



Career Strategists IAS

Helpline -: 011-49324938, 9990606400

Add -: B-1/44 Sector 18 Rohini Delhi
110089

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1. 7 years of Poshan Abhiyaan

On 8 March 2025, Poshan Abhiyaan completed seven years. This campaign was launched on 8 March 2018 on International Women's Day from Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan. It is also known as National Nutrition Mission and is operated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. It aims to improve the nutritional level of adolescents, pregnant women, lactating mothers and children aged 0-6 years.



2. EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2024

Nitin Kamath was awarded the "EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2024 India" award. He is the CEO of Zerodha Limited and will represent India at the EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Awards to be held in Monte Carlo in June 2025. Other prominent winners this year include K. V. Kamath with the Lifetime Achievement Award (Jio Financial Limited) and Dr. S. Somanath with the Special Jury Award (former ISRO Chairman).



3. Exercise Khanjar - XII

Exercise Khanjar-XII is a joint military exercise between India and Kyrgyzstan, being held in Kyrgyzstan from 10 March to 23 March 2025. The exercise reflects the commitment to strengthen defence cooperation between the two countries and promote peace, stability and security in the region. The Indian contingent is represented by soldiers of the Para Regiment (Special Forces), while the Kyrgyz Swarpin Brigade is participating from the Kyrgyzstan side.



4. Jayashree Venkatesan wins Ramsar Award for prudent use of wetlands

Dr. Jayashree Venkatesan has become the first Indian to win the prestigious Ramsar Award in the "prudent use of wetlands" category. She has been named among the 2025 Women Changemakers in the World of Wetlands by the Ramsar Secretariat. The Ramsar Secretariat, based in Gland, Switzerland, made this announcement on the eve of International Women's Day on 7 March 2025.



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5. Siddhant Banthia won the doubles title of Rwanda Open Tennis Tournament

The 2025 Rwanda Challenger tennis tournament was held in Kigali, Rwanda from March 3-9. It was an ATP 100 Challenger event with a total prize money of \$160,000. The winners of singles and doubles received 100 ATP points each. The singles winner received a prize money of \$22,130, while the doubles winners received \$1,960.



6. Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar inaugurated GRIDCON 2025

With an aim to strengthen India's power grid and promote innovation in the integration of renewable energy, Union Minister for Power and Housing & Urban Affairs, Shri Manohar Lal inaugurated 'GRIDCON 2025' on 9 March 2025. This international conference and exhibition was held at IICC, Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, Delhi.



7. SBI launches digital SME loan without collateral for women entrepreneurs

On the occasion of International Women's Day 2025, State Bank of India (SBI) launched 'SBI Asmita', a collateral-free digital SME loan for women entrepreneurs. The main objective of this initiative is to simplify access to funding for women-run MSMEs and make it completely digital and hassle-free. Along with this, SBI also introduced a specially designed "Nari Shakti" premium debit card for women, which offers benefits across various categories.



8. India signed a \$248 million deal with Russia for advanced battle tank engines

India has signed a \$248 million defence deal with Russia's Rosoboronexport to procure 1000 horsepower (HP) engines for the Indian Army's T-72 battle tanks. The upgrade will play a key role in enhancing the army's combat capability and mobility. The deal also includes technology transfer, allowing state-owned Armoured Vehicles Corporation of India Ltd (AVNL) to locally produce these engines.



1. When was the National Nutrition (Abhiyan) Mission launched?

- A - March 8, 2018
B - March 8, 2019
C - March 8, 2020
D - March 8, 2020

Poshan Abhiyaan completed seven years on March 8, 2025. It started on March 8, 2018 from Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan and is run by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. It aims to improve the nutritional levels of adolescents, pregnant women, lactating mothers and children aged 0-6 years.



2. Who was recently awarded the "EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2024 India" award?

- A - Shekhar Sharma
B - Nitin Kamath
C - Praful Patel
D - Chirag Agrawal

Nitin Kamath was awarded the "EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2024 India" award. He is the CEO of Zerodha Limited and will represent India in Monte Carlo in June 2025. Other prominent winners include K. V. Kamath (Lifetime Achievement Award) and Dr. S. Somanath (Special Jury Award).



3. Exercise Khanjar is a joint military exercise between which two countries?

- A - India and Bangladesh
B - India and Nepal
C - India and Kyrgyzstan
D - India and America

Exercise Khanjar-XII is a joint military exercise between India and Kyrgyzstan to be held in Kyrgyzstan from 10-23 March 2025. India's Para Regiment (Special Forces) and the Kyrgyz Swarpin Brigade are participating in it. Its aim is to develop joint strategies and enhance mutual cooperation to combat terrorism and extremism.



4. How many women were honored for their efforts in wetland conservation in the annual Women Changemakers in the World of Wetlands released by the Ramsar Secretariat?

- A - 10
B - 11
C - 14
D - 12

Dr. Jayashree Venkatesan became the first Indian to win the prestigious Ramsar Award in the "Wise Use of Wetlands" category. The Switzerland-based Ramsar Secretariat on 7 March 2025 named her among the "Women Changemakers of 2025". The honour is given to empower the role of women in wetland conservation.



5. Siddhant Banthia who was in news recently is related to which sport?

- A - Cricket
C - Men's Volleyball
B - Men's Football
D - Men's Tennis

The 2025 Rwanda Challenger tennis event was held in Kigali, Rwanda from March 3-9. It was an ATP 100 Challenger event with a prize money of \$160,000. The singles and doubles winners received 100-100 ATP points. Siddhant Banthia and Alexander Donsky won the doubles title, defeating the pair of France's Jephy Blackenaux and Czech Republic's Zdenek Kolar 6-4, 5-7, 10-8 in the final.



6. Who inaugurated GRIDCON-2025?

- A - Manohar Lal Khattar
C - Anurag Thakur
B - Piyush Goyal
D - Amit Shah

Union Minister Manohar Lal inaugurated 'GRIDCON 2025' at IICC, Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, Delhi on 9 March 2025. This international conference was attended by representatives from 30 countries, 2000 conference participants, 150 technical papers and 150 exhibiting companies. Its theme was "Innovations in Grid Resilience", in which renewable energy, smart meter management and digital transformation were discussed.



7. Which bank has recently launched a collateral-free digital SME loan for women entrepreneurs?

- A - HDFC
C - ICICI
B - SBI
D - IDBI

On International Women's Day 2025, SBI launched 'SBI Asmita', a collateral-free digital SME loan for women entrepreneurs, which is completely digital and hassle-free. This loan is based on automated data verification and API ecosystem. Top women entrepreneurs will also get entrepreneurship training.



8. Recently, India has signed an agreement with Russia for which battle tank?

- A - T-73
C - T-74
B - T-72
D - T-75

India signed a \$248 million deal with Russia's Rosoboronexport to buy 1000 HP engines for the Indian Army's T-72 tanks. This includes technology transfer, which will enable Armored Vehicles Corporation Limited (AVNL) to locally produce these engines. This upgrade will increase the combat capability and mobility of the army.





One Liner

1. Where was the National Nutrition Campaign started - **Jhunjhunu (Rajasthan)**
2. Which Indian got the Life Time Achievement Award 2024 - **-K.V. Kamath (Jio Financial Services Ltd)**
3. When did the joint military exercise 'Khanjar' start between India and Kyrgyzstan - **In the year - 2011**
4. Dr. Jayashree Venkatesan, co-founder of Care Earth Trust, was honored by including her in which category in the Women Changemakers in the World of Wetlands 2025 list issued by the Ramsar Secretariat - **"Wise Use of Wetlands"**
5. Who won the singles title of the ATP Rwanda Challenger 2025 tennis tournament - **Valentin Foyer of France**
6. What is the main theme of GRIDCON-2025 - **"Innovations in Grid Resilience"**
7. Which bank has issued the 'Nari Shakti' Platinum Debit Card - **SBI**
8. With which Russian company has India signed an agreement to manufacture battle tank fuel - **Rosoboronexport**
9. Where is the Pallikaranai swamp located in India - **Chennai (Tamil Nadu)**
10. Where is the headquarters of the Ramsar Secretariat on Wetlands located - **Gland (Switzerland)**

