

THE DAILY GK DOSE

RBI APPOINTS RAVI SHANKAR AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- The Reserve Bank of India has appointed Ravi Shankar as its new Executive Director with effect from July 3, 2026. He will oversee key departments related to regulation, supervision, and financial sector operations as assigned by the RBI.
- Prior to his promotion as ED, Shankar was serving as Adviser-In-Charge of the Department of Statistics and Information Management of the Bank.
- As a career central banker statistician, he has experience of over three decades in the Reserve Bank having worked in the areas of corporate, banking statistics, government securities market and settlement systems, debt management, and surveys in the Reserve Bank.

GUJARAT POLICE LAUNCH 'OPERATION SURAKSHIT CYBERSPACE'

- The Gujarat Police has launched Operation Surakshit Cyberspace to combat rising cyber frauds, online financial scams, and digital crimes across the state. The initiative targets cybercriminal networks using coordinated intelligence and technology-driven investigations.
- The operation includes statewide awareness campaigns, faster cybercrime response teams, digital forensic support, and closer coordination with banks and social media platforms. Citizens are also being educated about phishing, fake investment schemes, and online fraud prevention.

- The initiative aims to improve cyber safety and enhance public confidence in digital transactions. It also supports India's broader goal of creating a secure digital ecosystem under the Digital India initiative.

CENTRAL GOVT NOTIFIES EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME, 2026



- The Ministry of Labour and Employment has officially notified the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 2026, updating the regulatory framework governing provident fund accounts. The scheme modernizes several operational provisions while protecting employees' retirement savings.
- It introduces greater digitization, simplified claim settlement, improved account portability, and stronger transparency measures. The reforms are designed to reduce paperwork and provide faster services to EPF subscribers..
- The new scheme enhances ease of doing business for employers while improving service delivery for employees. It also supports the government's vision of a technology-driven and efficient social security system.

IMPORTANT FACTS

- **Ganga:** The longest river system in India (2,525 km).
- **Godavari:** The longest river in Peninsular India.
- **Brahmaputra:** Originates in Tibet as the YarlungTsangpo.
- **Narmada:** Flows westward into the Arabian Sea.
- **Kaveri:** known as the "Ganga of South India."

GUJARAT TO INVEST 190 CRORE IN SEMICONDUCTOR TRAINING HUB AT IIT GANDHINAGAR

- The Gujarat government has approved an investment of 190 crore to establish a Semiconductor Training Hub at Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar. The centre will develop skilled manpower for India's rapidly expanding semiconductor industry.
- The hub will provide advanced training in chip design, semiconductor manufacturing, packaging, testing, and fabrication technologies. It will also collaborate with industry leaders and research institutions to promote innovation and practical learning.
- The project supports the India Semiconductor Mission by creating a highly skilled workforce. It strengthens Gujarat's position as a major semiconductor manufacturing and innovation destination.

INDIA STEPS UP HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EARTHQUAKE-HIT VENEZUELA UNDER OPERATION AMISTAD

- India has launched Operation Amistad to provide humanitarian assistance to earthquake-affected Venezuela. Relief supplies include emergency medicines, medical equipment, food items, tents, and other essential materials for affected communities.
- The operation reflects India's commitment to the principle of 'VasudhaivaKutumbakam' (The World is One Family) and its role as a first responder during global disasters. Indian agencies are coordinating with Venezuelan authorities to ensure timely delivery of relief materials.
- The mission strengthens India-Venezuela bilateral relations through humanitarian diplomacy. It also highlights India's growing reputation as a responsible global partner in disaster relief and emergency response.

PRASHANT SITARAM APPOINTED ADDITIONAL SECRETARY IN HOME MINISTRY

- Senior IAS officer Prashant Sitaram has been appointed as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs. He will be responsible for handling important administrative and policy-related matters within the ministry.

- As Additional Secretary, he will assist in formulating and implementing policies related to internal security, governance, and coordination with states. The position is among the senior-most administrative roles in the Union Government.
- His appointment is expected to strengthen policy implementation and administrative efficiency in the Home Ministry. It also reflects the government's focus on experienced leadership in critical governance sectors.

MINISTRY OF TOURISM SIGNS MOU WITH GOOGLE INDIA TO BOOST DIGITAL TOURISM



- The Ministry of Tourism has signed an MoU with Google India to promote India's tourism sector through digital technologies. The collaboration will enhance online visibility of tourist destinations using Google's platforms.
- The partnership will focus on AI-powered travel information, digital skill development for tourism stakeholders,

multilingual content creation, and improved destination marketing. It will also help small tourism businesses strengthen their digital presence.

- The initiative supports the government's vision of making India a globally competitive tourism destination. It is expected to increase tourist arrivals, improve visitor experiences, and generate employment in the tourism sector.

INDIA'S FIRST PRIVATELY DEVELOPED ORBITAL-CLASS ROCKET VIKRAM-1 SET FOR LAUNCH

- Skyroot Aerospace is set to launch Vikram-1, India's first privately developed orbital-class rocket. The mission marks a major milestone in the country's private space sector following space sector reforms.
- Vikram-1 is a three-stage launch vehicle capable of placing small satellites into Low Earth Orbit (LEO). It incorporates advanced carbon-composite structures, 3D-printed engines, and cost-efficient launch technologies.
- The launch will demonstrate India's growing capabilities in commercial space launches and private innovation. It is expected to strengthen India's position in the global small-satellite launch market and support the vision of a vibrant space economy.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

03.07.2026 / FRIDAY

- *historical milestones that occurred on July 3 include:*
- **1661: Portugal gave Bombay (now Mumbai) to the British King, Charles II**
- **1908: Indian independence activist Bal Gangadhar Tilak was arrested for sedition by the British, sparking massive protests.**