

Important Current Affairs

1. Ayushman Bharat–PM-JAY completes eight years

Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) marked eight years in September 2026. The scheme provides eligible families with health cover for secondary and tertiary hospitalisation, subject to scheme rules. Remember the distinction between PM-JAY hospital cover and Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, which focus on primary healthcare.

2. BioE3: commercial launch of bio-based biodegradable plastic

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh formalised the commercial launch of bio-based biodegradable plastic under the BioE3 policy. BioE3 stands for Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment and supports biotechnology-led manufacturing and sustainable industrial development.

3. BRICS Heads of Tax Authorities Meeting

The Union Finance Minister inaugurated the BRICS Heads of Tax Authorities Meeting in New Delhi. The forum provides a platform for tax administrations of BRICS members to discuss cooperation, tax administration and shared challenges.

4. Raman Research Institute: quantum measure

Researchers at Raman Research Institute, Bengaluru, reported a measurement of a quantum measure greater than one—about 1.17, close to a predicted value of 1.18. The result relates to Quantum Measure Theory and illustrates how quantum interference can produce outcomes unlike ordinary probability measures.

5. India–ASEAN economic engagement

India participated in the 23rd ASEAN–India Economic Ministers' Consultation in Manila, where the review of the ASEAN–India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) was discussed. Reported India–ASEAN trade for 2025–26 was USD 128.38 billion.

6. Ayushman Bharat: exam revision

PM-JAY is associated with health protection for eligible families and hospitalisation. For exams, distinguish it from primary-care services and verify the latest official beneficiary and card counts before quoting statistics.

7. Quick revision

BioE3: Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment; BRICS tax meeting: tax-administration cooperation; Raman Research Institute: Bengaluru; AITIGA: ASEAN–India Trade in Goods Agreement.

Practice MCQs

Q1. What does BioE3 stand for?

- A. Bioenergy for Economic Equality
- B. Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment
- C. Biological Engineering for Energy Efficiency
- D. Biotechnology for Education

Answer: B

Q2. Ayushman Bharat–PM-JAY primarily supports eligible families with what?

- A. Crop insurance
- B. Hospitalisation health cover
- C. Free rail travel
- D. Pension payments

Answer: B

Q3. Where is the Raman Research Institute located?

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Pune
- C. Jaipur

D. Lucknow

Answer: A

Q4. AITIGA is an agreement between India and which regional grouping?

A. ASEAN

B. NATO

C. African Union

D. SAARC only

Answer: A

Q5. The BRICS Heads of Tax Authorities Meeting focuses on which area?

A. Tax administration cooperation

B. Olympic sports

C. Space launches

D. Wildlife census

Answer: A