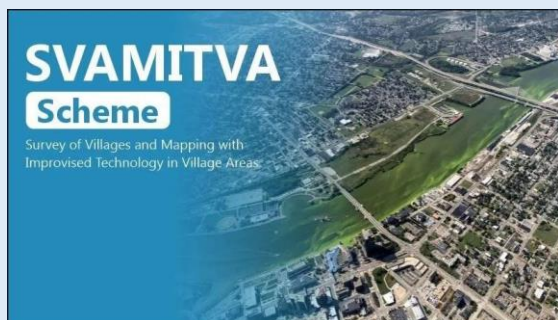


# WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS (12 TO 18 JANUARY 2025)

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## WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS (12 TO 18 JANUARY 2025)



18/01/2025

### [SVAMITVA Scheme: PM Modi Distributes 65 Lakh Property Cards](#)

On **January 18, 2025**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** distributed over **65 lakh property cards** under the **SVAMITVA Scheme** to beneficiaries across **50,000 villages** in **10 states** and **2 Union Territories**, marking a significant milestone in **rural empowerment and governance** in India.

**Objective:** The scheme aimed to empower rural India by providing **Record of Rights** to property owners in **village Abadi areas** through drone technology for accurate surveying.

#### **Benefits:**

**Economic transformation** of rural India.

**Monetization** of property.

**Access to institutional credit** (bank loans).

**Reduction in property disputes.**

**Better property assessments and tax collection.**

**Drone Surveys:** Completed in **over 3.17 lakh villages**, covering **92%** of the targeted areas. Over **2.25 crore property cards** had been prepared for more than **1.5 lakh villages**.

**Full Saturation:** The scheme had reached full saturation in **Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Tripura, Goa, Uttarakhand, and Haryana**.

The SVAMITVA scheme, launched in **2020**, contributed to the **economic development** of rural areas by enabling better governance and access to resources.



18/01/2025

### [Pixxel Space Launches World's Highest-Resolution Hyperspectral Satellites](#)

**Pixxel Space**, a Bengaluru-based startup backed by Google, launched its first private satellite constellation, **Firefly**, on **January 14, 2025**, using a SpaceX rocket from California.

**Key Features:** **Firefly** consists of six satellites, making it the **world's highest-resolution commercial hyperspectral imaging constellation**. The satellites observe Earth in **over 150 spectral bands**, capturing detailed data for various applications.

#### **Applications:**

**Agriculture:** Monitoring vegetation health.

**Mining:** Identifying mineral compositions.

**Environmental Monitoring:** Tracking water quality and atmospheric changes.

**Defense:** Enhancing surveillance capabilities.

**Future Plans:** Three additional satellites to be launched in the next two months and Expansion to a **24-satellite constellation by 2029**.

The technology enables precise detection of chemical, biological, and environmental changes, marking a major advancement in hyperspectral imaging.



18/01/2025

### [National Sports Awards 2024 conferred by President Droupadi Murmu](#)

National Sports Awards 2024 conferred by President **Droupadi Murmu** on **17 January 2025** at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

#### **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award:**

- **D. Gukesh** (World Chess Champion)
- **Manu Bhaker** (Olympic double medalist)
- **Harmanpreet Singh** (Men's Hockey Team Captain)
- **Praveen Kumar** (Paralympic gold medalist)

#### **Dronacharya Award:** for Coaches:

- **Subhash Rana** (Para-shooting)
- **Deepali Deshpande** (Shooting)
- **Sandeep Sangwan** (Hockey)
- **S. Muralidharan** (Badminton)
- **Armando Agnelo Colaco** (Football)

**Arjuna Award:** Given to **32 sportspersons**, including:

**Jyothi Yarraji, Annu Rani** (Athletics)

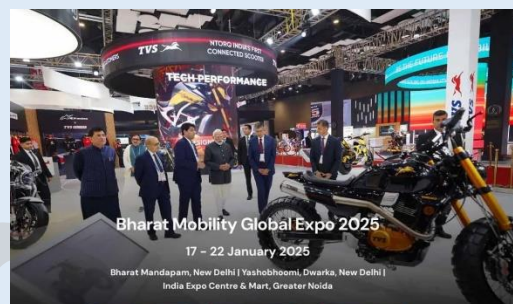
**Nitu, Saweety** (Boxing), **Vantika Agrawal** (Chess), Hockey players: **Salima**

**Tete, Abhishek, Sanjay, Jarmanpreet Singh, Sukhjeet Singh**

Para-athletes: **Rakesh Kumar, Preeti Pal, Ajeet Singh**, and others.

**Lifetime Arjuna Awards:** Recipients: **Sucha Singh** (Athletics) and **Murlikant Petkar** (Para-swimming).

**MAKA Trophy:** Awarded to **Chandigarh University** for being the top-performing university in the Khelo India University Games.



18/01/2025

### [Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 from January 17 to January 22, 2025](#)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025** on **January 17, 2025**, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The six-day event, held across multiple venues in the National Capital Region, including Bharat Mandapam, Yashobhoomi, and the India Expo Centre in Greater Noida, runs from **January 17 to January 22, 2025**.

This significant automotive industry expo showcases **over 100 new launches** in vehicles, components, and technologies, attracting more than **5,000 global buyers**. Key participants include Ather Energy, Ola Electric, VinFast, and other prominent national and international brands. The expo also features **20+ conferences** addressing sustainability, innovation, and technology in mobility.

The public can visit the event from **January 19 to January 22**, 10 am to 6 pm, with free entry requiring prior registration.



17/01/2025

### [SpaDeX Mission Successful: India Becomes Fourth Country to Achieve Space Docking](#)

On **16 January 2025**, ISRO announced that India successfully achieved **space docking** under the **SpaDeX mission**, becoming the **fourth country** in the world to do so, after Russia, the USA, and China.

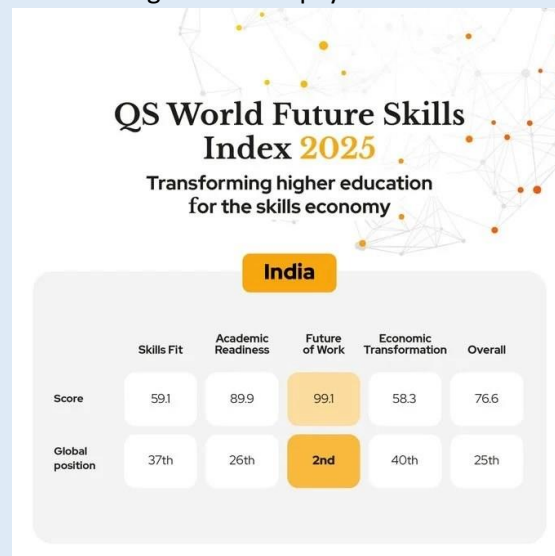
**Mission Details:** The mission demonstrated the **docking, undocking, and power transfer** capabilities between two satellites in low-Earth orbit. It involved maneuvering, precise docking, retraction, and stabilizing the docked satellites as a single unit.

**Future Applications:** The success of SpaDeX will support ambitious projects like the **Indian Space Station** and **Chandrayaan-4**. It showcased critical technologies for **in-space robotics, spacecraft control, and payload operations**.

**Leadership and Indigenous Technology:** The project was led by **N. Surendran** and featured the fully indigenous **Bharatiya Docking System**.

**Launch Details:** SpaDeX was launched on **30 December 2024** aboard the **PSLV-C60**

rocket along with other payloads.



17/01/2025

### [India Secures 2nd Place in QS World Future Skills Index, January 2025 Release](#)

India has secured the 2nd spot in the QS World Future Skills Index released in January 2025, highlighting its excellence in digital skills and readiness for future job markets, particularly in AI, digital technology, and green industries. Key findings include:

**Second Place Ranking:** India is just behind the United States in digital skills, showcasing an impressive global standing.

**Future of Work:** India ranks high in this indicator, signaling its preparedness to meet the demands of future job markets.

**Academic and Industry Readiness:** The report identifies areas for improvement, such as enhancing industry-academia collaboration and better alignment of educational outcomes with industry needs.

**Economic Transformation:** India's start-up culture and GDP growth contribute to its strong performance.





17/01/2025

### [Third Launch Pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota approve by Cabinet](#)

**Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota:** On 16 January 2025, Cabinet approved a **Third Launch Pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**, at a cost of **₹3985 crore**.

The project aims to support **Next Generation Launch Vehicles**, human spaceflight missions, and increase launch capacity for ISRO.



17/01/2025

### [Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto to Be Chief Guest at 76th Republic Day Celebrations](#)

**President of Indonesia, Prabowo Subianto**, will be the **Chief Guest at India's 76th Republic Day** celebrations in 2025. Invited by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Subianto will visit India on January 25-26, marking his first visit since taking office in October 2024.

The visit will focus on strengthening bilateral ties and addressing regional and global issues of mutual interest. India and Indonesia share close relations, with Indonesia playing a key role in India's Act East Policy and the Indo-Pacific strategy as a Comprehensive Strategic Partner.



17/01/2025

### [8th Pay Commission announces for Central government employees & pensioners](#)

**8th Pay Commission Announcement:** The government announced the setting up of the **8th Pay Commission** for central government employees and pensioners on **16 January 2025**.

#### **7th Pay Commission term ends in 2026.**

The commission will benefit over **45 lakh employees** and **68 lakh pensioners**.



16/01/2025

### [Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Programme \(FTI-TTP\) Inaugurated at 7 Major Airports in India](#)

**Inauguration of Fast Track Immigration:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the '**Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP)**' on 16 January 2025 at airports in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Cochin, and Ahmedabad.

**Objective:** The programme aims to provide **seamless and secure world-class immigration facilities** for international travellers.

**Registration Process:**

Applicants must register online on [ftittp.mha.gov.in](http://ftittp.mha.gov.in), fill in their details, and upload required documents. Biometric data will be captured at the **Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO)** or while passing through the airport.

**E-Gate Process:**

Registered travellers will scan their airline boarding pass and passport at e-gates. Biometrics will be authenticated at both arrival and departure points, and upon successful authentication, the e-gate will open, granting immigration clearance.

**Expansion Plan:** FTI-TTP will be implemented at **21 major airports** across India.

**Programme Launch:** The programme was initially launched by Amit Shah in June 2024 at **Terminal-3 of Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI), New Delhi**.



16/01/2025

[India Women's Cricket Team Sets Records with 304-Run Victory Over Ireland in Rajkot](#)

**India's Record-Breaking Victory:** In Women's Cricket, India achieved its largest-ever win by 304 runs against Ireland in the 3rd ODI in Rajkot, Gujarat, on 15 January 2025. India won the three-match series 3-0.

**Historic Batting Performance:**

India score **435/5 in 50 overs**—its **highest-ever ODI total** and the fourth-highest in Women's cricket history.

**Smriti Mandhana scored 135 runs off 80 balls**, registering India's fastest ODI century.

**Pratika Rawal scored her maiden ODI century with 154 runs off 129 balls**, forming a 231-run partnership with Mandhana in 26.4 overs.

Richa Ghosh added a quick 59 runs off 42 balls.

**Ireland's Response:** Ireland was bowled out for 131 runs in 31.4 overs.



16/01/2025

[Sanskriti ka Mahakumbh: A Grand Cultural Festival at Maha Kumbh Mela from January 16 to February 24, 2025](#)

**Sanskriti ka Mahakumbh** is a grand cultural festival held during the Maha Kumbh Mela, from **January 16 to February 24, 2025**. It showcases India's rich cultural heritage through performances by artists nationwide. Highlights include:

Classical singing by Prof. Ritwik Sanyal

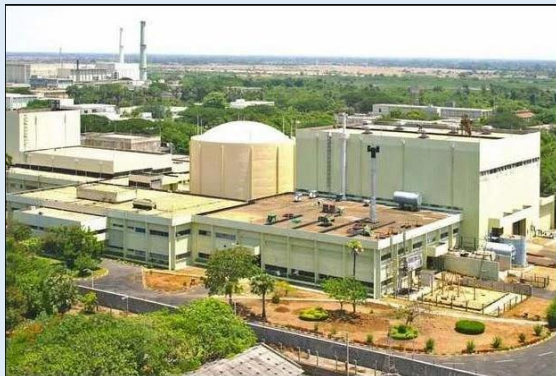
Odissi dance by Bichtrananda Swain

Sitar recital by Kushal Das

Bhajans and light music performances by Shankar Mahadevan and Ravi Shankar

Traditional folk performances like Nautanki, Alha singing, and tribal folk dances will also be

featured, highlighting India's diverse cultural traditions. It's a vibrant celebration of Indian culture, drawing thousands of spectators to witness and participate in these performances.



16/01/2025

### [US Removes Sanctions on Major Indian Nuclear Facilities](#)

**Sanctions lifted on Indian entities:** The US has removed sanctions on three Indian entities—Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Indian Rare Earths Ltd (IREL), and Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR).

**Reason for lifting sanctions:** The sanctions, imposed during the Cold War era, were lifted to enhance US foreign policy goals, support shared energy security needs, and strengthen joint efforts in science and technology between India and the US.

**Strengthened India-US collaboration:** Recent years have seen increased cooperation in peaceful nuclear activities and related research, benefiting global partner countries.

**US action against Chinese companies:** The US added 11 Chinese companies to the Entity List for activities deemed contrary to US national security and foreign policy interests.

**About the Entity List:** It is a US government compilation of foreign individuals, companies, and organizations considered a national security concern.



15/01/2025

### [Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam begins 5-Day state visit to India](#)

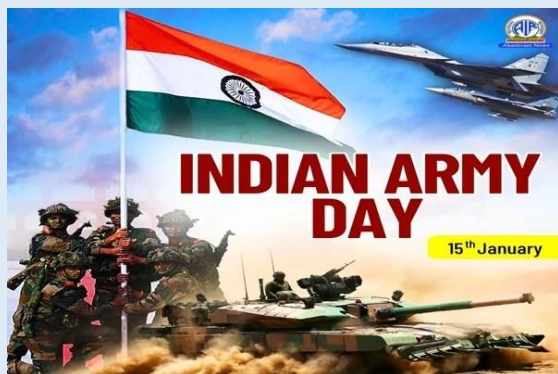
#### **Singapore President Tharman**

**Shanmugaratnam** has arrived in **New Delhi** on a **five-day state visit** to India starting from **15 January 2025**. He was welcomed by Minister of State for Commerce and Industry **Jitin Prasada** at the airport. As part of his delegation, President Tharman is accompanied by ministers, Members of Parliament, and officials.

During his visit, President Tharman will meet with **President Droupadi Murmu**, who will also host a banquet in his honor. He will also meet **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar**, along with other Indian dignitaries. President Tharman will visit **Odisha from 17th to 18th January**.

India and Singapore share a robust partnership built on **friendship, trust, and mutual respect**. This visit aims to strengthen bilateral relations and marks the commencement of celebrations for the **60th anniversary of diplomatic relations** between the two nations.





15/01/2025

### [Army Day Celebrations on January 15](#)

**Army Day** is celebrated annually on **January 15** to honor the soldiers and acknowledge their contributions to the nation's security. The day commemorates the historic moment in **1949** when **General KM Cariappa** became the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, taking over from **General Sir FRR Bucher**, the last British Commander-in-Chief.

The celebration includes parades and military events across the country, with the main parade now held in different cities each year. Army Day is an opportunity to celebrate the bravery and dedication of the soldiers who protect the country's borders and contribute to peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts.



15/01/2025

### [CISF Expansion: Two New Battalions Approved to Enhance Security and Create Over 2,000 Jobs](#)

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has approved the creation of **two new battalions for the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** to enhance its capacity and manage increasing security demands. Each battalion

will consist of **1,025 personnel**, bringing the total number of CISF battalions from 13 to 15 and creating over **2,000 new jobs**.

The expansion will improve the CISF's **rapid-response capabilities, efficiently manage emergencies, and provide relief opportunities for current personnel**. The new battalions will be led by senior commandant-level officers and also involve the recently approved Mahila Battalion.

With this expansion, the CISF's total strength will rise to nearly **200,000 personnel**, enhancing its ability to protect vital national infrastructure such as industrial sites, government buildings, nuclear and space establishments, airports, and historical monuments.

Established in 1969, the CISF has evolved into a key agency for safeguarding critical infrastructure and providing security consultancy services across both the public and private sectors. The new battalions will significantly bolster the force's ability to fulfill its security mandate.



14/01/2025

### [Ira Jadhav Shatters Records with Unbeaten 346 in Women's Under 19 One Day Trophy](#)

On January 13, 2024, **Ira Jadhav** from Mumbai became the **highest individual scorer in Women's Under 19 One Day Trophy** history. The **14-year-old** prodigy played an **unbeaten inning of 346 runs off 157 balls** against Meghalaya at the Alur Cricket Stadium in Bengaluru.





### [India Joins UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics](#)

India has joined the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics.

**Purpose:** The committee focuses on setting global standards and practices for using big data and data science in official statistics.

**India's Contribution:** India will showcase its initiatives, such as the establishment of the Data Innovation Lab and the exploration of alternative data sources.

**Committee Objective:** The UN Committee investigates the benefits and challenges of big data, including its use in monitoring and reporting on sustainable development goals (SDGs).



13/01/2025

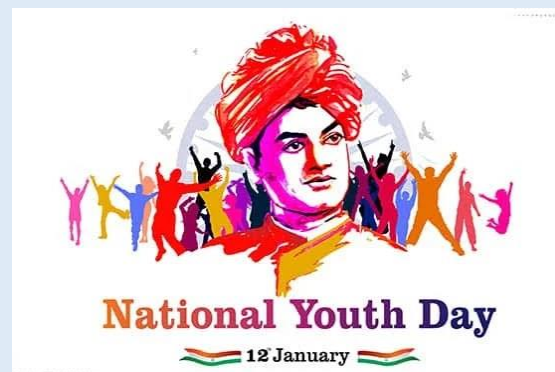
### [Maha Kumbh, the world's largest spiritual and cultural gathering, began on 13 January 2025 in Prayagraj](#)

The **Maha Kumbh, the world's largest spiritual and cultural gathering**, began on **13 January 2025 in Prayagraj** with the Amrit Snan on Paush Purnima.

Millions of devotees are taking holy dips at the **Triveni Sangam, the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers**. This year's event is significant due to a **rare celestial alignment that occurs once in 144 years**.

The Maha Kumbh will continue until **Mahashivaratri on 26 February 2025**. Nearly 50 lakh devotees took a dip yesterday,

and many will observe the month-long tradition of Kalpvash until Magh Purnima.



13/01/2025

### [National Youth Day- January 12th: Celebrating the Spirit of Vivekananda](#)

**National Youth Day** is celebrated on **January 12th** each year in India. This day commemorates the birth anniversary of **Swami Vivekananda**, a key figure in the Indian liberation struggle known for his teachings on youth empowerment.

The day aims to:

**Inspire youth** in their journey of self-development and societal contributions.

**Promote Vivekananda's values** of harmony and brotherhood.

**Encourage young minds** to channel their energy towards nation-building and personal growth.

The celebration includes **youth seminars, cultural activities, and educational events** aimed at fostering a spirit of positivity and progressiveness.



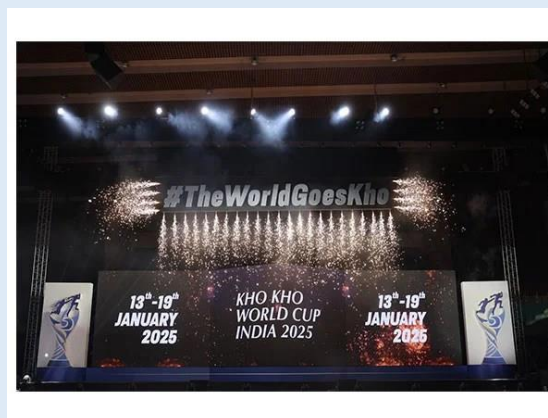
13/01/2025

### [Suryakumar Yadav to Lead India in Five-Match T20I Series against England](#)

The BCCI has announced a 15-member squad for the five-match **T20I series against England**, starting on 22 January 2025 in Kolkata.

**Suryakumar Yadav will captain the team, with Axar Patel as vice-captain.** Mohammed Shami returns to the squad after over a year, joined by players like Sanju Samson, Hardik Pandya, Rinku Singh, and Tilak Varma.

After the T20I series, England will also play three ODIs, which serve as India's final preparation for the Champions Trophy starting on 19 February 2025. The ODI squads are yet to be finalized, and BCCI plans to request an extension for submitting the Champions Trophy 2025 squad, which is due on 12 January.



13/01/2025

### [Kho Kho World Cup 2025 Kicks Off in New Delhi](#)

The inaugural **Kho Kho World Cup 2025** began on 13 January 2025 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi, supported by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).

The tournament features 20 men's and 19 women's teams. **India's men's team, led by Pratik Waikar**, is in Group A alongside Nepal, Peru, Brazil, and Bhutan.

The **women's team, led by Priyanka Ingle**, is in Group A with Iran, Malaysia, and the Republic of Korea. The top two teams from each group will advance to the quarter-finals, with the finals scheduled for 19 January 2025.



## CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQS

### (12 TO 18 JANUARY 2025)

**Q.: What is the name of the mission under which India achieved its first space docking?**

- A. Chandrayaan-4
- B. Gaganyaan
- C. SpaDeX
- D. Mangalyaan

**Answer:** C. SpaDeX

On **16 January 2025**, ISRO announced that India successfully achieved **space docking** under the **SpaDeX mission**, becoming the **fourth country** in the world to do so, after Russia, the USA, and China.

**Q.: Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025, held from January 17 to January 22, 2025, is related to which sector/industry?**

- a) Healthcare
- b) Automotive and Mobility
- c) Information Technology
- d) Real Estate

**Answer:** b) Automotive and Mobility

PM Modi inaugurated the **Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025** on **January 17, 2025**. This significant automotive industry expo showcases **over 100 new launches** in vehicles, components, and technologies, attracting more than **5,000 global buyers**.

**Q.: What is the highest sporting honor awarded at the National Sports Awards?**

- a) Arjuna Award
- b) Dronacharya Award
- c) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy
- d) Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

**Answer:** d) Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

**Q.: Who among the following received the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award in 2024?**

- a) Salima Tete
- b) Manu Bhaker
- c) Jyothi Yarraji
- d) Sandeep Sangwan

**Answer:** b) Manu Bhaker

**Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award:** **D. Gukesh** (World Chess Champion), **Manu Bhaker** (Olympic double medalist), **Harmanpreet Singh** (Men's Hockey Team Captain), **Praveen Kumar** (Paralympic gold medalist)

**Q.: Which Indian startup, supported by Google, launched the Firefly constellation in January 2025, consisting of six satellites and making it the world's highest-resolution commercial hyperspectral imaging constellation?**

- a) Skyroot Aerospace
- b) Agnikul Cosmos
- c) Pixxel Space
- d) Bharti Airtel SpaceTech

**Answer:** c) Pixxel Space

**Pixxel Space**, a Bengaluru-based startup backed by Google, launched its first private satellite constellation, **Firefly**, on **January 14, 2025**, using a SpaceX rocket from California.

**Q.: What is the main goal of the SVAMITVA Scheme?**

- a) To provide government jobs to rural youth
- b) To distribute land to farmers
- c) To provide a Record of Rights to property owners in rural areas
- d) To construct new roads in rural areas

**Answer:** c) To provide a Record of Rights to property owners in rural areas

On **January 18, 2025**, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** distributed over **65 lakh property cards** under the **SVAMITVA Scheme** to beneficiaries across **50,000 villages**.

**Q.: When is the term of the 7th Pay Commission expected to end?**

- A. 2024
- B. 2025
- C. 2026
- D. 2027

**Answer:** C. 2026

The government announced the setting up of the **8th Pay Commission** for central

government employees and pensioners on **16 January 2025**. **7th Pay Commission term ends in 2026**.

**Q.: Who will be the Chief Guest at India's 76th Republic Day celebrations in 2025?**

- A. Joko Widodo, Former President of Indonesia
- B. Prabowo Subianto, President of Indonesia
- C. Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Singapore
- D. Mahathir Mohamad, Former Prime Minister of Malaysia

**Answer:** B. Prabowo Subianto, President of Indonesia  
**President of Indonesia, Prabowo Subianto, will be the Chief Guest at India's 76th Republic Day celebrations in 2025.**

**Q.: Where is the Satish Dhawan Space Centre located?**

- A. Bengaluru, Karnataka
- B. Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- C. Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
- D. Hyderabad, Telangana

**Answer:** C. Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh  
On 16 January 2025, Cabinet approved a **Third Launch Pad** at **Satish Dhawan Space Centre**, Sriharikota, at a cost of **₹3985 crore**.

**Q.: In the QS World Future Skills Index released in January 2025, which position did India secure?**

- a. 1st
- b. 2nd
- c. 3rd
- d. 4th

**Ans:** b. 2nd  
India has secured the 2nd spot in the QS World Future Skills Index released in January 2025, highlighting its excellence in digital skills and readiness for future job markets, particularly in AI, digital technology, and green industries.

**Q.: The US has removed sanctions on which three Indian entities in January 2025?**

- a) ISRO, DRDO, and HAL
- b) BARC, IREL, and IGCAR
- c) Tata Group, ONGC, and NTPC
- d) NALCO, BHEL, and GAIL

**Answer:** b) BARC, IREL, and IGCAR  
The US has removed sanctions on three Indian entities—Bhabha Atomic Research Centre



(BARC), Indian Rare Earths Ltd (IREL), and Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR).

**Q.: In which event is “Sanskriti ka Mahakumbh” held from January 16 to February 24, 2025?**

- a) Diwali Mela
- b) Holi Festival
- c) Maha Kumbh Mela
- d) Republic Day Parade

**Ans:** c) Maha Kumbh Mela

**Sanskriti ka Mahakumbh** is a grand cultural festival held during the Maha Kumbh Mela, from **January 16 to February 24, 2025**.

**Q.: India registered its largest-ever win in Women’s cricket by how many runs against Ireland in January 2025?**

- a) 280 runs
- b) 250 runs
- c) 304 runs
- d) 336 runs

**Answer:** c) 304 runs

In Women’s Cricket, India achieved its largest-ever win by 304 runs against Ireland in the 3rd ODI in Rajkot, Gujarat, on 15 January 2025.

**Q.: What is the name of the programme launched to provide seamless immigration facilities at airports?**

- a) Trusted Traveller Program (TTP)
- b) Fast Track Immigration Programme (FTIP)
- c) Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP)
- d) Immigration Security and Safety Programme (ISSP)

**Answer:** c) Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the ‘**Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP)**’ on 16 January 2025 at airports in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Cochin, and Ahmedabad.

**Q.: What is the expected total strength of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) after the the creation of two new battalions in January 2025?**

- A) Nearly 1 lakh
- B) Nearly 1.5 lakh
- C) Nearly 2 lakh
- D) Nearly 2.5 lakh

**Correct Answer:** C) Nearly 2 lakh

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has approved the creation of **two new battalions for the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)**. With this expansion, the CISF's total strength will rise to nearly **200,000 personnel**

**Q.: Who was the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army?**

- A) General FRR Bucher
- B) General KM Cariappa
- C) General Sam Manekshaw
- D) General Bikram Singh

**Answer:** B) General KM Cariappa

On **15 January 1949 General KM Cariappa** became the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, taking over from **General Sir FRR Bucher**, the last British Commander-in-Chief.

**Q.: When did Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam arrive in New Delhi for his five days state visit to India?**

- A) 10 January 2025
- B) 12 January 2025
- C) 15 January 2025
- D) 18 January 2025

**Show Answer**

**Ans:** C) 15 January 2025

**Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam** has arrived in **New Delhi** on a **five-day state visit** to India starting from **15 January 2025**.

**Correct Answer:** C) 15 January 2025

**Q.: What zodiac sign does the Sun enter on Makar Sankranti?**

- a) Aries
- b) Capricorn
- c) Libra
- d) Scorpio

**Ans:** b) Capricorn

Makar Sankranti is a vibrant Hindu festival celebrated across India, marking the transition of the Sun into the zodiac sign of Capricorn (Makara).

**Q.: In which Indian state is Makar Sankranti celebrated as Pongal?**

- a) Gujarat
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Punjab

Ans: c) Tamil Nadu

Makar Sankranti is known by various names like Pongal in Tamil Nadu, Uttarayan in Gujarat, and Lohri in Punjab.

**Q.: Where is the Sonamarg Tunnel located?**

- a) Punjab
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Jammu & Kashmir
- d) Uttarakhand

Ans: c) Jammu & Kashmir

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Sonamarg Tunnel in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal** district on January 13, 2025.

**Q.: Who became the highest individual scorer in Women's Under 19 One Day Trophy history ?**

- a) Smriti Mandhana
- b) Mithali Raj
- c) Harmanpreet Kaur
- d) Ira Jadhav

Ans: d) Ira Jadhav

On January 13, 2024, **Ira Jadhav** from Mumbai became the **highest individual scorer in Women's Under 19 One Day Trophy** history. The **14-year-old** prodigy played an **unbeaten inning of 346 runs off 157 balls** against Meghalaya at the Alur Cricket Stadium in Bengaluru.

**Q.: Who is leading the Indian men's team in the Kho Kho World Cup 2025?**

- a) Pratik Waikar
- b) Priyanka Ingle
- c) Rohit Sharma
- d) Arjun Hegde

Answer: a) Pratik Waikar

**Kho Kho World Cup 2025** tournament features 20 men's and 19 women's teams. **India's men's team, led by Pratik Waikar**, is in Group A alongside Nepal, Peru, Brazil, and Bhutan.

**Q.: Who has been named the captain of the Indian T20I team for the series against England?**

- a) Rohit Sharma
- b) Hardik Pandya
- c) Suryakumar Yadav
- d) Virat Kohli



**Answer:** c) Suryakumar Yadav

**Suryakumar Yadav** will **captain the team**, with **Axar Patel** as **vice-captain** for the five-match T20I series against England, starting on 22 January 2025 in Kolkata.

**Q.: Which prominent figure's birth anniversary is commemorated on National Youth Day on January 12th?**

- a) Mahatma Gandhi
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) Subhash Chandra Bose
- d) Swami Vivekananda

**Answer:** d) Swami Vivekananda

**National Youth Day** is celebrated on **January 12th** each year in India. This day commemorates the birth anniversary of **Swami Vivekananda**

**Q.: On which occasion did the Maha Kumbh 2025 begin in Prayagraj?**

- a) Makar Sankranti
- b) Paush Poornima
- c) Magh Poornima
- d) Mahashivaratri

**Answer:** b) Paush Poornima

The **Maha Kumbh**, the world's largest spiritual and cultural gathering, began on **13 January 2025 in Prayagraj** with the Amrit Snan on Paush Poornima.

**Q.: Which rivers meet at the Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj?**

- a) Ganga, Yamuna, Godavari
- b) Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati
- c) Ganga, Kaveri, Saraswati
- d) Ganga, Godavari, Saraswati

**Answer:** b) Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati

**Q.: What has India joined in relation to Big Data and Data Science in January 2025?**

- a) UN Statistical Commission
- b) UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics
- c) UN Data Innovation Lab
- d) UN Sustainable Development Goals Committee

**Answer:** b) UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics