



**DECEMBER-2025**

# **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

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### IMPORTANT DAYS

- **Dec 1 - World AIDS Day:** Established by the WHO in 1988 to facilitate information exchange and support those living with HIV.
- **Dec 2 - International Day for the Abolition of Slavery:** Raised by the UNGA to combat modern slavery, human trafficking, and forced labor.
- **Dec 2 - National Pollution Control Day (India):** Focuses on adopting clean transport and reducing plastic for a sustainable, greener future.
- **Dec 3 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities:** Aims to raise awareness and promote the rights and inclusion of individuals with disabilities.
- **Dec 4 - Indian Navy Day:** Celebrates the Indian Navy's role in national maritime security and indigenous self-reliance.
- **Dec 4 - World Wildlife Conservation Day:** Urges action to protect the planet's threatened flora and fauna.
- **Dec 5 - World Soil Day:** Highlights the importance of healthy soil for global food security and climate resilience.
- **Dec 6 - Mahaparinirvan Diwas:** Commemorates the death anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and his values of justice and equality.
- **Dec 6 - All India Civil Defence and Home Guards Day:** Recognizes the volunteer organizations raised to assist the police and maintain internal security.
- **Dec 7 - International Civil Aviation Day:** Promotes global awareness of the importance of international civil aviation to social and economic development.



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- **Dec 25 - Good Governance Day:** Observed on the birth anniversary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee to promote accountability in government administration.
- **Dec 26 - Veer Bal Diwas:** Commemorates the martyrdom and bravery of the younger Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh.
- **Dec 27 - International Day of Epidemic Preparedness:** Focuses on strengthening global prevention and readiness for future pandemics.

### MISCELLANEOUS

- **Outer Space Treaty (1967):** The international treaty that bans the placement of weapons of mass destruction in Earth's orbit or on celestial bodies but allows nuclear power for peaceful exploration.
- **RTGs (Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generators):** Devices used in spacecraft (like Voyager) that convert heat from decaying radioactive isotopes (like Plutonium-238) into electricity.
- **Artemis Program:** NASA's ongoing mission aimed at returning humans to the Moon and establishing a sustainable presence (Artemis Base Camp).
- **Lunar Night Duration:** A single night on the Moon lasts approximately **14 Earth days**, making solar power alone insufficient for long-term habitats.
- **IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency):** An international organization (est. 1957) that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy; its headquarters is in **Vienna, Austria**.
- **Bioremediation:** The process of using living organisms like bacteria, fungi, or plants to decontaminate affected areas (soil/water).
- **In-situ vs. Ex-situ:** *In-situ* refers to cleaning the waste at the site of contamination, while *ex-situ* involves removing the contaminated material to be treated elsewhere.
- **Phytoremediation:** A specific type of bioremediation that uses **plants** to clean up environmental pollutants.
- **Oil-eating Bacteria:** Famous examples include *Alcanivorax borkumensis*, used to clean up marine oil spills.
- **Indian Maritime Doctrine 2025:** The latest apex guidance document of the Indian Navy that introduces the concept of "**No-War, No-Peace**" (Grey Zone warfare).
- **Father of the Indian Navy: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** is often credited as the father of the Indian Navy for building a strong coastal fleet in the 17th century.
- **Lothal:** The world's earliest known dockyard, located in present-day **Gujarat**, belonging to the Indus Valley Civilization.
- **Kanhoji Angre:** The famous 18th-century Maratha Navy Admiral who successfully defended the Indian coast against European colonial powers.
- **Sanskrit Root:** The word "navigation" is derived from the Sanskrit word '**Navagati**'.
- **UN COPUOS:** The United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, established in 1959 to govern the exploration and use of space for the benefit of all humanity.
- **1972 Liability Convention:** A UN treaty that establishes the rules for "launching states" to pay compensation for damage caused by their space objects.
- **Viksit Bharat 2047:** The Government of India's vision to transform India into a developed nation by the 100th year of independence.
- **IAEA Safeguards:** In India, nuclear reactors are kept under IAEA safeguards if they use **imported uranium**; those using domestic supplies are generally not.
- **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs):** Advanced nuclear reactors that have a power capacity of up to 300 MW(e) per unit, which is about one-third of the generating capacity of traditional nuclear power reactors.



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- **Biological Weapons Convention (BWC):** It is the first multilateral disarmament treaty banning an entire category of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). **Treaty Dates:** The BWC was opened for signature in **1972** and entered into force in **1975**; India ratified it in **1974**. **Geneva Protocol (1925):** The BWC supplements this earlier protocol, which only prohibited the *use* of biological and chemical weapons, not their development or stockpiling.
- **Judicial Pendency:** As of 2025, nearly **4.80 crore cases** are pending in India's lower courts, with **Uttar Pradesh** having the highest backlog (over 23% of the total).
- **Judge-Population Ratio:** India currently has about **21 judges per million people**, significantly lower than the Law Commission's 1987 recommendation of **50 per million**.
- **Allahabad High Court:** This court holds the record for the highest pendency among all Indian High Courts.
- **Thalassemia Definition:** A genetic blood disorder characterized by insufficient production of **hemoglobin**, the protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen.
- **Genetic Inheritance:** It is an autosomal recessive disorder, meaning a child must inherit one mutated gene from each parent to be affected.

### Types:

1. **Alpha-Thalassemia:** Reduced production of alpha chains of hemoglobin.
  2. **Beta-Thalassemia:** Reduced production of beta chains; **Cooley's Anemia** is the severe form (Beta-Thalassemia Major).
- **Anemia Symptoms:** Fatigue, shortness of breath, pale skin, and weakness due to the lack of healthy red blood cells.
  - **India's Status:** India is often referred to as the "**Thalassemia Capital of the World**" due to its high burden of the disease.
  - **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2000):** An international agreement that governs the movement of **Living Modified Organisms (LMOs)** from one country to another to protect biological diversity.
  - **WMD Act, 2005:** The Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act provides the legal basis for India's implementation of international obligations regarding WMDs.
  - **44th Amendment Act (1978):** Famous for restoring many democratic features after the Emergency and making the "Right to Property" a legal right instead of a fundamental one
  - **Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant:** India's largest civilian nuclear project, built with Russian support, located in **Tamil Nadu**.
  - **BrahMos Missile:** A joint venture between India (DRDO) and Russia (NPOM) named after the **Brahmaputra** and **Moskva** rivers.
  - **Connectivity Corridors:**
    1. **INSTC:** International North-South Transport Corridor connects India to Russia via Iran.
    2. **Northern Sea Route (NSR):** A shipping route through the Arctic waters.
    3. **Chennai-Vladivostok Corridor:** A maritime route linking India's east coast to the Russian Far East.
  - **Arctic Council:** India holds **Observer** status in this high-level intergovernmental forum.
  - **RPwD Act, 2016:** The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, recognizes **21 types of disabilities** (up from 7 in the 1995 Act).
  - **Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan:** Also known as the **Accessible India Campaign**, it aims to achieve universal accessibility in the built environment, transport, and ICT.
  - **UDID Project:** The **Unique Disability Identity Card** project creates a national database for PwDs to streamline benefit delivery.



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- **ALIMCO:** The **Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India** is a not-for-profit Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) that manufactures assistive devices.
- **PRASHAST App:** A mobile app used for the early identification of students with disabilities in schools.
- **Masala Bonds:** These are **rupee-denominated bonds** issued by Indian entities in overseas markets to raise debt; the exchange rate risk is borne by the investor, not the issuer.
- **IFC:** The **International Finance Corporation**, an arm of the World Bank, was the first to issue Masala Bonds.
- **Friday Sessions:** Private Members' Bills are typically discussed on **Fridays** in the Indian Parliament. **Historical Fact:** Only **14 Private Member's Bills** have been passed into law since 1952, and none have been passed since **1970**.
- **Right to Disconnect Bill, 2025:** A recent PMB seeking to protect employees from after-hour work demands to ensure work-life balance.
- **Exercise Harimau Shakti:** A bilateral military exercise between the **Indian Army** and the **Malaysian Army** (focused on jungle warfare and counter-terrorism).
- **Exercise INDRA:** A long-standing joint military exercise between **India and Russia**.
- **UN Chapter VII:** This chapter of the UN Charter deals with "Action with Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression," authorizing military intervention if necessary.
- **International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA):** An initiative launched by India to protect seven major big cats (Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma). Russia recently joined this alliance.
- **DGCA:** The **Directorate General of Civil Aviation**, headquartered in **New Delhi**, is the apex regulatory body for civil aviation safety in India.
- **FDTL Norms: Flight Duty Time Limitation** norms are regulations issued by the DGCA to manage pilot fatigue and ensure aviation safety.
- **India's Global Rank:** India is the **3rd-largest domestic aviation market** in the world, following the US and China.
- **Bharatiya Vayuyan Adhiniyam, 2024:** This new act replaces the colonial-era **Aircraft Act, 1934**, modernizing India's aviation governance.
- **Open Sky Policy (1990–94):** The policy that ended the monopoly of Indian Airlines and Air India by allowing private air taxi operators.
- **ICAO:** The **International Civil Aviation Organization**, a UN specialized agency that coordinates international air navigation (Headquarters: **Montreal, Canada**).
- **Cess:** A "tax on tax" levied by the government for a **specific, earmarked purpose** (e.g., Education Cess).
- **Constitutional Basis:** Under **Article 270**, revenue from cesses and surcharges is **not shared with states** (it stays with the Union).
- **80th Amendment Act:** Formally amended Article 270 to exclude cesses from the divisible pool of taxes.
- **Consolidated Fund of India:** The fund where all revenues received by the government, including cesses, are credited (unless specified otherwise).
- **IFSC: International Financial Services Centre;** India's first IFSC is located in **GIFT City** (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City), Gandhinagar.
- **SEZ Act, 2005:** GIFT City was established under this act to promote exports and financial services.
- **IFSCA:** The **International Financial Services Centres Authority** (est. 2019) is the unified regulator for all financial services within an IFSC, consolidating powers of RBI, SEBI, IRDAI, and PFRDA.
- **Mahaparinirvan Diwas:** Observed on **December 6th** every year to mark the death anniversary of **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**.



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- **Chaitya Bhoomi:** The memorial site of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, located in **Dadar, Mumbai**.
- **Navayana Buddhism:** The new branch of Buddhism founded by Dr. Ambedkar that focuses on social equality and rejects caste-based discrimination.
- **Poona Pact (1932):** An agreement between B.R. Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi that provided for reserved seats for the depressed classes in provincial legislatures.
- **Drafting Committee:** Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was the **Chairman** of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution.
- **CORSIA:** The **Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation**, an ICAO scheme aimed at reducing CO2 emissions from international flights.
- **Special Economic Zone (SEZ):** A specifically delineated duty-free enclave deemed to be foreign territory for the purpose of trade operations, duties, and tariffs.
- **Repo Rate:** The rate at which the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lends money to commercial banks (mentioned in the context of the "Goldilocks Phase" of the economy).
- **Invasive Alien Species:** Non-native species that spread and cause damage to the environment, economy, or human health (topic covered in the news analysis).
- **Hate Speech Legislation: Karnataka** is the first Indian state to introduce a dedicated bill to curb hate speech—the *Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2025*.
- **267th Law Commission Report (2017):** Recommended defining hate speech and adding sections (153C and 505A) to the IPC to criminalize incitement to hatred.
- **Shreya Singhal Case (2015):** The Supreme Court struck down **Section 66A** of the IT Act, 2000, for being unconstitutionally vague and violating free speech.
- **Reasonable Restrictions: Article 19(2)** of the Constitution allows limits on free speech in the interests of public order, sovereignty, and security.
- **BNS 2023:** Section 196 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (formerly IPC 153A) penalizes promoting enmity between groups.
- **Constitutional Basis: Article 124(4)** provides for the removal of Supreme Court judges; **Article 218** extends this to High Court judges.
- **Grounds for Removal:** Only two grounds are valid—**Proved misbehaviour** or **incapacity**.
- **Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968:** The legal framework detailing the procedure for the inquiry and removal of judges.
- **Inquiry Committee:** Consists of three members: a SC judge, a High Court Chief Justice, and an eminent jurist.
- **Parliamentary Majority:** A motion for removal must be passed by a **special majority** (2/3rd present and voting + absolute majority of total strength) in both Houses.
- **Preah Vihear Temple:** An 11th-century Hindu shrine dedicated to **Lord Shiva**, located in Cambodia near the Thai border.
- **UNESCO World Heritage Site:** Preah Vihear was built by **Khmer kings** Suryavarman I and II and is at the center of a long-standing border dispute between Thailand and Cambodia.
- **ICJ Ruling (1962):** The International Court of Justice ruled that the temple belongs to **Cambodia**, a decision reaffirmed in 2013.
- **IISF 2025:** The 11th edition of the **India International Science Festival** commenced in Panchkula, Haryana.
- **IISF Theme 2025:** "Vigyan Se Samruddhi: for Aatmanirbhar Bharat."
- **IVF Technology:** In-vitro Fertilization (IVF) is a specialized medical technology discussed in the context of recent healthcare advancements.



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- **Shyok Tunnel:** located in Ladakh
- **Right to Privacy:** Protected under **Article 21** as an intrinsic part of the Right to Life and Personal Liberty (confirmed in the *Puttaswamy* case).
- **SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989:** The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act provides for the punishment of offenses against members of these communities.
- **UNEP:** The **United Nations Environment Programme** was founded on **June 5, 1972** (World Environment Day) and is headquartered in **Nairobi, Kenya**.
- **GEO-7:** The 7th edition of the **Global Environment Outlook** report was released by UNEP in 2025.
- **Green GDP:** An economic growth metric that accounts for the **depreciation of natural capital** (forests, soil, water) alongside traditional GDP.
- **Export Promotion Mission (EPM):** A new framework with a **Rs 25,060 crore** outlay (FY 2025-26 to 2030-31) to boost MSMEs and labor-intensive sectors.
- **DGFT:** The **Directorate General of Foreign Trade** is the implementing agency for the Export Promotion Mission.
- **India's Export Milestone:** India's exports reached a historic **USD 778.21 billion** in 2023–24.
- **Top Export Markets:** The top three destinations for Indian merchandise exports (2023-24) are the **US, UAE, and Netherlands**.
- **Interest Subvention:** A financial aid mechanism where the government pays a part of the interest on a loan, making credit cheaper for the borrower (used for MSME exporters).
- **DHRUVA:** The **Digital Hub for Reference and Unique Virtual Address** is proposed as a **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)** for logistics and e-commerce.
- **PM Gati Shakti:** A national master plan for multimodal connectivity aimed at reducing logistics costs and improving infrastructure.
- **National Logistics Policy (NLP):** Launched to improve the efficiency of the logistics sector and lower the cost of doing business in India.
- **MSP (Minimum Support Price):** The price at which the government purchases crops from farmers; it is recommended by the **Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)**.
- **Pongamia Pinnata:** A tree species considered a viable option for **biodiesel** production in India because it grows in arid regions and its seeds are rich in lipids (oleic acid).
- **Inclusive Wealth Index:** An alternative to GDP that measures a country's wealth including natural, human, and produced capital.
- **Viksit Bharat @ 2047:** India's vision to become a developed nation by the 100th year of its independence.
- **MSME:** Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises; these sectors are the focus of current export and financial relief measures.
- **Rajaji:** Shri **Chakravarti Rajagopalachari**, popularly known as Rajaji, was born on **December 10, 1878**.
  1. He was the **first recipient** of the Bharat Ratna award in **1954**.
  2. **Vedaranyam Satyagraha:** In 1930, during the Civil Disobedience Movement, Rajaji led the **Salt March** in Madras Province from **Tiruchi to Vedaranyam**.
  3. **C.R. Formula (1944):** A proposal to solve the political deadlock between the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League regarding the partition of India.
  4. **Swatantra Party:** Founded by Rajaji in **1959**, advocating for a market economy and reduced government interference.



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5. **Literary Work:** He wrote a Tamil translation of the Ramayana titled "**Chakravarthi Thirumagan**", which won the **Sahitya Akademi Award** in 1958.

- **Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day:** Observed annually on **December 12**.
- **WHO Standards:** India has technically achieved the WHO-compliant doctor-population ratio of **1:1000** (actually reported as **1:811** in the analysis, though rural-urban distribution remains skewed).
- **Interpol Notices:** \* **Blue Corner Notice:** Issued to collect additional information about a person's identity, location, or activities in relation to a criminal investigation.
- **Red Notice:** A request to law enforcement worldwide to locate and provisionally arrest a person pending extradition.
- **National Commission for Minorities (NCM):** A statutory body established under the **National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992**.
- **Hybrid Mutual Funds:** Also known as **Asset Allocation Funds**, these invest in a mix of equity and debt instruments to balance risk and return.
- **PLI Scheme for Batteries:** The **Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC)** battery storage PLI scheme aims to enhance India's manufacturing capacity for electric vehicles and renewable energy storage.
- **Sujalam Bharat App:** A digital initiative under the **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti for monitoring rural drinking water systems.
- **PM Dhan-Dhanya Krishi Yojana:** A scheme aimed at achieving self-reliance in food grains, pulses, and oilseeds, focusing on crop diversification and post-harvest storage.
- **Tele-MANAS:** A national mental health helpline providing counseling services in 20 languages across 36 States/UTs.
- **PM-JAY:** Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, the world's largest health insurance scheme, providing ₹5 lakh coverage per family per year for secondary and tertiary care.
- **KAVACH:** India's indigenous **Automatic Train Protection (ATP)** system designed to prevent train collisions.
- **Acid Attack Compensation:** The Supreme Court mandates a minimum compensation of **₹3 lakh** for acid attack survivors, with ₹1 lakh to be paid within 15 days for immediate treatment.
- **Indigenous Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vessel:** India launched its first indigenous hydrogen fuel cell ferry, marking a major step toward **decarbonizing the maritime sector**.
- **Hydrogen Fuel Cells:** These generate electricity through an electrochemical reaction between hydrogen and oxygen, with **water and heat** being the only by-products.
- **The New Nuclear Frontier in Space:** NASA's **Lunar Fission Surface Power Project** aims to establish a reliable energy source on the Moon using small nuclear reactors for future lunar bases.
- **Year End Review 2025 (Ministry of Culture):**
  1. **44th UNESCO World Heritage Site:** The **Maratha Military Landscaped** were officially inscribed as India's 44th World Heritage Site in 2025.
  2. **Deepavali on UNESCO List:** Deepavali (the Festival of Lights) was inscribed on the **UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)** of Humanity.
  3. **Gyan Bharatam:** A national initiative launched for the **digitization and preservation** of India's ancient manuscript heritage.
- **Adichanallur:** An important **Iron-Age/Megalithic site** in Tamil Nadu. The Madras High Court recently prohibited sand mining in its vicinity to protect its archaeological value.
- **Kolhapuri Chappals:** These handcrafted leather sandals date back to the **12th–13th century**. They received a **Geographical Indication (GI) Tag** in 2019, covering eight districts in Maharashtra and Karnataka.



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- **MGNREGA Revitalisation:** The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (2005) provides a **legal guarantee of 100 days** of wage employment in a financial year to rural households.
- **SCDPM 5.0:** The "Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters 5.0" focuses on institutionalizing cleanliness (Swachhata) and reducing pendency in government offices.
- **UMEED Portal:** A digital platform aimed at supporting women entrepreneurs and providing mental health resources (depending on the specific ministry context, often associated with health or rural livelihood).
- **Nathula Pass:** A strategic mountain pass in the **Himalayas** that connects the Indian state of **Sikkim with China's Tibet Autonomous Region**.
- **Nahargarh Biological Park:** Located near Jaipur, Rajasthan, it is a significant site for biodiversity and lion safaris within the Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary.
- **Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI):** Measures poverty through deprivations in **health, education, and living standards**, moving beyond simple income metrics.
- **Lakshpati Didi:** A government initiative aimed at making 3 crore women in Self Help Groups (SHGs) earn at least **₹1 lakh per year**.
- **Genocide Convention, 1948:** The first human rights treaty adopted by the UN General Assembly, defining genocide and making it a crime under international law.
- **Quantum Echoes Experiment:** A major project by **Google** exploring advanced quantum computing capabilities and error correction.
- **PPP (Purchasing Power Parity):** A metric used to compare economic productivity and standards of living between countries by adjusting for cost of living and inflation.
- **PMEGP: Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme,** a credit-linked subsidy scheme for setting up micro-enterprises in non-farm sectors.
- **DAY-NULM: Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission,** aimed at reducing poverty and vulnerability of urban poor households.
- **Samagra Shiksha 2.0:** An overarching program for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class 12.
- **PM Jan Dhan Yojana:** A national mission for **financial inclusion** to ensure access to financial services (banking, savings, insurance, pension).
- Governance & IPR (Copyright Act, 1957)
  - **Copyright Basics:** Copyright in India is a legal right that protects original works like literature, art, music, films, and computer programs. It exists **automatically** upon creation (registration is not mandatory for protection).
  - **Section 2(o):** Defines literary works.
  - **Section 13:** Extends protection to literary, musical, dramatic works, cinematographic films, and sound recordings.
  - **Section 14:** Grants exclusive rights to the owner for reproduction, adaptation, and translation.
  - **Section 52:** Addresses "fair dealing" (acts that do not amount to infringement, such as excerpts for educational use).
- **Hybrid Model (AI):** A proposed framework involving a mandatory **blanket license** for AI training and a **statutory right to remuneration** for original creators.
- **Osmotic Potential:** The force that allows mangroves to draw water even in low osmotic potential conditions caused by salt.
- **Rail Electrification:** Indian Railways has electrified more than **99.2%** of its broad-gauge network.



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- **Net-Zero Target:** Indian Railways aims to become a **Net-Zero carbon emitter by 2030**.
- **ASUSE:** The **Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises** is conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) under MoSPI.  
**ASUSE Focus:** It measures economic parameters (gross value added, employment) for the **non-agricultural** unincorporated sector, excluding the construction sector.
- **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR):** The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** is the nodal agency for regulating IPR in India.
- **TRIPS Agreement:** India is a signatory to the **Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights** agreement under the WTO.
- **Cannabis Classification:** In India, cannabis is regulated under the **NDPS Act (1985)**; however, the state of Himachal Pradesh is exploring legalizing its cultivation for industrial/medical use.
- **Mahi Banswara NPP:** A new nuclear power plant in **Rajasthan** being executed by the ASHVINI joint venture (NPCIL and NTPC).
- **PHWR:** Stands for **Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor**. India uses natural uranium (U-238) as fuel and heavy water ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ) as a moderator/coolant in these reactors.
- **3-Stage Nuclear Programme:**
  1. **Stage 1:** PHWRs using natural uranium.
  2. **Stage 2:** Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) using plutonium.
  3. **Stage 3:** Thorium-based reactors using Uranium-233.
- **Ferrocyanate (BARC B1401):** India's first **Certified Reference Material (CRM)** for Rare Earth Elements (REEs).
- **Boron-11:** An enrichment facility at **Talcher, Odisha**, producing high-purity material for semiconductors.
- **Nuclear Target:** India aims to increase its nuclear power capacity to **22.48 GW by 2031–32**.
- **Money Market:** Deals with short-term financial instruments with a maturity of **less than one year**.
- **Capital Market:** Deals with long-term investments with a maturity of **over one year**.
- **SIP:** Systematic Investment Plan, a method where investors contribute a fixed amount to a mutual fund at regular intervals.
- **Trinetra:** An indigenous high-speed interconnect network developed by **C-DAC** (100–200 Gbps).
- **AIRAWAT:** India's national AI computer infrastructure, ranked **75th** on the Top500 global supercomputing list (as of late 2025).
- **PARAM Rudra:** A series of supercomputers deployed under the National Supercomputing Mission.
- **Pratyush and Mihir:** Supercomputers used primarily for **high-resolution weather forecasting** and climate modeling.
- **IAEA Rays of Hope: Tata Memorial Hospital** was recognized as an Anchor Center by the International Atomic Energy Agency for cancer treatment.
- **Mutant Crops: TBM-9 (Banana)** and **RTS-43 (Sorghum)** are new high-yield varieties developed through gamma radiation by BARC.
- **Gamma Radiation Facilities:** India has **40** such facilities used for food preservation and medical device sterilization.
- **NPCIL:** Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited.
- **BARC:** Bhabha Atomic Research Centre.
- **IAEA:** International Atomic Energy Agency, headquartered in **Vienna, Austria**.
- **C-DAC:** Centre for Development of Advanced Computing.



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- **NSFE:** National Strategy for Financial Education.
- **AERB:** The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board.
- **SHANTI Bill, 2025:** A proposed law to overhaul India's nuclear energy sector, repealing the **Atomic Energy Act, 1962** and the **CLND Act, 2010**.
- The SHANTI Bill aims to grant it **statutory status**, making it accountable to Parliament.
- **Mercy Petition:** Convicts can seek clemency under **Article 72** (President) and **Article 161** (Governor) of the Indian Constitution.
- **BNSS 2023:** The **Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita** introduces a time-bound framework for processing mercy petitions.
- **Article 21 OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT:** Guarantees the right to life and personal liberty, which is the foundational basis for the humanitarian rationale of clemency.
- **ASEAN Free Trade Partners:** India, Australia, China, Japan, and South Korea are free-trade partners of ASEAN.
- **Exercise Ekatha 2025:** A bilateral naval exercise between **India and Maldives**, focusing on diving and special operations.
- **IALA:** The **International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities**. India has been a Council Member since 1982.
- **DGLL:** The **Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships** operates under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways.
- **ADB (Asian Development Bank):** A regional development bank headquartered in **Manila, Philippines**. India is one of its largest borrowers for infrastructure financing.
- **Lighthouse Tourism:** India is promoting its maritime heritage, including the development of the world's tallest **Lighthouse Museum at Lothal, Gujarat**.
- **Viksit Bharat Bill, 2025:** A significant legislative proposal (Guarantee For Rozgar And Ajeevika Mission - GRAMIN) aimed at ensuring employment and livelihood security in rural India.
- **Central Information Commission (CIC):** Established under the **Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005**. It is a high-powered independent body that inter alia looks into the complaints made to it and decides the appeals.
- **Biotechnology in India:** The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) operates under the **Ministry of Science and Technology**. It was set up in 1986 to give a new impetus to the development of the field of modern biology and biotechnology in India.
- **Project Suncatcher:** A Google initiative focused on optimizing renewable energy (specifically solar power) through advanced technological interventions.
- **Anthropause:** A term coined by scientists to describe the global slowdown of human activity (notably during the COVID-19 lockdowns), which provided a unique opportunity to study human-wildlife interactions.
- **Vijay Diwas (December 16):** Commemorates India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war, which led to the creation of **Bangladesh**. 2025 marks the **54th anniversary** of this event.
- **Biofloc Technology (BFT):** An innovative and cost-effective method of aquaculture where nitrogenous waste is converted into proteinaceous feed for fish and shrimp.
- **Recirculatory Aquaculture Systems (RAS):** A high-density fish farming technology that uses mechanical and biological filters to reuse water, reducing the need for fresh water and improving biosecurity.
- **PCR-based Surveillance:** Polymerase Chain Reaction technology used for early detection of viral and bacterial diseases in shrimp farming.
- **Wadi Araba Treaty (1994):** The historic peace treaty signed between **Jordan and Israel**.



## DECEMBER 2025 CURRENT AFFAIRS-ONELINERS

**Jordan's Geography:** It is a landlocked country except for its southern access to the **Red Sea via the Port of Aqaba**. It does **not** open out to the Mediterranean Sea.

**JIFCO:** The Jordan India Fertiliser Company is a major joint venture; Jordan is a critical supplier of **phosphates and potash** to India.

- **PARAM Shavak:** An Indian supercomputer provided to the India-Jordan Center of Excellence in IT in Amman.
- **Aqaba Process:** An initiative launched by King Abdullah II in 2015 to strengthen international cooperation against terrorism.
- **CAGR:** Stands for **Compound Annual Growth Rate**, a measure used to show the mean annual growth rate of an investment over a specified time period.
- **Exercise Desert Cyclone II:** A joint military exercise between **India and the UAE**.
- **ICG Ship Sarthak:** An Indian Coast Guard offshore patrol vessel that recently made a port call at **Chabahar Port, Iran**.
- **AH-64E Apache:** Advanced attack helicopters inducted into the Indian Army, highlighting deepening **India-US defense cooperation**.
- **Integrated Power & Pyro Relay Units:** Indigenous components developed for missiles like Agni and Astra.
- **Halophytes:** Plants like mangroves that are adapted to grow in saline conditions.
- **Rare Earth Elements (REEs):** A group of 17 chemical elements in the periodic table, specifically the fifteen lanthanides plus scandium and yttrium.
- **Sabka Bima, Sabki Raksha Bill, 2025:** A legislative proposal aimed at expanding insurance coverage and social security to all citizens.
- **Section 14 of Copyright Act:** Grants exclusive rights to owners to reproduce or adapt their work.
- **OIC (Organisation of Islamic Cooperation):** An international organization consisting of 57 member states, where Jordan holds significant influence.
- **Order of Oman:** The highest civil honor of Oman, established in **1970** by Sultan Qaboos bin Said; recently conferred upon the Indian Prime Minister.
  1. **India-Oman CEPA:** The **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement** (2025) aims to eliminate import duties on 98% of tariff lines, benefiting Indian exports like petroleum, rice, and electronics.
  2. **Oman Geography:** Its capital is **Muscat**. It borders Yemen, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE, with maritime boundaries along the **Arabian Sea** and the **Gulf of Oman**.
- **Kakori Train Action (1925):** Formerly known as the Kakori Conspiracy; it involved the looting of a train carrying British treasury money near Lucknow by members of the **HRA** (Hindustan Republican Association).

**Key Personalities:** The action was led by **Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqulla Khan, Roshan Singh, and Rajendra Lahiri**.
- **GRAP (Graded Response Action Plan):** An emergency framework implemented in **Delhi-NCR** to combat air pollution. It was notified in 2017 following the *M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India* case.
- **CAQM: The Commission for Air Quality Management** is the statutory body responsible for implementing GRAP and managing air quality in the National Capital Region.
- **Tourism as Growth Engine:** Recognized as a major sector for generating employment and forex; the government is focusing on **niche tourism** (medical, eco-tourism, and spiritual tourism) to achieve the *Viksit Bharat 2047* goals.
- **Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQ):** A trade policy tool that allows a limited quantity of a product to be imported at a lower tariff rate, while quantities above that limit face higher duties.



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- **Ayush & Wellness:** For the first time, a comprehensive commitment to **traditional medicine** has been included in a trade agreement (India-Oman CEPA), opening global markets for Indian Ayurveda and wellness services.
- **Geological Age:** The Aravalli Range is one of the oldest mountain systems in the world, dating back to the **Precambrian era** (nearly 2,000 million years ago).
- **Highest Peak: Guru Shikhar** on Mount Abu is the highest point in the Aravallis (1,722 m).  
**Extent:** Spans approximately 800 km across four states/UTs: **Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, and Delhi.**
- **Ganga Water Treaty:** Signed in **1996**.
- **Land Boundary Agreement (LBA):** A landmark peaceful settlement achieved in **2015** to exchange enclaves and simplify the border.
- **Rivers:** Bangladesh is a deltaic country formed by three major rivers: **Padma (Ganges), Jamuna (Brahmaputra), and Meghna.**
- **Sundarbans:** The world's largest tidal mangrove forest, shared between India and Bangladesh and home to the **Bengal tiger**.
- **St. Martin's Island:** Bangladesh's only coral-bearing island, located in the Bay of Bengal.
- **Article 23 OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT:** Prohibits trafficking in human beings and forced labor (*Begar*).
- **UNTOC:** The **United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime**, which includes protocols to prevent and punish trafficking in persons.
- **NCPCR:** The **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights**, a statutory body established under the PCR Act, 2005.
- **Chicken's Neck (Siliguri Corridor):** A narrow strip of land in West Bengal that connects mainland India with its Northeastern states.
- **BIMSTEC:** The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation.
- **Akhaura-Agartala:** A strategic rail link connecting Tripura (India) with Bangladesh to provide shorter transit to India's Northeast.
- **Lalmonirhat Airfield:** A strategic airfield in Bangladesh located near the Indian border (Chicken's Neck).
- **Teesta River:** Originates in **Sikkim** and flows into the Brahmaputra (Jamuna) in Bangladesh; it is a major point of water-sharing disputes.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with **The Great Honor Nishan of Ethiopia**.
  1. **Horn of Africa:** Ethiopia is a key landlocked country in the Horn of Africa, bordering Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, Kenya, and Sudan.
  2. **Historical Links:** Ties date back to the **Axumite Empire** (1st century AD). Indian soldiers assisted British forces in ending Italy's occupation of Ethiopia (1936–41).
  3. **Blue Nile (Abay):** A major river originating in Ethiopia, contributing significantly to the Nile River system.
  4. **Danakil Depression:** Located in Ethiopia, it is one of the lowest and hottest places on Earth.
  5. **BRICS & AU:** Ethiopia is a member of **BRICS** and host to the **African Union (AU)** headquarters in Addis Ababa.
- **Constitutional Articles: Article 105** grants privileges to Parliament/MPs, while **Article 194** grants them to State Legislatures/MLAs.
- **Mount Ras Dejen:** The highest peak in Ethiopia.
- **Hayli Gubbi:** It is a volcano located in the **Afar Region** of Ethiopia.



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- **Viksit Bharat (GRAMIN) Bill, 2025:** Formally known as the *Viksit Bharat- Guarantee For Rozgar And Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill*, it aims to ensure employment security.
- **Privilege Motion:** A motion moved by a member to censure a minister or member for withholding facts or violating privileges
- **Geographical Indication (GI):** New Zealand committed to amending its laws to allow the registration of Indian GIs (beyond just wines and spirits).
- **Constitutional Articles:** Articles **315 to 323** in Part XIV of the Constitution deal with the UPSC(Union Public Service Commission) and SPSC(State Public Service Commission)
  1. **Appointment:** The Chairman and members of an SPSC are appointed by the **Governor** of the state.
  2. **Removal:** Members of an SPSC can only be removed by the **President**, not the Governor.
  3. **Tenure:** SPSC members serve for **6 years or until they reach 62 years of age**, whichever is earlier (compared to 65 years for UPSC).
  4. **Historical Basis:** The **Government of India Act, 1919** led to the first Central PSC in 1926; the **1935 Act** provided for Provincial and Joint PSCs.
  5. **Qualification:** Half the members of an SPSC must have held office for at least **10 years** under the Government of India or a state government.
- **RCEP:** The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership is a trade agreement involving ASEAN and its partners (India is currently not a member).
- **Good Governance Day:** Observed annually on **25th December** to commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**.
- **Good Governance Index (GGI):** Launched in 2019 by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (**DARPG**).
  - Top Performers (GGI 2020-21):** Gujarat (Group A), Madhya Pradesh (Group B), Himachal Pradesh (Northeast & Hill states), and Delhi (UTs).
- **Mission Karmayogi:** A National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) aimed at upgrading the skills of civil servants via the **iGoT-Karmayogi** platform.
- **Sponges in Sundarbans:** Recent research identifies freshwater sponges in the **Sundarban delta** as effective tools for mitigating heavy metal pollution.
- **Human-Wildlife Conflict:** Projections suggest India could become a global hotspot for human-wildlife conflict by **2070**.
- **TRAFFIC:** A leading non-governmental organization working globally on trade in wild animals and plants. It operates as a strategic alliance between **WWF** and **IUCN**.
- **Article 48A:** A Directive Principle (DPSP) that mandates the State to protect and improve the environment and safeguard forests and wildlife.
- **Article 51A(g):** A Fundamental Duty requiring citizens to protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife.
- **Right to Die:** Debates on assisted dying often reference **Article 21** (Right to Life), with the Supreme Court previously allowing "passive euthanasia" under strict guidelines in the *Aruna Shanbaug* and *Common Cause* cases.
- **UMANG & DigiLocker:** Key digital governance platforms under the **Digital India** initiative that enable paperless and transparent service delivery.
- **Indus Waters Treaty (IWT):** Brokered by the **World Bank** in **1960**. It allocates the three Western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) primarily to Pakistan and the three Eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India.



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- **One District One Product (ODOP):** An initiative aimed at selecting, branding, and promoting one product from each district to boost local crafts and exports.
- **Export Preparedness Index (EPI):** Released by **NITI Aayog**, it evaluates states on four pillars: Policy, Business Ecosystem, Export Ecosystem, and Export Performance.
- **Micrometeoroids and Orbital Debris (MMOD):** Micrometeoroids are natural space particles (dust), while orbital debris is human-made "space junk."
- **Kessler Syndrome:** A theoretical scenario proposed by Donald Kessler where the density of objects in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) is high enough that collisions cause a cascade, making space use impossible for generations.
- **Low Earth Orbit (LEO):** Generally defined as the region of space between an altitude of **200 km and 2,000 km** above Earth.
- **Project NETRA:** An early warning system initiated by **ISRO** to detect and track hazards to Indian satellites, such as space debris.
- **Sponges in Sundarbans:** Freshwater sponges found in the Sundarban delta serve as bio-indicators and tools for absorbing **heavy metal pollution**.
- **VijAlpatha AI Labs:** An initiative recently launched in **Karnataka** government schools to promote AI literacy among students.
- **3D Flex Aqueous Angiography:** India's first such facility for advanced eye imaging and vascular diagnosis.
- **Anti-Submarine Warfare Craft (Anjadip):** Part of a series of shallow-water crafts built by GRS (Kolkata) to enhance the Indian Navy's coastal defense capabilities.
- **Municipal Corporations in Odisha:** **Puri** has been proposed/designated to become Odisha's 6th Municipal Corporation to handle increasing urban demand and tourism.
- **Purvanchal's First Yarn Processing Plant:** Recently hosted in **Mirzapur**, Uttar Pradesh, to bolster the textile and carpet weaving industry of the region.
- **Greenfield Highway Corridor:** A new 6-lane corridor in **Maharashtra** aimed at enhancing logistical efficiency and reducing travel time between major economic hubs.
- **Nature-based Solutions (NBS):** Actions that protect, sustainably manage, and restore ecosystems to address societal challenges (e.g., climate change) while benefiting humans and biodiversity.
- **Miyawaki Method:** A technique for rapid afforestation by planting native species close together, often used in urban areas to create "mini forests."
- **Blue Carbon:** Carbon sequestered and stored in coastal and marine ecosystems like mangroves, seagrasses, and salt marshes.
- **MISHTI Scheme:** India's initiative for **Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes**.
- **Infrastructure Bonds:** Long-term debt securities issued by governments or banks to fund large-scale projects like roads and railways.  
**Maturity:** RBI permits banks to issue these bonds with a minimum maturity of **seven years**.
- **Atal Setu (MTHL):** The **longest sea bridge** in India (21.8 km), connecting Sewri to Nhava Sheva in Mumbai.
- **Chenab Bridge:** The **world's highest railway arch bridge** (359 meters above the river bed), higher than the Eiffel Tower.
- **New Pamban Bridge:** India's **first vertical lift** railway sea bridge, connecting Rameswaram to the mainland.
- **Bhupen Hazarika Setu (Dhola-Sadiya):** Spans the **Lohit River** (a tributary of the Brahmaputra) and connects Assam with Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Anji Khad Bridge:** India's **first cable-stayed railway bridge**, part of the USBRL project in J&K.



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- **WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency):** Founded in **1999** by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), headquartered in **Montreal, Canada**.
- **Doping Violation (2024):** India was named the world's **worst doping offender** for the third consecutive year in the WADA 2024 report.
- **NADA:** The National Anti-Doping Agency is India's primary body for implementing anti-doping rules in sports.
- **Bhuvan Portal:** A geo-platform of **ISRO** used for satellite imagery and monitoring government projects like afforestation.
- **Article 21 (Right to Life):** Expanded by the Supreme Court to include the **Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment** (*Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India, 1978*).
- **Article 48A (DPSP):** Mandates the State to protect and improve the environment and safeguard forests and wildlife.
- **Article 51A(g) (Fundamental Duty):** Requires citizens to protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife.
- **Polluter Pays Principle:** A principle where those who produce pollution should bear the costs of managing it to prevent damage to human health or the environment.
- **Marusudar River:** The largest tributary of the Chenab; the **Pakal Dul Hydroelectric Project** (1,000 MW) is located on this river.
- **Guru Hargobind (6<sup>th</sup> sikh Guru):** Known as the "**Soldier Saint**"; he transformed the Sikh community into a military brotherhood and established the **Akal Takht**.
- **Miri and Piri:** Two swords donned by Guru Hargobind representing temporal (political) and spiritual authority.
- **Bandarpunch Glacier:** Source of the **Yamuna** river.
- **Bara Shigri Glacier:** Feeds the **Chenab** river.
- **Siachen Glacier:** Source of the **Nubra** river.
- **Zemu Glacier:** Located in Sikkim, it feeds the **Teesta** river (not Manas).
- **Milam Glacier:** Source of the **Gori Ganga** (not Mandakini).
- **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM):** Aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all households in rural India.
- **73rd Amendment Act, 1992:** Constitutionalized the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs); added in the **Part IX of the Indian Constitution** and the **Eleventh Schedule** (contains 29 functional items).
- **SVAMITVA Scheme:** A central sector scheme providing property cards to rural households using drone technology for land mapping.
- **SabhaSaar:** An AI-powered Gram Sabha meeting summarizer launched in 2025, supporting 13 regional languages via the **BHASHINI** platform.
- **WSIS Champion Award 2025:** Won by India's **Meri Panchayat** m-governance platform for leadership in digital governance.
- **GER (Gross Enrolment Ratio):** India's higher education GER is approximately **28%**, which is the lowest among G20 nations.
- **National Research Foundation (NRF):** An apex body created to provide high-level strategic direction for scientific research in India.
- **Academic Bank of Credits (ABC):** A digital storehouse that contains the information of the credits earned by individual students throughout their learning journey.
- **Srimanta Sankardeva (15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Century):** A great Vaishnavite saint-scholar from Assam who founded the **Ekasarana Dharma**



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- **Sattriya Dance:** One of the eight classical dances of India, introduced by Sankardeva as a medium for propagating Vaishnava tenets.
- **Batadrava Than:** Located in Nagaon, Assam; it is the birthplace of Srimanta Sankardeva and a major center of the Vaishnavite culture.
- **Marusudar River:** The largest tributary of the **Chenab River**.
- **Fifth & Sixth Schedules of the Indian Constitution:** Deal with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes in various states.
- **Seventh Schedule:** Contains the three lists (Union, State, Concurrent) that distribute legislative powers, including provisions for education (List III - Concurrent).
- **BHASHINI:** India's AI-led language translation platform that aims to break language barriers in digital services.
- **Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS):** Schools established to provide quality middle and high-level education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas.
- **QS World University Rankings 2024:** Only IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay featured in the top 150 from India; no Indian university reached the top 100.
- **Eurozone Expansion: Bulgaria** became the 21st member of the Eurozone
- **Responsible AI:** A program on Discussion on India's evolving regulatory framework for AI, emphasizing ethical use and the **Model Conduct** for AI governance.
- **3D Flex Aqueous Angiography:** India's first such advanced facility for eye imaging and vascular diagnosis was highlighted as a major medical tech milestone.
- **Incense Stick Standards:** The **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** launched new quality standards specifically for incense sticks to regulate the industry.
- **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas:** 2025 review highlighted India's goal to increase the share of **Natural Gas** in the primary energy mix from 6% to **15% by 2030**.
- **Ethanol Blending:** Progress toward the **E20 target** (20% ethanol blending in petrol) by 2025–26.
- **PM VIKAS Scheme:** The National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM-K) is implementing this scheme to support minority youth in the food processing sector.
- **Veer Bal Diwas:** Observed on **December 26** to honor the martyrdom of the four *Sahibzadas* (sons) of **Guru Gobind Singh**.
- **World Rapid Chess Championship 2025:**
  1. **Men's Gold:** Magnus Carlsen (Norway).
  2. **Women's Gold:** Ju Wenjun (China).