

Daily Current Affairs

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Criteria For Classifying MSMEs

- The government has notified significant revisions to **turnover and investment criteria for classifying MSMEs** that will take effect from April 1. Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with **investments up to 2.5 crore rupees** will now be classified as micro-enterprises, from the previous threshold of 1 crore rupees.
- The turnover limit has been **revised from 5 crore rupees to 10 crore rupees**. Units with investments up to 25 crore rupees will be classified as small enterprises, from the earlier 10 crore rupees. The turnover limit for such enterprises has been doubled from **50 crore rupees to 100 crore rupees**.
- **MSMEs with investments up to 125 crore rupees** will now be classified as medium enterprises, from the earlier limit of 50 crore rupees. For medium enterprises, the turnover limit has been doubled to 500 crore rupees.

New MSME Classification Criteria as per Union Budget 2025

ENTERPRISE CATEGORY	CURRENT INVESTMENT LIMIT	REVISED INVESTMENT LIMIT	CURRENT TURNOVER LIMIT	REVISED TURNOVER LIMIT
MICRO ENTERPRISE	₹1 crore	₹2.5 crore	₹5 crore	₹10 crore
SMALL ENTERPRISE	₹10 crore	₹25 crore	₹50 crore	₹100 crore
MEDIUM ENTERPRISE	₹50 crore	₹125 crore	₹250 crore	₹500 crore

India's Goli Soda Goes Global

- **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)** has announced the global resurgence of the traditional Indian Goli Soda, **rebranded as Goli Pop Soda**. The Commerce and Industry Ministry said in a statement that this iconic **beverage is making a remarkable comeback** on the global stage, driven by its innovative reinvention and strategic international expansion.

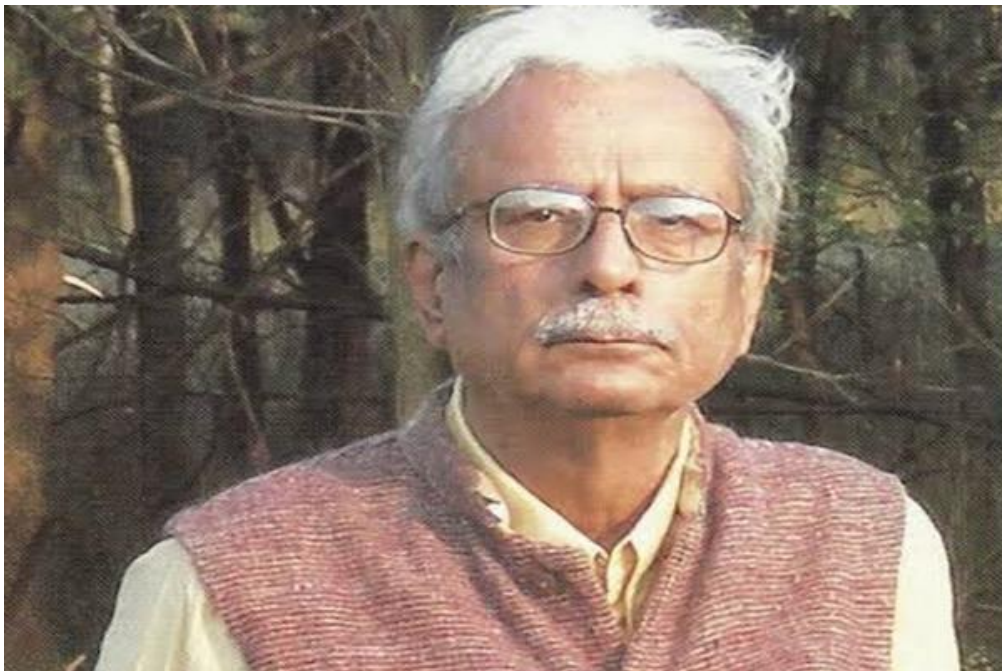


- The product has already made strong inroads in global markets, with successful trial shipments to the US, UK, Europe, and Gulf countries. A strategic partnership with **Fair Exports India** has ensured steady deliveries to **Lulu Hypermarket**, one of the largest retail chains in the Gulf region. Thousands of bottles have been stocked across Lulu outlets, receiving an overwhelmingly positive response.
- In the UK, **Goli Pop Soda** has swiftly evolved into a cultural phenomenon, appealing to consumers who embrace the fusion of traditional Indian flavours with a modern twist. This development represents a significant step in showcasing India's rich beverage heritage on the global stage.



Vinod Kumar Shukla Wins Jnanpith Award

- A famous Hindi poet and writer from Chhattisgarh, **Vinod Kumar Shukla**, has been selected for the **Jnanpith award**. This award is considered the country's **highest literary honour**.



- Mr Shukla lives in Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh. He was born on January 1, 1947, in Rajnandgaon. He has been involved in literary writing for about fifty years. **His first collection of poems**, “Lagbhag Jai Hind”, was published in the year 1971. **His novels**, “Naukar ki Kameez”, “Khilega to dekhenge” and “Deewar mein ek khidki”, are considered to be the best Hindi novels.
- **Along with this, his collections of stories**, “Peed par Kamra” and “Mahavidyalaya”, and his poems, “Woh aadmi chala gaya, naya garam court pehen kar”, “Aakash dharti ko khataкта hai” and “Kavita se lambi kavita”, have become very popular. Mr Shukla has also written books for children. His books have been translated into many languages. Vinod Kumar Shukla has earlier received many awards for his writings. **These include the Gajanan Madhav Muktibodh Fellowship**, the Raza Award and the Sahitya Akademi Award.

Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain-2025

- On World Water Day **Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil** launched the country-wide **Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain – 2025** from Tau Devi Lal Stadium of Panchkula in Haryana.
- The campaign has been launched in **collaboration with the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Government of Haryana**.



- The campaign underlines the **importance of water conservation**, rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge in the wake of climate change and

increasing water challenges. The initiative is focusing on 148 districts across the country.

- Union Minister alongwith Haryana Chief Minister also **e-launched the ‘Mukhyamantri Jal Sanchay Yojana’ and Water Resources Atlas for Haryana.** Innovative water management projects including community sanitation complex, liquid waste management system, Gobar Dhan project and a solid waste management shed were also unveiled in Haryana.
- Mr. Patil also launched **‘Jal-Jungle-Jan: Ek Prakritik Bandhan Abhiyan’**, which strengthens the ecological relationship between rivers, springs and forests. On this occasion, progressive farmers, women, water user associations, industries and NGOs were honoured with awards for their outstanding contribution in water conservation

Bio- Sarthi & BioEconomy Report

- Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, highlighted that there are **around 10,000 biotechnology startups in India**, contributing to an **estimated 165 billion dollar bioeconomy.**
- Speaking at the **13th Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) Foundation Day**, Dr Singh noted that India is being recognised globally for its remarkable progress in space and biotechnology. He also reaffirmed the government’s commitment to advancing science, technology, and the bioeconomy.



- Dr Jitendra Singh highlighted India's **pioneering role in space medicine**, making it one of the first countries to engage in this cutting-edge field. He emphasised **BioE3's crucial role in driving biotech** innovation and economic growth. Dr Singh also launched **the India BioEconomy Report 2025 and Bio-Sarthi**, an initiative for global mentoring for biotech startups.
- The India **BioEconomy Report** is an annual publication by the **Department of Biotechnology and BIRAC** that tracks the growth and performance of India's bioeconomy, mapping its size, structure, and key trends, and providing insights for policy and investment decisions.

US Launches Air Attack On Yemen's Saada Province

- **US military stationed in the Red Sea conducted fresh airstrikes** on Yemen's northern province of Saada. The strikes targeted the areas around the province's namesake central city Saada, a stronghold of the Houthis. There were no reports of casualties.



- The airstrikes came a few hours after the **Houthis claimed to have launched fresh attacks on the USS Harry S. Truman aircraft carrier** in the northern Red Sea and the Ben Gurion airport in central Israel. The exchanges of fire took place amid an ongoing air campaign launched by US forces in mid-March against Houthi-controlled territories in Yemen.

- **Saada province serves as the main stronghold of the Houthi group.** The latest strikes mark the seventh consecutive day of US attacks on Houthi-controlled areas in northern Yemen, including the capital Sanaa.

FIG World Cup

- In Gymnastics, **India's Pranati Nayak has bagged** the bronze medal in the Women's Vault final at the Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG) World Cup in Antalya, Turkey. The two-time Asian Championship medallist Pranati scored an average of 13.417 to secure her maiden World Cup podium finish, last evening. **Jayla Hang of the United States** claimed the gold with a score of 13.667, while her **compatriot Clare Pease took** silver with a score of 13.567.



Kabaddi World Cup 2025

- India has clinched both the **Men's and Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025** at Wolverhampton in England. The Men's team defeated the home side England in the final match 44-41.
- Earlier, the Indian Women's Team also defeated England with a dominating **score of 57-34 in the final at the same venue.**
- **At the inaugural edition, hosted by Malaysia in 2019,** India won both the men's and women's crowns.



Khelo India Para Games

- In the Khelo India Para Games, shooters and para archers showcased exceptional skill and competitiveness, putting up strong fights against their opponents today. At the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range, **Sumedha Pathak** clinched the gold medal in the 10M Air Pistol Women SH1 category. **Rubina Francis** secured the silver, while **Anita Kumari** claimed the bronze.
- Earlier, in the 10M Air Rifle Prone Mixed SH1 category, **Sagar Balasaheb Katale** won gold, **Mona Agarwal** secured silver, and **Deepak Saini** took bronze.



- **Paralympic medallist Sheetal Devi** secured the gold medal in the Compound Women Open category, while Payal Nag won silver and Jyoti claimed bronze.



- **In the Compound Men's Open category, Shyam Sundar Swami** clinched gold, Toman Kumar took silver, and Rakesh Kumar settled for bronze.
- **In the powerlifting event held at New Delhi's JLN Stadium, Punjab's powerlifter Jaspreet Kaur made history by becoming** the first athlete in the Khelo India Para Games to break a national record. Competing in the 45 kg category, she lifted 101 kg to claim the gold medal. **Sonam Patil secured silver, while Kavipriya Raja took** bronze. Jaspreet surpassed her own national record of 100 kg by setting a new benchmark.



- In athletics, **Ishwar Rampal Tak won the gold medal**, Manjeet secured silver, and Akshay Kumar Meena claimed bronze in the Men's Javelin F12/F13 category.
- **In the Women's Shot Put F12/F20 category**, Khusbhoo Gill won gold, Muthu Meena took silver, and Ananya Bansal earned bronze.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What Is The Value Of India's Bioeconomy, Driven By 10,000 Biotech Startups

- A. \$165 billion
- B. \$150 billion
- C. \$200 billion
- D. \$180 billion

ANSWER: A

2. Which Indian State Has Inaugurated Its First Scientific Coal Mining Block, Marking A Shift From Traditional Rat-hole Mining

- A. Assam
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Meghalaya
- D. Manipur

ANSWER: C

3. On Which Date Is The International Day Of Forests Celebrated Globally

- A. March 19
- B. March 20
- C. March 22
- D. March 21

ANSWER: D

4. When Is World Day For Glaciers Celebrated

- A. March 21
- B. March 22
- C. March 23
- D. March 24

ANSWER: A

5. Which Country Sent \$1 Million Worth Of Machinery To Suriname To Support The Passion Fruit Industry

- A. India
- B. China
- C. Brazil
- D. United States

ANSWER: A

6. Which State Has Become The First State In India To Broadcast Legislative Assembly Proceedings In Sign Language

- A. Punjab
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Madhya Pradesh

ANSWER: A

7. Pension Fund Regulatory And Development Authority (PFRDA) Operates Under Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Labour and Employment
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

ANSWER: B

8. Swadesh Darshan Scheme Was Launched By Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Culture
- B. Ministry of Tourism
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Urban Development

ANSWER: B

9. Government Has Announced The Establishment Of North India's First Nuclear Power Project In Which State

- A. Haryana
- B. Gujarat
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Rajasthan

ANSWER: A

10. Which Organization Has Published The United Nations World Water Development Report 2025

- A. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- B. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- C. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- D. World Bank

ANSWER: C

11. Sagarshwar Wildlife Sanctuary Is Located In Which State

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Gujarat
- D. Rajasthan

ANSWER: B

12. Which Institution Has Launched The "Samarth Incubation Programme"

- A. IIT Delhi
- B. Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)
- C. NITI Aayog
- D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

ANSWER: B

13. Primary Function Of Sonic Weapons

- A. To deliver loud, painful sounds over long distances
- B. To enhance communication between soldiers
- C. To generate electromagnetic pulses
- D. To detect enemy submarines

ANSWER: A

14. Directorate General Of Trade Remedies Operates Under Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- B. Ministry of Science and Technology
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of Tourism

ANSWER: A

15. Which Ministry Launched Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme To Create A More Accountable Citizen- Centric Workforce

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Ayush
- C. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

ANSWER: B

16. What Event Is Celebrated In The Book 'March Of Glory' Released On March 18, 2025

- A. 1975 Hockey World Cup Victory
- B. 1983 Cricket World Cup Victory
- C. 2008 Beijing Olympics Gold
- D. 1992 Football World Cup Victory

ANSWER: A

17. Who Was Honoured With The Knight's Cross Of The Order Of Dannebrog By The King Of Denmark

- A. Narayanaswamy
- B. N. Sankar
- C. K.S. Narayanan
- D. Vijay Sankar

ANSWER: D

18. In Which City Police Launch 'Shishtachar' Squads To Enhance Women's Safety

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

ANSWER: C

19. Which Country Became The First Team To Qualify For The 2026 FIFA World Cup After The Host Nations

- A. South Korea
- B. Japan
- C. Australia
- D. Brazil

ANSWER: B

20. Which Of The Following Upanishads Is Composed In Prose Form

- A. Isa Upanishad
- B. Katha Upanishad
- C. Brihadaranyaka Upanishad
- D. Svetasvatara Upanishad

ANSWER: C