

Daily Current Affairs

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PM's Mann Ki Baat Programme

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's **monthly radio address 'Mann Ki Baat'** has **earned ₹34.13 crore** in revenue since its launch in 2014, the Union Government informed the Rajya Sabha. **Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting L Murugan said the programme**, produced by Akashvani (All India Radio), leverages existing in-house resources without incurring additional expenditure.



- First broadcast: October 3, 2014
- Production: By Akashvani using in-house facilities
- Revenue since inception: ₹34.13 crore
- **The programme is designed to connect the Prime Minister directly with citizens**, sharing stories of inspiration, social initiatives, and national developments.
- **Multi-Platform Broadcast**
- Murugan highlighted that Mann Ki Baat reaches audiences across India and globally through,
- Akashvani (All India Radio): National and regional live broadcasts in multiple languages.



- Doordarshan: Telecast on national and regional channels.
- DD Free Dish: Offering 48 Akashvani radio channels and 92 private TV channels to extend reach to rural and remote areas.
- OTT & Mobile: Available on Prasar Bharati's WAVES OTT platform and the NewsOnAIR app, which offers access to over 260 Akashvani channels.
- **Digital & Social Media Presence**
- The programme's visual format is designed to enhance engagement, enabling shared viewing experiences and encouraging public discussions.
- It is also live-streamed and archived on,
- YouTube (PMO India, All India Radio channels)
- Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), and Instagram
- Prasar Bharati's PB SHABD news feed service for wider syndication
- This multi-platform strategy ensures accessibility to both urban and rural audiences, as well as Indian communities abroad.

Asia's Longest Freight Train 'Rudrastra'

- Indian Railway has achieved a new milestone by successfully conduct a trial run of **Asia's largest, a 4.5 km long freight train 'Rudrastra'**. The trial run was conducted from the Ganjkhwaja railway station in Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh to Garhwa in Jharkhand covering a distance of **209 km in 5 hours 10 minutes** at an average speed of 40.50 km per hour.



- The Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw also shared a video of the trial run and said Rudrastra is **Bharat's longest freight train of 4.5 km long**. Rudrastra is Asia's longest freight train, which will make freight transportation and loading quick. This will not only save resources but also time.



- Rudrastra was prepared by adding three long haul (two goods trains each) racks. **A total of 345 wagons were included in it, with 72 tonnes of goods loaded in one empty wagon.** He informed that two engines were attached in front and one with **each rack after every 59 bogeys**. In all, seven engines were used. One rack had 59 bogeys. He said in a way, five goods trains were lined up one after the other with the first goods train having two engines.

Bogota International Book Fair

- India will be participating in the **38th Bogota International Book Fair (FILBo) 2026** as a **'Guest of Honour' country**, marking a new chapter in the people-to-people connect between the two nations. Indian Ambassador to Columbia Vanlalhuma conveyed gratitude and stressed that the literary exchange will work as a bridge for **deeper ties and people-to-people connect**.



- Since 1988, the Colombian Book Chamber and Corferias have organised the **Bogota International Book Fair**, an **alliance** that has positioned the cultural event as one of the most important in the Spanish-speaking world. Several ministers of Columbia, including the Cultural Minister, the Director of FILBo, President of Corferias, Executive President of the Columbian Book Chamber also attended the announcement event.
- India's National Book Trust showcased a collective exhibit of books** from India for the first time at the 37th Bogota International Book Fair 2025 held from April 25 to May 11, this year.

ICMR Launches SHINE Program

- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Department of Health Research organized a nationwide student outreach program on **Science and Health Innovation for the Nextgen Explorers (SHINE)** in New Delhi. The initiative aims to introduce students to the field of health and biomedical research, and to motivate young leaders to pursue careers in the field of science and public health.



- Over thirteen thousand students from three hundred schools in grades 9 to 12 participated in the program. Alongside holding discussions with senior scientists the students visited labs, participated in exhibitions, poster walks and films screenings.



- Speaking on the occasion **ICMR Director General Dr. Rajiv Bahl said**, this initiative will help to ignite scientific curiosity, foster innovation and inspire the next generation of health researchers.

One World Outlook

- The **reciprocal tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump** may dampen slowly the US stock markets and economy as well. According to reports of One World Outlook, reciprocal tariffs imposed by US rarely trigger an immediate crisis but over the time, they may squeeze consumers, warp markets and invite retaliation.



- **One World Outlook is a dynamic, student-driven knowledge portal** where passionate minds from top-tier universities across the globe come together to share fresh perspectives and informed opinions.
- **Caterpillar Inc., an American construction, mining and other engineering equipment manufacturer**, estimates the new tariffs will cost it up to 1.5 billion US dollar this year, half a billion in the current quarter alone.

2025 Numbeo Index

- **India ranked 67th globally in the mid-2025 Numbeo Safety Index** with a score of 55.8. Globally, Middle Eastern cities dominate the top safety positions, with Abu Dhabi leading for the ninth consecutive year. **Mangalore tops the list** with a safety index of 74.2. It ranks 49th worldwide. Its low crime rates and effective civic infrastructure contribute to this.



- **Gujarat dominates with three cities** – Vadodara (69.2), Ahmedabad (68.2), and Surat (66.6). Southern cities like Thiruvananthapuram and Chennai also feature in the top 10, reflecting good urban governance. New Delhi, Noida, and Ghaziabad rank among the most unsafe Indian cities. Delhi's crime index is 59.03, Ghaziabad's 58.44, and Noida's 55.1. Safety concerns, especially for women, remain high. These cities face issues like violent crime, harassment, and property crimes.

NUMBEO

- **Abu Dhabi leads as the world's safest city with a score of 88.8** for the ninth year running. Other Middle Eastern cities like Doha, Dubai, and Sharjah also feature in the top five. **Taiwan's Taipei ranks fifth globally.** The UAE ranks second among countries overall.

- The **Numbeo Safety Index** is based on **public perception**. It measures safety during day and night. Factors include risks of mugging, robbery, car theft, physical attacks, and harassment. Discrimination based on skin colour, ethnicity, gender, or religion is considered.
- **Property crimes such as burglary and vandalism, and violent crimes** like assault and homicide, are also included. Higher scores indicate safer cities. Cities with higher safety scores often have better law enforcement and civic infrastructure. Public perception influences rankings strongly. Addressing crime and discrimination is key to improving urban safety. Regional disparities show the need for targeted policies.

M.S. Swaminathan Award

- In a historic tribute to the legacy of **Professor M.S. Swaminathan**, the Father of India's Green Revolution, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today launched a global award in his name — **the M.S. Swaminathan Award for Food and Peace** — aimed at recognizing pathbreaking contributions to food security and sustainable agriculture across the developing world.



- The announcement was made during the ongoing **M.S. Swaminathan Centenary International Conference** in Delhi, where PM Modi also released a centenary memorial stamp to commemorate Swaminathan's life and contributions. **The first recipient of the newly instituted award is Dr. Arenare, a Nigerian scientist** honoured for his transformative work in reducing hunger in Nigeria. The award

symbolizes Swaminathan's lifelong mission to combat hunger through science and innovation, not just in India but globally.



- **“Dr. M.S. Swaminathan is admired globally for his visionary work in agriculture,”** Prime Minister Modi said. “He went beyond biodiversity and introduced the revolutionary idea of bio-happiness, focusing on human well-being rooted in ecological harmony.”
- **Swaminathan, who passed away on September 23, 2023,** at the age of 98, was posthumously conferred the Bharat Ratna in 2024. His contributions laid the foundation for India's self-reliance in food production, with monumental strides made during the Green Revolution of the 1960s and 1970s.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Length Of the Longest Freight Train In Asia.

- A. 4.5 kilometres
- B. 3.5 kilometres
- C. 2.5 kilometres
- D. 5.5 kilometres

ANSWER: A

2. How Many Total Engines Are Used In Longest Freight Train In Asia

- A. 4
- B. 5
- C. 7
- D. 9

ANSWER: C

3. SHINE Program seen in news Is launched By

- A. ICMR
- B. AIIMS Delhi
- C. ISRO
- D. CSIR

ANSWER: A

4. SHINE Program Targets Which Category Of Students

- A. PG Courses
- B. UG Courses
- C. Grade 9-12
- D. Grade 10-12

ANSWER: C

5. Bogota International Book Fair Was First Conducted In

- A. 1985
- B. 1987
- C. 1988
- D. 1989

ANSWER: C

6. India's Rank In 2025 Numbeo Index

- A. 57
- B. 65
- C. 67
- D. 77

ANSWER: C

7. Safest City In 2025 Numbeo Index

- A. UAE
- B. Abu Dhabi
- C. Tokyo
- D. Vadodara

ANSWER: D

8. First Recipient Of MS Swaminathan Award Is Scientist From

- A. Nigeria
- B. Sudan
- C. Japan
- D. Australia

ANSWER: A

9. First broadcast Of Mann Ki Baat Was In

- A. 2012
- B. 2014
- C. 2016
- D. 2018

ANSWER: B

10. AT Numbeo Index Safest City In India

- A. Mangalore
- B. Bangalore
- C. Surat
- D. Vadodara

ANSWER: A

11. Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydroelectric Project Is Located In Which State

- A. Odisha
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Madhya Pradesh

ANSWER: B

12. Which Country Has Developed The Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile System

- A. United States
- B. France
- C. Australia
- D. Russia

ANSWER: A

13. World Tribal Day Is Observed Every Year On Which Day

- A. August 7
- B. August 8
- C. August 9
- D. August 10

ANSWER: C

14. Notary Portal Was Launched By Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Law and Justice
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- D. Ministry of Tribal Affairs

ANSWER: A

15. Great Barrier Reef, Is Located In Which Country

- A. Indonesia
- B. Japan
- C. Australia
- D. Malaysia

ANSWER: C

16. Yashoda AI Literacy Programme Is An Initiative Of Which Organization

- A. Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)
- B. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)
- C. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D. National Commission for Women

ANSWER: D

17. SIGHT Scheme Is A Subcomponent Of Which National Mission

- A. National Solar Mission
- B. National Green Hydrogen Mission
- C. National Electric Mobility Mission
- D. National Wind Energy Mission

ANSWER: B

18. An Albino Indian Flapshell Turtle (Lissemys Punctata) Was Recently Spotted In Which State

- A. Gujarat
- B. Odisha
- C. Goa
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: A

19. Mount Kilimanjaro, is located in which country

- A. Madagascar
- B. Tanzania
- C. Nigeria
- D. Rwanda

ANSWER: B

20. What Is ' Kalamezhuthu '

- A. Traditional Art form
- B. Classical Dance
- C. Folk Song
- D. Ancient rock

ANSWER: A