Current Affairs Magazine

Daily issue

17 November 2026

13 stories, 26 practice questions

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17 November 2026 | Infrastructure | UPPSC | Railway | UPSSSC PET

1. Delhi-Patna High-Speed Rail Corridor: Ayodhya Drone Survey and Proposed Varanasi Route

- Full form of DPR: Detailed Project Report
- Proposed corridor: Delhi-Patna via Ayodhya and Varanasi
- Proposed main station: Ayodhya Dham
- Proposed later extension: Guwahati
- Indicative travel time: 1-1.5 hours from Ayodhya to Lucknow, Prayagraj and Varanasi

A drone survey has started in Ayodhya for the proposed Delhi-Patna high-speed rail corridor, marking the first on-ground assessment of the route that would connect Ayodhya, Varanasi and other major cities.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9070-delhi-patna-high-speed-rail-corridor-ayodhya-drone

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17 November 2026 | Polity | UPPSC | UPTET | UPPSC RO/ARO

2. Uttar Pradesh Special TET: Service Protection, Promotion Eligibility and 12 November Vacancy Order

- Full form of TET: Teacher Eligibility Test
- Council secretary: Surendra Kumar Tiwari
- Vacancy order date: 12 November 2026
- High Court cases: Prateek Mishra and two others; Waseem Ahmad and 220 others
- Half-yearly examinations: Classes 1-8; scheduled through 21 November 2026

The 12 November order by the Basic Education Council secretary to hold promotion posts pending Special TET results has been challenged by teachers, who say it contradicts Allahabad High Court rulings that Special TET does not confer promotion rights.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9065-uttar-pradesh-special-tet-service-protection-promotion-eligibility

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17 November 2026 | Polity | DSSSB

3. PM UDAY Ownership Proposal Covers 1,511 Delhi Colonies, Application Deadline Extended to 2027

- Full form of GIS: Geographic Information System
- Implementing government: Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi
- Scheme launch year: 2019
- Registration portal: SWAGAM
- Previous application deadline: 31 October

The Delhi government is proposing special camps and government-led GIS mapping to simplify ownership documentation under PM UDAY, with an extended application deadline of 31 January 2027, as only 3,300 of an

estimated 800,000 families have received rights so far.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9071-pm-uday-ownership-proposal-covers-1511-delhi-colonies

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17 November 2026 | Agriculture | MPPSC | MPESB

4. Madhya Pradesh Tests Payment Gateway in Over 30 Agricultural Markets for Faster Farmer Payments

- Full form of RTGS: Real Time Gross Settlement
- Implementing body: Madhya Pradesh State Agricultural Marketing Board
- Pilot coverage: More than 30 agricultural markets
- Earlier payment time: Up to one day
- Current context: The Mandi Board has started testing a payment gateway in agricultural markets.

The Madhya Pradesh Mandi Board has started testing a payment gateway in more than 30 agricultural markets, a move that could shorten the time farmers wait for sale proceeds from up to one day to immediate credit.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9078-madhya-pradesh-tests-payment-gateway-30-agricultural-markets

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17 November 2026 | Environment | UPSC

5. Big Cat Conservation and Climate Mitigation: 58 Tiger Reserves Protect Carbon-Rich Landscapes

- Full form of IBCA: International Big Cat Alliance
- Indian organising ministry: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- Tiger reserves: 58
- Tiger reserve area: Approximately 85,000 sq. km
- India's tiger population: 3,682 in 2022

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav highlighted the climate mitigation role of big cat conservation at a high-level side event at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, on 16 November 2026, organised by MoEFCC and IBCA, bringing together range-country representatives and international conventions.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9063-big-cat-conservation-climate-mitigation-58-tiger-reserves

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17 November 2026 | Polity | UPSC

6. Kutch Earthquake: Owner-Driven Reconstruction and Disaster Management Reforms After 2001

- Full form of GSDMA: Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority
- GSDMA established: 8 February 2001

- State disaster management policy: 2002
- Gujarat disaster management law: 2003
- Destroyed houses across Gujarat: More than 2 lakh

After the 2001 Kutch earthquake, families rebuilt their homes with state assistance. The institutional reforms that followed offer lessons for crisis management.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9062-kutch-earthquake-owner-driven-reconstruction-disaster-management

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17 November 2026 | Economy

7. PM Ujjwala Yojana: ₹300 LPG Subsidy Reduces Delhi Beneficiary Cost to ₹642

- Full form of PMUY: Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana
- Scheme launch: May 2016
- Delhi domestic cylinder weight: 14.2 kg
- Delhi retail price: ₹942
- Eligible beneficiary subsidy: ₹300 per eligible refill

Indian Oil Corporation's recent X post explaining the Delhi LPG price calculation has brought attention to how the government's subsidy and additional support reduce the cost for Ujjwala beneficiaries, making it relevant for aspirants tracking social welfare schemes and fiscal policy.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9069-pm-ujjwala-yojana-300-lpg-subsidy-reduces-delhi

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17 November 2026 | Security & Defence | Defence

8. Sixth-Generation Fighter Project Targets Possible 2030 Flight; AMCA Remains India's Official Fifth-Generation Programme

- Full form of AMCA: Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft
- Official AMCA development agency: Aeronautical Development Agency
- Possible first flight of private fighter: By 2030
- Private fighter funding: $100 million
- Engineers' countries: 12

Refi Mfiber chairman Vikas Mishra announced the private-sector sixth-generation fighter project at the National Security Summit, with a possible first flight by 2030, marking a new private initiative distinct from the official AMCA programme.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9075-sixth-generation-fighter-project-targets-possible-2030-flight

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17 November 2026 | International Relations | UPSC

9. US AI Chip Export Controls Cover Remote Access and Require Licences for Five Countries

- Restricted-country examples: China, Russia, Iran and Cuba
- Countries requiring separate sales licences: Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Brazil
- MegaSpeed chip purchases: More than $4 billion
- Jensen Huang resignation: 12 November 2026
- Senate Banking Committee hearing: 3 December 2026

The US administration issued a new export-control rule with immediate effect that treats remote access to advanced American AI computing as an export, directly targeting the model used by Chinese firms to rent computing power through foreign data centres. The rule is the first government response to the Nvidia-MegaSpeed case, in which Jensen Huang resigned as Nvidia CEO on 12 November 2026.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9076-us-ai-chip-export-controls-cover-remote-access

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17 November 2026 | Polity

10. Sachar Committee Report: Muslim Development Deficits and Inclusive Development Recommendations of 2006

- Committee chairperson: Justice Rajinder Sachar
- Official committee name: Prime Minister's High-Level Committee
- Submission date: 17 November 2006
- Placed in Parliament: 30 November 2006
- Current context: A renewed call for parliamentary discussion of the report's issues

The Sachar Committee examined the social and economic position of Indian Muslims and identified deprivation across development dimensions. Its 2006 report recommended inclusive development and mainstreaming, making it relevant to questions on equity and public policy.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9047-sachar-committee-report-muslim-development-deficits-inclusive

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17 November 2026 | Economy

11. EU Imposes 9.5% Anti-Dumping Duty on Selected Indian Cold-Rolled Flat Steel Products

- Full form of PMS: Particular Market Situation
- India duty: 9.5%
- Japan duty: 27.9%
- Taiwan duty: 20.7%-27%

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- Vietnam duty: 16%

The European Commission has imposed a 9.5% anti-dumping duty on selected Indian cold-rolled flat steel products, marking the first use of the Particular Market Situation approach in an investigation involving India and potentially affecting Indian steel exports worth about ₹2,800 crore.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9064-eu-imposes-9-5-anti-dumping-duty-selected-indian

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17 November 2026 | Economy | UPSC

12. India's Poverty Estimates: 2.6% to 26.4% Across Different Thresholds and Methods

- Full form of PPP: Purchasing power parity
- World Bank poverty line: $3 per day at 2021 PPP
- Lower-middle-income benchmark: $4.20 per day at 2021 PPP
- SBI rural threshold: ₹1,632 per person per month
- SBI urban threshold: ₹1,944 per person per month

An opinion piece published on November 17, 2026, highlights that India's poverty estimates for the same year range from 2.6% to 26.4% depending on the threshold and method, underscoring the lack of a credible benchmark despite a sharp decline in poverty over the past decade.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9048-india-poverty-estimates-2-6-26-4-across-different-thresholds

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17 November 2026 | Science & Tech

13. Drug-resistant tuberculosis: IISc tests isoniazid-vancomycin combination in clinical isolates and mice

- Research department: Department of Biochemistry, Indian Institute of Science
- Drug combination: Isoniazid and vancomycin
- Clinical-isolate collaborator: National Tuberculosis Institute, Bengaluru
- Study journal: Microbiology Spectrum
- First author: Sukriti Pal

The study published in Microbiology Spectrum reports a laboratory and mouse-model finding that combining isoniazid with vancomycin can reverse resistance in drug-resistant tuberculosis isolates, offering a potential new treatment strategy for a persistent global health challenge.

Full story, analysis and quiz: https://supercurrentaffairs.com/en/story/9053-drug-resistant-tuberculosis-iisc-tests-isoniazid-vancomycin

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Practice questions

1. In which city is a main station proposed on the Delhi-Patna high-speed corridor?

(A) Kanpur

(B) Ayodhya

(C) Patna

(D) Agra

2. Consider the following statements about the proposed Delhi-Patna high-speed rail corridor:

1. The proposed route includes Ayodhya and Varanasi.

2. The final route and construction timetable are already settled.

3. A later extension to Guwahati is proposed.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 and 2 only

(B) 2 and 3 only

(C) 1 and 3 only

(D) 1, 2 and 3

3. Which court clarified the limited effect of Special TET participation on teacher appointment and promotion in Uttar Pradesh?

(A) Allahabad High Court

(B) Delhi High Court

(C) Supreme Court of India

(D) Rajasthan High Court

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4. Consider the following statements about Uttar Pradesh Special TET:

1. Participation alone gives a teacher a special right to promotion.

2. The examination gives existing teachers an opportunity to obtain a mandatory qualification.

3. The examination creates new teaching posts.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 2 only
(D) 2 and 3 only

5. Consider the following statements about the PM UDAY ownership process in Delhi:

1. Special camps are proposed to assist applicants with forms and documents.

2. A complete ban on sale deeds in the colonies has already been imposed.

3. The existing process includes publishing property details to invite objections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

6. What is the extended application deadline for Delhi's PM UDAY ownership process?

(A) 31 October 2026
(B) 31 December 2026
(C) 31 January 2027
(D) 31 March 2027

7. Which body started the payment gateway pilot in Madhya Pradesh agricultural markets?

(A) Food Corporation of India
(B) Indian Council of Agricultural Research
(C) Madhya Pradesh State Agricultural Marketing Board
(D) Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Marketing Federation

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8. Consider the following statements about the Madhya Pradesh agricultural market payment gateway pilot:

1. Testing includes markets in Vidisha and Dewas.

2. The earlier process used a bank and RTGS to transfer payments.

3. The pilot is designed to send a payment message to the farmer's mobile phone.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 only
(B) 1 and 2 only
(C) 2 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

9. Consider the following statements about big cat conservation:

1. Big cats directly sequester carbon through their conservation.

2. Protecting big cat habitats can safeguard carbon-rich ecosystems.

3. The International Big Cat Alliance supports knowledge exchange and capacity building.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(A) 1 only
(B) 1 and 2 only
(C) 2 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

10. What was India's estimated tiger population in 2022?

(A) 3,482
(B) 3,682
(C) 3,882
(D) 4,082

11. Which body became a statutory authority under the Gujarat State Disaster Management Act, 2003?

(A) Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management
(B) District grievance committee
(C) Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority
(D) Village grievance committee

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12. Consider the following statements about reconstruction after the 2001 Kutch earthquake:

1. Families received state assistance to rebuild their own houses.

2. Subsequent funding instalments depended on an engineer certifying progress.

3. Relocation of severely damaged villages required the consent of villagers ascertained through the gram sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 2 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

13. Who is eligible for a deposit-free connection under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana?

(A) Adult women from poor households
(B) All domestic LPG connection holders
(C) Oil marketing company employees
(D) All members of every household

14. Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana and domestic LPG pricing:

1. The direct subsidy for an eligible refill is ₹300.

2. The June 2026 decision provides this subsidy for the first four refills in a year.

3. The ₹325.24 additional support is the direct subsidy transferred to beneficiaries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 2 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

15. Which organisation will work with the selected industrial alliance on India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft project?

(A) Ministry of Defence
(B) Aeronautical Development Agency
(C) Defence Research and Development Organisation
(D) Indian Air Force

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16. Consider the following statements about India's fighter projects and maritime surveillance:

1. Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft is an official fifth-generation stealth fighter programme.

2. Refi Mfiber's proposed fighter has already completed its first flight.

3. Varun Dhwani-01 is designed to send signals through a GSAT satellite.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 2 only
(D) 1 and 3 only

17. Which US congressional committee called Jensen Huang and Howard Lutnick to testify in the Nvidia case on 3 December 2026?

(A) Senate Finance Committee
(B) Senate Commerce Committee
(C) Senate Foreign Relations Committee
(D) Senate Banking Committee

18. Consider the following statements about the US AI chip export controls:

1. Remote access to covered computing power is treated as an export.

2. Foreign data centres serving companies in China and other restricted countries must identify end users.

3. India is among the five countries named for separate chip-sales licences.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 2 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

19. Who chaired the Prime Minister's High-Level Committee that studied the status of Indian Muslims?

(A) Justice J. S. Verma
(B) Justice Ranganath Misra
(C) Manmohan Singh
(D) Justice Rajinder Sachar

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20. Consider the following statements about the Sachar Committee Report:

1. The report examined Muslims' share in government jobs.

2. The report was placed in Parliament before it was submitted to the Prime Minister.

3. The committee recommended inclusive development and mainstreaming.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(A) 1 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

21. Which institution conducted the anti-dumping investigation into selected cold-rolled flat steel imports in the European Union?

(A) Council of the European Union
(B) European Parliament
(C) European Commission
(D) Court of Justice of the European Union

22. Consider the following statements about the European Union's duties on selected cold-rolled flat steel products:

1. India's duty rate is 9.5%.

2. Japan's duty rate is 16%.

3. The Particular Market Situation approach was applied in the cases of India and Taiwan.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2 and 3
(D) 1 and 3 only

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23. Which institution estimated India's poverty in 2022-23 using the $3 and $4.20 daily international benchmarks?

(A) SBI Research

(B) Tendulkar Committee

(C) Rangarajan Committee

(D) World Bank

24. Consider the following statements about India's poverty estimates:

1. SBI Research estimated urban poverty at 7.2% for 2022-23.

2. The World Bank's $4.20 daily benchmark yielded an estimate of about 16.1% for 2022-23.

3. Sethu, Surya and Ruthu reconstructed the Rangarajan method using a recent consumption survey.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 only

(B) 1 and 2 only

(C) 2 and 3 only

(D) 1, 2 and 3

25. Which institution's Department of Biochemistry studied the isoniazid-vancomycin combination against drug-resistant tuberculosis?

(A) Indian Institute of Science

(B) National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis

(C) Centre for Infectious Disease Research

(D) National Tuberculosis Institute

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26. Consider the following statements about the isoniazid-vancomycin study:

1. Isoniazid requires activation by a bacterial enzyme.

2. Vancomycin readily penetrates the impermeable cell wall of Mycobacterium tuberculosis when used alone.

3. The combination was tested against clinical isolates obtained from sputum samples.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

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Answer key

1. (B) Ayodhya

Ayodhya Dham station is in Ayodhya and is proposed as a main station on the corridor. Kanpur, Agra and Patna are other cities on the proposed network.

2. (C) 1 and 3 only

Statements 1 and 3 are correct: Ayodhya and Varanasi are on the proposed route, and a Guwahati extension is proposed. Statement 2 is incorrect because the final route and timetable will become clear after the survey and detailed project report.

3. (A) Allahabad High Court

The Allahabad High Court clarified that Special TET participation alone does not confer special appointment or promotion rights. The Supreme Court is separately invoked by opposing teachers.

4. (C) 2 only

Statement 2 is correct: Special TET offers existing teachers an opportunity to obtain a mandatory qualification. Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect because participation confers no special promotion right and creates no new post.

5. (C) 1 and 3 only

Statements 1 and 3 are correct: camps are planned, and property details are published for objections. Statement 2 is incorrect because the sale deed ban is a request, not an implemented measure.

6. (C) 31 January 2027

The application deadline was extended to 31 January 2027. The earlier deadline was 31 October; December 2026 and March 2027 are not the extended deadline.

7. (C) Madhya Pradesh State Agricultural Marketing Board

The Mandi Board started the pilot in agricultural markets. The Integrated Finance Management System is linked to the gateway, while MP Farmgate and e-Mandi are digital services being linked to it.

8. (D) 1, 2 and 3

All three statements are correct: Vidisha and Dewas are testing locations, the earlier process used bank transfers through RTGS, and the gateway is designed to send a mobile message. RTGS stands for Real Time Gross Settlement.

9. (C) 2 and 3 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: big cats do not directly sequester carbon through their conservation. Statements 2 and 3 are correct: habitat protection safeguards carbon-rich ecosystems, and the alliance facilitates knowledge exchange and capacity building.

10. (B) 3,682

India's 2022 tiger estimate was 3,682. The other figures do not match that estimate.

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11. (C) Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority

The Gujarat State Disaster Management Act, 2003 made the Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority statutory. The institute and grievance committees had distinct roles in disaster management and reconstruction.

12. (D) 1, 2 and 3

All three statements are correct. The programme combined owner-driven rebuilding and certified payments with village consent for relocation.

13. (A) Adult women from poor households

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana provides deposit-free LPG connections to adult women from poor households. Eligibility is not universal for all domestic connection holders or all household members, and company employment is not the stated criterion.

14. (C) 1 and 2 only

Statements 1 and 2 are correct: the direct subsidy is ₹300 and covers the first four annual refills under the June 2026 decision. Statement 3 is incorrect because ₹325.24 is additional support linked to the cost-retail price gap, not the direct beneficiary transfer.

15. (B) Aeronautical Development Agency

The selected industrial alliance will work with the Aeronautical Development Agency on AMCA. The Ministry of Defence plans the selection, while the Defence Research and Development Organisation developed Varun Dhwani-01; the Indian Air Force's requirements are relevant to the separate private fighter project.

16. (D) 1 and 3 only

Statements 1 and 3 are correct: AMCA is the official fifth-generation programme, and Varun Dhwani-01 is designed to use a GSAT satellite for transmission. Statement 2 is incorrect because the private fighter's first flight is considered possible by 2030, not completed.

17. (D) Senate Banking Committee

The Senate Banking Committee called both individuals to testify.

18. (C) 1 and 2 only

Statements 1 and 2 describe the remote-access and end-user identification provisions. Statement 3 is incorrect: the five named countries are Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Brazil.

19. (D) Justice Rajinder Sachar

Retired Justice Rajinder Sachar chaired the committee. Manmohan Singh received its report as the then Prime Minister.

20. (C) 1 and 3 only

Statements 1 and 3 are correct: the assessment included government employment and recommended inclusive development and mainstreaming. Statement 2 is incorrect because submission on 17 November 2006 preceded parliamentary placement on 30 November 2006.

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21. (C) European Commission

The European Commission conducted the investigation and imposed the duties. The other options are not the investigating institution.

22. (D) 1 and 3 only

Statements 1 and 3 are correct: India's rate is 9.5%, and the approach was applied to India and Taiwan. Statement 2 is incorrect because Japan's rate is 27.9%; 16% is Vietnam's rate.

23. (D) World Bank

The World Bank used the two daily international benchmarks expressed in 2021 purchasing power parity. SBI Research used an inflation-adjusted Tendulkar line; the Rangarajan and Tendulkar approaches are distinct Indian poverty benchmarks.

24. (C) 2 and 3 only

Statement 1 is incorrect: 7.2% was the rural estimate, while the urban estimate was 4.6%. Statements 2 and 3 are correct: the $4.20 benchmark yielded about 16.1%, and the reconstructed Rangarajan method used consumption survey data.

25. (A) Indian Institute of Science

The Department of Biochemistry at the Indian Institute of Science identified the combination strategy. The National Tuberculosis Institute collaborated on isolates, while the Centre for Infectious Disease Research and Department of Microbiology and Cell Biology collaborated on the mouse model.

26. (C) 1 and 3 only

Statements 1 and 3 are correct: isoniazid is a prodrug and the isolates came from patient sputum. Statement 2 is incorrect because vancomycin has difficulty penetrating the bacterial cell wall.

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