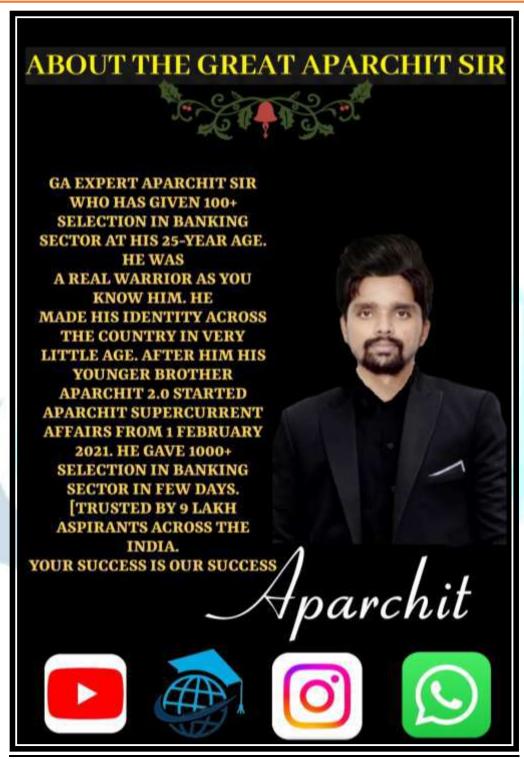


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I have been providing Aparchit Super Current Affairs on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. Additionally, I run GA-paid groups and channels on Telegram for three years. Over the past three years, you have consistently shown me a great deal of love, support, and respect. Your numerous messages urging me to join YouTube have been instrumental in boosting my confidence and inspiring me to take the plunge. "Your support and love mean the world to me. They provide me the strength and courage to overcome any challenge that comes my way. Knowing that you're always there for me is everything. Please continue to be my rock and support me through thick and thin."

Ultimately, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for giving me an abundance of love, support, and respect. Thank you so much, India.

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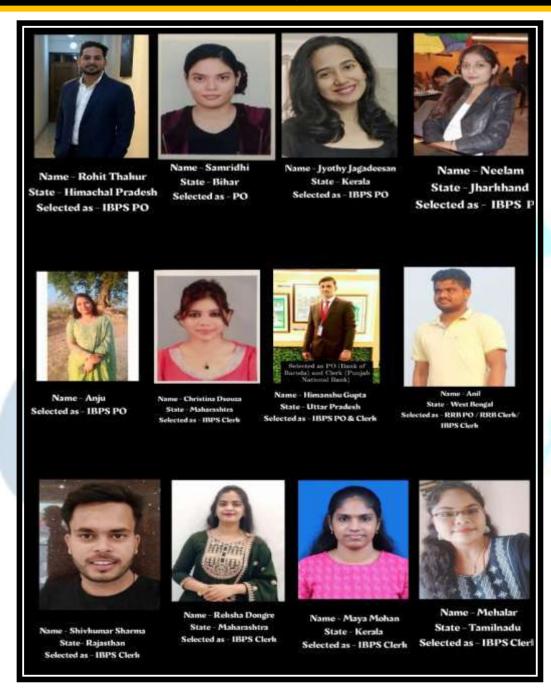






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Aparchit 18 October English Super Current Affairs MCQ with Facts 2025

By Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

Q.1. The 'Humsafar' RuPay Prepaid Card was launched by RBL Bank in collaboration with which organization?

A) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

B) National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

C) Payments Council of India (PCI)

D) Fintech Convergence Council (FCC)

#### Answer: B

- ✓ RBL Bank, one of India's leading private sector banks, in collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has launched its new RuPay prepaid card 'Humsafar' at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) in Mumbai.
- ✓ The National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) enablement will streamline public transportation across cities in India. Customers can conveniently load their 'Humsafar' Prepaid Card instantly and securely.
- ✓ RBL Bank aims to provide a smarter and more secure way to manage daily expenses, while giving customers the freedom to control and track their spending effectively.
- ✓ Key Benefits of the Humsafar RuPay Prepaid Card:
- ✓ Smooth Travel Experience: Customers can skip long queues at metros and buses
- ✓ Seamless Transactions: Enabled through RuPay's secure and robust infrastructure.
- ✓ Smart Spending: Customers can pre-load the card with a desired amount and enjoy hassle-free transactions without the need to carry multiple cards or cash.
- ✓ Enhanced Control: Better visibility of expenses and budget management through prepaid functionality.

#### NPCI IN NEWS 2025

- ➤ Unified Payment Interface (UPI) transactions witnessed a marginal month-on-month (MoM) decrease in volume, drooping to 19.63 billion in September 2025, compared to 20.01 billion in August, according to the latest data released by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- ➤ In terms of value, UPI transactions in september amounted to Rs 24.90 trillion, slightly increasing from Rs 24.85 trillion in August despite a dip in transaction volume.
- ➤ NPCI Bharat Billpay integrates Bandhan Bank on Bharat connect.



- NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL), the international arm of India's National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has partnered with Qatar National Bank (QNB) to introduce QR codebased Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in Qatar.
- Patar is now the eighth country to adopt India's UPI network, following in the footsteps of Bhutan, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and the UAE.
- The new Unified Payments Interface (UPI) guidelines issued by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in May 2025 became effective on August 1, 2025.
- ➤ Balance inquiry limit: You can now check your bank balance a maximum of 50 times per day per UPI app.
- The initiative you're referring to is the UPI-UPU Integration, which connects India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with the Universal Postal Union (UPU)'s Interconnection Platform (IP) to make cross-border remittances faster, safer, and more affordable by leveraging the global postal network.
- > NPCI grants TPAP approval to Viyona Fintech The Economic TimesViyona Fintech, a Hyderabad-based digital payments platform, received approval from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in September 2025 to become a Third-Party Application Provider (TPAP).
- According to NPCI data, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) recorded a record-breaking 20.01 billion transactions in August 2025, marking the first time it crossed the 20 billion monthly Aparchit transaction milestone.
- Key Details:
- Transaction Volume: 20.01 billion transactions in August 2025.
- ➤ Total Value: ₹24.85 lakh crore.
- Year-on-Year Growth: 34% increase in volume and 21% increase in value compared to August 2024.
- ➤ Daily Average: The platform averaged 645 million transactions per day in August 2025.
- > Previous Month: The previous record high was 19.47 billion transactions in July 2025.
- PayPal to launch cross-border platform with link to India's UPI payments system
- > NPCI has announced that peer-to-peer 'collect requests' on UPI will be discontinued starting October 1, 2025



- ➤ NPCI and IDRBT Sign MoU to Jointly Develop Training Programmes Enabling Payment Security and Cyber Resilience
- ➤ NPCI will start delinking UPI IDs linked to the mobile number revocation list (MNRL) and the digital intelligence platform (DIP) from April 1, 2025.
- ➤ NPCI has extended the deadline for implementing transaction volume cap on Unified Payments Interface (UPI) apps by two years till December 31, 2026.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
- ➤ Founded : 2008
- > Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Non-Exe Chairman: Ajay Kumar Chaudhary
- ➤ MD & CEO : Dilip Asbe
- Q.2. Which technology is being used to bring the new Mahabharat series to life in a "never-before-seen avatar"?
  - A) 3D Animation
  - B) Live-action with CGI special effects
  - C) AI-driven reimagination
  - D) Stop-motion animation

#### Answer: C

- ✓ India's timeless epic Mahabharat is set to return to the small screen in a never-before-seen avatar.
- ✓ An AI-reimagined version of the epic Mahabharat is set to return to screens, premiering digitally on WAVES OTT on October 25, 2025.

Warriors

- ✓ It will then be telecast on Doordarshan every Sunday at 11:00 AM, starting November 2, 2025.
- ✓ This new adaptation is a collaboration between the Collective Media Network and Prasar Bharati, India's public broadcaster, using advanced AI to create the new avatar of the epic story.
- ✓ The AI-led version uses advanced technology to rebuild the epic's vast universe, including its characters, battles, and moral dilemmas, with "cinematic scale and striking realism".
- ✓ Prasar Bharati and Collective Media Network are collaborating on an AI-driven series titled Mahabharat: Ek Dharmayudh.
- ✓ "Mahabharata" Book by Maharishi Ved Vyasa



Q.3. Which of the following services are available through Axis Bank's "Express Banking" Digital Banking Point?

A) Loan applications

B) Instant card issuance

C) Fixed deposit bookings

D) All of the above

#### Answer: D

- ✓ Axis Bank in collaboration with Hitachi Payment Services, unveils Express Banking: India's first Digital Banking Point.
- ✓ Axis Bank, one of the largest private sector banks in India, has partnered with Hitachi Payment Services, a leading end-to-end payments and commerce solutions provider, to unveil "Express Banking", the country's first-ever Digital Banking Point.
- ✓ This innovative omni-channel solution revolutionizes branch banking by offering a full range of banking services in a compact format.
- ✓ Leveraging Hitachi Payment Services' expertise in banking technology and payment solutions, the Digital Banking Point is designed to enhance accessibility and convenience.
- ✓ The customers can now walk-in to Express Banking, 24x7, to open new bank accounts, avail instant cards, book fixed deposits, apply for loans and pay utility bills, among others.

#### **AXIS BANK IN NEWS 2025**

- Axis Bank, in collaboration with Freecharge, has unveiled Credit on UPI with Gold Loans India's first gold-backed credit line accessible through the UPI.
- ➤ In the fiscal year 2025, the State Bank of India (SBI) recorded the highest number of customer complaints among all Indian banks, while Axis Bank led among private lenders, according to their business responsibility and sustainability reports.
- ➤ SBI received over 6.87 lakh complaints & Axis Bank's 4.97 lakh complaints.
- Axis Bank has launched a 'Lock FD' feature for safeguarding customers' Fixed Deposits (FDs) from rising digital frauds by allowing them to restrict FD closures through digital means.
- Axis Bank names Neeraj Gambhir as Executive Director for a 3-year term.
- Axis Bank has partnered with JP Morgan to offer real time US dollar payment capabilities to commercial clients in the Country
- Axis Bank and super.money Launch Co-Branded RuPay Credit Card for Seamless UPI Payments.



- Axis Bank has become the first Indian bank to launch 24/7 near-real-time programmable USD clearing capabilities using J.P. Morgan's Kinexys Digital Payments platform.
- Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of Amitabh Chaudhry as the Managing Director & CEO of the Axis Bank, for a period of three years w.e.f. January 1, 2025 till December 31, 2027
- AXIS BANK
- ➤ Founded: 1993
- HQ: Mumbai, MaharashtraChairman: Rakesh Makhija
- MD & CEO : Amitabh ChaudharyTagline : Badhti Ka naam Zindagi
- Q.4. What was the primary reason for the increase in the value of India's gold reserves to over \$100 billion in 2025?
  - A) An aggressive increase in the quantity of gold purchased by the RBI
  - B) A global rally in gold prices
  - C) The repatriation of all gold from foreign vaults
  - D) A significant depreciation of the U.S. dollar against the Indian rupee

#### Answer: B

- ✓ India's gold reserves have crossed the \$100 billion mark for the first time, reaching a historic high of \$102.36 billion, according to the latest data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ✓ The milestone was achieved even as the central bank scaled back its pace of gold purchases this year, helped largely by a sharp global rally in bullion prices.
- ✓ As per RBI's weekly statistics released, gold holdings rose by \$3.6 billion in the week ending October 10, while the country's overall foreign exchange reserves slipped by \$2.18 billion to \$697.78 billion.
- Q.5. As of October 2025, what percentage of India's total foreign exchange reserves is made up of gold?
  - A) Under 7%

B) Approximately 10%

C) 14.7%

D) Over 50%

#### Answer: C

- ✓ Traders noted that India's gold reserves are now at their highest level since 1996–97, with the share of gold in total reserves climbing to 14.7%.
- ✓ A decade ago, this figure was under 7%, underscoring the twin impact of steady central bank accumulation and a sustained rise in global gold prices.
- ✓ The World Gold Council (WGC) reported that the RBI bought gold in only four of the first nine months of 2025, acquiring a modest four tonnes, compared with 50 tonnes during the same period last year.
- Q.6. Which company has partnered with Swiggy to offer unsecured credit up to ₹25 lakh to restaurant partners?
  - A) PayU Finance
  - B) HDFC Bank
  - C) Zomato
  - D) ICICI Bank

#### Answer: A

- ✓ Swiggy has partnered with PayU Finance to provide up to ₹25 lakh in unsecured loans to its restaurant partners.
- ✓ The goal of this collaboration is to facilitate ₹300 crore in annual credit disbursals, leveraging Swiggy's data insights for quick loan processing via PayU's platform.
- ✓ This initiative offers flexible, digital-first credit to help restaurants with operational needs like inventory and staff payments, with repayments linked to weekly Swiggy payouts.
- ✓ Loan details: Up to ₹25 lakh in unsecured credit.
- ✓ **Lending partner:** PayU Finance.
- ✓ **Beneficiaries:** Swiggy's restaurant partners.
- ✓ **Funding target:** ₹300 crore in annual credit disbursals.
- ✓ Processing: Digital-first application on the Swiggy Partner app, with processing and disbursal through the PayU platform.
- ✓ **Loan use:** To fund various operational needs such as buying raw materials, paying salaries, or upgrading equipment.
- ✓ **Repayment:** Flexible, with Equated Weekly Installments (EWI) aligned with Swiggy payouts.



- Q.7. The "We Rise" initiative was launched by which two organizations?
  - A) Ministry of MSME and World Bank
  - B) NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) and DP World
  - C) National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) and IndusInd Bank
  - D) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

#### Answer: B

- ✓ 'We Rise' Initiative to Help Indian Women-Led MSMEs Go Global.
- ✓ The NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) and DP World have launched a major programme titled 'We Rise: Women Entrepreneurs Reimagining Inclusive and Sustainable Enterprises'.
- ✓ This initiative aims to help Indian women-led Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) expand globally.
- ✓ It focuses on trade facilitation, mentorship, and strategic partnerships to boost women entrepreneurs' international market access.
- ✓ The 'We Rise' programme is part of WEP's Award to Reward (ATR) initiative.
- ✓ The initiative targets high-growth potential women-led MSMEs across India. It offers mentorship and curated interventions to help these enterprises meet global trade standards .
- ✓ WEP was incubated by NITI Aayog in 2018 and became a public-private partnership in 2022.
- ✓ It acts as a national aggregator to strengthen India's women entrepreneurship ecosystem.
- ✓ WEP addresses six ecosystem needs access to finance, market linkages, training and skilling, mentoring and networking, compliance and legal assistance, and business development services.
- Q.8. What is the primary goal of the "We Rise" initiative?
  - A) To provide subsidized loans to all women entrepreneurs in India.
  - B) To train 15,000 women from Self-Help Groups to be drone pilots.
  - C) To help high-potential women-led MSMEs become export-ready and expand globally.
  - D) To establish a helpline for women entrepreneurs experiencing distress.

#### Answer: C



- Q.9. Which of the following changes have been made to the IFSCA listing norms?
  - A) Increasing the validity of financial information in offer documents from 135 to 180 days.
  - B) Extending the time for allotment and payment/refund completion from 5 to 8 working days.
  - C) Mandating disclosure of half-yearly financial statements within 45 days after the end of the first half-year.
  - D) All of the above.

#### Answer: D

- ✓ The IFSCA recently amended its IFSCA (Listing) Regulations, 2024 to enhance ease of business, market efficiency, and investor protection in the International Financial Services Centres (IFSC).
- ✓ Validity of financial information: The period for which financial information in an offer document remains valid has been extended from 135 days to 180 days.
- ✓ **Allotment and refund timelines:** The time for issuers and lead managers to complete allotments and process payments/refunds has been increased from 5 working days to 8 working days from the issue's closing date.
- ✓ **Half-yearly financial reporting:** The deadline for a listed entity to disclose its half-yearly financial statements is now not later than 45 days after the end of the first half-year.
- Q.10. The new flexibility under the 'Per Drop More Crop' (PDMC) scheme allows states and UTs to exceed what previous limit for micro-level water storage and conservation projects?
  - A) A limit on the financial assistance provided to small and marginal farmers.
  - B) The total area eligible for financial assistance per beneficiary.
  - C) A funding cap of 20% of the total allocation for such projects in regular states and UTs.
  - D) The interest subvention rate offered on loans from the Micro Irrigation Fund.

#### Answer: C

- ✓ The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has introduced new flexibility under the Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme to enhance water conservation and farmer income.
- ✓ Recent Changes in the Scheme
- ✓ States and Union Territories (UTs) can now plan micro-level water storage and conservation projects under "Other Interventions" (OI) beyond previous fund limits.



- ✓ Earlier, funds were restricted to 20% of total allocation (40% for NE and Himalayan States, J&K, Ladakh); now States/UTs can exceed limits based on local requirements
- ✓ About Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) Scheme
- ✓ The PDMC scheme, launched in 2015-16 under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).
- ✓ The Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare implemented the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) from the year 2015-16 to 2021-22 as a component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).
- ✓ From the year 2022-23, the scheme is being implemented under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana
- ✓ Objective: Enhance water use efficiency at the farm level using drip and sprinkler irrigation systems, reduce input costs, save water, and increase farmer income.
- ✓ Nodal Body: The scheme is implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.
- ✓ NABARD manages the Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) with an initial corpus of ₹5000 crore to support innovative projects and subsidized loans.
- ✓ Financial Assistance:
- ✓ 55% subsidy for small and marginal farmers; 45% for others.
- ✓ Additional state-level incentives/top-up subsidies are provided to encourage adoption.
- ✓ North Eastern and Himalayan States receive 25% higher unit cost, and low-penetration States 15% higher, to expand coverage
- ✓ Technological Support: Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) provides scientific technologies including rainwater harvesting, smart irrigation scheduling, fertigation, and resource conservation to increase water productivity and sustainable agriculture
- Q.11. The "Per Drop More Crop" (PDMC) scheme is a key component of which larger government initiative?
  - A) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
  - B) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)
  - C) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)
  - D) Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)

Answer: B



- ✓ The "Per Drop More Crop" (PDMC) scheme is a government initiative under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) that promotes micro-irrigation to increase water use efficiency in agriculture.
- ✓ **Goal:** To enhance water use efficiency at the farm level through micro-irrigation systems like drip and sprinkler irrigation.
- ✓ **Financial assistance:** The government provides financial assistance of 55% for small and marginal farmers and 45% for other farmers for the installation of micro-irrigation systems.
- Q.12. Which service is India Post rolling out with a guaranteed 24-hour and 48-hour delivery timeline starting in January 2026?

A) Registered Post

B) Speed Post

C) Express Parcel

D) Logistics Post

#### Answer: B

- ✓ Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia announced that India Post will roll out a guaranteebased service of mails and parcels with delivery timelines of 24 hours and 48 hours, beginning in January 2026.
- ✓ A 24-hour Speed Post service will ensure delivery of mails within a single day.
- ✓ A 48-hour Speed Post service will be available for longer-distance deliveries.
- ✓ A next-day parcel delivery service is also being launched, which will reduce current timelines from 3-5 days.
- ✓ This initiative is part of a larger plan to modernize India Post's operations and transition it from a "cost centre" to a "profit centre" by 2029.
- Q.13. LIC's Jan Suraksha plan is specifically designed for which demographic?

A) High-income investors

B) Low-income individuals

C) Senior citizens only

D) NRIs (Non-Resident Indians)

#### Answer: B

- ✓ LIC Launched Jan Suraksha (880) and Bima Lakshmi (881) Plans.
- ✓ Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has launched two new insurance plans: 'LIC Jan Suraksha Plan (880)', a life micro insurance plan is designed to cater the lower income group people and 'LIC Bima Lakshmi Plan (881)', designed exclusively for females.
- ✓ About LIC Jan Suraksha Plan (880):



- ✓ It is a non-par, non-linked individual savings micro insurance plan that will benefit the family in case of the death of the policy holder during the policy term and will provide a lump sum amount at the time of maturity for the surviving policy holder.
- ✓ **Target :** Low-income individuals.
- ✓ The minimum and maximum age for an individual to enroll in this plan, is 18 years (completed) and 55 years respectively.
- ✓ Under this plan, the minimum and maximum basic sum assured per life is Rs 1 lakh and Rs 2 lakh, respectively. Also, basic sum assured multiples of Rs 5000.
- ✓ The policy term for this plan ranges from 12 to 20 years and the premium paying term will be calculated as the policy term excluding 5 years.
- ✓ The plan offers guaranteed additions which will accrue interest rate of 4% per annum on premium at the end of the policy year throughout the policy.

#### Q.14. What is the fixed policy term for the LIC Bima Lakshmi plan?

A) 15 years

B) 20 years

C) 25 years

D) Flexible, ranging from 12 to 20 years.

#### Answer: C

✓ The Bima Lakshmi plan has a fixed policy term of 25 years, though the premium-paying term can be chosen by the policyholder.

#### Q.15. What is the minimum sum assured for the LIC Bima Lakshmi plan?

A) ₹1 lakh

B) ₹1.5 lakh

C) ₹2 lakh

D) ₹5 lakh

#### Answer: C

- ✓ About LIC Bima Lakshmi Plan (881):
- ✓ It is a non-linked insurance plan that offers life cover and periodic fixed money back after 2-4 years or after the payment of premium ceases.
- ✓ The minimum and maximum age for an individual to enroll in this plan, is 18 years (as of the last birthday) and 50 years respectively.

- ✓ The minimum basic sum assured is Rs 2 lakh while there is no maximum limit, subject to board approved underwriting policy.
- ✓ Also, basic sum assured multiples are allowed for Rs 10,000.
- ✓ The policy term for this plan is 25 years. While, the premium paying term ranges from 7 to 15 years.
- ✓ The policy term for this plan is 25 years. While, the premium paying term ranges from 7 to 15 years.
- ✓ The plan offers guaranteed additions which will accrue interest rate of 7% of the total tabular annual premium every year for in-force policies and for paid-up policies.

#### Q.16. Which statement correctly describes both LIC Jan Suraksha and Bima Lakshmi?

- A) Both are linked plans, with returns dependent on market performance.
- B) Both are non-linked, non-participating plans.
- C) Both have the same guaranteed additions rate.
- D) Both are offered exclusively to women.

#### Answer: B

#### LIC IN NEWS 2025

- ➤ LIC raised its holding in Dr. Reddy Laboratories from 8.21% to 10.26%
- ➤ Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) recently entered into an MoU with the Department of Rural Development, Union Ministry of Rural Development, to promote its Bima Sakhi Yojana in rural areas.
- ➤ The Government of India has appointed R Doraiswamy as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), effective from July 15, 2025.
- ➤ His term will continue until August 28, 2028, when he reaches the retirement age of 62.
- ➤ Brand Finance Insurance 100 report, LIC (Life Insurance Corporation of India) has been ranked as the world's third strongest insurance brand.
- The report, released on March 10, 2025, awarded LIC a Brand Strength Index (BSI) score of 88 out of 100.
- > IRDAI has indeed reaffirmed the status of LIC, New India Assurance, and GIC Re as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) for the year 2024-25.
- LIC has launched the "One Man Office" (OMO) initiative to equip its agents with 24/7 digital tools

for policy sales and related services.

- ➤ LIC's purchase of Bank of Maharashtra shares through a Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP) resulted in LIC increasing its stake from 4.05% to 7.10%.
- ➤ About Life Insurance in India and LIC
- Oriental Life Insurance Company was the first life insurance company established in India in 1818.
  It was established by the Europeans.
- ➤ The first life insurance company established by Indians was the Bombay Mutual Life Assurance Society, established in 1870.
- ➤ In 1956, the President issued an ordinance to nationalise all the private life insurance companies operating in India.
- ➤ Parliament later passed the Life Insurance Corporation Act 1956, which created the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC).
- All the nationalised life insurance companies were merged with LIC, which started operating on 1st September 1956.
- ➤ MD & CEO : R Doraiswamy
- > Tagline of LIC Yogakshemam Vahamyaham (Your Welfare is our Responsibility). It has been taken from the Bhagavad Gita.
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.

## Q.17. In 2025, World Food Day and the 80th anniversary of the FAO-India partnership were celebrated under which theme?

A) "Leave No One Behind"

B) "Hand in Hand for Better Food and a Better Future"

C) "Sustainable Food Systems"

D) "Zero Hunger"

#### Answer: B

- ✓ On World Food Day 2025, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Government of India celebrated 80 years of partnership in New Delhi.
- ✓ About FAO Celebrates 80 Years of Partnership with India:
- ✓ A milestone event marking eight decades of collaboration between India and FAO in promoting food security, agricultural innovation, and rural livelihoods.



- ✓ Commemorated during World Food Day 2025 under the theme "Hand in Hand for Better Food and a Better Future."
- ✓ India Joined FAO: India is a founding member of FAO, joining the organisation at its inception in 1945.
- ✓ Achievements in 80 Years:
- ✓ India moved from food scarcity to self-sufficiency, now feeding 1.4 billion people.
- ✓ Partnership strengthened Green Revolution, National Food Security Act (NFSA), Minimum Support Price (MSP), and Public Stockholding System.
- ✓ Promoted nutrition-sensitive and climate-resilient agriculture, micro-irrigation, natural farming, and AgriStack for digital governance.
- ✓ About the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO):
- ✓ A specialized UN agency leading global efforts to defeat hunger and improve nutrition, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.
- ✓ Established : Founded on 16 October 1945 in Quebec City, Canada, following the Hot Springs Conference of 1943.
- ✓ Headquarters: Rome, Italy, with offices in 130+ countries.
- ✓ Director-General : Qu Dongyu (China)
- ✓ India is a founding member of FAO since 1945
- ✓ Aim: To ensure food security for all by promoting sustainable agricultural growth, eliminating hunger, and ensuring access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food.

#### Q.18. In 2025, how many years of partnership were celebrated between India and FAO?

A) 70 years

B) 75 years

C) 80 years

D) 65 years

#### Answer: C

- ✓ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) was founded on October 16, 1945.
- ✓ India was a founding member of the FAO, joining at its inception in 1945.
- ✓ The 80-year partnership is being commemorated on World Food Day 2025.

#### Q.19. Which of the following is the correct target for India's defence manufacturing by 2029?

A) ₹2.5 lakh crore

B) ₹3 lakh crore

C) ₹1.5 lakh crore

D) ₹4 lakh crore

#### Answer: B

- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced targets for the country's defence sector by 2029.
- ✓ These include:
- ✓ Increasing domestic defence manufacturing to ₹3 lakh crore.
- ✓ Increasing defence exports to ₹50,000 crore.
- ✓ While achieving 100% self-sufficiency is a long-term goal, the specific targets with a timeline mentioned by the minister are the production and export figures.

#### Q.20. The recent Strategic Cooperation Agreement for the C-390 Millennium was signed between:

A) Mahindra and Airbus

B) Tata Group and Embraer

C) Mahindra and Embraer

D) Tata Group and Lockheed Martin

#### Answer: C

- ✓ Mahindra Group announced a partnership with Embraer Defense & Security to introduce the C-390 Millennium military transport aircraft in India.
- ✓ The deal is aimed at the Indian Air Force's (IAF) upcoming Medium Transport Aircraft (MTA) procurement project.
- ✓ The C-390 Millennium is designed for a wide range of military operations, including cargo and troop transport, aerial refueling, and medical evacuation.
- ✓ The partnership aligns with India's "Make in India" initiative, with plans for local manufacturing and support.
- ✓ Embraer is a global aerospace company headquartered in Brazil.
- ✓ Mahindra Group is an Indian multinational federation of companies

#### Q.21. What is the title of the poignant new film launched by Equitas Small Finance Bank?

- A) "Banking Beyond Limits"
- B) "A Relationship Beyond Banking"
- C) "Hope and Healing Together Against Cancer"
- D) "The Circle of Life") Iraq

#### Answer: C



- ✓ Equitas Small Finance Bank has launched a poignant new film titled "Making Cancer Care Accessible," also known as "Hope and Healing Together Against Cancer," as part of its "Beyond Banking" initiative.
- ✓ The film was released in October 2025 during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
- ✓ The film highlights the emotional journey of a woman from an underserved community who is battling breast cancer.
- ✓ It brings attention to the urgent need for accessible and affordable cancer treatment for underprivileged individuals.
- ✓ The film showcases the Sringeri Sharada Equitas Cancer & Multi-Specialty Hospital, an initiative by the Equitas Healthcare Foundation, which provides affordable cancer treatment.

#### STATIC GK Based Current Affairs MCQs 18 October 2025

O.	1.	How many	consecutive	<b>Union Bud</b>	gets have l	Nirmala Sitharaman	presented?
~					9		F

A) 7th

B) 8th

C) 9th

D) 10th

#### Answer: B

- ✓ Nirmala Sitharaman has made history by presenting her 8th consecutive Union Budget on February 1, 2025.
- Q.2. Indian Coast Guard (ICG) operates under the which Ministry?
  - A) Ministry of Home

B) Ministry of Defence

C) Ministry of Finance

D) Ministry of Cooperation

#### Answer: B

Q.3. World No. 1 Chess Grand Master Magnus Carlsen belongs to which country?

A) Spain

B) Serbia

C) Norway

D) Switzerland

#### Answer: C

Q.4. In which year the Ramsar Convention was signed?

A) 1961

B) 1970

C) 1971

D) 1972

Answer: C



- Q.5. In which year the Ramsar Covention was come in force in India?
  - A) 1971

B) 1972

C) 1975

D) 1982

#### Answer: D

- Q.6. When was India's first Budget introduced?
  - A) 7 April 1860

B) 1 February 1948

C) 26 November 1947

D) 12 October 1947

#### Answer: A

- ✓ India's first Budget was introduced on 7 April 1860 by Scottish economist and politician James Wilson to the British Crown.
- Q.7. Who presented the first Union Budget of Independent India?

A) CD Deshmukh

B) RK Shanmukham Chetty

C) Moraji Desai

D) Jawaharlal Nehru

#### Answer: B

- ✓ RK Shanmukham Chetty presented Independent India's first Budget on 26 November 1947.
- Q.8. Who was the first Prime Minister to present the Union Budget?

A) Indira Gandhi

B) Jawaharlal Nehru

C) Rajiv Gandhi

D) None of the above

#### Answer: B

- ✓ Former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru was the first PM to present the Union Budget for the FY 1958-1959. Other than Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi were the only Prime Ministers to have presented the Budget during their respective administration.
- Q.9. What is the proposed new base year for India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI)?

A) 2022-23

B) 2020-21

C) 2015-16

D) 2018-19

Answer: A



Q.10. Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

A) Kerala

B) Tamil Nadu

C) Maharashtra

D) Karnataka

Answer: A







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