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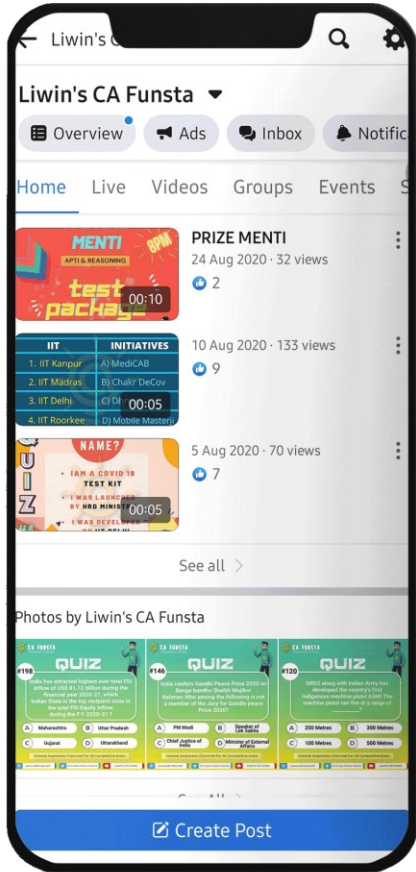


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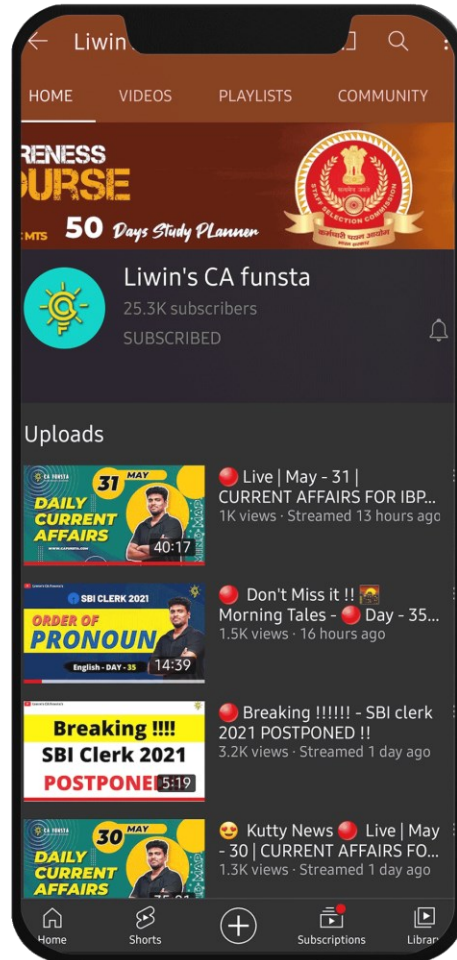
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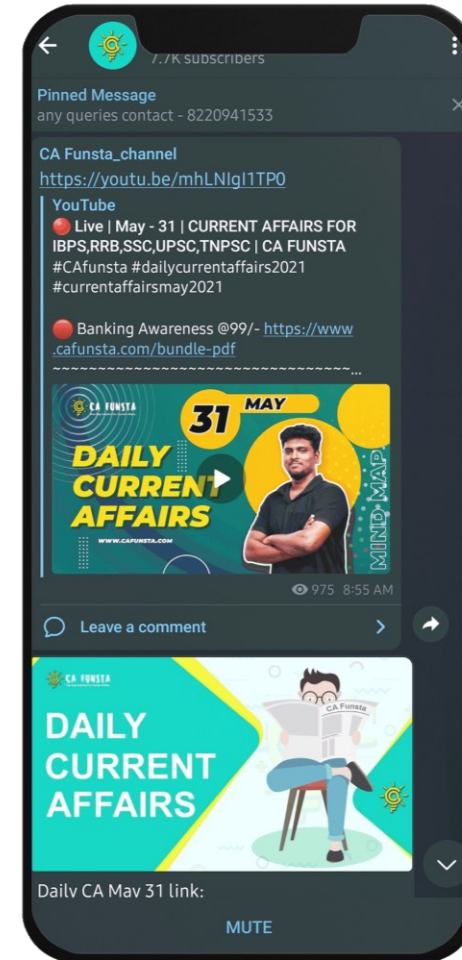
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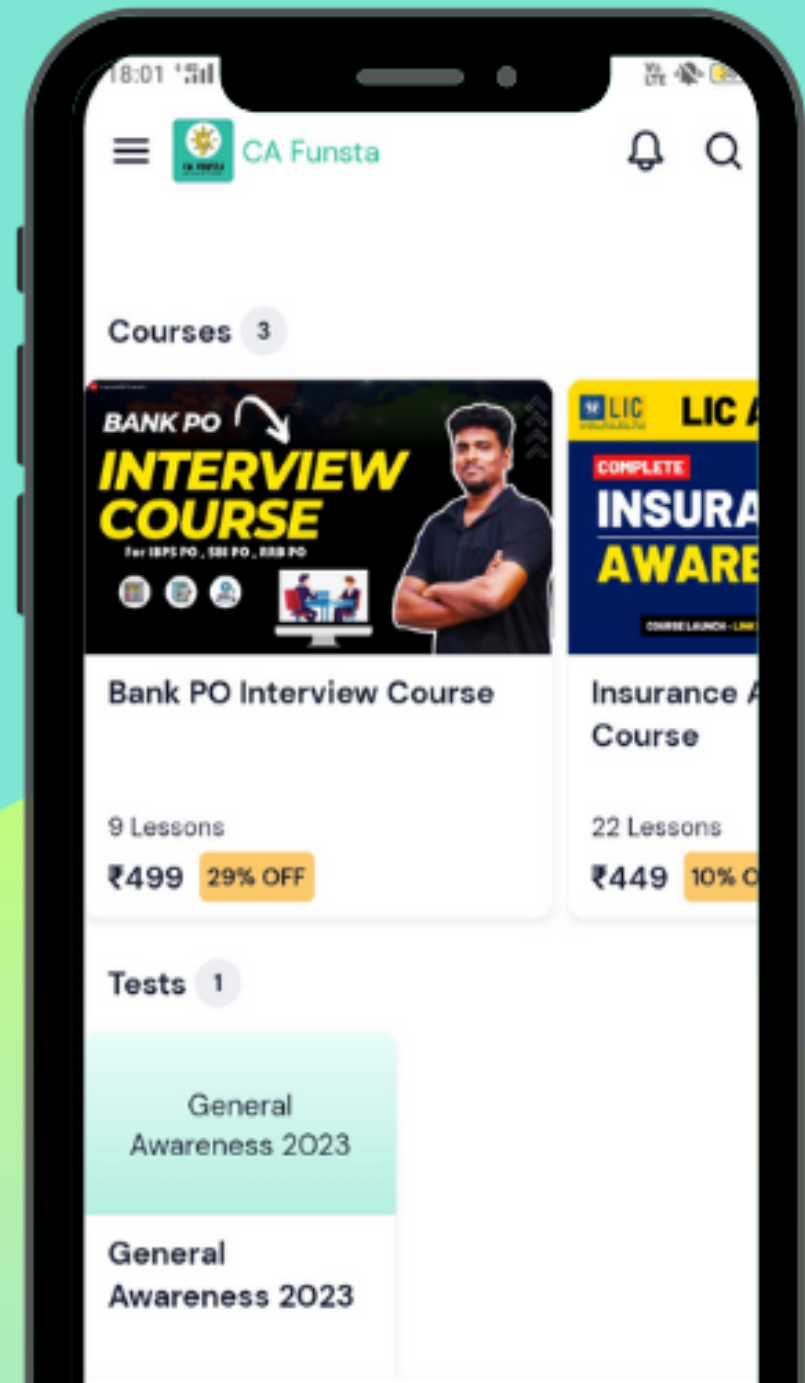
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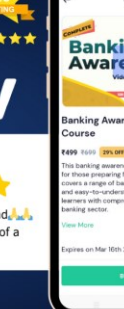
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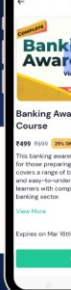


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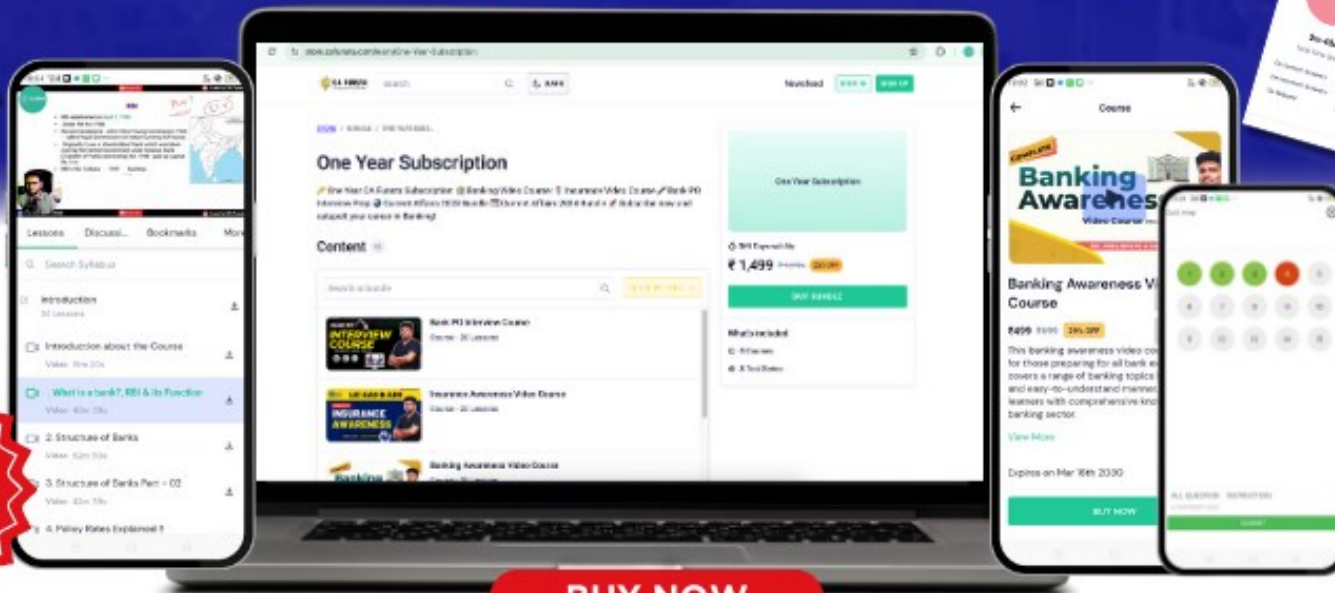
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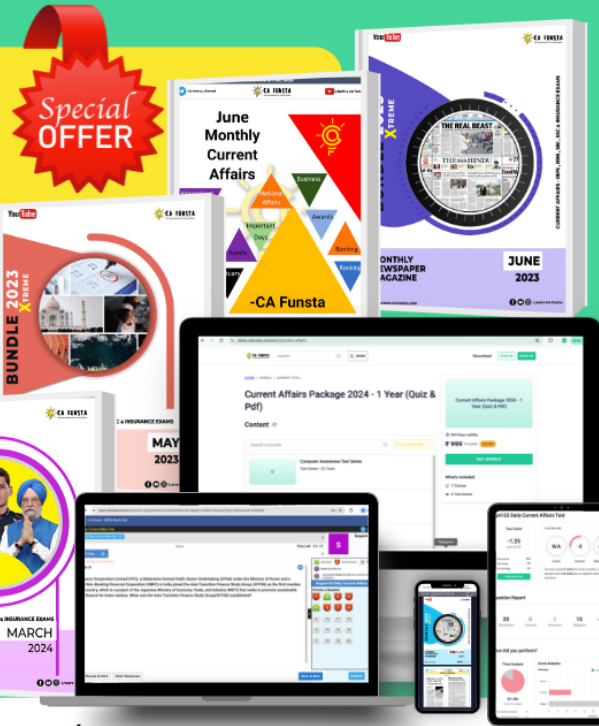


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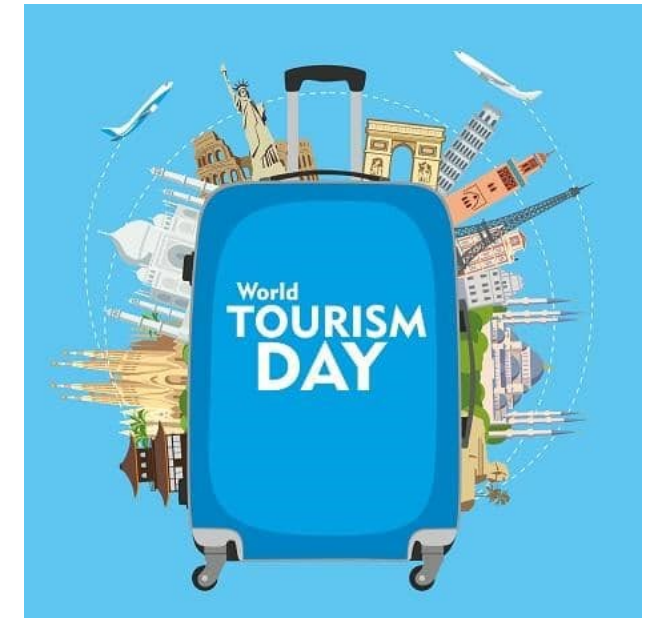
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Important Days



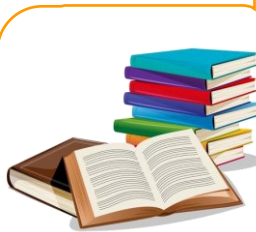
➤ **What is the theme of World Tourism Day 2026?**

- A) Tourism and Green Investments
- B) Tourism and Sustainable Transformation
- C) Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism
- D) Rethinking Tourism
- E) Tourism for Inclusive Growth



Answer

C) Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism.

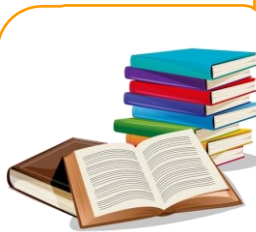


Important Days



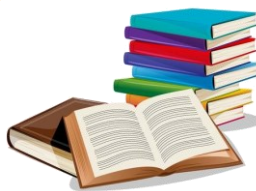
Event and Location:

- **Event:** **World Tourism Day 2026** is observed with the theme “**Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism**”, highlighting the growing role of digital technologies and AI in transforming tourism.
- **Location:** Global celebration in **El Salvador**.
- **Date:** September **27, 2026**.



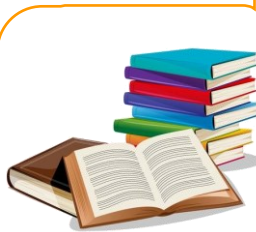
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: World Tourism Day** highlights tourism's economic, social and cultural contribution, while the **2026** observance focuses on digital technologies and artificial intelligence, alongside initiatives supporting sustainable tourism and improved visitor experiences.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The observance aims to promote technology-driven tourism development, improve travel planning and visitor services, strengthen destination management and highlight tourism's contribution to sustainable development.

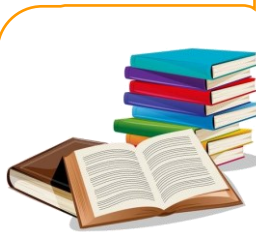


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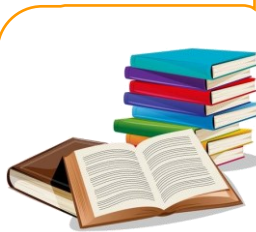
Important Terms Explained:

- **UN Tourism:** It is the international body associated with **World Tourism Day** and was formerly known as the **United Nations World Tourism Organization**.



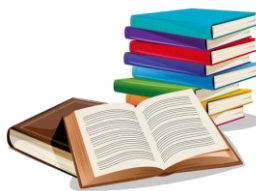
Important Terms Explained:

- **Incredible India Digital Platform (IIDP):** It is a revamped tourism platform using an AI-based tool to personalise visitor experiences and provide information on destinations, weather, essential services and registered tourism service providers.



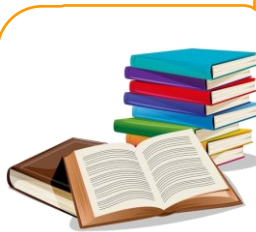
Important Terms Explained:

- **NIDHI+: The National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry** is a digital platform for registration, recognition and classification of tourism and hospitality service providers.



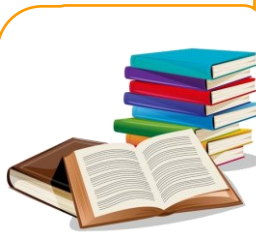
Important Terms Explained:

- **Swadesh Darshan 2.0:** It follows a destination-centric and tourist-centric approach focused on responsible and sustainable tourism, improved visitor experiences and destination infrastructure.



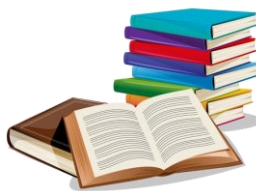
Important Terms Explained:

- **PRASHAD: Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive** is an initiative for improving tourism infrastructure and facilities at identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations.



Important Terms Explained:

- e-Visa: India's electronic visa programme, launched in **2014**, facilitates international travel through digital visa processing and was available to citizens of **172** countries through **88** identified ports as stated in the **2026** government backgrounder.



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Observance	World Tourism Day is observed annually on September 27.
2026 theme	"Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism".
2026 global destination	The global celebration is taking place in El Salvador.
Tourism contribution to India's GDP	Tourism contributed 5.22% of India's GDP in 2023-24.
Tourism employment	Tourism employment reached 8.46 crore in 2023-24 and accounted for about 13.3% of total employment.
Tourist visits in 2025	India recorded 428.55 crore domestic tourist visitations and 2.53 crore foreign tourist visitations.
Foreign exchange earnings	Tourism generated ₹2,76,831 crore in foreign exchange earnings in 2025.
Digital initiatives	Key initiatives include IIDP, NIDHI+, e-Visa and the Ministry of Tourism's digital-tourism collaboration with Google India.



Important Days

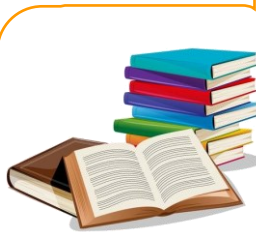


➤ On which date was the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) established?

- A) September 26, 1940
- B) September 26, 1942
- C) August 15, 1947
- D) January 26, 1950
- E) September 26, 1952



Answer
B) September 26, 1942.

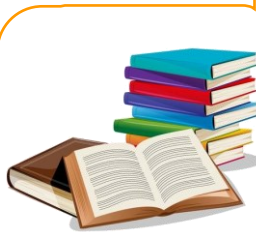


Important Days



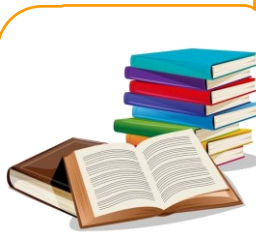
Event and Location:

- **Event:** **CSIR Foundation Day 2026** marks **85** years of the **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research**, which was established to promote scientific and industrial research in India.
- **Location:** India, with **CSIR** headquarters at **Anusandhan Bhawan, New Delhi**.
- **Date:** September **26, 2026**.



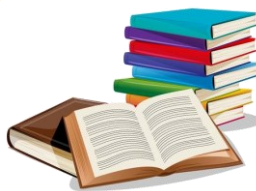
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** CSIR operates a nationwide research and development network of **37** national laboratories and institutes working across aerospace, chemicals, biotechnology, healthcare, environment, ocean science, earth science, materials, metallurgy, food, petroleum and engineering.



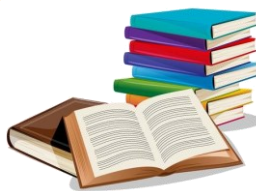
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives: CSIR** aims to advance scientific and industrial research, develop technologies addressing national and industrial requirements, promote innovation and facilitate the application of scientific research for economic and technological development.



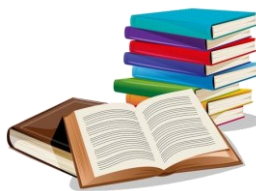
Important Terms Explained:

- **Board of Scientific and Industrial Research (BSIR):** It was established in **1940** as an early institutional initiative for organised scientific and industrial research, with **Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar** serving as its Director.



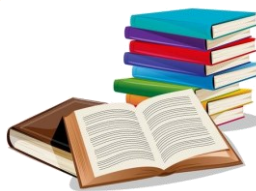
Important Terms Explained:

- **Research and Development (R&D):** It refers to systematic scientific and technological activities undertaken to generate knowledge, develop new technologies and improve existing products, processes and applications.



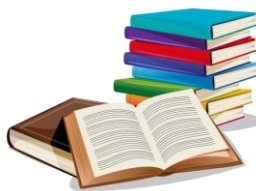
Important Terms Explained:

- **Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR):** It is the department associated with the promotion of industrial research and technological development, with the **CSIR Director General** also serving as Secretary of **DSIR**.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL):** It is an initiative associated with **CSIR**'s technology and knowledge activities involving the documentation of traditional knowledge in digital form.

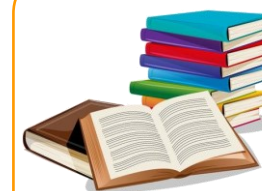


Important Days



Tabular Summary:

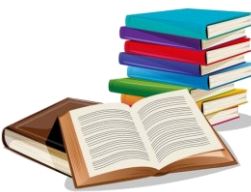
Parameter	Details
Event	CSIR Foundation Day 2026 marks the organisation's 85th anniversary.
Foundation date	CSIR was established on September 26, 1942.
Legal status	CSIR was formed as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
Headquarters	CSIR is headquartered at Anusandhan Bhawan, New Delhi.
Director General	Dr. N. Kalaiselvi is the Director General of CSIR and Secretary of DSIR.
President	The Prime Minister of India serves as President of CSIR.
Research network	CSIR has 37 national laboratories and institutes across India.
Major research areas	Its research spans aerospace, chemicals, biotechnology, healthcare, environment, oceans, materials, metallurgy, petroleum and engineering.



➤ How many women's kabaddi gold medals has India won in Asian Games history after its 2026 victory?

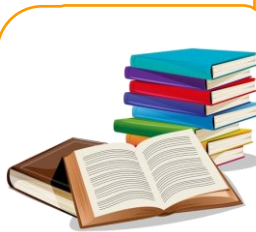
- A) Two
- B) Three
- C) Four
- D) Five
- E) Six

Answer
C) Four.



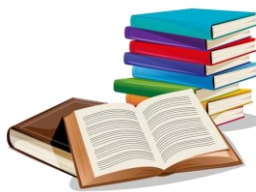
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India's women's kabaddi team defeated Iran in the **Asian Games 2026** final to defend its title and secure its fourth **Asian Games** gold medal.
- **Location:** Tokai Citizen Gymnasium, Tokai, Aichi Prefecture, Japan.
- **Date:** September 26, 2026.



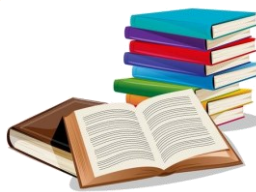
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** India entered the women's kabaddi final after topping Group A and defeating Nepal **48-24** in the semifinal, before overcoming Iran in a closely contested gold-medal match.
- **Objectives:** India aimed to defend the women's kabaddi title won at Hangzhou **2022** and add a fourth gold medal to its **Asian Games** record in the event.



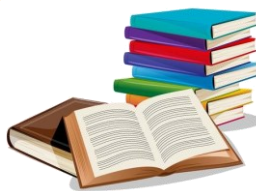
Important Terms Explained:

- **Asian Games:** A multi-sport competition involving athletes from across Asia, with women's kabaddi included as a medal event from the **2010** edition.



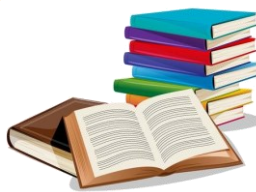
Important Terms Explained:

- **Kabaddi:** A team contact sport in which players score through successful raids and defensive tackles against the opposing team.



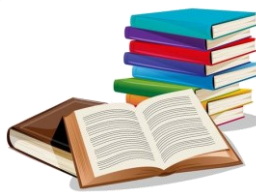
Important Terms Explained:

- **Raid:** An attacking move in kabaddi in which a raider enters the opposing half and attempts to score points before returning safely to their own half.



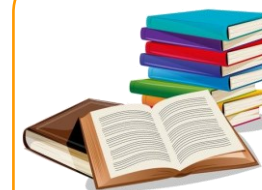
Important Terms Explained:

- **Group Stage:** The preliminary phase of a tournament in which teams compete within assigned groups to qualify for the knockout rounds.



Tabular Summary:

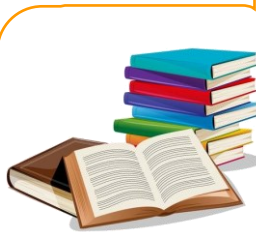
Parameter	Details
Event	India won the women's kabaddi gold medal at the Asian Games 2026.
Date	The final was played on September 26, 2026.
Venue	The match was held at Tokai Citizen Gymnasium in Tokai, Aichi Prefecture, Japan.
Final opponents	India faced Iran in the gold-medal match.
Semifinal result	India defeated Nepal 48-24 to reach the final.
Historic achievement	The victory gave India its fourth women's kabaddi gold medal in Asian Games history.
Previous titles	India had earlier won women's kabaddi gold in 2010, 2014 and 2022.
2026 campaign	India remained unbeaten through its Group A matches and knockout rounds.



➤ Which medal did India win in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions team event at the Asian Games 2026?

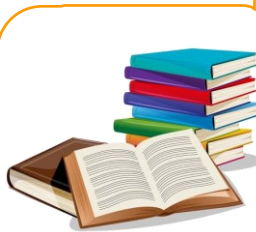
- A) Gold
- B) Silver
- C) Bronze
- D) No medal
- E) Joint bronze

Answer
B) Silver.



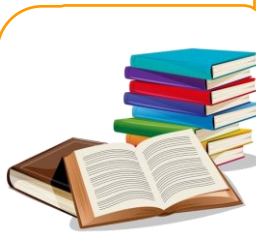
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India won the silver medal in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions team event at the **Asian Games 2026** with a combined qualification score of **1763** points.
- **Location:** Japan.
- **Date:** September **26, 2026**.



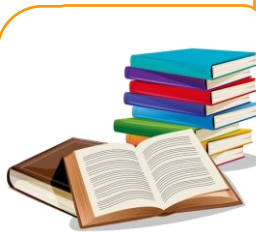
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: Tilottama Sen, Vidarsa Vinod Kochalumkal and Ashi Chouksey** represented India in the women's **50m rifle 3 positions** team event, where their qualification scores were combined to determine the team result.



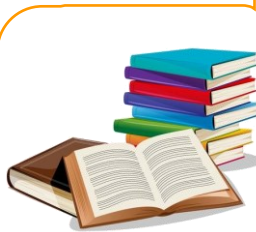
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The **Indian** shooters competed across the kneeling, prone and standing positions to secure a team medal, while their individual qualification performances also determined eligibility for the eight-shooter individual final.



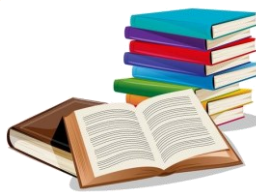
Important Terms Explained:

- **50m Rifle 3 Positions:** It is a shooting event conducted over **50** metres in which competitors fire from three positions: kneeling, prone and standing.



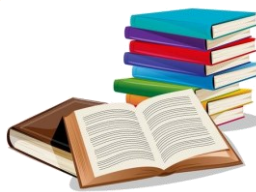
Important Terms Explained:

- **Qualification Round:** Each competitor fires **20** shots in each of the three positions for a total of **60** shots, with qualification scores determining team standings and individual finalists.



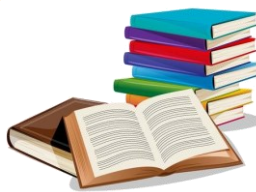
Important Terms Explained:

- **Team Event:** The scores of all three shooters representing a country are combined to determine the country's overall team score and medal position.



Important Terms Explained:

- **ISSF: The International Shooting Sport Federation** governs international shooting competitions and the rules for events such as the **50m rifle 3** positions.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event	India won silver in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions team event at the Asian Games 2026.
Indian team	Tilottama Sen, Vidarsa Vinod Kochalumkal and Ashi Chouksey represented India.
India's score	India recorded a combined qualification score of 1763 points.
Gold medal	China won gold with 1773 points, which was reported as an Asian Games record.
Bronze medal	Kazakhstan secured bronze with 1754 points.
Tilottama Sen	She scored 590 points, finished third in individual qualification and reached the final.
Vidarsa Vinod Kochalumkal	She scored 588 points, finished sixth and qualified for the individual final.
Ashi Chouksey	She scored 585 points and finished 15th while contributing to India's team silver.

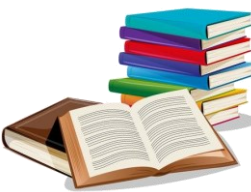


➤ Who won the silver medal in the men's marathon at the Asian Games 2026 with a national-record time of 2:11:37?

- A) Kartik Karkera
- B) Ichitaka Yamashita
- C) Sawan Barwal
- D) Chhota Singh
- E) Surat Singh Mathur

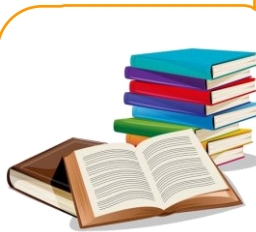
Answer

C) Sawan Barwal.



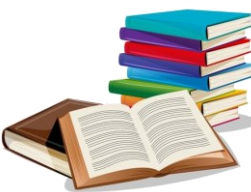
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India's **Sawan Barwal** won the men's marathon silver medal at the **Asian Games 2026** with a national-record time of **2:11:37**, ending India's **44-year** wait for an **Asian Games** marathon medal.
- **Location:** Nagoya, Japan.
- **Date:** September **26, 2026**.



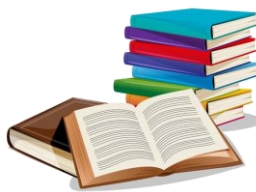
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** **Sawan Barwal** represented India in the men's marathon and finished second behind Japan's **Ichitaka Yamashita**, while fellow Indian runner **Kartik Karkera** finished **17th**.
- **Objectives:** Barwal competed to secure a podium finish for India in the **Asian Games** marathon and improved his own national record by **21** seconds with his **2:11:37** finish.



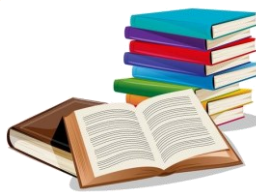
Important Terms Explained:

- **Marathon:** It is a long-distance road-running event in athletics in which competitors cover the standard marathon distance.



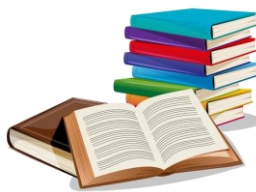
Important Terms Explained:

- **National Record:** It refers to the best officially recognised performance achieved by an athlete representing a particular country in an event.



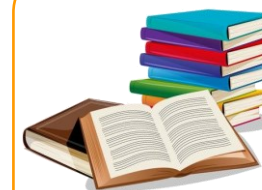
Important Terms Explained:

- **World Athletics:** It is the international governing body for athletics and maintains official records and performance data for athletics events.



Tabular Summary:

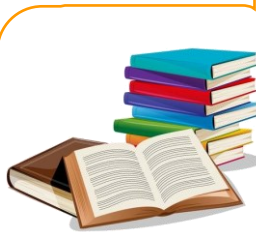
Parameter	Details
Event	Sawan Barwal won silver in the men's marathon at the Asian Games 2026.
Date	The marathon was held on September 26, 2026.
Venue	The event was held in Nagoya, Japan.
Sawan Barwal's time	Barwal finished in 2:11:37, setting a new national record.
Gold medallist	Japan's Ichitaka Yamashita won gold with a time of 2:10:49.
Historic significance	Barwal ended India's 44-year wait for an Asian Games marathon medal.
Previous national record	Barwal's previous national record was 2:11:58, set at the Rotterdam Marathon on April 12, 2026.
Other Indian participant	Kartik Karkera finished 17th with a time of 2:22:41.



► Which country did India defeat in the men's kabaddi final to win gold at the Asian Games 2026?

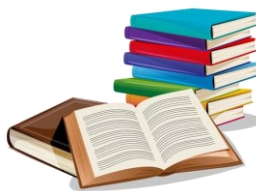
- A) Japan
- B) South Korea
- C) Pakistan
- D) Iran
- E) Bangladesh

Answer
D) Iran.



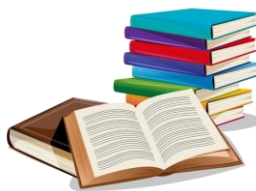
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India defeated Iran **40-34** in the men's kabaddi final at the **Asian Games 2026** to retain the gold medal won at the previous **Asian Games**.
- **Location:** Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.
- **Date:** September **26, 2026**.



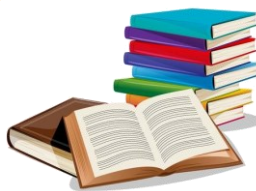
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** India faced Iran in the men's kabaddi gold-medal match and secured a **40-34** victory after using strong defensive play, including super tackles and an all out, to establish its advantage in the second half.



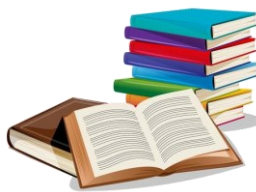
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** India aimed to retain the **Asian Games** men's kabaddi title it had reclaimed at Hangzhou **2022** and continue its strong record in the continental competition.



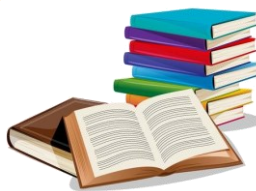
Important Terms Explained:

- **Kabaddi:** It is a team contact sport in which players score points through raids and defensive tackles against members of the opposing team.



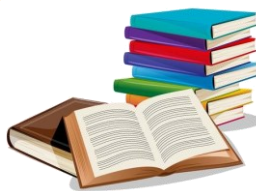
Important Terms Explained:

- **Super Tackle:** It is a defensive scoring situation in kabaddi where a team with three or fewer defenders successfully tackles the opposing raider and earns additional points.



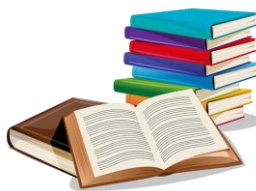
Important Terms Explained:

- **All Out:** It occurs when all players of one team are declared out, resulting in additional points for the opposing team before the eliminated players are revived.



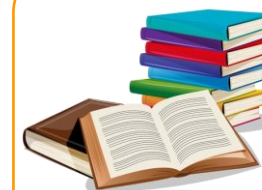
Important Terms Explained:

- **Asian Games:** It is a continental multi-sport competition in which men's kabaddi has been a medal event since **1990**, after appearing as an exhibition event in **1982**.



Tabular Summary:

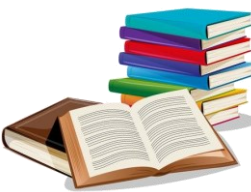
Parameter	Details
Event	India won the men's kabaddi gold medal at the Asian Games 2026.
Date	The final was played on September 26, 2026.
Location	The competition was held in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.
Final opponents	India faced Iran in the gold-medal match.
Final score	India defeated Iran 40-34.
Half-time score	India held a narrow 18-17 advantage at the end of the first half.
Previous title	India had won the men's kabaddi gold medal at Hangzhou 2022.
Key significance	India retained its Asian Games men's kabaddi title by winning consecutive gold medals in 2022 and 2026.



► How many medals did India win on Day 7 of the Asian Games 2026?

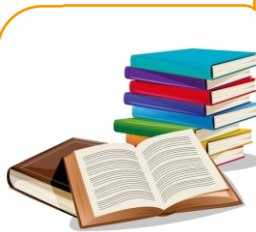
- A) Five
- B) Six
- C) Seven
- D) Eight
- E) Nine

Answer
C) Seven.



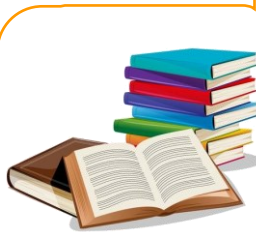
Event and Location:

- **Event:** India won seven medals on Day 7 of the **Asian Games 2026**, comprising two gold, three silver and two bronze medals, taking its overall tally to **30** medals.
- **Location:** Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.
- **Date:** September **26, 2026**.



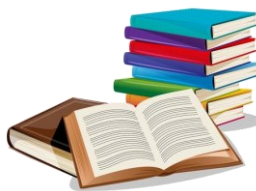
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** India's Day 7 medal haul included gold medals from the men's and women's kabaddi teams, silver medals from **Tajinderpal Singh Toor, Sawan Barwal** and the women's 50m rifle 3 positions team, along with two bronze medals.



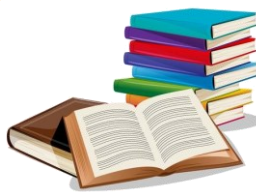
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** Indian athletes competed across team and individual disciplines to increase the country's medal tally, with Day 7 raising the overall count to four gold, **12** silver and **14** bronze medals.



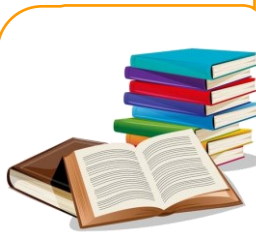
Important Terms Explained:

- **Medal Tally:** It refers to the total number of gold, silver and bronze medals won by a country during a multi-sport competition.



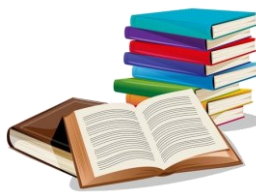
Important Terms Explained:

- **50m Rifle 3 Positions:** It is a shooting event in which competitors shoot from kneeling, prone and standing positions over a distance of **50** metres.



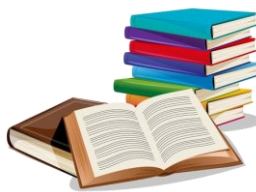
Important Terms Explained:

- **Shot Put:** It is an athletics field event in which competitors attempt to throw a heavy spherical shot as far as possible from a designated throwing area.



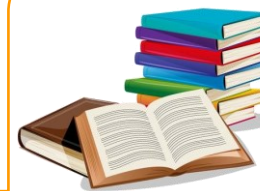
Important Terms Explained:

- **Decathlon:** It is a combined athletics competition consisting of ten track-and-field events, with athletes accumulating points based on their performances.



Tabular Summary:

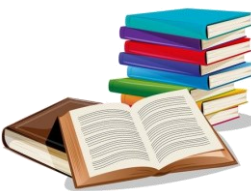
Parameter	Details
Day 7 medal haul	India won seven medals on September 26, 2026.
Day 7 medal breakdown	India secured two gold, three silver and two bronze medals.
Overall medal tally	India reached 30 medals, comprising four gold, 12 silver and 14 bronze.
Kabaddi gold medals	India's men's and women's teams both defeated Iran in their respective finals to win gold.
Tajinderpal Singh Toor	He won men's shot put silver with a best throw of 20.64 metres.
Sawan Barwal	He won men's marathon silver with a national-record time of 2:11:37.
Shooting silver	India won silver in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions team event.
Squash bronze	Joshna Chinappa and Velavan Senthilkumar secured bronze in the mixed doubles event.



► What is Delhi's rank in the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2026?

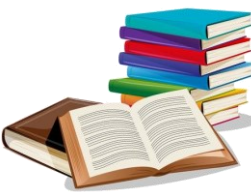
- A) 116th
- B) 268th
- C) 311th
- D) 330th
- E) 381st

Answer
B) 268th.



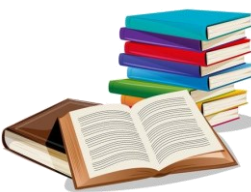
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Delhi ranked **268th** among **1,000** cities in the **Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2026**, making it the highest-ranked Indian city, while **New York** secured the top global position.
- **Location:** Global, covering **1,000** of the world's largest cities.
- **Date:** September **26, 2026**.



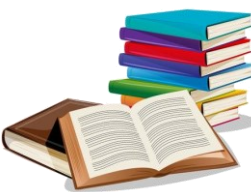
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: Oxford Economics** evaluated **1,000** cities across five dimensions comprising Economics, **Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment and Governance** to determine their overall positions.



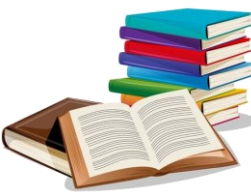
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The index aims to provide a multidimensional assessment of major global cities by combining socioeconomic indicators, standardised data and **Oxford Economics** city forecasts into category and overall scores.



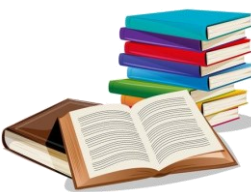
Ranking Table:

Rank	Entity / Score/Index/Remarks
1st	Entity: New York Score/Index/Remarks: Ranked first globally in the 2026 index.
2nd	Entity: London Score/Index/Remarks: Ranked second globally in the 2026 index.
3rd	Entity: Paris Score/Index/Remarks: Ranked third globally in the 2026 index.
268th	Entity: Delhi Score/Index/Remarks: Highest-ranked Indian city.
311th	Entity: Bengaluru Score/Index/Remarks: Second-highest-ranked Indian city.
330th	Entity: Mumbai Score/Index/Remarks: Third-highest-ranked Indian city.
381st	Entity: Chennai Score/Index/Remarks: Ranked fourth among the listed Indian cities.



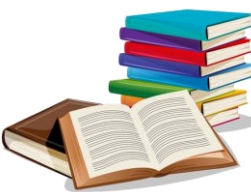
Important Terms Explained:

- **Oxford Economics:** It is a global economic research and forecasting firm that developed the **Global Cities Index**.
- **Human Capital:** It evaluates factors such as education, skills of the labour force and a city's ability to attract talent.



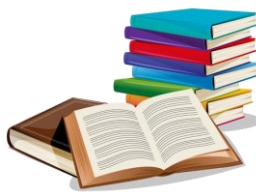
Important Terms Explained:

- **Quality of Life:** It measures aspects related to residents' well-being and access to amenities.
- **Governance:** It assesses factors related to institutional strength and civic efficiency.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Environment:** It evaluates environmental quality and sustainability within a city.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Index	Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2026.
Coverage	The index evaluates 1,000 of the world's largest cities.
Top global city	New York ranked first, followed by London and Paris.
Top Indian city	Delhi was India's highest-ranked city at 268th globally.
Other leading Indian cities	Bengaluru ranked 311th, Mumbai 330th and Chennai 381st.
Delhi's best category	Delhi ranked 13th globally in Human Capital.
Delhi's other category ranks	Delhi ranked 116th in Economics, 781st in Quality of Life, 915th in Environment and 415th in Governance.
Assessment dimensions	The five dimensions are Economics, Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment and Governance.



► How much does the Central Government plan to borrow through dated securities in H2FY27?

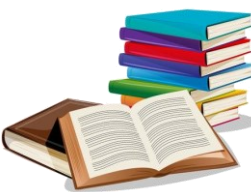
- A) ₹4.36 trillion
- B) ₹7.86 trillion
- C) ₹8.14 trillion
- D) ₹11.73 trillion
- E) ₹17.2 trillion

Answer
B) ₹7.86 trillion.



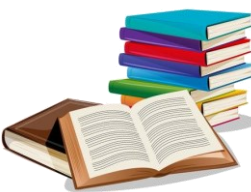
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Central Government plans to borrow **₹7.86 trillion** through dated securities in H2FY27, taking projected gross market borrowing for FY27 to about **₹16 trillion**.
- **Location:** India.
- **Date:** September 26, 2026.



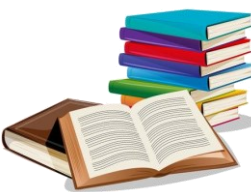
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The government will conduct **23** weekly auctions during H2FY27, with borrowing of **₹33,000 crore** to **₹36,000 crore** per auction, while also raising **₹15,000 crore** through sovereign green bonds and increasing the share of longer-tenor securities.



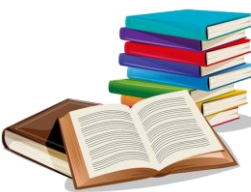
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The borrowing programme aims to finance the fiscal deficit, manage government funding requirements, increase the weighted average maturity of debt, and reduce the need to roll over maturing obligations.



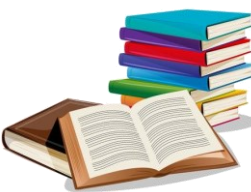
Important Terms Explained:

- **Gross Market Borrowing:** It refers to the total amount borrowed by the government through issuance of government securities during a financial year before deducting repayments of maturing debt.



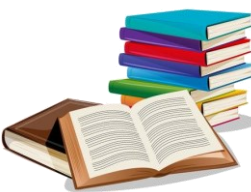
Important Terms Explained:

- **Net Market Borrowing:** It refers to borrowing remaining after accounting for repayments of maturing debt and is a major source of financing the fiscal deficit.



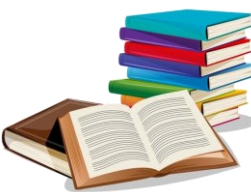
Important Terms Explained:

- **Sovereign Green Bonds:** These are government debt instruments used to raise funds for eligible projects having environmental or climate-related objectives.



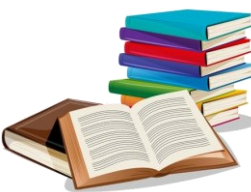
Important Terms Explained:

- **Weighted Average Maturity (WAM):** It indicates the average maturity period of outstanding debt, with a longer **WAM** helping reduce the frequency of debt rollover.



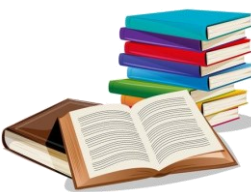
Important Terms Explained:

- **Treasury Bills (T-Bills):** These are short-term government securities that mature within one year and are issued at a discount and redeemed at par value.



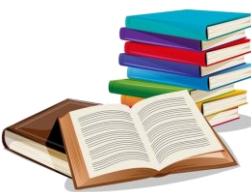
Important Terms Explained:

- **Ways and Means Advances (WMA):** These are temporary advances provided by the **Reserve Bank of India** to the government to manage short-term mismatches between receipts and payments.



Important Terms Explained:

- Debt-to-**GDP** Ratio: It compares the government's total debt with the country's **GDP** and is used as an indicator of public debt sustainability.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
H2FY27 dated securities borrowing	The Centre plans to borrow ₹7.86 trillion.
H1FY27 borrowing	The government borrowed ₹8.14 trillion through dated securities.
Projected gross market borrowing	Gross market borrowing for FY27 is projected at approximately ₹16 trillion.
Net market borrowing	The budgeted net market borrowing is ₹11.73 trillion.
H2 auction programme	The government plans 23 weekly auctions of ₹33,000 crore to ₹36,000 crore each.
Green bond borrowing	₹15,000 crore is planned to be raised through sovereign green bonds in H2FY27.
Short-term borrowing	Around ₹2.99 trillion is planned through Treasury Bills during Q3FY27.
Fiscal anchor	The debt-to-GDP target is 49%–51% by 2030–31, while the stated ratio is 58.2% against the annual target of 56.1%.



APPOINTMENTS

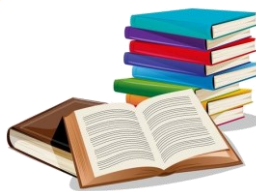


➤ Who has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)?

- A) Rahul Singh
- B) S Radha Chauhan
- C) Mandeep K Bhandari
- D) Lokhande Prashant Sitaram
- E) Sanjay Kumar

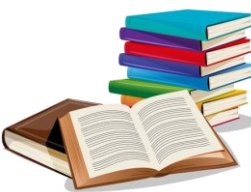


Answer
C) Mandeep K Bhandari.



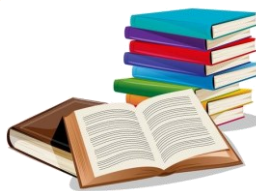
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Mandeep K Bhandari, a **2001**-batch **IAS** officer of the **AGMUT** cadre, has been appointed as the new Chairperson of **CBSE** in the rank and pay of **Additional Secretary** to the **Union Government**.
- **Location:** India.
- **Date:** September **25, 2026**.



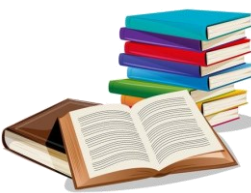
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The Appointments Committee** of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Mandeep K Bhandari as **CBSE** Chairperson, with the post temporarily upgraded to the rank and pay of **Additional Secretary** to the **Union Government**.



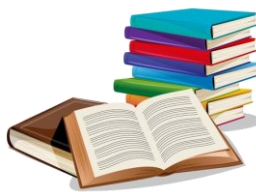
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The appointment places Bhandari in charge of **CBSE**'s administrative and academic functions, including examinations, school affiliation, curriculum-related activities, training and implementation of educational reforms.



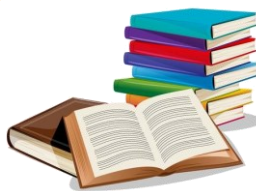
Important Terms Explained:

- **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC):** It is the Cabinet committee responsible for approving appointments to specified senior positions in the **Government of India**.



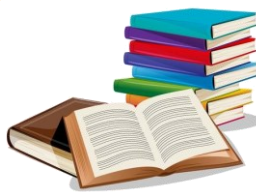
Important Terms Explained:

- **AGMUT Cadre: The Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territories** cadre is a joint **IAS** cadre covering **Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territories**.



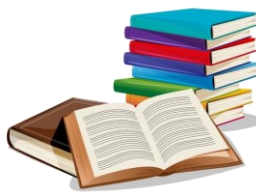
Important Terms Explained:

- **On-Screen Marking (OSM) System:** It refers to a digital evaluation system used for assessing candidates' answer papers electronically.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Additional Secretary:** It is a senior administrative rank in the **Union Government**, and Bhandari has been appointed **CBSE** Chairperson with the rank and pay attached to this level.



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

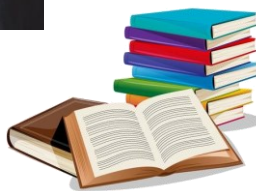
Parameter	Details
Appointment	Mandeep K Bhandari has been appointed as the new CBSE Chairperson.
Appointment date	The ACC order was issued on September 25, 2026.
Service and batch	Bhandari is a 2001-batch Indian Administrative Service officer.
Cadre	He belongs to the AGMUT cadre.
Appointing authority	The appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
Rank and pay	The position carries the rank and pay of Additional Secretary to the Union Government for this appointment.
CBSE functions	CBSE handles examinations, academics, school affiliation, training, skill education and other administrative functions.
Administrative context	The appointment follows administrative changes at CBSE during 2026, including the earlier appointment of Lokhande Prashant Sitaram as Chairperson in June.



➤ Who voluntarily retired as Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) with effect from September 24, 2026?

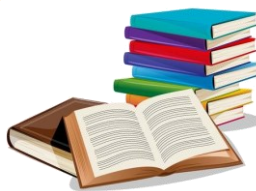
- A) Siddhartha Mohanty
- B) Dinesh Pant
- C) M Nagaraju
- D) Debasish Panda
- E) Sat Pal Bhanoo

Answer
B) Dinesh Pant.



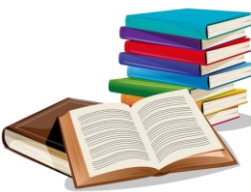
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Central Government approved the premature termination of **Dinesh Pant**'s appointment as **LIC Managing Director** following his voluntary retirement, ahead of his originally scheduled tenure ending in May **2027**.
- **Location:** India.
- **Date:** September **24, 2026**.



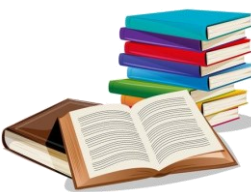
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Department of Financial Services under the **Ministry of Finance** notified the premature termination of **Dinesh Pant**'s appointment following his voluntary retirement, with the decision taking effect from September **24, 2026**.



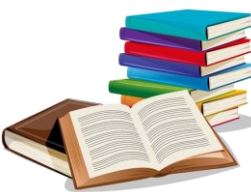
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The decision formally ended Pant's tenure as **LIC Managing Director and Key Managerial Personnel** following his voluntary retirement and his appointment as **Whole-Time Member** (Actuary) at **IRDAI**.



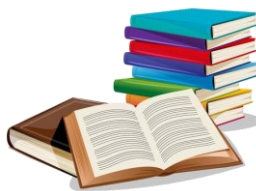
Important Terms Explained:

- **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC):** It is the life insurance corporation where **Dinesh Pant** served as **Managing Director** after previously holding actuarial and executive positions.



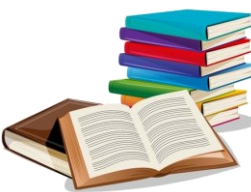
Important Terms Explained:

- **Key Managerial Personnel (KMP):** It refers to senior personnel holding key management responsibilities in an organisation, and Pant ceased to be **LIC's Managing Director** and **KMP** following his retirement.



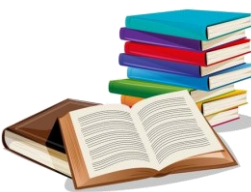
Important Terms Explained:

- **Appointed Actuary:** It is a specialised actuarial position responsible for functions involving insurance risks, liabilities, valuations and related actuarial matters, a role previously held by **Dinesh Pant** at **LIC**.



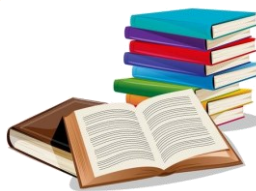
Important Terms Explained:

- **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI):** It is the insurance regulatory authority where **Dinesh Pant** was appointed **Whole-Time Member** (Actuary) in June **2026**.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Whole-Time Member** (Actuary): It is the regulatory position at **IRDAI** to which Pant was appointed for five years or until attaining **65** years of age, whichever is earlier.



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

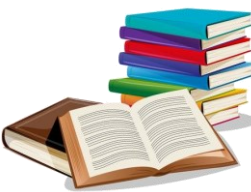
Parameter	Details
Development	The Central Government approved Dinesh Pant's premature exit as LIC Managing Director following his voluntary retirement.
Effective date	His retirement became effective on September 24, 2026.
Notifying authority	The Department of Financial Services under the Ministry of Finance issued the notification.
LIC tenure	Pant took charge as Managing Director on June 1, 2025.
Original tenure	His appointment was scheduled until May 31, 2027, or until further orders, whichever was earlier.
Previous LIC roles	Pant had served as Appointed Actuary and Executive Director (Actuarial) of LIC.
IRDAI appointment	He was appointed Whole-Time Member (Actuary) at IRDAI on June 15, 2026.
IRDAI tenure	His IRDAI appointment is for five years or until he reaches 65 years of age, whichever is earlier.



► Who signed the UN Convention against Cybercrime on behalf of India on September 25, 2026?

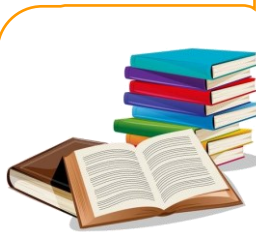
- A) Amit Shah
- B) S Jaishankar
- C) Ajit Doval
- D) Piyush Goyal
- E) Ashwini Vaishnaw

Answer
B) S Jaishankar.



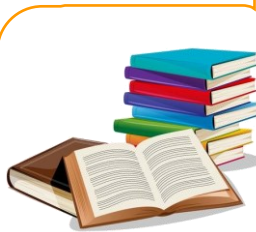
Event and Location:

- **Event: External Affairs Minister** S Jaishankar signed the UN Convention against Cybercrime on behalf of India to strengthen international cooperation against cybercrime and facilitate the sharing of electronic evidence.
- **Location: United Nations Headquarters, New York.**
- **Date: September 25, 2026.**



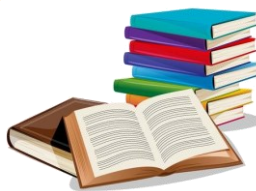
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The convention establishes a common international framework covering cybercrime investigations, electronic evidence, international cooperation, extradition, recovery of proceeds of crime and a **24/7** cooperation network among states.



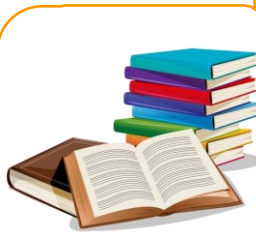
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The convention aims to strengthen cross-border cooperation in preventing and combating crimes committed through information and communications technology systems and facilitate the collection and sharing of electronic evidence related to serious crimes.



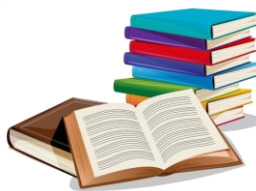
Important Terms Explained:

- **UN Convention against Cybercrime:** It is the first comprehensive UN treaty on cybercrime and provides an international framework for combating certain crimes committed through information and communications technology systems and sharing electronic evidence of serious crimes.



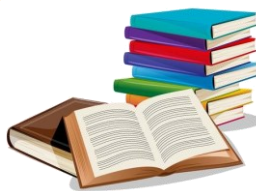
Important Terms Explained:

- **Electronic Evidence:** It refers to information or evidence stored or transmitted in digital form that can be collected, exchanged and used in investigations and proceedings involving serious crimes.



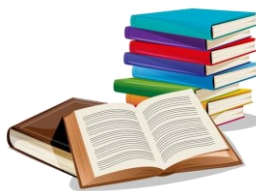
Important Terms Explained:

- **24/7 Network:** It is a cooperation mechanism established under the convention to enable states to initiate rapid international assistance in cybercrime and electronic-evidence matters.



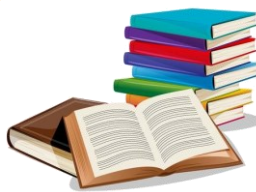
Important Terms Explained:

- **Ratification:** It is the formal process through which a state confirms its consent to be legally bound by a treaty after signing it, subject to its domestic procedures.



Important Terms Explained:

- **UNODC: The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime** served as the secretariat during nearly five years of negotiations on the convention.



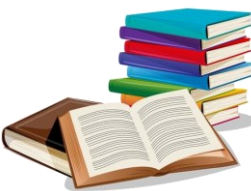
Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event	India signed the UN Convention against Cybercrime.
Signatory	External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar signed the convention on behalf of India.
Date of India's signature	India signed the convention on September 25, 2026.
Adoption	The UN General Assembly adopted the convention on December 24, 2024, through Resolution 79/243.
Signature process	The treaty opened for signature in Hanoi, Vietnam, on October 25–26, 2025, and remained open at UN Headquarters in New York until December 31, 2026.
Key purpose	It seeks to strengthen international cooperation against cybercrime and facilitate cross-border sharing of electronic evidence.
Entry into force	The convention will enter into force 90 days after deposit of the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
Status on September 25, 2026	The convention was listed as "Not yet in force" in the UN Treaty Collection.

➤ Which constitutional provision deals with the reconsideration of a State Bill reserved for the President and returned to the State Legislature?

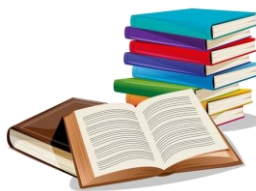
- A) Article 22
- B) Article 123
- C) Article 201
- D) Article 254
- E) Article 356

Answer
C) Article 201.



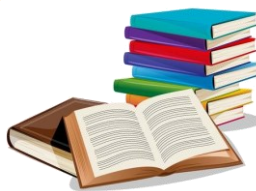
Event and Location:

- **Event:** President Droupadi Murmu returned the **West Bengal Public Safety and Control of Anti-Social Activities Bill, 2026** for reconsideration over concerns about a possible overlap with central legislation dealing with preventive detention in narcotics-related cases.
- **Location:** West Bengal, India.
- **Date:** September 26, 2026.



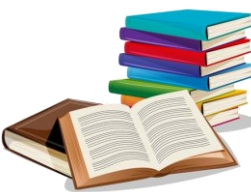
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The proposed law seeks to address anti-social activities, habitual offenders, organised crime, extortion, illegal mining and activities affecting public order, while providing for preventive detention of up to one year and certain restrictions on entry into specified areas.



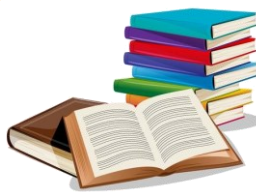
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The reconsideration seeks to address the potential legal overlap between the **State Bill's** provisions covering offences under the **NDPS** Act and the preventive detention framework under the central **PITNDPS** Act, **1988**.



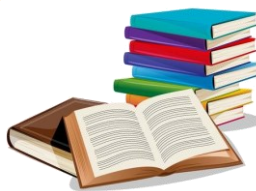
Important Terms Explained:

- Article **201**: It deals with Bills reserved by a Governor for consideration of the President and provides for the procedure when the President withholds assent or directs the return of a non-**Money Bill** for reconsideration.



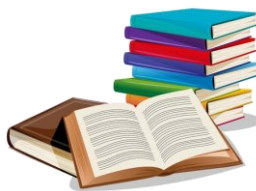
Important Terms Explained:

- Article **254**: It deals with repugnancy or inconsistency between laws made by **Parliament and State Legislatures** on matters contained in the **Concurrent List**.



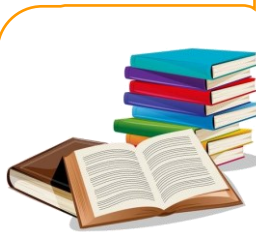
Important Terms Explained:

- **Preventive Detention:** It refers to detention intended to prevent a person from engaging in specified activities considered prejudicial to public order or other protected interests, rather than punishment following an offence.



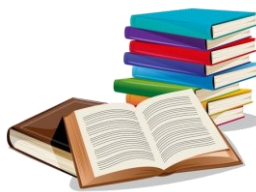
Important Terms Explained:

- **NDPS Act, 1985: The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985** deals with offences and regulatory provisions concerning narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.



Important Terms Explained:

- **PITNDPS Act, 1988: The Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988** is a Central law concerning preventive detention in relation to illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.



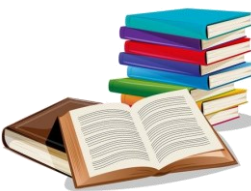
Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Development	President Droupadi Murmu returned the West Bengal Public Safety and Control of Anti-Social Activities Bill, 2026 for reconsideration.
State concerned	The proposed legislation belongs to West Bengal.
Assembly passage	The West Bengal Assembly passed the Bill on June 29, 2026.
Key provision	The Bill proposes preventive detention of up to one year for specified activities.
Major concern	Its coverage of NDPS Act offences could overlap with the central PITNDPS Act, 1988.
Article 254	It addresses repugnancy between Parliamentary and State laws on Concurrent List matters.
Article 201	It provides the relevant procedure for reconsideration of a State Bill returned by the President.
Next step	The State Legislature may reconsider the Bill and, if passed again with or without amendments, send it back to the President for consideration.

► How many talukas in Maharashtra were declared drought-affected under Trigger-1 of the Drought Management Code, 2016 during the 2026 Kharif season?

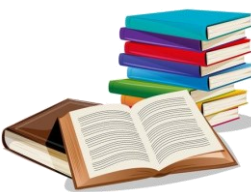
- A) 235
- B) 245
- C) 255
- D) 265
- E) 275

Answer
D) 265.



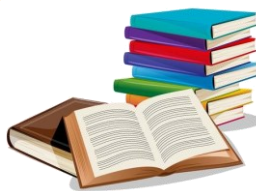
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Maharashtra government declared drought in **265** of the state's **358** talukas under Trigger-1 criteria and announced a **12**-point relief package for affected farmers, farm workers and rural households.
- **Location:** Maharashtra, India.
- **Date:** September **26, 2026**.



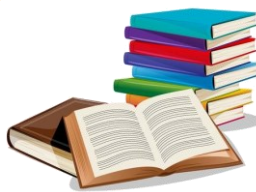
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: District Collectors** have been directed to conduct field-level crop-loss panchnamas using geotagged photographs with **GPS** coordinates, while the state will implement **12** relief measures covering agricultural loans, electricity charges, drinking water, food grains, fodder and water conservation.



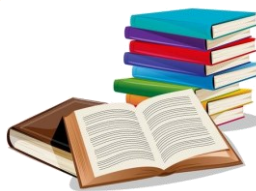
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The measures aim to assess crop losses caused by insufficient monsoon rainfall during the **2026** Kharif season and provide financial, agricultural and essential-service support to drought-affected communities.



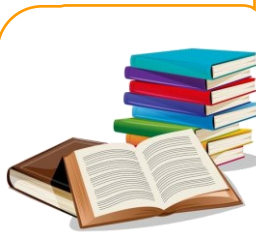
Important Terms Explained:

- **Drought Management Code, 2016:** It provides the framework used for identifying drought conditions through indicators related to rainfall, agriculture, vegetation and water availability and for initiating assessment and relief measures.



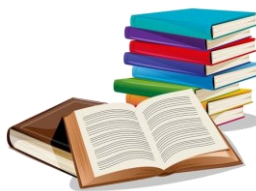
Important Terms Explained:

- **Trigger-1:** It refers to the drought-identification criteria under which the administration initiates necessary assessment and relief measures based on specified drought indicators.



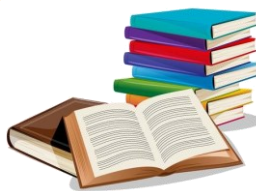
Important Terms Explained:

- **Panchnama:** It is a field-level assessment process used to record crop damage, with the **2026** exercise requiring geotagged photographs and **GPS** coordinates of affected agricultural land.



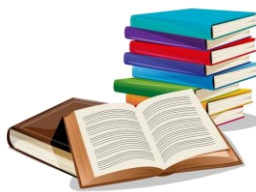
Important Terms Explained:

- **Kharif Season:** It refers to the agricultural cropping season associated with the monsoon period, during which insufficient rainfall in **2026** contributed to drought conditions in Maharashtra.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT):** It is the mechanism through which approved relief payments are transferred directly to eligible beneficiaries after completion of the required processing and e-KYC.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event	Maharashtra declared drought in 265 talukas and announced a 12-point relief package.
Coverage	The declaration covers 265 of Maharashtra's 358 talukas, or nearly 75% of the total.
Basis of declaration	The decision was based on Trigger-1 guidelines, the Drought Management Code, 2016 and the Agriculture Commissioner's report.
Largest affected division	Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar division has 74 drought-affected talukas.
Crop-loss assessment	District Collectors will conduct panchnamas using geotagged photographs with GPS coordinates.
Major relief measures	Measures include loan rescheduling, a moratorium on agricultural loan recovery, electricity concessions, examination-fee exemption, drinking-water arrangements and fodder supply.
Crop assistance rates	Existing rates are ₹8,500 per hectare for rainfed crops, ₹17,000 for irrigated and horticultural crops and ₹22,500 for perennial crops.
Relief process	The process follows panchnama, government approval, online processing, VK number, e-KYC and DBT payment.

- For how long has the Centre extended Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) in specified areas of Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh from October 1, 2026?

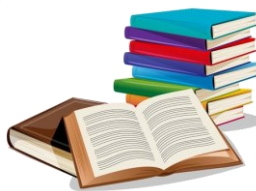
- A) Three months
- B) Four months
- C) Six months
- D) Nine months
- E) One year

Answer
C) Six months.



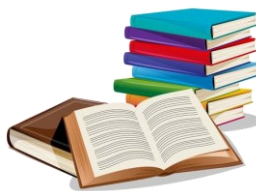
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Central Government extended **AFSPA** in specified areas of Manipur, **Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh** for another six months after reviewing the law-and-order situation.
- **Location:** Specified areas of Manipur, **Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh**, India.
- **Date:** October 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027.



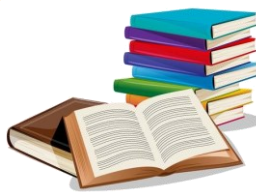
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Ministry of Home Affairs renewed the declaration of specified areas as disturbed areas under **AFSPA**, continuing its application in notified parts of Manipur, nine districts and specified police-station areas of Nagaland, and three districts along with specified areas of Namsai district in **Arunachal Pradesh**.



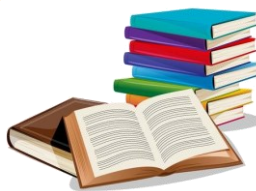
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The extension aims to continue the deployment and specified powers of the armed forces in notified disturbed areas for restoring and maintaining order, based on the Centre's review of the prevailing law-and-order situation.



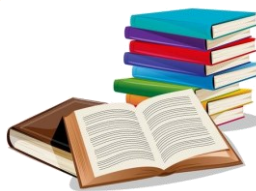
Important Terms Explained:

- **Disturbed Area:** Under Section 3 of AFSPA, an appropriate government may declare an area disturbed when it considers the use of armed forces necessary for restoring and maintaining order.



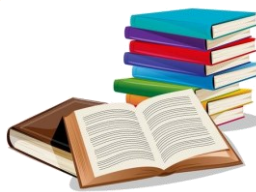
Important Terms Explained:

- Section **3** of **AFSPA**: It provides for the declaration of an area as a disturbed area when the conditions specified under the Act warrant the use of armed forces.



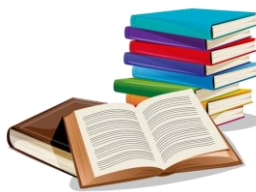
Important Terms Explained:

- **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA):** It is the **Union Ministry** that issued the notifications extending the disturbed-area declarations in the specified areas of the three northeastern states.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Special Powers: AFSPA** provides authorised armed-forces personnel specified powers in disturbed areas, including arrest and search without warrant under specified circumstances and the use of force subject to the provisions of the Act.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Development	The Centre extended AFSPA in specified areas of Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh.
Extension period	The extension runs for six months from October 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027, unless withdrawn earlier.
Issuing authority	The Ministry of Home Affairs issued the relevant notifications.
Manipur coverage	The disturbed-area declaration continues while excluding areas under 13 police stations across five districts.
Nagaland coverage	AFSPA continues in nine districts and areas under 21 police stations in five other districts.
Arunachal Pradesh coverage	AFSPA continues in Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts and specified police-station areas of Namsai district.
Legal provision	Section 3 of AFSPA provides for declaration of disturbed areas under specified conditions.
Purpose	The extension enables continued application of AFSPA provisions for restoring and maintaining order in notified areas.

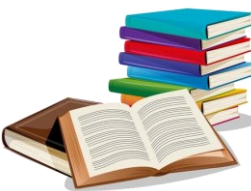
➤ Which four ports were notified as mega ports under the Indian Ports Act, 2025 in September 2026?

- A) Chennai, Kochi, Mumbai and Visakhapatnam
- B) Deendayal, Jawaharlal Nehru, Paradip and Mundra
- C) Mormugao, Paradip, Chennai and Kolkata
- D) Mundra, Mumbai, Kochi and Tuticorin
- E) Deendayal, Chennai, Mormugao and Visakhapatnam



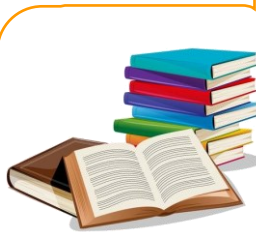
Answer

B) Deendayal, Jawaharlal Nehru, Paradip and Mundra.



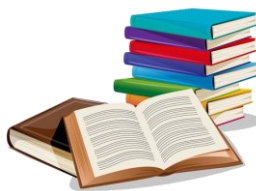
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Centre notified **Deendayal Port, Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Paradip Port and Mundra Port** as mega ports under Section **73** of the **Indian Ports Act, 2025**.
- **Location:** Gujarat, **Maharashtra and Odisha**, India.
- **Date:** September **25, 2026**.



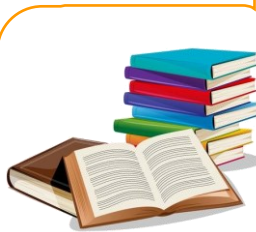
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways notified the four ports as mega ports through **Gazette Notification S.O. 5303(E)** under Section **73** of the **Indian Ports Act, 2025**, based on prescribed cargo-throughput criteria.



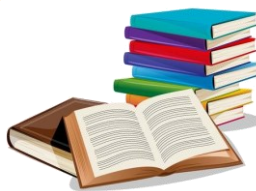
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** The mega-port framework aims to classify ports meeting specified cargo-handling thresholds while allowing them to retain their original status as major ports or ports other than major ports.



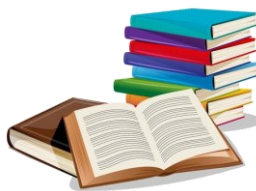
Important Terms Explained:

- **Mega Port:** It is a classification under Section **73** of the **Indian Ports Act, 2025** for eligible ports meeting the cargo-throughput criteria prescribed by the **Central Government**.



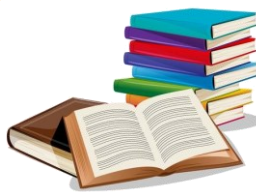
Important Terms Explained:

- **Cargo Throughput:** It refers to cargo handled during a financial year, including **EXIM** and coastal cargo across bulk, break-bulk, liquid, dry and containerised categories.



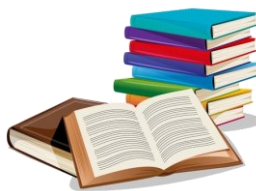
Important Terms Explained:

- **Twenty-Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU)**: It is a standard measurement used for containerised cargo capacity, with the mega-port threshold for container ports set at **7.5 million** TEUs.



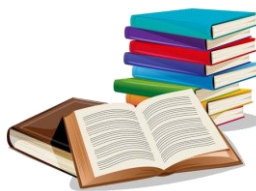
Important Terms Explained:

- Section **73**: It empowers the **Central Government** to prescribe criteria and notify eligible major ports and other ports as mega ports without altering their underlying classification.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Indian Ports Act, 2025:** It is the legislation governing the current legal framework for Indian ports, with Section **73** specifically dealing with the notification of mega ports.



Tabular Summary:

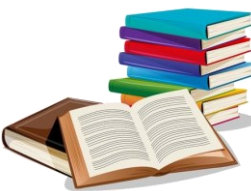
Parameter	Details
Development	Deendayal, Jawaharlal Nehru, Paradip and Mundra ports were notified as mega ports.
Notification date	The Ministry issued the notification on September 25, 2026.
Legal provision	The designation was made under Section 73 of the Indian Ports Act, 2025.
Bulk cargo threshold	A bulk port qualifies at 150 million metric tonnes of cargo throughput in the previous financial year.
Container threshold	A container port qualifies at 7.5 million TEUs in the previous financial year.
Validity	Mega-port status remains valid for five years from the date of notification.
Mundra distinction	Mundra is the only one among the four that was classified as a port other than a major port before receiving mega-port status.
Original classification	Mega-port designation does not change a port's underlying major or non-major classification.



QUICK RECALL



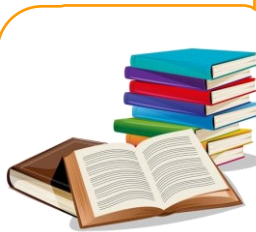
- **World Tourism Day 2026 is observed on September 27 with the theme “Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism”, highlighting technology and AI-driven transformation of the tourism sector.**
- **CSIR Foundation Day 2026 marks 85 years of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, established on September 26, 1942, to advance scientific and industrial research in India.**
- **India’s women’s kabaddi team defeated Iran in the Asian Games 2026 final in Japan to defend its title and secure a fourth Asian Games gold medal.**
- **India won the women’s 50m rifle 3 positions team silver at the Asian Games 2026 as Tilottama Sen, Vidarsa Vinod Kochalumkal and Ashi Chouksey combined for 1763 points.**
- **Sawan Barwal won silver in the men’s marathon at the Asian Games 2026 in Nagoya with a national-record 2:11:37, ending India’s 44-year wait for a medal in the event.**
- **India defeated Iran 40-34 in the Asian Games 2026 men’s kabaddi final at Aichi-Nagoya to retain the gold medal it had won at Hangzhou 2022.**



QUICK RECALL



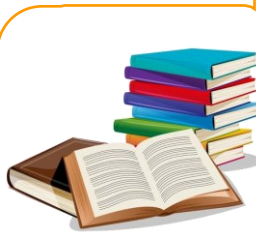
- India won seven medals on Day 7 of the Asian Games 2026 in Aichi-Nagoya, including two gold, three silver and two bronze, taking its overall tally to 30 medals.
- Delhi ranked 268th among 1,000 cities in the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2026, emerging as the highest-ranked Indian city while New York topped the global ranking. — BANKING AND FINANCE —
- The Central Government plans to raise ₹7.86 trillion through dated securities in H2FY27, with longer-tenor bonds, sovereign green bonds and 23 weekly auctions forming key parts of its borrowing programme.
- The Centre appointed 2001-batch AGMUT-cadre IAS officer Mandeep K Bhandari as CBSE Chairperson in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary to the Union Government.
- The Central Government approved Dinesh Pant's voluntary retirement as LIC Managing Director from September 24, 2026, ending his tenure ahead of the originally scheduled May 2027 completion.



QUICK RECALL



- **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar signed the UN Convention against Cybercrime for India on September 25, 2026, strengthening the framework for international cooperation on cybercrime and electronic evidence.**
- **President Droupadi Murmu returned West Bengal's Public Safety and Control of Anti-Social Activities Bill, 2026 for reconsideration over a possible overlap with the central PITNDPS Act concerning narcotics-related preventive detention.**
- **The Maharashtra government declared drought in 265 of 358 talukas under Trigger-1 of the Drought Management Code, 2016, and announced a 12-point package to support affected farmers and rural households.**
- **The Centre extended AFSPA for six months from October 1, 2026 in specified areas of Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh after reviewing the law-and-order situation.**
- **The Centre notified Deendayal, Jawaharlal Nehru, Paradip and Mundra as mega ports under the Indian Ports Act, 2025, based on prescribed cargo-handling thresholds.**



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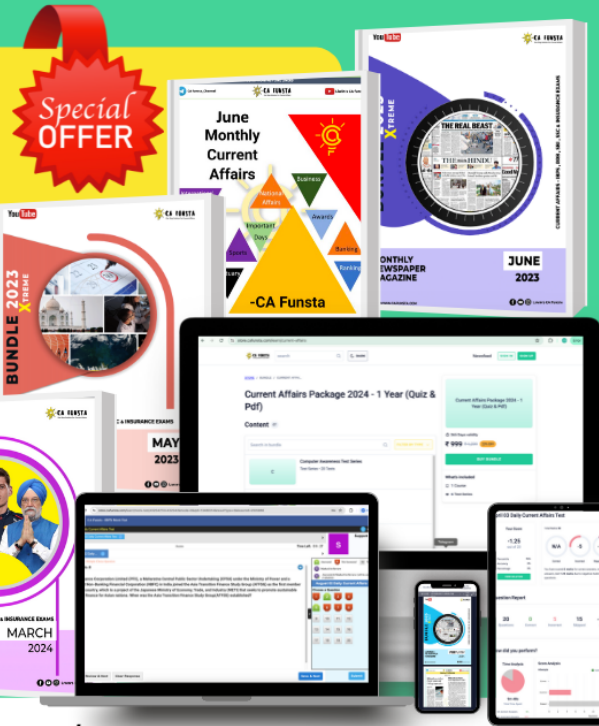
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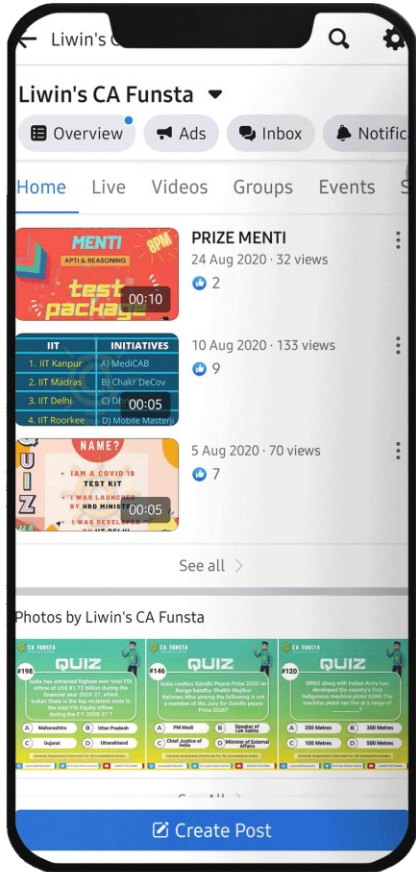
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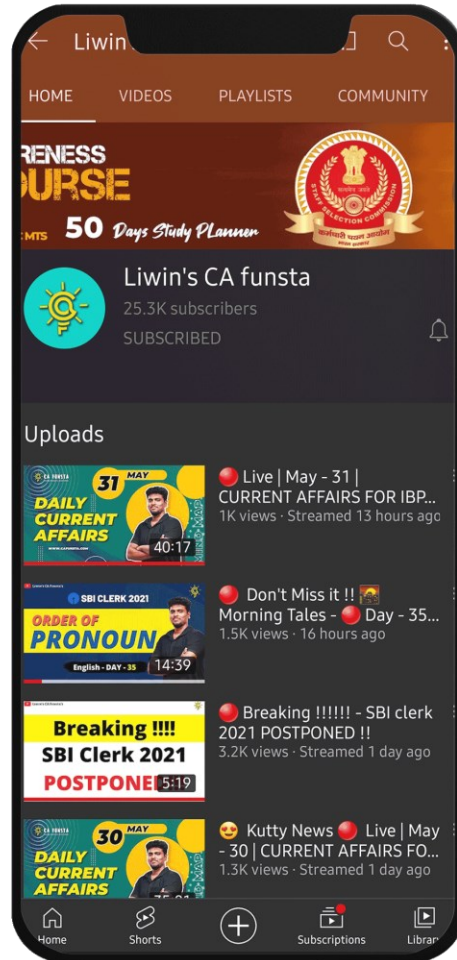


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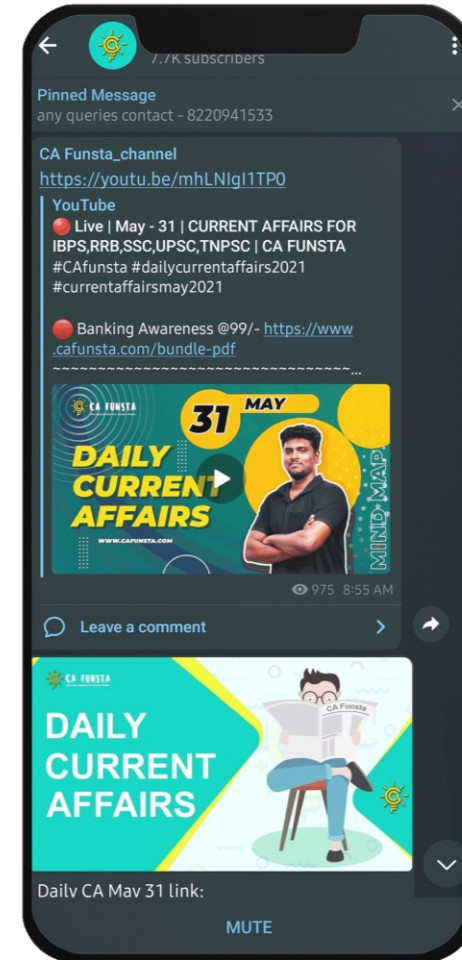
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