



Career Strategists IAS

Helpline -: 011-49324938, 9990606400

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

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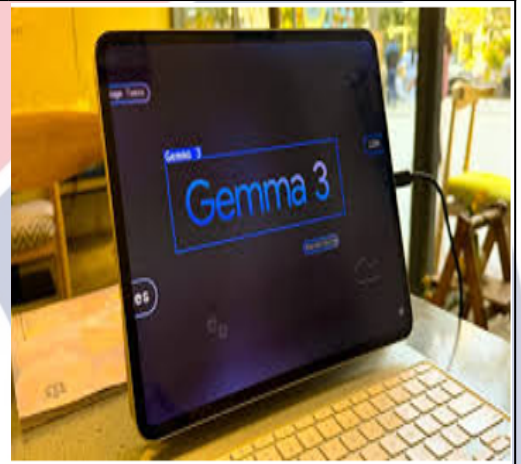
1. India-New Zealand announces start of FTA talks

India and New Zealand have launched formal negotiations for a comprehensive and mutually beneficial free trade agreement (FTA) that will strengthen bilateral ties. This will be India's second FTA in the Oceania region, after the India-Australia ECTA. The agreement aims to strengthen supply chains, enhance trade access and promote economic prosperity.



2. Google launches 'Gemma 3' AI model

Google has recently launched "Gemma 3", which is part of its lightweight and advanced open AI model series. It is designed to work efficiently on smartphones, laptops and other computing devices. Based on Gemini 2.0 technology, this model works smoothly on GPU and TPU with low latency processing. It is capable of multi-modal processing, which can process text and electrical inputs, but gives output only in text.



3. Jharkhand won the 15th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship

Hockey Jharkhand won the 15th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship 2025 by defeating defending champions Hockey Haryana in the final. The final match was played on 12 March 2025 at Tau Devi Lal Complex in Panchkula. The match ended in a 1-1 draw at the end of the stipulated time, after which Jharkhand defeated Haryana 4-3 in the penalty shootout.



4. APAAR-ID

The Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) ID aims to standardize student records and ensure smooth transition between academic levels. It was launched under the National Education Policy 2020 and is linked with the National Credit Framework. APAAR implements the "One Nation, One Student ID Card" system, which provides a unique 12-digit ID to students.





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5. Department of Telecommunications announces 5G Innovation Hackathon - 2025

The Department of Telecommunications (DOT) has announced the 5G Innovation Hackathon 2025, which will run for six months. It aims to develop innovative prototypes by leveraging 5G technology and promote 5G-powered solutions to address societal and industrial challenges. The hackathon is organised for undergraduate, postgraduate students, startups and professionals.



6. The 14th meeting of the ADMM Plus Expert Working Group on Counterterrorism will be held in New Delhi.

The 14th meeting of the Expert Working Group (EWG) of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Conference Plus (ADMM-Plus) will be held in New Delhi on 19-20 March 2025. India and Malaysia will co-chair the meeting. Representatives from the 10 ASEAN Member States and eight Dialogue Partner States, including Timor-Leste and the ASEAN Secretariat, will attend the meeting.



7. RBI releases framework for Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) for Account Aggregators

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released the framework for recognition of self-regulatory organisation (SRO) for account aggregator (AA) ecosystem. It aims to facilitate seamless exchange of financial data, resolve operational challenges and ensure regulatory compliance. The initiative will promote coordination, standardisation and dispute resolution within the AA framework.



8. GDP growth rate expected to be more than 6.5% in FY 2025-26

Moody's Ratings has projected India's economic growth to be more than 6.5% in FY 2025-26, higher than the 6.3% estimate for FY 2024-25. This growth will be due to the government's capital expenditure, tax cuts and possible reduction in interest rates. Inflation is expected to fall to an average of 4.5% in FY 2025-26. RBI may cut the policy rate by 25 basis points to 6.25% in February 2025.



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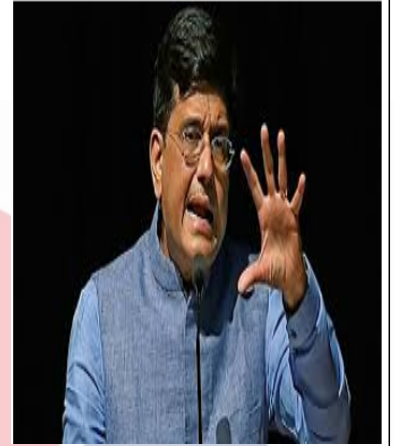


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1. Recently, with which country has India started negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA)?

- A - New Zealand
- B - Australia
- C - Canada
- D - America

India and New Zealand started formal negotiations for a comprehensive free trade agreement (FTA), which will strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation. This was announced by Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and New Zealand Trade Minister Todd McLay in New Delhi on 16 March 2025.



2. Recently, Google has launched a new series of which of its open AI models?

- A - Gemma 2
- B - KUSHA 1
- C - Gemma 3
- D - Nitya 1G

Google recently launched "Gemma 3", which is part of its lightweight and advanced open AI model series. It is designed to work efficiently on smartphones, laptops and other computing devices. Based on Gemini 2.0 technology, this model works smoothly on GPU and TPU with low latency. It is capable of multi-modal input processing but gives output only in text.



3. Who won the 15th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship - 2025?

- A - Hockey Haryana
- B - Hockey Tamil Nadu
- C - Hockey Rajasthan
- D - Hockey Jharkhand

Hockey Jharkhand won the 15th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship 2025, defeating Haryana 4-3 in a penalty shootout in the final. The match took place on 12 March 2025 in Panchkula and was tied 1-1 at the end of regulation time. This is Jharkhand's first senior women's title. Mizoram defeated Maharashtra to finish third.



4. What is the objective of APAAR (Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry)?

- A - One Nation One Student ID
- B - Providing employment to students
- C - Startup related facility
- D - Playing a social role

The Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) ID was introduced under the National Education Policy 2020 to standardize student records and ensure smooth transition between academic levels. It provides a 12-digit unique ID under the "One Nation, One Student ID" system and is linked to DigiLocker and Academic Bank of Credit.



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5. Recently, which department of the government has announced the "5G Innovation Hackathon - 2025"?

A - Department of Telecommunications

B - Department of Women and Child Development

C - Department of Heavy Industries

D - Department of Civil Aviation

The Department of Telecommunications (DOT) announced the 5G Innovation Hackathon 2025, which will run for 6 months. Its aim is to develop solutions to social and industrial problems with 5G technology.



6. Where will the ADMM Plus Expert Working Group meeting on counter-terrorism be held?

A - Philippines

B - Vietnam

C - New Delhi

D - Australia

The 14th meeting of the Expert Working Group (EWG) of the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Conference Plus (ADMM-Plus) will be held in New Delhi on 19-20 March 2025, which will be co-chaired by India and Malaysia. This is the first time that India will co-chair this group. Representatives from 10 ASEAN countries, eight dialogue partners, Timor-Leste and the ASEAN Secretariat will participate in the meeting.



7. Who has recently released the framework of the Self-Regulatory Organization (SRO) for Account Aggregators?

A - Ministry of Finance

B - Ministry of Defence

C - Department of Technology and Information Technology

D - RBI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the framework of the Self-Regulatory Organization (SRO) for the Account Aggregator (AA) ecosystem, which will facilitate the process of sharing financial data. It aims to promote coordination, standardization and dispute resolution.



8. What is Moody's estimate of India's GDP growth rate for the financial year 2025-26?

A - 6.5 %

B - 6.9 %

C - 9.6 %

D - 7.3 %

Moody's has projected India's economic growth to be over 6.5% in FY 2025-26, up from the 6.3% estimate for FY 2024-25. This growth will be driven by capital expenditure, tax cuts and possible interest rate cuts. Inflation is expected to fall to 4.5%, and the RBI policy rate may be 6.25% in February 2025.





One Liner

1. Who is the Union Commerce Minister in the Government of India - **Piyush Goyal**
2. Recently Gemma 3 which is an AI based model has been launched by - **Google**
3. When was Hockey India established - **Year 2009**
4. Recently in the news is APAAR - What is the full form of ID - **Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry**
5. What is the objective of 5G Innovation Hackathon 2025 recently announced by the Department of Telecommunications - **to develop innovative prototypes from 5G technology**
6. Who will co-chair the recently held meeting of ADMM - Plug Expert Working Group on Counter-Terrorism - **India and Malaysia**
7. Who was the first Indian Governor of RBI - **C.D. Deshmukh**
8. How much has RBI estimated GDP growth for the financial year 2025-26 - **6.3% to 6.8%**
9. Where was the 15th Hockey India Senior Women's Championship 2025 held - **Haryana**
10. Who does the work of minting coins in India - **Finance Ministry**

