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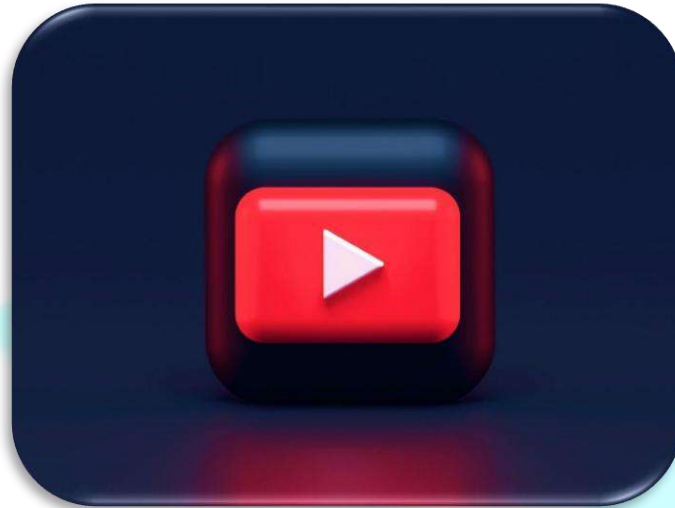


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Hey there,

Your Aparchit sir is here.

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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The Top 12 students of Aparchit's Warrior who were selected in IBPS PO and IBPS Clerk 2023 with the highest marks in GA.

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State - Himachal Pradesh
Selected as - IBPS PO



Name - Samridhi
State - Bihar
Selected as - PO



Name - Jyothy Jagadeesan
State - Kerala
Selected as - IBPS PO



Name - Neelam
State - Jharkhand
Selected as - IBPS PO



Name - Anju
Selected as - IBPS PO



Name - Christina Dsouza
State - Maharashtra
Selected as - IBPS Clerk



Name - Himanshu Gupta
State - Uttar Pradesh
Selected as - IBPS PO & Clerk



Name - Anil
State - West Bengal
Selected as - RRB PO / RRB Clerk / IBPS Clerk



Name - Shivkumar Sharma
State - Rajasthan
Selected as - IBPS Clerk



Name - Reeksha Dongre
State - Maharashtra
Selected as - IBPS Clerk



Name - Maya Mohan
State - Kerala
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Name - Mehalar
State - Tamilnadu
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Aparchit 22 January 2026 English Super Current Affairs MCQ with Facts By Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

Q. 1. The Union Cabinet recently approved an equity infusion of ₹5,000 crore for which institution to boost MSME credit?

A) NABARD

B) SIDBI

C) IDBI

D) EXIM Bank

Answer: B

- Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved an equity support of ₹5,000 crore to the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to enhance credit flow to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
- The funds will be infused by the Department of Financial Services (DFS) in three tranches:
- **FY 2025-26:** ₹3,000 crore.
- **FY 2026-27:** ₹1,000 crore.
- **FY 2027-28:** ₹1,000 crore.
- **Purpose:** To strengthen SIDBI's capital base, improve its Capital to Risk-weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR), and enable it to provide competitive, low-cost credit to MSMEs.

Revised MSME Classification (Effective from April 1, 2025):

Micro Enterprises:

- Investment: Up to ₹2.5 crore
- Turnover: Up to ₹10 crore

Small Enterprises:

- Investment: Up to ₹25 crore
- Turnover: Up to ₹100 crore

Medium Enterprises:

- Investment: Up to ₹125 crore
- Turnover: Up to ₹500 crore



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- The current Minister for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) is Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi, who represents the Gaya constituency in Bihar.
- U.K. Sinha Committee (2019): An 8-member expert committee constituted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to study the problems faced by MSMEs and suggest long-term solutions for their economic and financial sustainability

SIDBI IN NEWS 2025-26

- Union Cabinet approves Rs 5000 crore for SIDBI to boost MSME credit, enhancing support for small businesses and job creation.
- Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) and SIDBI Venture Capital (SVCL) have signed a Contribution Agreement to operationalize a ₹1,000 crore Venture Capital Fund for the Indian space sector.
- PhonePe signs pact with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to enable digital Udyam Assist registration.
- Bank of Baroda Signs MoU with SIDBI to launch bob Earth Circular Economy Scheme for MSEs
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has already secured \$215.6 million in funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF).
- Government of India holds a 20.85% share in the SIDBI. This makes it the largest single shareholder, followed by the State Bank of India with 15.65% and the Life Insurance Corporation of India with 13.33%

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI):

- **Founded :** 1990
- **Headquarters :** Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- **Chairman & MD (CMD) :** Manoj Mittal
- The SIDBI was established on April 2, 1990, by Government of India, as a wholly owned subsidiary of IDBI Bank

Q. 2. The Ministry of Textiles has recently increased the financial approval limit for the Central Silk Board to accelerate project implementation. What is the new monetary ceiling?

- A) ₹25 lakh
- B) ₹50 lakh
- C) ₹1 crore
- D) ₹5 crore

Answer: C

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Q. 3. Where is the headquarters of the Central Silk Board located?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Mumbai
- C) Kolkata
- D) Bengaluru

Answer: D

- Government of India increased the Central Silk Board's (CSB) financial approval limit to ₹1 crore.
- **Previous Limit:** Prior to this 2026 amendment, the limit was ₹50 lakh.
- **Legal Basis:** The change was made by amending Rule 22 of the Central Silk Board Rules, 1955.
- **Administrative Control:** The Central Silk Board (CSB) is a statutory body under the Ministry of Textiles.
- **Purpose:** The 100% increase aims to expedite project clearances, reduce administrative delays, and support the growth of the silk sector, which produces over 41,000 metric tonnes of silk annually.

Q. 4. The Central Silk Board operates under the administrative control of which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- B) Ministry of Agriculture
- C) Ministry of Textiles
- D) Ministry of Rural Development

Answer: C

- The current Minister of Textiles in India is Shri Giriraj Singh.
- **Minister of State:** Shri Pabitra Margherita

Q. 5. Bank of Baroda (BoB) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IIFCL for which primary purpose?

- A) To launch a new co-branded credit card
- B) To facilitate joint lending and loan syndication for infrastructure projects
- C) To provide digital banking services to rural areas
- D) To start a new mutual fund scheme

Answer: B



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- Bank of Baroda (BoB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL).
- The key objective of this MoU is to facilitate joint lending and loan syndication for a diverse range of viable infrastructure projects across India.
- Purpose: To accelerate the development of critical infrastructure by leveraging BoB's extensive nationwide banking network and IIFCL's specialized sectoral expertise.

India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL):

- **Founded :** 2006
- **HQ :** New Delhi
- **MD :** Shri Palash Srivastava

BOB IN NEWS 2025-26

- Bank of Baroda signs an MoU with IIFCL to enable joint lending and loan syndication for key infrastructure projects across India.
- Bank of Baroda Secured RBI Approval to Switch from Bank Primary Dealer (PD) to Set up Wholly-owned Subsidiary.
- Bank of Baroda Signs MoU with Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited to Finance MSME Solar Projects.
- Bank of Baroda and IIFL Finance have entered into a co- lending partnership to offer gold loans.
- Bank of Baroda had received approval from the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to operate as a Trading - Cum Clearing member (TCM) on the India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Ltd (IIBX), at GIFT City.
- Bank of Baroda has launched an innovative eRUPI Person-to-Person (P2P) digital gifting feature on its bob ₹ Pay UPI app.
- The maximum limit for a single voucher for non-UPI users is ₹10,000.
- Bank of Baroda has introduced bob FxOne, a digital foreign exchange platform tailored for corporate and MSME clients.
- Bank of Baroda has introduced a new recurring deposit product called bob Flexi Systematic Deposit Plan (SDP).
- Bank of Baroda Signs MoU with SIDBI to launch bob Earth Circular Economy Scheme for MSEs.



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- Bank of Baroda (BoB) announced the launch of bob Digi Udyam – a digital, collateral-free lending platform offering Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) quick access to working capital loans above ₹10 lakh to ₹50 lakh.
- Bank of Baroda inks pact for government salary accounts with special benefits in Tamil Nadu.
- LIC has increased its stake in state-owned Bank of Baroda (BoB) by nearly 2 per cent to 7.05 per cent.
- Bank of Baroda has initiated the Pradhan Mantri Vidyalaxmi (PM-Vidyalaxmi) Scheme to offer financial support to meritorious students pursuing higher education.
- Bank of Baroda receives BSI's ISO 22301:2019 Business Continuity Management System Certification.
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Bank of Baroda (BoB) have expanded their longstanding partnership to continue delivering financial inclusion solutions for the next 5 years.
- Bank of Baroda ropes in Sachin Tendulkar as global brand ambassador.

Bank of Baroda (BOB):

- **Founded :** 1908
- **Founder :** Sayajirao Gaekwad III
- **Headquarters :** Vadodara, Gujarat
- **MD & CEO :** Debadatta Chand
- **Tagline :** India's International Bank

Q. 6. Who was awarded the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2025?

- A) Michelle Bachelet B) Graça Machel
C) Ali Abu Awwad D) Daniel Barenboim

Answer: B

- Mozambican rights activist Graça Machel selected for Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2025.
- The award was announced on January 21, 2026, by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.
- She was honored for her "path-breaking work" in education, health and nutrition, and her advocacy for the rights of women and children.
- Machel is a former Education Minister of Mozambique and the only woman to have been the First Lady of two different countries (Mozambique and South Africa).
- The award includes a trophy, a citation, and a cash prize of ₹1 crore (₹10 million).
- The international jury for the 2025 prize was chaired by former National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon.

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- The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development is a prestigious award established in 1986 by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust to honor the legacy of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.
- It recognizes individuals or organizations for outstanding contributions to international peace, development, and the scientific betterment of humanity.

Q. 7. What is the current cash prize for the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize?

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| A) ₹25 Lakh | B) ₹50 Lakh |
| C) ₹1 Crore | D) ₹2 Crore |

Answer: C

Q. 8. Who has been announced as the new Group CEO of Eternal (parent company of Zomato/Blinkit) to replace Deepinder Goyal, effective February 1, 2026?

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| A) Pankaj Chaddah | B) Akshant Goyal |
| C) Albinder Singh Dhindsa | D) Deepinder Goyal |

Answer: C

- Deepinder Goyal announced his resignation as the Managing Director and Group CEO of Eternal Ltd (the parent company of Zomato and Blinkit), effective February 1, 2026.
- Albinder Singh Dhindsa, the current CEO of Blinkit, has been appointed as the new Group CEO of Eternal.
- Goyal will transition to the position of Vice Chairman and continue as a Director on the company's Board.
- Deepinder Goyal is stepping down as CEO and MD to focus on high-risk, experimental ventures (such as "Temple").

Q. 9. According to the SBI Research report released in January 2026, what is the projected per capita income of India by 2030?

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| A) \$2,000 | B) \$3,000 |
| C) \$4,000 | D) \$5,000 |

Answer: C



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- According to a report by SBI Research released in January 2026, India is set to reach a per capita income of \$4,000 by 2030.
- This milestone is expected to transition India into an upper-middle-income country, joining nations like China and Indonesia.

Economic Trajectory Milestones:

- **2009:** Reached \$1,000 per capita income.
- **2019:** Reached \$2,000 per capita income.
- **2026 (Estimate):** Projected to reach \$3,000 per capita income.
- **2030 (Projection):** Expected to touch \$4,000 per capita income.
- **GDP Growth:** India is projected to become the world's third-largest economy by 2028.
- **Viksit Bharat@2047 Goal:** To achieve high-income status (\$13,936+ per capita) by 2047, India requires a sustained per capita GNI growth of 7.5% CAGR.

Q. 10. With the projected rise in per capita income to \$4,000 by 2030, India is expected to join which countries in its new income classification?

- A) USA and China B) China and Indonesia
C) Japan and Germany D) Brazil and Russia

Answer: B

SBI IN NEWS 2025

- State Bank of India will sign a €150 million credit line with KfW for climate-friendly energy projects.
- SBI MD Ashwini Kumar Tewari has been reappointed from January 2026 to December 2027 .
- Government of India has appointed Ravi Ranjan as the new Managing Director (MD) of the State Bank of India (SBI).
- State Bank of India (SBI) will discontinue its mCASH facility on OnlineSBI and YONO Lite starting December 1, 2025, to improve payment security and encourage the use of modern methods like UPI, IMPS, NEFT, and RTGS.
- State Bank of India (SBI) recently became the sixth Indian company to achieve a valuation of over USD 100 billion in November 2025.
- The other five companies already in the USD 100 billion club are Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), and ICICI Bank.

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- SBI has launched an annual award program called SBI-STAR (Staff Talent Acknowledgement & Recognition) to recognize employee excellence in areas beyond their professional roles, such as arts, sports, and social work.
- SBI became a Special Category Client (SCC) of the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) in November 2025, enabling it to facilitate gold imports and transactions through the exchange.
- SBI has committed to raising the share of women in its total workforce to 30% by 2030.
- State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman C S Setty announced the bank aims to increase its asset size from its current 20% of India's GDP to 25% by 2047.
- SBI and BoB are leading the establishment of the Indian Digital Payment Intelligence Corporation (IDPIC), a new non-profit entity to combat digital fraud in real time.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has indeed been honored with the 'World's Best Consumer Bank 2025' and 'Best Bank in India 2025' awards by the New York-based financial publication Global Finance.
- SBI issued ₹7,500 crore in Tier-II bonds on October 17, 2025.
- Amount: ₹7,500 crore.
- Coupon Rate: 6.93%.
- Maturity and Call Option: 10-year tenor with a call option after 5 years
- SBI has increased the auto-sweep (Multi Option Deposit – MOD) threshold from ₹35,000 to ₹50,000.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the listing of its Regulation S bonds worth \$500 million at NSE-IX in GIFT City, Gujarat.
- SBI plans to raise up to ₹20,000 crore by issuing Basel III-compliant Additional Tier 1 and Tier 2 bonds to domestic investors in FY26.
- SBI raises \$500 million in five-year dollar debt sale at 4.5% coupon rate.
- State Bank of India (SBI) and the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) signed a €100 million line of credit agreement in August 2025 to boost green financing in India.
- State Bank of India (SBI) raised ₹25,000 crore through a Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP), which is the largest ever QIP in India's capital markets.
- SBI has launched a collateral free digital SME (small and medium enterprise) loan product 'SBI Asmita' for women entrepreneurs to help them expand their business.
- State Bank of India has decided to divest its entire 17.8 per cent stake in Jio Payments Bank Limited, a joint venture between SBI and Jio Financial Services (JFS).
- State Bank of India (SBI) has set a target to achieve net-zero emissions by 2055.
- SBI Singapore's YONO-UPI integration with PayNow will allow for more transactions from Singapore to India.
- YONO is an abbreviation for "You Only Need One" .



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- PayNow is a payment system in Singapore.
- State Bank of India has a network of 22,542 branches across the country as of March 2024.
- SBI has 65,000 ATMs and 85,000 business correspondents.

STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI):

- **Founded:** 1 July 1955
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman:** Challa Sreenivasulu Setty
- Imperial Bank of India was previous name of SBI
- The presidency Banks of Bengal, Bombay and Madras with merged in 1921 to Imperial Bank of India.

Tagline of State Bank of India:

- (1) Pure Banking Nothing Else
 - (2) With you all the way
 - (3) A bank of the common man
 - (4) The banker to every Indian
 - (5) The Nation banks on us.
- It is one of the largest and oldest banks in India.

Q. 11. The Union Cabinet recently approved the continuation of the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) until which financial year?

- A) 2025-26
C) 2030-31

- B) 2028-29
D) 2032-33

Answer: C

- Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the continuation of the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) until the end of Financial Year 2030-31.
- **Duration:** The scheme is extended for another six years, up to FY 2030-31.
- **Government Support:** The approval includes continued funding for promotional and developmental activities to increase awareness, as well as gap funding to ensure the scheme's long-term financial sustainability.
- **Current Status:** As of January 19, 2026, the scheme has enrolled over 8.66 crore subscribers.
- **Objective:** To ensure old-age income security for millions of workers in the unorganised sector and support India's transition to a pensioned society under the Viksit Bharat @2047 vision.

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About Atal Pension Yojana:

- It was launched by the Government of India.
- It was designed to encourage voluntary savings for retirement by offering defined pension benefits, linked to the age of joining and amount of contribution

Key Features of Atal Pension Yojana:

- **Target Group:** It is aimed at workers in the unorganised sector.
- It was initially available to all citizens of India between 18 and 40 years of age.
- Later, it mandated that individuals paying income tax are not eligible to join the scheme.
- **Launch Date:** May 9, 2015.
- **Eligibility:** Indian citizens aged 18 to 40 years.
- **Restriction:** Effective October 1, 2022, income taxpayers are not eligible to join.
- **Pension Amount:** Guaranteed monthly pension of ₹1,000, ₹2,000, ₹3,000, ₹4,000, or ₹5,000 after age 60, depending on contributions.
- **Administration:** Regulated and administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- **Benefits:** In the event of the subscriber's death, the same pension is paid to the spouse; after both pass away, the accumulated pension wealth is returned to the nominee.

Q. 12. Which veteran NASA astronaut retired in January 2026 after 27 years of service, having spent 608 days in space?

- A) Kalpana Chawla
- C) Sunita Williams

- B) Peggy Whitson
- D) Christina Koch

Answer: C

- NASA astronaut Sunita Williams officially retired from NASA on December 27, 2025, concluding a distinguished 27-year career in space exploration.
- NASA announced her retirement on January 21, 2026, while she was on a visit to India.
- **Total Time in Space:** She logged a total of 608 days in space, ranking second all-time among NASA astronauts for cumulative orbital time.



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- **Spacewalk Records:** She completed nine spacewalks totaling over 62 hours, which is the most by any female astronaut in history.
- **Final Mission:** Her 27-year career concluded after a mission to the International Space Station (ISS) that began in June 2024; she returned to Earth in early 2025 following an extended stay due to technical issues with the Boeing Starliner.
- **Retirement Date:** Her retirement officially took effect on December 27, 2025, with the formal announcement made by NASA in January 2026.
- **Notable First:** She was the first person to run a marathon in space.
- She received the Padma Bhushan (2008) from India and the Golden Order for Merits (2013) from Slovenia.
- She is known for taking the Bhagavad Gita, Upanishads, an Om symbol, and a statue of Lord Ganesha into space.
- **Indian Heritage:** Born to a Gujarati father and a Slovenian mother, she is celebrated as a prominent figure of Indian-origin in space exploration.
- She was the second Indian origin woman after Kalpana Chawla to have been selected by NASA for a space mission.

Q. 13. How many cumulative days did Sunita Williams spend in space across her three missions?

- A) 322 days B) 505 days
C) 608 days D) 712 days

Answer: C

- Williams has logged a total of 608 days in space across three missions, ranking second among all NASA astronauts.

Q. 14. Sunita Williams holds the record for the most total spacewalking time by a woman. What is her total recorded time?

- A) 32 hours and 36 minutes B) 50 hours and 40 minutes
C) 62 hours and 6 minutes D) 75 hours and 15 minutes

Answer: C



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- She holds the record for the most total spacewalking time by a woman, with 62 hours and 6 minutes across nine spacewalks.

Q. 15. Which spacecraft was used for Sunita Williams' final return to Earth in March 2025?

- A) Boeing Starliner
- B) SpaceX Crew Dragon (Crew-9)
- C) Soyuz TMA-05M
- D) Space Shuttle Discovery

Answer: B

- She safely returned to Earth on March 18, 2025, aboard a SpaceX Dragon spacecraft as part of the Crew-9 mission.

Q. 16. In 2007, Sunita Williams became the first person to complete which athletic event in space?

- A) A triathlon
- B) A 100-meter dash
- C) A marathon
- D) A bicycle race

Answer: C

- She was the first person to run the Boston Marathon (2007) and complete a triathlon (2012) while in space.

Q. 17. Which branch of the U.S. military did Sunita Williams serve in before joining NASA?

- A) U.S. Air Force
- B) U.S. Marine Corps
- C) U.S. Navy
- D) U.S. Coast Guard

Answer: C

Q. 18. Sunita Williams' father, Deepak Pandya, was a renowned neuroanatomist born in which Indian state?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Punjab
- C) Gujarat
- D) Karnataka

Answer: C

- She is the daughter of a Slovenian mother and an Indian-American father from Gujarat.



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Q. 19. In which year was the Indian-American astronaut Sunita Williams honored with the Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian award?

- A) 2005
- B) 2007
- C) 2008
- D) 2012

Answer: C

- Sunita Williams, the renowned Indian-American astronaut, was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2008 for her exceptional contributions to science and engineering.

Q. 20. What is the overarching theme of the Republic Day Parade 2026 at Kartavya Path?

- A) 100 Years of Freedom Struggle
- B) 150 Years of Vande Mataram
- C) Viksit Bharat @2047
- D) 75 Years of Constitution

Answer: B

- The Republic Day Celebrations 2026 will be a unique blend of 150 years of the national song Vande Mataram, India's military might and cultural diversity.
- The theme of the parade is 150 years of Vande Mataram

Q. 21. Who composed the iconic national song 'Vande Mataram', which is the theme of the 2026 Republic Day Parade?

- A) Rabindranath Tagore
- B) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay
- C) Sri Aurobindo
- D) Subhash Chandra Bose

Answer: B

- The iconic national song 'Vande Mataram' was written and originally composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay (also known as **Bankim Chandra Chatterjee**) in 1875.
- The song serves as the central theme for India's 2026 Republic Day Parade, which commemorates its 150th anniversary.
- **Original Publication:** It first appeared in Chattopadhyay's Bengali novel Anandamath in 1882.



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- For the 2026 parade, Oscar-winning composer M. M. Keeravani has created a new musical arrangement of the song. This grand performance will feature nearly 2,500 artists from across India on Kartavya Path.

Q. 22. Which organization is tasked with conceptualizing and executing the Ministry of Culture's tableau on "150 Years of Vande Mataram"?

- A) Lalit Kala Akademi
- B) Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)
- C) National School of Drama
- D) Archaeological Survey of India

Answer: B

- The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) is tasked with conceptualizing and executing the Ministry of Culture's tableau for the 2026 Republic Day Parade, which is themed on "150 Years of Vande Mataram".

Q. 23. The Republic Day tableau theme 2026 is divided into two main pillars. One is "Swatantrata ka Mantra – Vande Mataram". What is the other?

- A) Viksit Bharat – Samridhi Mantra
- B) Samridhi ka Mantra – Aatmanirbhar Bharat
- C) Digital India – Sanskarit Bharat
- D) Unity in Diversity – Ek Bharat

Answer: B

- The Republic Day tableau theme for 2026 is anchored by two main pillars:
- **Swatantrata ka Mantra – Vande Mataram (The Mantra of Freedom – Vande Mataram):** This pillar commemorates the 150th anniversary of "Vande Mataram", focusing on its historical impact and the freedom struggle.
- **Samridhi ka Mantra – Aatmanirbhar Bharat (The Mantra of Prosperity – Aatmanirbhar Bharat):** This second pillar highlights India's rapid progress, economic strength, and journey toward self-reliance across various sectors.
- For the Republic Day Parade 2026, the Government of India has designated "150 Years of Vande Mataram" as the overarching theme.



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- This theme celebrates the 150th anniversary of the national song, composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1875.
- **Composition:** Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay composed the song on November 7, 1875.
- **First Public Singing:** First sung by Rabindranath Tagore at the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress.
- **Official Status:** Adopted as India's National Song on January 24, 1950.
- **Commemorative Assets:** The government released a ₹5 stamp and a special coin on November 7, 2025, to mark the start of the year-long sesquicentenary celebrations.
- Vande Mataram, India's national song, was composed in 1875 by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in Sanskritized Bengali, first published in his novel Anandamath in 1882.
- The current Minister of Culture & Tourism is Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.

Q. 24. Which Oscar-winning music composer has been selected to compose the music for the Vande Mataram presentation at the 2026 Republic Day Parade?

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| A) A.R. Rahman | B) M.M. Keeravani |
| C) Ilaiyaraaja | D) Shankar Mahadevan |

Answer: B

- Oscar-winning music composer M.M. Keeravani has been selected to compose a new rendition of Vande Mataram for the 2026 Republic Day Parade.

Q. 25. In the Ministry of Culture's tableau, which generation will render Vande Mataram at the center, inspired by the historic rendition of Vishnupant Pagnis?

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| A) Gen X | B) Millennials |
| C) Gen G (Gen Z) | D) Freedom Fighter Association |

Answer: C

- In the Ministry of Culture's 2026 Republic Day tableau, which is themed on "150 Years of Vande Mataram," the present generation (represented by Gen Z) will render the national song at the center.



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- This performance is inspired by the 1928 rendition of the song by Vishnupant Pagnis, a noted actor-singer of Marathi cinema, which was sung in Raga Sarang.

Q. 26. Whose historic rendition of 'Vande Mataram' in Raga Sarang serves as the inspiration for the 2026 cultural performances?

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| A) Rabindranath Tagore | B) Lata Mangeshkar |
| C) Vishnupant Pagnis | D) A.R. Rahman |

Answer: C

Q. 27. Umbilo Shree Ambalavaanar Alayam temple, that was recently seen in news, is located in which country?

- | | |
|----------|-------------------------|
| A) Qatar | B) South Africa |
| C) Egypt | D) United Arab Emirates |

Answer: B

- The 151-year-old Umbilo Shree Ambalavaanar Alayam temple in Durban, South Africa, may face discontinuation of civic services due to a pending bill amid fraud allegations.
- It was built in 1875 by Indian indentured labourers.
- It is the oldest Hindu temple in Africa. Also called the Cato Manor Second River Temple, it is located on a hill in Cato Manor amidst lush vegetation.
- The temple complex houses three deities: Ambalavaanar (Lord Shiva), Sri Draupadi Alayam (Mother Goddess), and Phutu/Phutuvan Temple.
- Its architecture reflects traditional South Indian style with intricate carvings and vibrant colors.

Q. 28. Yash Anil Rashiya won which medal at the 7th Roll Ball World Cup 2025?

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| A) Gold medal | B) Silver medal |
| C) Bronze medal | D) None of the Above |

Answer: A



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- Yash Anil Rashiya, a 20-year-old Roll Ball athlete from Surat, won gold medal at the 7th Roll Ball World Cup 2025 in Dubai representing India.
- He was selected among 12 elite players for Team India.
- Rashiya scored key goals against Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Pakistan, Egypt, and the match-winning goal in the final against Kenya.
- His performance played a decisive role in India's World Cup title win.
- He began skating in 2009 and shifted to Roll Ball in 2017 under coach Jaimin Bharat Patel.

Q. 29. Where was 'Atmanirbhar Hanol Mahotsav-2026' organized?

- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| A) Himachal Pradesh | B) Haryana |
| C) Gujarat | D) Punjab |

Answer: C

- The 'Atmanirbhar Hanol Mahotsav-2026' has been inaugurated on 13th January at Hanol village in Palitana taluka of Bhavnagar district, Gujarat.
- Hanol village is recognised nationally as a model of self-reliance and rural transformation, developed under the efforts of Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, a native of the village.
- The event promotes the 'Hanol Model' as an example of Mahatma Gandhi's vision of Gram Swaraj and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Adarsh Gram initiative.

Q. 30. Which American scientist was awarded the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement for her work on mycorrhizal fungi?

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| A) Sylvia Earle | B) Toby Kiers |
| C) Rachel Carson | D) Jane Goodall |

Answer: B

- American biologist Toby Kiers was awarded the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, often called the "Nobel for the environment", for her research on mycorrhizal networks.
- Mycorrhizal networks are underground fungal systems where mycorrhizal fungi connect plant roots via hyphae (fungal threads).



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- These fungi form a symbiotic relationship: plants supply carbohydrates, and fungi provide water and essential nutrients.
- In forest ecosystems, this underground network is called the Wood Wide Web.
- They play a crucial ecological role by drawing down 13 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) into soils annually, helping regulate the climate.

Q. 31. What is the IUCN status of 'Gharial' that was recently seen in news?

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| A) Vulnerable | B) Endangered |
| C) Critically Endangered | D) Least Concern |

Answer: C

- A recent survey across the Ganga River basin recorded 3,037 gharials in 13 rivers despite serious survival threats.
- Gharial is a freshwater crocodile belonging to the Crocodylia order and Crocodylidae family.
- Its scientific name is *Gavialis gangeticus* and it mainly feeds on fish. Earlier, its range extended across Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan.
- Major populations survive in the Chambal, Girwa, and Rapti-Naryani rivers.
- In India, gharial reserves are located in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan.
- As per the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, it is critically endangered.

Q. 32. Kruger National Park, that was recently seen in news, is located in which country?

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| A) South Africa | B) Australia |
| C) France | D) New Zealand |

Answer: A

- Recently, Kruger National Park was temporarily closed to day visitors due to severe flooding after prolonged heavy rainfall.
- Kruger National Park is South Africa's largest and oldest national park, globally famous for wildlife conservation.



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- It is located in northeastern South Africa across Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces, bordering Mozambique and Zimbabwe.
- The Park was first proclaimed as Sabi Game Reserve in 1898 and became a national park in 1926.





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STATIC GK Based Current Affairs MCQs 22 January 2026

Q. 1. What is the cash prize amount awarded to the winner(s) of the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement?

- A) \$100,000
- B) \$150,000
- C) \$200,000
- D) \$250,000

Answer: D

Q. 2. Who is the founder of Eternal Ltd (formerly known as Zomato Ltd)?

- A) Albinder Dhindsa
- B) Deepinder Goyal
- C) Pankaj Chaddah
- D) Both B and C

Answer: D

Q. 3. In which year was the India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL) established?

- A) 2004
- B) 2005
- C) 2006
- D) 2008

Answer: C

Q. 4. When was the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) established?

- A) April 2, 1989
- B) April 2, 1990
- C) March 27, 2000
- D) July 1, 1990

Answer: B

Q. 5. Where is the headquarters of SIDBI located?

- A) Mumbai
- B) New Delhi
- C) Lucknow
- D) Chennai

Answer: C



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Q. 6. Who headed the 8-member expert committee set up by the RBI to review the framework for MSMEs in 2019?

- A) Shaktikanta Das
- C) Nandan Nilekani

- B) U.K. Sinha
- D) Bimal Jalan

Answer: B

Q. 7. According to the revised MSME classification effective from April 1, 2025, what are the limits for a "Micro" enterprise?

- A) Investment \leq ₹1 Crore and Turnover \leq ₹5 Crore
- B) Investment \leq ₹2.5 Crore and Turnover \leq ₹10 Crore
- C) Investment \leq ₹10 Crore and Turnover \leq ₹50 Crore
- D) Investment \leq ₹5 Crore and Turnover \leq ₹20 Crore

Answer: B

Q. 8. In which year was the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development first established?

- A) 1984
- C) 1986

- B) 1985
- D) 1990

Answer: C

Q. 9. The Indira Gandhi Prize recognizes contributions to:

- A) Literature and Arts
- C) Sports and Athletics

- B) Peace, Disarmament, and Development
- D) Economic Reforms

Answer: B



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Q. 10. Who won the Academy Award (Oscar) for Best Original Song in 2023?

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| A) A.R. Rahman | B) M.M. Keeravani |
| C) Devi Sri Prasad | D) Mani Sharma |

Answer: B

- M.M. Keeravani won the Oscar for Best Original Song in 2023 for "Naatu Naatu" from the Indian film RRR, marking a historic win for Indian cinema as the first song from an Indian film to receive this honor.



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