

## Mahatma Jotiba Phule

- **Social Reformer:**
  - Fought against the caste system and its injustices.
  - Championed education and equal rights for women.
- **Author:**
  - Wrote "Gulamgiri" which exposed the horrors of caste discrimination.
  - Penned "Shetkaryacha Asud" to highlight the exploitation of farmers.
- **Education Pioneer:**
  - Along with his wife Savitribai Phule, he opened India's first school for girls in Pune on January 1, 1848. This year marks the 175th anniversary of this historic event.
- **Founder:** Established the Satyashodhak Samaj (Truth Seekers Society) to bring about social change.
- **Legacy:** His work laid the foundation for future social justice leaders like B.R. Ambedkar.

## Jyotiba Phule a mentor for future generations, says Revanth

Chief Minister recalls services and sacrifices of Phule on his 198th birth anniversary



- **What it is:** A digital platform that quickly sends subsidies to farmers for horticulture. It uses e-RUPI vouchers, like digital coupons, from NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India).
- **Who uses it:**
  - Farmers
  - Sellers of farming supplies
  - Government agencies that run the program
  - Local development groups (CDAs)
  - National Horticulture Board (NHB) officials
- **Why it matters:** Helps India's horticulture sector grow. This sector, which includes fruits, vegetables, and flowers, is a big part of the country's agricultural economy.
- **Key features:**
  - Uses the PM-KISAN database (for farmer information)
  - Securely stores information online (cloud-based)
  - Verifies IDs to prevent fraud (UIDAI validation)
  - Uses e-RUPI vouchers for safe and direct payments
  - Tracks location to ensure subsidies are used correctly (geo-tagging and geo-fencing)

## What is CDP-SURAKSHA, govt's new digital platform to disburse subsidies to horticulture farmers?

The CDP-SURAKSHA is essentially a digital platform. It will allow an instant disbursal of subsidy to farmers in their bank account by utilising the e-RUPI voucher.

# Doxxing

## What is Doxxing and what can you do if it happens to you?

Doxxing allows abusers and criminals who are thousands of miles away to target victims by putting their private details online for others to exploit. How can you protect yourself?

April 12, 2024 07:45 am | Updated 07:45 am IST

SAHANA VENUGOPAL



- Doxxing involves gathering private information about an individual (like their address, phone number, or social security details) and then releasing that information online, often with the goal of harassment or intimidation.





# National Green Tribunal takes cognisance of complaints that sanctity of Tiger Hill is being violated

Green Tribunal issues notices to central & state wings on environmentalist's plaint




National Green Tribunal

## National Green Tribunal (NGT)

- Establishment : Under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010.
- Principal Place of Sitting : New Delhi, with additional sitting places in Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata, and Chennai.
- Term of office : Five years without eligibility for reappointment.
- **Composition:**
  - ❖ Chairperson appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
  - ❖ Judicial and Expert Members appointed by a Selection Committee formed by the Central Government.
  - ❖ Consists of a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20 full-time Judicial and Expert Members.
- **Powers & Jurisdiction:**
  - ❖ Tasked with expeditious disposal of cases related to environmental protection and conservation of natural resources.
  - ❖ Not bound by the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but guided by principles of natural justice.

# Centre to set up dedicated test labs in six states for Kasturi Cotton global brand push

2 min read • 15 Apr 2024, 08:11 PM IST

 Credit Score

Dhirendra Kumar ( with inputs from Livemint )

*The labs would be set up in convergence with the Bureau of Indian Standards' (BIS) testing facilities, ensuring alignment with national quality standards.*



## Kasturi Cotton: Known for fine texture and high quality

- Origin: Primarily grown in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu regions
- Characteristics:
  - ❖ Naturally white in color
  - ❖ Good moisture-wicking properties
- Renowned for: Durability and softness
- Popularity: Popular choice for premium textiles globally
- Specific climate conditions and careful harvesting techniques required for quality maintenance.

**UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**PROGRAMME OF EXAMINATIONS/RECRUITMENT TESTS (RTs) -2025**



Sl. No.	Name of Examination	Date of Notification	Last Date for receipt of Applications	Date of commencement of Exam	Duration of Exam
1.	<b>Reserved for UPSC RT/ Examination</b>			<b>11.01.2025 (Saturday)</b>	<b>2 DAYS</b>
2.	Combined Geo-Scientist (Preliminary) Examination, 2025	04.09.2024	24.09.2024	09.02.2025 (Sunday)	1 DAY
3.	Engineering Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2025	18.09.2024	08.10.2024	09.02.2025 (Sunday)	1 DAY
4.	CBI (DSP) LDCE	27.11.2024	17.12.2024	08.03.2025 (Saturday)	2 DAYS
5.	CISF AC(EXE) LDCE-2025	04.12.2024	24.12.2024	09.03.2025 (Sunday)	1 DAY
6.	N.D.A. & N.A. Examination (I), 2025	11.12.2024	31.12.2024	13.04.2025 (Sunday)	1 DAY
7.	C.D.S. Examination (I), 2025				
8.	Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2025	22.01.2025	11.02.2025	25.05.2025 (Sunday)	1 DAY
9.	Indian Forest Service (Preliminary) Examination, 2025 through CS(P) Examination 2025				
10.	<b>Reserved for UPSC RT/ Examination</b>			<b>14.06.2025 (Saturday)</b>	<b>2 DAYS</b>
11.	I.E.S./I.S.S. Examination, 2025	12.02.2025	04.03.2025	20.06.2025 (Friday)	3 DAYS
12.	Combined Geo-Scientist (Main) Examination, 2025			21.06.2025 (Saturday)	2 DAYS
13.	Engineering Services (Main) Examination, 2025			22.06.2025 (Sunday)	1 DAY
14.	<b>Reserved for UPSC RT/ Examination</b>			<b>05.07.2025 (Saturday)</b>	<b>2 DAYS</b>
15.	Combined Medical Services Examination, 2025	19.02.2025	11.03.2025	20.07.2025 (Sunday)	1 DAY
16.	Central Armed Police Forces (ACs) Examination, 2025	05.03.2025	25.03.2025	03.08.2025 (Sunday)	1 DAY
17.	<b>Reserved for UPSC RT/ Examination</b>			<b>09.08.2025 (Saturday)</b>	<b>2 DAYS</b>
18.	Civil Services (Main) Examination, 2025			22.08.2025 (Friday)	5 DAYS
19.	N.D.A. & N.A. Examination (II), 2025	28.05.2025	17.06.2025	14.09.2025 (Sunday)	1 DAY
20.	C.D.S. Examination (II), 2025				
21.	<b>Reserved for UPSC RT/ Examination</b>			<b>04.10.2025 (Saturday)</b>	<b>2 DAYS</b>
22.	<b>Reserved for UPSC RT/ Examination</b>			<b>01.11.2025 (Saturday)</b>	<b>2 DAYS</b>
23.	Indian Forest Service (Main) Examination, 2025			16.11.2025 (Sunday)	7 DAYS
24.	S.O./Steno (GD-B/GD-I) LDCE	17.09.2025	07.10.2025	13.12.2025 (Saturday)	2 DAYS
25.	<b>Reserved for UPSC RT/ Examination</b>			<b>20.12.2025 (Saturday)</b>	<b>2 DAYS</b>

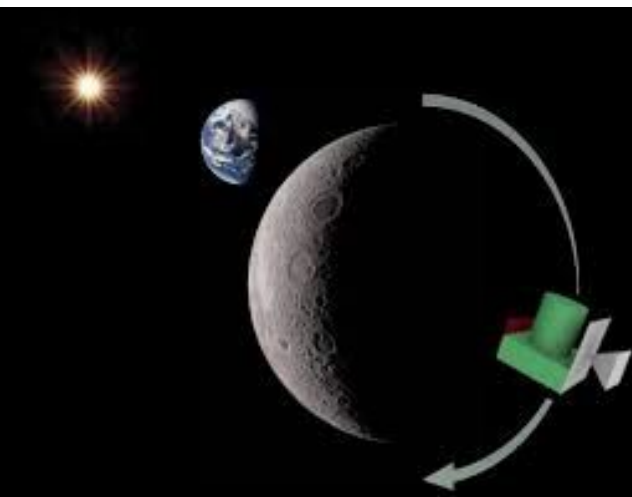
**Note: The dates of notification, commencement and duration of Examinations/ RTs are liable to alteration if the circumstances so warrant**



# India's PRATUSH among telescopes astronomers want to put on, around the moon

TH PREMIUM

Moon-based instruments have a better chance of spotting a weak signal from the universe's Dark Ages



- **What it is:** PRATUSH (Probing ReionizATIion of the Universe using Signal from Hydrogen) is a special radio telescope made to explore the very early universe.
- **Where it's going:** It will be placed on the far side of the moon, where it's quiet and there's no interference from Earth.
- **What it does:** It tries to detect faint signals from the very first stars and galaxies that formed after the Big Bang. This period is called the "cosmic dawn."
- **Who built it:** Scientists at the Raman Research Institute (RRI) in Bengaluru worked with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to create it.

#### How it gets there:

- First, ISRO will launch it into orbit around Earth for testing.
- Then, it will be sent to the moon.

**Why it's important:** PRATUSH will help us understand how the first stars formed and what kind of light they produced. This helps us learn about the early universe and how everything came to be.

#### Special features:

- Has a special antenna that can pick up a wide range of signals.
- Can correct its own signals (self-calibrating).
- Has a powerful computer to process the signals it receives (digital correlator).
- Can detect very faint radio signals from the "Dark Ages" of the universe, the time before the first stars.



# India plans to make carbon fibre in response to EU carbon tax

## Carbon Fiber

- **What it is:** Super strong, thin threads made of carbon atoms linked together.
- **Why it's special:**
  - Very stiff and strong.
  - Can handle high temperatures (especially when mixed with special resins).
  - Doesn't expand much with heat and resists chemicals.
  - Lightweight.
- **Where India gets it:** Currently imported from countries like the US, Japan, and Germany.
- **How it's used:**
  - Makes things strong but light, like parts for airplanes, drones, cars, and even buildings.
  - Important for aerospace and cars.
  - Also used in special fabrics (technical textiles).



# Indian Calendar

## Indian Calendar : Saka Calendar

- National Calendar
- 12 months - Chaitra 1<sup>st</sup>  
Phalgun 12<sup>th</sup>
- Luni Solar Calendar
- 22<sup>nd</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> <sup>(Leap year)</sup> March  
↓  
1<sup>st</sup> Chaitra

• Gregorian Calendar = Solar Calendar

### Official Use:

- **Civil Purposes:** The Saka Calendar is officially used across India for civil purposes. Government documents, communications, and official statements often bear dates in both the Gregorian and Saka calendars.
- **Broadcasting:** News broadcasts by All India Radio are given with the Saka Calendar dates, alongside Gregorian dates.
- **Gazettes:** Government gazettes are published with the Saka Calendar dates.
- **National Events and Festivals:** Certain national events and public holidays, such as Republic Day, Independence Day, and Gandhi Jayanti, are also noted in the Saka Calendar.

### Cultural and Religious Use:

- Scheduling Hindu festivals.
- Guiding agricultural activities.
- Underpinning astrological practices.
- Timing cultural and New Year celebrations.

  
**भारत का राजपत्र**  
**The Gazette of India**

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# Indian National Calendar

Month	Length	Start date (Gregorian)
1 Chaitra	30/31	March 22*
2 Vaishakh	31	April 21
3 Jyaishta	31	May 22
4 Ashadha	31	June 22
5 Shrawana	31	July 23
6 Bhadrapad	31	August 23
7 Ashwin	30	September 23
8 Kartik	30	October 23
9 Margashirsha (Agrahayana)	30	November 22
10 Pausa	30	December 22
11 Magh	30	January 21
12 Phalgun	30	February 20



# India re-elected to International Maritime Organisation with highest votes

## International Maritime Organization (IMO)

- **What it does:** Works to make shipping safer and cleaner. This includes preventing accidents, protecting the environment, and stopping piracy.
- **History:**
  - Started in 1948.
  - Became part of the United Nations in 1959.
- **Who's involved:** 175 countries are members.
- **How it works:**
  - All members meet every two years to make decisions (Assembly).
  - Has five committees that create rules and guidelines for shipping.
- **Where it is:** Headquarters in London.
- **How it's funded:** Member countries pay dues, and it also gets money from donations and business activities.





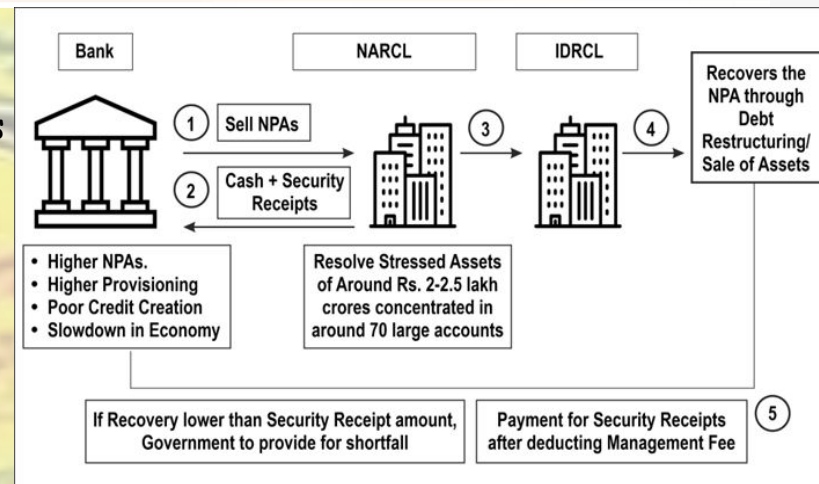


# RBI's compiled master direction on ARCs to be effective from April 24

*'Non-complying ARC shall be subject to supervisory action,' says regulator*

## Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs)

- **What they do:** Buy bad loans (NPAs) from banks. This helps banks clean up their records and focus on their main job of lending money.
- **Why they matter:**
  - Help banks get rid of loans that aren't being repaid.
  - Free up banks to focus on lending to businesses and people.
- **How they work:**
  - Banks sell their bad loans to ARCs at a price they both agree on.
  - ARCs then try to recover the money owed on those loans.
- **Key facts:**
  - Registered with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
  - Cannot lend money themselves.
  - Allowed to have 100% foreign investment (FDI).



# Ban on MDH, Everest products: Spices Board mulls mandatory testing of consignments to Singapore, Hong Kong

India, the world's largest producer, consumer and exporter of spices, has already sought details from food safety regulators of Singapore and Hong Kong, which has banned certain spices of MDH and Everest due to quality concerns.

## Spices Board India

- **What it is:** A government organization that helps India's spice industry.
- **When it started:** 1987
- **Who runs it:** Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- **What it does:**
  - Helps spice exporters in India sell their products to other countries.
  - Works to improve the quality of Indian spices, especially cardamom.
  - Helps spice farmers and businesses with training and support.
  - Encourages organic spice farming.
  - Supports the spice industry in Northeast India.



**स्पाइसेस बोर्ड भारत**  
वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार  
**SPICES BOARD INDIA**  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India

## Lakadong Turmeric

- **What it is:** A special type of turmeric grown in Meghalaya, known for its high quality.
- **Why it's special:**
  - Has a lot of curcumin (the good stuff in turmeric).
  - Grown without chemicals.
  - Darker color.
- **Where it's from:** Lakadong area in the Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya.

## Curcumin

- **What it is:** The main ingredient in turmeric that makes it healthy.
- **What it does:**
  - Acts as an antioxidant (protects your body).
  - Helps with inflammation (swelling).
- **Benefits:** May help with: Pain, Eye problems, Kidney health, Metabolic issues (like diabetes)

THIS STORY IS FROM DECEMBER 6, 2023

## Meghalaya's Lakadong turmeric, Garo 'dakmanda', Larnai pottery get GI tag

PTI / Dec 6, 2023, 08:40 IST





## The Paradox of Thrift

- **The basic idea:** When everyone tries to save more money at the same time, it can actually hurt the economy.
- **Why it happens:**
  - If people save more, they spend less.
  - Less spending means businesses sell less.
  - Businesses then produce less and may even lay off workers.
  - This leads to fewer jobs and less overall income, meaning people end up saving less in the long run.
- **Key takeaway:** What's good for an individual (saving money) might not be good for the whole economy.
- **Who talked about it:**
  - Mentioned as early as 1714.
  - Made famous by economist John Maynard Keynes.
- **Important note:** Saving too much can make a recession worse.

# Military Exercises - Key Points for Exams

- Air Exercises

- Tarang Shakti:

- India's first multinational air exercise.
- Biennial exercise hosted by the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- Aims to showcase India's defense capabilities and promote interoperability among participating nations.

- Udara Shakti: Joint air exercise between India and Malaysia.





- **Land Exercise**

- **Parvat Prahaar:**

- Conducted by the Indian Army in Ladakh.
    - Focuses on high-altitude warfare and operations near the India-China border.

- **Mitra Shakti:**

- Annual military exercise between India and Sri Lanka.
    - Enhances operational proficiency and facilitates the exchange of skills and experiences.
    -





- **Maritime Exercise**
  - **Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX):**
    - Conducted between India and Russia.
    - Focuses on maritime cooperation and interoperability.



- **Khaan Quest: Land Exercise**
  - Multinational military exercise held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
  - Indian Army participates.



## **RHUMI-1: India's First Reusable Hybrid Rocket**

- **Developed by:** Space Zone India (Tamil Nadu-based startup) in collaboration with Martin Group.
- **Launched from:** Thiruvudandhai, Chennai.
- **Payload:** 3 CubeSats + 50 PICO satellites (to collect data on global warming and climate change).
  - **CubeSat:** Nanosatellite weighing 1-10 kg.
  - **PICO satellite:** Small satellite weighing 0.1-1 kg.

### **Key Features:**

- **Hybrid Rocket Engine:** Uses both solid and liquid propellants for increased efficiency and lower costs.
- **Adjustable Launch Angle:** Can be adjusted from 0 to 120 degrees for precise trajectory control.
- **Electrically Triggered Parachute System:** Enables safe and eco-friendly recovery of rocket components.
- **Environmentally Friendly:** 100% pyrotechnic-free and contains no TNT.

### **Why Reusable Rockets are Important:**

- **Cost Savings:** Significantly cheaper than building new rockets.
- **Reduced Space Debris:** Fewer discarded components in space.
- **Increased Launch Frequency:** Faster turnaround time between launches.



