

CURRENT

AFFAIRS

Weekly

CONTENT

2025



**World
Future
Skills
Index**

Transforming higher education
for the skills economy

Skills Fit | Academic Readiness
Future of Work | Economic Transformation



17 - 24

January

WWW.AFFAIRSCLOUD.COM

This **PAID PDF** is provided by AffairsCloud's dedicated team that works diligently to provide aspirants with high-quality content. We recommend you to purchase this PDF subscription and seize the opportunity to learn efficiently.

Help Us to Grow & Provide Quality Service

WE ARE HIRING



CareersCloud
LEARN TO LEAD



JOB OPENINGS:

-  Quantitative Aptitude
-  Reasoning
-  English
-  Current Affairs



For Apply:
SCAN QR CODE

Click Here to **Apply**

[Click here to Download the CareersCloud APP](#)

[Click here to Join the Telegram Channel](#)

[Current Affairs Channel](#)

[AffairsCloud Hindu Vocabs](#)

Suggestions & Feedback are welcomed

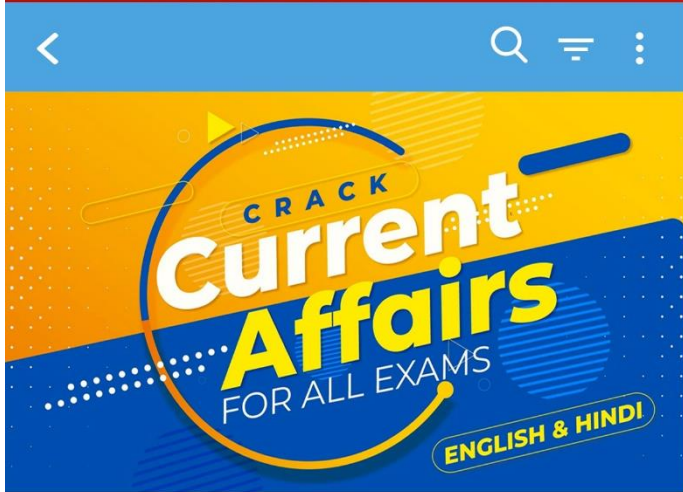
Support@affairscloud.com

BUY CRACK
CURRENT AFFAIRS

PDF

GET EXTRA
10%
DISCOUNT

USE CODE
PDF10



Crack Current Affairs 2024

Bank & Insurance



Created by : **AffairsCloud**

Path

Articles

Quizzes

Current Affairs English



Current Affairs Hindi



Banking Awareness



CA Exam PDF



Special CA



Topic-Wise Content



Topic-Wise Quizzes



State Current Affairs



< Feb 2024

Monthly

Weekly

Daily

PIB News



Feb 29 2024 CA Q&A - English
Ebook



AffairsCloud Dailyscoop Feb 29 2024 - English
Ebook



Feb 29 2024 CA Quiz - English
START

Monthly

Weekly

Daily

PIB News



Weekly: 24-29 Feb 2024 CA Q&A - English
Ebook



Weekly Top 60: 24-29 Feb 2024 CA Q&A - English
Ebook



Weekly: 24-29 Feb 2024 CA Quiz - English
START

Monthly

Weekly

Daily

PIB News



February 29 2024 PIB News - English
Article



February 28 2024 PIB News - English
Article

Current Affairs Weekly PDF – January 2025 – 3rd Week (17 – 24)

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

TRAI Released Draft Telecommunication Tariff (71st Amendment) Order, 2025 to Boost PM-WANI Scheme

On January 15 2025, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (**TRAI**) under the Ministry of Communications (MoC) released a '**Draft Telecommunication Tariff (71st Amendment) Order, 2025**' which proposes the rationalization of broadband tariffs for Public Data Offices (**PDOs**) under the Prime Minister's Wireless Fidelity (Wi-Fi) Access Network Interface (**PM-WANI**) scheme.

- ✓ The regulator has proposed that the broadband tariff i.e. Fiber to the Home (FTTH) for PDOs under the PM-WANI scheme **should not be more than twice** the tariff applicable for retail broadband (Fiber to the home) services of corresponding capacity offered by service providers.
- ✓ PM-WANI scheme aimed to contribute to the wider objectives of the National Digital Communications Policy, 2018 and Bharat 6G Vision, and has set the target for the deployment of **50 million** public wi-fi hotspots by **2030**. As of July 2024, there are 207,642 PM-WANI Wi-Fi hotspots deployed in India.

Odisha Becomes the 34th State in the Country to Implement Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY Scheme

In January 2025, the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of **Odisha** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the National Health Authority (**NHA**), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) for the implementation of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (**AB PM-JAY**) in Odisha.

- ✓ With this, Odisha became the **34th** state in the country to implement AB PM-JAY. As per the MoU, AB PM-JAY will be implemented in convergence with the existing Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana (GJAY) in Odisha.

IMD Celebrated its 150th Foundation Day

On January 15 2025, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (**MoES**) celebrated its **150th** Foundation Day. A series of events, activities and workshops were organised which demonstrated the contributions of IMD in making India climate-resilient and providing critical weather and climate services.

- ✓ He also released **commemorative postage stamp of Rs.5 denomination and coin** to mark the 150 years of IMD. He also unveiled a vision document titled "**IMD Vision 2047**" which outlines a framework for weather resilience and climate change adaptation as India prepares to mark 100 years of independence in 2047.

Union Minister Piyush Goyal launches National Turmeric Board with Palle Ganga Reddy as chairman

In January 2025, Union Minister **Piyush Goyal**, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I), launched the **National Turmeric Board** (NTB) in New Delhi, Delhi with an aim to boost the turmeric industry (Golden Spice) in India.

- ✓ **Palle Ganga Reddy** has been appointed as its first Chairperson. The headquarters of the Board has been set up at **Nizamabad, Telangana**.

INROAD Project Received Rs 100 Crore to Enhance Natural Rubber Quality in Northeast India

In January 2025, the Indian Natural Rubber Operations for Assisted Development (**INROAD**) project received financial support of **Rs 100 crore** for improving the quality of natural rubber in **Northeast India**.

- ✓ INROAD is the world's first project in which the tyre industry directly contributes to the growth of rubber plantations. The project also focuses on women's economic empowerment in rubber cultivation.

Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh inaugurated 'Entrepreneurship Development Conclave' in Pune, Maharashtra

In January 2025, Union Minister **Rajiv Ranjan Singh** alias Lalan Singh, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAHD) and Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), inaugurated the 'Entrepreneurship Development Conclave' at G.D. Madgulkar Natyagruha in **Pune**, Maharashtra.

- ✓ The event was organized by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (**DAHD**) under the MoFAHD with an aim to bring together key policymakers, industry leaders, and stakeholders from the livestock sector to boost innovation and accelerate growth.
- ✓ The **theme** of the event was "Empowering Entrepreneurs: Transforming Livestock Economies".
- ✓ During the event, Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh launched a total of **40 projects**. 20 projects each under the National Livestock Mission (NLM) and the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) with an outlay of **Rs 545.04 crores**.
- ✓ NLM – Entrepreneurship Development Programme (**NLM-EDP**) **Dashboard** was launched to provide an organized summary of project information to the public.
- ✓ The top-performing states **Maharashtra, Karnataka**, and Tamil Nadu (**TN**) for **AHIDF**, and **Karnataka, Telangana**, and Madhya Pradesh (**MP**) for the **Entrepreneurship Programme** were awarded during the event.

MNRE Issued Operational Guidelines for Implementation of Various Components under PMSGMBY

In January 2025, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (**MNRE**) has issued operational guidelines for implementation of various components such as: 'Payment Security Mechanism' component and 'Central Finance Assistance' component for Renewable Energy Service Company (**RESCO**) models/ Utility Led Aggregation (**ULA**) models under the 'Prime Minister-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY)'.

- ✓ **Rs 100 crore** corpus fund has been allocated under this scheme component, for the

Payment Security Mechanism (PSM) to reduce investment risks in RESCO-based grid-connected rooftop solar models for the residential sector.

MoD & BDL Ink Rs. 2,960 crore Contract for MRSAM

On January 16, 2025, the Ministry of Defence (**MoD**) signed a **Rs. 2,960 crore** contract with Hyderabad (Telangana) based Bharat Dynamics Limited (**BDL**) for the supply of Medium-Range Surface-to-Air Missiles (**MRSAM**) for the Indian Navy (IN) in New Delhi (Delhi).

- ✓ The MRSAM system is jointly developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) and Israel Aerospace Industries (**IAI**), in partnership with Indian industries from both the public and private sectors, including Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
- ✓ MRSAM, developed jointly with **Israel**, is a high-response, quick-reaction, vertically launched supersonic missile designed to counter enemy aerial threats such as missiles, aircraft, guided bombs, and helicopters.

Gol Reconstituted AEC with Ajith Kumar Mohanty as Chairman

In January 2025, the Government of India (Gol) has **reconstituted** the high-powered Atomic Energy Commission (**AEC**) to include new members Cabinet Secretary **T.V. Somanathan** and Expenditure Secretary **Manoj Govil** as ex-officio member of AEC.

- ✓ The newly reconstituted AEC also included **Pankaj Mishra**, who took over charge of member (Finance) for AEC in 2024. The Gol has decided to retain **Ajith Kumar Mohanty**, Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) as the **chairman** of the reconstituted AEC.

MEITY in association with DSCI Launches CSGC 2.0 for Advancing Cybersecurity Innovations

On January 15, 2025, **S. Krishnan**, Secretary of the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (**MEITY**), introduced the second edition of the Cyber Security Grand Challenge (**CSGC 2.0**). This initiative is implemented by the Data Security Council of India (DSCI) based on Noida, Uttar Pradesh (UP) to boost India's cybersecurity capabilities and prepare for a secure digital future.

C-DOT Partners with IIT Delhi to Develop THz Communication Front Ends for 6G Technology

In January 2025, The Centre for Development of Telematics (**C-DOT**), a telecom research and development (R&D) center under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications (MoC) has partnered with the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (**IIT Delhi**) based in New Delhi, Delhi to work on “**Building Blocks for Terahertz (THz) Communication Front Ends**” for 6G (sixth-generation) technology.

Cabinet approvals on January 16th 2025

On January 16 2025, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister (PM) **Narendra Modi** has approved the following proposals:

- ✓ Construction of a Third Launch Pad (**TLP**) for Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO's) Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh (AP). The project costs **Rs. 3,984.86 crore** and is expected to be completed in 4 years.
- ✓ The Union Cabinet approved the formation of the 8th Pay Commission to revise the salary and pension of over 1.2 crore central government employees and pensioners. The term of the 7th Pay Commission will conclude on December 31 2025, after which the 8th Pay Commission will come into effect.
- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the refarming of **687 megahertz (MHz)** of spectrum from government ministries and ISRO to support 5G and future 6G services. This spectrum, valued at **Rs. 2 lakh crore**, will be auctioned to telecom operators. Of the 687 MHz, 328 MHz will be released immediately, with the remaining portion becoming available in phases by 2030.
- ✓ The Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (**CCEA**) has approved a revival plan for Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh, AP) based Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), with a total investment of Rs. 11,440 crores.

DPIIT Partners with ITC to Bolster India's Startup Ecosystem

In January 2025, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (**DPIIT**), Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MoC&I), entered into a strategic partnership with Kolkata (West Bengal) based **ITC**

Limited to improve **innovation** and strengthen India's **startup** ecosystem.

- ✓ Under this partnership, ITC aims to implement startup solutions in strategic areas such as energy storage systems, integrating Renewable Energy (RE) sources for manufacturing locations and digital platforms for Manufacturing Execution Systems (MES).

C-DOT & IIT Bombay Signed Agreement to Develop Optical Transceiver Chipset for High-Bandwidth 6G Wireless Links

In January 2025, the Centre for Development of Telematics (**C-DOT**), under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications (MoC) signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (**IIT B**), Mumbai (Maharashtra) to develop an “**Optical Transceiver Chipset for High-Bandwidth 6G Wireless Links**.”

India's 6th Astronomical Observatory & Eastern India's 1st Inaugurated in WB

In January 2025, the Satyendra Nath Bose Centre for Basic Sciences (**SNBCBS**), an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), under the Ministry of Science and Technology (**MoS&T**), established **India's sixth** and **Eastern India's first** astronomical observatory in the Garpanchkot Hills of Purulia district in West Bengal (**WB**), to aid scientific observations, student training, and global research collaboration.

- ✓ The observatory center has been named after the renowned scientist Satyendra Nath Bose.

Govt Launches Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan App to Promote Battlefield Tourism

Union Minister **Rajnath Singh**, Ministry of Defence (MoD) launched “**Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan**” mobile application (**app**) and website to enable civilians to visit and explore significant battlefields along India's borders. The app was launched on 15 January 2025, coinciding with the 77th Indian Army Day.

Startup India Marks 9 Years: 1.59 Lakh Startups Recognised and 16.6 Lakh Jobs Created

On January 16 2025, **Startup India**, a transformative initiative of Government of India (GoI) that started in 2016, has successfully completed **9 years**. The

initiative aimed to foster innovation and boost the growth of startups across the country. Govt has designated January 16 as **National Startup Day** to celebrate the nation's stride in promoting a robust and inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem.

- ✓ With **over 1.59 lakh** startups (from 500 in 2016) recognised by DPIIT (as of January 15, 2025), India has firmly positioned itself as the world's **3rd** largest startup ecosystem.
- ✓ Startup India initiative is being implemented by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry (**MoC&I**).
- ✓ Indian cities like: Bengaluru (Karnataka), Hyderabad (Telangana), Mumbai (Maharashtra), and Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) emerged as major hubs for startups in India, while smaller cities have increasingly contributed to India's entrepreneurial momentum.
- ✓ On January 16 2025, Union Minister Piyush Goyal, MoC&I launched two key initiatives including the **PRABHAAV Factbook** (Powering a Resilient and Agile Bharat for the Advancement of Visionary Startups) and **Bharat Startup Challenge** at the celebration of 9 years of Startup India in New Delhi, Delhi.
- ✓ In January 2025, **Devendra Fadnavis**, Chief Minister (CM) of Maharashtra signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with SIDBI to establish a Rs 100 crore fund aimed at strengthening startups and small businesses in the state.
- ✓ Startup Policy Forum (**SPF**), with the support of **DPIIT** and **Startup India**, launched two flagship initiatives namely, 'Startup Baithak' and 'Startup Baatchet' to celebrate National Startup Day 2025.

Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia Launches Sanchar Saathi App, NBM 2.0 and ICR Facility to Boost Telecom Connectivity

In January 2025, Union Minister **Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia**, Ministry of Communications (MoC), introduced several citizen-focused initiatives, including the launch of the **Sanchar Saathi Mobile Application (App)**, the unveiling of the National Broadband Mission (**NBM**) **2.0**, and the inauguration of the Intra Circle Roaming(**ICR**) **facility** at Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN)-funded 4G (fourth generation) mobile sites in New Delhi, Delhi.

- ✓ The Sanchar Saathi Mobile App is a user-friendly platform aimed at enhancing telecom security and empowering citizens. It enables users to secure their telecom services and protect against fraud.
- ✓ NBM 2.0, is an expansion of the earlier NBM 1.0 and aims to further develop India's digital infrastructure. Under NBM 2.0, the government intends to connect the remaining 1.7 lakh villages and improve the broadband speed to 100 Mbps (Megabits per second).

Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar Launched the Toolkit for 9th Edition of Swachh Survekshan

In January 2025, Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (**MoHUA**) launched the toolkit for **9th** edition of '**Swachh Survekshan(SS)**', the world's largest urban cleanliness survey, in its new version- simpler, sharper, systematic and all-inclusive.

Cities which are included in the SSL are:

Category	Selected City
Very Small Cities	Panchgani (Maharashtra), Patan (Gujarat)
Small Cities	Vita (Maharashtra), Saswad (Maharashtra)
Medium Cities	Ambikapur (Chhattisgarh), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh, AP), New Delhi Municipal Council (Delhi)
Big Cities	Noida (Uttar Pradesh, UP), Chandigarh(Punjab).
Million Plus Cities	Navi Mumbai (Mumbai), Indore (Madhya Pradesh, MP) and Surat (Gujarat)

Indian Armed Forces Conducts 'Exercise Devil Strike'

The Indian Armed Forces conducted '**Exercise Devil Strike**', a joint exercise involving the elite airborne forces of the Indian Army (**IA**) and the Indian Air Force (**IAF**) from January 16-19, 2025 at the training areas and firing ranges, validating critical drills and improving operational preparedness.

ISM, CG Power and CSPL Sign Fiscal Support Agreement

In January 2025, the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), Mumbai (Maharashtra) based **CG Power** and Industrial Solutions Limited (also known as Crompton Greaves Limited), and Ahmedabad, (Gujarat) based CG Semi Private Limited (**CSPL**) signed a Fiscal Support Agreement (**FSA**) to advance India's semiconductor manufacturing ecosystem.

FIU-IND & NHB ink MOU to enhance coordination and information exchange

In January 2025, New Delhi (Delhi) based Financial Intelligence Unit-India (**FIU-IND**) under the Department of Revenue (DoR), Ministry of Finance (MoF) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with New Delhi (Delhi) based National Housing Bank (**NHB**), under **MoF** to collaborate on a range of critical areas, including intelligence sharing, capacity building and risk assessment.

NeGD Launches 'Entity Locker' for Business Document Management

In January 2025, the National electronic (e)Governance Division (**NeGD**), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), has introduced '**Entity Locker**', a modern digital platform designed to simplify the way organisations manage and verify their documents.

- ✓ The platform **aligns** with India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and the Union Budget 2024-25's goal of advancing digital governance and simplifying business processes.
- ✓ The platform **integrates** seamlessly with key systems like the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN), and Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), reducing delays and operational challenges in document handling.

Overview of Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam's visit to India from January 14 to 18, 2025

Singapore President **Tharman Shanmugaratnam**, visited India from **January 14 to 18, 2025**, marking his 1st bilateral state visit to India. He was accompanied by Chee Hong Tat, Minister for Transport and 2nd Minister for Finance of Singapore; and Sim Ann, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of National Development of Singapore.

- ✓ President of Singapore Tharman Shanmugaratnam and President of India Droupadi Murmu jointly unveiled the **60th Anniversary Commemorative** logo at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. The logo celebrates six decades of strong ties between India & Singapore.
- ✓ During his visit, **several** Memorandum of Understanding (**MoUs**) were signed between the Odisha government and Singaporean organizations.

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated India's 1st of its kind CSIR Innovation Complex in Mumbai

In January 2025, Union Minister of State (MoS) (Independent Charge, IC) **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Ministry of Science and Technology (MoS&T) and Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), inaugurated India's first-of-its-kind Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (**CSIR**) **Mega "Innovation Complex"** through virtual mode and dedicated it to StartUps and Industry stakeholders in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- ✓ CSIR signed **6** Memorandums of Association (**MoA**) with 6 esteemed institutions, including the Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**) **Bombay**, **iCreate**, and the National Research Development Corporation (**NRDC**), to promote innovation, industrial collaboration, and job creation.

MoC&I: India becomes World's 7th Largest Coffee Producing Country; Exports Soar to USD 1.29 Billion in FY24

According to the Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MoC&I), **India** became the world's **7th** largest **coffee producing** country with exports reaching **USD 1.29 billion** in Financial Year 2023-24 (FY24), from USD 719.42 million recorded in FY21.

- ✓ The Ministry further revealed that India exported over 9,300 tonnes of coffee in the 1st half of January 2025, with top buyers including Italy, Belgium and Russia.
- ✓ India's coffee is primarily grown in the ecologically rich Western and Eastern Ghats. **Karnataka** topped in terms of coffee production, contributing 2,48,020 Metric Tonnes (MT) in 2022-23, followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu (TN).

Seven Products from Andaman and Nicobar Islands Granted GI Tags

In December 2024, the Geographical Indications (GI) Registry in Chennai, Tamil Nadu (TN), under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I), **granted GI tags to seven indigenous and distinctive products** from the Andaman and Nicobar (A&N) Islands, recognizing their cultural and traditional importance.

7 New GI Products:

GI Product	Goods Type
Nicobari mat (Chatrai-hileuoi)	Handcrafts
Nicobari Hut (To Chanvi Pati-Nyi hupul)	
Nicobari Hodi craft	
Padauk Wood Craft	Furniture
Nicobari Tavi-i-Ngaich (virgin coconut oil)	Oil
Andaman Karen Musley rice	Crop
Andaman & Nicobar coconut	Plant

India's Rubber Board unveils 'iSNR' & 'INR Konnect' to Boost Rubber Production

In January 2025, the Kottayam (Kerala) based Rubber Board (RB) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I) unveiled two initiatives' **iSNR** (Indian Sustainable Natural Rubber)' and '**INR Konnect**' platform during the platinum jubilee celebrations of the **Rubber Act, 1947**, and the Rubber Growers' Conference held in Kottayam.

- ✓ Awards were also presented to the top performers of '**mRube**', the digital marketing platform for Natural Rubber (NR).

DARPG Launched Scheme and Portal for PM's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2024

In January 20 2025, the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (**DARPG**), the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions (**MoPP&P**) officially launched the scheme

and [web-portal](#) for the Prime Minister (PM)'s Awards for Excellence in Public Administration 2024.

- ✓ The scheme for PM's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration for 2024, will recognize the contribution of civil servants under **3** categories through **16** awards. Name of these 3 categories and Awards are:
- ✓ **Category-1:** Holistic Development of Districts under 11 priority sector programmes (05 awards);
- ✓ **Category-2:** Aspirational Blocks Programme (05 awards);
- ✓ **Category-3:** Innovations for Central Ministries/Departments, States and Districts (06 awards).

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi Announces Updates to OMSS(D) Policy for 2024-25

Union Minister **Pralhad Joshi**, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCAF&PD) , has announced **updates** to the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [**OMSS(D)**] for 2024-25. These changes aim to enhance food security and streamline rice distribution across the country.

- ✓ The reserve price of **rice** is set at **Rs 2,250 per quintal** (applicable across India). This is a reduction from the earlier price of Rs 2,900 per quintal, which was set in August 2024.

India & USA Sign MoU to Boost Cybercrime Investigation Cooperation

In January 2025, the Government of India (**GoI**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of the United States of America (**USA**) to **enhance collaboration in cybercrime investigations**.

- ✓ The MoU was signed by Indian Ambassador **Vinay Kwatra** and Acting USA Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, **Kristie Canegallo** in Washington DC, the USA.

Cabinet Approvals on January 22 2025

On January 22 2025, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi has approved the following proposals:

- ✓ Apprised of Achievements under National Health Mission (NHM) (2021-24). It has also approved continuation of the NHM for another 5 years.
 - The Union Cabinet was apprised of the achievements under the National

Health Mission (NHM) during a period of 3 years (from 2021-22 to 2023-24).

- It was also apprised of accelerated decrease in Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR), Infant Mortality (IMR), Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR), and Total Fertility Rate (TFR). It has also approved continuation of the NHM for another 5 years.
- ✓ Approved the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of **Rs 5,650 per quintal** for raw jute (TD-3 grade) for marketing season 2025-26. This marks an increase of nearly **6%** i.e. Rs 315 per quintal compared to last marketing season 2024-25.
 - The GoI has increased MSP of raw jute by **2.35 times** (Rs 3,250 per quintal), from Rs 2,400 per quintal (in 2014-15 season) to Rs 5,650 per quintal (2024-25 season).

DoC Introduces 'DIA Scheme' to Enhance Global Competitiveness of Diamond Sector

In January 2025, the Department of Commerce (DoC), Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I), introduced the Diamond Imprest Authorization (**DIA Scheme**). This scheme aims to enhance the global competitiveness of India's diamond sector and will be implemented with effect from **1 April 2025**.

- ✓ All diamond exporters with **USD 15 million** in annual exports and Two Star Export House status or higher are eligible to receive benefits under this program.

MoA&FW Conducts India's First Edible Oil Consumption Survey

On January 9, 2025, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (**MoA&FW**) launched the **first-ever** edible oil consumption survey on the "My Gov" portal to assess edible oil consumption patterns across India.

- ✓ This initiative aims to support the effective implementation of the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oilseeds (**NMEO-Oilseeds**).
- ✓ Industry reports show that per capita annual consumption (PCAC) of edible oil in India has surpassed 20 Kilogram (kg), well above the recommended limits of 12 kg by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and 13 kg by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- ✓ The National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds) is a focused initiative aimed at increasing oilseed production and achieving self-reliance in India. It was launched by Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (**DA&FW**) under MoA&FW in October 2024.

India & France strengthens maritime security cooperation in IOR

In January 2025, **India** and **France** strengthened their **maritime security** cooperation to maintain peace and security in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) during the **7th India-France maritime cooperation dialogue** held in New Delhi, Delhi.

- ✓ In January 2025, India and France agreed to deepen their bilateral **partnership in high-end technologies**, during the India-France Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) held in Paris, France.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju's visit to Saudi Arabia from 11th to 14th January, 2025

Union Minister **Kiren Rijiju**, Ministry of Minority Affairs(MoMA) and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs(MoPA) visited **Saudi Arabia** from **11th January to 14th January 2025** with an aim to look into the important arrangements related to preparations for the upcoming Haj pilgrimage to enhance the experience of Indian pilgrims.

- ✓ On 13th January 2025, **India** signed a **Hajj agreement** with **Saudi Arabia** securing a quota of 1,75,025 pilgrims for Indian pilgrims for 2025. The agreement was signed between **Kire Rijiju**

and Saudi Arabia's Minister for Hajj and **Umrah Tawfiq Bin Fawzan Al-Rabiah** in Jeddah.

China built World's First 300 MW CAES Plant Connected to Grid at Full Capacity

In January 2025, **Nengchu-1**, the world's first **300-Megawatt** (MW) Compressed Air Energy Storage (CAES) demonstration project was fully connected to the grid in Yingcheng, central China's Hubei Province. It is the world's **first** full green, non-supplementary combustion project invested and individually developed by China Energy Engineering Group Corporation Limited(**CEEC**).

- ✓ Nengchu-1 is the world's first large-scale CAES solution with independent intellectual property rights and a full industrial supply chain which will store physical energy for a long time.

WEF Includes CEAT and HUL in the Global Lighthouse Network

In January 2025, Switzerland based World Economic Forum (WEF) announced that Sriperumbudur (Tamil Nadu, TN) based **CEAT Limited** and Tinsukia (Assam) based facility of Hindustan Unilever Limited (**HUL**), the Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) Company have joined its Global Lighthouse Network (**GLN**) for driving manufacturing transformation through innovation.

Indian Navy Participates in 5th Edition of La Perouse 25 Multinational Naval Exercise

On January 16, 2025, the Indian Navy (**IN**), along with eight Indo-Pacific nations, is participating in the **5th edition of the La Perouse 25** multinational naval exercise. The exercise is being conducted in the strategic maritime straits of **Malacca, Sunda, and Lombok**, which serve as crucial routes for global maritime trade between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

QS World Future Skills Index 2025: USA topped; India ranked 25th

In January 2025, London (the United Kingdom, UK)-based Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) released its first '[World Future Skills Index 2025](#)'. **India** secured **25th** position globally earning a score of **76.6**, which classifies it as a "future skills contender."

- ✓ India secured the **2nd** position globally, behind the United States of America (USA) in the '**Future of Work**' category indicating its strong readiness for technology-driven roles and industries of the future, especially in digital skills, artificial intelligence (AI), and green technologies.
- ✓ The **USA** leads the rankings with a score of **97.6**, followed by the UK (97.1), Germany (94.6), Australia (93.3), and Canada (91.0) in the top 5 positions, categorized as "future skills pioneers."

Overall Ranking:

Rank	Country	Score
1	USA	97.6

2	UK	97.1
3	Germany	94.6
4	Australia	93.3
5	Canada	91.0
25	India	76.6

ILO's WESO Report 2025: Global unemployment slow down at 5%

On January 18 2025, the International Labour Organization (**ILO**) released its flagship report titled '[World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2025 \(WESO Trends 2025\)](#)', highlighting the current state of global labour markets and the social outlook. The report provides an in-depth analysis of global employment trends, challenges, and prospects for the near future.

- ✓ According to the report, the global unemployment rate slowed down at **5%** in 2024 and is projected to tick lower again in 2026 to 4.9%. However, Youth unemployment remain high at **12.6%** in 2024.
- ✓ The unemployment rates for the overall number of jobs missing, stood around **402.4 million** in 2024 globally.

Highlights of EAM S. Jaishankar's Visit to Spain from 13th to 14th January 2025

Union Minister **S. Jaishankar**, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) made a **2-day visit** to Spain from January 13th to 14th, 2025 which marks his second visit to Spain and first visit as External Affairs Minister (EAM).

- ✓ The aim of the visit was to meet the leadership of Spain and hold wide range discussions with the Spain's Foreign Minister **Manuel Albares**. He also addressed the 9th Annual Conference of Spanish Ambassadors and met the Indian community.
- ✓ During the meeting, India and Spain signed two Memorandum of Understanding (**MoUs**) that focused on cooperation in **sports** and **sustainable urban development**.

Nigeria Joined BRICS as the 9th Partner Country

In January 2025, the government of Brazil, which holds the BRICS (**Brazil, Russia, India, China and South**

Africa) bloc presidency in 2025, announced that **Nigeria**, the world's 6th largest population and Africa's largest country, has officially joined BRICS as the **9th Partner Country**.

- ✓ Other Partner countries of BRICS bloc are: Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Thailand, Uganda, and Uzbekistan.
- ✓ 16th BRICS Summit was held under the chairmanship of Vladimir Putin, President of Russia, in Kazan (Russia) from October 22 to 24, 2024. Theme: "Strengthening Multilateralism for Just Global Development and Security".

USA Removed BARC, IGCAR and IREL From Restrictive Entity List

In January 2025, the United States of America (USA)'s Bureau of Industry & Security (**BIS**) has **removed 3** prominent Indian nuclear entities from its restrictive Entity List. This move aims to strengthen bilateral ties between India and USA and also focus on promoting advanced energy cooperation.

- ✓ The entities removed from the USA entity list are: Trombay, Mumbai (Maharashtra)-based Bhabha Atomic Research Center (**BARC**), Department of Atomic Energy(DAE); Mumbai (Maharashtra)-based **IREL (India) Limited**(formerly Indian Rare Earths Ltd); and Kalpakkam (Tamil Nadu, TN)-based Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (**IGCAR**).

Climate Change, Conflict, Digital Inequality Disrupting Children's Lives: UNICEF Report

In January 2025, the United Nations Children's Fund (**UNICEF**), a humanitarian aid organisation of UN released a report titled '[Prospects for Children in 2025: Building Resilient Systems for Children's Futures](#)'. As per the report, climate change, economic instability, conflict and digital inequality are disrupting children's lives and limiting their prospects.

- ✓ **Global Impact of Conflict on Children:** As per the report, **more than 473 million children** i.e. more than one in six globally, lived in areas affected by conflict in 2023. The percentage of children affected by conflict has almost doubled, from around 10% (in 1990s) to almost **19%**.
- ✓ **Children Living in Debt-Ridden Countries:** The report revealed that **nearly 400 million children** live-in debt ridden countries, which hinders important investments in

sectors like education, healthcare and social protection.

Brand Finance Global 500 2025: Apple Tops Global Rankings; TATA Most Valuable Indian Brand

According to the **19th Global 500 2025 report** published by **Brand Finance**, **Apple** has retained its position as the world's most **valuable** brand, with a brand value of USD 574.5 billion (bn). **Tata Group** (USD 28.6 bn) is the most valuable **Indian** brand for the 15th consecutive holding **60th** spot in the list.

- ✓ In Global rank, Apple is followed by **Microsoft** (USD 461.1 bn) on the **2nd**, and **Google** (USD 413 bn) on **3rd** respectively. **WeChat** (95.2) has been ranked as the world's **strongest** brand for the 2nd consecutive year followed by **Nike** (94.7) on the **2nd** spot and **Google** (94.3) on the **3rd** position.
- ✓ **HCL Technologies** (HCLTech) has emerged as world's **fastest**-growing IT services brand in 2025, while **Infosys** has achieved the highest compound annual growth rate among IT services brands over the past 5 years (at 18.2%).

Highlights of Top 5 Valuable Indian Brands:

Rank	Brand	Valuation (in billion)
60	Tata Group	USD 28.6
132	Infosys	USD 16.3
164	HDFC Group	USD 14.2
177	Life Insurance Corporation	USD 13.3
237	Reliance Group	USD 9.8

WMF's 2025 Watch List Added Moon to List of Threatened Cultural Sites for the 1st Time; 2 Indian Sites on the List

In January 2025, New York (the United States of America, USA)-based World Monuments Fund (**WMF**), a non-profit organisation released its '[2025 World Monuments Watch List](#)'. The list includes **25** endangered cultural heritage sites spanning 29 countries across 5 continents.

- ✓ Other than Moon, the list features notable endangered cultural sites like: Erdene Zuu Buddhist Monastery (Mongolia), Noto Peninsula Heritage Sites (Japan), Ruins of Old Belchite (Spain), among others.
- ✓ The list features two Indian sites namely, **Bhuj Historic Water Systems** (Gujarat) and **Musi River Historic Buildings** (Telangana).

India Officially Joins Eurodrone Programme as Observer State

In January 2025, **India** has officially joined the Medium Altitude Long Endurance Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (MALE RPAS) or **Eurodrone programme** as the **Observer State**. With this, India became the second Asia-Pacific country after Japan to gain observer status.

- ✓ India made a formal request to become part of this programme in **August 2024**, and the approval was granted in January 2025.
- ✓ The Eurodrone project is a collaborative initiative involving four nations: **Germany, France, Italy, and Spain**. It was launched in 2016, is valued at an estimated Euro 7 billion (USD 7.3 billion).

BANKING & FINANCE

NPCI International partners with Magnati to Expand UPI Acceptance in UAE

NPCI International Payments Limited (**NIPL**), the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India (**NPCI**), has partnered with **Magnati**, a leading payment solutions provider in the Middle East, to provide the feature of **QR** (Quick Response) based Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**) merchant payments via Magnati's Point-Of-Sale (POS) terminals in the United Arab Emirates (**UAE**).

RBI Decided to Conduct Daily VRR Operations to Boost Banking Liquidity amid Deficit

In January 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has decided to conduct Variable-Rate Repo (**VRR**) auctions on a daily basis until further notice. This move will boost the banking liquidity amid deficit. The 1st such VRR was conducted on January 16, 2025 worth Rs 50,000 crore and standalone primary dealers were allowed to participate in the auction with other eligible bidders.

RBI Introduces Changes to FEMA to Facilitate Cross-Border Trade in INR

On January 16, 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) introduced **new measures** under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (**FEMA**) 1999, to encourage the use of the Indian Rupee (**INR**) and other local currencies for international trade.

- ✓ **Non-residents** are now **allowed** to settle legitimate transactions with other non-residents using balances in their repatriable INR accounts. These accounts include: Special Non-Resident Rupee Accounts (**SNRR**), Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (**SRVA**).

BoB Launches 'BoB Liquid FD scheme'

In January 2025, Vadodara (Gujarat) based Bank of Baroda (**BoB**) has launched a new Fixed Deposit (FD) scheme named '**bob Liquid FD**' as an alternative to the traditional FD that has combined the benefits of FD interest rates with the convenience of easy liquidity of a Savings Account.

- ✓ The scheme has flexible deposit amounts starting at **Rs.5,000** (and in multiples of Rs.1,000 thereafter, with no maximum deposit amount), duration of the deposit ranges from **12 to 60 months** and partial withdrawals are accepted in multiples of Rs.1,000.

PFC Sign 120 Billion JPY Loan Deal with JBIC for RE Projects in India

In January 2025, New Delhi (Delhi) based Power Finance Corporation Limited (**PFC**) under the Ministry of Power (MoP) signed an agreement with Tokyo (Japan) based Japan Bank for International Cooperation (**JBIC**) for **120 billion** Japanese Yen (**JPY**) or **Rs.6600 crore** loan to support Renewable Energy (RE) projects in India.

- ✓ Under the agreement, JBIC will contribute **JPY 72 billion** (Rs 40.04 billion), while the

remaining amount will be provided by commercial banks.

Shriram Life Insurance Launches Sunishchit Laabh Savings Plan

In January 2025, **Shriram Life**

Insurance launched **Shriram Life Sunishchit Laabh**, a non-participating individual savings plan that guarantees high returns of up to 668% of the total premium paid. Individuals aged **30 days to 60 years** are eligible for the plan with an annual premium starting at **Rs 30,000**.

RBI Released NBFC Upper Layer List for 2024-25

In January 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) released the list of Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) in the Upper Layer (**UL**) segment under the Scale Based Regulation (**SBR**) for NBFCs for the Financial year 2024-25(FY25).

- ✓ RBI has retained **Tata Sons Private Limited** in the NBFC UL list despite its request to de-register as a NBFC, is under examination.
- ✓ The updated list comprises **15** companies that include Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) Housing Finance Limited (HFL), Bajaj Finance Limited (BHL), and Shriram Finance Limited (SFL), among others.
- ✓ Muthoot Finance Limited (MFIL), a flagship of Muthoot Group is the **only gold loan NBFC** included in the RBI's 'UL' list for three consecutive years.

IDFC FIRST Bank Unveils 'FIRST EA₹N RuPay Credit Card'

On January 20 2025, Mumbai (Maharashtra) based **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited**, in partnership with Rupay (developed by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)), a global card payment network from India, launched the Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-enabled '**FIRST EA₹N RuPay Credit Card**'.

GlobalData: HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank & SBI Rank Among Top 25 Global Banks by Market Cap; JP Morgan Chase Tops the List

In January 2025, London, the United Kingdom (UK) based data analytics and research company **GlobalData Plc** released a report on the [Top 25 Global Banks by Market Capitalization in the fourth quarter \(Q4\) of 2024](#), with the New York, United States of America (USA) based **JPMorgan**

Chase & Co remains as the **world's largest bank** by market capitalization (MCap) recording an increase of 37.2% to **USD 674.9 billion** by the end of Q4 of 2024 from Q4 of 2023.

- ✓ USA-based Bank of America Corporation (**BAC**) secured the **2nd position** with USD 337.2 billion, while China-based Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (**ICBC**) ranked **3rd** with USD 328.2 billion.
- ✓ In Q4 2024, India's **HDFC bank** Limited dropped from 7th to **13th position** compared to Q4 2023, **ICICI bank** Limited moved up one spot to **19th** from 20th position, and State Bank of India (**SBI**) retained its **24th position**.

Shriram Housing Finance Rebranded as Truhome Finance

In January 2025, Shriram Housing Finance Limited(**SHFL**), a housing finance company in India, has rebranded as **Truhome Finance**. The rebranding follows its acquisition by **Warburg Pincus** and co-investors, including Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), Qatar's sovereign wealth fund from Shriram Finance.

- ✓ Shriram Finance Group received an investment of **Rs 1,225 crore**, increasing the Company's net worth to over Rs 3,300 crore.

RBI Introduced Revised Guidelines for ARC-Borrower Settlements

On January 20 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) introduced revised guidelines for the settlement of dues payable by borrowers to Asset Reconstruction Companies (**ARCs**) under the Master Direction- **Reserve Bank of India (Asset Reconstruction Companies) Directions, 2024**. These guidelines came into force with immediate effect.

- ✓ These revised guidelines were issued through a circular in exercise of powers given by Sections 9 and 12 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security(**SARFAESI**) Act, 2002 (54 of 2002).

RBI Sets Up MK Jain-Led Committee to Evaluate UB and SFB Applications

On January 20 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) formed a five-member Standing External Advisory Committee (**SEAC**) chaired by the former Deputy Governor of RBI, Mahesh Kumar (**MK**) **Jain** to evaluate the applications for Universal Banks (**UBs**) and Small Finance Banks (**SFBs**).

- ✓ The committee has a **three-year tenure**, supported by the Department of Regulation, RBI for secretarial assistance.

Bajaj Finance, Bharti Airtel partner to launch digital financial services platform

In January 20 2025, **Bharti Airtel**, telecom services provider and **Bajaj Finance**, a private-sector Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC), have partnered to develop one of India's largest digital **platforms** for financial services to ensure faster last mile delivery.

- ✓ Airtel will initially offer Bajaj Finance's retail financial products on its **Airtel Thanks Application (App)** for easy and safe customer experience, and thereafter through its nation-wide network of stores.

Skydo Receives In-Principle Approval from RBI as Payment Aggregator for Cross-Border Payments

On 21 January 2025, **Skydo Technologies Private Limited**, a cross-border fintech company based in Bengaluru, Karnataka, received **in-principle approval** from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a Payment Aggregator-Cross Border (PA-CB).

- ✓ Skydo also secured Payment Service Provider (PSP) approval from **Amazon**, an American multinational technology company headquartered in Washington, United States of America (USA).

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

India Set to Become World's 4th Largest Economy by 2026; GDP to Grow 6.8% in FY25: PHDCCI

According to New Delhi (Delhi)-based PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI)'s latest report titled '**Economic Outlook 2025**', India is set to become the World's **4th largest economy by 2026**, surpassing Japan.

- ✓ The report has further projected that India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will grow at **6.8%** in Financial Year 2024-25(FY25) and **7.7%** in FY26.
- ✓ The report has also projected India will become **USD 7 trillion** economy by **2030**, which will further increase to USD 10 trillion by 2034 and USD 34 trillion by 2047.

FICCI: India estimated to grow by 6.4% & CPI inflation projected at 4.8% in FY25

In January 2025, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) released its **Economic Outlook Survey**. It projects India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for 2024-25 is projected at **6.4%** from the **7.0%** estimated in September 2024 reflecting a decline as compared to the 8.2% growth achieved in 2023-24.

- ✓ Consumer Price Index (CPI)-**based inflation** has been projected at **4.8%** for 2024-25, aligning with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) forecast in its December 2024 monetary policy whereas the food inflation is expected to decline.

Indian Economy Expected to Grow by 6.7% in Next Two Fiscal Year: World Bank

In January 2025, **The World Bank(WB)** released its biannual report titled [Global Economic Prospects \(GEP\) for January 2025](#). The report has projected that India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will grow at a rate of **6.7%** over the next two financial years i.e. for Financial Year 2025-26 (FY26) and FY27.

- ✓ The projection for FY26 remained same from its GEP for June 2024 and growth rate for FY27 was revised downwards by 10 basis point (bps), from its previous estimate of **6.8%**.

Learn to Lead

THE HINDU EDITORIAL

VOCABULARY COURSE

UPTO 50% OFF

USE CODE E50

➤ Vocab Quiz

➤ Editorial Quiz

➤ Article Analysis & PDF

➤ Monthly Words List PDF

Running Since 2022

7000+ Words Crossed Still Now

Grab Your Offer Now!

IREDA Partners with SJVN, GMR and NEA for 900 MW Upper Karnali Hydropower Project in Nepal

On 17th January 2025, New Delhi(Delhi) based Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) entered into a Joint Venture (JV) Agreement with Shimla, Himachal Pradesh(HP) based **SJVN Limited**(formerly known as Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam), **GMR Energy Limited**, and Nepal Electricity Authority (**NEA**) for the development of the 900 megawatt (MW) Upper Karnali Hydro-electric Project over River Karnali, the largest hydro-electric power project in Nepal.

- ✓ The agreement was signed in the presence of senior officials from IREDA, SJVN, and GMR Energy Limited in New Delhi, Delhi.
- ✓ The project is partly funded by the Asian Development Bank(ADB), and is expected to be completed within five years of commencement of construction.

BPCL Signs Loan Agreement with SBI – led Consortium for Expansion Projects

On January 2025, Mumbai, Maharashtra based Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (**BPCL**), India's 2nd-largest oil marketing company has signed a loan agreement worth **Rs 31,802 crore** with a consortium of banks led by State Bank of India (SBI).

Uttarakhand Signs MoU with Iceland's Verkis for Geothermal Energy Development

The Government of **Uttarakhand** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with Icelandic company Verkis Consulting Engineers (**Verkis**) for geothermal exploration and development in Uttarakhand.

- ✓ The agreement was signed in the virtual presence of Chief Minister (CM) **Pushkar Singh Dhami** and Icelandic Ambassador **Dr Benedict Hoskulsson**.

India's GDP Growth Likely to Reach 6.7% in FY26: CRISIL

According to the **CRISIL Ratings**

Limited's (formerly Credit Rating and Information Services of India Limited)Report, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is likely to improve to **6.7%** in Financial Year 2025-26 (**FY26**).

- ✓ As per the report, headline inflation is making progress towards the RBI's 4% inflation target

as Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation has decreased from 5.5% (in November) to 5.2% (in December).

CareersCloud Formerly AffairsCloud

Daily Current Affairs

HANDWRITTEN

Notes

✓ Sure 15+ Marks
✓ Easy Understanding
✓ Time Saving

New Feature
Option Revision Implemented in Quiz

Sample Download

SCAN TO BUY

Available in

Crack Current Affairs Course

Buy & Get 31+ Add-on Courses

11% Discount Use Code **HW11**

IMF Retains India's GDP growth forecast at 6.5% for FY26 & FY27

On January 19, 2025, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) maintained its growth forecast for India's economy at **6.5%** for both Financial Year 2025-26 (**FY26**) and **FY27**. The IMF's World Economic Outlook report stated that India's growth is expected to remain solid at **6.5%**, consistent with previous projections made in **October 2024**.

- ✓ India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) growth slowdown in the 2nd quarter of Financial Year 2025 (**FY25**) to **5.4%**, lower than the **6.7%** recorded in the same period of the previous financial year 2024 (FY24). The slowdown is attributed to a sharp deceleration in industrial activity.
- ✓ The IMF's global growth forecast remains at **3.3%** for both **2025** and **2026**, which is below the historical average of **3.7%**.

Moody's Lowers India's Economic Growth Forecast to 7% for FY 2024-25

On January 20, 2025, Moody's Corporation revised India's economic growth forecast for the financial year 2024-25 (FY25), lowering it to 7%, down from 8.2% in the previous FY2024. India's **GDP per capita**, adjusted for purchasing power parity, increased by **11%** year-on-year, reaching **USD 10,233** in FY 2023.

CSE & NCDEX signs MoU for Commodities and Derivatives Trading

On January 20, 2025, Colombo Stock Exchange (**CSE**) of Sri Lanka and National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (**NCDEX**) of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to enhance commodities and derivatives trading in Sri Lanka.

- ✓ The MoU aims to foster knowledge transfer between NCDEX and CSE, focusing on the development of trading systems, regulatory frameworks, and innovative product design benefiting traders and market participants in both countries.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Singapore Confers Honorary Citizen Award on former CII head Mr Tarun Das

Singapore has awarded **Tarun Das**, former Director General of the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**, the **Honorary Citizen Award** for his outstanding contributions to Singapore and **Singapore-India relations**.

- ✓ The award was presented by Singapore President **Tharman Shanmugaratnam** at a ceremony held in **New Delhi** on **15th January 2025**.
- ✓ Tarun Das is the **second** Indian to receive Singapore's honorary citizenship after late **Ratan Tata**, former chairman of the Tata Group who was conferred the same award in **2008**.

HSBC Hurun Global Indians List 2024: Microsoft's satya Nadella topped

According to the **1st edition** of '**HSBC Hurun Global Indians List**', published by HSBC (Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation) and Hurun India, Microsoft's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) **Satya Nadella** has secured the **top** spot with a company valued at **USD 3,146 billion**.

- ✓ Alphabet CEO **Sundar Pichai** (USD 2,107 billion) and YouTube CEO **Neal Mohan** (USD 455 billion) secured the **2nd** and **3rd** spots, respectively.

Top 5 Indians on the list:

Rank	Name	Value of the Company (in USD)
1	Satya Nadella (Microsoft)	3,146 billion
2	Sundar Pichai (Alphabet)	2,107 billion
3	Neal Mohan (YouTube)	455 billion
4	Thomas Kurian (Google Cloud)	353 billion
5	Shantanu Narayen (Adobe)	231 billion

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

ACC Approves Ashok Chandra as PNB MD & CEO, Binod Kumar as Indian Bank MD & CEO

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**) has approved the appointment of **Ashok Chandra** as the Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) of Punjab National Bank (PNB) and **Binod Kumar** as the MD and CEO of Indian Bank (IB).

- ✓ Both appointments are for a tenure of three years, effective from the date they assume charge, or until further orders. Binod Kumar

tenure may be extended by an additional two years after a performance review.

- ✓ Ashok Chandra succeeds Atul Kumar Goel, who retired on December 31, 2024. Binod Kumar takes over from Shanti Lal Jain, who also retired on December 31, 2024.

RBI Assigns Deputy Governor M Rajeshwar Rao to head monetary policy

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has redesigned portfolios of its deputy governors as the 5-year term with two one-year extended tenure

of **Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra** ended on **14th January 2025**. The central bank has reshuffled its **33** departments among the **three** deputy governors -Rajeshwar Rao, T Rabi Sankar and Swaminathan Janakiraman.

- ✓ The key **Monetary Policy department** under Michael Debabrata Patra was given to Deputy Governor **M Rajeshwar Rao**.

Nawaf Abdallah Salim Salam appointed as 53rd PM of Lebanon

In January 2025, **Nawaf Abdallah Salim Salam** was appointed as the 53rd Prime Minister (PM) of Lebanon. He was selected by the parliament by securing **78 votes** out of 128 Members of the Parliament (MPs) and will replace incumbent PM **Najib Azmi Mikati**.



- ✓ Currently, he is serving as the President at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), The Hague, Netherlands.

DoT Extends Robert Jerard Ravi's Tenure as CMD of BSNL and MTNL until April 2025

In January 2025, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications (MoC) has extended the additional charge of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of **BSNL** (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) and **MTNL** (Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited) assigned to **Robert Jerard Ravi** for another **three months** with effect from January 15, 2025, till April 14, 2025, or until further orders, whichever is earlier, subject to approval by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).

Gyanendra Pratap Singh Appointed as DG of CRPF



In January 2025, **Gyanendra Pratap Singh** was appointed Director General (DG) of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), India's largest paramilitary force, with the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC). He will serve as

the CRPF chief until further orders or until his superannuation on November 30, 2027.

- ✓ He will take charge from Special DG of the CRPF **Vitul Kumar** who has been holding officiating charge of the force after the retirement of **Anish Dayal Singh** on December 31, 2024. Prior to this, he served as the DG of Police (DGP) of Assam.
- ✓ Senior IPS officer **Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal** has also been named as the Additional Director General (ADG) of the Border Security Force (BSF).

Nidhi Khare Assumes Additional Charge as Secretary of MNRE

In January 2025, **Nidhi Khare**, Secretary of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCAF&PD), was given the additional charge as the **Secretary** of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). She replaced **Prashant Kumar Singh** who was appointed as the Chief Secretary(CS) of Manipur.

Donald Trump Sworn in as 47th President of the USA, JD Vance Takes Office as Vice President

On January 20, 2025, **Donald John Trump** took the oath of office as the **47th President** of the United States of America (USA) at Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C., USA. This marked the beginning of his **second term** in office. He **succeeded Joe Biden** after securing victory in the November 2024 election.



- ✓ **James David (JD) Vance** sworn in as the **50th Vice President** of the United States, succeeding Kamala Harris.

Alok Kumar Agarwal Appointed MD and CEO of Zurich Kotak General Insurance

Alok Kumar Agarwal was appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Mumbai (Maharashtra) based Zurich Kotak General Insurance. He took charge of this post from January 01, 2025, succeeding Suresh Agarwal.

- ✓ His appointment came following Zurich completed the strategic majority stake acquisition of Mumbai based Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited (KGI) in June 2024.

ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

CCI Approved Proposed Acquisition of 34% Shareholding of Ashoka Concessions by Ashoka Buildcon

In January 2025, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposed acquisition of **34%** shareholding of Ashoka Concessions Limited (ACL), the infrastructure arm of the Ashoka Group by Ashoka Buildcon Limited (ABL), which mainly engaged in engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) in various sectors and operation and maintenance (O&M).

CCI Approvals on January 21 2025

On January 21 2025, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the following proposals:

- ✓ Acquisition of 100% shareholding of Gurugram (Haryana)-based Del Monte Foods Private Limited (DMFPL) by Gurugram based Agro Tech Foods Limited (ATFL), worth **Rs 1,300 crore**.
- ✓ Merger of 9 entities with pharmaceutical firm Sequent Scientific Limited (SSL).
- ✓ Acquisition of 100% shareholding of Cyprus-based investment holding company of Advent International Group, **AI Lenarco Midco Ltd.** by Singapore-based Majesty II Pte. Limited.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

India Test Fired Its First Indigenous Micro-Missile System Named Bhargavastra

In January 2025, Economic Explosives Limited (EEL), a subsidiary of Nagpur, Maharashtra-based Solar Industries India Limited, successfully **test-fired India's first guided micro-missiles** as part of its '**Bhargavastra**' counter-drone system.

- ✓ This system, developed by EEL, was initiated by the private sector without formal requisitions from the Indian Armed Forces.

DRDO Successfully Conducts Field Trials of Nag Mark 2 Anti-Tank Guided Missile

On January 13, 2025, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), under the Ministry of Defence (MoD), and headquartered in New Delhi, Delhi, successfully conducted field trials of the **Nag Mark 2**, an advanced Anti-Tank Fire-and-Forget Guided Missile.

- ✓ The trials took place at the **Pokhran Field Range** in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- ✓ With the successful trials, the Nag Mark 2 and its carrier system are now ready for induction into the Indian Army (IA), reflecting India's progress under the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' (self-reliant India) initiative.

L&T Launches Second Multi-Purpose Vessel 'INS Utkarsh' for IN

In January, 2025, Mumbai (Maharashtra)- based Larsen & Toubro Limited (L&T) has launched the Indian Navy (IN)'s **second** Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV), named

'Indian Naval Ship (INS) **Utkarsh**', from its shipyard in Kattupalli, near Chennai, Tamil Nadu (TN).

- ✓ The INS Utkarsh was designed at L&T's Warship Design Centre in Chennai and constructed at the L&T Shipbuilding Limited in Kattupalli. The MPV is 107 meters (m) long, 18.6 m wide, weighs over 3,750 tonnes (t) and reaches speeds of up to 50 knots.

Google-Backed Pixxel Launches First Three Satellites of Firefly Constellation

Mumbai (Maharashtra)-based **Pixxel**, a space technology startup backed by Google, has successfully launched the **first three satellites** of its **Firefly constellation**, marking **India's first** private satellite constellation.

- ✓ This launch is the first phase of Pixxel's commercial satellite constellation, with three more Firefly satellites set to launch in the second quarter (Q2) of 2025.
- ✓ The Firefly constellation consists of some of the highest-resolution commercial-grade hyperspectral satellites, launched aboard **SpaceX's Transporter-12 mission** from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, United States of America (USA).

Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin Launched 'New Glenn Rocket' on First Test Flight

In January 2025, **Blue Origin Enterprises, L.P.**, the American space technology company headquartered in Washington, the United States of America (USA), founded by Amazon's Executive Chairman **Jeff Bezos**,

successfully launched its reusable '**New Glenn(NG) rocket**' on a first test flight, from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, the USA. The rocket was named after John Glenn who was the first American to orbit Earth.

- ✓ The mission named **NG-1**, included a first-stage booster landing in the Atlantic Ocean, while the rocket's second stage continues towards orbit
- ✓ The 320-foot (98-meter(m)) rocket sent a prototype satellite into orbit, designed to deploy satellites into their correct orbits.

SpaceX Falcon 9 Launches Blue Ghost and Resilience Lunar Landers from Kennedy Space Center

On January 15, 2025, a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launched from Kennedy Space Center, Florida, United States of America (USA) carrying two lunar landers: **Blue Ghost** as the primary payload and **Resilience** as the secondary payload.

- ✓ The Blue Ghost, named Ghost Riders in the Sky, is led by **Firefly Aerospace**, headquartered in Texas, USA and the Resilience lunar lander, is spearheaded by Tokyo (Japan)-based **ispace Inc.**
- ✓ The two landers have different timelines for reaching the Moon, with Blue Ghost being deployed first.

China Launches PRSC-EO1 Satellite for Pakistan's Space Program

On January 17 2025, China successfully launched Pakistan's first Remote Sensing Satellite -Earth Observing 1 (**PRSC-EO1**) aboard the Long March-Dimensional (LM-2D) rocket for Pakistan from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center (**JSLC**), China. The rocket also carried 2 other satellites, Tianlu-1 and Lantan-1.

- ✓ The satellite was designed and developed by Pakistan's Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (**SUPARCO**).
- ✓ The PRSC-EO1 launch marked the **95th flight** of the Long March-2D and the **556th flight** of the entire Long March fleet. The launch was China's third orbital launch attempt of the year.

ISRO Successfully Demonstrated Restarting of Vikas Liquid Engine

In January 2025, Bengaluru (Karnataka) based Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) successfully

demonstrated the restart of its **Vikas liquid engine** at a test facility at the Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu (**TN**).

- ✓ The test marks a significant milestone in the development of stage recovery technologies, paving the way for reusability in future launch vehicles.
- ✓ In January 2025, V Narayanan, Chairman of ISRO flagged off the core liquid stage (**L110**) of ISRO's Launch Vehicle Mark 3 (**LVM3**) launch vehicle to the launch complex at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh (**AP**).

Digantara Launches World's First Commercial Satellite SCOT for Advanced Space Monitoring

In January 2025, Bengaluru (Karnataka)-based aerospace company **Digantara**, backed by the Aditya Birla Group and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), launched Space Camera for Object Tracking (**SCOT**) satellite, the **world's first commercial satellite** for Space Situational Awareness (SSA).

- ✓ The satellites were launched aboard **SpaceX's Transporter-12 mission** from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, the United States of America (USA).

XDLINX Space Labs launches ELEVATION-1 satellite:

Hyderabad(Telangana) based **XDLINX Labs Private Limited** in collaboration with the USA based Almagest Space Corporation launched its technology demonstrator satellite, **ELEVATION-1** which carried the world's first E-band communications payload.

- ✓ The ELEVATION-1 satellite, developed by XDLINX Spacelabs, is powered by Antaris' Cloud Platform and SatOS™, and was assembled, integrated, and tested by Hyderabad based Ananth Technologies Limited.

DRDO Carries Out Test of India's First Scramjet Combustor for Hypersonic Technology

In January 2025, The Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) under the Ministry of Defence (MoD) successfully **carried out a ground test** of an active cooled **scramjet combustor**, lasting 120 seconds, marking a **first for India**.

- ✓ This test is part of India's effort to develop **hypersonic technology** powered by supersonic combustion ramjets (scramjets).

- ✓ This technology was **developed by** the Defence Research & Development

Laboratory (**DRDL**), based in Hyderabad, Telangana, and part of the DRDO.

ENVIRONMENT

SPORTS

India Open 2025: Viktor Axelsen, An Se-Young secure men's and women's singles titles

Paris Olympic gold medalists **Viktor Axelsen** of Denmark and South Korea's **An Se Young** won the **Men's** and **Women's Singles** titles in the finals of **India Open Super 750 badminton tournament 2025** held on **19th January 2025** at the **KD Jadhav Indoor Hall** in **New Delhi, Delhi**.

Results:

Category	Winners
Men's singles	Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
Women's singles	An Se-young (South Korea)
Men's doubles	Goh Sze Fei and Nur Izzuddin (Malaysia)
Women's doubles	Arisa Igarashi and Ayako Sakuramoto (Japan)
Mixed doubles	Jiang Zhen Bang and Wei Ya Xin (China)

Kho Kho World Cup 2025: India wins both men's and women's team events

The Indian men's and women's teams won the Kho Kho World Cup 2025 titles in their respective finals of the 1st edition of the **Kho Kho World Cup 2025** held from January 13 to 19, 2025 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in **New Delhi, Delhi**.

- ✓ The Indian men's Kho Kho team beat Nepal by 54-36 while the women's team defeated the Nepalese team by 78-40 in the finals.

Jannik Sinner and Iga Natalia Świątek Crowned ITF World Champions 2024

On January 21, 2025, the International Tennis Federation (**ITF**) announced **Jannik Sinner** (Italy) as

'Men's ITF World Champion 2024' and **Iga Natalia Świątek** (Poland) as 'Women's ITF World Champion 2024', for their exceptional performances across major tournaments, including Grand Slams tournaments, the Davis Cup, Billie Jean King Cup, the Olympic Games and other premier events.

Winners of ITF World Champion Awards 2024:

Category	Player
Men's Singles Champion	Jannik Sinner (Italy)
Women's Singles Champion	Iga Natalia Świątek (Poland)
Men's Doubles Champions	Marcelo Arévalo González (El Salvador) & Mate Pavic (Croatia)
Women's Doubles Champions	Sara Errani & Jasmine Paolini (Italy)

Vijay Hazare Trophy 2024-25: Karnataka defeats Vidarbha to win record 5th time

In January 2025, **Karnataka** Cricket Team secured their 5th title after defeating **Vidarbha Cricket Team** by 36 runs in the finals of 2024-25 edition of **Vijay Hazare Trophy(VHT)** held at the Kotambi Stadium in Vadodara, Gujarat.

- ✓ Karnataka was captained by Mayank Anurag Agarwal while Vidarbha was captained by Karun Kaladharan Nair.
- ✓ The 23rd edition of Vijay Hazare Trophy was held, from 21st December 2024 to 18th January 2025, with 38 teams competing in 135 matches.
- ✓ **Note:** Karnataka has won their previous 4 titles in 2013-14, 2014-15, 2017-18 and 2019-20.

Mumbai Marathon 2025: Berhane Tesfay & Joyce Chepkemoi Tele Win Men's & Women's Elite Race

In January 2025, Eritrea's **Berhane**

Tesfay and Kenya's **Joyce Chepkemoi Tele** won the men's and women's elite races, respectively, at the **TATA Mumbai Marathon 2025** held in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- ✓ In overall **Elite Men** Category, **Berhane Tesfay** (Eritrea) won the race. In overall **Elite Women** Category, **Joyce Chepkemoi Tele** (Kenya) won the race.
- ✓ **Mohamed Muktar Jama Farah**, widely known as Sir Mo Farah, represents Great Britain in athletics, a multiple Olympic and World Champion, as the International Event **Ambassador** for the 20th edition of the Mumbai Marathon.

OBITUARY

Dr. K. Ramchand, Founder & Director of CABS passed away

In January 2025, Wing Commander **Dr.**

K. Ramchand (Retd), the founder and director of the Centre for Airborne Systems (**CABS**), under Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) lab in Bengaluru, Karnataka, passed away at the age of 82 in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

- ✓ He led the team at the DRDO for the indigenous design and development of the Airborne Early Warning and Control (**AEW&C**) aircraft.

- ✓ He authored the book "*The Incredible Journey of the Indian Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS)*", released at Aero India in 2019.

Ballon d'Or Winner Denis Law Passed Away

In January 2025, Manchester United legend and Ballon d'Or winner **Denis Law**, passed away at the age of 84 in Aberdeen, Scotland. He was born on 24 February 1940 in Aberdeen. He is the only Scottish player to win both the **Ballon d'Or** and the **European Player of the Year** awards in **1964**.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

VP Jagdeep Dhankhar launched the book "Parliament: Powers, Functions & Privileges; A Comparative Constitutional Perspective"

In January 2025, the Vice-President (VP) of India, **Jagdeep Dhankhar** launched the book "Parliament: Powers, Functions & Privileges; A Comparative Constitutional Perspective" in New Delhi (Delhi). The book was authored by **Dr. KS Chauhan**, Senior Advocate, at VP's Enclave, New Delhi(Delhi).

Amitav Ghosh's new book, "Wild Fictions" addressing climate change & societal issues

On January 10 2025, A new book named '**Wild Fictions**' authored by **Amitav Ghosh** was published by the Fourth Estate India at the 41st Dr CD Deshmukh Memorial Lecture at the India International Centre (**IIC**) in New Delhi, Delhi.

- ✓ The book explores climate change, societal issues, and political instability in "time of monsters" addressing urgent global crises like biodiversity loss, climate change, and emerging diseases.

IMPORTANT DAYS

77th Indian Army Day – 15 January 2025: Commissioning of Three Major Naval Combatants

Indian Army Day is celebrated every year on **15th January** across the globe to honor the courage and dedication of the Indian Army (IA) soldiers. It is also known as **Bhartiya Sena Diwas**, the day commemorates the appointment of Field Marshal KM

Cariappa as the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army in 1949.

- ✓ 15th January 2025, marks the observance of the **77th Indian Army Day**. The year 2025 has been declared as the '**Year of Reforms**' for the Ministry of Defence (MoD), focusing on enhancing processes across the ministry and the three armed forces.

- ✓ On the occasion of Indian Army Day 2025, Prime Minister (PM) of India Narendra Modi commissioned three significant naval combatants—Indian Naval Ship (INS) **Surat**, **INS Nilgiri**, and **INS Vaghsheer**—at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai, Maharashtra, built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), located in Mumbai.

9th Indian Armed Forces Veterans' Day – January 14

Armed Forces Veterans' Day is annually celebrated across India on **14 January** to honour and recognise the service of **Field**

Marshal Kodandera Madappa Cariappa, the **1st Indian Commander-in-Chief** (C-in-C) of the Indian Armed Forces, who **retired** on this day in **1953** and led Indian forces to victory in the 1947 war. 14 January 2025 marks the **9th** Armed Forces Veterans' Day observance.

National Disaster Response Force Raising Day 2025 – January 19

National Disaster Response Force (**NDRF**) **Raising Day** is observed annually across India on **January 19** to mark the founding of the NDRF, a special force under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). January 19, 2025 marks the observance of the **20th** NDRF Raising Day.

UNESCO & WMO Declare 2025 as International Year of Glaciers' Preservation

On January 21 2025, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**) and the World Meteorological Organization (**WMO**) have jointly declared **2025 as International Year of Glaciers' Preservation (IYGP)** in Geneva (Switzerland), emphasizing the global urgency to safeguard glaciers, which are critical sources of freshwater for over **2 billion people worldwide**.

- ✓ The UN has designated March 21 as the International Day of Glaciers' Preservation. The **first World Glacier Day will be celebrated on March 21, 2025**, aligning with World Water Day, observed annually on March 22.

Parakram Diwas 2025 – January 23

Parakram Diwas, also known as the Day of Valour, is observed annually across India on **23 January** to commemorate the birth anniversary of one of the Indian freedom fighters **Subhash Chandra Bose**, popularly called as Netaji. 23 January 2025 marks the 128th birth anniversary of Subhash Chandra Bose.

- ✓ **INCOIS Hyderabad Awarded Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2025**

The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (**INCOIS**), based in Hyderabad, Telangana has been selected for the **Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2025** in the institutional category for its outstanding contributions to disaster management.

STATE NEWS

MP CM Mohan Yadav Launched Swami Vivekanand Yuva Shakti Mission

In January 2025, **Dr. Mohan Yadav**, Chief Minister (CM) of Madhya Pradesh (MP) launched "**Swami Vivekanand Yuva Shakti Mission**" on the occasion of National Youth Day (12th January) which marks the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, at Ravindra Bhavan Auditorium in Bhopal, MP. He also launched the Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti Mission Portal and theme song.

Chhattisgarh Launches 'Deendayal Upadhyay Bhoomiheen Krishi Majdoor Kalyana Yojana' for Landless Labourers

On January 20 2025, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister (CM) **Vishnu Deo Sai** launched the 'Deendayal Upadhyay Bhoomiheen Krishi Majdoor Kalyana Yojana' scheme in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

- ✓ The scheme aims to provide financial support to landless agricultural labourer families, helping them to improve their net income and enhance their overall quality of life. The scheme was designed to provide financial assistance of **Rs 10,000** annually to landless

agricultural labourers, Baigas, Gunias, and other landless families in the state.

Gujarat CM inaugurates GIFT IFI and Innovation Hub in Gandhinagar

In January 2025, Gujarat Chief Minister (CM) **Bhupendra Patel** inaugurated the GIFT International Fintech Institute (**GIFT IFI**) and the GIFT International Fintech Innovation Hub (**GIFT IFIH**) at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City), Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

- ✓ Both the institutions are supported by the Asian Development Bank (**ADB**) and aim to develop the fintech sector.

Kerala launches 'KaWaCHaM' India's 1st Fully Integrated Disaster Risk Warning System

On January 21 2025, the Chief Minister (CM) of Kerala **Pinarayi Vijayan** launched the 'Kerala Warnings, Crisis and Hazard Management(**KaWaCHaM**) System', India's **first** fully integrated disaster warning system at the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) in Thiruvananthapuram, **Kerala**.

- ✓ It is developed by **KSDMA** with support from the National Disaster Management Authority (**NDMA**) and the World Bank (**WB**) as part of the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP).

Tripura Gets New State Emblem with the Approval of MHA

In January 2025, Tripura Chief Minister (CM) Manik Saha announced that the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) had approved the **New state emblem**. The state's history and culture will be prominently featured in the logo.

- ✓ The proposal of the State Emblem of the government of Tripura has been examined by **Rule 4(2)** of the State Emblem of India (**Regulation of Use**) **Rules, 2007** (as amended in 2010) and determined to be in order.

Appointments of New Chief Justices for Delhi and Bombay High Courts

On 21 January 2025, **Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya** was **sworn** in as the 33rd Chief Justice (**CJ**) of the **Delhi High Court** (HC), situated in New Delhi, Delhi. He **succeeds Justice Vibhu Bakhru**, who served as the Acting Chief Justice prior to his appointment.

- ✓ Justice Alok Aradhe was sworn in as the **48th** Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court located in Mumbai, Maharashtra. Justice Aradhe **succeeded** Justice **Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya**.

Aspirant Queries

Aspirant: Does Affairscloud covers all the Current affairs topics related to examinations?

Affairscloud: We Guaranteed All the Important topics related to examination are covered in Our Daily CA content and Daily CA Quizzes.

Aspirant: Why is there a delayal in news?

Affairscloud: As some of the major news sites doesn't provide the required data on the exact day, we take extra time for important data to be presented to the aspirants on the examination basis to ensure nothing is missed.


Example: In 'Important Days' topics the International Organisations publish their reports and Rankings in the evenings, to make sure every data is covered, we delay the topics to the next day Candidates appearing Competative Exams. Kindly Share the General Awareness questions to “gaanalysis.ac@gmail.com”

GA Questions Asked in Exams

- [Affairscloud's Self Analysis for General Awareness Section](#)

Most Trusted Source!!!! Since 2014, nearly 85% of the questions in the General Awareness section on Bank Exams have been covered by Affairsccloud@Careerscloud.

Detailed Analysis of GA Questions asked in IBPS Clerk Mains Exam 2024:



Formerly
AffairsCloud

IBPS CLERK

MAINS

Real Exam

VS

AffairsCloud CA

38
/
45

GENERAL AWARENESS

OCTOBER 13 2024		COVERED IN AFFAIRSCLOUD		
CATEGORIES	QUESTIONS COLLECTED	OVERALL	QUIZ	HANDWRITTEN NOTES
Current Affairs	42	37	29	16
Current Static Banking	1	—	—	—
Current Static GK	2	1	—	—
Static Banking	—	—	—	—
Static GK	—	—	—	—
Total	45	38	29	16

Detailed self-analysis Available
in the Self Evaluation Course at [CareersCloud.in](https://careerscloud.in).

Features

Crack

Current Affairs

Course

QUIZ



PDF



ARTICLE



Top Products

Daily: Dailyscoop PDF, Daily CA Quiz, Daily CA Q&A PDF

Weekly: Weekly Top 60 Quiz, Weekly CA Content PDF, Weekly Overall Q&A PDF

Monthly: Top 100 Q&A PDF, Monthly CA Pocket PDF, Monthly CA Study PDF, Exam PDF, Banking & Economy PDF