

Daily Current Affairs

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Longest ISS Flight

- Russian cosmonauts **Oleg Kononenko and Nikolai Chub** have set a new record for the **longest single mission** aboard the International Space Station (ISS), surpassing the previous record held by cosmonauts **Sergei Prokopyev, Dmitry Petelin, and NASA astronaut Francisco Rubio**, who spent 370 days onboard from September 2022 to September 2023.



- **Kononenko and Chub** arrived at the ISS on September 15, 2023, via the Soyuz MS-24 spacecraft and are scheduled to return to Earth on the Soyuz MS-25 on September 23, 2024, totaling 374 days in space.
- The previous record of 370 days, 21 hours, 22 minutes, and 16 seconds was set by **Prokopyev, Petelin, and Rubio**. The all-time record for the longest single space mission remains with **Russian cosmonaut Valery Polyakov**, who spent 437 days, 17 hours, 58 minutes, and 17 seconds on the Mir space station between January 1994 and March 1995.



25th Edition of IIFA Awards

- Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan, is set to host the prestigious **25th edition of the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards** from March 7 to 9, 2025, at the JECC Sitapura.
- The announcement was made during a formal agreement signing ceremony at the iconic Albert Hall, attended by Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by Rajasthan Tourism Commissioner VP Singh and IIFA Vice President Suresh Iyer, marking the beginning of preparations for this grand event.



- The Rajasthan government has allocated a **total budget of ₹100 crore** for the event. This **includes ₹50 crore from the state government, ₹20 crore from the Rajasthan Industrial and Investment Corporation (RIICO), and ₹30 crore from the tourism department.** Officials believe this large-scale event will significantly benefit the state's tourism and cultural industries.

- **2025 IIFA Awards** will introduce the inaugural IIFA Digital Awards, recognizing achievements in digital entertainment, including films and OTT content. This new category reflects the growing impact of digital media in the entertainment industry.

FATF Report on India

- **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** recently released its Mutual Evaluation Report on India, following an on-site assessment in November 2023. India, which became a **FATF member in 2020**, was placed in the **“regular follow-up”** category, which is viewed positively given prior objections from some developed countries.
- The FATF **identified key areas for improvement**, including the prosecution of money laundering (ML) and terror financing (TF) cases, the protection of the non-profit sector from terrorist abuse, and the implementation of preventive measures.



- **FATF Overview**
- Established in 1989, the FATF is a global watchdog focused on combating money laundering and terrorist financing. Its framework consists of 40 Recommendations across seven categories:
 - AML/CFT Policies and coordination
 - Money laundering and confiscation
 - Terrorist financing and financing of proliferation
 - Preventive measures
 - Transparency and beneficial ownership

- Powers and responsibilities of competent authorities
- International cooperation

World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit 2025

- Indian government will host the inaugural **World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES)** from February 5 to 9, 2025, to boost the country's **media and entertainment industry** and enhance its global influence.
- This will be the **first global summit covering** the entire media and entertainment spectrum.
- WAVES aims to foster dialogue, innovation, and trade partnerships among key players in the media and entertainment industry.



- The summit will **feature discussions on trends**, challenges, and opportunities, especially as new technologies reshape the sector. A key focus will be on the **Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics (AVGC)** sectors, which are gaining rapid global attention.
- WAVES will promote investment and business collaborations within these fields to shape the future of India's media landscape.
- **The Telangana government is backing the summit**, highlighting its innovative ecosystem for media and entertainment. Additionally, the government is committed to combating piracy and supporting the growing gaming industry. This includes governmental initiatives to protect content creators and industry stakeholders.

- **WAVES will also explore advancements in audiovisual technology**, such as 8K resolution, virtual reality, and AI's impact on content creation. The summit will provide networking opportunities for emerging talent and industry veterans, focusing on sustainable production and global market strategies.

AIIB Annual Meeting

- **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Will Embark On A Five-day Visit To Uzbekistan.**
- During Her Visit, The Finance Minister Will Attend **The 9th Annual Meeting Of The Board Of Governors Of The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** In Samarkand.



- Ms Sitharaman Will Also Sign The **Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)** Between India And Uzbekistan.
- Finance Minister Will Also **Hold Important Bilateral Meetings** With Her Counterparts From Uzbekistan, Qatar, China, And AIIB President.
- As Part Of Her Visit, Ms Sitharaman Is Expected To Call On President Of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev.
- Besides These Engagements, **Ms Sitharaman Will Also Visit The Samarkand State** University And Lal Bahadur Shastri Monument In Tashkent. She Will Also Interact With The Indian Diaspora Representing Leading Voices From Multiple Sectors.

World FZO Congress

- **10th annual World Free Zones Organisation (World FZO) Congress** commenced today at the Madinat Jumeirah in Dubai. Running from September 23rd to 25th, this year's **event brings together leading experts**, decision-makers, and stakeholders from the free zones, logistics, and multilateral sectors globally.
- Under the theme **'Zones and the Shifting Global Economic Structures – Unlocking New Investment Avenues'**, the congress aims to explore the latest trends, emerging technologies, and innovations shaping the free zones sector.
- **With over 35 prominent speakers** scheduled across various sessions, focused events, and workshops, the congress serves as a vital platform for exchanging ideas and addressing industry challenges.



- India is actively **involved in the World FZO**, with numerous Indian companies and free zones participating.
- The congress offers an excellent opportunity for Indian businesses to connect with global counterparts, explore new investment avenues, and discuss the impact of global economic shifts on free trade zones.
- **Srikanth Badiga, Chairman of the Export Promotion Council for EOUs and SEZs**, is officially representing India. The event began with a closed strategic session titled “The Future Role of AI and New Technologies in Global Trade 2.0,” featuring 30 ministers, CEOs, and industry leaders. Other key sessions include

the “Private Sector and Developers/Operators Meeting,” “Special Economic Zones in BRICS Countries,” and the “Leadership Development Seminar.”

- **Celebrating its 10th anniversary**, the World Free Zones Organisation is hosting the congress in Dubai for the second consecutive year, underscoring the crucial role of economic zones in global trade, through which more than a third of global commerce flows.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Where Was The “Nadi Utsav 2024” Inaugurated

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Varanasi
- C. New Delhi
- D. Chennai

ANSWER: C

2. Square Kilometer Array Telescope, Is Co-located In Which Countries

- A. India and Russia
- B. China and Japan
- C. Australia and South Africa
- D. France and India

ANSWER: C

3. Which State Secured First Spot In State Food Safety Index 2024

- A. Kerala
- B. Gujarat
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Rajasthan

ANSWER: A

4. What Is The Theme Of ‘International Day Of Peace 2024’

- A. End racism. Build peace
- B. Cultivating a Culture of Peace
- C. Actions for Peace
- D. Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world

ANSWER: B

5. Koraput Kalajeera Rice Got GI Status, Is Cultivated In Which State

- A. Punjab
- B. Odisha
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: B

6. INSPIRE–MANAK Scheme, Is Implemented By Which Organizations

- A. Department of Finance and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- B. Department of Science & Technology and National Innovation Foundation (NIF)-
India
- C. National Science Foundation (NSF) and Department of Economics
- D. Department of Education and Indian Space Research Organisation

ANSWER: B

7. Fast Track Immigration-trusted Travellers Programme Expanded To 20 More Airports In India , Is An Initiative Of Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of External Affairs
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Defence
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs

ANSWER: D

8. Primary Objective Of Indian Government's Directive To Platform Aggregators To Register Their Gig Workers On The e-shram Portal

- A. To provide employment opportunities to gig workers
- B. To provide social security benefits to gig workers
- C. To regulate the gig economy
- D. To collect taxes from gig workers

ANSWER: B

9. Kirkuk Which Was Seen In The News, Is Located In Which Country

- A. Israel
- B. Iraq
- C. Australia
- D. Greece

ANSWER: B

10. Where Will The 55th International Film Festival Of India (IFFI) 2024 Be Held

- A. Mumbai
- B. Goa
- C. New Delhi
- D. Kolkata

ANSWER: B

11. Which Country Has Secured Hosting Rights For 2026 Commonwealth Games

- A. England
- B. Australia
- C. Scotland
- D. Northern Ireland

ANSWER: C

12. Who Became The First Pakistani Woman Nominated To The ICC International Panel Of Development Umpires

- A. Saleema Imtiaz
- B. Sana Mir
- C. Bismah Maroof
- D. Kiran Baluch

ANSWER: A

13. Which Country Won Men's Asian Champions Trophy For A Record Fifth Time

- A. China
- B. India
- C. Pakistan
- D. Japan

ANSWER: B

14. Country To Host 2nd Formal Meeting Of COP9 Bureau Under UNESCO's International Convention Against Doping In Sports

- A. India
- B. United States
- C. Germany
- D. Australia

ANSWER: A

15. By Which Year Is India Planning To Achieve A Moon Landing As Part Of The Chandrayaan-4 Mission

- A. 2035
- B. 2040
- C. 2025
- D. 2030

ANSWER: B

16. By What Year Is India Targeting To Launch The First Module Of The Bharatiya Antariksh Station

- A. 2025
- B. 2026
- C. 2028
- D. 2030

ANSWER: C

17. Which Country Marked 75 Years Of Diplomatic Relations With India, Commemorated By Joint Stamps

- A. Romania
- B. Poland
- C. Hungary
- D. Bulgaria

ANSWER: A

18. What Is The Name Of The Vehicle That ISRO Is Developing To Enhance India's Space Capabilities

- A. Next Generation Launch Vehicle
- B. Unified Launch Vehicle
- C. Indian Space Launch Vehicle
- D. Lunar Exploration Vehicle

ANSWER: A

19. Cabinet Declared Which Day As 'National Space Day' In India

- A. August 20
- B. August 23
- C. August 25
- D. August 27

ANSWER: B

20. Which Rock Edict Gives Information About Asoka's Conversion To Buddhism

- A. Bhabru rock edict
- B. Kalinga rock edict
- C. Tarai rock edict
- D. Barabar cave rock edict

ANSWER: A