

Banking Wallah



CURRENT AFFAIRS

Lecture No.- 00



By- Sushmita Ma'am



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Don't let
yesterday
take up
too much
of today.
Will Rogers



TODAY'S NEWS AT A GLANCE

TODAY'S NEWS AT A GLANCE

1. Rajasthan Cabinet approves AI-ML Policy 2026, promotes ethical and responsible AI
2. DRDO successfully conducts salvo launch of two Pralay missiles in quick succession
3. India's first 3D Flex Aqueous Angiography with iStent performed by Army Hospital (Research & Referral)
4. Govt approves road projects to boost integrated transport infrastructure
5. India Post, SIDBI join hands to verify informal micro enterprises on Udyam assist platform
6. Tata Group sells off entire stake In Taj GVK Hotels to promoter shareholder
7. Iran appoints new central bank governor amid protests over plunging rial
8. Select provisions of National Sports Governance Act come into force
9. PFRDA unveils reforms to expand and strengthen National Pension System
10. Static Booster







IRAQ

KUWAIT

PERSIAN GULF

BAHRAIN

QATAR

SAUDI ARABIA

UAE

OMAN

OMAN

IRAN

AFGHANISTAN

PAKISTAN

Strait of Hormuz

GULF OF OMAN

ARABIAN SEA



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Revision



Q. How much is the total humanitarian appeal launched by the United Nations for Afghanistan for the year 2026?

A. USD 1.2 billion

B. USD 1.5 billion

C. USD 1.71 billion ✓

D. USD 2 billion



Q. Following the presidential election held on December 28, 2025, which candidate was declared the winner with 86.72% of the vote according to provisional results?

- A. Alpha Condé
- B. Cellou Dalein Diallo
- C. Mamady Doumbouya ✓
- D. Faya Lansana Millimono



Q. Who secured a record-extending ninth title by winning the 2025 World Blitz Championship?

A. Fabiano Caruana

B. Arjun Erigaisi

C. Magnus Carlsen ✓

D. Nodirbek Abdusattorov



Q. The Indian Ministry of Defence recently signed contracts worth ₹4,666 crore for the procurement of which two major types of military equipment?

- A. Fighter jets and radars
- B. Close Quarter Battle Carbines and Heavy Weight Torpedoes ✓
- C. Transport aircraft and helicopters
- D. Surveillance drones



Q. What is the primary objective of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the NHAI and the National Test House?

- A. Highway toll collection
- B. Quality testing and assurance of highway materials ✓
- C. Construction of new expressways
- D. Traffic management systems



Q. What is the core focus of the Delhi Jan Vishwas (Amendment) Bill, 2026, recently approved by the Delhi Cabinet?

- A. Increasing criminal penalties
- B. Decriminalising minor offences and simplifying compliance ✓
- C. Creating new courts in Delhi
- D. Privatizing state services



Q. Under the Indo-Canada R&D Programme, what specific technology or vessel does the "Smart Sea Project" aim to develop and demonstrate?

- A. Building nuclear-powered ships
- B. Developing a 20-passenger electric boat
- C. Expanding deep-sea mining projects ✓
- D. Constructing large cargo ports



Q. What was the central theme of the interaction chaired by PM Narendra Modi with eminent economists at NITI Aayog in late December 2025?

- A. Green Energy Mission
- B. Agricultural Reforms Only
- C. Start-up India Expansion
- D. Aatmanirbharta and Structural Transformation: Agenda for Viksit Bharat ✓



Q. Who has been officially designated to succeed Warren Buffett as the CEO of Berkshire Hathaway?

- A. Ajit Jain
- B. Greg Abel
- C. Charlie Munger
- D. Howard Buffett



Q. What is the primary function of "PathGennie," a computational framework recently developed by scientists at the S.N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences?

- A. Weather forecasting
- B. Simulation of rare molecular events
- C. Satellite communication
- D. Gene editing



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Policy / Schemes News



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PENSION FUND REGULATORY AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

PFRDA unveils reforms to expand and strengthen National Pension System

पीएफआरडीए ने राष्ट्रीय पेंशन प्रणाली का विस्तार और सुदृढ़ करने के लिए सुधारों की घोषणा की

Pension ⇒ Regulated by PFRDA



1. Objective of the Reforms

- Promote sustainable growth of NPS
- Strengthen governance & transparency
- Protect subscriber interests
- Expand coverage (corporate, retail, gig workers)

2. Banks Allowed to Sponsor Pension Funds

Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) can independently sponsor & manage Pension Funds

Eligibility based on:

- Net worth
- Market capitalisation
- Prudential soundness (as per RBI norms)
- Detailed criteria to be notified
- Applies to new and existing Pension Funds

3. New Trustees Appointed to NPS Trust ✓

Dinesh Kumar Khara — Chairperson (Former SBI Chairman)

Swati Anil Kulkarni — Former EVP, UTI AMC



Arvind Gupta — Co-Founder, Digital India Foundation

4. Revised Investment Management Fee (IMF) ✓

Effective 1 April 2026

Slab-based IMF for non-government subscribers:

- Up to ₹25,000 crore AUM: 0.12% ✓
- ₹25,000–50,000 crore AUM: 0.08%
- ₹50,000–1,50,000 crore AUM: 0.06%
- Above ₹1,50,000 crore AUM: 0.04%

Government sector IMF remains unchanged ✓

Separate IMF treatment for schemes under Multiple Scheme Framework (MSF)

5. Regulatory Fees

Annual Regulatory Fee (ARF): 0.015% (unchanged)

Out of this, 0.0025% earmarked for ANI for awareness & literacy initiatives

6. Expected Outcomes

More competition among Pension Funds

Better governance standards

Lower, more efficient fees

Stronger retirement security for subscribers





Q. Under the new PFRDA reforms, which entity is now permitted to sponsor and manage Pension Funds independently?

- A. NBFCs
- B. Scheduled Commercial Banks ✓
- C. Insurance Companies
- D. Mutual Fund Distributors



Q. PFRDA is the regulator of which of the following schemes?

- A. Atal Pension Yojana and National Pension System ✓
- B. Employees' Provident Fund
- C. Public Provident Fund
- D. Senior Citizens Savings Scheme



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International News



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Iran appoints new central bank
governor amid protests over
plunging rial

गिरते रियाल को लेकर विरोध प्रदर्शनों
के बीच ईरान ने नए सेंट्रल बैंक गवर्नर
की नियुक्ति की



10,000 ⇒ 1 rial



1. Appointment

Abdolnasser Hemmati appointed as the new Governor of the Central Bank of Iran.
Replaces Mohammad Reza Farzin, who resigned amid unrest.

2. Background – Why the Change?

Sharp fall in the Iranian rial triggered mass protests.
Businesses and traders reportedly shut shops in protest.
Rising inflation has eroded purchasing power.

3. Currency Situation

USD traded around 1.38 million rials.
Rial was about 430,000 per USD in 2022 — massive depreciation.

4. Inflation & Public Impact

Inflation hovering near 40%.
Prices of food and essential goods rising sharply.
Growing economic hardship and street demonstrations.

5. Government's Focus

Control inflation.



Stabilize the currency.

Fix weaknesses in the banking sector.

6. Hemmati's Profile

Age: 68

Former Minister of Economic & Financial Affairs.

Was dismissed by parliament earlier over alleged mismanagement.

7. Wider Economic Pressure

Currency crisis + high inflation.

Continued Western sanctions linked to Iran's nuclear program.

Strong pressure for economic reforms.



Q. Who has been appointed as the new Governor of the Central Bank of Iran in 2026?

- A. Mohammad Reza Farzin
- B. Abdolnasser Hemmati ✓
- C. Ali Shamkhani
- D. Hassan Rouhani



Q. Which of the following is the primary function of a Central Bank?

- A. Granting personal loans directly to citizens
- B. Controlling inflation and issuing currency ✓
- C. Managing retail banking operations
- D. Offering mutual fund investment services



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Sports News



Select provisions of National Sports Governance Act come into force

राष्ट्रीय खेल शासन अधिनियम के चयनित प्रावधान लागू हो गए हैं



1. What has started?

Central Government notifies select provisions of the Act.

Provisions come into force from 1 January 2026.

2. Scope of the Act

Governs functioning of:

National Olympic Committee

National Paralympic Committee

National Sports Federations

Regional Sports Federations

Other recognised sports bodies nationwide

3. Institutional Framework Made Operational

National Sports Board constituted

National Sports Tribunal constituted

Compliance norms for recognised sports organisations activated



4. Powers of the Centre

Central Government empowered to:

Frame rules

Issue regulations

Monitor governance standards

5. Objectives

Transparency & accountability

Ethical and professional administration

Good governance aligned with:

Olympic Charter

Paralympic Charter

Global best practices

6. Rollout Strategy

Phased implementation for smooth transition

Institutional mechanisms now formally operational



Q. The provisions of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 notified by the Centre came into effect from which date?

- A. 15 August 2025
- B. ~~1 January 2026~~
- C. 2 October 2026
- D. 31 December 2025



Q. What is the primary role of a National Sports Tribunal?

- A. Training athletes for international events
- B. ~~Settling disputes and governance issues in sports bodies~~
- C. Organising national-level tournaments
- D. Providing financial aid to sportspersons



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States News



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Rajasthan Cabinet approves AI-ML Policy 2026, promotes ethical and responsible AI

राजस्थान कैबिनेट ने AI-ML पॉलिसी 2026 को मंजूरी दी, नैतिक और ज़िम्मेदार AI को बढ़ावा दिया



1. Policy Approval

Rajasthan Cabinet approved the **AI-ML Policy 2026**.

Goal: make Rajasthan a tech-driven investment and innovation hub.

2. Core Objectives

Faster, transparent, citizen-centric public services.

Strengthen e-governance across departments.

Ensure responsible, ethical, and secure AI usage.

3. Responsible AI Principles

Transparency & accountability

Fairness and bias reduction

Privacy & data protection

Explainable and auditable AI decisions

Clear mechanisms to report AI-related cybercrimes

4. Institutional Framework

Creation of AI Centre of Excellence in Rajasthan.

Every department to:



identify AI use cases
appoint an AI Nodal Officer.

5. Digital Infrastructure Push

AI cloud & secure data repositories

Testing platforms

High-performance computing

Sector-wide AI skilling initiatives (schools, ITIs, colleges, govt staff)

6. Support for Innovation & Industry

Incentives for industries, MSMEs, startups, research bodies

Linked with RIPS, MSME & Startup policies.

7. Green Credit Voucher Initiative-2025

→ Aim

Promote green and circular economy in Rajasthan.

→ How It Works

Issue tradable, redeemable green credits as vouchers.

Rewards for measurable environmental performance.



→ Eligible Activities

Renewable energy & efficiency

Waste management

Water conservation

Air pollution control

Sustainable buildings & infrastructure

Agriculture & other eco-friendly sectors

8. Expected Impact

Boost public + private investment in sustainability.

Support Rajasthan's long-term environmental goals.



Q. Which state approved the AI-ML Policy 2026 along with the Green Credit Voucher Initiative-2025?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Karnataka
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Maharashtra



Q. What is the capital of Rajasthan?

- A. Udaipur
- B. Jodhpur
- C. Jaipur
- D. Ajmer



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Defence News



DRDO successfully conducts salvo launch of two Pralay missiles in quick succession

डीआरडीओ ने त्वरित अंतराल में दो प्रलय मिसाइलों का सफल प्रक्षेपण किया



1. What Happened

DRDO conducted a **salvo launch of two Pralay missiles**.

Launched in quick succession from the **same launcher off Odisha coast**.

Conducted on December 31 during user evaluation trials.

2. Trial Results

Both missiles followed intended trajectories.

All mission objectives met.

Performance tracked by:

Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur sensors

Ships and onboard telemetry validating terminal events

3. About Pralay Missile

Solid-propellant, quasi-ballistic missile.

Equipped with advanced guidance & navigation systems.

High accuracy, multiple warhead capability.

Designed to strike diverse targets — enhancing operational flexibility.



4. Development & Integration

Developed by Research Centre Imarat (Hyderabad) with DRDO labs.

Integrated with support from:

~~Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)~~

~~Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)~~

Trials witnessed by DRDO scientists and representatives of the Army & Air Force.

5. Official Reaction

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated teams.

Said the test established reliability of the Pralay system.



Q. DRDO recently conducted a successful salvo launch of which indigenously developed missile off the Odisha coast?

- A. Agni-V
- B. Prithvi-II
- C. Pralay
- D. Akash



Q. Where is the Integrated Test Range (ITR), used for missile testing, located?

- A. Sriharikota
- B. Chandipur
- C. Pokhran
- D. Balasore



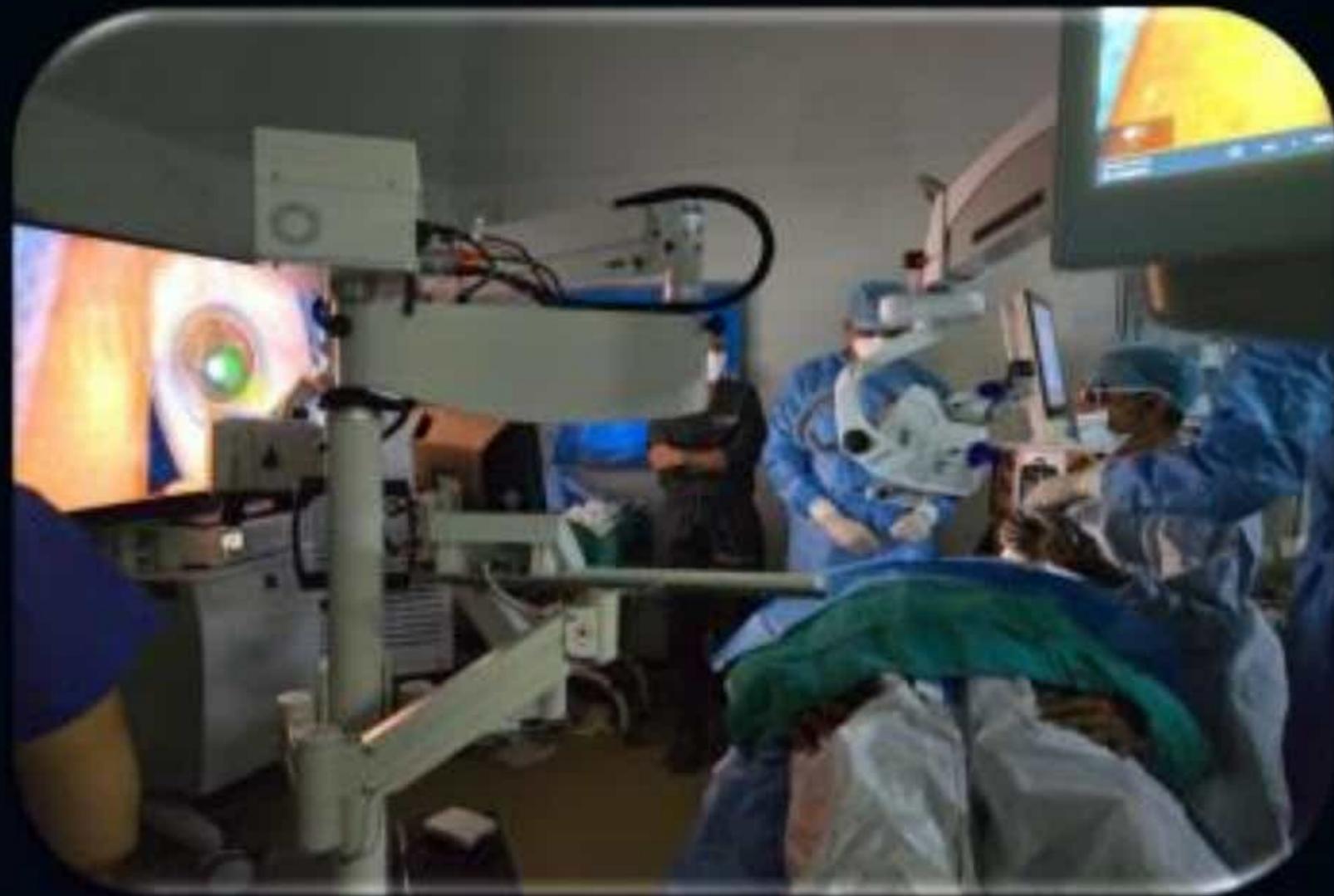
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Science / Tech News



India's first 3D Flex Aqueous Angiography with iStent performed by Army Hospital (Research & Referral)

आर्मी हॉस्पिटल (आर एंड आर) भारत में आईस्टेंट के साथ पहली 3डी फ्लेक्स एक्वस एंजियोग्राफी



1. Landmark Medical Achievement

Army Hospital (Research & Referral), Delhi Cantt. performed India's first:

3D Flex Aqueous Angiography

combined with iStent minimally invasive glaucoma surgery (MIGS).

2. Technology Used

Spectralis stand-mounted imaging system

3D operating microscope

Enabled real-time, high-precision visualisation during surgery.

3. Why It Matters for Glaucoma

Glaucoma = major cause of irreversible blindness.

Often progresses silently without symptoms.

3D angiography helps surgeons:

map aqueous outflow pathways precisely

target treatment more accurately

improve surgical outcomes and safety.



4. Role of iStent

Tiny implant that:

improves fluid drainage

lowers eye pressure

supports long-term glaucoma control

Part of minimally invasive glaucoma surgery (MIGS).

5. Broader Impact

Places Armed Forces Medical Services at the forefront of glaucoma care.

Expected to benefit:

armed forces personnel

veterans

civilian patients as capability expands.



Q. Which hospital performed India's first 3D Flex Aqueous Angiography combined with iStent surgery?

- A. AIIMS New Delhi
- B. Army Hospital (Research & Referral), Delhi Cantt
- C. Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai
- D. LV Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad



Q. Glaucoma primarily causes loss of vision due to damage to which structure of the eye?

- A. Cornea
- B. Retina
- C. Optic nerve
- D. Lens



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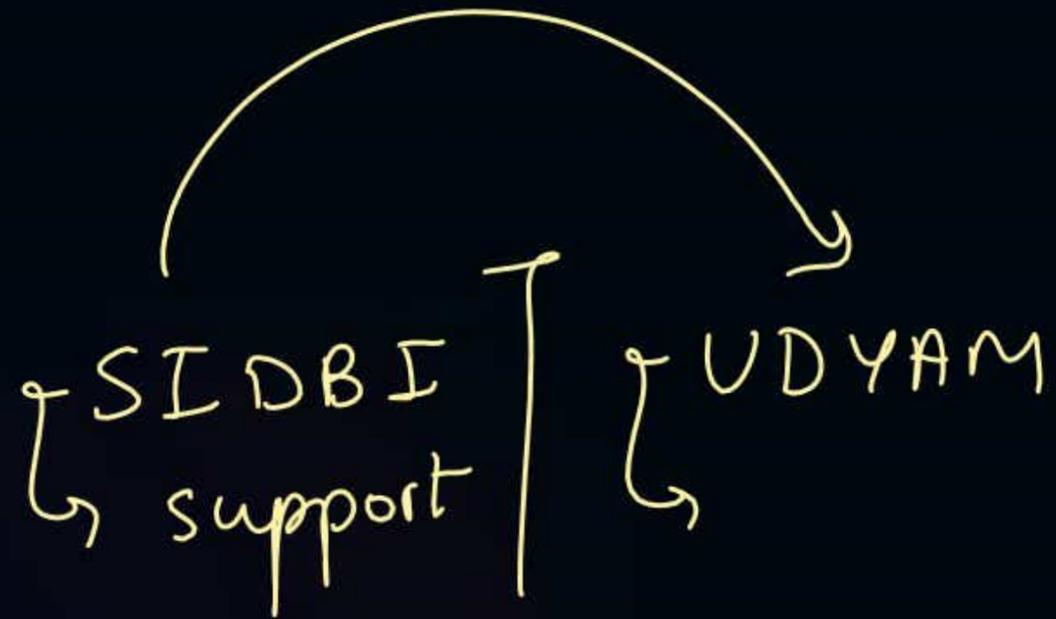


MoUs / Agreements News



India Post, SIDBI join hands to verify informal micro enterprises on Udyam assist platform

इंडिया पोस्ट और सिडबी ने उद्यम असिस्ट प्लेटफॉर्म पर अनौपचारिक सूक्ष्म उद्यमों के सत्यापन के लिए हाथ मिलाया





1. Objective of the MoU

To conduct Contact Point Verification (CPV) of informal micro enterprises
Ensure accurate, verified business details on the Udyam Assist Platform (UAP)

2. Key Stakeholders

Department of Posts (India Post)

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)

Signatories

Manisha Bansal Badal — Department of Posts

Amit Nagar — SIDBI

3. Role of India Post

Uses network of 1.64 lakh+ post offices

Deploys trained field staff for on-ground verification

Collects geo-tagged evidence (photos, location, details)

4. Role of SIDBI

Develops & manages Udyam Assist Platform

Provides:



Mobile app for real-time data capture

Technical infrastructure

Guidelines & training

Supports integration of informal units into the formal financial ecosystem

5. Verification Scope

Business identity & details

Physical location

Supporting documentation

Geo-tagged photographs

6. Benefits

Better data accuracy & reliability

Easier access to formal credit for informal micro enterprises

Supports:

MSME development

Financial inclusion

Formalisation of informal economy



7. Tenure of Agreement

Valid: 31 Dec 2025 – 30 Dec 2027 (2 years)

Extension: Possible with mutual consent

8. Compliance & Safeguards

Data privacy & security

Confidentiality provisions

GST compliance

Structured payment systems



Q. The Department of Posts signed an MoU with which institution to verify informal micro enterprises on the Udyam Assist Platform?

- A. NABARD
- B. RBI
- C. SIDBI
- D. NITI Aayog



Q. SIDBI primarily works for the development of:

- A. Large industries
- B. Foreign trade companies
- C. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- D. Agriculture cooperatives



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National News



Government notifies draft rules
for four labour codes

सरकार ने चार श्रम संहिताओं के लिए
मसौदा नियमों की अधिसूचना जारी की



1. The Four Labour Codes

- ✓ Code on Wages, 2019
- ✓ Industrial Relations Code, 2020
- ✓ Code on Social Security, 2020
- ✓ Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code, 2020

2. What the draft rules define

Who qualifies as a worker

Meaning of wages

Types of employment

Gratuity & bonus rules

Social security, including for gig workers/platform workers

3. Public consultation

Draft rules are open for feedback

Objections/suggestions can be sent within 45 days

4. Purpose of the Labour Codes

To simplify and modernise decades-old labour laws and ensure:



Better wages

Safer working conditions

Wider social security

Faster dispute resolution

5. Key benefits promised

- ✓ Timely minimum wages for all workers
- ✓ Appointment letters for new recruits
- ✓ Equal pay and dignity for women workers
- ✓ Social security coverage for ~40 crore workers
- ✓ Gratuity for fixed-term employees after 1 year ✓
- ✓ Free annual health check-up for workers above 40 ✓
- ✓ Double wages for overtime ✓
- ✓ Alignment with international labour standards ✓



Q. How long do stakeholders get to submit suggestions on the draft rules of the Labour Codes?

- A. 15 days
- B. 30 days
- C. 45 days
- D. 60 days



Q. Which organisation in India primarily deals with labour law formulation and implementation at the central level?

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. Ministry of Labour & Employment
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Finance Commission



1. Six lane Nashik - Solapur (Akkalkot) corridor (19,142 Cr)

✓
Govt approves road projects to boost integrated transport infrastructure

सरकार ने इंटीग्रेटेड ट्रांसपोर्ट इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सड़क परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी



1. Project 1: Nashik–Solapur–Akkalkot 6-Lane Corridor (Maharashtra)

● Key Details:

Type: 6-lane greenfield, access-controlled corridor

Length: 374 km

Capital Cost: ₹19,142 crore

● Speed Parameters:

Average vehicular speed: 60 km/h

Design speed: 100 km/h

Travel Time: Reduced to ~17 hours

● Connectivity Benefits:

Nashik

Ahilyanagar

Solapur

Kurnool

Employment Generation:

Direct: 251.06 lakh man-days



Indirect: 313.83 lakh man-days

Under: PM GatiShakti National Master Plan

Impact

Faster, safer freight & passenger movement

Boost to economic activities along the corridor

Improved logistics and regional development

2. Project 2: Widening of NH-326 (Odisha)

● Scope:

Conversion from 2-lane to 2-lane with paved shoulders

Capital Cost: ₹1,526.21 crore

● Beneficiary Regions:

Gajapati

Rayagada

Koraput (tribal & aspirational districts)

● Expected Benefits:

Faster and safer travel



Improved connectivity for:

Local communities

Health & education institutions

Industries

Tourism

More access to markets and employment opportunities



Q. Which corridor has been approved by the Union Cabinet as a 6-lane greenfield highway in Maharashtra?

- A. Mumbai–Nagpur Corridor
- B. Nashik–Solapur–Akkalkot Corridor
- C. Pune–Aurangabad Corridor
- D. Nagpur–Hyderabad Corridor



Q. PM GatiShakti primarily focuses on:

- A. Agriculture subsidy reforms
- B. Integrated multimodal infrastructure planning
- C. Export promotion only
- D. Rural housing schemes



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Business / Economy News



India's 1st maritime NBFC
commences operations,
approves Rs 4,300 crore

भारत की पहली मैरीटाइम NBFC ने
काम शुरू किया, 4,300 करोड़ रुपये
मंजूर किए



1. What has happened?

Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL) — India's first maritime-focused NBFC
Has started lending operations

Approved loans worth about ₹4,300 crore

2. Key Objective

Bridge financing gaps in the maritime ecosystem

Support ports, MSMEs, startups & maritime institutions

Strengthen India's blue economy and port-led development

3. Government Statement

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said:

SMFCL will boost maritime infrastructure financing

Supports vision of Viksit Bharat

Aligned with long-term national growth strategies

4. Financial Roadmap Approved

At SMFCL AGM:

Borrowing limit: ₹25,000 crore



Lending target (current FY): ₹8,000 crore

Loan book target FY 2025–26: ₹8,000 crore

5. Major Loan Approvals

₹4,000 crore → Greenfield Port Project

₹150 crore → Dredging Corporation of India (DCI)

₹110 crore → Goa Shipyard Ltd

Supports:

Port development

Dredging capacity

Indigenous shipbuilding

6. When was SMFCL launched?

26 June 2025

Created to:

Provide sector-specific maritime finance

Align with Amrit Kaal Vision 2047

Promote sustainable maritime infrastructure



7. Institutional Support

Backed by Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

Designated nodal agency for:

Maritime Development Fund (MDF)

Total corpus: ₹25,000 crore



Q. Which organisation has begun lending operations with loan sanctions of about ₹4,300 crore to support maritime infrastructure?

- A. EXIM Bank
- B. Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited
- C. NABARD
- D. Ship India Finance Corporation



Q. Which ministry oversees Sagarmala initiatives in India?

- A. Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- B. Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
- C. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- D. Ministry of Finance



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**Tata Group sells off entire stake
In Taj GVK Hotels to promoter
shareholder**

**टाटा ग्रुप ने ताज GVK होटल्स में
अपनी पूरी हिस्सेदारी प्रमोटर
शेयरहोल्डर को बेच दी**



1. What happened?

Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL) — Tata Group company
Sold its entire 25.52% stake in Taj GVK Hotels & Resorts Ltd
Buyer: Shalini Bhupal (Executive Director & Promoter Shareholder)

2. Deal value

Total amount: ₹592 crore

Share price: ₹370 per share

Shares sold: ~1.6 crore shares

This ends IHCL's ownership relationship with Taj GVK.

3. Agreements terminated

After the transaction, a termination agreement was signed among stakeholders.

Cancelled agreements:

- Shareholders' Agreement (2011)
- Name & Trademark Licence Agreement (2007)



— All rights and obligations under these agreements stand cancelled.

4. Corporate changes

IHCL nominee directors resigned (effective Dec 30, 2025)

Company must drop the word “Taj” from its corporate name

A new identity will be adopted

5. IHCL will still manage the hotels

Even after stake exit:

IHCL will continue operating hotels

Under existing hotel operating agreements

So, management continues — only ownership changes.

6. Promoter shareholding

GVK–Bhupal family continues as promoter

Holding: 74.99%



Earlier, IHCL announced conversion of JV into a long-term management model.

7. Strategic reason

This aligns with IHCL's:

Capital-light strategy

Focus on hotel management rather than ownership

IHCL will continue managing:

6 existing hotels

1 upcoming hotel in Bengaluru



Q. Who purchased IHCL's entire 25.52% stake in Taj GVK Hotels & Resorts Ltd?

- A. GVK Group
- B. Shalini Bhupal
- C. Blue Moon Trust
- D. Tata Sons



Q. Which business group owns Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL)?

- A. Aditya Birla Group
- B. Reliance Group
- C. Tata Group
- D. Mahindra Group



Govt notifies February 1st as date from which additional excise duty to be levied on tobacco products

सरकार ने 1 फरवरी को वह तारीख घोषित किया है जिससे तंबाकू उत्पादों पर अतिरिक्त उत्पाद शुल्क लगाया जाएगा



1. What has been notified?

The government has notified that from February 1:
Additional excise duty on tobacco products
New Health & National Security Cess on pan masala
These are in addition to GST.

2. What changes in GST + Cess structure?

✓ GST rates (remain the same):

Pan masala, cigarettes, tobacco, similar products — 40% GST
Biris — 18% GST

✓ What is changing?

The new levies will:

Replace the Compensation Cess (earlier charged on “sin goods”)
Be charged over and above GST



3. New cess & duty structure

For pan masala

Health & National Security Cess

(aimed at discouraging consumption + funding public programmes)

For tobacco products (including cigarettes)

Additional Excise Duty

This increases the overall tax burden on tobacco products.

4. Legal backing

Parliament approved two bills in December:

Health and National Security Cess Bill

Excise duty provisions on tobacco

These enable the Centre to impose the new levies.

5. Why is government doing this?

Policy goals include:



Discourage consumption of harmful products

Raise funds for health and national security

Replace GST compensation cess in a structured manner



Q. From which date will the new cess and additional excise duty on pan masala and tobacco take effect?

- A. January 1
- B. February 1
- C. April 1
- D. March 31



Q. Which tax is shared between the Centre and States — CGST + SGST — on goods sold within a state?

- A. Customs Duty
- B. GST
- C. Income Tax
- D. Excise Duty



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Static Booster



**Delhi Jan Vishwas Bill
Explained: Minor Offences To Be
Decriminalised**

**दिल्ली जन विश्वास विधेयक की
व्याख्या: छोटे अपराधों को अपराध की
श्रेणी से हटाया जाएगा**



1. Aim of the Bill

To decriminalise minor offences in Delhi.

Replace criminal cases with civil penalties and fines.

Reduce court burden and simplify compliance.

2. What changes for citizens

Small paperwork mistakes and technical lapses → no criminal cases.

Offences handled through:

fines

civil penalties

appeal mechanisms

Faster case resolution.

3. Alignment with Central Policy

Inspired by the Jan Vishwas initiative of the Central Government.

Follows reforms under Jan Vishwas Acts (2023 & 2025).



4. Scope — Who Benefits

Small shops & business owners

Institutions (schools, colleges, service providers)

License holders

Individuals facing minor compliance issues

5. Serious Offences Still Punishable

No relaxation for crimes related to:

public health

safety

life and security

6. Acts Proposed for Amendment (7 Acts)

Delhi Shops and Establishments Act, 1954

Delhi Industrial Development, Operation & Maintenance Act, 2010

'Incredible India' Bed & Breakfast Act, 2007

Delhi Agricultural Produce Marketing Act, 1998

Delhi Jal Board Act, 1998



Delhi Professional Colleges/Institutions Act, 2007

Delhi Diploma-Level Technical Education Institutions Act, 2007

7. Automatic Fine Revision

Penalties increase 10% every three years automatically.

8. Financial Impact

No extra government expenditure.

Implemented using existing staff and resources.

9. What's Next?

Bill to be introduced in the winter session of Delhi Assembly.

If passed — major shift in how minor violations are handled in Delhi.



Q. The Delhi Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026 primarily aims to:

- A. Increase criminal penalties for minor violations
- B. Decriminalise minor offences and introduce civil penalties
- C. Create new courts for compliance cases
- D. Privatise regulatory functions



Q. Which of the following is the law-making body of the National Capital Territory of Delhi?

- A. Lok Sabha
- B. Rajya Sabha
- C. Delhi Legislative Assembly ✓
- D. Municipal Corporation of Delhi

→ 70 seats

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One

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Two

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Three

Topic

Four

Topic

Five



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