

RADIUS EDUCATION

06-08-2026



DISTANCE BETWEEN DREAM AND REALITY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

HIGHLIGHTS

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TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- **COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026: Annapurni Subramaniam becomes the first Indian woman scientist to receive this honour**
- **Monisha Chakravarti appointed as new Executive Director at RBI: Banking supervision and financial market regulation to get new leadership**
- **99.92% of India's villages covered by banking services: A landmark achievement towards financial inclusion**
- **Government Stake Sale (OFS) in LIC: Important Topics to Understand Disinvestment, Capital Markets and Public Shareholding**
- **Karnataka Cabinet Expansion 2026: An important opportunity to understand the composition of the State Council of Ministers and the constitutional provisions**
- **Candere Hurun India Women Leadership Index 2026: A new picture of women's leadership, entrepreneurship and social empowerment in India**
- **Nathan Thomas becomes the world's youngest male professor: a new benchmark for talent and innovation in academia**
- **Hiroshima Day (August 6): Historical remembrance of the destruction of nuclear weapons and global disarmament**

1. Cospas Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026: Annapurni Subramaniam becomes the first Indian woman scientist to receive this honor

Indian astrophysicist Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam has been awarded the COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal for the year 2026, which was announced at the 46th COSPAR Scientific Assembly held in Florence, Italy. She has become the first Indian woman, fourth Indian scientist and third woman scientist in the world to receive this honour. This award is presented by COSPAR and ISRO to scientists from developing countries who have made outstanding contributions to space science. This achievement of Dr. Subramaniam is a symbol of India's growing scientific reputation in the field of global space research and astrophysics.



2. Monisha Chakraborty Appointed New Executive Director at RBI: Banking Supervision and Financial Market Regulation to Get New Leadership

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Monisha Chakraborty as Executive Director, effective August 3, 2026. Previously, she served as Chief General Manager in the Department of Supervision and possesses over 30 years of experience in central banking. In her new role, she will oversee the functions of the Foreign Exchange Department and the Financial Markets Regulation Department. Her appointment is viewed as a significant step towards further strengthening the RBI's financial stability, banking regulation, and foreign exchange management frameworks.



3. Villages housing 99.92% of India's population connected to banking services: A historic milestone in financial inclusion

According to the Ministry of Finance, India has ensured banking service access for villages covering 99.92% of the population; out of 6,01,328 inhabited villages, 6,00,868 are now connected via bank branches, Business Correspondents (BCs), or the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB). This achievement has been made possible through the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), the Business Correspondent model, and robust banking infrastructure. As of July 17, 2026, the country has 58.77 crore Jan Dhan accounts, over 1.81 lakh bank branches, and 17.36 lakh operational Business Correspondents. This progress plays a pivotal role in fostering financial inclusion, digital payments, Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), and rural economic empowerment.



4. Government Stake Sale (OFS) in LIC: A Key Topic for Understanding Disinvestment, Capital Markets, and Public Shareholding

The Government of India has proposed selling up to a 6.5% stake in LIC via an Offer for Sale (OFS) at a floor price of ₹382 per share, leading to a temporary dip in share prices. In an OFS, the company does not issue new shares; instead, existing shareholders sell their stakes, meaning there is no impact on LIC's capital structure or Earnings Per Share (EPS). The move aims to mobilize revenue through disinvestment, increase public shareholding, and improve stock liquidity. Despite the drop in share price, LIC's financial performance remains robust, with the company recording significant growth in profits, premium income, and Value of New Business (VNB) in the 2025-26 fiscal year.



5. Karnataka Cabinet Expansion 2026: A Significant Opportunity to Understand the Structure and Constitutional Provisions of the State Council of Ministers

On August 3, 2026, the government led by Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar in Karnataka administered the oath of office to 19 new ministers, bringing the total strength of the state Council of Ministers to 33. Given that the Karnataka Legislative Assembly has 224 members, the Constitution allows for the appointment of a maximum of 34 ministers (including the Chief Minister); consequently, one post remains vacant. The structure of the state Council of Ministers and the number of ministers are determined under Article 163, Article 164, and the 91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003.



6. Candere Hurun India Women Leaders List 2026: A New Portrait of Women's Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Social Empowerment in India

The Candere Hurun India Women Leaders List 2026 features 117 influential women leaders across 12 sectors, with BIBA founder Meena Bindra securing the top spot. Paralympic gold medalist Avani Lekhara became the youngest woman to enter the top 10 at just 24 years of age. This list honors outstanding women's leadership and innovation across various fields, including business, healthcare, sports, media, literature, technology, and entrepreneurship. It reflects the growing impact of women's empowerment, gender equality, inclusive growth, and leadership potential in India.



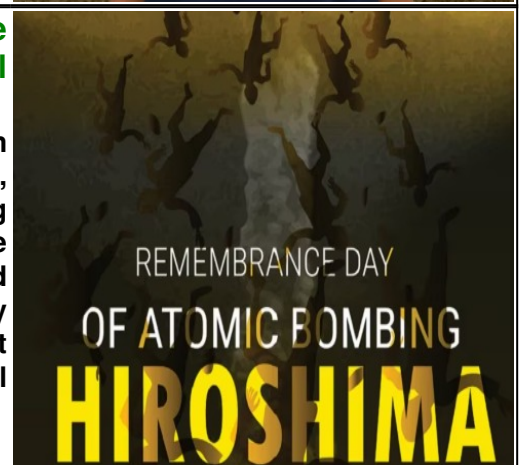
7. Nathan Thomas Becomes the World's Youngest Male Professor: A New Milestone of Talent and Innovation in Academia

Nathan Thomas from the USA has set a Guinness World Record by becoming the world's youngest male professor at the age of 18 years and 346 days. He was appointed as an engineering lecturer at Miami Dade College, where he broke a record that had stood for approximately 306 years. Nathan demonstrated exceptional academic talent by earning both bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering at a young age. Currently, alongside teaching, he is pursuing a law degree (JD) at the University of Miami, reflecting his multifaceted commitment to education and innovation.



8. Hiroshima Day (August 6): A Historic Commemoration of the Devastation Caused by Nuclear Weapons and a Call for Global Disarmament

Hiroshima Day (also known as Anti-Nuclear Day) is observed annually on August 6 to commemorate the first atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945. This day serves to raise awareness about the devastating effects of nuclear weapons and promotes the message of global peace and nuclear disarmament. The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II had a profound impact on human history and paved the way for the end of the war. Adhering to policies of 'No First Use' and 'Credible Minimum Deterrence,' India supports global disarmament as a responsible nuclear power.



1. Who has been awarded the COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal for the year 2026?

A - Anil Bhardwaj
C - U. R. Rao

B - Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam
D - Gurbax Singh Lakhina

Indian astrophysicist Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam has been honored with the COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal for the year 2026. She has become the first Indian woman, the fourth Indian scientist, and the third female scientist globally to receive this honor.



2. Whom has the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed as Executive Director effective from August 3, 2026?

A - Shaktikanta Das
C - Monisha Chakraborty

B - Swaminathan J.
D - M. Rajeshwar Rao

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Monisha Chakraborty as Executive Director effective from August 3, 2026. She will oversee the Department of Foreign Exchange and the Financial Markets Regulation Department and possesses over 30 years of experience in central banking.



3. According to the Ministry of Finance, access to banking services has been ensured for villages covering what percentage of India's population?

A - 98.50%
C - 97.75%

B - 99.92%
D - 100%

According to the Ministry of Finance, India has ensured access to banking services for villages covering 99.92% of the population, resulting in 6,00,868 out of 6,01,328 villages being connected to the banking network. The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), the Business Correspondent model, and robust banking infrastructure have accelerated financial inclusion, digital payments, and rural economic empowerment.



4. What is the maximum percentage stake in LIC that the Government of India has proposed to sell through an OFS?

A - 5.0%
C - 7.5%

B - 6.5%
D - 10%

The Government of India has proposed selling up to a 6.5% stake in LIC through an Offer for Sale (OFS) at a floor price of ₹382 per share. This move aims to facilitate disinvestment, increase public shareholding, and improve share liquidity, even as LIC's financial performance remains strong.



5. What is the total number of ministers in the Karnataka Council of Ministers following the cabinet expansion?

- A - 32 B - 33
C - 34 D - 35

On August 3, 2026, the government led by Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar in Karnataka administered the oath to 19 new ministers, bringing the total strength of the Council of Ministers to 33. According to Articles 163 and 164 of the Constitution and the 91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003, a maximum of 34 ministers (including the Chief Minister) can be appointed in Karnataka.



6. Who secured the top spot in the Candere Hurun India Women's Leadership List 2026?

- A - Avani Lekhara B - Sudha Murty
C - Meena Bindra D - Ananya Birla

The Candere Hurun India Women's Leadership List 2026 features 117 influential women leaders across 12 sectors, with BIBA founder Meena Bindra ranking first. Avani Lekhara became the youngest woman to make it to the top 10 at the age of just 24, highlighting the growing role of women's leadership and empowerment.



7. Who has set the Guinness World Record for becoming the world's youngest male professor?

- A - Colin Maclaurin B - Nathan Thomas
C - Alia Sabur D - John Nash

Nathan Thomas from the USA set the Guinness World Record by becoming the world's youngest male professor at the age of 18 years and 346 days. He has been appointed as an engineering lecturer at Miami Dade College and is currently also pursuing a law degree (JD) at the University of Miami.



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8. What was the name of the first atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima?

- A - Fat Man B - Trinity
C - Little Boy D - Big Boy

Hiroshima Day (Anti-Nuclear Day) is observed every year on August 6th; it commemorates the first atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima in 1945 and is dedicated to the message of nuclear disarmament. India supports global peace as a responsible nuclear power, adhering to the policies of 'No First Use' and 'Credible Minimum Deterrence'.



One Liner

1. According to the Ministry of Finance, what percentage of inhabited villages in India now have access to banking services? - **99.92%**
2. With which event is 'Little Boy' associated? - **The first atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945**
3. Who secured the top spot in the Candere Hurun India Women Leadership List 2026? - **Meena Bindra**
4. What percentage of its stake in LIC has the Government of India proposed to sell through the Offer for Sale (OFS) route? - **6.5%**
5. Whom has the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed as Executive Director effective from August 3, 2026? - **Monisha Chakraborty**
6. Who has become the first Indian woman scientist to receive the COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal for the year 2026? - **Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam**
7. Who holds the Guinness World Record for becoming the world's youngest male professor? - **Nathan Thomas**
8. On which date is Hiroshima Day (Anti-Nuclear Day) observed every year? - **August 6**
9. What is the total number of ministers in the Karnataka Council of Ministers following the cabinet expansion on August 3, 2026? - **33 ministers**
10. When was the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) launched? - **August 28, 2014**