaram Chaudhary
General Purposes Committee	Shri Vasudev Devnani
Committee on Home, Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions	Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav

RIICO Leather Complex will become an Industrial Hub-

- Recently, RIICO has given the status of a general industrial area to the RIICO Leather Complex located at Manpura Macheri (Chandwaji).
- Now all types of A and B category industries can be established in this industrial area.

RIICO Leather Complex-

- This complex was established in the year 1996.
- This complex was the first leather industry centre of the state, which was developed on the basis of the Kanpur model.

Savitribai Phule E-Library-

- Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma has announced the establishment of ‘Savitribai Phule E-Library’ in one higher secondary school in each block of the state on the occasion of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jayanti, 11 April.
- Through this e-library, facilities for the education of students and youth as well as preparation for various examinations will be made available.

- Apart from the e-library, the Chief Minister has also announced the establishment of ‘Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Adarsh Vidyalaya’ in all districts.

Dinesh Singh honoured with “National Road Safety Excellence Award 2026”-

- In the “Excellence Award 2026” programme organised by the All India Federation of Motor Vehicles Department Technical Officers Association on 10 April in Bengaluru, Karnataka, Inspector Dinesh Singh posted in Rajasthan Police was honoured with the “National Road Safety Excellence Award 2026”.
- This honour was given to him for his outstanding contribution, dedication, effective initiatives in the field of road safety awareness and important role in accident control.

Poshan Pakhwada District-Level Programme-

- On 11 April, 2026, the Poshan Pakhwada district-level programme was organised by the Women and Child Development Department at Marwar

International Centre under the chief hospitality of Parliamentary Affairs, Law and Legal Affairs Minister Shri Jogaram Patel.

- Poshan Pakhwada was celebrated across the country from 9 April to 23 April, 2026.

Announcement:-

- From the point of view of livelihood enhancement of women self-help groups, 11 thousand Amrit Poshan Vatikas will be constructed at a cost of about ₹500 crore.
- In accordance with the budget announcement, 'Rajasthan State Early Childhood Care Development and Education Policy' will be brought.
- Under the Mukhyamantri Suposhan Nutri Kit Yojana, nutritional security of pregnant women will be ensured.

ADB organised Orientation Workshop on Environmental and Social Framework-

- **Date of organisation-** 15-16 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Jaipur
- **Objective-** To provide basic understanding of environmental and social standards to executing and implementing agencies associated with Asian Development Bank (ADB)-supported projects.
- The objective of the Environmental and Social Framework is to protect people and the environment from adverse impacts, ensure sustainable development and effectively manage risks during project preparation and implementation.

World Bank approved a project of 225 million dollars for better road connectivity in Rajasthan—

- On 15 April, 2026, the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank approved the Rajasthan Highways Modernisation Project of more than 225 million dollars, approximately ₹2 thousand crore, for improving the efficiency, strength and safety of state highways in Rajasthan.
- Intelligent Transport System (ITS) will be implemented in the project, through which real-time monitoring, better enforcement and improvement in road safety will take place.
- According to the World Bank, this project will also promote employment in sectors related to industry, mining, tourism and agriculture.
- The final maturity period of the 225 million dollar loan received from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) is 35 years.

“Project Caracal” launched for Caracal Conservation in Rajasthan-

- On 15 April, 2026, the Rajasthan Forest Department launched Project Caracal by organising a state-level workshop on “Caracal Conservation in Rajasthan” at Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, Sawai Madhopur.
- The Asiatic Caracal is a rare and less visible wild cat.
- Its population has declined due to degradation and fragmentation of the habitat of the caracal and decline in prey species.

**Rajasthan State-NSDC Sector Skill Council (SSC) Kaushal Samvad-**

- Organisation- 16 April, 2026
- Venue- Jaipur
- Objective- To strengthen the skilling ecosystem of Rajasthan and rapidly fulfil the goals of the Rajasthan State Skill Mission.
- With the focused participation of NSDC-SSC, it has the capacity to provide skills to about 10 lakh youth in Rajasthan by the year 2030.

37th International Training Programme held in Rajasthan Legislative Assembly-

- On 18 April, 2026, the 37th International Training Programme was organised in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly.
- In this programme, 43 participants from 17 countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Ghana, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Zambia participated.
- This programme was conducted under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Scheme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. Its objective is to enhance conceptual knowledge, skills and techniques of legislative drafting for the benefit of foreign participants.

RIICO notified new rules of sub-division-

- On 17 April, 2026, with the objective of giving momentum to industrial development in the state and encouraging entrepreneurs, RIICO has granted conditional approval for sub-division of large industrial plots.
- Under this decision, now RIICO allottees will be able to divide their large plots into smaller parts and sell them.
- **Notified rules related to sub-division-**
 - RIICO has made this arrangement by re-

implementing Rule 17(E) of the Disposal of Land Rules, 1979.

- ❑ RIICO plots having an area of 20,000 square metres or more can be sub-divided and after sub-division, the minimum area of each sub-divided plot will be 500 square metres.
- ❑ Sub-division of the plot can be done only after 7 years of land allotment and the concerned plot should be dispute-free.
- ❑ Provision has been kept for an internal road of minimum 18 metres width for plots up to 1500 square metres and 24 metres width for plots larger than this.
- ❑ Under financial provisions, the sub-division fee has been fixed at 2 percent of the prevailing rate of the concerned industrial area.

Mega Zinc Park will be developed at Kankhla in Bhilwara-

- Under the MoU signed during the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit-2024, Hindustan Zinc Limited has proposed to RIICO to develop a Zinc Park on approximately 111 acres of land in the Kankhla area of Bhilwara district.
- For this, RIICO will provide basic facilities such as master planning of the park, roads, water and electricity, etc.
- In this, Hindustan Zinc Limited will establish its plant and Common Facility Centre in an area of 5 to 7 acres in the park.
- This proposed Zinc Park at Kankhla will be the first Zinc Park of its kind in Northern India, where only companies related to the zinc value chain will set up their plants.

RIICO will provide share capital support of RS. 50 crore to Rajasthan Financial Corporation-

- With the objective of strengthening the industrial development of the state and smoothly operating the functioning of government departments, RIICO has approved providing share capital support of ₹50 crore to Rajasthan Financial Corporation.
- This is an important step for the industrial and economic development of the state.
- In the revised budget announcement of the State Government for the financial year 2024-25, support of ₹50 crore each as share capital by the State Government and RIICO was announced for financial strengthening of Rajasthan Financial Corporation.
- In lieu of this share capital support provided by RIICO, Rajasthan Financial Corporation will allot equity shares of equivalent value to RIICO.

Work Se Wellness Tak Initiative-

- This is an initiative of RIICO, under which RIICO will provide land for development of sports facilities in industrial areas.
- Through this, the health of entrepreneurs and workers can be improved and a positive environment can be developed at the workplace.
- At present, RIICO has identified plots ranging from 1000 to 3000 square metres in 17 industrial areas of the state to implement this initiative.
- Necessary facilities such as refreshment, drinking water and rest rooms will also be developed in 20 percent area of the identified plot, 10 percent covered area.

Triple R Initiative-

- This is an initiative started by Jaipur Zila Parishad and Shakti Sangam to promote women empowerment and cleanliness.
- Under this initiative, a Triple R, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Centre was established in Khejadawas Panchayat on 14 March 2026, where till 14 April 2026 women did work promoting women empowerment and cleanliness.

RIICO will provide 'Plug and Play' facility for entrepreneurs at divisional levels-

- In accordance with the budget announcement of the State Government, RIICO has selected plots for developing Plug and Play facility at divisional levels and in Kishangarh.
- This initiative of RIICO will be helpful in giving momentum to industrial development in the state and making youth self-reliant.

'Plug and Play' facility- These are ready industrial sheds or premises for industries in which basic infra-structural facilities are already available.

RSLDC and UNICEF India agreed for Digital Girls Hub Model-

- Recently, Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC) and UNICEF India agreed on the Letter of Intent for the Digital Girls Hub Model on 23 April, 2026.
- The objective of this model is to promote digital empowerment of girls and skill development in creative sectors.
- Under this initiative, a target has been set to provide short-term digital skill training to about 2 thousand young women in the age group of 18 to 29 and connect them with employment.
- This programme will be operated in a phased

manner till March, 2027 and under the result-based model, payment will be made only after successful placement.

State's largest Kusum Solar Energy Plant established at Tala (Kunda ki Dhani)-

- Under the Pradhan Mantri Kusum Yojana, the state's largest solar energy plant was established on 28 April, 2026 at Kunda ki Dhani under Jaipur District Electricity Circle North.
- This solar energy plant of about 4.9 MW capacity has been established in village Dekla, connected to the 33 KV sub-station located at Tala of Kunda ki Dhani Electricity Sub-Division.
- This plant is spread over about 24 bighas of land, through which 437 agricultural consumers will be able to get electricity during the day for agricultural work.
- So far, a total of 1819 plants with a capacity of 4027 MW have been established in the state under Component-A and Component-C of PM-KUSUM Yojana. Among all these, this is the highest-capacity plant. It is estimated to generate an average of 25 thousand units of electricity per day.
- Earlier, Ajmer Discom had the largest plant with a capacity of 4.84 MW.

Seven-member committee constituted for Thar Cultural Circuit-

- The Thar Cultural Circuit is being developed by the Government of Rajasthan to give recognition to the rich desert culture, folk life and heritage of Western Rajasthan. Regarding this, a seven-member committee has been announced by the Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi.
- Under the budget announcement, in this circuit, special focus will be given on cultural conservation and development of religious places along with tourism by connecting Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Barmer and Bikaner.

Jaipur Discom made the record of highest revenue collection in 26 years-

- The total revenue recovery of Jaipur Discom in the financial year 2025-26 has been more than ₹29,462 crore, which is ₹599 crore more than the total billing amount of ₹28,863 crore.
- In this way, Jaipur Discom has succeeded in earning 102% revenue. Earlier, in the financial year 2017-18, the highest revenue of 101.02% was earned.
- Among the three zones of the corporation, Bharatpur Zone has achieved the highest revenue of 104.63%. After this, Kota Zone earned 103.64% and Jaipur

Zone earned 101.32% revenue.

- All 18 circles of the corporation have earned 100 percent revenue this time. Among these, Karauli has made the highest recovery of 108.80%.

Union Cabinet approved Jaipur Metro Phase-2-

- On 08 April, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved Jaipur Metro Phase-2 and the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the revised cost of Pachpadra Refinery.
- Cost- ₹13,037.66 crore
- Completion of work as planned- By 5 September, 2031
- Length- 41 kilometres, Prahladpura to Todi Mor
- Stations- 36 stations, 34 elevated and 2 underground
- This project will be implemented by Rajasthan Metro Rail Corporation Limited, which is a joint company with 50:50 partnership of the Government of India and the Government of Rajasthan.
- This Phase-2 corridor will provide uninterrupted connectivity to major areas such as Sitapura Industrial Area, VKIA, Jaipur Airport, Tonk Road, SMS Hospital and Stadium, Ambabari and Vidyadhar Nagar.

Film 'Maine Kabhi Chidiya Nahin Dekhi' selected in 15th IFFD-2026-

- The film 'Maine Kabhi Chidiya Nahin Dekhi' by Jaipur-based storyteller and film director Usha Dashora has been selected for the 15th Delhi International Film Festival-2026 to be held in New Delhi.
- This film festival will be organised with the support of the Ministry of Culture from 4-8 May, 2026 at Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts and Dr. Ambedkar International Centre.
- The subject of this film made by Usha Dashora is focused on child psychology and environmental consciousness, in which curiosity, sensitivity and a kind of restlessness towards birds, nature and the earth in the minds of children have been depicted.

'Inspiring Aarav' won award at Lucknow International Film Festival 2026-

- The film 'Inspiring Aarav' directed and written by Jaipur filmmaker Rahul Sood has won an award at the Lucknow International Film Festival 2026.
- This film has received the first prize in the Best Inspirational Film category.
- This film is based on the human rights of disabled children.

Machhli and Wildlife Friend Award-2026-

- **Award edition-** Sixth edition

- **Award provider-** Prabha Khaitan Foundation (PKF) and WWF-India
- This annual award was given to honour those individuals who have made remarkable contribution in the field of wildlife conservation and human-wildlife conflict management.

Winners of Machhli Award-

- Udaipur Wildlife Rescue Team
- Forest Guard Saroj Kanwar, Ramgarh Vishdhari, Bundi
- Forest Guard Anita Kumari, Shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary

Wildlife Friend Award-

- This award recognises excellent management of human-wildlife conflict.
- This time this award has been given to Udaipur lecturer and conservationist Darshan Kumar Menaria.

Diabetes clinics will be opened in all government schools of the state-

- Recently, the Government of Rajasthan has announced that diabetes clinics will be opened in a phased manner in all government schools of the state.
- Under this initiative, taking Mission Madhuhari forward, schools will be developed as 'Diabetes Friendly Campuses'.
- These clinics will be a solution to the problems of children suffering from Type-1 diabetes so that children do not have to go home again and again to take insulin.
- This scheme has been started with the first training camp organised at SMS Medical College, Jaipur.

Mission Madhuhari Programme-

- **Launch-** 7 April 2025
- The State Government had started this programme under the National Health Mission for the care of Type-1 diabetes.

Miss Grand Rajasthan 2026-

- Recently, Jaipur's Miss Rajasthan-2025 runner-up model Meenakshi Chhapola has won the title of Miss Grand Rajasthan-2026.
- This was the 14th edition of the Miss Grand Rajasthan-2026 competition.

**43rd Sarus Census-**

- The 43rd Sarus Census was conducted by 'Keoladeo Natural History Society' on 21 April, 2026 in Keoladeo Ghana National Park.
- According to the 43rd Sarus Census report, the number of sarus in the wetland areas of Bharatpur and Deeg districts has increased from 79 to 81, while 22 Siberian sarus have been recorded in Keoladeo Park.

Tarbandi Yojana-

- Recently, in the year 2025-26, keeping in mind the demand of small farmers, the requirement of 1.5 hectares of land in fencing has been removed and made 0.5 hectare.
- Now for the scheme, the applicant farmer, native resident of Rajasthan, must have 0.5 hectare land.
- If a farmer does not have 0.5 hectare, then he can also apply in a group together with his neighbour; if 2 or more farmers together in a group keep 0.5 hectare land at one place, then they will also get its benefit.

Birth of Godawan chicks through artificial insemination in breeding centres of Jaisalmer-

- Three chicks of Godawan have been born through artificial insemination in breeding centres located at Ramdevra and Sudasari in Jaisalmer district.
- Two chicks have been born at the Sudasari centre of Sam and one chick at the centre located at Ramdevra. With this, there are now a total of 52 Godawan at Ramdevra Centre and 24 at Sudasari.

'Ek Kadam Sudhar Ki Or' Innovation-

- On 2 April, 2026, the 'Ek Kadam Sudhar Ki Ore' innovation was launched at Central Jail, Jaipur.
- **Objective-** To provide education through digital medium to the prisoners detained in Central Jail Jaipur.

70% increase in oil production in Baghewala Field-

- Oil India Limited has recorded a 70 percent increase in oil production in the Baghewala Field of Jaisalmer in view of the tense conditions in West Asia.
- Here, daily production has increased from 705 barrels to a record level of 1,202 barrels per day.

Amendment in 'No-Detention' system-

- The Education Department has amended the 'No-Detention' system, no one to be failed, implemented at the primary level.
- Under the amended system, students can also fail in the board examination of Class 5. This new rule will be applicable from session 2026-27.

Raj-Mamta Programme launched-

- **Full name-** Rajasthan Mental Awareness Mentoring and Treatment for All
- The Government of Rajasthan has recently launched this programme.
- This programme is mainly focused on prevention of stress, depression, and suicide under the Budget Announcement-2026-27.

Run for Equality-

- This marathon was organised in Jaipur on 14 April, 2026. The main objective of organising this marathon was to spread awareness about increasing cyber fraud in society and to give the message of equality, fraternity and social harmony.

Meeting of "Gyan Bharat Mission" held under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary-

- A meeting was organised on 28 April, 2026 at the Government Secretariat under the chairmanship of Rajasthan Chief Secretary Shri V. Srinivas, under the 'Gyan Bharatam' Mission being operated with the objective of preserving India's intellectual and cultural heritage.
- Under the Gyan Bharatam Mission, a total of 15 lakh 21 thousand 34 manuscripts have been verified in the state so far, which is the highest in all of India.
- The main objective of the Gyan Bharatam Mission is to survey, preserve, digitise and disseminate India's vast manuscript heritage.
- In the state, Jaipur district is at the top with 4,91,688 manuscripts, followed by Bikaner (3,39,740) and Jodhpur (1,90,847).
- In Rajasthan, 'Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur' has been appointed as the nodal department and the Director of 'Rajasthan Sanskrit Academy, Jaipur' has been appointed as the State Nodal Officer.
- **Gyan Bharatam Mission-**
 - Announcement- In the Union Budget 2025-26
 - It is a national initiative launched by the Union Ministry of Culture
 - Objective- To discover, digitise and preserve ancient Indian manuscripts.
 - Under this mission, more than 1 crore invaluable handwritten heritages will be digitally preserved.

Rang De Gulabi Campaign-

- Recently, Jaipur Municipal Corporation announced the "Rang De Gulabi" campaign. This campaign was organised on 2 May.
- Under this campaign, an attempt was made to paint 500 walls in a single day for the first time in the country.
- This initiative has been started keeping in mind the upcoming Swachh Survekshan, which will not only give a new identity to the beauty of Jaipur city but will also become a major example of public participation.

Festivals/Conferences/Campaigns/Operations**National Sahakar Masala Mela-2026-**

- **Date of organisation-** 17 to 26 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur
- **Organiser-** Cooperation Department and Rajasthan State Cooperative Consumer Federation, CONFED
- **Objective-** To bring exhibition and sale of quality spices and other products by cooperative institutions of various states of the country including Rajasthan on one platform.
- The Masala Mela is being organised continuously every year by the Cooperation Department and CONFED since the year 2003.

Mukhyamantri Viksit Gram-Shahari Ward Campaign-

- This campaign is being conducted from 19 March to 15 May, 2026.
- Under this, 24,648 Gram Panchayats and urban wards of 766 local bodies of the state have been included.
- Its objective is to prepare digital data of Gram Panchayats and urban wards of the state and make a development roadmap, master plan, up to 2047.

Rajasthan Shamlat Convention 2026-

- **Date of organisation-** 15 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Indira Gandhi Panchayati Raj Sansthan (IGPRS), Jaipur
- **Theme-** Shaping our Prosperity with Commons
- **Objective-** Conservation and better use of common resources in Rajasthan, pastures, water sources, forests, wetlands, etc.

77th Foundation Day of Rajasthan Police-

- **• Organisation-** 16 April, 2026
- **• Venue-** Rajasthan Police Academy, Jaipur

Major announcements are-

- For development of police training capacity in the state, 5 barracks with capacity of 100 persons per institution will be constructed in various training institutions.
- An additional provision of ₹5 crore will be made in the Sports, Welfare and Festival Fund of police personnel.
- In the first phase, construction of 500 houses of various categories will be done for police personnel.

Road-show organised for GRAM-2026-

- For the Global Rajasthan Agritech Meet (GRAM) 2026 to be organised by the Government of Rajasthan from

23-25 May, 2026, the State Government organised a road-show in New Delhi on 23 April, 2026.

- The Government of Rajasthan will organise this meet in May, 2026 at JECC, Jaipur, with the objective of acquainting farmers and livestock rearers with new methods and techniques, promoting innovation, ensuring market access for farmers and also promoting investment in the agriculture and animal husbandry sector.

15th Great Indian Travel Bazaar-

- **Edition-** 15th
- **Date of organisation-** 26-28 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Inaugural session at Jai Mahal Palace while B2B session at JECC Sitapura.
- **Organiser-** In joint collaboration of Rajasthan Tourism Department, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and FICCI.
- **Objective-** To promote tourism in Rajasthan.
- In this, 13 countries from Asia, 19 countries from Europe, 4 countries from North America, 5 countries from South America, 3 countries from Africa and 2 countries from Oceania have participated.

Aapno Khet-Aapni Khad Campaign-

- **Date of organisation-** 06 April to 30 April, 2026
- **Related department-** Rajasthan Agriculture and Horticulture Department
- **Objective-** To promote soil health conservation and sustainable agriculture in the state.

National Healthcare Hackathon 2.0-

- **Venue-** JECRC University, Jaipur
- This hackathon is a platform promoting the capacity of innovation and research, which contributes to developing practical solutions to the challenges of the health sector through modern technologies.

State-Level Seminar on National Bamboo Mission-

- **Date of organisation-** 1 April, 2026, two-day
- **Venue-** State Agricultural Management Institute, Durgapura, Jaipur
- About 100 stakeholders from 12 districts of the state, Dungarpur, Banswara, Udaipur, Sirohi, Rajsamand, Pali, Chittorgarh, Salumbar, Kota, Baran, Jhalawar and Pratapgarh participated in the programme.
- **Objective-** To increase awareness towards bamboo cultivation, spread scientific techniques, encourage bamboo-based rural entrepreneurship and establish coordination among farmers, scientists and officers.

Reduction in Compliance and Ease in Regulation—Review Meeting of Second Phase-

- **Date of organisation-** 1 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Jaipur
- **Objective-** To take forward the resolve of Ease of Doing Business and good governance, detailed discussion was held and necessary guidelines were given on the progress of simplifying compliances and adopting digital solutions by various departments.
- In the review meeting of the second phase, commitment was reiterated to ensure time-bound implementation according to the approved action plan in 28 priority sectors.

Civil Defence Senior Volunteers Carnival-2026-

- **Date of organisation-** 3 to 5 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Pushkar Fort Resort, Pushkar
- **Organiser-** Civil Defence Service Organisation
- **Objective-** To promote safety, service, training and community participation by bringing civil defence volunteers, disaster management experts, MSME entrepreneurs and common citizens on one platform.

Rajasthan Physio Summit-2026-

- **Date of organisation-** 6 to 7 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Birla Auditorium, Jaipur
- **Objective-** To promote modern techniques, research, and clinical excellence in physiotherapy.

Regional Agriculture Conference, Western Region Zonal Conference-

- **Date of organisation-** 7 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Jaipur
- **Chairmanship-** Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Agriculture Minister
- **Objective-** To give a new direction to the agriculture sector in Rajasthan and prepare an effective strategy according to changing climatic conditions.

Transformative Tuesdays: Navigating Life Legally Campaign-

- **Start-** 7 April, 2026, in the state
- **Note-** This campaign was inaugurated by Chief Justice Shri Suryakant Vyas on 20 February, 2026.
- **Organiser-** Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority
- **Objective-** To develop understanding among students from Class 8 to 12 towards legal awareness, constitutional values, rights, and duties.
- Under this campaign, special complaint and suggestion boxes named 'Court Wali Didi' have been installed in schools for the solution of students' problems and legal material and booklets based on the theme "Think Before You Click" were distributed.

Aatmanirbhar Dhaage-

- **Date of organisation-** 1 to 6 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Jaipur
- **Organiser-** Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council in collaboration with Kamla Poddar Institute / NIF Global, Jaipur
- **Objective-** To give practical training to women in traditional and modern design techniques.
- This initiative was taken under the 'Unnati Cell' of Rajeevika, whose objective is to make women of self-help groups self-reliant.

Bikaner House: Ten Years Together Programme-

- **Date of organisation-** 6 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Bikaner House, New Delhi
- On the occasion of its 10th anniversary, the Bikaner House Management Committee (BHMS) organised a programme at the Bikaner House premises, in which a brief presentation of the programmes done by this committee in the last 10 years was given.

MY Bharat Budget Quest- Youth Dialogue Programme-

- **Date of organisation-** 13 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur
- **Objective-** To connect the youth of Rajasthan with budget processes and strengthen the role of youth in policy-making.
- In this programme, experts discussed 4 subjects for the intellectual development of youth.

Creative Art Fest 'Kaari' organised-

- **Date of organisation-** 7 to 12 April, 2026
- **Venue-** MNIT, Jaipur
- **Organiser-** In joint collaboration of Malaviya National Institute of Technology Jaipur and MIT-ADT University Pune
- In this art festival, renowned artists, educationists and emerging students from across the country will be provided a common platform and participants will display their art.

Two-day Rajbhasha Seminar held in Udaipur-

- On 09-10 April, 2026, a two-day Rajbhasha Seminar based on the theme 'Contribution of Indian Languages in the Development of the Country' was organised in Udaipur, Rajasthan.
- It was organised for public sector banks, insurance companies, financial institutions, and regulatory organisations under the administrative control of the Department of Financial Services.

National E-Governance Conference-

- **Date of organisation-** 21-22 May, 2026
- **Venue-** Jaipur
- **Organiser-** Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Department of Information Technology and Communication of the state
- **Objective-** To consider digital transformation in the country, better delivery of public services and implementation of innovation-based administrative reforms and successful e-governance models of various states and institutions.

Station Festival-

- This was a festival organised by Jaipur Railway Division to celebrate the history of Jaipur Railway Station as a festival.
- Under this, a heritage photo competition of Jaipur Railway Station was organised, in which the best photo was selected from the old/historical photos of the railway station received from participants.

Global Rajasthan Agritech Meet (GRAM)-2026-

- **Related department-** Agriculture Department
- **Organisation-** 23 to 25 May, 2026
- Global Rajasthan Agritech Meet (GRAM)-2026 is an international event, in which investors, agri-entrepreneurs, agritech developers, researchers, policy-makers, and farmers will participate.
- The objective of this event is to promote modern agricultural technologies, innovation, investment, and partnerships and to encourage sustainable development in Rajasthan's agriculture sector and increase in farmers' income.
- Roadshows are being organised in major cities across the country with the objective of publicity of this meet and attracting investors.
- These roadshows were held in Jaipur on 10 April, Delhi on 17 April, and Ahmedabad on 24 April and will be held in Hyderabad on 6 May and Pune on 8 May.

Prominent Personalities/Places/Others

Sindhu Binujeet-

- She is a child protection advisor from Udaipur.
- She has been given state-level honour in the main ceremony organised at RPA on the occasion of the 77th Foundation Day of Rajasthan Police.
- The activism of Sindhu Binujeet had run special campaigns to stop child labour and migration of children and by establishing coordination among

administration, police and UNICEF against traditions in tribal areas, she found a solution to the main problem of child labour.

Adarsh Siddh-

- He is a 2012 batch IPS officer of Rajasthan cadre.
- He has been made DIG in the Border Security Force on central deputation.

Dr. Jyotikiran-

- Dr. Jyotikiran, Director related to Indian Culture appointed in Brazil by the Government of India, has been relieved from the post after completion of her tenure. Dr. Jyotikiran has been the Chairperson of the State Finance Commission in Rajasthan.

Premlata Pokharna-

- She is a writer who has received fellowship from the Royal Numismatic Society, London and has been honoured with Maharana Kumbha Award.
- Recently, she presented a copy of her book 'Early History of Rajasthan' to Governor Haribhau Bagde.

Shri Vinay Kumar-

- He is an officer of the Indian Police Service. He has assumed charge as Aide-de-Camp to Governor Shri Haribhau Bagde.

Avadhesh Akodia-

- He is a journalist of Dainik Bhaskar newspaper.
- He has been honoured with the prestigious 'Danish Siddiqui Journalism Award 2026' for an investigative report exposing corruption in MLA fund expenditure in Rajasthan.
- He had presented an investigative report regarding bribe in exchange for recommendation of purchase from MLA development funds of ruling party and opposition MLAs in Rajasthan.

Anshu Rathore-

- She was a resident of Bithuda village, Ladnun, Rajasthan and a Lieutenant in the Indian Navy. She recently died in a road accident in Jamnagar, Gujarat.

Dr. Dashrath Singh Shekhawat-

- He is a resident of Khirod village of Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan. He has created history by obtaining the 138th degree in the field of education.

Dr. Rajesh Jain Kala-

- Famous social worker Dr. Rajesh Jain Kala has been honoured with the 'Rajasthan Samrasta Gaurav Award'.
- This honour was given to him by the International Samrasta Manch in a ceremony organised at Rotary Auditorium.

Shilpa Mehta-

- Jaipur resident storyteller and writer Shilpa Mehta was honoured with Hindi Sahitya Gaurav Samman-2026 by Sahitya Arpan Sanstha, Dubai.
- She has been narrating stories in various online and offline storytelling events.

Raman Kumar Dave-

- Governor Haribhau Bagde has appointed Prof. Raman Kumar Dave to the post of Vice-Chancellor of Raj Rishi Bhartrihari Matsya University, Alwar.

Rekha Meena-

- Jaipur resident Rekha Meena has been honoured with the prestigious 'Good Design Award' for the year 2025 in a ceremony held in Athens, Europe. She has become the first Asian woman to receive this award.
- This award was established in the year 1950 by the 'Chicago Athenaeum Museum'.
- This award is given to those talents who have done excellent work in the field of design creativity, innovation and sustainability.

Pink Guard App-

- This is a high-tech mobile app launched by Jaipur Police. It will work as a single window platform for safety, information and quick assistance for tourists in Jaipur.
- In emergency situations, on asking for help through the app, police will reach the tourist within just eight minutes. For the convenience of foreign tourists, the option of more than 100 languages has been given in it.

Veersahara App-

- This is an AI-supported app developed by students Kanishk Rungta and Krisha Rungta of Jayshree Periwal International School, Jaipur.
- This app will be useful in easily providing benefits of government welfare schemes to soldiers and their families.

Inspiring Aarav-

- This is a short film directed and produced by Jaipur filmmaker Rahul Sood, which has been selected in the Lucknow International Film Festival.
- This film is based on the human rights of disabled children.

Hirnodra Railway Station-

- The newly constructed 'PM Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal' has started operation at Hirnodra Railway Station, Jaipur.
- Facility of loading-unloading for 24 hours will be available at this terminal.

Rishabhdev Pakhwada Model-

- This is an innovation of the Sanskrit Education Department. Under this, in the direction of making Sanskrit education practical, the new academic session will begin with the organisation of 'Rishabhdev Pakhwada'.

Shiv Ratan Agarwal (Fanna Babu)-

- He was the founder of Bikaji brand, who died on 23 April, 2026 at the age of 74 years.

Kishore Kumar-

- He was an officer of the Indian Administrative Service and a member of the Rajasthan Revenue Board, who recently passed away.

Sports/Sports Personalities**Summer Mr. Rajasthan 2026 Competition-**

- **Date of organisation-** 7 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Pushkarna Stadium, Bikaner
- **Organiser-** In joint collaboration of Community Welfare Society and Rajasthan Body Building Association
- The title of overall championship of this competition was won by Arshan Khan of Jodhpur, while Praveen Verma of Jaipur remained second and Sonu Yadav of Anupgarh remained third.

Ashlesh Panwar and Mansingh Shekhawat secured third place in Open Central Asian Handball Men's Championship-

- Ashlesh Panwar and Mansingh Shekhawat secured third place in the 5th Open Central Asian Handball Men's Championship held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from 31 March to 5 April, 2026.
- A total of 8 teams from different countries participated in this championship.

National Shootingball Competition-

- **Date of organisation-** 24 to 26 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Alwar
- **Organiser-** Shootingball Federation of India, Rajasthan Shootingball Association and Alwar District Shootingball Association
- 12 men's teams and 8 women's teams from across the country participated in this competition.

Four players of Rajasthan selected in Open Central Asian Handball Championship-

- **Edition-** Fifth
- **Date of organisation-** 31 March to 5 April
- **Venue-** Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- **Selected players-** Lokendra Singh Rathore, Dausa; Mansingh Shekhawat and Ashlesh Panwar Right,

Jaipur; Veerbhadra Singh, Banswara.

Pawan Kumar Sukhija-

- Pawan Kumar Sukhija of Dholpur has been elected President of Rajasthan Cycling Association.
- Pawan Kumar Sukhija has been a national-level boxer.

Divyanshi Jain and Dhairyra Gogia-

- Divyanshi Jain and Dhairyra Gogia of Jaipur district of Rajasthan have been selected in the Indian team for the Asian Championship Squash.
- This championship will be organised from 20 to 24 May in Panzhuhua city of China.

Shyam Sundar Swami-

- The pair of India's Shyam Sundar Swami and Toman Kumar has won the gold medal by defeating Chinese Taipei in the Para Asia Cup.
- Shyam Sundar Swami is a resident of Rajasthan.

Kushagra Ojha-

- Talented player of Rajasthan Kushagra Ojha, who performed brilliantly in BCCI's National Under-19 Cricket Competition, has been selected by BCCI for the High Performance Coaching Camp to be organised in Bengaluru from 11 May to 9 June.

Dilip Singh-

- He is Deputy Superintendent of Police in Police Telecommunication Jodhpur Range. He won the silver medal in the 26th All India Police Lawn Tennis Competition held at R.K. Khanna Stadium, New Delhi.

Arundhati Choudhary-

- She is a resident of Kota district. She has won the gold medal in the Asian Boxing Championship held in Mongolia.
- Arundhati defeated boxer Bakhyt Seidish of Kazakhstan in the final.
- Earlier, in the World Cup held in November 2025 also, Arundhati Choudhary had won the gold medal and won the title of World Champion.

Khwahish Sharma-

- She is a resident of Jaipur. She has been selected in the Indian team for the ISSF Junior World Cup, Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun, to be held in Cairo, Egypt from 19 to 27 April.

Manushree Saxena-

- She is an 8-year-old karate player from Rajasthan. Manushree has set a record by achieving black belt, second degree, at the age of 8 years.
- Earlier, Manushree had got her name registered in

Asia Book of Records by achieving karate black belt, first degree, at the age of only 4 years.

Khushi Rana-

- She is a resident of Jodhpur, who has made a place in the Indian team for the Under-15 Asian Boxing Championship.
- The Under-15 Asian Boxing Championship will be held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from 1-16 May, 2026.

Narendra Singh Shaktawat-

- He is a resident of Bhinder, Udaipur district.
- He has received appointment and licence as an international judge from the International Shooting Sport Federation.

Miscellaneous Facts

- The bench of the Supreme Court, Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta, has directed to scientifically assess the areas affected by pollution in the Jojari, Luni and Bandi rivers in Pali and Balotra region and determine compensation on that basis.
- The State will provide khatedari rights to farmers of villages governed by the Rajasthan Gramdani Act in Dungarpur and Banswara districts, through which they will get the benefit of bank loans and other government schemes.
- The Government of Rajasthan has given permission to provide quality seed hybrid maize seed minikits to 8 lakh 50 thousand tribal farmers at an expenditure of ₹85 crore and agricultural demonstrations in 100 hectares area for increasing agricultural production and farmers' income in tribal areas.
- The State Government has approved construction of 781 farmer rest places at a cost of ₹46 crore 86 lakh under 116 mandis of the state under the first phase of upgradation and strengthening of agricultural produce market committees.
- In compliance with the budget announcement of the Government of Rajasthan, about ₹25 crore has been approved to revive the 'Gular Dam' of Sanganer located on the Dravyavati River of Jaipur city.
- The Government of Rajasthan is giving a bonus of ₹150 per person along with the Centre's ₹2585 on selling wheat under the Minimum Support Price Scheme for wheat procurement. With this, Rajasthan has become the state giving the highest money on wheat procurement in India.
- Water Resources Building- This is the newly constructed building of the Water Resources Department located at Nayapura, Kota, which has been prepared to increase the efficiency of

departmental works and provide a systematic and well-equipped working environment for engineers and employees.

- In all the sports included in the 21st Inter-District, Range-Level, Police Sports Competition, District Jaipur Rural has won the overall championship title by winning the maximum medals.
- Recently, the State Government has given formal approval for the sale of BT cotton hybrid seeds for the Kharif season. Now 34 authorised seed companies in the state will be able to provide BT cotton hybrid seeds in different agro-climatic zones of the state.
- In the wildlife census in Baran district of the state, trap cameras will be used for the first time under the Territorial Forest Division. This census will start from 1 May, 2026.
- Under the aegis of Paralympic Council, Malaysia, Jaipur resident and President of World Para Throwball Nirmala Rawat will participate in the Asian Para Throwball Championship to be organised from 2 June as the chief speaker in the programme.
- Jaipur golfer Ojaswini Saraswat has won her 11th national title in the Amateur 'B' category in the prestigious IGU West Bengal Women and Junior Girls Golf Championship.
- The State Government has given consent to make Sahajsar village of Lunkaransar subdivision in Bikaner a fully organic village.
- Chief Minister Shri Bhajanlal Sharma announced on 14 April, 2026, on the occasion of Ambedkar Jayanti, the establishment of 200 Ambedkar E-Libraries in urban areas and the establishment of Ambedkar Residential Coaching Centre at Ambedkar Peeth, Mundla, Jaipur.
- Chief Minister Shri Bhajanlal Sharma announced on 11 April, 2026 in Bundi that a panorama and library based on the biography of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule will be made.
- The Industries and Commerce Department of Rajasthan has set a target to provide financial assistance to a total of 30 thousand youth in the financial year 2026-27 under the Chief Minister Youth Self-Employment Scheme.
- A girls' Sainik School will be built in an area of 30 acres at Hathikheda area, Ajmer, at a cost of ₹20 crore.
- With the objective of providing formal education to children of nomadic and semi-nomadic communities in the state, one 'School on Wheels' will be established in each district under the 'Raj Pahal' programme.

- AI-based Personalised Learning Labs will be established in one thousand schools in the state.
- 400 schools will be upgraded into 'CM-RISE' schools at a cost of ₹1000 crore in the state.
- With the objective of making the mining sector of the state the leading sector of the country, the State Government has given a target of ₹14001 crore to the Mining Department for the year 2026-27 with an increase of 39 percent.
- In rooftop solar energy installation, Rajasthan, 2090 MW, has been at third place after Gujarat, 6,882 MW, and Maharashtra, 5,442 MW.
- The State Government will provide agricultural training to women under the agricultural training programme in each Gram Panchayat to make women advanced and empowered in the agriculture sector in the state.
- For counselling, rehabilitation and treatment of mental health in the state, 'Mental Health Care Cells' in each district and a 'Centre of Excellence in Mental Health' in Jaipur have been announced.
- As a result of the efforts made in the field of consumer protection, Rajasthan has obtained third place in the category of large states of the country in the India Justice Report.
- Rajasthan has stood first in e-trade on the e-NAM platform in the country, second in terms of total arrivals, while fourth in making e-payment.
- A new plant will be established by the Jaipur District Milk Producers Cooperative Union Ltd. (Jaipur Dairy) in RIICO's Bichoon Industrial Area.
- Through the Gram Rath Abhiyan started in the state from 27 April, 2026, a strong effort is being made to connect the people of the state with the schemes related to agriculture, animal husbandry and rural areas of the state government.
- In compliance with the order of the Finance (Pension) Department of the state, the First Pension Adalat was organized on 27 April, 2026 at the level of Additional Director Pension and Pensioners Welfare Department Regional Office (Coordinator).
- Recently, the Alwar District Administration has issued orders to name the road from Telco Circle to Jail circle in the city as "Panth Ratan Gyani Sant Singh Maskeen Marg".
- Recently, Union Minister of Forest and Environment Shri Bhupender Yadav and Minister of State for Forest Shri Sanjay Sharma inaugurated the state's first hi-tech park library 'Vidya Kunj' on 30 April, 2026 in D-Block Budh Vihar of Alwar city.
- The astrolabe of former Maharani Gayatri Devi of Jaipur will be placed in the auction of Sotheby's auction house in London. It is a hand-held astronomical instrument, which was also called the 'Astronomical Super Computer' of that era.
- In the recently organized 16th Junior State Level Women's Hockey Competition, Phalodi defeated Hanumangarh 1-0 in the final match and became champion.
- Recently, the Central Government declared the Mathura-Nagda third and fourth rail line project as a special rail project and gave it the status of National Infrastructure.

-:- One District One Product Scheme -:-

- **Start-** January, 2018
- **Related Ministry-** Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- **Objective-** To transform local specialities into global brands by supporting artisans, farmers, and small enterprises in relation to the special products of the district.
- This initiative was started in the year 2018 with the brass utensils of Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh.
- Under the ODOP scheme of the Central Government, 41 specific products have been identified from 41 districts of Rajasthan.

S. N.	District	Name of ODOP Product
1	Ajmer	Granite and Marble Products
2	Alwar	Automobile Parts
3	Balotra	Textile Products
4	Banswara	Marble Products
5	Baran	Garlic Products
6	Barmer	Embroidery
7	Beawar	Quartz and Feldspar Powder
8	Bharatpur	Agriculture-Based Products
9	Bhilwara	Textile Products
10	Bikaner	Bikaneri Namkeen
11	Bundi	Sandstone
12	Chittorgarh	Granite and Marble Products
13	Churu	Wooden Products
14	Dausa	Stone-Based Products
15	Didwana-Kuchaman	Marble and Granite Products
16	Deeg	Stone-Based Products
17	Dholpur	Stone-Based Products
18	Dungarpur	Marble Products
19	Hanumangarh	Agriculture-Based Products
20	Jaipur	Gems and Jewellery
21	Jaisalmer	Yellow Stone Products
22	Jalore	Granite Products

S. N.	District	Name of ODOP Product
23	Jhalawar	Kota Stone Products
24	Jhunjhunu	Wooden Handicraft Products
25	Jodhpur	Wooden Furniture Products
26	Karauli	Sandstone Products
27	Khairthal-Tijara	Automobile Parts
28	Kota	Kota Doria
29	Kotputli-Behror	Automobile Parts
30	Nagaur	Betel Leaf Fenugreek and Spice Processing
31	Pali	Textile Products
32	Phalodi	Ceramic Products
33	Pratapgarh	Thewa Jewellery
34	Rajsamand	Granite and Marble Products
35	Salumbar	Quartz
36	Sawai Madhopur	Marble Products
37	Sikar	Wooden Furniture Products
38	Sirohi	Marble Products
39	Sri Ganganagar	Mustard Oil
40	Tonk	Slate Stone Products
41	Udaipur	Marble and Granite Products

-:- Panch Gaurav Programme -:-

- **Start-** Year 2025-26
- **Objective-** To provide a unique identity to each district by selecting products/places on the basis of the capacity and distinctive features of each district, and to provide a strong cultural and economic identity to the districts through their conservation, promotion and development.
- Under this programme, five major elements have been determined for each district under the ‘Panch Gaurav’ initiative-
 - ❑ One District-One Product
 - ❑ One District-One Crop
 - ❑ One District-One Plant Species
 - ❑ One District-One Sport
 - ❑ One District-One Tourist Place
- To ensure effective implementation of the Panch Gaurav Programme, a State-Level Panch Gaurav Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary and District-Level Panch Gaurav Committees have been constituted under the chairmanship of District Collectors.

Table: District-wise Identified List of Panch Gaurav

S. No.	District	Crop	Plant Species	Product	Tourist Place	Sport
1.	Ajmer	Rose	Neem	Granite and Marble Products	Pushkar Tirth	Kabaddi
2.	Alwar	Onion	Arjun	Automobile Parts	Sariska Tiger Reserve	Wrestling
3.	Balotra	Pomegranate	Rohida	Textile Products	Nakoda Jain Temple	Cricket
4.	Banswara	Mango	Teak	Marble Products	Tripura Sundari Temple	Archery
5.	Baran	Garlic	Chironji	Garlic Products	Ramgarh Crater	Football
6.	Barmer	Isabgol	Rohida	Embroidery	Kiradu Temple	Basketball
7.	Beawar	Wheat	Karanj	Quartz and Feldspar Powder	Todgarh Hill	Hockey
8.	Bharatpur	Honey	Kadamba	Agriculture-Based Products	Keoladeo National Park	Wrestling
9.	Bhilwara	Orange	Arjun	Textile Products	Mandalgarh Fort	Basketball
10.	Bikaner	Moth Bean	Rohida	Bikaneri Namkeen	Karni Mata Temple	Archery
11.	Bundi	Rice	Dhok	Sandstone	Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve	Kabaddi
12.	Chittorgarh	Custard Apple	Bilva Patra	Granite and Marble Products	Chittorgarh Fort	Kabaddi
13.	Churu	Aloe Vera	Khejri	Wooden Products	Salasar Balaji Temple	Athletics
14.	Dausa	Fennel	Dhak	Stone Products	Mehandipur Balaji Temple	Football
15.	Didwana-Kuchaman	Onion	Khejri	Marble and Granite Products	Didwana Lake	Basketball
16.	Deeg	Mustard	Arjun	Stone-Based Products	Deeg Mahal	Wrestling

S. No.	District	Crop	Plant Species	Product	Tourist Place	Sport
17.	Dholpur	Potato	Karanj	Stone-Based Products	Machkund	Hockey
18.	Dungarpur	Mango	Teak	Marble Products	Beneshwar Dham	Hockey
19.	Hanumangarh	Kinnow	Shisham	Agriculture-Based Products	Gogamedi Temple	Hockey
20.	Jaipur	Amla	Lasora	Gemstone	Amer Fort	Kabaddi
21.	Jaisalmer	Date Palm	Jal	Yellow Stone Products	Jaisalmer Fort	Gymnastics
22.	Jalore	Pomegranate	Jal	Granite Products	Sundha Mata Temple	Boxing
23.	Jhalawar	Orange	Teak	Kota Stone Products	Gagron Fort	Basketball
24.	Jhunjhunu	Mustard	Neem	Wooden handicraft products	Lohargal pilgrimage	Basketball
25.	Jodhpur	Cumin	Jaal	Wooden furniture	Mehrangarh Fort	
26.	Karauli	Sesame	Bargad	Sand stone products	Kaila Devi Temple	Cricket
27.	Khairthal - Tijara	Onion	Sheesham	Automobile parts	Tijara Jain Temple	Wrestling
28.	Kota	Coriander	Khair	Kota Doria	Chambal River Front	Wrestling
29.	Kotputli - Behror	Carrot	Guggal	Automobile parts	Bairath	Wrestling
30.	Nagaur	Moong	Khejri	Paan Methi and Spice Processing	Mirabai Memorial	Kabaddi
31.	Pali	Mehendi	Neem	Textile products	Ranakpur Jain Temple	Basketball
32.	Phalodi	Cumin	Jaal	Sonamukhi products	Khichan	Athletics
33.	Pratapgarh	Kalonji	Tendu	Thewa jewellery	Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary	Archery
34.	Rajsamand	Custard Apple	Neem	Granite and marble products	Kumbhalgarh Fort	Hockey
35.	Salumber	Maize	Palash	Quartz	Jaisamand Lake	Kabaddi
36.	Sawai Madhopur	Guava	Neem	Marble products	Ranthambore National Park	Football
37.	Sikar	Onion	Aradu	Wooden furniture	Khatu Shyam Ji Temple	Basketball
38.	Sirohi	Fennel	Mahua	Marble products	Delwara Jain Temple	Archery
39.	Sri Ganganagar	Kinnow	Sheesham	Mustard oil	Budha Johad	Athletics
40.	Tonk	Mustard	Amaltas	Slate stone products	Diggi Kalyan Ji	Athletics
41.	Udaipur	Custard Apple	Mahua	Marble and granite products	Fatehsagar and Pichola Lake	Swimming

-:- Symbols of Rajasthan's State Identity -:-

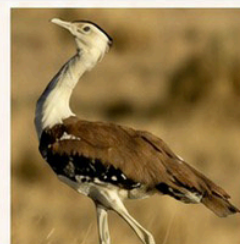
State Tree of Rajasthan

- The State Tree of Rajasthan is Khejri or Shami tree.
- Its botanical name is *Prosopis cineraria*.
- It is called the 'Kalpavriksha of the Desert'.
- It was declared the State Tree of Rajasthan on 31 October, 1983.



State Bird of Rajasthan

- The State Bird of Rajasthan is Godawan (Great Indian Bustard).
- Its scientific name is *Ardeotis nigriceps*.
- Godawan was declared the State Bird of Rajasthan in 1981.



State Animal of Rajasthan

There are two categories of the State Animal of Rajasthan:

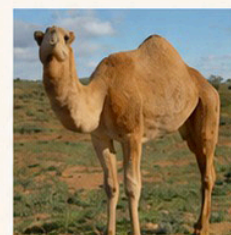
1. Wild Animal –

- The State Wild Animal of Rajasthan is Chinkara. Its scientific name is *Gazella bennettii*. It was declared the State Animal in 1981.



2. Domestic Animal –

- The State Domestic Animal of Rajasthan is the Camel. It was given the status of State Animal by the Government of Rajasthan on 30 June, 2014. It is also known as the Ship of the Desert.



State Flower of Rajasthan

- Rohida is the State Flower of Rajasthan. Its botanical name is *Tecomella undulata*. It is also called the teak of the desert and Marwar teak.
- The flower of Rohida was declared the State Flower by the Government of Rajasthan on 21 October, 1983.



2**NATIONAL AFFAIRS****Inauguration of the first phase of Noida International Airport, Jewar Airport-**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first phase of Noida International Airport at Jewar in Uttar Pradesh on 28 March 2026.
- **Located-** Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar
- **Developer-** By Yamuna International Airport Private Limited, a subsidiary of Zurich Airport International AG.
- **Capacity-** After completion of the first phase, it will be capable of handling 1.2 crore passengers per year.
- In the first phase, one runway and one terminal building have been prepared.
- It is India's first airport designed as a net zero emission airport.
- After the construction work of all its phases is completed, it will become Asia's largest and the world's fourth-largest airport.

Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2026 notified-

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2026 with the objective of reducing plastic pollution and rapidly moving India towards a circular economy.
- **Major Amendments-**
- • Under the new rules, it has been made mandatory for producers, importers and brand owners to use a certain percentage of recycled plastic in plastic packaging.
- • For the year 2025-26, rigid plastic packaging, Category-I, should have at least 30% recycled material, which will increase to 60% by the year 2028-29.
- • For flexible plastic, Category-II, the requirement is 10%, which will increase to 20%, while multilayered plastic, Category-III, will have to fulfil the requirement of 5%, which increases to 10%.
- • In addition, reuse targets for rigid packaging have been made mandatory.

NHAI Arogya Van Project-

- • This is a project of the National Highways Authority under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

- Under this, NHAI will plant medicinal trees on vacant lands along national highways. Under this project, in the first phase, 17 plots spread over a total area of 62.8 hectares have been identified.
- This will support ecological balance, pollinators, birds and microorganisms around highways and preserve the rich heritage of medicinal plants.

Reports titled "Ease of Doing Research and Development in India" and "Survey Report on Ease of R&D in India" -

- NITI Aayog released two reports titled "Ease of Doing Research and Development in India" and "Survey Report on Ease of R&D in India" on 9 April, 2026.
- The objective of these reports is to enable a more efficient, accessible and innovation-driven research ecosystem in the country.
- These reports present a comprehensive assessment of India's R&D ecosystem and present a set of practical recommendations focused on improving the financing mechanism, institutional governance, regulatory framework and practical application of research.

From Borrowers to Builders: Women and India's Evolving Credit Market Report

- • **Issuing body-** NITI Aayog
- • **Edition-** Second
- • **Release date-** 7 April, 2026
- • This report has been prepared in collaboration with Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP), TransUnion CIBIL and MicroSave Consulting (MSC).
- **Main points of the report-**
- Access to credit among women has increased from 19% to 36%.
- Women borrowers in India now have a credit portfolio of ₹76 lakh crore, which is 26% of total system credit.
- Since the year 2017, women's credit exposure has increased 4.8 times. It has increased from ₹16 lakh crore (2017) to ₹76 lakh crore (2025).

Central Ayurveda Research Institute, Bengaluru received ISO 15189:2022 accreditation in Biochemistry and Haematology-

- The clinical laboratory of the Central Ayurveda

Research Institute, Bengaluru under the Ministry of AYUSH has received ISO 15189:2022 accreditation for both Biochemistry and Haematology.

- • This institute has become the first institute under the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences to achieve this achievement.
- • This accreditation assures patients that the laboratory provides accurate, reliable and safe diagnostic results according to globally accepted quality standards.
- • ISO 15189:2022 is an international standard that specifies requirements for quality and competence in medical laboratories.

Launch of two-year nationwide celebration to mark the 200th birth anniversary of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule-



- • The Government of India formally launched a two-year nationwide celebration at Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi on 11 April, 2026, 11 April, 2026 to 11 April, 2028, to mark the 200th birth anniversary of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule.
- • For guidance and supervision of this nationwide celebration, the Government of India has constituted a high-level committee under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, which includes 126 members.
- • This commemoration will be organised through a series of programmes and activities across the country.
- **Mahatma Jyotiba Phule-**
- • He was a leading social reformer, who dedicated his entire life to the upliftment of the deprived and to promoting education and social equality.
- • Birth- On 11 April, 1827
- **Major contributions-**
- • He, along with his wife, started India's first girls' school in the year 1848.
- • Mahatma Jyotiba Phule opposed caste oppression and criticised Brahminical leaders such as Chiplunkar and Tilak.
- • Established Satyashodhak Samaj (1873) to abolish caste hierarchy.
- • Major publications- Tritiya Ratna (year 1855),

Powada: Chhatrapati Shivaji Raje Bhosale Yancha (year 1869), Gulamgiri (year 1873), Shetkaryacha Asud (year 1881).

- • He was given the title of Mahatma by Maharashtra social worker Vitthalrao Krishnaji Vandekar on 11 May, 1888.

'Nari Shakti Yuva Sansad' organised under the Mera Yuva Bharat Initiative-

- On 12 April, 2026, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports organised a nationwide Nari Shakti Yuva Sansad through the Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) platform.
- This initiative was based on the theme "Nari Shakti: Voice of Viksit Bharat — Empowering Inclusive Democracy".
- This initiative was organised simultaneously in 17 regions, in which more than 7,000 young women participated in organised democratic participation and youth-led policy dialogue.

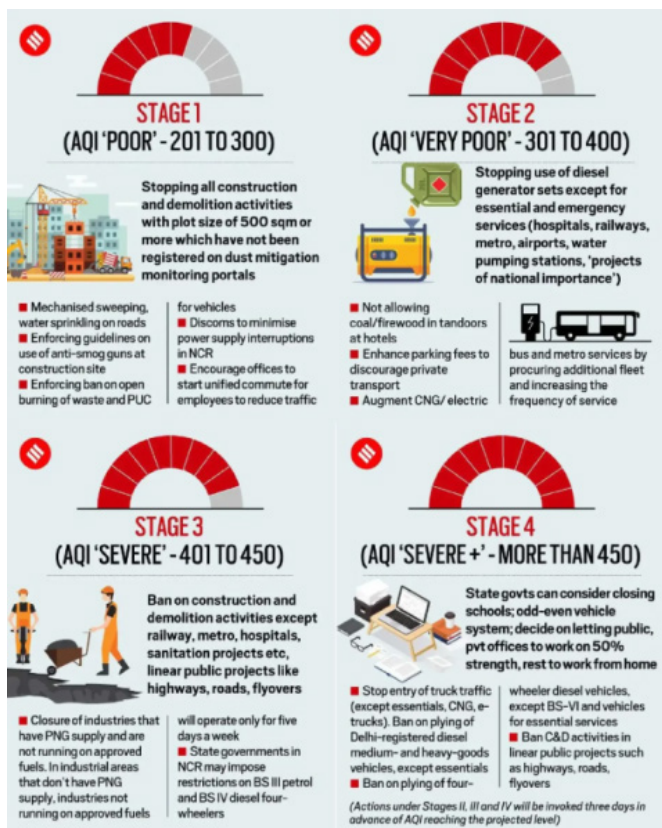
Mobile application launched to strengthen the clinical workflow of Community Health Officers-

- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched a mobile application on 13 April, 2026 to support and streamline the clinical workflow of Community Health Officers (CHOs).
- This application has been launched with the objective of strengthening primary healthcare delivery and enhancing digital health services.
- This mobile application has been developed by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), which has been designed in line with the expanded 12 service packages under comprehensive primary healthcare.

BRICS Health Working Group Meeting-2026-

- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare chaired the first Health Working Group (HWG) meeting under the first meeting-2026 of the BRICS Health Working Group in New Delhi on 15 April 2026.
- The theme of this meeting is "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability", which reflects a people-centred and future-ready approach.
- In this meeting, senior health officials, technical experts and representatives of BRICS member countries gathered to deliberate on priority areas of cooperation in public health.

First phase of Graded Response Action Plan implemented in Delhi-NCR-



- Recently, due to deterioration in air quality in Delhi and NCR, the first phase of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) has been implemented.
- Graded Response Action Plan-
- This is an emergency plan implemented in 2017 on the order of the Supreme Court to control air pollution in Delhi-NCR.
- This plan is implemented by the Commission for Air Quality Management.
- It is divided into four phases, from poor to severe, on the basis of Air Quality Index, which takes strict measures such as dust control, ban on diesel generators and stoppage of construction works.
- Phase-I, Poor - AQI 201-300- Road cleaning, water sprinkling and strict implementation of PUC, Pollution Control, norms.
- Phase-II, Very Poor - AQI 301-400- Ban on use of diesel generators (DG) and action on hotspots.
- Phase-III, Severe - AQI 401-450- Ban on construction and demolition activities, non-essential, ban on BS-III/IV vehicles.
- Phase-IV, Very Severe - AQI > 450- Ban on entry of trucks, except essential, closure of schools and order for work from home.

Kankaria became India's first Water Neutral Coaching Depot-

- Kankaria Coaching Depot, Ahmedabad, Western Railway, has become India's first completely 'Water Neutral' railway depot.
- This depot saves about 1.60 lakh litres of water every

day, which has reduced dependence on fresh water.

- The main basis of the success of this depot is 'Phytoremediation' technology.
- 'Phytoremediation' is a natural process in which plants are used for water purification. Plants absorb impurities and pollutants from wastewater.

NITI Aayog launched a compilation named "Divya Bharat — A Glimpse into the Soul of India" -

- Recently, NITI Aayog launched a compilation named "Divya Bharat — A Glimpse into the Soul of India" on 17 April, 2026.
- This compilation has been launched with the objective of inspiring citizens and global travellers to explore India's diverse tourism landscape through a structured and deep approach.
- This compilation is a comprehensive strategic document which includes tourism destinations from a seasonal perspective, so that travellers can choose the right tourist place according to the season, inclusion of diversity and lesser-known destinations.
- To promote tourism, it emphasises connecting tourists with local communities, their lifestyle and traditions instead of only seeing tourist places.

Inauguration of India's first advanced 3D semiconductor packaging unit in Info Valley-

- Recently, the foundation stone of the country's first advanced 3D semiconductor packaging unit was laid on 19 April, 2026 in Info Valley, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- This unit is an important step towards strengthening India's domestic semiconductor ecosystem and taking forward the vision of self-reliant India in high-level electronics manufacturing.
- In this unit, 70,000 glass panels, 50 million assembled units and about 13,000 advanced 3DHI modules are likely to be produced per year.

Vishva Sutra-

- The Office of the Development Commissioner, Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles and the National Institute of Fashion Technology unveiled the collection named "Vishva Sutra — India's Weave for the World" at the 61st Femina Miss India held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha on 19 April, 2026.
- The objective of the Vishva Sutra initiative is to connect Indian traditional handloom with global fashion and modern design.
- In this, specific weaving styles of 30 states of India were taken and were given a new form inspired by the art and design of 30 different countries of the world.
- This initiative realises the Government of India's "Vocal from Local to Global" and the Prime

Minister's 5F vision, Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign.



Achappaz Album-

- National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC), under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, will release its latest Malayalam film 'Achappaz Album' (Grandpa's Album) in theatres on 24 April 2026.
- This film is a unique confluence of fantasy-based family life, humour and emotions, which depicts a story related to time travel. This film reflects the eternal attraction towards reliving the past.
- The story of this film directed by Deepti Pillai Sivan has been written by Sanjeev Sivan, Anirban Bhattacharya and Umesh Nair.
- **NFDC-**
 - ❑ Establishment- In the year 1975
 - ❑ It is the apex body for the development of Indian cinema under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
 - ❑ It supports the entire film production system including production, promotion and preservation of films in various Indian languages.

Inauguration of India's first Pod Taxi Project-

- Recently, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra laid the foundation stone of India's first driverless 'Pod

Taxi' project in Mumbai on 07 April, 2026.

- This taxi system is driverless and operated by AI and can accommodate a maximum of six passengers.
- Its maximum speed will be 40 km/h.
- This project will provide connectivity of 8.85 kilometres between Kurla and Bandra Kurla Complex.

MoU to strengthen self-reliance in aviation security-

- To strengthen self-reliance in aviation security in India, an MoU was signed between the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) and Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) on 6 April, 2026.
- Under this agreement, testing, performance evaluation and certification of full body scanners and other security screening equipment used at Indian airports will be upgraded.

Census-2027 — House Listing and Enumeration

- The Government of India has started house listing and house enumeration under the first phase of Census-2027 from 1 April, 2026, which will be conducted across the country between 1 April and 30 September, 2026.
- This is India's first census with completely digital data capture and the facility of self-enumeration.
- This is a web-based facility which is available in sixteen regional languages.

Amaravati became the official and permanent capital of Telangana-

- Lok Sabha amended the Andhra Reorganisation Act, 2014 and declared Amaravati as the only capital of the state.
- Earlier, a model of three capitals was proposed in the state: Visakhapatnam, executive; Amaravati, legislative; and Kusool, judicial.
- This decision will be considered effective from 2 June 2024.

NCERT received the status of Deemed University-

- The Government has given NCERT the status of Deemed University, due to which it will now be able to award degrees itself.
- Under this, Regional Institutes of Education of Bhopal, Ajmer, Bhubaneswar, Mysuru and Shillong will also be included.

India became the world's third-largest renewable energy market-

- According to the International Renewable Energy Agency, in the year 2025, India became the world's third-largest renewable energy market.

- India added about 45 GW of new capacity in one year, which mainly came from solar and wind energy.
- China is at first place and America is at second place in the list.

Change in classification of Left Wing Extremism affected districts-

- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has changed the classification of Left Wing Extremism affected districts.
- Now only Bijapur of Chhattisgarh and West Singhbhum of Jharkhand remain in the Naxal-affected category.

Kamla Hydroelectric Project-

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved an investment of ₹26,069.50 crore for construction of Kamla Hydroelectric Project located on the Kamla River, a tributary of Subansiri, in Kamle, Kra Daadi and Kurung Kumey districts of Arunachal Pradesh.

MoU between FIU-India and Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre to deal with cyber fraud and financial crimes-

- On 9 April, 2026, Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-India) and Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) signed a comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance information sharing and coordination.
- The objective of this MoU is to enable both agencies to establish a strong response mechanism to improve fraud detection protocols at the national level.

Shekha Lake Bird Sanctuary got the status of Ramsar Site-

- Recently, Shekha Lake Bird Sanctuary located in Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh has been given the status of Ramsar Site.
- It is India's 99th and Uttar Pradesh's 12th Ramsar Site.
- **Shekha Lake Bird Sanctuary-**
 - Located- Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh
 - This sanctuary is an extension of a freshwater lake.
- **Ramsar Site-**
 - These are wetlands of international importance.
 - They are selected for conservation under the Ramsar Convention of 1971.

Amaravati Quantum Reference Facility Centre inaugurated-

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu

Naidu inaugurated the 'Amaravati Quantum Reference Facility' in Amaravati on 14 April, 2026.

- This is a standard testing and research centre dedicated to quantum technology.
- This centre will work as a national platform for testing, standardisation and certification of quantum hardware.

Sadhvi Satish Sail became Femina Miss India-2026

- Recently, in the Femina Miss India-2026 competition held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha on 18 April, 2026, Sadhvi Satish Sail of Goa was chosen as Femina Miss India-2026.
- Sadhvi Sail will now represent India in the Miss World competition.
- In this competition, Rajnandini Pawar of Maharashtra was the first runner-up, while Advaita of Jammu and Kashmir was the second runner-up.

Inauguration of ALIMCO's state-of-the-art assistive production centre in Faridabad

- On 11 April, 2026, Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar inaugurated the newly constructed state-of-the-art assistive production centre of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) in Faridabad, Haryana.
- This centre will ensure the availability and service delivery of high-quality assistive devices for Divyangjan and senior citizens.

SMILE-Beggary Survey Mobile Application launched-

- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, has launched the SMILE-Beggary Survey Mobile Application in Chandigarh.
- This mobile application has been developed under the SMILE-Beggary sub-scheme.
- Its objective is to strengthen implementation at the grassroots level through real-time data collection and better monitoring.

e-SafeHER-

- This is an initiative started by C-DAC, Hyderabad and Reliance Foundation on 13 April, 2026.
- It is a cyber security awareness training programme, whose objective is to enable one million women of rural India to participate safely and confidently in the digital ecosystem.
- Its objective is to strengthen last-mile cyber security awareness among women of rural India.

Varkala City-

- Varkala city of Kerala has been included in the first edition of the 20 Cities Towards Zero Waste initiative. This city has become the only city of India to be included in the first edition of this global initiative.
- 20 Cities Towards Zero Waste Initiative- This is an important global initiative of the United Nations in the field of waste management and sustainable development.

Five-Year Project Launched for Biodiversity Conservation and Strengthening Local Governance in Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya

- Recently, on April 26, 2026, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) launched a five-year project (2025–2030) aimed at strengthening biodiversity governance at the grassroots level in Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya.
- This initiative has been launched under the title, “Strengthening Institutional Capacities to Ensure Biodiversity Conservation Commitments.”
- This project is a joint initiative of the Government of India, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), for which a grant of US\$ 4.88 million has been allocated for the 2025–2030 period.
- Under this project, the traditional knowledge of local communities in Tamil Nadu (specifically in the Satyamangalam landscape) will be integrated into Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs) to aid in the conservation of wildlife corridors.
- In Meghalaya, emphasis will be placed on community-led conservation in the Garo Hills region (covering the Nokrek Biosphere Reserve and Balpakram National Park) through the Village Employment Councils (VECs).
- This project marks a significant step toward fulfilling India’s National Biodiversity Strategy (NBSAP 2024–2030) and the global 30x30 target (Kunming-Montreal Framework).

Defense Minister Leads Indian Delegation at SCO Defense Ministers’ Meeting

- Recently, on April 28, 2026, India’s Defense Minister, Shri Rajnath Singh, led the Indian delegation at the meeting of the Defense Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- During this meeting, the Defense Ministers of the

organization’s member states deliberated on various issues concerning regional defense and security, and held discussions on matters related to international peace, counter-terrorism measures, and defense cooperation among SCO member nations. Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh underscored India’s firm and zero-tolerance approach towards terrorism and extremism.

■ Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)—

- The SCO is an intergovernmental organization.
- It was established on June 15, 2001, in Shanghai.
- Its members include India, Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, and Belarus.
- India became a full member in 2017 and assumed its chairmanship in 2023.

DPI@2047 –



- Recently, on April 27, 2026, NITI Aayog presented a strategic draft titled DPI@2047.
- The objective of this draft, released by NITI Aayog, is to outline the next phase of India’s Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in order to achieve the goal of ‘Viksit Bharat 2047’ (Developed India 2047).
- This framework establishes two key timelines for the country’s digital transformation:
- DPI 2.0 (2025–2035): Its immediate focus is on large-scale livelihood-based development and enhancing productivity. Under this phase, eight key sectors have been identified.
- DPI 3.0 (2035–2047): Its goal is to ensure widespread prosperity across the entire nation and to secure the status of a developed nation.

Ministry of Panchayati Raj Releases Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) 2.0 Report:

- Recently, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj released the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) 2.0 report for the financial year 2023–24.
- This index serves as a powerful tool for evidence-based planning, performance monitoring, and providing incentives to Panchayati Raj Institutions, acting essentially as a ‘report card’ for the Panchayats.

- Under this initiative, each of the more than 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats across the country has been evaluated based on 150 indicators and 230 data points.
- These indicators cover nine thematic areas under the localization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Poverty, Health, Child Welfare, Water, Environment, Infrastructure, Social Justice, Good Governance, and Women's Empowerment. Panchayats have been categorized into five groups based on their overall scores:
 - ❑ Achiever (A+) – 90 and above
 - ❑ Front Runner (A) – 75 to 90
 - ❑ Performer (B) – 60 to 75
 - ❑ Aspirant (C) – 40 to 60
 - ❑ Beginner (D) – Less than 40
- **Key Findings of the Index:**
 - ❑ Participation – 97.30% of the country's Gram Panchayats (259,867) participated in this initiative.
 - ❑ Category-wise Classification:
 - ❑ Front Runners – 3,635 Gram Panchayats (scoring above 90%).
 - ❑ Performers – 118,824 Gram Panchayats (scoring between 75% and 90%).
- **Thematic Success:**
 - ❑ 3,313 Panchayats achieved an 'A+' grade in the 'Poverty-Free Development' category.
 - ❑ 1,015 Panchayats secured an 'A+' grade in the 'Healthy Panchayat' category.
- **Status of Rajasthan (Special Reference):**
 - ❑ A total of 11,037 Gram Panchayats from Rajasthan submitted their data.
 - ❑ According to Grading:
 - ❑ Grade A – 8 Panchayats
 - ❑ Grade B – 5,437 Panchayats
 - ❑ Grade C – 5,389 Panchayats
 - ❑ Grade D – 203 Panchayats
 - ❑ (No Panchayat from Rajasthan qualified for the 'A+' category.)
- West Bengal did not participate in the assessment process for this index (PAI 2.0).

MoSPI Releases Publication Titled "Women and Men in India 2025 – Selected Indicators and Data"

- Recently, the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released its publication titled "Women and Men in India 2025: Selected Indicators and Data" on April 29, 2026, in Bhubaneswar (Odisha).
- This publication was released during the National Deliberative Summit on the theme "Data for

Development," held in Bhubaneswar; this marked the 27th edition of the publication.

■ **Key Highlights Mentioned in the Publication:**

- ❑ At the All-India level, the Sex Ratio at Birth has increased, rising from 904 in 2017–19 to 917 in 2021–23.
- ❑ Between 2008 and 2023, a significant and consistent decline has been recorded in the Infant Mortality Rate for both boys and girls.
- ❑ Gender parity has been achieved across all levels of school education, ranging from the primary to the higher secondary level.
- ❑ In higher education, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) increased from 28.5 to 30.2 for women, and from 28.3 to 28.9 for men, between the years 2021–22 and 2022–23.
- ❑ The Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) has increased for both men and women in the age group of 15 years and above.
- ❑ The highest increase in LFPR was observed among rural women, rising from 37.5 percent to 45.9 percent during the period from 2022 to 2025.
- ❑ Between 2017 and 2025, the number of men employed in managerial positions increased by 73.80 percent, while the number of women employed in managerial positions recorded an increase of 102.54 percent during the same period.

131st Constitution Amendment Bill, 2026-

- Recently, on 17 April, 2026, the 131st Constitution Amendment Bill, 2026 fell in the Lok Sabha due to not getting the required special majority.
- This bill was brought mainly with the objective of speeding up the implementation of the Nari Shakti Vandan Act and making a radical change in the structure of the Lok Sabha, and to start the delimitation process soon on the basis of the 2011 Census so that 33% reservation for women could be made effective by the 2029 elections.
- Along with this bill, the Delimitation Bill, 2026 and the Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026 were also introduced.
- **Major provisions of the Bill-**
 - ❑ The bill proposed to increase the maximum number of Lok Sabha seats from 550 to 850.
 - ❑ At present, the allocation of Lok Sabha seats is based on the 1971 Census, which was frozen by the 84th Amendment (2001) till the first Census after 2026. This bill was an attempt to remove this freeze.

- ❑ According to the bill, for delimitation, any published Census determined by Parliament could be used instead of the “previous Census”.
- ❑ Under this, amendments were proposed in Articles 81, 82, 170 and 332 of the Constitution.
- **Reason for not being passed in the Lok Sabha-**
 - ❑ Under Article 368 of the Constitution, ‘special majority’ is required to pass any Constitution Amendment Bill-
 - ❑ Majority of the total membership of the House.
 - ❑ At least two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present and voting.
- **Result of voting-**
 - ❑ Total voting members: 528
 - ❑ Votes in favour- 298
 - ❑ Votes against- 230
 - ❑ The bill required at least 352 votes to be passed, therefore due to not getting sufficient majority, this bill was rejected.

Miscellaneous Facts

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the grand closing ceremony marking the 50th anniversary (Golden Jubilee) of the formation of the state of Sikkim in Gangtok on April 28. Sikkim was accorded the status of India’s 22nd full-fledged state on May 16, 1975.
- Recently, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in New Delhi on April 27, 2026, between the Incubation Center of the All India Institute of Ayurveda and the Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Rajasthan Ayurveda University, Jodhpur, to promote innovation, research, technological advancement, and entrepreneurship in the field of Ayurveda.
- Recently, MoUs were signed on April 29, 2026, between the Central Government and three states—Uttarakhand, Karnataka, and Tripura—under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0.
- Recently, fossil beds belonging to the ‘Holocene’ epoch were discovered in the Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu. These fossil beds were exposed following the heavy rainfall in 2023.
- Recently, the Supreme Court recognized the right to safe travel on national highways as a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution.
- Digital Life Certificate (DLC) Campaign 4.0- This is a campaign of the Department of Pension and Pensioners’ Welfare, which is an important step towards making the lives of pensioners, especially very senior/sick/Divyang pensioners, easier.
- Career Card- These cards have been launched by the Central Department of School Education and Literacy for children with special needs, Divyang.
- On 10 April, 2026, Vice President of India C. P. Radhakrishnan released the updated version of the Constitution of India in Sindhi language on the occasion of Sindhi Language Day.
- The country’s first Petroglyph Conservation Park will be built in Ladakh’s Indus Valley to protect years-old rock paintings from damage caused by environment and human activities.
- Recently, the Meghalaya Government has given official language status to Khasi and Garo languages along with English through the ‘Meghalaya Official Language Ordinance, 2026’.
- Recently, the Governor has approved the Anti-Sacrilege Bill 2026 brought by the State Legislative Assembly of Punjab to provide strict punishment in cases of disrespect of religious scriptures.
- Recently, four cheetahs from South Africa have been brought to Bannerghatta Biological Park in Bengaluru.
- Recently, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs has announced after a high-level security review that no Naxal-affected district is left in India now.
- The country’s first private sector nuclear power plant will be built in Sirmour tehsil of Rewa district of Madhya Pradesh. This plant will be established by Tata Energy with an investment of ₹28,000 crore.
- The Karnataka High Court has ordered the Karnataka Government to implement menstrual leave policy in all sectors. The High Court has considered it a fundamental right related to the right to life and dignity under Article 21.
- A 12-kilometre-long elevated section has been built for the safety of wildlife in Rajaji Tiger Reserve and Shivalik region of the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway. This is the longest elevated expressway built inside a forest in Asia so far.
- The first life-size bronze statue of Swami Vivekananda made by Indian sculptor Naresh Kumar Kumawat was unveiled at Westlake Square in America. This is the first statue of Vivekananda installed by any American city.
- Recently, Bengaluru’s Kempegowda International Airport has become the first airport in the country where the facility of completely contactless travel, biometric verification, has been provided to international passengers.

- Recently, Gujarat Police has launched Narcotics Analysis and RAG-Based Investigation Tool (NARIT-AI) to strengthen investigation and prosecution of cases registered under the NDPS Act.
- Recently, India has withdrawn its proposal to host the United Nations Annual Climate Change Conference COP-33 to be held in the year 2028.
- Shri Guru Bhairavaikya Temple- This is a temple located in Shri Adichunchanagiri Mahasamsthana Math in Mandya district of Karnataka. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated it.
- 'myLIC' and 'Super Sales Saathi' Mobile App- This is a mobile app launched by LIC. It will promote the experience of LIC customers and their digital access.
- Trade Watch Quarterly Report- This is a quarterly report released by NITI Aayog, which presents detailed data-based analysis of India's global and domestic trade trends and export performance.
- As part of the nationwide celebration of 150 years of 'Vande Mataram', the Ministry of Culture, Government of India has announced the launch of a national filmmaking competition named "VM Frames".
- Recently, on 24 April, 2026, the first regional workshop was organised in Jaipur under the National Cooperative Reform Campaign to accelerate the vision of "Sahakar Se Samridhi".
- Recently, the Central Cottage Industries Corporation has launched the first heritage designer collection 'Soul Threads'.
- Recently, on 15 April 2026, Samrat Choudhary took oath as the Chief Minister of Bihar.
- The Delhi Government has issued orders related to allowing entry only to electric, CNG and BS-VI standard commercial vehicles in Delhi from 1 November.



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-:- Symbols of India's National Identity -:-

National Flag-

- The National Flag, the Tricolour, has three horizontal stripes in equal proportion — saffron colour at the top, white in the middle and green at the bottom.
- In the middle of the white stripe, there is a blue-coloured wheel, which has 24 spokes.
- The ratio of the length and width of the flag is 3:2.
- The Constituent Assembly of India adopted the design of the National Flag on 22 July, 1947.



National Animal

- India's National Animal is the Tiger, whose scientific name is *Panthera Tigris*.
- The Tiger was accepted as the National Animal in April, 1973.
- It was considered a symbol of national pride because of its agility, strength and immense energy.



State Emblem

- The State Emblem of India is an adaptation of Ashoka's Lion Capital at Sarnath, which is preserved in the Sarnath Museum.
- In the original pillar, there are four lions at the top, standing back to back. Below this, on a bell-shaped lotus, there are raised figures of an elephant, a galloping horse, a bull and a lion in a frieze, with wheels in between them.
- The 'Dharma Chakra' is placed above this Lion Capital, which is carved out of a single stone.
- The Government of India adopted this emblem on 26 January, 1950.
- Below the abacus, the phrase from the Mundaka Upanishad, 'Satyameva Jayate', is inscribed in Devanagari script, which means — 'Truth alone triumphs'.



National Bird

- India's National Bird is the Indian Peacock, whose scientific name is *Pavo Cristatus*.
- The Government of India declared it the National Bird in the year 1963, keeping in view its beauty, grandeur and importance in Indian culture.
- The Peacock has full protection under the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Hunting it is a legal offence.



National Calendar

- The National Calendar is based on the Shaka Samvat.
- The Shaka Samvat was started by King Kanishka of the Kushan dynasty in 78 AD to mark his accession to the throne.
- The Government of India officially adopted it as the National Calendar in the year 1957.



National Anthem

- India's National Anthem is Jana-Gana-Mana, which was originally composed in Bengali by Rabindranath Tagore. Its Hindi version was adopted by the Constituent Assembly as the National Anthem of India on 24 January, 1950.
- It was sung for the first time on 27 December, 1911 at the Kolkata Session of the Indian National Congress.
- The complete song has five stanzas. The first stanza contains the full version of the National Anthem.
- The duration of the full version of the National Anthem is approximately 52 seconds. On some occasions, its short version, approximately 20 seconds, is also played, which includes the first and last lines of the stanza.

जन-गण-मन अधिनायक जय हे
भारत-भान्य-विधाता ।
पंजाब सिंध गुजरात मराठा
द्राविड उत्कल बंग
विध्य हिमाचल यमुना गंगा
उत्खल जलधि तरंग
तव शुभ नामे जागे, तव शुभ आशीष मांगे,
गाहे तव जयगाथा ।
जन-गण मंगलदायक जय हे
भारत-भान्य-विधाता ।
जय हे, जय हे, जय हे,
जय जय जय जय हे ।

Currency Symbol

- The symbol of the Indian Rupee is made by combining the Devanagari letter 'र' and the Roman letter 'R', with a horizontal line drawn in it.
- This line reflects our National Flag and the sign of equality.
- The Government of India accepted this symbol on 15 July, 2010.
- This symbol was designed by Shri D. Udaya Kumar, a postgraduate designer from IIT Mumbai.



National Song

- India's National Song is 'Vande Mataram'. This song was a source of inspiration for the masses during the Indian Freedom Struggle.
- Its composer was Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay. It has been taken from his famous novel Anandamath (1882), which is in the form of a mixture of Sanskrit and Bengali languages.
- The Constituent Assembly officially adopted it as the 'National Song' on 24 January, 1950.



3

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Visit of the President of South Korea to India-



- Recently, the President of the Republic of South Korea, Lee Jae-myung, was on a state visit to India from 19 to 21 April, 2026.
- This visit reflects the growing coordination between the Act East Policy and South Korea's Indo-Pacific Strategy.

Major agreements and announcements-

- India-South Korea has adopted the 'Joint Strategic Vision (2026-2030)' with the objective of strengthening their Special Strategic Partnership.
- **VOYAGES Vision-** Agreement has been reached on a comprehensive framework for cooperation in shipbuilding, shipping and maritime logistics through "Yard Assisted Growth with Efficiency and Scale" (VOYAGES).
- Emphasis has been laid on increasing cooperation in Artificial Intelligence, semiconductors, critical and emerging technologies and space exploration.
- Apart from these, agreement has been reached to further deepen the 'Make in India' initiative in maritime heritage, skill development and defence cooperation.
- During this visit, the target has also been set to organise the first '2+2 Dialogue on Defence and Foreign Affairs' at the Deputy-Minister level.

Visit of the Federal Chancellor of Austria to India-

- Federal Chancellor of Austria Dr. Christian Stocker was on a visit to India from 14 to 17 April, 2026.
- This was the first visit of any Austrian Chancellor to India after a long gap of 42 years. Earlier, an Austrian Chancellor had visited India in the year 1984.

Major agreements and outcomes-

- Defence Cooperation- An MoU was signed for

cooperation in military affairs.

- Counter-Terrorism- Agreement was reached to establish a 'Joint Working Group' to prevent terrorism financing and radicalisation.
- Cyber Security- Both countries decided to start an institutional 'Cyber Security Dialogue'.
- Prime Minister Modi has also described 3T, Trade, Technology, Talent, as the three main pillars of India-Austria relations.

Visit of Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov to India-

- Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 2 April, 2026.
- Here, he held important discussions as the Co-Chair of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission, which included energy, technology and defence cooperation.

Visit of the Vice President of India to Sri Lanka-

- Recently, Vice President of India Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan was on an official visit to Sri Lanka on 19-20 April.
- This was the first bilateral visit of the Vice President of India to Sri Lanka.

Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS)-



- India and Russia have implemented the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS).
- This agreement will strengthen mutual access to military logistical support.

Main provisions-

- **Deployment of troops-** Both countries can deploy 3,000 soldiers in each other's territory.
- **Military assets-** Under the agreement, 5 warships and 10 military aircraft are allowed to be kept at each other's military bases.

- **Logistics support-** It includes technical cooperation such as refuelling, repair, spare parts, food and medical assistance.

Importance for India-

- India will get access to Russia’s Arctic regions.
- It strengthens India’s ‘strategic autonomy’.

Time Magazine released the list of the world’s 100 influential people-



- Recently, Time Magazine released the list of the world’s 100 influential people. The people included in this list are bringing changes in the fields of politics, business, technology, science, entertainment and society.
- Veteran leaders such as Pope Leo, Donald Trump, New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani and Benjamin Netanyahu have been given place in this list.
- Sundar Pichai of Indian origin, technology, Ranbir Kapoor, entertainment/cinema, and Vikas Khanna, culinary arts/social work, have also been given place in this list.

India-USA Trade Facilitation Portal-

- Recently, Foreign Secretary of India Vikram Misri launched the ‘India-USA Trade Facilitation Portal’ in America on 8 April, 2026.
- The objective of this portal is to simplify trade between the two countries and achieve the bilateral trade target of 500 billion dollars. This digital portal will provide new exporters easy access to the US market.

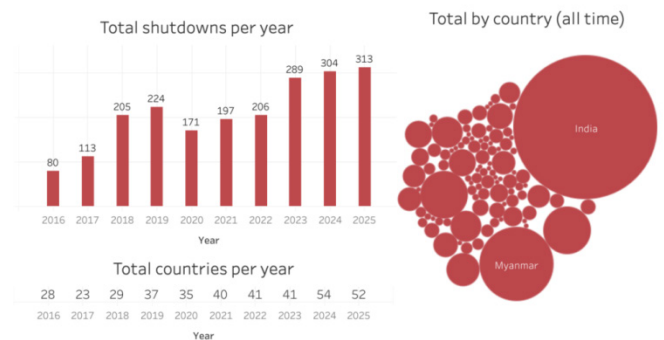
11th Joint Defence Committee Meeting held between India and Egypt-

- Recently, the 11th meeting of the India-Egypt Joint Defence Committee (JDC) was held in Cairo, Egypt from 20-22 April, 2026.
- In this meeting, necessary steps to increase bilateral defence cooperation between India and Egypt were mentioned and agreement was reached on a bilateral defence cooperation plan for the year 2026-27.
- The main objective of this bilateral defence cooperation plan is to expand structured military interaction mechanisms, strengthen joint training exchanges, increase maritime security cooperation, increase the scope and complexity of military exercises and promote cooperation in defence production and technology.

Fifth meeting of the Joint Defence Working Group held between India and Mozambique-

- **Date of organisation-** 1-2 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Maputo, Mozambique
- In this meeting, emphasis was laid on encouraging cooperation in structured military exchanges, joint training opportunities, maritime domain awareness, conduct of military exercises and supply of defence equipment.

Rising Repression Meets Global Resistance: Internet Shutdowns in 2025 Report



- **Issuing body-** Access Now and KeepItOn Alliance
- According to this report, a total of 313 internet shutdowns were recorded in 52 countries in the year 2025.
- **Internet Shutdowns-** India, highest 65 times, Myanmar (37), Pakistan (24), Iran (20)
- **Platform Shutdowns-** Facebook (31), WhatsApp (27), Telegram (23), Instagram (20).
- The main reasons behind these shutdowns have been conflict, protests, elections, political instability, communal violence control, and control over information.

Singapore’s Changi is the world’s best airport-



- Singapore’s Changi Airport has been declared the world’s best airport for the 14th time. It received this title in the Skytrax World Airport Awards 2026.
- Inside Changi Airport, gardens, art installations, entertainment area, the world’s tallest indoor waterfall, etc. are major attractive spots. It has also been selected as the best airport in the category of best airport dining.

■ **Five airports of India have been included in the top-100, which are as follows-**

- ❑ Delhi Airport- 28th
- ❑ Bengaluru Airport- 41st
- ❑ Hyderabad Airport- 43rd
- ❑ Goa Airport- 64th
- ❑ Mumbai Airport- 66th

World Press Freedom Index-2026



- Issuing body- Reporters Without Borders
- This index assesses press freedom in countries using five major indicators: economic, legal, political, social and security conditions.

■ **Ranking**

■ **Top countries-**

- ❑ 1st place - Norway
- ❑ 2nd place - Netherlands
- ❑ 3rd place - Estonia
- ❑ 4th place - Denmark
- ❑ 5th place - Sweden

■ **Lowest places-**

- ❑ 180th place - Eritrea
- ❑ 179th place - North Korea
- ❑ 178th place - China
- ❑ 177th place - Iran
- ❑ 176th place - Saudi Arabia

- In this index, India has been placed at 157th position among 180 countries, which shows a decline of six places from the 151st position in the year 2025.

- After its political transformation, it recorded the biggest improvement by rising 36 places.

'Times Higher Education' Asia University Rankings 2026-

- **Issuing body-** Times Higher Education (THE)
- In this, 929 universities from 36 countries and regions have been evaluated.
- China has topped the Asia University Rankings. Out of the top-10 institutions, 5 are from China.
- **Top institutions of Asia-**

Rank	Institution	Country/Region	Score
1	Tsinghua University	China	93.6
2	Peking University	China	93.1
3.	National University of Singapore (NUS)	Singapore	91.1

- India is the most represented country in this ranking, with 128 institutions included in the ranking.
- Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru has secured 43rd position in THE Asia University Rankings 2026, which is five places down from last year's 38th position.
- IISc remains the only Indian institution included in the top 50.

Top institutions of India-

Asia Rank	Name of Institution	Overall Score
43	Indian Institute of Science (IISc Bengaluru)	65.1
128	Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences	52.0
141	Indian Institute of Technology Indore	50.6
158	Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences	49.4
160	Jamia Millia Islamia	49.3
169	KIIT University	48.0
186	Aligarh Muslim University	46.7
186	National Institute of Technology Rourkela	46.7
197	Lovely Professional University	46.0
197	Manipal Academy of Higher Education	46.0
197	Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology	46.0

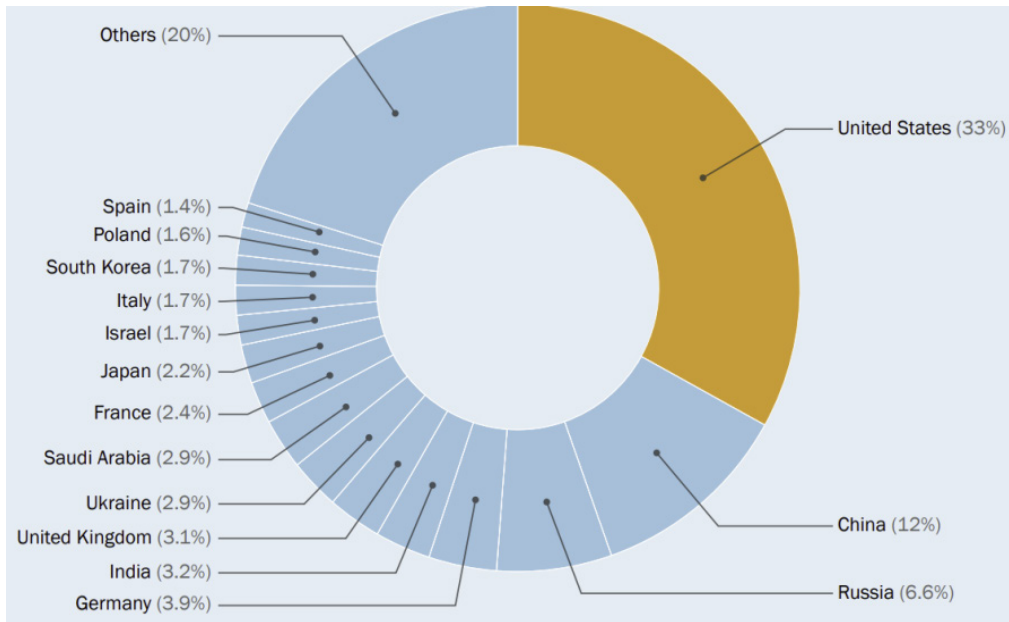
Escale à Sète Festival-2026

- **Date of organisation-** 31 March to 6 April, 2026
- **Venue-** Sète city, France
- It is a biennial festival which is one of the largest maritime festivals in the Mediterranean Sea and is organised as a celebration of global maritime heritage.
- The Indian Navy's sailing training vessel INS Sudarshini participated in this festival.

Khalilur Rahman-

- He is the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh who was on a two-day visit to India. This was the first visit of any Bangladeshi counterpart after the formation of the BNP government under the leadership of Tarique Rahman in Bangladesh.

In the year 2025, the world’s total military expenditure reached 2.89 trillion dollars, approximately ₹273 lakh crore-



- Recently, according to the report released by SIPRI, the world’s total military expenditure reached 2887 billion dollars in the year 2025.
- India remained among the top five countries in the world with expenditure of 92.1 billion dollars, approximately ₹8.6 lakh crore.
- According to the report, at the global level, per capita military expenditure has now become 352 dollars, approximately ₹29,000.
- Increasing geopolitical instability and wars around the world have boosted this expenditure.

Global military expenditure country-wise-

Rank	Country	Defence Expenditure (Dollar)	Increase/Decline	Global Share
1	America	954 billion	-7.5%	33%
2	China	336 billion	7.4%	12%
3	Russia	190 billion	5.9%	6.6%
4	Germany	114 billion	24%	3.9%
5	India	92.1 billion	8.9%	3.2%

Miscellaneous

- Finland, a European country, has started Europe’s first fully integrated lithium project near Kokkola. In this project, the entire process from mining to refining is being done in one network.
- Recently, the lower house of Argentina, “Chamber of Deputies”, has approved the bill brought for mining in glacier areas. This approval may increase the debate on environmental damage in ecologically sensitive areas.
- Work has started again after 7 years with India’s help on the Punatsangchhu Hydropower Project, 1200 MW, located in Bhutan. This project was stalled since 2019 due to geological problems. It is the largest joint hydropower project of India and Bhutan so far.

- Philippines became the 13th member of the US-led Pax Silica group. Its objective is to secure the semiconductor and AI supply chain.
- Japan's Haneda Airport has been given the title of the world's cleanest airport by Skytrax.
- Australia's airline Qantas will launch the world's longest 22-hour non-stop commercial flight, Sydney to London and New York, in the first half of the year 2027 under the initiative named 'Project Sunrise'.
- India organised an exhibition in Washington, USA, on the theme "The Human Cost of Terrorism" on the first anniversary of the Pahalgam attack.
- The French Government has decided to remove Microsoft Windows from the computer systems of its government departments. France has taken this decision to reduce dependence on American tech companies and increase digital sovereignty.
- Recently, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has announced that it will shift half of its government work to 'Agentic AI' in the next two years. UAE will be the first country in the world to conduct government work through AI on such a large scale.
- According to the International Monetary Fund, Ukraine is the poorest country in Europe. Here, per capita income is about 6,067 dollars per year.
- According to the International Energy Agency, in the year 2026, China has the world's largest reserves of rare minerals, 48.9% of the global share. Second place- Brazil, third place- 8% of global share.
- Recently, Turkey has passed a new bill with the objective of limiting access to social media for children below 15 years of age.
- Recently, after the approval of the Tobacco and Vapes Bill presented by the Parliament of Britain, people born on or after 1 January, 2009 in Britain will never be able to buy tobacco products.

**Syllabus, Pattern व स्तर RAS जैसा
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4

ECONOMY AFFAIRS

Government issued notification of Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0-

- On 13 April, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 with a corpus of ₹10,000 crore.
- This is a government-backed fund of ₹10,000 crore designed to mobilise long-term domestic capital by investing in Alternative Investment Funds, which in turn invest in startups.
- Under Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0, investments will be focused on those Alternative Investment Funds which support priority sectors.
- Priority sectors include deep technology, deep tech startups, early growth-stage startups supported by small AIFs, technology-driven and innovation-based manufacturing startups and startups independent of sector or stage.

Operational guidelines issued for Urban Challenge Fund-

- Recently, the Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the operational guidelines of Urban Challenge Fund (UCF) and Credit Repayment Guarantee Sub-Scheme (CRGSS) in New Delhi on 15 April, 2026.
- These guidelines and Credit Repayment Guarantee Sub-Scheme (CRGSS) will prove to be an important step towards changing financing for urban infrastructure in the country.

What is Urban Challenge Fund?-

- It is a centrally sponsored scheme of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- In this, central assistance of ₹1,00,000 crore is fixed from financial year 2025-26 to 2030-31.
- Its objective is to transform cities into new growth centres and engines of India’s urban future.

‘Special Economic Zone’ notified for India’s first chip fabrication plant in Dholera-

- The Central Government has notified the ‘Special Economic Zone’ for India’s first chip fabrication plant in Dholera, Gujarat on 16 April, 2026.
- This ‘Special Economic Zone’ will be spread over about 66.16 hectares of land, in which an investment of ₹91,000 crore is proposed.
- Here, the plant or unit is being established by Tata Semiconductor Manufacturing Private Limited.

Other major semiconductor projects in India-

Name of Institution	Location	Investment (₹ crore)	Type of operation
Micron	Sanand, Gujarat	13,000	Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging
Tata Semiconductor	Dholera, Gujarat	91,000	AI-enabled Semiconductor Fabrication
CG Semi	Gujarat	2,150	Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Testing
Kaynes Semicon	Gujarat	681	Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Testing Unit
Hubli Durable Goods	Dharwad, Karnataka	100	Electronic Component Manufacturing

Coal to Ammonium Nitrate Project-

- Recently, a land lease agreement has been signed between Bharat Coal Gasification and Chemicals Limited (BCGCL) and Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) for the proposed Coal to Ammonium Nitrate Project at Lakhanpur in Odisha.
- This is India’s first coal gasification project under MCL. In this, indigenous gasification technology developed by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited will be used. The capacity of this project will be 2,000 tonnes per day, which is a decisive step towards indigenous innovation, technological progress and reduction in dependence on imported technologies in India’s energy and chemicals sector.

Union Cabinet approved the proposal for creation of 'Bharat Marine Insurance Pool' -

- Recently, the Union Cabinet approved the proposal for creation of 'Bharat Marine Insurance Pool' (BMI Pool) on 18 April, 2026.
- In this pool, a sovereign guarantee of ₹12,980 crore has been given to facilitate sustainable marine insurance coverage and the initial combined insurance capacity of member insurers will be about ₹950 crore.
- This insurance pool ensures that Indian trade continues to get affordable insurance for ships carrying cargo to Indian ports or vice versa, even if those ships are passing through unstable sea routes.
- This pool will cover all marine risks, including ship and machinery, cargo, war risk, oil pollution, removal of debris, crew injury and third-party liabilities such as collision.

India's seafood export crossed record □72,000 crore-

- Recently, according to the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), India's seafood export reached a record ₹72,325.82 crore in the financial year 2025-26.
- The total quantity of seafood exported from India has been 19.32 lakh metric tonnes.
- In this export, the export share of frozen shrimp has been ₹47,973.13 crore, which is more than two-thirds of the total export earnings.
- Shrimp export has recorded an increase of 4.6% in terms of quantity and 6.35% in terms of value.
- In terms of marine product export logistics, the top five ports, Visakhapatnam, JNPT, Kochi, Kolkata, Chennai, accounted for about 64% share in the total export value.
- America remained at the top as the largest export destination with total imports of 2.32 billion dollars, however, a decline of 19.8% in volume and 14.5% in value of shipments sent to America has been recorded.
- As the second-largest export destination, China recorded an increase of 22.7% in export value and 20.1% in quantity.

Union Cabinet approved continuation of Gram Sadak Yojana-III till March 2028-

- Recently, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-III beyond the period of March 2025 till March 2028 on 18 April 2026.

- This approval given by the Cabinet includes strengthening of 'through routes' and 'major rural links' connecting rural habitations to rural agricultural markets, higher secondary schools and hospitals.
- The revised outlay of this scheme will be ₹83,977 crore.

Debt on Indian families increased by 44 percent-

- Recently, according to the white paper 'The New Indian Household Balance Sheet' of Client Associates, financial liabilities of Indian households have reached 6.2 percent of GDP, which is the highest level of the last decade.
- In the post-pandemic period, household debt has increased at a compounded annual growth rate of 44.6 percent.
- Before the pandemic, net financial savings were 7.7 percent of GDP, which decreased to 5.2 percent in the financial year 2024.

Textiles and Clothing Market: National Household Survey 2024-

- This is a study report on domestic demand for clothes in India, which shows the estimate of domestic demand for textiles and apparel in the household sector.

Important facts-

- Market size of clothes in 2024- ₹14.95 lakh crore
- Contribution of household sector in total market size in 2024- ₹8.77 lakh crore
- Per capita demand in 2024- ₹6,066

National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL)-

- The Union Cabinet established National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL) under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 on 1 April, 2026.
- NCOL will work as an umbrella organisation for aggregation, procurement, certification, testing, branding and marketing of organic products and its organic products are sold under the name "Bharat Organics Brand".

Income Tax Act, 2025-

- The new Income Tax Act, 2025 came into force in India from 1 April, 2026.
- This Act is a comprehensive effort to simplify and modernise the income tax law of the country, which replaces the old Income Tax Act, 1961.

Kar Saathi Platform-

- Launch- By the Income Tax Department
- It is an advanced AI-enabled platform to facilitate tax compliance.

Bob Samvad-

- This platform launched by Bank of Baroda is an AI-powered multilingual specialised dialogue platform.
- It will establish communication with customers in 22 languages in the branches of the bank.

India recorded its highest-ever annual increase in wind energy capacity-

- India achieved its highest-ever annual increase of 6.05 GW in wind energy capacity during financial year 2025-26, which is more than the 5.5 GW capacity increase recorded in financial year 2016-17.
- With this increase, India's total installed wind energy capacity has become more than 56 GW.

Defence exports in financial year 2025-26-

- India's defence exports in financial year 2025-26 have been ₹38,424 crore, which shows a huge increase of ₹14,802 crore, 62.66 percent, from the figure of ₹23,622 crore of the previous financial year and is the highest level so far.
- The contribution of public sector undertakings (DPSUs) and private sector in India's defence exports has been 54.84 percent and 45.16 percent respectively.

India and New Zealand signed a historic Free Trade Agreement (FTA)-



- Recently, India and New Zealand signed the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) on 27 April 2026 in New Delhi.
- The objective of this Free Trade Agreement is to promote trade, investment and economic cooperation between the two countries, which will give Indian products duty-free access to the New Zealand market.

Provisions-

- 100% of India's exports will have zero-duty market access in New Zealand.
- Emphasis on tariff liberalisation by India covering ~95% bilateral trade.
- Labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, pharma, leather, auto, agriculture, etc. will benefit.
- New Zealand's most liberal offer so far in services, 118 sectors and 139 sub-sectors.
- STEM students will get 3-4 years work permission; 1,000 working holiday visas will be provided.
- A special quota of 5,000 'Temporary Employment Entry Visas' will be provided for Indian professionals.
- Promotion of USD 20 billion investment in 15 years.
- Sensitive products, dairy, sugar, oil, etc., excluded; protection of farmers.
- **Note-** In 2024-25, bilateral trade between Oceania and India was approximately 26 billion US dollars. New Zealand is India's second-largest trading partner in the Oceania region, with bilateral trade valued at approximately 1.3 billion US dollars.
- **Oceania-** These are the island regions of the Pacific Ocean, which include Australia, New Zealand, Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia, etc.

Department of Posts and DTDC signed MoU to promote logistics and e-commerce-

- Recently, the Department of Posts (DoP) and DTDC Express Limited (DTDC) signed an MoU on 27 April 2026 to strengthen the logistics and e-commerce ecosystem.
- **Major points of the agreement-**
 - DTDC will be able to use the vast network of the Department of Posts for parcel delivery across the country.
 - It will include Cash on Delivery services.
 - DTDC will get access to the unique network of 1.64 lakh post offices of the Department of Posts, which is the world's largest postal network.

Miscellaneous

- Recently, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has organised a comprehensive public outreach programme on the theme 'Connecting Boundaries, Building Trust' with the objective of making stakeholders aware of the new Income Tax

Act, rules and provisions.

- Recently, Union MSME Minister Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi and Bihar Chief Minister Shri Samrat Choudhary jointly inaugurated MSME Technology Centres at Sikandarpur, Bihta and Patna.
- Recently, a 70-year lease agreement was signed between the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), the Department of Agriculture and the Government of Uttar Pradesh for a Basmati and Organic Training Centre in Pilibhit.
- Recently, India Post Payments Bank, Department of Posts, has announced the launch of Self Help Group Savings Account. Its objective is to increase financial inclusion in rural areas across the country and empower women-led Self Help Groups.
- Recently, the National Statistical Systems Training Academy has released the 120th issue of its official bi-annual journal 'Sarvekshan' based on statistics.
- Recently, DGCA has given licence to Skyhop Aviation to start seaplane services in India. Earlier, SpiceJet had started seaplane service in Gujarat, but it could not run for a long time.
- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has added the 'Performance Monitoring Dashboard' to the 'PAIMANA' portal on 16 April, 2026.
- The Government of India has recognised more than 55,200 startups during financial year 2025-26, which is the highest number of startups recognised in a single year since the launch of Startup India initiative.
- India's total textile exports including handicrafts during financial year 2025-26 have been ₹3,16,334.9 crore. It has increased by 2.1 percent compared to the previous year.
- In the year 2025-26, Saraswat Cooperative Bank and Amul have crossed the annual turnover figure of ₹1 lakh crore.
- India produced 168.4 million tonnes of crude steel in the financial year 2025-26 and maintained second place in the world.
- According to the IMF, Britain has moved ahead of India to 5th place in the global economy ranking. Apart from this, America is first, China second, Germany third and Japan fourth. Earlier, the Indian economy was at fourth place.
- In the financial year 2025-26, China, 151.1 billion dollars, became India's largest trading partner, while America, 140.2 billion dollars, remained the second-largest trading partner.
- India's patent applications increased by 30.2% to 1,43,729 in the year 2025-26. India has now become the sixth-largest patent-filing country in the world.
- America has announced an initial anti-dumping duty, tax, of 123.04% on solar cell and panel products coming from India.
- RBI cancelled the licence of Paytm Payments Bank Limited on the charge of ignoring rules under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

5

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Defence-Technology

DRDO and Indian Navy successfully conducted the first Salvo Launch of the Short-Range Naval Anti-Ship Missile (NASM-SR)-

- Recently, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy successfully conducted the ‘Salvo Launch’ of the Short-Range Naval Anti-Ship Missile (NASM-SR) on 29 April, 2026 in the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Odisha.
- This test was conducted from a naval helicopter platform. This was the first salvo launch of this advanced air-launched system.
- **Features-**
 - This missile has been developed through Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad and other associate laboratories.
 - This missile uses ‘Solid Propulsion Booster’ and ‘Long-Burn Sustainer’.
 - It uses an indigenously developed Seeker, Fibre-Optic Gyroscope-based Inertial Navigation System and Radio-Altitude.
 - It includes modern sub-systems such as high-bandwidth two-way data link and jet-vane control.

Agreement with Britain’s KC Aviation Private Limited for Boost Electric Jump Take-Off Technology Project-

- On 13 April, 2026, the Technology Development Board under DST, Government of India, signed an agreement with Gurugram-based KC Aviation Private Limited for the Boost Electric Jump Take-Off Project.
- This project is focused on development of an advanced hybrid propulsion-based Jump Take-Off (JTO) system.
- The objective of this project is to strengthen the operational capabilities of unmanned and light aircraft platforms.
- KC Aviation Private Limited, a newly established aerospace enterprise, is focused on design and development of small aircraft and specialised aviation solutions.

- **Boost Electric Jump Take-Off Technology-** This technology suddenly gives extra power to electric motors and lifts the aircraft from the ground in one jerk. It is extremely effective for quick take-off with limited space and heavy weight.

Malwan Warship-

- Handed over to Indian Navy- 31 March, 2026
- Built - By Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi
- This warship has been named after the historic coastal city of Malwan in Maharashtra.
- **Features-**
 - This warship has been prepared with more than 80% indigenous content.
 - This warship is about 80 metres long and weighs 1,100 tonnes.
 - It is equipped with torpedoes, multi-functional anti-submarine rockets and state-of-the-art sensors.
 - It is equipped with underwater surveillance, anti-submarine warfare operations in coastal waters, low-intensity maritime activities as well as maritime combat capabilities.

INS Aridaman-

- This is India’s third Arihant-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, which has recently been inducted into operation.
- It has been developed under the Advanced Technology Vessel Project.
- **Features-**
 - **Construction-** Ship Building Centre, Visakhapatnam
 - Displacement capacity- About 7,000 tonnes
 - Weapon system- 8 vertical launch tubes, K-15 Sagarika missile, K-4 missile

Unveiling of advanced armoured vehicles developed by DRDO-

- Recently, advanced armoured vehicles developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation were unveiled on 25 April, 2026 at DRDO Laboratory Complex, Ahilyanagar, Maharashtra.
- **Features-**
 - Design and development- Indigenously by Vehicles Research and Development Establishment.

- ❑ Indigenous weapon system- Both vehicles are equipped with 30 mm crew-less turret, which includes 7.62 mm PKT gun and anti-tank guided missile capability.
- ❑ Amphibian capability- These vehicles are equipped with 'Hydro Jet System', which enables them to easily cross water obstacles.
- ❑ These vehicles have been manufactured by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) and Bharat Forge Limited (BFL), in which many MSMEs have also cooperated.

Ministry of Defence signed contract for purchase of Trawl Assembly-

- Recently, the Ministry of Defence signed contracts on 21 April, 2026 with Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) and Electro Pneumatics and Hydraulics (India) Private Limited for purchase of Trawl Assembly for T-72/T-90 tanks at a cost of about ₹975 crore.
- Trawl Assembly, mine clearing device, for T-72/T-90 tanks is an important equipment developed by DRDO, which will enhance the capability of the Indian Army to breach landmines.
- Trawl Assembly is fitted in front of T-72/T-90 tanks and destroys landmines, through which safe movement for armoured vehicles in landmine areas can be ensured.

125 mm FSAPDS Anti-Tank Bomb-

- This is an indigenous anti-tank bomb.
- Manufacturing- Ordnance Factory Khamaria (OFK)
- This project was earlier operated with the cooperation of Russia, which is now being developed completely indigenously.
- This bomb is fired from a 125 mm gun and has been developed with special technology to penetrate the enemy tank's protection system.

INS Taragiri-

- INS Taragiri, the fourth powerful warship of Project 17-A class, was inducted into the Indian Navy on 3 April, 2026 in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Features-**
 - ❑ Design- By Warship Design Bureau
 - ❑ Built- By Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited with cooperation of MSMEs, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
 - ❑ Displacement capacity- About 6,670 tonnes
 - ❑ More than 75 percent indigenous content
 - ❑ Powered by combined diesel or gas propulsion engine

- ❑ It includes lethal supersonic surface-to-surface missiles, medium-range surface-to-air missiles and an advanced indigenous anti-submarine system.

Miscellaneous

- Recently, the Indian Air Force has started registration for the third edition of 'Meher Baba Competition'. This competition is a major competition promoting indigenous drone and autonomous technology.
- Discussed term "Loitering Munition"- It is called suicide drone, which keeps hovering in the air for a long time and does not attack immediately. It first searches for its target. As soon as it gets the right target, it directly collides with it and explodes.
- FedEx and IIT Madras completed the country's first intra-city drone delivery trial. This trial has been conducted in Bengaluru from Electronic City Phase-2 to near the airport.

Space-Technology

Artemis-2 Mission-

- Artemis II is the first crewed mission of NASA's Artemis programme.
- Launch- Mission on 1 April, 2026
- Return- On 10 April, 2026
- It is the first crewed mission of the Artemis programme.
- Mission days- 10-day, 9 days, 1 hour, 32 minutes
- Mission type- Lunar Flyby Mission
- Spacecraft- Orion spacecraft

Path of the mission-

- **Lunar Flyby-**
 - ❑ The crew did not land on the Moon, but returned after orbiting around the Moon.
 - ❑ Free-Return Trajectory- The spacecraft passed about 7,400 km away from the far side of the Moon and used the Moon's gravity to "slingshot", turn back, towards Earth.
- **Astronauts-**
 - ❑ **Reid Wiseman, Commander-** NASA veteran and former Chief Astronaut.
 - ❑ **Victor Glover-** First Black person to travel beyond Low-Earth Orbit.
 - ❑ **Christina Koch-** First woman to travel around the Moon.
 - ❑ **Jeremy Hansen-** First non-American to leave Earth's orbit.

Discovery of a new method to measure physical properties of solar filaments-

- Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences, Nainital, in collaboration with astronomers from IIT-Delhi and Spain's Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias, has discovered a new technique to measure the physical properties of solar filaments by analysing their oscillations.
- This technique is based on 'Prominence Seismology', which estimates the internal conditions of giant clouds of cold plasma held stable by magnetic fields present in the Sun's atmosphere.
- **Prominence Seismology Technique-**
 - Just as seismic waves are used to know the internal structure of the Earth, in the same way, 'Prominence Seismology' uses oscillations occurring in solar filaments to estimate their internal conditions.
- **What are Solar Filaments?-**
 - These are giant clouds of cold plasma suspended in the Sun's atmosphere. They are held stable by powerful magnetic fields. When these filaments appear on the edge of the Sun, they are called solar flares.

Scientists discovered the possibility of the presence of black holes in small galaxies-

- Recently, Arun Mangalam and K. Aditya of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru, have discovered the possibility of black holes being present even at the centre of small spherical galaxies orbiting the Milky Way galaxy.
- Generally, it is believed that there is a very massive black hole at the centre of large galaxies. But this was not certain about small galaxies.
- Indian scientists have shown by studying mathematical models and the motion of stars that black holes may also be hidden at the centre of these small galaxies. These black holes may be of 'medium size'. This discovery will help in understanding how the 'seeds' of black holes were formed in the universe and how they grew from small to large.

Spacecraft Mission Operations: SMOPS-2026-

- Edition- Second edition
- Date of organisation- 8-10 April, 2026
- Venue- Bengaluru
- Organiser- By ISRO, Astronautical Society of India and International Academy of Astronautics

- Theme- Innovative Operations for Smart and Sustainable Space Mission Management — Next Generation
- Objective- To connect and establish contact among various space agencies, startups, industry and academia and to cover a wide range of topics related to current and future trends.

Mission MITRA-

- ISRO conducted the MITRA Mission from 2 to 9 April, 2026 in Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh.
- ISRO has started this mission to test the physical and mental capacity of the passengers of Gaganyaan.
- MITRA- Mapping of Interoperable Traits and Response Assessment

99942 Apophis-

- It is an asteroid which will safely pass close to Earth in April, 2029. It will pass at a distance of about 20,000 miles from the Earth's surface.

Miscellaneous

- According to the 'Indian Space Situational Awareness Report-2025' released by ISRO, in the year 2025, ISRO had to perform collision avoidance manoeuvres 18 times to protect Indian satellites from the dangers of collision with space debris.
- Hyderabad-based Red Balloon Aerospace will launch a 'Super Pressure Balloon' in the year 2026. This balloon will remain 20-40 km above the ground and provide internet signals to remote areas.

Bio-Technology

Scientists developed an advanced sensor for quick detection of nicotine and cotinine in the body-

- Recently, the Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST), Mohali has developed an advanced sensor for quick detection of nicotine and cotinine in the body.
- This sensor is capable of detecting nicotine and cotinine even in very small quantities.
- Cotinine is a major metabolite formed from nicotine in the body, which helps in detecting tobacco use and passive smoking exposure. This sensor can be useful in public health, de-addiction programmes and tobacco control-related studies.
- **Cotinine –**
 - After entering the body, nicotine breaks down and forms cotinine.

- ❑ Cotinine is a stable biomarker that remains present in blood, saliva and urine for a long time, through which it is known whether a person has been exposed to tobacco or smoking or not.
- **Utility or benefits of this sensor –**
 - ❑ This new sensor is a low-cost and quick result-giving option.
 - ❑ Being iron-based, it is safe, less toxic and compatible with the body's cells.
 - ❑ This sensor can be used repeatedly.

Scientists discovered the genetic basis of seedlessness in grapes

- Agharkar Research Institute, in collaboration with Savitribai Phule Pune University, a research team led by Dr. Ravindra Patil has discovered the genetic basis of seedlessness in grapes.
- The research found that fertilization remains unsuccessful due to deformity of pollen grains and lack of germination capacity, due to which grapes become seedless.
- At present, seedlessness in grapes has become a desirable trait in breeding programmes because consumers prefer seedless grapes more.

Two new Designated Repositories notified by the National Biodiversity Authority-

- Recently, the National Biodiversity Authority has notified two institutions as new designated repositories.
- These are Referral Centre Bhavsagar, Kochi, and Microbial Culture Collection and National Fungal Culture Collection of India, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune.
- They have been notified as 'Designated Repositories' under Section 39 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. They will be authorised to preserve samples of various types of biological resources, plants, animals, microorganisms, and maintain their database.

Bhavsagar Referral Center –

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has granted the status of national repository for deep-sea organisms to Bhavsagar Referral Center under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.
- It is an advanced scientific institute located at the Centre for Marine Living Resources and Ecology in Kochi, which has been developed for the conservation, study and systematic documentation of organisms found in the deep sea.

Neonkovax –

- In Russia, the first 'Neonkovax' mRNA personalized vaccine has been given to a 60-year-old cancer patient suffering from melanoma.
- Personalized vaccine – It is a vaccine prepared on the basis of the specific genetic profile of the tumor of each patient.

Qdenga (TAK-003) –

- The Subject Expert Committee under the Drug Controller General of India has approved Takeda's first dengue vaccine 'Qdenga' (TAK-003).
- It is considered effective against all four types of dengue virus and is suitable for people from 4 to 60 years of age.

Information Technology and Other Technology –

Artificial Intelligence and Coding will be taught to school children-

- CBSE has announced teaching AI and coding to students of Classes 6 to 8 under the New Education Policy-2020. It will be implemented from the 2026-27 session. Its objective is to increase computational thinking and problem-solving ability among children.

World's Smallest QR Code-

- Researchers of Vienna University of Technology, Austria, have registered their name in the Guinness World Records by making the world's smallest QR code.
- This microscopic QR code is only 1.977 square micrometres. It can be seen with the help of a special microscope.

Chakshu Portal-

- This portal has been started under the 'Sanchar Saathi' platform of the Department of Telecommunications. On filing a complaint on this portal, mobile number and phone IMEI are blocked.
- At present, in view of increasing cyber crimes in Rajasthan, the police has advised the general public to use the 'Chakshu Portal'.

Formation of Technology and Policy Expert Committee-

- Recently, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, constituted the Technology and Policy Expert Committee (TPEC) on 18 April, 2026.

- This committee will be a permanent expert advisory body, which will provide expert advisory support to India's AI governance structure. This committee will be chaired by the Secretary of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

Indigenously developed Silicon Photonics Technology Solutions launched-

- Recently, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology launched two indigenous Silicon Photonics Technology Solutions developed by IIT Madras on 24 April, 2026.
- These solutions have been developed by the Centre for Programmable Photonic Integrated Circuits and Systems of IIT Madras.
 1. **Silicon Photonics Process Design Kit** - It includes more than 50 verified components. It will help startups, industries and defence organisations to design advanced photonic ICs.
 2. **Universal Programmable Photonic IC Test Engine** - It is an automated platform for testing and characterisation of various optoelectronic modules.
- **Photonics Technology-** This technology uses light, photons, for data communication.

Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor located at Kalpakkam achieved critical stage for the first time -

- On 6 April, 2026, the 500 MW Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) located at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu achieved the first criticality (beginning of controlled fission chain reaction) stage.
- **Fast Breeder Reactor-**
 - Fast Breeder Reactors are different from conventional thermal reactors, which use uranium-plutonium mixed oxide fuel.
 - In this, no 'moderator' is used to slow down the speed of neutrons. This reactor produces more fuel than it consumes.

India's Three-Stage Nuclear Programme-

- The father of India's nuclear programme, Dr. Homi Jehangir Bhabha, had prepared a three-stage strategy -
- First Stage - Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR).
- Second Stage - Fast Breeder Reactor (FBR).
- Third Stage - Thorium-based Reactor.

Importance-

- This is a major step towards making India self-reliant in terms of nuclear fuel.
- This reactor opens the door to use India's vast thorium reserves.
- After Russia, India is the second country in the world which has a Fast Breeder Reactor operating at commercial level.

Miscellaneous Facts

- Recently, scientists have discovered a mysterious island of the size of the Pyramid of Giza in the danger zone of Antarctica. This island has been discovered in the north-western part of the Weddell Sea.
- Recently, a new species of frog named '*Limnonectes Motijheel*' has been discovered in the Namdapha Tiger Reserve of Arunachal Pradesh, which is a rare species that makes nests in mud.
- Recently, the World Health Organization has for the first time approved the malaria treatment for newborns and small children with artemether-lumefantrine anti-malarial formulation.
- Recently, Indian-origin American researcher Dr. Kumar Mrityunjay has prepared a 3D brain-like system. In this system, living neurons can develop and can also continuously communicate with the electronic system.

6**SPORTS****Cricket - Laura Cardoso became the first bowler in the world to take nine wickets in one innings of a T-20 International match-**

- Brazil's fast bowler Laura Cardoso has created history by taking nine wickets in one innings of a T-20 International match. Laura has become the first bowler in the world to do so.
- Laura took nine wickets for four runs in three overs against Lesotho. She achieved this feat against Lesotho during the 'Kalahari Women's T20I Tournament' in Botswana.
- This is the best performance by any male or female cricketer in T-20 International. Earlier, this record was in the name of Bhutan's Sonam Yeshey, who had taken eight wickets for seven runs against Myanmar in 2025.

Fanny Utagushimaninde

- She is a 15-year-old cricketer from Rwanda, who has become the youngest player to score a century in the history of Women's T-20 International cricket.
- Fanny played an unbeaten innings of 111 runs in just 65 balls against Ghana in the Nigeria Invitational Women's T-20 International Tournament.

Tamim Iqbal-

- He is a 37-year-old former legendary batsman of Bangladesh. He has been appointed by the Government of Bangladesh as the new President of the Bangladesh Cricket Board, becoming the youngest president in the history of this board.

Miscellaneous

- Recently, Varun Chakravarthy became India's fastest spinner to take 200 T-20 wickets. He achieved this feat in 155 innings.
- Recently, BCCI has extended the tenure of Ajit Agarkar as the Chief Selector of the Indian Cricket Team till the ODI World Cup 2027.
- Smriti Mandhana has made the record of scoring the most runs for India in T-20 International cricket. Smriti Mandhana scored 4,244 runs in 155 innings, while Rohit Sharma had scored a total of 4,231 runs in 151 innings.
- ICC selected India's Sanju Samson as the best male player of the month of March. Sanju Samson has become ICC Player of the Month for the first time.

- Recently, Indian-origin England cricketer Samit Patel has announced retirement from English domestic cricket after a 25-year long career.
- Gujarat Titans batsman Sai Sudharsan made the record of scoring the fastest 2,000 runs in IPL history. He achieved this feat in only 47 innings.
- Virat Kohli has become the first player in the world to complete 9000 runs in IPL. He achieved this feat in his 275th IPL match.
- Recently, Ritika Sri of Tamil Nadu has become the country's first transgender cricket umpire. Ritika Sri was born in Salem and she started umpiring from 2021.

Shooting/Archery- World Archery Para Series-2026

- Date of organisation- 30 March-4 April, 2026
- Venue- Bangkok, Thailand
- 113 players from 21 countries participated in this competition.
- India gave the best performance and secured first place in the medal tally with a total of 13 medals, 7 gold, 3 silver and 3 bronze, while Indonesia stood second (6 medals) and Thailand stood third (5 medals).
- 21 players from India participated in this competition.
- **Medal-winning players of India -**
 - Toman Kumar (Target Olympic Podium Scheme Athlete) - 3 gold (Compound Men Open, Mixed Team, Men's Team)
 - Sheetal Devi (TOPS athlete) - 2 gold (Mixed Team, Women's Team), 1 silver (Women Open)
 - Payal Nag - 2 gold (Women Open, Women's Team)
 - Harvinder Singh (Padma Shri, TOPS athlete) - 1 gold (Men's Team), 1 silver (Men Open)
 - Shyam Sundar Swami (TOPS athlete) - 1 gold (Men's Team), 1 bronze (Men Open)
 - Bhavana (National Centre of Excellence Athlete) - 1 gold (Women Open), 2 bronze (Mixed Team, Women's Team)
 - Swati Chaudhary - 1 silver (W1 Women)
 - Rajshree Dhanraj Rathore - 1 bronze (Women's Team)
 - Vijay Sundi - 1 gold (Men's Team), 1 bronze (Mixed Team)

ISSF (International Shooting Sport Federation) World Cup-2026

- Date of organisation- 5 to 12 April, 2026
- Venue- Granada, Spain
- In this competition, an 18-member Indian shooting team led by Olympians Chain Singh and Anjum Moudgil participated.
- Indian shooters Palak Gulia and Mukesh Nelavalli have won the gold medal in the 10 metre Air Pistol Mixed Team event with a score of 487.7.

Miscellaneous

- India's top shooter Shiva Narwal has won the gold medal in the men's 10 metre Air Pistol event of ISSF Junior World Cup-2026 held in Cairo, Egypt.

Chess

- **Bodhana Sivanandan-**
 - Indian-origin 11-year-old chess player Bodhana Sivanandan has become England's top female player according to the latest rating list of the International Chess Federation (FIDE). She currently has 2366 rating points.
 - Bodhana's parents moved from Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu to England in 2007.
- **Aarit Kapil achieved International Master Norm in Chess -**
 - Recently, 10-year-old Aarit Kapil of Delhi achieved the International Master (IM) Norm in chess by playing a draw in the final round of an international tournament in Spain.
 - He has become India's youngest chess player to achieve this feat.
 - Aarit played a draw with world champion Magnus Carlsen.
 - Earlier also, in December 2024, Aarit Kapil became the youngest Indian and the third youngest player in the world to defeat a Grandmaster by defeating America's Raset Ziatdinov in a classical chess match.
- **A.S. Sharvaanica became FIDE World Champion-**
 - Recently, World Under-10 Cadet Champion A.S. Sharvaanica has won the title of FIDE World Rapid Under-12 Girls Championship in Serbia.
 - A.S. Sharvaanica won the title by defeating Slovenia's Ema Jaksa in the ninth round of this championship. This is Sharvanika's second World Rapid title.
 - Sharvanika originally belongs to Udayarpalayam town of Ariyalur district of Tamil Nadu.

■ **R. Vaishali became the winner of the FIDE Women Candidates Tournament-2026 –**

- Indian chess Grandmaster R. Vaishali defeated Russian Grandmaster Kateryna Lagno and won the FIDE Women Candidates Tournament-2026.
- This tournament was organized by the International Chess Federation in Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus.
- 24-year-old Grandmaster R. Vaishali became the first Indian woman to win this tournament.

Miscellaneous

- Recently, Aranyak Ghosh of Kolkata has become India's 95th Grandmaster. At present, Aranyak is ranked 401st in the world ranking.

Badminton

- **Viktor Axelsen-**
 - He is a badminton player from Denmark who has recently announced retirement from badminton.
 - He has been a two-time Olympic champion, 2020 and 2024, two-time world champion and former World No. 1 player.
- **Badminton Asia Championship-2026**
 - Date of organisation- 7 to 12 April, 2026
 - Venue- Ningbo city, China
 - It is Asia's most prestigious individual badminton tournament.
- **India's performance –**
 - Ayush Shetty created history by winning the silver medal in the men's singles event. This is India's first silver medal in men's singles in the history of the Asian Badminton Championship. Ayush Shetty faced defeat at the hands of Shi Yu Qi of China. Before this, Dinesh Khanna (1965) is the only Indian to win gold.
- **Winners of various categories –**

Category	Winner	Country
Men's Singles	Shi Yuqi	China
Women's Singles	An Se-young	South Korea
Men's Doubles	Kim Won-ho and Seo Seung-jae	South Korea
Women's Doubles	Li Yijing and Luo Xumin	China
Mixed Doubles	Kim Jae-hyeon and Jang Ha-jeong	South Korea

Miscellaneous

- Recently, Indian shuttler P. V. Sindhu has been elected as a member of the Badminton World Federation Council. She has become one of the active players to get full voting rights in this global organization.

Football**■ Real Madrid U-19 became champion in UEFA Youth League-2025-26-**

- On 28 April, 2026, in the final of UEFA Youth League-2025-26, 12th season, Real Madrid U-19 defeated Club Brugge U-19 and became the winner for the second time.
- The final match of this match was held in Lausanne, Switzerland, in which after a 1-1 draw, Real Madrid defeated Club Brugge 4-2 in the penalty shootout and became champion.
- UEFA Youth League - It is a European youth club football competition organised by UEFA.

■ Crispin Chettri-

- The All India Football Federation has appointed former Indian football manager and footballer Crispin Chettri as the head coach of the Indian women's football team.
- Crispin Chettri has replaced Amelia Valverde.

Tennis -**■ Jessica Pegula of United States became the winner of the Charleston Open Tennis Tournament –**

- Top-seeded American Jessica Pegula won the title of the Charleston Open Tennis Tournament. Pegula became champion here for the second consecutive time.
- Pegula defeated Yuliia Starodubtseva 6-2, 6-2 in the final.

Wrestling**■ Asian Wrestling Championship-2026 –**

- Date of Organisation – 6 to 12 April, 2026
- Venue – Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- Competition Styles – Three (Greco-Roman, Women's Freestyle, Men's Freestyle)

■ India's performance – India won a total of 17 medals.

- 2 Gold – Sujit Kalkal (Men's 65 kg), Abhimanyu Mandwal (Men's 70 kg)
- 6 Silver – Lalit Sehrawat, Nitesh Siwach, Aman Sehrawat, Mukul Dahiya, Meenakshi Goyat, Sandeep Mann

- 9 Bronze – Sunil Kumar, Prince, Sachin Sehrawat, Hansika Lamba, Neha, Monika, Harshita, Ankush, Dinesh

■ Medals won by India in different Competitions–

- Greco-Roman Competition – Five medals (two silver and three bronze)
- Women's Freestyle Competition – Five medals (one silver and four bronze)
- Men's Freestyle Competition – Seven medals (two gold, three silver and two bronze)

Boxing -**■ Asian Boxing Championship-2026**

- Venue – Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- Date of Organisation – 28 March-11 April, 2026
- Organizer – By the Confederation affiliated to World Boxing

■ India's performance (overall) –

- Total medals – 16 medals (5 gold, 3 silver and 8 bronze)
- Position in medal table – India remained at second place in the medal table.
- Kazakhstan remained at first place with a total of 6 gold medals.

■ Performance of India's women's team –

- The women's team secured first place in the medal table.
- Total medals – 10 (4 gold, 2 silver, 4 bronze)
- Gold medal winners – Meenakshi Hooda, Preeti Pawar, Priya Ghanghas, Arundhati Choudhary

■ Performance of India's men's team –

- Total medals – 6 (1 gold, 1 silver, 4 bronze)
- Gold medal – Vishwanath Suresh (50 kg) – He won India's first men's Asian gold medal in 5 years.

Others

- Khelo India Tribal Games (KITG) 2026
- Edition – First
- Organisation – In Chhattisgarh from 25 March to 3 April, 2026
- This was India's first national multi-sport event dedicated to tribal athletes.
- Khelo India Tribal Games are part of the flagship Khelo India Scheme of the Government of India's Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- Organizers – Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Sports Authority of India (SAI), Indian Olympic Association (IOA), various National Sports Federations and the Government of Chhattisgarh.

- Official mascot – Morveer (Mor – mine or ours and Veer – courage or valor)
- Sports events – Seven events (Athletics, Football, Hockey, Weightlifting, Archery, Swimming and Wrestling)
- Apart from seven events, two demo games (Mallakhamb and Kabaddi) were also organized.
- Outstanding male athlete – Manikant L. of Karnataka (won eight gold and one silver medal)
- Outstanding female athlete – Anjali Munda of Odisha (five gold medals in swimming)
- **Medal table –**
 - Top position – Karnataka (23 gold, 8 silver and 7 bronze medals)
 - Second position – Odisha (21 gold, 15 silver, 21 bronze)
 - Rajasthan 22nd position (3 silver, 2 bronze)
- **India tops the doping suspension list –**
 - India has reached the top leaving Kenya behind in the list of athletes and members of associated support staff suspended due to doping violations by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU).
 - 148 athletes of India’s track and field and members of their support staff are suspended due to doping cases, which is two more than Kenya.
- **Rupa Bayor –**
 - She is an Indian taekwondo player from Arunachal Pradesh. She has achieved fifth position in the latest ranking of World Taekwondo. Rupa Bayor has become the first Indian taekwondo player to achieve this feat. Recently, she was also selected as India’s best taekwondo player of this year.
- **Launch of “Srinagar Khel Sankalp” –**
 - Recently, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya launched the ‘Srinagar Khel Sankalp’ on 26 April, 2026 in Srinagar to create an integrated and athlete-centric sports ecosystem in India.
- **Objective of Srinagar Khel Sankalp –**
 - To create an integrated and athlete-centric sports ecosystem in India.
 - It displays the collective resolve of the Centre, States and Union Territories.
- **Priorities –**
 - Better coordination between the States and the Centre to strengthen sports culture.
 - Expanding sports infrastructure and identifying talents at the grassroots level.

- Encouraging States to develop specific sports clusters based on their geographical and cultural characteristics.
- Preparing India to host major global sporting events like the Olympics and World Cup.
- Bringing transparency in sports administration and making it more professional.

Miscellaneous Facts :-

- International Volleyball Federation cancelled the recognition of the Volleyball Federation of India with immediate effect citing violation of legal and administrative standards.
- Recently, World Para Athletics Championships 2027 hosting was awarded to Uzbekistan. For the first time this event will be held in Central Asia.
- India will host the SAFF Championship for the second time in Goa from 25 May to 6 June, 2026. Earlier in the year 2016, India hosted it in Siliguri and won the title.
- In the Moscow Wushu Star Competition organized in Moscow, Shiv of Rajasthan won the gold medal in the 60 kilogram weight category and Dheeraj Choudhary won the silver medal in the 100 kilogram weight category.
- For the 5th Asian Beach Kabaddi Games to be held in Sanya (China) from 22-27 April, 4 players from Rajasthan (Men’s team – Bijendra Singh Choudhary, Jitendra Yadav, Jaybhagwan and Women’s team – Manpreet Kaur) have been selected in the Indian Kabaddi team.
- Indian runner Sawan Barwal completed the 42 kilometer Rotterdam Marathon organized in the Netherlands in 2:11:58 time and broke the record of 2:12:00 set by Shivnath Singh in the year 1978.
- Golfer Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland won the Masters Golf title for the second consecutive time.
- Recently, India won four gold medals in the Commonwealth Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships organized in Apia (Samoa). Gold medal winners – Sunil Singh, Aisangfa Gogoi, Abhinob Gogoi, Charu Pesi.
- Recently, the Indian women’s Kabaddi team won the gold medal and the men’s Kabaddi team won the silver medal in the Asian Beach Games 2026 held in China.
- Recently, in the Combined Classic-2026 Athletics Meet, Murali Sreeshankar won the gold medal in men’s long jump by jumping 8.12 meters. Earlier, he had won the silver medal in the Asian Games.

7

AWARDS AND HONOURS

M.S. Swaminathan Award-2024-25-

- Recently, Vice-Chancellor of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Dr. C. H. Srinivasa Rao, has been honoured with the 9th Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Award-2024-25.
- He has been given this honour for his contribution to climate-resilient agriculture and natural resource management.
- **M.S. Swaminathan Award-**
 - ❑ Establishment- Year 2004
 - ❑ Founder- Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences
 - ❑ First award - To Dr. Norman E. Borlaug on 15 March, 2005
 - ❑ This award honours Dr. M.S. and gives recognition to the works done by him.

'Samridhh Gram' initiative received nomination for WSIS Award-2026 –

- The 'Samridhh Gram' initiative of the Ministry of Communications has been nominated in the 'Enabling Environment' category for the 'World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Award-2026'.
- The nomination received by the Samridhh Gram initiative in this category confirms India's efforts at the global level to transform digital connectivity into socio-economic empowerment in rural areas.
- **'Samridhh Gram' initiative** – This initiative uses the BharatNet infrastructure (optical fiber network) under which Samridhh Kendras are established in villages which function as one-stop community centers.
- **WSIS Award** – These awards are given under a global competition organized by the International Telecommunication Union and other collaborating global institutions. The objective of these awards is to identify those projects which leverage information and communication technology to achieve sustainable development goals.

Wisden Cricketers' Almanack Award-2026

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- The awards of the 163rd edition of the Wisden Cricketers' Almanack have been announced. These awards are given by the cricket magazine Wisden.
- **Winners –**
 - ❑ Leading Men Cricketer in the World – Mitchell Starc (Australia)
 - ❑ Leading Women Cricketer in the World – Deepti Sharma (India)
 - ❑ Leading T-20 Cricketer in the World – Abhishek Sharma (India)
 - ❑ Wisden Trophy (Outstanding Individual Performance) – Shubman Gill (India)
 - ❑ Five Best Cricketers of the Year – Shubman Gill (India), Ravindra Jadeja (India), Rishabh Pant (India), Mohammed Siraj (India), Haseeb Hameed (England)

Laureus World Sports Awards 2026 –

- Recently, in the Laureus World Sports Awards show organized in Madrid, top athletes and teams who gave outstanding performances in the year 2025 were honored.
- **Awards winners –**
 - ❑ World Sportsman of the Year Awards – Carlos Alcaraz
 - ❑ World Sportswoman of the Year Awards – Aryna Sabalenka
 - ❑ Best Team of the Year – Paris Saint-Germain
 - ❑ Best Action Sports person of the Year – Chloe Kim
 - ❑ Best Young Player of the Year – Lamine Yamal
 - ❑ Lifetime Achievement Award – Nadia Comăneci

Naval Investiture Ceremony - 2026

- Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi presented gallantry and distinguished service awards to the personnel of the Indian Navy on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India in the Naval Investiture Ceremony held in Mumbai on 01 April, 2026. In this ceremony, individual awards included two Yudh Seva Medals, twelve Nau Sena Medals (Gallantry), eight Nau Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty) and eighteen Vishisht Seva Medals.

Sheetal Devi

- India's Sheetal Devi has been chosen by World Archery as the best para archer of the year 2025.
- 19-year-old Sheetal Devi of Jammu and Kashmir became the first and only armless archer to win a gold medal in the women's compound individual event at the World Para Archery Championship held in Gwangju, South Korea last year.
- In the men's category, Emircan Haney of Türkiye was chosen as the 'Best Archer of the Year'.
- The award for 'Best Young Archer of the Year' was given to Baptiste Addis of France.
- The award for 'Best Team of the Year' was won by Korea's recurve men's team.

Miscellaneous Facts:

- Recently, Bollywood actress Sayani Gupta has been named Person of the Year 2026 by the Harvard South Asian Association for significantly shaping South Asian identity and representation in public life.
- Shreya Shantanu Mundhada of Mumbai won the gold medal in the 15th European Girls' Mathematical Olympiad held in France. She became the first Indian girl student to do so.
- Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi has been inducted into the 'International Hall of Fame' of the US Army War College of America.
- Recently, botanist N. Aleem Yusuf of Kerala has been honored by the World Wide Fund for Nature for his AI-based mobile app. This app can identify about 100 invasive plants present in Kerala.
- Recently, National President of the All India Tent Decorator Welfare Association Dr. Ravi Jindal was honored with the Bharat Gaurav Award Gold Medal and certificate of appreciation in a ceremony organized in Bangkok.

Election and Appointment**National**

- **Ashok Kumar Lahiri** – He has been appointed as the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog. Shri Rajiv Gauba, Prof. K. V. Raju, Prof. Gobardhan Das, Prof. Abhay Karandikar and Dr. M. Srinivas have been appointed as full-time members of NITI Aayog.
- **NITI Aayog** – NITI – National Institution for Transforming India
 - Establishment – 1 January, 2015 (in place of the Planning Commission)

- It is the premier policy think tank of the Government of India.
- Objective – To promote the active participation of states in India's development and strengthen cooperative federalism.

Anupinder Singh Grewal

- Recently, the Central Government appointed retired judge Anupinder Singh Grewal as the Chairman of the National Company Law Tribunal.
- He has been a judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court and retired in March 2026 itself.
- **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** –
- Establishment – 1 June, 2016 (under Section 408 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013))
- It is a quasi-judicial body.
- It hears disputes and insolvency matters related to companies in India.

Dr. K.S. Somashekhar –

- He has been appointed as the Secretary of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat by Rajya Sabha Chairman Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan.

Lieutenant General Dheeraj Seth -

- Lieutenant General Dheeraj Seth has been appointed as the Vice Chief of Army Staff.
- Dheeraj Seth has experience of commanding an armored regiment, armored brigade and anti-terrorism force in Jammu and Kashmir.

William Walsh –

- The country's largest airline IndiGo has appointed former British Airways chief William Walsh as the new CEO.

Veer Vikram Yadav –

- He has been appointed to the post of Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). He is an Indian Administrative Service officer of the Odisha cadre.

Menaka Guruswamy –

- She is a Supreme Court lawyer who has taken oath as a Rajya Sabha member.
- She has become the country's first Member of Parliament who has accepted her queer identity.
- Queer are those people who identify differently from the traditional categories of gender identity.

Dinesh Trivedi –

- Recently, former Union Minister Dinesh Trivedi was appointed as India's new High Commissioner to Bangladesh. He has been a Member of Parliament from Barrackpore of Bengal, Railway Minister and Minister of State for Health.

Harivansh Narayan Singh –

- Recently, nominated Rajya Sabha member Harivansh Narayan Singh was unanimously elected Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha for the third consecutive time. Harivansh Narayan Singh has become the first Deputy Chairman of the country who was elected Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha while being a nominated member.
- **Election** – Any member of the Rajya Sabha can propose the name of another member. Along with the proposer, one seconder is mandatory. The proposed candidate has to give a declaration expressing willingness to hold the post.
- **Termination of office** – The office of the Deputy Chairman continues until –
 - ❑ His membership of the Rajya Sabha does not end.
 - ❑ He submits his resignation to the Chairman.
 - ❑ He is removed from office by the House.
- **Role and powers** –
 - ❑ In the absence of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman presides over the House and has all the powers of the Chairman.
 - ❑ The Deputy Chairman is not subordinate to the Chairman. He is directly accountable to the Rajya Sabha. When the Chairman is presiding over the House, the Deputy Chairman can participate in debates like an ordinary member and can vote.
- **Power of voting** – While presiding over the House, the Deputy Chairman cannot vote in the first instance. He votes only when there are equal votes in favor and against a matter.
- **Removal from office** – He can be removed by a resolution passed by the majority of the then members of the Rajya Sabha, however, it is mandatory to give 14 days prior notice for the resolution of removal.
- **Salary and allowances** – His salary and allowances are determined by Parliament and these are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.

Important facts regarding the post of Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha –

- **Constitutional provision** – Article 89(2) of the Constitution of India makes it mandatory that the Rajya Sabha shall elect one of its members as the ‘Deputy Chairman’.

International

- **Peter Magyar** – He has been elected as the Prime Minister of Hungary. He defeated Viktor Orban, leader of the Fidesz Party.
- **Min Aung Hlaing** – Army chief Min Aung Hlaing has been elected as the new President of Myanmar.
- **Uchral Nyam-Osor** – Mongolia has appointed 39-year-old leader Uchral Nyam-Osor as the country’s new Prime Minister.
- **Shri To Lam** – He has been elected as the President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.
- **Rumen Radev** – He is a politician of Bulgaria who has registered victory in Bulgaria’s parliamentary elections. His political party ‘Progressive Bulgaria’ received 44.7% votes.
- **Susan Coyle** – She is the first woman chief to be appointed to the post of Army Chief in Australia. Susan Coyle will assume the post of Army Chief in July.
- **Roman Gofman** – He will be appointed as the next chief of Mossad, the intelligence agency of Israel. He had been the military secretary to Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.
- **Nizar Amidi** – The Parliament of Iraq elected Nizar Amidi as the country’s new President. Amidi has become the 11th President of Iraq.
- **Mangala Kuppa** – She is an Indian-origin technology expert who has been appointed as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the United States Department of Labor.
- **Deep Jariwala** – He is an Indian-origin American scientist. He has been appointed as the prestigious UT-ORNL Governor Chair for Quantum Devices in the United States.

Prominent Personalities

- **Sudarsan Pattnaik** – The Ministry of Home Affairs has made sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik the brand ambassador of ‘Census 2027’. Through his art, he will spread awareness about the country’s first digital census.
- **Padma Viswanathan** – She is a renowned Indian-origin writer and translator who has made a place in the final list of the ‘International Booker Prize 2026’. She received this nomination for the English translation of the famous novel ‘On Earth as It Is Beneath’ by Brazilian writer Ana Paula Maia.

- **Divya Singh** – She is a 28-year-old teacher from Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh) who has achieved the distinction of becoming the first Indian woman to reach the Mount Everest Base Camp by bicycle. Divya Singh covered a height of 17,560 feet in a 14-day journey.

Demises

- **Asha Bhosle**- Famous playback singer Asha Bhosle passed away on 10 April, 2026 at the age of 92.
- **Major facts-**
 - ❑ Birth- 8 September, 1933, Sangli, Maharashtra
 - ❑ She was the younger sister of Lata Mangeshkar.
 - ❑ Awards and honours - Maharashtra Bhushan (2021), Padma Vibhushan (2008), Dadasaheb Phalke Award, National Film Award, Grammy Nomination (1997).
- **Nadendra Bhaskara Rao**- He was the former Chief Minister of undivided Andhra Pradesh, who passed away at the age of 90. Bhaskara Rao is remembered for the ‘August Coup’ of the year 1984, which was a major political crisis of Andhra Pradesh.
- **Balbir Punj**- He was a former member of Rajya Sabha, journalist and senior BJP leader. He passed away on 18 April, 2026 at the age of 76.
- **Mohsina Kidwai**- Former senior Congress leader and former Union Minister Mohsina Kidwai passed away on 8 April, 2026 at the age of 94. She had been a Member of Parliament from Meerut and a Rajya Sabha member from Chhattisgarh.
- **Colonel Sonam Wangchuk**- Colonel Sonam Wangchuk, honoured with Maha Vir Chakra and a brave warrior of the 1999 Kargil War, passed away on 10 April, 2026. During Operation Vijay, his courageous actions, setting a personal example, had inspired his soldiers even in the most challenging circumstances. In the year 2017, then President Ram Nath Kovind released a documentary named “Lion of Ladakh”, which is about those soldiers under the leadership of Wangchuk who drove away the enemy army from Chorbat La.
- **Gurbaksh Singh Grewal**- He was a hockey player, who recently passed away. In the 1968 Mexico Olympics, hockey players Gurubaksh Singh Grewal and Balbir Singh Grewal, both real brothers, participated and played an important role in helping India win the bronze medal.
- **Guru Bhagwandas Raikwar ‘Dau’** - Recently, 83-year-old Akhada Guru Bhagwandas Raikwar ‘Dau’, who was selected for the Padma Shri honour

in the year 2026, passed away. He had played an important role in giving global recognition to the ancient weapon art ‘Akhada’ of Bundelkhand.

- **Alexander Leonov** - He was a Russian missile designer and one of the key persons of the India-Russia joint venture ‘BrahMos Aerospace’. He passed away at the age of 74.
- **Raghu Rai** – He was a veteran photographer of India and a person honoured with Padma Shri (1972).
 - ❑ He recently passed away in Delhi on 26 April, 2026 at the age of 83 years.
 - ❑ He was considered one of the most prominent photographers of modern India.

Conference/Meeting/Fair-Festival/Exhibition

Global Conference of Meditation Leaders (GCML) -

- Date of organisation- 3-5 April, 2026
- Venue- Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- Organiser- By Pyramid Spiritual Societies Movement and Buddha-CEO Quantum Foundation
- Objective- To promote meditation for mental health, freedom from stress and global peace.

India Pharma Conference 2026-

- Date of organisation- 13-14 April, 2026
- Venue- FICCI, Federation House, New Delhi
- Theme- Discover in India: Leapfrogging Life-Sciences Innovation
- Organiser- By Department of Pharmaceuticals in collaboration with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA)
- This event is a leading platform to deliberate on opportunities, challenges and strategies to strengthen India’s leadership in the global pharmaceutical ecosystem.

International Election Visitors’ Programme (IEVP)-

- The Election Commission of India organised the International Election Visitors’ Programme (IEVP) for foreign election management bodies during the Lok Sabha Election-2026.
- Representatives of election management bodies from several countries participated in this programme.
- Its objective was to acquaint foreign participants with India’s election process, election management and the use of technology.

Tri-service Seminar ‘Ran Samvad’ –

- Date of Organization – 9-10 April, 2026

- Venue – Air Force Training Command, Bengaluru
- Theme – High-intensity operations in transparent and expanded battlefield: Challenges of force application and force protection.
- This edition symbolizes the beginning of continuous and organized dialogue on emerging paradigms of warfare. In this seminar, discussions were held on preparing a framework to prepare India's defence forces for multidimensional conflict including land, air, sea, cyber, space and cognitive domains.

Sadhana Week-

- Date of organisation- 2 to 8 April, 2026
- This national initiative is focused on technology, tradition and concrete outcomes in line with the goal of 'Viksit Bharat 2047', which promotes capacity development for civil servants and citizen-centric governance under 'Mission Karmayogi'.
- Sadhana- Strengthening Adaptive Development and Humane Aptitude for National Advancement

7th National Review Conference-

- Date of organisation- 9 and 10 April, 2026
- Venue- Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- Related Ministry- Ministry of Cooperation
- Objective- To expand the cooperative sector, accelerate reforms and realise the vision of 'Sahakar Se Samridhi'.

Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF)-

- Edition- 19th edition
- Date of organisation- 15 to 21 June, 2026
- Venue- NFDC Complex, Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Organiser- By National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- Objective – To provide a platform to documentary filmmakers, film professionals, cinema lovers, writers, academicians, critics, journalists, students, and participants from India and across the world, and to recognize the work done by them.
- Established in 1990, MIFF is South Asia's oldest and largest non-feature film festival. It is a biennial event.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)-India Region Zone-VII Conference-

- Date of organisation- 9 and 10 April, 2026
- Venue- Panaji, Goa
- Inauguration- Shri Om Birla, Speaker of Lok Sabha
- Objective- To strengthen parliamentary cooperation, exchange good experiences and deliberate on important issues related to the development of the region.

- Zone VII of the CPA India Region consists of the Legislative Assemblies of Goa, Gujarat and Maharashtra. This is the first conference of Zone VII after the CPA India Region was reorganised into 9 zones in the year 2024.

National Poshan Pakhwada-

- Edition- 8th
- Date of organisation- 9 to 23 April, 2026
- Organiser- Ministry of Women and Child Development
- Theme- "Maximising Brain Development in the First Six Years of Life"
- It reaffirms the government's commitment to improving nutritional outcomes across the country.
- Note- At present, the Union Minister of Women and Child Development is Smt. Annapurna Devi.

Maintenance Command Commanders' Conclave 2026-

- Date of organisation- 10-11 April, 2026
- Venue- Vayusena Nagar, Nagpur
- Organiser- Indian Air Force
- Theme- "Maintenance Command in Mission Mode to Support Operations"
- Objective- To increase efficiency, ensure optimum use of resources, strengthen maintenance support systems to maintain readiness for continuous combat action, promote technological integration with modernisation and adopt best practices to effectively face emerging challenges.

Seafood Exporters Meet 2026-

- Date of organisation- 11 April, 2026
- Venue- Ambedkar Bhawan, New Delhi
- Organiser- Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- Objective- To provide a systematic platform for dialogue between government and industry-related stakeholders and to receive feedback from exporters on current challenges related to market access, pricing pressure and compliance requirements.
- India's marine food exports have recorded an average annual growth of 7% during the last 11 years. Marine food exports increased from ₹30,213 crore in 2013-14 to ₹62,408 crore in 2024-25.

Indian Navy Commanders' Conference-2026-

- Edition- First edition
- Date of organisation- 14-16 April, 2026
- Venue- Naval Bhawan, New Delhi
- Objective- To conduct a comprehensive review of

the operational status of the Navy for protection of national maritime interests, capability development and strategic alignment with national security.

World Border Security Congress 2026-

- Date of organisation- 14-16 April, 2026
- Venue- Vienna, Austria
- Objective- To promote international cooperation for dealing with border management, security challenges and immigration.
- **World Border Security Congress-**
 - Establishment- In the year 2012
 - It is a prestigious international forum, which provides an opportunity for extensive deliberation on emerging challenges related to border management, cutting-edge technological innovations and best practices.

Food Business Startup Promotion Programme 2.0-

- Date of organisation- 16-17 April, 2026
- Venue- National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Thanjavur
- Organiser- Department of Food Business Management
- Objective- To strengthen food business-related capabilities and provide structured guidance to aspiring food entrepreneurs, students and early-stage startup founders.

India International Water Week (IIWW)-2026-

- Edition- 9th edition
- Theme- Climate-Adaptive Water Management.
- Date of organisation- 22-26 September, 2026
- Venue- Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- Objective- To address global water challenges, promote sustainable development and showcase innovative solutions.

Naval Civilian Investiture Ceremony-

- Date of organisation- 23 April, 2026
- Venue- Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
- This ceremony was organised with the objective of recognising the invaluable contribution of naval civilians in the successful completion of Indian Navy operations.

WTO's 14th Ministerial Conference-

- Edition- 14th
- Date of organisation- 26-29 March, 2026
- Venue- Yaoundé, Cameroon
- The Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is the highest decision-making body of the WTO. The meeting of this Ministerial Conference must be held at least once every two

years. India was represented in this conference by Piyush Goyal and he discussed WTO reforms, fisheries subsidies, e-commerce and agriculture-related issues.

- **‘Yaoundé Package’-** This is the initial outcome of this conference, which was prepared to strengthen global trade rules, including declaration on trade and health, reforms and special measures for small economies, which will now be finalised in Geneva.

Advanced Agriculture Festival-

- Date of organisation- 11 to 13 April, 2026
- Venue- Dussehra Maidan, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh
- Objective- To implement the resolve of developed farming-prosperous farmer.
- In this festival, organised by the Centre in collaboration with the State Government, successful models and initiatives of farming through modern technology, drones, nano fertilizers, micro-irrigation and climate-smart farming were discussed and displayed.

Meeting of Joint Group on Customs between India and Bhutan-

- Meeting number - Seventh
- Date of organisation- 20-21 April, 2026
- Venue- Munnar, Kerala
- Objective- To promote bilateral trade between India and Bhutan, curb cross-border smuggling and simplify and digitise customs procedures.
- At present, India is Bhutan's largest trading partner and about 80 percent of Bhutan's total trade is with India.
- In the financial year 2024-25, bilateral trade between the two countries was more than 1.9 billion dollars, which shows an increase of more than 46 percent compared to the previous financial year.

India Pharma 2026 -

- Edition- 9th edition
- Date of organisation- 13-14 April, 2026
- Venue- Federation House, FICCI, New Delhi
- Organiser- Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India, in collaboration with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA)
- Theme- “Discover in India: Leapfrogging Life-Sciences Innovation.”
- This conference provides a platform for sectoral development and international cooperation, focusing on India's pharmaceutical capabilities, Research and Development (R&D) and strengthening of global supply chains.

FICCI-

- FICCI- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- Establishment- In the year 1927. It is India's oldest and largest apex business organisation. It represents the voice of India's trade and industry.

World Small-Scale Fisheries Conference-2026-

- Edition – 5th
- Date of Organisation – 27-30 April, 2026
- Venue – Hua Hin, Thailand
- Organizer – By the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and TBTI Global
- Theme – “Promoting equitable sustainability, youth future and regenerative knowledge for small-scale fisheries”
- Objective – To promote justice and conflict resolution in coastal and marine areas, empower youth in fisheries and marine management and promote regenerative, climate-resilient practices based on traditional knowledge.
- Around 300 representatives from 50 countries participated in this event and 45 technical sessions were organized.
- India was represented in this by Dr. Abhilaksh Likhi, Secretary of the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India.

India-Kenya Joint Trade Committee Meeting –

- Session Number – 10th
- Date of Organisation – 27-28 April, 2026
- Venue – Nairobi, Kenya
- Objective – To review and strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.
- This meeting was focused on increasing trade diversification, resolving issues related to market access and taking advantage of complementarities in sectors like engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, agriculture and electronics.
- Total trade between India and Kenya in 2025-26 was 4.31 billion US dollars, which registered a growth of 24.91 percent from 3.45 billion US dollars in 2024-25.

CERT-In Samvaad-2026 –

- Date of Organisation – 27 to 29 April, 2026
- Venue – Goa
- Organizer – CERT-In with the support of BITS Pilani, Goa
- Theme – “Securing Digital India through Future Ready Audits: Adapting, Assuring, Advancing”

- Objective – To strengthen India's cyber security audit ecosystem.

Bitcoin-2026 Conference –

- Date of Organisation – 27 to 29 April, 2026
- Venue – Las Vegas, United States
- Organizer – Bitcoin Magazine
- Theme – Bitcoin fundamentals, AI + Compute + Mining, and self-sovereignty.
- It is the biggest annual conference of the cryptocurrency Bitcoin.
- This time, guests in this annual conference were welcomed by a humanoid robot named 'Melody'. This M-Series robot Melody developed by Canadian company Realbotix has been specially designed for the service sector.

National Summit on Best and Exemplary Practices and Innovations in Public Healthcare Systems –

- Edition – 10th
- Date of Organisation – 30 April to 1 May, 2026
- Venue – Chandigarh
- Organizer – Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- This national summit is a major initiative of the Ministry of Health.
- Objective – To showcase, recognize and document innovative and effective practices adopted by States and Union Territories to deal with various public health challenges.
- The 9th edition of this summit was organized in Puri, Odisha from 28 February to 1 March, 2025.

Campaign/ Operation/ War Exercise**Cyclone-IV Exercise-**

- Edition- Fourth edition
- Date of organisation- 9-17 April, 2026
- Venue- Anshas area, Egypt
- This exercise symbolises the continuity of growing military cooperation between India and Egypt.
- Objective- To strengthen joint mission planning capabilities through exchange of best practices in special operations and further improve mutual coordination between the two armies.

Operation Dahabu Blitz-

- This is an operation conducted by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) against organised gold smuggling at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. Under this, 29.37 kg of gold has been seized from a group of women smugglers who arrived from Nairobi.

Operation Him Setu-

- This was a campaign conducted by the Trishakti Corps of the Eastern Command of the Indian Army and BRO personnel. This campaign was conducted to rescue people stranded after snowfall and landslides between Lachen and Chungthang in North Sikkim.

Brahmastra Military Exercise-

- Recently, the Indian Army demonstrated its modern military strength under the Brahmastra Military Exercise at Pokhran Field Firing Range on 9 April, 2026. This military exercise was organised by the Southern Command.

Joint Military Exercise 'DUSTLIK' -

- Edition- 7th edition
- Date of organisation- 12 to 25 April, 2026
- Venue- Gurumsaray Field Training Area, Uzbekistan
- Objective- To promote military cooperation and enhance joint capabilities to carry out joint operations in semi-mountainous terrain.
- It is an annual exercise which is conducted alternately in India and Uzbekistan. Its previous edition was held in April 2025 at the Foreign Training Node located in Aundh, Pune.

IN-SLN DIVEX-2026 Exercise-

- Edition- Fourth edition
- Date of organisation- 21-27 April, 2026
- Venue- Sri Lanka
- This exercise is an important bilateral initiative which is proof of the deep maritime partnership between India and Sri Lanka.
- Objective- Continuous maritime cooperation and activities with partner countries, promoting stability, cooperation and collective development in the Indian Ocean Region.

Important Days**Civil Services Day-2026-**

- Date- Every year on 21 April
- Theme- "Viksit Bharat: Citizen-Centric Governance and Development till the Last Mile."

- The objective of organising this day is to mark the dedication, hard work and public service of the civil servants of the country.

World Earth Day-2026-

- Date- Every year on 22 April
- Theme- "Our Power, Our Planet"
- The objective of organising this day is to make people aware of environmental protection and inspire them to take action against serious problems like climate change and pollution.

National Panchayati Raj Day-2026-

- Date- Every year on 24 April
- Venue- Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
- Organiser- Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- This day is organised in memory of the implementation of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act.

47th Foundation Day of Project Chetak-

- Project Chetak of the Border Roads Organisation celebrated its 47th Foundation Day on 4 April, 2026 in Bikaner, Rajasthan.
- Project Chetak was started on 4 April, 1980 for development and maintenance of infrastructure in Rajasthan, Punjab and northern parts of Gujarat.

World Heritage Day-

- Date- Every year on 18 April
- Theme- Emergency Response for Living Heritage in the Context of Conflicts and Disasters
- Objective- To spread awareness among people about the conservation of cultural and natural heritage across the world.

World Health Day 2026-

- Date- 7 April
- Theme- United for Health. Stand with Science.
- Objective- To increase awareness about major global health issues, prevention of diseases and emphasis on availability of good health services for all.

World Homoeopathy Day-2026-

- Date- Every year on 10 April
- Theme- "Homoeopathy for Sustainable Health."
- This day is celebrated as the birth anniversary of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, the father of Homoeopathy.
- On this day, the Union Ministry of AYUSH celebrated a national ceremony on the theme "Homoeopathy for Long-Term Health".

World Intellectual Property Day –

- Organisation – Every year on 26 April
- Theme – IP and Sports: Ready, Set, Innovate

- Related organization – World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- Objective – To increase global awareness about intellectual property rights such as patents, trademarks, and copyrights in promoting creativity and innovation.

Miscellaneous

Azad Bharat Film-

- This is a Hindi patriotic film made on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. This film has been produced and directed by Dr. Roopa Iyer.

'Yashoda and Krishna' Painting-

- The famous 'Yashoda and Krishna' painting painted by Raja Ravi Varma has made the record of being the most expensive work of Indian art so far by being auctioned for ₹167.20 crore.
- This painting was auctioned in Saffronart's Spring Live Auction, Delhi. Earlier, this record was in the name of M. F. Husain's 1954 painting 'Untitled (Gram Yatra)', which was sold for ₹118 crore in the year 2025.

ANMOL Scheme-

- This is a health scheme of the Delhi Government, through which 56 diseases will be tested from one drop of blood of newborn babies. This will help detect congenital diseases early and make treatment easier.
- This scheme will help poor families avoid expensive tests and reduce infant mortality rate.

Tides of Time: Bharat's History Through Murals in Parliament-

- This is a book written by Smt. Sudha Murty, which was released by Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan. This book brings India's history alive through murals.

Queen Ants-

- These are ants found in Kenya. Illegal smuggling of these queen ants has increased rapidly because people, as a hobby, keep them in glass boxes and watch them build homes.

Energy Resources – Rajasthan



Energy is required in all aspects of human life. In modern times, we cannot think about human progress and development without energy resources. In any country, there is a close relationship between energy consumption and economic development (which is measured in the form of GDP – Gross Domestic Product).

“Cost of energy” (price) and availability of energy are two major factors in promoting the economic development of any country or state.



Ashok Kumar Sharma

Deputy Commissioner (GST)

Classification of Energy Resources

- Energy resources are broadly classified on the basis of use and availability.

(A) Classification on the Basis of Traditional use

- (a) Conventional
- (b) Non-Conventional

(B) Classification on the Basis of Availability

- (a) Renewable
- (b) Non-Renewable

(C) ‘Classification on the basis of use’ – It is classified into two parts.

- (a) Conventional
- (b) Non-Conventional

Why is the energy produced by conventional sources called ‘conventional’? The following are its reasons.

1. **Used for a long time** – These have been used for a long time (for more than one generation), that is, these are older than non-conventional sources.
 2. **Well Established** – These are widely established, that is, due to these energy production technologies being very old, their production system has become established.
 3. **Back Bone of Energy Production** – These have been the major basis of electricity production in most parts of the world for a long time.
- That is, these energy/electricity production technologies are being used on a large scale in energy production since “A New World” (which is considered from the establishment of UNO on 24 October 1945).
 - Conventional energy resources can be divided in the following manner on the basis of consumption/use.

(A) Commercial

1. Coal
2. Petroleum
3. Natural Gas
4. Electricity – (i) Hydroelectricity, (ii) Thermal Electricity

(B) Non-Commercial

1. Wood
2. Dung cakes

- This classification (a) and (b) is based on NCERT Class X and Contemporary India–II book chapter Mineral and Energy Resources chapter (Hindi medium), page number 61.
- Similarly, in conventional sources of energy resources – (i) Fossil fuels (coal, petroleum, natural gas) and nuclear energy are conventional sources of energy.
- NCERT Class XI Geography: It is based on India: People and Economy Part–II (Hindi medium) page number 76.
- Thus, in any examination/article, we can briefly explain the types of conventional energy in this manner.

‘Conventional Energy’

- It has the following three types –
 1. Thermal Electricity
 2. Hydroelectricity
 3. Atomic Electricity

1. Thermal Electricity – Its sources – Fossil fuels

- (a) Coal
- (b) Petroleum
- (c) Natural Gas

- (a) **Coal** – On the basis of origin of coal (chronology), quantity of carbon and other characteristics (percentage of residual ash etc.), it is mainly of 4 types.

- i. **Anthracite** – This is the best type of coal. It contains 80% to 95% carbon. It contains very little volatile matter. The quantity of moisture is negligible or very low. The percentage of ash is also very low. It burns slowly, burns with a blue flame like LPG gas, due to being the most transformed it is dense, hard and black. It is the final stage of carbonization. It is also called hard coal.

- Due to high carbon percentage, it is mainly used as fuel in metallurgy and thermal power production plants.

- It contains –
 - ❑ Carbon – 93.50
 - ❑ Hydrogen – 2.8%
 - ❑ Oxygen – 2.72%
 - ❑ Nitrogen – .97%
 - ❑ Others – .01
- It burns smokelessly, therefore it was mostly used earlier for heating rooms.
- Its color is black, but when held in hand it does not blacken the hand. It has semi-metallic shine. Its three categories are seen.
 - (A) Standard Grade
 - (B) High Grade
 - (C) Ultra High Grade
- Anthracite is made from the Greek word “Anthrakites”, which means “coal-like”.
- Due to the very low quantity of sulphur, it is a very clean combustible fuel.
- In the UK Clean Air Act-1993, it used to be an approved fuel.
- ii. **Bituminous** – Soft coal, the most widely available and used coal, its name has been kept on the liquid substance named bitumen. It contains 45% to 86% carbon. Compared to lignite, it has less moisture, more volatile matter and higher calorific value. It is better than lignite but has lower carbon concentration than anthracite. It is often layered. It is called soft coal or black coal because its color is deep black.
 - Due to high calorific value, it is used in electricity production plants and in coke production for making steel. On burning, it burns with strong and long flames along with smoke. In Germany, it is known as “steam-coal”.
- iii. **Lignite Coal** – It is called brown coal. The quantity of carbon is 40% to 55% (according to NCERT). It contains a high quantity of moisture (more than 75%), ash 6-19%. It is crumbly. Its thermal value is low. Due to moisture, it produces more smoke while burning. In this, the danger of spontaneous combustion (catching fire on its own) is high, due to which accidents occur in mines.
 - It is used for electricity production and industrial fuel (brick industry, ceramic industry). It is the youngest type of coal. Burning of this produces more emission of CO₂ and sulphur, which makes it more polluting. It is also called stone coal. It represents the initial stage of transformation of plant tissues. It looks like soil, therefore it is called brown coal.
- iv. **Peat** – It is the primary stage of coal formation. It is of the lowest grade. Moisture is very high, on burning it gives more smoke, a lot of ash is formed. It gives less heat. It contains less than 45% carbon (according to NCERT).
- In India/Rajasthan, electricity is not produced from petroleum products for public distribution. However, in public/government and private offices/industries, electricity is produced according to energy consumption from petroleum products through generators.
- To study thermal power generation plants, it is necessary to know some technical terminology.
 - i. Sub Critical Unit
 - ii. Super Critical Unit
 - iii. Ultra Super Critical Unit
 - iv. Super Thermal Power Plant
- Similarly, in thermal power generation from natural gas –
 - v. Steam Turbine Unit
 - vi. Gas Turbine Unit
- In any thermal power generation plant, there are many units of electricity production. Before 2009, only sub-critical units used to exist. The main difference between a sub-critical unit and super critical unit is the pressure and temperature generated by the boiler.
- **Sub-critical power unit** – These are those units which work below the critical point of water 221.2 bar. These produce steam by using a boiler drum, and the steam rotates the turbine, due to which electricity is produced.
- Their design is simple and the initial capital cost is low. In contrast, super critical power plant units work at temperatures above 374°C and pressure above 221.2 bar. In this, no drum is used and water directly becomes steam.
- **In super critical** –
 - ❑ Less use of coal
 - ❑ Less pollution/less emission
 - ❑ Capital cost is high
 - ❑ Operational cost is low
 - ❑ High efficiency (compared to traditional sub-critical, it has up to 46% more energy efficiency)
 - ❑ Environmental pollution is less
 - ❑ In super critical there is a once-through boiler, where water passing through the boiler becomes superheated steam.
 - ❑ Super critical units are more than 600MW/660MW, whereas sub-critical units are of less than 500 MW capacity.

- Ultra-Super Critical – Just as efficiency in sub-critical is 33% to 37%, and in super critical efficiency is 42% to 46%, similarly by using high technology in USC the target efficiency remains from 47% to 50%. This is the most modern technological method. These generate more electricity by burning less coal. Similarly, there is less emission of CO₂. These are almost eco-friendly.
- In sub-critical, for production of 1KW electricity – 600 gm coal is used, in super critical for production of 1KW electricity 500 gram coal is used and in U.S.C. 450 gram coal is used.
- At present, work on Advance Ultra Super Critical is continuing.

Coal-based Thermal Power Generation Plants of Rajasthan

- Here, coal means the use of anthracite and bituminous coal.
- 1. **Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Plant** – Prabhat Colony, Thukrana village, Suratgarh, Sri Ganganagar. This is the first super thermal power plant of the state.
 - **Super Thermal Power Plant** – It is a power plant whose production capacity is more than 1000 MW.
 - There are 6 units of 250 megawatt sub-critical units here.
 - The first unit in this was started in May 1998.
 - In March, 2002, after the production of the fourth unit, it became the first super thermal power station of the state.
 - Coal is made available through rail transport.
 - Required water is made available from the Biradhwal head of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project. (1890 FMCT/60 cusec water has been allocated from this project.)
 - At present, there are 8 units here. Out of these, 6 units are sub-critical units and the remaining 2 units are super critical 660 MW.
 - Thus, at present the total production –
 - 250 MW × 6 UNIT = 1500 MW
 - 660 MW × 2 unit = 1320 MW
 - Total = 2820 MW
 - Thus at present (month May, 2026), the thermal electricity production capacity of this plant is the highest in the state.
 - Note – This is the first super thermal power plant of the state. But this is not the first critical super power plant of the state. Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Plant is such a plant which received Gold Shield in 2004 and Bronze Shield in 2005, 2006 from the Prime Minister for continuously best performance.

- SSTPS: Operated by Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (State Government).
- The responsibility of its security is with the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).
- Sub-bituminous coal is supplied from Parsa East Kanta Basan PEKB Block (Korba district, Chhattisgarh).
- 2. **Kota Super Thermal Power Station** – This is the first coal-based electricity plant of the state, which was started in 1983.
 - Suratgarh Thermal Power Station is the second power plant in the state.
 - Located on the western bank (left bank) of the Chambal River.
 - **Water supply** – Water is supplied from Kota Barrage to the thermal power plant for making steam. Note carefully – Near Kota Barrage there is a thermal power plant whereas Kota Dam (Jawahar Sagar) is a hydroelectric power plant in the Chambal River Valley Project.
 - It became the second super thermal power station of the state in 2004.
 - **There are 7 units here.**
 - 110 MW × 2 Unit
 - 210 MW × 3 Unit
 - 195 MW × 2 Unit
 - Total – 1240 MW – 7 Unit
 - In the report of “Centre for Science and Environment”, New Delhi, in 2021 this plant was described as highly polluting. Therefore, now new units are not being installed here.
 - This is such a plant where thermal electricity is produced only from sub-critical units, there are no super critical units.
 - This plant is also operated by the state government electricity company Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited.
 - In 2022-23, preparations were made to close its first and second units. But to avoid unemployment of workers, it was not closed. But again in March, 2026 it was said that if approval from the Environment Department is not received in 2030, then units 1, 2, 3, 4 may have to be closed, because the average normal working life of power plant units is considered to be 25 years, and by 2030 these units will have completed more than 25 years.
- 3. **Chhabra Super Thermal Power Station, Motipura Chowk, Chhabra, Baran**
 - This is the third thermal electricity generation plant of the state.

- According to chronology in establishment of thermal power plants –
 1. Kota – 1983
 2. Suratgarh – 1998
 3. Chhabra – 2009-10
 - ❑ In 2009-10, 2 units of 250 MW
 - ❑ Third unit of 250 MW in 2013
 - ❑ Fourth unit of 250 MW started in 2014. Thus, it became the third super thermal power station of the state.

According to chronology –

- **Order of establishment of super thermal power stations –**
 1. SSTPS Suratgarh (Sri Ganganagar)
 2. KSTPS Kota
 3. CSTPS Chhabra (Baran)
 - ❑ In the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17), 5th and 6th units of 660 MW × 2 Unit were established.
 - ❑ Unit – 5 – Started in April, 2017
 - ❑ Unit – 6 – Commercial production started in March, 2019.
 - ❑ Starting of units or completion of construction and connecting it to the grid – these are different dates.
 - ❑ Dates of units are given on the RVUNL website as follows –
 - ❑ Date of Unit-5 – 9.8.18, 9 August, 2018
 - ❑ Date of Unit-6 – 2.4.19, 2 April, 2019
- Thus, CSTPS Chhabra (Baran) in 2019 was the highest thermal electricity producing plant of the state, which was asked in many examinations at that time. Now it is not the highest producing plant.
- Water supply to CSTPS comes from Hinglot Dam, Baran and Bethli Dam (Baran).
- In the year 2017, NTPC Limited (Government of India) acquired CSTPS and made an agreement with the Rajasthan Government.
- At present ownership – RVVNL – 51%
- NTPC – 49% (in NTPC GOI – 51.1%, Small shareholders – 48.9%)
- At present there are 6 units here, whose production capacity –
 - ❑ 250 MW × 4 Unit = 1000 MW
 - ❑ 660 MW × 2 Unit = 1320 MW
 - ❑ Total = 2320 MW, second highest production plant in the state.
- At present highest electricity production in the state (May, 2026)
 1. SSTPS – 2820 MW
 2. CSTPS – 2320 MW
 3. KSTPS – 1240 MW
 4. Kalisindh STPS – 1200 MW

- In July, 2022, approval was given to the proposal for establishment of two more units of 660 megawatt at CSTPS (Chhabra, Baran). Therefore, in the future 660 MW × 2 Unit is proposed here. Thus at present (May, 2026) not now but in future its production capacity may become – 2320 MW + 660 MW × 2 Unit = 1320 MW = 3640 MW.

4. **Kalisindh Super Thermal Power Station** – This is the fourth super thermal power station of the state government. It is located near the Kalisindh Dam between the five villages of Undal, Nibhoda, Motipura, Sighania and Deori villages. But its main branch is considered to be “Undal”.

There are two units here – 600 MW × 2 Unit

I Unit – 7/05/2014

II Unit – 25/07/2015

(according to the RVVNL website)

- This is such a super thermal power plant of the state where there is not even a single sub-critical unit.
- Therefore, it can be called the “state’s completely super critical power plant”.
- 800 MW × 2 Unit has been proposed here since July 2022. It is only proposed. At present, only for installation of one unit of 800 megawatt, signing on J.V. (Joint Venture) was done in September, 2024. Work has not started yet.
- Name of the project – 1 × 800 Ultra Super Critical Kalisindh Coal Fired Thermal Power Plant. This decision was taken on 9 January, 2026.
- The above 4 super thermal power stations belong to the state government.

Thermal Power Plants of Private Sector :-

1. **Kawai Super Thermal Power Station** – After private sectors got permission for coal mining in 2009, Rajasthan’s APRL – Adani Power Rajasthan Limited established the first super thermal power station of the private sector in Kawai village of Baran district of Rajasthan.
 - **Kawai Super Thermal Power Project – Kawai (Atru-Baran)**
660 MW × 2 Unit = 1320 MW
 - It is the first super critical thermal power station of the private sector in the state.
 - 4 units of 800 megawatt are proposed.
 - **Water supply** – It is supplied from the Parwan Dam (Baran) of the Parwan Medium Irrigation Project.
 - First unit in January, 2013
 - The second unit has been running since January, 2014.

- The three DISCOMs of the state – JVVNL, AVVNL, JDVVNL – purchase 1200 MW electricity.
- 2. BSTPS Banswara Super Thermal Power Station** – Danpur (Banswara) – This is a proposed STPS for the private sector. But the Dungarpur-Ratlam railway line project is under construction. Therefore, until this railway line is completed, this project cannot be started.

Thermal Power Plants Based on Lignite Coal

- By coal, anthracite and bituminous coal are generally meant, but if in any context questions are asked about plants based on lignite coal, then the word lignite coal-based is specifically written and the question is asked.
 - Distribution of lignite coal is found in Rajasthan, which is mainly in Barmer, Bikaner and Nagaur districts. In the state, mining and marketing of lignite coal is done by Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML). In India, mining of lignite coal is done by NLC India Limited, formerly Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited. NLC India works not only in lignite coal mining but also in the field of thermal electricity generation.
 - In the state, lignite-based thermal electricity generation plants –
 - i. G.O.R. (Government of Rajasthan)
 - ii. G.O.I. (Government of India)
 - iii. Joint Sector
 - iv. PPP Model (Public Private Partnership Model)
- 1. G.O.R. (Government of Rajasthan)**
- State government's lignite coal-based thermal electricity generation plant –
 - Giral Project GLTPP Thumbli, Shiv, Barmer
 - Coal supply – From Giral mine (Barmer) by RSMML
 - Water supply – Indira Gandhi Canal Project through pipeline
 - Operation of the plant was started by RVVNL on 25 Feb 2007. This is the first lignite-based thermal electricity generation plant of the state.
 - There are 2 units of 125 megawatt here, which were started in 2007 and 2009.
 - It is based on the gasification method, which was developed with the cooperation of Germany. Lignite coal is converted into gas within the ground itself and production is done.
 - Due to high quantity of sulphur in lignite and high operational cost, recommendation was made on 31-03-2015 to close this project. It was closed in 2016.

- According to the standards of Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (RERC), if electricity production is not 75 percent in proportion to the total production capacity of the plant, then that plant/unit is considered in loss. In Giral Plant, between 2009 and 2016 only 15 to 30 percent electricity production kept happening. At present, this plant has been closed since 2016. But due to fixed charges, security etc., a loss of about 2000 crore has occurred whereas the construction cost of the plant was 1865 crore.
- This plant was designed by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) to operate on lignite containing up to 1 percent sulphur. But due to presence of 5 percent to 6 percent sulphur in the lignite coal supplied from Giral mine, there was loss in operation.
- In the efforts made by the government in this matter, attempts were made for supply of lignite coal from Kapurdi-Jalipa mines, but RajWest Power Limited (JSW group) refused, because these had been reserved for this company for 30 years.
- Apart from this, there are deposits of lignite coal in Shivkar village-Barmer, attempts were made for supply of lignite coal from there, but the problem of land acquisition of farmers of Shivkar village arose. Therefore, selling the plant to private companies could be the only solution. But these efforts became victims of politics.

2. Lignite coal-based plant of Joint Sector

- “Kapurdi-Jalipa Project”
- This is a project of the private sector.
- This project is near Kapurdi and Jalipa, which are lignite mines, at Bhadres village (Barmer Rural Tehsil, Barmer district).
- Operated by JSW Energy (joint venture of RajWest Limited and Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited)
- There are 8 units of 135 megawatt here – total production capacity is 1080 megawatt.
- This is the state's only super thermal power plant based on lignite coal.
- Kapurdi-Jalipa mines are known in Barmer as the South-West Coal Field.
- For supply of coal, BLMCL Barmer Lignite Mining Company Limited was formed as a joint venture, whose partners are RSMML and RajWest Power Limited.
- This joint venture was formed because RSMML lacked resources, due to which it was not able to supply lignite coal (mining and transport) to the Kapurdi-Jalipa Project in sufficient quantity.

Therefore, that joint venture was established.

- Water supply – Through pipeline by IGNP.
- In the Kapurdi-Jalipa mining area, NH-68 (Old N.H. numbers) was shifted away from the mining area for a distance of 28 kilometers, because NH-68 was passing through the mining area, the highway was diverted over a total distance of 28 kilometers between Bhandkha and Jalipa, including a 20-kilometer main stretch and an additional 8-kilometer stretch.

3. Operated by Government of India –

- **Barsingsar Lignite Power Project**, Barsingsar (Kolayat–Bikaner)
- Ownership and Operating Company – Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited (a Navratna company of the Government of India).
 - There are 2 units of 125 megawatt here.
 - First unit started on 28 June, 2010
 - Second unit started on 25 January, 2011
 - This is a sub-critical type plant.

4. P.P.P. Model (based on Public-Private Partnership model) –

- Gudha West/Gudha Lignite Power Plant. This project is proposed under a joint venture between RVUNL 26% and NLC India Limited 74%.
- A 125 megawatt pit-head lignite power station is to be established.
- Pit-head – Such thermal power stations which are established very close to the mines, because moisture in lignite is high. Long-distance transportation becomes expensive and difficult. Therefore, those which are installed near the mines themselves are pit-head lignite power plants.

Gas-based Thermal Power Plants –

- Natural Gas – In India, about 83.3 percent production is done by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL). The remaining 16.7 percent is produced by private/joint venture companies. In India, 67.3 percent of natural gas production comes from offshore areas. The remaining, which also includes CBM (Coal Bed Methane), is obtained from 10 states.
- Natural gas is a hydrocarbon gas mixture, mainly made of methane.
- After the establishment of GAIL in 1984, emphasis started being given to natural gas and industries based on it.
- In India, 40 percent of gas is used in fertilizer production, 30 percent in electricity generation, 10

percent in LPG and the remaining in other industries such as glass manufacturing industry etc.

- ONGC – Establishment 1956, Headquarters – New Delhi. It is India's largest company related to crude oil and natural gas. It produces more than 70 percent of India's crude oil and more than 84 percent of domestic natural gas.
- In Rajasthan, the Petroleum Directorate was established in 1997.
- Thermal electricity generation plants based on natural gas –
 - (1) RGTPP (Government of Rajasthan)
 - (2) DCCPP (Government of Rajasthan)

Operated by the State Government (RVUNL)

1. **Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Plant (RGTPP)** – This is the first gas and thermal power plant of the state. (Established in 1994 – production started from 12-01-1996)
 - First phase GT-1 – 35.5 MW
 - Second phase GT-2 – 37.5 MW
 - ST-1 – 37.5 MW
 - Third phase GT-3 – 110 MW
 - ST-2 – 50 MW
 - Both these are gas-based turbines.
 - S.T – 37.5 MW (110.5 MW) is a steam turbine.
 - Thus, the total electricity generation capacity is 270.5 megawatt.
 - Water source – Water is supplied from IGNP (Indira Gandhi Canal).
2. **DCCPP – Dholpur Combined Cycle Power Project, Old Cantonment, Dholpur.**
 - This is the gas-based thermal electricity generation plant of the state government (RVUNL). It has three units.
 - Out of which two gas turbines – 110 MW × 2 unit
 - One steam turbine – 110 MW × 1 unit
 - Total three – 330 MW
 - The third unit, which is a steam turbine, uses the waste heat of the gas turbine.
 - Gas supply – It is supplied through GAIL's HBJ pipeline – Hazira (Gujarat) – Bijapur (Madhya Pradesh) – Jagdishpur (Uttar Pradesh).
 - This project (first unit) started in March, 2007.
 - This is the only project in the state in which when gas supply is interrupted or supply becomes low, then naphtha (a combustible hydrocarbon mixture obtained from crude oil, which looks like petrol) is used.

Gas-based Thermal Power Plant of the Government of India in the State

- Anta Project – Anta (Baran)
- This is a combined cycle gas power plant operated by NTPC Limited (National Thermal Power Corporation).
A – 88.71 megawatt × 3 unit (gas turbine)
B – 153.2 megawatt × 1 unit (steam turbine)
Total – 419.33 megawatt
- It was established in 1987. Operation started – 1989
- Fuel supply from HBJ pipeline
- Water supply – From the R.M.C. right main canal of the Chambal River Valley Project.
- The state receives 19.81 percent share in the total production. That is, out of 419.33 megawatt, Rajasthan receives 83.07 megawatt electricity.

Gas-based power plants of the private sector in the state.

- Installation of gas-based thermal electricity generation plants of the private sector is proposed at the following four places in Rajasthan –
 - Keshoraipatan (Bundi)
 - Nanta (Kota)
 - Kawai (Baran)
 - Sag Doongri (Banswara)
- At all these four places, natural gas will be supplied through the HBJ pipeline. But due to shortage of allocation of gas to the energy sector, if allocation of available gas to the energy sector is increased, then fertilizer production gets affected. Therefore, when gas transport pipelines from KG Basin (Krishna-Godavari Basin), Jaisalmer (Shahgarh-Balkh area) basin etc. are constructed, then work on these projects will be done.
- Rajasthan receives an allocated share of electricity from the Central Government's coal and gas-based projects according to its proportional cost contribution.

Hydroelectric Power Project

- On the basis of Traditional Use, this is a type of conventional energy, but on the basis of availability of source, it is a type of renewable energy, because in this energy production, electricity/power is generated through turbines from the energy of flowing water or water falling from height, and after rotating the turbine the water does not get exhausted, rather it flows further. That is, this source of energy can again produce energy by falling on another turbine. Therefore, it is a source of renewable energy. It is an eco-friendly and sustainable source of energy.

- **Working system** – By constructing dams on rivers, collecting water, and making that water fall on turbines, electricity is generated through generators. Apart from rivers, this type of energy is also produced by constructing dams on link canals/irrigation canals and from flowing water of waterfalls.
- Thus, in this type of energy, from the scientific point of view, kinetic energy is converted into mechanical energy through turbines and after that into electrical energy through generators.
- Thus, in **steps of working** –
 - Water storage
 - Flow of water at full speed
 - Rotating the turbine
 - Electricity generation from generator
 - Transmission of electricity to the grid through transformer
 - Releasing the water again into the river/canal

These works are done.

Characteristics

- These plants are sources of clean energy. These sources are reliable and stable (that is, where the source of water availability is perennial rivers). They operate for a long life or long duration. In these projects, along with hydroelectricity generation, flood control and irrigation also take place. Reservoirs filled behind dams are also tourist attraction sites. But these projects have high costs. In these projects, due to construction of dams and water filled behind the dams (reservoirs), fertile land on the banks of rivers gets submerged, trees drown, and during construction of the project trees/forests of the submerged area are cut. Along with this, organic substances decomposing in reservoirs emit methane etc. (greenhouse) gases, which affect global warming in the environment. Even then, these plants/projects are more eco-friendly and sustainable sources as compared to thermal energy plants.

State's Hydroelectric Projects –

- (A) **Participation in hydroelectric generation projects in multipurpose river valley projects**
 - (i) Joint projects
 - (ii) Own projects
- (B) **Small hydroelectric projects**
- (A) **Hydroelectric generation in Multipurpose River Valley Projects**
 - **Projects with participation in Joint Projects –**
 - (a) Bhakra Nangal Project
 - (b) Beas River Valley Project
 - (c) Chambal River Valley Project

Bhakra Nangal Project

- **Source of this project** – Sutlej River. There are hydroelectric generation plants at three places on this river.
 - i. Bhakra Dam (on Sutlej River) – Himachal Pradesh
 - ii. Gangwal Dam (on Bhakra Canal, which has been taken out from Nangal Dam) – Punjab
 - iii. Kotla Dam (on Bhakra Canal, which has been taken out from **Nangal Dam**) – Punjab
 - Bhakra Nangal Project is a multipurpose river valley project. It has 3 partner states.
 - i. Punjab
 - ii. Haryana
 - iii. Rajasthan
 - Rajasthan's share is 15.22%. That is, 15.22% contribution is also made in cost and maintenance and similarly 15.22% of the generated hydroelectricity is received by the state.
- A. Bhakra Left Bank Hydroelectric Generation Plant**
 126 MW × 2 unit = 252 MW
 126 MW × 3 unit = 378 MW
- Earlier there were 3 units of 108 MW, those have also now become 126 MW.
 - Total = 630 MW
- B. Bhakra Right Bank Hydroelectric Generation Plant**
 157 MW × 5 unit = 785 MW
- C. On Bhakra Canal (Gangwal Dam), Ropar, Punjab** – It is situated downstream on the Nangal Hydrel Channel at a distance of about 19 kilometers from Nangal Dam.
- D. On Bhakra Canal, Kotla Dam, Ropar, Punjab** – It is situated downstream on the Nangal Hydrel Channel at a distance of 30 kilometers from Nangal Dam.
- **Both these are Run-of-the-River Hydroelectric Generation Plants.**
Production capacity –
Ganguwal Dam
 24.20 MW × 2 unit = 48.40 MW
 27.99 MW × 1 unit = 27.99 MW
Total = 76.39 MW
Kotla Dam –
 24.20 MW × 2 unit
 28.94 MW × 1 unit
Total = 77.34 MW
 - Thus, the production capacity of both the plants on Bhakra Canal is 155.30 megawatt.

- Thus, total hydroelectric generation – 630 MW + 785 MW + 153.73 MW = 1516.3 MW
- In some books, the production capacity of Bhakra Left Bank Power House has been shown less because earlier there were 2 units of 126 MW and 3 units of 108 MW, but now those 3 units of 108 MW have also been converted into 126 MW. Therefore, this difference is seen.
- Earlier, according to 15.22% share in 1516.3 MW, 238.76 MW was allocated to the state. This electricity allocated to the state is distributed by Discom distribution companies (JDVVNL, AVVNL) in 6 districts of the state – Sri Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Churu, Bikaner, Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts.

Beas River Valley Project

- Source – Beas River.
 - In this project, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan are partners in hydroelectric generation. In this, the share of Rajasthan state has been allocated differently on the basis of dams according to the Bhakra Beas Management Board.
 - In the Beas River Valley Project, two major dams have been constructed.
1. **Pong Dam** – It is on the Beas River in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. In this, 58.5% share has been allocated to the state. There are 6 units of 66 MW here.
 - 66 MW × 6 unit = 396 MW
 - State's share 58.5% = 231.66 MW electricity allocated.
 2. **Dehar Dam** – It is situated at a place called 'Dehar' on the BSL (Beas-Sutlej Link) canal constructed for shifting the water of the Pandoh Dam built on the Beas River in Mandi district into the Sutlej River.
 - There are 6 units of 165 MW here.
 - 165 MW × 6 unit = 990 MW
- Out of the total hydroelectric generation of 990 MW, Rajasthan state has been allocated only 20% share. Therefore, the state receives 198 MW hydroelectricity from Dehar Dam.
 - Thus, from the Beas Project, the state receives 231.66 MW from Pong Dam and 198 MW from Dehar Dam, total 231.66 + 198 = 429.66 MW hydroelectricity. Thus, this is the project providing the highest hydroelectricity to the state.
3. **Chambal River Valley Project** – This is a project constructed on the Chambal River with joint participation of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh in the ratio of 50%-50%. In this project, hydroelectric generation is presently taking place on three dams.

- i. **Gandhi Sagar Dam** – Bhanpur, Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh
There are 5 units of 23 MW.
Total = 115 MW
 - ii. **Rana Pratap Sagar Dam** – Chittorgarh (Rajasthan)
There are 4 units of 43 MW.
Total = 172 MW
 - iii. **Kota Dam** – Kota
There are 3 units of 33 MW.
Total = 99 MW
 - iv. At Rahughat (Karauli), a hydroelectric generation plant was also proposed in the project, but construction did not take place.
- Total hydroelectric generation in the project = 386 MW, out of which 193 MW is allocated to the state. Thus, Rajasthan gets hydroelectric generation through participation in the above three projects.

Mahi River Valley Project

- This is a joint multipurpose river valley project of Rajasthan and Gujarat, but for irrigation Gujarat's participation is 55 percent and the state's participation is 45 percent. But Gujarat has no participation in hydroelectric generation. That is, in hydroelectric generation the state has 100% ownership. That is, for hydroelectric generation in the Mahi multipurpose river valley project, the two dams which were constructed are –
 1. Hegpura Dam (Banswara)
 2. Lilwani Dam (Banswara)
- The expenditure on the hydroelectric generation plants established on these was borne only by Rajasthan and the generated hydroelectricity, respectively – 45 MW × 2 unit = 90 MW and 25 MW × 2 unit = 50 MW, Total hydroelectric generation = 140 MW is used by Rajasthan. Thus, this is the state's own hydroelectric generation project, in which 100% expenditure and 100% use in hydroelectric generation has been done by Rajasthan.

Small Hydel Power Projects

- There are 12 small hydel power projects in the state. These are on the branches of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project, on the right main canal of the Chambal River Valley Project, and on the Mahi right main canal and Jakham project. Five are in IGNP –
 - ❑ Suratgarh Branch
 - ❑ Anupgarh Branch
 - ❑ Pugal Branch
 - ❑ Birsalpur Branch
 - ❑ Charanwala Branch

- Thus, on these branches, through seven such projects and a total 12 small hydel power projects, 23.65 MW hydroelectricity is generated in the state.

Atomic Energy

- Production of atomic energy has been done by the Central Government undertaking Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, but now Nuclear Power Development Corporation constructs and develops new units.
- At present, two atomic energy projects are mentioned in the state, out of which one is
 1. Operational (running) and the second is an under-construction atomic energy generation project.
 - (i) RAPP
 - (ii) MBRAPP

1. Rajasthan Atomic Power Project – Rawatbhata (Chittorgarh), operational (running)

- It is situated on the banks of the Chambal River in Chittorgarh. The foundation stone of the first unit of this project was laid in 1963 with the cooperation of Canada. This first unit became operational in 1973. It is the first nuclear power plant of Rajasthan. It is the second nuclear power plant of the country. The first nuclear power plant of the country is in Tarapur (Maharashtra). The first and second units of Tarapur Nuclear Power House are based on BWR (Boiling Water Reactors). Therefore, this is the first nuclear power plant of the country having units based on PHWR (Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor) technology.
- Supply of nuclear material to 6 units here is done by Canada. At present, the 7th unit, whose criticality (that is, controlled nuclear fission chain reaction in the unit) started on 19 September, 2024. But it was connected to the northern grid on 17 March, 2025. Therefore, it is considered operational from 17 March 2025. The production capacity of this 7th unit is 700 megawatt. The 8th unit, which will also be of 700 megawatt, is under construction. Supply of nuclear material to both these units is being done by French company AREVA.
 - ❑ Unit - 1, 100 MW × 1 (closed)
 - ❑ Unit - 2, 200 MW × 1
 - ❑ Unit - 3-6, 220 MW × 4
 - ❑ Electricity generation = 1180 MW - 100 MW = 1080 MW
 - ❑ 7th unit 700 MW × 1 unit
- Total production is 1780 megawatt. Out of this, 806.74 megawatt (December, 2025) is given to the state. Before the start of the 7th unit, 456.74 megawatt electricity supply was given.

- In the 6 units of this project, production work is done by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), but operation of the 7th unit and construction and development of the 8th unit is being done by ASVINI (Anushakti Vidyut Nigam Limited) (share NPCIL 51% and NTPC 49%).

2. MBRAPP

- Mahi Banswara Rajasthan Atomic Energy Project – Napla village, Chhoti Sarvan tehsil, Banswara district.
- Here, 4 units of 700 megawatt, which are based on the PHWR pressurized heavy water reactor, are being constructed and developed by ASVINI (Anushakti Vidyut Nigam Limited). All these are under construction. The foundation stone of the first unit among these was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 25 September, 2025.

Non-Conventional Energy

- On the basis of traditional use, these are types of non-conventional energy.

Why are these called non-conventional?

- Because they are not being used for centuries like traditional fuels like coal and petroleum, rather it started in recent years after the development of modern technology. In India, research and development work started after 1973.
- In 1982, for the development of these sources, a separate department dedicated to their development was established by the Government of India. In Rajasthan, REDA Renewable Energy Development Agency was established in 1985.
- On the basis of availability, these are called renewable energy sources. These are those sources which are continuously replenished again by natural processes, that is, they keep renewing, therefore they are renewable.
- Conventional energy sources (coal, petroleum) are limited, they may get exhausted sometime or the other, but non-conventional energy sources (sunlight, wind flow etc.) have unlimited reserves, that is, their depletion cannot happen, therefore these are “inexhaustible” energy sources.

Characteristics of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

1. **Renewable** – These keep getting continuously formed in nature, that is, they do not end after use, such as sunlight, wind flow, water flow etc.
2. **These are eco friendly** – These are gifts of nature,

during their energy conversion and use, emission of harmful gases is almost zero, due to which effects like greenhouse effect and global warming do not occur and pollution does not spread.

3. **Inexhaustible Storage** – These get naturally regenerated automatically by natural processes, they keep functioning in the form of a natural cycle, therefore unlike conventional sources there is no danger of their depletion in future.
4. **Decentralized Production** – Some of its types like solar, wind, biogas, biomass can also be established on the basis of availability of source, such as in homes, commercial industrial premises and fields.
5. **High initial cost** – Although the sources of this energy production are free or cheap, the initial cost of the technologies used for energy conversion is high. Although maintenance and operation are comparatively cheap.
6. **Obstruction in source availability according to time** – Availability of some of its sources is affected by season and time. For example, due to clouds during monsoon, reduction of light during fog and at night affects solar energy production. In the month of November, when wind speed becomes less than 9 km per hour, production gets affected due to not getting ideal wind flow speed.
7. **Sources of sustainable energy** – These are very important for sustainable development to keep the future of coming generations secure.
8. Important in reducing dependence on fossil fuels. In situations like the Iran war, if there is self-reliance in production of this energy, then problems like fuel crisis/inflation do not occur.

Types of Non-Conventional Energy

- (1) Solar Energy
- (2) Wind Energy
- (3) Biogas Energy
- (4) Biomass Energy
- (5) Geothermal Energy
- (6) Tidal Energy
- (7) Ocean Wave Energy

- Apart from the above types, ‘Hydro Energy’ is also a type of renewable energy on the basis of source availability. Thus, when types of renewable energy are mentioned, they are of 8 types including hydro energy.

(1) Solar Energy

- Source of solar energy – sunlight. Therefore, large projects of solar energy plants are established in those regions where sunlight is available for long duration (days) and timings.

- SEEZ – Solar Energy Enterprises Zone – These are those areas where sunlight is available for more than 325 days in a year. Such areas are called SEEZ. Earlier, 3 districts (1) Jaisalmer (2) Jodhpur (3) Barmer and now 5 districts (1) Jaisalmer (2) Jodhpur (3) Phalodi (4) Barmer (5) Balotra are considered under SEEZ. Priority is given to large solar energy production projects by the government in these districts.
 - To convert sunlight into energy, a semiconductor sheet of metal is required, this is called a photovoltaic cell. In these photovoltaic cells, there are one or more layers of semiconductor material and they are covered with a transparent glass, which allows radiation to pass and reduces heat loss. Sun rays are made of photons, which enter the photovoltaic cells of the solar panel. Due to this, an electric field is generated between them and as a result an electric circuit is produced. The more intense the light, the greater the flow of electricity will be.
 - In Rajasthan state, due to availability of desert region, (lack of vegetation, lack of moisture), proximity to the tropical region etc., the intensity of solar radiation is comparatively higher. It is 6 to 7 kW/meter².
- ii. **Second Phase (680 Megawatt):** Rajasthan Solarpark Development Company Limited (RSDCL) established a park with a capacity of 680 megawatt.
 - iii. **Third Phase (1,000 Megawatt):** Developed by IL&FS Energy Development Company Limited and the joint venture company of the State Government, Solar Energy Corporation of Rajasthan Limited (SECIURJL), and a park with a capacity of 1,000 megawatt was established.
 - iv. **Fourth Phase (500 Megawatt):** Developed by Adani Renewable Energy Park Rajasthan Limited (which is a joint venture company between Adani and the State Government) and a park with a capacity of 500 megawatt was established.
- **Bhadla Solar Park** – The first phase was developed independently by Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RRECL), while the second, third and fourth phases were developed under the Solar Park Scheme of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India.
2. **Nokh Solar Park (925 Megawatt)** was developed by Rajasthan Development Company (a subsidiary company of RRECIL) and a park with a capacity of 925 megawatt was established.

Solar Energy Production Projects

- The first solar energy project of the state government was proposed at Mathania (Jodhpur). The cost of this project was about 872 crore. In this, 105 MW energy production was to be done from gas and 35 MW energy production was to be done from solar energy. This project was based on the solar thermal process. The solar thermal process is more complex and expensive than the Solar Photovoltaic process, therefore it was not implemented.
- The first solar energy project in the private sector was started by Reliance Energy in 2010 at Kheensvar (Nagaur). It had a production capacity of 5 MW The foundation stone was laid in Nov. 2008.
- Solar parks and mega solar power projects: These park projects have been developed by the private sector, state government and central government.

Solar Energy Projects

1. Bhadla Solar Park, Jodhpur with a capacity of 2,245 megawatts has been developed in four phases, the details of which are as follows:-
 - i. **First Phase (65 Megawatt):** Developed by Rajasthan Solarpark Development Company Limited (which is a subsidiary company of RRECIL) and electricity production with a capacity of 65 megawatt has already started.

Details of other under-construction solar parks under the MNRE solar park scheme are as follows:-

- i. Phalodi–Pokaran Solar Park (750 Megawatt): This project has been developed by Essel Saurya Urja Company of Rajasthan Limited, which is a joint venture of the Rajasthan Government and Essel Infra Limited. A park with a capacity of 450 megawatt was established.
- ii. Fatehgarh Phase-I (1,500 Megawatt): Joint venture, Adani Renewable Energy Park Rajasthan Limited has operationalized 1,496 megawatt capacity. In this solar park, the capacity of 500 megawatt has been further increased.
- iii. Pugal Solar Park (2,450 Megawatt): Rajasthan Solar Park Development Company Limited (RSDCL) has developed this project in three phases with a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of 1600/6400 megawatt hours.

(2) Wind Energy

- There are immense possibilities for wind energy production in the state because vegetation is less in the desert region, along with scattered settlements and houses in the hilly region, therefore the speed of

wind flow is not obstructed. Also, ideal wind flow is available up to a fixed height of 150 meters on the hills of the Aravalli mountain range. Therefore, wind energy plants/projects are present in both the desert and hilly regions of the state.

- The first wind energy project of the state government was established at Amarsagar (Jaisalmer). It was established on 10/4/1999, whose capacity is 2 MW
- The second wind energy project of the state government was established at Devgarh (Pratapgarh), but it is the first wind energy project in the hilly region of the state. It was established on 6 March 2001. Its production capacity is 2.25 M.W.
- The third wind energy project of the state government was established at Mahas Beethadi (Phalodi). It was also established in 2001.
- The first wind energy project in the private sector in Rajasthan was established at Bada Bagh (Jaisalmer) in March 2001. A 10.6 MW project was established here by Kalani Enterprises.
- The estimated capacity of wind energy in the state at a height of 150 meters (from ground level) is about 284 gigawatts.
- The first wind-solar hybrid energy project in the state was installed at Jaisalmer by AHEGOL Adani Hybrid Energy Jaisalmer One Ltd., a subsidiary company of Adani Green Energy Ltd.
- This is a 390 MW hybrid power plant, which is India's first wind and solar energy hybrid electricity production plant. It became operational in May 2022.

(3) Biogas Energy

- Source – Waste of living animals – dung, excreta, urine etc. are its sources.
- In 1975, under the Minimum Needs Programme, establishment of Bio-gas plants was started.
- At present, 60% subsidy is given by the government and 40% by the beneficiary. In Bio-gas, maximum (1) methane gas is present (2) CO₂ is present.

Schemes–

- (1) Gobar-Dhan Yojana
- (2) Bio Gas Public Participation Scheme

(1) Gobar Dhan Yojana – Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan

- April, 2018 (announced by Budget 2018, G.O.I) (Government of India)
- In the state, the first plant under this scheme was installed by HPCL at Pathmeda (Jalore).
- The country's largest Bio-gas Plant is being established in Devanarayan Residential Scheme of Kota (Dhampura), which is for cattle rearers.

- Maximum possibility of Bio-gas Plant – in Udaipur.
- Eastern Rajasthan is more suitable for this than Western Rajasthan.

(4) Biomass Energy

- Sources: mustard stalk and husk
- Sugarcane bagasse
- Rice husk
- Cotton waste
- Waste of maize and bajra
- Israeli babool (since 2013) etc. are its sources.
- The first Bio-mass energy plant of the state was established in 2003 at Padampur (Sri Ganganagar).
- In the state, there are Bio-mass plants at Khatoli (Uniyara), Tonk, Rangpur (Ladpura-Kota), Kacchela-Bagsari (Jalore), Rampur (Sirohi), Chanderiya (Chittorgarh).
- Maximum possibility in the state – Sri Ganganagar – due to sugarcane (bagasse) waste.
- Production of this energy is done completely by the private sector.
- The major company of this sector is M/S Kalptaru Energy Pvt. Ltd.
- Latest: Jasrasar North (Bikaner) 14.9 MW
- Malasar (Churu) 14.9 M.W.
- Phagi (Jaipur) 22.9 M.W.
- Chhatrasar (Bikaner) 22.9 M.W.
- In the state, production of the above-mentioned types of non-conventional energy is done.

Major Schemes

Solar Pump and Power Plant Initiative in Rajasthan

- Rajasthan has taken several important initiatives through solar energy to improve energy supply in the agricultural sector. Adopting the Prime Minister Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (KUSUM) Scheme of the Government of India, off-grid solar pumps and grid-connected solar power plants are being installed in the state to help farmers.
- Under the PM-KUSUM scheme approved by the Government of India, decentralized ground / stilt-mounted grid-connected renewable energy power plants from 0.5 megawatt to 2 megawatt within 5 km of DISCOM substations have been approved, in which the total approved capacity is 5,250 megawatt, including 153 megawatt (revised first phase), 397 megawatt (second phase), additional 1,000 megawatt (revised second phase) and 3,700 megawatt (revised third phase).

Component-A:

- **First Phase (Revised 153 Megawatt) – On 16**

September 2025, MNRE extended the project commissioning deadline till 31 December 2025. The Hon'ble RERC approved a ceiling pre-fixed levelized tariff of Rs. 3.14 per unit, while the minimum discovered tariff was Rs. 2.79 per unit. By December 2025, 364 solar energy plants with a capacity of 468.75 megawatt have been established.

- Second Phase (Revised 1,000 Megawatt) – Implementation of the Prime Minister KUSUM Scheme, which was initially being operated by Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RRECL), was transferred to Rajasthan DISCOMs on 23 July 2024 as per the directions of the Energy Department of the Rajasthan Government. Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (RERC) approved the previously determined feed tariff of Rs. 3.04 per kilowatt-hour. After this, on 30 October 2024, all three DISCOMs issued Expression of Interest (EOI) for establishment of solar energy plants under Component-A of the PM-KUSUM Scheme. By December 2025, a total of 6 solar power plants with a capacity of 11 megawatt have been successfully established.
- Third Phase (Revised 3,700 Megawatt) – Rajasthan Urja Vikas and IT Services Limited Jaipur distributed 5,000 megawatt capacity among the three DISCOMs. After this, the approval of 4,000 megawatt by MNRE was revised to 3,700 megawatt and redistributed among the three DISCOMs on 20 July 2025. By December 2025, 1 solar power plant of 2 megawatt capacity has been successfully established.

Component-C (Feeder Level Solarization)

- Under this scheme, grid-connected solar PV power plants have been established near DISCOM substations to fulfill the annual electricity requirement of separate agricultural feeders. The objective of this project is to provide continuous and reliable electricity supply to agricultural consumers. Under CAPEX mode by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), 30 percent of the project cost and under Renewable Energy Service Company (RESCO) mode central financial assistance (CFA) at the rate of Rs. 1.05 crore per megawatt is provided for renewable energy service companies, which is limited to pump capacity up to 7.5 horsepower (HP) per pump. For pumps having capacity more than 7.5 HP (or 15 HP, wherever applicable), the average consumption of 7.5/ 15 HP pumps on the same feeder has been considered as the basis for central financial assistance.

- Under MNRE, for projects running under CAPEX and RESCO mode, central financial assistance is released in three installments:
 - ❑ On completion of 30 percent of total work – 30 percent
 - ❑ On completion of 75 percent of total work – 30 percent
 - ❑ On successful completion of the project – payment of 40 percent amount is done in the following manner–
 - ❑ On operation of the solar plant through DISCOM – 25 percent
 - ❑ After two months of successful operation after installation, 15 percent amount will be released, provided that at least one month's minimum CUF fixed in the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) has been achieved.
- This planned distribution ensures timely implementation and performance of solar energy projects for agricultural feeders. By December 2025, a total of 838 solar power plants with a capacity of 2,162 megawatt have been successfully established.

Expansion of Solar Energy Access to Homes

- PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana: The Prime Minister Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana was launched by the Government of India on 13 February 2024 with the objective of providing 300 units of free electricity per month by installing solar plants in 1 crore homes. Under this scheme, a subsidy up to ₹78,000 (for 3 kilowatt or more) is being provided. A target has been set to install solar rooftop plants in 5 lakh homes in Rajasthan.
- By December 2025, rooftop solar capacity of 493 megawatt has been installed for 1.22 lakh consumers. Under this scheme, there is a completely online system for subsidy, concessional interest rates from banks, registration, approval and subsidy distribution for rooftop solar plants.
- Under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana, the 05 districts with highest installed capacity are Jaipur 110627 kilowatt, Sri Ganganagar 37023 kilowatt, Jodhpur 30544 kilowatt, Sikar 28117 kilowatt and Hanumangarh 25623 kilowatt.

150 Unit Per Month Free Electricity Scheme

- Under the 150 unit per month free electricity scheme, the portal for registration of beneficiary consumers was launched on 13 October 2025.

Indian Defence Technology



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- From independence till the present situation, India’s defence sector has become strong from an “import dependent” structure to the position of “self-reliant” and “defence exporter”.
- In the 1980s, DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) was strengthened, as a result of which the ‘Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme’ (IGMDP) was started. Under this programme, Prithvi, Agni, Akash, Trishul and Nag missiles were developed.
- Modern Era (2014–Present): Under the campaigns of “Make in India” and “Atmanirbhar Bharat”, indigenous defence production has recorded growth.
- By the end of the year 2025, India’s defence production reached about Rs. 1.54 lakh crore, which is about 175% more compared to 2015.
- Now more than 65% of defence equipment is being manufactured within the country and foreign dependence has reduced.

Indian Defence Technology

- The Government of India protects the people through the Ministry of Defence, Department of Defence, Department of Defence Production, Defence Research and Development Organisation and Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare.

Defence sector in India can be understood through the following dimensions–

1. **Missile**
2. **Radar**
3. **Aerospace**
4. **Naval**

1. Missile

- To achieve self-reliance in the development of ballistic missiles in India, the ‘Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme’ (IGMDP) was started in 1983. Under this programme headed by Dr. Kalam, Agni, Akash, Trishul, Prithvi and Nag missiles were developed.
- Under IGMDP, surface-to-surface, surface-to-air and anti-tank missiles were developed, the brief description of which is as follows:-

1. Surface to Surface Strike:-

(i) Prithvi :-

- From 1988, the Prithvi series started ballistic missile is –



Prithvi has three versions –

(i) Prithvi - I	150 km range	Single stage liquid fuel
(ii) Prithvi - II	250-350 km range	Single stage liquid fuel
(iii) Prithvi - III	More than 350 km range	Two stage liquid and solid fuel

(ii) Agni Missile :-

- From 1989, the main feature of the Agni missile project started in the series was the inclusion of ‘re-entry technology demonstrator’.

This is a ballistic missile.



Versions of Agni

Missile	Range	Propellant
Agni - I	700 – 1200 km	Single solid
Agni - II	2000 – 2500 km	Two stage – solid, solid
Agni - III	2500 – 3500 km	Two stage – solid, solid
Agni - IV	3000 – 4000 km	Two stage – solid, solid
Agni - V	5000 – 8000 km	Three stage - solid, gas, solid

- Agni-V is a nuclear capable Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM).
- Agni-V is equipped with MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle) technology, that is, multiple nuclear weapons can be sent to different targets from a single missile.
- Agni-V has been given the alternate name “Shanti”.

2. Surface to Air Strike-

(i) Trishul :-



- Tested in 1989
- Strike capability: 9 to 12 km
- Manufacturing stopped in 2008; currently not in use.
- Development of the Maitri missile was done in place of Trishul.

(ii) Akash :- Tested in 1990

- Strike capability:- 25 to 30 km
- Speed - 2.5 Mach
- Ramjet propulsion technology has been used in the Akash missile.
- Rajendra Radar is used in the Akash missile.

(iii) Anti Tank Missile:-

1. Nag :-



- Tested in 1990
- Strike capability - 4 to 5 km
- Fire and forget principle

Versions of Nag Missile

- (i) **Helina (Helicopter Nag Missile)** - air force version of Nag anti-tank missile.
- (ii) **NAMICA** – Nag Missile Carrier is a special vehicle equipped with a thermal imager for launching missiles.
- (iii) **Amogha** :- Developed by DRDO; it is an anti-tank missile whose strike capability is 18 km.

Other Important Ballistic and Cruise Missiles of India-

- (i) **Scalp Cruise Missile** :- Manufactured by European defence company MBDA, it is the longest range

cruise missile (5000 km); air to ground strike.

(ii) **HAMMER** - Highly Agile Modular Munition - Extended Range

- Developed by French defence company Safran, medium range missile glide bomb with a range of 20-70 km; air to ground strike.

(iii) **Precision Guided Missile** :- Indigenous laser guided bomb (Sudarshan) developed by DRDO.

- Note:- The above three missiles were used by the Indian Air Force on terrorist hideouts in Pakistan during Operation Sindoor.

iv. **Sagarika Missile** :-

- Famous by the name K-15
- Strike up to 1300 km
- Deployed on India's nuclear submarine "Arihant"
- Successful test in 2008; developed by DRDO.

v. **Astra** :- **Beyond Visual Range (BVR); air to air strike**

- Successful test in 2003
- Deployed on Sukhoi MKI-30
- Strike range up to 100 km

vi. **Nirbhay** :-

- Successful test - 2014
- Surface to surface strike supersonic cruise missile with strike range up to 1000 km.
- Capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear weapons.

vii. **Barak-8** :- **Developed jointly by DRDO and Israel's Acrospace.**

- A test of this missile dedicated to the Indian Navy was conducted in 2015. Strike capability up to 90 km.

viii. **Prahar** :- First tested in 2011; surface to surface short range ballistic missile capable of hitting targets in different directions.

ix. **QRSAM (Quick Response Surface to Air Missile)**- Surface to air strike missile developed by DRDO with a range of 30 km. It is a single stage solid propellant missile.

x. **Pinaka** -

- Developed by DRDO, it is a multi barrel rocket launch system with a range of 40-70 km. n DRDO has also developed the advanced version Pinaka Mark-II.

xi. **BrahMos** :-

- First test in 2001
- Joint venture of India and Russia
- Range increased from 290 km to 400 km

- Speed is 2.8 Mach
- It is a supersonic cruise missile
- India exported it to the Philippines for the first time
- BrahMos MK-II was tested in 2007; range 700 km;
- it is a hypersonic cruise missile



xii. Rudram :-

- First indigenous anti-radiation missile of the country developed by DRDO. Air to surface strike.
- Designed to detect and destroy enemy radars and communication systems.
- Successfully tested in 2020 by mounting it on Sukhoi MKI-30.

xiii. S-400 Missile Defence System :-



- Russia based India's air defence system.
- Capable of hitting all targets up to 30 km height and within a range of 400 km.
- India is deploying 5 S-400 near the China and Pakistan border areas.

xiv. Varunastra:-

- Electric powered submarine destroying torpedo, which is capable of accurately targeting submarines in water, included in the Navy.
- Included in the Indian Navy in 2016.
- Note(i) Missile Man of India – Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
(ii) Missile Woman of India - Tessy Thomas (Made Agni-IV Missile)

2. Radar (Radio Detection and Ranging)

- Principle :- Detecting air by the reflection of radio waves and calculated time duration.
- Major institution manufacturing radar in India - LRDE (Electronics and Radar Development Establishment).

Major Radars of India

- (i) INDRA-1 - 2D :- Detects low level flying targets. (Cruise missile, helicopter)
- (ii) INDRA - I :- Used for detecting low level flying aircraft.
- (iii) Rohini :- It can track targets up to 15 km height and 170 km distance.
- (iv) Revati :- It tracks targets at a distance of more than 180 km for the Indian Navy (and Air Force).
- (v) Swathi Weapon Locating Radar :- It can track 7 targets simultaneously.
- (vi) Irma:- Installed at all airports of India.
- (vii) Rani :- Helps in air traffic.
- (viii) Indra-I, Indra-II :- Radars of the Air Force.
- (ix) Aparna :- Radar of the Navy.
- (x) Shant Radar :- Radar used for detecting nuclear weapons.

3. Aeronautics in Defence Sector

Fighter Aircraft

- (i) Manned Aircraft
 - (ii) Unmanned Aircraft
 - (iii) Helicopter
- (A) Manned Fighter Aircraft :-**
- (i) Tejas :-



- Included in the Indian Air Force in January 2015; the lightest fighter aircraft. Single seat and single engine aircraft manufactured by HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited).
- Astra missile has been installed on it.
- Tejas has been included in place of MIG-21.

(ii) Sukhoi-30 MKE :-

- Multi-purpose fighter aircraft with two engines and two seats.
- Manufactured by Russia.
- Included in the Indian Air Force in 2002.
- BrahMos and Nirbhay missiles have been installed on it.

(iii) Mirage - 2000 :-

- Manufactured by France.
- Capable of carrying cruise missiles.
- Used in the Kargil war.

(iv) Mig - 29 :- It is a two engine fighter jet manufactured by Russia, capable of carrying cruise missiles.

(vi) Rafale :-



- Manufactured by France.
- Expert in air surveillance and nuclear strike.
- India has purchased 36 Rafale from France.

(vi) CA 130 I Super Hercules:-

- Manufactured by U.S.A, included in the Indian Air Force in 2014.
- It is the world's advanced air lifter.

(vii) Jaguar -

- It is an Anglo-French jet aircraft which plays an important role in close support and nuclear strike. The Indian Air Force has named it Shamsher.

(B.) Unmanned Aircraft :-

(i) Nishant - India's first unmanned aircraft.

- Used for surveillance and espionage from higher altitude; its initial name was 'Falcon', the modern version is named 'Pancchi'.

(ii) Lakshya :- Second unmanned aircraft

- Missile anti-squad take their training on the target.
- Speed is 500 km/hr.

(iii) Rustom :-

- It is a medium altitude unmanned aircraft capable of flying in all weather conditions. Used in surveillance, border guarding and espionage. Rustom-H, Rustom-I, Rustom-II are advanced versions of Rustom.

(iv) Netra :- It is a remotely directed unmanned aircraft.

- Available with the Army and C.R.P.F.
- Can take pictures at night through thermal camera.
- Can fly up to a height of 2.5 km.

(v) AURA (Autonomous Unmanned Research Aircraft)

- India's self-controlled drone aircraft.
- It has a laser charging system.

(vi) Pushpak :-

- It is India's second self-controlled drone.
- It is also equipped with a laser charging system.

(vii) Sheshnag –

- India's indigenous advanced and long-range stealth drone.
- Developed by Newspace Research and Technologies.
- Capable of making precise attacks by dodging the enemy's air defence system.

(C.) Helicopter

(i) Dhruv Helicopter :- Manufactured by HAL for both military and civilian purposes.

(ii) Rudra Helicopter :- HAL has prepared the "Rudra" helicopter as an advanced form of the "Dhruv" helicopter. It is according to the requirements of the Indian Army.

(iii) Cheetah Helicopter :- It is a French helicopter which has been manufactured in India by HAL with the name 'Cheetah'. This single engine helicopter works even in hot weather conditions.

(iv) Chinook Helicopter :-



- It is a helicopter of America's Boeing company. Increase in heavy load carrying capacity of the Indian Air Force.

4. Navy - Defence System

Navy Defence Sector

1. Submarines

2. Aircraft carriers

1. Submarines:-

- The submarine capability of the Indian Navy is an important pillar of its strategic self-reliance and maritime security in the Indian Ocean region.
- India is operating a mix of both conventional (diesel-

electric) and nuclear powered submarines, which clearly reflects India's journey towards becoming a "Blue Water Navy".

- (i) **Nuclear Submarines :-** At present three nuclear submarines are included in India's security fleet -
- ❑ INS Arihant (2016)
 - ❑ INS Arighat (2024)
 - ❑ INS Aridhaman (2026)
- (ii) **Conventional Submarines :-** At present India has more than 15 conventional submarines. These include Kalvari class, Sindhughosh class and Shishumar class.
- NOTE :- Project 75, Project 28, Project 75 (I) etc. are projects related to submarines.

2. Aircraft carrier

- An aircraft carrier is actually a warship that provides the facility of an airbase in the sea. India's major aircraft carriers are as follows -
- (i) **INS Vikramaditya :-**
- ❑ Imported from Russia.
 - ❑ Commissioned in Nov. 2013.
 - ❑ At present it is considered the backbone of the Navy; it is a 44500 ton warship.
- (ii) **INS- Vikrant**
- ❑ Indigenous aircraft carrier Vikrant built by Cochin Shipyard Limited was included in the Navy in September 2022.
 - ❑ At present it has been deployed near Chennai in the Bay of Bengal.
- (iii) **INS- Vishal -**
- ❑ It is a major advanced version of INS Vikrant.
 - ❑ Being built by Cochin Shipyard Limited.
 - ❑ Displacement will be about 65000 tons.
 - ❑ Passing through the development phase.
 - ❑ The present perspective of India's defence system clearly reflects the concept of historic and magnificent change from "import to self-reliance".
 - ❑ Today India not only buys weapons, but also sells them and has emerged as a global defence supplier.
 - ❑ Due to the Make in India initiative, self-reliance has reached new heights. India's defence production has recorded growth with ₹1.54 lakh crore. and currently we are exporting defence equipment to more than 80 countries.
 - ❑ In brief, India's defence system is "capable, secure and indigenous", which has become technologically self-reliant to face any threat of war in the modern era.

Current Defence Technology

- The first quarter of 2026 became a historic phase for India's defence sector from "Self-reliant India" to becoming a "Reliable Exporter India". Between January to April, 2026, work was done on many important stages in export, modernization, indigenous technology and strategic capability.
 - In the financial year 2025-26, India's defence export reached ₹38,424 crore, which is about 62% more as compared to 2024-25.
- (A) **Project 17 (A):-** Project 17A is an ambitious plan of the Indian Navy to build Nilgiri class stealth guided missile frigates. Between January to April, 2026, under this project 2 major warships were received by the Indian Navy.
- i. **INS Dunagiri -** Handed over to the Navy on 30 March, 2026. It is the fifth warship of Project 17A.
Place:- Garden Reach Ship Builders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata
- ii. **INS Taragiri:-** On 3 April, 2026, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh included it in the Navy in a commissioning ceremony. It is the fourth warship of Project 17A. It was constructed by MDL, Mumbai.
- Note:-** Both the above frigates are built with 75 percent indigenization.
- (B) **INS Sudarshini** started the expedition campaign from Kochi on 20 January, 2026. Under this it has to travel more than 22000 nautical miles and reach 18 ports of 13 countries.
- (C) **INS Vikrant** fully operational and work started on second aircraft carrier IAC-2
- The first quarter of 2026 became the period of entry into the "hypersonic era" for India's missile programme. DRDO made major leaps in both strategic and conventional missiles with indigenous technology. Recently developed missiles-
- (A) **LR-ASHM Hypersonic Anti Ship Missile-**
- 26 January, 2026:- In the Republic Day parade, DRDO publicly displayed the long range anti-ship hypersonic missile LR-ASHM for the first time. Speed is Mach 10 and range is 1500 kilometres.
- (B) **Akash- NG**
- In January, 2026, the user evaluation trial of Akash NG (Next Generation) was successful.
- (C) Recently India successfully tested Agni-Prime from a rail based mobile launcher

- In the first quarter of 2026, India conducted several major bilateral-multilateral military exercises at the level of Army, Air Force and Navy. Their objective is war preparedness and strategic increase in the Indo-Pacific region.
- (A) **Vayushakti-2026 :-** Indian Air Force's mega fire power demonstration. In February, 2026 at Pokhran Firing Range, Jaisalmer, Rafale, Sukhoi-30MKI, Mirage, Jaguar etc. demonstrated precise attack.
- (B) **Agni Varsha :-** High-tech military exercise of the Army on 24 February, 2026 in Pokhran Rajasthan desert warfare area for maintaining operational preparedness and integrated war capability.
- (C) **Vajraprahar-2026:-** India-America Special Force exercise, from 21 February, 2026, 16th edition.
- (D) **Sea Dragon 2026:-** Squad anti submarine warfare
 - In March, 2026, for 2 weeks
 - Andersen Air Base, Guam
 - India, America, Australia, Japan and New Zealand.
- (E) **Dustlik-2026:-** Between India-Uzbekistan from 12 April to 25 April, 2026
 - Gurumasarai Field Training Area, Namangan, Uzbekistan
 - The first quarter of 2026 was the period of "indigenous induction" for the Indian Air Force. Delivery of TEJAS MK-1A, firepower of Vayushakti-2026, inclusion of Akash NG and foundation of network centric force made the IAF more lethal, self-reliant and technologically advanced in 2026.
- (A) **Entry of TEJAS MK-1A:-** By March, 2026 HAL handed over 6 Tejas MK-1A to the IAF. It is equipped with AESA radar, advanced electronic warfare suite, BVR missile and air-to-air refuelling capability.
- (B) **C-295 Transport Aircraft:-** First indigenous C-295 included in the Air Force. Manufacturing in Tata-Airbus Vadodara plant. Out of total 56 aircraft, 40 will be made in India.
- (C) **LCH Prachand:-** Historic demonstration in Vayushakti exercise 2026. Capable of targeting enemy air defence systems and drones. 10 new LCH Prachand will also be included in 2026.
- Over the last quarter, it has become clear that India's defence sector is no longer just an importer, but has emerged as a designer, manufacturer, and exporter of weapons. Defence exports worth ₹38,424 crore, delivery of Tejas MK-1A, and advancements in military and space capabilities are establishing India as a global military power in 2026. 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' is now transforming into a 'Sashakt Bharat' (Empowered India)

Jai Hind

MAJOR FORTS OF RAJASTHAN

Forts

- Forts were built for residence, security, material storage, protection of livestock, and the concealment of wealth. In Shukraniti, the fort is also considered one of the seven essential components of a state. The earliest evidence of fort architecture development in Rajasthan is found in the excavations of Kalibanga. In the medieval period, high hills with wide tops, suitable for farming and irrigation, were often used for fort construction. During this time, ancient forts were also rebuilt. Within the fort, the higher part was typically used for the royal palace, the lower part for a water reservoir, and the flat area for farming. To ensure impenetrability, large walls were constructed around the fort.
- Types of forts:- According to Shukranitisaar, there are nine types of forts.
 1. **Eran Fort:** Its paths are rendered inaccessible by a ditch and stones.
 2. **Giri Fort:** A fort situated on a high hill. Example- Chittorgarh, Kumbhalgarh, Mehrangarh.
 3. **Parikh Fort:** A fort which is surrounded by a very big ditch from all sides. Example- Lohagarh (Bharatpur).
 4. **Paridh Fort:** A fort which is surrounded by ramparts of brick, stone and soil from all sides. Example- Siwana.
 5. **Van Durg (Fort):** A fort which is surrounded by a group of very big thorny trees from all sides. Example- Khandar Fort (Sawai Madhopur), Ranthambore Fort, Bayana Fort.
 6. **Dhanvan Fort:** A fort which is surrounded by desert from all sides. Example - Jaisalmer Fort, Sonargarh, Junagarh, Bhatner Fort.
 7. **Audaak (Water) Fort:** A fort surrounded by a river, drain or lake. Example - Gagron Fort, Shergarh Fort (Baran).
 8. **Sainya Durg (Fort):** Its impenetrability is due to the valiant warriors who inhabit it and are skilled in battle formation.
 9. **Sahay Durg (Fort):** Sahay Durg (Fort): Inhabited by brave allies.
- Shukranitisaar has described the Sainya Durg (fort) as the best among these forts.

Note:

1. Chittorgarh fort has the characteristics of all categories except Dhanvan fort.
2. Mud forts - Bhatner (Hanumangarh) and Lohagarh (Bharatpur)

Characteristics of forts

- Forts were symbols of strategic prestige, housing various palaces, chhatris, stepwells, ponds, and minarets. Several cities developed near these forts, such as Amer City near Amer Fort and Ajmer City near Ajaymeru Fort.
- The forts were centres of spirituality, housing temples of various deities and mosques of numerous saints. Examples include Saint Pipa's Dargah (Gagron Fort), Kumbh Shyam Temple (Kumbhalgarh Fort), and Shila Devi Temple (Amer Fort).
- From an architectural standpoint, the forts were strong, featuring massive towers and doors.
- Strategically and geographically important locations were chosen for fort construction, ensuring security. Examples include Dhanvan Fort, Giri Fort, and Jal Fort.
- Huge reservoirs were situated beneath the forts, serving both water supply and agricultural purposes. A deep moat surrounded the fort, and a robust system of armour was in place.

Chittorgarh Fort (The King of Forts)



- It is situated at the confluence of Gambhiri and Bedach rivers.
- Its length is 8 km and width is 2 km.
- It is situated on the plateau of Mesa.
- According to Veervinod, Maurya king Chitrang (Chitrangad) had built this fort and named it Chitrakot after his name, the corrupt form of which is Chittor.

- Bapparaval (founder of Guhil dynasty) took over this fort from Manmori, the last ruler of Maurya dynasty.
- There is a famous window called 'Lakhota ki Bari' in the fort. In this fort Queen Padmini's palace, Gora and Badal's palaces, Kalika Mata temple Surajkund, Jaimal and Fatta's mansions, Jaimal ji's pond, Samidheshwar temple (Mokal temple built by Parmar ruler Bhoj), Jatashankar temple, Kumbhshyam temple, Vishnu Varah avatar built by Kumbha, Meera Bai's temple, Kukdeshwar Mahadev temple, Neelkanth Mahadev temple, Bhamashah's mansion, Navlakha Bhandar and Tulja Bhavani Mata temple (constructed by Banveer) are situated. Fateh Prakash's palace is also here.
- Jain temples in the fort - Adbhut ji's temple (Rishabhdev is also called Bhil Adbhut ji) Satbis Deori (a group of 27 temples) Shringar Chanwari (constructed by Kumbha's treasurer Belak) Four-faced idol of Shantinath.
- It has Ratneshwar talaab, Kumbh Sagar talaab, Gaumukh waterfall, Jhalibab Bawdi and Bhimlat talaab.
- It also has a seven storey Jain Kirti Stambh (dedicated to Adinath) built by Jija Sah, son of Bagherwal Mahajan Sanay in the eleventh century.
- Nine storey Kirti Stambh built by Kumbha (some scholars call it Vijay Stambh) is Chittor's most magnificent construction which is dedicated to Vishnu. This 122 feet high building has 157 stairs.

Floor	Idols
First	Ananta, Brahma, Rudra
Second	Ardhanarishvara and Harihara
Third	Viranchi, Jayanta, Narayana, and Pitamaha
Fourth	Trikhanda, Harisiddha, Parvati, Hinglaj, Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati, Gandharva, Kartikeya, and Vishvakarma
Fifth	Lakshminarayan, Uma Maheshwar, Brahma-Savitri
Sixth	Saraswati, Mahalakshmi, and Mahakal
Seventh	Varaha, Narasimha, Ramachandra, Baldev Buddha (avatar of Vishnu)
Eighth	No idol
Ninth	History from Maharana Hammir to Maharana Mokal

- Ferguson has described it as superior to Trajan Tower of Rome and Colonel Todd has described it as superior to Qutub Minar.
- After being damaged by lightning, it was renovated during the period of Maharana Swaroop Singh and Fateh Singh.

- Dr. Rajshekhar Vyas - "Kirti Stambh is not only a representative monument of mediaeval Mewar architecture but also of mediaeval Indian architecture."

Three famous Sakas of Chittorgarh fort

First Saka

Invader	Alauddin Khilji (Delhi Sultan)
Year	26 August 1303
Kesariya	Gora, Badal
Jauhar	Padmini
Book	Tarikh-e-Alai (Amir Khusro)

Second Saka

Invader	Bahadur Shah (Gujarat Sultan)
Year	8 March, 1534
Kesariya	Rawat Wagh Singh
Jauhar	Karmavati
Book	Veer Vinod (Shyamla Das)

Third Saka

Invader	Akbar (Mughal Emperor)
Year	25 February, 1567
Kesariya	Jaimal and Fatta
Jauhar	Phool Kanwar (Fatta's wife)
Book	Akbarnama (Abul Fazal)

- "This fort is built in the shape of a whale. It is the largest living fort of Rajasthan. Farming is also done in this fort." It is also called the gateway of Malwa, the Pride of Rajasthan.

Kumbhalgarh (Rajsamand)

- It is situated on the lofty peak of the Aravali mountain range in Rajsamand.
- According to Veer Vinod Granth, Maharana Kumbha laid the foundation of Kumbhalgarh or Kumbhalmeru fort in Vikram Samvat 1505 (1448 AD). Kumbha got it constructed in the memory of his wife Kumbhal Devi, its chief architect was Mandan.



- On the occasion of completion of the fort, Kumbha minted special coins in its memory on which the name of Kumbhalgarh fort was inscribed.
- The rampart (wall) of this fort is about 36 km long. It has been the emergency capital of Mewar.
- This is a mountain fort. Its other names are Matsyendra, Kumbhalpur, Mahor.
- This fort is situated on the border of Mewar-Marwar.
- Kumbhalgarh had dual importance as a place for conducting military campaigns and as a refuge in times of distress.
- There is a small fort at a height inside the fort, which is called Katargarh. This fort is protected by 7 huge gates and strong ramparts. Inside Katargarh, Kumbhaswami temple, Badal Mahal, Jhali Rani Mahal are situated.
- Maharana Pratap had prepared for the battle of Haldighati in this fort.
- Buildings situated in the fort: Mamadev temple, Udna Rajkumar's chhatri (Prithviraj Smarak), Kumbhaswami Vishnu temple, Panna Dhay Mahal, Neelkanth Mahadev temple (built in Nagara style) are the prominent ones.
- Colonel James Todd has compared Kumbhalgarh fort to 'Etruscan' because of its strong ramparts, towers and battlements. To the east of Kumbhalgarh fort is the Hathi-Gudha Naal.'
- About the Katargarh fort situated inside Kumbhalgarh fort, Abul Fazal said that "It is built at such a height that if you look up from below, the turban falls off from your head."

Important events related to the fort -

1. Coronation of Udai Singh
 2. Birth of Maharana Pratap
 3. Attacks on Kumbhalgarh fort started during its construction itself. Sultan Mahmud Khilji of Malwa and then Sultan Qutbuddin of Gujarat attacked it unsuccessfully in 1457 AD. After the Battle of Haldighati (1576 AD), on 3 April 1578 AD, the Mughal army under the leadership of Shahbaz Khan snatched this fort from the Mewari rulers for the first time.
 4. Maharana Kumbha was killed in the fort of Kumbhalgarh by his elder son Uda (Udaykaran).
- The couplet famous for the impregnable nature of Kumbhalgarh fort -

**“Jhal Katayan Jhaali Mile, Na Rank Katayan Rao.
Kumbhalgarh Rai Kangre, Machhar Ho To Aav.”**

Ranthambore Fort (Sawai Madhopur)

- 'Giridurg' is surrounded by seven high and low mountain ranges of odd shapes, in between which there are deep trenches and drains.
- The actual name of Ranthambore Fort is Rantah Pur

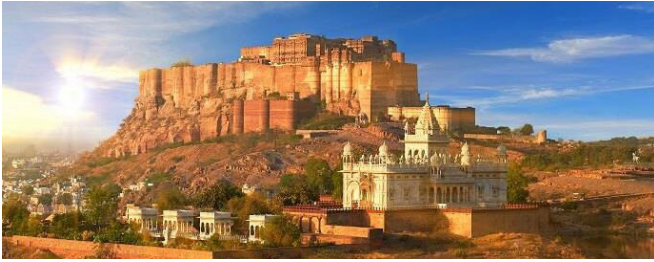
i.e. 'Town situated in the valley of Rann'. 'Ran' is the name of the hill which is slightly below the fort hill and Thambh (pillar) is the name on which this fort is built. Due to this, its name became Ranstambhpur (Ranstambhpur).

- The fort was built in the 8th century by the Chauhan rulers of Ajmer. It has the features of both Giri and Van forts.
- According to the history of the Nathawats, the fort of Ranthambore is built on a high mountain peak in a dense forest, and the fort appears like a bilva leaf placed on a Shivling.
- The Tripolia gate situated in the fort is made like a tunnel by joining seven arches. (Other gates- Nau-lakha Gate, Haathi Pol, Ganesh Pol, Suraj Pol, Tripolia Gate (Andheri Gate) is the main entrance to the fort.)
- In the fort complex: Hammir Mahal (made of red stone), Betel Palace, Jogi Mahal, Badal Mahal, Chhatri of 32 pillars, Jaunra-Bhaunra (grain storage warehouse), Ranihad talaab, Lakshmi Narayan temple, Muslim Pir Sadruddin's Dargah, Trinetra Ganesh temple (only the face of Ganesh ji is worshipped here), Hammir Kachheri, Rani Mahal.
- The Supari Mahal here is a unique monument of Hindu, Muslim and Jain culture.
- According to Abul-Fazal other forts are bare but this armour is armoured.
- In 1292 AD, on Jalaluddin Khilji's failed attack on Ranthambore, he said, "He does not consider even 100 such forts to be worth even a single hair of a Muslim."

First Saka of Rajasthan	
Invader	Alauddin Khilji
Year	1301
Jauhar	Rangdevi and daughter Devaldevi
Kesariya	Hammir Dev
Book	Khazain-ul-Futuh (Amir Khusro)

- In reference to this fort, Amir Khusro said, "Today the stronghold of Kufr has become the home of Islam". "In exchange for 2 grains of gold, even 1 grain of rice was not available."
- The main equipment used in war during Alauddin's campaign were Pasheb (special type of platform), Arshada (machine for showering stones), Maghra-bi (machine for throwing inflammable substances), Gargach, Manjanik and Dhekuli (machine for showering stones), etc.
- Akbar established a royal mint here.
- Ranthambore was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List on 21 June 2013.

Mehrangarh Fort (Garh Chintamani, Jodhpur)



- Rao Jodha (13 May 1459 AD) laid the foundation of this fort on a hill called Chidiyatook. According to popular beliefs, a person named Rajia was buried alive in the foundation of the fort. A city was built around it which was named Jodhpur after him and became the capital of his kingdom. Earlier, the capital of Marwar was Mandore.
- Jodha got its foundation laid by Karni Mata. Due to its peacock shape, it is also known as Mayurdhwajgarh. Due to its vastness, this fort was called Mehrangarh.
- Mehrangarh Fort has been a witness to the devotion of Veer Durgadas.
- The coronation of the rulers of Jodhpur took place at the Singar Chowki (Shringar Chowki) built by Takht Singh.

Main palaces here-

- Moti Mahal: Built by Maharaja Sursingh, famous for golden decorations, gold polishing work on its roof and walls was done by Maharaja Takht Singh.
- Phool Mahal: Built by Maharaja Abhay Singh, famous for fine carvings on stone.
- Fateh Mahal: Built by Maharaja Ajit Singh.
- Library named Pustak Prakash: Built by Maharaja Man Singh in 1805 AD. Jaipol, Fatehpol, Lohapol are also located here.
- Rang Mahal and Chokhelav Mahal (famous for wall paintings), Takht Vilas which is a dormitory has a picture of Dholamaru painted on its walls.
- Chamunda Devi Temple (built by Rao Jodha), Anand Dhan Ji and Murli Manohar Temple (built by Abhay Singh). Apart from this, there is a temple of Nagnechhi Mata, the clan goddess of Rathores, and Bhure Khan's tomb in this fort.
- Famous cannons like Kardak, Kilkila, Ghazni Khan, Shambhubaan and Gubbaar, Nagpali, Nusrat, Gajak etc. are worth seeing in this fort.
- 'Jaswant Thada' (Marwar's Taj Mahal) is situated at the foot of the fort.
- In 1857, Chamunda Mata temple was destroyed by lightning on the fort's ammunition store, which was renovated by Maharaja Takht Singh.
- British writer Rudyard Kipling spent a long time here. Rudyard Kipling has considered this fort to be

built by gods, fairies and angels.

- Ranisar and Padamsar are the main sources of water in this fort.
- Ranisar pond was built by Rao Jodha's queen Jasma Hadi and Padamsar was built by Rao Ganga's queen Padmavati.
- The following quote about the grandeur of Jodhpur fort sums up its importance -
"Sab hi gadha siromani, ati hi uncho jaan. And the hills are on top, the strong fort of Jodhaan."

Sonargarh (Jaisalmer)



- Sonargarh or Songarh Fort is a Dhanwan Fort built by Rawal Jaisal in 1155 AD with yellow stones, which is situated on the Trikuta Hill in Jaisalmer.
- It is the 'Sentinel of the Northern Border' of the state and the Yaduvanshi Bhati rulers here used to hold the North Bhad gate.
- The foundation of this fort was laid by Maharawal Jaisal Bhati on 12th July, 1155 AD and due to the death of Rawal Jaisal soon after, the remaining construction of this fort was done by his son Shalivahan II.
- When seen from a distance, this fort gives the impression of a 'ship anchored', 'lion stretching'.
- The fort has 99 bastions. The double rampart of the fort is called 'Kamarkot'. It was built with dark yellow stones without using lime. (There is a Jaisal Kuan (well) in the fort for drinking water.)
- This is the only fort whose roof is made of wood.
- It has been included in the World Heritage List by UNESCO.
- "Satyajit Ray" made the film 'Sonar Killa' about this fort."
- Jaisalmer Fort is the second largest living fort after Chittorgarh Fort.
- There is a rare treasure of handwritten texts in the fort, which is known as 'Jinbhadra Suri Granth Bhandar' after the name of Jain Acharya Jinbhadra Suri.

In this fort -

- Inside the fort, the Sarvottam Vilas (Sheeshmahal) built by Maharawal Akhaisingh, Rangmahal and Motimahal built by Mulraj II are famous for the grand lattices and windows and live decoration of

flower creepers, while Gajvilas and Jawaharvilas are famous for fine stone work and cutting of lattices.

- Temples of Parshvanath, Sambhavanath and Shabhadev are famous
- Lakshminarayan temple (built by Vairi Singh in 1437 AD)
- A popular saying about Jaisalmer Fort is that ‘to climb it, one can ride a horse made of stone, with a body of iron and a head of wood’.

Jaisalmer’s two and a half Sakas	
First Saka	
Invader	Alauddin Khilji (Delhi Sultan)
Year	1312-13
Kesariya	Mulraj and Ratan Singh
Jauhar	Women including Queens committed Jauhar
Second Saka:-	
Invader	Firoz Shah Tughlaq
Year	1351 AD
Kesariya	Rawal Duda and Triloksi
Jauhar	Queens including women committed Jauhar
Ardh Saka:-	
Invader	Hamir Ali (Kandahar)
Year	1550 AD
Kesariya	Rawal Lunkaran
Jauhar	No Jauhar
Note: Ardh Sakka - The heroes attained martyrdom while fighting but Jauhar was not committed.	

Mandalgarh Fort

- According to Giri Fort Shringi Rishi inscription of Bhilwara, it was named Mandalgarh because it was circular in shape. According to Shyamaldas, the author of ‘Veer Vinod’, the Chauhan rulers of Shakambhari had built the fort of Mandalgarh. According to popular belief, this fort was built by a Gujjar named Chanana in the name of a Bhil named Mandia. To the north of the fort is Bijasan Mata mountain and Nakatiya’s Chaudh (climb).
- There are two small gates in the fort for use in times of crisis, they are called ‘Bari’.
- Inside the fort, the reservoirs named Sagar, Sagari, Jaleshwar and Devsagar are worth seeing.
- Before the Battle of Haldighati, Mansingh finalised his military preparations in this fort. Mughal emperors made Mandalgarh the centre of their military campaigns as the gateway of Mewar. In

1654 AD, Shah Jahan gave Mandalgarh as a jagir to Kishangarh ruler Rup Singh. During the war of succession (1658), Maharana Raj Singh snatched this fort from the Mughals and took it under his control.

- The main buildings of the fort are the Jain temple of Rishabhdev, Undeshwar temple, Chamunda Devi and Charbhuj temple.

Gagron Fort/ Dodgarh/ Dhulargarh

- ‘Jal Durg’ located in Jhalawar district at the confluence of Kalisindh and Aahu rivers, is protected by a triple rampart.
- This fort was built by Dod (Parmar) (built by Bijaldev in 1195 AD). Therefore, it was known as Dodgarh or Dhulargarh. According to Chauhan Kul Kalpadrum, Devansingh (Dharu) Khinchi killed Bijaldev Dod and took over Dhulargarh and named it Gagron. This fort stands tall without any foundation. It was built on the hill of Munkadara.

Gagron Fort’s Sakas	
First Saka	
Invader	Hoshangashah (Mandu)
Year	1423
Kesariya	Achal Das Khinchhi
Jauhar	Rani Umade and Leela Mewari
Text	Achal Das Khinchi ri Vachanika (Shivdas Gadan)
Second Saka	
Invader	Malwa Sultan Mahmud Khilji I
Year	1444
Kesariya	Achal Das’ son Palhanasi
Jauhar	Under the leadership of queens
Text	Mahasire Mahmudshahi

- Mahmud Khilji built another fort in this fort and named it Mustafabad.
- Shahjahan gave Gagron to Rao Mukund Singh of Kota.
- Sufi saint Hamimuddin Chishti came from Khurasan during the reign of Jait Singh Khichi, his tomb is known as Meetha Shah’s Dargah.
- Buildings situated in the fort: Mint, Pipaji’s Chhatri, Madhusudan Temple, Sheetla Mata Temple, Sufi Saint Meetha Shah’s Dargah, (Saint Hamiduddin Chishti’s tomb), Buland Darwaza built by Aurangzeb, huge rampart built by Jhala Jalim Singh (Kota ruler) Jalim Kota, Achal Das Khichi and queens’ palaces are prominent.

- **Gagrani Parrots:-**Hiram Parrot (Mention of these is found in Salim Ali's book Jim Thavva Vi Pdakpand Thapatkae.)
- It is believed that Kunwar Prithviraj composed the poem 'Velikrisna Rukmani Ri' while residing in Gagrani fort in 1580 AD.

Churu Fort

- This fort was built by Thakur Kushal Singh in 1739 AD. In 1814 AD, during the period of Thakur Shiv Singh, Bikaner's King Surat Singh sent an army under the leadership of Amarchand Surana to take over the Churu fort. When the ammunition in the fort was exhausted, silver bullets were fired on the enemy to protect their freedom.
- This fort comes under the category Sthal and Dhanvan durg.

Siwana Fort (Kumthana)

- The hill fort situated in Barmer was built by Veernarayan Panwar in 954 AD. Due to the abundance of bushes called Kumthana around the hill on which the fort is situated, it is also called Kumthana fort. After its conquest in 1308 AD, Alauddin named it Khairabad.
- The then fort commander was Sataldev Sonagara.
- Due to its impenetrable nature, the fort of Siwana used to be a refuge for the kings of Marwar in times of crisis.
- This fort is situated on Haldeshwar hill (Barmer).
- The tales of bravery of Veer Sataldev and Rathore Kalla Raimalot are associated with this fort. Rao Maldev took refuge in this fort during the battle of Sumel (1544).

Siwana Fort (Kumthana)		
Saka	First Saka	Second Saka
Invader	Alauddin Khilji	Mota Raja Uday Singh, Akbar's commander
Year	1308	-
Kesariya	Sataldev	Veer Kalla Raimalot (Kalyan Mal)
Jauhar	Women including Queens committed Jauhar	Under the leadership of Hadi Queen

- Bhandelav talab - It is the main source of drinking water in the fort.
- This fort falls under the category of Dhanvan, Giri, Paridh and Eran durg (fort).
- In 1452 AD, Maharana Kumbha built the Achalgarh fort on the ruins of the old Abu fort built by the Parmar rulers. The place where Mahmud Begada's

army was attacked by bees is today famous as 'Bhavaranthal'. Mandakini Kund and Mansingh Smarak Durg are notable places.

- Near Achalgarh is an ancient temple of Achaleshwar Mahadev, which was built by the Parmar rulers around 900 AD where there is no Shivling but only a pit, which is called Brahmakhaddha.
- There is a huge pond near this temple which is called Mandakini Kund. Near it is installed a white marble statue of Adi Parmar, the founder of Parmar state. The famous Colonel Todd's statement about this fort - "This statue made of white marble is about 5 feet high and it is superior to all the statues I have seen in India except the statues made on the pillars of Bandoli."
- Kafur Sagar Lake, Sawan Bhado Lake, Okharani ka Mahal, Grain Stores are located in Achalgarh Fort.
- The Jain temples of Shabhadev and Parshvanath and the Kumbha Swami temple built by Kumbha are famous tourist sites.

Amer Fort

- Amer was known as Ambavati and Ambikapur in ancient times. Amer Fort was built by King Bharmal. The palace built by Mansingh I in 1592 AD is a combined form of Hindu-Muslim style. The Sheesh Mahal, Shilamata Temple, Jagat Shiromani Temple are worth seeing here.



- In 1707 AD, Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah I named Amer as 'Mominabad'.
- Dilaram Ka Bagh is situated here on the banks of the famous Mawtha reservoir. In June 2013, Amer Fort was included in the World Heritage Site list by UN-ESCO. Diwan-e-Aam (rectangular structure resting on 40 pillars) was built by Raja Jai Singh (1621-67 AD). Diwan-e-Khas, Baradari etc. are unique examples of architecture of this fort.
- Beautiful palaces named Yash Mandir and Saubhagya Mandir are built on the roofs of Diwan-e-Khas and Ganeshpol.
- Bishop Haber has written in reference to the palaces of Amer, 'Whatever I have seen in the Kremlin and whatever I have heard about Alambhara, this palace is even better than that.'
- Important Places in the fort - Suhag Mandir (for the entertainment of queens), Ganeshpol gate (Ferguson called it the best gate of the world), Kadami Mahal.

- Queen Kankavati of Mansingh I built the Jagat Shiromani temple in memory of her son Jagat Singh (Krishnamurthy).

Jaigarh Fort

- Built during the time of Maharaja Mansingh, it was later extended and completed during the times of Mirza Raja Jaisingh and Sawai Jaisingh. It is a Giri Fort. Water was conserved in this fort through a drainage system.
- Jaigarh Fort, built at a place called 'Chilh ka Tila', has three main entrances, Dungar Darwaza (towards Nahargarh), Avani Darwaza (towards Amer palaces) and Bhairu Darwaza.
- There is also a small fort 'Vijaygarhi' in Jaigarh where Sawai Jaisingh imprisoned his younger brother Vijay Singh (Chimaji). On the side of Vijaygarhi is a 7 storey Prakash Stambh which is called 'Diya Burj'.
- There is a cannon casting factory in the fort. During the time of Sawai Jai Singh, Asia's largest cannon 'Jaiban' was manufactured.
- During the emergency declared in June 1975, a secret door was discovered inside this fort. Jaigarh has never been attacked from outside.

Nahargarh

- This fort was named Nahargarh after Nahar Singh Bhomiya of Sudarshangarh. It was built by Sawai Jai Singh in 1734 AD to protect against Maratha attacks.
- In this fort, Sawai Madho Singh II built 9 identical palaces (Suraj Prakash, Khushal Prakash, Jawahar Prakash, Lalit Prakash, Lakshmi Prakash, Anand Prakash, Chand Prakash, Phool Prakash and Basant Prakash) for his 9 paswans. Ganeshpol was built by Sawai Jai Singh.
- Maharaja Jagat Singh's love interest Raskapoor was imprisoned in this fort.
- The chhatris of Gaitor, the royal crematorium of Kachwahas, are situated at the foot of the fort. These chhatris, built in Panchayatan style, belong to the rulers from Sawai Jai Singh to Sawai Madho Singh.

Taragarh Fort (Ajmer)

- Famous as 'Garh Bithali', Ajaymeru and Taragarh, this fort was built on the lofty peak of Aravali.
- According to Colonel Todd, the builder of this fort was Ajayraj. Bithli is the name of the hill on which the fort was built, so it is called Garh Bithli.
- Harvilas Sharda has considered it to be the oldest hill fort of India.
- William Benting destroyed the fort's walls in 1832 and ended its strategic importance.

- Being in the middle of Rajputana, it had strategic importance. Maldev's wife 'Ruthi Rani' (Umade) also made this fort her residence.
- There are cannons named Ghunghat, Gugri, Futi, Nakkarchi, Shringar Chanwari, Aar-Paar Ka Atta, Janu Nayak Pipli, Ibrahim, Dorai, Bandra, Imli, Khidki, Fateh Burj.
- This fort was built on Garhbithli hill in 1113 AD by Ajayraj Chauhan.
- In the 15th century, it was named Taragarh after Tarabai, the wife of Kunwar Prithviraj, the eldest son of Rana Raimal of Mewar.
- On the highest hill inside the fort is the dargah of Muslim saint Miranshah. This dargah belongs to Mir Syed Hussain Khingsawar, the first Muslim governor of Taragarh. He sacrificed his life to protect the fort in 1202 AD. Ghode ki majaar is situated in the dargah.
- There are five big reservoirs inside the fort, of which Nana Saheb Ka Jhalra, Gol Jhalra, Ibrahim Ka Jhalra and Bada Jhalra are the main ones.
- Bishop Haber- 'If it is renovated using European technology, it can become the second Gibraltar.'
- It is also called the Gibraltar of Rajasthan.

Taragarh Fort (Bundi)

- It falls under the category of Giri Fort. This fort, situated on the top of the mountain, was called 'Taragarh' because it looked like a star in the sky from the ground.
- It was built in 1354 AD by Rao Barsingh to protect Bundi from possible attacks from Mewar, Malwa and Gujarat.
- The palaces built inside the fort are unique due to their architecture and wall paintings. Among these palaces, Chhatra Mahal, Aniruddh Mahal, Ratan Mahal, Badal Mahal and Phool Mahal are the prominent ones. Other buildings include Jivrakha Mahal, Diwan-e-Aam, Silakhana, Naubatkhana, Doodha Mahal, Ashwasala etc.
- The famous 16th century cannon 'Garbhgunjan' is kept in the fort.
- Rudyard Kipling, author of Jungle Book, stayed here.
- "These palaces seem to have been built not by humans but by ghosts" – Rudyard Kipling
- Colonel Todd has described the palaces of Bundi as the best among the palaces of all the princely states of Rajasthan.

Todgarh (Ajmer)

- Built by Colonel Todd, this place was earlier called Boradwara. Vijay Singh Pathik and Gopal Singh Kharwa were imprisoned in this fort.

Junagarh Fort (Bikaner)

- This fort falls under the category of Dhanvan Fort and Bhumi Fort.
- The foundation of this fort was laid by Maharaja Rai Singh's minister Karamchandra on 30 January 1589 and it was completed on 17 February 1594. It was built in Mughal style.
- There are 37 huge towers in the fort. There are two main entrance gates for entering the fort - the eastern gate Karnapol and the western gate Chandpol. The fort has 5 internal gates - Daulatpol Fatehpol, Ratanpol, Surajpol and Dhruvpol. Rai Prashasti written by Jaduta is engraved on Surajpol and the statues of Jaimal and Fatta riding elephants are installed on both sides of Surajpol.
- The fort is built on Bika ki Tekri. It was built by Bikaji and is also called the 'Jewel of the Land'.
- There is a synthesis of Hindu and Muslim art styles.
- In the fort, Raisingh's Chaubara, Phoolmahal, Chandramahal, Gaj Mandir, Anup Mahal, Ratan Mahal, Anup Mahal (the most enchanting, embossed with gold pen, was the place where the coronation of the rulers took place), Chhatra Niwas, Chini Burj, Sunhari Burj, Kunwarpada and the latticed Baradari are worth seeing for their craftsmanship and beauty.
- Phoolmahal and Gajmandir are famous for fine glass cutting and lifelike painting of flowers and leaves.
- The lift was first installed in this fort.
- Pandit Dinanath Sharma said - the walls here have ears. Maharaja Ganga Singh's aeroplane is also located here.
- Ganga Niwas is famous for its red stone work and Chhatra Niwas is famous for its beautiful wooden ceiling and live depiction of Krishna's Raasleela.
- There is a temple dedicated to 33 crore gods and goddesses in Junagadh.

Bhatner Fort (Hanumangarh)

- According to popular belief, this Dhanvan Fort situated at the mouth of Ghagggar River was built by Bhati King Bhupat in the third century. Spread over 52 bighas, it has 52 towers. The fort is built with baked bricks and lime.
- Being on the Delhi-Multan road, it had strategic importance. When Timur Lang attacked Bhatner Fort in 1398, Rao Kelan Bhati attained martyrdom wearing saffron clothes. In the end, not only Hindu women of the fort but also Muslim women performed Jauhar in terror.
- Bikaner's ruler Rao Jaisi attacked Bhatner fort in 1527 and defeated its ruler Sada Chayal and established the supremacy of the Rathore dynasty on the fort and appointed Khetsi Rathore (son of Rao Kandhal) as the fort ruler of Bhatner.

- Humayun's brother Kamran defeated Khetsi Rathore and captured Bhatner around 1534.
- Due to Maharaja Surat Singh of Bikaner capturing this fort on Tuesday in 1805 AD, Bhatner has been named Hanumangarh.
- This fort is also called the sentinel of the northern border.
- The figures of Bikaner's ruler Dalpat Singh and his 6 queens are engraved on the entrance of the fort.

Nagaur Fort/ Nag Durg/ Ahichhatrapur

- It falls under the category of Dhanwan Fort. Its foundation was laid in 1154 AD by Chauhan King Someshwar's feudatory Kaimas. A triple rampart is built around this fort.
- Its specialty is that the shells fired at it pass through without touching its palaces.
- It has been awarded the 'Award of Excellence' by UNESCO.
- There are 6 huge gates in this fort. Sirai Pol, Bichli Pol, Kachhari Pol, Surajpol, Dhuni Pol and Rajpol.
- Akbar organised the famous Nagaur Darbar in this fort in 1570 AD where many Rajput rulers accepted Mughal supremacy.
- Akbar built a fountain and Akbari Mosque inside the fort.
- This fort has been a witness to the valour and self-esteem of Veer Shiromani Amar Singh Rathore.
- On the request of Maharaja Gaj Singh, Mughal emperor Shah Jahan gave the Nagaur fort to Amar Singh.
- Jodhpur Maharaja Abhay Singh gave Nagaur as a jagir to his brother Bakht Singh.
- There are beautiful wall paintings in the fort, among which the artistic paintings of Badal Mahal and Sheesh Mahal are beautiful.

Jalore Fort (Suvarna Giri)

- It is a Giri fort. Songarh/ Suvarnagiri, situated on the banks of Sukdi river, was built by Pratihara king Nagabhatta I in the 8th century. The fort is called Songarh because it is built on the Songiri hill.
- Inside the fort is Topkhana Mosque which was formerly a Sanskrit school built by the Parmara ruler Bhoj.

Jalore Fort's Sakas First Saka

Invader	Alauddin Khilji
Time	1311-1312
Kesariya	Kanhaddev Sonagara, Viramdev
Jauhar	Queens including women committed Jauhar

Text mentioned in	Viramdev Songara Ri Baat and Kanhad Dev Prabandh (Padmanabha)
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- This fort was ruled by Parmars, Chauhans, Solankis, Rathores and Mughals. Alauddin Khilji renamed Jalalabad and built Alai Masjid here.
- ‘Sant Malik Shah’s Dargah’ is situated in this fort.
- Hasan Nizami said, ‘This is a fort whose door no attacker could breach.’

Shahabad Fort (Baran)

- It falls under the category of Giri fort. The ancient fort of Shahabad is situated on Bhamati hill of Mukundra mountain range in Baran. Mughal emperor Aurangzeb used this fort as a resting place during his South tour. This fort is believed to have been built by Parmar rulers in the 9th century. It was rebuilt by Chauhan Raja Mukut Mani Dev, a descendant of Ranthambore ruler Hammir Dev Chauhan, in 1521 AD. During the reign of the Mughals, this fort was used for construction of another fort. The present name is Shahabad. During the period of Aurangzeb, Mughal Faujdar Maqbool built Jama Masjid in this fort.
- The Navalwan cannon kept here is famous.

Lohagarh Fort (Bharatpur)

- Maharaja Surajmal built this fort in 1733 AD.
- Earlier there was a Kachchi Garhi here which was built by Khemkaran Songaria.
- This fort is called ‘SinghDwar of Rajasthan’ and the Sentinel of the Eastern Border. The fort is made of double outer rampart, the inner rampart is made of brick and stone and the outer rampart is made of mud on which the cannon balls did not have any effect. Due to the presence of a deep ditch filled with water all around the fort, this fort falls under the category of Parikh fort.
- In 1765, Maharaja Jawahar Singh brought Ashtadhatu Doors from Delhi’s Red Fort and installed them at the southern gate of the fort. The fort’s Jawahar Burj is a symbol of Maharaja Jawahar Singh’s victory over Delhi and Fateh Burj was built in 1806 as a result of victory over the British.
- Neither the Mughals nor the British could conquer this fort. The most powerful and effective attack on Bharatpur fort was made by the British army under the leadership of Lord Lake in 1805. Due to this the then Bharatpur Maharaja Ranjit Singh had to give shelter to the British enemy Jaswant Singh Holkar in Bharatpur. When the British army could not conquer the fort even after 4 months, the British had to enter into a treaty with Maharaja Ranjit Singh and on April 17, 1805, the British army lifted the siege.

- Taking advantage of the internal strife of the Bharatpur royal family in January 1826, the British took over the fort under the leadership of British commander Combermere.
- Kachhari Kala is situated in this fort where the Matsya Sangh was inaugurated by Sardar Vallabhbai Patel in March, 1948.
- Kishori Mahal, Kothi Khas, Mahal Khas are situated in this fort.
- Apart from this, the architecture of Ganga Mandir, Laxman Mandir, Bihari Ji Ka Mandir, Jama Masjid is amazing in itself.

Other important forts

Bayana Fort or Vijay Mandir Garh/ Shonitpur/ Shriprastha/ Shripanth/ Santpur/ Ramgarh

- This is a Giri fort. It was built in 1040 AD.
- Yadav King Vijaypal built Vijay Mandir Fort at the place of the ancient fort of Bayana. The pillar made of red stones inside the fort is called Bhimlat. It was built by Maharaja Vishnuvardhan.
- The first ‘Vijaya Stambh’ of Rajasthan, built by Samudragupta is located here.
- During the time of Gurjar Pratiharas, Chitrlekha, wife of Laxmansen, built ‘Usha Mandir’ which was converted into a mosque by Iltutmish in 1224 AD.

Deeg Fort (Bharatpur)

- The fort was built by Badan Singh in 1730 AD.

Vair Fort (Bharatpur)

- It was built by Badan Singh in 1726 AD.

Timargarh or Tribhuvangarh Fort (Karauli)

- This fort was built by Vijaypal’s son Tribhuvan Pal. This fort is also known as ‘Tripurar Nagari’.

Shergarh Fort

- It is a hill fort situated on the banks of Parvan river in Baran district. It is also known as ‘Koshvardhan’.
- Sher Shah Suri captured Koshvardhan (1542 AD) and after getting it renovated, named it Shergarh.
- The main tourist spots include Somnath Mahadev, Laxminarayan Temple and Charbhuj Temple and *Jhalaon Ki Haveli* is also situated here.
- Mughal emperor Farrukhsiyar gave Kota to Maharao Bhim Singh I as a reward, Bhim Singh named it Barsana.

Chomu Fort

- Known as Chaumuhargarh and Dharadhargarh, the foundation of this fort was laid by Thakur Karn Singh in 1595-97 AD. Earlier it was also called Raghunathgarh.

Kotda Fort (Barmer)

- Built by Parmar rulers.

Kankbadi/ Kankanbari Fort (Alwar)

- Built by Sawai Jai Singh
- Aurangzeb imprisoned his brother Dara Shikoh inside this fort.

Alwar Fort (Bala Quila)

- The fort was built by Alghurai (Algharaj), the younger son of Amer Ruler Kankildev.
- Hasan Khan Mewati, son of Alawal Khan, built Bala Fort (Kunwara Fort) and Alwar city in 1524 AD.
- The main water source of the fort is Salimsagar (built by Salimshah, son of Shershah) and after the death of Aurangzeb, Bharatpur King Surajmal took over this fort and built Suraj Mahal and Surajkund.
- There are holes in the ramparts to fire shells, hence it is also called the fort with eyes.

Ajabgarh Fort (Alwar)

- Built by Ajab Singh in 1635 AD.
- It is located in the Sariska Sanctuary.

Neemrana Fort (Alwar)

- This fort, known as Panchmahal, is situated in Rath region and was the third capital of the descendants of Prithviraj Chauhan.

Forts of the state included in the UNESCO World Heritage List (till 22 June 2013) -

1.	Chittorgarh
2.	Kumbhalgarh
3.	Jaisalmer
4.	Ranthambore
5.	Gagron
6.	Amer

Fatehpur Fort (Sikar)

- Fateh Khan Qayamkhani in 1453 AD.

Akbar's Fort (Magazine Fort)

- Built by Mughal Emperor Akbar in 1570 AD. This fort was built to show respect to Khwaja Muinuddin Hasan Chishti. Akbar made the strategy of the Battle of Haldighati in 1576 AD in this fort.
- It is the only fort in Rajasthan built using Muslim fort construction method. It is also called Akbar's Daulat Khana. In 1615 AD, Sir Thomas Roe, the ambassador of England's King James I, met Jahangir in this fort.

150th Anniversary of India's National Song Vande Mataram

- The Government of India celebrated the 150th anniversary of India's national song Vande Mataram on 7 November, 2025.
- In the Constituent Assembly, on 24 January 1950, the first two stanzas of Vande Mataram were officially adopted as the "National Song" and were sung under the leadership of Lakshmi Kanta Maitra.
- Recently, the Government of India has issued new guidelines regarding the national song "Vande Mataram". According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Vande Mataram will now be played in government programs, schools, and other formal events. During this, it will be mandatory for every person to stand. This order was issued on 28 January.
- New guidelines for Vande Mataram – Now, the national song will be sung/played before the national anthem in the country, and all six stanzas will be sung/played collectively. All 6 stanzas of the national song will be sung within 3 minutes and 10 seconds.
- When the National Song will be sung – On the arrival of the President at any program, before and after the President's address, while hoisting the tricolour, while lowering the national flag during a parade, and on various other occasions.

Historical Background-

- "Vande Mataram," which means "Mother, I bow to you," has been an immortal declaration of Indian nationalism. This song was first published in 1875. This fact is also confirmed by an article written by Shri Aurobindo in the English daily "Vande Mataram" on 16 April 1907. Beginning with Rabindranath Tagore's singing at the 1896 Congress session, it became the main voice of the Swadeshi Movement of 1905, and in the same year, it was adopted at the national level in the Banaras session.
- In October 1905, the establishment of the "Vande Mataram Sampraday" turned it into a mission. The British government imposed a ban on it at the Barisal Conference (1906) and even fined students in Rangpur, yet despite suppression, this song spread from the workers of Lancashire to the barristers of the Privy Council. The daily "Vande Mataram," published under the editorship of Bipin Chandra Pal and Shri Aurobindo, gave even greater momentum to this ideological consciousness.
- Even on foreign soil, it was inscribed on the tricolour hoisted by Madam Bhikaji Cama, and the final words of Madan Lal Dhingra were also the same. The publication of a magazine by this name from Geneva and the grand welcome of Gokhale at Cape Town are proof of its global resonance.



Bankim Chandra Chatterjee

The composer of Vande Mataram, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee (1838–1894), was one of the most renowned personalities of 19th century Bengal. He was a well-known novelist, poet, and essayist.

.....
During the 19th century, he played a very important role in the intellectual and literary history of Bengal.

.....
His notable literary works include Anandamath (1882), Durgeshnandini (1865), Kapalkundala (1866), and Devi Chaudhurani (1884).

Vande Mataram

Sujalam suphalam Malayaja sheetalam
Shasya shyamalam Mataram
Vande Mataram
Shubhrajyotsna pulakitayaminim
Phullakusumita drumadala shobhinim
Suhasinim sumadhura bhashinim
Sukhadam varadam Mataram
Vande Mataram
Koti koti kantha kalakala ninada karale
Koti koti bhujair dhrita kharakaravale
Ke bole ma tumi abale
Bahubala dharinim Namami tarinim
Ripudalavarinim Mataram
Vande Mataram
Tumi vidya tumi dharma, Tumi hridi tumi marma
Tvam hi pranah sharire, Bahute tumi ma shakti
Hridaye tumi ma bhakti, Tomarai pratima gadi
mandire mandire
Tvam hi Durga dashapraharana dharini
Kamala kamaladala viharini
Vani vidyadayini, Namami tvam
Namami kamalam Amalam atulam
Sujalam suphalam Mataram
Vande Mataram
Shyamalam saralam Susmitam bhushitam
Dharanim bharanim Mataram
Vande Mataram

Current Affairs Magazine Test: (May - 2026)

Total Questions: 100

Total Marks : 200

1. Recently, various committees have been constituted in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly. Which of the following pairs regarding the chairpersons of these committees is incorrect?

Committee	Chairperson
(a) Public Accounts Committee	Shri Tikaram Jolly
(b) Estimates Committee 'A'	Shri Sandeep Sharma
(c) Estimates Committee 'B'	Shri Manvendra Singh
(d) Committee on Public Undertakings	Shri Kalicharan Saraf

2. Recently, on the first anniversary of the Pahalgam attack, India organised an exhibition in Washington, USA, on which theme?

- (a) Terrorism: A Call for Global Eradication
(b) Terrorism and Global Instability
(c) Terrorism: Human Suffering
(d) The Human Cost of Terrorism

3. Recently, the e-SafeHER initiative was launched to enable one million women in rural India to participate in the digital ecosystem safely and confidently. It has been launched by whom?

- (a) C-DAC, Hyderabad and Chinmaya Foundation
(b) C-DAC, Hyderabad and Infosys Foundation
(c) C-DAC, Hyderabad and Wipro Foundation
(d) C-DAC, Hyderabad and Reliance Foundation

4. Recently, NITI Aayog released a compilation to inspire citizens and global travellers to explore India's diverse tourism landscape through a structured and immersive approach. What is the name of this compilation?

- (a) Paripoorna Bharat: A Glimpse into the Soul of India
(b) Vividhtapoorna Bharat: A Glimpse into the Soul of India
(c) Akhand Bharat: A Glimpse into the Soul of India
(d) Divya Bharat: A Glimpse into the Soul of India

5. Recently, the Union Cabinet approved Start-up India Fund of Funds 2.0 with a corpus of how much amount?

- (a) ₹100 crore
(b) ₹100000 crore
(c) ₹10000 crore
(d) ₹1000 crore

6. Recently, Jaipur District Milk Producers Cooperative Union Limited (Jaipur Dairy) announced that it would set up a new plant in which RIICO industrial area?

- (a) Ghilot Industrial Area
(b) Bichoon Industrial Area
(c) Kasganj Industrial Area
(d) Jhadol Industrial Area

7. Recently, Times Higher Education released the 'Times Higher Education Asia University Rankings 2026'. A university from which country secured the top position in this ranking?

- (a) Singapore
(b) Japan
(c) China
(d) India

8. Recently, the All India Federation of Motor Vehicles Department Technical Officers Association honored whom with the "National Road Safety Excellence Award 2026"?

- (a) Dinesh Singh (b) Ruma Devi
(c) Kesar Singh (d) Namu Narayan Yadav

9. Recently, the World Bank has approved a loan of how much amount for improving the efficiency, resilience and safety of state highways in Rajasthan?

- (a) 100 million dollars (b) 125 million dollars
(c) 225 million dollars (d) 275 million dollars

10. Recently, from where was Project Caracal initiated in the state?

- (a) Ranthambore Tiger Reserve
(b) Sariska Wildlife Sanctuary
(c) Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary
(d) Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary

11. Recently, storyteller and film director Usha Dashora's film "Maine Kabhi Chidiya Nahin Dekhi" has been selected for the 15th Delhi International Film Festival-2026 to be held in New Delhi. Usha Dashora belongs to which district of the state?

- (a) Jodhpur (b) Sikar
(c) Bharatpur (d) Jaipur

12. Recently, who has won the title of Miss Grand Rajasthan-2026 in her name?

- (a) Himani Charan
(b) Meenakshi Chhapola
(c) Surabhi Vijayvargiya
(d) Seema Hiranya

13. The National Cooperative Spice Fair-2026, which was organized at Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur, was organized by-

- (a) RIICO
(b) Planning Department
(c) CONFED
(d) RITI Aayog
14. Recently, a road show for “Global Rajasthan Agritech Meet (GRAM)-2026” was organized in Delhi on-
- (a) 7 April, 2026
(b) 1 April, 2026
(c) 13 April, 2026
(d) 17 April, 2026
15. Recently, who has been honored with the prestigious ‘Danish Siddiqui Journalism Award 2026’ for the investigative report exposing corruption in Rajasthan MLA Local Area Development Fund expenditure?
- (a) Pradyuman Chaturvedi
(b) Avdhesh Akodia
(c) C.K. Pant
(d) Ram Manohar
16. Recently, Jaipur resident Rekha Meena was honored with the prestigious ‘Good Design Award’ for the year 2025 at a ceremony organized in Athens (Europe). She became the ----- woman of Asia to receive this award.
- (a) First
(b) Third
(c) Fifth
(d) Seventh
17. Recently, Kota district’s Arundhati Chaudhary won which medal in the Asian Boxing Championship organized in Mongolia?
- (a) Bronze Medal
(b) Gold Medal
(c) Silver Medal
(d) Bronze and Silver Medal
18. Recently, the state government has expressed consent to make which village a complete organic village?
- (a) Kilana village
(b) Kishorgarh village
(c) Sahajsar village
(d) Raghunathpur village
19. Recently, on 11 April, 2026, Chief Minister Shri Bhajanlal Sharma announced the construction of a panorama and library based on the life of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule in which district?
- (a) Jodhpur
(b) Bundi
(c) Bharatpur
(d) Sikar
20. Recently, in which city of India was the first Pod Taxi project inaugurated?
- (a) Bengaluru
(b) Delhi
(c) Chennai
(d) Mumbai
21. Recently, Rajasthan secured which rank among the large states in the India Justice Report as a result of its efforts in the field of consumer protection?
- (a) Fourth position
(b) First position
(c) Third position
(d) Seventh position
22. Recently, which city has been declared the only capital of Andhra Pradesh?
- (a) Kurnool
(b) Visakhapatnam
(c) Amaravati
(d) Hyderabad
23. Recently, which country has implemented the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS) agreement with India?
- (a) Israel
(b) Russia
(c) United Arab Emirates
(d) Japan
24. Recently, Time Magazine has released the list of the world’s 100 most influential people. The persons of Indian origin included in this list are-
- (a) Sundar Pichai, Ranbir Singh, Vikas Barar
(b) Sundar Pichai, Ranbir Singh, Vikas Khanna
(c) Sundar Pichai, Ranbir Kapoor, Vikas Khanna
(d) Narendra Modi, Sundar Pichai, Ranbir Kapoor
25. Recently, the parliament of which country has approved the bill brought to allow mining in glacier regions?
- (a) Argentina
(b) Chile
(c) Uruguay
(d) America
26. Recently, which country has become the 13th member of the US-led PAX Silica group?
- (a) India
(b) South Korea
(c) Taiwan
(d) Philippines
27. Recently, which of the following released the report “From Borrowers to Builders: Women and India’s Evolving Credit Market”?

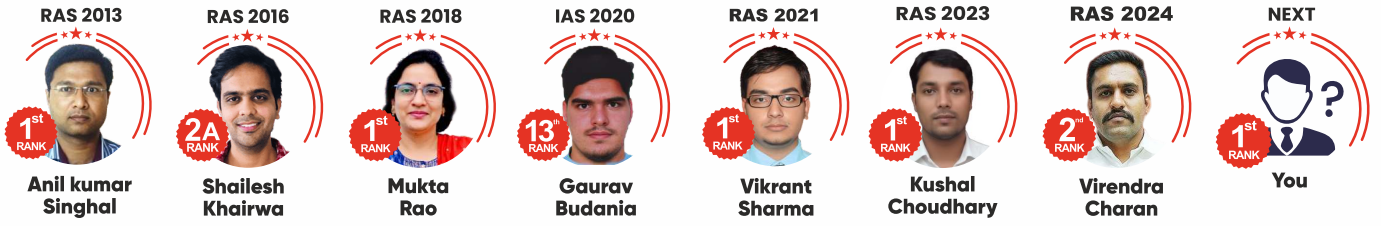
- (a) Reserve Bank of India
(b) NITI Aayog
(c) Union Labour Ministry
(d) Finance Ministry
28. Recently, where was India's first advanced 3D semiconductor packaging unit inaugurated?
(a) Bhubaneswar (b) Amaravati
(c) Bengaluru (d) Chennai
29. Recently, according to the International Renewable Energy Agency, which country became the world's largest renewable energy market in the year 2025?
(a) India (b) China
(c) America (d) Germany
30. Recently, the Shekha Jheel Bird Sanctuary has been given the status of a Ramsar site. It has become which Ramsar site of India?
(a) 97th Ramsar site
(b) 98th Ramsar site
(c) 99th Ramsar site
(d) 95th Ramsar site
31. Recently, Sakshi Satish Sail was selected as Femina Miss India-2026. In this competition, who remained the first runner-up?
(a) Karishma Devna
(b) Rajnandini Pawar
(c) Soumya Deva
(d) Lalit Nemawde
32. Recently, in the first edition of the 20 Cities Towards Zero Waste initiative, which became the only city of India to be included?
(a) Jaipur city
(b) Varkala city
(c) Madurai city
(d) Kolkata city
33. Recently, through the "Meghalaya Official Language Ordinance, 2026," the Government of Meghalaya granted which language the status of an official language along with English?
(a) Khasi language
(b) Garo language
(c) Both Garo and Khasi languages
(d) Jaintia language
34. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Shri Guru Bhairavaikya Temple, this temple is in-
(a) West Bengal
(b) Kerala
(c) Karnataka
(d) Tamil Nadu
35. Recently, an agreement has been signed on the land acquisition agreement for the proposed Coal to Ammonium Nitrate project at Lakhanpur in Odisha. The capacity of this project is-
(a) 200 tonnes per day
(b) 100 tonnes per day
(c) 1,000 tonnes per day
(d) 2,000 tonnes per day
36. Recently, the Technology Development Board has entered into an agreement with whom for the Brush Electric Jump Take-Off technical project-
(a) Archer Aviation Private Limited
(b) Likor Aviation Private Limited
(c) KASI Aviation Private Limited
(d) Target Aviation Private Limited
37. Recently, INS Taragiri was inducted into the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on 3 April, 2026. Which powerful warship of the Project 17-A category is it?
(a) Second
(b) Third
(c) Fourth
(d) Fifth
38. Recently, a new technique has been discovered to measure the physical properties of solar filaments by analyzing their oscillations. This technique is based on -
(a) Prominence Oceanology
(b) Neon Seismology
(c) Prominence Seismology
(d) Neon Oceanology
39. Recently, where did ISRO operate the MITRA mission from 2 to 9 April, 2026?
(a) Leh-Ladakh
(b) Bengaluru
(c) Amaravati
(d) Chennai
40. Recently, the Neocovax vaccine was in the news. This vaccine is effective for which disease?
(a) Malaria
(b) Heart attack
(c) Leprosy
(d) Cancer
41. Recently, Laura Cardoso became the first bowler in the world to take nine wickets in an innings of a T-20 international match. Against which country's team did Laura make this record?
(a) Against the team of Lesotho
(b) Against the team of Zimbabwe
(c) Against the team of South Africa
(d) Against the team of Sri Lanka
42. Recently, between 5 to 12 April, the ISSF

- (International Shooting Sport Federation) World Cup-2026 was organized at-
- (a) Sweden (b) South Korea
(c) Japan (d) China
43. Recently, R. Vaishali became the winner of the FIDE Women Candidates Tournament-2026. Whom did R. Vaishali defeat in this tournament?
- (a) Grandmaster Rumi Nojov
(b) Grandmaster Kateryna Lagno
(c) Grandmaster Signore Loro
(d) Grandmaster Namid Kisone
44. Recently, Viktor Axelsen has announced retirement from badminton. He is a badminton player from which country?
- (a) Britain (b) America
(c) South Korea (d) Denmark
45. Recently, Rupa Bayor secured the fifth position in the world Taekwondo rankings. Rupa Bayor belongs to which state?
- (a) Karnataka (b) Arunachal Pradesh
(c) Manipur (d) Sikkim
46. Recently, who has been honored with the M.S. Swaminathan Award-2024-25?
- (a) Dr. C.H. Srinivasa Rao
(b) Soumya Swaminathan
(c) Dr. Vivek Dashora
(d) Dr. Pradyuman Pandey
47. Recently, the Wisden Cricketers' Almanack Awards-2026 were announced. With reference to these awards, which is the incorrect pair?
- (a) Leading Men Cricketer in the World – Mitchell Starc (Australia)
(b) Leading Women Cricketer in the World – Deepti Sharma (India)
(c) Leading T-20 Cricketer in the World – Hardik Pandya (India)
(d) Wisden Trophy (Outstanding Individual Performance) – Shubman Gill (India)
48. Recently, which personality has been inducted into the International Hall of Fame of the US Army War College?
- (a) General Asif Munir
(b) General Upendra Dwivedi
(c) Shahbaz Sharif
(d) Narendra Modi
49. Recently, who has been appointed as the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog?
- (a) Ashok Kumar Lahiri
(b) Rajiv Gauba
(c) Prof. K.V. Raju
(d) Prof. Govardhan Das
50. Recently, which personality has been elected for the third consecutive time to the post of Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha?
- (a) Harivansh Narayan Singh
(b) Sushendra Adhikari
(c) K.C. Krishna
(d) Ram Ahudiyia
51. Recently, Uchral Nyam-Osor has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of which country?
- (a) Mongolia
(b) Kazakhstan
(c) Iran
(d) Taiwan
52.

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