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The essential 6-month sweep for prelims, mains & interviews

JANUARY – JUNE 2026

UPSC

SSC

BANKING

RAILWAYS

STATE PSC

256

UPDATES

6

MONTHS

15

SECTIONS

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Contents

256 highest-yield updates from January to June 2026, organised into 15 sections for topic-wise revision. Items span all six months (month tag on each). High-yield items appear as full **GK Byte cards**; the rest as dense **Quick Hits**.

GK Byte card

— full card with linked static GK

Quick Hits

— every other update, one line each

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National, Polity & Judiciary

22 ITEMS

1 Supreme Court Judge Strength Raised to 38

GK BYTE

An Ordinance (May 16) raised the number of SC judges excluding the CJI from 33 to 37, taking total strength from 34 to 38, to help clear pendency.

GK BYTE

SC established: 1950

Article 124: establishes the Supreme Court

2 Constitution (131st Amendment) & Delimitation Package

GK BYTE

The delimitation Bills sought to raise the Lok Sabha ceiling to 850 seats and enable women's reservation on fresh delimitation; the package was negated in the Lok Sabha in April for want of a two-thirds majority.

GK BYTE

Current LS strength: 543

Women's Reservation: 106th Amendment (2023)

Amendment: Article 368

3 SC Verdict on ECI's Special Intensive Revision (SIR)

GK BYTE

The Supreme Court upheld (May 27) the ECI's power to conduct the SIR of electoral rolls under Article 324 and the RP Act 1950, while limiting citizenship inquiry to electoral-roll eligibility.

GK BYTE

ECI established: 25 Jan 1950

Article: 324

RP Act: 1950

4 Census 2027 - First Digital Self-Enumeration Begins

GK BYTE

India began its first digital, self-enumeration census (April) with mascots 'Pragati' and 'Vikas' and a facility in 16 regional languages; it will include caste enumeration.

GK BYTE

Last Census: 2011

First digital census; includes caste count

5 Jan Vishwas (Amendment) Bill, 2026 Passed

GK BYTE

Parliament passed the Bill decriminalising minor offences and removing outdated provisions to advance trust-based governance and ease of doing business.

GK BYTE

First Jan Vishwas Act: 2023

⚡ QUICK HITS — NATIONAL, POLITY & JUDICIARY

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 6 | Transgender Persons (Amendment) Bill, 2026 passed — DM identity certificates via medical board; harsher penalties for coercion. | Mar |
| 7 | SC: maternity leave for adoptive mothers — 12 weeks regardless of child's age (Arts 14 & 21). | Mar |
| 8 | SC: Scheduled Caste status limited to Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist — per the 1950 Presidential Order. | Mar |
| 9 | SC reviews UAPA bail in 2020 Delhi riots case — interim bail granted; K.A. Najeeb precedent flagged. | May |
| 10 | Supreme Court judge strength Ordinance vs Delhi delimitation — 5 new SC judges sworn in (June). | Jun |
| 11 | SC Judges Ordinance (May) and CJI is Surya Kant (53rd) — apex-court strength boosted amid pendency. | May |
| 12 | Delimitation Bill 2026 & UT Laws Bill — sought delimitation on 2011 census; women's quota linked. | Jun |
| 13 | Budget Session 2026 concluded — 31 sittings; six Bills passed; Union Budget approved. | Apr |
| 14 | UGC Equity (Anti-Discrimination) Regulations stayed — SC halted implementation amid campus protests. | Jan |
| 15 | National Sports Governance Rules, 2026 notified — under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025. | Jan |
| 16 | Sonam Wangchuk released; NSA charges quashed — after Ladakh statehood protests. | Jan |
| 17 | Death penalty in Sathankulam custodial deaths case — Madurai court sentences nine policemen. | Apr |
| 18 | SC on EC appointments - 'tyranny of the elected' — criticised delay in framing the law. | Apr |
| 19 | Aarogya Setu 2.0 launched — upgraded citizen health platform (Vigyan Bhawan). | Jun |
| 20 | High-Level Committee on demographic change — chaired by Justice (Retd.) P.P. Navlekar. | May |
| 21 | Central Rules under the four Labour Codes notified — 48-hr week; gig-worker social security. | May |
| 22 | Five new Supreme Court judges sworn in — CJI Surya Kant administers oath. | Jun |

🌐 States

12 ITEMS

1 2026 Assembly Election Results

GK BYTE

Results (May 4) for WB, Assam, Kerala, TN and Puducherry: BJP won West Bengal, retained Assam for a third term; Congress-led UDF won Kerala.

💡 GK BYTE

Capitals: WB-Kolkata, Assam-Dispur, Kerala-Thiruvananthapuram, TN-Chennai

2 Punjab Replaces MGNREGA with State Scheme

GK BYTE

Punjab notified the Viksit Bharat rural employment scheme (effective 1 July 2026) guaranteeing 125 days of wage employment, replacing MGNREGA in the state.

GK BYTE

Capital: Chandigarh

MGNREGA: 2005 (100 days)

⚡ QUICK HITS — STATES

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 3 | Himanta Biswa Sarma sworn in for 2nd term (Assam) — Capital Dispur. | May |
| 4 | Karnataka reverses 2022 hijab ban — allows limited religious symbols with uniforms. | May |
| 5 | West Bengal scraps religion-based welfare categorisation — new quota-eligibility panel formed. | May |
| 6 | Meghalaya Official Languages Ordinance — Khasi & Garo made official (Art. 345). | Apr |
| 7 | Five new districts created in Ladakh — Nubra, Sham, Changthang, Zaskar, Drass. | Apr |
| 8 | Nitish Kumar resigns as Bihar CM — Samrat Choudhary reported to succeed. | Apr |
| 9 | Telangana makes cancer a notifiable disease — first-of-its-kind for a cancer registry. | Apr |
| 10 | HP signs 19 hydropower project agreements — 278 MW; Rs 3,336 crore investment. | Jun |
| 11 | India's first 'water-neutral' railway depot — Kankaria, Ahmedabad (phytoremediation). | Apr |
| 12 | MP Cabinet approves Rs 5,960 crore initiatives — infrastructure and welfare projects. | Jun |



Banking & Economy

32 ITEMS

1 Union Budget 2026-27 Presented

GK BYTE

FM Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Budget (Feb 1) with total expenditure of Rs 53.47 lakh crore, fiscal deficit target 4.3% of GDP and capex raised to Rs 12.2 lakh crore.

GK BYTE

Article 112: Annual Financial Statement

FRBM Act: 2003

2 RBI Holds Repo Rate at 5.25% (June MPC)

GK BYTE

The MPC kept the repo rate unchanged at 5.25% with a neutral stance, cutting FY27 growth to 6.6% and raising inflation to 5.1% amid the West Asia conflict.

GK BYTE

RBI HQ: Mumbai (est. 1935)

Governor: Sanjay Malhotra

MPC members: 6

3 India's Q4 FY26 GDP Grows 7.8%

GK BYTE

GDP grew a provisional 7.8% in Q4 FY26 (Jan-Mar 2026); full-year FY26 expanded ~7.7%, the sharpest since FY2022, on strong consumption and investment.

GK BYTE

GDP data by: NSO / MoSPI

New base year: 2022-23

4 Forex Reserves Cross US\$700 billion

GK BYTE

India's foreign exchange reserves crossed US\$700 billion in June (~\$702.8 bn), recovering from a May dip as the RBI defended a weak rupee near 94/USD.

GK BYTE

Components: FCA, Gold, SDRs, Reserve position in IMF

5 RBI's Record Surplus Transfer to Government

GK BYTE

The RBI approved a record surplus transfer of ~Rs 2.87 lakh crore to the Centre for FY26 (May 22), as its balance sheet expanded over 20%.

GK BYTE

Framework: Economic Capital Framework (Bimal Jalan panel)

⚡ QUICK HITS — BANKING & ECONOMY

6	Economic Survey 2025-26 tabled — projected FY26 growth ~7.4%; FY27 6.8-7.2%.	Jan
7	New GDP series with base year 2022-23 — FY26 growth revised to 7.6% (2nd advance estimate).	Feb
8	New CPI series with base year 2024 — replaced the 2012 base from February.	Feb
9	Record April GST collection — Rs 2.42 lakh crore, highest-ever monthly.	Apr
10	Retail (CPI) inflation eased to ~1.7% — Apr-Dec 2025 average, a series low.	Jan
11	India's first advance GDP estimate FY26 — 7.4% (NSO, released 7 Jan).	Jan
12	FY26 exports cross \$860 billion — goods + services, up 4.22%.	Jun
13	Trade deficit widens to record \$28.4 bn — April, on surging oil and gold imports.	Jun
14	IIP up 4.9% (April); WPI & core-sector data — under the new 2022-23 base.	Jun
15	SEBI Board reforms — reintroduced open-market buy-backs; AIF & MF changes (Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey).	Jun
16	SEBI Mutual Funds Regulations, 2026 notified — performance-linked expense ratio; 'Life Cycle Funds'.	Jan
17	FDI in insurance raised to 100% — via FEMA rules; LIC still capped at 20%.	May
18	UPI hits record ~23.2 bn transactions — worth Rs 29.90 lakh crore (May).	May
19	NPCI adds UPI verified-name safety feature — shows bank-registered name to curb fraud.	Jun
20	HDFC Bank appoints Rajiv Kumar chairman — former CEC; three-year term.	Jun
21	REC-PFC merger approved — 88:100 swap; combined loan book over Rs 11 lakh crore.	Jun
22	RBI approves Emirates NBD's 74% in RBL Bank — ~\$3 bn, largest FDI in an Indian bank.	May
23	SMBC to acquire 20% of Yes Bank — ~\$1.6 bn (Japan's SMBC).	May
24	Rohit Jain takes charge as RBI Deputy Governor — three-year term.	May
25	RBI expands Fully Accessible Route (FAR) — more G-secs open to FPIs.	Jun
26	World Bank raises India FY27 forecast to 6.6% — fastest-growing major economy.	Jun
27	IMF WEO (April) - India at ~6.5% — 'Global Economy in the Shadow of War'.	Apr
28	Bharat Taxi launched — India's first cooperative ride-hailing platform (Gujarat).	Jun
29	CBDC-based PDS launched in Gujarat — digital-rupee food-grain distribution.	Feb
30	Aye Finance & Fractal Analytics IPOs — strong primary-market activity.	Feb
31	India's Q1 2026 M&A near record — ~710 deals worth ~\$20 billion.	Apr

32 **Forex reserves crossed \$700 bn earlier too (Jan)** — reached ~\$709 bn (record) on gold buying.

Jan



Govt Initiatives & Schemes

18 ITEMS

1 West Bengal Becomes 36th State/UT under PM-JAY

GK BYTE

Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY achieved nationwide coverage; ~1.43 crore WB families get free cover up to Rs 5 lakh per year.

GK BYTE

Launched: 2018

Cover: Rs 5 lakh/family/year

2 India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 2.0

GK BYTE

The government approved Rs 1.25 lakh crore for ISM 2.0 (up from Rs 76,000 crore under ISM 1.0) to deepen chip fabrication, design and packaging.

GK BYTE

Nodal ministry: MeitY

First full fab: Dholera, Gujarat

⚡ QUICK HITS — GOVT INITIATIVES & SCHEMES

3	Cabinet approves Modified UDAN — Rs 28,840 cr over 10 years; 100 airports from unserved strips.	Jun
4	Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 — Rs 10,000 crore corpus for early-growth startups.	Feb
5	Urban Challenge Fund approved — Rs 1 lakh crore for urban mobility & infrastructure.	Feb
6	Rs 60,000 crore ITI upgradation scheme — plus five National Centres of Excellence for Skilling.	Feb
7	Biopharma SHAKTI scheme — Rs 10,000 crore to make India a biologics hub.	Feb
8	Mission for Cotton Productivity — Rs 5,659 crore over five years, 140 districts.	May
9	ECLGS 5.0 approved — credit guarantee for MSMEs and airlines.	May
10	Cabinet approves surface coal/lignite gasification — Rs 37,500 crore outlay.	Jun
11	Cabinet continues PMGSY-III till March 2028 — Rs 83,977 crore revised outlay.	Apr
12	Jal Jeevan Mission extended to Dec 2028 — enhanced outlay Rs 8.7 lakh crore.	Mar
13	SARTHAK-PDS scheme continued to 2031 — Rs 25,530 crore under the NFSA.	May
14	MSME Day 2026 - 'Udyami Bharat' — PMEGP 2.0, SAMADHAAN 2.0 launched.	Jun
15	Kisan Sarathi crosses 2.95 crore farmers — ICAR digital agro-advisory platform.	Jun
16	PM disburses Rs 2,400 cr (Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana) — employment-linked incentive.	Jun
17	National Startup Day - decade of Startup India — 2.09 lakh+ recognised startups.	Jan
18	BHAVYA Scheme guidelines (100 industrial parks) — DPIIT via NICDIT.	May



International & Summits

28 ITEMS

1 India-EU Free Trade Agreement Concluded

GK BYTE

After nearly two decades, India and the EU concluded their landmark FTA (27 Jan) - the largest either side has done - covering ~2 billion people and ~25% of global GDP; signing expected by end-2026.

GK BYTE

EU HQ: Brussels

Members: 27

Currency: Euro

2 India AI Impact Summit 2026

GK BYTE

India hosted the AI Impact Summit at Bharat Mandapam (Feb 16-21) - first in the series by a Global South nation - concluding with the New Delhi Declaration and PM Modi's 'MANAV Vision'.

GK BYTE

Under: IndiaAI Mission (MeitY)

Follows AI Action Summit, Paris (2025)

3 52nd G7 Summit in Evian-les-Bains, France

GK BYTE

Under France's presidency (June 15-17), leaders adopted declarations on Ukraine, critical minerals and online safety; PM Modi attended as a special invitee.

GK BYTE

France Capital: Paris

G7: US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Canada

4 India Chairs BRICS in 2026

GK BYTE

India chairs BRICS for the fourth time under the theme 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability'; the 18th Summit is in New Delhi (Sep 12-13, 2026).

GK BYTE

BRICS bank: New Development Bank, Shanghai

NDB head: Dilma Rousseff

5 2026 Iran War Ceasefire

GK BYTE

The US and Iran signed an MoU (June 17) extending the ceasefire; the conflict had disrupted oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz.

GK BYTE

Iran Capital: Tehran

Strait of Hormuz: ~20% of world oil

6 PM Modi's State Visit to Seychelles

GK BYTE

PM Modi made a three-day State Visit (June 27-29), signing nine agreements and a Rs 1,250 crore line of credit; he was conferred 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon'.

GK BYTE

Capital: Victoria

Famous: Aldabra Atoll (UNESCO)

⚡ QUICK HITS — INTERNATIONAL & SUMMITS

7	New Delhi Declaration on AI adopted — endorsed by 90+ countries at the AI Impact Summit.	Feb
8	16th India-EU Summit — von der Leyen & Costa were Republic Day chief guests.	Jan
9	India-EU Security & Defence Partnership + mobility pact — signed alongside the FTA.	Jan
10	India-New Zealand FTA signed — concluded in ~9 months; 100% duty-free access for India.	Apr
11	India-Canada CEPA fast-tracked at G7 — targeting conclusion by end-2026.	Jun
12	11th Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting — hosted by India (New Delhi).	May
13	3rd India-Nordic Summit (Oslo) — Green Technology & Innovation Partnership.	May
14	PM Modi's UAE visit — 30 mn barrels crude storage; defence framework.	May
15	PM Modi's historic Norway visit — first by an Indian PM in 43 years.	May
16	India-Italy 'Special Strategic Partnership' — trade target raised to EUR 20 bn.	May
17	India-US critical minerals framework signed — mining, processing, recycling.	May
18	India-Netherlands strategic partnership — semiconductors (Tata-ASML MoU).	May
19	Macron's official visit; India-France Special Global Strategic Partnership — Year of Innovation 2026.	Feb
20	Lula's state visit; India-Brazil \$30 bn trade target — largest-ever Brazilian delegation.	Feb
21	PM Modi's Israel visit - 16 agreements — Special Strategic Partnership; FTA talks.	Feb
22	Seychelles President Herminie's state visit — US\$175 mn package; 'SESEL' Vision.	Feb
23	India-US interim trade framework — US reciprocal tariffs cut to 18%.	Feb
24	BRICS Agriculture 'Indore Declaration' — farmer-centric food-security roadmap.	Jun
25	11th BRICS Energy Ministers' Meeting — hosted in Gurugram.	Jun
26	India-China NSA-level talks — Doval met Wang Yi on normalisation.	Jun
27	79th World Health Assembly (Geneva) — first stroke resolution; GAP-AMR 2026-2036.	May
28	G7 critical minerals target — cut single-supplier reliance below 60% by 2030.	Jun

 Defence

22 ITEMS

1 DAC Clears 114 Rafale Jets & Major Procurements

GK BYTE

The Defence Acquisition Council cleared ~Rs 3.6 lakh crore, anchored by 114 Rafale jets from Dassault (~Rs 3.25 lakh crore), plus P-8I aircraft and T-72 tanks.

 GK BYTE**Rafale maker:** Dassault Aviation (France)

India assembly at Nagpur

2 Netra AEW&C Gets Final Operational Clearance

GK BYTE

DRDO handed over FOC for the indigenous Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control system, making India the fifth country with indigenous AEW&C capability.

 GK BYTE**Built by:** DRDO (CABS, Bengaluru)**AEW&C nations:** US, Russia, Israel, China, India**3 Navy Commissions INS Dunagiri, Sanshodhak & Agray**

GK BYTE

PM Modi commissioned three warships at Kolkata (June 21): INS Dunagiri (Project 17A stealth frigate by GRSE), INS Sanshodhak and INS Agray.

 GK BYTE**Builder:** GRSE, Kolkata**Navy motto:** Sham No Varunah

⚡ QUICK HITS — DEFENCE

4	Exercise MILAN 2026 at Visakhapatnam — 74 nations; IFR & IONS Conclave.	Feb
5	DRDO tests multi-layer BMD (AD-1 / AD-2) — against ICBM-class threats, off Odisha.	Jun
6	NASM-MR anti-ship missile tested — ~300 km, sea-skimming.	Jun
7	RudraM-II air-to-surface missile trials — from airborne platform under extreme conditions.	Jun
8	LRLACM second developmental trial — long-range land-attack cruise missile, off Odisha.	Jun
9	DRDO scramjet combustor 1,200-sec test — foundation for hypersonic cruise missiles.	May
10	DRDO tests long-range hypersonic anti-ship missile (LR-AShM) — second flight test.	May
11	DRDO VSHORADS trials (Chandipur) — three successful flight tests.	Feb
12	Exercise Khaan Quest 2026 (Mongolia) — multilateral UN peacekeeping drill.	Jun
13	Exercise PRAGATI-I 2026 (Meghalaya) — India's maiden multilateral CT exercise; 12 nations.	May
14	Exercises Dharma Guardian & Vajra Prahar 2026 — with Japan and the US.	Mar
15	First India-made C-295 completes maiden flight — Tata-Airbus, Vadodara.	Jun
16	HAL Tejas Mk1A programme & Nashik line — first Mk1A from Nashik targeted for end-June.	Jun
17	INS Aridhaman inducted - third SSBN — strengthens India's nuclear triad.	Apr
18	INS Taragiri commissioned — Project 17A stealth frigate (Mazagon Dock).	Apr
19	Exercise Cyclone-IV (India-Egypt) — special-forces drill at Anshas.	Apr
20	CDS releases Joint Air Defence Doctrine — unified tri-service air defence.	Jun
21	Gaganyaan crew-module load & parachute tests — qualification milestones (TBRL/RTRS).	Feb
22	Record single-month naval induction (June) — five indigenous platforms; ~19 warships planned in 2026.	Jun



Space

12 ITEMS

1 ISRO Hot-tests Indigenous Semi-cryogenic Engine

GK BYTE

ISRO hot-tested its semi-cryogenic engine power head at 175 tonnes of thrust at Mahendragiri (June 24), validating ~90% of designed capacity for heavy-lift launch vehicles.

GK BYTE

ISRO HQ: Bengaluru (est. 1969)

Chairman: V. Narayanan

2 ISRO Launches BlueBird Block-2 on LVM3 (context)

GK BYTE

India's commercial launch momentum continued with heavy-lift LVM3 missions; the semi-cryogenic milestone and Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota support the NGLV and Gaganyaan.

GK BYTE

LVM3: India's heaviest launcher

Commercial arm: NSIL

⚡ QUICK HITS — SPACE

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 3 | First GAGAN-guided jet landing at Udaipur — ISRO-AAI satellite-based augmentation. | Jun |
| 4 | PSLV-C62 mission fails — third-stage anomaly; DRDO's EOS-N1 lost. | Jan |
| 5 | NASA Roman Space Telescope launch advanced — now targeted for 30 August 2026. | Jun |
| 6 | NASA readies 'Swift Boost' servicing mission — first-of-its-kind orbit-raising rescue. | Jun |
| 7 | ISS spacewalk to repair Canadarm2 — wrist-joint replacement. | Jun |
| 8 | NASA's Psyche performs Mars gravity assist — en route to metal asteroid 16 Psyche. | May |
| 9 | China launches Shenzhou-23 — first Hong Kong astronaut to Tiangong. | May |
| 10 | Ariane 64 maiden flight — 32 Amazon Leo (Kuiper) satellites. | Feb |
| 11 | Amaravati Quantum Valley launched — IBM Quantum System Two (AP). | Feb |
| 12 | BRICS Heads of Space Agencies meet (Bengaluru) — India proposes 'BRICS Space Economy'. | Jun |



Science & Technology

18 ITEMS

1 AdFalcivax Malaria Vaccine Licensed

GK BYTE

ICMR's indigenous multi-stage malaria vaccine AdFalcivax (RMRC Bhubaneswar) was licensed to five companies for affordable production.

GK BYTE

ICMR HQ: New Delhi (est. 1911)

Parasite: Plasmodium falciparum

2 Micron Semiconductor Facility Inaugurated at Sanand

GK BYTE

PM Modi inaugurated Micron's Assembly, Test and Packaging facility (Feb 28) - India's first operational semiconductor facility - which shipped made-in-India memory to Dell.

GK BYTE

Micron: US memory-chip maker

Location: Sanand, Gujarat

⚡ QUICK HITS — SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

3	Meta-Reliance AI data-centre deal — 168 MW; 20-year tax exemption for hyperscalers.	Jun
4	Sarvam AI raises \$234 mn Series B — ~\$1.5 bn valuation (IndiaAI Mission).	Jun
5	India's AI compute reaches ~44 petaflops — 45,000+ GPUs national backbone.	Jun
6	DengiAll dengue vaccine in Phase III — Panacea Biotech, 10,000+ volunteers.	Jun
7	Tata Electronics-ASML semiconductor agreement — lithography for Dholera fab (~\$11 bn).	May
8	Chandrayaan-3 wins 2026 AIAA Goddard Award — for the 2023 lunar south-pole landing.	May
9	IIT Bombay catalytic chemistry breakthrough — faster drug-molecule synthesis (Nature).	Apr
10	IIT Delhi-Optimist 50 degrees C air conditioner — full performance in extreme heat.	Apr
11	India Chip Pvt Ltd foundation stone (Jewar) — Foxconn-HCL JV, Rs 3,700 crore.	Feb
12	Sarvam AI open-sources foundation models — 30B & 105B, 22 Indian languages.	Feb
13	India releases National Post-Quantum Cryptography Roadmap — to secure critical infrastructure.	Feb
14	India plans 100 GW nuclear power by 2047 — tenfold expansion (net-zero 2070).	Apr
15	NISAR reveals Mexico City land subsidence — ~2 cm/month from groundwater over-extraction.	Apr
16	Nationwide HPV vaccination programme launched — free for ~1.15 crore girls aged 14.	Feb
17	Saurabh Vijay appointed IndiaAI Mission CEO — UIDAI CEO takes charge.	Jun
18	Semicon India Programme - 12 projects approved — ~Rs 1.64 lakh crore.	Jun



Environment & Ecology

14 ITEMS

1 World Environment Day 2026

GK BYTE

Observed on June 5 under UNEP with a climate-action theme; the Republic of Azerbaijan (Baku) was the global host.

💡 GK BYTE

Since: 1972 (Stockholm)

UNEP HQ: Nairobi

2 India's Ramsar Tally Reaches 100 Sites

GK BYTE

India now has 100 Ramsar wetland sites covering ~13.87 lakh hectares - the largest network in Asia.

💡 GK BYTE

Ramsar Convention: 1971, Ramsar, Iran

Most sites: Tamil Nadu

⚡ QUICK HITS — ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

3	First IBCA Summit - 'Delhi Declaration' — first global big-cat conservation declaration.	Jun
4	State of India's Environment 2026 report — 7 of 9 planetary boundaries breached (CSE).	Feb
5	India submits updated NDCs (2031-35) to the UN — next round of climate targets.	Apr
6	India withdraws bid to host COP33 (2028) — recalibrating climate diplomacy.	Apr
7	World Oceans Day 2026 - 'Reimagine' — aligned with the High Seas (BBNJ) Treaty.	Jun
8	SOE 2026 flags rising human-tiger conflict — Lantana camara covers ~50% of forest/scrub.	Jun
9	Snowy owl protected under CMS — Bonn Convention listing.	Apr
10	Global Wind Day 2026 conference (Goa) — India 4th in wind capacity.	Jun
11	India's first Petroglyph Conservation Park (Ladakh) — foundation stone laid.	Apr
12	Draft CAFE-III fuel-efficiency norms — tighter standards with carbon-credit trading.	Apr
13	All India Tiger Estimation 2026 underway — building on 3,682 tigers (2022).	May
14	Blackbuck reintroduced in Barnawapara Sanctuary — grassland restoration (Chhattisgarh).	Apr



Sports

18 ITEMS

1 FIFA World Cup 2026 Begins

GK BYTE

The 23rd FIFA World Cup, jointly hosted by the USA, Canada and Mexico, kicked off (June 11) at the Estadio Azteca - the first 48-team edition.

💡 GK BYTE

Hosts: USA, Canada, Mexico

First 48-team edition

2 Winter Olympics 2026 - Milano Cortina

GK BYTE

The XXV Winter Games (Feb 6-22) were held across Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo; Norway topped the medal table (41, 18 gold - records) and Klæbo won six golds.

💡 GK BYTE

Next Winter Olympics: 2030 (French Alps)

3 IPL 2026 - RCB Win Second Consecutive Title

GK BYTE

Royal Challengers Bengaluru beat Gujarat Titans in the final at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad (May 31); Vaibhav Sooryavanshi took the Orange Cap (776 runs).

GK BYTE

Venue: Narendra Modi Stadium (world's largest cricket stadium)

⚡ QUICK HITS — SPORTS

4	French Open 2026 - Zverev & Andreeva	— maiden Grand Slams at Roland Garros.	Jun
5	NBA Finals 2026 - New York Knicks champions	— first title since 1973.	Jun
6	Stanley Cup 2026 - Carolina Hurricanes	— first since 2006.	Jun
7	WPL 2026 - RCB champions	— highest run-chase in WPL history.	Feb
8	Australian Open 2026 - Alcaraz & Rybakina	— Alcaraz completes career Grand Slam.	Jan
9	Khelo India Winter Games 2026 (Leh)	— Army retain ice-hockey gold.	Jan
10	Khelo India Tribal Games 2026 - Karnataka champions	— first edition (Raipur).	Apr
11	World Athletics Indoor Championships (Torun)	— Duplantis 4th title; 2028 to Bhubaneswar.	Mar
12	Sinner completes 'Sunshine Double'	— Indian Wells + Miami without dropping a set.	Mar
13	India wins ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026	— beat New Zealand; first to defend the title.	Mar
14	Laureus World Sports Awards 2026	— Alcaraz & Sabalenka.	Apr
15	Thomas & Uber Cup 2026	— China (men) and South Korea (women).	May
16	All England Open 2026 - Lakshya Sen runner-up	— lost the men's final.	Mar
17	India awarded 2028 World Athletics Indoor	— to be hosted in Bhubaneswar.	Mar
18	Bhuvneshwar Kumar & Virat Kohli IPL milestones	— first pacer to 200 wkts; first to 9,000 runs.	Apr



Awards & Honours

14 ITEMS

1 Padma Awards 2026

GK BYTE

India announced 131 Padma Awards (5 Vibhushan, 13 Bhushan, 113 Shri); investiture ceremonies were held in May and June.

GK BYTE

Instituted: 1954

Highest civilian award: Bharat Ratna

⚡ QUICK HITS — AWARDS & HONOURS

2	Padma Vibhushan (posthumous) - Dharmendra — also V.S. Achuthanandan, N. Rajam, K.T. Thomas.	Jan
3	Notable Padma Bhushan - Mammootty, Alka Yagnik, Uday Kotak — 2026 list.	Jan
4	98th Academy Awards - 'One Battle After Another' — Best Picture; new Best Casting category.	Mar
5	79th BAFTA Film Awards — 'One Battle After Another' wins six.	Feb
6	68th Grammy Awards - Bad Bunny (Album of the Year) — Kendrick Lamar wins five.	Feb
7	Golden Globes 2026 (83rd) — 'One Battle After Another' & 'Hamnet'.	Jan
8	Pritzker Architecture Prize 2026 - Smiljan Radic — Chilean laureate.	Mar
9	Abel Prize 2026 - Gerd Faltings — arithmetic geometry (first German laureate).	Mar
10	60th Jnanpith Award - R. Vairamuthu — India's highest literary honour.	Mar
11	Femina Miss India World 2026 - Sadhvi Satish Sail — from Goa.	Apr
12	TIME 100 (2026) - three Indians — Ranbir Kapoor, Vikas Khanna, Sundar Pichai.	Apr
13	CSIR wins Clarivate South Asia Innovation Award 2026 — Government Sector.	May
14	2026 Goldman Environmental Prize — six grassroots defenders ('Green Nobel').	Apr



Appointments

12 ITEMS

1 **Neelkanth Mishra - India's ED at World Bank**

GK BYTE

Economist Neelkanth Mishra was appointed India's Executive Director at the World Bank for a three-year term, representing India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka.

GK BYTE

World Bank HQ: Washington, D.C.

President: Ajay Banga

⚡ QUICK HITS — APPOINTMENTS

2	Mahesh Dixit appointed IB Director — 1993-batch IPS, Telangana cadre.	Jun
3	Saurabh Vijay - IndiaAI Mission CEO — UIDAI CEO takes charge.	Jun
4	Rajiv Kumar - HDFC Bank chairman — former CEC.	Jun
5	Prasoon Joshi - Chairman, Prasar Bharati — lyricist-writer.	May
6	Shashi Shekhar Vempati - CBFC Chairperson — three-year term.	May
7	Rohit Jain - RBI Deputy Governor — three-year term.	May
8	Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth - Vice Chief of the Army — top-tier Army appointment.	Apr
9	Ashwini Bhide - first woman BMC Commissioner — India's richest civic body.	Apr
10	Ashok Lahiri - Vice Chairperson, NITI Aayog — economist appointed.	Apr
11	New DGs - BSF, ITBP, NIA — Praveen Kumar (BSF); Rakesh Aggarwal (NIA).	Jan
12	Raj Kumar Goel - Chief Information Commissioner — heads the CIC.	Jan

July
17

Important Days

16 ITEMS

1 International Day of Yoga 2026

GK BYTE

The 12th IDY theme was 'Yoga for Healthy Ageing'; PM Modi led the main event from Kolkata (June 21), with events at ~2,500 locations abroad.



GK BYTE

Since: 2015

Proposed by: India (UNGA, 2014)

⚡ QUICK HITS — IMPORTANT DAYS

2	National Science Day 2026 — 'Women in Science'; marks the Raman Effect (Feb 28).	Feb
3	World Wetlands Day (Feb 2) — India's Ramsar tally reached 98.	Feb
4	World Environment Day (Jun 5) — host Azerbaijan (Baku).	Jun
5	World Blood Donor Day (Jun 14) — marks Karl Landsteiner's birthday.	Jun
6	Republic Day 2026 (Jan 26) — EU chief guests; 150 years of Vande Mataram.	Jan
7	National Voters' Day (Jan 25) — 16th edition; ECI founded 1950.	Jan
8	Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Jan 9) — marks Gandhi's return from South Africa (1915).	Jan
9	Parakram Diwas / Netaji Jayanti (Jan 23) — Subhas Chandra Bose's 129th anniversary.	Jan
10	World Press Freedom Day (May 3) — UNESCO-led observance.	May
11	International Nurses Day (May 12) — Florence Nightingale's birthday.	May
12	Anti-Terrorism Day (May 21) — Rajiv Gandhi's death anniversary.	May
13	World Refugee Day (Jun 20) — 75th anniversary of the 1951 Convention.	Jun
14	World Day Against Child Labour (Jun 12) — ILO-led observance.	Jun
15	Ambedkar Jayanti (Apr 14) — chief architect of the Constitution.	Apr
16	National Panchayati Raj Day (Apr 24) — marks the 73rd Amendment (in force 1993).	Apr

🕯️ Obituaries

6 ITEMS

⚡ QUICK HITS — OBITUARIES

1	Suman Kalyanpur — legendary playback singer, 89.	May
2	Clive Davis — Grammy-winning US music executive, 94.	Jun
3	C.D. Gopinath — India's oldest living Test cricketer (1952 first Test win).	Apr
4	S.P. Venkatesh — veteran film music director.	Feb
5	Dr Seshagiri Mallampati — anesthesiologist ('Mallampati score'), 85.	Feb
6	Anand Sagar — TV producer-director, 84.	Feb



Reports & Indices

12 ITEMS

⚡ QUICK HITS — REPORTS & INDICES

1	World Press Freedom Index 2026 - India 157th — of 180 (RSF).	Jun
2	World Bank Global Economic Prospects — India FY27 6.6%; global 2.5%.	Jun
3	Henley Passport Index 2026 - India 75th/80th — improved mobility (Jan release: 80th).	Jan
4	WEF Global Risks Report 2026 — misinformation & extreme weather top risks.	Jan
5	IMF WEO Update (Jan) - India 6.3% — fastest-growing major economy.	Jan
6	State of India's Environment 2026 (CSE) — 7 of 9 planetary boundaries breached.	Feb
7	UN WESP mid-2026 - global growth cut to 2.5% — India ~6.6%.	May
8	India BioEconomy Report 2026 — reached US\$195.3 bn (~5% of GDP).	Mar
9	World Happiness Report 2026 - India 116th — Finland tops for the 9th year.	Mar
10	Global Terrorism Index 2026 — India 13th; Pakistan most impacted.	Mar
11	Forbes World's Billionaires 2026 — Mukesh Ambani India's richest (\$99.7 bn).	Mar
12	NITI Aayog reports - corporate bonds & higher-ed internationalisation — policy roadmaps.	Feb

Rapid Revision — 6-Month Snapshot

The highest-frequency facts from the half-year, for the final skim before your exam.

Question / Cue	Answer
Union Budget 2026-27 fiscal deficit target	4.3% of GDP
RBI repo rate (June 2026)	5.25%
India's Q4 FY26 GDP growth	7.8%
52nd G7 Summit host	Evian-les-Bains, France
India AI Impact Summit venue	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
India-EU FTA concluded	27 January 2026
Winter Olympics 2026 host	Milano Cortina, Italy
FIFA World Cup 2026 hosts	USA, Canada, Mexico
IPL 2026 champions	Royal Challengers Bengaluru
Total Padma Awards 2026	131

Disclaimer: A curated half-yearly compilation from the MockSutra monthly capsules (Jan-Jun 2026). Verify exact figures, names and dates against primary sources (PIB, RBI, MEA, MoSPI, ECI) before final use. © MockSutra · www.mocksutra.com