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Daily Current Affairs

21 Nov 2026

20 Nov notes • 21 Nov MCQs

Current Affairs Highlights :

- Airtel Tops Kantar BrandZ 2026
- Bank of Baroda's bob Green PLUG
- Vadnagar Museum's Red Dot Award & Gujarat GK
- Baini-Bhuli Scheme & Uttarakhand GK
- Malaysia's Visa Requirement for Indian Nationals
- Graça Machel Receives Indira Gandhi Peace Prize
- India-Malaysia Exercise HARIMAU SHAKTI
- Kiran Baliyan's Eight-Year Doping Ban
- Committee on Sustainable Sports Leagues
- World Children's Day
- Africa Industrialization Day and Week

01. Airtel Tops Kantar BrandZ 2026



Airtel

No. 1 · $43.2 billion
Up 5% year-on-year

Meesho · $1.9 billion
Top Riser · No. 59 · Up 64%

Blinkit · $4.3 billion
Highest new entrant

Key News

- Airtel ranked No. 1 in the Kantar BrandZ Top 100 Most Valuable Indian Brands 2026.
- Also in the top five: HDFC, Tata Consultancy Services, State Bank of India and ICICI Bank.
- Brand value means the estimated financial worth of a brand's name, reputation and ability to influence customer choice.

Remember for Exams

Top 100 combined brand value: $460.3 billion, down 12%.

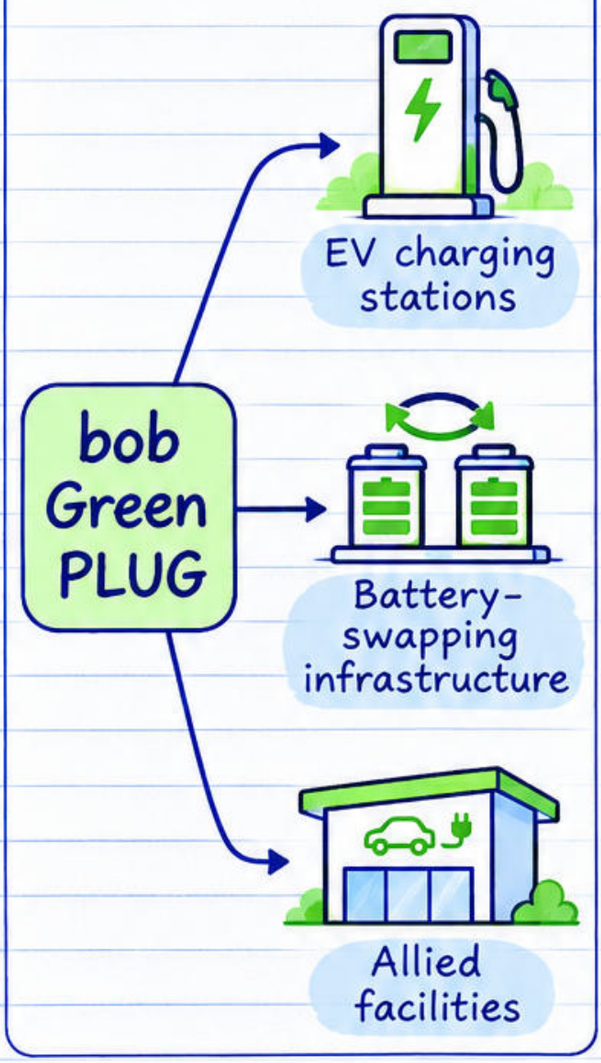
Related Original MCQ – Q1

Which company emerged as India's most valuable brand in the Kantar BrandZ Top 100 Most Valuable Indian Brands 2026 ranking, with a brand valuation of $43.2 billion and 5% year-on-year growth?

1. HDFC Bank
2. TCS
3. Reliance Industries
4. Airtel
5. Infosys

Correct answer — 4. Airtel

02. Bank of Baroda's bob Green PLUG



Key News

- Bank of Baroda introduced bob Green PLUG to finance the setup and expansion of EV charging stations, battery-swapping infrastructure and allied facilities.

Loan amount

Above ₹10 lakh and up to ₹5 crore

Bank of Baroda Facts

- Founded: 20 July 1908
- Headquarters: Vadodara, Gujarat
- MD and CEO: Dr. Debadatta Chand
- Tagline: India's International Bank
- Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank merged with Bank of Baroda effective 1 April 2019.

Related Original MCQ – Q2

Which public sector bank introduced the "Green PLUG" financing scheme to support electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, battery-swapping infrastructure and allied facilities, offering loans above ₹10 lakh and up to ₹5 crore?

1. Punjab National Bank
2. Canara Bank
3. Bank of Baroda
4. Union Bank of India
5. Bank of India

Correct answer — 3. Bank of Baroda

03. Vadnagar Museum Wins Red Dot Award



2025
Inaugurated by Amit Shah

2026
Red Dot: Best of the Best Award



Key News

- The Anant Anadi Vadnagar Archaeological Experiential Museum won the Red Dot: Best of the Best Award 2026 in Berlin, Germany.
- It became the first Indian museum to receive this distinction.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the museum in 2025.

Museum Location

- Vadnagar, Mehsana district, Gujarat.

Related Original MCQ – Q3

Which Indian state is home to the Anant Anadi Archaeological Experiential Museum, which became the first Indian museum to win the Red Dot: Best of the Best Award 2026 in Berlin, Germany?

1. Rajasthan
2. Madhya Pradesh
3. Maharashtra
4. Uttar Pradesh
5. Gujarat

Correct answer — 5. Gujarat

04. Gujarat Static GK

State Profile



- Formation: 1 May 1960, under the Bombay Reorganisation Act.
- Capital: Gandhinagar.
- Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel.
- Governor: Acharya Devvrat.
- Dances: Garba and Tippani.

Parks and Wetlands



- National parks: Gir (habitat of the Asiatic lion), Velavadar Blackbuck, Vansda, and Marine – Gulf of Kachchh (India's first marine national park).
- Ramsar sites: Nalsarovar (first), Khijadiya Wildlife Sanctuary, Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, Wadhvana Wetland, Chhari-Dhand.

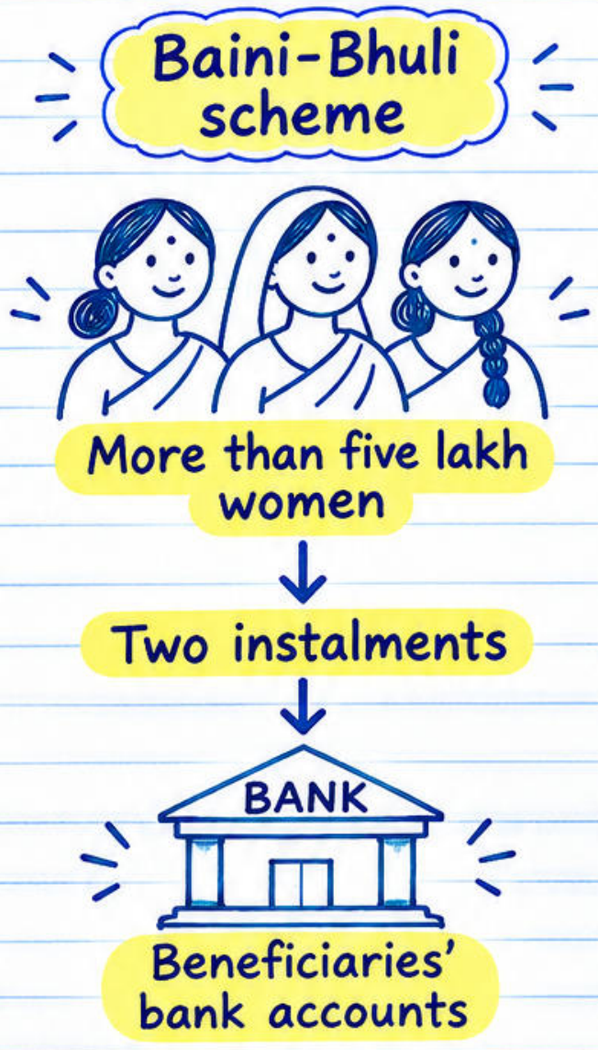
Geography and Heritage



- Gujarat has the longest coastline among Indian states. Girnar, near Junagadh, is Gujarat's highest mountain.
- Rani ki Vav, a stepwell at Patan, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Ahmedabad was the first Indian city inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List.
- Sardar Sarovar Dam is a large concrete gravity dam on the Narmada River at Kevadia (now Ekta Nagar), in Narmada district.

Related MCQ: Q3 on Page 03

05. Uttarakhand's Baini-Bhuli Scheme



Key News

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami announced financial assistance for more than five lakh women under the Baini-Bhuli scheme.
- The assistance will be transferred directly into beneficiaries' bank accounts in two instalments.

Remember for Exams

Uttarakhand • Two instalments

Related Original MCQ – Q4

Which Indian state announced financial assistance for more than five lakh women under the 'Baini-Bhuli' scheme, with the amount to be transferred directly into beneficiaries' bank accounts in two instalments?

1. Uttarakhand
2. Himachal Pradesh
3. Uttar Pradesh
4. Haryana
5. Rajasthan

Correct answer – 1. Uttarakhand

06. Uttarakhand Static GK

State Profile

Formation: 9 November 2000
Capital: Dehradun
Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami
Governor: Gurmit Singh

National Parks

- Jim Corbett
- Nanda Devi
- Valley of Flowers
- Gangotri
- Govind
- Rajaji



Tiger Reserves

- Jim Corbett
- Rajaji
- Kalagarh



Related MCQ: Q4 on Page 05

07. Malaysia's Visa Requirement for Indian Nationals

Key News

- Malaysia's Immigration Department announced that Indian nationals will need a valid visa before arrival from 1 January 2027.
- Under the existing visa-free entry arrangement, the permitted stay is up to 30 days per entry.

Existing arrangement

- Visa-free entry
- Up to 30 days per entry

From 1 January 2027

- Valid visa required before arrival



Related Original MCQ – Q5

Which country announced that Indian nationals would require a valid visa before arrival from 1 January 2027, ending its visa-free entry facility that previously allowed stays of up to 30 days per entry?

1. Thailand
2. Indonesia
3. Vietnam
4. Malaysia
5. Singapore

Correct answer — 4. Malaysia

08. Graça Machel Receives the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize

Award Fact Card



- **Recipient:** Graça Machel
- **Award year:** 2025
- **Presented by:** Sonia Gandhi
- **Venue:** Jawahar Bhawan, New Delhi
- **Prize:** Citation and ₹1 crore in cash

Key News

- Graça Machel, a Mozambican humanitarian and women's rights advocate, received the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2025.
- She became Mozambique's first Education Minister after independence in 1975.
- Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson of the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust, presented the award at Jawahar Bhawan, New Delhi.

Related Original MCQ – Q6

Which Mozambican humanitarian and women's rights advocate, who served as her country's first Education Minister after independence in 1975, received the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2025?

1. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
2. Graça Machel
3. Leymah Gbowee
4. Phumzile Ngcuka
5. Joyce Banda

Correct answer — 2. Graça Machel

09. India–Malaysia Exercise HARIMAU SHAKTI

HARIMAU SHAKTI is a joint military exercise.	
Countries:	India and Malaysia
Edition:	Sixth
Began in:	Ipoh, Malaysia

Related Original MCQ – Q7

Which joint military exercise between India and Malaysia commenced its sixth edition in Ipoh, Malaysia?

1. MITRA SHAKTI
2. YUDH ABHYAS
3. GARUDA SHAKTI
4. MAITREE
5. HARIMAU SHAKTI

Correct answer — 5. HARIMAU SHAKTI

10. Kiran Baliyan's Eight-Year Doping Ban

Athlete and Medal	Suspension
Kiran Baliyan is an Indian shot-putter and a Hangzhou Asian Games bronze medallist.	The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) handed her an eight-year suspension for multiple anti-doping rule violations, including testing positive for methandienone.

Related Original MCQ – Q8

Which Indian shot-putter and Hangzhou Asian Games bronze medallist was handed an eight-year suspension by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) for multiple anti-doping rule violations, including testing positive for methandienone?

1. Annu Rani
2. Manpreet Kaur
3. Kiran Baliyan
4. Seema Punia
5. Abha Khatua

Correct answer — 3. Kiran Baliyan

11. Committee on Sustainable Sports Leagues

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
↓
Department of Sports
↓
14-member committee
↓
Recommend a framework for professionally managed and financially sustainable sports leagues in India.

Convenor: Kunal, Joint Secretary (Governance)

Related Original MCQ – Q9

Who was appointed as the convenor of the 14-member committee constituted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to develop a framework for professionally managed and financially sustainable sports leagues in India?

1. Rajesh Kumar Singh 2. Kunal 3. Sanjay Kumar 4. Atul Kumar Tiwari 5. Vivek Aggarwal

Correct answer – 2. Kunal

12. World Children's Day

Annually on 20 November
2026 theme: My Day, My Rights, My Future
- Rights
- Welfare
- Participation in decisions affecting their lives

- UNICEF calls it a global day of action 'for children, by children'.
- It marks the anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and calls on schools, communities and institutions to engage with and support children.

Related Original MCQ – Q10

On which date is World Children's Day observed annually to promote children's rights, welfare and participation in decisions affecting their lives, described by UNICEF as a global day of action 'for children, by children'?

1. 14 November 2. 19 November 3. 21 November 4. 18 November 5. 20 November

Correct answer – 5. 20 November

13. Africa Industrialization Day and Week

Africa Industrialization Day	Annually on 20 November
Africa Industrialization Week	17–20 November 2026 | Lusaka, Zambia

- **Key news:** Industrial development creates jobs, reduces poverty and strengthens African economies.

Week theme:

Financing Industrialization for Inclusive and Sustainable Development.

Related Original MCQ – Q11

On which date is Africa Industrialization Day observed annually to highlight the importance of industrial development in creating employment, reducing poverty and strengthening African economies?

1. 18 November
2. 21 November
3. 20 November
4. 19 November
5. 17 November

Correct answer – 3. 20 November

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