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Wednesday, August 05, 2026



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Top Stories of The Day

- *India and Uzbekistan Strengthen Strategic Partnership Through Expanded Cooperation in Trade, Defence, Energy, Digital Technology, and Connectivity.*
- *Glaw Lake Becomes India's 101st Ramsar Site, Strengthening Wetland Conservation in Arunachal Pradesh.*
- *Lok Sabha Passes Supreme Court Judges Amendment Bill 2026, Increasing Judicial Strength for Faster Justice.*
- *Biri Takar Wins Gold and Bronze Medals at Brazil Para Badminton International 2026.*
- *Meena Bindra Tops Hurun India Women Leaders List 2026, Avani Lekhara Youngest Top Ten Leader.*
- *RBI Appoints Monisha Chakraborty as Executive Director to Strengthen Banking Supervision.*
- *Eisai Launches Leqembi in India After CDSCO Approval for Early Alzheimer's Treatment.*
- *Former Governor Dr. D. Y. Patil Passes Away at 91, Leaving Educational Legacy.*
- *Tamil Nadu Leads Deceased Organ Donation and Ranks Second in Organ Transplants During 2025.*
- *India Achieves 99.92% Village Banking Coverage Through PMJDY and Financial Inclusion Measures.*

India and Uzbekistan Agree to Expand Strategic Partnership



- India and Uzbekistan have agreed to further strengthen their Strategic Partnership by expanding cooperation in trade, investment, connectivity, energy, digital technology, pharmaceuticals, defence, education, and capacity building.
- During high-level bilateral discussions, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing economic ties and agreed to work towards doubling bilateral trade within the next three years.
- They also reviewed progress in connectivity initiatives, digital cooperation, and regional security, reflecting the growing importance of India–Central Asia relations under India's Connect Central Asia Policy.

Key Areas of Cooperation:

- Expansion of bilateral trade and investment.
- Removal of non-tariff barriers to trade.
- Cooperation in pharmaceuticals and medical devices.
- Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), fintech, and ICT.
- Customs data exchange and digital payment connectivity.
- Energy and critical minerals.
- Agriculture and food processing.
- Transport and logistics connectivity.
- Education, tourism, and capacity building.

Strategic Importance of Uzbekistan for India:

- Uzbekistan occupies a key position in Central Asia and is an important partner for India's strategic, economic, and connectivity interests.

Its importance includes:

- Gateway to Central Asia.
- Rich reserves of natural gas, uranium, gold, and critical minerals.
- Growing market for Indian pharmaceuticals and IT services.
- Important partner in regional security and counter-terrorism.
- Supports India's engagement with Eurasia.

India–Uzbekistan Relations:

- India and Uzbekistan established diplomatic relations in 1992 following Uzbekistan's independence.

Major Areas of Cooperation:

- | |
|-----------------------------------|
| • Trade and investment. |
| • Defence and military training. |
| • Counter-terrorism. |
| • Information Technology. |
| • Healthcare and pharmaceuticals. |
| • Education and culture. |
| • Renewable energy. |
| • Digital Public Infrastructure. |

India–Uzbekistan Commission (IGC):

Inter-Governmental

- The India–Uzbekistan Inter-Governmental Commission (IGC) is the principal institutional mechanism for reviewing bilateral cooperation.

Functions:

- | |
|---|
| • Promote trade and investment. |
| • Enhance scientific and technological cooperation. |
| • Review economic projects. |
| • Strengthen industrial collaboration. |
| • Resolve trade-related issues. |

- The 14th Session of the IGC reviewed the full spectrum of bilateral economic engagement.

Connect Central Asia Policy:

- India's Connect Central Asia Policy, launched in 2012, seeks to strengthen engagement with the five Central Asian republics.

Objectives:

- Improve trade and connectivity.
- Enhance energy cooperation.
- Strengthen defence and security ties.
- Promote cultural exchanges.
- Expand educational and digital partnerships.

India–Central Asia Dialogue:

The India–Central Asia Dialogue is a ministerial platform involving:

- India.
- Kazakhstan.
- Kyrgyzstan.
- Tajikistan.
- Turkmenistan.
- Uzbekistan.

It focuses on:

- Regional connectivity.
- Counter-terrorism.
- Energy security.
- Trade and investment.
- Afghanistan-related developments.
- Connectivity Initiatives

Important Corridors:

- International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).
- Chabahar Port (Iran).
- Ashgabat Agreement.

- Defence Cooperation: Exercise DUSTLIK – Annual Joint Military Exercise.

About Uzbekistan:

- Capital: Tashkent
- Currency: Uzbek Som (UZS)
- President: Shavkat Mirziyoyev

Neighbouring Countries:

- Kazakhstan.
- Kyrgyzstan.
- Tajikistan.
- Afghanistan.
- Turkmenistan.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

- Both India and Uzbekistan are members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
- Established: 2001
- Headquarters: Beijing, China
- Secretary-General: Nurlan Yermekbayev
- Members: China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Belarus

International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC):

- Multimodal transport corridor.
- Connects India with Iran, Central Asia, Russia, and Europe.
- Reduces transport cost and transit time.

Exam Focus Points:

- Countries: India and Uzbekistan.
- Objective: Expand Strategic Partnership.
- Trade Target: Double bilateral trade in three years.
- Mechanism: India–Uzbekistan Inter-Governmental Commission (IGC).
- Foreign Policy: Connect Central Asia Policy.

- Defence Exercise: DUSTLIK.
- Regional Organisation: Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
- Connectivity Initiative: International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).

- Capital of Uzbekistan: Tashkent.
- Currency: Uzbek Som (UZS).

Glaw Lake in Arunachal Pradesh Designated as India's 101st Ramsar Site



- Glaw Lake, located in Arunachal Pradesh, has been designated as India's 101st Ramsar Site, becoming the first Ramsar Site in Arunachal Pradesh.
- The designation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands recognises the lake as a Wetland of International Importance due to its rich biodiversity and ecological significance.
- The recognition is expected to strengthen conservation efforts, promote sustainable management, and enhance community participation in protecting the fragile Himalayan wetland ecosystem.

About Glaw Lake:

- Glaw Lake is a high-altitude Himalayan wetland situated in Arunachal Pradesh. It supports a variety of flora and fauna and plays a vital role in maintaining the ecological balance of the region.

What is a Ramsar Site?

- A Ramsar Site is a wetland designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention, 1971.

Ramsar Convention

- Adopted: 2 February 1971

- Place: Ramsar, Iran
- Came into Force: 1975
- Secretariat : Gland, Switzerland

- World Wetlands Day is observed every year on 2 February to commemorate the adoption of the Convention.

- Importance of Wetlands: Wetlands provide multiple ecological and economic benefits.

Functions:

- Flood control.
- Water purification.
- Carbon sequestration.
- Groundwater recharge.
- Habitat for migratory birds and aquatic biodiversity.
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Wetland Conservation in India:

India conserves wetlands through:

- Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.
- National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA).
- State Wetland Authorities.
- Community-based conservation initiatives.

National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA):

- The National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA) is a centrally sponsored scheme in India managed by the Ministry of

Environment, Forest and Climate Change. It was created in February 2013 by merging the National Lake Conservation Plan and the National Wetlands Conservation Programme to restore lakes and wetlands.

Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017:

The Rules:

- Regulate activities affecting wetlands.
- Prohibit reclamation, encroachment, and waste dumping.
- Provide for State Wetland Authorities.
- Promote integrated wetland management.

Ramsar Sites in India:

- Total Ramsar Sites: 101 (after inclusion of Glaw Lake).
- First Ramsar Site of India: Chilika Lake (Odisha) and Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan), designated in 1981.
- 100th Ramsar Site: Surha Tal (Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary), Uttar Pradesh.

About Arunachal Pradesh:

- Capital: Itanagar
- Governor: Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik
- Chief Minister: Pema Khandu

- State Animal: Mithun
- State Bird: Great Hornbill
- Largest River: Siang (Brahmaputra)
- Neighbouring Countries: China, Bhutan, Myanmar

World Wetlands Day:

- Date: 2 February.
- Celebrated to raise awareness about the importance of wetlands.
- Marks the adoption of the Ramsar Convention (1971).

Exam Focus Points:

- 101st Ramsar Site: Glaw Lake.
- State: Arunachal Pradesh.
- First Ramsar Site of Arunachal Pradesh.
- International Convention: Ramsar Convention, 1971.
- Convention Adopted At: Ramsar, Iran.
- Secretariat: Gland, Switzerland.
- World Wetlands Day: 2 February.
- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- 100th Ramsar Site: Surha Tal (Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary), Uttar Pradesh.

Lok Sabha Passes Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026



- The Lok Sabha has passed the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026, which seeks to increase the sanctioned strength

of judges in the Supreme Court from 33 to 37 judges, excluding the Chief Justice of India (CJI).

- The Bill replaces the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Ordinance, 2026, promulgated in May 2026.
- The primary objective is to address the growing backlog of cases, improve judicial efficiency, and ensure the speedy delivery of justice.
- After the amendment, the total strength of the Supreme Court, including the CJI, will increase from 34 to 38 judges.

About the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956:

- The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 determines the sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court.

Evolution of Judge Strength:

Year	Sanctioned Strength (Excluding CJI)
1950	7
1956	10
1977	17
1986	25
2009	30
2019	33
2026	37

- After the latest amendment, the Supreme Court will have 38 judges, including the Chief Justice of India.

Constitutional Provisions:

- Article 124: Article 124 of the Constitution provides for the establishment and composition of the Supreme Court of India.

Key Features:

- Establishes the Supreme Court as the highest judicial authority.
- Provides for the appointment of the Chief Justice of India and other judges.
- Parliament may increase the number of judges by law.
- Judges are appointed by the President of India.

Appointment of Supreme Court Judges:

- Constitutional Basis: Article 124.

Appointment:

- Appointed by the President of India.

- Based on the recommendation of the Supreme Court Collegium.

Collegium Composition:

- Chief Justice of India.
- Four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court.

Qualifications of a Supreme Court Judge:

A person is eligible for appointment if he or she:

- Is a citizen of India.
- Has served as a High Court judge for at least five years, or
- Has been an advocate of a High Court for at least ten years, or
- Is, in the opinion of the President, a distinguished jurist.

Tenure and Removal:

- Judges retire at the age of 65 years.
- Removal is through impeachment by Parliament on grounds of proved misbehaviour or incapacity, as provided under Article 124(4).
- Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court exercises:

- Original Jurisdiction (Article 131).
- Appellate Jurisdiction.
- Advisory Jurisdiction (Article 143).
- Writ Jurisdiction (Article 32).
- Review Jurisdiction (Article 137).

Importance of Increasing Judge Strength

The amendment is expected to:

- Reduce judicial delays.
- Improve disposal of constitutional and civil appeals.
- Strengthen access to justice.
- Enhance judicial administration.

- Support timely adjudication of public interest and constitutional cases.

Exam Focus points:

- Bill: Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026.
- Passed By: Lok Sabha.
- Judge Strength Increased: From 33 to 37 (excluding CJI).

- Total Strength: 38 judges (including CJI).
- Related Act: Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956.
- Constitutional Provision: Article 124.
- Retirement Age: 65 years.
- Appointment: President on the recommendation of the Collegium.
- Removal: Article 124(4) (Impeachment).

Arunachal Pradesh's Biri Takar Clinches Double Medal at BWF Para World Circuit



- Arunachal Pradesh para shuttler Biri Takar won gold in men's doubles and bronze in men's singles at the Brazil Para Badminton International 2026.
- The BWF Para World Circuit is the international para badminton competition series organised by the Badminton World Federation (BWF).

- WH2 Wheelchair 2
- SL3 Standing – Lower Limb Impairment (Severe)
- SL4 Standing – Lower Limb Impairment (Less Severe)
- SU5 Standing – Upper Limb Impairment
- SH6 Short Stature

About the Badminton World Federation (BWF):

- Established: 1934 (as International Badminton Federation); renamed BWF in 2006
- Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- President: Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul

About Biri Takar:

- Biri Takar is one of India's leading para badminton players from Arunachal Pradesh. He competes in the SL4 category, meant for athletes with lower limb impairment who compete while standing.

Para Badminton Classification:

- Para badminton athletes compete in different sport classes based on the nature of their impairment.

- | Category | Description |
|----------|--------------|
| WH1 | Wheelchair 1 |

Para Badminton at the Paralympics:

- Debut: Tokyo Paralympic Games 2020 (held in 2021).
- Governed internationally by the Badminton World Federation (BWF).
- Includes six sport classes for men and women.

Para Sports in India:

- The Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports support para athletes through:
 - Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS).
 - National Centres of Excellence (NCoE).

- Khelo India initiatives.
- Financial assistance for international exposure.

Paralympic Committee of India (PCI):

- Created: 1992
- Affiliation: International Paralympic Committee (IPC)
- President: Devendra Jhajharia
- Secretary General: Jayawant Gundu Hamanawar

International Paralympic Committee (IPC)

- Established: 1989
- President: Brazil Andrew Parsons
- Headquarters: Bonn, Germany

India's Notable Para Badminton Players:

- Pramod Bhagat.
- Krishna Nagar.

- Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj.
- Manisha Ramadass.
- Nitesh Kumar.
- Sukant Kadam.

Exam Focus Points:

- Athlete: Biri Takar.
- State: Arunachal Pradesh.
- Sport: Para Badminton.
- Tournament: BWF Para World Circuit.
- Classification: SL4.
- Governing Body: Badminton World Federation (BWF).
- BWF Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- National Body: Paralympic Committee of India (PCI).
- Global Body: International Paralympic Committee (IPC).

Hurun India Women Leaders List 2026 Released



- The Hurun India Women Leaders List 2026 has recognised India's most influential women leaders across business, entrepreneurship, sports, public service, and social impact.
- Meena Bindra, founder of BIBA Fashion, topped the list, while Paralympic champion Avani Lekhara emerged as the youngest woman among the Top 10 leaders.
- The list celebrates women who have made outstanding contributions through leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship, and nation-building.

Meena Bindra:

- Founder of BIBA Fashion, one of India's leading ethnic wear brands.
- Recognised for building one of India's most successful women-led fashion enterprises.
- A pioneer in India's organised ethnic apparel industry.

Avani Lekhara:

- Youngest woman in the Top 10.
- India's first woman to win a Paralympic Gold Medal.
- Competes in SH1 category rifle shooting.
- Multiple Paralympic medallist and former World No. 1 in her event.
- SH1: Athletes who can support the weight of the firearm themselves.

Top 5 Women Leaders – Candere Hurun India Women Leaders List 2026

Rank	Name	Organization/Association	Age
1	Meena Bindra	BIBA	83
2	Tushara Shankar	Lupin	46
3	Rajni Bector	Cremica Food Specialities	86
4	Vaishali Nigam Sinha	ReNew Power	56
5	Suneeta Reddy & Preetha Reddy	Apollo Hospitals Enterprise	67 & 68

Top 5 Youngest Women Leaders 2026

Rank	Name	Organization/Association
1	Sheetal Devi	Paralympian
2	Noureen Aysha	Femi Safe
3	Parul Gulati	Entrepreneur & Influencer
4	Priyanka Sharma	Independent Journalist
5	Rithika Mohan	Garuda Aerospace

Top 5 Oldest Women Leaders Across Categories

Rank	Name	Organization/Association
1	Rajni Bector	Cremica Food Specialities
2	Meena Bindra	BIBA

3	Manju D. Gupta	Lupin
4	Bina Modi	Godfrey Phillips India
5	Banu Mushtaq	Author

Nari Shakti Puraskar:

- India's highest civilian honour for women.
- Conferred by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- Presented annually on International Women's Day (8 March).

International Women's Day:

- Observed: 8 March.
- Theme changes annually.
- Recognised by the United Nations.

Exam Focus Points:

- Report: Hurun India Women Leaders List 2026.
- Released By: Hurun India.
- Top Rank: Meena Bindra.
- Youngest in Top 10: Avani Lekhara.
- Company Founded by Meena Bindra: BIBA Fashion.
- Sport of Avani Lekhara: Para Shooting.
- Classification: SH1.
- Global Body for Paralympic Sports: International Paralympic Committee (IPC).
- IPC Headquarters: Bonn, Germany.

RBI Appoints Monisha Chakraborty as Executive Director

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Monisha Chakraborty as an Executive Director (ED).
- Prior to her appointment, she served as Chief General Manager-in-Charge of the Department of Supervision.
- As Executive Director, she will oversee the Department of Supervision, playing a key role

in strengthening banking regulation, financial stability, and prudential supervision of regulated entities.

- Her appointment is part of the RBI's efforts to reinforce its senior leadership for effective financial sector oversight.



About the Department of Supervision:

- Supervises banks and financial institutions.
- Conducts onsite inspections and offsite surveillance.
- Ensures compliance with banking regulations.
- Identifies systemic risks.
- Strengthens financial sector resilience.
- Implements supervisory frameworks based on global best practices.

About the Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

• Established	1 April 1935
• Nationalised	1 January 1949
• Headquarters	Mumbai, Maharashtra
• Governor	Sanjay Malhotra

Executive Directors in RBI:

- Executive Directors are senior officers responsible for heading key functional departments.

Their Role:

- Implement RBI policies.
- Supervise banking and financial sector operations.
- Assist the Governor and Deputy Governors.
- Coordinate with financial institutions and government agencies.

Exam Focus Points:

• Appointee: Monisha Chakraborty.
• Position: Executive Director, RBI.
• Effective Date: 3 August 2026.
• Department: Department of Supervision.
• Institution: Reserve Bank of India.
• RBI Established: 1 April 1935.
• Nationalised: 1 January 1949.
• Headquarters: Mumbai.
• Related Law: RBI Act, 1934.
• Related Banking Law: Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

Eisai Launches Alzheimer's Drug Leqembi in India After CDSCO Approval



- Japanese pharmaceutical company Eisai has launched Leqembi (Lecanemab) in India

following approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).

- Leqembi is the first disease-modifying therapy approved in India for the treatment of early-stage Alzheimer's disease in eligible patients with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) or mild Alzheimer's dementia associated with amyloid-beta pathology.
- Unlike conventional medicines that mainly manage symptoms, Leqembi targets the underlying disease process by reducing

amyloid-beta plaques in the brain, potentially slowing the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

Why is the Launch Significant?

- Alzheimer's disease is one of the leading causes of dementia worldwide. Existing medicines largely provide symptomatic relief, whereas Leqembi aims to slow disease progression by targeting the underlying pathology.

How Does Leqembi Work?

- Leqembi (Lecanemab) is a humanized monoclonal antibody that binds to amyloid-beta protein aggregates in the brain.

Mechanism of Action:

Removes amyloid-beta plaques.
Slows progression of cognitive decline.
Most effective during the early stages of Alzheimer's disease.
Administered through intravenous (IV) infusion under medical supervision.

What is Alzheimer's Disease?

- Alzheimer's disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder and the most common cause of dementia.

Symptoms:

- Progressive memory loss.
- Difficulty in thinking and reasoning.
- Confusion regarding time and place.
- Language and communication problems.
- Personality and behavioural changes.
- Loss of ability to perform daily activities.

Risk Factors:

Advanced age.
Family history.
Genetic predisposition.
Cardiovascular diseases.
Diabetes.

Hypertension.
Obesity.
Physical inactivity.

About CDSCO:

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) is India's national drug regulatory authority.
Headquarters: New Delhi
Head: Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) (Dr. Rajeev Singh Raghuvansh)

Monoclonal Antibodies:

- Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-produced proteins designed to target specific molecules.

Uses:

- Cancer treatment.
- Autoimmune diseases.
- Infectious diseases.
- Neurological disorders such as Alzheimer's disease.

Dementia:

- Dementia is a syndrome characterised by decline in memory, thinking, behaviour, and daily functioning.

Major Causes:

Alzheimer's disease (most common).
Vascular dementia.
Lewy body dementia.
Frontotemporal dementia.

Government Initiatives for Elderly Care:

National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE): Provides comprehensive healthcare services for senior citizens.
National Mental Health Programme (NMHP): Supports diagnosis and treatment of neurological and psychiatric disorders.

World Alzheimer's Day:

- Observed: 21 September every year.
- Objective: Raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

World Health Organization (WHO):

- Formation : 7 April 1948
- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
- Director-General: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

- Drug: Leqembi (Lecanemab).
- Company: Eisai.
- Approved By: CDSCO.
- Target Disease: Early Alzheimer's disease.
- Drug Type: Disease-modifying monoclonal antibody.
- Mechanism: Removes amyloid-beta plaques.
- Regulator: Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).
- Head of CDSCO: Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI).
- World Alzheimer's Day: 21 September.

Exam Focus Points:

Former Governor and Educationist D. Y. Patil Passes Away



- Padma Shri awardee Dr. D. Y. Patil, renowned educationist and former Governor of Bihar, Tripura, and West Bengal, passed away at the age of 91 in Kolhapur, Maharashtra.
- He was the founder of the D. Y. Patil Group of Educational Institutions, which has significantly contributed to higher education, healthcare, and sports infrastructure in India.

- Article 155: Governor is appointed by the President of India.
- Article 156: Holds office during the pleasure of the President.
- Article 157: Qualifications for appointment as Governor.

University Grants Commission (UGC):

- It was set up in accordance to the UGC Act 1956 and is charged with coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of higher education in India.
- Established: 1956
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Chairman: Dr. Vineet Joshi

Governor of a State:

- The Governor is the constitutional head of a State under the Constitution of India.

Constitutional Provisions:

- Articles 153–162 deal with the office of the Governor.
- Article 153: There shall be a Governor for each State.

Exam Focus Points:

- Person: Dr. D. Y. Patil.
- Award: Padma Shri.
- Known For: Educationist and philanthropist.
- Former Governor of: Bihar, Tripura, and West Bengal.
- Major Contribution: Founder of the D. Y. Patil Group.

- Related Constitutional Articles: 153–162.
- Governor Appointed By: President of India.
- Higher Education Regulator: University Grants Commission (UGC).

Tamil Nadu Tops India in Deceased Organ Donation, Ranks Second in Organ Transplants in 2025



- Tamil Nadu emerged as the leading state in deceased organ donation and ranked second in the total number of organ transplants performed in 2025, according to the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO).
- The state's success is attributed to its robust Transplant Authority of Tamil Nadu (TRANSTAN), transparent organ allocation system, strong public awareness, efficient hospital network, and effective coordination among healthcare institutions.

About NOTTO

- The National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) is the apex national body for organ donation and transplantation.
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Functions National waiting list, organ allocation, registry, policy coordination and awareness

National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP) aims to:

- Promote deceased organ donation.
- Strengthen transplant infrastructure.
- Create awareness on organ donation.
- Establish ROTTOs and SOTTOs.
- Improve equitable organ allocation.

Top States by Deceased Organ Donors (2025):

- Tamil Nadu: 266 (Deceased Donors)
- Telangana: 205 (Deceased Donors)
- Karnataka: 198 (Deceased Donors)
- Maharashtra: 154 (Deceased Donors)
- Gujarat: 152 (Deceased Donors)

Delhi Tops in Total Organ Transplants:

- Delhi: 4,564
- Tamil Nadu: 2,796
- Maharashtra: 2,136
- Telangana: 1,523
- Kerala: 1,489

Legal Framework:

- Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA), 1994
- Regulates removal, storage, and transplantation of human organs and tissues.
- Prohibits commercial trade in human organs.
- Amended in 2011.
- Supported by the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Rules, 2014.

Additional Facts:

- ROTTO: Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation.

- SOTTO: State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation.
- World Organ Donation Day: 13 August.
- India performed 20,019 organ transplants in 2025, the highest ever at the time, according to NOTTO.

Exam Focus Points:

- Top State in deceased organ donation (2025): Tamil Nadu.

- Second in organ transplants: Tamil Nadu.
- State Nodal Agency: TRANSTAN.
- National Nodal Body: NOTTO.
- Related Scheme: National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP).
- Related Law: Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 (amended 2011).

According to data shared by the government in the Lok Sabha: India Achieves Near-Universal Banking Coverage: 99.92% of Villages Covered



- The Ministry of Finance has announced that 99.92% of inhabited villages in India are now covered by banking outlets—including bank branches, Business Correspondents (BCs), and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) outlets—within a 5 km radius.
- The achievement has been monitored through the Jan Dhan Darshak (JDD) App, a GIS-based platform that tracks banking infrastructure across the country.
- The initiative marks a significant milestone in India's financial inclusion journey under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) and the National Mission for Financial Inclusion (NMFI).

Jan Dhan Darshak (JDD) App:

- The Jan Dhan Darshak App is a GIS-based application developed to monitor banking infrastructure across India.

Features:

- Maps banking outlets across villages.
- Identifies unbanked areas.
- Helps banks plan new banking outlets.
- Supports policymakers in improving financial inclusion.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):

- Launched on 28 August 2014, PMJDY is India's flagship National Mission for Financial Inclusion.

Key Features

- Zero-balance bank accounts.
- RuPay Debit Card.
- Overdraft facility (subject to eligibility).
- Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- Accident and life insurance benefits.

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB):

- Launched: 2018.
- MD & CEO: Shri R. Viswesvaran
- Administrative Ministry: Ministry of Communications.
- Provides doorstep banking services through India's postal network.

Business Correspondent (BC):

- Bank-authorised agents providing banking services in unbanked and underserved areas.
- Promote last-mile financial inclusion.

RBI Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index):

- Introduced by the Reserve Bank of India in 2021.
- Measures financial inclusion based on Access, Usage, and Quality of financial services.

Exam Focus Points:

- Village Banking Coverage: 99.92%.

- | |
|--|
| • Monitoring Platform: Jan Dhan Darshak (JDD) App. |
| • Flagship Scheme: Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY). |
| • Launch of PMJDY: 28 August 2014. |
| • Banking Outlets: Branches, BCs, and IPPB. |
| • National Regulator: Reserve Bank of India (RBI). |
| • Financial Inclusion Index: RBI FI-Index. |
| • 100% Coverage UT: Dadra & Nagar Haveli. |

Lets Revise

- ❖ Which Central Asian country recently agreed with India to expand its Strategic Partnership? **Uzbekistan.**
- ❖ Which wetland has recently been designated as India's 101st Ramsar Site? **Glaw Lake.**
- ❖ The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026 increases the number of judges from 33 to how many (excluding the Chief Justice of India)? **37 judges.**
- ❖ Which Arunachal Pradesh para shuttler recently won double medals at the BWF Para World Circuit? **Biri Takar.**
- ❖ Who topped the Hurun India Women Leaders List 2026? **Meena Bindra.**
- ❖ Who has been appointed as the Executive Director of the Reserve Bank of India to oversee the Department of Supervision? **Monisha Chakraborty.**
- ❖ Which company recently launched the Alzheimer's drug Leqembi in India? **Eisai Pharmaceuticals.**
- ❖ Which renowned educationist and former Governor of Bihar, Tripura, and West Bengal recently passed away? **Dr. D. Y. Patil.**
- ❖ Which state topped India in deceased organ donation in 2025? **Tamil Nadu.**
- ❖ What percentage of inhabited villages in India are covered by banking outlets within a 5 km radius? **99.92%.**



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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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