

CRACK WITH KSHITIJ

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS — 17 SEPTEMBER 2026

For IBPS • SBI • RRB • SSC • Railway • State Government Exams

Exam Focus: Banking, Economy, Government Initiatives, Defence, Environment, Semiconductors, Social Security, Exports and National Affairs.

1. EPFO Wage Ceiling Increased to ₹25,000

The Union Cabinet approved an increase in the monthly wage ceiling for mandatory coverage under the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) from ₹15,000 to ₹25,000. The revised ceiling takes effect from 17 September 2026. The change is expected to bring more than 51 lakh additional employees under mandatory EPFO coverage.

Exam Point: Old ceiling = ₹15,000/month • New ceiling = ₹25,000/month • Additional coverage = 51 lakh+ employees

Source: PIB — Cabinet approval on EPFO wage ceiling, 16 September 2026.

2. SEMICON India 2026 Begins in New Delhi

The 5th edition of SEMICON India 2026 is being held at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi, from 17–19 September 2026. The theme is “Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem.” The event brings together semiconductor companies, policymakers, investors, researchers, start-ups and academic institutions from India and abroad. More than 600 companies and representatives from 52 countries are participating.

Exam Point: Edition = 5th • Venue = Yashobhoomi, New Delhi • Dates = 17-19 September • Theme = Silicon to Systems

Source: Prime Minister's Office/PIB — SEMICON India 2026, 17 September 2026.

3. RCMC Requirement Eased for Small Export Consignments

The Government has introduced a de minimis exemption from the Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) requirement for eligible export consignments with an FOB value up to ₹3 lakh. The measure is intended to reduce compliance requirements for MSMEs, first-time exporters and small exporters.

Exam Point: RCMC exemption threshold = ₹3 lakh FOB value

Source: PIB — Ministry of Commerce & Industry, RCMC exemption.

4. Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 Begins

The nationwide Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 campaign commences on 17 September 2026 and continues until 17 October 2026. Its theme is “Swachhata Mein Sahbhag, Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat.” The campaign focuses on citizen participation, cleanliness of public places, youth participation, SafaiMitra safety and dignity, and waste-to-wealth initiatives.

Exam Point: Campaign period = 17 September-17 October 2026 • Theme = Swachhata Mein Sahbhag, Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat

Source: PIB / Akashvani — Swachhata Hi Seva 2026.

5. India Launches Net Zero Portal and NAPCC Dashboard

On World Ozone Day 2026, India launched the Net Zero Portal and the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) Dashboard in Mumbai. The Net Zero Portal provides a platform for voluntary registration and disclosure of Net Zero commitments by Indian entities, while the NAPCC Dashboard helps monitor progress under national climate missions.

Exam Point: Both initiatives launched in = Mumbai • Focus = Climate action and Net Zero commitments

Source: PIB — Net Zero Portal and NAPCC Dashboard.

6. 43rd Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference

The 43rd Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference commenced in New Delhi on 17 September 2026. The conference provides a platform to review operational preparedness, maritime security and organisational priorities of the Indian Coast Guard.

Exam Point: Conference = 43rd • Venue = New Delhi • Date = 17 September 2026

Source: PIB — Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference.

7. Pension Sakhis to Expand Rural Pension Coverage

The Department of Rural Development (DoRD) and the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) signed an MoU to create a community-based outreach mechanism called Pension Sakhis. The initiative will use the DAY-NRLM community network to promote pension awareness, financial literacy, enrolment and post-enrolment support among rural households.

Exam Point: MoU = DoRD & PFRDA • Initiative = Pension Sakhis • Focus = Rural pension coverage

Source: PIB — DoRD and PFRDA Pension Sakhis MoU.

8. VIMARSH 2026 Supports Defence MSMEs and Start-ups

At VIMARSH 2026, the DRDO-Industry Synergy Meet held in New Delhi, initiatives were announced to reduce technical and financial entry barriers for MSMEs and deep-tech start-ups in the defence sector. Nine technology-transfer licensing agreements were handed over to 13 manufacturing partners.

Exam Point: Event = VIMARSH 2026 • Technology-transfer agreements = 9 • Manufacturing partners = 13

Source: PIB — VIMARSH 2026 DRDO-Industry Synergy Meet.

9. Formula 1 Revival Task Force Formed

The Sports Ministry constituted a 10-member Task Force to assess the challenges and feasibility of reviving Formula 1 and motorsports in India. The task force is chaired by Yugal Kishore Joshi, Programme Director and Adviser at NITI Aayog. It will examine taxation, infrastructure and the wider motorsports ecosystem.

Exam Point: Task Force = 10 members • Chair = Yugal Kishore Joshi

Source: reported current-affairs update on Sports Ministry task force.

10. India's April-August Exports Reach US\$399.27 Billion

India's cumulative merchandise and services exports during April-August 2026-27 were estimated at US\$399.27 billion, compared with US\$345.55 billion in the corresponding period of 2025-26. This represents an estimated year-on-year growth of 15.55%.

Exam Point: Exports = US\$399.27 billion • Growth = 15.55%

Source: PIB — India's cumulative April-August 2026-27 exports.

11. World Ozone Day 2026

India observed the 32nd World Ozone Day celebration in Mumbai in 2026. The theme was "Global Action for a Cooler Planet." The event highlighted India's commitment to ozone-layer protection and climate action.

Exam Point: World Ozone Day = 16 September • 2026 Theme = Global Action for a Cooler Planet

Source: PIB — World Ozone Day 2026.

12. Dryland Congress 2026 and Delhi Declaration

The Dryland Congress 2026 concluded in New Delhi with the adoption of the Delhi Declaration on Drylands (3D). The three-day Congress was held from 10-12 September 2026 under the theme "Transforming Dryland Agriculture with South-South Cooperation."

Exam Point: Venue = New Delhi • Declaration = Delhi Declaration on Drylands (3D)

Source: PIB — Dryland Congress 2026.

⚡ QUICK REVISION — 17 SEPTEMBER 2026

Topic	Important Fact
EPFO Wage Ceiling	₹25,000/month
Old EPFO Ceiling	₹15,000/month
Additional EPFO Coverage	51 lakh+ employees
SEMICON India 2026	5th Edition
SEMICON Venue	Yashobhoomi, New Delhi
SEMICON Dates	17-19 September 2026
SEMICON Theme	Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem
RCMC Exemption	Up to ₹3 lakh FOB value
Swachhata Hi Seva	17 Sep-17 Oct 2026
SHS Theme	Swachhata Mein Sahbhag, Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat
Net Zero Portal	Launched in Mumbai
Coast Guard Conference	43rd — New Delhi
Pension Initiative	Pension Sakhis
VIMARSH 2026	9 ToT agreements; 13 manufacturing partners
Formula 1 Task Force	10 members; Chair: Yugal Kishore Joshi
April-August Exports	US\$399.27 billion
Export Growth	15.55%
World Ozone Day Theme	Global Action for a Cooler Planet
Dryland Congress	Delhi Declaration on Drylands (3D)

📁 EXAM PRACTICE MCQs

1. What is the new monthly wage ceiling for mandatory EPFO coverage?

A) ₹15,000 B) ₹20,000 C) ₹25,000 D) ₹30,000

Answer: C) ₹25,000

2. SEMICON India 2026 is being held at which venue?

A) Bharat Mandapam B) Yashobhoomi, New Delhi C) Bengaluru D) Hyderabad

Answer: B) Yashobhoomi, New Delhi

3. The RCMC exemption applies to eligible export consignments up to what FOB value?

A) ₹1 lakh B) ₹2 lakh C) ₹3 lakh D) ₹5 lakh

Answer: C) ₹3 lakh

4. Pension Sakhis is primarily associated with which area?

A) Crop insurance B) Rural pension coverage C) Digital education D) Health insurance

Answer: B) Rural pension coverage

5. Who chairs the Formula 1 and motorsports Task Force?

A) Ashwini Vaishnav B) Yugal Kishore Joshi C) Rajiv Gauba D) Anurag Jain

Answer: B) Yugal Kishore Joshi

6. What were India's cumulative merchandise and services exports during April-August 2026-27?

A) US\$299.27 bn B) US\$345.55 bn C) US\$399.27 bn D) US\$459.65 bn

Answer: C) US\$399.27 billion

☐ IMPORTANT EXAM NOTE

These notes are designed for quick revision in Banking Awareness, General Awareness and Current Affairs sections. Figures and official announcements may be revised by the concerned authorities; the source notes in this PDF identify the primary or reported source used for each item.