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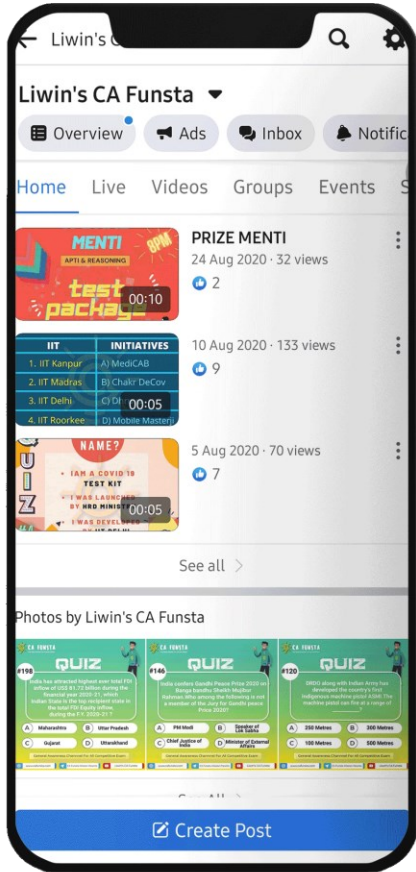


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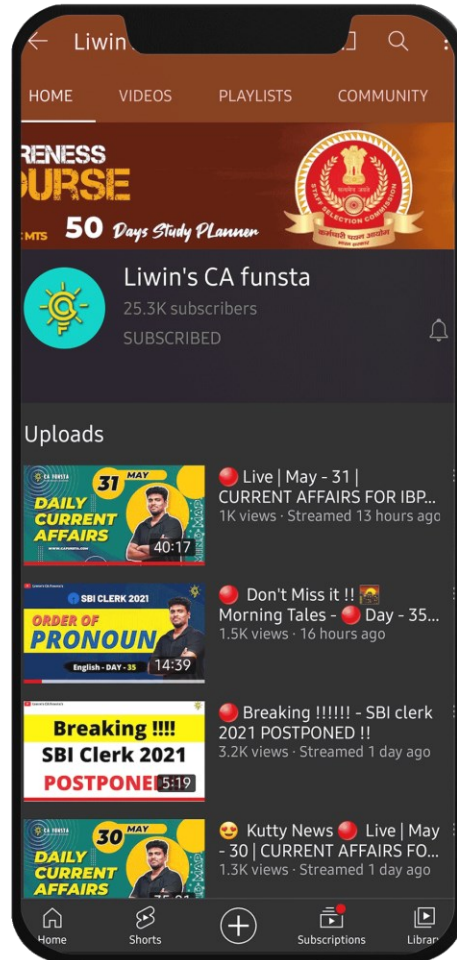
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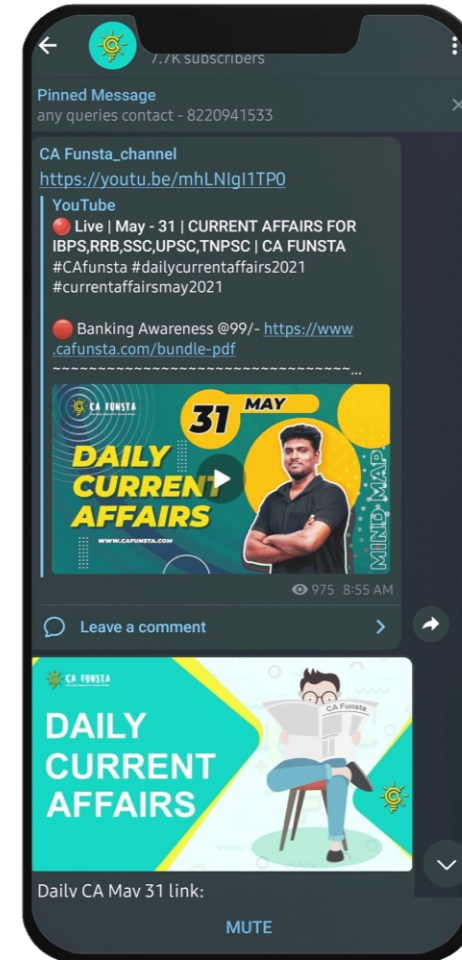
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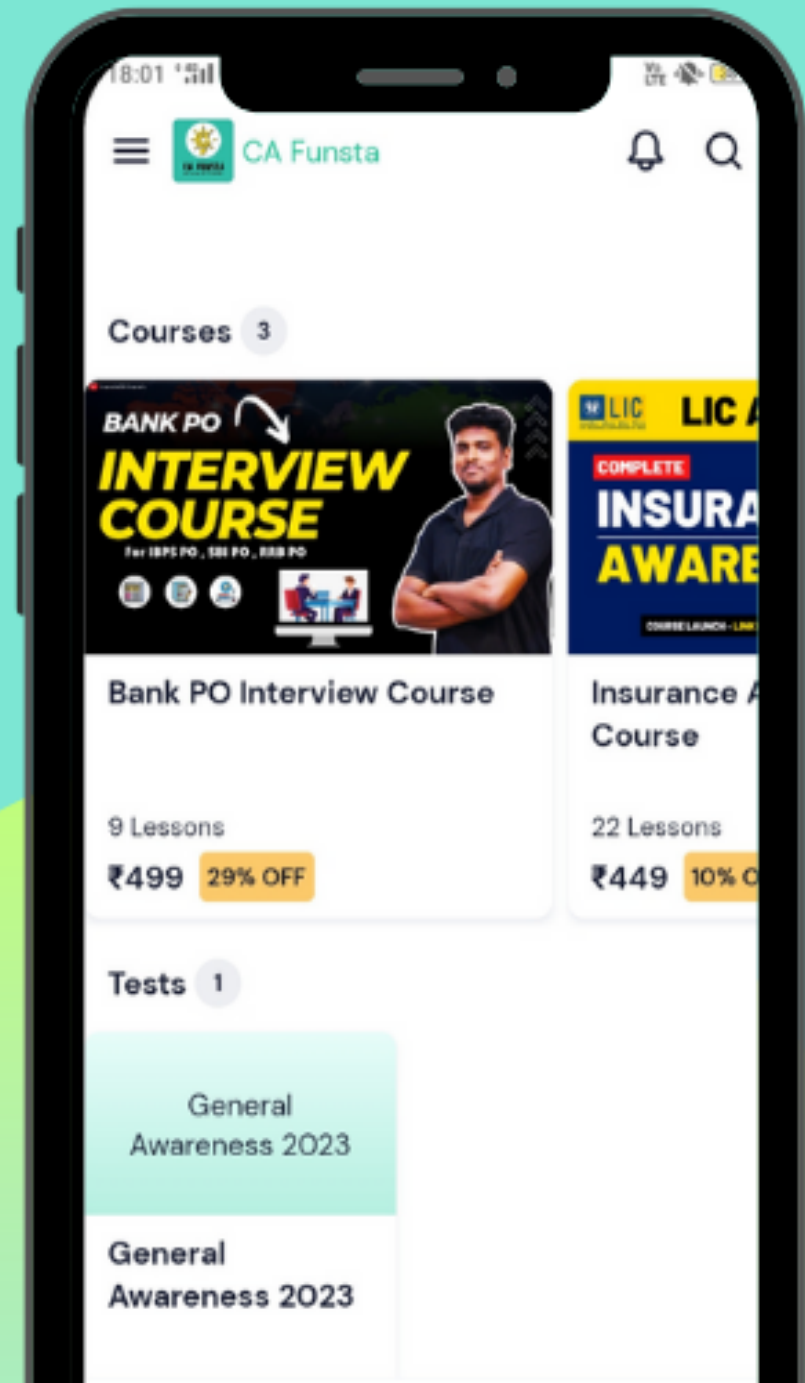
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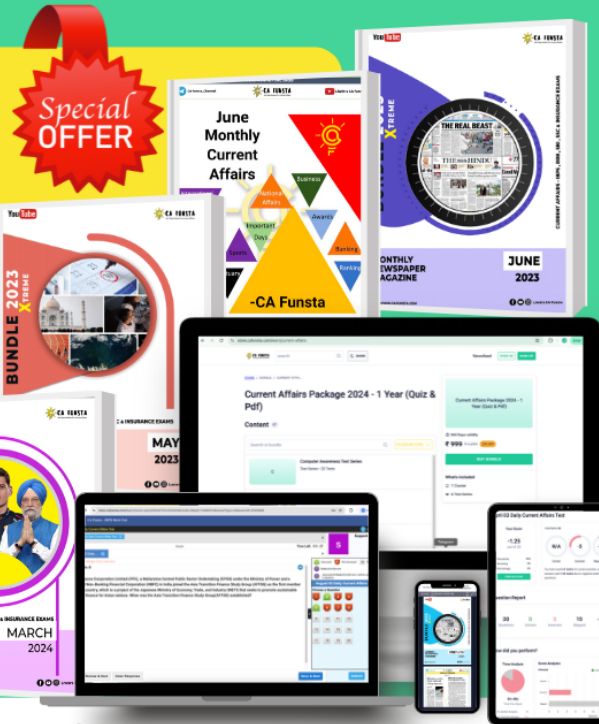


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Important Days

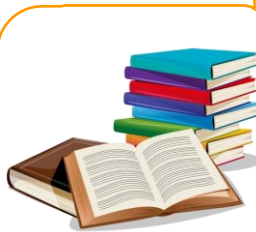


➤ **What is the significance of Lohri celebrated on 13 January 2026 in North India?**

- A) Victory of good over evil
- B) Onset of the monsoon season
- C) Winter harvest festival marking agricultural gratitude
- D) Celebration of Republic Day
- E) Annual tribute to Indian soldiers

Answer

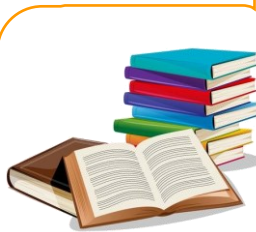
C) Winter harvest festival marking agricultural gratitude



Important Days

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Celebration of Lohri 2026 as a winter harvest festival
- **Location:** Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh (North India)
- **Date:** 13 January 2026



Important Days



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Observance of Lohri with bonfires, traditional songs, dances, and community rituals, including offerings of sesame seeds, rewri, jaggery, and peanuts.
- **Objectives:** To celebrate the successful harvesting of rabi crops, express gratitude for agricultural abundance, and foster cultural and communal harmony through traditional practices.



Important Days



Important Terms Explained:

- **Lohri:** A traditional North Indian harvest festival, celebrated annually on 13 January, marking the end of winter and honoring agricultural prosperity, especially in Punjab and neighboring regions.
- **Dulla Bhatti:** A heroic figure from Punjabi folklore during the Mughal era, remembered for rescuing girls from abduction and mentioned in Lohri songs as a symbol of bravery and justice.
- **Makki di Roti and Sarson da Saag:** Traditional Punjabi winter dishes made from cornmeal flatbread and mustard greens, consumed widely during Lohri as a reflection of seasonal and cultural authenticity.



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Lohri 2026 Celebration
Announcement date	13 January 2026
Location	Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh (North India)
Issuing authority	Cultural and religious communities
Policy/series name	Traditional Winter Harvest Festival
Key figures	Folk hero Dulla Bhatti
Purpose/reason	To celebrate the end of winter and express gratitude for agricultural bounty
Feature details	Bonfires, folk songs, Bhangra, Gidda, festive foods, community gatherings
Validity or status	Celebrated annually on 13 January
Strategic/significant value	Promotes agricultural awareness, folklore preservation, and community unity



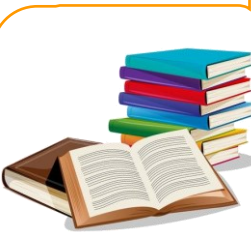
RANKING



➤ Which state has emerged as the top-performing large state in APAAR ID creation as of January 2026?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Karnataka
- D) Chhattisgarh
- E) Tamil Nadu

Answer
D) Chhattisgarh

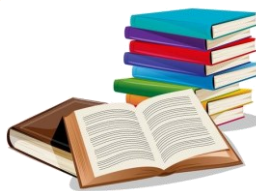


RANKING



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Chhattisgarh leads among large states in APAAR ID creation
- **Location:** Chhattisgarh, India
- **Date:** January 7, 2026 (status update)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Chhattisgarh achieved 88.63% coverage in generating APAAR (Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry) IDs for students, ahead of the January 31, 2026 national deadline.
- **Objectives:**
 - To provide every student with a secure digital academic identity, ensuring transparent record-keeping, academic mobility, and alignment with digital education reforms under India's evolving digital public infrastructure.



Important Terms Explained:

- **APAAR ID (Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry):**
 - A unique, permanent digital ID assigned to students across India, enabling storage and transfer of academic records, certificates, and achievements throughout their academic lifecycle, even across states or boards.
- **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI):**
 - A national initiative promoting digitization of public services (like UPI, DigiLocker, and now APAAR in education), aiming for transparency, efficiency, and inclusive access across sectors.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Mission Mode Implementation:**
 - A focused, deadline-driven execution model used by governments for time-bound delivery of key initiatives with clear targets, district monitoring, and real-time reporting.

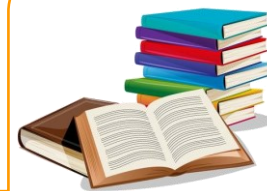


RANKING



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Chhattisgarh leads in APAAR ID creation among large states
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Data as of	January 7, 2026
Location	Chhattisgarh, India
Issuing authority	Chhattisgarh School Education Department, under Ministry of Education
Policy/series name	APAAR ID Generation Initiative
Key figures	50.60 lakh APAAR IDs generated out of 57.10 lakh students
Purpose/reason	To ensure digital academic identity and nationwide education record continuity
Feature details	88.63% coverage; Bemetara top district at 96.40%; Deadline – Jan 31, 2026
Validity or status	In progress; state nearing completion before national deadline
Strategic/significant value	Boosts digital education, improves student record portability, aligns with NEP goals

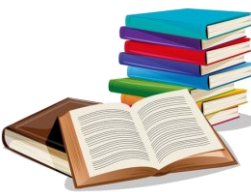


➤ **What is the key objective of the RBI's Foreign Exchange Management (Guarantees) Regulations, 2026?**

- A) Promote domestic borrowing by NBFCs
- B) Ease corporate tax payments
- C) Strengthen cross-border guarantee framework and transparency
- D) Enhance gold import regulations
- E) Ban trade credits for exporters

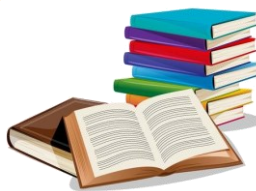
Answer

C) Strengthen cross-border guarantee framework and transparency



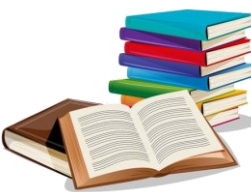
Event and Location:

- **Event:** RBI notifies Foreign Exchange Management (Guarantees) Regulations, 2026
- **Location:** India
- **Date:** January 13, 2026



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued the FEMA (Guarantees) Regulations, 2026, introducing a consolidated framework for the issuance, modification, invocation, and reporting of guarantees involving non-residents.
- **Objectives:**
 - To ensure transparency, simplified compliance, and regulatory consistency in cross-border financial guarantees, enhance oversight through mandatory reporting, and align with the provisions of FEMA, 1999.



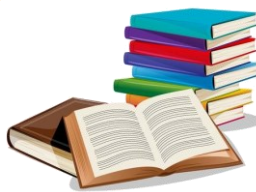
Important Terms Explained:

- **FEMA (Guarantees) Regulations, 2026:**
 - A new RBI regulation issued under FEMA, 1999, to govern cross-border guarantees involving persons resident outside India, replacing multiple older circulars and enhancing regulatory clarity.
- **Authorized Dealer Category-I Banks:**
 - Banks authorized by RBI to deal in foreign exchange transactions.
 - Under the new regulations, they are responsible for strict compliance and mandatory reporting of all guarantees.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Trade Credit Reporting:**
 - As per the 2026 update, quarterly reporting of guarantees for Trade Credit has been discontinued from the quarter ending March 2026, simplifying procedural compliance.



BANKING AND FINANCE



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	RBI's FEMA (Guarantees) Regulations, 2026
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Location	India
Issuing authority	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Policy/series name	Foreign Exchange Management (Guarantees) Regulations, 2026
Key figures	Applicable to all Authorized Dealer Category-I Banks
Purpose/reason	To govern guarantees involving non-residents and modernize regulatory structure
Feature details	Mandatory reporting, supersession of earlier circulars, trade credit reporting discontinued
Validity or status	In effect from January 2026
Strategic/significant value	Enhances regulatory transparency, streamlines compliance, reduces systemic risk

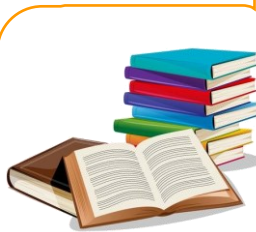


➤ What is the total net direct tax collection reported by India in FY 2025–26 (up to January 11, 2026)?

- A) ₹21.50 lakh crore
- B) ₹9.30 lakh crore
- C) ₹18.38 lakh crore
- D) ₹25.20 lakh crore
- E) ₹44,867 crore

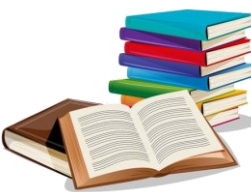
Answer

C) ₹18.38 lakh crore



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India's direct tax collections rose by 8.82% in FY 2025–26
- **Location:** Pan India
- **Date:** January 11, 2026 (data up to this date)



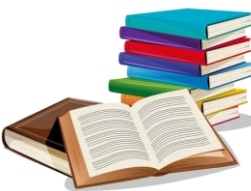
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Collection of ₹18.38 lakh crore in net direct taxes for FY 2025–26 so far, including contributions from corporate taxes, non-corporate taxes, and STT, with a decrease in tax refunds.
- **Objectives:**
 - To reflect strong economic performance, improved tax compliance, and broader formalization of the economy, thereby supporting fiscal stability and enabling higher government spending on developmental priorities.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Direct Taxes:**
 - Taxes paid directly by individuals and corporations to the government, including income tax, corporate tax, and Securities Transaction Tax (STT).
- **Securities Transaction Tax (STT):**
 - A tax levied on the purchase and sale of securities listed on stock exchanges in India, including equity shares and derivatives, reflecting market activity.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Tax Refunds:**
 - Amounts returned to taxpayers by the Income Tax Department when excess tax is paid. Lower refunds improve net collections and indicate better advance tax estimation and streamlined assessments.



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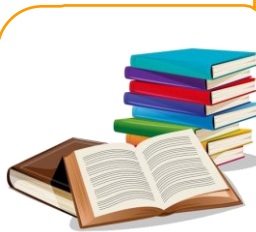
Parameter	Details
Event name	Direct Tax Collection FY 2025–26 Performance
Announcement date	January 11, 2026
Location	India
Issuing authority	Income Tax Department, under CBDT
Policy/series name	Direct Tax Collection Data FY26
Key figures	Corporate Tax: ₹8.63 lakh crore; Non-Corporate Tax: ₹9.30 lakh crore
Purpose/reason	To report tax revenue performance and reflect economic momentum
Feature details	Growth in corporate and individual tax receipts, fall in refunds, rise in STT
Validity or status	Ongoing (FY 2025–26)
Strategic/significant value	Strengthens fiscal position, enhances budget planning, supports public spending



➤ What was India's retail inflation rate in December 2025 as per the latest CPI data?

- A) 0.71%
- B) 2.03%
- C) 1.33%
- D) 3.91%
- E) 4.45%

Answer
C) 1.33%



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India's retail inflation reached a 3-month high in December 2025
- **Location:** India (nationwide)
- **Date:** January 13, 2026 (data for December 2025)



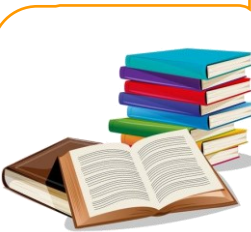
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Release of Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for December 2025 by the National Statistical Office (NSO) showing retail inflation at 1.33%, the highest in three months, driven by a narrowing of food price deflation and rising core inflation.
- **Objectives:**
 - To assess inflation trends, provide insights for monetary policy decisions, and prepare for a transition to the new CPI base year (2024), enabling better economic analysis and inflation targeting.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Consumer Price Index (CPI):**
 - The CPI measures changes in retail prices of a basket of goods and services consumed by households.
 - It is the primary inflation indicator used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for monetary policy formulation.
- **Core Inflation:**
 - Refers to inflation excluding volatile items like food and fuel.
 - The rise in core inflation to 4.45% in December reflects increased prices in non-food sectors, including gold and silver.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Base Effect:**
 - The base effect occurs when current inflation readings are influenced by the level of inflation in the same month of the previous year.
 - Fading base effects made even modest price rises reflect higher headline inflation.



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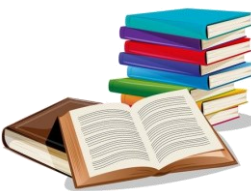
Parameter	Details
Event name	India's Retail Inflation for December 2025
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Location	India (national coverage)
Issuing authority	National Statistical Office (NSO)
Policy/series name	Consumer Price Index (CPI), 2012 base series (last release before revision)
Key figures	Headline CPI: 1.33%; Rural CPI: 0.76%; Urban CPI: 2.03%
Purpose/reason	To report inflation trends and inform monetary policy
Feature details	Inflation driven by core categories and narrowing food deflation
Validity or status	Last reading under 2012 base; New CPI series (2024 base) from Jan 2026
Strategic/significant value	Helps RBI assess rate actions; reflects underlying price dynamics and macro stability



➤ **From which month will India's new CPI series with 2024 as the base year come into effect?**

- A) December 2025
- B) January 2026
- C) April 2026
- D) March 2025
- E) October 2025

Answer
B) January 2026



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Transition from CPI 2012 base series to 2024 base series
- **Location:** India (nationwide)
- **Date:** January 13, 2026 (final data release under 2012 base)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The National Statistical Office (NSO) released the final CPI inflation data under the 2012 base year, concluding the series and announcing a new CPI series with 2024 as the base, starting from January 2026.
- **Objectives:**
 - To ensure that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) reflects current household consumption patterns, updated expenditure weights, and economic changes, thereby improving the relevance of inflation data for monetary policy and economic planning.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Consumer Price Index (CPI):**
 - A key inflation measure that tracks price changes of a basket of goods and services consumed by households. It guides monetary policy decisions by the Reserve Bank of India.
- **Base Year:**
 - The reference year against which current price levels are compared. Periodic updates to the base year ensure accuracy, relevance, and reflection of evolving consumption patterns.



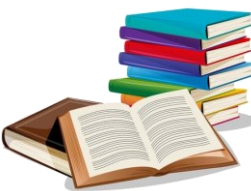
Important Terms Explained:

- **Core Inflation:**
 - CPI inflation excluding food and fuel components, used to assess underlying price stability and long-term inflation trends. In the 2012 base series, it eased to 3.55% by FY 2024–25.



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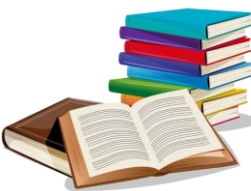
Parameter	Details
Event name	End of CPI 2012 Base Series and Start of 2024 Base Series
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Location	India
Issuing authority	National Statistical Office (NSO)
Policy/series name	Consumer Price Index (CPI)
Key figures	Peak Headline Inflation: 11.16% (Nov 2013); Lowest: 0.25% (Oct 2025)
Purpose/reason	To improve CPI accuracy by updating base year to 2024
Feature details	Base update reflects new consumption patterns and improves inflation tracking
Validity or status	2012 base ended; 2024 base starts from January 2026
Strategic/significant value	Supports modern economic planning and better monetary policy calibration



- **What is the primary goal of Jio's upcoming people-first AI platform announced in January 2026?**
- A) Build AI robots for export
 - B) Offer AI courses for engineers
 - C) Provide affordable and inclusive AI access in local languages
 - D) Create AI-powered social media apps
 - E) Replace manual jobs with automation

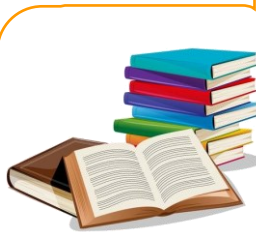
Answer

C) Provide affordable and inclusive AI access in local languages



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Announcement of Jio's people-first AI platform for India and the world
- **Location:** Rajkot, Gujarat (Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference)
- **Date:** January 13, 2026



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries, announced the upcoming launch of Jio's AI platform, which will deliver artificial intelligence services in local languages via personal devices, starting in Gujarat.
- **Objectives:**
 - To democratize AI, enhance digital inclusion, and build a robust AI infrastructure in India by offering affordable, accessible, and multilingual AI tools to empower every citizen and bridge the digital divide.



Important Terms Explained:

- **People-First AI Platform:**
 - An AI ecosystem focused on user empowerment, designed to offer AI services in local Indian languages through user-friendly interfaces, ensuring inclusivity and mass adoption.
- **AI-Ready Data Centre (Jamnagar):**
 - A large-scale AI infrastructure hub being developed by Jio in Jamnagar, Gujarat, to support high-performance computing, secure data management, and large AI workloads across the country.



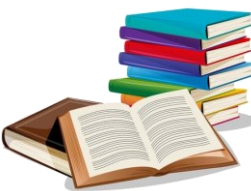
Important Terms Explained:

- **Vibrant Gujarat Conference:**
 - A biennial investment summit hosted by the Government of Gujarat to attract domestic and global investments, serving as a major platform for policy dialogue, innovation, and economic vision announcements.



Tabular Summary:

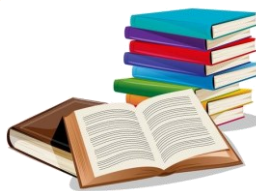
Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of Jio's People-First AI Platform
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Location	Rajkot, Gujarat (Vibrant Gujarat Conference)
Issuing authority	Reliance Industries
Policy/series name	Jio AI Platform Initiative
Key figures	Mukesh Ambani
Purpose/reason	To launch an affordable, accessible AI service in Indian languages
Feature details	Multilingual AI access on personal devices, AI-ready data centre in Jamnagar
Validity or status	Upcoming; infrastructure under development
Strategic/significant value	Supports India's AI leadership, digital empowerment, and regional growth in Gujarat



➤ What is the name of the home battery energy storage system launched by Ola Electric in 2026?

- A) Urja
- B) Surya
- C) Shakti
- D) O-Volt
- E) Prithvi

Answer
C) Shakti



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Ola Electric launched 'Shakti' — a home battery energy storage system
- **Location:** Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu (Gigafactory)
- **Date:** January 13, 2026



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Ola Electric announced its entry into the residential Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) market by launching 'Shakti', a clean energy solution for homes, farms, and small businesses.
- **Objectives:**
 - To provide affordable, durable, and fast-charging battery backup systems as a clean alternative to traditional inverters and diesel generators, enhancing decentralised power solutions and supporting India's clean energy transition.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Battery Energy Storage System (BESS):**
 - A technology that stores electrical energy for later use, enabling power backup, grid stability, and integration with renewable energy sources like solar. It supports energy security and decentralisation.
- **4680 Bharat Cell:**
 - A locally developed lithium-ion battery cell used in Ola's storage systems, designed to offer higher energy density, better performance, and support for India's domestic manufacturing under Aatmanirbhar Bharat.



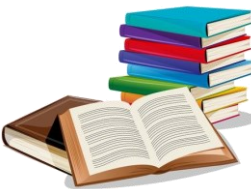
Important Terms Explained:

- **IP67 Rating:**
 - A standard denoting protection against dust and water, ensuring that the Shakti system is durable, weather-resistant, and suitable for Indian climatic conditions including monsoons and rural setups.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of Ola Electric's 'Shakti' Home Battery System
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Location	Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu (Gigafactory)
Issuing authority	Ola Electric
Policy/series name	Residential Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Initiative
Key figures	CEO Bhavish Aggarwal; Chairman Mukesh Ambani (event presence not specified)
Purpose/reason	To provide a clean, affordable energy storage system for homes and businesses
Feature details	4 configurations, fast charging (2 hours), IP67-rated, ₹99 reservation offer
Validity or status	Open for reservations via Ola Electric website
Strategic/significant value	Supports decentralised energy, reduces diesel reliance, boosts India's BESS industry



APPOINTMENTS



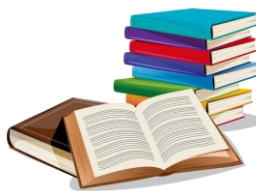
➤ **Who has been appointed as the new President and Vice Chairman of Meta Platforms Inc. in January 2026?**

- A) Sheryl Sandberg
- B) Susan Wojcicki
- C) Dina Powell McCormick
- D) Marne Levine
- E) David McCormick



Answer

C) Dina Powell McCormick



APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Appointment of Dina Powell McCormick as President and Vice Chairman of Meta
- **Location:** United States
- **Date:** January 12, 2026



APPOINTMENTS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Meta Platforms Inc. appointed Dina Powell McCormick as President and Vice Chairman, transitioning her from a prior board role into executive leadership.
- **Objectives:**
 - To guide corporate strategy, manage multi-billion-dollar AI investments, and deepen Meta's engagement with governments, investors, and global stakeholders amid regulatory, technological, and geopolitical shifts.

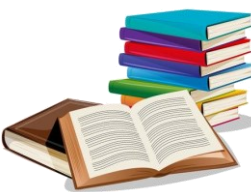


APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Meta Platforms Inc.:**
 - The parent company of Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp, rebranded from Facebook Inc. in 2021, focusing on AI, virtual reality, and digital infrastructure.
- **Generative AI:**
 - A form of artificial intelligence that can generate new content, such as text, images, or code, based on learned data patterns. It is a key focus area in Meta's growth and R&D strategy.

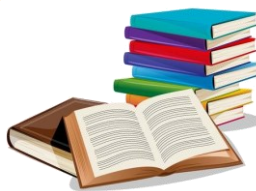


APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Board-to-Management Transition:**
 - A rare corporate move where an individual shifts from non-executive board oversight to full-time operational leadership, signifying deep trust in the individual's strategic and execution capabilities.

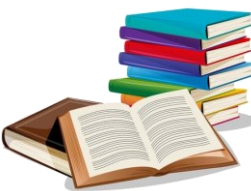


APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Appointment of Dina Powell McCormick as Meta President and Vice Chairman
Announcement date	January 12, 2026
Location	United States (Meta HQ – Menlo Park, California)
Issuing authority	Meta Platforms Inc.
Policy/series name	Leadership Restructuring at Meta
Key figures	Dina Powell McCormick (new President); Mark Zuckerberg (CEO)
Purpose/reason	To strengthen Meta's AI strategy, regulatory navigation, and investment execution
Feature details	Oversee corporate strategy, AI growth, and global investor relations
Validity or status	Effective January 2026
Strategic/significant value	Enhances Meta's leadership amid rising regulatory and technological challenges



APPOINTMENTS

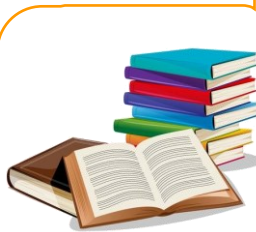


➤ **Who has been appointed as President for Nissan India under the Re:Nissan transformation plan, effective January 2026?**

- A) Hiroshi Nakagawa
- B) Ashwani Gupta
- C) Makoto Uchida
- D) Thierry Sabbagh
- E) Guillaume Cartier

Answer

D) Thierry Sabbagh



APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Nissan appoints Thierry Sabbagh as President for India
- **Location:** India (under AMIEO region)
- **Date:** Effective from January 1, 2026

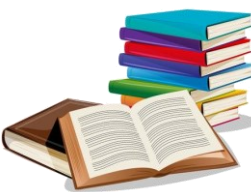


APPOINTMENTS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Nissan Motor Co. expanded the role of Thierry Sabbagh, appointing him as President for India, in addition to his existing responsibilities in the Middle East, KSA, CIS, and Infiniti divisions.
- **Objectives:**
 - To strengthen leadership, improve operational efficiency, accelerate decision-making, and boost customer focus as part of Nissan's Re:Nissan transformation plan, with India positioned as a priority growth market.



APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Re:Nissan Transformation Plan:**
 - A strategic restructuring initiative by Nissan focused on streamlining operations, improving regional accountability, accelerating product pipelines, and enhancing customer-centricity to restore profitability and global competitiveness.
- **AMIEO Region:**
 - Refers to Africa, Middle East, India, Europe, and Oceania – Nissan's consolidated regional structure aimed at improving coordination and operational scale across key emerging and developed markets.

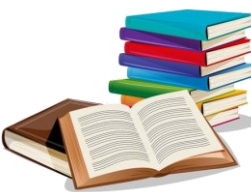


APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **GRAVITE, TEKTON & 7-Seater C-SUV:**
 - Three upcoming models Nissan plans to launch in India within 14–16 months, aimed at the fast-growing compact SUV and family car segments, highlighting renewed product momentum in the Indian market.

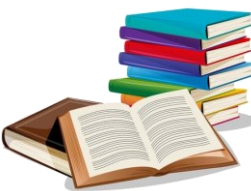


APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Appointment of Thierry Sabbagh as President of Nissan India
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Effective date	January 1, 2026
Location	India (under AMIEO regional structure)
Issuing authority	Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.
Policy/series name	Re:Nissan Transformation Plan
Key figures	Thierry Sabbagh – Divisional VP and President for Middle East, KSA, CIS, India
Purpose/reason	Improve leadership depth, customer responsiveness, and speed of decision-making
Feature details	Launch of 3 new models: GRAVITE, TEKTON, 7-seater C-SUV; localised operations
Validity or status	Active from January 2026
Strategic/significant value	India to be a central pillar of Nissan's global product and market strategy

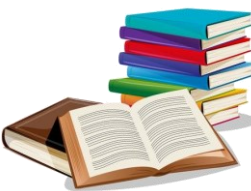


➤ **Which major partnership initiative was announced during the India–Germany Joint Statement of January 2026?**

- A) Blue Economy Framework
- B) Green and Sustainable Development Partnership
- C) South Asia Climate Compact
- D) Indo Pacific Maritime Charter
- E) Global Technology Corridor

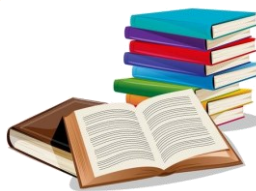
Answer

B) Green and Sustainable Development Partnership



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Issuance of India–Germany Joint Statement 2026 strengthening strategic partnership
- **Location:** Ahmedabad, India
- **Date:** January 13, 2026



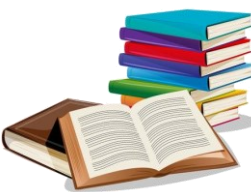
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** Expansion of cooperation between India and Germany in defence, trade, technology, climate action, Indo Pacific strategy, education, mobility, and global security during German Chancellor Friedrich Merz's official visit.
- **Objectives:** To deepen bilateral trust, enhance economic and strategic engagement, strengthen climate action commitments, boost technological collaboration, and promote people to people relations while reinforcing global stability and a rules based international order.



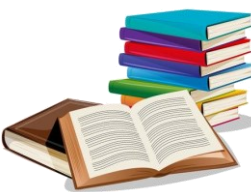
Important Terms Explained:

- **Green and Sustainable Development Partnership (GSDP):** A flagship India Germany climate cooperation framework under which Germany committed €10 billion till 2030 for renewable energy, green hydrogen, climate resilient infrastructure, and sustainable transport.
- **Indo Pacific Oceans Initiative:** An India led framework for regional maritime cooperation focusing on security, connectivity, disaster resilience, and sustainable marine development, now supported by Germany.



Important Terms Explained:

- **India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC):** A multinational connectivity corridor aimed at strengthening trade and transport links between India, the Middle East, and Europe.
- **National Green Hydrogen Mission:** India's mission to scale up green hydrogen production for clean energy transition and global decarbonisation.

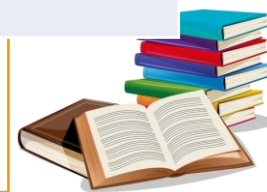


INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



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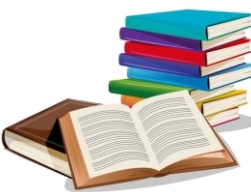
Parameter	Details
Event name	India–Germany Joint Statement 2026
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Location	Ahmedabad, India
Issuing authority	Government of India and Government of Germany
Policy/series name	Strategic Partnership Cooperation Framework
Key figures	PM Narendra Modi, Chancellor Friedrich Merz
Purpose/reason	Strengthening defence, economic, technological and climate cooperation
Feature details	Defence exercises, semiconductor partnership, €10 bn climate funding, visa-free transit
Validity or status	Ongoing and expanding partnership
Strategic/significant value	Enhances India-EU engagement, global connectivity, climate leadership and regional stability



➤ India signed a Joint Declaration of Intent on 12 January 2026 to enhance postal and logistics cooperation with which country?

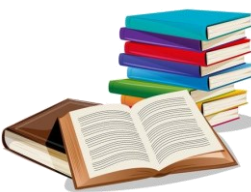
- A) France
- B) United Kingdom
- C) Germany
- D) United States
- E) Japan

Answer
C) Germany



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Signing of India–Germany agreements to enhance cooperation in postal and logistics services
- **Location:** Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- **Date:** 12 January 2026



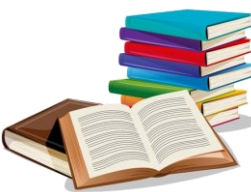
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - India and Germany signed a Joint Declaration of Intent and a Letter of Intent to deepen cooperation in postal, express, and logistics services, including development of joint products, express delivery, and bilateral pricing frameworks.
- **Objectives:**
 - To boost cross-border e-commerce, improve international shipment efficiency, support MSME exports, and promote green logistics through digitalisation, structured cooperation, and infrastructure integration.



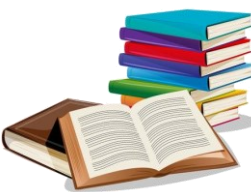
Important Terms Explained:

- **Joint Declaration of Intent (JDol):**
 - A formal agreement that outlines mutual objectives between two governments—in this case, between India's Department of Posts and Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy—to cooperate in postal and logistics reforms.
- **Deutsche Post AG / DHL Group:**
 - Germany's national postal and international logistics company, partnering with India Post to co-develop premium express products and support last-mile delivery solutions globally.



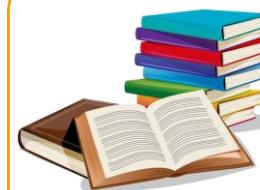
Important Terms Explained:

- **Cross-border E-commerce:**
 - Online trade of goods across international borders, facilitated through digital platforms. The agreement aims to simplify logistics for Indian sellers targeting global buyers, especially MSMEs and artisans.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Signing of postal and logistics cooperation instruments
Announcement date	12 January 2026
Location	Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Issuing authority	Department of Posts (India), Deutsche Post AG (Germany)
Policy/series name	Joint Declaration of Intent (JDol), Letter of Intent (Lol)
Key figures	Friedrich Merz (German Chancellor), India Post officials
Purpose/reason	To improve international express logistics and MSME access to global markets
Feature details	Joint product development, last-mile integration, express delivery, green logistics
Validity or status	Agreements signed and implementation underway
Strategic/significant value	Enhances India's export competitiveness and digital logistics footprint

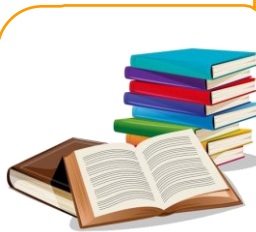


➤ **What is the official theme of India's BRICS Presidency 2026?**

- A) Global Growth and Equity
- B) Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
- C) Strengthening Strategic Autonomy
- D) Unity in Diversity for Development
- E) Inclusive Governance and Global Trade

Answer

B) Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability

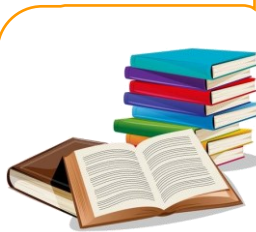


NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India unveils logo and website for its BRICS Presidency 2026
- **Location:** India
- **Date:** January 13, 2026



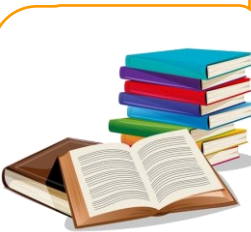
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - India formally launched the official logo and dedicated website for its upcoming BRICS Chairship in 2026, marking the 20th anniversary of the grouping.
- **Objectives:**
 - To promote people-centric development, enhance transparency, and drive cooperation among emerging economies through the theme: “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability”, while reinforcing BRICS' role in addressing global challenges.



Important Terms Explained:

- **BRICS:**
 - An international grouping of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa formed in 2006 to foster cooperation among major emerging economies. It advocates for multipolarity, inclusive development, and a reformed global governance structure.
- **BRICS Chairship:**
 - The rotational presidency of BRICS that allows each member nation to set the agenda, host meetings, and drive initiatives. In 2026, India will hold the chair as the bloc completes 20 years.



Important Terms Explained:

- **BRICS India Website (2026):**
 - A newly launched digital platform for India's presidency, aimed at disseminating updates, documents, and event information related to BRICS proceedings, ensuring wider public access and coordination.

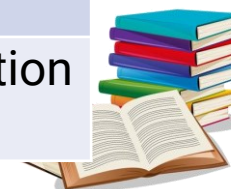


NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Launch of Logo and Website for BRICS Presidency 2026
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Location	India
Issuing authority	Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India
Policy/series name	India's BRICS Chairship 2026
Key figures	External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar; PM Narendra Modi (guiding philosophy)
Purpose/reason	Kickstart India's leadership of BRICS with a people-centric and inclusive vision
Feature details	Logo representing unity, website for coordination, theme around resilience and cooperation
Validity or status	India to hold chairship throughout 2026
Strategic/significant value	Marks BRICS' 20th anniversary, strengthens emerging economy cooperation in a changing world



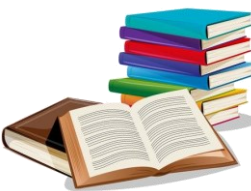
NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Under the National Sports Governance Rules, 2026, what is the mandated minimum representation of women among Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOMs) in a National Sports Body's General Body?

- A) One-third
- B) 25%
- C) 40%
- D) 50%
- E) Two members

Answer
D) 50%



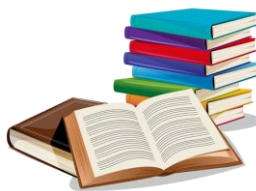
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Notification of National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026
- **Location:** India
- **Date:** January 13, 2026



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Union Government notified the National Sports Governance Rules, 2026 to operationalize provisions of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, introducing structured rules on elections, eligibility, representation, and compliance for national and regional sports bodies.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - To ensure transparency, accountability, and athlete-centric governance in Indian sports administration by reforming leadership structures, promoting gender equity, and aligning with global sports governance standards.



Important Terms Explained:

- **National Sports Governance Rules, 2026:**
 - Rules framed under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 to reform and regulate the structure and functioning of National Sports Bodies and Regional Federations, focusing on transparency, athlete participation, and fair elections.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOMs):**
 - Athletes who have won medals in national or international events. The Rules mandate the inclusion of at least 4 SOMs in each General Body, 50% of whom must be women, and classified under a 10-tier system based on achievements.
- **National Sports Election Panel:**
 - A new election oversight body comprising minimum 20 qualified members, responsible for conducting fair and transparent elections in sports bodies. It also enforces caps on electoral officer fees (₹5 lakh) and monitors compliance.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

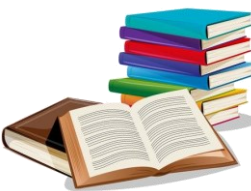
Parameter	Details
Event name	Notification of National Sports Governance Rules, 2026
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Location	India
Issuing authority	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India
Policy/series name	National Sports Governance Rules, 2026
Key figures	Minimum 4 SOMs (50% women), 4 women in Executive Committees
Purpose/reason	To reform governance in sports bodies and increase athlete & women participation
Feature details	10-tier SOM classification, transparent election process, disqualification norms
Validity or status	Rules notified under National Sports Governance Act, 2025
Strategic/significant value	Brings professionalism, accountability, and athlete representation in Indian sports



➤ Who is the Chairperson of the 28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC) hosted by India in January 2026?

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Lindsay Hoyle
- C) Jagdeep Dhankhar
- D) Om Birla
- E) S. Jaishankar

Answer
D) Om Birla



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India to host the 28th CSPOC – Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth
- **Location:** New Delhi, India (Inauguration at Samvidhan Sadan / Central Hall)
- **Date:** January 15–16, 2026



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - India is hosting the 28th edition of the CSPOC, bringing together Speakers and Presiding Officers from over 60 Commonwealth nations for discussions on modern challenges and innovations in parliamentary functioning.
- **Objectives:**
 - To promote knowledge-sharing, mutual cooperation, and strengthening of parliamentary democracy within the Commonwealth, while enhancing India's role in global democratic dialogue and showcasing its constitutional legacy.



Important Terms Explained:

- **CSPOC (Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth):**
 - A biennial international parliamentary forum created in 1969 to promote dialogue and cooperation among Commonwealth parliaments, focusing on legislative leadership, innovation, and institutional strengthening.
- **Samvidhan Sadan (Central Hall):**
 - The historic venue in India's Parliament, formerly known as Parliament House, renamed to honour India's Constitution; used symbolically for major events such as this global democratic conference.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Artificial Intelligence in Parliament:**
 - One of the CSPOC 2026 themes, examining how AI tools can enhance legislative research, improve parliamentary efficiency, and promote digital transformation in governance processes.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



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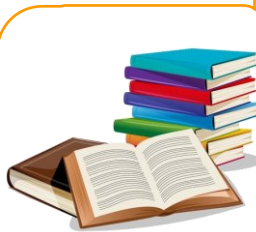
Parameter	Details
Event name	28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC)
Announcement date	January 13, 2026 (pre-event update)
Event dates	January 15–16, 2026
Location	New Delhi, India (Samvidhan Sadan / Central Hall)
Issuing authority	Lok Sabha Secretariat, Ministry of External Affairs
Policy/series name	CSPOC 2026
Key figures	PM Narendra Modi (Inauguration), Om Birla (Chairperson), Lindsay Hoyle (incoming Chair)
Purpose/reason	Promote parliamentary cooperation, strengthen democratic institutions
Feature details	AI in Parliament, social media impact, MPs' health and wellbeing, best practices
Validity or status	28th edition, with chairmanship handed to UK after conclusion
Strategic/significant value	Enhances India's global democratic image and reinforces Commonwealth parliamentary ties



➤ **Where is the newly approved Dagadarthi Greenfield Airport located, and what number airport will it be in Andhra Pradesh?**

- A) Kurnool; 7th
- B) Vijayawada; 6th
- C) Visakhapatnam; 9th
- D) Nellore; 8th
- E) Tirupati; 5th

Answer
D) Nellore; 8th



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Andhra Pradesh Cabinet approves Dagadarthi Greenfield Airport
- **Location:** Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh
- **Date:** January 13, 2026



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet approved the development of Dagadarthi Greenfield Airport in Nellore district, with support from the Ministry of Civil Aviation, to be developed via Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.
- **Objectives:**
 - To enhance regional air connectivity, integrate multi-modal logistics, reduce export and freight costs, and stimulate industrial and economic growth in southern Andhra Pradesh.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Greenfield Airport:**
 - A new airport built on undeveloped land where no previous airport infrastructure exists. Such projects are planned from scratch with long-term scalability and modern infrastructure.
- **Public–Private Partnership (PPP):**
 - A model where the government collaborates with private companies to finance, build, and operate infrastructure projects. In this case, it involves long-term development, operation, and maintenance of the airport.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Port-led Development:**
 - An economic strategy that links ports, industrial corridors, and logistics hubs, enabling faster cargo movement, reducing transport costs, and enhancing regional competitiveness in exports and manufacturing.

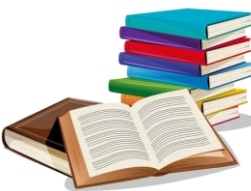


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Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	Approval of Dagadarthi Greenfield Airport by Andhra Pradesh Cabinet
Announcement date	January 13, 2026
Location	Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh
Issuing authority	Government of Andhra Pradesh
Policy/series name	Greenfield Airport Development under PPP
Key figures	CM Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy; Civil Aviation Ministry (in-principle approval)
Purpose/reason	Boost regional connectivity, reduce export cost, support industrial growth
Feature details	1,332.80 acres; Phase-1 capacity: 1.4 million; scalable to 15 million passengers annually
Validity or status	Approved; RFP issued for private participation
Strategic/significant value	Supports port-linked trade, logistics efficiency, and regional economic transformation

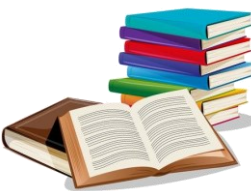


➤ **Which port authority emerged as the overall champion at the 25th All India Major Port Cultural Meet 2025–26 held at Paradip Port?**

- A) Mumbai Port Authority
- B) Paradip Port Authority
- C) Deendayal Port Authority
- D) Cochin Port Authority
- E) Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority

Answer

E) Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority

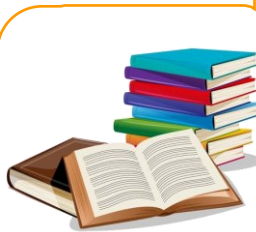


NATIONAL AFFAIRS



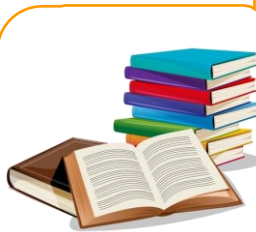
Event and Location:

- **Event:** 25th All India Major Port Cultural Meet 2025–26
- **Location:** Paradip Port, Odisha
- **Date:** January 11, 2026 (Concluding date)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Paradip Port Authority, in association with the Major Ports Sports Control Board, conducted the 25th edition of the All India Major Port Cultural Meet, involving participation from 9 major Indian ports.
- **Objectives:**
 - To promote cultural exchange, artistic excellence, and inter-port camaraderie among employees of India's major ports through competitive and collaborative cultural performances, thereby reinforcing national unity through the maritime workforce.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Paradip Port Authority (PPA):**
 - One of India's major ports located in Odisha, acting as the host of the 25th cultural meet. It plays a key role in maritime trade and cultural promotion within the Indian port ecosystem.
- **Major Ports Sports Control Board:**
 - An apex body that oversees sports and cultural coordination among all major ports of India. It facilitates national-level meets, tournaments, and cultural gatherings to promote employee well-being and integration.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority:**
 - Formerly known as Kolkata Port Trust, it is one of India's oldest ports and emerged as the Overall Champion in the 25th Cultural Meet, excelling in various art forms.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event name	25th All India Major Port Cultural Meet 2025–26
Announcement date	Concluded on January 11, 2026
Location	Paradip Port, Odisha
Issuing authority	Paradip Port Authority (PPA)
Policy/series name	Annual All India Major Port Cultural Meet
Key figures	P. L. Haranadh (Chief Guest), H. S. Rout (Organising Chair), 200+ artistes
Purpose/reason	Promote unity, showcase talent, and foster inter-port cultural harmony
Feature details	Competitions in drama, music, dance; record women participation
Validity or status	Successfully concluded
Strategic/significant value	Strengthens cultural unity, promotes heritage, encourages employee engagement

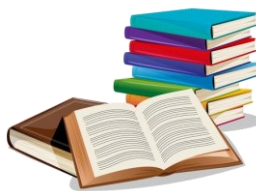


➤ Which two institutions signed an MoU in January 2026 to strengthen dairy research and field-level innovation in India?

- A) ICAR and AMUL
- B) NDDB and NITI Aayog
- C) ICAR and NDDB
- D) FAO and NDDB
- E) ICAR and NABARD

Answer

C) ICAR and NDDB

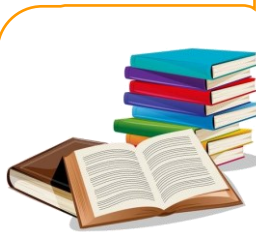


NATIONAL AFFAIRS



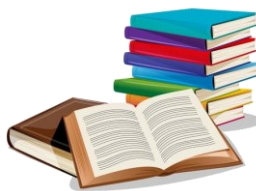
Event and Location:

- **Event:** ICAR and NDDDB signed an MoU to enhance dairy research and extension
- **Location:** India (nationwide implementation)
- **Date:** 12 January 2026



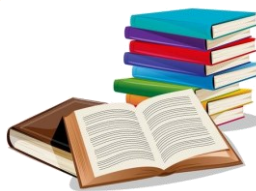
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate on dairy sector research, innovation, and field implementation.
- **Objectives:** To improve dairy productivity, climate resilience, sustainability, and farmer income by integrating scientific research with practical extension services.



Important Terms Explained:

- **MoU (Memorandum of Understanding):** A formal agreement between two or more parties outlining cooperative intentions without legal binding.
- **ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research):** India's apex body for coordinating agricultural education and research.
- **NDDB (National Dairy Development Board):** A statutory body established to promote, finance, and support dairy development across India.

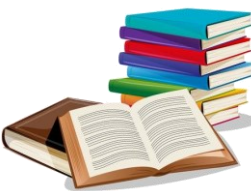


NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

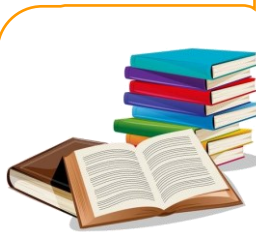
Parameter	Details
Event name	ICAR–NDDB MoU on Dairy Research and Extension
Announcement date	12 January 2026
Location	India
Issuing authority	Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and NDDB
Policy/series name	MoU for Integrated Dairy Development
Key figures	Meenesh Shah, Mangi Lal Jat
Purpose/reason	To improve dairy productivity, sustainability, and farmer income
Feature details	Joint research, field trials, extension training, fodder security
Validity or status	MoU signed, implementation ongoing
Strategic/significant value	Aligns with Viksit Bharat vision and national dairy self-reliance



QUICK RECALL



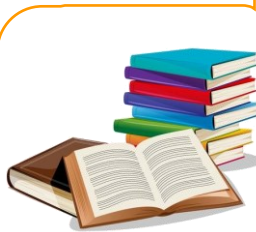
- Lohri 2026 was celebrated on 13 January across North India, marking the end of winter and the beginning of the harvest season.
- Chhattisgarh has become the top-performing large state in APAAR ID creation with 88.63% student coverage.
- The Reserve Bank of India notified the FEMA (Guarantees) Regulations, 2026 to regulate guarantees involving non-residents.
- India's net direct tax collections rose by 8.82% to ₹18.38 lakh crore in FY 2025–26 up to January 11, driven by strong economic performance and better compliance.
- India's retail inflation rose to 1.33% in December 2025, marking a three-month high amid easing food deflation and rising core price pressures.
- India's CPI inflation series based on the 2012 base year officially concluded with the December 2025 data release.
- Mukesh Ambani announced Jio's upcoming AI platform at the Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference in Rajkot.
- Ola Electric launched 'Shakti', a home battery energy storage system, at its Krishnagiri Gigafactory in Tamil Nadu.



QUICK RECALL



- **Meta has appointed Dina Powell McCormick as its new President and Vice Chairman as part of a top-level leadership shift.**
- **Nissan has appointed Thierry Sabbagh as President for India, effective 1 January 2026, under its Re:Nissan transformation strategy.**
- **India and Germany issued the Joint Statement 2026 during Chancellor Friedrich Merz's first official visit to India, marking 75 years of diplomatic relations.**
- **India and Germany signed key logistics cooperation agreements on 12 January 2026 during German Chancellor Friedrich Merz's visit.**
- **India launched the official logo and website for its BRICS Presidency 2026, signaling the start of its chairship preparations.**
- **The Union Government has notified the National Sports Governance Rules, 2026 to reform the functioning of sports bodies.**
- **India will host the 28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth in New Delhi from January 15–16, 2026.**
- **The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has approved the development of Dagadarthi Greenfield Airport in Nellore district.**
- **The 25th All India Major Port Cultural Meet 2025–26 concluded at Paradip Port with participation from 9 major ports.**
- **ICAR and NDDDB signed an MoU on January 12, 2026, to integrate dairy research with field-level innovations.**



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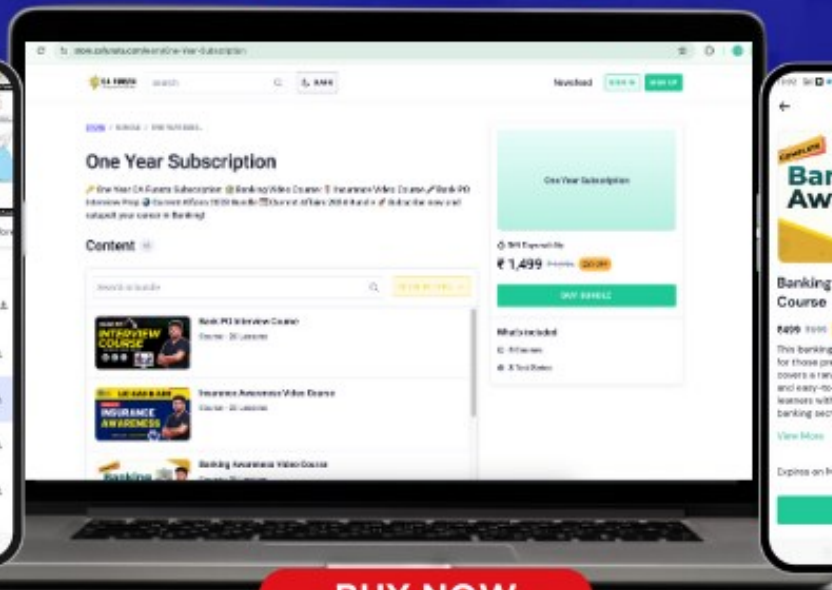
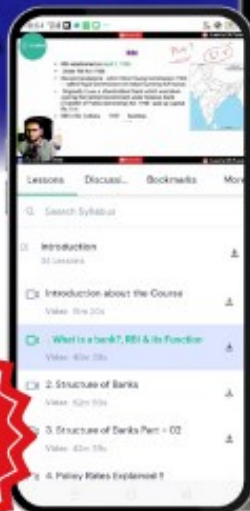
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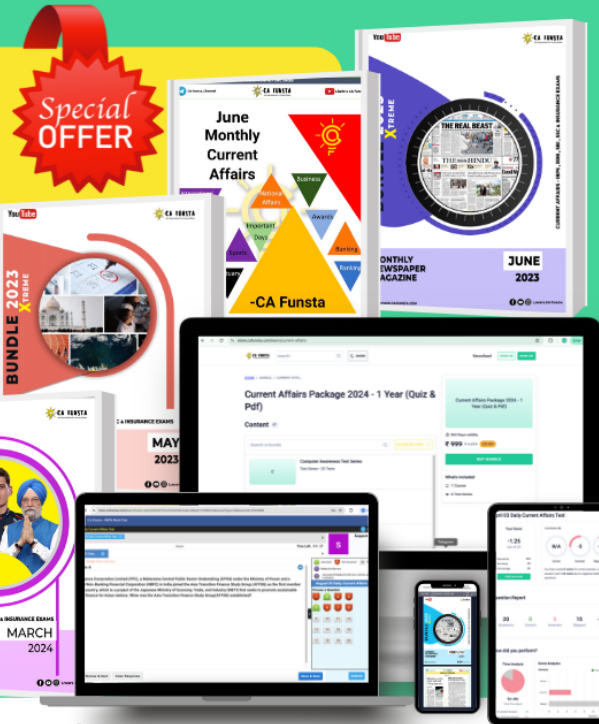


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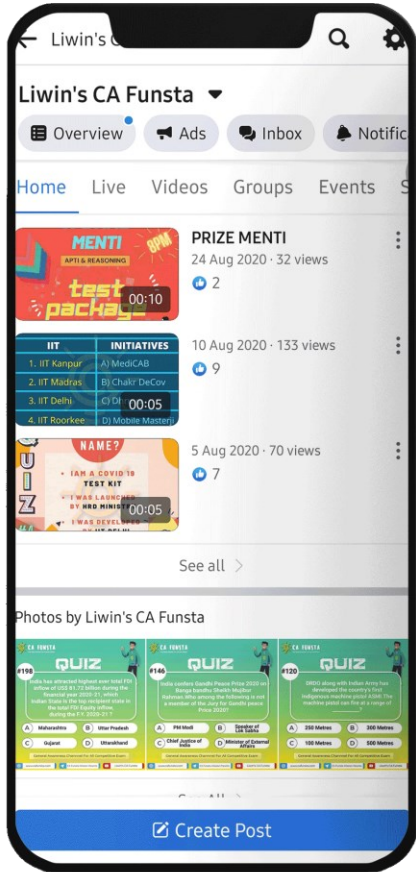
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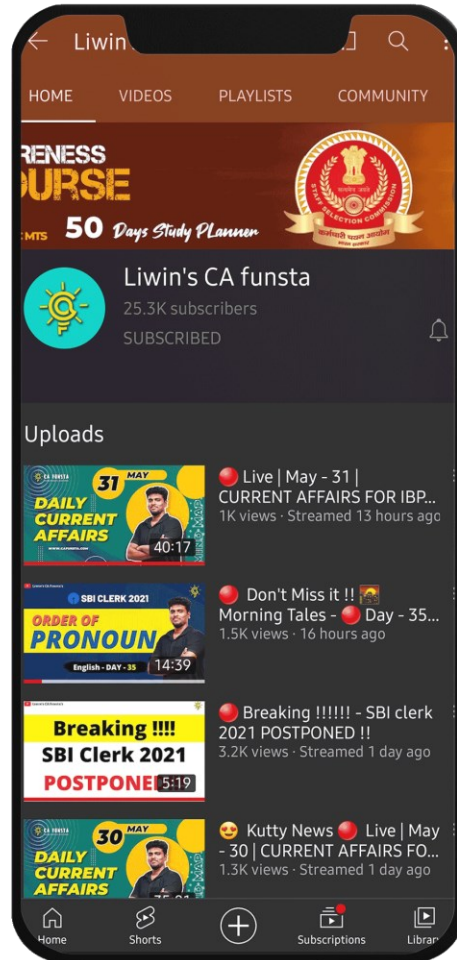


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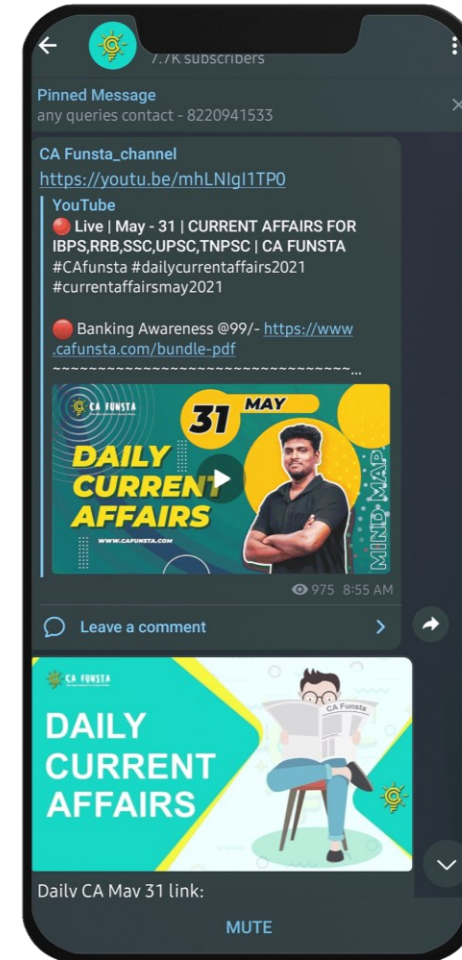
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