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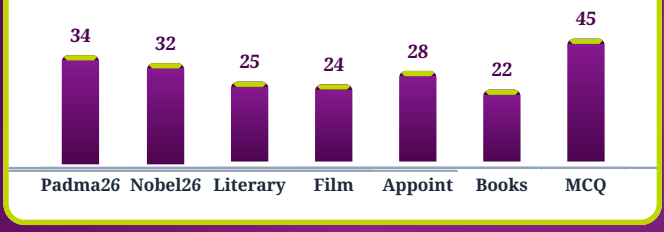
CURRENT AFFAIRS 2026 — AWARDS, HONOURS, KEY APPOINTMENTS & BOOKS-AUTHORS

Padma Awards 2026 (131 Laureates: 5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan, 113 Padma Shri), Nobel Prizes 2026, Gallantry Awards 2026, Jnanpith, Sahitya Akademi, Booker Prize 2026, National Film Awards, Key Appointments & Books-Authors

Topic-Wise Exam Weightage Distribution (%)



Previous Years' Question Trend Analysis



Target Competitive, Entrance & Departmental Examinations

SSC CGL/CHSL/MTS/GD • Railway NTPC/Group-D • State PCS • Banking • Police • Defence CDS/NDA • CUET

Core Syllabus Pillars & Exam Question Weightage (%)

- Padma Awards 2026 (131 Honourees), Bharat Ratna & Gallantry (26%)
- Nobel Prizes 2026 (6 Fields), Ramon Magsaysay & Global Honours (22%)
- Literary Awards (Jnanpith, Vyas, Saraswati, Booker, Sahitya) (18%)
- National Film Awards, Dadasaheb Phalke, Oscars & Grammys 2026 (16%)
- Constitutional, Judicial, Military Appointments 2026 & Books (18%)

Complete Theory
NCERT & Official Sources

Visual Flowcharts
Comparative Matrices

Memory Tricks
Exam Trap Alerts

75+ Solved MCQs
Rapid Revision Points

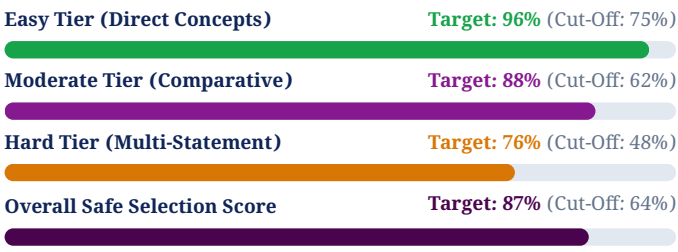
Preface, Exam Weightage Dashboard & Study Strategy — CURRENT AFFAIRS 2026 — AWARDS, HONOURS, KEY APPOINTMENTS & BOOKS-AUTHORS

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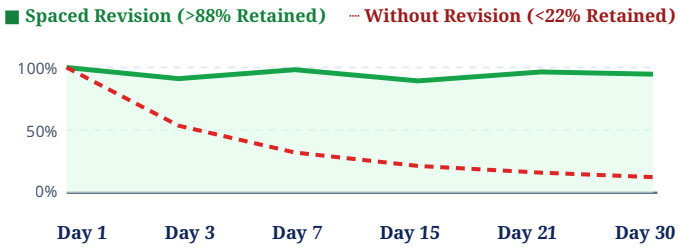
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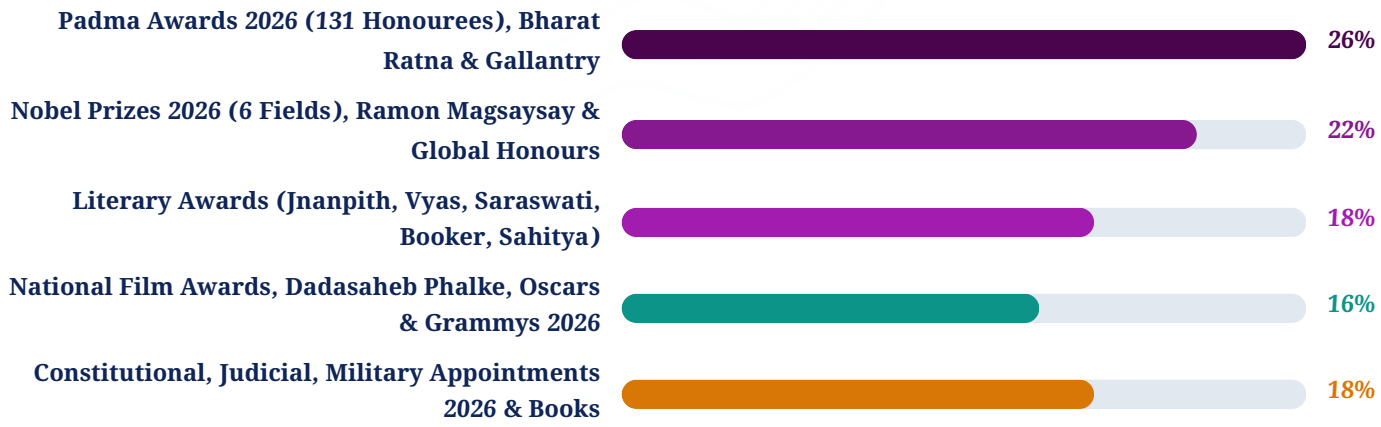
Target Accuracy vs Qualifying Cut-Off Benchmark (%)



Spaced Revision (1-3-7-21 Day Rule) & Retention Curve



Topic-Wise Exam Question Weightage Index (%)



Verified Official Curriculum & Statutory Reference Portals

- पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) (https://www.pib.gov.in/)
- रक्षा मंत्रालय (वीरता पुरस्कार) (https://mod.gov.in/)
- नोबेल पुरस्कार 2026 पोर्टल (https://www.nobelprize.org/all-nobel-prizes-2026/)
- IUC अकादमी आधिकारिक पोर्टल (https://www.iucacademy.com)

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Publishing Institution: Inclusive Universal Careers Academy (IUC Academy) — Official Portal

Authoritative Reference Portals: Press Information Bureau (PIB) | Ministry of Defence, Government of India | IUC Academy Official Portal

Target Competitive Examinations: Union Public Service Commission (UPSC CSE, CDS, NDA, CAPF), State Public Service Commissions (UPPSC, BPSC, MPPSC, RPSC), Staff Selection Commission (SSC CGL, CHSL, MTS, GD), Railway Recruitment Boards (RRB NTPC, Group-D, ALP), Banking & Financial Regulatory Bodies (IBPS, SBI, RBI, SEBI, NABARD), and State Police Examinations.

Thematic Chapter Architecture (Book CA15)

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Chapter 1 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Thematic Chapter Architecture (Book CA15)	**Chapter 1**	Highest Civilian Honours of India — Padma Awards 2026 (Complete Analysis of Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan & Padma Shri)
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Thematic Chapter Architecture (Book CA15)	**Chapter 4**	National & International Literary Honours 2026 (60th Jnanpith Award, Booker Prize 2026, International Booker Prize 2026 & Sahitya Akademi)

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Thematic Chapter Architecture (Book CA15)	**Chapter 5**	National & International Film, Music & Sports Awards 2026 (72nd National Film Awards, Dadasaheb Phalke, 98th Oscars & 68th Grammy Awards)
Thematic Chapter Architecture (Book CA15)	**Chapter 6**	Key Constitutional, Statutory, Judicial, Regulatory & Defence Appointments 2026
Thematic Chapter Architecture (Book CA15)	**Chapter 7**	Key International Appointments, Heads of Global Organizations, Persons in News & Obituaries 2026
Thematic Chapter Architecture (Book CA15)	**Chapter 8**	Prominent Books and Authors of 2026 (National & International Publications)

Chapter *1* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Chapter 1): Highest Civilian Honours of India — Padma Awards 2026 (Complete Analysis of Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan & Padma Shri)

Statement-II (Chapter 2): National Gallantry Awards & Military Decorations 2026 (Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra & Distinguished Service Medals)

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Chapter 3): Nobel Prizes 2026 — Comprehensive Analysis Across All Six Categories (Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace & Economic Sciences)

Statement-II (Chapter 4): National & International Literary Honours 2026 (60th Jnanpith Award, Booker Prize 2026, International Booker Prize 2026 & Sahitya Akademi)

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Chapter 5): National & International Film, Music & Sports Awards 2026 (72nd National Film Awards, Dadasaheb Phalke, 98th Oscars & 68th Grammy Awards)

Statement-II (Chapter 6): Key Constitutional, Statutory, Judicial, Regulatory & Defence Appointments 2026

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Chapter 7): Key International Appointments, Heads of Global Organizations, Persons in News & Obituaries 2026

Statement-II (Chapter 8): Prominent Books and Authors of 2026 (National & International Publications)

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1: Highest Civilian Honours of India — Padma Awards 2026 (Complete Analysis of Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan & Padma Shri)

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 1: Highest Civilian Honours of India — Padma Awards 2026 (Complete Analysis of Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan & Padma Shri)

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3	Key Study Pillar 4
Constitutional & Historical Framework of the Padma Awards 2026	Statistical Breakdown of Padma Awards 2026	Complete Profile of All 5 Padma Vibhushan 2026 Laureates	Complete List of All 13 Padma Bhushan 2026 Laureates

1.1 Constitutional & Historical Framework of the Padma Awards 2026

On the eve of the 77th Republic Day (25 January 2026), the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, approved the conferment of **131 Padma Awards** (including 2 duo cases, where a duo award is counted as a single award) (Press Information Bureau). Instituted in the year **1954**, the Padma Awards are among the highest civilian honours of the Republic of India after the Bharat Ratna. Under **Article 18(1)** of the Constitution of India (as upheld by the Supreme Court in *Balaji Raghavan v. Union of India*, 1995), these national honours do not amount to constitutional 'titles' and cannot be used as prefixes or suffixes to the recipient's name.

Process Flowchart (4-Node Padma Awards Nomination & Investiture Mechanism):

[Open Public Nominations via Rashtriya Puraskar Portal] [Scrutiny by Padma Awards Committee (Chaired by Cabinet Secretary)] [Approval by Prime Minister & President of India; Announced on 25 January 2026] [Ceremonial Conferment of Sanad & Medallion by the President at Rashtrapati Bhawan]

1.2 Statistical Breakdown of Padma Awards 2026

According to the official notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (Press Information Bureau), the exact composition of the **131 Padma Awards for 2026** is presented below:

S.No.	Award Category / Statistical Parameter	2026 Official Count	Core Criterion & Constitutional Significance	Official Source
1	**Padma Vibhushan**	**05**	Awarded for *exceptional and distinguished service;* second-highest civilian honour of India.	PIB Portal
2	**Padma Bhushan**	**13**	Awarded for *distinguished service of high order;* third-highest civilian honour of India.	PIB Portal
3	**Padma Shri**	**113**	Awarded for *distinguished service in any field;* fourth-highest civilian honour of India.	PIB Portal
4	**Total Padma Awards (2026)**	**131**	Includes **02 Duo Cases** (Gayatri & Ranjani Balasubramanian in Art; Ramchandra & Suneeta Godbole in Medicine).	PIB Portal
5	**Women Awardees**	**19**	Recognizes 19 distinguished women across Art, Literature, Sports, Medicine, Science, and Social Work.	PIB Portal
6	**Foreigners / NRI / PIO / OCI Category**	**06**	Comprises recipients from the USA (3), Germany (1), Russia (1), and Georgia (1).	PIB Portal

S.No.	Award Category / Statistical Parameter	2026 Official Count	Core Criterion & Constitutional Significance	Official Source
7	**Posthumous Awardees**	**16**	Includes Dharmendra Singh Deol, V.S. Achuthanandan, Piyush Pandey, Shibu Soren, and V.K. Malhotra.	PIB Portal

1.3 Complete Profile of All *5* Padma Vibhushan *2026* Laureates

Five eminent personalities have been conferred the **Padma Vibhushan** in 2026 (Press Information Bureau):

S.No.	Name of Laureate	Field	State / Country	Distinguished Contribution & Examination Highlights	Official Source
1	**Shri Dharmendra Singh Deol (Posthumous)**	Art (Cinema)	Maharashtra	Legendary Indian film actor known as the 'He-Man of Bollywood'; starred in over 300 iconic films (*Sholay*, *Satyakam*, *Chupke Chupke*, *Anupama*); former Lok Sabha MP (Bikaner).	PIB Portal
2	**Shri K. T. Thomas**	Public Affairs (Judiciary)	Kerala	Former Judge of the Supreme Court of India (1996–2002); renowned for landmark constitutional judgments, criminal jurisprudence, and legal reforms.	PIB Portal
3	**Ms. N. Rajam**	Art (Classical Music)	Uttar Pradesh	World-renowned Hindustani classical violinist who pioneered the **'Gayaki Ang'** (vocal style) on the violin; former Dean of Performing Arts at Banaras Hindu University (BHU).	PIB Portal
4	**Shri P. Narayanan**	Literature and Education	Kerala	Veteran Malayalam writer, thinker, journalist, and public intellectual with over six decades of contribution to Indian literature and education.	PIB Portal
5	**Shri V. S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous)**	Public Affairs (Politics)	Kerala	Former Chief Minister of Kerala (2006–2011) and veteran mass leader championed for labour rights, land reforms, environmental conservation, and anti-corruption drives.	PIB Portal

1.4 Complete List of All *13* Padma Bhushan *2026* Laureates

S.No.	Name of Laureate	Field	State / Country	Key Achievements & Recognition	Official Source
1	**Ms. Alka Yagnik**	Art (Playback Singing)	Maharashtra	Celebrated playback singer who has recorded over 20,000 songs across 1,000+ Indian films; two-time National Film Award winner.	PIB Portal
2	**Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari**	Public Affairs	Uttarakhand	Former Chief Minister of Uttarakhand (2001–2002) and former Governor of Maharashtra and Goa.	PIB Portal
3	**Shri Kallipatti Ramasamy Palaniswamy**	Medicine	Tamil Nadu	Eminent gastroenterologist and clinician recognized for advancing gastrointestinal healthcare in India.	PIB Portal

S.No.	Name of Laureate	Field	State / Country	Key Achievements & Recognition	Official Source
4	**Shri Mammootty**	Art (Cinema)	Kerala	Doyen of Malayalam cinema who has acted in over 400 films and won multiple National Film Awards for Best Actor.	PIB Portal
5	**Dr. Nori Dattatreyudu**	Medicine (Oncology)	United States of America	Globally acclaimed radiation oncologist and pioneer in brachytherapy and cancer treatment protocols.	PIB Portal
6	**Shri Piyush Pandey (Posthumous)**	Art (Advertising)	Maharashtra	Iconic creative director and architect of modern Indian advertising (*Mile Sur Mera Tumhara*, Pulse Polio campaign, Fevicol, Cadbury).	PIB Portal
7	**Shri S. K. M. Maeilanandhan**	Social Work	Tamil Nadu	Philanthropist and social reformer recognized for rural healthcare and community welfare initiatives.	PIB Portal
8	**Shri Shatavadhani R. Ganesh**	Art (Avadhanam)	Karnataka	Master practitioner of the classical Sanskrit and Kannada literary performance art of *Shatavadhanam* (extemporaneous poetry composition across 100 prompts).	PIB Portal
9	**Shri Shibu Soren (Posthumous)**	Public Affairs	Jharkhand	Former Chief Minister of Jharkhand, former Union Coal Minister, and founding patriarch of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (*Dishom Guru*).	PIB Portal
10	**Shri Uday Kotak**	Trade and Industry	Maharashtra	Founder and former Managing Director of Kotak Mahindra Bank; key architect of India's modern private banking sector.	PIB Portal
11	**Shri V. K. Malhotra (Posthumous)**	Public Affairs	Delhi	Veteran parliamentarian, educationist, and long-serving sports administrator (Archery Association of India).	PIB Portal
12	**Shri Vellappally Natesan**	Public Affairs	Kerala	General Secretary of Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Yogam; recognized for social and educational upliftment.	PIB Portal
13	**Shri Vijay Amritraj**	Sports (Tennis)	United States of America	Legendary Indian tennis player, two-time Davis Cup finalist, and former UN Messenger of Peace.	PIB Portal

1.5 High-Yield National & State-Specific Padma Shri *2026* Laureates

S.No.	Name of Laureate(s)	Field	State / Country	Examination Significance	Official Source
1	**Shri Rohit Sharma**	Sports (Cricket)	Maharashtra	Former Indian captain who led India to the 2024 T20 World Cup and 2025 Champions Trophy titles.	PIB Portal
2	**Ms. Harmanpreet Kaur Bhullar**	Sports (Cricket)	Punjab	Captain of the Indian Women's National Cricket Team and pioneer of women's cricket in India.	PIB Portal
3	**Ms. Savita Punia**	Sports (Hockey)	Haryana	Veteran goalkeeper ('The Great Wall of India') and former captain of the Indian Women's Hockey Team.	PIB Portal

S.No.	Name of Laureate(s)	Field	State / Country	Examination Significance	Official Source
4	**Shri Praveen Kumar**	Sports (Para-Athletics)	Uttar Pradesh	Paralympic gold medallist para high-jumper from Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh.	**PIB Portal**
5	**Shri Prosenjit Chatterjee & Shri Satish Shah (Posthumous)**	Art (Cinema)	West Bengal & Maharashtra	Iconic Bengali cinema superstar Prosenjit Chatterjee and beloved film/television actor Satish Shah.	**PIB Portal**
6	**Shri Veezhinathan Kamakoti & Shri Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar**	Science & Engg / Literature & Edu	Tamil Nadu & Delhi	IIT Madras Director Prof. V. Kamakoti (architect of the indigenous *Shakti* microprocessor) and former UGC Chairman Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar.	**PIB Portal**
7	**Ms. Sivasankari & Shri Shashi Shekhar Vempati**	Literature and Education	Tamil Nadu & Karnataka	Saraswati Samman-winning Tamil author Sivasankari (*Surya Vamsam*) and former Prasar Bharati CEO Shashi Shekhar Vempati.	**PIB Portal**
8	**Uttar Pradesh Padma Shri 2026 Recipients (10)**	Art, Science, Archaeology, Medicine, Education, Sports, Agriculture	Uttar Pradesh	Anil Kumar Rastogi (Art), Ashok Kumar Singh (Science & Engg), Buddha Rashmi Mani (Archaeology), Chiranji Lal Yadav (Art), Kewal Krishan Thakral (Medicine), Mangala Kapoor (Lit & Edu), Praveen Kumar (Sports), Raghupat Singh (Posthumous, Agriculture), Rajendra Prasad (Medicine), Shyam Sundar (Medicine). (*Total 11 from UP including Padma Vibhushan to Ms. N. Rajam*).	**UP Portal**
9	**Bihar Padma Shri 2026 Recipients (3)**	Art & Science-Engineering	Bihar	Bharat Singh Bharti (Art — Folk Music), Bishwa Bandhu (Posthumous, Art), and Gopal Ji Trivedi (Science & Engineering — former VC, RPCAU Pusa).	**Bihar Portal**
10	**Madhya Pradesh Padma Shri 2026 Recipients (4)**	Sports, Literature, Social Work, Archaeology	Madhya Pradesh	Bhagwandas Raikwar (Sports — Bundeli martial arts), Kailash Chandra Pant (Lit & Edu), Mohan Nagar (Social Work — water conservation), and Narayan Vyas (Archaeology — Bhimbetka rock art).	**MP Portal**
11	**Rajasthan Padma Shri 2026 Recipients (3)**	Art & Social Work	Rajasthan	Gafruddin Mewati Jogi (Art — Bhapang maestro), Swami Brahmdev Ji Maharaj (Social Work), and Taga Ram Bheel (Art — Algoza folk flutist).	**Rajasthan Portal**

Did You Know?
While the annual ceiling on total Padma Awards is fixed at **120**, categories such as **posthumous awards** and awards conferred on **NRIs/Foreigners/PIOs/OCIs** are exempted from this cap. Because the 2026 list includes **16 posthumous** and **6 Foreigner/NRI/PIO/OCI** recipients, the total number of Padma Awards conferred in 2026 stands at **131** (**Press Information Bureau**).

Exam Trap Alert:
Candidates frequently miscount duo awards. In the **Padma Awards 2026**, there are **two duo awards** — (1) Ms. Gayatri Balasubramanian & Ms. Ranjani Balasubramanian (Art, Tamil Nadu) and (2) Shri Ramchandra Godbole & Ms. Suneeta Godbole (Medicine, Chhattisgarh). Although 133 individuals are honoured, each duo case is officially counted as **one award**, making the official total **131**.

★ **Memory Formula:**
5 Padma Vibhushan 2026 Winners — "Dharmendra – Thomas – Rajam – Narayanan – Achuthanandan":
• **Dharmendra Singh Deol** (Art, Maharashtra — Posthumous)
• **Justice K. T. Thomas** (Public Affairs, Kerala)
• **Dr. N. Rajam** (Art / Violin, Uttar Pradesh)
• **P. Narayanan** (Literature & Education, Kerala)
• **V. S. Achuthanandan** (Public Affairs, Kerala — Posthumous)

Chapter *2:* National Gallantry Awards & Military Decorations *2026 (*Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra & Distinguished Service Medals*)*

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 2: National Gallantry Awards & Military Decorations 2026 (Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra & Distinguished Service Medals)

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3
Order of Precedence of Indian Gallantry Awards	**77th Republic Day Gallantry & Distinguished Service Awards (25 January 2026)**	**Independence Day Eve Gallantry Awards 2026 (14 August 2026)**

2.1 Order of Precedence of Indian Gallantry Awards

India's post-independence gallantry awards are classified into two operational categories (Ministry of Defence):

1. **Wartime Gallantry Awards** (*in the face of the enemy*): **Param Vir Chakra (PVC) Maha Vir Chakra (MVC) Vir Chakra (VrC)** (instituted on 26 January 1950).

2. **Peacetime Gallantry Awards** (*other than in the face of the enemy*): **Ashoka Chakra (AC) Kirti Chakra (KC) Shaurya Chakra (SC)** (instituted on 4 January 1952 as Ashoka Chakra Class I, II, and III, and renamed on 27 January 1967).

• **Combined Official Order of Precedence: Param Vir Chakra Ashoka Chakra Maha Vir Chakra Kirti Chakra Vir Chakra Shaurya Chakra.**

Process Flowchart (4-Node Gallantry Awards 2026 Architecture):

[77th Republic Day (25 Jan 2026): 70 Gallantry Awards (6 Posthumous) & 301 Military Decorations] [Ashoka Chakra (1): Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla (Indian Air Force)] [Kirti Chakra (3 on R-Day): Maj Arshdeep Singh, Nb Sub Doleshwar Subba, Gp Capt Prasanth B. Nair] [80th Independence Day Eve (14 Aug 2026): 78 Gallantry Awards (9 Kirti Chakras, 1 Bar to SC, 19 Shaurya Chakras)]

2.2 77th Republic Day Gallantry & Distinguished Service Awards (25 January 2026)

On the eve of the 77th Republic Day (25 January 2026), President Smt. Droupadi Murmu approved **70 Gallantry Awards** (including 6 posthumous) and **301 Military Decorations** (Press Information Bureau, Ministry of Defence):

S.No.	Award Category	2026 R-Day Count	Key Recipients & Service Units	Operational Significance	Official Source
1	**Ashoka Chakra**	**01**	**Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla** (Indian Air Force — Flying Pilot)	India's highest peacetime gallantry decoration; honoured for extraordinary courage and test-flying / astronaut mission excellence.	PIB Portal
2	**Kirti Chakra**	**03**	1. **Major Arshdeep Singh** (Armoured, 1 Assam Rifles — Indian Army) 2. **Naib Subedar Doleshwar Subba** (2 Para SF — Indian Army) 3. **Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair** (Flying Pilot — Indian Air Force)	Second-highest peacetime gallantry award for conspicuous gallantry in counter-insurgency and strategic air operations.	MoD Portal
3	**Shaurya Chakra**	**13** (*01 Posthumous*)	**Lance Dafadar Baldev Chand** (4 RR — Posthumous), Lt Col Ghatage Aditya Shrikumar (21 Para SF), Maj Anshul Baltoo (32 AR), Maj Shivkant Yadav (5 Para SF), Maj Vivek (42 RR), Maj Leishangthem Deepak Singh (11 Para SF), Capt Yogender Singh Thakur (6 Para SF), Sub P. H. Moses (1 AR), Rfn Manglem Sang Vaiphei (3 AR), Rfn Dhurba Jyoti Dutta (33 AR), **Lt Cdr Dilna K.** & **Lt Cdr Roopa A.** (Indian Navy), Asst Comdt Vipin Wilson (MHA).	Third-highest peacetime gallantry award; includes two women naval officers who circumnavigated the globe aboard *INSV Tarini*.	PIB Portal
4	**Sena, Nao Sena & Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry)**	**01 Bar + 44 SM(G), 06 NM(G), 02 VM(G)**	L/Hav Satya Pal Singh (Bar to SM), Cdr Nardeep Singh, Capt Piyush Katiyar, Wg Cdr Shobhit Vyas, JWO Kirpal Singh Salaria.	Gallantry across land, maritime anti-piracy, and high-altitude air operations.	MoD Portal
5	**301 Distinguished Service Decorations**	**30 PVSM, 04 UYSM, 56 AVSM, 09 YSM, 135 VSM**	**UYSM (4):** Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth, Lt Gen Rajan Sharawat, Lt Gen Abhijit S. Pendharkar, Lt Gen Gambhir Singh; **PVSM:** Surg VAdm Arti Sarin, VAdm Krishna Swaminathan, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit; **AVSM:** Subedar H. Hokato Sema; **VSM:** Colonel Sofiya Qureshi.	Recognizes distinguished service of the most exceptional order.	PIB Portal

2.3 Independence Day Eve Gallantry Awards 2026 (14 August 2026)

On 14 August 2026, the President approved **78 Gallantry Awards (including 13 posthumous)** and **89 Mention-in-Despatches** (Press Information Bureau):

- **Kirti Chakras: 09** (including **07 Posthumous**).
- **Bar to Shaurya Chakra: 01**.

• **Shaurya Chakras: 19** (including **01 Posthumous**).

Did You Know?
Indian Navy officers **Lieutenant Commander Dilna K.** and **Lieutenant Commander Roopa A.** were conferred the **Shaurya Chakra** on Republic Day 2026 for their historic global circumnavigation expedition (**Navika Sagar Parikrama II**) in double-handed mode aboard the Indian Naval Sailing Vessel **INSV Tarini** (Ministry of Defence).

Exam Trap Alert:
Remember that both **Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla** (conferred the **Ashoka Chakra** in 2026) and **Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair** (conferred the **Kirti Chakra** in 2026) are test pilots selected for India's **Gaganyaan** human spaceflight programme and Axiom-4 ISS mission (Press Information Bureau).

★ **Memory Formula:**
Republic Day 2026 Top 4 Gallantry Recipients — "Shubhanshu's Ashoka; Arshdeep, Doleshwar & Prasanth's Kirti"!

Chapter 3 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Order of Precedence of Indian Gallantry Awards	**Wartime Gallantry Awards**	(in the face of the enemy)*: **Param Vir Chakra (PVC) Maha Vir Chakra (MVC) Vir Chakra (VrC)** (instituted on 26 January 1950).
77th Republic Day Gallantry & Distinguished Service Awards (25 January 2026)	**Peacetime Gallantry Awards**	(other than in the face of the enemy)*: **Ashoka Chakra (AC) Kirti Chakra (KC) Shaurya Chakra (SC)** (instituted on 4 January 1952 as Ashoka Chakra Class I, II, and III, and renamed on 27 January 1967).
Independence Day Eve Gallantry Awards 2026 (14 August 2026)	**Combined Official Order of Precedence**	Param Vir Chakra Ashoka Chakra Maha Vir Chakra Kirti Chakra Vir Chakra Shaurya Chakra**.
Order of Precedence of Indian Gallantry Awards	**Kirti Chakras**	09 **(including** 07 Posthumous**).
77th Republic Day Gallantry & Distinguished Service Awards (25 January 2026)	**Shaurya Chakras**	19 **(including** 01 Posthumous**).

Chapter 3 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Wartime Gallantry Awards): (in the face of the enemy)*: **Param Vir Chakra (PVC) Maha Vir Chakra (MVC) Vir Chakra (VrC)** (instituted on 26 January 1950).

Statement-II (Peacetime Gallantry Awards): (other than in the face of the enemy)*: **Ashoka Chakra (AC) Kirti Chakra (KC) Shaurya Chakra (SC)** (instituted on 4 January 1952 as Ashoka Chakra Class I, II, and III, and renamed on 27 January 1967).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Combined Official Order of Precedence): Param Vir Chakra Ashoka Chakra Maha Vir Chakra Kirti Chakra Vir Chakra Shaurya Chakra**.

Statement-II (Kirti Chakras): 09 **(including** 07 Posthumous**).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3: Nobel Prizes 2026 — Comprehensive Analysis Across All Six Categories (Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace & Economic Sciences)

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 3: Nobel Prizes 2026 — Comprehensive Analysis Across All Six Categories (Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace & Economic Sciences)

Key Study Pillar 1
Institutional Framework & Prize Purse of the Nobel Prizes 2026

Key Study Pillar 2
Complete Analytical Table of All 2026 Nobel Laureates (5–12 October 2026)

3.1 Institutional Framework & Prize Purse of the Nobel Prizes 2026

Established under the 1895 will of Swedish chemist and inventor of dynamite **Alfred Nobel** (first awarded in **1901**) and expanded in **1968** with the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel (first awarded in **1969**), the **2026 Nobel Prizes** were announced between **5 October and 12 October 2026**. The prize purse for 2026 is **12 million Swedish kronor (SEK)** per category.

Process Flowchart (4-Node Nobel Prize 2026 Awarding Bodies & Jurisdictions):

[Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (Stockholm): Physics, Chemistry & Economic Sciences] [Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet (Stockholm): Physiology or Medicine] [Swedish Academy (Stockholm): Literature] [Norwegian Nobel Committee (Oslo, Norway): Nobel Peace Prize]

3.2 Complete Analytical Table of All *2026* Nobel Laureates *(5–12* October *2026)*

S.No.	Category & Announcement Date	2026 Nobel Laureates (Country & Affiliation)	Official Citation / Discovery	Scientific, Literary & Global Impact	Reference Portal
1	**Physiology or Medicine** (5 *October* 2026)	1. **Karl Deisseroth** (USA — Stanford University) 2. **Peter Hegemann** (Germany — Humboldt University of Berlin) 3. **Georg Nagel** (Germany — University of Würzburg)	**"For their discoveries concerning light-gated ion channels and optogenetics."**	Revolutionized neuroscience by enabling researchers to switch specific neurons on or off using light pulses via microbial opsins (Channelrhodopsins), transforming research into Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, and depression.	IUC Academy
2	**Physics** (6 *October* 2026)	**Francis Halzen** (Belgium/USA — University of Wisconsin–Madison)	**"For his decisive contributions to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory and the discovery of high-energy neutrinos of astrophysical origin."**	Built the cubic-kilometre IceCube detector deep beneath the Antarctic ice at the Amundsen–Scott South Pole Station, opening high-energy neutrino astronomy to trace cosmic rays from blazars and black holes.	IUC Academy
3	**Chemistry** (7 *October* 2026)	1. **Henri B. Kagan** (France — Paris-Saclay University) 2. **Kenso Soai** (Japan — Tokyo University of Science)	**"For the discovery of non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis."**	Kagan's discovery of non-linear chiral amplification and Soai's discovery of asymmetric autocatalysis (the *Soai Reaction*) explained the origin of biological homochirality and advanced chiral pharmaceutical synthesis.	IUC Academy
4	**Literature** (8 *October* 2026)	**Anne Carson** (Canada)	**Honoured for her boundary-breaking poetic prose and essays bridging classical Greek antiquity with modern existential inquiry.**	Second Canadian woman to win the Literature Nobel after Alice Munro (2013); celebrated for *Autobiography of Red*, *Eros the Bittersweet*, and *Nox*.	IUC Academy
5	**Peace** (9 *October* 2026)	**Navanethem 'Navi' Pillay** (South Africa)	**Honoured for her lifelong defence of international human rights, judicial accountability for genocide and war crimes, and the rule of law.**	South African jurist of Indian Tamil origin; served as President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), Judge on the International Criminal Court (ICC), and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (2008–2014).	IUC Academy

S.No.	Category & Announcement Date	2026 Nobel Laureates (Country & Affiliation)	Official Citation / Discovery	Scientific, Literary & Global Impact	Reference Portal
6	**Economic Sciences** (12 *October* 2026)	1. **Robert E. Hall** (USA — Stanford University) 2. **Michael Woodford** (USA — Columbia University)	**"For microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation."**	Developed the New Keynesian dynamic stochastic general equilibrium (DSGE) framework (*Interest and Prices*), random-walk consumption theory, and monetary policy rules used by central banks worldwide.	IUC Academy

Did You Know?
Navanethem 'Navi' Pillay, winner of the **2026 Nobel Peace Prize**, was the first non-white woman appointed to the High Court of South Africa (by Nelson Mandela in 1995). As a judge and later President of the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), she authored the landmark 1998 *Jean-Paul Akayesu* ruling, which established for the first time in international law that systematic rape and sexual assault constitute acts of genocide.

Exam Trap Alert:
Do not confuse the **2021 Chemistry Nobel** (Benjamin List and David MacMillan for *asymmetric organocatalysis*) with the **2026 Chemistry Nobel** (**Henri B. Kagan** and **Kenso Soai** for *non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis*). Similarly, distinguish the **2015 Physics Nobel** (Takaaki Kajita and Arthur B. McDonald for *neutrino oscillations*) from the **2026 Physics Nobel** (**Francis Halzen** for the *IceCube Neutrino Observatory and high-energy astrophysical neutrinos*).

★ **Memory Formula:**
All 6 Nobel Prizes 2026 — "Opto-Medicine (Deisseroth/Hegemann/Nagel), IceCube-Physics (Halzen), Chiral-Chemistry (Kagan/Soai), Poetic-Literature (Anne Carson), HumanRights-Peace (Navi Pillay), Macro-Economics (Hall/Woodford)"!

Chapter *4:* National & International Literary Honours *2026 (60*th Jnanpith Award, Booker Prize *2026*, International Booker Prize *2026* & Sahitya Akademi*)*

4.1 Jnanpith Award*: 60*th Jnanpith Award Conferred in *2026*

Instituted in **1961** by the Bharatiya Jnanpith Trust and first awarded in **1965** to Malayalam poet **G. Sankara Kurup**, the Jnanpith Award is India's highest literary honour. It carries a cash prize of **₹11 lakh**, a citation plaque, and a bronze replica of Goddess Saraswati (Vagdevi), and covers the 22 languages of the Eighth Schedule plus English (23 languages).

- **60th Jnanpith Award (for 2025, announced in March 2026):** Conferred on eminent Tamil poet, lyricist, and novelist **R. Vairamuthu**. He became the **third Tamil writer** to receive the Jnanpith Award after P. V. Akilan (1975) and D. Jayakanthan (2002), and the first Tamil poet primarily recognized for poetry. His celebrated works include *Kallikattu Ithikasam* (Sahitya Akademi Award, 2003) and *Karuvachi Kaviyam*.

• **59th Jnanpith Award:** Conferred on eminent Chhattisgarh Hindi poet and novelist **Vinod Kumar Shukla** (*Naukar Ki Kameez*, *Deewar Mein Ek Khidki Rehti Thi*) — the first author from Chhattisgarh to receive the honour.

• **58th Jnanpith Award:** Jointly conferred on Sanskrit scholar **Jagadguru Rambhadracharya** and Urdu poet-lyricist **Gulzar**.

Process Flowchart (4-Node Literary Prizes 2026):

[60th Jnanpith Award (Announced March 2026): R. Vairamuthu (Tamil Literature)] [Booker Prize 2026 (Nov 2026): M. John Harrison for 'The End of Everything' (Oldest Winner at 81)] [International Booker Prize 2026 (May 2026): Yáng Shuāng-zǐ & Lin King for 'Taiwan Travelogue'] [Mark Lynton History Prize 2026: William Dalrymple for 'The Golden Road']

4.2 Comparative Table of Major National & International Literary Awards *2026*

S.No.	Award Title	2026 Winner(s)	Winning Work / Language	Key Examination Facts	Reference Portal
1	**60th Jnanpith Award** (*Announced March 2026*)	**R. Vairamuthu**	Tamil Literature (*Kallikattu Ithikasam*, *Karuvachi Kaviyam*)	3rd Tamil recipient after Akilan (1975) and Jayakanthan (2002); 7-time National Film Award-winning lyricist; Padma Bhushan recipient (2014).	IUC Academy
2	**59th Jnanpith Award**	**Vinod Kumar Shukla**	Hindi Literature (*Naukar Ki Kameez*, *Deewar Mein Ek Khidki Rehti Thi*)	First writer from Chhattisgarh to win India's highest literary honour; 12th Hindi writer overall.	IUC Academy
3	**Booker Prize 2026** (*Announced 9 Nov 2026*)	**M. John Harrison** (United Kingdom)	***The End of Everything*** (English Novel)	At **81 years old**, he became the **oldest author in history** to win the Booker Prize (£50,000); succeeded 2025 winner David Szalay (*Flesh*).	IUC Academy
4	**International Booker Prize 2026** (*May 2026*)	**Yáng Shuāng-zǐ** (Author, Taiwan) & **Lin King** (Translator)	***Taiwan Travelogue*** (Translated from Mandarin into English)	First Taiwanese novel to win the International Booker Prize (£50,000 split equally between author and translator).	IUC Academy
5	**Sahitya Akademi Awards** (*Announced 16 March 2026*)	**24 Indian Language Laureates**	8 Poetry Collections, 4 Novels, 6 Short Story Collections, 2 Essays, etc.	Awarded in **24 languages** (22 Eighth Schedule languages + **English** + **Rajasthani**); carries ₹1 lakh and a copper plaque.	PIB Portal
6	**Mark Lynton History Prize 2026**	**William Dalrymple**	***The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World***	Chronicles how ancient India's maritime 'Indosphere' exported mathematics, zero, astronomy, Buddhism, and art across Eurasia.	IUC Academy
7	**Pulitzer Prize 2026** (*Illustrated Reporting & Commentary*)	**Indian Journalists & Natalie Obiko Pearson** (Bloomberg Team)	Investigative reporting on cyber scams and transnational online trafficking	Prestigious journalism prize administered by Columbia University.	IUC Academy

Did You Know?
The **Sahitya Akademi** (founded on 12 March 1954 under the Ministry of Culture) confers awards in **24 languages** (22 Eighth Schedule languages plus **English** and **Rajasthani**), whereas the **Jnanpith Award** covers **23 languages** (22 Eighth Schedule languages plus **English**, added from the 54th Jnanpith Award in 2018 when Amitav Ghosh won).

Exam Trap Alert:
Keep the two Booker Prizes distinct: **Booker Prize 2026** was won by 81-year-old British author **M. John Harrison** for ***The End of Everything***, whereas the **International Booker Prize 2026** (for translated fiction) was won by Taiwanese author **Yáng Shuāng-zǐ** and translator **Lin King** for ***Taiwan Travelogue***.

★ **Memory Formula:**
Jnanpith Sequence 58–59–60 — "Rambhadracharya & Gulzar (58th) Vinod Kumar Shukla (59th) R. Vairamuthu (60th)"!

Chapter 5 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Jnanpith Award: 60th Jnanpith Award Conferred in 2026	**60th Jnanpith Award (for 2025, announced in March 2026)**	Conferred on eminent Tamil poet, lyricist, and novelist **R. Vairamuthu**. He became the **third Tamil writer** to receive the Jnanpith Award after P. V. Akilan (1975) and D. Jayakanthan (2002), and the first Tamil poet primarily recognized for poetry. His celebrated works include *Kallikattu Ithikasam* (Sahitya Akademi Award, 2003) and *Karuvachi Kaviyam*.
Comparative Table of Major National & International Literary Awards 2026	**59th Jnanpith Award**	Conferred on eminent Chhattisgarh Hindi poet and novelist **Vinod Kumar Shukla** (*Naukar Ki Kameez*, *Deewar Mein Ek Khidki Rehti Thi*) — the first author from Chhattisgarh to receive the honour.
Jnanpith Award: 60th Jnanpith Award Conferred in 2026	**58th Jnanpith Award**	Jointly conferred on Sanskrit scholar **Jagadguru Rambhadracharya** and Urdu poet-lyricist **Gulzar**.

Chapter 5 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — **Both Statements Verified Correct**

Statement-I (60th Jnanpith Award (for 2025, announced in March 2026)): Conferred on eminent Tamil poet, lyricist, and novelist **R. Vairamuthu**. He became the **third Tamil writer** to receive the Jnanpith Award after P. V. Akilan (1975) and D. Jayakanthan (2002), and the first Tamil poet primarily recognized for poetry. His celebrated works include *Kallikattu Ithikasam* (Sahitya Akademi Award, 2003) and *Karuvachi Kaviyam*.

Statement-II (59th Jnanpith Award): Conferred on eminent Chhattisgarh Hindi poet and novelist **Vinod Kumar Shukla** (*Naukar Ki Kameez*, *Deewar Mein Ek Khidki Rehti Thi*) — the first author from Chhattisgarh to receive the honour.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5: National & International Film, Music & Sports Awards 2026 (72nd National Film Awards, Dadasaheb Phalke, 98th Oscars & 68th Grammy Awards)

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 5: National & International Film, Music & Sports Awards 2026 (72nd National Film Awards, Dadasaheb Phalke, 98th Oscars & 68th Grammy Awards)

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3
72nd National Film Awards & Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2026)	98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026) & 68th Annual Grammy Awards 2026	National Sports Awards & Special Environmental / UN Honours 2026

5.1 72nd National Film Awards & Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2026)

Announced on 18 July 2026 by the National Film Award Cell and conferred by President Smt. Droupadi Murmu on 23 September 2026 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi (Press Information Bureau):

- **Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award (72nd National Film Awards, 2026):** Conferred on veteran Kannada actor **Shri Anant Nag** for his outstanding contribution to Indian cinema. (*Note: At the 71st National Film Awards, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award was conferred on **Mohanlal**, and at the 70th on **Mithun Chakraborty**).*
- **Best Actor in a Leading Role (72nd NFA, 2026):** Jointly awarded to **Kartik Aaryan** (*Chandu Champion* — biopic of India's first Paralympic gold medallist Murlikant Petkar) and **Mammootty** (*Bramayugam* — Malayalam).
- **Best Actress in a Leading Role (72nd NFA, 2026):** Awarded to **Yami Gautam** (*Article 370*).
- (*Reference from 71st National Film Awards: Best Feature Film — **12th Fail**; Best Non-Feature Film — **Flowering Man**).*

Process Flowchart (4-Node Film & Music Honours 2026):

[72nd National Film Awards 2026: Dadasaheb Phalke — Anant Nag | Best Actor — Kartik Aaryan & Mammootty | Best Actress — Yami Gautam] [98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026, 15 March 2026): Best Picture & Best Director — 'One Battle After Another' (Paul Thomas Anderson)] [98th Oscars Acting Winners: Best Actor — Michael B. Jordan ('Sinners') | Best Actress — Jessie Buckley ('Hamnet')] [68th Grammy Awards 2026: Album of the Year — Bad Bunny | Record of the Year — Kendrick Lamar & SZA]

5.2 98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026) & 68th Annual Grammy Awards 2026

S.No.	Ceremony & Category	2026 Winner(s)	Winning Film / Album / Song	Key Examination Highlights	Reference Portal
1	**98th Oscars 2026 — Best Picture** (15 March 2026)	***One Battle After Another***	Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson	Swept the ceremony at the Dolby Theatre, winning Best Picture, Best Director, and the **first-ever Oscar for Best Achievement in Casting**.	IUC Academy
2	**98th Oscars 2026 — Best Director**	**Paul Thomas Anderson**	***One Battle After Another***	First Best Director Academy Award for Paul Thomas Anderson.	IUC Academy

S.No.	Ceremony & Category	2026 Winner(s)	Winning Film / Album / Song	Key Examination Highlights	Reference Portal
3	**98th Oscars 2026 — Best Actor in a Leading Role**	**Michael B. Jordan**	***Sinners*** (Directed by Ryan Coogler)	*Sinners* won 4 Oscars in total, including Best Actor for Michael B. Jordan.	IUC Academy
4	**98th Oscars 2026 — Best Actress in a Leading Role**	**Jessie Buckley**	***Hamnet*** (Directed by Chloé Zhao)	Honoured for her portrayal of Agnes Hathaway in the adaptation of Maggie O'Farrell's novel *Hamnet*.	IUC Academy
5	**68th Grammy Awards 2026 — Album of the Year**	**Bad Bunny**	Spanish-language Album	Landmark Album of the Year triumph for a Spanish-language album at the 68th Grammys.	IUC Academy
6	**68th Grammy Awards 2026 — Record of the Year**	**Kendrick Lamar & SZA**	***Luther***	Major collaboration honoured with Record of the Year.	IUC Academy
7	**68th Grammy Awards 2026 — Song of the Year**	**Billie Eilish & FINNEAS**	***Wildflower***	Third Song of the Year Grammy win for the sibling duo Billie Eilish and Finneas O'Connell.	IUC Academy

5.3 National Sports Awards & Special Environmental / UN Honours *2026*

• **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (₹25 Lakh Cash Prize):** India's highest sporting honour conferred by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports on World Chess Champion **D. Gukesh**, double Olympic medallist shooter **Manu Bhaker**, Indian Men's Hockey Captain **Harmanpreet Singh**, and Paralympic gold medallist high-jumper **Praveen Kumar** (Press Information Bureau).

• **UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award:** Conferred on **Major Abhilasha Barak** (the Indian Army's first woman combat aviator) for promoting gender-responsive peacekeeping.

• **WWF National Award 2026 (23 April 2026):** Conferred on **N. Alim Yusuf** for developing a YOLOv11-based computer-vision model capable of detecting nearly 100 invasive plant species for biodiversity management.

• **Sangita Kalanidhi Award 2026 (Music Academy, Madras):** Conferred on eminent Carnatic violinist **R. K. Shriramkumar**.

Did You Know?
The **98th Academy Awards (15 March 2026)** introduced the **Academy Award for Best Achievement in Casting** — the first new competitive Oscar category added since Best Animated Feature was introduced in 2001.

Exam Trap Alert:
Track the exact sequence of recent **Dadasaheb Phalke Award** laureates: **Waheeda Rehman** (53rd), **Mithun Chakraborty** (54th / 70th NFA), **Mohanlal** (55th / 71st NFA), and **Anant Nag** (56th / 72nd NFA conferred in September 2026) (Press Information Bureau).

★ **Memory Formula:**
72nd National Film Awards 2026 — "Phalke to Anant Nag, Actors Kartik & Mammootty, Actress Yami Gautam"!

Chapter 6 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
72nd National Film Awards & Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2026)	Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award (72nd National Film Awards, 2026)	Conferred on veteran Kannada actor **Shri Anant Nag** for his outstanding contribution to Indian cinema. *(Note: At the 71st National Film Awards, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award was conferred on **Mohanlal**, and at the 70th on **Mithun Chakraborty**).
98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026) & 68th Annual Grammy Awards 2026	Best Actor in a Leading Role (72nd NFA, 2026)	Jointly awarded to **Kartik Aaryan** (*Chandu Champion* — biopic of India's first Paralympic gold medallist Murlikant Petkar) and **Mammootty** (*Bramayugam* — Malayalam).
National Sports Awards & Special Environmental / UN Honours 2026	Best Actress in a Leading Role (72nd NFA, 2026)	Awarded to **Yami Gautam** (*Article* 370).
72nd National Film Awards & Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2026)	Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (₹25 Lakh Cash Prize)	India's highest sporting honour conferred by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports on World Chess Champion **D. Gukesh**, double Olympic medallist shooter **Manu Bhaker**, Indian Men's Hockey Captain **Harmanpreet Singh**, and Paralympic gold medallist high-jumper **Praveen Kumar** (Press Information Bureau).
98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026) & 68th Annual Grammy Awards 2026	UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award	Conferred on **Major Abhilasha Barak** (the Indian Army's first woman combat aviator) for promoting gender-responsive peacekeeping.
National Sports Awards & Special Environmental / UN Honours 2026	WWF National Award 2026 (23 April 2026)	Conferred on **N. Alim Yusuf** for developing a YOLOv11-based computer-vision model capable of detecting nearly 100 invasive plant species for biodiversity management.
72nd National Film Awards & Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2026)	Sangita Kalanidhi Award 2026 (Music Academy, Madras)	Conferred on eminent Carnatic violinist **R. K. Shriramkumar**.

Chapter 6 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award (72nd National Film Awards, 2026)): Conferred on veteran Kannada actor **Shri Anant Nag** for his outstanding contribution to Indian cinema. *(Note: At the 71st National Film Awards, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award was conferred on **Mohanlal**, and at the 70th on **Mithun Chakraborty**).

Statement-II (Best Actor in a Leading Role (72nd NFA, 2026)): Jointly awarded to **Kartik Aaryan** (*Chandu Champion* — biopic of India's first Paralympic gold medallist Murlikant Petkar) and **Mammootty** (*Bramayugam* — Malayalam).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Best Actress in a Leading Role (72nd NFA, 2026)): Awarded to **Yami Gautam** (*Article 370*).

Statement-II (Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (₹25 Lakh Cash Prize)): India's highest sporting honour conferred by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports on World Chess Champion **D. Gukesh**, double Olympic medallist shooter **Manu Bhaker**, Indian Men's Hockey Captain **Harmanpreet Singh**, and Paralympic gold medallist high-jumper **Praveen Kumar** (Press Information Bureau).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award): Conferred on **Major Abhilasha Barak** (the Indian Army's first woman combat aviator) for promoting gender-responsive peacekeeping.

Statement-II (WWF National Award 2026 (23 April 2026)): Conferred on **N. Alim Yusuf** for developing a YOLOv11-based computer-vision model capable of detecting nearly 100 invasive plant species for biodiversity management.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *6:* Key Constitutional, Statutory, Judicial, Regulatory & Defence Appointments *2026*

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 6: Key Constitutional, Statutory, Judicial, Regulatory & Defence Appointments 2026

Key Study Pillar 1
Supreme Constitutional & Parliamentary Officeholders of India (2026)

Key Study Pillar 2
Key Financial, Regulatory, Space & Defence Heads of India (2026)

6.1 Supreme Constitutional & Parliamentary Officeholders of India *(2026)*

Process Flowchart (4-Node Constitutional Appointments Matrix 2026):

[Articles 52 & 63: President Smt. Droupadi Murmu (15th) & Vice President Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan (15th)] [Article 124(2): 53rd Chief Justice of India — Justice Surya Kant] [Article 324: 26th Chief Election Commissioner — Shri Gyanesh Kumar] [Article 148: 15th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) — Shri K. Sanjay Murthy]

S.No.	Constitutional / Parliamentary Office	Incumbent Officeholder (2026)	Constitutional Article & Key Examination Details	Official Source
1	**President of India**	**Smt. Droupadi Murmu**	**15th President** (Article 52); first tribal woman President and first President born in independent India.	PIB Portal
2	**Vice President of India & Ex-Officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha**	**Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan**	**15th Vice President** (Articles 63 & 64); formerly served as Governor of Maharashtra and Jharkhand.	PIB Portal
3	**Prime Minister of India**	**Shri Narendra Modi**	Serving third consecutive term (Articles 74–75); Ex-Officio Chairperson of NITI Aayog and Inter-State Council.	PIB Portal

S.No.	Constitutional / Parliamentary Office	Incumbent Officeholder (2026)	Constitutional Article & Key Examination Details	Official Source
4	**Chief Justice of India (CJI)**	**Justice Surya Kant**	**53rd Chief Justice of India** (Article 124(2)); succeeded Justice Sanjiv Khanna (51st) and Justice B. R. Gavai (52nd).	PIB Portal
5	**Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha**	**Shri Om Birla**	MP from Kota (Rajasthan); re-elected for a second consecutive term as Speaker under Article 93.	PIB Portal
6	**Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha**	**Shri Rahul Gandhi**	Lok Sabha MP from Raebareli (Uttar Pradesh).	PIB Portal
7	**Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India**	**Shri Gyanesh Kumar**	**26th CEC** (Article 324); appointed under the CEC and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023. Other Election Commissioners: Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu & Dr. Vivek Joshi.	PIB Portal
8	**Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India**	**Shri K. Sanjay Murthy**	**15th CAG** (Articles 148–151; tenure: 6 years or up to 65 years); succeeded Girish Chandra Murmu; established CAG Center of Excellence for Financial Audits in Hyderabad.	PIB Portal
9	**Attorney General for India**	**Shri R. Venkataramani**	**16th Attorney General** (Article 76); highest law officer of the Government of India.	PIB Portal
10	**Solicitor General of India**	**Shri Tushar Mehta**	Second-highest law officer of the Union Government.	PIB Portal
11	**Chairman, 16th Finance Commission**	**Dr. Arvind Panagariya**	Constituted under Article 280 covering the award period **1 April 2026 to 31 March 2031** (Secretary: Ritvik Ranjanam Pandey).	PIB Portal

6.2 Key Financial, Regulatory, Space & Defence Heads of India *(2026)*

S.No.	Institution / Regulatory Body / Armed Force	Designation	Incumbent Head (2026)	Key Examination Facts	Official Source
1	**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**	Governor (26th)	**Shri Sanjay Malhotra**	Succeeded Shaktikanta Das as the 26th Governor of RBI; ex-officio Chairperson of the 6-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).	PIB Portal
2	**Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**	Chairman	**Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey**	Former Finance & Revenue Secretary appointed Chairman of capital markets regulator SEBI (HQ: Mumbai).	PIB Portal
3	**Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**	Chairman	**Shri Ajay Seth**	Former Economic Affairs Secretary appointed Chairman of insurance regulator IRDAI in 2026 (HQ: Hyderabad).	PIB Portal

S.No.	Institution / Regulatory Body / Armed Force	Designation	Incumbent Head (2026)	Key Examination Facts	Official Source
4	**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**	Chairman & Secretary, Dept. of Space	**Dr. V. Narayanan**	Renowned cryogenic propulsion scientist; succeeded Dr. S. Somanath as the 11th Chairman of ISRO (HQ: Bengaluru).	PIB Portal
5	**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**	Chairman	**Dr. Samir V. Kamat**	Leads India's indigenous missile, radar, and defence technology development programmes.	MoD Portal
6	**Indian Armed Forces (IDS / DMA)**	Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)	**General Anil Chauhan**	India's second Chief of Defence Staff and Secretary, Department of Military Affairs (DMA).	MoD Portal
7	**Indian Army**	Chief of the Army Staff (30th COAS)	**General Upendra Dwivedi**	30th Chief of the Army Staff.	MoD Portal
8	**Indian Navy**	Chief of the Naval Staff (26th CNS)	**Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi**	26th Chief of the Naval Staff.	MoD Portal
9	**Indian Air Force**	Chief of the Air Staff (28th CAS)	**Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh**	28th Chief of the Air Staff.	MoD Portal
10	**Cabinet Secretariat / National Security Council / CBI**	Cabinet Secretary / NSA / CBI Director	**Dr. T. V. Somanathan** (Cabinet Secretary) / **Shri Ajit Doval** (NSA) / **Shri Praveen Sood** (CBI Director)	Top administrative and national security leadership of India.	PIB Portal

Did You Know?
In September 2026, following a 1:1 split verdict by a two-judge bench, the Supreme Court of India referred challenges to the **Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023** (which replaced the CJI on the selection panel with a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister, departing from the 2023 *Anoop Baranwal* ruling) to the Chief Justice of India for constitution of a larger Bench.

Exam Trap Alert:
Do not confuse the three financial regulators appointed from top Finance Ministry posts: **Sanjay Malhotra** is the **26th RBI Governor**, **Tuhin Kanta Pandey** is the **SEBI Chairman**, and **Ajay Seth** is the **IRDAI Chairman**.

★ Memory Formula:
Financial & Scientific Quartet 2026 — "RBI: Sanjay Malhotra | SEBI: Tuhin Pandey | IRDAI: Ajay Seth | ISRO: V. Narayanan"!

Chapter 7: Key International Appointments, Heads of Global Organizations, Persons in News & Obituaries *2026*

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 7: Key International Appointments, Heads of Global Organizations, Persons in News & Obituaries *2026*

Key Study Pillar 1
Heads of Major International Organizations & Multilateral Bodies (2026)

Key Study Pillar 2
Prominent Personalities in News & Notable Obituaries (Honoured in 2026)

7.1 Heads of Major International Organizations & Multilateral Bodies *(2026)*

Process Flowchart (4-Node Global Institutional Leadership 2026):

[World Bank Group (Washington, D.C.): President — Ajay Banga] [International Cricket Council (ICC, Dubai): Chairman — Jay Shah (Youngest ICC Head)] [United Nations (New York): Sec-Gen — António Guterres | India's Permanent Rep — Parvathaneni Harish] [International Olympic Committee (IOC, Lausanne): President — Kirsty Coventry (1st Woman & 1st African)]

S.No.	International Organization	Designation & Headquarters	Incumbent Head (2026)	Key Examination Highlights	Reference Portal
1	**World Bank Group**	President (14th), Washington, D.C.	**Ajay Banga**	First Indian-born American to lead the World Bank Group.	IUC Academy
2	**International Monetary Fund (IMF)**	Managing Director, Washington, D.C.	**Kristalina Georgieva** (Bulgaria)	Serving her second five-year term as IMF Managing Director; **Ahad Khan Cheema** named Incoming Chair of the Boards of Governors of World Bank & IMF for 2027.	IUC Academy
3	**International Cricket Council (ICC)**	Chairman, Dubai (UAE)	**Jay Shah** (India)	Elected unopposed to succeed Greg Barclay; youngest-ever Chairman of the ICC.	IUC Academy
4	**United Nations (UN)**	Secretary-General, New York	**António Guterres** (Portugal)	India's Permanent Representative to the UN in New York: **Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish (P. Harish)**.	PIB Portal
5	**International Olympic Committee (IOC)**	President, Lausanne (Switzerland)	**Kirsty Coventry** (Zimbabwe)	First woman and first African elected President of the IOC, succeeding Thomas Bach.	IUC Academy
6	**North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**	Secretary General, Brussels (Belgium)	**Mark Rutte** (Netherlands)	Former Dutch Prime Minister who succeeded Jens Stoltenberg; NATO comprises 32 member nations (31st Finland, 32nd Sweden).	IUC Academy
7	**World Trade Organization (WTO) & World Health Organization (WHO)**	Director-General, Geneva (Switzerland)	**Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala** (WTO) & **Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** (WHO)	Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria) is the first woman and first African Director-General of the WTO.	IUC Academy

S.No.	International Organization	Designation & Headquarters	Incumbent Head (2026)	Key Examination Highlights	Reference Portal
8	**New Development Bank (NDB — BRICS Bank)**	President, Shanghai (China)	**Dilma Rousseff** (Brazil)	Former President of Brazil heading the BRICS multilateral development bank.	IUC Academy
9	**Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)**	Chairman, New Delhi	**Ashok Singh Thakur**	Elected Chairman of INTACH for a three-year tenure.	PIB Portal

7.2 Prominent Personalities in News & Notable Obituaries (Honoured in *2026*)

• **Shri Dharmendra Singh Deol (Cinema):** Legendary actor of Indian cinema; conferred the **Padma Vibhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026 (Press Information Bureau).

• **Shri V. S. Achuthanandan (Public Affairs):** Former Chief Minister of Kerala (2006–2011) and veteran Marxist leader; conferred the **Padma Vibhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.

• **Shri Shibu Soren (Public Affairs):** Former Chief Minister of Jharkhand and tribal rights stalwart (*Dishom Guru*); conferred the **Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.

• **Shri Piyush Pandey (Advertising & Art):** Legendary creative head of Ogilvy India; conferred the **Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.

• **Shri V. K. Malhotra (Public Affairs & Sports Administration):** Veteran parliamentarian; conferred the **Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.

• **Shri Satish Shah (Cinema & Television) & Shri T. T. Jagannathan (Industry):** Veteran actor Satish Shah and TTK Prestige Chairman Emeritus T. T. Jagannathan were conferred the **Padma Shri (Posthumous)** in 2026.

Did You Know?
Audit Diwas is celebrated annually in India on **16 November** (marking the appointment of India's first Auditor General, **Sir Edward Drummond**, on **16 November 1860**). India's first Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) after the adoption of the Constitution was **V. Narahari Rao**, and the current **15th CAG** in 2026 is **Shri K. Sanjay Murthy**.

Exam Trap Alert:
Remember that **Parvathaneni Harish (P. Harish)** is India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York (succeeding Ruchira Kamboj), while **Kirsty Coventry** is the first woman President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

★ Memory Formula:
Global Heads 2026 — "World Bank: Ajay Banga | ICC: Jay Shah | UN Rep: P. Harish | IOC: Kirsty Coventry | NATO: Mark Rutte"!

Chapter 8 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Heads of Major International Organizations & Multilateral Bodies (2026)	**Shri Dharmendra Singh Deol (Cinema)**	Legendary actor of Indian cinema; conferred the **Padma Vibhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026 (Press Information Bureau).
Prominent Personalities in News & Notable Obituaries (Honoured in 2026)	**Shri V. S. Achuthanandan (Public Affairs)**	Former Chief Minister of Kerala (2006–2011) and veteran Marxist leader; conferred the **Padma Vibhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.
Heads of Major International Organizations & Multilateral Bodies (2026)	**Shri Shibu Soren (Public Affairs)**	Former Chief Minister of Jharkhand and tribal rights stalwart (*Dishom Guru*); conferred the **Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.
Prominent Personalities in News & Notable Obituaries (Honoured in 2026)	**Shri Piyush Pandey (Advertising & Art)**	Legendary creative head of Ogilvy India; conferred the **Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.
Heads of Major International Organizations & Multilateral Bodies (2026)	**Shri V. K. Malhotra (Public Affairs & Sports Administration)**	Veteran parliamentarian; conferred the **Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.
Prominent Personalities in News & Notable Obituaries (Honoured in 2026)	**Shri Satish Shah (Cinema & Television) & Shri T. T. Jagannathan (Industry)**	Veteran actor Satish Shah and TTK Prestige Chairman Emeritus T. T. Jagannathan were conferred the **Padma Shri (Posthumous)** in 2026.

Chapter 8 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Shri Dharmendra Singh Deol (Cinema)): Legendary actor of Indian cinema; conferred the **Padma Vibhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026 (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Shri V. S. Achuthanandan (Public Affairs)): Former Chief Minister of Kerala (2006–2011) and veteran Marxist leader; conferred the **Padma Vibhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Shri Shibu Soren (Public Affairs)): Former Chief Minister of Jharkhand and tribal rights stalwart (*Dishom Guru*); conferred the **Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.

Statement-II (Shri Piyush Pandey (Advertising & Art)): Legendary creative head of Ogilvy India; conferred the **Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Shri V. K. Malhotra (Public Affairs & Sports Administration)): Veteran parliamentarian; conferred the **Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)** in 2026.

Statement-II (Shri Satish Shah (Cinema & Television) & Shri T. T. Jagannathan (Industry)): Veteran actor Satish Shah and TTK Prestige Chairman Emeritus T. T. Jagannathan were conferred the **Padma Shri (Posthumous)** in 2026.

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *8:* Prominent Books and Authors of *2026 (*National & International Publications*)*

8.1 Comprehensive Analytical Directory of Books & Authors in News *(2026)*

Process Flowchart (4-Node Classification of Landmark Books in 2026):

[Global Prize-Winning Fiction 2026: 'The End of Everything' (M. John Harrison) & 'Taiwan Travelogue' (Yáng Shuāng-zǐ)] [History & Civilization: 'The Golden Road' (William Dalrymple) & 'Kallikattu Ithikasam' (R. Vairamuthu)] [Economics & Monetary Policy: 'Interest and Prices' (Michael Woodford)] [Indian Literature, Memoirs & Strategy: 'Pandeymonium' (Piyush Pandey), 'Surya Vamsam' (Sivasankari) & 'Why Bharat Matters' (Dr. S. Jaishankar)]

S.No.	Title of the Book	Author(s) / Translator	Core Theme & 2026 Relevance	Reference Source
1	***The End of Everything***	**M. John Harrison**	**Winner of the Booker Prize 2026** (announced Nov 2026); 13th novel by the 81-year-old British master of speculative and literary fiction.	IUC Academy
2	***Taiwan Travelogue***	**Yáng Shuāng-zǐ** (*Translated by* ***Lin King***)	**Winner of the International Booker Prize 2026**; explores colonial memory, cuisine, and railway journeys in 1938 Taiwan.	IUC Academy
3	***The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World***	**William Dalrymple**	**Winner of the 2026 Mark Lynton History Prize**; documents ancient India's maritime trade and intellectual influence across Asia and the Mediterranean.	IUC Academy
4	***Kallikattu Ithikasam*** & ***Karuvachi Kaviyam***	**R. Vairamuthu**	Landmark Tamil literary works by the **60th Jnanpith Award laureate (announced March 2026)** depicting rural displacement caused by the Vaigai Dam.	IUC Academy

S.No.	Title of the Book	Author(s) / Translator	Core Theme & 2026 Relevance	Reference Source
5	***Autobiography of Red*** & ***Eros the Bittersweet***	**Anne Carson**	Acclaimed works by the **2026 Nobel Prize in Literature laureate** (Canada).	IUC Academy
6	***Interest and Prices: Foundations of a Theory of Monetary Policy***	**Michael Woodford**	Seminal treatise by the **2026 Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences** establishing microeconomic foundations for central bank inflation targeting.	IUC Academy
7	***Naukar Ki Kameez*** & ***Deewar Mein Ek Khidki Rehti Thi***	**Vinod Kumar Shukla**	Celebrated Hindi novels by the **59th Jnanpith Award laureate** from Chhattisgarh.	IUC Academy
8	***Surya Vamsam***	**Sivasankari**	Two-volume Tamil literary memoir by the **Padma Shri 2026** and Saraswati Samman awardee.	PIB Portal
9	***Pandeymonium: Piyush Pandey on Advertising***	**Piyush Pandey**	Memoir on Indian advertising by the **Padma Bhushan 2026 (Posthumous)** awardee.	PIB Portal
10	***Disrupt and Conquer: How TTK Prestige Became a Billion-Dollar Company***	**T. T. Jagannathan** & Sandhya Mendon	Corporate turnaround account by the **Padma Shri 2026 (Posthumous)** industrialist.	PIB Portal
11	***An Uncommon Love: The Early Life of Sudha and Narayana Murthy***	**Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni**	Biographical chronicle of the formative years of Sudha Murty and Infosys co-founder N. R. Narayana Murthy.	IUC Academy
12	***Why Bharat Matters*** & ***The India Way***	**Dr. S. Jaishankar**	Diplomatic treatises by India's External Affairs Minister analysing multipolar geopolitics and India's strategic autonomy.	PIB Portal

Did You Know?
In ***The Golden Road*** (winner of the **2026 Mark Lynton History Prize**), historian William Dalrymple demonstrates that for over a millennium (from 250 BCE to 1200 CE), India's maritime **'Golden Road'** carried far greater trade volume and cultural influence — including the decimal system, zero, trigonometry, Buddhism, and Sanskrit literature — than the overland Silk Road.

Exam Trap Alert:
Match the 2026 awardees with their signature books: **M. John Harrison** (*The End of Everything* — Booker Prize 2026), **Yáng Shuāng-zǐ** (*Taiwan Travelogue* — International Booker 2026), **William Dalrymple** (*The Golden Road* — Mark Lynton Prize 2026), and **R. Vairamuthu** (*Kallikattu Ithikasam* — 60th Jnanpith Award).

★ Memory Formula:
2026 Landmark Books — "Harrison's End of Everything, Yang's Taiwan Travelogue, Dalrymple's Golden Road, Vairamuthu's Kallikattu, Pandey's Pandeymonium"!

Book CA*15: 45* Solved Multiple-Choice Practice Questions *(MCQs)*

Practice Question #1 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 1. How many total Padma Awards (including 2 duo cases) were approved by President Smt. Droupadi Murmu on the eve of Republic Day 2026?
(A) 128
(B) 131
(C) 134
(D) 139
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For the year 2026, the President approved 131 Padma Awards (5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan, and 113 Padma Shri) (**PIB Portal**).

Practice Question #2 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 2. What is the exact category-wise breakdown of Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri in the Padma Awards 2026?
(A) 7, 19, 113
(B) 5, 13, 113
(C) 6, 15, 110
(D) 5, 17, 109
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** The 2026 list comprises 5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan, and 113 Padma Shri awards (**PIB Portal**).

Practice Question #3 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 3. Which of the following personalities was NOT conferred the Padma Vibhushan in 2026?
(A) Shri Dharmendra Singh Deol (Posthumous)
(B) Ms. N. Rajam
(C) Shri Uday Kotak
(D) Shri K. T. Thomas
Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** Shri Uday Kotak (Trade and Industry, Maharashtra) received the Padma Bhushan 2026, whereas Dharmendra Singh Deol, N. Rajam, K.T. Thomas, P. Narayanan, and V.S. Achuthanandan received the Padma Vibhushan.

Practice Question #4 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 4. Padma Vibhushan 2026 recipient Ms. N. Rajam belongs to which state and discipline?
(A) Tamil Nadu — Bharatanatyam
(B) Uttar Pradesh — Art (Hindustani Classical Violin)
(C) Kerala — Mohiniyattam
(D) Maharashtra — Painting
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Renowned Hindustani classical violinist Ms. N. Rajam was conferred the Padma Vibhushan 2026 in the field of Art from Uttar Pradesh (**PIB Portal**).

Practice Question #5 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 5. Which three personalities from Kerala were conferred the Padma Vibhushan in 2026?
(A) K. T. Thomas, P. Narayanan, and V. S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous)
(B) Mammootty, Vellappally Natesan, and K. T. Thomas
(C) A. E. Muthunayagam, P. Narayanan, and Mammootty
(D) V. S. Achuthanandan, Mammootty, and Kalamandalam Vimala Menon
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** From Kerala, Justice K. T. Thomas (Public Affairs), P. Narayanan (Literature & Education), and V. S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous, Public Affairs) received the Padma Vibhushan 2026.

Practice Question #6 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 6. How many women awardees and posthumous awardees are included in the Padma Awards 2026 list?
(A) 22 women and 12 posthumous
(B) 19 women and 16 posthumous
(C) 15 women and 18 posthumous
(D) 25 women and 10 posthumous
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** The Padma Awards 2026 list includes 19 women, 6 Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI, and 16 posthumous awardees (**PIB Portal**).

Practice Question #7 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 7. Which Indian advertising legend was posthumously conferred the Padma Bhushan in 2026?
(A) Alyque Padamsee
(B) Piyush Pandey
(C) Prasoon Joshi
(D) Sam Balsara
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Shri Piyush Pandey (Art, Maharashtra) was posthumously conferred the Padma Bhushan in 2026.

Practice Question #8 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 8. Former Jharkhand Chief Minister 'Dishom Guru' Shri Shibu Soren was posthumously honoured with which civilian award in 2026?
(A) Padma Shri
(B) Padma Bhushan
(C) Padma Vibhushan
(D) Bharat Ratna
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Shri Shibu Soren was conferred the Padma Bhushan 2026 (Posthumous) in the field of Public Affairs (**PIB Portal**).

Practice Question #9 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 9. Which legendary Indian tennis player was conferred the Padma Bhushan 2026 under the USA category?
(A) Leander Paes
(B) Mahesh Bhupathi
(C) Vijay Amritraj
(D) Ramesh Krishnan
Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** Shri Vijay Amritraj received the Padma Bhushan 2026 in the field of Sports (USA).

Practice Question #10 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 10. Which group of Indian sportspersons received the Padma Shri in 2026?
(A) Rohit Sharma, Harmanpreet Kaur Bhullar, Savita Punia, and Praveen Kumar
(B) Virat Kohli, Smriti Mandhana, and Rani Rampal
(C) Jasprit Bumrah, Harmanpreet Singh, and Vandana Katariya
(D) Hardik Pandya, Deepti Sharma, and P. R. Sreejesh
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Rohit Sharma (Maharashtra), Harmanpreet Kaur Bhullar (Punjab), Savita Punia (Haryana), and Praveen Kumar (Uttar Pradesh) received the Padma Shri 2026 (**PIB Portal**).

Practice Question #11 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 11. Who was conferred India's highest peacetime gallantry award, the 'Ashoka Chakra', on the 77th Republic Day (25 January 2026)?
(A) Major Arshdeep Singh
(B) Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla
(C) Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair
(D) Naib Subedar Doleshwar Subba
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Indian Air Force test pilot and Gaganyaan astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla was conferred the Ashoka Chakra on Republic Day 2026 (**MoD Portal**).

Practice Question #12 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 12. Which three armed forces personnel were conferred the 'Kirti Chakra' on Republic Day 2026?
(A) Major Arshdeep Singh, Naib Subedar Doleshwar Subba, and Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair
(B) Lt Col Ghatage Aditya, Major Shivkant Yadav, and Captain Yogender Thakur
(C) Cdr Nardeep Singh, Wg Cdr Shobhit Vyas, and Major Vivek
(D) Lt Cdr Dilna K., Lt Cdr Roopa A., and Asst Comdt Vipin Wilson
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Major Arshdeep Singh (1 Assam Rifles), Naib Subedar Doleshwar Subba (2 Para SF), and Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair (IAF) received the Kirti Chakra on 25 January 2026 (**PIB Portal**).

Practice Question #13 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 13. Which two women officers of the Indian Navy received the 'Shaurya Chakra' on Republic Day 2026 for their global circumnavigation expedition?
(A) Vartika Joshi and Pratibha Jamwal
(B) Lieutenant Commander Dilna K. and Lieutenant Commander Roopa A.
(C) Swathi Patharapalli and Payal Gupta
(D) Aishwarya Boddapati and Vijaya Devi
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Lt Cdr Dilna K. and Lt Cdr Roopa A. of the Indian Navy received the Shaurya Chakra on 25 January 2026 (**MoD Portal**).

Practice Question #14 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 14. How many gallantry awards and Kirti Chakras were approved by the President on the eve of the 80th Independence Day (14 August 2026)?
(A) 78 Gallantry Awards (including 09 Kirti Chakras and 19 Shaurya Chakras)
(B) 70 Gallantry Awards (03 Kirti Chakras and 13 Shaurya Chakras)
(C) 85 Gallantry Awards (05 Kirti Chakras and 20 Shaurya Chakras)
(D) 64 Gallantry Awards (04 Kirti Chakras and 15 Shaurya Chakras)
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** On 14 August 2026, the President approved 78 Gallantry Awards (13 posthumous), including 9 Kirti Chakras, 1 Bar to Shaurya Chakra, and 19 Shaurya Chakras (**PIB Portal**).

Practice Question #15 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 15. Who won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for discoveries concerning light-gated ion channels and optogenetics?
(A) Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun
(B) Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, and Georg Nagel
(C) Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman
(D) Henri B. Kagan and Kenso Soai
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Karl Deisseroth (USA), Peter Hegemann (Germany), and Georg Nagel (Germany) won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Practice Question #16 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 16. Who won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics, and for what scientific achievement?
(A) Francis Halzen — IceCube Neutrino Observatory and discovery of high-energy astrophysical neutrinos
(B) John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton — Artificial neural networks
(C) Pierre Agostini — Attosecond pulses of light
(D) Alain Aspect — Quantum entanglement
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Francis Halzen (University of Wisconsin–Madison) won the 2026 Physics Nobel for the IceCube Neutrino Observatory and high-energy astrophysical neutrinos.

Practice Question #17 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 17. Which two scientists shared the 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry?
(A) David Baker and Demis Hassabis
(B) Henri B. Kagan (France) and Kenso Soai (Japan)
(C) Moungi Bawendi and Louis Brus
(D) Carolyn Bertozzi and Barry Sharpless
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Henri B. Kagan and Kenso Soai won the 2026 Chemistry Nobel for discovering non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis.

Practice Question #18 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 18. Who was awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Literature?
(A) Han Kang (South Korea)
(B) Anne Carson (Canada)
(C) Jon Fosse (Norway)
(D) Annie Ernaux (France)
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Canadian poet, essayist, and classicist Anne Carson won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Practice Question #19 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 19. Who was awarded the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize?
(A) Nihon Hidankyo
(B) Navanethem 'Navi' Pillay (South Africa)
(C) Narges Mohammadi
(D) Maria Ressa
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** South African jurist and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navanethem 'Navi' Pillay won the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize.

Practice Question #20 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 20. Which two American economists won the 2026 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences?
(A) Daron Acemoglu and Simon Johnson
(B) Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford
(C) Ben Bernanke and Douglas Diamond
(D) Claudia Goldin and Joshua Angrist
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Robert E. Hall (Stanford) and Michael Woodford (Columbia) won the 2026 Economics Nobel for microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation.

Practice Question #21 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 21. Who was selected for the 60th Jnanpith Award (for 2025, announced in March 2026)?
(A) Vinod Kumar Shukla (Hindi)
(B) R. Vairamuthu (Tamil)
(C) Jagadguru Rambhadracharya (Sanskrit)
(D) Damodar Mauzo (Konkani)
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Eminent Tamil poet and lyricist R. Vairamuthu was conferred the 60th Jnanpith Award, becoming the third Tamil writer to win the honour.

Practice Question #22 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 22. Who became the first writer from Chhattisgarh to receive the Jnanpith Award (59th edition)?
(A) Gajanan Madhav Muktibodh
(B) Vinod Kumar Shukla
(C) Kedarnath Singh
(D) Amarkant
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Hindi author Vinod Kumar Shukla (*Naukar Ki Kameez*) received the 59th Jnanpith Award.

Practice Question #23 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 23. Who won the Booker Prize 2026 (announced in November 2026) to become the oldest winner in the prize's history at age 81?
(A) David Szalay — Flesh
(B) M. John Harrison — The End of Everything
(C) Samantha Harvey — Orbital
(D) Paul Lynch — Prophet Song
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** British author M. John Harrison won the 2026 Booker Prize for his novel 'The End of Everything'.

Practice Question #24 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 24. Who won the International Booker Prize 2026 for the translated novel 'Taiwan Travelogue'?
(A) Yáng Shuāng-zǐ (Author) and Lin King (Translator)
(B) Jenny Erpenbeck and Michael Hofmann
(C) Banu Mushtaq and Deepa Bhasthi
(D) Geetanjali Shree and Daisy Rockwell
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Taiwanese author Yáng Shuāng-zǐ and translator Lin King won the 2026 International Booker Prize for 'Taiwan Travelogue'.

Practice Question #25 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 25. Who was honoured with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award at the 72nd National Film Awards in 2026?
(A) Mohanlal
(B) Anant Nag
(C) Mithun Chakraborty
(D) Kamal Haasan
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Veteran Kannada actor Anant Nag was honoured with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award at the 72nd National Film Awards in 2026.

Practice Question #26 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 26. Who won the Best Actor and Best Actress awards at the 72nd National Film Awards in 2026?
(A) Kartik Aaryan & Mammootty (Best Actor) and Yami Gautam (Best Actress)
(B) Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt
(C) Vikrant Massey and Rani Mukerji
(D) Rishab Shetty and Nithya Menen
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Kartik Aaryan and Mammootty won Best Actor, while Yami Gautam won Best Actress at the 72nd National Film Awards 2026.

Practice Question #27 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 27. Which film won Best Picture and Best Director at the 98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026) held on 15 March 2026?
(A) One Battle After Another (Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson)
(B) Sinners (Directed by Ryan Coogler)
(C) Hamnet (Directed by Chloé Zhao)
(D) Anora (Directed by Sean Baker)
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Paul Thomas Anderson's 'One Battle After Another' won Best Picture, Best Director, and the inaugural Best Casting Oscar.

Practice Question #28 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 28. Who won Best Actor and Best Actress at the 98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026)?
(A) Michael B. Jordan (Sinners) and Jessie Buckley (Hamnet)
(B) Cillian Murphy and Emma Stone
(C) Adrien Brody and Mikey Madison
(D) Colman Domingo and Cynthia Erivo
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Michael B. Jordan won Best Actor for 'Sinners' and Jessie Buckley won Best Actress for 'Hamnet'.

Practice Question #29 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 29. Who won Album of the Year and Song of the Year at the 68th Annual Grammy Awards in 2026?
(A) Bad Bunny (Album of the Year) and Billie Eilish & FINNEAS ('Wildflower' — Song of the Year)
(B) Taylor Swift and Sabrina Carpenter
(C) Beyoncé and Kendrick Lamar
(D) Harry Styles and Adele
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** At the 68th Grammys (2026), Bad Bunny won Album of the Year, Kendrick Lamar & SZA won Record of the Year, and Billie Eilish & FINNEAS won Song of the Year.

Practice Question #30 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 30. Who is serving as the 15th Vice President of India and Ex-Officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha in 2026?
(A) Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar
(B) Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan
(C) Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu
(D) Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan is the 15th Vice President of India (PIB Portal).

Practice Question #31 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 31. Who is the 53rd Chief Justice of India (CJI) in 2026?
(A) Justice Sanjiv Khanna
(B) Justice B. R. Gavai
(C) Justice Surya Kant
(D) Justice Vikram Nath
Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** Justice Surya Kant is the 53rd Chief Justice of India.

Practice Question #32 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 32. Who is the 26th Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India?
(A) Shri Rajiv Kumar
(B) Shri Gyanesh Kumar
(C) Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu
(D) Shri Sushil Chandra
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Shri Gyanesh Kumar serves as the 26th Chief Election Commissioner of India.

Practice Question #33 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 33. Who is the 15th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India?
(A) Shri Girish Chandra Murmu
(B) Shri K. Sanjay Murthy
(C) Shri Rajiv Mehrishi
(D) Shri Shashi Kant Sharma
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Shri K. Sanjay Murthy is the 15th Comptroller and Auditor General of India (PIB Portal).

Practice Question #34 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 34. Who was appointed Chairman of the insurance regulator IRDAI in 2026?
(A) Shri Debasish Panda
(B) Shri Ajay Seth
(C) Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey
(D) Shri Subhash Chandra Khuntia
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Former Economic Affairs Secretary Shri Ajay Seth was appointed Chairman of IRDAI.

Practice Question #35 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 35. Who are the current Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (26th) and Chairman of SEBI in 2026?
(A) Shri Sanjay Malhotra (RBI) and Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey (SEBI)
(B) Shri Shaktikanta Das (RBI) and Ms. Madhabi Puri Buch (SEBI)
(C) Dr. Urjit Patel (RBI) and Shri Ajay Tyagi (SEBI)
(D) Shri T. Rabi Sankar (RBI) and Shri Kamlesh Varshney (SEBI)
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Shri Sanjay Malhotra is the 26th RBI Governor and Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey is Chairman of SEBI.

Practice Question #36 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 36. Who is the Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space in 2026?
(A) Dr. S. Somanath
(B) Dr. V. Narayanan
(C) Dr. K. Sivan
(D) Dr. S. Unnikrishnan Nair
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Cryogenic propulsion scientist Dr. V. Narayanan is the 11th Chairman of ISRO (PIB Portal).

Practice Question #37 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 37. Which option correctly identifies India's three Service Chiefs (Army, Navy, Air Force) in 2026?
(A) General Upendra Dwivedi (Army), Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi (Navy), Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh (Air Force)
(B) General Manoj Pande, Admiral R. Hari Kumar, Air Chief Marshal V. R. Chaudhari
(C) General Anil Chauhan, Admiral Karambir Singh, Air Chief Marshal R. K. S. Bhadauria
(D) General Upendra Dwivedi, Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan, Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Alongside CDS General Anil Chauhan, the three Service Chiefs are Gen Upendra Dwivedi (COAS), Adm Dinesh K. Tripathi (CNS), and ACM Amar Preet Singh (CAS) (MoD Portal).

Practice Question #38 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 38. Who is the Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission (covering the award period 2026–2031)?
(A) Shri N. K. Singh
(B) Dr. Arvind Panagariya
(C) Dr. Y. V. Reddy
(D) Dr. Vijay Kelkar
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Dr. Arvind Panagariya chairs the 16th Finance Commission.

Practice Question #39 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 39. Who is India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York in 2026?
(A) Ruchira Kamboj
(B) Parvathaneni Harish (P. Harish)
(C) T. S. Tirumurti
(D) Syed Akbaruddin
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish serves as India's Permanent Representative to the UN.

Practice Question #40 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 40. Who made history as the first woman and first African President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC)?
(A) Kirsty Coventry (Zimbabwe)
(B) Nawal El Moutawakel (Morocco)
(C) Anita DeFrantz (USA)
(D) Nita Ambani (India)
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Olympic swimming champion Kirsty Coventry of Zimbabwe was elected President of the IOC.

Practice Question #41 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 41. Who serves as the youngest-ever Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC)?
(A) Greg Barclay
(B) Jay Shah
(C) Sourav Ganguly
(D) Roger Binny
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Shri Jay Shah serves as the Chairman of the ICC.

Practice Question #42 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 42. Who won the 2026 Mark Lynton History Prize, and for which book?
(A) William Dalrymple — The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World
(B) Ramachandra Guha — India After Gandhi
(C) Shashi Tharoor — An Era of Darkness
(D) Sanjeev Sanyal — The Ocean of Churn
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** William Dalrymple won the 2026 Mark Lynton History Prize for 'The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World'.

Practice Question #43 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 43. How many total Padma Awards (Padma Vibhushan + Padma Shri) were conferred on recipients from Uttar Pradesh in 2026?
(A) 08
(B) 11 (1 Padma Vibhushan + 10 Padma Shri)
(C) 14
(D) 06
Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Uttar Pradesh accounted for 11 Padma Awards in 2026: 1 Padma Vibhushan (Ms. N. Rajam) and 10 Padma Shri awards (UP Portal).

Practice Question #44 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 44. Which Director of IIT Madras and chief architect of the indigenous 'Shakti' microprocessor was conferred the Padma Shri in 2026?
(A) Prof. Veezhinathan Kamakoti
(B) Prof. Abhay Karandikar
(C) Prof. Rangan Banerjee
(D) Prof. Laxmidhar Behera
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** Prof. Veezhinathan Kamakoti (Science and Engineering, Tamil Nadu) received the Padma Shri 2026 (PIB Portal).

Practice Question #45 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 45. Who received the WWF National Award 2026 on 23 April 2026 for using a YOLOv11 model to identify nearly 100 invasive plant species?
(A) N. Alim Yusuf
(B) Jadav Payeng
(C) Chami Murmu
(D) Tulsi Gowda
Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** N. Alim Yusuf won the WWF National Award 2026 for AI-assisted invasive species management.

Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions *46* to *57*)

Practice Question #46 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q46. With reference to Name of Laureate and Field, which of the following is accurately matched with "Shri Uday Kotak"?

(A) Trade and Industry
(B) Public Affairs
(C) Sports (Tennis)
(D) Sports, Literature, Social Work, Archaeology

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Shri Uday Kotak** (Name of Laureate), the verified Field is **Trade and Industry**. Furthermore, Maharashtra. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #47 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q47. With reference to Name of Laureate and Field, which of the following is accurately matched with "Shri V. K. Malhotra (Posthumous)"?

(A) Sports (Tennis)
(B) Public Affairs
(C) Sports, Literature, Social Work, Archaeology
(D) Art & Social Work

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Shri V. K. Malhotra (Posthumous)** (Name of Laureate), the verified Field is **Public Affairs**. Furthermore, Delhi. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #48 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q48. With reference to Name of Laureate and Field, which of the following is accurately matched with "Shri Vellappally Natesan"?

(A) Sports (Tennis)
(B) Sports, Literature, Social Work, Archaeology
(C) Public Affairs
(D) Art & Social Work

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Shri Vellappally Natesan** (Name of Laureate), the verified Field is **Public Affairs**. Furthermore, Kerala. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #49 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q49. With reference to Name of Laureate and Field, which of the following is accurately matched with "Shri Vijay Amritraj"?

(A) Sports, Literature, Social Work, Archaeology
(B) Art & Social Work
(C) Shri Tushar Mehta
(D) Sports (Tennis)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Shri Vijay Amritraj** (Name of Laureate), the verified Field is **Sports (Tennis)**. Furthermore, United States of America. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #50 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q50. With reference to Name of Laureate(s) and Field, which of the following is accurately matched with "Madhya Pradesh Padma Shri 2026 Recipients (4)"?

(A) Sports, Literature, Social Work, Archaeology
(B) Art & Social Work
(C) Shri Tushar Mehta
(D) Dr. Arvind Panagariya

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Madhya Pradesh Padma Shri 2026 Recipients (4)** (Name of Laureate(s)), the verified Field is **Sports, Literature, Social Work, Archaeology**. Furthermore, Madhya Pradesh. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #51 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q51. With reference to Name of Laureate(s) and Field, which of the following is accurately matched with "Rajasthan Padma Shri 2026 Recipients (3)"?

(A) Shri Tushar Mehta
(B) Art & Social Work
(C) Dr. Arvind Panagariya
(D) Cabinet Secretary / NSA / CBI Director

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Rajasthan Padma Shri 2026 Recipients (3)** (Name of Laureate(s)), the verified Field is **Art & Social Work**. Furthermore, Rajasthan. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #52 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q52. With reference to Constitutional / Parliamentary Office and Incumbent Officeholder (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Solicitor General of India"?

(A) Dr. Arvind Panagariya
(B) Cabinet Secretary / NSA / CBI Director
(C) Shri Tushar Mehta
(D) T. T. Jagannathan & Sandhya Mendon

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Solicitor General of India** (Constitutional / Parliamentary Office), the verified Incumbent Officeholder (2026) is **Shri Tushar Mehta**. Furthermore, Second-highest law officer of the Union Government.. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #53 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q53. With reference to Constitutional / Parliamentary Office and Incumbent Officeholder (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Chairman, 16th Finance Commission"?

(A) Cabinet Secretary / NSA / CBI Director
(B) T. T. Jagannathan & Sandhya Mendon
(C) Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
(D) Dr. Arvind Panagariya

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Chairman, 16th Finance Commission** (Constitutional / Parliamentary Office), the verified Incumbent Officeholder (2026) is **Dr. Arvind Panagariya**. Furthermore, Constituted under Article 280 covering the award period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2031 (Secretary: Ritvik Ranjanam Pandey).. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #54 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q54. With reference to Institution / Regulatory Body / Armed Force and Designation, which of the following is accurately matched with "Cabinet Secretariat / National Security Council / CBI"?

(A) Cabinet Secretary / NSA / CBI Director
(B) T. T. Jagannathan & Sandhya Mendon
(C) Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
(D) Dr. S. Jaishankar

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Cabinet Secretariat / National Security Council / CBI** (Institution / Regulatory Body / Armed Force), the verified Designation is **Cabinet Secretary / NSA / CBI Director**. Furthermore, Dr. T. V. Somanathan (Cabinet Secretary) / Shri Ajit Doval (NSA) / Shri Praveen Sood (CBI Director). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #55 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q55. With reference to Title of the Book and Author(s) / Translator, which of the following is accurately matched with *"Disrupt and Conquer: How TTK Prestige Became a Billion-Dollar Company"*?

(A) Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
(B) T. T. Jagannathan & Sandhya Mendon
(C) Dr. S. Jaishankar
(D) Trade and Industry

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For ***Disrupt and Conquer: How TTK Prestige Became a Billion-Dollar Company*** (Title of the Book), the verified Author(s) / Translator is **T. T. Jagannathan & Sandhya Mendon**. Furthermore, Corporate turnaround account by the Padma Shri 2026 (Posthumous) industrialist.. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #56 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q56. With reference to Title of the Book and Author(s) / Translator, which of the following is accurately matched with *"An Uncommon Love: The Early Life of Sudha and Narayana Murthy"*?

(A) Dr. S. Jaishankar
(B) Trade and Industry
(C) Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
(D) Public Affairs

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For ***An Uncommon Love: The Early Life of Sudha and Narayana Murthy*** (Title of the Book), the verified Author(s) / Translator is **Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni**. Furthermore, Biographical chronicle of the formative years of Sudha Murty and Infosys co-founder N. R. Narayana Murthy.. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #57 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q57. With reference to Title of the Book and Author(s) / Translator, which of the following is accurately matched with *"Why Bharat Matters & The India Way"*?

(A) Trade and Industry
(B) Public Affairs
(C) Sports (Tennis)
(D) Dr. S. Jaishankar

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For ***Why Bharat Matters & The India Way*** (Title of the Book), the verified Author(s) / Translator is **Dr. S. Jaishankar**. Furthermore, Diplomatic treatises by India's External Affairs Minister analysing multipolar geopolitics and India's strategic autonomy.. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Book CA*15: 65* Rapid-Fire Revision Points

• 1. **Total Padma Awards *2026*:** President Smt. Droupadi Murmu approved ***131* Padma Awards** (including 2 duo cases) on 25 January 2026 (**PIB Portal**).

• 2. **Category Breakdown of Padma Awards *2026*: *05* Padma Vibhushan**, ***13* Padma Bhushan**, and ***113* Padma Shri**.

• 3. **Special Demographics in Padma Awards *2026*: *19* Women**, ***06* Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI**, and ***16* Posthumous** awardees.

• 4. **Padma Vibhushan *2026* Laureate *#1*: Shri Dharmendra Singh Deol (Posthumous)** — Art (Cinema), Maharashtra.

• 5. **Padma Vibhushan *2026* Laureate *#2*: Justice K. T. Thomas** — Public Affairs (Judiciary), Kerala.

• 6. **Padma Vibhushan *2026* Laureate *#3*: Ms. N. Rajam** — Art (Hindustani Classical Violin), Uttar Pradesh.

• 7. **Padma Vibhushan *2026* Laureate *#4*: Shri P. Narayanan** — Literature and Education, Kerala.

• 8. **Padma Vibhushan *2026* Laureate *#5*: Shri V. S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous)** — Public Affairs (Former CM), Kerala.

• 9. **Padma Bhushan *2026* (Art):** Playback singer **Alka Yagnik** (Maharashtra), actor **Mammootty** (Kerala), ad guru **Piyush Pandey** (Posthumous, Maharashtra), and **Shatavadhani R. Ganesh** (Karnataka).

• 10. **Padma Bhushan *2026* (Public Affairs): Bhagat Singh Koshyari** (Uttarakhand), **Shibu Soren** (Posthumous, Jharkhand), **V. K. Malhotra** (Posthumous, Delhi), and **Vellappally Natesan** (Kerala).

• 11. **Padma Bhushan *2026* (Medicine, Industry, Social Work & Sports): Dr. Nori Dattatreyudu** (USA), **K. R. Palaniswamy** (Tamil Nadu), **Uday Kotak** (Maharashtra), **S. K. M. Maeilanandhan** (Tamil Nadu), and **Vijay Amritraj** (Sports, USA).

• 12. **Padma Shri *2026* (Top Sportspersons): Rohit Sharma** (Maharashtra), **Harmanpreet Kaur Bhullar** (Punjab), **Savita Punia** (Haryana), and **Praveen Kumar** (Uttar Pradesh).

• 13. **Padma Shri *2026* (Other Sportspersons): Baldev Singh** (Punjab), **Bhagwandas Raikwar** (Madhya Pradesh), **K. Pajanivel** (Puducherry), and **Vladimer Mestvirishvili** (Posthumous, Georgia).

• 14. **Padma Shri *2026* (Science & Education Leaders):** Former UGC Chairman **Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar** (Delhi), IIT Madras Director **Veezhinathan Kamakoti** (Tamil Nadu), and propulsion pioneer **A. E. Muthunayagam** (Kerala).

• 15. **Padma Shri *2026* (Cinema & Literature): Prosenjit Chatterjee** (West Bengal), **Satish Shah** (Posthumous, Maharashtra), **Maganti Murali Mohan** (Andhra Pradesh), and **Sivasankari** (Tamil Nadu).

• 16. **Padma Shri *2026* Duo Awardees (2):** (1) **Gayatri & Ranjani Balasubramanian** (Art, Tamil Nadu) and (2) **Ramchandra & Suneeta Godbole** (Medicine, Chhattisgarh).

• 17. **Uttar Pradesh Padma Shri *2026* Awardees (10):** Anil Kumar Rastogi, Ashok Kumar Singh, Buddha Rashmi Mani, Chiranji Lal Yadav, Kewal Krishan Thakral, Mangala Kapoor, Praveen Kumar, Raghupat Singh (Posthumous), Rajendra Prasad, and Shyam Sundar (**UP Portal**).

• 18. **Bihar Padma Shri *2026* Awardees (3):** Bharat Singh Bharti (Art), Bishwa Bandhu (Posthumous, Art), and Gopal Ji Trivedi (Science & Engineering) (**Bihar Portal**).

• 19. **Madhya Pradesh Padma Shri 2026 Awardees (4):** Bhagwandas Raikwar (Sports), Kailash Chandra Pant (Lit & Edu), Mohan Nagar (Social Work), and Narayan Vyas (Archaeology) (**MP Portal**).

• 20. **Rajasthan Padma Shri 2026 Awardees (3):** Gafruddin Mewati Jogi (Art), Swami Brahmdev Ji Maharaj (Social Work), and Taga Ram Bheel (Art) (**Rajasthan Portal**).

• 21. **Ashoka Chakra 2026 (77th Republic Day):** Conferred on **Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla** (Indian Air Force — Flying Pilot) (**MoD Portal**).

• 22. **Kirti Chakra 2026 (77th Republic Day — 3 Awardees): Major Arshdeep Singh** (1 Assam Rifles), **Naib Subedar Doleshwar Subba** (2 Para SF), and **Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair** (IAF).

• 23. **Shaurya Chakra 2026 (77th Republic Day — 13 Awardees):** Includes **Lance Dafadar Baldev Chand** (Posthumous) and Indian Navy women officers **Lt Cdr Dilna K.** and **Lt Cdr Roopa A.**

• 24. **Total Republic Day 2026 Military Honours: 70 Gallantry Awards** (6 posthumous) and **301 Military Decorations** (30 PVSM, 4 UYSM, 56 AVSM, 9 YSM, 135 VSM).

• 25. **80th Independence Day Eve Gallantry Awards (14 August 2026): 78 Gallantry Awards** (13 posthumous), including **09 Kirti Chakras** (7 posthumous) and **19 Shaurya Chakras** (**PIB Portal**).

• 26. **Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2026: Karl Deisseroth** (USA), **Peter Hegemann** (Germany), and **Georg Nagel** (Germany) for light-gated ion channels and **optogenetics**.

• 27. **Nobel Prize in Physics 2026: Francis Halzen** (USA/Belgium) for the **IceCube Neutrino Observatory** and discovery of high-energy astrophysical neutrinos.

• 28. **Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2026: Henri B. Kagan** (France) and **Kenso Soai** (Japan) for non-linear effects and **autocatalysis** in asymmetric organic synthesis.

• 29. **Nobel Prize in Literature 2026:** Canadian poet and classicist **Anne Carson**.

• 30. **Nobel Peace Prize 2026:** South African jurist and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights **Navanethem 'Navi' Pillay**.

• 31. **Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences 2026: Robert E. Hall** (Stanford) and **Michael Woodford** (Columbia) for microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation.

• 32. **Nobel Prize 2026 Cash Purse: 12 million Swedish kronor (SEK)** per prize category.

• 33. **60th Jnanpith Award (announced March 2026):** Conferred on Tamil poet and lyricist **R. Vairamuthu** (3rd Tamil recipient).

• 34. **59th Jnanpith Award:** Conferred on Chhattisgarh Hindi writer **Vinod Kumar Shukla** (*Naukar Ki Kameez*).

• 35. **58th Jnanpith Award:** Conferred jointly on **Jagadguru Rambhadracharya** (Sanskrit) and **Gulzar** (Urdu).

• 36. **Booker Prize 2026:** Won by 81-year-old British author **M. John Harrison** for ***The End of Everything*** (oldest Booker winner in history).

• 37. **International Booker Prize 2026:** Won by Taiwanese author **Yáng Shuāng-zǐ** and translator **Lin King** for ***Taiwan Travelogue***.

• 38. **Sahitya Akademi Awards Announcement 2026:** Announced on 16 March 2026 across **24 Indian languages** (₹1 lakh prize).

• 39. **Mark Lynton History Prize 2026:** Won by **William Dalrymple** for ***The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World***.

• 40. **72nd National Film Awards 2026 — Dadasaheb Phalke Award:** Conferred on veteran Kannada actor **Anant Nag**.

• 41. **72nd National Film Awards 2026 — Best Actor:** Jointly won by **Kartik Aaryan** and **Mammootty**.

• 42. **72nd National Film Awards 2026 — Best Actress:** Won by **Yami Gautam**.

• 43. **98th Oscars 2026 — Best Picture & Best Director:** ***One Battle After Another*** (Directed by **Paul Thomas Anderson**).

• 44. **98th Oscars 2026 — Best Actor & Best Actress: Michael B. Jordan** (*Sinners*) and **Jessie Buckley** (*Hamnet*).

• 45. **68th Grammy Awards 2026 Winners:** Album of the Year — **Bad Bunny**; Record of the Year — **Kendrick Lamar & SZA**; Song of the Year — **Billie Eilish & FINNEAS** (*Wildflower*).

• 46. **15th President & 15th Vice President of India:** President **Smt. Droupadi Murmu** and Vice President **Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan**.

• 47. **53rd Chief Justice of India (CJI): Justice Surya Kant** (Article 124).

• 48. **26th Chief Election Commissioner (CEC): Shri Gyanesh Kumar** (Election Commissioners: Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu & Dr. Vivek Joshi).

• 49. **15th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG): Shri K. Sanjay Murthy** (Article 148).

• 50. **Chairman, 16th Finance Commission: Dr. Arvind Panagariya** (Award Period: 2026–2031).

• 51. **26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI): Shri Sanjay Malhotra**.

• 52. **Chairmen of SEBI & IRDAI (2026):** SEBI Chairman — **Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey**; IRDAI Chairman — **Shri Ajay Seth**.

• 53. **Heads of ISRO & DRDO (2026):** ISRO Chairman — **Dr. V. Narayanan**; DRDO Chairman — **Dr. Samir V. Kamat**.

• 54. **Top Military Leadership of India (2026):** CDS — **Gen Anil Chauhan**; Army Chief — **Gen Upendra Dwivedi**; Navy Chief — **Adm Dinesh K. Tripathi**; Air Force Chief — **ACM Amar Preet Singh** (MoD Portal).

• 55. **Cabinet Secretary, NSA & Attorney General:** Cabinet Secretary — **Dr. T. V. Somanathan**; NSA — **Shri Ajit Doval**; Attorney General — **Shri R. Venkataramani**.

• 56. **Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC): Shri Jay Shah** (HQ: Dubai).

• 57. **Heads of World Bank & IMF:** World Bank President — **Ajay Banga**; IMF Managing Director — **Kristalina Georgieva**.

• 58. **President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC): Kirsty Coventry** (Zimbabwe).

• 59. **Secretary General of NATO: Mark Rutte** (HQ: Brussels).

• 60. **India's Permanent Representative to the UN: Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish (P. Harish)**.

• 61. **Sangita Kalanidhi Award 2026:** Carnatic violinist **R. K. Shriramkumar**.

• 62. **Chairman of INTACH (2026): Ashok Singh Thakur**.

• 63. **UN Military Gender Advocate Award: Major Abhilasha Barak** (Indian Army).

• 64. **WWF National Award 2026: N. Alim Yusuf** (YOLOv11 invasive species detection).

• 65. **Signature Books in News 2026:** *The End of Everything* (M. John Harrison), *Taiwan Travelogue* (Yáng Shuāng-zǐ), *The Golden Road* (William Dalrymple), *Pandeymonium* (Piyush Pandey), and *Kallikattu Ithikasam* (R. Vairamuthu) (**IUC Academy**).

IUC Academy *1-3-7-21* Day Spaced-Revision & Self-Assessment Tracker (www.iucacademy.com)

Chapter / Study Section	Day 1 (First Read)	Day 3 (Active Recall)	Day 7 (MCQ Drill)	Day 21 (Exam Ready)
1. Thematic Chapter Architecture (Book CA15)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
2. Chapter 1: Highest Civilian Honours of India — Padma Awards 2026 (Complete Analysis of Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan & Padma Shri)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
3. Chapter 2: National Gallantry Awards & Military Decorations 2026 (Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra & Distinguished Service Medals)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
4. Chapter 3: Nobel Prizes 2026 — Comprehensive Analysis Across All Six Categories (Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace & Economic Sciences)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
5. Chapter 4: National & International Literary Honours 2026 (60th Jnanpith Award, Booker Prize 2026, International Booker Prize 2026 & Sahitya Akademi)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
6. Chapter 5: National & International Film, Music & Sports Awards 2026 (72nd National Film Awards, Dadasaheb Phalke, 98th Oscars & 68th Grammy Awards)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
7. Chapter 6: Key Constitutional, Statutory, Judicial, Regulatory & Defence Appointments 2026	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
8. Chapter 7: Key International Appointments, Heads of Global Organizations, Persons in News & Obituaries 2026	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
9. Chapter 8: Prominent Books and Authors of 2026 (National & International Publications)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
10. Book CA15: 45 Solved Multiple-Choice Practice Questions (MCQs)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
11. Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions 46–85)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**

Chapter / Study Section	Day 1 (First Read)	Day 3 (Active Recall)	Day 7 (MCQ Drill)	Day 21 (Exam Ready)
12. Book CA15: 65 Rapid-Fire Revision Points	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**