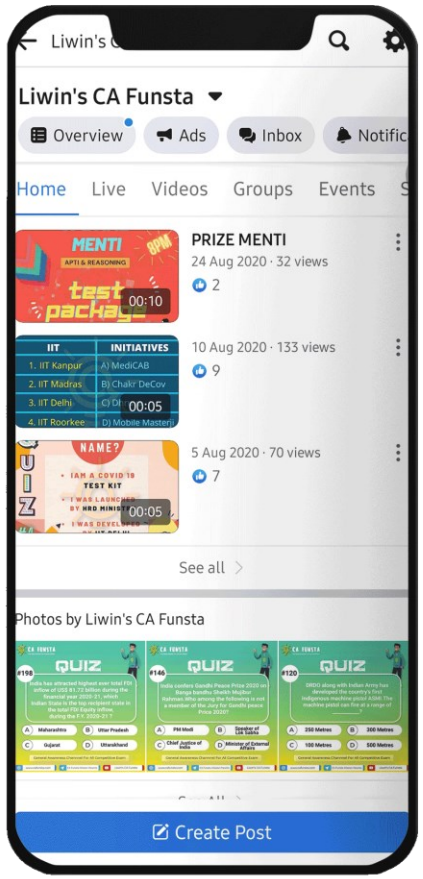
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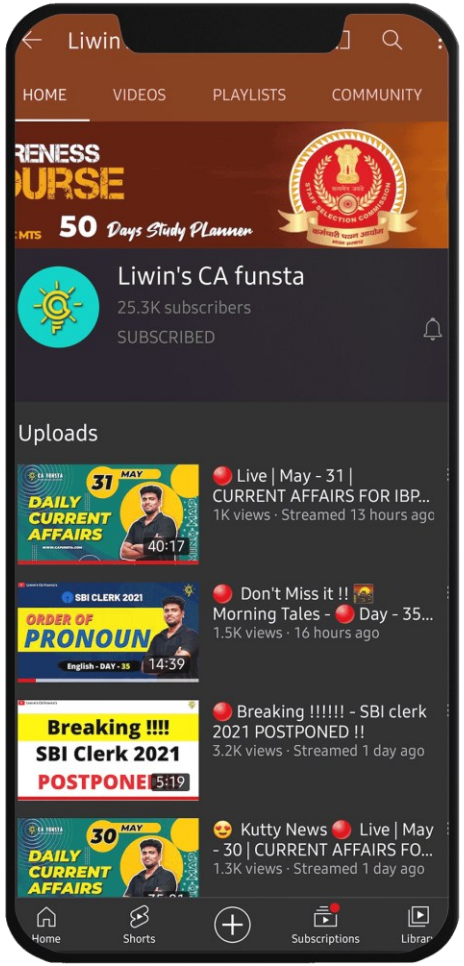
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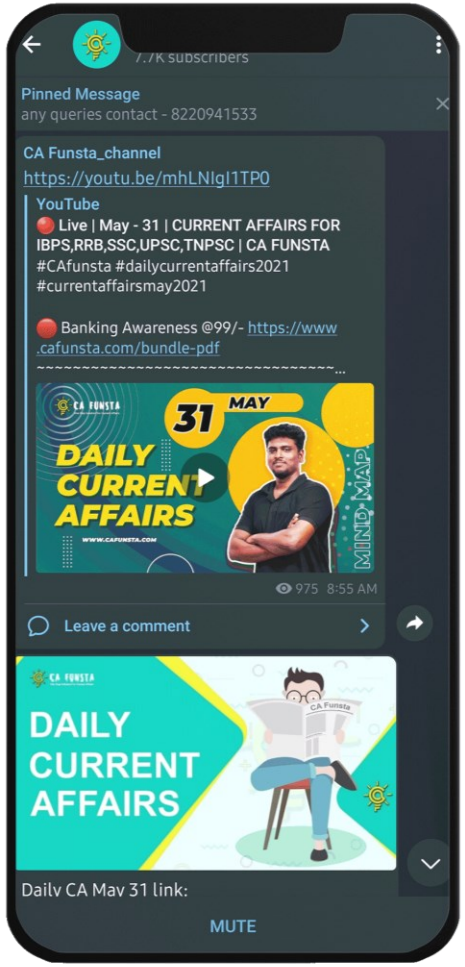
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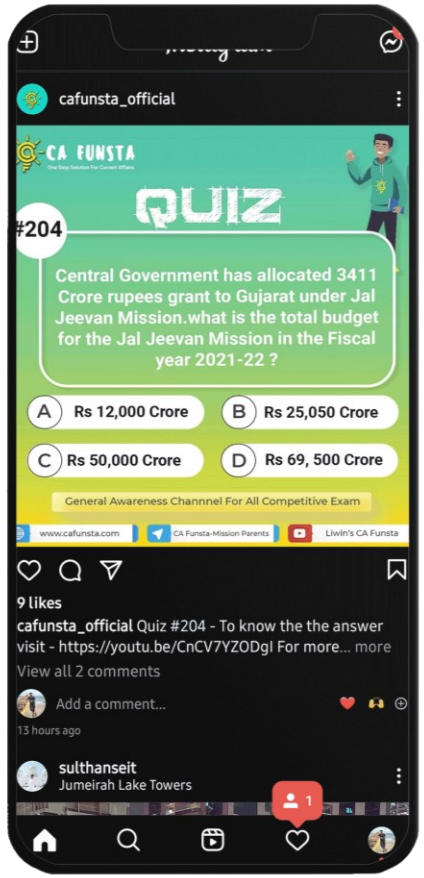


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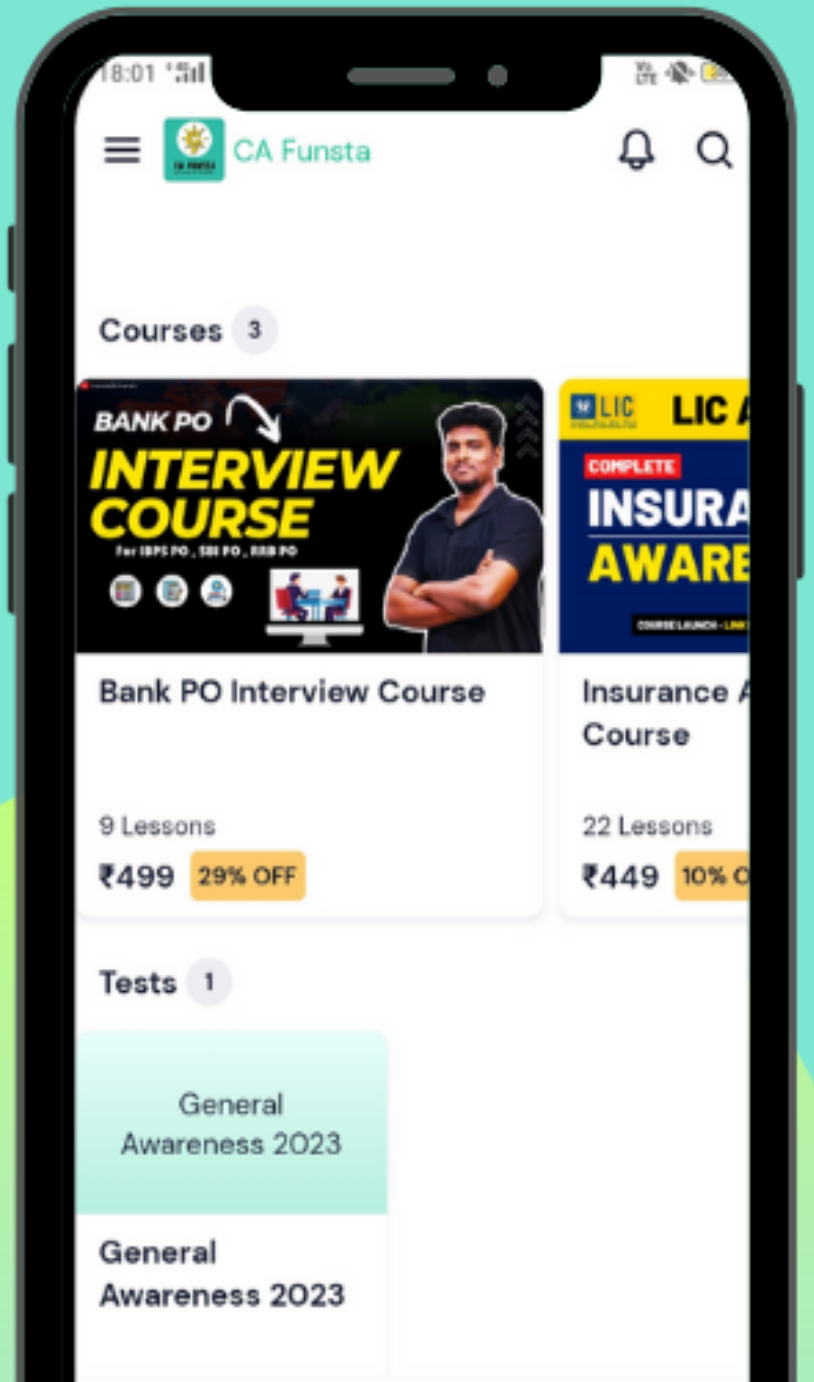
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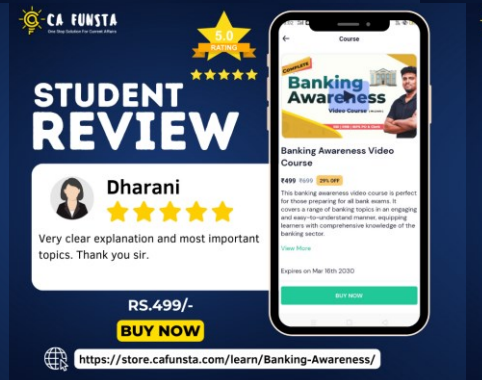

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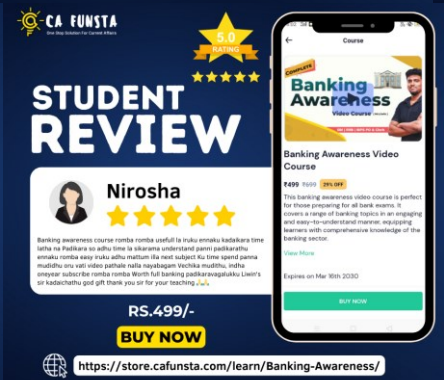

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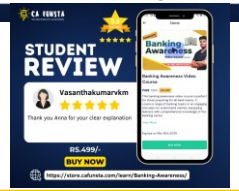

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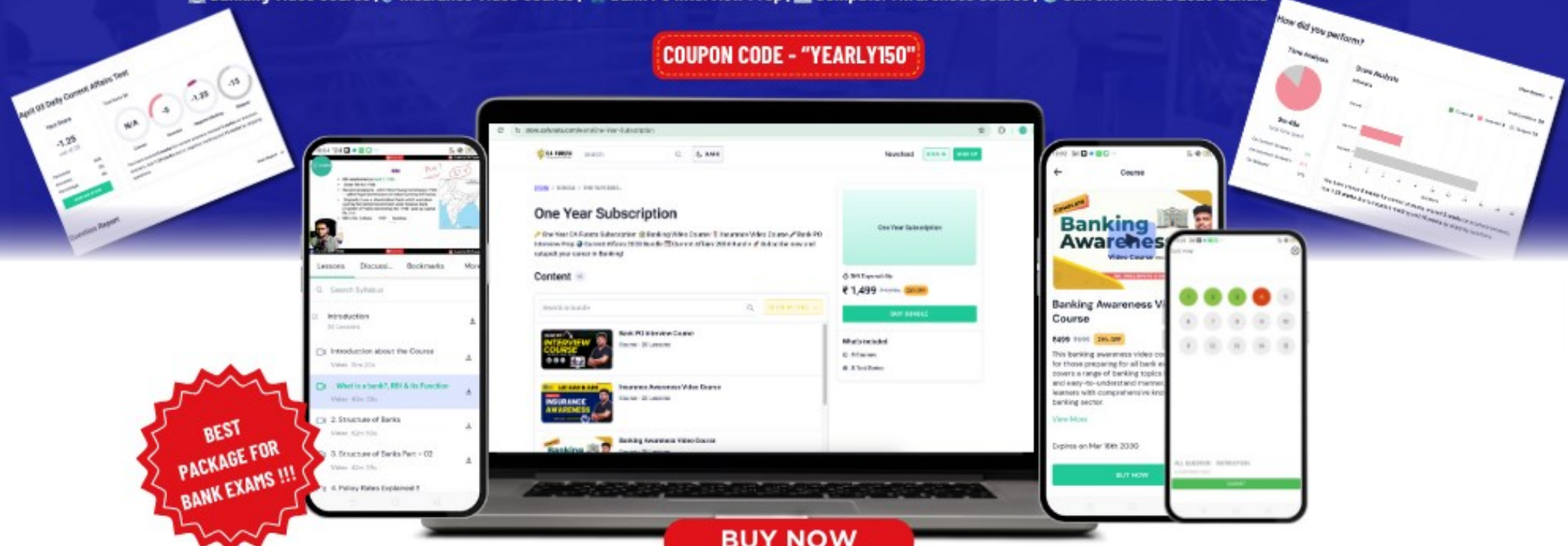
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Important Days

➤ **On which date is World Jellyfish Day observed annually to raise awareness about the ecological importance and scientific significance of jellyfish?**

A) October 31
B) November 1
C) November 2
D) November 3
E) November 5

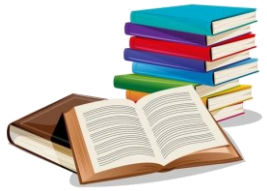


Answer
D) November 3.

Important Days

Event and Location:

- **Event: World Jellyfish Day 2026** was observed to raise awareness about the ecological importance of jellyfish, their role in marine food webs, unique biological characteristics and contributions to biotechnology and scientific research.
- **Location:** Worldwide, particularly marine ecosystems, oceans and coastal regions.

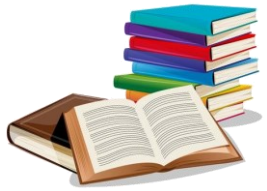


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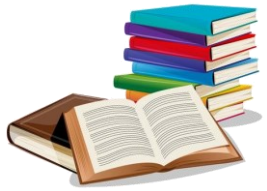
Event and Location:

- **Date:** November **3, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

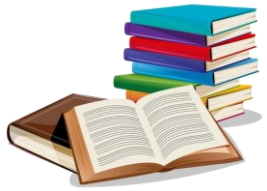
- **Mandates: World Jellyfish Day** is observed annually on November **3** to highlight the biological characteristics, ecological functions and scientific importance of jellyfish. The observance promotes awareness of jellyfish as predators and prey in marine food webs, their interactions with fisheries, environmental threats affecting their populations and their contributions to scientific discoveries such as **Green Fluorescent Protein** (**GFP**).



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Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To promote marine biodiversity conservation, improve understanding of jellyfish biology and ecological functions, encourage scientific and biotechnology research, raise awareness about environmental changes affecting jellyfish populations and highlight their importance in maintaining balanced marine ecosystems.

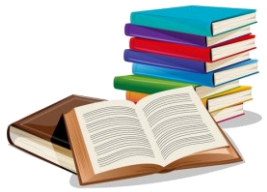


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Important Days

Important Terms Explained:

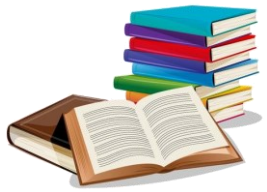
- **World Jellyfish Day:** An annual awareness observance held on November **3** to highlight the ecological, biological and scientific importance of jellyfish. It has appeared in observance calendars since at least **2014,** although its original founder and the reason for selecting November **3** remain unclear.



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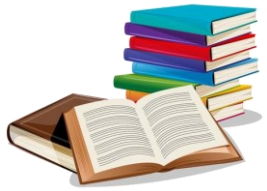
Important Terms Explained:

- **Jellyfish:** Gelatinous aquatic invertebrates belonging to the phylum Cnidaria, characterised by umbrella-shaped bodies, tentacles and specialised stinging cells. Their bodies contain approximately **95%** water, and they lack a brain, heart, blood and bones.



Important Terms Explained:

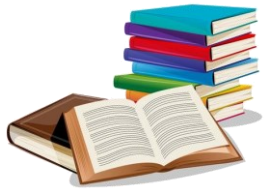
- **Phylum Cnidaria:** A major animal group comprising jellyfish, corals, sea anemones and hydras, characterised by specialised stinging cells used for capturing prey and defence.



Important Days

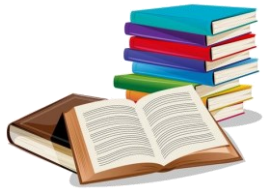
Important Terms Explained:

- **Cnidocytes and Nematocysts:** Cnidocytes are specialised stinging cells found in cnidarians, while nematocysts are microscopic stinging capsules within these cells that discharge structures used for prey capture and protection.



Important Terms Explained:

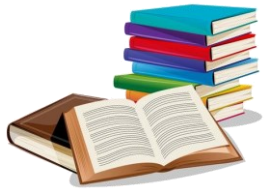
- **Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP):** A naturally occurring fluorescent protein originally discovered in the jellyfish Aequorea victoria by **Osamu Shimomura** in the **1960**s. It is widely used as a biological marker to study cells, gene expression and protein behaviour.



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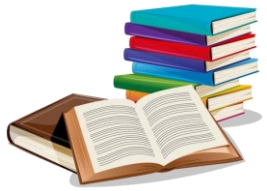
Important Terms Explained:

- **Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2008**: Awarded jointly to **Osamu Shimomura, Martin Chalfie and Roger** Y. Tsien for the discovery and development of **Green Fluorescent Protein,** which transformed biological and medical research.



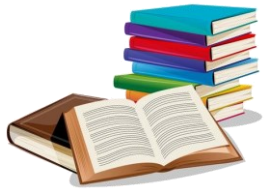
Important Terms Explained:

- **Bioluminescence:** The production and emission of light by living organisms through chemical reactions. Some jellyfish exhibit bioluminescence, which can serve defensive or other biological functions.



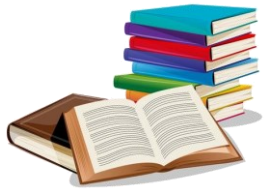
Important Terms Explained:

- **Mesoglea:** The transparent, jelly-like material found between the outer and inner tissue layers of jellyfish, providing structural support and contributing to their gelatinous appearance.



Important Terms Explained:

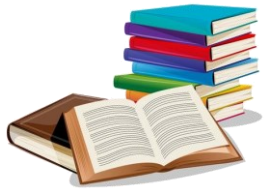
- **Nerve Net:** A simple, interconnected network of nerve cells that enables jellyfish to detect environmental stimuli and coordinate movement without possessing a centralised brain.



Important Days

Important Terms Explained:

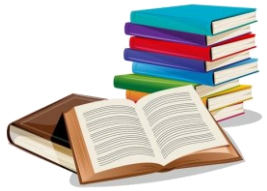
- **Transdifferentiation:** A biological process in which one type of differentiated cell changes into another. The immortal jellyfish, Turritopsis dohrnii, can reverse aspects of its life cycle by returning from the mature medusa stage to an earlier developmental stage under certain conditions.



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Important Terms Explained:

- **Jellyfish Bloom:** A rapid increase in jellyfish abundance within a particular marine area, which can affect fisheries, compete with other marine organisms for food and interfere with coastal activities.



Important Days

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Observance and date	World Jellyfish Day, observed annually on November 3.
History of observance	Recognised in various observance calendars since at least 2014, with no clearly established founder or original reason for the date.
Biological classification	Jellyfish belong to the phylum Cnidaria and possess umbrella-shaped bodies, tentacles and specialised stinging cells.
Major biological characteristics	Approximately 95% water, without a brain, heart, blood or bones, but possessing a simple nerve net.
Marine ecological role	Jellyfish consume plankton, fish eggs, larvae and small crustaceans and serve as prey for sea turtles, ocean sunfish and other marine animals.
Scientific contribution	Green Fluorescent Protein was discovered in Aequorea victoria, contributing to the 2008 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.
Unique species and adaptations	Turritopsis dohrnii can reverse its developmental life cycle, while the lion's mane jellyfish is known for exceptionally long tentacles.
Conservation significance	Monitoring jellyfish populations supports marine biodiversity research, fisheries management and understanding of changing ocean conditions.

Important Days

➤ **How many biosphere reserves in India were recognised under UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves as of 2026?**

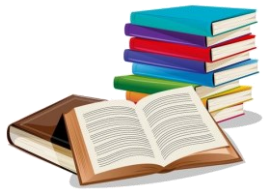
A) 10
B) 11
C) 12
D) 13
E) 18



Answer
D) 13.

Event and Location:

- **Event: International Day for Biosphere Reserves 2026** was observed to promote biodiversity conservation, sustainable development and harmonious coexistence between humans and nature. According to the supplied report, India has **18** notified biosphere reserves, of which **13** are recognised under **UNESCO**'s **World Network of Biosphere Reserves**.

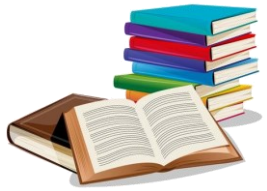


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Important Days

Event and Location:

- **Location:** Worldwide, including India's **UNESCO**-recognised biosphere reserves spread across various states and **Union Territories**.
- **Date:** November **3, 2026**. The observance was proclaimed by **UNESCO** in **2021** and first celebrated on November **3, 2022**.

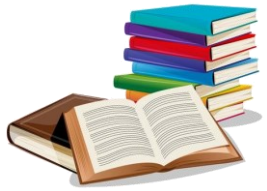


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Important Days

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization** (**UNESCO**) proclaimed November **3** as the **International Day for Biosphere Reserves** during its **41**st **General Conference** in **2021** through Resolution **37**. The day recognises the contribution of biosphere reserves to biodiversity conservation, sustainable resource management, scientific research and community development under the **UNESCO** Man and the **Biosphere Programme**. **As of June 2026, UNESCO**'s **World Network of Biosphere Reserves** reportedly included **797** sites across **145** countries.

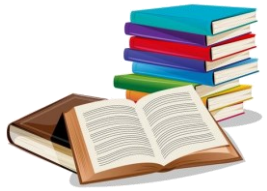


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Important Days

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To conserve biodiversity and natural ecosystems, encourage sustainable economic development, promote scientific research and environmental education, strengthen cooperation between governments and local communities, and demonstrate practical approaches to balancing ecological protection with human livelihoods.

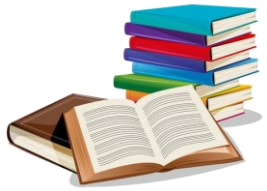


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Important Days

Important Terms Explained:

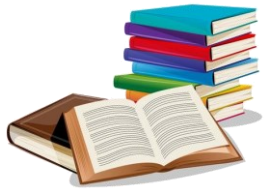
- **International Day for Biosphere Reserves:** An annual **UNESCO** observance celebrated on November **3** to highlight the role of biosphere reserves in biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, environmental research and community participation. It was proclaimed in **2021** and first observed in **2022**.



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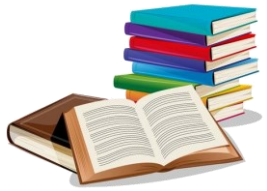
Important Terms Explained:

- **Biosphere Reserve:** A terrestrial, marine or coastal area recognised for integrating biodiversity conservation with sustainable development. Biosphere reserves function as living laboratories where ecological protection, scientific research and human activities are managed together.



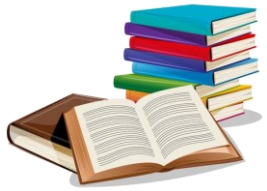
Important Terms Explained:

- **UNESCO: The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,** a specialised **United Nations** agency established in **1945** that promotes international cooperation in education, science, culture and communication.



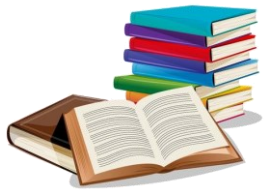
Important Terms Explained:

- **Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme:** An intergovernmental scientific programme launched by **UNESCO** in **1971** to improve relationships between people and their natural environment through biodiversity conservation, sustainable resource management, research and education.



Important Terms Explained:

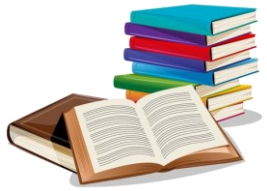
- **World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR):** A global network of sites recognised under **UNESCO**'s **MAB** Programme that supports international cooperation, knowledge-sharing, sustainable development and biodiversity conservation.



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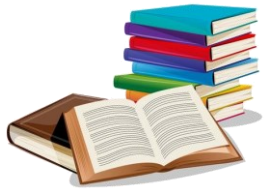
Important Terms Explained:

- **Core Zone:** The legally protected central area of a biosphere reserve, primarily intended to conserve ecosystems, wildlife species, genetic resources and ecological processes with minimal human disturbance.



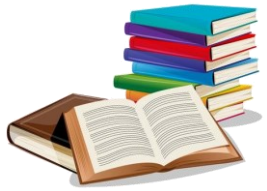
Important Terms Explained:

- **Buffer Zone:** An area surrounding or adjoining the core zone where activities compatible with conservation, such as scientific research, environmental monitoring, education and sustainable resource use, are supported.



Important Terms Explained:

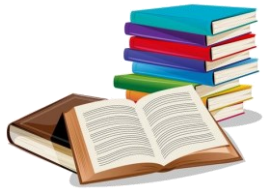
- **Transition Zone:** The outer part of a biosphere reserve where communities live and undertake sustainable economic, agricultural, cultural and other human activities.



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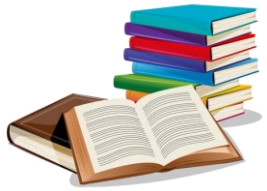
Important Terms Explained:

- **Three Functions of Biosphere Reserves:**
  Conservation protects biodiversity and ecosystems; development promotes sustainable economic and social progress; and logistic support facilitates scientific research, monitoring, education and training.



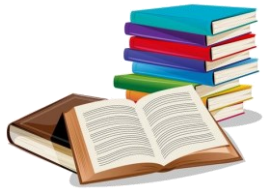
Important Terms Explained:

- **Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve:** A biosphere reserve located in **Himachal Pradesh,** recognised by **UNESCO** in September **2025** according to the supplied report**,** becoming India's **13**th site in the **World Network of Biosphere Reserves**.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Sustainable Development:** Development that meets present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, balancing environmental protection, economic progress and social well-being.



Important Days

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Observance and date	International Day for Biosphere Reserves, celebrated annually on November 3.
UNESCO proclamation	Declared at UNESCO's 41st General Conference in 2021 through Resolution 37, with the first observance held on November 3, 2022.
UNESCO MAB Programme	Launched in 1971 to integrate biodiversity conservation, scientific research and sustainable development.
Global biosphere reserve network	As of June 2026, the report lists 797 UNESCO-recognised biosphere reserves across 145 countries.
Global coverage and beneficiaries	Approximately 7.5 million square kilometres, with about 300 million people directly benefiting from these sites, according to the report.
India's biosphere reserve status	India has 18 nationally notified biosphere reserves, of which 13 are included in UNESCO's World Network.
Latest Indian UNESCO recognition	Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve in Himachal Pradesh, recognised in September 2025.
Three zones and major functions	Core, buffer and transition zones support the three functions of conservation, sustainable development and logistic support.

Important Days

➤ **How many medals did India win to top the medal tally at the Tammer Tournament 2026 held in Tampere, Finland?**

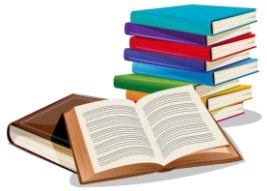
A) 10 medals
B) 12 medals
C) 13 medals
D) 14 medals
E) 16 medals



Answer
D) 14 medals.

Event and Location:

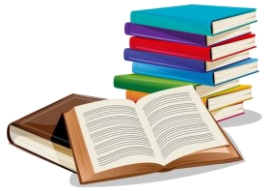
- **Event:** India topped the medal tally at the **Tammer Tournament 2026,** winning **14** medals**,** comprising **4** gold**, 2** silver and **8** bronze medals. All **14** members of the Indian boxing contingent secured medals**,** with **Aarti Dhariyal, Ankushita Boro, Arundhati Chaudhary and Pawan Bartwal** winning gold.



Important Days

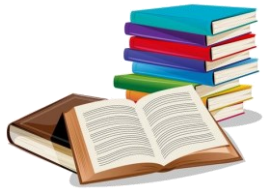
Event and Location:

- **Location:** Tampere, Finland, where the international boxing tournament was organised by the **Tampere Boxing Association**.
- **Date:** November **2026,** with India's medal-winning performance reported on November **3, 2026**.



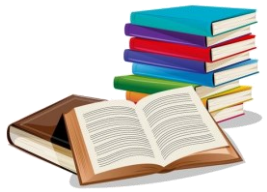
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The Indian** boxing contingent participated in the **Tammer Tournament 2026** under **World Boxing** rules and finished first in the medal standings with **14** medals. The four gold medallists were **Aarti Dhariyal** in women's **54 kg, Ankushita Boro** in women's **65 kg, Arundhati Chaudhary** in women's **70 kg** and **Pawan Bartwal** in men's **55 kg**. **Mohammed Hussamuddin and Jaismine Lamboria** earned silver medals, while eight other Indian boxers secured bronze medals.



Mandates and Objectives:

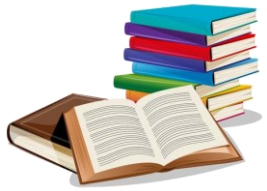
- **Objectives:** To provide international competitive exposure to Indian boxers, strengthen their technical and tactical abilities, improve performance across men's and women's weight categories, assess athletes against international opponents and support India's preparation for future major boxing championships.
- **Ranking Table:**



Important Days

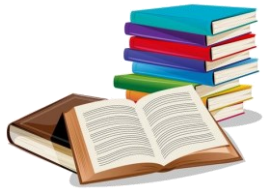
Mandates and Objectives:

- India's final medal tally
  - **Gold: 4**
  - **Silver: 2**
  - **Bronze: 8**



India's Medal-Winning Performance – Tammer Tournamen

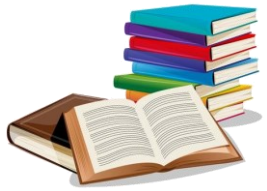
Medal	Indian Boxer / Weight Category
Gold	Indian Boxer: Aarti Dhariyal | Weight Category: Women's 54 kg
Gold	Indian Boxer: Ankushita Boro | Weight Category: Women's 65 kg
Gold	Indian Boxer: Arundhati Chaudhary | Weight Category: Women's 70 kg
Gold	Indian Boxer: Pawan Bartwal | Weight Category: Men's 55 kg
Silver	Indian Boxer: Mohammed Hussamuddin | Weight Category: Men's 60 kg
Silver	Indian Boxer: Jaismine Lamboria | Weight Category: Women's 57 kg
Bronze	Indian Boxer: Vivek Meena | Weight Category: Men's 65 kg
Bronze	Indian Boxer: Hitesh | Weight Category: Men's 70 kg
Bronze	Indian Boxer: Akshay | Weight Category: Men's 80 kg
Bronze	Indian Boxer: Bobin Chauhan | Weight Category: Men's 90 kg



Important Days

Important Terms Explained:

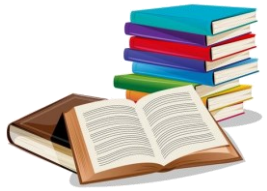
- **Tammer Tournament:** An annual international boxing competition held in Tampere, Finland, and organised by the **Tampere Boxing Association**. Established in **1977,** the competition provides boxers with international competitive experience.



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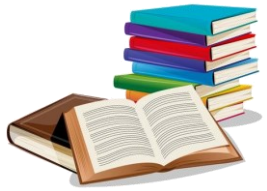
Important Terms Explained:

- **World Boxing:** An international boxing governing organisation that develops rules and standards for competitions. **The Tammer Tournament 2026** was conducted under **World Boxing** rules.



Important Terms Explained:

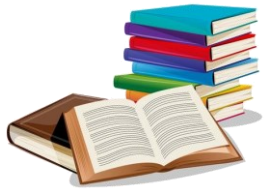
- **Tampere Boxing Association: The Finnish** boxing organisation responsible for organising the **Tammer Tournament,** which has been held since **1977**.



Important Days

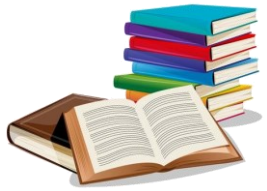
Important Terms Explained:

- **Weight Categories in Boxing:** Competitive divisions based on athletes' body weight to ensure fair competition. The **2026** tournament featured **10** men's weight categories and seven women's weight categories.



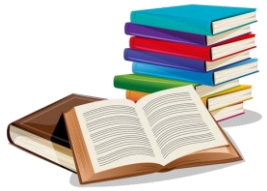
Important Terms Explained:

- **5–0 Unanimous Decision**: A boxing result in which all five judges award victory to the same boxer. **Aarti Dhariyal** defeated Scotland's **Stephanie Kernachan** by a **5–0** decision in the women's **54 kg** final.



Important Terms Explained:

- **3–2 Split Decision**: A boxing result in which three judges favour one boxer and two favour the opponent. **Arundhati Chaudhary** defeated Ireland's **Evelyn Ivie Igharo** by a **3–2** decision in the women's **70 kg** final.

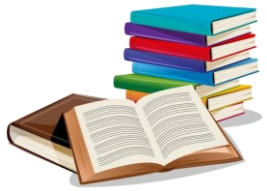


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Important Days

Important Terms Explained:

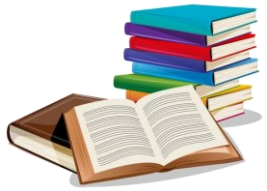
- **4–1** Decision: A boxing result in which four of five judges award victory to one competitor. **Ankushita Boro** defeated England's **Ella Thompstone** by a **4–1** decision in the women's **65 kg** final.



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Important Terms Explained:

- **Medal Tally:** A record of gold, silver and bronze medals won by competing countries or teams. India finished first at the **Tammer Tournament 2026** with four gold, two silver and eight bronze medals.



Important Days

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Tournament and host country	Tammer Tournament 2026, held in Tampere, Finland.
Organiser and establishment	Tampere Boxing Association; the international boxing tournament was established in 1977.
India's rank and total medals	India finished first in the medal tally with 14 medals from its 14-member boxing contingent.
Medal distribution	Four gold medals, two silver medals and eight bronze medals.
Gold medal winners	Aarti Dhariyal (54 kg), Ankushita Boro (65 kg), Arundhati Chaudhary (70 kg) and Pawan Bartwal (55 kg).
Silver medal winners	Mohammed Hussamuddin in men's 60 kg and Jaismine Lamboria in women's 57 kg.
Bronze medal winners	Vivek Meena, Hitesh, Akshay, Bobin Chauhan, Chetan Choudhary, Tanu, Disha Patil and Imroz Khan.
Competition format and significance	Conducted under World Boxing rules across 10 men's and seven women's weight categories, providing international exposure to Indian boxers.

SPORTS

➤ **Which Australian all-rounder announced his retirement from international cricket on November 2, 2026, after a 14-year career that included three ICC World Cup titles?**

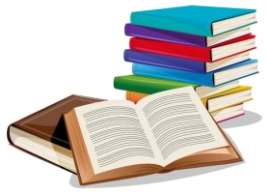
A) Marcus Stoinis
B) Mitchell Marsh
C) Glenn Maxwell
D) David Warner
E) Steve Smith



Answer
C) Glenn Maxwell.

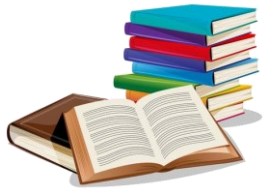
Event and Location:

- **Event:** Australian all-rounder **Glenn Maxwell** announced his retirement from international cricket after a **14**-year career, representing Australia in **286** international matches and contributing to three **ICC World Cup** victories.



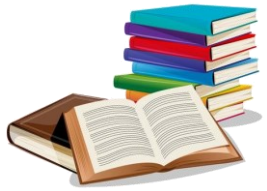
Event and Location:

- **Location:** Australia, with Maxwell representing the Australian national cricket team across international Test, **One Day International** (**ODI**) and Twenty**20** International (T**20**I) competitions.
- **Date:** November **2, 2026**.



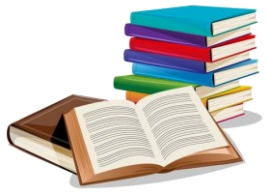
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: Glenn Maxwell** announced his retirement from international cricket after representing Australia in **7** Tests**, 149** ODIs and **130** T**20**Is**,** accumulating **7,226** international runs and **136** wickets. His career included victories in the **2015** and **2023 ICC** Men's **Cricket World Cups** and the **2021 ICC** Men's T**20 World Cup**. He also decided to step away from List A and first-class cricket for Victoria while continuing to pursue franchise-based T**20** cricket.



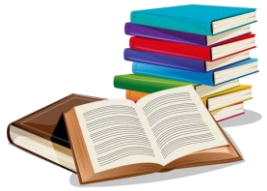
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To prioritise physical fitness and workload management after a long international career, create opportunities for younger players in Australia's limited-overs teams and Victoria's domestic cricket structure, and continue participating in franchise T**20** competitions according to his fitness and availability.



Important Terms Explained:

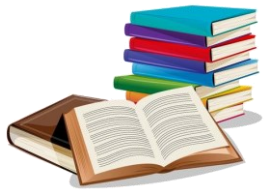
- **Glenn Maxwell: An Australian** batting all-rounder known for aggressive stroke play, unconventional batting techniques, off-spin bowling and athletic fielding. He represented Australia across all three international formats and contributed to three **ICC World Cup**-winning campaigns.



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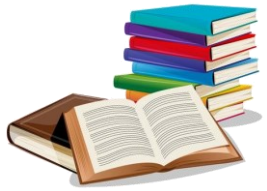
Important Terms Explained:

- **One Day International (ODI):** A limited-overs international cricket format in which each team generally bats for a maximum of **50** overs, with Maxwell representing Australia in **149** ODIs and scoring **3,990** runs.



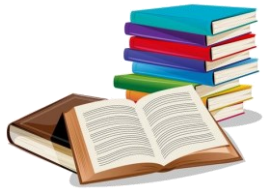
Important Terms Explained:

- Twenty**20** International (T**20**I): An international cricket format in which each team generally plays a maximum of **20** overs**,** emphasising rapid scoring and tactical bowling. Maxwell played **130** T**20**Is and scored **2,897** runs.



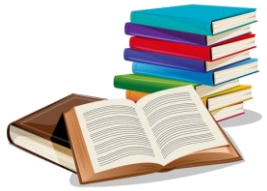
Important Terms Explained:

- **ICC** Men's **Cricket World Cup**: The premier international **ODI** cricket championship organised by the **International Cricket Council,** with Maxwell representing Australia's title-winning teams in **2015** and **2023**.



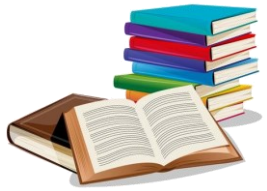
Important Terms Explained:

- **ICC** Men's T**20 World Cup**: An international Twenty**20** cricket championship organised by the **ICC,** which Australia won in **2021** with Maxwell as a member of the squad.



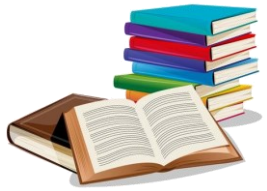
Important Terms Explained:

- **Double Century:** An individual batting achievement of scoring at least **200** runs in a single innings. Maxwell scored an unbeaten **201** against Afghanistan during the **2023 ODI World Cup**.



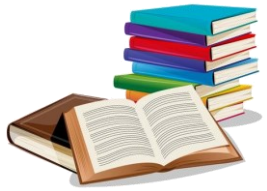
Important Terms Explained:

- **Fastest Men**'s **ODI World Cup Century**: A record for reaching **100** runs in the fewest deliveries during a Men's **ODI World Cup** innings. Maxwell scored a century from **40** balls against the Netherlands in **2023**.



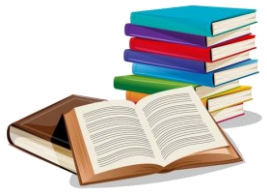
Important Terms Explained:

- First-**Class Cricket**: A recognised form of domestic or international multi-day cricket generally involving two innings per team, including traditional red-ball competitions such as Australia's **Sheffield Shield**.



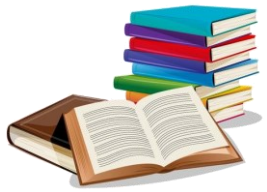
Important Terms Explained:

- **List A Cricket:** A classification of limited-overs cricket played under recognised domestic or international competition rules, generally involving one innings per team and a fixed number of overs.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Big Bash League (BBL):** Australia's professional franchise-based Twenty**20** cricket competition**,** in which Maxwell has represented the **Melbourne Stars**.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Retirement announcement	Glenn Maxwell retired from international cricket on November 2, 2026, after a 14-year career representing Australia.
International career statistics	Played 286 matches across formats, scoring 7,226 runs and taking 136 wickets.
Test cricket record	Played 7 Tests, scoring 339 runs, with a highest score of 104 and 8 wickets.
ODI career record	Played 149 ODIs, scoring 3,990 runs, with a highest score of 201 and 77 wickets.
T20I career record	Played 130 T20Is, scoring 2,897 runs, with a highest score of 145 and 51 wickets.
ICC World Cup achievements	Member of Australia's 2015 and 2023 ODI World Cup-winning teams and the 2021 T20 World Cup-winning team.
Major individual records	Scored an unbeaten 201 against Afghanistan and a 40-ball century against the Netherlands during the 2023 ODI World Cup, along with five T20I centuries.
Retirement reasons and future plans	Prioritised fitness and opportunities for younger players, while planning to continue franchise T20 cricket with Melbourne Stars in the BBL.

SPORTS

➤ **Which Indian swimmer won a historic bronze medal in the women's 100m freestyle event at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games with a national record time of 56.27 seconds?**

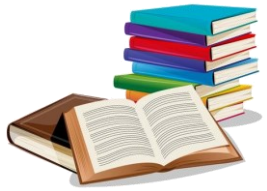
A) Maana Patel
B) Srihari Nataraj
C) Dhinidhi Desinghu
D) Shivani Kataria
E) Richa Mishra



Answer
C) Dhinidhi Desinghu.

Event and Location:

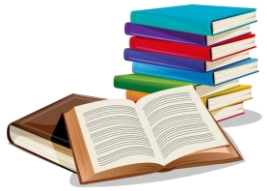
- **Event:** Indian swimmer **Dhinidhi Desinghu** reportedly won the bronze medal in the women's **100**m freestyle at the Dakar **2026 Youth Olympic Games,** clocking a national record of **56.27** seconds and becoming the first Indian swimmer to win a **Youth Olympic** medal.
- **Location:** Dakar**,** Senegal**, West Africa**.



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Event and Location:

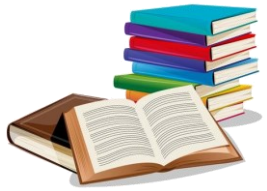
- **Date:** November **2026,** with the achievement reported on November **3, 2026**.



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Mandates and Objectives:

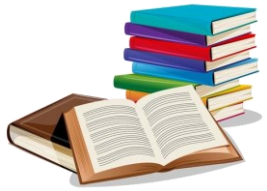
- **Mandates:** According to the report, **16**-year-old **Dhinidhi Desinghu** secured the bronze medal in the women's **100**m freestyle final with a national record time of **56.27** seconds. She finished behind Croatia's **Ana Bobanovic,** who won gold in **55.89** seconds, and **New Zealand**'s **Alyssa Lawson,** who claimed silver in **56.13** seconds. Dhinidhi improved her preliminary heat time of **56.80** seconds by **0.53** seconds, becoming the first Indian swimming medallist at the **Youth Olympics** and securing India's first reported medal at Dakar **2026**.



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Mandates and Objectives:

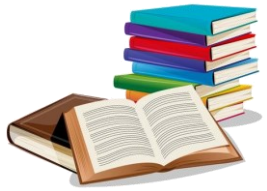
- **Objectives:** To recognise India's emerging talent in competitive swimming, encourage greater youth participation in aquatic sports, strengthen India's international swimming performance, promote high-performance training and inspire young athletes through historic achievements at the **Youth Olympic Games**.
- **Ranking Table:**



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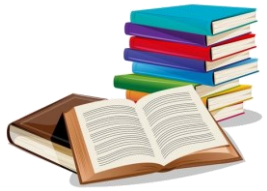
Women's 100m Freestyle Final – Dakar 2026 Youth Olympi

Rank	Swimmer / Country / Time / Medal
1st	Swimmer: Ana Bobanovic | Country: Croatia | Time: 55.89 seconds | Medal: Gold
2nd	Swimmer: Alyssa Lawson | Country: New Zealand | Time: 56.13 seconds | Medal: Silver
3rd	Swimmer: Dhinidhi Desinghu | Country: India | Time: 56.27 seconds | Medal: Bronze



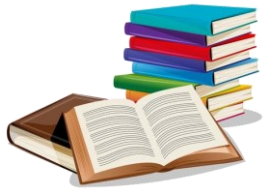
Important Terms Explained:

- Dakar **2026 Youth Olympic Games**: An international multi-sport competition for young athletes organised under the Olympic movement and hosted in Dakar, Senegal. The **2026** edition marks the first Olympic event hosted on the African continent.



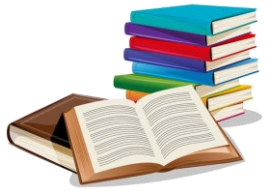
Important Terms Explained:

- **Dhinidhi Desinghu: An Indian** competitive swimmer who, according to the report, became the first Indian swimming medallist at the **Youth Olympic Games** after securing bronze in the women's **100**m freestyle at Dakar **2026**.



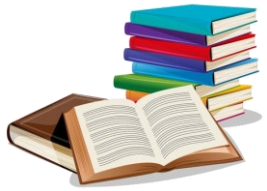
Important Terms Explained:

- Women's **100**m Freestyle: A competitive swimming event in which athletes swim **100** metres using any stroke, although front crawl is almost universally used because of its speed.



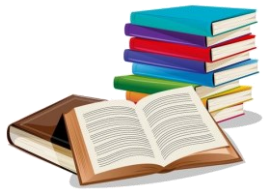
Important Terms Explained:

- **National Swimming Record:** The fastest officially recognised performance achieved by an athlete representing a particular country in a designated swimming event. Dhinidhi reportedly established a new Indian national record of **56.27** seconds in the women's **100**m freestyle.



Important Terms Explained:

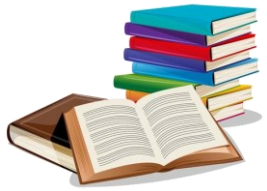
- **Personal Best (PB):** The fastest time or highest performance achieved by an individual athlete in a particular event. Dhinidhi improved from **56.80** seconds in the heats to **56.27** seconds in the final.



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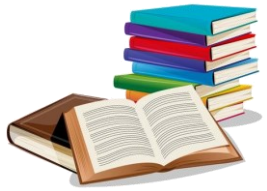
Important Terms Explained:

- **Swimming Heats:** Preliminary races conducted to determine which swimmers qualify for subsequent rounds or finals based on their recorded times or finishing positions.



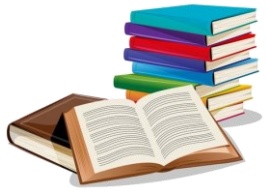
Important Terms Explained:

- **Youth Olympic Games (YOG):** An international multi-sport event organised by the **International Olympic Committee** for young athletes, combining competitive sporting events with educational and cultural activities.



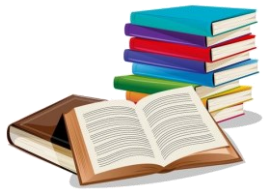
Important Terms Explained:

- **International Olympic Committee (IOC):** The international organisation responsible for overseeing the **Olympic Movement** and organising the **Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games**.



Important Terms Explained:

- Paris **2024 Olympic Games**: **The Summer Olympic Games** held in Paris, France, where **Dhinidhi Desinghu** represented India at the age of **14** and was the youngest member of the Indian contingent.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Competition and venue	Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games, held in Dakar, Senegal.
Indian medallist	Dhinidhi Desinghu, a 16-year-old Indian swimmer.
Event and medal	Women's 100m freestyle, bronze medal.
Final timing and national record	56.27 seconds, reported as a new Indian national record and personal best.
Gold and silver medallists	Ana Bobanovic of Croatia won gold in 55.89 seconds, while Alyssa Lawson of New Zealand won silver in 56.13 seconds.
Heats and final improvement	Recorded 56.80 seconds in the heats and improved by 0.53 seconds in the final.
Historic significance	Reported as the first Indian swimmer to win a Youth Olympic medal and India's first medallist at Dakar 2026.
Previous Olympic achievement	Represented India at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games at age 14, becoming the youngest member of the Indian contingent.

SPORTS

➤ **Which Indian cricketer set a new record for the fastest half-century in women's T20 cricket by scoring an unbeaten 50 off just 14 balls in the Senior Women's T20 Trophy 2026?**

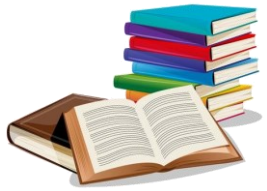
A) Shafali Verma
B) Smriti Mandhana
C) Prema Rawat
D) Richa Ghosh
E) Jemimah Rodrigues



Answer
C) Prema Rawat.

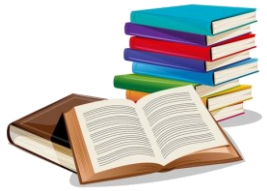
Event and Location:

- **Event: Prema Rawat,** representing Uttarakhand, reportedly set a new record for the fastest half-century in women's T**20** cricket**,** scoring an unbeaten **50** off just **14** deliveries against Hyderabad in the **Senior Women**'s T**20** Trophy **2026**. Her performance helped Uttarakhand secure an **89**-run victory.



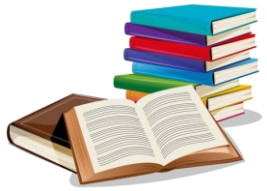
Event and Location:

- **Location: Maharashtra Cricket Association** (**MCA**) **Cricket Stadium,** Gahunje, Pune, Maharashtra, India.
- **Date:** November **2, 2026**.



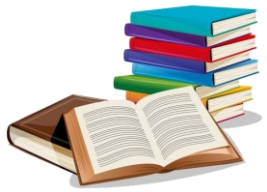
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: Prema Rawat** achieved the fastest reported half-century in women's T**20** cricket by scoring **50** not out from **14** balls, including three fours and six sixes, at a strike rate of **357.14**. She surpassed the previous **15**-ball benchmark mentioned in the report. Uttarakhand posted **187/2** against Hyderabad and restricted the opposition to **98/8,** winning by **89** runs. Rawat also claimed two wickets for **12** runs in four overs and was named Player of the Match.



Mandates and Objectives:

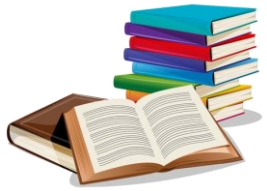
- **Objectives:** To recognise an exceptional individual performance in domestic women's cricket, highlight the development of women's T**20** cricket in India, encourage emerging female cricketers, strengthen the visibility of domestic competitions and demonstrate the importance of all-round contributions in limited-overs cricket.



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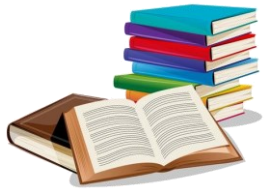
Fastest Half-Centuries in Women's T20 Cricket – As Reported:

Rank	Player / Country / Team / Balls for Fifty
1st	Player: Prema Rawat | Country / Team: India – Uttarakhand | Balls for Fifty: 14 balls
Joint 2nd	Player: Fatima Sana | Country / Team: Pakistan | Balls for Fifty: 15 balls
Joint 2nd	Player: Marie Kelly | Country / Team: England | Balls for Fifty: 15 balls
Joint 2nd	Player: Laura Harris | Country / Team: Australia | Balls for Fifty: 15 balls



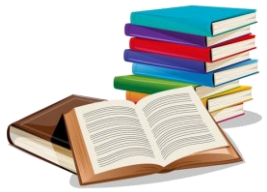
Important Terms Explained:

- **Prema Rawat: An Indian** cricketer representing Uttarakhand who reportedly established a new women's T**20** fastest-fifty record by scoring an unbeaten **50** from **14** balls against Hyderabad on November **2, 2026**.



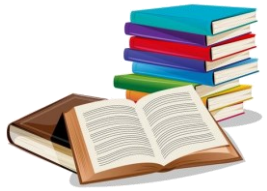
Important Terms Explained:

- **Senior Women**'s T**20** Trophy: A domestic women's Twenty**20** cricket competition in India featuring state and regional teams, providing opportunities for players to demonstrate their skills and compete at the national domestic level.



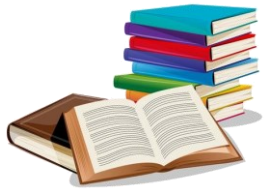
Important Terms Explained:

- **Fastest Half**-Century: A batting record measuring the fewest deliveries required by a player to reach **50** individual runs in an innings. **Prema Rawat** reportedly reached the milestone in **14** balls.



Important Terms Explained:

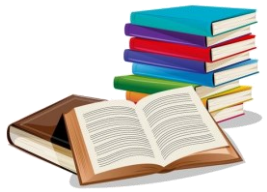
- **Strike Rate:** A measure of batting scoring speed, calculated by dividing runs scored by balls faced and multiplying by **100**. Rawat's **50** runs from **14** deliveries produced a strike rate of **357.14**.



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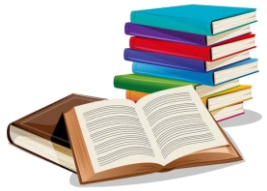
Important Terms Explained:

- **Unbeaten Innings:** A batting performance in which a player remains not out at the conclusion of the innings. Rawat finished with an unbeaten score of **50** runs.



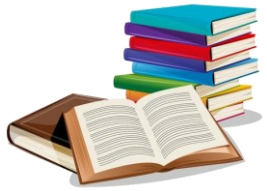
Important Terms Explained:

- Women's T**20** Cricket: A limited-overs cricket format in which each team generally bats for a maximum of **20** overs**,** including both domestic and international competitions.



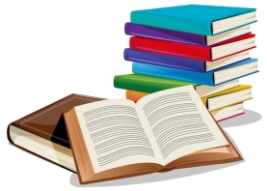
Important Terms Explained:

- Women's T**20** International (T**20**I): An international Twenty**20** match played between national women's teams**,** with official records maintained separately from records covering all women's T**20** cricket.



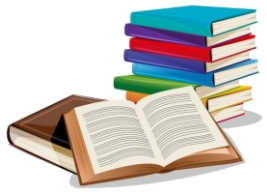
Important Terms Explained:

- All-**Round Performance**: A cricketing contribution involving both batting and bowling. Rawat scored an unbeaten **50** and took two wickets for **12** runs during the same match.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Player of the Match:** An award recognising the player whose individual performance is judged to have made the most significant contribution to a match.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Record and player	Prema Rawat reportedly scored the fastest half-century in women's T20 cricket, reaching 50 runs from 14 balls.
Date and tournament	November 2, 2026, during the Senior Women's T20 Trophy.
Teams and venue	Uttarakhand against Hyderabad at MCA Cricket Stadium, Gahunje, Pune.
Batting performance	Unbeaten 50 from 14 balls, including three fours and six sixes, at a strike rate of 357.14.
Previous fastest-fifty benchmark	15 balls, attributed in the report to Fatima Sana, Marie Kelly and Laura Harris.
Match scores and result	Uttarakhand scored 187/2, while Hyderabad finished on 98/8, giving Uttarakhand an 89-run victory.
Bowling and match award	Rawat took two wickets for 12 runs in four overs and received the Player of the Match award.
Record significance	The reported 14-ball fifty concerns women's T20 cricket overall, while women's T20I records are maintained as a separate category.

BANKING AND FINANCE

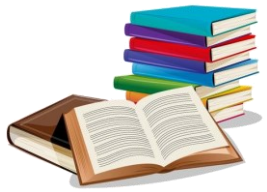
➤ **Which organisation launched WhatsApp-based services for checking provident fund balances, accessing passbooks and viewing the last five transactions during its 74th Foundation Day celebrations in November 2026?**

A) Employees' State Insurance Corporation
B) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority
C) Employees' Provident Fund Organisation
D) National Pension System Trust
E) Ministry of Finance

Answer
C) Employees' Provident Fund Organisation.

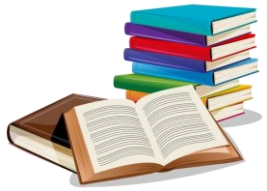
Event and Location:

- **Event: The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation** (**EPFO**) launched WhatsApp-based provident fund services to enable over **80 million** subscribers to check PF balances, access passbook details and view their latest five transactions during its **74**th **Foundation Day** celebrations.



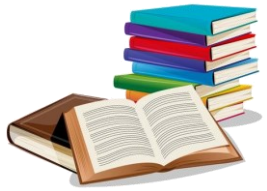
Event and Location:

- **Location:** India, with the digital services intended for eligible **EPFO** subscribers nationwide.
- **Date:** November **1, 2026,** with the initiative reported on November **3, 2026**.



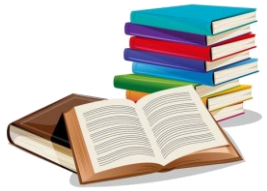
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: Union Minister for Labour and Employment Mansukh Mandaviya** announced the introduction of WhatsApp-based **EPFO** services during the organisation's **74**th **Foundation Day** celebrations. The facilities include access to PF balances, passbook information, the latest five transactions and assistance with **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana** (**PMVBRY**) requirements. **EPFO** also announced automatic closure and settlement of eligible inoperative **EPF** accounts holding balances of up to **₹1,000** after identity and bank account verification.



Mandates and Objectives:

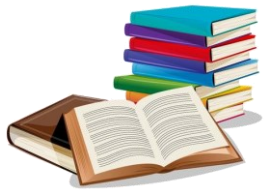
- **Objectives:** To simplify provident fund account management, improve digital accessibility for over **80 million EPFO** members, reduce dependence on conventional service channels, accelerate settlement of small inoperative account balances, strengthen financial inclusion and promote efficient, employee-centric social security administration.



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Important Terms Explained:

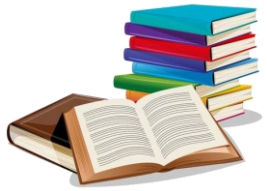
- Employees' **Provident Fund Organisation** (**EPFO**): A statutory social security organisation under the **Ministry of Labour and Employment** responsible for administering provident fund, pension and insurance benefits for eligible employees in India's organised sector.



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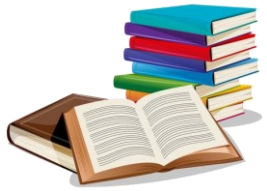
Important Terms Explained:

- Employees' **Provident Fund** (**EPF**): A retirement savings scheme in which eligible employees and employers make prescribed contributions to build a long-term retirement corpus, subject to applicable withdrawal and settlement provisions.



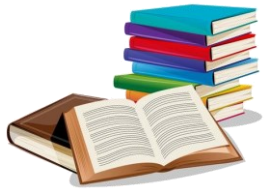
Important Terms Explained:

- **EPFO WhatsApp Services:** A digital service initiative enabling members to access their provident fund balances, passbook information, recent transactions and assistance related to **PMVBRY** through an officially verified WhatsApp communication channel.



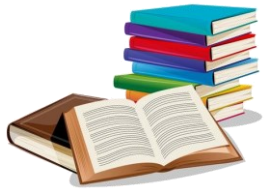
Important Terms Explained:

- **EPF Passbook:** A digital statement containing details of provident fund contributions, interest credits, withdrawals and account balances, allowing members to monitor their retirement savings.



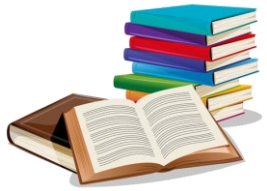
Important Terms Explained:

- **Universal Account Number (UAN):** A unique identification number assigned to **EPFO** members that connects multiple provident fund member accounts associated with different employers and supports online account management.



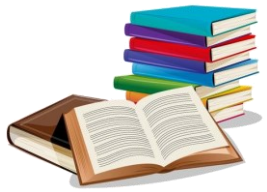
Important Terms Explained:

- **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PMVBRY):** An employment-linked incentive initiative aimed at encouraging formal employment generation and supporting eligible employees and employers, with **EPFO** providing assistance related to its implementation requirements.



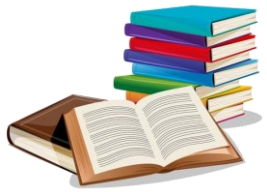
Important Terms Explained:

- **Inoperative EPF Account:** A provident fund account classified as inoperative under applicable **EPFO** rules**,** generally because the account has ceased receiving contributions and meets the prescribed conditions for inoperative status.



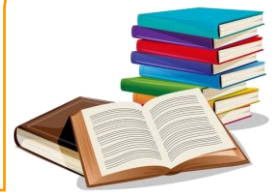
Important Terms Explained:

- **Automatic EPF Account Settlement:** A proposed service mechanism for eligible inoperative **EPF** accounts with balances up to **₹1,000**, enabling verified funds to be settled without requiring members to submit individual claims.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Retirement Corpus:** The accumulated pool of provident fund savings and associated investment earnings maintained to provide financial security to employees during retirement.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Initiative and announcement date	EPFO launched WhatsApp-based provident fund services on November 1, 2026, during its 74th Foundation Day celebrations.
Announcing authority	Union Minister for Labour and Employment Mansukh Mandaviya.
WhatsApp service features	PF balance enquiry, passbook access, latest five transaction details and assistance with PMVBRY requirements.
Subscriber coverage	Over 80 million EPFO members across India.
Automatic account settlement	Eligible inoperative EPF accounts with balances up to ₹1,000 will be automatically closed and settled after identity and bank verification.
Expected settlement beneficiaries	Approximately 1 lakh inoperative accounts involving funds worth around ₹5 crore.
EPFO retirement corpus	Approximately ₹32 trillion (₹32 lakh crore) in accumulated retirement funds.
Major significance	Simplifying digital provident fund access, improving member services, reducing manual claims and strengthening employee-focused social security delivery.

➤ **What was India's Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) in October 2026, indicating continued expansion despite a slowdown from September?**

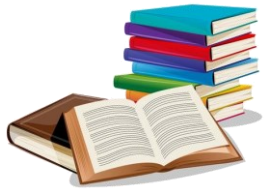
A) 53.2
B) 54.7
C) 55.1
D) 56.4
E) 57.2



Answer
B) 54.7.

Event and Location:

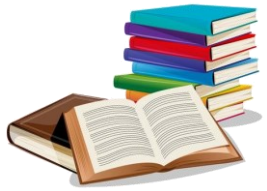
- **Event:** India's **Manufacturing Purchasing Managers**' Index (**PMI**) declined to **54.7** in October **2026** from **55.1** in September**,** indicating continued manufacturing expansion at a slower pace**,** while new export orders reached a six-month high.



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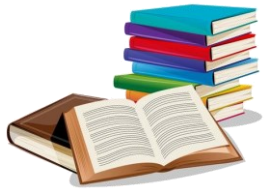
Event and Location:

- **Location:** India, covering the country's manufacturing sector, with export demand reported from several international markets.
- **Date:** October **2026,** with the manufacturing **PMI** findings reported on November **3, 2026**.



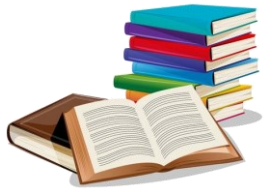
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The S&P Global manufacturing **PMI** survey reported a decline in India's manufacturing **PMI** from **55.1** in September to **54.7** in October **2026**. Despite slower overall expansion, new export orders increased at their fastest pace in six months, factory production continued growing, input cost inflation declined to its lowest level since February **2026**, selling price increases slowed to their weakest pace in almost four years, and manufacturing employment increased for the second consecutive month.



Mandates and Objectives:

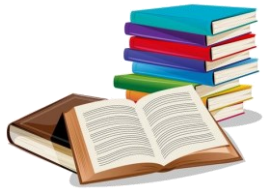
- **Objectives:** To assess changes in India's manufacturing activity, monitor production and demand conditions, evaluate employment and inventory trends, track input costs and selling prices, measure export performance, and provide an early indication of economic developments affecting the manufacturing sector.



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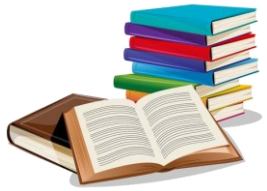
Important Terms Explained:

- **Purchasing Managers**' Index (**PMI**): A monthly economic indicator compiled from surveys of purchasing managers to assess changes in business activity, including new orders, production, employment, supplier deliveries and inventories. A reading above **50** indicates expansion, below **50** indicates contraction, and exactly **50** indicates no change.



Important Terms Explained:

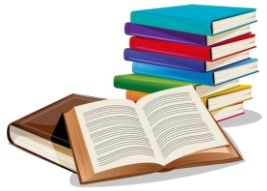
- **S&P Global Manufacturing PMI:** A manufacturing-sector business activity indicator compiled by S&P Global using survey responses from purchasing managers, providing insights into production trends, new orders, employment, supply chains and business conditions.



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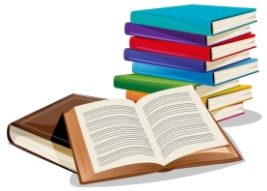
Important Terms Explained:

- **New Export Orders:** Orders received by domestic manufacturers from international customers, indicating overseas demand for manufactured goods. India's new export orders increased at their fastest pace in six months during October **2026**.



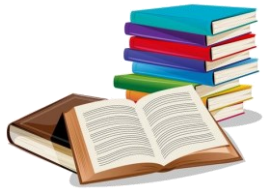
Important Terms Explained:

- **Input Cost Inflation:** The rate at which manufacturers' production costs increase due to changes in prices of raw materials, energy, components and other production inputs. India's input inflation declined to its lowest level since February **2026**.



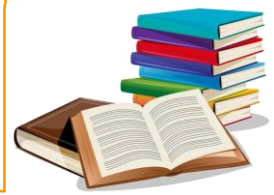
Important Terms Explained:

- **Output Price Inflation:** The rate of increase in prices charged by manufacturers for their finished products. Selling prices increased at their slowest pace in almost four years during October **2026**.



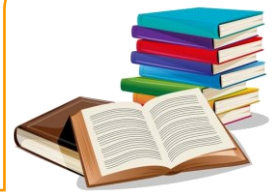
Important Terms Explained:

- **Factory Output:** The quantity or level of goods produced by manufacturing establishments, used to assess industrial production activity and changes in manufacturing demand.



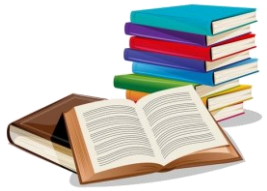
Important Terms Explained:

- **Supplier Delivery Times:** A **PMI** component measuring changes in the time taken by suppliers to deliver materials and components to manufacturers, providing insights into supply chain conditions and demand pressures.



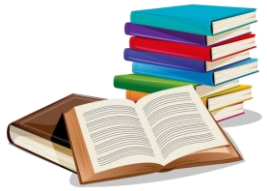
Important Terms Explained:

- **Input Inventories:** Stocks of raw materials, components and other inputs maintained by manufacturers for production. India's input stock levels increased at their fastest pace in eight months during October **2026**.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Business Confidence:** Manufacturers' expectations regarding future production and business conditions, generally measured through survey responses about anticipated activity over the coming **12** months.



Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Reporting period and source	October 2026, based on the S&P Global Manufacturing PMI survey.
Manufacturing PMI reading	Declined to 54.7 in October from 55.1 in September 2026, indicating continued expansion at a slower pace.
Export order performance	New export orders increased at their fastest rate in six months, supported by international demand.
Factory output and employment	Manufacturing output continued expanding, although growth slowed, while employment increased for the second consecutive month.
Input costs and selling prices	Input inflation reached its lowest level since February 2026, while selling prices rose at their slowest pace in nearly four years.
Inventory and business confidence	Input inventories increased at their fastest pace in eight months, while business confidence declined below its long-term average.
Major export markets	Bangladesh, Canada, Indonesia, Nepal, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom, the United States and the UAE.
PMI calculation and outlook	New orders carry 30% weight, output 25%, employment 20%, supplier deliveries 15% and purchases 10%; approximately 18% of manufacturers expected output growth over the

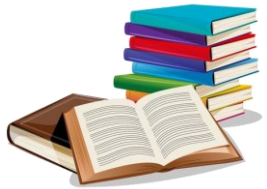
APPOINTMENTS

➤ **Who chairs the six-member high-powered task force established by the Central Government in July 2026 to recommend reforms in India's examination system?**

A) K. Radhakrishnan
B) S. Somanath
C) Nandan Nilekani
D) V. Kamakoti
E) Tapan Deka



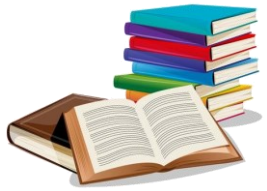
Answer
C) Nandan Nilekani.



APPOINTMENTS

Event and Location:

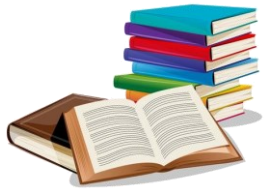
- **Event: The Central Government** extended the tenure of the **Nandan Nilekani**-led High-**Powered Exam Reform Task Force** until January **2027** to examine measures for improving transparency**,** fairness and security in India's examination system. The six-member committee has received over **50,000** suggestions from various stakeholders.



APPOINTMENTS

Event and Location:

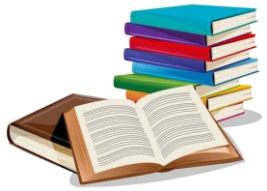
- **Location:** India, with the reforms focusing on national-level examinations, including the **National Eligibility**-cum-**Entrance Test** (**NEET**). The report also refers to student protests at **Jantar Mantar, New Delhi**.
- **Date:** November **2026,** with the extension reported on November **3, 2026**. The committee was constituted in July **2026**.



APPOINTMENTS

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The Central Government** extended the tenure of the six-member task force chaired by Infosys co-founder **Nandan Nilekani** until January **2027**. The committee was established in July **2026** following student protests over examination malpractice and alleged **NEET** question-paper leaks. It is tasked with examining vulnerabilities in the examination system, consulting stakeholders and recommending measures to strengthen examination security, transparency and accountability. The panel has received more than **50,000** suggestions and consulted former **ISRO** Chairman K. Radhakrishnan, who headed an earlier examination reform committee.

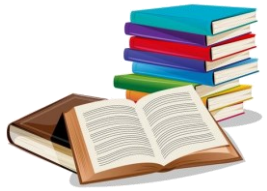


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APPOINTMENTS

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To prevent question-paper leakages and examination malpractice, improve the credibility and fairness of competitive examinations, introduce secure technology-based examination processes, strengthen institutional accountability, safeguard students' interests and restore public confidence in India's examination system.

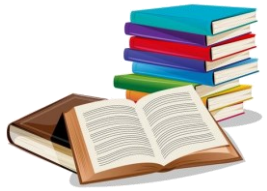


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

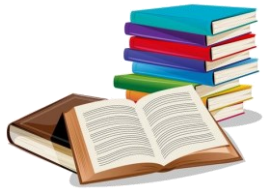
- **Nandan Nilekani-Led Exam Reform Task Force**: A six-member high-powered committee established by the **Central Government in July 2026** to recommend reforms in India's examination system, particularly measures to prevent paper leaks, improve security and strengthen transparency.



APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

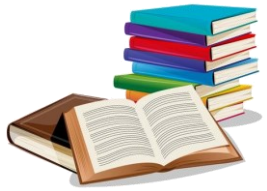
- **Nandan Nilekani:** Co-founder of Infosys and former Chairman of the **Unique Identification Authority of India** (**UIDAI**), appointed to chair the six-member examination reform task force.



APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

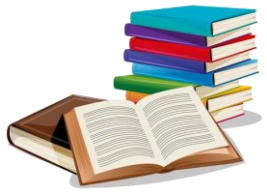
- **National Eligibility**-cum-**Entrance Test** (**NEET**): A national-level entrance examination used primarily for admission to undergraduate medical courses**,** including **MBBS** and **BDS,** in India.



APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

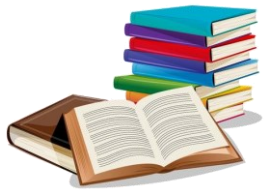
- Computer-**Based Testing** (**CBT**): An examination method in which candidates answer questions using computers rather than traditional paper-based question booklets and answer sheets. The report states that the Centre announced a shift to **CBT** for **NEET** from **2027**.



APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Examination Malpractice:** Dishonest or unauthorised activities that compromise the fairness of an examination, including question-paper leaks, impersonation, cheating and manipulation of examination results.

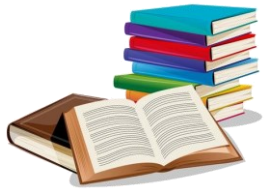


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- K. **Radhakrishnan Committee**: A high-level committee established by the **Central Government in June 2024** under former **ISRO** Chairman K. Radhakrishnan to recommend improvements in examination security and the functioning of national testing systems.

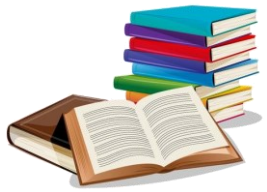


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- High-**Powered Steering Committee** (**HPSC**): A government-appointed committee chaired by K. Radhakrishnan to oversee the implementation of recommendations made by the earlier examination reform committee.

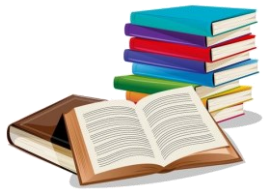


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

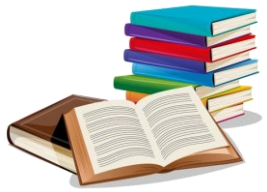
- **Hybrid Examination System:** An examination approach that combines computer-based and paper-based methods, potentially allowing different stages or components of an examination to use different modes.



APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Stakeholder Consultation:** A process through which policymakers collect recommendations and feedback from affected groups, including students, parents, teachers, educational institutions, examination bodies and industry experts.

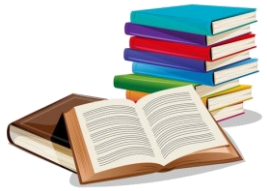


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Supreme Court Affidavit:** A written statement of facts submitted under oath to the **Supreme Court**. According to the report, the **Central Government** filed an affidavit concerning the ongoing examination reform process.



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APPOINTMENTS

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event and revised tenure	The Centre extended the Nandan Nilekani-led examination reform task force's tenure until January 2027.
Formation and leadership	Six-member high-powered committee constituted in July 2026 under the chairmanship of Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani.
Reason for establishment	Student protests and concerns over examination malpractice and alleged NEET question-paper leakages.
Committee members	Nandan Nilekani, S. Somanath, Tapan Deka, V. Kamakoti, Anita Karwal and Amrit Lal Meena.
Stakeholder participation	More than 50,000 suggestions received from students, parents, teachers, institutions, examination bodies, experts and industry organisations.
Earlier examination reform panel	The K. Radhakrishnan Committee was established in June 2024, submitted recommendations in October 2024 and was followed by an implementation-focused steering committee.
Proposed examination reforms	Strengthening examination security, preventing paper leaks, improving transparency and introducing computer-based or hybrid examination methods.
NEET and future	The report states that the Centre announced computer-based NEET examinations from

APPOINTMENTS

➤ **Who was re-elected as Chairperson of the GSMA Board for a second term covering 2027–2028?**

A) Ralph Mupita
B) Margherita Della Valle
C) Gopal Vittal
D) Sunil Bharti Mittal
E) Akshaya Moondra

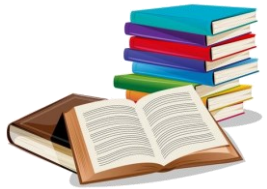


Answer
C) Gopal Vittal.

APPOINTMENTS

Event and Location:

- **Event: Gopal Vittal, Executive Vice-Chairman of Bharti Airtel,** was re-elected as Chairperson of the **GSMA** Board for a second term covering **2027–2028**. **Ralph Mupita,** President and **CEO** of **MTN** Group**,** and **Margherita Della Valle, CEO** of **Vodafone Group,** were appointed as Co-**Deputy Chairpersons**.

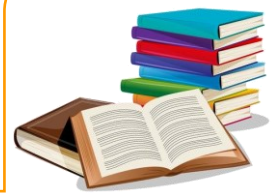


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APPOINTMENTS

Event and Location:

- **Location:** Global, as the **GSM** Association (**GSMA**) represents mobile network operators and businesses across the international telecommunications industry.
- **Date:** November **2, 2026,** with the new leadership term covering January **2027** to December **2028**.

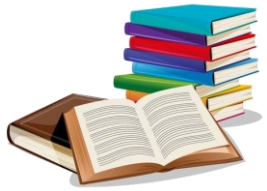


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APPOINTMENTS

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:** The **GSMA** Board re-elected **Gopal Vittal** as Chairperson for the **2027–2028** term**,** extending his leadership of the organisation until December **2028**. Vittal has served on the **GSMA** Board for approximately ten years and has held the Chairperson position since **2025**. **The Board** also elected **Vodafone Group CEO Margherita Della Valle** as Co-**Deputy Chairperson** and re-elected **MTN Group President** and **CEO Ralph Mupita** as Co-**Deputy Chairperson**.

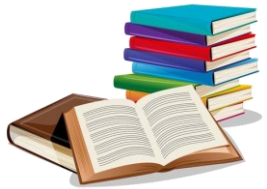


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APPOINTMENTS

Mandates and Objectives:

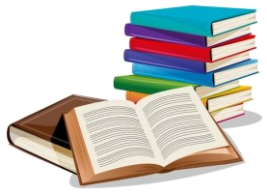
- **Objectives:** To strengthen international cooperation in the telecommunications industry, improve mobile network security and performance, accelerate artificial intelligence adoption, promote digital inclusion, encourage innovation in mobile communications, support sustainable connectivity and advance collaboration among telecom operators, technology companies and policymakers.



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Important Terms Explained:

- **GSM Association (GSMA):** A global industry organisation representing mobile network operators and companies in the mobile telecommunications ecosystem. It promotes connectivity, technological innovation, industry cooperation and digital development.

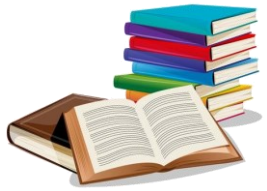


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Gopal Vittal: Executive Vice-Chairman of Bharti Airtel and Chairperson** of the **GSMA** Board since **2025,** re-elected on November **2, 2026,** for a second term covering **2027–2028**.

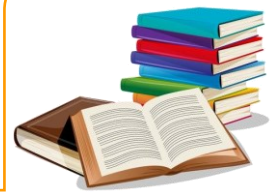


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

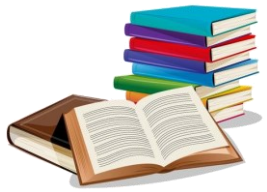
- **Bharti Airtel: An Indian** telecommunications company providing mobile communications, broadband, enterprise connectivity and other digital services, with **Gopal Vittal** serving as its **Executive Vice**-Chairman.



APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **GSMA Board:** The governing body of the **GSM** Association responsible for providing strategic direction, representing the interests of the global mobile industry and overseeing major organisational priorities.

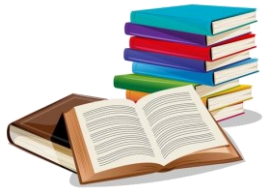


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Ralph Mupita: President and Chief Executive Officer** of **MTN** Group, a telecommunications company headquartered in **South Africa,** who was re-elected as Co-**Deputy Chairperson** of **GSMA** for **2027–2028**.

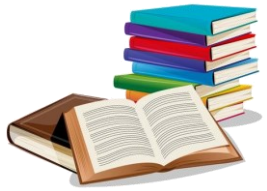


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Margherita Della Valle: Chief Executive Officer of Vodafone Group,** a multinational telecommunications company**,** who was elected Co-**Deputy Chairperson** of **GSMA** for the **2027–2028** term.

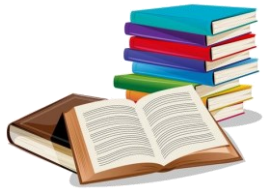


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

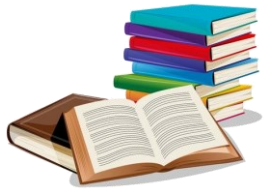
- **Connectivity for Good:** A **GSMA** initiative focused on improving access to digital connectivity, reducing the digital divide and supporting social and economic development through mobile technologies.



APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Industry Solutions:** A major **GSMA** area of activity focused on developing common industry approaches, promoting interoperability, strengthening mobile network security and encouraging technological cooperation.

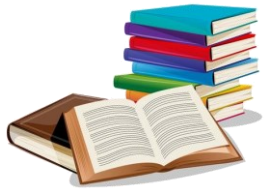


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Mobile World Congress (MWC):** A major international telecommunications and technology event organised by **GSMA**, bringing together mobile operators, technology companies, policymakers and industry leaders to discuss innovations and future developments.

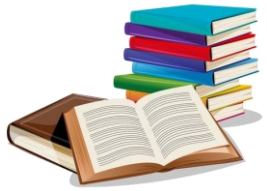


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APPOINTMENTS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Artificial Intelligence in Telecommunications:** The application of AI technologies to improve mobile network management, automate operations, strengthen cybersecurity, enhance customer services and optimise telecommunications infrastructure.



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APPOINTMENTS

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Event and announcement date	Gopal Vittal was re-elected Chairperson of the GSMA Board on November 2, 2026.
Chairperson and organisation	Gopal Vittal, Executive Vice-Chairman of Bharti Airtel, will lead the GSM Association.
New leadership tenure	January 2027 to December 2028, representing Vittal's second term as Chairperson.
Co-Deputy Chairpersons	Ralph Mupita, President and CEO of MTN Group, and Margherita Della Valle, CEO of Vodafone Group.
Previous leadership experience	Vittal has served on the GSMA Board for approximately ten years and has been Chairperson since 2025.
About GSMA	A global telecommunications industry organisation representing more than 1,000 mobile operators and associated businesses.
Major organisational activities	Promoting digital inclusion, industry solutions, mobile connectivity, technology collaboration and global events such as Mobile World Congress.
Strategic priorities for 2027–2028	Strengthening telecom security, high-performance mobile networks, artificial intelligence, digital communications and international industry cooperation.

AWARDS

➤ **Which documentary won the UN SDG Action Award 2026 in the Creativity category for highlighting a women-led movement promoting girls' education and preventing child marriage in Bihar?**

A) Daughters of India
B) Mothers of Courage
C) Shiksha Ki Udaan
D) Women of Change
E) Voices of Empowerment



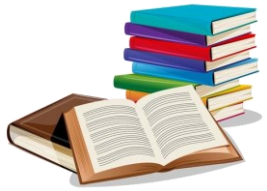
Answer
B) Mothers of Courage.

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AWARDS

Event and Location:

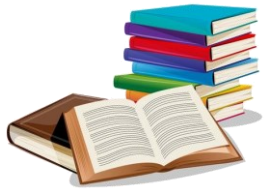
- **Event:** The documentary **Mothers of Courage** won the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Action Award 2026** in the Creativity category, recognising its portrayal of the Shikshagraha movement, a grassroots women-led initiative promoting girls' education, preventing school dropouts and addressing child marriage in Bihar.



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Event and Location:

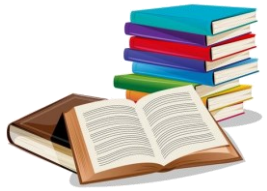
- **Location:** Rome, Italy, where the award ceremony was held. The documentary highlights community-led educational initiatives in Bihar, India.
- **Date:** November **2026,** with the achievement reported on November **3, 2026**.



AWARDS

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates: The United Nations SDG Action Awards 2026** recognised **Mothers of Courage,** directed by Vandana R. Jayakumar and produced by **Butterfly Effect Media,** for its creative storytelling about women-led educational transformation in Bihar. The documentary was selected from more than **7,000** entries representing **190** countries and regions. **The Shikshagraha** movement has organised over **51,078 Shiksha Chaupals** since October **2024,** engaging more than **11.9 lakh** people in community discussions focused on girls' education and school retention.

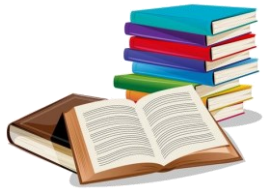


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AWARDS

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To promote girls' education, reduce school dropouts, discourage child marriage, strengthen women's participation in community decision-making, empower mothers as leaders of educational change and advance the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals** through grassroots mobilisation and creative storytelling.

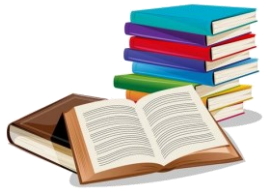


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AWARDS

Important Terms Explained:

- **United Nations SDG Action Awards:** International awards that recognise individuals, organisations and initiatives advancing the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals** through innovative solutions, community mobilisation, leadership and creative communication.

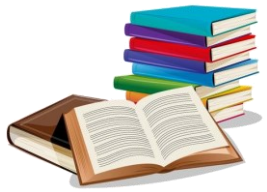


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AWARDS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Creativity Category:** An award category recognising the effective use of creative approaches, including filmmaking and storytelling, to communicate development challenges and inspire meaningful social action.

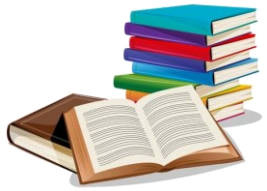


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AWARDS

Important Terms Explained:

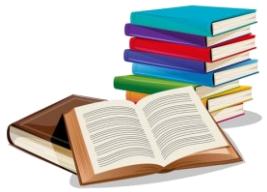
- **Mothers of Courage:** An award-winning documentary directed by Vandana R. Jayakumar and produced by **Butterfly Effect Media,** highlighting mothers and women leaders working to improve girls' education and prevent child marriage through the Shikshagraha movement.



AWARDS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Shikshagraha Movement:** A community-led educational initiative that mobilises mothers, women leaders and local communities to improve educational opportunities, prevent school dropouts and strengthen participation in school development.

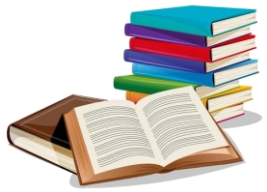


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AWARDS

Important Terms Explained:

- **Shiksha Chaupal:** A community discussion or gathering focused on educational issues, where parents, mothers, teachers and local stakeholders identify challenges and collectively develop solutions to improve children's learning and school attendance.

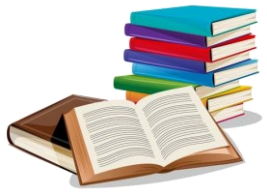


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AWARDS

Important Terms Explained:

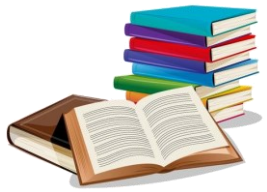
- Mantra**4**Change: An organisation associated with educational transformation and the Shikshagraha movement. Its co-founder**, Khushboo Awasthi,** serves as the **Chief Curator of Shikshagraha**.



AWARDS

Important Terms Explained:

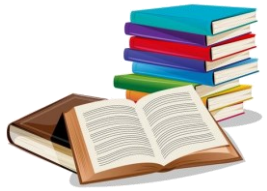
- **Sustainable Development Goal 4** (**Quality Education**): A **United Nations** goal seeking to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.



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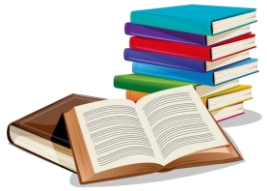
Important Terms Explained:

- **Sustainable Development Goal 5** (**Gender Equality**): A **United Nations** goal focused on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls**,** including eliminating harmful practices such as child marriage.



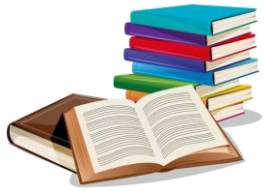
Important Terms Explained:

- **Child Marriage:** A marriage in which at least one party is below the age of **18,** recognised internationally as a harmful practice that can affect education, health, safety and economic opportunities.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Grassroots Women-Led Movement**: A community-based initiative in which local women take leadership roles in identifying social challenges, mobilising participation and implementing solutions directly within their communities.



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AWARDS

Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Award and year	United Nations SDG Action Award 2026 in the Creativity category.
Winning documentary	Mothers of Courage, highlighting the women-led Shikshagraha movement in Bihar.
Award ceremony location	Rome, Italy, with the achievement reported on November 3, 2026.
Director and producer	Directed by Vandana R. Jayakumar and produced by Butterfly Effect Media.
International competition	Selected from more than 7,000 entries submitted from 190 countries and regions.
Movement and key leaders	Shikshagraha movement, associated with Khushboo Awasthi, Co-founder of Mantra4Change and Chief Curator of Shikshagraha, and Urmila Kumari, Bihar Head of the movement.
Community outreach and impact	Over 51,078 Shiksha Chaupals organised since October 2024, involving more than 11.9 lakh people.
Other recognition and significance	Recognised at the Los Angeles Film Awards, Cannes Lions, Abby Awards and SABRE Awards, and shortlisted for the Mumbai International Film Festival 2026, highlighting community-led progress in girls' education.

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DEFENCE

➤ **Where did the 5th edition of the India–US bilateral tri-service Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise, Tiger Triumph 2026, commence on November 2, 2026?**

A) Kochi
B) Mumbai
C) Visakhapatnam
D) Chennai
E) Port Blair

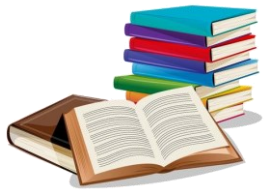


Answer
C) Visakhapatnam.

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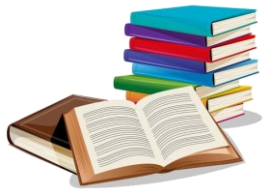
Event and Location:

- **Event:** The **5**th edition of **Exercise Tiger Triumph 2026,** a bilateral tri-service **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief** (**HADR**) exercise between India and the **United States,** commenced as a **Tabletop Exercise** (**TTX**) to strengthen joint disaster response planning**,** military coordination and interoperability. The edition also marked the first participation of India's **National Disaster Response Force** (**NDRF**).



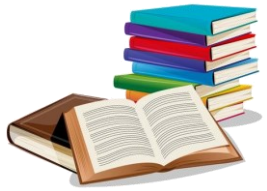
Event and Location:

- **Location: Maritime Warfare Centre** (**MWC**), Visakhapatnam**, Andhra Pradesh,** India.
- **Date:** November **2, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

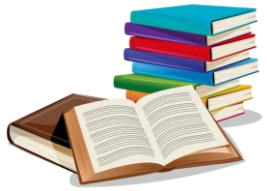
- **Mandates: The Indian and United States Armed Forces** commenced the fifth edition of **Tiger Triumph** on November **2, 2026,** at the **Maritime Warfare Centre in Visakhapatnam**. The exercise involves representatives from the **Indian Army,** Navy**, Air Force and Special Forces,** alongside American military experts from land, maritime, air, space, cyber, medical and explosive ordnance disposal domains. **Rear Admiral Vishal Bishnoi** represented the Indian side, while **Rear Admiral Joaquin** J. Martinez de Pinillos represented the **United States**. The **NDRF** joined the exercise for the first time to strengthen civil-military disaster response coordination.



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Mandates and Objectives:

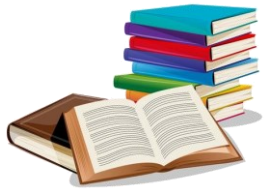
- **Objectives:** To improve interoperability between Indian and US military forces, strengthen joint planning for large-scale humanitarian emergencies, enhance tri-service cooperation, develop coordinated disaster response mechanisms, promote multi-domain operational integration and deepen India–US defence cooperation, particularly in maritime security and humanitarian assistance.



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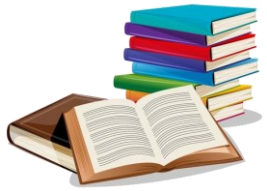
Important Terms Explained:

- **Exercise Tiger Triumph:** A bilateral tri-service military exercise conducted between India and the **United States** to strengthen coordination among their armed forces, particularly in humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and joint operational planning.



Important Terms Explained:

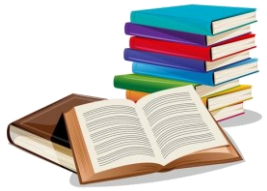
- **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR):** Activities undertaken by military and civilian organisations to provide emergency assistance, rescue operations, medical support, essential supplies and rehabilitation services to populations affected by natural or human-made disasters.



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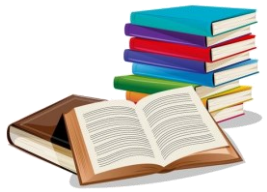
Important Terms Explained:

- Tri-**Service Exercise**: A military exercise involving the Army**, Navy and Air Force,** designed to enhance coordination and operational effectiveness across the three services.



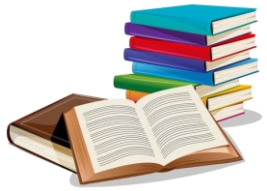
Important Terms Explained:

- **Tabletop Exercise (TTX):** A discussion-based training exercise in which participants examine simulated emergency situations, evaluate response plans, clarify responsibilities and identify coordination challenges without conducting full-scale field operations.



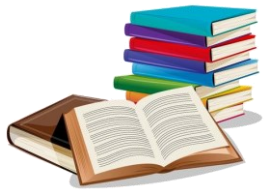
Important Terms Explained:

- **Maritime Warfare Centre (MWC):** A naval training and operational planning facility in Visakhapatnam that supports professional military exercises, maritime planning and coordination among participating forces.



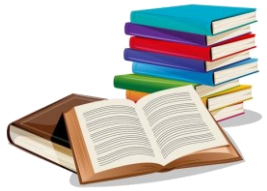
Important Terms Explained:

- **National Disaster Response Force (NDRF):** India's specialised disaster response force constituted under the **Disaster Management Act, 2005,** responsible for responding to natural and human-made disasters, conducting rescue operations and supporting disaster preparedness.



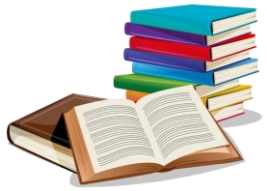
Important Terms Explained:

- **Combined Joint All-Domain Operations**: An operational approach that integrates military capabilities across land, sea, air, space and cyber domains to improve coordination, decision-making and mission effectiveness.



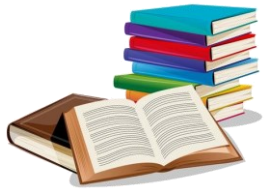
Important Terms Explained:

- **Military Interoperability:** The ability of armed forces from different services or countries to communicate, coordinate, share information and conduct operations effectively together.



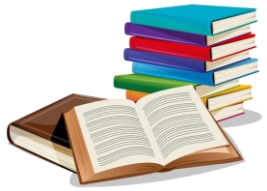
Important Terms Explained:

- Civil-**Military Coordination**: Cooperation between military forces and civilian authorities during emergencies to ensure efficient resource utilisation, information exchange and delivery of humanitarian assistance.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD):** Specialised military activities involving the identification, assessment, safe handling and disposal of explosive devices and hazardous munitions.



Tabular Summary:

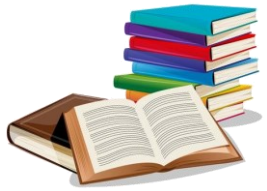
Parameter	Details
Exercise name and edition	Tiger Triumph 2026, the 5th edition of the India–US bilateral tri-service HADR exercise.
Commencement date and venue	November 2, 2026, at the Maritime Warfare Centre, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
Participating countries	India and the United States of America.
Exercise format	Tabletop Exercise involving discussion-based disaster response simulations and joint operational planning.
Indian and US representatives	Rear Admiral Vishal Bishnoi, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet, and Rear Admiral Joaquin J. Martinez de Pinillos, Vice Commander, US Pacific Fleet.
Participating military services	Indian Army, Navy, Air Force and Special Forces, alongside US military representatives from multiple operational domains.
Important new inclusion	India's National Disaster Response Force participated for the first time in the fifth edition.
Major objectives and significance	Strengthening disaster response planning, tri-service interoperability, civil-military cooperation and coordination across land, maritime, air, space and cyber domains.

➤ **What is the maximum time limit prescribed for resolving complaints under the VB-G RAM G Grievance Redressal Rules, 2026, notified by the Ministry of Rural Development?**

A) 7 days
B) 10 days
C) 15 days
D) 30 days
E) 45 days

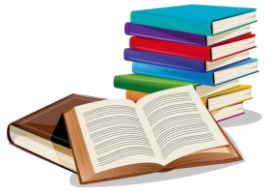
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Answer
C) 15 days.



Event and Location:

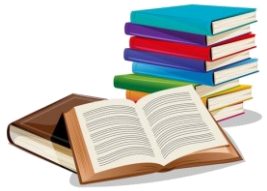
- **Event: The Ministry of Rural Development** notified the VB-G **RAM** G **Grievance Redressal Rules, 2026,** establishing a three-tier complaint redressal mechanism with mandatory digital registration, investigations within seven working days and complaint resolution within **15** days.



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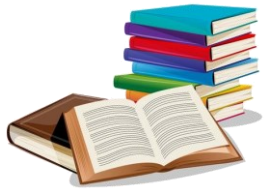
Event and Location:

- **Location:** India, covering rural employment guarantee programme implementation at **Gram Panchayat,** block and district levels across states.
- **Date:** November **2, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

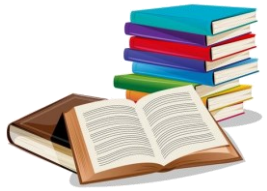
- **Mandates: The Central Government** notified the VB-G **RAM** G **Grievance Redressal Rules, 2026,** under the **Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission** (Gramin) Act**, 2025**. The rules require state governments to establish grievance redressal mechanisms at **Gram Panchayat,** block and district levels**,** appoint **Grievance Redressal Officers,** provide multiple complaint submission channels**,** ensure mandatory digital registration**,** complete investigations within seven working days**,** resolve complaints within **15** days and escalate unresolved grievances to higher authorities.



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Mandates and Objectives:

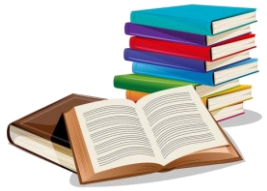
- **Objectives:** To strengthen transparency, accountability and timely grievance resolution in rural employment programmes, protect beneficiaries' rights, simplify complaint registration, ensure effective monitoring through digital infrastructure, improve administrative responsiveness and support the implementation of the statutory guarantee of **125** days of wage employment for eligible rural households.



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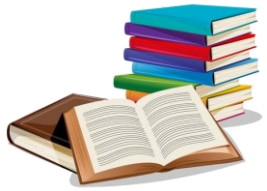
Important Terms Explained:

- **Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission** (Gramin) Act**, 2025**: A rural employment guarantee legislation providing eligible rural households with a statutory guarantee of **125** days of wage employment annually when adult members volunteer for unskilled manual work**,** while supporting rural infrastructure**,** water security**,** livelihoods and climate resilience.



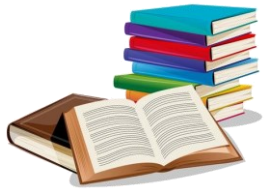
Important Terms Explained:

- VB-G **RAM** G **Grievance Redressal Rules, 2026**: Rules notified by the **Ministry of Rural Development** on November **2, 2026**, establishing a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism with mandatory complaint registration, digital tracking, time-bound investigations, resolution and appeals.



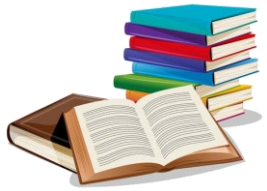
Important Terms Explained:

- Three-**Tier Grievance Redressal Mechanism**: An administrative complaint resolution framework operating at **Gram Panchayat,** block and district levels to ensure accessible grievance registration, investigation, supervision and escalation.



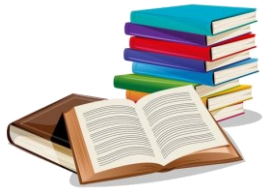
Important Terms Explained:

- **Grievance Redressal Officer (GRO):** An officer appointed by the state government to receive, register, investigate and resolve complaints, including obtaining relevant official records and providing complainants an opportunity to present their cases.



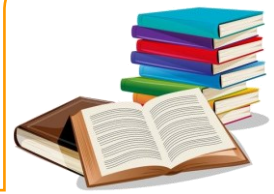
Important Terms Explained:

- **District Programme Coordinator:** A designated district-level authority responsible for supervising the grievance redressal mechanism and coordinating the implementation and monitoring of rural employment programme activities.



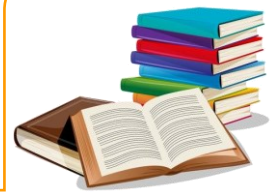
Important Terms Explained:

- **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI):** Shared digital systems enabling public services, including electronic complaint submission, registration, acknowledgement, monitoring and tracking of grievances.



Important Terms Explained:

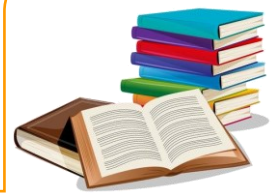
- **Mandatory Digital Registration:** A requirement that all complaints, including physically submitted grievances, be entered into the designated digital system on the same day or next working day and acknowledged with a reference number, receipt date and responsible authority's designation.



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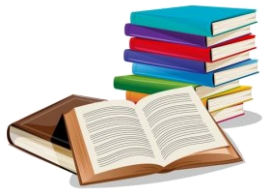
Important Terms Explained:

- **Grievance Escalation:** The process of forwarding unresolved complaints to the next higher administrative authority when the prescribed resolution period expires, ensuring continued monitoring and accountability.



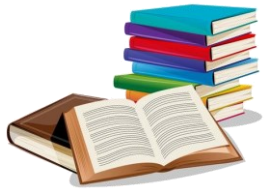
Important Terms Explained:

- **Appeal Mechanism:** A formal procedure allowing complainants to challenge grievance redressal decisions, with appeals required to be filed within **45** days of the order and resolved within **30** days of receipt under Schedule I of the Act.



Important Terms Explained:

- Schedule I of VB-G **RAM** G Act**, 2025**: A statutory schedule containing provisions relating to rural employment programme implementation and grievance redressal, including complaint acknowledgement, investigations, corrective action, escalation and appeal procedures.



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Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Rules and notification date	VB-G RAM G Grievance Redressal Rules, 2026, notified on November 2, 2026.
Notifying ministry and parent Act	Ministry of Rural Development, under the Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025.
Grievance redressal structure	Three-tier mechanism operating at Gram Panchayat, block and district levels under designated Grievance Redressal Officers.
Complaint submission channels	Direct submission to the GRO, speed post with delivery proof, designated digital infrastructure and telephone.
Registration and investigation deadline	Physical complaints must be registered digitally on the same day or next working day, with investigations completed within seven working days.
Resolution and escalation deadline	Complaints must be resolved within 15 days, with unresolved cases escalated to the next higher authority.
Appeal provisions	Appeals must be filed within 45 days of the order and resolved within 30 days of receipt.
Employment guarantee and significance	The parent Act provides 125 days of annual wage employment for eligible rural households, while the rules promote accessible, transparent and accountable grievance redressal.

➤ **Which company is responsible for manufacturing India's first Bharat-made bullet train designed for the Mumbai–Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor?**

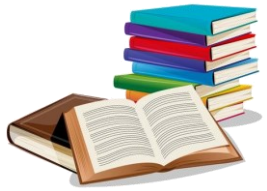
A) Integral Coach Factory
B) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited
C) Bharat Earth Movers Limited
D) Rail Coach Factory
E) Titagarh Rail Systems



Answer
C) Bharat Earth Movers Limited.

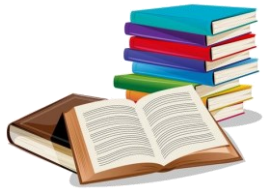
Event and Location:

- **Event: Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw** showcased the design and passenger facilities of India's first Bharat-made bullet train, which will be manufactured by **Bharat Earth Movers Limited** (**BEML**) for the Mumbai–**Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor**. The eight-coach train is designed for a maximum operating speed of **249 km**/h and a testing speed of **280 km**/h.



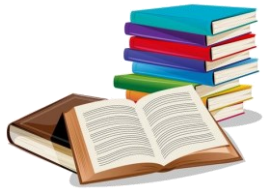
Event and Location:

- **Location:** Bengaluru, Karnataka, where the train will be manufactured, with deployment planned for the Mumbai–**Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor** connecting **Maharashtra and Gujarat**.
- **Date:** November **2026,** with the train's specifications and features reported on November **3, 2026**.



Mandates and Objectives:

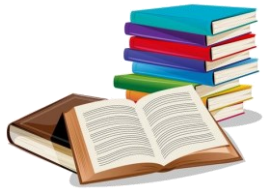
- **Mandates: BEML** will manufacture the Bharat-made bullet train in Bengaluru, Karnataka, with an eight-coach configuration comprising four motor cars and four trailer cars. The train is designed to accommodate approximately **557** passengers and operate at speeds of up to **249 km**/h, with testing planned at speeds of up to **280 km**/h. It will incorporate modern passenger amenities, accessibility provisions, intelligent onboard control systems, regenerative braking, aerodynamic engineering and a **25** kV, **50** Hz AC traction system.



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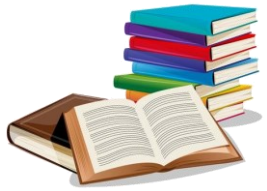
Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:** To promote indigenous high-speed rail manufacturing, strengthen India's domestic railway technology capabilities, enhance passenger comfort and accessibility, improve energy efficiency, reduce travel time through high-speed rail connectivity, and support the development of modern railway infrastructure under the Mumbai–**Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail** project.



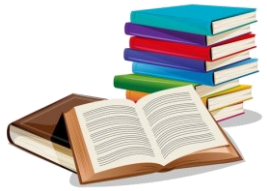
Important Terms Explained:

- Bharat-**Made Bullet Train**: An indigenously manufactured high-speed passenger train being developed for India's Mumbai–**Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor**. According to the report, it will feature eight coaches, a planned operating speed of up to **249 km**/h and a test speed of **280 km**/h.



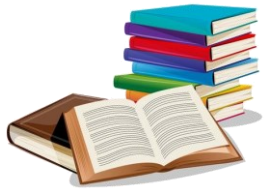
Important Terms Explained:

- **Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML): An Indian** public sector manufacturing enterprise operating in areas including railway rolling stock, defence equipment and mining and construction machinery. **Its Bengaluru** facility is designated for manufacturing the Bharat-made bullet train.



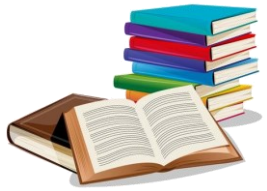
Important Terms Explained:

- Mumbai–**Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor**: India's major high-speed railway project designed to connect **Mumbai in Maharashtra** with **Ahmedabad in Gujarat** through dedicated high-speed rail infrastructure.



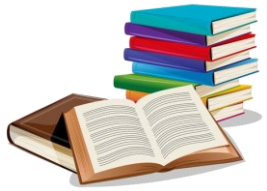
Important Terms Explained:

- **Motor Car:** A railway coach equipped with traction motors that provide the driving force needed to move an electric train.



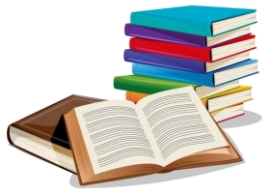
Important Terms Explained:

- **Trailer Car:** A railway coach without its own traction motors that forms part of a multiple-unit train and is pulled or pushed by powered coaches.



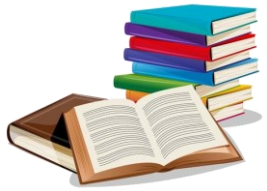
Important Terms Explained:

- **25** kV, **50** Hz AC **Traction System**: An electric railway power supply system using **25,000**-volt alternating current at a frequency of **50** hertz to provide energy for train propulsion.



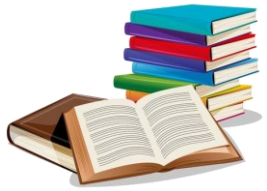
Important Terms Explained:

- **Heavy Compound Catenary:** An overhead railway electrification arrangement using multiple supporting and contact wires to deliver electrical power reliably to trains operating at high speeds.



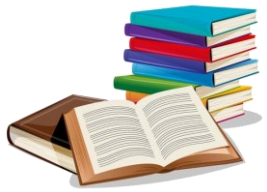
Important Terms Explained:

- **Regenerative Braking:** An energy-efficient braking technology that converts some of a train's kinetic energy into electrical energy during deceleration, potentially returning it to the power supply system.



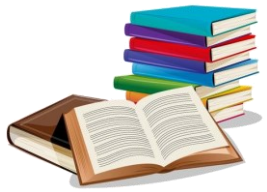
Important Terms Explained:

- **Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD):** A computer-based engineering technique used to analyse airflow, aerodynamic drag, turbulence and pressure changes around high-speed trains, supporting efficient exterior design.



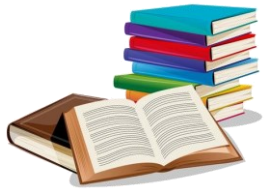
Important Terms Explained:

- **HVAC System:** Heating**, Ventilation and Air Conditioning** technology used to regulate indoor temperature**,** airflow and humidity for passenger comfort.



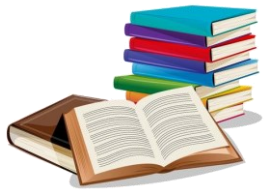
Important Terms Explained:

- **Passenger Information System (PIS):** An onboard information and communication system providing journey updates, station announcements, safety instructions and other passenger information through digital displays and audio announcements.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Persons with Reduced Mobility (PRM):** Passengers who experience difficulty moving or accessing transport facilities, including wheelchair users, elderly passengers and individuals with temporary or permanent mobility limitations.

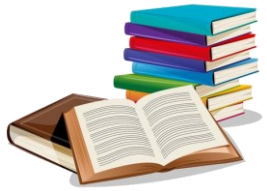


Tabular Summary:

Parameter	Details
Project and announcement	India's first Bharat-made bullet train was showcased by Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, with details reported on November 3, 2026.
Manufacturer and location	Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), Bengaluru, Karnataka.
Rail corridor	Mumbai–Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor connecting Maharashtra and Gujarat.
Train configuration and length	Eight coaches comprising four motor cars and four trailer cars, with an approximate total length of 202 metres.
Operating and test speeds	Designed for a maximum operating speed of 249 km/h and a maximum testing speed of 280 km/h.
Capacity and seating	Approximately 557 passengers, with 3+2 standard-class seating and 2+2 executive-class seating.
Passenger amenities and accessibility	Ergonomic seating, Wi-Fi-enabled entertainment, multilingual LCD displays, charging sockets, accessible toilets, wheelchair-friendly spaces, Braille signage and level boarding.
Major engineering technologies	25 kV, 50 Hz AC traction, heavy compound catenary, regenerative braking, intelligent onboard controls, HVAC systems, sound insulation and CFD-based aerodynamic design.

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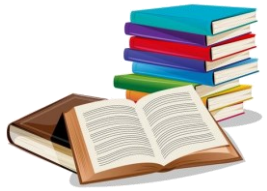
- World Jellyfish Day was observed globally on November 3, 2026, to highlight the ecological importance of jellyfish in marine food webs and their contributions to biotechnology, biological research and marine conservation.
- International Day for Biosphere Reserves is observed annually on November 3, with the 2026 observance highlighting biodiversity conservation, sustainable development and the role of UNESCO-recognised biosphere reserves in balancing nature and human activities.
- India topped the medal tally at the Tammer Tournament 2026 in Tampere, Finland, winning 14 medals comprising four gold, two silver and eight bronze medals, with every member of the 14-boxer Indian contingent securing a podium finish.
- Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell retired from international cricket on November 2, 2026, after a 14-year career featuring 286 matches, 7,226 runs, 136 wickets and three ICC World Cup titles.
- Dhinidhi Desinghu reportedly became the first Indian swimmer to win a medal at the Youth Olympic Games after securing bronze in the women's 100m freestyle at Dakar 2026 with a national record time of 56.27 seconds.



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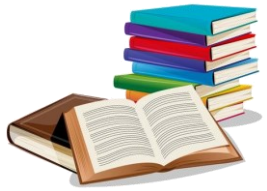
- **Prema Rawat of Uttarakhand reportedly set a new record for the fastest half-century in women's T20 cricket by scoring an unbeaten 50 off 14 balls against Hyderabad on November 2, 2026, helping her team secure an 89-run victory in the Senior Women's T20 Trophy.**
- **The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation launched WhatsApp-based services on November 1, 2026, during its 74th Foundation Day celebrations, enabling over 80 million subscribers to access PF balances, passbooks and their latest five transactions.**
- **India's manufacturing PMI declined from 55.1 in September to 54.7 in October 2026, according to the S&P Global survey, indicating continued factory-sector expansion at a slower pace despite stronger export orders and easing cost pressures.**
- **The Central Government extended the tenure of the six-member Nandan Nilekani-led Exam Reform Task Force until January 2027 to recommend measures for strengthening examination security, fairness and transparency following concerns over NEET-related malpractice.**
- **.**



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- Gopal Vittal, Executive Vice-Chairman of Bharti Airtel, was re-elected Chairperson of the GSMA Board on November 2, 2026, for a second term extending through December 2028, strengthening India's representation in global telecommunications leadership.
- The documentary Mothers of Courage won the UN SDG Action Award 2026 in the Creativity category at a ceremony in Rome, Italy, recognising a Bihar-based women-led movement promoting girls' education and preventing child marriage.
- The fifth edition of the India–US bilateral tri-service HADR Exercise Tiger Triumph 2026 commenced on November 2, 2026, at the Maritime Warfare Centre in Visakhapatnam to strengthen joint disaster response planning and military interoperability
- The Ministry of Rural Development notified the VB-G RAM G Grievance Redressal Rules, 2026, on November 2, establishing a three-tier complaint mechanism with seven-working-day investigations and a 15-day resolution deadline for rural employment grievances.
- India's first Bharat-made bullet train, to be manufactured by BEML in Bengaluru for the Mumbai–Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor, was showcased by Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw with advanced passenger facilities and indigenous high-speed railway technology.



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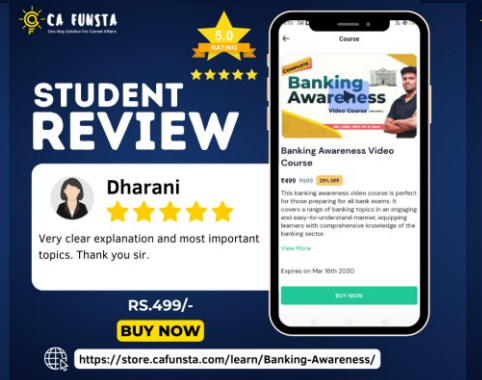

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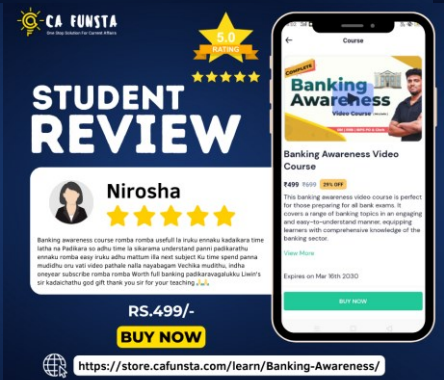

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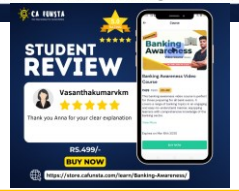

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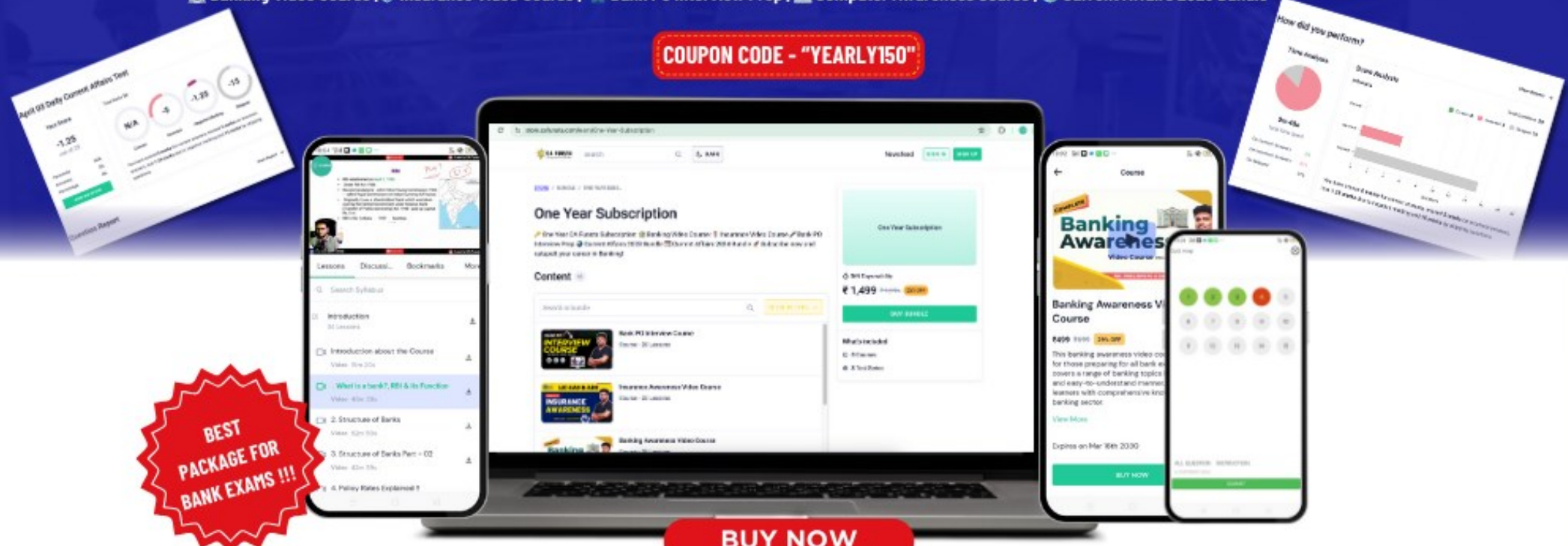
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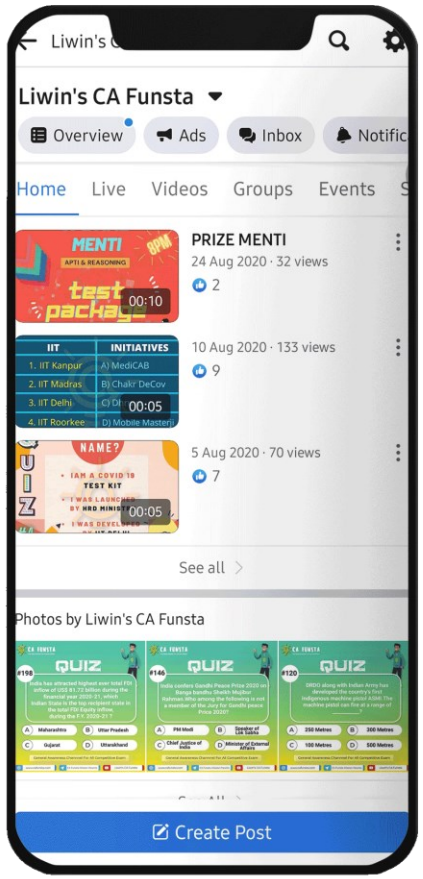
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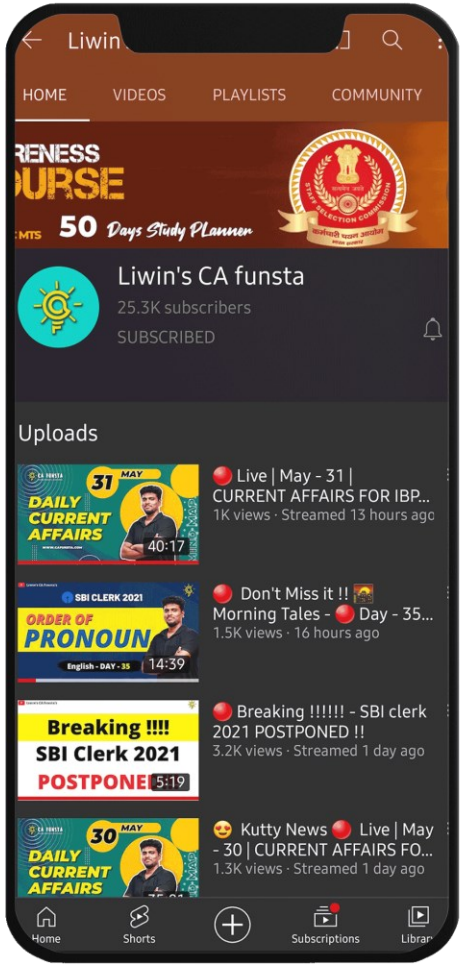


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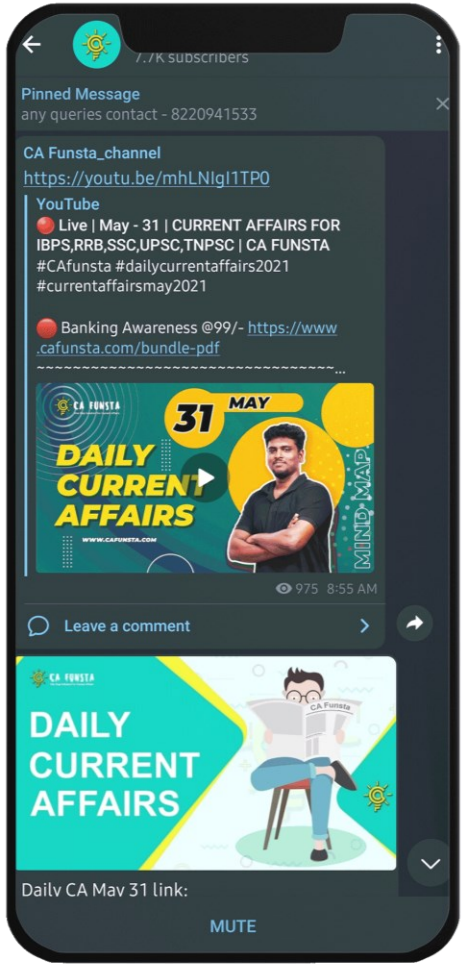
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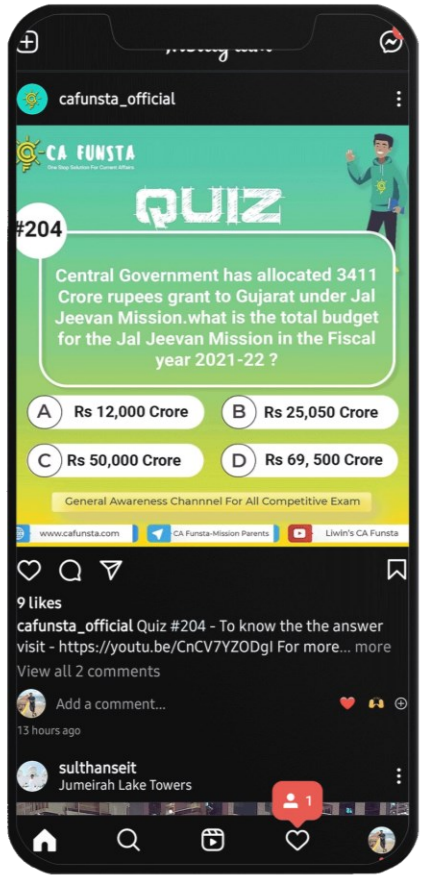


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