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TNPSC BITS

- Madhya Pradesh's GI-tagged Jumbo Custard Apple from Seoni district is being exported to Dubai for the first time under the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative.
- Russia test-fired the Bulava (RSM-56) ICBM from the submerged submarine Generalissimo Suvorov in the Sea of Okhotsk; it has a range of over 8,000 km and can carry multiple nuclear warheads.
- Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) discovered Allocaecilius nilgiriensis, a new barklice species in the Nilgiri Mountains of the Western Ghats across Tamil Nadu and Kerala, marking the second recorded occurrence of the genus in India and increasing its worldwide total to 13 species.
- India is hosting the first joint maritime security exercise of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) at Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- England and Arsenal footballer Bukayo Saka won the 2026 Socrates Award at the Ballon d'Or ceremony in London for his humanitarian and charitable work.

NATIONAL NEWS

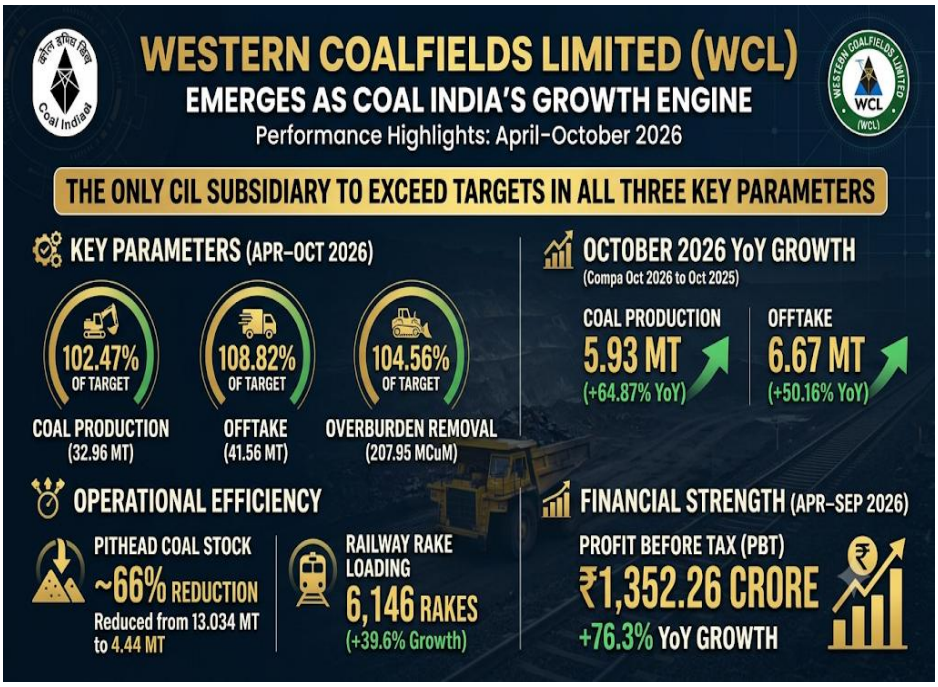
Star Rating Awards for Coal Mines 2024–25



- The Ministry of Coal organised the Annual Star Rating Awards Ceremony in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, recognising the outstanding performance of coal mines for FY 2024–25.

- A total of 50 coal mines received Five-Star Ratings, with 10 mines securing the first, second and third positions in their respective categories with scores exceeding 93%.
- Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) and NTPC secured the First Prize in the Opencast category, while Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) won the First Prize in the Underground category.
- Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) received special appreciation for having the highest number of Five-Star Rated mines among Coal India subsidiaries.
- The Star Rating Programme assesses mines based on safety, environmental management, scientific mining practices, productivity and community welfare.

Coal India's Growth Engine

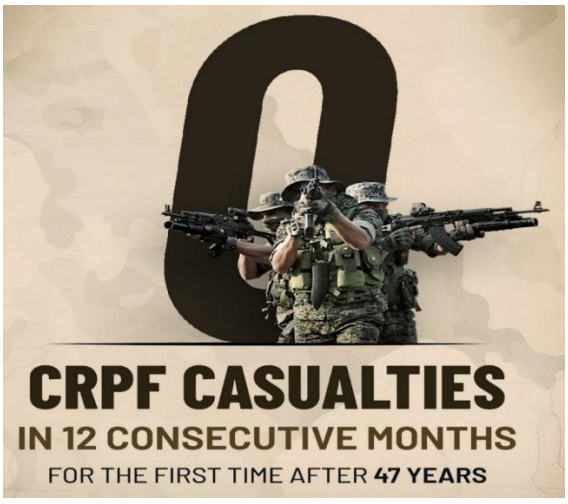


- Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL), was the only CIL subsidiary to exceed its targets in all three key parameters during April–October 2026: coal production (102.47%), offtake (108.82%) and overburden removal (104.56%).
- During this period, WCL recorded 32.96 million tonnes (MT) of coal production, 41.56 MT offtake and 207.95 million cubic metres (MCuM) of overburden removal.
- In October 2026, coal production increased by 64.87% to 5.93 MT, while offtake grew by 50.16% to 6.67 MT compared with October 2025.

- WCL reduced its pithead coal stock by approximately 66%, from 13.034 MT to 4.44 MT, and increased railway rake loading by 39.6% to 6,146 rakes.
- WCL recorded a Profit Before Tax (PBT) of ₹1,352.26 crore during April–September 2026, registering 76.3% growth over the previous year.

CRPF's Historic Safety Milestone

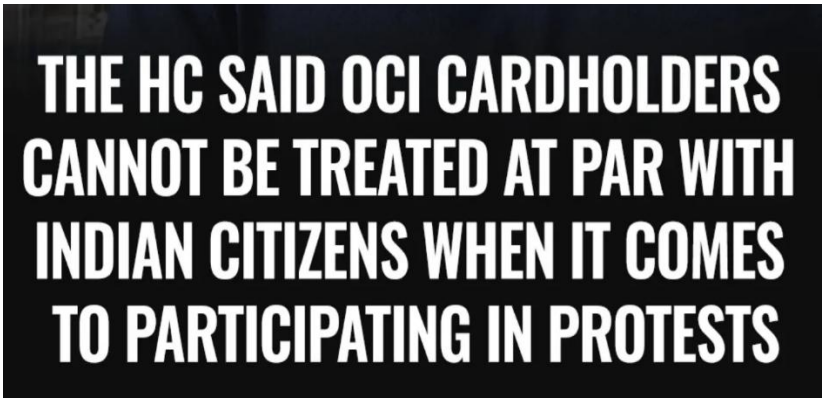
- The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) completed 12 consecutive months without any operational fatality for the first time in 47 years.
- CRPF was established on 27 July 1939 at Neemuch, Madhya Pradesh, as the Crown Representative's Police.
- It was renamed the Central Reserve Police Force through an Act of Parliament on 28 December 1949 and functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- Its major roles include maintaining internal security, controlling riots, conducting counter-insurgency and anti-Naxal operations, and providing security during elections.
- The last operational fatality was reported on 30 October 2025, according to CRPF Director General G. P. Singh.
- Since 1947, 2,268 CRPF personnel have lost their lives in operations; the highest annual fatalities (143) were recorded in 2010.
- This was the sixth period of nil operational casualties since 1947.



Citizenship Rights of OCI Cardholders

- The Bombay High Court kept the 'Leave India Notice' issued to actor and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholder Imran Khan on hold until December 7, 2026, after he submitted an unconditional apology.

- OCI cardholders are foreign nationals, not Indian citizens, and cannot claim the fundamental rights under Article 19 of the Constitution, including the right to protest.
- Under Section 7A of the Citizenship Act, 1955, eligible foreign nationals of Indian origin can register as OCI cardholders.
- Eligible categories include former Indian citizens, their descendants, certain minor children and foreign spouses of Indian citizens or OCI cardholders (married for at least two continuous years).
- OCI cardholders receive a lifelong, multiple-entry visa and certain economic and educational benefits, but cannot vote, hold constitutional offices or obtain an Indian passport.
- They cannot purchase agricultural land, farmhouses or plantation properties in India; prior government permission is required for certain activities such as journalism, missionary work and research.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

End of UN Peacebuilding Mission – Western Sahara

- The United Nations (UN) peacekeeping mission in Western Sahara, MINURSO (United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara), began its liquidation phase on 1 November 2026, after 35 years.
- Established in 1991, MINURSO was tasked with monitoring the ceasefire and organising a referendum on self-determination, which never took place due to disagreements over voter eligibility.
- UN Secretary-General António Guterres announced the start of the liquidation phase, with the mission's assets to be returned to contributing countries.
- The mission ended after the UN Security Council failed to renew its mandate.

- The decision followed a Security Council resolution recognising Morocco's autonomy proposal under its sovereignty as the most feasible solution to the conflict; Morocco welcomed it, while the Algeria-backed Polisario Front expressed concern.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Global Cryosphere Under Threat



- Two reports released ahead of COP31, warned that global warming was causing irreversible damage to glaciers, ice sheets and permafrost.
- Reports: Overshoot and the Cryosphere: Averting Global Meltdown and State of the Cryosphere 2026: The Cost of Overshoot, released by the International Cryosphere Climate Initiative (ICCI) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

- The Arctic warmed up to 4 times faster than the global average over the past decade; the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets lost ice at nearly 6 times the rate recorded in the 1990s.
- Exceeding the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C warming threshold, even temporarily, could trigger irreversible ice loss and massive carbon release from permafrost.
- Permafrost covers about 14 million sq. km of the Northern Hemisphere and stores at least 1,700 billion tonnes of carbon.
- India recorded 6,119 deaths from Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) between 1835 and 2025 — the highest among eight Hindu Kush Himalayan countries.
- India ranked third in recorded GLOF events (62), after China (199) and Pakistan (152); the frequency of GLOFs increased fivefold after 1950 to around 34 events per decade.
- Ice avalanches triggered 50% of recorded GLOFs, intense rainfall 25%, and about 70% occurred during the summer monsoon.

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