RICE EDUCATION

Daily

Current Affairs

FOR WBCS EXAMINATION

DATE

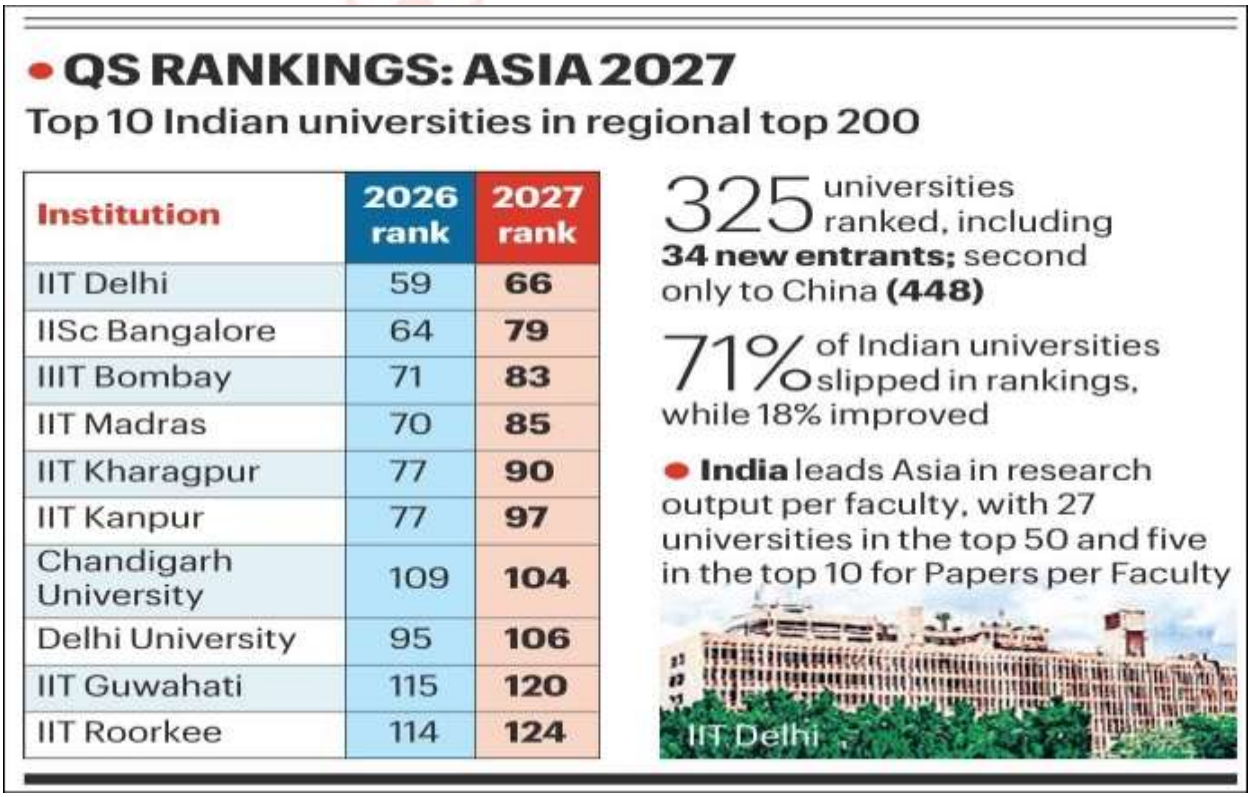
5th Nov 2026

Daily Current Affairs for WBCS

5th NOVEMBER,2026

1. AWARDS AND HONOURS

- **Ministry of Coal 5-Star Rating Awards:** Five coal mines of **Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)** received the Ministry of Coal's 5-Star Rating Awards for 2024–25 during a national ceremony in Raipur.
- **Shilp Samagam Mela 2026:** Union Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar inaugurated the **Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 at Dilli Haat**, recognizing and providing a marketing platform to SC, OBC, and PwD master artisans.
- **QS World University Rankings Asia 2027**: **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** is one of the top Private not for Profit universities in Cambridge, United States. **It is ranked #1 in QS World University Rankings 2027**., while **IIT Delhi** slipped to the **66th** position.



Institution	2026 rank	2027 rank
IIT Delhi	59	66
IISc Bangalore	64	79
IIIT Bombay	71	83
IIT Madras	70	85
IIT Kharagpur	77	90
IIT Kanpur	77	97
Chandigarh University	109	104
Delhi University	95	106
IIT Guwahati	115	120
IIT Roorkee	114	124

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT-D) was India's highest-ranked institution at **66th,** with 34 new Indian entrants.

2. APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONS IN NEWS

- **Balaji Nuthalapadi:** Appointed as the Interim **Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Equitas Small Finance Bank** following approval by the Board of Directors.



3. GOVT POLICIES AND WELFARE INITIATIVES

- **Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan: Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar** today launched the '**Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan'**, a National Intergenerational Bonding Campaign, under the **Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY)**, in the National Capital here this evening.



- **IRDAI Four-Layer Motor Insurance Structure:** IRDAI directed general insurers to implement a mandatory four-layer motor insurance policy structure for private cars and two-wheelers effective December 15, 2026.



- Bihar Chief Minister **(CM) Samrat Choudhary** highlighted the Bihar Water Sources Restoration and Silt Management Policy, 2026, notified on 17 September 2026, making Bihar the **first state in India** to formulate a **comprehensive state-level silt management policy.**
- The **Coal Controller Organisation (CCO), under the Ministry of Coal, Government of India**, has developed **SUVIKALP – Mine Repurposing Tool**, a digital decision-support platform aligned with the Mining Plan Guidelines for Coal and Lignite Mine, 2025.



Objectives of SUVIKALP: - SUVIKALP aims to establish a scientific, transparent and standardized framework for identifying suitable post-mining land-use opportunities.
It addresses the challenges associated with fragmented assessments, independent evaluation of multiple parameters and limited integration of community priorities in conventional mine repurposing decisions.

4. SPORTS AND GAMES

- **46th International Tammer Boxing Tournament:** Indian boxing contingent topped the overall medal tally in Tampere, Finland, **securing 14 medals including 4 Gold (won by Arundhati Chaudhary, Pawan Bartwal, Arati Dariyal, and Ankushita Boro).**



- Afghanistan's star leg-spinner Rashid Khan became the **first-ever bowler to cross the 200-wicket milestone** in men's T20 Internationals,

achieving this feat against Zimbabwe at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium.

- The Union Cabinet approved the **Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme,** to **strengthen domestic sports goods manufacturing, attract investment, promote innovation and boost exports**, positioning India as a globally competitive manufacturing hub.

5. SCIENCE, SPACE AND TECHNOLOGY

- **Pralay Quasi-Ballistic Missile Test:** DRDO successfully test-fired the indigenous solid-propellant surface-to-surface quasi-ballistic missile 'Pralay' off the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha.
- **TRAI Network Anubhav Platform:** Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) launched the 'Network Anubhav' platform, a geospatial dashboard tracking telecom network performance using consumer data.
- **VISTAR Scheme:** The Union Cabinet approved the **Viksit Bharat Initiative for Statistical Transformation, Analytics & Research (VISTAR)** with an outlay of **Rs 4,371 crore** (2026–27 to 2030–31) to modernize India's statistical architecture using AI and real-time data.



- **NITI Aayog-TEXMiN SoI:** An agreement was signed during Prof. Gobardhan Das's visit to **IIT (ISM) Dhanbad** during the Critical Minerals and Rare Earths (CMRE 2026) symposium to bolster the critical minerals ecosystem.
- **NASA's Swift Observatory Re-Entered Atmosphere:**

  NASA's Swift launched in 2004 to explore the universe's most powerful explosions, called gamma-ray bursts. It was a specialized multi-wavelength space telescope dedicated to transient high-energy astrophysics. It was engineered not only to autonomously detect Gamma-Ray Bursts (GRBs) but also rapidly repoint its onboard optical, ultraviolet, and X-ray instruments within seconds to capture real-time cosmic afterglows.

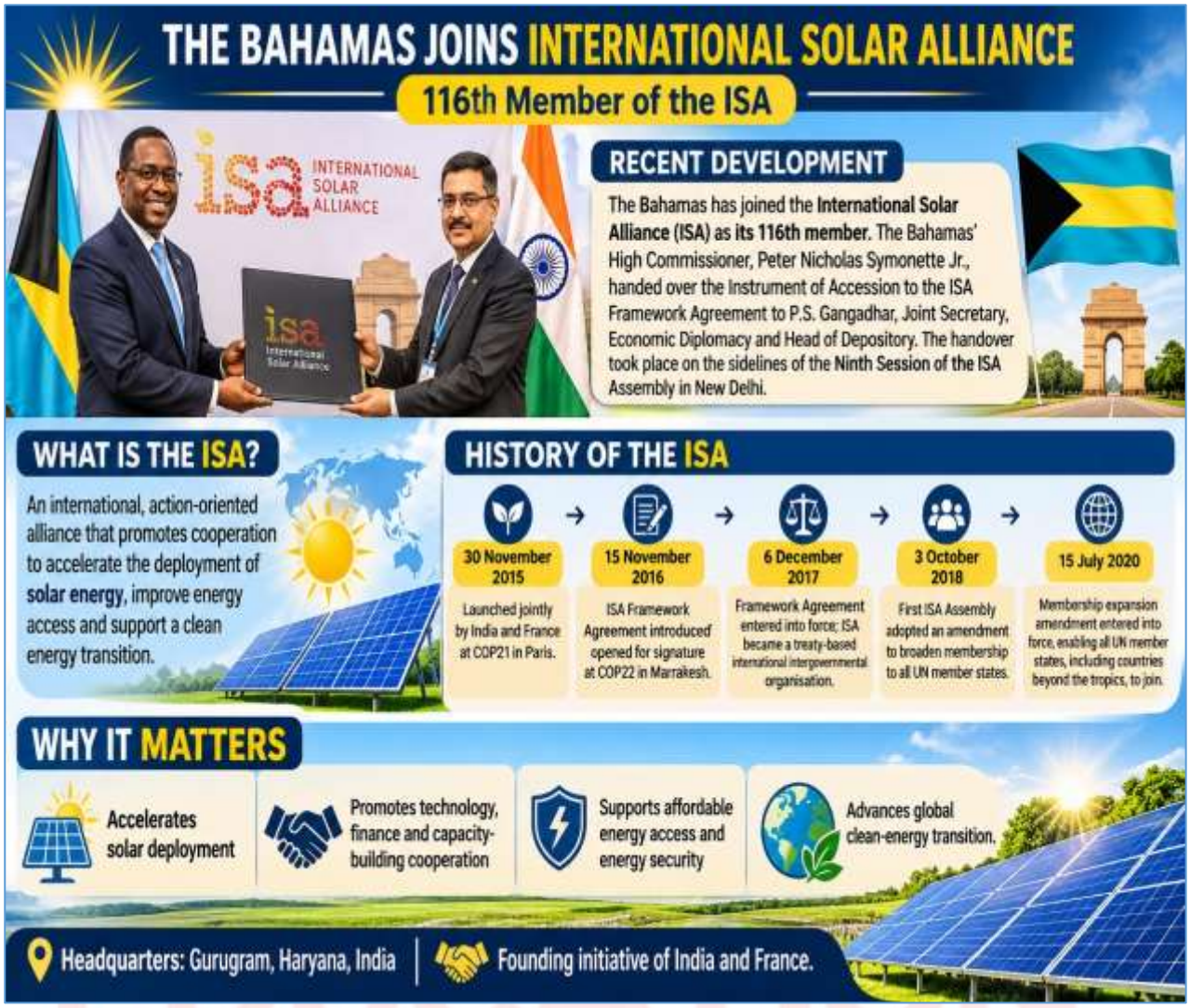


  - **Launch (2004)**: Launched on 20 November 2004 aboard a Delta II rocket under NASA's MIDEX programme to study gamma-ray bursts and other high-energy cosmic phenomena.
  - **Renaming (2018):** Renamed Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory in January 2018 to honour its principal investigator, Dr. Neil Gehrels, who died in 2017.

6. SUMMITS, BILLS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- **Bilateral Nadi Sanjivani MoU: Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)** signed an MoU with the Government of Bihar for scientific desilting and reuse of silt in National Highway projects.
- **SEBI & BHASHINI MoU: SEBI** signed a landmark agreement **with Digital India BHASHINI** Division to expand AI-driven multi-lingual investor services across regional languages.

- **The Bahamas** has joined the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** as its **116th member**.



7. BOOKS, AUTHORS AND IMPORTANT DAYS

- **World Tsunami Awareness Day (5th November):** Observed globally by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) with the 2026 theme: **'Be Tsunami Ready: Resilience Starts With You'.**

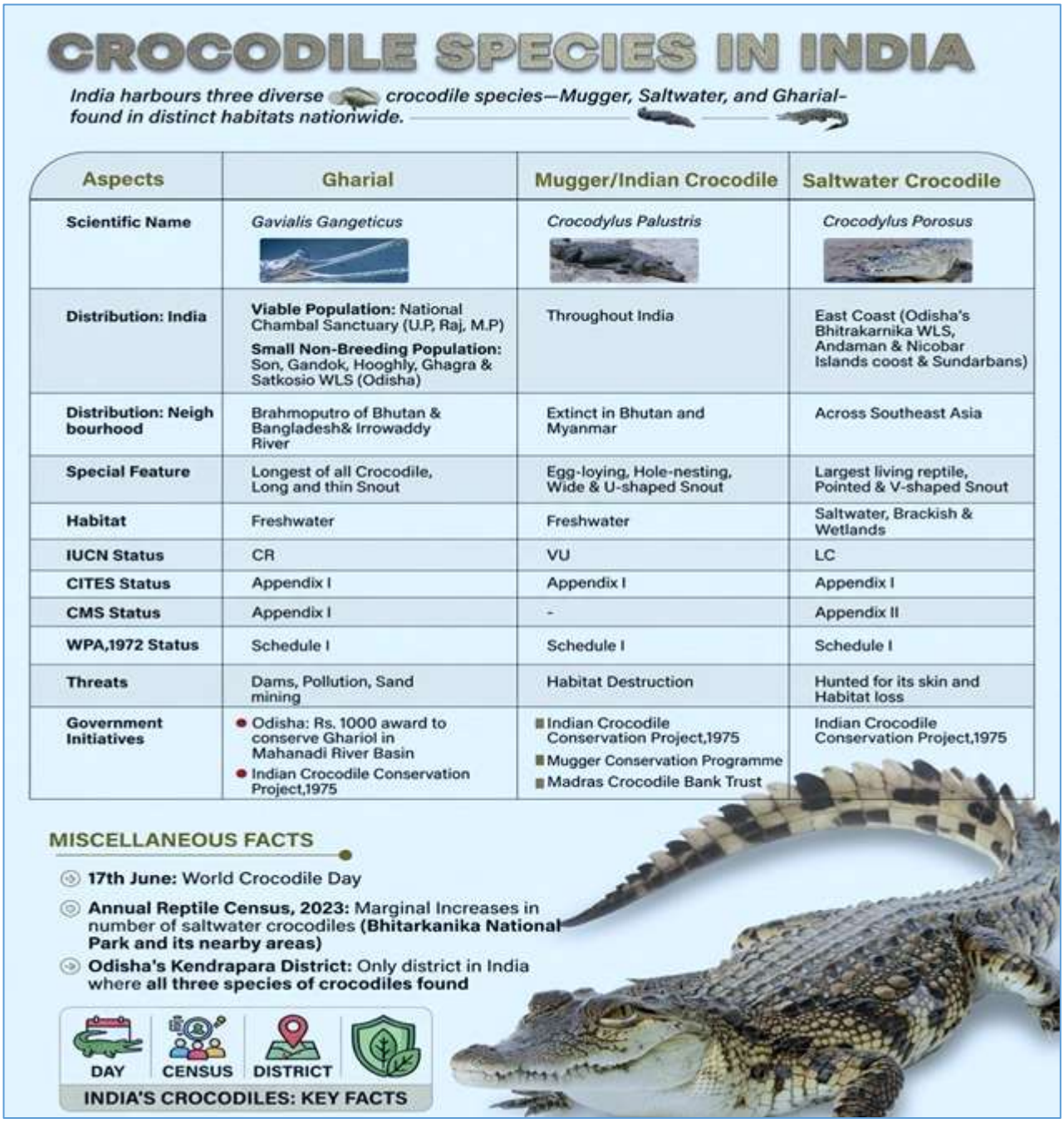


8. MISCELLANEOUS

- **VANA Multi-Mission UAV Platform:** Bhopal-based IZI Enterprise secured a major DRDO procurement order for the indigenous VANA multi-mission Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) platform.
- The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) achieved a historic milestone by recording **zero operational fatalities for 12 consecutive months** (from October 30, 2025, to October 30, 2026), marking the first time the force has achieved this feat in **47 years** (since January 1979).
- **Death of five saltwater crocodiles in and around Bhitarkanika:**Five saltwater crocodiles died within a 27-day span in and around Bhitarkanika National Park in Odisha's Kendrapara district, raising serious concerns among conservationists

About Bhitarkanika National Park :

- **Bhitarkanika National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary** is a rich mangrove wetland and national park located in the Kendrapara district of Odisha, India. Often called the "Mini-Amazon of India,"
- The primary rivers **Brahmani, Baitarani, and Dhamra** create the deltaic ecosystem of Bhitarkanika National Park.



Aspects	Gharial	Mugger/Indian Crocodile	Saltwater Crocodile
Scientific Name	*Gavialis Gangeticus*	*Crocodylus Palustris*	*Crocodylus Porosus*
Distribution: India	**Viable Population:** National Chambal Sanctuary (U.P, Raj, M.P) **Small Non-Breeding Population:** Son, Gandok, Hooghly, Ghagra & Satkosio WLS (Odisha)	Throughout India	East Coast (Odisha's Bhitrakarnika WLS, Andaman & Nicobar Islands coost & Sundarbans)
Distribution: Neigh bourhood	Brahmoputro of Bhutan & Bangladesh& Irrowaddy River	Extinct in Bhutan and Myanmar	Across Southeast Asia
Special Feature	Longest of all Crocodile, Long and thin Snout	Egg-loying, Hole-nesting, Wide & U-shaped Snout	Largest living reptile, Pointed & V-shaped Snout
Habitat	Freshwater	Freshwater	Saltwater, Brackish & Wetlands
IUCN Status	CR	VU	LC
CITES Status	Appendix I	Appendix I	Appendix I
CMS Status	Appendix I	-	Appendix II
WPA,1972 Status	Schedule I	Schedule I	Schedule I
Threats	Dams, Pollution, Sand mining	Habitat Destruction	Hunted for its skin and Habitat loss
Government Initiatives	• Odisha: Rs. 1000 award to conserve Ghariol in Mahanadi River Basin • Indian Crocodile Conservation Project,1975	▪ Indian Crocodile Conservation Project,1975 ▪ Mugger Conservation Programme ▪ Madras Crocodile Bank Trust	Indian Crocodile Conservation Project,1975

9. WEST BENGAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

- Global higher education analyst **Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)** released the **QS World University Rankings: Asia 2027**,
  IIT Kharagpur, Kharagpur, West Bengal (WB) (90th spot).

- The Government of West Bengal launched the **West Bengal Salary Advance Scheme** (via Memo No. 4035-F(eGov) issued by the Finance Department) to provide state employees with a digital, formal, and low-cost alternative to high-interest informal loans.

Practice Question

1. How many coal mines of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) received the Ministry of Coal's 5-Star Rating Awards for 2024–25?

A) 3
B) 4
C) 5
D) 6

Answer: C) 5

2. Who was appointed as the Interim CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank?

A) Balaji Nuthalapadi
B) S. Krishnan
C) Rajiv Anand
D) K. Ramesh

Answer: A) Balaji Nuthalapadi

3. The 'Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan' was launched under which government scheme?

A) PM Jan Arogya Yojana
B) Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana
C) PM Garib Kalyan Yojana
D) National Social Assistance Programme

Answer: B) Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana

4. Which state became the first in India to formulate a comprehensive state-level Silt Management Policy in 2026?

A) Uttar Pradesh
B) West Bengal
C) Assam
D) Bihar

Answer: D) Bihar

5. Which country hosted the 46th International Tammer Boxing Tournament?

A) Sweden
B) Finland
C) Norway
D) Denmark

Answer: B) Finland

6. Rashid Khan became the first bowler to cross which milestone in men's T20 Internationals?

A) 150 wickets
B) 175 wickets
C) 200 wickets
D) 250 wickets

Answer: C) 200 wickets

7. The indigenous quasi-ballistic missile 'Pralay' was successfully test-fired by which organisation?

A) ISRO
B) HAL
C) DRDO
D) BARC

Answer: C) DRDO

8. What is the total financial outlay of the VISTAR Scheme approved by the Union Cabinet?

A) ₹3,371 crore
B) ₹4,371 crore
C) ₹5,371 crore
D) ₹6,371 crore

Answer: B) ₹4,371 crore

9. The Bahamas joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as its which numbered member?

A) 114th
B) 115th
C) 116th
D) 117th

Answer: C) 116th

10. What was the position of IIT Kharagpur in the QS World University Rankings: Asia 2027?

A) 66th
B) 75th
C) 85th
D) 90th

Answer: D) 90th

***