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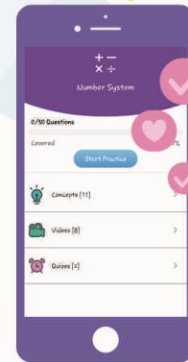
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# Commonwealth Games 2026



The **23rd edition** of the Commonwealth Games is being held in Glasgow, Scotland over 10 days (23rd July -2nd August 2026), with participation from teams representing 74 nations and territories.

**Featured Sports:** The 2026 edition features only 10 sports, nine fewer than Birmingham 2022.

The events include athletics, swimming, 3×3 basketball, track cycling, weightlifting, bowls, artistic gymnastics, netball, boxing and judo.

**Indian Participation:** India is participating with a 125-member contingent, including para-athletes.

Indian athletes will compete in athletics, boxing, weightlifting, judo, artistic gymnastics, track cycling, bowls, swimming, and para-sports. India will not send teams for 3×3 basketball and netball.

**India's Participation and Performance:** India first participated in the Commonwealth Games in 1934.

Its best-ever performance came at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, where it won 101 medals.

## Commonwealth Games

CWG is the world's second-largest multi-sport event after the Olympics, featuring athletes from 71 nations and territories, most of which are former British colonies.

CWG was the brainchild of Canadian sportswriter Melville Marks Robinson.

The idea of CWG originated from the 1911 Inter-Empire Championships in London, held during the Festival of Empire for King George V's coronation.

The first official CWG, then known as the British Empire Games, were held in 1930 with Canada's Hamilton as hosts. Canadian athlete Gordon Smallacombe won the first gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in the triple jump.

Since the first edition, the Games have been held every four years except in 1942 and 1946, and they were formally renamed the Commonwealth Games in 1978.

**Governing Body:** Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) is responsible for the direction and control of the Games.

**India at CWG:** India last hosted the Commonwealth Games in 2010 in New Delhi, and has won the bid to host the Centenary Commonwealth Games 2030, with Ahmedabad, Gujarat selected as the host city.

## India Finishes Fourth in the Commonwealth Games Medal Table for 2026



With total 39 medals at the 2026 Commonwealth Games, India matched the total for the domestic team, Scotland. However, India secured fourth place because of more silver medals.

India's 39-medal haul included 13 gold, 17 silver and 9 bronze medals. Boxing was a major contributor, with Indian boxers winning 10 medals, including a record seven gold medals. Athletics and para-athletics also made a strong contribution, while weightlifting and judo added further medals. Australia topped the medal table with 171 medals, followed by England with 110 and Canada with 62.

## The final standings for the Olympic Games medal table for 2026 were as follows.

| Rank | Country     | Gold | Silver | Bronze | Total |
|------|-------------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1    | Australia   | 70   | 45     | 56     | 171   |
| 2    | England     | 29   | 45     | 36     | 110   |
| 3    | Canada      | 19   | 20     | 23     | 62    |
| 4    | India       | 13   | 17     | 9      | 39    |
| 5    | Scotland    | 13   | 9      | 17     | 39    |
| 6    | New Zealand | 10   | 14     | 12     | 36    |
| 7    | Nigeria     | 10   | 7      | 7      | 24    |
| 8    | Jamaica     | 10   | 4      | 5      | 19    |
| 9    | Wales       | 9    | 10     | 12     | 31    |
| 10   | Malaysia    | 8    | 3      | 5      | 16    |

## India's Medal Tally by Sport

| Sport             | Gold | Silver | Bronze | Total |
|-------------------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| Boxing            | 7    | 3      | 0      | 10    |
| Athletics         | 0    | 5      | 5      | 10    |
| Weightlifting     | 1    | 6      | 1      | 8     |
| Para Athletics    | 3    | 2      | 1      | 6     |
| Judo              | 2    | 1      | 1      | 4     |
| Para Powerlifting | 0    | 0      | 1      | 1     |
| Total             | 13   | 17     | 9      | 39    |

## India's Major Highlights

| Category              | Achievement                                                                |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Overall Rank          | 4th                                                                        |
| Total Medals          | 39                                                                         |
| Most Successful Sport | Boxing (10 medals)                                                         |
| Most Gold Medals      | Boxing (7 Gold)                                                            |
| Mirabai Chanu         | First Indian woman to win three consecutive CWG gold medals                |
| Asmita Dey            | India's first Commonwealth Games Judo Champion                             |
| Gulveer Singh         | First Indian track & field athlete to win two individual medals at one CWG |
| Tejaswin Shankar      | India's first Commonwealth Games Decathlon medallist                       |
| Para Campaign         | Best-ever performance with 7 medals                                        |
| Neeraj Chopra         | Returned to CWG with Silver after missing Birmingham 2022                  |

### Complete List of India's Medal Winners

| No. | Athlete             | Sport             | Event                | Medal  |
|-----|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------|
| 1   | Jhandu Kumar        | Para Powerlifting | Men's Heavyweight    | Bronze |
| 2   | Rishikanta Singh    | Weightlifting     | Men's 60kg           | Silver |
| 3   | Mirabai Chanu       | Weightlifting     | Women's 48kg         | Gold   |
| 4   | Muthupandi Raja     | Weightlifting     | Men's 65kg           | Silver |
| 5   | Gyaneshwari Yadav   | Weightlifting     | Women's 53kg         | Silver |
| 6   | Bindyarani Devi     | Weightlifting     | Women's 58kg         | Bronze |
| 7   | Sharmila Dhankar    | Para Athletics    | Women's Shot Put F57 | Gold   |
| 8   | Sarvesh Kushare     | Athletics         | Men's High Jump      | Silver |
| 9   | Shilpa K Shyla      | Para Athletics    | Women's Shot Put F57 | Bronze |
| 10  | Valluri Ajaya Babu  | Weightlifting     | Men's 79kg           | Silver |
| 11  | Harjinder Kaur      | Weightlifting     | Women's 69kg         | Silver |
| 12  | Gulveer Singh       | Athletics         | Men's 10,000m        | Silver |
| 13  | Murali Sreeshankar  | Athletics         | Men's Long Jump      | Silver |
| 14  | Dilip Gavit         | Para Athletics    | Men's 100m T47       | Gold   |
| 15  | Mohammed Basil      | Para Athletics    | Men's 100m T47       | Silver |
| 16  | Lovepreet Singh     | Weightlifting     | Men's +110kg         | Silver |
| 17  | Seema Kaliramna     | Athletics         | Women's Discus Throw | Bronze |
| 18  | Asmita Dey          | Judo              | Women's -48kg        | Gold   |
| 19  | Harsh Singh         | Judo              | Men's -60kg          | Gold   |
| 20  | Yamini Mourya       | Judo              | Women's -57kg        | Silver |
| 21  | Tejaswin Shankar    | Athletics         | Men's Decathlon      | Bronze |
| 22  | Yash Vir Singh      | Athletics         | Men's Javelin Throw  | Bronze |
| 23  | Neeraj Chopra       | Athletics         | Men's Javelin Throw  | Silver |
| 24  | Preeti Pawar        | Boxing            | Women's 54kg         | Gold   |
| 25  | Pravreen Chithravel | Athletics         | Men's Triple Jump    | Silver |
| 26  | Selva Prabhu        | Athletics         | Men's Triple Jump    | Bronze |
| 27  | Jaismine Lamboria   | Boxing            | Women's 57kg         | Gold   |
| 28  | Jadumani Singh      | Boxing            | Men's 55kg           | Silver |
| 29  | Shubham Juyal       | Para Athletics    | Men's Shot Put F57   | Silver |
| 30  | Soman Rana          | Para Athletics    | Men's Shot Put F57   | Gold   |
| 31  | Unnati Sharma       | Judo              | Women's -63kg        | Bronze |
| 32  | Sakshi Chaudhary    | Boxing            | Women's 51kg         | Gold   |
| 33  | Priya Ghanghas      | Boxing            | Women's 60kg         | Gold   |
| 34  | Arundhati Choudhary | Boxing            | Women's 70kg         | Gold   |
| 35  | Lovlina Borgohain   | Boxing            | Women's 75kg         | Silver |
| 36  | Sachin Siwach       | Boxing            | Men's 60kg           | Gold   |
| 37  | Ankush Panghal      | Boxing            | Men's 80kg           | Gold   |
| 38  | Narender Berwal     | Boxing            | Men's +90kg          | Silver |
| 39  | Gulveer Singh       | Athletics         | Men's 5,000m         | Bronze |

### Ahmedabad 2030: India Takes Over as Next Host

The Glasgow 2026 Closing Ceremony concluded with the ceremonial handover of the Commonwealth Games flag to India.

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra

IOA President P. T. Usha

Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi

The ceremony officially marked the beginning of India's preparations for the 2030 Commonwealth Games in Ahmedabad, which will coincide with the centenary edition of the Games.

# National Handloom Day : 7 August

This day has been celebrated since 2015 and marks the launch of the Swadeshi Movement on 7th August 1905, part of the independence struggle promoting domestic handloom products.

Handloom fabrics are generally made with high quality natural fibres like cotton, linen, silk, and wool which are resilient and last for a long time.

**Unique Handloom Products:** Banarasi, Jamdani, Baluchari, Madhubani, Kosa, Ikkat, Patola, Tussar Silk, Maheshwari, Moirang Phee, Phulkari, Laheriya, Khandua and Tangaliya.

## National Handloom Day 2026 History

National Handloom Day commemorates the historic Swadeshi Movement and celebrates India's rich handloom heritage by honouring the country's weaving community.

**7 August 1905:** The Swadeshi Movement was launched at Calcutta Town Hall to boycott foreign goods and promote indigenous industries.

Handloom weavers played a key role in the movement by producing and promoting Indian-made textiles.

To commemorate this historic event, the Government of India declared 7 August as National Handloom Day.

The first National Handloom Day was celebrated on 7 August 2015.

The celebration was initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to recognise the contribution of handloom weavers and artisans.

Since 2015, the Ministry of Textiles has organised annual events, exhibitions, and awareness campaigns across the country.

National Handloom Day 2026 marks the 12th edition of the annual celebration, continuing efforts to preserve traditional weaving techniques and promote Indian handloom products.

## Famous Handloom Traditions of India

India is home to diverse handloom traditions, with each region producing unique handwoven textiles that reflect its history, culture, and exceptional craftsmanship.

**Banarasi Silk (Uttar Pradesh):** Famous for its luxurious silk fabric, intricate zari work, and exquisite bridal sarees.

**Kanchipuram Silk (Tamil Nadu):** Renowned for rich silk, vibrant colours, and durable gold-thread borders used in traditional sarees.



**Jamdani (West Bengal):** A fine muslin weave featuring delicate floral and geometric motifs crafted using the supplementary weft technique.

**Sambalpuri Ikat (Odisha):** Known for its distinctive tie-and-dye weaving process and intricate traditional patterns.

**Pochampally Ikat (Telangana):** Recognised for its geometric designs and colourful double ikat weaving technique.

**Paithani (Maharashtra):** Celebrated for handwoven silk sarees adorned with peacock, lotus, and floral motifs using pure zari.

**Chanderi (Madhya Pradesh):** Lightweight fabric admired for its sheer texture, elegant finish, and traditional motifs.

**Maheshwari (Madhya Pradesh):** Popular for its reversible borders, fine cotton-silk blend, and classic striped or checked patterns.

**Muga Silk (Assam):** Exclusive to Assam, this naturally golden silk is valued for its durability and natural sheen.

**Bhagalpuri Silk (Bihar):** Also called Tussar Silk, it is prized for its natural texture, softness, and eco-friendly production.

**Kota Doria (Rajasthan):** Lightweight cotton-silk fabric featuring the signature square-check pattern known as khat.

**Kasavu (Kerala):** Traditional off-white sarees with elegant golden borders, commonly worn during festivals and cultural occasions.

## Government Initiatives for the Handloom Sector

The Government of India has launched several initiatives to strengthen the handloom sector by improving weavers' livelihoods, promoting traditional textiles, enhancing market access, and preserving India's rich weaving heritage.

**National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP):** Provides financial assistance for skill development, infrastructure, design innovation, and marketing support to handloom weavers.

**India Handloom Brand (IHB):** Promotes high-quality, authentic handloom products that meet strict quality standards and helps increase consumer confidence.

**Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS):** Ensures the timely availability of quality yarn at subsidised rates to reduce production costs for handloom weavers.

**Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS):** Develops major handloom clusters by improving common facilities, technology, and market connectivity.

**Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS):** Facilitates easy access to quality raw materials, enabling artisans to maintain production and improve product quality.

**Handloom Marketing Assistance (HMA):** Supports participation in national and international exhibitions, fairs, and buyer-seller meets to expand market opportunities.

**National Handloom Expo:** Organises exhibitions across the country where artisans can directly sell their products and connect with consumers.

**Weaver MUDRA Scheme:** Provides affordable credit and financial assistance to handloom weavers for expanding their businesses and purchasing equipment.

**Handloom Export Promotion:** Encourages the export of Indian handloom products through trade fairs, branding, and international marketing initiatives.

# Independence Day 2026



Independence Day 2026 will be observed on 15 August 2026 as India's 80th Independence Day. The occasion marks 79 years of India's independence from British rule since 15 August 1947. The 2026 celebrations will combine historical remembrance with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Major focus areas include indigenous technology, green transition, Atmanirbhar Defence, youth participation and the 150 year commemoration of Vande Mataram.

India will celebrate 80th Independence Day 2026 on Saturday, 15 August. The national ceremony will be led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Red Fort in New Delhi.

The day will remember the freedom struggle and India's democratic journey.

It will also highlight youth, innovation, self reliance and sustainable development.

The 80th Independence Day coincides with Navroz, the Parsi New Year, bringing additional cultural significance to the occasion.

## Independence Day Theme 2026

The theme of Independence Day 2026 focuses on "150 Years of Vande Mataram" and "Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047".

The themes connect India's freedom movement with its future development goals. Vande Mataram represents the spirit of the national movement.

Yuva Shakti highlights the role of young Indians in science, innovation, entrepreneurship and nation building.

The celebrations also emphasise indigenous technologies, green transition and Atmanirbhar Defence.

## Indian Independence Day 1947

India became independent on 15 August 1947 after a prolonged freedom struggle against British colonial rule.

The transfer of power followed the Indian Independence Act 1947 and the Mountbatten Plan.

British political control expanded across India, beginning a long period of colonial rule that lasted nearly 200 years.

The Revolt of 1857 became an early major armed challenge to British authority and an important milestone in India's freedom struggle.

The Indian National Congress was founded in 1885 and became a major platform for self government and independence.

Leaders such as Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi, Sarojini Naidu, Subhas Chandra Bose, Bhagat Singh, Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel strengthened the national movement. Mahatma Gandhi led major mass movements, including Non Cooperation, Civil Disobedience and Satyagraha, expanding public participation.

In 1942, the Quit India Movement demanded an immediate end to British rule, with Gandhi giving the famous "Do or Die" call.

On 20 February 1947, British Prime Minister Clement Attlee announced that power would be transferred to Indian hands by June 1948.

Lord Mountbatten then proposed the 1947 Partition Plan, accepted by the Congress and Muslim League amid growing communal tensions.

The Indian Independence Act 1947 was passed on 5 July and received Royal Assent on 18 July 1947.

The Act created India and Pakistan as two independent dominions and ended British sovereignty.

At midnight between 14 and 15 August 1947, power was transferred, making India independent on 15 August 1947.

British paramountcy over princely states ended, while Constituent Assemblies received power to frame new constitutions.

India's First Independence Day 1947 was celebrated on 15 August 1947, marking the beginning of independent India.

## Role of Freedom Fighters in India's Independence

**Uniting the Nation for a Common Goal:** Freedom fighters brought people from different regions, religions, and backgrounds together with one shared aim, freedom from British rule. Their efforts helped create a strong sense of national unity and identity.

**Leading Non-Violent Movements:** Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi inspired millions through peaceful protests and Civil Disobedience Movement, Non-Cooperation Movement, Dandi March, and Quit India Movement, proving that change could be achieved without violence.

**Organizing Mass Movements and Protests:** Leaders like Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel led farmer-based movements such as the Kheda Satyagraha and Bardoli Satyagraha, helping people stand up against unfair taxes and British policies.

**Shaping Political Vision and Leadership:** Jawaharlal Nehru played a key role in shaping India's political direction and strongly advocated for complete independence (Purna Swaraj), motivating people to strive for full freedom.

**Taking Up Armed Resistance:** Some revolutionaries chose a more direct approach. Subhas Chandra Bose formed the Indian

National Army (INA) to fight British rule, while Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, and Sukhdev sacrificed their lives to inspire courage and patriotism among the youth.

**Inspiring Youth and National Pride:** Revolutionary leaders like Chandra Shekhar Azad and Bhagat Singh motivated young Indians to actively participate in the freedom struggle and stand against injustice.

**Promoting Social Reform and Inclusion:** Leaders such as Sarojini Naidu encouraged women to take part in the freedom movement, while many others worked to reduce caste and religious divisions, promoting equality and unity.



**Spreading National Awareness:** Leaders like Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, and Lala Lajpat Rai spread awareness through movements like Swadeshi and public gatherings, encouraging people to boycott British goods and support Indian products.

**Strengthening Regional Movements:** Freedom fighters like Chittaranjan Das led movements at the regional level, especially in Bengal, ensuring that the struggle for independence reached every corner of the country.

**Making Sacrifices for Freedom:** Above all, freedom fighters made immense sacrifices, including imprisonment and even giving up their lives, to ensure that future generations could live in a free and independent India.

The core theme for the national celebrations focused heavily on "**Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047**" alongside a tribute to "**150 Years of Vande Mataram**". Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised the national flag at the historic Red Fort in New Delhi for the 13th consecutive time. For the first time in the history of the event, the national song "**Vande Mataram**" was sung live from the ramparts of the Red Fort. The traditional 21-gun salute featured completely indigenously manufactured 105mm Light Field Guns instead of foreign equipment.

# Sadbhavana Diwas : 20 August 2026



Sadbhavana Diwas 2026 is also known as Harmony Day 2026 or Communal Harmony Day 2026. It will be observed on 20 August 2026 to mark the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The word 'Sadbhavana' means goodwill and harmony. The day promotes national integration, communal harmony, peace and emotional unity among citizens. It also encourages people to resolve differences through dialogue and constitutional means without violence.

## Why Sadbhavana Diwas 2026 Celebrated?

Sadbhavana Diwas 2026 is celebrated to promote goodwill, national unity and peaceful coexistence among people belonging to different religions, languages, regions and communities. The observance honours Rajiv Gandhi's Birth Anniversary 2026. It also highlights the importance of social harmony in a diverse country. Cultural programmes, contests, public activities and environmental initiatives such as sapling plantation are organised in different places.

## Sadbhavana Diwas 2026 Theme

The Sadbhavana Diwas 2026 Theme has not been officially announced yet. The observance will continue to focus on the core values of national integration, communal harmony, peace, goodwill and emotional unity among people of different religions, languages, regions and cultures. Any official theme for National Harmony Day 2026 will be updated after its formal announcement.

## Rajiv Gandhi Birth Anniversary 2026

Rajiv Gandhi Birth Anniversary 2026 will be observed on 20 August, marking his 82nd birth anniversary. Rajiv Gandhi was born on 20 August 1944. He became Prime Minister in 1984 after the assassination of his mother, Indira Gandhi. He served as Prime

Minister from 1984 to 1989. At the age of 40, he became the Youngest Prime Minister of India.

## Rajiv Gandhi Biography

Rajiv Gandhi played an important role in India's political and technological development during the 1980s. His tenure included initiatives in education, telecommunications and rural development. Key facts about his life and public career are given below.

**Birth:** Rajiv Gandhi was born on 20 August 1944. His birth anniversary is observed annually as Sadbhavana Diwas to promote goodwill, national integration and communal harmony.

**Family:** Rajiv Gandhi was the son of Indira Gandhi and the grandson of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

**Prime Minister:** Rajiv Gandhi became Prime Minister in 1984 following the assassination of Indira Gandhi. He remained in office until 1989 and became India's youngest Prime Minister at 40.

**Education Policy:** In 1986, Rajiv Gandhi's government introduced the National Policy on Education. It aimed to reform education and improve the quality and reach of higher education institutions.

**Rajiv Gandhi Death:** Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by a suicide bomber associated with the LTTE while campaigning during the 1991 elections.

**Awards and Honors:** He was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award.

## Contributions of Rajiv Gandhi

**Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas:** The Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya System was established in 1986. It provided free schooling from Class 6 to Class 12 and focused particularly on students from rural areas.

**Telecommunications:** MTNL was established in 1986 during Rajiv Gandhi's tenure. Public Call Offices, or PCOs, were also promoted to expand access to telephone services, including in rural regions.

**Modernisation:** Rajiv Gandhi supported greater use of modern technology and promoted a forward looking approach to national development. His period in office is associated with efforts to expand technology and communications.

## Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award

The Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award 2026 is awarded on the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi. It recognises contributions towards peace, communal harmony and national integration. The award was instituted by the Congress in 1992, one year after Rajiv Gandhi's death.

**2024 – Geeta Reddy:** Geeta Reddy, a former member of the Telangana Legislative Assembly, was listed as the recipient of the award for 2024.

**2023 – Md. Irfan Khan:** Md. Irfan Khan received recognition in 2023 for using technology to support education, particularly in remote areas.

**2020-2021 – Banasthali Vidyapeeth:** Banasthali Vidyapeeth, an educational institution for women in Rajasthan, was recognised for its contribution to women's education and empowerment.

**2018 – Gopalkrishna Gandhi:** Gopalkrishna Gandhi, former Governor of West Bengal, was recognised for promoting communal harmony, peace and goodwill.

**2017 – M.Gopala Krishna:** M.Gopala Krishna, a retired IAS Officer, was listed among the recipients for 2017.

**2017 – Md. Azharuddin:** Md. Azharuddin, former cricketer, was also listed as a recipient for 2017 in the provided award information.

**2016 – Shubha Mudgal:** Shubha Mudgal, singer, was recognised with the award in 2016 for her contribution to Indian cultural life.

**2014 – Muzaffar Ali:** Muzaffar Ali, film maker, was listed as the recipient for 2014.

**2013 – Amjad Ali Khan:** Amjad Ali Khan, musician, was recognised in 2013. His inclusion reflects the award's association with cultural contributions and social goodwill.

# National Sports Awards



## Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports Announces National Sports Awards 2025

The National Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports.

Based on the recommendations of the Selection Committee chaired by a former Judge of the Supreme Court of India, Justice (Retd.) Arun Kumar Mishra, the Government has decided to confer awards on the following sportspersons, coaches and entities under various categories.

## Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance in Sports and Games 2025

The 'Arjuna Award for outstanding performance in Sports and Games' is given for good performance over a period of the previous four years and for showing qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline.

Furthermore, 15 of the 95 airports revived under the scheme had ceased operations.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Sportsperson      | Discipline     |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1.      | Shri Tejaswin Shankar         | Athletics      |
| 2.      | Shri Muhammed Ajmal V         | Athletics      |
| 3.      | Ms. Priyanka Goswami          | Athletics      |
| 4.      | Ms. Treesa Jolly              | Badminton      |
| 5.      | Ms. Pullela Gayatri Gopichand | Badminton      |
| 6.      | Shri Narender                 | Boxing         |
| 7.      | Shri Vidit Santosh Gujarathi  | Chess          |
| 8.      | Ms. Divya Jitendra Deshmukh   | Chess          |
| 9.      | Shri Dhanush Srikanth         | Deaf shooting  |
| 10.     | Ms. Lalremsiami               | Hockey         |
| 11.     | Shri Rajkumar Pal             | Hockey         |
| 12.     | Shri Surjeet                  | Kabaddi        |
| 13.     | Ms. Pooja                     | Kabaddi        |
| 14.     | Shri Rudransh Khandelwal      | Para-shooting  |
| 15.     | Ms. Ekta Bhyan                | Para athletics |
| 16.     | Shri Arvind Singh             | Rowing         |
| 17.     | Shri Akhil Sheoran            | Shooting       |

## Arjuna Awards (Lifetime) for outstanding performance in Sports and Games 2025

The 'Arjuna Award (Lifetime)' is given to honour and motivate those sportspersons who have contributed to sports by their performance and continue to contribute to promotion of sports even after their retirement from active sporting careers.

| S. No. | Name of the Sportsperson | Discipline |
|--------|--------------------------|------------|
| 1.     | Shri I Arumainayagam     | Football   |

## Dronacharya Award for outstanding coaches in Sports and Games 2025

The 'Dronacharya Award for outstanding coaches in Sports and Games' is given to coaches for doing outstanding and meritorious work on a consistent basis and for enabling sportspersons to excel in International events.

### Regular Category:

| S. No. | Name of the Coach        | Discipline |
|--------|--------------------------|------------|
| 1.     | Shri Parveer Singh       | Athletics  |
| 2.     | Shri Chhote Lal Yadav    | Boxing     |
| 3.     | Ms Neha Nandkumar Chavan | Shooting   |

### Lifetime Category:

| S. No. | Name of the Coach            | Discipline |
|--------|------------------------------|------------|
| 1.     | Shri. Dharmendra Singh Yadav | Boxing     |
| 2.     | Shri. Virender Kumar         | Wrestling  |

## Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar 2025

The 'Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar' is given to corporate entity (Public/Private), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), who have played a visible role in the area of sports promotion and development.

| S. No. | Name of the Entity         |
|--------|----------------------------|
| 1.     | Army Paralympic Node, Pune |

## Key Highlights

**Arjuna Awards (Outstanding Performance):** 17 sportspersons

**Arjuna Award – Lifetime:** 1 sportsperson

**Dronacharya Award – Regular:** 3 coaches

**Dronacharya Award – Lifetime:** 2 coaches

**Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar:** Army Paralympic Node, Pune

**Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award:** No sportsperson selected

# Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana completes 12 years



## PM Jan Dhan Yojana: Driving India's Journey Towards Financial Inclusion

Financial inclusion is essential for broad-based economic growth and poverty reduction. Access to formal financial services helps people manage risks, invest in their future and build livelihoods. It also supports greater economic participation and reduces income inequalities. For women, access to finance strengthens financial independence and economic empowerment. The Government has therefore made financial inclusion a key priority through several targeted initiatives.

The PM Jan Dhan Yojana (PM-JDY), India's national mission for financial inclusion, was launched in 2014. As the scheme celebrates its 12th anniversary, it continues to bring more people into the formal financial system and ensure inclusive growth.

### DID YOU KNOW?

| Key Fact                  | Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Financial Inclusion Index | India's Financial Inclusion Index rose from 53.9 in 2018 to 67 in 2026, reflecting deeper access to credit, insurance, savings and digital payments.                                                                                                   |
| Guinness World Record     | 18,096,130 bank accounts were opened in one week (23–29 August 2014) under the PMJDY financial inclusion campaign led by the Department of Financial Services, Government of India. Guinness World Records recognized the achievement in January 2015. |
| International Recognition | IMF and World Bank have highlighted PMJDY's contribution to expanding access to formal banking services and bringing more people into the formal financial system.                                                                                     |

## PM-JDY: Access and Benefits

As the world's largest financial inclusion initiative, PM-JDY is redefining access to banking for millions of underprivileged citizens. The scheme initially focused on providing a bank account to "every household." In 2018, its focus expanded to ensure that "every unbanked adult" had access to a bank account, thereby widening the reach of financial inclusion. It provides basic banking services, need-based credit, remittances, insurance and pension to underserved and low-income groups.

### Who is eligible to open the account?

All citizens of Indian nationality are eligible to open PM-JDY accounts, with no upper age limit.

One basic savings bank account is opened for unbanked person.

There is no requirement to maintain any minimum balance.

## Where can a PM-JDY account be opened, and can it be held jointly?

Under PM-JDY, individuals can open an account by visiting a bank branch or Business Correspondent/ Bank Mitra outlet (an extended arm of the Bank Branch).

The account opening form along with the required KYC documents has to be submitted. Upon verification, the account is activated by the bank.

A joint account can also be opened.

## What documents are required to open the account?

Documents required for opening a PM-JDY account include:

Aadhaar card

Government ID proof- voter ID, PAN card or ration card

Permanent address proof- passport, driving licence, electricity, telephone or water bill

Passport-size photograph

Duly filled and signed PMJDY account opening form

Any other document notified by the Government.

## What is the interest income on savings in the account?

The interest rate applicable to savings bank accounts is applicable to accounts opened under PMJDY scheme

## What is a RuPay debit card and inbuilt accident insurance?

RuPay Debit card is provided to PM-JDY account holder. It is a domestic debit card and is accepted at all ATMs and most PoS machines.

Accident insurance cover of ₹1 lakh (enhanced to ₹2 lakhs to new PMJDY accounts opened after August 2018) is available.

No premium is charged from the beneficiary and the premium is paid by the National Payments Corporation of India.

## What overdraft facility is available?

Overdraft facility up to ₹10,000 is available to one PM-JDY account holder per household.

This can be availed after 6 months of satisfactory operation of the account, subject to fulfilling the eligibility criteria.

## What are the social security schemes offered under PM-JDY?

PM-JDY accounts are eligible for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PM-JJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PM-SBY), Atal Pension Yojana (APY), Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Bank (MUDRA) scheme.

## The Jan Dhan Impact

Over the years, PMJDY has achieved several key milestones:

### Accounts on the Rise

PM-JDY accounts have grown 4x over the last 12 years. Accounts rose from 14.72 crore in 2015 to 59.09 crore as of 19th August 2026. Of these, 45.95 crore accounts are in rural and semi-urban areas, while 13.14 crore are in urban and metropolitan areas.

This reflects the scheme's wide reach and significant progress in bringing underserved and unbanked populations into the formal banking system.

### Female Beneficiaries Increase

As on 19th August 2026, there are 32.92 crore female beneficiaries of PM-JDY accounts. This number has steadily risen over the years, highlighting the scheme's role in promoting gender equality in financial access.

### Deposits Multiplying over the Years

PM-JDY deposits have surged ~20x, rising from ₹15,670 crore in March 2015 to ₹3,16,514 crore as of 19th August 2026.

This rise reflects growing saving habit among low-income households, increasing trust in formal banking, and deeper participation in the financial system.

### RuPay Cards Continue to be Issued

As of 19th August 2026, 41.29 crore RuPay debit cards have been issued to PM-JDY account holders, reflecting a rise in digital transactions.

## One Account, A World of Opportunities

PM-JDY has transformed financial inclusion from a policy objective into a lived reality for millions of Indians. It has expanded access to banking, strengthened financial security, and connected underserved citizens with credit, insurance, pensions and digital payments. Its impact extends beyond rising accounts and deposits, strengthening formal financial identities and fostering greater economic confidence among people.

| Attribute           | Detail                                                                                                 |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name           | Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)                                                                 |
| Launch Date         | 28 August 2014                                                                                         |
| Nodal Ministry      | Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance                                                  |
| Nature              | National Mission for Financial Inclusion; permanent, mission-mode since 2018                           |
| Guiding Principle   | Banking the unbanked, securing the unsecured, funding the unfunded                                     |
| Account Type        | Zero-balance savings account — Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account (BSBDA) for every unbanked household |
| Associated Benefits | RuPay debit card with accident insurance cover; overdraft facility; direct linkage to DBT              |
| Part of             | JAM Trinity — Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile]                                                            |

# The Future of India's Semiconductor Industry

The government notified the Semicon 2.0 scheme with an outlay of Rs 1.27 lakh crore to boost the chip manufacturing ecosystem in the country.

## India Semiconductor Mission 1.0

India Semiconductor Mission 1.0 is a flagship programme launched in 2021 under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to develop a comprehensive semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem in India.

The Mission is supported by an incentive framework of ₹76,000 crore, offering fiscal support of up to 50 percent for silicon fabs, compound semiconductor facilities, assembly and testing units, and chip design. As many as 12 semiconductor manufacturing projects have been approved with an investment pipeline of about ₹1.64 lakh crore under the mission.

These include silicon fabrication units, silicon carbide fabs, advanced and memory packaging facilities, and specialised assembly and testing infrastructure.

## India Semiconductor Mission 2.0

It was announced in the Union Budget 2026–27. ISM 2.0 will focus on producing semiconductor equipment and materials in India, designing full stack Indian semiconductor intellectual property, and fortifying both domestic and global supply chains. Semicon 2.0 seeks to build the semiconductor ecosystem through six pillars- Design,

Machines and materials, Setting up more fabs, Further strengthening the ATMP-OSAT industry, Research and Development and Talent development.

## Pillars of Semicon 2.0

**First pillar:** Expand India's semiconductor design capabilities by promoting chip IPs, system designs, and innovation, building on the success of around 105 chip-design startups.

**Second pillar:** Incentivize manufacturing and R&D of semiconductor equipment, materials, chemicals, and gases to create a robust domestic ecosystem.

**Third pillar:** Efforts will be made to attract more manufacturers to come to India and set up fabs to manufacture chips. This will include silicon fabs, compound semiconductor fabs, discrete component fabs, display fabs, etc.

**Fourth pillar:** Encourage advanced Assembly, Testing, Marking, and Packaging (ATMP) and Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) units to strengthen backend manufacturing.

**Fifth pillar:** Move beyond 28–110 nm technology nodes by developing advanced process nodes and next-generation semiconductor technologies.

**Sixth pillar:** With 315 universities training students on complex chip design using the latest EDA tools, around 68,000 students have already been trained.

It will be developed further and deepen the level of training while in college.

## Why are Semiconductors Strategically Important?

**Foundation of the Digital Economy:** Semiconductors form the core component of almost every modern electronic device and digital technology.

**National Security:** Semiconductor chips are indispensable for defence equipment, surveillance systems, satellites, cybersecurity infrastructure and strategic communication networks.

**Industrial Competitiveness:** Countries with strong semiconductor manufacturing capabilities are leveraging technological leadership and industrial competitiveness.

**Technological Sovereignty:** Domestic semiconductor production is necessary to reduce the dependence on foreign suppliers and strengthen self-reliance. Indigenous Microprocessors and Core Semiconductor Technologies

Microprocessors form the foundational layer of modern digital infrastructure, powering devices and systems across telecommunications, mobility, healthcare, industry, defence, and space.

India has made focused investments to build sovereign capabilities in advanced processor design as a core pillar of semiconductor self-reliance.

A key milestone in this journey is the launch of DHRUV64, a fully indigenous 64-bit microprocessor developed by C-DAC under the Microprocessor Development Programme (MDP).

## Schemes under India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)

| Scheme                                       | Details                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Semiconductor Fabs Scheme                    | Provides up to 50 per cent fiscal support for setting up semiconductor wafer fabrication units, covering advanced and mature technology nodes. |
| Display Fabs Scheme                          | Offers up to 50 % financial support to establish AMOLED & LCD display fabrication units in India.                                              |
| Compound Semiconductors and ATMP/OSAT Scheme | Supports compound semiconductor and chip assembly, testing and packaging units up to 50 % capital assistance.                                  |
| Design Linked Incentive Scheme               | With an outlay of ₹1,000 crore, supports chip design startups and MSMEs through R&D support and incentives of up to ₹15 crore per company.     |

## Indian's semiconductor Goal

| Target Year | India's Semiconductor Goal                                                                                                               |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| By 2029     | India is expected to achieve the capability to design and manufacture chips required for nearly 70–75 per cent of domestic applications. |
| Semicon 2.0 | Focus on advanced manufacturing, with a roadmap to achieve 3-nanometre and 2-nanometre technology nodes.                                 |
| By 2035     | India aims to be among the top semiconductor nations globally.                                                                           |

## Approved Semiconductor Manufacturing Projects

| No. | Company / Project                                              | Location       | Investment     | Key Details / Production Capacity                                                                                                                                             |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1   | Micron Technology Inc.                                         | Gujarat        | Rs. 22,516 cr. | Semiconductor manufacturing facility. Assembly and test manufacturing for DRAM and NAND products. Production capacity around 14 million units per week.                       |
| 2   | Tata Electronics Private Limited (TEPL)                        | Gujarat        | Rs. 91,526 cr  | Semiconductor manufacturing facility in technology partnership with PSMC, Taiwan. Production capacity around 50,000 wafers per month (WSPM).                                  |
| 3   | Tata Electronics Private Limited (TEPL)                        | Assam          | Rs. 27,120 cr  | Semiconductor manufacturing facility using indigenous semiconductor packaging technologies. Production capacity of 48 million units per day.                                  |
| 4   | CG Power and Industrial Solutions Limited                      | Gujarat        | Rs. 7,584 cr   | Facility to be set up as a joint venture with Renesas Electronics America Inc., USA, and STARS Microelectronics, Thailand.                                                    |
| 5   | Kaynes Technology India Limited (KTIL)                         | Gujarat        | Rs. 3,307 cr   | Semiconductor manufacturing facility with capacity to produce more than 6.33 million chips per day.                                                                           |
| 6   | Vama Sundari Investments (Delhi) Private Limited (VSIPL)       | Uttar Pradesh  | Rs. 3,706 cr   | Semiconductor manufacturing facility. Production capacity around 20K wafers per month / 36 million chips per month.                                                           |
| 7   | 3D Glass Solutions Inc. (3DGS)                                 | Odisha         | Rs. 1,943 cr   | Glass panel substrate production, assembly and Heterogeneous Integration (3DHI). Capacity: 5,800 panels/month, 4.20 million units/month, and 1,100 units/month, respectively. |
| 8   | SiCSem Private Limited                                         | Odisha         | Rs. 2,066 cr   | Semiconductor manufacturing facility. Production capacity of 5,000 wafers/month and packaging capacity of 8 million units/month.                                              |
| 9   | Continental Device India Private Limited (CDIL)                | Punjab         | Rs. 117 cr     | Expanding semiconductor manufacturing facility. Will manufacture high-power discrete semiconductor devices. Production capacity of around 158.38 million units/annum.         |
| 10  | Advanced System in Package Technologies Private Limited (ASIP) | Andhra Pradesh | Rs. 480 cr     | Semiconductor manufacturing facility with production capacity of around 96 million units/annum.                                                                               |

## What are the Challenges?

**High Capital Investment:** The establishment of semiconductor fabrication plants requires investments of several billion dollars and long gestation periods.

**Technology-Intensive Industry:** Semiconductor manufacturing requires highly sophisticated technologies that are continuously evolving.

**Dependence on Imported Equipment:** India remains dependent on foreign suppliers for advanced semiconductor manufacturing equipment and specialised machinery.

**Infrastructure Requirements:** Semiconductor fabrication requires uninterrupted electricity, ultra-pure water and highly reliable logistics infrastructure.

**Skill Gaps:** The industry requires a highly specialised workforce trained in semiconductor engineering, fabrication processes and chip design.

## Conclusion

India Semiconductor Mission 2.0 marks a decisive shift from ecosystem creation to ecosystem consolidation and global integration.

By deepening support for manufacturing, design, and advanced skills, ISM 2.0 positions semiconductors as a strategic national capability—central to economic resilience, digital infrastructure, and technological sovereignty

# 10 Years of the Unified Payments Interface



India marked the 10th anniversary of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), highlighting its journey from a nascent platform in 2016 to a global digital payments leader in 2026. It has transformed India “from queues to QR codes (Quick Response codes),” emerging as the backbone of the country’s digital financial ecosystem.

## About Unified Payments Interface (UPI)

UPI is a real-time digital payment system that enables instant bank-to-bank transfers via mobile phone. UPI is an advanced version of Immediate Payment Service (IMPS). It is a round-the-clock real-time payment system that facilitates inter-bank peer-to-peer (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions.

**Regulator:** Operated by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), an umbrella organization for operating retail payments and settlement systems, initiated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Indian Banks' Association (IBA).

**Interoperability:** UPI allows seamless transactions across multiple banks and apps using a single interface (UPI ID).

**Key Features:** Supports instant payments, 24×7 availability, QR code payments, P2P and P2M transactions.

**Security Framework:** Uses two-factor authentication & secure protocols to ensure safe transactions.

## India's Digital Payments Ecosystem

India's digital payments ecosystem has undergone a remarkable transformation over the past decade. It is driven by the vision of creating a simple and secure payment system accessible to every citizen. The Unified Payments Interface (UPI), developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has emerged as a cornerstone of India’s digital payments revolution. Today, UPI is accepted in 11 countries, with Greece and the Maldives being the latest to adopt India's real-time payment platform.

## UPI and its Evolution

With interoperable design and ease of use, UPI has fundamentally changed the way individuals, businesses and government entities transact. Real-time payment system that powers multiple bank accounts through a single mobile application of any participating bank or payment service provider. Integrates multiple banking services, fund transfers and merchant payments on a single platform. Enables round-the-clock digital payments. Uses two-factor authentication and end-to-end encryption to enhance transaction security.

Over the past decade, UPI has evolved into the backbone of India's digital payments ecosystem.

### Following are some of the key milestones in the evolution of UPI:

#### 2016

UPI was launched on a pilot basis in April 2016 with 21 member banks. In August 2016, it was rolled out to the public as participating banks made their UPI-enabled mobile applications available on the Google Play Store. The BHIM application was launched in December 2016 to enable digital payments using UPI. It allows users to make direct bank-to-bank transactions through mobile devices.

#### 2017

Dynamic QR, a retail merchant platform enabling UPI payments via dynamic QR codes was launched, which dynamically included transaction specifics like payee info and exact totals, removing manual amount entry.

#### 2018

UPI 2.0 was introduced with enhanced features to make digital payments simpler, more secure and seamless. Invoice in the Inbox allows users to view bills or invoices before authorising payments. Signed Intent and QR enables simplifies payment authorisation while maintaining security.

UPI Mandates enables recurring payments through pre-authorised instructions. Overdraft account linking allows users to make UPI transactions using their overdraft accounts.

#### 2019

SEBI allowed retail individual investors to use UPI as an alternative payment mechanism when applying for IPOs through designated intermediaries.

UPI crossed the milestone of one billion transactions in a month in October 2019, reflecting rapid nationwide adoption.

#### 2020-2022

UPI AutoPay was launched to support recurring e-mandates for subscriptions, utility bills, insurance premiums, SIPs and EMIs.

Feature phone users were brought into the digital payments' ecosystem through the launch of UPI 123PAY. It allows transactions through interactive voice response (IVR) number, app-based functionality, missed calls-based approach and proximity sound-based payments. UPI Lite was introduced to enable low-value transactions in a faster and PIN-less manner.

The integration of credit cards with UPI further expanded digital payment options for users. During FY 2021-22, UPI processed transactions worth over US\$1 trillion and crossed 5 billion monthly transactions in March 2022. It also expanded internationally with its launch in Bhutan, marking its first cross-border deployment.

#### 2023

Credit Line on UPI was introduced, allowing pre-sanctioned bank credit lines to be linked as a funding account. UPI accounted for ~70% of India's digital payment transactions during FY 2023-24.

#### 2024

UPI Circle was introduced, enabling primary users to authorise secondary users with predefined transaction limits on the primary user's bank account. RBI enhanced the UPI transaction limit for tax payments from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh per transaction.

Higher limits also apply to select categories, including capital markets, IPO subscriptions, loan collections, insurance, healthcare and education.

The per-transaction limit for UPI 123Pay was raised to ₹10,000. The UPI Lite wallet limit was increased to ₹5,000, with the per-transaction limit raised to ₹1,000.

#### 2025

On-device authentication for UPI was introduced, enabling payments through smartphone fingerprint or face unlock.

Aadhaar-based Face Authentication simplified UPI PIN onboarding, especially for first-time users, senior citizens and those without easy access to cards.

### UPI Today

UPI has witnessed unprecedented growth in both transaction volume and value, reflecting its widespread adoption by individuals, businesses and financial institutions.

## UPI's Global Footprint

UPI has emerged as a leading real-time payment system globally. As of 2024, UPI accounted for ~49% of global real-time payment **transaction volume**. This achievement was highlighted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its “Growing Retail

**Digital Payments:** The Value of Interoperability” report, published in June 2025.

## UPI's Global Footprint Continues to Expand

UPI is operational in Bhutan, Nepal, Singapore, the UAE, France, Sri Lanka, Mauritius and Qatar, enabling seamless cross-border digital payments.

In June 2026, NPCI International Payments Limited partnered with ACLEDA Bank Plc. to launch UPI acceptance in Cambodia, further strengthening India's cross-border digital payment connectivity.

In June 2026, UPI went Live in Greece for Cross Border Remittances, where eligible customers can transfer money instantly, securely, and seamlessly between Greece – India (through Eurobank).

On 30th July 2026, Cross Border Remittances between the Maldives Instant Payment System, 'Favara', and India's UPI went live, marking a transformative milestone in cross-border digital financial connectivity and bilateral economic cooperation between the Maldives and India.

As on date, UPI is live in 11 foreign countries for UPI Acceptance and/or Cross Border Remittances.

## A Decade of Digital Transformation

UPI has transformed the way India transacts by making digital payments simple, secure and interoperable.

Its rapid adoption, continuous innovation and expanding global presence have made UPI a key component of India's Digital Public Infrastructure.

## Key Initiatives to Promote UPI

**UPI 123PAY – Bridging the Digital Divide:** Enables UPI services for feature phone users without internet, empowering rural and digitally underserved populations.

**UPI Chalega Campaign:** NPCI's awareness initiative promotes safe and easy UPI usage and educates users about features like UPI LITE for small-value transactions.

**UPI for Secondary Markets:** Introduced to simplify IPO applications and equity investments via UPI, encouraging broader financial participation.

**Credit on UPI & UPI-ATM (ICCW):** Integration of RuPay credit cards with UPI and Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawals boosts digital payment flexibility.

**UPI LITE X & Digital Rupee Integration:** Enables offline payments using NFC-based UPI LITE X and QR interoperability with the Digital Rupee (₹) for seamless retail transactions.



**Global Expansion of UPI:** UPI is now accepted in UAE, Singapore, France, Bhutan, Oman, etc., with MoUs (E.g., Google India-NPCI International) to scale remittances and tourism payments.

## UPI in Numbers

**Transaction Volume:** UPI recorded 21.70 billion transactions in January 2026.

**Transaction Value:** Total value reached ₹28.33 lakh crore in January 2026.

**Retail Share:** UPI accounts for 81% of India's retail digital payments.

**Global Share:** India contributes 49% of global real-time payment transactions via UPI.

**Global Ranking:** Recognised as the world's largest real-time payment system by the IMF.

## Innovations and Security Enhancements

### in UPI

**UPI 2.0:** Launched by NPCI in 2018, introduces enhanced features like one-time mandates (pre-authorization), invoice-in-the-inbox for verification, and signed intent/QR codes for enhanced security.

**BHIM (Bharat Interface for Money):** It is a mobile payment application developed by the NPCI that allows users to send and receive money instantly using the UPI.

## National Payments Corporation of India

**About:** Umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA).

**Legal Framework:** Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.  
 Nature: "Not for Profit" Company under Section 8 of Companies Act 2013.

**Key Products offered by NPCI:** Immediate Payment Service (IMPS); National Automated Clearing House (NACH); Unified Payments Interface RuPay; Aadhaar enabled Payment System.



## Comparison Between NEFT, RTGS, IMPS, and UPI

| Parameter                 | NEFT                               | RTGS                         | IMPS                                     | UPI                                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Full Form</b>          | National Electronic Funds Transfer | Real-Time Gross Settlement   | Immediate Payment Service                | Unified Payments Interface                       |
| <b>Regulator</b>          | RBI                                | RBI                          | NPCI                                     | NPCI                                             |
| <b>Settlement Type</b>    | Batch-based (half-hourly)          | Real-time, gross settlement  | Real-time                                | Real-time                                        |
| <b>Availability</b>       | 24×7, all days                     | 24×7, all days               | 24×7, all days                           | 24×7, all days                                   |
| <b>Speed</b>              | Slower (batch processing)          | Instant for high-value       | Instant                                  | Instant                                          |
| <b>Minimum Amount</b>     | No minimum                         | 2 lakh                       | No minimum                               | No minimum                                       |
| <b>Maximum Amount</b>     | No fixed limit                     | No upper limit               | 5 lakh (varies by bank)                  | 1 lakh (default), 10 lakh for Person-to-Merchant |
| <b>Primary Use</b>        | Regular bank transfers             | High-value, urgent transfers | Urgent everyday transfers                | Mobile-based, peer-to-peer & merchant payments   |
| <b>Channels Supported</b> | Internet & mobile banking          | Internet & mobile banking    | Mobile banking, ATMs, & internet banking | Mobile apps (UPI apps like GPay, PhonePe)        |

**NEFT, RTGS, IMPS** and **UPI** are widely used digital payment systems in India, but each serves a different purpose. NEFT processes transactions in half-hourly batches and is available 24×7, while RTGS settles transactions individually in real time and is mainly designed for high-value transfers, with a minimum amount of ₹2 lakh.

**IMPS enables instant**, round-the-clock interbank fund transfers, with a ₹5 lakh per-transaction limit for most channels. UPI, operated by NPCI, enables instant 24×7 payments through UPI IDs, mobile apps and QR codes, and supports both person-to-person and merchant payments.

# e-Shram Portal Completes 5 Years



The e-Shram Portal completes five years on 26 August 2026, marking a significant milestone in strengthening social security for India's unorganised workforce.

Launched in 2021 by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, it created the country's first-ever Aadhaar-seeded National Database of Unorganised Workers. It gives every registered worker a unique Universal Account Number and has evolved into a one-stop digital platform integrating welfare, jobs, skilling, apprenticeship and pension services.

## The Vision Behind e-Shram

The e-Shram Portal, developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), created the country's first Aadhaar authenticated National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW). It provides every registered worker with a unique 12-digit Universal Account Number (UAN). The key objectives include:

Improve delivery of social security services by enabling the convergence of welfare schemes across Ministries and Departments.

Facilitate secure sharing of worker data with government agencies through APIs.

This supports the effective delivery of welfare schemes and evidence-based policymaking.

Facilitate nationwide access and portability of social security and welfare benefits for migrant and construction workers.

Create a comprehensive national database that supports timely planning and response during national emergencies and crises.

## Evolution into a One-Stop Solution

The e-Shram portal transformed from a worker registry into a unified service delivery platform with the launch of the e-Shram One-Stop Solution.

The One-Stop Solution brings together 15 Social Security and Welfare Schemes on a single platform.

These include Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana (PM-SYM), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) and others.

**Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY):** Provides ₹2 lakh coverage for accidental death or permanent total disability and ₹1 lakh for permanent partial disability, with an annual premium of ₹20, available to bank account holders aged 18–70 years.

**Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY):** Provides ₹2 lakh life insurance cover for death due to any cause, available to individuals aged 50 years and below at entry with a bank account, both PMSBY and PMJJBY are among the 15 Social Security and Welfare Schemes integrated into the e-Shram One-Stop Solution, through which eligible e-Shram registrants can access/enrol in these schemes.

The portal connects workers with the National Career Service (NCS) for employment opportunities. It also provides access to the Skill India Digital Hub for skilling and apprenticeship.

Workers can also use myScheme to identify government schemes for which they may be eligible.

Through the portal, eligible workers can enrol in the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM-SYM) Scheme, which offers a minimum assured pension of ₹3,000 per month upon attaining the age of 60 years, subject to eligibility.

The portal includes a provision to capture the family details of migrant workers.

It enables sharing of construction workers' data with States and Union Territories.

This facilitates their registration with the respective Building and Other Construction Workers (BOCW) Boards.

#### **e-Shram Registration: Eligibility and Process**

Registration on the e-Shram Portal is simple, accessible and a one-time process.

**Eligibility:** Any worker aged between 16 and 59 years old, engaged in the unorganised sector, is eligible to register on the e-Shram Portal.

A worker must not be an income tax-payer or a member of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) or the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC).

**Coverage:** The portal covers a wide range of unorganised workers. These include construction workers, migrant workers, gig and platform workers, street vendors, domestic workers, agricultural workers, and other unorganised workers

**How to register:** Workers can register by visiting the e-Shram Portal. They can also register through the nearest Common Service Centre (CSC) or State Seva Kendra. State Government field officers also facilitate registration at the district and sub-district levels.

**Registration cost:** Registration on the e-Shram Portal is completely free of cost. Workers are not required to pay any fee to any registering agency or service provider.

**Required Documents:** Registration requires their Aadhaar number (for Aadhar eKYC) and a mobile number (preferably linked with Aadhaar).

## **Growing Coverage of India's Unorganised Workforce**

Registrations on e-Shram portal over the past 5 years reflect broad participation across genders, age groups, occupations and States (as on 18 August, 2026).

**Total registrations:** The portal has recorded 31.89 crore registrations.

**Gender distribution:** Women account for 54.28% of registered workers, while men account for 45.72%.

**Age profile:** 0.08% are aged 16-18 years, 55.21% of registered workers are aged 18-40 years, 24.18% are aged 40-50 years and 20.53% are above 50 years (as on 20 August, 2026).

**Top occupational categories:** Agriculture, Domestic and Household Workers, Construction, and Apparel account for the highest registrations.



**Top States:** Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra have recorded the highest registrations.

**Mode of registration:** Most registrations have been completed through Common Service Centres (CSCs), followed by self-registration.

## **What are the Key Facts About e-Shram Portal?**

**Implementation:** Launched in 2021 by the Ministry of Labour and Employment and developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), e-Shram created India's first Aadhaar-authenticated National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW).

**Definition of Unorganised Worker:** An unorganised worker includes a home-based worker, self-employed worker, or wage worker in the unorganised sector. It also covers workers in the organised sector who are not members of EPFO, ESIC, or government employees.

**Eligibility Criteria:** Any unorganised worker aged 16 years and above can register on e-Shram, provided the worker is not an income tax payer or a member of EPFO/ESIC.

## NATIONAL NEWS



### Phone Pe–MeitY MoU to Strengthen PM GatiShakti



- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) signed an MoU with PhonePe on 20 August 2026.
- The MoU aims to strengthen PM GatiShakti through granular and hyperlocal data intelligence.
- PhonePePulsePro will provide data insights for the PM GatiShakti mission.

### India Launches 1st Non-GMO High-Expansion Popcorn Maize Hybrid



- The new hybrids are named Krishna459 and Godari234.
- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan launched the new hybrids.
- The launch ceremony was held at Musunuru in Eluru district, Andhra Pradesh.

### West Bengal to Launch 'Arjun Bahini' Disaster Response Force



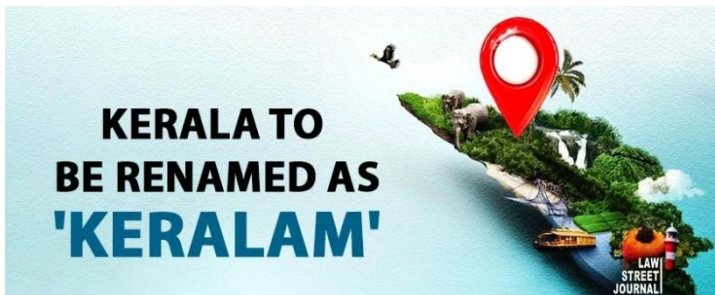
- The force will focus on providing rapid assistance during natural disasters and emergencies.
- Arjun Bahini will primarily consist of Agniveers.
- Arjun Bahini will be modelled on the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).

### AIIA Launches 'Garbhini Mitra' Course



- The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi has launched the 'Garbhini Mitra' Course for the 2026–27 academic session.
- AIIA is an autonomous premier institute under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India.
- The course is designed as a healthcare skill-development programme.

## Kerala Officially Renamed “Keralam”



- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued the notification bringing the name-change law into force.
- The name change is legally implemented through the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Act, 2026.
- The proposed name “Keralam” is the Malayalam name traditionally used for the state.

## Mumbai Enters IWG Work From Anywhere Index



- Mumbai has entered the 2026 Work From Anywhere (WFA) Index published by the International Workplace Group (IWG).
- Mumbai is the only Indian city included in the 2026 index.
- The index assesses cities according to their suitability for remote working while travelling.

## e-Shram Portal Completes 5 Years



- It was launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

- e-Shram was created primarily for India's unorganised workforce.
- The portal created India's first Aadhaar-seeded National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW).

## ICAR-CCARI Launches “Carbon Pathshala” for Goa Farmers



- ICAR-CCARI, Goa organised a one-day workshop titled “Carbon Pathshala: Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM) for Farmers.”
- ICAR-CCARI functions under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). ICAR-CCARI stands for ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute.
- ICAR is under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

## Himachal Pradesh Signs MoU with ISB to Unlock ₹22,600 Crore Forest Economy Potential



- The Himachal Pradesh Forest Department has signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bharti Institute of Public Policy (BIPP), Indian School of Business (ISB).
- The MoU was signed in August 2026 to unlock the state's estimated ₹22,600 crore untapped forest and pastoral economy potential.
- The agreement aims to promote science- and technology-enabled forest governance.

## DMRC Becomes 1<sup>st</sup> Metro Org. in India to Receive ISO Certification



- DMRC Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has become the first metro organisation in India to receive ISO 55001:2024 certification.
- The certification recognises DMRC's systematic approach to managing its infrastructure and other physical assets.
- The certification is specifically associated with Mumbai Metro Line-3 (Aqua Line).

## JNPA becomes world's fastest-growing container port



- Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) is located at Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, and is one of India's major container ports.
- JNPA recorded 13.6% growth in container throughput during H1 2026, making it the fastest-growing among the world's top 30 container ports.
- It improved its global position to 21st among the world's top container ports.

## Meghalaya Launches Read & Rise Programme



- Meghalaya launched the CM-IMPACT Read & Rise Meghalaya programme.
- The programme was launched by Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma in Shillong.
- Its primary objective is to strengthen foundational reading skills among schoolchildren. CM-IMPACT (Chief Minister's Initiative for Promoting Academic and Cognitive Transformation).

## Tribal Languages & Museums Conclave Begins in Mysuru



- The National Conclave on Tribal Languages & Museums began in Mysuru, Karnataka.
- The three-day conclave was organised by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- It brings together policymakers, linguists, researchers, technologists and tribal representatives.

## DRDO Tests Indigenous Combat Parachute System in Ladakh



- The trial was conducted at the Nyoma-Mudh Drop Zone in Leh district, one of the world's highest-altitude drop zones.
- The test jump was carried out from 22,000 feet above mean sea level. The temperature during the trial was around  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- The MCPS was designed and developed by Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), Agra, a DRDO laboratory.

## Sprite Tejas Express Becomes India's First Brand-Named Train



- The Lucknow–New Delhi Tejas Express is being branded as “Sprite Tejas Express” under a commercial branding arrangement.
- The branding rights have been given to Sprite, the soft-drink brand of The Coca-Cola Company.
- The train is operated by IRCTC and runs between Lucknow and New Delhi.

## Karnataka Launches Sandhya Kiran Cashless Healthcare Cover



- It is primarily aimed at Karnataka State Government pensioners below 70 years of age.
- The main objective is to provide cashless medical treatment to eligible retired government employees and their families.
- The scheme is connected with recommendations of the 7th Karnataka Pay Commission concerning cashless healthcare for government pensioners.

## Uttarakhand Approves High Court Relocation to Haldwani



- The Uttarakhand High Court is to be shifted from Nainital to Haldwani.

- The Uttarakhand High Court was established in 2000, following the creation of Uttarakhand (then Uttaranchal) as a separate state from Uttar Pradesh.
- The High Court is presently located in Nainital, in the historic Mallital area.

## Chhattisgarh's Folk Festival – Hareli



- Hareli Tihar is one of the major traditional agricultural festivals of Chhattisgarh.
- It is particularly important for farmers and rural communities of Chhattisgarh.
- It is celebrated during the Shravan month, traditionally on Shravana Amavasya.

## West Bengal Renames Kanyashree Scheme as Kanya Ratna Scheme

- The scheme is aimed at promoting girls' education and empowerment.
- Financial assistance of ₹1,000 is being provided to eligible girl students in 2026.
- The annual assistance is scheduled to increase to ₹2,000 from the 2027 academic year.

## CCI Hosts BRICS Competition Authorities Meeting in Udaipur



- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) hosted the Meeting of Heads of BRICS Competition Authorities was held in Udaipur, Rajasthan.
- Ravneet Kaur is the Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI).
- It was conducted under India's BRICS Chairship 2026.

## Uttar Pradesh to Train 'Gau Mitras' for Cow Protection



- The Uttar Pradesh Government has announced plans to train around 10,000 'Gau Mitras' (Friends of Cows) across the state.
- The initiative aims to involve the younger generation, particularly Gen Z, in cow protection and cow-care activities.
- Shyam Bihari Gupta, Chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Go Seva Commission, highlighted the initiative's focus on linking cow protection with rural prosperity and employment.

## Parichha Dam Recognised as World Heritage Irrigation Structure

- Parichha Dam/Weir is located in Jhansi district, Uttar Pradesh.
- The recognition is given under the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) heritage programme.
- The structure is associated with the Betwa River irrigation system.

## NABARD launches RSVC-AMRIT Platform for Rural Innovation



- RSVC-AMRIT was launched by Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India.
- The platform was developed by NABARD in collaboration with the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (OPSA).

- RSVC stands for RuTAGe Smart Village Centre. AMRIT is the digital backbone of the RSVC ecosystem.

## NCW launched the 'Yashoda AI' initiative in Jalandhar



- The National Commission for Women (NCW) launched the YASHODA AI initiative in Jalandhar, Punjab to promote digital empowerment of women.
- The programme was taken to Lovely Professional University (LPU), Jalandhar.
- YASHODA stands for "Your AI Skills & Holistic Opportunities for Digital Advancement". AI is described as a national AI-literacy movement focused specifically on women. NCW Chairperson: Vijaya Rahatkar.

## Maharashtra Declares Snakebite a Notifiable Disease



- Maharashtra declared snakebite a Notifiable Disease under the state public health framework.
- Reporting of every suspected, probable and confirmed snakebite case and death has been made mandatory.
- The order covers government hospitals, private hospitals, medical colleges and healthcare practitioners.

## The 5th Tamil Nadu International Kite Festival org. in Mamallapuram



- The 5th Tamil Nadu International Kite Festival (TNIKF 5.0) was organised in Mamallapuram (Mahabalipuram), Tamil Nadu.
- The 2026 edition was held at Thiruvudanthai Beach along the East Coast Road (ECR).
- The festival was organised by Global Media Box in collaboration with the Department of Tourism, Government of Tamil Nadu.

## India to Host SEMICON India 2026 in New Delhi



- SEMICON India 2026 will be held at Yashobhoomi (India International Convention & Expo Centre), New Delhi.
- It will be the fifth edition of SEMICON India.
- The event will bring together the global semiconductor and electronics ecosystem, including companies, innovators, policymakers and technology leaders.

## HM Amit Shah to chair Southern Zonal Council



- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah chaired the 31st meeting of the Southern Zonal Council at Mahabalipuram/Kovalam, Tamil Nadu.
- Zonal Councils were established under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.
- The Southern Zonal Council comprises Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

## India Launches Transshipment Cargo Operations



- Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu flagged off the expanded phase of India's transshipment cargo reform at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport.
- The operation was launched at the Transshipment Excellence Centre (TEC) at Terminal 2 of Delhi International Airport.
- The initiative follows a successful Proof of Concept (PoC) phase.

## West Bengal Hosts First Kaushal Mahotsav in Balurghat



- West Bengal hosted its first-ever Kaushal Mahotsav at Balurghat Stadium in Dakshin Dinajpur district.
- It was organised by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- The event was held under the broader vision of "Kaushal Bharat, Viksit Bharat."

## Razorpay Launched Vulcan, India's first AI payments foundation model



- Fintech company Razorpay launched Vulcan, described as India's first AI foundation model specifically built for payments.
- Vulcan is a transformer-based AI foundation model designed for the digital payments ecosystem.
- Vulcan was developed with technology support from NVIDIA and Amazon Web Services (AWS).

## Punjab Tops NITI Aayog School Education Rankings



- Punjab has secured the top position in the latest national assessment of school education, overtaking Kerala.
- Punjab recorded 82% proficiency in language in Class 3, compared with 75% for Kerala.
- Punjab recorded 78% proficiency in mathematics in Class 3, compared with 70% for Kerala.

## Karnataka Launches AI-Powered Digital Crop Survey

- Karnataka launched the Composite Digital Crop Survey (CDCS) on 6 August 2026 as a state-level initiative for agricultural mapping and crop-data collection.



- The initiative uses Artificial Intelligence, Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), high-resolution satellite imagery, drone surveys, GIS data and machine learning for plot-level crop assessment.
- Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) data is also part of the technological framework.

## Ladakh to Lead Independent India's First Caste Census

- Census 2027 will be conducted in two phases, namely Houselisting & Housing Census and Population Enumeration.
- Census 2027 will be India's first digital Census, with data collection being carried out through digital/mobile-based systems.
- Census mascots: Pragati – Female and Vikas – Male. Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Home Affairs.

## Odisha's DALKHAI Initiative to Tackle Distress Migration



- The Government of Odisha has identified distress migration as an issue requiring intervention through livelihood and development measures.
- The DALKHAI initiative focuses on addressing the underlying/root causes of distress migration rather than dealing only with migration after it occurs.
- Odisha is also implementing livelihood-focused programmes for tribal communities and Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

## Amit Shah – ‘Bank in a Box’ and Security Operations Centre



- Amit Shah, Union Minister of Cooperation, launched initiatives aimed at strengthening the technology and cybersecurity capabilities of Urban Cooperative Banks.
- Bank in a Box is designed to help Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) adopt modern digital banking infrastructure.
- UCB stands for Urban Cooperative Bank, which is an important part of India's cooperative banking ecosystem.

## V.O.C. Port Becomes India's First Scope-2 Emission-Free Major Port

- V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority is located at Thoothukudi (Tuticorin), Tamil Nadu.
- The recognition was provided by Bureau Veritas. The port received a Renewable Energy Verification Statement.
- VOC Port is named after V. O. Chidambaram Pillai, a freedom fighter and pioneer of India's indigenous shipping movement.

## Gujarat Launches Plastic Waste Management Project at Nalsarovar



- Nalsarovar is an important wetland ecosystem of Gujarat.
- It aims to improve collection, segregation and scientific disposal of plastic waste.
- Nalsarovar is particularly important for migratory and resident birds.

## Jitendra Singh Dedicates First-of-Its-Kind ‘Eco-Educational Hub’

- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh dedicated the country's first-of-its-kind eco-educational hub to Nation in Lucknow, UP
- The hub is named Prakriti Gyan Dham.
- It has been established at the Maharishi Parashar Bioresource Centre (MPBC).

## India Gifts Five Peacocks to UN Geneva



- India gifted five Indian peacocks to the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG).
- India's Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva, Arindam Bagchi, presented the birds.
- Tatiana Valovaya, Director-General of UNOG, received them. The Indian peacock is the national bird of India.

## Ladakh Hosts First-Ever Black-Necked Crane Festival



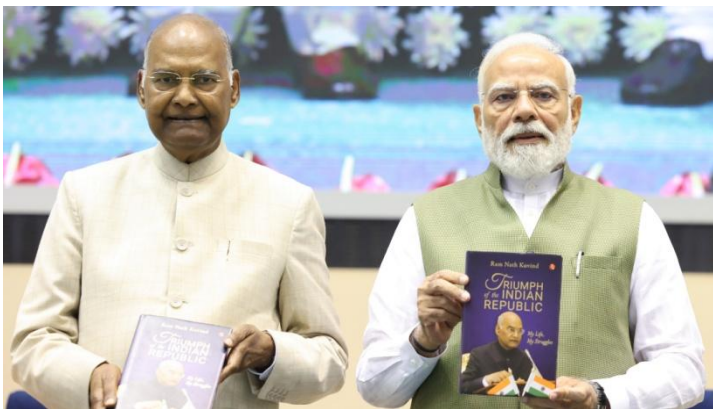
- Ladakh is hosting the first-ever Black-Necked Crane Festival to promote the conservation of the species and its fragile high-altitude habitat.
- The festival is centred on the Changthang region, which is an important breeding and wintering habitat for the Black-necked Crane.
- Important habitats include Tso Kar, Hanle and other high-altitude wetlands.

## Uttar Pradesh Becomes India's Largest Milk-Producing State



- Uttar Pradesh has retained its position as India's largest milk-producing state approximately 388.15 lakh metric tonnes of milk during 2024–25.
- The state accounts for around 16% of India's total milk production. India continues to be the world's largest milk-producing country.
- Uttar Pradesh is followed among the major milk-producing states by Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

## PM Modi Releases Ram Nath Kovind's Autobiography



- PM Narendra Modi released the autobiography of former P. Ram Nath Kovind in New Delhi.
- The autobiography covers Kovind's personal life, struggles, public service and political journey.
- Ram Nath Kovind served as the 14th President of India. He succeeded Pranab Mukherjee as President of India. Ram Nath Kovind was succeeded by Droupadi Murmu.

## HM Amit Shah Launches Gramin Gyan Setu App



- Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the Gramin Gyan Setu App in Gujarat.
- The app aims to integrate and interconnect libraries across the Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency.
- The initiative aims to establish a library in every village and promote reading habits among children.

## Gujarat to Get Asia's First Desert-Themed Night Safari

- Deesa in Banaskantha district of Gujarat will get Asia's first desert-themed drive-through night safari and zoological park.
- The project has received approval from the Central Zoo Authority (CZA).
- The safari will showcase the desert ecosystem and wildlife.

## CBDC-Based DBT Launches in Chd. and Dadra & Nagar Haveli



- The government is launching CBDC (Central Bank Digital Currency)-based Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for food subsidy delivery. CBDC is known as the Digital Rupee (₹₹).
- The initiative is linked with the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY).
- The Digital Rupee is issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

## Ministry of Textiles Org. 'Srijan'



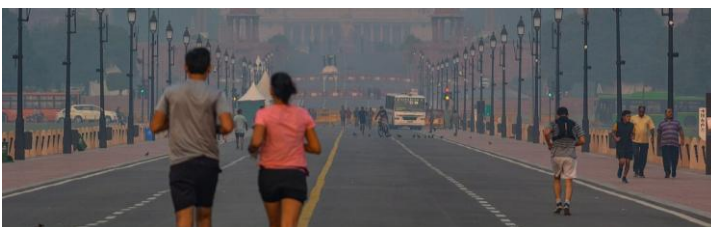
- The Ministry of Textiles organised 'Srijan: Voices from the Loom'.
- The programme was held at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.
- The programme celebrates the contribution of women handloom weavers.

## IIT Delhi Leads 52 Indian Institutions in QS Rankings



- IIT Delhi is India's highest-ranked institution in the QS World University Rankings published annually by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS).
- IIT Delhi secured 118th position globally 2027 from 123rd position in QS Rankings 2026.
- IIT Bombay secured 134th position globally.

## India Ranked 176<sup>th</sup> in Environmental Performance Index



- India ranked 176th out of 177 countries, making it the second-lowest ranked country in the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2026.
- Laos ranked 177th (last), while Estonia secured 1st rank globally.
- India was the lowest-ranked country in South Asia, behind Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Afghanistan and the Maldives.

## Cabinet Extends PM-KISAN Scheme for Five Years



- The Union Cabinet approved a five-year extension of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme.
- Under PM-KISAN, eligible farmer families receive ₹6,000 per year.
- Financial assistance is provided in three equal installments of ₹2,000 each.

## Gujarat's Pithora Painting Receives GI Tag



- It is mainly practised by the Rathwa, Bhilala and Nayaka tribal communities.
- They are dedicated to Baba Pithora, the tribal deity of prosperity and protection.
- Major districts associated with this art include Chhota Udepur, Dahod and Panchmahal.

## Glaw Lake Becomes Arunachal Pradesh's First Ramsar Site



- The recognition was granted under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.
- The lake situated in Lower Dibang Valley district.
- The Ramsar Convention was adopted in 1971 at Ramsar, Iran. World Wetlands Day: 2 February.

## Meghalaya Launches 'Mission Clouded Leopard'



- Meghalaya Government launched Mission Clouded Leopard to protect the Clouded Leopard, the official State Animal of Meghalaya.
- Objective is to conserve the species through scientific monitoring, habitat protection and anti-poaching measures.
- Clouded Leopard, IUCN Red List Status: Vulnerable.

## BRICS WAVES Bazaar Hosted in Mumbai



- BRICS WAVES Bazaar was organised in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Promoted India's AVGC-XR (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics and Extended Reality) industry.
- BRICS Members (2026): Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, UAE and Indonesia.

## Telangana Launches AI-Powered Emergency Response System 112



- The Telangana Government has launched an AI-powered Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) 112 to improve public safety and emergency services.
- The Emergency Response Support System is implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs as a single emergency number across India.
- Telangana's capital is Hyderabad, the Chief Minister is A. Revanth Reddy, and the Governor is Jishnu Dev Varma.

## C-DAC, GSI Sign MoU for Mineral Exploration and Disaster Mgmt.



- The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing and the Geological Survey of India have signed a Memorandum of Understanding
- The partnership will utilize AI, High Performance Computing (HPC), Big Data Analytics, and Geospatial Technologies.
- C-DAC is an autonomous scientific society under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

## Ladakh to Launch India's First High-Altitude Wildlife Safari



- The High-Altitude Wildlife Safari will be developed in the upper reaches of Ladakh, primarily covering the snow leopard and bird-watching trails in the Changthang region.
- Major wildlife includes Snow Leopard, Tibetan Wolf, Blue Sheep (Bharal), Himalayan Ibex, Kiang, Black-necked Crane and Himalayan Marmot.
- The safari area falls within the Changthang Cold Desert Wildlife Sanctuary.

## Assam Launches Nijut Moina and Nijut Babu Schemes



- The Assam Government launched the Nijut Moina Scheme to support higher education for girl students and Nijut Babu Scheme for male students.
- It covers students pursuing Higher Secondary, Undergraduate and Postgraduate education
- Both schemes aim to improve the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education.

## Tamil Nadu Government to Launch 'Vetri Vaanmagal' Scheme



- The scheme aims to empower women farmers through modern agricultural technology.
- It focuses on providing training in agricultural drone operations.
- Training will be conducted through the Remote Pilot Training Organisation (RPTO) of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU).

## Microsoft Launches Fourth India Cloud Region in Hyderabad



- Microsoft has launched its fourth cloud region in India at Hyderabad, Telangana.
- Hyderabad joins Mumbai, Pune and Chennai as Microsoft's cloud regions in India.
- The new facility provides Microsoft Azure, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cloud computing services.

## Punjab Becomes First State to Introduce AI as Mainstream Subject



- Implemented under the Sarbat.AI project which is Punjab Government's flagship Artificial Intelligence (AI) education initiative under Covers Classes I to XII.
- Curriculum aligned with UNESCO's Ethical AI Framework.
- Technology partners include Google, Intel, Canva, Neev AI and FA-AI. Education Minister: Harjot Singh Bains.

## Sarnath Gets UNESCO World Heritage Tag



- Sarnath is located near Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon here.
- The first sermon is known as Dharmachakra Pravartana (Turning of the Wheel of Dharma).

## Indian Passport Ranking Falls to 81



- India's rank fell from 75th to 81st in the Henley Passport Index 2026. Singapore retained the No. 1 position.
- Indian passport holders have visa-free/visa-on-arrival access to 56 destinations.
- The ranking is based on IATA (International Air Transport Association) data.

## Telangana Launches Family Register Initiative



- Available through the MeeSeva platform. MeeSeva is Telangana's Government-to-Citizen (G2C) service delivery platform. Implemented by the Revenue Department.
- Family Register Identification Number (FRIN) is the same as the Ration Card/Food Security Card Number.
- Any major (18+ years) family member can apply.

## Uttarakhand to Radio-Collar Elephants for Kumbh 2027



- The initiative aims to ensure the safety of millions of pilgrims expected during the Haridwar Ardh Kumbh 2027.
- The programme is being carried out with technical support from the Wildlife Institute of India (WII).
- Total Kumbh Mela venues in India are four—Prayagraj, Haridwar, Nashik, and Ujjain. Kumbh Mela was inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2017.

## H.P. Launches Mukhyamantri Machhuara Samman Nidhi Yojana

- The scheme is meant for eligible reservoir fishermen families in the state and It aims to provide financial assistance during the annual fishing ban (closed fishing season).
- Every eligible fisherman family will receive ₹3,500 per year as financial assistance.
- The objective is to provide livelihood security during the period when fishing is prohibited.

## India Becomes World's Second-Largest Supplier of Seafarers

- India became the world's second-largest supplier of seafarers according to the BIMCO-ICS Seafarer Workforce Report 2026. BIMCO stands for Baltic and International Maritime Council.
- Philippines ranks first, while India ranks second globally. India improved from 5th rank (2015) to 2nd rank (2026). India's maritime workforce share increased from 5.2% (2015) to 12.16%.
- India contributes 311,936 seafarers, accounting for 12.16% of the global seafaring workforce.

## Gujarat Launches e-Zero FIR System



- It enables victims of cyber financial fraud to register complaints without visiting a police station.
- Complaints made through the 1930 National Cybercrime Helpline are automatically converted into e-Zero FIRs. e-Zero FIR (Electronic Zero FIR) means a First Information Report (FIR) that can be registered digitally without considering the jurisdiction (location) of the police station.
- The initiative was developed in collaboration with the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

## Chhattisgarh Launches DWEEPTI Yojana

- DWEEPTI stands for Decentralised Women Empowerment on Energy and Policy for Transformative Inclusion.



- Chhattisgarh became the first Indian state to adopt a women-led distributed renewable energy policy.
- The scheme was launched by the Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.

## India Climbs from 82nd to 57th in Global Reform Rankings



- India improved 25 places, rising from 82nd to 57th in the latest Global Reform/Competitiveness Rankings.
- Its released by the Competere Foundation.
- The Competere Foundation released the latest Market Distortions Performance Index (MDPI). Singapore secured 1st rank in the Global Reform Rankings.

## President Droupadi Murmu Launches Raahi & e-Audio Initiatives

- President Droupadi Murmu launched RAAHI and e-Audio initiatives at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- RAAHI stands for Rashtrapati Bhavan Access and Heritage Interconnector. RAAHI is a fare-free electric bus service.
- RAAHI aims to improve the visitor experience at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The e-Audio initiative enhances accessibility through digital audio content.

## OmniCard Introduces India's First UPI-Based Flexi Benefits Wallet



- OmniCard Introduces India's First UPI-Based Flexi Benefits Wallet for Employee Tax Savings
- The wallet allows employees to spend flexible benefits through UPI.
- Users can make cashless digital payments directly via UPI.

## Gujarat Tops NITI Aayog Investment Friendliness Index 2026

- NITI Aayog released the Investment Friendliness Index 2026, assessing 28 States and 8 Union Territories across 8 investment-related pillars.
- Gujarat ranked 1st (56.6), Maharashtra 2nd (53.7), and Tamil Nadu 3rd (53.3).
- The index was launched to benchmark investment-friendly conditions across India and was announced in the Union Budget 2025–26 following the 9th NITI Aayog Governing Council Meeting.

## India Approves Its First Dengue Vaccine – QDENGU



- India approved Takeda's TAK-003 (Qdenga), its first dengue vaccine, for people aged 4–60 years.

- It was developed by Takeda Pharmaceuticals (Japan).
- The vaccine protects against all four dengue virus serotypes (DENV-1 to DENV-4). Dengue is transmitted by the Aedes aegypti mosquito.

## India's First AI-Powered Bird Sanctuary Announced



- India's first AI-powered bird sanctuary will be developed at Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary, Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The project is named Bhandup Bird Park. The sanctuary will use AI-based bird tracking and species identification technology.
- Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary is a Ramsar Site (Wetland of International Importance).

## Amit Shah inaugurates India's first language museum, 'Shabdlok'



- It is located at Belvedere House, National Library Campus, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- It has been developed by the National Library under the Ministry of Culture.
- It includes 121 languages recorded in Census 2011. National Library, Kolkata is India's largest library by collection.

## India Becomes 123rd Member of WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement

Photo: AFP



- India became the 123rd member of the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (AFS). India became a founding member of the WTO on 1 January 1995.
- The Agreement was adopted during the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12) was held in Geneva, Switzerland.
- It was received by WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala. World Trade Organization Established: 1 January 1995, HQ: Geneva, Switzerland.

## Killai Becomes India's First Climate-Resilient Village



- Killai village in Tamil Nadu has become India's first climate-resilient village.
- The initiative focuses on protecting coastal communities from climate change and natural disasters.
- The village has adopted climate-resilient housing, disaster preparedness, and sustainable livelihood practices.

## Rajasthan Launches Mukhyamantri Yuva Suyog Platform

- Rajasthan launched the Mukhyamantri Yuva Suyog Platform to empower youth.



- The platform provides employment, skill development, internships, and entrepreneurship opportunities.
- It acts as a single digital portal connecting youth with government schemes.

## Indian Railways Becomes World's Second-Most Electrified Network



- Indian Railways has become the world's second-most electrified railway network after Switzerland.
- More than 97% of the Broad Gauge network has been electrified. .
- railway electrification is the absolute backbone of Indian Railways' ambitious commitment to become a Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030.

## ICAI Inaugurates Global Orbit Summit 2026 in New Delhi

- ICAI organized the Global Orbit Summit 2026 in New Delhi to strengthen India's role in global trade and professional services.
- The summit focused on Global Capability Centres (GCCs), innovation, cross-border collaboration, and skill development.
- ICAI, established under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949, regulates the Chartered Accountancy profession in India.

## Assam Launches Statewide Drug Disposal Campaign



- Assam launched a statewide campaign to safely collect and dispose of expired, unused, and unwanted medicines.
- The campaign promotes scientific disposal methods and raises awareness about responsible medicine disposal.
- It supports public health, environmental protection, and sustainable waste management.

## Shivraj Singh Launches Nationwide 'Vriksh Mitra' Campaign



- Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the 'Vriksh Mitra' campaign to promote tree plantation and environmental conservation.
- The campaign encourages citizens and institutions to plant and nurture trees.
- It supports Mission LiFE and India's climate and green development goals.

## Delhi Govt Renames Mahila Samriddhi as Delhi Lakshmi Yojana

- The Delhi Government renamed the Mahila Samriddhi Yojana as the Delhi Lakshmi Yojana.



- The scheme will provide ₹2,500 per month to eligible women from low-income families meeting the prescribed conditions.
- It aims to strengthen financial support and welfare for eligible women in Delhi.

## India Launch 1<sup>st</sup> "Hydrogen for Heritage" Project



- India will launch its first hydrogen-powered train under the "Hydrogen for Heritage" initiative.
- The train will operate on heritage and hill routes, promoting clean, low-carbon rail transport.
- Hydrogen is a zero-emission fuel that produces only water vapour as a by-product.

## Uttarakhand Opens First GI Products Gallery

- Uttarakhand inaugurated its first Geographical Indication (GI) Products Gallery.
- The gallery promotes GI-tagged products, local artisans, traditional crafts, tourism, and the local economy.
- GI tags in India are granted under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

## Lakhanpur Selected for PM SVANidhi Street Food Hub Initiative



- Lakhanpur (J&K) was selected under the PM SVANidhi Street Food Hub Initiative.
- The project will improve hygiene, infrastructure, business opportunities, and promote local cuisine and tourism.
- PM SVANidhi was launched on 1 June 2020 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

## Ahmedabad Sets Tree Plantation Record in Guinness



- Ahmedabad set a Guinness World Record by planting 3.61 lakh saplings in one hour.
- The drive promotes environmental conservation and urban green cover.
- Ahmedabad is India's first UNESCO World Heritage City (2017).

## Andhra Pradesh Launches 'Pillale Sampada' Initiative



- 'Pillale Sampada' ("Children are Wealth") is a child welfare initiative launched by the Andhra Pradesh Government.
- The programme focuses on children's education, nutrition, healthcare, and overall development.
- It aims to ensure the holistic well-being of children, especially from vulnerable families.

## Gujarat's Unjha Cumin and Fennel Receive GI Tag

- Unjha Cumin (Jeera) and Unjha Fennel (Saunf) from Gujarat received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Unjha in Gujarat's Mehsana district is known as the Spice City of India and hosts one of Asia's largest spice markets.
- In India, GI tags are granted under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999, with the GI Registry in Chennai.

## Assam Becomes First State to Commercially Produce Matcha Tea



- Assam became India's first state to commercially produce Matcha tea, boosting tea diversification and export opportunities.
- Matcha is a premium powdered green tea made from shade-grown tea leaves and is rich in antioxidants with strong global demand.
- Commercial production will increase farmers' income through specialty tea and promote innovation and value addition in the tea sector.

## Maharashtra Govt Bans Sale of High-Energy Drinks Near Schools



- Maharashtra banned the sale of high-energy drinks in and around schools to protect children's health.
- The move aims to reduce obesity, sleep disorders, and excess caffeine intake while promoting healthier drinks.
- The ban supports child nutrition initiatives, with compliance monitored by local authorities.

## NBA Notifies Assam's 'Borjuli Site' as Biodiversity Heritage Site



- The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) declared Assam's Borjuli Site a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS).
- Biodiversity Heritage Sites are notified under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 to protect ecologically important areas with community participation.
- The recognition will promote conservation, research, sustainable use of biodiversity, and awareness of Assam's natural heritage..

## Union Cabinet Approved the Modified UDAN Scheme



- The Union Cabinet approved the Modified UDAN Scheme to strengthen regional air connectivity, especially in underserved and remote areas.
- UDAN has expanded regional connectivity through new airports and flight routes since its launch.
- The modified scheme aims to make regional aviation more sustainable and inclusive.

## PM Modi Inaugurates CG Semi OSAT Facility in Sanand



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the CG Semi OSAT facility in Sanand, Gujarat, boosting India's semiconductor mission.
- The facility will assemble, test, mark, and package semiconductor chips for domestic and global markets.
- It will create skilled jobs, attract investments, and support the Semicon India Programme and Make in India initiative.

## Sirsa Kinnow, Haryana's Fruit Receives GI Tag



- Sirsa Kinnow received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, recognizing its unique quality and origin in Haryana's Sirsa district.
- Sirsa is a major kinnow-producing region, and the GI tag is expected to boost exports and benefit farmers.
- The GI tag provides legal protection, promotes regional branding, and preserves traditional farming practices.

## India Ranks 125th in Global Passport Index 2026



- India ranked 125th in the Global Passport Index 2026, down one place from the previous year.
- The index ranks passports based on visa-free, visa-on-arrival, and electronic travel authorization access.
- It measures global travel freedom, connectivity, and diplomatic strength.

## Gujarat to Introduce State's First Air-Filled Rubber Dams



- Gujarat will build its first air-filled rubber dams to improve water conservation and river management.
- These inflatable dams store water during rains and release it during floods, offering a cost-effective and eco-friendly solution.
- The project will improve irrigation, groundwater recharge, drinking water supply, and sustainable water management.

## Delhi Govt. Launch ₹ 8,300 Cr. Air Pollution Project with World Bank



- The Delhi Government will implement an ₹8,300 crore air pollution control project with World Bank support.

- The project targets emissions from transport, industries, construction, and waste burning while strengthening air quality monitoring.
- It promotes clean mobility, sustainable urban planning, and better environmental governance.

## Kamarajar Port Becomes India's Second Major Port with 18-Metre



- Kamarajar Port has become India's second major port to achieve an 18-metre draft. The deeper draft allows the port to handle larger cargo vessels.
- Increased draft capacity enhances cargo handling efficiency and lowers shipping costs. It strengthens India's maritime trade and logistics infrastructure.
- Kamarajar Port, formerly Ennore Port, is India's first corporatized major port. It is located near Chennai in Tamil Nadu.

## Uttarakhand Becomes India's Sixth Fully Literate State



- Uttarakhand became India's sixth fully literate state under the ULLAS programme, achieving over 95% literacy.
- The achievement reflects successful adult education efforts and promotes inclusive, lifelong learning.
- Earlier, Mizoram, Goa, Tripura, Kerala, and Himachal Pradesh achieved full literacy, supporting NEP 2020 goals.

## Agriculture Minister Launches PRAGATI for 20 Lakh Farmers



- Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the PRAGATI Initiative to benefit around 20 lakh farmers.
- The initiative promotes modern farming, digital technologies, capacity building, and sustainable agriculture.
- It aims to improve farmers' income and support agricultural growth and modernization.

## Telangana to Host 8th Khelo India Youth Games in November 2026



- Telangana will host the 8th Khelo India Youth Games in November 2026 for the first time.
- Khelo India is the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports' flagship programme to promote grassroots sports and talent development.
- The Games will feature athletes from across India, with top performers eligible for Khelo India support.

## UP Launches Chief Minister Teacher Cashless Medical Scheme

- The Uttar Pradesh Government launched the Chief Minister Teacher Cashless Medical Scheme for teachers.
- The scheme provides cashless treatment at empanelled hospitals, improving healthcare access and financial security.
- It strengthens employee welfare and supports better productivity and service quality.

## Delhi Ranks 120th in Global Liveability Index



- Delhi ranked 120th in the Global Liveability Index 2026.
- The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) releases the index based on stability, healthcare, culture, environment, education, and infrastructure.
- Mumbai ranked 121st, Chennai 123rd, Bengaluru 127th, while Copenhagen remained the world's most liveable city.

## Bengaluru ranked second-best AI-native cluster in Asia

- Bengaluru has been ranked Asia's second-best AI-native startup cluster in the GSER 2026, after Beijing.
- The city accounts for about 58% of India's AI startup funding and ranks among the global top 10 for R&D performance.
- Bengaluru is also ranked 15th globally among startup ecosystems, with an ecosystem value of about \$152.8 billion.

## India Ranks 70th In WEF Energy Transition Index 2026



- India climbed to 70th in the WEF Energy Transition Index, emerging as one of the world's strongest improvers.
- The rise was driven by gains in infrastructure, renewable energy, grid expansion, green hydrogen, and sustainability.
- India's green economy also grew rapidly, with low-carbon jobs rising 24% and renewable energy employment reaching 1.3 million.

## Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited Granted Navratna Status



- Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL) has been granted Navratna status, becoming India's 28th Navratna CPSE.
- The status allows CPCL to invest up to ₹1,000 crore per project without prior government approval.
- It also enables greater financial autonomy and overseas joint ventures, strengthening CPCL's market position.

## Northeast's Largest Organic Spice Unit Inaugurated in Meghalaya



- FM Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated Northeast India's largest organic spice processing plant at Bhoirymbong, Meghalaya.
- The ₹32 crore facility can process over 10,000 MT of organic spices annually, benefiting around 5,500 farming families.
- It is the region's first plant with both NPOP and EU organic certifications, boosting direct exports and farmers' income.

## Ministry Of Minority Affairs Announces Haj Policy 2027



- The Haj Policy 2027 was released early, allowing online applications through the Haj Committee of India portal and Haj Suvidha App.
- The Haj quota remains 70:30 between the Haj Committee of India and private tour operators, with improved pilgrim support.
- The policy introduces AI-based assistance and stricter medical screening to enhance pilgrim safety and services.

## MoCA & Delhi Airport Launch 'Air Suvidha 2.0' portal



- The Ministry of Civil Aviation and DIAL launched Air Suvidha 2.0, an upgraded contactless passenger health declaration portal.
- Developed with the DGHS, it requires international passengers to submit an online health self-declaration before immigration.
- The form can be filled up to 24 hours before arrival in India.

## Union Home Minister Amit Shah to launch Bharat Taxi in Gujarat



- The Ministry of Cooperation launched Bharat Taxi, India's first driver-owned cooperative ride-hailing service.
- Operating on a zero-commission model, it ensures drivers receive full ride earnings directly.
- Registered under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002, it also provides drivers with insurance, loans, pensions, and social security benefits.

## Jharkhand's Bhagaiya Silk, Munda Jewellery, Craft Get GI Tag



- Jharkhand's Bhagaiya Silk, Kuchai Silk, Munda Jewellery, and Bamboo Craft have received GI Tags.
- The recognition protects their unique identity, promotes traditional craftsmanship, and boosts artisans' incomes.
- NABARD played a key role in securing the GI registration and strengthening producer value chains.

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- It accounts for about 58% of India's AI startup funding and ranks among the global top 10 for R&D performance.
- Bengaluru also ranks 15th globally among startup ecosystems, with an ecosystem value of \$152.8 billion.

## SC Declares Right to Walk on Safe Footpaths a Fundamental Right

- The Supreme Court ruled that the right to walk on safe footpaths is a fundamental right under Articles 19 and 21.

- It directed civic bodies to build and maintain safe pedestrian infrastructure.
- The Court also urged a dedicated law and regulatory framework to protect pedestrian rights.

## India's 7th Regional Meteorological Centre Inaugurated in Jammu



- The IMD's new Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC) in Jammu will serve Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, and Himachal Pradesh.
- It will provide district-level forecasts and early warnings for flash floods, avalanches, cloudbursts, and landslides.
- The launch supports IMD's plan to expand India's Doppler Weather Radar network from 50 to 100.

## UP Launch 'Project Ganga' to Bring High-Speed Internet to Rural Areas



- The project aims to provide fiber broadband connectivity to 20 lakh households across Uttar Pradesh.
- It will create 8,000–10,000 Digital Service Providers, promoting youth entrepreneurship and women participation.
- The initiative will boost digital education, telemedicine, e-governance, and create over one lakh jobs.

# INTERNATIONAL NEWS



## Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir Elected Bangladesh's President



- Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir succeeded Mohammed Shahabuddin as the President of Bangladesh.
- He was elected the 23rd President of Bangladesh.
- He is a senior leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).



- His nomination came from Hungary's ruling Tisza Party, led by Prime Minister Péter Magyar.

## SCO summit 2026 held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan



- SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) was established on 15 June 2001 in Shanghai, China.
- The SCO currently has 10 member states: China, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Belarus.
- The SCO's headquarters/Secretariat is located in Beijing, China.

## US Launches 'Operation Economic Outcast' Against Iran



- The operation is a comprehensive economic sanctions campaign against Iran
- The campaign aims to financially isolate Iran from the global economy.
- The U.S. described it as an "economic D-Day" against Iran.

## András Baka Elected as Hungary's New President

- He is a former head of Hungary's Supreme Court.
- Baka succeeds Tamás Sulyok as Hungary's president.

## Pakistan's First Lunar Rover Named Jinnah-1

- Pakistan's first-ever lunar rover has been officially named Jinnah-1 by the Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO).
- It will travel to the Moon as part of China's Chang'e-8 mission.
- The mission will target the Moon's South Polar Region.

## Hakainde Hichilema was re-elected as President of Zambia



- Hakainde Hichilema has been re-elected as the President of Zambia for a second five-year term.
- Hichilema defeated Edgar Lungu in the 2021 election and took office as Zambia's 7th President.
- He contested the election under the United Party for National Development (UPND).

## India-Armenia Sign MoU to Strengthen Defence Ties



- India and Armenia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Yerevan, Armenia, to strengthen bilateral defence cooperation.
- The MoU focuses on cooperation in defence research, development, innovation and shared production.
- Rajesh Kumar Singh, Defence Secretary of India, represented the Indian side during the agreement.

## Maldives Launches Favara-UPI Payment Service with India

- The service links the Maldives' instant payment system (Favara) with India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI).



- It enables real-time cross-border money transfers between the Maldives and India.
- UPI was developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

## Italy Suspends EU Schengen Free-Travel Pact with Spain



- Italy temporarily suspended free movement with Spain.
- Temporary border checks were introduced under the Schengen Border Code.
- The Schengen Agreement was signed in 1985. The Schengen Area currently has 29 member countries.

## China Develops Xianglong Tunnel Boring Machine



- China unveiled its latest indigenous Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) named Xianglong.
- It has been developed by China Railway Construction Heavy Industry Corporation (CRCHI), one of the world's leading manufacturers of tunnel boring equipment.
- It is equipped with AI-enabled intelligent control systems, real-time geological prediction and automated fault diagnosis.

## China Harvests First Rice Crop Grown in Space



- The experiment is being conducted aboard China's Tiangong Space Station, which orbits approximately 400 km above Earth.
- The research is carried out under the Shenzhou-23 mission, with astronauts cultivating rice in orbit.
- The experiment was conducted aboard China's Tiangong Space Station under controlled microgravity conditions. India's planned space station is called the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS).

## India Invites Bangladesh PM to Attend BRICS Summit 2026



- India has invited Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman to attend the BRICS Summit 2026.
- The BRICS Summit 2026 will be held in New Delhi.
- Bangladesh is not a member of BRICS. BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

## India and China Resume Nathu La Border Trade



- India and China have decided to resume border trade through the Nathu La Pass from 1 August 2026, after a suspension since 2020.
- Nathu La Pass is located in East Sikkim. It connects Sikkim (India) with the Tibet Autonomous Region (China).
- The other two border trade routes are Lipulekh Pass (Uttarakhand) and Shipki La Pass (Himachal Pradesh). Nathu La was part of the ancient Silk Route, connecting India with Tibet and Central Asia.

## Venezuela Formally Withdraws the International Criminal Court (ICC)



- Venezuela has formally notified the United Nations of its withdrawal from the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- The ICC is headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands.
- The ICC was established under the Rome Statute (1998) and became operational in 2002.

## 24 Countries Adopt India's DPI, UPI & DigiLocker



- India has signed MoUs with 24 countries to share its Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) solutions.
- The initiative is led by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) includes Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker, e-Sign, FASTag, CoWIN, e-Sanjeevani and ONDC.

## India and Nepal Restore Lalitpur Heritage Sites



- India and Nepal jointly completed the restoration of heritage sites in Lalitpur (Patan), Nepal.
- The restoration was carried out under the India–Nepal Development Partnership.
- Lalitpur is one of the three historic cities of the Kathmandu Valley. The Kathmandu Valley is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

## China's Gravity-1 – World's Most Powerful Solid-Fuel Rocket



- Gravity-1 (Yinli-1) is developed by Chinese commercial space company Orienspace.
- It is regarded as the world's most powerful solid-fuel launch vehicle.
- The rocket is capable of placing about 6.5 tonnes into Low Earth Orbit (LEO).

## India's 1<sup>st</sup> Commercial Freight Train Reaches Nepal Carrying Canola



- The train transported canola seeds for processing in Nepal.
- The service strengthens India–Nepal cross-border trade.
- Canola refers to special type of oil seed mustard varieties bred for human consumption.

## Bangladesh President Resigns on Health Grounds



- President Mohammed Shahabuddin resigned and Hafiz Uddin Ahmad, the Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament), has assumed the role of Acting President.
- He was diagnosed with Autonomic Neuropathy, causing occasional loss of consciousness.
- Mohammed Shahabuddin became the 22nd President of Bangladesh in April 2023.

## India and Romania Sign Three Agreements



- The agreements cover Science & Technology, Education, and Sports.
- The agreements aim to strengthen bilateral cooperation.
- Both countries agreed to promote research collaboration and innovation.

## France Bans Social Media for Children Under 15



- France became the first European Union (EU) country to ban social media access for children under 15 years not be allowed to create new social media accounts from 1 September 2026.
- The ban will apply to existing accounts from January 2027. Social media platforms must implement mandatory age-verification systems.
- Arcom is the audiovisual and digital communications regulator of France.

## Japan's JAXA Launches and Lands Reusable Rocket

- JAXA successfully launched and landed a reusable experimental rocket, advancing Japan's reusable space technology.



- The project aims to develop cost-effective reusable launch systems for future space missions.
- Major space agencies: ISRO (India), JAXA (Japan), NASA (USA), Roscosmos (Russia), CNSA (China), and ESA (Europe).

## 56th International Physics Olympiad 2026 Held in Colombia

- The 56th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) 2026 was held in Bucaramanga, Colombia, with 381 students from 87 countries.
- India participated for the 27th time, with the team selected and trained by HBCSE under the Department of Atomic Energy.
- All five Indian students won Gold Medals, and India jointly secured first place with Russia, China, Kazakhstan, South Korea, and Taiwan.

## Russia Launches 'Soyuz MS-29 Mission'



- Russia launched the Soyuz MS-29 crewed mission to the International Space Station (ISS) from Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan.
- The launch was attended by NASA Administrator Jared Isaacman, the first NASA chief to visit Baikonur since 2018.
- The mission carried NASA astronaut Anil Menon and Roscosmos cosmonauts Pyotr Dubrov and Anna Kikina aboard a Soyuz-2.1a rocket.

## World's First 7-Star Luxury Train



- Seven Stars in Kyushu is the world's first 7-star luxury train, launched in October 2013.
- It is operated by JR Kyushu and was designed by Eiji Mitooka.
- The train showcases traditional Japanese craftsmanship, luxury interiors, and Kyushu's culture, cuisine, and scenery.

## India, Kyrgyzstan Launch 'Manas–Mahabharata' Initiative



- India and Kyrgyzstan launched the 'Manas and Mahabharata' Civilisation Initiative to strengthen cultural ties.
- The initiative promotes research, cultural exchanges, education, and people-to-people cooperation.
- Manas is Kyrgyzstan's national epic, while the Mahabharata is one of India's two great Sanskrit epics.

## International Booker Prize is Renamed

- The International Booker Prize was renamed the Bukhman International Booker Prize following a partnership with the Bukhman Foundation.

- The award continues to honor the best translated fiction published in the UK and Ireland, with the prize shared equally between the author and translator.
- The renaming does not change the award's selection process or eligibility and highlights the role of translators in world literature.

## India Joins UN's First Global Dialogue on AI Gov. in Geneva



- India participated in the UN's first Global Dialogue on AI Governance in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The dialogue focused on AI ethics, transparency, safety, innovation, and international cooperation.
- India's participation reflects its growing role in global digital governance and promoting safe, inclusive AI.

## IIM-B First to Establish Its Overseas Campus in Indonesia



- IIM Bangalore became the first IIM to establish an overseas campus in Indonesia.
- The campus will promote academic collaboration, executive education, research, and industry partnerships in Southeast Asia.
- The initiative strengthens India's global education presence and supports the Act East Policy.

## DeepSeek Developing AI Chip to Reduce Reliance on Nvidia, Huawei



- DeepSeek is developing its own AI chip to reduce dependence on external suppliers and strengthen its AI infrastructure.
- DeepSeek is a Chinese AI startup founded in 2023 by Liang Wenfeng, known for developing high-performance AI models at lower cost.
- OpenAI, a US-based AI company, launched ChatGPT in 2022, one of the world's most widely used generative AI chatbots.

## Geneva to Host Global AI Summit in 2027



- Geneva, Switzerland, will host the Global AI Summit 2027 on responsible and inclusive AI development.
- The summit will focus on AI governance, ethics, innovation, cybersecurity, and global cooperation.
- Hosted in Geneva, a major hub for international diplomacy, the event aims to strengthen global AI collaboration.

## PM Modi Visits UNESCO World Heritage Prambanan Temple in Indonesia

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the Prambanan Temple during his Indonesia visit.

- Prambanan is Indonesia's largest Hindu temple complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site built in the 9th century and dedicated to Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva.
- The visit highlighted shared cultural ties and strengthened India-Indonesia cultural diplomacy.

## France to Get First Traditional Hindu Temple with Indian Stones



- The temple is being built in France using hand-carved stones from India, following traditional Shilpa Shastra principles.
- Indian artisans and French stonemasons are jointly constructing the temple, blending traditional craftsmanship with modern expertise.
- The temple will serve as a cultural and community centre, with a 15-day inaugural celebration planned in September 2026.

## World's Tallest Lionel Messi Statue Unveiled in Argentina



- A 26-metre-tall statue of Lionel Messi has been unveiled in Cutral-Có, Argentina.
- Built from 70 tonnes of steel and iron, it shows Messi holding the 2022 FIFA World Cup trophy.
- It is now the world's tallest statue of a professional footballer, surpassing the 21-metre statue in Kolkata.

## Bangladesh joins India-led International Big Cat Alliance



- Bangladesh became the 27th member of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) in June 2026.
- The membership strengthens cooperation on big cat conservation, habitat protection, research, and anti-poaching efforts.
- It also enhances transboundary conservation of Bengal tigers and leopards in the Sundarbans.

## China's LineShine Becomes World's Most Powerful Supercomputer

- China's LineShine topped the TOP500 Supercomputer Rankings 2026, becoming the world's most powerful supercomputer.
- India's Shakti Cloud ranked 32nd with a performance of 84.31 petaflops.
- The USA had the highest number of systems (161) in the TOP500 list, followed by Japan, Germany, and China.

## Canada Sets Guinness World Record with Giant Flag



- Canada unveiled a giant national flag measuring 160 m × 80 m, covering 12,800 sq m.

- The flag was displayed on Grouse Mountain in June 2026 to welcome FIFA World Cup visitors and support Team Canada.
- Its ground display sparked debate over flag etiquette despite widespread public interest.

## Elon Musk Becomes World's First Trillionaire After SpaceX IPO



- SpaceX raised about \$75 billion in the world's largest IPO, surpassing Saudi Aramco's 2019 record.
- The company's market valuation crossed \$2 trillion, with shares closing at \$160.95 on debut.
- The listing pushed Elon Musk's estimated net worth above \$1 trillion.

## UK Announces Social Media Ban for U-16 Users



- The proposed ban will restrict minors from using platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, X, Snapchat, and YouTube, while allowing WhatsApp and Signal.
- The rules will also limit livestreaming and contact from strangers for users under 18.
- The regulations are expected to take effect by Spring 2027, with penalties for non-compliant tech companies.

## South Korean President Lee Jae Myung Nominates Han Seong-sook

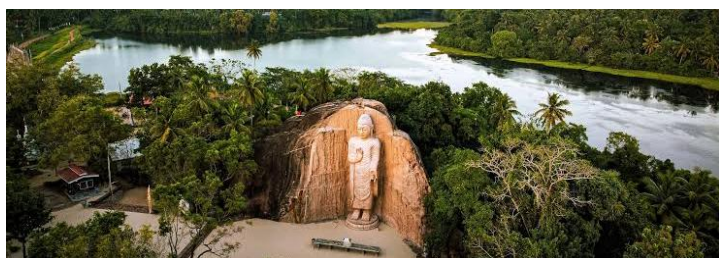
- Han Seong-sook, former Naver CEO and current SME Minister, has been nominated as South Korea's Prime Minister.
- If approved, she will become the first female PM of the Lee administration and the country's second woman PM.
- Her nomination follows Kim Min-seok's resignation as PM.

## NASA Names Artemis III Crew for Historic 2027 Moon Mission



- NASA announced the four-member crew for the Artemis III mission, planned for launch in 2027.
- The mission will test spacecraft docking and landing systems in low-Earth orbit.
- It will prepare for future lunar missions, including Artemis IV's planned Moon landing in 2028.

## Sri Lanka ranked 67th in Global Peace Index



- Sri Lanka ranked 67th in the 2026 Global Peace Index, improving by 14 places.
- It became South Asia's second-most peaceful country after Bhutan.

- The improvement was driven by reduced militarisation and better political stability.

## India Became Sri Lanka's Second-Largest Export Destination in 2026

- India became Sri Lanka's second-largest export market after the US during January–April 2026.
- Sri Lanka's exports to India rose 8.9% to \$364.15 million.
- Growth was driven by coconut products, electronics, and processed foods.

## Kevin Warsh takes oath as Chairman of US Federal Reserve



- Kevin Warsh was sworn in as the 17th Chairman of the US Federal Reserve on May 22, 2026.
- He succeeds Jerome Powell, who remains on the Federal Reserve Board.
- A former Fed Governor, Warsh pledged a reform-focused approach centred on price stability and inflation control.

## Lionel Messi Becomes Billionaire in Historic Football Milestone

- Lionel Messi became the second footballer to reach billionaire status after Cristiano Ronaldo, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.
- His wealth comes from career earnings, endorsements, investments, and commercial partnerships.
- His move to Inter Miami significantly boosted his income through MLS revenue-sharing and media rights.



## NATIONAL NEWS

- Which organisation developed India's first Digital Soil Texture Map? **NBSS & LUP**
- What does NBSS & LUP stand for?  
**National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning**
- Which ministry signed an MoU with PhonePe to strengthen PM GatiShakti?  
**Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)**
- What type of data intelligence will PhonePe provide under the PM GatiShakti partnership?  
**Granular and hyperlocal data intelligence**
- Who launched India's first non-GMO high-expansion popcorn maize hybrids?  
**Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan**
- What are the names of the new popcorn maize hybrids? **Krisna459 and Godari234**
- Which state is set to launch the 'Arjun Bahini' Disaster Response Force?  
**West Bengal**
- Who will primarily constitute the Arjun Bahini force? **Agniveers**
- Which institute launched the 'Garbhini Mitra' Course? **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)**
- Under which ministry does AIIA function?  
**Ministry of Ayush**
- What is the new official name of Kerala?  
**Keralam**
- Which Act legally implemented the name change of Kerala? **Kerala (Alteration of Name) Act, 2026**
- Which Indian city was included in the 2026 Work From Anywhere Index? **Mumbai**
- Which organisation publishes the Work From Anywhere Index?  
**International Workplace Group (IWG)**
- Which portal completed five years of service for India's unorganised workforce?  
**e-Shram Portal**
- What database was created through the e-Shram Portal? **National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW)**
- Which institute launched the 'Carbon Pathshala' workshop for farmers? **ICAR-CCARI, Goa**
- What market was the Carbon Pathshala workshop focused on? **Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM)**
- Which state signed an MoU with ISB to unlock its forest economy potential? **Himachal Pradesh**
- What is the estimated untapped forest and pastoral economy potential of Himachal Pradesh?  
**₹22,600 crore**
- Which metro organisation became the first in India to receive ISO 55001:2024 certification?  
**Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)**
- Which metro line is specifically associated with this certification?  
**Mumbai Metro Line-3 (Aqua Line)**
- Which Indian port became the world's fastest-growing among the top 30 container ports?  
**Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)**
- What was JNPA's container throughput growth during H1 2026? **13.6%**
- Which state launched the CM-IMPACT Read & Rise programme? **Meghalaya**
- What is the main objective of the Read & Rise programme?  
**Strengthening foundational reading skills among schoolchildren**
- Where was the National Conclave on Tribal Languages & Museums organised?  
**Mysuru, Karnataka**
- Which ministry organised the Tribal Languages & Museums Conclave? **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**
- What does SCO stand for?  
**Shanghai Cooperation Organisation**
- Which train has become India's first brand-named train? **Sprite Tejas Express**

- The Sprite Tejas Express operates between which two cities? **Lucknow and New Delhi**
- Which state launched the Sandhya Kiran Cashless Healthcare Cover? **Karnataka**
- Who are the primary beneficiaries of the Sandhya Kiran scheme? **Karnataka State Government pensioners below 70 years**
- From which city to which city is the Uttarakhand High Court proposed to be shifted? **Nainital to Haldwani**
- In which year was the Uttarakhand High Court established? **2000**
- Which traditional agricultural festival is prominently celebrated in Chhattisgarh? **Hareli Tihar**
- During which month is Hareli Tihar traditionally celebrated? **Shravan**
- What is the new name of West Bengal's Kanyashree Scheme? **Kanya Ratna Scheme**
- How much financial assistance is being provided to eligible girl students under the scheme in 2026? **₹1,000**
- Where did the CCI host the Meeting of Heads of BRICS Competition Authorities? **Udaipur, Rajasthan**
- Who is the Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India? **Ravneet Kaur**
- Which state plans to train around 10,000 'Gau Mitras'? **Uttar Pradesh**
- What is the main objective of the Gau Mitra initiative? **Cow protection and care**
- Which Uttar Pradesh structure was recognised as a World Heritage Irrigation Structure? **Parichha Dam/Weir**
- The Parichha Dam is associated with which river? **Betwa River**
- Which organisation launched the RSVC-AMRIT platform? **NABARD**
- What does RSVC stand for? **RuTAGE Smart Village Centre**
- Which organisation launched the YASHODA AI initiative? **National Commission for Women (NCW)**
- Where was the YASHODA AI initiative launched? **Jalandhar, Punjab**
- Which state declared snakebite a Notifiable Disease? **Maharashtra**
- What has been made mandatory under Maharashtra's snakebite notification? **Reporting of suspected, probable and confirmed snakebite cases and deaths**
- Where was the 5th Tamil Nadu International Kite Festival organised? **Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu**
- At which beach was the 2026 edition held? **Thiruvidanthai Beach**
- Which organisation operationalised the Sungal Tunnel? **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)**
- What is the length of the Sungal Tunnel? **2.79 km**
- Where will SEMICON India 2026 be held? **Yashobhoomi, New Delhi**
- Which edition of SEMICON India will be held in 2026? **Fifth edition**
- Who chaired the 31st meeting of the Southern Zonal Council? **Amit Shah**
- Which states are members of the Southern Zonal Council? **Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana**
- Which state topped the latest NITI Aayog School Education Rankings? **Punjab**
- What was Punjab's Class 3 proficiency in Mathematics? **78%**
- Which state launched the Composite Digital Crop Survey (CDCS)? **Karnataka**
- Which technologies are used in the CDCS? **AI, SAR, satellite imagery, drones, GIS and machine learning**
- Which region will lead the independent India's first caste census? **Ladakh**
- What are the two phases of Census 2027? **Houselisting & Housing Census and Population Enumeration**
- Which state launched the DALKHALI initiative? **Odisha**

- What is the primary objective of the DALKHAI initiative? **To address the root causes of distress migration**
- Where was the 2nd National Port Security Conference 2026 held? **New Delhi**
- What was the major focus of the conference? **Strengthening port security and resilience**
- Who launched the 'Bank in a Box' initiative? **Amit Shah**
- Which banking sector is the initiative aimed at strengthening? **Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs)**
- Which port became India's first Scope-2 emission-free major port? **V.O. Chidambaranar Port**
- In which state is V.O. Chidambaranar Port located? **Tamil Nadu**
- Where did Gujarat launch its Plastic Waste Management Project? **Nalsarovar**
- What is the main objective of the Nalsarovar project? **Scientific collection, segregation and disposal of plastic waste**
- What is the name of India's first-of-its-kind eco-educational hub? **Prakriti Gyan Dham**
- Where has Prakriti Gyan Dham been established? **Maharishi Parashar Bioresource Centre, Lucknow**
- How many Indian peacocks did India gift to the UN Office at Geneva? **Five**
- Who received the peacocks on behalf of UNOG? **Tatiana Valovaya**
- Where was the first-ever Black-Necked Crane Festival held? **Ladakh**
- Which major animal will be a key attraction of the safari? **Snow Leopard**
- Which region is the festival centred on? **Changthang**
- Which state became India's largest milk-producing state? **Uttar Pradesh**
- Approximately how much milk did Uttar Pradesh produce during 2024–25? **388.15 lakh metric tonnes**
- Whose autobiography was released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi? **Ram Nath Kovind**
- Who succeeded Ram Nath Kovind as President of India? **Droupadi Murmu**
- Who launched the Gramin Gyan Setu App? **Amit Shah**
- What is the main objective of the Gramin Gyan Setu App? **To interconnect libraries and promote reading**
- Where will Asia's first desert-themed drive-through night safari be established? **Deesa, Banaskantha, Gujarat**
- Which authority approved the desert-themed safari project? **Central Zoo Authority (CZA)**
- What is CBDC-based DBT also associated with? **Digital Rupee (₹)**
- Which scheme is linked with the CBDC-based food subsidy DBT initiative? **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY)**
- What programme was organised by the Ministry of Textiles to honour women handloom weavers? **Srijan: Voices from the Loom**
- Where was the Srijan programme held? **India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**
- Which Indian institution was ranked highest in the QS World University Rankings 2027? **IIT Delhi**
- What was IIT Delhi's global rank in QS Rankings 2027? **118<sup>th</sup>**
- India ranked at which position in the Environmental Performance Index 2026? **176<sup>th</sup>**
- Which country ranked first in the EPI 2026? **Estonia**
- Which scheme was approved to promote Floating Solar Photovoltaic projects? **Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana**
- Which ministry will implement the Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana? **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)**
- For how many years was the PM-KISAN Scheme extended? **5 years**
- How much annual assistance is provided under PM-KISAN? **₹6,000**
- Which traditional painting of Gujarat received the GI Tag? **Pithora Painting**

- Which tribal communities mainly practise Pithora painting? **Rathwa, Bhilala and Nayaka**
- The Danapur–Fatuha Multitracking Project is located in which state? **Bihar**
- The Danapur–Fatuha route falls under which railway zone? **East Central Railway**
- Which lake became Arunachal Pradesh's first Ramsar Site? **Glaw Lake**
- In which district is Glaw Lake located? **Lower Dibang Valley**
- Which Act received the President's assent to prevent illegal religious conversion in Maharashtra? **Maharashtra Freedom of Religion Act, 2026**
- What is the maximum imprisonment under the Maharashtra Freedom of Religion Act, 2026? **Up to 7 years**
- Which state launched Mission Clouded Leopard? **Meghalaya**
- What is the IUCN status of the Clouded Leopard? **Vulnerable**
- Where was the BRICS WAVES Bazaar organised? **Mumbai**
- Which state launched the AI-powered Emergency Response System 112? **Telangana**
- Which ministry implements the Emergency Response Support System 112? **Ministry of Home Affairs**
- Which two organisations signed an MoU for mineral exploration and disaster management? **C-DAC and Geological Survey of India**
- Which region will launch India's first High-Altitude Wildlife Safari? **Ladakh**
- Which major animal will be a key attraction of the safari? **Snow Leopard**
- Which state launched the Nijut Moina and Nijut Babu Schemes? **Assam**
- What is the objective of the Nijut Moina Scheme? **Higher education of girl students**
- Which state is launching the Vetri Vaanmagal Scheme? **Tamil Nadu**

- What training will women farmers receive under the Vetri Vaanmagal Scheme? **Agricultural drone operations**
- Which city became Microsoft's fourth cloud region in India? **Hyderabad**
- Which cloud platform is provided through the new facility? **Microsoft Azure**
- What does GOBARdhan stand for? **Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan**
- Which ministry is the nodal ministry for GOBARdhan? **Ministry of Jal Shakti**

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Who was elected as the President of Bangladesh? **Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir**
- Whom did Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir succeed as Bangladesh's President? **Mohammed Shahabuddin**
- What is the name of the US operation launched against Iran? **Operation Economic Outcast**
- What is the main objective of Operation Economic Outcast? **To financially isolate Iran from the global economy**
- Which country hosted the 2026 SCO Summit? **Kyrgyzstan**
- In which city was the 2026 SCO Summit held? **Bishkek**
- Who was elected as the new President of Hungary? **András Baka**
- Whom did András Baka succeed as Hungary's President? **Tamás Sulyok**
- What is the name of Pakistan's first lunar rover? **Jinnah-1**
- Under which Chinese mission will Jinnah-1 travel to the Moon? **Chang'e-8 mission**
- Who was re-elected as the President of Zambia for a second term? **Hakainde Hichilema**
- Under which political party did Hakainde Hichilema contest the election? **United Party for National Development (UPND)**

- What is the name of Pakistan's first lunar rover?  
**Jinnah-1**
- Under which mission will Jinnah-1 travel to the Moon?  
**China's Chang'e-8 mission**
- Who was elected as the new President of Hungary on 11 August 2026?  
**Andras Baka**  
Whom did Andras Baka succeed as Hungary's President?  
**Tamás Sulyok**
- What new official name did Nauru adopt?  
**Republic of Naoero**
- In which region is Nauru located?  
**Micronesia**
- Which country temporarily suspended free movement with Spain?  
**Italy**
- In which year was the Schengen Agreement signed?  
**1985**
- Which country unveiled the Xianglong Tunnel Boring Machine?  
**China**
- Where did China grow its first rice crop in space?  
**Tiangong Space Station**
- Under which mission was the space-rice experiment conducted?  
**Shenzhou-23**
- Which country's instant payment system was linked with India's UPI?  
**Maldives**
- Which organisation developed UPI in India?  
**National Payments Corporation of India**
- Which honorary rank was conferred on General Dhiraj Seth by Nepal?  
**Honorary General of the Nepal Army**
- Who conferred the honorary rank on General Dhiraj Seth?  
**Nepal President Ramchandra Paudel**
- Who won the UNCCD Rangeland Restoration Award 2026?  
**Sumer Singh Bhati**
- What ecosystem did Sumer Singh Bhati work to protect and restore?  
**Degrai Mata Oran community-conserved grassland**
- How many Indian peacekeepers received the UN Medal in South Sudan?  
**210**
- Under which UN mission were the Indian peacekeepers serving?  
**United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)**
- Which award did POWERGRID receive?  
**PMIS Partner Company Award**
- In which category did POWERGRID win the award?  
**Innovation in Exit Pathways**
- What is the purpose of the Sant Kabir Handloom Awards?  
**To recognise outstanding handloom weavers**
- What cash prize is given with the Sant Kabir Handloom Award?  
**₹3.5 lakh**
- Which prestigious medal was awarded to physicist Professor Deepak Dhar in 2026?  
**Dirac Medal**  
For which field was Deepak Dhar awarded the Dirac Medal?  
**Theoretical and Statistical Physics**
- Who received the Lokmanya Tilak National Award?  
**NSA Ajit Doval**
- Which organisation presents the Lokmanya Tilak National Award?  
**Lokmanya Tilak Smarak Trust, Pune**
- Which state received the 'Best State' Award for Organ Donations?  
**Tamil Nadu**
- Which organisation maintains the data used for this organ donation recognition?  
**National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO)**

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION NEWS

- Which title was won by Kaziah Liz Mejo in 2026?  
**Miss Universe India 2026**
- From which state did Kaziah Liz Mejo become the first woman to win the Miss Universe India title?  
**Kerala**
- Who has been selected for the 47th Sarala Puraskar 2026?  
**Dr. Ashutosh Parida**
- For which poetry collection will Dr. Ashutosh Parida receive the Sarala Puraskar 2026?  
**Bishwas De Pruthwi**
- Which award was conferred on Odissi dancer Shubhada Varadkar?  
**Sangeet Natak Akademi Award**
- Under which renowned Odissi guru did Shubhada Varadkar train?  
**Kelucharan Mohapatra**

- Who won the COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal?  
**Annapurni Subramaniam**
- Which organisation awarded the COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal?  
**Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)**
- Who was selected for the NASI Young Scientist Award 2026?  
**Prof. Karthikeyan Lanka**
- In which category was Prof. Karthikeyan Lanka selected?  
**Earth Sciences**
- Who became the world's youngest male professor according to Guinness World Records?  
**Nathan Thomas**  
How old was Nathan Thomas when he entered the Guinness World Records?  
**18 years**

## APPOINTMENTS NEWS

- Who were appointed as the three new Part-time, Non-official Directors on the RBI Central Board?  
**Syed Akbaruddin, Annie George Mathew and Janmejaya Kumar Sinha**
- What is the tenure of the newly appointed RBI Central Board directors?  
**Four years or until further orders**
- Who was appointed as the new MD & CEO of LIC Housing Finance?  
**Sandeep Kumar**
- Whom did Sandeep Kumar succeed as MD & CEO of LIC Housing Finance?  
**Tribhuvan Adhikari**
- Whose additional charge as MD & CEO of UCO Bank was extended by the Finance Ministry?  
**Rajendra Kumar Saboo**
- What position does Rajendra Kumar Saboo hold at UCO Bank?  
**Executive Director**
- For which term was Pradeep Rai elected SCBA President?  
**2026–27**
- Who was elected as the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association for 2026–27?  
**Pradeep Rai**
- Whom did Pradeep Rai succeed as SCBA President?  
**Vikas Singh**
- Who was appointed as the first woman Aide-de-Camp to the Indian Army Chief?  
**Captain Shivani Sehrawat**
- What does ADC stand for?  
**Aide-de-Camp**
- Who decided not to seek another term as Chairman of Tata Sons?  
**Natarajan Chandrasekaran**
- Whom did N. Chandrasekaran succeed as Chairman of Tata Sons?  
**Cyrus Mistry**
- Who was appointed as an arbitrator by Russia in the Oschadbank case?  
**Former CJI D.Y. Chandrachud**
- The arbitration case involving D.Y. Chandrachud concerns which country's state-owned bank?  
**Ukraine's Oschadbank**
- Who became the first woman officer appointed as Aide-de-Camp to the Indian Army Chief?  
**Captain Shivani Sehrawat**
- What does ADC stand for?  
**Aide-de-Camp**
- Who decided not to seek another term as Chairman of Tata Sons?  
**Natarajan Chandrasekaran**
- Whom did N. Chandrasekaran succeed as Chairman of Tata Sons?  
**Cyrus Mistry**
- Who was appointed as an arbitrator by Russia in the Oschadbank case?  
**Former CJI D.Y. Chandrachud**
- The arbitration case involving D.Y. Chandrachud concerns which country's state-owned bank?  
**Ukraine's Oschadbank**
- Who became the world's youngest male professor according to Guinness World Records?  
**Nathan Thomas**
- At which college was Nathan Thomas appointed Engineering Instructor?  
**Miami Dade College**
- Who became the Deputy Chief of Naval Staff?  
**Vice Admiral A. N. Pramod**
- Whom did A. N. Pramod succeed?  
**Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti**
- Who became the first woman Director General of GSI?  
**Varsha Ashok Aglawe**
- Under which ministry does GSI function?  
**Ministry of Mines**
- Who became IndiGo's new CEO?  
**Willie Walsh**
- Whom did Willie Walsh succeed?  
**Pieter Elbers**

- Who took charge as Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner? **A. S. Rajeev**
- Whom did A. S. Rajeev succeed? **Praveen Kumar Srivastava**
- Who was appointed CEO and MD of Air India? **Tewolde Gebremariam**
- Which airline group did Tewolde Gebremariam previously head? **Ethiopian Airlines Group**
- Who was appointed RBI Executive Director? **Monisha Chakraborty**
- Which RBI department will she oversee? **Department of Supervision**
- Who assumed charge as SEBI Executive Director? **Prasanta Mahapatra**

## BANKING NEWS

- Which bank signed an MoU with the Indian Army to offer exclusive credit cards? **Punjab National Bank (PNB)**
- Which PNB credit card is designed for Army Officers? **PNB LUXURA Metal Credit Card**
- Which bank launched UPI Global QR Payments for international visitors? **Bank of Baroda**
- Who can use Bank of Baroda's UPI Global QR facility? **International tourists, overseas Indians and eligible foreign payment-app users**
- Which three individuals were appointed to the RBI Central Board as Part-time, Non-official Directors? **Syed Akbaruddin, Annie George Mathew and Janmejaya Kumar Sinha**
- For how long were the new RBI Central Board directors appointed? **Four years or until further orders**
- Which company launched the AI foundation model 'Vulcan' for payments? **Razorpay**
- What is Vulcan designed specifically for? **Payments**
- Which organisation launched the RSVC-AMRIT platform for rural innovation? **NABARD**
- With which office did NABARD collaborate to develop RSVC-AMRIT? **Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (OPSA)**

- Who was appointed to the RBI Central Board as a former ISRO Chairman? **S. Somanath**
- Who was reappointed as a Part-Time, Non-Official Director on the RBI Central Board? **Anand Mahindra**
- Who was elected President of the Supreme Court Bar Association for 2026–27? **Pradeep Rai**
- Whom did Pradeep Rai succeed as SCBA President? **Vikas Singh**
- Who was appointed Chairperson of Airtel Payments Bank? **Shabnam Sinha**
- Whom did Shabnam Sinha succeed? **Sunil Bharti Mittal**
- Which organisation announced the winners of the Climate Stack Innovation Challenge? **NABARD**
- Which platform anchors NABARD's Climate Stack initiative? **DiCRA**
- At what rate did RBI keep the Repo Rate unchanged? **5.25%**
- Which committee decides the RBI policy rate? **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)**
- How many members are there in the MPC? **6**
- How many MPC members are appointed by the Government? **3**
- Which country's instant payment system was linked with UPI? **Maldives' Favara**
- What does UPI stand for? **Unified Payments Interface**
- Which company launched its fourth cloud region in India? **Microsoft**
- Where is Microsoft's fourth Indian cloud region located? **Hyderabad**
- Which Tata Group company developed indigenous lithium cell technology? **Agratas**

## SPORTS NEWS

- Which Indian badminton pair created history at the BWF World Championships 2026? **Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand**
- Which Chinese pair did Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand defeat in the quarterfinal? **Jia Yi Fan and Zhang Shu Xian**

- Who won the Kanizsa Open 2026?  
**India's GM Pranesh M**
- Which player did Pranesh defeat in the final round?  
**Vadim Petrovskiy**
- Which city will host the India Open 2028 Super 750 badminton tournament?  
**Guwahati**
- At which venue will the India Open 2028 be held?  
**National Centre of Excellence for Badminton**
- Which country won its maiden overall title at the Commonwealth Fencing Championships 2026?  
**India**
- How many medals did India win at the Commonwealth Fencing Championships 2026? **35**
- Who won the women's singles title at the 2026 Canadian Open?  
**Iga Świątek**
- Which player did Iga Świątek defeat in the final?  
**Elena Rybakina**
- Which two countries are jointly hosting the 16th Women's FIH Hockey World Cup 2026?  
**Belgium and the Netherlands**
- Where are the women's matches being played?  
**Wagener Hockey Stadium, Amstelveen, and Belfius Hockey Arena, Wavre**
- Who retained the Esports World Cup Chess title in 2026?  
**Four**
- Who won the gold medal for India at the Olympiad?  
**Magnus Carlsen**
- Whom did Magnus Carlsen defeat in the final?  
**Denis Lazavik**
- Which Indian players won the Asian Junior Blitz titles in 2026?  
**Vignesh Advait Vermula and Saranya Devi Narahari**
- Which states do Vignesh Vermula and Saranya Devi represent?  
**Telangana and Andhra Pradesh**
- Who became the first Indian cricketer to hit 100 sixes in Test cricket?  
**Rishabh Pant**
- In how many Test matches did Rishabh Pant reach the milestone?  
**51 Tests**
- Who won the Open category at the 2026 Asian Junior Rapid Chess Championship?  
**M. Vivaan Vishal Shah**
- What chess title does Vivaan Vishal Shah hold?  
**FIDE Master (FM)**
- Who won the Saint Louis Rapid & Blitz title 2026?  
**R. Praggnanandhaa**
- How many points did Praggnanandhaa score in the combined event?  
**23.5 points**
- Who won the men's singles title at the FISU World University Squash Championship 2026?  
**Suraj Kumar Chand**
- Which player did Suraj Kumar Chand defeat in the final?  
**Benedek Takacs**
- Who won silver medal in the men's 65 kg category at Asian Junior Weightlifting Championships 2026?  
**Arumugapandian Maharajan**
- Where was the Asian Junior Weightlifting Championships 2026 held?  
**Tashkent, Uzbekistan**
- How many medals did India win at the International Linguistics Olympiad 2026?  
**Four**
- Who won the gold medal for India at the Olympiad?  
**Shrilakshmi Venkatraman**
- Which stadium will host the Irani Cup 2026–27?  
**Sher-i-Kashmir Stadium, Srinagar**
- Why did Jammu & Kashmir earn the right to host the Irani Cup?  
**2025–2026 Ranji Trophy**
- Which country won both the Men's and Women's Team titles at the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships 2026?  
**India**
- Which teams did India defeat in the men's and women's finals?  
**Malaysia and England**
- Who won India's first Commonwealth Games gold medal in women's judo?  
**Asmita Dey**
- In which weight category did Asmita Dey win gold?  
**Women's 48 kg**
- Who became the first Indian male judoka to win reported international gold medal?  
**Harsh Singh**
- In which weight category did Harsh Singh win gold?  
**Men's 60 kg**
- How many medals did India win at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?  
**39**
- How many gold medals did India win?  
**14**
- Which place will host the Asian Rafting Championships 2026?  
**Boleng, Arunachal Pradesh**
- On which river will the championship be held?  
**Simang River**

## DEFENCE & TECHNOLOGY NEWS

- Which organisation tested the indigenous combat parachute system in Ladakh?

**DRDO**

- What is the name of India's AI-piloted fighter jet demonstrator unveiled by Flying Wedge Defence?

**FWD Supreme Lite**

- Which advanced take-off capability does FWD Supreme Lite incorporate?

**Rocket Assisted Take-Off (RATO)**

- What is the official name of the first all-women NSG commando course?

**Mahila Commando Conversion Course (MCCC)**

- Where was the first all-women NSG commando course launched?

**NSG Training Centre, Manesar**

- What is the name of the Indian Navy's second indigenous Diving Support Vessel?

**INS Nipun**

- INS Nipun belongs to which class of Diving Support Vessels?

**Nistar class**

- Which company developed India's first AI foundation model specifically for payments?

**Razorpay**

- What is the name of Razorpay's AI payments model?

**Vulcan**

- Which French astronaut became the first French woman to conduct a spacewalk?

**Sophie Adenot**

- As part of which SpaceX crew did Sophie Adenot travel to the ISS?

**SpaceX Crew-12**

- Which state inaugurated the Banas Suzuki Biogas Plant?

**Gujarat**

- Which three organisations collaborated on the Banas Suzuki Biogas Plant?

**Suzuki Motor Corporation, Banas**

**Dairy and NDDB**

- Who became the IAF's first woman Fighter Combat Leader?

**Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth**

- Where was the Fighter Combat Leader course conducted?

**Tactics and Air Combat Development**

**Establishment (TACDE), Gwalior**

- What is the main purpose of Saudi Arabia's newly launched Maritime Defence Coalition?

**Strengthening maritime security in the**

**Red Sea region**

- Which key maritime routes does the coalition focus on?

**Red Sea, Bab-el-Mandeb Strait**

**and Gulf of Aden**

- Exercise MAITREE-XV is a bilateral military exercise between India and which country?

**Thailand**

- Which edition of the India–Thailand Joint Military Exercise is MAITREE-XV?

**15th edition**

- What type of satellite constellation has IN-SPACe approved?

**India's first indigenous, fully commercial**

**Earth Observation Satellite constellation**

- What does IN-SPACe stand for?

**Indian National Space Promotion and**

**Authorisation Centre**

- Which institute developed the SraVaani 1.0 AI model?

**Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru**

- What equipment has India developed for the international FAIR project?

**Beam Catcher**

- Which Indian organisation designed the Beam Catcher?

**CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur**

- Which type of Doppler Weather Radar is being installed in Wayanad?

**X-Band Doppler Weather Radar**

- Which organisation is implementing the radar project?

**India Meteorological Department (IMD)**

- What is the approximate range of the Agni-4 ballistic missile?

**4,000 km**

- Agni-4 belongs to which series of Indian ballistic missiles?

**Agni series**

- Which Indian human spaceflight programme achieved major human-rating milestones?

**Gaganyaan**

- What is the name of the human-rated launch vehicle being developed for Gaganyaan?

**HLVM3**

- What non-fossil fuel capacity has India achieved?

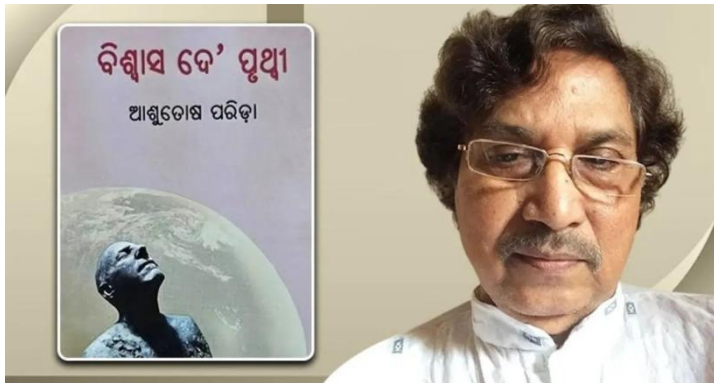
**300 GW**

- What is India's target for non-fossil fuel-based installed capacity by 2030? **500 GW**
- What is e-Samudra?  
**India's Unified Maritime Services Portal**
- Which organisation is associated with the e-Samudra initiative?  
**Directorate General of Shipping (DGS)**
- What is the name of the India-US naval EOD exercise? **SALVEX**
- Which operations are involved in SALVEX?  
**Explosive Ordnance Disposal and salvage operations**
- Which Vietnamese company signed a satellite launch agreement with SpaceX? **VinSpace**
- Through which type of mission will the satellites be launched?  
**SpaceX Transporter rideshare mission**
- What is the name of the Indian Navy's new NGOPV launched at GRSE? **Shruti**
- Which shipyard launched INS Shruti?  
**Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata**
- Exercise Udara Shakti 2026 is conducted between which two air forces?  
**Indian Air Force and Royal Malaysian Air Force**
- Where is Exercise Udara Shakti 2026 being conducted? **Subang Air Base, Malaysia**
- Where is the 8th BRICS Working Group Meeting on Ocean and Polar Science and Technology being held? **Goa**
- Which organisation is hosting the BRICS OPST meeting? **National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)**
- Which two organisations signed an MoU for Defence GIS projects? **BEL and Esri India**
- What does GIS stand for?  
**Geographic Information System**
- Which institute launched India's first dedicated nuclear training programme ANUGYAN?  
**IIT Hyderabad**
- Which department administers India's nuclear energy programme?  
**Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)**
- What is the name of India's indigenous Diving Support Vessel inducted by the Navy? **Nipun**
- Which shipyard built DSV Nipun?  
**Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)**
- Which company developed indigenous lithium cell technology? **Agratas**
- Which scheme does Agratas' technology support?  
**PLI Scheme for Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) manufacturing**
- What is the name of India's indigenous African Swine Fever vaccine? **MA-104**
- Does African Swine Fever infect humans? **No**
- Where did the first electric train in Kashmir Valley begin operating? **Banihal-Baramulla section**
- The Banihal-Baramulla section is part of which project?  
**Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL)**
- Which organisation revamped the MyCall App?  
**TRAI**
- What is the purpose of the revamped MyCall App?  
**To improve voice-call quality assessment**

# AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS



## Ashutosh Parida to Receive Sarala Puraskar 2026



- Dr. Ashutosh Parida, a noted Odia poet and essayist, has been selected for the 47th Sarala Puraskar.
- He will receive the award for his poetry collection 'Bishwas De Pruthwi'.
- The award is instituted by the Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT).

## Kaziah Liz Mejo Crowned Miss Universe India 2026



- Kaziah Liz Mejo, a 19-year-old from Kerala, was crowned Miss Universe India 2026.
- The grand finale was held in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- She becomes the first woman from Kerala to win the Miss Universe India title.

## Sangeet Natak Akademi Award to Odissi Dancer Shubhada Varadkar



- Shubhada Varadkar is a renowned Odissi dancer and teacher.
- She trained under renowned Odissi guru Kelucharan Mohapatra.
- The Sangeet Natak Akademi is India's national academy for music, dance and drama.

## General Dhiraj Seth gets Nepal's Honorary General Rank



- General Dhiraj Seth, Chief of the Indian Army, has been conferred the Honorary Rank of General of the Nepal Army.
- The honour was conferred by Nepal President Ramchandra Paudel.
- The investiture ceremony was held at Sheetal Niwas in Kathmandu.

## Sumer Singh Bhati Wins UNCCD Rangeland Restoration Award 2026



- Sumer Singh Bhati is a traditional camel herder and conservationist from Sanwata village in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- He has been recognised for his long-term efforts to protect and restore the Degrai Mata Oran, a community-conserved grassland in the Desert.
- The Degrai Mata Oran covers about 10,000 hectares and serves as an important grazing landscape for livestock and a biodiversity-rich ecosystem.

## 210 Indian Peacekeepers Receive UN Medal in South Sudan



- 210 Indian peacekeepers, including 6 women and 7 Staff Officers, were awarded the prestigious United Nations Medal for their exceptional service with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).
- The medal ceremony was held in Juba, S. Sudan.
- UNMISS described the occasion as a proud moment for India's "Blue Helmets".

## POWERGRID Wins PMIS Partner Company Award

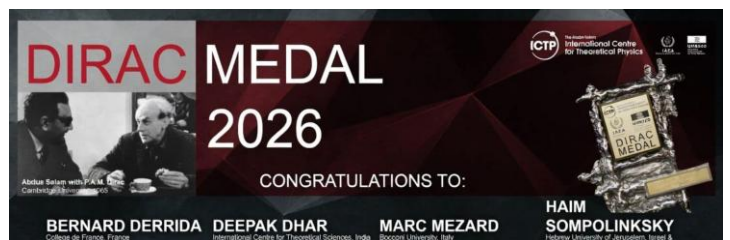


- POWERGRID (Power Grid Corporation of India Limited) won the PMIS Partner Company Award in the category "Innovation in Exit Pathways."
- It is a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE). POWERGRID operates under the Ministry of Power, Government of India.

## President Presents Sant Kabir Handloom Awards 2025

- Sant Kabir Handloom Awards recognise outstanding handloom weavers who have made significant contributions to India's weaving heritage.
- The Sant Kabir Handloom Award carries a ₹3.5 lakh cash prize, along with a mounted gold coin, Tamrapatra, shawl and certificate of recognition.

## Padma Bhushan Awardee Physicist Deepak Dhar Wins Dirac Medal



- Indian physicist Professor Deepak Dhar has been awarded the prestigious Dirac Medal 2026 in theoretical and statistical physics.
- His research on the Abelian sandpile model is internationally recognised. He received the Padma Bhushan in 2023 for his contribution to science and technology & Boltzmann Medal in 2022, first Indian recipient of the Boltzmann Medal.

## NSA Ajit Doval Receives Lokmanya Tilak National Award



- The award is presented annually by the Lokmanya Tilak Smarak Trust, Pune.
- It recognises outstanding contribution towards national service and nation-building.
- The award ceremony is held in Pune, Maharashtra. Ajit Doval is a former IPS officer of the Kerala cadre.

- Awarded by the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR).
- Her research focuses on stellar evolution, star clusters, Magellanic Clouds and nearby galaxies.
- Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, Known as the Father of the Indian Space Programme.

## Prof. Karthikeyan Lanka Selected for NASI Young Scientist Award



- Prof. Karthikeyan Lanka has been selected for the prestigious NASI Young Scientist Award 2026 in the Earth Sciences category.
- He is an Associate Professor at the Centre for Studies in Resources Engineering (CSRE), IIT Bombay.
- The award is presented by the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI).

## Dr. Nandini Azad Receives Bharat Samman 2026



- Dr. Nandini Azad, President of the Working Women's Forum (India) (WWF-I) and the Indian Cooperative Network for Women (ICNW), received the Bharat Samman 2026 for her lifelong contributions to women's empowerment, financial inclusion, and grassroots social development.
- The Bharat Samman is a national award that recognises exceptional contributions to nation-building, public service, education, healthcare, culture, and women's empowerment.

## Tamil Nadu Gets 'Best State' Award for Organ Donations



- The award was presented based on the state's highest performance in deceased organ donation and transplantation.
- The recognition is based on data maintained under the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO).
- The state operates a transparent organ allocation system through TRANSTAN (Transplant Authority of Tamil Nadu).

## Annapurni Subramaniam Wins COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal



## James Gray to Receive Career Pardo Award



- The award is presented at the Locarno Film Festival.
- The festival is held annually in Locarno, Switzerland for screenings in Piazza Grande.
- The Golden Leopard (Pardo d'Oro) is its highest honour. Currency of Switzerland: Swiss Franc.

## PM Modi Receives Norway's Highest Civilian Honour Award

- Norway conferred the Grand Cross of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit on PM Narendra Modi.



- It is Norway's highest honour for foreign heads of government and Modi's 32nd international honour.
- The award was presented during his first official visit to Norway by an Indian PM in 43 years.

## Santhali-language Film Became the First to Win a National Film Award



- Angen (Invisible) became the first Santhali-language film at the 72nd National Film Awards.
- The film won Best Debut Film of a Director (Non-Feature Category). The film was directed by Ravi Raj Murmu. Angen is a 12-minute 10-second Santhali short film.

## ONGC HSE Wins Platinum Global Safety Innovation Award 2026



- ONGC's Health, Safety & Environment (HSE) division won the Platinum Winner title at the Global Safety Innovation Award 2026.
- The award recognizes ONGC's excellence in workplace safety, innovation, and risk management.
- The achievement strengthens ONGC's global reputation for high safety standards and environmental protection.

## Nita Ambani Receives AAPI Humanitarian Award



- Nita Ambani received the AAPI Humanitarian Award for her contributions to healthcare, education, and social welfare.
- She was also honored with the Key to the City of Tampa for her philanthropic work.
- Through the Reliance Foundation, she has led initiatives in education, sports, women's empowerment, and healthcare.

## PM Modi Receives Indonesia's Highest Honour, Bintang Adipurna



- The award recognizes his contribution to strengthening India–Indonesia ties in trade, defence, maritime security, and culture.
- It highlights Indonesia's importance in India's Act East Policy and strengthens bilateral relations.

## DoT's Samriddh Gram Wins WSIS Prize 2026



- DoT's Samriddh Gram initiative won the WSIS Prize 2026 for promoting digital connectivity and rural development.
- WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society) recognizes innovative ICT projects supporting sustainable development.
- Samriddh Gram improves digital infrastructure, government service access, and rural digital inclusion.

## Nepal's Jestha Varna Mahavihar Wins UNESCO Heritage Award

- Nepal's Jestha Varna Mahavihar received the 2025 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Award for excellence in heritage conservation.
- UNESCO is a UN specialized agency established in 1945, with headquarters in Paris.
- India has 44 UNESCO World Heritage Sites (as of 2026).

## PM Modi Receives Indonesia's Highest Honour, Bintang Adipurna

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi received Indonesia's highest civilian honour, 'Bintang Adipurna', during his official visit.
- The award recognizes his contribution to strengthening India–Indonesia ties in trade, defence, maritime security, and culture.
- It highlights Indonesia's importance in India's Act East Policy and strengthens bilateral relations.

## Ranchhodlal Goswami Wins Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar



- Acharya Ranchhodlal Goswami was selected for the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar by the Sangeet Natak Akademi.
- The award honors artists below 40 for excellence in music, dance, and theatre.
- Named after Ustad Bismillah Khan, it is a prestigious award for young performing artists.

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## BPCL Kochi Refinery Wins Future-Ready Refining Award



- BPCL's Kochi Refinery won the Leadership in Future-Ready Refining Award for excellence in digital transformation and innovation.
- The refinery is adopting AI, machine learning, and cloud technologies to build future-ready operations.
- It is also advancing sustainability through energy efficiency, emissions reduction, green hydrogen, and compressed biogas (CBG) projects.

## Former India Cricket Captain Rohit Sharma conferred with Padma Shri



- Former India captain Rohit Sharma received the Padma Shri from President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- The award honours his outstanding contribution to Indian cricket and leadership.
- Rohit led India to the 2024 ICC T20 World Cup and the 2025 ICC Champions Trophy titles.

## Parul Chaudhary honored with Best Female Athlete of Year award



- Parul Chaudhary was named Best Female Athlete of the Year at the inaugural Indian Athletics Awards 2026.
- The award recognized her outstanding 2025 season, including gold medals in the 3000 m steeplechase and 5000 m at the Asian Athletics Championships.
- She received the honour along with a cash prize of ₹10 lakh.

## IOA President P.T. Usha conferred with Lifetime Achievement Award



- P.T. Usha received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the inaugural Indian Athletics Awards 2026.
- She shared the honour with Gurbachan Singh Randhawa, Bahadur Singh Chauhan, and Anju Bobby George.
- The award recognizes her outstanding contribution to Indian athletics, including 11 Asian Games medals and becoming the first Indian woman to reach an Olympic track final.

## BCA President Harsh Vardhan Receives Global Prestige Award



- BCA President Harsh Vardhan received the Global Prestige Award for his contributions to the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision.
- The award was presented at the "Visionaries of Change: Charting the Course to Viksit Bharat 2047" event.
- Elected in 2025, he became the youngest President in Bihar Cricket Association history at the age of 24.

## Dr Krishnamurthy Honoured With Padma Shri



- He has contributed to advanced materials research for defence and space, including cryogenic engine components.
- His work also includes prosthetic implants, medical devices, and metallurgical innovations.
- He is leading research on electric mobility and rare earth magnets to support sustainable technology.

## ELIQUO HYDROK won the Circular Economy Award



- ELIQUO HYDROK won the award for its ELOVAC® sludge treatment technology.
- The technology reduces methane emissions and recovers struvite for use as fertilizer.
- The award recognizes the company's contribution to sustainable water and waste management.

## Lt Vishal Kumar Awarded Sword of Honour & President's Gold Medal



- Lieutenant Kumar won the Sword of Honour and the President's Gold Medal at the Indian Military Academy.
- He is the son of a retired Sepoy and the first officer in his family.
- An alumnus of RMS Chail, NDA, and IMA, he will be commissioned into the 4 Garhwal Rifles.

## BPCL's Kochi Refinery Wins Future-Ready Refining Award



- BPCL's Kochi Refinery won the 'Leadership in Future-Ready Refining Award' for adopting AI, machine learning, and cloud-based technologies.
- The refinery was recognised for its focus on energy efficiency, green hydrogen, and compressed biogas projects.
- The award also highlights its operational excellence, including record crude throughput and major safety achievements.

## Major Prabhat Mishra IA Wins 2 Major Awards, USA Army CGSOC



- Major Mishra won the Birrer-Brookes Award and the General Douglas MacArthur Military Leadership Writing Award at CGSOC 2026.
- He earned the honours from a graduating class of 951 officers from 92 countries.
- His achievement highlights strong India-US military education and defence cooperation.

## Panchayat Advancement Index Wins Gold e-Gov. Awards 2026

- The Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) won the Gold Award at the National e-Governance Awards 2026.
- PAI evaluates over 2.6 lakh Gram Panchayats using 150 indicators across nine Sustainable Development Goal themes.

- The award includes a trophy, citation, and ₹10 lakh, to be presented at the National Conference on e-Governance in Jaipur.

## e-Jagriti Wins Silver at National e-Governance Awards 2026



- e-Jagriti won the Silver Award at the National Awards for e-Governance 2026 for digital transformation in consumer grievance redressal.
- The AI-enabled platform merged four legacy systems into a single paperless portal, handling over 2.29 lakh cases with a 90.75% disposal rate.
- It improves access to justice through virtual hearings and allows NRIs to file complaints online.

## Indian-Origin Scientist Gautam Dey Wins EMBO Gold Medal 2026



- Indian-origin scientist Gautam Dey received the EMBO Gold Medal 2026 for outstanding early-career research.
- He was honoured for his work on the evolution of nuclear organization and cell division at EMBL, Germany.
- Dey studied at the University of Delhi and the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), Bengaluru.

## GRASA Wins Rashtriya Ratna Samman 2026

- GRASA won the Rashtriya Ratna Samman 2026 for its food-based approach to metabolic health.
- It uses fermented millet-based foods to improve gut health and metabolism through clinical nutrition.
- The startup was incubated under IDC India's COSMINNOX ecosystem and has shown strong clinical outcomes.

## Chandrayaan-3 honored with AIAA Goddard Astronautics Award 2026



- ISRO received AIAA's highest astronautics honor for the Chandrayaan-3 mission.
- The award recognizes India's historic 2023 soft landing near the Moon's south polar region.
- Chandrayaan-3 also advanced lunar science and supported future human exploration.

## Taiwan Travelogue Wins International Booker Prize 2026



- Taiwan Travelogue became the first Mandarin-written book to win the 2026 International Booker Prize.
- Written by Yáng Shuāng-zǐ and translated by Lin King, it is set in 1938 colonial Taiwan.
- The £50,000 prize will be shared equally by the author and translator.

## 2 Indian-Origin Scientists Conferred S. Africa's Highest Civilian Honour

- South African President Cyril Ramaphosa awarded the Order of Mapungubwe to public health scientists Salim Abdool Karim and Keertan Dheda.
- Karim received the Gold honour for his work on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and COVID-19.
- The awards recognize their major contributions to public health in South Africa and globally.

## Indian Violin Maestro Dr. N. Rajam conferred with Padma Vibhushan



- Dr. N. Rajam received a prestigious national honour from President Droupadi Murmu on May 25, 2026.
- She is renowned for pioneering the violin's "Gayaki Ang" style, imitating the nuances of vocal music.
- A Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan awardee, she also served as professor and Dean at BHU.

## Sikkim Police Awarded Prestigious President's Police Colour



- Sikkim Police became the 15th state police force to receive the President's Police Colour.
- It is the third Northeast police force, after Assam and Tripura, to receive the honour.
- President Murmu praised Sikkim Police's service and urged modernization beyond colonial-era practices.

## India receives 2 Labbaytum Awards for Haj coordination & comm.



- Indian Haj Mission received the “Labbaytum” awards from Saudi Arabia for excellent Haj coordination and communication.
- The recognition highlights effective pilgrim welfare and movement management during Haj 2026.
- The achievement reflects strong coordination between India's Minority Affairs Ministry, Haj Committee, and Haj Mission.

## Paradeep Parivahan Wins LEAPS Award 2025



- Odisha-based Paradeep Parivahan Ltd. won the LEAPS Award 2025 under the Multimodal Transport Operator category.
- The award was presented by Union Minister Piyush Goyal on May 13, 2026.
- PPL emerged among 71 competing companies, including FedEx and Maersk.

## Ishaan Khatter honored by Indian Armoured Corps' 45 Cavalry



- Actor Ishaan Khatter received honorary membership in the Indian Army's elite 45 Cavalry regiment.
- The honour recognized his portrayal of Captain Balram Singh Mehta in the film Pippa.
- The ceremony celebrated the regiment's role in the 1971 Battle of Garibpur.

## Rajasthan Wins WHO No Tobacco Day Award 2026



- Rajasthan Health Department won WHO's World No Tobacco Day Award 2026 for outstanding tobacco-control efforts.
- The state established 500+ tobacco cessation centres and implemented Tobacco-Free School guidelines in 83,000+ institutions.
- Over 2.55 lakh awareness activities and the Tobacco-Free Village campaign strengthened grassroots tobacco control.

## Kantha Artist Tripti Mukherjee Honored with Padma Shri



- Mukherjee has spent 40 years promoting rural craft traditions across West Bengal's Birbhum district.
- She showcased Indian crafts internationally, including exhibitions in Birmingham and Tokyo.
- A National Award and Shilp Guru Award winner, she is a highly decorated master artisan.

## Bank of Maharashtra Wins APY Award of Excellence FY 2025-26



- Bank of Maharashtra received a national award for exceeding its Atal Pension Yojana (APY) enrollment target.
- The award was presented by DFS Secretary M. Nagaraju and PFRDA Chairperson Sivasubramanian Ramann.
- The achievement highlights BoM's efforts to expand pension coverage among unorganized-sector workers.

## President conferred National Florence Nightingale Awards 2026



- 15 nursing professionals received the National Florence Nightingale Awards 2026 for excellence and dedicated service.
- Instituted in 1973, each award includes a certificate, medal, and ₹1 lakh cash prize.
- The awards were presented on Florence Nightingale's birth anniversary under the theme "Our Nurses. Our Future."

## Dr. Thiyam Suresh Literary Lifetime Achievement Award 2026



- Manipuri writer AK Sheram received a lifetime achievement award from Sahitya Seva Samiti, Kakching.
- Based in Bangladesh, he has contributed greatly to Manipuri literature and promoted Meetei Mayek.
- His work helps preserve Manipuri culture and strengthen India-Bangladesh cultural ties.

## Ganesh Purohit was felicitated with Lifetime Achievement Award



- A 70-year-old veteran coach received the Jeevan Gaurav Award at the 3rd Bhau Kane Memorial Outstanding Coach Award ceremony in Nagpur.
- The award included ₹1 lakh, a memento, shawl, and coconut.
- An NSNIS Patiala alumnus, he earned his coaching diploma in 1986.

# NEW APPOINTMENTS



## Govt Appoints Akbaruddin, 2 Others to RBI Central Board



- The Central Government appointed three new Part-time, Non-official Directors to the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The three appointees are Syed Akbaruddin, Annie George Mathew, and Janmejaya Kumar Sinha.
- Each has been appointed for a four-year term, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

## LIC Housing Finance Appoints Sandeep Kumar as New MD & CEO



- He succeeds Tribhuwan Adhikari, who retired upon superannuation.
- His tenure can extend up to five years, subject to applicable conditions and shareholder approval.
- Sandeep Kumar has been appointed as an Additional Director in the capacity of MD & CEO and as a Key Managerial Personnel (KMP).

## Finance Ministry Extends Rajendra Kumar Saboo's MD & CEO Charge



- The Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, Government of India, extended the additional charge of MD & CEO of UCO Bank assigned to Rajendra Kumar Saboo.
- Saboo is the Executive Director of UCO Bank.
- The vacancy arose after Ashwani Kumar completed his tenure as UCO Bank's MD & CEO.

## Senegal appoints Ahmadou Al Aminou Lo as New PM



- Abdourahmane Lo, a former BCEAO official and economist, has been appointed Senegal's Prime Minister.
- He takes charge amid a debt crisis, with public debt at about 132% of GDP and an \$1.8 billion IMF programme suspended.
- Lo will continue the government's "Sénégal 2050" agenda, focusing on transparency and economic sovereignty.

## Pradeep Rai Elected Supreme Court Bar Association President



- Senior Advocate Pradeep Rai has been elected as the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) for the 2026–27 term.
- He succeeds Senior Advocate Vikas Singh, who served as SCBA President for the 2025–26 term.
- Meenesh Dubey was elected Joint Secretary, while Reepak Kansal was elected Treasurer.

## S. Somanath Appointed to RBI Central Board



- S. Somanath, former Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), has been appointed to the Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- Anand Mahindra has also been reappointed as a Part-Time, Non-Official Director on the RBI Central Board for another four-year term.
- His appointment is for a four-year term.

## Cap. Shivani Appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Woman Aide-de-Camp to Army Chief

- Captain Shivani Sehrawat became the first woman officer appointed as Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to the Indian Army Chief, according to reports on the appointment.

- ADC stands for Aide-de-Camp, an officer who assists a senior military or state dignitary in official and ceremonial responsibilities.
- The appointment is considered an important milestone in the increasing participation of women officers in the Indian Army.

## N. Chandrasekaran Resigns as Tata Sons Chairman



- Natarajan Chandrasekaran, popularly known as N. Chandrasekaran, has decided not to seek another term as Chairman of Tata Sons.
- He succeeded Cyrus Mistry as Chairman.
- Before becoming Chairman of Tata Sons, Chandrasekaran served as the CEO and Managing Director of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

## Russia Appoints D.Y. Chandrachud in Ukraine Arbitration



- Former Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud has been appointed as an arbitrator by Russia.
- The appointment relates to an arbitration case involving Ukraine's state-owned bank Oschadbank.
- The dispute concerns Oschadbank's assets affected by the Russia–Ukraine conflict.

## Varsha Ashok Aglawe Becomes First Woman Director General of GSI



- Varsha Ashok Aglawe became the first woman Director General (DG) of the Geological Survey of India (GSI).
- Geological Survey of India was established in 1851.
- GSI functions under the Ministry of Mines. Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal.

## Willie Walsh Takes Charge as IndiGo's New CEO



- Willie Walsh officially became the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IndiGo in August 2026.
- He succeeded Pieter Elbers as CEO of IndiGo. He is an Irish aviation executive.
- IndiGo is India's largest airline by market share. Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana.

Founded: 2006.

## A.S. Rajeev Takes Charge as Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner

- A.S. Rajeev took charge as the Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) after the completion of the tenure of Praveen Kumar Srivastava.

- Central Vigilance Commission: Established: 1964 on the recommendation of the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.
- CVC became a statutory body through the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003. Headquarters: New Delhi.

## Air India Appoints Tewolde Gebremariam as CEO



- Air India has appointed Tewolde Gebremariam, former CEO of Ethiopian Airlines Group, as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD).
- He succeeds Campbell Wilson, who stepped down after leading Air India's initial transformation under the Tata Group.
- Air India is jointly owned by Tata Group (75%) and Singapore Airlines (25%).

## Pralhad Joshi Takes Charge as Education Minister



- He succeeded Dharmendra Pradhan and Pralhad Joshi is a 5-time Lok Sabha MP from Dharwad, Karnataka.
- Appointed by President Droupadi Murmu.
- Continues to hold the portfolios of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and New & Renewable Energy.

## PM Constitutes Exam Reform Task Force Led by Nandan Nilekani



- Nandan Nilekani (Co-founder & Chairman of Infosys) as well as the Founding Chairman of UIDAI (Aadhaar).
- Constituted by Ministry of Education
- Purpose is reform India's examination system following concerns over exam paper leaks and malpractice.

## India Appoints Ngulkhom Jathom Gangte as Ambassador to Mexico

- He is an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1994 batch.
- Before this appointment, he was serving as Special Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- He has served in Indian diplomatic missions in Egypt, Morocco, Ireland, and Tanzania.

## Kevin Warsh appointed as Governor of the Federal Reserve by the US



- Kevin Warsh previously served as a Federal Reserve Governor from 2006–2011 and brings crisis-management experience.

- Known as a policy hawk, he supports strong price stability and cautious government spending.
- His return aims to strengthen the Fed's response to inflation and global economic challenges.

## Amitabh Bachchan Named Policybazaar Brand Ambassador



- Policybazaar appointed Amitabh Bachchan as its Brand Ambassador for the nationwide "Parivaar Sabse Pehle" campaign to promote health and term insurance awareness.
- The campaign supports IRDAI's Insurance for All by 2047 vision by encouraging families to secure timely financial protection through insurance.
- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) – Chairperson: Debasish Panda.

## Mindaugas Sinkevicius became Lithuania's new prime minister



- He succeeded the previous government following a political transition in the country.
- Lithuania is one of the three Baltic countries (along with Latvia and Estonia) and is a member of the European Union (EU), NATO, and the Schengen Area.
- Capital: Vilnius | Currency: Euro (€).

## UK Appoints Kanishka Narayan as First AI Minister



- The appointment reflects the UK's focus on AI governance and innovation.
- Father of Artificial Intelligence is John McCarthy, coined the term in 1956.
- Capital of the UK: London, Currency: Pound Sterling (£).

## Lieutenant General N S Raja Subramani appointed Chief of Defence



- Lt Gen N.S. Raja Subramani (Retd) appointed India's next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS).
- He will succeed General Anil Chauhan and take charge on May 30, 2026.
- He previously served as Vice Chief of Army Staff and is currently a Military Adviser in the NSCS.

## Andy Burnham Becomes UK's New Prime Minister



- The Prime Minister is the Head of Government.

- The UK follows a parliamentary system. The Indian Parliament consists of the President, Lok Sabha, and Rajya Sabha, whereas the UK Parliament consists of the Monarch, House of Commons, and House of Lords.
- Capital: London. Currency: Pound Sterling (£).

## Centre Appoints Anurag Jain as NITI Aayog CEO



- He is a 1989-batch IAS officer of the Madhya Pradesh cadre. He succeeds the previous leadership arrangement after Nidhi Chibber was holding additional charge.
- His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- NITI Aayog was established on 1 January 2015, replacing the Planning Commission. Chairperson of NITI Aayog: Prime Minister of India. Headquarters: New Delhi.

## A.N. Pramod Becomes Deputy Chief of Naval Staff



- Vice Admiral A. N. Pramod, AVSM, YSM assumed charge as the Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff (DCNS) on 1 August 2026. He succeeded Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti.
- As DGNO, Vice Admiral Pramod played a key role in the planning, preparedness, and operational readiness of the Indian Navy during Operation Sindoor.
- Indian Navy Headquarters: New Delhi. Chief of Naval Staff: Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi.

## Ajay Kochhar Appointed as Indian Navy's 48th Vice Chief



- He has been appointed Vice Chief of the Indian Navy after over 37 years of distinguished service.
- A Gunnery and Missile Systems specialist, he commanded INS Vikramaditya and served in key leadership roles.
- He received the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (2022) and Param Vishisht Seva Medal (2026).

## Infosys Appoints Ashiss Dash as Next CEO

- He will succeed Salil Parekh, whose second term ends on 31 March 2027.
- The decision was based on the recommendation of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC).
- Infosys is India's second-largest IT services company. Founded 1981. HQ: Bengaluru, Karnataka. Chairman: Nandan Nilekani.

## Lt. General Dhiraj Seth appointed as Chief of the Army



- Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth has been appointed the next Chief of the Army Staff and is currently serving as Vice Chief of the Army Staff.

- A 1986-batch Armoured Corps officer, he has extensive command experience in desert and counter-insurgency operations.
- He is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy and has completed advanced military courses in India and France.

## Leander Paes Named Asian Tennis Federation Player Ambassador



- Leander Paes has been appointed Player Ambassador by the Asian Tennis Federation (ATF).
- He will mentor young players, promote grassroots tennis, and represent Asian tennis globally.
- The appointment recognizes his outstanding contribution to the sport and aims to inspire future generations.

## Former ISRO Chief S. Somanath Joins Agnikul Cosmos Board



- Former ISRO Chairman S. Somanath, who led the Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya-L1 missions, has joined Agnikul Cosmos.
- Agnikul Cosmos is a Chennai-based space startup developing the Agnibaan launch vehicle with 3D-printed rocket engines.
- His appointment is expected to boost India's private space sector and commercial space innovation.

## Raghuram Rajan Appointed to Key US Federal Reserve Task Force



- Former RBI Governor Raghuram G. Rajan has joined a US Federal Reserve task force on banking regulations and financial stability.
- Rajan previously served as RBI Governor (2013–2016) and IMF Chief Economist.
- He is a professor at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and author of the award-winning book Fault Lines.

## Dr. Srinivasa Kumar Tummala Appointed MoES Secretary

- Dr. Srinivasa Kumar Tummala, a former ISRO scientist, has been appointed Secretary of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
- MoES oversees meteorology, ocean sciences, seismology, climate research, and polar science.
- His appointment is expected to strengthen weather forecasting, disaster early warning, and climate services.

## Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri Gets 1-Year Extension Till July 2027



- Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri received a one-year extension and will continue in office until July 2027.
- A 1989-batch IFS officer, he has held several key diplomatic assignments and managed India's strategic foreign relations.
- His extension ensures continuity in India's diplomacy amid evolving global and regional challenges.

## BPR&D and NCRB Get New Chiefs



- New Directors-General have been appointed to the BPR&D and NCRB to strengthen policing reforms and crime data management.
- BPR&D focuses on police modernization, research, training, and capacity building, while NCRB maintains the national crime database.
- Both organizations work under the Ministry of Home Affairs to improve internal security and evidence-based policing.

## NPCI's Dilip Asbe Appointed to SWIFT Global Supervisory Board



- Dilip Asbe was appointed to the Supervisory Board of SWIFT.
- SWIFT is a Belgium-based global financial messaging network connecting over 11,000 financial institutions.
- NPCI operates key digital payment platforms, including UPI, RuPay, IMPS, BHIM, FASTag, and NACH.

## RBI Appoints Muralidhar Pai as MD & CEO of South Indian Bank

- RBI approved Muralidhar Pai's appointment as Managing Director & CEO of South Indian Bank.
- He succeeds P.R. Seshadri and brings over 30 years of banking experience.
- South Indian Bank, established in 1929, is headquartered in Thrissur, Kerala.

## Nidhi Khare Elected UNCTAD Consumer Protection Meeting



- Nidhi Khare was elected Chairperson of the UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection in Geneva.
- UNCTAD promotes inclusive trade, investment, and sustainable development worldwide.
- Her election highlights India's growing role in global consumer protection and economic governance.

## Dr. Saibal Chattopadhyay appointed as Chairperson of NSC



- Dr. Saibal Chattopadhyay has been appointed Chairperson of the National Statistical Commission (NSC).
- A former Director of IIM Calcutta, he succeeds Rajeeva Laxman Karandikar.
- The government also appointed three new part-time members to strengthen the NSC's functioning.

## Vivek Aggarwal appointed as Vice President of the FATF

- India was elected to the FATF Vice-Presidency for the first time, with Rajesh Aggarwal appointed Vice President.
- He will serve a one-year term from July 2026 to June 2027, working with the FATF President.
- Rajesh Aggarwal is a 1994-batch IAS officer and former head of India's Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU-IND).

## Hitesh Rameshchandra Joshi Appointed as CMD of GIC Re



- Hitesh Rameshchandra Joshi has been appointed Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of GIC Re.
- He will serve until 30 September 2028 or until further government orders.
- A former Executive Director of GIC Re, he has extensive experience in international operations, finance, and risk management.

## Anand Jain appointed As The New DGP Of Ladakh



- Anand Jain has been appointed Director General of Police (DGP) of Ladakh.
- A 1999-batch AGMUT cadre IPS officer, he was transferred from Jammu & Kashmir.
- He will oversee law and order, policing, and security coordination in the Union Territory.

## Tushar Mehta reappointed as Solicitor General of India

- Tushar Mehta has been reappointed as the Solicitor General of India for a three-year term from 1 July 2026.
- He has served as Solicitor General since October 2018 and continues to represent the Centre in key legal matters.
- The government also extended the tenure of five Additional Solicitors General for the Supreme Court.

## Dr R Dhinakaran appointed ADGP Armed Police in Tamil Nadu



- Dr. R. Dhinakaran has been appointed Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Armed Police, Tamil Nadu.
- A 1998-batch IPS officer, he is a recipient of the Chief Minister's and President's Police Medals.
- He will lead the Armed Police wing and oversee its operational readiness and security responsibilities.

## Meta appointed Kunal Shah as Global head of WhatsApp

- Meta appointed CRED founder Kunal Shah as the new global head of WhatsApp, succeeding Will Cathcart.
- Meta also invested \$900 million in CRED, valuing the company at \$4.5 billion.
- The move aims to strengthen WhatsApp's growth in commerce, payments, and digital services, especially in India.

## Mahesh Dixit to Succeed Tapan Kumar Deka as IB Chief



- Mahesh Dixit has been appointed the next Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) for a two-year term from 30 June 2026.
- A 1993-batch IPS officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre, he previously served as Special Director of the IB.
- He succeeds Tapan Kumar Deka, the longest-serving IB chief since 2005.

## Amit P Javalgi appointed as Inspector General in NIA



- Amit P. Javalgi has been appointed Inspector General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on deputation.
- The 2006-batch IPS officer of the West Bengal cadre is known for launching the e-Malkhana digital evidence management system.
- He previously received the National e-Governance Award for modernising police administration.

## Vijay Deverakonda Named Brand Ambassador Of TG20 League

- Vijay Deverakonda was named the brand ambassador of the Telangana Premier League to promote grassroots cricket talent.
- The inaugural league features eight teams, 32 matches, and players including Mohammed Siraj and Tilak Varma.
- The tournament will be held at Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium with live broadcasts on JioStar.

## Meenu Choudhary appointed as Inspector General in SSB

- Meenu Choudhary, a 2000-batch AGMUT cadre IPS officer, has been appointed Inspector General (IG) of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).
- She will serve on central deputation after approval by the Centre.
- Her appointment is part of a wider reshuffle to strengthen leadership in central armed police forces.

## Former SAIL Chairman joins as CEO, Hindustan Zinc Ltd.



- Hindustan Zinc appointed Amarendu Prakash as CEO-Designate, effective 19 June 2026.
- He brings over 30 years of experience in the metals and steel industry, including leadership at SAIL.
- Prakash succeeds Arun Misra, who has become Group CEO of Vedanta Limited.

## UIDAI CEO Saurabh Vijay took Charge as CEO of IndiaAI Mission

- UIDAI CEO Saurabh Vijay has been given additional charge as CEO of the IndiaAI Mission.
- He succeeds Abhishek Singh, who was appointed Director General of the NTA.
- The IndiaAI Mission focuses on sovereign AI infrastructure, multilingual AI models, and AI research support.

## Raman Meenakshi Sundaram appointed Director of NAARM



- Dr. Sundaram, an expert in crop biotechnology and rice genetics, is serving as Director of ICAR-NAARM.
- He earlier led ICAR-IIRR and helped develop the Improved Samba Mahsuri rice variety.
- He has published 160+ research papers and mentors agricultural capacity-building programs.

## Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Elects Banwarilal Purohit as President



- Banwarilal Purohit has been appointed President of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, succeeding Surendralal Mehta.
- Former Governor of four states, Purohit brings extensive administrative experience.
- Deepak Parekh was elected Vice-President, ensuring leadership continuity.

## Indraprastha Gas Limited appoints Kumar Shanker as New MD



- Kumar Shanker has taken charge as Managing Director of Indraprastha Gas Ltd (IGL), succeeding Kamal Kishore Chatiwal.
- A BITS Pilani chemical engineer, he has over 30 years of experience in the oil and gas sector.
- He previously led Maharashtra Natural Gas Ltd (MNGL) and has held key roles at GAIL.

## Neelam Meena appointed as Chief Electoral Officer of West Bengal

- Neelam Meena, a 1998-batch IAS officer, was appointed West Bengal's new Chief Electoral Officer.
- She succeeds Manoj Kumar Agarwal, who became the state's Chief Secretary.
- The ECI directed her to focus solely on her CEO responsibilities for impartiality.

## Raghav Appointed Chairman of Rajya Sabha Committee

- Raghav Chadha was appointed Chairman of the Rajya Sabha Committee on Petitions.
- The 10-member panel examines petitions on governance, public policy, and citizen grievances.
- The committee can examine witnesses, seek evidence, and recommend corrective measures.

## Piyush Singla appointed Director Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

- Anurag Singla has been appointed as CEO of the National Health Authority (NHA) under the Central Staffing Scheme.
- His tenure will align with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission and may be extended as per government rules.
- He will focus on expanding digital health records, interoperable systems, and the ABHA ecosystem.

## Siddaramaiah Quits, Names DK Shivakumar As Next CM



- Siddaramaiah resigned as Karnataka Chief Minister, paving the way for D.K. Shivakumar under the 2023 power-sharing pact.
- Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot accepted his resignation, with Siddaramaiah continuing as caretaker CM.
- He declined a Rajya Sabha role and will remain active in Karnataka politics.

## A Kowsigan appointed as the CEO of Kerala

- Dr. A. Kowsigan, a 2009-batch IAS officer, became Kerala's new Chief Electoral Officer.

- He succeeds Dr. Rathan U. Kelkar, who became Secretary to the Chief Minister.
- Kowsigan has held key roles in ports, land revenue, disaster management, and animal husbandry.

## Sandeep Kumar Garg inducted as DIG in NIA



- Sandeep Kumar Garg, a 2012-batch IPS officer, has been appointed DIG in the NIA.
- His appointment was approved by the MHA on central deputation.
- He previously served as DIG of Punjab Police's Intelligence Wing.

## Sahdev Elected President of South Asian Weightlifting Federation

- Dr. Sahdev Yadav was unanimously elected President of the South Asian Weightlifting Federation (SAWF).
- He is also President of the Indian Weightlifting Federation and Treasurer of the Indian Olympic Association.
- He aims to strengthen athlete development, coaching standards, and sports infrastructure in South Asia.

## Surendra Kumar Jha appointed as Deputy Inspector General in BSF

- Surendra Kumar Jha, a 2010-batch IPS officer, has been appointed DIG in the BSF on central deputation.
- He previously served as DIG (Personnel) at Jharkhand Police Headquarters and SSP Ranchi.
- A Police Medal for Gallantry awardee, Jha is known for his administrative and crime-control expertise.

## Bharat Singh re-Elected as Chairman of Chess Association



- Bharat Singh Chauhan was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Commonwealth Chess Association for 2026–2030.
- He also serves as FIDE Advisory Board Chairman and Asian Chess Federation Deputy President.
- The CCA will launch its first Commonwealth School Chess Championship in Malaysia in October 2026.

## M.P. partnered with Google Cloud India for Simhashta Kumbh 2028



- Google Cloud will use AI for crowd monitoring, traffic management, and emergency response during Ujjain Kumbh.
- The multilingual “Sahayak” app will provide route guidance, crowd updates, and safety alerts.
- An AI Centre of Excellence will also be established in Indore.

## Rajiv Singh appointed as Secretary in Cabinet Secretariat

- Rajiv Singh, a 1993-batch IPS officer, was appointed Secretary (Security) in the Cabinet Secretariat.
- He will serve as the administrative head of the SPG, overseeing VIP security.
- Singh previously served as Manipur DGP from June 2023.

## President appoints N Rangasamy as Puducherry CM



- N. Rangasamy was appointed Puducherry Chief Minister for a fifth term.
- His appointment followed the NDA's victory in the Assembly elections.
- He was scheduled to take oath on May 13, 2026.

## Dr AK Panda assumed charge as CMD of SAIL

- Dr. Panda, a SAIL veteran since 1992, has taken charge as CMD after serving as Director (Finance).
- An electrical engineer and business management doctorate, he brings over 30 years of experience.
- He aims to raise SAIL's capacity to 35 MTPA, strengthen raw material security, and expand value-added products.

## Jio Platforms appoints Akash Ambani as MD



- Akash Ambani was appointed to a key leadership role at Jio Platforms for a five-year term.
- The appointment comes ahead of Jio Platforms' expected IPO, potentially valuing it at \$200–240 billion.
- He will lead Jio Platforms while continuing as Chairman of Reliance Jio Infocomm.

## BANKING NEWS



### PNB & Indian Army Sign MoU for PNB LUXURA & Parakram



- Punjab National Bank (PNB) entered into an exclusive Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Army to offer specially designed credit cards to Army personnel.
- Under the partnership, PNB will offer two exclusive credit-card variants. PNB LUXURA Metal Credit Card is designed for Army Officers.
- PNB Parakram Credit Card is designed for Junior Commissioned Officers & Other Ranks.

### Bank of Baroda Launches UPI Global QR Payments for Visitors



- The facility allows international tourists, overseas Indians and eligible foreign payment-app users to make QR payments in India.
- Visitors can use their home-country banking or payment applications for payments.
- Payments can be made across Bank of Baroda's UPI QR merchant network in India.

### Airtel Payments Bank names Shabnam Sinha as new Chairperson

- She will succeed Sunil Bharti Mittal, the outgoing non-executive Chairperson.



- Her appointment is for a three-year term.
- In Airtel Payment bank, You can hold up to ₹2 lakh per account at the end of the day.
- She has experience with the World Bank and other international development institutions.

### NABARD Announces Climate Stack Innovation Challenge Winners

- NABARD is working with the Gates Foundation and Dalberg Advisors.
- The objective is to create a climate-intelligence architecture for India's rural economy.
- The initiative is anchored in NABARD's DiCRA platform.

### RBI Appoints Monisha Chakraborty as Executive Director



- She has over 30 years of experience in banking supervision, financial regulation and risk management.
- As Executive Director, she will oversee the Department of Supervision, responsible for regulating commercial banks, small finance banks, payment banks and NBFCs.
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai. Established: 1 April 1935. Nationalised: 1 January 1949.

## RBI Repo Rate Unchanged at 5.25%



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept the Repo Rate unchanged at 5.25%.
- Decision announced after the meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).
- Monetary Policy Committee, Total Members: 6, Three members from RBI and three appointed by the Government of India.

## Prasanta Mahapatra Assumes Charge as SEBI Executive Director



- Prasanta Mahapatra has assumed charge as an Executive Director (ED) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- He has extensive experience in market regulation, corporate finance, enforcement, investigations, and investor protection.
- SEBI is the statutory regulator of India's capital and securities market and works to ensure transparent and fair trading.

## Govt. Approves RBI Proposal for ₹10 & ₹20 Polymer Banknotes



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is the authority responsible for issuing banknotes in India.
- The Central Government's approval is mandatory before introducing a new type of banknote. In India, the ₹1 note is issued by the Ministry of Finance.

- Polymer banknotes are made from a plastic-based substrate, Polymer notes are water-resistant and tear-resistant. Australia became the first country to introduce polymer banknotes in 1988.

## Former SBI Chief GM to Liquidate Paytm Payments Bank Ltd.



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will wind up Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL). The winding-up process was approved by the Delhi High Court.
- Girikumar Nair has been appointed as the Official Liquidator. He is a former Chief General Manager of the State Bank of India (SBI).
- The bank's licence was cancelled due to serious regulatory violations. The liquidation is being carried out under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and the Companies Act, 2013.

## SBI to Issue India's First Basel III-Compliant AT-1 Bonds

- State Bank of India (SBI) will become the first Indian bank in 2026 to issue Basel III-compliant Additional Tier-I Perpetual Bonds. Perpetual Bonds do not have a fixed maturity date.
- SBI plans to raise ₹5,000 cr. through the AT-1 bond. The bond issue is part of SBI's ₹60,000 crore capital-raising programme for FY 2026–27.

## Axis Finance Launches 'Drishti' Digital Platform

- Axis Finance launched its in-house 'Drishti' BRE platform to improve credit decisions for retail and MSME lending.
- It has been launched in the first phase for Personal Loans, Business Loans, Loan Against Property (LAP), and Disha Home Loans.

## Edelweiss Mutual Fund Launches REIT-Oriented Index Fund



- The fund tracks the Nifty REITs & InvITs Index. The fund is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- Mutual Fund invests in financial assets (shares, bonds, gold, etc.), whereas REIT invests in commercial real estate, and InvIT invests in infrastructure assets.

## RBI Introduces New SNFA Framework



- The framework applies to commercial banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Small Finance Banks (SFBs), All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs), and NBFCs.
- Specified Non-Financial Assets (SNFAs) are immovable assets (such as land or buildings) acquired by lenders in full or partial settlement of non-performing asset (NPA) loans.
- Banks must dispose of SNFAs within 7 years, cannot sell them back to the original borrower or related parties, and must value them at the lower of the loan's net book value or distress sale value determined by two independent valuers.

## Fairfax to acquire IDBI Bank stake in \$5.5 billion deal

- Fairfax Financial Holdings (Canada) will acquire a controlling stake in IDBI Bank in a deal valued at approximately US\$5.5 billion.
- The acquisition is one of the largest banking privatization deals in India's banking sector.

- The stake being sold is jointly held by the Government of India and Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

## PNB signs MoU with Digital India BHASHINI for AI banking



- The partnership aims to enable customers to access banking services in multiple Indian languages, making banking more inclusive and user-friendly.
- BHASHINI (BHASHA Interface for India) is a flagship initiative under the Digital India Programme, implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- The initiative leverages Artificial Intelligence (AI), Natural Language Processing (NLP), and speech technologies for real-time translation and voice-based services.

## Aviva to Fully Own Indian Life Insurance Business



- Aviva is set to become the first foreign insurer to fully own its Indian life insurance business, subject to regulatory approval.
- Full ownership will give Aviva greater strategic and operational control.
- The move is expected to boost foreign investment, competition, and innovation in India's insurance sector.

## State Bank of India to Acquire NHB's 10% Stake in RDCL



- SBI will acquire NHB's 10% stake in Residential Development Corporation Limited (RDCL).
- The acquisition aims to strengthen SBI's housing finance presence and improve RDCL's operational efficiency.
- SBI is India's largest public sector bank, while NHB is the apex housing finance regulator.

## UCO Bank appoints Rajendra Kumar Saboo as MD & CEO

- Rajendra Kumar Saboo has been given additional charge as MD & CEO of UCO Bank until a regular appointment is made.
- He succeeds Ashwani Kumar, whose tenure ended on 31 May 2026.
- Saboo, an Executive Director since 2022, has extensive experience in treasury, international, and digital banking.

## RBI Issues TReDS Master Direction



- Under the TReDS Master Direction 2026, operators must maintain a minimum net worth of ₹25 crore by 31 March 2028.
- The RBI has simplified MSME onboarding by replacing due diligence with built-in validation checks.
- The new framework ensures receivables are credited directly to sellers' bank accounts.

## Cross-border Payments Platform Skydo Secures Canada Registration



- Skydo secured its first international payment licence in Canada under the Retail Payment Activities Act (RPA).
- The licence, regulated by the Bank of Canada, enables two-day cross-border payments between India and Canada.
- Founded in 2022, Skydo is a global B2B cross-border payments platform.

## CBI Recognized as 'Best Tech Emerging Business Bank' in 2026

- The Central Bank of India received an award for its technology-led growth and digital innovation.
- The honour recognizes the bank's digital transformation and adoption of future-ready banking solutions.
- The bank continues to modernize its infrastructure to deliver efficient and technology-driven financial services.

## Vivek Tripathi appointed Executive Director of AU Small Finance Bank



- Vivek Tripathi has been appointed Executive Director and Whole-Time Director of AU Small Finance Bank for a three-year term.
- A member of the bank since 2014, he previously served as Chief Credit Officer.
- He played a key role in strengthening the bank's risk management, credit, and governance frameworks.

## Chairman Keki Mistry's Term at HDFC Bank Extended



- HDFC Bank extended Keki Mistry's tenure as Part-Time Chairman until 18 September 2026 or until a regular chairman is appointed.
- The extension ensures leadership continuity while the bank searches for a permanent chairman.
- Mistry has been serving in the interim role since March 2026 following Atanu Chakraborty's resignation.

## Indian Bank Awarded for Excellence in AI



- Indian Bank won the Golden Peacock Award for Excellence in Artificial Intelligence – 2026.
- It was recognized as the top performer in the Banking category for AI-driven innovation.
- The award was presented by the Institute of Directors after evaluation by a jury led by former CJI Uday U. Lalit.

## RBI Deputy Governor Swaminathan Janakiraman Gets 2-Year Extension



- RBI Deputy Governor Swaminathan Janakiraman received a two-year extension from June 26, 2026.
- He oversees key areas including banking supervision, financial inclusion, and consumer protection.
- Before joining RBI, he served nearly 35 years at SBI, including as Managing Director.

## DFS Secretary Sanjay Lohiya named director on RBI



- Sanjay Lohiya, DFS Secretary, has been nominated as Director on the RBI Central Board from June 11, 2026.
- He has also been appointed as a Director on the SBI Central Board.
- A 1994-batch IAS officer, Lohiya brings experience from the Ministry of Mines and PMO.

## Federal Bank appoints Elias George as Part-Time Chairman



- RBI approved Elias George as Federal Bank's Part-Time Chairman for a three-year term from May 23, 2026.
- He has served as a Non-Executive Independent Director on the bank's board since September 2023.
- A retired IAS officer, George previously served as Kerala's Additional Chief Secretary and led the Kochi Metro project.

## Karnataka Grameena Bank Wins national award for APY



- Karnataka Grameena Bank achieved 142% of its APY target by enrolling 2,49,185 accounts.
- It received the National Award from PFRDA for outstanding APY performance.
- The bank ranked first in Karnataka for APY enrolments, boosting financial inclusion.

## Sandeep Bakhshi re-appointed as MD & CEO of ICICI Bank



- RBI approved Sandeep Bakhshi's reappointment as ICICI Bank MD & CEO for two years, from October 4, 2026 to October 3, 2028.
- He has led the bank since 2018, ensuring leadership continuity.
- Under his tenure, ICICI Bank strengthened digital banking, asset quality, and retail lending.

## RBI re-appointed Ketan Merchant as CEO of Fino Payments Bank



- CFO Merchant's interim CEO tenure has been extended after former MD & CEO Rishi Gupta's resignation.
- Gupta resigned on May 21, 2026, following his arrest in a GST tax evasion case.
- The extension ensures leadership continuity as the bank transitions toward becoming an SFB.

## RBI & Vietnam Central Bank Sign MoU to Boost Digital Payments



- India and Vietnam signed an MoU to enable cross-border QR-based merchant payments.
- The agreement promotes cooperation on payment systems, fintech, regulations, and financial technology.
- NPCI International and Vietnam's NAPAS will support the payment connectivity initiative.

## ICICI Bank & Visa Launch India's First USD-Denominated Debit Card

- ICICI Bank and Visa launched India's first USD-denominated debit card for NRI customers through GIFT City.
- The Visa Infinite card offers 0% forex markup on USD transactions worldwide.
- It is linked to ICICI Bank's USD Global Savings Account for convenient international spending.

## Union Bank of India appoints Sowmya Sridhar as CRO



- Sowmya Sridhar was appointed Chief Risk Officer (CRO) of Union Bank of India until August 31, 2029.
- She succeeded Ashwini Kumar Ramakrishna Chowdhary on May 22, 2026.
- A 30+ year banking veteran, Sridhar has 19 years of risk management experience.

## RBI Appoints Gunveer Singh as Executive Director



- Sanjay Kumar Singh has been appointed Executive Director of RBI's Department of Payment and Settlement Systems (DPSS).
- He will oversee UPI, digital payments, cross-border payment linkages, and payment cybersecurity.
- Singh has over 30 years of RBI experience in banking supervision and risk management.

## Federal Bank Appoints Elias George as Part-Time Chairman

- Elias George appointed Federal Bank's Part-Time Chairman for a three-year term from May 23, 2026.
- He has served as the bank's Independent Director since September 2023.
- A retired IAS officer, he previously served as Kerala's Additional Chief Secretary and Kochi Metro CEO.

## RBI & ECB renew cooperation with updated MoU in Basel



- RBI and ECB signed an updated MoU on May 10, 2026, in Basel.
- The pact aims to help Indian clearing corporations gain ESMA recognition.
- It expands cooperation through policy dialogues, technical exchanges, and central banking seminars.

## DMRC & Airtel Payments Bank Launch RuPay NCMC Cards

- RuPay NCMC cards enable travel across multiple metros and buses under the "One Nation, One Card" vision.
- DMRC and Airtel Payments Bank will offer co-branded debit and prepaid cards.
- Cards support digital recharge and existing DMRC fare discounts.

## Indian Bank appoints Samir Kumar as Nominee Director



- Samir Kumar, a 1995-batch IAS officer, was appointed Nominee Director on Indian Bank's Board by DFS.
- He currently serves as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance.
- His appointment aims to strengthen governance, policy alignment, and regulatory compliance.

## India's PSBs Achieve Record Profit for 4th Consecutive Year

- Public sector banks' net profit rose 11.1% to a record ₹1.98 lakh crore.
- Gross NPA fell to 1.93% and Net NPA to a record-low 0.39%.
- PSBs maintained a strong 16.6% CRAR, with all 12 banks reporting PCR above 90%.

## RBI Cancels Sarvodaya Co-operative Bank Licence

- RBI cancelled the bank's licence due to inadequate capital and poor earning prospects.
- The bank must stop all banking operations, including accepting deposits and withdrawals.
- About 98.36% of depositors are eligible for DICGC insurance cover up to ₹5 lakh.

## SPORTS



### Treesa Jolly & Gayatri Gopichand Create History at BWF Worlds 2026



- Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand secured a medal at the BWF World Championships 2026.
- The BWF World Championships 2026 are being held at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi, India.
- They defeated China's Jia Yi Fan and Zhang Shu Xian in the quarterfinal.

### India's GM Pranesh M Wins Kanizsa Open 2026



- The tournament was held in Nagykanizsa, Hungary.
- Pranesh defeated Germany's Vadim Petrovskiy in the 9th and final round.
- He was ranked 44th in the FIDE World Rankings 2026.

### India Open 2028 Super 750 to be held in Guwahati

- The India Open 2028 will be held in Guwahati, Assam, instead of its traditional venue in New Delhi.

- The event will be hosted at the National Centre of Excellence (NCE) for Badminton, Guwahati.
- The decision was confirmed by Badminton Association of India (BAI) Secretary General Sanjay Mishra. BAI is the national governing body for badminton in India.

### India wins maiden Commonwealth Fencing title



- India won its maiden overall title at the Commonwealth Fencing Championships 2026 in Lagos, Nigeria.
- India finished with a total of 35 medals. India's final medal tally comprised 13 Gold, 8 Silver and 14 Bronze medals.
- India won the prestigious Wilkinson Sword Trophy for the best overall performance.

### Iga Swiatek wins Canadian Open women's singles title



- Iga Świątek of Poland won the Women's Singles title at the 2026 Canadian Open, defeating Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan in the final.
- The final was played August 2026 in Toronto, Canada.
- Świątek won the final in straight sets, 6–2, 6–3.

## Netherlands & Belgium to Host 16th Women's FIH Hockey World Cup



- The 16th FIH Hockey World Cup 2026 is being jointly hosted by Belgium and the Netherlands from 15 to 30 August 2026.
- Belgium is hosting the FIH Hockey World Cup for the first time.
- The women's competition is being played at Wagener Hockey Stadium, Amstelveen, Netherlands, and Belfius Hockey Arena, Wavre, Belgium.

## Magnus Carlsen Retains Esports World Cup Chess Title

- Magnus Carlsen of Norway won the Chess title at the Esports World Cup 2026.
- He defeated Belarusian Grandmaster Denis Lazavik in the final.
- His successful title defence made him the first player to win the EWC chess title in two consecutive editions.

## Vignesh Vermula & Saranya Devi win Asian Jr. Blitz titles for India



- Vignesh Advaith Vermula won the Asian Junior Open Blitz Championship 2026 for India and Saranya Devi Narahari won the Asian Junior Girls Blitz Championship 2026 for India.

- Vignesh Vermula belongs to Telangana and Saranya Devi Narahari belongs to Andhra Pradesh.
- Both players won gold medals for India.

## Rishabh Pant became the first Indian to hit 100 sixes in Test cricket



- Rishabh Pant became the first Indian and fourth player in the world to complete 100 sixes in Test cricket.
- He reached the milestone during the first Test between India and Sri Lanka.
- Pant achieved the feat in his 51st Test match.

## Vivaan Vishal Shah Becomes 2026 Asian Junior Rapid Champion



- M Vivaan Vishal Shah from Gujarat, India, won the Open category title at the 2026 Asian Junior Rapid Chess Championship.
- Vivaan is an Indian chess player holding the FIDE Master (FM) title.
- The 2026 Asian Junior Rapid Chess Championship was held at ITC Maratha, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

## Praggnanandhaa Wins Saint Louis Rapid & Blitz Title 2026



- Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa won his maiden Saint Louis Rapid & Blitz title in 2026.
- The tournament was held in Saint Louis, Missouri, USA as part of the Grand Chess Tour 2026.
- Praggnanandhaa finished the combined event with 23.5 points.

## Suraj Kumar Chand Wins FISU World University Squash Title

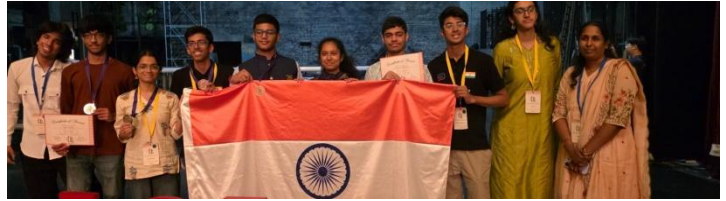
- Suraj Kumar Chand won the men's singles title at the 2026 FISU World University Squash Championship.
- The championship was held in Mumbai, India, making it an important event for Indian university sport.
- He defeated Hungary's Benedek Takacs in the final.

## Maharajan Wins Silver in Asian Junior Weightlifting



- Arumugapandian Maharajan represented India at the Asian Junior Weightlifting Championships 2026.
- He competed in the men's 65 kg category. He won the silver medal in the 65 kg category.
- The championship was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

## India Wins Four Medals at 23rd International Linguistics Olympiad



- The 2026 edition was held in Bucharest, Romania.
- India's medal tally consisted of 1 Gold Medal and 3 Bronze Medals.
- India won four medals at the International Linguistics Olympiad 2026: Shrilakshmi Venkatraman won Gold, while Aarav Anil Rao, Nishanth Shankar Lakshmanan and Advay Misra won Bronze medals.

## Jammu and Kashmir to Host Irani Cup in Srinagar



- Jammu & Kashmir will host the Irani Cup 2026–27 in Srinagar. The scheduled venue is Sher-i-Kashmir Stadium, Srinagar.
- Jammu & Kashmir earned the hosting opportunity after winning the 2025–26 Ranji Trophy.
- The Irani Cup is organised under the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

## Indian Teams Win Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships

- India won both the Men's Team and Women's Team titles at the 22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships 2026, held in New Delhi, India.
- The Indian Men's Team defeated Malaysia 3–2 in a thrilling final to win the championship.
- The Indian Women's Team defeated England 3–0 in the final to clinch the title.

## Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh Win India's First Commonwealth Judo Gold Medals



- Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh created history by winning India's first-ever gold medals in judo at the Commonwealth Games during the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland.
- Asmita Dey won the Women's 48 kg category. She defeated Heidi Quach (Canada).
- Harsh Singh won the Men's 60 kg category. He defeated Joshua Katz (Australia).

## Harsh Singh Becomes First Indian to Win Men's Judo Gold

- Harsh Singh became the first Indian male judoka to win the reported international gold medal.
- Judo originated in Japan.
- Judo became an Olympic sport in 1964 (Tokyo Olympics).

## India Secures 4<sup>th</sup> Place with 39 Medals at Commonwealth Games



- India won 39 medals (14 Gold, 12 Silver and 13 Bronze).
- Australia finished at the top of the medal table. The 2026 Commonwealth Games were held in Glasgow, Scotland.
- Next Commonwealth Games: Ahmedabad, India (2030).

## Arunachal's Boleng to Host Asian Rafting Championships 2026



- Boleng, located in Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh, will host the Asian Rafting Championships 2026.
- The event will take place on the Simang River, a major tributary of the Siang River, known for its world-class white-water rapids.
- The Siang River is the Indian name of the Yarlung Tsangpo River after it enters India from Tibet.

## Anahat Singh Becomes First Indian World Junior Squash Champion



- Anahat Singh won the World Junior Squash Championship and Won the Girls' Singles title. Venue: Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada.
- Previous Best Indian Performance: Joshna Chinappa – Runner-up (2005).
- First non-Egyptian women's champion since Amanda Sobhy (USA) in 2010.

## Mirabai Chanu Wins Third Consecutive Commonwealth

- Saikhom Mirabai Chanu won gold in Women's 49 kg Weightlifting.
- It is her third consecutive Commonwealth Games gold medal. She is from Manipur.
- Won the Olympic Silver Medal at Tokyo 2020, World Champion in 2017, Padma Shri (2018).

## 16th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship Begins



- The championship is being held in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. Coimbatore is known as the "Manchester of South India" because of its textile industry.
- It is organised by Hockey India. Hockey India is the governing body of hockey in India. Estb. 2009, HQ: New Delhi. President : Dr. Dilip Tirkey.
- The competition is for Junior Men (Under-21) players. The 15th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship (2025) was held in Jalandhar, Punjab.

## Sharmila Wins Commonwealth Games Para Athletics Gold Medal



- Sharmila Dhankar won the Gold Medal in the Women's F57 Shot Put and Shilpa Shyla won the Bronze Medal in the same event.
- She also became the first Indian woman to win a Commonwealth Games para athletics medal.
- India won two medals in the same para athletics event for the first time in Commonwealth Games history.

## Ajinkya Announces Retirement from International Cricket

- He retired from all international formats – Tests, One Day Internationals (ODIs), and Twenty20 Internationals (T20Is).

- He is popularly known by the nickname "Jinx". He has received the Arjuna Award.
- His hometown is Dombivli, Thane district, Maharashtra. (Indian cricketer).

## Lovepreet Singh Wins Weightlifting Silver at CWG 2026

- Lovepreet Singh won a Silver Medal in Weightlifting at the Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2026 at Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom (UK).
- Lovepreet Singh is an Indian weightlifter from Amritsar, Punjab.
- At the 2026 Commonwealth Games (Glasgow), he won the silver medal in the men's +110 kg event.

## India Wins 1 Silver and 2 Bronze at U17 Wrestling Championships

- The U17 World Wrestling Championships 2026 are being held in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- Rachit Rachit won the silver medal in the 110 kg Greco-Roman category.
- Shivam won the bronze medal in the 45 kg Greco-Roman category. Aryan won the bronze medal in the 80 kg Greco-Roman category.

## 135th Edition of Durand Cup to Begin in Shillong



- The 135th Durand Cup will begin in Shillong, Meghalaya.
- The Durand Cup is Asia's oldest football tournament.
- It was first held in 1888. It is recognized by the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

## PV Sindhu becomes first Indian to win Japan Open title



- She became the first Indian shuttler to win the prestigious Japan Open title.
- The Japan Open is a BWF World Tour Super 750 badminton tournament.
- PV Sindhu is India's first woman Olympic medalist in badminton, winning Silver (Rio 2016) and Bronze (Tokyo 2020).
- Badminton World Federation (BWF) Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia President: Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul.

## Indian Students Win Four Medals at International Biology Olympiad



- The International Biology Olympiad (IBO) is one of the world's most prestigious science competitions for secondary/high school students.
- The competition includes theoretical and practical examinations, testing students' knowledge in molecular biology, genetics, ecology, physiology, plant and animal sciences.
- HBCSE functions under the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR).

## Rohit Sharma creates history with first Indian ODI century at Lord's

- With this milestone, he surpassed the previous Indian record at Lord's and added another achievement to his illustrious ODI career.

- Popularly known as the "Hitman", Rohit Sharma is regarded as one of the greatest opening batters in ODI cricket.
- He is the only cricketer in the world to score three double centuries in One Day Internationals (ODIs).

## Lionel Messi Becomes First Player to Start Three FIFA World Cup Finals



- Lionel Messi became the first footballer in history to start three FIFA World Cup finals, achieving this unique milestone in the 2026 FIFA World Cup Final.
- Messi had previously started the 2014 FIFA World Cup Final (Brazil) and the 2022 FIFA World Cup Final (Qatar), making the 2026 final his third.
- Messi is widely regarded as one of the greatest footballers of all time and has won a record 8 Ballon d'Or awards.

## Glasgow Hosts the 23rd Commonwealth Games 2026



- The 23rd Commonwealth Games are being hosted in Glasgow, Scotland for the second time, after 2014.
- The Commonwealth Games are held every four years. Motto of the 2026 Games: "More Than Medals."
- King Charles III is the Head of the Commonwealth. The official mascot is Finnie.

## Noskova Wins First Grand Slam Title at Wimbledon



- Linda Noskova (Czech Republic) defeated Karolina Muchova to win the 2026 Wimbledon Women's Singles title, her first Grand Slam.
- At 21, she became the youngest Wimbledon women's champion since Petra Kvitová (2011) and the third Czech woman in four years to win the title.
- Wimbledon is one of the four Grand Slam tournaments and is played on grass courts at the All England Club, London.

## Indian Women's Cricket Team Defeats England in Women's Test



- India, led by Harmanpreet Kaur, defeated England by 270 runs in the first-ever Women's Test at Lord's, marking India's second-biggest Women's Test win by runs.
- Yastika Bhatia scored 113, becoming the first woman to score a Test century at Lord's, while Smriti Mandhana hit half-centuries in both innings.
- Kranti Gaud took 7 wickets in the match, including a five-wicket haul in the first innings, with Sneha Rana and Deepti Sharma also starring with the ball.

## Durand Cup Trophy Tour Begins in Guwahati

- The 135th IndianOil Durand Cup Trophy Tour began in Guwahati on 16 July 2026, featuring the Durand Cup, President's Cup, and Simla Trophy.



- First held in 1888, the Durand Cup is Asia's oldest football tournament, named after Mortimer Durand.
- The 2026 tournament will be held from 25 July to 23 August across Kolkata, Guwahati, Shillong, Imphal, and Ranchi.

## Delhi Unveils 'Mayur' Mascot for CWTT Championships 2026



- The 22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships 2026 will be held at Thyagaraj Stadium, New Delhi, from 27 July to 2 August.
- 'Mayur', inspired by the Indian Peacock, was unveiled as the official mascot.
- The event is organized by the Commonwealth Table Tennis Federation (CTTF), while the sport is governed globally by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

## India Wins First-Ever Women's T20I Deaf Cricket Series

- The Indian Deaf Women's Cricket Team won the inaugural Women's T20I series 2026, defeating Sri Lanka 5–0.
- It was the team's first overseas tour under the Indian Deaf Cricket Association (IDCA).
- Shradda Vaishnav was Player of the Final, Reddy Jyoshna Player of the Series, Chandani Khan Best Bowler, and Needa Zabi Shaikh Best Batter.

## India's Neeraj Chopra finishes fourth at Doha Diamond League

- Neeraj Chopra finished fourth with a best throw of 85.69 m in his comeback event after recovering from a back injury.
- He qualified for the Commonwealth Games by crossing the AFI qualifying mark of 82.61 m.
- Sri Lanka's Rumesh Pathirage won the event with a throw of 88.68 m.

## India Win Women's Relay Gold at Asian Relays Championships



- India won gold in the women's 4×100 m relay with a season-best time of 43.85 seconds, ahead of China and Thailand.
- India finished the Asian Relays Championships with one gold, one silver, and one bronze medal.
- India will host the 2027 Asian Relays Championships in Chandigarh.

## India Wins FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup In Auckland



- India defeated New Zealand 2–0 to win the FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup and secure promotion to the 2026–27 FIH Hockey Pro League.
- Navneet Kaur and Sunelita Toppo scored the goals in the final.
- India remained unbeaten throughout the tournament, while Deepika finished as the joint top scorer with six goals.

## Neeraj Chopra named Best Male Athlete of the Year 2025

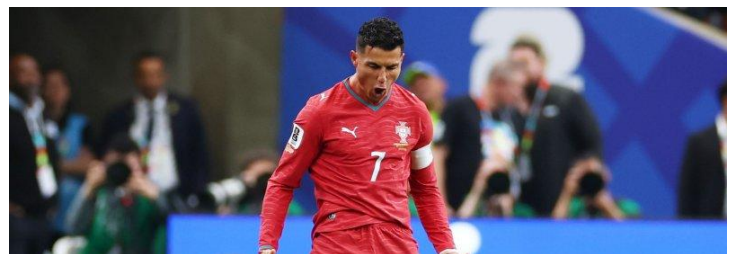


- Neeraj Chopra was named Best Male Athlete at the inaugural Indian Athletics Awards for his outstanding 2025 season.
- He received the honour from Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi.
- Neeraj dedicated the award to Indian athletes and encouraged young sportspersons to stay patient and believe in their potential.

## Harmanpreet Kaur Becomes First Player to Play 200 T20Is

- Harmanpreet Kaur became the first cricketer to play 200 T20 Internationals during India's Women's T20 World Cup match against South Africa.
- She was honoured with a special jersey and cap marked "200" by the Indian team.
- The milestone came in England, where she had made her T20I debut in 2009.

## Cristiano Ronaldo Becomes 1<sup>st</sup> Player to Score in 6 FIFA Cup



- Cristiano Ronaldo became the first footballer to score in six FIFA World Cup tournaments.
- His World Cup scoring streak spans the 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018, 2022, and 2026 editions.
- Ronaldo also became Portugal's all-time leading FIFA World Cup scorer with 10 goals, surpassing Eusébio.

## CAB appoints Ashok Dinda as Head of Vision 2028 & fast bowling coach



- The Cricket Association of Bengal appointed Ashok Dinda as Head of the Vision 2028 programme and fast bowling coach, with Utpal Chatterjee as spin bowling coach.
- Vision 2028 aims to identify and develop cricket talent across West Bengal through structured age-group coaching.
- The programme will begin in July 2026, focusing on skill development, fitness, and performance analysis.

## India Beat Bangladesh by 5 Wickets in Women's T20 World Cup

- India defeated Bangladesh to stay second in Group A with 6 points, keeping their Women's T20 World Cup semi-final hopes alive.
- Shafali Verma scored a match-winning 53 off 34 balls and was named Player of the Match.
- Radha Yadav took 3 wickets, while Shree Charani became the highest wicket-taking Indian in a single Women's T20 World Cup with 12 wickets.

## FIFA Suspends Nepal Football Association Over Gov. Violations



- FIFA suspended the All Nepal Football Association (ANFA) over governance violations and political interference.

- Nepal's national and club teams are barred from FIFA and AFC international competitions until the suspension is lifted.
- The suspension was imposed for violating FIFA rules on the independent management of member associations.

## Sudarsan Pattnaik Win Russia Grand Sand Master Cup 2026



- Sudarsan Pattnaik won the top prize at an international sand sculpture competition in Kaliningrad, Russia.
- His award-winning sculpture highlighted climate change and global warming.
- The victory showcased India's excellence in sand art and strengthened its cultural presence globally.

## Lewis Hamilton wins first F1 race with Ferrari in Barcelona



- Lewis Hamilton won the race with Ferrari's successful three-stop strategy and a well-timed Virtual Safety Car pit stop.
- George Russell and Lando Norris completed the first all-British Formula 1 podium since 1968.
- At 41, Hamilton became the oldest Grand Prix winner since 1970, ending a two-year victory drought.

## Smriti Mandhana in TIME 100 Most Influential 2026



- Smriti Mandhana was the only sportsperson named in TIME's 100 Most Influential People of 2026 under the "Titans" category.
- TIME recognised her record-breaking achievements, including becoming the first Indian to score centuries in all three international formats.
- It also highlighted her leadership in guiding RCB to WPL titles and India's ICC Women's ODI World Cup triumph.

## Messi Equals Klose as FIFA World Cup's Joint Top Scorer



- Lionel Messi equalled Miroslav Klose's FIFA World Cup record with 16 career goals after scoring a hat-trick against Jordan.
- The hat-trick was the first of Messi's FIFA World Cup career and guided Argentina to a 3–0 win.
- Messi also became the first male footballer to play in six FIFA World Cup tournaments.

## Deepti Sharma Becomes Joint-Highest Wicket-Taker for India

- Deepti Sharma equalled Jhulan Goswami's record of 355 international wickets, becoming India's joint-highest wicket-taker in women's cricket.
- She is also the leading wicket-taker in Women's T20Is, with over 160 wickets.

- Deepti remains a key all-rounder for India with consistent contributions in both batting and bowling.

## India Win 6th SAFF Women's Championship Title 2026



- India won all four matches, scoring 18 goals and conceding just one to clinch the SAFF Women's Championship.
- The title ended a seven-year wait and marked Dangmei Grace's retirement after her third SAFF crown.
- The victory also secured India automatic qualification for the 2027 AFC Women's Asian Cup qualifiers.

## Sagar & Kajal Dhochak clinch golds at Ulaanbaatar Open 2026



- Sagar Jaglan (74kg) and Kajal Dhochak (76kg) won gold medals at the Ulaanbaatar Open.
- India finished the Ranking Series event with 16 medals, including eight golds.
- The tournament served as key preparation for the 2026 Asian Games.

## India Tops World Yogasana Championship 2026 Medal

- The inaugural World Yogasana Championship featured over 500 athletes from 70+ countries.
- Held in Ahmedabad, the event was inaugurated virtually by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The championship aims to promote Yogasana's inclusion in future international multi-sport events, including the Olympics.

## Messi Equals Klose as FIFA World Cup's Joint Top Scorer



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- Messi also became the first male footballer to play in six FIFA World Cup tournaments.

## FIFA World Cup 2026 Kicks Off at Estadio Azteca



- Mexico City's Estadio Azteca will host the opening match of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
- It becomes the first stadium to host World Cup opening matches three times.
- The venue has been renovated to host the expanded 48-team tournament.

## Indian wicket-keeper KS Bharat announces retirement

- KS Bharat announced his retirement from international cricket at the age of 32.
- He played seven Test matches for India, scoring 221 runs and recording 19 dismissals as wicketkeeper.
- Bharat thanked his family and mentors and said he will continue contributing to cricket through coaching and mentoring.

## Kane Williamson, New Zealand captain announces retirement



- Kane Williamson retired from international cricket after a 16-year career.
- He finished as New Zealand's highest international run-scorer with 19,346 runs and 48 centuries.
- As captain, he led New Zealand to the 2021 World Test Championship title and two ODI World Cup finals.

## North Korean women's team win Asian Champions League title

- North Korea's Naegohyang Women's FC won the 2025–26 AFC Women's Champions League, the first North Korean club to claim the title.
- They defeated Japan's Tokyo Verdy Beleza 1–0, with Kim Kyong-yong scoring the winner.
- The \$1 million prize faces uncertainty due to UN sanctions on North Korea.

## India creates history at International Association of Ultrarunners



- India achieved a historic podium sweep at the 2026 IAU 24H Asia & Oceania Championships in Japan.
- Amar Singh Devanda, Geeno Antony, and Saurav Kumar Ranjan won Gold, Silver, and Bronze.
- India also secured men's Team Gold and women's Team Bronze, winning five medals overall.

## Mercedes teen star Kimi Antonelli wins the Canadian GP



- 19-year-old Mercedes driver Kimi Antonelli won his fourth consecutive F1 race in Montreal.
- His teammate George Russell retired on Lap 30 due to a power unit failure.
- Antonelli extended his 2026 championship lead to 43 points over Russell.

## Mohit & Chander Mohan clinches gold at Asian U-23 Wrestling



- Mohit Kumar and Chander Mohan won gold in the 65kg and 79kg categories at the U-23 Asian Wrestling Championships.
- India won the overall Freestyle Team Championship with 27 medals.
- Mohit defeated Kyrgyzstan's Oskonbai Abdisamatov 12-4, while Chander beat Kazakhstan's Yerkhan Abil 7-6.

## Esha Singh wins Munich World Cup with 25m pistol World Record

- Esha Singh set a new world record with 43/50 in the 25m pistol event.
- She defeated Germany's Doreen Vennekamp to win gold at the 2026 ISSF World Cup.
- The victory secured India's first individual shooting medal of the season and Esha's spot in the World Cup Final.

## India to host 2027 Asian Relays and 2028 Asian Indoor Championships

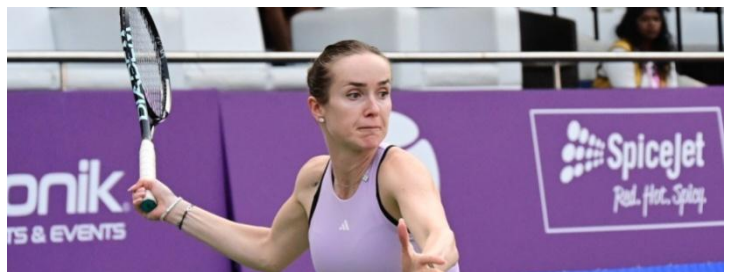


- Chandigarh will host the 2027 Asian Relay Championships, while Bhubaneswar will host the 2028 Asian Indoor Athletics Championships.
- Bhubaneswar's event will serve as a test for the 2028 World Athletics Indoor Championships.
- The events will boost India's athletics infrastructure and provide home-ground opportunities for Indian athletes.

## Jannik wins Italian Open title

- Jannik Sinner won the 2026 Italian Open, defeating Casper Ruud in straight sets.
- He became the first Italian man in 50 years to win the title.
- The victory gave Sinner his 10th ATP Masters 1000 title and completed the Career Golden Masters.

## Ukraine's Elina Svitolina wins Italian Open women's title



- Jannik Sinner and Elina Svitolina won the men's and women's singles titles at the 2026 Italian Open.
- Sinner defeated Casper Ruud, while Svitolina beat Coco Gauff in the finals.
- Svitolina claimed her third Italian Open title, while Sinner completed his Career Golden Masters.

# DEFENCE & TECHNOLOGY



## NBSS & LUP Develops India's First Digital Soil Texture Map



- It is an institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- Its headquarters is in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- NBSS&LUP stands for National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning.

## Sophie Adenot Becomes First French Woman to Walk in Space



- Adenot was accompanied by NASA astronaut Anil Menon.
- She became the second European woman to perform a spacewalk, after Italy's Samantha Cristoforetti, who conducted her first spacewalk in 2022.
- She travelled to the ISS as part of SpaceX Crew-12.

## Flying Wedge Defence Unveils FWD Supreme Lite

- Flying Wedge Defence & Aerospace (FWDA) is a Bengaluru-based Indian defence technology company.

- It has been promoted as India's first AI-piloted fighter jet demonstrator.
- The aircraft incorporates Rocket Assisted Take-Off (RATO) capability.

## NSG Launches First All-Women Commando Course in Haryana



- The course is officially known as the Mahila Commando Conversion Course (MCCC).
- The course was launched at the NSG Training Centre, Manesar, located in Gurugram district, Haryana.
- The course has been introduced specifically for women personnel from State Police Forces and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs).

## Indian Navy to Commission Second Indigenous Diving Support Vessel



- The Indian Navy is set to commission INS Nipun, India's second indigenously built Diving Support Vessel (DSV) of the Nistar class.
- The commissioning ceremony is scheduled to take place at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
- INS Nipun is the second vessel of the Nistar-class Diving Support Vessels. The first vessel of this class is INS Nistar.

## Banas Bio-CNG Plant Inaugurated in Banaskantha



- The Banas Suzuki Biogas Plant was inaugurated at Vinchhivadi, Banaskantha district, Gujarat.
- The project is a collaboration between Suzuki Motor Corporation, Banas Dairy and NDDB (National Dairy Development Board).
- It is Suzuki's third biogas plant in India, following plants at Agthala and Bhukhala.

## Bhawana Kanth becomes IAF's first woman Fighter Combat Leader



- Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth has created history in the Indian Air Force (IAF). She became the first woman IAF officer to complete the Fighter Combat Leader (FCL) course.
- The course was conducted at the Tactics and Air Combat Development Establishment (TACDE).
- TACDE is located in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.

## Saudi Arabia Launches Maritime Defence Coalition



- The coalition is intended to strengthen maritime security in the Red Sea region.
- Its main objective is to protect international shipping and energy routes.
- The coalition focuses particularly on the Red Sea, Bab-el-Mandeb Strait and Gulf of Aden.

## Indian Army Departs for MAITREE-XV in Thailand

- Exercise MAITREE is a bilateral military exercise between India and Thailand.
- The 2025 edition was MAITREE-XIV, held at Umroi, Meghalaya.
- MAITREE-XV is the 15th edition of the India-Thailand Joint Military Exercise.

## IN-SPACe Approves Commercial EO Satellite Constellation



- India's first indigenous, fully commercial Earth Observation Satellite constellation is being developed through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP).
- IN-SPACe is India's space-sector regulator and facilitator for private-sector participation.
- IN-SPACe stands for Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre.

## IISc releases SraVaani Voice AI Model



- The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru has developed SraVaani 1.0, a multilingual speech-recognition AI model.
- SraVaani supports 65 Indian languages and dialects.
- It is designed to improve automatic speech recognition (ASR) for India's diverse linguistic landscape.

## India Develops Beam Catcher for FAIR Project



- India has developed a Beam Catcher for the international Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research (FAIR) project in Germany.
- The first of three Beam Catcher units has reached the FAIR site in Darmstadt, Germany and is awaiting installation.
- The equipment was designed by CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur, under the supervision of the Bose Institute, Kolkata.

## Wayanad to Get X-Band Doppler Weather Radar



- Wayanad in Kerala is getting an X-Band Doppler Weather Radar to strengthen local weather monitoring and disaster preparedness.
- The radar is being installed at Pulpally, on the campus of Pazhassiraja College.
- The project is being implemented by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) in cooperation with the Kerala authorities.

## India Successfully Test-Fires Agni-4 Ballistic Missile

- India successfully conducted a test launch of the Agni-4 medium-range ballistic missile.
- Agni-4 is part of India's Agni series of ballistic missiles.
- Agni-4 has a reported range of approximately 4,000 km.

## Gaganyaan Achieves Human-Rating Milestones

- India's first human spaceflight programme, Gaganyaan, has achieved major milestones in the development and validation of its human-rating systems.
- The Human Rated Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (HLVM3) has completed development and ground testing of its propulsion stages and structures.
- The propulsion systems of the Crew Module and Service Module have been developed, tested and qualified.

## India Achieves 300 GW Non-Fossil Fuel Power Capacity

- Solar power was the largest component of India's non-fossil installed capacity, with 164.59 GW.
- India's installed wind power capacity stood at 58.14 GW. India's installed hydropower capacity stood at 57.24 GW.
- India's major medium-term target is to reach 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based installed electricity capacity by 2030.

## e-Samudra – Digital Transformation of Maritime Governance



- e-Samudra is India's unified digital platform for providing maritime services through a single online system. The official e-Samudra portal describes it as India's Unified Maritime Services Portal.
- The initiative is associated with the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS).
- The DGS functions under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

## India–US Navy EOD Exercise Begins in Kochi



- India and the United States conduct joint naval training involving Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and salvage operations.
- The exercise is known as SALVEX.
- Kochi is associated with the India–US naval salvage exercise.

## Vietnam's VinSpace Signs SpaceX Launch Deal for 2027



- Vietnamese aerospace company VinSpace has signed an agreement with SpaceX for a satellite launch.
- The satellites will be carried through a SpaceX Transporter rideshare mission.
- SpaceX is an American aerospace company founded by Elon Musk.

## Indian Navy's 'Shruti' NGOPV Launched at GRSE, Kolkata

- The Indian Navy's Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV) 'Shruti' was launched at Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata
- The first GRSE NGOPV, Sanghamitra, was launched in May 2026.
- The programme is being executed by GRSE, Kolkata, and Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Goa.

## India and Malaysia Commence Exercise Udara Shakti 2026



- Exercise Udara Shakti 2026 is a bilateral air exercise between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF).
- The exercise is being conducted at Subang Air Base, Malaysia.
- India has deployed four Rafale fighter aircraft for the exercise.

## 8th BRICS Oceanic-Polar Science and Technology

- The 8th BRICS Working Group Meeting on Ocean and Polar Science and Technology (OPST) is being held in Goa.
- The meeting is hosted by the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR).
- NCPOR functions under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).

## Indian Navy Inducts Indigenous Diving Support Vessel



- The Indian Navy inducted the indigenous Diving Support Vessel (DSV) 'Nipun'.
- 'Nipun' was built by Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam, a Government of India
- It is the second vessel of the Nistar-class Diving Support Vessels, following INS Nistar.

## Tata's Agratas Develops Indigenous Lithium Cell Technology



- Agratas, the battery manufacturing company of the Tata Group, developed indigenous lithium cell technology.
- It also supports the PLI Scheme for Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) manufacturing.
- Lithium-ion cells are used in EVs, mobile phones, laptops and energy storage systems.

## India Launches Indigenous African Swine Fever Vaccine 'MA-104'



- Developed to protect pigs against the deadly African Swine Fever virus.
- Aims to reduce mortality in domestic pigs and protect the livestock industry.
- African Swine Fever, Mortality can reach up to 100% in severe outbreaks. Does not infect humans.

## 100% Railway Electrification & 1<sup>st</sup> Electric Train in Kashmir Valley



- The 1<sup>st</sup> electric train in the Kashmir Valley started operating on the Banihal–Baramulla section, replacing diesel locomotives on route.
- The electrification covers the Banihal–Baramulla railway section, an important part of the Udhampur–Srinagar–Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project.
- The USBRL project includes the Chenab Rail Bridge, the world's highest railway arch bridge, and the Anji Khad Cable-Stayed Railway Bridge.

## TRAI Revamps MyCall App to Improve Voice Call Quality



- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has launched a revamped version of the MyCall App to improve voice call quality assessment.
- TRAI was established on 20 February 1997 under the TRAI Act, 1997, and its headquarters are in New Delhi.
- The current Chairperson of TRAI is Anil Kumar Lahoti, and TRAI functions under the Ministry of Communications.

## HCLTech to Set Up First AI Data Centre in Odisha



- HCLTech, Sarvam AI, and the Government of Odisha. HCLTech HQ: Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
- To establish India's first AI-optimised data centre supporting AI model training, inference, storage, and networking.
- Supports India's Sovereign AI Mission with multilingual and sector-specific AI applications.

## AstraZeneca India Sets Up Genomic Solutions Centre



- AstraZeneca India established an Integrated Genomic Solutions Centre in Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh. The centre is part of India's first Integrated Precision Oncology Programme.
- It focuses on lung cancer and breast cancer diagnosis and treatment.
- The project uses AI-powered X-rays and Next-Generation Genetic Testing (NGS). AstraZeneca is partnering with Strand Life Sciences and Qure.ai.

## India's First Telecom Manufacturing Zone to Be Set Up



- India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ) will be set up in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- The project is being implemented by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- The zone aims to promote indigenous telecom manufacturing.

## DAANVEER Launches Gram Panchayat Digital Infrastructure



- It was launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The launch event was held in New Delhi.
- DAANVEER is a citizen participation platform to strengthen the digital infrastructure of Gram Panchayats.
- Developed by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj with NIC and DigiHaat.

## Indian Navy Launches ASW Shallow Water Craft



- INS Machilipatnam (BY 529) is the Indian Navy's 7th ASW Shallow Water Craft
- The vessel was built by Cochin Shipyard Limited.
- The Indian Navy functions under the Ministry of Defence. Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi.

## India's First AI-Integrated Vertical University Inaugurates



- VELS Institute of Science, Technology, & Advanced Studies (VISTAS) inaugurated India's first AI-integrated vertical university campus at Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai (Tamil Nadu).
- The campus was inaugurated by Padma Shri Sridhar Vembu, Chief Scientist and Co-founder of Zoho Corporation.
- The campus features Industry-Academia Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in collaboration with Intel Unnati, TCS iON, Microsoft, and Oracle Academy.

## India Ranked 3rd in WDMMA Global Air Power Rankings 2026



- The Indian Air Force (IAF) ranks 3rd among independent air forces and 6th overall (including all military air branches) in the WDMMA 2026 Global Air Power Rankings.
- The World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA) uses the True Value Rating (TVR) system, which assesses aircraft quality, technology, logistics, modernization, and operational capability, rather than fleet size alone.
- The US Air Force and Russian Air Force ranking higher among independent air forces.

## Indian Navy to Commission ASW Craft 'Malvan'



- Malvan is the second indigenous Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi.
- Designed for shallow coastal waters, it is equipped with advanced sonar systems, lightweight torpedoes, anti-submarine rocket launchers, and mine-laying capability to detect and neutralise submarines and underwater drones.
- The first indigenously designed and built Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) is INS Mahe.

## L-G VK Saxena Commissions 2 Geothermal Wells in Ladakh

- India's First Geothermal Wells in Puga Valley, Ladakh

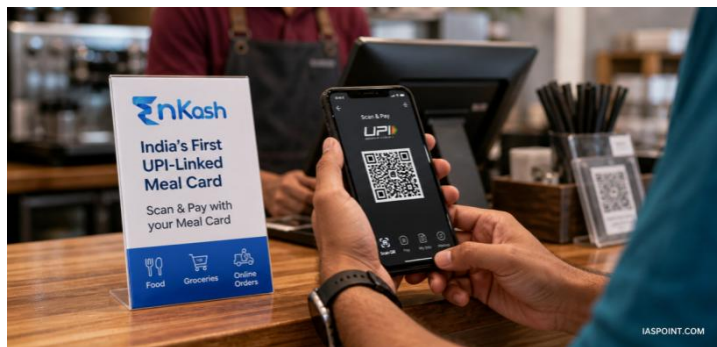


- Geothermal energy uses heat from beneath the Earth's surface.
- India's geothermal potential spread across 381 hot springs and 10 geothermal provinces including Ladakh (Puga valley), Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh.

## IIT Kanpur to Establish Centre of Excellence on Green Hydrogen

- The Centre of Excellence will be known as ECOGEN (Centre of Excellence on Innovative and Integrated Ecosystem for Green Hydrogen).
- The project has been approved by the Uttar Pradesh Government and sanctioned by UPNEDA (Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency) under the Uttar Pradesh Green Hydrogen Policy, 2024.
- The initiative supports the National Green Hydrogen Mission.

## EnKash Introduces India's First Meal Card with UPI Payments



- EnKash is an Indian business payments and spend management platform. its own RBI Prepaid Payment Instrument (PPI) licence.
- UPI (Unified Payments Interface) was developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI, 2008.)
- RuPay is India's domestic card payment network.

## India Develops First Indigenous Expendable Turbojet Engine



- India developed its first indigenous expendable turbojet engine in the 350 kg thrust class.
- The engine was designed by the Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE). GTRE is a laboratory of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- A turbojet engine produces thrust by compressing air, burning fuel, and expelling high-speed exhaust gases.

## Aero India to be held in Bengaluru's Yelahanka Air Force Station



- Aero India 2027 will be held at Yelahanka Air Force Station, Bengaluru.
- The event showcases global aerospace and defence technologies while promoting defence cooperation and indigenous manufacturing.
- Aero India is India's largest biennial aerospace and defence exhibition, organized by the Ministry of Defence.

## IAF Ranks Third in WDMMA Global Air Power List

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) ranked 3rd in the WDMMA Global Air Power Rankings.
- The rankings assess fleet size, aircraft quality, modernization, logistics, and operational readiness.
- The ranking reflects the IAF's growing combat capability and India's rising global air power status.

## IIT Delhi-DRDO Develop 20 km Surveillance Aerostat

- IIT Delhi and DRDO jointly developed an indigenous tactical aerostat for surveillance up to 20 km.
- The aerostat carries advanced sensors for continuous, cost-effective monitoring of strategic areas.
- It supports Aatmanirbhar Bharat by reducing import dependence and strengthening border security.

## ICG Inducts Indigenous Air Cushion Vehicle in Goa



- The Indian Coast Guard inducted its first indigenous Air Cushion Vehicle (H-561), built by Chowgule & Company under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative.
- The hovercraft can operate on both land and water, enhancing coastal surveillance, search and rescue, and disaster response.
- It is the first of six ACVs and will be deployed at Haldia, West Bengal, to strengthen security in eastern coastal regions.

## Indian Army Introduces New Uniform Code



- The Indian Army has introduced the traditional Bandi jacket as authorized formal civil attire for officers.
- The new dress rules remove several colonial-era symbols and practices from Army uniforms.
- A standardized winter uniform (Dress 3B) will be introduced for all ranks by June 2029.

## Indian Army Gets 106 Peacekeeper Kamikaze Drones from SMPP



- The Peacekeeper kamikaze drones have a top speed of 450 km/h and a strike range of 180 km.
- They can accurately hit high-value targets even in electronic warfare environments, with a CEP of under 5 metres.
- Built under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative, the drones strengthen India's indigenous precision-strike capability.

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## Indian Army Launches Kautilya & Q-FORCE Platforms



- Indian Army launched AI-based platforms Kautilya and Q-FORCE to modernize intelligence and logistics management.
- Kautilya acts as an AI co-pilot for faster, data-driven command decisions.
- Q-FORCE streamlines military supply chains and resource distribution across varied terrains.

## Major Abhilasha Named UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year



- An Indian woman peacekeeper won the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award for her work with UNMISS in South Sudan.
- She was honoured for promoting gender equality and women's participation in peace processes.
- Her leadership strengthened the role of women in UN peacekeeping missions.

## Bengaluru Test Pilot Becomes First Indian SETP Fellow



- Group Captain K.K. Venugopal became the first Indian test pilot elected as a Fellow of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots (SETP).
- He has over 25 years of experience in major aerospace programmes, including LCA Mk I, HTT-40, and LCA Mk IA.
- The recognition highlights his contribution to India's indigenous aerospace development and flight-testing standards.

## DRDO Successfully Tests Indigenous ULPGM-V3 Missile

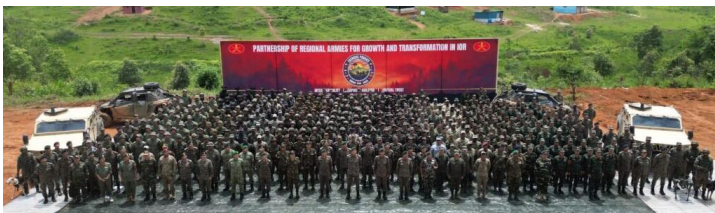
- DRDO successfully tested the ULPGM-V3 missile in both air-to-ground and air-to-air modes.
- It has a 10-km range and a dual-channel seeker for day-and-night precision.
- Developed by DRDO's RCI Hyderabad with support from Indian MSMEs.

## Squadron Leader Saanya Becomes IAF's 1st Woman Cat-A Instructor



- Squadron Leader Saanya became the IAF's first woman Category-A Qualified Flying Instructor.
- She achieved the highest level of military flying instruction after training at FIS, Tambaram.
- Commissioned in 2015, she was promoted to Flight Lieutenant in 2017 and Squadron Leader in 2021.

## Multilateral Exercise Pragati 2026 Commences At Umroi



- PRAGATI 2026 began at Umroi, Meghalaya, with armies from 13 nations participating.
- The exercise focuses on joint counter-terrorism operations in semi-mountainous and jungle terrain.
- It also showcases India's indigenous defence technology under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

## Indian Coast Guard Commissions Indigenous FPV 'ICGS ACHAL'



- ICGS Achal, India's first of eight indigenous Fast Patrol Vessels, was built by Cochin Shipyard with nearly 70% indigenous content.
- The 50-metre vessel can reach 33 knots and carries a 30mm CRN-91 naval gun.
- It will support coastal surveillance, anti-smuggling, anti-poaching, and search-and-rescue operations.

## Army Inducts Indigenous ULPGM & AGNIKAA Drones

- ULPGM is an indigenous loitering munition with a 2.5-km range, IIR seeker, and 2-kg warhead.
- AGNIKAA VTOL-1 is an FPV kamikaze drone with 5-km range and 30-minute endurance.
- Both systems are tested for high-altitude and GPS-denied environments.

## India's first privately manufactured military aircraft Airbus C-295



- Tata Advanced Systems is manufacturing India's first complete military aircraft in the private sector—the C-295.
- Of 56 aircraft, 16 will come from Spain and 40 will be built at the Tata-Airbus facility in Vadodara.
- The C-295 will replace the IAF's ageing Avro fleet and features high indigenous content.

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Directions (1-5) :** In the following question, one part of the sentence may have an error. Find out which part of the sentence has an error and select the appropriate option. If the sentence is free from error, select 'No Error'.

1.

- (A) The country has long maintained
- (B) tight capital control policies
- (C) to regulated the flow of
- (D) money in and out of the country.
- (E) No error

2.

- (A) One of the key reason why
- (B) unprofitable growth stocks are
- (C) particularly vulnerable to rising
- (D) interest rates are their long-duration cash flows.
- (E) No error

3.

- (A) The fiscal calculations of
- (B) the interim Budget may
- (C) rely on nominal GDP growth
- (D) for the upcoming financial year.
- (E) No error

4.

- (A) The students were asked
- (B) to submit their assignments
- (C) No error
- (D) mentioned by the teacher.
- (E) before the deadline

5.

- (A) Recent years have seen the
- (B) performance of unprofitable growth
- (C) stocks heavy influenced by the
- (D) trajectory of inflation an
- (E) No error

**Directions(6-7) :** In the question given below, a sentence is given with one blank, followed by five options, each having a word which may or may not fit in the blank. From the given options, choose the one that gives the correct word that fits in the blank.

6. UK wage growth \_\_\_\_\_ strong even as the unemployment rate rose to its highest for almost a year.

- (A) depleted
- (B) spread
- (C) catered
- (D) devoid
- (E) remained

7. OpenAI has \_\_\_\_\_ the latest version of the tech which underpins its AI chatbot.

- (A) elaborated
- (B) finished
- (C) progressed
- (D) unveiled
- (E) fostered

**Directions [8-15]:** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The Global Plastics Treaty, an ambitious initiative involving at least 175 United Nations member nations to eliminate the use of plastics, concluded its fourth round of negotiations recently. The goal is to finalise a legal document by the end of 2024 with timelines by when countries must agree to **curb** plastic production, **eliminate** its uses that create wastage, ban certain chemicals used in its production and set targets for recycling. Unfortunately, an agreement is not in sight. There is yet another round of negotiations scheduled in Busan, South Korea this November. The primary hurdles are economic. Oil producing and refining countries such as Saudi Arabia, the United States, Russia, India and Iran are reluctant about hard deadlines to eliminate plastic production. A coalition of African countries, supported by several European nations, is in favour of a year, around 2040, to ensure that a timeline for reduction is in effect. There is also disagreement on whether contentious elements in the treaty should be decided on by a vote or consensus - the latter implying that every country has a veto. India's opinion, other than being uncomfortable with binding targets, is that a legally binding instrument to end the plastic pollution must also address "... availability, accessibility, affordability of alternatives including cost implications and specifying arrangements for capacity building and technical assistance, technology transfer, and financial assistance". This language - and India is not the only proponent - is reminiscent of the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibility' enshrined in climate talks. Under this, countries must have a

common target but those more privileged must support others and take on stricter targets themselves.

In the year that the plastics treaty was mooted, in 2022, India brought into effect the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules (2021) that banned 19 categories of "single-use" plastics. It, however, does not include plastic bottles - even those less than 200 ml - and multi-layered packaging boxes (as in milk cartons) . Moreover, even the ban on single-use plastic items is not uniformly enforced nationally, with several outlets continuing to retail these goods. The global distribution of the plastic pollution is unequal with Brazil, China, India and the U.S. responsible for 60% of plastic waste, according to a report by the non-profit EA Earth Action. Much like how transitioning away from fossil fuel invites its own challenges, plastic pollution cannot be ended by merely signing treaties. There needs to be much greater investment in alternative products and making them affordable before realistic targets are decided upon.

8. What is one of the primary hurdles hindering agreement on the Global Plastics Treaty?

- (A) Finalising a legal document with timelines by when countries must agree to curb plastic production
- (B) The coalition of African countries with several European nations to curb plastic pollution
- (C) Reluctance of oil-producing countries to implement hard deadlines for the reduction of plastic production
- (D) The deadline to implement necessary measures to curb daily use of plastic
- (E) None of the above

9. What is India's stance regarding the Global Plastics Treaty, as stated in the passage?

- (A) India supports the treaty and has a specific policy for meeting the targets on time.
- (B) India has tried to initiate a new policy to forecast the upcoming disaster with respect to the current problem.
- (C) India opposes the treaty due to concerns about its economic impact.
- (D) India prefers an instrument that addresses availability, accessibility, and affordability of alternatives

(E) India suggests outsourcing waste management to other countries

10. What action did India take in 2022 regarding single-use plastics, according to the passage?

- (A) India implemented amendment rules that banned some categories of single-use plastics.
- (B) India introduced regulations to reduce the production of single-use plastics.
- (C) India implemented a nationwide ban on multi-layered packaging boxes.
- (D) India implemented a nationwide ban on plastic bottles.
- (E) None of the above

11. What is a significant concern regarding the enforcement of regulations related to single-use plastics in India, according to the passage?

- (A) Packaged drinking water has been excepted from the category of single use plastics
- (B) Lack of public awareness about the harmful effects of single-use plastics
- (C) Inadequate infrastructure for recycling plastic waste
- (D) Non-uniform enforcement of the ban
- (E) None of the above

12. What similarity does the passage draw regarding the challenges of transitioning away from plastic usage?

- (A) The transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources
- (B) The implementation of international trade agreements
- (C) The development of advanced technological solutions
- (D) The enforcement of regulations on air pollution
- (E) The negotiation of global climate change treaties

13. Which of the following is TRUE, according to the passage?

- I. The goal of the negotiations is to make a timeline of when the countries will agree to curb plastic pollution.
  - II. We should invest more in alternative products and make them affordable.
  - III. Countries need to agree on a shared goal, but those with more resources should commit to tougher targets themselves.
- (A) Only I and II
  - (B) Only II and III
  - (C) Only II
  - (D) Only I and III
  - (E) All I, II, and III

14. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the highlighted word, "**CURB**"?

- (A) bargain (B) convey (C) imperil (D) restrain  
(E) remain

15. Which of the following is opposite in meaning to the highlighted word, "**ELIMINATE**"?

- (A) collect (B) turn  
(C) continue (D) transform  
(E) conceal

**Directions [16-20]: In the question given below, a set of sentences is given, which when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Arrange the sentences in the correct sequence, and answer the questions that follow.**

P. AI is now used for everything, from analysing your personality in job interviews to letting you buy a sandwich without paying a cashier.

Q. And it certainly was not something people worried might take over their jobs in the near future.

R. In 2010, artificial intelligence was more likely to pop up in dystopian science-fiction movies than in everyday life.

S. It is also becoming increasingly common and controversial, when used for surveillance, such as facial-recognition software, and for spreading misinformation.

T. A lot has changed since then.

16. Which of the following would be the **FIRST** statement after rearrangement?

- (A) P (B) Q (C) R (D) S  
(E) T

17. Which of the following would be the **SECOND** statement after rearrangement?

- (A) P (B) S (C) T (D) Q  
(E) R

18. Which of the following would be the **THIRD** statement after rearrangement?

- (A) R (B) T (C) Q (D) S  
(E) P

19. Which of the following would be the **FOURTH** statement after rearrangement?

- (A) P (B) Q (C) R (D) S

(E) T

20. Which of the following would be the **FIFTH (LAST)** statement after rearrangement?

- (A) R (B) Q (C) S (D) P  
(E) T

**Directions (21- 25): In the following passage, some of the words have been highlighted in bold. First read the passage and try to understand what it is about. Then replace the highlighted words with the correct option in order to make grammatical and contextual sense. In case the highlighted word is correct as it is, mark 'No Improvement' as the right answer.**

Plastic pollution has managed to invade even the most remote areas of our environment and has also been (A) **submitted** in several tissues of the human body. Plastic production levels have (B) **twisted** since the 1950s and continue to rise. The problem is so (C) **pervasive** and daunting that we sometimes find ourselves placing a little too much hope in solutions that are not really solutions at all. As is often the case, industry and the major polluters (big brands, fossil fuel and petrochemical companies) are (D) **try** in wait to promote false solutions that allow them to continue business as usual and continue to (E) **compress** indecent profits and pollute with impunity while continuing to deny their responsibility.

21. (A)

- (A) invoked (B) reported  
(C) unsettled (D) cheered  
(E) No improvement

22. (B)

- (A) misrepresented (B) decayed  
(C) collapsed (D) exploded  
(E) No improvement

23. (C)

- (A) excited (B) flexible  
(C) inconsistent (D) fragmented  
(E) No improvement

24. (D)

- (A) lying (B) analysing  
(C) breach (D) heading  
(E) No improvement

25. (E)

- (A) compel (B) witnessed  
(C) make (D) sustain  
(E) No improvement

**Direction(26-30) : Which of the following phrases (I) , (II) , and (III) given below each sentence should replace the phrase printed in bold letters to make the sentence grammatically correct? Choose the best option among the five given alternatives that reflect the correct use of the phrase in the context of the grammatically correct sentence. If the sentence is correct as it is, mark 'No Improvement' as the answer.**

26. Due to the new tax reforms, many small businesses **are struggle** to keep up with the rising costs.

- I. are tries to  
II. are finding it hard to  
III. are battling to  
(A) No improvement (B) Only I and II  
(C) Only II and III (D) Only I and III  
(E) All I, II, and III

27. She was so **absorbed with** the book that she did not notice when it started raining.

- I. fascinated by  
II. engrossed in  
III. captivated by  
(A) No improvement (B) Only I and III  
(C) Only II and III (D) Only I and II  
(E) All I, II, and III

28. The committee was assigned the **task to** preparing a detailed report on the current economic scenario.

- I. task of  
II. responsible for  
III. instructed to  
(A) Only I and II (B) Only I  
(C) Only I and III (D) Only II and III  
(E) All I, II, and III

29. The company's new policy aims **at reducing wastage and improve** efficiency.

- I. to reduce wastage and improve

II. at cutting wastage and improving

III. for minimising wastage and improve

- (A) No improvement (B) Only I and III  
(C) Only II and III (D) Only I and II  
(E) All I, II, and III

30. The environmental group **advocates strongly against** the use of single-use plastics.

- I. campaign fiercely against  
II. advises strong against  
III. argue vigorously against  
(A) No improvement (B) Only I and II  
(C) Only I and III (D) Only II and III  
(E) All I, II, and III

**QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE**

31. The speed of a boat in still water is 40% more than the speed of the stream such that the boat takes 4 hours to cover 96 km downstream. If the speed of boat in still water is reduced by  $14\frac{2}{7}\%$ , then find the distance covered by boat in 6 hours in upstream.

- (A) 24 km (B) 18 km  
(C) 12 km (D) 20 km  
(E) 22 km

32. A car which is moving at a speed of 45 km/hr overtakes a bus which is 600 metres ahead of it in 1 minute. If the speed of truck is 30% more than that of bus, then find the time taken by truck to travel 29.25 km.

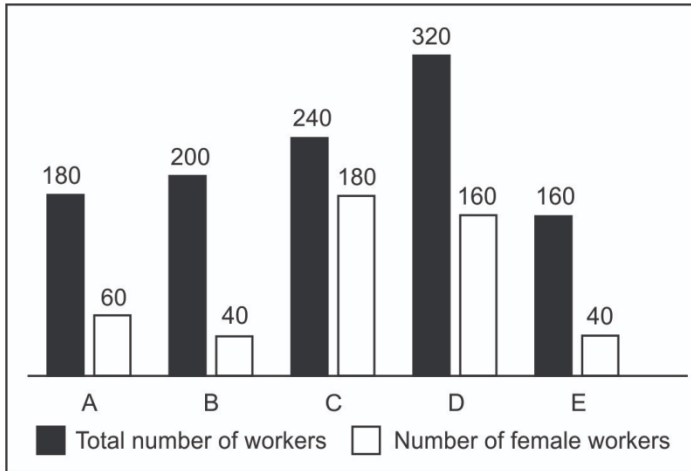
- (A) 1.5 hours (B) 2 hours  
(C) 2.5 hours (D) 1.6 hours  
(E) 1.8 hours

33. Raman invests half of his capital at the rate of 10% p.a., one third at 15% p.a. and the rest at 30% p.a., all at simple interest. The average interest rate which he gets at the end of a year is 'y%' p.a. Find the value of 'y'.

- (A) 50 (B)  $33\frac{1}{3}$   
(C) 45 (D) 15  
(E) 30

**Directions [34-38]: Answer the questions based on the information given below.**

The bar graph shows the total number of workers (male + female) and the number of female workers in five different factories.



**34.** Number of male workers in factory 'C' is how much percent of sum of number of male workers in factory 'B' and number of female workers in factory 'E'.

- (A) 40% (B) 25%  
(C) 50% (D) 60%  
(E) 30%

**35.** If in another factory 'G', total number of workers is  $8\frac{1}{3}\%$  more than that in factory 'C'. If number of female workers in factory 'G' is  $16\frac{2}{3}\%$  less than number of male workers in factory 'A', then find the number of male workers in factory 'G'.

- (A) None of these  
(B) 140 (C) 150 (D) 160 (E) 180

**36.** If in factory 'C', some workers work at night shift while some workers work in day shift and they are in ratio of 3:5, respectively. If 'n' represents the number of workers who work in night shift in factory 'C', then find difference between male workers in factory 'E' and 'n'.

- (A) None of these (B) 60  
(C) 40 (D) 30  
(E) 50

**37.** Find the difference between the total number of workers in all five factories and total number of female workers in all these factories.

- (A) None of these (B) 420  
(C) 620 (D) 480  
(E) 560

**38.** Find the ratio of number of male workers in factories 'C' and 'D' together to number of male workers in factories 'A' and 'B' together.

- (A) 5:7 (B) 19:11  
(C) 11:14 (D) 9:11  
(E) 11:9

**39.** There are some pencils in a shop. Anu purchased 40% of the pencils and Rishabh purchased 60% of the remaining pencils. If Anu sells all her pencils at Rs. 7 per pencil and earns Rs. 280, then find 175% of total number of pencils purchased by Rishabh.

- (A) 63 (B) 49 (C) 56 (D) 84  
(E) None of these

**40.** The ratio of present ages of four persons 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' is 3:5:4:7, respectively. If the sum of their ages 5 years hence from now will be 96 years, then find the ratio of ages of 'A' and 'D' together 20 years hence from now to that of 'B' and 'C' together 8 years ago from now.

- (A) 9:5 (B) 4:1  
(C) 9:8 (D) 5:2  
(E) 7:3

**41.** A shopkeeper purchased three items 'P', 'Q', and 'R' at same price. He sold item 'P' at 20% profit, item 'Q' at 10% loss and item 'R' at 25% profit. If he earns an overall profit of Rs. 560, then find the selling price of item 'Q'.

- (A) Rs. 2,000 (B) Rs. 1,320  
(C) Rs. 1,800 (D) Rs. 1,920  
(E) Rs. 1,440

**42.** Mahesh borrowed certain sum from Dipti on simple interest such that Dipti charged the interest at the rate of 10% p.a. for first 4 years, 5% p.a. for the next 6 years and 25% p.a. beyond 10 years. If Mahesh paid a total of Rs. 21,600 as interest at the end of 12 years, then find sum which he borrowed from Dipti.

- (A) Rs. 10,000 (B) Rs. 18,000  
(C) Rs. 25,000 (D) Rs. 16,000  
(E) Rs. 20,000

43. Aman starts a business with an initial investment of Rs. 14,400. After 4 months Mohit joins the business by investing Rs. 3,600 more than Aman. After six months from starting, Aman withdraws 20% from his initial investment. Find the ratio of their profit at the end of 1.5 years.

- (A) 21:19 (B) 13:14 (C) 144:143 (D) 156:175  
(E) 12:13

44. Rakesh hired 18 workers to complete a task in 32 days but after 12 days 6 workers left the task. If 'W' represents the number of days required by the remaining workers to complete the task, then the initial number of workers is what percentage of 'W'.

- (A) 75% (B) 60% (C) 40% (D) 15%  
(E) 56%

45. A vessel contains 'y' litres pure milk. 4 litres of milk is taken out from it and replaced with water and this process is repeated one more time. If the final ratio of quantity of milk to that of water in the vessel is 196:29, then find the initial quantity of milk.

- (A) 20 liters (B) 12 liters  
(C) 30 liters (D) 60 liters  
(E) 10 liters

**Directions(46-54) : What approximate value will come in place of the question mark (?) in the following question? (Note: You are not expected to calculate the exact value.)**

46.  $[(17.97)^2 \div 47.67 \times 11.67] \div 26.85 = ?^2 - (10.98 \times 65.98)$   
(A) 43 (B) 33 (C) 67 (D) 37  
(E) 27

47.  $1587.9 + 9650.98 + 10612.8 = ?^3 - 2536.67$   
(A) 59 (B) 29 (C) 19 (D) 33  
(E) 49

48.  $? = (5.8)^2 + (8.9)^2 + (4.7)^2 + 24.7\% \text{ of } 20$   
(A) 87 (B) 125 (C) 133 (D) 157  
(E) 147

49.  $134.87 \times \frac{1}{14.88} \times 7.87 - ? \times 15.87 \div (3.8)^2 = 8.72 \times 7.34$

- (A) 14 (B) 70 (C) 9 (D) 32  
(E) 46

50.  $(?)^2 = (5.99)^2 + (7.88)^2 + 43.99$   
(A) 12 (B) 16 (C) 24 (D) 32  
(E) 4

51.  $48 \div 6 \times 7 + 15 - 9 = ?$

- (A) 54 (B) 62  
(C) 64 (D) 68  
(E) 72

52.  $25\% \text{ of } 480 + 36 \div 4 \times 5 = ?$

- (A) 145 (B) 155 (C) 165 (D) 175

E) 185

53.  $\sqrt{625} + 18 \times 3 - 42 \div 6 = ?$

- (A) 68 (B) 70  
(C) 73 (D) 72  
(E) 78

54.  $\frac{3}{4} \times 200 + 35\% \text{ of } 200 - 18 = ?$

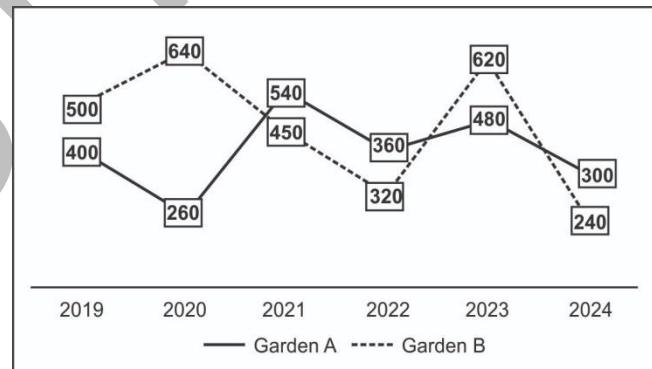
- (A) 202 (B) 207  
(C) 212 (D) 217  
(E) 222

**Directions [55-60]: Answer the questions based on the information given below.**

The line graph below shows the total number of flowers in two different gardens, namely 'A' and 'B', in six different years.

**Note** - For each year, in both gardens, there are only two types of flowers i.e. yellow flowers and red flowers.

The table graph below shows the ratio of number red flowers to that of yellow flowers, in both given gardens for each of the given years.



| Year | Ratio of number of red flowers to yellow flowers garden A | Ratio of number of red flowers to yellow flowers garden B |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 2019 | 5:3                                                       | 4:1                                                       |
| 2020 | 7:6                                                       | 7:9                                                       |
| 2021 | 1:2                                                       | 3:2                                                       |
| 2022 | 7:2                                                       | 7:1                                                       |
| 2023 | 5:7                                                       | 1:1                                                       |
| 2024 | 18:7                                                      | 7:5                                                       |

55. If in another garden 'X' in the year 2023, total number of red flowers is 25% more than the total number of yellow flowers in garden 'B' in years 2019 and 2022 together, then number of red flowers in garden 'X' in 2023.

- (A) None of these (B) 125  
(C) 225 (D) 175

(E) 150

56. Find the ratio of number of yellow flowers in garden 'A' in 2024 and number of red flowers in garden 'B' in 2024, respectively.

- (A) None of these (B) 2:3  
(C) 4:7 (D) 3:5  
(E) 1:2

57. Find the difference between the total number of flowers in garden 'A' and that in garden 'B', in all six given years.

- (A) 520 (B) 390 (C) 500 (D) 480  
(E) 430

58. Number of yellow flowers in garden 'B' in 2021 is how much percent of number of yellow flowers in garden 'A' in 2020.

- (A) 45% (B) 140% (C) 80% (D) 150%  
(E) 120%

59. Find the difference between the total number of red flowers in both gardens in 2023 and number of yellow flowers in garden 'B' in 2019.

- (A) 410 (B) 330 (C) 440 (D) 350  
(E) None of these

60. Find the total number of red flowers in both gardens in the years 2022.

- (A) 240 (B) 400 (C) 560 (D) 360  
(E) 300

**Directions(61-65) : The following numbers form a series. Find the odd one out.**

61. 68, 124, 222, 350, 520, 738

- (A) 124 (B) 222 (C) 738 (D) 520  
(E) 68

62. 872, 883, 905, 937, 982, 1037

- (A) 905 (B) 883 (C) 937 (D) 982  
(E) 872

63. 400, 120, 48, 24, 14.2, 10.08

- (A) 120 (B) 14.2  
(C) 400 (D) 10.08  
(E) 48

64. 34, 41, 46, 56, 67, 81

- (A) 81 (B) 46  
(C) 56 (D) 41  
(E) 67

65. 8, 12, 20, 28, 44, 56

(A) 12

(B) 20

(C) 28

(D) 44

(E) 56

**REASONING ABILITY**

**Directions(66-68) :** In the question, assuming the given statements to be true, find which of the conclusion (s) among given three conclusions is/are definitely true and then give your answer accordingly.

66. **Statements:**  $L \geq V < M = P$ ;  $X < P$ ;  $Q > Z = L$

**Conclusions:**

I.  $P > Q$

II.  $V < Z$

III.  $Z \geq V$

- (A) Only conclusion I is true  
(B) Only conclusions I and II are true  
(C) Only conclusion I and III are true  
(D) Only conclusion III is true  
(E) None of the above

67. **Statements:**  $E > G \leq K = L \geq S$ ;  $T < M \leq P = S$

**Conclusions:**

I.  $K \geq M$

II.  $P < K$

III.  $L \geq T$

- (A) Only conclusion I is true  
(B) Only conclusions I and II are true  
(C) Only conclusions II and III are true  
(D) None of the above conclusions are true  
(E) All of the above conclusions are true

68. **Statements:**  $P > Z$ ;  $T > R = N < Y \geq V$ ;  $Z > X = T$

**Conclusions:**

I.  $P < R$

II.  $Y > R$

III.  $X < P$

- (A) Only conclusion I is true  
(B) Only conclusions I and II are true  
(C) Only conclusions II and III are true  
(D) Only conclusion III is true  
(E) Only conclusion II is true

**69. The question given below consists of two statements numbered I and II given below it. You have to decide whether the data provided in the statements are sufficient to answer the question. Read all the statements and answer the question.**

Six persons L, M, N, O, P and Q have different heights. Who is the second tallest person?

**Statement I:** L is taller than P and O. M is taller than N but shorter than Q. L is shorter than M.

**Statement II:** N is shorter than only two persons. M is taller than L but not the tallest. P is taller than only O.

(A) Data given in statement I and II together are not sufficient to answer the question.

(B) Data given in either statement I or II alone is sufficient to answer the question.

(C) Data given in statement I alone is sufficient to answer the question but data given in statement II alone is not sufficient to answer the question.

(D) Data given in both statement I and II together are necessary to answer the question.

(E) Data given in statement II alone is sufficient to answer the question but data given in statement I alone is not sufficient to answer the question.

**Directions [70-74]: Answer the questions based on the information given below:**

Certain number of persons sit in a linear row and face towards north direction such that distance between two adjacent persons is same.

No seat is vacant. Only prime number of persons sit in the row.

G sits second from one of the extreme ends of the row. Only three persons sit between G and M. M sits third to the left of Q. Only one person sits between Q and V, who doesn't sit adjacent to M. Only nine persons sit between V and R, who sits third to the left of T. Number of persons sit between V and S is one less than the number of persons sit between S and T. L sits tenth to the right of S. Number of persons sit between R and L is same as the number of persons sit to the right of T.

**70. Which of the following statement are definitely correct?**

(A) M sits sixth from the extreme right end of the row.

(B) No one sits to the right of L.

(C) Number of persons sit between Q and G is less than the number of persons sit between R and L.

(D) S sits second to the right of the one, who sits exactly at the middle of the row.

(E) R sits eighth from the extreme right end of the row.

**71. How many persons sit between M and S?**

(A) Thirteen

(B) Ten

(C) Twelve

(D) Seven

(E) None of the above

**72. Who sits thirteenth to the left of the one, who sits immediate right of R?**

(A) Q

(B) V

(C) T

(D) M

(E) None of the above

**73. Who sits exactly between Q and the person, who sits immediate left of T?**

(A) R

(B) Unknown person

(C) M

(D) S

(E) V

**74. How many persons sit to the right of V?**

(A) 19

(B) 23

(C) 29

(D) 18

(E) None of the above

**Directions [75-78]: Answer the questions based on the information given below.**

In a certain language,

I. 'climb fly street light' is coded as 'fgq, zrv, rmp, sdm'

II. 'devil street scene rope' is coded as 'dzv, skg, fgq, qml'

III. 'rope light nail tribe' is coded as 'sdm, rgm, skg, lvt'

IV. 'tribe fly clash train' is coded as 'str, rmp, rgm, zqm'

**75. Which of the following is definitely incorrect?**

(A) rope - skg

(B) scene - qml

(C) nail - lvt

(D) clash - str

(E) fly - sdm

**76. If 'light trash clash' is coded as 'jpg, str, sdm', then what is the code for 'trash train rope'?**

(A) jpg, sdm, zqm

(B) str, jpg, skt

(C) zqm, skg, jpg

(D) lvt, str, skg

(E) None of the above

**77. How can 'climb fly minor' be coded in the given language?**

(A) zrv, rmp, qml

(B) rmp, sdm, zrv

(C) rgm, fgq, yrp

(D) zrv, rmp, wdc

(E) rgm, lvt, qml

78. \_\_\_\_ is coded as 'lvt, skg, sdm'.

- (A) devil rope nail (B) light climb rope  
(C) clash scene nail (D) nail light fly  
(E) None of the above

**Directions [79-83]: Answer the questions based on the information given below:**

Eight pens A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H are kept around a circular area at equal distance from one another. Each pen is pointed away from the centre. Colour of each pen is different among Red, Grey, Blue, Pink, Black, Brown, Yellow and White but not necessarily in the same order.

C is kept second to the left of a brown coloured pen. Only two pens are kept between C and F (either from left or right). White coloured pen is kept immediate right of F. H is kept immediate left of blue coloured pen, which is kept second to the right of B. F is not blue coloured pen. Neither H nor B is brown coloured pen. G, which is pink coloured pen, is fourth to the right of H. D is immediate right of grey coloured pen. A, which is yellow coloured pen, is kept adjacent to black coloured pen. C is not black coloured pen.

79. The pen, which is kept immediate right of F, is kept immediate left of \_\_\_\_.

- (A) B (B) C (C) H (D) A  
(E) None of the above

80. \_\_\_\_ is kept third to the right of \_\_\_\_ coloured pen.

- (A) D, Red (B) A, Brown  
(C) B, Grey (D) C, Yellow  
(E) None of the above

81. Which pen is kept adjacent to Brown coloured pen?

- (A) C (B) D (C) G (D) F  
(E) None of the above

82. How many pens are kept between C and Black coloured pen, when counted from the left of C?

- (A) Five (B) Two (C) Four (D) Three  
(E) None of the above

83. Which pen is kept fifth to the right of E?

- (A) A (B) White coloured pen  
(C) Black coloured pen (D) H  
(E) None of the above

**Directions [84-85]: Answer the questions based on the information given below:**

Mini started walking from point N towards north direction. After walking 6m, she turns left from point B and walks for 12m till point C. She then turns right and walks 19m to reach point D and then she

takes left turn and walks for 10m till point E. From point E, she walks 25m towards south direction and then takes a left turn from point F and walks for 17m to reach point G.

84. What is the total distance covered by Mini from point C to point F?

- (A) 37m (B) 45m (C) 54m (D) 71m  
(E) None of the above

85. How far and in which direction is Mini's final point with respect to her initial point?

- (A) 5m, east (B) 15m, south-east  
(C) 15m, south-west (D) 5m, west  
(E) None of the above

**Directions [86-90]: Answer the questions based on the information given below:**

In a cupboard, there are ten shelves one above another such that bottommost shelf is numbered as 1 and the shelf immediately above it is numbered as 2 and so on. Eight boxes S, T, U, V, W, X, Y and Z are kept on these shelves such that two shelves are vacant.

Note: If a box is kept one/two/three boxes above/below another box, then there may be more than one/two/three shelves between them.

T, which is kept on a prime numbered shelf, is kept two shelves below a vacant shelf. Only four shelves are between T's and V's shelf. V is above T. Z is kept two shelves above V such that no box is kept between them. X is kept three boxes above W. W is not kept on the bottommost shelf. U is kept two boxes below S. Number of boxes kept below Y is same as the number of boxes kept between U and X.

86. Which of the following box/boxes are kept below fifth numbered shelf?

- (A) X (B) W (C) Z (D) V  
(E) Both 'B' and 'D'

87. Number of boxes above X is one more than the number of boxes below \_\_\_\_.

- (A) W (B) U (C) T (D) X  
(E) None of the above

88. If X is related to T and U is related to Y, in the same way Z is related to \_\_\_\_.

- (A) S (B) V (C) X (D) U  
(E) None of the above

89. Following pair of boxes are related to one another in some way.  
Find the odd one out.

- (A) V, S                      (B) T, U                      (C) W, Y                      (D) U, X  
(E) T, W

90. How many boxes are kept above the box, which is kept one shelf above W's shelf?

- (A) Six                      (B) Five                      (C) Three                      (D) Four  
(E) None of the above

91. If in the given number 563728261, 2 is added to all the odd place digits and 1 is subtracted from the even place digits (from the left end), then all the digits are arranged in descending order from left to right. Which is the fifth digit to the right of the third digit from the left end after rearrangement?

- (A) 4                      (B) 5                      (C) 3                      (D) 6  
(E) 7

92. How many pairs of letters are there in the word 'INVENTORY', which has as many letters between them (both forward and backward) in the word as in the English Alphabetical series?

- (A) Two                      (B) Three                      (C) Four                      (D) Five  
(E) None of the above

**Directions [93-95]: Answer the questions based on the information given below:**

In a family of three generations, there are seven members P, Q, R, S, T, U and V. Q is the father-in-law of V. U is the son of R, who is married to P. P's son is married to V's only daughter. T is the father of S.

93. \_\_\_\_\_ is definitely the mother of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) R, Q                      (B) P, U                      (C) V, S                      (D) T, S  
(E) None of the above

94. How is Q related to the daughter-in-law of R?

- (A) Grandson                      (B) Grandfather  
(C) Father-in-law                      (D) Father  
(E) None of the above

95. How many male members are there in the family?

- (A) Three                      (B) Five                      (C) Four                      (D) Six  
(E) Cannot be determined

**Directions [96-100]: Answer the questions based on the information given below:**

Eight cousins F, G, H, I, J, K, L and M study in the same school but in three different classes i.e., II, V and VII. Each of them likes different subjects among English, EVS, Sanskrit, Maths, Hindi,

Science, Economics and Computer but not necessarily in the same order.

Note: The one, who studies in Class II is younger than the one, who studies in Class V and Class VII. Similarly, the one, who studies in Class V is younger than the one, who studies in Class VII. Maximum number of students can be Three and minimum number of student can be Two

I is younger than the one, who likes Sanskrit. Only three cousins are younger than I, who doesn't like Maths. J is younger than L, who likes Economics. L doesn't study in Class V. J and the one, who likes Maths study in the same class. J doesn't like Maths. F, who likes English, is younger than K. K and G study in the same class. Neither K nor G likes Sanskrit, M is younger than H, who is elder than the one, who likes Science. Neither I nor J likes Science and Computer. I doesn't like Hindi. G doesn't like Computer.

96. Who among the following likes Hindi?

- (A) J                      (B) M                      (C) K                      (D) G  
(E) Cannot be determined

97. G studies in Class \_\_\_\_\_ and likes \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) VII, Science                      (B) V, EVS  
(C) V, Science                      (D) VII, Hindi  
(E) None of the above

98. How many cousins are younger than H?

- (A) Four                      (B) Six                      (C) Three                      (D) Five  
(E) None of the above

99. \_\_\_\_\_ likes Computer and M likes \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) M, Hindi                      (B) K, Maths  
(C) H, Sanskrit                      (D) M, Computer  
(E) None of the above

100. Who among the following cousins study in Class II?

- (A) M                      (B) One, who likes EVS  
(C) F                      (D) Both 'A' and 'B'  
(E) Both 'A' and 'C'

**ANSWER KEY**

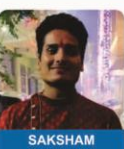
|         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1. (C)  | 2. (A)  | 3. (E)  | 4. (C)  | 5. (C)  | 6. (E)  | 7. (D)  | 8. (C)  | 9. (D)  | 10. (A)  |
| 11. (D) | 12. (A) | 13. (E) | 14. (D) | 15. (C) | 16. (C) | 17. (D) | 18. (B) | 19. (A) | 20. (C)  |
| 21. (B) | 22. (D) | 23. (E) | 24. (A) | 25. (C) | 26. (C) | 27. (E) | 28. (C) | 29. (D) | 30. (A)  |
| 31. (C) | 32. (C) | 33. (D) | 34. (E) | 35. (D) | 36. (D) | 37. (C) | 38. (C) | 39. (A) | 40. (B)  |
| 41. (E) | 42. (B) | 43. (D) | 44. (B) | 45. (D) | 46. (E) | 47. (B) | 48. (E) | 49. (C) | 50. (A)  |
| 51. (B) | 52. (C) | 53. (D) | 54. (A) | 55. (D) | 56. (D) | 57. (E) | 58. (D) | 59. (A) | 60. (C)  |
| 61. (A) | 62. (C) | 63. (B) | 64. (A) | 65. (E) | 66. (D) | 67. (A) | 68. (C) | 69. (B) | 70. (D)  |
| 71. (B) | 72. (A) | 73. (B) | 74. (D) | 75. (E) | 76. (C) | 77. (D) | 78. (E) | 79. (C) | 80. (A)  |
| 81. (C) | 82. (B) | 83. (B) | 84. (C) | 85. (D) | 86. (B) | 87. (C) | 88. (A) | 89. (D) | 90. (B)  |
| 91. (A) | 92. (A) | 93. (C) | 94. (B) | 95. (C) | 96. (A) | 97. (C) | 98. (B) | 99. (B) | 100. (E) |

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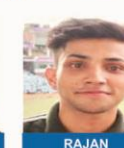
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|                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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|                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br>ANANT RAJ<br>SBI PO                        | <br>SHRESHTH TALWAR<br>SBI PO    | <br>HARNOOR KAUR<br>SBI PO                 | <br>RUBINA<br>SBI PO                    | <br>KOMAL<br>SBI PO                      | <br>ANIL PANDA<br>SBI PO                    | <br>INDERDEEP KAUR<br>SBI PO                      | <br>HARMAN<br>SBI PO                                 | <br>SUDHA PRAJAPATI<br>SBI PO                     | <br>GEETANJALI<br>SBI PO                           |
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Near Driving Test Center,  
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