Current Affairs

18 November 2026 · SSC, UPSSSC, Railway, Banking, UPSC, UP TET

National

ICAR and RIS Sign MoU to Boost Agricultural Cooperation

On 17 November 2026, ICAR and RIS signed an MoU in New Delhi to enhance agricultural cooperation, technology sharing, and capacity-building across the Global South through DAKSHIN.

Why it matters: Tests current affairs on recent memoranda of understanding and agricultural partnerships.

Source: PIB

International

PM Modi Meets Thai Counterpart in Manila

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met Thailand Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul in Manila on 17 November 2026 to review bilateral ties and discuss cooperation in trade, security, and digital technologies.

Why it matters: Tests knowledge of high-level international summits and bilateral meetings for competitive exams.

Source: PIB

PM Modi Addresses 21st East Asia Summit in Manila

PM Narendra Modi highlighted dialogue, peace, and a rules-based Indo-Pacific at the 21st East Asia Summit, stressing food, fuel and fertilizer security, seafarer safety, and support for peaceful resolutions in Ukraine and West Asia, and proposed four cooperation initiatives.

Why it matters: Useful for questions on international summits and India's diplomatic initiatives

Source: PIB

PM Modi meets Philippines President Marcos in Manila during ASEAN Summit

PM Narendra Modi met President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. in Manila on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit, congratulating the Philippines on its chairmanship and discussing cooperation in defence, space, rail, fintech, and trade under the Strategic Partnership.

Why it matters: Useful for questions on recent bilateral meetings and diplomatic engagements

Source: PIB

PM Launches Seafarers' Safety Initiative at 21st East Asia Summit

Prime Minister praised President Marcos for the summit, highlighted post-COVID challenges, and announced a Seafarers' Safety Initiative to protect maritime security and freedom of navigation.

Why it matters: Useful for questions on recent diplomatic statements and initiatives

Source: PIB

Economy and Banking

RBI Money Markets Data: Overnight Segment Volume and Rates

According to RBI data, the overnight money markets segment recorded a total one-leg volume of ₹8,46,109.51 crore with a weighted average rate of 5.58 per cent, spanning a range of 4.00 to 7.20.

Why it matters: Tests data interpretation of RBI money market volumes and rates.

Source: RBI

RBI Announces Premature Redemption Date for Sovereign Gold Bond Series VIII

Following the Government of India notification dated October 09, 2020, premature redemption for Sovereign Gold Bond 2020-21 Series VIII, issued on November 18, 2020, is permitted after the fifth year on interest payment dates.

Why it matters: Tests knowledge of RBI Sovereign Gold Bond scheme redemption rules and dates.

Source: RBI

RBI Auction Results for State Government Securities on 17 Nov 2026

The RBI auction on 17 November 2026 allotted ₹1,000 crore of Andhra Pradesh SGS 2051, ₹100 crore of Goa SGS 2037, and ₹2,000 crore of Karnataka SGS 2034, along with ₹1,000 crore of Madhya Pradesh SGS 2030. The securities are re-issues of 7.68% (Andhra), 7.80% (Goa), and 7.77% (Madhya Pradesh) bonds.

Why it matters: Useful for banking and finance exam questions on government securities auctions

Source: RBI, RBI

Science and Technology

Dr Jitendra Singh Addresses Janjatiya Gaurav Divas Programme

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressed the Janjatiya Gaurav Divas programme on November 17, 2026, releasing a technology compendium to empower tribal communities through STI.

Why it matters: Tests current affairs on ministerial events and tribal technology initiatives for competitive exams.

Source: PIB

Environment

India and Japan Advance Joint Crediting Mechanism for Low-Carbon Transition at COP31

Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav highlighted India's progress in operationalising the India-Japan Joint Crediting Mechanism at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, aiming to boost climate finance and technology transfer.

Why it matters: Crucial for current affairs questions on India's international climate agreements and bilateral cooperation.

Source: PIB

Schemes and Policies

TRAI Extends Deadline for Comments on Draft DRM Audit Manual 2026

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India extended the final date for stakeholders to submit written comments on the Draft DRM Audit Manual 2026 to 19th November 2026.

Why it matters: Tests current affairs regarding regulatory body deadlines and telecommunication policy updates.

Source: PIB

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment Hosts 'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp' Summit

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is hosting the two-day 'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp' Departmental Summit starting November 18, 2026, at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan in the National Capital to strengthen Centre-State partnerships.

Why it matters: Tests knowledge of important government summits, dates, and venues for Indian competitive exams.

Source: PIB

Shivraj Singh Chouhan Announces Farm Support Measures in Punjab

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan visited Samrala, Punjab, announcing farmer-centric schemes: integrated farming savings of up to ₹1.5 lakh per acre, farmer-ID-based fertilizer control, full transport cost coverage for potato, onion and tomato sales, and direct market-intervention compensation.

Why it matters: Exam asks about recent agricultural policy announcements

Source: PIB

Uttar Pradesh

APEDA Facilitates First-Ever Biscuit Export from Varanasi to Madagascar

APEDA facilitated the first-ever biscuit export from Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, to Madagascar. India's total biscuit exports reached ₹3,642 crore in FY 2025–26, with Madagascar accounting for ₹7.60 crore.

Why it matters: Tests current affairs on India's agricultural exports and state-specific trade milestones for competitive exams.

Source: PIB

Culture and Society

Ministry Pavilion at 45th IITF 2026 Records ₹17.37 Lakh Sales

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's pavilion at the 45th IITF 2026 recorded cumulative sales of ₹17.37 lakh by November 16, 2026, with over 130 artisans from 19 States participating.

Why it matters: Tests current affairs on government trade fair achievements and artisan welfare initiatives.

Source: PIB

Today's quiz

1. What was the weighted average rate of the overnight money market segment as per RBI data released in 2026?

A. 4.00%
B. 5.58%
C. 6.75%
D. 7.20%

2. Premature redemption of Sovereign Gold Bond Series VIII can be done after how many years from its issue date?

A. 3 years
B. 4 years
C. 5 years
D. 6 years

3. On which date did Prime Minister Narendra Modi meet the Thai Prime Minister in Manila?

A. 15 November 2026
B. 16 November 2026
C. 17 November 2026
D. 18 November 2026

4. Which country received India's first-ever biscuit export from Varanasi in FY 2025-26?

A. Kenya
B. Madagascar
C. Sri Lanka
D. Bangladesh

5. The deadline for comments on the Draft DRM Audit Manual 2026 was extended to which date?

A. 15 November 2026
B. 17 November 2026
C. 19 November 2026
D. 21 November 2026

6. How much sales revenue (in lakh rupees) did the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment record at the 45th IITF 2026?

A. 12.45 lakh
B. 15.80 lakh
C. 17.37 lakh
D. 20.00 lakh

7. At which COP was India's joint crediting mechanism with Japan highlighted?

A. COP29, Madrid
B. COP30, Glasgow
C. COP31, Antalya
D. COP32, Dubai

8. The 'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp' summit is being held at which venue in New Delhi?

A. Vigyan Bhavan
B. Sushma Swaraj Bhawan
C. Rajpath Convention Centre
D. Indira Gandhi Arena

9. Which two institutions signed an MoU on 17 November 2026 to boost agricultural cooperation across the Global South?

A. ICAR and RIS
B. ICAR and FAO
C. FAO and RIS
D. ICAR and WTO

10. During the Janjatiya Gaurav Divas programme, what was released to empower tribal communities?

A. A scholarship scheme
B. A technology compendium
C. A new tribal bank
D. A health insurance portal

Answers: 1. B 2. C 3. C 4. B 5. C 6. C 7. C 8. B 9. A 10. B

Compiled from official releases (PIB, ministries, regulators) and daily current-affairs reading; every item is written afresh.
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