



CadetClub AFCAT Current Affairs

June 2025 to December 2025

AFCAT-focused current affairs | Verified, condensed and connected to static GK

JUNE 2025



Must-Know Dossiers: June 2025

01. Axiom-4 puts an Indian on the ISS

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla flew as mission pilot on Axiom Mission 4 and became the first Indian to visit the International Space Station.

- The SpaceX Falcon 9 launch took place on 25 June; Dragon docked with the ISS on 26 June.
- Shukla became the second Indian in space after Rakesh Sharma and conducted seven ISRO-backed microgravity experiments.

EXAM LENS Link Ax-4 with human-spaceflight experience for Gaganyaan, not with an ISRO launch vehicle.

02. Operation Sindhu evacuation mission

India launched Operation Sindhu to evacuate Indian nationals affected by the Iran-Israel conflict.

- The operation was coordinated by the Ministry of External Affairs with Indian missions in the region.
- Evacuation routes included movement through neighbouring countries where airspace constraints made direct flights difficult.

EXAM LENS Do not confuse Operation Sindhu with Operation Ganga, the 2022 Ukraine evacuation.

03. 51st G7 Summit at Kananaskis

Canada hosted the 51st G7 Summit at Kananaskis, Alberta; India participated as an outreach partner.

- The G7 comprises Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States, with the European Union participating.
- Discussion areas included energy security, critical minerals, artificial intelligence and global conflicts.

EXAM LENS Remember host country Canada and venue Kananaskis for 2025.

04. Order of Makarios III for PM Modi

Cyprus conferred its highest civilian honour, the Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III, on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

- The honour was presented by Cypriot President Nikos Christodoulides.
- Makarios III was the first President of Cyprus; Nicosia is the country's capital.

EXAM LENS Award-country matching is the likely MCQ: Order of Makarios III - Cyprus.

05. RBI cuts repo rate to 5.50%

The Monetary Policy Committee reduced the policy repo rate by 50 basis points to 5.50%.

- The Standing Deposit Facility rate became 5.25%; the MSF and Bank Rate became 5.75%.
- RBI also announced a phased 100-basis-point reduction in the Cash Reserve Ratio to improve durable liquidity.

EXAM LENS Repo is the rate at which RBI lends short-term funds to banks against eligible securities.

06. 11th International Day of Yoga

International Day of Yoga 2025 used the theme 'Yoga for One Earth, One Health', with the main Indian event at Visakhapatnam.

- The UN observes International Day of Yoga annually on 21 June.
- The 2025 observance was the eleventh edition after the first celebration in 2015.

EXAM LENS Pair the 2025 theme with Visakhapatnam and 21 June.

07. World Environment Day targets plastic pollution

World Environment Day 2025 carried the theme 'Beat Plastic Pollution' and was hosted globally by the Republic of Korea.

- The observance is led by the United Nations Environment Programme.
- World Environment Day has been observed on 5 June since 1973.

EXAM LENS UNEP is headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya.

08. Exercise Shakti-VIII

The eighth India-France joint Army exercise Shakti was conducted at Camp Larzac, La Cavalerie, France.

- The Indian contingent was mainly from a Jammu and Kashmir Rifles battalion.
- Training focused on joint operations in a sub-conventional environment under a UN mandate.

EXAM LENS Shakti is an Army exercise with France; Varuna is naval and Garuda is air-force.

09. Exercise Tiger Claw 2025

Indian Air Force and United States Air Force special forces conducted the first edition of Exercise Tiger Claw in northern India.

- The exercise involved IAF Garud personnel and USAF Special Tactics personnel.
- It trained interoperability in special operations, including airfield and mission-support tasks.

EXAM LENS Tiger Claw is an India-US air-force special-forces exercise.

10. South Africa wins World Test Championship

South Africa defeated Australia at Lord's to win the 2023-25 ICC World Test Championship.

- Aiden Markram scored 136 in the successful fourth-innings chase.
- It was South Africa's first senior men's ICC title since the 1998 ICC KnockOut Trophy.

EXAM LENS Remember winner South Africa, runner-up Australia and venue Lord's.

11. French Open 2025 champions

Carlos Alcaraz won the men's singles and Coco Gauff won the women's singles at Roland-Garros.

- Alcaraz defeated Jannik Sinner in a five-set final and retained the men's title.
- Gauff defeated Aryna Sabalenka to claim her first French Open singles crown.

EXAM LENS Roland-Garros is played on clay in Paris, France.

12. QS World University Rankings 2026

IIT Delhi was the highest-ranked Indian institution in the QS World University Rankings 2026, placed 123rd globally.

- IIT Bombay was ranked 129th and IIT Madras 180th.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology retained the global first position.

EXAM LENS The edition is called QS 2026 even though it was released in June 2025.

13. USBRL and the Chenab rail bridge dedicated

The Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link was dedicated with the Chenab and Anji Khad railway bridges, completing all-weather rail connectivity to the Kashmir Valley.

- The Chenab Bridge is the world's highest railway arch bridge at 359 metres above the river.
- Anji Khad is India's first cable-stayed railway bridge; the 272-km USBRL also includes the T-50 tunnel.

EXAM LENS Match Chenab with highest railway arch bridge and Anji Khad with first cable-stayed railway bridge.

14. INS Arnala commissioned

The Indian Navy commissioned INS Arnala, the first Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft of its class, at Visakhapatnam.

- The vessel was designed for coastal anti-submarine surveillance, search-and-attack missions and low-intensity maritime operations.
- It was built through an Indian shipyard partnership with high indigenous content.

EXAM LENS INS Arnala is the lead ASW Shallow Water Craft, not a survey vessel or frigate.

15. First tri-service Joint Order framework

The Defence Minister authorised the CDS and Secretary, Department of Military Affairs, to issue Joint Instructions and Joint Orders for all three Services.

- Previously, instructions involving multiple Services were issued separately by each Service.
- The first Joint Order standardised approval, promulgation and numbering procedures.

EXAM LENS This is an institutional jointness reform led through the CDS and DMA.

16. Khichan and Menar added as Ramsar sites

Khichan in Phalodi and Menar in Udaipur district became Rajasthan's newest wetlands of international importance.

- Khichan is renowned for large congregations of demoiselle cranes.
- Menar is a community-conserved wetland complex important for migratory waterbirds.

EXAM LENS Both additions are in Rajasthan; Ramsar designation concerns wetlands of international importance.

17. Third UN Ocean Conference in Nice

France and Costa Rica co-hosted the third United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice, France.

- The conference focused on accelerating action for Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life Below Water.
- It produced the Nice Ocean Action Plan through political commitments and voluntary pledges.

EXAM LENS UN Ocean Conference 2025: Nice; co-hosts France and Costa Rica; SDG 14.



Rapid Revision

1. Axiom-4 puts an Indian on the ISS | Indian mission pilot: **Shubhanshu Shukla**; destination: **International Space Station**
2. Operation Sindhu evacuation mission | operation: **Operation Sindhu**; coordinating ministry: **Ministry of External Affairs**
3. 51st G7 Summit at Kananaskis | host country: **Canada**; venue: **Kananaskis**
4. Order of Makarios III for PM Modi | award: **Order of Makarios III**; conferring country: **Cyprus**
5. RBI cuts repo rate to 5.50% | new repo rate: **5.50%**; decision-making body: **Monetary Policy Committee**
6. 11th International Day of Yoga | 2025 theme: **Yoga for One Earth, One Health**; main venue: **Visakhapatnam**
7. World Environment Day targets plastic pollution | 2025 theme: **Beat Plastic Pollution**; global host: **Republic of Korea**
8. Exercise Shakti-VIII | partner country: **France**; service: **Army**
9. Exercise Tiger Claw 2025 | partner country: **United States**; Indian special force: **Garud**
10. South Africa wins World Test Championship | champion: **South Africa**; final venue: **Lord's**
11. French Open 2025 champions | men's champion: **Carlos Alcaraz**; women's champion: **Coco Gauff**
12. QS World University Rankings 2026 | top Indian institution: **IIT Delhi**; global leader: **MIT**
13. USBRL and the Chenab rail bridge dedicated | project: **USBRL**; highest bridge: **Chenab Bridge**
14. INS Arnala commissioned | ship: **INS Arnala**; role: **anti-submarine warfare**
15. First tri-service Joint Order framework | authorised office: **CDS and Secretary DMA**; purpose: **tri-service jointness**
16. Khichan and Menar added as Ramsar sites | state: **Rajasthan**; famous bird at Khichan: **demoiselle crane**
17. Third UN Ocean Conference in Nice | host city: **Nice**; relevant SDG: **SDG 14**

JULY 2025



Must-Know Dossiers: July 2025

01. NISAR launched by GSLV-F16

ISRO launched the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar satellite from Sriharikota.

- NISAR is the first joint satellite mission of ISRO and NASA and carries NASA L-band and ISRO S-band radars.
- Its 12-metre deployable antenna supports repeated mapping of land, ice, forests and natural hazards.

EXAM LENS NISAR = NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar; dual frequency means L-band plus S-band.

02. India-UK CETA signed

India and the United Kingdom signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement in London.

- The agreement was signed in the presence of Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Keir Starmer.
- It provides zero-duty access for about 99% of India's exports to the UK by trade value, subject to implementation schedules.

EXAM LENS CETA was signed in 2025; it was scheduled to enter into force later after ratification.

03. Maratha Military Landscapes enter UNESCO list

UNESCO inscribed the Maratha Military Landscapes of India as India's 44th World Heritage property.

- The serial property contains 12 forts, mostly in Maharashtra, with Gingee Fort in Tamil Nadu.
- It was inscribed under the cultural category at the 47th World Heritage Committee session in Paris.

EXAM LENS Remember 44th Indian World Heritage property and the Maharashtra-Tamil Nadu spread.

04. 17th BRICS Summit in Rio

Brazil hosted the XVII BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro under a Global South-focused theme.

- The summit theme was 'Strengthening Global South Cooperation for a More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance'.
- Indonesia participated as a full BRICS member; partner-country participation also expanded.

EXAM LENS The 2025 chair and host was Brazil; the city was Rio de Janeiro.

05. National Sports Policy 2025

The Union Cabinet approved National Sports Policy 2025, replacing the 2001 policy.

- Its five pillars cover global excellence, economic and social development, mass participation and integration with education.
- The policy supports India's ambition to become a leading sporting nation and prepare for major events including a possible 2036 Olympics bid.

EXAM LENS NSP 2025 superseded the National Sports Policy of 2001.

06. Research Development and Innovation Scheme

The Cabinet approved the RDI Scheme with a corpus of Rs 1 lakh crore to increase private investment in research and strategic technologies.

- The scheme is anchored in the Anusandhan National Research Foundation framework.
- It provides long-term financing and supports deep-tech and sunrise sectors.

EXAM LENS RDI corpus: Rs 1 lakh crore; connect it with ANRF and private-sector R&D.

07. Employment Linked Incentive Scheme

The Cabinet approved the ELI Scheme with an outlay of Rs 99,446 crore to encourage formal job creation.

- Part A supports eligible first-time employees; Part B incentivises employers for additional sustained employment.
- The scheme particularly emphasises manufacturing and uses direct benefit transfers.

EXAM LENS ELI is linked to EPFO-based formal employment, not a general unemployment allowance.

08. Akash Prime high-altitude trial

Akash Prime destroyed two high-speed unmanned aerial targets at altitude in Ladakh.

- The system is customised for operations above 4,500 metres.
- It includes an indigenously developed radio-frequency seeker and is an upgraded Army air-defence system.

EXAM LENS Akash Prime is a surface-to-air air-defence system, not an air-to-air missile.

09. Astra BVRAAM tests from Su-30MKI

DRDO and the Indian Air Force conducted successful Astra beyond-visual-range air-to-air missile tests from a Su-30MKI.

- The tests used an indigenous radio-frequency seeker and engaged high-speed aerial targets off Odisha.
- Astra is designed for air-to-air combat beyond visual range.

EXAM LENS Astra = air-to-air; Akash = surface-to-air.

10. Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket trials

The Indian Navy completed user trials of the indigenous ERASR from INS Kavaratti.

- Seventeen rockets were fired at different ranges to validate performance.
- The weapon is intended to strengthen ship-borne anti-submarine warfare.

EXAM LENS ERASR is a naval anti-submarine rocket; trial ship INS Kavaratti.

11. Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar resigns

Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned as Vice-President of India citing health reasons.

- The Vice-President is the ex officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
- Article 67(a) provides for resignation by writing addressed to the President.

EXAM LENS Vice-President election provisions are in Articles 63-71; resignation is addressed to the President.

12. Wimbledon singles champions

Jannik Sinner won the men's singles and Iga Swiatek won the women's singles at Wimbledon 2025.

- Sinner defeated Carlos Alcaraz for his first Wimbledon title.
- Swiatek defeated Amanda Anisimova 6-0, 6-0 and became the first Polish singles champion at Wimbledon.

EXAM LENS Wimbledon is the grass-court Grand Slam held in London.

13. PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana approved

The Cabinet approved the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana to improve agricultural performance in 100 low-productivity districts.

- Selection considers low productivity, moderate crop intensity and below-average agricultural credit.
- The programme converges existing schemes and tracks district-level outcomes rather than creating a uniform subsidy.

EXAM LENS Remember 100 districts and the convergence-based district approach.

14. Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 awards

The President presented awards for the ninth edition of Swachh Survekshan, the world's largest urban cleanliness survey.

- Ahmedabad led the more-than-10-lakh population category, followed by Bhopal and Lucknow.
- A separate Super Swachh League recognised consistently high-performing cities including Indore, Surat and Navi Mumbai.

EXAM LENS Do not mix the main population-category ranking with the Super Swachh League.

15. Exercise Bold Kurukshetra 2025

India and Singapore conducted the 14th edition of the bilateral armoured warfare exercise Bold Kurukshetra at Jodhpur.

- The computer-based command-post exercise focused on mechanised operations and joint planning.
- It deepened Army-to-Army interoperability under the India-Singapore defence partnership.

EXAM LENS Bold Kurukshetra pairs the armies of India and Singapore.

16. India-Maldives ties upgraded during PM visit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Male as guest of honour for the Maldives' 60th Independence Day celebrations.

- The visit advanced the Comprehensive Economic and Maritime Security Partnership.
- Agreements covered development finance, fisheries, digital payments, housing and maritime cooperation.

EXAM LENS Maldives capital Male; bilateral vision links economic cooperation with maritime security.



Rapid Revision

1. NISAR launched by GSLV-F16 | launch vehicle: **GSLV-F16**; radar bands: **L-band and S-band**
2. India-UK CETA signed | partner country: **United Kingdom**; agreement: **CETA**
3. Maratha Military Landscapes enter UNESCO list | number of forts: **12**; Tamil Nadu component: **Gingee Fort**
4. 17th BRICS Summit in Rio | host country: **Brazil**; edition: **17th**
5. National Sports Policy 2025 | policy replaced: **National Sports Policy 2001**; approving body: **Union Cabinet**
6. Research Development and Innovation Scheme | corpus: **Rs 1 lakh crore**; research foundation: **ANRF**
7. Employment Linked Incentive Scheme | outlay: **Rs 99,446 crore**; focus: **formal job creation**
8. Akash Prime high-altitude trial | trial location: **Ladakh**; operating altitude: **above 4,500 metres**
9. Astra BVRAAM tests from Su-30MKI | launch platform: **Su-30MKI**; missile class: **beyond-visual-range air-to-air**
10. Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket trials | trial ship: **INS Kavaratti**; role: **anti-submarine warfare**
11. Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar resigns | constitutional article for resignation: **Article 67(a)**; ex officio role: **Chairman of Rajya Sabha**
12. Wimbledon singles champions | men's champion: **Jannik Sinner**; women's champion: **Iga Swiatek**
13. PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana approved | districts: **100**; sector: **agriculture**
14. Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 awards | large-city winner: **Ahmedabad**; edition: **9th**
15. Exercise Bold Kurukshetra 2025 | partner country: **Singapore**; venue: **Jodhpur**
16. India-Maldives ties upgraded during PM visit | host country: **Maldives**; capital: **Male**

AUGUST 2025



Must-Know Dossiers: August 2025

01. Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act

Parliament passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025 to prohibit online money games while recognising e-sports and online social games.

- The law provides for a central regulatory authority and restrictions on advertising and payment facilitation for prohibited money games.
- Its focus is the distinction between money games, e-sports and permissible social games.

EXAM LENS Do not read the law as a ban on all online games; its central prohibition concerns online money games.

02. Income-tax Act, 2025 receives assent

The new Income-tax Act, 2025 received Presidential assent after Parliament approved a simplified replacement for the Income-tax Act, 1961.

- The legislation uses the single expression 'tax year' in place of the earlier assessment-year and previous-year terminology.
- It was scheduled to come into force on 1 April 2026.

EXAM LENS Remember enactment in 2025 and commencement from the 2026-27 financial year.

03. Four more semiconductor units approved

The Cabinet approved four semiconductor manufacturing projects in Odisha, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh under the India Semiconductor Mission.

- Two projects were located in Odisha, with one each in Punjab and Andhra Pradesh.
- The approvals took the number of sanctioned semiconductor projects under the mission to ten.

EXAM LENS India Semiconductor Mission was launched with a Rs 76,000 crore programme outlay.

04. 15th India-Japan Annual Summit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Japan for the 15th India-Japan Annual Summit with Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba.

- The sides adopted a joint vision for the next decade and strengthened economic-security, technology and people-to-people cooperation.
- India and Japan are partners in the Quad and in the Special Strategic and Global Partnership.

EXAM LENS India-Japan annual summit 2025: Tokyo; Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba.

05. First India-Philippines Maritime Cooperative Activity

Indian and Philippine naval ships conducted their first bilateral Maritime Cooperative Activity in the South China Sea.

- Indian participants included INS Mysore, INS Kiltan and fleet tanker INS Shakti.
- The activity advanced maritime interoperability and India's Act East engagement with the Philippines.

EXAM LENS MCA partner: Philippines; distinguish it from SIMBEX with Singapore.

06. 12th SLINEX naval exercise

India and Sri Lanka conducted the 12th edition of bilateral naval exercise SLINEX at Colombo.

- India deployed INS Rana and fleet tanker INS Jyoti.
- The harbour and sea phases covered professional exchanges and maritime operations.

EXAM LENS SLINEX = Sri Lanka-India Naval Exercise.

07. 32nd SIMBEX

The Indian Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy conducted the 32nd Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise.

- Indian ships included INS Delhi, INS Satpura, INS Kiltan and INS Shakti.
- SIMBEX is one of India's longest-running uninterrupted bilateral naval exercises.

EXAM LENS SIMBEX pairs India with Singapore and is a naval exercise.

08. Agni-5 flight test

The Strategic Forces Command conducted a successful test of the intermediate-range Agni-5 ballistic missile from Odisha.

- The test validated operational and technical parameters under the oversight of the Strategic Forces Command.
- Agni-5 is a canisterised, road-mobile strategic missile.

EXAM LENS Agni missiles are associated with strategic deterrence; the SFC manages India's nuclear delivery forces.

09. Integrated Air Defence Weapon System trial

DRDO conducted the maiden flight test of the Integrated Air Defence Weapon System off the Odisha coast.

- The layered system combined a quick-reaction surface-to-air missile, VSHORADS and a directed-energy weapon.
- A centralised command-and-control system coordinated sensors and interceptors against multiple targets.

EXAM LENS IADWS is a layered system, not a single missile.

10. Gaganyaan air-drop test IADT-1

ISRO successfully conducted the first Integrated Air Drop Test for the Gaganyaan crew-module deceleration system.

- A simulated crew module was dropped over the Bay of Bengal to validate parachute deployment and recovery sequences.
- The test involved ISRO, the Indian Air Force, DRDO, Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard.

EXAM LENS IADT-1 tested crew-module recovery and parachutes, not an orbital launch.

11. Educate Girls receives Ramon Magsaysay Award

Educate Girls became the first Indian organisation to receive the Ramon Magsaysay Award.

- The non-profit works to improve girls' enrolment and learning outcomes in underserved rural communities.
- The Ramon Magsaysay Award is named after a former President of the Philippines and is administered from Manila.

EXAM LENS Award-organisation-country link: Ramon Magsaysay Award - Philippines.

12. First Khelo India Water Sports Festival

The inaugural Khelo India Water Sports Festival was held at Dal Lake in Srinagar.

- Madhya Pradesh topped the overall medal table.
- The programme featured water-sport disciplines and used the Himalayan Kingfisher as mascot.

EXAM LENS Venue Dal Lake, Srinagar; overall champion Madhya Pradesh.

13. DAC clears proposals worth Rs 67,000 crore

The Defence Acquisition Council approved acquisition proposals covering all three Services and the Coast Guard.

- Approvals included mountain radars, upgrades to the SPYDER air-defence system, BrahMos fire-control systems and autonomous surface craft.
- Tri-service MALE remotely piloted aircraft were also included for long-endurance surveillance and combat roles.

EXAM LENS DAC grants Acceptance of Necessity; it is chaired by the Defence Minister.

14. Second National Space Day

India observed National Space Day with the theme 'From Aryabhata to Gaganyaan: Ancient Wisdom to Infinite Possibilities'.

- The day commemorates the Chandrayaan-3 soft landing near the lunar south-polar region on 23 August 2023.
- Aryabhata, launched in 1975, was India's first satellite.

EXAM LENS National Space Day: 23 August; Chandrayaan-3 landing; Aryabhata-to-Gaganyaan theme.

15. SCO Tianjin Summit

China hosted the 25th meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Council of Heads of State in Tianjin.

- India participated as a full SCO member and held bilateral engagements on the summit sidelines.
- The SCO was established in 2001 and is headquartered in Beijing.

EXAM LENS 2025 SCO summit host city Tianjin; host country China.

16. First RAN SAMWAD and multi-domain doctrine

The first tri-service RAN SAMWAD seminar was held at the Army War College, Mhow, on technology and future warfare.

- The Defence Minister released the Joint Doctrine for Multi-Domain Operations.
- The seminar stressed integration across land, sea, air, space, cyber and information domains.

EXAM LENS RAN SAMWAD is a tri-service future-warfare forum; venue Army War College, Mhow.

17. PM SVANidhi restructured and extended

The Cabinet restructured the street-vendor credit scheme PM SVANidhi and extended its lending period to March 2030.

- The redesign expanded credit support and encouraged digital transactions and formal financial behaviour.
- The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs with lending institutions.

EXAM LENS PM SVANidhi supports urban street vendors; revised lending period runs to 2030.



Rapid Revision

1. Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act | prohibited category: **online money games**; promoted category: **e-sports**
2. Income-tax Act, 2025 receives assent | law replaced: **Income-tax Act, 1961**; commencement: **1 April 2026**
3. Four more semiconductor units approved | total new units: **4**; mission: **India Semiconductor Mission**
4. 15th India-Japan Annual Summit | host country: **Japan**; Japanese prime minister: **Shigeru Ishiba**
5. First India-Philippines Maritime Cooperative Activity | partner country: **Philippines**; Indian destroyer: **INS Mysore**
6. 12th SLINEX naval exercise | partner country: **Sri Lanka**; edition: **12th**
7. 32nd SIMBEX | partner country: **Singapore**; service: **Navy**
8. Agni-5 flight test | command: **Strategic Forces Command**; test state: **Odisha**
9. Integrated Air Defence Weapon System trial | developer: **DRDO**; system type: **layered air defence**
10. Gaganyaan air-drop test IADT-1 | programme: **Gaganyaan**; drop zone: **Bay of Bengal**
11. Educate Girls receives Ramon Magsaysay Award | Indian recipient: **Educate Girls**; award country: **Philippines**
12. First Khelo India Water Sports Festival | venue: **Dal Lake**; overall champion: **Madhya Pradesh**
13. DAC clears proposals worth Rs 67,000 crore | approval value: **Rs 67,000 crore**; approving body: **Defence Acquisition Council**
14. Second National Space Day | date: **23 August**; first Indian satellite: **Aryabhata**
15. SCO Tianjin Summit | host city: **Tianjin**; organisation: **SCO**
16. First RAN SAMWAD and multi-domain doctrine | venue: **Army War College, Mhow**; released document: **Joint Doctrine for Multi-Domain Operations**
17. PM SVANidhi restructured and extended | beneficiaries: **street vendors**; extended to: **March 2030**

SEPTEMBER 2025



Must-Know Dossiers: September 2025

01. C. P. Radhakrishnan becomes Vice-President

Chandrapuram Ponnusami Radhakrishnan took oath as the 15th Vice-President of India after winning the election held on 9 September.

- The President administers the oath to the Vice-President under Article 69.
- The Vice-President is the ex officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

EXAM LENS Election is by members of both Houses of Parliament through proportional representation by single transferable vote.

02. Next-generation GST rate reforms

The 56th GST Council recommended broad rate rationalisation, with most revised rates taking effect on 22 September.

- Individual life and health insurance policies were exempted from GST, subject to the notified framework.
- The Council is chaired by the Union Finance Minister under Article 279A.

EXAM LENS Remember 56th GST Council and effective date 22 September 2025 for most changes.

03. Agni-Prime launched from rail-mobile system

DRDO and the Strategic Forces Command launched Agni-Prime from a specially designed rail-based mobile launcher.

- The canisterised missile has a range of up to 2,000 km.
- Rail mobility improves concealment, cross-country movement and reaction time.

EXAM LENS This was the first operational-scenario launch from the rail network; road-mobile Agni-P already existed.

04. MiG-21 retires from the IAF

The Indian Air Force held the farewell ceremony for its last MiG-21 squadron at Chandigarh.

- The MiG-21 entered Indian service in 1963 and served in major conflicts including 1965, 1971 and Kargil operations.
- The final operational variant was the upgraded MiG-21 Bison.

EXAM LENS Entry 1963; farewell Chandigarh; replacement pathway includes LCA Tejas.

05. 21st Exercise Yudh Abhyas

India and the United States conducted Yudh Abhyas 2025 at Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

- The Indian contingent was led by a Madras Regiment battalion.
- Training covered arctic conditions, multi-domain operations and interoperability.

EXAM LENS Yudh Abhyas is India-US Army exercise; 2025 venue Alaska.

06. India-Morocco defence cooperation MoU

India and Morocco signed a memorandum establishing a broad framework for defence cooperation.

- The framework covers training, exercises, defence industry, maritime security and counter-terrorism.
- Morocco is a North African country with Rabat as capital.

EXAM LENS Country-capital pairing: Morocco - Rabat.

07. SSLV technology transferred to HAL

NSIL, ISRO, IN-SPACe and HAL signed the technology-transfer agreement for the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle.

- HAL is to absorb and independently realise SSLV launch vehicles for commercial demand.
- SSLV is designed for rapid, flexible launch of small satellites, including about 500 kg to a 500 km orbit.

EXAM LENS SSLV commercialisation recipient: HAL; commercial arm: NSIL; regulator-promoter: IN-SPACe.

08. NIRF India Rankings 2025

IIT Madras retained the top position in the Overall category of the National Institutional Ranking Framework.

- IISc Bengaluru led the Universities category and IIT Madras led Engineering.
- The Ministry of Education publishes NIRF rankings using teaching, research, outcomes, outreach and perception parameters.

EXAM LENS NIRF publisher: Ministry of Education; Overall and Engineering leader: IIT Madras.

09. India wins ninth Asia Cup

India defeated Pakistan in the final to win the men's Asia Cup 2025 in the T20 format.

- Tilak Varma made an unbeaten 69 in the successful chase.
- The tournament was staged in the United Arab Emirates under the Asian Cricket Council.

EXAM LENS India's ninth Asia Cup title; final hero Tilak Varma.

10. 71st National Film Awards presented

The President presented the 71st National Film Awards and conferred the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2023 on Mohanlal.

- The ceremony was held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The National Film Awards are administered by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

EXAM LENS Dadasaheb Phalke Award recipient at the 2025 ceremony: Mohanlal.

11. 2025 Ballon d'Or winners

Ousmane Dembele won the men's Ballon d'Or and Aitana Bonmati won the women's award.

- The ceremony was held at the Theatre du Chatelet in Paris.
- Bonmati won the women's prize for a third consecutive year.

EXAM LENS Men: Ousmane Dembele; Women: Aitana Bonmati.

12. Sushila Karki becomes Nepal's interim PM

Former Chief Justice Sushila Karki became Nepal's first woman Prime Minister, heading an interim government.

- She succeeded K. P. Sharma Oli after political unrest and his resignation.
- Kathmandu is the capital of Nepal; the Nepalese rupee is its currency.

EXAM LENS First woman PM of Nepal: Sushila Karki.

13. 16th Combined Commanders' Conference

Kolkata hosted the apex Combined Commanders' Conference under the theme 'Year of Reforms - Transforming for the Future'.

- The Prime Minister reviewed operational preparedness, jointness, self-reliance and innovation.
- The conference brings together senior civilian and military leadership of all three Services.

EXAM LENS CCC 2025: 16th edition, Kolkata, jointness and transformation.

14. Bairabi-Sairang rail line puts Aizawl on rail map

The 51-km Bairabi-Sairang line connected the Mizoram capital region to India's national railway network.

- The mountain railway includes 45 tunnels and 55 major bridges.
- New services linked Sairang with Delhi, Kolkata and Guwahati.

EXAM LENS Bairabi-Sairang is the rail-connectivity milestone for Mizoram and Aizawl.

15. SEMICON India 2025

New Delhi hosted SEMICON India 2025, bringing government, industry and researchers together around semiconductor manufacturing and supply chains.

- The programme highlighted approved fabrication, packaging and design projects under the India Semiconductor Mission.
- Semiconductor policy links electronics resilience with strategic and economic security.

EXAM LENS India Semiconductor Mission operates under MeitY; SEMICON India 2025 venue New Delhi.

16. Indian contingent joins Exercise ZAPAD 2025

An Indian Armed Forces contingent participated in the multinational exercise ZAPAD 2025 at Mulino, Russia.

- The contingent included personnel from the Army, Air Force and Navy.
- Training covered conventional operations, joint planning and interoperability in a multinational setting.

EXAM LENS ZAPAD 2025 venue Russia; Indian participation was tri-service.

17. CDS General Anil Chauhan receives service extension

The government extended General Anil Chauhan's service as Chief of Defence Staff and Secretary, Department of Military Affairs, to 30 May 2026.

- He had served as India's second CDS since September 2022.
- The CDS promotes jointness and acts as the permanent chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee.

EXAM LENS Extension ran to 30 May 2026; CDS also heads the Department of Military Affairs as Secretary.



Rapid Revision

1. C. P. Radhakrishnan becomes Vice-President | Vice-President: **C. P. Radhakrishnan**; oath article: **Article 69**
2. Next-generation GST rate reforms | constitutional article: **Article 279A**; effective date: **22 September 2025**
3. Agni-Prime launched from rail-mobile system | missile: **Agni-Prime**; maximum range: **2,000 km**
4. MiG-21 retires from the IAF | farewell venue: **Chandigarh**; entry into Indian service: **1963**
5. 21st Exercise Yudh Abhyas | partner country: **United States**; venue: **Fort Wainwright, Alaska**
6. India-Morocco defence cooperation MoU | partner country: **Morocco**; capital: **Rabat**
7. SSLV technology transferred to HAL | technology recipient: **HAL**; launch vehicle: **SSLV**
8. NIRF India Rankings 2025 | overall leader: **IIT Madras**; university leader: **IISc Bengaluru**
9. India wins ninth Asia Cup | champion: **India**; final player: **Tilak Varma**
10. 71st National Film Awards presented | Phalke awardee: **Mohanlal**; venue: **Vigyan Bhawan**
11. 2025 Ballon d'Or winners | men's winner: **Ousmane Dembele**; women's winner: **Aitana Bonmati**
12. Sushila Karki becomes Nepal's interim PM | interim prime minister: **Sushila Karki**; country: **Nepal**
13. 16th Combined Commanders' Conference | edition: **16th**; host city: **Kolkata**
14. Bairabi-Sairang rail line puts Aizawl on rail map | state: **Mizoram**; line length: **51 km**
15. SEMICON India 2025 | host city: **New Delhi**; nodal ministry: **MeitY**
16. Indian contingent joins Exercise ZAPAD 2025 | host country: **Russia**; exercise: **ZAPAD 2025**
17. CDS General Anil Chauhan receives service extension | officer: **General Anil Chauhan**; extended to: **30 May 2026**

OCTOBER 2025



Must-Know Dossiers: October 2025

01. India-EFTA TEPA enters into force

The Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement between India and the European Free Trade Association became operational.

- EFTA members are Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
- The agreement includes a commitment to promote USD 100 billion of investment and one million direct jobs in India over 15 years.

EXAM LENS EFTA has four members and is distinct from the European Union.

02. Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses

The Cabinet approved a six-year mission to increase pulse production and reduce import dependence.

- The mission runs from 2025-26 to 2030-31 with an outlay of Rs 11,440 crore.
- It focuses especially on tur, urad and masoor, with procurement and seed-system support.

EXAM LENS Pulses mission outlay Rs 11,440 crore; duration six years.

03. Cold Desert joins UNESCO biosphere network

The Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve in Himachal Pradesh entered UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

- It covers high-altitude cold-desert ecosystems in the trans-Himalayan region, including areas around Pin Valley.
- UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme links biodiversity conservation with sustainable development.

EXAM LENS Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve - Himachal Pradesh.

04. Nobel Peace Prize 2025

The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Venezuelan democracy activist Maria Corina Machado.

- The Norwegian Nobel Committee awards the Peace Prize in Oslo.
- Other Nobel prizes are presented in Stockholm, Sweden.

EXAM LENS Peace Prize venue Oslo; recipient Maria Corina Machado.

05. Nobel Prize in Literature 2025

Hungarian author Laszlo Krasznahorkai received the Nobel Prize in Literature.

- The Swedish Academy selects the literature laureate.
- Nobel announcements are made in October; the award ceremony is on 10 December.

EXAM LENS Literature 2025: Laszlo Krasznahorkai - Hungary.

06. Exercise Konkan 2025

India and the United Kingdom conducted a major naval exercise off India's western coast.

- The exercise brought together carrier groups led by INS Vikrant and HMS Prince of Wales.
- It included complex air, anti-submarine and maritime manoeuvres, with associated partner participation.

EXAM LENS Konkan is the India-UK naval exercise.

07. INS Androth commissioned

The Indian Navy commissioned INS Androth, the second Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft of its class.

- The vessel was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers.
- Its primary role is coastal anti-submarine warfare, mine-laying and low-intensity maritime operations.

EXAM LENS INS Androth: ASW shallow-water craft; builder GRSE.

08. ICGS Akshar commissioned

The Indian Coast Guard commissioned the fast patrol vessel ICGS Akshar at Karaikal.

- The vessel was built by Goa Shipyard Limited with substantial indigenous content.
- Fast patrol vessels support surveillance, anti-smuggling, search and rescue and fisheries protection.

EXAM LENS ICGS prefix indicates Indian Coast Guard Ship, not Indian Navy Ship.

09. BRO reaches Mig La

The Border Roads Organisation constructed a motorable road at Mig La in Ladakh at about 19,400 feet.

- The road exceeded the altitude of Umling La and supports strategic connectivity in the high Himalaya.
- BRO works under the Ministry of Defence; its motto is 'Shramena Sarvam Sadhyam'.

EXAM LENS Mig La - Ladakh - about 19,400 feet.

10. Global Fintech Fest 2025

Mumbai hosted the Global Fintech Fest under the theme 'Empowering Finance for a Better World Powered by AI'.

- The event brought together regulators, financial institutions and technology companies.
- NPCI showcased AI and biometric-payment innovations within India's digital public infrastructure ecosystem.

EXAM LENS Venue Mumbai; focus AI-powered finance.

11. RBI holds repo rate at 5.50%

The Monetary Policy Committee retained the policy repo rate at 5.50% and continued with a neutral stance.

- The SDF remained 5.25% and MSF/Bank Rate 5.75%.
- The MPC balances the 4% CPI inflation target, within a plus-or-minus 2% tolerance band, with growth.

EXAM LENS October 2025 repo: unchanged at 5.50%.

12. World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi

India hosted the World Para Athletics Championships at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi.

- The event was the first edition staged in India.
- India recorded its best-ever championship medal performance, led by multiple podium finishes in throws and track events.

EXAM LENS Host city New Delhi; venue Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

13. DAC clears proposals worth Rs 79,000 crore

The Defence Acquisition Council approved proposals including NAMIS tracked anti-tank systems, electronic-intelligence systems and high-mobility vehicles.

- Other approvals covered landing platform docks, advanced light-weight torpedoes and collaborative long-range target-saturation systems.
- The package strengthened anti-armour, electronic warfare, amphibious and maritime capabilities.

EXAM LENS October 2025 DAC package: about Rs 79,000 crore; NAMIS is an anti-tank system.

14. Defence Procurement Manual 2025

The Ministry of Defence issued DPM 2025 to modernise revenue procurement for the armed forces and other defence establishments.

- The manual emphasises digitisation, transparency, shorter timelines and simplified decision-making.
- Revenue procurement mainly supports operations, maintenance and sustenance, unlike capital acquisition of major platforms.

EXAM LENS DPM governs revenue procurement; DAP governs capital acquisition.

15. Navi Mumbai International Airport inaugurated

The first phase of Navi Mumbai International Airport was inaugurated as the Mumbai metropolitan region's second major airport.

- The greenfield airport was developed to reduce pressure on Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport.
- Its site is in the Ulwe area of Navi Mumbai and it is designed for phased capacity expansion.

EXAM LENS NMIA is a greenfield airport serving the Mumbai metropolitan region.

16. Nobel science and economics prizes 2025

The 2025 Nobel announcements recognised peripheral immune tolerance, macroscopic quantum effects in circuits, metal-organic frameworks and innovation-driven growth.

- Medicine: Mary Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell and Shimon Sakaguchi; Physics: John Clarke, Michel Devoret and John Martinis.
- Chemistry: Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson and Omar Yaghi; Economics: Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion and Peter Howitt.

EXAM LENS Remember the subject pairings: immune tolerance, quantum circuits, MOFs and innovation-driven growth.

17. Exercise AUSTRAHIND 2025

India and Australia conducted the fourth edition of joint military exercise AUSTRAHIND in Perth, Australia.

- The exercise brought Army contingents together for sub-conventional operations in semi-urban terrain.
- AUSTRAHIND complements the countries' wider maritime and Indo-Pacific security cooperation.

EXAM LENS AUSTRAHIND is the India-Australia bilateral Army exercise.



Rapid Revision

1. India-EFTA TEPA enters into force | agreement: **TEPA**; number of EFTA members: **4**
2. Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses | outlay: **Rs 11,440 crore**; end year: **2030-31**
3. Cold Desert joins UNESCO biosphere network | state: **Himachal Pradesh**; UNESCO programme: **Man and the Biosphere Programme**
4. Nobel Peace Prize 2025 | recipient: **Maria Corina Machado**; award city: **Oslo**
5. Nobel Prize in Literature 2025 | recipient: **Laszlo Krasznahorkai**; country: **Hungary**
6. Exercise Konkan 2025 | partner country: **United Kingdom**; Indian carrier: **INS Vikrant**
7. INS Androth commissioned | builder: **GRSE**; role: **anti-submarine warfare**
8. ICGS Akshar commissioned | service: **Indian Coast Guard**; builder: **Goa Shipyard Limited**
9. BRO reaches Mig La | location: **Ladakh**; organisation: **Border Roads Organisation**
10. Global Fintech Fest 2025 | host city: **Mumbai**; focus technology: **Artificial Intelligence**
11. RBI holds repo rate at 5.50% | repo rate: **5.50%**; stance: **neutral**
12. World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi | host city: **New Delhi**; venue: **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium**
13. DAC clears proposals worth Rs 79,000 crore | approval value: **Rs 79,000 crore**; anti-tank system: **NAMIS**
14. Defence Procurement Manual 2025 | manual: **DPM 2025**; procurement type: **revenue procurement**
15. Navi Mumbai International Airport inaugurated | city: **Navi Mumbai**; airport type: **greenfield**
16. Nobel science and economics prizes 2025 | chemistry topic: **metal-organic frameworks**; economics topic: **innovation-driven growth**
17. Exercise AUSTRAHIND 2025 | partner country: **Australia**; edition: **4th**

NOVEMBER 2025



Must-Know Dossiers: November 2025

01. India wins ICC Women's Cricket World Cup

India defeated South Africa in the final to win its first ICC Women's Cricket World Cup title.

- The final was played at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai.
- The victory made India a first-time champion in the women's ODI World Cup.

EXAM LENS Winner India; runner-up South Africa; final Navi Mumbai.

02. COP30 in Belem

Brazil hosted the 30th UN Climate Change Conference in Belem, at the gateway to the Amazon region.

- COP meetings operate under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- The conference focused on implementation of climate commitments, finance, adaptation and protection of forests.

EXAM LENS COP30 host city Belem; host country Brazil.

03. G20 Johannesburg Summit

South Africa hosted the G20 Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg, the first G20 summit held on African soil.

- South Africa's presidency emphasised solidarity, equality and sustainability.
- The African Union has been a permanent G20 member since 2023.

EXAM LENS First African G20 host: South Africa; city Johannesburg.

04. Tri-service Exercise Trishul

The Indian Armed Forces conducted Exercise Trishul across the western land and maritime theatre.

- The exercise integrated Army, Navy and Air Force operations with cyber, space, intelligence and logistics elements.
- It tested joint command, long-range fires, air defence and amphibious capabilities.

EXAM LENS Trishul 2025 was tri-service, not a bilateral foreign exercise.

05. Exercise Malabar 2025

India, Australia, Japan and the United States conducted the Malabar naval exercise around Guam.

- The Indian Navy deployed stealth frigate INS Sahyadri.
- Training included anti-submarine warfare, air defence and surface warfare.

EXAM LENS Malabar participants correspond to the four Quad countries.

06. Exercise Garuda 2025

The Indian and French air forces conducted Exercise Garuda at Mont-de-Marsan Air Base in France.

- The IAF deployed Su-30MKI aircraft, supported by transport and tanker assets.
- Garuda builds air-combat interoperability; Varuna is the naval counterpart and Shakti the Army exercise.

EXAM LENS Garuda - India-France - Air Force.

07. INS Ikshak commissioned

The Navy commissioned INS Ikshak, the third Survey Vessel (Large), at Kochi.

- The ship was built by GRSE and contains more than 80% indigenous content.
- Survey vessels map seabed and coastal waters and support hydrography, navigation and limited HADR tasks.

EXAM LENS INS Ikshak: Survey Vessel (Large); commissioned at Kochi.

08. INS Mahe commissioned

INS Mahe, the first Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft, entered naval service in Mumbai.

- The vessel was built by Cochin Shipyard Limited.
- Its shallow-water role targets submarines and underwater threats in coastal areas.

EXAM LENS Lead ship of Mahe class; builder Cochin Shipyard.

09. Mudh-Nyoma airfield operationalised

The Indian Air Force operationalised the high-altitude airfield at Mudh-Nyoma in eastern Ladakh.

- The airfield lies close to the Line of Actual Control and strengthens logistics, surveillance and rapid deployment.
- Nyoma is among the world's highest operational military airfields.

EXAM LENS Nyoma - eastern Ladakh - high-altitude IAF base.

10. LVM3 launches CMS-03

ISRO's LVM3-M5 placed the multi-band communication satellite CMS-03 into geosynchronous transfer orbit.

- At about 4,410 kg, CMS-03 was the heaviest communication satellite launched to GTO from Indian soil at that time.
- It provides communication coverage over the Indian landmass and a wide oceanic region.

EXAM LENS Mission pairing: LVM3-M5 / CMS-03.

11. Booker Prize 2025

David Szalay won the Booker Prize for his novel 'Flesh'.

- The Booker Prize honours a work of long-form fiction written in English and published in the UK or Ireland.
- The award is distinct from the International Booker Prize for translated fiction.

EXAM LENS Book-author pairing: Flesh - David Szalay.

12. India tops Asian Archery Championships

India finished first at the Asian Archery Championships with ten medals, including six gold.

- B. Dhiraj won men's individual recurve gold and Ankita Bhakat won women's individual recurve gold.
- The result was India's strongest performance at the continental championship.

EXAM LENS Individual recurve gold medallists: Dhiraj and Ankita Bhakat.

13. Justice Surya Kant becomes 53rd Chief Justice of India

Justice Surya Kant took oath as the 53rd Chief Justice of India, succeeding Justice B. R. Gavai.

- The President appoints the Chief Justice of India under Article 124 of the Constitution.
- The Supreme Court of India was inaugurated on 28 January 1950.

EXAM LENS 53rd CJI: Justice Surya Kant; constitutional article 124.

14. Exercise Mitra Shakti XI

India and Sri Lanka conducted the eleventh joint military exercise Mitra Shakti at Belagavi, Karnataka.

- The Indian contingent was led by the Rajput Regiment and the Sri Lankan contingent by the Gajaba Regiment.
- Training rehearsed sub-conventional operations under Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

EXAM LENS Mitra Shakti pairs India and Sri Lanka; 2025 venue Belagavi.

15. Exercise MahaGujRaj-25

The Indian Air Force conducted a large operational exercise across the western sector.

- Fighters operated from military and civil airfields to validate dispersed operations.
- The exercise covered air campaigns, maritime missions and air-land integration alongside broader tri-service activity.

EXAM LENS MahaGujRaj-25 was an IAF western-sector readiness exercise.

16. Exercise Ajeya Warrior 2025

India and the United Kingdom conducted their bilateral Army exercise Ajeya Warrior in Rajasthan.

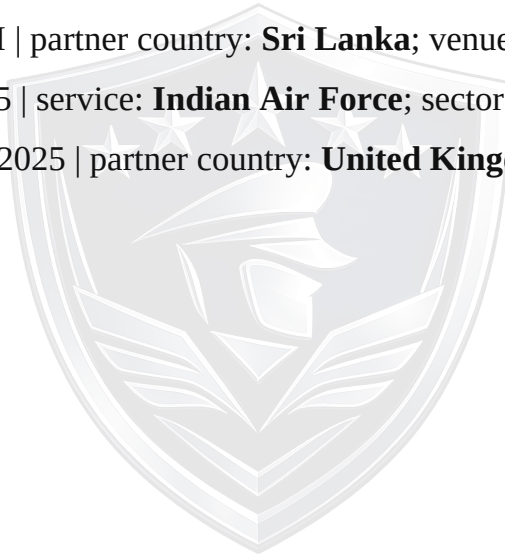
- The exercise trained joint tactical operations in semi-urban terrain under a UN mandate.
- It strengthened interoperability between Indian Army and British Army contingents.

EXAM LENS Ajeya Warrior pairs India with the United Kingdom.



Rapid Revision

1. India wins ICC Women's Cricket World Cup | champion: **India**; runner-up: **South Africa**
2. COP30 in Belem | host city: **Belem**; host country: **Brazil**
3. G20 Johannesburg Summit | host country: **South Africa**; host city: **Johannesburg**
4. Tri-service Exercise Trishul | exercise type: **tri-service**; country: **India**
5. Exercise Malabar 2025 | Indian ship: **INS Sahyadri**; venue: **Guam**
6. Exercise Garuda 2025 | partner country: **France**; Indian fighter: **Su-30MKI**
7. INS Ikshak commissioned | ship type: **Survey Vessel (Large)**; commissioning city: **Kochi**
8. INS Mahe commissioned | builder: **Cochin Shipyard Limited**; class: **Mahe class**
9. Mudh-Nyoma airfield operationalised | location: **eastern Ladakh**; service: **Indian Air Force**
10. LVM3 launches CMS-03 | launch vehicle: **LVM3-M5**; satellite: **CMS-03**
11. Booker Prize 2025 | winning novel: **Flesh**; author: **David Szalay**
12. India tops Asian Archery Championships | total medals: **10**; gold medals: **6**
13. Justice Surya Kant becomes 53rd Chief Justice of India | office holder: **Justice Surya Kant**; constitutional article: **Article 124**
14. Exercise Mitra Shakti XI | partner country: **Sri Lanka**; venue: **Belagavi**
15. Exercise MahaGujRaj-25 | service: **Indian Air Force**; sector: **western sector**
16. Exercise Ajeya Warrior 2025 | partner country: **United Kingdom**; service: **Army**



DECEMBER 2025



Must-Know Dossiers: December 2025

01. RBI cuts repo rate to 5.25%

The Monetary Policy Committee reduced the policy repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.25%.

- The SDF became 5.00%, while the MSF and Bank Rate became 5.50%.
- The decision continued the 2025 easing cycle while monitoring inflation and growth.

EXAM LENS December 2025 repo rate: 5.25%.

02. SHANTI Act receives assent

The Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Act, 2025 received Presidential assent.

- The law creates a modern framework for peaceful uses of atomic energy and nuclear safety.
- It supports wider participation in the civil nuclear sector while preserving safeguards, security and liability requirements.

EXAM LENS SHANTI is the nuclear-energy reform law of 2025.

03. Cabinet approves Census 2027

The Cabinet approved the 16th Census of India with an outlay of Rs 11,718.24 crore.

- It will be India's first digital census and will offer self-enumeration.
- Houselisting is scheduled for 2026 and population enumeration for 2027, with different reference timing for snow-bound areas.

EXAM LENS Census 2027: 16th overall, eighth after Independence, first digital census.

04. Deepavali enters UNESCO heritage list

UNESCO inscribed Deepavali on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

- The decision was taken at the 20th session of the Intergovernmental Committee hosted at the Red Fort in New Delhi.
- The list is governed by UNESCO's 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

EXAM LENS Deepavali is intangible cultural heritage, not a World Heritage Site.

05. LVM3-M6 launches BlueBird Block-2

ISRO's LVM3 placed AST SpaceMobile's BlueBird Block-2 commercial communications satellite into low Earth orbit.

- It was the sixth operational flight of LVM3 and an NSIL commercial mission.
- The payload set a record as the heaviest satellite launched by LVM3 from Indian soil.

EXAM LENS Mission pairing: LVM3-M6 / BlueBird Block-2; commercial customer AST SpaceMobile.

06. DHRUV64 microprocessor unveiled

India unveiled DHRUV64, an indigenous 1.0 GHz 64-bit dual-core processor.

- The processor was developed under MeitY's indigenous microprocessor programme.
- It supports strategic self-reliance in computing, electronics and secure applications.

EXAM LENS DHRUV64: 64-bit, dual-core, 1.0 GHz indigenous processor.

07. National Quantum Communication Hub

India inaugurated a national thematic hub for quantum communication at IIT Madras Research Park.

- The IIT Madras-C-DOT Samgnya Technologies Foundation works under the National Quantum Mission.
- Focus areas include quantum key distribution, post-quantum security, repeaters and satellite quantum communication.

EXAM LENS Quantum Communication T-Hub: IIT Madras with C-DOT; mission under DST.

08. 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit

Russian President Vladimir Putin visited New Delhi for the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit.

- Talks covered defence, energy, nuclear cooperation, trade, connectivity and space.
- India and Russia describe their relationship as a Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership.

EXAM LENS 2025 summit edition: 23rd; visiting leader Vladimir Putin.

09. Param Vir Dirgha inaugurated

The President inaugurated the Param Vir Dirgha gallery at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Vijay Diwas.

- The gallery honours recipients of the Param Vir Chakra, India's highest wartime gallantry award.
- Vijay Diwas on 16 December commemorates India's victory in the 1971 war.

EXAM LENS Highest wartime award: Param Vir Chakra; highest peacetime award: Ashoka Chakra.

10. INSV Kaundinya begins heritage voyage

The stitched-plank sailing vessel INSV Kaundinya began a voyage from Porbandar to Muscat.

- The vessel was built using traditional Indian shipbuilding techniques without modern nails in the hull planking.
- The voyage retraced ancient maritime links between India and Oman.

EXAM LENS Route: Porbandar to Muscat; theme: ancient stitched-ship tradition.

11. Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar 2025

The national science awards recognised achievements across 13 scientific domains.

- Astrophysicist Jayant Vishnu Narlikar received the Vigyan Ratna posthumously.
- The CSIR Aroma Mission team received the Vigyan Team Award.

EXAM LENS Vigyan Ratna 2025: Jayant Narlikar; team award: CSIR Aroma Mission.

12. K-4 missile tested from INS Arighaat

India tested the nuclear-capable K-4 submarine-launched ballistic missile from INS Arighaat in the Bay of Bengal.

- The solid-fuel K-4 has a reported range of about 3,500 km and strengthens the sea-based leg of India's nuclear triad.
- INS Arighaat is the second Arihant-class nuclear-powered ballistic-missile submarine.

EXAM LENS The test occurred in December 2025 although several current-affairs summaries discussed it in January 2026.

13. DAC clears another Rs 79,000 crore package

The Defence Acquisition Council approved proposals spanning long-range rockets, counter-drone systems, Astra Mk-II missiles and precision-strike weapons.

- Army approvals included loitering munitions, low-level radars and guided Pinaka ammunition.
- IAF approvals included Astra Mk-II, a Tejas full-mission simulator and SPICE-1000 precision weapons.

EXAM LENS December package also totalled about Rs 79,000 crore; distinguish it from October's separate approval.

14. Exercise Ekuverin 2025

India and the Maldives conducted the latest edition of bilateral military exercise Ekuverin in Thiruvananthapuram.

- Ekuverin means 'friends' in Dhivehi.
- The exercise focuses on counter-terrorism, humanitarian assistance and interoperability between the two forces.

EXAM LENS Ekuverin pairs India and Maldives; the name means friends.

15. Seven TDF technologies handed to the Services

DRDO transferred seven industry-developed technologies under the Technology Development Fund and approved twelve new projects.

- The technologies covered airborne self-protection, underwater communications, waterjet propulsion, lithium recovery and seawater batteries.
- TDF supports Indian industry, especially MSMEs and startups, in developing defence technologies.

EXAM LENS TDF is a DRDO scheme for industry-led indigenous defence technology.

16. India International Science Festival 2025

The India International Science Festival brought researchers, students, innovators and science communicators together for public engagement with science.

- The programme showcased frontier research, indigenous technology, startups and student innovation.
- IISF is coordinated by science ministries with Vijnana Bharati as a major outreach partner.

EXAM LENS IISF is a national science-outreach platform, not a competitive examination or award.



Rapid Revision

1. RBI cuts repo rate to 5.25% | repo rate: **5.25%**; rate cut: **25 basis points**
2. SHANTI Act receives assent | full-form keyword: **Nuclear Energy**; assent date: **20 December 2025**
3. Cabinet approves Census 2027 | overall census number: **16th**; outlay: **Rs 11,718.24 crore**
4. Deepavali enters UNESCO heritage list | session venue: **Red Fort, New Delhi**; UNESCO convention: **2003 Convention**
5. LVM3-M6 launches BlueBird Block-2 | launch vehicle: **LVM3-M6**; customer: **AST SpaceMobile**
6. DHRUV64 microprocessor unveiled | word size: **64-bit**; clock speed: **1.0 GHz**
7. National Quantum Communication Hub | host institution: **IIT Madras**; mission: **National Quantum Mission**
8. 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit | visiting leader: **Vladimir Putin**; edition: **23rd**
9. Param Vir Dirgha inaugurated | wartime award: **Param Vir Chakra**; observance: **Vijay Diwas**
10. INSV Kaundinya begins heritage voyage | destination: **Muscat**; starting port: **Porbandar**
11. Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar 2025 | Vigyan Ratna: **Jayant Vishnu Narlikar**; team award: **CSIR Aroma Mission**
12. K-4 missile tested from INS Arighaat | platform: **INS Arighaat**; reported range: **3,500 km**
13. DAC clears another Rs 79,000 crore package | approval value: **Rs 79,000 crore**; air-to-air missile: **Astra Mk-II**
14. Exercise Ekuverin 2025 | partner country: **Maldives**; meaning: **friends**
15. Seven TDF technologies handed to the Services | technologies transferred: **7**; new projects: **12**
16. India International Science Festival 2025 | festival: **India International Science Festival**; focus: **science outreach**