



DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

> 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. FSSAI Launches Dedicated Licensing Window for Ayurveda Aahara Products on FoSCoS Portal.



In September 2025, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, officially launched a dedicated licensing and registration system for Ayurveda Aahara products on its Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) portal. The move aims to regulate, standardize, and promote Ayurvedic foods across India while aligning traditional practices with modern safety standards.

- The initiative introduces a 'Kind of Business' (KoB) framework, allowing Ayurveda Aahara manufacturers to seamlessly apply for licenses and registrations through the FoSCoS portal, thereby streamlining entry into the regulated food market.
- The regulation formalizes traditional Ayurvedic recipes documented in authoritative texts, ensuring authenticity while adhering to food safety and quality standards to promote consumer trust and industry growth.

Key Points:-

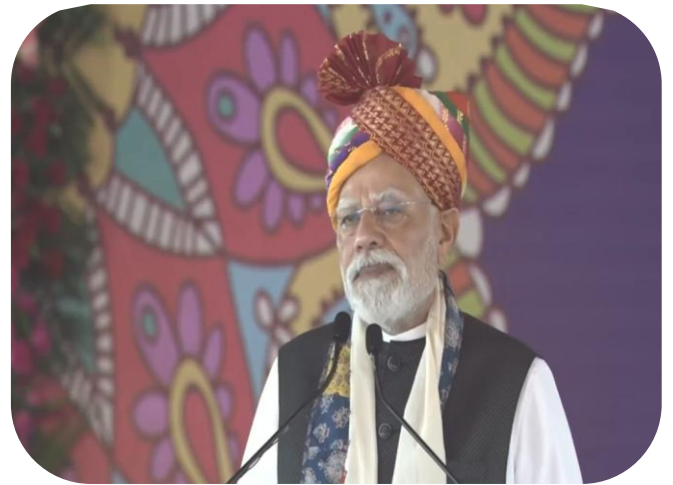
- (i) Rooted in Ayurveda's principle of personalized nutrition (prakriti-based diet), this initiative enhances the role of Ayurveda

Aahara as a supportive component in prescribed Ayurvedic treatment plans.

(ii) To ensure smooth adoption, FSSAI published a list of 91 approved Ayurveda Aahara recipes on 25th July 2025, giving Food Business Operators a ready reference for product development under this category.

(iii) Developed in partnership with the Ministry of Ayush, the measure reflects the Government of India's commitment to merging traditional wisdom with modern safety practices, strengthening both public health and the Ayurveda food sector.

2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurates and Lays Foundation Stone for Projects Worth Over ₹1.22 Lakh Crore in Rajasthan.



On September 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for multiple development projects worth more than ₹1.22 lakh crore from Banswara, Rajasthan. The event marked a milestone in India's energy, infrastructure, and welfare sectors, with a special focus on nuclear and clean energy.

- The Prime Minister laid the foundation of the Mahi Banswara Atomic Power Project at Napla near the Mahi Dam.

- With an investment of ₹42,000 crore, the project will house four nuclear power units of 700 MW capacity each, making it one of the largest nuclear energy investments in the country.

- PM Modi launched solar, healthcare, drinking water, and infrastructure projects worth thousands of crores, and announced power projects worth ₹90,000 crore across five states, highlighting India's shift from solar to nuclear energy.

Key Points:-

(i) The Prime Minister flagged off three new railway services in Rajasthan, alongside launching projects in national highways and infrastructure to enhance regional connectivity and development.

(ii) In his address, PM Modi highlighted recent GST reforms that lowered the cost of everyday essentials, reducing household expenses. He called upon citizens to embrace Atmanirbhar Bharat by promoting swadeshi products, defining them as goods produced by the efforts of Indian people.

(iii) At the Banswara event, PM Modi highlighted BJP's commitment to tribal empowerment, accusing past governments of neglect, and stressed his government's focus on dignity, cultural preservation, and welfare of tribal communities.

3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Launches "Mukhyamantri Mahila Rozgar Yojna" to Empower Women in Bihar.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the "Mukhyamantri Mahila Rozgar Yojna" via video conferencing from New Delhi. The scheme, initiated by the Bihar government, aims to empower women, ensure financial independence, and reduce migration from the state while promoting self-reliance among women in rural and urban areas.

- The "Mukhyamantri Mahila Rozgar Yojna" is a Chief Minister-led Women Employment Scheme that directly transfers financial assistance to women beneficiaries. It aligns with the government's vision of "Empowered Women, Prosperous Bihar" and targets women self-help groups across the state.

- Under the scheme, an initial amount of Rs.10,000 will be transferred directly into beneficiaries' bank accounts through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system. On the first day, the first instalment will reach 75 lakh women, totaling Rs.7,500 crore in direct transfers.

- Approximately 1.1 crore applications have been submitted by women to avail benefits. The scheme focuses on women's economic empowerment, aiming to enhance livelihood opportunities and financial independence, particularly ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections.

Key Points:-

- (i) The scheme will be implemented through Self Help Groups (SHGs) in both rural and urban regions, ensuring transparent and effective delivery of benefits directly to the women who need them most.
- (ii) The government has committed that if employment progresses successfully under the scheme, additional assistance of up to Rs.2 lakh per beneficiary will be provided to further support women and strengthen their families' self-reliance.

4. Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal Inaugurates India's First Maritime Simulation Centre in Chennai and Indian Ship Technology Centre in Visakhapatnam.



In September 2025, Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW), inaugurated India's first Maritime Simulation Centre at the Academy of Maritime Education and Training (AMET) Knowledge Park near Chennai and virtually inaugurated the Indian Ship Technology Centre (ISTC) in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, marking a significant step toward advancing India's maritime education, ship design, and self-reliance in shipbuilding.

- The centre has been established with an investment of ₹13.5 crore, including financial support of ₹6.5 crore (USD 750,000) from the AP Moller Foundation. It is located at AMET Knowledge Park's Maersk Centre of Excellence near Chennai.
- Equipped with advanced systems, the Maritime Simulation Centre provides cadets immersive, hands-on training in vital maritime skills such as watchkeeping, steering, collision avoidance, navigation light identification, and engine troubleshooting.

Key Points:-

- (i) The ISTC, inaugurated virtually at the Indian Maritime University (IMU) Visakhapatnam campus during its 10th Convocation, serves as a hub for indigenous ship design, research, consultancy, and skill development.
- (ii) The centre aims to reduce India's dependence on foreign ship designs and enhance domestic capabilities, with the long-term goal of making India a global leader in shipbuilding by 2030.
- (iii) The ISTC has been developed with a total investment of ₹305 crore, reflecting the government's commitment to strengthening India's maritime infrastructure and technology ecosystem.

5. Andhra Pradesh CM N. Chandrababu Naidu Inaugurates India's First AI-Powered Pilgrim Integrated Command Control Centre at Tirumala.



In September 2025, N. Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh (AP), inaugurated India's first Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered Pilgrim Integrated Command Control Centre (ICCC) at the Vaikuntam Queue Complex, Tirumala Temple. The centre aims to revolutionize crowd management, safety, and monitoring at one of India's most visited pilgrimage sites.

- The AI-powered Pilgrim ICCC has been developed under a Prono Bono Public-Private Model and funded by a group of Non-Resident Indian (NRI) philanthropists, reflecting collaboration between government and private stakeholders for advanced public services.

Key Points:-

- The newly inaugurated ICCC is designed to provide real-time crowd prediction, faster queue management, enhanced safety measures, and cyber threat monitoring across Tirumala, ensuring a secure and seamless experience for pilgrims.
- Powered by Kloudspot Inc. and NVIDIA's high-performance computing, the centre integrates AI, Machine Learning (ML), and Digital Twin Map technologies.
- It features over 6,000 AI cameras, can process 3.60 lakh payloads per minute, 518

million events daily, and generate 2.5 billion inferences every day in real time.

BANKING & FINANCE

1. RBI Revises Norms for Settlement of Deceased Customers' Bank Accounts and Lockers, Prescribes 15-Day Timeline.



In September 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued revised norms for the settlement of deceased customers' bank accounts and lockers, mandating banks to settle claims within 15 days and specifying compensation for delays. The new directives aim to streamline the claims process, enhance accountability, and ensure timely compensation to nominees.

- Banks must settle deceased customers' account and locker claims within 15 calendar days of receiving all documents and schedule locker inventory within the same period.
- The revised norms apply to deposit accounts and safe deposit lockers held by deceased customers. RBI clarified that if the account had a nominee or a survivorship clause, the outstanding balance is payable to the nominee. In the absence of a nominee, a simplified procedure applies if the aggregate claim is below the threshold limit.

● RBI has set the threshold limits at ₹15 lakh for deposit accounts (any other bank) and ₹5 lakh for co-operative banks. Banks can request additional documents such as a succession certificate or legal heir certificate if the aggregate amount exceeds these limits.

Key Points:-

(i) In case of delays, banks are mandated to pay interest at the bank rate + 4% per annum for deposits. For safe deposit lockers or articles in safe custody, banks must compensate claimants at the rate of ₹5,000 per day of delay.

(ii) Banks are required to implement the revised instructions at the earliest and not later than March 31, 2026. The norms were issued under the "RBI (Settlement of Claims in respect of Deceased Customers of Banks) Directions, 2025."

(iii) For deposit accounts without a nominee or survivorship clause, if the aggregate amount is below the threshold limit, banks may settle claims through a simplified procedure. This ensures faster processing and reduces bureaucratic hurdles for claimants.

2. Bank of Baroda Signs MoU with Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited to Finance MSME Solar Projects.



On September 26, 2025, Bank of Baroda (BOB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL), a subsidiary of Tata Power, to provide financial support to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Commercial & Industrial (C&I) customers for the adoption of solar energy. The collaboration aims to enhance BOB's lending capabilities, expand solar adoption, and increase efficiency in India's bullion and renewable energy markets.

● The MoU involves BOB and TPREL, with the primary objective to finance MSME solar projects. This initiative targets rooftop solar and renewable energy installations for commercial and industrial customers, promoting clean energy adoption and sustainability in India.

● Under this MoU, BOB will offer collateral-free loans up to ₹10 crores for solar projects. Loans will have flexible repayment tenure up to 120 months (10 years), with interest rates starting at 7.75%, via TPREL or its authorized partners for projects up to 10 Megawatt (MW) capacity.

● The MoU was signed by Madhur Kumar, Chief General Manager (CGM), MSME Banking, Co-Lending & Supply Chain Finance (SCF), BOB, and Shivram Bikkina, Chief of Rooftop Solar Business

& Electronic Vehicle (EV) Charging Business, TPREL. The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has approved BOB to operate as Trading-Cum-Clearing Member (TCM) on the India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Limited (IIBX) at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).

Key Points:-

(i) As of August 2025, TPREL has completed over 2.49 lakh rooftop solar installations, achieving a cumulative capacity exceeding 3.6 Global Warming Potential (GWP). The collaboration allows BOB to directly finance, execute, and settle solar projects efficiently for MSME and C&I clients.

(ii) With this MoU, BOB becomes the second Public Sector Bank (PSB) after the State Bank of India (SBI) to receive TCM status, enabling it to access international and domestic clients for gold and silver contracts on IIBX.

(iii) India's first international bullion exchange, IIBX, was established in July 2022 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, by the Government of India (GOI). It aims to provide a transparent, efficient, and globally competitive platform for bullion trading, supporting international investments and domestic market liquidity.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

1. India's Smartphone Exports to US Surge 148% in August 2025.



In August 2025, India witnessed a dramatic jump in smartphone exports to the United States, rising 148 % over the same month in 2024. This surge underscores India's growing role as a global hub for smartphone manufacturing and reflects strong overseas demand, especially from the U.S. market.

- According to the India Cellular Electronics Association (ICEA), total smartphone exports in August 2025 were about USD 1.53 billion, marking a 39% year-on-year increase.

- Exports specifically to the U.S. more than doubled—rising from USD 388 million in August 2024 to USD 965 million in August 2025—a growth of 148 %.

Key Points:-

(i) Between April and August 2025, smartphone exports to the U.S. soared to approximately USD 8.43 billion, nearly three times the figure for the same period in the previous year.

(ii) While some reports suggested a slowdown, ICEA denied such claims, stating that seasonal factors and production cycles (model launches, plant retrofitting) typically influence export figures.

(iii) This surge comes amid growing concern over U.S. tariffs and reflects India's

increasing competitiveness in global electronics manufacturing. The sharp rise in U.S.-bound exports supports the narrative of India as a key alternative to traditional manufacturing hubs.

India's botanical and mycological research base.

(iii) The BSI operates under the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), with headquarters in Kolkata and multiple regional centres across India.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

1. India Appoints First Mushroom Scientist as Director of BSI.



In a landmark decision, the Government of India has appointed Dr. Kanad Das, a mycologist specializing in mushrooms, as the 13th Director of the Botanical Survey of India (BSI). This makes him the first mycologist to head the institute since its inception.

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet cleared Dr. Kanad Das's appointment on September 6, 2025, marking a major step for fungal sciences in India.

Key Points:-

(i) Dr. Das is an expert in taxonomy of wild mushrooms, with a record of discovering over 160 new mushroom species and authoring more than 170 research papers.

(ii) As Director, he intends to fast-track digitization of BSI's herbarium collections, expand fungal surveys, and strengthen

2. R. Venkataramani Reappointed as Attorney General of India for Two Years, Effective October 1, 2025.



On September 26, 2025, the President of India and the Ministry of Law and Justice (MoL&J) announced the reappointment of Senior Advocate R. Venkataramani (75) as the Attorney General of India (AGI) for a further term of two years, effective from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2027.

- R. Venkataramani was first appointed as the 16th Attorney General of India on October 1, 2022, for a three-year term set to conclude on September 30, 2025. His tenure has now been extended for two years until September 30, 2027.

- Born on April 13, 1950, in Pondicherry, Venkataramani enrolled as a lawyer in 1977 with the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and joined the chambers of senior lawyer P.P. Rao at the Supreme Court in 1979. He was also a member

of the Law Commission of India in 2010 and again in 2013.

- He succeeded veteran jurist K.K. Venugopal as Attorney General of India on September 30, 2022, following Venugopal's retirement from the post.

Key Points:-

(i) R. Venkataramani has authored several books on constitutional law and collaborated with the Supreme Court of India on projects such as the Supreme Court Practice and Procedure and the Restatement of Indian Law relating to Public Interest Litigation. His 2021 book *Roses Without Thorns* highlights his legal writings.

(ii) The Attorney General of India is the highest law officer of the Union Government, appointed under Article 76 of the Constitution. The AGI advises the Government of India on legal matters, represents it in courts, and has the right to participate in parliamentary proceedings without voting rights.

SPORTS

1. India Shines at ISSF Junior World Cup 2025, Sweeps Women's 50m Prone Event in Historic First-Ever Edition Hosted in New Delhi.



In the ISSF Junior World Cup 2025 held at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range, New Delhi, Indian shooters showcased exceptional performance, sweeping the women's 50m prone event and securing multiple medals in the men's category. This marks a historic moment for India as the first edition of the Junior World Cup hosted in the country.

- **Women's 50m Prone Event:** Indian shooters achieved a clean sweep of the podium with Anushka Thokur winning gold, Anshik securing silver, and Aadhya Agrawal taking bronze, demonstrating India's dominance in the discipline.

- **Men's 50m Prone Event:** In the men's category, Deependra Singh Shekhawat narrowly missed the gold, finishing just one point behind Kamil Nuriakhmetov, while Rohit Kanyan secured the bronze medal for India.

Key Points:-

(i) A total of 69 Indian shooters are participating in the event, representing the country across multiple shooting disciplines.

(ii) The ISSF Junior World Cup in New Delhi, concluding on October 2, 2025, features 208 shooters from 19 federations and is the 11th edition of the Junior Shooting World Cup, marking the first time it is hosted in India.

AWARDS

1. President Droupadi Murmu Presents National Geoscience Awards 2024 at Rashtrapati Bhavan.



The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, recently presented the National Geoscience Awards-2024 at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi, recognizing outstanding contributions to geoscience. The ceremony highlighted India's mineral potential, reforms in the mining sector, and the pivotal role of geoscientists in sustainable national development.

- The awards ceremony was held on 26th September 2025 at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre and was attended by Shri G. Kishan Reddy (Union Minister of Coal & Mines), Shri Piyush Goyal (Secretary, Ministry of Mines), Shri Asit Saha (Director General, Geological Survey of India), senior officials, and distinguished guests.

- Instituted in 1966 by the Ministry of Mines, the National Geoscience Awards honor individuals and teams for excellence in mineral discovery, exploration, fundamental and applied geosciences, and mining. In 2024, 20 eminent geoscientists were recognized with 12 awards under three categories – Lifetime Achievement (01), National Young Geoscientist Award (01), and 10 National Geoscience Awards.

- The Lifetime Achievement Award 2024 was conferred on Prof. Shyam Sundar Rai, Senior Scientist at INSA and Visiting Professor at IISER

Pune, for groundbreaking research in Solid Earth and Seismology across India. The National Young Geoscientist Award 2024 was presented to Shri Susobhan Neogi, Senior Geologist at GSI, for pioneering tectonic studies of Meghalaya, Jharkhand, Bundelkhand, and supercontinent assembly.

Key Points:-

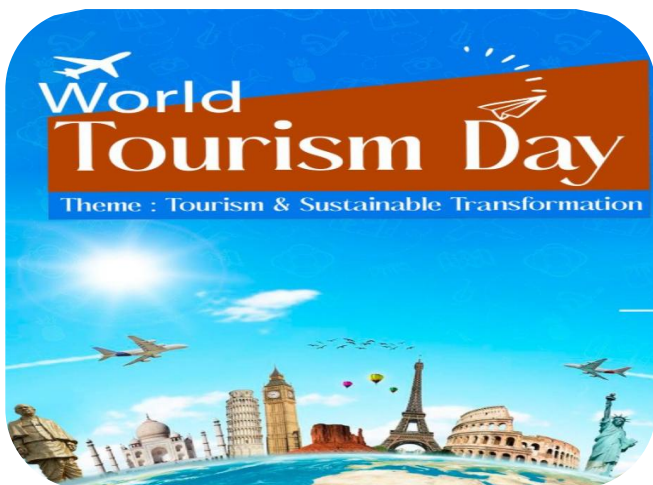
(i) Shri Piyush Goyal highlighted MMDR Act reforms for transparent mineral auctions, launched the National Critical Mineral Mission and National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR), and noted GSI's focus on critical minerals for clean energy and strategic needs.

(ii) Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy emphasized geoscience's role in achieving Viksit Bharat 2047, celebrated GSI's 175th year, highlighted 500+ mineral blocks identified, and urged young geoscientists to focus on sustainability, private participation, and global collaboration.

(iii) President Droupadi Murmu highlighted minerals' importance from the Stone Age to modern clean energy, urging geoscientists to pursue sustainable mining, ocean-bed resource use, and indigenous Rare Earth Elements (REEs) technology for smartphones, EVs, defence, and security.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. World Tourism Day 2025 Observed on 27th September.



World Tourism Day is celebrated every year on 27th September to underline the importance of tourism in fostering cultural exchange, economic development, and global connectivity. The 2025 theme, 'Tourism and Sustainable Transformation', emphasises tourism's potential to drive positive change worldwide.

- The day commemorates the adoption of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) statutes in 1970 and was first observed in 1980. It has since highlighted tourism's crucial role in socio-economic development and the advancement of the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- The 2025 theme, 'Tourism and Sustainable Transformation', focuses on the sector's ability to promote sustainable practices, cultural preservation, and inclusive economic growth while connecting communities globally.

Key Points:-

(i) As of June 2025, India received 16.5 lakh inbound tourists and 84.4 lakh outbound travellers. Tourism contributed foreign exchange earnings of ₹51,532 crore, reflecting the sector's importance for the national economy.

(ii) According to provisional estimates of the

National Accounts Statistics 2025, tourism contributed ₹15.73 lakh crore to India's GDP in 2023-24, accounting for 5.22% of the total economy, highlighting its substantial role in economic growth.

(iii) Over the last decade, the Indian Government has implemented transformative initiatives to scale up the tourism sector, focusing on economic growth, employment generation, and cultural diplomacy, aiming to unlock its full potential.

2. World Environmental Health Day 2025 Observed on September 26 with Theme "Clean Air, Healthy People".



On September 26, 2025, the world observed the 14th World Environmental Health Day (WEHD) to promote environmental safety and sustainable practices, with a special focus on the role of clean air in ensuring public health.

- The theme for World Environmental Health Day 2025 was "Clean Air, Healthy People", emphasizing the crucial link between air quality and human well-being.

- WEHD was officially declared in 2011 during the International Federation of Environmental

Health (IFEH) meeting in Bali, Indonesia, to be celebrated annually on September 26.

- The global observance of WEHD is coordinated by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH), engaging nations worldwide in awareness and sustainable action.

DEFENCE

1. Indian Air Force (IAF) Retires Iconic MiG-21 Fighter Jets After 62 Years of Service



On September 26, 2025, the Indian Air Force (IAF) officially retired its legendary Russian-origin MiG-21 fighter jets in a grand farewell ceremony at Chandigarh Air Force Station (12 Wing, AF). This marked the end of an era in Indian military aviation.

- The decommissioning event was attended by Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence (MoD), Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, and senior veterans. The last MiG-21s from No. 23 Squadron "Panthers" performed a ceremonial flypast, followed by a grand farewell tribute.

- Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh flew the last official sortie under call sign Badal 3. Squadron Leader Priya Sharma, one of the IAF's first women fighter pilots, became the final

woman to fly the MiG-21. On landing, the aircraft received a traditional water cannon salute.

- The ceremony showcased a skydiving demonstration by the elite Akash Ganga team from 8,000 feet, highlighting IAF's rich tradition of aerial excellence and military discipline.

Key Points:-

(i) Inducted in 1963, the MiG-21 was India's first supersonic jet, with its maiden 28 Squadron based at Chandigarh, earning the title "First Supersonics." Over six decades, more than 870 MiG-21s were procured, with many built by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

(ii) The MiG-21 played pivotal roles in the 1965 Indo-Pak War, the 1971 India-Pakistan War, the 1999 Kargil Conflict, and the 2019 Balakot airstrikes. Known as the IAF's "workhorse," it also earned the infamous nickname "flying coffin," with over 400 accidents reported during its service life.

(iii) The retired squadrons will be replaced by the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk1A, beginning with No. 23 Squadron. India is also expanding its fleet with Rafale jets and the upcoming Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) to strengthen its modern aerial defense.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

1. Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Unveils Book "Living The Vivekananda Way" at Delhi University.



In September 2025, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Ministry of Education (MoE), unveiled the book “Living The Vivekananda Way – Practical Spirituality For Modern India”, authored by Ananya Awasthi and Nikhil Yadav, at a ceremony held at Delhi University, New Delhi.

- The book highlights Swami Vivekananda’s timeless philosophy of oneness, unity of all religions, fearlessness, and democratic values.
- It provides practical lessons for the younger generation, particularly Gen Z, to adopt Vivekananda’s values in their personal and social lives.
- The work emphasizes India’s rich spiritual traditions, encouraging students to cultivate unity, courage, and responsibility in building modern India.

Static GK

Rajasthan	Chief minister: Bhajan Lal Sharma	Governor: Haribhau Bagade
United States of America (USA)	President: Donald Trump	Capital: Washington, D.C.
Bihar	Capital: Patna	Chief minister: Nitish Kumar
RBI	Governor : Sanjay Malhotra	Headquarter : Mumbai
Bank of Baroda (BOB)	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) : Debadatta Chand	Headquarters : Vadodara, Gujarat
Indian Air Force (IAF)	Deputy Chief of the Air Staff (DCAS): Air Marshal	Headquarters: New Delhi
International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH)	President : Bruno Cvetkovic (Croatia)	Headquarters : London, the United Kingdom(UK)