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Daanveer Initiative Aims to Digitize Gram Panchayats Through Citizen Participation

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

Key Features:

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

Importance of Digital Gram Panchayats:

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

Q. Which ministry launched the Daanveer Initiative? **Ministry of Panchayati Raj.**



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

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

What is a Seafarer?

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

Major Categories:

- Deck Officers.
- Marine Engineers.
- Ratings (crew members).
- Electro-Technical Officers (ETOs).
- Catering and hospitality staff.
- Seafarers play a crucial role in global trade, as nearly 90% of world merchandise trade by volume is transported through maritime shipping.

BIMCO–ICS Seafarer Workforce Report:

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

Q. Which country ranks first in the global supply of seafarers? **Philippines.**



Ajinkya Rahane Announces Retirement from International Cricket

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

International Career:

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

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

Q. Ajinkya Rahane, who recently announced his retirement, is related to which sport? **Cricket**



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

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

What is the T47 Category?

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

Classification System:

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

Q. Who won the gold medal in the Men's 100m T47 event at the Commonwealth Games 2026? **Dilip Mahadu Gavit.**



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

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

Background:

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

Other Awards Won:

- Asia's Best Bank
- Singapore's Best Bank

Selection Criteria:

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

Q. Which bank was named the World's Best Corporate Bank at the Global Finance 2026 Global Bank Awards? **DBS Bank** (Development Bank of Singapore)



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

- Private equity firm ChrysCapital has acquired a controlling stake in Novartis India Ltd (NIL) from Novartis AG.
- As part of the ownership transition, Novartis India has appointed Dr. Vikas Gupta as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. The company also announced the appointment of Ramesh Ramadurai as Chairperson of the board, while Suchita Sharma and Shashank Sinha have joined as independent directors.

Key Considerations	Details
Acquirer	ChrysCapital
Target Company	Novartis India Ltd (NIL)
Stake Acquired	70.68%
Seller	Novartis AG (Switzerland)
Significance	ChrysCapital's first majority-controlled investment in India's pharmaceutical sector

Objective:

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

Q. Which private equity firm acquired a controlling stake in Novartis India Ltd? **ChrysCapital.**



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

Background:

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

During his career, he has led businesses across:

- North America
- Europe
- Asia
- Latin America

He has headed key functions including:

- Fabric Care
- Home Care
- Supply Chain
- Information Technology (IT)
- Global Business Services
- He is the brother of Rajesh Jejurikar, Executive Director & CEO (Auto and Farm Sector), Mahindra Group.

**Shailesh Jejurikar Appointed
Chairman of Procter & Gamble**

Q. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of Procter & Gamble (P&G)? **Shailesh Jejurikar**

ADB Sanctions USD 850 Million to Expand India's Rooftop Solar Programme



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

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

Key Features of the Programme:

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

Q. Which international financial institution approved a USD 850 million loan for India's rooftop solar programme? **Asian Development Bank (ADB).**



Chhattisgarh Launches DWEEPTI Yojana to Promote Women-led Renewable Energy

- The Government of Chhattisgarh has launched the DWEEPTI Yojana (Decentralised Women Empowerment on Energy and Policy for Transformative Inclusion) to empower rural women through participation in the renewable energy sector.
- Implemented By: Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.
- Technical Partner: Transform Rural India.
- Mission: Green Economy Transition Mission.

Objective:

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

Key Features:

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

- Solar Vendors.
- Solar Technicians.
- Project Managers.
- Renewable Energy Entrepreneurs.
- 13 Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) across 12 districts have been registered as authorised vendors under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.
- Registration has been done in partnership with the Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited (CSPDCL).

Q. Which state has launched the DWEEPTI Yojana? **Chhattisgarh.**



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

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

Objective:

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

Target Beneficiaries:

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

Q. Which state government signed three MoUs with the National Stock Exchange (NSE) to promote financial literacy? **Tripura**

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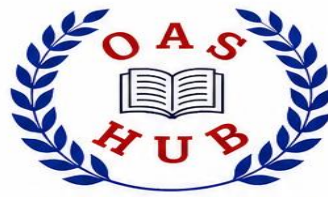
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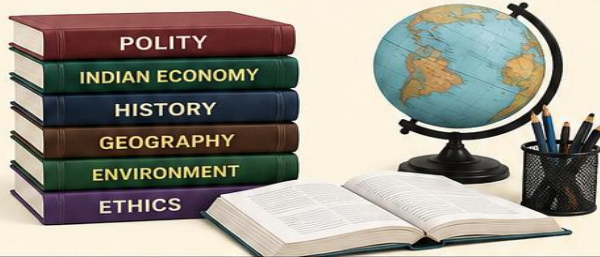
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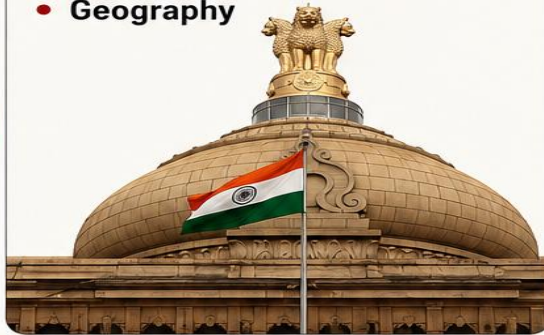
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