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CURRENT AFFAIRS

MAY 2026 · English Edition

41 questions · Question-first revision · NDA Current Affairs

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HOW TO USE THIS CURRENT AFFAIRS

This PDF contains carefully selected current affairs with a focus on NDA and defence-exam relevance. Each question carries a priority tag to help you decide what to revise first.

JOVIK Defence Prep | AWARDS & HONOURS · UN PEACEKEEPING

Q35 Major Swathi Shantha Kumar, recently in the news, received the UN Secretary-General's Award 2025 for her contribution in which country?

A Lebanon
B Democratic Republic of the Congo
C South Sudan
D Sudan

ANSWER C) South Sudan

KEY CONTEXT

- Major Swathi Shantha Kumar received the UN Secretary-General's Award 2025.
- She was honoured for the "Equal Partners, Lasting Peace" project in South Sudan.
- The initiative supported around 5,000 women through female peacekeeper deployment.
- The award recognizes exceptional leadership, innovation, and commitment to UN values.



WHAT DO THE PRIORITY TAGS MEAN?

★ IMPORTANT

Important for the exam. Make sure you know and revise it. Good chance of being asked.

★★ VERY IMPORTANT

Higher exam relevance. Give this extra attention. Higher chances of being asked.

★★★ MOST IMPORTANT

Highest exam relevance. Do not skip. Give this the highest priority.

IMPORTANT:

Give special attention to the DEFENCE Questions. The priority tags indicate the relative importance of questions, but every Defence question is important for NDA and other defence exams.

Even if a Defence question is not marked ★ IMPORTANT, ★★ VERY IMPORTANT, or ★★★ MOST IMPORTANT, do not skip it. Make sure you cover every Defence question carefully.

Q1 Vande Mataram recently completed how many years in 2026?

A 100 years

B 125 years

C 150 years

D 175 years

✓ **ANSWER C) 150 years**

KEY CONTEXT

- Vande Mataram was written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1875.
- It was first published in the novel Anandamath (1882).
- The song completed 150 years in 2026.
- The first two stanzas of Vande Mataram were adopted as the National Song of India on 24 January 1950.
- Jana Gana Mana is the National Anthem of India.



Q2 The nationwide trial of the Cell Broadcast Alert System in 2026 was conducted under the leadership of which organisation?

- A** Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)
- B** National Informatics Centre (NIC)
- C** National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- D** Department of Telecommunications (DoT)

✓ **ANSWER C) National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)**

KEY CONTEXT

- The nationwide trial was conducted by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).
- The system is powered by the SACHET Integrated Alert System, developed by C-DOT.
- It can send emergency alerts in 19+ Indian languages, even during network congestion.



Q3 Unified Payments Interface (UPI), which completed 10 years in 2026, was 2026, was developed by which organisation?

- A** Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
 - B** Ministry of Finance
 - C** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
 - D** NITI Aayog
- ✓ **ANSWER C) National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**

KEY CONTEXT

- UPI was launched in 2016 by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- It is the world's largest real-time payment system.
- UPI enables instant bank-to-bank digital payments and is widely used for P2P and P2M transactions.
- The system has expanded to several countries, strengthening India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI).



Q4 The 'One Case One Data' initiative was launched by which institution?

- A** NITI Aayog
- B** Ministry of Law and Justice
- C** Supreme Court of India
- D** National Judicial Academy

✓ **ANSWER C) Supreme Court of India**

KEY CONTEXT

- Introduced the AI-powered chatbot 'Su-Sahayak'.
- Aims to improve judicial data management and make court information more accessible.



Q5 The Supreme Court ruled that safe travel on highways is a fundamental fundamental right under which Article of the Constitution?

A Article 14

B Article 19

C Article 21

D Article 32

✓ **ANSWER C) Article 21**

KEY CONTEXT

- The Supreme Court held that safe travel on highways is part of the Right to Life under Article 21.
- The Court directed the formation of District Highway Safety Task Forces.
- The judgment strengthens road safety and protection of citizens' rights.



Q6 Recently, the Supreme Court Collegium recommended the appointment of five new judges to the Supreme Court. How many judges are part of the Supreme Court Collegium?

A 3

B 4

C 5

D 7

✓ **ANSWER C) 5**

KEY CONTEXT

- The Supreme Court Collegium consists of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) and the four senior-most judges of Supreme Court.
- It recently recommended the appointment of five new judges to the Supreme Court.
- The sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court was increased from 34 to 38 judges.
- Senior Advocate V. Mohana is set to become only the second woman directly elevated from the Bar to the Supreme Court, after Justice Indu Malhotra.



Q7 Yoga Mahotsav 2026, marking the countdown to the 12th International International Day of Yoga, was inaugurated at:

- A Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- B Mysuru, Karnataka
- C Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh
- D Rishikesh, Uttarakhand

✓ **ANSWER C) Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh**

KEY CONTEXT

- Yoga Mahotsav 2026 was inaugurated at Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh.
- It marked the 25-day countdown to the 12th International Day of Yoga (21 June).
- The event was organized by the Ministry of Ayush.



Q8 Somnath Temple, which was in the news for completing 75 years of its years of its reopening, is located in which Indian state?

- A** Rajasthan
- B** Madhya Pradesh
- C** Gujarat
- D** Maharashtra

✓ **ANSWER C) Gujarat**

KEY CONTEXT

- Somnath Temple is located at Prabhas Patan, Gir Somnath district, Gujarat.
- It is revered as the first of the 12 Jyotirlingas dedicated to Lord Shiva.
- The temple marked 75 years of its reopening (1951–2026).
- The year 2026 also marked 1,000 years since the first recorded invasion of the temple (1026 CE) by Mahmud of Ghazni.
- The present temple was reconstructed in the Chalukya (Kailash Mahameru Prasad) style and inaugurated in 1951 by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, India's first President.



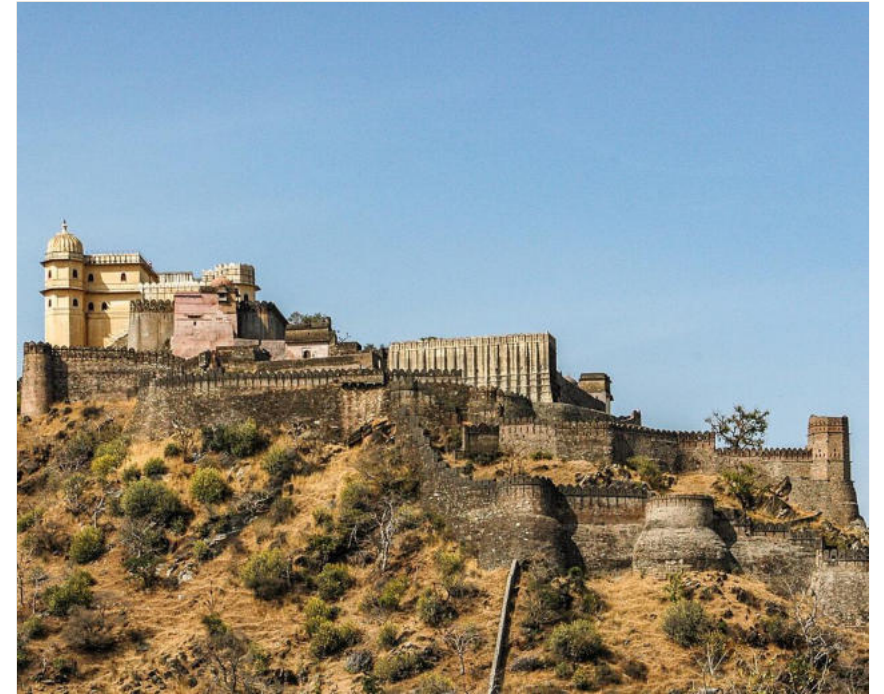
Q9 Kumbhalgarh Fort, which was in the news recently, is located in which which Indian state?

- A** Gujarat
- B** Madhya Pradesh
- C** Rajasthan
- D** Maharashtra

✓ **ANSWER C) Rajasthan**

KEY CONTEXT

- Located in Rajsamand district, Rajasthan.
- Famous for having the world's second-longest continuous wall (about 36 km) after the Great Wall of China.
- It is one of the Hill Forts of Rajasthan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Q10 India has allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) under the automatic route in which sector?

- A** Defence
- B** Banking
- C** Insurance
- D** Telecommunications

✓ **ANSWER C) Insurance**

KEY CONTEXT

- India allowed 100% FDI under the automatic route in the insurance sector.
- The reform aims to attract global investment, technology, and expertise.
- The sector continues to be regulated by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
- LIC continues to have a separate FDI limit of 20%.



Q11 Which Indian state became the first fully paperless judiciary in 2026?
2026?

- A Kerala
- B Karnataka
- C Sikkim
- D Himachal Pradesh

✓ ANSWER **C) Sikkim**

KEY CONTEXT

- Sikkim became India's first fully paperless judiciary.
- The announcement was made during the National Conclave on Technology and Judicial Education in Gangtok.
- The initiative promotes digital courts and paperless judicial administration.



Q12 The World Health Organization (WHO) declared a Public Health Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) in 2026 due to the due to the outbreak of which disease?

- A Cholera
- B Mpox
- C Ebola
- D Marburg Virus Disease

✓ ANSWER **C) Ebola**

KEY CONTEXT

- WHO declared a PHEIC due to the Ebola outbreak.
- The outbreak affected the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda.
- PHEIC is the highest level of international public health alert under the International Health Regulations (IHR).



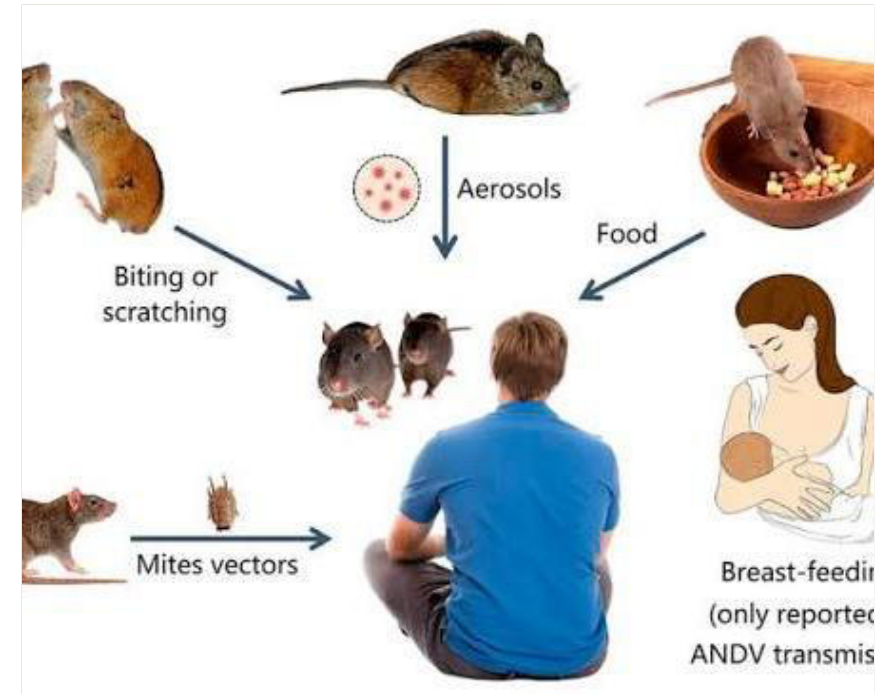
Q13 Hantavirus is primarily transmitted through:

- A Mosquito bites
- B Contaminated food and water
- C Rodents such as rats and mice
- D Tick bites

✓ ANSWER **C) Rodents such as rats and mice**

KEY CONTEXT

- Hantavirus is primarily spread through contact with infected rodent urine, droppings, or saliva.
- Most hantaviruses do not spread easily from person to person.
- The Andes virus strain is a notable exception, with documented limited human-to-human transmission, including during the 2026 cruise ship outbreak.



Q14 The first International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) Summit in 2026 was hosted by which country?

- A South Africa
- B Kenya
- C India
- D Nepal

✓ ANSWER **C) India**

KEY CONTEXT

- The first IBCA Summit was held in New Delhi on 1–2 June 2026.
- The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) is a global initiative launched by India for the conservation of seven big cats.
- The seven big cats are: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma.
- The headquarters of IBCA is located in India (New Delhi).



Q15 Which country withdrew from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) on 1 May 2026, ending nearly 60 years of membership?

- A** Qatar
- B** Angola
- C** United Arab Emirates
- D** Kuwait

✓ **ANSWER C) United Arab Emirates (UAE)**

KEY CONTEXT

- The UAE officially exited OPEC on 1 May 2026 after nearly 60 years of membership.
- The move allows the UAE greater flexibility to increase oil production outside OPEC production quotas.
- OPEC stands for the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and is headquartered in Vienna, Austria.



Q16 Which country became the 26th member of the International Big Cat Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) in 2026?

- A Brazil
- B Kenya
- C Saudi Arabia
- D Indonesia

✓ ANSWER **C) Saudi Arabia**

KEY CONTEXT

- Saudi Arabia became the 26th member of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).
- IBCA is a global initiative launched by India for the conservation of seven big cat species.
- The alliance promotes research, habitat conservation, and international cooperation for big cat conservation.



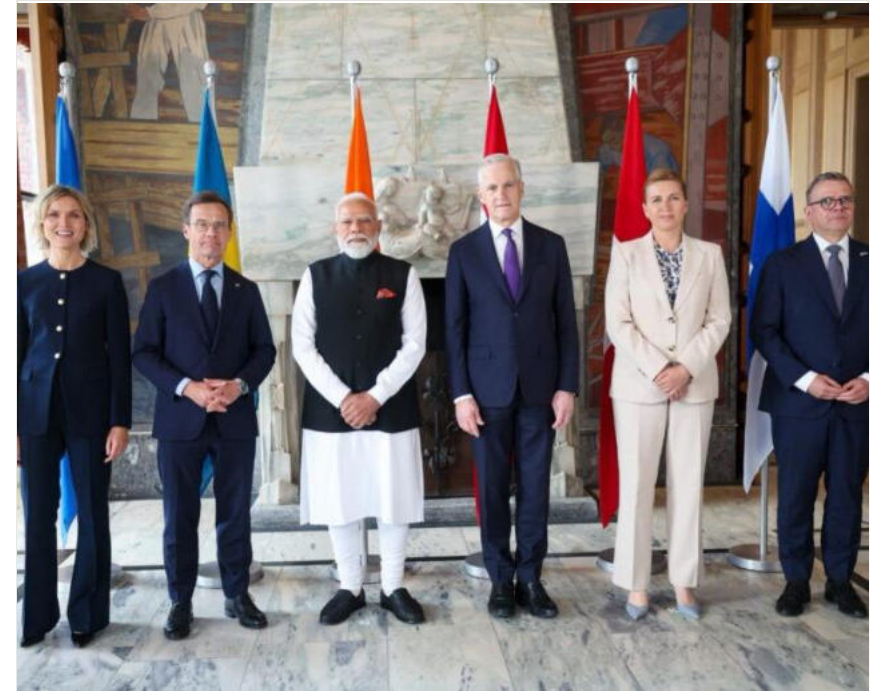
Q17 The Third India–Nordic Summit 2026 was held at which of the following following places?

- A** Stockholm, Sweden
- B** Oslo, Norway
- C** Helsinki, Finland
- D** Copenhagen, Denmark

✓ **ANSWER B) Oslo, Norway**

KEY CONTEXT

- Held in Oslo, Norway, on 19 May 2026.
- India and the five Nordic countries — Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden participated.
- Both sides agreed to establish a Green Technology and Innovation Strategic Partnership.
- The partnership focuses on green hydrogen, clean energy, AI, 6G technology, cybersecurity, climate action, Arctic research, and the blue economy.



Q18 Consider the following countries:

1. Denmark 2. Finland 3. France 4. Norway 5. United Kingdom

A 1 and 2

B 2 and 5

C 2 and 4

D 3 and 5

✓ **ANSWER D) 3 and 5**

KEY CONTEXT

Nordic countries:



Q19 India recently hosted the Kimberley Process Intersessional Meeting 2026 Meeting 2026 in Mumbai. The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) is primarily related to the trade of:

- A Gold
- B Diamonds
- C Silver
- D Platinum

✓ ANSWER **B) Diamonds**

KEY CONTEXT

- India hosted the Kimberley Process Intersessional Meeting 2026 in Mumbai.
- The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) aims to prevent the trade of conflict (blood) diamonds.
- India is the world's largest diamond cutting and polishing hub.



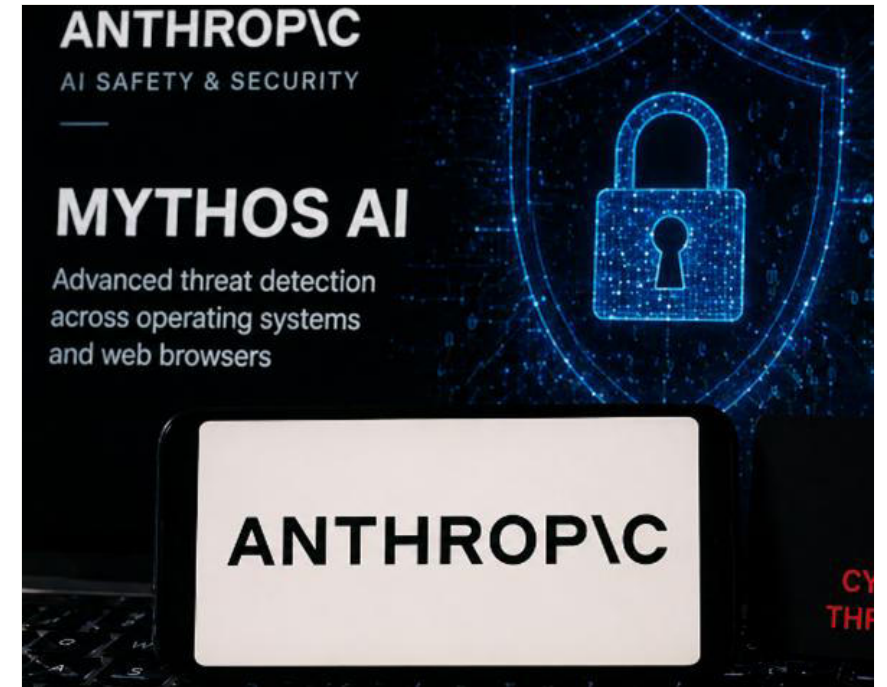
Q20 'Mythos', which was in the news due to cybersecurity concerns, is an AI model developed by which company?

- A** OpenAI
- B** Google
- C** Anthropic
- D** Meta

✓ **ANSWER C) Anthropic**

KEY CONTEXT

- Mythos is an AI model developed by Anthropic.
- It was in the news over concerns about its potential misuse in cybersecurity attacks on financial institutions.



Q21 Consider the following AI models and their parent companies:

- A 3 only
- B 1 and 2 only
- C 2 and 3 only
- D 1, 3 and 4 only

✓ ANSWER **A) 3 only**

KEY CONTEXT

- 1. Gemini – Google 2. Mythos – Anthropic 3. Grok – OpenAI 4. Llama – Meta
- Which of the above pairs is/are NOT correctly matched?



Q22 Who was appointed as India's next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) in 2026?
in 2026?

- A General Upendra Dwivedi
- B Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi
- C Air Chief Marshal A. P. Singh
- D General N. S. Raja Subramani

✓ ANSWER **D) General N. S. Raja Subramani**

KEY CONTEXT

- General N. S. Raja Subramani assumed office as the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) on 30 May 2026.
- He succeeded General Anil Chauhan.
- Before becoming CDS, he served as the Vice Chief of Army Staff and Military Adviser at the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS).
- The CDS is responsible for promoting jointness and integration among the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and heads the Department of Military Affairs (DMA).



Q23 Who was appointed as the Chief of the Naval Staff in 2026?

- A Admiral Sanjay J. Singh
- B Admiral R. Hari Kumar
- C Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi
- D Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan

✓ ANSWER **D) Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan**

KEY CONTEXT

- Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan assumed office as the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) on 31 May 2026.
- He succeeded Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi.
- Before his appointment, he served as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C), Western Naval Command.
- He is a specialist in Communication and Electronic Warfare.
- He previously served as the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff.



Q24 India's first underwater warship museum has been developed around around which decommissioned Indian Navy vessel?

- A INS Vikrant
- B INS Viraat
- C INS Guldar
- D INS Shivalik

✓ ANSWER **C) INS Guldar**

KEY CONTEXT

- Location: Near Nivati Rocks, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra.
- Built by submerging (scuttling) the decommissioned INS Guldar to create an underwater museum and artificial coral reef.



Q25 The 2nd edition of the India–Cambodia joint military exercise CINBAX-II CINBAX-II 2026 was conducted in which country?

- A** Thailand
- B** Vietnam
- C** Cambodia
- D** Laos

✓ **ANSWER C) Cambodia**

KEY CONTEXT

- CINBAX-II 2026 was conducted in Kampong Speu Province, Cambodia, from 4–17 May 2026.
- It is a bilateral military exercise between the Indian Army and the Royal Cambodian Army.



Q26 'Kaal Bhairava', which was in the news recently, is an:

- A** Ballistic missile
- B** Main Battle Tank
- C** AI-powered combat aircraft (MALE UAV)
- D** Aircraft carrier

✓ **ANSWER C) AI-powered combat aircraft (MALE UAV)**

KEY CONTEXT

- Kaal Bhairava is an AI-powered MALE (Medium Altitude Long Endurance) combat UAV.
- It has been developed by Flying Wedge Defence & Aerospace.
- It is being manufactured in Portugal, marking India's first overseas defence production project.
- It is part of Operation 777, which aims to expand India's global defence manufacturing footprint.



Q27 Recently, the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) Project was launched to develop India's first indigenous fifth-generation stealth fighter aircraft at which of the following places?

- A** Bengaluru, Karnataka
- B** Hyderabad, Telangana
- C** Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh
- D** Nagpur, Maharashtra

✓ **ANSWER C) Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh**

KEY CONTEXT

- The project was launched at Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh.
- AMCA aims to develop India's first indigenous fifth-generation stealth fighter aircraft.
- The programme is led by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) under DRDO.
- The project includes an Aircraft Integration and Advanced Flight Testing Centre.



Q28 Recently, India achieved a major defence milestone by launching launching 'Suryastra', the country's first fully indigenous 300-km weapon km weapon system. It is a:

- A** Hypersonic Cruise Missile
- B** Universal Rocket Launching System (URLS)
- C** Air Defence System
- D** Loitering Munition

✓ **ANSWER B) Universal Rocket Launching System (URLS)**

KEY CONTEXT

- The project supports Atmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India, and iDEX initiatives.
- It is designed to enhance long-range precision strike capability.



Q29 Who became the first woman officer in the Indian Air Force (IAF) to earn (IAF) to earn the Cat-A Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI) certification?

- A** Squadron Leader Shivangi Singh
- B** Wing Commander Anjali Singh
- C** Squadron Leader Saanya
- D** Flight Lieutenant Bhawana Kanth

✓ **ANSWER C) Squadron Leader Saanya**

KEY CONTEXT

- Squadron Leader Saanya became the first woman officer in the IAF to earn the Cat-A Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI) certification.
- Cat-A QFI is one of the highest instructional qualifications in military aviation.
- She was trained at the Air Force Academy, Dundigal, Hyderabad.



Q30 Which company developed 'Vikram-1', India's first privately built orbital built orbital rocket?

- A Agnikul Cosmos
- B Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- C Skyroot Aerospace
- D NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)

✓ ANSWER **C) Skyroot Aerospace**

KEY CONTEXT

- Vikram-1 is India's first privately built orbital rocket.
- It is designed to place payloads into Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
- It was transported to the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota for launch preparations.
- The mission marks a major milestone for India's private space sector.



Q31 Which Indian company developed Mission Drishti, India's largest largest privately developed Earth observation satellite?

- A** Agnikul Cosmos
- B** Skyroot Aerospace
- C** GalaxEye
- D** Pixxel

✓ **ANSWER C) GalaxEye**

KEY CONTEXT

- Mission Drishti is India's largest privately developed Earth observation satellite.
- Developed by GalaxEye, a Bengaluru-based startup.
- Launched aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg, California.
- Features OptoSAR technology, combining Electro-Optical (EO) and Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) imaging.



Q32 Who became the fastest Indian sprinter ever by clocking 10.09 seconds in seconds in the men's 100 m event at the Federation Cup 2026?

- A** Animesh Kujur
- B** Manikanta Hoblidhar
- C** Gurindervir Singh
- D** Amlan Borgohain

✓ **ANSWER C) Gurindervir Singh**

KEY CONTEXT

- Gurindervir Singh clocked 10.09 seconds in the men's 100 m at the Federation Cup 2026.
- He became the fastest Indian sprinter ever.
- The event was held in Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- He broke the previous national record of 10.15 seconds set by Animesh Kujur.
- The Federation Cup is one of India's premier national athletics competitions.



Q33 Indian journalists R. K. Anand and Suparna Sharma were honoured with honoured with which prestigious international award in 2026?

- A** Ramon Magsaysay Award
- B** International Emmy Award
- C** Pulitzer Prize
- D** Booker Prize

✓ **ANSWER C) Pulitzer Prize**

KEY CONTEXT

- They were honoured in the Illustrated Reporting and Commentary category.
- The award recognized their collaborative work published in Bloomberg.



Q34 Which book won the International Booker Prize 2026?

- A** Orbital
- B** Kairos
- C** Taiwan Travelogue
- D** The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida

✓ **ANSWER** **C) Taiwan Travelogue**

KEY CONTEXT

- Author: Yang Shuang-zi.
- Translator: Lin King.
- It became the first work translated from Mandarin Chinese to win the International Booker Prize.



Q35 Who has been awarded the 2025 United Nations Military Gender Gender Advocate of the Year Award?

- A Colonel Sofiya Qureshi
- B Lieutenant Colonel Seema Rao
- C Major Abhilasha Barak
- D Major Radhika Sen

✓ ANSWER **C) Major Abhilasha Barak**

KEY CONTEXT

- Major Abhilasha Barak became India's third recipient of the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award.
- She was honoured for her service with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).
- She is a combat helicopter pilot in the Indian Army.



Q36 Indian peacekeepers Harbhajan Singh and Sujit Kumar Pradhan were posthumously honoured with which United Nations Nations medal?

- A UN Peace Medal
- B UN Blue Helmet Medal
- C Dag Hammarskjöld Medal
- D United Nations Military Cross

✓ ANSWER **C) Dag Hammarskjöld Medal**

KEY CONTEXT

- Awarded posthumously by the United Nations.
- Honoured for sacrifice during UN peacekeeping missions in DR Congo and South Sudan.
- The Dag Hammarskjöld Medal is the highest honour for UN peacekeepers who die in service.



Q37 Which country topped the World Press Freedom Index 2026?

- A** Netherlands
- B** Denmark
- C** Sweden
- D** Norway

✓ **ANSWER** **D) Norway**

KEY CONTEXT

- Norway ranked 1st in the World Press Freedom Index 2026.
- India ranked 157th out of 180 countries.
- The index is published annually by Reporters Without Borders (RSF).
- Reporters Without Borders (RSF – Reporters Sans Frontières) is an international NGO headquartered in Paris, France.



Q38 India secured which rank in the Henley Passport Index 2026?

- A** 72nd
- B** 75th
- C** 78th
- D** 82nd

✓ **ANSWER C) 78th**

KEY CONTEXT

- India ranked 78th in the Henley Passport Index 2026.
- Indian passport holders have access to 56 destinations through visa-free, visa-on-arrival, or e-visa facilities.
- Singapore ranked 1st, with visa-free access to 192 destinations.
- The Henley Passport Index is based on data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and is published by Henley & Partners.
- Japan and France jointly ranked 2nd with access to 193 destinations.



Q39 Who has been appointed as the Chairman of Prasar Bharati in 2026?
2026?

- A** Anurag Thakur
- B** Prasoon Joshi
- C** Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- D** Shekhar Kapur

✓ **ANSWER** **B) Prasoon Joshi**

KEY CONTEXT

- Prasoon Joshi is a renowned lyricist, screenwriter, and advertising professional.
- He is also the Chairman of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).



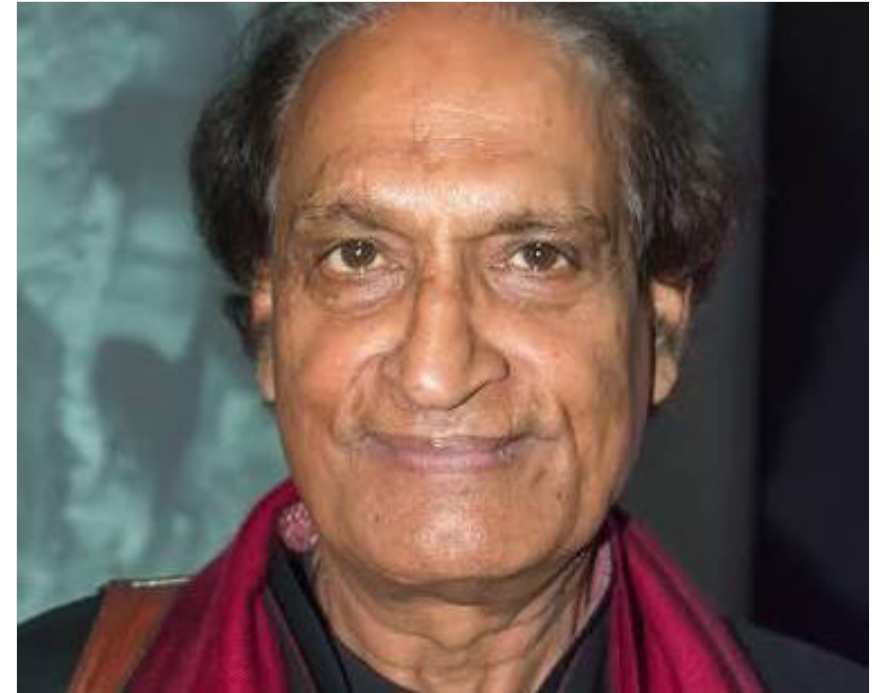
Q40 Recently, Raghu Rai, who passed away, was associated with which field?
which field?

- A** Literature
- B** Journalism
- C** Photojournalism
- D** Cinema

✓ **ANSWER C) Photojournalism**

KEY CONTEXT

- Raghu Rai was one of India's most renowned photojournalists.
- He was a recipient of the Padma Shri.
- He gained international recognition after being mentored by Henri Cartier-Bresson and later joined Magnum Photos.
- His work extensively documented the 1971 India–Pakistan War, social movements, and Indian public life.



Q41 Recently, Bashir Badr, who passed away, was associated with which which field?

A Classical Music

B Painting

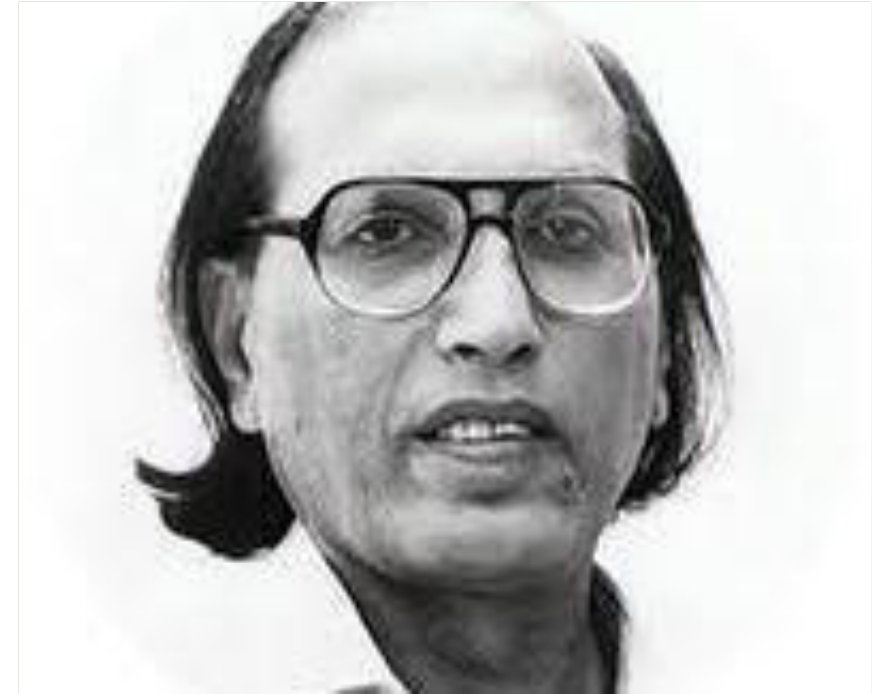
C Urdu Poetry

D Theatre

✓ **ANSWER C) Urdu Poetry**

KEY CONTEXT

- Bashir Badr was one of the most celebrated Urdu poets of his generation.



Important Days — May 2026

Date	Day / Observance	Theme
3 May	World Press Freedom Day	
17 May	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day	
31 May	World No Tobacco Day	

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