

THE DAILY GK DOSE

ASHWINI KUMAR TEWARI TOOK CHARGE AS SBI MD

- Extended Tenure for Stability:** The Government of India reappointed him for a second term until December 31, 2027, or his superannuation, to ensure leadership continuity at India's largest public sector bank.
- Strategic Portfolio:** In his current capacity, he handled the bank's large corporate credit business as well as non-bank arms like SBI Card, Mutual Funds, and Life/General Insurance.
- Veteran Background:** A career SBI banker since 1991, he previously served as MD & CEO of SBI Cards and Country Head for SBI's US operations, and led major technology upgrades and digital partnerships such as GPay and Paytm.

Footnotes: SBI's Chairman: C. Sreenivasulu Setty, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1955

SIKKIM POLICE CONFERRED WITH PRESIDENT'S POLICE COLOUR AWARD 2026

- Elite Milestone:** Sikkim has become the 15th state in India and only the 3rd in the Northeast (following Assam and Manipur) to receive this rare distinction, commonly known as the "Nishaan".
- Recognition of Excellence:** The award honors the force for maintaining peace, responding effectively to the 2023 Glacial Lake Outburst Flood, and

securing sensitive international borders.

- Symbolic Uniform Change:** All 6,500 Sikkim Police personnel will be authorized to wear a special insignia on their left sleeve, and a ceremonial flag with golden fringes will be presented at a special Alankaran Parade later this year.

Footnotes: Sikkim's CM: Prem Singh Tamang, Governor: Om Prakash Mathur, Capital: Gangtok

MP GOVERNOR DECLARES 2026 AS 'YEAR OF AGRICULTURE'



- Financial Commitment & "Samriddh Kisan" Vision:** The Governor highlighted the agriculture budget's rise from ₹600 crore in 2002–03 to over ₹27,000 crore in 2024–25 to position the state as a global agricultural hub.

- 10-Point Development Model:** The initiative follows a multifaceted model with 10 core activities, including technology transfer, natural farming, digital market transparency, and expanding e-Mandi to 259 markets benefiting over 40 lakh farmers.

Footnotes: MP's Governor: Mangubhai C. Patel, CM: Mohan Yadav, Capital: Bhopal

IMPORTANT FACTS

TITLES OF INDIAN CITIES

- Gateway of India* - Mumbai
- Manchester of India* - Ahmedabad
- City of Lakes* - Srinagar
- Heart of India* - Madhya Pradesh
- Land of Temples* - Tamil Nadu
- Orange Capital of India* - Nagpur

MILITARY QUANTUM MISSION POLICY FRAMEWORK RELEASED

- Civil-Military Fusion:** The framework ends the lab-only approach by forming governing bodies with government, academic, and startup experts to speed the shift of quantum technologies from research to battlefield use.
- Tri-Service Jointness:** For the first time, a unified policy standardizes quantum protocols across the Army, Navy, and Air Force, supporting the effectiveness of India's future Integrated Theatre Commands.
- Alignment with National Goals:** The MQM aligns with the ₹6,003 crore National Quantum Mission, making the Armed Forces active partners in India's push for self-reliance in critical emerging technologies.

ROHIT SHARMA NAMED BRAND AMBASSADOR FOR 2026 MEN'S T20 WC

- Historic "Active Player" Milestone:** Rohit is the first active cricketer to be appointed as an official ICC ambassador for a major tournament. While he retired from T20 Internationals after leading India to the 2024 title, he remains active in Test and ODI formats.
- Legacy as a Two-Time Winner:** His selection honors his unique career trajectory; he is one of the very few players to have won the T20 World Cup twice—first as a youngster in the inaugural 2007 edition and then as captain in 2024.
- Key Promotional Role:** As the face of the tournament, he is leading major campaigns (like JioStar's "History Repeat Karenge, History Defeat Karenge"), leveraging his massive global influence to drive fan engagement for the event scheduled from February 7 to March 8, 2026.

GMDC APPOINTS SHRI SANDEEP KUMAR IAS AS DIRECTOR

- Strategic Transition:** Shri Sandeep Kumar, a 2002-batch IAS officer of the Gujarat cadre, replaces Ms. Arti Kanwar, IAS on the GMDC Board. This change follows his recent appointment as the Secretary (Economic Affairs) within the Finance Department of the Government of Gujarat.
- Vast Administrative Expertise:** With over 20 years of

experience, Shri Kumar brings deep expertise across critical sectors including Agriculture, Home, and Power. His background in energy and power distribution is particularly valuable for GMDC, which operates in both the mining and power sectors.

Footnotes: GMDC's MD: Roopwant Singh, HQ: Vastrapur, Estd: 1963

DHARMENDRA SINGH DEOL AWARDED PADMA VIBHUSHAN 2026



- Posthumous Recognition:** The award was conferred posthumously, following the passing of the "He-Man" of Indian cinema on November 24, 2025. This recognition serves as a final tribute to his massive influence on Indian culture and his career spanning over six decades.
- Versatile Cinematic Legacy:** Dharmendra was honored in the field of Art (Cinema) for his extraordinary range across more than 300 films. The citation highlights his rare ability to excel in diverse genres and his modern-day resurgence in Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani.
- Top-Tier Honor:** This is an elevation of his previous honors;

he was already a recipient of the Padma Bhushan in 2012. For 2026, he is one of only five recipients of the Padma Vibhushan, joining other distinguished figures like former Supreme Court judge K.T. Thomas and classical violinist N. Rajam.

PADMA AWARDEE MARK TULLY PASSED AWAY

- The "Voice of India":** Tully was BBC's New Delhi bureau chief from 1972–1993, becoming a trusted news voice, especially during crises like the 1971 Bangladesh War and the 1975 Emergency, when he was briefly expelled.
- Witness to History:** He covered India's major crises—including the Bhopal tragedy, Operation Blue Star, the assassinations of Indira and Rajiv Gandhi, and the Babri Masjid demolition—earning respect for his empathetic, ground-level reporting.
- Highly Decorated Author:** A prolific author of books like *No Full Stops in India* and *Amritsar: Mrs Gandhi's Last Battle*, he was knighted in 2002 and awarded India's Padma Shri (1992) and Padma Bhushan (2005) for his contributions to journalism and Indo-British relations.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

International Data Privacy Day: 28th January

- Focus:** On the theme "Take Control of Your Data" by actively managing digital rights and permissions.
- Organizations:** Shift to "Privacy by Design" to embed data protection into the core of AI and new technologies.