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PM Modi To Arrive In Maldives

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will arrive in the Maldives for a two-day visit. This marks a significant moment as it's the first State visit of the Prime Minister to an island nation since President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu assumed charge in November 2023.
- Male is abuzz with preparations to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Indian National flags and banners extending a warm welcome to the Prime Minister are prominently displayed across the city. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Maldives President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu will jointly review the progress of the 'Comprehensive Economic and Security Maritime Partnership'.



• The Prime Minister is also scheduled to **meet other Maldivian leaders for discussions on a range of bilateral issues**. Some MoUs, agreements in areas of bilateral cooperation, are expected to be signed in this visit, along with the inauguration of various infrastructure projects. Tomorrow, the Prime Minister will be the '**Guest of Honour' at** the Maldives' 60th Independence Day celebrations.

• This year also **marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment** of diplomatic relations between India and the Maldives. The State Visit of the Prime Minister to the Maldives is expected to lend further momentum to the bilateral cooperation between the two countries.



- This is the third visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Maldives. High Commissioner of India to the Maldives, G. Balasubramanian, said that he will be the first head of state to come on a state visit under the administration of Maldives President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu.
- Both leaders will also take stock of the progress in the implementation of the India-Maldives Joint Vision for a 'Comprehensive Economic and Maritime Security Partnership. On this, Mr G. balasubramanian said, India has been a significant partner in the Maldives' developmental journey. Mr. Balasubramanian shared details of it.



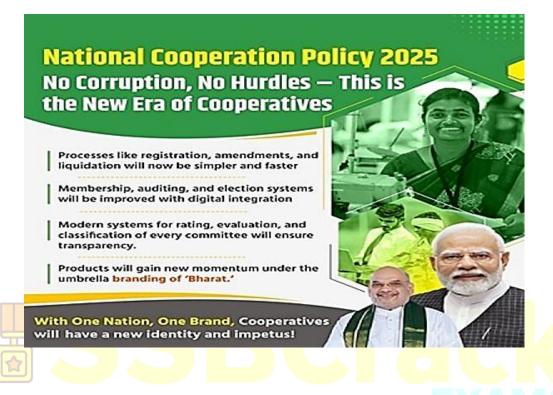
National Cooperative Policy

• Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah today unveiled **the National Cooperative Policy 2025** in New Delhi this evening. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Shah said the Policy will play a huge role in achieving the **goal of Viksit Bharat 2047**.



- He added that the Policy aims to realize the vision of prosperity through cooperation by creating a roadmap at the grassroots level. He said that the country's first National Cooperative Policy was issued in 2002 when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Prime Minister. Key features include a 20-year roadmap (2025–2045), the creation of 2 lakh new PACS by 2026, one cooperative in every village, and a strong focus on digitization, inclusivity, and professional management. The policy benefits farmers, small entrepreneurs, women, youth, and marginalized communities, aiming to enhance credit access, market linkages, and employment opportunities.
- It was drafted by a 48-member committee chaired by Suresh Prabhu, after 17 meetings and 4 regional workshops. States must adopt their own policies by 31 January 2026.

• The strategy is backed by constitutional support through the 97th Amendment (2011) and Article 43B, emphasizing autonomy and democratic functioning of cooperatives. The launch of Tribhuvan Cooperative University will further support training and governance in the sector.



SC Stays Bombay HC Order

• Supreme Court of India has stayed the Bombay High Court's order, which acquitted all 12 accused in the 2006 Mumbai train blasts case.



The Supreme Court today issued notice in the criminal appeals filed by the State
of Maharashtra challenging the Bombay High Court's judgment, which acquitted
all 12 accused in the 7/11 Mumbai train blasts case of 2006. Solicitor General of
India Tushar Mehta, appearing for the State of Maharashtra, told the bench
comprising Justice MM Sundresh and Justice NK Singh that he was not seeking
an order to direct the accused persons, who have been released from prison
following the judgment, to surrender.



• However, he requested a stay of the judgment, saying that some of the observations made by the High Court in the judgment can impact other pending trials under MCOCA (the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act).

US 'AI Export Powerhouse'

- Trump administration has unveiled its Artificial Intelligence (AI) action plan, aimed at reshaping America's AI landscape. US President Donald Trump signed three sweeping executive orders as part of a broader campaign to make the US an "AI export powerhouse".
- The plan proposes to cut back environmental regulations to speed up the **construction of AI supercomputers** while promoting the sale of US-made AI technologies at home and abroad.



- **Speaking at an AI summit in Washington**, President Trump said that the world is now in a rapid race to develop and shape a revolutionary technology, one that will play a defining role in the future of civilisation.
- The executive orders include a crackdown on so-called "woke" AI models, streamlining federal permits for data centre infrastructure and da irective to boost American AI exports. These actions were unveiled alongside a 24-page AI Action Plan, titled "Winning the Race".

World Bank Report

• Indian cities are becoming more vulnerable to floods, heatwaves, and other climate-related risks, requiring over USD 2.4 trillion in investments by 2050 to develop resilient and low-carbon infrastructure, as per a World Bank report.



- Annual economic losses from rain-related flooding are currently around USD 4 billion and could rise **to USD 5 billion by 2030** and between USD 14 to 30 billion by 2070 if no corrective measures are taken.
- The report, prepared with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, highlights that cities will remain central to economic growth, with 70% of new jobs projected to come from urban areas by 2030.

Jharkhand 1st State To Launch Mining Tourism

• Jharkhand has become the first Indian state to launch mining tourism, an initiative announced by CM Hemant Soren and inspired by his visit to the Gava Museum of Mines in Barcelona, aiming to showcase the state's rich industrial and mineral heritage.



- Home to nearly 40% of India's mineral wealth, Jharkhand has partnered with Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) through an MoU to open mining sites to tourists, students, and the general public for educational and experiential visits.
- The Jharkhand Tourism Development Corporation (JTDC) will manage the project's operations with the support of CCL and other stakeholders, promoting the state's mining identity and boosting tourism diversification.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. AT World Bank Report, How Much Investment Will Indian Cities Require By 2050 To Build Resilient & Low-carbon Infrastructure?
- A. 1.2 trillion USD
- B. 2.4 trillion USD
- C. 3.6 trillion USD
- D. 4.8 trillion USD **ANSWER: B**
- 2. Which Indian State Taken A Pioneering Step By Becoming The First In Country To Launch A Dedicated Mining Tourism Initiative
- A. Chhattisgarh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Jharkhand ANSWER: D
- 3. Which State Is Setting Up A Hornbill Conservation Centre At The Anamalai Tiger Reserve
- A. Kerala
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Karnataka
- D. Maharashtra
 - ANSWER: B
- 4. Which Country Has Been Confirmed As The Host Of The 2025 Chess World Cup By FIDE
- A. Switzerland
- B. United States
- C. India
- D. Denmark

ANSWER: C

- 5. What Is The Total Estimated Cost Of The 5 Hicdps To Be Implemented In Nepal With Indian Grant Assistance
- A. NRs. 290 million
- B. NRs. 350 million
- C. NRs. 390 million
- D. NRs. 420 million ANSWER: C
- 6. On Which Date Is National Flag Day Observed To Mark The Adoption Of The Indian National Flag
- A. August 15
- B. January 26
- C. July 22
- D. October 2 ANSWER: C
- 7. On Which Date Is National Mango Day Observed Annually In India?
- A. June 15
- B. July 22
- C. August 5
- D. May 30 ANSWER: B
- 8. Which Company Is Setting Up India's Largest Green Hydrogen Plant At loci's Panipat Refinery
- A. Reliance New Energy
- B. Adani Green Energy
- C. NTPC Green Energy
- D. L&T Energy GreenTech ANSWER: D

9. Tayfun Block-4 Is The Hypersonic Ballistic Missile Developed By Which Country

- A. Turkey
- B. Russia
- C. Israel
- D. China

ANSWER: A

10. Which City Is The Host Of IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025

- A. Paris
- B. Abu Dhabi
- C. New Delhi
- D. Beijing ANSWER: B
- 11. What Is The Projected GDP Growth Rate Of India For FY26, According To The Latest Crisil Report
- A. 5.8%
- B. 6.2%
- C. 6.5%
- D. 7.0%

ANSWER: C

- 12. When Will United States' Latest Decision To Withdraw From UNESCO Take
- A. 22 July
- B. 24 July
- C. 26 July
- D. 28 July

ANSWER: B

13. When Is National Thermal Engineer Day Observed Annually?

- A. Amazon
- B. Flipkart
- C. Swiggy
- D. Zomato ANSWER: A

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14. A Rare, Untouched Tomb From The Ancient Etruscan Civilization Was Recently Discovered In Which Country

- A. France
- B. Belgium
- C. Hungary
- D. Italy

ANSWER: D

15. Which Institution Leads The Wifex (Winter Fog Experiment) Project

- A. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- B. National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI)
- C. Indian Institute of Science (IISc)
- D. Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) ANSWER: D
- 16. What Is The Name Of The Ai-powered Chatbot Launched By The Ministry Of Skill Development And Entrepreneurship
- A. Skill GPT
- B. India Skill Bot
- C. Skill India Assistant
- D. NSDC Genie ANSWER: C
- 17. Bills Of Lading, 2025 Bill Seeks To Replace Which Legislation That Governed Maritime Shipping Documentation For Over 169 Years
- A. Indian Maritime Trade Act, 1854
- B. British Shipping Laws Act, 1855
- C. Indian Lading Act, 1856
- D. East India Company Shipping Act, 1853 ANSWER: C
- 18. Which Organisation Has Signed An Mou With Avanti Fellows To Support Tribal Students In Preparing For Competitive Exams
- A. National Council of Educational Research and Training
- B. Central Board of Secondary Education
- C. Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- D. National Education Society for Tribal Students **ANSWER: D**

19. "Meri Panchayat" App Received The WSIS Prizes 2025 Champion Award Under Which Action Line Category

- A. Digital Inclusion
- B. Cultural Diversity and Identity, Linguistic Diversity and Local Content
- C. E-Governance and Services
- D. Rural Innovation and Connectivity

ANSWER: B

20. Who Led Mahad Satyagraha

- A. Mahatma Gandhi
- B. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar
- C. Acharya Vinoba Bhave
- D. Bal Gangadhar Tilak ANSWER: B

