Transfer of loyalty

With leadership moving over, the YSRCP's internal political dynamics left the party with no option other than her close associate SK Sundarla, who is only a caretaker's call away from becoming chief minister.

Surviving the drought

The drought may be over, but its impact is still being felt in many parts of the country. Farmers are facing a tough time due to the lack of rainfall and the high cost of irrigation facilities.

Strategic partnership.

A strategic partnership between India and the United States was announced recently, with both countries agreeing to work together on various issues, including cybersecurity and defense.

Haksar and the Padma Vibhushan

The humility with which O N Haksar, India's godfather, went on to decline the award is in stark contrast to the intense lobbying by the Padma panjandrum in circles.

Herald's View

India's economy is facing a tough time, with a slowdown in growth and rising inflation. The government needs to take urgent steps to revitalize the economy and create jobs for the growing youth population.

Perspective

What's cooking in the BSF?

The border security force is facing a crisis as it struggles to cope with the growing threat of terrorism and insurgency in the northern and western regions of the country.
Tamil Nadu’s- declare a drought on the eve of the harvest festival of Pongal, is an important step to address the agrarian distress- Due to poor rainfall- northeast monsoon.

Cauvery delta rice belt that has received little water from Karnataka(Suicides).

Declaration of drought brings relief: postponement of loan recovery, waiver of land tax and alternative employment through schemes MGNREGA

M.S. Swaminathan- need institute reforms in drought management for effective distress mitigation (the action of reducing the severity)- monsoon management centre.

Crucial to preserve the health of cattle and other livestock irreparable harm during drought, with cascading effects on their future productivity.

National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) (Q-1-formed?) and the Prime Minister’s crop insurance scheme (Q-2-Rate Kharif crops, Rabi crops?)

National Commission on Farmers (Q-3 chairmanship?) pointed out that successive droughts, illness, high expenditure on social obligations and asset loss push farmers to the brink (कगार)

Low-budget practices of the colonial era, as the Swaraj Abhiyan case in the Supreme Court

The Centre has to ensure that the Drought Management Manual (Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) is updated to reflect farmers’ concerns, giving Focus rainfall deficit and declaring a drought without delay.
India
Monsoon Onset Map

Arrival dates
- June 1st
- June 5th
- June 10th
- June 15th
- July 1st
- July 15th
- August 1st

Components
- Northeast (winter)
- Southwest (summer)
- Intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ) in June/July
Strategic partnership - “strategic” - interests in areas that are vital: security, defence and investment.

India over the past two decades to upgrade more than 30 of its bilateral relationships - “strategic partnerships”

India’s latest strategic partnership signed with the east African country of Rwanda

Rwanda is a landlocked country with 90 per cent of its population engaged in agriculture.

Recovering from the mass murder of large sections of its Hutu population in 1994, though registered remarkable progress and growth in the last few years

Difficult to see how it qualifies as a “strategic partner”, particularly given that India is yet to set up a full diplomatic mission in the country-New Delhi even sent a delegation to Kigali was in 2012

Modi’s is not the first government to use the term “strategic partnership” lightly.

Since 1998, when India announced its first strategic partnership with France

If all the countries on the list are strategically important, what does this mean for countries on the UN Security Council such as the U.S., the U.K., France, Russia and China, or others such as Japan, Australia, and some of the neighbours who genuinely contribute to India’s security and economic interests

Need - clear-cut criteria for strategic partnerships must be considered by the Ministry of External Affairs.
PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for a new metro system in Pune, approval for a Shivaji statue in the Arabian Sea of Mumbai. Highway projects in Odisha and Punjab, Smart Cities Mission launched 83 projects, new city roads, sports infrastructure etc

Define city is never a function of concrete objects assembled in space, but rather, how people live together, prosper and create better lives for themselves.

Though Mr. Modi's intentions cannot be questioned, there is little evidence to suggest that he will meet these objectives.

The history of urban renewal does not speak well of a city's expansionist ideas - When over 60 per cent of the city is unrecognised in the planning process - slums

Over the past decade, despite flow of funds for infrastructure, cities have been unable to expand road networks and metro lines in keeping with the growing demand. Uncontrolled populations have made plans for public facilities ineffective - Example - Delhi Metro

Migrant flow into cities has exceeded all expectations, with a weekly influx of 4,000 families in Mumbai alone

India as competitive economy - the city to commercial symbols - Bengaluru - IT Hub

Throughout the world, the culture of cities has always emerged out of local desires - Los Angeles as film city (Hollywood), Copenhagen as fishing village (Capital of Denmark), commercial, cultural and professional attributes have invariably defined the nature of citizenship - fail in Indian.

Indian cities are vastly varied - They range in three types: A) Metropolitan, B) Tier-2 (Pune, Jaipur, Bhopal and Lucknow), C) small towns such as Meerut and Hubli

If even 70 years after Independence, the Indian unable to define the kind of life urban Indians should live.

It must devise (वसीयतनामा) a development strategy for small Tier-3 towns. (Q-4-PURA)

A more generous and open-minded comprehension of traditional town structure by the government can provide a constructive direction to the country's urban future.
P. N. Haksa and the Padma Vibhushan- Jairam Ramesh, a Member of Parliament, is writing an intellectual biography of P. N. Haksar.

A) Nationalisation of banks in July 1969
B) Abolition of privy purses and princely privileges in 1971.
C) Pivotal role in the events of 1971 leading up to the liberation of Bangladesh
D) Drafted the three letters of Mrs. Gandhi to U.S. President Richard Nixon - 1971

The **Bharat Ratna** - the highest civilian award of the country, was instituted in the year 1954 - exceptional service/performance of the highest order in any field of human endeavour (प्रयास)

**Padma Vibhushan** for "exceptional and distinguished service".
**Padma Bhushan** for "distinguished service of a high order".
**Padma Shri** is awarded for "distinguished service".

Q-5 - Latest – Bharat Ratna?
National Disaster Response Fund is defined in Section 46 of the [Disaster Management Act, 2005](https://www.india.gov.in/disaster-management-act-2005) (DM Act) as a fund managed by the Central Government for meeting the expenses for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation due to any threatening disaster situation or disaster.

### National Disaster Response Force

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency overview</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Formed</strong></td>
<td>2006; 11 years ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jurisdiction</strong></td>
<td>Government of India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Headquarters</strong></td>
<td>NDRF HQ, Antyodaya Bhawan, New Delhi, Delhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Motto</strong></td>
<td>Saving Lives &amp; Beyond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minister responsible</strong></td>
<td><em>Rajnath Singh</em>, Minister of Home Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agency executive</strong></td>
<td><em>R.K. Pachnanda</em>, IPS, Director General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parent department</strong></td>
<td>Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key document</strong></td>
<td><em>Disaster Management Act, 2005</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The classification of Indian cities is a ranking system used by the Government of India to allocate House Rent Allowance (HRA) to public servants employed in different cities in India. This concept was given by former president Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and discussed in his book Target 3 Billion which he co-authored with Srijan Pal Singh.

The genesis of PURA concept can be traced to the work done by Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute in the early 1990s on Taluka energy self-sufficiency.

It was shown in the study that energy self-sufficient talukas can be a new development model for rural India in terms of creation of jobs and better amenities to its population.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr_No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name Of The Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Lata Mangeshkar, Ustad Khan Bismilah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Bhimsen Joshi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Sachin Tendulkar, Dr. CNR Rao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Madan Mohan Malviya (posthumous)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The classification of Indian cities is a ranking system used by the Government of India to allocate House Rent Allowance (HRA) to public servants employed in different cities in India.

HRA is also used by the Indian Revenue Service (IRS) to provide income tax exemptions. Cities are classified on the basis of their population, as recommended by the Sixth Central Pay Commission in 2008 and the Reserve Bank of India, respectively.
The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (Prime Minister's Crop Insurance Scheme) was launched by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi on 18 February 2016.

- It envisages a uniform premium of only 2 per cent to be paid by farmers for Kharif crops, and 1.5 per cent for Rabi crops. The premium for annual commercial and horticultural crops will be 5 per cent.

- This scheme is dedicated to bring in more than 50% of the farmers under its wing within the next 2–3 years. Around 25% of the claims will be sent to the farmer’s direct account.

- This insurance scheme, unlike the previous ones, covers local calamities too, such as landslide, hailstorm, inundation, etc. Inundation was not covered by the previous schemes.

- The government has proposed that there will only be one insurance company for the entire state. Mostly the private as well as the national agricultural insurance companies will be approached to implement it.

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 (or, NREGA No 42) was later renamed as the "Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act" (or, MGNREGA), is an Indian labour law and social security measure that aims to guarantee the 'right to work'.

- It aims to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

- Starting from 200 districts on 2 February 2006, the NREGA covered all the districts of India from 1 April 2008. The statute is hailed by the government as "the largest and most ambitious social security and public works programme in the world".

- In its World Development Report 2014, the World Bank termed it a "stellar example of rural development"
how can "COLD START" create unfortunate situation in SOUTH ASIA?

Vidya Shree 49 minutes ago

As everyone know that most of the Asian countries are the victims of terrorism and some sort of regional disputes. If situations like cold start occurs then every single country will start retaliting on its enemies for simple matters. If this happens then south Asia will be in an unstable condition and it may lead to many conflicts in futures making the nations unstable...

thank you Sir, this was the help video and following are the answers:

1. "President's rule" refers to the imposition of Article 356 of the Constitution of India on a State whose constitutional machinery has failed.

2. (a) Lok Sabha seats State wise:
   - Goa - 2
   - Haryana - 10
   - Manipur - 2
   - Punjab - 13
   - Uttar Pradesh - 80
(b) Rajya Sabha seats State wise:
   - Goa - 1
   - Haryana - 5
   - Manipur - 1
   - Punjab - 7
   - Uttar Pradesh - 31

3. The Nawabs of Bengal (full title, the Nawab Nizam of Bengal and Orissa) made enabled the Britishers to secure the "Diwani" of Bengal after losing in the Battle of Plassey in 1757.

4. Headquarter of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is in Beijing, China.