Current Affairs – MCQs

23 October 2026

Questions PDF

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Questions (110)

1. The 'Thuli' campaign launched by Tamil Nadu in Oct 2026 is related to?
(A) Rainwater harvesting
(B) Plastic eradication
(C) Blood donation
(D) Tree planting

2. Which Tamil Nadu department coordinates and monitors the 'Thuli' campaign?
(A) Rural Development
(B) Municipal Admin & Water Supply
(C) Water Resources
(D) Environment

3. Which was the first Indian State to make rooftop rainwater harvesting compulsory in every house?
(A) Kerala
(B) Rajasthan
(C) Tamil Nadu
(D) Gujarat

4. Which ministry runs the campaign with the tagline 'Catch the rain, where it falls, when it falls'?
(A) Environment Ministry
(B) Agriculture Ministry
(C) Housing & Urban Affairs
(D) Ministry of Jal Shakti

5. Which monsoon gives Tamil Nadu the largest share of its annual rainfall?
(A) Southwest monsoon
(B) Winter cyclonic rain
(C) Northeast monsoon
(D) Summer convectional rain

6. What does 'CII', which gave the Special Awards for FPOs 2026, stand for?
(A) Council of Indian Investors
(B) Centre for Indian Innovation
(C) Chamber of Indian Industries
(D) Confederation of Indian Industry

7. Under which law are FPOs now registered as 'Producer Companies'?
(A) Societies Registration Act 1860
(B) Companies Act 2013
(C) Indian Partnership Act 1932
(D) LLP Act 2008

8. Where did the PM launch the 'Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs' scheme in 2020?
(A) Varanasi
(B) Prayagraj
(C) Gorakhpur
(D) Chitrakoot

9. The Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) works under which Union ministry?
(A) Rural Development
(B) Cooperation
(C) Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
(D) Food Processing Industries

10. Thencherimalai FPO, ranked first in India in marketing, is in which Tamil Nadu district?
(A) Tiruppur
(B) Erode
(C) Salem
(D) Coimbatore

11. In which city was the World Food Prize Foundation's 2026 International Dialogue (20–22 Oct) held?
(A) Rome
(B) Des Moines
(C) Washington DC
(D) Geneva

12. Who received the first World Food Prize in 1987?
(A) Verghese Kurien
(B) Norman Borlaug
(C) B.P. Pal
(D) M.S. Swaminathan

13. Huub Lelieveld of the Netherlands won the 2026 World Food Prize for work in which field?
(A) Food-safety standards
(B) Hybrid rice
(C) Dairy cooperatives
(D) Soil organic carbon

14. Norman Borlaug, 'Father of the Green Revolution' and founder of the World Food Prize, won which Nobel Prize in 1970?

(A) Chemistry
(B) Medicine
(C) Peace
(D) Economics

15. World Food Day (16 October) marks the founding day of which organisation?

(A) World Food Programme
(B) IFAD
(C) World Health Organization
(D) Food & Agriculture Org. (FAO)

16. At which institution did C-DOT set up its 6th Centre of Excellence in Oct 2026?

(A) IIT Kanpur
(B) IIT (BHU) Varanasi
(C) IIT Roorkee
(D) IIT Madras

17. The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) is the R&D centre of which department?

(A) Dept of Telecommunications
(B) MeitY
(C) Dept of Science & Technology
(D) DRDO

18. Which telecom pioneer headed C-DOT when it was set up in 1984?

(A) Nandan Nilekani
(B) Sam Pitroda
(C) A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
(D) Vikram Sarabhai

19. Which institute led the 8 institutions that built India's indigenous 5G Testbed launched in 2022?

(A) IISc Bengaluru
(B) IIT Delhi
(C) IIT Bombay
(D) IIT Madras

20. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) was set up under which law?

(A) Indian Telegraph Act 1885
(B) Telecommunications Act 2023
(C) IT Act 2000
(D) TRAI Act 1997

21. Which company announced a natural-gas discovery in a KG Basin shallow-offshore block in Oct 2026?

(A) ONGC
(B) Oil India Ltd
(C) Reliance Industries
(D) Cairn India

22. Where is the headquarters of Oil India Ltd?

(A) Mumbai
(B) Dehradun
(C) Duliajan, Assam
(D) Kolkata

23. The Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP) of 2016 replaced which policy?

(A) OALP
(B) DSF Policy
(C) CBM Policy
(D) NELP

24. The Krishna–Godavari oil and gas basin lies mainly along the coast of which State?

(A) Odisha
(B) Andhra Pradesh
(C) Tamil Nadu
(D) Karnataka

25. Which district is wholly covered by the 'Tamil Nadu Protected Agricultural Zone Development Act 2020'?

(A) Cuddalore
(B) Pudukkottai
(C) Ramanathapuram
(D) Thiruvarur

26. Which company made the 'Nagastra-2' loitering munition handed over to the Indian Army in October 2026?

(A) Solar Defence & Aerospace
(B) Bharat Dynamics Ltd
(C) Bharat Electronics Ltd
(D) Hindustan Aeronautics

27. Which best describes a 'loitering munition'?

(A) A mine buried in the ground
(B) Drone that circles, then strikes
(C) A torpedo fired from a ship
(D) A nuclear-capable missile

28. Which missile was NOT developed under DRDO's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP)?

(A) Nag
(B) Trishul
(C) BrahMos
(D) Akash

29. Where did Abdul Kalam study aeronautical engineering – the institute that now hosts the 'Dr. Kalam Advanced UAV Research Centre'?

(A) IIT Madras, Chennai
(B) NIT Tiruchirappalli
(C) MIT, Chromepet, Chennai
(D) PSG Tech, Coimbatore

30. In which 2025 military operation did the Indian Army use 'Nagastra-1' loitering munitions?

(A) Operation Kaveri
(B) Operation Ajay
(C) Operation Dost
(D) Operation Sindoor

31. Who released the new 'Land Warfare Doctrine' at the Army Commanders' Conference on 23 October 2026?

(A) Rajnath Singh
(B) Droupadi Murmu
(C) Ajit Doval
(D) Amit Shah

32. Who was India's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)?

(A) Gen Bipin Rawat
(B) Gen Anil Chauhan
(C) Gen Manoj Naravane
(D) Gen Dalbir Singh

33. Army Day on 15 January commemorates which event?

(A) Victory in the 1971 war
(B) Formation of the Indian Army
(C) First CDS taking charge
(D) Cariappa becoming C-in-C

34. Sam Manekshaw, who died at Wellington in the Nilgiris in 2008, was the first Indian Army officer to hold which rank?

(A) Chief of Defence Staff
(B) Air Chief Marshal
(C) Field Marshal
(D) Lieutenant General

35. Who heads the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) in the Ministry of Defence as its Secretary?

(A) Defence Secretary
(B) Chief of the Army Staff
(C) National Security Adviser
(D) Chief of Defence Staff

36. Which MHA body has partnered the Army in the Civil Defence master-trainer pilot?

(A) National Disaster Response Force
(B) DG Fire Svcs, CD & Home Guards
(C) CISF
(D) Intelligence Bureau

37. Which is the principal law governing Civil Defence in India?

(A) Disaster Management Act, 2005
(B) Defence of India Act, 1962
(C) Civil Defence Act, 1968
(D) AFSPA, 1958

38. In which city is the National Civil Defence College (NCDC) located?
(A) Pune
(B) Nagpur
(C) Hyderabad
(D) Dehradun

39. Where were the Home Guards first raised in India in 1946?
(A) Bombay Province
(B) Madras Presidency
(C) Bengal Province
(D) United Provinces

40. The Madras Atomic Power Station (MAPS), a site of the May 2025 'Operation Abhyaas' drill, is located at
(A) Kudankulam
(B) Neyveli
(C) Thoothukudi
(D) Kalpakkam

41. Which body issues Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs) on behalf of the Government of India?
(A) SEBI
(B) State Bank of India
(C) Security Printing Press
(D) Reserve Bank of India

42. SGB redemption price is based on the 999-purity gold price published by which body?
(A) Multi Commodity Exchange
(B) India Bullion & Jewellers Assn
(C) World Gold Council
(D) Bureau of Indian Standards

43. For an individual who buys an SGB at issue and holds it to maturity, the capital gain on redemption is
(A) Exempt from tax
(B) Taxed at 30%
(C) Subject to GST
(D) Taxed at slab rate

44. Launched with SGB in Nov 2015, which scheme lets idle household gold be deposited in banks?
(A) Gold Exchange Traded Fund
(B) Akshaya Tritiya Scheme
(C) Gold Monetisation Scheme
(D) Gold Deposit Scheme, 1999

45. Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar, after whom TN's marriage-aid gold scheme was named, fought against which system?
(A) Devadasi system
(B) Zamindari system
(C) Bonded labour
(D) Sati

46. In which event did Thulasimathi Murugesan win gold at the 2026 Asian Para Games?
(A) Women's singles SU5
(B) Women's doubles SL3–SU5
(C) Mixed doubles SL3–SU5
(D) Women's singles SH6

47. Tamil Nadu's Nithya Sre Sivan, a silver medallist here, plays 'SH6' para-badminton. SH6 is for players with
(A) Wheelchair users
(B) Visual impairment
(C) Upper-limb impairment
(D) Short stature

48. Which Pallava king built the Kailasanathar temple at Kancheepuram, Thulasimathi's hometown?
(A) Rajasimha (Narasimhavarman II)
(B) Mahendravarman I
(C) Narasimhavarman I
(D) Nandivarman III

49. Where were the first 'Khelo India Para Games' (December 2023) held?
(A) Chennai
(B) Guwahati
(C) Bhopal
(D) New Delhi

50. Who won India's first Paralympic gold medal?
(A) Murlikant Petkar (B) Devendra Jhajharia
(C) Mariyappan Thangavelu (D) Avani Lekhara

51. Who took oath as the 29th Governor of Keralam on 23 Oct 2026?
(A) Rajendra V. Arlekar (B) Arif Mohammed Khan
(C) Om Prakash Mathur (D) Dushyant Gautam

52. Before Keralam, Om Prakash Mathur was the Governor of which State?
(A) Rajasthan (B) Gujarat
(C) Sikkim (D) Assam

53. Which Article makes it the Chief Minister's duty to communicate Cabinet decisions to the Governor?
(A) Article 163 (B) Article 167
(C) Article 166 (D) Article 78

54. Which former Chief Justice of India from Erode district served as Governor of Kerala in 2014–19?
(A) K.G. Balakrishnan (B) M. Fathima Beevi
(C) Ranjan Gogoi (D) P. Sathasivam

55. Kerala was formed on 1 Nov 1956 under which Act?
(A) Independence Act, 1947 (B) Andhra State Act
(C) States Reorganisation Act (D) Bombay Reorganisation Act

56. Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, a drug made under a name belonging to another drug is deemed:
(A) Spurious drug (B) Not of Standard Quality
(C) Adulterated drug (D) Misbranded drug

57. The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) functions under which directorate?
(A) DGHS (B) ICMR
(C) NPPA (D) FSSAI

58. Schedule M of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, deals with:
(A) Drug price control (B) Good Manufacturing Practices
(C) Clinical trials (D) Drug import licensing

59. Which toxic chemical was found in 'Coldrif' cough syrup, made in Kancheepuram district (TN) and linked to child deaths in MP in 2025?
(A) Diethylene glycol (B) Methanol
(C) Melamine (D) Ethylene oxide

60. In the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, 'Drugs and poisons' come under which List?
(A) Union List (B) State List
(C) Concurrent List (D) Residuary powers

61. The 28th Charles Correa Gold Medal, presented in Mumbai in Oct 2026, is given for:
(A) Lifetime work in architecture (B) Best public building
(C) Undergraduate thesis (D) Heritage conservation

62. Which statutory body regulates architectural education and practice under the Architects Act, 1972?
(A) AICTE (B) Council of Architecture
(C) UGC (D) Indian Institute of Architects

63. Which of the following was designed by Charles Correa?
(A) Rashtrapati Bhavan, Delhi
(B) Lotus Temple, Delhi
(C) Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur
(D) Capitol Complex, Chandigarh

64. Charles Correa served as Chief Architect of which new city?
(A) Chandigarh
(B) Navi Mumbai
(C) Gandhinagar
(D) Bhubaneswar

65. Who designed the Senate House of the University of Madras and pioneered Indo-Saracenic architecture?
(A) Robert Fellowes Chisholm
(B) Edwin Lutyens
(C) Laurie Baker
(D) Le Corbusier

66. Which European country passed a law in Oct 2026 banning social media for children under 15?
(A) Italy
(B) Portugal
(C) Cyprus
(D) Greece

67. Which was the first country to enforce a nationwide social media ban for under-16s, from December 2025?
(A) New Zealand
(B) Australia
(C) Norway
(D) Canada

68. What is the national legislature of Greece called?
(A) Bundestag
(B) Folketing
(C) Hellenic Parliament
(D) Sejm

69. Under which EU law does the European Commission enforce rules on the largest online platforms?
(A) Digital Services Act (DSA)
(B) GDPR
(C) Digital Markets Act (DMA)
(D) AI Act

70. Which court in Dec 2025 observed that the Centre could make an Australia-like law to regulate children's internet use?
(A) Madras HC, Madurai Bench
(B) Kerala High Court
(C) Karnataka High Court
(D) Delhi High Court

71. Which UN agency leads the annual Global Media and Information Literacy Week (24–31 October)?
(A) UNICEF
(B) UNESCO
(C) ITU
(D) UNDP

72. What is the theme of Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2026?
(A) We All Play a Part
(B) Truth Over Noise
(C) Fact First, Share Later
(D) Digital Trust for All

73. National Press Day (16 November) marks the day on which which body began functioning?
(A) Press Information Bureau
(B) Registrar of Newspapers
(C) Press Council of India
(D) Prasar Bharati

74. Freedom of the press in India is implicitly guaranteed under which Article of the Constitution?
(A) Article 14
(B) Article 21
(C) Article 32
(D) Article 19(1)(a)

75. Who founded the Tamil newspaper 'Swadesamitran' (1882), where Bharathi served as sub-editor?
(A) G. Subramania Iyer
(B) V.O. Chidambaram
(C) Thiru. Vi. Kalyanasundaranar
(D) M. Singaravelar

76. The annual 'Emissions Gap Report' is published by:
(A) UN Environment Programme
(B) IPCC
(C) World Meteorological Org.
(D) UNFCCC Secretariat

77. The Kigali Amendment (2016) to the Montreal Protocol provides for phasing down which gases?
(A) Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)
(B) Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
(C) Methane
(D) Nitrous oxide

78. Under the Paris Agreement, the climate action plans each country submits every five years are called:
(A) National Adaptation Plans
(B) Kyoto Annex B targets
(C) NDCs
(D) Global Stocktake

79. In which city will the UN climate conference COP31 be held in November 2026?
(A) Belém
(B) Antalya
(C) Adelaide
(D) Baku

80. Which special purpose vehicle (SPV) implements the Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission?
(A) TN Pollution Control Board
(B) TIDCO
(C) TN Green Climate Company
(D) SIPCOT

81. Disarmament Week (24–30 Oct) was first called for in the Final Document of which UN meeting?
(A) First UNGA session (1946)
(B) Millennium Summit (2000)
(C) Stockholm Conference (1972)
(D) UNGA SSOD-I (1978)

82. The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), which implements the CWC, is headquartered at:
(A) The Hague
(B) Vienna
(C) Geneva
(D) New York

83. Which of the following countries has never signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)?
(A) North Korea
(B) India
(C) Iran
(D) South Africa

84. Under India's nuclear doctrine (2003), who chairs the Political Council of the Nuclear Command Authority?
(A) President
(B) Prime Minister
(C) National Security Adviser
(D) Defence Minister

85. This Presidency College (Chennai) alumnus was Atomic Energy Commission Chairman during the Pokhran-II tests (1998). Who?
(A) Homi J. Bhabha
(B) Raja Ramanna
(C) R. Chidambaram
(D) M.R. Srinivasan

86. United Nations Day, observed every year on 24 October, commemorates:
(A) Signing of the UN Charter
(B) First meeting of the UNGA
(C) Issue of the Atlantic Charter
(D) UN Charter entering into force

87. In which city was the UN Charter signed in June 1945?
(A) London
(B) Geneva
(C) New York
(D) San Francisco

88. Among the six principal organs of the UN, which one has suspended operation since 1994?
(A) Economic and Social Council
(B) Trusteeship Council
(C) International Court of Justice
(D) Secretariat

89. As per the UN Charter, the General Assembly appoints the Secretary-General on the recommendation of:
(A) International Court of Justice
(B) ECOSOC
(C) Security Council
(D) Human Rights Council

90. A leading Justice Party figure, he became the first President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1946. Who?
(A) A. Ramaswami Mudaliar
(B) V.K. Krishna Menon
(C) Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
(D) B.N. Rau

91. World Development Information Day coincides with which other observance?
(A) Human Rights Day
(B) World Food Day
(C) United Nations Day
(D) World Environment Day

92. Which UN body first proposed World Development Information Day?
(A) UNCTAD
(B) UNDP
(C) UNESCO
(D) World Bank

93. Which body releases the 'SDG India Index'?
(A) Ministry of Statistics
(B) Reserve Bank of India
(C) NITI Aayog
(D) Finance Commission

94. In NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2023–24, Tamil Nadu was placed in which category?
(A) Achiever
(B) Front Runner
(C) Performer
(D) Aspirant

95. The Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015 succeeded which earlier set of goals?
(A) Millennium Development Goals
(B) Agenda 21
(C) Aichi Targets
(D) Kyoto targets

96. Which organisation established 'World Polio Day', observed every year on 24 October?
(A) World Health Organization
(B) UNICEF
(C) Gates Foundation
(D) Rotary International

97. Who developed the injectable inactivated polio vaccine (IPV)?
(A) Jonas Salk
(B) Albert Sabin
(C) Edward Jenner
(D) Louis Pasteur

98. India's last wild polio case (Jan 2011) was reported from which State?
(A) West Bengal
(B) Uttar Pradesh
(C) Bihar
(D) Assam

99. Which two countries are still endemic for wild poliovirus?
(A) Nigeria and Pakistan
(B) India and Nepal
(C) Pakistan and Afghanistan
(D) Afghanistan and Iran

100. Paralysis in polio results from the virus damaging which of the following?
(A) Spinal cord motor neurons
(B) Muscle fibres directly
(C) Bone marrow
(D) Blood vessels

101. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) was raised in the backdrop of which event?
(A) 1965 India–Pakistan war
(B) Kargil war
(C) 1962 India–China war
(D) Bangladesh Liberation War

102. ITBP functions under the administrative control of which Ministry?
(A) Ministry of Defence
(B) Ministry of External Affairs
(C) Ministry of Home Affairs
(D) Cabinet Secretariat

103. The India–China border guarded by ITBP runs from Karakoram Pass (Ladakh) to which pass in Arunachal Pradesh?
(A) Nathu La
(B) Shipki La
(C) Lipulekh
(D) Jachep La

104. Under 'One Border One Force', which force guards the India–Nepal and India–Bhutan borders?
(A) Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)
(B) ITBP
(C) Border Security Force
(D) Assam Rifles

105. Where is ITBP's Mountaineering & Skiing Institute located?
(A) Auli (Uttarakhand)
(B) Gulmarg (J&K)
(C) Manali (Himachal)
(D) Darjeeling (W. Bengal)

106. The Tiruppathur fort, where the Marudhu brothers were hanged on 24 Oct 1801, is in which present district?
(A) Tirupathur
(B) Ramanathapuram
(C) Madurai
(D) Sivaganga

107. Where was the Marudhu brothers' 'Jambudweepa Proclamation' (1801) put up?
(A) Madurai and Rameswaram
(B) Thanjavur and Kumbakonam
(C) Tiruchi fort and Srirangam
(D) Vellore and Arcot

108. In British records, the Marudhu brothers' revolt was categorised as the:
(A) Vellore Mutiny
(B) South Indian Rebellion
(C) Carnatic Revolt
(D) Dindigul Mutiny

109. After Muthu Vaduganathar's death, the Marudhu brothers helped which queen regain the Sivaganga throne?
(A) Rani Mangammal
(B) Rani Lakshmibai
(C) Rani Chennamma
(D) Velu Nachiyar

110. At which place's memorial is the Marudhu brothers' Guru Pooja held every year (27 Oct)?
(A) Manamadurai
(B) Kalaiyarkoil
(C) Paramakudi
(D) Panchalankurichi

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Answer key at a glance

1 **A**	2 **B**	3 **C**	4 **D**	5 **C**	6 **D**	7 **B**	8 **D**	9 **C**	10 **D**
11 **B**	12 **D**	13 **A**	14 **C**	15 **D**	16 **B**	17 **A**	18 **B**	19 **D**	20 **D**
21 **B**	22 **C**	23 **D**	24 **B**	25 **D**	26 **A**	27 **B**	28 **C**	29 **C**	30 **D**
31 **A**	32 **A**	33 **D**	34 **C**	35 **D**	36 **B**	37 **C**	38 **B**	39 **A**	40 **D**
41 **D**	42 **B**	43 **A**	44 **C**	45 **A**	46 **B**	47 **D**	48 **A**	49 **D**	50 **A**
51 **C**	52 **C**	53 **B**	54 **D**	55 **C**	56 **A**	57 **A**	58 **B**	59 **A**	60 **C**
61 **C**	62 **B**	63 **C**	64 **B**	65 **A**	66 **D**	67 **B**	68 **C**	69 **A**	70 **A**
71 **B**	72 **A**	73 **C**	74 **D**	75 **A**	76 **A**	77 **B**	78 **C**	79 **B**	80 **C**
81 **D**	82 **A**	83 **B**	84 **B**	85 **C**	86 **D**	87 **D**	88 **B**	89 **C**	90 **A**
91 **C**	92 **A**	93 **C**	94 **B**	95 **A**	96 **D**	97 **A**	98 **A**	99 **C**	100 **A**
101 **C**	102 **C**	103 **D**	104 **A**	105 **A**	106 **D**	107 **C**	108 **B**	109 **D**	110 **B**

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Answers & explanations

1. (A) Rainwater harvesting – Rainwater harvesting; 'Thuli' = a drop. Its mascot is a blue water-drop carrying a house.

2. (B) Municipal Admin & Water Supply – Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department – G.O. No. 184 (16.10.2026). The TWAD Board comes under this department.

3. (C) Tamil Nadu – Tamil Nadu – by a 2003 ordinance under CM Jayalalithaa; compliance deadline 31 Aug 2003.

4. (D) Ministry of Jal Shakti – Ministry of Jal Shakti – 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain', launched by the PM on 22 March 2021 (World Water Day).

5. (C) Northeast monsoon – Northeast monsoon (Oct–Dec) – about 48%. During the Southwest monsoon Tamil Nadu lies in the rain-shadow of the Western Ghats.

6. (D) Confederation of Indian Industry – Confederation of Indian Industry – an industry body founded in 1895, headquartered in New Delhi.

7. (B) Companies Act 2013 – Companies Act 2013, Chapter XXIA. Earlier it was Part IXA of the 1956 Act, added by a 2002 amendment.

8. (D) Chitrakoot – Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh (Feb 2020); a ₹6,865 crore Central Sector Scheme.

9. (C) Agriculture & Farmers Welfare – Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare – SFAC was set up as an autonomous society on 18 Jan 1994.

10. (D) Coimbatore – Coimbatore (Sultanpet). Isha's first FPO, 'Velliangiri Uzhavan' (2013), is at Thondamuthur, Coimbatore.

11. (B) Des Moines – Des Moines, Iowa (USA) – the Dialogue is named after Norman Borlaug, founder of the World Food Prize; 2026 marks the Prize's 40th year.

12. (D) M.S. Swaminathan – M.S. Swaminathan (Kumbakonam) – used the prize money to found MSSRF, Chennai (1988). Verghese Kurien won it in 1989.

13. (A) Food-safety standards – Science-based international food-safety standards that cut foodborne illness and food loss. Soil carbon was Rattan Lal (2020).

14. (C) Peace – Nobel Peace Prize 1970 – for fighting hunger with high-yielding semi-dwarf wheat. He worked with M.S. Swaminathan on India's Green Revolution.

15. (D) Food & Agriculture Org. (FAO) – FAO – founded on 16 Oct 1945 at Quebec City, Canada; HQ Rome (Italy). The Borlaug Dialogue is held around this day.

16. (B) IIT (BHU) Varanasi – IIT (BHU) Varanasi. The earlier five: IIT Kanpur, Gandhinagar, Roorkee, Hyderabad and IISc Bengaluru.

17. (A) Dept of Telecommunications – Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications. C-DOT has built indigenous 4G/5G technology.

18. (B) Sam Pitroda – Sam Pitroda – adviser to Rajiv Gandhi; drove rural RAX exchanges and the spread of public phones (STD/PCO).

19. (D) IIT Madras – IIT Madras – launched by the PM on 17 May 2022 at TRAI's silver jubilee; cost over ₹220 crore.

20. (D) TRAI Act 1997 – The TRAI Act 1997. The Telecommunications Act 2023 replaced the Telegraph Act of 1885.

21. (B) Oil India Ltd – Oil India – 'Godavari-1' well, Matsyapuri formation; it is the block's sole operator.

22. (C) Duliajan, Assam – Duliajan (Assam); incorporated in 1959. Digboi, also in Assam, has India's oldest oil refinery (1901).

23. (D) NELP – NELP (New Exploration Licensing Policy, 1997-98). HELP brings one licence, revenue sharing and OALP block selection by firms.

24. (B) Andhra Pradesh – Andhra Pradesh – from the Godavari and Krishna deltas into the Bay of Bengal; Reliance's KG-D6 (2002) is here.

25. (D) Thiruvarur – Thiruvarur (with Thanjavur and Nagapattinam); only some blocks of Cuddalore and Pudukkottai. New oil, gas and methane exploration is banned.

26. (A) Solar Defence & Aerospace – Nagpur's Solar Defence and Aerospace (SDAL) made it; its 4 kg tandem warhead can strike tanks.

27. (B) Drone that circles, then strikes – It is a 'kamikaze drone' that circles over a target area and then crashes into the target; many models can also be recovered.

28. (C) BrahMos – IGMDP (1983) produced Prithvi, Agni, Trishul, Akash and Nag. BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile of an India–Russia joint venture.

29. (C) MIT, Chromepet, Chennai – The Madras Institute of Technology (MIT, 1949) was India's first to offer UG aeronautical engineering; it has been an Anna University constituent since 1978.

30. (D) Operation Sindoor – Nagastra-1 struck targets in 'Operation Sindoor' (May 2025). Kaveri – Sudan evacuation (2023), Ajay – Israel evacuation (2023); Dost – Türkiye earthquake aid (2023).

31. (A) Rajnath Singh – Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released it; the twice-yearly conference was chaired by Army Chief Gen Dhiraj Seth.

32. (A) Gen Bipin Rawat – Gen Bipin Rawat took charge on 1 Jan 2020; the second CDS was Anil Chauhan; N.S. Raja Subramani (3rd CDS) since 31 May 2026.

33. (D) Cariappa becoming C-in-C – On 15 Jan 1949 K.M. Cariappa became the first Indian Commander-in-Chief. The 1971 victory is marked as 'Vijay Diwas' on 16 Dec.

34. (C) Field Marshal – Manekshaw became Field Marshal in Jan 1973; the second was K.M. Cariappa (1986). In the IAF, Arjan Singh was 'Marshal of the Air Force'.

35. (D) Chief of Defence Staff – The DMA was created in 2019 along with the CDS post; the CDS is its Secretary. The President is Supreme Commander of the forces (Art. 53(2)).

36. (B) DG Fire Svcs, CD & Home Guards – The DGFSCDHG coordinates it; 600 trainers from 12 States get 3 days of training at Army establishments.

37. (C) Civil Defence Act, 1968 – Civil Defence Act 1968 (Act 27); a 2009 amendment added disaster management to its role.

38. (B) Nagpur – It began in 1957 as the Central Emergency Relief Training Institute (CERTI) and was renamed NCDC in 1968.

39. (A) Bombay Province – Raised in Bombay on 6 Dec 1946 under Morarji Desai; 6 Dec is Civil Defence and Home Guards Day.

40. (D) Kalpakkam – MAPS is at Kalpakkam, Chengalpattu district; Kudankulam (Tirunelveli) is the Russian-assisted nuclear plant.

41. (D) Reserve Bank of India – The RBI issues them; being Government Securities, they carry a sovereign guarantee.

42. (B) India Bullion & Jewellers Assn – It is the average of IBJA closing prices for the previous 3 business days. BIS sets jewellery hallmarking standards.

43. (A) Exempt from tax – Capital gains on maturity redemption are exempt; but the 2.5% annual interest is taxed at slab rates.

44. (C) Gold Monetisation Scheme – Gold Monetisation Scheme (GMS) – deposits earn interest; the 'Indian Gold Coin' was released the same day.

45. (A) Devadasi system – A Self-Respect Movement activist; the Madras Devadasis (Prevention of Dedication) Act, 1947 followed this struggle.

46. (B) Women's doubles SL3–SU5 – Doubles gold with Manasi Joshi; silver in singles SU5 and mixed doubles (with Nitesh Kumar) – 3 medals in one day.

47. (D) Short stature – SH6 – short stature; SU5 – upper limb; SL3/SL4 – lower limb; WH1/WH2 – wheelchair. Nithya Sre won bronze at Paris 2024.

48. (A) Rajasimha (Narasimhavarman II) – Rajasimha built structural stone temples (also the Shore Temple, Mamallapuram). Mahendravarman I is known for rock-cut cave temples.

49. (D) New Delhi – 10–17 Dec 2023 – 7 sports at New Delhi's Indira Gandhi and JLN stadiums and Karni Singh Shooting Range.

50. (A) Murlikant Petkar – Gold in the 50 m freestyle with a world record at the 1972 Heidelberg Paralympics; Padma Shri 2018.

51. (C) Om Prakash Mathur – Om Prakash Mathur, a senior BJP leader from Rajasthan; Kerala HC Chief Justice Soumen Sen administered the oath.

52. (C) Sikkim – He was Sikkim's 18th Governor (from July 2024); Dushyant Gautam is Sikkim's new Governor. Rajasthan is his home State.

53. (B) Article 167 – Art 167; the CM must also furnish information the Governor seeks. Art 78 is the PM's counterpart; 163 – Council of Ministers to advise; 166 – conduct of government business.

54. (D) P. Sathasivam – P. Sathasivam (Kadappanallur, near Bhavani) – the first ex-CJI to become a Governor. Fathima Beevi was Tamil Nadu's first woman Governor (1997).

55. (C) States Reorganisation Act – States Reorganisation Act, 1956 (Fazl Ali Commission's recommendation). The same day the Kanyakumari area joined Madras State.

56. (A) Spurious drug – Sec 17B – spurious drug. The Sept 2026 alert found one spurious sample in Delhi; 17A – adulterated, 17 – misbranded.

57. (A) DGHS – CDSCO is under the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Union Health Ministry; headed by the DCGI; HQ New Delhi. NPPA (drug pricing authority) is under the Department of Pharmaceuticals (Chemicals & Fertilizers).

58. (B) Good Manufacturing Practices – Schedule M – GMP. The revised Schedule M was notified on 28 Dec 2023; MSMEs got time till 31 Dec 2025.

59. (A) Diethylene glycol – About 48.6% diethylene glycol (DEG), which causes acute kidney failure. Maker: Sresan Pharma (Sunguvarchatram); melamine was behind China's 2008 milk adulteration scandal.

60. (C) Concurrent List – Concurrent List (List III, Entry 19). So the Central CDSCO and State drug control departments work together; State labs flagged 288 of the NSQ samples in Sept 2026.

61. (C) Undergraduate thesis – For a final-year undergraduate solo thesis; started by Correa in 1998. The 2026 winner – Kochi's 'Energy Commons'.

62. (B) Council of Architecture – Council of Architecture (COA). Only COA-approved colleges are eligible for the medal; IIA is only a professional association.

63. (C) Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur – Jawahar Kala Kendra (1986–92). Rashtrapati Bhavan – Edwin Lutyens; Lotus Temple – Fariborz Sahba; Chandigarh – Le Corbusier.

64. (B) Navi Mumbai – Navi Mumbai (New Bombay, 1970–75). In 1985 Rajiv Gandhi made him Chairman of the National Commission on Urbanisation.

65. (A) Robert Fellowes Chisholm – Robert Fellowes Chisholm – Senate House (1874–79), Chepauk Revenue Board building (1871). Laurie Baker is known for low-cost buildings in Kerala.

66. (D) Greece – Greece – in force from 1 Jan 2027; no exemption even with parental consent. The government 'Kids Wallet' app is used for age checks.

67. (B) Australia – Australia – Online Safety Amendment Act 2024; in force from 10 Dec 2025. Regulator – the eSafety Commissioner.

68. (C) Hellenic Parliament – Hellenic Parliament (Vouli) – unicameral, in Athens. Bundestag – Germany; Folketing – Denmark; Sejm – Poland.

69. (A) Digital Services Act (DSA) – Digital Services Act (DSA) – oversight of the largest platforms under the Greek law falls under it. GDPR – personal data; DMA – market competition.

70. (A) Madras HC, Madurai Bench – Madras High Court, Madurai Bench (Justices G. Jayachandran and K.K. Ramakrishnan). Meanwhile child rights commissions could prepare an awareness plan, it said.

71. (B) UNESCO – UNESCO – it has marked the week since 2011; the UN General Assembly recognised it in 2021. UNESCO is headquartered in Paris.

72. (A) We All Play a Part – In full: 'We All Play a Part – Media and Information Literacy for the People'. This year it is held as decentralised regional and online events.

73. (C) Press Council of India – The Press Council of India – 1966; a statutory, quasi-judicial body, now functioning under the Press Council Act, 1978.

74. (D) Article 19(1)(a) – Article 19(1)(a) – freedom of speech and expression; upheld in 'Romesh Thappar v. State of Madras' (1950). Restrictions come under Article 19(2).

75. (A) G. Subramania Iyer – G. Subramania Iyer – also a co-founder of 'The Hindu' in Madras (1878). Thiru. Vi. Ka. edited 'Desabhaktan' and 'Navasakthi'.

76. (A) UN Environment Programme – UNEP – published since 2010; the 2026 report is the 17th edition. The IPCC (1988, set up by WMO + UNEP) publishes Assessment Reports.

77. (B) Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) – HFCs do not deplete ozone but are potent greenhouse gases. The Montreal Protocol (1987) itself phased out CFCs.

78. (C) NDCs – NDCs – Nationally Determined Contributions. India's new NDC (March 2026): 60% non-fossil power capacity by 2035; net zero by 2070.

79. (B) Antalya – Antalya, Türkiye – 9–20 Nov 2026. COP30 was at Belém, Brazil (2025); COP29 at Baku, Azerbaijan (2024).

80. (C) TN Green Climate Company – Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC, 2021) – it runs four missions: Climate Change, Wetlands, Green Tamil Nadu and TN-SHORE.

81. (D) UNGA SSOD-I (1978) – 1978 – the UNGA's first Special Session on Disarmament (resolution S-10/2). The week starts on 24 Oct, the UN's founding anniversary.

82. (A) The Hague – The Hague, Netherlands; the OPCW won the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize. The CWC came into force in 1997; India is an original State Party.

83. (B) India – India – it regards the NPT as discriminatory; Pakistan and Israel have not signed either. North Korea withdrew in 2003; South Africa gave up its nuclear weapons and joined in 1991.

84. (B) Prime Minister – The Prime Minister – it is the only body that can authorise nuclear use. The Executive Council is chaired by the NSA; the doctrine rests on 'No First Use'.

85. (C) R. Chidambaram – R. Chidambaram – AEC Chairman (1993–2000) and Principal Scientific Adviser (2001–2018); died on 4 Jan 2025. Raja Ramanna led the 1974 test team.

86. (D) UN Charter entering into force – 24 Oct 1945 – the Charter came into force after most signatories ratified it. The UNGA first met in London in January 1946.

87. (D) San Francisco – San Francisco – 26 June 1945; 50 countries signed, and Poland signed later to make 51 original members. India is an original member.

88. (B) Trusteeship Council – Trusteeship Council – Palau, the last trust territory, became independent in 1994. The ICJ (The Hague) is the only principal organ located outside New York.

89. (C) Security Council – The Security Council (Article 97). Guterres's term ends on 31 Dec 2026; the Council is holding straw polls to choose his successor.

90. (A) A. Ramaswami Mudaliar – Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar – he led India's delegation at the 1945 San Francisco Conference. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit became the first woman UNGA President in 1953.

91. (C) United Nations Day – UN Day (24 Oct) – to stress development's central role in the UN's work. The Second Development Decade strategy was adopted on this date in 1970.

92. (A) UNCTAD – UNCTAD (proposal of May 1972) – set up in 1964, HQ Geneva; it publishes the 'World Investment Report'.

93. (C) NITI Aayog – NITI Aayog – since 2018; a tool of competitive federalism. The National Indicator Framework (NIF) is maintained by MoSPI.

94. (B) Front Runner – Front Runner (score 65–99) – Tamil Nadu scored 78. Achiever = 100; Performer = 50–64; Aspirant = 0–49. In 2023–24, 32 States/UTs were Front Runners.

95. (A) Millennium Development Goals – MDGs (2000–2015, 8 goals). SDGs – 17 goals, 169 targets, deadline 2030. 'Agenda 21' came from the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.

96. (D) Rotary International – Rotary International – to commemorate Jonas Salk's birth. Rotary is a founding partner of the 1988 GPEI; 'PolioPlus' began in 1985.

97. (A) Jonas Salk – Jonas Salk (1955). Oral OPV – Albert Sabin; smallpox – Jenner; rabies – Pasteur.

98. (A) West Bengal – West Bengal – Howrah, 13 Jan 2011. India was certified polio-free with the WHO South-East Asia Region on 27 Mar 2014.

99. (C) Pakistan and Afghanistan – Pakistan and Afghanistan (WPV1). The African Region, including Nigeria, was certified free of wild polio in 2020.

100. (A) Spinal cord motor neurons – The spinal cord's motor neurons. Poliovirus is an enterovirus – it spreads by the faecal–oral route and first multiplies in the gut.

101. (C) 1962 India–China war – The 1962 India–China war – raised on 24 Oct 1962 with 4 battalions. BSF was formed after the 1965 war.

102. (C) Ministry of Home Affairs – Ministry of Home Affairs – ITBP is a Central Armed Police Force; ITBP Act 1992. HQ New Delhi.

103. (D) Jachep La – Jachep La – 3,488 km in all. Nathu La – Sikkim; Shipki La – Himachal; Lipulekh – Uttarakhand.

104. (A) Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) – SSB. China – ITBP; Pakistan and Bangladesh – BSF; Myanmar – Assam Rifles.

105. (A) Auli (Uttarakhand) – Auli (Uttarakhand). ITBP Academy – Mussoorie. Darjeeling has the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI); Gulmarg has the Army's HAWS.

106. (D) Sivaganga – Sivaganga district. The 'Tirupathur district' carved out of Vellore in 2019 is a different place – do not confuse them.

107. (C) Tiruchi fort and Srirangam – The Nawab's palace in Tiruchi fort and walls at Srirangam – 16 June 1801. Hence it is also called the 'Tiruchirappalli Proclamation'.

108. (B) South Indian Rebellion – South Indian Rebellion (1800–01) – the Second Poligar War. The Vellore Mutiny took place in 1806.

109. (D) Velu Nachiyar – Velu Nachiyar – after the 1772 battle of Kalaiyarkoil she stayed 8 years under Gopala Nayak's protection at Virupachi and regained Sivaganga with Hyder Ali's help.

110. (B) Kalaiyarkoil – Kalaiyarkoil – Sivaganga district; Muthu Vaduganathar was also killed here in 1772. Panchalankurichi is Kattabomman's fort (Thoothukudi).

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