

RADIUS EDUCATION

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

HIGHLIGHTS

- INTERNATIONAL NEWS
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TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- **First-ever CEO Appointment at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust: A Step Towards Professional Management in Temple Administration**
- **Suman Ray appointed as Executive Director of RBI: Significant appointment for central banking governance and financial stability**
- **UPI sets new record: India's digital payments ecosystem signals a growing digital economy**
- **Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma: A new landmark in women leadership in the Indian Defence Forces**
- **Son River Water Agreement: An example of cooperative federalism in resolving inter-state water disputes**
- **Türkiye's Entry into the Artemis Accords: Expanding International Space Cooperation Beyond the Moon**
- **Semicon 2.0: A major ₹1.27 lakh crore step towards making India a global semiconductor hub**
- **National Wildlife Day: Emphasis on biodiversity conservation and human-wildlife co-existence**

1. First CEO Appointed for Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust: A Step Towards Professional Management in Temple Administration

Retired Air Marshal Jitendra Mishra has been appointed as the first CEO of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, aiming to make administration and financial management more systematic and accountable. Mishra was commissioned as a fighter pilot in the Indian Air Force in 1986 and possesses over three decades of military experience, including more than 3,000 hours of flying time. He received his education and training at the NDA, the Air Force Test Pilot School, the Air Command and Staff College (USA), and the Royal College of Defence Studies (UK).



2. Suman Ray Appointed RBI Executive Director: A Key Appointment for Central Banking Administration and Financial Stability

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Suman Ray as Executive Director (ED); he previously served as the Regional Director for Maharashtra and assumed office on September 1, 2026. He has been entrusted with the charge of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) and the Premises Department, making his role pivotal in functions related to depositor protection and financial stability. With over 30 years of experience at the RBI, he has worked in areas such as currency management, financial inclusion, payment and settlement systems, consumer protection, and human resources.



3. UPI Sets New Record: A Sign of India's Growing Digital Economy and Payment Ecosystem

According to the NPCI, UPI transactions reached an all-time high of 24.51 billion in August 2026, with a total value of approximately ₹29.82 trillion. Average daily UPI transactions rose to 791 million, reflecting the rapidly growing acceptance of digital payments in India. In August, IMPS transactions stood at approximately 360 million, FASTag at 351 million, and AePS transactions at around 104 million, showing mixed trends. The expansion of UPI is playing a crucial role in financial inclusion, the growth of the digital economy, the integration of small merchants into the formal financial system, and the increased reach of digital payments.



4. Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma: A New Historic Milestone for Women's Leadership in Indian Defence Forces

Air Vice Marshal (AVM) Shakti Sharma has become the first female officer from the non-medical cadre of the Indian Defence Forces to attain the two-star rank. Effective September 1, 2026, she has been appointed as the Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Education) at Air Headquarters, where she will lead initiatives related to education and training. Commissioned into the Education Branch of the Indian Air Force on June 18, 1994, she has served in various key positions over a career spanning more than three decades.



5. Son River Water Agreement: An Example of Cooperative Federalism in Resolving Inter-State Water Disputes

Bihar and Jharkhand have signed an agreement to resolve a long-standing dispute regarding the sharing of Son River water, which will improve the availability of water for irrigation and drinking purposes. This move is expected to benefit the Bhojpur, Buxar, Rohtas, Kaimur, Aurangabad, Arwal, Gaya, and Patna regions of Bihar, as well as the Palamu and Garhwa regions of Jharkhand. The agreement exemplifies cooperative federalism and highlights the significance of Article 262 and the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956, in the context of resolving inter-state river water disputes.



6. Turkey Joins Artemis Accords: Expanding International Space Cooperation Beyond the Moon

Turkey has become the 71st signatory to the Artemis Accords; the agreement was signed on August 31, 2026, at NASA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Launched in 2020, the Artemis Accords are a non-binding international framework promoting peaceful and responsible space exploration of the Moon, Mars, and beyond. Key principles include transparency, scientific data sharing, interoperability, emergency assistance, preservation of space heritage, and the responsible use of space resources. Turkey is advancing its space program and the AYAP-1 lunar mission, while India has also been a signatory to the Artemis Accords since 2023.



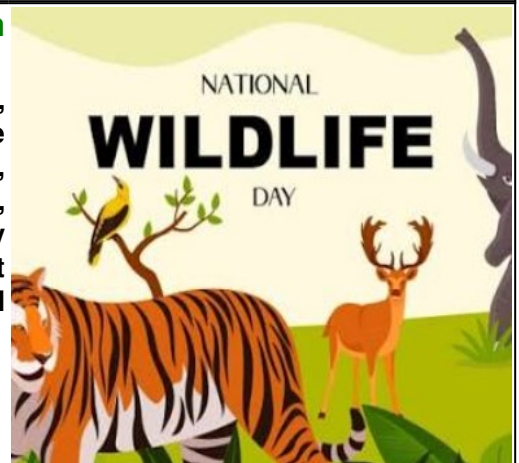
7. Semicon 2.0: A major step worth ₹1.27 lakh crore towards making India a global semiconductor hub

The Government of India announced the launch of Semicon 2.0 on August 31, 2026, under which approximately ₹1.27 lakh crore will be spent on developing the semiconductor ecosystem. The scheme aims to strengthen India's position in the global semiconductor value chain by promoting wafer fabrication, chip design, packaging, equipment and materials, R&D, and skill development. The government has already trained around 85,000 semiconductor engineers and has set a target to train an additional 1 lakh engineers, with a specific focus on Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.



8. National Wildlife Day: Emphasis on Biodiversity Conservation and Human-Wildlife Coexistence

National Wildlife Day raises awareness about the conservation of wildlife, their natural habitats, and biodiversity, while highlighting the importance of ecological balance. Wildlife plays a crucial role in food chains, pollination, seed dispersal, and the provision of ecosystem services, thereby strengthening water security and climate resilience. Key challenges facing wildlife conservation in India include habitat fragmentation, poaching, wildlife trade, climate change, pollution, and human-wildlife conflict.



1. Who has been appointed as the first CEO of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust?

A - Jitendra Mishra

B - Suman Ray

C - Shakti Sharma

D - Mehmet Kasir

Retired Air Marshal Jitendra Mishra has been appointed as the first CEO of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust; he was commissioned as a fighter pilot in the Indian Air Force in 1986 and possesses over 3,000 hours of flying experience. Approximately 5,200 applications were received for the CEO position, with 18 candidates shortlisted for interviews; this appointment is expected to foster professional administration, transparency, and accountability within the Trust.



2. To which position has Suman Ray been appointed at the RBI?

A - Deputy Governor

B - Executive Director

C - Regional Director

D - Chief Economic Advisor

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Suman Ray as Executive Director, effective September 1, 2026, assigning him charge of the DICGC and the Premises Department; previously, he served as the Regional Director for Maharashtra. With over 30 years of experience at the RBI, Suman Ray has worked in areas such as currency management, financial inclusion, payment and settlement systems, and consumer protection; the RBI is governed by a Central Board of Directors under the RBI Act, 1934.



3. In August 2026, UPI transactions reached an all-time high of how many billion?

A - 21.51 billion

B - 22.51 billion

C - 24.51 billion

D - 26.51 billion

According to the NPCI, UPI transactions reached a record level of 24.51 billion in August 2026, with a total value of approximately ₹29.82 trillion and an average of 791 million daily transactions. The growing use of UPI is boosting the digital economy, financial inclusion, and the formalization of small merchants, while mixed trends were observed in IMPS, FASTag, and AePS.



4. Who became the first female officer from a non-medical cadre to attain a two-star rank?

A - Suman Ray

B - Shakti Sharma

C - Bhawana Kanth

D - Avani Chaturvedi

Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma became the first female officer in the Indian Armed Forces from a non-medical cadre to attain a two-star rank and was appointed Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Education) effective September 1, 2026. She was commissioned into the Education Branch of the Indian Air Force in 1994 and has served in roles such as the IAF Chair of Excellence at IIT Kanpur and Pune University, and as the first female Principal of Sainik School, Kapurthala.



5. An agreement regarding the water sharing of which river was reached between Bihar and Jharkhand?

- A - Ganga
C - Kosi

- B - Son
D - Damodar

Bihar and Jharkhand have signed an agreement to resolve the long-standing dispute over the sharing of the Son River's water, which will improve the availability of irrigation and drinking water in both states. This agreement exemplifies cooperative federalism and underscores the significance of Article 262 and the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956, in the context of inter-state river water disputes.



6. Which country has become the 71st signatory to the Artemis Accords?

- A - India
C - Turkey

- B - Japan
D - Italy

Turkey has become the 71st signatory to the Artemis Accords; launched in 2020, this is a non-binding international framework that promotes peaceful and responsible space exploration. Its key principles include transparency, scientific data sharing, interoperability, emergency assistance, preservation of space heritage, and responsible use of space resources; India has been a signatory since 2023.



7. Approximately how much amount will the government spend under Semicon 2.0?

- A - ₹75,000 crore

- B - ₹1 lakh crore

- C - ₹1.27 lakh crore

- D - ₹1.50 lakh crore

The Government of India announced the launch of Semicon 2.0 on August 31, 2026, under which approximately ₹1.27 lakh crore will be spent on developing the semiconductor ecosystem, fostering wafer fabrication, chip design, packaging, R&D, and skill development. This scheme aims to train an additional 1 lakh semiconductor engineers and create approximately 50,000–60,000 direct jobs; the project duration will be six years, and the application period will be three years.



8. What is the primary objective of National Wildlife Day?

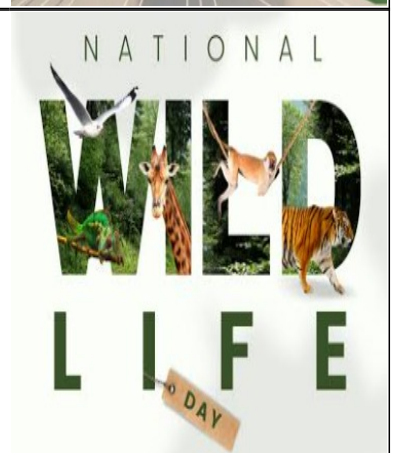
- A - Agricultural development

- B - Awareness regarding wildlife and biodiversity conservation

- C - Industrial development

- D - Mineral conservation

National Wildlife Day raises awareness about the conservation of wildlife, natural habitats, and biodiversity, and highlights the role of wildlife in ecological balance, water security, and climate resilience. In India, the Wildlife Protection Act (1972), NTCA, NBWL, and WII play a crucial role in addressing challenges such as habitat fragmentation, poaching, wildlife trade, climate change, and human-wildlife conflict.



One Liner

1. An agreement regarding the water sharing of which river was reached between Bihar and Jharkhand? - **Son River**
2. What is the primary legislation for wildlife conservation in India? - **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**
3. To which position has Suman Ray been appointed at the RBI? - **Executive Director (ED)**
4. Which country has become the 71st signatory to the Artemis Accords? - **Turkey**
5. What is the target for training additional semiconductor engineers under Semicon 2.0? - **1 lakh**
6. What is the primary objective of National Wildlife Day? - **To raise awareness about the conservation of wildlife, natural habitats, and biodiversity**
7. How much amount will be spent on the development of the semiconductor ecosystem under Semicon 2.0? - **Approximately ₹1.27 lakh crore**
8. Who became the first female officer from the non-medical cadre to attain the rank of Air Vice Marshal? - **Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma**
9. Who has been appointed as the first CEO of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust? - **Retired Air Marshal Jitendra Mishra**
10. UPI transactions reached an all-time high of how many billion in August 2026? - **24.51 billion**