

Daily



# Current Affairs

FEBRUARY 13

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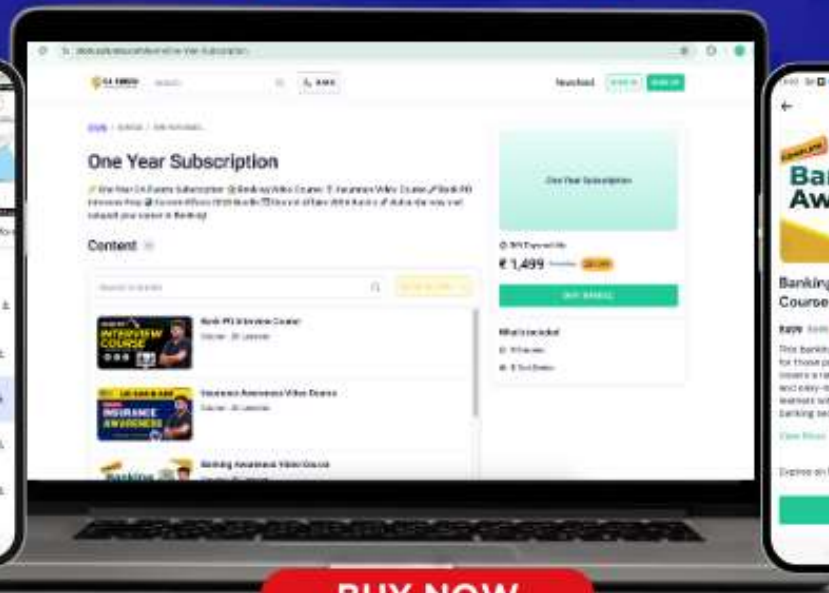
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# Important Days



➤ **Who was the first woman to become the President of the Indian National Congress?**

- A) Indira Gandhi
- B) Sarojini Naidu
- C) Annie Besant
- D) Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
- E) Kasturba Gandhi

**Answer**  
**B) Sarojini Naidu**



# Important Days



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** National Women's Day 2025
- **Date:** February 13, 2025
- **Location:** India
- **Observed In Honor Of:** Sarojini Naidu (Freedom Fighter, Poet, and Social Reformer)



# Important Days



## Significance

- **Honoring Women's Contributions:** Recognizes Sarojini Naidu's impact on India's independence movement and women's rights.
- **Encouraging Women's Leadership:** Inspires future generations to pursue leadership roles in politics, literature, and social justice.
- **Promoting Gender Equality:** Highlights the importance of equal opportunities for women in all fields.



# Important Days



## History

- **Why is National Women's Day Celebrated?**
  - Established to honor **Sarojini Naidu's birth anniversary** (February 13, 1879).
  - Recognizes her contributions to **India's freedom struggle, poetry, and social reform.**
  - She was a **pioneer in promoting women's political participation in India.**



# Important Days



## History

- **Sarojini Naidu's Role in India's Freedom Movement:**
  - Joined **Indian National Congress** (1904) and became a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi.
  - Led the Civil Disobedience and Quit India Movements, enduring multiple imprisonments.
  - **First Woman President** of the Indian National Congress (1925).
  - **First Woman Governor** of an Indian State (United Provinces, now Uttar Pradesh, 1947-1949).



# Important Days



## Sarojini Naidu: A Life of Achievements and Firsts

- **Political Achievements:**
  - **First Woman President** of the Indian National Congress (1925).
  - **First Woman Governor** of an Indian State (United Provinces, 1947-1949).
  - **First Indian Woman** to Address the British Parliament.
  - Led a **Delegation to South Africa** (1929) to advocate for the rights of Indians.
  - Promoted **Inter-Caste Marriages** by marrying Dr. Govindarajulu Naidu despite social opposition.



# Important Days



## Sarojini Naidu: A Life of Achievements and Firsts

- **Literary Contributions:**
  - Known as the "**Nightingale of India**" for her poetry.
  - **Major Works:**
    - **The Golden Threshold** (1905) – Her first poetry collection.
    - **The Bird of Time** (1912) – Poems reflecting India's struggles and aspirations.
    - **The Broken Wing** (1917) – Included The Gift of India, a tribute to Indian soldiers in World War I.
    - **The Feather of the Dawn** (Published posthumously in 1961).





# Important Days



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	National Women's Day 2025
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	India
Honors	Birth Anniversary of Sarojini Naidu
Established To Recognize	Sarojini Naidu's contributions to India's freedom struggle and women's empowerment
Sarojini Naidu's Title	"Nightingale of India"
First Woman INC President	1925
First Woman Governor of India	United Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh), 1947-1949
Major Literary Works	The Golden Threshold (1905), The Bird of Time (1912), The Broken Wing (1917)
International Women's Day	March 8



# Important Days



➤ **Who is credited with making the first successful radio transmission in 1895?**

- A) Nikola Tesla
- B) Jagadish Chandra Bose
- C) Guglielmo Marconi
- D) Alexander Graham Bell
- E) Heinrich Hertz

**Answer**

**C) Guglielmo Marconi**



# Important Days



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** World Radio Day 2025
- **Date:** February 13, 2025
- **Location:** Global
- **Established By:** UNESCO in 2011, later adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2013.
- **Significance:** World Radio Day highlights the importance of radio as a communication, information, and entertainment medium. It fosters dialogue, promotes democratic values, and amplifies diverse voices across societies.



# Important Days



## History

- **First Radio Transmission:** Guglielmo Marconi made the first successful radio transmission in 1895. However, Jagadish Chandra Bose demonstrated electromagnetic wave transmission earlier in November 1895.
- **Early Development of Radio:** Commercial radio broadcasting became widespread in the 1920s. By the 1950s, radio had established itself as a major global source of information and entertainment.



# Important Days



## History

- **Radio in India:** The first radio program in India was aired in 1923 by the Radio Club of Bombay.
- **All India Radio (AIR):** AIR was established in 1956 and is now one of the world's largest radio networks.
- **FM Broadcasting in India:** FM broadcasting began in Chennai on July 23, 1977. Private FM stations started in 2001 but are restricted from broadcasting news.



# Important Days



## Types of Radio

- **How Radio Works:** Radio functions through a transmitter that converts sound into electromagnetic waves and a receiver that captures and converts these waves back into sound.
- **AM (Amplitude Modulation):** Uses kHz frequency, has broader coverage but lower sound quality.
- **FM (Frequency Modulation):** Uses MHz frequency, provides better sound quality but has limited coverage.



# Important Days



## Impact of Radio

- **Promoting Diversity:** Radio provides a platform for multiple cultures, languages, and perspectives.
- **Information Dissemination:** It plays a crucial role in broadcasting news, educational content, and emergency alerts.
- **Community Connectivity:** It reaches rural and isolated areas where other communication mediums may not be available.
- **Empowerment:** Radio gives a voice to underrepresented communities and fosters civic engagement.



# Important Days



## Impact of Radio

- **Accessibility:** It reaches people without internet access or smartphones.
- **Reliability:** It functions effectively even during emergencies when other communication channels fail.
- **Affordability:** Radio requires minimal infrastructure, making it a cost-effective medium for users and broadcasters.





# Important Days



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	World Radio Day 2025
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	Global
Established By	UNESCO (2011), UN General Assembly (2013)
Significance	Celebrates radio's role in communication, democracy, and ensuring diverse voices are heard
Birth of Radio	Guglielmo Marconi (1895), Jagadish Chandra Bose (1895)



# Important Days



➤ **What is the theme of National Productivity Day 2025?**

- A) "Enhancing Efficiency for Sustainable Growth"
- B) "From Ideas to Impact: Protecting Intellectual Property for Competitive Startups"
- C) "Smart Work for a Smarter Nation"
- D) "Innovation and Sustainability for Economic Growth"
- E) "Leveraging Technology for Maximum Productivity"



**Answer**

**B) "From Ideas to Impact: Protecting Intellectual Property for Competitive Startups"**



# Important Days



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** National Productivity Day 2025
- **Date:** February 12, 2025
- **Location:** India
- **Organized By:** National Productivity Council (NPC)



# Important Days



## Significance

- **Promoting Productivity:** Highlights the importance of productivity in driving economic growth, sustainability, and innovation.
- **Encouraging Startups:** Focuses on intellectual property protection to help startups convert ideas into impactful solutions.
- **Boosting Economic Growth:** Encourages industries and businesses to adopt productivity-driven approaches.
- **Global Competitiveness:** Aims to position India as a global leader in productivity and innovation.



# Important Days



## History

- **Origin of National Productivity Day:** Marks the establishment of the National Productivity Council (NPC) on February 12, 1958.
- **NPC's Role:** An autonomous organization under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), promoting productivity culture in India.
- **Legal Framework:** NPC was registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1960.



# Important Days



## Theme of National Productivity Day 2025

- **Theme:** "From Ideas to Impact: Protecting Intellectual Property for Competitive Startups."
- **Objective:** Encourages startups to secure their innovations through intellectual property rights (IPR).
- **Importance:** Recognizes the role of intellectual property in fostering entrepreneurship and innovation.



# Important Days



## Activities and Events on National Productivity Day

- **Workshops and Seminars:** Organized by businesses, startups, and academic institutions.
- **Competitions and Webinars:** Engaging professionals in discussions on productivity enhancement.
- **Awards and Recognitions:** Honoring individuals and organizations excelling in productivity and innovation.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Promoting resource optimization, time management, and technological advancements.



# Important Days



## Key Factors in Productivity Enhancement

- **Three Pillars of Productivity:**
  1. **Time:** Efficient use of time leads to better performance and results.
  2. **Energy:** Optimal energy management boosts workplace efficiency.
  3. **Attention:** Focused efforts lead to higher quality output and innovation.
- **Economic Impact of Productivity:**
  - Higher output with the same or fewer resources.
  - Increased profitability and job creation.
  - Long-term national economic growth and competitiveness.





# Important Days



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	National Productivity Day 2025
Date	February 12, 2025
Location	India
Organized By	National Productivity Council (NPC)
History	NPC was established on February 12, 1958
2025 Theme	"From Ideas to Impact: Protecting Intellectual Property for Competitive Startups"
Purpose	Promoting productivity for economic growth, innovation, and sustainability
Key Focus Areas	Intellectual property protection, fostering innovation, startup growth, competitive industries
Activities	Workshops, seminars, competitions, awards, awareness campaigns
Significance	Boosts economic growth, enhances industry competitiveness, promotes efficiency
Productivity Pillars	Time, Energy, and Attention
Economic Impact	Higher output, increased profitability, job creation, and national prosperity

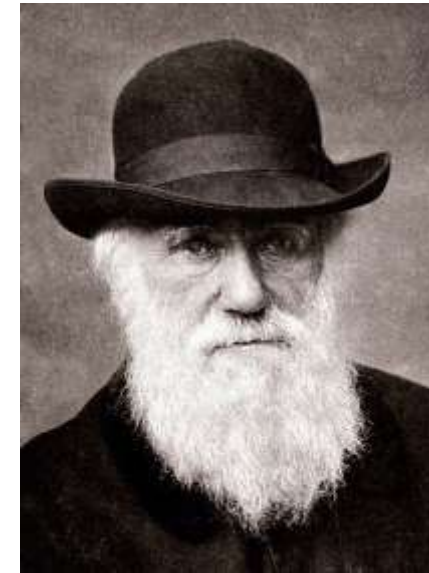


# Important Days



➤ **What is the primary reason for celebrating International Darwin Day on February 12?**

- A) To promote wildlife conservation
- B) To honor Charles Darwin and his contributions to evolution
- C) To celebrate biodiversity and genetic engineering
- D) To recognize the role of space exploration in science
- E) To commemorate the discovery of DNA



**Answer**

**B) To honor Charles Darwin and his contributions to evolution**



# Important Days



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** International Darwin Day 2025
- **Date:** February 12, 2025
- **Location:** Celebrated globally
- **Established To Honor:** Charles Darwin (1809-1882), the scientist who proposed the theory of evolution and natural selection



# Important Days



## Significance

- **Promoting Scientific Thinking:** Encourages critical thinking, curiosity, and scientific literacy.
- **Understanding Evolution:** Highlights Darwin's theory of natural selection and its impact on modern biology.
- **Advancing Science Education:** Schools and universities conduct lectures and exhibitions on evolutionary science.
- **Global Celebration of Knowledge:** Recognized by governments, NGOs, and scientific institutions worldwide.



# Important Days



## History of International Darwin Day

- **Early Life of Charles Darwin:**
  - Born on February 12, 1809, in England.
  - Came from an intellectual family; his grandfathers were naturalists.
  - Initially studied medicine but shifted to natural sciences at Cambridge.
- **The HMS Beagle Voyage (1831-1836):**
  - Traveled across South America, the Galapagos Islands, and other locations.
  - Collected data on plants, animals, fossils, and geology.
  - Observations of finches in the Galapagos Islands helped shape his theory of natural selection.



# Important Days



## History of International Darwin Day

- **Publication of 'On the Origin of Species' (1859):**
  - Based on years of research, he introduced the idea that species evolve over time through natural selection.
  - Faced opposition but eventually became the foundation of modern evolutionary biology.



# Important Days



## Darwin Day 2025 Theme

- **Theme:** Impact of scientific thought on humanity.
- **Previous Themes Focused On:**
  - Science education and rational thinking.
  - Evolution and biodiversity.
  - The impact of Darwin's work on humanity.



# Important Days



## How is Darwin Day Celebrated?

- **Science Education Programs:** Schools and universities organize lectures, workshops, and exhibitions on evolution.
- **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Museums, research institutions, and NGOs host science fairs and discussions.
- **Social Media Campaigns:** Science enthusiasts share facts, quotes, and videos on evolution.





# Important Days



## How is Darwin Day Celebrated?

- **Reading 'On the Origin of Species':** Many people revisit Darwin's groundbreaking work.
- **Watching Documentaries on Evolution: Popular choices include:**
  - The Genius of Charles Darwin
  - David Attenborough's The Tree of Life
  - Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey



# Important Days



## Impact of Darwin's Work

- **Influence on Modern Science:**
  - Laid the foundation for evolutionary biology.
  - Inspired further studies in genetics, anthropology, and environmental science.
- **Medical and Genetic Research:**
  - Helped in understanding diseases, hereditary traits, and genetic mutations.
  - Influenced modern medicine and biotechnology.
- **Environmental Awareness:**
  - Emphasized the importance of biodiversity and species adaptation.
  - Inspired efforts in wildlife conservation and ecosystem protection.



# Important Days



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	International Darwin Day 2025
Date	February 12, 2025
Location	Observed globally
Purpose	Honoring Charles Darwin's contributions to science and evolution
Key Contributions	Theory of evolution and natural selection, published On the Origin of Species (1859)
Significance	Promotes scientific thinking, education, and understanding of evolution
Celebration Activities	Lectures, museum visits, documentaries, science fairs, and social media campaigns
Famous Quote	"It is not the strongest of the species that survives... but the most responsive to change." – Charles Darwin



➤ **Who won the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for January 2025?**

- A) Pat Cummins
- B) Jomel Warrican
- C) Shaheen Afridi
- D) Gudakesh Motie
- E) James Anderson

**Answer**

**B) Jomel Warrican**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** ICC Players of the Month for January 2025 announced
- **Date:** February 13, 2025
- **Location:** International (ICC Announcement)
- **Organized By:** International Cricket Council (ICC)



## Significance

- **Recognition of Excellence:** The ICC Players of the Month award honors outstanding performances in international cricket each month.
- **Historic Achievement:** Jomel Warrican's bowling helped West Indies secure their first Test series victory in Pakistan since 1990.
- **Continued Dominance:** Beth Mooney's consistent performances extended Australia's success in women's cricket.



## History

- **Introduction of the Award:** The ICC introduced the Player of the Month award in January 2021 to recognize individual cricketing excellence.
- **Previous Winners:** The last West Indian to win this award was Gudakesh Motie in May 2024. Annabel Sutherland was the previous Australian Women's winner in December 2024.



## ICC Men's Player of the Month – Jomel Warrican

- **Award Recognition:** Jomel Warrican won his maiden ICC Men's Player of the Month award for his match-winning performances in Pakistan.
- **Key Achievements:** Took 19 wickets in two Test matches at an average of 9.00.
- **First Test (Multan):** Took 10 wickets, including a career-best 7 for 32 in the second innings.
- **Second Test:** Scored 36\* in a crucial 95-run last-wicket stand. Took four wickets in the first innings and five in the second innings.
- **Series Impact:** Helped West Indies secure a 120-run victory and was named Player of the Series.





## ICC Women's Player of the Month – Beth Mooney

- **Award Recognition:** Beth Mooney won the ICC Women's Player of the Month for her role in Australia's Ashes triumph over England.
- **ODI Performance:** Scored 50 off 64 balls in the third ODI, rescuing Australia from 59/4 and helping post 308 runs. Led Australia to an ODI series sweep.
- **T20I Series Performance:** Scored 213 runs at a strike rate of 146.89.
- **Match-Winning Knocks:** Scored 75 and 44 before a career-best 94\* off 63 balls in Adelaide.
- **Competition for the Award:** Overcame Karishma Ramharack (West Indies) and Gongadi Trisha (India U19) to win.



## Impact of the Awards

- **West Indies Cricket:** Warrican's win showcases the resurgence of West Indies cricket, especially in Test matches.
- **Australian Women's Cricket:** Mooney's award highlights Australia's continued dominance in women's cricket.
- **Global Recognition:** The ICC's monthly awards encourage individual brilliance and motivate players worldwide.



# SPORTS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	ICC Players of the Month for January 2025 announced
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	ICC Headquarters (Dubai, UAE)
Men's Player of the Month	Jomel Warrican (West Indies)
Key Achievements	Took 19 wickets in 2 Tests, including 7/32 in Multan
Women's Player of the Month	Beth Mooney (Australia)
Key Achievements	Scored 213 T20I runs at a strike rate of 146.89, including 94* off 63 balls



➤ **Which cricketer has been named an ambassador for the ICC Champions Trophy 2025?**

- A) Virat Kohli
- B) Rohit Sharma
- C) Shikhar Dhawan
- D) David Warner
- E) Babar Azam

**Answer**

**C) Shikhar Dhawan**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Shikhar Dhawan named as an ambassador for ICC Champions Trophy 2025.
- **Date:** February 13, 2025.
- **Location:** ICC Headquarters, Dubai.
- **Tournament Details:**
  - **Tournament:** ICC Champions Trophy 2025.
  - **Dates:** February 19 to March 9, 2025.
  - **Host Countries:** Pakistan and Dubai.



## Significance

- **Recognition of Dhawan's Legacy:** Dhawan is India's highest run-scorer in Champions Trophy history with 701 runs.
- **Global Engagement:** As an ambassador, he will provide fans with exclusive insights, commentary, and analysis.
- **Cricketing Excellence:** His selection highlights his achievements, including winning the Golden Bat in two consecutive editions (2013 and 2017).
- **Strengthening Tournament Appeal:** Along with three other ambassadors, Dhawan will enhance the tournament's visibility and engagement.



## History

- **Champions Trophy Overview:** The ICC Champions Trophy is one of cricket's most prestigious tournaments, featuring the top eight teams in a 50-over format.
- **India's Past Success:** India won the tournament in 2002 (shared with Sri Lanka) and 2013 under MS Dhoni's captaincy.
- **Shikhar Dhawan's Performance:** Dhawan's 701 runs in two editions made him the tournament's highest run-scorer.



## Shikhar Dhawan's Role as an Ambassador

- **Exclusive Insights:** He will share match analyses, personal experiences, and behind-the-scenes content.
- **Champion Performer:** Dhawan has played a crucial role in India's Champions Trophy campaigns, especially in 2013 and 2017.
- **First Indian to Win Consecutive Golden Bats:** He was the highest run-scorer in both 2013 and 2017.
- **Tournament Promotion:** Engaging with fans and increasing excitement for the competition.





## Other ICC Champions Trophy 2025 Ambassadors

- **Sarfraz Ahmed (Pakistan):** Captain of Pakistan's 2017 Champions Trophy-winning team.
- **Shane Watson (Australia):** Former Australian all-rounder and multiple-time ICC tournament winner.
- **Tim Southee (New Zealand):** One of New Zealand's most experienced fast bowlers, known for his performances in ICC events.



## Impact of the Ambassadors

- **Fan Engagement:** Their experiences will provide fans with expert analysis and exclusive insights.
- **Promotion of the Tournament:** Their presence adds star value and builds excitement leading up to the event.
- **Diverse Cricketing Perspectives:** Contributions from a batsman, all-rounder, fast bowler, and former captain ensure varied insights.



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	ICC Champions Trophy 2025 Ambassador Announcement
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	ICC Headquarters, Dubai
Tournament Dates	February 19 – March 9, 2025
Host Countries	Pakistan and Dubai
ICC Champions Trophy Ambassador	Shikhar Dhawan
Other Ambassadors	Sarfraz Ahmed (Pakistan), Shane Watson (Australia), Tim Southee (New Zealand)
Shikhar Dhawan's Achievements	Highest run-scorer in Champions Trophy history (701 runs). Won Golden Bat in 2013 & 2017.
Role of Ambassadors	Provide insights, engage with fans, promote the tournament
India's Champions Trophy Titles	2002 (shared with Sri Lanka), 2013 (under MS Dhoni)



➤ **Why was Bangladesh's Shohely Akhter banned by the ICC for five years?**

- A) For violating the ICC's Code of Conduct
- B) For making false allegations against the ICC
- C) For attempting to fix a match during the 2023 Women's T20 World Cup
- D) For playing in unauthorized T20 leagues
- E) For using banned substances



**Answer**

**C) For attempting to fix a match during the 2023 Women's T20 World Cup**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Shohely Akhter becomes the first woman cricketer to be banned by ICC for corruption.
- **Date:** February 10, 2025 (Effective Ban Date).
- **Location:** Bangladesh / International Cricket Council (ICC).
- **Governing Body:** International Cricket Council (ICC).



## Significance

- **Historic First in Women's Cricket:** Shohely Akhter is the first female cricketer to receive an ICC ban for corruption.
- **Strengthening Anti-Corruption Measures:** Reinforces ICC's zero-tolerance policy on match-fixing.
- **Protecting Women's Cricket:** Ensures the integrity and credibility of women's cricket, which is growing globally.
- **Encouraging Whistleblowing:** Highlights the importance of players reporting corrupt approaches to the ICC.



## Background of Shohely Akhter's Ban

- **Corruption Charges Against Shohely Akhter:**
  - Found guilty of violating five provisions of the ICC Anti-Corruption Code.
  - She attempted to fix a match during the 2023 Women's T20 World Cup.
  - She accepted the five-year ban, which started on February 10, 2025.
- **Articles Violated Under the ICC Anti-Corruption Code:**
  - Article 2.1.1: Attempting to fix matches or influence their outcome.
  - Article 2.1.3: Making corrupt approaches to fellow players.
  - Article 2.1.4: Engaging in corrupt conduct by offering financial incentives.



## Background of Shohely Akhter's Ban

- **Corruption Charges Against Shohely Akhter:**
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## Background of Shohely Akhter's Ban

- **Articles Violated Under the ICC Anti-Corruption Code:**
  - **Article 2.1.1:** Attempting to fix matches or influence their outcome.
  - **Article 2.1.3:** Making corrupt approaches to fellow players.
  - **Article 2.1.4:** Engaging in corrupt conduct by offering financial incentives.
  - **Article 2.4.4:** Failing to report corrupt approaches to the ICC.
  - **Article 2.4.7:** Failing to cooperate with an ICC Anti-Corruption investigation.



## Shohely Akhter's Cricket Career

- **Short International Career:**
  - Played 2 One Day Internationals (ODIs) and 13 T20 Internationals (T20Is) for Bangladesh.
  - Last played for Bangladesh in 2022.
  - Was not part of Bangladesh's squad for the 2023 Women's T20 World Cup but still made corrupt approaches.



# SPORTS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	Shohely Akhter becomes first woman cricketer banned by ICC for corruption
Ban Effective Date	February 10, 2025
Country	Bangladesh
ICC Governing Body	International Cricket Council (ICC)
Reason for Ban	Attempting to fix a match during the 2023 Women's T20 World Cup
ICC Anti-Corruption Articles Violated	2.1.1, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 2.4.4, 2.4.7
Shohely's Cricket Career	2 ODIs, 13 T20Is for Bangladesh
Last Played for Bangladesh	2022
Corruption Attempt Date	February 14, 2023 (Bangladesh vs. Australia match)
Whistleblower	Player A (Bangladeshi teammate)
Bribe Offered	2 million Bangladesh Takas (~\$18,000 USD)
Punishment	5-year ban from all cricket
Impact	Strengthens ICC's anti-corruption measures, encourages reporting of corruption



# RANKING



➤ **Which country ranked as the least corrupt in the world in 2025 according to the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)?**

- A) Finland
- B) New Zealand
- C) Denmark
- D) Norway
- E) Singapore

**Answer**  
**C) Denmark**



# RANKING



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Release of the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2025 ranking the least corrupt countries in the world.
- **Date:** February 2025
- **Location:** Global rankings by Transparency International
- **Published By:** Transparency International



## Significance

- **Measuring Corruption Globally:** The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) ranks countries based on perceived corruption in their public sector.
- **Denmark Leads in Transparency:** Denmark remains the least corrupt country, reflecting high public trust, strict anti-corruption laws, and transparent governance.
- **India's Ranking Declines:** India ranks 96th out of 180 countries, scoring 38, indicating challenges in governance and accountability.



## Understanding the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)

- **What is the CPI?**
  - The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) is published annually by Transparency International.
  - It ranks 180 countries based on how corrupt their public sector is perceived to be.
  - The index is based on expert analysis, business surveys, and governance assessments.



## Understanding the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)

- **How is the CPI Scored?**
  - **Scale:** 0 (Highly Corrupt) to 100 (Very Clean).
  - **High Scores:** Indicate transparent governance, accountability, and strong anti-corruption policies.
  - **Low Scores:** Reflect weak institutions, corruption, and lack of government transparency.





# RANKING



## Top-10 Least Corrupt Countries in the World (2025 CPI Rankings)

Rank	Country	CPI Score
1	Denmark	90
2	Finland	88
3	Singapore	84
4	New Zealand	83
5	Luxembourg	81
6	Norway	81
7	Switzerland	81
8	Sweden	80
9	Netherlands	78
10	Australia	77



## Understanding the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)

- **Why is Denmark the Least Corrupt Country?**
  - **Strict Anti-Corruption Laws:** Denmark has strong regulations against bribery and unethical practices.
  - **High Public Trust:** The government is transparent, accountable, and free from political interference.
  - **Ethical Governance:** Ensures fairness, integrity, and low levels of financial fraud.



## India's Position in the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2025

- **India's Global Rank:** 96<sup>th</sup> out of 180 countries.
- **India's CPI Score:** 38 (declined from 39 in 2024).
- **Previous Rank:** 93<sup>rd</sup> in 2024.
- **Global Average CPI Score:** 43 (India ranks below the global average).
- **Challenges Affecting India's CPI Rank:**
  - **Political Patronage:** Corruption in public office appointments and election funding.
  - **Bureaucratic Inefficiencies:** Slow administrative processes leading to bribery and favoritism.
  - **Weak Accountability Mechanisms:** Difficulty in prosecuting corrupt officials and politicians.



## Key Takeaways from the CPI 2025 Report

- **Positive Trends:**
  - Countries like Denmark, Finland, and Singapore maintain their top rankings due to ethical governance and transparency.
  - Several European nations have strong legal frameworks against corruption.
- **Challenges and Concerns:**
  - India's declining rank highlights ongoing governance struggles despite anti-corruption initiatives.
  - Many developing nations face corruption in public services, political interference, and lack of transparency.



# RANKING



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	CPI 2025 ranks the Top-10 Least Corrupt Countries
Report Published By	Transparency International
Top Ranked Country	Denmark (Score: 90)
India's Rank	96th out of 180 countries
India's Score	38 (declined from 39 in 2024)
Previous India Rank	93rd in 2024
Global Average Score	43
Top 3 Least Corrupt Countries	Denmark (90), Finland (88), Singapore (84)
Denmark's Key Strengths	Transparent governance, strict laws, high public trust
India's Challenges	Political patronage, bureaucratic inefficiencies, weak accountability
India's Anti-Corruption Laws	Lokpal Act, Prevention of Corruption Act, CVC, RTI Act



➤ **What is the only change in the new ₹50 banknotes issued by the RBI in 2025?**

- A) Introduction of a new design
- B) Addition of new security features
- C) Inclusion of Governor Sanjay Malhotra's signature
- D) Change in color and dimensions
- E) Replacement of Mahatma Gandhi's portrait



**Answer**

**C) Inclusion of Governor Sanjay Malhotra's signature**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** RBI to issue ₹50 banknotes with Governor Sanjay Malhotra's signature.
- **Date:** February 13, 2025.
- **Location:** Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai.
- **Issued By:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI).



## Significance

- **Routine Currency Update:** RBI updates banknotes with the new governor's signature whenever there is a change in leadership.
- **Design Continuity:** The ₹50 note will continue under the Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series, ensuring familiarity and security.
- **No Disruption to Circulation:** Previously issued ₹50 notes will remain valid and legal tender.
- **Maintaining Currency Security:** The RBI routinely updates banknotes to prevent counterfeiting and improve authentication.





## History

- **Introduction of Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series:**  
Launched in 2016 to enhance security features and modernize banknotes.
- **Previous ₹50 Banknote Issuances:**
  - **2016:** ₹50 note issued with Urjit Patel's signature.
  - **2004:** ₹50 note issued with Y.V. Reddy's signature.
- **RBI's Role in Currency Management:**
  - Regulates and issues banknotes in India.
  - Ensures smooth currency transitions without affecting public transactions.



## Details of the New ₹50 Banknote

- **Signature Update:** The only change in the new ₹50 note is the signature of Governor Sanjay Malhotra.
- **Existing Design Retained:** The note continues under the Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series with no additional modifications.
- **Security Features:** Includes color-shifting ink, micro-lettering, and latent images to prevent counterfeiting.



## Legal Tender Status

- **Old ₹50 Notes Remain Valid:** All previously issued ₹50 banknotes, including those with signatures of past governors, will continue to be legal tender.
- **Public Convenience Ensured:** RBI follows a smooth transition process without demonetizing existing notes.



## Why Does RBI Change the Governor's Signature?

- **Routine Process:** Each time a new RBI Governor is appointed, fresh banknotes are issued with their signature.



## Why Does RBI Change the Governor's Signature?

- **Historical Precedents:**
  - Urjit Patel's Signature (2016) appeared on ₹50 notes when he was RBI Governor.
  - Shaktikanta Das's Signature (2018-2024) was present on the previous series of ₹50 notes.
  - Y.V. Reddy's Signature (2004) also appeared on ₹50 banknotes during his tenure.
- **Purpose:**
  - Maintains an official record of banknotes issued under different RBI Governors.
  - Does not impact the validity of older currency notes.



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	RBI to issue ₹50 banknotes with Governor Sanjay Malhotra's signature
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	RBI Headquarters, Mumbai
New RBI Governor	Sanjay Malhotra (Took office in December 2024)
Preceding RBI Governor	Shaktikanta Das (December 2018 – December 2024)
Banknote Series	Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series
Changes in ₹50 Note	Only the Governor's signature; design remains unchanged
Legal Tender Status	Old ₹50 notes remain valid
Previous Governors on ₹50 Notes	Urjit Patel (2016), Y.V. Reddy (2004)
RBI Establishment	April 1, 1935
RBI Act	Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934



- **What is the primary objective of RBI allowing Small Finance Banks (SFBs) to offer pre-sanctioned credit via UPI?**
- A) To promote cash transactions in rural areas
  - B) To enable SFBs to issue credit cards
  - C) To expand digital credit access to underserved segments
  - D) To allow UPI transactions without internet connectivity
  - E) To replace traditional bank loans with digital credit lines



**Answer**

**C) To expand digital credit access to underserved segments**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** RBI allows Small Finance Banks (SFBs) to offer pre-sanctioned credit lines via UPI.
- **Date:** February 2024
- **Location:** India
- **Regulatory Authority:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI)





## Significance

- **Enhancing Financial Inclusion:** Extends collateral-free credit to individuals and small businesses with limited banking access.
- **Boosting Digital Credit Adoption:** Strengthens India's digital lending ecosystem by integrating credit with UPI payments.
- **Encouraging Small Business Growth:** Helps micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) access credit instantly for working capital needs.
- **Reducing Borrowing Costs:** Lowers the cost of credit disbursement and enhances affordability.



## Evolution of UPI's Role in Credit

- **UPI's Initial Purpose (2016):**
  - Launched as a real-time payment system to facilitate instant money transfers.
  - Developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) under RBI supervision.



## Evolution of UPI's Role in Credit

- **September 2023 - RBI's First Credit Integration with UPI:**
  - RBI allowed Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) to link pre-sanctioned credit lines with UPI.
  - This enabled customers to use approved credit limits for UPI transactions without requiring separate loan approvals.
  - SFBs, Payments Banks, and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) were excluded at that time.



## Evolution of UPI's Role in Credit

- **February 2024 - RBI Expands Credit Access via SFBs:**
  - Now, SFBs are allowed to offer credit via UPI, enhancing financial access for rural and semi-urban customers.



## Impact of RBI's Move on Small Finance Banks (SFBs)

- **SFBs' Role in Financial Inclusion:**
  - Primarily serve low-income individuals, small businesses, and first-time borrowers.
  - Operate in semi-urban and rural areas where credit access is limited.



## Impact of RBI's Move on Small Finance Banks (SFBs)

- **Expected Benefits of UPI-Linked Credit for SFBs:**
  - **Instant Digital Credit:** Borrowers can access pre-approved credit lines directly via UPI.
  - **No Collateral Required:** Makes borrowing simpler and more inclusive.
  - **Cost Reduction:** Lowers operational costs for both banks and customers.
  - **Financial Discipline:** Allows borrowers to withdraw credit only as needed, unlike traditional bulk loans.



## Impact of RBI's Move on Small Finance Banks (SFBs)

- **Challenges and Considerations:**
  - **Implementation Guidelines:** RBI to provide detailed regulatory guidelines for SFBs.
  - **Risk of Over-Borrowing:** Need for strong credit monitoring systems to prevent defaults.
  - **Fraud Prevention:** Enhanced security measures required to safeguard digital credit transactions.



## Future of Digital Banking in India

- **UPI as a Credit Ecosystem:**
  - More banks, including SFBs, offering digital credit will transform India's financial landscape.
  - Fintech partnerships with SFBs will further boost digital lending.
- **Towards a Cashless Economy:**
  - Digital payments and instant credit access via UPI will empower individuals and businesses.
  - UPI's credit integration can increase digital transactions and formalize lending markets.





# BANKING AND FINANCE



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	RBI allows Small Finance Banks (SFBs) to offer pre-sanctioned credit lines via UPI
Date	February 2024
Regulator	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Previously Allowed Banks	Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) (Approved in September 2023)
Newly Included Banks	Small Finance Banks (SFBs)
Excluded Banks	Payments Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)
UPI Full Form	Unified Payments Interface
UPI Launch Year	2016
Regulator of UPI	National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
Benefit of the Move	Instant, collateral-free digital credit for small businesses and individuals
Next Steps	RBI to issue detailed operational guidelines for implementation



➤ **Why did the RBI impose restrictions on Kotak Mahindra Bank in April 2024?**

- A) For failing to meet financial capital requirements
- B) Due to IT infrastructure deficiencies and security risks
- C) For engaging in fraudulent banking transactions
- D) For non-compliance with RBI's lending policies
- E) Due to excessive loan defaults



**Answer**

**B) Due to IT infrastructure deficiencies and security risks**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** RBI lifts digital onboarding ban on Kotak Mahindra Bank
- **Date:** February 2025
- **Location:** India
- **Regulatory Authority:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI)



## Significance

- **Restoring Digital Banking Services:** Kotak Mahindra Bank can now resume onboarding new customers online and issuing fresh credit cards.
- **Strengthening IT Compliance:** The RBI's intervention ensures banks prioritize cybersecurity and IT risk management.
- **Boosting Financial Growth:** The bank can now expand its customer base



## Why Did RBI Impose Restrictions on Kotak Mahindra Bank?

- **Date of Restriction:** April 2024
- **Issues Identified in IT Audits (2022 & 2023):**
  - **IT Inventory Management Deficiencies** – Poor tracking and documentation of IT assets.
  - **Weak Patch and Change Management** – Delays in updating security patches.
  - **User Access Control Risks** – Unauthorized access to sensitive banking systems.
  - **Vendor Risk Assessment Issues** – Inadequate security checks for third-party vendors.
  - **Data Security and Business Continuity Gaps** – Weak protection of customer data and disaster recovery mechanisms.



## Why Did RBI Impose Restrictions on Kotak Mahindra Bank?

- **Why Did RBI Intervene?**
  - Despite multiple warnings, Kotak Mahindra Bank failed to address these risks adequately.
  - RBI halted digital onboarding and new credit card issuance to prevent potential security threats.



## What Steps Did Kotak Mahindra Bank Take to Lift the Ban?

- **External IT Audit:**
  - Grant Thornton Bharat conducted an independent audit to verify IT security improvements.
- **Technology Upgrades with Leading Firms:**
  - Collaborated with Accenture, Infosys, Oracle, and Cisco to strengthen IT systems and cybersecurity.



## What Steps Did Kotak Mahindra Bank Take to Lift the Ban?

- **Improved IT Risk Controls:**
  - Enhanced user access control mechanisms.
  - Strengthened patch management and vendor security assessments.
- **Regulatory Approval:**
  - After reviewing compliance measures, RBI found Kotak Mahindra Bank's corrective actions satisfactory and lifted the restrictions.





## Impact of RBI's Decision on Kotak Mahindra Bank and Customers

- **For Kotak Mahindra Bank:**
  - **Resumption of Digital Onboarding:** Can now acquire new customers online without restrictions.
  - **Issuance of New Credit Cards:** Expected to increase fee-based income and customer engagement.
  - **Market Expansion:** Opportunity to regain lost market share in the digital banking space.



## Impact of RBI's Decision on Kotak Mahindra Bank and Customers

- **For Customers:**
  - **Seamless Digital Banking Services:** No disruptions in opening new accounts and applying for credit cards.
  - **Enhanced Security:** Strengthened IT framework ensures better data protection and fraud prevention.



## RBI's Role in Strengthening IT Security in Banking

- **Why is RBI Focused on IT Security?**
  - Ensures banks meet cybersecurity standards to prevent fraud and data breaches.
  - Protects customer data and maintains trust in digital banking services.
  - Encourages technology adoption while ensuring compliance with risk management guidelines.



## RBI's Role in Strengthening IT Security in Banking

- **Future IT Compliance for Banks:**
  - Regular audits and risk assessments to maintain strong cybersecurity.
  - Stronger monitoring of vendor relationships in banking technology.
  - Strict penalties for non-compliance with IT security standards.



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	RBI lifts digital onboarding ban on Kotak Mahindra Bank
Date of Ban	April 2024
Date of Lifting Ban	February 2025
Reason for Ban	IT security deficiencies in inventory management, patching, user access, vendor risk, and data security
Corrective Actions Taken	External IT audit by Grant Thornton Bharat, security upgrades with Accenture, Infosys, Oracle, Cisco
Impact of RBI's Decision	Kotak Mahindra Bank can resume digital onboarding and issue credit cards
Regulator	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)



➤ **What is the primary objective of the Income Tax Bill, 2025, introduced in Parliament?**

- A) To increase tax rates for high-income individuals
- B) To replace the Income Tax Act, 1961, with a simplified and modern tax law
- C) To introduce new tax slabs for salaried professionals
- D) To provide tax exemptions for startups and MSMEs
- E) To implement a uniform Goods and Services Tax (GST) structure



**Answer**

**B) To replace the Income Tax Act, 1961, with a simplified and modern tax law**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Introduction of the Income Tax Bill, 2025, in Lok Sabha
- **Date:** February 13, 2025
- **Location:** Parliament of India, New Delhi
- **Presented By:** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman
- **Referred To:** Select Committee of Lok Sabha for further examination



## Significance

- **Replacing Outdated Tax Laws:** The Income Tax Act, 1961, has become complex due to multiple amendments, requiring a modernized tax framework.
- **Simplification for Taxpayers:** Introduces clearer terminology, streamlined provisions, and easier compliance measures.
- **Reducing Litigation and Tax Disputes:** The bill aims to eliminate ambiguity in tax laws, ensuring faster resolution of disputes.
- **Alignment with Global Tax Standards:** Introduces modern tax concepts to match global taxation systems.





## Key Highlights of the Income Tax Bill, 2025

### 1. Legislative Process

- Introduced in Lok Sabha on February 13, 2025, by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- Opposition protests against the bill's introduction, but it passed via a voice vote.
- Referred to a Select Committee of Lok Sabha for further examination.
- Lok Sabha adjourned until March 10, 2025, for the second half of the Budget session.



## Key Highlights of the Income Tax Bill, 2025

### 2. Major Terminology Changes

- “Assessment Year” and “Previous Year” replaced with “Tax Year” for simplicity.
- Under the Income Tax Act, 1961, income earned in 2023-24 was taxed in the assessment year 2024-25.
- Now, under the Income Tax Bill, 2025, it will simply be part of the “Tax Year”.



## Key Highlights of the Income Tax Bill, 2025

### 3. Structural Changes in the Tax Law

- Number of sections increased from 298 (1961 Act) to 536 (2025 Bill).
- Number of schedules expanded from 14 to 16.
- Outdated provisos and explanations removed to enhance clarity.



## Key Highlights of the Income Tax Bill, 2025

### 4. Objectives of the New Bill

- Simplifying tax laws and removing outdated terminology.
- Providing clarity and ease of understanding for taxpayers.
- Minimizing litigation by making provisions more straightforward.
- Incorporating modern tax concepts to align with global practices.



## Key Highlights of the Income Tax Bill, 2025

### 5. Expected Impact

- Easier tax compliance due to clearer and standardized provisions.
- More transparent and streamlined tax filing process.
- Faster resolution of tax disputes and reduced litigation.
- Improved adaptability of tax laws to evolving economic conditions.



## Comparison: Income Tax Act, 1961 vs. Income Tax Bill, 2025

Feature	Income Tax Act, 1961	Income Tax Bill, 2025
Number of Sections	298	536
Number of Schedules	14	16
Terminology	Assessment Year, Previous Year	Tax Year
Complexity	Multiple amendments over decades	Simplified, modern structure
Litigation Issues	Ambiguous provisions leading to disputes	Clearer rules reducing tax disputes
Global Alignment	Limited international compatibility	Aligned with modern tax frameworks



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	Introduction of the Income Tax Bill, 2025, in Lok Sabha
Date of Introduction	February 13, 2025
Presented By	Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman
Purpose	Replace the Income Tax Act, 1961, with a modernized tax law
Terminology Change	"Assessment Year" & "Previous Year" replaced with "Tax Year"
Total Sections	Increased from 298 to 536
Total Schedules	Expanded from 14 to 16
Legislative Process	Referred to Select Committee of Lok Sabha for review
Expected Impact	Easier tax compliance, reduced litigation, streamlined filing process
Finance Ministry HQ	New Delhi, India
Finance Minister	Nirmala Sitharaman



➤ **What is the purpose of SEBI's newly launched MITRA platform?**

- A) To help investors track inactive or unclaimed mutual fund folios
- B) To facilitate real-time mutual fund trading
- C) To regulate asset management companies (AMCs)
- D) To introduce new mutual fund schemes
- E) To monitor foreign investments in mutual funds



**Answer**

**A) To help investors track inactive or unclaimed mutual fund folios**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** SEBI launched MITRA to track inactive mutual fund folios.
- **Date:** February 13, 2025.
- **Location:** India.
- **Launched By:** Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).



## Significance

- **Investor Protection:** MITRA helps investors reclaim lost or forgotten mutual fund investments, preventing fraud and unauthorized redemptions.
- **Enhanced Transparency:** The platform creates a centralized database for unclaimed mutual fund folios, improving accountability in the financial sector.
- **KYC Compliance Promotion:** Encourages investors to update their KYC details, reducing the number of non-compliant folios at risk of fraud.
- **Industry-Wide Impact:** Strengthens trust in the mutual fund ecosystem by ensuring rightful claimants can access their funds.



## History

- **Challenge of Inactive Mutual Fund Folios:** Many investors lose track of their investments due to outdated contact details or lack of KYC compliance.
- **SEBI's Response:** Recognizing the issue, SEBI developed MITRA as an industry-wide solution to track and reclaim unclaimed mutual funds.
- **Market Concerns:** Inactive folios are often susceptible to fraud, prompting SEBI to introduce stricter security measures.



## Features of MITRA

- **Tracking Inactive Folios:** MITRA helps investors search for and retrieve mutual fund folios with no transactions for 10 years.
- **Centralized Search Database:** Investors can access the platform via MF Central, AMCs, the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI), and SEBI's website.
- **Managed by CAMS and KFIN Technologies:** These key industry players ensure operational efficiency, security, and compliance with SEBI guidelines.



## Features of MITRA

- **Secure Operations:** MITRA follows SEBI's Business Continuity Plan (BCP) and Disaster Recovery (DR) protocols to safeguard investor data.
- **Expected Launch Timeline:** The platform is set to be fully operational within 15 working days from SEBI's circular issuance.



## Impact of MITRA

- **Ease of Claiming Funds:** Investors can easily locate and reclaim their inactive mutual fund investments.
- **Reduced Fraud Risks:** Unauthorized redemptions of unclaimed funds will be minimized through KYC compliance.
- **Improved Financial Inclusion:** Ensures that investors, especially those unaware of their investments, gain rightful access to their funds.
- **Regulatory Strengthening:** SEBI's initiative enhances governance in the mutual fund industry.



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	SEBI launched MITRA to track inactive mutual fund folios
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	India
Launched By	Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
Full Form of MITRA	Mutual Fund Investment Tracing and Retrieval Assistant
Managing Entities	Computer Age Management Services (CAMS) & KFIN Technologies Limited
Criteria for Inactive Folios	No investor-initiated transactions for 10 years despite a unit balance
Purpose of MITRA	Helps investors track, claim, and update inactive/unclaimed mutual fund folios
KYC Compliance	Encourages investors to complete KYC to prevent fraud and ensure security
Accessibility	Available via MF Central, AMCs, AMFI, and SEBI's website
SEBI's Guidelines Followed	Business Continuity Plan (BCP) & Disaster Recovery (DR)
Expected Launch Timeline	Within 15 working days from SEBI's circular issuance



➤ **What was India's retail inflation rate in January 2025?**

- A) 5.22%
- B) 6.02%
- C) 4.31%
- D) 6.25%
- E) 8.39%

**Answer**  
**C) 4.31%**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** India's retail inflation fell to 4.31% in January 2025.
- **Date:** February 13, 2025.
- **Location:** India.
- **Reported By:** Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).



## Significance

- **Lower Inflation Relief:** The decline in inflation eases financial pressure on consumers, particularly for food prices.
- **Monetary Policy Impact:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cut the repo rate by 25 basis points to 6.25%, the first reduction in nearly five years.
- **Economic Growth Signal:** Stable inflation supports economic expansion and may lead to further monetary easing.
- **Comparison with Past Inflation Levels:** The drop follows October 2024's high of 6.2%, reflecting improving economic conditions.



## History

- **Inflation Trends in Recent Months:**
  - **October 2024:** Retail inflation peaked at 6.2%, the highest in 14 months.
  - **December 2024:** Inflation stood at 5.22%, before falling further in January 2025.
- **Role of RBI in Inflation Control:**
  - RBI adjusts interest rates to manage inflation and economic growth.
  - The latest repo rate cut (25 basis points) to 6.25% indicates efforts to boost growth while keeping inflation under control.



## Factors Behind Inflation Drop

- **Declining Food Prices:** Food inflation dropped to 6.02% from 8.39% in December 2024.
- **Vegetable Price Moderation:** Inflation in vegetable prices slowed to 11.35% in January, down from 26.6% in December.
- **Seasonal Supply Boost:** Fresh winter produce improved food availability, stabilizing market prices.
- **Monetary Policy Measures:** The RBI's rate cut helped ease financial conditions, reducing inflationary pressures.



## Impact of Inflation Drop

- **Consumer Relief:** Lower food prices reduce household expenses.
- **Business Benefits:** Lower inflation stabilizes input costs for industries, supporting economic growth.
- **Monetary Policy Flexibility:** The RBI may consider further rate cuts if inflation remains under control.
- **Potential Risks:** Global commodity prices, rupee depreciation, and unpredictable weather patterns could impact future inflation trends.



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	India's retail inflation dropped to 4.31% in January 2025
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	India
Retail Inflation (CPI) Jan 2025	4.31% (Lowest in 5 months)
Retail Inflation (CPI) Dec 2024	5.22%
Food Inflation Jan 2025	6.02% (vs. 8.39% in Dec 2024)
Vegetable Price Inflation Jan 2025	11.35% YoY (vs. 26.6% in Dec 2024)
RBI Policy Rate Cut	Reduced by 25 bps to 6.25%, first cut in 5 years
Highest Inflation in Recent Months	October 2024: 6.2% (14-month high), Food Inflation: 10.9%
Possible Risks Ahead	Global commodity prices, rupee depreciation, weather impact on crops
Monetary Policy Authority in India	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
CPI Measures	Retail inflation based on Consumer Price Index (CPI)



# APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who has been appointed as the Chief Economist of Canara Bank in January 2025?

- A) Raghuram Rajan
- B) Madhavankutty G
- C) Viral Acharya
- D) Arvind Subramanian
- E) Shaktikanta Das

**Answer**

**B) Madhavankutty G**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Canara Bank appointed Dr. Madhavankutty G as its Chief Economist.
- **Date:** January 2025.
- **Location:** Canara Bank Headquarters, Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- **Announced By:** Canara Bank.





# APPOINTMENTS



## Significance

- **Strategic Economic Leadership:** His appointment will strengthen Canara Bank's financial planning and economic decision-making.
- **Expertise in Macroeconomic Trends:** His experience in economic research will help the bank navigate global financial uncertainties.
- **Contribution to Banking Policies:** He will assist in shaping economic strategies and providing policy recommendations.
- **Financial Sector Growth:** Canara Bank's expansion and profitability can benefit from informed economic strategies.



## History

- **Dr. Madhavankutty G's Professional Background:**
  - Previously worked as a Senior Economist at:
    - Bank of India
    - Aditya Birla Group
    - The Times Group
  - Has over 20 years of experience in economic research, banking, and corporate sectors.
- **Canara Bank's Growth in Recent Years:**
  - Canara Bank has seen steady financial growth, with increased profits and deposits.
  - The bank has been focusing on expanding its business while maintaining strong financial discipline.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Key Responsibilities of the Chief Economist

- **Economic Analysis:** Studying domestic and global economic trends to guide the bank's financial planning.
- **Policy Advisory:** Assisting the management in making key monetary and financial policy decisions.
- **Risk Assessment:** Evaluating economic risks and advising on strategies to mitigate uncertainties.
- **Business Growth Planning:** Enhancing Canara Bank's ability to adapt to evolving economic conditions.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Canara Bank's Financial Performance (Q3 FY 2024-25)

- **Net Profit:** ₹4,014 crore (12.25% YoY growth).
- **Operating Profit:** ₹7,837 crore (15.15% YoY growth).
- **Global Deposits:** ₹13,69,465 crore (8.44% YoY growth).
- **Gross Advances:** ₹10,49,706 crore (10.45% YoY growth).
- **Total Global Business:** ₹24,19,171 crore (9.30% YoY growth).
- **Domestic Deposits:** ₹12,57,426 crore (7.76% YoY growth).
- **Domestic Gross Advances:** ₹9,87,591 crore (9.55% YoY growth).



# APPOINTMENTS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	Canara Bank appointed Dr. Madhavankutty G as Chief Economist
Date	January 2025
Location	Canara Bank Headquarters, Bengaluru
New Appointment	Dr. Madhavankutty G
Previous Experience	Senior Economist at Bank of India, Aditya Birla Group, The Times Group
Key Responsibilities	Economic research, policy advisory, financial strategy development
Net Profit (Q3 FY25)	₹4,014 crore (12.25% YoY growth)
Operating Profit	₹7,837 crore (15.15% YoY growth)
Total Global Business	₹24,19,171 crore (9.30% YoY growth)
Global Deposits	₹13,69,465 crore (8.44% YoY growth)
Domestic Deposits	₹12,57,426 crore (7.76% YoY growth)
Gross Advances	₹10,49,706 crore (10.45% YoY growth)



- **What is the primary objective of the Tata Elxsi and Garuda Aerospace partnership?**
- A) To manufacture commercial passenger drones
  - B) To establish a Centre of Excellence for UAV development under 'Make in India'
  - C) To import advanced UAV technologies from the US
  - D) To develop drones exclusively for agricultural use
  - E) To create UAVs for space exploration



**Answer**

**B) To establish a Centre of Excellence for UAV development under 'Make in India'**



# DEFENCE



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Celebration of World Homeopathy Day.
- **Location:** Globally.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Event:** Tata Elxsi and Garuda Aerospace sign an MoU to establish a Centre of Excellence for UAVs.
- **Date:** February 2025
- **Location:** Aero India 2025, India
- **Organizing Body:** Ministry of Defence, Government of India





## Significance

- **Advancing India's UAV Capabilities:** The collaboration focuses on indigenous UAV design, engineering, and certification.
- **Supporting 'Make in India' Initiative:** Reduces reliance on imported drone components and strengthens domestic aerospace manufacturing.
- **Enhancing AI and ML in UAVs:** Integrates artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and digital twin technologies for smart drone applications.



## Significance

- **Reducing Costs and Energy Consumption:** The initiative aims to cut energy use by 20% and lower production costs by over 20%.
- **Boosting India's Defence and Commercial Sectors:** Develops UAVs for defence (ISR missions), agriculture, logistics, and smart city applications.



## Objectives of the Tata Elxsi & Garuda Aerospace Partnership

- **Centre of Excellence for UAV Development:**
  - Focuses on research, testing, and certification of next-generation drones.
  - Aims to reduce UAV development cycles by up to six months.
  - Strengthens India's self-reliance in unmanned aerial technologies.



## Objectives of the Tata Elxsi & Garuda Aerospace Partnership

- **Key Technologies Integrated:**
  - **Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Machine Learning (ML):** Improves drone automation and decision-making.
  - **Digital Twin Technology:** Enables real-time drone simulations and performance testing.
  - **Advanced Propulsion Systems:** Enhances flight efficiency and endurance.
  - **Energy Optimization Techniques:** Reduces power consumption by 20%.



## Roles of Tata Elxsi & Garuda Aerospace in the Partnership

- **Tata Elxsi's Contribution:**
  - Leads UAV system design, testing, and avionics certification.
  - Ensures regulatory compliance with DO-254 and DO-178C global standards.
  - Develops secure communication and ground control systems.



## Roles of Tata Elxsi & Garuda Aerospace in the Partnership

- **Garuda Aerospace's Contribution:**
  - Acts as an OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer), managing UAV production and deployment.
  - Focuses on business expansion, operational delivery, and market adoption.
  - Develops application-specific UAVs for agriculture, logistics, and surveillance.



## Impact on India's UAV Industry

- **Beneficiaries:**
  - **Indian Defence Forces & Border Security Force (BSF):** Receives advanced drones for ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance) missions.
  - **Agriculture Sector:** Uses drones for precision farming and crop monitoring.
  - **Smart Cities & Logistics:** UAVs aid in infrastructure monitoring, disaster management, and payload delivery.



## Impact on India's UAV Industry

- **Economic & Technological Growth:**
  - **Job Creation:** Expands India's aerospace workforce through skill development programs.
  - **Faster UAV Deployment:** Cuts development time by six months, boosting India's presence in the global drone market.
  - **Stronger Defence Capabilities:** Reduces India's dependence on foreign UAV imports.





## Alignment with India's National Initiatives

- **Make in India (Launched 2014):**
  - Promotes indigenous drone manufacturing and technological self-sufficiency.
  - Strengthens India's defence and aerospace industries.
- **Digital India (Launched 2015):**
  - Encourages AI-driven UAV development for automation and smart city applications.
- **Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) Mission:**
  - Reduces dependence on foreign UAV technology imports.
  - Establishes India as a global hub for UAV innovation.



# DEFENCE



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	Tata Elxsi & Garuda Aerospace sign MoU for UAV Centre of Excellence
Date	February 2025
Location	Aero India 2025, India
Organizing Body	Ministry of Defence, India
Objective	Develop indigenous UAVs for defence, agriculture, logistics, and smart cities
Technologies Integrated	AI, ML, digital twin, advanced propulsion, energy optimization
Energy & Cost Savings	20% reduction in energy use, over 20% cost savings
Time Efficiency	UAV development cycle shortened by six months
Regulatory Compliance	DO-254 and DO-178C avionics standards
Key Beneficiaries	Indian Defence Forces, BSF, aerospace workforce
Tata Elxsi Role	Avionics design, testing, regulatory compliance
Garuda Aerospace Role	UAV production, deployment, and business expansion
Strategic National Initiatives	Make in India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, Digital India



➤ Which institution has launched India's first automated biomedical waste conversion system, 'Srjanam'?

- A) IIT Delhi
- B) CSIR-NIIST
- C) AIIMS Delhi
- D) DRDO
- E) ICMR

**Answer**  
**C) AIIMS Delhi**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** AIIMS Delhi launched 'Srjanam' for biomedical waste management.
- **Date:** February 10, 2025.
- **Location:** AIIMS Delhi, New Delhi.
- **Inaugurated By:** Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister for Science and Technology.



## Event and Location:

- **Developed By:** CSIR-NIIST (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research – National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology), Thiruvananthapuram.
- **Significance:** The launch of 'Srjanam' represents a breakthrough in biomedical waste management, addressing concerns related to hazardous medical waste disposal. It provides a sustainable alternative to incineration, reducing pollution and ensuring eco-friendly waste disposal.



## History

- **Biomedical Waste Challenge in India:** India generates around 743 tonnes of biomedical waste daily, creating serious disposal challenges.
- **Traditional Disposal Methods:** Most hospitals use incineration, which releases harmful emissions and contributes to environmental pollution.
- **Need for Innovation:** 'Srjanam' introduces an energy-efficient, odor-controlled solution for biomedical waste disposal, setting new standards in healthcare waste management.



## Technology and Features

- **Automated Waste Neutralization:** 'Srjanam' converts hazardous biomedical waste into non-toxic material without incineration.
- **Odor Control Technology:** The system incorporates fragrance-based odor neutralization to make waste disposal safer and more manageable.
- **Energy-Efficient Process:** Unlike conventional methods, 'Srjanam' does not require external energy for waste treatment.
- **Processing Capacity:** Currently processes 10 kg of waste per day, with plans to expand to 400 kg per day after regulatory approvals.



## Impact of 'Srjanam'

- **Sustainability:** Provides an eco-friendly alternative to incineration, reducing air pollution and toxic emissions.
- **Scalability:** The system can be expanded to handle large volumes of biomedical waste, making it viable for hospitals nationwide.
- **Healthcare Infrastructure:** Enhances hospital waste management practices, ensuring a safer **environment for healthcare workers and patients.**
- **Nationwide Adoption:** The success of 'Srjanam' at AIIMS Delhi could pave the way for its implementation in other medical institutions across India.





# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	AIIMS Delhi launched 'Srjanam' for biomedical waste management
Date	February 10, 2025
Location	AIIMS Delhi, New Delhi
Inaugurated By	Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister for Science and Technology
Developed By	CSIR-NIIST, Thiruvananthapuram
Purpose	Converts biomedical waste into non-hazardous material without using incinerators
Processing Capacity	10 kg/day (current), scalable to 400 kg/day after approvals
Unique Features	Odor control technology, automated waste neutralization, energy-efficient process
India's Biomedical Waste Generation	743 tonnes per day



➤ Which of the following languages was recently added to Lok Sabha's translation services?

- A) Punjabi
- B) Konkani
- C) Maithili
- D) Sindhi
- E) Kashmiri

**Answer**  
**C) Maithili**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Lok Sabha expanded its translation services to six more languages.
- **Date:** February 13, 2025.
- **Location:** Parliament of India, New Delhi.
- **Announced By:** Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.



## Significance

- **Linguistic Inclusivity:** The expansion of translation services ensures better accessibility for Members of Parliament from diverse linguistic backgrounds.
- **Strengthening Democracy:** Providing real-time translation in more languages enhances participation and understanding in parliamentary proceedings.
- **Alignment with Schedule 8:** The initiative aims to cover all 22 languages listed in Schedule 8 of the Indian Constitution.
- **Global Recognition:** India's Parliament remains the only legislative body worldwide to offer simultaneous translation in multiple languages.



## History

- **Existing Translation Services:** Before this expansion, Lok Sabha provided translation in 10 languages— Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, and English.
- **Newly Added Languages:** Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, Manipuri, Sanskrit, and Urdu have now been included in the translation system.
- **Future Expansion Plan:** Speaker Om Birla stated that efforts are ongoing to extend translation services to all 22 Schedule 8 languages based on resource availability.



## Impact of the Expansion

- **Enhanced Representation:** MPs from newly included language groups can now express their views in their native tongues.
- **Cultural Preservation:** Recognition of regional languages strengthens India's linguistic heritage.
- **Administrative Challenge:** Providing translation for all 22 Schedule 8 languages requires significant infrastructure and trained personnel.
- **Precedent for Other Institutions:** This move sets an example for state legislatures and other government institutions to adopt similar inclusivity measures.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	Lok Sabha expanded translation services to six more languages
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	Parliament of India, New Delhi
Announced By	Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla
New Languages Added	Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, Manipuri, Sanskrit, Urdu
Existing Translations	Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, English
Total Languages Supported	16 (to be expanded to all 22 Schedule 8 languages)
Speaker's Justification	Effort to enhance inclusivity and accessibility in Lok Sabha
Global Recognition	India's Parliament is the only one offering real-time translations in multiple languages
Sanskrit Controversy	DMK MP questioned its inclusion due to limited speakers and no official state recognition
Response from Speaker	Om Birla defended Sanskrit as the root language of India



➤ Which country will host the next Global AI Summit as announced by PM Modi?

- A) France
- B) United States
- C) United Kingdom
- D) India
- E) Germany

**Answer**  
**D) India**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** India announced as the host of the next Global AI Summit.
- **Date:** February 13, 2025.
- **Location:** AI Action Summit, Paris.
- **Co-Chairs:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi & French President Emmanuel Macron.



## Significance

- **Global AI Leadership:** Hosting the summit positions India as a key player in the global AI ecosystem.
- **Advancing AI Collaboration:** Strengthens international cooperation for responsible and ethical AI development.
- **Inclusivity in AI:** India advocates for greater representation of the Global South in AI governance.
- **AI for Sustainable Development:** Supports AI-driven innovation that benefits society while ensuring responsible application.



## History

- **AI Action Summit, Paris:** A global forum bringing together world leaders, policymakers, and AI experts to discuss AI advancements and governance.
- **India's Growing AI Influence:** India has been actively investing in AI research, digital transformation, and public-private partnerships.
- **France's Role:** Under President Emmanuel Macron, France has taken leadership in AI ethics and sustainable AI initiatives.



## Key Announcements by PM Modi

- **India to Host Next Global AI Summit:** India will take the lead in continuing the discussions from the Paris summit.
- **Launch of AI Initiatives:** India supports the establishment of the "AI Foundation" and the "Council for Sustainable AI" to promote ethical AI development.
- **Development of India's Large Language Model:** India is working on an AI model tailored for its diverse linguistic and cultural landscape.



## Key Announcements by PM Modi

- **Public-Private Partnership in AI:** India's AI strategy includes affordable computing resources for startups and researchers.
- **Inclusivity in AI Governance:** PM Modi emphasized that the Global Partnership for AI (GPAI) should include the priorities of the Global South.
- **Human-Centered AI Development:** AI should not surpass human intelligence but remain a tool guided by human responsibility.



## Impact of the Summit

- **Strengthening India's AI Ecosystem:** The event will boost India's AI research, innovation, and industry collaboration.
- **International AI Collaboration:** Reinforces India's partnerships with leading AI nations and organizations.
- **Ethical AI Development:** Promotes guidelines to ensure AI is used responsibly for societal benefit.
- **Global Recognition for India:** Positions India as a leader in AI governance and policymaking.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	AI Action Summit, Paris
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	Grand Palais, Paris
Co-Chairs	PM Narendra Modi & President Emmanuel Macron
India's Role	Hosting the next Global AI Summit
New AI Initiatives	AI Foundation & Council for Sustainable AI
India's AI Focus	Large Language Model, Public-Private Partnership
Call for Inclusivity	GPAI should include Global South priorities
PM Modi's Message on AI	AI will not surpass human intelligence; ethical development is crucial
Significance	Strengthening global AI cooperation and responsible AI governance



➤ Which institution has partnered with ERNET India to establish a joint research lab for IoT?

- A) IIT Madras
- B) IIITDM Kancheepuram
- C) NIT Trichy
- D) IISc Bangalore
- E) Anna University



**Answer**

**B) IIITDM Kancheepuram**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** IIITDM Kancheepuram and ERNET India signed an MoU to establish a joint research lab for IoT.
- **Date:** February 13, 2025.
- **Location:** IIITDM Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu.
- **Signed By:**
  - **M.V. Kartikeyan** – Director, IIITDM Kancheepuram.
  - **Sanjeev Banzal** – Director General, ERNET India.
  - **A Paventhan** – Director of R&D, ERNET Chennai.



## Significance

- **Advancing IoT Research:** The lab will focus on IoT functionality validation and technological advancements.
- **Enhancing Innovation:** Encourages collaboration in areas like sensors, connectivity, and data management.
- **Strengthening Industry-Academia Ties:** Boosts joint research efforts and industry partnerships for real-world applications.
- **Supporting Rural Students:** Special internship opportunities will be provided to students from rural backgrounds.



## History

- **IIITDM Kancheepuram's Research Excellence:** Known for its focus on design and manufacturing, IIITDM has been at the forefront of technological research.
- **ERNET India's Role:** As an autonomous body under MeitY, ERNET has played a key role in connecting academic and research institutions across India.
- **Strategic Partnership:** This MoU builds on ERNET's efforts to promote digital infrastructure and innovation in emerging technologies.



## Objectives of the Collaboration

- **IoT Functionality Validation Sandbox:** The research lab will test and validate various IoT solutions for real-world applications.
- **Technology Development:** Focus on advancing IoT, sensors, connectivity, and data management.
- **Joint Research and Funding:** IIITDM and ERNET will collaborate on securing research grants for various projects.
- **Industry Engagement:** Strengthening industry partnerships to drive innovation and commercialization of IoT solutions.



## Impact of the Collaboration

- **Enhanced Research Opportunities:** IITDM researchers will have access to ERNET's cutting-edge infrastructure.
- **Boost to Innovation Ecosystem:** The research lab will serve as a hub for developing next-generation IoT technologies.
- **Joint Publications and Global Recognition:** The partnership is expected to lead to high-impact research publications and increased international visibility for IITDM.
- **Student Skill Development:** Hands-on experience in IoT will prepare students for careers in emerging technology sectors.



## Internship Opportunities for Students

- **Internships Distributed:** Six students from IIITDM Kancheepuram received internship offer letters at the MoU signing event.
- **Hands-On Training:** Students will gain practical experience in IoT research and development.
- **Focus on Rural Students:** Special provisions will be made for rural students to gain exposure to advanced research environments.
- **Career Advancement:** Interns will work alongside experts, improving their technical skills and job prospects.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	IIITDM Kancheepuram and ERNET India signed an MoU to establish a joint research lab for IoT
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	IIITDM Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu
Signed By	M.V. Kartikeyan (IIITDM), Sanjeev Banzal (ERNET), A Paventhan (ERNET Chennai)
Focus of the Collaboration	IoT functionality validation, sensors, connectivity, and data management
Research Benefits	Joint research, industry collaborations, technology development
Internship Opportunities	Special provisions for rural students, hands-on training in IoT research
Future Goals	Joint funding proposals, research publications, strengthened industry-academia partnerships



➤ **What is the main objective of Haryana's 'Har Khet-Swasth Khet' campaign?**

- A) To promote organic farming across Haryana
- B) To test and improve soil health across every acre of farmland
- C) To distribute free fertilizers to farmers
- D) To establish irrigation projects for better water supply
- E) To ban pesticide use in Haryana



**Answer**

**B) To test and improve soil health across every acre of farmland**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Haryana government launched 'Har Khet-Swasth Khet' to enhance soil health.
- **Date:** February 13, 2025.
- **Location:** Haryana, India.
- **Launched By:** Haryana Government.



## Significance

- **Improving Soil Health:** The campaign ensures farmers receive soil health assessments to enhance crop productivity.
- **Sustainable Farming Practices:** Helps in reducing excessive fertilizer and pesticide use through scientific recommendations.
- **Empowering Farmers:** Farmers get Soil Health Cards, enabling them to make informed decisions on nutrient management.
- **Digital Integration:** The campaign includes an online portal for monitoring soil health data.



## History

- **Previous Soil Health Initiatives in India:**
  - **The Soil Health Card Scheme (2015)** was launched by the Government of India to provide farmers with soil nutrient status.
  - Haryana's initiative builds on this by ensuring soil testing for every acre of farmland over the next 3-4 years.
  - Haryana introduced **the 'Har Khet-Swasth Khet'** online portal in 2022 to track soil data.



## Key Features of 'Har Khet-Swasth Khet'

- **Soil Sample Collection and Analysis:**
  - **Total Soil Samples Collected:** 70 lakh.
  - **Soil Samples Analyzed:** 55 lakh.
  - **Soil Health Cards Distributed:** Over 86 lakh.
- **Soil and Water Testing Laboratories:**
  - 17 permanent soil & water testing labs established across Haryana.
  - 54 small soil testing labs set up in mandis (marketplaces).
  - 240 soil testing labs in schools & colleges to engage students in soil testing as part of science education.



## Key Features of 'Har Khet-Swasth Khet'

- **Pesticide Residue Monitoring:**
  - Laboratories in Sirsa and Karnal set up to check pesticide residues in soil, water, fruits, and vegetables.
  - 2023-24 Testing Data: 3,640 samples analyzed for pesticide contamination.
- **Digital and Technological Initiatives:**
  - The 'Har Khet-Swasth Khet' portal launched in 2022 to track soil health trends.
  - Farmers can access their soil health reports online to plan better crop strategies.



## Key Features of 'Har Khet-Swasth Khet'

- **Recognition and Achievements:**
  - The Soil Health Card Project won the Skoch Gold Medal in 2022 for its role in sustainable farming.



## Impact of the Campaign

- **Benefits for Farmers:**
  - Scientific soil testing helps in better fertilizer use and improved crop yield.
  - Reduces the misuse of chemical fertilizers, ensuring balanced nutrient application.
  - Enhances long-term soil fertility for sustainable farming.
- **Environmental Benefits:**
  - Limits pesticide contamination in soil and water, reducing health risks.
  - Encourages eco-friendly and resource-efficient agricultural practices.



## Impact of the Campaign

- **State Government's Vision:**
  - Aims to cover every acre of farmland under the soil health testing program.
  - Seeks to empower farmers with scientific knowledge and practical solutions for sustainable agriculture.





# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	Haryana launched 'Har Khet-Swasth Khet' to improve soil health
Date	February 13, 2025
Location	Haryana, India
Objective	Improve soil health and issue Soil Health Cards to farmers
Duration	3-4 years for complete state-wide implementation
Soil Samples Collected	70 lakh
Soil Samples Analyzed	55 lakh
Soil Health Cards Issued	Over 86 lakh
New Soil Testing Labs	17 permanent labs, 54 small labs in mandis
Labs in Schools & Colleges	240 small labs for student participation
Digital Initiative	'Har Khet-Swasth Khet' portal launched in 2022
Award Won	Skoch Gold Medal for Soil Health Card Project (2022)
Pesticide Residue Monitoring	Labs in Sirsa & Karnal; 3,640 samples analyzed (2023-24)
Government Goal	Guide farmers on sustainable soil and crop management



➤ **What is the primary objective of Ellie, Asia's first animatronic elephant, introduced by PETA India?**

- A) To entertain children with robotic animal performances
- B) To educate children about animal cruelty and promote kindness towards elephants
- C) To showcase India's advancements in animatronic technology
- D) To replace real elephants in temple and festival processions
- E) To develop AI-powered wildlife conservation robots



**Answer**

**B) To educate children about animal cruelty and promote kindness towards elephants**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Asia's first life-sized animatronic elephant, Ellie, unveiled by PETA India
- **Date:** February 11, 2025
- **Location:** Bengaluru, Karnataka
- **Organizing Body:** PETA India (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals)



## Significance

- **Promoting Animal Welfare:** Ellie raises awareness about elephant captivity and cruelty in circuses, processions, and rides.
- **Humane Education Through Technology:** Combines animatronics, storytelling, and AI-driven interaction to foster empathy.
- **Engaging Young Minds:** Ellie has reached over 165,000 students since May 2023, educating them about ethical treatment of animals.
- **Expanding PETA India's Compassionate Citizen Program:** Aligns with PETA India's initiative, which has impacted 93 million students in 200,000 schools.



## How Does Ellie Educate Through Technology?

- **Hyper-Realistic Animatronics:**
  - Moves, blinks, flaps ears, and interacts with students like a real elephant.
  - Narrates her story of being separated from her mother, enduring captivity, and being rescued.
- **Storytelling for Impact:**
  - Voiced by Bollywood actress Dia Mirza, adding an emotional connection.
  - Helps children understand why elephants should not be used for entertainment or commercial purposes.



## Where Has Ellie Traveled So Far?

- **Since May 2023:**
  - Ellie has visited schools across India, reaching over 165,000 students.
  - Officially unveiled in Bengaluru on February 11, 2025 to continue its educational tour.



## Where Has Ellie Traveled So Far?

- **Schools Visited in Bengaluru:**
  - St. Joseph Indian Primary School
  - St. Joseph Indian High School
  - Samsidh International School HSR
  - One World International School (Whitefield)
  - Ujval World School
  - Presidency School (RT Nagar)
  - Winmore Academy (Whitefield and Jakkur)
  - Samsidh International School Horamavu
  - Little Millennium



## Where Has Ellie Traveled So Far?

- **Ellie's Next Steps:**
  - More schools in Bengaluru and other cities can request Ellie's visit for interactive animal welfare sessions.
  - Schools interested in the program can contact PETA India for scheduling.





## Future Impact of the Initiative

- **Expansion of Humane Education:**
  - Strengthens PETA India's Compassionate Citizen Program, which has impacted 93 million students in 200,000 schools.
  - Encourages schools to include animal welfare education in their curriculum.
- **Inspiring the Next Generation:**
  - Ellie's story teaches compassion, empathy, and ethical responsibility towards animals.
  - Students become aware of elephant abuse in circuses, festivals, and tourism.



## Future Impact of the Initiative

- **Potential Technological Developments:**
  - Could inspire more animatronic animal models for wildlife education and conservation awareness.
  - Future projects may include robotic replicas of endangered species to teach biodiversity conservation.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Category	Details
Event	Asia's first animatronic elephant, Ellie, unveiled by PETA India
Date	February 11, 2025
Location	Bengaluru, Karnataka
Organizing Body	PETA India
Purpose	Educate children about animal cruelty and ethical treatment of elephants
Technology Used	Animatronics, AI-driven storytelling, hyper-realistic movements
Voiced By	Dia Mirza (Actress and Activist)
Since When?	Ellie has been touring schools since May 2023
Number of Students Reached	165,000+ across India
Schools Visited in Bengaluru	St. Joseph Indian High School, Samsidh International School, Winmore Academy, etc.
Associated Program	PETA India's Compassionate Citizen Program
Program Reach	200,000 schools and 93 million students
Bengaluru (Static Info)	State: Karnataka



# QUICK RECALL



- India celebrates National Women's Day on February 13 to honor Sarojini Naidu's birth anniversary.
- World Radio Day 2025 is observed on February 13 to celebrate radio as a powerful communication medium.
- National Productivity Day 2025 is observed on February 12 to promote productivity in economic growth.
- International Darwin Day is celebrated on February 12 to honor Charles Darwin's contributions to evolution.
- The ICC announced Jomel Warrican and Beth Mooney as the Players of the Month for January 2025.
- Shikhar Dhawan has been named an ambassador for the ICC Champions Trophy 2025.
- Bangladesh's Shohely Akhter became the first woman cricketer banned by the ICC for corruption.
- Denmark remains the least corrupt country in 2025, scoring 90 on the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI).
- The RBI will issue new ₹50 banknotes with the signature of Governor Sanjay Malhotra.



# QUICK RECALL



- **RBI has allowed Small Finance Banks (SFBs) to offer pre-sanctioned credit via UPI.**
- **RBI lifted digital onboarding restrictions on Kotak Mahindra Bank, allowing it to issue new credit cards.**
- **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced the Income Tax Bill, 2025, in Lok Sabha on February 13, 2025.**
- **SEBI launched MITRA to help investors track and reclaim inactive mutual fund folios.**
- **India's retail inflation fell to 4.31% in January 2025, the lowest in five months.**
- **Canara Bank appointed Dr. Madhavankutty G as its Chief Economist in January 2025.**
- **Tata Elxsi and Garuda Aerospace signed an MoU at Aero India 2025 to establish a Centre of Excellence for UAV development.**
- **AIIMS Delhi launched 'Srjanam', India's first automated biomedical waste conversion system, on February 10, 2025.**



# QUICK RECALL



- Lok Sabha expanded its translation services by adding six more languages, making a total of 16.
- India will host the next Global AI Summit, as announced by PM Modi at the AI Action Summit in Paris.
- IIITDM Kancheepuram and ERNET India signed an MoU to establish a joint IoT research lab.
- Haryana launched 'Har Khet-Swasth Khet' to improve soil health and support sustainable farming.
- PETA India unveiled Ellie, Asia's first animatronic elephant, in Bengaluru on February 11, 2025.



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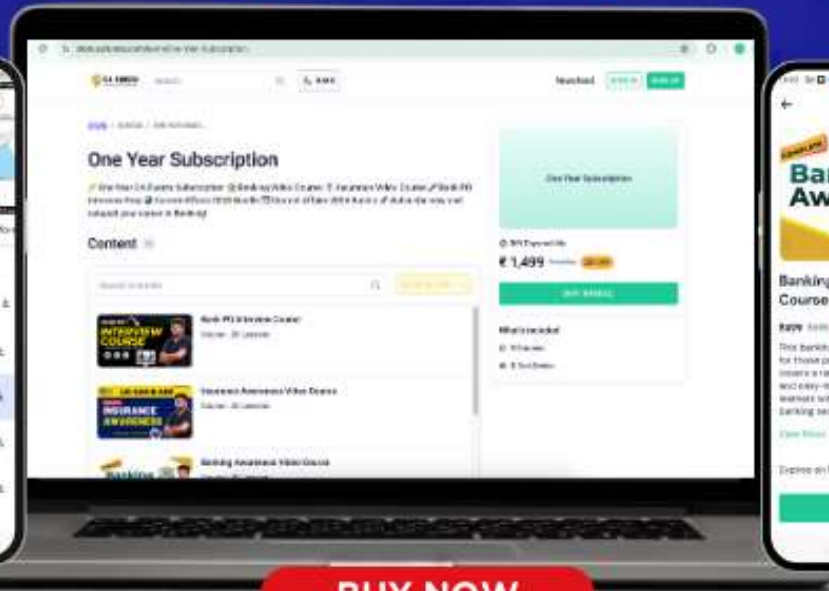
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