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EDITION: JANUARY 2026 · REPUBLIC DAY & INDIA-EU FTA SPECIAL

Contents

Ten thematic sections covering 100 must-know updates from January 2026 - anchored by the 77th Republic Day, the India-EU Summit & FTA, and the Padma Awards. Many entries carry a **GK Byte** strip linking the news to static general knowledge.

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How to use this capsule

Read the **heading** first (recall trigger), then the **explanation** (prelims facts + mains context), then the **GK Byte** (static linkage). Revise the GK Bytes and the **Rapid Revision** table at the end the night before your exam for quick, high-yield wins.



National, Republic Day & Polity

1 - 12

1 77th Republic Day 2026 - EU Leaders as Chief Guests

For the first time, two EU leaders were joint chief guests at the 77th Republic Day on 26 January 2026 - European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Antonio Costa - who were on an India visit (25-27 January) to co-chair the 16th India-EU Summit.

GK BYTE

First Republic Day: 26 Jan 1950**Parade venue:** Kartavya Path, New Delhi**2 Republic Day 2026 Parade Themes**

The parade centred on 'Svatantrata Ka Mantra - Vande Mataram' (marking 150 years of the national song, composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1875) and 'Samridhhi Ka Mantra - Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

GK BYTE

Vande Mataram: written 1875 (in 'Anandamath', 1882)**3 Republic Day 2026 - 30 Tableaux on Kartavya Path**

Thirty tableaux rolled down Kartavya Path - 17 from States/UTs and 13 from Ministries/Departments/Services - with highlights from Assam (terracotta), Kerala (Water Metro), Odisha ('Soil to Silicon') and Nagaland (Hornbill Festival).

4 Beating Retreat Ceremony (January 29)

The Beating Retreat ceremony, marking the formal conclusion of Republic Day celebrations, was held at Vijay Chowk, New Delhi, on 29 January.

5 Budget Session 2026 Convened; President's Address (January 28)

The Budget Session began on 28 January with President Droupadi Murmu's address to a joint sitting of both Houses; the session was scheduled in two phases (28 Jan-13 Feb and 9 Mar-2 Apr) with 30 sittings.



GK BYTE

Article 87: President's special address to Parliament

6 Economic Survey 2025-26 Tabled

The Economic Survey was tabled by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, projecting real GDP growth of 6.8-7.2% for 2026-27 and about 7.4% for 2025-26, with inflation staying within the 4% (+/-2%) band.



GK BYTE

Prepared by: Chief Economic Adviser (CEA)

7 UGC Equity Regulations, 2026 Notified - and Stayed

UGC notified the 'Promotion of Equity in Higher Education Institutions' (Anti-Discrimination) Regulations, mandating Equity Committees and Equal Opportunity Centres. Amid campus protests, the Supreme Court stayed implementation around 29 January 2026.



GK BYTE

UGC established: 1956

8 UGC Mental Health & Well-Being Policy

UGC circulated a uniform mental-health policy for higher education institutions (aligned with NEP 2020), requiring support centres, a 1:500 faculty-mentor ratio and linkage with the Tele-MANAS helpline.

9 National Startup Day - A Decade of Startup India (January 16)

PM Modi marked a decade of the Startup India initiative (launched 16 Jan 2016) at Bharat Mandapam; DPIIT-recognised startups grew to over 2.09 lakh by December 2025, creating over 21 lakh jobs.

 GK BYTE**Nodal dept:** DPIIT

India: 3rd-largest startup ecosystem

10 78th Army Day at Jaipur (January 15)

The 78th Army Day was observed with a parade at Jagatpura, Jaipur - the first ever held outside a cantonment area - under the theme 'Year of Networking and Data Centricity'.

 GK BYTE**Marks:** K.M. Cariappa becoming first Indian C-in-C (1949)**11 National Sports Governance Rules, 2026 Notified**

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports notified the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, covering eligibility, disqualification and 'Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit' appointments.

12 Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2026 (January 23)

India's highest disaster-management honour went to the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (institutional, Rs 51 lakh) and Lt Col Seeta Ashok Shelke (individual, Rs 5 lakh), announced on Parakram Diwas.

 GK BYTE**Announced on:** 23 January (Netaji's birth anniversary)



Bills, Rules & Regulations

13 - 21

13 Draft Pesticide Management Bill, 2025 Released

The Ministry of Agriculture released the draft Bill for comments; it proposes to replace the Insecticides Act, 1968 and create a Central Pesticides Board and a Registration Committee.

14 MMDR Amendment Bill, 2026 (Public Consultation)

The Ministry of Coal released draft amendments removing area limits on reconnaissance, exploration and mining licences, and codifying central power to auction exploration licences.



GK BYTE

MMDR Act: 1957

15 Environment (Protection) Fund Rules, 2026 Notified

Notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, penalties collected under the Air Act, Water Act and EP Act will be credited to a central fund for monitoring, remediation and clean-tech research (admin costs capped at 5%).



GK BYTE

EP Act: 1986 (post-Bhopal disaster)

16 Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026 Notified

MoEFCC notified the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026 under the Environment (Protection) Act, replacing the earlier rules to strengthen segregation, processing and extended producer responsibility.

17 Designs Act Amendment Concept Note

DPIIT floated proposals to extend 'design' to virtual designs (GUIs, icons, typefaces) and to accede to the Riyadh Design Law Treaty and the Hague Agreement.

18 SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 2026 Notified (January 16)

SEBI notified a sweeping overhaul of the 30-year-old mutual-fund framework (effective 1 April 2026), introducing a performance-linked base expense ratio, reduced brokerage caps, a 'Life Cycle Funds' category, and a slimmer rulebook.

 GK BYTE

SEBI Chairman: Tuhin Kanta Pandey

19 RBI Tightens Digital Lending Framework

The RBI mandated that all loan disbursements flow directly to the borrower's bank account, required a Key Fact Statement with APR disclosure, and prescribed a cooling-off period of at least three days.

 GK BYTE

APR: Annual Percentage Rate

20 RBI Cyber Security & Data Protection Advisory

The RBI directed all regulated entities (banks, NBFCs, fintechs, payment aggregators) to prioritise customer data protection in alignment with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, with periodic board reviews.

 GK BYTE

DPDP Act: enacted 2023

21 RBI Infuses Rs 2 lakh crore Liquidity via OMOs

The RBI conducted Open Market Operations to purchase government securities worth Rs 2 lakh crore in four tranches of Rs 50,000 crore each (including on 5, 12 and 22 January) to ensure durable banking-system liquidity.



International & Summits

22 - 32

22 16th India-EU Summit Held in New Delhi (January 27)

The 16th India-EU Summit took place at Hyderabad House, co-chaired by PM Modi, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Antonio Costa - the first time the EU's top leadership jointly attended.

GK BYTE

EU HQ: Brussels

EU members: 27

23 India-EU Free Trade Agreement Concluded (January 27)

After nearly two decades of talks, India and the EU concluded their landmark FTA - the largest either side has concluded - covering a combined market of about 2 billion people and roughly 25% of global GDP across 20 chapters.

GK BYTE

Talks began: 2007 (relaunched 2022)

24 India-EU FTA - Tariff & Market-Access Terms

Under the deal, about 99.5% of India's exports get preferential access to the EU, while India offers preferential treatment to ~97% of EU exports; India will cut auto tariffs gradually from 110% to 10% and reduce wine and spirits duties.

25 India-EU FTA - Trade Targets

The agreement aims to raise bilateral merchandise trade to US\$250 billion by 2030-31 (from ~US\$136 billion in 2024-25) and services trade to US\$100 billion, cushioning Indian exporters against higher US tariffs.

26 India-EU Security & Defence Partnership + Mobility Agreement

Alongside the FTA, India and the EU signed a Security and Defence Partnership (maritime security, counter-terrorism, cyberdefence) and a mobility/migration agreement expanding legal pathways for Indian students and skilled workers.

27 WEF Annual Meeting, Davos 2026 (January 19-23)

The World Economic Forum met in Davos, Switzerland under the theme 'A Spirit of Dialogue', drawing nearly 3,000 leaders from over 130 countries; the WEF also released its Global Risks Report 2026.



GK BYTE

WEF HQ: Geneva

Founder: Klaus Schwab (1971)

28 India at Davos 2026

India fielded one of the largest delegations - 10 states (with five CMs and two deputy CMs) and four Union ministers - to pitch investment opportunities, and the WEF launched a report on 'India in the new geoeconomic order'.

29 German Chancellor Friedrich Merz's Visit to India (January 12-13)

Chancellor Merz made his first official India visit, accompanied by 23 leading German CEOs; the two sides signed multiple agreements (19 documents) spanning defence, semiconductors, critical minerals, telecom and bioeconomy.



GK BYTE

Germany Capital: Berlin

Currency: Euro

30 India-Germany Outcomes & CEO Forum

The two leaders recast ties around semiconductors, critical minerals and green fuels and launched a German-Indian CEO Forum; Germany agreed to join Exercise MILAN and deploy a Liaison Officer at the IFC-IOR.

31 UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed's Visit (January 19)

The UAE President visited India; the two sides signed a Letter of Intent for a Strategic Defence Partnership and pledged to double bilateral trade to US\$200 billion, with UAE investment in Gujarat's Dholera zone.



GK BYTE

UAE Capital: Abu Dhabi

India-UAE CEPA: since 2022

32 India-UAE US\$3 billion LNG Deal

ADNOC Gas agreed to supply 0.5 million metric tonnes of LNG per year to Hindustan Petroleum for ten years in a ~US\$3 billion deal, making India a top LNG customer of the UAE.

**Economy & Banking**

33 - 46

33 First Advance GDP Estimates: FY26 Growth at 7.4% (January 7)

The NSO released the First Advance Estimates projecting India's real GDP growth at 7.4% for FY26 (up from 6.5% in FY25), led by financial and public services.



GK BYTE

Released by: NSO / MoSPI

34 FY26 Sectoral GVA Estimates

Gross Value Added is estimated to grow 7.3% in FY26, led by services (financial, real estate and professional services near 10%), with manufacturing and construction around 7% and agriculture at 3.1%.

35 CPI Retail Inflation for December 2025 (January 12)

Retail (CPI) inflation for December 2025 rose to 1.33% year-on-year (from 0.7% in November) as food deflation narrowed; core inflation climbed to a 28-month high of 4.8%. This was the last release on the 2012=100 base.



GK BYTE

New CPI base year: 2024 (from Feb 2026)

36 WPI Wholesale Inflation for December 2025

Wholesale Price Index inflation for December 2025 was 0.83% (provisional) year-on-year, with the WPI food index rising to 0.00% from -2.60% in November.

37 IIP Industrial Output Grows Strongly

The Index of Industrial Production for November 2025 grew 6.7% (manufacturing 8.0%, mining 5.4%), and IIP for December 2025 later showed 7.8% growth, signalling robust factory momentum.

38 December 2025 Trade Data

Total exports (goods + services) for December 2025 were US\$74.01 billion and total imports US\$80.94 billion; the April-December merchandise trade deficit stood at US\$248.32 billion.

39 GST Collections for December 2025

Gross GST collection for December 2025 was Rs 1.75 lakh crore, up 6.1% year-on-year, following the two-tier 'GST 2.0' rate revamp effective 22 September 2025.

 GK BYTE

GST rolled out: 1 July 2017

40 IMF World Economic Outlook Update (January 2026)

The IMF's January WEO Update projected India's growth at 6.3% for 2026 and 6.5% for 2027, retaining India as the fastest-growing major economy.

 GK BYTE

IMF HQ: Washington, D.C.

MD: Kristalina Georgieva

41 World Bank & UN Growth Forecasts

The World Bank's January Global Economic Prospects pegged South Asia growth at 6.2% in 2026, while the UN's WESP 2026 projected India moderating to about 6.6% in 2026.

42 Manufacturing PMI in Strong Expansion

The HSBC India Manufacturing PMI stood at 56.8 in January 2026, firmly above the 50 no-change mark, with the composite reading around 58.4, indicating strong private-sector activity.

 GK BYTE

PMI above 50: expansion

43 RBI Conducts US\$10 billion USD/INR Buy-Sell Swap (January 13)

The RBI conducted a USD/INR Buy/Sell Swap auction of US\$10 billion with a three-year tenor to reinforce durable rupee liquidity amid seasonal cash outflows.

44 India's Forex Reserves Cross US\$700 billion (Record)

India's foreign exchange reserves surged past US\$700 billion in mid-January and reached about US\$709 billion (week ended 23 January), a record high covering more than 11 months of imports.



GK BYTE

Components: FCA, Gold, SDRs, Reserve position in IMF**45 Sensex & Nifty Hit Record Highs**

Indian equities hit fresh records in early January - the Sensex closed near 85,762 and the Nifty50 crossed 26,300, with Nifty touching an intraday record of about 26,373 on 5 January.

46 India Q1 2026 M&A Activity Near a Record

India recorded roughly 710 deals worth about US\$20 billion in Q1 2026 (Jan-Mar) - one of the highest activity levels on record - with a record 56 outbound deals worth ~US\$3.9 billion.

**Science, Space & Defence**

47 - 61

47 ISRO PSLV-C62 Mission Fails (January 12)

ISRO's PSLV-C62 (64th PSLV flight) lifted off from Sriharikota but failed to reach orbit after a deviation in roll rates near the end of third-stage operation. The primary payload was the DRDO-built EOS-N1 satellite; it was the second consecutive PSLV failure.



GK BYTE

PSLV: Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle**Spaceport:** Sriharikota (SDSC-SHAR)

48 NASA Launches Pandora Space Telescope (January 11)

NASA launched the Pandora small space telescope aboard a Falcon 9 to study exoplanet atmospheres; the same flight carried NASA's SPARCS and BlackCAT CubeSat telescopes.

49 ISRO Releases ISSAR-2025

ISRO released the Indian Space Situational Awareness Report 2025 (ISSAR-2025) at the SMOPS-2026 conference in Bengaluru, reinforcing India's commitment to debris-free missions and space surveillance.

50 DRDO Scramjet Combustor Ground Test (January 9)

DRDO's DRDL conducted a long-duration ground test (over 1,000 seconds) of an actively cooled full-scale scramjet combustor in Hyderabad - a foundation for India's Hypersonic Cruise Missile Development Programme.



GK BYTE

Scramjet: supersonic-combustion ramjet**51 India Reports New BMD Phase-III Interceptors**

Reports indicated India began developing two new interceptors under Phase-III of its Ballistic Missile Defence Programme, designed to counter hypersonic weapons, MIRVs and non-ballistic atmospheric-entry vehicles.

52 Indian Navy Plans Record 19 Warships in 2026

The Indian Navy is set to commission a record 19 warships in 2026 - its biggest single-year addition - including INS Udaygiri and a Nistar-class Diving Support Vessel, roughly one vessel every six weeks.



GK BYTE

Navy Day: 4 December

53 Exercise Khanjar (India-Kyrgyzstan)

The 13th edition of the annual India-Kyrgyzstan bilateral special-forces exercise 'Khanjar' focused on urban and mountain warfare, sniping and counter-terrorism, strengthening India-Central Asia defence cooperation.

 GK BYTE**Kyrgyzstan Capital:** Bishkek**54 CSIR-IGIB Develops CRISPR Gene Therapy for Sickle Cell**

CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology developed 'BIRSA 101', India's first indigenous CRISPR-based gene therapy for sickle cell disease, with technology transferred to industry for affordable deployment.

 GK BYTE**CRISPR:** gene-editing technology (Nobel 2020)**55 India's Semiconductor Design Progress**

As of January 2026, the Design-Linked Incentive (DLI) scheme supported 24 semiconductor design startups; 122 designs were taped out with 56 chips fabricated at 180 nm at SCL Mohali, alongside advanced-node tape-outs.

 GK BYTE**SCL:** Semiconductor Laboratory, Mohali**56 IndiaAI Innovation Challenge 2026 Launched**

The IndiaAI Mission (under MeitY) launched the IndiaAI Innovation Challenge 2026 in collaboration with the Ministry of AYUSH and the Ministry of MSME to build deployment-ready AI solutions.

57 IndiaAI Compute - Over 38,000 GPUs Onboarded

Under the IndiaAI Mission (Rs 10,371.92 crore outlay), more than 38,000 GPUs were onboarded via the AI compute portal, offered to Indian startups and academia at affordable rates.

58 IndiaAI Innovation Centre - 67 Proposals

The IndiaAI Innovation Centre's call for proposals drew 67 submissions from startups, researchers and entrepreneurs for building indigenous foundation models across healthcare, education and finance.

59 Jupiter at Opposition & Quadrantid Meteor Shower

Jupiter reached opposition on 10 January 2026, appearing at its brightest for the year, while the Quadrantid meteor shower peaked on 3 January (visibility limited by a near-full Moon).

60 India's Full Immunisation Coverage Hits 98.4%

India's full immunisation coverage rose from 62% in 2015 to 98.4% by January 2026, alongside plans for a nationwide HPV vaccination drive and an indigenous Td (tetanus-diphtheria) vaccine in 2026.

61 India Launches 6th All-India Tiger Estimation

India formally launched its 6th All-India Tiger Estimation at Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, conducted every four years under Project Tiger; India hosts an estimated 3,682 tigers (70-75% of the world's wild tigers).

 GK BYTE

Project Tiger: launched 1973

Previous count: 3,682 tigers (2022)

 July
17**Important Days**

62 - 69

62 World Braille Day (January 4)

Observed on the birth anniversary of Louis Braille to raise awareness of Braille as a means of communication and inclusion for the visually impaired.

63 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (January 9)

The annual observance marks the contribution of the overseas Indian community and Mahatma Gandhi's return to India from South Africa in 1915.

 GK BYTE**9 Jan:** Gandhi's return from South Africa (1915)**64 National Youth Day (January 12)**

Observed to mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda; the 2026 theme was 'Ignite the Self, Impact the World'.

65 Makar Sankranti / Uttarayan (January 14)

The harvest festival marking the sun's transition into Capricorn (Makar rashi) was celebrated across India with regional variations such as Pongal, Lohri and Bihu.

66 Parakram Diwas / Netaji Jayanti (January 23)

The 129th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was observed as Parakram Diwas ('Day of Valour').

 GK BYTE**Netaji:** founded Azad Hind Fauj (INA)**67 National Voters' Day (January 25)**

The 16th National Voters' Day was observed under the theme 'My India, My Vote', marking the founding of the Election Commission on 25 January 1950.

 GK BYTE**ECI founded:** 25 Jan 1950**68 National Tourism Day (January 25)**

Observed on 25 January to highlight the importance of tourism to India's economy, culture and employment.

69 Martyrs' Day / Shaheed Diwas (January 30)

Observed on 30 January to mark the death anniversary (assassination) of Mahatma Gandhi, with a two-minute national silence.

🏆 Padma & Other Awards

70 - 74

70 Padma Awards 2026 Announced (January 25) - 131 Awards

The Centre announced 131 Padma Awards - 5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan and 113 Padma Shri - including 19 women, 16 posthumous awards and 6 from the Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI category.

 GK BYTE

Instituted: 1954

Announced on: Republic Day eve

71 Padma Vibhushan 2026 Recipients

The five Padma Vibhushan awardees included veteran actor Dharmendra (posthumous), former Kerala CM V.S. Achuthanandan (posthumous), classical violinist N. Rajam and former Supreme Court judge K.T. Thomas.

72 Padma Bhushan 2026 Highlights

The 13 Padma Bhushan awardees included singer Alka Yagnik, actor Mammooty, industrialist Uday Kotak, former Uttarakhand CM Bhagat Singh Koshyari and adman Piyush Pandey (posthumous).

73 Padma Shri 2026 - Sports & Notable Names

Padma Shri honourees included cricketers Rohit Sharma and Harmanpreet Kaur and hockey goalkeeper Savita Punia, among achievers across arts, science, medicine and social work.

74 Golden Globes 2026 (83rd Edition)

Held in Los Angeles and hosted by Nikki Glaser, 'One Battle After Another' won Best Motion Picture (Comedy/Musical), Best Director and Best Screenplay, while 'Hamnet' won Best Motion Picture (Drama).



Sports

75 - 78

75 Khelo India Winter Games 2026 - Leh Leg (January 20-26)

The first phase of the 6th Khelo India Winter Games was held in Leh, Ladakh, featuring ice hockey and ice skating (with figure skating added for the first time); around 900 athletes competed.



GK BYTE

KIWG snow leg: Gulmarg (February)**76 KIWG Ice Hockey Gold Retained by Indian Army**

The Indian Army retained the men's ice hockey gold, beating Chandigarh 3-2 in the final; Ladakh's Skarma Tsultim was a standout with four medals.

77 Australian Open 2026 Champions

Carlos Alcaraz beat Novak Djokovic to win his first Australian Open (7th major and career Grand Slam), while Elena Rybakina defeated Aryna Sabalenka for the women's singles title.



GK BYTE

Australian Open: first Grand Slam of the year (hard court)**78 Hockey India League 2025-26 Concluded (January 26)**

The Kalinga Lancers won the men's Hockey India League title (their second), while the SG Pipers won the women's HIL crown.



Appointments

79 - 83

79 New DGs for Security Agencies (January 14)

Praveen Kumar (1993-batch IPS) was made Director General of the BSF, Shatrujeet Singh Kapoor DG of the ITBP, and Rakesh Aggarwal (1994-batch IPS) DG of the NIA.



GK BYTE

NIA: National Investigation Agency (est. 2009)

80 Raj Kumar Goel Appointed Chief Information Commissioner

Raj Kumar Goel was appointed Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of India, heading the apex body under the Right to Information Act.



GK BYTE

RTI Act: 2005

81 Sangita Barua Elected President, Press Club of India

Sangita Barua was elected President of the Press Club of India, the leading body of journalists in the national capital.

82 Aparna Garg Appointed Railway Board Member (Finance)

Aparna Garg was appointed Member (Finance) of the Railway Board, part of the apex management of Indian Railways.

83 Who's Who - Key Constitutional Office-holders

As of January 2026, Droupadi Murmu was President (15th), C.P. Radhakrishnan Vice President, Justice Surya Kant the 53rd Chief Justice of India, and Gyanesh Kumar the 26th Chief Election Commissioner.

**Reports, Business & Obituaries**

84 - 100

84 Henley Passport Index 2026 - India Climbs to 80th

India climbed five places to 80th in the Henley Passport Index 2026 (released 14 January), with visa-free, visa-on-arrival or e-visa access to about 55 destinations.



GK BYTE

By: Henley & Partners

85 WEF Global Risks Report 2026 Released

The WEF released its Global Risks Report 2026 at Davos, flagging misinformation/disinformation, extreme weather, geoeconomic confrontation and societal polarisation among the top near-term global risks.

86 Retail Inflation Eases Sharply in FY26

Average retail (CPI) inflation fell to about 1.7% for April-December 2025-26 (from 4.6% in 2024-25), reflecting easing food prices and a favourable base.

87 Current Account Deficit Narrows to 0.8% of GDP

India's current account deficit narrowed to about 0.8% of GDP in the first half of 2025-26, aided by strong services exports and remittances.

88 FDI Inflows Reach US\$81 billion in 2025

Foreign Direct Investment inflows into India reached about US\$81 billion in 2025, roughly 13% higher year-on-year, reflecting sustained investor confidence.

89 PLI Scheme Crosses Rs 2 lakh crore Investment

The Production Linked Incentive scheme attracted around Rs 2 lakh crore in investment and over Rs 17 lakh crore in production, as cited in the President's address.



GK BYTE

PLI launched: 2020 (14 sectors)

90 India Confirmed as World's 3rd-largest Startup Ecosystem

India was reaffirmed as the world's third-largest startup ecosystem, with over 2.09 lakh DPIIT-recognised startups by December 2025 - a landmark marked on National Startup Day.

91 IDBI Bank Strategic Stake Sale Progresses

The government's sale of its 60.72% stake in IDBI Bank advanced, with financial bids expected in January and the deal potentially exceeding Rs 1 lakh crore.

92 Adani Enterprises Acquires Flight Simulation Technique Centre (January 22)

Adani Enterprises completed the acquisition of a 72.8% stake in Flight Simulation Technique Centre Pvt Ltd, strengthening its aviation-training footprint.

93 Adani Defence-Embraer MoU (January 27)

Adani Defence Systems and Technologies signed an MoU with Brazil's Embraer to develop a regional transport-aircraft ecosystem in India.

94 Amitav Ghosh Releases 'Ghost-Eye'

Acclaimed novelist Amitav Ghosh released his new book 'Ghost-Eye', with the national tour beginning on 5 January 2026.

 GK BYTE

Amitav Ghosh: first English writer to win the Jnanpith (2018)

95 Book on President Droupadi Murmu Released (January 10)

A book chronicling the life and journey of President Droupadi Murmu was released on 10 January 2026.

96 Obituary: Former MP L. Ganesan

L. Ganesan, 91, a veteran Indian politician and former Member of Parliament (1980-86, 2004-09), passed away in January 2026.

97 Obituary: Veteran Politician Kabindra Purkayastha

Kabindra Purkayastha, 94, a long-serving former Member of Parliament (1991-2014) from Assam, passed away in January 2026.

98 Obituary: Actress Jayashree Kabir

Jayashree Kabir, 73, a Bengali actress known for films including 'Pratidwandi' and 'Simana Periyē', passed away in January 2026.

99 Obituary: Former Tamil Nadu MLA N. Sundaram

N. Sundaram, 72, a Tamil Nadu politician and former MLA (1996-2001, 2006-11), died following a fall in January 2026.

100 India's Startup Decade - 21 lakh Jobs Created

Marking ten years of Startup India, the government highlighted that recognised startups had created over 21 lakh direct jobs, underscoring the ecosystem's role in employment and innovation.

Rapid Revision — One-Line Facts

High-yield one-liners distilled from this capsule. Skim these last, right before your exam.

Question / Cue	Answer
77th Republic Day 2026 chief guests	Ursula von der Leyen & Antonio Costa (EU)
Republic Day 2026 theme	150 years of Vande Mataram
India-EU FTA concluded on	27 January 2026
India-EU FTA trade target by 2030-31	US\$250 billion (goods)
WEF Davos 2026 theme	A Spirit of Dialogue
German Chancellor who visited India	Friedrich Merz (Jan 12-13)
India-UAE LNG deal value	US\$3 billion (ADNOC-HPCL)
First Advance Estimate - FY26 GDP	7.4%
CPI inflation, December 2025	1.33%
Forex reserves milestone (Jan)	crossed US\$700 billion (record)
SEBI notified which overhaul (Jan 16)	Mutual Funds Regulations, 2026
ISRO mission that failed (Jan 12)	PSLV-C62 (EOS-N1)
DRDO test on Jan 9	Scramjet combustor (1,000+ sec)
78th Army Day venue	Jaipur (first outside cantonment)
National Startup Day marked	Decade of Startup India (Jan 16)
Total Padma Awards 2026	131 (5+13+113)
Padma Vibhushan (posthumous) actor	Dharmendra
Golden Globes 2026 - top film	One Battle After Another
Australian Open 2026 men's champion	Carlos Alcaraz
KIWG 2026 Leh-leg host	Ladakh
Henley Passport Index 2026 - India rank	80th (up 5)

Question / Cue	Answer
Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Puraskar (institutional)	Sikkim SDMA
New BSF Director General	Praveen Kumar
Chief Information Commissioner	Raj Kumar Goel
National Voters' Day & ECI founding	25 January (ECI since 1950)
Parakram Diwas honours	Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
6th All-India Tiger Estimation - baseline	3,682 tigers (2022)

Disclaimer: Compiled from January 2026 news and current-affairs sources for exam preparation. Some data points (Dec 2025 CPI/WPI/GST/trade) relate to December but were released/discussed in January 2026. Verify exact figures, names and dates against primary sources (PIB, RBI, MEA, MoSPI, MHA) before final use. © MockSutra · www.mocksutra.com