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Ministry of Railways Wins PM Surya Ghar Excellence Award 2026

- The Ministry of Railways was honoured with the prestigious PM Surya Ghar Excellence Award 2026 by Vice President of India C. P. Radhakrishnan on 5 November 2026, during the Renewable Energy Summit & Expo 2026 held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- The Ministry secured the top position in the category “Maximum Buildings Solarized by Central Ministries/Departments” under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.
- Railway buildings solarized: 12,495
- Completion rate: 79%
- Installed solar capacity: 351 MW
- Solarization deadline: March 2027
- At the national level, 77 Central Ministries and Departments have identified 39,135 buildings suitable for rooftop solar installations.
- Of these, 25,984 buildings have been solarized, representing approximately 66% of the identified buildings.
- The Ministry of Railways has committed to solarizing all remaining feasible railway buildings by March 2027.
- Based on the reported figures, approximately 3,373 identified buildings remain to be equipped with rooftop solar systems.
- The Ministry also needs to commission an additional 73 MW of rooftop solar capacity to reach its stated target of 424 MW.



James Dyson Global Sustainability Award 2026

- Filipino structural engineer **Aldrei Ong** won the 2026 James Dyson Global Sustainability Award for developing Sentinel, an innovative sensor designed to identify hidden structural damage in buildings, particularly after earthquakes.
- The award was announced on 4 November 2026. Ong, a graduate of De La Salle University in the Philippines, received £30,000 to support the further development of his invention.
- Sentinel converts a conventional concrete spacer block, normally used to position reinforcing steel during construction, into a structural monitoring sensor.
- It uses self-sensing concrete containing electrically conductive materials. When cracks or internal damage develop, the material's electrical resistance changes.



India Win Sixth Men's Asian Champions Trophy Hockey Title

- The Indian men's hockey team successfully defended its title at the 9th Men's Asian Champions Trophy, defeating Japan 4-1 in the final at the Olympian Balbir Singh Senior International Hockey Stadium in Mohali, Punjab.
- With this victory, India claimed its sixth Men's Asian Champions Trophy title and completed a remarkable hat-trick of three consecutive championships.

Particular	Details
Tournament	9th Men's Asian Champions Trophy
Sport	Field Hockey
Champion	India
Runner-up	Japan
Final Score	India 4–1 Japan
Venue	Olympian Balbir Singh Senior International Hockey Stadium

Location	Mohali, Punjab
Total Titles Won by India	6
Consecutive Titles	3
Bronze Medal Winner	Malaysia
Bronze Medal Match	Malaysia 5–2 South Korea
Retiring Indian Player	Nilakanta Sharma



Bay of Bengal Countries Launch Fisheries Research Network

- India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and the Maldives jointly launched the Bay of Bengal Network of Ocean Researchers for Fisheries (BOB-NOR) on 5 November 2026 in Kochi, Kerala.

- The initiative aims to strengthen scientific cooperation, promote sustainable fisheries management and address the impact of climate change on marine ecosystems.
- The network was launched during an international meeting at the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), alongside an international symposium on fisheries and remote sensing.
- The initiative will bring together marine scientists, oceanographers and fisheries researchers to examine how ocean conditions influence fish populations and their migration patterns.
- Researchers will integrate satellite observations, oceanographic surveys and fisheries data to understand the effects of sea surface temperature, salinity, monsoon patterns, ocean currents and marine productivity.



Bahamas Joins International Solar Alliance

- The Commonwealth of The Bahamas joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as its 116th member country on 4 November 2026, following the submission of its Instrument of Accession to the ISA Framework Agreement.
- The formal accession took place during the 9th Session of the International Solar Alliance Assembly, held in New Delhi, India.
- The Instrument of Accession was handed over by Peter Nicholas Symonette Jr., High Commissioner of the Bahamas, to P. S. Gangadhar, Joint Secretary, Economic Diplomacy and Head of Depository.
- The development strengthens international cooperation in solar energy and expands the participation of **Small Island Developing States** (SIDS) in the global transition towards renewable energy.

- The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is an intergovernmental organisation established to promote solar energy deployment and strengthen cooperation among countries.
- The initiative was jointly launched by India and France in 2015, on the sidelines of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris.
- The ISA Framework Agreement entered into force on 6 December 2017.
- The organisation's headquarters is located in Gurugram, Haryana, India.



Amit Shah Inaugurates Martyrs' Memorial of First War of Independence of 1857

- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah inaugurated the Martyrs' Memorial of the First War of Independence of 1857 in Ambala, Haryana, on 5 November 2026.
- The memorial has been constructed to honour the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives during the Revolt of 1857, widely remembered in India as the First War of Independence.
- Built at a cost of ₹594 crore across 22 acres, the memorial features 22 galleries that combine historical documents, traditional art forms and modern digital technologies to present the events and sacrifices associated with the freedom struggle.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

Q1. Who presented the PM Surya Ghar Excellence Award 2026 to the Ministry of Railways?

A) Narendra Modi
B) C. P. Radhakrishnan
C) Jagdeep Dhankhar
D) Amit Shah

Answer: B) C. P. Radhakrishnan

Q2. How many railway buildings had been equipped with rooftop solar systems according to the presentation?

A) 10,495
B) 11,250
C) 12,495
D) 15,495

Answer: C) 12,495

Q3. Who won the 2026 James Dyson Global Sustainability Award?

A) Aldrei Ong
B) James Dyson

C) Peter Nicholas Symonette Jr.
D) Edmund Richardson

Answer: A) Aldrei Ong

Q4. What is the name of the structural monitoring sensor developed by Aldrei Ong?

A) Guardian
B) Sentinel
C) Protector
D) EarthSafe

Answer: B) Sentinel

Q5. Which team did India defeat in the final of the 9th Men's Asian Champions Trophy 2026?

A) Malaysia
B) South Korea
C) Japan
D) Pakistan

Answer: C) Japan

Q6. How many times has India won the Men's Asian Champions Trophy after its 2026 victory?

A) Four times
B) Five times
C) Six times
D) Seven times

Answer: C) Six times

Q7. Which four countries jointly launched the Bay of Bengal Network of Ocean Researchers for Fisheries (BOB-NOR)?

A) India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar
B) India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Maldives
C) India, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia
D) India, Maldives, Myanmar and Thailand

Answer: B) India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Maldives

Q8. Which country became the 116th member of the International Solar Alliance in November 2026?

A) Mauritius
B) Seychelles
C) Bahamas
D) Fiji

Answer: C) Bahamas

Q9. Where is the headquarters of the International Solar Alliance located?

A) New Delhi
B) Gurugram
C) Mumbai
D) Bengaluru

Answer: B) Gurugram

Q10. Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Martyrs' Memorial dedicated to the First War of Independence of 1857 in which city?

A) Hisar
B) Karnal
C) Ambala
D) Rohtak

Answer: C) Ambala