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Top Stories of The Day

- ***Daanveer** Initiative Accelerates Digital Transformation of Gram Panchayats Through Citizen Participation*
- *India Emerges as **World's Second-Largest Supplier of Seafarers** with Growing Maritime Workforce*
- ***Ajinkya Rahane** Announces Retirement from International Cricket After a Remarkable 15-Year Career*
- ***Dilip Gavit and Mohammed Basil** Create History with Gold-Silver Finish in Men's 100m T47 Event*
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- *ADB Approves USD 850 Million Loan to Boost **PM Surya Ghar** Rooftop Solar Programme*
- *Chhattisgarh Launches **DWEEPTI Yojana** to Empower Rural Women Through Renewable Energy Entrepreneurship*
- ***Tripura** Government Signs Three MoUs with NSE to Strengthen Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship*

Daanveer Initiative Aims to Digitize Gram Panchayats Through Citizen Participation



- The Daanveer Initiative, launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, seeks to accelerate the digital transformation of Gram Panchayats by encouraging citizen participation and philanthropic contributions.
- The initiative enables individuals, institutions, corporates, NGOs, and CSR partners to donate digital infrastructure and technological resources to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), thereby strengthening grassroots governance, digital inclusion, and rural service delivery.
- The initiative complements the Government's vision of Digital India, Viksit Bharat @2047, and digitally empowered Panchayats.

Key Features:

- Under the initiative, citizens and organisations can voluntarily contribute digital resources such as computers, laptops, printers, scanners, smart televisions, projectors, internet connectivity devices, and other ICT equipment required by Gram Panchayats. These resources will help Panchayats improve digital governance, maintain electronic records, and deliver services more efficiently to rural citizens.

Importance of Digital Gram Panchayats:

- Digitally enabled Gram Panchayats facilitate online planning, budgeting, accounting, asset management, digital payments, and transparent record-keeping. They improve the implementation of government schemes, enhance public participation in decision-making, and ensure faster, more efficient

delivery of citizen services. Digital governance also strengthens accountability and promotes inclusive rural development.

Related Digital Governance Initiatives:

- The Daanveer Initiative complements several digital governance programmes of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. eGramSwaraj provides an integrated platform for planning, budgeting, accounting, and asset management and is linked with the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for online financial transactions. The Meri Panchayat App, developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), provides citizens with information on Panchayat activities and development works. SabhaSaar, an AI-powered application, automatically records and summarises Gram Sabha proceedings in multiple Indian languages, making Panchayat meetings more transparent and efficient.

Constitutional and Legal Framework:

- The Panchayati Raj system derives constitutional status from the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992. Article 243G empowers Panchayats to function as institutions of local self-government and authorises them to prepare plans for economic development and social justice. The three-tier Panchayati Raj structure comprises the Gram Panchayat at the village level, Panchayat Samiti at the intermediate (block) level, and Zila Parishad at the district level.

Related Government Scheme:

- The Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme that focuses on strengthening the capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions through training, digital governance, infrastructure development, and institutional reforms. The Daanveer Initiative complements

RGSA by improving the availability of digital infrastructure at the grassroots level.

Additional Facts:

- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj was established in 2004 to strengthen democratic decentralisation and local self-governance. The Gram Sabha, consisting of all registered voters of a village, is the foundation of participatory democracy and plays a central role in approving the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). The GPDP is prepared annually to identify local development priorities and is uploaded through the eGramSwaraj platform.

• Initiative: Daanveer.
• Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
• Objective: Digitisation of Gram Panchayats through citizen participation.
• Related Platforms: eGramSwaraj, Meri Panchayat, SabhaSaar.
• Related Scheme: Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA).
• Constitutional Basis: 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.
• Key Constitutional Provision: Article 243G.

Exam Focus Points:

India Becomes the World's Second-Largest Supplier of Seafarers



- India has emerged as the world's second-largest supplier of seafarers, contributing 311,936 maritime professionals, or 12.16% of the global seafaring workforce, according to the BIMCO–ICS Seafarer Workforce Report 2026. India now ranks second only to the Philippines, surpassing countries such as China, Russia, and Indonesia.
- The achievement reflects India's growing maritime strength, expansion of maritime education and training, and the success of government initiatives aimed at strengthening the country's maritime sector.

What is a Seafarer?

- A seafarer is a professionally trained person employed on board a merchant ship, cargo vessel, tanker, passenger ship, offshore vessel, or cruise ship.

Major Categories:

• Deck Officers.
• Marine Engineers.
• Ratings (crew members).
• Electro-Technical Officers (ETOs).
• Catering and hospitality staff.

- Seafarers play a crucial role in global trade, as nearly 90% of world merchandise trade by volume is transported through maritime shipping.

BIMCO–ICS Seafarer Workforce Report:

- The BIMCO–ICS Seafarer Workforce Report is one of the most authoritative global assessments of the maritime workforce.

Published By

- BIMCO (Baltic and International Maritime Council).
- International Chamber of Shipping (ICS).
- The report estimates the global demand and supply of seafarers and identifies workforce shortages, training needs, and future trends in the shipping industry.

Government Initiatives to Promote the Maritime Workforce:

Maritime India Vision (MIV) 2030:

- Maritime India Vision 2030 is the Government of India's roadmap for transforming the maritime sector.

Key Objectives:

- Increase India's share in the global seafaring workforce to 20% by 2030.
- Expand maritime education and skill development.
- Promote gender diversity in the maritime sector.
- Strengthen port infrastructure and shipping services.
- Develop India as a global maritime hub.

Women in the Maritime Sector:

- India has witnessed significant growth in the participation of women seafarers.

Key Facts:

- Women currently constitute less than 0.5% of Indian seafarers.
- Their number has increased by 339% since 2021.
- Maritime India Vision 2030 aims to increase women's participation to 2–3% by 2030.

Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA):

- The Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA) is India's maritime regulator under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Functions:

- Regulation of merchant shipping.
- Certification and welfare of seafarers.
- Maritime safety and security.
- Implementation of international maritime conventions.

- Regulation of recruitment and placement services.

Merchant Shipping Act, 2025:

- The Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, which came into force on 15 March 2026, modernises India's maritime legal framework.

Major Provisions:

- Strengthens safety and welfare of seafarers.
- Protects abandoned seafarers.
- Regulates recruitment and placement agencies.
- Aligns India's maritime laws with international standards.
- Enhances legal safeguards for Indian maritime professionals.

About the International Maritime Organization (IMO):

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| Established: 1948 (came into force in 1958) |
| Headquarters: London, United Kingdom |
| Secretary-General: Arsenio Dominguez |

Functions:

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| Maritime safety. |
| Prevention of marine pollution. |
| Maritime security. |
| Standard-setting for international shipping. |

About Indian Maritime University (IMU):

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| Established : 2008 |
| Headquarters: Chennai |

- IMU is India's premier institution for maritime education, training, and research.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways:

- Union Minister: Sarbananda Sonowal.
- Responsible for ports, shipping, inland waterways, and maritime policy.

Sagarmala Programme:

- Launched in 2015.
- Focuses on port-led development.
- Promotes coastal shipping, logistics efficiency, and maritime infrastructure.

Exam Focus Points:

- Achievement: India becomes the world's second-largest supplier of seafarers.
- Global Share: 12.16%.
- Number of Seafarers: 311,936.
- Top Supplier: Philippines.

- Report: BIMCO–ICS Seafarer Workforce Report 2026.
- Target under MIV 2030: 20% global workforce share.
- Regulator: Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA).
- Related Law: Merchant Shipping Act, 2025.
- Related Programme: Sagarmala.
- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Ajinkya Rahane Announces Retirement from International Cricket



- Veteran Indian cricketer Ajinkya Rahane has announced his retirement from international cricket, bringing the curtains down on a distinguished career spanning over 15 years.
- Known for his calm temperament, dependable batting, and exceptional performances in overseas Test matches, Rahane represented India across all three formats of the game.
- He is best remembered for leading India to a historic 2–1 Border–Gavaskar Trophy victory in Australia (2020–21) after taking over the captaincy following the Adelaide Test defeat.

International Career:

- Ajinkya Rahane established himself as one of India's most reliable Test batters, particularly in overseas conditions. His technical soundness and composure made him a vital part of India's middle order during a successful phase of Indian Test cricket.

Career Statistics

• Format	Matches	Runs	Centuries
• Tests	85	5,077	12
• ODIs	90	2,962	3
• T20Is	20	375	0

- Rahane scored centuries in challenging conditions in countries such as Australia, England, New Zealand, and South Africa, earning the reputation of being one of India's finest overseas batters.

Leadership Record

- Rahane captained India in six Test matches.

Record

• Matches: 6
• Won: 4
• Drawn: 2
• Lost: 0

- He retired with an unbeaten record as India's Test captain.

Major Achievements

- Led India to the 2020–21 Border–Gavaskar Trophy victory.
- Played a crucial role in India's qualification for the ICC World Test Championship Finals (2021 and 2023).
- One of India's most successful overseas Test batters.
- Scored over 5,000 Test runs, becoming the 13th Indian batter to achieve the milestone.
- Recognised for his leadership, resilience, and sportsmanship.

About the Border–Gavaskar Trophy:

- The Border–Gavaskar Trophy is the bilateral Test cricket series played between India and Australia.
- First Played: 1996
- Named After: Allan Border (Australia) and Sunil Gavaskar (India)

- Format: Test Cricket
- Trophy: Bilateral Test Series

Exam Focus Points:

- Player: Ajinkya Rahane.
- Retirement: International cricket (2026).
- Test Career: 85 Tests, 5,077 runs, 12 centuries.
- ODI Career: 90 matches, 2,962 runs.
- Historic Achievement: Led India to the 2020–21 Border–Gavaskar Trophy victory.
- Captaincy Record: 6 Tests, 4 wins, 2 draws, unbeaten.
- Governing Body (India): BCCI.
- Global Governing Body: ICC.
- Major Test Series: Border–Gavaskar Trophy.

Dilip Gavit Wins Gold; Mohammed Basil Morssinganakath Secures Silver in Men's 100m T47 at Commonwealth Games 2026



- Indian para athletes Dilip Mahadu Gavit and Mohammed Basil Morssinganakath created history by securing a gold–silver finish in the Men's 100m T47 event at the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland. Dilip Gavit clinched the gold medal with a Games Record timing of 10.71 seconds, while Mohammed Basil won the silver medal with a timing of 10.83 seconds.
- The historic one-two finish highlighted India's growing strength in international para athletics and concluded the country's para athletics campaign on a high note.

What is the T47 Category?

- The T47 classification is a category in World Para Athletics for athletes with a unilateral upper limb impairment, such as partial or complete loss of an arm or significant impairment affecting one upper limb.

Classification System:

- T = Track Events.
- F = Field Events.
- The number (e.g., 47) indicates the nature and extent of the athlete's impairment.
- The classification system ensures fair competition among athletes with similar functional abilities.

International Paralympic Committee:

- President: Brazil Andrew Parsons
- Formation: 22 September 1989

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| • Headquarters: Bonn, Germany |
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Exam Focus Points:

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| • Event: Commonwealth Games 2026. |
| • Venue: Glasgow, Scotland. |
| • Gold: Dilip Mahadu Gavit. |
| • Silver: Mohammed Basil Morssinganakath. |
| • Event: Men's 100m T47. |

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|---|
| • Games Record: 10.71 seconds by Dilip Gavit. |
| • Classification: T47 (Track event for athletes with unilateral upper limb impairment). |
| • Governing Body: International Paralympic Committee (IPC). |
| • National Body: Paralympic Committee of India (PCI). |

DBS Becomes First Southeast Asian Bank to Win ‘World’s Best Corporate Bank’ Award



Other Awards Won:

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| • Asia’s Best Bank |
| • Singapore’s Best Bank |

Selection Criteria:

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| • Financial performance.
Reputation. |
| • Management excellence. |
| • Evaluation by corporate finance executives, analysts and bankers. |

- Singapore-based DBS Bank (Development Bank of Singapore) has been named the World’s Best Corporate Bank at the Global Finance 2026 Global Bank Awards, becoming the first Southeast Asian bank to receive the honour since the award category was introduced in 2005. The recognition highlights DBS's leadership in corporate banking, digital innovation and financial technology.

Technology Highlights:

- Blockchain-powered programmable payments.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based banking solutions.
- Advanced liquidity management and transaction services.

Background:

- Global Finance introduced the World’s Best Corporate Bank category in 2005.
- DBS has emerged as a leading digital bank through continuous investments in AI, blockchain and digital banking infrastructure.
- The bank serves a wide range of clients, from Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to multinational corporations.
- DBS believes opportunities in Asia are being driven by infrastructure development, changing supply chains, digital payments and digital assets.

Corporate Banking Services:

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| • Advisory services. |
| • Corporate financing. |
| • Trade finance. |
| • Cash management. |
| • Hedging solutions. |

Additional Key Facts:

- Bank: DBS Bank (Development Bank of Singapore).
- Headquarters: Singapore.
- Founded: 1968.
- Operations: Present in 19 markets.

Primary Focus Regions:

- Greater China
- Southeast Asia
- South Asia
- Group Head of Institutional Banking: Han Kwee Juan.
- Awarding Magazine: Global Finance.

Exam Focus Points:

- Award: World's Best Corporate Bank 2026.
- Awarding Organisation: Global Finance.
- Winner: DBS Bank.
- Historic Achievement: First Southeast Asian bank to win the award.
- Headquarters: Singapore.
- Technology Used: Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Blockchain-powered programmable payments.
- Operations: 19 international markets.

ChrysCapital completes acquisition of controlling stake in Novartis India Limited; Vikas Gupta appointed MD & CEO



- Significance: ChrysCapital's first majority-controlled investment in India's pharmaceutical sector.

Objective:

- Build a leading branded generics platform.
- Expand presence in the Indian pharmaceutical market.
- Strengthen the company's healthcare portfolio.

Leadership Changes:

- Managing Director & CEO: Dr. Vikas Gupta.
- Chairperson: Ramesh Ramadurai.
- Independent Directors: Suchita Sharma and Shashank Sinha.

Future Plan:

- Adoption of a new company name and corporate identity after separation from Novartis AG.

Background:

- Novartis India has been operating in India for several decades with a strong presence in branded pharmaceuticals.

Key Considerations:

- Acquirer: ChrysCapital.
- Target Company: Novartis India Ltd (NIL).
- Stake Acquired: 70.68%.
- Seller: Novartis AG (Switzerland).

The company markets well-known brands such as:

- Voveran
- Calcium Sandoz
- Tegrital

Major therapeutic segments include:

- Pain management
- Calcium supplementation
- Gynaecology
- Neurosciences
- Transplant immunology

- ChrysCapital aims to leverage Novartis India's established portfolio and physician trust to drive future growth.

Additional Key Facts:

- ChrysCapital
- Type: Private Equity Firm.
- Headquarters: New Delhi, India.
- Founded: 1999.

- Novartis AG
- Headquarters: Basel, Switzerland.
- Founded: 1996.
- Industry: Pharmaceuticals.
- Novartis India Ltd
- Listed on: Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).
- Focus: Branded pharmaceutical products in India.
- Transaction Value: Not disclosed by the companies.

Exam Focus Points:

- Acquirer: ChrysCapital
- Company Acquired: Novartis India Ltd (NIL)
- Stake Acquired: 70.68%.
- Seller: Novartis AG
- New MD & CEO: Dr. Vikas Gupta
- New Chairperson: Ramesh Ramadurai
- Objective: Build a branded generics platform in India

Shailesh Jejurikar Appointed Chairman of Procter & Gamble



- Global FMCG company Procter & Gamble (P&G) has appointed Indian-origin executive Shailesh Jejurikar as the Chairman of its Board of Directors, effective 1 August 2026. He will continue to serve as the company's President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), succeeding Jon Moeller.

Background:

- Shailesh Jejurikar joined Procter & Gamble in 1989.
- He has been a member of the company's Global Leadership Team since 2014.

During his career, he has led businesses across:

- North America
- Europe
- Asia
- Latin America

He has headed key functions including:

- Fabric Care
- Home Care
- Supply Chain
- Information Technology (IT)

- Global Business Services
- He is the brother of Rajesh Jejurikar, Executive Director & CEO (Auto and Farm Sector), Mahindra Group.

Additional Key Facts:

- Company: Procter & Gamble (P&G).
- Founded: 1837.
- Headquarters: Cincinnati, Ohio, USA.
- Industry: Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG).
- Major Brands: Pampers, Ariel, Gillette, Tide, Head & Shoulders, Pantene, Oral-B and Whisper.
- Outgoing Chairman: Jon Moeller served the company for 38 years in various leadership positions, including Executive Chairman, CEO, COO and CFO.

About Procter & Gamble (P&G)

- Full Name: Procter & Gamble (P&G)
- Founded: 1837

- Founders: William Procter and James Gamble
- Headquarters: Cincinnati, Ohio, United States
- Industry: Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG)
- Business: Manufactures and markets consumer goods in health care, personal care, fabric care, home care, baby care and grooming segments.
- Presence: Operates in over 180 countries and territories worldwide.
- Stock Exchange Listing: New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: PG)

Exam Focus Points:

- Company: Procter & Gamble (P&G)
- New Chairman: Shailesh Jejurikar
- Effective Date: 1 August 2026
- Previous Chairman: Jon Moeller
- Current Additional Role: President & CEO
- Headquarters: Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

ADB Approves USD 850 Million Loan to Accelerate PM Surya Ghar Rooftop Solar Programme



- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 850 million loan to support reforms under the Government of India's flagship Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.
- The financing will accelerate rooftop solar deployment, improve access to affordable clean energy, mobilise private investment and strengthen India's renewable energy ecosystem.

Objective:

- Accelerate rooftop solar adoption.
- Improve access to affordable clean energy.
- Mobilise private sector investment.
- Strengthen the skills of grid personnel and rural entrepreneurs.

Target:

- Install rooftop solar systems in 1 crore (10 million) low- and middle-income households.
- Add 30 GW of residential rooftop solar capacity by FY 2027.

Key Features of the Programme:

- Financial assistance for at least 35 lakh (3.5 million) rooftop solar installations.
- Strengthening of digital application and monitoring systems.
- Increased participation of electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs).
- Promotion of private sector investment in rooftop solar.
- Support for domestic manufacturing, energy storage and recycling of solar equipment.
- Development of Model Solar Villages and innovative distributed solar projects.
- Training and certification of at least 6,000 people, including at least one-third women.
- Promotion of women's participation in the renewable energy sector.
- Improved vendor accountability and safe recycling of solar panels and battery waste.

Background:

- Subprogram 2 builds upon Subprogram 1, approved by ADB in November 2025, which laid the policy, financing and institutional foundation for large-scale rooftop solar deployment.
- PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana was launched in February 2024 to promote rooftop solar systems for residential households.
- The programme aims to reduce electricity bills, improve energy security and support India's clean energy transition.

Expected Outcomes:

- Achieve 30 GW of cumulative rooftop solar capacity.
- Reduce 28.8 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent emissions.
- Expand access to affordable and reliable solar energy.

- Create green jobs and strengthen domestic clean energy value chains.
- Improve resilience against energy price and supply shocks.

Additional Key Facts:

• Asian Development Bank (ADB)
• Established: 1966
• Headquarters: Manila, Philippines
• President: Masato Kanda
• Members: 68 (49 from Asia and the Pacific)
• PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana
• Launch: February 2024
• Nodal Ministry: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
• Target Beneficiaries: 1 crore households
• Objective: Promote rooftop solar adoption through financial assistance and affordable financing.

Exam Focus Points:

• Organisation: Asian Development Bank (ADB).
• Loan Approved: USD 850 million.
• Programme: Accelerating Affordable and Inclusive Rooftop Solar Systems Development Programme (Subprogram 2).
• Scheme Supported: PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.
• Target: 30 GW rooftop solar capacity by FY 2027.
• Beneficiaries: 1 crore households.
• Nodal Ministry: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

Chhattisgarh Launches DWEEPTI Yojana to Promote Women-led Renewable Energy

- The Government of Chhattisgarh has launched the DWEEPTI Yojana (Decentralised Women

Empowerment on Energy and Policy for Transformative Inclusion) to empower rural

women through participation in the renewable energy sector.

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| • Implemented By: Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Government of Chhattisgarh. |
| • Technical Partner: Transform Rural India. |
| • Mission: Green Economy Transition Mission. |



Objective:

- Empower rural women through renewable energy.
- Promote women-led entrepreneurship in the solar sector.
- Generate sustainable livelihood opportunities.
- Increase rooftop solar adoption in rural areas.

Key Features:

Rural Self-Help Groups (SHGs) will participate as:

- | |
|-----------------------------------|
| • Solar Vendors. |
| • Solar Technicians. |
| • Project Managers. |
| • Renewable Energy Entrepreneurs. |

- 13 Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) across 12 districts have been registered as authorised vendors under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.
- Registration has been done in partnership with the Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited (CSPDCL).
- SHG members will receive flexible loans for rooftop solar installations.
- The initiative supports the Prime Minister's Lakhpati Didi vision by creating skill-based income opportunities.

Implementation Highlights:

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| • Kabirdham District has become the flagship district for implementation. |
| • Vande Mataram Cluster Level Federation has been registered as an authorised solar vendor. |
| • Around 35 women received practical training in rooftop solar installation with technical support from Tata. |
| • These trained women form the state's first cadre of "Solar Didis". |
| • The first rooftop solar system under the scheme was installed in Samnapur village, Kabirdham. |
| • The State Government plans to expand the scheme to all districts. |

Background:

- Women have traditionally played a limited role in the renewable energy sector, mostly as beneficiaries rather than active participants.
- DWEEPTI Yojana shifts this approach by making women key stakeholders in solar energy deployment.
- The initiative complements PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana by strengthening grassroots participation in clean energy adoption.

Additional Key Facts:

DWEEPTI Yojana

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| • Full Form: Decentralised Women Empowerment on Energy and Policy for Transformative Inclusion. |
| • State: Chhattisgarh. |
| • Focus: Women-led distributed renewable energy and rooftop solar entrepreneurship. |
| • PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana |
| • Launch: February 2024. |
| • Nodal Ministry: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). |
| • Objective: Promote rooftop solar systems for residential households. |

Chhattisgarh

• Capital: Raipur.
• Chief Minister: Vishnu Deo Sai.
• Governor: Ramen Deka.
• Statehood Day: 1 November 2000.

Exam Focus Points:

• Scheme: DWEEPTI Yojana.
• State: Chhattisgarh.
• Full Form: Decentralised Women Empowerment on Energy and Policy for Transformative Inclusion.

• Objective: Promote women-led participation in the renewable energy sector.
• Related Scheme: PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.
• Implementing Department: Panchayat and Rural Development Department.
• Technical Partner: Transform Rural India.
• Flagship District: Kabirdham.
• First Solar Installation: Samnapur Village, Kabirdham.
• Special Achievement: Chhattisgarh became the first state to adopt a women-led distributed renewable energy policy.

Tripura Government Signs Three MoUs with NSE to Promote Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship



• The Government of Tripura has signed three Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with the National Stock Exchange (NSE) to strengthen financial literacy, promote entrepreneurship and develop a vibrant investment ecosystem in the state. The initiative aims to enhance financial awareness, support MSMEs and improve access to capital markets.

Objective:

- Promote financial literacy.
- Encourage entrepreneurship.
- Strengthen the investment ecosystem.
- Improve access to capital markets.
- Build institutional capacity in financial education.

Target Beneficiaries:

• Students
• Youth
• MSMEs
• Start-ups
• Entrepreneurs
• Government officials
• Announcement: Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha

Key Features of the Partnership:

- Conduct financial literacy and investor awareness programmes.
- Train government officials in financial and economic literacy.
- Help MSMEs understand capital market funding and business finance.

Create awareness about:

• Securities markets.
• Mutual funds.
• Financial planning.

- Support startups and entrepreneurs in exploring alternative financing options beyond bank loans.
- Strengthen institutional capacity through training programmes.

Significance:

- State Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development (SIPARD) has become one of the first government training institutes in India to establish a strategic partnership with the NSE.

The initiative is expected to:

- Improve employability among youth.
- Strengthen entrepreneurship.
- Increase participation in formal financial markets.
- Enhance investment opportunities for local businesses.
- Support long-term economic growth in Tripura.

Background:

- Access to finance remains a major challenge for many MSMEs and startups in Tripura.
- The collaboration with NSE will help businesses understand capital-market financing and diversify funding sources.
- The initiative aligns with the state's efforts to build a skilled, financially aware and future-ready economy.

Additional Key Facts:

• National Stock Exchange (NSE)
• Established: 1992.
• Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
• Managing Director & CEO: Ashish Kumar Chauhan.
• Flagship Index: NIFTY 50.
• Role: India's largest stock exchange by trading volume and a leading platform for capital market transactions.

Tripura:

• Capital: Agartala.
• Chief Minister: Dr. Manik Saha.
• Governor: N. Indrasena Reddy.
• Statehood Day: 21 January 1972.

Exam Focus Points:

• State: Tripura
• Partner Organisation: National Stock Exchange (NSE)
• Number of MoUs: Three
• Objective: Promote financial literacy, entrepreneurship and investment awareness
• Key Institution: SIPARD
• Target Groups: MSMEs, students, entrepreneurs and government officials
• NSE Headquarters: Mumbai

Lets Revise

- ❖ Which ministry launched the Daanveer Initiative? **Ministry of Panchayati Raj.**
- ❖ Which country ranks first in the global supply of seafarers? **Philippines.**
- ❖ Ajinkya Rahane, who recently announced his retirement, is related to which sport?
Cricket
- ❖ Who won the gold medal in the Men's 100m T47 event at the Commonwealth Games 2026? **Dilip Mahadu Gavit.**
- ❖ Which bank was named the World's Best Corporate Bank at the Global Finance 2026 Global Bank Awards? **DBS Bank (Development Bank of Singapore)**
- ❖ Which private equity firm acquired a controlling stake in Novartis India Ltd?
ChrysCapital.
- ❖ Who has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of Novartis India? **Dr. Vikas Gupta.**
- ❖ Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of Novartis India? **Ramesh Ramadurai.**
- ❖ Who has been appointed as the Chairman of Procter & Gamble (P&G)? **Shailesh Jejurikar**
- ❖ Which international financial institution approved a USD 850 million loan for India's rooftop solar programme?: **Asian Development Bank (ADB).**
- ❖ Which state has launched the DWEEPTI Yojana? **Chhattisgarh.**
- ❖ Which state government signed three MoUs with the National Stock Exchange (NSE) to promote financial literacy? **Tripura**



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IMPORTANCE OF CURRENT AFFAIRS IN UPSC EXAMINATIONS

Current Affairs hold a crucial place in the preparation for the UPSC Civil Services Examination. A comprehensive understanding of recent national and international developments helps aspirants strengthen their General Studies foundation and develop a well-rounded perspective on important issues. Topics such as government policies, schemes, economy, international relations, science and technology, environment, defence, social justice, governance, reports, indices, appointments, awards, and major global events are highly relevant for both the Prelims and Mains examinations. Regular study of current affairs not only enhances factual knowledge but also improves analytical ability, critical thinking, answer-writing skills, and decision-making aptitude. Since UPSC questions often connect contemporary developments with static subjects, consistent preparation of current affairs enables aspirants to understand issues in depth and present balanced, informed, and relevant answers. It also plays an important role in Essay writing, Ethics, and the Personality Test, giving candidates a strong edge throughout the examination process.

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