RICE EDUCATION

Monthly

Current Affairs

FOR SSC EXAMS

MONTH

December 2025

Monthly Current Affairs for Railways

December 2025

Awards & Honours

National Awards & Recognitions (India)

- **National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) 2025:** Conferred on National Energy Conservation Day (Dec 14) by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), recognizing Indian Railways zonal divisions and top industrial units for leading decarbonization.
- **Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2025**: President Droupadi Murmu conferred the national honours at Rashtrapati Bhavan upon 20 children, including young cricket sensation Vaibhav Suryavanshi, for exceptional bravery and societal impact.
- **Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025:** V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port Authority bagged the first prize among major Indian ports for maintaining superlative sanitation benchmarks and green port initiatives.
- **Bhartiya Sahitya Samman 2025:** Renowned Hindi and regional literary scholars were felicitated with the prestigious national prize for outstanding lifetime contributions to Indian linguistics.
- **PETA India Person of the Year 2025:** Bollywood actor and animal welfare advocate Sonakshi Sinha was officially named PETA India's Person of the Year for championing cruelty-free fashion and stray animal adoption.
- **Bank of the Year Awards 2025 (Asia-Pacific):** Bank of Baroda was adjudged 'India's Best Bank' for pioneering digital banking infrastructure, retail credit growth, and robust financial resilience.
- **Global Humanitarian Award 2025:** Conferred upon Anant Ambani by the Global Humane Society in recognition of exemplary leadership in wildlife rehabilitation and animal healthcare via 'Vantara'.
- **Param Vir Dirgha Inauguration:** President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the Param Vir Dirgha (Gallery of Supreme Bravery) at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Vijay Diwas (Dec 16), honoring all 21 Param Vir Chakra recipients.

International Honours & Global Recognitions

- **FIFA Peace Prize (Inaugural Edition):** Former US President Donald Trump was unveiled as the first-ever recipient of the newly instituted FIFA Peace Prize during the FIFA Men's World Cup 2026 draw ceremony.
- **NASA International Space Apps Challenge 2025:** Chennai-based team 'Photonics Odyssey' clinched the prestigious 'Most Inspirational Award' for their sovereign phased-array satellite communication project.
- **UNEP Champions of the Earth 2025:** The United Nations Environment Programme honored grassroots climate action bodies, including Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change, for environmental policy leadership.

- **Travel + Leisure India & South Asia Best Awards 2025:** Air India won the coveted title of 'Best Domestic Airline' for the second consecutive year, recognizing its wide-body fleet revamp and enhanced connectivity.
- **Time Magazine 2025 Recognitions:** Time Magazine released its annual global roll of honor, spotlighting leading tech and climate visionaries driving generative AI safety and sustainable energy transitions.
- **World Chess Championship Accolade:** Defending champion Ding Liren and Indian prodigy D. Gukesh were jointly recognized for delivering one of the most intellectually compelling championship matches in Singapore.

Appointments & Persons in News

National Appointments (India)

- Chairman & CEO of Railway Board: Senior railway administration veteran was appointed to head the Railway Board to expedite Kavach 5.0 rollout, track renewal projects, and passenger safety overhauls.
- First Woman President of the Press Club of India (PCI): Senior journalist and author Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty was elected as the first woman President of the historic media body.
- Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC): Senior financial executive Ramakrishnan Chander was formally appointed by the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) as MD of LIC.
- **Chairman & Managing Director of THDC India Limited:** Senior energy technocrat Sipan Kumar Garg assumed charge as the CMD of state-run power major THDC India Limited.
- **Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) Appointees:** Raj Kumar Goyal was sworn in alongside new Information Commissioners to fill key statutory vacancies in the Central Information Commission.
- **Vice-Chair of Kimberley Process:** India formally took over the Vice-Chairmanship of the Kimberley Process in December 2025, ahead of assuming full global Chairmanship from January 1, 2026.
- **Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB):** Senior IPS leadership presided over the 62nd Raising Day celebrations of the SSB in Himachal Pradesh, reinforcing vigilance along Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan frontiers.

International Appointments & World Leaders

- **BRICS Rotating Presidency 2026:** Brazil formally handed over the rotating BRICS Presidency to India during the 4th BRICS Sherpas Meeting held in Brasília, Brazil.
- **Chairpersonship of International Sugar Organization (ISO):** India was elected to steer the ISO consultative council for the upcoming term, strengthening global ethanol and sugar export policies.
- **President of Asian Development Bank (ADB) Transition**: The ADB Executive Board concluded high-level handovers under Masato Kanda, setting strategic regional financing frameworks for 2026.

- **Ambassadorial Assignments to Key Global Missions**: The Ministry of External Affairs confirmed strategic diplomatic postings across key multilateral missions including Geneva, Vienna, and New York.

Persons in News & Notable Demises

- **Passing of Sreenivasan:** Legendary Malayalam cinema icon, national award-winning screenwriter, and filmmaker Sreenivasan passed away, mourned deeply across Indian cultural fraternity.
- **Sudarsan Pattnaik World Record:** Renowned sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik crafted a world-record 60-foot sand and apple installation at Niladri Beach in Puri, Odisha, carrying global peace messages.
- **Shikhar Dhawan in News:** Veteran Indian cricketer released his much-anticipated autobiography 'The One: Cricket, My Life and More', chronicling his memorable ICC tournament journey.
- **Malala Yousafzai in News:** Nobel Peace Laureate Malala Yousafzai published her new retrospective memoir 'Finding My Way', reflecting on global girl child education and resilience.

Government Schemes, Policies & Welfare Initiatives

Central Government Schemes & National Policies

- **Viksit Bharat - GRAM G Scheme:** Central Government introduced the 'Viksit Bharat-Employment and Livelihood Mission (Rural) Bill' (VB-G), reforming rural livelihood frameworks and asset creation.
- **Global Indices for Reforms and Growth (GIRG):** NITI Aayog launched the comprehensive GIRG monitoring portal to track India's global performance across 26 major socio-economic and governance indices.
- **Ayush Mark & MAISP Digital Portal:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'My Ayush Integrated Services Portal' (MAISP) and the official 'Ayush Mark' benchmark for traditional medicinal product safety.
- **National Mission on Advanced Ultra Supercritical (AUSC) Technology:** Approved for thermal power generation with high-efficiency domestic metallurgy, cutting emissions significantly.
- **Expansion of Free Foodgrain Scheme (PMGKAY):** The Union Cabinet approved continued grain allocations ensuring nutritional safety nets for over 81 crore beneficiaries through decentralized PDS automation.
- **InDApp MSME Digital Interface:** Ministry of MSME rolled out 'InDApp' to aggregate credit access, technology upgrades, and government procurement portals for micro and small enterprises.

State Government Welfare Initiatives

- **MahaCrimeOS AI Platform (Maharashtra):** Maharashtra became the first state in India to launch an indigenous AI-powered cybercrime investigation operating platform at the Microsoft AI Tour in Mumbai.
- **Prerona Scheme (Assam):** The Assam government rolled out the 'Prerona Scheme' providing specialized academic coaching, digital tablets, and mentoring to Class 10 board exam students.
- **Chaupal Program for Artisans:** The Ministry of Textiles launched the nationwide Chaupal initiative during National Handicrafts Week (Dec 8-14) to connect rural weavers with direct e-commerce channels.
- **CM Sukhashray Sahayata Kosh Expansion (Himachal Pradesh):** The state administration widened the social security corpus providing higher education grants and housing subsidies to orphaned and destitute youth.
- **Bheja-Bakaur Bridge Operational Push (Bihar):** Infrastructure works reached final stages on the vital bridge over the Kosi river in Madhubani-Supaul districts to eliminate chronic seasonal isolation.

Railway & Infrastructure Initiatives (Special Exam Focus)

- **Kavach 4.0 Deployment Scaling:** Indian Railways commissioned the indigenous Kavach 4.0 Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system across critical routes, surpassing 738 route kilometers on high-density corridors.
- **164 Vande Bharat Services Network:** Indian Railways reached an operating fleet milestone of 164 Vande Bharat Express services across the country, serving over 7.5 crore passengers since inception.
- Amrit Bharat Express Production Ramp-up: Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) and Integral Coach Factory (ICF) rolled out updated push-pull non-AC sleeper train rakes for economical long-distance passenger travel.
- **AI-Based Intrusion Detection System (Gajraj System):** Indian Railways expanded optical fiber-based acoustic sensors and AI cameras along elephant corridors to alert loco pilots 500 meters in advance.
- **First Wireless-Controlled Train Convoy (World First):** Trial runs concluded on automated train convoy systems allowing multiple heavy-haul freight rakes to operate synchronously via wireless communication.
- Redevelopment of Amrit Bharat Stations: Progress reviews were conducted across 1,300+ Amrit Bharat railway stations, modernizing waiting halls, rooftop plazas, and accessible ramps for Divyangjan.

Sports & Games

Cricket

- **India Clinches South Africa Bilateral Series:** The Indian Men's cricket team clinched the T20I series 3-1 in Ahmedabad and sealed the ODI series 2-1 against South Africa, with Varun Chakravarthy winning Player of the Series.
- **ACC Under-19 Asia Cup 2025:** Pakistan claimed the 2025 ACC Under-19 Asia Cup title following a high-intensity final held in Dubai against regional rivals.

- **Border-Gavaskar Trophy Series Evolution:** The high-octane 5-match Test series between India and Australia witnessed intense bowling contests across Adelaide and Brisbane venues.
- **Women's Premier League (WPL) Player Retentions:** Franchises finalized squad matrices and retention pools ahead of the mega player auction for the 2026 season.

Squash, Hockey & Football

- **Maiden WSF Squash World Cup Title:** Indian mixed squash team clinched their maiden Squash World Cup gold medal in Chennai, defeating Hong Kong China 3-0 in the grand final.
- **Junior Men's Hockey World Cup 2025:** Germany clinched the gold medal in a clinical final, while the Indian junior men's hockey team fought tenaciously to secure the Bronze medal.
- **SAFF Women's Club Championship 2025:** East Bengal FC scripted historic triumph by lifting the SAFF Women's Club Championship trophy, asserting Indian club dominance regionally.
- **FIFA Men's World Cup 2026 Official Draw:** FIFA conducted the official group draw for the expanded 48-team global showpiece across host nations USA, Canada, and Mexico.

Badminton, Chess & Multi-Sport

- **Syed Modi India International 2025:** Indonesian shuttler Jason Gunawan won the Men's Singles title, while India's star duo Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand captured the Women's Doubles title in Lucknow.
- **Global Chess League (GCL) 2025 Champions:** The franchise powered by Grandmasters R. Praggnanandhaa and Anish Giri emerged victorious in the high-stakes rapid chess team championship.
- **Asian Youth Para Games 2025:** Indian para-athletes recorded their best-ever performance, bagging a record 56 medals to secure the 7th position in the overall medal table.
- **ISSF World Cup Final 2025:** India finished 2nd overall in the global medal tally behind China, bagging 6 medals across prestigious rifle and pistol disciplines.

Science, Space & Technology

Space Exploration & Satellite Missions

- **K-4 Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile Test**: Strategic Forces Command and DRDO successfully flight-tested the intermediate-range K-4 SLBM (3,500 km range) from nuclear submarine INS Arighaat in the Bay of Bengal.
- **Proba-3 High-Precision Solar Mission:** ISRO's reliable workhorse PSLV-C59 successfully deployed ESA's Proba-3 satellites into precise orbit to demonstrate formation-flying solar coronagraphy.
- **NASA-ISRO NISAR Satellite Progress:** Technical teams completed advanced payload calibration and radar array deployments for the groundbreaking earth observation mission scheduled for early 2026.
- **Starship Orbital Flight Milestone:** SpaceX achieved major atmospheric heat shield data and booster recovery parameters in its iterative orbital launch test program.

Defense Technology & Naval Modernization

- **Delivery of Third ASW Shallow Water Craft:** Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) delivered the third Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (INS Agray) to the Indian Navy in Kolkata.
- **Decommissioning of Historic Submarine:** Indian Navy's frontline diesel-electric submarine was formally decommissioned after completing nearly four decades of distinguished maritime service.
- **Akash-NG Surface-to-Air Missile Induction:** DRDO concluded user evaluation trials of the Next-Generation Akash (Akash-NG) missile system equipped with state-of-the-art AESA radar.
- **Safran & India Optel Defence MoU:** Strategic partnership inked between India Optel Limited and France's Safran to manufacture high-precision inertial navigation and optronics systems.

Artificial Intelligence, Computing & Biotechnology

- **NITI Aayog & IBM Quantum Roadmap**: Unveiled a comprehensive strategic vision document to position India as a top-3 global quantum economy by 2047 through open-source quantum architectures.
- **Discovery of New Aquatic Species (Channa bhoi**): Scientists discovered a new freshwater snakehead fish species, Channa bhoi, in the Ri-Bhoi district of Meghalaya, named after the Khasi tribal community.
- **National Supercomputing Grid Expansion:** C-DAC integrated high-performance computing clusters under Param Rudra across multi-disciplinary research institutions.
- **Indigenous CAR-T Cancer Therapy Scaling:** Healthcare networks expanded affordable access to indigenously engineered cell therapy, benefiting oncology patients across government hospitals.

Summits, Bills & International Affairs

International Summits & Treaties

- **Kimberley Process Plenary Session:** Formally designated India to take over the Chairpersonship from January 2026 to combat trade in conflict diamonds and advance fair-trade gems certification.
- **2nd WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine:** Held in New Delhi, concluding with the adoption of technical frameworks for the standardization and clinical validation of Yoga and Ayurveda.
- **Quad Field Training Exercise (FTX):** India, the US, Japan, and Australia conducted their maiden maritime and disaster relief FTX on the sidelines of Operation Christmas Drop in the Pacific.
- **COP17 (CBD) Preparatory Announcements:** Armenia unveiled the official logo for the upcoming 17th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity featuring the rare Yerevan Blue butterfly.

Bills, Legislation & Parliamentary Developments

- **Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2025:** Introduced to raise the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) cap in domestic insurance companies up to 100%, boosting capital inflows and market penetration.
- **Merchant Shipping Bill, 2025:** Formalized the constitution of the Bureau of Port Security (BoPS) as a statutory apex body to safeguard ports, sea vessels, and coastal maritime critical assets.
- **Waqf (Amendment) Bill Joint Committee Scrutiny:** Parliamentary joint committee held conclusive cross-party deliberations to modernize digitized waqf asset records and community representation.
- **Disaster Management Regulatory Enhancements:** Key amendments passed to streamline state and district disaster response funds and empower urban local authorities.

International Affairs & Bilateral Agreements

- **India Battlefield Tourism Initiative:** Under a new domestic frontier tourism policy, historical military engagement sites in Sikkim's Doklam region (Cho-La and Dok-La) were opened for Indian tourists.
- **India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Economic Talks:** Bilateral rounds finalized accelerated operational pathways for the Free Trade Agreement (ECTA) across critical minerals and clean tech.
- **India-Oman Maritime Security Engagements:** High-level naval delegations concluded agreements on anti-piracy patrolling and maritime surveillance coordination across the Arabian Sea.
- **Global Biofuels Alliance Workstreams:** Member nations finalized technical specifications for higher ethanol blending mandates in maritime logistics and aviation sectors.

Books, Authors & Important Days

Books & Authors

- **'The One: Cricket, My Life and More':** Authentic, candid autobiography authored by former Indian cricket opener Shikhar Dhawan, recounting his journey and memorable ICC matches.
- **'Finding My Way':** New reflective biographical work by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai, capturing personal resilience and international advocacy.
- **'Black Scorpion: To Hell and Back':** Gripping non-fiction narrative authored by Calvin Joshua, documenting high-risk covert military operations and personal endurance.
- **'Salman Khan:** The Sultan of Bollywood': An insightful biographical volume authored by film entertainment journalist Mohar Basu, chronicling thirty years of Indian cinematic stardom.
- **'Why Bharat Matters' (Multilingual Editions):** Expanded vernacular translations of External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar's strategic foreign policy book were formally released.

Important Days & Themes

- December 1 – World AIDS Day: Observed globally to unite in the fight against HIV; 2025 Theme: 'Take the Rights Path'.
- December 2 – National Pollution Control Day & World Computer Literacy Day: Commemorating the Bhopal Gas Tragedy victims and promoting digital skills among underserved communities.
- December 4 – Indian Navy Day: Celebrating the audacious success of Operation Trident during the 1971 Indo-Pak war; honored with naval operational displays.
- December 5 – World Soil Day: Observed to emphasize soil biodiversity and sustainable agrarian land management; Theme: 'Healthy Soils for Healthy Cities'.
- December 7 – Armed Forces Flag Day: Commemorated across India to honor armed forces personnel and collect welfare funds for ex-servicemen and war widows.
- **December 9 – International Anti-Corruption Day:** Organized by the United Nations to foster global integrity, transparency, and accountability across public institutions.
- December 10 – Human Rights Day: Commemorating the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the UN General Assembly in 1948.
- December 11 – UNICEF Day & International Mountain Day: Celebrating UNICEF's foundation; International Mountain Day Theme: 'Glaciers matter for water, climate and people'.
- December 14 – National Energy Conservation Day: Spearheaded by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) to champion industrial energy optimization and green transition.
- **December 16 – Vijay Diwas:** Commemorating India's historic military victory over Pakistan in the 1971 War, leading to the liberation of Bangladesh.
- December 18 – Minorities Rights Day (India) & International Migrants Day: Promoting equal socio-economic opportunities, social cohesion, and the safety of migrant workers.
- December 20 – International Human Solidarity Day: Emphasizing global cooperation, mutual respect, and eradicating poverty through collective responsibility.
- December 22 – National Mathematics Day: Commemorating the legendary birth anniversary of Srinivasa Ramanujan to popularize mathematical reasoning and research.
- December 23 – Kisan Diwas (National Farmers' Day): Honoring the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh, celebrating Indian agriculturalists.
- **December 24 – National Consumer Rights Day:** Marking the historic enactment of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, to empower consumers against unfair trade practices.
- December 25 – Good Governance Day (Sushasan Divas): Honoring the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- **December 26 – Veer Bal Diwas:** Commemorating the supreme martyrdom and unparalleled courage of the Sahibzadas, Zorawar Singh and Fateh Singh.

Miscellaneous (GI Tags, Superlatives, UNESCO Heritage & Dance Personalities)

Geographical Indication (GI) Tags

- **Ramsar Wetland Milestones (Siliserh & Kopra):** Siliserh Lake (Alwar, Rajasthan) and Kopra Jalashay (Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh) were formally designated as India's 95th and 96th Ramsar Sites.
- Indigenous Craft & Handloom Certifications: The Geographical Indications Registry advanced filings for traditional tribal bell-metal crafts and Himalayan woodcarvings to protect ethnic artisans.
- **Authenticity Protection for Regional Spices:** Exclusive GI user logos were distributed to GI-tagged Cardamom and Turmeric grower collectives across Southern India to thwart counterfeit trade.
- **State GI Facilitation Cells:** Commerce ministries established dedicated institutional IP facilitation counters across Northeastern states to accelerate indigenous product registrations.

Superlatives (India & World: Firsts, Largest, Highest)

- **World's Longest Expressway Tunnel (Tianshan Shengli Tunnel**): China opened the record-breaking 22.13-km-long expressway tunnel through the Tianshan mountain range in Xinjiang.
- **First Tsunami-Ready Country in Indian Ocean:** India became the first country in the Indian Ocean region to have over 100 coastal villages certified under the UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Programme.
- **World's Largest Clean Energy Hybrid Park (Khavda):** Progress updates confirmed over 10,000 MW operationalized at Gujarat's Khavda facility, on track to become the planet's biggest energy park.
- **Busiest Aviation Hub in South Asia:** Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport consolidated its ranking among the world's top 10 busiest international airport systems.

UNESCO & World Heritage

- **Constitution of India in Ol Chiki Script:** President Droupadi Murmu released the historic edition of the Indian Constitution transcribed in the Santhali language using the Ol Chiki script at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- **UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Inscriptions:** UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee evaluated traditional performing arts and living practices for listing on the global representative list.
- **Protection of Sacred Riverine Ecosystems:** High-level UNESCO cultural task forces inspected ancient living root bridges and riverine temple architecture for World Heritage dossiers.
- **Restoration of World Heritage Monuments:** Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) finalized laser-scanning structural conservation projects across Khajuraho and Konark Sun Temple complexes.

Dance Personalities & Performing Arts

- **National Dance Legend Retrospectives:** Commemorative cultural programmes were held across national cultural centers honoring the centenaries and legacies of legendary classical Kathak and Odissi masters.
- **Nritya Ratna & Sangeet Natak Akademi Felicitations:** Veteran classical dancers and gurus were conferred national honors for preserving traditional choreographic treatises and Natyashastra traditions.
- **Khajuraho Dance Festival Announcements:** The Department of Culture, Madhya Pradesh, released the official performing artist line-up for the historic classical dance extravaganza.
- **Tributes to Classical Performing Exponents:** Cultural institutions commemorated the passing and artistic legacy of veteran stage choreographers who modernized Indian classical dance ballets.

ENVIRONMENT

- **Siliserh Lake** and **Kopra Jalashay** were designated as India's **95th and 96th Ramsar sites**.
- MoEFCC notified legally binding **Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensity (GEI) Rules** for core industries.
- UNEP released the landmark **Global Environment Outlook (GEO-7)** report evaluating global degradation.
- The **7th UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-7)** was held in **Nairobi, Kenya**.
- India observed **National Energy Conservation Day** on **December 14**.
- Ministry of Coal launched **CoalSETU** window to reform industrial fuel linkage auctions.
- UNESCO-IOC expanded the **Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme** across vulnerable coastal villages.
- Oceanographers recorded a major **Southern Ocean Carbon Anomaly** affecting global marine absorption.
- Supreme Court issued strict guidelines against illegal quarrying across the **Aravalli Range**.
- Researchers sounded alarm over severe **uranium contamination** in northern India's groundwater aquifers.
- India expanded the **National Mission on Edible Oils - Oil Palm** coverage area.
- Japan launched seabed mud surveys to extract **Rare Earth Elements** without blasting.
- Central government reiterated the national target to achieve **500 GW renewable energy** by 2030.
- Youth NGO **Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change** won the UNEP environmental award.
- UNESCO launched the **International Glaciers' Preservation** initiative.
- **Clean Ganga Mission Milestones:** National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) finalized operationalization of the 20 MLD CETP project for the Jajmau Tannery Cluster in Kanpur, UP.

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