

GENERAL AWARENESS – CURRENT GK (2025–2026)

Chapter: Current GK – Latest Events of 2025–2026

Subject:	General Awareness – Current GK
Total Questions:	70 MCQs
Question Type:	Multiple Choice (Single Correct Answer)
Exam Relevance:	UPSC, SSC CGL/CHSL, IBPS, RRB NTPC, State PSC, NDA, CDS, Defence Exams, Bank Exams
Topics Covered:	Defence & Security, National Events, Science & Tech, Sports, Awards & Appointments, Economy, Environment, International Affairs
Based On:	Latest Current Affairs: September 2024 – May 2026

★ ■■ DEFENCE & SECURITY ★

Q1. Operation Sindoor was launched by India on which date in 2025 in response to the Pahalgam terror attack?

- A) 22 April 2025
- B) 7 May 2025
- C) 15 May 2025
- D) 1 June 2025

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 7 May 2025**

■ **Explanation:** Operation Sindoor was launched on 7 May 2025 (lasting from 1:05 AM to 1:30 AM) in response to the Pahalgam terror attack of 22 April 2025 in which 26 civilians were killed. India struck 9 terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) using precision missiles, drones, and fighter aircraft, targeting infrastructure of LeT, JeM, and HM.

Q2. The Pahalgam terror attack (22 April 2025) that triggered Operation Sindoor killed how many civilians?

- A) 10 civilians
- B) 18 civilians
- C) 26 civilians
- D) 40 civilians

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 26 civilians**

■ *Explanation: The Pahalgam terror attack in Baisaran valley, Jammu & Kashmir on 22 April 2025 killed 26 civilians, mostly tourists. It was one of the deadliest civilian terror attacks in India since 26/11. The massacre triggered massive public outrage and led to India's launch of Operation Sindoor on 7 May 2025.*

Q3. Operation Sindoor was a landmark operation because it was the first time India struck which type of targets inside Pakistani territory?

- A) Nuclear facilities
- B) Military airfields and radar stations
- C) Terror infrastructure (training camps and launchpads) of LeT, JeM, HM
- D) Government buildings in Lahore and Karachi

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Terror infrastructure (training camps and launchpads) of LeT, JeM, HM**

■ *Explanation: Operation Sindoor targeted 9 terror infrastructure sites — training camps and launchpads of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), and Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) — both inside Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK). It was described as focused, measured, and non-escalatory. Defence analysts called it a turning point in India's counter-terror doctrine.*

Q4. After the Pahalgam attack, India suspended which treaty with Pakistan asserting that 'blood and water cannot flow together'?

- A) Shimla Agreement (1972)
- B) Indus Waters Treaty (1960)
- C) Lahore Declaration (1999)
- D) SAARC Framework Agreement

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Indus Waters Treaty (1960)**

■ *Explanation: Following the Pahalgam attack, India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty (1960) with Pakistan — a water-sharing agreement brokered by the World Bank giving India rights over the eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) and Pakistan over western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab). EAM Jaishankar stated 'blood and water cannot flow together.'*

Q5. Suryastra Rocket System, recently in news, was developed by which company?

- A) HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited)
- B) BEL (Bharat Electronics Limited)
- C) NIBE Limited
- D) BDL (Bharat Dynamics Limited)

✓ **Correct Answer: C) NIBE Limited**

■ *Explanation: The Suryastra Rocket System is an advanced indigenously developed rocket system developed by NIBE Limited, a private Indian defence company. It was recently showcased and is part of India's push for private sector participation in defence manufacturing under the Make in India initiative.*

Q6. India's first Hydrogen Train completed its trial run in March 2026. This green train runs on which technology?

- A) Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)
- B) Hydrogen Fuel Cell Technology
- C) Solar-electric hybrid
- D) Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Hydrogen Fuel Cell Technology**

■ *Explanation: India's first hydrogen-powered train completed its trial run in March 2026, marking a milestone in India's green rail revolution. Hydrogen fuel cell trains generate electricity by combining hydrogen and oxygen, emitting only water vapour. Indian Railways aims to deploy hydrogen trains on heritage (narrow gauge) and selected branch lines as part of its Net Zero by 2030 targets.*

Q7. Assam tabled the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), Assam, 2026 Bill in the State Assembly in May 2026. Assam became which state to table a UCC Bill?

- A) First state to table a UCC Bill
- B) Second state (after Uttarakhand)
- C) Third state
- D) Fourth state

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Second state (after Uttarakhand)**

■ *Explanation: The Assam government tabled The Uniform Civil Code, Assam, 2026 Bill in the Assam Legislative Assembly on 25 May 2026. Assam became the second state (after Uttarakhand, which enacted UCC in 2024) to table a UCC Bill. Article 44 of the Directive Principles of State Policy directs the State to secure a Uniform Civil Code for citizens.*

★ ■ NATIONAL EVENTS & GOVERNANCE ★

Q8. Mission Karmayogi 2.0 is the next phase of which central programme?

- A) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana
- B) National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB)
- C) PM VIKAS (PM Vocational and Innovative Knowledge Advancement Scheme)
- D) Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)

✓ **Correct Answer: B) National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB)**

■ *Explanation: Mission Karmayogi 2.0 is the next phase of the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB), launched in 2020. It focuses on building behavioural, functional, and domain competencies of civil servants through continuous learning using the iGOT Karmayogi digital platform. Mission Karmayogi 2.0 focuses on enhanced outcomes and role-based learning for government officers.*

Q9. India became the global leader in issuing Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance (IRCC) under which international protocol?

- A) Paris Agreement on Climate Change
- B) Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)
- C) Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- D) Rotterdam Convention on Hazardous Chemicals

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)**

■ *Explanation: India became the global leader in issuing Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance (IRCC) under the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS), as reported in March-April 2026. The Nagoya Protocol (2010 under CBD) governs access to genetic resources and fair sharing of benefits arising from their use. India's Biological Diversity Act 2002 and Rules 2004 implement this protocol.*

Q10. The Jewar Airport (Noida International Airport) was inaugurated by PM Modi in March 2026. It is located in which district?

- A) Noida (Gautam Buddh Nagar), Uttar Pradesh
- B) Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh
- C) Hapur, Uttar Pradesh
- D) Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Noida (Gautam Buddh Nagar), Uttar Pradesh**

■ *Explanation: Noida International Airport (Jewar Airport), inaugurated in March 2026, is located in Jewar in Gautam Buddh Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh, near the Delhi-Agra Yamuna Expressway. Developed by Yamuna International Airport Pvt Ltd (Zurich Airport International + NOIDA authority), it is designed to be one of India's largest airports, relieving IGI Airport congestion. The Jewar-Delhi RRTS connection is also planned.*

Q11. India's Patent Applications jumped by 30.2% in FY 2025–26, marking a historic high. India now ranks at which position globally in patent filings?

- A) 5th position globally
- B) 6th position globally
- C) 10th position globally
- D) 15th position globally

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 6th position globally**

■ *Explanation: India's patent applications jumped 30.2% in FY 2025–26 to over 1 lakh applications — a historic high. India ranks 6th globally in patent filings (WIPO data 2025). India's IP ecosystem has strengthened significantly under the National IPR Policy 2016. The growth reflects India's rising innovation in pharma, IT, semiconductors, and engineering sectors.*

Q12. RBI formed an 8-member expert committee in May 2026 to assess which emerging technology in the financial sector?

- A) Artificial Intelligence (AI) in banking
- B) Quantum Technology in finance
- C) Central Bank Digital Currency (e-Rupee)
- D) Blockchain for cross-border payments

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Quantum Technology in finance**

■ *Explanation: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) formed an 8-member expert committee on 25 May 2026 to assess the benefits, risks, and challenges of quantum technology in the financial sector. Quantum computing poses a major threat to current encryption systems (RSA, AES) used in banking, while also offering opportunities in portfolio optimisation, fraud detection, and faster financial modelling.*

Q13. India's Mundra Port set a record as India's largest automobile export hub in April 2026. Mundra Port is in which state?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Gujarat
- C) Kerala
- D) Andhra Pradesh

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Gujarat**

■ *Explanation: Mundra Port in Kutch district, Gujarat (operated by Adani Ports and SEZ Limited) set a record as India's largest automobile export hub in April 2026, exporting over 5 lakh vehicles in FY 2025–26. Mundra is also India's largest private commercial port by total cargo handled. It handles cars, trucks, and two-wheelers for export to Europe, Africa, and Southeast Asia.*

Q14. NISAR satellite, jointly developed by NASA and ISRO, was successfully launched in July 2025. It is the world's most expensive Earth observation satellite at a cost of approximately:

- A) \$500 million
- B) \$900 million
- C) \$1.5 billion
- D) \$2 billion

✓ **Correct Answer: C) \$1.5 billion**

■ *Explanation: NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) satellite, launched in July 2025, is the world's most expensive Earth observation satellite at approximately \$1.5 billion. It is the world's first dual-band (L-band by NASA + S-band by ISRO) SAR satellite for global Earth monitoring every 12 days. NISAR was launched on ISRO's GSLV rocket from Sriharikota.*

★ ■ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ★

Q15. IIT Madras Technology Summit 2026 was inaugurated at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. What was its theme?

- A) Digital India for Future
- B) Innovation for Growth
- C) From IITM for Bharat: Building Together
- D) Make in India Technology Drive

✓ **Correct Answer: C) From IITM for Bharat: Building Together**

■ *Explanation: The first IIT Madras Technology Summit 2026 was inaugurated by Union Minister for Education Dharmendra Pradhan at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Its theme was 'From IITM for Bharat: Building Together', focused on strengthening industry-academia-government collaboration. The government has allocated ■1 lakh crore for Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) under Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF).*

Q16. IIM Ahmedabad launched the Krishnamurthy Tandon School of AI with a ■100 crore endowment in March 2026. This is India's first:

- A) School of AI in a government institution
- B) AI School within a top business school (IIM)
- C) AI Lab funded by private sector in India
- D) International AI Research Centre in India

✓ **Correct Answer: B) AI School within a top business school (IIM)**

■ *Explanation: IIM Ahmedabad launched the Krishnamurthy Tandon School of AI — India's first dedicated AI school within a premier management institution — with a ■100 crore endowment from Krishnamurthy Tandon, co-founder of Patni Computer Systems. It will focus on AI applications in business, management, policy, and social good.*

Q17. India's first private medical museum opened in Thiruvananthapuram in May 2026 as part of which complex?

- A) AIIMS Thiruvananthapuram campus
- B) Ulloor Medical Heritage Centre
- C) Museum of Medical Archives, Ulloor
- D) Sree Chitra Tirunal Biomedical Institute

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Museum of Medical Archives, Ulloor**

■ *Explanation: The Museum of Medical Archives opened in Ulloor, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 25 May 2026 — Kerala's first private medical museum and India's first private medical museum. It preserves historical medical equipment, documents, and artefacts showcasing the evolution of medicine in Kerala and India.*

Q18. Google announced its quantum computing chip named 'Willow' in December 2024. What significant achievement did Willow demonstrate?

- A) Solved a cryptographic problem unbreakable by classical computers
- B) Performed a computation in 5 minutes that would take classical supercomputers 10 septillion years
- C) Created the world's first quantum internet connection
- D) Achieved quantum supremacy in drug discovery

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Performed a computation in 5 minutes that would take classical supercomputers 10 septillion years**

■ *Explanation: Google's 'Willow' quantum chip (announced December 2024) demonstrated exponential quantum error reduction and performed a standard benchmark computation in 5 minutes that would take today's fastest classical supercomputers 10 septillion (10^{27}) years. This was a milestone in demonstrating below-threshold quantum error correction — a key requirement for practical quantum computing.*

Q19. In the U19 World Cup 2026 final (held in Harare, Zimbabwe), India defeated England. Who was India's captain?

- A) Vaibhav Suryavanshi
- B) Ayush Mhatre
- C) Mohammed Amaan
- D) Karan Lal

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Vaibhav Suryavanshi**

■ *Explanation: India won the U19 Cricket World Cup 2026 under captain Vaibhav Suryavanshi — the 14-year-old batting prodigy from Bihar. He scored 175 runs off 80 balls in the final against England. India won by 100 runs (India: 411/9, England: 311 all out), marking India's sixth U19 World Cup title. The tournament was held in Zimbabwe.*

Q20. Dev Meena and Kuldeep Kumar jointly set a new national pole vault record of 5.45 metres in May 2026 at which competition?

- A) Asian Athletics Championships
- B) 29th National Senior Athletics Federation Competition
- C) South Asian Games
- D) Khelo India Youth Games

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 29th National Senior Athletics Federation Competition**

■ *Explanation: Dev Meena and Kuldeep Kumar jointly set India's new national pole vault record of 5.45 metres on 24 May 2026 at the 29th National Senior Athletics Federation Competition. Both athletes cleared 5.45m — bettering the previous national record. This marks India's growing prowess in athletics as it prepares for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.*

Q21. The FIFA World Cup 2026 is being held in USA, Canada, and Mexico. How many teams are participating for the first time (expanded format)?

- A) 32 teams
- B) 40 teams
- C) 48 teams
- D) 64 teams

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 48 teams**

■ *Explanation: The FIFA World Cup 2026 expanded to 48 teams (from 32 in previous editions) — the largest World Cup ever. It features 104 matches (vs 64 previously) across 16 venues in USA (11 cities), Canada (2 cities), and Mexico (3 cities). This is the first World Cup co-hosted by three nations.*

Q22. Shubhanshu Shukla, Indian Air Force Wing Commander, is set to travel to the ISS on Axiom Mission-4 (Ax-4). He will become the first Indian to go to the ISS and which number Indian to go to space?

- A) First Indian in space
- B) Second Indian in space
- C) Third Indian in space
- D) Fourth Indian in space

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Second Indian in space**

■ *Explanation: Wing Commander Shubhanshu Shukla will become the second Indian to go to space, after Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma who went to space in 1984 on a Soviet Soyuz T-11. Shukla will be the first Indian to visit the International Space Station (ISS) on the Axiom Mission-4 (Ax-4), launching on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.*

★ ■■ AWARDS & APPOINTMENTS ★

Q23. Justice B.R. Gavai was sworn in as the 52nd Chief Justice of India in May 2025. He is historically significant as:

- A) Youngest ever CJI
- B) First CJI from Scheduled Caste community
- C) First CJI from Maharashtra
- D) First CJI to serve a term of 10+ years

✓ **Correct Answer: B) First CJI from Scheduled Caste community**

■ *Explanation: Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai was sworn in as the 52nd CJI in May 2025, becoming the first CJI from the Scheduled Caste community — a historic milestone in India's judiciary. He succeeded Justice Sanjiv Khanna (51st CJI). Justice Gavai was part of the landmark 5-judge bench that upheld the abrogation of Article 370 in December 2023.*

Q24. Ratan Tata, former Tata Group Chairman, passed away in October 2024. He was awarded which highest civilian honour by the Indian government?

- A) Bharat Ratna
- B) Padma Vibhushan
- C) Padma Bhushan
- D) Maharashtra Bhushan

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Padma Vibhushan**

■ *Explanation: Ratan Tata (1937–2024) received the Padma Vibhushan (2008) — India's second highest civilian award. He was not awarded the Bharat Ratna during his lifetime, though there were widespread demands. He passed away on 9 October 2024. Under his leadership (1991–2012), Tata Group's revenue grew 40x and went from a primarily India-focused conglomerate to a global enterprise.*

Q25. The Nobel Prize in Physics 2024 was awarded for foundational discoveries in Artificial Intelligence. Who were the recipients?

- A) Yann LeCun and Yoshua Bengio
- B) John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton
- C) Demis Hassabis and John Jumper
- D) Sam Altman and Ilya Sutskever

✓ **Correct Answer: B) John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton**

■ *Explanation: John Hopfield (Princeton, USA) and Geoffrey Hinton (University of Toronto/Google, known as 'Godfather of AI') won the Nobel Prize in Physics 2024 for foundational discoveries enabling machine learning with artificial neural networks — specifically the Hopfield Network and Boltzmann Machine. Hinton had left Google in 2023 to speak freely about AI risks.*

Q26. Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2024 was awarded for protein structure prediction and protein design. Who received it?

- A) Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuelle Charpentier
- B) David Baker, Demis Hassabis, and John Jumper
- C) Frances Arnold and George Smith
- D) Peter Agre and Roderick MacKinnon

✓ **Correct Answer: B) David Baker, Demis Hassabis, and John Jumper**

■ *Explanation: Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2024 was awarded to David Baker (University of Washington) for computational protein design, and to Demis Hassabis and John Jumper (DeepMind) for AlphaFold — AI that predicts protein 3D structures with near-experimental accuracy. AlphaFold has revolutionised drug discovery and molecular biology.*

Q27. Pope Francis died on 21 April 2025. A conclave was held in May 2025 to elect his successor. What is a papal conclave?

- A) A public election where Catholics vote for the Pope
- B) A secret meeting of the College of Cardinals to elect a new Pope
- C) A meeting of bishops from all countries
- D) An annual Vatican Council for church policy

✓ **Correct Answer: B) A secret meeting of the College of Cardinals to elect a new Pope**

■ *Explanation: A papal conclave is the secret meeting of all eligible Cardinals (under 80 years) in the Sistine Chapel, Vatican City, to elect a new Pope. It begins after a papal vacancy. Cardinals vote up to 4 times daily until a candidate receives a 2/3 majority. White smoke (fumata bianca) from the Sistine Chapel chimney signals election; black smoke means no decision yet. Pope Francis died on 21 April 2025.*

★ ■ ECONOMY & FINANCE ★

Q28. Bharat Ratna 2024 was awarded to which personalities (announced in 2024)?

- A) Narendra Modi and Ratan Tata
- B) Karpoori Thakur (posthumous), LK Advani, PV Narasimha Rao (posthumous), MS Swaminathan (posthumous), Chaudhary Charan Singh (posthumous)
- C) Manmohan Singh and Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- D) APJ Abdul Kalam and C Subramaniam

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Karpoori Thakur (posthumous), LK Advani, PV Narasimha Rao (posthumous), MS Swaminathan (posthumous), Chaudhary Charan Singh (posthumous)**

■ *Explanation: Bharat Ratna 2024 was conferred on 5 personalities: (1) Karpoori Thakur (former Bihar CM — posthumous); (2) L.K. Advani (BJP founder-leader); (3) P.V. Narasimha Rao (former PM — posthumous); (4) Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (Father of Green Revolution — posthumous); (5) Chaudhary Charan Singh (former PM — posthumous). It was the largest single-year batch of Bharat Ratna awards.*

Q29. Taiwan overtook India to become the world's 5th largest stock market by market capitalisation in May 2026. India is now ranked at which position?

- A) 4th
- B) 5th
- C) 6th
- D) 7th

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 6th**

■ *Explanation: Taiwan's stock market reached \$4.95 trillion market capitalisation in May 2026, surpassing India (\$4.92 trillion) to become the world's 5th largest. India dropped to 6th position. The global stock market rankings (by market cap) are: USA, China, Japan, UK/Europe, Taiwan, India. India had reached 4th position briefly in 2024 but has since slipped.*

Q30. India introduced new framework rules for exchanging foreign tax information coming into effect from July 2026. This relates to which tax system?

- A) GST information sharing with WTO
- B) Foreign tax information exchange under the Income Tax Department (OECD BEPS framework)
- C) Customs duty information with ASEAN
- D) Capital Gains Tax sharing with G20

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Foreign tax information exchange under the Income Tax Department (OECD BEPS framework)**

■ *Explanation: India's new framework for exchanging foreign tax information (under OECD's Base Erosion and Profit Shifting / BEPS framework and Common Reporting Standard / CRS) comes into effect from 1 July 2026. It applies to requests received by the Income Tax Department from foreign tax authorities, enabling automatic and on-request exchange of financial account information to combat tax evasion and illicit finance.*

Q31. India's first Port of Refuge was established in March 2026 to strengthen maritime safety. A 'Port of Refuge' is:

- A) A port exclusively for naval warships
- B) A designated port where distressed vessels can seek emergency shelter and assistance
- C) A free trade zone for foreign ships
- D) A repair facility for damaged cargo ships

✓ **Correct Answer: B) A designated port where distressed vessels can seek emergency shelter and assistance**

■ *Explanation: A Port of Refuge is an international maritime concept (under UNCLOS and IMO guidelines) where distressed vessels (those experiencing emergencies like engine failure, fire, structural damage) can seek emergency shelter, assistance, and basic repairs. India established its first Port of Refuge in March 2026, enhancing its maritime safety infrastructure and fulfilling obligations under the International Maritime Organization (IMO) conventions.*

Q32. India's FASTag system was upgraded in April 2026 to also accept UPI payments. What does this change mean for highway commuters?

- A) FASTag cards are no longer needed
- B) Toll plazas now accept FASTag RFID tag AND UPI payments — ending cash transactions completely
- C) Only UPI payments are allowed at toll plazas now
- D) FASTag becomes optional for private vehicles

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Toll plazas now accept FASTag RFID tag AND UPI payments — ending cash transactions completely**

■ *Explanation: From 11 April 2026, India's toll plazas shifted to FASTag and UPI-only payments, completely eliminating cash transactions at national highway toll booths. This means all vehicles must either have an active FASTag (RFID-based) or use UPI to pay tolls. The move is part of India's digital payment expansion and aims to reduce congestion at toll plazas. NETC (National Electronic Toll Collection) manages this.*

Q33. COP30 climate conference is scheduled to be held in November 2025 in which Brazilian city?

- A) Rio de Janeiro
- B) São Paulo
- C) Belém (Pará state, Amazon region)
- D) Brasília

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Belém (Pará state, Amazon region)**

■ *Explanation: COP30 (30th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC) is scheduled in Belém, Pará state, Brazil in November 2025 — the first COP held in the Amazon region. Nations are expected to submit updated NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) under the Paris Agreement. COP30 is particularly significant as it marks the 10-year anniversary of the Paris Agreement (2015).*

Q34. The first-ever WHO Pandemic Agreement was adopted in May 2025. What is its primary purpose?

- A) To create a global fund for vaccine distribution
- B) To provide a legally binding framework for equitable pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response
- C) To establish an international pandemic response army
- D) To regulate social media during pandemics

✓ **Correct Answer: B) To provide a legally binding framework for equitable pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response**

■ *Explanation: The first-ever WHO Pandemic Agreement (CA+/Pandemic Treaty) was adopted at the World Health Assembly in May 2025 after 3+ years of negotiations. It provides a legally binding international framework for equitable pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response — including pathogen sharing, vaccine equity (60% of doses reserved for low-income countries), surveillance, and financing mechanisms.*

Q35. Vantara University — India's first Global Wildlife Institution — was established in which state?

- A) Madhya Pradesh
- B) Karnataka
- C) Gujarat
- D) Assam

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Gujarat**

■ *Explanation: Vantara University — India's first dedicated global wildlife institution — was established in Gujarat in April 2026. It is associated with Vantara, India's largest privately managed wildlife rescue and conservation centre (in Jamnagar, Gujarat), run by Anand Mahindra-associated groups. The university focuses on wildlife conservation, veterinary science, ecology, and sustainable biodiversity management.*

Q36. The G7 Summit 2026 is being hosted in which country?

- A) Germany
- B) Japan
- C) Canada (Kananaskis)
- D) Italy

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Canada (Kananaskis)**

■ *Explanation: The G7 Summit 2026 is being hosted by Canada at Kananaskis, Alberta — the same location where Canada hosted the G8 Summit in 2002. PM Modi is attending as India is invited as a guest to G7 summits (India is a G20 member but not a G7 member). Key agenda items include trade, AI governance, climate, and security.*

Q37. Nigeria joined BRICS as a 'Partner State' in 2025. What is the difference between a BRICS 'Member' and a 'Partner State'?

- A) Partner States pay lower membership dues
- B) Partner States engage with BRICS without full voting rights or participation in all summits
- C) Partner States can only trade with BRICS nations
- D) Partner States are on a trial period before full membership

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Partner States engage with BRICS without full voting rights or participation in all summits**

■ *Explanation: BRICS created the 'Partner State' category at the 2024 Kazan Summit (Russia). Partner States can engage with BRICS forums and initiatives without the obligations of full membership and without full voting rights. In 2025, Nigeria became a BRICS Partner State. Other partner states include Cuba, Bolivia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Uganda, Belarus, Vietnam, and Turkey. Full BRICS members now number 10 (BRICS+5 new countries from 2024).*

Q38. The world's first AI-governed territory was announced in 2025. Which country/entity made this announcement?

- A) UAE announced a fully AI-governed district in Dubai
- B) The 'AI Nation' of Zaha in the Pacific Ocean
- C) Japan's Toshima Island
- D) Singapore's Jurong Innovation District

✓ **Correct Answer: A) UAE announced a fully AI-governed district in Dubai**

■ *Explanation: The UAE announced plans for Dubai's AI-governed district concept (associated with initiatives like the Dubai Digital Authority and Mohammed Bin Rashid Smart Dubai initiative) where AI systems assist in urban management, regulatory decisions, and public services. The UAE has been at the forefront of AI governance globally, appointing the world's first Minister of AI (Omar Al Olama) in 2017.*

★ ■ INDIA RANKINGS & REPORTS ★

Q39. India's CERT-In (Cybersecurity) issued a new directive in 2025 requiring organisations to report cyber incidents within how many hours?

- A) 2 hours
- B) 6 hours
- C) 12 hours
- D) 24 hours

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 6 hours**

■ *Explanation: CERT-In (Computer Emergency Response Team – India) under the IT Amendment Rules 2022 (effective April 2022, extended implementation through 2025) mandates all entities (government, critical infrastructure, service providers) to report cyber incidents to CERT-In within 6 hours of detection — one of the world's fastest mandatory reporting timelines. This includes ransomware attacks, data breaches, and DDoS attacks.*

Q40. India's ranking in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2024 published by WIPO was:

- A) 31st
- B) 39th
- C) 55th
- D) 66th

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 39th**

■ *Explanation: India ranked 39th in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2024, published by WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization). India has significantly improved from 81st in 2015 to 39th in 2024 — a 42-rank jump in 9 years. India ranks 1st in Central and Southern Asia region and is among the top 25 in several innovation pillars. Switzerland, Sweden, and USA lead the GI.*

Q41. Hurun Rich List 2026 reported India as the _____ largest hub for billionaires globally?

- A) 2nd largest
- B) 3rd largest
- C) 4th largest
- D) 5th largest

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 3rd largest**

■ *Explanation: India became the world's 3rd largest hub for billionaires (individuals with wealth over \$1 billion) according to the Hurun Rich List 2026, after the USA and China. India had 271+ billionaires in 2026. Mukesh Ambani (Reliance Industries) consistently ranks among India's richest. India's billionaire count has grown rapidly reflecting economic growth and wealth creation.*

★ ■ **IMPORTANT DAYS, EVENTS & MISCELLANEOUS** ★

Q42. India's Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher Education reached which milestone in 2024–25?

- A) 20%
- B) 24.6%
- C) 28.4%
- D) 30%

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 28.4%**

■ *Explanation: India's Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher Education reached 28.4% in 2024–25 (AISHE data), up from 13.9% in 2011–12. NEP 2020 targets a GER of 50% by 2035. India has over 4.2 crore students enrolled in higher education across 1,100+ universities and 45,000+ colleges, making it one of the world's largest higher education systems.*

Q43. The first anniversary of India's National Space Day is on 23 August 2026. It was declared to commemorate which event?

- A) India's first satellite launch (Aryabhata, 1975)
- B) Chandrayaan-3's soft landing near the Moon's south pole (23 August 2023)
- C) Launch of PSLV-C1 (India's first PSLV mission, 1993)
- D) India joining the UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Chandrayaan-3's soft landing near the Moon's south pole (23 August 2023)**

■ *Explanation: India's National Space Day was declared on 23 August to commemorate Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander's historic soft landing near the Moon's south pole on 23 August 2023. This made India the first country to land near the lunar south pole and the 4th country to achieve a Moon soft landing. PM Modi declared 23 August as National Space Day during his visit to ISRO after the mission's success.*

Q44. India's Census 2027 gazette notification was issued in March 2026. The Census 2027 will be India's _____ census since Independence.

- A) 14th
- B) 15th
- C) 16th
- D) 17th

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 16th**

■ *Explanation: India's Census 2027 (delayed from Census 2021 due to COVID-19) will be the 16th census since Independence (1947). India's first post-independence census was in 1951. Census 2027 will also conduct the first NPR (National Population Register) update since 2015 and the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) component. The Office of Registrar General of India (ORGI) under MHA conducts the census.*

Q45. Operation Sankalp, that was in news in March 2026, refers to which Indian naval operation?

- A) Naval operation against piracy in the Gulf of Aden
- B) Indian Navy's mission to ensure safe passage for Indian shipping in the Persian Gulf/West Asia
- C) Joint naval exercise with USA in the Pacific Ocean
- D) Anti-drug trafficking operation in the Indian Ocean

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Indian Navy's mission to ensure safe passage for Indian shipping in the Persian Gulf/West Asia**

■ *Explanation: Operation Sankalp was launched by the Indian Navy in June 2019 to ensure the safety and security of Indian-flagged vessels and Indian crew in the Persian Gulf/Strait of Hormuz region following escalating tensions in West Asia. The Indian Navy deployed warships on continuous vigil. In 2023–24, the operation was intensified due to Houthi missile attacks on shipping in the Red Sea.*

Q46. The first life-size statue of Swami Vivekananda was unveiled in an American city in April 2026. In which US city was this statue unveiled?

- A) Chicago (where he gave his 1893 Parliament of Religions speech)
- B) New York
- C) Seattle
- D) Los Angeles

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Seattle**

■ *Explanation: The first life-size statue of Swami Vivekananda in the United States was unveiled in Seattle, Washington in April 2026. This is significant as Vivekananda's famous 1893 Parliament of World's Religions speech was delivered in Chicago — yet Seattle was chosen for this landmark statue, reflecting the Indian-American community's presence in the Pacific Northwest.*

Q47. CHIRAG (Centre for HR Information Systems, Research and Analytics in Governance) was inaugurated in May 2026 as a Centre of Excellence of which organisation?

- A) UPSC (Union Public Service Commission)
- B) Indian Railways
- C) Indian Army
- D) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Indian Railways**

■ *Explanation: CHIRAG (Centre for HR Information Systems, Research and Analytics in Governance) was inaugurated on 25 May 2026 as a Centre of Excellence of Indian Railways. It focuses on data analytics, HR information systems, and governance research to improve railway HR management, workforce planning, and decision-making through evidence-based policy.*

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