

Daily Current Affairs

 Date : 11 July 2026



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RAJASTHAN



Discovery of a New Fern Species: 'Ophioglossum chaturbhuji'



Why in News?

- A new species of fern was recently discovered in Menal, located in the border region of Bhilwara and Chittorgarh.



Key Points:

- **Nomenclature:** Ophioglossum chaturbhuji.
- The new species, Ophioglossum chaturbhuji, has been named in honor of Prof. Chaturbhuji Gena, a senior botanist from Rajasthan and former Vice-Chancellor of Maharaja Ganga Singh University, Bikaner.

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- **Credit for discovery:** Dr. B.L. Yadav, former Head of the Department of Botany at Manikya Lal Verma Government College, Bhilwara.
- With the discovery of this fern, the total number of fern species in Rajasthan has risen to 11; notably, 8 of these are found exclusively in Menal.
- This fern plant is considered beneficial for preventing soil erosion and maintaining soil fertility.
- **Use in traditional medicine:** It is a medicinal plant that was historically used in traditional medicine to treat wounds, inflammation, and skin diseases.

Practice Question for Preliminary Examination:

- Q. What is the name of the new fern species recently discovered in the Menal region?
- (a) Ophioglossum menalensis
 - (b) Ophioglossum chaturbhuji
 - (c) Ophioglossum rajasthani
 - (d) Ophioglossum yadavii



'100 Icons of Rajasthan' Initiative



Why in News?

- Recently, the '100 Icons of Rajasthan' initiative was launched by the Rajasthan Department of Industries and Commerce.

उद्योग एवं वाणिज्य विभाग द्वारा शुरू की

100 आइकन्स ऑफ राजस्थान पहल

राज्य के विकास में योगदान देने वाले 100 प्रेरणादायी व्यक्तियों को मिलेगा नया मंच

55 महिलाओं का होगा चयन

45 पुरुषों का होगा चयन



Key Points:

- Objective of the initiative:** To honor 100 personalities from the state who have made significant contributions to Rajasthan's development through their leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship, and outstanding work.

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- Under this initiative, 100 distinguished individuals who have excelled in various fields within the state will be selected.
- The selection process will involve choosing 55 women under the age of 55 and 45 men under the age of 45.
- Individuals who have achieved notable success in sectors such as industry, trade, exports, entrepreneurship, startups, manufacturing, information technology, agriculture, health, tourism, handicrafts, women entrepreneurship, education, social entrepreneurship, energy, infrastructure, and other key areas will be eligible.
- Selected individuals will be featured in 'The 100 Icons Compendium'. Additionally, their achievements will be showcased on digital platforms, and they will have the opportunity to participate in various strategic dialogues and knowledge-exchange programs related to the state's development.

Practice Question for Preliminary Examination:

Q. Consider the following statements regarding the '100 Icons of Rajasthan' initiative:

- (i) This initiative has been launched by the Rajasthan Department of Industries and Commerce.
- (ii) Under this, 100 distinguished individuals contributing to Rajasthan's development will be selected.
- (iii) The selected individuals will include 55 men and 45 women.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only (i) and (ii)
- (b) Only (ii) and (iii)
- (c) Only (i) and (iii)
- (d) All of the above

Rajasthan Agriculture Department Signs MoUs with 32 Organizations



Why in News?

- The Rajasthan Agriculture Department recently signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with 32 different organizations to promote natural farming, climate-resilient agriculture, agricultural innovation, and the dissemination of modern technologies, as well as to ensure a sustainable increase in farmers' income.

10 जुलाई, 2026 को जयपुर में आयोजित एक विशेष समारोह में कृषि एवं उद्यानिकी विभाग ने 32 विभिन्न प्रतिष्ठित संगठनों के साथ समझौता ज्ञापनों (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए।



उद्देश्य



प्रदेश में खेती को आधुनिक, टिकाऊ और भविष्य की चुनौतियों के अनुकूल बनाना।

मुख्य फोकस क्षेत्र



आधुनिक कृषि तकनीक



जल संरक्षण एवं प्रबंधन



टिकाऊ एवं पर्यावरण अनुकूल खेती



अनुसंधान, नवाचार एवं प्रशिक्षण



किसानों एवं संस्थाओं के साथ सहयोग



Key Points:

- The 32 organizations include the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), 10 agritech startups, and 20 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

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- **Significance:** These MoUs will prove crucial in transforming Rajasthan's agricultural sector into a modern as well as sustainable system that will be capable of meeting future challenges.
- **Nature:** All the MoUs are non-financial in nature. This entails no additional financial burden on the state government; instead, it will significantly enhance the effectiveness of departmental schemes by optimizing the use of available resources.
- **Key Areas:** Through these partnerships, joint efforts will be undertaken in areas such as natural and organic farming, climate-resilient agriculture, water conservation, community resource management, agricultural training, capacity building, agricultural policy formulation, the 'Agriculture-2047' roadmap, carbon credits, value addition, certification, marketing, women farmer empowerment, and agricultural development in tribal areas.
- **Agri-Innovation and Startup Cell:** The department will establish an 'Agri-Innovation and Startup Cell' to foster agricultural innovation and entrepreneurship.
- A dedicated call center for agritech startups will also be set up under this cell, serving as a single point of contact for guidance, problem-solving, and coordination.
- This cell will play a pivotal role in providing technical, institutional, and business support to startups by establishing effective coordination with agricultural universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), cooperative bodies, the industry sector, investors, and financial institutions.

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Other Important Points:

- **Funding for Startups by NIAM:** Under the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY), the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM) provides annual grants to startups and students to launch their ventures: up to ₹25 lakh for 25 startups, up to ₹5 lakh for another 25 startups, and ₹4 lakh per student for four students.
- **Farmer Registry-based Fertilizer Distribution System:** On June 25, 2026, the Rajasthan Agriculture Department launched a pilot project to implement the 'Farmer Registry-based Fertilizer Distribution System' in the Sirohi and Rajsamand districts.
- This pilot project has been initiated under the national fertilizer system, utilizing the Farmer Registry created under the AgriStack scheme.

Practice Question for Preliminary Examination:

Q. Consider the following statements regarding recent initiatives related to the agricultural sector in Rajasthan:

- (i) NIAM provides a grant of up to ₹25 lakh to 25 startups under PM-RKVY.
- (ii) A grant of ₹4 lakh per student per year is provided to four students to start their startups.
- (iii) A pilot project for the Farmer Registry-based fertilizer distribution system was launched in the Sirohi and Rajsamand districts.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only (i) and (ii)
- (b) Only (ii) and (iii)
- (c) Only (i) and (iii)
- (d) All of the above

Amendment to the 'Rajasthan Minor Mineral Concession Rules – 2017'



Why in News?

- Recently, the Rajasthan government amended the 'Rajasthan Minor Mineral Concession Rules' (RMMCR-2017).



Key Points:

- Objective of the new amendments:** To make the mining process more transparent, environmentally friendly, and practical. Additionally, to provide relief to leaseholders of mines that were closed due to orders from courts or the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- Under the Rajasthan Minor Mineral Concession (Second Amendment) Rules, the allocation of 'gap areas' between mining leases and quarry licenses will now be conducted via e-auction.
- Furthermore, to promote environmental conservation and sustainable mining, it has been made mandatory for all mining leaseholders to achieve a minimum 3-star rating. Failure to obtain the rating within the stipulated period may result in the suspension of mine operations.
- A penalty of up to ₹500 per month (maximum ₹5,000) will be imposed for failure to submit the self-assessment report on time.

Facts for Prelims:

Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML)

- Establishment:** In the Year 1974
- RSMML is one of the key public sector undertakings of the Rajasthan government, primarily responsible for the mining and marketing of industrial minerals in the state.
- Core objective of the company:** To adopt cost-effective technological innovations in mineral mining and to diversify into mineral-based downstream projects.



NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	MoU signed by BMVSS with two institutions ■ Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS), the organization behind the 'Jaipur Foot' recently signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with two significant institutions to work towards the empowerment and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. 1. Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Uttar Pradesh. 2. Dr. Shakuntala Misra National Rehabilitation University, Lucknow. ■ Main objective of the MoU: To provide physical and social rehabilitation to persons with disabilities residing in Uttar Pradesh.
2.	Centre of Excellence for Mines and Minerals: Jaipur ■ Under the Rajasthan Budget 2025-26, a 'Centre of Excellence for Mines and Minerals' is being established in Jaipur at a cost of ₹60 crore. ■ This center will primarily focus on the scientific and sustainable development of mining, research and development (R&D), and the precise mapping of minerals. Q. Where is the 'Centre of Excellence for Mines and Minerals' being established in Rajasthan? (a) Udaipur (b) Jodhpur (c) Jaipur (d) Kota

3.

Arundhati Choudhary: Representing India at the 2026 Commonwealth Games

- Arundhati Choudhary, a native of Kota, will represent India in the boxing event at the 2026 Commonwealth Games to be held in Glasgow, Scotland.
- **Weight category:** Women's 70 kg category.
- Arundhati is the first boxer from Rajasthan to be selected for the Commonwealth Games.

2026 Commonwealth Games:

- **Dates:** July 23 to August 2, 2026.
- **Venue:** Glasgow, Scotland.

Q. In which weight category of the boxing event will Arundhati Choudhary represent India at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?

- (a) 60 kg women's category
- (b) 65 kg women's category
- (c) 70 kg women's category
- (d) 75 kg women's category

4.

Rajasthan at the Under-23 National Wrestling Championship

- **Venue:** Rohtak (Haryana).
- **Rajasthan's Performance:** A total of four medals, including one gold, one silver, and two bronze.
- With 113 points, Rajasthan secured third place nationwide in the team championship for the first time.
- **Gold Medalist:** Ashwini Vishnoi in the 68 kg weight category.

5.

Rajasthan's M-PACS ranking based on key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Rajasthan's M-PACS (Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies) ranking is released monthly based on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) set by the Government of India.

June Rankings:

- **First Place:** Nimod Gram Seva Sahakari Samiti (Didwana-Kuchaman) (77.50 points)
- **Second Place:** Bhiya Gram Seva Sahakari Samiti (Bundi) (76.50 points)
- **Third Place:** Ghat Ka Barana Gram Seva Sahakari Samiti (Bundi) (74 points)
- **Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Society (M-PACS):** Under the Central Government's ambitious scheme to form cooperative societies in every Panchayat, 5,279 new multipurpose cooperative societies have been established in Rajasthan.

6.

State-level Workshop to Strengthen Data Cybersecurity

- **Organizer:** Department of Information Technology & Communication (DoIT&C), Government of Rajasthan, in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, and the National e-Governance Division (NeGD).
- **Main Theme:** "Strengthening Cybersecurity Frameworks for State Data."
- **Venue:** Centre of Excellence for Revenue Research and Analysis (COERRA), Jaipur.

7.

240 'Shree Anna' Outlets in the State

- Under the 'Shree Anna' initiative, the state government has established 240 'Shree Anna' outlets across the state, which are promoting local products alongside nutrition.
- The primary objective of these outlets is to promote the sale of coarse grains (such as pearl millet, sorghum, finger millet, etc.) produced in the state now designated as 'Shree Anna' and local products made from them.

Q. How many 'Shree Anna' outlets have been established in Rajasthan under the 'Shree Anna' initiative?

- (a) 120
(c) 240

- (b) 180
(d) 300



Geography and Geology



World Population Day



Why in News?

- World Population Day is observed annually on July 11 to raise awareness about global population issues and their social, economic, and developmental consequences.

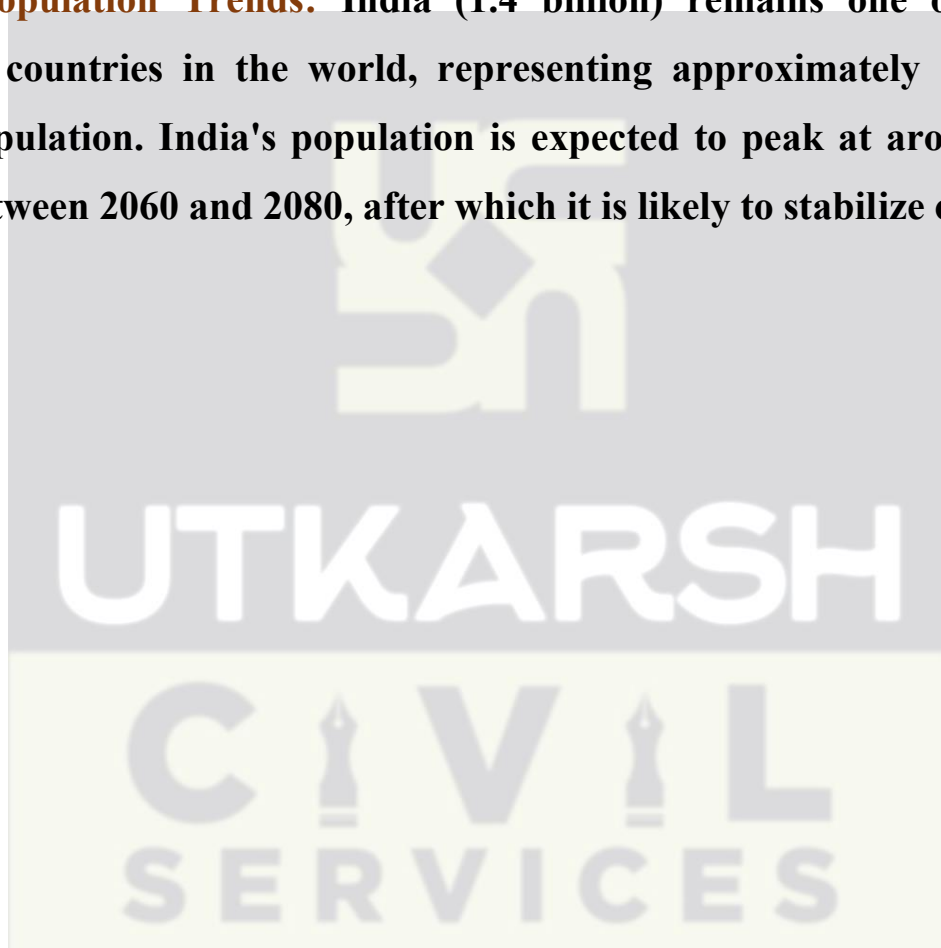


Key Points:

- **Commencement:** World Population Day originated on July 11, 1987, when the global population reached approximately five billion, drawing attention to rapid population growth and its implications.
- **Establishment:** In response to growing concerns regarding population-related challenges, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) formally established World Population Day in 1989.
- **Objective:** The day encourages discussion on population-related challenges such as maternal health, poverty, unemployment, economic hardship, migration, and access to essential services.
- **Theme 2026:** The theme for 2026 is "Realizing the Hopes and Aspirations of Youth – For the Present and Future," which highlights the need to understand and support the choices young people make regarding relationships, parenthood, and family life.
- **Report:** This theme is based on the report titled Lives, Choices, and Futures: What Young People Want and What Shapes Their Decisions About Relationships and Parenthood.



- **Population Trends:** It took thousands of years for the global population to reach one billion, but it expanded sevenfold over the next two centuries. It reached seven billion in 2011 and is projected to reach approximately 8.5 billion by 2030 and 9.7 billion by 2050.
- **India's Population Trends:** India (1.4 billion) remains one of the most populous countries in the world, representing approximately 17% of the global population. India's population is expected to peak at around 1.7–1.9 billion between 2060 and 2080, after which it is likely to stabilize or gradually decline.





Economic Developments



Global Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)



Why in News?

- According to the 'World Investment Report 2026' by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), India has climbed two spots to become the 11th largest recipient of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) globally, driven by a significant rise in investment inflows in 2025.



Key Points:

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Performance in India

- India attracted \$38.89 billion in Foreign Direct Investment in 2025, marking a 44% increase compared to the \$27.09 billion recorded in 2024.
- **Greenfield Investment in India:** The value of announced greenfield investments declined from \$111.14 billion in 2024 to \$74.12 billion in 2025.
- However, India attracted the world's largest announced greenfield investment project in 2025. US-based Alphabet Inc. announced a \$14.5 billion investment in a data center in India, placing it at the top of the global list.

MCQ:

Q. Which of the following global bodies recently released the 'World Investment Report 2026' on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)?

- (A) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- (B) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- (C) World Bank
- (D) International Monetary Fund (IMF)



Schemes and Policies



National Programme for Issuance of Letters of Authorization (LoA)



Why in News?

- The Vice President launched a national programme to issue Letters of Authorization (LoA) for the sustainable exploitation of fisheries in the high seas.



Key Points:

- This initiative implements the Union Budget 2025-26 announcement to create a conducive framework for the sustainable exploitation of resources within India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the high seas.
- High seas fisheries refer to marine resources distributed in waters beyond areas of national jurisdiction.



MAJOR GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES



Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY): Promotes sustainable fisheries and modern aquaculture technologies (Bio-floc).



FIDF (Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund): Concessional financing for fisheries infrastructure (harbours, landing centres, processing units).



Financial Inclusion: Kisan Credit Card (KCC) extended to fishers; Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY) for formalisation and insurance.



Digital Governance: National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP) and app-based Marine Fisheries Census 2025 for data-driven governance.

The National Programme for Issuance of Letters of Authorization (LoA) –

- **LoA:** A mandatory, vessel-specific, non-transferable authorization valid for 3 years, required for Indian-flagged fishing vessels to operate in the high seas.
 - It is mandated under the 'Guidelines for Sustainable Exploitation of Fisheries in the High Seas by Indian-flagged Fishing Vessels, 2025'.
 - **Digitization:** Integrated with the ReALCraft portal (Registration and Licensing of Fishing Craft) to ensure a transparent process and compliance.
 - **Priority:** Given to fisheries cooperatives, Fish Farmer Producer Organizations (FFPOs), and Indian fishers.
 - **Responsible and Sustainable Fishing:** Ensures compliance with conservation measures prescribed by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations.
- Related News: Odisha Deep Sea Fishing Mission (2026-2036) Launched**
- A major “Blue Economy” initiative has been launched to develop Odisha into a hub for deep-sea fishing and marine exports.
 - It focuses on modern fisheries infrastructure, scientific fisheries management, and market linkages to boost fish production, employment, fishers' income, and sustainable marine fisheries development.

Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)



Why in News?

- Under the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (since its inception), 21.61 lakh agricultural machines worth ₹9,404 crore have been distributed to individual farmers across India.



Key Points:

- 27,554 Custom Hiring Centers (CHCs), 25,608 Farm Machinery Banks (FMBs), and 646 High-Tech Hubs have been established; drone demonstrations were conducted over an area of 40,918 hectares (involving 40,928 demonstrations).

Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)

- **Concerned Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- **Launch:** In 2014-15
- **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
- **Objective:** To promote inclusive agricultural mechanization to enhance productivity, reduce drudgery, and lower cultivation costs.

Key Features

- **Financial Assistance:** Subsidy for agricultural machinery via DBT (40% for general farmers; 50% for SC/ST, small and marginal farmers, and beneficiaries from the North-Eastern Region).
- Establishment of Custom Hiring Centers (CHCs), Farm Machinery Banks (FMBs), and High-Tech Equipment Hubs through financial assistance.
- Training, testing, demonstrations, post-harvest mechanization, and crop residue management.



- **North-Eastern Region:** Enhanced support with up to 100% subsidy for small machinery and up to 95% assistance for machinery (FMBs) for women and medium-sized machinery.
 - 30% of funds allocated for women farmers.
 - Promotes 'Kisan Drones' (up to ₹10 lakh per drone for ICAR, KVKs, and State Agricultural Universities; 75% grant for FPOs).
- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)**
- **Launched In:** 2007
 - **Concerned Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
 - **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme; Restructured as RKVY-RAFTAAR (2017-18).
 - **Objective:** To promote holistic agricultural development by increasing public investment, productivity, infrastructure, and farmers' income.
 - It focuses on mechanization, value addition, innovation, agricultural startups, and post-harvest infrastructure.



INTERNATIONAL



ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA)



Why in News?

- India hosted the meetings of the 13th ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement Joint Committee and its related sub-committees at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi.



Key Points:

ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA)

- The ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) is a comprehensive, multilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) signed between India and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).
- It establishes a legal and tariff framework governing the trade of goods, aiming to reduce import duties on products to foster regional supply chains and economic integration.
- **Signing and Implementation:** The initial agreement was signed on August 13, 2009, and officially came into force on January 1, 2010.
- **Host Venue:** Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, India; the event is being conducted in a hybrid format.
- **Participation:** It included delegations from all 10 ASEAN member countries: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Objective:

- To revise trade norms to create a more balanced and sustainable trade ecosystem and to directly address the concerns of domestic Indian manufacturers facing asymmetrical tariff structures.

India-New Zealand Relations



Why in News?

- The Prime Minister of New Zealand emphasized the need for India and New Zealand to work together to strengthen the rules-based international order amidst rising geopolitical uncertainties.



Key Points:

Shifting Global Geopolitical Landscape

- New Zealand has described the current global situation as a "critical juncture," where the world is transitioning from a rules-based system to a power-based system, and moving from a primarily multilateral framework towards a more multipolar world order.
- According to New Zealand, smaller nations have benefited from the post-World War II rules-based order, as it ensures that international rules apply equally to both small and large countries.
- They also highlighted defence, security, and people-to-people ties as the three pillars of the India-New Zealand relationship.

India-New Zealand Relations

- **Diplomatic Relations:** India and New Zealand established diplomatic relations in 1952. Both nations are members of the Commonwealth and share democratic values and principles of governance.
- New Zealand identified India as a priority country in its 'Opening Doors to India' policy, announced in 2011 and reiterated in 2015.
- **Economic Cooperation:** Currently, New Zealand is India's second-largest trading partner in Oceania.
- In 2024, New Zealand's imports stood at US\$ 47 billion, while exports were US\$ 42 billion.

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- **Trade in Services:** India's service exports to New Zealand rose by 13% in 2024, reaching US\$ 634 million. Key sectors include travel, IT, and business services.
 - o In 2024-25, India's exports to New Zealand exceeded imports from New Zealand, resulting in a positive trade balance with the country.
 - o India and New Zealand signed the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (IN-NZ FTA).



The infographic features the Indian and New Zealand flags at the top. Below them, the text 'INDIA - NEW ZEALAND' is prominently displayed, followed by 'FTA Signed' in a blue box. A central blue box states 'Expanding Markets and Opportunities'. Three columns of benefits are listed, each with an icon: 'Zero duty on 100% of goods exports' (with a hand icon), 'Fast track mechanism' (with a clock and gear icon), and 'Tariff elimination across all Tariff lines' (with a document icon). A blue box at the bottom states 'Farmers, MSMEs, youth, workers, artisans, women key beneficiaries of India's growing export competitiveness'. The source 'Source: Ministry of commerce and industry' is at the bottom left, and a ship icon is at the bottom right.

INDIA - NEW ZEALAND
FTA Signed

Expanding Markets and Opportunities

-  **Zero duty on 100% of goods exports**
Upon entry into force
-  **Fast track mechanism**
For inputs for our exports under our Foreign trade Policy
-  **Tariff elimination across all Tariff lines**

Farmers, MSMEs, youth, workers, artisans, women key beneficiaries of India's growing export competitiveness

Source: Ministry of commerce and industry

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- **Customs Cooperation:** In 2024, New Zealand and India signed a customs cooperation agreement aimed at enhancing trade relations and intensifying cooperation against international organized crime.
- **Diaspora:** There are 292,092 people of Indian origin in New Zealand.
 - o India is the second-largest source of international students in New Zealand, pursuing higher education in various fields such as IT, hospitality, science, engineering, and architecture.
 - o Hindi is the fifth most spoken language in New Zealand.
- **Defence Cooperation:** The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on defence cooperation, signed in 2025, provided a formal institutional framework for bilateral defence engagement.
- The inaugural India-New Zealand Defence Strategic Dialogue was held in New Delhi in 2025.

MODEL QUESTION:

- Q. What is the primary benefit for smaller nations from a rules-based international order?



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Pinaka Long-Range Guided Rocket (LRGR)



Why in News?

- DRDO successfully conducted a flight test of the Pinaka Long-Range Guided Rocket (LRGR) at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha.



Key Points:

Pinaka

- Pinaka is an indigenous Multi-Barrel Rocket Launching System (MBRL) named after Lord Shiva's mythical bow.
- It was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to replace the Russian-origin Grad rocket system.
- The system was first used operationally during the Kargil War (1999).

Features

- An all-weather rocket system with a range of approximately 120 kilometers, capable of firing a salvo of 12 rockets in just 44 seconds.
- It is designed with 'shoot-and-scoot' capability, allowing for rapid relocation after firing to evade enemy counter-attacks.



INDEXES AND REPORTS



World Intangible Investment Report 2026



Why in News?

- The World Intangible Investment Report 2026 confirms India's status as a global innovation powerhouse, recording the fastest growth in intangible investment among the world's 15 largest economies.



Key Points:

- Published annually by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and Italy's Luiss Business School (LBS).
- **Tangible investment:** Expenditure on physical assets such as factories, machinery, buildings, etc.
- **Intangible investment:** Expenditure on non-physical assets such as research and development (R&D), software, databases, organizational knowledge, brands, designs, and intellectual property (IP).
- **Significance:** It fosters innovation, productivity, product quality, brand value, and long-term economic competitiveness.
- The US leads in total intangible investment; Sweden holds the top spot in terms of intensity.
- **Asset trends:**
 - o Software and databases are the fastest-growing categories in India.
 - o Globally, organizational capital and R&D [are key areas].

MCQ:

- Q. The 'World Intangible Investment Report 2026', which has been in the news recently, is jointly published by which of the following entities?
- (A) World Economic Forum (WEF) and Oxford University
 - (B) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and Luiss Business School (LBS)
 - (C) World Bank and Harvard Business School
 - (D) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and NITI Aayog

Global Liveability Index 2026



Why in News?

- The Global Liveability Index 2026 has been released recently.



Key Points:

- **Introduction:** This index evaluates living conditions in cities across the globe and serves as a global benchmark for urban liveability, resilience, and quality of life.
- **Publisher:** Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).
- **Coverage:** 173 cities were assessed using more than 30 qualitative and quantitative indicators.
- **Scoring:** Based on a scale of 1–100, across 5 parameters-Stability (25%), Healthcare (20%), Culture and Environment (25%), Education (10%), and Infrastructure (20%).
- **Key Findings**
 - o **Top global cities:** Copenhagen, Vienna, Melbourne.
 - o **India:** New Delhi (120), Mumbai (121), Chennai (123), Bengaluru (127).

MCQ:

- Q. Which of the following organizations has released the 'Global Liveability Index 2026', which has been in the news recently?
- (A) World Economic Forum (WEF)
(B) Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)
(C) United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
(D) World Bank