

THE DAILY GK DOSE

ICICI BANK RE-APPOINTED SANDEEP BAKHSHI AS MD

- **Extended Tenure:** Bakhshi has been granted a further two-year term, effective from October 4, 2026, to October 3, 2028. This extension follows his current term, which is scheduled to conclude on October 3, 2026.
- **Regulatory Status:** The re-appointment is currently subject to approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the bank's shareholders. Notably, this two-year term concludes well before he reaches the RBI-mandated age ceiling of 70 for bank CEOs (which he will turn in May 2030).

Footnotes: ICICI Bank's Part-time Chairman: Pradeep Kumar Sinha, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1955

MUSEVENI SECURES APPOINTED AS PRESIDENT OF UGANDA

- **Landslide Victory & Seventh Term:** Museveni, representing the National Resistance Movement (NRM), secured a seventh term in office with 71.65% of the vote. This victory extends his leadership, which began in 1986, until at least 2031.
- **Controversial Conduct:** The election saw major tensions, with a nationwide internet shutdown, manual voting after biometric failures, and reports from observers of strong repression against opposition leaders.

Footnotes: Uganda's PM: Robinah Nabbanja, President: Yoweri K. Museveni, Capital: Kampala

PESA ACT IMPLEMENTED IN JHARKHAND



- **Empowerment of Gram Sabhas:** The new rules make the Gram Sabha the highest authority in Scheduled Areas, empowering it to manage natural resources, settle local disputes, and safeguard tribal traditions, with traditional leaders like Manki, Munda, and Majhi presiding.
- **Mandatory Consent & Rights:** For the first time, tribal communities in Jharkhand have legal rights over Minor Forest Produce, and the government must seek Gram Sabha consent before land acquisition or mining of minor minerals.
- **Coverage & Police Accountability:** The rules apply fully in 13 districts (including Ranchi, Khunti, and Dumka) and partially in 3 others. Additionally, a new accountability measure requires the police to inform the Gram Sabha within 48 hours of arresting any person from the village.

Footnotes: Jharkhand's Governor: Santosh Gangwar, CM: Hemant Soren, Capital: Ranchi.

IMPORTANT FACTS

- The first Census of India was conducted in the year 1872.
- The Planning Commission of India was established on 15 March 1950.
- The slogan of the Quit India Movement was given by Mahatma Gandhi.
- Fundamental Rights are mentioned in Part III of the Indian Constitution.
- Madhya Pradesh is the largest landlocked state of India.

RBI ISSUES RB-IOs, 2026

- **Significant Compensation Hike:** The maximum compensation for consequential financial loss has been increased to ₹30 lakh (up from ₹20 lakh). Additionally, the award for mental anguish, harassment, and loss of time has been tripled to ₹3 lakh.
- **Stricter Timelines for Redressal:** The complaint filing period has been reduced to 90 days, and banks must respond to the Ombudsman within 15 days or risk an ex-parte decision.
- **Broadened Scope and Efficiency:** The scheme now covers more services, enables faster resolution through a summary process, and expands digital complaint handling via additional CRPCs.

Footnotes: RBI's Governor: Sanjay Malhotra, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1935.

SMRITI MANDHANA NAMED VICE-CAPTAIN FOR INDIAN TEAM

- **Multi-Format Deputy:** Mandhana will serve as the deputy to captain Harmanpreet Kaur across all formats (T20Is, ODIs, and a one-off Test) for the high-profile series in Australia scheduled for February and March 2026.
- **World Champion Momentum:** Her retention as vice-captain follows a historic 2025 where she played a pivotal role in India's maiden ICC Women's ODI World Cup victory. She finished 2025 as the world's highest run-scorer in ODIs, amassing over 1,300 runs.
- **Milestone Year:** The announcement comes as Mandhana continues her stellar form in the ongoing WPL 2026 (where she captains RCB) and follows her recent achievement of becoming only the second Indian woman to surpass 10,000 international runs.

INDIAN RAILWAYS HONOURED CHANDANA SINHA

- **Exceptional Rescue Record:** Inspector Sinha, based at Lucknow's Charbagh station, was recognized for leading the rescue of over 1,500 children from human trafficking and exploitation across Uttar

Pradesh's rail network over the past three years. In 2025 alone, her team rescued 1,032 children.

- **Leadership of "Operation Nanhe Farishte":** She was honored for her role in spearheading the RPF's flagship child-protection initiative, Operation Nanhe Farishte. Her unit developed a specialized "model" of vigilance that involves monitoring behavioral cues and body language to identify distressed children hidden in crowds.

Footnotes: Minister for Railway: Ashwini Vaishnaw, HQ: New Delhi, Estd: 1853

WIKIPEDIA PARTNERS WITH MICROSOFT, META, AMAZON



- **Commercial Data Access:** These tech giants have moved from "scraping" free data to becoming paid partners. They now use specialized APIs (Real-time, On-demand, and Snapshot) to receive high-volume, structured Wikipedia content specifically optimized for training and powering their AI models and chatbots.

- **Financial Sustainability:** The deals are designed to ensure that Big Tech companies—which rely heavily on Wikipedia's human-curated data—contribute to the nonprofit's rising infrastructure costs. This comes as "AI overviews" in search engines have led to an 8% drop in human traffic to Wikipedia, threatening its traditional donation-based model.
- **Human-Centric AI Strategy:** Jimmy Wales said the data will support AI but remain human-governed, with revenue funding volunteer editors and AI tools that assist them, not replace them.

ONGC'S B&S ASSET WINS PRESTIGIOUS SAFETY AWARDS

- **Dual National Honors:** The B&S Asset bagged two major awards from Grow Care India for 2025–26: the Platinum Award in Fire Safety and the Gold Award in Occupational Health & Safety. These reflect the asset's success in managing the high-risk environment of offshore gas fields.
- **Strategic Excellence:** The awards reflect ONGC's strong safety culture, as the complex and crucial B&S Asset maintained zero major incidents while sustaining high operational integrity.

Footnotes: ONGC's Chairman & CEO: Arun Kumar Singh, HQ: Delhi, Estd: 1956

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

19.01.2026 / MONDAY

- 1966 – Indira Gandhi was elected first woman PM of India.
- She succeeded Lal Bahadur Shastri in January 1966.
- She belonged to Indian National Congress & later became one of India's longest-serving PMs.